

**WOMEN'S PREFERRED LINGUISTIC CHOICES
IN PAKISTANI CONTEXT:
AN ANALYSIS**



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DEDICATION

To my beloved baba jani

Khawaja Makhdum Muhammad Ikram (R.A)

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First of all I start with all my praises to Allah Almighty, the most beneficent and the most merciful, the absolute and the omnipotent, with the darood-o-salam on His last Prophet (PBUH) who was sent as Rehmat-ul-lilaalamin for both the world and the hereafter. In the very beginning, I pay my utmost gratitude to my Alma Matter The University of Management and Technology, Lahore that provided me an opportunity to exercise my potential and capabilities to complete this task. Then, I am extremely grateful to Him for providing me an opportunity to complete my thesis. I am thankful to generous assistance and superb supervision of my supervisor Prof. Dr. Irshad Ahmad Tabassum who always encouraged me to go ahead and properly guided me to the right direction. Then I am indebted to the cordial cooperation of the chairman of the dell Prof. Dr. Shaban who sincerely cooperative with me and exercised the true pieces of advice to expedite the task assigned to me by the university. Then I paid gratitude to Prof. Rao Jalil Sb for choosing this field of study and then to my honorable teacher Prof. Dr. Nazir Malik for modifying my topic of research study. I do express my gratitude to my beloved mother and patronizing father who always prayed for my entire success and continuous health, and then to my most caring wife who always proved to be a supporting hand for me in this task and finally to my friends and composer who helped and encouraged me at every step. At the end, I would especially like to acknowledge the support of my spiritual elder brother Makhdum Ellyas and the nephew Faisal Aziz Shah and friends Irshaad-Ullah and Kashif Shabbir who helped me both in the collection of the data and in its composition.

Symbols used in the study

Symbols	Categories
AAWS.....	African Women's Speech
BWL.....	Black Women's Speech
CA.....	Conversational Analysis
CCC.....	Cross Cultural Communication
CI.....	Complex Indirectness
COP.....	Community of Practice
DI.....	Declarative Indirectness
DIA.....	Difference Approach
DOA.....	Dominance Approach
DQ.....	Direct Questions
EAWS.....	European American Women's Speech
HCG.....	Hyper Correct Grammar
HED.....	Hedges
IQ.....	Indirect Questions
LWP.....	Language and Women Place
NHC.....	Non-Hyper Correct Grammar
RAT.....	Rapport Talk
RET.....	Report Talk
TQ.....	Tag Questions
WL.....	Women's Language

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to explore the linguistic choices of Pakistani women using Urdu language. The linguistic choices of Pakistani women were also compared and contrasted with those described by Lackoff (1975). The data for this study was collected through the recordings of Pakistani talk shows and interviews downloaded from the internet. Three female participants were chosen for the study. The participants did not use the following during their conversation: self corrected grammar, indirect questions, tag questions and hedging devices. However, they did ask direct questions. Hence, the linguistic choices made by Pakistani women did not correspond to those of Lakoff (1975). Moreover, these linguistic choices proved not to be conscious choices that were related to a different speech style. Hence, the study rendered the fact that women in the Pakistani society were not in a subordinate position on the basis of the results of their linguistic choices, which were contrary to the results of Lakoff, R (1975) model of study. She claimed that women made self correction in grammar, asked indirect questions, used more hedging devices and used more tag questions and did not ask direct questions because of having a subordinate position in society. However, the findings of the study showed that in Pakistani perspective, women did not indulge into these practices and asked direct questions as they enjoyed equal status.

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Chapter: One

Introduction

Language is referred to as an ability to acquire and use complex system of communication, and its users having written especially spoken competence make a different use of it. Their different use of language makes them different from one another, and highlights their distinctive linguistic features they tend to prefer while using it.