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**Phonemes and Structures in the Dialects or  
the Villages of Somosta District, Bani Suef  
Governorate: A Descriptive Historical  
Study**

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## **Synopsis**

This is a descriptive historical study of the dialects of the villages of Somosta District, Bani Suef Governorate; the researcher has described the study and analysed the available phonetic material as it is; without imposing any pattern or formalistic norm on it. In that respect, it is a modest contribution in the edifice of modern phonemical and morphological studies of contemporary Arabic dialects.

The study is composed of two parts preceded by an introduction and a preface and followed by a conclusion and an appendix.

The introduction handles the nature of the research and its plan. The preface handles the method of the research; the descriptive and historical method, and display previous studies followed by a detailed definition of the dialect; and the importance of studying modern Arab dialects and its benefits. Methods of study are mentioned then a handling of identifying regulations of the field study represented in identifying geographically the field of study as well as determining the number of points in which the research is carried out and the basis of marshalling the linguistic substance, its nature, means of marshalling, displaying the followed scientific method, and determining the number of narrators, their nature and conditions. It also handles the method of research in observation deduction, description and rule-making. The preface also handles a description of the field of study from both geographical and demographical dimensions, and a discussion of the Arab tribes that

dwelled in the area of study and a list of phonetic symbols used in the research.

Part I handles the study of sounds (phonemes). It contains three chapters; Chapter I is concerned with the phonetical study of phonemes. It falls in two subtitles: firstly, the study of consonants; secondly, the study of vowels.

Chapter II studies the phonemes of the dialect from the phonological aspect; it lies in four subtitles. First, Assimilation; second, dissimilation; third, syllable; fourth, stress.

Chapter III then records three other phonetical phenomena in three subtitles; namely, the /' / between full production and alleviation, spatial inversion and free substitution.

Part II handles the study of morphological structures in three chapters; Chapter I is concerned with the study of the verb. It falls in four subtitles; namely, transitiveness and intransitiveness; relation, soundness and words including long vowels; the relation of consonants to vowels; and the passive structure.

Chapter II studies the noun in the dialect. It falls in two subtitles; first, stem and derivation; second, number. Studying the noun in relation to stem and derivation focuses on the forms of the three and the four-letter stem-noun, and the phenomenon of moving the second letter in the three-letter noun connectively or pausingly; then the study of the infinitives with all their types (three-letter infinitives; the infinitive noun; the howness and how- of tenoress noun, the infinitive that starts with a/m/ sound; and *the sinaie* infinitive); nouns that indicate time, place and tool; subject nouns and object nouns; the semi-adjective; the superlative and exaggerating forms.

As for studying the noun in relation to the number, it handles the study of duality; the sound plural (with its both types; masculine and feminine); and the forms of the non-standard plural.

Chapter III handles the pronoun with all its various types in the dialect; it includes personal pronouns; a demonstrative pronouns; and relative pronouns.

The conclusion then is a recapitulation of the main findings reached in the study, showing the traits of every dialect and its distinctive general linguistic characteristics. It also handles the determination of the dialect's tendency to develop and its course for achieving such development, through dispensation or enlargement in some elements of its two systems; phonemical and morphological.

At last, the researcher then displays an appendix that contains texts taken from the sample of study and a glossary of the local vocabulary items in the dialects of the area under study; this was followed by a bibliography recording the consulted books and periodicals upon which the study was based.