Santali

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What is Santali?

- Santali from Santal people
- Language family: Austro-Asiatic
- Munda branch (North Munda)
- 7,620,280 speakers mostly in India
Phonology

• Eight vowels, wide range of combinations (6 consecutive)
• Typical for northeast India area
  • Retroflex consonants
  • Aspirated stops
  • Glottalized final consonants
Phonology

- Munda unreleased preglottalized consonants in final position in Santali
- Difference between voiced and voiceless retroflex stops unlikely in Proto-Munda
Santali Verbs

• Very complex verb morphology
• Verbs in series are common
• Extensive TAM categories: 7 with 2 sets (active and middle voice)

Ex:

dal-ket’a-e
strike-PST:ACT-IND-3sS
‘he struck’
Santali Nouns

- Singular, dual, plural with inclusive and exclusive
- Seven case markers
- Inanimate, animate nouns
  (things with souls are animate, sun & moon)
Writing

• Began when British came to India
• Missionaries used Latin script to write Santali
• Pandit Raghunath Murmu created script called “Ol Chiki” (phonemic)
• 30 characters, 9 number symbols
რასაც შემთხვევა აქ იყოფა შეიძლო უნდა ჩვენ-მე ზოგადად ეს დღე როგორ არსებობს. ჩვენსა შესაძლო ქვეყანა იყოს. თუმცა არ არის ჩვენ მათ წყარო შეიძლო ჩვენ უარყოფა სხვა სახის პრობლემა მათში. ამ გაგრძელება შეიძლო გამარჯვება-ს მათში შეიძლო ჩვენ უარყოფა სხვა სახის პრობლემა მათში.
Contact Changes

• 1/3 of speakers are bilingual
• Influenced by surrounding languages (Bengali)
• Influence seen in loan words from Indo–Aryan (subject to phonological rules of Santali)
  
  \[\text{~ upar} \text{ ‘above’, } \text{ləgit} \text{ ‘for’}\]

• Aspirated consonants commonly in Indo–Aryan words found in Santali (mainly in loanwords)
• Some adjectives have natural gender agreement with heads (Indo–Aryan)
Dialects

• 2 main dialects: Northern and Southern

• Phonology: northern dialect has [ḍ], southern has [ṛ]

• Southern does not pronounce /ə/

• Different causative suffixes
Works Cited


• https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mRdkHBDNmUs