



## THE SIGNIFICANCE OF "ASOSU-L-BALOGA" WORK IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ARABIC DICTIONARY

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Article history:	Abstract:
<b>Received:</b> July 10 <sup>th</sup> 2024 <b>Accepted:</b> August 8 <sup>th</sup> 2024	This article deals with Mahmud Zamakhshariy's work "Asosu-l-balog'a" and its unparalleled place in Arabic lexicography. It describes the unique achievements of this dictionary and the new methods of word interpretation introduced by the author.
<b>Keywords:</b> Mahmud Zamakhshariy, "Asosu-l-balog'a", Arabic lexicology, dictionary article, alphabetical order.	

Specialized sources and literature are important in the development of science. In particular, encyclopedias and dictionaries have a special place in the development of science. That is why they become more and more valuable as the years go by. In this sense, the works of the famous scholar Mahmud Zamakhshariy on lexicology are still being studied as a unique scientific source [6].

In the scientific heritage of Mahmud Zamakhshariy, the dictionary called "Asosu-l-balog'a" or "Balog'at asoslari", is of particular importance. The dictionary is important not only among the works of lexicologists, but also in Arabic lexicology as a whole. According to Academician A. Rustamov, "Mahmud Zamakhshariy raised Arabic lexicology several steps higher with his work "Asosu-l-balog'a" [5,12]. Hossein Nassar stated that Mahmud Zamakhshariy founded the fourth school of Arabic lexicology with this work.

Many scholars have conducted research to determine the place of Mahmud Zamakhshariy's "Asosu-l-balog'a" in traditional Arabic lexicology [8]. Historian Haji Khalifa in his work "Kashfu-z-zunun" expressed the following opinion about "Asosu-l-balog'a": "The book has a large volume and a deep content, and it is considered a work related to the science of literature. The entire dictionary is devoted to the presentation of lexical metaphors, artistic and stylistic features of words, phrases created by the masters of the science of puberty, both separately and together in the articles" [7,89].

Jurji Zaydon, a great representative of Arabic literature, also emphasized the incomparable role of "Asosu-l-balog'a" in Arabic lexicology, saying: "It is an important subject. Because it talks about what the word means when it comes alone, when it comes in phrases and sentences. When the word is interpreted in the work, the places where it can be used are clearly indicated. For this reason, it is extremely useful to use the work".

Egyptian scholar Toha Rovi says that "Asosu-l-balog'a" is the best of all the dictionaries compiled. In the dictionary, the author gives the words in sentences and explains them eloquently. He also distinguishes between the literal and figurative meanings of words. It is necessary to use it because it is the original source" [6,28].

The reason why the work "Asosu-l-balog'a" is so highly regarded by eminent orientalists, linguists and historians is due to a number of innovations introduced by Mahmud Zamakhshariy in the field of lexicology. One of his innovations was to place words in the dictionary in strict alphabetical order, taking into account all their root consonants. The introduction of this method greatly facilitated the use of dictionaries at that time. Therefore, Mahmud Zamakhshariy was recognised as the first lexicographer to establish the alphabetic system in Arabic lexicology [9]. He used this method for the first time in the dictionary "al-Foiq fi g'aribi-l-hadis", which is dedicated to the interpretation of difficult to understand words found in hadiths. In this work, the author looked at the first and second consonants of the main word when giving the dictionary articles in alphabetical order. However, the author did not follow the alphabetical order in the third, fourth and fifth root consonants of the main word. This made it difficult to use the dictionary. Therefore, in his next work, "Asosu-l-balog'a", Mahmud Zamakhshariy corrected this shortcoming and arranged the words in alphabetical order, taking into account the first, second, third, fourth and fifth root consonants. This approach was an important innovation in lexicology. Later, this method became a tradition and was developed by lexicographers. This method is used in modern lexicology today.

In "Asosu-l-balog'a", Mahmud Zamakhshariy tried another innovation. He gave the words in the dictionary without separating them from the sentences and phrases in use at the time. This method made it possible to interpret the meaning of words in a comprehensive and detailed way. The sentences and phrases given to explain the words are useful for a perfect study of the characteristics of the language of that time, the laws and regulations that existed in it [7].

Before creating a dictionary of any kind, the author must find an answer to the important question of word selection, i.e., creating a dictionary that determines which words will be included in the dictionary and why. The choice

of words for a dictionary depends on the purpose of the dictionary and who it is intended for. If these questions are asked in relation to "Asosu-l-balog'a", the clear answer to all of them can be found in the introduction to the work.

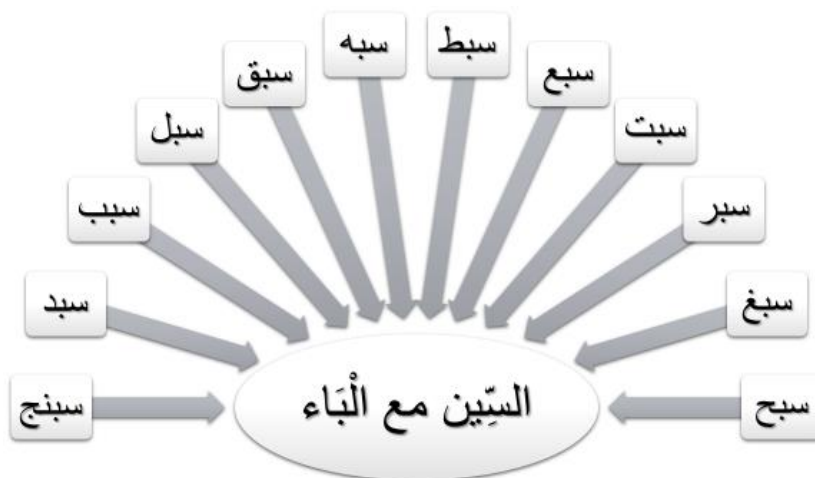
Mahmud Zamakhshariy's aim in developing the two methods mentioned above was to make the dictionary easy to use. In the preface of the work, the scholar stated that he visited the markets of Tixam, visited mosques, selected beautiful words and phrases from the speeches of eloquent imams, khatibs, orators, and recorded them in the dictionary. managed to create a complex [1,15]. Thus, the scholar was able to reveal the eloquence of the Arabic literary language in "Asosu-l-balog'a". In the preface to the dictionary, the author states that his aim is to train eloquent people and mature writers through this method. For this reason, Zamakhshariy called his work "Asosu-l-balog'a", which means "Balog'at asoslari" ("Basics of Puberty").

It is well known that in order to express thoughts beautifully, words and phrases should be used correctly and appropriately. For this, a person must master the science of eloquence and puberty. Mahmud Zamakhshariy's work "Asosu-l-balog'a" undoubtedly serves as the main source in this regard.

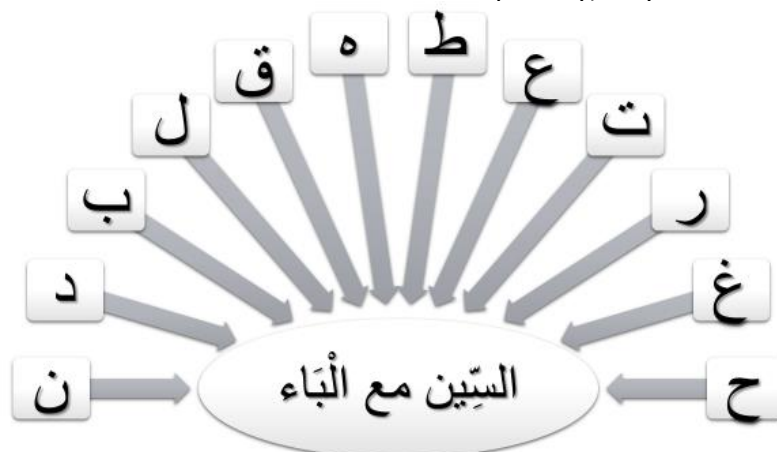
Another of the author's achievements in the dictionary is that he separates the real meaning of the word from the figurative meaning with the help of sentences. Almost half of the words explained in the work have a figurative meaning. This allows the student to understand the word in every sense.

Mahmud Zamakhshariy's knowledge, skills and experience in the fields of linguistics, lexicography, literary studies and history helped him a great deal. According to V.M. Belkin, one of the Russian lexicographers, "usually the lexicographers who noted and guaranteed the purity of the Arabic lexicon in their dictionaries did not deal with grammatical issues. Only Mahmud Zamakhshariy was able to produce original works in both grammar and lexicology" [4,164].

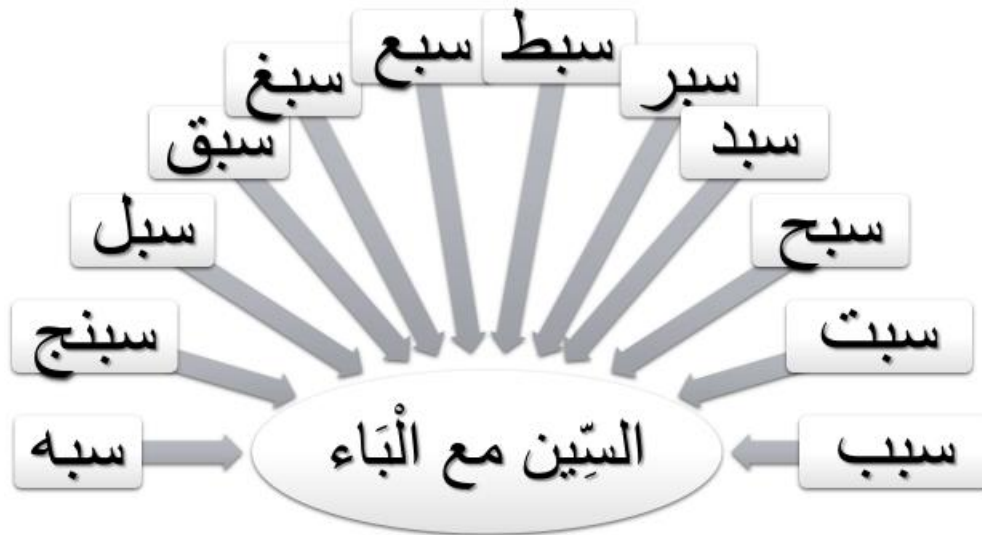
Mahmud Zamakhshariy proved that the method he used in his work "Asosu-l-balog'a" was superior to the methods that existed before him. Mahmud Zamakhshariy, with a slightly different approach to the method of alphabetizing words according to the third consonant of the stem introduced by Ibn Faris in the dictionaries named "Kitabu-l-mujmal" and "Kitabu-l-maqoyis", created the dictionary "al-Foiq fi g'aribi-l-hadis" [2]. In it, the dictionary articles are listed in alphabetical order according to the first consonant of the words. However, the second and third root consonants are not listed in alphabetical order. For example, in the section "Sin and ba" ("As-si:n ma'a-l-ba:") of "Sin chapter" ("Ba:bu-s-si:n"), the dictionary articles are in the following order: given below:



As it can be seen from the given examples, Mahmud Zamakhshariy took into account only the first and second root consonants while giving the dictionary articles in alphabetical order, and the third root consonant did not follow the alphabetical order at all. If we take the third root consonants separately, they are in the following sequence:



It can be seen that the third root consonant has not been taken into account when placing the first words in alphabetical order. Otherwise, the dictionary articles would be in the following order:



This method led to some confusion in the use of the dictionary. To correct this error, Zamakhshariy perfected this method in "Asosu-l-balog'a" and, as we mentioned above, the vocabulary articles are not only the first, but also the second, third, and fourth root consonants of the word stem. arranged in alphabetical order.

The dictionary articles are listed alphabetically according to the first, second, third and subsequent consonants of the root of the word and have a literal scientific, philological and linguistic value. Users of these dictionaries must have a thorough knowledge of morphology. There are certain complications in using such dictionaries. In particular, it is not always easy to determine the root of a word in Arabic. Therefore, in modern dictionaries, some articles are listed in strict alphabetical order, not by the root consonants of the main word, but by the first letter. This method is mainly used in bilingual dictionaries (Arabic-Russian, Arabic-Uzbek). In this case, words with a complex morphological form are listed alphabetically by their first letter and refer to their core. There are many examples of such words. For example, in the Arabic-Russian dictionary, the word *مرسا* is listed under the letter hamza and given as "see" *ومرسا* [3,24].

اسم ← سمو

If we take the word *متنبر*, this word is also given in the letter *بنت* in the dictionary article, and it is said "see *متنبر*" [3,75].

بنت ← بنى

in the dictionary article, *برأ* word "see" [3,58], and it is said.

برية ← برأ

Or *جهوى* letter *وجه* in the dictionary article *جهوى* word [3,135] know to translate *وجه* pay attention this article.

جهوى ← وجه

The head word of the dictionary article referred to in the above examples is the stem of that word.

Such cases are not observed in "Asosu-l-balog'a". Zamakhshariy gave the words in this dictionary strictly following the alphabetical order.

In the special dictionaries "Misbahu-l-munir" of al-Fayumi, created after "Asosu-l-balog'a", and "an-Nihaya fi g'aribi-l-hadis" of ibn al-Asir (1149-1210) also used this method.

Gradually, this method became a tradition in lexicology. Butrus al-Bostani (1819-1883) published in 1866 and 1869 in two volumes "Muhitu-l-muhit fi-l-lug'at va istilahati-l-ulum", Sa'id al-Shartuni in 1889 in three volumes, works such as "Aqrabu-l-mavarid fi fusuhi-l-arabiyya va-s-savarid" published in 1908, "Munjid" by Luis Maluf are among the modern explanatory dictionaries created within this tradition.

In conclusion, it should be noted that the method developed by Mahmud Zamakhshariy of presenting dictionary articles in alphabetical order is widely used in contemporary lexicology. The dictionary "Asosu-l-balog'a" is of special importance not only in the lexicographic legacy of Mahmud Zamakhshariy, but also in the history of the development of traditional Arabic lexicology. At this point, Fazil Salih al-Samarai says: "Asosu-l-balog'a" is a dictionary that is different from other dictionaries. Neither before nor since, in the science of lexicology, has a dictionary been created in this way. This dictionary is characterised by the ease with which words can be placed. Therefore, it cannot be replaced by other dictionaries. Even if other dictionaries lose their validity, "Asosu-l-balog'a" will remain valid" [6,142].

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