Cognitive System of Fears Concept in Persian and Arabic languages

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1. INTRODUCTION

The present study is classified in the field of cognitive linguistics studies. Cognitive linguistics is an approach to the study of language that investigates the relationship between language, the human mind, and human experience. In this study, we used cognitive metaphor, which is the advantage of cognitive studies, as an effective tool for linguistic data that contain fear. In cognitive metaphors, a part of the properties of a physical concept corresponds to a part of the properties of a more abstract concept, and thus provides the conditions for its understanding and expression. This study is important because it identifies a systematic system of broad and seemingly scattered expressions containing the concept of fear, and an attempt has been made to describe the discipline within expressions, in the form of cognitively related structures. In this study, our goal is to answer the following questions by cognitively examining the concept of fear:

1. What are the most common source domain for understanding and expressing the concept of fear in Persian and Arabic languages?
2. What are the Ressemblance and differences in the structure of the concept of fear between these two languages?
3. What prototype and non- prototype patterns does the cognitive approach explain for the mentioned languages?

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

This study has been conducted analytically-semantically and includes a selection of the most common metaphorical expressions related to fear that are used in spoken and written forms of Persian and Arabic languages and have been collected for the purpose of this study for comparison; then the results were studied and analyzed based on the "revised standard theory" presented by Kovecses (2005). Kovecses considers metaphor as a reality that contain linguistic, conceptual, neural, physical, and socio-cultural features all together.He believes that the issue of over-emphasis on cognitive theory on the universality of metaphors should be corrected, Because this theory must be able to explain the universality and diversity of metaphors at the same time; Given that many metaphors arise on the basis of cultural considerations and not necessarily on the basis of physical experiences, such as the fear and caution of imagining many phenomena and events that are considered unlucky.

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It should be noted that the data of the present study collected from some lexical sources such as the *Amsal*-o *Hekam of* Dehkhoda and Al-Monjed in the contemporary Arabic language, which have provided examples of proverbs, and this issue has made it possible to cite examples for the proposed metaphors.

In this study, we deal with various elements of the concept of fear, such as figurative, metaphor, cognitive patterns, cultural perception of physiology, and environmental phenomena and events. When we study many of the expressions that consists the concept of fear, we find that they are organized with linguistic origins, which are mainly features of "cold" and its metaphorical implications, such as freezing, numbness of the hands and feet, trembling of the organs, freezing or stiffness or transfixed face and organs and immobility, whitening of the skin or paleness, etc. That is why we chose cold as the main source of this phrase.

However, in some interpretations, the concept of fear was conceived and expressed even though the person's appearance "transfixed", but this does not mean that the person inside is also immobile and frozen; Rather, intense fear is a force that impres a person deeply. In fact, part of the cognitive system of fear is as if in the experience of intense and sudden fear, the fear felt deaply and suddenly into the heart → As a result, the heart shakes as a container and its contents → Sometimes the intensity of the feals of shock is so great that it causes the heart to rupture and the heart is severely sink. Excessive depth and intensity of fear and lack of control may also impair a person's physical and mental functioning, and the person may become physically ill or mentally and emotionally disturbed, and even go insane. It should be added that the source domain with which fear is conceived and expressed, such as frozeness, cold, disease, and insanity, create a very negative evaluation of fear, in contrast to their opposites of flexibility and freedom of movement, pleasant temperature, and physical and mental health.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A selection of the most common cognitive expressions of Persian and Arabic languages shows that:

- Cold, dish, disease and animal are the most common source domain for the metaphorical expression and understanding of the concept of fear.

Many aspects of the concept of fear in these two languages are common and some others are culture-based. The culture-based data of this study are mainly homogeneous metaphors, ie both languages use common metaphors in general, then add their cultural cognitive information to it and create specific linguistic metaphors. For example, the metaphor of "fear is the freezing of fluid in a container" in Arabic has chosen the general metaphor (fear is cold) and has created the expression of the culture-based (خوف يجمّد الدم في العروق), while in Persian, on the other hand, freezing is often a container that has a linguistic appearance (تنم يخ كرد).

The Prototypical cognitive models of the present study are in accordance with the five-stage scenario of emotion and some of the Prototypical models can be searched in conventions and religious manifestations. For example, the value pattern of conventions or religion is different from the cognitive model of emotion, which consists of five stages, i.e., it is the value fear model that organizes the cognitive fear scenario, and is a desirable fear of conventions-religious feild, and fear of others is considered distasteful. As if the ideal situation for someone with this culture should always be a place between fear and hope, not absolute fear and despair or intense hope and confidence.

Keywords: Persian and Arabic languages, Cognitive system, Concept of fear, Congruent metaphors.