

## Investigation of the conjugation process of the present tense verbs in the Makorani Balochi dialect (Lashar - Pip)

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### ABSTRACT :

This qualitative study investigated the conjugation process of present tense verbs in Pipi Lashari dialect of Balochi language. The study used interview to collect data. The research sample consists of 50 people ( 25 women and 25 men ) who speak Pipi dialect of Balochi. The way that verbs were used then was investigated and patterns were clarified to contribute to the boarder understanding of Balochi language diversity and evolution.

**Keywords :** Balochi language, Pipi Lashari dialect, present tense verb

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Human languages are part of the common heritage of humanity. From a linguistic perspective, all languages have equal value and none is superior to another. Furthermore, it is believed that through the window of each language, humans see the world differently. Therefore, the primary function of each language is shaping human perception of the world. Another function of language is transmitting human knowledge

from one land to another and from one person to another. With these two special functions and the role that each language plays in human social life, the study and documentation of all languages in the world is a collective duty of humanity. It should be noted that the principle of "language death" also prevails in the world. If languages are not paid attention to and taught, they die; and with the disappearance of any language, a part of human perception is disrupted.

Language is a systematic phenomenon that is composed of smaller systems. These systems can be studied in detail and today, this study is undertaken scientifically under the name of "linguistics".

Balochi language, as a member of Iranian languages, is one of the living and recognized languages in the world today. As most books discussing collections of world languages have included Balochi in their lists. It is worth mentioning that the Baloch people and their language have witnessed various historical events and transformations over centuries and millennia, but they have survived against all odds and remained intact until today.

It is not exactly known when the Balochi language separated from the main body of Iranian languages and gained independence. What is clearer is that the history of this language's existence is linked to the history of the Baloch people, and it can be assumed with a high degree of certainty that this language has always been the living language of the Baloch people.

Joseph Elfenbein states the Balochi language belongs to the eastern group of Iranian language, alongside Parthian and Arsacid Phalavi. The ancestor of Balochi was not Parthian or Middle Persian (Sasanid Pahlavi), but rather a lost language that shared certain characteristic features with both, while also processing its distinct identity. This lost language may have been a variant of Median speech, as the Kurdish dialects, which exhibit significant similarities with Balochi, are believed by some scholars to have descended from ancient Median (Josef. Ency: Vol-1: 1960) (Baloch, 2014).

Currently, at least 10 million people worldwide speak Balochi as their mother tongue and consider it their native language. Those familiar with Balochi script use it in their correspondence. Although relatively significant work has been done on Balochi language and literature in various fields such as linguistics, literature, correspondence, media, and audiovisual programs, but education and scientific research on this language has always been a collective concern of Baloch people in formal educational institutions such as schools, high schools, and universities.

Balochi is an Iranian language spoken in Pakistan, Iran, Afghanistan, Gulf countries especially Oman and the United Arab Emirates, Turkmenistan, India, and South Africa. This population can be classified into three dialect groups: Western, Southern, and Eastern. However, this is a general classification as there are sub-dialects that cannot be accurately placed under any of these three main dialects.

Lashari dialect is a sub-dialect of southern Balochi spoken by the Lashari tribe in the Balochistan. It is one of the many dialects of Balochi language, spoken primarily in Iran. Lashari dialect has its own unique phonological and lexical features that distinguish it from other Balochi dialects.

In this article, the conjugation process of present tense verbs in the Pipi Lashari dialect, a sub-dialect of southern Balochi, is delved into. Drawing from the insights of Sayad Zahoor Shah Hashmi's orthography, we explore the nuances of verb conjugation in this specific linguistic context. By examining this aspect of the Makorani Balochi dialect, we aim to contribute to the broader understanding of Balochi language, language diversity and evolution.

## 1. Statement of the problem

Understanding language and its cultural heritage is crucial for fostering cultural appreciation, preserving linguistic diversity, and promoting intercultural understanding. The Balochi language serves as a vehicle for expressing the unique identity, history, and traditions of Baloch people. By delving into the intricacies of the language, one can gain insights into the rich Balochi culture.

The purpose of this article is to investigate the conjugation process of the present tense verbs in Pipi Lashari dialect, which limited research has been done in its area. May by studying the Balochi language and its cultural heritage, individuals not only appreciate the unique beauty of this linguistic tradition, but also contribute to the preservation and promotion of Balochi identity and heritage for future generations.

## 2. Methodology

This study used a qualitative research (field research and library research) to investigate the conjugation process of the present verb in Pipi Lashari dialect.

### 3.1 Participants

The study included participants from the Lashari Baloch community in Pip, with an age range of 50 to 70 years old. A total of 50 individuals, comprising 25 males and 25 females,

were purposefully selected to participate in the study. The participants were interviewed about their occupations, while also engaging in discussions about common interests, history, and their needlework and agricultural practices in order to understand how they use verbs in their daily lives.

### **3.2 procedure**

The study lasted about two months from February 20, 2024 to April 16, 2024.

### **3.3 Data collection**

The primary instrument utilizing for data collection in this study was semi-structured interviews conducted with participants. The interviews were designed to capture the participants' natural use of verbs in their daily communications. Each interview session involved engaging the participants in open-ended conversations to explore their verb usage patterns. The interviews were audio-recorded to ensure accurate of the participants' responses and nuances in their language use.

### **3.4 Data analysis**

Data were analyzed using thematic analysis. Interviews were transcribed and coded for themes and patterns.

### **3.5 Ethical consideration**

Ethical considerations were considered throughout the research process. After the interviews, participants were informed about the purpose of the study and their role in it. Consent was obtained from all participants and anonymity were maintained throughout the study.

### **3.6 Limitations**

The scarcity of written documents on the Pipi Lashari dialect poses a significant challenge in conducting comprehensive research. The lack of accessible resources may impede the depth and accuracy of data collection, analysis, and interpretation, limiting the overall scope of the study. Therefore, the efforts to overcome this limitation involves relaying heavily on oral sources, engaging directly with native speakers, and exploring alternative methods to document and analyze the dialect effectively.

## **4.Result of the research**

In Balochi language, like in Persian, there are three types of present tense verbs:

1. **Indicative present**
2. **Imperative present**
3. **Continuous present**

The following text provides a detailed explanation of each type of verb in Pipi Balochi language and some examples are included for better understanding.

#### 4.1 Indicative present :

The indicative present form is used to express events or states that are real and are considered certain in the present or future times. (Since Balochi does not have a specific form for future verbs, but has considerations that indicate an action happening in the future compared to the present time. It will not be discussed here due to the focus of the article on the present tense verbs only.)

##### 4.1.1 The construction of the positive indicative present verb is as follows :

###### The base form of the verb + Person indicated suffix

Example 1 : رَوَگ / **Ravag** ( ravag is the infinitive form of verb means ‘Going’)

1. First person singular (FPS): رَوَن ( رَوَن )  
( Its conversational pronunciation has been changed from **Raon** to **Ron** over time.)
2. Second person singular (SPS) : رَوِي / **Ra’ee**
3. Third person singular (TPS) : رَوِ / **row**
4. First person plural (FPP) : رَوَايَن ( رَوَايَن ) / **Raween** ( changed to **Ra’een**)
5. Second person plural (SPP) : رَوِي ( رَوِي ) / **Rawi** ( changed to **Ra’ee**)
6. Third person plural (TPP) : رَوَايَن ( رَوَايَن ) / **Rawen** ( changed to **Ra’en**)

Example 2 : وَرَگ / **Varag** means ‘Eating’

1. FPS : وَرَوَن / **Varon**
2. SPS : وَرِي / **Vari**

3. TPS : وَرَه / Vare
4. FPP : وَرِین / Var'ien
5. SPP : وَرْئِے / Vari'ee
6. TPP : وَرْین / Var'en

Example 3 : بَرگ / Barag means 'Taking'

1. FPS : بَروں / Baron
2. SPS : بَرِی / Bari
3. TPS : بَرَه / Bare
4. FPP : بَرِین / Bareen
5. SPP : بَرْئِے / Bariee
6. TPP : بَرْین / Baren

#### 4.1.2 Negative form of indicative present tense :

To make the negative form of the indicative present verb, we add “ن / Ne” to the beginning of its positive form.

Example 1: رَوَگ

1. FPS : نِروں / Neron
2. SPS : نِرْئِے / Neraee
3. TPS : نِرو / Nerow
4. FPP : نِرْئِیں / Neraeen
5. SPP : نِرْئِے / Neraiee
6. TPP : نِرْئِیں / Neraen

Example 2: وَرَگ

1. FPS : نِوِروں / Nevaron
2. SPS : نِوِری / Nevari

3. TPS : نَوَرَه / Nevare
4. FPP : نَوَرِیں / Nevareen
5. SPP : نَوَرِے / Nevariee
6. TPP : نَوَرَن / Nevaren

Example 3: بَرَّگ

1. FPS : نَبَرُون / Nebaron
2. SPS : نَبَرِی / Nebari
3. TPS : نَبَرَه / Nebare
4. FPP : نَبَرِیں / Nebareen
5. SPP : نَبَرِے / Nebariee
6. TPP : نَبَرَن / Nenaren

## 4.2 Imperative present :

The Imperative present form of verb used for events and situations that are expressed in an uncertain manner in the present or future time. It is used in structures indicating possibilities, necessities, permissions, obligations, emergencies, doubts, or uncertain events (compare with structures formed with “can”, “may” and “must” in English) and also in some subordinate clause constructions.

### 4.2.1 The construction of the positive imperative present verb is as follows :

ب (Be) + The base form of the verb + Person indicated suffix

Example 1 : رَوَّگ / Ravag

1. FPS : رَوُّون / **Beron** ( It changed to بَرُون / **Beron** over time.)
2. SPS : رَوَّوی / **Beravi** ( changed to بَرَّئی / **Beraee**)
3. TPS : رَوَّوَه / **Berave** ( changed to بَرَّوُ / **Berouw**)
4. FPP : رَوَّوایں / **Beraween** ( changed to بَرَّایں / **Bera'ien**)
5. SPP : رَوَّوے / **Beravi** ( changed to بَرَّے / **Beraee**)

6. TPP : پَرَوَن / **Beraven** ( changed to پَرَن / **Bera'en**)

Example 2 : وَرَگ / **Varag**

1. FPS : پَوَرَوَن / **Bevaron**
2. SPS : پَوَرِی / **Bevari**
3. TPS : پَوَرَه / **Bevare**
4. FPP : پَوَرَايِن / **Bevar'een**
5. SPP : پَوَرِے / **Bevar'ie**
6. TPP : پَوِرَن / **Bevaren**

Example 3 : بَرَگ / **Barag**

1. FPS : پَبَرَوَن / **Bebaron**
2. SPS : پَبَرِی / **Bebari**
3. TPS : پَبَرَه / **Bebare**
4. FPP : پَبَرَايِن / **Bebat'ien**
5. SPP : پَبَرِے / **Bebat'ie**
6. TPP : پَبِرَن / **Bebaren**

#### 4.2.2 Negative form of imperative present tense :

To make the negative form of the imperative present verb, we replace “مَ / Ma” instead of “بَ / Be” at the beginning.

Example 1 : رَوَگ / **Ravag**

1. FPS : مَرَوُون / **Maravon** ( changed to مَرَوَن / **Maron** over time.)
2. SPS : مَرَوِی / **Maravi** ( changed to مَرَنی / **Mara'ee**)
3. TPS : مَرَوَه / **Marave** ( changed to مَرَوُ / **Marouw**)
4. FPP : مَرَوَايِن / **Marav'een** ( changed to مَرَايِن / **Mara'ien**)
5. SPP : مَرَوِے / **Marav'ie** ( changed to مَرَنے / **Maraee**)



6. TPP : مَرَوَن / **Maraven** ( changed to مَرَن / **Maraen**)

Example 2 : وَرَگ / **Varag**

1. FPS : مَوَرَوَن / **Mavaron**
2. SPS : مَوَرِی / **Mavari**
3. TPS : مَوَرَه / **Mavare**
4. FPP : مَوَرایِن / **Mavar'ien**
5. SPP : مَوَرِے / **Mavar'ie**
6. TPP : مَوَرَن / **Mavaren**

Example 3 : بَرَگ / **Barag**

1. FPS : مَبَرَوَن / **Mabaron**
2. SPS : مَبَرِی / **Mabari**
3. TPS : مَبَرَه / **Mabare**
4. FPP : مَبَرایِن / **Mabar'ien**
5. SPP : مَبَرِے / **Mabari**
6. TPP : مَبَرَن / **Mabaren**

### 4.3 Continuous present :

The present continuous form of verb is used for events that are going on in the present time.

#### 4.3.1 The construction of the positive continuous present verb is as follows :

بَ / Ba + Infinitive form of verb + Person indicated suffix ( بَ / Ba is omitted sometimes.)

Example 1 : رَوَگ / **Ravag**

1. FPS : بَرَوَگوں / **Baravagon**
2. SPS : بَرَوَگی / **Baravagi**

3. TPS : بَرَوَگِی / **Baravag'en**
4. FPP : بَرَوَگِی / **Baravag'ien**
5. SPP : بَرَوَگِی / **Baravag'ie**
6. TPP : بَرَوَگِی / **Baravag'en** (It is the same as the third person singular.)

**Example 2 : وَرَگ / Varag**

1. FPS : بَوَرَگِو / **Bavaragon**
2. SPS : بَوَرَگِی / **Bavaragi**
3. TPS : بَوَرَگِی / **Bavaragen**
4. FPP : بَوَرَگِی / **Bvaragien**
5. SPP : بَوَرَگِی / **Bavaragie**
6. TPP : بَوَرَگِی / **Bavaragen**

**Example 3 : بَرَگ / Barag**

1. FPS : بَبَرَگِو / **Babaragon**
2. SPS : بَبَرَگِی / **Babaragi**
3. TPS : بَبَرَگِی / **Babaragen**
4. FPP : بَبَرَگِی / **Babaragien**
5. SPP : بَبَرَگِی / **Babaragie**
6. TPP : بَبَرَگِی / **Babaragen**

**4.3.2 Negative form of continuous present tense :**

To make the negative form of the continuous present verb, we add “نِه / Neh” at the beginning of the person indicated suffixes.

**Example 1 : رَوَگ / Ravag**

1. FPS : بَرَوَگِی نِهون / **Baravag Nehon**

2. SPS : بَرَوَگِ نِهی / **Baravag Nehi**
3. TPS : بَرَوَگِ نِهِن / **Baravag Nehen**
4. FPP : بَرَوَگِ نِهِن / **Baravag Nehien**
5. SPP : بَرَوَگِ نِهے / **Baravag Nehie**
6. TPP : بَرَوَگِ نِهِن / **Baravag Nehen**

#### Example 2 : وَرَگ / **Varag**

1. FPS : بَوَرَگِ نِهون / **Bavarag Nehon**
2. SPS : بَوَرَگِ نِهی / **Bavarag Nehi**
3. TPS : بَوَرَگِ نِهِن / **Bavarag Nehen**
4. FPP : بَوَرَگِ نِهِن / **Bavarag Nehien**
5. SPP : بَوَرَگِ نِهے / **Bavarag Nehie**
6. TPP : بَوَرَگِ نِهِن / **Bavarag Nehen**

#### Example 3 : بَرَگ / **Barag**

1. FPS : بَبَرَگِ نِهون / **Babarag Nehon**
2. SPS : بَبَرَگِ نِهی / **Babarag Nehi**
3. TPS : بَبَرَگِ نِهِن / **Babarag Nehen**
4. FPP : بَبَرَگِ نِهِن / **Babarag Nehien**
5. SPP : بَبَرَگِ نِهے / **Babarag Nehie**
6. TPP : بَبَرَگِ نِهِن / **Babarag Nehen**

## 5 . Discussion

In addition to the importance of preserving all languages as a shared heritage of humanity, it is crucial to recognize the unique value and significance of each language in shaping human social life and cultural identity. Balochi language, with its rich history and diverse dialects, is a testament to the linguistic diversity that enriches our global community.

As highlighted earlier, the lack of research on Balochi language and its dialects underscores the urgent need for further exploration and documentation. By delving into the intricacies of Papi Lashari dialect's present tense verb conjugation process, this research not only contributes to a deeper understanding of Balochi linguistic but also sheds light on the broader linguistic landscape of the region.

Through dedicated efforts to the study and preserve languages like Balochi, we not only honor the cultural heritage of specific communities but also foster a more inclusive and interconnected world where linguistic diversity is celebrated and safeguarded. By continuing to explore and document lesser-researched languages, we uphold our collective responsibility to preserve the rich tapestry of human languages for future generations.

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