

Theories of Case

Sommersemester 2007

Exercise Indian Dialects [from: G.A. Grierson: Linguistic Survey of India.1919]

In following, the same story is expressed in two different dialects of Hindi/Urdu. For both texts, identify the case markers and decide how you would label them. While doing this, consider the following questions:

- 1) Are the forms of the case markers always the same?
- 2) Is the meaning/function of the case marker always the same?

BRAJ BHĀKHĀ (WEST OF DISTRICT AGRA) [Glosses written by Grierson]

Ēku ādimī-kaĩ dō pūt hē. Un-maĩ-sē lauh^arē-naĩ bāp-tē
A man-to two sons were. Them-in-from the-younger-by father-to

kahī kai, ` ai kākā, mērē bāṭ-kau mālu mōi dai-dai.' Tab
it-was-said that 'O father, my share-of property to-me give.' Then

bā-naĩ mālu bini-kū bāṭi diyau. Kachkuk din bītaĩ
him-by fortune them-to having-divided was-given. Some days on-passing

lauh^arau chhaurā sabu ikaṭṭhau kari-kaĩ dūri dēs-kū
the-younger son all together made-having distant land-to

chalyau-gayau.
went-away.

HINDŌSTĀNĪ (STANDARD URDU VARIETY, DISTRICT LUCKNOW)[Glosses written by Grierson]

Ēk shakhṣ-kē dō bēṭē thē. Un-mē-sē chhōṭā bāp-sē
One man-of two sons were. Them-in-from the-younger father-to

kahnē lāgā, ` abbā jān, jāedād-mē hamārā jō-kuchh hiṣṣa hai ham-
to-say began, 'father dear, property-in my whatever share is me-

kō dē-dījiē.' Chunāche us-nē apnā aṣāṣa dōnō-kō taqsim
to give-away.' Accordingly him-by his-own property both-to division

kar-diyā. Aur chand-hī rōz ba'd chhōṭā bēṭā
was-made-and-given. And some-even days after the-younger son

sab māl ikaṭṭhā kar-kē bahut dūr-kē mulk-mē
all property together made-having great distance-of country-into

chalā-gayā aur wahā̃ sārī daulat shoahd-pan-mē uṛā-dī.
went-away and there all wealth debauchery-in squandered-away

The Story:

A man had two sons. Of these, the younger one said to the father "Oh father, give me my share of the property". Then he [the father] gave to both of them their share of the fortune/property. After some days, the younger son, having gathered together everything, went away to a distant land.

[Second Story: and squandered all the fortune away.]