

BHOJPURĪ SKELETON GRAMMAR.

I.—NOUNS—

Each has three forms as in Maithili. Thus (short) *ghōṛā*, (long) *ghor^awā*, (redundant) *ghorauā*. The long form sometimes ends in *ē* instead of *ā*. Thus, *ghor^awē*. All these forms may have their termination nasalised. Thus *ghor^awā̄*. The short form may be weak (as *ghōṛ*) or strong (as *ghōṛā*).

Number.—Plural is formed by adding *ni*, *nh*, or *n*, and shortening a preceding long vowel. Thus *ghōṛā*, horse; *ghorani*, *ghōṛanh*, or *ghōṛan*, horses; *ghar*, a house, pl. *gharani*, *gharanh* or *gharan*. Plural may also be formed by adding nouns of multitude, such as *sabh*, all, *log*, people. Thus *ghōṛā sabh*; *rājā log*.

Case.—The only true cases are the Instrumental and Locative Singular, formed, as in Maithili, by the addition of *ē* and *ē* respectively, before which a final *ā* is elided, and a final *i* or *ū* is shortened. Thus, *ghōṛē*, by a horse; *ghōṛē*, on a horse: *phal*, a fruit, *phalē*, *phalē*: *māli*, a gardener; *māliē*, *māliē*. These forms do not occur in the plural.

Other cases are formed by postpositions added to the nominative, or (when such exists) to the oblique form; see below. Some of these are *kē*, to (also used as a sign of the accusative); *sē*, *tē*, *santē* or *kar^atē*, by; *khātir*, *lāg*, *lā*, for; *sē*, *lē*, from; *k*, *ke*, *kāi*, of; *mē*, *mō*, on.

Before the postposition *k*, a final long vowel is shortened, as in *ghōṛak*, of a horse; when the noun ends in a consonant, *a* is inserted, as in *gharak*, of a house. There is an oblique genitive postposition *kā*. Thus *rājā-kē mandir*, the king's palace; but *rājā-kā mandir-mē*, in the king's palace. The distinction is seldom observed by the uneducated.

Gender.—In Standard Bhojpuri, adjectives do not change for gender.

Oblique Form.—Verbal nouns in *al* have an oblique form in *lā*. Thus *dēkhal*, seeing; *dēkh^alā-mē*, in seeing. Verbal nouns in the form of the root have an oblique form in *e*. Thus, *dēkh*, seeing; *dēkhe-lā*, for seeing. In all other nouns, the oblique form is the same as the nominative.

II.—PRONOUNS—

	I.		Thou.		Your Honour.	Self, Your Honour.	This.	That, He.
	Inferior form.	Superior form.	Inferior form.	Superior form.				
Sing. Nom.	<i>mē</i>	<i>ham</i>	<i>tē</i> or <i>tē̄</i>	<i>tē</i> or <i>tē̄</i>	{ <i>rauwā̄</i> <i>rauwā̄</i> <i>raurā</i> as nom.	<i>ap^ane</i>	<i>i</i> , <i>ihe</i> , <i>iā̄</i>	<i>ū</i> , <i>ū̄</i>
Obl.	<i>mohi</i> or <i>mō</i>	<i>ham^arā</i>	<i>tohi</i> or <i>tō</i>	<i>toh^arā</i>		<i>ap^anā</i>	<i>chi</i> , <i>chē</i> , <i>iā̄</i>	<i>ohi</i> , <i>oh</i> , <i>ō</i> , <i>uhā̄</i>
Gen.	<i>mōr</i> , <i>mōre</i>	<i>hamār</i> , <i>ham^are</i>	<i>tōr</i> , <i>tōre</i>	<i>tohār</i> , <i>toh^are</i>	<i>rāur</i> , <i>raure</i>	<i>apan</i> , <i>appan</i> , or <i>ap^ane</i> .	<i>sh-ke</i>	<i>oh-ke</i>
Plur. Nom.	<i>ham^anī-kā</i>	<i>ham^aran</i>	<i>toh^anī-kā</i>	<i>toh^aran</i>	{ <i>rauran</i> <i>rauran</i> Ditto.	<i>ap^anan</i>	<i>inh-kā</i>	<i>unh-kā</i>
Obl.	<i>ham^anī</i>	<i>ham^aran</i>	<i>toh^anī</i>	<i>toh^aran</i>		<i>ap^anan</i>	<i>inh</i>	<i>unh</i>

	Who.	He, that.	Who?	What (thing).	Any one, some one.
Sing. Nom.	<i>jē</i> , <i>jawan</i> , <i>jaun</i>	<i>sē</i> , <i>tē</i> , <i>tawan</i> , <i>taun</i>	<i>kē</i> , <i>kawan</i> , <i>kaun</i>	<i>kā</i>	<i>koū</i> , <i>kēhu</i> , <i>kaunō</i>
Obl.	<i>jeh</i> , <i>jaunā</i>	<i>teh</i> , <i>taunā</i>	<i>keh</i> , <i>kaunā</i>	<i>kā</i> , <i>kāhe</i> , <i>kethi</i>	{ <i>koū</i> , <i>kehū</i> , <i>kaunō</i> <i>keh^aro</i> , <i>kathiyō</i> , <i>keh^aro</i>
Gen.	<i>jeh-ke</i> , <i>jē-kar</i> , <i>jek^are</i>	<i>teh-ka</i> , <i>tē-kar</i> , <i>tek^are</i>	<i>keh-ke</i> , <i>kē-kar</i> , <i>kek^are</i>	{ <i>kā-ke</i> , <i>kāhe-ke</i> , <i>kethi-ke</i>	
Plur. Nom.	<i>jinh-kā</i> , <i>jawan</i> , <i>jaun</i>	<i>tinh-kā</i> , <i>tawan</i> , <i>taun</i>	<i>kinh-kā</i> , <i>kawan</i> , <i>kaun</i>	Anything, something, is <i>kachhu</i> , <i>kuchchhuo</i>	
Obl.	<i>jinh</i>	<i>tinh</i>	<i>kinh</i>	or <i>kuchhuo</i> . Declined like a substantive.	
Gen.	<i>jinh-ke</i>	<i>tinh-ke</i>	<i>kinh-ke</i>		

An optional form of the oblique singular of *ū*, is *wāhi*; of *jē*, *jāhi*; of *tē*, *tāhi*; of *kē*, *kāhi*. For *teh*, we can substitute *tehi* or *tē*; for *oh*, *ohi* or *ō*, and so on for the others.

There are many forms of the oblique plural in all the above. The following are those of *i*. The others can be formed by analogy. *Ek^anī* *inhān*, *inhānh*, *inh^anī*; so *ok^anī*, *unhān*, etc.; *jek^anī*, etc. The spelling of all these fluctuates.

The genitives *in* and *re* have a feminine form in *ī*, which is met in poetry. Thus *mōri*, *ham^ari*, and so on.

All these genitives have an oblique form in *ā*, viz. *mōrā*, *ham^arā*, *tōrā*, *toh^arā*; so also *ek^arā*, *ok^arā*, *jek^arā*, *tek^arā* and *kek^arā*. These can be used as fresh oblique bases of the Pronoun. Thus *mōrā-sē*, from me; *ek^arā-sē*, from this, and so on. In the plural they become *ham^aran*, *toh^aran*, *ek^aran*, etc.; thus *ham^aran-sē*, from us.

III.—VERBS—

General Note.—In all Verbs, the first person singular is hardly ever used except in poetry. The plural is used instead. The use of the second person singular is vulgar. The plural is here also used instead. The first person plural is commonly used instead of the second person when it is desired to show respect. The syllable *sā* may be added to the second or third person to show the plural number or respect. Thus *dēkhā-lā-sā*, your honour sees.

It is quite common to use Masculine forms instead of the Feminine.

A.—Auxiliary Verbs, and Verbs Substantive—

Present, I am, etc.

Form I.				Form II.				
Sing.		Plur.		Sing.		Plur.		
Masc.	Fem.	Masc.	Fem.	Masc.	Fem.	Masc.	Fem.	
1	(<i>baṛḍ</i>)	—	<i>baṛī</i> or <i>bānī</i>	<i>bāryū</i>	(<i>hāwḍ</i>)	—	<i>hāwī</i> , <i>hāī</i>	<i>hāryū</i>
2	<i>bār</i> , <i>bārē</i> , <i>baṛasi</i> , <i>bāras</i>	<i>bāris</i>	<i>bārā</i> , <i>bārāh</i>	<i>bārū</i>	<i>hāwō</i> , <i>hāwas</i> , etc.	<i>hāwis</i>	<i>hāwā</i> , <i>hāwāh</i>	<i>hāū</i>
3	<i>bā</i> , <i>bārē</i> , <i>bāra</i> , <i>bārō</i> , <i>baṛasi</i> , <i>baṛasu</i> , <i>bāras</i>	—	<i>bāran</i>	<i>bārin</i>	<i>hā</i> , <i>hāwō</i> , <i>hāwasī</i> , <i>hāwas</i>	—	<i>hāwan</i>	<i>hāwin</i>

Past, I was, etc.

Form I.				Form II.				
Sing.		Plur.		Sing.		Plur.		
Masc.	Fem.	Masc.	Fem.	Masc.	Fem.	Masc.	Fem.	
1	(<i>rah'lō</i>)	—	<i>rah'lī</i>	<i>rah'lyū</i>	(<i>rah'ō</i>)	—	<i>rahī</i>	<i>rah'yū</i>
2	<i>rah'lē</i> <i>rah'las</i>	<i>rah'li</i> <i>rah'lis</i>	<i>rah'lā</i> <i>rah'lāh</i>	<i>rah'lū</i>	<i>rahō</i> <i>rahās</i>	<i>rahī</i> <i>rahīs</i>	<i>rahā</i> , <i>rahāh</i>	<i>rahū</i>
3	<i>rahā</i> , <i>rah'lē</i> , <i>rah'lasī</i> , <i>rah'las</i>	<i>rah'li</i>	<i>rah'lan</i>	<i>rah'lin</i>	<i>rahō</i> <i>rahāsī</i> , <i>rahās</i>	<i>rahī</i>	<i>rahān</i>	<i>rahin</i>

Sometimes the *h'* is dropped. Thus *raī*, I was.

The Strong Verb Substantive is *hōkhāl*, to become, conjugated regularly.

The Negative Verb Substantive is *nah'kēhī* or *nāikhī*. I am not, conjugated regularly, but only in the present tense.

B.—Finite Verb—

Verbal Nouns.—(1) *dēkh*, obl., *dēkhe*; (2) *dēkhal* (infinitive), obl., *dēkh'ā*; (3) *dēkhab*, no obl. form. All mean 'to see' 'the act of seeing.'

Participles.—Pres. *dēkhat*, *dēkhit*, *dēkhai*; Fem., *dēkh'ti*, etc.; obl., *dēkh'tā*, etc.; Past, *dēkhal*; Fem., *dēkh'ti*; obl. *dēkh'lā*.

Conjunctive Participle.—*dēkh-ke* or *dēkhi-ke*; *kā* may be used instead of *ke*.

Simple Present.—I see, etc.; and Present Conditional (if) I see, etc.

Present Indicative, I see, etc., I shall see, etc.

	Sing.		Plur.		Sing.		Plur.	
	Masc.	Fem.	Masc.	Fem.	Masc.	Fem.	Masc.	Fem.
1	(<i>dēkhō</i>)	—	<i>dēkhī</i>	<i>dēkhyū</i>	(<i>dēkhā-lō</i>)	—	<i>dēkhi-lī</i> <i>dēkhi-lē</i>	<i>dēkhā-lyū</i>
2	<i>dēkh</i> , <i>dēkhē</i> <i>dēkhasi</i> , <i>dēkhas</i>	<i>dēkhis</i>	<i>dēkhā</i> <i>dēkhāh</i>	<i>dēkhū</i>	<i>dēkhā-lē</i> <i>dēkhe-lē</i>	<i>dēkhā-tisi</i>	<i>dēkhā-lō(h)</i> <i>dēkhe-lā(h)</i>	<i>dēkhā-lū</i>
3	<i>dēkhā</i> , <i>dēkha</i> , <i>dēkhō</i> , <i>dēkhasi</i> , <i>dēkhasu</i> , <i>dēkhas</i>	—	<i>dēkhan</i> <i>dēkhani</i>	<i>dēkhin</i>	<i>dēkhā-lī</i> <i>dēkhe-lā</i>	<i>dēkhā-lī</i>	<i>dēkhā-lē</i> , <i>-lan</i> , <i>-lani</i> <i>dēkhe-lē</i> , <i>-lan</i> , <i>-lani</i>	<i>dēkhā-lin</i>

Past, I saw, etc.

Future, I shall see, etc.

	Sing.		Plur.		Sing.		Plur.	
	Masc.	Fem.	Masc.	Fem.	Masc.	Fem.	Masc.	Fem.
1	(<i>dēkh'lō</i>)	—	<i>dēkh'lī</i>	<i>dēkh'lyū</i>	(<i>dēkh'bō</i>) (<i>dēkh'bau</i>)	—	<i>dēkhab</i> , <i>dēkh'li</i> <i>dēkhihā</i>	<i>dēkhib</i> , <i>dēkhibi</i>
2	<i>dēkh'lē</i> <i>dēkh'las</i>	<i>dēkh'li</i> <i>dēkh'lis</i>	<i>dēkh'lā(h)</i>	<i>dēkh'lū</i>	<i>dēkh'bē</i>	<i>dēkh'bi</i> <i>dēkh'bis</i>	<i>dēkh'bō(h)</i>	<i>dēkh'bū</i>
3	<i>dēkh'lē</i> <i>dēkh'las</i> <i>dēkh'lasī</i>	<i>dēkh'li</i>	<i>dēkh'lan</i> <i>dēkh'lani</i>	<i>dēkh'lin</i>	<i>dēkhi</i>	—	<i>dēkhihē</i> <i>dēkhihen</i>	—

Past Conditional, I had seen, etc.

	Sing.		Plur.	
	Masc.	Fem.	Masc.	Fem.
1	(<i>dēkh'tō</i>)	—	<i>dēkh'tī</i>	<i>dēkh'tyū</i>
2	<i>dēkh'tē</i> <i>dēkh'tas</i>	<i>dēkh'ti</i> <i>dēkh'tis</i>	<i>dēkh'tā(h)</i>	<i>dēkh'tū</i>
3	<i>dēkhat</i> , <i>dēkhit</i> <i>dēkh'tō</i> <i>dēkh'tas</i> <i>dēkh'tasi</i>	<i>dēkh'ti</i>	<i>dēkh'tan</i> <i>dēkh'tani</i>	<i>dēkh'tin</i>

¹ or *dēkhitī*, and so throughout.

The Imperative is the same as the Simple Present. Precautionary Forms are, singular, *dēkhihā*, *dēkhū*, *dēkh'bē*; Plural, *dēkhihā*, *dēkhihan*, *dēkhī*, *dēkh'bā*.

Present Definite. I am seeing, *dēkhat bānī*, and so on. Contracted form *dēkh'tānī*, or *dēkh'tānī* and so on. The participle does not change for gender or number.

Imperfect, I was seeing, *dēkhat rah'lī*, or *dēkhat rahī*, and so on. The participle does not change for gender or number.

Perfect, I have seen, formed by adding *ā* or *ā* to the Past. *ā* is used in the first and third persons plural, and *ā* in the second person, and in the third person singular. Thus *dēkh'lō ā*, I have seen: *dēkh'lā ā*, you have seen. *ā* may be substituted for *ā* and *ā* for *ā*.

Another form of the Perfect is made by conjugating the locative of the Past Participle, with the Present tense of the auxiliary verb. Thus, *dekh^olē bānī*, I have seen, *dekh^olē bārd*, you have seen, and so on.

Pluperfect, I had seen, *dekh^olē rah^olē* or *rah^olē* and so on. The syllable *hā* may be added. Thus, *dekh^olē rah^olē hā*. In the second person, and in the third person singular, *hā* is used instead of *hā*.

C.—Neuter Verbs—

In the third person singular masculine of the past, they may take the form of the Past Participle, without any suffix. Thus beside *gir^olē* and *gir^olas*, we may have also *giral* (fem. *gir^oli*), meaning, 'he fell.'

In the second form of the Perfect, the nominative, and not the locative of the Past Participle is used. Thus, *giral hānī*, not *gir^olē hānī*, I have fallen. In the Pluperfect, the form is the same as in the Active Verb. Thus, *gir^olē rah^olē* or *rah^olē*, I had fallen.

D.—Verbs whose roots end in *āw* and *ā*—

Those in *āw* are all transitive verbs, except the neuter verb *gāw*, sing.

Example,—*pāwal*, to obtain; Pres. Part., *pāwat*, *pāwit*, *pāit*; Past Part., *pāwal*.

	Simple Pres.		Pres. Ind.		Past.		Future.		Past Conditional.	
	Sing. Masc.	Plur. Masc.	Sing. Masc.	Plur. Masc.	Sing. Masc.	Plur. Masc.	Sing. Masc.	Plur. Masc.	Sing. Masc.	Plur. Masc.
1	<i>pāṭ</i>	<i>pāṭī</i>	<i>pāwe-lṭ</i>	<i>pā-lā</i>	<i>paulṭ</i>	<i>paulī</i>	<i>paiḃṭ</i>	<i>pāiḃ</i>	<i>pautṭ</i>	<i>pautī</i>
2	<i>pāwṭ</i>	<i>pāwā</i>	<i>pāwe-lṭ</i>	<i>pāwe-lā</i>	<i>paulṭ</i>	<i>paulā</i>	<i>paiḃṭ</i>	<i>paiḃā</i>	<i>pautā</i>	<i>pautā</i>
3	<i>pāwas</i>	<i>pāwan</i>	<i>pāi-lā</i>	<i>pāwe-lṭ</i>	<i>paulas</i>	<i>paulan</i>	<i>pāi</i>	<i>paiḃṭ</i>	<i>pāit</i> or <i>pāwat</i>	<i>pautan</i>

Those in *ā* are all neuter verbs, except the active verb *khā*, eat.

Example,—*khāil*, to eat; Pres. Part., *khāit* or *khāt*; Past Part., *khāil*.

	Simple Pres.		Pres. Ind.		Past.		Future.		Past Conditional.	
	Sing. Masc.	Plur. Masc.	Sing. Masc.	Plur. Masc.	Sing. Masc.	Plur. Masc.	Sing. Masc.	Plur. Masc.	Sing. Masc.	Plur. Masc.
1	<i>khāṭ</i>	<i>khāṭī</i>	<i>khā-lṭ</i>	<i>khāi-lā</i>	<i>khāilṭ</i>	<i>khāilī</i>	<i>khāiḃṭ</i>	<i>khāiḃ</i>	<i>khāitṭ</i>	<i>khāitī</i>
2	<i>khāwṭ</i>	<i>khāwā</i>	<i>khā-lṭ</i>	<i>khā-lā</i>	<i>khāilṭ</i>	<i>khāilā</i>	<i>khāiḃṭ</i>	<i>khāiḃā</i>	<i>khāitā</i>	<i>khāitā</i>
3	<i>khāwas</i>	<i>khāwan</i>	<i>khā-lṭ</i>	<i>khā-lṭ</i>	<i>khāilas</i>	<i>khāilan</i>	<i>khāi</i>	<i>khāiḃṭ</i>	<i>khāit</i>	<i>khāitan</i>

A neuter verb, such as *aghā*, be satiated, would make its 3rd sg. past optionally *aghāil*. The verb *āw*, come, is treated as a verb in *āw* in the Present Indicative (*āwe-lā*), he comes, and the Preterite Conditional (*autṭ*, (if) I had come). In the other tenses, it is treated as a verb in *a*. Thus *aiṭ*, I came; *āit*, he came.

E.—Irregular Verbs—

karal, to do; Past Part. *karal* or *kāil*, Conj. Part. *ke* or *kā*.
dharal, to place, seize; „ *dharal* or *dhail*, „ *dhai* or *dhd*.
mar, to die; „ *maral* or *māal*, Pres. Part., *marat* or *mūat*.
jāil, to go; „ *gail*.
dāl, to give; „ *dihal* or *dēl*.
lāl, to take; „ *lihal* or *lēl*.
hāal, to become; „ *hail*.

F.—Causal Voice, formed by adding *āw* to root. Thus *dekhāwi-lā*, I cause to see. The double causal adds *āwāw*.

G.—Potential Passive Voice, formed by adding *ā* to the root. Thus *dekhāi-lā*, I can be seen.

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