Movement in English and Arabic

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1. Introduction

In depending upon the contextual factors present in a specific situation, certain sentential elements might be maintained in an order which is different from that in another context, i.e. as though the elements would change their positions of realisation: a situation in which it could be said that elements have moved.

Such a phenomenon is termed as movement in generative grammar. The present study aims at the identification of the elements that show movement in English and Arabic, as well as the mechanisms exploited by them, mainly in accordance with Radford (1997), to move in both languages. With this achieved, it remains to check whether the two languages follow universal principles in triggering movements in their sentence constituents.

1.1 Syntax of English and Arabic Sentences

The syntactic treatment of the sentence of both languages under study agrees in basis with the ideas expressed in Radford (1997). In English, each sentence is perceived to be composed of a CP (Complementiser Phrase) dominating a Spec (Specifier) and headed by C, a (Complementiser) which is completed by IP, the (Auxiliary Phrase). The IP is headed by I and completed by VP (Verb Phrase) which contains the amount of lexical information in the sentence. This VP is headed by V which might be completed, depending on the nature of the verb itself, by a DP

(Determiner Phrase) which hosts the nominal elements headed by the determiner.

In consideration of the nature of Arabic, the same approach is adopted with certain modifications and counterpart terminologies stated by al-Utbi (2008: 74-6). Thus, جَ (المسـتوى الاعلـى للجملـة) (مصـطلح) مـص dominates جَ This .(جملـةَ۟) جَ and بـؤ (بـؤرة) dominates ج and (جملـة) which makes the lexical layers of the sentence. These رس is made of رف (ركن فعلـي) are رس (ركن أسناد) and رت (ركن تكملة). رأ (ركـن أسـمي) in the. case of verbal sentences, while in nominal sentences, رأ١ and رأ٢ will make it. And because of the nature of the Arabic verb which indicates inherently aspect and tense, رف will branch into ف (فعل) and ز (زمن).

2. Movement

Seen from a generative perspective, movement is in essence a way of expressing the relationship between deep structure (DS) and surface structure (SS), that is, either by deriving SS from DS, or abstracting DS from SS. However, as a term, movement may have a misleading connotation, as long as it could be thought to convey the idea that something actually moves from a place to another. Movement, rather, is something else: it expresses a relationship between a form and another as if things moved. Syntactically, it can be put as follows: "any part of the sentence could move anywhere". Technically, it is to be stated as :

Move α

where **α** stands for any category (Cook and Newson, 1996: 189). This is not to say that movements of syntactic elements are arbitrarily unconstrained, but on the contrary, it should be made clear that it is a property of Universal Grammar that only creation elements may be moved, that they may only be moved to certain locations, and that they may not move more than a certain distance, i.e. **Move α** is tightly constrained (ibid: 190).

2.1 Movement in English

2.1.1 A'-movement vs. A-movement

Two general types of movement have been identified in English:

i- wh-movement, as in:

(2:1) **Whom** i will they invite ti?

ii- Determiner Phrase (DP)-movement, as in

(2:2) **Louise** i will be invited ti.

(Haegeman and Guéron, 1999: 211-2)

As is clarified by the symbols put adjacent to lexical elements in the examples above, there seems to be some sort of relationship between the elements, and this is totally true, because "movement of an element (α) always leaves a trace, and, in the simple case, forms a chain (α, t) where α, the head of the chain, is the moved element, and t is its trace" (Chomsky and Lasnik, 1993: 522). Accordingly, in both of these two types of movements outlined above, the moved constituent dominates its trace because of a local relation holding between the two (Haegeman and Guéron, 1999: 217).

Now, what is the difference between the two types of movement? To differentiate between them, reference is made to the landing site of the moved constituent and its extracting or launching site.

In DP movement, as in passivization or raising, the landing site is the canonical position of the subject, Specifier of the Auxiliary phrase, [Spec, IP], while that of wh-movement, Specifier of the Complementiser phrase [Spec, CP], is not associated with any particular grammatical function: [Spec, CP] can be occupied by constituents having miscellaneous functions. The position which is assigned a canonical grammatical function is called an A (rgument)-position. In these terms, [Spec, IP] is an A-position, and conversely, [Spec, CP] is an A'-position. To the former comes a constituent triggered by A-movement, but to the latter goes a constituent moved by A'-movement. Thus, the

movement which derives passives is A-movement, while that which triggers questions is the A'-movement type (Haegeman and Guéron, 1999: 218).
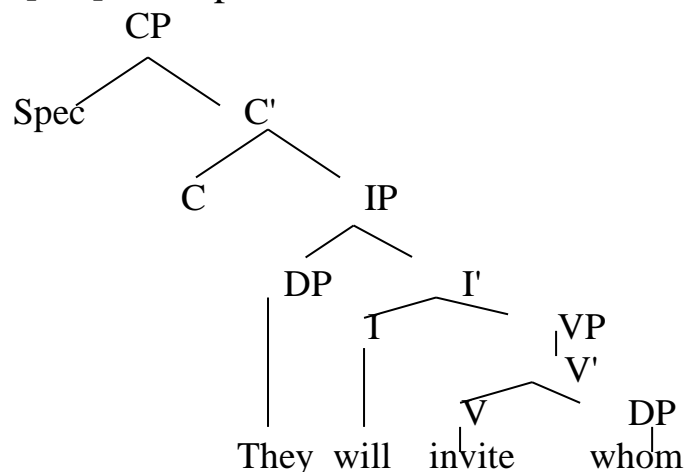
2.1.2 Wh-movement

Let us commence with the consideration of the example right below:

(2:3) **Whom** i will they invite ti?

The example illustrates a specific type of question called a wh-question. It begins with an interrogative constituent, specifically here, whom. The answer to such a question provides information which completes the sentence. For instance, it could be answered by stating the name of a single person, say Louise. This DP will replace the interrogative constituent whom.

In the example above, one argument of the verb invite is realised as the subject they. The second is the constituent whom, the interrogative element which occupies an initial position. But really, it is the internal argument of invite, and consequently it is expected to occupy the object position, i.e. the position dominated by V', [DP,V']. It is base-generated in [DP,V']. See:

Diagram [2:1] Base-position of the DP whom


```
                    CP
              ╱          ╲
          Spec            C'
                       ╱      ╲
                     C          IP
                            ╱       ╲
                         DP           I'
                                   ╱     ╲
                                 I         VP
                                          |
                                          V'
                                       ╱      ╲
                                     V          DP
              They   will   invite       whom
```

This is a DS, and can never come to the surface as such for in questions, two conditions have to be satisfied:

1-Preposing the interrogative element before the subject, and
2-The auxiliary is inverted with the subject.
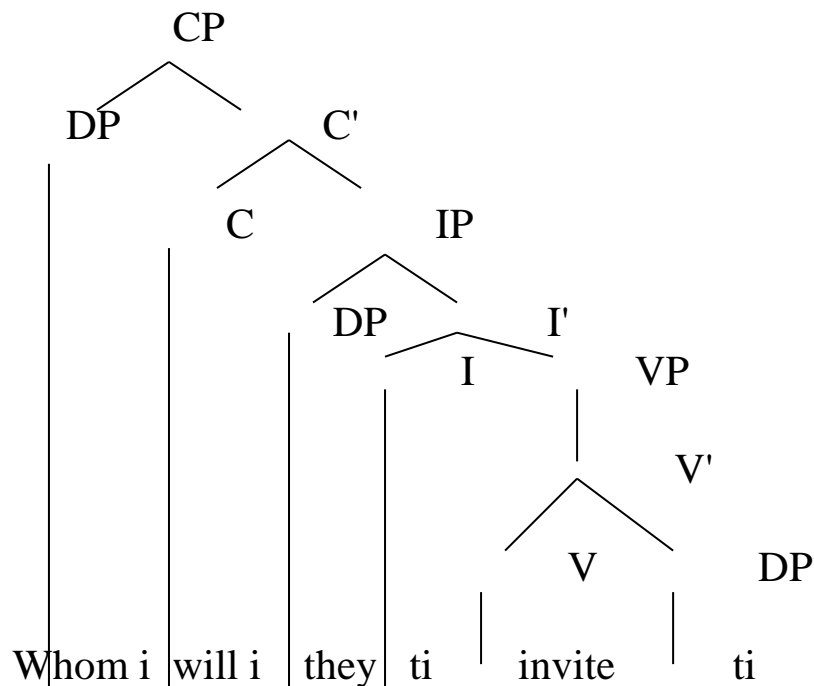
Accordingly, two movements should take place in grammatical questions in English:

1-the wh-phrase moves to the position in front of C,

2-I to C movement occurs giving rise to subject-auxiliary-inversion
   (SAI)

And thus, Diagram [2:1] becomes [2:2]:

Diagram [2:2]: The two movements in English questions

Whom i will i they ti   invite   ti

Here, whom occupies the clause-initial position, [Spec, CP]. It also realises the internal argument of invite. To reconcile the peripheral SS position with its VP-internal theta-role, it is proposed that whom starts as the object of invite and then moves to its initial position. The case form of whom offers support for its VP-base position : it has the accusative form of who which is basically assigned by invite. Whom moves leftward, and leaves

an empty category in its original position indicated by means of t which encodes the previous position of a moved constituent. As for will, it starts under I and moves to C and also leaves a t (Haegeman and Guéron, 1999: 170-2).
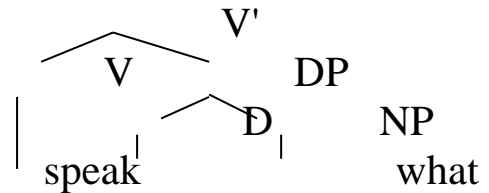
A somehow similar issue is raised by wh-constituents when they are realised as phrases headed by a wh-element, like which film or what languages. Consider:

(2:3) **What** languages i can i you ti speak ti?

In this example, the two movements should occur at once. Also **What** originates at the base position dominated by V', and then it has to move to [Spec, CP]. But what differs is that **What** should not move alone, rather it should leave accompanied by its complement languages, because if it moved alone, ungrammaticality and inconsistency would result, and more specifically, the Chain Uniformity Principle would be violated. This may explained as follows.
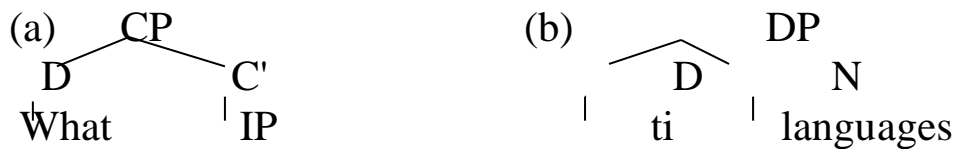
The internal DP dominated by V' is structured as:

Diagram [2:3] Structure of DP headed by a wh-element

```
                                    V'
                          V               DP
                          |            Ð       NP
                        speak                     what
language
```

and if only what moved to C, we would have:

Diagram [2:4](a) Structure of CP and (b)DP headed by a wh-element

```
(a)      CP                    (b)            DP
     D        C'                        D          N
   What        IP                       ti      languages
```
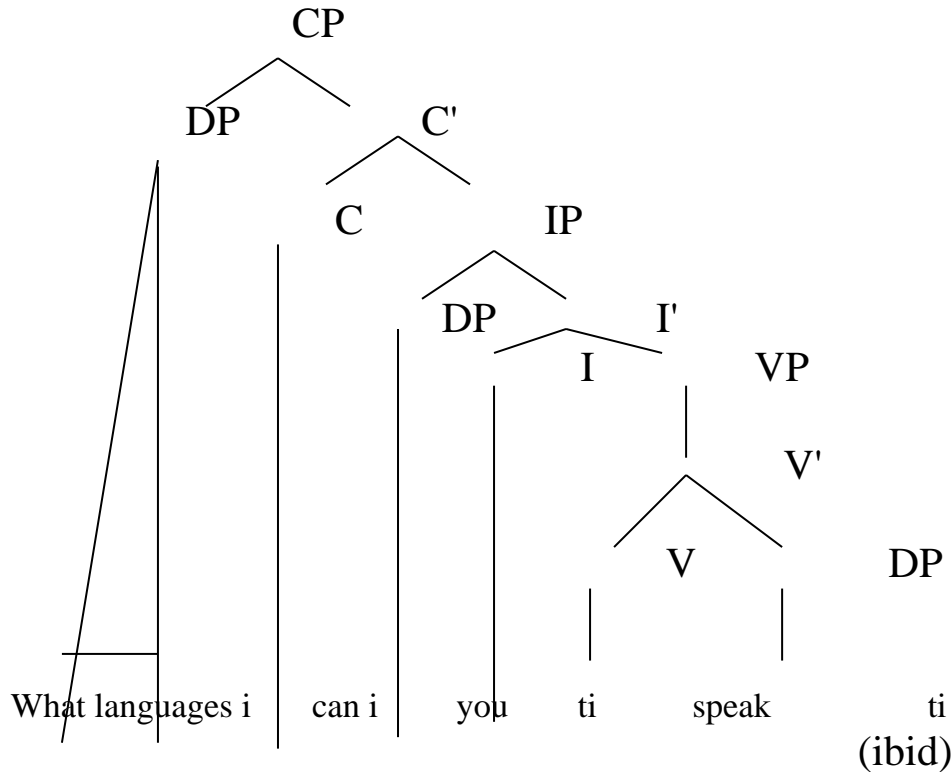
The moved constituent and its trace differ in respect to phrase-structure status, and therefore, a non-uniform chain was formed. This non-uniformity leads to the ungrammaticality

referred to above (Radford, 1997:130-1). And thus, only if the full phrase moves, grammaticality and uniformity come out, as in:

Diagram [2:5]: Movement of the phrase with its wh-head element

```
                        CP
                  /            \
             DP                 C'
           /|                 /      \
          / |               C          IP
         /  |               |        /     \
        /   |               |      DP        I'
       /    |               |      |       /    \
      /     |               |      |      I       VP
     /      |               |      |      |        |
    /       |               |      |      |        V'
   /        |               |      |      |      /    \
  /         |               |      |      |     V       DP
 /          |               |      |      |     |       |
What languages i   can i    you    ti    speak          ti
```
(ibid)

In complementation with wh-questions, a word concerning yes-no questions is of a place here. In the latter, instead of having the two movements involved in the former, only one takes place, i.e. that of SAI in which the auxiliary moves from the I to C (ibid: 106-8).

2.1.3 DP-movement

Under this rubric, topicalisation is scrutinized along with what is called Heavy NP (DP) Shift. These are the opposite to each other, however.
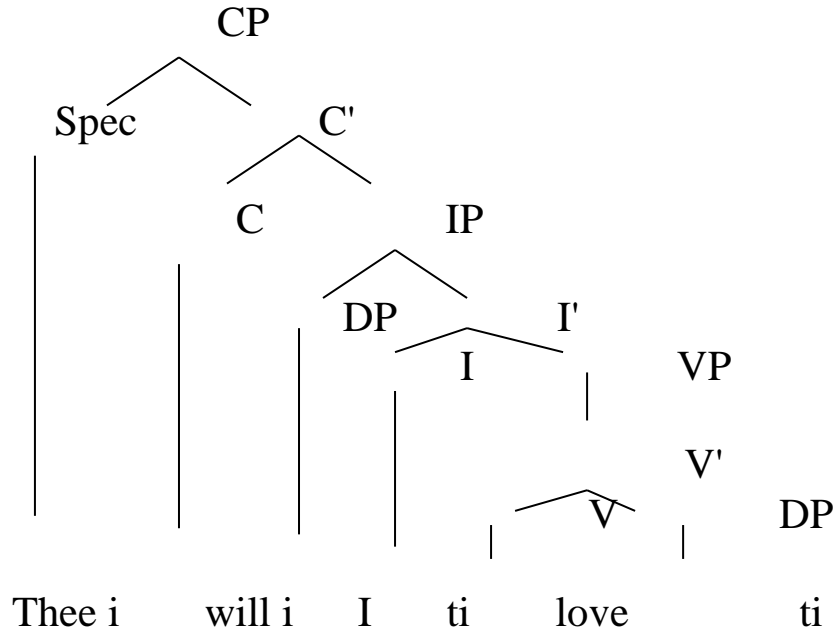
2.1.3.1 Topicalisation

It is a process whereby a certain sentential element is taken to the front of a sentence for the purpose of making it more prominent than any other element within the same sentence, as in:

(2:4) Thee i will i I ti love ti.

The lexical element is an instance made prominent by topicalisation. In terms of the present perspective, (2:4) has an object fronted , and made as the Spec of the CP [Spec, CP], as below:

Diagram [2:6]: Instance of Topicalisation

```
                        CP
                   /         \
              Spec            C'
               |          /        \
               |        C            IP
               |        |         /      \
               |        |       DP         I'
               |        |      /  \      /    \
               |        |     |   I     I      VP
               |        |     |   |     |       |
               |        |     |   |     |       V'
               |        |     |   |     |      /    \
               |        |     |   |     |     V      DP
               |        |     |   |     |     |      |
            Thee i    will i  I  ti   love          ti
```

This instance of topicalisation is accompanied by SAI which will give it more prominence, a situation in which two movements occur in assimilation to those in wh-constituent movement (Radford, ibid: 172-3).

2.1.3.2 Heavy DP Shift

The Heavy DP Shift (HDPS) process is but on the contrary of topicalisation. It involves the taking to the right a DP, the direct object (DO) in specific.

The canonical position of the DO in English is, as has been explained above, the position directly dominated by V', i.e. [DP,V'], and in basis it is inseparable from the V when it is light, i.e. realised by a pronominal or a single lexical item:

(2:5) You should read the notes with the greatest attention.

(2:6) You should read it with the greatest attention.

Separability of the two yields ungrammaticality:

(2:7) *You should read with the greatest attention the notes.

(2:8) *You should read with the greatest attention it.

Unusually the separation of the DO from the verb is legally grammatical when it is realised as "heavy", i.e. composed of a complex DP, just like:

(2:9) You should read with the greatest attention [DP all the
Instructions which you receive in the course of the day].

This last instance may be diagrammed as:

Diagram [2:7]: The process of HDPS

read   ti with the greatest… all the instructions…
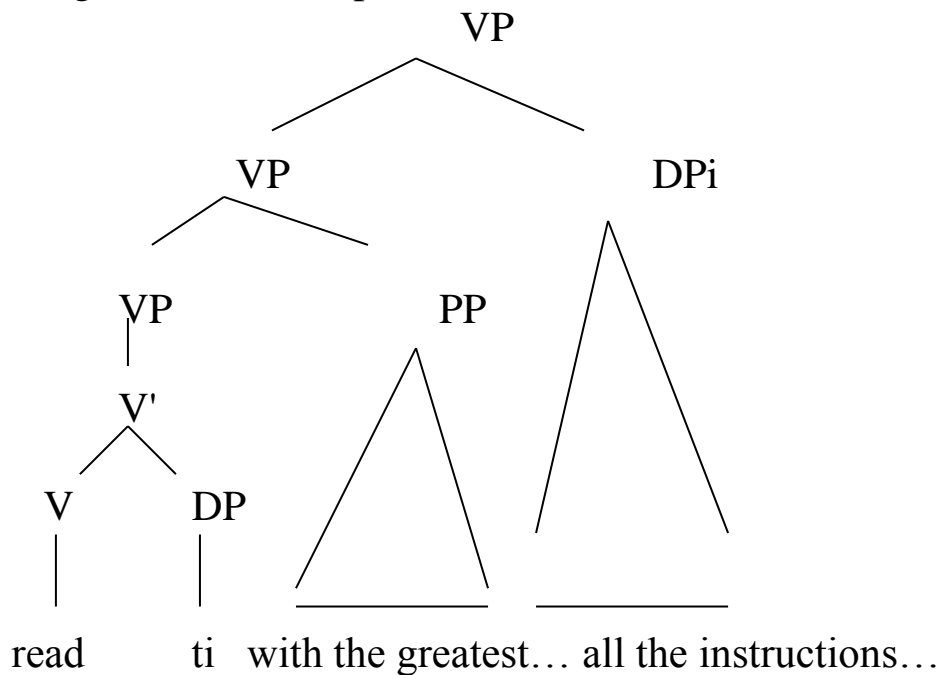
The movement of HDPS is of the A'-type for the simple reason that the landing site is specified for the caseless items in which they occur. Also, HDPS might license double movement:

(2:10) You should read ti before filling ec i with the utmost
care [DP all the instructions concerning the functioning of
the system].

(Haegeman and Guéron, 1999: 222-3)

2.2 Movement in Arabic

Movement in Arabic can be tackled within the realm of التقديم و التــأخير where elements are either pre-posed or post-posed. Whether this or that, movement can be triggered on either optional or obligatory bases. Such a view is asserted by الجرجـاني (٨٣-٤:١٩٧٨ / ٤٧١هـ :ت) who maintains that التقديم is of two types:

1- تقديمٌ على نية التأخير (Pre-posing as post-posing)

This process involves the movement of a certain sentential constituent when having no effect of whatsoever sort on the others within the same sentence, as in:

ضَربَ زيدًا عمروٌ (2:11)

where المفعول به remains as such, and الفاعل keeps so also.

2- تقديمٌ لا على نية التأخير (Pre-posing as pre-posing)

Under this comes the intention of having a meaningful permutation in the sentential constituents. For instance, in a subject-predicate sentence, the relationship between the two elements concerned sometimes changes by making once the first a subject and the second a predicate, and in the second time, the second element a subject while the first a predicate. Consider:

زيدٌ المنطلقُ (2:12) and,

المنطلقُ زيدٌ (2:13)

In the second type of movement (تقديمُ لا على نية التأخير), looking at sentence constituents is not made haphazardly, rather, on the basis of purposeful intention, and consequently, the topic is changed and the overall meaning is too (ibid).

The elements that undergo pre-posing are three: المفعول بـه (Direct object), الخبر (Predicate), and الحـال Object of state).

To suffice the needs of the present study, المفعـول بـه and الخبرwill be scrutinized as well as their being involved in wh-movement in questions, while الحـال will be excluded since it

reflects a highly complicated syntactic treatment which needs ample time and space.

2.2.1 DP-movement

Within the discussion of this heading, two types of أرِ s will be involved: المفعول به and الخبر.

2.2.1.1 المفعول به

المفعـول بـه originates as the second nominal element (٢أ) after الفاعـل which is realised as (١أ) under the second part (رأ)in addition to the first, which is رف of which the verbal sentence is composed and stated as رس.This is shown in the diagram for the following traditional instance:

ضَربَ عمروٌ زيدًا (2:14)

Diagram [2:8]: Syntax of the Arabic verbal sentence
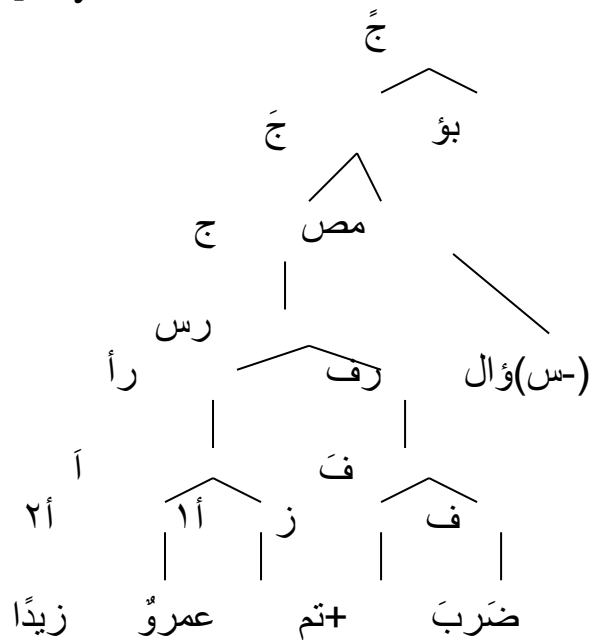
This diagram shows the ordinary linear realisation of elements in the Arabic verbal sentence. However, there are instances in which some certain sentential elements are pre-posed for a substantial change of meaning and initiated by outstanding syntactic reasons.

In so far as the current category, i.e. المفعول بـه, it should be pre-posed in front of الفاعل in:

1-the case where الفاعل is confined by إلا :

ما هَذبَ الناسَ إلا الدينُ القويمُ (2:15)

2-the case where المفعـول بـه is made by an attached pronoun, and الفاعل

is a prominent nominal:

كافأني الأميرُ (2:16)

3-the case where to الفاعـل is attached a pronoun anaphoric to المفعول

بـه:

كافأ التلميذَ معلمُه (2:17)

(١١٨ :١٣٥٤هـ ,الهاشمي)

A close look at these cases reveals that المفعول بـه might be seen as switching places with الفاعـل, not arbitrarily but on solid grounds. As regards the present position, (2:15) might be diagrammed as in:

Diagram [2:9]: Pre-posed مفعول به in (2:15)

أ١

ح

ما هذب   +تم   الناس   إِلا   الدينُ القويمُ
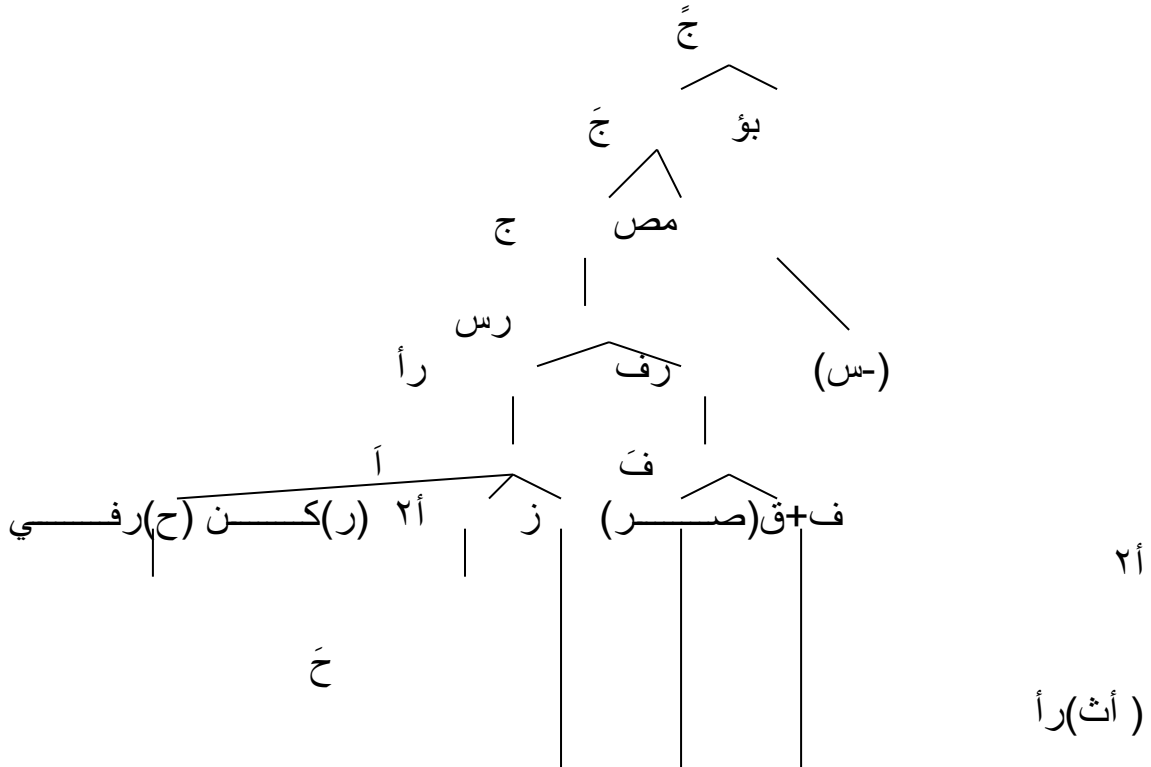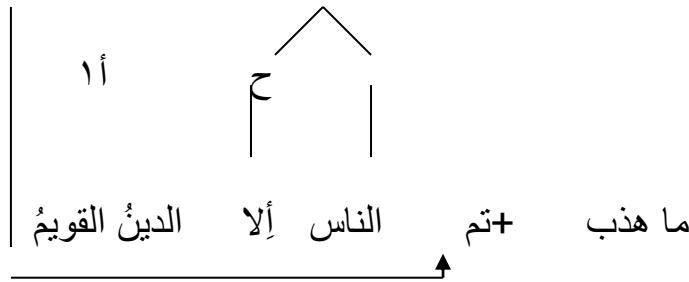
The reason why المفعـول بـه has been pre-posed is shown in the above diagram. It is made clear how the strategy of restriction (قصـر) has confined الفاعـل by إِلا (the first element in this strategy), and made ف realised as preceded by مـا (the second element). For this, المفعـول بـه has come before الفاعـل. And pre-posing also made the moved ٢أ leave أثر (أث) and the two are bound by the local relation of c-commanding. Simultaneously, the two, the antecedent المفعـول بـه, and its trace أث are realised within the same local domain in the diagram, a situation which permits the referred to relation to function properly.

As for the other two cases, they may be diagrammed syntactically in the following way:

Diagram [2:10]: Pre-posing المفعول به in (2:16) and (2:17)

جَّ

بؤ   جَ

مص   ج

رس   (س-)

رأ   رف

أَ   فَ

٢أ   أ١   ٢أ   ز   ف

ضمير-ظاهر

أث   كافأ   +تم   ني   الأميرُ   ٢أ

أث   معلمُه   التلميذَ   +تم   كافأ
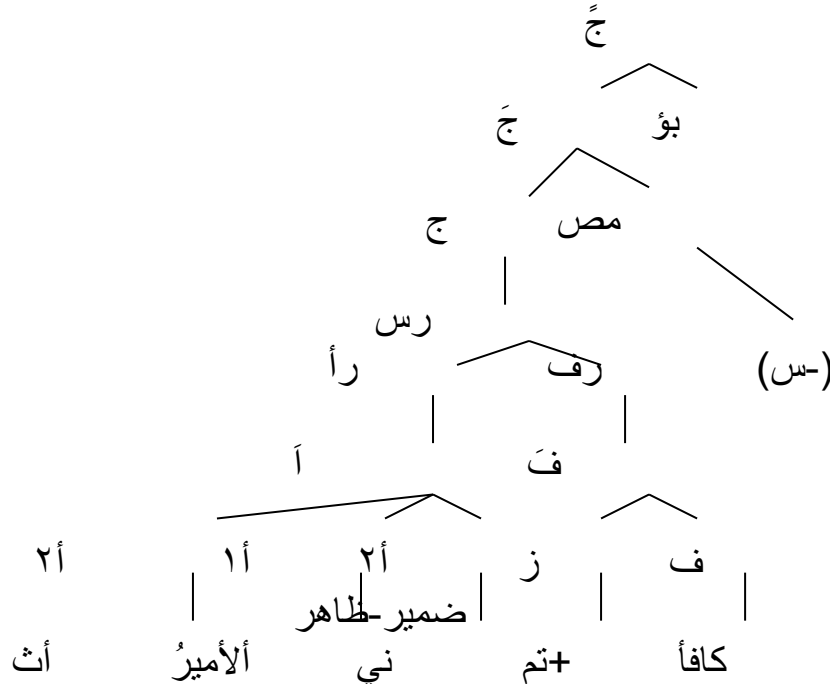
This, as the one before it, represents obviously why المفعول بـه has been pre-posed ahead of الفاعـل.In example (2:16), it is because المفعول بـه is realised as an attached pronoun, and in (2:17) because الفاعـل has an attached pronoun referring back to the object. In the latter, the antecedent has a local relation with its anaphoric pronoun. Moreover, in both cases, المفعـول بـه has been bound to its أث by the same type of local relation of c-commanding.

In general, the realisation of المفعـول بـه as ٢أ is done on a purpose: it usually comes as second in the sentence, and further to say it has been made to come to the front for a purpose, too.

The moved elements of المفعـول بـه all have left their places on the left and targeted the right in an A'-movement type. It is A'-movement, for there is no object position just after the verb where the place is specified for الفاعل.

In addition to this, المفعـول بـه has to be pre-posed in front of both, الفعل and الفاعـل as follows:

1- Where المفعـول بـه is an expression that has to come initial in speech

(له الصدارة في الكلام):
(غافر:٨١) فَأَيَّ آيَاتِ اللهِ تُنكِرُونَ (2:18)

2- Where المفعـول بـه is a separate pronominal indicating التخصيص
(particularisation) :
(الفاتحة:٥) أِيَاكَ نَعْبُدُ (2:19)

3-Where the operator, i.e. الفعل occurs after فاء الجـزاء (فـاء used to

separate the protasis and apodosis of a conditional sentence):

وَ رَبَّكَ فَكَبِرْ (2:20)

(الهاشمي, ibid)

4- Where المفعول به is اسم شرط (a conditional noun):

أَيَّا تضرب أَضربُ (2:21)

(ابن عقيل, ت: 769هـ/1980:77)

These examples show another aspect in pre-posing المفعول بـه in that is involved in a process where by the heavy amount of meaning carried by المفعول بـه is loaded from behind and then expelled to the front. Consider for instance the syntactic representation of the examples (except for the example (2:18)) above:

Diagram [2:11]: Syntax of Pre-posing المفعول بـه before both الفعل and الفاعل

أث	أنت (ضم-مستتر)	‏تَم-	فَكَبِّر	رَبَّك
أث	أنت (ضم مستتر)	‏تَم-	تَضرِبْ	أَيًّا
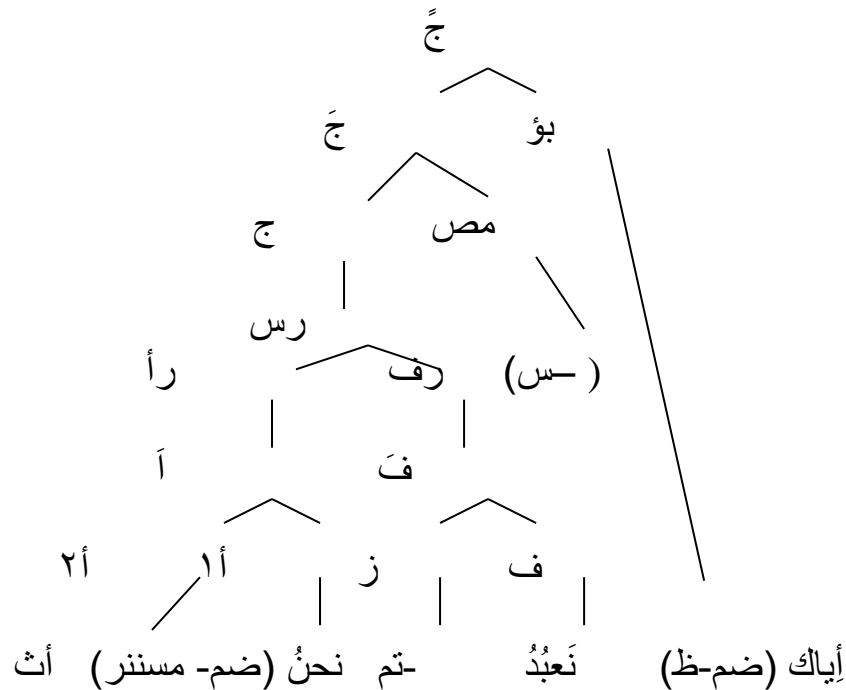
The moved elements hosted by بؤ are fronted أs (DPs) representing instances of المفعـول بـه in the above examples. They have moved and of course left أثs behind them to specify the original base positions in which they occur at default. The specifier (بؤ) of the whole proposition, in all the instances, c-commands its trace (أث) by being bound by a local relation and being realised in the same domain. This is exactly what happens in the cases whether المفعـول بـه is a separate pronominal (2:19) or a conditional noun (2:21), or it comes after the operator which is preceded by فاء الجزاء (2:20).

As regards the type of movement involved, it is an A'-movement targeting an A'-position for the simple reason that there is no base position for the object before both of الفعـل and الفاعـل. This is because the position concerned is not associated with any specific type of grammatical function.

2.2.1.2 الخبر

Reasons behind the obligatory pre-posing of الخبر agree in orientation with those that urged the same movement of المفعـول بـه. In all, الخبـر is usually realised as the second nominal element (٢أ ر) after المبتـدأ which is the first (ر ١ أ) in the nominal sentence. These two in company make the basic constituents thereof.

As for the present concern, it could be said that the predicate should be pre-posed when:

1- It is realised as an expression that has to come initial in speech (له

الصدارة في الكلام):
أينَ كتابُكَ؟ (2:22)

2-It is made specific to the subject:

ما عادلٌ إلا ربي (2:23)

3-The subject has an attached pronoun anaphoric to the predicate

itself:

للعاملِ جزاءُ عملهِ (2:24)

4-It is a time or place expression, or a prepositional phrase, while the
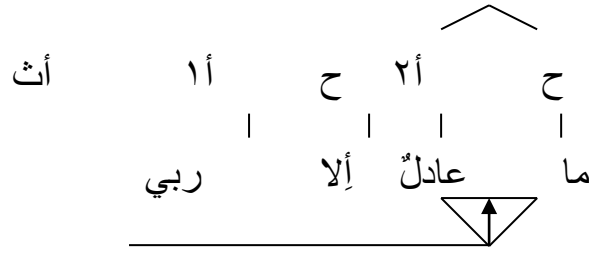
subject is an indefinite impermissive nominal:

للقادمِ دهشةٌ (2:25)

(۱۳۰: ۱۳٥٤هـ ,الهاشمي)

In trying to figure what happens in the pre-posing of الخبر,let us consider the Diagram [2:12] which represents, collectively, the examples (2:23-25)- the example (2:22) is left on a purpose- just below:

Diagram [2:12]: Pre-posed instances of الخبر in (2:23)

أث   ١أ   ح   ٢أ   ح   ح

ربي   إلا   عادلٌ   ما
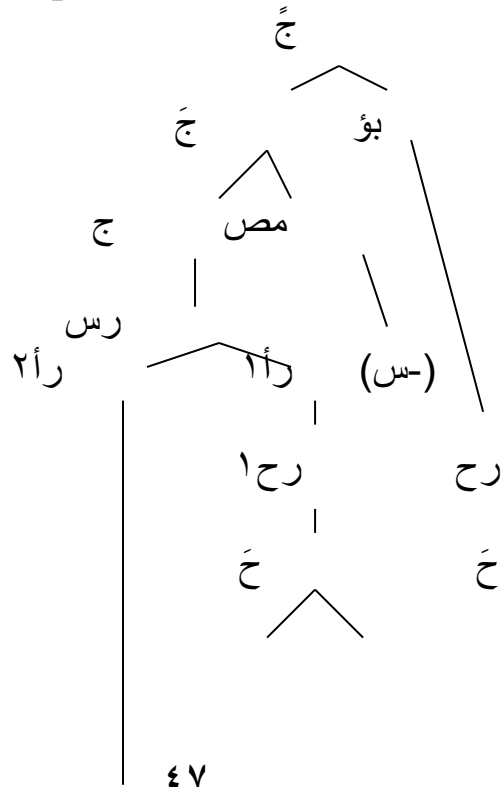
This diagram configures the process adopted in pre-posing الخبـر. It shows how it left its base position to the left and took the step forward to the right as an outstanding topic. The same as this mechanism is adopted by the other forms of الخبر to be fronted.

Too, here, the movement in process is an A'-movement, and targeting also an A'-position. And what is more is that a close look at the diagram will show that the pre-posed constituent dominates its أث which was left behind. Between the two exists a local relation by being bound to each other in terms of c-commanding, i.e. the antecedent ما عادل c-commands its أث.

2.2.2 Wh-movement

In the previous categories of DP movement discussed right above, two instances of wh-moved constituents were encountered. The first was when المفعـول بـه might be realised as an expression that should come initial, and the second was when الخبـر had to be so realised too.

In both cases, nothing change: المفعـول بـه takes the front to be the Specifier (بؤ) of the entire proposition, and will leave behind a position holder for itself realised as أث . Moreover, the two are related to each other by the local relation of c-commanding: then antecedent (المفعول به) c-commands its trace (أث).

الخبـر will behave as though it were an ordinary lexical constituent. It leaves أث , and this will be c-commanded by the fronted خبر realised as the بؤ of the whole clause.

The only difference in both cases is that instead of having طلـح(مص) realised as (س-), it will be (س+) to indicate that the nature of the clause has changed from being a declarative to being an interrogative proposition, in addition to the change of tone as well.

What is unfamiliar still in the issue of wh-movement is the yes/no questions in Arabic. These are formed by the addition of أَ or هَـلْ for interrogation. The addition takes place at the front of the whole proposition: أ and هـل will function as the بـؤ to the clause, while the remainder of the clause is realised as though nothing took place except for the intonation. Consider:

(الصافات:١٦) أَءِنا لَمَبعوثُون (2:26)

(الصف: ١٠) هَلْ أَدُلُّكُم على تجارةٍ تُنجيكم من عذابٍ أَليمٍ (2:27)

When we say that nothing changes, it should be taken to mean that a verbal sentence remains verbal and the nominal nominal, and that is that. Let us have a look at the syntax of (2:26) and (2:27) respectively below:

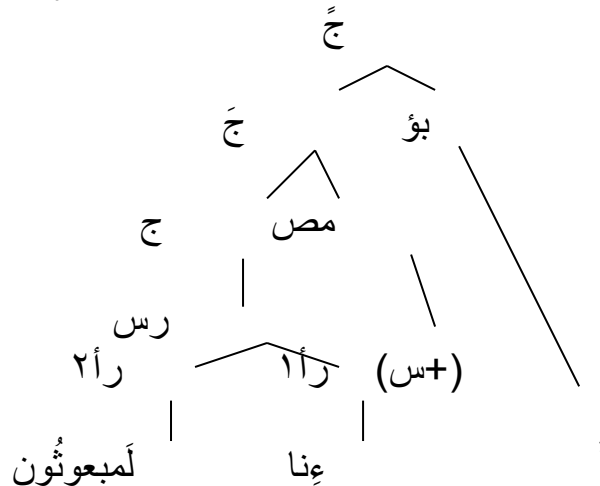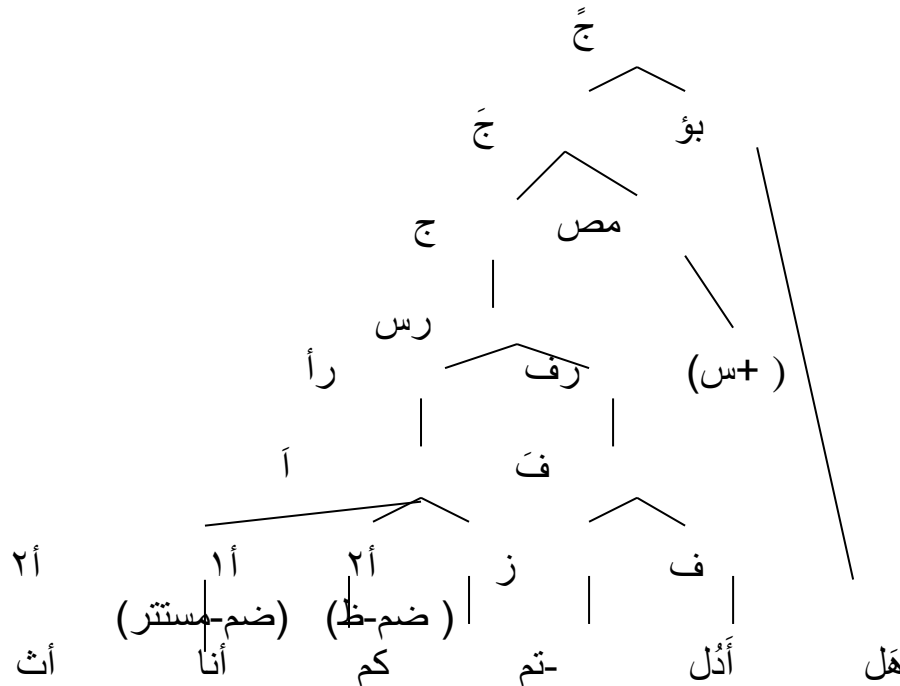Diagram [2:13]: Syntax of (2:26)

Diagram [2:14]: Syntax of (2:27)

These diagrams show exactly what has been just stated above about the fact that nothing changes except for the intonation as well as the insertion of the interrogative particles of أ and هَل. And as such we are in a position that in Arabic yes/no question no movement is involved, a case that should be differentiated from English where SAI occurs.

3. Conclusions

The findings that the researcher arrived at are as follows:

1- English shows A'-movement in sentence constituents such as wh-phrases when representing mainly the direct object, and DPs involved in topicalisation and Heavy DP Shift. The movement of DPs in topicalisation and Heavy DP Shift are to opposite directions however.

2-   Arabic also exhibits an A'-movement in المفعـول بـه and الخبـر whether they are ordinary lexical items (أs), or shown as wh-constituents used in questions.

3-   In English the moved elements leave their basic position in the right and target the left peripheral position maintained for a special purpose. This goes against one situation in which we have the movement directed to the right. This is the case of HDPS.

4-   In Arabic, movements are directed to the right when الخبر and المفعول به leave their basic positions and leave traces behind to target A'-positions.

5-   Head-to-head movements are important in English in that grammatical questions (Yes/no- and wh-questions) require the movement of the head under I of IP to the head under C of CP.

6-   Arabic questions involve no head-to-head movements, for the moved elements leave their basic positions in which they were not heads but their landing sites would mainly host heads. This great difference is associated with the idea of the absence of the concept of auxiliary in Arabic. And further, in yes/no questions, the addition of interrogative particle takes place outside the realm of the realisation of the main sentence constituents. The particles أ and هَـل take the Specifier (بؤ) position in front of the entire clause.

7-   In accordance with what has been arrived at of the conclusions of the study, it is proved that movement in Both languages is subject to universal principles.

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