

Occurrences of Sounds /a, a:/ & /e, e:/ and Their Nature of Change in Telangana Telugu

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Abstract

Dialectal differences provide the significant data to both synchronic and diachronic changes in sounds of a language. The aim of the present paper is to examine and illustrate the occurrences of vowels /a, a:/ and /e, e:/ in current Telangana Telugu (TT, Hereafter) and the characteristics of their changes by comparing the data of ST. Telugu for the confirmation of the variation that they actually hold. This paper gives brief account of the sound changes in TT from the comparative and historical point of view based on observations and analysis of the data.

Keywords: Telangana Telugu, Standard Telugu, Sound Change, Vowels /a, a:/ & /e, e:/ and Reconstruction.

1. Introduction

Variations shown by the dialects of a language could be observed as a sub-set of the diachronic variation of a language. Thus, a comparative study of the phonetics and phonology of a language may provide valuable insight into historical sound-changes of a language. While there have been many descriptive studies of the Telugu dialects, relatively there have been none that offer a comparative analysis of the sound change.

All over the world, over a period of time the sounds of a languages tend to change and an understanding of sound change is truly important for historical linguistics in general, and this needs to be studied in a scientific manner. Sound change plays an extremely important role in the comparative method and hence also in linguistic reconstruction, and in determining whether languages are genetically related to one another (Campbell, 1998). In a much larger way sound change contributes to the change of a language. In historical linguistics, a word of a protolanguage changes into daughter languages through some stages and it transforms itself into distinct word called cognate. Cognates get shaped in daughter languages according to the different phonological patterns that are inherited. because of these patterns, we spot variation among cognates which in turn support us to identify the sound changes that separated daughter languages from their common parent. Sound changes shape the

history of languages and language families all around the world. It is the same case with the dialects; when words change from its earlier stage of the language to the dialectal varieties, they try to fit into the phonological patterns of the dialects and exhibit some of the differences with the Standard dialect including with the other dialectal varieties.

In Historical Linguistics, sound change is studied in two different ways; Regular and Irregular Sound change. Regular sound change takes place in a given environment systematically and Irregular sound change is also known as sporadic one due to its unusualness; since this sound change does not occur routinely in a given environment (Hock, 1991).

As per the earlier description it is observed that TT also had undergone some changes as compared to ST. Telugu and a detailed study of this kind of sound change of TT has not been studied so far since TT being a vernacular dialect of Telugu. This paper focuses particularly on the sound change in TT with the comparison of ST. Telugu and also accounts for the reconstruction of the changed sounds from the historical point of view.

This paper is organized as follows: Section 2 provides the description of TT and the other major dialects of Telugu. section 3 discusses about the collection of the data and methodology followed, section 4 discusses about the occurrences of /a, a:/ and their changes. Section 5 deals with the occurrences of /e, e:/ and their nature of change. section 6 throws a light on the other aspects of the sound change and section 7 accounts for the historical view of the changed sounds.

2. TT and Other Dialects of Telugu

Telangana is a 24th State in India. In Telangana, Telugu is one of the official languages of the state along with Urdu. Telugu is a Dravidian Language falls under the South Dravidian-II subgroup. “Telugu has four regional dialects as per the survey, which was conducted on the usage of the Telugu vocabulary in basic occupations like agriculture, handloom textiles, house buildings, etc. First one is Northern regional dialect: this includes nine Telangana districts; but here Mahbubnagar mostly goes with the Southern dialect. Second one is South Regional dialect: this comprises of Rayalaseema together with Nellore and Prakasam districts. Third one is Eastern regional dialect: this regional dialect encompassed with the Visakhapatnam and Srikakulam districts; this adjoin the Oriya speaking area. Fourth one is Central regional dialect: It consists of Mid-coastal districts of East and West Godavari, Krishna and Guntur” (Krishnamurti & Gwynn, 1985). TT falls under the northern regional dialect and shows the variation with ST. Telugu along with other regional varieties.

Since, TT being one of the dialects of Telugu was given least preference in research, academic and media writings in united Andhra Pradesh. After formation of the separate state, TT

is gaining its prominence in such domains. This study is a modest attempt to study the actual sounds of TT by comparing the ST. Telugu to see the level of variation among them.

Places from Where Data Has Been Collected in TT

- Basar is a village in Nirmal District and referred as (BSR, hereafter).
- Dowdepalli is a village in Luxettipet and referred as (DPL, hereafter).
- Kaleshwaram is a village in Bhoopalpally district and referred as (KLM, hereafter).
- Jogipet is a village in Medak district and referred as (JPT, hereafter)
- Narmetta is a village in Jangaon district and referred as (NRMT, hereafter)
- Pakhal kothguda is a village in Warangal district and referred (PKG, hereafter)
- Aswapuram is a village in Bhadradi-Kothagudem district and referred as (AP, hereafter)
- VM Banjara is a village in Khammam district and referred as (V.M.B, hereafter)
- Mella Chetuvu is a village in Suryapet district and referred as (MCR, hereafter)
- Peddavura is a village in Nalgonda district and referred as (PDVR, hereafter)
- Ammupally is a village in Mahabubnagar district and referred as (AMPL, hereafter)

And Standard Telugu referred as ST. Telugu and Dravidian Etymological Dictionary is referred as DED.

3. Methodology

3.1. Data

The data used for this study was collected from eleven different places of Telangana. The data collection was done through the field visits based on the 1500 DED word list. There are total eleven monolingual illiterate informants (from 55-65 age range) are administered for the study to avoid the influence of other languages and ST. Telugu; among them six are male and five are female informants who hails from the different social backgrounds. But in this paper only 89 words had been chosen for the study of the vowel sounds /a, a: and e, e:/.

3.2. Methodology

The goal of the study is to identify the changes that took place in the vowels /a, a: and e, e:/ in word initial medial and final positions in TT by comparing the ST. Telugu to see the level of variation among them and tries to throw the light on historical background of these changed sounds. This study follows regularity and irregularity hypothesis, comparative method to show the sound change and diachronic approach is followed to account for the reconstruction of changed sounds from historical point of view.

4. Occurrences of /a, a:/ and Their Nature of Change

4.1. Occurrences of /a, a:/ Word Initially

Sets from 1-10 shows that there is no change is observed in /a-, a:/ word initially in all the dialects.

Sl. No	DED Word	Gloss	DED Entry	BSR	DVPL	KLM	JPT	NRMT	PKG	AP	VMB	MCR	PDVR	AMPL	ST
1	aṭṭuku	‘to join’	43	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
2	aḍḍamu	‘mirror’	125	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
3	anu	‘to say’	737	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
4	avi	‘those things’	1	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
5	a:kali	‘hunger’	2005	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:
6	a:ku	‘leaf’	284	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:
7	a:ḍu	‘to play’	290	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:
8	a:ru	‘to dry’	346	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:
9	a:vu	‘cow’	283	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:
10	a:viri	‘vapor’	334	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:

4.2. Occurrences of /a, a:/ Word Medially

In the Correspondence sets 11-15 no change is observed in /a/ due to the fricativization of preceding /c/ to /s/ except in ST. Telugu, which has the alteration process between /a/ and /ɛ/. Along with /c/ and /ts/. e.g., *tsaḍuvu/ceḍuvu* ‘to study’. Sets 16 and 17 follow the same fricativization process where /c/ changes to /s/ due to which /a:/ remains the same in all the dialects except in ST. Telugu, where /a:/ and /æ:/ alternates along with /c/ and /ts/. e.g., *ca:vū/tsa:vū* ‘death’ In sets 18 and 19, All the dialects remained the quality of palatal, due to the change in /c/ > /ʃ/ except in ST. Telugu when followed by /a/ in the second syllable, due to which all the dialects involved in exhibit change from /a:/ to /æ:/ without any fail. e.g., *ʃæ:pa < ca:pa* ‘mat’ and in ST. Telugu /a:/ alternates with /æ:/ along with /c/ and /ts/. e.g., *tsa:pa/cæ:pa* ‘mat’. Sets 20 and 21 display the alternation between /a/ and /ɛ/ along with the alteration of /ʃ/ and /dz/. e.g., *Jerugu/dzarugu* ‘to pass’. Sets 22 and 23 does follow the same in display of the alteration between a:/æ: due to the preceding /ʃ/dz/ alternation. e.g., *ʃæ:ru, dza:ru* ‘to slide’ in all the dialects.

Sl. No	DED Word	Gloss	DED Entry	BSR	DVP L	KL M	JPT	NR MT	PKG	AP	VM B	MC R	PDV R	AM PL	ST
11	caccu	‘to die’	2002	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a/ε
12	caḡuvu	‘to read’	1920	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a/ε
13	cali	‘cold’	1990	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a/ε
14	cappa	‘tastless’	1926	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a/ε
15	callu	‘to sprinkle’	1969	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a/ε
16	ca:vu	‘death’	2002	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:/æ:
17	ca:ṭu	‘cover, shelter’	2014	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:	a:/æ:
18	ca:pa	‘mat’	2024	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	a:/æ:
19	ca:ra	‘line’	2047	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	a:/æ:
20	ḡalubu	‘a cold’	1991	a/ε	a/ε	a/ε	a/ε	a/ε	a/ε	a/ε	a/ε	a/ε	a/ε	a/ε	a/ε
21	ḡarugu	‘to pass’	1950	a/ε	a/ε	a/ε	a/ε	a/ε	a/ε	a/ε	a/ε	a/ε	a/ε	a/ε	a/ε
22	ḡa:ḡu	‘redness’	2010	a:/æ:	a:/æ:	a:/æ:	a:/æ:	a:/æ:	a:/æ:	a:/æ:	a:/æ:	a:/æ:	a:/æ:	a:/æ:	a:/æ:
23	ḡa:ru	‘to slide’	2048	a:/æ:	a:/æ:	a:/æ:	a:/æ:	a:/æ:	a:/æ:	a:/æ:	a:/æ:	a:/æ:	a:/æ:	a:/æ:	a:/æ:

4.3. Occurrences of /a, a:/ word finally

Long vowels /a:/ doesn’t occur in word final position in TT. Sets 24 to 28 display the change from /a/ to /jə/ word finally in all the dialects except in ST. Telugu when preceded by front vowel /i/ in the preceding syllable. e.g., *piṭṭjə* < *piṭṭa* ‘bird’.

Sl. No	DED Word	Gloss	DED Entry	BS R	DVP L	KL M	JPT	NR MT	PKG	AP	VM B	MC R	PD VR	AM PL	ST
24	ravika	'a sort of bodice'	4238	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	a
25	usirika	'embolic myrobala n'	71	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	a
26	o:pika	'patience'	781	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	a
27	maḥḥiga	'buttermilk'	3781	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	a
28	Piṭṭa	'bird'	3418	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	a

5. Occurrences of /e, e:/ and Their Nature of Change

5.1. Occurrences of /e, e:/ Word Initially

It is evident from the sets 29-34, and 41-43, whenever a word begins with /e/ and /e:/ in all the dialects, there is process of prosthesis at the very beginning of the word by adding /j/ word initially. e.g., *jeguru* < *eguru* 'to fly'. But It is not the case with all the words, words which begins with /e/ word initially and happens to have /a/ in the next syllable then word initial /e/ changes to /ɛ/ regularly and this sort of change is seen in the correspondence sets from 35 to 40 in all the dialects except ST. Telugu. e.g., *eṇḍa* < *eṇḍa* 'sunshine'. Second vowel of 36-49 sets, /u/ and /a/ get dropped word medially therefore trisyllabic word becomes disyllabic and then /a/ being as a second vowel follows the /e/ and triggers the change. e.g., *eṭla* < *eṭula*. As per the data it is convinced that TT retained the archaic sound form of earlier Telugu as compared to ST. Telugu in 44 and 45 sets, which has entry with /j/ in DED rather than /e/. /ja:/ of earlier period changed to /e:/ in ST. Telugu but remained as it is in the given sets of the above-mentioned dialects. e.g., *ja:ṭa* 'ram' and *ja:da:ḍi* 'year'.

Sl. No	DED Word	Gloss	DED Entry	BS R	DV PL	KLM	JPT	NR MT	PKG	AP	VM B	MC R	PD VR	AM PL	ST
29	eguru	'to fly'	352	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e
30	eṭṭu	'to lift up'	681	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e
31	eḍḍu	'ox'	698	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e

32	eḍḍi	‘fool’	677	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e
33	engili	‘defiled by contact with mouth’	666	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e
34	enimiḍi	‘eight’	670	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e
35	eṇḍa	‘sunshine’	738	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	e
36	eṭula	‘how’	4228	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	e
37	eḍama	‘left, left hand’	381	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	e
38	elaka	‘rat’	710	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	e
39	eruka	‘knowledge’	265	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	e
40	erra	‘earth worm’	701	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	e
41	e:ṭu	‘a blow, stroke’	731	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:
42	e:ḍucu	‘to cry, weep’	240	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:
43	e:gu	‘to go, proceed’	740	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:
44	e:ṭa	‘ram’	4229	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	e:
45	e:ḍaḍi	‘year’	4230	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	e:

5.2. Occurrences of /e, e:/ Word Medially

No change is observed in the sound form /e/ since it is followed by high vowel /u/ in the next syllable in the correspondence sets from 46-51; but in sets 48 and 49 remains unchanged due to the vowel harmony since /a/ being as second member changes to /u/. e.g., *beḍuru* < *beḍaru* ‘to be afraid’. Correspondence sets from 52 to 60 it is observed that whenever word begins with palatals like /c/ and /ʃ/ as a first member and short vowel /e/ happened to be the second sound of the word then there is a change in the short vowel from /e/ to /ε/ and also change is seen from /c/ > /ʃ/ due to palatalization in all the dialects except in ST. Telugu. e.g., *ʃeḍu* < *ceḍu* ‘to be rotten’ and *ʃerri* < *cerri* ‘centipede’. It may assume that due to the mutual influence between /c/ and /e/; /c/ changes to /ʃ/ and /e/ changes to /ε/ in above sets whereas in ST. Telugu e>ε after the palatal *ceḍu* < *ceḍu* ‘to be rotten’ and *ʃerri* < *cerri* ‘centipede’; and /e/ to /ε/ change is also seen in the

sets, 58 and 60, when /e/ is followed by /a/ in the next syllable. e.g., *takkeḍa* < *takkeḍa* ‘a balance’ in all the dialects. In set 63, word medially /e/ and /s/ influence each other due to which /e/ changes to /ɛ/ and /s/ changes to /ʃ/. e.g., TT. *paḍifemu*, ST.Te. *paḍisemu* < *paḍisemu* ‘a cold’. In Set 64 /e/ occurs only in five dialects which correspond to /o/ in other seven dialects. e.g., *ronḍu* < *reṇḍu* ‘two’. This is the lone item, where this kind of change is observed and considered as a sporadic one. Correspondence sets from 65-71 all the dialects involved in exhibit long vowel /e:/ word medially without any change due to the following high vowels /u/ and /i/.

The correspondence sets from 72 to 75 display the change from e: to æ: in all the dialects except in ST. Telugu due to the /a/ in the next syllable. e.g., *mæ:ka* < *me:ka* ‘goat’. Sets 76 and 77 are different from 70 and 71, where /ve:/ of 76 and 77 changes to /ja:/ word initially due to the following /a/ in the next syllable in all the dialects except ST. Telugu. e.g., *ja:pa* < *ve:pa* ‘neem’, whereas in 70 and 71 remains unchanged due to the following of high vowels like /u/ and /i/ in the next syllable.

Sl. No	DED Word	Gloss	DED Entry	BS R	DV PL	KLM	JPT	NR MT	PKG	AP	VM B	MC R	PD VR	AM PL	ST
46	gelucu	‘to win’	1641	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e
47	ṭeccu	‘to bring’	2526	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e
48	ṭeracu	‘to open’	4246	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e
49	beḍaru	‘to be afraid’	4425	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e
50	mekku	‘to eat greedily’	4166	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e
51	meṭṭu	‘to plaster with mud’	4156	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e
52	ceḍu	‘to be rotten’	1614	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ
53	ceda	‘termite’	1296	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ
54	cekku	‘to cut of break’	2266	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ
55	cerugu	‘to winnow’	1679	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ
56	ceviṭi	‘deaf’	1645	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ
57	ceruvu	‘artificial lake’	1648	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ	ɛ

58	ṭakked a	‘a balance’	2437	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε
59	Jerri	‘centipede’	2299	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε
60	Jalleḍa	‘sieve’	1959	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε
61	vekkili	‘hiccough’	4412	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e
62	verri	‘madness’	4536	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e
63	paḍise mu	‘a cold’	3189	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε	ε
64	reṇḍu	‘two’	401	o	o	o	o	o	o	e	e	e	e	e	e
65	ce:ru	‘to join’	2312	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e	e:	e:	e:	e:
66	ṭe:ku	‘take tree’	2842	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:
67	pe:ru	‘name’	3612	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:
68	pe:nu	‘head louse’	3643	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:
69	ṭa:be:l u	‘tortoise’	4232	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:
70	ve:ḍi	‘heat, warmth’	4540	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:
71	ve:ru	‘root’	4554	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:	e:
72	me:ḍa	‘house with two of more floors’	3930	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	e:
73	me:ka	‘goat’	4174	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	e:
74	me:na	‘maternal relationshi p’	4189	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	e:
75	le:ṭa	‘young’	248	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	æ:	e:
76	ve:pa	‘neem tree’	4551	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	e:
77	ve:ṭa	‘hunting’	4547	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	ja:	e:

5.3. Occurrences of /e, e:/ Word Finally

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Language in India www.languageinindia.com ISSN 1930-2940 19:5 May 2019

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Occurrence of /e, e:/ doesn't exist in TT. Sets from 78 to 89 all the dialects except ST. Telugu agree in display the change in the sound form from /e/ to /jə/ word finally. e.g., *gorrjə* < *gorre*.

Sl. No	DED Word	Gloss	DED Entry	BS R	DV PL	KLM	JPT	NR MT	PKG	AP	VM B	MC R	PD VR	AM PL	ST
78	saJJe	Holcus spicatus'	1888	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	e
79	gaJJe	'small bell, tinkling ornament'	1610	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	e
80	ginne	'cup, bowl'	1291	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	e
81	gore	'sheep'	1485	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	e
82	borre	'hole, burrow'	3765	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	e
83	sutte	'small hammer'	2197	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	e
84	ette	'beehive'	2874	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	e
85	tole	'cradle'	2870	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	e
86	gudise	'hut, cottage'	1379	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	e
87	arise	'sweet meat made of rice'	178	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	e
88	do:se	'a kind of cake'	2920	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	e
89	garite	'spoon, ladle'	1063	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	jə	e

6. Other Aspects of Sound Change

It is evident from the data that there is a change in the syllabic structure, and one may suspect the sound change due to the structural changes that happened in the words. There are 55 disyllabic words, 31 trisyllabic words and 3 polysyllabic words.

Dropping of vowel word medially is very common phenomenon in all these dialects as per the data. But here, omission of the vowel word medially results in sound change in set numbers 36-39, where a trisyllabic word becomes disyllabic by dropping the /a/ and /u/ word medially therefore /a/ in the final syllable becomes the second one and triggers the change of /e/ to /ε/.

All the omission will not help in such change until a trisyllabic of this kind has a vowel /a/ in the final syllable. e.g., *enimidi* ‘eight’ though it has gone through the same process of omission, but no change is observed in /e/ due to the /i/ next syllable.

And sometimes vowel harmony blocks the change in /e/ when followed by /a/ if /u/ occurs as third vowel in a word. In the sets like; 48 and 49 though they have /e/, which is followed by /a/ but still no change is observed in /e/ due to the /u/ of the final syllable, which changes the /a/ to /u/.

7. Historical View of the Sound Change

Word medially There is fluctuation between /a/, /ε/ and /a:/ /æ:/after palatal sounds and shall be reconstructed to /*a/ and /*a:/ accordingly since it is considered as conditioned change due to the preceding palatal in the sets from 11-23. In sets, 24-28 /*a/ shall be reconstructed because it is learned that *a> jə is a phonetic change due to preceding front vowel.

In TT *e and *e: may be reconstructed accordingly word initially, medially in all the correspondence sets since /ε/, and /æ:/ considered as phonetic change. though [ja:] is appeared in TT either it could be considered as the retention of archaic form or may be conditioned change due to the following vowel /a/ in the next syllable in sets 44 and 45. Similar view holds with the retention of /jə/ word finally in 78-89 sets; in all its occurrences in disyllabic words, final -e is the result of the change *-ija>-e (Ranganadhacharyulu,1987). It is difficult to say that *-e changes to -jə in TT in word final position since there is no phonetic condition and the direction of change, which is opposite to the earlier one from *-ija> -e thus we may assume to conclude that the retention of /jə/ is seen in 78-89 sets in TT by just dropping vowel /i/ of *ija. Set 64 shows the sporadic change from /e/ to /o/. But in the sets 76 and 77 [ja:] is a phonetic change and shall be reconstructed to [ve:].

Conclusion

Any word for that matter has to undergo some changes to fit into the phonological patterns of dialect or the language that inherited. This paper observed that the more fluctuation takes place between a/ε and a:/æ: in ST. Telugu than TT. And the change from /a/ > /jə/ is more common in TT whereas in ST. Telugu /a/ remained unchanged word finally. Changes from /e/ > /ε/ is observed word initially in TT whereas in ST. Telugu witnesses no such change. Retention of archaic form

/ja:/ is seen in TT whereas in ST. Telugu it changes to /e:/. Change from /e/ > /ε/ is seen equally in both TT and ST. Telugu when preceded by palatal and sibilant /s/. sporadic change is seen from /e/ > /o/ in six dialects of TT whereas other dialects retained the /e/ along with ST. Telugu. /e:/ changes to /æ:/ in TT but such change is not seen in ST. Telugu. word initially /ve:/ to /ja:/ change is observed in TT but not in the case of ST. Telugu. TT retained the archaic form *ijja > jə but in ST. Telugu it changes to /e/ word finally.

This paper gives only a preliminary account of sound change with a focus on TT by comparing the ST. Telugu for the observation of the level of variation among them. More intense research into the sounds of TT shall lead to many more interesting facts of the sound change.

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