

Dialectal Variation of Brahui Language in Balochistan

Language & Literature

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Abstract

This article describes the language variation of phonetic changes, speech style, vocabulary changing and borrowing words of Brahui language. This article would try to show the reasons of variation in dialects of Brahui. One of the biggest reasons regarding dialectal variation is; why the Brahui language is being linguistically affected by the neighbouring languages, like Balochi in Raxshani dialect, Urdu, English, Pashto in Saravani dialect, Sindhi, Jathki, Lasi in Jahlavani dialect. At the end some recommendations are given for preventing such dialectal changes in Brahui language. If the lingual changes continue, it would be dangerous for the Brahui language.

Key words: Acrolect, Baselect, Brahui, Mesolect, Phonic changes.

Introduction

It is natural phenomena that every language in the world has more than one dialect and accent. It causes that a language spread or spoken in a country, where national frontiers are less well established, dialect continua can cause political difficulties, social behaviours ethical manners, or due to the marketability of that language precisely because people are used to thinking in terms of discrete categories rather than in ad hoc or continuum-type terms. These social changes of a language cause changes in dialect and accent. In this way the Brahui language has three major dialects.

The following are the main dialects of Brahui language which are being spoken in Balochistan specially and entire Pakistan in general. These speech variations or styles has social, economic and political background.

Saravani Paarvarh (Dialect) Of Brahui

This is the first major dialect of Brahui which is spoken in the north part of Balochistan, where this Saravani dialect is being spoken in Quetta, Mastung, Drengarh, Mungchar, Kalat, few parts of Bolan, Kachee, Naseer Abad and Jafar abad.

Saravani dialect is most literary usable dialect of Brahui, this is how this dialect of Brahui is called standard dialect. Almost Saravani dialect has been used for all literary works. Even this accent of Brahui is being used in print and electronic media too. Saravani dialect is affected by its adjacent, English, Urdu and Pashto language (Balochistan-R: 2010)

Jahlavani Paarvarh of Brahui

The dialect which is spoken in the southeast of Balochistan known as Jahlavani dialect, which spread over all Jahlavan (Xuzdár, nál, karx, Bela, uthal, Hub Caokí), Jahlmagsi, Naseer Abad, Jafar Abad and some arias of Sindh (Mehaf, Faríd ábád, Kárací, Jekab ábád, Naváb şah and Haedar ábád). And this dialect is known as the most affected Brahui dialect, Sindhi accent has been noted in huge and an undersized effectiveness of Balochi language is also noted (Balochistan-R: 2010)

Raxshanic Paarvarh of Brahui

Raxshani dialect is also known as Reki or Noşkei which is spoken in the northwest and west of Balochistan, the speakers of Raxshani dialect are found all over Chaghi division although there are a considerable number of speakers in Southern Afghanistan, Iranian Balochistan and in Turkmenistan (Balochistan-R: 2010)

A special usage of long vowels creates melodious expression in this Raxshani dialect and in comparison this is known as the pleasing manners in Brahui dialects. However this dialect is affected by Balochi, Afghani and Iranic Persian. (Sabir, 1998)

Dialectal Variation

Brahui language has dialectal variation in its three dialects. This changing or speech style in Brahui phonetics has its roots since 1980s. With the passage of time this variation and changing is increasing day by day. Let's think about following sentences.

1. O sabax sunaifing e.
(He is reading the lesson)
2. Aslam guft, e bazar aa kava
(Aslam said that he will go to bazar)
3. Basar chamat goglo na borh karenun.
(We have cocked onion, tomato)

The above three sentences are simple sentences of Brahui language. These sentences contain other languages word. Like sentence no.1 has Urdu verb, which has been Brahutized.

Sentence no.2 shows the variation of Dehwari and Brahui languages. The sentence is taken out from the Dehwari language. But it seems that it is Brahui sentence.

Sentence no.3 contains Sindhi vocabulary but it is the Brahui speaker's sentence.

These changes in variation has their background. Ore reason of changing words or borrowing words from mother languages.

A condition wherein a creole language consists of a spectrum of varieties between those most and least similar to the superstreet language (that is, a closely related language whose speakers assert dominance of some sort). Due to social, political, and economic factors, a creole language can decreolize towards one of the languages from which it is descended, aligning its morphology, phonology, and syntax to the local standard of the dominant language but to different degrees depending on a speaker's status (en.wikipedia:2014)

William Stewort, in 1965, proposed that the terms **acrolect** and **basilect** be the sociolinguistic labels for the upper and lower boundaries respectively of a post-creole speech continuum (**William 1965: 10**). In the early 1970s Derek Bickerton popularized these terms (as well as **mesolect** for intermediate points in the continuum) to refer to the phenomenon of code-switching used by some users of creole languages who also have some fluency in the standard language upon which the contact language is based.

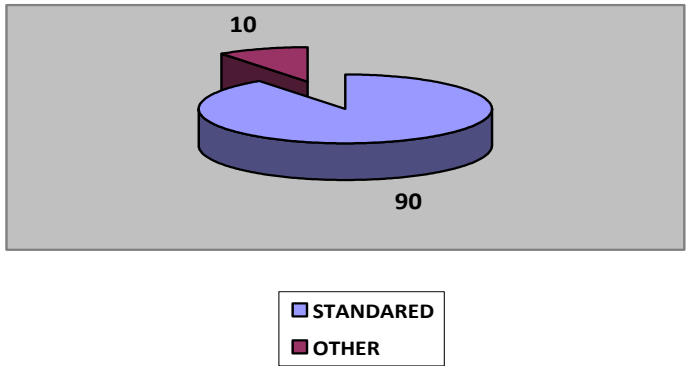
University of Chicago linguist Salikoko Mufwene explains the phenomenon of creole languages as "basilectalization" away from a standard, often European, language among a mixed European and non-European population (Mufwene:1993) In certain speech communities, a continuum exists between speakers of a creole language and a related standard language.

There are no discrete boundaries between the different varieties and the situation in which such a continuum exists involves considerable social stratification. The following are the three major variation which were according in Brahui language are as under.

Acrolect (Eb Paarvarh)

The above term is used for the style of a language’s dialect or accent which has been affected 10% from neighbouring languages or dialects.

Chart no.1



The chart no.1 shows the example of acrolect in Brahui language. This term is known as “*EYB PAARVARH*” in Brahui language. In this variation the *Saravani* dialect of Brahui is affecting by Urdu, English and Pashto. Some example,

Gait aa bell maningy.

It is bell on the gait. This is type of sentence are being used in saravani dialect of Brahui especially in district Quetta. The above Brahui sentence contains the English words Gait and Bell.

This variation shows that the saravani dialect which is known as the standard dialect of Brahui language. Some extend this dialect leaving 10% away from its standardised shape. Below are few examples of Brahui acrolect variation;

Acrolect	Urdu	English	Balochi
<i>Chuna sabak sunaifing e.</i>	Sabak,		

Boy is reading the lesson	Sunna		
<i>Full tiet kes teny</i> Make yourself full tied.		Full tied	
<i>Devaan ti charag varag marek.</i> Food would be served in the meeting			Devaan Charag Varag
<i>Tene mod e off kappa</i> Don't off your mod		Mod, off	
<i>Room ana lock ay kohlingut</i> I am unlocking the room.	Kohlina	Room, lock	

Table no. 1

Mesolect (Nem Paarvarh)

The mesolect variation of Brahui language is the form, where the standard dialect is allowing other languages to become part of the Brahui. Means this variation is being affected 50% or it is 50% far from standard dialect.

These variations can be seen and found in all Brahui dialects.

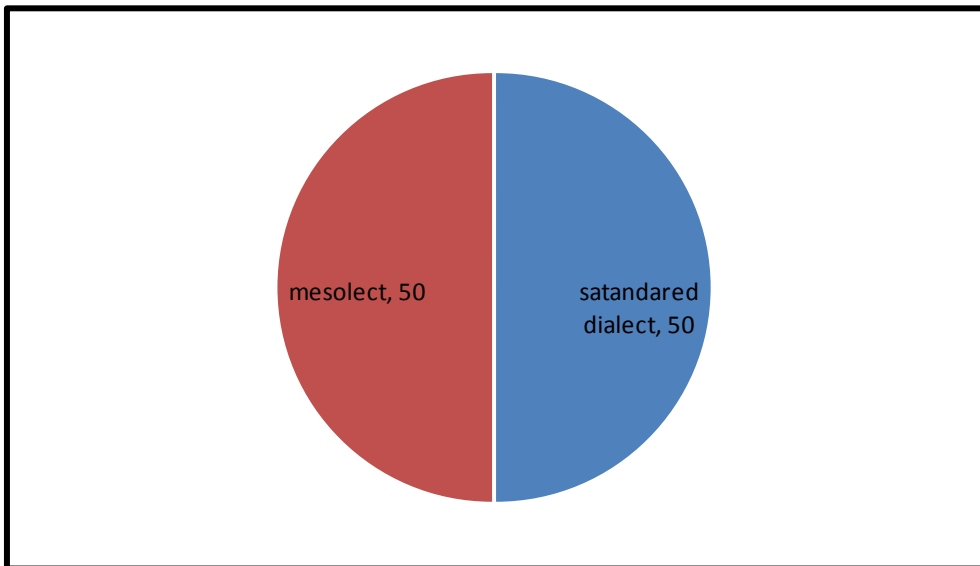


Chart no.2

The mesolect variation of Brahui is found in saravani dialect also. In this shape of language or dialect would be 50% far from standard dialect.

Dehwari dialect of the Mastung has good example of the mesolect or *nem paarvarh*. Dehwari is spoken in the saravani range like Mastun, Kalat and Quetta. Dehwari is the baselectal shape of the Persian language. It has been affected from Brahui language.

The following are few example of Brahui and Dehwari mesolectal variation. Especially in direct and indirect speech of Dehwari language.

Mesolect	Brahui	Dehwari	English
<i>Jik istada</i> Stand up straight	Jik	Istada	
Messige kes Wite a message	Kes		Message
<i>Ali guft akram barek</i> Ali said akram will come	Akram barek	Ali guft	
<i>Aeno pagga ara fession in e.</i> Which fashion is in nowadays	Aeno pagga, ara, e.		Fashion in

Table no.2

Baselect (Kehb Paarvarh)

The baselectal variation of Brahui language shows the poor position of language. This is most affected from other languages. Mostly baselectal form of the Brahui language is found in Sindh.

The keh b paarvarh or baselectal shape of Brahui is 90% far from the standard dialect of Brahui. Or is the 90% affected from Sindhi language.

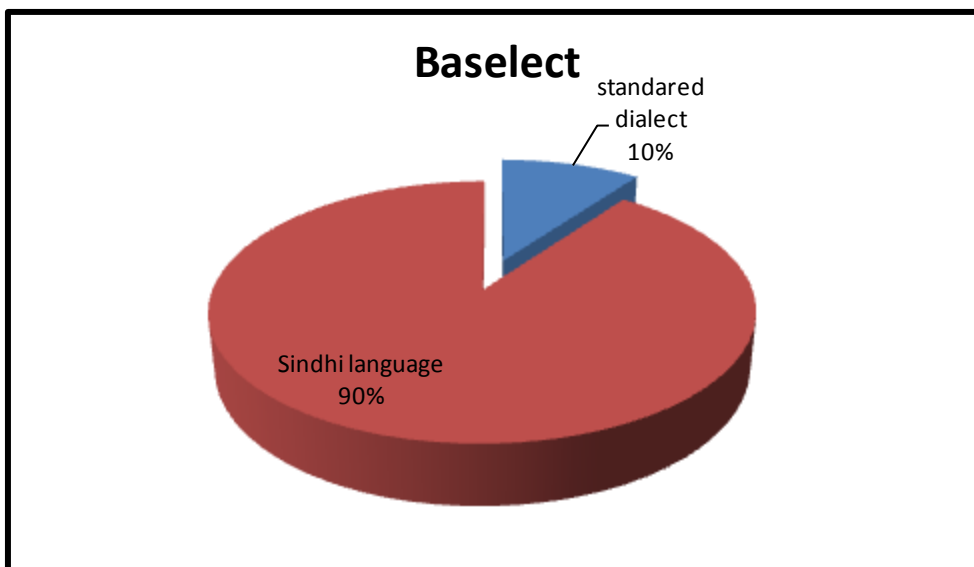


Chart no.3

Baselectal variation of Brahui is usual spoken in Sindh. It means the Brahui of Sindhi language. The following table no.3 is the example of Baselectal variation of Brahui language.

Baselect	Brahui	Sindhi
<i>Sajjo day gaddah wangur kam kret</i> Worked full day like Donkey	Day, karet	Sajjo, gaddah wangur kam
<i>Myet ant borh kunesa</i> What do you want to eat cousin?	Ant, kunesa	Myet, borh

Table no.3

Conclusion

Dialectal variations of Brahui can damage the originality of Brahui language. If it continues in the coming decades it can be produce more dialects or accents in Brahui language.

The reasons of these variations can be the following,

- Geographical distance between the Brahui dialects and its standard dialect is the main or major reason for dialectal variation.

- Brahui is not the medium of instructional language of Balochistan especially Brahui populated area.
- Lack of electronic and print media in Brahui language can be the cause of dialectal variation.

Mother tongue based education can be the effective tool to control the dialectal variation of Brahui language in the Balochistan. Because the common curriculum in Brahui can play an important role to make uniformity in Brahui language.

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