Language & Beyond

The study day is an attempt to bring together scholars to share recent knowledge and research about different topics pertaining to linguistics, more precisely language issues and beyond. This encounter looks forward to tracking down new perceptions of these matters which shape today's human system of thought and knowledge.

A deeper understanding of language would depend on a synergy between various sub-disciplines of linguistics, which might lead to narrowing the rift in these fields of linguistic research. Starting from the latter presumption, language can be looked at as a formal system with the focus being on its patterns of sounds, words and word combinations taking into account the fact that it is a principal means through which we conduct our social lives as social and cultural beings. When it is used in contexts of communication, it is bound up with culture in complex and multiple ways, among which we can cite identifying with others (Kramsch, 1998).

Since language figures centrally in our life, it is deemed a feature of our external humanity (Widdowson, 1996). With the advent of cognitive linguistics, language is no longer seen as an autonomous cognitive faculty (Croft- Cruse, 2014). Due status has been accorded to many concepts linked to language like culture, language proficiency and interactional competence and the affordances provided. Much attention has also been paid to social and psychological aspects (Richards& Schmidt, 2014, Miller, 1 999). Among the latter aspects lies language instruction and intercultural learning (Levine, Adelman, 1982).

The variables of literacy engagement and identity affirmation can also be placed in the long lineage of attempts to study meaning in complex texts (Cummins, 2014). Other research has lumped together many discourse and pragmatic facets, giving a shred of evidence that language operates not only within the matrix of society but rather stretches to politics, power, and beyond (Geis, 2012; Chomsky, 2004). It is in this very sense that applied linguistics has thrived as a branch of scholarship where different concerns for language can intermingle.

Based on the premise that language generates a myriad of compelling strategies to adapt to the shifting needs of human life, some parameters might be conserved while others are extended. This study day is an opportunity to share ideas about what is "beyond" the linguistic, social and cultural dimensions. It is a further exploration of more knowledge about the pragmatic and discursive aspects of language and the way they are adjusted to the status quo, as stated above. Stirring disparate realities might also create vivid debate when it comes to the aforementioned elements which presuppose more depth in the study of the mechanisms that underlie language today.

Abstracts for papers or individual panels should not go beyond 250 words, with name of participants; email address and a biography of about 150 words are to be sent to:

studydayislaib@gmail.com

Deadline for abstract submission: **October 20.**

Announcement of acceptance of abstracts: **October 31.**

Abstracts might address, but not exclusively, the following topics:

- *Psycholinguistics*
- *Sociolinguistics*
- *Semantics*
- *Pragmatics*
- *Discourse Analysis*
- *Language assessment*
- *Formal dimensions including phonology, syntax and grammar*

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