A Corpus Based Quantitative Survey of the English Elements in the Basic Vocabulary of Urdu Language

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Abstract

This research is one of a series of articles on the topic of the etymological components of the basic vocabulary of Urdu language and their density within the language. The Sanskrit, Prakrit Persian and Arabic elements were previously analyzed. Urdu belongs to the Indo-European family of languages. It has its origins in Sanskrit then it developed into the Prakrits and later was influenced by Persian and Arabic due to historical events. During the 1400s a digraphia phenomenon occurred causing the split of Hindi and Urdu. With the British invasion of India, the English language element entered the equation through language contact. Here, we research the lexical elements of English and the historical background. The research, first one of its kind, is based the etymological analysis of one thousand word corpus of the basic vocabulary of Urdu, through which the precise percentage of English vocabulary in Urdu language will be obtained.

Keywords: English language, South Asia, India, Pakistan, language evolution, language development, language reforms, language politics, etymology

Introduction

The English language belongs to the Indo-European family of languages. It is the widest spoken language in the world with 335,148, 868 native speakers in all countries and 505 million who speak it as a second language worldwide. Ethnologue classifies it as "Indo-European, Germanic, West, English"(Lewis & Simons 2013). In this sense, English is a language which has expanded worldwide due to the colonial nature of its speakers.

The Indo-European family of languages to which English belongs is represented in the following table:

Figure 1: Genetic Relationship between English and Urdu
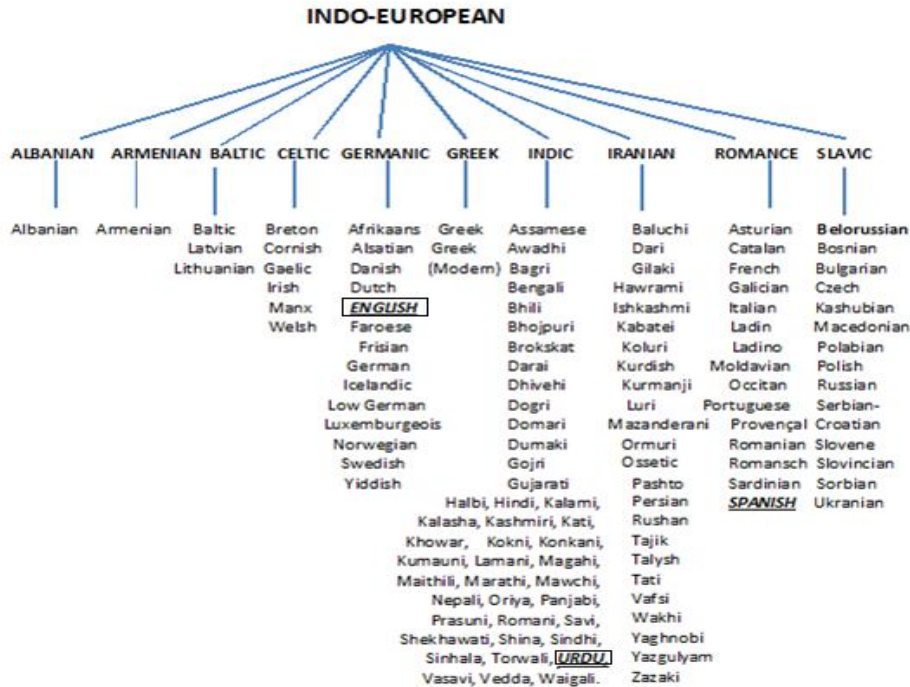
Source: 'Comparación del Léxico Básico del Español, el Inglés y el Urdu,' (Ph.D. Thesis, 2013).

Historical Context

Urdu is a language with a complex historical background. It derived from Sanskrit into the Prakrit, group of languages and it was influenced by Persian and Arabic. It has suffered from numerous reforms (Maldonado 2014:14) throughout its history and has a religious association with Islam and Muslims. Furthermore, it has probably been the partial cause of social conflicts and divisions of societies, for example the separation and independence of Bangladesh from Pakistan in 1971. Urdu and English are the official languages of Pakistan.

The Constitution of Pakistan 1973in its article 251, which treats the topic of National Language states: 251. (1) The National language of Pakistan is Urdu, and arrangements shall be made for it being used for official and other purposes within fifteen years from the commencing day. (2) Subject to clause (1), the English language may be used for official purposes until arrangements are made for its replacement by Urdu. (3) Without prejudice to the status of the National Language, a Provincial Assembly may by law prescribe measures for the teaching, promotion and use of a provincial language in addition to the national language" (*Constitution of Pakistan*, 2010).

British as the ruling nation in India for more than 300 years established the power status of their language. This is a status which has been impossible to eradicate from the post-partition society, even though efforts were made in this regard by several language reforms (Maldonado, 2014). Both, Urdu and English languages were favored after the partition of Pakistan. However, one may wonder how English, being a foreign language, retained and even improved its status in the country.To Rahman, "the policy of favoring Urdu explicitly has devalued the other indigenous languages of Pakistan while English, about which more will be said later, has devalued all Pakistani languages"(Rahman, 2002).

In this regard, English has become not only the language of the bureaucracy, army, offices and federal and provincial government matters in Pakistan, but it has achieved now a different status; with improvements in higher education, technology and globalization, as well as with the arrival of the internet, English has become a worldwide language. For Pakistanis in particular, being able to speak English well means access to the international job market, international universities and hence, foreign higher education and expanded commercial activities, mainly exports.

The presence of English in the Subcontinent has its origin in the year 1600 when a group of merchants from the British East India Company arrived in India with the purpose of carrying out trading activities in a monopolized manner, which had been authorized by the Queen of England, Elizabeth I(Rahman 1990: 9). Since that time and until 1947 the British had exercised a high level of influence on the policymaking process of the area.By the mid 1700's after the battles of Plassey in 1757 and the victory in Buksar in 1764 the Company became the ruler in large areas of India and kept expanding until it became a de-facto majority ruling power in the country at the beginning of the 19th century (Kulke & Dietmar 2004).

In 1800, Lord Wellesley, the Governor-General founded the Fort William College in Calcutta with the purpose of training the servants of the East India Company. Apart from English the College taught them mathematics, European languages, geography, history, local languages (Tamil, Marathi, Bengali, Hindustani, Kannada, etc.) law, as well as Persian, Arabic and Sanskrit (King 1994).

The fact that a company ended up becoming a ruling power in India is, in fact, puzzling. However, the manner by which the English language made its place into the Subcontinent's society iseven more puzzling, given its progressive and efficient success. The British had established themselves not only as Colonial rulers but also had made a place in the local people's psyche as superior beings, as it is usually the case in colonial environments. The Macaulay Minute (1835) states:

> We must at present do our best to form a class who may be interpreters between us and the millions whom we govern, --a class of persons Indian in blood and colour, but English in tastes, in opinions, in morals and in intellect. […] English is the language spoken by the ruling class. It is spoken by the higher class of natives at the seats of Government. It is likely to become the language of commerce throughout the seas of the East. It is the language of two great European communities which are rising, the one in the south of Africa, the other in Australia, --communities which are every year becoming more important and more closely connected with our Indian empire(Macaulay, 2014).

The Minute of February 2nd was approved by Lord Bentinck, the Governor-General of India (Mahboob 2002). At this point, English became officially recognized. The Indian population was divided into two classes; the English speaking favored ones and the rest. The abolition of Persian as the language of the elite in 1837 by the Indian Government (King 1994), seems to have paved English's path to become the language of the elite, although originally it was not intended that way and Urdu was supposed to replace Persian and provide linguistic continuity. Consequently, English language became the language of the rich, the bureaucracy, the law, the government offices, the army, the commerce, elite schools, education, international business and the wealthy asRahman states:

> In reality, since it was English, not Urdu, which was used at the highest level in all central services, the rule of English-knowing people was ensured, and Urdu was, if anything, only a minor threat to the domination of this English-using élite (Rahman, 2001).

For this reason the English medium schools which were created afterwards had the purpose of promoting loyalty to the British Crown and reshaping society with a new British oriented class of citizens who would continue the European traditions at the same time that those other traditions based on Arabic and Sanskrit were slowly and progressively eradicated. This linguistic policy had the purpose of creating two types of citizens, those loyal to the Crown and vehicle of British policies and the rest of the underprivileged population. At this point, education in English language as well as the teaching of English had become the Colonial strategy to promote the rule of the British in the Subcontinent.

In 1857 a war took place which almost ended the rule of the Company in India. The British were taken by surprise by this revolt carried out by rebel elements and in 1858 the East India Company ceased to exist leaving the rule of India directly under the British crown (Kulke & Dietmar, 2004).TheBritish did not expand their rule to all areas of India simultaneously. This was a gradual process. For this reason, the areas which are now an integral part of Pakistan like Punjab, Sindh, Baluchistan, and NWFP were under British rule much later than other areas of India (Rahman 1990). This seems to be the reason why the literary traditions of the areas which are today part of India, are stronger than the areas which are a part of Pakistan, although the regions which were exposed for the longest period of time were Bihar and Bengal. English education continued flourishing to the point that it was producing a large amount of lawyers who used to practice in the Calcutta High Court. The city had a university and famous colleges and had become the center of English education(Kulke & Dietmar 2004: 242).

However, most of the attention was centered in the province they ruled last which was Punjab. This was in many ways related to the 1857's since the soldiers of Punjab had assisted the British in the defeat of the rebels.[1] The educational system the British had imposed was limited to a small elite which received higher education. Some of them had gone to Britain for higher studies.

English After 1971

After the partition of Pakistan and with the end of the British rule, the dilemma arose of writing a new constitution. The first constitution of Pakistan was the Interim Constitution of 1947,which actually was based on the India Act of 1935. The Constitution of 1956 followed it. Both constitutions addressed the issue of language with the promise of making Urdu the official language within fifteen years. This has never occurred. In fact, the English language has become even more entrenched into Pakistani culture than before. The first Education Conferenceheld in Karachi also addressed the issue of language stating that Urdu, since it is the lingua franca of Pakistan should be made the medium of instruction, at the same time that the demand for English medium of instruction's schools increased (PEC Proceedings, 1948: 43).

In any case, even though Urdu had become the lingua franca of Pakistan after the partition, continuation of the same policies was ensured since this had been the case previously and it was difficult to change this culture even though Quaid-i-Azam MA Jinnah had promised that the language was going to be Urdu:The state language, therefore, must obviously be Urdu, a language that has been nurtured by a hundred million Muslims of this subcontinent, a language understood throughout the length and breadth of Pakistan and, above all, a language which, more than any other provincial language, embodies the best that is in Islamic culture and Muslim tradition and is nearest to the languages used in other Islamic countries (*Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah* 1960: 150-158).

And so, the English language continued flourishing to the detriment of Bengali and other regional languages which remained marginalized in educational environments. MA Jinnah's statements and language policies blocked the secessionist tendency but after his death because of the leadership crisis the lingual policy ultimately led to the emergence of Bangladesh in 1971. The governments which followed have failed to implement a language policy in favor of Urdu or regional languages. For this reason, even though the British rule ended, the supremacy of the English language continues not only as a psychological factor, but also as a de-facto one since technology, science and hence, education, depend on it.Since English had coexisted alongside Urdu for centuries, there are terms which have been borrowed by Urdu from English as well as Urdu terms which have been borrowed by English. In this article those terms present in Urdu's basic vocabulary with etymology in English language will be identified with the purpose of calculating their density as in Fang& Jing (Fang & Jing, 2010:53-68).

Analysis

A thousand words of the basic vocabulary of Urdu language were identified (Maldonado 2013: 500) by translating a corpus of 1,000 basic words of the English language[2] into Urdu (Maldonado 2013: 500).

Basic Vocabulary of Urdu Language:

ایک , بارےمیں , اوپر , ختم , پار , عمل,سرگرم , سرگرمی , صحیح , اپنانا , شامل,مناسب , ڈر , بعد , پھر , عمر , پہلے , ہوا , تمام , اکیلے , ساتھ , پہلےبی , ہمیشہ , ہوں , شمار , ایک, غصہ , دوسرے , جواب , چیونٹی , کوئی , کسی , کچھبھی , کسیبہیوقت , ظاہر , سیب , منظور , ہیں , علاقہ , بازو , فوج , گرد , پہنچ , آرٹ , جیسا , پوچھنا , میں , حملہ , خالہ , خزاں , دور , بےبی , بنیاد , کمر , برا , بستہ , گیند , بینک , ٹوکری , غسل , ہونا , دانہ , برداشت , خوبصورت , بستر , شراب , سونےکاکمرا , برتاؤ , پہلے , شروع, گھنٹی , نیچے , علاوہ , بہترین , بہتر , درمیان , بڑا , پرندہ , پیدائش , سالگرہ,تھوڑا , کاٹ , سیاہ , خونبہنا , بلاک , خون , پھونکنا , نیلا , بورڈ , کشتی , جسم , ابال , بڈی , کتاب , سرحد , پیدا , نچلا , بوتل , کٹورا , ڈبہ , لڑکا , شاخ , بہادر , روٹی , ٹوٹنا , ناشتہ , سانس,پل , روشن , لانا,بھائی , بھورا , برش , تعمیر , جلا , کاروبار , بس , مصروف , لیکن , خریدنا , نے,کیک , بلانا , کرسکتا , مومبتی , ٹوپی , کار , دیکھبھال , احتیاط , لاپروا , گاجر , اٹھانا , کیس , بلی , مرکزی , صدی , بعض , کرسی , موقع , تبدیل , پیچھا , سستا , پنیر , چکن , بچہ , چاکلیٹ , انتخاب , انتخابکرنا , دائرہ , شہر , جماعت , چالاک , صاف , واضح , چڑھنا , گھڑی , کپڑا , کپڑوں, بادل

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[1]Many Punjabis revolted against the British too.

[2]Annex 1. Date of identification of the list 6-6-2011.List published by Freedom Elementary High School, Clovis, California. http://freedom.cusd.com/documents/

ابرآلود , بند , کافی , کوٹ , سکہ , جمع ,سردی , رنگ , کنگھی , آرامدہ , عام , موازنہ , آنا , مکمل , کمپیوٹر , شرط , جاری , کنٹرول , پکانا , ٹھنڈا , تانبہ , مکئ,کونا , درست , لاگت, شامل , شمار , ملک , راستہ , ڈھانکنا , تابہی , پار , رونا , کپ , الماری , کاٹنا , رقص , خطرناک , اندھیرا , بیٹی , دن , مردہ , فیصلہ , کم , گہرا , برن , انحصار , ڈیسک , تباہ , ترقی , مرنا , مختلف ,مشکل , ڈنر , سمت , میلا , دریافت , ڈش , کرنا , کتا , دروازہ , نقطہ , نیچے , کھینچنا , خواب , کپڑے , پینا , چلانا , قطرہ , خشک , بٹخ , مٹی , فرض , بر , کان , ابتدائی , کمانا, زمین , مشرق , آسان , کھانا , تعلیم , اثر , انڈہ , آٹھ , کوئیبھی , بجلی , باتھی , اور , خالی , آخر , دشمن , لطفاندوز , بہت , داخلہونا, برابر , داخلہ , شام ,واقعہ , ہمیشہ , بر , سب , قطعی , سب , امتحان , مثال , سوائے , پرجوش , ورزش , توقع , مہنگی , وضاحت , انتہائی,آنکھ, چہرہ, حقیقت, ناکام , جعلی, گرنا, خاندان,مشہور , دور , فارم , چربی, والد, تیز, غلطی, خوف , کھلانا, محسوس, مؤنث, بخار, چند, لڑنے, بھرنے, فلم, تلاش, ٹھیک , انگلی, ختم, آگ, پہلے, موزوں, پانچ , ٹھیککرنا, پرچم , ہموار , تیرنا , فرش , آٹا , پھول , پرواز , تہکرنا , کھانا , بیوقوف , پاؤں , فٹبال , کےلئے , مجبور , غیرملکی , جنگل , بھول , معاف , کانٹا , فارم , لومڑی, چار , مفت , آزادی , منجمد , تازہ , دوست , دوستانہ , سے , سامنے , پھل , بہرابوا , مزہ , مضحکہخیز , فرنیچر , مزید , مستقبل , کھیل , باغ , دروازہ , عام , شریفآدمی , حاصل, تحفہ , دینا , خوش , شیشہ , جانا , بکری , خدا , اچھا , الوداع , گھاس , دادی , دادا , قبر , عظیم , سبز , سرمئ , زمین , گروپ , بڑھنا , بندوق , بال , نصف , بال , بتھوڑا , ہاتھ , خوش , مشکل , ٹوپی , نفرت , رکھنا , اس , سر , صحتمند , سن , دل , بھاری , جنت , اونچائ , آداب, مدد , مددگار , مرغی , اس , یہاں , اسکا , چھپانا, اونچا , پہاڑ , اس , انکی , مارا , شوق , پکڑنا , چھید , چھٹی , گھر , امید , گھوڑا , ہسپتال , گرم, ہوٹل , مکان , کیسے, سو , بھوکا , گھنٹہ , جلدی, شوبر , تکلیف , میں , برف , خیال, اگر , اہم , میں , اضافہ , اندر , میں , متعارف, ایجاد , لوبا , مدعو, ہے , جزیرہ , یہ , اس , جیلی , نوکری , شامل , رس , چھلانگ , صرف , رکھنا , اہم, قتل , قسم , بادشاہ , باورچیخانہ , چاقو , دستک , معلوم , سیڑھی , خاتون , کم , سبق , اجازت, خط , لائبریری, جھوٹ , زندگی , روشنی , جیسے , شیر , قیادت , پتی , سیکھنا, چھوڑدینا , ٹانگ , بائیں , قرض, لمبائی , کم , بہت , محبت , کھو , نظر , طویل , تنہا , تالا, ٹرین , آدمی , قربست , سننا , تھوڑا , ربنا , تالا, ٹرین , آدمی , طویل , تنہا , تالا, بہت , محبت , کم , نیچےکرنا , قسمت , مشین , اہم , بنانا , نر , آدمی , بہت , نقشہ , نشان , مارکیٹ , شادی , بات , میں , شاید , کھانا , مطلب , پیمائش , گوشت , دوا , ملاقات , رکن , ذکر , طریقہ , درمیان , دودھ , ملین , ذہن , منٹ , کھونا , غلطی , ملانا , ماڈل , جدید , لمحہ , پیسے , بندر , ماہ , چاند, مزید , صبح , زیادہ , ماں , پہاڑ , منہ , حرکت, بہت , موسیقی , ضروری, میرے , نام , تنگ , قوم , نوعیت , قریب , تقریبا , گردن , ضرورت , سوئ , پڑوسی , نہر , جال, کبھینہیں , نئے , خبر , اخبار , اگلا , اچھا , رات , نو , نہیں , شور , عظیم , شمال , ناک , نہیں , کچھبہینہیں , اطلاع , اب , تعداد , اطاعت , اعتراض , بحر , کا , پیشکش , دفتر , اکثر , تیل , پرانے , پر , ایک , صرف , کھول , مخالف , یا , نارنجی , حکم , دیگر , ہمارے , باہر , اوپر , اپنے , صفحہ , درد , پینٹ , جوڑی , پین , کاغذ , والدین , پارک , حصہ , ساتھی , پارٹی , گزرنا , گزشتہ , تھپکی, راستہ , ادا , امن , قلم , پنسل , لوگ , مرچ , فی , کامل , مدت , شخص , پٹرول , فوٹوگراف , پیانو , چننا , تصویر , ٹکڑا , سور , پن , گلابی , جگہ , طیارہ , پودا , پلاسٹک , پلیٹ , کھیلنا , پلیز , خوش , بہت , جیب , نقطہ , زبر , پولیس , شائستہ , پول , غریب , مقبول , مقام , ممکن , آلو , ڈالنا , طاقت , پریس , خوبصورت , روکتھام , قیمت , شہزادہ , جیل , ذاتی , انعام , شاید , مسئلہ , پیدا , وعدہ , مناسب , حفاظت , فراہم , عوامی , کھینچنا , سزا , طالبعلم , دھکا , ڈال , ملکہ , سوال , فوری , خاموش , قطعی , ریڈیو , بارش , برسات , بڑھانے , پہنچنا , پڑھنا , تیار , اصلی , واقعی , وصول , ریکارڈ , لال , یاد , بٹھانا , کرایہ , مرمت , دہرانا , جواب , رپورٹ , آرام , ریستوران , نتیجہ , واپس , چاول , امیر , سواری ,رائٹ , بجنا , سڑک , لوٹ, پتھر , کمرہ , گول , ربر , بدتمیز , حکمرانی , حکمران , بھاگنا , جلدی , اداس , محفوظ , نمک , نمکین , اسی , ریت , بچانا , کہنا , اسکول , سائنس , تلاش , دوسری , دیکھنا , چمک , جہاز , قمیض , جوتا , شوٹ , جنس , رنگ , کئی , خدمت , سزا , بھیجنا , فروخت , کہنا , اسکول , سائنس , تلاش , دوسری , دیکھنا , چمک , جہاز , قمیض , جوتا , شوٹ , جنس , رنگ , کئی , خدمت , سزا , بھیجنا , فروخت , حصہ , تیز, وہ , صرف , بھیڑ , چادر , شیلف , جگہ , سائز , چھ , سائز , مہارت , جلد , سکرٹ , آسمان , اشارہ , خاموشی , حماقت , چاندی , ملتےجلتے , سادہ , ایک , بعدسے , گانا , ڈوبنا , بہن , بیٹھا , چھ , سائز , مہارت , جلد , سکرٹ , آسمان , سونا , پھسلنا , سست , چھوٹا , بو , مسکرانا , دھواں , تمباکونوشی , برف , تو , صابن , موزا , نرم , کچھ , کسی , کچھ , کبھیکبھی , بیٹا , جلدبی , معافکرنا, آواز , سوپ , جنوب , خلا , بات , خصوصی , رفتار , جادو , خرچ , چمچ , کھیل , پھیل , موسمبہار , مربع , مہر , کھڑا , ستارہ , شروع , ریاست , سٹیشن , ربنا , میز , تلوار , تیر , میٹھی , حیرت , بقین , موسمگرما , سورج , دھوپ , حمایت , یقین , حیرت , میٹھی , تیر , تلوار , میز , لینا , بات , اونچا , ذائقہ , ٹیکسی , چائے , پڑھانا , ٹیم , آنسو , ٹیلیفون , ٹیلیویژن , بتانا , دس , ٹینس , خوفناک , امتحان , سے , کم , ان , تو , اُدھَر , لہذا , ان , گاڑھا , ان , پتلی , چیز , سوچتے, تیسری , اس , اگرچہ , تین , صاف , باندھنا , عنوان , پر , آج , پنجہ , ملکر , کل , آجرات , بھی , آلہ , دانت , اوپر , ٹوٹل , چھو , ٹاؤن , ٹرین , ٹرام , سفر , درخت , مصیبت , ٹرک ,سَچ , اعتبار , دوبار , دو , کوشش , باری , قسم , چچا , نیچے , سمجھ , اکائی , جیتک , اپ , استعمال , مفید , حسبمعمول , اکثر , سبزی , بہت , گاؤں , آواز , دورہ , انتظار , جاگنا , چلنا , چاہنا , گرم , دھونا , ضائع , دیکھنا , پانی , راستہ ,ہم , پہننا , موسم , شادی , ہفتہ , وزن , عجیب, خوشآمدید , ٹھیکٹھاک , مغرب , گیلی , کیا , پیا , جب , جہاں , جس, جبکہ , جو , کیوں , وسیع , بیوی , جنگلی , وصیت, جیت, ہوا , کھڑکی , شراب , موسمسرما , تار , دانشمندانہ , خواہش , ساتھ , بغیر , عورت , تعجب , لفظ , کام , دنیا , فکر , بہتبرا , لکھنا , غلط , جی, کل , ابہیتک , آپ , جوان , آپکا , صفر , زیبرا .

The etymology of all Urdu terms was obtained. Afterwards, those terms with etymology in English were extracted with the purpose of computation of the density of English elements in Urdu. These terms are as follows:

Table1: Terms Derived from English Language

	English	Urdu	Urdu term derived from English
1	Art	آرٹ	X
2	Baby	بے بی, ننھا بچہ	X
3	Bank	بینک	X
4	Block	بلاک	X
5	Board	بورڈ	X
6	bottle	بوتل	X
7	Brush	برش	X
8	Bus	بس	X
9	Cake	کیک	X
10	Car	کار	X
11	Case	کیس	X
12	chocolate	چاکلیٹ	X
13	coffee	کافی	X
14	Coat	کوٹ	X
15	computer	کمپیوٹر	X
16	control	کنٹرول	X
17	Desk	ڈیسک	X
18	dinner	رات کا کھانا	X
19	Dish	ڈش	X
20	Farm	فارم	X
21	Film	فلم	X
22	football	فٹ بال	X
23	Form	فارم	X
24	furniture	فرنیچر	X
25	Group	گروپ	X
26	hospital	ہسپتال	X
27	Hotel	ہوٹل	X
28	Jelly	جیلی	X
29	library	لائبریری	X
30	machine	مشین	X
31	market	مارکیٹ	X
32	minute	منٹ	X
33	model	ماڈل	X
34	Paint	پینٹ	X
35	Pan	پین	X
36	Park	پارک	X
37	Party	پارٹی	X
38	pencil	پنسل	X
39	petrol	پٹرول	X
40	photograph	فوٹوگراف	X
41	Piano	پیانو	X
42	plastic	پلاسٹک	X
43	Plate	پلیٹ	X
44	please	براہ مہربانی	X
45	Police	پولیس	X
46	Pool	پول	X
47	Press	پریس	X
48	prison	جیل	X
49	Radio	ریڈیو	X

50	record	ریکارڈ	X
51	report	رپورٹ	X
52	Right	رائٹ	X
53	rubber	ربر	X
54	school	اسکول	X
55	science	سائنس	X
56	Seat	سیٹ	X
57	Shelf	شیلف	X
58	Ship	جہاز	X
59	Shoot	شوٹ	X
60	Sing	گانا	X
61	Size	سائز	X
62	Soup	سوپ	X
63	station	سٹیشن	X
64	Sugar	چینی	X
65	Taxi	ٹیکسی	X
66	Team	ٹیم	X
67	telephone	ٹیلی فون	X
68	television	ٹیلی ویژن	X
69	tennis	ٹینس	X
70	Total	ٹوٹل	X
71	Town	ٹاؤن	X
72	Train	ٹرین	X
73	Tram	ٹرام	X
74	travel	سفر	X
75	Truck	ٹرک	X
76	Up	اپ	X
77	Wet	گیلی	X
78	zebra	زیبرا	X

The etymological analysis of the basic vocabulary of Urdu yielded the following results:

Table 2: Percentage of Terms from English Present in Urdu Language

	NUMBER OF TERMS	PERCENTAGE
Terms with etymology in English	78	7.8%

Conclusion

Language contact is an infinite source of new terms in a language. The previous studies (Maldonado, 2013-14) have measured the densities of Sanskrit and Prakrit in Urdu as well as the densities of Persian and Arabic. In this particular case, this study has measured the vocabulary density of English language in the basic vocabulary of Urdu.

However, the density of English language in Urdu is not really measurable in the same manner in which we measured those of Sanskrit, Prakrit, Persian and Arabic. The reason is that English still coexists alongside Urdu in a non-native linguistic situation. This is due to the success of the English language throughout the centuries, even surviving the end of the British rule in India. The Pakistani variety of English has now become another lingua franca of Pakistan. Hence, English terms are included in everyday Urdu speech on a regular basis and many times as the norm. The opposite phenomenon occurs as well. In the middle of a conversation in English one may find a few Urdu terms included. This type of linguistic situation is acceptable (although not recommended) and does not break any social norm.Furthermore, in science, technology and higher education the success of English is massive, mainly due to computer sophistication and the worldwide use of the internet. The overwhelming need of learning English the world is experimenting is not matched by any other language.

For this reason, the number of pure Urdu speakers is diminishing and including some terms of English in everyday conversations is becoming the norm. Predicting a world where the majority will be able to communicate in English does not seem too farfetched.

Future Work

A future research study could measure the complete densities of foreign terms included in the basic vocabulary of Urdu language with the purpose of finding out the over-all etymological fabric of the basic vocabulary of Urdu.

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