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An Analysis of Reduplication in the Shina Language through the Lens of Morphological Doubling Theory





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Abstract

This study examines the morphological characteristics of the Shina language, which is spoken in several northern regions of Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan. Shina is an Indo-Aryan language utilized in various regions of Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan; nevertheless, it remains unrecorded and lacks recognition as an official or regional language by authorities. Reduplication in the Shina language, analyzed via the lens of morphological doubling theory, has been used to investigate the roles of Total reduplication, Partial or Echo Reduplication, and Non-Sensical Reduplication in Shina. The researcher purposefully collected data through random observation of vernacular speakers of the Shina language, noting examples such as /bal-bel/ for 'altogether' (Total Reduplication) and /Musha-Chey/ for 'husband-wife' (Partial Reduplication). The results indicated that Shina is still spoken in certain regions of Pakistan, which is characterized by a significant presence of reduplications in the daily discourse of the local speech communities.

Keywords: Reduplication; Total Reduplication; Partial Reduplication; Non-sensical Reduplication; Shina Language; Morphological Doubling Theory

Background of Study

Pakistan is a multilingual country with a variety of spoken languages (Rasool et al., 2023). The Urdu language serves as the national language, whereas Balochi, Pashto, Sindhi, Punjabi, and Shina are spoken at the provincial level in Gilgit-Baltistan. Additional languages, including Balti, Burkashi, and Shina, are spoken regionally throughout the country (Jabeen, 2023).

The languages spoken in Pakistan exhibit distinct characteristics in terms of sounds and structures, encompassing various phonological traits and adhering to different word creation processes (Ali & Ilyas, 2022). Despite extensive research on various aspects of Pakistani languages, there remains an urgent necessity to examine these local languages and explore the diverse constructions of words and phrases, particularly compounds, idioms, and proverbs utilized by native speakers, which enhance the aesthetic appeal of the language.

Introduction

Reduplication is a linguistic phenomenon employed in different languages since Ancient Greek, however it is confined to the realms of derivational and inflectional morphology (Kauffman, 2015). Reduplication involves the formation of new words and grammatical variants of the same word, often by the addition of affixes. Researchers investigate the application of reduplications across diverse languages to comprehend its morphological, phonological, and semantic roles. The study of reduplication in linguistics has garnered scholarly interest for various reasons, particularly its application by speech communities in their individual languages. Reduplication is the whole or partial repetition of words to emphasize specific assertions in both verbal and written speech, resulting in the formation of a new element. Reduplications fulfil many semantic tasks and occur at multiple levels, ranging from phonologically complete and partial lexical reduplication to the repetition of entire phrases and sentences. They occur in various forms, such as the replication of the root word, exemplified by the Urdu term /roz roz/ meaning 'daily', which represents entire reduplication. Conversely, partial or echo reduplication transpires when a segment of the entire word is replicated alongside the original word, as exemplified by "bread" and similar terms such as /roti shoti/. Kachru (1990, p. 62) referred to it as echo compounding due to the repetition or rhyming of the original word with varying starting consonants, for example, waget 'time' /wagten-fa-wagten/ 'time-to-time.' Mangrio (2022) defines echo reduplication as 'a phonetic variation of the base words.' Additionally, it possesses several phonological forms that appear intriguing to both the speaker and the listener.

Hurch (2005) indicates that reduplication manifests in many forms: words, phrases, and sentences, categorized as lexical reduplication, phrasal reduplication, and syntactic reduplication, respectively.

Reduplication conveys several emotional and sensory characteristics of humanity. Thus, it can be posited that duplication is a distinctive linguistic trait that enhances the vibrancy and richness of a language (Kajitani, 2005). Duplication can be characterized as a format characterized by the identical or varied repetition of syllables, morphemes, etc., serving to enhance the expression of emotions and provide more precise communication in language. It can be utilised to demonstrate

intensification, plurality, completeness, or intensity (Morvacsik, 1992). In recent years, the production of duplication and reduplication has emerged as a focal point for linguistic academics, drawing the attention of linguists to investigate the underlying qualities of a language (Hurch, 2005).

Reduplication is a morpho-phonological process in which a word or a segment of a phrase is duplicated and affixed to the original term. Total reduplication is employed for the replication of a term such as /dja:nde-dja:nde/ meaning 'Let it go,' whereas partial reduplication is necessary when one segment of the word is modified, as in /roti:-shoti:/ where 'roti' signifies the bread and 'shoti' is devoid of significance but serves to emphasize the primary term. A modification in inception, such as this, is referred to as echo reduplication (Kachru, 1990, p. 62). It is far more challenging than partial or basic reduplication. Echo reduplication is prevalent in linguistic contexts and seems to be transmissible airborne phenomena, particularly in Indo-Aryan and Dravidian languages. The standard terminology employed is 'melodic overwriting' (Inkelas, 2005). In specific instances, reduplication can be entirely characterized in phonological terms (Hurch, 2005).

Shina Language

Shina is a Dardic branch of the Indo-Iranian (Indic) languages, spoken by a small ethnic group known as the Dards, residing in the mountainous regions of the Karakoram, Himalaya, and Hindukush. Grierson (1927, p.109) designated the term "Pisacha Languages" for the Dardic languages in his previous work. Masica (1991) identifies Shina as the preeminent language of the Dardic branch, spoken in several dialects across Gilgit, Astore, Punyal, Baltistan, Chilas, and Palas in Indus Kohistan inside Pakistani territory, as well as in certain regions of the Kashmir valley in India. Bailey (1924, p.xiii-xiv) categorises Shina into three primary dialects: Gilgiti, Astori, and Kohistani, with Astori further subdivided into Guresi and Drasi, and Kohistani divided into Chilasi and Kohistani. Radloff et al. (1992) categories Shina into four geographical clusters: Northern, Eastern, Diamer, and Kohistan, based on their linguistic survey.

In addition to these dialectal variations, Shina exhibits differences in accent and tone across villages and generations, which may lead to questions or disagreements among readers of this analysis of inflectional Shina morphemes.

According to Schmidt and Kohistani (2008, p. XV), "this is the fate of all grammarians who work with unwritten languages. "The inflectional morphology of Shina is far more intricate than that of numerous other Indo-European languages, such as English. Multiple suffixes may be attached to a word stem to denote case, tense, person, possession, gender, and other morphological attributes. The gradual phonetic reduction or attachment to the stem will also characterize the case system in Shina. This leads to the creation of numerous diverse word forms and can be effectively managed by an Item and Process method. Reduplication is a linguistic phenomenon utilized in numerous languages since Ancient Greek, but restricted to the domains of derivational and inflectional morphology (Kauffman, 20115).

Reduplication in linguistics denotes the repetition of a word or a segment of a word to form a new term or express a specific meaning. This phenomenon occurs in numerous languages globally, fulfilling diverse grammatical, morphological, and semantic functions.

Reduplication may manifest in either complete or partial forms. Reduplication in the Shina language exemplifies the complexity and diversity of language, predominantly spoken in the Gilgit-Baltistan area of Pakistan.

Morphological Doubling Theory (MDT)

In Morphological Doubling Theory (MDT), reduplication is defined as the repetition of a segment of a word (such as a prefix, root, or entire word) according to its semantics and structure. It resembles replicating a particular segment of a word to express a certain concept, as noted by Inkelas (2005). Morphological Doubling Theory posits that reduplication occurs when the morphology requires an element of a specific semantic description to be represented twice.

The reduplicant (the repeated component) and the base (the original component) constitute elements of a structure, which also encompasses shared meanings and phonetic patterns. In a compound term, both the base and the repeated component possess their own unique meanings. Occasionally, an infix is introduced that may link both elements. Bauer (2001) refers to the additional element inserted between the repeated and original components of a composite as a "interfix." This interfix facilitates the connection between the two components of the complex. This characteristic of possessing an interfix in reduplications is frequently encountered in

languages such as Urdu-Hindi, and other Indo-Aryan languages. This investigation provides a comprehensive theoretical basis for the current research about the morphosemantic analysis of lexical reduplication in the Shina language.

Research Objectives

- To investigate the various types of reduplication in Shina language.
- To comprehend the complete and partial reduplication.

Research Questions

- 1. What types of reduplications are present in the Shina language?
- 2. How the formation of reduplication are classified as total, partial and non-sensical?

Significance of the Study

- The current study expects to have a far-reaching impact on the research on undocumented languages and marginalized communities.
- It aims to make a decent contribution to the research on the morphology of all languages in general and Shina in particular.
- Since there is little work on the morphology of the regional languages and hardly any work on the undocumented languages, this study will fill the gap in the work on neglected languages in Pakistan.

Literature Review

Currently, significant attention is being directed on the subject of Morphology. Numerous research investigations on the morphology of Indo-Aryan languages have been undertaken (Saad, 2015). Mangrio (2016) did study on loanwords in the Urdu language. Nonetheless, Shina, despite its considerable linguistic scope, has not garnered scholarly interest, except from a rudimentary examination by the author Aslam (2015), which was conducted under the designation of Haryanvi. Consequently, this paper emphasises the hitherto overlooked features.

The study focusses on the theoretical framework of Morphological Duplication Theory and aims to illustrate Shina lexical reduplication as a form of morphological duplication. Sharon Inkelas and Cheryl Zoll (2005) initially formulated this hypothesis to emphasise the morpho-semantic clarification of purely lexical reduplication. Subsequently, further morphological structures were also invoked by it. From their viewpoint, at the morpho-syntactic and semantic levels, lexical

reduplication is governed by identity, favouring semantics where phonological alterations may occur in one or both derivatives, but not at the phonological level. Consequently, it presents a novel perspective on reduplication known as Morphological Duplication Theory (MDT) or Morpho-Semantic (MS) features duplication. Furthermore, they detail several instances of lexical reduplication that are based on morphological or syntactic influences rather than phonological ones. They replicate one or more phonological elements, resulting in uncertainty on the resemblance between the two versions. (Inkelas & Zoll, 2005).

In MDT, reduplication is regarded as a morphological structure with a limited number of counterparts, specifically two, which have comparable semantic characteristics but possess independent morphological and phonological inputs. Primarily, MTD is classified under these two categories:

Morphological Targets

Reduplication structures require morphological components (affix, root, stem, word) but not phonological characteristics (mora, syllable, or foot) (Inkelas & Zoll, 2005). This signifies that, according to MDT, the previously described morphological units are the basis for duplication, rather than phonological segments.

Semantic Identity

A reduplication structure requires semantic identity between the two sisters, but not phonetic identity (Inkelas & Zoll, 2005). Furthermore, MDT underscores the semantic similarities between the two daughters of reduplication. Nonetheless, phonetic similarity is not emphasised in this context.

Application Mechanism

MDT is a technique that generates words through the repetition of their components. This technique posits that two components of the word convey identical meanings (Inkelas & Zoll, 2005). Simultaneously, MDT addresses certain problems associated with the repetition of word segments. Subsequently, it elucidates these issues in further detail, concentrating on the construction of words. This indicates a distinction between MTD and sound-replicating theories, along with other changes in word formation observed between the two repeated segments. Inkelas and Zoll (2005) assert that in theories involving sound replication, the repeated segments are identical in sound. In MTD, if the components exhibit phonetic similarity, it is seen indicative

of identical meaning.

Rationale for the Theory and Topic of the Study

The MTD theory is utilised to analyse the many morphological patterns and characteristics, as well as the semantic purposes of lexical reduplication in Raangri, in contrast to other identity theories or phonological copying theories. These cases cannot be elucidated only by phonological copying theories, as they are constrained to a narrow range of circumstances. The reduplication "ronda, ronda," meaning "while crying," cannot be explained by phonological copying theories. According to phonological copying theories, the reduplicant is positioned next to the base word. In MDT, the presence of additional components between the two daughters is not obligatory.

Rationale for the Theory and Topic of the Study

The MTD theory is utilized to analyze the various morphological patterns, characteristics, and semantic purposes of lexical reduplication in Shina, in contrast to other identity theories or phonological copying theories. These cases cannot be elucidated only by phonological copying theories due to their confinement to a restricted range of contexts. The reduplication ro, ro "while crying" cannot be explained by phonological copying theories. According to phonological copying theories, the reduplicates is positioned next to the base word. In MDT, the presence of additional components between the two daughters is not obligatory.

Inflectional vs. Derivational Reduplication

Certain writers and researchers have examined the two methods of word reduplication, namely inflection and derivation. If the primary word remains unchanged while enhancing the grammatical meaning, it is inflectional reduplication. For instance, "gerum-gerum" signifies 'very hot. 'In derivational reduplication, the meaning and category of the base word are altered. Let us examine the term "baat-baat," which signifies 'every moment,' involving modifications at both the phonological and grammatical levels. Robin (1993) concurs with Ambarita, asserting that the meaning of the original word undergoes a grammatical alteration in inflectional reduplication, but the reverse is true in other contexts.

Simple and Complex Reduplication

Ambarita (2018) discusses two types of reduplication: inflectional and derivational.

Rubino (2005) introduced both basic and complicated reduplication. Additional components are appended to the original term via simple reduplication, without altering its phonetics. Conversely, in complex reduplication, both consonants and vowels undergo modifications, influencing the phonetic quality of the word. She subsequently clarifies that in simple reduplication, the copy and the original word stay identical, whereas phonological alterations occur in the foundation words of complicated constructions (Rubino, 2011).

Complete and Partial Reduplication

It is the replication of the entire base word or a singular component thereof. Complete reduplication involves the full repeating of a word, while partial reduplication entails phonological alterations and the repetition of select segments of the source word (Khanjan & Alinezhad, 2010). In full reduplication, the entire root is reiterated, whereas in partial reduplication, only certain consonantal or vowel alterations take place in the base form (Rubino, 2005). In conclusion, reduplication occurs in multiple languages; yet, both complete and partial reduplication are contingent upon the specific language. Reduplication frequently occurs in numerous terms; nonetheless, contextual analysis is essential as it facilitates the examination of the semantic meanings of these words (Pollock & Wessler, 2014).

Research Methodology

This qualitative study employs purposive sampling to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the research. Data was gathered in the natural environment when Shina was utilized during Family Interactions. Furthermore, observation was conducted in the domain of Family Interactions, where speakers of the target language engaged in spontaneous and random interactions, with the researcher serving as the direct observer. Data was gathered from various domains: wedding celebrations and family contacts, where reduplicated words were prevalent. In accordance with Inkelas (2005) Morphological Doubling Theory, the emphasis was solely on the reduplicated components of the utterances from the target locality.

Data Analysis

Data was classified based on their usage kinds. It was classified into total, partial, and senseless reduplication. The data was also transcribed and translated into English for the readers' convenience.

Total and Partial Reduplication

It is the replication of the entire base word or a singular component thereof. Complete reduplication involves the full repeating of the word, while partial reduplication entails phonological alterations and the repetition of select segments of the underlying word (Khanjan & Alinezhad, 2010). In total reduplication, the entire root is reiterated, whereas in partial reduplication, only certain consonantal or vowel alterations transpire in the base form (Rubino, 2005). In conclusion, reduplication occurs in multiple languages; yet, both complete and partial reduplication are contingent upon specific languages. Reduplication frequently occurs in numerous terms; nonetheless, contextual analysis is essential as it facilitates the examination of the semantic meanings of these words (Pollock & Wessler, 2014).

Total Reduplications

| Shina Reduplication | English Translation | Grammatical Aspect |
|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| /saf-saf/ | 'white' | Adj |
| /saath-saath/ | 'altogether' | Adv |
| /bhar-bhar/ | 'full to the brim' | Verb |
| /Loky -Loky / | 'hurriedly' | Adv |
| /kunu-kunu/ | 'whosoever' | Adv |
| /ro-ro/ | 'while crying' | Verb |
| /ghut-ghut/ | 'till knee' | N |
| /pu:ch-puch/ | 'to ask' | N |
| /har-har/ | 'rampantly' | Adv |

Shina: Os nay loky loky tomay kam pora thoo English: He did all his work hurriedly

Total reduplication replicates the base word in its entirety during the process. Shian employs the compound phrase "/Loky -Loky /" as an illustration. The compound word "/Loky/" consists of two morphemes. The reduplicates of the base word "Loky" is the total reduplication of the base word. Moreover, it is referred to as Total Reduplication due to both morphemes precisely conveying the intended meaning. They function as a visual depiction of the repetition of actions. The term belongs to the grammatical category of "Adjective," signifying "white." Reduplication does not alter the

grammatical aspect of a word; rather, it remains unchanged but serves to provide emphasis. Furthermore, the aforementioned phrases serve as examples that exemplify entire reduplication within the same category. Such terms are commonly utilized in informal contexts.

Partial Reduplication

| Shina Reduplication | English Translation | Grammatical Aspect |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| /chor woor-/ | ʻthief | N |
| /Ashy -Mashy/ | 'tear' | N |
| /banony -sarony/ | 'wear and tear' | V |
| /pori-khandon/ | 'entire family' | N |
| /bhuk-bhuk/ | 'hunger and poverty' | N |
| /roni -moni/ | 'cry' | V |
| /moru-mori/ | 'Fiting | V |
| /Pony-wonny/ | 'way' | N |

Shina: Danish nay pashy hi roni -moni shouru theygya

English: Danish has Started Crying having Seen Me

In the aforementioned situations, 'roni-Moni' constitutes a composite term. This compound word comprises two morphemes. The root word /rona/ is an infinitive verb signifying 'to weep.' Furthermore, it is referred to as Partial Reduplication, because the underlying word has a specific meaning, while the reduplicant 'dho,' an infinitive verb meaning 'to wash,' lacks semantic significance in this context, serving only a phonological function.

Non-Sensical Reduplications

| Shina Reduplication | English Translation | Grammatical Aspect |
|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| /bhein-bhein/ | 'to mumble nonsense' | Verb |
| /tur-tur/ | 'speak nonsense' | Verb |

Kay tay tur tur laga oya aa? What nonsense are you saying?

Non-sensical reduplications entail the repetition of a word or a segment of a word in a manner that fails to produce a coherent or logical utterance, yet is playfully reiterated

to elicit a humorous impact. Nonsensical reduplication appears to be a subset of total reduplication, although it lacks meaning. The initial segment of the first word is reiterated in the procedure. The previously given example, 'tur-tur,' is a compound utilised in Shina. This compound consists of two morphemes: 'Tur' and the second segment of the initial word 'tur,' which is a complete reduplication of the first segment.

Conclusion

This study has examined the application of reduplication in the Shina language. Three categories of Shina reduplication have been examined and analysed: total reduplication, partial reduplication, and nonsensical reduplication, together with their contextual applications. The data analysis clearly indicates that the Shina language exhibits significant richness in reduplication variations, including total reduplication, partial reduplication, and nonsensical reduplication in the Shina language.

Future Recommendation

This research will facilitate further advancement in the Indo-Aryan languages. Despite being a marginalized language, Shina presents opportunities for additional research regarding word paradigms, as well as inflectional and derivational structures. This will assist future researchers in examining more morphological aspects of the Shina language. This research may also benefit Corpus linguistics, Computational linguistics, and machine translation. The descriptive methodology will assist other researchers in studying the vernacular languages of Pakistan.

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