



Arabic Sociolinguistics: Topics in Diglossia, Gender, Identity, and Politics (Arabic Edition)

By Reem Bassiouney

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This introduction to major topics in the field of Arabic sociolinguistics examines key issues in diglossia, code-switching, gendered discourse, language variation and change, and language policies. It introduces and evaluates various theoretical approaches and models, and it illustrates the usefulness and limitations of these approaches to Arabic with empirical data. Reem Bassiouney explores how current sociolinguistic theories can be applied to Arabic and, conversely, what the study of Arabic can contribute to our understanding of the function of language in society.

Graduate students of Arabic language and linguistics as well as students of sociolinguistics with no knowledge of Arabic will find this volume to be an indispensable resource.

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Review

"While there exist a number of undergraduate and graduate textbooks on the sociolinguistics of English, the current book focusing specifically on Arabic is to the best of my knowledge the first of its kind. Up-to-date and comprehensive, it is useful not only to students and researchers of Arabic, but also to all those who are interested in sociolinguistics in general."? *Language Policy*

"For those interested in the Arab situation from a sociolinguistic point of view, it seems indispensable. The enthusiasm of the author and the abundant and insightful examples make this a good book to be discovered by readers of traditional introductions into sociolinguistics, which, so this book demonstrates, have as their point of departure a western way of looking at things."? *Historical Sociolinguistics and Sociohistorical Linguistics*

Review

"A welcome addition to the literature in this important and growing field. *Arabic Sociolinguistics* is to my knowledge the only up-to-date, comprehensive manual on the whole subject. The book is written in a pleasingly informal style, and is full of acute (and often personal) observations on the subtle ways in which language and society interact in the Arabic-speaking world. It should be of great benefit both to the student of Arabic and the general linguist with no knowledge of Arabic."? Clive Holes, professor for the study of the contemporary Arab world, Oriental Institute, University of Oxford

"The first of its kind in Arabic sociolinguistics. It will set the standards for the field with its rich insights, brilliant range, and copious examples that make the subject come alive. I have no doubt whatsoever that this book will quickly emerge as the primary text on any course on Arabic in the social world."? Yasir Suleiman, director, Centre of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, University of Cambridge

About the Author

Reem Bassiouney is an assistant professor of Arabic linguistics at Georgetown University. She is the author of *The Functions of Code-Switching in Egypt* as well as numerous scholarly articles and three novels.

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