

## THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LANGUAGE LEARNING PREFERENCES AND IRANIAN EFL LEARNER'S ETHNICITY

Shahram AFRAZ  
Islamic Azad University  
Qeshm Branch  
Qeshm, IRAN

Hamed GHAEMI  
Islamic Azad University  
Gonabad Branch  
Gonabad, IRAN

### ABSTRACT

This study examined the role of Ethnicity as a crucial factor in determining language learning preferences. Recent researches provide important support to claim that when students have the opportunity to clarify and assess their preferences in regard to definition of objectives in general and awareness of leaning preferences, their motivation, performances, and achievements will be increased and better. Since students are increasingly diverse, ethnicity has been considered as a crucial factor in determining language learning preferences. In our country, Iran, there are various ethnicities; nonetheless, English language is taught almost in the same manner for learners with different ethnical background.

This study examined the impact of ethnicity (Kurd, Turk, Fars) on language learning preferences of Iranian EFL learners in order to understand weather there was any meaningful relationship between learning preferences and EFL learner's ethnicity. To accomplish the research, a language learning preferences questionnaire with 10 items was administered to Iranian EFL learners. Subjects have been chosen according to the cluster sampling from EFL Institutes in Tehran, (Iran Mehr language institute), Tabriz and Kermanshah (Kish **institute**).

**Key Words:** Ethnicity, Learning preferences, Auditory / Verbal Learning Style, Tactile / Kinesthetic Learning Style.