

Lesson 19

Passive voice

Passive voice

In the passive voice the subject is inactive. The one active is the "agent". In English and Swedish passive sentences give prominence to the direct object of the active sentence, which is now upgraded to the subject of the passive sentence. English constructs passive by means of an auxiliary verb whereas Swedish has a morphological passive (in -s).

Active sentence:

The man killed five mice.

Mannen dödade fem möss.

Passive sentence:

Five mice were killed by the man.

Fem möss dödades av mannen.

Passive construction is also common when there is no known or mentioned agent:

The boy was killed in an accident.

Passive in Balochi

The passive voice in Balochi is only used when there is no known or mentioned agent. As soon as there is an agent, Balochi NEEDS to use the active construction. The use of passive voice is rather limited in Balochi.

The passive form is constructed by means of the infinitive + a finite form of the verb bayag 'to be, to become'. The passive can be use in all TAM-forms that occur as active forms.

Present-future indicative passive

Infinitive of the main verb + present-future indicative of *bayag*

koshaga (na)bán 'I will (not) be killed.' كُشْغَ (ن)بان

koshaga (na)bay 'you will (not) be killed.' كُشْغَ (ن)بئے

koshaga (na)bit 'he/she/it will (not) be killed.' كُشْغَ (ن)بیت

koshaga (na)bén 'we will (not) be killed.' كُشْغَ (ن)بیین

koshaga (na)bét 'you will (not) be killed.' كُشْغَ (ن)بییت

koshaga (na)bant 'they will (not) be killed.' كُشْغَ (ن)بنت

Examples

Tán é gárr **kóchaga bit**, janénay marda kayt o rasit.

تان اے گارّ کۆچگَ بیت، جنینے مرد کئیت و رسیت.

'Before this tunnel is dug, the woman's husband comes back.'

Taw **pahell kanaga nabay**.

تئو پهلّ کنگَ نبئے.

'You will not be forgiven.'

Present-future subjunctive passive

koshag bebán/mabán 'I may (not) be killed.' كُشگ بېان/مبان

koshag bebay/mabay 'you may (not) be killed.' كُشگ بېئى/مبئى

koshag bebit/mabit 'he/she/it may (not) be killed.' كُشگ بېيت/مبېيت

koshag bebén/mabén 'we may (not) be killed.' كُشگ بېين/مبېين

koshag bebét/mabét 'you may (not) be killed.' كُشگ بېيْت/مبېيْت

koshag bebant/mabant 'they may (not) be killed.' كُشگ بېنت/مبنت

Examples

É mardom báyard ent koshag bebit. اے مردم باید اِنْت کُشگ ببیت۔
'This person must be killed.'

Degarán ér majanét o iráz magerét, tánke shomá ér janag mabét.

دگران ایر مجنیّت و ایراز مگریّت، تانکه شما ایر جنگ مبیّت۔

'Don't criticize and find fault with others, so that you may not be criticized.'

Past perfective passive

koshag bután 'I was killed' كُشگ بوتان

koshag butay 'you were killed' كُشگ بوتئے

koshag but 'he/she/it was killed' كُشگ بوت

koshag butén 'we were killed' كُشگ بوتئین

koshag butét 'you were killed' كُشگ بوتئیت

koshag butant 'they were killed' كُشگ بوتنت

Examples

É ketáb kadi nebisag but? 'When was this book written?'
اے کتاب کدی نبیسگ بوت؟

Á gón may rombá hór kanag nabut. 'He was not included in our group.'
آگۆن مئے رمبا هۆر کنگ نبوت.

Past imperfective passive

gendaga bután 'I kept being seen' گندگَ بوتان

gendaga butay 'you kept being seen' گندگَ بوتئے

gendaga but 'he/she/it kept being seen' گندگَ بوت

gendaga butén 'we kept being seen' گندگَ بوتین

gendaga butét 'you kept being seen' گندگَ بوتیت

gendaga butant 'they kept being seen' گندگَ بوتنت

This form is negated by na-

gendaga nabután گندگَ نبوتان 'I was not being seen (for a prolonged time)'

Examples

Na máh gendaga but o na estár. . نه ماه گندگ بوت و نه استار. 'Neither the moon nor the stars were visible (for a prolonged time).'

Róch ham gendaga nabut. . رۆچ هم گندگ نبوت. 'The sun was not visible either (for a prolonged time).'

Har róch man bézzat kanaga bután. . هر رۆچ من بے ازت کنگ بوتان. 'I was being insulted every day.'

Present perfect passive

koshag butagán 'I have been killed' كُشگ بوتگان

koshag butagay 'you have been killed' كُشگ بوتگئے

koshag butag 'he/she/it have been killed' كُشگ بوتگ

koshag butagén 'we have been killed' كُشگ بوتگین

koshag butagét 'you have been killed' كُشگ بوتگیت

koshag butagant 'they have been killed' كُشگ بوتگانٹ

This form is negated by na-

koshag nabutagán كُشگ نبوتگان 'I have not been killed'

Examples

Shomá kojá ráh dayag butagét? 'Where have you been sent?'
شما کجا راه دئیگ بوتگیت؟

É mardománi hón pa ché réchag butag?

اے مردمانی هون په چه ریچگ بوتگ؟

'Why have these people's blood been spilled?'

Shomára é wák o twán dayag nabutag. 'This power and authority has not been given to you.'
شمارا اے واک و توان دئیگ نبوتگ.

Past perfect passive

koshag butagatán 'I had been killed' كُشِغْ بُوْتِغْ أَتَان
koshag butagatay 'you had been killed' كُشِغْ بُوْتِغْ أَتَّيْ
koshag butagat 'he/she/it had been killed' كُشِغْ بُوْتِغْ أَتْ
koshag butagatén 'we had been killed' كُشِغْ بُوْتِغْ أَتَّيْنِ
koshag butagatét 'you had been killed' كُشِغْ بُوْتِغْ أَتَّيْتِ
koshag butagatant 'they had been killed' كُشِغْ بُوْتِغْ أَتَّنْتِ

This form is negated by na-

koshag nabutagatán كُشِغْ نَبُوْتِغْ أَتَان 'I had not been killed'

Examples

É kásed cha bádsháhay némagá ráh dayag butagat.

اے کاسد چہ بادشاہئے نیمگا راہ دئیگ بوتگأت.

'This messenger had been sent on behalf of the king (lit. from the king's side).'

Warák pésará tayár kanag butagatant.

وراک پیسرا تئیار کنگ بوتگأتنت.

'The food had been prepared in advance.'

(note that food when it is not generic, i.e. when it refers to some specific food, is a plural concept in Balochi)

Counterfactual passive

gendag (be)buténán 'I should have been seen'

gendag (be)buténay 'you should have been seen'

gendag (be)butén 'he/she/it should have been seen'

gendag (be)buténén 'we should have been seen'

gendag (be)buténét 'you should have been seen'

gendag (be)buténant 'they should have been seen'

This form is negated by ma-

gendag mabuténán گندگ مبو تینان 'I should not have been killed'

Examples

É lóg báyard ent bahá kanag butén. اے لوگ باید انت بھا کنگ بوتین۔
'This house should have been sold.'

Dréгатá é ketáb hechbar nebisag mabutén.

دریگتا اے کتاب ہچبر نیسیگ مبوٹین۔

'How good if this book had never been written.'

dréгатá = I wish that, how good if, what if