

THE ROLE OF ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN DEVELOPING PAKISTANI ENGLISH AS AN INDIVIDUAL VARIETY OF WORLD ENGLISHES

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Abstract

This study seeks to explore the contribution of English newspapers to the development of Pakistani English as an individual variety within the framework of World Englishes. In this context, this study examines how lexical patterns, linguistic structures and journalistic discourse strategies play a significant role in the establishment of unique distinct features of Pakistani English such as code-switching, vocabulary borrowing, lexical innovation, sentence structure and pronunciation. This research also highlights that how Pakistani English newspapers such as Dawn and The News International work as literary artists in framing public opinion and allowing English language to flourish within different cultural contexts by introducing new terminologies and incorporating cultural-specific words, blended expressions and localized sentence pattern. This analysis reveals that how English newspapers act as sites of bargaining between global English standards and dialectical variations of usage which highlights the paradoxical nature of English. By broadcasting, stabilizing and documenting indigenous linguistic features, English newspapers play a crucial role in developing Pakistani English as an individual variety demonstrating the country's cultural and linguistic landscape within the global English horizon.

Keywords:

Pakistani English, World Englishes, Lexical innovation, Ideological framing, Linguistic legitimization, Cultural reflection, Editorial influence, Syntactic adaptation

1. Introduction

English is not unified as single variety of language; it is a global tongue or Lingua Franca of the world. The different styles or varieties of English, spoken all around the world are termed as “World Englishes”. As per history record English is widely spread language. The spread of English language across different regions causes new varieties of Englishes which are distinct in accent, grammar, style and vocabulary. The term “World Englishes” acknowledges that English not just relates to native speakers but it belongs to everybody who makes use of it or applies it. This concept inspires English speakers all over the World and reminds them that their

Local-English influenced by their customs and surroundings is also substantial, thoughtful and valid. The main categories of World Englishes by identifying speakers are ENL, ESL and EIL.

- **ENL** (English as a native language) indicates the countries where English is spoken as a first language like US, UK, Australia etc.
- **ESL** (English as a second language) refers to the countries where English is used widely for educational, professional, business, or official purposes in addition to native language.
- **EIL** (English as an international language) refers to use of English language at international level as a global mode of communication among people from different countries.

These three varieties of World Englishes were also described as inner circle, outer circle and expanding circle in Kachru's model of World Englishes.

The unique variety of English that has evolved in Pakistan due to country's history, traditions, customs and linguistic diversity is termed as Pakistani English. With in global network of World Englishes, Pakistani English is a unique and well-defined category of English. As English entered the region during British colonial rule and after wards became a significant language of education, administration, leadership, press, social media and professional interaction it progressively integrated with native or regional languages, traditions, customs and thoughts patterns. This integration developed a variety of English that represents Pakistani culture norms, social conventions, and diverse linguistic heritage. Pakistani Regional Languages such as Punjabi, Sindhi, Pashto, and Urdu played a remarkable role in shaping Pakistani English regarding its accent, pronunciation, vocabulary, code-switching and grammar patterns. Pakistani English follows British English in formal disciplines _ education, press, administration and legislation but in everyday communication it reflects distinctive regional features making it an integrated form. Pakistani English is now regarded as established and localized variety of language reflecting socio-linguistic identity of Pakistan called Paklish or Penglish.

There is an intimate, impactful, collaborative and unified relationship between English newspapers and English language. English newspapers works not only as platforms of information but also functions as literary artists, shaping how English is utilized, studied and grasped by millions of readers. In exchange the global dominance of English expands newspaper circulation and authority; they required to communicate with wide range of readers. English newspapers have traditionally functioned as defenders of language standards. They are written and edited very carefully and follow recognized rules of grammar, style and format. This authenticity of English newspapers makes them highly reliable sources of formal English. English newspapers now become an everyday and reliable source for students, professionals and general readers to learn authentic English language and enhance their vocabulary. In countries, where is English is spoken as a second language, newspapers plays a significant role in enhancing literacy rate and helping readers understand patterns and rhythms of English.

English newspapers are powerful of language extension and advancement. As society changes, newspapers introduces modern and latest terms, vocabulary, phrases, idioms and expressions. By grasping the unique style, dictionary and traditional phrases of a region, English newspapers reveal regional variations of language. This makes newspapers a reliable source for analyzing World Englishes including Pakistani English, Indian English or Nigerian English. This reflects how English language adjusts to regional identity while staying associated with International communication. English newspapers strengthen the English language via accurate use and steady advancement, while the English language provides newspapers the strength and authority to keep the world informed.

Pakistani English has distinguished features influenced by regional languages, traditions, history and customs. It usually includes code-switching where English is blended with Urdu or other local languages like Punjabi, Sindhi or Pashto crafting a unique language pattern. One of the most distinctive features of Pakistani English is Vocabulary borrowing. Words from Urdu and other local languages mixed spontaneously with English sentences generating terms like load-shedding, cousin-brother, out of station, time waste and ghee or roti are

used un-translated. This combination of words incorporates cultural richness and also conveys meanings that standardized language, occasionally cannot communicate with same magnitude.

An additional distinct feature of Pakistani English is pronunciation. Pakistani speakers frequently pronounce words in modes shaped by their native language sound patterns. For example; the “V” and “W” may correspond sounds, the is usually twisted and tapped. Grammar has also evolved geographical forms. Pakistani people possibly use present continuous on the other hand; British English applies simple present sentences. Pakistani English is becoming more interesting day by day due to its continual evolution. The impact of mass media, technology, education and teenage culture continues to introduce modern language patterns. Corresponding the association of Pakistani English with other regional languages ensures that it stays tightly bound to national identity of Pakistan. Pakistani English reflects as an authorized and thoughtful category of language on its own as an alternative to being a replica of American and British English because Pakistani English is influenced by the nation’s history, its complexity and its real-life experiences.

Pakistani English newspapers have established a unique dialect or speech pattern that illustrates artistic, traditional, societal and diplomatic traits of country. The language of Pakistani English newspapers is influenced by both International journalism standards and diverse language context of Pakistan. Nevertheless the vocabulary and tone; Pakistani English newspapers show case local identity while majority of newspapers obey polished and professional style shaped by British Journalistic standards. This is noticeable in wide-spread adoption of cultural expressions and regulatory terms like load-shedding, protocol, jirga, madrassa, VIP movement; thana culture, dharna and NAB are conserved in English language considering that words can’t be translated literally. These terms serve as cultural signifiers that make the news familiar and understandable for Pakistani readers.

The sentence structure is also a significant feature of Pakistani English newspapers. Pakistani English newspapers give preference to the complex sentences enriched with foundational knowledge, historical context and political commentary. By incorporating effective, analytical language and resonating with tone and style of language along with refined literary devices, ethical evaluation and emotional manipulation editorials and opinion columns advances the argument.

In short, Pakistani English newspapers exhibit unique and distinctive features that give them an edge over International English publications. They offer comprehensive reporting of socio-economic and political challenges by giving priority to National and International news. Pakistan English newspapers like Dawn, The News International, The Express Tribune, The Nation and Daily Times are recognized for their unbiased journalism, media independence, in-depth investigation and thoughtful commentary. They also illustrates distinctive linguistic features specifically distinctions to adverb positioning rules and definite article rules demonstrating multi-cultural variety and identity of country. Furthermore, Pakistani English newspapers offer a platform for open discussion, evaluation and deliberation influencing public engagement and cultivating critical thinking skills.

2. Literature Review

In the context of holistic approach of World Englishes the rise of Pakistani English as a regional and unique category has been extensively analyzed in socio-linguistic research. On account of traditional, social, historical and communicative requirements; initial research on English highlights that English emerges distinctively in all zones. In Pakistan, one of the most powerful agents influencing this linguistic development has been English Language Press. Scholars declare that newspapers not only broadcast events they also establish linguistic conventions, showcase cultural expressions and examine cultural values and social norms through language. Consequently, English newspapers operate as a dynamic website where International English collaborates with regional socio-cultural context providing a framework for the evolution and integration of Pakistani English. The transformation of English in the framework of Pakistan’s cultural-linguistic landscape illustrates how

International languages adjust to modern cultural contexts. Representing this culturalization, Kachru (1986) relies on Dastoor's (1968) observation as:

"There will always be a more or less indigenous flavor about our English. In our imagery, in our choice of words, in the nuances of meanings we put into our words, even must be expected to be different from Englishmen and Americans alike."

(Akbar, M.2019).

Thus, Pakistani English as a second language continues to pave its path regarding standardization. Examinations on the distinct linguistic characteristics of Pakistani English has incorporated it as a recognized category flourishing regional dialect of English within Kachru's outer circle of World Englishes (Kachru,1992).this category frequently referred to as "New Englishes" (Pride,1982;Anchimbe,2007). Various researchers involving Kachru (1983), Baumgardner (1987, 1990, and 1998), Mehrotra (1982), and Sridhar (1991) have examined the traits of Pakistani English, emphasizing its emerging position as a unique variety of language. Apart from these references of Pakistani English category, Rahman (1990, 1996) presented a comprehensive overview of Pakistani English:

"He took data from written and spoken sources of Pakistani English and identified various distinctive features of Pakistani English which were not observed in standard British English."

Rahman, 1990, 1996).

Likewise, Anwar (2007) provide a comprehensive description of code-switching of Urdu phrases and clauses in Pakistani English as:

"There is an impact of local languages and society on Pakistani English, as Urdu phrases and clauses are often incorporated in English sentences."

(Anwar, 2007).

The hybridization of English with regional languages like Urdu, Sindhi, Punjabi, Pashto and Blochi gives rise to a unique variety of English language often referred to as Pakistani English ; illustrating the culturalization of Pakistan within the framework of World Englishes. As noted by Farooq and Gulzar :

"In Pakistan, the term 'budget' may extend beyond its typical meaning of financial planning to encompass broader economic policies relevant to specific national issues."

(Farooq& Gulzar, 2023).

As characterized by regional language dynamics, Pakistani English demonstrates distinctive traits that differentiate it from British English. Baumgardner (1993) noticed the phonological variations, like the alternation of /v/ with /w/ through the influence of Urdu phonology. Pakistani English also integrates native vocabulary such as; 'gunda' (thug) and 'shaddi' (wedding) in daily conversation highlighting mixture of English with indigenous customs. Moreover, unconventional grammatical structures such as; 'do the needful' and 'kindly revert' are widespread in Pakistani English but hardly used in English dialects, documented by Mahboob (2004). In 2008, Mesthrie and Bhatt studied that:

"The development of PakE is closely linked to global linguistic trends particularly the influence of American English through media, technology and education. This has led to the incorporation of new words and a dynamic interplay between British standards and global influence."

(Mesthrie& Bhatt, 2008).

The modification of English in multicultural societies like Pakistan; is transparent in varied linguistic characteristics such as vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation and figurative expressions. The study of Jamal and Hussain(2023) illustrates:

"The borrowing of local words into English; such as 'shukariya' (thank you), which enriches the English vocabulary with contributions from indigenous language."

(Jamal& Hussain, 2023).

Mahmood (2023), explores code-switching being a typical implementation in Pakistan, where speakers alternate among English and other languages within identical phrases, that demonstrates linguistic diversity in everyday talk.

3. Discussion

The emergence of Pakistani English as a distinctive, unique and recognizable form of language within the spectrum of World Englishes is a socially contextualized, progressive and dynamic approach. Alongside several organizational spheres that shape this emergence, English newspapers hold primary, impactful and core status. Besides their role in broadcasting events and crafting public judgment and sentiment, English newspapers have a major impact on syntactic formulation, consolidation and institutionalization of Pakistani English. By means of consistent publication, authoritative editing and contextual modification; English newspapers facilitate public and systemized platform for generation, distribution and regulation of localized English categories.

One of the major contributions of English newspapers is to serve as linguistic channels, linking regional experiences with the wider world of English. The socio-political, religious, theological and traditional scenarios of Pakistan frequently demand adaptation to be effectively articulated in English. Through contextualization, English newspapers overpass this gap between conventional English and local communication demands. This process of modification fosters vocabulary innovation, pragmatic adjustments and semantic shifts that eventually characterize Pakistani English. With the passage of time, these characteristics fade away as deviations and rather attain legitimacy via institutionalization support or established norms.

Lexical nativization is extensively regarded as the defining feature of Pakistani English as demonstrated in English newspapers. Pakistani English newspapers typically incorporate Urdu and Arabic derivatives without clarification, relying on common socio-cultural awareness among readers. This approach showcases the strong command of English identified by confidence instead of self-consciousness about language skills. The terms like *jirga*, *janaza*, *fatwa*, *shaheed*, *shariat*, *madrassa* and *nikkah* repeatedly occur in journalistic reports, columns and breaking headlines. This regular integration of these terms enriches the lexical catalogue of Pakistani English and highlights the indigenization of English within the South Asian and Islamic cultural paradigm. Departing from prior colonial conventions that signified the endemic expressions through italics and interpretation, latest Pakistani English newspapers incorporate these terms flawlessly undercrossing their normalized linguistic traits.

Beyond lexical borrowing, English newspapers promote Pakistani English by facilitating semantic adaptations in which established English words evolve contextual meanings. Within Pakistani English newspapers, the word “**martyr**” frequently symbolizes private citizens or security members deceased in acts of terrorism, emphasizing religious emotions and patriotic sentiment. Likewise, the term “**reference**” usually indicates corruption affairs in opposition to diplomatic or political actor, whereas “**protocol**” is applied to narrate institutional entitlements accorded to public office holders. These semantic interpretations are shaped by local contexts and diverge from their conventional usage in inner-circle English varieties. Sustained usage in newspaper discourse enables such figurative expressions to solidify as organized trait of Pakistani English familiar to regional readers.

Syntactic evaluation of English newspapers underscores the influence of media on Pakistani English. The repeated occurrence of certain compositions indicates the structural influence from Urdu and administrative registers. Recurrent compositions found in English newspaper writing in Pakistan incorporate phrases like “doing efforts”, “discuss about”, “price hike was witnessed” and “orders were issued”. Although these compositions diverge from cultural nuances their continued utilization in recognized newspapers fosters their normalization and admittance among readers. This development upholds the argument that Pakistani English functions independently of foreign norms depending rather on its own native English benchmarks.

Moreover, English newspapers also contribute to Pakistani English by empowering the frequent usage of progressive aspect. Compositions like “the law and order situation is worsening” and “the government is trying to control inflation” are extensively visible in newspapers. This tendency corresponds with aspectual framework of Urdu highlighting continuity and ongoing actions. The widespread prominence of these compositions in newspapers indicates the key influence of media discourse in stabilizing and institutionalizing these grammatical preferences in Pakistani English.

The media plays an important role in shaping both the discursive practices and pragmatic conventions of Pakistani English. In journalistic reports and columns the professional tone, stylistic features and persuasive techniques align with local conventions of politeness, respect and authority. Common respectful terms like “the honorable judge”, “the respected ulema” and “the prime minister said” appear repeatedly in newspaper discourse underscoring the role of newspapers in signaling societal expectations of respect and hierarchy. These stylistic and pragmatic patterns of expression diverge from straightforward and unbiased norms of western journalism, demonstrating the regional or localized characteristics of Pakistani English.

Another vital dimension of newspapers impact on Pakistani English resides in ideological framing. The linguistic rituals of English newspapers typically demonstrate nationalism, religious values and a sense of collective self identification. The frequent use of expressions “national interest”, “Islamic values”, “sovereignty of the state” and “ideological boundaries” signified political coverage and editorial discourse in English newspapers. These linguistic choices functions as ideological indicators formulating a deeply integrated cultural paradigm within English narrative. Frequently shaping national concerns in this manner authorizes newspapers to foster rhetorical devices specific to Pakistani English.

Newspaper headlines particularly illustrate the innovative modification of English to regional dialect and cultural nuances. Headlines in Pakistanis English often highlights conciseness, formal style and authoritative tone; at times deviating from conventional English syntactic norms. Phrases such as “law and order situation reviewed”, “nation observes Youm-e-Shuhada” and “Govt takes notice” act as vivid examples of this stylistic pattern. These headlines demonstrate a hybridized form of English that incorporates regional dialects and illusions into standard grammatical norms. These headline conventions ultimately develop into salient identifiers of Pakistani English in journalism.

Opinion column and commentary sections act as critical components in the normalization and institutionalization of Pakistani English. In contrast to investigative journalism editorials offer more stylistic latitude, facilitating the cultural expression and political stance in English. Such discourse is classified by the frequent use of culturally inflected allegories, rhetorical repetition and moral arguments derived from Islamic and South Asian socio-cultural frameworks. This type of writing reorganizes English to coordinate with traditional argumentative and intellectual frameworks going beyond its function as an impartial forum. Consequently, Pakistani English evolves a distinctive rhetorical device, setting it apart from journalistic norms of British and American English.

Moreover, the institutional credibility of newspapers strengthens their role in organizing linguistic norms. Pakistan English newspapers are often regarded as standard bearers of formal English usage in institutional and occupational spheres. Several students, educators, experts, scholars and administrators rely upon English newspaper discourse as a source of linguistic practice in both written and spoken frameworks. As a result newspaper language is more readily to be immersed, stimulated and transmitted across generations. This mechanism facilitates in constituting formalized conventions of Pakistani English, despite the deficiency of formal correspondence or terminological systemization.

Furthermore, English newspapers serve as sites for bargaining between global English standards and dialectical variations of usage. Although several newspapers struggle for global reliability; they frequently sustain to declare language characteristics contrasting with regional dialects or idiomatic expressions. Such negotiation

demonstrates Pakistani English's paradoxical nature sweeping both world-wide coverage and regional uniqueness. While pursuing to sustain alignment with global journalistic standards, newspapers also set priorities for cultural resonance and local readers' accessibility. Consequently the language develops into a hybrid form unique from both British norms and fully native forms, demonstrating situational demands.

Simultaneously the impact of English newspapers is marked by several restrictions and paradoxes. The consumers of English newspapers in Pakistan are extensively urbanized and educated, highlighting concerns about their broader representational scope. The category of English characterized by newspapers might not precisely demonstrate the sociolinguistic norms of local communities and marginalized groups. Regardless of such restrictions, newspapers precede to play a fundamental role in organizing standard regulations of Pakistani English, specifically in conventional and bureaucratic domains.

English newspapers played a significant role in the evolution of cultural background and self-actualization. By framing Pakistani circumstances, challenges and career aspirations in English, newspapers showcase the language as a tool of national expression instead of imported linguistic expressions. Far from continuing as a legacy of colonial dominance or indicator of social privilege, English develops into a platform for declaring national pride and consciousness. This adjustment destabilizes conventional linguistic rankings empowering established and standard native forms. Pakistani English as underscored in newspapers declares its credibility by means of functional usage instead of following standardized forms without consideration.

Pakistani English newspapers are frequently criticized for being extremely realistic, administrative and occasionally fluctuating in linguistic quality. Although these critiques are valid, they do not refrain from the central role of newspapers in the development of Pakistani English. In fact, such alterations and ambiguity are spontaneous and predicted traits of advancing linguistic frameworks. The coexistence of varied rhetorical and morphological patterns reflects the developing nature of Pakistani English as an alternative to any deficiency of formalization.

Within the expanded framework of World Englishes, the involvement of newspapers in Pakistan reflects that language categories evolve through establishment and institutionalization; not solely by withdrawing native customs and regional standards. The frameworks of visibility, repetition and authority furnished by newspapers reinforce language codification. Through maintained usage of regional variants, these platforms revolutionize individual language variations into recognized cultural and social conventions.

Additionally, English newspapers serve as a vital platform for institutionalizing Pakistani English within the framework of global linguistic landscapes. Multinational scholars, audiences, investigators and digital media networks frequently promote Pakistani English by means of media reportage and web-based journals. As a consequence of this coverage, Pakistani English is progressively admitted as an institutionally authorized variety with salient discourse conventions. With the emerging collaboration of Pakistani newspapers in web-based journalistic practices, their linguistic impact foster global cooperation, empowering Pakistani English in global framework.

At their core, English newspapers fulfill the role of cultural and linguistic sites of experimentation and innovation, where English is progressively examined, modified and reframed. These newspapers demonstrate the sociopolitical landscape of the country even though crafting the paths and procedures in which it is articulated in linguistic terms. Newspapers function as key agents in transmuting English into a contextually established Pakistani category of English through lexical nativization, customized indigenization, language reformulation, ideological orientation and syntactic modification.

The discussion transparently showcases that Pakistani English as signified in newspapers, is neither arbitrary nor flawed; instead it represents a thoughtful and systematic linguistic approach. It is an outcome of controlled and spontaneous linguistic patterns modeled by historical context, spirituality, civilization and administrative protocols. At the prime position of this framework, English newspapers function as sites of both reflection and

construction for Pakistani English. Their contribution in advancing Pakistani English as an individual variety of world Englishes; is therefore not yet complementary but fundamental and ground-breaking, assuring that English in Pakistan sustains to emerge as optimistic, authorized and descriptive regional or national variety.

4. Conclusion

Present study analyzed the advancement of Pakistani English as an individual variety within the context of World Englishes, specifically underscoring the role of English newspapers as a pivotal factor of linguistic organization and language innovation. Through the exploration of chronological context, identifying trademarks, theoretical orientations and comprehensive discourse analysis, the study has illustrated that Pakistani English is not inadequate or substandard category of English but deliberate, authorized, organized and pragmatic form influenced by contextual or regional factors. The observations uphold that language advancement is intensely rooted in diplomatic, bureaucratic and anthropological framework instead of being merely administrated by standard language conventions.

The introduction implies that in Pakistan, English has surpassed its colonial legacy and has sustained substantial cultural adaptation to address the demand of its audiences; giving rise to a variety of English signified by linguistic evolution, syntactic patterns, discursive framing, lexical borrowing and conversational norms. Additionally, literature review showcased that intellectual of World Englishes, gradually acknowledge Pakistani English as an evolving but enduring category that highlights the role of associations; especially the media-authenticating World Englishes. Existing literature furnished conceptual framework that analyzes aberrations as an improvement; influenced by effective communication demand and socio-cultural categorization.

On the basis of this institutionalized groundwork, the discussion illustrated that in Pakistan, English newspapers serve as influential forces of linguistic localization. English newspapers standardize localized layouts of English and make them apparent, reliable, admissible and evident by means of sustained and legitimized language use. Contextual localization, syntax alignment and modification, lexical assimilation and culturally specific language patterns; documented in newspapers exemplify how English is consistently reorganized to declare Pakistan's socio-cultural experiences, value systems and ideological frameworks. Furthermore, the review exposed that newspapers serve as platforms of bargaining between international comprehensibility and contextual applicability, contributing to the formation of hybridized yet the stable linguistic variety.

Even within the parameters of cultivated urban demographics, the role of English newspapers in influencing conventional and organizational standard of Pakistani English remains irrefutable. Frequently criticized spontaneous traits such as disparity, formalistic approach and alteration evolve as essential indicators of developing sociolinguistic diversity. Indeed such characteristics mirror the adaptive and evolving essence of Pakistani English.

In conclusion, English newspapers serve as structural foundation in establishment, linguistic consolidation and global legitimization of Pakistani English. At the same time, they serve as mirrors of societal frameworks and as architects of established linguistic conventions, ensuring that Pakistani English continues to evolve as communicative, authoritative and established variety of English within the global framework of World Englishes.

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