Double Object Construction in Persian Literary Texts: A Diachronic Investigation

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with direct/indirect objects, subjects, adverbs etc. A parallel study goes on the morpheme mar, its history, roles and its existence in Persian DOCs. Key words: Double Object Construction, Dative alternation, Figure-ground has always been a figure marker based on Figure and Ground Hypotheses (Talmy, 1972) and all apparently diverse roles which it takes can be explained from this new point of view. The present study, following Chomsky's minimalist program (1995, 2000, 2004) and Fournier's (2006, 2010) theory of applicative phrase, suggests a structure for Persian double object construction which can also explain different its different roles and the changes that happened in its use in mentioned period, presentations of r and studying the changes that such constructions went through in the mentioned time; and concluding that r This study was designed in two phases: the first phase examined and studied the second phase analyzed DOCs extracted from the corpus of the literature, dividing them into two main categories: with and without Double object construction (DOC) seems to have a very long history in the Persian language dating back to the Achaemenid inscriptions (Bisotun inscriptions). Its existence, however, has been neglected or even denied in some studies (Ghomeshi and Massam, 1994). This study was intended to examine the data available in Persian literary texts written between 9th and 20th centuries in order to investigate the existence of such constructions, and also to analyze the changes in the structure and use of dative alternation and DOC that the
language went through and also to determine the linguistic reasons for such changes. 2202 DOCs investigated in this study were taken from one hundred literary works included as: Shahnameh Ferdowsi, Tarikh Beyhaghi, Kelileh va Demneh, Tarikh Jahan Gosha, Gashtasb Name, Nameh Daneshvaran, Majma` al Fosaha, Mojmal al Tavarikh, Divans of Attar, Sanaei, Rudaki, Mowlana, Hafez, Sa`di, Khayam, Jami, Nezami, etc. Persian DOC is unique in the use of the morpheme