

## CHAPTER VI

### CONCLUSION

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#### I

The evidence for contrasts for three varieties of Nepali (Nepali of Sikkim, Nepali of West Bengal and Nepali of Himachal Pradesh) leads to point an overall common system as briefed below:

##### 1) Phonology

- i) 6 Vowels [cf.III.1.1.1.]
- ii) 26 Consonants (Stops-20, Nasals-2, Fricatives-2, Lateral-1, Trill-1) [cf.III.1.1.2.]
- iii) 2 Semi Vowels [cf.III.1.1.2.]
- iv) Nasalization as suprasegmental feature is co-occurring with vowels [cf.III.1.2.]

##### 2) Morphology

- i) Nouns admit of gender, number, case. [cf.III.2.1.]
- ii) Gender is two tier - masculine and feminine. Any noun marked for gender is either marked with an ending or inherent gender. eg- *buba* ‘father’ : *ama* ‘mother’  
*choro* ‘boy’ : *chori* ‘girl’ [cf.III.2.1.2.]
- iii) Though in number plurality is determined by *-fiAru* but this plurality has no grammatical concord. eg- *gai cardai cha* ‘the cow is grazing’  
*gaihiAru cardai cha* ‘the cows are grazing’ [cf.III.2.1.3.]
- iv) The pronominal forms have no overt gender distinction. The pronouns show the distinction of number by using different stem, by adding *-fiAru* (or by reduplication). [cf.III.2.1.6.]
- v) The conjugational structure in Nepali concord for gender, person and honorific status, Of course, honorific forms actually merge with person and number. The verbal endings fuse together as gender-number-person, gender-number and number-person. [cf.III.2.2.2.]
- vi) Nepali finite verb formation show a systematic tense-aspect-mood treatment. [cf.III.2.2.2.1 - III.2.2.2.2 - III.2.2.2.3.]
- vii) Negative verb formation shows the occurrence of negative carrying element after the main verb. [cf.III.2.2.7.]
- viii) Causative verb forms show the occurrence of causative element after the verb-stem. [cf.III.2.2.4.]

##### 3) Syntax

Syntactically Nepali is a SOV patterned language having simple-complex and compound type of sentences along with different patterns of sentences. [cf.III.3.]

## II

Based on the above discussed common features of three varieties of Nepali the followings are the inferences.

1. Sir George. A. Grierson classified Nepali language as the eastern variety of Pahari group of language. The same has been ascertained by Suniti Kumar Chatterjee when he proclaims that Nepali is the most important Pahari speech.
2. As per the present classification followed in Indian Census since 1971 Pahari is one of the mother tongues grouped under Hindi language. And Nepali is also another language under Scheduled category.
3. Both being Indo-Aryan languages there may be similarity between Pahari variety of Hindi language and Nepali but Nepali is distinct from Hindi or so called Pahari variety of Hindi language by the following grammatical phenomena:

<u>Pahari (Hindi)</u>	<u>Nepali</u>
i) Aspiration in final position as in <i>hath</i> 'hand' , <i>bagh</i> 'tiger'.	i) Deaspiration in final position as in <i>fiat</i> 'hand' , <i>bag</i> 'tiger'
ii) The formation of plural nouns in Hindi is marked by adaptation of vowel as in <i>kutta</i> 'dog' ~ <i>kutte</i> 'dogs'.	ii) The formation of plural nouns in Hindi is marked by <i>-fiAru</i> as in <i>kukur</i> 'dog' ~ <i>kukur fiAru</i> 'dogs'.
iii) The absence of numeral classifier as in <i>tin admi</i> 'three men'.	iii) The presence of numeral classifier as in <i>tin jAna manche</i> 'three men'.
iv) The absence/presence of agentive suffix <i>-ne</i> in pronominal form with transitive verbs as in <i>kOn kAhta hE</i> 'who says?' <i>kisne kAha</i> 'who said?'	iv) The presence of agentive suffix <i>-le</i> in pronominal form with transitive verbs as in <i>kAsle bhAnchA</i> 'who says?' <i>kAsle bhAnyo</i> 'who said?'
v) The formation of negative verb by the use of negative component <i>nAhi</i> as in <i>mE jata</i> 'I go' ~ <i>mE nAhi jata</i> 'I do not go'	v) The formation of negative verb by adaptation of verb as in <i>mo janchu</i> 'I will go' ~ <i>mo jādina</i> 'I will not go'
vi) The exclusive formation of verb substantive <i>ho-</i> 'to be' both for existential and definitive function as in <i>pani hE</i> 'Is there any water?' (existential) <i>pani hE</i> 'Is this water?' (definitive)	vi) The existential and definitive function of substantive verb are expressed distinctly as in existential <i>/chA-/</i> <i>pani chA</i> 'Is there any water?' definitive <i>/hunu-/</i> <i>pani ho</i> 'Is this water?'

vii) The clauses are linked by independent particle as in <i>wo admi jo kAl aya</i> ‘The man who came yesterday’ <i>usne kaha ki</i> ‘He said that’	vii) Clauses are commonly linked by the infinitive / participle as in <i>hijo aeko manche</i> ‘The man who came yesterday’ <i>usle bhAnerA tyokuda bhAniyo</i> ‘It is as he only told this’
viii) Perso-Arabic loan words are realised more in number.	viii) Perso-Arabic loan words are realised less in number.

### III

Nepali in Sikkim is spoken amidst a good number of Tibeto-Burman languages like Bhotia, Lepcha, Limbu, Sherpa, Tamang, Rai, Gurung, Mangari, Sunwar, Newari etc. (The study of these languages has been covered in *LSI-Sikkim Volume (Part-I)*). While languages like Limbu and Rai show features of pronominalised Himalayan group of Tibeto-Burman languages the others are grouped under non-pronominalised Himalayan group (cf. *LSI-Sikkim Volume (Part-I)*, 2011). For assessing the Nepali, spoken in Sikkim, the Survey was conducted in Gangtok in 2010. Based on the analysis of the field data this can be summed up that though Nepali in Sikkim exists being surrounded by the above mentioned non-Nepali languages but the prolonged co-existence has left hardly any influence of these languages on Nepali. Rather, Nepali shows its stable Indo-Aryan characteristics except few specifications like voicing of glottal fricative /fi/ in sound system, absence of grammatical concord between number and verb etc. which seem to have been adapted in Nepali from the neighbouring languages.

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