455 Moroccan Code-Switching

Women and Linguistic Space in Morocco

By Fatima Sadiqi
Agenda

- Morocco
  - Background
  - Article: Key Points
  - Article: Application/Activity

- Conversational Analysis
  - If time...
Morocco: Background
Video

- Tourist guide to Fès
  - *(if we can get the video to work...)*
Key Points: Whaddya think?

- Linguistic Background
- Women
- French
- Religion
- Social Class
On Language in Morocco...

- "While both Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) and Colloquial Moroccan Arabic (CMA) derive largely from the same basic source (so-called Classical Arabic), they are in many ways two distinct languages. MSA is the language of the news media, written correspondence and documents, literature and formal speeches."

- "As strange as it might sound, MSA is not a language spoken fluently by the majority of Moroccans. Though few educated Moroccans have difficulty reading Arabic and understanding Arabic news broadcasts, few of them feel truly confident in using it in oral communication."

- "You should also be aware of the typical Moroccan attitude toward CMA: it is not regarded as a language in the formal sense of the word..."

- "To further complicate matters ... many Moroccan professionals have been educated in France or in a French mold, so that in discussing more intellectual or technical topics, they may have difficulty expressing themselves without resorting to French"
Code-Switching

- Associated with women
  - Why?
  - Universal?

- Moroccan Arabic & French
  - Treatment by men vs. women
  - Complex situation
  - French → Focus
CS – Driving Forces

- Focus
- Attract/maintain attention
- Create liveliness
- Snatch turns in conversation
- Power management
  - w/ less educated men
- Solidarity
Illiterate Genres

- Express inner selves
- Voice dissent & dissatisfaction

*Affront*  
(page 38)
Whaddya Make of This?

“Although the Moroccan religious code of ethics forbids lying and considers it *haram* (taboo), lying is socially accepted and even ‘encouraged’ in gossiping, especially if the participants in this activity hold the same attitude towards the persons/topics about which they are gossiping.”
Application/Activity

- Groups: 2-3 people each
- How do we do this in the US...
  - Focus
  - Attract/maintain attention
  - Create liveliness
  - Snatch turns in conversation
  - Power management
  - Solidarity
- Create scenario &/or vignette for each