

A Linguistic Study of Image Schemas in the Body of Proverbs in Northern Khuzestan in Dezfuli Dialect¹

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Abstract

In the present research, the common metaphors in body of proverbs in northern Khuzestan within the framework of cognitive semantics, based on Evans and Green Schematic Model (2006) are studied. Recordings of languages and dialects plays an important role in preserving language and cultural transmission from one generation to another one. Therefore, one reason of gradual loss of local languages may be attributed to the lack of literary texts. In this regard, proverbs as a component of culture, national, personal and social identity are significant. Proverbs can play a major role

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in transferring and recognizing concepts and language studies. The role of proverbs and discovering their cognitive structure in regard with the surrounding environment can have a major effect on how to select topics and their purposeful processing in Iranian dialects. Therefore, the need for this study in the framework of cognitive semantics is of great importance. The present study was done through descriptive –inductive method and some data were gathered based on a field study of local speakers. Results of the study revealed that the interaction between experience and environment in forming schemata and conceptual metaphors have a valuable role which appear as practical concepts in audience discourse. Furthermore, the overall schema types specified in Green and Evans Model (2006) including space schema, containment schema, force schema, unity schema, and existence schema were traced in proverbs of Dezfuli Dialect in the north of Khuzestan.

Keywords: Cognitive semantics, image schemas, Dezfuli dialect, proverbs, surrounding environment