Tense and Aspect: A Study of Bhaderwahi Verb Inflections

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Abstract
This paper presents a brief sketch of tense and aspect in Bhaderwahi, an Indo Aryan language spoken in Bhaderwah region of District Doda in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. Bhaderwah is located in the PirPanjal Range---a linguistically diverse mountain range. This hilly terrain is home to many minority languages scattered in the whole region. The paper begins with a brief introduction of Bhaderwahi, which is followed by descriptive analysis of tense and aspect of the language.

Key words: Bhaderwahi, Verb, Transitivity, Tense, Aspect

1. Introduction
Bhaderwahi is the mother tongue spoken in the region of Bhaderwah tehsil, situated in the district of Doda in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. Bhaderwahi is an Indo-Aryan language of Pahari group known as 'DogriKangri' language spoken by about 53,000 speakers in Doda (2001 census). According to G.A. Grierson, the word 'Pahari' applies to the group of languages spoken in the Sub-Himalayan ranges extending from Bhaderwah to the eastern parts of Nepal. The region of Bhaderwah shares linguistic boundaries with other neighboring languages like Bhalesi, Padari, Siraji and other Pahari languages. Among locals, it has several other names like Baderwali, Bhadri, Badrohi, Bhidli, Badralium etc.

2. Methodology
The data for the present paper has been collected from Bhaderwah region of district Doda. In order to formulate a descriptive sketch of verb inflections, a questionnaire consisting of words and sentences focusing on tense and aspect in Bhaderwahi was developed as a prerequisite tool; on the basis of which Fieldwork was carried out and data was recorded. The data obtained was then transcribed, and analyzed.

3. Inflections of Verb
Verb is a member of a class of words that functions as the main element of predicates. Typically, a verb expresses action, state or a relation between two things. It is often formally distinguished for its ability to inflect for tense, aspect, mood, or agreement with the subject or object. Bhaderwahi being an inflectional language, verbs tend to get inflected for tense, aspect and modality.

4. Tense
Tense as a grammatical category is defined as showing different locations of an event in time (Hockett, 1958:237). In Bhaderwahi, verbs are morphologically marked for having three ways opposition of tense as:

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1. Present
2. Past
3. Future

In Bhaderwahi, when an auxiliary is present, it is inflected for tense. The different inflected forms of verb in Bhaderwahi with 1st, 2nd and 3rd person with different number are elaborated below.To keep the issues uniform, the paper mainly takes the verb /ɛr/ 'to see' as an example, and discusses the related verbal nuances.

4.1. Present Tense

Present tense indicates that the action takes place immediately when the utterance is delivered. In Bhaderwahi the present tense marker is **/-tʃə// -tət/ /-təm/**

Person	Singular	Plural
First	ɔ̃ʊ tsəd̥olɪ **ɛr-tʃə** 1SG bird see-PRS.1SG 'I see the bird'	əs tsəd̥olɪ **ɛr-təm** 1PL bird see-PRS.1PL 'We see the bird'
Second	tʊs tsəd̥olɪ **ɛr-tət** 2SG bird see-PRS.2SG 'You(sg) see the bird'	tʊslok tsəd̥olɪ **ɛr-tət** 2PL bird see-PRS.2PL 'You(pl) see the bird'
Third	tɛ tsəd̥olɪ **ləroɛr ne** 3SG bird see-PRS.3SG 'He sees the bird' ʊt tsəd̥olɪ **ha-tʃe** 3SG bird see-PRS.3SG 'She sees the bird'	tənə tsəd̥olɪ **lərənɛr-ne** 3PL bird see-PRS.3PL 'They sees the bird'

4.2. Past Tense

Past tense may be defined as indicating the time, antecedent to the time when the utterance is delivered. In Bhaderwahi, Past tense is carried by the auxiliary **/-tʰi/.**

Person	Singular	Plural
First	mi tsəɽoli **er-i- tʰi** 1SG bird see-PST 'I saw the bird'	əse tsəɽoli **er-i -tʰi** 1PL bird see-PST 'We saw the bird'
Second	tʊsi tsəɽoli **er-i tʰi** 2SG bird see-PST 'You(sg) saw the bird'	tʊsi tsəɽoli **er-i -tʰi** 2 PL bird see-PST 'You(pl) saw the bird'

| Third | tɛne   tsəɽoli   **er-i tʰi**
3SG   bird   see-PST
'he saw the bird'
təsɑ   tsəɽoli   **er-i- tʰi**
3SG   bird   see-PST
'She saw the bird' | tɛne   tsəɽoli   **er-i tʰi**
3 PL   bird   see-PST
'They saw the bird' |

4.3. Future Tense

Future tense may be defined as indicating the time subsequent to the time of utterance. In Bhaderwahi future tense is marked by the suffix **/-ɪ/ and /-u/.**

Person	Singular	Plural
First	ɔ̃ʊ tsəɽoli **hɛr-u** 1SG bird see-FUT 'I will see the bird'	əs tsəɽoli **hɛr-ɪ** 1PL bird see-FUT 'We will see the bird'
Second	tʊs tsəɽoli **hɛr-ɪ** 2SG bird see-FUT 'You(sg) will see the bird'	tʊs tsəɽoli **hɛr-ɪ** 2PL bird see-FUT 'You(pl) will see the bird'
Third	tɛ tsəɽoli **hɛr-u** 3SG bird see-FUT 'He will see the bird' tɛ tsəɽoli **hɛr-u** 3SG bird see-FUT 'She will see the bird'	tɛnəmɛnʊ tsəɽoli **hɛr-u** 3PL bird see-FUT 'They will see the bird'

5. Aspect

Aspects refers to that state, which is not a specific point as the tense, but it refers to a state of duration, perfection, recurrence etc. pertaining to time.In Bhaderwahi, aspect is marked by the main verb. There are three aspects in Bhaderwahi:
i. Imperfective
ii. Perfective
iii. Habitual

5.1. Imperfective Aspect

It depicts an action which is incomplete in the past or the present or in future tenses. In Bhaderwahi, the imperfective aspect is formed by adding a suffix to the main verb and it employs the forms of verb '**be'** (auxiliary) to denote present, past and future imperfective.

5.1.1. Present Imperfective

The present imperfective is used to indicate actions or states of affairs of a continuous nature or extended through time. It denotes simple present, present progressive etc. In Bhaderwahi, the present imperfective aspect is formed by adding suffix**/-ni/** to the main verb / -ɛr/**.**It employs the forms of verb 'be'**/lər/** and its variant forms to denote present imperfective.

Person	Singular	Plural
First	ɔ̃ʋ tsəʈoli **ɛr-ni***lori* 1SG bird see-PRS.IPFV.1SG 'I am seeing the bird'	əs tsəʈoli **ɛr-ni***lərəm* 1PL bird see-PRS.IPFV.1PL 'We are seeing the bird'
Second	tʋs tsəʈoli **ɛr-ni***lərʋs* 2SG bird see-PRS.IPFV.2SG 'You(sg) are seeing the bird'	tʋs tsəʈoli **ɛr-ni***lərət*ʰ 2PL bird see-PRS.IPFV.2PL 'You(pl) are seeing the bird'
Third	tɛ tsəʈoli **ɛr-ni***ləroji* 3SG bird see PRS.IPFV.3SG.MAS 'He is seeing the bird' tɛ tsəʈoli **ɛr-ni***lərije* 3SG bird see-PRS.IPFV.FEM 'She is seeing the bird'	tɛnəmɛnʋ tsəʈoli **ɛr-ni***lərət*ʰ 3PL bird see-PRS.IPFV.3PL 'They are seeing the bird'

5.1.2. Past Imperfective

The past imperfective is used express an action that took place,over an extended period of time, and which was not finished. In Bhaderwahi, the past imperfective aspect is formed by adding suffix **/-ni/** to the main verb /-**ɛr**/. It employs the forms of verb 'be' /**larotʰijo**/ and its variant forms to denote present imperfective.

Person	Singular	Plural
First	ɔ̃ʋ tsəʈoli **ɛrnilaro- tʰɪjo** 1SG bird see-IFPV.PST.SG 'I was seeing the bird'	əs tsəʈoli **ɛr-nilare- tʰɪje** 1PL bird see-IFPV.PST.PL 'We were seeing the bird'
Second	tu tsəʈoli **ɛr-nilaro -tʰɪjo** 2SG bird see-IFPV.PST.SG 'You(sg) were seeing the bird'	tʋs tsəʈoli **ɛr-nilare- tʰɪje** 2PL bird see-IFPV.PST.PL 'You(pl) were seeing the bird'
Third	tɛ tsəʈoli **ɛr-ne larotʰijo** 3SG bird see-IFPV.PST.MAS.SG 'He was seeing the bird' tɛ tsəʈoli **ɛr-ne laritʰi** 3SG bird see-IFPV.PST.FEM.SG 'She was seeing the bird'	tɛna tsəʈoli **ɛr-ne lare-tʰije.** 2PL bird see-IFPV.PST.PL 'They were seeing the bird'

5.1.3. Future Imperfective

The future imperfective defines, an action in future that will be continue over an extended period of time, which will not be finished. In Bhaderwahi, the future imperfective aspect is formed by adding suffix **/-te/to/** to the main verb /-ɛr/. It employs the forms of verb 'be' **/bʰole/** and its variant forms to denote future imperfective.

Person	Person	Person
First	əs tʃə̃d **ɛr-tebʰo-le** 1SG moon see-IMFV.SG be-FUT.SG 'I will be seeing the moon'	əs tʃə̃d **ɛr-tebʰo-le** 1PL moon see-IMFV.PL be-FUT.PL 'We will be seeing the moon'
Second	tu tʃə̃d **ɛr-tobʰo-lo** 1SG moon see-IMFV.SG be-FUT.SG 'You(sg) will be seeing the moon'	tʊs tʃə̃d **ɛr-tebʰo-le** 1PL moon see-IMFV.PL be-FUT.PL 'You(pl) will be seeing the bird'
Third	tɛ tʃə̃d **ɛr-tobʰo-lo** 2SG moon see-IMFV.SG be FUT.MAS.SG 'He will be seeing the moon' tɛ tʃə̃d **ɛr-tibʰo-li** 3SG moon see IMFV.SG be-FUT-.FEMSG 'She will be seeing the moon'	i tʃə̃d **ɛr-tobʰolo** 2PL moon see-IMFV.PL beFUT.PL tɛna tʃə̃d **ɛr-tebʰo-le** 3PL moon see-IMFV.PL beFUT.PL 'They will be seeing the moon'

5.2. Perfective Aspect

Perfective aspect is a grammatical aspect used to describe an action or a state of affairs that has been accomplished. The perfective indicates a defined point in time, often with a perceivable beginning and end. In Bhaderwahi, the perfective aspect occurs in all the three tenses giving rise to present perfect, past perfect and future perfect.

It is marked by**/-i/,** followed by the variants of verb **'be'** to denote present, past and future tenses.

The examples in Bhaderwahi are –

5.2.1. Present Perfective

Person	Person	Person
First	mi tsəɽoli **ɛr-i tʰi** 1SG bird see-PRS.PFV 'I have seen the bird'	əs tsəɽoli **ɛr-i tʃʊk-ən** 1PL bird see-PRS.PFV 'We have seen the bird'
Second	tʊs tsəɽoli **ɛr-i tʃʊk-ərtʰ** 2SG bird see-PRS.PFV 'You(sg) have seen the bird'	tʊs tsəɽoli **ɛr-i tʃʊk-ərtʰ** 2PL bird see-PRS.PFV 'You(pl) have seen the bird'
Third	tɛ tsəɽoli **ɛr-i tʃʊk-o** 3SG bird see-PRS.PFV	tɛnəmɛnʊ tsəɽoli **ɛr-i tʃʊk-o** 3PL bird see-PRS.PFV.3PL

	'He has seen the bird' tɛ tsəɽoli **ɛr-i tʃʊk-əri** 3SG bird see-PRS.PFV 'She has seen the bird'	'They have seen the bird'

5.2.2. Past Perfective

Person	Person	Person
First	mi tsəɽoli **ɛr-itʰi** 1SG bird see-PFV PST 'I had seen the bird'	əsse tsəɽoli **lɑr-i tʰi** 1PL bird see-PFV PST 'We had seen the bird'
Second	tʊsse tsəɽoli **lɑr-itʰi** 2SG bird see-PFV PST 'You(sg) had seen the bird'	tʊs tsəɽoli **lej-itʃʊkretʰɪje** 2PL bird see-PFV PST 'You(pl) had seen the bird'
Third	ɔ̃ʊ tsəɽoli **ɛr-i tʃʊkrotʰɪjo** 3SG bird see-PFV PST 'He had seen the bird' te tsəɽoli **ɛr-i tʃʊkritʰi** 3SG bird see-PFV PST 'She had seen the bird'	tʊsmɛnʊ tsəɽoli **lej-itʃʊkretʰɪje** 3PL bird see-PFV PST 'They had seen the bird'

5.2.3. Future Perfective

Person	Person	Person
First	mi tsəɽoli **ɛr-i bʰoli** 1SG bird see-FUT.PFV 'I shall have seen the bird'	əsse tsəɽoli **ɛr-i bʰoli** 1PL bird see-FUT.PFV 'We shall have seen the bird'
Second	tʊsse tsəɽoli **ɛr-i bʰoli** 2SG bird see-FUT.PFV 'You(sg)will have seen the bird'	tʊsse tsəɽoli **ɛr-i bʰoli** 2PL bird see-FUT.PFV 'You(pl)will have seen the bird'
Third	tɛnə tsəɽoli **ɛr-ibʰoli** 3SG bird see-FUT.PFV 'He will have seen the bird' təssɑ tsəɽoli **ɛr-i bʰoli**	tɛnə tsəɽoli **ɛr-i bʰoli** 3PL bird see-FUT.PFV.3PL 'they will have seen the bird'

	3SG bird see-FUT.PFV	
	'She will have seen the bird'	

5.3. Habitual Aspect

It describes an action which happens/happened or will happen habitually or regularly. In Bhaderwahi, the habitual aspect marker is represented by three suffixes/ –to, te, ti/ added to the root verb. It is marked for the past tense.

5.3.1. Present Habitual

The present habitual aspect is unmarked in Bhaderwahi. Consider the following examples.

surədʒ   purvri pɑsenɪstʃe sun   east side LOC   rise-PRS 'The sun rises in the east'
əs   roz   bətʃi   dʊdʰ 1PL   daily   cow   milk-PRS.1PL 'We milk the cows everyday'

5.3.2. Past Habitual

The past habitual aspect has these verbal forms: V/-to/, V/-ti/, and V/-te/ where V is the verbal root. V-to form comes with masculine first person singular 'I', with masculine third person singular (or any noun person) /te/ 'he', and with masculine second person 'you'. V/-ti/ form comes with feminine first person singular 'I', with feminine third person singular (or any noun person) 'she', with feminine first person plural, and with feminine second person 'you.' V/-te/ form comes with masculine first person plural, masculine second person plural/honorific and masculine third person plural.

Examples showing past habitual aspect markers/ -to/,/-te/ and /-ti/

ɔ̃ʊ   no bədʒe   dəftregɑ-totʰɪjo 1SG   nine o'clock   office go-INF.SG PST.SG 'I used to go to office at 9 o'clock'
tu   no bədʒe   dəftregɑ-   to tʰɪjo 2SG   nine o'clock   office-DAT   go-INF.SG   PST.PL 'You(sg) used to go to office at 9 o'clock'
tʊs   no bədʒe   dʊkɑnigɑ-tetʰɪje 2SG   nine o'clock   shop-DAT go-INF.SG   PST.PL 'You(pl) used to go to shop at 9 o'clock'
əs   no bədʒe   dəftregɑ-tetʰɪje 2SG   nine o'clock   office-DAT go-INF.SG   PST.PL

'We used to go to office at 9 o'clock'		
tɛ nov bədʒe dəftregɑ-**to**tʰɪjo 3SG.MAS nine o'clock office-DAT go-INF.SG PST.PL 'He used to go to office at 9 o'clock'		
tɛ novbədʒe dəftregɑ-**ti**tʰi 3SG.FEM nine o'clock office-DAT go-INF.SG PST.PL She used to go to office at 9 o'clock'		

Conclusion

The main objective of this study was to find the tense and aspect patterns in Bhaderwahi and how verbs are inflected for tense and aspect. Bhaderwahi has transitive, intransitive, di-transitive verbs. Verbs are morphologically marked for having three way opposition of tense as: Present, past and future. It was observed that in Bhaderwahi tense is carried by auxiliary while as aspect is expressed by the main verb. In Bhaderwahi, the present tense marker is **/-tʃə// -tət/ /-ne/.** Past tense is marked by the auxiliary**/-tʰi/** and future tense is marked by the suffix**/ -i/, /-u/.** In Bhaderwahi, both the imperfective and perfective aspect is formed by adding a suffix to the main verb and it employs the forms of '**be'** verb (auxiliary) to denote present, past and future tense. In Bhaderwahi, the habitual aspect marker is represented by three suffixes **/ –to/, /-te/, /-ti**/ added to the root verb. It is marked for the past tense.

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