

Typological similarities between Munda and (Sub-)Himalayan languages

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Note: none of these variables have yet been surveyed on a world-wide scale. At this point we cannot determine whether the similarities are due to an area or an enclave effect.

1. Finite verb compounds (Steever 1993, Ebert 1999)

Athpare (Ebert 1999)

rikt-u-ŋ-des-u-ŋ-e.
chase-3P-1sA-move.away-3P-1sA-PST
'He chased it away.'

Limbu (van Driem 1987:123)

me-boŋ-ε me-gheʔ?-ε.
3ns-get.up-PST 3nsS-RESULTATIVE-PST
'They've all gotten up and left.'

Santali (Neukom 2001: 176)

sea daka sea məɳɖi=j em-a-m cal-a-m-kan-a-j.
rotten rice rotten food=1sS give-APPL-2sP hand.over-APPL-2sP-IPFV-IND=1sS
'I am giving you rotten rice, rotten food.'

Parengi (Gorom) (Ebert 2001:1532)

silay-ing ta'y-ing!
sow-1s give-1s
'Sow for me!'

Kurux (=Dhangar; N. Dravidian) (Krishnamurti 2003 reconstructs this to PDr)

ukki-as ker-as.
sit.PST-3sm go.PST-3sm
'He has sat down'

2. Person-marked converbs (Ebert 1993, 1999)

Athpare (Ebert 1999; CVB = finite form minus final -e 'PST')

khad-a-up meruba in-u-e. (cf. *khad-e* < *khad-a-e* 'he went')
go-PST-[3sS]-CVB goat buy-3P-PST
'He went and bought a goat'

Santali (Neukom 2001:188; CVB = finite form minus -a 'indicative')

nui iə sala-do oka-khon cə=e oðok-got'-en-te
DEM.ANIM PTCL scoundrel-TOP where-ABL ever=3sS come.out-V2-PST.MID-CVB
iŋ bəhu-də=e or-ruər-ed-e-kan-a.
1sPOSS wife-TOP=3sS pull-return-IPFV.ACT-3sP-IPFV-IND
'This dirty scoundrel came out from who knows where and is pulling my wife back.'

Kurux (Gordon & Pike 1973; Ebert 1993)

Mankhu-s huŋ tarŋ-io-hi baat-an khandi-as-k
M.-3sm also 3REFL.POSS-mother-GEN word-ACC cut.PST-3sm-SEQ
cal-a-ker-as
go-go.PST-3sm
'Anyway, Mankhu did not obey his mother's words and went away.'

3. Partitional agreement

Belhare (Bickel 2000)

- a. sa-ti khar-e-i-ga?
who-ABS go-PST-p-2
'Who of you went?'
- b. sip-paj khar-e-i-ŋa.
two-HUM go-PST-p-e
'Two of us went.'

Hakka Lai (Chin, Tibeto-Burman; Bickel 2000)

a-háw da? nà-n-ra?:
3-who Q 2-p-come
'Who of you came?'

Santali (Neukom 2001:175)

- a. *əkœ=bon cala-k'-a?*
who=1piS go-MID-IND
'who of us will go?'
- b. *adəm hər-də=le cala-k'-a.*
some person-TOP=1peS go-MID-IND
'Some of us should go.'

Kharia (Peterson 2004:61)

- botoj-ta-pe ho-ki lutui su kon...
fear-MID.NPST-2p DEM-p clothes put.on SEQ
'Those of you who are afraid, you put on your clothes and...'

4. WITH-Adverbialization (manner adverbs)

Written Tibetan

- dal-gyis lgro
slow-INSTR go
'go slowly'

Belhare

- khan-lo ce-akt-he
nice-COM [3sS-]say-IPFV-PST
'He talked nicely'

Santali (Neukom 2001:27)

- alga-te poṭag-ok'-a
easy-INSTR peal-MID-IND
'it will easily be peeled'

Mundari (Osada 1992: 132)

- mani-te
slow-INSTR
'slowly'

Korku (Nagaraja 1999: 84)

- kha:t-ṭen
loud-INSTR/ABL
'loudly'

Nepali *bistāri-le jānu*
slow-INSTR go
'go slowly'

Oriya (Neukom & Patnaik 2003:75)

- sōhōjō-re
easy-INSTR
'easily'

5. Attributive articles (agreeing with head; and/or DEF or SPEC semantics)

Athpare (Ebert 1997:130) "nominalizer"

- a. *aniya des-ni-na raja*
1pe country-LOC-ART.SG king
'the king of our country'
- b. *nahī-ga yapmi-ci*
here-ART.NSG person-NSG
'the local people'

Limbu (van Driem 1987:39, 43) "definite absolute/ergative/genitive etc."

- a. *kem-ba-rɛ-n ku-bo:dən hɛn?*
2sPOSS-father-GEN-ART 3sPOSS-status what
'What's your father's position (in society)?'
- b. *phe:nda-re ku-yumlakpe-n kɛ-dzɔ=i:?*
tomate-GEN 3sPOSS-pickle-ART 2-eat.3P=Q
'Do you eat tomato acār?'

Belhare (Bickel 2003)

- a. *un-naha ei?=na khim*
3s-GEN big=ART.SG house
'his/her big house'
- b. *ei-kha khim*
big-ART house
'a big house'

Santali (Neukom 2001:32, 58f, 203) “nominalizer”

- a. get'-ic'
cut-ART.ANIM.SG
'the one who got cut'
- a'. get'-ko
cut-ART.ANIM.PL
'the ones who got cut'
- b. turuiy-ic' gidrə
six-ART.ANIM.SG child
'the sixth child'
- c. haṛam-ak' jangra
old.man-ART.INAN.SG foot
'the old man's foot'
- d. onko-ak' sik
DEM.PROX-ART.INAN.SG method
'their method'
- c. pīyun-a hullī
white-DEF horse
'the white horse'

Mundari (Osada 1992:48)

- a. oṛaʔ-ra? parkom
house-GEN.INANIM bed
- b. oṛaʔ-ren hon
house-GEN.ANIM child
'a child of the house (i.e., of the family)'

Maithili (mostly “rustic” Maithili; Burghart 1992:94; also Jha 1958: 284f, 360)

- a. baḍ-ka bhaiyā (vs. *baḍ bhaiyā*)
big-MASC brother
'eldest brother'
- b. baḍ-ki bhaujī (vs. *baḍ bhaujī*)
big-FEM wife
'eldest brother's wife'

Brahui (Elfenbein 1998:398, 411), but not in Kurux or Malto (!)

- a. ball-ō inām-as
large-INDEF award-INDEF
'a large award'
- b. hullī-as ĥwān-ō
horse-INDEF good-INDEF
'a good horse'