

## **A corpus-based comparative study of adpositional system in different Iranian language varieties**

Prepositions are commonly used for expressing different meanings of words and these elements are usually placed before or after a noun or a pronoun. Some of Iranian languages of focused in this study such as Nayini, Lori (Central Iranian) demonstrates both prepositions and postpositions, while West Iranian languages such as Kurdish including the varieties in North Iraq exhibit prepositions, postpositions, and circumpositions. The existence of different types of adpositions enrich the given languages and allows them for a clearer expression of the functions of a sentence. In this study, the main focus is providing a comparative corpus based analysis of six different Iranian language varieties such as Nayini, Lori, Laki, Kalhori, Gorani, and Hawrami with highlighting the contrasts between the most frequent adpositional types. The aim is to give a description of forms and functions regarding certain types of adpositions and to contrast their use and how they are translated into English. These language comparison studies are becoming increasingly appealing. The structure and norms under which words interrelate are part of the study of language as a method of communication. Scholars are faced with the requirement to perform research on challenging subjects and make global and local comparisons. Therefore, this research looks into analytical and comparative analysis with the aim of enlightening and empowering the current use of adpositions in and on and giving a clearer picture of their translations in the sample language varieties. The research is based on the analysis of narrative speech and a questionnaire-based examination among the sample languages. A total audio recording of 345 minutes alongside 1500 sentences extracted from the questionnaire data are all transcribed and translated into English. The findings show that though every language structures the reality in a different way, certain tendencies may be observed in the relation of the forms and their functions that eventually result in a more detailed classification. The contribution demonstrates results of an ongoing work.

**Keywords:** adposition, preposition, postposition, circumposition, Iranian languages