

## **Textual Repetition in the Poetry of the Knights in Pre-Islam**

**By**

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### **Abstract**

Textual repetition represents an important constructive and functional energy in the formation of literary text, and its semantic support for certain terms. The text has to keep them in the center of attention in the apparent expressions to the listener and the reader alike. The repetition of these words that are considered favorite to the writers and novelists, that can be determined in the basic sentences: in the content / topic concerned with the discourse and the text. Repetition ( ) performs certain semantic functions. It achieves the textual cohesion regarding the Repetition method (element use) since the text beginning till the end of it. This kind of extension contributes textual parts correlation prominently, and this element may be a word, phrase, sentence or a paragraph (types of repetition and forms). This is going to be our main task to analyze the Arab Nights poetry in Pre-Islam.

**Key words:** Repetition, Textual coherence, Poetry of the Nights Pre-Islam,

### **1-Repetition and Functions**

It means return the word or the words to the text again which represents kind of support to the semantically correlation (Al-Faraj, 2007). Generally, repetition allows the speaker to speak something again with the addition of new dimension (Hui, 2009). And that will create a new combined multi-repetitions between sentences to unify the text unity and coherence (linguistic text introduction: p56). While, the textual repetition Functions are many, just like the examples given by Hui, that the repeated words' clusters between sentences will contribute in to relate between the propositional content of the sentences in different parts in the text (ibid). It is also considered one of the means to support meaning and confirmation. It confirms the meaning through more repetition forms or issues at different levels. Since it considered one of the sematic relationships that manifested by the great issues, it doesn't repeat the minor issues, but the minor issues changes to a great one thought the investigation relationships, sematic promotion, semantic fallout, contradictory and converging. All that will contribute in giving a clear image of the meaning. Repetition is also determining the main issues of the text to confirm on a certain meaning, or repeating the key words, which is the method of building the text semantically for being a good scale of balance between the new and old information of the text

The shortage of repetition means the writer's ability in expansion in basic thoughts by inserting new information. The scientists of text mentioned, that repetition aims to support the Textual coherence (Deabugrand, 1990), and utilize repetition to achieve the interrelationship the elements that assemble the text (ibid). To this extent, it will effect on the

verbal and semantic. Dr. Salah Fadhil set a basic condition to make repetition doing its function, that the repeated has a higher percentage in the text, and makes it distinguished than other counterparts, and help us to decode the text and how to perform its semantic (Fadhil, 1981). It is also called the repetition assignment due to the repetition of verbal of some verbal in the beginning of each sentence in the text for confirmation (Al-Zinad, 1993). And because the repetition in the text contributes in making the interrelationship and correlation between the text's parts clearly (Afifi, 2001), and it is considered one of the factors that is related to the ability of understanding, so the understanding in that case will be quicker by using repetition for the same verbal if it compared with the use of synonym

### ***2-The types and forms of Repetition***

After dividing the Textual Lexicon Cohesion into two parts; the repetition and inclusion, the preferred to talk about these parts greatly (Maslooh, 2003). They divided repetition into

- 1- Full Repetition (Total Repetition), that is consisted of two types:
  - a- The repetition with reference unit (with one designation).
  - b- Repetition with reference difference (with multi designation).
- 2- Partial Repetition: It means, repeating one element that already has used, but in different forms and different categories.
- 3- The meaning Repetition and the verbal is different (synonymy, semi-synonymy and the parallel phrase).
- 4- The semi-Repetition: It can be achieved in sound form, and it is very close to the oxymoron.
- 5- The Repetition of sentence or sentences.
- 6- The General or Inclusive words Repetition.

Dr. Tamam Hasan indicated that Repetition has more than one image. The repetition may be for verbal or to the meaning or a repetition to the beginning of a sentence to do a stylistic purpose. The repetition is for reminding or identifying the tools purpose (Hasan, 2006), and making the verbal is the original in conjunction correlation, because the verbal repetition is the original in conjunction in terms that repetition is the best way to remind what had already been, and if it was amended that will be for two reasons: first is the dislike of monotony and boring that arising from repetition in general, and the second one uses abbreviation (ibid). The remarkable thing of his division, that repetition is based on two dimensions; the first one is a semantic dimension, where divided into conceptual Lexicon repetition that the element is repeated with keeping the same connotation, and keeps the same reference to the same entity in the text world/discourse, and the lexicon repetition is only by repeating the expression with another connotation than the next time (a common verbal). The second dimension is the verbal dimension that repetition can be divided into two types; the partial repetition or using the main components of the word and transferring them to another category (from name category to the verb category) with total repetition, where the word repeated without change (Deabugrand, 1990)

### ***3-The Textual Repetition***

#### ***3-1 Full Repetition***

It is the verbal repetition for twice, and it works on the text sequence, serial and thought correlation. However of lexical unit repetition, but it has another meaning than the first one due to location difference in discourse and its context, and that gives it an aesthetic

dimension. We can also add its semantic dimension that is characterized with correlation and cohesion. Below are some poetic lines of Nights pre-Islam as Al-fand Al-Zamani said:

My fellow you were in hurry	you are in grace now
My Heart is suffer	my mind is sad
Where is Layla, where is layla and where is Layal	many healthy became sick
Death is the fate whom loved Layla	at the time of sunset
When I hear the Pigeon sound similar to him	like Pigeon's male missing his lover

We can notice from the beginning of his poem, that he contradicted Al-Muhlhal Bin Rabeah for his verbal repetition (Layla) for four times proceeded by (where) twice, that opens the semantic field and charge it suggestively to seduce the listener to search with him for may answers and repetitions, and find Layla that made him loose his mind and became broken, after she infected many other men (Crazy men), who were healthy, and any other man who loves her will die surly. Regarding this context, Layla is considered prominent due to her beauty and loving her (passion, love, blues and anguish. The poet has to indicate specific name for attraction and astonishing if he was in the matter of flirtation (Al-Qairawani, 2001). Layla has controlled on his conscience, mind to repeat it four times, and he finds in that pleasure and delight, and pain with lost. Repetition in this case, mad a remarkable cohesion, rich semantic and consistency in phrases. All the functions were combined with harmonized structure that embodied the poetic sense, and raised the prediction to the listener (Receiver) and reacted with it. All that happened through interrogatives and calls correlation by naming the beloved, and repeated it coherently. However, there are some difference in its connotations, the first word (where's) is different than the second one (where). The first one is interrogative, while the second one is nameless. His repeated interrogative with calling the name of his beloved became a sound repeated by the Echo from the narrow spatial sphere to the all of Universe by asking: Where is Layla? Where is Layla? Considering the mentioned above, we have seen the key dominance thought of the poet, that became a central point focused on the preface of the poem through these questions and calls to display the psychological conflict that the poet suffers from for these emotions and conscience for losing his beloved, and searcher on her in every single place. Below is another example for the famous poet Qais Bin Al-Khateem (Al-Asad, 1967):

Oh Amro, if you betraying my trust	I will keep it
Oh Amro, I the trusted one	other can expose the secret
Oh Amro, I'm the partner in this trust	beneath my skin I can hide it

The word Amro in the text was repeated three times, which forms a homogenous dimension with the preceded tool (Oh). Here another type of repetition is risen (sentence or sentences repetition), which created a motional and Rhythmic sound, and reacted with the point of the subject, which is the Trust, that became harmonious and concerted with this call (Amro/his friend). The poet worked hardly to keep the discourse coherent by warning and confirming not to expose and keeping this trust. We can notice this coherence and the accurate correlation between the repeated Vocative sentence and the added and restricted trust of his friend Amro, that seems a very close to the poet's feelings enough to be like his brother. we can explain that according to the hereunder graphic

Oh Amro ----- Trust -----	(Betraying on it X take care of it)
Oh Amro ----- the brother of Trust -----	(Plan X expose it)
Oh Amro ----- Keeping the Trust -----	(beneath skin X hide it)

We can remark through this graphic, that the theme of Trust contributed in the three contradicted images and semantically opposite toward text coherence and consistency.

### ***2-The Partial Repetition***

It is not different than the full Repetition in terms of coherence and consistency to create the text, only in giving the text a diversifying impression through repeating the root of the word. It means the difference is in formula and denotation. It is a partial Repetition, and also named as the derivative analogue, that set by the ancients in the Analogue. It has the priority in the Repetition, or using the basic components of the word and transferring them to another category (noun to verb) (ibid). The example we have here are: (separate - separation) and (Judge-Judgment- Judges). It is also named by Hui the compound lexicon Repetition, where two lexicon elements are contributing in one lexicon morpheme. Another example of Repetition has stated in this paper for the poet Rabea Bin Ziyad, when his people returned from the war against Taglub's Tribe and signed the conciliation with Fazarah (Al-Bayati, 1982):

Qais started the war	then, he left everything behind
Because of him, the war started	he ran away to be safe
He kept running	without rein the house
We are the Nights at the battle	our mouth still open due terror
We changed our destiny by not following you	we still stable on our saddles
If the horses frighten from the swords shines	our order is too advance not retreat

It is remarkable now, that the partial Repetition comes in more than one form (word's root), where diversity and Polygamy for words are available even the difference in formulation and denotation for example: (started a crime/guilt), (mouth/negative), (surrender-be safe), (Nights-our horses), (my steps-advance). The words above have achieved sentences correlation and cohesion inside the text, and created continuity of meaning in the discourse in regular form, which is correspondent with the intended target (stating the deteriorating conditions of Qais and his stumble in the battle and his escape). This kind of diversity, polygamy in words and their derivatives mean the poet's ability and skill in using words, and the compliance of meaning to him led to cohesion and correlation between these words, It's like the meaning of two or three lines have one meaning (Al-Madani, 1986).

### ***3-Semantic Moral Repetition***

It is one of the Textual Lexicon cohesion means, that use words which have one common meaning. Its benefit is excluded boring and tedium for the Reader and the Listener with some diversity on the content. The paraphrasing terminology was used by Beaugrand and Dressler, It means repeat the content by transferring it through some different expressions (Deabugrand, 1990). Paraphrasing is not only a process to say something different, or saying something that is different in the textual world, which can imitate the real-world imagination. So, paraphrasing is a new formation to the underworld, which makes synonymy different than Repetition, because it changes the referred meaning with changing the utterance, and even the more use of synonymy will not describe the writer as a weak in language as the other can observe such like Repetition, that allows the writer to reveal his creative energy in lining up words have the same meaning on different contexts inside the one text, that assemble a unified network support the related purpose to the text. Also, it will have the chance to diverse the images and features for the meaning, considering that each synonymy will be different little than the other one which has another shadow for the same meaning (Al-Faraj, 2007). The nominal referral includes repeating the potential name, and the repetition

may occur in equal formulation in form and diverse in morphology in relation to the textual name, which is considered also from the equivalent names. This transfer can be achieved with the help of demonstrative pronouns. Semi-semantic is a case of semi-semantic which is clear between two words or more (Mohammed, 2007). The lies below are said by the poet Al-Jameeh Bin Al-Tamah.

Imamah became silent	or she were changed by Khrobs'
She met a stranger and insincere against her husband	and leave him alone torturing
If you are honest, you will never say such words	I have experience to control
I clever and old enough	I can control issues
If she understood me	she can protect and defend me
Like the doge when hid her pubs under the tree	a place no one can reach
If an accident occurred, she like un prevented boy	be careful from the wolves
Her people live in a poor desert with no life	while my people live rich zone
Like the Camel, when became old left by owner	it will be worst in next years
The life's disaster made him weak	and kept him poor and miserable
The shepherded can guard the cattle	in different green places
If have the power with less demands	you will see the fruitful of my effort
Be patient with satisfaction you will get more	the richness will be at the end

The underlined synonymies were interrelated to each other in one unified context inside the text continuously and consequently through theses synonymies (silently-don't talk) and the common meaning between them is (not talking- No communication), (crazy-mad) and the common meaning between them is (craziness-Anger) and (Intelligence-wisdom) became older, (beat-discipline) it means disciplined, (my family/my people) the family,(stay/following) mean stability, (little/loser) mean few, (satisfaction/withstand) mean live with peacefully, (endurance/estrangement) mean to be patient and withstanding and (hardship/life experience) mean tanned Leather. All these words worked together for text cohesion and adjustment. It also opened a new section for the poem, which is the poet's speech to his fiancée (Amama), and the pragmatic of conflict among staying with him or farewell, where two imageries were formed including the diverse of words: the first one is be far from her (leaving him), and in return she will be (crazy, tortured, getting old, get poor and decline). On the other hand, the second imagery is to stay with him (good living, plenty of water, plentiful of milk), and he will keep the good things in time of famine (he owns sufficient of grace). So, Synonymy reveals the main themes of the Research, which are existed sometimes with the basic synonymy words existence (Key words) (Al-Faraj, 2007).

#### ***4-Sentence of Sentences Repetition***

It is another type of Repetition, where conjunction and interrelation between sentences and phrases are existed. And because Repetition has more than one type and image such as the Repetition of the sentences beginning to perform a certain style and a repetition to the reason of reminding or identifying which is the tool's target (Hasan, 2006). And Because the Repetition has a thought, it became a Cognitive field to comprehend thoughts are reproduce them due to the meaning formulation in the framework of its extraction from the referral processes, transfer, receiving and circulating inside the text and discourse, where the cultural cohesion interrelated with literary one (Yousuf, 2010). The Repetition structure is creative and presented as a literary cultural and aesthetic value for the discourse itself, and reproduce it through the receiver by concentrating on the core of formation and semantic cohesion with serial consecutive, interrelation and analogy among the phonetic weight phrases, morphological and structural weights. The Repetition creates an esthetic purpose in

discourse, by infecting the receiver and thought dominance (ibid). It is also considered as a key that fund us with text's liners that has a structural synonymy to re-wave semantically, which forms from some poems a repetition phenomenon that has many forms such as: phonological Repetition, Morphological Repetition and sentence Repetition that the sentence will be repeated (Abdul-Lateef, 2001). At this point ,we are against Mohammed Muftah's Pion of view when he says that sounds, words and structures repetition is net necessary to make the sentence perform its semantic and pragmatic\_ role, but its role is as a condition of perfection or improving or a linguistic role (Muftah, 1992).

Regarding all the mentioned above, Repetition has a great importance in building the text and its cohesion, instead its semantic, pragmatics and aesthetic dimensions with great influence on the receiver. Also, Repetition is considered a phenomenon and non-phenomenon (phonological or morphological), or Repetition for the same structural data (deep or superficial) in the extent of the speech. Considering or review for many poetic lines of the Poet Nights' poems, it was clear it is an artistic phenomenon widely used by the poets to repeat sentence or sentences whether it was long or short. From the other hand, we remarked that most of these repetitions were interrelated for Elegy, that this matter has a great role in Elegy denotations for such sample than others. One of the Researchers analyses that by saying, we remark in the field of Praising poetry the Repetition Phenomenon repeated from time to time, which is became a feature of effected delegacy, also can be described as an old heritage and related deeply to the poet psychological conditions and his nomad life. Dr. Adil Al-Bayati confirmed that by saying; the missing ethnical poem left its print in the Praising poetry's Body to send the message to the dead's soul (ibid).

The Arabs said, if a man killed and no one revenged for him, a bird will rise from his soul and say water me till the revenge time, and he will calm (Al-Baghdadi, 1984). This believe was employed by one of the Researchers, that repetition is a musical syndrome that adjust the war traditional Music, which is related to Revenge. The Repetition also works on the desire as interrelated psychological Syndrome, socially and mentally. The aspect of peak took the place of revenge, because revenge is still kept in the victim's family mind for many times, and the aspect of Repetition lies behind the aspect of peak in two ways: one of them is preceding but not interfere with it, the mental is working or seeking to work on the base of the original impression to elicit concerns and change the conflict to a peak. The second one is not contradicted with the aspect of peak, it is kind of an attempt to return a psychological status which is considered primitive, and characterized with energy expire pursuant to the death instinct (Al-Baghdadi, 1984)

The great calamities exposed to my people	different sorrow and sadness than others
Oh, Kulaib's death left grief behind him	the soul is down because of him
Oh, Kulaib is a man of Grace	if he called me, I will best savor
Oh Kulaib, You were the spring	if no rains fallen in all regions
Oh Kulaib, the arrow shoots you	I felt it and even broken my ribs with flesh
Oh Kulaib, this arrow weakened me	and broke my heart
Oh Kulaib, you were the respondent for all	and a man of honor with poor people
Oh Kulaib, you broke me	Oh Kulaib, you the man of Generosity

In the above lines, the poet uses the first type of repetition, which is the sentence repetition. It is remarkable, that vocative tool (oh) is combined with the noun of his brother (Kulaib). These vocative sentences are similar to whining, dramatic wailing and crying on his brother. Many calls for Kulaib were interrelated, correlated parts and in sequential chain. It

elicited prediction to the hearer and the receiver, and that makes the listener simulated to hear the poet and pay attention to him. All that achieved phonological and musical rhythm, with the addition of sorrow and pain images that achieved the poet's goal to reveal the victim's personality (his brother). In every time, he repeated the vocative sentence that assemble the central core of the text/discourse with different attitude than the later. It means, that each of the lines starts from its centralization with new imagery (Rababea, 2001).

All that means, diversity in discourse's styles to call the victim (Kulaib). It means each call has a different imagery. The first one he likes the Grace, the second one likes the spring and the third one his heart was broken because of the arrow. All these calls worked together for the advantage of the text interrelation and cohesion in new semantic relationships, that strength the text cohesion.

While the second type is the sentences repetition, which is not different than the repetition sentence in terms of denotation. It was used greatly by the Night poets too. Al-Muhalhal used this kind of repetition in his poems for Elegy, and some lines will be mentioned and analyzed. All these lines were written to his brother Elegy Kulaib. His third poem consisted of twenty-one lines, that include the fixed sentence (ibid).

My dear brother Kulaib	Tell him I will fight for him
My dear brother Kulaib	My voice will be heard
My dear brother Kulaib	then tell him Good Morning
My dear brother Kulaib	You are the Master of your people
My dear brother Kulaib	you are the man of honor
My dear brother Kulaib	you the first I see in the morning

These fixed Repeated sentences constructed the text, parts and cohesion. One of the giving examples of that, his 9<sup>th</sup> poem which is consisted of 28 lines. He repeated the fixed sentences in the first portion from the lines (No one is fulfill like Kulaib) for seventeen times, and we can remark the great dominance on the whole poem (Harb, 1996). Also, such repetition can be found in his 14<sup>th</sup> poem, that is consisted of 72 lines. The repeated sentences in that poem (No one is Justice like Kulaib). Hereunder is an example of sixty-seven poem after killing Bujair Bin Al-Harith Bin Ibad (ibid)

Every single killed from Kulaibs' was killed by surprise	his death was bitter
Every single killed from Kulabs' is a devil	he was betrayed
Every single killed from Kulaibs' is a dreamer	until the brave killed
Every single killed from Kulaibs' is permissible	till the moment of killing all

The repeated sentences that are distributed in this poem reveal the psychologically status of the poet (Al-Muhalhal) toward his killed brother Kulaib. He feels sad with deep sorrow for each moment, and in turn we find his sever anger and huge hate toward Bakir's tribe (his cousins) whom killed his brother. According to the lines above, the killed person had killed many of his enemy, and he killed many of those whom killed his brother, but that is not sufficient to him. This distribution created interrelation between the parts of the poem and text cohesion through intentional semantic language that moved anger and Violence dimension inside the poet in state of angry after killing Bujair Bin Al-Harith that mean nothing to Kulaib. All killing never stopped the war between the cousins and tribes. But, Al-Muhalhal refused any compromise between the tribes and killed the only son for Al-Harith.

So, he left the war of Al-Basoos that had already started, and start the fight against Al-Muhalhal.

The major idea in text is killing and killing only in the Bain of the poet (Al-Muhalhal) and his conscience, and he has to defeat the Tribe of Jassas that killed his dear brother Kulaib. So, he became as serial killer, and killed many of them in one time, which is kind of denigration and belittling to the Tribes' people. Then, the poem started with killing in the first portion and ended with the second portion.

While, the second type of Repetition is the Universal words Repetition or Public words. They are used a lot by the Night Poets (Al-Bitar, 1999). The reason behind mentioning them is for their plenty, and the second one is that Repetition took a great space in work and Analysis, for example: we can take a look to the poetic collection of Al-Muhalhal Bin Rabeah, that the word Kulaib/brother are public and Universal words in most of his Elegy poems (Harb, 1996). Finally, the word war is considered one of the Universal and Public words that contains many images (ibid).

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