

Agentive Forms Formation in English and Arabic***Asst. Prof . Dr. Iman Hamid*******Asst. Prof . SaharFaiq Ali****

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Abstract

The present research is concerned with studying agentive forms in English and their corresponding forms in Arabic in order to determine some points of similarity and difference ; particularly as far as form and syntactic function are concerned. The research pointed out that they are similar in the derivation process which both undergo. In English This process incorporates a large number of suffixes , some quasi suffixes and few morphological processes. In Arabic , this derivation is strictly associated with two patterns determined by the morphological structure of the verb , the sole source of derivation. As for the syntactic function of the agentive forms, it is confined to the nominal one in English while it extensively includes nominal and adjectival functions besides the basic verbal in Arabic.

1. Introduction:

The term "agentive" or "agent" was first introduced by Fillmore (1968, : 1) to refer to "the typically animate perceived instigator of the action ". It normally refers to the willing performer of an action or controller of an event, just opposed to any unwilling or unwitting entity which brings an action to effect, when the role is referred to as force (Payne, 2011 : 137). It is intended to stress the fundamental semantic relationships in a sentence in which the verb is the central element establishing a wide range of such relationships (cases) with the noun phrases clustering around it. These cases include : agentive, instrumental, recipient, objective, dative, affected, etc (Richards etal, 1992 : 46). To begin with, agentive refers to one of the semantic roles displayed by a noun or a noun phrase referring to a person or animal that performs the action intended by the verb which is usually associated with process or

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action. It is generally agreed that "agentive " is to refer to a form or construction whose typical function is to specify the means whereby a particular action came out (Katamba, 1993 : 268; Crystal, 2003 : 16).

The two terms are in constant use involving the role of a voluntary doer, initiator, or performer (usually animate) instigating, causing, or controlling the action underlying the verb (Saeed, 1997 : 78; Kearns, 2000 : 189). Therefore, an agentive role stipulates animacy and volition. Moreover, in passive constructions a by-phrase accompanies the agentive (if needed) and a with-phrase for the things used to perform the action (Yule, 2006 : 64). Quite differently, Richards et al (1992 : 11) indicated that the term "agent " is sometimes used exclusively to refer to the noun phrase following "by " in passive even if it doesn't refer to the performer of the action.

Agentive forms prevail abundantly in all languages since actions are ceaselessly on going. However, they are not expressed or realized in the same manner due to languages' specific rules of agentive formation. Therefore, the main purpose of the research undertaken is to investigate chiefly the formation process (es) underlying these forms and their syntactic functions in order to establish the potential points of similarity and /or difference between the two languages in focus, namely English and Arabic (Modern Standard Arabic). Put it differently, which morphological processes underlie these forms and what concomitant alternations may intervene. Then, the range of the syntactic functions of the resultant forms are displayed and discussed. In order to provide a better insight into the forms under study, the research corpus consists of separate contingents of examples illustrating these forms in both languages. Then, a comparison of all the morphological processes in question in both languages is highlighted and discussed altogether with the syntactic functions involved exposing the points of convergence or divergence as far as the two languages are concerned.

2. Agentive Forms in English

In order to express and realize the semantic function of agentive, animate nouns can be extensively used. However, English

exhibits a vast multitude of realizations, namely derivational suffixes which are uniquely and usually said to be post-positioned affixal morphemes used to yield derivatives the meaning of which refers to a person who has to do with what is indicated by the base. These agentive suffixes are usually gender neutral, which means that all of them may be used to form masculine and feminine performer nouns. The typical agentive derivative in English will attach to a free base of simple morphological structure. It is important to say that agentive suffixes can be appended to various types of bases. Categorically speaking, the most typical base is a verb base, since verbs incorporate actions, states and events. Nevertheless, nouns as well as adjectives (to a rather limited extent) can serve as bases. However, some other morphological processes are also involved to produce these nouns. Thus, the following pages will be wholly devoted to presenting these derivational suffixes together with their orthographic variants, if exist. Then, the other morphologically related processes are also dealt with in some detail.

2-1 Agentive Forming Suffixes in English

1. an (-arian, -ian, -ician)

This derivational suffix and its variants combine with nouns to yield agentive performing action in the ordinary sense or skillfully. Zandvoort (1972 : 311) added that this suffix can also derive agentive nouns meaning following a particular discipline or style. Here are some illustrative examples of all the variants stated: historian, librarian, technician, republican.

2. ant (-ent)

This suffix is used to form agentive nouns from verbs most of which are of Latinate origin. More important is that it is found predominantly in some adaptations of coined or loan words from French, and it produces two potential senses in derivatives, a person who performs the action, as in "assistant", "attendant", "informant", and a material agent that does something expressed by the base, as in "disinfectant". Moreover, some of the outcome derivatives are of technical or legal type, as in the following instances : defendant, disclaimant (Plag, 2003 : 87).

3. ate

This suffix can combine with nouns to produce a relatively small number of derivativism, as in: electorate.

4. **cide (-icide)**

This is a counter agentive suffix added to nouns to get agentive nouns expressing force, power or resistance against which action is carried out (Crystal, 2003: 114). It can be found in examples like: genocide, insecticide.

5. **crat (-ocrat)**

The agentive nouns resulting from the addition of this suffix can convey the meaning of believing in the stated principles of government or sciences controlling organization, as in: democrat, technocrat.

6. **ee**

This suffix is of Latin and French origin and it is primarily employed to designate someone who undergoes a certain action, or it may be the indirect object implied in the verb, as in "returnee". In other words, it combines with the verb to refer to a person affected (patient) by the action carried out by the agentive nouns as in: employee, addressee, testee. These forms are often associated with agentive nouns ending in –er (Zandvoort, 1972: 299). Bauer (1989: 244) pointed out that this suffix is basically originated in loan words from Old French and it is originally a legalistic suffix. Further, Plag (2003: 88) reiterated that the derivatives of this type denote sentient entities involved in an event and non-volitional participant (so called episodic –ee).

7. **eer**

This suffix, more significant in the derivation of professional names, is added to nouns or names of things to produce agentive nouns whose meaning can be paraphrased as a person who is concerned with something, who deals in or has to do with something, as evidenced in the following: auctioneer, budgeter, mountaineer. It is important to add that some of the derivatives have a depreciative tinge and a contemptuous meaning (Zandvoort , 1972: 299; Plag , 2003: 88).

8. **er (-or, -ar)**

This is the chief among the agentive suffixes, developed from the Old English suffix "ere" but by time it eventually lost its final grapheme. Initially, the orthographic variant –or occurs mostly with Latinate verb stems ending in /s / or / t /, as in: conductor,

oscillator, compressor (Plag, 2003: 89). This suffix is freely added to verbs to yield derivatives like: baker, hunter, painter etc. Most of these derivatives denote persons following a regular trade or profession. In fact, this suffix has yielded a teeming number of agentive nouns, which means that it is the most productive agentive suffix, along with its variant -or. The distinction between these two variants is purely historical and orthographical; they are similarly pronounced presently, but many significant spelling implications are involved. Bauer (1989: 175) mentioned that this suffix can also combine with noun phrases, as in: hot mooner. What is worth mentioning in this regard is that this suffix has another variant "-ar" which is regarded as an alternation of "-er or -or" and it does occur in a handful of instances like: "beggar" and "liar". Bauer (1989 : 175). Although it has already been stated that this suffix can be easily added to verb stems to produce endless and countless agentive nouns, lexical rules may have arbitrary lexical blocking as is the case with "spy" where "*spier" is never admitted. In the same respect, Bauer (1989: 87), Katamba (1990: 235) and Cowie (2009: 17) all in consensus indicated that in spite of the exceeding productivity and wide spread use of the -er suffix, there is no word like *stealor because of the prior existence of the word "thief (or actually robber). In other words, this restriction implying the exclusion of a derivative because of having an earlier synonym is referred to as blocking (Cowie, 2009: 17). It is quite important right now to say that not all English verb stems can have a corresponding standardized or permanent agentive nouns, therefore, it is always possible to produce an ad hoc or temporary agentive nouns with the suffix -er (Quirk and Greenbaum, 1973: 456).

The evidence supporting the high productivity of the -er suffix is stressed by Bauer (1989 : 288f) who gave two instances of pairs where some meaning is provided by two forms: dropper in and drop in; sky jacker and sky jack.

A point to add here is related to the derivation of agentive nouns from phrasal verbs, which is not an easy task to handle, since many competing patterns may be available. The first choice is to add the -er to the verb stem as in: droppper in. The second, which is rather rare, is to add it to the particle, as in: come outer. A third involves preposing the particle and adding the -er to the verb, as in:

on looker. Still a fourth choice is available which is to delete the particle completely, as in: waiter for wait on someone. Obviously, some of the choices are awkward, rare or even unconvincing at all. A final point to close of with this suffix is that agentive nouns with –er are virtually numerous but we don't have a carte blanche to use it with absolutely any noun (Katamba, 1990: 70).

9. ist

This agentive forming suffix can combine with base nouns where the following meanings can be recognized: advocate of, as in: communist, anarchist, or practioner or professional of, as in: pianist, violinist (Katamba, 1993: 70). Moreover, it is added to all nouns ending in "ism" denoting attitude, beliefs or theories having potential counterparts in "ist" (Plag, 2003: 91). Accordingly, agentive nouns of this type can denote the following: science or art, as in: archaeologist, dramatist; trade or profession, as in: balloonist, dentist; adherent of a system or principle, as in : atheist, This suffix can also be added to adjectives, as in: socialist, functionalist (Zandvoort, 1972: 361). Further, when attached to verbal bases, few instances can be imparted, as in: speculatist, computist, rapist.

10. nik

This suffix is added to nouns denoting a person who is connected with, or very keen on something, as in: computernik, or peacenik.

11. ster

This suffix is actually added to non –personal nouns to derive agentive nouns expressing the meaning of being in the practice of something, as in: gamester, gangster with a rather pejorative meaning . However, in some other derivatives like: songster, youngster, teamster, no pejorative meaning is implied (Zandvoort, 1972: 302).

Before skipping to the next section, it is appropriate to add that when these suffixes are appended or attached to the specific bases, only some may undergo some alternations or intervention. However, the general tendency in English spelling implies the doubling of the final grapheme standing for a consonant in order to preserve the short vowel preceding it whether in mono or disyllabic bases, as in "runner" and "beginner". Actually, the most important

spelling alternations are associated with the agentive suffix "-er". This may be ascribed to the immense productivity of this suffix. With bases ending in mute /e/ the last grapheme fuses with the suffix, as in "diner" as well as with bases ending in /-y/ it changes into /-i/, as in "supplier". Still, another orthographic intervention involves the addition of a grapheme with no phonological counterpart; particularly this occurs with verbs ending in /-k/ besides other types of bases with the same phonological closure, but represented by the grapheme /-c/ in writing. Consequently, the base undergoes some expansion by the addition of the /-k-/ immediately before the insertion of the agentive suffix. This may be related to reinforce this type of consonant base and to avoid any sibilization in front of a vowel initialed suffix. This is illustrated in the following: "frolicker" and "picnicker". A final alternation is related to bases ending in /-w/ in which the base is expanded by the grapheme /-y/, as in "lawyer" where this inserted grapheme 's function is to block any contact of the two adjacent vowels (Internet2).

2-2 Some Other Expressive Forms

To discuss this type of agentive formation, in fact, we are dealing with an element standing halfway between full words and suffixes. Therefore, it can be used as a second element of a compound (Marchand, 1969: 256). Another view is presented by Sinclair (1972: 116) who repeated and emphasized that that this element is a semi or quasi suffix added to nouns producing a compound or composite as "monger" in: fish-monger, iron-monger. This semi suffix often occurs in nouns connected with trade. Other elements with the same semi –suffixal character include: "naut" and "wright". The first refers to someone who navigates or controls a vehicle of some kind, as in: "astronaut" .As for the second, it occurs in nouns referring to someone who creates, builds, or repairs, as in: "playwright" and "cartwright".

Having presented all the suffixes and semi-suffixes involved in the process of agentive formation. Apparently, suffixation is the prominent word formation in this respect. What is more is that these suffixes whenever attach they involve more than one class type. Put it differently they attach to nouns, verbs, adjectives and even, sometimes, particles depending entirely on some constraints

semantically imposed. Moreover there exists a possibility of having more than one suffix attach to the same as in "adviser" and "advisor".

Besides all these means of expressing agentive nouns, there remain some morphological processes that can do the same function. These processes include: compounding and conversion. As for the first process it involves a unit consisting of two or more similar or different bases (Quirk and Greenbaum, 1973: 444). What is distinctive about this process is that it includes incorporated words or, compounds (Long and Long, 1971: 405). It has been indicated earlier that the –er suffix is highly productive since it yields a large number of derivatives, namely compound agentive nouns, as in: book-seller, house-keeper, deep-sea diver. Additionally, these derivatives denote a person doing something regularly or occasionally, but not as a profession, as in: passer- by, on looker, truck-driver (Zandvoort , 1972 : 299f; Spencer etal, 2001:).

The second process is conversion. Actually, this process can be subsumed under zero derivation as Nida (1967: 46) maintained. This is due to the fact that it serves to create new words depending on the already existing or available ones (Booij, 2005: 57). A relatively small number of agentive nouns can be created via this process by merely changing the word class without any derivation, as in : cheat, cook, judge, nurse etc(Quirk and Greenbaum, 1973: 441). However, some implications may involve alternation of stress placement.

2.3 Functions of Agentive Forms in English

Being a noun or noun phrase, the agentive form is quite capable of performing an extensive range of syntactic functions which are often exercised by any noun phrase. Therefore, it can typically be subject complement and direct object.

modifying another noun. Moreover, it is variable for number, i.e., it complies with the English two –term number system and is accompanied with zero, definite and indefinite articles matching with the reference it conveys. As for case, it is freely used with the common case (subjective and objective) and genitive case (inflected and periphrastic). Similar to any noun phrase, the agentive

nouns can be pre and post modified. It is quite evident that there are no constraints or restrictions imposed on the syntactic functions assigned to the agentive noun. Here are examples denoting these syntactic functions:

1. **The writer is kind / his brother.**
2. **His brother is the writer.**
3. **I saw the writer.**
4. **We gave the writer some presents .**
5. **The committee found John the writer .**
6. **John , the writer , is here .**
7. **This is for the writer.**

3-Active Participle in Arabic

The agentive form in Arabic is known as " 'ismulfā'il " which corresponds to the active participle and is defined as a very common and important morphological form typically derived from the verb root to refer to the person or animate being that performs the action denoted by the verb (Gadalla, 2005: 2; Internet). Many grammarians agreed that this derived form exhibits a wide range of functions including nouns, adjectives, or verbs (Thatcher, 1922: 238 ; Beeston, 1968 : 69 ; Holes, 2004 : 149; Ryding, 2005: 112 ; Jiad, 2006 : 34f) . In order to provide a thorough insight into the subject , it is important to indicate that participles in Arabic are of two basic types: "ismulfā'il" (nomenagentis) and "ismulmaf'ūl" (nomenpatientis). The first may be referred to as the present participle or the active participle like : "āmīl" (worker) and "muqātil" (fighter). This participle conveys a sense of the active and has many functions closer to the basic clause elements. As for the other participle, it is referred to as passive participle and it is also a derived morphological form matching with the pattern " maf'ūl " as in: " maksūr " (broken) and " majrūh" (wounded). Obviously, this participle type conveys a passive sense (Aziz, 1989: 293).

3-1. Derivation of Agentive or Active Participle Forms in Arabic

Morphologically speaking, Arabic verbs fall into two prominent classes: basic "mujarrad" and derived "mazēd ", respectively (Khalil, 2010: 52). An extensive number of Arabic basic verbs are composed of three consonants or radicals. This verb type is referred to as "thulāthii ", "triliteral " or "triconsonantal"

which displays three distinct subtypes depending on the vowel variation of the second radical in the perfect active yielding the following verb forms: "fa'ala, fa'ila, fa'ula". This means whether the second radical has fatha / -a /, kasra / -i / or dhamma /- u /, as in the following : kataba (wrote) , la'iba (played) ḥazuna (became sad) (Aziz, 1989: 89). As for the other basic type, it is the basic quadrilateral having the form "fa'lala", as in: zalzala (shook), waswasa (whispered). This basic verb form includes four subtypes. With regard to the derived or non-basic types , they are typically derived from the above types, i.e., trilateral and quadrilateral. There are fifteen verb forms related to the trilateral (including the basic form fa'ala) ten of which are in constant use and the others are quite infrequent. Moreover, three forms are derived from the quadrilateral "fa'lala" (Aziz, 1989: 30). All the derived forms are composed by some morphological processes ,namely addition of one or more radicals at initial, medial or final position. These added radicals include: -a , -aa , -i , -ii , -li , - in , -ta , -is and -wa The other morphological processes involve either repetition of some radical (s) or duplicating or geminating of the radical (s)excepting the initial. In Arabic, germination is usually represented by a diacritic mark called "shadda" which appears above the pertinent consonant. This description is immensely important in the derivation of the active participle forms in Arabic. Al- Hawary (2011: 242-244) argues that the derivation of these forms is quite predictable since Arabic has strictly followed some specific patterns or molds to derive these forms referring to animate or inanimate. The following table presents a comprehensive description of this derivation incorporating all the prominent types of verbs in Arabic, namely ten types are in focus and the others are not discussed since they are very limited in use .

Table 1 : Derivation of the Active Participle in Arabic

Verb form	Perfect Active form	Imperfect Active form	Pattern of Active Participle	Active Participle of Sound Verb	Active Participle of Hollow Verb	Active Participle of Defective Verb
I	Fa'ala , fa'ila , fa'ula	Yaf'alu ,yaf'ilu , yaf'ulu	Fā'il	Kataba— kātib, la'iba—lā'ib	Bā'a-bā'i' qāla—qā'il	Da'a-dāī/dā'in
II	Fa'ala	Yufa'ilu	Mufa'il	Kassara— mukassir	-----	Samma- musammī
III	Fā'ala	Yufā'ilu	Mufā'il	----- -	Shaahada- mushaahid	Nāda- munādi/munād in
IV	'afa'ala	Yuf'ilu	Muf'il	'akrama- mukrim	'anaara- muniir	'a'ta- mu'tī/mu'tin
V	Tafa'ala	Yatafa'alu	Mutafa'il	Ta'allama - muta'allim	----- -	Tamanna- mutamannī/mu tamanin
VI	Tafā'ala	Yatafā'alu	Mutafā'il	-----	Tanāza'a- mutanāzi'	Tafāda- mutafādi/mutaf ādin
VII	'infa'ala	Yanfa'ilu	Munfa'il	'inqata'a - munqati'	'inhāza- munhāz	'intaha- muntahī/munta hin
VIII	'ifta'ala	Yafta'ilu	Mufta'il	'ihtafadamuh tafid	'ikhtaara - mukhtaar	'Ttada- mu'tadī/mu'tad in
IX	'if'alla	Yaf'allu	Muf'al	'ikhdarra – mukhdarr	----- -	----- ----
X	'istaf'ala	Yastaf'ilu	Mustaf'il	'istaqbala – mustaqbil	'istafāda - mustafēd	'istathna- mustathnī/must athnin

A close look at the table reveals that the form 1 participle is not so transparent since it doesn't convey the participle forming prefix -mu. Instead, the participle formation seems to be expressed non-transparently in the prosodic template itself: fā'il, which does not preserve the prosodic structure of the verb form. The table also shows that the active participle forms are derived according to two basic patterns governed exclusively by the morphological type of the verb involved. In other words, one pattern for the trilateral verb form yields "fā'il" and the second for the quadrilateral and all the teeming derived forms from both which in turn yields "mufaa'il"

(Al To'ma, 1969: 72). Let us set out the derivation from the trilateral "kataba" to get the form "kātib". What is going on is that the diacritical mark of the medial radical, i. e., fatha (-a) is replaced by kasra (-i) but after the insertion of the long vowel (- ā) immediately after the first radical. (Rahman, 2010: 33). It is important to add that that all the variants of the trilateral with their vocalic variation can be derived in the same manner matching with the predetermined pattern, "fā'il".

What is more to be discussed now is that if any trilateral rooted verb has one of its letters or radicals alif (hamza, a) , wāw (w) or yā (Y), then it is referred to as a weak verb, as in "qāla " (said). Further, a verb can have two radicals of this type initially, medially or finally. In accordance with this case, there are hollow verb, as in "bā'a"(sold) and defective verbs, as in "da'a" (called). Conversely, verbs lacking or not comprising these radicals are known as strong verbs, as in "kataba" (wrote) (Erwin, 1963: 87, 96, 99). Let us consider some illustrating instances. When the verb has hamza (a) initially as in "akhadha" (took) it combines with the alif of the participle form and becomes "aakhidh" (someone who takes something) implying some typographic change. Similarly, the verbs "sa'ala" (asked) and "qara'a" (read) can have their corresponding participle forms: "sā'il" and "qāri'" with the hamza represented orthographically as ُ and ِ , respectively. Other instances like "bā'a" (sold) and "qāla" (said) having the medial radical weak can have their participle forms by adding alif matching with the pattern "fā'il" after the first radical, and the weak alif is changed to hamza written as: ُ yielding "bā'i" (seller) and "qā'il" (sayer). Moreover, if the weak radical is "wāw" or "ya ", as in "awara" (one-eyed) and "ayisa" (became hopeless), their corresponding participle forms are "āwir" (???) and "āyis" (hopeless), without requiring any change orthographically (Beeston, 1968: 69).

Another type of weak verbs implies having a short vowel as its final radical, as in "qaḍa" (judged) and "baqa" (remained). When deriving a participle form , it is important to indicate that the derived form undergoes the deletion of the final radical; particularly when the derived noun is indefinite with the nominative and genitive case , but retains it in the accusative. The final radical is

also retained in all cases when the derived noun is definite (Al-Hawary, 2011: 244). The last type of the trilateral is the double verb. This verb type occurs if any trilateral rooted verbs' second and third radicals are alike, both of them are conflated together and written with a šadda over the second signifying this combination or doubling, as in: "wadda" (loved) and "šakka" (doubted) (Erwin, 1963: 94). In order to derive the participle form concerning this verb type, the same already stated pattern is adopted to impart forms like: "wādd" (lover) and "shākk" (someone who is in doubt) (Al-To'ma, 1969; Schulz et al, 2000 : 283; Rahman, 2010: 133).

As for the derivation of the participle forms from the basic quadrilateral verbs and all the remaining derived verbs, the process is to be entirely dependent on the imperfect active verb form which constitutes the sole source of the whole derivation and will underlie some changes. The first step is to omit the imperfect active prefixes (-yu and -ya) which will be consequently substituted by the prefix (-mu). The second step is to retain the vowel (i) ,i.e., kasra for the prefinal radical, as in: "sāfara" (travelled) "musāfir" (traveller). (Ghayati, w.d. 353).

Another distinct form that remarkably corresponds to the participle forms is some expressions of intensification or hyperbole. In fact, these expressions are formed in accordance with some fixed and strict patterns. Very common among those are the following: "fa'āl", "mif'āl", "fa'ūl" "fa'ūl" and "fa'il". What concerns us much is the first form, i.e. "fa'āl" which can be found in numerous examples, to mention but some: " najjār "(carpenter)", "laḥḥām" (butcher) and "baqqāl" (grocer) (As-Saamirra'ii, 1975: 108).

3.2. Functions of the Active Participle Form in Arabic

As stated earlier, the active participle has a rather extensive range of functions. It can function as a noun, adjective, or verb, as in the following:

8. Huwakātibun 'aḍīmun. (He is a great writer.)

9. Hadhihi 'ālatunkātibatun. (This is a typewriter.)

10. Huwakātibuha. (He has written it.)

Functioning as a noun (referring to animate or inanimate) and adjective, the active participle agrees with the noun head in case, number and gender. Put it differently, it is variable for case,

number and gender, and it displays all the syntactic functions any noun or adjective can perform. Here are some illustrating examples:

11. **Jā'a rajulun muqātilun .(A fighting man came .)**
12. **Jā'a rajulāni muqātilān. (Two fighting men came .)**
13. **Jā'a rijālun muqātilūn. (Fighting men came .)**
14. **Jā'at 'imra'atun muqātila. (A fighting woman came .)**
15. **Jā'at 'imra'atāni muqātilatān. (Two fighting women came .)**
16. **Jā'at nisā'un muqātilāt. (Fighting women came .)**

What is to be mentioned here is that as the examples show the plural form is not always predictable since many forms of broken plural are available. However, when referring to non- human entities, the sound feminine plural is quite common, as in: wārid (something imported) wāridāt (Schulz etal, 2000: 284). As for gender, the active participle is distinctive for gender since the feminine suffix can be attached to the noun or adjective involved. Nevertheless, some participle forms show dual or common gender just akin to the English agentive forms which always convey dual or common gender. This is evident in the following instances : nā'ib (deputy), bāḥitha (researcher).

Now, it is convenient to shift to the most prominent function of this derived form. Since the derivation of the agentive form in Arabic is almost wholly associated with the unique source morphological verb forms , the active participle form frequently has a function like that of a verb (Cantarino, 1973: 407; Hassan, 1980: 248). Therefore, it may be complemented by a direct object, or be negated by some negative particles (mā-); and expresses tense and aspect parallel to that of the perfect or imperfect. It is important to mention that when functioning as a verb, its position in the sentence is the same as a predicate adjective and definitely the sentence is of the nominal or equational type ; matching with the noun or pronoun it modifies (i.e., the subject) similar to any predicate adjective (Erwin, 1963: 337). However, the active participle form can function as a verb when being connected to or accompanied with the relative (- al) conveying relative reference to past, present and future, as in :

17. **'Aššākiru rabbahu mu'minun ṣādiqun . (He who thanks God is a firm believer)**

In this instance the participle form usually and absolutely can refer to past, present and future and it is the same as a transitive verb in being complemented by an object, i.e. (rabbaḥu). However, when the participle form is disassociated from or not accompanied with (-al), it still can perform its verbal function complying with some conditions (Ghayaati, w.d: 354). The first condition implies that the agentive form provides no reference to the past, namely referring exclusively to present or future, as in:

18. kun 'ādilan. (be fair)

The second condition stipulates that the participle form should be preceded by one of the following: subject, negation, interrogation, a substantive and vocative. Below are examples signifying and satisfying these already stated conditions:

19. 'akhūka qār'iun darsahu . (Your brother has read his lesson.)

20. Ma kātibun darsahu illa Ali. (Only Ali has written his lesson.)

21. 'A musāfirun 'akhūka ? (Has your brother travelled ?)

22. Marartu bi rajulin ḥāzimin 'amti'atuhu. (I came across a man packaging his luggage.)

23. Yā muḥsinan 'athābak 'allāh. (O , goodman . God reward you.)

Additionally, the participle form functioning as a verb is quite variable for number as well as gender. A final function that is attributed to this form is that of adverbial devoted to describing the additional circumstances surrounding a verbal action and matching with the required number and gender (Haywood and Nahmad, 1969: 333; Ryding, 2005: 112; Jiad, 2006: 35; Abu-Chacra, 2007: 160). This participle is always in the accusative case, as in this instance:

24. Raja'a al qā'idu muntaṣiran.(The leader returned victorious.)

4. Comparison of Agentive Forms and Active Participle

Having thoroughly described the agentive forms in English together with their counterparts, i.e., active participles in Arabic, we proceed now to consider some remarkable related points in this respect. Firstly, as for the derivation, English displays a wide set of suffixes and semi or quasi suffixes appended mostly to the base verb

form, and very occasionally to some nouns or even adjectives to yield these forms which are distinctive for number and gender. This process is accompanied by some alternation or intervention, but in a rather restricted or limited way; not to be manifested in all suffixes. However, some other morphological processes are also involved, namely compounding and conversion. The resultant forms are highly bound by all the prerequisites as well as functions of the nouns proper in English. In other words, these nouns are distinctive for number (singular and plural), gender (masculine, feminine, common), case (common and genitive), definiteness (specific and generic) and being pre or post modified. Further, these suffixes or appendages are attached mostly to verbs, nouns or even adjectives in accordance with semantic constraints outside the scope of the present work.

Correspondingly, Arabic employs the very morphological process, i.e., derivation but not implying the same perspective. In other words, it is highly restricted to two specific patterns or molds which are strictly followed to derive these forms from one and only one part of speech which is the active perfect verb for the basic trilateral and the active imperfect for all the varied and various basic and non- basic quadrilateral. These patterns are: fā'il for the trilateral and the active imperfect verb form after deleting the imperfect prefixes and replacing them by the prefix mu- which is simultaneously accompanied with the vowel /i/ immediately inserted before the final radical. Further, this process is often accompanied by many consonantal and vocalic changes; particularly when hollow and defective forms are involved. Some of these variations are expressed orthographically. This derivation includes animate and inanimate forms. Besides the verb being the unique basis for derivation, the exaggerating form "fa'al" is sometimes resorted to derive the active participle. The resultant forms conform with all the distinct features of nouns in Arabic. That is to say, they are variable for number (singular, dual and plural), gender (masculine, feminine and common) case (nominative, accusative and genitive), definiteness (having nunation, al-, or be in construct), and being postmodified. Comparing the derivation process in both languages with respect to the agentive and active participle forms,

there is a slight affinity since English employs the verb as a source of derivation but not to a great extent. On the other hand, derivation in Arabic is totally exclusively associated with the verb form. In English some internal alteration or orthographic change are pointed out while in Arabic many sorts of such changes and many others are demonstrated.

Secondly, agentive forms in English are subject to operate at some clause elements, namely nouns and adjectives, whereas in Arabic the range is more extensive since a considerable verbal function is added in addition to nouns and adjectives and adverbs. Sharing the verbal function implies showing relevance or reference to time, particularly present and future. Such relevance is totally absent in English. Moreover, it may be possible for a few words to combine with more than one suffix, as in " adviser/ advisor ".Such a latitude doesn't exist in Arabic at all.

5. Conclusion

Apparently, the preceding description presents a contrastive endeavor in the agentive forms in English and their parallel forms,i.e., active participles in Arabic with respect to form and function. The study provides some kind of affinity since there is a consensus on the basic source of derivation which is the bare infinitive verb form, for the majority of these nouns in English, and the perfect active and imperfect active exclusively in Arabic. However, in English some adjectives and nouns can be mainly used with the agentive suffixes which can, sometimes, be used interchangeably. Further, derivation is not the sole morphological process as compounding and conversion are also resorted to. In Arabic, the predetermined two distinct patterns are strictly followed showing no sign of latitude whatsoever. Nevertheless, only one form expressing hyperbole can be used to derive a very limited number of active participles. It is important to add that this process of derivation is accompanied with some phonological and orthographical alternations matching with the canonical constraints in both languages.

With regard to the syntactic functions, the agentive forms in English can freely have all the functions assigned to any other noun. Conversely, the active participle in Arabic is basically used as a verbal element since it can display many features of verbs, essentially time reference. Additionally, its function is extended to include nouns as well as adjectives and adverbs. These functions are carried out in accordance with number, gender, case, definiteness and modification.

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تشكيل صيغ الوكيل بالإنكليزية والعربية

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المستخلص

يهتم البحث الحالي بدراسة اسم الفاعل في اللغتين الانكليزية و العربية لغرض تحديد بعض جوانب التشابه والاختلاف بينهما و خاصة فيما يتعلق بالشكل والوظيفة النحوية. ويؤكد البحث وجود عدد من الصفات المشتركة بينهما من حيث عملية الاشتقاق التي تشترك بها اللغتان حيث تضم عملية الاشتقاق في الانكليزية الكثير من اللواحق واشباهها اضافة الى بعض العمليات الصرفية الاخرى. اما في اللغة العربية فتقتصر عملية الاشتقاق على نمطين يحددان وفق البنية الصرفية للفعل الذي يعتبر المصدر الاساسي والوحيد للاشتقاق. اما بخصوص الوظيفة النحوية لاسم الفاعل فهي في الانكليزية تتحدد بالوظيفة بالاسمية حصرا بينما تمتد في العربية لتشمل الفعل والاسم والصفة وظرف الحال.