Oblique Object Word Order

The order in a clause between a lexical object and an oblique phrase was investigated. The latter is a noun phrase or an adverbial phrase that functions as an adverbial modifier of the verb. The order object preceded by an oblique phrase is attested for Indo-Aryan Gawri, as seen in (1).

1. Gawri [gwc] (Indo-Aryan)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| po-wa | baʈ | da | dareːʈ | pʰoʈeːg. |  |
| boy-erg | stone | inst | window | break.pst.f |  |
|  | OBL |  | OBJ |  |  |
| ‘The boy broke the window with a stone.’ (GWC-ValQuestMZ:025) | | | | | |

This order is present in a majority of the sample, either as the only option or as an alternative to the reverse order. It is mainly absent in the northwestern part of the region.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Feature value | # of varieties displaying it | % |
| Present | 47 | 80 |
| Absent | 12 | 20 |
| Indeterminate | 0 | 0 |