

A comparative study of Linguistic Commonalities of Balochi and Pashto Language

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Abstract:

The present study attempts to study the linguistic similarities between Balochi and Pashto Languages. It sheds light on the alphabetical commonalities between Pashto and Balochi languages to understand the similarities in their alphabetical structure. Similarly, it also attempts to study the phonetic similarities between both languages to assess the commonalities in the sounds and pronunciations of words in both languages. In the last section, this paper lists certain grammatical commonalities between both languages to see their commonality in the form of sentence structure and contextual use of words. It discusses the extent to which both languages have alphabets that are similar and derived from same language. It also brings into consideration the sounds of different original and borrowed words of both languages to see if there is some commonality among both. It also discusses as to what extent the structure of language is shaped by common grammatical rules and procedures.

Keywords: *linguistics commonalities, Phonetics, alphabetical similarities, grammatical structures, Phonology*

Introduction

Language is the fundamental derivative source of social action in human societies. It is both an individual and collective action in which all individuals of the society participate to transfer their messages to one another. Other than a source of expressing one's message, language is also a carrier of socio-linguistic and socio-cultural history of a nation. Pakistan is a polyglot country with different ethnic, cultural, and ideological foundations. Several languages, belonging to different linguistic families, are spoken in Pakistan. Linguists have divided the languages in many linguistic families, in which Indo-European family is among

the largest linguistic families. Some of the languages in this linguistic family are considered highest languages with reference to literature and diversity of knowledge. One of the main characteristics of linguistic diversity in a region is understood in term of growing linguistic commonalities among the languages. Along with different European languages, Balochi and Pashto belong to Irani which is a descending branch of Indo-European family. It is therefore contended that both Balochi and Pashto are derived from a single family of the languages. The study of linguistic commonalities is fundamentally attached to Alberuni. However, Italian Poet Dante's identification of 14 dialects of Italian language in 1303 AD, and its comparison with French language is known historical document of comparison of linguistic commonalities. In addition to this, French Pope Cordeaux studied the linguistic commonalties between Sanskrit and Greek languages in 1767 AD. Similarly, Sir William Jones declared Sanskrit, Latin, and Greek languages to be derived from a single linguistic family in 1786 AD. According to some scholars, the declaration of Sir Williams Jones was the fundamental reference to Indo-European family. Furthermore, in 1808 AD, German scholar Fredrick attempted to study the linguistic commonalities between German, Latin, and Sanskrit languages. In 1814 AD, Danish Scholar Rasmus Rask argued that in addition to comparison of vocabulary, grammar is also a necessary aspect of studying the linguistic commonalities between any two languages.

The mutual commonalities between the languages in Pakistan is usually rich due to territorial and cultural proximity, nevertheless, Balochi and Pashto share a rich inheritance of linguistic commonalities. Since both of these languages are spoken in the same region, their mutual relationship is a natural process which not only includes certain linguistic commonalities; but also plays a pivotal role in socio-cultural integration between both nations. Both languages have centuries old history in terms of culture, civilization, and territory and their linguistic commonalities are richer than any other two languages in the said region. Balochiyat and Pashtunwali are two different, yet similar, codes of life of the two nations that share similar territorial and regional history. Due to their tribal structure, both languages have developed so many commonalties between them that it feels that they both have grown up in a similar cultural history. Both Pashto and Balochi languages have commonalities not only in their vocabulary,

grammar, phonetics, alphabets, and sentence structures, but also their use of gender in the languages. Additionally, they also have commonalities in proverbs, and genres in poetry and prose. As asserted by William Jones(1798),linguistics similarities among different languages not only based on phonetics differences but also on grammatical and structural differences.

Purpose of Study

Both Balochi and Pashto languages are spoken in the same region for over a very long period of time. By virtue of their territorial proximity, both languages have developed certain linguistic commonalities over time. Linguistic commonalities not only create closeness between the nations, but also help in the development of mutual socio-cultural history. However, fewer studies have been conducted on the linguistic commonalities between different languages of Pakistan, but no scientific study has been conducted on the linguistic commonalities of Balochi and Pashto. This paper aims at highlighting the linguistic commonalities of Balochi and Pashto languages in a systematic manner. This paper contributes in the empirical knowledge of Pakistani languages.

Research Questions

- Q1.What is the alphabetical and phonetic commonalities between Balochi and Pashto languages?
- Q2. What are the grammatical and structural commonalities found in Balochi and Pashto languages?

Research Objectives

1. To investigates the alphabetical and phonetic commonalities between Balochi and Pashto languages
2. To study the grammatical and structural commonalities in Balochi and Pashto languages.

Analysis

Objective 1.

Alphabetical and Phonetics Commonalities between Balochi and Pashto

Alphabets are the symbols of different phonetic sounds. Due to phonetic similarities in different languages, their similarities and differences in the alphabets plays a pivotal role in the comparison of languages. There is a great course of commonalities between the alphabets of Balochi and Pashto. Due to their commonality of script, both languages follow Arabic script, around 20 alphabets are common between both languages, such as

ا، ب، پ، ت، ث، ج، چ، خ، د، ذ، ر، ز، س، ک، ل، م، ن، و، ء، ی

are Hindi-originated alphabets that □ ، □ ، □ Apart from these alphabets, of Arabic languages and added in the alphabets. Similarly, □ are added with are also common in both Balochi and Pashto گ، چ، پ Persian-originated alphabets is added with a “–” in Balochi and a “°” in Pashto. گ languages. However, where and retroflex sounds are also in Pashto. During □ However, the sounds of narh sounds, ° *kunda* □ a 3-day symposium in Barha Gali in 1990, the production of . □ was decided to be used below

There are 28 alphabets in Balochi languages of which 20 are purely of On the other hand, 3 alphabets from Arabic language, 2 from Balochi phonology. Persian, and 3 from Hindi language are also in Balochi language. According to Dr. Buzdar(2008),

"بلوچی کی اپنی بنیادی آوازیں 22 ہیں اس لئے بلوچی صوتی نظام میں عربی اور فارسی کی یہ آوازیں "ث، ص، ظ، ض، ع، ق کی آوازیں موجود نہیں ہیں۔ اس لئے بلوچی میں ان آوازوں کو "ھ، س، ز، ت، اور ک، ث تلفظ کیا جاتا ہے۔ البتہ مشرقی لہجہ میں "ذ" اور "ث" کی آوازیں مستعمل ہیں لیکن ان کے متعلق اب تک کوئی واضح فیصلہ نہیں کیا جا سکا ہے کہ آیا ان ۵ ہی بلوچی اصوات تسلیم کیا جائے یا نہ ہیں"

are not the part of ٹھ، تھ، پھ، بھ، ہ Similarly, aspirated sounds such as Balochi phonology. On the other hand, Pashto has 44 alphabets of which 28 alphabets are from Arabic, 4 from Persian, and 3 alphabets are from Hindi) (ب، s/kh (بن، dz, (خ) ts, (خ language. There are unique sounds of Pashto like (has five different types in Pashto ی) g. On the other hand, (گ) z/g, and (ن، (

Balochi	Pashto	Sanskrit
لک	لک	لکشا
برات	ارور	باتر
پت	پلار	پاتر

Both Pashto and Balochi have different other words from different Aryan languages, that have similar foundations and are same with similar phonetic variations. Following are examples of some other words that are considered similar with little phonetic variations in both Balochi and Pashto.

Balochi	Pashto
پوه	پوه
ساه	ساه
ڈبوک	ڈبے

There are certain other words that are derived from Greek, Portuguese, Arabic, Persian, Hindi that are used with an almost similar phonetic sound in both in بلغم is called as پهلگم Pashto and Balochi language. For example, Greek word are known as کوفینوس and کلموس both Balochi and Pashto. Similarly, Greek word are لیلان، صباون، لیلان in both Pashto and Balochi. Portuguese word کلم and کپن in both Pashto and Balochi languages. English word لیلام and ساین pronounced as in both گودام became گوڈاون, اسٹیشن became اسٹیشن, بوتل became باطل, ٹکور is pronounced as ٹکور Balochi and Pashto in languages. Hindi words . تکہ is used both in Balochi and Pashto languages as ٹکہ while similarly, in both ملہم as ملہم and, بیگار is pronounced بیگار Persian words Pashto languages.

Objective 2

Grammatical and structural Commonalities in Balochi and Pashto

Along with alphabetical and phonetic, investigation of grammar is also immensely significant to assess the linguistic commonalities between two or more than two languages. Phonetic alone cannot guarantee the similarity in a language because of its probability to be haphazard. Henceforth, investigation of grammar in both Balochi and Pashto languages can be of potential help in the assessment of commonalities between Balochi and Pashto languages. Grammatical commonalities can be understood in terms of similarities and difference in sentence structure, and contextual use of words, Modern linguistics lay greater

both masculine and feminine is similar. The gender of adjective is manifested in Pashto language while latent in Balochi language. Some Hindi words such as *baaja, pinjra, dhoka, nalka, and roza* are feminine words in Pashto while the same words are masculine in Balochi. Similarly, some Persian and Arabic words i.e., *sheesha, chanda, afsana, janaza, hamla, faisla and masla* and some English words like *gas, Creem, rail, banglow*, are used as feminine genders in Pashto and masculine gender in Balochi. Where there is no feminine word for the female are used to differentiate مادگ and جنر gender of an animal, there Persian suffix between the two genders in. There are five rules of plurality for male gender and three rules of plurality in female gender in Pashto. On the contrary, the rules of جنك at the end of words such as ان plurality in Balochi are achieved by adding are respective singular and plural words. جنكان، بچك بچكان، كچك كچكان، جنكان

The construction of sentence subject, object and verb in both languages is similar to a greater extent. *Agha kha kitaaboona loli*, and *Aa sharren kitab a waneet*. In these sentences *Agha* and *Aa* are subject, *kha kitaaboona* and *sharren* that are (مركب) *kitab* are object and *loli* and *waneet* are verb. Compound words derived from Persian, Arabic, and English languages are also similar in both Balochi and Pashto languages to a greater extent. For example, ريل گاڙى، ډبل روڼى، سائنسدان، احسان مند، آدم زات، اسپت ريش are some compound words that are ريش similar in both Balochi and Pashto languages. Similarly, there are also similarities in the use of conjunctions, interjections, interrogatory words, and use of articles in both Balochi and Pashto languages.

Findings and Conclusion

The present study was based on comparative analysis between the linguistic commonalities of Balochi and Pashto languages. The linguistic commonalities between both Balochi and Pashto languages were addressed in alphabetical, phonetic, and grammatical perspectives. It was found out that there are 20 alphabets in both Balochi and Pashto languages that are similar in their essence and phonetic use. Similarly, the study also showed that both languages have certain borrowed alphabets from different languages in a similar phonetic and alphabetical structure. Furthermore, the commonalities in Phonetics were also explored in the paper. It was revealed from the data that there are certain phonetic similarities in the sounds of several words in both balochi and Pashto languages. Both Balochi and Pashto have borrowed Findings words from different languages

with almost common sounds. These words range from Sanskrit, Greek, Portuguese, Hindi, Arabic, Persian, and English. Furthermore, grammatical similarities in both languages are also studied in this paper.

It was also found out that a wide range of commonalities were found in the grammatical sphere of both languages. Sentence structures, gender, and other grammatical structures are common in both Balochi and Pashto languages. Both languages have an almost similar sentence structure with subject, object, and verb. To sum up, due to their geographic and cultural proximities, both Balochi and Pashto languages have developed a great deal of commonalities.

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