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ADJECTIVAL AND ADVERBIAL PARTICLES: A UNIFIED PERSPECTIVE IN INDO-ARYAN LANGUAGES

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ABSTRACT

This paper presents a unified perspective on adjectival and adverbial participles in Indo-Aryan languages, exploring their historical development, morphosyntactic characteristics, and typological implications. Participles play a crucial role in the morphosyntactic framework of these languages, acting as a link between verbs and modifiers. The study examines the evolution of participial systems from Old Indo-Aryan origins to the diverse structures found in New Indo-Aryan languages, highlighting the loss of gender and agreement markers in some languages like Bengali, and the retention of tense-aspect-mood (TAM) distinctions in others such as Kashmiri and Nepali. The paper also investigates the expansion of participial functions, especially in connecting clauses through conjunctive participles. The morphosyntactic features of participles, including inflectional processes, reduplication, non-finite nature, and TAM constraints, are analysed across various Indo-Aryan languages. The study further explores the functional overlaps and divergences between adjectival and adverbial participles, emphasizing their shared morphological origins but distinct syntactic purposes. The typological generalizations of participial systems in Indo-Aryan languages are discussed, aligning with Lehmann's desententialization scale and highlighting the variations in TAM systems and the effects of negation. The implications of this comprehensive approach for historical linguistics and linguistic typology are examined, contributing to the understanding of the historical development and typological diversity of participial systems in Indo-Aryan languages.

Keywords: Adjectival Participles, Adverbial Participles, Indo-Aryan Languages, Morphosyntax, Typology, Tense-Aspect-Mood (TAM), Reduplication, Historical Linguistics

1. Introduction

Non-finite verb forms, known as participles, play a crucial role in the morphosyntactic framework of numerous languages, acting as a link between verbs and modifiers. Within the Indo-Aryan language

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group, the study of adjectival and adverbial participles offers a fertile ground for research, showcasing the historical development and functional diversification of verbal morphology. These forms demonstrate the flexibility of participial systems in adapting to changing syntactic, semantic, and morphological requirements, illustrating a complex interaction between historical continuity and linguistic innovation (Haspelmath, 1996; Shagal, 2017).

The participial system in Indo-Aryan languages has evolved considerably from its Old Indo-Aryan origins. While participles were once heavily inflected, some modern Indo-Aryan languages like Bengali now feature more simplified forms. However, languages such as Kashmiri and Nepali have maintained complex tense-aspect-mood (TAM) distinctions in their participial systems, highlighting the diverse nature of this language family (Cardona & Jain, 2003; Subbarao, 2012). These variations demonstrate the typological adaptability of participial constructions, which play a crucial role in connecting clauses, conveying temporal and causal relationships, and modifying both nouns and verbs (Beames, 1872-1879; Givón, 2012).

This paper seeks to provide a unified perspective on participles, emphasizing their dual role as both descriptive modifiers (adjectival participles) and syntactic connectors (adverbial participles). The study explores the common origins, morphosyntactic characteristics, and typological implications of participles, offering a thorough insight into their significance in the linguistic diversity of the Indo-Aryan language family. The results of this investigation contribute to wider discussions in the fields of linguistic typology and historical linguistics, as well as shed light on how participial systems adapt to meet syntactic and semantic requirements.

This study examines participial constructions across various Indo-Aryan languages, aiming to shed light on their intricate relationships and typological importance. The research emphasizes the crucial role these structures play in the linguistic development of these languages.

2. Historical Background

The evolution of the participial system in Indo-Aryan languages showcases a complex transformation from its Old Indo-Aryan (OIA) roots to the intricate structures found in New Indo-Aryan (NIA) languages. Participles were syntactically integrated, featuring agreement markers for gender, number, and case, and served both adnominal and adverbial functions. As the language family progressed through Middle Indo-Aryan (MIA) stages, including Prakrits, new participial structures emerged to meet evolving morphosyntactic requirements, while simultaneously shedding some of the original inflectional complexity (Beames, 1872-1879; Grierson, 1928).

2.1. Loss of Gender and Agreement Markers

Bengali serves as an excellent illustration of the simplification observed in certain New Indo-Aryan (NIA) languages. In Old Indo-

Aryan (OIA), participles were morphologically complex, incorporating markers for gender, number, and case. However, in Bengali, participles such as /-e/ and /-nto/ no longer demonstrate agreement with the nouns they modify. For instance: in Bengali, an adjectival participle example is /kotʰa bɔla cʰele/ (the boy speaking words). In this phrase, /bɔla/ (speaking) modifies /cʰele/ (boy) without any agreement in gender or number (Cardona & Jain, 2003).

The decrease in concordance signifies a broader trend toward less conservative structures in Bengali, streamlining its grammatical system and setting it apart from languages that maintain these characteristics.

2.2. Retention of Tense-Aspect Distinctions

Unlike Bengali, languages such as Nepali and Kashmiri maintain strong distinctions in tense and aspect within their participial systems. For example, Kashmiri participles encode both aspect and gender, preserving more intricate inflectional patterns. In Kashmiri, the perfective participle exemplified by /kor mut/ '(anything) done' demonstrates how the participle marker /mut/ maintains its aspectual marking (Subbarao, 2012).

Nepali also showcases distinctive markers for tense and aspect in its participles. The language employs /-irahe/ to denote the present participle and /-eko/ for the past participle. These markers illustrate how Nepali's participial forms maintain clear temporal and aspectual differences: Nepali: /lekʰeko keta/ (the boy who wrote) vs. /lekʰiraheko keta/ (the boy who is writing), where the distinction lies in the aspect encoded by the participial markers.

The preservation of TAM (tense, aspect, and mood) distinctions in these languages highlights the variety within the Indo-Aryan language family, demonstrating how certain languages maintained stronger connections to their Old Indo-Aryan (OIA) roots (Haspelmath, 1996).

2.3. Expansion of Participial Functions

A key advancement in New Indo-Aryan (NIA) languages involves the broadening of participial roles, especially in connecting clauses. This evolution is notably demonstrated by the use of conjunctive participles in languages such as Hindi and Marathi:

1. Hindi: /kʰa kar aya/ (came after eating), where /kar/ functions as a conjunctive participle, linking two clauses (Van der Auwera, 1999).
2. Marathi: /pahon bola/ (spoke after seeing), where /pahon/ (seeing) acts as a clause-linking participle, indicating temporal sequence.

These participial forms that connect clauses play a crucial role in establishing syntactic unity, enabling the formation of intricate sentences in the languages under discussion. The reduplication process

further expands participles' capabilities by introducing additional semantic shades, such as intensification or ongoing action:

3. Bengali: /kʰete kʰete/ (while eating), where reduplication of /khete/ intensifies the action's continuous aspect.

The growing versatility of participial functions demonstrates the flexible nature of these forms in New Indo-Aryan (NIA) languages, consistent with broader typological trends seen across other language families.

3. Morphosyntactic Features of Participles in Indo-Aryan Languages

Participles in Indo-Aryan languages exhibit several morphosyntactic features that underline their structural complexity and functional versatility. These features, which include inflectional processes, reduplication, non-finite nature, and tense-aspect-mood (TAM) distinctions, reflect both historical continuity and typological diversity across the language family.

3.1. Inflectional Nature

In Indo-Aryan languages, participles are predominantly formed through inflectional methods. They are word class-changing inflectional morphemes (Haspelmath, 1996). These techniques maintain the verbal root while modifying it for use as adjectives or adverbs. An example in Hindi is the adjectival participle /hãstā huā baccā/ (the laughing child), /hãs/ (laugh) is inflected with /-ta/ to create the participle, with /tā/ indicating ongoing action. Likewise, Kashmiri participles such as /mut/ incorporate inflectional markers to correspond with tense and aspect, further demonstrating the participle's ability to operate within complex syntactic structures (Subbarao, 2012).

The inflectional characteristic of participles is crucial to their dual function as modifiers of both verbs and nouns. This attribute aligns with Haspelmath's (1996) observation that participles serve as word-class-changing inflectional morphemes, emphasizing their ability to transform verbal properties into descriptive modifiers while retaining a link to their verbal origins.

3.2. Reduplication

Reduplication is a linguistic process where a word or part of a word is repeated to create a new form with a modified meaning (Urbanczyk, 2017). This phenomenon involves duplicating all or a portion of a lexical item to convey semantic changes (Abbi, 1990). The reduplication patterns can vary widely, ranging from replicating a single sound segment to repeating an entire phrase. The process of participle reduplication in Indo-Aryan languages involves full reduplication, which conveys the semantic properties or attributes of a verbal adverb or adjective. This morphological phenomenon allows for the expression of certain characteristics or qualities in a more

pronounced manner. In Indo-Aryan languages, reduplication plays a significant role in the participial systems as a key morphosyntactic characteristic. This linguistic phenomenon encompasses a wide range of semantic and syntactic purposes, from amplifying meaning to expressing repetitive or ongoing actions. The process involves duplicating a portion or the entire participial form to enhance emphasis or introduce subtle shades of meaning to the verb's semantics. Throughout Indo-Aryan languages, reduplication is not simply a morphological tool but rather an essential linguistic technique for conveying temporal, aspectual, and emphatic distinctions.

Reduplication in participles serves a purpose beyond its linguistic function within specific Indo-Aryan languages. Reduplication, as observed in participial systems, acts as a bridge between verbal and adverbial modification. This process enables participles to maintain their verbal roots while taking on new roles as intensifiers or markers of aspect. Reduplication plays a significant role in enhancing the participial system of Indo-Aryan languages, creating a complex relationship between syntactic and semantic elements. These structures not only fulfill their syntactic function but also incorporate additional temporal and aspectual nuances, showcasing the adaptability of participles in these linguistic systems. The examples of reduplications are taken from Bengali, Assamese, Bhojpuri, Punjabi, Marathi, Gujarati, and Kashmiri respectively.

4. gita suye-suye boi porcʰe
   3SG sleep-PTCP book read.PRS.NHON
   'Gita is lying down and reading the book'

5. din-tu kʰeli-kʰeli lorasualibur bohut bʰagori gol
   wholeday-CLS play-PTCP children very tired go.PST
   'The children got tired by playing the whole day'
6. sima kʰana bənavət-bənavət gəna gauət rəhali
   3SG food cook-PTCP song sing AUX.PST
   'Sima was singing while cooking food'

7. əmit dɔrde-dɔrde aya
   3SG run-PTCP.M.SG come.PST.M
   'Amit came running'

8. pəus eta-eta tʰəmbla
   rain happen-PTCP NEG.happen.PST
   'It was going to rain but didn't happen'

9. cʰokri e vāt həsta-həstam kəhi
   3SG.F this word laugh-PTCP say.PST.F.SG
   'The girls said these words while laughing'

10. paʃi peʈʰ wəsʲ pewān-pewān bacʲow su
on roof from fall-PTCP save 3SG
'He was about to fall from the roof but got saved'

3.3. Tense-Aspect-Mood (TAM) Constraints

Across Indo-Aryan languages, participial systems can be distinguished by their morphosyntactic characteristics such as TAM (Tense-Aspect-Mood) constraints. For example, Kashmiri participles maintain explicit tense and aspect markers, allowing for precise temporal and aspectual distinctions whereas languages such as Bengali, Hindi, etc do not have TAM constraints. The Kashmiri perfective participle marker /mut/ exemplifies this, encoding completed action and corresponding with the TAM constraints.

11. ami ranna kɔra sikʰcʰi
1SG cook do learn.IMP.PRS.1
'I am learning to cook' (Bengali)

12. somu cʰalti hui gaɽi se gir gaya
3SG moving.F PTCP.F.SG car from fell go.PST.M
'Somu fell from a moving car'

13. Masculine Feminine

SG	PL	SG	PL
Pormut	par'mit'	parmits	parimatsi
l'ukʰmut	kīkʰ'mit'	līcʰmits	lēcʰimatsi
du'tmut	dit'mit'	ditsmits	ditsimatsi
cōmut	cemit'	cemits	cemitsi (Koul, 2013)

The non-finite participles in Nepali do not have periphrastic verb forms that are otherwise seen to form habitual aspects. The Nepali participle system is based on a +-temporal situation and is desententialized in terms of gender, number, and honorifics as well.

14. hi-jo aaeko maancʰe
yesterday comePTCP man
'The man who came yesterday' (Genetti, 1994)

The absence of explicit TAM marking indicates a simplified participial system that emphasizes practicality and functional adaptation. This variation aligns with Shagal's (2017) typological observations, which suggest that TAM-based participial systems are more prevalent in morphologically conservative languages like Nepali and Kashmiri than others.

4. Functional Overlaps and Divergences in Adjectival and Adverbial Participles

In Indo-Aryan languages, adjectival and adverbial participles share significant similarities in their morphological structure, often employing identical morphemes derived from the same verb roots. However, these participles serve different syntactic purposes, fulfilling separate roles within sentences. This flexibility demonstrates the

adaptability of participial constructions in Indo-Aryan languages, allowing them to serve both descriptive and clause-linking functions depending on their context of use.

4.1. Adjectival Participles

Adjectival participles serve primarily as modifiers for nouns, offering descriptive or qualifying information. These participles typically convey details about the state or action linked to the noun they describe. For example, in Hindi, the participle /hãstā/ (laughing) in the phrase /hãstā huā baccā/ ("the laughing child") directly modifies the noun /baccā/ (child), acting as an adjectival attribute. This example demonstrates how adjectival participles while maintaining their verbal origins, take on syntactic functions' characteristic of adjectives.

Across numerous Indo-Aryan languages, the process of creating adjectival participles follows a similar pattern, demonstrating their common morphological heritage. This consistency is evident despite individual languages exhibiting unique adaptations in terms of agreement and usage. Examples are given in Kashmiri, Gujarati, and Marathi, respectively.

15. bɨ cʰus grɛknəwiʈʰ trēʃ cewān
    1SG AUX.PRS boil.PTCP water drink.PTCP
    'I drink boiled water'

16. ləkʰelã paɳã
    written.PTCP.N page.N
    'Written pages'

17. melel õndir
    dead.PTCP mouse
    'The dead mouse'

4.2. Adverbial Participles

In contrast, adverbial participles function as connectors between clauses, establishing temporal, causal, or manner relationships between actions or events. Unlike their adjectival counterparts, these participles modify verbs or entire clauses instead of nouns. For instance, in the Marathi language, the participial construction /cʰalun ale/ (came walking) connects two actions—walking and coming—demonstrating how the subject performed the main action. Examples are given from Marathi, Gujarati and Kashmiri, respectively.

18. somu həsət-həsət bolto.
    Somu laugh-PTCP speak.M.3SG
    'Somu speaks in laughter.'

19. mɛ̄ne ʃɪloŋ ma rɛhta vēs vərəs tʰai gya
    1SG Shillong in.LOC live twenty years go.PST
    'I have been living in Shillong for twenty years'

20. anuhas gow hindī hetʃʰān ak wərī

3SG.DAT went Hindi learn.PTCP one year
'It's been one year since Anu started learning Hindi'

4.3. Overlap in Morphological Formation

Although many Indo-Aryan languages differentiate between adjectival and adverbial participles in terms of function, they often use identical morphemes for both. The distinction in their roles is typically determined by their position and use within a sentence, rather than by their grammatical form or structure. For instance, in Hindi, the participle /socta/ can serve both adjectival and adverbial functions:

21. Adjectival: /Socta huā baccā/ (The thinking child), where /**s**octa/ describes the noun /baccā/.

22. Adverbial: /woh socta raha/ (He kept thinking), where /socta/ modifies the verb /raha/ ('kept') to indicate continuity of thought.

5. Typological Implications

The typological adaptability of participial systems in Indo-Aryan languages is highlighted by the similarities in morphological formation and differences in syntactic functions. Participles are described by Haspelmath (1996) as "word-class-changing inflectional morphemes," a definition that reflects their dual purpose in these languages. Furthermore, Lehmann's (1988) notion of desententialization offers a theoretical basis for comprehending how participles evolve from verbal roots to become modifiers of nouns, verbs, or clauses, based on their syntactic context.

The crucial role of adjectival and adverbial participles in Indo-Aryan syntax is highlighted by their functional similarities and differences. Despite sharing common morphological origins, these participles serve distinct purposes: adjectival participles primarily modify nouns, while adverbial participles mainly connect clauses. This dual nature reflects not only the historical development but also the diverse typological features of participial systems found in Indo-Aryan languages.

5.1. Typological Generalizations of Participial Systems in Indo-Aryan Languages

The participial systems in Indo-Aryan languages exhibit typological patterns that align with Lehmann's (1988) desententialization scale, which captures the transition from finite to non-finite forms by measuring the loss of finite properties such as tense, agreement, and modality. This alignment reveals significant insights into their tense-aspect-mood (TAM) distinctions and the impact of negation on their structure and function.

5.1.1. TAM Systems: Retained and Reduced Contrasts

The degree to which participles retain finite properties, particularly tense-aspect-mood (TAM) distinctions, varies significantly among Indo-Aryan languages. The participle markers of

several languages in Indo-Aryan languages act differently and can be rightly placed under several categories. Research on participles has divided languages into three groups based on TAM (Tense-Aspect-Mood) restrictions: those with +TAM constraints, those with -TAM constraints, and those without TAM constraints (Shagal, 2017). The -TAM markers in participle studies are linguistic elements that do not have inherent TAM meaning but express such meaning through alternative methods. This study examines the TAM system as a whole, without delving into individual distinctions for practicality. The -TAM markers only indicate the participial nature of a form without encoding inherent TAM contrasts, instead relying on separate markers for TAM agreement. In comparison, +TAM participial markers create participles from verb stems and directly encode TAM features (Shagal, 2017). A third group, no TAM contrast, includes participial forms that neither show TAM contrasts nor explicitly agree in tense, aspect, or mood. Participles in Indo-Aryan languages mainly fall into this no TAM contrast category. However, Sindhi adverbial participles employ auxiliary verbs to convey tense and are thus classified under -TAM contrast, while Sindhi adjectival participles belong to the no TAM contrast group. Likewise, Maithili adverbial participles also use auxiliaries to denote tense and are part of the -TAM contrast group. In Kashmiri, the perfective participle /-mut/ maintains its perfect aspect, functioning similarly to the finite aspect marker, and thus falls under the +TAM constraint. Consequently, Kashmiri exhibits both +TAM and no TAM contrasts, while Maithili and Sindhi align with -TAM and no TAM contrasts. Additionally, Nepali participles are categorized under the +TAM constraint. In contrast most of the languages of Indo-Aryan languages such as Bengali, Hindi, Odia, Assamese, Bhojpuri, Punjabi, etc., participles largely lack explicit TAM distinctions, emphasizing a shift towards non-finite simplicity. The example from Maithili below shows that adverbial participles (23) have tense without aspect and they agree in person and honorifics whereas adjectival participles (24) in Maithili are devoid of TAM paradigms and they are not inflected for person and honorifics.

23. tabət həm sutəl rəhəb
    Until then 1SG sleep.PTCP remain.FUT.1
    'Until then I will remain asleep'

24. ʈuʈəl kʰaʈ
    Broke.PTCP bed
    'broken bed'

The presence or absence of TAM distinctions in participles aligns with Lehmann's (1988) scale of desententialization, illustrating how languages vary in the degree to which participial forms retain finite properties.

5.1.2. Negation: Simplification and Interaction with Reduplication

Negation in participial systems introduces another layer of typological variation, often simplifying the participial structure and inhibiting processes like reduplication. In most Indo-Aryan languages, the imperfective participles do not undergo reduplication when negation is present. For example, in Bengali, iterative participles are negated using the marker /na/ (not), which disrupts the reduplicative pattern. For example, in Bangla, the imperfective participle is typically reduplicated, with exceptions occurring in cases of negation and iterative constructions involving different subject constraints. This discussion focuses solely on negation. When a sentence is negated, the imperfective participle ceases to reduplicate.

25. meg^{h} na caite bristi
    cloud Neg want.PTCP rain

    'It's raining without clouds (it's an idiomatic phrase in Bangla which means to get something more than expected without even wanting)'

26. gita suye-suye boi porc^{h}e
    3SG sleep-PTCP book read.PRS.NHON
    'Gita is lying down and reading the book'

Majority of Indo-Aryan languages exhibit this characteristic. The typological generalizations of participial systems in Indo-Aryan languages illustrate a rich interplay of TAM distinctions and negation. The variations in TAM systems and the effects of negation reflect broader typological trends and language-specific innovations. These features not only align with Lehmann's theoretical framework but also contribute to our understanding of the participial systems' adaptability within the Indo-Aryan language family.

6. Implications for Linguistic Typology of Participles in Indo-Aryan Languages

The comprehensive approach to examining adjectival and adverbial participles in Indo-Aryan languages offers valuable perspectives on their interrelationships and diversity. These participial forms, which stem from common morphological origins, exhibit distinct syntactic functions, demonstrating the fluid processes that influence language development and typological classification. This interconnection significantly impacts the fields of historical linguistics and linguistic typology, especially in comprehending how languages negotiate the balance between verbal and nominal roles within participial systems.

6.1. Implications for Historical Linguistics

In the eastern Indo-Aryan languages, a common participle form /-a/ exists, which is used to modify the P/S participant. This form is frequently observed in Bengali, Assamese, and Odia, which have maintained their descendant feature /-a/. The participle form /-a/ in

New Indo-Aryan languages originated from the Old Indo-Aryan language and continued to be used in both Eastern and Western Apabhramsa (Tagare, 1948). In Bhojpuri and Maithili, the inherent participle form that modifies P/S participants is /-əl/, which is a phonologically altered and linguistically reconstructed version of the /-a/ form. Western Indo-Aryan languages such as Gujarati and Punjabi have preserved the original /-əl/ and /iā/ participle forms, which are modified and linguistically reconstructed versions of the Old Indo-Aryan and Western Apabhramsa /-a/ participle form.

Hindi language demonstrates a distinction in participial forms derived from the root /lik^{h}-/ (write). The verbal participle /lik^{h}te hue/, which translates to "while writing," maintains its verbal characteristics in adverbial constructions. In contrast, its adjectival counterpart /lik^{h} hua/, meaning "the writing one," serves as a descriptive modifier. These variations exemplify how a single morphological root can develop into syntactically diverse participial forms. This phenomenon is indicative of broader historical patterns within the Indo-Aryan language family, where participles have undergone grammaticalization and specialization. Over time, these participles have evolved from multifunctional verbal forms to more specific nominal and adverbial roles (Haspelmath, 1996; Givón, 2012).

Moreover, this historical trajectory provides evidence for contact-induced changes and language-internal innovations. For example, Kashmiri retains a robust TAM system in its participles, indicative of more conservative retention of OIA features, while Bengali simplifies participial morphology, reflecting its less conservative typological orientation.

6.2. Implications for Typology

From a typological standpoint, the participial systems of Indo-Aryan languages offer compelling evidence for the continuum between verbal and nominal functions. Participles occupy an intermediate space on this continuum, exhibiting properties of both finite verbs and nominal modifiers (Haspelmath, 1996). This duality aligns with Lehmann's (1988) desententialization scale, which conceptualizes non-finite forms as transitional elements between full clauses and nominal expressions.

For example, in Marathi, participles like /karun ale/ (came after doing) function adverbially, linking clauses by encoding temporal or causal relationships. On the other hand, participial constructions like /karela kām/ (the work to be done) demonstrate their nominal potential by serving as descriptive modifiers within noun phrases. These examples illustrate how participles straddle the boundaries between syntactic categories, enriching the typological diversity of Indo-Aryan languages (Subbarao, 2012).

Further, the typological analysis of participial systems sheds light on cross-linguistic patterns. Indo-Aryan participles exhibit remarkable

parallels with participial forms in other language families, such as Slavic and Turkic, which also leverage participles for dual functions. This cross-linguistic comparison underscores the universality of participial structures as versatile grammatical tools while highlighting language-specific innovation (Shagal, 2017).

The integrated approach to analyzing participles in Indo-Aryan languages offers valuable insights for both diachronic linguistics and cross-linguistic studies. By examining how participial forms have developed from their common origins in Old Indo-Aryan to their varied contemporary forms, we can better understand processes such as grammaticalization, functional specialization, and linguistic adaptation. From a typological perspective, participial systems showcase the spectrum between verbal and nominal functions, enhancing our comprehension of the structural and functional flexibility of non-finite forms. These observations contribute to wider typological discussions and enhance our knowledge of the historical development and innovations within Indo-Aryan languages.

7. Conclusion

The Indo-Aryan language family shares a common ancestral mother language, resulting in strong linguistic ties among its members. This connection is evident in the shared characteristics of cognate participle forms, which serve as a clear indicator of their close relationship. Furthermore, the geographical proximity of these languages' development has strengthened their linguistic bonds over time.

The participial structures found in Indo-Aryan languages offer a fascinating opportunity to explore the complex interactions between morphology, syntax, and semantics in the evolution of language. While sharing common morphological origins, adjectival and adverbial participles perform distinct functions, showcasing their dual nature as both modifiers and syntactic linking elements. This research has illustrated how these participles, influenced by historical changes and typological shifts, play a crucial role in the linguistic framework of Indo-Aryan languages.

The evolution of participial forms in Indo-Aryan languages demonstrates the flexibility of linguistic systems in adapting to evolving morphosyntactic requirements. This progression, from the extensively inflected structures found in Old Indo-Aryan to the simplified or diversified systems present in New Indo-Aryan languages, is evident across the language family. Some languages, such as Bengali, exemplify a trend towards simplification by eliminating complex agreement markers. In contrast, others like Kashmiri and Nepali maintain sophisticated tense-aspect-mood (TAM) distinctions, thus preserving their links to Old Indo-Aryan origins. This diversity within the Indo-Aryan family showcases a range of conservative and innovative approaches, highlighting the

participles' capacity to effectively balance verbal and nominal functions.

Participles exhibit remarkable functional diversity. When used as adjectives, they enhance noun descriptions, while their adverbial forms connect clauses by expressing relationships of time, cause, or manner. The shared morphological markers across these functions underscore their common origins and the blurred lines between their roles. These characteristics are in line with broader typological concepts, such as Lehmann's desententialization scale, which demonstrates how participial systems evolve from finite to non-finite forms. The overlapping nature of participles' morphological indicators further emphasizes the fluidity between their various functions and their shared roots.

To sum up, the study of adjectival and adverbial participles in Indo-Aryan languages offers insights into both the historical and typological intricacies of this language. The examination of participles provides a valuable lens through which we can observe the broader mechanisms of grammaticalization and functional adaptation in human languages.

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