

The survey of Color Terms in Gilaki Language of Sowmesara Based on Berlin & Kay Framework (1969)

seyedeh zahra golzar*,

Abstract Color term is a word or a term to denote a special color. In other words, color term is the human perception of color that he sees. Color terms can be mono morphemic like: red, yellow and green or can be poly morphemic like: red- blue, light green and dark brown. This research studies about the color terms of Gilaki of Sowmesara based on Berlin and Kay (1969) framework. Sowmesara is a city of Gilan province and is located in the west of Gilan and it is a part of western gilaki variety (biye- pas). The questions of research are: 1. Which color terms use in gilaki of sowmesara? 2. What does Color terms have secondary meaning in gilaki of Sowmesara except of color denoting? 3. Are or are not explainable color terms of Sowmesara's Gilaki based on Berlin and Kay (1969) framework? What is their differences if they are not explainable? 4. In cognitive point of view, what has people's living environment effected on Gilaki's color terms? In this research, the author has tried to answer these questions. Data of this research was collected by fieldwork and library method. In fieldwork, data was collected by Gilaki's people of Sowmesara and in library method, two Gilaki dictionaries has been used. Then, data categorise both in terms of color group and in terms of conceptual and metonymical. Finally, according to the pattern the number of color terms in this language are specified. The author want to review this case, with regard to the role and increasing importance of color terms and it isn't done any research about color terms of Gilaki of Sowmesara so far. Linguists interested to know how human beings can diagnose colors in terms of vocabulary, because color is a distinguishing feature of each object. For example, we can understand a fruit is ripe or unripe by it's color or we can reach most of human inner moods by color of face. According to the data of this research and according to the eight criteria in the diagnosis of the basic color terms, kās (a kind of bright green and shiny) color term is one of the basic color terms of

Sowmesar's Gilaki. Thus, Gilaki language of Sowmesara consists of six basic color terms that according to the data in order of frequency are: black, red, yellow, white, kās and green. Keywords: color term, basic color term, Gilaki of Sowmesara, Berlin and Kay (1969).

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