

INTERIM REPORT

Team – Papa ka para
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UPDATES TILL NOW

So far, we have read a paper (mentioned in the last) here we found that translating the texts in Urdu to other languages can be a good way to test whether the expected politeness in the language is due to the context or due to the language itself, so we picked few words and phrases in Urdu and their Hindi translations, and conducted a survey.

MOTIVE

Our first aim was to check weather Urdu was more soothing in comparison to other languages, and if Yes, then to analyse the factors responsible for it and the type and intensity of influence it has over languages.

By this deadline our motive was to judge whether the soothingness of the language was due to context or the language itself polite due to some known- unknown factors.

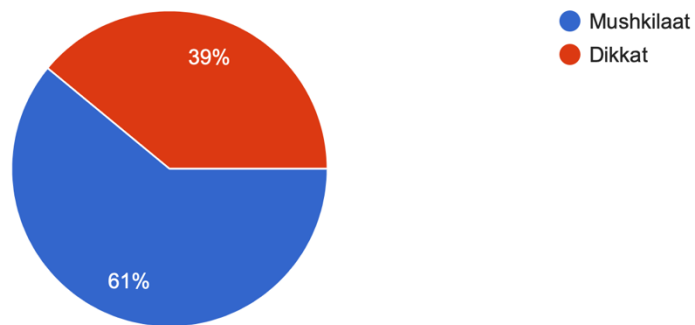
CONCLUSION

So far, 40+ people have participated in the survey, and according to the results, we found that our assumptions were fairly correct. In this, we also had a secret Urdu pair of words in which both of the words were Urdu so that the responders would think them to be Hindi- Urdu and by this small “cheating” kind of variation of ours, we got very interesting results which even more strongly held our initial claim.

Those words were Dikkat and mushkilaat , we can see that is those pairs of words the results differed from the rest which also strongly supported the fact that both were urdu.

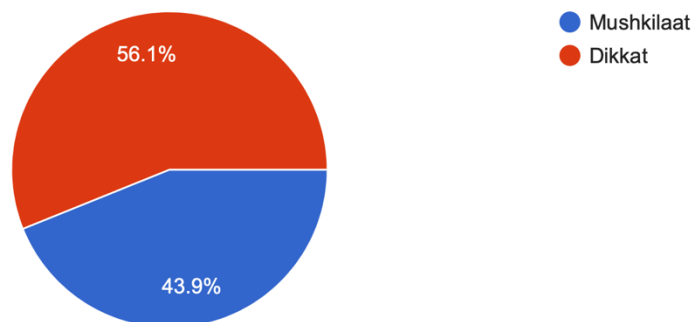
Which of these words, sounds more soothing in nature or more polite

41 responses



Which word will you prefer to use when talking to socially higher people or formally ?

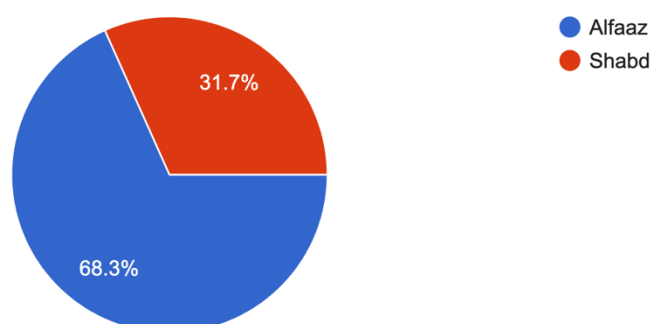
41 responses



They are close to 50 – 50 percentage.

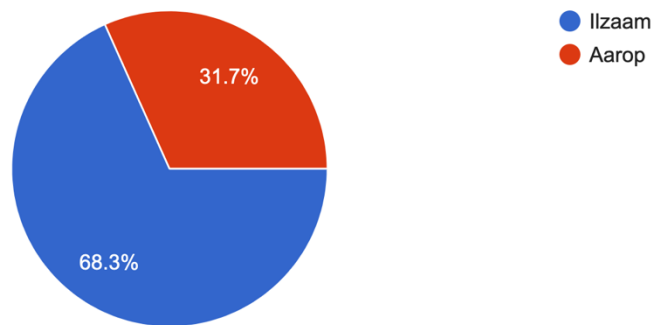
Among which of these words sounds more soothing or more polite

41 responses



Among which of these words, sounds more soothing or more polite

41 responses



Whereas in these words the differences is pretty major

Also people agreed that they would be using more of urdu words in formal situation if feasible.

We also gave them verses in Urdu and translated them to Hindi to check whether the beauty/soothingness is lost in translation or not

Which of these sounds more "Royal" / "Elite" / soothing to ears / polite (etc)

41 responses



And as we expected and the survey shows clearly, it is lost

We also did the opposite of translating Hindi to Urdu, and that too for very aggressive sentences just to confirm that if due to translation, the beauty. Soothingness can be lost, can it be attained back?

Which of these sentences, sounds more soothing in nature / more polite / less aggressive?

41 responses



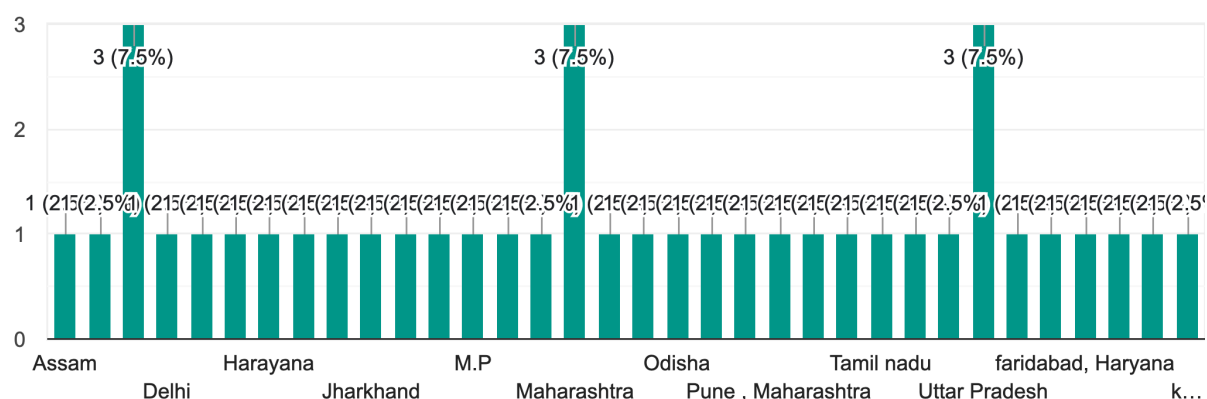
And to the conclusions of our survey, we can see that even the aggressive Hindi sentences sounded more soothing to ears in Urdu.

We also asked the respondents for the reasons behind these changes, and we are now working on analysing them further and trying to optimise our methodology of testing the soothingness and proving it.

Further, we also went through a few possible reasons for proving the politeness in the language, and we came across a theory that states:- the beauty or politeness of a language is perceived by the perceived image of the speakers of the language, and as Urdu is perceived to be the language, of kinships(nawabs of ancient time), so the language is sought to be rich in “*tehzeeb*” and politeness.

What is your native state/region where you belong to ?

40 responses



We also inquired about the regions/states the respondents belonged to and now we will try to analyse our survey data with corresponding to their regional data also and try to summarise to something meaningful if possible.

We also came across the paper <<https://journal.r-project.org/archive/2018/RJ-2018-067/RJ-2018-067.pdf>>

which tells about the methods to test politeness in natural language, which we would be employing for urdu. And we will also search for phonological and morphological factors which facilitate urdu to be polite.

Further articles like <<https://indianexpress.com/article/news-archive/web/learn-urdu-to-be-polite-karnataka-cm-to-police/>> further strengthen our claim.

<<https://www.livemint.com/Opinion/B9PWW3liEjY59D4Y1IGYkL/The-romance-of-Urdu-is-lost-in-translation.html>>,