

# **DEVELOPING A SINDHI COMPUTATIONAL RESOURCE GRAMMAR IN LEXICAL FUNCTIONAL GRAMMAR FRAMEWORK**

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**by**

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## 2.15 Pronominal Suffixes

Sindhi is one of few Indo-Aryan languages (along-with Kashmiri, Punjabi and Seraiki) with pronominal suffixes. Pronominal suffix is a morphological change in a word which reflects the pronoun along with existing word class. For example, the noun “puTa” (son) can have pronominal suffix “-mi” and the word “puta-mi” (my son) has pronoun “my” and noun “son”. It may also be noted that syntactic function of word remains same i.e. after inflection word remains in same syntactic / part of speech class. Pronominal suffixes are usually declined for person and number and rarely for gender and are added to nouns, verbs and postpositions. Table III-58 shows different pronominal suffixes used with nouns.

Table III- 58: Pronominal Suffixes Used with Nouns

Word	Sg	Pl	Example
puTu (son)  Singular	-mi	-UN	puTu-mi (my son), puTu-UN (our son)
	-EN	-va	puTu-EN (your.sg son) puTu-va (your.pl son)
	-si	-ni	puTu-si (his son) puTu-ni (their son)
puTa (sons)  Plural	-mi	-UN	puTa-mi (my sons), puta-UN (our sons)
	-EN	-va	puTa-EN (your.sg sons) puTa-va (your.pl sons)
	-si	-ni	puTa-si (his sons) puTa-ni (their sons)

Examples of pronominal suffixes given in Table III-58 are shown in sentences (26a – 26g).

puTu-mi                      acHE                      tHO                      ----- (26a)  
 son.Sg-1P.Sg              come.OldPres.Sg      be.Aux.Pres.M.Sg  
 My son comes.

puTu-UN son.Sg-1P.PI Our son comes.	acHE come.OldPres.Sg	tHO be.Aux.Pres.M.Sg	----- (26b)
puTu-EN son.Sg-2P.Sg Your son comes.	acHE come.OldPres.Sg	tHO be.Aux.Pres.M.Sg	----- (26c)
puTu-si son.Sg-3P.Sg His son comes.	acHE come.OldPres.Sg	tHO be.Aux.Pres.M.Sg	----- (26d)
puTa-UN son.PI-1P.PI Our sons come.	acHani come.OldPres.PI	tHA be.Aux.Pres.M.PI	----- (26e)
puTa-va son.PI-2P.PI Your.PI sons come.	acHani come.OldPres.PI	tHA be.Aux.Pres.M.PI	----- (26f)
puTa-si son.PI-3P.Sg His sons come.	acHani come.OldPres.PI	tHA be.Aux.Pres.M.PI	----- (26g)

Pronominal suffixes for auxiliary verbs may vary depending on the tense. For example, present tense auxiliary verbs “AhE” (is) will have morphological changes caused by pronominal suffixes shown in Table III-59. It may also be noted that there are irregular inflections like “AhE” to “atHaI”. The past tense auxiliary verb “huO” (was) will have different inflections and additionally will be marked by gender. Table III-60 shows different pronominal suffixes (with inflections) of past tense auxiliary “huO”. Example sentences with pronominal suffixes with present tense auxiliary AhE are given in (27a – 27c) whereas examples of pronominal suffixes with past tense auxiliary “huo” are given in (28a – 28c).

kitAbu            AhE-ni                                  ----- (27c)  
Book.Sg         is.Aux.Pres-3P.PI  
They have (a) book.

kitAbu hu-yani ----- (28c)  
 Book.Sg is.Aux.Pres-3P.F.PI  
 They.F had (a) book.

Person	Masculine / Feminine			
	Singular		Plural	
	Affix	Example	Affix	Example
2 <sup>nd</sup>	-i	achAN-i	-va	achAN-va
3 <sup>rd</sup>	-si	achAN-si	-ni	achAN-ni

AyO-va                      huO-mi                      ----- (29b)  
come.PastPart-2P.Pl        was.Aux.Past-1P.Sg  
I came to you.Pl

Pronominal suffixation in postpositions also takes place by using “-mi”, “-i”, and “-si” in singular and “-UN”, “-va”, and “-ni”, in plural forms. Examples of postpositional pronominal suffixation are shown in Table III-62. Some postpositions may also have number marking like postposition “jehRO” will also be marked by number while having pronominal suffixation (number marking is not shown in table). Sentences (30a – 30d) show different examples of pronominal suffix patterns given in Table III-62.

Huni khE-mi kitAbu dinU ----- (30a)  
 he.Obl Dat-1P.Sg.Obl book.Sg.M give.PastPart.M.Sg  
 He gave me a book.

mUN khE-si kitAbu dinU ----- (30b)  
 I.Obl Dat-3P.Sg.Obl book.Sg.M give.PastPart.M.Sg  
 I gave him a book.

CHOkirO sANra-mi AyO ----- (30c)  
 boy.Nom.M.Sg with-1P.Sg.Obl Came.PastPart.Sg.M  
 Boy came with me.

hU jehRO-mi AhE ----- (30d)  
 he.Obl like-1P.Sg.Obl is.Aux.Pres.Sg.M  
 He is like me.

Table III - 62: Pronominal Suffixation on Postpositions

Postposition	Person				
		Singular		Plural	
		Affix	Example	Affix	Example
kHE	1 <sup>st</sup>	-mi	kHE-mi	-	-
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	-	-	-	-
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	-si	kHE-si	-ni	kHE-ni
sANra	1 <sup>st</sup>	-mi	sANra-mi	-UN	sANra-UN
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	-EN	sANra-EN	-va	sANra-va
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	-si	sANra-si	-ni	sANra—ni
jehRO	1 <sup>st</sup>	-mi	jehRO-mi	-UN	jehRO-UN
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	-EN	jehRO-EN	-va	jehRO-va
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	-si	jehRO-si	-ni	jehRO-ni

### 2.15.1 Double Pronominal Suffixation

Double pronominal suffixes are also common in Sindhi. In double suffixation, inflectional change reflects two pronouns mostly first and second or first and third person pronouns. Double pronominal suffixation is only used with verbs. Examples of double pronominal suffixation of past tense form of

verb “likHu” (write) are shown in Table III-63 and Table III-64. Example sentences showing double pronominal suffixation are given in (31a – 31c).

Table III- 63: Double Pronominal Suffixation Examples of Verb “liKhu” 1<sup>st</sup> Person – 2<sup>nd</sup> Person and 1<sup>st</sup> Person – 3<sup>rd</sup> Person

Affix-1 Number	Person	Singular Affix-2			Plural Affix-2		
		Affix-1	Affix-2	Example	Affix-1	Affix-2	Example
Singular	2nd	-mAN	-i	likHiyO-mAN-i	-mAN	-va	likHiyO-mAN-va
				I wrote you			I wrote you
	3rd	-mAN	-si	likHiyO-mAN-si	-mAN	-ni	likHiyO-mAN-ni
				I wrote him			I wrote them
Plural	2nd	-sUN	-i	likHiyO-sUN-i	-sUN	-va	likHiyO-sUN-va
				We wrote you (Sg)			We wrote you (Pl)
		-sUN	-si	likHiyO-sUN-si	-sUN	-ni	likHiyO-sUN-ni
				We wrote him			We wrote them

Table III- 64: Double Pronominal Suffixation Examples of Verb “liKhu” 3<sup>rd</sup> Person – 1<sup>st</sup> Person, 3<sup>rd</sup> Person – 2<sup>nd</sup> Person and 3<sup>rd</sup> Person – 3<sup>rd</sup> Person

Person	Singular			Plural		
	Affix-1	Affix-2	Example	Affix-1	Affix-2	Example
1st	-A-IN/OIN	-mi	likHiy-AIN-mi	-	-	-
			He wrote me			-
2nd	-A-IN / OIN	-i	likHiy-AIN-i	-A-IN	-va	likHiy-AIN-va
			He wrote you			He wrote you
3rd	-A-IN / OIN	-si	likHiy-AIN-si	-A-IN	-ni	likHiy-AIN-ni
			He wrote him			He wrote them

KHatu                      likHiyO-mAN-va                      ----- (31a)  
 Letter.Nom.Sg.M      write.PastPart.Sg-1P.Sg-2P.PI  
 I wrote you (a) letter.

KHatu                      likHiyO-sUN-si                      ----- (31b)  
 Letter.Nom.Sg.M      write.PastPart.Sg-1P.PI-3P.Sg  
 We wrote him (a) letter.

KHatu                      likHiyO-IN-ni                      ----- (31c)  
 Letter.Nom.Sg.M      write.PastPart.Sg-3P.Sg-3P.PI  
 He wrote them (a) letter.

## 2.16 Postpositional Suffixes

Sindhi also has postpositional suffixes usually in nouns, and adverbs.

Examples of postpositional suffixes are shown in Table III-65 and example sentences are shown in (32a – 32b).

tUN              gHar-AN                      acHu                      ----- (32a)  
 you.Sg      home-from.Abl      come.Sg.Imp  
 You come from home.

tUN              BAra-EN                      acHu                      ----- (32b)  
 you.Sg      Child.PI-with.Part      come.Sg.Imp  
 You come with children.

Table III - 65: Postpositional Suffixes

POS	Suffix	Example	Equivalent
hETHa (Adverb) Down / Below	-AN	hETH-AN from down / below	hETHa kHAN
gHaru (Noun) Home	-AN	gHar-AN from home	gHaru mAN / kHAN
BAru (Noun) Child	-EN	BAr-EN with children	BAr-ani sAN



### 3. SYNTAX

Syntax deals with phrase and sentence structures and includes nominal and verbal elements. Along-with nouns nominal elements may also include pronouns, adjective phrases, postpositional phrases, participle phrases, and relative clauses. Noun phrases can either be marked by case at morphology level or at syntax level. Verbal arguments are defined by verb subcategorization frames. Details of nominal and verbal syntax of Sindhi are discussed in subsequent sections.

#### 3.1 Noun Phrase in Sindhi

Phrase is a group of related words which forms a component of a clause; a noun phrase is a phrase which plays the role of noun (subject, object, indirect object, and predlink etc.) in a sentence. Noun phrase in Sindhi may have simple or complex constructions. We will start our discussion with simple constructions. Consider following sentences (Note that Aorist used in gloss is equivalent of OldPres).

CHOkirO	likHE	thO	-----	(33a)
boy.Nom	write.Aorist	be.Sg.M.Pres.Aux		
The boy writes.				

CHOkirE	likHiyO	huO	-----	(33b)
boy.Obl	write.PastPart	be.Sg.M.Past.Aux		
The boy wrote.				

ali	likHE	thO	-----	(33c)
Ali.Nom	write.Aorist	be.Sg.M.Pres.Aux		
Ali writes.				

Ali	likHiyO	huO	-----	(33d)
Ali.Nom	write.PastPart	be.Sg.M.Past.Aux		
Ali wrote.				

Various constituents in these sentences include noun, verb and auxiliary verb; the phrase structure rule for above sentences will be.

$S \rightarrow NP V (VAUX);$   
 $NP \rightarrow N.$

Where S represents sentence and the rule says that a sentence can be defined as noun phrase (NP) followed by a verb (V) and an optional auxiliary verb (VAUX). “CHOkirO” (nominative common noun form), “CHOkirE” (oblique common noun form) and “Ali” (proper noun) are noun phrase examples in above sentences. As nouns are marked by number gender and case so is the case with noun phrase. NP construction may also include standalone pronouns. Consider following examples.

hU he.Nom.3P.M.Sg He writes.	likHE write.Aorist	thO be.Pres.Aux	----- (34a)
Hina he.Obl.3P.M.Sg He wrote.	likHiyO write.PastPart		----- (34b)
ihO it.Nom.3P.M.Sg It writes.	likHE write.Aorist	thO be.Pres.Aux.Sg.M	----- (34c)
inhE it.Obl.3P.Sg It wrote.	likHiyO write.PastPart		----- (34d)
jEkO which/who.Nom.rel.Sg.M Who writes.	likHE write.aorist	thO be.Pres.Aux.Sg.M	----- (34e)
kEra who.whp Who writes.	likHE write.aorist	thO be.Pres.Aux.Sg.M	----- (34f)
CHA what.whp What writes?	likHE write.aorist	thO be.Pres.Aux.Sg.M	----- (34g)