RESEARCH ARTICLE

THE SYLLABLE STRUCTURE IN NAGPURI (SADRI)

Diksha Verma

(PhD Research Scholar, Department of Linguistics, Assam University, Silchar.)

Email: vyusti98@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

With the aid of certain specific instances , this study aims to offer a quick overview of the syllable structure in Nagpuri (Sadri). There is also a small remark about Nagpuri (Sadri). This language belongs to the Indo-Aryan family, according to Grierson's Linguistic Survey of India. The description in this paper is based on the background research limited to fieldwork in the districts of Ranchi, Palamu, Lohardaga (where the language is predominantly spoken). There are also some books, essays, articles and thesis accessible in the language . Around 5,108,691 people who were native speakers of Nagpuri (Sadri) were counted in the 2011 Census. The purpose of this study is to explore the syllabic structures of Nagpuri (Sadri). The Nagpuri (Sadri) language has a hexasyllabic word structure which is further divided into two sorts of syllables: open syllables and close syllables.

Keywords: *Nagpuri (Sadri), Syllable, Syllable Distribution.*

INTRODUCTION

"Sadri / Sadani is the mother tongue of the Sadans, an Indo-Aryan group amongst the Non-Aryans in Chota Nagpur Plateau" (Navrangi, 1965: 5). Furthermore, "Sadri is often considered a dialect of Bhojpuri in western studies" (cf. Grierson, 1903; Tiwari, 1960; Jordan-Horstmann, 1969). Around 5,108,691 people who were native speakers of Nagpuri (Sadri) were counted in the 2011 Census. There are substantial numbers of native Nagpuri (Sadri) speakers in the states of Assam, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Bihar, Orissa, and Chhattisgarh. Oriya, Santali, Mundari, Kurukh, Saora, Kharia, and Ho are all members of the Indo-Aryan, Austro-Asiatic, and Dravidian language families, and Nagpuri (Sadri) serves as their common language. According to the Ethnologue (Eberhard et al., 2019), there are a number of other names for Nagpuri (Sadri), including Ganwari, Gauuari, Gawari, Goari, Jharkhandhi, Nagpuri, Nagpuria, Sadan, Sadana, Sadani, Sadati, Sadhan, Sadhari, Sadna, Sadrias Khatoya, Sadrik, Santri, Siddri, Sradri.

Multilingualism is common among Nagpuri (Sadri) speakers. They always choose to use their native language while speaking with relatives and neighbours. The elder generation received their basic education in Hindi medium schools. The younger generation today choose to enrol their kids in English- or Hindi-medium schools. People who speak Nagpuri (Sadri) are proud of their native tongue. Schools, colleges, and universities all provide language education. Additionally, Nagpuri (Sadri), Ho, Kharia, Kurux, Mundari, Santali, Kurmali, Khortha, and Panchpargania are taught at Ranchi University's department of Tribal and Regional Languages. To conserve the rich cultural heritage of the Scheduled Tribes and other people living in Jharkhand, this department was founded in 1980. Additionally, the language is utilized in the media, including radio, television, movies, music, publications, and novels. The Nagpuri (Sadri) language is revered by its speakers, who also appreciate their past, culture, and adherence to tradition.

Many people travelled to Assam in the late nineteenth century, especially from the Chota Nagpur Plateau (which includes Jharkhand, Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal, and Chhattisgarh), to work as labourers in Assam's tea estates. The major methods used to enlist labourers were violence, fraud, kidnapping, and making false promises of improved living conditions. Since then, they have been oppressed, used unfairly, and perceived as a lesser race. These workers had to depart the garden, when their shift was over. However, they decided to settle down close to the tea gardens rather than return to their own state. The language (Nagpuri Sadri) is also referred to as Assam Sadri or 'Bagania Bhasha' in Assam, where "Bagan" means "garden" in Assamese and "bhasha" is means "language".

Nagpuri (Sadri) has six vowel phonemes viz. /i, e, ə, a, o, u/. It has seven nasal phonemes viz. /ĩ, ẽ, ə̃, ã, õ, ŭ/. There are nine diphthongs and thirty consonantal phonemes found in the language viz. /p/, /pʰ/, /b/, /bʰ/, /t/, /tʰ/, /d/, /dʰ/, /ʈ/, /ʈʰ/, /ɖ/, /ɖʰ/, /k/, /kʰ/ /g/, /gʰ/, /č/, /čʰ/, /ǰ/, /ǰʰ/, /s/, /h/, /m/, /n/, /ŋ/, /l/, /r/, /ɽ/, /w/ and /y/. Consonant clusters and consonant sequences are also found in the language. The language uses the Devanagari script. Nagpuri (Sadri) is a non-tonal language. It maintains the same word order as other SOV languages.

"Notes on the Ganwari Dialect of Lohardaga, Chhota Nagpur", written by E. H. Whitley in 1896, is one of the many publications in the Nagpuri (Sadri) language that are noteworthy. One more by, G. A. Grierson who provided a brief account of "Nagpuria Sadri" on page 43 of his Linguistic Survey of India (Vol. V, Part-II), published in 1903. Another worth mentioning Ph.D. dissertation from Berlin University in 1966 by Monika Jordon Hortsman is titled "Sadani - a Bhojpuri Dialect Spoken in Chotanagpur". Another English-Sadri dictionary was published in 1975 by Father Edger Blain, S.V.D. Numerous periodicals and novels are produced in the Sadri language, including the monthly magazine "Gharaiya Guith" by "Johar Sahiya", which is only printed in Ranchi.

METHODOLOGY

In terms of technique, the linguistic data for the proposed article is gathered from two primary sources: primary and secondary. The data for this article has mostly been obtained using the primary approach. Personal interviews were undertaken in various regions of Jharkhand's Ranchi and Gumla districts, where native speakers of the Nagpuri (Sadri) language are concentrated. The acquired data is then double-checked with additional native speakers to ensure its accuracy. Aside from them, data was gathered from secondary sources, such as books, journals, thesis, magazines and numerous internet publications and study materials.

OBJECTIVES

The primary goal of this article is to determine the syllable structure and kinds in Nagpuri (Sadri), a language spoken mostly in the districts of Ranchi and Gumla in Jharkhand.

SYLLABLE

A syllable is a unit of speech, a word segment, or an uninterrupted sound. In a word, there can be one or more syllables. A syllable is made up of three parts: a nucleus (which is usually a vowel), an onset, and a coda (which is generally a consonant). A syllable may or may not have an onset and coda, but a nucleus is a necessary part. A syllable's basic structure is CVC, where C represents the onset (beginning), V for the nucleus or peak (middle), and C stands for the coda (end or the final). Closed syllables are those that end in a vowel, whereas open syllables are those that end in a consonant.

The definition of a syllable as mentioned in the Glossary of Linguistic Terms is "a syllable is a unit of sound composed of a central peak of sonority (usually a vowel), and the consonants that cluster around this central peak." According to David Crystal (2008) "syllable is a unit of pronunciation typically larger than a single sound and smaller than a word."

A syllable is a unit of sound in Nagpuri (Sadri) that comprises a vowel and one or more consonants. A syllable is composed of three main components. They are as follows: i) Onset, ii) Nucleus (peak) and iii) Coda.
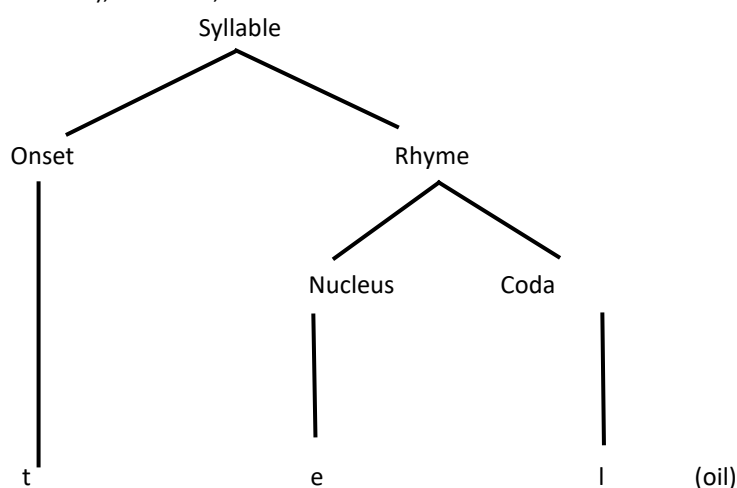

Fig -1: Assam Sadri Syllable Diagram

MONO- SYLLABIC WORDS

A mono-syllable or a mono-syllabic word can be broadly defined as a word that has or pertains to one syllable. Following are some the examples of mono-syllabic words:

Open- Syllable	Nagpuri (Sadri)	Gloss
V	/u/	'he/she/that'
CV	/de/	'give'
VCV	/aǰa/	'father's father'
CVV	/nəu/	'nail'

Closed- Syllable	Nagpuri (Sadri)	Gloss
VC	/uɽ/	'fly'
VVC	/aĩkʰ/	'eye'
CVC	/lor/	'tear'
VCVC	/amət/	'tangy'
CVVC	/ḍʰeir/	'many'

DISYLLABIC WORDS

A disyllable or disyllabic word can be broadly defined as a word that has or pertains to two syllables. Following are some the examples of disyllabic words:

Open- Syllable	Nagpuri (Sadri)	Gloss
VC.CV	/əb.ga/	'fresh'
CV.CV	/ka.ka/	'paternal uncle'
CV.CVV	/mi.ʈʰəi/	'sweet'
CVC.CV	/pʰəpʰ.sa/	'lungs'
CVV.CV	/čiu.ɽa/	'flatten rice'
CVVC.CV	/dʰəut.ra/	'stramonium'
Closed- Syllable	**Nagpuri (Sadri)**	**Gloss**

V.CVC	/u.pas/	'fasting'
VC.CVC	/əb.rik/	'now'
CV.CVC	/pə.rəb/	'festival'
CV.CVVC	/ra.həir/	'a kind of lentil'
CVC.CVC	/pər.bʰab/	'effect'

TRI-SYLLABIC WORDS

A trisyllable or a trisyllabic word can be broadly defined as a word that has or of three syllables. Following are some the examples of trisyllabic words:

Open- Syllable	Nagpuri (Sadri)	Gloss
V.CV.CV	/ə.gu.wa/	'lead'
CV.CV.CV	/ĵʰa.ɽo.na/	'duster'
CV.CVV.CV	/bi.lou.ti/	'tomato'
CVC.CV.CV	/muɖ.bə.tʰa/	'headache'
CVC.CVC.CV	/tər.hət.ti/	'palm'

Closed- Syllable	Nagpuri (Sadri)	Gloss
V.CVC.CVC	/a.sir.bad/	'blessing'
CV.CV.CVC	/nə.ri.yər/	'coconut'
CVC-CVC-CVC	/haɽ.ɖəɖ.kəl/	'fracture'

TETRA- SYLLABIC WORDS

A tetra-syllable or a tetra-syllabic word can be broadly defined as a word that has or is of four syllables. Following are some examples of tetra-syllabic words:

Open- Syllable	Nagpuri (Sadri)	Gloss
V.CV.CV.CV	/a.sa.pə.ti/	'pregnant'
CV.CV.CV.CV	/du.pə.ri.ya/	'noon'

CV.CVC.CV.CV	/si.leʈ.pa.ʈi/	'slate'
CVC.CV.CV.CV	/gur.kə.ta.ri/	'sugarcane'

Closed- Syllable	Nagpuri (Sadri)	Gloss
CVC.CV.CV.CVC	/pəčʰ.li.čə.lek/	'diarrhea'
CV.CVC.CV.CVC	/kʰa.yek.ǰi.nis/	'edibles'

PENTA-SYLLABIC WORDS

A Penta-syllable or a penta-syllabic word can be broadly defined as a word that has or is of five syllables. Following are some examples of penta-syllabic words:

Open- Syllable	Nagpuri (Sadri)	Gloss
CV.CVC.C.CV.CV	/bə.sən.t.ri.tu/	'spring'
CV.CVC.CV.CV.CV	/bi.təl.mə.hi.na/	'last month'

Closed- Syllable	Nagpuri (Sadri)	Gloss
CV.CVC.CV.CV.CVC	/ba.ris.kə.la.din/	'rainy-day'

HEXA-SYLLABIC WORDS:

A Hexa-syllable or a hexasyllabic word can be broadly defined as a word that has or is of six syllables. Following are some examples of hexasyllabic words:

Closed- Syllable	Nagpuri (Sadri)	Gloss
CVC.CV.CV.CVC.CV.CVC	/ʈər.ʈə.ra.yek.la.gek/	'bunkum'

SYLLABLE INITIAL

As far as the syllable initial position of Nagpuri (Sadri) is concerned, all the consonants, except the voiced velar nasal /ŋ/, voiced retroflex flap /ɽ/, the voiced bilabial approximant /w/ and the voiced palatal approximant /y/ do not occur in the syllable initial position. The evidence presented below thus supports the statement:

/p/	/purna/	'old'
/pʰ/	/pʰəpʰsa/	'lungs'
/b/	/bãih/	'arm'
/bʰ/	/bʰouǰi/	'elder brother's wife'
/t/	/tettəir/	'tamarind'
/tʰ/	/tʰara/	'plate'
/d/	/dail/	'lentil'
/dʰ/	/dʰəniya/	'coriander leaf'
/ʈ/	/ʈemrəs/	'guava'
/ʈʰ/	/ʈʰeuna/	'knee'
/ɖ/	/ɖanɖa/	'waist'
/ɖʰ/	/ɖʰeir/	'many'
/k/	/koil/	'cuckoo'
/kʰ/	/kʰira/	'cucumber'
/g/	/gaẽ/	'cow'
/gʰ/	/gʰəɖikgʰə̃ʈa/	'hour'
/č/	/čaur/	'uncooked rice'
/čʰ/	/čʰuʈʈi/	'holiday'
/ǰ/	/ǰaŋ/	'thigh'
/ǰʰ/	/ǰʰal/	'hot pungent taste'
/m/	/musa/	'mouse'
/n/	/nač/	'dance'
/s/	/sohrai/	'Nagpuri festival'

/h/	/hagəl/	'stool'
/l/	/lor/	'tear'
/r/	/rəsun/	'garlic'

SYLLABLE FINAL

As far as the syllable initial position of Nagpuri (Sadri) is concerned, all the consonants, except the voiced bilabial approximant /w/ and the voiced palatal approximant /y/ do not occur in the syllable final position. The evidence presented below thus supports the statement:

SYLLABLE FINAL

/p/	/ǰəp/	'chant'
/pʰ/	/kəpʰ/	'cough'
/b/	/gərib/	'poor'
/bʰ/	/bʰeɖwa/	'lady's finger'
/t/	/murut/	'idol'
/tʰ/	/hatʰ/	'hand'
/d/	/bəd/	'bad'
/dʰ/	/raudʰ/	'sunlight'
/ʈ/	/əkʰroʈ/	'walnut'
/ʈʰ/	/ǰʰuʈʰ/	'lie'
/ɖ/	/gõɖ/	'leg'
/ɖʰ/	/ʈẽɖʰ/	'crooked'
/k/	/uʧʰlek/	'high jump'
/kʰ/	/čokʰ/	'pointed'
/g/	/bʰag/	'section'
/gʰ/	/magʰ/	'February'
/č/	/golmərič/	'black pepper'
/čʰ/	/čʰãčʰ/	'buttermilk'

/ǰ/	/məgəǰ/	'brain'
/ǰʰ/	/aiǰʰ/	'today'
/m/	/ǰam/	'Indian blackberry'
/n/	/rəsun/	'garlic'
/ŋ/	/ləwəŋ/	'cloves'
/s/	/ǰulus/	'procession'
/h/	/bãih/	'arm'
/l/	/pakəl/	'ripe'
/r/	/ǰəbər/	'strong'
/ɽ/	/ǰaɽ/	'winter'

CONCLUSION

The following conclusions may be derived from the preceding analysis : Assam Sadri is an Indo - Aryan language that belongs to the Indo -Aryan family of languages. The syllabic structure of Assam Sadri is made up of three parts : an onset (a consonant), a nucleus (usually a vowel), and a coda (consonant). Its origins are typically monosyllabic in nature. A vowel serves as the nucleus of the syllable, but consonants do not form syllables on their own. A vowel can stand alone as a syllable , but consonants may or may not have an onset/coda. It's also worth noting that monosyllabic words have fewer open syllables than closed syllables . In Assam Sadri , the most prevalent syllable pattern is CVC. The Assam Sadri language has a hexasyllabic word structure . But if contrasted to other syllabic combinations , pure words in hexasyllabic words are quite rare . The majority of these terms are compound words. Even in the language , there seem to be no closed hexasyllabic words . All the consonants , except the voiced velar nasal /ŋ/, the voiced bilabial approximant /w/ and the voiced palatal approximant /y/ do not occur in the syllable initial position. Again, all the consonants , except the voiced bilabial approximant /w/ and the voiced palatal approximant /y/ do not occur in the syllable -final position in Assam Sadri.

ABBREVIATIONS

.	-	Syllable boundary
V	-	Vowel
C	-	Consonant
CVC	-	Consonant Vowel Consonant
VV	-	Diphthong
CC	-	Consonant Cluster

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