

## Exploring Reduplications in Balochi Language in the Perspective of Doubling Theory

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### Abstract

*Reduplication is a linguistic phenomenon which is found in a number of languages in the world. It is a morpho-syntactic, morph-semantic and morph-phonological process. Whereas, the degree and usage of reduplication is different from language to language. The objective of the study is to find out the types of reduplication in Balochi language spoken in district Rahim Yar Khan, Rajen Pur and in some districts of Sindh province. There are 33 examples of different types of reduplication in Balochi language which have been collected from the conversation of Balochi native speakers from informal settings. The analysis of the data shows that the Balochi language is rich and productive in terms of reduplication as it contains various types of patterns ranging from total to partial reduplication which serves variety and different functions. It has been explored that different types of reduplication in Balochi language serve different functions such as intensification, emphasis and reinforcement. Balochi language shows total reduplication of Verbs and Adjectives whereas partial or rhyming reduplication have nouns. In this study, the researcher tried to make an important and significant contribution on Balochi morphology. It is*

*also an effort which paves the way for the researchers to explore and research on more and different types of reduplication in indigenous languages spoken in different regions of Pakistan.*

**Key Words:** Reduplication, Balochi language, Total Reduplication, Partial Reduplication, Doubling Theory

## INTRODUCTION

Every language around the globe being spoken has some distinctive rules that sets a language not only at syntactic and semantic but also on morphological and phonological level (Ramzan et al., 2023). Nevertheless, there are some common language circumstances that do not concern the native home land language. Examining the educational system in Pakistan reveals that the policies and practices delineated by Akram (2020) and Akram and Yang (2021) hold notable implications. These are known to be creoles and pidgins of reduplication, which is a morpho-syntactic , morpho-semantic and morpho-phonological process. Reduplication is defined as a multifunctional word formation process (Rubino , 2005). For instance, in the state of China, Reduplication is implemented for plural alignment. In South Asia, Languages like Urdu, Hindi, Pashto and Punjabi reduplication are entirely exhibited for reiteration with numerous functions. Reduplication is not only multifunctional but also carries derivational and inflectional reduplicates simultaneously. As per Inkelas & Downing (2015).

Repeating words in different ways is called reduplication. This repetition may occur with the whole word, just the main part, or any part in between. Interestingly, it can even happen with parts that aren't actual words, like prefixes, or with larger units like phrases. In some cases, the way we repeat depends on sound or meaning (p. 504).”

Balochi language is being widely spoken in some southern areas of Pakistan. According to Jahani (2001) the Balochi language is spoken around 5-8 millions as the Balochi community not only settles in Balochistan but pushes further into other regions within the nation of Pakistan namely Sindh and upper Southern part of Punjab province. Baloch community is known to be highly proficient in 4 languages to be noted Sindhi, Balochi, Punjabi and Saraiki.

The Balochi tribe Mazari, settled in Kashmore, Rajanpur and Rahim Yar Khan speak Balochi language and Leghari (one of the Baloch tribes ) is found in different regions of Pakistan. Legharis settlers in Dera Ghazi Khan and Rahim Yar Khan speak saraiki language while Legharis in Sindh region speak both sindhi and saraiki language. The Dashti Baloch settled in Rajanpur, Sadiq Abad and Rahim Yar Khan speak Balochi language (Soohani, 2016).

The distinguished behavior of this worldly formation alignment not only targets reduplication within languages but also has been witnessed to do within the same languages with prefixes and suffixes. Hadoti, a language of Rajasthan land has reduplicants in its suffix while Punjabi and further languages like Urdu and tied in prefixes and suffixes simultaneously.

Reduplication should never be considered as repetition in any context. In favor of this Gil (2005) Confirms, while repeating words is related to how sentences are structured or how we talk about things (syntax or discourse), reduplication is about repeating parts within words. That's why we consider reduplication as a part of morphology, which deals with the structure and formation of words. (P.31). It is important to keep in consideration while being familiar with the procedure of reduplication in multiple languages.

### **Total Reduplication**

Total reduplication is reiterative in nature and also an integral type of reduplication in the repetition of the base word without making any reduplication. It has been investigated and explored that total reduplication is frequently used in a number of languages such as English (Ramzan et al., 2023), Urdu, Sindhi, Punjabi, Saraiki, Balochi and many others. Total Reduplication in Balochi language is only limited to verbs which are used to emphasize and intensify the actions. Moreover, total reduplication is also employed for showing continuity and also for repetition of an action (Xu, 2012).

### **Partial Reduplication**

In South Asia, alliterative reduplication is used in spoken languages and this type of reduplication is called Partial reduplication. Partial reduplication or alliterative reduplication is linked with all types of cross linguistic meanings (Inkelas & Zoll, 2005)

### **Partial Reduplication in Balochi Language**

There are certain examples of partial reduplication in Balochi language which serve the function of nouns in Balochi language.

### **Objectives:**

The objectives of this study is to

- Find out the types of reduplication in Balochi language.
- Examine the functions of reduplication in Balochi language.

### **Research Questions:**

1. What types of reduplications are found in Balochi language?

## 2. What are the functions of reduplications in Balochi language?

### Literature Review

Different levels of grammar have been explored in the process of reduplication (Ramzan et al., 2023) in foreign (Akram & Abdelrady, 2023; Abdelrady & Akram, 2022) as well as second language context (Ramzan et al., 2023). Raimy (2000) discusses reduplication that takes place at both the morphological and phonological levels; on the other hand, Zuraw (2002) concentrated on reduplication in Tagalog, an Austronesian language spoken in the Philippines for studying as an entirely phonological process.

Morphological Doubling Theory (MDT) is a way of understanding how words can have two parts that mean the same thing. This idea was developed by Inkelas and Zoll in 2005, building on earlier ideas from Singh (1982), Saperstein (1997), Sherrard (2001), and others. In MDT, this doubling is not about how words sound but about their meaning. It can happen to a whole word, a stem, or a root. Unlike making words sound better together, which is about how they sound good, morphological doubling is about the rules for making words. It's like a rule that says you can use the same part of a word twice, but it's based on what it means, not how it sounds.

For studying reduplication in different languages, many researchers have previously adopted either the morphological or phonological method. These approaches guide the disclosure of two major theories: McCarthy and Prince (1995) introduced the Base Reduplicant Correspondence Theory (BRCT), using a way to study language sounds (phonological framework) and a theory called Morphological Doubling Theory (MDT) to understand

reduplication in various languages. This theory, introduced by Inkelas and Zoll 2005, looks at how repeated parts in words connect when they have similar meanings and structures, according to their research. (p. 25).

According to Kouwenberg (2011), it is captivating to notice that reduplication is not just restricted to fully developed languages but also noticed in pidgins and creoles. Masahiko (2011) is one of the remarkable examples of a study that investigates the process of reduplication in TokPison, in which the author distinguishes between reduplication and repetition in TokPison and considers reduplication as a completely morphological process. The two processes depart not only in the expression of function and its usage but also include morphological and lexical processing. The results of the study disclosed that reduplication in TokPisons is not so fruitful as compared to repetition and that the happenings of entire reduplications within reduplication are greater than partial reduplications.

Leroy and Morgenstern (2005) stated that some scholars are also exploring the child language that acquires the investigation of reduplication in the collection based on the children's conversation. Besides studying the research on reduplication focused on the process of grammar in different languages, including pidgins and creoles, these reductions perform together with the semantic and pragmatic functions.

There is a broad and expansive study on reduplication available in different languages across the world, but it is observed that only a few studies have presided over the word formation process in the native languages of Pakistan. Yoshika (2017) is one of the notable studies on reduplication with regards to the native languages of Pakistan and inquiries about nominal reduplication in five native languages spoken in Northern Pakistan: Burushaski, Domaaki,

Kalasha, Khowar, and Shina. Similarities have been found in the reduplication pattern in Burushaski, Domaaki, and Shina according to the results of research and reveal similarity avoidance in their echo-words that is not noticed in the Kalsha and Khowar, the native languages that are spoken in the KPK, Pakistan. The study came to a conclusion with a suggestion to classify examples of total reduplications as echo-words. Alongside the study on reduplication in native languages in the Pakistan context, the only obtainable research on reduplication in Balochi is also the central focus of this research. To the best of the researcher's knowledge, no research has been done on reduplication in the Balochi language so far. As a result, the objective of the current study is to end the gaps in the literature by representing a comprehensive typology of reduplication in the Balochi language, complete with its unique purposes.

## **Methodology**

The data for this study has been collected from the native speakers of the Balochi language residing in two districts of South Punjab namely district Rahim Yar Khan and Rajen Pur. In addition, the data was collected from the natural setting such as public domain, friendship and home domain. The researcher has also included the examples of Balochi reduplications that are the part of Balochi lexicon and are spoken in different contexts by the native speakers of Balochi language. The purposive sampling technique has been used to collect the data as the data has been collected only from Balochi speakers. There are 33 examples of reduplication of Balochi in the sample size of this study. The researcher has categorized these examples in terms of their grammatical category such as nouns, verbs and adjectives.

## **Data Analysis**

The researcher has analyzed the collected data which were based on the examples of reduplication used in Balochi spoken language. The Dual Theory proposed by Inkelas (2008) has been employed for the analysis of data. The analysis of the data shows that there are different types of reduplication in Balochi language which are commonly used in their communication.

**Examples of Partial or Rhyming Reduplication of Balochi Nouns:**

1.	aaf shaaf	water	Noun
2.	naghan shghen	meal	Noun
3.	chukh dukh	Children	Noun
4.	seer sheer	marriage or wedding ceremony	Noun
5.	Chee dhee	sweet eating things for children	Noun
6.	jer shr	clothes	Noun
7.	logh dhogh	house, lodging	Noun
8.	mall shaal	cattle	Noun
9.	dig shig	money	Noun
10.	minhmen shihmen	guests	Noun
11.	kitab shitabaan	books	Noun
12.	copy shopy	notebooks	Noun
13.	samen shamen	luggage	Noun



14.	aas shaas	fire	Noun
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Partial Reduplication is the type of reduplication in which some parts of the words are repeated in the process. In the above mentioned examples, ‘Aaf Shaf’ is a compounding word of Balochi language which is widely spoken in the area of Punjab, Pakistan. This compounding word consists of two morphemes i.e. Aaf and the second part of the first word ‘Shaf’ is the repetition of the reduplication of the first part. Moreover, it is called the Partial Reduplication in which one morpheme denotes proper meaning whereas the second morpheme does not have any semantic meaning but phonological difference. The grammatical category of the word is ‘Noun’ and it means ‘water’ and the same type of the category does not convert its grammatical aspect and remains the same in partial reduplication. All the above mentioned examples also fall in the same category. These types of words are widely spoken in informal settings in Balochi language.

**Examples of Total Reduplication of Balochi Verbs:**

1.	nind nind	to sit	Verb
2.	bia bia	to come	Verb
3.	brao brao	to go	Verb
4.	biar biar	to bring	Verb
5.	gir gir	to take more	Verb
6.	dhs dhs	to tell	Verb

7.	zeer zeer	to carry	Verb
8.	likean likean	to hide	Verb
9.	likni likni	to hide	Verb
10.	dari dari	to hold	Verb
11.	bousht bousht	to stay	Verb
12.	daiy daiy	to give	Verb
13.	thr thr	to come back	Verb
14.	gind gind	to see	Verb

Total Reduplication is the type of reduplication in which the whole part of the first word is repeated in the process. The aforementioned example, ‘nind nind’ is a compounding word used in Balochi language. This compounding word also carries two morphemes i.e. Nind and the second part of the first word ‘Nind’ is the repetition of the total reduplication of the first part. Moreover, it is called the Total Reduplication in which both the morphemes depict proper meaning whereas the second word ‘nind’ is used for the emphasis. They are used to depict the continuity of actions as repetition. The grammatical category of the word is ‘Verb’ and it means ‘to sit’ and the same type of the category does not convert its grammatical aspect and remains the same in reduplication. Moreover, the words mentioned above are also examples and fall in the same category

and prove to show the existence of total reduplication. These types of words are widely spoken in informal settings.

**Examples of Total Reduplication of Balochi Adjectives:**

1.	nokhean nokhean	new new	Adjective
2.	washean washean	sweet sweet	Adjective
3.	khmean khmean	less less	Adjective
4.	deer deer	far away	Adjective
5.	baaz baaz	much	Adjective

The kind of reduplication known as "total reduplication" repeats the first word in its entirety during the process. The Balochi word "nokhean nokhean" in the example above is a compound word. Additionally, this compound word contains two morphemes: nokhean and its second component, which is the complete reduplication of its first portion, is a repetition of the first word "nokhean." Moreover, it is known as the Total Reduplication, wherein both morphemes denote the correct meaning. The grammatical category of the word is "Adjective," and it means "new." Reduplication does not change the word's grammatical aspect. Additionally, the terms listed above are examples as well and belong in the same category. These types of words are widely spoken in informal settings.

**Findings and Conclusion**

The results and findings of this study on the types of reduplication in Balochi language reveals important insights and understanding. The analysis of the data shows clearly that the

use of reduplication is rich and productive; and in Balochi language, there is variation of reduplicates in terms of formation. In addition, the findings further show various types of reduplication which occurs in Balochi spoken language. Whereas, Verbal and noun reduplication outnumber the other types of reduplication in Balochi language. It has been found that the use of reduplication in Balochi language is rich and common and it is similar to other languages such as Urdu, Sindhi, Punjabi and many other languages in which different types of reduplication are used in their communication.

Based on the findings and results of Balochi reduplication, it is clear that the use of different types of reduplication serve and perform various functions. It has also been investigated that total reduplication is frequently used in a number of languages such as English, Urdu, Sindhi, Punjabi, Saraiki, Balochi and many others. Total Reduplication in Balochi language is only limited to verbs which are used to emphasize and intensify the actions. Moreover, total reduplication is also employed for showing continuity and also for repetition of an action. In some cases, for giving emphasis or reiteration, reduplication is used in Balochi language.

### **Recommendations for Further Research**

The fact is that reduplication is used and found frequently in different languages in Pakistan, a comparative study among indigenous languages may be conducted on the use of different types of reduplication on a large scale.

The data of this study has been conducted only from the speakers of Balochi language from a few districts of Pakistan, The future research on reduplication may include more areas and districts on which Balochi native speakers reside. It is also possible to conduct the study on

the use of Balochi reduplication in a formal setting where Balochi language is recognized and valued.

Moreover, the study is limited only on the reduplication of spoken language by the speakers of Balochi language, the future research may be conducted on the exploration of reduplication from Balochi written texts.

The future study may be conducted on the preservation and documentation of different types of reduplication not only in Balochi language but also on other indigenous languages in Pakistan.

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