

The Balochi Nominal System in Diachronic Perspective

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I: reconstruction of Middle Balochi case system

II: model for development Middle Balochi > contemporary Balochi

ad I.

1.: The basic nominal system of Balochi

	direct	oblique	object	genitive	vocative
singular	-∅	-ā	-ārā	-ay, -ē	-∅
plural	-∅	-ān, -ānā	-ānā, -ānrā	-ānī	-ān

1a the basic case system of contemporary Balochi

		direct	oblique	object	genitive
singular	1st	man		manā	m(a)nī
	2nd	ta(w)		tarā	taī, tī
plural	1st	(am)mā		(am)mārā	(am)may, mē
	2nd	šumā		šumārā	šumay, šumē

1b the basic pronominal system of contemporary Balochi

(**bold** letters: forms used in agent function (ergative constructions) and after prepositions)

2.: The nominal system of Middle West Iranian

			direct	oblique
nouns	singular		-∅	-∅
	plural		-∅	-ān
pronouns	singular	1st	Pa <i>az</i> , MP <i>an</i>	<i>man</i>
		2nd	<i>tū(?)</i>	<i>tō</i>
	plural	1st	<i>amā(h)</i>	
		2nd	Pa <i>išmā(h)</i> , MP <i>ašmā(h)</i>	

2 nouns and personal pronouns in Manichaean Parthian and Middle Persian

3.: innovations in the Balochi nominal system

categories which are secondary to the system:

object case (missing in some dialects, optional in the rest)

vocative (sg. = dir., pl.: generalisation of the obl.pl. ending as plural marker)

endings which are new to the system:

obl.sg. *-ā* (ending after the indefinite article: *kār-ē-ā* "a job")

gen.pl. *-ānī* (obl.pl. + adjective suffix)

4.: The Middle Balochi case system

		direct	oblique
nouns	singular	-∅	- <i>ay</i>
	plural		- <i>ān</i>
pronouns	singular	1st	<i>man</i>
		2nd	<i>taw</i>
	plural	1st	<i>(am)mā</i>
		2nd	<i>šumā</i>
4 nominal system of *Middle Balochi			

Avestan
- <i>ahya</i>
- <i>ānām</i>
<i>mana</i>
<i>tauua</i>
<i>ahmākəm</i>
<i>xšmākəm</i>
Old Iranian genitive forms

outcome of the OIr. gen.sg. ending in the function of obl.sg. also in Zazaki:

		direct	oblique
nouns	singular	-∅	- <i>i</i>
	plural	- <i>i</i>	- <i>an</i>
pronouns	singular	1st	<i>mi(n)</i>
		2nd	<i>ti, tu</i> <i>to</i>
	plural	1st	<i>mā</i>
		2nd	<i>sima</i>
5 nouns and personal pronouns in Zazaki			

ad II.

possible stages of development of the inflectional system

1.: generalising of the two-case-system into the pronominal domain

nouns		direct	oblique
singular		-∅	-ay
plural			-ān
pronouns		direct	object
singular	1st	<i>man</i>	<i>manā</i>
	2nd	<i>taw</i>	* <i>tawā</i>
plural	1st	<i>(am)mā</i>	
	2nd	<i>šumā</i>	
6 Middle Balochi > Balochi: stage A			

2.: splitting of the oblique functions

nouns		direct	oblique	genitive
singular		-∅	-ā	-ay
plural				-ān
pronouns		direct	object	
singular	1st	<i>man</i>	<i>manā</i>	
	2nd	<i>taw</i>	* <i>tawā</i>	
plural	1st	<i>(am)mā</i>		
	2nd	<i>šumā</i>		
7 Middle Balochi > Balochi: stage B				

3.: generalising of the genitive case

nouns		direct	oblique	genitive
singular		-∅	-ā	-ay
plural			-ān	-ānī
pronouns		direct	object	genitive
singular	1st	<i>man</i>	<i>manā</i>	<i>manī</i>
	2nd	<i>taw</i>	* <i>tawā</i>	* <i>tawī</i>
plural	1st	<i>(am)mā</i>		<i>(am)may</i>
	2nd	<i>šumā</i>		<i>šumay</i>
8 Middle Balochi > Balochi: stage C				

4.: generalising of the object case to the pl. pronouns

nouns		direct	oblique	genitive
singular		-∅	-ā	-ay
plural			-ān	-ānī
pronouns		direct	object	genitive
singular	1st	<i>man</i>	<i>manā</i>	<i>manī</i>
	2nd	<i>taw, ta</i>	* <i>tawā</i>	<i>taī</i>
plural	1st	<i>(am)mā</i>	<i>(am)mārā</i>	<i>(am)may</i>
	2nd	<i>šumā</i>	<i>šumārā</i>	<i>šumay</i>
9 Middle Balochi > Balochi: stage D				

5.: object case also for nouns

		direct	oblique	object	genitive
nouns	singular	-∅	-ā	-ārā	-ay
	plural		-ān(ā)	-ānā, -ānrā	-ānī
pronouns	singular	1st	<i>man</i>	<i>manā</i>	<i>m(a)nī</i>
		2nd	<i>taw, ta</i>	<i>tarā</i>	<i>taī, tī</i>
	plural	1st	<i>(am)mā</i>		<i>(am)may</i>
		2nd	<i>šumā</i>		<i>šumay</i>
10 Middle Balochi > Balochi: stage E = basic Balochi system					