

AN OVERVIEW OF LINGUISTIC STRUCTURES IN TORWALI,  
A LANGUAGE OF NORTHERN PAKISTAN

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A LANGUAGE OF NORTHERN PAKISTAN

by  
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## **ABSTRACT**

### **AN OVERVIEW OF LINGUISTIC STRUCTURES IN TORWALI, A LANGUAGE OF NORTHERN PAKISTAN**

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The people who speak Torwali live in the foothills of the Himalayas in Northern Pakistan. Their language belongs to the Indo-Aryan language family and can be categorized as a strong head-final language. It has a split-ergative system with ergative case markers used in the future tense and perfective aspect. Grammatical relations are indicated primarily by postpositions. The counting system uses a base-20 system as opposed to a base-10 system as found in English. This project provides an analysis of the phonological system, including a look at the phoneme inventory, phonological processes, syllable structure and tone. It also provides an introduction to the morphology and syntax systems employed in the language. Finally, an analysis of a narrative text is presented, and some initial features of Torwali discourse are described, namely characteristics of profile and peak, spectrum and participant reference according to the principles of discourse analysis put forth by Longacre (1981, 1996).

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

1	first person	L	low tone
2	second person	LH	rising tone
3	third person	m	masculine
A	agent	MKR	marker
ABS	absent pronoun	MPL	masculine plural
ACC	accusative case	MSG	masculine singular
ADJ	adjective	N	noun
ADV	adverb	NEAR	present near pronoun
CAUS	causative	NOM	nominative case
CP	conjunctive participle	NP	noun phrase
Dem	demonstrative pronoun	NUM	number
ERG	ergative case	O, OBJ	object
f	feminine	OBL	oblique case
FAR	present far pronoun	PAP	perfective adjectival participle
FPL	feminine plural	PASS	passive voice
FSG	feminine singular	PFV	perfective aspect
FUT	future tense	PL	plural
GEN	genitive case	PosPh	possessive phrase
GenP	genitive phrase	Poss	possessive noun
HAB	habitual aspect	PP	postposition phrase
HL	falling tone	PRES	present tense
IAP	imperfective adv. participant	RSMKR	reported speech marker
IMP	imperative mood	S, SUB	subject
IMPFV	imperfective aspect	SG	singular
INC	inceptive aspect	SP	simple perfective
INF	infinitive	SUBMKR	subordinate clause marker
INTRNS	intransitive clause	TRNS	transitive clause
IO	indirect object	V	verb
JUS	jussive mood	vd	voiced
		vl	voiceless

# 1. INTRODUCTION



Figure 1. Pakistan with Torwali language area inset.

Torwali is a language of the Indo-Aryan family, spoken by approximately 80,000 people<sup>1</sup> living in northern Pakistan.

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<sup>1</sup>Rensch (1992:33) estimated the number at about 60,000. When I have spoken with Torwali speakers, they estimate the number to be closer to 100,000 and some go higher. I have chosen to split the difference and say 80,000. It's possible that one-third of these have migrated to the larger cities of Pakistan for better employment opportunities.

The area in which the Torwali people live is marked by the black square (my modification of the original map) in the northern region of Pakistan<sup>2</sup>. This square is meant only to approximate their location and is not intended to show exact boundaries. A detailed view of this area is found in Figure 2<sup>3</sup>.

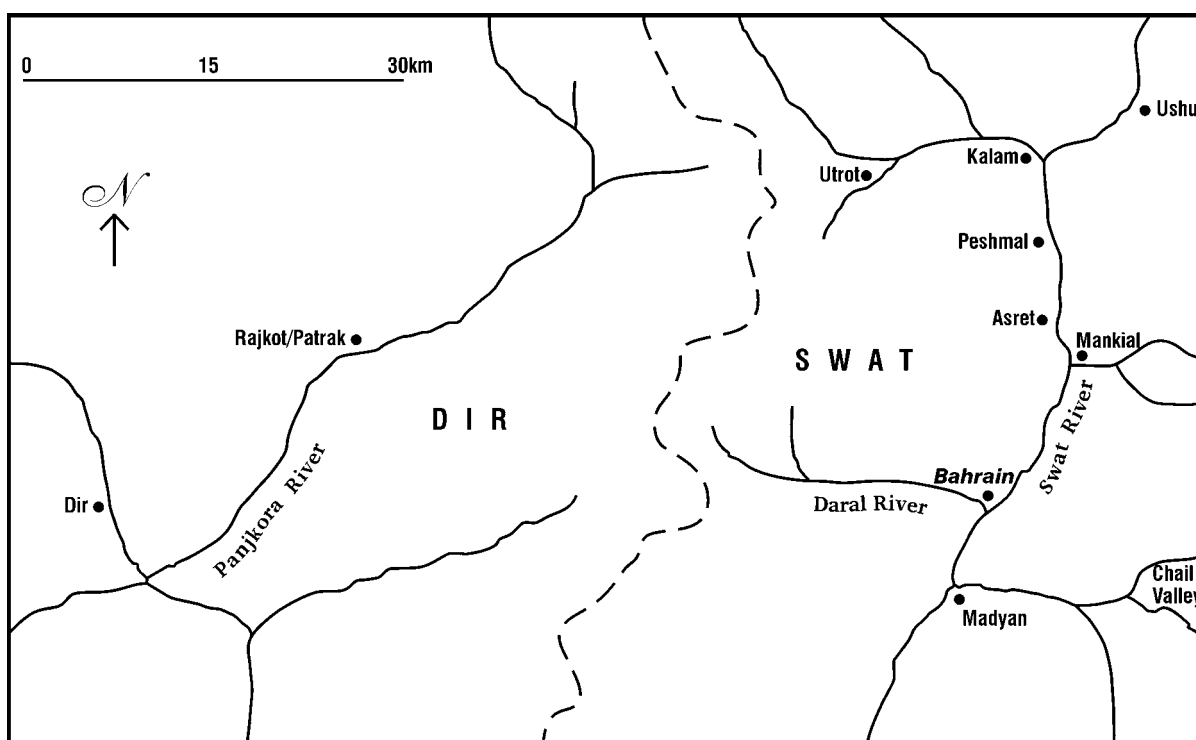


Figure 2. Swat and Dir Kohistan.

## 1.1 The people and their language

The Torwali people live in the Swat Valley of the North West Frontier Province in northern Pakistan. Kohistan, which means “land of mountains,” is the name used by non-Kohistani speakers to refer to all the languages spoken in the mountainous region of the north. They use this term to refer to all of these languages not only because they are “of the mountains,” but also because many outsiders believe they are all one language with only minor dialectal differences. However, linguistic researchers have time and again documented many of

<sup>2</sup>Map courtesy of [www.theodora.com/maps](http://www.theodora.com/maps), used with permission.

<sup>3</sup>Adapted by Mike McMillan 2001.

these “dialectal differences” as being much more significant. An in-depth sociolinguistic survey carried out in the second half of the 1980s by SIL International (formerly known as The Summer Institute of Linguistics) further confirmed the diversity of these and other languages scattered throughout the northern regions of Pakistan (Rensch 1992:xiv).

Kohistani speakers use this same general term to refer to their own language, but more specific language names to distinguish other Kohistani languages from their own. For instance, Torwali speakers always refer to their own language as Kohistani. In the same way, Kalam Kohistani speakers located to the north also refer to their own language as Kohistani. However when a Torwali speaker refers to the Kalami language, he or she uses the term Kalam Kohistani or Kalami. The same is true for the Kalam Kohistani speaker, who refers to the Torwali language as Torwali, not Kohistani.

Torwali consists of two main dialects. The *Bahrain* dialect, which is the larger of the two, is spoken along the Swat River, from Madyan northward twenty to twenty-five miles to the village of Asret, south of Peshmal. Gujari speakers dominate the next few miles although speakers of Torwali and Kalam Kohistani also live there. Upon entering the town of Kalam, one enters the heart of Kalam Kohistani.

Bahrain, located about five miles north of Madyan, at an elevation of about 4,000 feet, is where the Daral [daral] River empties into the Swat River from the west. This dialect of Torwali also extends westward up this river approximately two miles before entering into Pashto-speaking territory. While Torwali is spoken in numerous villages along these two rivers, Bahrain is the cultural and administrative center for this language, and its population probably accounts for about 70% of the Torwali speakers living in the Swat valley.

Immediately east of Madyan, up into the Chail valley is where the second dialect is located. Named after the valley in which it is located, the *Chail* dialect is spoken primarily in two villages about three to five miles east of Madyan. I am told that in this same valley, a couple of other small language groups (non-mother tongue Torwali speakers) use Torwali as a local lingua franca. Chail speakers typically refer to the Torwali speakers of Bahrain as *sinkæn* which means, “bank of the river,” (i.e., those who live along the bank of the Swat River).

It is reasonable to conclude that Madyan was probably a Torwali-speaking village a few centuries ago, but the Pashto-speaking traders, who dominate much of the North West Frontier Province, gradually over-

whelmed the Torwali population in Madyan splitting the language into two parts, which today manifest some slight phonological and lexical differences. Today, some Torwali speakers (a mix from both dialects, but mostly from Chail) can be found living and/or working in Madyan.

Another group of Torwali-speaking people are those who have migrated to other parts of Pakistan. Whole communities of Torwali speakers live in places like Rawalpindi, Lahore and Karachi. Smaller groupings (one or two families) also live in Islamabad, Peshawar and Nowshera, to name a few. In most cases, employment is the motivation for the move.

Both villages, Bahrain and Chail, are just under two hours' drive north of Mingora, the administrative center and a major market town for the Swat district. To the west of the Torwali-speaking area is the Dir administrative district where Pashto, Dir Kohistani (a language mutually intelligible with Kalam), Kalkoti and Gujari are spoken (Joan Baart, personal correspondence). Pashto speakers are also found from Madyan southward. Across the mountain ridge to the east in the Kohistan district is yet another language, Indus Kohistani.

Traditionally most Torwalis were subsistence farmers. Nowadays, they grow mostly corn, wheat, tomatoes, apples and pears, which they sell to local markets as well as to the larger cities to the south. Tourism has increased significantly in the Swat valley in recent decades. Although the destination of many outsiders is Kalam, 15 miles to the north, Bahrain is becoming increasingly popular for more and more Pakistanis. With the tourists have come more jobs and opportunities (hotels, restaurants and jeep rentals); however, non-Torwalis own many of the businesses so most of the money is not put back into the local economy. The Torwali people are 100% Sunni Muslim and many are involved in local, provincial and national politics.

## 1.2 Sociolinguistic situation

Torwali speakers are very proud of their language and culture. Although many of the men and a growing number of women also speak Urdu (the national language) and Pashto (a major language of the Frontier), they use Torwali when conversing with each other, whether in the market, fields or homes. However, primarily due to an increased exposure to other languages, Torwali speakers are incorporating Urdu, Pashto and English words and expressions into their everyday speech. Most men use words like *taxi*, *driver*, *hotel* and *jeep* in their speech, and although the elderly folk still use the distinctive Torwali words for fruits and vegetables in the mar-



ketplace, their Urdu names are increasingly used. This is also true when dealing with numbers. Although the Torwali numbering system follows a very simple pattern, Urdu numbers are commonplace. In addition to this, since the conversion of the Torwali people to Islam about four centuries ago (Grierson 1919:507), numerous Arabic words have also been introduced.

One of the responses to this trend has been the establishment of the Kohistan Cultural Promotion Society (KCPS), a group of men from the community whose vision is to preserve and promote the Torwali culture and language. One man has even taken the initiative to develop and eventually publish a dictionary of his language, paying particular attention to those words which are not used by the younger generation of speakers. It is the hope of this man along with fellow members of KCPS to preserve their language and encourage ongoing language use.

### **1.3 Relationship to other languages**

Torwali has many cultural and linguistic distinctives, but it also shares many common attributes with neighboring languages. Careful comparison has allowed researchers to group these languages into family clusters. According to Strand (1973:302, 1999), Torwali belongs to the eastern branch of the Kohistani language group, one of several branches coming from the Indo-Aryan group. He also includes as close relatives: Kalami (Bashkarik) and Ushojo, to the north; Indus Kohistani (Maiya), Bateri and Chilisso in the Kohistan district to the east; Khowar, Palula (also Phalura) and Kalasha in Chitral; as well as Shina and Kashmiri spoken in the Northern Areas (the latter located across the line of control between India and Pakistan). Figure 3 is a graphic representation of the Indo-Aryan language family according to Strand. This chart is a simplified version of the total family. For the sake of simplicity, not all of the languages mentioned here are included. For more details, visit his website, <http://users.sedona.net/~strand/lngIndex0.html>.

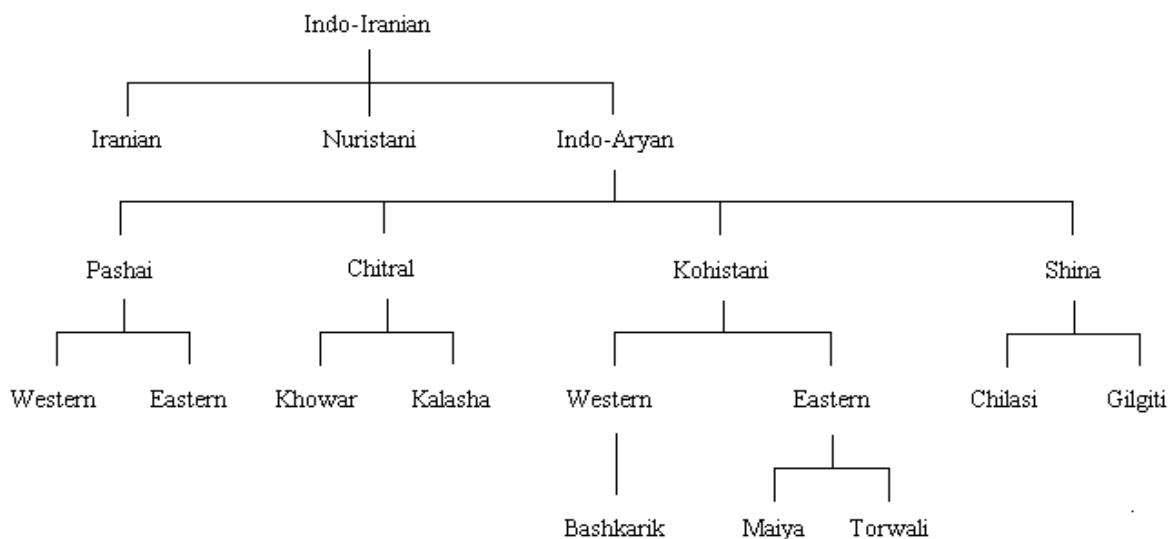


Figure 3. Genetic Classification of Torwali according to Strand.

#### 1.4 Previous research

Over the years, researchers have used various names to refer to this language. Besides Torwali, *Torwalik* (Biddulph 1880) and *Torwalak* (Grierson 1919) have also been used.

In 1880, John Biddulph published *Tribes of the Hindoo Koosh*, which contained the first linguistic description of the Torwali language. It was a brief description, containing a one-page description of the people and where they were located, two pages of noun declensions, verb conjugations and a pronoun chart, followed by eleven pages of vocabulary. (This book also contained historical, cultural and linguistic information about a number of other languages spoken in this mountainous region.) Sir George Grierson published a linguistic article in 1919 in which he included the findings of Biddulph along with a text elicited by Sir Harold Deane in 1898.

The most extensive work on Torwali was Grierson's later work (1929). This publication, based on some historical accounts which were recorded and transcribed by another European researcher, Sir Aurel Stein, three years earlier, includes a 16-page discussion of Torwali's phonetic inventory, a 66-page grammatical sketch, three texts numbering 21 pages and a 54-page vocabulary list. In 1940, Georg Morgenstierne added his comments to Grierson's regarding the existence of retroflex sounds, and further clarified the distinction between

them and their dental counterparts. Morgenstierne also includes an 11-page list of vocabulary words, some of which are also recorded in Biddulph's and Grierson's lists. In the late 1980s, as previously mentioned, SIL International carried out a sociolinguistic survey in northern Pakistan, which focused primarily on language-use and the issue of bilingualism. For a more in-depth look at these issues as they relate to Torwali, refer to Rensch (1992:3-62).

## **1.5 Current study**

The aim of this study, which began in 1997, is to provide an introduction to some of the linguistic characteristics of Torwali. My goal is to provide an overview of Torwali phonology, morphology and syntax, and then present an analysis of some Torwali narrative discourse features. Because of the breadth of this project, it is certainly not the intent of this researcher to examine every nuance of the language and answer all of the questions raised during the course of collecting, organizing and analyzing data. Instead by providing this grammatical sketch, an introduction of the language can be presented and a context created in which specific issues can be researched further and many of the questions raised in this paper can be addressed.

The analysis was based on a wordlist of approximately 800 words elicited in isolation and a corpus of narrative texts, approximately 150 pages, interlinearized. I also had access to a 6000-word Torwali-Urdu-English lexical database which Mr. Inamullah, a native Torwali speaker, has compiled himself. With the help of Mr. Rahimullah, Mr. Muhammad Zaman and a number of other mother-tongue speakers, the wordlist was recorded on audiotape and transcribed using a phonetic transcription. The texts were recorded and transcribed with the help of Mr. Inamullah and Mr. Muhammad Jahangir Khan. Mr. Jahangir also helped me to recheck and refine my transcriptions and glosses. Mr. Muhammad Zaman also answered many questions relating to grammatical structures, which arose during the writing of this paper. Except for Mr. Zaman, who is a native of Kalam, all of these men are from the village of Bahrain.

Chapter 2 presents the phonetic data and the phonological system in which they operate. Chapter 3 provides an introduction to the grammar section of this paper by looking at a variety of grammatical issues in the context of language universals and typologies. The purpose of chapter 4 is to narrow the focus by introducing the reader to the syntactic categories documented in the language. Chapter 5 then zeroes in on the morphologi-

cal issues related to these syntactic categories. After this groundwork is laid, we step up to clause-level features in chapter 6. Here, the focus is on how these various syntactic categories function within the clause. Finally, chapter 7 examines some introductory discourse features found in a Torwali narrative text.

Following the pattern of Baart, Radloff and others, I use a system of transcription in this paper which is similar to the “Standard Orientalist” transcription described by Masica (1991:xv) with some additions from the International Phonetic Association (IPA).

## 2. PHONOLOGY

This chapter is divided into several smaller sub-sections. Sections 2.1 through 2.4 describe the consonant system and the most significant phonological processes associated with Torwali consonants. Section 2.5 describes the vowel system. At the end of this chapter (sections 2.6 and 2.7), a discussion of syllable structure and some prosodic features is presented.

### 2.1 The consonant system

Fifty-four different phonetic consonant sounds have been identified in the language. After completing a phonemic analysis, thirty-four consonant phonemes have been established. This section includes the results of my analysis.

### 2.2 Consonant phones

Morgenstierne and Grierson first noted the existence of retroflex fricatives and affricates [ç, ʃ, ʂ, ʐ]. Before 1929, writers did not distinguish between dental and retroflex fricatives and affricates, but in 1929, Grierson recognized their existence, although the contrast was not as marked as in some other languages.

This is no doubt...that the distinction in sound between these two classes of letters is not nearly so marked in Dardic as it is in Indian [present-day India and Pakistan] languages. Sounds that in India would be called cerebral<sup>4</sup> are, in Dardic, merely alveolar. Even natives of India, when recording Dardic words, are not always certain as to whether this sound is cerebral or dental. For this reason, we need not be surprised that so accurate an observer as Biddulph has failed to distinguish between these two groups of sounds. Sir Aurel Stein also informs me that, in the case of some Torwali words, he has been doubtful whether a *t* or *d* was cerebral or dental. (1929:9)

Morgenstierne addresses this issue in his 1940 article and confirms the existence of these retroflex sounds.

Although voiced aspirated plosives [b<sup>h</sup>, d<sup>h</sup>, ɖ<sup>h</sup>, g<sup>h</sup>] are common in many South Asian languages, they do not occur in Torwali, at least not in the way they do in other Indo-Aryan languages. Grierson also comments on these sounds. While he confirms their existence, he states that they occur only in exceptional cases. He con-

---

<sup>4</sup>Grierson uses this term to refer to the retroflex segments.

siders them borrowed sounds from Hindi. He says that in most cases when a word having one of these sounds is brought into the language, the aspiration is dropped, unless this creates confusion in distinguishing it from a word already in the language. For example, [gho] ‘horse’ comes from the Hindi word [ghoṛa]. Grierson believed that the aspiration was retained here to distinguish it from [go] ‘bull’. However, he admits that this explanation does not account for all of the data. For example, he cannot explain why [bha] ‘brother’ retained its aspiration (1929:12).

It is true that many words used by Torwali speakers are borrowed from Hindi and Urdu. However, as Grierson himself admits, this analysis is lacking because it accounts for too few words. A decade later, Morgenstierne makes a significant observation. He notes, “a low, rising accent seems upon the whole to be peculiar to words with original aspirated sonants” (1940:296-7). My analysis agrees with his finding and further reveals that while remnants of breathy voice are found throughout the language, it is restricted to low tone and breathy vowels and will be discussed in more detail in the context of tone (section 2.7). As will be presented in this paper, tone is a very important feature of Torwali and affects a number of different aspects of phonology.

Table 2.1. Consonant phones

		Bilabial	Labiodental	Dental	Retroflex	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Glottal
<b>Plosive</b>	vl	p		t	ɖ		k	q	ʔ
	vl	p <sup>h</sup>		t <sup>h</sup>	ɖ <sup>h</sup>		k <sup>h</sup>		
	vd	b ɸ		d ɗ	ɗ ɗ̣		g ɠ		
<b>Affricate</b>	vl			ts	ɖʑ	ç			
	vl				ɖʑ <sup>h</sup>	ç <sup>h</sup>			
	vd				ʃ	ʃ̣			
<b>Fricative</b>	vl	ɸ	f	s	ʑ	š	x		h
	vd	β	v	z	ʑ̣	ž	ɣ		
<b>Nasal</b>		m ɱ		n ɳ	ɳ̣ ɳ̣̤		ŋ ɳ̠		
<b>Flap</b>				r ɽ	ɽ				
<b>Liquid</b>				l					
<b>Glides</b>		w				y	ɥ		

## 2.3 Consonant phonemes

### 2.3.1 Plosives and flaps

The devoiced consonants are allophones of their voiced counterparts and only occur word-finally usually in utterance-final positions. Compare the sets of Torwali words that illustrate the phonetic contrast between a voiceless plosive and the corresponding devoiced plosive in example (1).

1)	/yab/	[yab̥]	‘small irrigation canal’
	/ɖap/	[ɖap]	‘wall’
	/sid/	[siɖ]	‘information’
	/git/	[git]	‘song’
	/ɕug/	[ɕug]	‘bee sting’
	/čuk/	[čuk]	‘sour’

In some languages, when voiced phonemes lose their voicing, it is said that the contrast between them and their voiceless counterparts has been neutralized. For example, when /d/ loses its voicing in one of these languages, it would be realized as [t]. However, that is not the case in Torwali. While the term *devoicing* is being used, the contrast is not actually between voiced and voiceless, but between intense and less intense. Baart has looked at the acoustic characteristics of these sounds in Kalam Kohistan and noted that the significant factor that phonetically distinguishes a devoiced consonant in Kalami from its voiceless counterpart is intensity. The intensity or magnitude of the waveform for a voiceless consonant is greater than the intensity of the devoiced phoneme (1997:13-15). Radloff makes a similar claim regarding Shina. Like Kalami, the phonetic distinction is based on the release of air at the end of an utterance. Voiceless consonants allow a greater puff of air to escape from the mouth at the conclusion of the utterance than their devoiced counterparts do. An extremely weak release would be no release at all (1999:32-34). Because this same phenomenon has been observed in Torwali, it is plausible to posit voiced plosives as phonemes having two allophones, one voiced and one devoiced, both of which contrast with their voiceless equivalent, for example, phoneme /d/ with two allophones [d] and [ɖ].

Another very common phonological process occurring in Torwali is the weakening of its plosives intervocalically. /p/ and /p<sup>h</sup>/ can be pronounced as [ɸ] or [f]. /d/ and /ɖ/ are usually weakened to [ɾ] and [ɽ] respectively, and /g/ is reduced to [ɣ]. For example, /əgəš/ ‘11’ can be pronounced [əgəš], particularly in slow speech, but most often as [əɣəš] in normal speech. This is not to say however that [ɣ] is only an allophonic representation of /g/. As will be shown later, /ɣ/ also has phonemic status. Intervocalically however, the contrast between these two consonants is neutralized.



One of the difficulties that arises with this analysis is knowing whether the underlying phoneme is /g/ or /ɣ/. It is plausible to conclude that /ɣ/ is realized as [ɣ] in all environments. However, since the contrast between /g/ and /ɣ/ is neutralized intervocalically, it is very difficult to tell if [ɣ] is a realization of /g/ or /ɣ/ when it occurs in that environment.

One test is to change the environment in which this neutralization occurs, and one way to do this is to inflect the morpheme, but this is not always possible. Take *lig* for example, the verb stem meaning ‘write.’ Which is the correct underlying form: /ligədu/ ‘he is writing’ or /liɣədu/? Because weakening is a major phonological process occurring intervocalically, I am inclined to posit /lig/ as the correct underlying stem form and /ligədu/ as the correct inflected form. To posit /liɣədu/ would require a strengthening rule to account for the intervocalic plosive, which is not plausible within the phonological system of Torwali (see section 2.4.1).

Another idea is to listen to the words in slow speech. If a weakening process is being applied to plosives intervocalically, chances are in slow speech it will be less apparent, if at all. Finally, mother tongue intuition is also an important factor to consider.

Similarly examples of /t/ and /d/ being realized as [r] word-medially are documented in the language, and yet /r/ is a phoneme because it contrasts with /d/ and /t/ word-initially, word-medially and word-finally as will be illustrated shortly.

The tables included in this chapter illustrate the contrast that exists between these phonemes as well as their equal distribution, first word-initially then word-medially and then word-finally. When the data is insufficient to show contrast, I have inserted the phrase, “NA” Not Available.

Table 2.2. Voicing contrasted

/p/ vs. /b/	[payow]	‘to cook’	[bəyu]	‘to go’
	[gəŋəpur]	‘spider’	[qəsabi]	‘the butcher’s work’
	[d̪ap]	‘wall’	[baḅ]	‘father’
/t/ vs. /d/	[tat <sup>h</sup> ]	‘hot’	[dat <sup>h</sup> ]	‘father’s father’
	[čətəš]	‘fourteen’	[jədək <sup>h</sup> ]	‘sons’
	[čot]	‘paw’	[k <sup>h</sup> uḅ]	‘lame person’
/t̪/ vs. /d̪/	[t̪iyɛl]	‘words’	[d̪iyu]	‘late afternoon’
		NA		
	[bat̪]	‘large rock’	[paḅ]	‘bark of tree’
/t/ vs. /r/	[toti]	‘female parrot’	[rəsi]	‘rope’
	[sətaš]	‘seventeen’	[sera~ŋ]	‘sister’s husband’
	[č <sup>h</sup> ət]	‘ceiling’	[č <sup>h</sup> əŋ]	‘waterfall’
/k/ vs. /g/	[ka~ŋ]	‘small irrigation canal’	[ga~ŋ]	‘tree trunk’
	[suŋuku]	‘owl’	[duḅu~ŋ]	‘double’
	[zək]	‘foam, froth’	[zəḅ]	‘vein’

I have not included any word-final aspiration comparisons in Table 2.3 because I have not been able to document sufficient contrast in this position so far. The data that I have shows a lot of free variation among speakers. Sometimes aspiration occurs and sometimes not, as shown in example (2).

2)	/čuk/	[čuk]	[čuk <sup>h</sup> ]	‘sour’
	/bat̪/	[bat̪]	[bat̪ <sup>h</sup> ]	‘large rock’
	/bat/	[bat]	[bat <sup>h</sup> ]	‘talk’
	/jip/	[jip]	[jip <sup>h</sup> ]	‘tongue’

What is needed to complete this analysis is to elicit these words and others like them in a context where this final consonant will not occur in the final position. Either by inflecting the word forms or by eliciting them in a text frame with the target word occurring both utterance-medially and utterance-finally, we should be able to determine which words have underlying word-final aspiration. We should also be able to posit the environments in which aspiration tends to be dropped and the environments in which it tends to be retained. Although these question remains, aspiration is a contrastive features non-finally for plosives as illustrated in Table 2.3.

Table 2.3. Aspiration contrasted

/p/ vs. /p <sup>h</sup> /	[pir]	‘spirit’	[p <sup>h</sup> it]	‘mosquito’
	[gə~ŋa~pur]	‘spider’	[up <sup>h</sup> uŋ]	‘lightweight’
/t/ vs. /t <sup>h</sup> /	[tat <sup>h</sup> ]	‘hot’	[t <sup>h</sup> a~ŋ]	‘tree’
	[toti]	‘female parrot’	[mot <sup>h</sup> a]	‘mirror’
/ṭ/ vs. /ṭ <sup>h</sup> /	[ṭiyɛl]	‘words’	[ṭ <sup>h</sup> a~mi~l]	‘tired’
	[xəṭə]	‘mud’	[a <sup>h</sup> ṭə~ŋ]	‘eighth’
/k/ vs. /k <sup>h</sup> /	[kow]	‘to do’	[k <sup>h</sup> ow]	‘to eat’
	[çoka <sup>h</sup> ṭ]	‘door frame’	[bek <sup>h</sup> ṛ~ŋ]	‘arm’

In Table 2.5, we see dental plosives contrasting with their retroflexed counterparts. In two instances data is insufficient to show contrast, even though each of the phonemes occur word-medially as well as word-initially and finally.

Table 2.5. Dental and retroflex segments contrasted

/t/ vs. /ṭ/	[tilu]	‘to walk’	[ṭiyɛl]	‘word’
	[totə]	‘male parrot’	[xəṭə]	‘mud’
	[dæt]	‘father’s mother’	[lə~mæ~ṭ]	‘short tail’
/t <sup>h</sup> / vs. /ṭ <sup>h</sup> /	[t <sup>h</sup> əlu]	‘to throw’	[ṭ <sup>h</sup> a~mu~]	‘to become tired’
		NA		
/d/ vs. /ḍ/	[dæ <sup>h</sup> k <sup>h</sup> ]	‘few’	[ḍæ <sup>h</sup> k <sup>h</sup> ]	‘old woman’
		NA		
	[mi~zɛd]	‘on here’	[šagə <sup>h</sup> d]	‘student’

The comparisons in Table 2.7 do not involve contrast in voicing, aspiration or retroflexion. Yet they are phonetically similar and thus must be considered.

Table 2.7. Other phonetically similar segments contrasted

/d/ vs. /r/	[dəwəy]	‘medicine’	[rəsi]	‘rope’
	[pəda kow]	‘to create’	[šoro kow]	‘to start’
	[mi~zɛd]	‘on here’	[šir]	‘house’

Table 2.9 summarizes the distribution of the phonemic plosives and flap occurring in Torwali.

Table 2.9. Word-level distribution of plosives and flaps

	<b>Initial</b>		<b>Medial</b>		<b>Final</b>	
/p/	[puš]	‘cat’	[gə~ŋa~puɾ]	‘spider’	[ʃip]	‘tongue’
/p <sup>h</sup> /	[p <sup>h</sup> uk <sup>h</sup> ]	‘puff of air’	[up <sup>h</sup> uɾ]	‘lightweight’	[təbip <sup>h</sup> ]	‘doctor’
/b/	[bow]	‘deaf’	[obewæ]	‘single woman’	[baɓ]	‘father’
/t/	[net]	‘river’	[toti]	‘female parrot’	[čot]	‘paw’
/t <sup>h</sup> /	[t <sup>h</sup> ow]	‘to put’	[mot <sup>h</sup> a]	‘mirror’	[bat <sup>h</sup> ]	‘talk’
/d/	[dat <sup>h</sup> ]	‘father’s father’	[čede]	‘basket’	[k <sup>h</sup> uɖ]	‘lame person’
/t/	[t̪iyɛ̯]	‘words’	[xət̪ə]	‘mud’	[lə~ma~t̪]	‘long tail’
/t <sup>h</sup> /	[t̪ <sup>h</sup> a~mu~]	‘to become tired’	[at̪ <sup>h</sup> ə~m̩]	‘eighth’	[at̪ <sup>h</sup> ]	‘eight’
/d̪/	[d̪aluw]	‘to spill’	[nə~ɾu]	‘to play’	[paɖ]	‘bark of tree’
/k/	[kə~mo~w]	‘to shake’	[šuruku]	‘owl’	[no~k]	‘fingernail’
/k <sup>h</sup> /	[k <sup>h</sup> ow]	‘to eat’	[bek <sup>h</sup> i~ŋ̩]	‘arm(s)’	[čuk <sup>h</sup> ]	‘sour’
/g/	[ga~ŋ̩]	‘tree trunk’	[ligu]	‘to write’	[zəɖ]	‘vein’
/r/	[rəsi]	‘rope’	[beril]	‘small pebble’	[wəzər]	‘eyelash’

### 2.3.2 Affricates and fricatives

Affricates and fricatives are now compared because they are phonetically similar. Voicing contrast is examined first, followed by aspiration in Table 2.12 and then retroflexion in Table 2.14. One noticeable observation is that the contrast between affricates and other segments is often lacking word-medially and word-finally. This is because affricates are not permitted in word-final positions, and sometimes in word-medial positions too. This does not suggest that the phonemic status of these affricates is in question, but it could be yet one more manifestation of the weakening process that occurs frequently throughout the language, whereby affricates are realized as fricatives word-finally. Contrast in the word-initial position along with the responses of mother tongue speakers is enough to conclude that the affricates and fricatives cited in the tables of contrast are phonemes in the language. Recall that sufficient evidence for contrast in word-final aspiration has not been found; therefore, no examples can be included in Table 2.12.

Table 2.7. Voicing contrasted

/č/ vs. /j/	[čəlu] [peči~mɛ~x]	‘to move’ (intrans) ‘screwdriver’	[jəlu] [næ~ži] <sup>5</sup>	‘to burn’ (intrans) ‘to hunt’
NA				
/ç/ vs. /j/	[çuwu]	‘to sew’	[jəwe]	‘woman’
NA				
NA				
/s/ vs. /z/	[sat <sup>h</sup> ] [ɣosa] [ma~s]	‘seven’ ‘violent’ ‘meat’	[zəɾ] [jəza] [baɾ]	‘gold’ ‘punishment’ ‘eagle’
/ʃ/ vs. /z/	[ʃa~ŋ] [pəʃayu] [mu~ʃ]	‘field boundary made of sticks’ ‘to fight’ ‘mouse’	[za~ŋ] [haɣayu] [ʃuɣ]	‘trad. water mill’ ‘to lose (an item)’ ‘straight’
/x/ vs. /ɣ/	[xuda] [pərxɑ] [pox]	‘God’ ‘dew’ ‘devout’	[ɣusa] [çeɣɑ] [dəɣ]	‘violent’ ‘early’ ‘stain’

Table 2.12. Aspiration contrasted

/ç/ vs. /ç <sup>h</sup> /	[çuwu]	‘to sew’	[ç <sup>h</sup> izu]	‘to learn’
NA				
/ʃ/ vs. /ʃ <sup>h</sup> /	[ʃa~ŋ]	‘a type of fence’	[ç <sup>h</sup> a~ŋ]	‘type of holly plant’
NA				
/č/ vs. /č <sup>h</sup> /	[ča~m̩] [næ~čæri]	‘skin’ ‘helplessness’	[č <sup>h</sup> a~m̩] [pič <sup>h</sup> æri]	‘street’ ‘end of a row’

<sup>5</sup>/j/ is realized as [ž] intervocalically.

Table 2.14. Retroflex and non-retroflex segments contrasted

/č/ vs. /ç/	[čəlu]	‘to move’ (intrans.)	[çeɣa]	‘early’
	[tə~mə~ča]	‘pistol’	[pəla~nço]	‘onion’
NA				
/č <sup>h</sup> / vs. /ç <sup>h</sup> /	[č <sup>h</sup> a~ŋ]	‘street’	[ç <sup>h</sup> a~ŋ]	‘type of holly plant’
	NA			
NA				
/j/ vs. /j̣/	[j̣ip]	‘tongue’	[jik <sup>h</sup> ]	‘tall, long’
	NA			
NA				
/š/ vs. /ʃ/	[šayo]	‘wife’s brother’	[ʃayow]	‘to chase’
	[dəšə~ŋ]	‘tenth’	[kiʃə~ŋ]	‘black’
	[ʃeš]	‘sixteen’	[ʃeʃ]	‘thin rope’

The comparisons in Table 2.10 do not involve contrast in voicing, aspiration or retroflexion, but the segments are phonetically similar and for this reason are compared. The phoneme /j/ has two allophones: [j] and [j̣]. This latter allophone occurs only intervocalically in Torwali words as illustrated in (3). For this reason, contrast between these two segments is not included in the table.

3)	/šij̣o/	[šij̣o]	‘beautiful’
	/bəj̣ədu/	[bəj̣ədu]	‘he goes’
	/čij̣ol/	[čij̣ol]	‘shadow’

Table 2.12 contains a summary of affricate and fricative distribution within the language. Most revealing in this chart are the holes in the distribution of affricates word-medially and word-finally. These are not accidental gaps, but probably a result of weakening.

Table 2.10. Other phonetically similar segments contrasted

/s/ vs. /š/	[sus]	‘lazy’	[šur̥m̥]	‘greedy’
	[oso]	‘ugly’	[ošo]	‘spring (of water)’
	[ma~s]	‘meat’	[ma~š]	‘fish’
/s/ vs. /ts/	[su~we~]	‘rabbit’	[tsaru]	‘to see’
	[bəsar̥n]	‘spring (season)’	[gətsəy]	‘left-handed person’
	NA			
/š/ vs. /č/	[ša~ŋ]	‘roof’	[ča~m̥]	‘skin’
	[peši]	‘early afternoon’	[peči~me~x]	‘screw’
	NA			
/ts/ vs. /č/	[tsor̥ŋ]	‘blister’	[čam̥]	‘skin’
	[gətsəy]	‘left-handed person’	[kəče]	‘sound to drive goats’
	NA			
/x/ vs. /h/	[xəza]	‘dirty’	[hazuw]	‘to laugh’
	[pərxa]	‘dew’	[sulha]	‘solution’
	NA			
/z/ vs. /j/	[zæt <sup>h</sup> ]	‘nights’	[ji̯g]	‘long’
	NA			
	NA			
/x/ vs. /k/	[xoda]	‘God’	[kola]	‘coal’
	[uxu]	‘to climb’	[šur̥uku]	‘type of small bird’
	[pox]	‘strong, devout’	[no~k]	‘fingernail’
/ɣ/ vs. /g/	[ɣusa]	‘violent’	[gəsəy]	‘left-handed person’
	[ne~ɣæ~ŋ]	‘boss’	[egu~ŋ]	‘single’
	[dəy]	‘stain’	[zəg]	‘vein’

Table 2.12. Word-level distribution of affricates and fricatives

	<b>Initial</b>		<b>Medial</b>		<b>Final</b>	
/s/	[sus]	‘lazy’	[oso]	‘ugly’	[ma~s]	‘meat’
/ʃ/	[ʃeʃ]	‘thin rope’	[pəʃayu]	‘to fight’	[ʃeʃ]	‘thin rope’
/z/	[zəŋ]	‘vein’	[ç <sup>h</sup> iʒu]	‘to learn’	[ʃuz]	‘straight’
/z/	[zək <sup>h</sup> ]	‘foam’	[xəza]	‘dirty’	[guŋluʒ]	‘strawberry’
/š/	[šuruku]	‘type of sm. bird’	[dəšə~ŋ]	‘tenth’	[ma~š]	‘fish’
/t̪s/	[t̪sarxa]	‘spinning wheel’	[gətsəy]	‘left-handed person’	--	--
/ç/	[çuk <sup>h</sup> ]	‘bee sting’	[pəla~ŋçə]	‘onion’	--	--
/č/	[čo]	‘thief’	[peči~mɛ~x]	‘screw’	--	--
/ç <sup>h</sup> /	[ç <sup>h</sup> iʒu]	‘to learn’	--	--	--	--
/č <sup>h</sup> /	[č <sup>h</sup> o~ŋjo]	‘neck’	--	--	--	--
/j̣/	[j̣iŋ]	‘tall, long’	--	--	--	--
/j̣/	[j̣ip]	‘tongue’	[beʒa~n]	‘non-living thing’	--	--
/x/	[xəʔə]	‘mud’	[uxu]	‘to climb’	[pox]	‘strong, devout’
/ɣ/	[ɣosa]	‘violent’	[j̣ <sup>h</sup> oɣu]	‘to drink (soup)’	[dəɣ]	‘stain’
/h/	[hazu]	‘to laugh’	[roha]	‘spirit, soul’	--	--

### 2.3.3 Nasals, liquids and glides

The phone [ŋ] does not occur word-initially, thus one conclusion could be that this sound is not phonemic, that it is really an /ng/ consonant cluster. Historically, it may have been a sequence of two consonants. If so, that would explain why [ŋ] does not occur word initially. However, as will be discussed later in this paper, the syllable structure does not permit tauto-syllabic consonant clusters (i.e. clusters are only allowed across syllable boundaries). The only occurrences of tauto-syllabic consonant clusters in Torwali are found in loan words from Urdu, Pashto and others. Therefore even if evidence can be produced to document this sequence in the past, the restrictions placed on the syllable structure by the language today have caused this sequence to be realized as the single unit, /ŋ/. Table 2.14 shows the contrasts which exist between the various members of these remaining classes.



Table 2.14. Nasals, liquids and glides contrasted

/m/ vs. /n/	[ma~]	‘month’	[na~]	‘root’
	[kə~mo~w]	‘to shake’	[jə~no~w]	‘to make...understand’
	[ga~ŋ]	‘village’	[ga~ŋ]	‘tree trunk’
<hr/>				
/n/ vs. /ŋ/		NA		
	[mə~nu~]	‘to believe’	[l <sup>h</sup> ə~ŋu~]	‘to trespass’
	[ga~ŋ]	‘tree trunk’	[p <sup>h</sup> a~ŋ]	‘branch’
<hr/>				
/l/ vs. /r/	[low]	‘small, children’	[roh]	‘spirit’
	[t <sup>h</sup> əlu]	‘to throw, pour’	[d <sup>h</sup> əru]	‘to live’
	[šɛ]	‘grinding stone’	[šɪ]	‘house’
<hr/>				
/y/ vs. /w/	[yow]	‘to come’	[wow]	‘to get down’
	[buyu]	‘to hear’	[obewa]	‘single man’
	[dəwəy]	‘medicine’	[čəw]	‘four’

Table 2.16 summarizes the distribution of these three classes as they occur in the language.

Table 2.16. Word-level distribution of nasals, liquids and glides

	<b>Initial</b>		<b>Medial</b>		<b>Final</b>	
/m/	[mə~nu~]	‘to believe’	[t <sup>h</sup> a~mɪ~]	‘tired’	[šə~ŋ]	‘male goat’
/n/	[nɛ~k]	‘boss’	[mə~na~k <sup>h</sup> ]	‘frog’	[d <sup>h</sup> ɛrɪ~ŋ]	‘floor’
/ŋ/	--	--	[æ~ŋɪ~]	‘fingernail’	[p <sup>h</sup> a~ŋ]	‘branch’
/l/	[low]	‘small, children’	[t <sup>h</sup> əlu]	‘to throw, pour’	[šɛ]	‘grinding stone’
/r/	[rəsi]	‘rope’	[hæriš]	‘chin’	[ku]	‘stone wall’
/w/	[wow]	‘to get down’	[su~we~]	‘rabbit’	[čəw]	‘four’
/y/	[yow]	‘to come’	[buyu]	‘to hear’	[dəwəy]	‘medicine’

Table 2.18 lists thirty-four phonemic consonants. Discussion follows.

Table 2.18. Consonant phonemes

		<b>bilabial</b>	<b>dental</b>	<b>retroflex</b>	<b>palatal</b>	<b>velar</b>
<b>Plosive</b>	vl	p p <sup>h</sup>	t t <sup>h</sup>	ʈ ʈ <sup>h</sup>		k k <sup>h</sup>
	vd	b	d	ɖ		g
<b>Affricate</b>	vl		ʈs	ɖ ɖ <sup>h</sup>	ç ç <sup>h</sup>	
	vd			ʄ	ʃ	
<b>Fricative</b>	vl		s	ʂ	ʃ	x
	vd		z	ʐ		ɣ
<b>Nasal</b>		m	n			ŋ
<b>Liquid</b>			l			
			r			
<b>Glides</b>		w			y	h

The segments [ɳ] and [f] are not included in Table 2.18 because they occur only in words borrowed from Urdu and Pashto. For some speakers, [f] also occurs as an allophone of /p/ and /p<sup>h</sup>/ intervocalically as will be shown later in example (4). In the same way, [v] is an allophone of /b/. See example (7). [q], the voiceless uvular plosive, occurs quite frequently throughout the language, but only in loan words, namely from Pashto, Persian and Arabic.

I have not included [ɽ] in the inventory of phonemes either because I have not found evidence that it occurs phonemically in the language. It only occurs intervocalically except in a few borrowed words from English and Urdu. [ɖ] on the other hand, never occurs intervocalically except in borrowed words. Due to the complementary distribution of these two sounds, I have posited /ɖ/ as the phoneme with two allophones, [ɖ] and [ɽ].

However, some speakers of the language disagree with this analysis. Some speakers of Torwali believe that these sounds are phonemically distinct from each other. In many places where [ɽ] has been heard in normal speech, some have argued with me that the sound is really [ɖ]. When I've carried out surveys, I have found that while these speakers may agree on the phonemic status of these two sounds, they sometimes disagree whether a particular sound is really /ɖ/ or /ɽ/ and sometimes even /t/.

Contrary to my analysis, some would claim that in fact words like /k<sup>h</sup>aɾ/ ‘mating instinct’, /ç<sup>h</sup>əɾ/ ‘to yell’ and /kuɖədu/ ‘to beat’ do occur. Others would say /k<sup>h</sup>ad/, /ç<sup>h</sup>ət/or /ç<sup>h</sup>əd/ and /kəɾədu/ do. Differing viewpoints regarding the occurrences of /d/, /t/ and /ɾ/ word-medially and word-finally are common. Intervocalic weakening (see section 2.4.1) and word-final devoicing are processes in the language that help explain why this confusion exists. The fact that /ɾ/ has phonemic status in Urdu and Pashto is also an influencing factor for some. Many speakers of Torwali not only speak these languages but also read and write them, so they are familiar with this sound and its inclusion in each alphabet. In light of these circumstances, it is not easy to make a conclusion about the phonemic status of [ɾ]. The confusion itself might be evidence that contrast between these segments is not really phonemic. So for the time being, I have chosen not to include it in the inventory of phonemes.

One could say that the phonemes /f, ɳ, q/ and possibly /ɾ/ form a *secondary* group of phonemes (in contrast to the *primary* set in Table 2.18) meaning that they are not part of the Torwali phonological system, but rather have been introduced into the language from a foreign source. Radloff explains it well, “...for a given language there would be the primary sound system which is maintained with consistency by all speakers, such as [is being] described [in this paper]. But there could also be a secondary ‘subsystem’ which would contain alien sounds which are used only by certain substrata of a society for certain words” (1999:43). Refer also to Masica (1991:91) for further discussion on this topic.

[ʔ, φ, β, v] and [ž] also lack phonemic status. The phone [ʔ] occurs always and only word-initially before vowels<sup>6</sup>, and [φ, β] and [ž] occur in limited environments, which will be discussed shortly.

## 2.4 Phonological processes

Weakening of consonants both intervocalically and utterance finally is one of the most basic features of Torwali phonology. Palatalization is also important, and is addressed after the discussion of weakening.

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<sup>6</sup>For the sake of convenience and due to its predictability, [ʔ] is not included in the transcriptions in this paper.

### 2.4.1 Weakening

In addition to the utterance-final devoicing process (a form of weakening) that introduced the section on consonant phonemes, *intervocalic weakening* is also a very common and productive phonological process; common in that basically all Torwali speakers consistently apply this process to their speech; productive in that the process is applied to a wide range of phonemes.

The first example, (4), illustrates /p<sup>h</sup>/ changing to [f] or [ɸ]. Actually, these two allophones serve to mark the range in which this sound is found. Most often, the actual sound is in the middle of these two allophones. In each of the examples, (4) through (6), the consonant weakens increasingly as you move from left to right. An alternative way to describe this process is to say that plosives and affricates becomes *continuant* vowel-medially. Which exact form is used varies from speaker to speaker.

4)        /up<sup>h</sup>ur/                    [up<sup>h</sup>ur̥]                    [ufur̥]                    [uɸur̥]    ‘lightweight’

The phoneme /g/ is also subject to this kind of conditioning as shown in (5). Intervocalically, this phoneme is reduced to its fricative counterpart [ɣ] and often even further to the velar glide [ɰ] as shown in (5). Bear in mind that although [ɣ] is an allophone of /g/, it is also an allophone of /ɣ/ due to its distribution and contrast with [g] in the language. Similarly, /ɣ/ undergoes the same kind of weakening intervocalically as /g/. A couple of examples are also included in (5).

5)        /sigəl/                    [sigə̌]                    [siɣə̌]                    [siɰə̌]    ‘sand’  
           /tigel/                    [tiɣě]                    [tiɣě]                    [tiɰě]    ‘word’  
           /bəɣəl/                    [bəɣəl]                    [bəɣəl]                    [bəɰəl]    ‘ditch’  
           /čəɣəra/                    [čəɣəra]                    [čəɣəra]                    [čəɰəra]    ‘crushed’

Still another illustration of this process is seen with /j/ occurring between vowels. Example (6) shows that when this weakening is applied, it, like /g/, is reduced to its fricative and approximant counterparts<sup>7</sup>.

6)        /bəju/                    [bəju]                    [bəʒu]                    [bəyu]    ‘to go’  
           /næjæɫ/                    [næ~jæ̌]                    [næ~ʒæ̌]                    [næ~yæ̌]    ‘hunter’  
           /uɟəl/                    [uɟə̌]                    [uʒə̌]                    [uyə̌]    ‘white’

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<sup>7</sup>Although he doesn't say anything about this additional weakening, [ʒ] becoming [y], Grierson does document the initial reduction process of /j/ becoming [ʒ] (1929:10-13).

Based on these examples, it is not unreasonable to state a generalization and predict that /č<sup>h</sup>, ɕ<sup>h</sup>/ and /j/ become [š, ʃ] and [z] respectively between vowels. Not a lot of evidence can be found either for or against this hypothesis, but consider the sentence /æ kimi č<sup>h</sup>i/ ‘It is a worm.’ It can be stated either [æ kimi č<sup>h</sup>i] or [æ kimi ši] where /č<sup>h</sup>i/ becomes [ši] since the word preceding it ends with a vowel. Add to this the fact that the dental and retroflexed plosives are often pronounced as dental and retroflex flaps respectively when occurring intervocalically, and we can conclude that intervocalic weakening of Torwali consonants is one of the most basic features of Torwali phonology. In fact, Masica notes this to be very typical throughout the Indo-Aryan language family (1991:180-2).

Finally, some words illustrate how the underlying forms are no longer considered phonemic by native speakers as a result of applying this weakening process over time. In these words, /b/ has become [w] intervocalically. Today the word for ‘apple’ in Torwali is most often pronounced [bowəy] or [boβəy]. If one posits /bowəy/ as the underlying form, it is difficult to offer an acceptable explanation for the fricativizing of the /w/. A strengthening process could be suggested, but it is not a very productive process in the language. On the contrary, the weakening of consonants intervocalically is.

The same word in Kalami is /bobəy/ or /bowəy/, depending on which dialect is referenced. Historically, one can posit the underlying form as /bobəy/ (although [bobəy] has not been documented) and account for [boβəy] and [bowəy] by stating that they are forms which have undergone the intervocalic weakening process. With the weakening of /b/ over generations, it has evolved to a point now where most speakers today would consider the form to be /bowəy/ rather than /bobəy/. We can make a similar claim for the words shown in example (7). The occurrence of the fricative and approximant are remnants of a process that has almost become complete.

7)	/čubu/	[čuβu]	[čuvu]	[čuwu]	‘to sew’
	/hubu/	[huβu]	[huvu]	[huwu]	‘to sleep’

### 2.4.2 Palatalization

*Palatalization* is also a very common occurrence, but limited to one specific environment in Torwali speech. Nearly every consonant which occurs immediately before a front vowel can optionally be palatalized as shown in example (8).

8)	/sæt/	[sæt]	[syæt]	‘companion’
	/pænu/	[pæ~nu~]	[pyæ~nu~]	‘to know’
	/jɛs/	[jɛs]	[jyɛs]	‘caterpillar’
	/kæʃ/	[kæʃ]	[kyæʃ]	‘female lion or bear’
	/pečimex/	[peči~me~x]	[peči~mye~x]	‘screw’

## 2.5 The vowel system

In the small amount of literature previously written about this language, only a short paragraph is found which addresses the topic of vowels, and that is only a passing reference to an aphaeresis and a metathesis process which Grierson claims to have occurred in the language over time according to the data collected from Torwali speakers and comparing them to data from other nearby languages (1929:8). He includes no in-depth discussion of these two processes, neither does he discuss the Torwali vowel system itself.

The vowel phones, as shown in Table 2.20, have been extracted from the data corpus. The inventory includes twelve oral phones, eight of which also have nasalized counterparts. It is possible that [ɨ~] and [o~] also exist, but I have not found them during my research. The two vowels, [ɛ̠] and [ə̠] include a diacritic which is phonetic transcription meaning that they have the feature of retracted tongue root (RTR). They will be singled out for discussion shortly.

Table 2.20. Vowel phones

	Front	Central	Back
Close	i i~	ɨ	u u~
		ɪ ɪ~	
Close-mid	e e~ ɛ̠		o
		ə ə~ ɤ̠	

Open-mid	ε ε̃	
Open	æ æ̃	a ã

### 2.5.1 Oral vowels

Of particular interest are [ɨ̃, ɛ̃, ə̃]. In spite of its limited occurrences and distribution, some Torwali speakers perceive the close central vowel [ɨ̃], also referred to as the ‘barred i’, as distinct from the remaining vowels. Example (9) illustrates that this sound only occurs before or after a velar consonant.

9)	a.	/gɨ̃yʉ/	[gɨ̃yʉ]	‘to return’	d.	/ɨ̃gi/	[ɨ̃ɣi]	‘heavy (f)’
	b.	/bəkɨ̃/	[bəkɨ̃]	‘hoof’	e.	/kɨ̃gi/	[kɨ̃ɣi]	‘hen’
	c.	/hɨ̃ku/	[hɨ̃ku]	‘brave man’	f.	/hɨ̃kɨ̃/	[hɨ̃kɨ̃]	‘brave woman’

One observation relating to this particular vowel segment is that masculine counterparts are marked with the vowel /u/. For example the masculine form of ‘heavy’ (cf. (9d)) is /uɣu/ which is often realized as [uɣu]. In the same way, a ‘male chicken’ or ‘cock’ is /kuɣu/ [kuɣu]. In both examples, the vowels of both syllables are different. The masculine forms use [u], and the feminine forms use [i] and [ɨ̃]. However, looking at examples (9c) and (9f), we see that only the final vowel changes. No explanation can be offered as to why this difference exists, but we can generalize and say within the set of words containing this barred “i”, [ɨ̃] and [u] usually distinguish feminine and masculine respectively.

Another observation is the environment in which this barred “i” occurs. It only occurs in the proximity of a velar consonant which is suspect when considering the distribution of this vowel, and yet even in the examples previously cited, we see an example of word-final contrast between [ɨ̃] and [i] in (9b) and (9e). Numerous examples can also be cited where [i] occurs in the proximity of a velar consonant without undergoing any sort of phonological change: [kiʒi] ‘dog’, [ʒiq] ‘tall’, [himan] ‘winter’ and /mirgi/ ‘to possess someone’ to name a few.

The other two unique sounds involve a retraction of the tongue root on two of the oral vowels [e, ə], and are marked with a retracting sign under the vowel. They too do not occur often in the language, yet are recognized by some mother tongue speakers as distinct from other vowel sounds. Note the occurrences of these

sounds in the examples cited in (10). Items a. through e. include the sound [ɤ] while items f. through g. have the sound [e̞].

10)	a.	/ɤy/	[ɤy]	‘ewe’
	b.	/ɤn/	[ɤn]	‘blind’
	c.	/bɤy/	[bɤy]	‘deaf woman’
	d.	/mɤk/	[mɤk]	‘death’
	e.	/buk <sup>h</sup> ɤ/	[buk <sup>h</sup> ɤ]	‘difficult’
	f.	/kɤy/	[kɤy]	‘why’
	g.	/hɤ/	[hɤ]	‘heart’

Like the “barred i”, the distribution and occurrences of these two sounds are limited. And just as contrast between [i] and [i̥] was cited, contrast between these RTR vowels and their non-RTR vowels can also be shown, and in fact is illustrated in Table 2.22.

A linguistic comparison of the words in (10) with their cognates in other related languages reveals that retroflexion was probably historically present in these words at one time. Consider the Palula words, [yɪ:ɾi] ‘sheep’ and [hiɾo] ‘heart’, and the Shina word [e:ɾi] ‘ewe’. Baart has also furnished a list of cognates from Kalami (personal correspondence). It is shown in example (11) with most of the Torwali forms from the previous examples repeated on the left side and Kalami phonetic equivalents on the right.

11)	a.	/ɤy/	[ɤy]	‘ewe’	[i:r]	‘sheep’
	c.	/bɤy/	[bɤy]	‘deaf woman’	[be:r]	‘deaf (f)’
	d.	/mɤk/	[mɤk]	‘death’	[ma:ra:g]	‘death’
	e.	/buk <sup>h</sup> ɤ/	[buk <sup>h</sup> ɤ]	‘difficult’	[bik <sup>h</sup> a:r]	‘difficult’
	g.	/hɤ/	[hɤ]	‘heart’	[hi:r]	‘heart’

One possible explanation is that over time the retroflexion became less prominent and the retraction of the tongue root, which is physiologically a part of retroflexion, became the significant feature of these two vowels. I am not certain I can offer a reasonable explanation as to why this would happen, especially in a language which has a large number of retroflex sounds. Nevertheless, this vowel quality seems to differ from the vowel quality occurring immediately before a retroflex consonant. For example, the vowel qualities of [ɤ] in [kɤy] ‘why’ and [e] in [peɾi] ‘many, many years’ are not the same, thus the reason for the distinctive phonetic representation.



Having said all of this, I hesitate to posit these three sounds as phonemes for several reasons. First of all, the vowel systems in other languages of the region are nicely balanced and symmetrical so one would have to ask why Torwali would apply RTR to only two oral vowels? Secondly, in spite of the contrast between [i] and [ɨ̄] and the RTR and non-RTR vowels, the distribution of [ɨ̄] and these two RTR vowels is very restricted, mostly to environments with velar consonants. In fact, because of the shared distributional restrictions of these vowels, it could be posited that the “barred i” is also a result of tongue root retraction. If this statement is true, then one could go a step further to say that only front vowels can undergo this retraction process because the back vowels cannot be retracted further. And thirdly, although some speakers of Torwali believe these vowels are phonemic, others do not share their belief. For them, the words cited in examples (9) and (10) do not have the vowels [ɨ̄], [ɛ̄] and [ə̄]. Instead, they pronounce these words with [i], [e] and [ə] respectively.

There may be a combination of factors that have so far eluded me that are causing these vowels to be retracted or it may be that these sounds are indeed vowel phonemes. At this point, we cannot say for certain. Therefore, I have chosen to label them as part of the secondary group of phonemes, along with /f, ɳ, q/ and /ɾ/ until more study can be done and this issue resolved.

Table 2.22 shows the contrast that exists between the oral vowel phonemes in Torwali. Two sounds not included are [ɛ, ɪ]. They are allophones of /e/ and /i/ respectively, and restricted in their distribution to closed syllables. /e/ and in most cases /i/ are realized as their more open counterparts [ɛ] and [ɪ] in closed syllables.

One problem arises with this generalization, however. While it is true that [ɪ] is restricted to closed syllables, I have also found [i] occurring in two words with closed syllables where we would expect [ɪ], [mit] ‘sweet’ and [tɪt] ‘spicy’. Aside from these two words, I have not documented any other words with [i] occurring within a closed syllable so generally speaking, this hypothesis holds true. I should also add that this uncertainty is associated only with /i/, not /e/. The rule stated previously is an accurate description of what happens with /e/ in normal speech without exception. Some examples are listed in (12).

12)	/netk <sup>h</sup> eɪ/	[nɛ~tk <sup>h</sup> ɛ]	‘small nose’
	/ek/	[ɛk]	‘one’
	/nek/	[n~ɛk]	‘boss’
	/šɛn/	[šɛ~ŋ]	‘small bed’

Another piece of information that confirms this conclusion is when the word /ek/ is used in a phrase or in a sentence, it is often pronounced without the final /k/. When this happens, since it no longer occurs in a closed syllable, the pronunciation changes from [ɛ] to [e], like in [æ e po t<sup>h</sup>u.] ‘It is a (or one) boy.’ [æ ɛ po t<sup>h</sup>u] is not an acceptable pronunciation. Table 2.22 presents the contrast of oral vowels found in Torwali.

Table 2.22. Contrast of oral vowels

/e/ vs. /æ/	[ækiɾ]	‘ring’	[eguɾŋ]	‘single’
	[čæri how]	‘to become dumb’	[čeri how]	‘to be increased’
	[dæ]	‘beard’	[te]	‘to’
/æ/ vs. /a/	[æ]	‘this’	[a]	‘I’
	[dæt]	‘father’s mother’	[dat]	‘father’s father’
	[obeɤæ]	‘single man’	[obeɤa]	‘single woman’
/a/ vs. /ə/	[awəw]	‘to arrive’	[əwə~n]	‘left’
	[yap]	‘small irrigation canal’	[yəp]	‘small irrigation canals’
NA				
/o/ vs. /u/	[uʂu]	‘to pick up’	[oʂo]	‘ugly’
	[čutɪ]	‘small bundle’	[čot]	‘paw’
	[bu]	‘look (IMP)’	[bo]	‘deaf’
/e/ vs. /ẹ/	NA			
	[bẹjeɤ]	‘brother’s wife’	[kẹɤ]	‘why’
	[ke]	‘to’	[hẹ]	‘heart’
/ə/ vs. /ə̣/	[əʂ]	‘not burnable (green)’	[ə̣~n]	‘blind’
	[ʂəɤ]	‘ankle’	[bə̣ɤ]	‘deaf woman’
	[ma~nə~]	‘meaning’	[buk <sup>h</sup> ə̣]	‘difficult’
/i/ vs. /ị/	[ifiɾ]	‘lightweight’	[ịgi]	‘heavy (f)’
	[ʂigə̣]	‘sand’	[kịgi]	‘hen’
	[æ~ŋi~]	‘finger’	[hịki]	‘brave woman’

Based on the evidence presented thus far then, it is reasonable to conclude that Torwali operates on a 7-vowel system. These vowels are represented in Table 2.24.

Table 2.24. Oral vowel phonemes

	Front	Central	Back
<b>Close</b>	i		u
<b>Mid</b>	e	ə	o
<b>Open</b>	æ		a

## 2.5.2 Nasalized vowels

Nasalization is phonemic in the language, as shown by the examples of contrast in Table 2.26. Unfortunately, no satisfactory examples of contrast between /i/ and /o/ and their nasal counterparts can be found in the data corpus. I have documented examples of these nasalized vowels occurring, like /ji~/ ‘louse’, /ʃi-ʃa~/ ‘loud argument’ and /æʃiko~e/ ‘wink’, but I cannot find good examples of contrast.

Table 2.26. Contrast of oral and nasalized vowels

/a/ vs. /a~/	[a]	‘I’	[a~]	‘peach’
	[č <sup>h</sup> ay]	‘large cliff-like rock’	[pa~y]	‘five’
/æ/ vs. /æ~/	[æ]	‘this’	[æ~]	‘mouth’
	[k <sup>h</sup> æŋ]	‘streams’	[kæ~t]	‘sometimes’
/e/ vs. /e~/	[peši]	‘early afternoon’	[pe~š]	‘fifteen’
	[nu~we]	‘near’	[su~we~]	‘rabbit’
/u/ vs. /u~/	[suwa~ŋ]	‘right’	[su~we~]	‘rabbit’

In words like [bo~ŋo~] ‘eyebrow’, [æ~ŋgəŋ] ‘blacksmith’ and [nyæ~] ‘roots’, the contrast of oral and nasal vowels is neutralized in the environment of the nasal consonant. Their underlying forms are /boŋo/, /æŋgəŋ/ and /næ/ respectively.

Based on the contrastive examples shown in Table 2.26 and the fact that the same phonological process of /i~/ and /e~/ becoming [i~] and [e~] respectively in the same way as their oral counterparts do, I posit the nasal vowel phonemes listed in Table 2.28.

Table 2.28. Nasalized vowel phonemes

	<b>Front</b>	<b>Back</b>
<b>Close</b>	i~	u~
<b>Close-mid</b>	e~	o~
<b>Open</b>	æ~	a~

## 2.6 Syllable structure

### 2.6.1 Inventory of syllable types

Example (13) shows the syllable structures found in the language:

13)	V	/ošo/	[ošo]	‘ugly’
	VC	/ek/	[ek]	‘one’
	CV	/pušu/	[pušu]	‘flower’
	CVC	/pox/	[pox]	‘strong, devout’

Simply stated the phonemic syllable structure is (C)V(C) which means that a vowel is required, but consonants are not. Consonants can occur in the initial position of the syllable or in the final position. Consonant clusters exist across syllable boundaries, but not within any given syllable.

### 2.6.2 Phoneme distribution within the syllable

As previously mentioned, the phoneme /ŋ/ does not occur word-initially, but it can occur syllable-initially within words as in, /æŋi/ ‘finger’ and /boŋo/ ‘eyebrow’. Aside from this one exception, the language puts no additional restrictions on the distribution of phonemes in the syllable-initial position. A distinction needs to be made at this point, however, between word-internal syllable onsets that follow a vowel and word-internal onsets that fill the second slot of consonant clusters across syllable boundaries. The language does place some restrictions on this latter position. More will be said in a moment, but for now, it is enough to say that glide consonants are not permitted to occur in this environment, and nasals are allowed but only in morphologically complex forms.

Although syllable-initial clusters do not occur in underlying forms in Torwali, the *Cw* cluster can be found on the surface level of many words. Some common words that illustrate this are [k<sup>h</sup>wami] ‘in the feet’ and [zwəŋ] ‘young’. [k<sup>h</sup>wami] consists of three morphemes, [k<sup>h</sup>u] ‘foot’, [-a] OBL/PL marker and [-mi] ‘in’. When combined, a phonological blurring of morpheme boundaries takes place so that /k<sup>h</sup>uami/ is realized as [k<sup>h</sup>wami]. [zwəŋ] differs a bit in that it is a single morpheme. If we look at related languages, we find [zəwan] in Kalami and [jəwan] in Urdu. This cross-linguistic comparison confirms that positing /zəwan/ as

the underlying form in Torwali is correct. In modern day normal speech, the initial vowel is dropped and the word becomes one syllable.

The nucleus of the Torwali syllable contains a single vowel. It can be oral or nasalized but only one vowel occurs in this position.

Regarding the syllable-final position, devoiced consonants, as discussed in section 2.4, occur only in this position, while affricates on the other hand are the only phonemes that never occur in this environment. At first glance the word [ba.j.ri] ‘a mixture of stone and sand used to make cement’ would seem to contradict this statement with [j] positioned in the coda of the first syllable, but it does not. This is because a common variant pronunciation of this word is [ba.jə.ri] where the segment in question occurs in the onset of the syllable. I would posit /ba.jəri/ as the underlying form, and say that [ə] is omitted in some people’s normal or fast speech. All other consonant phonemes are permitted in the coda.

As already pointed out, it is helpful when analyzing the syllable structure of a language to separate the onsets and codas which occur at word boundaries from those that occur word-medially. The distribution of phonemes may differ at these two places, particularly when we are looking at consonant clusters across syllable boundaries. Making this distinction enables us to not only note what phonemes are permitted in each of these slots, but also what consonant classes tend to co-occur in consonant clusters.

The purpose of Table 2.30 is to show the general makeup of these clusters. Nasals and liquids are the most frequent coda fillers. At the bottom of that same column, we see that plosives occur least frequently of all the classes in the syllable coda of a consonant cluster. The second column shows what classes tend to occur in the syllable’s onset when the preceding syllable ends with a consonant. So for example, the class of affricates is one class which can co-occur with nasal phonemes in consonant clusters across syllable boundaries. The third column includes examples of Torwali words to further illustrate the point. The dot between the first two columns serves as a reminder that a syllable boundary exists between the two consonants.

The point of this table is not to show an exhaustive list of all CC combinations, but, as previously stated, to illustrate that the onset position of non-word-initial syllables have more restrictions on phoneme distribution than onsets word-initially.

Table 2.30. Common consonant clusters across syllable boundaries

Coda	•	Onset	
Nasals	•	Affricates	<i>č<sup>h</sup>onjo</i> ‘neck’
		Plosives	<i>mombəti</i> ‘candle’
		Fricatives	<i>ləmsəy</i> ‘hand-made carpet’
		Liquids	<i>gʊnluz</i> ‘strawberry’
Liquids	•	Plosives	<i>čarpa</i> ‘four-legged animal’
		Fricatives	<i>barzən</i> ‘slingshot’
Dental Fricatives	•	Plosives	<i>šazda</i> ‘son of a king’
Glides	•	Plosives	<i>payda</i> ‘creation’
Plosives	•	Plosives	<i>netk<sup>h</sup>ol</i> ‘nose’

Based on the findings presented in Table 2.30, a couple of other restrictions are noted in the onset position of these consonant clusters. First of all, according to the data I have studied, glides are generally not permitted here. Although I have seen a few examples to the contrary, the vast majority are found in words borrowed from Urdu, Pashto and Persian. Secondly, the only occurrences of nasal consonants in this slot are at morpheme boundaries. For example *lignin* ‘will write’ and *bušnín* ‘will listen’ consist of two morphemes each *lig–nín* and *buš–nín* where *–nín* functions as the marker for future tense.

## 2.7 Prosodic features

This section serves only as a starting point. As the analysis progressed, I realized more and more how prominent a role tone plays in the language. The observations and conclusions stated in this section serve as an introduction to the features of tone in Torwali. In addition to this introduction, there are some grammatical issues that involve tone, such as marking plurality, which will be discussed in subsequent chapters of this paper. Even so, a lot more tonal analysis is needed.

### 2.7.1 Torwali tone

Pitch plays a significant role in distinguishing lexical meaning among many of the languages of Pakistan. Torwali like its neighbor to the north, Kalami, uses pitch to mark all lexical items in the language. In some cases, pitch is the only acoustic element that distinguishes one word from another.

From my database of Torwali words, I carefully chose about 20% or about 160 words and recorded my language assistants saying each of them in the utterance, “Javed says \_\_\_\_\_”, for example *ǰaved ʒat bənədu*. ‘Javed says morning.’ *ǰaved ʒonjo bənədu*. ‘Javed says neck.’ and so on. These frames were then analyzed with the help of Speech Analyzer and Praat, two software programs designed for analyzing waveforms, to extract pitch graphs. Because Torwali is an SOV language, the target word was recorded utterance-medially in a fixed frame. This provided an ideal environment where the utterances before and after the target words were always the same so I was then able to draw conclusions regarding the tone of each word.

In my research, I have documented four contrastive tone patterns, high (H), low (L), rising (LH) and falling (HL). They are shown in example (14). Each Torwali word carries one of these four configurations.

14)	/ʒat/	HL	[ʒat <sup>h</sup> ]	‘morning’
	/ʒat/	H	[ʒat <sup>h</sup> ]	‘blood (sg)’
	/ʒat/	L	[ʒat <sup>h</sup> ]	‘blood (pl)’
	/ʒat/	LH	[ʒat <sup>h</sup> ]	‘night’

The following presentation of how these tone patterns are applied to the words in (14) may help illustrate how they are applied to Torwali words in general. Beginning with the description of falling tone (HL), the pitch begins low on the frame *ǰaved ʒat bənədu*, rises on the second syllable of *ǰaved* so that the target word begins high, and then begins to fall on the first syllable of *bənədu*. It continues to fall until the end of the utterance. The characteristics of this HL tone are fascinating. It does not follow a right-to-left spreading rule like one finds in the tone patterns (see below). As I have examined the data, I have found that the high pitch occurs on the target word and the low pitch is not realized until the first syllable of the following word. Baart has described a similar phenomenon in Kalami. He documents the same four tone patterns in Kalami that I have posited in Torwali, but he has also notes a fifth pattern. In contrast to a falling pitch which he marks HL, where the contour tone is applied solely to the target word and the pitch falls during utterance of this word, Kalami also has a *delayed* falling pitch, which Baart labels H(L), which means that the tone falls from the final syllable of the target word to the first syllable of the word that follows. (1997:41). This is exactly the same feature that is associated with Torwali’s HL tone pattern.



Looking at *zat* ‘blood (sg)’ which has high tone (H), again the tone begins low on *ǰaved* and rises during the second syllable where it peaks at the beginning of *zat*. It then remains high until the final syllable of *bənədu*, at which point it falls.

Low pitch (L) begins low and stays low until the second syllable of the verb *bənədu*, at which time the pitch pattern rises quickly, peaks and falls through the final syllable.

Lastly, the rising pitch (LH) is low for the word *ǰaved* and rises during the target word *zat* ‘night’. The high pitch peaks however, not on *zat*, but on the first syllable of *bənədu* where it remains high until the final syllable, then falls. If the target word were more than one syllable, the tone would usually not begin to rise until the final syllable of that target word. In this case, we do see an example of right-to-left spreading of tone. H is applied to the final syllable, and L spreads to the left.

A couple of generalizations can be made from these observations. One is that the effect of tone is observed more in the word following the target word than in the one preceding it, although it also has an effect there as well. However, in doing tonal analysis of Torwali words, much more insight into the tonal features of words can be gained by observing not only what is happening during the utterance of the target word, but also what is happening to the word following it. The second is that regardless of lexical tone patterns of words, in utterance-final position, the pitch always falls, as one would expect.

One interesting discovery made was the relationship between tone and vowel length. Words having an L or LH pitch pattern have shorter vowels than words having H or HL patterns. Furthermore when words are spoken in isolation, the phonetic realization of the H, L and LH pitch patterns are all L (i.e., the tone distinctions are neutralized). Only HL remains unchanged. The distinction between the longer and shorter vowels is still evident however. This means that words having L and LH, which tend to have shorter vowels no longer have any distinguishing characteristics because their tonal distinctions no longer exist. However, words having H and HL tone, because their vowels are typically longer and their tone remains contrastive, are distinguishable from each other even in isolation.

One experiment we carried out was to record the singular and plural forms of ‘blood’ separately and in isolation. (Note from example (14) that their phonemic tone patterns are H and L respectively.) As previously

stated, in isolation the phonetic tonal distinction between these two words disappears. They both sound equally low. Using Praat software, we removed a small part of the vowel portion in ‘blood (sg.)’ from the sound wave, which resulted in a slightly shorter vowel duration. Now, when both sound files were played back for the mother tongue speakers to listen to—the plural form of blood and the singular form which had been shortened—they could not be distinguished because the length of both vowels was now the same. They were short. Both speakers understood the words to be the plural form of blood.

The findings from this particular session are not sufficient to suggest that vowel length is phonemic in Torwali, but raise more questions regarding tone and vowel length, particularly the relationship between them.

### **2.7.2 Breathiness**

Breathiness is a feature associated with low tone, although there are some exceptions and some speakers of the language give this phenomenon more prominence in their speech than others. It is restricted to the nucleus of a syllable having an L or LH pitch pattern and a voiced consonant (i.e., plosives, affricates, nasals and the liquid) in the onset of the syllable. If we compare some of the Torwali words in example (15) (using [h] in the phonetic representation only as a representation of breathiness in the syllable) with their cognates in related non-tonal languages, we find voiced-aspirated consonants occurring in those languages. /ghas/ ‘grass’ and /bhai/ ‘brother’ are Urdu cognates. /bhūm/ ‘field’ and /dhərəṅ/ ‘floor’ come from Palula, a closely related language located to the west. I believe that while historically aspiration might have been a significant feature of these words in Torwali, now it is the low tone that has become the significant feature.

15)	a.	/ga/	L	[g <sup>h</sup> a]	‘grass’
	b.	/nigalu/	L	[n <sup>h</sup> i~g <sup>h</sup> alu]	‘to dig up’
	c.	/madum/	L	[m <sup>h</sup> a~du~m̥]	‘vulture’
	d.	/mindəl/	L	[m <sup>h</sup> i~nd <sup>h</sup> ə]	‘sheep (m)’
	e.	/ba/	LH	[b <sup>h</sup> a]	‘brother’
	f.	/bum/	LH	[b <sup>h</sup> u~m̥]	‘field’
	g.	/d̥er̥in/	LH	[d <sup>h</sup> er̥i~ŋ̥]	‘floor’
	h.	/bat <sup>h</sup> /	LH	[b <sup>h</sup> at <sup>h</sup> ]	‘cooked rice’

What is interesting about the words in (15b), (15c) and (15d) is that even though a low tone is applied to the whole word, not every vowel is breathy. In fact, the first syllable of /mindəl/ does not even have a breathy vowel.

It is possible that voiced aspirated consonants were once very prominent in Torwali. However, in today’s speech, breathiness has been relegated to an optional occurrence related to low tone. This same phenomenon occurs also in Kalam Kohistani (Baart 1997).

### 3. TYPOLOGY OF TORWALI

As the number of languages being researched increases, linguists grow in their understanding of language in general. Language patterns or *typologies* become more evident. Understanding the typology of one language or a group of language helps linguists know what (not) to expect in other related languages. Linguists like Greenberg, Shopen and Comrie claim that languages can be categorized according to their morphological and syntactic characteristics. This chapter focuses on the general tendencies of languages and how they are manifested in Torwali. (Details pertaining to morphology and phrase structure will be left for later in this paper.) The purpose of this section is to examine some basic typological features of the language which are relevant to discussions in subsequent chapters. Our findings enable us to group Torwali with other languages with similar structures. This not only leads to a better understanding of some of the generalizations specific to Torwali, but also contributes to the ongoing process of generalizing universal characteristics of languages.

As much as possible illustrative sentences and phrases cited in this paper have been taken from natural texts. In those instances, references to the original texts are also included in brackets at the end of the English translation of the sentence. All other times, they have been specifically elicited from mother-tongue speakers of the language and no reference is included.

#### 3.1 Morphological typology

##### Synthesis index

The morphology of languages can be categorized in a variety of ways. One way, according to an index of *synthesis*, refers to how many morphemes tend to occur per word. To one extreme are the *isolating* languages where words do not contain more than one morpheme. To the other extreme are the *polysynthetic* languages where words contain multiple morphemes. Between these two extremes is a continuum where languages display various degrees of synthesis. See Comrie (1989:45f) for more discussion.

Torwali finds itself in the middle of this continuum. Many words contain only one morpheme, and yet many are formed from two or more morphemes. Seldom if ever will one find more than two or three morphemes combined to form a word. Compared to some languages, which can attach a large number of morphemes in a single word, Torwali is more restrictive in the number of morphemes that can be combined. Example (16) shows an oblique form of an inflected noun, an inflected verb and a noun derived from an adjective, respectively; each word consists of two morphemes, as indicated.

16)	k <sup>h</sup> əmana	bənudud	linača
	k <sup>h</sup> əman -a	bən -udud	lin -ača
	husband OBL/PL	go IMPFV	bald Nominalizer
	'husband.OBL/PL'	'was going'	'baldness'

### Fusion index

Another index, known as *fusion*, “has to do with the degree to which units of meaning are ‘fused’ into single morphological shapes” (Payne 1997:28). Again, a continuum exists between two extreme positions. Among polysynthetic languages, morphemes found in strictly *fusional* languages contain several meanings within them. In contrast, each morpheme found in highly *agglutinative* languages contains only one meaning. Torwali is in between these two positions, but is primarily a fusional language. One example is illustrated in the inflected verb *bənədu* ‘he goes’ where *-u* indicates that the gender of the subject is masculine and the number is singular. Gender and number cannot be separated in this morpheme. The oblique/plural suffix, which attaches to nouns, is another example. The ‘oblique-ness’ and the ‘plural-ness’ of this suffix (refer again to (16)) cannot be distinguished from each other.

Altering the stem form is characteristic of fusional languages according to Payne (1997:29f), and he lists several morphological processes used by speakers of the world’s languages to alter stem forms. Torwali also uses several of these strategies. They include *stem modification*, *suprasegmental modification* and *reduplication*.

In regard to stem modification, consider example (17) where the stem vowel of the feminine verb form (FSG) has been fronted. For nouns, vowel fronting and suprasegmental (specifically tonal) modification are

often combined to mark plurality. Example (18) illustrates how these combine to cause a change in number. The words in (19) exhibit no vowel shift, but a change in tone is noted. Finally, as shown in (20), gender distinctions can sometimes be marked by a fronting of the stem vowel. Once again, we note a change in pitch also marking the change. So in just a few examples, we have seen that stem modification along with suprasegmental modification are strategies applied to many different areas of Torwali grammar. We have also seen how they work together in the phonology as well.

17)	jəndəru	jənderi	jəndəri	
	jəndər -u	jəndər -i	jəndər -ui	
	'he lived.MSG'	'she lived.FSG'	'they lived.PL' <sup>8</sup>	
18)	kan	kən	yap	yəp
	LH	HL	H	L
	'ear'	'ears'	'irrigation canal'	'irrigation canals'
19)	korsi	korsi	šir	šir
	LH	HL	LH	L
	'chair'	'chairs'	'house'	'houses'
20)	ɖak	ɖæk	ispor	isper
	H	LH	HL	LH
	'old man'	'old woman'	'tasteless (m)'	'tasteless (f)'

There are two known uses of reduplication in Torwali. The first one, used to express plurality, and illustrated in (21), occurs when a morpheme is duplicated and then attached to the end of the original stem. The only change is made to the initial consonant of the duplicated form, which is replaced with /m/. This second morpheme never occurs in isolation so it is treated as a bound morpheme. These newly derived forms are glossed '... and such' meaning that other things are included in the package. For example, 'tea and such' suggests that in addition to the tea, the host or hostess will also provide cookies, crackers or bread. 'Bread and such' might include jam or honey along with something to drink. Looking at the examples in (21), the first two columns show the singular form, while the third and fourth columns show the reduplicated plural forms.

---

<sup>8</sup>-*ui* has been posited as the underlying form even though *u* does not occur on the surface. Its function is to block the fronting of the stem vowel which the feminine singular suffix *-i* causes in the feminine singular form. Without this blocking phoneme, the plural suffix would incorrectly cause the stem vowel to become fronted. See section 5.1.2 for discussion.

21)

<i>gal</i>	‘weed’	galmal	‘weeds and such’
<i>čey</i>	‘tea’	čeymey	‘tea and such’
<i>gel</i>	‘bread’	gelmel	‘bread and such’
<i>lon</i>	‘salt’	lonmon	‘salt and such’
<i>pela</i>	‘cup’	pelamela	‘cups and such’
<i>dərwaz</i>	‘door’	dərwazmərwaz	‘doors and such’

The second use of reduplication is to intensify the meaning of the original word. In these cases, it is usually a reduplication of the stem form but with no modification to the initial consonant. For example, *ǰeldi* means ‘quickly’, but when stem reduplication is applied, *ǰeldi ǰeldi* means ‘very quickly’. Similarly *asuda asuda* suggests ‘very slowly.’ Finally, *p<sup>h</sup>it* and *toǰe* are two separate words meaning ‘piece’, but when these stems occur redundantly as in *p<sup>h</sup>it p<sup>h</sup>it* and *toǰe toǰe*, they mean ‘lots of pieces’.

To summarize the morphological typology of Torwali, it is a language which is somewhat polysynthetic, not heavily polysynthetic and not heavily isolating. It also manifests numerous characteristics of being a fusional language. It uses multiple fusional strategies to modify the meanings of words, namely stem modification, suprasegmental modification and reduplication.

### 3.2 Constituent order typology

If we consider the distribution of word-, phrase- and clause-level components in this language, we find that the head component typically occurs at the end of the phrase or clause. The purpose of this section is to show that the order of Torwali constituents in pragmatically neutral clauses reveals that it is a strong head-final language. What has become known as “Greenberg’s Universals” states that syntactic characteristics correlate with the basic constituent order found in languages (Greenberg 1966). Torwali, having a basic SOV order, should, according to Greenberg, demonstrate many head-final characteristics. The next few sections examine various syntactic components, and illustrate through examples that Torwali has many head-final correlations.





- 24) *iskul si kə dərɣas es ke da.*  
 school of for application NEAR.SG.OBL to give.IMP  
 O IO V  
 ‘Give him the application for a school.’(emphasis on who to give it to) [Bachagul022]
- 25) *t<sup>h</sup>o əmən set čəw ya pa-y dəl sət rəpəle səmane gina.*  
 2PL.NOM yourself with 4 or 5 other companions rifles with take  
 S PP O PP V  
 ‘Take four or five other companions with rifles along with you.’ [Danghara007]

Although the positioning of the verb is relatively rigid, the remaining constituents can at times change position. The subject and indirect object can switch positions. Subjects, which typically occur before objects, can be placed after objects, as in example (26). In sentences that are not pragmatically neutral, the slot immediately before the verb functions as a focus position. When speakers want to focus attention on a particular constituent within the clause, they place it here.

- 26) *bəhərhal serən ge ə xəbər əwe.*  
 Anyhow girl to NEAR.NOM news arrived.SP  
 IO S V  
 ‘Anyhow, this news reached the girl.’ [Bangabilo013]

### 3.2.2 Affixes

Torwali uses suffixes almost exclusively. In fact, no indigenous prefixes have been documented to date. As will be discussed in Chapter 5, both inflectional and derivational morphology rely heavily on suffixation. The data set in (27) is the same set cited earlier in example (16). It illustrates how suffixes attach to nouns, verbs and adjectives.

- |                               |                  |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 27) <i>k<sup>h</sup>əmana</i> | <i>bənudud</i>   | <i>linača</i>    |
| <i>k<sup>h</sup>əman -a</i>   | <i>bən -udud</i> | <i>lin -ača</i>  |
| husband OBL/PL                | go IMPFV         | bald Nominalizer |
| ‘husband.OBL/PL’              | ‘was going’      | ‘baldness’       |

### 3.2.3 Adpositional phrases

Postpositions, not prepositions, are used in Torwali. They operate with noun phrases, as shown in (28) and (29).

- 28) šir ma                      šire ma                      šir ke                      šir me  
       ‘from the house’    ‘from the houses’    ‘to the house’    ‘in the house’

- 29) pəy                      kun                      si pən de  
       FAR.NOM Kun (place name)of way on  
       ‘on that way to Kun’ (Lit. ‘on that Kun’s way’) [hunting017]’

### 3.2.4 Comparatives

The comparative construction in Torwali is an areal feature found in neighboring languages, Urdu, Pashto (personal experience) and Kalami (Baart 1999:28) to name a few. The item serving as the *standard (Std)* occurs in a postpositional phrase with *ma* ‘from’ used as the comparative *marker (Mkr)*. The subject of the sentence (*po* ‘boy’ in examples (30) and (31)) can occur before the comparative construction or after it. The order of these two constituents causes no confusion because the standard is always in the postpositional phrase. Following both items being compared comes the adjective, referred to as the *quality*. Either syntactic formula is acceptable, and both are commonly used.

N	PP	Adj		PP	N	Adj
	Subject	Standard + Marker		Standard + Marker	Subject	Adj.

In either case, both the marker *ma* and the adjective follow the standard. The postpositional phrase containing the standard and marker are bracketed in examples (30) through (32) for easier reference.

- 30) po [tunu šu ma] gən t<sup>h</sup>u  
       boy own sister from big is.PRES.MSG  
       ‘The boy is bigger/older than his sister.’
- 31) [tunu šu ma] po gən t<sup>h</sup>u  
       own sister from boy big is.PRES.MSG  
       ‘The boy is bigger/older than his sister’
- 32) [Bahrain ma] kalam du t<sup>h</sup>u  
       Bahrain from Kalam far is.PRES.MSG  
       ‘Kalam is farther than Bahrain (from here)’

### 3.2.5 Noun phrases

From the list of Greenberg's universals, two issues will be discussed in this section: (1) the ordering of the possessor and its head noun, and (2) the ordering of modifiers and their head nouns. To start with, the basic noun phrase ordering is as follows:

(PossPh) + (Dem) + (Num\*) + (Adj\*) + Noun

A head noun can be modified by a demonstrative pronoun, possessive phrase, one or more numbers and one or more adjectives, all of which optionally occur in any given noun phrase, but in that order. Regardless of which of these constituents occur in any given noun phrase or how many, the head noun always occurs in the final slot of the noun phrase construction. Example (33) illustrates the ordering of noun phrase constituents.

- 33) pəy            maʃ    si        se        du    kolowol    nəswari    p<sup>h</sup>aŋ  
 FAR.NOM    man    of        those    2        crooked    brown    branches  
 [            PossPh        ]        Dem    Num    Adj        Adj        Noun  
 'Those two crooked brown branches of that man'

Examples (34) through (36) also show that possessive phrases and modifiers occur before their head nouns.

- 34) [pəy            kun si]    pən  
 [ABS.NOM    Kun of]    way  
 [            PosPh        ]    N  
 'the way of that Kun' [Hunt017]
- 35) [bača        si]    du    ça    gulæm  
 [king        of]    2    3    female.servants  
 [PosPh        ]    Num    Num    N  
 'two (or) three servants of the king' [Bangabilo016]
- 36) [du]    [kostəni]    məlan  
 [2]    [Kohistani]    mullahs  
 [Num] [    Adj    ] N  
 'two Kohistani mullahs' [Darolay043]

### 3.2.6 Subordinate clauses

As predicted by Greenberg's universals, subordinate clauses in Torwali precede main or independent clauses in sentences because it is an O-V language. One key feature of subordinate clauses is the clause-final

subordinate marker *da*. The sentence in (37) contains a subordinate clause containing a fully inflected verb followed by the main clause.

- 37) [se            la    luṭ    aṣu            da]            tisi            bab    mu.  
 [ABS.NOM   yet   child   was.PAST.MSG SUBMKR]   ABS.SG.GEN   father died.SP.MSG  
 ‘When he was yet a child, his father died.’ [Bachagul003]

Another type of subordinate clause, which is very frequently used by Torwali speakers, is the *participial clause*. It is distinct in that it does not use a subordinate marker and its verb is not fully-inflected. Verbs occurring as the head of participial clauses take the form of *perfective adjectival participles*, and carry no gender or number marking. These verb forms, as their label suggests, communicate the idea of something already completed. Masica (1991:323) and other linguists working in this region refer to these as *conjunctive participles* (CP) so this will be the term used in this paper as well. Example sentences are cited below in (38) and (39).

- 38) se            [t<sup>h</sup>æ            xət    učət    kede]  
 ABS.NOM   [ABS.ACC   letter   up   having.done.CP]  
  
 [tunu   ɣosolxanə   ye   læŋde]            lamo   dedu.  
 [self   bathroom   to   having.entered.CP]   bath   gives.PRES.MSG  
 ‘He, having picked up those letters, having entered his bathroom, takes a bath.’ [dailypres004]

Sentence (38) could be more loosely paraphrased to better illustrate the fact that this is a sequence of events, “He picked up those letters, then he entered his bathroom, then he took a bath.” It is important to note that when a series of participial clauses are strung together, the subject is the same for the whole sentence. Compare (38) to (37) where the subject can be different. This is yet another difference between these two types of subordinate clauses. Example (39) contains two consecutive sentences from a text with participial clauses marking a sequence of events.

- 39) [koyo   læde]            ti            našta    si    keja    baynin.  
 [clothes having.put.on.CP]   ABS.ERG   breakfast   of   for   will.sit.FUT  
  
 [našta    kede]            ti            tunu    dəftər   ke   bəynin.  
 [breakfast [having.done.CP]   ABS.ERG   own   office   to   will.go.FUT  
 ‘After putting his clothes on, he will sit down for breakfast. Having eaten breakfast, he will go to his office.’ [dailyfut005]

### 3.2.7 Content questions

Although content questions are not traditionally included in discussions of constituent order typology, I have included some data along with a brief discussion because some important generalizations can be made that relate to typological issues. One important issue worth noting is that the question words typically occur at the end of the sentence immediately before the final verb. As already mentioned in earlier discussions, this position serves as a focus position for the sentence. (Refer back to examples (23) and (24) which illustrate focus in non-questions.) Here are a few sample *who*, *when*, *why*, *where* and *how* questions.

- 40) me kale ban ge [kam] bəji?  
 this year.OBL mtn.pasture to who should.go.JUS  
 ‘Who should go to the mountain pastures this year (for grazing the herds)?’
- 41) tu o č<sup>h</sup>i sət karači ye [key] bəjədi?  
 you and your friend Karachi to when are.going.PRES.PL  
 ‘When are you and your friend going to Karachi?’
- 42) lo pəy het [kəy] nəʔədi?  
 children that.FAR there why are.playing.PRES.PL  
 ‘Why are the children playing over there?’
- 43) Bahrain me kəbab [k<sup>h</sup>al] payadu?  
 Bahrain in meat.kebab how is.cooking.PRES.MSG  
 ‘How do you cook kebabs in Bahrain?’
- 44) mi po [ket] t<sup>h</sup>u? mi po [k<sup>h</sup>æde] bəjədu?  
 my son where is.PRES.MSG my son to.where go.PRES.MSG  
 ‘Where is my son?’ ‘Where is my son going?’

The next series of example sentences show *kam* ‘who’ occurring in various clause positions (subject, object, etc.). These sentences confirm, just as the preceding questions do, that question words typically occur immediately before the verb. Also as this word moves from constituent position to constituent position, one notices that different pronouns are used to represent the different semantic functions. They are shown in (45).

- 45) NOM ERG ACC GEN OBL  
*kam ki kes kisi kis*

Example (46) includes a question with ‘who’ as the subject. The answer to this question is located to the right. Examples (47) and (48) focus on the agent position of the clause with the former stating the question, and the latter, the answer.

- 46) dukan ge [kam] bəjədu?                      dukan ge [a] bəjədu.  
store to who goes.PRES.MSG                      store to I go.PRES.MSG  
'Who is going to the store?'                      'I am going to the store.'
- 47) bel mi kojo [ki] isri kiši?  
yesterday my clothes who iron had.done.PAST.PFV.FSG  
'Yesterday, who ironed my clothes?'
- 48) bel [mæ] mi kojo isri kiši.  
yesterday I my clothes iron had.done.PAST.PFV.FSG  
'Yesterday, I ironed my clothes.'

Examples (49) and (50) illustrate the genitive slot. Genitive pronoun forms occur immediately before the nouns they modify just as ordinary modifiers do. The question in (51) contains the accusative form 'whom'.

- 49) æ [kisi po] t<sup>h</sup>u?                                      æ [mi po] t<sup>h</sup>u.  
this whose son is.PRES.MSG                                      this my son is.PRES.MSG  
'Whose son is this?'                                      'This is my son.'
- 50) æ [kisi kitab]t<sup>h</sup>u?                                      æ [mi kitab] t<sup>h</sup>u.  
this whose book is.PRES.MSG                                      this my book is.PRES.MSG  
'This is whose book?'                                      'This is my book.'
- 51) jahangir [kes] gintu?                                      jahangir [po] gintu.  
Jahangir whom carried.PRES.PFV.MSG                                      Jahangir boy carried.PRES.PFV.MSG  
'Whom has Jahangir carried?'                                      'Jahangir has carried (the) boy.'

The final pair, (52) and (53) shows 'who' as an indirect object. In this position, it occurs as an object of a post-position which requires the oblique form along with a postposition.

- 52) ti rəpəl [kis ke] dit?  
he rifle whom to gave.SP.MSG  
'To whom did he give rifle?'
- 53) ti rəpəl [jahangir ke] dit.  
he rifle Jahangir to gave.SP.MSG  
'He gave the rifle to Jahangir.'

## 4. SYNTACTIC CATEGORIES

This portion of the paper presents an introduction to the various syntactic categories documented in the language. Subsequent sections will describe the morphology issues relevant to these categories and their form and function at the phrase, clause and discourse levels.

### 4.1 Nouns

Nouns, which Payne describes as “words that express the most time-stable concepts” are defined as having distributional and structural properties which distinguish them from other syntactic categories (1997:33). In this section we will discuss the distributional attributes of nouns in Torwali and a few subcategories of nouns.

Noun phrases can function as subject, direct object or object of postposition, and nouns function as the head of noun phrases and occur phrase-finally. See example (54).

- 54) se            duem    ba  
      ABS.NOM    second   brother  
      ‘that second brother’

Modifiers are inflected to agree in gender with the head noun of the noun phrase in which they occur as illustrated in example (55).

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 55) puran    kuʃu<br>old (m.)    dog (m.)<br>‘old male dog’ | up <sup>h</sup> ur    paʃ<br>light (m.)    paper (m.)<br>‘light paper’ |
| puræn    kiʃi<br>old (f.)    dog (f.)<br>‘old female dog’   | ip <sup>h</sup> ir    pəʃal<br>light (f.)    wing (f.)<br>‘light wing’ |

Example (56) shows how possessive phrases and pronouns can also be used to modify nouns.

- 56) mi    k<sup>h</sup>əman  
      my    husband  
      ‘my husband’

sed mamud    dada            si    šir  
 Said.Mamud    older.brother    of    house  
 ‘older brother Said Mamud’s house’ [hunting033]

Payne states that many languages distinguish between proper nouns and common nouns, either by means of distribution or by morphology. While Torwali does not make any morphological distinctions between these two classes, they differ somewhat by their distribution. Proper nouns do not usually carry additional modifiers like determiners, demonstratives, adjectives and quantifiers. In contrast these co-occur readily with common nouns. There are special circumstances when proper nouns can carry a modifier. For example, the Torwali people have a folktale about a young lady named Bangabilo. Early in the story, she runs away. After a long period of time, when her mother sees her, she cries out, *m<sup>hi</sup> bangabilo č<sup>hi</sup>* ‘It is my Bangabilo!’ This usage is similarly used in English, and while I have not documented any examples, I suspect that in similar circumstances, phrases like ‘tired Bangabilo’ or ‘that Bangabilo’ are possible. Nevertheless, they would not be used frequently, only under special circumstances when the speaker or author needs to emphasize something in particular about the person.

The distinction between count and mass nouns is simpler. Most nouns found in the language are in fact count nouns meaning that they can be pluralized. However, some nouns cannot be pluralized. Some mass nouns are *sigəl* ‘sand’, *či* ‘milk’ *šela* ‘wood’, *ga* ‘grass’ and *hawa* ‘wind’. In order to specify quantity, another noun must be added to the end of the phrase to serve as a kind of classifier as in *ča sigəl si p<sup>hit</sup>* ‘three grains of sand’, *ča či si jik* ‘three drops of milk’, *pom si cik* ‘bunch of wool’ and *ča šela si kəy* ‘three boards of wood’ where *p<sup>hit</sup>*, *jik*, *čik* and *kəy* are translated ‘grains’, ‘drops’, ‘bunch’ and ‘boards’ respectively.

Nouns do not exhibit an extensive case and number system. Inflected nouns typically occur only when they are oblique and plural. For example *poe* ‘boy.OBL’ contains two morphemes. In addition to the noun stem *po* ‘boy’ it contains an inflectional suffix *-e* marking it for oblique case and plurality. Another example is given in (57). These inflectional features of nouns, however, will be addressed in more detail in section 5.1.1 with other inflectional characteristics of the language.

57) šire                    ye  
       šir    -e            ye  
       house PL.OBL to  
       ‘to the houses’



Nouns can also be subcategorized by two genders, masculine and feminine. Grammatical gender can be distinguished by biological gender where applicable. For example, if a noun has biological gender, its grammatical gender will be the same. This is an areal feature found in several other Indo-Aryan languages. Words like ‘girl’, ‘daughter’, ‘mother’ and ‘female cat’ are all biologically feminine, so their grammatical gender is also feminine. The adjectives and verbs associated with these words in any given sentence are marked accordingly so as to agree in gender with them. See example (55) above. The same is true for the inherently masculine words ‘man’, ‘son’ and ‘male horse’. Table 4.1 shows a sampling of data to illustrate the point.

Table 4.1. Gender: with biological correlations

Feminine nouns		Masculine nouns	
det	father’s mother	dat	father’s father
toti	female parrot	tota	male parrot
ɖæk	old woman	ɖak	old man
mem	mother’s mother	məm	mother’s father
ge	female horse	go	male horse
kiji	female dog	kuju	male dog
lemæ	female fox	ləma	male fox
č <sup>h</sup> æl	female goat	šəm	male goat
ɟæmel	husband’s sister	dɛy	husband’s brother
seræn	wife’s sister	šajo	wife’s brother

Generally speaking vowels occurring in masculine nouns are back (/u/, /ə/ and /a/). In contrast, vowels in feminine nouns are fronted (/i/, /e/ and /æ/). Neither however follows any kind of hard and fast rule. Sometimes the words for a male and a female individual of a certain class are morphologically related, as in the first seven examples in the table, and sometimes the words used for the male and the female individual are entirely different (as in the last three).

Torwali also correlates gender with size. Large items are masculine, while their smaller counterparts are feminine. For example, *ləmaɖ*, *nətk<sup>h</sup>ol*, *borol* and *boro* are references to a large tail, large nose, large stone and

a large earthen cooking pot, all of which are masculine. Their feminine equivalents, *lemæt*, *netk<sup>h</sup>el*, *beril* and *bere* are their smaller counterparts.

In many cases throughout the language, however, gender seems arbitrarily applied. For example, *šir* ‘house’ and *derin* ‘floor’ are both feminine while *šan* ‘roof’ and *čokať* ‘door frame’ are both masculine. More examples are included in (58).

58)	<b>Feminine</b>	<i>šes</i>	‘rope’	<i>mu</i>	‘face’	<i>si</i>	‘sun’
	<b>Masculine</b>	<i>leb</i>	‘quilt’	<i>čam</i>	‘skin’	<i>di</i>	‘day’

## 4.2 Personal pronouns

While Torwali nouns carry only one morphological case marker (i.e. oblique), personal pronouns carry morphological case marking to distinguish five cases which include first and second person, singular and plural forms, as shown in Table 4.3. Third person pronouns have distinguishing characteristics in that they can also be used to modify nouns, and they mark relative distance. They will be addressed separately in section 4.3. Ergative case is used to mark agents in ergative constructions (discussed in section 6.3). The oblique case includes those pronouns which occur in postposition phrases. Following the table are examples of each of these cases starting with nominative case in (59), ergative in (60), accusative in (61), genitive and oblique in (62), and finally oblique in (63).

Table 4.3. Personal pronouns

	Nominative	Ergative	Accusative	Genitive	Oblique
1 SG	a	mæ	mæ	mi	me
2 SG	tu	tæ	t <sup>h</sup> æ	č <sup>h</sup> i	t <sup>h</sup> e
1 PL	mo	moe	mo	mun	mo
2 PL	t <sup>h</sup> o	t <sup>h</sup> oe	t <sup>h</sup> o	t <sup>h</sup> un	t <sup>h</sup> o

- 59) pəy k<sup>h</sup>ən ge a dugona gudu.  
 ABS mtn. to 1SG.NOM twice had.gone.PAST.PFV.MSG  
 ‘I had gone twice to that mountain.’ [hunting038]
- 60) mæ ça let t<sup>h</sup>əliši.  
1SG.ERG three pheasants had.thrown.PAST.PFV.PL  
 ‘I had shot three pheasants.’ [hunting004]

- 61) ti čiga ki mæ mow.  
 he.ERG.ABS cry did.SP 1SG.ACCkilled.SP.MSG  
 ‘He cried out, ‘He killed me!’ [BraveMan035]
- 62) dæk die muš bəsa mi mi e sət me ye bənu....  
 few days.PL.OBL before summer in 1SG.GEN one friend 1SG.OBL to said.SP.MSG  
 ‘A few days ago, in the summer, one of my friends said to me, ....’ [Danghara001]
- 63) maş me keja pes ginde ga.  
 man 1SG.OBL from money having.taken.CP went.SP.MSG  
 ‘The man took the money from me and left.’

In addition to the genitive or possessive pronouns listed in Table 4.3, Torwali also has several *reflexive* pronouns. In the case of *tunu*, which simply translates as “one’s own,” person, gender and number are not coded in this word, but in the noun or pronoun with which it is associated. In example (64), because the subject and possessor are not the same, the regular possessive pronoun is used. However, the subject and possessor *are* the same in (65) and (66), a criterion required to use *tunu*. Without the pronouns, the sentences would say simply, ‘He is/I am repairing a car.’

- 64) æ mi gaře səwadu.  
 he my car repair.PRES.MSG  
 ‘**He** is repairing **my** car.’
- 65) æ tunu gaře səwadu.  
 he one’s.own car repair.PRES.MSG  
 ‘**He** is repairing **his own** car.’
- 66) a tunu gaře səwadu  
 I one’s own car repair.PRES.MSG  
 ‘**I** am repairing **my own** car.’

Another reflexive pronoun, *əmən* ‘one’s self’, is restricted to oblique and object positions.

- 67) a [əmən set] gel anədu.  
 1SG.NOM oneself.OBL for bread bring.PRES.MSG  
 ‘**I** am bringing bread **for myself**’
- 68) mæ [əmən] kuɾu.  
 1SG.ERG oneself hit.SP  
 ‘**I** hit **myself**’

Torwali also uses an *emphatic* pronoun, *əmede*, which has the same meaning as *əmən*, but differs in its function and distribution. It serves to give emphasis to the subject of a sentence, and thus only occurs with the

subject of the sentence. One feature that distinguishes emphatic pronouns from reflexive pronouns is the fact that emphatic pronouns do not have any independent status within the clause. Note the following:

- 69) a            æmede    gel        anədu.  
 1SG.ERG oneself    bread    buy.PRES.MSG  
 ‘**I myself** am buying bread’
- 70) po        æmede    əmən        kuṛədu.  
 boy    oneself    oneself    hits.PRES.MSG  
 ‘The **boy himself** hits **himself**.’

A couple of observations are noted here. In this language, reflexive and emphatic pronouns do not include coding for person, number or gender, and unlike English the emphatic pronoun can only modify the subject of a sentence. My findings thus far reveal that a sentence like ‘I had dinner with the governor himself’ with emphasis on the governor is not possible using an emphatic pronoun, only ‘I myself had dinner with the governor.’ I have also found no evidence to suggest that these pronouns can refer to subjects of higher clauses.

### 4.3 Demonstrative pronouns

In addition to personal pronouns, Torwali also has three sets of *demonstrative* pronouns (pronouns used to modify nouns). Each set, used according to the distance between the speaker and a reference in the clause, uses the same five cases to specify its role in the sentence that the personal pronouns use. The *present NEAR* pronoun refers to a referent that is in very close proximity to the speaker. The *FAR* pronoun refers to someone or something that is not close yet can still be seen. The *ABS(ent)* pronoun refers to a person or thing that is not in the presence of the speaker and in fact cannot be seen. This is a feature that commonly occurs in languages throughout Pakistan even though some only have a two-way distinction. Torwali does not distinguish third person pronouns from demonstrative pronouns. The same form is used for both classes of pronouns.

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 71) [he çhi]    u        punudud.                | [he]    u        punudud             |
| [this woman] water    was.drinking.IMPFV         | [she]    water    was.drinking.IMPFV |
| ‘ <b>This woman</b> was drinking water’ [Deo010] | ‘ <b>She</b> was drinking water....’ |

At this point in my analysis, I cannot explain the various alternative forms listed in the columns of Table

□4.5. They could be the result of phonological processes or they could serve different discourse functions. Further study is needed.

Table 4.5. Demonstrative pronouns

	Nominative	Ergative	Accusative	Genitive	Oblique
NEAR SG	æ / he	i / mi	me / es / mes	misi	me / es
FAR SG	pəy	pəy	pəs	isi / pəysi	pəs / pəy
ABS SG	se	ti	te / tes	tisi	ti / te / tis
NEAR PL	æ / he	me	mæ	min	hæ / me
FAR PL	pəy	pəy / pəhe	pəhæ	pəhin pəhæsi	pəhæ
ABS PL	se	t <sup>h</sup> e	tæ	t <sup>h</sup> in	t <sup>h</sup> æ / t <sup>h</sup> e

Sentence (72) contains two demonstrative pronouns. One is the agent of the ergative clause, and the other modifies the subject of the clause. The form for both nominative singular and plural is the same. Compare to (73). The sentences in (74) and (75) illustrate the use of an alternative NEAR singular demonstrative pronoun form positioned in the subject slot.

- 72) [ti]                      bənu                      [æ]                      pot    čer    šijo    t<sup>h</sup>u.  
 [ABS.SG.ERG]    said.SP.MSG    [NEAR.NOM]    place very pretty is.PRES.MSG  
 ase    čer    xətərnak    t<sup>h</sup>u.  
 but very dangerous it.PRES.MSG  
 ‘He said, “This place is very beautiful, but very dangerous.”’ [Danghara003]
- 73) ...ase    mun                      səta                      set    [æ]                      du    waqeya    hui.  
 but    1PL.NOM    companions.OBL.PL with    [NEAR.NOM] 2    accidents    became.SP.PL  
 ‘...but there were **these** two accidents (which happened) with our companions.’ [Danghara037]
- 74) [he]                      bešte                      tunu                      yey    si    qəwər    zed    ziŋusæt.  
 [NEAR.NOM]    having.gone.CP    one’s.own    mother of    grave    on start.to.weep.INC  
 ‘Having gone, **he** began to weep on the grave of his own mother.’ [zadul013]
- 75) [he]                      wəja    č<sup>h</sup>i                      yeræ    me    gam    ge    kəndər    bənədi.  
 [NEAR.NOM]reason it.is.FSG that    this village to    place.name    they.say.PRES.PL  
 ‘This is why this village is called Kandar.’ [Darolay031]

Sentences (76) and (77) illustrate the use of demonstrative pronouns with distant referents as subjects.

- 76) [pəy]                      k<sup>h</sup>ən    ge    dugona    gudu.  
 [FAR.NOM]    mtns. to    twice    had.gone.PAST.PFV.MSG  
 ‘They had gone twice to the mountains.’

- 77) [se] xələq čer gora aši.  
 [ABS] people very good were.SP.PL  
 ‘Those people were very good.’ [Danghara026]

The preceding examples have illustrated nominative forms in action. It is not possible to provide an example sentence for every word in Table 4.5, but examples (78) and (79) show two alternative accusative singular forms used to denote nearness. I do not believe that these and other alternative forms listed in the previous table exemplify free variation. Certainly more in-depth analysis is needed in order to shed more light on the distributional and functional features of each of these. The sentence in (80) contains the homonyms *t<sup>h</sup>æ* ‘ABS.PL.ACC’ and *t<sup>h</sup>æ* ‘ABS.PL.OBL occurring in the accusative position in the first clause, and in the oblique position in the second clause, respectively.

- 78) poe [es] ginde ç<sup>h</sup>ay ge ga.  
 boy.ERG [NEAR.SG.ACC] having.taken.CP cliff to went.  
 ‘The son, having taken **him**, went to the cliff.’ [Tradition05]
- 79) bənəji tæ [mes] ka anua?  
 she.says.PRES.FSG 2SG.ERG [NEAR.SG.ACC] what brought.SP.MSG  
 ‘She says, ‘What did you bring?’
- 80) [ti] [t<sup>h</sup>æ] egær kede [t<sup>h</sup>æ] ye  
 [ABS.ERG] [ABS.PL.ACC] gathered having.done.CP [ABS.PL.OBL] to  
 səwəq bənu.  
 lesson said.SP.MSG  
 ‘He gathered **them** (together) and taught a lesson to **them**.’ [Bachagul020]

#### 4.4 Descriptive adjectives

Adjectives are used to modify nouns. They share gender agreement with the head noun, but exhibit no case or number features. Note that for some words, masculine and feminine forms are the same.

Table 4.7. Masculine and feminine adjective forms

Masculine	Feminine	English gloss
puran gən čono	puræn gen čæne	old big yellow
čuk up <sup>h</sup> ur lin	čik ip <sup>h</sup> ir lin	sour lightweight bald
miṭ lut olon	miṭ lut olin	sweet small saltless
ispor ošo bar	isper eše bær	tasteless ugly fat

With exceptions of course, the formation of the feminine form from the basic masculine one usually involves a fronting of the vowel: /a/ to /æ/, /u/ to /i/, and /o/ and /ə/ to /e/.

## 4.5 Numerals

Unlike the English base-10 counting system, Torwali utilizes a base-20 system, which means that the numbers 1-20 are all unique forms, although it is apparent that a few of the lower ten are similar to a few of the upper ten. Just as the English decimal cycles on every ten, Torwali's vigesimal system cycles every twenty. Once these first twenty are learned, one can count indefinitely with ease, for example, *biš* '20', *dubiš* '2 20s (40)', *čabiš* '3 20s (60)', *čəwbiš* '4 20s (80)', *pa-ybiš* '5 20s (100)', *šobiš* '6 20s (120)', *satbiš* '7 20s (140)', etc. *nom o dubiš* literally means '9 and 2 20s (49)'. There are two ways to say numbers like '35': *pe-š o biš* which means '15 and 20', or *pa-y kəm dubiš* '5 less than 2 20s'. Either is acceptable, but usually the closer one comes to the higher multiple of twenty, the more likely *...kəm...* is used. The Urdu number for 100 *so* is used more frequently nowadays so for example *dəšbiš* and *du so* are both used to refer to 200. *e so ər* lit. '100 and a half' is probably more frequently used than *dəš o satbis* '10 and 7 twenties'. The words *læk* '100,000' and *kəror* '1,000,000' are borrowed from Urdu and used by Torwali speakers and speakers throughout the country. Torwali numbers have no gender or case distinctions. A more complete list of cardinal numbers can be found in Table 4.8.

Table 4.8. Cardinal numbers

1	ek, e	24	čəw o biš	47	sat o dubiš
2	du	25	paŋj o biš	48	aṭ <sup>h</sup> o dubiš
3	ça	26	šo o biš	49	nom o dubiš
4	čəw	27	sat o biš	50	dəš o dubiš
5	pa~y	28	aṭ <sup>h</sup> o biš	55	paŋje kəm çabiš
6	šo	29	nom o biš	60	çabiš
7	sat	30	dəš o biš	65	paŋj o çabiš
8	aṭ <sup>h</sup>	31	əgaš o biš	70	dəš o çabiš
9	nom	32	dwaš o biš	75	paŋje kəm čəwbiš
10	dəš	33	çeš o biš	80	čəw o biš
11	əgaš	34	čətəš o biš	85	paŋj o čəwbiš
12	duaš	35	pe~š o biš	90	dəš o čəwbiš
13	çeš	36	šeš o biš	95	paŋje kəm pa~ybiš
14	čətəš	37	sətaš o biš	100	pa~ybiš, so
15	pe~š	38	aṭ <sup>h</sup> aš o biš	120	šobiš
16	šeš	39	anbiš o biš	150	e so ər
17	sətaš	40	dubiš	200	dəšbiš, du so
18	aṭ <sup>h</sup> aš	41	ek o dubiš	300	ça so
19	anbiš	42	du o dubiš	500	pa~y so
20	biš	43	ça o dubiš	1,000	e zər
21	ek o biš	44	čəw o dubiš	2,000	du zər
22	du o biš	45	paŋj o dubiš	100,000	e læk
23	ça o biš	46	šo o dubiš	1,000,000	e kəroṛ

Ordinal numbers are included in Table 4.10 along with other related forms. With the exception of the first five, they are formed by adding the suffix *-m* to their corresponding cardinal number. As with the cardinal numbers, gender and case distinctions do not exist.



Table 4.10. Ordinal numbers and other related forms

1 <sup>st</sup>	awəl	once	egon	single	egun
2 <sup>nd</sup>	dwem	twice	dugon	double	dugun
3 <sup>rd</sup>	çwi	three times	çagon	triple	çagon
4 <sup>th</sup>	çot <sup>h</sup> om	four times	çogon	quadruple	çogun
5 <sup>th</sup>	pənjəm	five times	paːygon	quintuple	paːygun
6 <sup>th</sup>	şom	six times	şogon	sextuple	şogun
7 <sup>th</sup>	satəm	seven times	satgon	septuple	satgun
8 <sup>th</sup>	aṭ <sup>h</sup> əm	eight times	aṭ <sup>h</sup> gon	octuple	aṭ <sup>h</sup> gun
9 <sup>th</sup>	nomom	nine times	nomgon	ninefold	nomgun
10 <sup>th</sup>	dəşəm	ten times	dəşgon	decuple	dəşgun

## 4.6 Verbs

As with all other syntactic categories, verbs are defined by their distributional and structural properties. They typically occur sentence-finally, or more specifically, clause-finally—whether the clause is independent or subordinate.

Finite verbs carry inflection to mark tense, aspect and mood. Events that have been completed in the past are labeled *perfective*. The most basic form is *simple perfective* (also referred to by some linguists as preterite tense). If this past event has present relevance, then the verb is encoded *present perfective*. If the past event instead has only past relevance, then the verb is encoded *past perfective*. Events that are either ongoing in the past or habitually carried out in the past are marked with an *imperfective* aspect. While some languages distinguish imperfective and habitual aspect marking, Torwali does not. Verb conjugation paradigms are presented in section 5.1.2 where verb inflection is discussed. The language also makes use of an *inceptive aspect*, which describes an event that is just beginning. Events occurring now or in the future are encoded with *present* and *future* tenses, respectively.

*Jussive* mood is like a mitigated imperative mood and includes a three-person distinction, e.g., *mho beni*. ‘Let’s read!’ More discussion and examples are in section 5.1.2 *Potential* mood refers to one’s ability to do something. *æ ʔol gel k<sup>h</sup>abadu*. ‘He can eat all the food.’

Torwali also has several non-finite verb forms: infinitives, perfective adverbial participles, perfective adjectival participles and imperfective adverbial participles. These will also be discussed in section 5.1.2.

Turning briefly to the Torwali copula, we find that it, like most other finite verb forms, uses morphological marking to distinguish masculine singular, feminine singular and plural. Data analyzed so far suggest that the copula is always required in predicate nominals, existentials, locatives and possessive clauses (see section 6.2). In no case can it be omitted. Tenses include present and past, but no future. To express future states, another verb *how* ‘to become’ is required. *how* can be fully inflected like any other verb and when used suggests that the subject has or is undergoing a change of state.

Table 4.12. The Torwali copula

	MSG	FSG	PL
Present	t <sup>h</sup> u	č <sup>h</sup> i	t <sup>h</sup> i
Past	aš <u>u</u>	æš <u>i</u>	aš <u>i</u>

Following is a series of sentences to illustrate the usage of these verb forms. In sentence (82), because the state of Bangabilo’s wisdom did not change, the past tense form of ‘to be’ is applied. In contrast, the subject in (84) does exhibit a change of state, from not being sad to being sad; therefore, the past tense form of ‘to become’ is found.

- 81) hed əbadi pakistan si dæl xare ma čər č<sup>h</sup>i.  
 there population place.name of another city.PL.OBL from much is.PRES.FSG  
 ‘There the population is more dense than other cities of Pakistan.’ [travel043]
- 82) baŋabilo hušæ æši.  
 Bangabilo wise was.SP.FSG  
 ‘Bangabilo was wise.’ [Bangabilo080]
- 83) a~ tæ hadisa ma hum bəč honin.  
 and 2SG.ERG accident from also safe will.become.FUT  
 ‘And you will also be safe from an accident.’ [travel013]
- 84) mho səx xəpə hui.  
 1PL extremely sad became.SP.PL  
 ‘We became extremely sad.’ [Danghara023]

## 4.7 Adverbs

The function of adverbs is to modify verbs, adjectives and clauses, but not nouns. Few restrictions are placed on their distribution within a sentence. They are used to designate manner, time, degree, direction, etc. Here is a sampling of what can be found in the language.

### Manner

- 85) *t<sup>h</sup>amu* ‘likewise’, *næsæp* ‘suddenly’, *ekdəm* ‘immediately’, *asuda* ‘slowly’, *dəsti* ‘hurriedly’, *sərtə* ‘quickly’, *č<sup>h</sup>uṭe* ‘suddenly, abruptly’

### Time

- 86) *axer* ‘finally’, *aj* ‘today’, *zæte* ‘tomorrow morning’, *mæde* ‘now’, *bil* ‘yesterday’, *lolo* ‘tomorrow’

### Degree

- 87) *čer* ‘very, much, many’, *medek* ‘very’, *jan* ‘much’

### Location

- 88) *bar* ‘outside’, *andəre* ‘inside’, *pəš* ‘behind’ *kəš* ‘close’, *mel* ‘here’ *tet* ‘there’, *itkemitke* ‘here and there’

### Evidential

- 89) *ajan* ‘maybe’, *xamxa* ‘absolutely’, *yalibən* ‘maybe’ (Urdu)

Adverbial clauses usually occur sentence-initially and serve to modify the main clause in the same way adverbs modify individual constituents within a clause. The sentence in (90) contains an adverbial clause which expresses the idea of manner by offering more details about how exactly she climbed into the swing.

- 90) *ti* [ekdəm ɬop dede] dijan ge ugæt a~  
 ABS.SG.ERG immediately jump having.given.CP swing to climbed and  
*yun ge ziŋen bašen wapəs gæ.*  
 moon to weeping crying back passed.SP.FSG  
 ‘Having immediately jumped, she climbed into the swing and returned to the moon crying and weeping.’ [bangabilo113]

The sentences in (91) have clauses which express temporal ideas. The first one contains both a phrase and a participial clause which illustrate temporal succession, while the second one illustrates concurrent time.

- 91) [te la pəš] se [relgareye iste] tunu əxbar  
 [ABS.SG.OBL from after] ABS.NOM [train to having.boarded.CP]one's own newspaper  
 budu.

looks.PRES.MSG

‘After that, having boarded the train, he looks at his newspaper.’ [dailypres009]

- [də he ç<sup>h</sup>i u punudud da] i  
 [then NEAR.NOM woman water was.drinking.IMPFV SUBMKR] NEAR.SG.ERG  
 pəš ke buda.

backside to looked.SP.3SG

‘Then, when this woman was drinking water, she looked back.’ [Deo010]

Example (92) expresses a degree of time, ‘many days,’ and direction is referenced in (93). In the case of this latter one, the speaker adds extra emphasis to the direction he is referring to by adding an afterthought, ‘to that Koshegen.’

- 92) čer die bat se pexor ke ga.  
 many day.PL.OBL after ABS.NOM Peshawar to went.SP.MSG  
 ‘After many days, he went to Peshawar.’ [Bachugul011]

- 93) pəy k<sup>h</sup>ən ge a dugona gudu, pəy  
 FAR.NOM mtns. to 1SG.NOM twice had.gone.PAST.PFV.MSG FAR.NOM  
 koşegen ge.

Koshegen to

‘To those mountains I had gone twice, to Koshegen.’ [hunting038]

## 5. FEATURES OF MORPHOLOGY

### 5.1 Inflectional morphology

#### 5.1.1 Noun inflection

##### Structure of nouns

Torwali nouns can inflect for number and case, and they can be characterized by the following formula:

94) STEM + (PL) + (OBL)

In other words, the stem can be joined with an optional plural suffix and an optional oblique case marker. The purpose of this section is to describe how these suffixes join with noun stems and how they are used to mark the function of nouns within a clause.

##### Number

Torwali uses several strategies, both morphological and syntactic, to mark plurality. The primary morphological method is tone. For example the word for ‘house’, aside from tone, has the same singular and plural form as is illustrated in (95). The difference is that the singular form has LH tone and the plural form has L tone. Verb agreement also confirms that the first one is singular and the second is plural.

95)	<i>æ</i>	<i>šír</i>	<i>č<sup>h</sup>i.</i>	<i>æ</i>	<i>šír</i>	<i>t<sup>h</sup>i.</i>
		LH			L	
	this	house	it.is.PRES.FSG	this	house	are.PRES.PL
	‘This is a house.’			‘These are houses.’		

The tone shift used to mark plural forms follows a systematic pattern and is illustrated in (96). If the tone of a singular form ends on a high pitch (H), then the tone changes in the plural. The change that occurs however depends on whether the stem ends with a consonant or vowel. If it ends with a consonant, the plural form will have a low pitch (L), but if it ends with a vowel, it becomes falling (HL). If however the singular form of a word ends on a low tone, no tonal distinction exists between it and its plural form.

96)	a.	/derin /	LH	[derin̩]	‘floor’
		/derin /	L	[derin̩]	‘floors’
	b.	/ç <sup>hi</sup> /	H	[ç <sup>hi</sup> ]	‘woman’
		/ç <sup>hi</sup> /	HL	[ç <sup>hi</sup> ]	‘women’
	c.	/anəbaş/	L	[anəbaş]	‘underground water channel’
		/anəbaş/	L	[anəbaş]	‘underground water channels’
	d.	/t <sup>h</sup> oŋ/	HL	[t <sup>h</sup> oŋ]	‘axe’
		/t <sup>h</sup> oŋ/	HL	[t <sup>h</sup> oŋ]	‘axes’

Sometimes, a plural form may involve a tone change alone, or a tone change along with a fronting of the stem vowel, as illustrated in Table 5.1. The last four pairs illustrate that some words have identical singular and plural forms, i.e., no tone change or stem vowel shift. So far the data has not revealed any examples of nouns becoming plural through vowel change alone. This could suggest that tone is the primary feature, and it may be causing the vowel shift in specific environments.

Table 5.1. Inflection of nouns

Singular forms			Plural forms		
yap	H	small canal	yəp	L	small canals (f.)
dan	H	tooth	dən	L	teeth (m.)
jumət	LH	mosque	jumæt	L	mosques (f.)
ɖæk	LH	old woman	ɖek	HL <sup>9</sup>	old women (f.)
ç <sup>hi</sup>	H	woman	ç <sup>hi</sup>	HL	women (f.)
ɖut	H	lip	ɖut	L	lips (m.)
ageš	HL	an abandoned sheep	ageš	HL	abandoned sheep (m.)
bal	HL	hair	bal	HL	hairs (m.)
netk <sup>h</sup> el	L	small nose	netk <sup>h</sup> el	L	small nose (f.)
ben	L	miscarriage	ben	L	miscarriages (m)

Gender often helps determine whether the vowel changes from /a/ to /ə/ or /a/ to /æ/. The former is generally applied to masculine nouns and the latter, feminine. However, this is an oversimplification and one that is not always correct. Some feminine words can inflect /a/ to /ə/, *yap*, listed in Table 5.1, is one example. Some masculine nouns also make the change from /a/ to /æ/, for example, *kət<sup>h</sup>an* ‘long fable’ becomes *ket<sup>h</sup>æn* (pl.).

<sup>9</sup>Does not follow the normal tone pattern for marking plurality.

Generally speaking, however, the vowel change posited in the preceding sentences is typical for plural inflection.

Reduplication is also used in certain instances to communicate a sense of plurality. It does not communicate the same plural meaning as tone does however. For instance, if *čey* means ‘tea,’ *čeymey* does not mean ‘many teas.’ When someone invites another to join him for tea. He might use the word *čeymey*, which means that in addition to tea, his guest would also be served cookies, fruit or some other kind of snack. *toṭe toṭe* is another example, but here, it really does mean ‘lots of pieces.’ Refer back to the end of section 3.1 for more discussion and examples.

## Case

In his manuscript published in 1929, Grierson accounts for a number of basic grammatical issues found in Torwali. His sketch, based on three historical type texts elicited by Sir Aurel Stein in 1926, begins by discussing the gender marking of nouns and adjectives. He also describes the case system as it applies to nouns. He claims eight different cases: nominative, accusative, agentive (ergative), instrumental, dative, ablative, genitive and locative.

While it is true all of these cases are present semantically, nouns functioning as instrumental, dative, ablative, genitive or locative occur in postpositional phrases and are all morphologically marked the same with the grammatical label *oblique*. Nouns marked for ergative case function as agents of ergative constructions and use the same morphological markers used to mark the oblique case.

An issue regarding the accusative case is not so clear. Semantically speaking, of course, there is no question that it exists. The question that we are faced with is whether or not the language morphologically distinguishes this case from the others, particularly the oblique case. Masica makes the claim that Indo-Aryan languages do not have a distinct accusative case (1991:365). If the discussion is restricted only to morphological case-marking on nouns, then there is no problem with this statement. If, however, the discussion includes pronouns, then the issue is not so easily resolved. On one hand, there is some evidence to substantiate his claim; after all when accusative case pronouns are compared with oblique case pronouns, we find that some significant similarities exist. Consider the first and second personal pronouns from Table 4.3: *mæ* ‘me’ and *me* ‘(to) me’,

*t<sup>h</sup>æ* ‘you’ and *t<sup>h</sup>e* ‘(to) you’, *mo* used for both ‘us’ and ‘(to) us’, as well as *t<sup>h</sup>o*, also used for both accusative and oblique forms, ‘you all’ and ‘(to) you all.’ Also we can see an overlap between demonstrative pronouns marked for accusative and oblique case in Table 4.5, which shows several forms used to mark both cases. Even the forms that are different have only a small phonological difference—a change in vowel quality or aspiration. Within the interrogative pronoun system (discussed in section 3.2.7), the distinction between accusative *kes* and oblique *kis* is also very small.

Even so, there are some important factors that suggest that the accusative case is indeed a distinct case. For one thing even though the phonological differences are small, no evidence has been found to support an argument that these differences are merely phonological variants of the same word. Therefore, even though the words are phonologically very similar, they are nonetheless minimal pairs. In fact, I would argue that some forms have two or more functions and that the categories for case can be distinguished by looking at the complete paradigm.

Furthermore, not only are they contrastive by their phonemes, but they are also contrastive in their distribution. Consider the following examples:

- 97) mi            lowe            hum [mæ]      ç<sup>h</sup>ay ma t<sup>h</sup>elnin.  
 1SG.GEN children.ERG also 1SG.ACC cliff from throw.FUT  
 ‘My children will also throw me from the cliff.’
- 98) ti                    [me                    qisa] tunu æ~      de      kiĵi.  
 ABS.SG.ERG NEAR.SG.ACC story own mouth with has.done.PRES.PFV  
 ‘She has told this story with her own mouth.’
- 99) ʈol xələk [tes]            yad            kodi.  
 all people ABS.SG.ACC remember do.PRES.MSG  
 ‘Everybody remembers him.’
- 100) [tis            ke] nin æp.  
 ABS.SG.OBL to sleep came.SP.FSG  
 ‘She fell asleep.’ (lit. ‘Sleep came to her.’)

The constituents in (97) consist of a noun phrase subject, ‘my children,’ a noun phrase direct object, ‘me’, a postpositional phrase ‘from the cliff’ and a verb ‘will throw.’ In this sentence, *mæ* functions as the direct object and is marked accordingly. Sentence (98) also contains a direct object ‘this story’ which contains an accusa-



tive case demonstrative pronoun. The sentences in (99) and (100) illustrate how the minimal pairs *tes* (ACC) and *tis* (OBL) contrast in their distribution. *tes* never occurs in a postpositional phrase and *tis* always does. The sentences in (101) and (102) were cited earlier, but are helpful here to illustrate again how the accusative pronoun and oblique pronoun contrast in their distribution.

101) *ḵahangir* [kes] *gintu?*  
*Jahangir* whom carried.PRES.PFV.MSG  
 ‘Who has Jahangir carried?’

102) *ti rəpəl* [kiske] *dit?*  
 he rifle whom to gave.SP.MSG  
 ‘To whom did he give a rifle?’

Finally, one last pair of sentences to illustrate this contrast is shown in (103) and (104).

103) *ṣərte* [mes] *gi de wa leghiri koa*  
 quickly NEAR.SG.ACC butter.oil with up fry do.2PL.JUS  
 ‘Quickly, fry this up in butter oil.’ [fugitive007]

104) [mis *ma*], *mo kalam ge bəḵnin.*  
 NEAR.SG.OBL from 1PL.NOM Kalam to go.FUT  
 ‘From here, we will go to Kalam.’

One interesting observation about these phonologically similar words is that the accusative forms are ‘e’ words: *tes*, *kes* and *mes*, and the oblique counterparts are the ‘i’ words: *tis*, *kis* and *mis*. So while there may be an overlap of pronouns having the same form and functioning both in the accusative case at times and in the oblique case at other times (like *mo* and *t<sup>h</sup>o* previously mentioned), there are some forms that are distinctly accusative and others that are distinctly oblique. As already stated earlier more in-depth study of the Torwali pronoun system is needed. However, regarding the status of the accusative case, I have found no evidence to suggest that it is not an important part of the language.

Now then, as previously mentioned, except for pronouns (see section 4.2), the language does not have a full-fledged morphological case-marking system. Subjects are not marked unless they occur as the agent in an ergative construction (see section 6.3). In that context, the noun takes an ergative suffix marker *-e* or *-a*. By contrast, subjects of intransitive clauses and direct objects are not marked for case.

Generally speaking singular ergative and oblique forms do not carry an overt case marker. Only when they are also plural, is the suffix attached to the noun stem as illustrated in (105).

- |      |                          |                                 |
|------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 105) | <i>a šir ma ap.</i>      | <i>a šir -e ma ap.</i>          |
|      | I house from came.SP.MSG | I house.OBL.PL from came.SP.MSG |
|      | ‘I came from the house’  | ‘I came from the houses.’       |

The noun *šir* occurs in postpositional phrases in example (105). In the first sentence, *šir* is singular. In the second sentence, it is plural. Notice that it is in this environment of oblique and plural that the conditions are met for the oblique suffix to occur. However, there are times when exceptions to this generalization occur. The subject of sentence (106) for instance is singular; therefore, the ergative suffix marker is not expected. One would not expect *šir* in (107) to have a case marker either. Compare this sentence with another similar sentence cited earlier (95) where the plural form does not include the suffix *-e*. The sentence in (107) is perplexing because *šir* does not occur in a postpositional phrase, and the sentence construction is certainly not an ergative construction and yet it carries an oblique marker.

- |      |   |            |         |        |    |          |      |         |        |                   |
|------|---|------------|---------|--------|----|----------|------|---------|--------|-------------------|
| 106) | ti  | po -e      | soč     | ki.    |    |          |      |         |        |                   |
|      | ABS.SG.ERG  | boy.ERG.SG | thought | did.SP |    |          |      |         |        |                   |
|      | ‘That boy thought’ [tradition007]                                     |            |         |        |    |          |      |         |        |                   |
|      |   |            |         |        |    |          |      |         |        |                   |
| 107) | pura  | kun        | o       | towal  | me | təgribən | čəw  | so      | šir -e | t <sup>h</sup> i. |
|      | all   | Kun        | and     | Torwal | in | about    | four | hundred | houses | are.PRES.PL       |
|      | ‘In all Torwal and Kun there are about four hundred houses.’ [kun009] |            |         |        |    |          |      |         |        |                   |

Several more examples like these can be found in the data corpus used for this analysis. I suspect that tone is probably an important factor here. As the analysis of Torwali grammar has progressed, I have come to realize that tone plays a very significant role in the language, more than just distinguishing lexical morphemes in phonology. It affects many different areas of Torwali grammar as has been mentioned throughout this paper. It is evident that tone will need to be analyzed from a lot of different angles to address all of the questions that have been raised thus far in the paper.

To conclude this section on noun inflection, I cite a few examples to illustrate how the majority of ergative and oblique-marked nouns operate within the language. The first two are ergative constructions where the agent is plural, and the last one contains a clause with an oblique form of a plural noun.

108) so -e        næ zər -e        ti                ma səwəq çiz̩u.  
 100s.ERG no 1000s.ERG ABS.SG.OBL from lesson learned.PFV.MSG  
 ‘Hundreds, no thousands (of boys) learned lessons from him.’ [bachagul026]

tʰed mo -e        tunu saman        tʰəw                o gəy....  
 there 1PL.ERG own belongings threw.SP.MSG and went.SP.PL  
 ‘We put our bags there and went....’ [hunting029]

du kul                tunu kən -e        wa tʰelde....  
 two kernels.of.grain own ears.PL.OBL up having.thrown.CP  
 ‘Having thrown two kernels of grain into her ears,...’ [zadul030]

## 5.1.2 Verb inflection

### Structure of finite verbs

Masica posits the structure in (109) as a basic structure of finite verbs in Indo-Aryan languages, and claims that nearly all languages within this family use this template with only small modifications (1991:258-9).

109) Stem + Aspect marker + (c) + Tense/Mood marker + (c)

Simply stated, this means that suffixed to the verb stem is an aspect marker followed by an agreement marker for some Indo-Aryan languages (marked ‘c’ for concord) which is followed by a tense or mood marker and an agreement marker, again optionally occurring in some languages. A modification of this proposed template has proven very helpful in analyzing the realis verb forms documented in Torwali as shown in Table 5.3. In Torwali, the aspect marker and its agreement marker slots have been merged into one and marked ASP. Most all verb forms make gender and number distinctions only, no distinction for person. This results in a three-way verb agreement system, masculine singular, feminine singular and plural. Note that masculine and feminine plural are both marked the same. Jussive mood is the one case where distinctions are made between person and number, not gender and number. It will be addressed later in this section.

The irrealis forms, namely the future tense and inceptive aspect, do not include gender, number or person agreement on the verb, as shown in Table 5.5. The repetition in that table is meant to illustrate this point. This is also true for the imperfective aspect. Although semantically it should be grouped with other realis forms, imperfective has been grouped with irrealis forms in this paper since it follows the same morphological pattern. In

addition to realis, irrealis and jussive moods just mentioned, Torwali also has a potential mood which is marked by a special suffix. It too will be discussed shortly.

### **Tense, aspect and mode**

Torwali has three tenses: past, present, and future. It also makes three aspectual distinctions: perfective, used to mark completed events, imperfective, used to mark events either ongoing in the past or habitually reoccurring, and inceptive, which refers to events about to begin. As already stated, only realis forms carry gender and number agreement marking.

At least two phonological issues are illustrated in Table 5.3 and following: palatalization of the plosive *-d* used to mark present tense on the feminine singular forms, and the fronting of the stem vowel, also on the feminine singular forms. It seems reasonable to conclude that the suffix *-i* is causing both phonological processes to occur. It also seems reasonable to conclude that since the plural forms do not undergo this process that the suffix marking these forms has an abstract phoneme /u/ which blocks both the palatalization and vowel-fronting. With this in mind, I am positing *-u* as the masculine singular suffix, *-i* as the feminine singular suffix and *-ui* as the plural suffix. If we make a rule that states  $\text{ə} \rightarrow \text{e}/\_\_ \text{Ci}$  and order it before the abstract /u/ is deleted by a second rule, then we can account for the fronting of the stem vowel in the feminine forms. A separate weakening rule that states that the plosive becomes continuant before the suffix *-i* would also apply before the deletion of the /u/ in the suffix *-ui*.

Another process to note is the epenthesis of the schwa between the stem and tense marker in the present tense. If we order the fronting rule before this epenthesis rule, then the epenthetic schwa will not be affected.

An alternative analysis would be to suggest that the feminine singular marker includes, in addition to the suffix, an autosegmental feature that spreads leftward and palatalizes the tense marker and fronts the quality of the stem vowel. The plural marker would not have a similar feature to cause stem vowel change so positing *-ui* would not be necessary. In other words, it is morphologically determined for feminine forms only. The advantage of this analysis is that one autosegmental feature alone could be posited to explain both processes. Unfortunately, a complete analysis of this phonological issue is beyond the scope of this paper. For the purposes of this paper, I've chosen the more traditional analysis of positing the underlying phoneme and the ordering of

rules to account for these phonological processes. Nevertheless this preliminary analysis has uncovered a very interesting problem that can be examined more fully sometime in the future.

Blank spaces in the tables denote irrelevance for that grammatical feature. Placing null ( $\emptyset$ ) in the tense and agreement column for simple perfective verbs means that the feature tense is relevant, but is not overtly marked.

Table 5.3. Realis: Torwali finite verb forms, *həz* ‘laugh’

		Stem	Asp/C	T/M	C		
<b>Present (PRES)</b>	MSG	<i>həz</i>		-d	-u	<i>həzədu</i>	‘he laughs’
	FSG	<i>həz</i>		-d	-i	<i>həzəji</i>	‘she laughs’
	PL	<i>həz</i>		-d	-ui	<i>həzədi</i>	‘they laugh’
<b>Simple perfective (SP)</b>	MSG	<i>həz</i>	-u	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$	<i>həzu</i>	‘he laughed’
	FSG	<i>həz</i>	-i	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$	<i>hezi</i>	‘she laughed’
	PL	<i>həz</i>	-ui	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$	<i>həzi</i>	‘they laughed’
<b>Present perfective (PRES PFV)</b>	MSG	<i>həz</i>	-u	-d	-u	<i>həzudu</i>	‘he has laughed’
	FSG	<i>həz</i>	-i	-d	-i	<i>heziji</i>	‘she has laughed’
	PL	<i>həz</i>	-ui	-d	-ui	<i>həzidi</i>	‘they have laughed’
<b>Past perfective (PAST PFV)</b>	MSG	<i>həz</i>	-u	-š	-u	<i>həzušu</i>	‘he had laughed’
	FSG	<i>həz</i>	-i	-š	-i	<i>heziši</i>	‘she had laughed’
	PL	<i>həz</i>	-ui	-š	-ui	<i>həziši</i>	‘they had laughed’

Table 5.5. Irrealis: Torwali finite verb forms, *həz* ‘laugh’

		Stem	T/M		
<b>Future (FUT)</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	<i>həz</i>	-nin	<i>həznin</i>	‘I/we will laugh’
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	<i>həz</i>	-nin	<i>həznin</i>	‘you/you all will laugh’
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	<i>həz</i>	-nin	<i>həznin</i>	‘he/she/they will laugh’
<b>Inceptive (INC)</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	<i>həz</i>	-usæt	<i>həzusæt</i>	‘I/we start to laugh’
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	<i>həz</i>	-usæt	<i>həzusæt</i>	‘you/you all start to laugh’
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	<i>həz</i>	-usæt	<i>həzusæt</i>	‘he/she/they start(s) to laugh’
<b>Imperfective (IMPFV)</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	<i>həz</i>	-udud	<i>həzudud</i>	‘I/we was/were laughing’ ‘I/we used to laugh’
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	<i>həz</i>	-udud	<i>həzudud</i>	‘you/you all were laughing’ ‘you/you all used to laugh’
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	<i>həz</i>	-udud	<i>həzudud</i>	‘he/she/they was/were laughing’ ‘he/she/they used to laugh’

Table 5.7 illustrates how this vowel fronting process spreads even through verb stems having more than one syllable. Notice that the vowel /ə/ in both the first and second syllables of *ǰəndər* are fronted for feminine singular perfective forms. (The previous tables were designed to illustrate the difference between realis and irrealis mode forms. For the sake of space, the remaining tables will combine them, although the irrealis forms are retained at the bottom for quick reference.)

Table 5.7. Conjugation of a two-syllable Torwali finite verb, *ǰəndər* ‘live’

		Stem	Asp/C	T/M	C	
<b>Present</b>	MSG	ǰəndər		-d	-u	ǰəndərədu
	FSG	ǰəndər		-d	-i	ǰəndərəji
	PL	ǰəndər		-d	-ui	ǰəndərədi
<b>Simple perfective</b>	MSG	ǰəndər	-u	Ø	Ø	ǰəndəru
	FSG	ǰəndər	-i	Ø	Ø	ǰəndəri
	PL	ǰəndər	-ui	Ø	Ø	ǰəndəri
<b>Present perfective</b>	MSG	ǰəndər	-u	-d	-u	ǰəndərudu
	FSG	ǰəndər	-i	-d	-i	ǰəndəriji
	PL	ǰəndər	-ui	-d	-ui	ǰəndəriidi
<b>Past perfective</b>	MSG	ǰəndər	-u	-š	-u	ǰəndərušu
	FSG	ǰəndər	-i	-š	-i	ǰəndəriši
	PL	ǰəndər	-ui	-š	-ui	ǰəndəriši
<b>Future Inceptive Imperfective</b>	ALL	ǰəndər		-nin		ǰəndərnin
	ALL	ǰəndər		-usæt		ǰəndərusæt
	ALL	ǰəndər		-udud		ǰəndərudud

The preceding tables have presented finite verbs whose stems end with a consonant. Vowel-final stems follow the same pattern as consonant-final stems with only a minor modification. Plural forms tend to have an əy syllable-final stem before the plural suffix is added; however, not all vowel-final verb stems follow this same pattern. For example *ko* ‘do’ makes no distinction between gender and number in the perfective aspect. *ki* is used for masculine singular, feminine singular and plural forms. An interesting observation: One wonders if the simple perfective plural form reflects the underlying *-ui* agreement suffix that has been posited for this position. If so it could help explain the presence of /w/ in *məwi*.

One word of caution, when looking over Table 5.9, be aware that the second vowel in each of the double vowel sets is not located in the syllable coda position. Each vowel is the nucleus of its own syllable.

Table 5.9. Torwali finite verb ending with a vowel, *mə* 'kill'

		Stem	Asp/C	T/M	C	
<b>Present</b>	MSG	mə		-d	-u	məodu
	FSG	mə		-d	-i	məji
	PL	mə		-d	-ui	məydi
<b>Simple perfective</b>	MSG	mə	-u	Ø	Ø	məw
	FSG	mə	-i	Ø	Ø	məy
	PL	mə	-ui	Ø	Ø	məwi
<b>Present perfective</b>	MSG	mə	-u	-d	-u	məudu
	FSG	mə	-i	-d	-i	məji
	PL	mə	-ui	-d	-ui	məydi
<b>Past perfective</b>	MSG	mə	-u	-š	-u	məušu
	FSG	mə	-i	-š	-i	məyši
	PL	mə	-ui	-š	-ui	məyši
<b>Future Inceptive Imperfective</b>	ALL	mə		-nin		manin
	ALL	mə		-usæt		məusæt
	ALL	mə		-udud		məudud

Not all verb conjugation patterns are predictable. There are irregularities, as shown in Table 5.11.

Table 5.11. Irregular conjugation of a Torwali finite verb ending with a vowel, *ye* 'come'

		Stem	Asp/C	T/M	C	
<b>Present</b>	MSG	ye		-d	-u	yedu
	FSG	ye		-d	-i	yeji
	PL	ye		-d	-ui	yedi
<b>Simple perfective</b>	MSG	ye	-u	Ø	Ø	ap
	FSG	ye	-i	Ø	Ø	æp
	PL	ye	-ui	Ø	Ø	əy
<b>Present perfective</b>	MSG	ye	-u	-d	-u	aptu
	FSG	ye	-i	-d	-i	æpči
	PL	ye	-ui	-d	-ui	əydi
<b>Past perfective</b>	MSG	ye	-u	-š	-u	apušu
	FSG	ye	-i	-š	-i	æpiši
	PL	ye	-ui	-š	-ui	əyši
<b>Future Inceptive Imperfective</b>	ALL	ye		-nin		yenin
	ALL	ye		-usæt		yəwsæt
	ALL	ye		-udud		yəwdud

The most obvious irregularity in the conjugation of *ye* ‘come’ are the new lexical forms occurring in the perfective aspect series (*ap*, *æp* and *əy*, etc), an example of stem suppletion. Once again, the same vowel-fronting process remains on the feminine singular form.

Torwali attaches the suffix *-a* to any transitive or intransitive verb to form its causative counterpart. It attaches directly to the verb stem as illustrated in Table 5.13 and in this example is translated to mean ‘make (someone) write.’

Table 5.13. Causative verb forms (realis and irrealis combined), *lig* ‘write’

		Stem	Caus	Asp/C	T/M	C	
<b>Present</b>	MSG	lig	-a		-d	-u	ligadu
	FSG	lig	-a		-d	-i	ligaǰi
	PL	lig	-a		-d	-ui	ligadi
<b>Simple perfective</b>	MSG	lig	-a	-u	-t	∅	ligat
	FSG	lig	-a	-i	-t	∅	ligæt
	PL	lig	-a	-ui	-t	∅	ligæt
<b>Present perfective</b>	MSG	lig	-a	-u	-t	-u	ligatu
	FSG	lig	-a	-i	-t	-i	ligači
	PL	lig	-a	-ui	-t	-ui	ligati
<b>Past perfective</b>	MSG	lig	-a	-u	-š	-u	ligadušu
	FSG	lig	-a	-i	-š	-i	ligædiši
	PL	lig	-a	-ui	-š	-ui	ligædiši
<b>Future Inceptive Imperfective</b>	ALL	lig	-a		-nin		liganin
	ALL	lig	-a		-usæt		ligawsæt
	ALL	lig	-a		-udud		ligawdud

A couple of observations concerning the tense markers in Table 5.13 are noted. First of all, simple perfective, which is unmarked for tense in non-causative constructions, is marked with the suffix *-t*. Similarly present perfective forms also mark past tense with *-t*. There does not seem to be any phonological reasoning for the voiced tense marked used in non-causative forms becoming voiceless in these forms, especially when we see this occurring between vowels. Yet we can see once again the same pattern of the plosive becoming a fricative before the high front vowel marking the feminine singular form in the present tense. Past perfective uses *-š*, the same as is used in non-causative constructions.

One final observation concerning this table is that the paradigm reveals a vowel-fronting process involv-



ing not only the feminine singular form, but also the plural. In non-causative forms, this process is primarily relegated to the feminine forms. However, here it is evident that it is the causative suffix *-a* undergoing the fronting process in both positions.

Torwali also has a *potential mood*, which refers to one's ability to do something, and a *jussive mood*, which includes imperative forms. The former involves a suffix *-ba*, which attaches to the verb stem. In the case of a causative verb, it attaches after the causative suffix. For example *ligbadu* means 'he can write', and *ligabadu* means 'he can make (someone) write'. Table 5.15 contains a few examples to illustrate the morphological breakdown of this form.

Table 5.15. Potential mood forms

		Stem	POT	Asp/C	T/M	C		
<b>Present</b>	MSG	pu	-ba		-d	-u	pubadu	'he can drink'
<b>Future</b>	ALL	lig	-ba		-nin		ligbanin	'will be able to write'
<b>Simple perfective</b>	MSG	pæn	-ba	-u	Ø	Ø	pænbaw	'could recognize'
<b>Simple perfective</b>	FSG	gəʃ	-ba	-i	Ø	Ø	gəʃbay	'could catch'
<b>Past perfective</b>	PL	bəj	-ba	-ui	-š	-ui	bəjbayši	'she/they could go'

Jussive mood has a unique morphological structure in the language. Rather than marking gender and number distinctions, it marks person and number. Two paradigms are provided in Table 5.17 for illustration, *bənu* 'to read' and *kow* 'to do'. Rough English equivalents would be 'I should read', 'you should read', etc.

Table 5.17. Jussive and imperative mood forms

	Singular	Plural
<b>1</b>	beni	beni
<b>2</b>	bən	bəna
<b>3</b>	bəne	bənən

	Singular	Plural
<b>1</b>	keyi	keyi
<b>2</b>	ko	koa
<b>3</b>	kuwe	kuən

Following Palmer's suggestion (1986:111), second person forms take the label imperative, while first and third person forms take jussive. The second person singular form is unmarked, nearly always identical to the verb stem form, while the plural form adds the suffix *-a*. Third person forms add *-e* and *-ən* to the singular and

plural forms respectively. Some data include: *kitab beni* ‘Let’s read a book,’ *bəne* ‘Let him read’ and *kam kuən* ‘Let them do the work.’

### Non-finite verb forms

Torwali has several non-finite verb forms: *infinitives*, *perfective adverbial participles* (referred to by Masica (1991:323) and other linguists working in this region as *conjunctive participles*), *perfective adjectival participles* and *imperfective adverbial participles*. The purpose of this section is to provide a brief description of the word-level features relating to all of these forms.

The structure of non-finite verbs includes the verb stem plus a suffix as illustrated by the formula in (110).

110) Stem + Suffix

### Infinitive

The suffix *-u* is applied to verb stems to form infinitives (INF). Because vowel clusters are not permitted within a given syllable, this suffix is transcribed as *-w* when attaching to vowel-final stems. Here are some examples.

111)	lig	-u	jəndər	-u	ko	-u	ho	-u
	ligu		jəndəru		kow		how	
	‘to write’		‘to live’		‘to do’		‘to become’	

112)	a	mali	si	biš	t <sup>h</sup> əlu	ma	pəš	ap.
	I	gardener	of	seed(s)	to.throw.INF	from	after	came.MSG.SP
	‘After the gardener’s throwing (planting) of the seeds, I came.’							

### Conjunctive participle

Conjunctive participles (CP) communicate the idea of a completed event. They also express a sequence of events. In English, these can be translated, ‘having completed the first action, I did something else.’ Aside from the suffix *-de* marking these kinds of verb forms, there is no additional morphological marking containing grammatical information on the verb. When this suffix attaches to a verb stem ending with a voiceless consonant, the initial consonant of the suffix also becomes voiceless, as in [-te]. Another fairly regular phonological feature is the fronting of the stem vowel. Consider *pešte* in example (113). The stem form is *pəš*, however, as

the inflected form is created, the vowel undergoes a fronting process, not unlike that which has already been discussed on several occasions already.

- 113) tə mimi yam çhie tes pešte  
 then in.the.meantime some women.PL.OBL 3SG.OBJ.ABS having.looked.CP  
 bənədi æ gujuræn kheda æpčia?  
 they.are.saying this Gujar.woman from.where.OBL has.come.PRES.PFV.FSG  
 ‘Then in the meantime, some women, having looked at her, said, ‘From where has this Gujar woman (a low caste woman) come?’ [Bangabilo103]

### Perfective adjectival participle

The suffix *-el* can attach to verb stems and create perfective adjectival participles (PAP) as illustrated in examples (114) and (115). As will be discussed shortly, this same suffix can derive adjectives from nouns. See Table 5.21.

- 114) se bəjel č<sup>h</sup>i; nə ušbaji.  
 ABS.NOM lying.down.PAP is.PRES.FSG not can.get.up.POT.PRES.FSG  
 ‘She is lying down; she cannot get up.’ [fugitive009]
- 115) se ka šey yabəne burel hu,  
 ABS.NOM what thing that concealed.PAP became.SP.MSG  
 mo tis ke pərda bənədi.  
 1PL.NOM ABS.SG.OBL to covering say.PRES.PL  
 ‘Whatever thing became concealed, we say (refer to that as) covering’ [parda003]

### Imperfective adverbial participle

Lastly, the suffix *-en* can attach to verb stems to create yet another non-finite verb form, imperfective adverbial participles (IAP). The sentence in (116) contains a pair of these forms to modify the final verb. The verbs **crying** and **weeping** are used to modify how the character **returned**.

- 116) ti ekdəm ɬop dede dijan ge ugæt a~  
 NEAR immediately jump having.given.CP swing to climbed and  
 yun ge [ziŋen bašen] wapəs gæ.  
 moon to weeping.IAP crying.IAP back passed.SP.FSG  
 ‘Having immediately jumped, she climbed into the swing and returned to the moon crying and weeping.’ [bangabilo113]

## 5.2 Derivational morphology

### 5.2.1 Compounding

Both nouns and adjectives can be combined with other nouns to create compound words. For example, *kişən* means ‘black’ and *kak* means ‘crow’. Both words can occur independently of each other, but when combined as a compound word, the meaning is similar to the English word ‘jet-black.’

- 117) æ            še    kişən-kak   t<sup>h</sup>u.  
 NEAR    thing   black-crow   is.PRES.MSG  
 ‘This thing is crow-black/jet-black.’ (pointing to something)

Here are some additional examples. Each compound word in (118) consists of an adjective and a noun. Semantic and morphological evidence for these newly-formed compound words is presented after the examples.

- |                    |                  |            |           |                 |
|--------------------|------------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|
| 118) ujl-zər       | lagur-zər        | lo-aŋa     | gən-aŋa   | čuk-ša          |
| ujl zər            | lagur zər        | lo aŋa     | gə aŋa    | čuk ša          |
| white gold.mineral | red gold.mineral | small fire | big fire  | sour spinach    |
| ‘silver’           | ‘gold’           | ‘Saturday’ | ‘Tuesday’ | ‘mustard plant’ |

Pairs of nouns can also be combined to create compounds.

- |                              |            |               |             |
|------------------------------|------------|---------------|-------------|
| 119) biş-p <sup>h</sup> izik | ša-šul     | čam-sak       | lamo-ŋan    |
| biş p <sup>h</sup> izik      | ša šul     | čam sak       | lamo ŋan    |
| hunger worm-related.disease  | head pain  | skin relative | bath person |
| ‘cancerous tumor, abscess’   | ‘headache’ | ‘epidermis’   | ‘swimmer’   |

According to Payne (1997:92-3), making compound words requires one of two criteria to be fulfilled. One is *semantic* in which the meaning of the compound word is different from the sum of its parts. Some of the previous examples meet this criterion. No one could predict that ‘sour’ plus ‘spinach’ would equal ‘mustard plant’, neither would one expect ‘skin’ and ‘relative’ to refer specifically to the ‘epidermis,’ although one can see a relationship in this latter set.

Other examples meet a *grammatical* criterion. In Torwali, compound words exhibit a change in tone—at least in some circumstances. For example, *ša* and *šul* both have a HL tone melody. However, when combined, the tone of the compound word changes to H. *kişən* is HL and *kak* is H, but *kişən-kak* is LH. Tone does not change in every case however. Consider *biş-p<sup>h</sup>izik*. Both morphemes have H tone, but so does the compound

word. I would argue in this case that this word meets the semantic criterion. This compound word does not equal the sum of its parts.

Kalami Kohistan also uses tone change to mark compound words. Baart states that in that language, if both elements have a monotone melody, the tone does not change (1999:65). For example, H-H, L-L, H-L and L-H combinations exhibit no change from their isolate to compound forms. However, a complex combination like H-LH cannot remain HLH, but changes to HL. A similar grammatical system may be at work in Torwali but further study is needed.

## 5.2.2 Nominalization

Torwali noun forms can be derived from adjectives as well as from verbs. Nouns can be derived from adjectives by adding the suffix *-ača* to the adjective regardless of gender. Here are some examples to illustrate.

Table 5.10. Nouns derived from adjectives

<b>Adjective</b>	<i>buk</i> ‘dull’ <i>masculine</i>	<i>bik</i> ‘dull’ <i>feminine</i>	<i>lin</i> ‘bald’ <i>m. and f.</i>	<i>ṭ<sup>h</sup>oŋ</i> ‘foolish’ <i>masculine</i>	<i>t<sup>h</sup>eŋ</i> ‘foolish’ <i>feminine</i>
<b>Noun</b>	<i>bukača</i> ‘dullness’	<i>bikača</i> ‘dullness’	<i>linača</i> ‘baldness’	<i>ṭ<sup>h</sup>oŋača</i> ‘foolishness’	<i>ṭ<sup>h</sup>eŋača</i> ‘foolishness’
<b>Adjective</b>	<i>bar</i> ‘fat’ <i>masculine</i>	<i>bær</i> ‘fat’ <i>feminine</i>	<i>ḷik</i> ‘long’ <i>m. and f.</i>	<i>ispor</i> ‘tasteless’ <i>masculine</i>	<i>isper</i> ‘tasteless’ <i>feminine</i>
<b>Noun</b>	<i>barača</i> ‘fatness’	<i>bærača</i> ‘fatness’	<i>ḷikača</i> ‘length’	<i>isporača</i> ‘tastelessness’	<i>isperača</i> ‘tastelessness’

Verb infinitives function as nouns as well. In English, these phrases would translate like a gerund: running, walking, etc. In Torwali, one can say that the infinitive is governed by the genitive case, which is marked by the postposition *sí*, in the same way nouns can be governed by this case. Compare examples (120) and (121). The surface structure at least in both sentences is identical. In sentence (122) the infinitive is embedded within the possessive phrase, and (123) contains two infinitives governed by *sí*. I have bracketed the relevant phrases for easier reference.

- 120) *baŋabilo yeræ [mi læsu si] pan ni č<sup>h</sup>i.*  
 Bangabilo that my.NOM to.escape of way not is.PRES.FSG  
 ‘Bangabilo (realized) that there was no way of my escaping.’ [bangabilo050]
- 121) *[tisi gam si] luṭ.*  
 ABS.SG.GEN village of children  
 ‘the children of his village’ [Bachagul019]
- 122) *čər [[səraɾu si] pota si] xət yæ hodu da*  
 very to.gather.INF of place.PL.OBL of letter ?? become.PRES.MSG SUBMKR  
  
*di mi duɣonša pəda hodu.*  
 day in twice open become.PRES.MSG  
 ‘Where there are places of much gathering of letters (in places where the boxes fill up quickly with letters), they are opened twice a day.’ [post003]
- 123) *[bogow how si] sat mi he pəda hodi.*  
 to.distribute.INF to.become.INF of time in they.OBL.FAR open become.PRES.PL  
 ‘At the time of distribution, they are opened.’ [post015]

Not only can an infinitive be governed by *sɪ*, but it can also occur as the object of another postposition, *ma* ‘from’ as in (124).

- 124) *a mali si biš [t<sup>h</sup>əlu ma] pəš ap.*  
 I gardener of seed(s) to.throw.INF from after came.MSG.SP  
 ‘After the gardener throwing (planting) of the seeds, I came.’

They can also be used for expressing purpose (i.e. for the purpose of...). Many verbs can be used in this way as illustrated in (125) and (126).

- 125) *te wəx me čhi [u si anu si] keja osoa ye*  
 ABS.SG.OBL time in woman water of to.bring.INF of for spring to  
  
*bəjʉdud.*  
 was.going.IMPFV  
 ‘At that time, a woman was going to the spring for the purpose of bringing water.’ [Deo007]
- 126) *legel [pot ʃanu si] keja č<sup>h</sup>i.*  
 broom place to.sweep.INF of for.the.purpose is.PRES.FSG  
 ‘A broom is for sweeping an area.’

Finally, infinitive clauses can occur as subjects of predicate nominal constructions as seen in (127).

- 127) *[gel k<sup>h</sup>ow] yora hodu. [k<sup>h</sup>ow] yora hodu.*  
 food to.eat.INF good becomes.PRES.MSG to.eat.INF good becomes.PRES.MSG  
 ‘Eating food is good.’ ‘Eating is good.’



- 130) æ                      po [biʃeɪ] hodud.  
 NEAR.NOM    boy hungry was.becoming.IMPFV  
 ‘This boy was becoming hungry.’

#### 5.2.4 Causatives and passives

According to Payne (1997:169), languages use various devices to mark the relationship between semantic and grammatical roles in clauses. Semantically, valence refers to the number of participants a verb communicates are ‘on stage’ in a given scene. Grammatically, it refers to the number of non-oblique noun phrase arguments present in that clause. Voice expresses the relationship between the verb and its grammatical subject. In a passive construction, for example, the grammatical subject of a sentence is not the agent of the verb. Instead a non-agent holds that position. Passive voice constructions, at least grammatically, usually reduce the valency of a verb by removing an argument, while causative constructions increase it. This section provides a brief overview of *transitive*, *intransitive*, *causative* and *passive* constructions as they have been documented in the language.

Torwali verbs are categorized by the number of noun phrase arguments with which they associate. Transitive verbs have two noun phrase arguments. Intransitive verbs have only one as illustrated in (131).

- |                          |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 131) maʃ    čey    pudi. | čey    payədu.     |
| man tea drinks.PRES.PL   | tea cooks.PRES.MSG |
| ‘Men are drinking tea.’  | ‘Tea is brewing.’  |

One of the features of the Torwali verb system is the ability to change the valency of verb by adding the suffix *-a* to the verb stem (which is found by dropping the infinitive suffix *-u* from either the intransitive or transitive forms). This suffix, when added to any transitive or intransitive verb, produces a *causative* verb. A few examples are included in Table 5.14. Some Torwali verbs have all three grammatical distinctions—intransitive, transitive and causative as illustrated in row nine. These cases usually involve a change in vowel quality to mark its transitive form. I have included example sentences after Table 5.14 to help illustrate the grammatical and semantic difference of these words.





135) se                    tælib    ĵænædi.  
 ABS.NOM    student understands.PRES.PL  
 ‘Those students understand.’

ostaz se                    tælib    ĵænædu.  
 teacher ABS.NOM    student understands.CAUS.PRES.MSG  
 ‘The teacher is making those students understand.’ or ‘The teacher is teaching those students.’

The three sentences in (136) illustrate the intransitive, transitive and causative forms of the word *ĵælu* ‘to burn’ respectively. The difference between the final two sentences (transitive and causative) relates to the degree of control the agent has over the object. In a sense, the agent in the causative construction is more indirectly involved, whereas the agent of the transitive construction is more directly involved in the burning of wood.

136) šæla si kəy    ĵælædu.  
 wood of board burns.PRES.MSG  
 ‘A piece of wood burns.’

a sæla ĵælædu.  
 I wood burn.PRES.MSG  
 ‘I burn wood.’

a plastik ĵælædu.  
 I plastic burn.PRES.CAUS.MSG  
 ‘I am causing the plastic to burn.’

In Torwali, a passive construction consists of two verbs. The first one, containing the semantic meaning for the clause and inflected with the suffix *-a* attached to its verb stem, is followed by the second, a fully inflected form of *bəĵu* ‘to go’ which functions as an auxiliary verb providing the grammatical information: tense, aspect and agreement for the clause. The agent, which is optionally stated, is marked with the postposition *keĵa*. (137) presents a typical active voice construction to which the remaining examples can be compared. The subject of (138) is masculine, and the subject of (139) is feminine. These are contrasted to illustrate verb agreement. (The final verb is the past tense form of *bəĵu*.)

137) a                    ĵaved    pænædu.  
 1SG.NOM Javed recognize.PRES.MSG  
 [ SUB ]  
 ‘I recognize Javed.’

138) me keja javed pæn -a ga.  
 1SG.OBL by Javed.M recognize.PASS go.SP.MSG  
 [AGENT] [SUB]  
 ‘Javed was recognized by me.’

139) me keja seræn pæn -a gæ.  
 1SG.OBL by girl.F recognize.PASS go.SP.FSG  
 [AGENT] [SUB]  
 ‘The girl was recognized by me.’

(140) and (141) show additional tense inflection. Notice also that the agent in (141) has been omitted. As previously stated, it does not need to be stated overtly within the sentence. The ordering of the agent and subject is not rigid. Either can occur sentence-initially. The decision to move one closer to the verb and not the other is probably a pragmatic concern, but will not be addressed in this paper.

140) seræn me keja pæn -a bəjnin.  
 girl 1SG.OBL by recognize.PASS go.FUT  
 [SUB] [AGENT]  
 ‘The girl will be recognized by me.’

141) seræn pæn -a bəjudud.  
 girl recognize.PASS go.IMPFV  
 [SUB]  
 ‘The girl was recognized.’

## 6. CLAUSE-LEVEL FEATURES

This paper began with a phonological analysis. Next, by examining the typological issues of Torwali, we were able to place some of basic grammatical features in the context of language universals. We then examined the various grammatical categories that exist within the language, after which we zeroed in even more closely on the morphological issues related to these categories. We move now to a higher level—the clause level and look at how these various grammatical categories operate at the clause level within the language.

### 6.1 Verb operations

Section 5.1.2 presented a discussion of issues related to verb morphology. This chapter begins with a look at verbs and their function within the clause.

#### 6.1.1 Complex verbs

Complex verbs, or complex predicates, are formed when lexicalized combinations of nouns and verbs or adjectives and verbs work together to function as a single predicate. Torwali has many examples: *ban kodu* ‘he closes’, *šoro kodu* ‘he starts’, *təwəs kodu* ‘he asks a question’, *ban hodu* ‘becomes closed’, *pəda hodu* ‘becomes open’, *ǰhik dedu* ‘he pulls’, *t<sup>h</sup>el dedu* ‘he throws’, *ǰəwab dedu* ‘he answers.’ When these verbs occur in their simple form (i.e. just *kodu*, *hodu* and *dedu*), they can be translated into English as ‘he does/makes’, ‘he becomes’ and ‘he gives,’ respectively. In sentence (142), the object of the verb is *dukan. ban*, which is an adjective meaning ‘closed’, is combined with the verb *kodu* to give it new meaning.

- 142) æ maş dukan [ban kodu].  
This man store closed do.PRES.MSG  
‘This man is closing the store’

The sentences in (143) and (144) further illustrate that the noun components of these complex predicates are in fact direct objects of the verb when compared to a typical sentence with a direct object, as in (145). \**he maş goa na əwaz kodu*. and \**æ maş ne də~ dedu*. are not grammatically correct because the negation particle must occur immediately before the verb in Torwali. It cannot occur before the direct object. Therefore, even

though a semantic relationship exists between the noun and verb in complex predicates, it is evident that the nouns retain their grammatical independence at the clause level.

- 143) he maş goa [əwaz na kodu].  
 this man oxen.OBL.PL sound not do.PRES.MSG  
 ‘This man does not make a sound (does not call) to the oxen.’
- 144) æ maş [dæ~ ne dedu].  
 NEAR.NOM man movement not gives. PRES.MSG  
 ‘This man is not running.’
- 145) har pa-yšime o šuğæra t<sup>h</sup>et ka~ ek [ləŋgər hum dedi].  
 every Thursday and Friday there something one charity.meal also give.PRES.PL  
 ‘They also give a charity meal every Thursday and Friday there.’ [kun035]

Other complex predicates are included in (146). They are cited in their base form (as infinitives) for simplicity.

- |                     |                 |                       |             |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| 146) istri kow      | kam kow         | k <sup>h</sup> æn kow | paydə kow   |
| iron to do          | work to do      | cough to do           | birth to do |
| ‘to iron’           | ‘to work’       | ‘to cough’            | ‘to create’ |
|                     |                 |                       |             |
| zəruṛət how         | paydə how       |                       |             |
| necessary to become | birth to become |                       |             |
| ‘to be in need’     | ‘to be born’    |                       |             |
|                     |                 |                       |             |
| dæ~ deow            | git deow        | lamo deow             |             |
| movement to give    | song to give    | shower to give        |             |
| ‘to run’            | ‘to sing’       | ‘to shower’           |             |

### 6.1.2 Location and direction

Payne states, “as tense grounds a situation in time, location and directional marking ground situations in space (1997:248).” Some languages such as Pashto use verbal affixes to mark direction in relation to a specific participant in a speech act. The sentences, ‘He is coming to my house’, ‘He is going to your house’ and ‘He is going to his house’ all contain distinct verbal affixes to mark the direction that *he* is going.

Torwali does not use these, but instead relies mostly on postpositions to express direction, for example, *šir ma* ‘from the house’ and *bazaar te* ‘to the market.’

It does however have a pair of verbs which are commonly used to contrast the idea of ‘going/coming *up*’ and ‘going/coming *down*’. This feature is probably due to the mountainous region in which the Torwali people live. For them, this vertical distinction is an important one. So for example, even though sentence (147) is

grammatically and semantically correct, sentence (148) is clearer if we are standing in Bahrain, which is higher in elevation than Peshawar.

- 147) a pexor ge baʃadu.  
I Peshawar to going  
'I am going to Peshawar.'
- 148) a pexor ge wodu.  
I Peshawar to go.down.PRES.MSG  
'I am going down to Peshawar.'
- 149) mo ɖoɖa si ban ge oxadi.  
IPL.NOM Doda of pastures to go.up.PRES.PL  
'We are going up to mountain pastures of Doda.'

Examples (150) and (151) show more of the same, but they have been taken from natural texts.

- 150) tisi e ba bənədu baŋabilo bilo wo.  
ABS.SG.GEN one brother say.PRES.MSG Bangabilo Bangabilo come.down.IMP  
'Her brother says, 'Bangabilo, come down'' [Bangabilo038]
- 151) go ʒat mi bəʃusæt a~ ɖigua zadul si bešel set wowsæt.  
ox morning in goes.INC and evening.OBL Zadul of flute with comes.down.INC  
'The ox goes (out) in the morning and comes back down in the evening with (the sound of) Zadul's flute.' [zadul052]

## 6.2 Predicate nominals and related constructions

This section describes the features that characterize predicate nominals, predicate adjectives, existentials, locatives and possessive clauses. These are grouped together because they share some linguistic features; they use the same basic clause structure governed by the copula. Note that within all of the examples in this section, the copula carries gender and number agreement with the subject.

### 6.2.1 Predicate nominals

Payne draws a distinction between two types of predicate nominals—proper inclusion and equative. An example of proper inclusion in English is *He is a teacher* where *he* is a member of a larger group known as *teachers*. This example differs from *He is my father*, where both the subject and predicate noun are identical. Some languages make a grammatical distinction between these two types of sentences. However, most do not.

Torwali does not either. Here are some examples of predicate nominals in present and past tense. Each predicate nominal has a slightly different form, but the clause structure is the same.

- 152) se mi šu č<sup>h</sup>i.  
 ABS 1SG.GEN sister is.PRES.FSG  
 [SUB] [ PRED NP ]  
 ‘She is my sister.’ [Fugitive009]
- 153) ek ɖakxana wala thu.  
 one post office person is.PRES.MSG  
 [SUB] [ PRED NP ]  
 ‘One is a postal worker.’ [Darolay037]
- 154) se jumæt si tælib ašu.  
 ABS mosque of student was.PAST.MSG  
 [SUB] [ PRED NP ]  
 ‘He was a student of the mosque.’ [Bachagul016]

## 6.2.2 Predicate adjectives

Predicate adjectives use the same grammatical form as predicate nominals with the predicate occurring immediately before the copula. The sentences in examples (155) through (158) show subject-verb agreement, as well as gender agreement between predicate adjectives and the subjects they modify. (Remember from discussions in section 4.4 that Torwali adjectives only inflect for gender. They make no distinctions between singular and plural. Also remember that plural verb forms do not distinguish gender (see section 5.1.2)).

- 155) ti bənu æ pot čer šijə t<sup>h</sup>u  
 ABS.SG.ERG said.SP.MSG this place.MSG very beautiful.M is.PRES.MSG  
 [ SUB ] [ PRED ADJ ]  
 ase čer xətərnak t<sup>h</sup>u.  
 but very dangerous.M is.PRES.MSG  
 [ PRED ADJ ]  
 ‘He said, ‘This place is very beautiful, but very dangerous.’” [Danghara003]
- 156) æ pot čer šijə t<sup>h</sup>i.  
 NEAR.NOM place.MPL very beautiful are.PRES.PL  
 ‘These places are very beautiful.’
- 157) æ šir čer šije č<sup>h</sup>i.  
 NEAR.NOM house.FSG very beautiful.F are.PRES.FSG  
 ‘This house is very beautiful.’

- 158) æ            šir            čer    šijë            t<sup>h</sup>i.  
 NEAR.NOM house.FPL very beautiful.F are.PRES.PL  
 ‘These houses are very beautiful.’

### 6.2.3 Existentials

Existentials differ a little in that only the subject position is filled. Unlike English, which uses the semantically empty filler *there* as the subject like in *There is a house*, Torwali speakers position the noun phrase as the subject. They say the ‘one mountain village is’ as shown in (159) and following:

- 159x135) bahrain ma    du k<sup>h</sup>əna            mi    ye [e ban]            t<sup>h</sup>u.  
 Bahrain from far mountain.PL.OBL inside to one mtn.village.M is.PRES.MSG  
 [            LOCATIVE PHRASE            ] [ SUB NP ]  
 ‘There is one mountain village in the mountains far from Bahrain.’ [Belae003]
- 160) buma si u            si keja mamuṛ yab            č<sup>h</sup>i.  
 field.F of water.M of for that.is canal.F. is.PRES.FSG  
 [EXISTENTIAL PURPOSE PH.]            [SUB NP]  
 ‘For watering the fields, there is a canal.’ [Kun018]
- 161) tel            čer gən iṣ            t<sup>h</sup>i.  
 over.there very many bears are.PRES.PL  
 [LOC PH] [ SUB NP ]  
 ‘Over there are many, many bears.’ [Danghara004]

Regarding the status of weather like ‘it is raining’ or ‘it is snowing’, Torwali uses a separate verb form for these. An example is cited in (162). (One comment, the postpositional phrase *zed ma* ‘from the top’ has been phonologically merged into a single word, *zedā*. This is a common occurrence in the language.)

- 162) a~ zeda    him muṣṣji.  
 and top.from snow snowing.PRES.FSG  
 ‘From the top (of the mountain), it is snowing.’ [hunting012]

### 6.2.4 Locatives

Locatives also resemble the predicate noun and adjective clause form as illustrated in (163) and the following:



- 163) mudam mo kəna mi aši.  
 always 1PL.NOM mountains.PL.OBL in were.PAST.PL  
 [ SUB ] [ LOC PHASE ]  
 ‘We were always in these hills.’ [hunting002]
- 164) dwi muş tukri ma bar t<sup>h</sup>u.  
 other mouse.M trash.can from outside is.PRES.MSG  
 [ SUB ] [ LOC PHRASE ]  
 ‘The other mouse is outside the trash can.’
- 165) də se ke~t bešte činær si ʒed bet čhia.  
 ?? ABS where having.gone.CP poplar.tree.PL of top sitting is.PRES.FSG  
 [ SUB ] [ LOC PHRASE ] [PRED ADJ]  
 ‘She, having gone somewhere, is sitting in the poplar tree.’ (She went somewhere, and is (now) sitting in a tree.) [Bangabilo033]

### 6.2.5 Possessive clauses

As with the existential examples (159) to (160), semantically empty units are not used to fill vacant constituent slots. Example (166) literally says ‘my two children are.’

- 166) mi du lo t<sup>h</sup>i.  
 1SG.GEN two children.PL are.PRES.PL  
 [ POS NP SUB ]  
 ‘I have two children.’

*Alienable* possession expressed as a clause uses a locative phrase construction as illustrated in (167). This example means that the speaker does not know if the listener owns a car or not. In contrast, the speaker in example (168) knows that his friend owns a car, but he or she does not know if it is available to use or not. Perhaps, it is broken down or being used by someone else. The use of possessive pronouns here and in (169) suggests a more permanent ownership of the car. Payne refers to permanent possession as *inalienable* possession, and would probably not apply this term to a car since it can be sold. Nevertheless, the grammatical construction suggests that in their culture, a car is reasonably permanent. In contrast to the sentence in (169), *me keš gare č<sup>h</sup>i* ‘I have a car’ suggests that the car he or she has is not his or her own, but someone else’s.

- 167) t<sup>h</sup>e keš gare č<sup>h</sup>i?  
 2SG.OBL with car.F is.PRES.FSG  
 [LOC PHRASE] [SUB]  
 ‘Do you have a car?’

- 168) č<sup>h</sup>i            gare    č<sup>h</sup>i?  
 2SG.GEN    car.F is.PRES.FSG  
 [ POS NP SUB ]  
 ‘Do you have a car?’ (The assumption is that you have a car, but the question is, “is it available?”)
- 169) mi            gare    č<sup>h</sup>i.  
 1SG.GEN    car.F is.PRES.FSG  
 [ POS NP SUB ]  
 ‘I have a car.’ (This could be a response to the question asked in either (167) and (168))

The purpose of this section has been to illustrate two things. First of all, whether it is a predicate nominal, existential, locative or possessive clause structure, the copular verb is used. Secondly, we can group predicate nominal, predicate adjective and locative clauses together as being the most similar to each other, and existential and possessive clauses in another sub-group because of the similarities in clause structure they share. (I am thinking of the ‘My children are’ and ‘Mountain village is’ examples.) A similar grouping can be found in neighboring languages.

## 6.3 Grammatical relations

### 6.3.1 Split ergative system

Dixon (1994) outlines a variety of *split systems*, systems that mix nominative-accusative and absolutive-ergative types. These splits may be based on the semantic nature of either the verb or noun phrase, or based on main clause versus dependent clause occurrences or it might be conditioned by tense, aspect or mood<sup>10</sup>. It is this latter feature that is key in understanding the split-ergative system operating in Torwali. In order to prevent any ambiguity in this section of the paper, I have followed Dixon’s method of referring to the subject of an intransitive verb as *subject* and the subject of a transitive verb as *agent*.

### 6.3.2 Nominative-accusative case marking and agreement

Clauses having a non-perfective aspect or non-future tense use a nominative-accusative system where both the agent of a transitive verb and the subject of an intransitive verb manifest the same agreement marking on the verb (as discussed in section 5.1.2). Morphologically, unless they are pronouns, these subjects and agents are themselves unmarked. Word order, verb agreement and/or any case marking on other noun phrases in the

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<sup>10</sup>See Dixon (1994:70-110) for more discussion on these various types.

same clause distinguish constituent positions. Some examples are provided for illustration. Sentences (170) and (171) contain an unmarked noun phrase and pronoun respectively functioning as agent, and take the nominative case. Verb agreement in both sentences shows agreement with these agents as well. The verb in (172) is marked for imperfective aspect, which does not inflect to show number and gender agreement, but the agent of this sentence is the pronoun *se*, which is in the nominative case. The last example contains an intransitive present tense verb. Case and subject-verb agreement follows the same pattern here as in the other examples. These features characterize the nominative-accusative system.

- 170) e po nin ma ište tem budu.  
 one boy.**MSG** sleep from having.awakened.CP time looks.PRES.**MSG**  
 ‘A boy, having awakened, looks at the time.’ [dailypres001]
- 171) tu kərači si bəju si kə ɕa təriqa istimal kobadu.  
 2SG.**NOM** Karachi of to.go.INF of. for 3 methods use can.do.PRES.**MSG**  
 ‘You can use three means to go to Karachi.’ [travel016]
- 172) se məze məze de k<sup>h</sup>owdud.  
 ABS.**NOM** enjoyment enjoyment with was.eating.IMPFV  
 ‘He ate with much enjoyment.’ [zadul011]
- 173) a əmede kun me dərədu.  
 1SG.**NOM** self Kun in live.PRES.**MSG**  
 ‘I myself live in Kun.’ [kun001]

### 6.3.3 Ergative case marking system

In contrast to the previous discussion, clauses with a perfective aspect or future tense are governed by the system of ergativity. Here the subject and object are marked the same, and distinguished from the agent of the clause. The subject and object are unmarked and the agent takes the ergative case marker. In contrast to the nominative-accusative system, the clause-final verb agrees in gender and number with the subject and object, and never the agent. Note example (174) where the agent takes the ergative case and the verb shows agreement with the object.

- 174) so -e nə zər -e jədəg -e ti ma səwəq ɕizu.  
 100s.**ERG** no 1000s.**ERG** boys.**PL.ERG**ABS.SG.OBL from lesson.**MSG** learned.SP.**MSG**  
 ‘A hundred, no a thousand boys learned a lesson from him’ [Bachagul026]

- 175) i                      ti                      zed yæri si kow      si košiš konin.  
 NEAR.SG.ERG ABS.SG.OBL on love of to.do.INF of try will.do.FUT  
 ‘She will try to make love with him.’ [parda012]

The sentence in (175) illustrates ergativity in the future tense. However, since verb inflection in future tense carries no gender or number marking, only the agent is marked. This same sentence is reproduced in (176) but in the present tense to show the shift in case for the pronoun from ergative to nominative. More examples of ergative clauses occurring in future tense are cited in (177) and the following:

- 176) æ                      ti                      zed yæri si kow      si košiš koji.  
 NEAR.NOM ABS.SG.OBL on love of to.do.INF of try does.PRES.FSG  
 ‘She tries to make love with him.’
- 177) tæ                      tis                      ki kitab denin.  
 2SG.ERG ABS.SG.OBL to book give.FUT  
 ‘You will give the book to him.’
- 178) po -e      səwəq çizənin.  
 boys.ERG lesson learn.FUT  
 ‘The boys will learn the lesson.’
- 179) mi                      lo -e                      hum mə      ç<sup>h</sup>ay ma t<sup>h</sup>elnin.  
 1SG.GEN children.ERG also 1SG.ACC cliff from throw.FUT  
 ‘My children will also throw me from the cliff.’

Here is one more example. (180) contains a complex sentence with both transitive and intransitive clauses, both of which are marked perfective. The matrix clause *t<sup>h</sup>e buda* has a transitive verb. This combination of perfective aspect and transitivity requires the ergative construction. The agent takes the ergative case and the verb agrees in gender and number with the object *Bangabilo*, even though that noun phrase is not overtly marked in the clause. The complement clause on the other hand is intransitive and as a result we see subject-verb agreement. Here *Bangabilo* switches to the subject position and the final verb agrees with this subject in gender and number. In contrast, if present tense were used in both clauses, then this sentence would no longer have an ergative construction and both verbs would agree with their respective subjects. This is illustrated in (181).

- 180) t<sup>h</sup>e                      buda                      baṅabilo      çinər                      zed beđiši.  
 ABS.PL.ERG saw.SP.FSG Bangabilo.F poplar.trees.OBL.PL on had.sat.PAST.PFV.FSG  
 ‘They saw that Bangabilo had sat on the poplar trees.’ [Bangabilo037]

- 181) se                    budi                    bangbilo    činær                    zed    bəǰəǰi.  
 ABS.NOM            sees.PRES.PL **Bangabilo** poplar.trees.OBL.PL on    sits.PRES.FSG  
 ‘**They** see that Bangabilo sits on the poplar trees.’

What is unusual about this split system is that both future and past events are combined under the ergative system. Dixon states that the orientation of a clause—whether it is a known event or merely a potential happening—helps one predict the form of the split. If a language has an ergative system, it will most likely be found in the past tense or perfective aspect where a series of events can be associated with the subject or object of a verb (1994:99). So the fact that Torwali applies ergativity to its perfective aspect clauses is not surprising. In fact, many of the surrounding languages have a similar system. Kalami perfective aspect has ergative marking and Pashto marks all of its past tense forms with ergative forms.

However, what about the ergative clauses occurring in the future tense? Dixon documents a language, Newari, which uses obligatory ergative marking in past *and* future tenses and optional ergative marking in the durative or progressive mood depending on other criteria (1999:101).

Similar to the Newari system, Torwali requires ergative markers for both perfective aspect and future tense. As just illustrated, all other tenses and aspects require a nominative structure. If the subject of an intransitive verb occurs in a clause having either perfective aspect or future tense, it is unmarked. The agent of a transitive clause, however, is marked in the ergative case. The objects in these same clauses are unmarked.

## 7. DISCOURSE FEATURES

### 7.1 Introduction

Discourse analysis allows the researcher to more fully understand clause-level phenomena including noun phrase operations, tense, aspect, occurrence of special particles and even what may seem to be free variation in constituent order. When viewed in its natural context rather than in isolation, we can find semantic and pragmatic answers to many questions which otherwise may not seem to follow any predictable pattern.

Natural texts can be subdivided into several types of genre, namely *procedural*, *expository*, *behavioral* and *narrative* (Longacre 1996: 8-10). These genre types have their own distinguishing characteristics; therefore, it is critical when one begins analyzing a text that he know what type of text it is. Procedural texts contain a series of steps that must be taken in order to complete a given task like building a house, and are often characterized by imperative verb forms. Expository texts may describe some place or they present a problem along with a proposed solution and supporting argumentation. Behavioral texts seek to change another person's conduct, and narrative texts consist of a series of sequential events involving one or more participants, such as stories and folktales and are usually marked by the rising and falling of tension.

In the following pages, we will take an in-depth look at a Torwali narrative text, a folktale that is widely known throughout the mountainous region of northern Pakistan. The story revolves around two main characters, a woman and a spirit-like giant referred to as *deo* by Torwali speakers. My claim that this text is a narrative is based on four binary parameters posited by Longacre (1996:8-10): agent orientation, contingent succession, projected time and tension.

Agent orientation refers to whether or not an agent can be identified within the text. Narrative and behavioral texts are *plus* agent orientation because they have at least one agent or character doing something in the discourse. Procedural and expository texts do not have any characters, so they are classified as *minus* agent orientation.

Contingent succession refers to whether or not a discourse contains a framework of temporal succession in which some events are contingent upon previous events. For example, a typical story contains a series of events that occur, each one building on events that have already happened; therefore, Longacre labels it plus contingent succession. A how-to procedural text also follows a sequence of events where each new step is contingent upon the completion of a previous step: “first you..., then you...” and so on. In contrast, behavioral and expository texts are not organized and presented in any kind of temporal ordering of events. Instead they may be arranged thematically and follow some kind of logical organization where certain conclusions are contingent upon other previously stated conclusions or assumptions.

These two parameters with their binary features are the parameters that distinguish narrative, procedural, behavioral and expository texts. Narrative texts are both plus agent orientation and plus contingent succession. Procedural texts are minus agent orientation, but plus contingent succession. Behavioral texts are plus agent orientation and minus contingent succession; and expository texts are minus agent orientation and contingent succession. This thesis is an example of an expository text. It has no character that is following a particular script, and it contains no framework whereby the events of one chapter are contingent upon the events of a preceding chapter. In fact, there are no events, simply a presentation of facts in a logical arrangement, not temporal.

The third parameter, projected time, distinguishes between events anticipated but not realized and events realized. An example of a narrative text that is classified as having plus projection would be a prophetic text. A budget proposal would also be categorized as an expository text having plus projection. On the other hand a folktale would be labeled as a narrative with minus projection. A eulogy would be classified as a behavioral text also having minus projection.

The fourth parameter, tension, is used to distinguish narratives with a plot and climax from narratives with only episodes but no tension. It is a more difficult to illustrate how this parameter is used to distinguish procedural, behavioral and expository type texts, but theoretically it would separate texts having arguments from those that do not. The text used for this project is classified as having plus features for agent orientation, contingent succession and tension, and a minus feature for projected time which in layman’s terms means it is a

narrative story with a plot and climax. See Longacre (1996:8-10) for more discussion on these parameters as they are used to distinguish discourse types.

Many discourse issues could be addressed, but the focus of this paper will be on three features: *profile*, *spectrum* and *participant reference*. One feature of a narrative is its rising and falling tension. Linguists refer to the highest point of tension as the climax. It is this rising and falling of tension that marks the profile of a text. Longacre proposes an etic template to describe a narrative's profile (1996:36-37) and we will apply it to *The Giant* text in order to observe some of its attributes.

The feature Longacre calls spectrum deals with how information is packaged and then ranked in a narrative text, ranging from the most dynamic (storyline events) to the most static (non-events like setting and evaluation) (Longacre 1981). He states that the positions along this line of ranking not only have semantic characteristics, but also correlations with morphosyntactic features, such as tense, aspect, mood, word order, affixes or adverbs. Spectral features of narratives vary from language to language so the goal of this project is to note those features which are specific to Torwali.

Languages also have their own way of introducing and referring to participants in a story, and with that are systems that track each participant through the story. Chafe (1994) and others have discussed the idea of new, given and accessible information presented in texts. If something has already been mentioned in the immediate preceding context, Chafe refers to this as given information. Accessible information refers to information that might not have been mentioned in the recent past, but the hearer can "access" his mental database for the information. New information refers to information that has not been mentioned before in the text. See Chafe (1994) for more discussion. Language-specific tools are used to mark these distinctions.

The text used for this analysis was recorded by Jahangir Khan, a mother-tongue speaker of Torwali. The speaker was a relative of his, an eighty-five year old woman. Together, he and I listened to the recording, transcribed it in Shoebox, glossed it word-by-word and added a free translation to each of the thirty-eight sentences. In addition to this primary text, I also referred to several other texts, ranging from thirty to one hundred sentences in length in order to double-check the generalizations that were made based on the primary narrative. (All sentences in this text have been numbered (S1, S2, S3, etc.) so that they refer to the corresponding sentence



in the text.) Sometimes the example is included with the discussion for easy reference. Other times the reader may want to refer to the appendix where the complete text has been included.

The goal of this chapter is to present some generalizations about some of the basic discourse features found in Torwali narratives. Because only a few texts were studied, the results of this analysis are only meant to serve as a starting point, an introduction to Torwali narrative features. Further studies are encouraged. To date, there has not been any published work describing any of the discourse features of this language.

## 7.2 Profile and peak

Narrative texts that have tension do not have a uniform level of tension, but instead have a rising of tension throughout the story which at some point reaches a high point and then falls. This rising and falling of tension is marked by various discourse features on the surface structure of the text. If we assign labels to the various points along this line of tension, this allows us to systematically dissect the text and examine the discourse features of each section. The assumption here is that such discourse features vary throughout the text. Longacre posits a set of labels which corresponds to the surface structure of a narrative text, and another set which corresponds to the notional structure. Surface structure features include morphosyntactic forms that mark shifts in time, location or agent, and they correspond to the notional level, which deals with issues of thematic unity. Two levels are posited because there is not always a one-to-one correspondence between the surface and notional structures. Sometimes such a correspondence may exist, but a storyteller can skew the lines between them in order to produce a desired effect, usually making the story more interesting. The details of how these two levels relate to each other in a general sense is beyond the scope of this paper; however, a very thorough discussion on this topic can be found in Longacre (1996:35f).

To begin the analysis, we can apply Longacre's template to *The Giant* following the principles that he has put forth. The result is a macrosegmentation of the text shown in Table 7.1. The labels mark important divisions in the story and each one, particularly the peak, has unique features which will be examined shortly.

Table 7.1. Macrosegmentation of *The Giant*

Surface Structure slot	Notional Structure slot	Sentence references	Summary of sentences
Stage	Exposition	S2-8	Setting of location and introduction to the main participants (woman, giant)
Prepeak episode 1	Inciting moment	S9-20	The woman meets the giant, learns of his love for her and begins visiting regularly
Prepeak episode 2	Developing conflict	S21-26	They become angry at each other and the giant hurts the woman
Peak episode	Climax	S27-32	The giant kidnaps the woman, but later decides to imprison her in her own house
Closure	Conclusion	S33-37	The woman still lives although she is old, and is visited only by the giant
Explanation	Implied moral	S38	Women should wear an amulet to protect themselves against the giant

The slot “Explanation” included in Table 7.1 is a slot that Longacre does not include in his etic version. However, it is not uncommon for folktales in this language to end with a one-sentence explanation of something. In this story, it is a comment made by the storyteller that has nothing to do with the storyline but highlights the purpose for which this story was told. Not all folktales include this “author’s comment,” but some do.

The reason for including (S38) at the end of the story would not be clear to someone from outside the Torwali culture unless they know something about the culture—that is, amulets are worn by women to protect them from spirits. By not wearing amulets or even removing them for a short time, there is a fear that a spirit, like the giant spoken of in this story, will visit them and the result could turn out to be disastrous. So with that knowledge, one can deduce from the narrator’s last sentence that the moral of the story is contained in an mitigated imperative: women should wear an amulet around their necks and not risk danger by removing it. This illustrates very clearly why Longacre posits a surface structure as well as a notional structure and how the lines between them can be skewed. On the surface, this text is a simple narrative, a legend, a folktale. However, it is not until the final sentence that the audience realizes that this narrative is told for a purpose—to encourage a certain behavior. Notionally, this text is classified as a hortatory text that uses a story to support its argument.

In another folktale, the main character Bangabilo runs away from her family and escapes to the moon where she meets an old woman weaving wool. After the conclusion of the story, the narrator adds one final ex-

planatory statement. He states that the dark part of the moon which is visible to the eye is actually Bangabilo weaving wool. In contrast to these two narratives, I also have other stories which have no additional explanatory comment. So this extra slot is not an obligatory slot in Torwali folktales, but it does occur in some stories and it is helpful to provide a slot in order to distinguish it from the story itself.

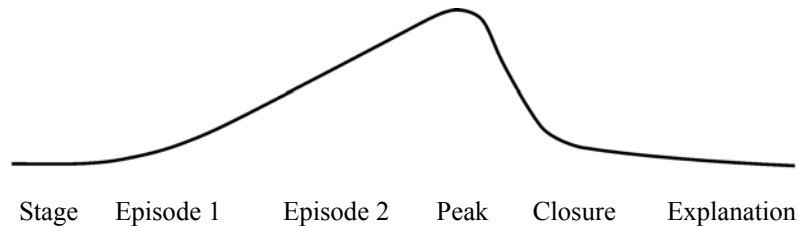


Figure 4. Profile of the narrative text, *The Giant*.

### 7.2.1 Stage: Exposition, S1-8

Except for (S1), which includes the title of the text, the *stage* is set in the first eight sentences of the story. Here the narrator introduces the two main characters of the story, the woman and the giant, to the audience. They learn where the woman is from and how she, like most women in her village, would go regularly to a spring to get water. They also learn of a giant with supernatural powers who has fallen in love with her. The narrator also explains that the story that will soon unfold was originally told by the woman herself. Most of these sentences use the copula in the present tense. Other verbs also occur with imperfective aspect. There is even one flashback sentence marked with the past perfective aspect.

### 7.2.2 Prepeak episodes, S9-20, S21-26

Episode 1 begins in (S9) with the temporal phrase, *e di* 'one day.' This sentence functions as the stage for this first episode, and the shift to simple perfective aspect in (S10) marks the beginning of the eventline. Although (S9) is not eventline, it is not included as part of stage because it provides the context for episode 1 only, not the whole story. It is included in this episode because going to the spring was necessary for her to meet the giant.

- (S9) he e di u anudud.  
 NEAR.NOM one day water was.bringing.IMPFV  
 (æ oso e k<sup>h</sup>ən si miye ašu.)  
 NEAR.NOM spring one mtn. of inside was.PAST.MSG  
 ‘One day she was bringing water. (This spring was in the mountains.)’
- (S10) də he ç<sup>h</sup>i u punudud da i pæš  
 then? NEAR.NOM woman water was.drinking.IMPFV SUBMKR NEAR.ERG backside  
 ke budu.  
 to looked.SP.FSG  
 ‘Then, when she was drinking water, she looked back.’
- (S11) e čæl zed gən e šey (maš) bəyel  
 one large.rock.OBL on big one thing man sitting  
 t<sup>h</sup>u, a~ me ç<sup>h</sup>i ye həzudud.  
 is.PRES.MSG and NEAR.SG.OBL woman to was.laughing.IMPFV  
 ‘A big thing was sitting on a large rock, and laughing at this woman.’

The audience has already been told in a previous sentence that she used to go to the spring. There is no reason to mention it again unless something happened during one of those trips, which is the case here. We can summarize these sentences as one thought: on one of those occasions when she was going to the spring to get water, she was drinking and suddenly she looked and saw a huge thing sitting on a nearby rock. It seems reasonable to see these sentences as part of the same thematic unit.

This first episode is also distinguishable from the stage by the initiation of a sequence of events. She looked back, she poured her water and left and she initiated a conversation with the giant by asking him a question. Each of these events is marked with perfective aspect and helps move the story along. With each event the tension rises a bit.

The second part of this initial episode contains a brief dialogue between the woman and the giant. Following this dialogue, the narrator adds some additional information. The spirit begins to visit the woman every night, and they begin talking with each other a lot.

(S20) te dia bat se deo hær zæt e me ç<sup>hi</sup> si  
 ABS.SG.OBL day after ABS.NOM giant every night in NEAR.SG.OBL woman of

kæš ke yewsæt a~ me ç<sup>hi</sup> zed betmet  
 nearby to started.to.come.INC and NEAR.SG.OBL woman on a.lot.of.talking

**kowsæt**

start.to.do.INC

‘After that day, that giant started to come to this woman every night, and started to do a lot of talking with this woman.’

The verbs of both clauses are encoded with inceptive aspect which is best translated in English as “start/started to (do something).” The emphasis is on the initiation of an action. In other words, it contrasts with an imperfective aspect which suggests an ongoing action just as in English. “He was visiting her every night” (imperfective) does not mean the same as “He began visiting her every night” (inceptive). While it is true that the latter sentence does suggest that he came regularly, the focus is on a specific moment in time when he **began** to visit and he **began** to talk with her. In this way, it has some features which are similar to perfective.

Episode 2 begins in (S21) with another temporal shift, *e di* ‘one day,’ a return to the simple perfective aspect and the introduction of a new prop, one that will cause even more tension between the two main characters. When the spirit-like giant brings the leg of a human, she becomes very angry, and her reaction causes him to become angry and he injures her. What is interesting in this part of the text are the two sentences that state that each of these characters became angry.

(S22) ti ma æ ç<sup>hi</sup> es te qara gøy.  
 ABS.SG.OBL from NEAR.NOM woman NEAR.SG.OBL to rage **went**.SP  
 ‘After that, this woman became enraged toward him.’ (lit., ‘...this woman [directed] rage toward him.’)

(S24) me deo de qar ap.  
 NEAR.SG.OBL giant on rage **came**.SP.MSG  
 ‘This giant became enraged.’ (lit., ‘Rage came on the giant.’)

In neither case is the verb *how* ‘to become’ used to express this sudden change in state. Instead, verbs of motion and direction are supplied. One gets the impression from (S22) that the woman did not only become angry, but “directed her anger toward the giant.” In the same way, instead of communicating to his audience that the giant became characterized by a different attribute (i.e. rage), the narrator gives *qar* ‘rage’ an agent-like quality which acts upon its patient, the giant, which further results in the action of (S25-26) where the giant inflicts the woman

with a significant and ironic injury. By using these verbs, the storyteller moves the story forward and simultaneously increases the tension.

### 7.2.3 Peak: Climax, S27-32

The story begins to peak in (S27) with the longest preposed adverbial phrase marking a temporal shift.

(S27a) bi te dawi di ye...  
 again ABS.SG.OBL other day to  
 ‘Then, on another day...’

Longacre describes the peak of a story as a “zone of turbulence” where the “routine features of the storyline may be distorted or phased out (1996:38).” Typically, dramatic changes in tense, aspect and mood, or deviations in word order can occur. Sometimes the focus shifts to a more specific person (third person to second or even first person). Sequential markers stop occurring, which means the apparent forward movement of the narrative ceases. The peak is usually characterized by a change in pace. There are a number of ways that the pace can be slowed or sped up, and Longacre offers an illustration from Ga’dang, a language from the Philippines (1996:40). He reports that in non-peak episodes, the verb-to-non-verb (mostly nouns) ratio is about 1:7 in Ga’dang narrative texts. At peak, however, the ratio proportion is 1:3 suggesting that the pace quickens at peak.

Just the opposite has been documented at the peak of this story. The verb-to-non-verb ratio at peak is 1:4 while in non-peak episodes it is 1:2. The number of non-verbs doubles during the peak of this text suggesting that the pace slows in order to include more description and less action, an example of *rhetorical underlining*. Another interesting statistical observation relates to how frequently the proximal and distal deictics are used in the text. The results are included in Table 7.3.

Table 7.3. Statistical analysis of spatial deictics

	Frequency of occurrence		Clause Count	Average percentage of occurrences per clause	
	<i>NEAR</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>		<i>NEAR</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>
<b>Episode 1</b>	10	7	20	50%	35%
<b>Episode 2</b>	8	4	11	72%	36%
<b>Peak</b>	6	11	9	63%	<b>122%</b>

The preceding table lists the number of occurrences that both the proximal deictic (marked NEAR) and the distal deictic (marked ABS) occur during the three episodes of the story. The middle column shows how many clauses are in each episode. Finally, the last column divides the number of occurrences for each deictic into the number of clauses to calculate an average number of occurrences per clause. For example, during the first episode, the proximal deictic occurred ten times. I also counted twenty clauses in the same episode. So this deictic occurs 50% of the time, or on average every two clauses. The part of this table which is significant is the average number of times the distal deictic occurs. A huge difference exists between peak (122%), meaning that on average a distal deictic occurs in every clause and sometimes more than once, and non-peak (35% for Episode 1 and 36% for Episode 2), where they average about every third clause. What seems strange about this is that one would expect just the opposite, more proximal deictics at peak to crowd the stage. It does not seem reasonable to mark the primary participants as being off center-stage during the peak of the narrative, and yet this is the strategy used by the narrator to emphasize what is most crucial when the proximal deictic are in fact used. When we discuss the participant reference system later in this paper and how it marks these two participants, we will find that they switch more quickly from center-stage to the periphery at peak as the focus shifts from one to the other. In (S29), at the point within the peak where the tension reaches maximum height, both participants are in fact center-stage, marked by proximal deictics.

(S29) he            əɾ   pən   ge   əwɔw   da            mi            ɕ<sup>h</sup>i        es  
 NEAR.NOM half way to to.arrive SUBMKR **NEAR.SG.ERG** woman **NEAR.SG.OBL**  
 ke   čer   minət.zæri   ki.  
 to much much.insistence did.SP  
 ‘When they arrived half way, this woman really pleaded with him.’

A quick look at another narrative text, *Bangabilo*, reveals that its peak is marked mostly by a shift from verbs denoting action in simple perfective to verbs denoting a state of being or a change of state. In that story, not as many different deictic forms are used to distinguish on-stage/off-stage, etc. Instead the narrator uses mostly distal pronouns throughout the story.

In summary, it is important to realize that from story to story and from storyteller to storyteller, information can be packaged in many different ways to serve many different purposes. Whatever the storyline features





- (S38) te                    ç<sup>h</sup>i      si maṛ      me e      teyis      ç<sup>h</sup>i                    te  
 ABS.SG.OBL    woman of neckline in    one amulet    it.is.PRES.FSG    ABS.SG.ACC
- teyis    yə    niḡaləji                    da                    se                    deo    te  
 amulet ??    remove.PRES.FSG    SUBMKR    ABS.NOM    giant    ABS.SG.OBL
- sat    me    tisi                    kəš    ke    hazer    hodu.  
 time in    ABS.SG.GEN    nearby to    present    becomes.PRES.MSG  
 ‘When there is an amulet on the neckline of a woman that she removes, at that time, that spirit-like  
 giant becomes present near her.’

### 7.3 Spectrum

Based on the profile of *The Giant*, we can posit some generalization regarding the spectrum of Torwali narratives. The term spectrum is used to refer to the packaging and ranking of information ranging from the most dynamic to the most static. As previously stated, these characteristics are language-specific. For example, the past tense in English characterizes both the storyline as well as some types of supportive material. However, Spanish and French use aspectual markings to distinguish them (Longacre 1996:23).

Longacre (1996:21) and others have stated the importance of distinguishing between events and non-events, which provide supportive material for the main eventline of the story, when discussing the ranking of information. He then divides these non-events into several sub-groupings: background, flashback, setting, irrealis, evaluation and cohesion. These groupings from storyline events down to cohesive material are termed *bands* and numbered from one to seven. Band 1 is the eventline and represents the most dynamic components of the narrative, Band 2 is background, and so forth all the way down to Band 7, the cohesive band. Bands 2-7 represent the more static components. Band 1 contains mainline or foregrounded information while the remainder of the bands typically contain non-mainline or offline information. From Band 2 to Band 7, there is also a gradation of saliency in that even within this category of offline information, Band 2 is higher than Band 7 in saliency.

Longacre has analyzed English narratives and made a number of conclusions regarding the packaging and ranking of information in English narratives. I have included his conclusions to illustrate how these bands are used to “package discourse information.” See (Longacre 1996:24f) for more discussion.

Band 1: The eventline is usually reported in past tense.

Band 2: Background information is usually reported in past progressive tense.

Band 3: Flashbacks are usually encoded using pluperfect.

Band 4: Setting is described using stative verbs and adjectival predicates.

Band 5: Irrealis references are reported with negatives and future tense.

Band 6: Evaluation often occurs in what he calls gnomic present and may include adjectives.

Band 7: Cohesion is achieved using back references, usually in adverbial clauses and is script predictable.

The assumption made by discourse analysts is that there is no free variation within discourse. Words, tenses, modes, adjectives, clause and phrase constructions, and word order are all chosen by the narrator for a particular reason (even when it is not always evident to the researcher). These all serve a higher discourse function. The next few paragraphs will consider some of the morphosyntactic forms in light of the discourse functions of the different types of information in Torwali.

### 7.3.1 Band 1: Eventline information

In Torwali, the simple perfective aspect marks the eventline of the narrative. If we extract all occurrences of the verbs with this marking in the story of *The Giant*, we will find that it contains a complete summary of the actions and motions of the story, a kind of macrostructure.

(S10) *buda* ‘she looked’

(S12) *bi* ‘she feared’

(S14) *dæ-y dit* ‘she left’

(S16) *təwəs ki* ‘she questioned’

(S21) *ap* ‘he came’

(S22) *gəy* ‘she directed (her rage toward him)’

(S24) *ap* ‘(rage) came (to him)’

(S25) *dak dit* ‘he shot’

(S25) *ga* ‘he went’

(S27) *qisa ki* ‘she told the story’

(S28) *geɽi* ‘(awareness) arrived’

(S29) *minət zæri ki* ‘she insisted’

(S30) *æni* ‘brought her (back)’

Note that none of these occur in the stage or closure of the narrative, only in one of the three episodes. This band does not include past tense forms of stative verbs like ‘to be’ or ‘to become.’ It also does not include negated verbs. They are accounted for elsewhere.

### 7.3.2 Band 2: Background information

Background information is usually encoded with imperfective aspect, for example (S7-8) *bəʃudud* ‘used to go, was going’ and (S9) *anudud* ‘was bringing.’ Narratives provide most of this kind of information during the stage; however, during the story, the narrator sometimes interjects some additional background information which has relevance for the immediate situation.

### 7.3.3 Band 3: Flashback

Flashback encodes as past perfective in Torwali, which is similar to pluperfect in English. Two examples occur in *The Giant*. If flashback is defined as more than simply the narrator taking the audience back to a previous time period, but actually refers to a past event mentioned out of sequence then the sentence in (S26) can be classified as a flashback too. When the woman woke up, the meat from her leg had already disappeared.

(S6) e deo ti zed məyən huʃu.  
 one giant ABS.OBL on love had.become.PAST.PFV.MSG  
 ‘A giant had loved her.’

(S26b) ...tisi məndəl ma jan mas guʃu.  
 ABS.SG.GEN thigh from much meat had.gone.PAST.PFV.MSG  
 ‘...a lot of meat from her thigh had disappeared.’

### 7.3.4 Band 4: Setting

The setting contains expository information which encodes using stative verbs (‘to be’ and ‘to become’) and adjectival predicates. It provides the context in which the narrative takes place, which includes information about the location, time, circumstances and sometimes participants. Usually it is all presented together at the beginning of the narrative in the slot labeled stage.

### 7.3.5 Band 5: Irrealis information

Irrealis information refers to information that either may happen (future), could happen (subjunctive) or did not happen (negative). Hwang states that questions have been raised about the function of this band since narratives are supposed to tell what **did** happen rather than what did not. Her response is that irrealis information serves several purposes, one is to mark turning points in the story and another is to provide additional explanation. She also says that in English this kind of information (particularly negated information) typically occurs more frequently at the peak, another way to emphasize the fact that tension is peaking (Hwang 1997:311). In *The Giant*, two of the four negated verbs occur in back-to-back sentences in the peak.

- (S31) æ            deo   te                    ç<sup>h</sup>i    zed   tisi                    šir    mi  
 NEAR.NOM   giant   ABS.SG.OBL   woman   on   ABS.SG.GEN   house   in  
 yes                    hum   nə   č<sup>h</sup>owdud.  
 other.people   also   not   was.leaving.IMPFV  
 ‘This giant was not even allowing other people into that woman’s house.’

- (S32) ...ti                    ç<sup>h</sup>i        bi    te                    deo   ye   qar   si   ki   bad   ni   ki.  
 ABS.SG.ERG   woman   again   ABS.SG.OBL   giant   to   rage   of   any   words   not   did.SP  
 ‘...that woman did not say any words of rage to the giant’

### 7.3.6 Band 6: Evaluative information

When the narrator wants to interject an opinion or evaluation about a participant or an event, he or she can use the jussive mood to express them just as is done in (S33).

- (S33) se                    ç<sup>h</sup>i        aš    hum   te                    šir    e   əmən   sed  
 ABS.NOM   woman   today   also   ABS.SG.OBL   house   in   oneself   with  
 howe.  
 should.become.3SG.JUS  
 ‘That woman should be living by herself in that house even today.’

Other likely evaluative realizations in the language would include descriptive adjectives, but I have not found any examples in the few texts I have studied to confirm this hypothesis.

### 7.3.7 Band 7: Cohesive information

In Torwali, subordinate clauses only occur before the main independent clause (also referred to by some researchers as preposed subordinate clauses). If subordinate clauses can be postposed in this language, they are

rare. Thus far, I have not come across one. In Torwali, these subordinate clauses serve the function of providing cohesion. They link sentences together making the transition between them more fluid. One of the functions of these clauses is to provide a time frame in which the events of the main clause occur. For example, in (S10) ‘When this woman was drinking, she looked back.’ In (S15) ‘When she arrived at the house, that spirit was sitting near her fireplace.’ Similarly in (S14) ‘This woman, having poured water by hand into her water jug, she left.’ In most cases, but not all, the proximal deictic is used in conjunction with the subject indicating that the information in the subordinate clause is given or accessible information.

In conclusion, based on the discussion over the preceding pages, I propose the following salience scheme for Torwali narratives.

Table 7.5. Proposed salience scheme for Torwali narratives

Band 1 Eventline	Simple perfective aspect (excluding stative and negated verbs)
Band 2 Background	Imperfective
Band 3 Flashback	Past perfective
Band 4 Setting	Stative verbs, adjectival predicates
Band 5 Irrealis	Negatives, future, jussive mood
Band 6 Evaluation	Jussive mood, descriptive adjectives
Band 7 Cohesion	Preposed adverbial/subordinate clauses

## 7.4 Participant reference

Every language has its own rules and restrictions concerning how participants can be introduced into a story and then tracked through the discourse. In English, a common strategy of introducing a new participant is with an indefinite article in a presentative construction, “There was a boy.” When the boy is mentioned a second time soon afterward, we might use a definite article, “The boy was thirteen years old” or a pronoun, “He was thirteen years old.” Using Chafe’s terminology, the indefinite article in English is used to mark *new information* and the definite article or pronoun, even the omission of the noun or pronoun in a clause, marks *given informa-*

*tion*, information that has already been made available in the story (1994). The purpose of this section is to examine this issue using this same Torwali text to see what generalizations can be made about the introduction and tracking of its characters.

This narrative contains two major participants, a woman and a giant, whose names are not revealed. The

let', mentioned in the final sentence of the text, is also introduced in the subject position. In contrast, *gam* 'village' where the original storyteller is from, along with the remaining props, *šir* 'house', *noseya* 'grandchildren' and *oso* 'spring' are not mentioned initially as subjects in their respective sentences, but as objects of postpositions. The reason *noseya* 'grandchildren' is interpreted as a prop rather than as a participant is because they (the grandchildren) do nothing in the story. It is not uncommon for some characters of a story to be treated like props, having absolutely no control over what happens to them. For this reason, it makes sense to group them with props rather than participants.

The second grouping, routine tracking, uses two primary strategies: demonstrative pronouns and zero anaphora. Both are used throughout the text, but the difficulty lies in trying to determine their unique purpose within discourse. Nevertheless, I have been able to make some initial conclusions about these two strategies. Zero anaphora occurs only in the subject position. It usually occurs in non-initial clauses, but as illustrated in (S15), it can also occur in sentence-initial clauses. It also only occurs in sentences where the preceding clause or the following clause contains the overtly marked subject. Demonstrative pronouns, however, are used when a character, who has already been introduced in the story, is referred to in a sentence and he or she needs to be distinguished from another character who is also mentioned in the same sentence. A full noun phrase is unnecessary to make this distinction and zero anaphora cannot make the distinction. This is the function of pronouns within Torwali discourse.

The last two groupings address the spatial characteristics of Torwali demonstrative pronouns. Typically, they are used to mark the distance between a referent and the speaker. Torwali makes a three-way distinction with these: near (NEAR), a little far but still visible (FAR) and out of sight (ABSent). In discourse, they serve another purpose in addition to marking physical distance. When used as modifiers, as in *se ç<sup>hi</sup>* 'that woman', the most distant deictics are used primarily to restage participants following a temporal shift even if he or she were the focus in previous sentences. When a temporal shift takes place, for example *te dia bat* 'after that day', participants are most often referred to with an ABS demonstrative pronoun, as in *se deo* 'that giant' in the same sentence.

Once participants have been staged, they can be given even higher status by being brought center-stage and made the focus during that specific part of the story by using a noun phrase consisting of a noun and a proximal deictic modifier, such as *mi c<sup>h</sup>i* ‘this woman.’

What is interesting in this text is that the giant, unlike the woman who is marked with proximal deictics almost immediately, is not brought center-stage until the beginning of the second episode. Before this, he has already made several appearances to her, and they have had one recorded conversation. The beginning of Episode 2 starts when the giant brings the leg of a human to the woman—his first real action of the story. At this point, his deictic referent changes from ABS to NEAR.

Table 7.6 shows the reference forms used for the participants and some of the props. The purpose of this table is not to show an ordered list of references as they occur in the narrative, but to illustrate how the different reference forms are used to refer to the characters and props in the story. For example, participants are first introduced in the context of a noun phrase containing the indefinite particle *e*. In contrast, some props are first mentioned in a simple noun form with no additional modifiers. Participants are tracked using zero anaphora ( $\emptyset$ ) and a variety of pronouns. Those used in direct quotations are bracketed (as in  $\langle\langle t^h a \rangle\rangle$ ). When participants are restaged, they are usually referred to by a noun phrase containing a distal pronoun. When they are given focus on center-stage, they are also referred to by a noun phrase, but this time with a proximal pronoun. Arranging references in a table like this allows us to see patterns more easily which enables us to draw conclusions based on the patterns we have observed.



Table 7.6. Participant reference

	Village	Woman	Giant	Spring	House	Amulet
<b>First mention</b>	<i>e gam</i> 'a village'	<i>e ɕ<sup>h</sup>i</i> 'a woman'	<i>e deo</i> 'a giant' (in Stage)  <i>gən e šey</i> 'big a thing' (in Episode 1)	<i>oso</i> 'spring.OBL'	<i>šír</i> 'house.OBL'	<i>e teyís</i> 'an amulet'
<b>Routine tracking</b>		∅  <i>tí</i> ABS.ERG  <i>tí</i> ABS.OBL  <i>he</i> NEAR.NOM  <i>i</i> NEAR.ERG  <i>isi</i> FAR.GEN  <i>tisi</i> ABS.GEN  <i>tes</i> ABS.ACC  << <i>t<sup>h</sup>æ</i> >> 2SG.ACC  << <i>t<sup>h</sup>e</i> >> 2SG.OBL	∅  <i>es</i> NEAR.OBL  <i>tí</i> ABS.ERG  << <i>tu</i> >> 2SG.NOM  << <i>a</i> >> 1SG.NOM  << <i>mæ</i> >> 1SG.ERG  << <i>tæ</i> >> 2SG.ERG	<i>oso</i> 'spring.OBL'  <i>æ oso</i> NEAR.NOM 'spring'	<i>te šír</i> ABS.OBL 'house'  <i>tisi šír</i> ABS.GEN 'house'	<i>te teyís</i> ABS.ACC 'amulet'
<b>Restaging</b>		<i>se ɕ<sup>h</sup>i</i> ABS.NOM 'woman'  <i>tí ɕ<sup>h</sup>i</i> ABS.ERG 'woman'	<i>deo (ye)</i> giant (to)  <i>tí deo</i> ABS.ERG 'giant'  <i>se deo</i> ABS.NOM 'giant'		<i>šír</i> 'house.OBL'  <i>te šír</i> ABS.OBL 'house'	
<b>Center-stage focus</b>		<i>he ɕ<sup>h</sup>i</i> NEAR.ACC 'woman'  <i>me ɕ<sup>h</sup>i</i> NEAR.ACC 'woman'  <i>mi ɕ<sup>h</sup>i</i> NEAR.ERG 'woman'	<i>mi deo</i> NEAR.ERG  <i>æ deo</i> NEAR 'giant'			

Another way to observe features of the participant reference system is to track individual participant(s) through the text, noting the strategies used along the way. Therefore, over the next few pages, we will first track the references used for the woman, and then the giant.

After being introduced, the narrator refers to the woman with distal deictics while providing some initial background information about her.

(S5) ti me qisa tunu æ~ de kiĵi.  
**ABS.SG.ERG NEAR.SG.ACC** story own mouth with has.done.PRES.PFV  
 ‘She has told this story with her own mouth.’

(S6) e deo ti zed mæyən hušu.  
 one giant **ABS.SG.OBL** on love had.become.PAST.PFV  
 ‘A giant had loved her.’

When the audience is finally informed of an activity she used to do which is relevant to the eventline, the author shifts to a proximal deictic. See (S7).

(S7) æ ç<sup>h</sup>i yə zəwan æši da he u  
**NEAR.NOM** woman ?? young was.PAST.FSG SUBMKR **NEAR.NOM** water  
 anu ye oso ye bəjudud.  
 to.bring.INF for spring to used.to.go.IMPV  
 ‘When this woman was young, she used to go to the spring for bringing water.’

From this point until right before the peak, the narrator refers to the woman using a proximal deictic with only a couple of exceptions. One is during the dialogue with the giant in (S18), at which time she becomes the addressee and is referred to by the second person pronoun. The other is in (S19) when the narrator pauses from the story and provides some additional background information about the woman, which is relevant at that point in the story. It seems reasonable to conclude the reason for the shift from proximal to distant is due to the fact that this sentence provides background information about something that happened before the story began. Since it is outside of the events of this story, the character is ‘removed’ from the story and thus marked using a distal marker.

The last sentence before peak (S26) contains a temporal shift, *zada...* ‘the next morning...’ as does the first sentence of the peak (S27) *bi te dəwi di ye...* ‘And then, on another day...’ As a result the woman is

restaged to a new time period using the distal forms *se* and *tisi*, ABS.NOM and ABS.SG.GEN respectively. In (S28) and (S29), the woman has once again taken center-stage and is referenced with proximal deictics.

(S28b) ...me                    ç<sup>h</sup>i      qohiqaf si k<sup>h</sup>əna ye rəwan hu.  
 NEAR.SG.ACC woman Qohiqaf of mtns. to move became.SP.MSG  
 ‘When the giant became aware of this, that spirit having come again in the night moved this woman to the mountains of Qohiqaf.’

(S29) he                    ər pən ge əwəw        da            mi            ç<sup>h</sup>i  
 NEAR.NOM half way to to.arrive.INF SUBMKR NEAR.SG.ERGwoman  
 es                    ke čer minət.zəri      ki.  
 NEAR.SG.OBL to much much.insistence did.SP  
 ‘When they arrived half way, this woman really pleaded with him (to take her back home).’

At this point in the story, the giant gives in and takes her back to her house. However, he confines her there and does not allow her any visitors. From this point onward, she is referenced using the more distant deictic. There are a couple of possible explanations for this. One is that as the tension begins to subside and the story begins to wind up, this character’s role is less important so she is moved from center-stage to the periphery. Another alternative might be that this is emphasizing the powerlessness of the woman. After the giant returns her to her home, her freedom is significantly curtailed.

If, however, we take a moment and consider the role of the giant at this point in the narrative, we see that he is right in center-stage when he confines her to her home and does not allow anyone to visit her. After that, he too takes a ABS deictic. In fact, as the peak ends and the narrator sums up everything in this final portion of the text that Longacre calls *closure*, both main participants are off-stage. The only thing that is highlighted with a proximal deictic is in (S35), one of the last sentences of the narrative where the focus shifts to ‘**this** story,’ as she brings the story to an end.

(S35) æ                    qisa aš      ma čəw biš      kale            muš      si č<sup>h</sup>i.  
 NEAR.NOM story today from four twenty years.OBL before of is.PRES.FSG  
 ‘This story is from eighty years ago today.’

As attention turns now to the different forms used to track the giant, remember from an earlier discussion that the giant is introduced to the audience as an entity that existed during the stage. Then during Episode 1, he is introduced to the woman with a combination generic noun and modifier *gən e šey* ‘one big thing.’ He inter-

acts with the woman during the first episode, but does not take center-stage until the second episode in (S21).

- (S21) he e di əmən sed bəyel æʃi da  
 NEAR.NOM one day oneself with sitting was.PAST.FSG SUBMKR  
 mi deo es te insan si ʃan ginde ap.  
 NEAR.SG.ERG giant NEAR.SG.OBL to human of leg having.taken.CP came.SP.MSG  
 ‘One day, when she was sitting by herself, the spirit having taking a leg of a human came (to her).’

Aside from the dialogue between him and the woman in the second half of this episode where he is addressed by the woman using the second-person ergative pronoun, the giant remains center-stage for almost the whole episode. Only in the final sentence (S25) is he referred to with the distal deictic *ti*, and in this instance, I cannot offer any plausible explanation for the shift, unless the message is to say that after he shot her and left and in doing so became distant and detached from her.

- (S25) ti tunu čin æni si noke de me ɕʰi  
 ABS.SG.ERG own small finger of fingernail.OBL with NEAR.SG.ACC woman  
 si məndəl si dak dit a~ bi wapəs ga.  
 of thigh of shot gave.SP and again back went.SP.MSG  
 ‘He shot the thigh of this woman with the fingernail of his small finger (his pinky), and went back (to where he came from).’

The peak begins in (S28) with the giant moving from being restaged at the start of the new scene in a new temporal location to becoming center-stage very quickly. The narrator uses the common noun *deo* ‘giant’ to begin the subordinate clause of the sentence. The second subordinate clause of the sentence consists of a noun combined with a distal deictic, *ti deo* ABS.SG.ERG ‘giant’. The main clause completes the sentence with zero anaphora in the subject position. In the next sentence, he is referenced in the subordinate clause with the proximal deictic *he* NEAR.NOM. In (S30) because another temporal shift occurs, the giant is referred to by an NP consisting of an ABS deictic and a noun, and in (S31) he performs his final act on center-stage. He does not allow anyone to visit the woman anymore. He is then demoted to the periphery referenced by a noun phrase with a distal pronoun for the remainder of the story.

The patterns associated with the props are much shorter and much simpler. Therefore additional commentary pertaining to the methods used to track them through the discourse than what is presented in

Table 7.6 is not necessary.

Based on the discussion so far, we can generalize some basic principles of the participant reference system in Torwali. The subsequent outline illustrates how participants are introduced, tracked, restaged and brought to center-stage in narrative discourse based on the analysis of this folktale.

### **First-mention**

1. Central participant
  - a. Noun phrase consisting of an indefinite particle and an optional modifier (S4, S6, S11)
  - b. Typically introduced in the subject position of an intransitive or stative/existential clause (S4, S11)
2. An important prop
  - a. Noun phrase consisting of an indefinite particle (S38)
  - b. Introduced in the direct object position (S38)<sup>11</sup>
3. Other props
  - a. Noun phrase with no deictic or modifier (S7, S15)
  - b. Tends to be introduced in the object slot (S7, S15, S27)

### **Routine tracking**

1. Demonstrative pronouns: used when a character, who has already been introduced, is referred to in a sentence and he/she needs to be distinguished from another character also mentioned in the same sentence (S22, S30)
  - a. Demonstrative pronouns marking distance (ABS) are used to track participants or props which have been at least temporarily moved off center-stage (S16, S30)
  - b. Demonstrative pronouns marking proximity (NEAR) track participants or props which have recently shifted from new to given, or from off-center-stage to center-stage (S21, S22, S29)

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<sup>11</sup>This is the only example found in the text, which makes it hard to state a generalization. Treat this as a hypothesis that will need testing in the field. It may be that we will find that the language does not distinguish between important props and other props. A lot more data will need to be analyzed to know for sure.

2. Zero anaphora: only occurs in the subject position, usually occurring in non-initial clauses, and only in sentences where the subject is overtly marked in an adjacent clause (S11, S14, S20)

**Restaging** (from a previous time period to the present one)

1. Noun phrase with distal deictic (S20, S26, S30)
2. Proper name (not in *The Giant*, but documented in other texts)

**Center-stage focus**

1. Noun phrase with proximal deictic (S10, S14, S20)

Different forms of participant reference are used in Torwali: noun phrases with or without deictics, pronouns and zero anaphora. Which form is used depends on the rank of the participant or prop within the story and the function it serves at a particular point in the discourse. From this outline, it is evident that the ranking of participants and props is more important for first-mentions. (Hwang makes a similar claim for English (1997:307).) For tracking, restaging and purposes of focus, the reference system does not follow any ranking scheme to distinguish these, so one set of rules can be established for both participants and props.

## 7.5 Summary

This short text, *The Giant*, has provided an insight into some of the discourse features of Torwali narratives. We have discussed issues relating to profile and peak, spectrum and participant reference and shown how these issues interrelate. By analyzing a text's profile and chunking it into several logically-related sections, researchers can more easily observe patterns and draw conclusions regarding the spectrum features of a language. By considering the profile of a text, he or she can better understand why the characteristics of the spectrum and the participant reference system do not seem to follow their own rules as the story progresses forward from the first sentence to the last, particularly at the peak. Longacre describes the process of analyzing the peak of a narrative as presenting "analytic difficulty". Yet, when we note the features at peak, because the rules governing that area are obviously different from the remainder of the text, the researcher can often deduce more accurately what the primary rules are that govern the spectrum and participant reference systems .

## 8. CONCLUSION

This paper has attempted to present information which has not been documented before, namely a phonological sketch and a presentation of narrative discourse features. Even the details in the middle, discussion of the basic facts of Torwali syntax, provides many more details than previous researchers have. As all of these features have been discussed, I have included sample data ranging from vernacular words to sentences to an entire text attached in the appendix of this paper. As much as possible, these examples came from naturally occurring data.

The paper began with a look at the Torwali people: their geographical location and their sociolinguistic situation. They have a great pride for their language and heritage. It can be heard in the local marketplaces and in the homes, and many Torwali people from various walks of life are actively involved in preserving and developing the language.

An analysis of the phonological system was then presented. Thirty-four consonants and seven vowels have been posited as phonemes in the language. Half of the consonants are either dental or retroflex phonemes, and vowels are split between oral and nasalized. One of the most significant phonological processes observed in the language is weakening which occurs intervocalically causing plosives to become more continuant resulting in intervocalic fricatives and sometimes even approximates. Word-finally, particularly in utterance-final positions, we also noted a another form of weakening—a devoicing of plosives.

Tone was introduced as a very important feature of the language used to mark not only lexical distinctions, but also to mark a number of grammatical functions. Some unusual features of tone were also presented. First of all, it was noted that some Torwali words have breathiness on their vowels, and that this breathiness is associated with low pitch. Not all words having L and LH tone patterns have breathy voice, but breathiness is an optional feature of these tones. It was also noted that HL tone behaves differently from the others. Instead of having its tonal segments H and L assigned to the syllables of the word in question, H is assigned to this word and L applies to the first syllable of the following word.

Turning our attention to issues of grammar, we first presented features of Torwali typology. We found that the language is a strong head-final language with verbs occurring clause-finally in pragmatically-neutral clauses, suffixes rather than prefixes and postpositions rather than prepositions. Also documented were head-final noun phrases and head-final postpositional phrases. Main clauses almost always follow subordinate clauses and adjectives always follow the standard when producing comparatives. Confirming Greenberg's universals, as an SOV language, Torwali has many head-final characteristics.

The next issue of grammar discussed in this paper was syntactic categories where a description of nouns, pronouns, adjectives, numerals, verbs and adverbs was presented. Following that presentation, a description of noun and verb inflection was presented. It was noted that nouns do not exhibit a full range of morphological case markers, but pronouns do. A discussion of the Torwali verb tense, aspect and mood followed which included details pertaining to structural characteristics of the verb word, both for finite and non-finite verbs. At the conclusion of the discussion on inflectional morphology, features of derivational morphology were presented, which included discussions about compounding, nominalization and denominalization as well as causative and passive constructions.

We then transitioned up the grammatical hierarchy to address some clause-level features. We discussed complex predicates and explained how they consist of two words (a verb along with either a noun or adjective) and illustrated how each of these components function together to provide the semantic meaning for the clause, but function independently as grammatical constituents within the clause. In addition to looking at these, we also looked at the grammatical relations. Here we found an interesting discovery. We found that Torwali can be classified as a split ergative language with the ergative system operating in clauses with perfective aspect or with *future tense*. This is highly unusual. Typically, languages that have a split make the split between completed and non-completed action, between past and non-past or between completed action before *now* and those that are just potential. Torwali views things differently by distinguishing *current* and *non-current* where current refers not only to present time, but also to a time frame in the past that provides a context for something else to happen. This is at least one function of imperfective aspect: "I was mowing the lawn when it began to rain." If we think of the function of imperfective in this sentence as bringing the reader or listener to that point in time so



that he or she is no longer looking back into time, but has in a sense gone back into time. Because of this shift in time for the reader, that point in time becomes current to him or her in much the same way that present tense is current. If we look at it from this perspective, we can better understand how present tense and imperfective aspect can be grouped together and distinguished from non-current time, perfective aspect and future.

Finally, after describing the structure and distributional characteristics of many different grammatical features, we focused our attention on understanding how they work together as a means of communication by discussing discourse features of a narrative text. We began by chunking the text into smaller units so we could discover the characteristics associated with the rising and falling of tension within the story. This in turn helped us to make some generalizations regarding how tense, aspect, mood and semantic case roles are used to package information within Torwali narratives. Lastly, we looked at how participants and props are introduced in narratives and how they are tracked through the story. The most common strategy is to use deictics. It was shown that these deictic not only express spatial distance between characters, but also 'stage' distance. They restage characters after shifts in temporal location and after long periods of being off-stage. They are also used to focus participants on center-stage. By using proximal deictics, the narrator is able to focus the attention of his or her audience on a particular character in a story. By switching between proximal and distal deictics, the narrator can shift the focus from character to character.

The purpose of this project has been to present an overview of the language data so that some generalizations about the language could be made in order to document some of the grammatical aspects of this language and encourage further study. Many questions have been answered in this paper, and some have not. One of the most crucial areas needing more study is in the area of tonal analysis. It has implications for many different grammatical issues from vowel length to morphological case marking to forming compound words. Also needing more study is the pronominal case system. Some cases have several variant forms. Why do these exist? Are they just phonological variants or do they have some other distributional or function distinction? What about the accusative case system? Does it exist in Torwali or not? In addition, I would like to see more analysis of Torwali discourse features carried out. What other features are used to mark peak? Are there other strategies used to track participants and props? Do discourse features of folktales differ from the features of true historical ac-

counts? How do the features of narrative texts compare with other discourse types like hortatory, behavioral and procedural? These are some of the questions that remain.

## **APPENDIX**

### **THE TORWALI NARRATIVE TEXT USED FOR THIS PAPER**

## *The Giant*

(S1)

deo si qisa

giant of story

*'The story of a spirit-like giant'*

(S2)

čilas me e gam t<sup>h</sup>u.

Chilaas in 1 village is.PRES.MSG

*'There is a village in Chilas.'*

(S3)

tisi nam t<sup>h</sup>ornala t<sup>h</sup>u.

ABS.SG.GEN nameThornala is.PRES.MSG

*'Its name is Thornala.'*

(S4)

t<sup>h</sup>et e ç<sup>h</sup>i č<sup>h</sup>i.

there one woman is.PRES.FSG

*'There (at that place) is a woman.'*

(S5)

ti me qisa tunu æ~ de kiĵi.

ABS.SG.ERG NEAR.SG.ACC story own mouth with has.done.PRES.PFV.FSG

*'She has told this story with her own mouth.'*

(S6)

e deo ti zed møyən hušu.

one giant ABS.SG.OBL on love had.become.PAST.PFV.MSG

*'A giant had loved her.'*

(S7)

æ ç<sup>h</sup>i yə zəwan æši da he u anu

NEAR.NOM woman ?? young was.PAST..FSG SUBMKR NEAR.NOM water to.bring

ye oso ye bəjudud.

to spring to was.going.IMPFV

*'When this woman was young, she used to go to the spring for bringing water.'*

(S8)

te wəx me ç<sup>h</sup>i u si anu si keja osoa ye bəjudud.

ABS.SG.OBL time in woman water of to.bring of for spring to was.going.IMPFV

*'At that time, women were going to the spring for bringing water.'*

(S9)

he e di u anudud. (æ oso e k<sup>h</sup>ən  
 NEAR.NOM one day water was.bringing NEAR.NOM spring one mountains  
 si miye ašu.)

of inside was.PAST.MSG

'One day she was bringing water. (This spring was in the mountains).'

(S10)

də he ç<sup>h</sup>i u punudud da i pəš  
 then NEAR.NOM woman water was.drinking.IMPFV SUBMKR NEAR.SG.ERG backside  
 ke budu.

to looked.SP.3SG

'Then, when this woman was drinking water, she looked back.'

(S11)

e čæl zed gən e šey (maš) bəyel  
 one large.rock.OBL on big one thing man sitting  
 t<sup>h</sup>u, a~ me ç<sup>h</sup>i ye həzudud.

is.PRES.MSG and NEAR.SG.OBL woman to was.laughing.IMPFV

'A big thing was sitting on a large rock, and laughing at this woman.'

(S12)

he dæk bi.

NEAR.NOM few was.frightened.SP.FSG

'She became a little frightened.'

(S13)

(te wəx si xələk xas ni budud.)

ABS.SG.OBL time of people limit not was.fearing.IMPFV

'People of that time were not fearing anything.'

(S14)

mi ç<sup>h</sup>i tunu beden ge hat t<sup>h</sup>elde də~y dit.

NEAR.SG.ERG woman own big.water.jug to hand having.poured.CP movement gave.SP

'This woman, having poured (the water) into her own jug by hand, walked (left).'

(S15)

šir ke awe da se deo isi  
 house to arrived.SP.FSG SUBMKR ABS.NOM male.spirit FAR.SG.GEN  
 gut<sup>h</sup>ura (aŋgəti) si kəš ke bəyel ašu.

fireplace.OBL fireplace of nearby to sitting was.PAST.MSG

'When she arrived at the house, the giant was sitting at the woman's fireplace.'

(S16)

i ti ma təwəs ki.

NEAR.ERG ABS.SG.OBL from question did.SP

'She asked him a question.'

(S17)

tu met ke kəy aptu?

2SG.NOM here to why have.come.PRES.PRF.MSG

'Why did you come here?'

(S18)

se deo me ç<sup>h</sup>i ye bənədu a t<sup>h</sup>æ  
 ABS.NOM giant NEAR.SG.ACC woman to he.is.saying 1SG.NOM 2SG.ACC  
 čer wəx ma sarudud ase mə t<sup>h</sup>e ye əmən nə  
 much time from was.looking.IMPFV but 1SG.ERG 2SG.OBL to oneself not  
 pəšadušu.

had.shown.CAUS.PAST.PRF.MSG

*'The giant says to the woman, "I was watching you for a long time, but I had not shown myself to you."'*

(S19)

se ç<sup>h</sup>i əmən sed te šir e howdud.  
 ABS.NOM woman oneself with ABS.SG.OBL house in was.becoming.IMPFV  
*'The woman was living by herself in that house.'*

(S20)

te dia bat se deo hər zæt e  
 that.ABS day.OBL after ABS.NOM giant every night in  
 me ç<sup>h</sup>i si kəš ke yewsæt, a~ me ç<sup>h</sup>i  
 NEAR.SG.OBL woman of nearby to start.to.come.INC and NEAR.SG.OBL woman  
 zed betmet kowsæt.

on a.lot.of.talking about.to.do.INC

*'After that day, that giant started to come to this woman every night, and started to do a lot of talking with this woman.'*

(S21)

he e di əmən set bəyel əši da  
 NEAR.NOM one day oneself with sitting was.F.SG SUBMKR  
 mi deo es te insan si jaŋ ginde ap.  
 3AG.SG.NEAR giant NEAR.SG.OBL to human of leg having.taken.CP came.SP.MSG  
*'One day, when she was sitting by herself, the giant having taking a leg of a human came (to her).'*

(S22)

ti ma æ ç<sup>h</sup>i es te qara gəy.  
 ABS.SG.OBL from NEAR.NOM woman NEAR.SG.OBL to rage went.SP  
*'At this, this woman became enraged toward him.'*

(S23)

bənəji tæ mes ka anua?  
 she.says.PRES.FSG 2SG.ERG NEAR.SG.ACC what bring.SP.MSG.RSMKR  
*'She said, "What did you bring?"'*

(S24)

me deo de qar ap.  
 NEAR.SG.ACC giant on rage came.SP.MSG  
*'The giant became enraged.(Lit. Rage came upon the giant).'*

(S25)

ti tunu čin æŋi si noke de me ɕʰi  
 ABS.SG.ERG own small finger of fingernail.OBL with NEAR.SG.ACC woman  
 si mǝndəl si dak dit. a~ bi wapəs ga.

of thigh of shot gave.SP and again back went.SP.MSG

*'He shot the thigh of this woman with the fingernail of his small finger (pinky), and went back (where he came from).'*

(S26)

zada se ɕʰi išit da tisi mǝndəl  
 tomorrow.morning ABS.NOM woman woke.up.SP SUBMKR ABS.SG.GEN thigh  
 ma jan mas gušu.

from much meat had.gone.PAST.PFV.MSG

*'The next morning, when the woman woke up, a lot of meat from her thigh had disappeared.'*

(S27)

bi te dwi di ye ti tunu noseya ye me  
 again ABS.SG.OBL other day to ABS.SG.ERG own grandsons.OBL to NEAR.SG.ACC  
 ʈol qisa ki.

all story did.SP

*'Then, on another day, she told the whole story to her grandchildren.'*

(S28)

deo ye pəta geŋi da ti deo  
 giant to knowledge arrived.SP.FSG SUBMKR ABS.SG.ERG giant  
 bi zæte yede me ɕʰi qohiqaf si  
 again in.the.night having.come.CP NEAR.SG.ACC woman name.of.mtn of  
 kʰəna ye ginde rəwan hu.

mountains to having.taken.CP move became.SP.MSG

*'When the giant became aware of this (that she had told her grandchildren about what had happened), that spirit having come again in the night moved this woman to the mountains of "Qohiqaf".'*

(S29)

he əŋ pən ge əwəw da mi ɕʰi  
 NEAR.NOM half way to to.arrive SUBMKR NEAR.SG.ERG woman  
 es ke čer minət.zəri ki.

NEAR.SG.OBL to much much.insistence did.SP

*'When they arrived half way, this woman really pleaded with him.'*

(S30)

tela pəš ti deo tes  
 from.that.occasion after ABS.SG.ERG giant ABS.SG.ACC  
 tisi šir te pədi ye æni.

ABS.SG.GEN house to back to brought.SP.FSG

*'After that, the giant brought her back to her own house.'*

(S31)

æ deo te ɕʰi zed tisi šir mi  
 NEAR.NOM giant ABS.SG.OBL woman on ABS.SG.GEN house in  
 yes hum nə ɕʰowdud.

other.people also not was.leaving.IMPFV

*'This giant was not leaving even another person into that woman's house. (i.e. he didn't allow even one person to visit her.)'*

(S32)

ti ma bad ti ɕʰi bi te deo ye qar si ki  
 ABS.SG.OBL from after ABS.SG.ERG woman again ABS.SG.OBL giant to rage of any  
 bat ni ki.

words not did.SP

*'After that, that woman did not say any words of rage to the giant.'*

(S33)

se ɕʰi aš hum te šir e əmən sed howe.  
 ABS.NOM woman today also ABS.SG.OBL house in oneself with should.become.3SG.JUS

*'That woman should be (live) by herself in that house even today.'*

(S34)

se deo mere hum hər zæte te šir ke yedu.  
 ABS.NOM codger now also every in.the.night ABS.SG.OBL house to is.coming.PRES.MSG

*'That giant even now comes to that house every night.'*

(S35)

æ qisa aš ma ɕəw biš kale muš si ɕʰi.  
 NEAR.NOM story today from four twenty years before of is.PRES.FSG

*'This story is from eighty years ago today.'*

(S36)

mere hum se ɕʰi ɕʰi a~ dege hiji.  
 now also ABS.NOM woman is.PRES.FSG and old.FSG.AP become.PRES.PFV.FSG

*'Even now that woman is (alive) and has become old.'*

(S37)

aš hum se deo te ɕʰi si kæn ge yedu.  
 today also ABS giant ABS.SG.OBL woman of near to is.coming.PRES.MSG

*'Even today, that giant is coming to that woman.'*

(S38)

te ɕʰi si maɾ me e teyis ɕʰi te  
 ABS.SG.OBL woman of neckline in one amulet it.is.PRES.FSG ABS.SG.ACC

teyis yə niɣaləji da se deo te  
 amulet ?? remove.PRES.FSG SUBMKR ABS.NOM giant ABS.SG.OBL

sat me tisi kəš ke hazer hodu.  
 time in ABS.SG.GEN nearby to present becomes.PRES.MSG

*'When there is an amulet on the neckline of a woman that she removes, at that time, that spirit-like giant becomes present near her.'*



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## **BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION**

The author received his Master of Arts in Linguistics from The University of Texas at Arlington in December 2001. He was born in St. Marys, Ohio and graduated from Memorial High School in St. Marys. Four years later, in 1989, he graduated from Asbury College, located near Lexington, Kentucky, with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He is married and has two boys.