

Description of Postpositions in Poguli

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Keywords

- Dialect
- Poguli,
- Postpositions
- Different functions of Postpositions

Abstract

Poguli is spoken in the Pogal-Paristan area of district Ramban in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. Poguli shows interesting and significant variations from Kashmiri in phonology, morphology and vocabulary but linguistic research on these aspects of the dialect of Kashmiri is inadequate and fragmentary. The present paper attempts to study Poguli based on its morphological description. The study includes the description of postpositions in Poguli and gives a complete account of different functions which occur in the postpositional description. The findings revealed that postpositions follow nouns or pronouns, and mark grammatical functions, location, movement or extent in space and time in Poguli.

1. Introduction

Understanding the complex dynamics of language development in a multi-lingual state like Jammu and Kashmir is not only a challenging task but also important for creating informed opinion about the status of languages and their role in identity formation. Often described as a three-storied edifice founded upon bonds of history and geography, the Jammu and Kashmir State presents a fascinating mosaic (mixture) of cross-cultural interaction. The region stretching along the Kashmir province of the state of Jammu and Kashmir is home to great ethno-linguistic diversity (Sachdeva, Dar, & Koul, 2010). A long history of language contact has often obscured the original linguistic differences between various languages spoken in the region, and sometimes it becomes impossible to judge that which language is influenced by which language.

In the backdrop of linguistic history of Kashmir, a great deal of debate has been generated during the last hundred years or so. For example, Grierson (1906) established three groups of languages found on the South-Asian sub-continent viz. Indo-Aryan, Dardic and Indo-Eranian. Grierson reiterates this classification in his Linguistic Survey of India (1919, 8.2:2). According to him ARYAN language branched into three distinct sister groups, with further sub groups as follows:

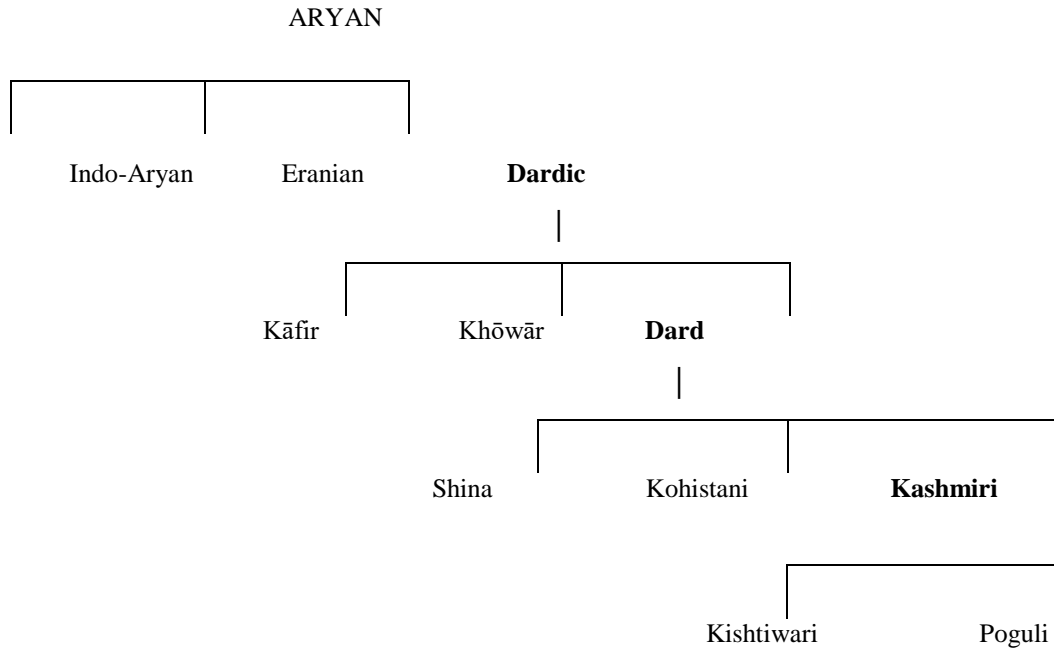


Figure 1 Poguli Family Tree

Poguli is one of the two languages which have been called as the dialects of Kashmiri, the other one being Kashtiware. Koul and Schmidt (1984) report that Poguli shares approximately 70% of its vocabulary with Kashmiri (Koul and Schmidt 1984). Poguli is spoken in the Pogul-Paristan area south from the capital city, Srinagar, in a mountainous region with small, dispersed villages. The research on Poguli is limited to Hook (1987), Kak and Wani (2013) and Wani (2014a, 2014b). Poguli has no written literature, is very restrictedly taught in schools, and is mainly an oral means of communication in households. For other purposes, almost all of its speakers are bilingual, they use other languages such as Hindi-Urdu. Hook and Koul (1996) mention that there are two regional variants of Poguli, conveniently called Upper and Lower Poguli. According to Hook and Koul (1996), Upper Poguli shows V2 word order. They imply that Lower Poguli is a predominantly verb final, but for this claim, no such evidence has been provided. Nayk (2005) said that a grammar of Poguli in Urdu, does not make a distinction between the two regional variants, but mainly gives both options, verb final and V2. However, the verb final word order is placed first, perhaps indicating that the verb final word order is more commonly used.

Both Muslims and Hindus of Pogal-Paristan area speak Poguli. Here, it is worthy to mention that Hindu and Muslim Speakers of Poguli have more affinity towards Kashmiri because the neighbouring areas of Pogal-Paristan are Kashmiri dominant areas. As per the local narratives of Pogal-Paristan area, Poguli is simply the language of a people who live in an area covered by ‘poh’ trees - a local species. Hence, this area came to be known as poh gully- the alleyway of Poh trees and the speech variety became as Poguli. Another narration is made by the natives of Pogal-Paristan, the dialect got its name from one of the

months of a year called 'Poh' which literally means the month of spring, thus the valley got the name likewise as Pogal and came into existence. The mother tongue is the referent of the community name. The main objective of the study is that Poguli has not been subject to descriptive analysis, before. This paper, therefore, establishes a level of descriptive adequacy regarding the postpositions of Poguli and hopes to represent a starting point for future descriptions of the language.

2. Research Methodology

For the collection of data, a field trip was carried out to Pogal-Paristan area in the months of July and August 2018. In order to formulate a postpositional description of Poguli, a questionnaire was framed containing, stories, sentences and words, local narratives and other verbal behaviors. For the sake of analysis, the language experts were consulted, and their speech was recorded in natural settings. Zoom digital voice recorder (Handy Recorder-H4, Zoom corporation) was used to record the data with a sampling rate of 48 KHZ and 16 bit. The recorded data were transcribed and analyzed. The recordings were made in different social settings and from different age groups. All the precautions were taken during the recording by the researcher in an effort to obtain a more thorough analysis and an understanding of the language.

3. Post positions

Postpositions are certain forms which occur immediately after nouns or pronouns and which establish some grammatical relations between the nouns which they follow and the verbs of sentences. They also mark grammatical functions, location, movement or extent in space and time. These forms are termed as postpositions only because they occur after nouns. A postposition is defined as "a particle or word placed after word to indicate its grammatical or syntactical relationship to the other words in the sentence" (Pei & Gayner, 1954).

Postpositions signal the relationship between two entities. For instance, they signal a relationship of possession between the two nouns¹. Postpositions in Poguli, occur after the nominal or the pronominal where the nominal or the pronominal function as their object. Poguli has both simple and complex postpositions. Some of them are: /kiten/ 'for', /zeryi/ 'reason', /si:tj²/ 'with', /bage:r/ 'without', /ba:pat^h/ 'for', /va:ri va:r/ 'with/way', /mãz/ 'in/at rest', /bat^han/ 'motion to', /pã:t^hi/ 'motion from', /mãz/ 'motion through past', /nazdi:k^h/ 'near', /mãz/, /andri/ 'inside of', /gu^he/ 'outside of', /sa:mne/ 'in front of', /pətni/ 'behind of', /mãzas/ 'in the middle of', /pã:t^h/ 'on' etc.

3.1. Functions of Postpositions

The different functions of postpositions are discussed below, in detail.

¹ Hindi (London Oriental and African Library). John Benjamins Publishing Company.

² /j/ shows the mark of Palatalization.

3.1.1. Benefaction

Benefaction is expressed by postpositions such as /kiten/, /kiti/ are glossed as ‘for’. The postposition /kiten/ used here is, for bringing or sending something. While as /kiti/ is used for is used for support. Some examples are:

Table 1

Benefaction (a)

Poguli	tanvi:ri	rōšida:s	Kiten	yak ^h	kəmi:z	a:nti
English	tanveer-erg	rashid-dat	For	one	shirt-fem-sg	brought
Gloss	‘Tanveer brought a shirt for Rashid.’					

Table 2

Benefaction (b)

Poguli	nazi:ri	Rašidus	kiten	dar	su:zti
English	nazir-erg	rashid-abl	for	clothes	sent
Gloss	‘Nazir sent clothes for Rashid.’				

Table 3

Benefaction (c)

Poguli	nazi:r	Yet	raši:das	kiti	a:v
English	nazir-erg	Here	rashid-abl	for	come-pst
Gloss	‘Nazir came here for the sake of Rashid.’				

Table 4

Benefaction (d)

Poguli	Su	duka:nas	pã:t ^h i	gov	Dud	anini	kiten
English	He	shop-dat	on	go-pst	Milk	Bring	for
Gloss	'He went to the shop to bring the milk.'						

3.1.2. Source

Postpositions /pã:t^hi/ 'from', /guṭ^ho/ 'from within' express the notion of the source.

Table 5

Source (a)

Poguli	Yi	k ^h abar	mi	milti	ak ^h ba:r	pã:t^hi
English	This	news	i-erg	got	Newspaper	from
Gloss	'I got this news from the newspaper.'					

The above example here, /pã:t^hi/ is the source, where someone is getting some information.

Table 6

Source (b)

Poguli	Tëv	kamri	guṭ ^h o	dra:yi
English	They	room-abl	From	Out
Gloss	'They came out of the room.'			

In this example, /guṭ^ho/ gives us information about someone's coming location.

3.1.3. Instrumentality

Instrumentality is expressed by means of /si:tʃ/ 'with'. The postposition /si:tʃ/ is used to indicate mutual dealing or association with something. Also /si:tʃ/ postposition is used for the purpose of a cause, which is discussed in 3.1.4.

Table 7

Instrumentality (a)

Poguli	rəʃidan	ka:kaz	tsaʃtu	šrapučī	si:tʃ
English	rashid-erg	paper-msg	cut-pst	knife-intr	with
Gloss	'Rashid cut the paper with a knife.'				

Table 8

Instrumentality (b)

Poguli	Nikan	bo:das	pā ^h	lik ^h tu	ča:ki	ʃukʀi	si:tʃ
English	child-erg	board-dat	On	write-pst	chalk-abl	piece	with
Gloss	'The child wrote on the board with a piece of chalk.'						

Table 9

Instrumentality (c)

Poguli	Āv	čakar	la:gni	go:s	aslamas	si:tʃ
English	i-erg	walk	For	go-pst	aslam-dat	with
Gloss	'I went for a walk with Aslam.'					

Negative instrumentality and communicative relations are expressed by /bage:r/ 'without'. These mark the noun with ablative/dative, e.g.:

Table 10

Instrumentality (d)

Poguli	mi	yak ^h	ač ^h o:ð	ba:ztu	ð ^h o:ras	bage:r
English	i-erg	one	Walnut	break-pst	stone-abl	without
Gloss	'I broke a walnut without using a stone.'					

Table 11

Instrumentality (e)

Poguli	Teni	yak ^h	čič ^h	paṛti	ə:nkas	bage:r
English	he-erg	One	Letter	read	glasses-abl	without
Gloss	'He read the letter without using glasses.'					

Table 12

Instrumentality (f)

Poguli	Ãv	po:gal	go:s	tanvi:ras	bage:r
English	i-erg	Pogal	go-pst	tanveer-dat	without
Gloss	'I went to the Pogal without Tanveer.'				

Table 13

Instrumentality (g)

Poguli	Ãv	ga:mus	go:s	tanvi:ras	bage:r
English	i-erg	village-dat	go-pst	tanveer-dat	without
Gloss	'I went to the village without Tanveer.'				

The above examples here, /bage:r/ shows the mark of negation.

3.1.4. Cause

Cause is expressed by /si:tʰ/ ‘with’. It is also expressed by /zeryi/ ‘reason’, e.g.:

Table 14

Cause (a)

Poguli	gʱivi	ʎiɾ	gʱey	Zilzili	si:tʰ
English	houses-nom	fell-fsg	be-pr	earthquake-abl	with
Gloss	‘The houses fell down because of the earthquake.’				

Table 15

Cause (b)

Poguli	Āv	tesūd	zeryi	noqsa:nas	Māz	go:s
English	i-erg	he-abl	reason	Loss	With	go-pst
Gloss	‘I had to undergo loss because of him.’					

Here from 4(a) and 4(b), we have seen that the word order in Poguli is very different from Indo-Aryan languages such as Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi, Sindhi, Dogri etc. These languages have verb final word order. But in the case of Kashmiri and its dialects i.e. Poguli and Kishtiwari, the verb occurs mostly at the second position. In Kashmiri and its dialects, verb final is found mostly in conditionals and relative or non-finite clauses.³

3.1.5. Purpose

Purpose is expressed by /ba:patʰ/ ‘for’ preceded by ablative case.

³. Modern Kashmiri Grammar

Table 16

Purpose (a)

Poguli	Su	baza:r	g ^l ov	sabzi:	anini	ba:pat^h
English	he-erg	market	go-pst	vegetables-dat	bring-abl	for
Gloss	‘He went to the market for bringing the vegetables.’					

Table 17

Purpose (b)

Poguli	Su	duka:nas	pā:t ^h	g ^l ov	dud	anini	ba:pat^h
English	he-erg	market-dat	On	go- pst	milk	bring- abl	for
Gloss	‘He went to the shop for bringing the milk.’						

3.1.6. Manner

Manner is expressed by means of /va:ri va:r/, /si:t^l/‘with/way’.

Table 18

Manner (a)

Poguli	m ^l o:n	do:s	č ^h u	ka:r	karti	va:ri va:r
English	my-msg	friend-dat	be-pr	work	do-pr	leisure-abl
Gloss	‘My friend works leisurely.’					

Table 19

Manner (b)

Poguli	ara:m	si:tʲ	ka:r	kartas
English	patience-abl	with	work	do-2 nd -pl
Gloss	'(Please) work with patience.'			

Negative manner is either expressed by /bage:r/ 'without' as given in the table below:

Table 20

Manner (c)

Poguli	tanvi:ran	Jo	Hāsni	bage:r
English	tanveer-erg	say-pst	laugh-abl	without
Gloss	'Tanveer said without laughing.'			

3.1.7. Locative

Locative functions may be expressed by dative or ablative alone or by employing postpositions /bat^han/ 'motion to,' /pā:t^hi/ 'motion from', /mōz/ 'motion through past' which follow the case marks.

Table 21

Locative (a)

Poguli	Su	ga:mus	bat^han	g ⁱ ov
English	he-erg	village-dat	set out	go-pst
Gloss	'He set out toward the village.'			

Table 22

Locative (b)

Poguli	Ãv	srinagiri	pã:t^hi	yi:z	a:s
English	i-nom	srinagar-abl	From	yesterday	come- pst
Gloss	'I came from Srinagar yesterday.'				

Table 23

Locative (c)

Poguli	la: ri	ga:mus	mõz	davti	č ^h i
English	bus-fsg	village-abl	through	run-pr	be-pr
Gloss	'The bus goes through the village.'				

3.1.7.1 Proximate location

The postposition /nazdi:k^h/ 'near' express proximate location. This marks noun with a dative case.

Table 24

Proximate location

Poguli	duka:n	g ⁱ ivas	nazdi:k^h	č ^h u
English	shop-msg	house-dat	near	be-pr
Gloss	'The shop is near the house.'			

3.1.7.2 Interior location

Interior location is identified by /māz/, /andri/ ‘inside of’ preceded by the dative case. These postpositions are used to denote the location or presence of something.

Table 25

Interior location (a)

Poguli	Yes	g ^h ivas	māz / andri	kāh	ni	ro:z	č ^h u
English	this	house-dat	Inside	anyone	neg	live-pr	be-pr
Gloss	‘No one lives inside this house.’						

Table 26

Proximate location (b)

Poguli	Yu	niki	g ^h ivi	māz / andri	dra:v
English	this	boy-dat	house-abl	Inside	come-pst
Gloss	‘This child came out of the house.’				

3.1.7.3 Exterior location

Exterior location is denoted by /gu^he/ ‘outside of’ preceded by the dative case.

Table 27

Exterior location (a)

Poguli	su	ga:mus	gu^he	Reh	č ^h u
English	he	village-dat	outside	live-pr	be-pr
Gloss	‘He lives outside the village.’				

Table 28

Exterior location (b)

10(b)							
Poguli	Yi	vat ^h	ga:mus	guṭ^he	bana:vni	a:mʲit	č ^h i
English	this	Road	village-dat	outside-abl	made-pst	built	be-pr
Gloss	‘This road is built outside the village.’						

Table 29

Exterior location (c)

Poguli	Su	ga:mus	Atan	guṭ^he	gʲov
English	He	village-dat	Toward	outside-abl	go-pst
Gloss	‘He went outside the village.’				

3.1.7.4 Anterior Location

Anterior location is denoted by /sa:mne/ ‘in front of’ precede by dative case.

Table 30

Anterior location (a)

Poguli	yeti	yak ^h	ba:g	č ^h u	ka:ljas	sa:mne
English	there	A	garden	be-pr	college-dat	in front
Gloss	‘There is a garden in front of the college.’					

Table 31

Anterior location (b)

Poguli	bas	davti	č ^h i	soku:las	sa:mne
English	bus	run-pr	be-pr	school-dat	in front
Gloss	‘Bus runs in front of the school.’				

3.1.7.5 Posterior Location

The postposition /pətni/ ‘behind of’ express the posterior location and is preceded by dative case.

Table 32

Posterior location (a)

Poguli	Yeti	yak ^h	duka:n	č ^h u	soku:las	pətni
English	there	one	Shop	be-pr	school-dat	behind-abl
Gloss	‘There is a shop behind the school.’					

Table 33

Posterior location (b)

Poguli	bas	davti	č ^h i	soku:las	pətni
English	bus	run-pr	be-pr	school-dat	behind
Gloss	‘Bus runs behind the school.’				

Table 34

Posterior location (c)

Poguli	Yeti	yak ^h	ba:g	č ^h u	ka:ljas	pətni
English	There	One	garden-masc-sg	be-pr	college-dat	behind
Gloss	‘There is a garden behind the college.’					

3.1.7.6 Medial Location

Medial location is denoted by /māzas/ ‘in the middle of’ preceded by dative case.

Table 35

Middle location (a)

Poguli	m ^o :n	g ⁱ v	ba:zas	māzas	t ^h i/č ^h i
English	My	house-fem-sg	market-dat	centre	be-pr
Gloss	‘My house is in the middle of the market.’				

Table 36

Middle location (b)

Poguli	yi	duka:n	saŋki	māzas	č ^h u
English	this	shop-masc-sg	road-dat	centre	be-pr
Gloss	‘This shop is in the middle of the road.’				

Table 37

Middle location (c)

Poguli	yeti	yak ^h	masji:d	t ^{hi} /č ^{hi}	ga:mus	māzas
English	This	one	mosque-fem-sg	be-pr	village-dat	middle
Gloss	‘There is a mosque in the middle of the village.’					

3.1.7.7 Superior-contact/ Surface Location

Superior-contact/ Surface location is denoted by the postposition /pā:t^h /‘on’ preceded by the dative case suffixes.

Table 38

Surface location (a)

Poguli	kitæb	me:zas	pā:t^h	č ^{hi}
English	book-fem-sg	table-dat	On	be-pr
Gloss	‘The book is on the table.’			

Table 39

Surface location (b)

Poguli	dar	tro:yit ^h	č ^{hi}	me:zas	pā:t^h
English	cloth-fem-pl	spread	be-pr	table-dat	on
Gloss	‘The clothes are spread out up to the table.’				

It is here, worthy to mention that postpositions in Poguli show the close relationship with Kashmiri and most postpositions are similar to each other. The comparison of Poguli and Kashmiri postpositions are tabulated below:

Table 40

Comparison of Poguli and Kashmiri postpositions

Poguli	Kashmiri	Gloss
/kiten/, /kiti/	/k ^h ə:tri/ , /ba:pat ^h /	‘for’
/zeryi/	/zeryi/	‘reason’
/si:t/	/si:t/	‘with’
/bage:r/	/bagə:r/	‘without’
/ba:pat ^h /	/ba:pat ^h /	‘for’
/va:ri va:r/	/va:ri va:r/	‘with/way’
/māz/	/māz/	‘in/at rest’
/bat ^h an/	/dra:v/	‘motion to,’
/pā:t ^{hi} /	/pet ^{hi} /	‘motion from’
/mōz/	/ māz/	‘motion through past’
/nazdi:k ^h /	/nəzdi:k ^h /	‘near’
/māz/, /andri/	/māz/, /andri/	‘inside of’
/guṭ ^h e/	/nebar/	‘outside of’
/sa:mne/	/brōh kani/	‘in front of’
/pətni/	/pati kani/	‘behind of’
/māzas/	/māzas/ , /semanzas/	‘in the middle of’
/pā:t ^h /	/pet ^h /	‘on’

The above comparison shows that both Kashmiri and Poguli shows the lexical similarity which means Poguli shares a strong relationship with Kashmiri.

4. Conclusion and Discussion

Languages in Jammu and Kashmir show heterogeneity in most of the cases. Interestingly, all the languages have not been dealt with equally, and are observed in the works of Grierson (1919) and Bailey (1924). Normally, Kashmiri has been the focus of study in this Kashmiri predominant area and languages like Kishtiwari, Poguli, Gojri, Shina, Kohistani, etc. have not been given significant attention. Poguli has been the subject of our work and it has been classified as the dialect of Kashmiri (Grierson, 1919). With no written traditions

and with a low number of speakers, Poguli has been relegated to the background. The dialect has not, till date, been studied comprehensively and the present work was an attempt at a comprehensive postpositional study of Poguli.

In Poguli, postpositions follow nouns or pronouns, and mark grammatical functions, location, movement or extent in space and time. The different functions of postpositions in Poguli are: Benefaction-expressed by /kiten, kiti/, all are glossed as 'for'. Source is expressed by /pã:tʰi/ 'from', /guʰo/ 'from within'. Instrumentality is expressed by /si:tʰi/ 'with', while as negative instrumentality and communicative relations are expressed by /bage:r/ 'without'. Cause is expressed by /si:tʰi/ 'with' and /zeryi/ 'reason'. Purpose is expressed by /ba:patʰ/ 'for' preceded by ablative case. Manner is expressed by means of /va:ri va:r/, / si:tʰi/ 'with/way' and negative manner is expressed by /bage:r/ 'without'. Locative functions are expressed by dative or ablative alone or by employing postpositions /mãz/ 'in/at rest' /batʰan/ 'motion to,' /pã:tʰi/ 'motion from', /mẽz/ 'motion through past' which follow the case marks.

Hence, it is observed that Poguli, overall, shows a strong affinity with Kashmiri. It is observed that morphologically, Poguli shows strong affinity with Kashmiri. On a side note, considering the structural similarity with Kashmiri, it can be safely assumed that Kashmiri and Poguli share a strong relationship, and in the past, they might have been, not two, but one language.

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