

Lesson 2

The Balochi nominal system
part 1

Noun forms

Direct case (no ending) is used

- as the subject of the sentence (but not always, exceptions will be presented later)

É ketáb grán ent. 'This book is heavy/expensive/difficult.'

اے کتاب گران انت.

Á bachak wassh ent. 'That boy is happy.'

آ بچک وش انت.

Bálách edá ent. 'Balach (a boy's name) is here.'

بالاچ ادا انت.

Háni ódá ent. 'Hani (a girl's name) is there.'

هانی اودا انت.

Bálách o Háni brát o gohár ant. 'Balach and Hani are siblings (sister and brother).'

بالاچ و هانی برات و گھار انت.

Singular and plural

There is no difference between the noun in the singular and the plural. Only the verb shows if it is singular or plural.

É ketáb grán ent. 'This book is heavy/expensive/difficult.'

اے کتاب گران انت.

Á bachak wassh ent. 'That boy is happy.'

آ بچک وش انت.

É ketáb grán ant. 'These books are heavy/expensive/difficult.'

اے کتاب گران انت.

Á bachak wassh ant. 'Those boys are happy.'

آ بچک وش انت.

The suffix -á

Oblique case singular

When an -á is added to the noun we get a so called oblique form of the noun in the singular which is used when the noun is a direct object of the sentence. The direct object is the person or thing which is affected by the verb action, e.g. we see YOU, they wrote A LETTER, Peter bought A BOOK

Examples on next slide.

Singular direct objects with the suffix -á

É ketábá bwán! 'Read this book!'

اے کتابا بوان!

Á bachaká genday? 'Do you see that boy?'

آ بچکا گندئے؟

Maróchi Háni Báláchá gendit. 'Today Hani sees/will see/will meet Balach.'

مروچی ہانی بالاجا گندیت۔

Bálách Hániá nagendit. 'Balach does not see / will not see / will not meet Hani.'

بالاچ ہانیا نگندیت۔

When the direct object consists of several words, only the last word gets the -á:

Bálách o Hániá gendán. 'I see Balach and Hani.'

بالاچ و ہانیا گندان۔

The verb 'to see'

Note the forms of the verb 'to see, to meet' so that you can more easily understand the examples on the previous slide.

gendán 'I see'

genday 'you see'

gendit 'he/she/it sees'

gendén 'we see'

gendét 'you see'

gendant 'they see'

nagendán 'I don't see'

nagenday 'you don't see'

nagendit 'he/she/it doesn't see'

nagendén 'we don't see'

nagendét 'you don't see'

nagendant 'they don't see'

(For Arabic-Balochi, see next slide.)

gendag گندگ 'to see'

نگندان

گندان

نگندئے

گندئے

نگندیت

گندیت

نگندین

گندین

نگندیت

گندیت

نگندنت

گندنت

The oblique case with -á after prepositions

The á case is also used after prepositions. Prepositions are words like ‘on, in, at, for, to, beside, against’. There are only a few prepositions in Balochi.

pa Báláchá په بالاچا ‘for Balach’

gón Hániá گون هانيا ‘with Hani’

cha é bachaká چه اے بچکا ‘from this boy’

mán é ketábá مان اے کتابا ‘in this book’

When the preposition is followed by several words, only the last word gets the -á suffix:

pa Bálách o Hániá په بالاچ و هانيا ‘for Balach and Hani’

The oblique case with -á to denote location or direction

Man shahrá rawán. 'I go/will go to town.'

من شهرا رءوان.

Taw shahrá ay? 'Are you in town?'

تءو شهرا اءے؟

Á lógá ent. 'He/she is at home.'

آ لوءا اءء.

Má **eskulá**/**madrasahá** én. 'We are at school.'

ما اءكولا (مءرءسها) اءن.

Shomá **Swidhaná**/**Suedá** ét? 'Are you in Sweden?'

شما سوئءنا (سوئءا) اءء؟

(the words in red font are common in Iran, the ones in blue font in Pakistan)

When the noun ends in -á

When the noun ends in -á the ending is -yá

pa donyáyá په دنيايا 'for the world'

Man maróchi Issáyá nagendán. 'I don't see Issá
(a boy's name) today.' or 'I won't see Issá today.'

من مروچی ایسایا نگندان.

The suffix -án

Oblique case plural

When an -án is added to the noun we get a so called oblique form of the noun in the plural which is used when the noun is a direct object of the sentence.

É ketábán bwán! ‘Read these books!’

اے کتابان بوان!

Á bachakána genday? ‘Do you see those boys?’

آ بچکان گندئے؟

When the direct object consists of several words, only the last word gets the -án.

Á bachak o jenekána genday? ‘Do you see those boys and girls?’

آ بچک و جنکان گندئے؟

(The a in the red font will be explained in the next lesson.)

The oblique case with -án after prepositions

gón é sangatán گون اے سنگتان 'with these friends'

cha á bachakán چه آ بچکان 'from those boys'

When the preposition is followed by several words, only the last word gets the -án suffix:

pa brát o gohárán 'for the brothers and sisters'

The oblique case with -án to denote location or direction

É kerr o gwarán áp nést. 'There is no water in
this region.'

اے کرّ و گوران آپ نیست.

Unmarked direct objects

When a direct object is generic (i.e. denotes any member of a class) it does not get the -á suffix:

Man ketáb^a gerán. 'I buy books (or possibly even only one book, but not a specific book).'

من کتابَ گران.

cf.

Man é ketábá gerán. 'I buy this book.'

من اے کتابا گران.

Man é ketábána^a gerán. 'I buy these books.'

من اے کتابانَ گران.

The individuation clitic =é

To denote a singular, often specific entity the clitic =é is added to the noun. A noun with the clitic =é can function as subject (and also as direct object, see below).

Ketábé beger! 'Buy a book!'

کتابے بگر!

Bachaké kayt. 'Á (certain) boy comes.'

بچکے کئیت.

Jeneké rawt. 'Á (certain) girl goes.'

جنکے رئوت.

Mardé átk. 'A (certain) man came.'

مردے آتک.

é+á

A combination of é and á is used to denote a singular specific direct object, particularly when it denotes a human being.

Mardéá gendán. 'I see a (particular) man.'

مردیا گندان.

It can also denote a specific direction or location

Dega molkéá rawt. 'He/she goes to another (specific) country.'

دگه مُلكیا رتوت.

Direct objects with =é but without -á

There are specific direct objects with =é but without -á, often denoting non-human beings:

Chizé genday? 'Do you see anything?' چیزے گندئے؟

Kuchaké gendán. 'I see a dog.' کوچکے گندان.

Pesshié (gorbagé) gendán. 'I see a cat.' پشپے (گربگے) گندان.

Pasé gendán. 'I see a sheep/goat.' پسے گندان.

Méshé gendán. 'I see a sheep.' میشے گندان.

Bozé gendán. 'I see a goat.' بزے گندان.

Góké gendán. 'I see a cow.' گوکے گندان.

Oshteré gendán. 'I see a camel.' اشترے گندان.

To be

To express 'to be', Balochi needs a verb in all persons except the 3rd person singular. The individuation clitic =é is enough in the 3rd person singular. Ex.

Janéné án. 'I am a woman.' جنینے آن.

Mardé ay. 'You are a man.' مردے ائے.

Bachaké. (no verb) 'It is a boy.' بچکے.

Jenek én. 'We are girls.' جنک این. (no individuation =é since it is plural)

Ostád ét. 'You are teachers.' استاد ایت. (no individuation =é since it is plural)

Dhákthar (doktor) ant. 'They are doctors.' ڈاکٹر أنت. (no individuation =é since it is plural)

Wordlist

ketáb کتاب 'book'

grán گران 'heavy, expensive, difficult'

bachak بچک 'boy'

jenek جنگ 'girl'

wassh وش 'happy'

edá ادا 'here'

ódá اودا 'there'

brát برات 'brother'

gohár گهار 'sister'

bwán بوان 'read' (imperative)

genday گندئے '(do) you see'

maróchi مروچی 'today'

gendit گندیت 'he/she/it sees'

bale بله 'but'

nagendit نڱندیت 'he/she/it doesn't see'
gendán گندان 'I see'
pa په 'for'
gón گون 'with'
cha چه 'from'
shahr شهر 'town'
lóg لوگ 'house, home'
eskul اسكول (madrasa مدرسه) 'school'
Swidhan سويڏن (Sued سوئڊ) 'Sweden'
donyá دنيا 'world'
sangat سنگت 'friend'
brát برات 'brother'
gohár گهار 'sister'
kerr o gwar كرّ و گور 'direction, area'
gerán گران 'I buy'
mard مرد 'man'
kayt كئيت 'he/she/it comes'
rawt رتوت 'he/she/it goes'
átk آتك 'he/she/it came'

chiz چیز 'thing'

kuchak کوچک 'dog'

pesshi پشی 'cat'

gorbag گربگ 'cat'

pas پس 'sheep'

boz بز 'goat'

gók گۆک 'cow'

oshter اشتر 'camel'

janén جنین 'woman'

ostád استاد 'teacher'

dhakthar ڈاکٹر 'doctor'