

Morphology of Hyderabad Dakhini Urdu

Atreyee Ghosal: 20161167

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Abstract

Enter a short summary here. What topic do you want to investigate and why? What experiment did you perform? What were your main results and conclusion?

1 Nouns

1.1 Three Classes of Nouns

1.1.1 Class 1: Marked Masculine Noun

- This type of noun terminates in the suffixes:
 - *-aa* in the nominative singular
 - *-e* in the nominative plural and in the oblique singular

Eg: child *baccha* (singular), *bacche* (plural)

cloth *kapRaa* (singular), *kapRe* (plural)

1.1.2 Unmarked Masculine/Feminine Noun

- These nouns occur with the plural suffix *-aaN*

Eg: apple *seb* (singular), *sebaaN* (plural)

book *kitaab* (singular), *kitabaaN* (plural)

1.1.3 Unmarked Masculine/Feminine

- These nouns occur with a zero plural suffix.

Eg: aunts *xaalaa* (singular), *xaalaa*(plural)

mango *aam* (singular), *aam* (plural)

1.2 Postposition Class

The postposition class is the class of, well, postpositions. This class influences nouns as all nouns occur with oblique-case suffixes before all members of this class. This is a closed class of functional morphemes, containing:

- *kaa/kii/ke*, 'of'

- kuu/ko, 'to'
- meN, 'in'
- pe, 'on'
- tak, 'until'

1.3 Variations

The below are the variations shown in the noun class between the different 'systems' of Dakhini rules.

1.3.1 Weakening of Gender Distinction

Unmarked feminine nouns and loan words are often regarded as masculine in gender, even though this may not be grammatically correct within the main system.

1.3.2 Assimilation into Class 3

A number of nouns that belong to classes 1 and 2 are treated by speakers as if they belong to class 3, deriving their plurals with the addition of a zero suffix.

1.3.3 Interference from Standard Urdu

Standard urdu contains a practice where feminine nouns are classed separately from masculine nouns using suffixes. Dakhini speakers who have studied standard Urdu in schools occasionally attempt to use these suffixes in speech.

2 Adjectives

2.1 Two Classes

2.1.1 Marked

2.1.2 Unmarked

3 Personal Pronouns

In free variation; however no single speaker's idiolect includes all the forms listed.

3.1 First Person

3.2 Second Person

3.3 Third Person

The existence of two types of third person pronouns is hypothesized to be because of the disappearance of the *Agentive Construction* in the past tense - i.e: standard urdu *ne* -> *ine*, *une*

hamēN, tumhēN -i, the usage of these as nominative rather than oblique forms appears to be a Dakkhini innovation

3.3.1 Proximate

3.3.2 Distant

4 Relative and Interrogative Pronouns

4.1 Reflective Adjective

4.2 Variations

4.2.1 Closer To The Paradigm = Wider Variety

4.2.2 Substitution of Plural for Singular

4.2.3 Interference From Standard Urdu

5 Verbs

Four types of verb constructions:

5.1 Formed From Present Participle

5.1.1 Present Participle = Indefinite Tense

5.1.2 Present Participle + Past Auxiliary = Imperfect Tense

5.1.3 Adverbial: Present Participle ending in -te

To describe the duration/context of an action.

5.1.4 Variations

- Non-Use of the auxiliary *hai* in indefinite tense statements
- Disappearance of the feminine plural suffix
- Interference from standard urdu

5.2 Formed From Past Participle

5.2.1 Past Participle = Past Tense

5.2.2 Past Participle + Bound Auxiliary = Past Tense

5.2.3 Past Participle + Past Auxiliary = Pluperfect Tense

5.2.4 Adverbial: Past Participle ending in -e

5.2.5 Variations

- Non-use of the auxiliary *hai* in past tense constructions
- Disappearance of the feminine plural

5.3 Based on Verb Root

5.3.1 Root + raa = Continuous Present Tense

5.3.2 Root + raa + thaa = Past Continuous Tense

5.3.3 Adverbial Construction: Special

5.3.4 Variations

- Non-use of the auxiliary *hai* in the formation of the present continuous
- Two alternate forms of regular primary system constructions are found
- Interference from standard urdu
- Variant forms of *ko*

5.4 Verb Root + Inflectional Suffixes, Infinitives

5.4.1 Subjunctive

5.4.2 Verb root + zero suffix = imperative

5.4.3 Subjunctive + gaa/gii = Future Tense

5.4.4 Verb Root + naa = Infinitive

5.4.5 Variations

- Substitution of the infinitive for the first person singular subjunctive
- Non-use of the future tense terminating in *gaa*
- Formation of the infinitive by the suffixation of *-aunaa* rather than *naa*

5.5 Auxiliary Verbs

6 The Primary System of Dakhini Urdu

The primary system is considered to be that version of the dialect which:

- Contains a maximum number of historically derived distinctions
- Contains a minimum number of innovations in the use of historical forms
- Contains a minimum number of forms or constructions borrowed from other languages

6.1 Features of Primary Dakhini

Based on the collected data and interviews with the speaker, we can determine that the speaker of a primary system version of Dakhini has the following features in their speech:

- Future tense terminates in either *-gaa*, *-gii* or *-ge*
- The subjunctive first person singular terminates in *-uuN*

- In statements containing the indefinite tense, the present participle + auxiliary construction is used to make up the indefinite tense of the verb
- In the past tense, the past participle + auxiliary construction is occasionally used instead of just the past participle
- The auxiliary is used in the formation of the present continuous tense
- A complete pronoun paradigm- i.e all the pronouns in all the classes mentioned are used.
- The feminine third person plural ends in *-ain* or *-iin*.
- Correct gender classification of nouns into their respective masculine/feminine forms

6.2 Omissions in Primary Dakhini

Based on the data collected, the following features are definitely not present in the speech of a speaker of the primary system version of Dakhini:

- Substitution of the first person plural pronoun *ham* in place of the first person singular pronoun *maiN*
- Substitution of the masculine suffix for the feminine suffix in second person plural constructions.