

Arabic language textbooks between guide-lines and diglossia

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Abstrak

ABSTRACT

The Arabic Language has a long history as living and spoken language. It also occupies a wide geographical area and has acquired the position of a communicational language and international language, as well as a language for religion (Islam) and for science - specially during the medieval ages. There is a well-known phenomenon in Arabic which is having more than one level: standard and colloquial. This is what can be called as Diglossia. Because of diglossia, speakers have to choose the language level to use according to situation and the speech-act. This may cause some difficulty, if not contradiction when adopting guidelines for teaching/learning Arabic. The target of this paper is to review different Arabic language textbooks - currently in use - trying to find out how they deal with contradiction.