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## OBLIGATIONAL CONSTRUCTIONS IN NEW INDO-ARYAN LANGUAGES OF WESTERN INDIA

LIUDMILA V. KHOKHLOVA

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The paper describes historical roots as well as syntactic and semantic properties of the three main obligational constructions in modern Hindi-Urdu, Punjabi, Rajasthani<sup>1</sup> and Gujarati.<sup>2</sup> These constructions differ from one another by the degree and by the type of obligation. The main syntactic properties of obligational constructions discussed in the paper are Agent marking and long distance agreement rules. It will be demonstrated that the increasing frequency of the Dative instead of the Instrumental Agent marking in constructions of obligation was part of the gradual destruction of the ‘passive syntax’ typical for the climactic stage of ergative development.

**KEY WORDS:** obligational construction, Rajasthani, Punjabi, Gujarati, Instrumental Agent marking, Dative Agent marking, long distance agreement

Liudmila V. Khokhlova, Department of Indian Philology, Institute of Asian and African Studies, Moscow State University, khokhl@iaas.msu.ru

### 1. OBLIGATIONAL CONSTRUCTIONS IN MODERN WESTERN NIA

1.1. The strongest type of obligation is expressed by constructions with the verb ‘to fall’, preceded by the infinitive of the main verb. The subject (obligor agent)<sup>3</sup> is

<sup>1</sup> Rajasthani means here dialects grouped together according to G. GRIERSON (1918) on the basis of common phonetic, morphological and syntactic features. Most written texts exist in Marwari and Mewari, though the native speakers of other dialects also participate in the literary process. I am using this term here as the texts written in various Rajasthani dialects show similar tendencies of typological development.

<sup>2</sup> Examples used in this paper have largely been taken from information provided by native speakers and from literary sources. Fabricated examples have been checked and cross-checked with native speakers. References to literary sources are given in bibliography.

<sup>3</sup> The thematic role of the subject in obligational construction is described as Experiencer by MASICA (1991: 351–352), as Goal by M. BUTT (2006: 86), Agent by CARDONA (1965: 96). It is usually defined as Agent in gerundival constructions – OIA and MIA antecedents of modern obligational constructions (HOCK 1986: 15–26), (BUBENIK 1998). This thematic role is really ambiguous as the subject has more volitional properties in constructions denoting planned action and moral obligation, less – in constructions denoting compulsion. Understanding inaccuracy of any general term used for subject in obligational construction, I will use the term Agent in order to show historical link with the Agent of gerundival constructions in OIA and MIA. The term ‘obligor agent’ has been suggested by Prof. H. Hock.

marked by Dative in Hindi-Urdu (1), Punjabi (2) and Rajasthani (3) and by Instrumental in Gujarati (4):

- (1) (H-U.)  
*dhobī ko ye sāre kapre dhone pare<sup>n</sup>ge*  
 washerman DAT these.PL all.M.PL clothes.M.PL wash.INF.M.PL fall.FUT.3M.PL  
 ‘The washerman will have to wash all these clothes.’
- (2) (P.)  
*us-nū<sup>n</sup> eh kamm karnā pawegā*  
 he.OBL-DAT this work.M.SG do.INF.M.SG fall.FUT.3M.SG  
 ‘He will have to do this work.’
- (3) (R.)  
*mha-nai tau marṇau ī parsī*  
 I.OBL-DAT emph. die.INF.M.SG emph fall.FUT.3SG  
 ‘As for me, I shall have to die.’
- (4) (G.)  
*tene ā copḍī wā<sup>n</sup>cwī padṣe*  
 he.INS this book.F read.INF.F fall.FUT.3SG  
 ‘He will have to read this book.’

1.2. Constructions denoting moral obligation, following somebody’s rules and prescriptions imply an Agent that has comparatively free choice to perform or not to perform the action. The predicate is formed by an adverb (Hindi-Urdu, Rajasthani, Gujarati) or verbal adjective (Punjabi), preceded by the infinitive and followed by copula. Adverbs in Hindi-Urdu, Rajasthani and Punjabi are derived from  $\sqrt{cāh}$  ‘want’: H-U. *cāhiye*, R. *cāhījai*, historically they are the finite forms of Present Passive; P. *cāhīdā* historically is the Present Passive Participle; the adverb *joīe* of Gujarati is derived from  $\sqrt{jo}$  ‘to see’, historically the finite form of Present Passive.<sup>4</sup>

The Agent is marked by Dative in H-U. (5), R. (6) and P. (7):

- (5) (H-U.)  
*bacco<sup>n</sup> ko baRo<sup>n</sup> ke sāmne kuch nahī<sup>n</sup> bolnā cāhiye*  
 child.PL.OBL DAT elder. PL.OBL in front of something NEG say necessary  
 ‘Children should not oppose grown-ups’ words.’
- (6) (R.)  
*ma-nai e roṭī jīmṇī cāhījai*  
 I.OBL-DAT this roti.F eat.INF.F necessary  
 ‘I should eat this roti.’
- (7) (P.)  
*beṭe, tai-nū<sup>n</sup> ih sārīā<sup>n</sup> kitābā<sup>n</sup> parṇhīnā<sup>n</sup> cāhīdīā<sup>n</sup>*  
 son.VOC you.OBL-DAT these all.F.PL book.F.PL read.INF.F.PL necessary.F.PL

<sup>4</sup> Interestingly, the adverbs in the described obligational constructions are etymologically derived from Sanskrit verbs meaning ‘to see’, the metaphorical development here must have been ‘see > want’. Compare with Marathi adverb *pāhije* derived from root with the same meaning (KATENINA 1963: 70).

*han*

are.PRES.3PL

‘Son, you should read all these books.’

In Gujarati the Agent is marked by Dative freely varying with Instrumental (8), (9). There is great variation with regard to the preferred Agent marker in Gujarati both regionally and individually (CARDONA 1965: 96; LAMBERT 1971: 60–61, 108–109; MASICA 1991: 351–352). The native speakers I worked with preferred the Instrumental case marking of Agent in sentences signifying moral obligation.

- (8) (G.)  
*teṇe/tene mitrā-ne patra lakhvo joīe*  
 he.INS/he.DAT friend.OBL-DAT letter.M.SG write.INF.M.SG necessary  
 ‘He should write a letter to (his) friend.’

- (9) (G.)  
*e maṇas-e/maṇas-ne ghar jāwu<sup>n</sup> joīe*  
 this man.INS/man.DAT home go.INF.N necessary  
 ‘This man should go home.’

Compare similar Agent marking in Gujarati ergative construction (10):

- (10) (G.)  
*e maṇas-e 1942-nī rāṣṭrīy caḷvaḷ-mā<sup>n</sup> ame sāthe kām*  
 this man.INS 1942-of national movement-in me with work.N.SG  
*karelu<sup>n</sup>*  
 did.PAST.N.SG  
 ‘This man together with me participated in 1942 national movement.’

The 1st and 2nd pers. pronouns in Instrumental case may be replaced by possessive pronouns having the same case. They vary freely with personal pronouns in Dative (11):

- (11) (G.)  
*mare/mane amāre/amne tamāre/tamne ghar jāwu<sup>n</sup> joīe*  
 my.INS/me.DAT our.INS/us.DAT your.INS/you.DAT home go.INF.N necessary  
 ‘I/we/you should go home.’

1.3. The constructions of the third type denote the action planned by the Agent himself or planned for the Agent by someone else. Similar to the Agent in constructions denoting moral obligation, the Agent in this type of constructions is not compelled to perform the action, but has free choice to follow his own or somebody’s plans or prescriptions. The predicate is formed by the infinitive + copula. The Agent is marked by Dative in standard H-U. (12), R. (13) and G. (14), by Ergative in P. (15) and sub-standard H-U. (16):

- (12) (H-U.)  
*hamāre bacco<sup>n</sup> ko jūn me<sup>n</sup> imtihān dene*  
 our.M.PL.OBL children.PL.OBL DAT June in exam give.INF.M.PL  
*hai<sup>n</sup>*  
 are.PRES.3.PL  
 ‘Our children are to sit at the exams in June.’

- (13) (R.)  
*ma-nai kām karṇo hai*  
 I.OBL-DAT work.M.SG do.INF.M.SG is.PRES.3.SG  
 ‘I am to do the work.’
- (14) (G.)  
*āj sā<sup>n</sup>je maheś-ne gām jāwu<sup>n</sup> che*  
 today in the evening Mahesh-DAT village go.INF.N. is.PRES.3SG  
 ‘Today in the evening Mahesh is to go to the village.’
- (15) (P.)  
*jasbīr ne tere bāp nāl gallā<sup>n</sup> karnīā<sup>n</sup> han*  
 Jasbir ERG your father with word.F.PL do.INF.F.PL are.PRES.3PL  
 ‘Jasbir is to talk to your father.’
- (16) (sub-standard H-U.)  
*rām ne śādī karnī hai*  
 Ram ERG marriage.F.SG do.INF.F.SG is  
 ‘Ram is to marry.’

According to M. BUTT (2006: 86), the Dative-Ergative case alternation in Urdu is supposed to express a certain semantic contrast. In her examples (17) and (18) below the Agent marked by Dative is semantically neutral. It may be interpreted as Goal, i.e. ‘receiving the zoo going event’. Dative can also be interpreted on the control dimension, so (17) may have two readings: ‘plus control’ (= Nadya wants to go to the zoo) and ‘minus control’ (= Nadya has to go to the zoo). As for Ergative in (18), it expresses the marked situation, showing a very high degree of control and results in a reading whereby the participant wants the event to take place: Nadya wants to go to the zoo.

- (17) (H-U.)  
*nādyā ko zoo jānā hai*  
 Nadya.F.SG DAT zoo go.INF.M.SG be.PRES.3SG  
 ‘Nadya has/wants to go to the zoo.’
- (18) (H-U.)  
*nādyā ne zoo jānā hai*  
 Nadya.F.SG ERG zoo go.INF.M.SG be.PRES.3SG  
 ‘Nadya wants to go to the zoo.’

The suggested type of analysis raises doubts as the case alternation does not take place in one and the same idiolect and due to this cannot be used for expressing different meanings. The choice of particular marking depends on age, background, education, contacts and the surroundings.<sup>5</sup> Marking with the Ergative has been borrowed from Punjabi. It is spread-

<sup>5</sup> M. BUTT (2006) ascribed similar ‘volitional vs. involitional’ opposition to possible case alternations in constructions with intransitive verbs like ‘cough’, ‘sneeze’, ‘laugh’ etc.

- (a) *ram khās-a*  
 Ram.M.SG.NOM. coughed.PERF.M.SG  
 ‘Ram coughed.’ (he is sick)

ing in Pakistani Urdu (about half of the Pakistan population are native speakers of Punjabi) and in Hindi of Delhi (MASICA 1991: 352). One and the same person uses always the same – either Dative or Ergative – case irrespective of the fact that the Agent wants the event to take place or obeys the law, rules etc. Compare, e.g., (18) above, where the Agent wants and (19) below, where the Agent does not want the event to take place, but is compelled to perform the action planned for him/her by somebody else. Other speakers would use Dative in both the cases:

- (19) (H-U.)  
*nādyā ne tīn din me<sup>n</sup> pā<sup>n</sup>c imtihān dene hai<sup>n</sup>*  
 Nadya.F.SG ERG three days in five exams.M.PL give.INF.M.PL be.PRES.3PL  
 ‘Nadya has (\*wants) to sit in five exams during three days.’

Irrespective of Dative/Ergative marking, the Agent in constructions denoting planned action occupies the highest position in the volitionality hierarchy. Constructions denoting compulsion naturally imply the obligor Agent and constructions expressing moral obligation occupy the intermediate position.

The table below shows the Agent marking in all the types of obligational construction.

| Language   | Type of obligation |                  |                |
|------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|
|            | compulsion         | moral obligation | planned action |
| Hindi-Urdu | DAT                | DAT              | DAT/ERG        |
| Rajasthani | DAT                | DAT              | DAT            |
| Punjabi    | DAT                | DAT              | ERG            |
| Gujarati   | INS =ERG           | INS =ERG/DAT     | INS=ERG/DAT    |

Standard Hindi-Urdu and Rajasthani have similar Agent marking (by Dative) in all the constructions denoting obligation. In Punjabi and sub-standard Hindi-Urdu the Agent obeying moral rules is combined with the Agent compelled to perform the action (both are marked by Dative); they are opposed to the Ergative marked Agent that follows its own or somebody’s (including God’s) plans in life.

In Gujarati the Agent in the constructions, denoting moral obligation and planned action may be marked either by Instrumental or by Dative. In case of the compelled action the only possible Agent marking is by Instrumental-Ergative inflection. This means that in the semantic map of Gujarati the Agent that has more chance to act according to its free will, i.e. to display its Agentive properties, is opposed to the Agent compelled to perform the action. Interestingly, in Gujarati the Instrumental-Ergative case serves to mark the most involitional Agent, forced to perform the action. That means that Gujarati data contradicts M. Butt’s hypothesis saying that Ergative shows a very high degree of control while Dative

- (b) *ram-ne khās-a*  
 Ram.M.SG.ERG coughed.PERF.M.SG  
 ‘Ram coughed (**purposefully**).’

Similar to the obligational constructions with alternative Agent marking, these constructions also are not used in one and the same idiolect, and because of that they cannot differentiate meanings.

is preferred in constructions where the Agent is endowed with the less amount of free will in performing the action.

Being grouped with ‘compulsion’ in Punjabi and with ‘planned action’ in Gujarati, the constructions with ‘moral obligation’ reading have a peculiar syntactic feature, not shared with the other obligation constructions. Agents in all obligational constructions have such subject properties as binding the subject oriented reflexive or being a controlled PRO subject (20):

- (20) (H-U.)  
*hame<sup>n</sup> (i) bacco<sup>n</sup> (j) ko [PRO (i) apne (i/\*j) kamre me<sup>n</sup> biṭhānā]*  
 we.DAT children DAT self’s room in make sit  
*hai/cāhiye/parēgā*  
 is/necessary/will fall.FUT.3M.SG  
 ‘We are/should/shall have to make the children sit in their room.’

But only the Agent in constructions denoting ‘moral obligation’ allows the grammatical functions to reverse, compare (21) and (22) with reversible predicates:

- (21) (H-U.)  
*pati (i) ko apnī (i/\*j) bīvī pasā<sup>n</sup>d ānī cāhiye*  
 husband DAT self’s wife liking come.INF.F necessary  
 \**hai* \**parēgī*  
 \*is \*will fall.FUT.3F.SG  
 ‘The husband should like his wife.’

- (22) (H-U.)  
*bīvī (i) apne (i/\*j) pati ko pasā<sup>n</sup>d ānī cāhiye*  
 wife self’s husband DAT liking come.INF.F necessary  
 ‘The wife should be liked by her husband.’

One more specific property of the constructions denoting ‘moral obligation’ is that only these constructions may have no Agent in their argument structure, compare H-U. (23):

- (23) (H-U.)  
*bīvī gharēlū honī cāhiye \*hai \*parēgī*  
 wife domestic be.INF.F necessary \*is \*will fall.FUT.3F.SG  
 ‘Wife should be domestic.’

The obligational constructions in the described languages demonstrate the case of Long Distance Agreement (LDA) when the matrix predicate agrees with the argument which is not its own. In Punjabi (24) the participle *cāhīdīā<sup>n</sup>* and copula *han* agree with the argument *kitābā<sup>n</sup>* that is not their own.<sup>6</sup>

- (24) (P.)  
*beṭe, tai-nū<sup>n</sup> [ih sārīā<sup>n</sup> kitābā<sup>n</sup> parhīnīā<sup>n</sup>] cāhīdīā<sup>n</sup>*  
 son.VOC you.OBL-DAT these all.F.PL book.F.PL read.INF.F.PL necessary.F.PL  
*han*  
 are.PRES.3.PL  
 ‘Son, you should read all these books.’

<sup>6</sup> Compare the description of LDA in Hindi-Urdu by Rajesh BHAT (2005: 757–807).

In Rajasthani (25) the predicate *parṭī* agrees with an argument *parṇiyorī* that is not its own:

- (25) (R.)  
*phagat garībī rai kāraṇ thā<sup>n</sup>-nai [sāt pherā<sup>n</sup> rī*  
 only poverty GEN.M.OBL reason you-DAT seven circle.F.PL.OBL Gen.F  
*parṇiyorī chorṇī] parṭī*  
 married.F.SG leave.INF.F fall.PRES.P.F  
 ‘Only because of poverty you will have to leave [your wife] married according to Hindu law.’<sup>7</sup> (BAHAL 1989: 119).

In Hindi-Urdu the agreement in obligational constructions is optional,<sup>8</sup> though preferable in literary standard:

- (26) (H-U.)  
*rām ko [kitābe<sup>n</sup> parḥnī] paṛe<sup>n</sup>gī/ paṛhnā paṛegā*  
 Ram DAT books.F.PL. read.INF.F. fall.FUT.F.PL/ read.INF.M.SG fall.FUT.M.SG  
 ‘Ram will have to read the books.’

Being a part of present tense predicate, Hindi-Urdu *cāhiye* sometimes (rather rarely) agrees with the plural form of infinitive’s direct object:

- (27) (H-U.)  
*bacco<sup>n</sup> ko [baṛo<sup>n</sup> kī bāte<sup>n</sup> mānnī] cāhiye<sup>n</sup>*  
 children DAT grown up.OBL.PL. G.F words.F.PL respect.INF.F necessary.PL  
 ‘The children should listen to grown-ups.’

In H-U. the infinitival agreement takes place only in case of LDA, while in other languages it is compulsory within simple clause. Compare standard H-U. (28), P. (29) G. (30) and R. (31):

- (28) (H-U.)  
*zarūrat se zyādā kitābe<sup>n</sup> paṛhnā tabīyat ke liye acchā nahī<sup>n</sup>*  
 necessity ABL more books.F.PL read.INF.M.SG health for good NEG  
*hai*  
 is

‘Reading more books than necessary is not good for health.’

- (29) (P.)  
*caran nū<sup>n</sup> rūṣī sikk<sup>h</sup>-ṇī ca<sup>n</sup>gī lagdī hai*  
 Charan DAT Russian.F.SG learn.INF.F.SG good.F.SG seem.PRES.P.F.SG is  
 ‘Charan likes to learn Russian.’

- (30) (G.)  
*ā co<sup>n</sup>pḍī wā<sup>n</sup>cwī muśkel che*  
 this book.F.SG read.INF.F difficult is  
 ‘It is difficult to read this book.’

<sup>7</sup> The main part of marriage ritual are seven circles around the sacred fire.

<sup>8</sup> For optional LDA in Hindi-Urdu see HOOK 1979, DAVISON 1988, MAHAJAN 1989, BUTT 1995, BHAT 2005.

In Gujarati and Rajasthani, but not in Punjabi, Accusative postposition does not block the infinitival agreement (31):

- (31) (R.)  
*rājasthān-me<sup>n</sup> kaṭhaiī -kaṭhaiī śabd-rā a<sup>n</sup>t-me<sup>n</sup> ‘y’ śruti*  
 Rajasthan-LOC somewhere word-GEN.M.PL end-in ‘y’ sound.F.SG  
*sunījai, likhaṅ-me<sup>n</sup> uṅ-nai nahī<sup>n</sup> darsāwanī*  
 heard.PRES.PASS.3 writing-in it.OBL.SG-ACC NEG show.INF.F  
 ‘At some places in Rajasthan the sound ‘y’ is heard at the end of the words, it should not be shown in writing.’

Long distance agreement rules in Punjabi contradict Rajesh Bhatt’s statement that LDA can only take place if the matrix verb has no non-overtly case-marked arguments of its own. In Punjabi the Agent expressed by the 1-st or 2-nd person pronouns in constructions of the planned action has no case marking, compare P. (32):

- (32) (P.)  
*mai/tū<sup>n</sup>/as<sup>n</sup>/tus<sup>n</sup> pa<sup>n</sup>jābī sīkhṅī hovegī*  
 I/thou/we/you Punjabi .F.SG learn.INF.F.SG will be.FUT.3F.SG  
 ‘I/thou/we/you may plan to learn Punjabi.’

## 2. THE HISTORICAL ROOTS OF MODERN OBLIGATIONAL CONSTRUCTIONS

2.1. According to BUTT (2006: 86), in the construction with the copula and a non-finite main verb the use of Dative historically precedes the use of Ergative. M. Butt referred to E. Bashir’s study of Modern Urdu syntax (BASHIR 1999). According to Bashir, in modern Urdu the Ergative is slowly encroaching on the domain of the Dative. Not contesting this conclusion, it is much easier to explain the phenomenon by the Punjabi influence. The Punjabi-speaking community constitutes 44.15% of the total population of Pakistan and 47.56% of its urban population. Together with speakers of Saraiki (10.53%) which is treated by some linguists as a southern dialect of Punjabi (NADIEM 2005), the bearers of the Punjabi language represent the majority of the population of Pakistan.

2.2. As for diachronic data, they demonstrate a different type of development. The Rajasthani/Gujarati infinitive may be derived from Skr. gerundives (potential participles) with suffixes *-tavya/-itavya*: Skr. *-(i)tavya-* > Pkt. *-(i)avva-* > OG *-(i)va-* extended by suffix *-u<sup>n</sup>* declined for number and gender (DAVE 1935: 64).<sup>9</sup> Hindi-Urdu, Punjabi and modern Rajasthani infinitives are most probably connected with OIA deverbative action nouns with suffix *-ana*<sup>10</sup> – like *darś-ana* ‘sight’ ( $\sqrt{drś}$ ) (BUBENIK 1996: 126). However, the Sanskrit gerundives in *-(ī)ya-*, *-(i)tavya-*, *-ya-*, *-anīya-* expressing ‘obligation’ or necessity, may have played a significant role in the formation of the obligational constructions in Hindi-Urdu and Punjabi (MASICA 1991: 352). Bubenik has pointed to the fact that unlike Greek and Latin where the gerundives were used predominantly in statements of deontic modality, their IA counterparts could denote both the necessity and the possibility (BUBENIK 1998: 190).

<sup>9</sup> *-au* for M.SG, *ā-* for M.PL, *-ī* for F/SG=PL.

<sup>10</sup> In Western Apabhramsha *-ana/u-* (BUBENIK 1996: 126).



Changing the Agent marking in OIA-MIA-NIA obligational constructions sheds light on the typological development of Western NIA languages.

2.3. In early Vedic Agent in constructions with gerundives could be marked by Dative (33), Genitive (34) and Instrumental (35):

- (33) *sákhā sákhibhya ṛḍyaḥ*  
 friend.NOM.SG friend.DAT.PL invoked.GER.M.NOM.SG  
 ‘A friend to be invoked by friends.’ (HOCK 1986: 20); or ‘A friend [is] to be praised by friends.’ (BUBENIK 1998: 190); or ‘A friend to be invoked for friends.’ (ELIZARENKOVA 1999: 55) (RV 9.66.1).<sup>11</sup>

- (34) *yá éka id-dhāv-ya-ś- carsaṇīnām*  
 that.NOM.SG one.M.NOM.SG EMPH.invoke.GER.M.N.SG ploughman.GEN.PL  
 ‘That (only) one should be called by the people (lit. by ploughmen).’ (ELIZARENKOVA 1995: 117) (RV 6.22.1)

- (35) *tvám nṛbhir hávyo viśvādḥā asi*  
 thou man.M.INS.PL invoked.GER.M.SG always art.PRES.2SG  
 ‘You should always be invoked by men.’ (ELIZARENKOVA 1995: 201),  
 ‘You are always to be invoked by men.’ (BUBENIK 1998: 190) (RV 7. 22. 7)

The Instrumental marking did not correspond to any particular thematic role: the Instrumental case could be used both for Agent (35 above) and for Experiencer (36 below):

- (36) *asmābhir ū nú praticáksyā abhūt*  
 we.INS PRT<sup>12</sup> now visible.GER became.AOR.3SG  
 ‘She became visible to us.’ (lit. ‘possible to be seen by us’) (BUBENIK 1998: 191) (RV 1. 113.11)

2.4. By the time of Classical Sanskrit the gerundive has lost its Dative Agent marking, and the Genitive Agents have become rare (HOCK 1986: 20), the Instrumental Agents were predominating in all the P-oriented constructions – in constructions with *-ta-* participles, the antecedents of future ergative constructions (37), in constructions with passives (38) and in those with gerundives (39):

- (37) *devadattena kaṭaḥ kṛtaḥ*  
 Devadatta.INS.SG mat.NOM.SG. made.NOM.SG  
 ‘Devadatta has made a mat.’ = ‘A mat has been made by Devadatta.’

- (38) *devadattena kaṭaḥ kriyate*  
 Devadatta.INS.SG mat.NOM.SG. is made.PRES.PASS.3SG  
 ‘A mat has been made by Devadatta.’

- (39) *devadattena kaṭaḥ kartavyaḥ*  
 Devadatta.INS/SG mat.NOM.SG is to be made  
 ‘A mat is to be made by Devadatta.’ (HOCK 1986: 15)

In early Vedic gerundives were usually formed from the transitive stems. The gerundives from intransitives were very rare and confined just to roots  $\sqrt{\text{jan}}$  ‘be born’ and  $\sqrt{\text{bhū}}$

<sup>11</sup> Different translations show that Dative marking was ambiguous, meaning that the argument might have thematic roles either of the Agent or of the Beneficiary.

<sup>12</sup> Particle.

‘be’. By the time of Vedic prose there have appeared the Agent-demoting gerundives from intransitives (HOCK 1986: 19). The Agent-demotion has become obligatory for the most productive sub-type of gerundives, that is for those in *-tavya-*, the antecedent of the obligatory constructions in Old Gujarati and Rajasthani.

- (40) *paśúvratena bhavitavyam*  
 cattle-like.INS.SG should be.GER.N.SG  
 ‘One should be cattle-like.’ (HOCK 1986: 20) (MS 1.8.7)

According to Hock, impersonal constructions of the type illustrated in (40) were much more commonly attested for gerundives than for passives (HOCK 1986: 20). This means that gerundives provided the starting point for the innovation that was a very important feature of ergative development. Following Comrie’s definition of ergativity as ‘passive’ morphology and/or syntax without the existence of a corresponding and more basic ‘active counterpart’ (COMRIE 1978), the *-tavya-* gerundives in Vedic prose could be considered more ergative than the *-ta-* participles, as they did not suppose any ‘active – passive’ opposition and were obligatorily ‘passive’ even in case of intransitives, while the *-ta-* participles were obligatorily passive only in case of transitives. As for passive constructions, in Classical Sanskrit they implied the corresponding ‘active’ counterparts (HOCK 1986: 19).

2.5. In the climactic point of ergativity development, namely in late MIA, the active-passive opposition has stopped to exist: the A-demotional passive has been preserved only in non-ergative domain, while the *-ta-* participle (41) and the gerundival (42) constructions have not entered into the ‘active – passive’ opposition and have retained the Instrumental Agent marking:

- (41) *tā keumaiem haum gharaho nīya*  
 then Ketumati.INS I.NOM house.GEN.DAT taken.PP  
 ‘Then Ketumati brought me home.’ = ‘Then I was brought home by Ketumati.’  
 (BUBENIK 1986: 148) (Kc 6.12.1)

- (42) *navara ekku vau maim pālevau jinu mellevi*  
 only one vow by me.INS observed.GER Jina abandoned.GER  
*aṅṅu na namevau*  
 another not worshipped.GER  
 ‘I want to observe only one vow (=only one vow should be observed by me) that with the exception of Jina I will not worship another [deity] (=another deity will not be worshipped by me)’  
 (BUBENIK 1986: 194–195) (Pc 26.3.2)

2.6. Old Gujarati and Rajasthani have inherited the ‘passive’ syntax from MIA, including the Instrumental marking of *-ta-* participial (43, 45) and of gerundival Agents (44, 46):

- (43) (Old Gujarati: 16 cent.)  
*samyama nā saghalā vyāpāra mūṃkyā chaim*  
 self-control GEN.M.PL all.M.PL activities.M.PL left.PP.M.PL are.PRES.3.PL  
*jīṇaim*  
 by whom.INS.SG  
 ‘...who has left all the attempts at self-control’ = ‘by whom all the attempts at self-control have been left’  
 (DAVE 1935: 50) (Suri: 526)

- (44) (Old Gujarati: 16 cent.)  
*śiṣyīm te kārya tatkāla ācarivaum ji*  
 pupil.INS that work.N.SG immediately should be done.GER.N.SG HON  
 ‘The pupil should immediately do that work.’ = ‘The work should be done by the pupil.’  
 (DAVE 1935: 65) (Suri: 78)
- (45) (Old Rajasthani: 16 cent.)  
*phal vesyāi līdhau*  
 fruit.M.SG.NOM courtesan.INS.SG taken.PP.M.SG.NOM  
 ‘The courtesan took the fruit.’ = ‘The fruit was taken by the courtesan.’  
 (RG: 35)
- (46) *im anere... vidyā lete vinay karivu*  
 so others.INS knowledge grasping humility.N.SG should be done.GER.N.SG  
 ‘So grasping knowledge others should also show humility.’ (RG: 16)

The Agent has retained the Instrumental marking in constructions with gerundives from intransitives:

- (47) (Old Rajasthani: 16 cent.)  
*je pākhtī bi vṛkś chai te taḥhārī tai<sup>n</sup> na jā-iv-u<sup>n</sup>*  
 which nearby two trees are them under you.INS not should be gone.GER.N.SG  
 ‘Do not go under two nearby trees [lit. should not be gone by you]’. (RG: 37)

The impersonal gerundival constructions from transitives (48) as well as from intransitives (49) have continued to be used widely:

- (48) (Old Rajasthani: 15 cent.)  
*tiṇi kāraṇi buddhi karī eu vi-pratār-iv-au*  
 this.INS reason.INS brain having made.ABS he should be deceived.GER.N.SG  
 ‘Because of this, using brains he should be deceived.’ = ‘I should think how to deceive him.’  
 (RG: 8)
- (49) (Old Gujarati: 16 cent.)  
*rāga dveṣa nai vasi na āv-iv-auṃ*  
 love hatred of.LOC.SG domination.LOC.SG not should come.GER.N.SG  
 ‘One should not come under the domination of love and hatred.’  
 (DAVE 1935: 69) (Suri: 125)

2.7. Starting approximately from the 16th century on, the consistent ergative pattern in MIA noun declension has gradually split into two main case marking systems: the accusative  $S=A \neq O$  and  $A \neq O$  and the tripartite  $S \neq A \neq O$  one. This evolution from ergative towards nominative syntax in nominal paradigms has resulted in restructuring the whole syntactic system of the late Western NIA, first of all – in deviation from the ‘passive pattern’ typical for the late OIA and MIA periods. The remains of the Sanskrit *-ta-* participle construction have been included into the ‘active – passive’ opposition and the passive construction has developed its non-demotional variety. Only Gujarati has preserved the essential feature of ‘passive’ syntax, inherited from the late OIA stage: the identical Agent marking by Instrumental in ergative and in inherited gerundival constructions (see examples 4, 8, 9, 10 above),

though in the two types of gerundival construction the Agent marking by Instrumental has been varying with the Dative. For more details see (KHOKHLOVA 2001).

2.8. Only Modern Gujarati has inherited from Sanskrit the *-avya-* gerundive used in all the obligational constructions, see (4, 8, 9, 11, 14) above. After Gujarati-Rajasthani split that has taken place in approximately 16th century (TESSITORI 1914–1916), the obligational constructions have started being formed not only from the inherited *-avya-* gerundives but also from the OIA deverbative action nouns with the suffix *-ana-*.<sup>13</sup> Both forms could be used in one and the same sentence. The Instrumental Agent marker typical for OIA and MIA ‘passive syntax’ has been replaced by the Dative.

- (50) (Rajasthani: 18 cent.)  
*au dhanuṣ mo-nū<sup>n</sup> cārḥṇo sītā parṇawī*  
 this bow.M.SG me-DAT draw.INF.M.SG Sita.F marry.GER.F  
 ‘I am to draw this bow and marry Sita.’ (RG 97)

Gradually the former gerundives have become obsolete, and the new constructions with the adverb *cāhījai* ‘necessary’ and the infinitives of the new type with the suffix *-n-* have been formed:

- (51) (Rajasthani: 18 cent.)  
*vikramādīt-udaisingh thārā lohṛā bhāī chai, tinā<sup>n</sup> nū<sup>n</sup> ek*  
 Vikramadit-Udaisingh your younger brothers are them DAT one  
*pag-ṭhor dīnī cāhījai*  
 foot-place.F give.INF.F necessary  
 ‘Vikramadit and Udaisingh are your younger brothers. They should be given some place (to stay).’ (RG: 48)

Unlike Rajasthani where the prose texts are dated back to the 14th century, the historical development of Kauravi – the basic dialect of modern Hindi-Urdu – has not been represented in chronologically ordered texts belonging to different centuries. The general trend of Hindi-Urdu syntactic development may be analyzed through studying the history of a Hindi dialect that has a literary tradition, namely Braj. Similar to Old Rajasthani, Old Braj possessed two infinitives: one with the suffix *-(i)v-* and the second with the suffix *-n-*. They were used partially in free variation, partially in complementary distribution (MILTNER 1962: 501). The obligational constructions of Old Braj were formed with the infinitive having suffix *-n-*, the Agent in them was marked by Dative:

- (52) (Old Braj: 17 cent.)  
*vaiṣṇav kū<sup>n</sup> vaiṣī hī kṛtī karnī cāhiye*  
 Vaishnav DAT such EMPH deed.F do.INF.F necessary  
 ‘Vaishnav should perform exactly this type of deeds.’ (vārtā: 107; 58)
- (53) *...jinke liye śrī nāth-jī kū<sup>n</sup> masāl lenī paḍī*  
 ...whom for HON.Nath-HON DAT lantern.F take.INF.F fell.Pst.F  
 ‘For whom Krishnaji had to take lantern.’ (vārtā: 121; 65,1)

<sup>13</sup> The forms derived from OIA deverbative action nouns with suffix *-ana-* are usually defined as ‘infinitives’ in various descriptions of Modern NIA. Most authors describe both verbal and adjectival properties of these forms: ASHANT 1994; BAHAL 1989; BHATIA 1993; BHAYANI 1969; CARDONA 1965; GAEFFKE 1967; GILL & GLEASON 1963; GUSAIN 2004; KACHRU 1966; MASICA 1991; PUAR 1990; SMIRNOV 1976; SWAMI 1960; TRIVEDI 1954 etc.

Constructions with the adverbs R. *cāhījai*, G. *joīe*, H-U. *cāhiye*, Old P. *loṛīe* (see below) and with Modern Punjabi adjective *cāhīdā* ‘necessary’ acquired the meaning of moral or ethic necessity which previously had been expressed by gerundives (compare example 48 above). Constructions with the verb  $\sqrt{paḍ}$  ‘to fall’ (53) added the new meaning of strong obligation, not quite typical for Sanskrit gerundives. According to my preliminary analysis these constructions have first appeared in Braj and only later in Gujarati, Punjabi and Rajasthani.

In Old Braj and Old Punjabi the constructions with the adjective/adverb ‘necessary’ and the verb ‘to fall’ might be formed not only with the infinitives, but also with the perfective participles:

(54) (Old Braj: 17 cent.)  
*āp ko kachu gāyo cāhiye*  
 you DAT something sang.PP.M.SG necessary  
 ‘You should sing something.’ (vārtā: 3; 1,2)

(55) (Old Braj: 17 cent.)  
*para<sup>n</sup>tu sevā-to karī cāhiye*  
 but service.F-EMPH done.PP.F necessary  
 ‘But service should be done.’ (vārtā: 45; 7,8)

(56) (Old Braj: 17 cent.)  
*itno kām karyo paḍyo*  
 so much work done.PP.M.SG fell.PP.M.SG  
 ‘So much work had to be done.’ (vārtā: III; 60)

(57) (Old Punjabi: 17-18? cent.)  
*mūrakh nū<sup>n</sup> bhāvai<sup>n</sup> thoṛā bhāvai<sup>n</sup> bahutā kujh*  
 fool DAT let (it be) little let (it be) much something  
*paṛhiyā cāhīe*  
 read.PP. M.SG necessary  
 ‘A fool should read something, let it be little or much.’ (PPV: 77)

In Punjabi the adverb *cāhīe* was used in free variation with its synonym *loṛīe*,<sup>14</sup> both were usually preceded by the perfective participle:

(58) (Old Punjabi: 17–18? cent.)  
*jis ih bai<sup>n</sup>t ākhiā hai tis-dā dīdār kīā*  
 who.REL.OBL.SG this couplet pronounced his sight.M. done.PP.M.SG  
*loṛīe*  
 necessary  
 ‘It is necessary to have a sight of a person who pronounced this couplet.’ (PPV: 38)

The Agent in constructions with *loṛīe* was usually in the ‘Direct’ case:

(59) (Old Punjabi)  
*asī dū<sup>n</sup>m... pi<sup>n</sup>n khādhā loṛīe*  
 we dum... dumpling eaten.PP.M.SG necessary  
 ‘For us, Dums (cast name) ... it is necessary to eat dumplings’ (PPV: 38)

<sup>14</sup> Historically present passive from  $\sqrt{lor}$  ‘to need’.

- (60) *asī dīdār kītā loṛīe*  
 we.NOM sight.M do.PP.M. necessary  
 ‘We should see (him)’ (PPV: 38)

The obligational constructions formed from infinitives with the suffix *-n-* were used in Old Punjabi with and without copula. Constructions with copula denoted plan or desire to perform the action (61), constructions without copula signified moral obligation (62):

- (61) (Old Punjabi: 17–18? cent.)  
*e nānakā ik dui galā<sup>n</sup> asā<sup>n</sup> tere nāli karṇīā haini*  
 O Nanak.VOC one two words.F.PL we.OBL. you with do.INF.F.PL are.PRES.3PL  
 ‘O Nanak, we are to tell you one-two words.’ (JSP: 167)

- (62) (Old Punjabi: 17–18? cent.)  
*tusā<sup>n</sup> bhī sabadu bāṇī dī prīt karnī*  
 you.OBL also word voice GEN love.F.SG do.INF.F.SG  
 ‘You also should love the Word (of God) and the Voice (of God).’  
 (P.P.V. 1973: 73)

The meaning of ‘moral obligation’ could be easily combined with the sense of the imperative – compare in this respect (62) above and (63) below. In sentences with the infinitive without copula there might sometimes be no agreement with the Direct Object (63):

- (63) (Old Punjabi: 17–18? cent.):  
*tusī<sup>n15</sup> bhī braham nū<sup>n</sup> bia<sup>n</sup>t jāṅke sabh kise de nāl*  
 you.DIR also Brahma ACC eternal having known.ABS everybody with  
*bhāu bhagati karnā*  
 attachment.M. love.F.SG do.INF.M.SG  
 ‘Knowing that God is eternal you should love everybody.’ (PPV: 75)

The Agent in the infinitival obligation constructions was usually marked by the ‘Oblique Case’, similarly to the ergative Agent – compare (64) and (65) below:

- (64) *tusā<sup>n</sup> bhī paramesar kā bhajan karnā te sādḥ*  
 you.OBL also Supreme Ruler GEN.M.SG prayer do.INF.M.SG and holy  
*sa<sup>n</sup>gati kī sarani rahṇā*  
 gathering GEN.F.SG shelter.F.LOC stay.INF.M.SG  
 ‘You should also pray God and stay in the shelter of holy gathering.’ (PPV: 77)

- (65) *asā<sup>n</sup> mahārāj dī ārtī kītī hai ar tusā<sup>n</sup> kiū<sup>n</sup>*  
 we.OBL spiritual teacher GEN.F.SG arti<sup>16</sup>F.SG did.F.SG is.3.SG and you.OBL. why  
*nahī<sup>n</sup> kītī*  
 not did.F.SG  
 ‘We have performed aarti in praise of maharaj, why didn’t you do so?’  
 (PPV: 58)

<sup>15</sup> Agent in (63) is in the ‘Direct Case’. It demonstrates the new tendency in personal pronouns’ case marking: in modern standard Punjabi the 1st and 2nd person pronouns are used in ‘Direct Case’ being both the ergative Agents and the Agents of the obligational constructions denoting ‘planned action’:

*mai<sup>n</sup>/asī<sup>n</sup>/tusī<sup>n</sup> punjābī sīkhṇī hai* ‘We are to learn Punjabi.’

*mai<sup>n</sup>/asī<sup>n</sup>/tusī<sup>n</sup> punjābī sīkhī hai* ‘We have learned Punjabi.’

<sup>16</sup> Religious ritual of worship. It involves the circulating of an ‘Aarti plate’ or ‘Aarti lamp’ around a person or deity and is generally accompanied by the singing of songs in praise of that deva or person.

The analysis given above shows a great degree of variability of Agent marking and predicate structures in Old Punjabi prose texts. Modern standard Punjabi has preserved obligational constructions with the infinitive and copula (61) denoting the ‘planned action’, the constructions with the adverb *cāhīe* denoting the ‘moral rules’<sup>17</sup> and has developed the new construction with the verb ‘to fall’ implying the sense of ‘strong obligation’. Only the first type of constructions may have the inconsistent ergative Agent marking, in the other two constructions the Agent is consistently marked by the Dative.

## CONCLUSION

It has been demonstrated that the increasing frequency of the Agent marking by Dative and not by Instrumental in constructions of obligation was a part of a gradual destruction of the ‘passive syntax’ typical for the climactic stage of ergative development. Similar historical development, i.e. marking of the Agent of obligational constructions by the Instrumental/Ergative case later replaced by Dative, has been described by K. Stroński for Pahari.<sup>18</sup>

The Standard Hindi-Urdu and Literary Rajasthani have similar Dative Agent marking in all the constructions denoting obligation. In Punjabi and sub-standard Hindi-Urdu the Agent obeying ‘moral rules’ is combined with the Agent that is compelled to perform the action (both are marked by Dative); they are opposed to the (Ergative) Agent that follows its own or somebody’s (including God’s) plans.

In Gujarati, the Agent in constructions denoting moral obligation and planned action may be marked by both the Instrumental and Dative. In case of the compelled action the only possible Agent marking is by Instrumental-Ergative inflection. This means that in the Gujarati semantic map the Agent that has more chance to act according to its free will, i.e. to display its Agentive properties, is opposed to the Agent compelled to perform the action. In Gujarati the Instrumental-Ergative case serves to mark the most involitional Agent, forced to perform the action. That means that Gujarati data contradicts M. Butt’s hypothesis saying that Ergative shows a very high degree of control while Dative is preferred in constructions where the Agent is endowed with less amount of free will in performing the action.

Agents in all obligational constructions have subject properties such as binding a subject oriented reflexive or being a controlled PRO subject, but only the Agent in the constructions denoting ‘moral obligation’ allows the grammatical functions to reverse, and only these constructions may have no Agent in their argument structure.

The obligational constructions of the described languages demonstrate the case of Long Distance Agreement when the matrix predicate agrees with the argument that is not its own.

In Hindi-Urdu agreement in obligational constructions is optional, though preferable in literary language, in other languages it is compulsory. In H-U infinitival agreement takes place only in case of LDA, while in other languages it is compulsory in all cases.

<sup>17</sup> The adverb *cāhīe* has been replaced by the adjective *cāhīdā*.

<sup>18</sup> P.c.



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#### ABBREVIATIONS

- JSP – Janam Sākhī Paramparā, sampādak Kirpāl Singh Nārang, Paṭiālā, Punjābī University, 1969.
- Kc – Kanakāmara's Karakaṇḍacariu (from BUBENIK 1998).
- Pc – Svayambhūdeva's Paūma-cariu (ed.) H.C. Bhayani. Bombay, 1953-60 (from BUBENIK 1996).
- PPV – Purātan Panjābī Vartak. Surindar Singh Kohlī (ed). Chandigarh: Publication Bureau, 1973.
- RG – Rājasthānī Gadya: Vikās aur Prakāś. Narendra Bhanāvāt (ed). Agrā: Śrīrām Mehtā and Company, 1969.
- RV – R̥gvedā (from BUBENIK 1998; ELIZARENKOVA 1995, 1999; HOCK 1986).
- Suri – *Suri*, Upadeśamālā (from DAVE 1935).
- Vārtā – Do sau bāvan vaiṣṇāvā<sup>n</sup> kī vārtā (śuddh sa<sup>n</sup>śodhit saṅskaran) sampādak Niranjan dev Śarma, Prakāśak – Śrī Govarddhan granthmālā kāryālay, Mathurā, saṃvat 2022/1965.