

**Research Article****Word Order in Pashto Sentences**

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**ABSTRACT**

This article attempts to show the order of words in Pashto phrases and sentences. Their original position is explained, and if the same structure or word changes its position, it is also explained. No specific article or book has been published on this subject yet, although there is information on this subject in scattered writings. This research used a descriptive-analytical and review method. This essay uses various written works related to Pashto and other languages, and the research work of the author of this article to obtain examples of the claims is also noteworthy. The result of this research showed that word order in Pashto is the most important syntactic feature, which starts with the noun clause. This is a fixed principle that the speaker or writer has no discretion in its order. The Pashto language has a special feature in the word order of a sentence. If we ignore it, the resulting sentence will be irregular and even incorrect. Order must also be considered between the words of a phrase and other language structures, because it is also a necessary factor in phrase structure. In Pashto, the order of the main and auxiliary verbs, adverbs, subject and Predicate, order in intransitive and transitive sentences, position of negation, position of the absolute, order of subject-object-verb, sentences, and others are definitely taken into account. because the same order of structures also determines the Type of this language. Order in Pashto sentences is a very important issue that must be considered, although sometimes these constituents can come before and after each other as necessary.

**KEYWORDS:** Pashto language, Language Type, Typology, Word Order, Universals.

**Introduction**

The pronunciation of the word [pašto] is common among speakers as [pašto], [pašto], and [paxto], and non-Pashto speakers pronounce it as [pašto], which means that it is pronounced differently depending on the pronunciation of the middle consonant of this word. This language has 36 letters of the alphabet, (4) of which (P, č, ž, g) are common with Persian, and (8) consonant phonemes [ʂ ʐ, ɳ, ɻ, ɖ, ʈ, ڏ, ڻ, ڻ] <sup>1</sup> are unique to Pashto

<sup>1</sup> (ʈ voiceless-reflex and stop consonant), (ɖ voiced-reflex and stop consonant), (ʂ is pronounced in two ways: in the southwest region as a front palatal-reflex-voiceless fricative. In the Nangarhar or northeast region it is pronounced like "x" and in Middle Pashto or Ghaljai it is a back palatal-voiceless-fricative x), (ʐ or ڏ this sound, like ʂ, has different pronunciations, but in the southwest it is a front palatal-reflex-fricative without voice), (ɻ is a retroflex flapped consonant), (ɳ is a retroflex-voiceless consonant), (ڻ is a fricative-stop unvoiced, like pronouncing the sounds "s" and "t" at the same time), (ڻ is a fricative-stop-voiced consonant).

2(a lower "based on the movement of the tongue from the bottom up" middle "based on the movement of the tongue from the pharynx to the front" meaning that when pronouncing these, the lips are not rounded and there is no labial - open), (â lower - back - unrounded - open), (ə middle - unrounded and open), (i front - closed - unrounded), (u upper - back - labial or round and back), (o middle - back - round or labial and half-closed), (e middle front - unrounded or non-labial and half-closed).

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compared to Persian and Arabic. This language has (7) vowel phonemes, which are: [a, ə, o, u, i, e, â]. The semivowel sounds of this language are (w, y). This language uses these semivowels at the end of words to form Diphthongs [iw, ew, aw, âw, əw] and [ay, ây, əy, uy, oy] (Miakhil, 2023: 55). Another phonological feature of this language is that it accepts “consonant clusters” in the structure of words. there are two consecutive consonants at the beginning of the word [plâr], meaning “father,” and at the end of the word [pənd], meaning “thick and bulky.”.

In the nominal part, nouns in Pashto are divided into four groups: noun, adjective, number, and pronoun. Nouns are inflected in three dimensions and aspects: gender, number, and case. In addition to these three dimensions, pronouns are also inflected and conjugated. A number of nouns are grouped into masculine and feminine nouns based on their last letters, especially masculine nouns, which, in addition, accept this feature of changing in the middle of the word. Nouns have plural and singular signs. Nouns themselves change from one case to another. A noun in the present tense has one case in the subject case, but if this noun is changeable in the past tense, it comes in another case. For example, the first sentence is in the present tense and the second is in the past tense. Its subjects are in the same subject case, but they have apparently changed.

<b>zəlmay</b>	<b>koranəy danda</b>	<b>lik-i.</b>	
<i>Noun</i>	<i>Homework</i>	<i>writing</i>	
<b>“Zalmay is writing homework”.</b>			

In the below Example which is in past tense, [zəlmay] changed to [zəlmi] but has the same meaning:

<b>[ zəlmi]</b>	<b>koranəy danda</b>	<b>lik-əla.</b>	
<i>Noun</i>	<i>Homework</i>	<i>Write - was</i>	
<b>“Zalmay was writing homework”.</b>			

Case refers to the status of a noun in a linguistic environment, such as a phrase or sentence. This language accepts the nominative, vocative, accusative/objective, Dative, instrumental, Possessive, ablative, and locative cases for nouns.

In the verb morphology, types of verbs are examined, and in Pashto, the verb is examined based on (meaning, syntax and morphology). In terms of meaning: imperative verbs that show the existence of a thing [pâtedəl] means staying with someone in their house, a verb that includes someone or something [loyedəl] means growing and multiplying, a definite verb that has an active subject [xandəl] means laughing. A verb that has the Goal as the object of an event. [gramawəl] means to blame, [spəkawəl] means to despise. The verb is divided into "imperative" and "transitive" in terms of syntax, and it also examines the verb that is reflected [džâñ žyora] means to save oneself.

Based on the structure (simple, derivational, compound and compound noun or adjective plus inflectional affixes). In terms of inflection: First, verbs whose stem does not change at any time, but sometimes a vowel change occurs within the word; second, verbs whose stem changes from one tense to another; third, verbs that change only in the present and past tenses in perfect and imperfect. In this language, the verb comes at the end of the sentence and this language is (subject-object-verb). Of course, in some cases, the order of the words changes. They come after and before. Adverbs exist in this language in both basic and non-basic forms. Adjectives become adverbs if they appear in the predicate part of the sentence. Adverbs come in simple and repetitive and emphatic forms.

In the syntax section, it first divides the parts of the sentence into the Subject and the predicate, then examines the constituent parts of the sentence into three types (independent parts, auxiliary parts, and voice (emotional, exclamatory, attentional, and invitational...)). The agreement between the first and second parts of the sentence or the predicate and the Subject is essential; if it is not, the sentence becomes ungrammatical. The tone of the

sentence is very important because it also determines the type of the sentence, that is, it divides the tone of the sentence into (Declarative, interrogative, exclamatory, and Vocative). Stress plays a very important role in the Pashto language and is divided into three types (strong Stress, Fairly strong Stress, and weak Stress). The Pashto language is a subject-object-verb and inflectional language, so the sentence in this language is divided into two parts (clauses or groups), one of which is called (compound or noun phrase) and the second part is called (compound or verb phrase). The noun compound is called "predicate" and the verb compound is called "musnad or verb.

The practice of deleting some words in a sentence is active in this language and some words alone give the same meaning as a sentence. [hə] means yes, [nə] means no, [mənənə] means thank you, [tək] means no or not. Sentences are a word that is the same size as a sentence and are basically created by deleting important components (noun and verb combinations). For example: [təmra sə] means how good it is, [tənə grənə] means how hard it is, [pəm] you be careful.

This language is very sensitive in sentences and phrases regarding gender, mood, and tense. For sentences to be grammatically correct and correct, these points must be paid attention to, otherwise the resulting superstructure will be irregular and incorrect. For example, for matching, one must pay attention to the subject and object, what their gender is, what mood they are in, what tense they are in, and what their position is in terms of number. Taking these into account, we will achieve the grammatical superstructure of the sentence and phrase. Coordinate or inflectional sentences in this language are constructed both in the presence of communicative and inflectional devices and without them.

## Materials & Methods

This study employs a descriptive-analytical approach, aiming to examine the syntactic structure and word order in Pashto sentences. To collect relevant data, the researcher reviewed a variety of linguistic sources, including academic books and scholarly articles in Pashto, Persian, and English. In addition, the author's own prior research and linguistic observations were used to provide original examples and support key arguments.

The data collected were categorized and analyzed considering linguistic typology and syntactic theories. Special attention was paid to the order of sentence constituents in Pashto, including subject, object, verb, adverbials, modifiers, pronouns, and pre/postpositional elements. Comparative references were also made to word order universals across world languages, particularly drawing from Greenberg's typological framework.

This methodological design enabled a comprehensive and systematic examination of the fixed and flexible syntactic patterns in Pashto, with illustrative examples provided to clarify each rule and exception.

## Result

The title given for the research has been examined in five sub-sections (Pashto language, language Type, sentences, word order and Universals) and necessary information has been provided about it. Among these sections, the focus has been on the word order section in Pashto language sentences, which is as follows:

### 1- Type of Pashto language

Pashto is the ancient language of ancient Aryana, Pakhtunkhwa, Ruh, Khorasan, Great Afghanistan, and present-day Afghanistan and Pakhtunkhwa. It has been spoken by the inhabitants of this land for centuries, and books have been written about it by Pashtun scholars and intellectuals at different stages of history ([Rafi, 2014: 195](#)). A typology is a system of classification used to organize things according to similar or dissimilar characteristics. "Pashto is a Principle language in Afghanistan and Pakistan. It is spoken natively by over half of the population of Afghanistan... Pashto belongs to the Iranian branch of the Indo-European Family of

languages (t̪̪gay,1996:18). The Name Pashto language is Romanized in several ways, such as Pashto and Pakhto which reflect dialectal differences (Windfuhr,2009:721). According to the classification of world languages, Pashto is in the SOV category, because in this language, like Persian, the subject comes first, then the verb, and if the sentence has an object, the subject comes first, then the object and the verb. Therefore, this language is in the SOV Type (as shown in the examples below). Pashto language is a subject-object-verb language in terms of compound structure, in which the first part of the sentence is dedicated to the noun clause and the second part to the verb clause. If the first part or the beginning of a sentence has transitive verb, the subject comes alone or with its own structures. If the sentence has an intransitive verb, the object comes alone or with its own structures (adjectives, determiners, numerals, adjectives, etc.) at the beginning, or in other words, it comes after its determiner. The following sentences are examples of them:

With definite transitive verb		With intransitive verb	
<i>yawə sari</i>	<i>dodəy wə-xwara.</i>	<i>yaw saray</i>	<i>rāyay.</i>
One man(sub)	Bread(obj) had eaten(V).	One man(sub)	Come(V).
“A man ate bread.”(SOV)		“A man/person Came.”(SV)	
With definite transitive verb		With intransitive verb	
<i>yawə yat sari</i>	<i>dodəy wə-xwara.</i>	<i>yaw yat saray</i>	<i>rāyay.</i>
One big man(sub)	Bread(obj) abs- eat(V).	One big man(sub)	Come(V).
“A big man ate the bread.”(SOV)		“A big man Came.”(SV)	

The following sentence shows a passive intransitive verb preceded by the words related to the object:

<i>yawa</i>	<i>žəbpohāniza</i>	<i>Maqāla(Obj) -</i>	<i>wə-likəl(V)</i>	<i>šwa.</i>
one	Linguistic	Article	abs- write	was
“A linguistic article was written.”(OV)				

Pashto, like other Iranian languages, is a variable language, or in other words, it is capable of derivation and change. It combines prefixes and suffixes with other words and creates new words. The Pashto language is very rich in terms of grammatical structure, with its verb system like English, and the noun case in that language is also very extensive ([Waziri Iqbal,2015:51](#)). So as a result, we can say that Pashto is (SOV) type language. In some cases, Pashto is perhaps the most conservative of the Iranian languages, retaining phonemic stress, ergative structure, and gender distinction ([Dabirmoghaddam,2014: 180](#)).

## 2- Word order in Pashto

The meaning of order is how the components of a sentence (nouns, verbs, phrases) are woven or comes together and what their order is. Which structure comes first, which comes second, and which comes third ([Zyar,2017:56](#)). In linguistics, word order (also known as linear order) is the order of the syntactic constituents of a language. Word order typology studies it from a cross-linguistic perspective, and examines how languages employ different orders. Correlations between orders found in different syntactic sub-domains are also of interest. In all languages, the direct object and the subject are distinct. The most common ways of showing this contrast are through case and word order. Given the richness of the case system in Old English, it is not surprising that its word order was somewhat more varied than that in modern English. The most common word order in a sentence was subject-verb-object ([Q'Grady,2013:338](#)). In Pashto, the first and most important syntactic feature is “word order”, which starts with the noun clause. This is a fixed principle that the speaker or writer has no discretion in its order. For example, the compound phrase in English such as (the hand of that man) and (the man's hand) are both correct, but in Pashto only (də hāyə sər̪i lās) is possible. Order is the arrangement in which the components of a phrase or sentence are arranged, and these components also have a syntactic relationship among themselves ([Reshteen zewar,2015: 179](#)). Word order refers to the linear relationship of words and groups within larger linguistic units. An important distinction in the study of word

order is between fixed word order and free word order (Rasikhmahand, 2014: 122). However, the order of the components (subject - object - verb adverb - verb complement) in a sentence is not completely fixed and their positions can change ([Shirzad, 2015: 178](#)).

- In the order (adjective + Noun), the adjective comes first and then the Noun [*şkwole njay*], meaning (Beautiful + girl), of course, in sentences the Noun also comes before the adjective. [*njay şkwole da*], meaning (girl + Beautiful + is). The order of number is with nouns (number + Noun). Pronouns also have their agreement with each other, and the reflexive pronoun is [*dzân*].

- The word order in the predicate section are in this order: first, the particles for the future tense "ba" or the modal auxiliary verbs or particles [ba, bayad, de], then the adverbs (emphatic, temporal, qualitative...), then the object, then Words related to the object, and then the verb (main, auxiliary, then other complements). The following sentence proves this claim:

<i>zmaray ba</i>	<i>(də hamde myâste pə pây ke)</i>		<i>(pə baryâlitob sara)</i>	
Name will	"At the end of this month"			"With successful"
<i>pə pohantun ke</i>	<i>zdakre</i>		<i>pâyta</i>	<i>wə-rasawi.</i>
prep university post pos	Education		finish	Abs-complete
<b>"Zamri will successfully and proudly complete his studies (at the university) at the end of this month."</b>				

Before the verb (main or auxiliary) If the sentence has a definite transitive verb, the object is placed after its related words or complements. Look at the sentence below:

<i>mâ</i>	<i>yawa</i>	<i>žəbpohaniza</i>	<i>maqâla -</i>	<i>likəl-e</i>	<i>wa.</i>
I	one	Linguistic	Article	Write - agr	was
<b>"I wrote a linguistic article."</b>					

Adverbs, although they do not have a very specific position compared to other constituents, reliably come before the verb phrase or the predicate part of the sentence, before the object(s) and the verb. For example:

<i>mâ</i>	<i>Parun yawa</i>	<i>žəbpohaniza</i>	<i>maqâla -</i>	<i>likəl-e</i>	<i>wa.</i>
I	Adv/Yesterday one	Linguistic	Article	Write - agr	was
<b>"I wrote a linguistic article yesterday."</b>					

If both adverbs of time and place are used in the same sentence, then adverbs of time comes before place. For Example:

<i>mâ</i>	<i>"Parun" "pə kor ke" yawa</i>	<i>žəbpohaniza</i>	<i>maqâla -</i>	<i>likəl-e</i>	<i>wa.</i>
I	Adv/time Adv/place one	Linguistic	Article	Write - agr	was
<b>"I wrote a linguistic article at home yesterday."</b>					

Sometime Adverb of place can also come before Adverb of time. For Example:

<i>pə kor ke</i>	<i>lə kaluno rahise abâdi</i>	<i>nə wa</i>	<i>Şdwe.</i>		
Adv/place	Adv/time construction	Neg abs	Do/past		
<b>"No construction work had been done on the house for many years.."</b>					

-The negation particles in this language appears with the inflectional verb or as a prefix. The following three sentences show the position in simple, derived, and compound sentences:

<i>mâ</i>	<i>oba</i>	<i>nə</i>	<i>tsəl-e.</i>	<b>Simple verb</b>
Me	Water	Negation	Drink-was.	<b>Negation is before verb</b>
<b>"I was not drinking water."</b>				

<i>day</i>	<i>arâm</i>	<i>kse (nə)</i>	<i>nâst.</i>		<b>Derivative verb</b>
He	quietly	V Negation	Sit.	<b>In the middle of verb</b>	
<b>"He did not sit quietly".</b>					
<i>haya</i>	<i>lə xpəl</i>	<i>kâra</i>	<i>nə</i>	<i>las pə sar</i>	<i>kiz-i.</i>
He	Prep its own	work	Negation	leave	<b>Verb – Suffix</b>
<b>"He is not giving up his work." The negation comes before the compound verb.</b>					

In nominal sentences, negations are basically like attributive prefixes.

<i>haya</i>	<i>sə saray</i>	<i>(nə) day.</i>	
He	Good Person	Negation is.	
<b>"He's not a good person."</b>			

But in the past two tenses, it sometimes comes with the same auxiliary verb before the main verb, and it is not ungrammatical.

<i>zəlmay</i>	<i>nə day</i>	<i>râyəl-ay.</i>	<b>Before main Verb</b>
Name	Negation Aux	Come he.	
<b>"zalmay hasn't come."</b>			
<i>zəlmay</i>	<i>nə wo</i>	<i>râyəl-ay.</i>	<b>Before main Verb</b>
Name	Negation Aux	Come Suffix/he	
<b>"zalmay hadn't come."</b>			

If the auxiliary verb comes with the main verb, (nə) comes before both. For example:

<i>dodəy</i>	<i>nə xwarəl</i>	<i>kiz-i.</i>	<b>"In present Tense"</b>
Bread/Food	Neg eating	Aux - Suffix	
<b>"The food is not eaten." No one eats the Food.</b>			
<i>dodəy</i> -	<i>nə xwarəl</i>	<i>ked-a.</i>	<b>"in past Tense"</b>
Bread/Food	Neg eating	Aux – Suffix past prog	
<b>"The food was not eaten." No one ate the Food."</b>			

- If "wə" or the absolute definite particle is used in a sentence, it must come first of all. For example, look at the examples below:

<i>dodəy</i>	<i>ba wə</i>	<i>nə xwarəl</i>	<i>ši.</i>	
Bread/Food	Will Abs	Neg eating	Aux Verb	
<b>"The food will not be eaten."</b>				
<i>dodəy</i>	<i>wə</i>	<i>nə xwarəl</i>	<i>šwa.</i>	
Bread/Food	Abs	Neg eating	Aux Past	
<b>"The food was not eaten."</b>				

The negation particle "mə" or "nə" as a negative is only relevant in the past tense (in the second person) and in the same type of verb, it does not differ much from the position of the particle "nə". If the absolute "wə" appears in the sentence, "mə" becomes "nə".

<i>Wrâney</i>	<i>mə</i>	<i>kaw-a.</i>		<b>Imperative on 2<sup>nd</sup> person</b>
Noise	Negation	Do – 2 <sup>nd</sup> p		
<b>"Don't be Noisy".</b>				
<i>Wrâney</i>	<i>wə</i>	<i>nə kṛ-e.</i>		<b>In Absolute case</b>
Noise	Abs	Negation Do-2 <sup>nd</sup> p		
<b>"Don't be Noisy".</b>				

"nə" is prefixed only with simple verbs, in derived verbs as a midfix, and with compound verbs it is prefixed with the verb. Negative adverbs are used with all types of verbs except the imperative. With the imperative verb, it is used in the form "mə" instead of "nə" ([D.A Shafif, 2016:87](#)).

- Order of Pronouns is: The main pronouns, demonstrative pronouns, and interrogative pronouns come before the noun phrase. For example:

<i>mâ</i>	<i>yawa</i>	<i>žəbpohaniza</i>	<i>maqâla -</i>	<i>likəl-e</i>	<i>wa.</i>
I/PRO	one	Linguistic	Article	Write - agr	<b>was</b>
<b>"I wrote a linguistic article."</b>					
<i>tâ</i>	<i>yawa</i>	<i>žəbpohaniza</i>	<i>maqâla -</i>	<i>likəl-e</i>	<i>wa.</i>
YOU/PRO	one	Linguistic	Article	Write - agr	<b>was</b>
<b>"you wrote a linguistic article."</b>					
<i>haYð</i>	<i>yawa</i>	<i>žəbpohaniza</i>	<i>maqâla -</i>	<i>likəl-e</i>	<i>wa.</i>
HE/PRO	one	Linguistic	Article	Write - agr	<b>was</b>
<b>"He wrote a linguistic article."</b>					

Weak Pronouns come after the object. For Example:

<i>Ketâb</i>	<i>me</i>	<i>xpor</i>	<i>Šo.</i>
Book	Mine/PRO	Publishe	Do/past
<b>"My Book has Published."</b>			
<i>Ketâb</i>	de	<i>xpor</i>	<i>Šo.</i>
Book	Yours/PRO	Publishe	Do/past
<b>"Your Book has Published."</b>			
<i>ketâbuna</i>	<i>mo</i>	<i>xpárd</i>	<i>Šwðl.</i>
Books	Ours/PRO	Publishe	Do/past
<b>"Our Books has Published."</b>			

If "ba" which means "will" come in a sentence, Weak pronouns come after object and "ba".

<i>Ketâb</i>	<i>ba</i>	<i>me</i>	<i>lik-ð.</i>
Book/OBJ	will	Mine/PRO	Write - agree
<b>"I was writing a book ."Or Maybe I would write a book.</b>			

- Order of Preposition and Postposition: Preposition comes before Noun and Postposition comes after Noun. Every Preposition has its own Postposition and Sometime a Preposition or Postposition can come alone with Noun "Pashto is a Pre-Post Positional language". For Example:

<i>Maqâla</i>	<i>pðr</i>	<i>mez</i>	<i>bânde</i>	<i>eše.</i>
Article	PREP	Noun	POST P	put
<b>"The article is on the Table."</b>				
<i>halðk</i>	<i>pð</i>	<i>kor</i>	<i>ke</i>	<i>day.</i>
Boy	PREP	Noun	POST P	is
<b>"The Boy is at home." (it can come without preposition.)</b>				

Prepositions, as auxiliary components of a sentence, combine with the main and independent components (nouns) and create adverbs. For Example, (pð kor ke). pð is Preposition an ke is Postposition. In contrast to this habit of these particle pairs or (ghbarg baluna) of Pashto, most related languages use a only one preposition. For example, in Persian (dar) and in English (in) ([Zyar, 2007: 18](#)). In compound sentences, the object clause, according to standard and grammatical rules, comes in that part of the main sentence that does not affect and

break down a sentence structure, such as an indivisible clause. Of course, sometimes this rule encounters irregularities, in which case we use a compound sentence instead of a compound sentence with an object clause. For example:

<b>də sowuki</b>	<b>wrârə</b>	<b>če taqâəd</b>	<b>šəway</b>	<b>Maqâla</b>	<b>lik-i.</b>
Addition teacher	Nephew	That retire	Do	Article	<b>Write- 3rd P</b>
<b>"The teacher's nephew, who has retired, writes articles."</b>					

There is an irregularity in this sentence. We can Point/Show this concept in a compound sentence:

<b>də sowuki</b>	<b>wrârə</b>	<b>maqâla</b>	<b>lik-i, haya</b>	<b>xpəla taqâəd</b>	<b>šəway.</b>
Addition teacher	Nephew	Article	Write- 3rd P ,he	Himself retire	<b>Do/ed</b>
<b>"The teacher's nephew writes article, he himself is retired."</b>					

We can also write this sentence as bellow:

<b>sowukay xpəla</b>	<b>taqâəd</b>	<b>šəway</b>	<b>aw wrârə</b>	<b>ye maqâla</b>	<b>lik-i.</b>
Teacher himself	retire	Do	And Nephew	Pro3 Article	<b>Write-3<sup>rd</sup></b>
<b>"The teacher himself has retired, and his nephew is writing the article."</b>					

- In the order of the additional phrase/ Genitive phrase in Pashto, the Particle (də) comes first, then Genitive Noun (mozaf elihe) and then Noun (mozaf). This claim is seen in the above sentence in the clause:

<b>[də + sowuki + wrârə] maqâla lik-i.</b>
<b>Additional phrase or Possession phrase</b>

In English, this order also comes like in Pashto. For example, (South Corydon, General Secretary). and sometimes it comes like in Persian (Whytleaf South, Secretary General) ([Zyar, 2017:56](#)).

-If the subject and object have several determiners, for example: a determiner, a number, an adjective, even if it has two or more adjectives, the order of these structures is: a determiner (one or yaw), a number, an adjectives or an adjective, and among the adjectives, priority is given to the adjective that is close to the determining subject and object ([Zyar, 2005: 296](#)). For example:

<b>Yaw</b>	<b>pində</b>	<b>tolmanəli</b>	<b>piâwəri</b>	<b>ruŋândi</b>	<b>Aw</b>
One	Num/Five	likable	Strong	intellectual	<b>and</b>
<i>nawəstgər</i>	<i>likwâl</i>	<i>nən</i>	<i>wəstâyəl</i>	<i>šwəl.</i>	
inventive	writers	today	Appreciation	Do.	
<b>"A group of five likable, strong, intellectual, and inventive writers were honored today."</b>					

If we add a Possessive to the subject and object in a sentence, it comes first of all with "də" or the Possessive particle. For example:

<b>də Afghanistan yaw</b>	<b>pində</b>	<b>tolmanəli</b>	<b>piâwəri</b>	<b>ruŋândi</b>	<b>Aw</b>
Poss place one	Num/Five	likable	Strong	intellectual	<b>and</b>
<i>nawəstgər</i>	<i>likwâl</i>	<i>nən</i>	<i>wəstâyəl</i>	<i>šwəl.</i>	
inventive	writers	today	Appreciation	Do.	
<b>"A group of five likable, strong, intellectual, and inventive writers From afghanistan were honored today."</b>					

If a preposition and a postposition are also present in the sentence, then the preposition comes after the Possessive and the Postposition and before the determiners and the Postposition comes at the ends, or in other words, after the subject and object ([Zyar, 2005: 296](#)).

<u>də Afghanistan lə</u>	<i>yaw</i>	<i>tolmanəli</i>	<i>piâwəri</i>	<i>ruqândi</i>	<i>Aw</i>
Poss place PREP	Num/one	likable	Strong	intellectual	and
<i>nawəstgər</i>	<i>likwâl</i>	<i>sara</i>			
inventive	writers	With/POST P			
<b>"With a, strong, intellectual, and inventive writers From afghanistan."</b>					

- In present tense transitive sentences that also have an object, the general order of this sentence in Pashto is (subject-object-verb) or SOV. Examples of this claim are given. The order (object-verb) in Pashto occurs when the subject is indicated by a verb suffix ([Penzal, 2010:453](#)). For example:

<b>halḍk</b>	<b>win-ḍm. (OV or object - verb)</b>
<b>Boy/ object /3<sup>rd</sup> person</b>	See/trans... verb – suffix For 1 <sup>st</sup> person
<b>"I see the person" the subject is dropped in this sentence."</b>	

Or the verb has an imperative form, we can see (OV) order:

<b>doddy</b>	<b>wðxwar-a! (OV or object - verb)</b>
<b>Bread or Food/ object /3<sup>rd</sup></b>	eat/imp... verb – suffix For 2 <sup>nd</sup> person
<b>"You eat the Food/ Bread." the subject is dropped in this sentence."</b>	

Among the Iranian languages, Pashto also has a relatively special feature in "word order", meaning that it differs from some Iranian languages in word order. Dabir Moghadam (2014) has cited an excerpt from Greenberg's Universals, here we refer to these Universals and examine the position of the Pashto language within them.

Universal 1: " In declarative sentences with nominal subject and object, the dominant order is almost always one in which the subject precedes the object." ([Greenberg, 1966. 77](#)).

<b>mâ</b>	<b>oba</b>	<b>nə</b>	<b>tsəl-e.</b>		
Me/Sub	Water/Obj	Negation	Drink-was.		
<b>"I was not drinking water."</b>					

This universal principle is consistent with Pashto, because it is a subject-object-verb language, and the subject always appears before the object in this language. This is the unmarked order of Pashto, but there are other orders that are called marked orders.

Universal 2: "In languages with Preposition, the Genitive almost always Follows the governing noun, while in languages with postpositions it almost always precedes. " (p. 78)

Although the order of the Pashto language is subject - object - verb, this language violates this Principle of word order and is among its exceptions, because the order of these structures in such Prepositional Phrase in the Pashto language is: (Possessive Particle "də" + Noun "mozafeliyah + Noun "mozaf"). In the Pashto language, it is the opposite of Persian, and the Genitive of the Persian language is written with the Possessive "də" which comes at the beginning of this Phrase. Both languages belong to the same Type, but in this Principle the word order is different from each other. For example:

<b>Pashto language</b>			<b>Persian language</b>		
<i>də</i>	<i>kâbul</i>	<i>sâr</i>	<i>Šahr</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>Kâbul</i>
Possessive	Kâbul/plase	city	city	Possessive	Kabul/plase
"The Kabul city"				<b>"The Kabul city"</b>	

Universal 3:

Universal 4: "With overwhelmingly greater than chance frequency, languages with normal SOV order are postpositional." (p. 79).

The order of Constituent in Pashto is (SOV) and corresponds to Universal 4 because the number of Prepositions in Pashto is less than that of Postpositions and it is a Postpositional language<sup>2</sup>. Of course, it is worth remembering that in this language each preposition accepts a specific Postposition to provide a specific meaning and we have many cases in which it comes with a noun or adjective only the Preposition or only the Postposition. For example:

Without Postposition			Without Preposition		
<i>tər</i>	<i>kora</i>	<i>pore</i>	<i>pər</i>	<i>mez</i>	<i>Bânde</i>
Prepos...	House/Noun	Postpos...	Prepos..	House/Noun	Postpos..

We have examples where only the Preposition is given, but it is not common to add a Postposition to it. The following examples show that it is not common to add Postposition to the Preposition [pə]:

<b>pə</b>	<b><i>tura</i></b>	<b><i>ye</i></b>	<b><i>wə</i></b>	<b><i>wâh-ə.</i></b>
Prep	sword	Pro	Abs	<b>Hit - Past</b>
<b>"He/She struck (him) with a sword."</b>				
<i>pə</i>	<i>čârə</i>	<i>ye</i>	<i>pre</i>	<i>kər.</i>
Prep	Noun/Knife	Pro	Cut	<b>Do</b>
<b>"He/She Cut (it) with a Knife"</b>				
<i>pə</i>	<i>žarâ</i>	<i>lə</i>	<i>kor-a</i>	<i>wə-wot.</i>
Prep	Cry	Prep	Home	<b>Abs- go out</b>
<b>"He/she left the house crying."</b>				

Preposition and Postposition affect independent structures and, as syntactic components, indicate the states and positions of independent components, they can also be called governing or governing components. Unlike Persian, English, Hindi and other languages, Pashto uses simple Prepositions and Postpositions in pairs. Each pair of these is the same as a Pre-Post Position. In Pashto, each Preposition has several Postpositions, so we can say that in this language the number of Postpositions is more than Preposition. Pashto has only one simple Postpositions *ta* in the passive voice because its Preposition (*wə*) has been removed from standard usage. It is worth remembering that in Pashto, if we use Postpositions and Preposition incorrectly, it creates grammatical and semantic errors. For example:

<b><i>tol</i></b>	<b><i>ba</i></b>	<b><i>de</i></b>	<b><i>sâtəm</i></b>	<b><i>də</i></b>	<b><i>prado</i></b>	<b><i>hewâda.</i></b>
always	will	you	save	Add	Foreign	<b>country</b>
<b>"I will always save you, foreign country."</b>						
<i>tol</i>	<i>ba</i>	<i>de</i>	<i>sâtəm</i>	<i>lə</i>	<i>prado</i>	<i>hewâda.</i>
always	will	you	save	Add	Foreign	<b>country</b>
<b>"I will always save you(My country), From foreign."</b>						

In this language, Prepositions are sometimes not simple and "Both" comes together, but this is only, when necessary, in poetry and is not a special rule. Therefore, Prepositions are separate and simple and do not have a separate division (Zyar, 2005: 205). Postpositions in Pashto are divided into three groups in grammar: simple [ke, sara, pore, bânde], derivative [pâse, sarbera, dâbânde] and compound [sara sara, sara lə, dânâna dânâna]. Pseudo-Postposition (with possessive adverbs "də" and assimilation adverbs "laka"). "də" comes first as a

<sup>2</sup> Of course, Based on a point of view, it should also be remembered that this language is also a pre-postpositional language.

possessive Preposition, therefore its postpositions are also numerous. For example: [lə pâra, pə gadun, pə mlatar, pə waynâ, pə nanga]).

Universal 5: "If a language has dominant SOV order and the genitive follows the governing noun, then the adjective likewise follows the noun."(p. 79).

This Universal does not apply to the Pashto language. This Universal has three structural components: the SOV order, the order of the Noun and the Possessive Noun, and the order of the adjective and the Noun after adjective. The Pashto language differs in two structural components. Although this language is SOV, the order of the structures is Possessive Noun Then Noun, and the adjective followed by the Noun. In this order, the Pashto language also works the opposite way to Persian.

Universal 14: "In conditional statements, the conditional clause precedes the conclusion as the normal order in all languages."(p. 84).

This Principle is a general rule because it is true in all languages of the world. In Pashto the conditional clause comes first but sometime the conditional Particle [kə] has a fluid position in sentences. For example:

**kə** me zṛd pə mangwəl wədwəzi lə sine na

if my heart prep hands torn out prep chest post p

"If my heart were torn out of my chest by hands."

**kə** me dwāra stərge sar na râbahar ši

if my both eyes Head post p torn out Do

"If both my eyes were torn out of my head"

pə golo **kə** me suray suray tatar ši

prep arrow if my hole hole chest Do

"If my chest is pierced by an arrow"

Conditional sentence structure, which are compound sentences in Pashto, include a subordinate clause (conditional clause) that usually comes before the main clause. As its name implies, the two clauses are joined by a conditional device (kə). This (kə) comes at the beginning of the subordinate clause. Sometimes (kə) in the conditional clause is accompanied with (no) or (xo) devices, but more often they appear in the beginning of conditional sentences. In conditional sentences, (če) device can also mean (kə).

General 36: "If a language has a category of gender, then it will always have a category of number" (p. 96).

This universal is not related to the order of words, but to conjugation or morphology because it speaks about two morphological categories. This Principle shows the one-sidedness of implicit Principle. That is, the opposite of the correlation is necessarily true (Dabir-e-Moghaddam, 2014: 27). The Pashto language has both a category of gender and a category of number, and this generality is true for it. This means that this language has both masculine and feminine nouns and has a number category, i.e., singular versus plural.

Universal 42: "All languages have pronominal categories that involve at least three persons and two numbers" (p. 96).

Universal 42 is of the type of "unlimited universals" in Greenberg's classification. First, this Principle is true in all languages. Second, in this Principle, there is no correlation between the two components. That is, this Principle is not one-sided. Needless to say, this Principle also applies to the Pashto language because the prounoun category in this language includes three persons (speaker, hearer, absent) and (singular and plural).

## Conclusion

Pashto language is one of Iranian language which is mostly spoken in Afghanistan and Pakistan. It is an SOV language. According to our Thought this issue needs an Explanation. This language is very sensitive in sentences and phrases regarding gender, mood, and tense. This language accepts the nominative, vocative, accusative/objective, Dative, instrumental, Possessive, ablative, and locative cases for nouns. A typology is a system of classification used to organize things according to similar or dissimilar characteristics. According to the classification of world languages, Pashto is in the SOV category, because in this language, like Persian, the subject comes first, then the verb, and if the sentence has an object, the subject comes first, then the object and the verb. In linguistics, word order is the order of the syntactic constituents of a language. Word order typology studies it from a cross-linguistic perspective, and examines how languages employ different orders. In Pashto, the first and most important syntactic feature is "word order", which starts with the noun clause. This is a fixed principle that the speaker or writer has no discretion in its order. In Pashto language these word orders are important and should be considered. In the order (adjective + Noun), the adjective comes first and then the Noun .The word order in the predicate section is: first, the particles for the future tense "ba" or the modal auxiliary verbs or particles [ba, bayad, de], then the adverbs, then the object, then Words related to the object, and then the verb (main, auxiliary, then other complements). Adverbs, although they do not have a very specific position compared to other constituents, reliably come before the verb phrase or the predicate part of the sentence, before the object(s) and the verb. The negation particles in this language appears with the inflectional verb or as a prefix. If "wə" or the absolute definite particle is used in a sentence, it must come first. The negation particle "mə" or "nə" as a negative is only relevant in the past tense (in the second person) and in the same type of verb, it does not differ much from the position of the particle "nə". If the absolute "wə" appears in the sentence, "mə" becomes "nə". Order of Pronouns is: The main pronouns, demonstrative pronouns, and interrogative pronouns come before the noun phrase. Preposition comes before Noun and Postposition comes after Noun.

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