

Accessibility of Indian English Variety To Non – Native Indians In The University of Kordofan, Sudan

Dr. Abdu-Elrahman Elshreef Abdu-Elrahman, Elsadig Gibreel Ahmed Rohoma

¹English Language Department, Faculty of Education, University of Kordofan, Sudan

Abstract - *The current study was conducted in the university of kordofan (2011– 2013, to investigate the accessibility of Indian English to the non-native Indians. The study was conducted to compare and distinguish the two English versions in linguistics dimension to pinpoint out the common features and relevant characteristics of the Indian English IE variety. The study hypothesized that Indian English variety is not accessible to people outside and there are peculiarities of Indian English which makes it a recognized English variety. The data were collected via questionnaire using simple random sampling technique (25) from (150) native Indian in Omdurman and (25) from almost (150) Sudanese in Elobied who studied in India. The data were analyzed using descriptive statistical tools. The results showed that; Indian universities didn't adopt Received Pronunciation (RP) variety which dominates Europe (94%) this makes Indian English difficult to access. English language is adapted to India because it is the main cross-communication like among the Indians (84%). Indian English is phonologically different from the British one (84%). There are many local dialects in India those dialects have influence upon English and contribute to distinctive feature (80%). Having reaching those results the study has found that Indian English is unique variety. The study recommended that the separate studies on the different aspects of Indian English variety can be of great benefit. In addition a specialized dictionary of Indian English variety can help the scholars and minimize the sociolinguistic gap between the Indian English and the others varieties of English.*

Keywords: *Indian English, Accessibility, Kordofan, Communication.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Variations of society in language, culture and style, entail the different regions where people live. Language is massive disputable idea and divine gift. It varies from era to era, region to region and class to class. Reese (2009) argued that, in the early contact of European which native culture; people of the tribes did not speak English. English was dominant language and was used within the tribes through the translators. Peters (2004) mentioned that, British English is sometimes called GBE, and which known term is used to distinguish the forms of English language used in Britain from forms used elsewhere. According to Mc Arthur (2004) who argues that: for many people in England {the phrase British English} is

tautologies.all the ambiguities and tensions in the world British, and as a result can be used and interpreted in two ways, more broadly or more narrowly, within a range of blurring and ambiguity. Davidson (2007) points that; the term {Indian English} is not one that all Indians are comfortable with. Over the years it has borne the connotation of “bad English”.Sinha (1978) states that IE is widely spread through phonological features it has a standard variety in terms of both phonology and syntax. It is essential to maintain a distinction between the grammar and accent. Kachru (1965) did make a distinction between the different types of Indian English that are used in India, ranging them in a cline of bilingualism that consists of three measuring points. The division among the varieties is not absolute and there is considerable overlap in this cline. that there is a standard variety called educated Indian English. Sailaja (2007) States that, since IE is a second language, it is believed that Indians can never reach the same competence as a native speaker. Coupland (2007) mentioned that; dialects {Indian English and British English} according to linguistic features so as to assess the reasons behind the differences and peculiarities of B. English and I. English as recognized dialects for global communication. Diversity in language use varies in many dimensions as Regional, Social and Functional dimensions. Indian English has history and presence in global communication. It is the second language according to the number of its speakers. Indian English has a history of about 400 years it has won to own character and but still looks native varieties of English norms, Indian English is characterized by following aspect; origin and development, salient structural properties, discourse features, acceptability and intelligibility, Indian accent, non-verbal communication and cross-cultural communication. <http://www.waseda.jp>.

2. METHODOLOGY

Primary data were collected via structured questionnaire distributed randomly covering 50 respondents in two groups. Group one was of people who are native Indians and the other group included Sudanese people who have studied in India. The data were analyzed using descriptive statistical analysis.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Figure (1) elicits opinions on the consideration of English Indian as an international dialect. It is clear that from the results, the majority of Indian respondents (68.00%) ‘Agree’ that Indian English is considered as an international dialect, Compared to the Sudanese respondents. The majority (64.00%) also ‘agreed’ that Indian English is considered as an international dialect. This gives the majority (66.00%) of the total a priority to agree. Added to them (10.00%) strongly ‘agree’ this constitutes (76.00%) of the respondents positively stand with the notion. The least minority of the Indian respondents (12.00%) ‘Disagreed’ while ‘not sure’ (18.00%) Disagree (06.00%) . This means that Indian English seems to be an international dialect according to its speakers.

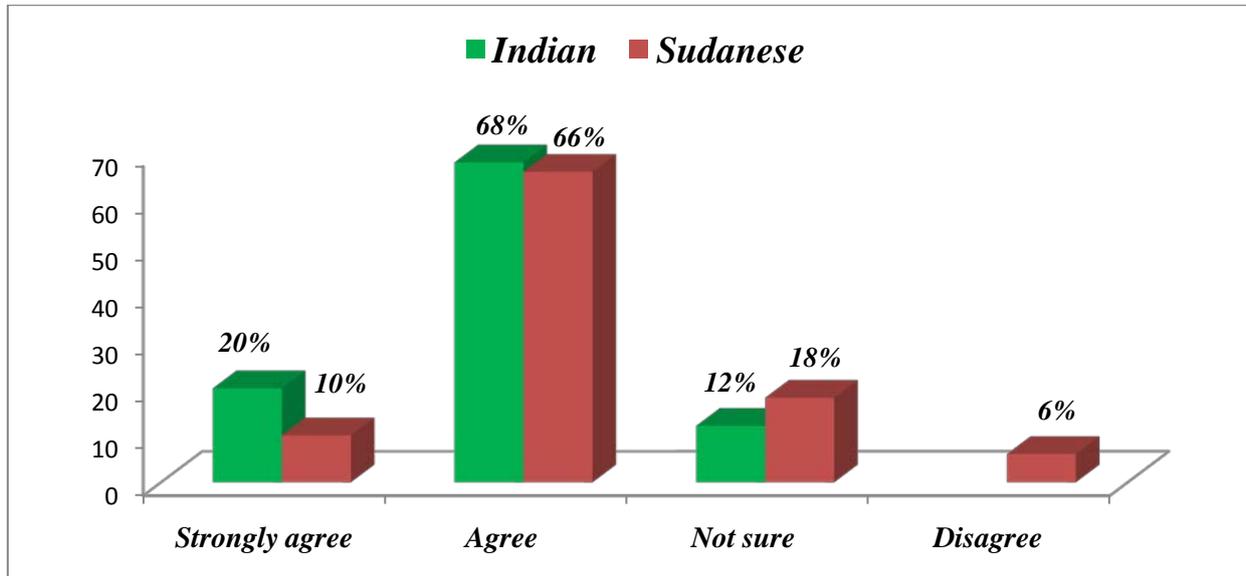


Fig (1): Indian English is considered as international dialect

Figure (2) elicits opinions on the considerations of speaking Indian English outside India as an advantage. It is clear that from the results, that vast majority of Indian respondents (80.00%) ‘Disagree’ with the item. In other words they don’t think that it is an advantage to speak Indian English outside India. Compared to the Sudanese respondents the majority (68.00%) are not sure the case that Indian English can be spoken or understood easily outside its origin. Concerning the total responses the ‘Majority’ of the respondents who constitute (74.00%) do ‘Disagree’ with the notion. The rest of the Indian respondents (12.00%) are not sure make a least minority. Compared to least minority of the respondents of Sudanese are not sure’ that is only (04.00%). Speaking Indian English outside India is an advantage according to the total proportion of the respondents (74.00%). This can support the idea of the casual spray-out of Indian English as a result of the contact of the other nations with the Indians.

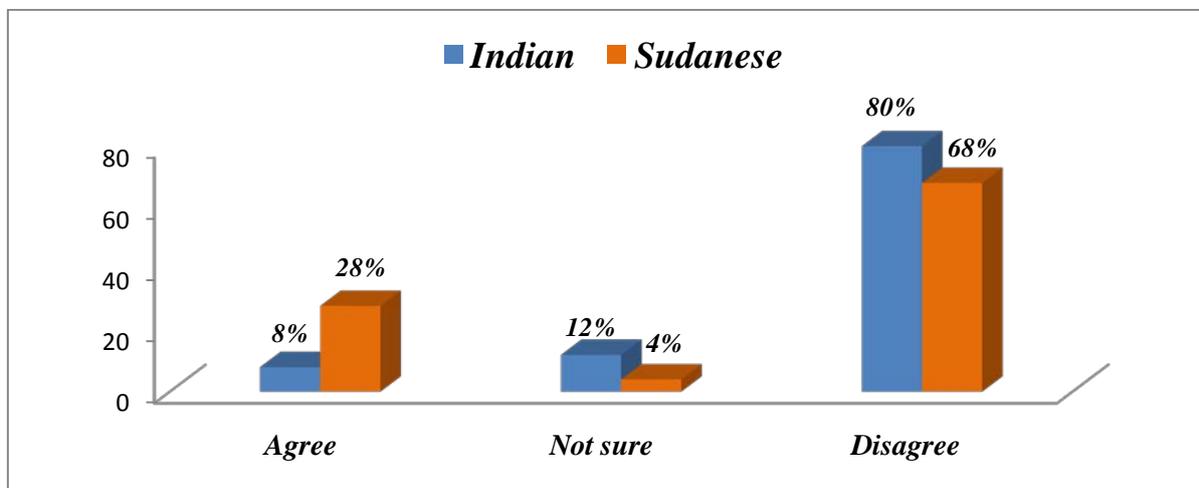


Fig (2): Speaking Indian English outside India is an advantage.

Figure (3) reveals opinions on the consideration of Indian people are able to speak both Indian English and British English, it is clear that from the results the vast majority of Indian strongly disagrees' (84.00%). They believed that Indian people are able to speak both varieties of Indian English and British one. Comparing the results of the Indian respondents to Sudanese respondents shows the 'Majority' of the Sudanese respondents Strongly Disagree' with a percentage of (76.00%). As for the total number of the respondents the vast majority strongly disagrees' that Indians people can express themselves using either Indian English or British English (80.00%). (20.00%) of Sudanese respondents are Not sure'. While the Indians who are not sure (08.00%). The vast minority of the total respondents Disagree' that the Indian English has distinguished itself phonologically, syntactically and lexically. A person can master either Indian or British English, but not both varieties.

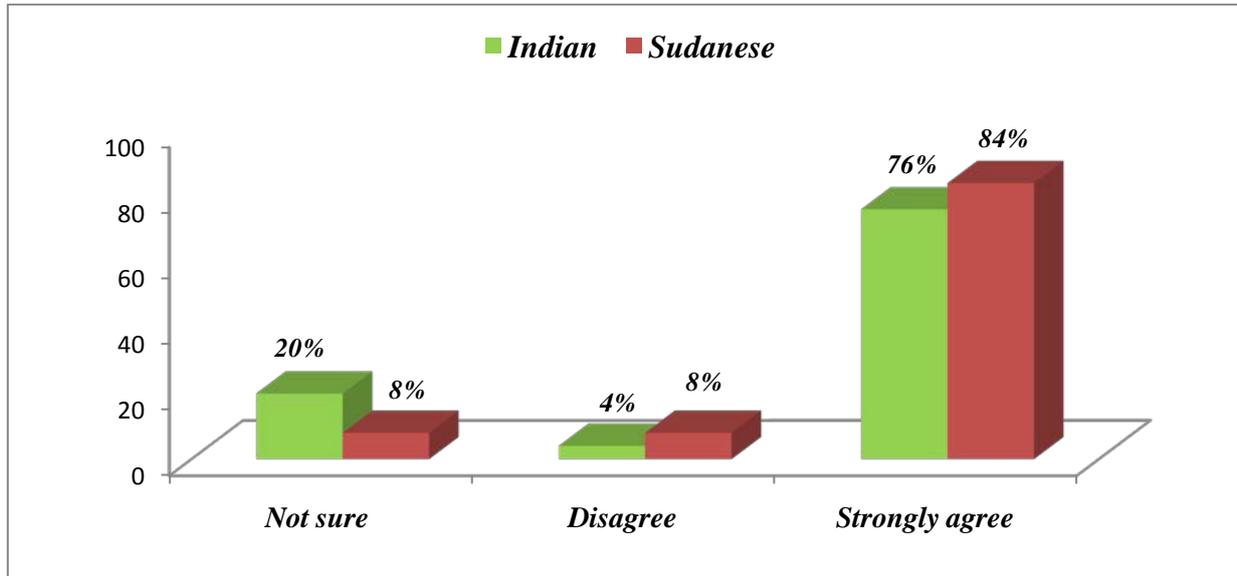


Fig (3): Indian people are able to speak both Indian English and British

Figure (4) reflects whether Indian English is a source of information technology. It is clear that from the results, the vast majority of the Sudanese respondents (72.00%) Disagree' with the notion, Compared to the Indian respondents. The majority of the respondents (68.00%) Disagree'. This gives the vast majority of the total a priority of disagreement. The least minority of the Sudanese respondents (12.00%) Strongly agree' that Indian English provides a source of information technology. Only (08.00%) of the total respondents are Not sure' Indian English does not seem to provide a source for information technology. British English is dominant all over the world as a main source for information technology even in India.

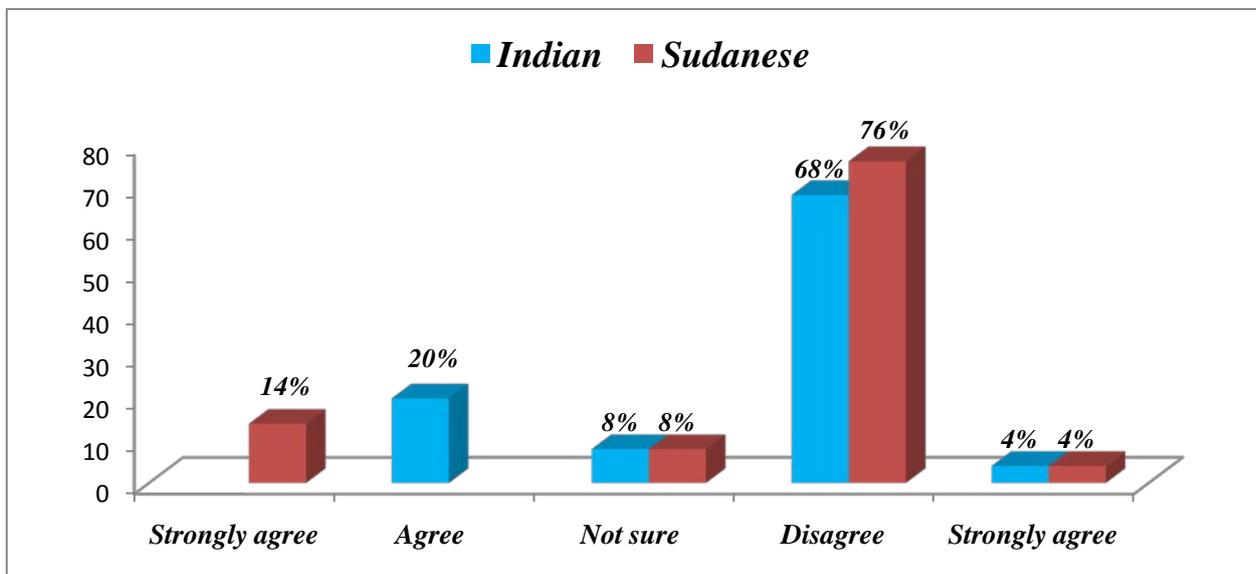


Fig (4): Indian English provides a source of information technology

Figure (5) shows whether Indian English is affected by the local Indian language. The results revealed that, the vast majority of Indian and Sudanese respondents (80.00%) 'Strongly agree' that Indian English is affected by the local Indian languages. The same percentage is scored by the Sudanese respondents (04.00%) 'Agree'. (10.00%) of the total respondents are 'Not sure'. The least minority (06.00%) of total of the respondents 'Disagree' with the notion. This means that Indian English is greatly affected by the local Indian languages. There are many Local dialects in India these dialects have influence upon English and contribute its distinctive features. Indian people come to English with readymade linguistic habits and this affects English greatly.

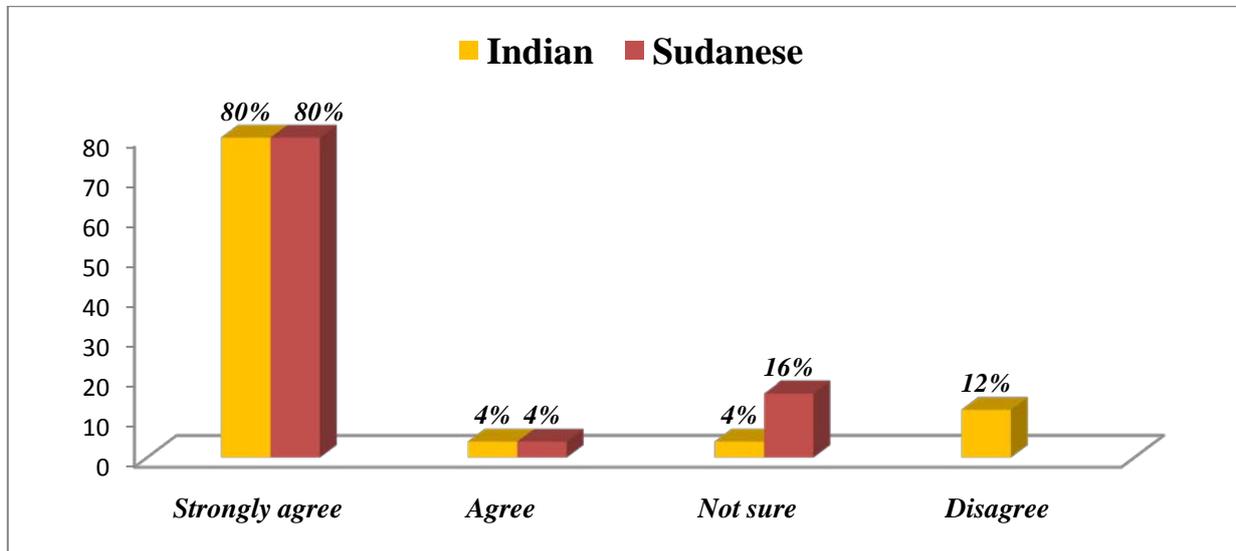


Fig (5): Indian English is affected by the local Indian languages

Figure (6) analyzes opinions on the fact that whether Indian universities do adopt the British accent of Receive Pronunciation variety or otherwise adopt the Indian accent. It is clear that from the results, the vast majority which makes the total proportion of the Sudanese respondents (100.00%) Strongly disagree with the item: Indian universities adopt RP variety. The majority of Indian respondents strongly disagree with the Supposition by (88.00%). This makes (94.00%) from the total of respondents are 'Strongly' Disagree, The least minority (02.00%) of the Indians Disagree with the notion. The Least minority of the total (02.00%) are not sure if the Indian universities are adopting RP variety. Indian universities do not adopt RP variety, it is the Londoners accent which is dominate Europe and very famous in Africa and many countries whose people are fond of British English and think it is the origin.

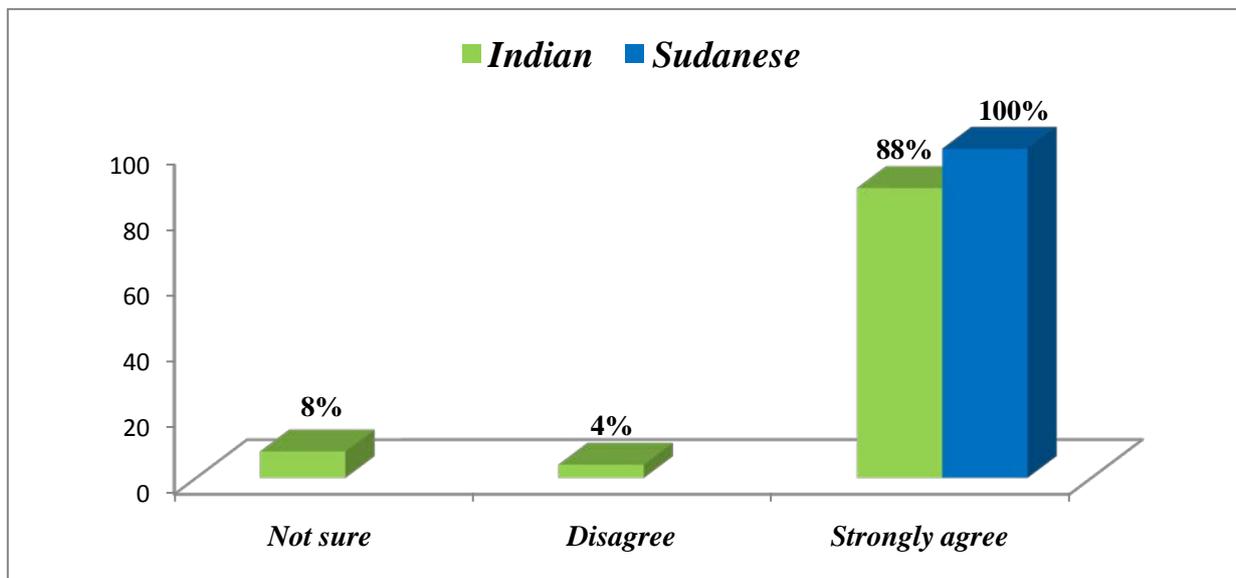


Fig (6): Indian universities adopt RP variety

Figure (7) reveals opinions on the consideration that the main writing of the Indian are delivered in Indian English language. This is finding out there is another media being considered as the language of writing books, novels or other. It is clear that the vast majority (92.00%) of the Indian respondents are 'Strongly agree' with the consideration that Indian English language is the main writing media for Indians. the least minority of Sudanese respondents are 'strongly agree with the notion (04.00%)'. The total of the respondents with the notion arc (48.00%).added to them (08.00%) of the Indian respondents are not sure about if the Indian mm writings are delivered in Indian English language or not. Comparing with (16.00%) of Sudanese respondents arc also not sure with the item.It is clear that the Indian main writings are delivered in Indian English language. The other dialects seem to have little influence upon the writings movement.

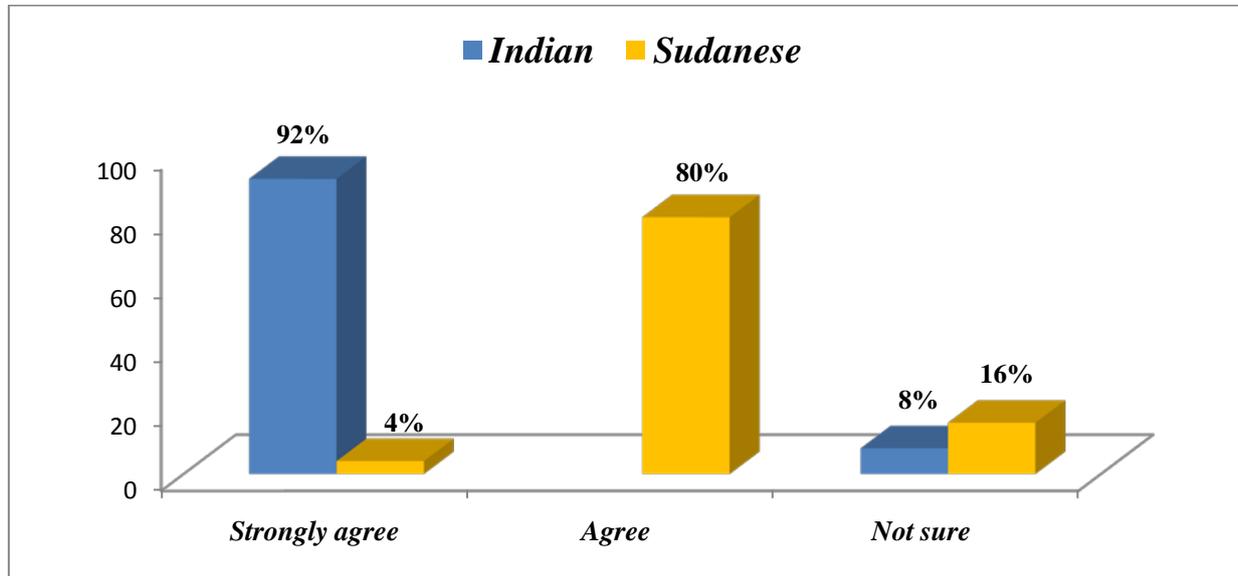


Fig (7): Indian main writings are delivered in Indian English language.

The above table (8) demonstrates opinions on the contribution of Indian English to cross cultural communication among the Indians in their own country. It is clear that from the results. The vast majority of the Indian respondents are 'strongly agreed' (80.00%). As for the Sudanese respondents the vast majority agrees' that Indian English contributes to cross cultural communication among the Indians (80.00%), while the Sudanese who strongly agree constitute the least minority (08.00%) from the respondents. The majority of total respondents are positive: they are (86.00%). Indians respondents least minority (12.00%) Disagree. (04.00%) of the total respondents are 'Not sure' about if Indian English contributes to cross cultural communication among the Indians. ibis means that, Indian English contributes to cross cultural communication among Indians. There are many languages and dialects in India so that English constitutes the Lingua franca that eases communication among the inhabitants of the semi-continent of India.

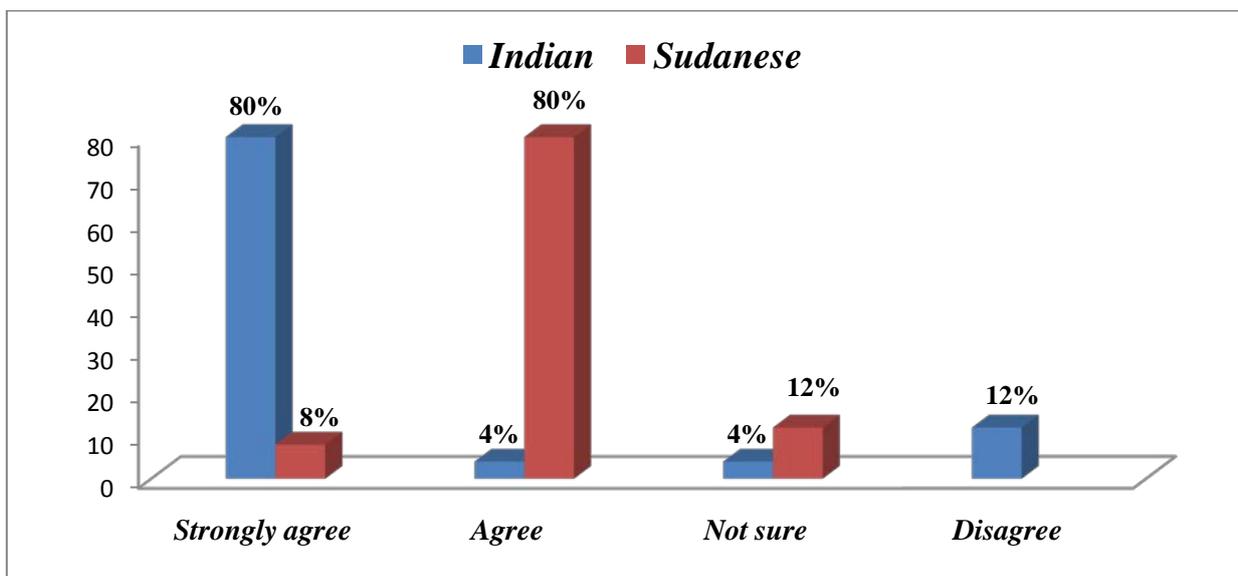


Fig (8): Indian English contributes to cross cultural communication among the Indians.

The above table (4-9) elicits the opinions on the priority of Indian English variety in obtaining jobs in India. The majority of the Indians ‘disagree’ (08.00%). ‘Strongly agree’ scores (08.00%). The vast majority of Sudanese respondents are not sure (92.00%). From the total about half of the respondents are not sure about the item; English language is primary in obtaining jobs in India (50.00%), the minorities of total respondents disagree’ with the item (40.00%). The least minority (2.00%) of the total respondents’ are strongly agrees’ with the notion. The Indians have the priority in what goes in their country, they do not think that speaking Indian English a notion in obtaining a job in India. Sudanese respondents do not know actually a lot about this matter so they are not sure, the following chart (4-9) illustrates a visual representation on; Indian English is primary in obtaining jobs in India.

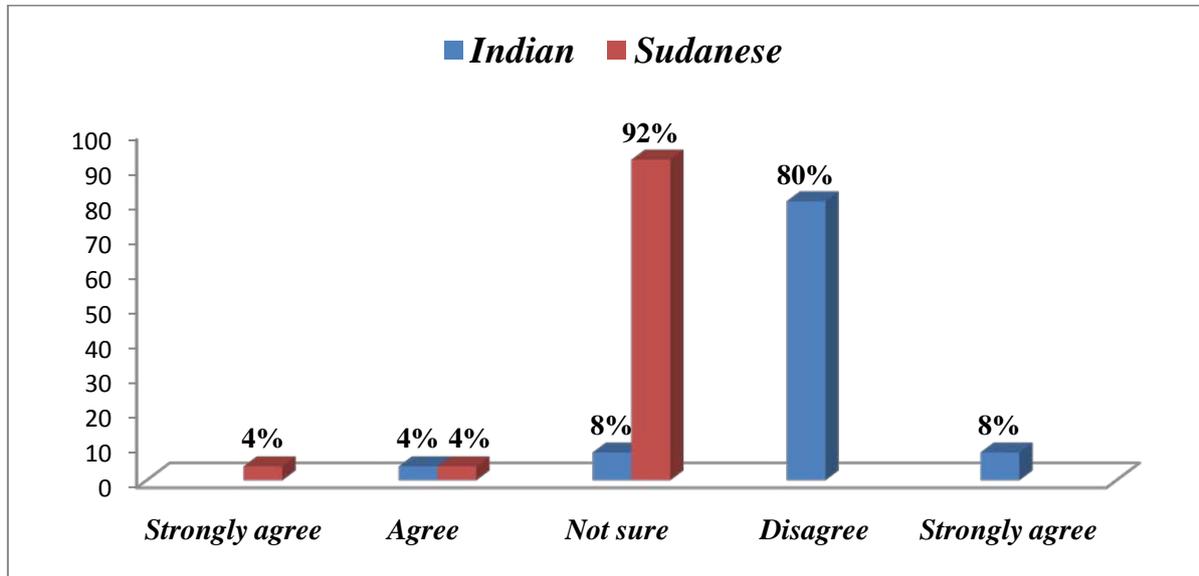


Fig (9): Indian English primary in obtaining jobs in India.

The above table (1) shows opinion on the supposition that English language is considered the main communication link among the Indians. The results appear as, about half of Indian respondents (52, 00%) Disagree’ Compared to the vast majority of (84.00%) of Indian respondents who ‘Strongly agree’ the majority of total respondents (60.00%) appear to be ‘Strongly agree’ with the notion. Adding to them (06.00%) of the total respondents who agree’, this makes (66.00%) of the total respondents are positive. The least minorities of the Sudanese respondents are Not sure’ and Disagree (04.00%). Only (04.00%) of Sudanese respondents are disagree’ with the item. The total respondents who disagree’ with the item are (28.00%): The least minority of the total respondents is ‘Strongly agree’. ‘Agree’ and not sure’ in percentage the’, constitute only (06.00%) ‘This means that, English language seems to be the main communication link among the Indians.

Table: (1): English language is the main communication link among the Indians.

Alternatives	Indian		Sudanese	
	Frequency	percent	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	9	36 %	21	84 %
Agree	1	4 %	2	8 %
Not sure	2	8 %	1	4 %
Disagree	13	52 %	1	4 %
Total	25	100 %	25	100 %

Table (2) shows that, the opinions on the adoption of British English accents of the Receive Pronunciation, It is clear that from the results, the vast majority of the Indians respondents strongly agree’ (84.00%). The majority of the Sudanese respondents who agree’ are (68.00%). From the total responses a proportion of (88.00 %) stand at the positive side of agreeing. The minorities of the Indian respondents are agree and Not sure with the notion (08.00%). As for the Sudanese, the least minority (04.00%) ‘Disagree’. While (02.00%) of the total respondents disagree’ with the item. The philosophy of making such an item is to help to determine that even inside Britain there are different accents. One can say, not all British English accents adopt the Receive Pronunciation accent.

Table (2): Not all British English accents adopt the (RP).

Alternatives	Indian		Sudanese	
	Frequency	percent	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	21	84 %	17	68 %
Agree	2	8 %	4	16 %
Not sure	2	8 %	3	14 %
Disagree	-	-	1	4 %
Total	25	100 %	25	100 %

Table (3): There is a variety of dialects Indian English

Alternatives	Indian		Sudanese	
	Frequency	percent	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	7	28 %	-	4 %
Agree	15	60 %	18	72 %
Not sure	2	8 %	7	28 %
Disagree	1	4 %	-	-
Total	25	100 %	25	100 %

Table (4): Indian English is phonologically different from British one.

Alternatives	Indian		Sudanese	
	Frequency	percent	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	22	88 %	20	80%
Agree	1	4 %	1	40 %
Not sure	1	4 %	4	16 %
Disagree	1	4 %	-	-
Total	25	100 %	25	100.00%

Table (5): Compared to British English Indian English has syntactic differences

Nationality	Indian		Sudanese	
Alternatives	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Strongly agree	-	-	2	8 %
Agree	3	12 %	20	80 %
Not sure	20	80 %	3	12 %
Disagree	1	40 %	-	-
Strongly agree	1	40 %	-	-
Total	25	100 %	25	100 %

Table (6): Indian English has local Indian words.

Alternatives	Indian		Sudanese	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Strongly agree	19	76 %	23	92 %
Agree	6	24 %	1	4 %
Not sure	-	-	1	4 %
Total	25	100 %	25	100 %

Table (3) elicits opinions on if there is a variety of a dialect in Indian English or not. It is clear that from the results, the majority of Sudanese respondents (72.00%) Agree that a variety of dialects in Indian English are found. Compared

to the Indian respondents the majority also which is (60.00%) Agree. This makes the majority (66.00%) of the total respondents agree with the notion. The minority of the Sudanese respondents (28.00%) are not sure. while the

least minority of Indian respondents (04.00%) is against the idea, they respond by 'Disagree'. The least minority of the total respondents (02.00%) Disagree; there is a variety of dialects in the Indian English. Basing on the results on the responses of the Indians it can be said that the different dialects of the Indian language have different influences on the English and this is reflected through phonological, syntactic and lexical variations.

Table (4) reveals responses on the phonological differences that distinguish Indian English from the British one. Results have shown that the vast majority of the Indian respondents (88.00%) 'Strongly agree' that Indian English is phonologically different from the British one. The vast majority of the Sudanese respondents (80.00%) 'Strongly agree' that Indian English is phonologically different. The least minority of the Indian respondents (04.00%) is scored three times Agree. 'Not sure' and Disagree. The least minority of the total (02.00%) of Indian and Sudanese respondents 'Disagree'. Indian English is phonologically different from the British one. It is known that. Indian English is retroflex and there are sounds of British English which are replaced by other sounds in Indian English.

Table (5) compares British English Indian English it elicits views on the syntactic differences. It is clear that from the results. The vast majority of Sudanese respondents (80.00%) Agree' that there are syntactic differences between the British and the Indian English. Compared to Indian respondents, the majority (80.00%) are not sure' about the weather Indian English - compared to British English - has syntactic differences or not. This gives about half (46.00%) a priority to agree. While (04.00%) Agree' with the notion. This means Indian English seems to have syntactic differences from the Sudanese point of view. The Sudanese are able to feel this difference because they have much exposure to the British English as for the Indians they have limited exposure to the British English, compared to the Indian one, but this can be taken from one side only.

Table (6) elicits opinions on a normal linguistic phenomenon. Indian English has borrowed local Indian words. That is clear from the results. The vast majority of Sudanese respondents (92.00%) Strongly Agree' that Indian English has borrowed Indian words. Compared to Indian respondents (76.00%) the vast majority also 'Strongly agree' that Indian English has borrowed words from the local languages in India. All Indian respondents are divided between strongly agree' and agree, the vast majority (84.00%) of the total number responses 'strongly agree' with the process of borrowing. 'The least minority of the Sudanese of respondents (04.00%) for both 'not sure and 'agree' with the notion. This means that Indian English seems to have borrowed Indian words. Borrowing is a

natural phenomenon among languages. Too much borrowing makes the variety of the language difficult to understand. The following chart illustrates a visual representation.

CONCLUSION

The main tools that used in this study for data gathering is a questionnaire which was designed and distributed to the Indian and the Sudanese who study in India. The study concluded that; Indian English seems to be an international dialect according to speakers, speaking Indian English outside India is an advantage. Indian English has distinguished itself phonologically, syntactically and lexically. Indian English does not provide a source for information technology. British English is dominant all over the world as main source for information technology even in India. Indian English is greatly affected by the local Indian language. Indian universities do not adopt RP variety. Indian main writings are delivered in English language. Indian English contributes to cross cultural communication among Indians. The Indians do not think that speaking Indian English a notion in obtaining a job in India. English language seems to be the main communication link among the Indians. Even inside India not all British English accents adopt the receive pronunciation accent. There is a variety of dialects in the Indian English. Indian English is phonologically different from the British one. Indian English seems to have syntactic differences from the Sudanese point of view. And Indian English have borrowed Indian languages words.

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