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The Thematic Relations in the Content of Suurat Al-^CAlaq in the Light of Government and Binding Theory

العلاقات الدلالية في سورة العلق في ضوء نظرية العامل والربط

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Authorization

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This work would not be completed without the help of Allah whom truly I praise. It would be also incomplete without the great help of my supervisor Dr. Atef Jalabneh who provided careful criticism and patient encouragement. Finally, I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the completion of this work.

Thank you

Dedication

I dedicate this work to my late father, my god have mercy on him, and to my mother.

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The Thematic Relations in the Content of Suurat Al-^CAlaq in The Light of Government and Binding Theory

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Abstract

This study aimed at investigating the concept of thematic relations of Suurat Al-ᶜalaq of the Glorious Qur'an at deep structure (D- structure) with reference to Chomsky's (1981 and 1986) theoretical views on the theory of government and binding and Jalabneh's (1992 and 2007) views on verb- movement (V-movement) and the concept of theta absorption in Arabic syntax. This study aimed at answering the following questions:

1. How is each theta role determined by the lexical property of its head ?

2. At what level are theta roles assigned under government?

3. How is each argument assigned a theta role in exactly one theta position and how is each assignable theta role assigned to one and only one argument in a sentence?

4. How does the theory of theta absorption account for the covert theta roles?

To achieve the objectives o this study, the researcher analyzed the nineteen ayats of suurat al-ᶜalaq from the Glorious Quran translated by Mohammed Mahmud Ghali (2008). The study revealed that the thematic relations must be determined by the lexical head governs it. The concept of government was applied at the level of D- structure

because it is the level at which all lexical representations are posted to get meaning. After the concept of government was applied, the Arabic verb has to move to the position of [C, C'] to initiate the ayats at the logical form. It was argued that, at his particular level, each argument is assigned one theta role and each assignable theta role is assigned to one and only one argument to avoid any confusion that might rise at the logical form. Another significant piece of work was discussed over here is the concept of that absorption. It was decided that an argument can be absorbed only if it is an essential argument of the theta grid of a transitive verb used in the Ayat, and it can be recovered by the same verb at all levels of syntax. It is not regarded deletion because the deleted argument cannot be retrieved by the verb at any level .for example, in the sentence ['I want PRO to go'], the embedded subject PRO is deleted but it has nothing to do with the verb 'want' to be retrieved. However, in the sentence ['he is ironing']. The object complement 'clothes' is an absorbed argument and can be retrieved by the theme which was either of a generic or specific reference. Not only the theme but also the theta roles of goal, instrument and location can be absorbed and they can be of either generic or specific references. This theory can be applied not only to suurat al-^{c}alaq but also to all texts of the Glorious Qur'an.

العلاقات الدلالية في سورة العلق في ضوء نظرية العامل والربط

إعداد

هند منصور قاسم

إشراف

الدكتور عاطف جلابنة

الملخص

تهدف هذه الدراسة الى التحقق من فكرة العلاقات الدلالية في سورة العلق في القران الكريم في البنية التحتية وذلك بالاستفادة من نظرية العامل والربط التي وضعها العالم اللغوي الأمريكي تشومسكي 1981و1986. وكذلك الاستفادة من وجهة نظر جلابنة (1992و2007) في حركة الفعل ومبدأ الامتصاص في النحو العربي.

كذلك فان هذه الدراسة تحاول الإجابة عن الأسئلة التالية:

1- كيف تتحدد السمة الدلالية للفعل المستخدم؟

2- في اي مستوى تعين العلاقة الدلالية باستخدام مبدأ الربط؟

3- كيف ياخذ كل عنصر علاقة دلالية مكانه الصحيح وكيف تحدد كل علاقة دلالية لنفس العنصر فقط في الجملة.

4- كيف تبين نظرية الامتصاص العلاقات الدلالية غير الظاهرة؟

لتحقيق أهداف هذه الدراسة حللت الباحث سورة العلق المكونة من تسع عشرة آية من القرآن الكريم والذي ترجمها محمد محمود غالي (2008). أظهرت الدراسة بأن العلاقات الدلالية يجب أن يحددها الفعل المستخدم (الرابط). طبق مبدأ الربط في المستوى العميق لأنه المستوى الوحيد الذي تتواجد به كل التمثيلات الكلامية لتأخذ علاقة دلالية، بعد تطبيق مبدأ الربط على الفعل أن يتحرك على موقع رأس عبارة المتممة ليتصدر الآية في المستوى المنطقي، وبينت الباحثة أيضا أن كل عنصر يحمل علاقة دلالية واحدة وان كل علاقة دلالية

تعين فقط لعنصر واحد في الآية وذلك لتجنب الارتباك الدلالي التفسيري الذي يمكن ان يظهر في المستوى المنطقي.وهناك مبدأ هام جدا ناقشته هذه الدراسة وهو مبدأ إمتصاص العلاقات الدلالية بينت هذه الدراسة أن كل عنصر ممتص في الآية يجب ان يكون جزء لا يتجزأ من العلاقة الدلالية للفعل المتعدي المستخدم في الآية كما ويمكن للفعل أن يسترجع هذه العلاقة الدلالية في المستويات النحوية كافة وذلك لانها جزء لا يتجزء من محتوياته النحوية والدلالية، لذلك لا يعد " مبدأ الامتصاص" حذفا لان العنصر المحذوف لا يمكن استرجاعه فعلى سبيل المثال (اراد أن يذهب) الفاعل المحتضن (هو) محذوف و لا علاقة للفعل (يذهب) في استرجاعه، بينما في الجملة (إنها تكوي) الفعل يكوي يسترجع فقط عبارة الملابس ولا شيء غيره، لذلك بينت الدراسة أن العلاقة الدلالية الممتصة يمكن أن تكون المغزى والذي يحمل طابعا عاما وطابعا خاصا وكذلك يمكن للعلاقة الدلالية التي تشير إلى الهدف والآلة والمكانية أن تمتص وكذلك يكون لها مرجعية عامة ومرجعية خاصة، بعرض هذه النتائج القيمة يمكن لنظرية العامل والربط ان تنطق ليس فقط على سورة العلق وإنما على محتويات القرآن الكريم كافة.

Chapter One

Introduction

1.0. Background of the Study

Arabic language is a Central Semitic Language which is spoken by more than three hundred million native speakers who are spread in the Middle East and North Africa. Arabic is not only associated with Islam but it is also spoken by Arab Christians and Jews. Not all Muslims can speak Arabic but they can read the script and recite the Glorious Qur'an. Arabic is usually divided into three main types: (i) Classical Arabic (CA) (i.e. Quranic Arabic), (ii) Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) and (iii) Colloquial Arabic (COL.A).

Modern Standard Arabic is derived from Classical Arabic (Quranic Arabic) in the late 19th and early 20th century when the Arab land became under the colony of the west; it is the mother tongue of the Arabic-speaking world which is understood by all Arabic speakers. CA differs from MSA mainly in style and vocabulary and both of them are called *Al-fusha* in Arabic. The main Arabic dialects of the Arab world are: (1) the dialect of *Bilaad Al-shaam* 'the region of old natural Syria' which is spoken in Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon and Syria. (2) The dialect of *Bilaad Najd Wa Al Hijaaz* 'the region of old Saudia Arabia' which is spoken in the Arabian Peninsula countries, namely, Saudi Arabic, Oman, Gulf States, Yemen and Iraq. (3) The dialect of *Miser* 'Egypt' which is spoken in Egypt and Sudan. (4)The dialect of *Shamaal Afriiqya* 'North Africa' which is spoken in Tunisia, Libya, Algeria, Mauritania, Somalia and Morocco. The speakers of one of these dialects may not understand other dialects. Colloquial Arabic has many different regional variants; each Arabic speaking country or region also has its own

variety of colloquial spoken Arabic. The varieties are typically unwritten, (c.f. Jalabneh, 1996)

Classical Arabic (Quranic Arabic) is the language of the Glorious Qur'an; it was used for writing the pre-Islamic and Arabic poetry. Muslims who speak Arabic recite the Glorious Qur'an in their prayers; however, those who do not speak it depend on its interpretation in order to understand the text. As the Glorious Qur'an is written in Classical Arabic (Quranic Arabic) and all Islamic terms are in Arabic, millions of Muslims (both Arabs and non-Arabs) try to learn Arabic to understand the Islamic religion and read the Glorious Qur'an in good way. Arabic, basically, has three long vowels written such as: [aa] or [a:] as in *qaala* 'said', [ii] or [i:] as in *tiin* 'figs' and [uu] or [u:] as in *yaquulu* 'say'. It has the equivalent short vowels [a] as in *qamar* 'moon', [i] as in *min* 'from' and [u] as in *mundhu* 'since'. Arabic has transitive verbs that take one object as in [*kataba al-ṯaalibu al-risaalata* 'the student wrote the letter']. However, it has verbs that require two objects such as [*a^cta al-mu^callimu al-ṯaaliba al-kitaaba* 'the teacher gave the student the book'] (c.f. www.islam-law.com).

CA has two types of sentences (i) verbal and (ii) nominal sentences. Nominal sentences consist of a noun phrase N" and a predicate; this predicate can be an N" as in [*Zaidun rajulun* 'Zaid is a man'], an adjective phrase A" as in [*Zaidun dhakiiyun* 'Zaid is intelligent'], a preposition phrase P" as in [*Zaidun fii Al-bayti* 'Zaid is at home'] or a verb phrase V" as in [*Zaidun maata* 'Zaid died']; whereas, the verbal sentence starts with a V" and has a N" as a predicate. If the V" has a transitive verb as its head, the verb takes an N"-complement as in [*yaqra?u Zaidun al-darsa* 'Zaid reads the lesson'], and if the V" has an intransitive verb as its head, the verb will have no complement at all as in [*yarkudu Zaidun* 'zaid is running']. The obligatory phrase constituents are called the complements; whereas, the optional phrase constituents are called adjuncts.

Complements are (i) direct object, (ii) indirect object, (iii) object of a preposition, (iv) prepositional phrase, (v) inflectional phrase and (vi) complementizer phrase. However, adjuncts are prepositional phrases that function as adjuncts of place and time in a sentence and can be omitted without changing its grammaticality since they are not components parts of the sentence, (c.f. Daoud, 2009).

Jalabneh (2007) categorizes the Arabic verbs in subgroups on the basis of the nature of the theta roles that they may have in theta grids. For instance, intransitive verbs require one essential argument; whereas, transitive verbs have two essential arguments and also they take three essential arguments in their theta - grids.

The verbs in Arabic are divided into three tenses: (i) the past tense that describes an action that occurred in the past. The root *[fᶜfala* 'did'] is used as a model for the form of a verb, (ii) The present tense verb: describes actions or events that are ongoing. Present tense verbs are conjugated by using prefixes and suffixes. The pattern [*yafᶜalu* 'does'] is used as a model for the active voice of the present tense verb. All of four syllables *[ya, ta, na,* or ?a]* are prefixed to the root to indicate the tense. (iii)The command tense: is used to demand an act. The pattern *[efᶜal* 'Do'] is used as a model for the command tense verb.

The present work aims to analyze the thematic relations in Suurat Al-ᶜalaq; the gloss of the Quranic Ayats will be taken from Mohammad Mahmoud Ghali (2008) being translated from Arabic into English. It differs from a translator to another. With the help of the theta theory, the researcher will find the importance of theta roles in explaining the syntactic as well the semantic selection of the predicates to understand the meanings of Ayats whether the arguments are overt or covert.

1.1. Statement of the Problem

There are certain semantic roles that can not be understood at the logical form; such roles are borne by certain arguments, namely, noun phrase N", Prepositional phrase P", inflectional phrase I" and complementizer phrase C" either overt or covert; they are to be discussed and analyzed theoretically at all levels of syntax, namely, Deep structure (D-structure), Surface Structure (S-structure), Logical Form (LF) and Phonetic Form (PF) because they are needed to understand the meaning of each Ayat in Suurat Al-^{c}alaq.

1.2. Objectives and Questions of the Study

The objective of this work is to account for covert and overt theta roles in Suurat Al-^{C}alaq Ayats of the Glorious Qur'an. The theta theory accounts for the thematic relations of a predicate with its arguments in a sentence; it is one of the subsets of principles that determine the well-formedness of a sentence at all levels of syntax. It specifies that in sentence a predicate has to select the essential theta role(s) either overtly or covertly. The researcher will apply the theta theory to Suurat Al-^{c}alaq Ayats and for such purposes the researcher suggests the following questions:

1. How is each theta role determined by the lexical property of its head?

2. At what level are theta roles assigned under government?

3. How is each argument assigned a theta role in exactly one theta position and how is each assignable theta role assigned to one and only one argument in a sentence?

4. How does the theory of theta absorption account for the covert theta roles?

1.3.   Significance of the Study

The researcher attempts to show the significance of the thematic relations i.e the syntactic and semantic relations between a predicate and its arguments in understanding the hidden and the visible meanings of Suurat Al-^{C}alaq in the interpretation of the Glorious Qur'an. It is obvious that there are certain difficulties in comprehending the actual meaning of the Ayats due to the absence of certain arguments from the logical form. The researcher refers to many books which are on Tafsiir al-Qur'an 'The interpretation of Glorious Qur'an' to elicit relevant semantic connotations related to Suurat Al-^{c}alaq to avoid any confusion related to meaning that might arise in the analysis. The researcher also finds it suitable to refer to the principles and parameters of theta theory to explicate all semantic and syntactic issues related to the same Suurat. It will be of a great help to Arab and non Arab readers to remove confusions that might engulf the interpretation of the Suurat and understand the actual meaning not only of this Suurat, in particular, but also the whole text of the Glorious Qur'an. The researcher will do her best to make this work useful for other researchers.

1.4.   Definitions of Basic Terms

Deep-Structure: - is an abstract level of a structural organization in which all the syntactic representations are posited.

Surface-Structure: It is the result of a movement of any entity from the D-structure. S-structure is the level at which the assignment of case is applied.

Logical Form: the level at which all semantic interpretations are determined.

Theta Role:-the semantic notion borne by arguments.

Argument: an entity which is syntactically shown to be a sister of the verb within the VP. It is syntactically represented by theta role bearers, namely, noun phrase (N"), prepositional phrase (P"), inflection phrase (I") and complementizer phrase (C").

Theta Role Assignors: are those entities (i.e. verbs) that have the ability to assign theta roles to their arguments in the maximal projection VP in a sentence.

Thematic relations: the syntactic and semantic relations that are established between a predicate and its arguments, namely, noun phrases, prepositional phrases, inflectional phrases and complementizer phrases in a sentence.

1.5. Limitations of the Study

This work is restricted to analyze only the thematic relations of Suurat Al-ᶜalaq and show their significance in syntax to determine the grammaticality of the Ayats at all levels of syntax.

Chapter Two

Review of Literature

2.0.   Introduction

This chapter consists initially of two sections; the first section (2.1) has data about the theoretical literature related to the thematic relations in order to find out the significance of thematic relations which combines syntactic and semantic features. Section (2.1.1) talks about theta theory as a component of G.B theory. Section (2.1.1 A) shows the assignment of theta roles by lexical verbs that it governs. The subsection (2.1.1.B) shows that a theta role is assigned at the level of D-Structure by the respective verbs as the theta role assignor. The subsection (2.1.1.C) illustrates the significance of theta criterion as a principle of theta theory. However, section (2.1.2) illustrates the concepts of theta absorption as another principle of theta theory. Insofar as the empirical literature is concerned, it is discussed in section (2.2). The subsection (2.2.1) is restricted to talk about the empirical literature which is related to theta role assignment. (2.2.2) shows the empirical studies related to theta absorption.

2.1. Theoretical Literature

Chomsky (1981and 1986) posited the concept of Government and Binding theory, as a module of grammar to account for the grammaticality of a sentence in syntax as a universal property in a language. The theory includes sub-theories in syntax and semantics but this work focuses on the theory of thematic relations to tackle issues in syntax and semantics at all levels, namely, D-structure, S- structure, LF and PF.

2.1.1. Theta Theory as a Component of G.B Theory

Chomsky (1981, 1986) observed that there is a confusion in the nature of grammatical rules that relates syntactic structure to semantics; so he offered the Theta Theory as a module of grammar which accounts for the semantic roles that guarantee the grammaticality of sentences at all levels of syntax. The theta theory tackles the problems of the semantic roles imposed in syntax at deeper levels. Such notions are needed in any language to construct grammatical sentences in order to have correct semantic interpretation at the logical form. According to Chomsky (1981, p.34-48) the theta theory consists of the following conditions to construct a grammatical sentence in a language. They are as follows:

i) Each theta role is determined and assigned by the lexical properties of its head that governs it.

ii) The theta role is assigned at the D-structure.

iii) Each argument is assigned a theta role in exactly assignable one theta position and each theta role is assigned to one and only one argument according to theta criterion (c.f, Chomsky 1981 p. 36)

iv) An NP can be absorbed by its predicate if this predicate is able to reflect it at the logical form (theta absorption) (c.f. Chomsky 1981 p. 84 and 124- 129).

The above conditions on theta theory are to be explained theoretically as follows:

2.1.1. A. Theta Role Assignment by a Lexical Verb that Governs it

Chomsky (1981 and 1986) argues that the Projection Principle Representations at each syntactic level, namely, D-structure, S-structure, logical form and phonetic form must be projected from the lexicon; this means lexical information is syntactically represented. So, sub-categorization properties of lexical items can be observed. This

principle helps to control the grammaticality of some syntactic structures. For instance, according to the Projection Principle this structure *[vp V [V, NP, NP and NP]]* is ungrammatical because there is no verb in English that takes three NP complements at a time; whereas, the structures *[Vp V [V, NP, NP]* and *[Vp V [V, NP]* are grammatical. The Extended Projection Principle (EPP) as another primary principle of theta theory stipulates that every sentence must have an external subject. He also argues that there are theta role bearers, namely, N", P", I" and C"; however, V, A", Prep and Adv are non theta role bearers. The Projection Principle determines the circumstance in which an N" can be an argument of a verb in a sentence. N"s carry the feature [+N,-V]. They basically consist of two categories, namely, (i) overt N"s including lexical common and proper nouns, pronouns and R-expressions and (ii) covert NPs including PRO, trace of moved N"s and pro. He calls R-expressions, anaphors and pronominals (including empty elements such as PRO which is the subject of the non finite clauses and pro which is the subject of the finite clauses) as arguments which are theta role bearers since they are visible at D-structure.

Chomsky also argues that the concepts of c-command and government play an essential role all through the theta theory; theta role is determined by the lexical properties of its verb that governs it. According to the X-bar syntax, the lexical V of the maximal projection V" (VP) governs its complement; the complement is either N" (NP), I" (IP), P" (PP) or C" (CP). The subject position of I" is not a complement position of V" and is not governed by its lexical verb. If it is a theta position as in active structures, it is assigned a theta role by V"; however, if it is not, it cannot be assigned a theta role at all as in passive structures. This is due to the fact that the subject position of the passive morphology is a non- theta position. The argument is to be assigned a theta role at D-structure before it moves to the subject position at S-structure to be assigned the

nominative case by the inflection of the verb used. The complement position is a theta-position; thus, it must be assigned a specific theta role. The government relation that is established between the lexical verb and its internal arguments are stated Chomsky's (1981, p. 165) as follows:

"[β... γ...α... γ...], where

(i)   a = X°

(ii)   Where Ø is a maximal projection, if Ø dominates y then Ø dominates a

(iii)   α c-commands γ "

This definition of government is further simplified in Chomsky and Lasnik

(1991, p. 50) as

" α governs (β if α c-commands β and there is no category γ that "protects" β from government by α .γ protects β in this sense if it is c-commanded by α and either

i) γ is α barrier dominating β

ii) γ intervenes between α and β"

The concepts "government" and "command" are essential for the theta-role assignment in a sentence; the element [α, β] should be in a linear order to agree with the value of the head parameter of a language. If the governor has the property X, the concept of "X-government" is to be used. There are two kinds of governments (a) antecedent - government of α by an antecedent of α, and (b) head-government of α by a lexical verb. The relation between the verb and its complement is "local" in V"; whereas, the lexical verb X and its arguments are bound by the established local

government relation. An argument is governed if it is either constituent command (C-commanded) or maximal command (M- commanded) by a verb in V". M-command relation is a sub-case of C-command, and it is essential for establishing the dominant relation of a lexical verb in its V".

The c-command relation is shown in the following:

[γ……..α…….β….]

[γ ....β………α....]

<div align="right">(c.f. Chomsky, 1981, p. 36)</div>

The C-command relation is substituted by the M-command and government relations as in.

"[β... γ... α… γ...], where

(i)   α = X0

(ii)   Where Ø is a maximal projection, if Ø dominates γ then Ø dominates α

(iii)   α c-commands γ "

Then α and γ are contained in all the same maximal projection.

<div align="right">(c.f. Chomsky, 1981, P 165)</div>

The semantic roles are assigned by predicates to their arguments. The roles represent the argument structure of a verb; every verb has a set of theta-roles which is required to be expressed if the sentence is grammatical. Every verb (a governor) that assigns a semantic role must be in a suitable syntactic position with its governee as given below:

1. John likes Mary

      The verb 'like' in (1) must c-select an object to receive the semantic role of patient / theme. The predicate V" 'likes Mary' must have a subject as external argument. This particular entity requires the semantic role of agent assigned by the V". The noun phrases, namely, 'John' and 'Mary' are arguments and require theta roles; however, the expletives 'there' and 'it' are non arguments and do not need theta roles as in the example (2).

2. *There* is a book in the roof.

                         (c.f. Chomsky 1986, p. 93)

      The element 'there' is an expletive that cannot be assigned a theta role in this subject position because it is not a theta position. There are a number of theta roles proposed by Chomsky (1981) to control the semantic components of arguments. They are as follows:

Agent: is an argument that wills the action as in *'John* went to Canada'

Patient/Theme: is an argument that undergoes a change of state or is affected by an action indicated by the verb as in 'John hit *Mary'.*

Experiencer: is an argument that experiences some physical or psychological state as I *'John* sneezed' and *'John* is sick'.

Accompaniment: is an argument that accompanies another argument in the sentence as in 'John accompanied *Mary* to London'.

Instrument: is an argument which is used to bring about something as in 'John cut the fruit *with the knife'.*

Path: is an argument through which something moves as in 'John went out *through the tunnel'.*

Goal: is an argument towards which something moves 'John sent the parcel *to Mary'.*

Source: is an argument from which something moves out or originates as in 'John took the book *from the library'*.

Location: is an argument which indicates the location of the event as in 'John put the book *on the shelf*.

To understand the definitions of the theta roles written above, here are more examples.

3. Muna killed the thief in the garden.

In (3), 'Muna' bears the theta role of agent, 'the thief bears the theta role of theme and 'in the garden' bears the theta role of location.

5. John was afraid

In (5), 'John' carries the theta role of experiencer.

6. George bought some flowers from Janate.

In (6),' George ' has the theta role of agent, 'some flowers' the theta role of theme and 'from Janate' the theta role of source.

7. John passed the book to Mary.

In (7), 'John' bears the theta role of agent, 'the book' bears the theta role of theme and 'to Mary' bears the theta role of goal.

8. Paul returned from Roma.

In (8), 'Paul' bears the theta role of agent, 'from Roma' bears the theta role of source.

9. John [persuaded [Mary] [PRO to have a car]].

In (9), 'John' bears the theta role of agent, the N'' 'Mary' the theta role of experiencer and [PRO to have a car] the theta role of theme. [PRO to have a car] is itself a clause in which the verb phrase 'to have a car' requires PRO as the agent.

10.1 told [you] [c'' t h a t I would announce the news].

In (10), T is the agent, 'you' the goal and 'that I would announce the news' the theme. In the clause C" ['that I would announce the news'], T is the agent and 'the news' the theme respectively.

11. Jaber wanted [PRO to resign]

In (11), the N" 'Jaber' is the agent and the I" [PRO to resign] is the theme. [PRO to resign] is itself a clause I which PRO is the agent.

In short, the above examples show the type of theta role that the entities have whether they are complements or adjuncts.

It is significant to notice that each argument may have a specific structure that makes it different from the other according to X-bar theory. For instance, the structure of N" is in (12):

12.

```
            N"
          /    \
       Spec     N'₁
               /    \
              N     complement
```
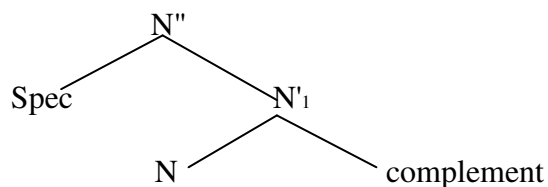
Whereas the structure of P" is in (13):

13.

```
            P"
          /    \
       Spec     P'
               /    \
              P      N"
```
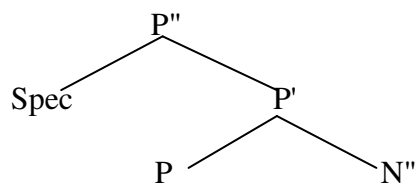
Insofar as the structures of clauses are concerned, there are two different structures. For instance, the structure of I" is shown in (14) and C" in (15) respectively

14.

```
            I"
          /    \
      Spec      I'
              /   \
            I      complement
```
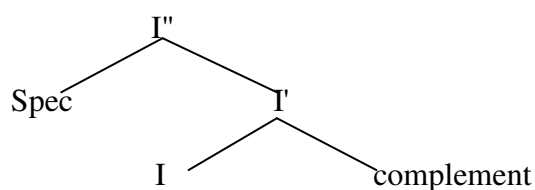
The Inflectional element I is considered the head of the phrase projection which Involves agreement features in tense, person, gender and number; the inflectional element may be [±Tense], where [+Tense] stands for finite and [-Tense] for non-finite and the type of a clause is determined by the type of its inflection.

15.

```
            C"
          /    \
      Spec      C'
              /   \
            C      complement
```
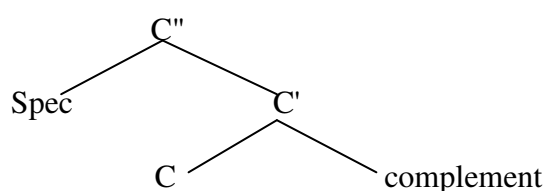
In short, each theta role is decided by the sub-categorization properties of the lexical verb used in the sentence. It is evident that there are theta role bearers and non-theta role bearers. Theta roles bearers can be either arguments or adjuncts; the difference between the two is that arguments are sisters to verbs and the sentence cannot correct without them but adjuncts are additional entities are added to the structure to give more information. They take theta role for being available in the structure (Chomsky, 19881). Thus, each argument must have a syntactic position in X-bar syntax and occupies a theta position in the internal domain of the verb. Thus, the object positions are theta positions; however, the external position of the VP (i.e. subject position) depends on the property of the verb used. That is to argue that in active

structures, the subject position is a theta position whereas in passive structures, the subject position is a non-theta position.

2.1.1. B. The Theta Role is Assigned at the Level of D-structure

The level of D-structure is served as an abstract representation of semantically relevant grammatical relations such as subject-verb and verb—object. Lexical items are combined together at D-structure which is mapped onto S-structure, which is the syntactic representation that most closely reflects the surface order of the sentence. S-structure is not directly interpreted itself, but is factored into phonetic form (PF) and logical form (LF). PF is the interface with the phonology where shapes, sounds, and groupings of items are directly represented. LF is the interface with the semantics. So, D-structure is the apparatus that helps the researcher to derive the meaning of a sentence that must be used at this level; so, the underlying structure of a sentence can be different from other structures. D-structure is the level in which the thematic relations between predicates and their arguments in a sentence are emphasized clearly. Thus, D-structure is considered to be the right place to arrange the lexical items; N", P", I" and C" which are theta role bearers and verbs are the only theta role assigners. A verb c-selects certain complement to be assigned suitable theta roles to avoid confusion in understanding a sentence. So, theta roles can only be assigned in argument positions (A-positions) which refers to a theta position; however, the subject position when it is filled by an expletive in a sentence, it will not be a theta position. The following examples illustrate the process of assignment at D-structure as in:

16a. John was caught by the police.

16b. is the D-structure of 16a:

16b.

```
                            I"
              Spec                    I'
                            I'              V"
                                     Spec         V'
                                              V          V'
                                             N"      P"
                                                 Spec      P'
                                                        P      N"
                                                                 N

          e        was      e      catch  John    e        by       police
```
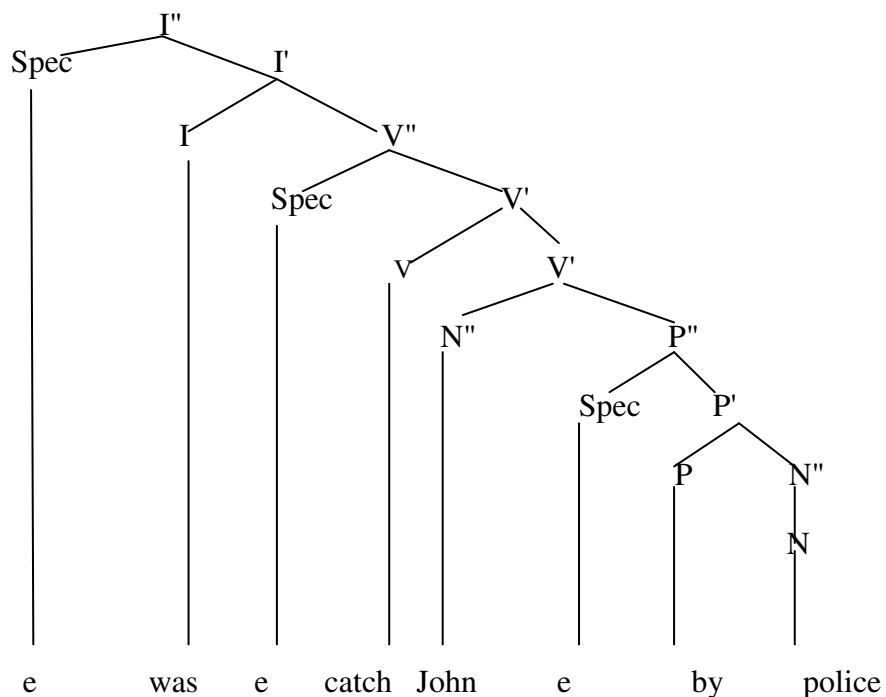
In (16b),the verb at D-structure c-selects the argument 'John' as its complement to which the theta role theme is assigned. This argument has to move to the position of [Spec, I"] to get the nominative case. This argument can not be assigned the same theta role at S-structure because it carries double theta roles, one for being at D-structure and one for being at S-structure; thus, it violates the theta criterion principle. In the same structure, the verb 'catch' assigns the theta role of agent to P" 'by the police' at the same level. In short, the projection principle is met at D-structure and the extended projection principle is met at S-structure.

The researcher gives another example to clarify the process of D-structure assignment as in (17):

(17a) John wanted to swim.

(17b) is the D-structure tree - diagram for (17a):

17b.
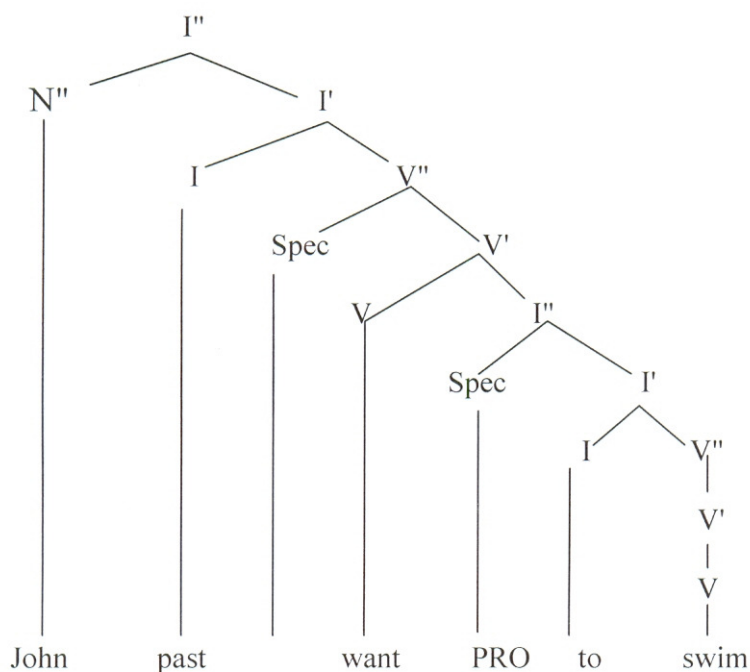
In (17b), the verb 'want' c-selects 'John' as the agent and the complement I"
['PRO to swim'] as the theme; the empty PRO is the subject and is assigned the theta
role of agent by the verb 'to swim'.

The following is another example that has the D-structure theta role assignment as in
(18):

18a. Mary is considered to be sick

D-structure

18b. [----------pres. be considered [Mary to be sick]]

S-structure

18c. [Maryi is considered [ti to be sick]].

The verb 'be considered', in (18b), assigns its complement 'Mary to be sick' the
theta role of theme. The subject N" 'Mary' is assigned the theta role of experiencer by
the predicate 'to be sick'. In (18c), the N" 'Mary' has been moved by the rule move-α to

the subject position to get its nominative case. The subject position of the raising verb 'seem' is a non-theta position at all levels of syntax. The N" 'Mary' and its [t_i] form a theta chain which bears one theta role. 'Mary' cannot be assigned a theta at S-Structure because the embedded clause remains without an embedded subject and this act violates the principle of he extended projection principle which requires that a clause must have a subject at all levels of syntax.

Thus, the D-structure is the correct level for the assignment of theta roles. It protects the semantic relation between the predicate and its arguments in the sentence at subsequent levels of syntactic description

2.1.1. C. Theta Criterion

Chomsky (1981) suggests the principle of theta criterion to be: "Each argument bears one and only one theta role, and each theta role is assigned to one and only one argument" (p. 36). This principle means that there must be a one-to-one correspondence relation between arguments and their theta- roles at D-structure. There is a condition for the proper assignment of a theta role to an N" in a sentence. Only an argument of the head of the V" can occupy a theta position in a structural configuration with the verb. The argument can be internal or external to the V".

Chomsky (1986) argues that the theta criterion is syntactically motivated; it depends on the projection principle which guarantees all syntactic representations must be available at D-structure. As these syntactic representations are required by the verb at that level, adequate syntactic descriptions at S-structure will have 'traces' of N"s and wh-phrase which have moved out of their positions because of move-cc which is simply operate on syntactic entities. The moved N" is linked with its trace by a theta chain. Each theta chain must bear one theta role. It is because of theta criterion that the rule move-α cannot move an N" from a theta position to another theta position .If it does, the

moved N" will have two theta roles, one assigned to it at D-structure and the other by virtue of its being in new theta position which will go against the theta criterion. Theta criterion has been formulated as a property of chain as is being stated in "a chain has at most one theta position; a theta position is visible in its maximal chain" (p. 135). The expletives 'it' and 'there' are non- arguments and can occupy only non-theta positions; they are not theta marked. The sentences are given below illustrate the issue of theta criterion.

19. John installed a factory on a small piece of land.

Here, in (19), the N" 'a factory' is assigned the theta-role of theme as it undergoes the act of installation; while, the argument 'on a small piece of land' is assigned the theta role of location by the same verb, namely, 'installed'.

Not only does a verb assign a theta-role to its internal arguments, but it also assigns a theta role to its external argument. Thus, the V" 'installed a factory on a small piece of land' assigns the theta role of agent to the external subject 'John'.

20. It is raining.

In (20), though the subject position is filled with the expletive 'it', the position is a non-theta position and the entity cannot be assigned any theta role. It is assigned the nominative case b the inflection of the verb and fulfills the requirement of the extended projection principle at S-structure.

21a. Logical form

The city was destroyed by the enemy.

21b. S-structure

The city ti was destroyed ti by the enemy.

21c. D- structure

------------ past be destroyed the city by the enemy.

In (21c), the N" 'the city' is assigned the theta role of theme at D-structure for being the object of the transitive verb ' destroyed'. The subject position of the passive structure is case position but not a theta position. The N" 'the city' has to move to the subject position to get the nominative case by 'past' as in (21b) and fill the slot of the grammatical subject. (21a) is the logical and the phonetic forms of the structure.

In short, the semantic role of the entity is decided by the relation established with the verb phrase used in the sentence.. For instance, in (19), 'John' is the agent but, in (20), 'it' is without a theta role and in (21) 'the city' is the theme. It is evident that each theta role in the above sentences is assigned to an argument and each argument bears one and only one theta role at D- structure.

2.1.2. The Concept of Theta Absorption

Theta absorption means the absorption of an essential argument by a transitive verb in a sentence so the argument can be recovered by the verb used at all levels of syntax. An essential argument may or may not be absorbed. The examples bellow illustrate the issue of theta absorption.

 22a. she cleans the dishes in the kitchen,

   b. she cleans in the kitchen.

In (22a), 'the dishes' is considered the complement of the verb 'cleans' to which the theta role of theme is assigned. As the verb is able to absorb the entity, the resulting sentence is correct as in (22b) in which case the absorbed entity not necessarily is 'the kitchen' but it can be anything that can be cleaned in the kitchen as it is non specific. However, the absorbed N" can be specific as in (23):

23 a Mary drank

b * drank the wine.

(23a) is a well - formed. The theme is absorbed which could be 'wine' in relation to (23b) as a specific reference. However, the verb 'drink', may absorb the theme which could be liquid. (23b) is ill-formed because the agent 'Mary' as an external entity is missing; it does not fulfill the requirement of the extended projection principle as a principle of theta theory. One may look at (24), (25) and (26) to differentiate between essential internal arguments that can be absorbed and those that cannot be absorbed. 24a. John put the flower in the vase.

b.*John put the flower.

The preposition phrase 'in the vase' is an essential entity for the verb 'put'; but, it cannot be absorbed as it changes the grammaticality of the sentence as in (24b). This kind of argument is called A- adjunct. Verbs of location need three essential arguments, the agent, the theme and the location (c.f. Jalabneh, 2007, p. 105-106).

25a.John taught English to the students,

b. John taught English.

The preposition phrase 'to the students' carries the theta role of goal in (25a); it is regarded an essential argument to the verb 'teach' but it can be absorbed as in (25b) and still the sentence is well-formed. It is obvious that verbs of transaction need three essential arguments, the agent, the theme and the goal (c.f Chomsky, 1981) and (c.f Jalabneh, p.98-104). However, if it is compared to (26), the situation is different in the sense that the P'' 'in the garden' is adjunct and it does not constitute an argument for the verb 'see'. Thus, if it is deleted, the sentence remains correct but it is not regarded as a kind of absorption. However, if (26c) is correct, it can be an example of absorption, which is not the case.

26a. John saw you in the garden.

26b. John saw you.

26c. *John saw.

In short, theta absorption takes place only if the verb is able to retrieve its argument at the logical form as it is an essential part of its theta grid

2.2. Empirical Studies

There is a number of related studies done on thematic relations and their significance on a number of languages for the benefit of interpretation of the sentence at all levels. Such studies are of great significance to this work because it deals also with the same topic but in Arabic, particularly, in one Suurah, namely, Al-ᶜalaq of the Glorious Qur'an.

2.2.1. Empirical Studies Related to Theta Roles Assignment

Assila (2007) conducted a study on thematic relations on French. He presented different types of theta roles which are acknowledged in French. They are as follows: (i) Agent assigned to the NP *John* 'John' in *[John a termine sa lecture* 'John has finished reading'], (ii) the Experiencer to the NP *Mary* 'Mary' in *[Mary est heureuse* 'Mary is happy'], (iii) theme/patient to the NP *le mouton* 'the sheep' in *[Peter a tue le mouton* 'Peter has slaughtered the sheep'], (iv) goal to the PP *au Cafe* ' to the Cafe' in [*Elle va au cafe* 'She goes to the Cafe'], (v) recipient to the NP *Fred* 'Fred' in *[Fred a recu un* 'Fred has received a book'], (vi) source to the PP *de Taza* 'Taze' in [// *vient de Taza* 'He comes from Taza'], (vii) location to the PP *au bureau* 'in the office' in *[Au bureau, on discute le sujet* 'In the office, we discuss the topic'], (viii) instrument to the PP *un poignard 'with a knife' in [John a tue Mary avec un poignard* 'John has killed Mary

with a knife'], (ix) benificative to the PP *sa femme* 'to his wife' in *[John a achete des fleurs pour sa femme* 'John bought some flowers to his wife'], (x) possessor to the NP *Mary* 'Mary' in *[Mary a une voiture* 'Mary has a car' and (xi) percept to the NP *John* 'John' in [*John a Vair d etre drole* 'John smells funny'].

Not only theta role but also the concept of theta criterion is explained by him in French. For example, in the sentence *[Fred a tue sa femme avec un poignard* 'Fred has killed his wife with a knife], there are three arguments that must be assigned different theta roles. Therefore, N" *Fred* 'Fred' bears the theta role of agent, the N" *sa femme* 'his wife' receives the theta role of patient while the third argument which is the PP *avec un poignard* 'with a knife' is assigned the theta -role of instrument. The sentence will be ungrammatical if one theta role be assigned to two arguments or two theta roles to one argument because this will violate the Theta Criterion. Also, in the example *[La cle a ferme la porte par Jean* 'the key closed the door by Jean.'] This sentence is considered to be ungrammatical because the two phrases *la cle* 'the key' and *par Jean* are 'by John' assigned the same theta role of 'agent'. Thus, this constitutes a direct violation to the Theta Criterion.

He also explained the concept of Extended Projection Principle that means the theta role is assigned at D-structure as it has to fulfill the requirement of the subcategorization of the verb used externally as in the specimens *[Pierre lit le livre* 'Pierre reads the book'] and *[LI semble etre un jour de conflit* 'It seems to be a day of troubles']. According to these two examples, *Pierre* 'Pierre' is assigned the theta role of agent; the verb cannot take a goal subject. In the same way, the verb *semble* 'seem' takes a non-thematic subject and therefore cannot take a thematic subject.

Jalabneh (2007, p.59-114) categorized Arabic verbs in subgroups on the basis of the nature of the theta -roles that they have in their theta grids: Intransitive verbs in

Arabic need only one essential argument which may be agent as in [*yasuumu,* 'to fast'], experiencer as in [*yanjaribu* 'to have scabies'] or theme as in [*yamuutu* 'to die']. The intransitive verb that indicates a volitional event takes an agent as in [*yasbahu* 'to swim']; the one that indicates a non-voluntary physical event or a mental state takes an experiencer as in *[y^ctusii* 'to sneeze']. Transitive verbs of Arabic that need two essential arguments to produce a well-formed sentence take agent and theme as their essential arguments. Most of these verbs fall in some natural semantic classes; they are inchoative verbs as in *[yiiḫaṭṭimu* 'to destroy'] and some verbs of accomplishment as in [*yusajjilu* 'to record'] and achievement as in *[yuraahinu* 'to bet']. Some verbs of achievement and motion select agent and goal rather than agent and theme as in [*yurahhibu* 'to welcome']. Some verbs of motion take agent and accompaniment as in *[yastahibu* 'to accompany']. Some verbs of physical and mental perception and some emotive verbs take experiencer and theme in their theta-grid as in [*yara* 'to see']. The verbs that need three arguments have something in common; they take agent and theme as their first two arguments. However, they are distinct from each other with regard to the nature of the third theta-role. For instance, some verbs of transaction, for example [*yu^ctii* 'to give'] need the theta-role of goal as their third argument; whereas; verbs of location as *{yaḏa^cu* 'to put'] needs location as the third argument. Verbs of persuasion as *[yahuththu* 'to urge'] need the experience as third argument. Jalabneh (2007, P.30-45) also confirmed that each argument is assigned one and only one theta role at D-structure as per the requirement of theta criterion. For instance, [Aziz gave a book to Zaid] in which the N" 'Aziz' is assigned the theta role of agent, the N" 'a book' the theta role of theme and P"' to Zaid' the theta role of goal.

Jalabneh (2010) tested the validity of thematic relations in reinforcing the translated meaning of the collocations of *Suurat Al-Shams.* Though such notions are

abstract, non interpretable features and checked at spell-out, they are still needed in translation to get the exact meaning intended because the meaning is determined by both visible as well as non-visible entities. It has been proved that without knowing the crucial roles of the covert verb *uqsimu* and the particle *wa,* the oath meaning cannot be achieved easily. This particle alone cannot check the semantic roles; it is an indicator to theta marking because only the verb has this kind of power as a theta assignor. The particle has specific reference to God as means of showing a direct oath. This is due to the fact that such instruments such *al-shamsu wa duhaaha* 'the sun and its dawn' and *wa al-qamari* 'the moon' and *wa al-nahaari* 'the day light' are created by God and not by anyone in the universe. A person can make an oath by using the verb *uqsimu* 'swear' but cannot use such instruments in the pronounced oath.

The structural occurrences of collocations found in *Suurat Al-Shams* are not at all lexical; it is phrasal and clausal explicated in relation to a predicate in the structure. There are basically four types including: (i) [N'', N''], (ii) [N'', T''], (iii) [C'', C''] and (iv) [T'', N'']. They constitute arguments and bear semantic roles. This work has tested the validity of the roles in shaping the translated meaning of such collocations at the logical form. It was clear that Al-Hilali (1417H) did not at all go beyond the visible items of the phonetic form; therefore, the translated meaning of such collocations lacks revision. To achieve this objective, Jalabneh has taken an account not only of overt but also covert items as they significantly contribute to the delimitation of the intended meaning of collocations in the processes of translation. It has been argued that the translated meaning of collocations in the verses (1- 7) entirely relies on the deleted predicate *uqsimu* 'swear' whose syntactic effect is visible in the translated meaning. It has been noticed that the verb checks the semantic roles with the collocations at spell-out before being deleted at LF. The verb has been substituted by the particle *wa* to

indicate the oath taken upon God and to consolidate the intended meaning. If any of the checked theta roles is omitted at any level, the resulting sentence is ungrammatical. The checked theta roles agent, theme, instrument and goal. Such theta roles are assigned either to N" as in *al-shamsu* 'the sun', I" *qad aflaha* 'he succeed' or C" *fujuuraha* 'what is good for the self.

In short, there are a number of empirical studies that explained the thematic relations and their significance in a number of languages.

2.2.2. Empirical Studies Related to Theta Absorption

The concept of theta absorption is developed within the framework of the Government and Binding Theory to indicate that not every argument which could be N", P", I" and C" are not visible in the structure is deleted. There are syntactic situations in which such arguments are absorbed; the arguments are regarded absorbed if they can be recovered by the transitive verb used in the sentence. However if an entity is deleted, it can not be recovered by the verb. It is not projected syntactically by the verb to constitute an argument of its theta grid. In other words, an N" can be deleted if it is identical with another N" in the sentence and occupies the subject position of an embedded non finite clause as in I wanted [PRO to go]. The category PRO is inserted at D-structure but it cannot be visible at the logical form. The following studies illustrate examples of various theta roles that can be absorbed but recovered by their respective verbs in various situations.

Jalabneh (2007, p. 117-170) categorized Arabic verbs that can absorb an essential argument on the basis of the nature of the theta role that they may absorb. In the example below the theme is absorbed and it is not specified as in (31)

31. ya? kul -u zaid - un bainama ?ummu - hu

      eat pres Zaid nom while mother his

      takwii al- malaabisa

      ironing det clothes

          'Zaid eats while his mother is ironing the clothes'

In (31), the theme is observed and it is unspecified; the verb absorbs the unspecified theme, this sentence is grammatical even though the theme is absorbed; it is understood as something edible. However, in (32) the theme is also absorbed but it has a specific reference.

32. saaq a ^{c}amr un li yawm in

      drive past Amr nom for day loc

              'Zaid drove for a day'

In (32), the V" *saaqa li yawmin* 'drove for a day' assigns the agent theta role to ^{c}*amrun* 'Amr' and this agent drove only and only an automobile which is the theme. This means the verb *yasuuqu* 'to drive' can take a specific absorbed theme. It is specific because the things which can be driven are known and specific.

Not only the theme but also the goal can be absorbed whether generic or specific. The example (33) illustrates the absorption of the generic goal.

33. darras -a ^{c}amr -un al - taariikh -a.

      teach past Amr nom det History acc

             'Amr taught History.'

The argument that has the thematic relation of goal with the verb *yudarrisu* 'to teach' has been absorbed. It could be some students who have been taught by the agent ^{C}*anrun* 'Amr'; so, it is of a generic reference.

34.?i^ctamar   -a   t   umm-   i

Visit -Ka^cba - to- perform -certain-religious rituals past fem.   mother   my

          'My mother visited Ka^cba to perform certain religious rituals'

     In (34), it is only the theta role of goal which refers to the N" Ka^cba that is absorbed but nothing else. This is because the verb *yatamir* ' to visit Ka^cba to perform certain religious rituals' has religious connotations.

     Some verbs in Arabic can absorb the theta role of source if its specification is not needed such as the verb *[yahsulu ^cala* 'to obtain from'] as in (35):

35.   hasal   -a   najii 0 ^cala al ^camal i

       obtain   past Najee nom of det job loc

            'Najee obtained the job'

     In (35), the source which can be *min mudarrisihi* 'from his teacher' or anything like is absorbed. Arabic has some other verbs that can absorb a specified source as in (36):

36. nashaz   -a   -t   muna

  Run away from husband's home willfully   past   fem   Muna

       'Muna ran away from her husband's home willfully'

     In (36), it is only the theta role of source which is an essential argument to the verb *nashaz* and represented by the P" ' from her husband's home willfully' that is absorbed but nothing else. This is because the verb *nashaza* has bolting connotations. The following example illustrates how the theta role of location is absorbed when it is unspecific as in (37):

37. zara^c   a   al walad   u al   ward a

    plant   past det boy   nom det roses acc

            'The boy planted roses'

In (37), the source fi al-hadiiqati 'in the garden' can be absorbed and the sentence is still correct. It I because the theta role of location is essential argument to te verb zara^c 'plant'. The boy has to plant the flower somewhere. However, (38) illustrates that even when the location is specific, it can be absorbed.

38. jath -a ^{c}amr un

    rest on his knees   past   Amr   nom

                'Amr rest on his knees'

In (38), it is only the theta role of location and nothing else which refers to the P" 'on his knees' that is absorbed. This is because the verb jatha has kneeling connotations.

Not only is the theta role of location absorbed in Arabic but also the theta role of instrument is also absorbed whenever it is unspecified.

39. ?abhar a ilaa bilaadih i

    sail   past   to   land   his

                'He sailed to his land'

In (39), the verb *?abhara* 'sailed' can absorb the unspecified instrument argument which can be qaarib 'boat', safiinah 'ship' or any similar instrument that can be used for sailing. However, in (40), the absorbed instrument is specified.

40. mashshat a ?ahmad u sh^{C}ra hu

    comb   past Ahmed   nom   hair   his

                'Ahmed combed his hair'

In (40), it is only the theta role of instrument that is absorbed which refers to only *bi? al- mishti* 'with the comb' but nothing else. This is because the verb *mashshata* has combing styling connotation.

In short, Jalabneh (2007) found out whether the absorbed argument in the verb is of generic or specific nature; the argument that the verb absorbs most often is the theme which can be generic as in *ya?kulu* 'to eat' or specific as in *yasuuqu* 'to drive'. The argument goal when absorbed can be of a generic reference as in *yab^{c}athu* 'to send' or specific as in *ya^{c}tamiru* 'to visit Ka^{c}ba to perform certain religious rituals'. The absorbed source can either be of a generic reference as in *yahsulu ^{c}ala* 'to obtain from' or of a specific as in *ya?baqu* 'to run away from his master'. The absorbed theta role of instrument can either be of a generic reference as *vayubhiru* 'to sail' or of a specific as in *yantahu* 'to butt'.

To sum up;

the researcher reviewed in this chapter various studies that investigated the thematic relations from the perspective of Government and Binding theory. The studies selected were two of types: (i) some of them were purely theoretical and (ii) others were empirical. The researcher reviewed the above studies and concluded that the thematic relations are a universal property and they have been applied to a number of languages. The researcher will make use of such studies to cover the thematic relations in a new type of language, namely, Classical Arabic (Quranic Arabic), particularly, the language of the Glorious Qur'an.

Insofar as the theoretical literature is concerned, it was obvious that the focus was on Theta Theory as it tackles the problems of the semantic relations at D-structure level. Such notions are needed in any language to construct grammatical sentences in order to have correct semantic interpretation at the logical form. This study deals with Chomsky's (1981 and 1986) views on the Theory of Government and Binding in which he accounted for the thematic relations from different perspectives; it also deals with Jalabneh's (2007) views of V-movement and Theta absorption to render correct

sentences in Arabic syntax. Therefore, there were a number of studies that accounted for referential thematic relations and their significance from different perspectives; for instance, Assila (2007) and Jalabneh (2007 and 2010). Those studies explained the thematic relations and their principles and the possibility to apply them on different languages.

Chapter Three

Methods and Procedures

3.0. Introduction

This chapter discloses the methods and procedures followed and used to conduct this study. In section (3.1), the researcher provided the population and the sample of the study. section (3.2) has the instrument of the study. section (3.3) revealed the procedures that the researcher followed from the beginning until the end of the study.

3.1. Population and Sample of the Study

The population of the study is the whole content of the Glorious Qur'an. However, this study took Suurat Al- ᶜalaq which consists of nineteen Ayats as the sample for this work. The Suurah is given bellow:

Arabic transliteration	English translation
1.*?iqra? bi ?ismi rabbika al-ladhi khalaq*	read by the name of your Lord who created
2.*Khalaq al-?insaana min ᶜalaq*	created man from clots
3. *?iqra? wa rabbuka al-?akram*	read and your Lord is the most honorable
4. *Allathi ᶜallama bi al-qalam*	who taught by the pen
5. *ᶜallama al-?insaana maa lam yaᶜlam*	He taught man what he didn't know
6. *Kalla ?inna al-?insaana laya*t*gha*	not at all, surely man does indeed (grow) inordinate
7. *?an ra?aahu istaghna*	that he sees himself becoming self sufficient
8. *?inna ilia rabbika al- ruᶜja*	surely to your Lord is the returning
9. *?ra?aita allathi yanhaa*	have you seen him who forbids
10. *ᶜabdan ?itha salla*	a bondman when he prays?

11. *?ara?ita ?in kaana ᶜala al hudaa*   have you seen in case he is upon guidance

12. *Aw amara bi al-taqwaa*   or he commands (people) to piety?

13. *?ara?ita ?in kadhdhaba wa tawalla*   have you seen in case he cries lies and turns away?

14. *?alam yaᶜlam bi ?anna Allaha yara*   does he not know that Allah sees?

15. *Kalla la?in lamyantahi*   not at all!! Indeed in case he does not refrain

16. *lanasfa?an bi al naasiyah*   We will indeed trail him by the forelock

17. *Naasiyatin kaadhibatin khaati?atin*   a lying, sinful forelock

18. *Fal yadᶜu naadiah*   so let him call upon his assembly!

19. *Sanadᶜu al- zabaaniah*   we will call upon the guards of Hell

20. *Kalla la tuṯᶜhu wa ?usjud wa ?qtarib*   13.Not at all! Do not obey him, and prostrate yourself, and draw near to Allah

(Ghali, 2008, p.597)

3.2. Instrument of the Study

This work is both a theoretical and an empirical study. It is theoretical in the sense that the researcher refers to Chomsky's (1981 and 1986) views on the theory of thematic relations and to Jalabneh's (2007) views on V-movement and theta absorption of arguments in Arabic syntax to account for thematic relations in Suurat Al-ᶜalaq of the Glorious Qur'an. It is empirical because the researcher used certain tree-diagrams to the government relations between the theta assignor, namely, the verbs and their roles and charts to summarize the number of theta roles used in the Suurah.

3.3. Procedures

In conducting this study, the researcher followed the following steps.

1. The researcher is interested in the syntactic and semantic analysis; therefore, she decided to conduct a study that investigates the syntactic and semantic components of Suurat Al-^{c}alaq in the Glorious Qur'an. She contacted her supervisor Dr Atef Jalabneh and together they analyzed the sample and the latter decided that this Surrat deserves to be ivestigated in this theoretical framework. Thus, the researcher wrote the problem of the study on thematic relations. The researcher read a lot about the theory in English to be applied to the Arabic version of the Surrah.

2. She set out the questions that she wanted to investigate and to achieve the objectives of the study.

3. The researcher reviewed a lot of studies on thematic relations on the framework of the Government and Biding framework in an attempt to apply its principles and parameters to the selected sample.

4. Then she reviewed books and periodicals concering the thematic relations on government and binding framework in various language.

5. After reading related studies and books that gave the researcher a very good idea about the problem of the study, the researcher started to investigate and analyze Tafsiir of Ayats with reference to a number of tafsiir books such as *fii dilaal al-Quran* 'in the shade of the Quran' written by Sayyid Qutub (1982), and this analysis includes thematic relations under the government and binding framework.

6. The researcher analyzed thematic relations at the deep-structure of the suurah by considering the Ayats SVO in the deep structure and VSO in the logical form.

7. The relations, conditions and constrains that govern the thematic relations were discussed and presented in tree diagrams and grids.

8. The researcher tested the thematic relations in understanding the structure, the hidden. and the visible meanings of the tafsiir of Suurat Al-^{c}alaq in Glorious Qur'an.

9. She wrote the answers of the questions of the study and compared them with the relevant studies.

10. She discussed and concluded new results which are compared to the studies mentioned in the review of literature.

11. The researcher suggests a number of recommendations of the study for further research.

12. She wrote the references and included the needed charts and the instruments of The study.

Chapter Four

Analysis and Discussion of Thematic Relations in

Suurat Al-ᶜAlaq

4.0. Introduction

In this chapter, the researcher presents the syntactic and semantic analyses of thematic relations; she applied the thematic relation to the meaning of Suurat Al-ᶜalaq according to a number of Tafsiir al-Qur'an books 'the explanation of Glorious Qur'an books'. Suurat Al-ᶜalaq is the 96th Suurat or chapter of the Qur'an. It is composed of (19) Ayats. Chapter four consists initially of four sections; the first section(4.1) involves data about the lexical verbs of Suurat Al-ᶜalaq and their governed theta roles at D-structure in order to find out the significance of the governed theta roles which were determined by the lexical property of the V" head. In section (4.2), the concept of theta role assignment of Suurat AL-ᶜalaq is going to be analyzed at D- structure of the ayats. In section (4.3), the concept of theta criterion is discussed. In section (4.4), the concept of theta absorption is analyzed. In the subsections (4.4.1), (4.4.2), (4.4.3) and (4.4.4), the researcher showed the absorption of theme, goal, instrument and location that took place.

4.1. Lexical Verbs of Suurat Al- ᶜAlaq and Their Governed Theta Roles at D-structure

This section reveals the syntactic facts about question number one of this Work; viz that each verb in the Suurah has a specific theta grid in which a number of theta roles are assigned and by which they are governed. In other words,

according to the Projection Principle representations all lexical representations are posited at the D-structure to be eligible for government. The sub-categorization of each lexical verb determines the type of theta role to be assigned to each argument position. Theta roles are born by N", P", I" and C". However, V, A", Prep and Adv are non-theta role bearers in Arabic. The projection principle determines the situations in which an argument can be subcategorized by which verb in the Suurat. Furthermore, according to the Extended Projection Principle as the second requirement of theta theory stipulates that every Ayat that has a verb must constitute a sentence; thus it must involve an external subject? This subject must bear a theta role in a theta position because it is assigned to the subject position at the D-structure. Each theta role is M-commanded and governed by its lexical head in the Ayat. Thus, only verbs are governor to theta roles of every Ayat. Here are the verbs of the Suurah and their theta grids as per the theta theory.

The verb *yaqra?* 'to read' is visible in Ayat (1) *?iqra? bi ?ismi rabbika al-ladhi khalaq* 'read by the name of your Lord Who created'. It has the theta grid (1) given bellow,

la. *Yaqra?* [N"1,N"2]

lb. [agent, theme]

In (l), the verb yaqra? 'to read' is a transitive verb and its constituent selects (c-select) N'T as the external subject for the Ayat. It is represented by?anta 'you' (Mohammad) as it has the imperative form ?iqra? 'read'. It bears the theta role of agent as it instigates the action of the verb. The verb yaqra? 'to read' c-selects the internal argument N"2 as its object complement. It is represented by the category Al-Qur'an 'The Qur'an' (c.f. Al-Saabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 554, Sayyid Qutub, 1982, 6, p.3938, Ibn Hayyaan, 2001, 8, p.488, Al-Qurtubii, 2000, 10, p. 81, Al-Barwaswii,

2003, 10, p. 481 for the interpretation of the Ayat). It bears the theta role of theme as it is affected by the action of the verb in this Ayat. There is the transitive verb yakhluq 'to create' which has the theta grid in (2) given bellow.

2a. *yakhluq* [N"1,N"2]

2b.   [agent, theme]

In (2), the verb *yakhluq* 'to create' is a transitive verb and it selects the N"1 as the subject for the Ayat. It is represented by the argument *rabbika* 'your Lord' which bears the theta role of agent as it instigates the action of the verb. The verb *yakhluq* 'to create' c-selects the internal argument N"2 as its object complement. It is represented by the category *kulla al-makhluuqaati* 'all creatures'(c.f. Al-Saabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 554 for the interpretation of the Ayat). It bears the theta role of theme as it is affected by the action of the verb in this Ayat.

The verb *yakhluq* 'to create' is available in Ayat number (2). It has the theta grid (3) given bellow.

3a. *yakhluq* [N"1,N"2]

3b.   [agent, theme]

In (3), the verb *yakhluq* 'to create' is a transitive verb and it c-selects N" 1 as the subject for the Ayat. It is represented by *Allah* 'God'. It bears the theta role of agent as it instigates the action of the verb. The verb *yakhluq* 'to create' c-selects the internal argument N"2 as its object complement. It is represented by the category *Al-?insaana* 'man'. It bears the theta role of theme as it is affected by the action of the verb in this Ayat (c.f. Al-Saabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 554, Sayyid Qutub, 1982, 6, p.3938, Ibn Hayyaan, 2001 ,8, p.488, Al-Qurtubii, 2000, 10, p. 81, Al-Barwaswii, 2003, 10, p. 483, Al-Zamakhsharii, 2001, 4, p.781 for the interpretation of the Ayat).

The verb *yaqra?* 'to read' has the same theta grid as that of (1). However, the same ayat *wa rabbuka al-?akram* 'And your Lord is The Most Honorable' has the copula verb *Yakuunu* 'to be' in the D-structure which has the theta grid (4) given bellow.

4a. *yakuunu* [N"]

4b.   [theme]

In (4), the verb *yakuunu* 'to be' is an intransitive verb and it c-selects N" as the subject for the Ayat. It is represented by *wa rabbuka* 'and your Lord' that bears the theta role of theme as it is the entity being honored in this Ayat. It is evident that the adjective *al-?akram* 'honorable' can not bear a theta role (c.f. Al-Saabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 554, Ibn Hayyaan, 2001,8, p.488, Al-Qurtubii, 2000, 10, p. 81, Al-Barwaswii, 2003,10, p. 484 for the interpretation of the Ayat).

The verb *yu^{c}allimu* 'to teach' in *allathi ^{c}allama bi al-qalam* 'who taught by the pen' is visible in Ayat (4). It has the theta grid (5).

5a. *yu^{c}allimu* [N'T, N"2, N"3]

5b.   [agent, goal, theme]

In (5), the verb *yu^{c}allimu* 'to teach' is a transitive verb and it (c-select) N" 1 as the subject for the Ayat. It is represented by the entity *allathi (rabbuka)* 'Your Lord' which bears the theta role of agent as it instigates the action of the verb. The verb *yu^{c}allimu* 'to teach' c-selects the N"2 *kullu man kataba* 'everyone who wrote/ or writer' as its internal object argument. It bears the theta role of goal as it is towards which the action of the verb moves in this Ayat (c.f. Al-Qurtubii, 2000, 10, p.82, Ibn Hayyaan, 2001, 8, p.489 for the interpretation of the Ayat). The N"3 is represented by the argument *al-kitaabata wa al-khatta* 'writing and calligraphy'. It carries the theta role of theme as it is affected by the action of the verb *yu^{c}allimu.*

The verb *yuᶜallimu* 'to teach' is visible in Ayat (5) *ᶜallama al-?insaana maa lam yaᶜlam* 'He taught man what he did not know'. It has the theta grid (6) given bellow.

6a. *yuᶜallimu*   [N"1,N"2, C"]

6b.   [agent, goal, theme]

        In (6), the verb *yuᶜallimu* 'to teach' is a transitive verb and it c-selects N" 1 as the subject for the Ayat. It is represented by the argument *Allah* 'God' that has the theta role of agent. The same verb c-selects the internal argument *al-?insaana* 'man' N"2 as its object complement. It bears the theta role of goal as it is towards which the information moves in this Ayat. The C" is represented by *maa lam yaᶜlam* "what he didn't know". It carries the theta role of theme as it is affected by the action of the verb in this Ayat. In this C" there is the verb *yaᶜlam* 'to know' which has the theta grid [N'1, N"2]. In this theta grid N"l has the theta role of agent and represented by *al-?insaana* 'man' and N"2 has the theta role of theme and represented by *al-ᶜuluum* 'sciences' (c.f. Al-Sabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 555, Ibn Hayyaan,2001 ,8, p.489, Al-Qurtubii, 2000, 10, p. 83, Al-Barwaswii, 2003,10, p. 484, Sayyid Qutub, 1982, 6, p.3939 Al-Zamakhsharii, 2001, 4, p.781 for the interpretation of the Ayat).

        The verb *yatgha* 'to overstep all bounds' is visible in *kalla ?inna al-?insaana layatgha* 'Not at all! Surely man does indeed (grow) inordinate' in Ayat (6). It has the theta grid (7) given below.

7a *yatgha* [N'1]

7b.   [agent]

        In (7), the verb *yatgha* '(grow) inordinate' is an intransitive verb and it selects the N'1 as the subject represented by the N" *al-insaana* 'man'. It is assigned the theta role of agent by the whole V" (c.f. Al-Sabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 555, Ibn Hayyaan,

2001, 8, p.489, Al-Qurtubii, 2000, 10, p. 83, Al-Barwaswii, 2003, 10, p. 485, Sayyid Qutub, 1982, 6, p.3941 for the interpretation of the Ayat).

The verb *yara* 'to see' is visible in *?an ra?aahu istaghna* 'That he sees himself becoming self-sufficient' in Ayat (7). It has the theta grid (8) given below.

8a *yara*   [N"1,N"2]

8b.   [agent, theme]

In (8), the verb *yara* is a transitive verb and it c-selects N"1 as the subject for the Ayat. It is represented by the argument *al-?insaanu* 'man' that bears the theta role of agent as it instigates the action seeing. The same verb c-selects the argument N"2 *nafsahu* 'himself as its internal argument in the D-structure. It bears the theta role of theme. In this C", there is the verb *istaghna* 'to become self-sufficient' is visible in Ayat (7). It has the theta grid (9) given bellow.

9a. *yastaghi* [N"]

9b.   [agent]

In (9), the verb *yastaghi* 'to become self-sufficient' is an intransitive verb and it takes N" as the subject for the Ayat. It is shown by *huwa* 'he' that has the agent theta role (c.f. Al-Sabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 555, Al-Qurtubii, 2000, 10, p. 83, Al-Barwaswii, 2003,10, p. 485, Sayyid Qutob, 1982, 6, p.3942, Al-Zamakhsharii, 2001, 4, p.783 for the interpretation of the Ayat).

The verb *yakuunu* 'to be' is found at D-structure in Ayat (8) *?inna illa rabbika al-ru^c a* 'Surely to your Lord is the Returning'. It has the theta grid (10).

10a *yakuunu*   [N"]

10b.   [theme]

In (10), the copular *yakuunu* 'to be' takes the N" al-?insaanu' human' as the external entity. It bears the theta role of theme as it is being effected by the order of

God (c.f. Al-Sabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 555, Al-Qurtubii, 2000, 10, p. 84, Al-Barwaswii, 2003,10, p. 485 for the interpretation of the Ayat).

The verb *yara* 'to see' is visible in Ayat (9*)?ra?aita allathi yanhaa* 'Have you seen him who forbids'. It has the theta grid (11).

11a *yara*　　[N"1,N"2]

11b .　　　　[agent, theme]

In (11), the verb *yara* 'to see' is a transitive verb and it c-selects N'1 as the subject for the Ayat. It is represented by the N" *Mohammed* 'Mohammed' who bears the theta role of agent as it is the person who sees. N"2 is represented by the *al-^cabda al-shaqai* 'the rascal man' and carries the theta role of theme. This hidden theme has the structure of C" *allathi yanhaa* 'who forbids' in which the verb *yanhaa* 'forbids' has the theta grid of [N'T, N"2] shown by *al-^cabda al-shaqai* 'the rascal man' and *al-^cabda al-ṣaaliḥ* 'the pious man'. The first has the theta role of agent and the second has the theta role of theme (c.f. Al-Sabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 555, Sayyid Qutub, 1982, 6, p.3942 for the interpretation of the Ayat).

The verb *yuṣalli* 'to pray' is visible in Ayat (10) *^cabdan ?itha ṣalla* A bondman when he prays'. It has the theta grid (12) given below.

12a *yuṣalli*　　[N"]

12b.　　　　[agent]

In (12), the verb *yuṣalli* 'to pray' is an intransitive verb and it constituent selects N" as the subject for the Ayat. It is represented by the N" *^cabdan* 'man' and bears the theta role of agent as it instigates the action of praying (c.f. Al-Sabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 555, Al-Zamakhsharii, 2001, 4, p.783, Sayyid Qutub, 1982, 6, p.3942, Al-Barwaswii, 2003,10, p. 485 for the interpretation of the Ayat).

The verb *yara* 'to see' is visible in Ayat (11) *?ara?ita ?in kaana ᶜala al-hudaa* 'Have you seen in case he is upon guidance'. It has the theta grid (13) given below.

13a *yara*   [N'1, N''2]

13b.   [agent, theme]

In (13), the verb *yara* 'to see' is a transitive verb and it constituent selects N'1 as the subject for the Ayat. It is represented by the N'' *al-ᶜabd al-shaqai* 'the rascal man'. It bears the theta role of agent as it instigates the action of seeing. It also takes the internal argument N''2 as its object complement. It is represented by the essential category *al-ᶜabda al-ṣaaliẖ* 'the pious man'. It bears the theta role of theme in this Ayat. This Ayat has the conditional subordinate *?in kaana ᶜalaa al-hudaa* 'in case he is upon guidance' in which the verb *kaana* 'was' has the theta grid of [N'']. The N'' is carried by *al-ᶜabda al-ṣaaliẖ* 'the pious man' who has the theta role of theme (c.f. Al-Sabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 555, Sayyid Qutub, 1982, 6, p.3942 for the interpretation of the Ayat).

The verb *y?muru* 'to command' is visible in Ayat (12) *aw amara bi al-taqwaa* 'or he commands (people) to piety?' It has the theta grid (14) given below.

14a. *y?muru*   [N''1,N''2]

14b.   [agent, theme]

In (14), the verb *y?muru* 'to command' is a transitive verb and its constituent selects N'1 as the subject for the Ayat. The external etity *al-ᶜabda al-ṣaaliẖ* 'the pious man' bears the theta role of agent as it instigates the action of commanding. The same verb c-selects the internal argument N''2 as its object complement. It is represented by the category *al-naasa* 'people' who bears the theta role of goal in this

Ayat (c.f. Al-Sabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 555, Sayyid Qutub, 1982, 6, p. 3942 for the interpretation of the Ayat).

The verb *yara* 'to see' which is visible in Ayat (13) *?ara?ita ?in kadhdhaba wa tawalla* 'Have you seen in case he cries lies and turns away' has the same theta grid as that of (13) as in Ayat (11). However, the same Ayat has the conditional subordinate *?in kadhdhaba wa tawalla* 'in case he cries lies and turns away' the verb *yukadhdhibu* 'to cry lie' has the theta grid (15) given below.

15a *yukadhdhibu*   [N"]

15b.   [agent]

In (15), the verb *yukadhdhibu* 'to cry lie' is an intransitive verb and its constituent selects N" *al-ᶜabdu al-shaqaiu* 'the rascal man' as the subject which bears the theta role of agent as it instigates the action of the lying (c.f. Al-Zamakhsharii, 2001, 4, p.783, Al-Barwaswii, 2003, 10, p. 486). This Ayat has also the verb *yatawalla* 'to turn away' which has the theta grid (16) given below.

16a *yatawalla*   [N"]

16b.   [agent]

In (16), the verb *yatawalla* 'to turn away' is intransitive verb and its constituent selects N" as the subject which is represented by *al-ᶜabdu al-shaqaiu* 'the rascal man'; it bears the theta role of agent (c.f. Al-Sabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 556 for the interpretation of the Ayat).

The verb *yaᶜlam* 'to know' is visible in Ayat (14) *?alam yaᶜlam bi?anna Allaha yara* 'Does he not know that Allah sees'. It has the theta grid (17) given below.

17a *yaᶜlam*   [N", C"]

17b.   [agent, theme]

In (17), the verb *ya^clam* 'to know' is a transitive verb and its constituent selects N" as the subject for the Ayat. It is represented by N" *al-^cabdu al-shaqaiu* 'the rascal man' that bears the theta role of agent. The verb *ya^clam* 'to know' c-selects the internal argument C" as its object complement. It is represented by the category *bi anna Allaha yara ahwalahu* ' that Allah sees his status' It carries the theta role of theme (c.f. Al-Sabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 556, Sayyid Qutub, 1982, 6, p.3942, Al-Barwaswii, 2003,10, p. 486, Al-Zamakhsharii, 2001 , 4, p.783 for the interpretation of the Ayat).

The verb *yantahii* 'to refrain' is visible in Ayat (15) *kalla la?in lam yantahi lanasfa?an bi al-naasiyah* 'Not at all! Indeed in case he does not refrain, we will indeed trail him by the forelock'. It has the theta grid (18) given below.

18a *yantahii*   [N"]

18b.   [agent]

In (18), the verb *yantahii* 'to refrain' is an intransitive verb and its constituent selects N" as the subject for the Ayat. It is represented by the N" *al-^cabdu alshaqaiu* 'the rascal man' that bears the theta role of agent (c.f. Al-Sabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 556, Al-Zamakhsharii, 2001, 4, p.784, Al-Barwaswii, 2003, 10, p. 487 for the interpretation of the Ayat).

The verb *yasfa^c* 'to trail' in Ayat (15) has the theta grid (19) given below.

19a *yasfa^c*   [N"1,N"2]

19b.   [agent, theme]

In (19), the verb *yasfa^c* 'to trail' is a transitive verb and it selects N'1 *Allah* 'God'. This N" bears the theta role of agent as it instigates the action of trailing. The verb *yasfa^c* 'to trail' c-selects the N"2 *al-^cabda al-shaqai* 'the rascal man' as its object complement; it carries the theta role of theme (c.f. Al-Sabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 556, Al-

Zamakhsharii, 2001, 4, p.784, Al-Barwaswii, 2003 ,10, p. 487 for the interpretation of the Ayat).

The copula verb *Yakuunu* 'to be' in the D-structure in Ayat (16) *naasiyatin kaadhibatin khaati?atin* 'A lying, sinful forelock'. It has the theta grid (20) given below.

20a *yakuunu* [N"]

20b. [theme]

In (20), the verb *yakuunu* 'to be' is an intransitive verb and it takes the N" *sahib al-naasiyah* 'man who has front hair' as the subject for the Ayat. It bears the theta role of theme as it is the entity being lying and sinful in this Ayat. It is evident that the adjective *kaadhibatin khaatilatin* 'A lying, sinful' cannot bear a theta role, (c.f. Al-Sabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 556, Sayyid Qutub, 1982, 6, p.3943, Al-Qurtubii, 2000, 10, p. 84, Al-Barwaswii, 2003,10, p. 487,A1-Zamakhsharii, 2001, 4, p.784). The verb *yad^c u* 'to call' is visible in Ayat (17) *fl yad^c u naadiah* 'So let him call upon his assembly'. It has the theta grid (21) given below.

21a *yad^c u* [N"1,N"2]

21b. [agent, theme]

In (21), the verb *yad^c u* is a transitive verb and it constituent selects N" 1 as its external subject for the Ayat. It is represented by the N" *al-^c abdu al-shaqaiu* 'the rascal man' that bears the theta role of agent. The verb *yad^c u* c-selects the N"2 *naadiah* 'assembly' as its object complement that bears the theta role of theme (c.f. Al-Sabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 556, Sayyid Qutub, 1982, 6, p.3943, Al-Barwaswii, 2003,10, p. 488,A1-Zamakhsharii, 2001, 4, p.784 for the interpretation of the Ayat).

The verb *yad^{c}u* 'to call' is visible in Ayat (18) *sanad^{c}u al-zabaaniah* 'we will call upon the guards of hell'. It has the theta grid (22) given below.

22a *yad^{c}u*　　[N"1,N"2]

22b.　　　　[agent, theme]

In (22), the verb *yad^{c}u* is a transitive verb and it takes N'T as the subject for the Ayat. It is represented by the argument *Allah* 'God'. This argument bears the theta role of agent. The verb *yad^{c}u* 'to call' c-selects the internal argument N"2 as its object complement. It is represented by the category *al-zabaaniah* 'the guards of hell' .It carries the theta role of theme, (c.f. Al-Ṣabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 556, Sayyid Qutub, 1982, 6, p.3943, Al-Barwaswii, 2003,10, p. 488,A1-Zamakhsharii, 2001, 4, p.784 for the interpretation of the Ayat).

The verb *yuṯii^c* 'to obey' is visible in Ayat (19) *kalla la tuṯi^{c}hu wa ?sjud wa ?qtarib* 'Not at all! Do not obey him, and prostrate yourself, and draw near to Allah'. It has the theta grid (23) given below.

23a *yuṯii^c*　　[N"1,N"2]

23b.　　　　[agent, goal]

In (23), the verb *yuṯii^c* is a transitive verb and its constituent selects N'1 as the subject for the Ayat. It is represented by the N" *al-^{c}abdu al-ṣaalihu* 'the pious man'. This argument bears the theta role of agent. The verb *yuṯii^c* 'to obey' c-selects the internal argument N"2 as its object complement. It is represented by the category *al-^{c}abdu al-shaqaiu* 'the rascal man'. It carries the theta role of goal. (c.f. Al-Ṣabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 556, Sayyid Qutub, 1982, 6, p.3943, Ibn Hayyaan, 2001,8, p.491, Al-Barwaswii, 2003, 10, p.488, Al-Zamakhsharii, 2001, 4, p.785 for the interpretation of the Ayat). In the same Ayat the *verbyasjud* 'to prostrate oneself (in worship)' has the theta grid (24) given below.

24a *yasjud*   [N'1]

24b.   [agent]

In (24), the verb *yasjud* c-selects N'1 " *al-cabdu al-ṣaalihu* 'the pious man' as the subject that bears the theta role of agent (c.f. Al-Ṣabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 556, Sayyid Qutub, 1982, 6, p.3943, Al-Barwaswii, 2003,10, p. 489, Al-Zamakhsharii, 2001, 4, p.785 for the interpretation of the Ayat). Also, this Ayat has the verb *yaqtaribu* 'to draw near'; it has the theta grid (25) given below.

25a *yaqtaribu*   [N'1]

25b.   [agent]

In (25), the verb *yaqtaribu* takes the N'T *al-cabdu al-ṣaalihu* 'the pious man', as the subject that bears the theta role of agent as it instigates the action of the verb (c.f. Al-Ṣabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 556, Sayyid Qutub, 1982, 6, p.3943, Al-Barwaswii, 2003,10, p. 489,A1-Zamakhsharii,2001 , 4, p.785 for the interpretation of the Ayat).

In short, it is evident that the nineteen Ayat have verbs and each verb has its own theta grid which is obvious in the D-structure. The overt occurrences of all the arguments at this level help the researcher and the reader simultaneously understand the hidden semantic interpretation of the Ayats of Suurat Al-calaq.

If this section is compared to the relevant literature, it is evident that theta roles are assigned to N", P", I" and C". It agrees with Assila (2007) in the sense that in the sentence *[John a termini sa lecture* 'John has finished reading'] in which the theta role of agent is assigned to the N" *John* but not to the verb *a termine sa* 'has finished' because it is not a theta role bearer. Whereas, in the sentence *[Mary est heureuse* 'Mary is happy'] the N" *Mary* is assigned the theta role of experiencer but the adjective *heureuse* 'happy' cannot be assigned a theta role according to this

approach. The researcher agrees with Jalabneh's (2007) views of theta role assignment to the same arguments and the sub-categorization of predicates on Modern Standard Arabic. For instance, he argues that intransitive verbs need one essential external entity as in *[yanjaribu* 'have scabies'] whose subjects must carry the theta role of experiencer as an example of the analysis. Transitive verbs need two entities, one external and the other is internal. For instance, the verb *[yuḥaṭṭimu* 'to demolish'] requires the subject as agent but the object as the theme. However, there are di-transitive verbs like [*yuᶜtii* 'to give'] that subcategorize three essential arguments to which the theta roles of agent, theme and goal are assigned. It also agrees with Jalabneh (2010) in which collocations of Suurat Al-Shams that constitute N'', P'', I'' and C'' bear theta role in relation to a verb.

4.2. Theta Role Assignment at the Level of the D-structure in Suurat AL-ᶜAlaq

This section reveals syntactic facts about question number two of this work; i.e. that each theta role in the ayats of Suurat Al-ᶜalaq is assigned at the level of D-structure under government. In other words, according to the Projection Principle representations all lexical representations are posited at the D-structure to be eligible for government. It is evident that theta role bearers in the Suurat are N'', P'', I'' and C''. They must occupy Argument-positions (A-position) in order to be checked; however, adjectives, prepositions and adverbs are not theta role bearers. As per the theory of government, V must govern any of the above arguments that occur inside the V''. However, the subject of each Ayat is assigned a theta by the whole V''.

If the researcher deals with the Ayats as per word order of Classical Arabic as VSO there will be various possible D-structures for each Ayat. For instance, let us have a look at the verb *?amara* 'commanded' which is visible in Ayat (12) aw *amara bi al-taqwaa* 'or he commands (people) to piety?' as a co-coordinated clause.

It has the D-structure representation (26a).

26a. ?amar   a   al   ^cabdu   al -   ?inaasa   bi   al   taqwaa

    command   past   det   man   det   people   to   det   piety

            'He commanded people to piety'.

The first form of D-structure for (26a) is given in the tree-diagram (26b).

26b

C''
C'
Spec
I''
C
I'
N''
V''
I
V'
P''
V
N''

?amar   al-?inassa   bi-al-tqwaa   a   al - ^cabdu
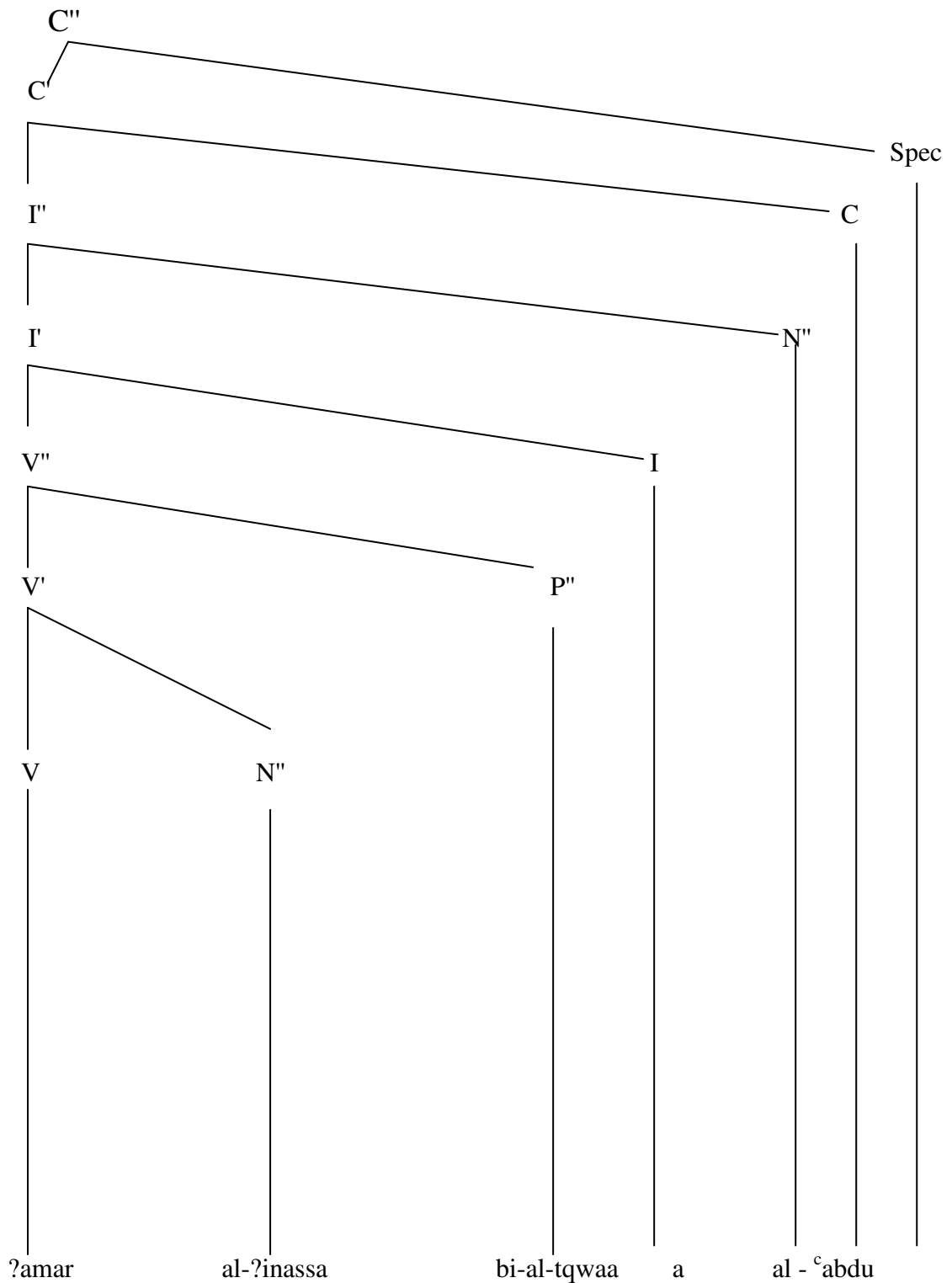
(26b) shows that the V" *?mara al-?insaana bi al -taqwaa* 'commanded the people to piety' assigns the theta role of agent to the subject al- cabdu 'the man'; the researcher finds that the governor and the governed occur under the dominance of

the maximal projection IP. The verb *?amra* 'commanded' governs the NP *al-?inaasa* 'people' and the P" *bi al-taqwaa* 'to piety' and assigns the former the theta role of theme and the latter the theta role of instrument. The governor and the governed occur under the maximal projection V". It is interesting to note that under this kind of D-structure, the theta role is assigned before the P" or N" movement takes place; it means that both of them occur under the maximal projection V" just to get their theta roles assigned and then they move to other positions of C". Such obligatory movements are needed because of the fact that the object N" and the P" which are a part of the V" at the level of D-structure must follow the subject N" in the LF in Arabic.

Another form of D-structure for (26a) is (26c) given below:

26c. *?amar   a   al   ᶜabd   u   al   naasa   bi   al   taqwaa

command   past   det   man   nom   det   people   to   det   piety

'He commanded (people) to piety'.

26C

? amar	a	al-ᶜabdu	al-naasa	bi al-taqwaa
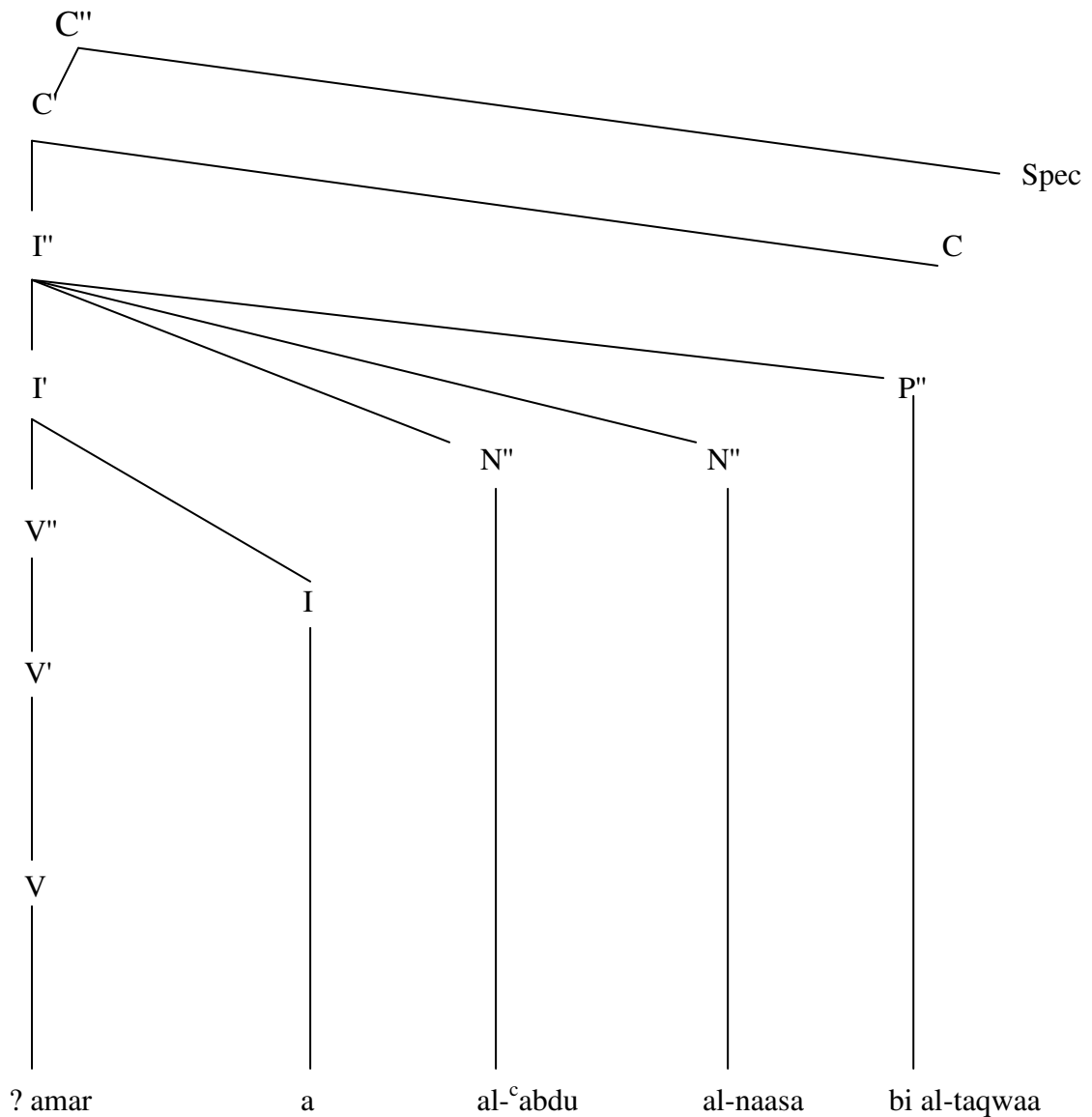
(26c) is ungrammatical because *al-ᶜabdu* 'the man', *al-naasa* 'the people and *bi al-taqwaa* 'to piety' don't have theta assigners; they are not under V". The verb *?amra* 'commanded' can not assign any theta role to any of them, and then the phonetic form (PF) and the logical form (LF) are incorrect.

Another form of D-structure for (26a) could be (26d):

26d. al ᶜabd u ?amar a al naasa bi al taqwaa

    det man nom command past det people to the piety

           'He commands (people) to piety'.

(26e) is the tree diagram representation for (26c).

```
                        C"
                       /\
                      /  \
                 Spec      C'
                  |       /\
                  |      /  \
                  |    C     I"
                  |    |    /\
                  |    |   /  \
                  |    | Spec   I'
                  |    |  |    /\
                  |    |  |   /  \
                  |    |  | I    V"
                  |    |  | |   /\
                  |    |  | |  /  \
                  |    |  | | Spec  V'1
                  |    |  | |  |   /\
                  |    |  | |  |  /  \
                  |    |  | |  | V'2    P"
                  |    |  | |  | /\      |
                  |    |  | |  |/  \     |
                  |    |  | |  V    N"   |
                  |    |  | |  |    |    |
                  |    |  | |  |    |    |

    al-ᶜabdu   a      ?amar   al-naasa   bi al-taqwaa

    det man   past    command det people  to piety
```
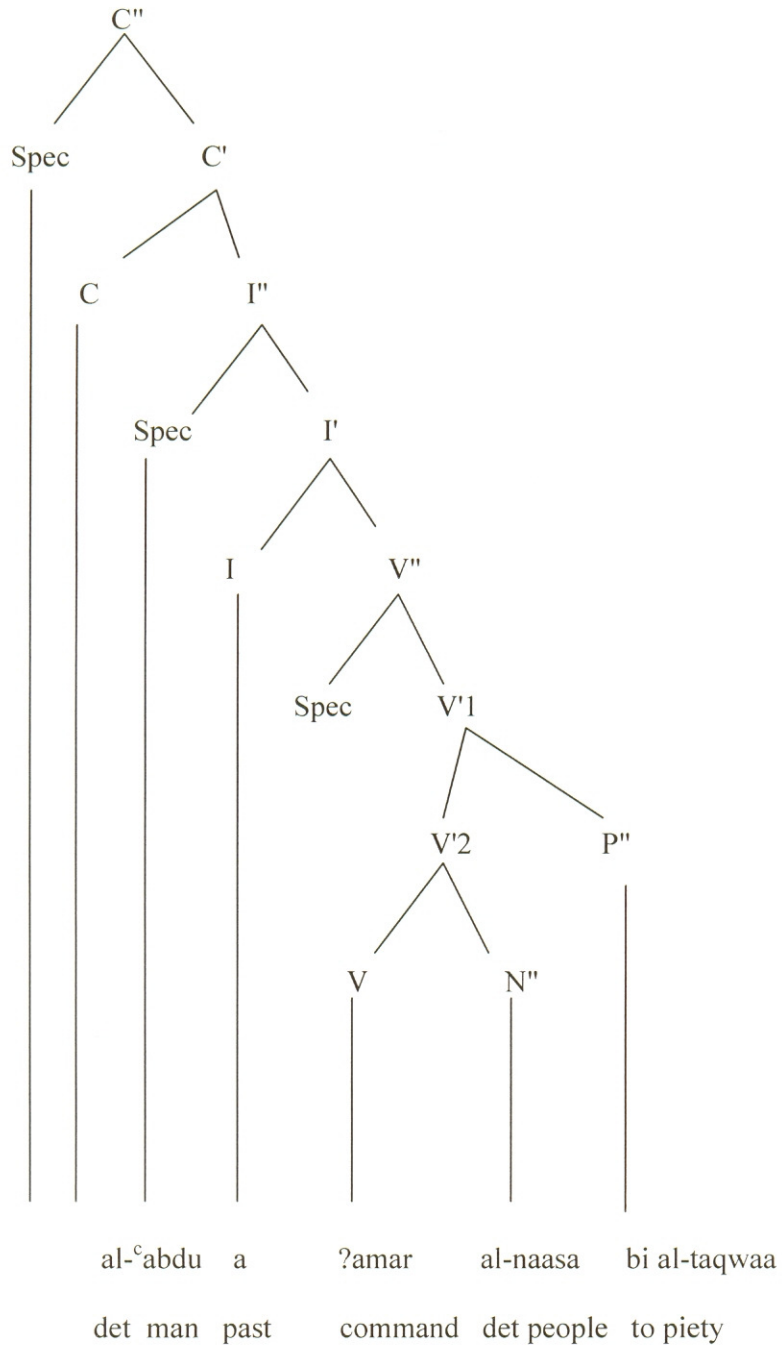
(26d) shows that the verb *?amar*' to command' governs the object NP *al -naasa* 'people' and assigns it the theta role of theme under V'2. The adjunct P" *bi al-taqwaa* 'with piety' is assigned the theta role of instrument by the same verb under the head VT due to its being overt in the structure (c.f. Chomsky, 1981 regarding

the occurrence of adjuncts). In the (26d), the V" *?mara al-?insaana bi al –taqwaa* 'commanded the people to piety' assigns the theta role of agent to the eternal entity *al-ᶜabdu* 'the man' The verb *?amar* must move to the position of [I', I] to check the tense marker [a] in a rule called V- adjunction. In a cyclic movement, the verb must move to the position of [C, C] to meet the word order at LF and PF. The significance of V-movement propagated by Jalabneh (2007, p.176-193) in Arabic syntax and followed by the researcher in this work is that it posits the constituents of the sentence in the correct order for better government at D-structure. However, at LF and PF, the verb initiates the Ayat so that it does not violate the word order of Arabic as in (26f).

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26f. S-structure

```
                         C"
                        /\
                       /  \
                      /    \
                   Spec     C'
                    |      /\
                    |     /  \
                    |    C    I"
                    |    |   /\
                    |    |  /  \
                    |    | Spec  I'
                    |    |  |   /\
                    |    |  |  /  \
                    |    |  |  I   V"
                    |    |  |  |  /\
                    |    |  |  | /  \
                    |    |  |  | Spec  V'1
                    |    |  |  |  |   /\
                    |    |  |  |  |  /  \
                    |    |  |  |  | V'2   P"
                    |    |  |  |  | /\     |
                    |    |  |  |  |/  \    |
                    |    |  |  |  V   N"   |
                    |    |  |  |  |   |    |
                    |    |  |  |  |   |    |
 ?amara   al-ᶜabdu  t2     t1      al-naasa   bi al-taqwaa

 t1,t2

 commanded the man              people      to  piety
```

26g. PF


```
                        C"
                       /  \
                      /    \
                   Spec     C'
                    |      /  \
                    |     /    \
                    |    C      I"
                    |    |     /  \
                    |    |    /    \
                    |    |  Spec    I'
                    |    |   |     /  \
                    |    |   |    /    \
                    |    |   |   I      V"
                    |    |   |   |     /  \
                    |    |   |   |    /    \
                    |    |   |   |  Spec    V'1
                    |    |   |   |   |     /  \
                    |    |   |   |   |    /    \
                    |    |   |   |   | V'2     P"
                    |    |   |   |   |  /  \    |
                    |    |   |   |   | V    N"  |
                    |    |   |   |   | |    |   |
                    |    |   |   |   | |    |   |
                 ?amara              bi al-taqwaa
                 commanded           to  piety
```
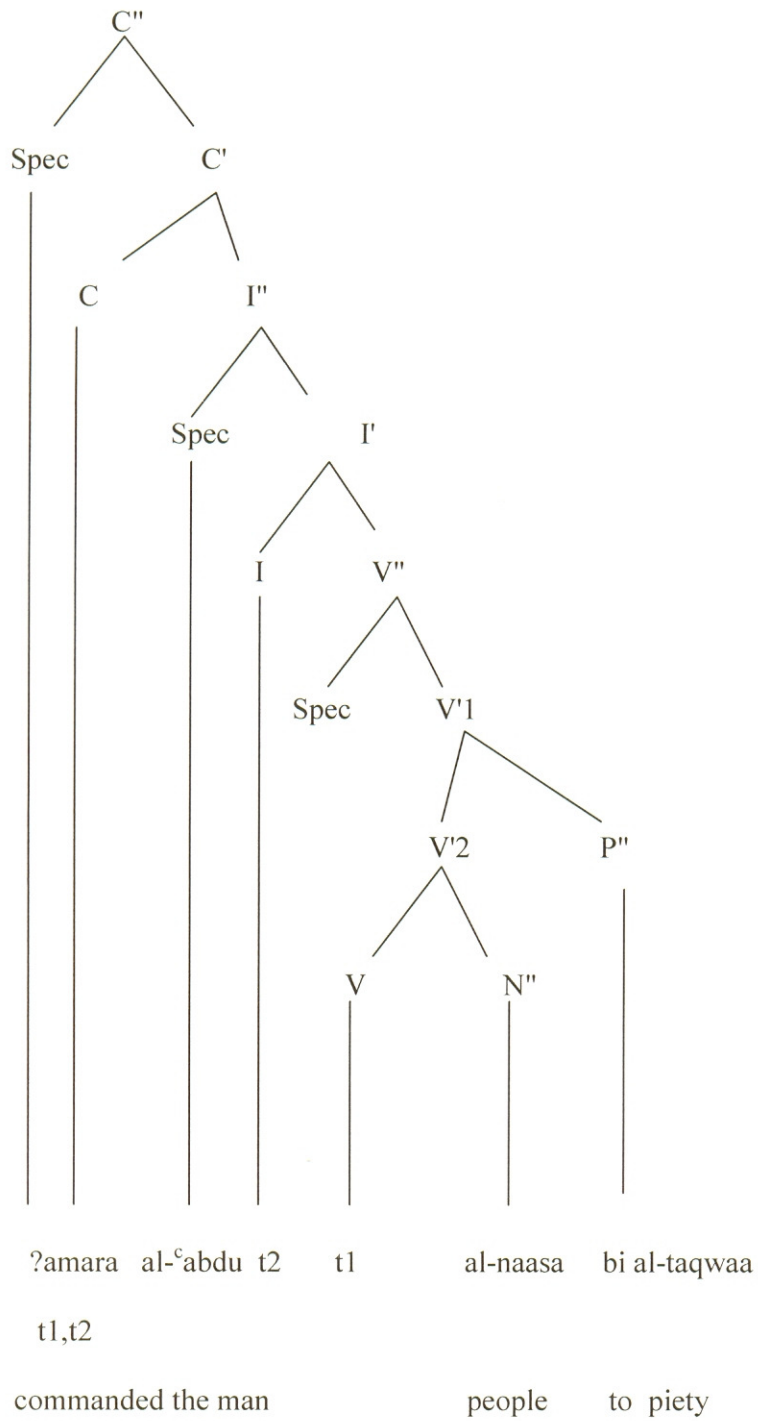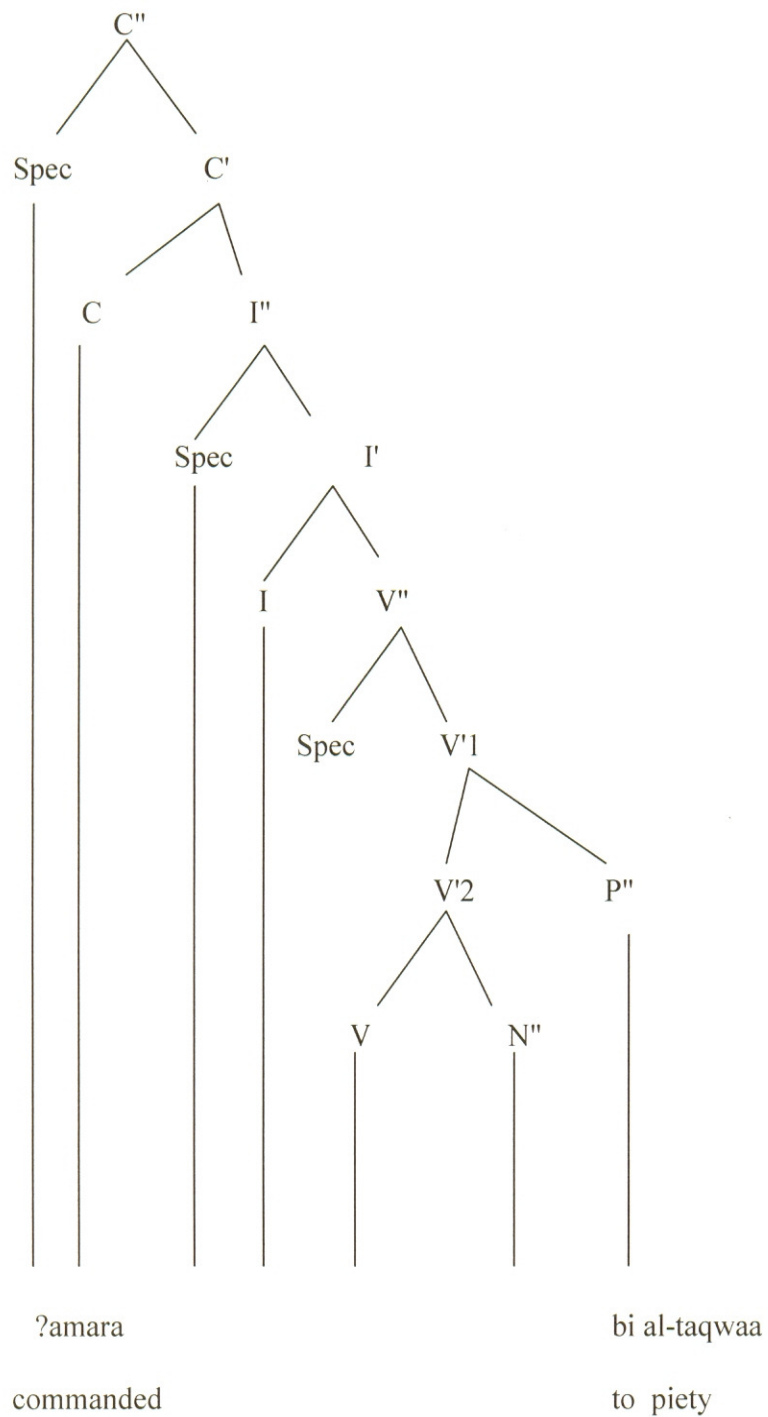
In short, the theory of V-movement initiated by Jalabneh (2007) made the analysis of thematic relations simpler in a number of ways: (i) the

arrangement of the arguments in the order of SVO at D-structure made the assignment of theta roles correct in terms of government, (ii) the movement of the verb to I' and C is more economical than moving two arguments namely N" and P" to other positions in C". Thus, following the theory of government posited by Chomsky (1981 and 1986) and the theory of V-movement posited by Jalabneh (2007) in Arabic syntax has led to good results without violating any syntactic rule.

The theory of government and V-movement can be applied to the rest of ayats. For instance, let us look at the Ayat (1) in which the verb *?iqra?* 'read' is used in *?iqra? bi ?ismi rabbika al-ladhi khalaq* 'read by the name of your Lord Who created'. It has the D-structure representation of complements and adjuncts (27a).

      D-structure

27a. ?anta   ?iqra?   Al-Qur'an   bi   ?ismi   rabbi-   ka   alladhi

     You   read   det-Qur'an   by   the name   Lord   your   who

      Khalaq   a   kulla   al   makhluuqaati.

      create   past   all   det   creatures.

   'You read the Qur'an by the name of your Lord who created all creatures'

The D-structure for (27a) is given in the tree-diagram (27b):

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27b.

```
                        C"
                      /    \
                  Spec      C'
                   |       /  \
                   |      C    I"
                   |      |   /  \
                   |      | Spec  I'
                   |      |  |   /  \
                   |      |  |  I    V"
                   |      |  |  |   /  \
                   |      |  |  | Spec  V'1
                   |      |  |  |  |   /   \
                   |      |  |  |  | V'2   P"
                   |      |  |  |  | / \   / \
                   |      |  |  |  |V  N" P'  N"
                   |      |  |  |  ||  |  |  / \
                   |      |  |  |  ||  |  P N'  I"
                   |      |  |  |  ||  |  |  |  / \
                   |      |  |  |  ||  |  |  N Spec I'
                   |      |  |  |  ||  |  |  |  |  / \
                   |      |  |  |  ||  |  |  |  | I   V
                   |      |  |  |  ||  |  |  |  | |   |
                   |      |  |  |  ||  |  |  |  | |   V'
                   |      |  |  |  ||  |  |  |  | |  / \
                   |      |  |  |  ||  |  |  |  | | V   P"
```
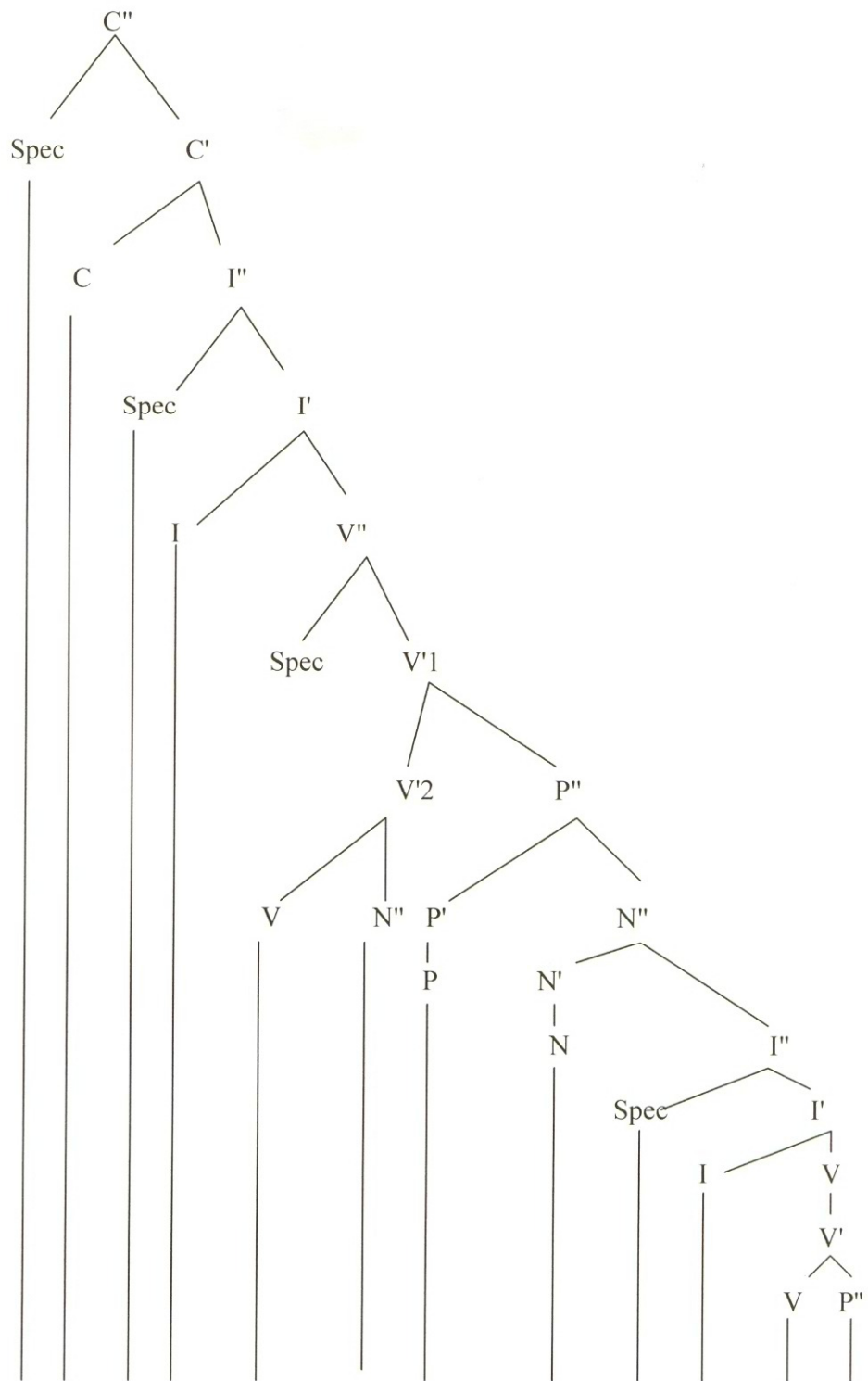
?anta e   ?iqra? al-Qur'an bi ?ismi rabbika allathi a   khalaq kulla
   Al-makhluuqaati

In (27b), the verb *?iqra?* 'read' governs the argument N" *al-Qur'an* 'the Qur'an' and the adjunct P" *bi ?ismi rabbika allathi khalaqa kulla al-makhluuqaati* 'by the name of your Lord who created all creatures' under V". It assigns the former the theta role of theme and the latter the theta role of instrument due to its overt occurrence. This adjunct is a clause in which the N" *allathi* 'who' is assigned the theta role of gent by the whole V" *khalaqa kulla al-makhluuqaati* 'created all creatures'. The verb *khalaqa* 'created' assigns the theta role of theme to its object argument *al-makhluuqaati* 'all creatures'. It is evident that the whole V" *?iqra? Al-Qur'an bi?ismi rabbika allathi khalaqa kulla al-makhluuqaati* 'read the Qur'an by the name of your Lord who created all creatures' assigns the theta role of agent to the subject argument *?anta* 'you' at the D-structure. To meet the requirement of word order of Classical Arabic at LF and PF, the verb *?iqra?* has to move to the node [I] by V-adjunction to check the present tense and becomes *?iqra?* 'read' and then to the position of [C, C] to initiate the sentence in VSO order as in the S-structure (27c).

27c. S-structure
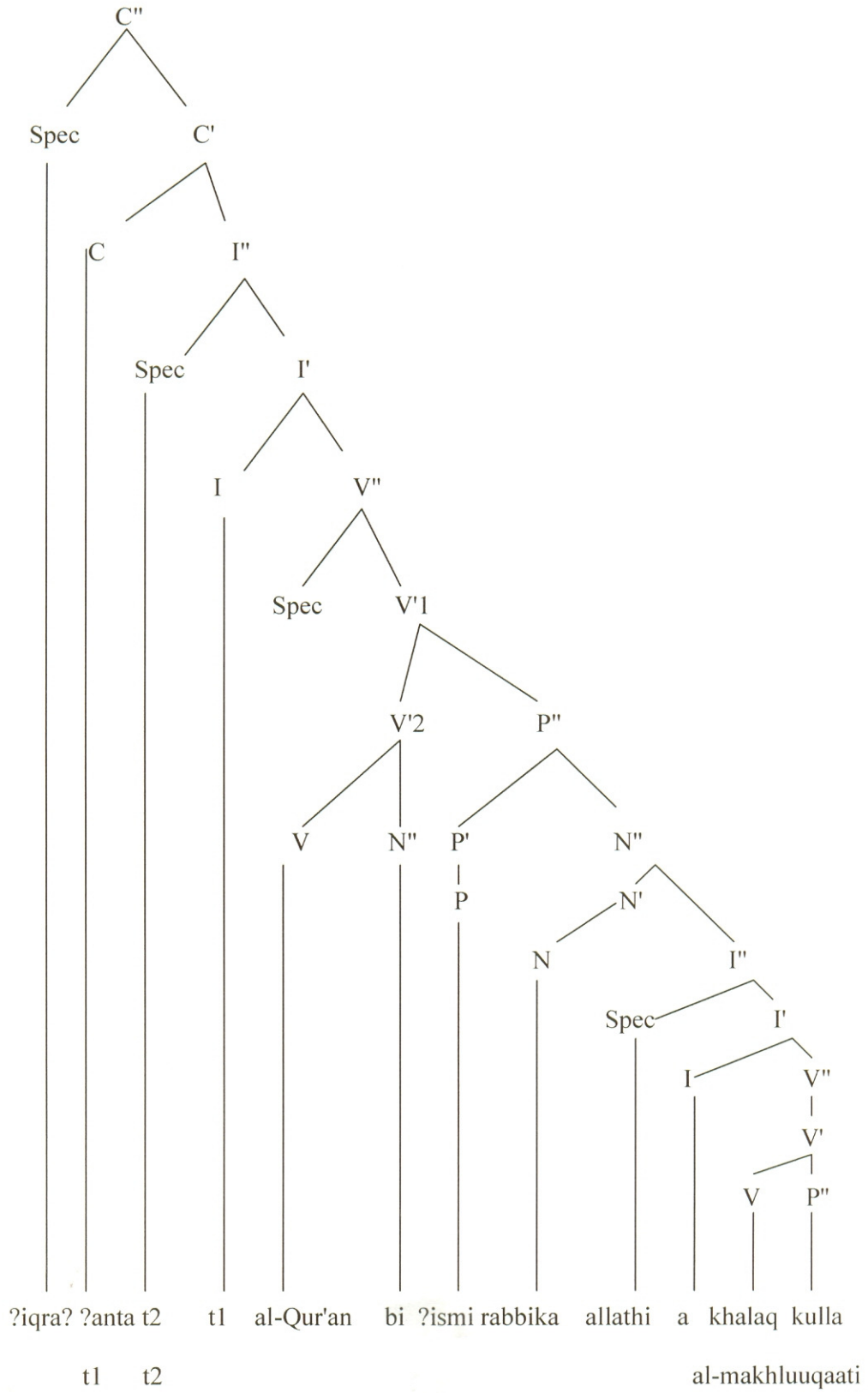
To get the PF, the subject N" *?anta* 'you', the object N" *al-Qur'an* 'the Qura'n', *kulla al-makhluuqaati* 'all creatures' and the traces must be omitted as in the PF (27d)

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27d. PF
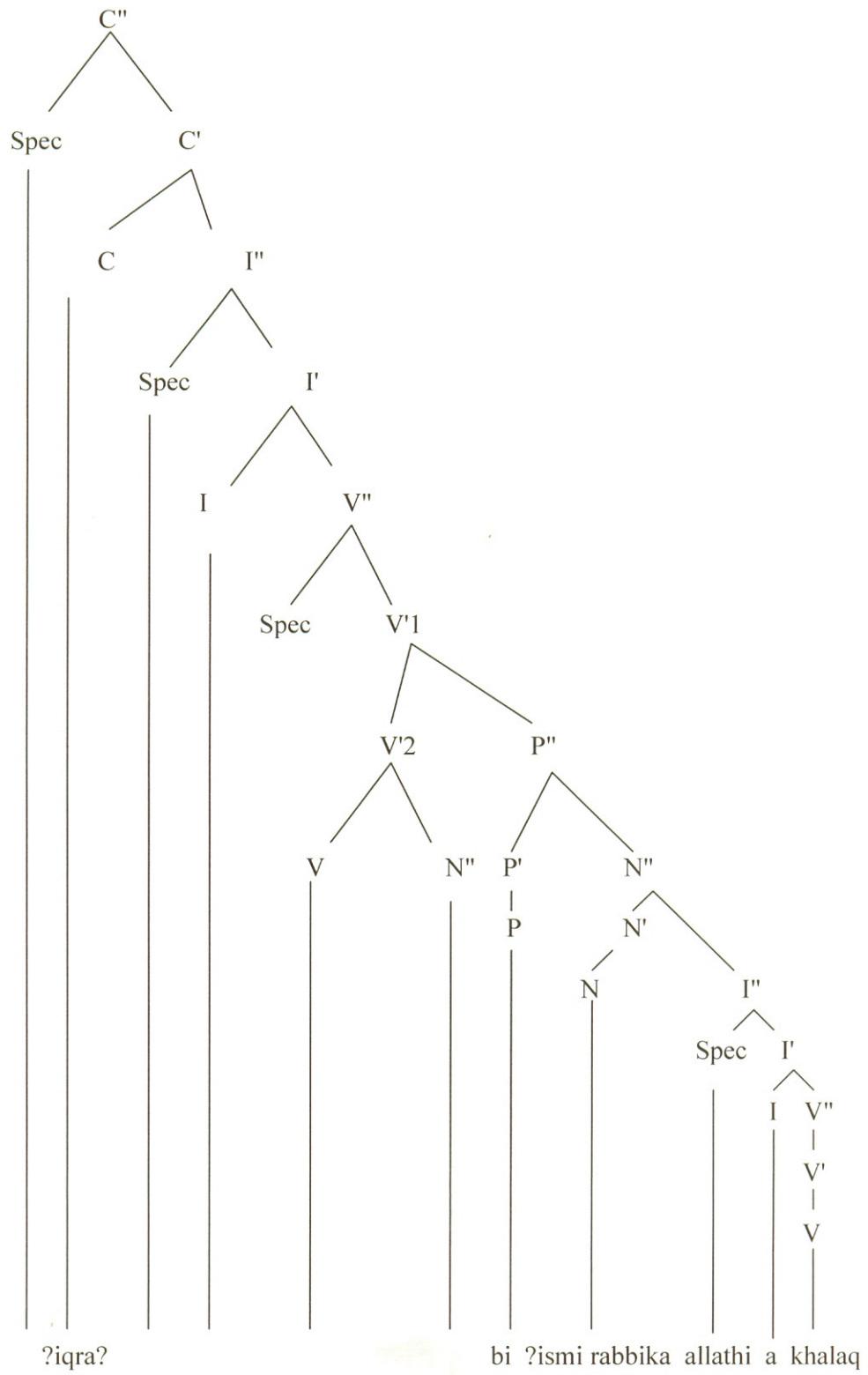
In short, it is evident that the significance of V-movement in Arabic syntax is to posit the constituents of the sentence in the correct order in PF and LF, so that it does not violate the word order of Arabic, and it can be applied in Classical Arabic Language.

If the researcher compares this section to the relevant literature, she will follow Jalabneh's (2007 and 2010) views on government of the theta roles at D-structure.

The researcher agrees with Assila (2007) and Jalabneh (2007, 2010) in the concept of extended projection principle and the level which the theta roles are assigned.

4.3. Theta Criterion in Suurat Al- ᶜAlaq at D-structure

Theta criterion is a mechanism of theta theory that accounts for each argument to be assigned a theta role in exactly one theta position and each assignable theta role to be assigned to one and only one argument in a sentence can be applied to Classical Arabic Language. The researcher examines the efficiency of the theta criterion in maintaining the meaning of Suurat Al-ᶜalaq as it is at the logical form. According to the definition of theta criterion, only an argument of the head of V" can fill up a theta position in the thematic structure and the argument can be internal or external to the V". The expletives 'it' and 'there' are non arguments and can occupy only non theta position; thus, they are not theta marked. The theta criterion depends on the projection principle which guarantees the attendance of comparable representations at all syntactic levels. As these syntactic representations are required by the verb at all levels of syntax levels, an N" cannot move from a θ -position to another θ-position and at the same time cannot take two theta roles. Thus, the theta criterion is met at the level of S-structure because of theta-chain mechanism which confirms that each 8-chain must bear one θ-role. The examples illustrate the application of the mechanism of theta criterion to Suurat Al-ᶜalaq to indicate the unique assignment of a theta role to an argument in the thematic structure of a verb. The verb *yakhluq* 'to create' is visible in Ayat (2) *khalaqa al-?insaana min* *ᶜalaq* has the D-structure representation in (28):

28a. [I" Allahu [v" [v [v khalaq   a   [N" al   ?insaana]   [P" min   ᶜalaq]]]]].

　　　　God　　　　create　past　　det　　man　　　　　from　clots

　　　　　　　　　　'God created man from clots'

In (28a), the V" *khalaqa al-?insaana min* ᶜ*alaq* 'God created man from clots' assigns the theta role of agent to the external argument *Allahu* 'God'. The verb *khalaqa* 'created' m-commands the complement N" *al-?insaana* 'man' in V" and

assigns it the theta role of theme. Likewise, it m-commands the P" *min ^calaq* 'from

clots' and assigns it the theta roles of source. The S-structure of (28a) is (28b).

28b. [c [c" [c' [c khalaqa tl,t2 [I" [spec Allahu [I t2 [v" [v' [v t₁   al- ?insaana

min ^calaq]]]]]]]]].

　　　To get the LF representation for (28b), the external argument *Allahu* 'God' is

to be deleted as in (28c).

28c. khalaqa　　al　　?insaana　　min　　^calaq.

　　created　　det　　man　　from　　clots.

　　　The theory of theta criterion can be applied to the rest of ayats. For instance

the ***verb*** *yara* 'to see' explained in (8) has the D-structure (29a):

29a. [r [spec al ?insaanu [v" [v' [v ra?　　a　　[N"　　nafsahu/or hu]]]]]].

　　　　　det　man　　　　see　past　　himself

　　　　　　'He saw himself'

　　　In (29b), the verb *yara* m-commands its complement N" *nafsahu* 'himself in

V"; it is assigned the theta role of theme. It is evident that the whole V" *ra?a*

nafsahu 'saw himself assigns the theta role of agent to the subject argument *al-*

?insaanu 'man' at the D-structure [spec, I"]. The S-structure representation of (29a)

is shown in (29b):

29b. [c" [c' [c　　ra? a tl,t2　[I" [spec al- ?insaanu [I t2 [v" [v [v tl [N"- nafsahu/ or

hu]]]]]]]].

　　　　　　　　　'He saw himself

　　　To get the LF form, the subject N" *al-?insaanu* 'he' must be deleted as in

(29c).

29c ra?a　　-hu

　　saw　　himself

The researcher gives another example in which the verb ᶜ*allama* 'taught' is used in (6) and it has the D-structure (30a):

30a. [I" [spec Allahu [V [v [v ᶜallam -a [N" al- ?insaana [c"   maa   lam

         God   teach past det   man   what   he did not

yaᶜlam]]]]]]].

know'.

In (30a), the verb ᶜ*allama* 'taught' m-commands its complement the N" *al-?insaana* 'man' and the C" *maa lam yaᶜlam* 'what he did not know' in V"; they are assigned the theta roles of goal and theme respectively. The whole V" ᶜ*allama al-?insaana maa lam yaᶜlam* 'taught man what he did not know' assigns the theta role of agent to the subject argument *Allahu* 'God' in the position of [spec, I"]. The S-structure representation of (30a) is shown in (30b):

30b. [c" [c' [c ᶜallam a tl,t2 [I'[spec Allahu [I t2 [v" [v [v tl [N"- al-?insaana[C"

maa lam yaᶜlam]]]]]]]]]]].

'He taught man what he did not know'

The LF representation is formed by the deletion of the external argument *Allahu* 'God' as is shown in (30c):

30c. ᶜallam   a   al-   ?insaana   maa   lam   yaᶜlam

      Teach past det   man   what   he did not   know'

'Taught man what he did not know'

In short, it is evident that each theta role is assigned to an argument and each argument bears one and only one theta role at D-structure. Thus, the theta criterion can be applied to Classical Arabic Language by which the ayats are written.

If the researcher compares this work to the relevant literature, it is evident that there is an agreement with Jalabneh (2007 and 2010) with regard to the concept

of theta criterion in English syntax. Jalabneh (2007) argues that the concept of theta criterion is fit in English at D-structure in the sense that in the sentence 'Aziz gave a book to Zaid' the N" 'Aziz' is assigned only theta role of agent, the N" 'a book' the theta role of theme and the P" to 'Zaid' the theta role of goal respectively. In other words, no multiple theta assignment is possible at D- structure or else the LF will be confusing.

4.4. Theta Absorption in Suurat AL-^cAlaq

The concept of theta Absorption is a mechanism of theta theory that accounts for the absorbed arguments by the verb at the level of the D-structure. The absorbed arguments cannot be visible at S-structure because the verbs used have the ability to recover them. In other words though the verbs are transitive but they can stand without complements. Arguments are those complements which are essential arguments for the grammaticality of the sentence; they include, N", P", I" and C". Complements can be overt and expressed by the verb in all levels of syntax. In such a case there is no kind of absorption whereas complements can be covert but can be recovered by the verb. In this case there is absorption. The researcher examines the adequacy of the theta absorption on Suurat Al-^calaq depending on the verb used.

4.4.1. The Absorption of the Theme

The theme is the argument that undergoes certain action. This theme can be of a generic sense and of a specific sense. The verb *?iqra?* 'read ', in Ayat (1), has the D-structure (31a) and S-structure (31b) which explains the process of absorption of the specific theme.

D-structure

31 a. ?anta [_v ?qra?   Al   Qur'an   bi   ?ismi   rabbi   ka   al-ladhi

you   read   det Qur'an   in the name of Lord   your   who

khalaq kulla   al-makhluuqaati].

created   all   creatures.

'You read Qur'an in the name of your lord who created all creatures'

S-structure

31b. ?qra?   bi   ?ismi   rabbi ka al-ladhi   khalaq

read   in the name of lord   your   who   created

'Read in the name of your lord who created'

LF

31C. ?qra?   bi   ?ismi   rabbi   ka   al-ladhi   khalaq

read   in   the name of lord   your   who   created

'Read in the name of your lord who created'

In (31a), the theme is overt and specified *al-Qur'an* 'the Qur'an' (c.f. Al-Saabuunii, 2001, 3, p. 554, Sayyid Qutub, 1982, 6, p.3938, Ibn Hayyaan, 2001, 8, p.488, Al-Qurtubii, 2000, 10, p. 81, Al-Barwaswii, 2003, 10, p. 481). It is also visible that the verb *khalaqa* 'created' has the overt theme *kulla al-makhluuqaati*' all creatures'. In (31b) and (31c), the verb *?iqra?* 'read' absorbs the theme which is of a specific reference as the Glorious Qur'an but nothing else. Likewise, the verb *khalaqa* 'created' absorbs the theme which is of a generic reference in the Ayat. It is obvious that the subject *?anta* 'you / Mohammad' is omitted this Ayat because it is in the imperative form.

However, the absorption of the theme can be of a generic reference as in Ayat (5) in which the verb *ᶜallama* 'taught' is used.

D- structure

32a.Rabbu   ka   [ᵥ"   ᶜallam   a   kulla   man   kataba al-   kitaabata

Lord   your   teach   past   everyone who wrote det   writing

wa   al   -kha<u>tt</u>a   bi   al   qalami].

and det   calligraphy by   det   pen.

'Your lord taught everyone who wrote writing and calligraphy by the pen'

S- Structure

32b. ᶜallam   a   bi   al   qalami.

'teach   past   by   the   pen'

'taught by the pen'

LF

32c. ᶜallam   a   bi   al   qalami.

'teach   past   by   the   pen'

'taught by the pen'

In (32a), the theme *kulla man kataba al-kitaabata wa al-khatta* 'everyone who wrote the writing and the calligraphy' is overt and it has the structure of I" and of a generic reference because there is no particular name of a person in the tafsiir. In (32b) and (32c), the verb *ᶜallama* 'taught' absorbs this theme leaving the sentence grammatical. In this I", the verb *kataba* 'wrote' is also a transitive that c-selects the object argument [*al-kitaabata wa al-khatta* 'the writing and the calligraphy']. This theme is also absorbed at the S-structure and LF. It has a generic reference because there is no particular kind of writing mentioned in the Ayat. It is evident that the subject *rabbu-ka* 'your God' is deleted at the LF without changing the grammaticality of the Ayat. This kind of deletion cannot be regarded a kind of theta absorption because it is not c-selected by the verb *ᶜallama* 'taught'.

The researcher gives another example to show the absorption of the theme in which the verbs *yara* ' to see' and *yanhaa* 'to forbid' in (11) has the D-structure (33a) and S- structure (33 b):

D-structure

33a. ta   ?ara?ai - o   al   ᶜabda   al   shaqai   allathi   yanhaa

     you   see   past det   man   det   rascal   who   forbid

                         'Mohammad saw the rascal man'

S-structure

33b.a ?arai   ta   allathi   yanhaa

       have seen   you   who   forbid

       'Have you seen him Who forbids?'

LF

33c.a ?arai   ta   allathi   yanhaa

       have seen   you   who   forbid

       'Have you seen him Who forbids?'

In (33a), the verb *yara* 'see' projects the complement theme *al ᶜabda al shaqai* 'the rascal man'. The theme is absorbed by the respective verb as in (33b) and (33c). This theme is of a generic reference because there is no particular name that refers to the rascal man in the Ayat. Similar examples in which the theme is absorbed are as follows:

The verb *yaᶜlam* 'to know', in (6), has the D-structure in (34a), S-structure (34b) and the LF (34c):

D- Structure

34a. allah   ᶜllam -a   al   ?insaana   maa   lam   pro   yaᶜlam   al   ᶜuluuma

God   teach past det man   what   did not he   know det sciences

'He taught man what he did not know'

S- Structure

34b. allah   ᶜllam   -a   al - ?insaana   maa   lam   pro   yaᶜlam.

God   teach   past det   man   what   not   he   know

'He taught man what he did not know'

LF

34c.ᶜllam   -a   al   ?insaana   maa   lam   yaᶜlam.

teach   past det   man   what   not   know

'He taught man what he did not know'

The verb *yaᶜlam* 'know' is a transitive verb and c-selects the complement *al -ᶜuluuma* 'the sciences' at the D-structure to fulfill the requirement of the projection principle. This argument has been absorbed by the verb used as in (34b) and (34c) without damaging the correctness of the Ayat.

The verb *yara* 'to see', in (11), has the D-structure in (35a), S-structure (35b) and LF (35b):

D-structure

35a. Muhammed   ra?a   a   al ᶜabda al   shaqai

Mohammed   see   past det man det   rascal

allathi   yanhaa

who   forbids

'Mohammad saw the rascal man'

S-Structure

35b. ?ara?a   allathi   yanhaa

Saw   who   forbids

'Have you seen him who forbids?'

LF

35b. ?ara?a   allathi   yanhaa

       Saw   who   forbids

'Have you seen him who forbids?'

The verb *yara* 'see' is a transitive verb and requires the complement *al-ᶜabda al - shaqai'* the rascal man' as its object. This N" is absorbed by the respective verb in S-structure (35b) and LF (35c).

The verb *yara* 'to see', in (13), has the D-structure in (36a), S-structure (36b) and LF in (36c):

D- Structure

36a. al   ᶜabda   al   shaqai   ra?a   a   al   ᶜabda   al   saalih

     Det   man   det   rascal   see   past det   man   det   pious

     ?in   kaana ᶜala   al-   hudaa

     ?in   kaana ᶜala   al-   hudaa

                    'The rascal man saw the pious man'

S-Structure

36b. ?ara?a   ?in   kaana   ᶜala   al-   hudaa

     have you seen   in case he is   upon   det   guidance?

                    'Have you seen in case he is upon guidance?'

LF

36b. ?ara?a   ?in   kaana   ᶜala   al-   hudaa

have you seen   in case   he is   upon   det   guidance?

                    'Have you seen in case he is upon guidance?'

The verb *yara* 'see' c-selects the N" *al - ᶜabda al - saalih* 'the pious man' as its argument object at the D-structure (36a). This argument has the theta role of

theme which is of a generic reference; it is absorbed by the same verb at the S-structure (36b) and LF (36c) without changing the correctness of the Ayat.

The verb y a r a 'to see', in Ayat (14), has the D-structure in (37a), S-structure and LF in (37c).

D- Structure

37a al   ᶜabd   al   shaqai   yaᶜlam   bi?anna

  det   man   det   rascal   know   that

 allaha   yara   aḥwalahu

 allah   sees   his status

                'The rascal man knows that Allah sees his status'

S-Structure

37b. yaᶜlam   bi?anna   allaha   yara

    know present   that   Allah   sees

                        'Sees his status'

LF

37b. yaᶜlam   bi?anna   allaha   yara

    know   present   that   Allah   sees

                        'Sees his status'

In (37a), the verb *yara* 'to see' is a transitive verb and c-selects the object *aḥwalahu* 'his status' as it theme. It is absorbed by its verb *yara* as in (37b) and LF (37c). the absorption of this theme does not cause the ungrammaticality of the Ayat at LF.

In short, the theme of the generic reference is absorbed in the Ayats (32-37); it is recovered by the verb used at other levels of syntax. Its being absorbed does not change the grammaticality of the Ayats at such levels.

4.4.2. Theta Absorption of Goal

The goal is the entity toward which something moves. The goal can either be of a generic or a specific sense. The verb *yuᶜallimu* ' to teach' has the D-structure (38), the S-structure (38b) and LF (38c) in which the theta role of goal is absorbed.

D-structure

38a. allathi   ᶜallam-   a   kuttaba/ kullaman kataba   bi   al-   qalami

who   teach   past   writers/ everyone who wrote by   det   pen

'Who taught by the pen'

S-Structure

38b. allathi   ᶜallam-   a   bi   al-   qalami

who   teach   past   by   det   pen

'Who taught by the pen'

LF

38c. allathi   ᶜallam-   a   bi   al-   qalami

who   teach   past   by   det   pen

'Who taught by the pen'

The verb *ᶜallama* 'taught', in Ayat (4), c- selects the goal the N" *kuttaba/ kullaman kataba* 'writers/ or everyone who wrote' as an overt argument. This particular goal is absorbed at the S-structure (38b) and the logical form (38c) without changing the grammaticality of the Ayat.

Likewise, the verb *y?muru* 'to command', in Ayat (12), has the D-structure (39a), the S-structure (39b) and LF (39c) which illustrates the absorption of the goal.

D-structure

39a. al-   ᶜabdu   al-   <u>s</u>aali<u>h</u>   ?amar   a   al-   naasa   bi

Det   man   det   pious   command   past   det   people   to

al-taqwaa.

piety.

'He commanded people to piety'.

S-structure

39b. ?amar   a   bi   al-   taqwaa

command   past   to   det   piety

'He commanded to piety'.

LF

39c. ?amar   a   bi   al-   taqwaa

command   past   to   det   piety

'He commanded to piety'.

In (39a), the verb *?amra* 'commanded' c-selects the overt goal which is the argument N" *al-naasa* 'people' . In (39b), this goal is absorbed by the same verb without changing the correctness of the Ayat; this goal is of a generic reference because the agent *al ᶜabdu al s̲aalih̲* 'the pious man' is not commanding specific names of people. It is obvious that the deletion of the agent at S-structure and LF cannot be regarded as absorption because it occurs outside the domain of the V" *bi al-taqwaa?antra* 'commanded to piety'.

In short, the goal is represented by the N"s *al-naasa* 'the people' and *kuttaba /kullaman kataba* 'writers/ everyone who wrote' at the D-structures of the Ayats (38) and (39) as they constitute arguments for the verbs used respectively. Such verbs have the ability to construct grammatical Ayats though these goals are covert at LF since they can recover them.

4.4.3. Theta Absorption of Instrument

The Instrument is the entity which is used to bring about something. The researcher gives example (40) in which the verb *yanhaa* 'to forbid', in Ayat (9), has the D-structure (40a), S-structure (40b) and LF (40c).

D- structure

40a.   ta   ?ara?ai   o   al   ᶜabda   al   shaqai

  you see past det man det rascal

       'Mohammad saw the rascal man'

allathi   [$_{v''}$ yanhaa   o   al   ᶜabda   al   <u>s</u>aali<u>h</u>

who forbid pres. det man det pious

 ᶜani   al-   <u>s</u>alaa<u>h</u>].

from performing det prayer

   'The rascal man forbids the pious man from performing the prayer'

S-structure

40b.a ?arai ta allathi yanhaa

 have seen you who forbid present

    'Have you seen him Who forbids'

LF

40c.a ?arai ta allathi yanhaa

 have seen you who forbid present

    'Have you seen him Who forbids'

In (40a), the verb *yanhaa* 'forbids' projects the instrument ᶜ*an al-<u>s</u>alaah* 'form performing the prayer'. The instrument is absorbed by the verb *yanhaa* 'forbids' as in (40b) and (40c). The instrument is of a specific reference because the

target of the agent is deviate the theme from doing good deeds i.e from perform in the prayer' in this specific situation (.c.f. Al-Sabuunii, 2001, 3, p555 and Qutub, 1982, 6, p. 3942).

In short, the absorption of the theta role of the instrument is not multiple in the Suurat.

To sum up;

It is evident that theta absorption is a mechanism which focuses on the analysis of the internal arguments of theme at D-structure which are absorbed at S-structure. The absorption can be of a generic or specific reference. Thus, the theta absorption can be applied to Classical Arabic Language by which the Ayats are written. If the researcher compares this work to the relevant literature, it is evident that there is a common sense with Jalabneh (2010) with regard to the concept of theta absorption. Jalabneh (2010) argues that the concept of theta absorption is fit in Modern Standard Arabic; he categorizes Arabic verbs that can absorb an essential argument on the basis of the nature of the theta role that they can absorb. In the example below the theme is absorbed and it is not specified.

41. ya? kul   -u   zaid   - un   bainama   ?ummu -   hu

    eat   pres   Zaid   nom   while   mother   his

takwi   al-   malaabisa

ironing   det   clothes

       'Zaid eats while the mother is ironing the clothes'

(42) is grammatical even though the theme is absorbed; it is understood as something edible. In other words, the verb absorbs the internal arguments whether it is generic or specific.

Chapter Five

Conclusions and Recommendations

5.0. Conclusions

Insofar as the theoretical literature is concerned it was obvious that the focus of explaining the thematic relations between an argument and the verb in a sentence was represented by the theory of Government and Binding proposed by Chomsky (1981 and (1986in which he suggested subcomponents of the theory of thematic relations which are discussed as (i) each theta role is determined and assigned by the lexical property of its head, (ii) the theta role is assigned at D- structure, (iii) each argument is assigned a theta role in exactly one theta position and each assignable theta role is assigned to one and only one argument according to theta criterion.(iv) an NP can be absorbed by its predicate if this predicate is able to reflect it at the logical form (theta absorption). Insofar as the theta absorption is concerned it was obvious that an essential argument must be absorbed by a transitive verb in a sentence so that the absorbed argument can be recovered by the use verb at all levels of syntax. It was obvious that complements are essential arguments which may or may not be absorbed. It was obvious that the absorbed can either be of a specific or a generic reference of the theme.

Ever since, the theory of thematic relations had been posited by Chomsky in (1981), there were a number of studies done in syntax to account for the syntactic and semantic relations between arguments and predicates in various languages; thus, the focus of this work is to discuss the syntactic and semantic relations between arguments and their predicates of Suurat Al- ^{c}alaq of the Glorious Qur'an by applying all conditions of this theory to it and finding out the hidden items at D-structure that help us find the correct interpretation of the Ayats at the logical form of the same Suurat.

Insofar as the empirical literature was concerned, there were a number of studies done in different languages to account for such relations from different perspective; for instance, there was a solid agreement with Assila (2007) in the sense that there are various types of theta roles which are assigned at D-structure. They include agent, experiencer, theme, goal, recipient, source, location and instrument which are also discussed in this work. The researcher agrees with Jalabneh (2007) classifying the Arabic verb into categories on the bases of their theta roles, e.g., intransitive verbs need one essential argument. This argument can be agent if it is volitional but if it is non-volitional, it is the experiencer. It can also assign the theta role of theme in other syntactic situations. Transitive verbs need two essential arguments. Verbs of inchoative, accomplishment and achievement take agent and theme; whereas, some verbs of achievement and motion take agent and goal rather than agent and theme. Some verbs of motion take agent and accompaniment. Some verbs of physical and mental perception and some emotive verbs take experiencer and theme in their theta grid. The verbs that need three arguments have something in common; they take agent and theme in their first two argument positions but different with regard to the third. For instance, verbs of exchange take goal, verbs indicating location take location and *yahuthu* 'to persuade' type verbs take experiencer. There was an agreement with Jalabneh (2010) in the validity of thematic relations in reinforcing the translated meaning of some collocations of *Suurat Al-Shams*. Such notions are abstract but need to be checked at spell out to get theta roles. If any of the checked theta role is omitted at any level, the resulting Ayat is ungrammatical. The checked theta roles are agent, theme, instrument and goal. They are assigned either to N", I", P" or C."

Insofar as the empirical literature of theta criterion is concerned, the researcher agreed with Assila (2007) with reference to the concept of theta criterion. It was obvious for him in French that arguments must be assigned different theta roles; however, if one theta role is assigned to two arguments or two theta roles are assigned to one argument, the resulting sentence is ungrammatical as it is a direct violation to the principle of theta criterion. The researcher agreed with Jalabneh (2007) in the sense that in Modern Standard Arabic every argument is assigned one and only one theta role and each theta role is assigned to one and only one argument whether the structure is active or passive. In other words, in passive structures the N" must get a theta role at D-structure before movement takes place to the subject position to form a theta chain. Insofar as he empirical literature of theta absorption is concerned, the researcher agreed with Jalabneh (2007) in the sense that not every argument which is not visible at LF is deleted. In other words, there are syntactic situations in which an argument is absorbed due to the fact that it can be recovered by the transitive verbs used in the sentence. However, if an argument is deleted it can not be recovered by the verb because it is not projected syntactically to constitute an argument of its theta grid. He categorized verbs that can absorb the theta role of theme which could be of specific or generic reference. Not only can but also the can be absorbed whether it is a generic or specific reference. The theta role of source also can be absorbed and may be of a generic or specific reference. The theta role of location can also be absorbed and may indicate a generic or specific reference. The theta role of instrument is absorbed and indicates either a generic or specific reference.

What made this study new and different is that it showed that theta roles are of a great significance to confirm the sanctity and miraculous nature of the Glorious Qur'an in the sense that theta roles give meaning not only at D-structure but also at logical

form. The study revealed that there were hidden meanings attached to arguments revealed only by following the concept of thematic relation. This is visible when the researcher applied the concept of theta absorption to the Suurat. It showed that a transitive verb used in certain Ayat has the ability to absorb the theme as it is reflected by it whether the meaning is generic or specific.

The researcher wrote explicitly, in this chapter, the answers to the questions proposed for this study after getting them analyzed in the previous chapter. The answers are as follows:

1-How each theta role is determined by the lexical property of its head?

After through investigation in this field, the researcher found out that each verb in the Ayats of Suurat Al- ᶜalaq has a specific theta grid in which a number of theta roles are assigned under government. For instance, the verb *yaqra?* 'to read' in (1) takes agent and theme, the verb *yakhluq* 'to create' in (2) takes agent and theme only; whereas and the verb *yakhluq* 'to create' in (3) takes agent theme. Furthermore, the verb *yakimnu* 'to be' in (4) takes theme as it is an intransitive verb. The verb *yuallimu* 'to teach' in (5) takes agent, goal and theme and the verb *yuᶜallimu* 'to teach' in (6) takes agent, goal and theme. The verb *yatgha* 'to overstep all bounds' in (7)takes agent; however, the verb *yara* 'to see' as in (8) takes agent and theme. The verb *yastaghni* 'to become self-sufficient' in (9) takes agent. Likewise, the verb *yakuunu* 'to be' in (10) takes theme. The verb *yara* 'to see' in (11) has the theta role of agent and theme. However, the verb *yusalli* 'to pray' in (12) has agent. The verb *yara* 'to see' in (13) takes agent and theme but the verb *ya?muru* 'to command' in (14) take agent and theme. The verb *yukadhdhibu* 'to cry lie' in (15) has agent in its theta grid. Similarly, the verbs *yatawalla* 'to turn away' in (16) has agent while *yaᶜlam* 'to know' as in (17) take agent and theme. The verb *yantahi* 'to refrain' in (18) takes agent whereas the verb *yasfaᶜ* 'to trail' in (19) takes

agent and theme. The verb *yakuunu* 'to be' in (20) takes the theta role of theme as it is an intransitive verb. The verbs *yadᶜu* 'to call' in (21) and *yadᶜu* u 'to call' in (22) takes agent and theme. The verb *yuṯiiᶜ* 'to obey', in (23), takes agent and goal and the verb *yasjud* 'to prostrate oneself 'in worship' takes agent as in (24). And finally, the verb *yaqtaribu* 'to draw near' in (25)takes agent as it is an intransitive verb.

2-At what level are theta roles assigned under government?

It is evident from the analysis n chapter four that each theta role in the Ayat of Suurt Al-ᶜalaq is assigned at the level of D-structure under government. According to the projection principle all lexical representations of the Ayats posited at the level of D-structure are eligible for government. It was proved that theta role bearers in the Suurah are N", P", I" and C". They must occupy theta positions in the theta grid in order to be checked; in the contrary, adjectives, prepositions and adverbs are non theta role bearers. For the concept of government to be applied, V must govern all arguments that bear theta roles in the internal positions. To do so the researcher followed the theory of V-movement proposed by Jalabneh (2007) according which case the D-structure is dealt with SVO as in (26d). In this Ayat, the subject precedes the verb ?*amara* 'commanded' and the object occurs after it. After the verb assigns correct theta roles to its arguments it has to move to the initial positions of [C, C] as in (26)f in order to meet the requirement of the word order of Arabic at the logical form which is VSO. Other syntactic derivation like the deletion of the subject takes place after theta marking that is at LF. These two concepts of government and V-movement are applied to the rest of the Ayat as in (27) as another specimen of the analysis.

3-How each argument is assigned a theta role in exactly one theta position and each assignable theta role is assigned to one and only one argument in a sentence?

It was proved that each argument is assigned one theta role and each theta role is assigned to one and only one argument at D-structure to avoid confusion at the interpretation of the Ayats at the logical form. For instance, in (28a), the verb *khalaqa* assigns the theta role of theme to the object complement *al-?insaana* 'man' and the theta role of source to the adjunct P" *min ^calaq* ' from clots' in the maximal projection V". Such theta roles are maintained not only at D-structure but also at S-structure (28b) and the logical form (28c). The concept of theta criterion is very essential in syntax and thus it is applied to the rest of the Ayats as in (29 and 30) as specimens.

4- How does the theory of theta absorption account for the covert theta roles?

It was proved that theta absorption accounts for the absorbed arguments by the verb at the level of the D-structure. The absorbed arguments cannot be visible at S-structure because the verbs used have the ability to recover them. It was decided that arguments of the Ayats are complements which are essential arguments for the grammaticality of the Ayats. They include N", P", I" and C". Complements can be either overt or expressed by the use verb at all levels of syntax. In such case there is no kind of absorption, however, complements can be covert and recovered by the verb and thus there is absorption. For instance, the verb *?iqra?* 'read' in (31 b) absorbed the theme al-Qur'an 'the-Qur'an' which is of a specific reference. Likewise, the verb *khalaqa* 'created' absorbed the theme *kulla al makhluuqaati* ' all creatures '. Whereas, the verb ^c*allama* 'taught' in (32b) absorbed the theme *kulla man kataba al-kitabata wa al-khatta* 'everyone who wrote the writing and the calligraphy' which has a generic reference. Furthermore, the verb *yara* ' to see' in (33 b) absorbed the theme *al ^cabda al shaqai*' the rascal man' which has a generic reference. Also, the verb *ya^clam* 'to know' in (34b) absorbed the theme *maa lamya^clam* ' what he didn't know' which has generic reference.

The verb *yara* 'to see' as in (35b) absorbed the theme *al ᶜabda al shaqai* ' the rascal man' which is of a generic reference. However, the verb *yara* 'to see' in (36) absorbed the generic theme *al-ᶜabda al-ṣaaliḫ* 'the pious man'. The verb *yaᶜlam* 'to know', in (37b), absorbed the generic theme *ahwalahu* 'his status'. The theta role of goal is absorbed in this Suurat. For instance, in (38), the verb *ᶜallama* 'taught' absorbed the entity *kuttaaba / kullaman kataba* 'writers/ everyone who wrote' which is of a generic reference. Likewise, in (39), *?amara* 'command' absorbs the goal *al -naasa* 'the people' which is also of a generic reference. The theta role of instrument is also absorbed as in (40). The verb *yanhaa* 'forbids' absorbs the instrument *ᶜani al- salaah* ' from performing the prayer'.

To sum up, this work tried to test the validity of the thematic relation in CA (Quranic Arabic) syntax and semantics, The researcher found that it was the case. The researcher looked at the nineteen Ayat of Suurat AL-ᶜalaq which include various types of V". The study revealed that theta roles is determined by the V" which governs them at D-structure and each argument is assigned one theta role and each theta role is assigned to one and only one argument at D-structure. Another area is that theta absorption takes place at D-structure. The absorbed arguments cannot be visible at S-structure because the used verbs are able to recover them. The arguments of the Ayats are essential arguments which are complements.

5.1. Recommendations

The researcher recommends that other scholars conduct similar studies in syntax and semantics in other fields. For those who are interested in syntax and semantics, the researcher advises that they to study other theories and sub-theories of Government and Binding theory of Chomsky (1981 and 1986) and apply them to Arabic syntax in order to analyze it from different visions. She also recommends that scholars use thematic relations and apply them to other types of languages because the theory is universal.

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Appendix A

Transliteration of Written Arabic

Arabic	Transliteration	Phonetic	Arabic	Transliteration	Phonetic
أ	?	?	ض	<u>d</u>	
ب	b	b	ط	<u>t</u>	<u>t</u>
ت	t	t	ظ	<u>z</u>	<u>ð</u>
ث	th	θ	ع	ʕ	ʕ
ج	j	d₃	غ	gh	ʁ
ح	<u>h</u>	ħ	ف	f	f
خ	kh	x	ق	q	q
د	d	d	ك	k	k
ذ	dh	ð	ل	l	l
ر	r	r	م	m	m
ز	z	z	ن	n	n
س	s	s	ه	h	h
ش	sh	ʃ	و	w	w
ص	<u>s</u>	χ	ي	y	y

(Jalabneh, 2010, p.16)

The researcher used only the transliteration forms, but not the phonetic symbols, in this study.

Appendix B

Arabic Vowels

High	i: /ii		u:/uu
	I/i		U /u
Mid			
Low	a	ai au	
	a: /aa		

Daoud (2009, p. 121)

Appendix C

Abbreviations

A":	Adjective phrase
Adj:	Adjective
Adv":	Adverb phrase
Adv:	Adverb
C":	Complementizer phrase
C.A:	Classical Arabic (Quranic Arabic)
C.O.L.A:	Colloquial Arabic
D-structure:	Deep structure
EPP:	Extended projection principle
G.B. theory:	Government and Binding Theory
I":	Infinitival phrase
Infl:	Inflection
LF:	Logical form
M.S.A:	Modern Standard Arabic
NP:	Noun phrase
PF:	Phonetic form
Prep:	Preposition
S-structure:	Surface structure
Spec:	Specifier
SVO:	Subject-verb-object
V:	Verb
V":	Verb phrase

V-movement: Verb - movement

VP: Verb phrase

VSO: Verb-subject-object