

## Impact of Arabic Language and Literature on Industrial Action Between Federal Government and ASUU on Educational System in Nigeria

Issah Zubairu Achara<sup>[a],\*</sup>

<sup>[a]</sup> Lecturer, Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies, Faculty of Art's and Humanities, Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba, Kogi State, Nigeria.

\*Corresponding author.

Received 24 March 2023; accepted 11 April 2023  
Published online 26 June 2023

### Abstract

This paper shall look into a Semitic language that developed out of the language of the Arabians of the time of prophet Muhammed (SAW) now spoken in countries of the Middle East and North Africa. The standard language as established by the Holy Quran. The alphabetical script used for writing of Arabic probably since about the fourth century Ad and adopted with modifications by Persian, Urdu and many other language. A distinguishing feature of this script is the fact that etymologically short vowels are not normally represented as a successor to the Nigerian Association of University Teachers that was founded in 1965, ASSU was formed in 1978 to cater for the interest of all academic staff in federal and state universities in Nigeria. Although ASUU consist of many universities, there are several other universities that are not under ASSU as body. The union was active in struggle against the military regime during the 1980s. In 1988 the union organized a National strike to obtain fair wages and university autonomy. As a result, the ASUU was proscribed on 7<sup>th</sup> August, 1988 and all its property seized. It was allowed to resume in 1990, but after another strike was again banned on 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 1992.

**Key words:** Autonomy; Banned; Etymologically; Language and proscribed

Achra, I. Z. (2023). Impact of Arabic Language and Literature on Industrial Action Between Federal Government and ASUU on Educational System in Nigeria. *Higher Education of Social Science*, 24(2), 12-16. Available from: URL: <http://www.cscanada.net/index.php/hess/article/view/12972>  
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.3968/12972>

### INTRODUCTION/LITERATURE REVIEW

Arabic language most likely to develop as independent language sometime around the 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium BCE in the Arabian Peninsula. As for the written script of Arabic that history is even harder to discern most Arabic was maintained only but was also influenced by the related Arabic, a Semitic language that is thousands of years old is known as the one and only language of the Holy Quran and the official language of Islamic countries, but the sphere of influence enjoyed by this language is actually much larger. Islamic civilization has crossed every border and has become part of every culture on the planet. Arabic saw a rapid expansion during the middle Ages and its heritage has extended well beyond Islam into the arts, Arabic literature the writings of Avicenna, Arabic poetry, etc. science, culture, cuisine, traditions, communication and more.

Learning Arabic in a global society is important for the following groups:

Native speakers of Arabic

Ex-patriot members of the Arabic Diaspora across the globe (40 million people)

People from other cultures

As you are undoubtedly aware, in Arabic there is a difference between the spoken and written language. Spoken Arabic is made up of different Arabic dialects. This means that Moroccan Arabic is different to Egyptian Arabic and that of Syria differs to that of Qatar or Iraq.

In other words, each of the Middle East and North Africa speaks a slightly different Arabic, with different words, phrases and colloquial expressions when it comes to written Arabic the picture is much straighter forward. The dominant form of written Arabic is modern standard Arabic (MSA), which is generally what any Arabic course will focus on as it is the form of Arabic which is used internationally.

The Academic Staff Union of University Academic Staff, founded in 1978, ASUU is an offshoot of the

Nigerian Association of University Teacher (NAUT) which was established in 1965. At that time NAUT consisted of only five Universities in total including university of Ibadan, university of Nigeria Nsukka, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, University of Ife and University of Lagos.

A literature review is a piece of academic writing demonstrating knowledge and understanding of academic literature on a certain topic placed in context. A literature review also involve a certain evaluation of the materials this is why is known as a literature review, rather than a literature report. Is a way of reviewing the literature as well as form the literature, as well as form of writing.

A literature review is usually one of the tasks carried out after deciding a topic. Reading combined with critical explanation can assist to refine a good topic and frame research questions, conducting a literature a literature review establish your familiarity with and understanding of current research in a particular field before carrying out a new investigation. After doing a literature review, you should know what research has already been done.

a. Adesina Wahab, Johnbosco Agbakwuru, and Joseph Erunke 2022, as member of the academic staff union of universities, ASUU failed to call off their 196- days-old strike, yesterday, indications have emerged that the minister of Labour and employment, senator Chris Ngige, has written the minister of education, Mallam Adamu Adamu, to get the situation report on the negotiation between the leadership of the union, and the ministry.

Also, there are insinuations that federal government may drag ASUU to the national industrial court for refusing to suspend the industrial action, after some of its concerns had been addressed. An impeccable source in the ministry of Labour and confirm whether there was any such move to take ASUU to the industrial court, but the source said the minister of labour, who is the conciliator in chief, might meet with the minister of education to know the status of the ongoing renegotiation talks

b. Muhammadu Buhari, 2022 with academic staff union of universities ASUU, of being complicit in corruption in the tertiary education sectors in the country. This came on a day speaker of the house of representatives, Femi Gbajabiamila, said president Muhammadu Buhari has accepted the report on the engagement of members of the house with the academic union of universities, ASUU on how to resolve the ongoing industrial action by the union.

This is even as the federal government approved the registration of two rival groups to ASUU, the congress of the university academics, ONUA, and the national association of medical and dental academics, NAMDA in what appears an attempt to break the ranks of striking ASUU.

But ASUU in a prompt response said president Muhammadu Buhari's allegations are unfounded, and noted the registration of two new trade.

c. Abubakar, Mallami, 2022 minister of justice and attorney general of federation, "said that the recovered loot, which is tagged Abacha has been earmarked for the completion of the Abuja-kano road, Lagos, Ibadan expressway and second Niger bridge reacting to the development, Lagos said that the federal government does not carry the national assembly along in the disbursement of recovered loot. We have pressing needs like now ASUU, has been on strike and the government is trying to settle those issues, as a representatives of the peoples, if i have to argue where those fund should be channeled to ASUU has been on strike since February 14, 2022 with funding welfare and revitalization of Nigerian universities as some of the major issues for the industrial action.

---

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

---

It is generally that the materials and methods should be written in the past tense, either in active or passive voice. In this section ethical approval study dates number of subjects groups, evaluation criteria and exclusion criteria and statistical methods should be described sequentially.

The researcher in his course of his research he used qualitative and quantitative research method.

---

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

---

Conflict of interest is a common issue in the workplace most of us have heard someone say "it's who you know, not what you know" we have heard co-workers complain that a manager's relative always gets the biggest raise or the best assignment.

Conflict of interest occurs when an individuals, personal interest. Family, friendships, financial, or social factors could compromise his or her judgment, decision or actions in the work place.

In the course of research the researcher occurred in the area of conflict and interest, to get materials for his research, the researcher find it very difficult, but finally the researcher still have an interest in the topic before him, he find it very difficult in the area of data collection, because he has to travel before he can collect his data.

---

## RESEARCH DESIGN

---

The research design refers to the overall strategy and analytical approach that you have chosen in order to integrate, in a coherent and logical way.

### TYPES OF RESEARCH DESIGN

- \* Exploratory research design
- \* Observational research design
- \* Descriptive research design
- \* Case study
- \* Action research design
- \* Experimental research design

- \* Causal research design
- \* Correlation research design
- The researcher will ask the following question
- \* How students can meet up with the new school academic calendar?
- \* How lecturers are feeling during the period of no work no pay?
- \* How university can admit new students this year?
- \* How parents are feeling during this period of strike?
- \* How government is feeling during the period of strike?

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Arabic is a Semitic language originating from the Arabian peninsula with its origins in the 6<sup>th</sup> century, the Muslims world expanded, Arabic spread into Africa and Asia. The distribution of the Arabic language began within the seventh century throughout the Islamic conquests which expanded Arabic reach from the Middle Eastern countries into Northern Africa. Arabic began to prosper for a while before having incorporate new words and technological development terms. Arabic is considered to be one of the oldest languages in the world with a wealth of knowledge that Archeologists to this day are still trying to uncover. Importance of Arabic has roots going back as far as the sixth century. The middle East has a rich storytelling history that has provided some of the most remarkable stories such as the Arabian night, Ali Baba and Aladdin. Arabs have also made significant contributions in such areas as mathematics, navigation, belly dancing, astrology and architecture.

Arabic language facts. Today is the official language of 26 countries and spoken by 280 million worldwide. One of the UN six official language, UN, 6 official languages. Chinese, Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish. Examples of countries where official language in Arabic.

- Bahrain
- Comoros
- Chad
- Djibouti
- Eritrea
- Iraq
- Israel
- Jordan
- Kuwait
- Lebanon
- Libya
- Mauritania
- Morocco
- Oman
- Palestinian National Authority
- Qatar
- Western Sahara
- Saudi Arabia

- Sudan
- Syria
- Tunisia
- United Arab Emirates
- Yemen

An important thing to keep in mind when travelling to Arabic speaking countries each region has a different Arabic dialect that may or may not be understood in a different region.

Arabic has two forms:

- Classical Arabic (Fusha): language in which the Qura'an is written

- Modern standard

Arabic (MSA)

Arabic dialect

Generally understood

Arabic is an extremely descriptive language where some languages has one word for something Arabic has many words for "love" and even hundreds for "camel" Arabic plays an important roles in the Islamic faith because Arabic is the language of the Holy Qura'an. Muslims holds the importance of Arabic language in very high esteem with most of their beliefs being inseparable from Arabic Muslims considering Arabic the divine gift and a sacred part of their customs. They are required to perform five daily prayers in Arabic. Muslims believe that Arabic may be the mother of all languages in the world, is the very first language of Eden.

Importance of Arabic within the international intelligence gathering community when trying to extract an information from highly valued targets and individuals with this level of high demand, they are prepared to pay a lot of money to individuals who utilize this particular important ability. Some business want Arabic speakers on board specifically to contact local Arabic people and to obtain an edge when resuming a business that might otherwise end up being missed only using English interpretation and discussions. Arabic language is the fifth most spoken language in the world.

In 1988 the union organized a National strike to obtain fair wage and university autonomy as a result, the ASUU was proscribed on 7<sup>th</sup> August 1988 and its property seized. It was allowed to resume in 1990, but after another strike was again banned on 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 1992. The Academic Staff Union of University (ASUU) grew out of Nigeria Association of University Teacher (NAUT). The NAUT was formed in 1965. Throughout the military period ASUU struggle around;

- The survival of the university system A, ACAFA Components, the conditions of service (salary) and non-salary), funding university autonomy/academic freedom, the defense of the right to education.

- Broad national issues such as; anti-military struggles, the struggles against military rule, the struggle against privatization, against the structural Adjustment

programme (SAP) and the World Banks attempt to take over the universities, for example, the World Bank 120 million dollars (US) loan under Babangida's military rule and the Nigeria Universities innovation projects (NUSIP) during Obasanjo's regime, the struggle against the re-colonization of Nigeria and debt peonage.

ASUU organized the state of the national conference in 1984 and in 2002. ASUU struggle during the Buhari-Idiagbon regime were based on the unions principled opposition to military dictatorship and ASUU's position on the unions path of development. In its publication how to save Nigeria, which emerged out of its conference on the state of the Economy ASUU diagnosed the ills of the Nigeria Economy and proffered solutions to them. ASUU saw then that a process had begun in 1984 the process of disengagement of government from the economy and predicated that this would generate crises in all sectors of national life. The document rejected privatizations.

The effect of SAP conditioned the struggle of ASUU. The academic staff became impoverished. The EUSSC the Elongated university salary scale was not implemented. But even if it were it would not have addressed the problem of drain. In 1988, ASUU went on strike on the following set of demand:

- Implementation of the EUSS.
- Setting up of against Negotiation committee between the Federal Government and the university staff union and
- University Autonomy

The strike led to the prescripts of ASUU on August 7<sup>th</sup>, 1988 with Professor Jibril Aminu as minister of education, the federal Government banned ASUU, seized all its properties, made an announcements directing all universities to immediately pay the EUSS, backdated to January. ASUU responded by forming a new University Lectures Association (ULA). But the proscription broke the back of the strike members returned to work the president, Dr. Attahiru Jega and the immediate past president, Dr. Festus Iyaji, were detained and tortured.

ASUU was formed in 1978, the period of the beginning of the decline in the oil boom, when the country faced the consequence of the failure by its ruler to use the oil wealth to generate production and a social welfare system. Military dictatorship had eroded deeply the basic freedoms. The funding of education and so of universities became poorer. The factors required a changed orientation of the union of academics from 1980.

ASUU orientation radical, more concerned with broad national issues and stood firmly against oppressive, of the country. The early years of ASSU Assault on academic freedom was the subject of resistance by ASUU throughout the 1980s. in 1978, the uthman Mohammed commission report had an instrument for the federal Government Usurpation of the disciplinary functions of Governing Councils.

In 1987, the minister of Education, Prof. Jibrin Aminu, dismissed Dr. Festus Iyaji president of ASUU and Dr. B. Agbonfoh a branch Executive member on a charge from which they had been previously absolved. The dismissed was a result of the Branch opposition to the imposition of Professor Grace Alele Williams on UNIBEN as vice-chancellor.

An ASUU strike in Nigeria as affected many things in Nigeria, it affect our educational systems those who are suppose to graduate, they can go to NYSC some student became an arm robber because they don't have anything doing some of students became bandits it also affect business peoples in the school campus, their shops are closed down because of ASUU strike.

It affect the newly admitted students some of them become discouraged some of the students ran away from federal universities to state universities in Nigeria, some of the students do change of institution and they could not meet up with the cut-off marks, it became a serious problem for them and their parent. They sat down at home without doing anything parent also discouraged to send their children to universities, some parents withdrew their children from the university and allowed them to learn hand work, some students because of ASUU strike they could not get a job.

Some students planned to marry after their graduation but because of ASUU strike they cannot get married it also affect matrimonies also; and Federal Government is not ready to resolve the issues of ASUU strike amicably with ASUU, it became a big problem people are in stage of confusion, they don't know what to say. Some universities lecturers leave their country to another country. In Nigeria we lost many professors and senior lecturer, some lecturers died because of no work no pay policy that has been adopted by the Federal Government of Nigeria, some workers divorced their wives because they don't have money to feed their wives.

Embarking on ASUU strike in Nigeria causes a lot of problems to the student and also affected on the area of an employments when age is very important.

---

## CONCLUSION AND FUTURE SCOPE

---

National university commission say negotiation still dey go on with public university lecturers, all unions as suspended their strike is only ASUU that is yet to suspend his industrial action. The Nigerian educational system keeps frustrating ideas and aspirations to the process of acquiring knowledge. The Academic Staff Union of Universities. (ASUU) recently add more one month to the strike action. As a result of this ASUU strike some students in Nigeria going inside the town seeking for an employment that will make them to survived themselves many students, they have lost their hope in education in Nigeria.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

All honour and majesty to the Almighty Allah for helping me to put together the ideas contained in this noble article.

My profound gratitude goes to late professor Musa, Abdussalam Mustafa Abikan the former HOD department of Arabic and Islamic studies Kogi State University, Anyigba for his contribution, assistance, and his special counsel, I am indeed very grateful.

Special thanks to Mallam Mashud Isah, and SROSET editorial support team by encouraging me for this noble article.

## RESULT

※ Federal Government of Nigeria valued the politicians than the professors, and they used professors during the time of election.

※ Federal Government of Nigeria want to kill public universities in Nigeria

※ People doesn't want to study Arabic language in Nigeria

※ Our leaders in Nigeria send their children abroad to study and kill our educational system in Nigeria

※ Federal Government of Nigeria is not doing well to resolve the industrial action in Nigeria

※ Federal Government of Nigeria does not want our youth to be educated

※ ASUU does not care about final year students' and incoming students to the university

※ ASUU is not listening to the Federal Government decision

Federal Government of Nigeria should employ Arabic teachers in primary and secondary schools in Nigeria ]

※ Federal Government should build a standard Arabic secondary school in Nigeria and provide Arabic texts book in the school library.

## FUNDING STATEMENT

※ Federal Government should try to fulfill 2009 agreement with ASUU without further decay.

※ Federal Government should try to remove IPPIS issues to enable the university lecturers to be faithfully with their jobs.

※ Monthly salary of professors should not be less than 2million

※ Federal Government should pay back lurk arrears without further delay

※ Federal Government should find a lust solution to end ASUU strike in Nigeria

※ ASUU should consider the final year students and call off the strike without further delay

※ ASUU should listen to the Federal Government decision and suspend the strike action

※ Federal Government should quickly approve

university Transparency accountability Solution (UTAS) to the universities in Nigeria.

※ Federal Government should consider economic problem in Nigeria and increase salary to all lecturers in Nigeria

※ Parents and students should be patient with ASUU to resolve Amicably with federal government

※ Peoples should not blame ASUU, because ASUU is not the cause of the strike

※ ASUU should also be patient with Federal Government to enable the federal government to end the strike.

## REFERENCES

- Alper, M. (2001). *The God part of the brain: A scientific interpretation of human spirituality and God*. New York, NY: Rogue Press.
- Anthonen, V. (2002). *Muslim saints and mystics: Translations of Altar, Farid al-Din*. London, England: Routledge and Kegan Paul.
- Anttonene, V. (2002). Identifying the generative mechanisms of religion. In P. Pyysirainen & V. Anttonen (Eds.), *Current approaches in the cognitive science of religion*. London, England: Curriculum.
- Arberry, V. (2002). *Muslim saints and mystics: Translations of Alter, Farid Al-din*. London, England: Routledge and Kegan Paul.
- Ayer, A. J. (1946). *Language, truth and logic* (2nd ed.). London, England: Gollancz.
- Beckford, J. (1975). *The trumpet of prophecy*. Oxford, England: Blackwell.
- Berger, P. (1969). *The sacred canopy: Elements of a sociological theory*. Garden City, NY: Doubleday.
- Bowie, F. (2000). *The anthropology of religion*. Oxford, England: Blackwell.
- Chow, R. (1993). *Writing Diaspora*. Indianapolis, IN: University Press.
- Connolly, P. (Ed.). (2001). *Introduction approaches to the study of religion* (2nd ed.). London, England: Continuum.
- Daquill, E., & Newberry, A. (1999). *The mystical mind: Probing the biology of religious experience*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press.
- Flew, A., & MacIntyre, A. (1955). *New essays in philosophical theology*. London, England: SCM.
- Flood, G. (1999). *Beyond phenomenology: Rethinking the study of religion*. London, England: Cassell.
- Freud, S. (1907). Obsessive actions and religious practices. In S. Freud (Ed.), *Collected papers* (Vol. 2, pp. 25-35). London, England: Hogarth.
- Huxley, A. (1969). *The perennial philosophy*. London, England: Chatto and Windus.
- James, W. (1902). *The varieties of religious experience*. London, England: Longmans, Green.
- Joseph, R., et al. (2003). *Neuro-theology: Brain science, spirituality, religious experience*. California: University Pr.