A Morphemic Analysis of Sindhi, Dhatki, and Balochi Derivational and Inflectional Morphemes

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Abstract

A morpheme is a smallest meaningful unit of a language (Yule, 1996; Carnie, 2006; Radford, 2009). A morpheme plays a vital role in the form and meaning of a sentence in general and words in particular. One morpheme can be generated from other morpheme; it can change its form and meaning. Derivational morphemes are used to alter the grammatical category of (e.g., education from educate, careful from care). Inflectional morphemes are used to show number (singular or plural), to show tense aspect (present, past, or future). Such morphemes are also used to alter the form of a word (e.g., older from old). The current study attempts to describe, analyse and compare derivational and inflectional morphemes in English, Sindhi and Balochi. The study answers the research question: How are English derivational and inflectional morphemes different from the Sindhi and Balochi ones? The theory of Morphemic Analysis (Haegeman, 1996; Carnie, 2006 & Radford, 2009) is applied to analyse the data of the three languages. This research work is primarily a qualitative in nature. It uses explanatory research design to analyse and compare the data of the above mentioned three languages. The data have been collected through interviews from the two native Sindhi and Balochi speakers. The participants are asked different questions about their personal and professional life so that they could speak more freely and naturally.

Key words: Morphemes, Derivational, Inflectional, English, Sindhi, Balochi, Dhatki

1. Introduction

A language is a basic source of communication among humans as well as among other creatures of the universe. Languages play a vital role to transfer information from one place to another. It can be human language (written and spoken), animal language (sound system), sign language (using signs, gestures or movements to transfer meaning) or a pictogram (using pictures), etc. Each language has a basic purpose of sharing and transferring ideas from one source (person, animal or object) to another.

Every language has a morphological pattern, but each one has a different pattern of using morphemes with their verbs. The use of morphemes differs from language to language. For example, the English language has a different pattern of morphemes than Sindhi, Dhatki and Balochi. Languages can have a similar basic purpose; sharing and transferring meaning. However, they cannot have same morphosyntactic and semantic features (morphology, syntax and semantics). The English structure is: subject, verb and object while our indigenous languages have: subject, object and verb. Every language has their own morphosyntactic features which differ from other languages.

Every language has its own importance in terms of morphology (word formation), phonology (sounds), syntax (sentence structure) and semantics (meaning). Like English, in the world, Sindhi, Dhatki and Balochi are also considered old and rich languages of the sub-continent (Veesar et al., 2015a; 2015b). These indigenous languages are also morphologically richest languages of the sub-continent, mainly in Pakistan. We can neither compare them with any other languages nor can pass judgement that they are the only richest language of the world in general and sub-continent in particular. However; we can argue that they are also morphologically rich language of the world (Zahid, 2016); (Pathan, M. S. K. (2023). The Sindhi language has four various written scripts with same pronunciation and vocabulary; the Persio-Arabic, the Dewanagri, the Gurmukhi and the Roman script. We can see various morphosyntactic and semantic features in Sindhi; it's one word (morpho-semantic and syntactic forms), for example, can have many meanings with the same pronunciation. Same thing goes with Balochi and Dhatki; having various affixes (morphemes) to convey different meanings at different situations.

2. Research Concern

There are many studies on Sindhi and Balochi, and a few on Dhatki Grammar and parts of speech in general. However, there is very limited work on their Morphology, Phonology, Semantics and Syntax (structure). So far now, there are very less studies on syntax and morphology of the said languages (Zahid, A., 2016); (Pathan, M.S.K 2023). Previous writers worked generally on Sindhi morphology, phonology, grammar and parts of speech. However, no one argued particularly about the morphology of Sindhi verbs with the perspective of modern linguistics, or may be these are the new terms. Besides, there is very less literature on Dhatki morphology. The morphology of this language has been either ignored or these are modern terms which may be not known to the writers of that time. On the other hand, same is the case with Balochi language which is also all this while ignored by past and present researchers (Baloch, 1993); (Pathan, M. S. K. (2022). Most of the Sindhi, Urdu and Balochi writers/linguists write about dialects of language, parts of speech and grammar in general. **Thus, this research work therefore studies the morphology of Sindhi, Dhatki and Balochi verbs, particularly focusing on derivational and inflectional morphemes in the said languages.**

3. Aim of the Study

The main aim of the research is to describe and analyse morphemes (free and bound ones) to see how derivational and inflectional morphemes are operated in Sindhi, Dhatki and Balochi verbs. The study analyses such morphemes to see how they are used to alter the form and meaning of a word. It will be attempted to see if a change (morphological aspect) in the verb (free morpheme) brings a change in the meaning of the whole word/sentence. For example, see the following examples:

Sindhi examples:
Maan raand khedan tho. (I play a game)
(The subject 'I' is first person singular having Masculine gender)
Maan raand khedan thi. (I play a game)
(The subject 'I' is first person singular having Feminine gender)
Maan raand khedi. (I played a game)

The subject 'I' could be either first person singular masculine or feminine). Like English, Sindhi also has same past form of verb for all subjects having different genders and numbers. However, Unlike English, Sindhi has object-verb agreement than subject-verb agreement in the past simple tense sentence.

It can be seen that a change in the last morpheme (last suffix of the verb) leads to a change in gender of the subject in Sindhi. A change in a verb (see the following sentence) leads to change of the tense. The morpheme *"khedaan"* is used in present tense, while the morpheme *"khedi"* is used in the past form in Sindhi. It is seen that Sindhi has tense, person, number and gender marker in its verbs. On the other hand, like English, Balochi have tense and number marker but no gender marker as mentioned below in the cited examples.

4. Derivational Morphemes in Sindhi

4.1. Noun to adjective
1) Dhapa (smell)   Dhapel   (smelly)
2) Soonha (beauty-   Suhni   (beautiful girl)
3) Dhegh (height)   Dhighi (heighted)

In Sindhi derivational morphemes are found as in the above mentioned examples by adding "I" suffix with the nouns, the nouns converted into adjectives.

4.2. Adjective to Verb
4) Ghat (less)   ghatai (decrease/lessen)
5) Wadh (more)   wadhai (increase)
In Sindhi sometimes verb can be formed by adding derivational suffix "ai" with adjectives as captioned above.

4.3. Adjective to Adverb
6) Khushi (happiness)- Khushyasi (Happily)
In some cases, adverbs of Sindhi can also be formed from adjectives by adding "si" suffix.

4.4. Adjective to noun
7) Bimaar (sick)-   bimaari(disease)
8) Suthaai (goodness) suthi (good)
In the formation process of nouns, nouns can also be formed by "I" suffix with adjectives.

4.5. Verb to adjective
8) Khed (play)   khedyal/khedal (played)
9) Kut (crush)   kutyal (crushed)
The above-mentioned examples show that Sindhi adjectives can be formed by adding "ya" suffix with verbs.

5. Derivational Morphemes in Balochi
5.1. Adjective to Noun
10) Shar (good) + ri = shari = (goodness)
11) Harab (Bad) +ri = harabi = (badness)
Balochi possesses derivational morphemes from adjectives to nouns as captioned above whereby putting bound morphemes such as "**ri**", at the end of the free morphemes, the word class of the adjectives are being converted into noun class.

5.2. Noun to adjective
12) Laap (stomach)+i=laapi = (someone who eats a lot)
13) Ton (thirst) +ag= tonag (thirsty)
The above captioned examples demonstrate that derivational morphemes can be constituted by the addition of bound morphemes "*i &ag*" etc. at the end of free morphemes from nouns to adjectives.

5.3. Imperative form of verb to nouns
14) Tach (run)+uok=tachuok (Runner)
15) Wasep (sleep) + uok= wasepuok (Someone who sleeps a lot)
In the same way, derivational morphemes can be derived from imperative forms of verbs into adjectives by adding bound morphemes *"uok"* at the end of the verbs as cited as above. After suffixation, the categories of verbs are being converted into nouns.

5.4. Adjective to infinitive verb
16) Bandom (Deserted House) +kanag= bandom kanag (to demolish /destroy)
17) Badnam (disgraceful)   +kanag=badnam kanag (to disgrace)
The above cited examples show that infinitive verbs can be formed from adjectives by adding "kanag" at the end of the adjectives for the constitution of derivational morphemes.

5.5. Adjective to adverb
18) Dal gran (Angry) +iya=dalgraniya (angrily)
19) Dana (Wise) + iya=danaiya(wisely)
The above-mentioned example shows that derivational morphemes can be formed from adjectives to adverbs by putting bound morpheme "iya" at the end of adjectives.

English examples:
I play a game. (It can be used for any persons or genders)
He plays a game.
I/We/She/They played a game.

The verb remains same (does not take any inflections) for masculine and feminine gender in case of first person subject 'I' and third person plural subject 'they'. However, an inflectional morpheme 's' or 'es' is used with a third person singular subject 'he, she, it'. On the other hand, past form of the verb is same for all subjects in English language.

Balochi examples:
Man laib kani. (I play a game) (For both genders in present tense)
Mah laib kane. (We play a game) (For both genders in present tense)
Man laib kotag. (I played a game) (For both genders in past tense)
Mah laib kotag. (We played a game) (For both genders in past tense)

Balochi language has zero gender markers; as it can be seen in the above examples. On the other hand, it has tense and number marker that can be noted in the above mentioned examples too. Balochi has different morphemes for showing number and tense aspect. However, like English and Sindhi, it has also same form of verb for all subjects in the past tense.
This study will attempt to analyse derivational and inflectional morphemes of Sindhi, Dhatki and Balochi language. Followings are the objectives of the current study:

The objective number **01** is to analyse the morphemes of Sindhi, Dhatki and Balochi. By morphemes we mean to analyse the pattern of derivational and inflectional morphemes in the said languages. It will be analysed to see if a change in verb brings a change in the form and meaning of a morpheme (a verb). The objective **02** of the study is to explicate the structural properties of the verbs of the said languages. Here, we will try to explicate the verbs with the help of Tree Diagram structure of sentences by Noam Chomsky (1994).

6. Research Questions
Every research has some questions to be answered. The research questions of this study are:
1.What are the patterns of using derivational and inflectional morphemes in Sindhi, Dhatki and Balochi?
2.What are the structural properties of verbs in Sindhi, Dhatki and Balochi?

7. Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework of this research study will be based on the Morphological/Morphemic Analaysis theories proposed by Haegeman (1996), Carnie (2006) and Radford (2009).

7.1. Derivational Morphemes

A derivational morpheme is an affix (either suffix or prefix) that is added to a form (word) to create a new form with new form and meaning. Derivational morphemes are bound morphemes which cannot stand alone (Haegeman, 1992; Yule, 1996; Carnie, 2006; Radford, 2009). These morphemes change the grammatical category of a free morpheme (word). For instance, addition of a suffix *less* to a noun *care* will result in a new word, an adjective, *careless*; while adding *-er* to *teach* comes up with a noun *teacher*. The form (word) that is created through a derivational morpheme (suffix or prefix) is known as a *derivation or a derivational morpheme*. Derivational morphemes change the grammatical class of a word. The derivation *ly* derives an adverb *smoothly* from the adjective *smooth*. The adjectives can also be changed into nouns, e.g. *goodness* from *good*.

7.2. Inflectional morphemes

Inflectional morphemes are also bound morphemes which cannot stand alone on their own (Haegeman, 1992; Yule, 1996; Carnie, 2006 & Radford, 2009). These morphemes are used to show some grammatical features like number and tense markers. They are used to show singular or plural number, present and past tense, possessions etc. The words *girl* and *girls,* for instance, are two various forms of the same form (word) showing singular and plural numbers. English has either singular form or plural form to show numbers. These morphemes never change the grammatical category of words; thus, thus *old, older, oldest* have same category, adjectives. Inflectional morphemes (*'s'* or *'es'*) are used to express person and number of a subject of the sentence. For example, in the sentence '*He hate-s Sam'*, *-s* shows the 3rd person singular subject in the present simple tense. Since English does not have gender maker, thus these morphemes never show gender of the subject. Same is the case with Balochi; it does not have gender marker too. However, Sindhi and Dhatki do have gender marker for every subject.

8. Research Methodology

The current research is a qualitative study (Creswell, 2014). The study attempts to explore and compare the verbs particularly the derivational and inflectional morphemes in English, Sindhi and Balochi. The study will analyse to see the placement, function and relation of derivational and inflectional morphemes within verbs of the three languages. The research will analyse the data to see the pattern of using the said morphemes of the three languages.

8.1. Research Design

The current research uses the descriptive and explanatory research design (Creswell, 2013; 2014). The study follows qualitative method. The oral form of Sindhi, Dhatki and Balochi has been chosen to analyse the said morphemes in the three languages.

8.2. Data Collection

This research work is a qualitative one in nature (Neuman, 2006). It utilizes the descriptive and exploratory design to answer the research questions. The spoken form of Sindhi and Balochi are chosen to analyse placement, function and nature of derivational and inflectional morphemes. The data will be collected through interviews from the native Sindhi, Dhatki and Balochi speakers. The participants (native Sindhi, Dhatki and Balochi) will be asked some personal and professional question about their lives, family, education, aims, etc. They will be given free atmosphere so that they may not feel fear of camera. They will be asked questions freely (without any structured interview) so that they may give us more data which are more nature and pure form of the languages.

8.3. Data Analysis

Using Radford (2009) and Carnie (2006) 'The Theory of morphemic analysis', the data will be described and analysed, which is also the analytical framework of the study. The study attempts to see how verbs of the three languages use derivational and inflectional morphemes to form/alter the meaning of a morpheme.

Following examples will analyse the use of suffixes with verbs in Sindhi.

8.3.1. Sindhi Examples

Pehreen manhoon kujh behtar huyaa Earlier people   some better were, Earlier people were somehow better.

In the above example (i), the word 'huwa' is an aspectual verb which shows past aspect of the sentence. The verb 'huwa = were' is used to show state of a subject. It is derived from the word 'huwo', by adding suffix 'a' it becomes 'huwa'. The suffix 'a' is used to show the number plural and gender masculine. Whereas in the Sindhi sentence (xii) the word 'huyaa' is state verb which only shows state of the subject of the sentence in past. The suffix 'aa=agreement' is used to show the number plural and gender masculine of the argument (noun) it talks about. In these examples, we can see no morphological difference between Lasi and Sindhi, but only dialectal variations. Therefore, it can be said that Lasi is dialect of Sindhi Language.

Hity wareya aahiyun phireya aahiyun Here wandered have visited have

We have been wandering and visiting here

The above phrase in the sentence 2) 'warya aahiyun' is derived from the imperative 'war' means 'wander' by adding two inflectional morphemes it became 'wareyayan'. The suffix '*ya*' shows tense, gender and number i.e. present tense, gender

masculine and number plural and the suffix "yan" shows 1ˢᵗ person plural. The second word 'phiryayan' also contains suffixes i.e 'ya' and 'yan'. That also shows the properties of present tense, masculine gender and 1ˢᵗperson plural.

In the above example, the Sindhi word 'phirya' in Sindhi sentence is a verb. The word 'phirya' is a main verb. It is derived from Sindhi imperative 'phir' means 'wander' by adding suffix 'ya' it became 'phirya' means 'we wander'. The suffix 'ya' is used to show the number plural. While the word 'aahiyun' is an aspectual verb shows present aspect of the verb. It is derived from the Sindhi aspectual verb 'aaye' means 'is' by adding suffix 'yun' it became 'aahiyun' means 'we are' the suffix 'yun' is used to show the number plural and person first.

We can observe the difference between Lasi and Sindhi that Sindhi uses a separate aspectual verb to show the tense and for first person plural Sindhi uses 'yun' suffix while Lasi uses an aspectual suffix 'yan' which shows tense and first person plural.
Paanrhi pehrein kujh behtr huya Water earlier little bit better were (for male),

Earlier people were little bit better
In the example 3) the word 'huwa' is an aspectual verb, shows past aspect of the sentence. It is derived from the word 'huwo' by adding suffix 'a' it became 'huwa'. The suffix 'a' is used to show the number plural and gender masculine. The word 'huya' is an auxiliary verb used to show the past aspect of tense. The suffix 'a' is used to show the number plural and gender masculine.

Kehn panjah kayo ta kam   nimbreyo pe Some fifty arranged so work happened Inflection

The work would have been done if someone arranged fifty rupees
In the above clause the word 'keyo' is derived from the imperative 'kar' means 'do' but here in this clause it gives contextual meaning of 'arrange' rather than 'do'. Suffix 'yo' is added to the word 'kar' it became 'keyo' which means 'arranged' the past form of verb. The suffix 'yo' is used to show past tense, number (singular), and gender (masculine). In the word 'theo te' the suffix 'o' with 'theo' shows number (singular) and 'te' shows tense (past). In the above example, the word 'kayo' is derived from the Sindhi imperative 'kar' means 'do' but here in this clause it gives contextual meaning of 'arrange' rather than 'do'. Suffix 'yo' is added to the word 'kar' it became 'keyo' which means 'arranged' the past form of verb. The suffix 'yo' is used to show past tense and number (singular).

Char sala veeran   huyasein four years formless we were

Four years we were formless.
In the above example, the word 'huwasien' is a helping verb, it has three inflectional morphemes, the base word or free morpheme is 'huwo' which is used to show the past tense. It has two bound morphemes 'a' and 'sien'. The suffix 'a' shows number plural and 'sien' suffix is used to show the first person. Sindhi word 'huyasien' is a helping verb, it has three inflectional morphemes, the base word or free morpheme is 'huyo' which is used to show the past tense, number singular and gender masculine. It has two bound morphemes 'a' and 'sien'. The suffix 'a' shows present tense, number plural, Gender masculine and 'sien' suffix is used to show the first person.

8.3.2. Balochi Examples
Man hame goshag lotan. that to say want

I want to say that.

Verb mentioned in above sentence are *'goshag'* (to say) and *'lotan'* (want). Verb *'goshag'*is infinitive verb itself. The work of infinitive verb to adjust two or more verbs in a single sentence, as *'lotan'* and *'goshag'* both are used to specifying the time of verb. In Balochi all infinitive verbs are identifies with verb stem attached with *'ag'* as personal ending suffixes. The tense of the verb is present, and aspect of verb is simple form. Verb *'lotan'* is derived from the infinitive verb *'lotag'*. Verb *'lotan'* is combination of two morphemes, free morpheme *'lot'* which is the base word and suffix *'an'* which is used as personal ending for first person singular *'man'*.

Man sharen number geran.
I good marks/numbers get/will get
I get/will get good marks.

The verb *'geran'* in above sentence is derived from the infinitive *'gerag'* (to get). The verb *'geran'* is combination of two morphemes, main verb *'ger'* (get) which is a free morpheme and second morpheme is personal ending suffix *'an'* which is used with verb stem. Suffix *'an'*is used with verb stem to show that the verb is for first person singular in present/ future simple tense. Past simple is a kind of tense which shows the action of recent past or a tense in which action duration is not that much important.
Mana moka rasth.
I chance got.
I got a chance.

Verb 'rasth' mentioned above sentence is derived from infinitive 'rasag' (to get/ to reach). Verb 'rasth' has inflectional morpheme 'th' of the second form of the verb. Doer of the action is first person singular 'mana' (I). In Balochi 'mana' and 'man' both are used for first person singular. The inflected number mentioned in the sentence by object noun which is singular. The tense of the verb is in past form and the aspect of verb is simple.

1) Teachera sharen nwadia wanenthen.
Teacher good   way   taught.
Teacher taught in a good way.

The sentence mentioned above carries the verb of past tense. Verb *'wanenthen'* is derived from infinitive verb *'wanenag'* (to teach). Verb *'wanenthen'* is a combination of three morphemes, free morpheme *'wanen'* (teach) which is the verbal stem, suffix *'th'* which is attached with verb stem making it second form of the verb and last bound morpheme *'en'* which is used as personal ending suffix for third person singular. In Balochi infinitive verb *'wanenag'* is actually derived from infinitive verb *'wanag'* (to study) which is further added with an infix *'en'* by the speakers to become *'wanenag'* (to teach).

2) Man economics zorthan.
I   economics   chose.
I chose economics.

The verb *'zorthan'* is derived from infinitive *'zorag'* (to choose). verb 'zorthan' is combination of three morphemes; Base word *'zor'* (choose/ take) is a free morpheme which has further twobound morphemes, suffix *'th'* with verb root making it past tense and the second morpheme is suffix *'an'* which is used as personal ending suffix for first person singular *'man'* (I). The sentence mentioned above is a complete sentence, has subject, verb, and an object. The tense of the verb is from past tense and aspect of the verb is simple. Verb '*zorthan'* is used here as transitive verb.

8.3.3. Dhatki Examples
3) Tu ki karein to?
You what (are) doing 2SGM
What are you doing?

The verb in the sentence (a) is 'karein to=doing'. The sentence is spoken in the present tense in the continuous form. The verb 'karein to=doing' is a combination of two morphemes 'karein=do/doing' and 'to=2SGM'. The verb 'karein' is derived from the base word 'kar=do', an imperative form. This verb can be used in present simple and present continuous form in the same form. The inflectional morpheme, in other words a suffix, 'to' is used to show tense of the sentence (present) along with person, number and gender of the subject. This morpheme can be used to show 1st, 2nd as well 3rd person singular subject. The sound 'o' in 'to' shows the number and gender of the subject 'tu=you'. The context of the sentence shows that the inflectional morpheme 'to' is used to show 2nd person singular masculine subject (you).

4) Tahanjo Naalo ki aahy?
Your   name   what is?
What is your name?

The verb in the sentence (b) is 'aahy=is'. This sentence is spoken in the present to be tense to ask someone's name. The 'aahy=is' is a single morpheme verb. This verb is also termed as a linking verb. Dhatki, like Sindhi, carries normally main verb with one or two suffixes to give a complete sense. However, the linking or to be verb never takes any further suffixes. This verb can be used for every subject singular masculine or feminine subject in the present to be tense. Such types of verbs do not show any action but only state or existence of a subject.

5) Arey bhaaji wara hali aa behes karon kachehri.
Oh vegetables of come 2SG sit do chatting
Oh vegetables seller come here and sit to have chatting.

The sentence (c) carries two clauses; independent (Arey bhaaji wara hali aa= Oh vegetables seller come here) and dependent (behes karon kachehri= sit to do chatting). The sentence has three verb phrases 'hali aa=come here', 'behes=sit' and 'karon=do'; the verb phraes are interlinked together to give a complete sense; all of them are used in the present tense. The first verb 'hali aa=come here" is used to invite to someone. The second verb 'behes=sit' is used to ask someone to sit. The third verb 'karon=do' is used to request/ask someone to have some chit chat (chatting) about something.

6) Bhagwan saan kachehri kari pai aa.
God to chatting do PastParti 3SG
I have had chatting with the god.

The sentence (d) is spoken in present participle/present perfect tense. The verb phrase of the sentence 'kari pai aa= have had(done)' has three morphemes 'kari=do', 'pai= Present Participle' and 'aa=3SG'. The first morpheme 'kari=do' is the main

morpheme as it shows the action. The second morpheme 'pai' is used to show the time of the action; it shows the action has been taken place in the recent past. The third morpheme 'aa' is used to show agreement with the tense and the argument. Dahtki, like Sindhi, shows object-verb agreement in the past and recent past tense. Thus, it can be argued that the verb phrase in the above sentence agrees with the object 'kachehri= chatting/ chit chat' rather than the subject 'Bhagwan=god'.

7) Api   milya kon hee keein milyo   bhagwan saa
We meet not he how met god to

We have not met the god how could he meet (him).
The sentence (e) is spoken in the present perfect tense; showing some complete action. The sentence has two clauses 'Api milya kon= we have not met (god)' and 'hee keein milyo bhagwan saa= how could he meet the god'; both clauses are independent clauses as they can convey complete meaning both individually and collectively. The verb phrase in the first clause is 'milya kon= have not met'. This verb phrase has two morphemes 'milya=met (1PLM)' and 'kon=not'. The morpheme 'kon' is basically a negation. The verb phrase in the second clause of the sentence is 'milyo=met (3SGM)'. Dhatki uses the word 'api' to show first person plural subject 'we'. However, Sindhi uses the words 'aseen', 'assan', 'asson' to show first person plural subject.

9. Conclusion
To conclude, it can be argued that this research work examines, investigates and analyses the Sindhi, Balochi and Dhatki verbs particularly derivational and inflectional morphemes along with some comparison and similarities with English. The study has compared and examined the use of verb phrases (mainly the said morphemes) in the three languages. The study shows that the three languages are somehow similar in the use of verb phrases; they carry one morphemes, two, three and even four morphemes in their verb phrases (VPs) to convey a meaning. Sindhi verbs are heavily loaded (they carry tense, aspect, mood, person, number, and gender of the subject) than Dhatki and Balochi. Dhatki and Sindhi share many similarities than differences as compared to Balochi. Sindhi and Dhatki have person, number, tense aspect and gender marker in their verb phrases. Balochi, like English, does not carry gender marker; it follows the neutral gender marker for both males and female. For example, 'I drink water' (English) and Balochi 'Maan aaf warag=I drink water' are same for every subject irrespective of their gender. However, Sindhi and Dhatki have different inflectional morphemes (morpho-phonemic morphemes) to show male and female subjects through verb phrases. Balochi and Dhatki, like English, use maximum three morphemes in their verb phrases to convey meaning. Sindhi, on the other hand uses maximum four morphemes to give a complete sense of the sentence. Sindhi and Dhatki use more postpositions as compared to Balochi. Balochi uses same verb form for the present simple and future tense; one has to understand if the sentence is spoken in present or future tense. Dhatki and Sindhi do not have such patterns. However, Sindhi and Dhatki do use same form for present simple and present continuous tenses. It has found that Sindhi, Balochi, and Dhatki are pro-drop languages (allowing omission of arguments at subject and object positions in the spoken form), while is a non-pro-drop language (does not allow omission or arguments at any position in written as well as spoken forms).

10. Significance of the Study
This research work attempts to show that like English, Sindhi, Dhatki and Balochi are also morphosyntactically rich languages. These indigenous languages are old and rich languages (in terms of morphology) of the sub-continent in general and Pakistan in particular. This study attempts to analyse the use of derivational and inflectional morphemes in Sindhi, Dhatki and Balochi. The study also attempts to see if the three languages' verbs have ambiguous functions. This research is beneficial work for Sindhi, Dhatki and Balochi natives in particular (to know about the richness of their languages) and to the world in general that these languages are also rich in morphology. Like English, our languages also borrow as well as lend words to other languages. There is very less work on Dhatki, Balochi and Sindhi morphology, particularly on morphemes. Thus, this study contributes to the study of the Sindhi, Dhatki and Balochi in general and their morphology in particular, which would be beneficial for students, teachers, lecturers, linguists and researchers. The current research study does not only contribute to Sindhi, Dhatki and Balochi, but also for other languages of the country (Urdu, Punjabi, Saraiki, Pashto, etc.). This work in future can be replicated by other researchers to conduct research on morphology (morphemes) in their languages.

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