

Reduplications In Rangri Language Using Morphological Doubling Theory

¹ Hafiz Imran Nawaz , ²Dr. Riaz Mangrio , ³Ms.Farzana

Abstract

This study investigates the use of morphological features of Rangri language that is spoken in many areas of Pakistan. Rangri is (as pronounced {rāgrī}) an Indo-Aryan language spoken in different parts of Sindh and Punjab in Pakistan as this language is undocumented and not much recognized by authorities as an official or regional language. Reduplication in Rangri language within the paradigm of morpho-redoubling theory has been employed in order to examine the function of Total reduplication, Partial or Echo Reduplication, and Non-sensical Reduplication in Rangri language. Data was collected purposefully through random observation by the researcher of the vernacular speakers of the Rangri language such as /gel-gel/ means altogether (Total Reduplication), /loug-lagai/ means husband wife (Partial Reduplication), and /bhein-bhein/ means to mumble nonsense (Non-sensical Reduplication). Result showed that Rangri is still spoken in some of the areas of Pakistan and India with a rich inclusion of reduplications in the daily discourse of the speech communities of those areas.

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

Background

In Pakistan, a number of languages are spoken as it is a multilingual country (Rasool et al., 2023). Urdu language holds the position of national language, whereas Balochi, Pashto, Sindhi and Punjabi languages are spoken at province level. There are other languages such as Memni, Barohi, Saraiki, Rangri and some other languages which are spoken at regional level across the country (Jabeen, 2023).

All languages spoken in Pakistan have different features in terms sounds and structures, with that, these languages contain different phonological features and follow different word formation processes (Ali & Ilyas, 2022). Although a lot of research has been done on various issues of Pakistani languages yet there is a dire need to study those local languages and discover the different constructions of the words and phrases specially, compounds, idioms and proverbs used by the native speakers, which increase the beauty of that language.

Introduction

¹PhD Scholar & Lecturer Hamdard University Karachi.

²Associate Professor at SMIU.

³PhD Scholar Hamdard University Karachi.

Reduplication is a linguistics phenomenon which is being used in various languages since the Ancient Greek though limited to the areas of derivational and inflectional morphology (Kauffman, 20115). Reduplication is the creation of new words and new grammatical forms of the same word with addition of affixes sometimes. Scholars explore the usage of reduplications in various languages to understand their morphological, phonological, and semantic functions. In linguistics, the analysis of reduplication has become the area of interest for the scholars due to multiple reasons specially its usage by the speech communities in their respective languages. Reduplication is basically a doubling or copying of the same words either completely or partially to emphasis upon certain propositions both in verbal and written discourse creating a totally new constituent. Reduplications serve different semantic functions and occurs at many levels; from phonologically total and partial lexical reduplication to the repetition of the whole phrases and sentences. They befall in numerous ways, such as copying or pasting the base word, i.e. in Urdu /roz roz/ ‘dialy’, this total reduplication. On the contrary, partial or echo reduplication occurs when a chunk of the whole word is cloned along with the base word, for example, bread and the like /roti shoti/. Kachru (1990, P.62) called it echo compounding because it shows the repetition or rhyming of the original word with the different initials consonant e.g waqet ‘time’ /waqten-fa-waqten/ time-to-time’. Mangrio (2022) terms echo reduplication as ‘a phonetic alternation of the base words’. Moreover, it has multiple phonological forms as well which seem interesting to the speaker and the listener both.

Hurch (2005) reveals that reduplication occurs in many forms: words, phrases, and sentences, at this level they are called lexical reduplication, phrasal reduplication, and syntactic reduplication.

Reduplication expresses different emotional and sensual feature of human being. In this way, it may be assumed that duplication is one of the unique linguistics features, which explores the vitality of language and enrich the life of a language (Kajitani, 2005). Duplication may be defined that a format, which consists of same or different double occurrence of syllable, morpheme etc. with the function to enable language to express more feelings and express in more appropriate way. It can be used as to show intensification, plurality, completeness or intensity (Morvacsik, 1992). In recent years, it has been observed that construction of duplication and reduplication is the topic for linguistics researchers and this topic attract the attention of linguists to explore the hidden quality of a language (Hurch, 2005).

Briefly, the process of reduplication is morpho-phonological process through which a word or one portion of a phrase is duplicated and attached to the original word. For the replication of a word like, /dja:nde-dja:nde/ ‘Let it go’ total reduplication is used, whereas, Partial reduplication is needed when one part of the word is altered such as. /roti:-shoti:/ ‘roti means bread and shoti is meaningless but is used to emphasize the actual word. If there is a change in inception, like this, it is known as echo reduplication (Kachru, 1990, p. 62). It is quite difficult than partial or simple reduplication. Echo reduplication is very common linguistically and it appears to be transmissible aerial phenomenon in Indo-Aryan and Dravidian languages particularly. The conventional term used is ‘melodic overwriting’ (Inkelas, 2005). Reduplication can be defined completely in phonological terms in certain cases (Hurch, 2005).

Rangri Language

Rangri is (as pronounced {rãgri}) an Indo-Aryan language spoken in different parts of Sindh and Punjab in Pakistan. The language is spoken by the clans whose ancestors migrated to Pakistan from the areas which constitute the present-day Indian state of Haryana. It gets its name due to its association with the Muslim Rajput Rangar community which comprises the overwhelming majority of its speakers. It has its roots in a number of Indian languages, most notably, Haryanvi, Malvi and Bagri. The majority of the Muslim Rajputs, also called Rangars Madan (1995) migrated to Pakistan during the partition of the Indian Sub-Continent in 1947.

They brought with them their language which was disparagingly called Rangri by the locals (Anwer et al., 2022).

Rangri language resembles with the other languages spoken in the Haryana region of India. This is the reason the name Rangri is used only in Pakistan and has no specific identification of the name among the languages of India whereas in Pakistan, Rangri has no specific origin or geographic centre that is why the speakers of this language are spread. The present study, however, uses the name Rangri for the following reasons: first, it is the name most commonly used by the speakers of this language of which one of the researchers is one. Secondly, the majority of its speakers are Muslim Rajput Rangars (Madan, 1995; Sohdarvi, 2014), the name Rangri reflects their Rangar identity and thirdly, since most of the Muslim Rajputs migrated to Pakistan during the partition of the Sub-Continent, they brought with them their Rangri language and their Rangar identity. Despite having its roots in Haryanvi and a number of associated languages like Khari Boli etc, it has maintained its distinct identity in Pakistan and is not confused with any of these languages.

Rangri has a number of dialects, most notably Ambalvi and Karnalvi. Both dialects have a very high level of similarities; however, due to the proximity of Ambala with the state of Indian Punjab, Ambalvi dialect is lexically and morphologically closer to Punjabi and Urdu; whereas, the Karnalvi dialect is lexically and morphologically distinct. The nouns carry slight phonological variations in both languages. The Ambalvi dialect seems to prefer more Urdu/Punjabi nominal roots, whereas, Karnalvi dialect uses Rangri roots.

Like other local languages Rangri also has evidence of the morpho-semantic phenomenon. Therefore, reduplication is evident in both written and spoken forms. Reduplication is a construction of words by mixing two words and forming new words in order to emphasis semantic operation to make the discourse more powerful. Booij (2007) considers it as morphological process through which new words are formed by a total or partial reduplication of base words. While Hurch (2008) regards reduplication as morphological process which is subjected to special semantic operation.

Morphological Doubling Theory (MDT)

In Morphological Doubling Theory (MDT), reduplication is seen as repeating a part of a word (like a prefix, root, or whole word) based on its meaning and structure. It's like making a copy of a specific piece of a word to convey a certain idea by Inkelas (2005). Morphological Doubling Theory is used in that "reduplication results when the morphology calls twice for a constituent of a given semantic description." The reduplicant (the repeated part) and the base (the original part) are both elements of a structure, and this structure also includes shared meanings and sound patterns. In a compound word, both the original part (base) and the repeated part have their own distinct meanings. Sometimes, an infix is inserted which may connect the both. According to Bauer (2001) the additional element placed between the repeated and original parts of a compound an "interfix." This interfix helps connect the two parts of the compound. In languages like Urdu-Hindi and Raangri, as well as other Indo-Aryan (IA) languages, this feature of having an interfix in reduplications is commonly observed. This investigation is a complete theoretical framework for the present paper in terms of morpho-semantic analysis of lexical reduplication in Rangri language.

Research Objectives

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

Research Questions

1. What types of reduplications are present in Rangri language?
2. How the formation of reduplication are classified in 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 the IA languages in general and Rangri 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

In present era, a considerable attention is being given to Morphology as a subject. Various research studies on the morphology of Indo-Aryan languages have been conducted (Saad, 2015). A research has been conducted by Mangrio (2016) on the loan words in Urdu language. However, Rangri, despite being a relatively large language has not received any scholarly attention except a very elementary survey by the author Aslam (2015) that too under the name of Haryanvi. Hence, this paper focuses on the aspects which are neglected in the past.

The research is confined to the theoretical structure of Morphological Duplication Theory and works on displaying Rangri lexical reduplication as morphological duplication. Initially, Sharon Inkelas and Cheryl Zoll(2005) discovered this theory in order to highlight morpho-semantic elucidation of merely lexical reduplication. However, afterwards, some other morphological structures were also appealed by it. From their perspective, at morpho-syntactic and semantic level, lexical reduplication is operated by identity, in preference, semantics where there is probability of phonological changes in one or both the daughters, but not at phonological level. Hence, it gives a new slant of reduplication which is called Morphological Duplication Theory (MDT) or Morpho-Semantic (MS) features duplication. Moreover, they elaborate a few cases of lexical reduplication whose foundations rely on morphological or syntactic driving forces in comparison to phonological ones. They imitate one or more phonological constituents, and as a consequent, it is uncertain that there will be similarity between the two versions. (Inkelas and Zoll, 2005).

In MDT, reduplication is considered as a morphological structure which has a few number sisters, genuinely two, and these have similar features in semantics, but have self-sufficient inputs of morphology and phonology. Mainly, MTD is categorized into these two:

Morphological Targets

Morphological components (affix, root, stem, word) are demanded in a reduplication structure but not the phonological constituents (mora, syllable or foot) (Inkelas & Zoll, 2005). What this means is in accordance with MDT, these are the morphological units aforementioned on which duplication relies but not phonological segments.

Semantic Identity

Semantic identity between the two sisters is needed by a reduplication structure, but not the phonological identity (Inkelas & Zoll, 2005). In addition, semantic similarity between the two daughters of reduplication is emphasized by MDT. However, phonological resemblance is not prioritized in this regard.

Application Mechanism

MDT is a method that makes words by repeating parts of them. In this method, two parts of the word are supposed to mean the same thing (Inkelas & Zoll, 2005). At the same time, MDT helps solve some issues with repeating parts of words. Later, it explains these problems in more detail, focusing on how words are built. This shows that there's a distinction between MTD and theories that copy sounds, as well as other differences in how words are formed, noticed between the two parts being repeated. According to Inkelas and Zoll (2005), in theories where sounds are copied, it's clear that the repeated parts sound the same. In MTD, if the parts sound the same, it's considered a result of having the same meaning.

Rationale for the Theory and topic of the study

MTD theory is applied to examine the numerous morphological patterns and features, and semantic functions of lexical reduplication in Raangri despite other pressurized identity theories or phonological copying theories. These instances are unable to be explained by only phonological copying theories because these are bound around a limited range of contexts. For instance, the reduplication *ronda, ronda* "while crying" cannot be carried out by phonological copying theories. In accordance with phonological copying theories, the reduplicant is placed adjacent to the base word. In MDT, it is not mandatory that some other components between the two daughters may be there.

Inflectional vs. Derivational reduplication

Some writers and scholars have discussed the dual ways of reduplicating a word i.e, inflection and derivation. If there is no change in the main word and it adds intensity to the, grammatical meaning, then it is inflectional reduplication. For example, "*gerum-gerum*" means 'very hot.' Whereas, the meaning and category of the base word is changed in derivational reduplication. Let's consider a word, "*baat-baat*" means 'every moment,' alteration at the phonological and grammatical level. Robin (1993) agrees with Ambarita, saying that the meaning of the actual word gets grammatical twist in inflectional reduplication, whereas it is vice versa.

Simple and Complex Reduplication

Inflectional and derivational reduplication are the two types discussed by Ambarita (2018). Rubino (2005) added simple and complex reduplication. Some extra parts are added to the original word in simple reduplication, without changing its sound. In contrast, in complex reduplication, consonants and vowels both undergo changes, affecting the sound of the word. She later explains that the copy and the original word remains same in simple reduplication, while there are phonological changes in the base words of complex construction (Rubino, 2011).

Complete and Partial Reduplication

It is the duplication of full or only one part of the base word. The whole word is repeated in complete reduplication, whereas, some phonological changes occur in partial reduplication, or the repetition of few parts of the base word occurs (Khanjan & Alinezhad, 2010). In full reduplication complete root is repeated, while in partial only some consonantal or vowel change occurs in the base form (Rubino, 2005). To conclude, reduplication can be witnessed in more than one language, but at the same time, full and partial reduplication are language-dependent. They can often reduplicate in many words, but the crucial part is contextual analysis because it helps to analyze the semantic meanings of the words (Pollock & Wessler, 2014).

Methodology

This is a qualitative study having purposive samplings in order to maintain accuracy and reliability of the research. Data was collected in the real field where Rangri was being spoken by the native speakers. Moreover, observation was undertaken in the areas Dunya Pur, Karachi and Kurkali where the speakers of the target language were interacting among themselves spontaneously and randomly while the researcher were the direct observer. Data was collected from different domains: in the markets, wedding events, and family interactions where reduplicated words were being used in abundance. Keeping in view Inkelas (2005) Morphological Doubling Theory the focus was only on the reduplicated elements of the utterances of the target locality.

Data Analysis

Data was categorized according to the varieties of their usage. It was categorized into Total, partial, senseless reduplication, Data was also transcribed and translated into English language for the convenience of the readers.

Total and Partial Reduplication

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Total Reduplications

Rangri duplication	English translation	Grammatical Aspect
/dholi dholi/	'white'	Adj
/gel-gel/	'altogether'	Adv
/gha:l-gha:l	'full to the brim'	Verb
/touli- touli /	'hurriedly'	Adv
/kine kine/	'whosoever'	Adv
/ronda:-ronda:/	'while crying'	Verb
/goude-goude/	'till knee	N
/Pu:ch-pa:ch/	'to ask'	N
/hin-hin/	'rampantly'	Adv

Os ney touli touli sara apna kaam ker liya

He did all his work hurriedly

Total reduplication repeats the base word in its entirety during the process. Rangri uses a compound term called "dholi dholi," as an example. This compound word, "dholi," has two morphemes. The reduplicant of the base word "dholi" is the complete reduplication of the base word. Furthermore, it is known as the Total Reduplication because both morphemes accurately convey the intended meaning. They serve as a visual representation of how

actions are repeated. The word's grammatical category is "Adjective," which means "white." Reduplication does not change the word's grammatical aspect; instead, it stays the same but for emphasis. Additionally, the terms listed above are also the examples and fall in the same category and shows the existence of total reduplication. These types of words are widely spoken in informal settings.

Partial Reduplication

Rangri duplication	English translation	Grammatical Aspect
/kothi:-ka:thri:/	'any small room'	N
/ainju:n-unju:n /	'tear'	N
/toten-ta:tan/	'wear and tear'	V
/tubur-ta:mber/	'entire family'	N
/ghu:nghat-gha:nghut/	'veil'	N
/bhu:k-bha:k/	'hunger and poverty'	N
/rona-dhona/	'cry'	V
/loug-lagai/	'husband wife'	N
/Ka:nd-koulia/	'wall'	N

Sana nay mannay dekhdey hi rona dhona shouru kr dia
Sana has started crying having seen me

In the above mentioned examples, '**rona-dhona**' is a compounding word. This compounding word consists of two morphemes. The base word /rona/ is an infinitive verb which means 'to cry'. Moreover, it is called the Partial Reduplication in which the base word displays proper meaning whereas the reduplicant 'dho' is also an infinitive verb which means 'to wash' but in this context it does not have any semantic meaning but phonological difference.

Non-sensical Reduplications

Reduplications	English translation	Grammatical Aspects
/bhein-bhein/	'to mumble nonsense'	V
/tur-tur/	'speak nonsense'	V

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

Non-sensical reduplications involve repeating a word or part of a word in a way that doesn't create a meaningful or logical expression but playfully repeated to achieve a funny effect. Nonsensical reduplication seems also the part of Total reduplication but it does not have any sense. The first part of the first word is repeated in the process. The aforementioned example, 'tur-tur' is a compound used in Rangri . This compound carries two morphemes i.e. 'Tur' and the second part of the first word 'tur' is the repetition of total reduplication of first part.

Conclusion

This study has discussed usage of reduplication in the Rangri language. Three types of the Rangri reduplication have been explored and analyzed; total reduplication, partial reduplication, and non-sensical reduplication with their contextual usage are explained. The analysis of the data shows clearly that Rangri language is very rich in term of having variation of reduplication i.e Total reduplication, Partial reduplication and Non-sensical reduplication in Rangri language.

Future Recommendation

This research will be help further development in the Indo-Arian languages. Rangri being a marginalized language has still scope for further research in term of word paradigm, inflectional and derivational constructions of the words. It will also help the future researchers to explore more morphological areas of the Raangri language. This research can also be helpful in Corpus linguistics, Computational linguistics, and machine translation. Above all, its descriptive approach will help other researchers to work on the vernacular languages of Pakistan.

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