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Mabhyani, a Lesser Known Mother Tongue of Western Hindi Group

Somana Fatima, Ph.D.

Noida District

The total population of Noida (CT) is 305058 in which total male population is 168958 and total population of female is 136100 according to Census of India 2001. All the villages of Noida (CT) come under Ward No. 1, district Gautam Buddha Nagar. Noida was formed on April 19, 1976. The city is a separate district, called Gautam Budh Nagar, with its administrative HQ at Surajpur town. Noida is situated towards the north, close to Delhi. It is bound on the west and south-west by the river Yamuna, on the north and north-west by Delhi, on the north-east by Delhi and Ghaziabad and on the north-east, east and south-east by the river Hindon. Noida falls under the catchment area of the Yamuna River and is based on the old river bed.

Collection of Mabhyani Data

The field data (linguistic and extra-linguistic parameters) was collected from two informants Shri Rakesh Kumar (59 years) and his wife Shrimati Sudha Devi (54 years) of Language in India <u>www.languageinindia.com</u> 11 : 11 November 2011 Somana Fatima, Ph.D. Mabhyani, a Lesser Known Mother Tongue of Western Hindi Group 752 village Mamura, Sector 66 of Noida (CT). The mother tongue 'Mabhyani' was returned approximately by 18175 speakers in Census 2001. According to Table 10 of Census 2001 Guidelines, i.e. "janpad mein matra bhasha ke anusar jansankhiya 2001," it is stated that Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi, Bengali and other languages are used by the speakers of Noida. Mabhyani comes under the Khadi Boli Hindi. Noida has an average literacy rate of 68%.

Identification of the Mabhyani Community and the Region

This mother tongue is linguistically close to Haryanvi and Khadi Boli in which R (retroflex, flap), Rh (aspirated retroflex and flap) and N (retroflex, Nasal) are used very frequently. For example, gaRa 'song' and laRi 'bring' bARh rAhe 'making'. Mabhyani is spoken in some villages of Sector 66 of Noida (CT), Gautam Buddha Nagar.

The people and their social life

The Mabhyani people are settled in the region for about three to four generations. They essentially live on agricultural avocation and have low socio-economic status. Although the general literacy rate of the community is not very high, a few literate persons are reported to be settled in some government and private jobs, in legal profession and in teaching in the educational institutions. The people prefer marriages by way of negotiation within the community although a few cases of inter-community marriages with the Warelas have been socially accepted which is but a recent development. The Mabhyanis are the followers of Hinduism and are very conservative.

Language used in household and outside the home domain

The household language of the Mabhyanis is their mother tongue, which they have been using for generations. Outside their home, in the bazaar, in religious ceremonies, in group meeting and in neighbourhood, Mabhyani is used and in formal setting Hindi is used which functions as the super-imposed official medium of instruction. English is also used by the younger generation of Mabhyani.

Multilingual situation of the speech-region

The literate section of the community demonstrates proficiency to interact in 'Workable Hindi' besides their mother tongue. Majority understands Hindi but communicates their messages only through mother tongue.

Demography of Noida (CT): (2001 census)

Total Population : 293,908

Total literate : 68%

Male : 1,61,649 Area :. 203.16 km² Female : 1,32,258

Mother Tongue Name Given: Mabhyani (variety of Hindi)

Location of Mother Tongue: Village Mamura of sector 66 in Noida (CT)

Informants: Shri Rakesh Kumar (59 years) and his wife Shrimati Sudha Devi (54 years)

Linguistic sketch of Mabhyani

1. Phonology

Given below are all the consonants and vowels which are finding in the field with the manner of articulation and point of articulation:

р	voiceless bilabial stop
ph	aspirated voiceless bilabial stop
b	voiced bilabial stop
bh	aspirated voiced bilabial stop
t	voiceless alveolar stop

th	aspirated voiceless alveolar stop
d	voiced alveolar stop
dh	aspirated voiced alveolar stop
Т	voiceless retroflex stop
Th	aspirated voiceless retroflex stop
D	voiced retroflex stop
Dh	aspirated voiced retroflex
c	voiceless palatal stop
ch	aspirated voiceless palatal stop
j	voiced palatal stop
jh	aspirated voiced palatal
k	voiceless velar stop
kh	aspirated voiceless velar stop
g	voiced velar stop
gh	aspirated voiced velar stop
m	bilabial nasal
n	alveolar nasal
Ν	retroflex nasal
1	alveolar lateral
r	alveolar trill
R India <u>www.lang</u> mber 2011	retroflex flap guageinindia.com

Rh	aspirated retroflex flap
f	voiceless labio-dental fricative
S	voiceless alveolar fricative
Z	voiced alveolar fricative
Š	voiceless palato-alveolar fricative
h	voiceless glottal fricative
v	labio-dental semi-vowel
у	palatal semi-vowel
Ι	high front short vowel
i	high front long vowel
А	mid central vowel (short)
a	low central vowel (long)
U	high back short vowel
u	high back long vowel
Е	open-mid front short vowel
e	mid front long vowel
0	open-mid back short vowel
0	mid back long vowel
æ	front low
ai	diphthong
au India <u>www.lang</u>	diphthong uageinindia.com

- ~ nasalization (written above the vowel symbol)
- // phonemic writing
- [] phonetic symbol
- <> graphemes

	bilabial	labio-	dental	alveolar	retroflex	palato	palatal	velar	post velar	uvular	glottal
		dental				alveolar					
Stops	p, ph		t, th		T, Th		c, ch	k, kh			
	b, bh		d, dh		D, Dh		j, jh	g, gh			
Fricative		F		s, z		Š					h
Laterals											
Nasals	M			l, n	N						
Trill & Flap				r	R, Rh						
Frictionless		V									
Semi-Vowel							У				
				A.	Mabhyani	Consonan	ts				
					Tota	1 34					
				Other	r Phoneme	s: Nasaliza	tion				

Part of the tongue	Front	Central	Back
Height of the tongue			
High	i		u
Low-high	Ι		U
High-mid	e		0
Mean-mid	E	А	0
Low			a

B. Mabhyani Vowels

The Nasalized vowel phonemes

In the language spoken by the people of Noida (CT), all the ten vowels are nasalized

Ĩ		Ũ
ĩ		ũ
ẽ		õ
Ĩ		Õ
	ã	

Total number of Vowels: 10

Distribution of vowels

Vowel	initial	medial	final
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	1	57	

I	Itte	calIs		gOlI
i		bic		sAhi
Α	AndhERa	bArf		cIRIyA
a	admi	hati		kũa
U	UNko	pURana		
u	u	dur		
Ε	Ek	SAhEli	gaE	
0	OdhAr	mORa		
Ε	ENAk	pEr		hE
0	orAt	kon		

Consonant distribution

Consonant	initial	medial	final	
р	per	TOpi	sãp	
ph	phEphRa	sAphEd		
b	bAndAr	sAbji	sAb	
bh	bhai	nabhi	jibh	
t	tal	pAtta	chAt	
th	thORa	kAtthAi	hath	
d	dIwar	gAnda	sAphEd	
dh	dhArti	AndhEra	dudh	
Τ	ТОрі	lATAk		
Th	ThAnd		piTh	
D	DOr	hADDi	sEkAnD	
Dh	DhAkkAn	mEDhAk		
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c	cIRIya	bAcca	pãnc
ch	chAt	kAchUa	chach
j	jaRa	rOjana	laj
jh	jhArna	mUjhe	bajh
k	kUtta	Uska	Ek
kh	khuN	bUkhar	Rakh
g	gae	uŋgli	pAlAŋg
gh	ghAr	mEgha	bagh
m	mEra	mAmma	am
n	nak	Andha	dhan
Ν	Nak		dhaN
1	lal	nila	lal
r	rOjana	sArir	bahAr
R		kARwa	pER
Rh		cARhna	pARh
S	sAkra	rAssi	pas
h	hAwa	bAhAn	bAh
W	WO	dArwaja	
У		bITIya	

Consonant clusters

ʻrd'	as in	sArdi, gArd	"cold weather, dust"
'ndh'	as in	Andhera,	"darkness"
'rt'	as in	dhArti, bhArti	"earth, entry"
'gr'	as in	grahaN, gram	"eclipse"
'hr'	as in	kOhRa	"fog"

'rf' as in	bArf	"ice"
'lh' as in	dUlhAN	"bride"
'dm' as in	admi	"man"
'nj' as in	pAnja	"claws"
'rg' as in	mUrga	"cock"
'tt' as in	kUtta	"dog"
'nkh' as in	pAnkh	"feather"
'kkh' as in	mAkkhi	"fly"
'mR' as in	lomRi	"fox"
'phR' as in	phEphRa	"lever"
'Rk' as in	khIRki	"window"
'mr' as in	Amrud	"guava"
'tn' as in	jOtna	"to plough"
'bj' as in	sAbji	"vegetable"
'Rw' as in	kARwa	"sour"
'mk' as in	cAmkila	"bright"
'tth' as in	kAtthAi	"brown"
'dn' as in	kudna	"t o jump"
'lT' as in	ulTI	"vomiting"
'khn' as in	lIkhna	"to write"
'khN as in d	lIkhNa	"to see"
'mb' as in	lAmba	"long"
'kr' as in s	Akra	"narrow"
'khR' as in nA	AkhRa	
'hl' as in	pAhle	"first"

Gemination

tt,	'UttAr'	"north"
SS,	'rAssi'	"rope"
DD,	'hADDi'	"bone"
сс	'kAcca'	"raw"

Vowel sequences

ʻai'	as in	lUgai	'wife'
'ua'	as in	hua	'had'
'ae'	as in	gae	"cow"
'AI'	as in	gAIya	"cow"
'au'	as in	blauz, blauj	"blouse"
'eo'	as in	geo	"to go"
ʻoA'	as in	hoAt	"lips"
'ao'	as in	ao, lao	"to come, to bring"

Syllable Structure

Words may consist of one or more syllables. A syllable is characterized as sequence of phoneme with one peak. In each syllable the vowel has the peak. A vowel may be preceded or followed by one or more consonants. The syllable is open when the vowel is the final segment and it is closed when final segment is a consonant.

In the language under study we found following syllabic structure:

Monosyllabic

cvc	rakh
vcv	ag

Bisyllabic

cvcv	hAwa
cvccv	bIdhwa
cvcvc	mArAd
vccv	admi
cvccv	mUrga

Morphology

It is a usual practice in linguistics to divide the grammar into morphology and syntax.

Noun Morphology

The kinds of suffixes which occur with the stem define the class of stem.

Nouns in the language spoken by its speakers may thus be defined on the basis of the suffixes with which they occur. In the present study they are distinguished by two-tier numbers (sg. & pl.) and two-tier genders, i.e., Masculine & Feminine. A noun in Mabhyani is two tier number (singular and plural) and two tier genders (masculine and feminine).

Numbers

Mabhyani has two numbers, i.e., singular and plural and the plural suffix markers are -e, -yã, and prefix markers are 'bhaut sara' and 'bhaut sare' for masculine plural, 'bhaut sari' for feminine plural.

Word-sg	Gloss	Word-pl	Gloss
tota	'parrot'	tote	'parrots'
chIRa	'bird'	chIRyã	'birds'

lAkRi	'Wood'	lAkRiyã	'Woods'
bIlli	'cat'	bhaut sari bIlli	'cats'
bAndAr	'monkey'	bhaut sare bAndAr	'monkeys'

Gender

Gender of the nominal is determined by -a in masculine and

—i, —iya and —Ika in femine.

Word-mas	Gloss	Word-fem	Gloss
baRAk	'male baby'	baRIka	'female baby'
lARka	'boy'	lARki	ʻgirl'
kUtta	ʻdog'	kUttIya	'bitch'
lonDa	'boy'	lonDiya	ʻgirl'

In Mabhyani language, the masculine and feminine may have two separate words. For example:

Word-mas	Gloss	Word-fem	Gloss
admi	'man'	aurAt	'woman'
sAsur	'father-in-law''	sas	'mother-in-law''
Raja	'king'	Rani	'queen'
pIta	'father'	mata	'mother'

Cases

The language has a five-tier case system: nom., acc., abl., gen. and loc. have the markers as follows:

Nom.- admi 'man', or At 'woman', papa 'father', bITIya 'daughter', ghAr 'house'

loc.-pe khet pe 'to the field'

Acc. –te (masc), -ti (fem)

u te 'to him' u ti 'to her'.

Abl. -se admi se 'from the man', orAt se ' from the woman'

Pronouns

The pronouns are of three types

- i) Personal pronoun
- ii) Demonstrative pronoun
- iii) Interrogative pronoun

Of these, the personal pronouns are categorized by three-tier persons $(1^{st}, 2^{nd} \& 3^{rd})$ and two tier numbers (sg. & pl.) and the demonstrative pronouns by remote and proximate-types with two-tier number(sg. & pl.) Systems. The Interrogatives don't distinguish in numbers.

Personal Pronouns

Person	Singular	Gloss	Plural	Gloss
1 st Person	mAnne	ʻI'	hAmne, hAmar	'we'
2 nd Person	tAnne, tu	'thou'	ap, tAm	'You'
3 rd person	vo, u	'he/she'	u, ve, u sAb	'they'

Demonstrative

Gloss	Word	Gloss	Word
This	yo, nu	That	Ba, wa
These	ye, u	Here	Itte, IhAr, EhAr
Those	ve	there	Utte, UhAr

Interrogatives

Gloss	Word	Gloss	Word
Why	Kay	How	kaisa, ki tarAh
What	Kay, ka, ki, ku	Whose	kiko
Who	kon	Where	kIhAr, kAha

The declensional patters of the personal pronouns are:

	1 st P.	2nd P.	3rd P.
Nom. Sg.	mE 'I'	tAm 'you'	u, nu 'he/she'
Pl.	hAm 'we'	tAm 'you'	u sAb 'he/she'
Acc. Sg.	mUjhe 'to me'	tUme 'to thou'	u hã 'to him'
Pl.	hAmara 'to us'	tume 'to you'	u hã 'to them'
Gen. Sg.	mera 'my'	torA 'thine'	u 'his/her'
Pl.	hAmara 'our'	torA 'your'	u ko 'their'
Abl. Sg.	mujh se 'from me'	tE se 'from thou'	u se 'from his/her'
Pl.	hAm se 'from us'	tE se 'from you'	u sAb Se 'from them'

The Articles

The articles are of two types indefinite and definite.

Indefinite article

ek kUtta 'one dog/ a dog'; ek kUttIya 'one bitch/ a bitch'. ek lARka 'one boy/ a boy'; ek lARki 'one girl/ a girl'. ek beTa 'one son/ a son'; ek bITIya 'one daughter/ a daughter'.

Adjectives of Comparison

The adjectives are semantically classified into qualitative and quantitative types. Grammatically, the qualitative have three degrees of comparison as Nominative, Comparative and Superlative, but in the given language there are only two types.

- i) Nominative &
- ii) Superlative

The examples are as follows:

Accha	"good"	bAhot Accha	"best"
uca	"high"	bAhot uca	"highest"
bUra	"bad"	bAhot bUra	"worst"

Verbs

The verbs are categorical into three types

- i) Auxiliary types
- ii) Finite types
- iii) Non-finite types

Auxiliary types are distinguished by two-numbers Sg. & Pl. in the present, past and future tense, the finite types by three-tier tenses i.e present, past and future tense and Non-finite types by Infinitive and two-tier participles, i.e., present and past participle.

Person	Present	past	future
1 st P	hũ	tha/thi	Future auxiliary is missing
2 nd P	he /ho	the	
3 rd P	hĕ	thĕ	

Finite Type

Tense	Person	Mabhyani	
Present	1 st Person	hu (sin, mas & fem)	
		ho (sin, mas & fem)	
	2 nd Person	ho (plural, mas, fem)	
		he (sin, mas & fem)	
	3 rd Person	hĕ (plural, mas, fem)	
Past	1^{st} , 2^{nd} , 3rd	thi (sin & fem)/ tha (sin & mas)	
		thi(plural & fem)/ thĕ (plural & fem)	
Future	1 st Person	ga (sin, mas)/ gi (sin, fem)	
		gĕ (plural, mas, fem)	
	2 nd Person	ge (sin, mas)/ gi (sin, fem)	
		gĕ/ gi (plural, mas, fem)	
	3 rd Person	gĕ (plural, mas, fem)	

The conjugational system is thus $\sqrt{\text{(root)}}$ +tense-person-number (TPN) terminations. Below are presented the conjugational formations in different tenses:

Present Tense

-ao 1st sg. mE khati hu [\sqrt{kha} "to eat"+TPN marker-hu] 'I eat'. 2nd sg. tAm khate ho [\sqrt{kha} "to eat"+TPN marker-ho] 'you eat'. 3rd sg. u khate hE [\sqrt{kha} "to eat"+TPN marker-hE] 'he eats'.

1st Pl. hAm khate hE [√kha "to eat"+TPN marker-hE] 'we eat'.
2nd Pl. ap log khate hE [√kha "to eat"+TPN marker-hE] 'you eat'.
3rd Pl. u:sAb khaAo [√kha "to eat"+TPN marker-Ao] 'They eat'.

Past tense

1st sg. mEne kha IIya tha [√kha "to eat"+TPN marker-tha] 'I ate'.
2nd sg. tUmne kha IIya tha [√kha "to eat"+TPN marker-tha] 'you ate'.
3rd sg. Usne khaya tha [√kha "to eat"+TPN marker-tha] 'he/she ate'.

1st Pl. hAmne khaya tha [\sqrt{kha} "to eat"+TPN marker-tha] 'We ate'. 2nd Pl. tUm logõ ne khaya tha [\sqrt{kha} "to eat"+TPN marker-tha] 'You ate' 3rd Pl. u sAb ne khaya tha [\sqrt{kha} "to eat"+TPN marker-tha] 'They ate'

Future tense

1st sg. mE khaõ ga [√kha "to eat"+TPN marker-ga] 'I shall eat' 2nd sg. tAm khao ge [√kha "to eat"+TPN marker-ge] 'You will eat' 3rd sg. ba khay ga [√kha "to eat"+TPN marker-ga] 'He will eat'

1st Pl. hAm khã ge [\sqrt{kha} "to eat"+TPN marker-ge] 'We shall eat' 2nd Pl. tAm khao ge [\sqrt{kha} "to eat"+TPN marker-ge] 'We shall eat' 3rd Pl. hAm khae ge [\sqrt{kha} "to eat"+TPN marker-ge] 'We shall eat'

Moods

Mood is part of the three-tier modal system. Indicative is any simple sentence in construction while the imperative and optative are marked as follows:

Indicative mood: chIRIya peR pAr hE 'The bird is on the tree' Utte cha:r tote hE 'There are four parrots'. ba bAndAr hE. 'That is a monkey'. kUtta bhõ:k rAha hE. 'The dogs bark'.

Imperative mood: -a

tUmne peR khud kaTa hE 'You cut the tree yourself'. dhire bolo 'Speak slowly'. Itte bETh jao 'Sit down'. khARe ho jao ' stand up'.

Optative mood:

chAlo aj hAm Apna kam khAtAm kAR lete hE 'Let us finish our work today'.

Non-finite

The non-finite types as available in the data Mabhyani are infinitives ans participles (present) and their respective markers are –na (infinitive) –ta (present participle). **Infinite**: eg pina 'to drink', jana 'to go' khata 'to eat', lata 'to bring', kArta 'to do' **Present participle** -te, -t jate 'while going'; khelte khelte 'while playing';

The particles

The particles are of two types: Affirmative and Negative. Of these, the former preceeds the construction while the latter occurs immediately before the verb. The examples are given below:

Affirmative Particle: hã 'yes' hã u: mAndIr ja rAha tha 'yes he was going to the temple'.

Negative particle: na/ nae 'no' u me pani nae hE 'Nothing is there in the pot to drink'. Language in India <u>www.languageinindia.com</u> 11 : 11 November 2011 Somana Fatima, Ph.D. Mabhyani, a Lesser Known Mother Tongue of Western Hindi Group

Syntax

Word order

The word order is subject, object and verb (SOV). Subject occurs in the initial position of the verb, object follows the subject but preceeds the verb.

The syntax structure of Mabhyani is like the **URDU** and **HINDI** word order system, i.e., SOV (subject ,object and verb).

Example: wo admi ghAr mE he

 \mathbf{NP} – wo admi

VP - he

S = NP + VP

S = wo admi + he

For example:

- 1. me (sub) lAkRi (dir. Obj.) kUlhaRi (indir. Obj.) te katti hu (verb).
- 2. me ApRe kApRe ApRe ap dhoti hu.

(sub) (obj) (verb)

Types of Sentences

- 1. Mabhyani have three tenses same as Hindi and Urdu i.e. Past, Present and Future.
- 2. Mabhyani have simple, complex and compound sentences.

(a) Types of Tenses

- i. Present Tense
- ii. Future Tense
- iii. Past Tense

Present Tense

I am in my house. me ghAr mE hũ.

Pr+n+pp+aux

Past tense

• I went to the temple. me mAndIr gAji thi pr+n+v+aux(pst)

Future tense

 I will go to the field tomorrow. me kAl khet pe jãoga pr+n+pp+v

(b) Types of Sentences

There are 3 types of sentences are found in the given languages

- i) simple
- ii) compound
- iii) complex

Simple

1. cuha INge tINge doR rAha tha

Mouse was running here and there.

Complex

 tAb u bajar sAbjiyã khAridne jar rAha tha to Use wAha Uska pUrane dost mIle. He went to market to purchase vegetables where he met his old frinds.

Compound

1. me rApti aur gIR paRi

My foot slipped and I fell down.

Conclusion

Mabhyani is an -a ending dialect of Western Hindi, same as Haryanvi and Khari Boli, because in these dialects the nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives end with vowel -a (as reported in Grierson's *Linguistic Survey of India*). For example:

- 1. Noun: lARka, ghoRa
- 2. Pronouns: mEra, tEra and tUmhara
- 3. Verb: aya, gAya
- 4. Adjective: Accha, bUra and bARa.

Person	Mabhyani	Gloss	Haryanvi
1 st Person	mAnne	ʻI'	mAnne
2 nd Person	tAnne, tUssi	'thou'	tAnne, tUssi

Mabhyani is close to Haryanvi in which R (retroflex, flap) Rh (aspirated, retroflex and flap) and N (retroflex, Nasal) are used very frequently. For example:

S.No	Gloss	Mabhyani	Haryanvi
1	'male baby'	baRAk	baRAk
2	'king'	Raja	Raja
3	'song'	gaRa	gaRa
4	'bring'	laRi	laRi

5	'making'	bARh rAhe	bARh rAhe

On the basis of structural and lexical similarity of this language with Haryanvi and Khari Boli, the mother tongue of Noida (CT), Mabhyani, seems to be classifiable as a variety of Western Hindi.

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