

# **Dedication**

*This study is dedicated;*

*To the souls of my dear parents (may Allah rest them in peace.*

*And to the beloved members of my family*

## Acknowledgement

All praises and thanks are due to Allah the Almighty who deemed the achievement of this academic task. I would like to thank my supervisor, *Dr. Abdullah Yaseen*, for his countless hours of mediating, reading, and for his conscious encouragement, for his patience throughout the process of this study. My thanks are extended to all my colleagues at Departments of English and Arabic, College of Languages who helped especially *Dr. Mahmud Ali*, and special to those outside the campus (SUST) but are always with us for their great help in collecting the data of the research, *Dr. Ahmed Moukhtar* (Omdurman Islamic University) and *Dr. Tawfeeq* (Al-azhari University). My gratitude is also extended to teaching staff at Omdurman Islamic University, Al-azhari University, University of Khartoum and Al-ahfad University for Women to their contributions and their support to achieve this study. I would like to express my gratitude to all my colleagues at the College of Languages at SUST who were a constant source of support, both moral and intellectual.

## **ABSTRACT**

This study aimed at investigating the difficulty of English pronunciation among Sudanese native speakers of Arabic (SNSA). The study adopted descriptive analytical method in order to elaborate and analyze the causes of the problem via statistical analysis of the gathered data. The samples of the study were teaching staff at some Sudanese universities in Khartoum State, who are teaching English as foreign language (EFL) at tertiary levels. The samples were selected randomly from different universities. To obtain the necessary data for the study, the researcher used only one tool that is a diagnostic test for the teaching staff as the tool of the study. The researchers designed a diagnostic test which consists of 45 phrases / sentences and which is confined to the research hypotheses, to be read aloud by means of audio recording. Data have been collected, analyzed, and discussed in order to answer the research questions and verify the hypotheses. The collected data were computed by means of percentages. The analysis of the collected data reveals that SLs of EFL find difficulties when pronouncing most aspects of English language such as, English assimilation, weak forms, elision, English alveolar sounds /t, d, s, z/ and clusters. Based on these results, the researcher made some recommendations for improving English pronunciation of SNSA and suggested further studies.

## Abstract (Arabic version)

### المستخلص

هدفت الدراسة إلى تقصى صعوبة النطق في اللغة الإنجليزية لدى السودانيين الناطقين باللغة العربية لغة أولى، واتبعت في ذلك المنهج الوصفي التحليلي لتوضيح المشكلة وتحليلها، وتكونت عينتها من بعض أساتذة الجامعات الذين يقومون بتدريس اللغة الإنجليزية لغةً أجنبية في بعض الجامعات السودانية بولاية الخرطوم، وقد تم اختيار العينة عشوائياً للحصول على البيانات، واستخدم البحث الاختبار التشخيصي وسلية للدراسة، حيث أعدَّ الاختبار التشخيصي الذي يتكون من (45) جملة قصيرة تتوافق مع أسئلة الدراسة، وفرضياتها، وهي أن تتم قراءتها بصوت يسمح بتسجيلها بواسطة جهاز التسجيل الصوتي، و بعد ذلك تم جمع البيانات المطلوبة، وتحليلها ومناقشتها للتأكد من إجابتها عن أسئلة الدراسة، والتحقق من فرضياتها، ثم تم حساب البيانات عن طريق النسبة المئوية، فأظهر تحليل البيانات التي تم جمعها أن هنالك صعوبة لدى بعض الأساتذة الناطقين باللغة العربية لغة أولى عند نطقهم الأصوات المدغمة، والأصوات اللينة، وبناءً على هذه النتائج أوصت الدراسة بتحسين النطق في اللغة الإنجليزية، واقترحت بعض الدراسات في هذا المجال.

## **List of Abbreviations**

MSA	Modern Standard Arabic
SA	Sudanese Arabic
SLs	Sudanese Learners
SNSA	Sudanese Native Speakers of Arabic

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