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ENGLISH-INDUCED CHANGES TO URBAN COLLOQUIAL HINDI LEXICON AND STRUCTURE. MIXED SPEECH AS A MODE OF DISCOURSE

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This article aims at describing some of the lexical and grammatical innovations observed in Hindi as a result of English impact. We investigate some crucial aspects of English noun borrowing and further along discuss some other phenomena that occur in Hindi due to the language contact, e.g. preposition transfer and hybridization. The data for this research consists of internet newspaper excerpts, samples from Indian film and radio speech. We try to show that English influence has far reaching effects on Hindi lexicon and structure. The conclusion to be drawn from the present investigation is that the intense interaction between English and Hindi may be the initial step towards the creation of an interlanguage located somewhere between the two languages in question.

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This study explores some of the lexical and grammatical aspects of English impact observed in the middle-class colloquial variety of Hindi. English and Hindi as official languages of India have coexisted within the same linguistic area for decades. This kind of extensive language contact situation always causes some form of interaction to occur.

A number of important observations as regards English influence on Hindi have been already made in Kachru (e.g. 1978, 1986), but also Verma (1976). These pioneering works aiming to highlight diverse manifestations of Hindi Englishization, as the process of English impact on Hindi came to be termed², were meant, however, as preliminary

- ¹ Englishization also involved other languages of the Subcontinent, e.g. Oriya Bengali, Telugu, Kannada, etc. Patnaik & Pandit (1986: 232), for instance, claim that during last 500 hundred years Oriya came in contact with a number of Indian and foreign languages, but English is the language that influenced it the most significantly and extensively. The foreign influence is not confined to the lexicon, as for example, it includes the impersonal passive. Sridhar & Sridhar (1978b) in turn discuss English and Kannada interaction.
- ² Kachru (1986: 155) notes that the term 'Anglicization' has some special connotations in India, thus he proposes a neutral one 'Englishization' instead.

attempts to illustrate certain aspects of the the process in question. Yet it is puzzling to note that very few studies have ever since dealt with the contact induced changes in a systematic way. Moreover, there are numerous innovations to be observed in the lexical and structural level of Hindi, and especially in its urban incarnation, that are hitherto unattested in the literature. An inquiry into some of these novelties is the major subject of the present study.³

The basic data for this research consists of language samples from Indian film and radio speech, along with internet newspaper excerpts. All three data sources supply vast amount of material for linguistic analysis. Generally speaking, Englishized Hindi employed in the radio, film and newspaper may both reflect the variety spoken in Northern India, or, at the same time may be creating this variety by setting trends for language choice and use, at least, in the urban, middle-class society. In any case, the newspaper and the movie language together with the all-pervasive radio language leave no (urban) speakers unaffected.⁴ As a result, we have at hand a fair indicator of actual language patterns prevalent in Northern India.

The first contact induced change in UCH to be addressed here refers to the declension patterns and the flectional system of Hindi as far as English-origin nouns assigned to masculine gender are concerned. In general, such nouns fall into either of two declensional subtypes existent in the standard variety. However, apart from borrowings that do not introduce any innovation, but inflect according to the grammar of the standard variety, there occur some nouns that have endings that are atypical in Hindi. These novel nominal (vowel) endings (-e and -o) appear in singular direct case. The following tables are illustrative.

English Noun	Hindi Spelling	Plural Non-Oblique	Plural Oblique
Birthday	barthḍe		 or barthḍeyõ?
Cafe	kāfe		 or <i>kāfeyõ</i> ?
Clay	kle		 or <i>kleyõ</i> ?
Day	фе		 or <i>deyõ</i> ?
Display	disple		 or <i>ḍispleyõ</i> ?
Highway	hāive		 or hāiveyõ?
Resume	rizyūme		 or rizyūmeyõ?
Spray	spre		 or <i>spreyõ</i> ?
Survey	sarve	sarve	 or sarveyõ?
Way	ve		 or veyõ?
X-Ray	eks-re		 or <i>eks-reyõ</i> ?

Table 1. Nouns with the atypical -e termination

- ³ Urban, colloquial Hindi (hereafter UCH) is a term proposed here for the variety of Hindi ordinarily employed by urban speakers, in which English influences are omnipresent.
- ⁴ Bhatia & Ritchie (2005: 783) claim Hindi films and the mass media in the twentieth century played a significant role in the spread of Hindi/Urdu. It is not unreasonable to think films and media at the same time promoted Englishized Hindi.
- 5 Hindi nominal flexion normally distinguishes between non-oblique or direct and oblique cases in both singular and plural. The oblique forms of singular masculine are identical as direct plural forms and for the sake of convenience remain unmentioned when discussing the flexional paradigms.

English Noun	Hindi Spelling	Plural Non-Oblique	Plural Oblique		
Bureau	byūro		byūroõ	or <i>byūrõ</i> ?	
Cargo	kārgo		kārgoõ	or <i>kārgõ</i> ?	
Ceo	$S\overline{ll}O$		sīīoõ	or sīīõ?	
Embargo	imbārgo		imbārgoõ	or <i>imbārgõ</i> ?	
Eyebrow	āibro		āibroõ	or <i>āibrõ</i> ?	
Show	sho		shoõ	or shõ?	
Studio	sṭūḍiyo		sṭūḍiyoõ	or <i>sḍūḍiyõ</i> ?	
Veto	vīţo		vīṭoõ	or <i>vīţõ</i> ?	
Video	viḍiyo		viḍiyoõ	or <i>viḍiyõ</i> ?	
Window	viṇḍo		viṇḍoõ	or <i>viṇḍõ</i> ?	

Table 2. Nouns with the atypical -o termination⁶

In the standard variety -*e* ending is restricted for singular oblique or plural direct cases of masculine gender only. Thus nouns that terminate with -*e* in the singular direct case establish a precedent and a novelty in the flectional system of the RL. As for -*o* termination, there are no nouns in Hindi that assume such ending. For the time being we have too little data to elicit how the nouns listed out above are likely to inflect (i.e which of the two possible variants of plural oblique case is to dominate over the other). The only examples recorded are given below.⁷

- (1) $b\bar{a}d$ $m\tilde{e}$ $ais\bar{\imath}$ $photo\bar{o}$ $k\bar{\imath}$ $lagt\bar{\imath}$ hai $pradarshan\bar{\imath}$.

 later in such OBL GEN-f put-PRES exhibition

 Then there is an exhibition of these/such photos. (GOOGLE HINDI)
- photõ se (2) $unk\bar{a}$ ārop hai hīrāpāl ne un 3.PL-POSSESS accusation be-PRES that 3.PLOBL with (name) ERG His accusation was that Hirapal... dhamākar blekmel use kiyā. threaten-ABS do-SIMP-PERF 3.SG-DAT ...blackmailed him with the photos. (DBH 30/08/07)

Yet another novelty in the standard declensional patterns occurs with the introduction of nouns of masculine gender that found declinable in accordance to both masculine declination subtypes. Consider the following examples.

- (3) $bol\overline{v}ud$ ke $filmk\overline{a}r$ $film\widetilde{o}$ ke lie $\overline{aidiy}\widetilde{o}$ ke lie $inh\widetilde{l}$ GEN-m-PL film maker for for 3.PL-DEM-OBL-EMPH Bollywood film makers seem to be...
- ⁶ Some nouns listed here may be actually of double gender e.g. $s\bar{n}o$ (CEO). Although such nouns may take both agreements, they are likely, if at all, to follow masculine declination patterns, as e.g. SH double gender nouns like $r\bar{a}strpati$ 'president' or $pradh\bar{a}n$ $mantr\bar{i}$ 'prime minister'.
- ⁷ The following abbrevaitions are used throughout this article: ABS absolutive participle, CAUS II double causative, COMP comparative, DAT dative, DEM demonstrative, EMPH emphasis, ERG ergative, f. feminine, FUT future, GEN genitive, HAB habitual tense, HON honorific, m. masculine, NEG negative, NONOBL non-oblique, OBL oblique case, PERF perfective, PL plural, POSSESS possessive, PRES present, PRESUMPT presumptive, PROG progressive REFL reflexive, REL relative, SG singular, SIMP simple, SUBJ subjunctive, VN verbal noun.

dīvīdiyõ par burī tarah nirbhar hote haĩ on bad way dependent HAB-PRES-PL ...badly dependent on the ideas from the [foreign] DVDs. (AU 18/01/08)

(4) [...] vicitr ṣaḍyantr ke sāth **āiḍiyāõ** mẽ nicor kiyā hai.

surprising plot with in extract do-PERF-PRES

[...] together with the unusual plot, [great] ideas have been selected.

(BSA 17/01/08)

In the examples given above, two different forms of plural oblique case $(\bar{a}i\dot{q}iy\tilde{o})$ and $\bar{a}idiy\bar{a}\tilde{o}$) are found (the first and second subtypes respectively). Similar is the case with the noun *visa*.

- (5) bhārat mē thaharne ke. unke kī vīze miyād India stay-VN-obl GEN-m-PL 3.PL.POSSESS GEN-f period His visa (period) [allowing] to stay in India... mẽ hī xatm ho cukī hai. in **EMPH** end be-TERM-PRES ...ended in April. (BBC HINDI 05/07/07)
- 2007 mẽ unke (6) isī tārīx ko vīze kī 3.SG-DEM-OBL-EMPH date DAT 3.PL-POSSESS in GEN-f With this date in 2007 his/her visa... avadhī samāpt ho rahī thī. period be-PROG-PAST ...was about to expire. (JAG 26/01/08)
- (7) [...] ham amerikā āne ke lie milnevāle alag-alag kism 1.PL come-OBL for obtain+vālā-OBL different-different kind [...] we are now taking your questions as to what kinds... vizõ ke bāre mē āpke savāl le rahe hai. GEN-m-PL about 2.PL-POSSESS question take-PROG-PRES-PL ...of visas [are needed] to come to America. (HI 07/05/03)
- (8) videshī profeshanalõ ko amerikā mẽ ke lie rozgār pāne DAT employment get-OBL To get employed in America foreign professionals... vīzā is ko lenā partā. 3.SG-DEM OBL DAT take-VN must-PRES ...must obtain this visa. (JAG 13/03/08)
- (9)vīzāõ ko anishcit kāl ke lie phir se in3.PL-DEM-OBL DAT indefinite period for again These visas may be renewed for... jā saktā hai. navīnīkṛt kiyā n do-PERF can-PASS-PRES renewed ...an indefinite period of time. 38(NB 10/04/07)

The examples in (5) to (7) demonstrate that visa belongs to declensional subtype I ($viz\bar{a}$ -vize- $viz\bar{o}$), but in (8) and (9) it inflects according to declensional subtype II ($v\bar{z}\bar{a}$ - $v\bar{z}\bar{a}\bar{o}$).

It appears that these nouns follow both declensional subtypes and thus behave in a novel and unprecedented manner. The case with *visa* is particularly interesting since contrary to *idea*, where the declension may be simply claimed to be unstable as yet, it is a long established borrowing. Such nouns normally follow either of the two decensional subtypes.

Another phenomenon in which the interplay of the two languages in question is to be observed are the derivational hybrids. Kuczkiewicz-Fraś (2000: 113) claims that apart from Perso-Arabic hybrids, there are some other hybridized items created on the base of Portugese and English, yet she argues their number to be much less than those of Perso-Arabic origin. In any case, Hindi has clearly proven susceptible to hybridization with items of languages that it came to co-exist with. English and Hindi have not been in contact for such a long period as Hindi and Persian have, yet factually and contrary to Kuczkiewicz-Fraś claim, English-Hindi hybrids are quite frequent. Below are some of the derivational hybrids found in the corpus.⁸

- florāiḍyukt, i.e. FLORIDE + yukt = floride-containing
 rājāsthān mē florāiḍyukt pānī se hone vāli bīmārī par niyantran ke lie iske
 upcār [...] (GOOGLE HINDI)
- kārbanyukt, i.e. CARBON + yukt = containing carbon; carboniferous
 [...] eriyā ke āil sarkiṭ brekar kā kārbanyukt ṭrānsfārmar tel badalne kā kām shurū huā.
 (JAG 29/10/07)
- tarnedo-grast, i.e. TORNADO + grast = affected by tornado (region)
- kainser-grast, i.e. CANCER + grast = cancer affected

 is āpareshan se kainsar-grast ang ko redieshan se upcārit karne mē madad milī

 hai [...] (JAG 18/07/06)
- karfyū-grast, i.e. CURFEW + grast = curfew imposed (area)

 is karfyū-grast kṣetr mẽ [...] (DW 03/04/07)
- kāpīrāiṭ-mukt, COPYRIGHT + mukt = copyright-free
 tek crañc batātā hai ki gūgal ab kāpīrāit-mukt hai.

(GOOGLE HINDI 02/01/08)

⁸ In this study the only contrast we draw is that of Hindi and English. Needless to say, some 'Hindi' items forming hybrids discussed here are actually of Persian or other origin. Take daftar as an example. According to Shapiro (2003: 274) it is an old Greek borrowing (having the sense of 'hide'/'animal skin') into Persian, from which it was borrowed into Arabic and Hindi/Urdu. It is when its sense shifted to file (a group of documents) and eventually to office (a place, where the files are stored).

- koch-vihīn, i.e. COACH + vihīn = deprived of a coach bhāratīya ṭīm shrī sharmā ke istīfe ke bād koch-vihīn hai (DW 26/04/07)
- kārvihīn, i.e. CAR + vihīn = without car venis yūrop sabse barā kārvihīn ilākā hai. (JAG 14/10/07)
- sarvekār, i.e. SURVEY + kār
 reţing kī baiţing hai, mārkeţing kī ākheţing hai, sarvekārô kī fāiţing hai
 (BBC HINDI 04/04/04)
- gaisīkaran, GAS + ī + karan = gasification
 gahrāī mē uplabdh lignāiṭ bhanḍār jo khanan yogya nahī hai, bhūmigat
 gaisīkaran prakriyā se [...]
 (JAG 12/12/07)
- mashīnīkaran, MACHINE + ī + karan = mechanization
 ismē dikhāyā gayā hai ki mashīnīkaran se kitne ādmī bekār ho jāte hai.
 (AU 28/02/08)
- globalīkaran, GLOBAL + ī + karan = globalization
 kampyūṭarõ kī lagātār girtī kīmat bāzār ke baṛthe globalīkaran aur pratispardhā mẽ tez barhotrī ki jhalak dikhātī hai. (BBC HINDI 27/02/02)
- nambarīkaran, NUMBER + ī + karan = numerization
 āvārā gāyõ va sāḍō ko āj se hī pakarnā shurū kiyā jāegā tathā unkā nambarīkaran kiyā jāegā. (JAG 31/10/07)

Furthermore, there is a fair number of borrowings that appear to involve lexis along with some other levels of language. Novel grammatical patterns and alternations to UCH grammar are to be addressed below.

PREPOSITION INSERTION

As the data shows, some English-origin nouns have been inserted into the UCH with the accompanying grammatical elements originally employed in the DL. This process involves, for example, the transfer of the English preposition. As a result, UCH that is almost entirely a postpositional variety, seems to have been enriched, though still in a restricted manner, by some prepositions of English origin. The following examples are illustrative.

(10) bos se zabān laṛāī to naukrī se <u>āut</u>.

with tongue fight-SUBJ then job from

If you have a verbal fight with the boss, then you are out. (NBT 11/09/07)

Interestingly, some prepositions have also been incorporated from Arabic, e.g. fī 'per' as in fī shakhs 'per person' or fī sadī 'per cent', now rather as fīsdī 'percent' (Shapiro 2003: 274) One such worthy of note example was found in the corpus as well, i.e. fī pej 'per page': ek rātri sampādak ne ek din axbār mē fī pej ausatan pacās xabarē dī thī. (HIN 26/02/07) Tivārī, M. (1966: 86) provides some other examples invloving both native and borrowed items, e.g. fīvot 'per vote' fīvoṭar 'per voter', fīdin 'per day'. These, however, seem to have gone out of use.

- (11) unhẽ mãtrī banā diyā jāegā, lekin vidāut portfoliyo.

 3.PL-HON DAT minister make give-PERF-PASS-FUT but

 He will be made a minister, but without a portfolio. (AU 06/03/08)
- (12) thard rāūḍ mẽ jīns <u>vid</u> kurtā sṭāil dikhāyī gayī.

 in kurta show- PERF-f PASS

 In the third round jeans with kurta style was shown. (DBH 29/02/08)

The above examples clearly demonstrate that in the utterances produced by UCH speakers English prepositions do already co-occur with Hindi postpositions.

THE INSERTION OF PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE

The incorporation of English prepositions into the UCH is not the only pattern observable in which the embedding of prepositions does take place. Quite often, though, the embedded prepositions occur in the prepositional phrases that do not get restructured as postpositional phrases. Let us consider (13) and (14) for example.

- (13)malāl is hāt $k\bar{a}$ rahnā hai tasvīr kipity 3.SG-DEM-OBL matter GEN-m stay-VN be-PRES picture that The pity is always that the picture... $th\bar{\imath}k$ nahĩ $\bar{a}v\bar{i}$ <u>āuṭ āf fokas</u> ho gayī. vā okay NEG come-SIMP-PERF-f be go-SIMP-PERF-f ...has come not good or out of focus. (NBT 25/05/07)
- (14) unke lie <u>āut āf fashan</u> ho jānā asambhav thā.

 3.PL-HON-POSSESS for be come-VN impossible be-IMPERF
 It was impossible for him/her to get out of fashion. (DW 16/04/07)

The phrases given here are of adjectival meaning. Other examples noted include out of date, out of touch, out of control, out of form and out of work.

POSTPOSITION USAGE INFLUENCED BY A STRUCTURAL TRANSFER

In a number of instances nouns, verbs and adjectives are loaned with prepositions that they concur with in the DL. These prepositions are recreated in typical for RL postpositions. Compare the following.

focus on X \rightarrow X par fokas karnādo experiments with X \rightarrow X ke sāth eksparimeņţs karnāinvolve in X \rightarrow X mẽ invālv honā/karnāresearch on X \rightarrow X par risarc karnāreact to X \rightarrow X ke prati riekt karnābe bored with X \rightarrow X se bor honādepend on X \rightarrow X par dipeṇḍ karnā

<i>co-operate</i> <u>with</u> X	\rightarrow X <u>ke sāth</u> ko-opret karnā
<i>be addicted</i> <u>to</u> X	→ X ke prati aidikt honā
<i>be busy <u>with</u> X</i>	\rightarrow X <u>ke sāth</u> bizī honā
invest <u>in X</u>	→ X <u>mē</u> invest karnā
deal <u>with X</u>	→ X <u>se</u> ḍīl karnā
qualify <u>for</u> X	→ X <u>ke lie</u> kvālifāī karnā

It often happens however that both native and foreign constructions are syntactically parallel, i.e. make use of identical pattern of N+prep./postpos. Then usually a Hindi noun is substituted for its English equivalent and thus a mixed expression originates with pattern that is only seemingly of English origin. Still, the items are combined according to syntactical rules of the RL and no novelty is introduced. The following are fine examples.

Hindi Expression		Mixed Expression		English Expression
X par <u>hamlā</u> karnā	\rightarrow	X par <i>aṭaik</i> karnā	\leftarrow	(an attack on X)
X par dhyān denā	\rightarrow	X par kānsaņţreţ karnā	\leftarrow	(concentrate on X)
sampark më rahnā	\rightarrow	<i>ṭac</i> mẽ rahnā	\leftarrow	(stay in touch)
tanāv mẽ honā	\rightarrow	tenshan më honā	\leftarrow	(be in tension)

Other innovations observed in UCH involve:

- mixed conjunct verbs the formation of analytic verb constructions which have counterparts in SH only in simple verbs (e.g. TOUCH *karnā* vs *chūnā*, TASTE karnā vs *cakhnā*, SELL *karnā*, vs *becnā*); large number of MCVs.
- the formation of conjunct verbs that deviate from SH linguistic convention, i.e. other components than standard nominal and adjectival \rightarrow verbal, polycategorial, etc. Such differentiation of patterns in MCVs leads to reanalysis in verb formation system (e.g. dative or \emptyset , but no genitive postpoistions in *verbal* conjuncts).
- pluralization of some nouns (mainly established borrowings) either with native or borrowed means.
 - introduction of nouns having both count and non-count characteristics.
- irregularities in plural forming patterns and another diversification of pluralization (either irregular plural transfer from the DL or the addition of the standard $-\tilde{o}$ suffix to insertions singular in number).
- a novel pattern of comparision of adjectives introduction of English analytic and synthetic formations (in the standard variety, native synthetic is rather obsolete, whereas analytic is more common).
- borrowing of irregular comparison of adjectives and adverbs gradation realized lexically.
 - two (native and loaned) patterns of producing participles.
- phrasal nouns (N+participle structures functioning as nominals, sporadically inflected according to standard patterns).
- novel postposition usages with indigenous simple and conjunct verbs as a result of semantic extensions → new patterns create new meanings or shades of meanings in indigenous lexemes.

- word combinations calqued from the DL.
- hybrid formations involving replacement of at least one item with a loaned counterpart (hybrid collocations).

As shown above, basically no typologically disruptive innovations have been observed as yet. But from the foregoing evidence it seems clear that Englishization has irreversibly changed UCH in a number of ways and while being a vigorous process, it will definetely produce some other unpredictable contact phenomena in the mixed variety within the years to come.

Generally speaking, this study has shown that borrowed items being modified in various ways 'are adapted into the existing patterns' (Poplack et al. 1988: 62) (e.g. borrowed nouns are assigned to gender and inflected for number), which supports the previous studies on language contact phenomena. Research findings also confirm that borrowing not only may induce modifications to the syntactic and semantic properties of the foreign lexemes but also trigger alternations to the semantic and syntactic properties of some indigenous items. Again, although lexical items are clearly the most readily borrowable elements, lexical borrowing leads to structural changes as well.

The overall conclusion to be drawn from the present investigation is that the intense interaction between English and Hindi that has been taking place in Northern India results in a substantial differentiation between the (literary) standard and the mixed varieties of Hindi and is the initial step towards the creation of an interlanguage located somewhere between the two languages in question. The hybridized structure of a number of items in UCH and the stable and long-lived co-existence of English lexical items and Hindi grammatical morphemes may suggest that the shift to somewhat mixed variety is a process that has already begun. Thomason (1997: 80) has defined such interlanguage (she uses the term bilingual mixed language) as a variety created in a two language contact situation involving widespread bilingualism.

What is important in the ongoing process of Hindi Englishization is the positive attitudes that exist among speakers with regard to mixed variety, the most common in urban context. As Kachru's (1978) study shows, speakers see such code-mixing as a useful strategy, a competence, or even a good skill in communicating effectively, 'a legitimate style of informal talk' as put by Gumperz (1982: 62). Englishized, which means prestigious variety, is thus widely accepted as an adequate style of communication for an educated urban speaker.¹⁰

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¹⁰ PANDIT (1986: 17) gives an example of a Hindi speaker who is not in favor of code-mixing English and Hindi in his family: 'maito pure hindi bolnā like kartī hū. Mix karne kā to question hī nahi uṭhtā. apnī daughter aur sons ko bhī pure Hindi bolne ko encourage kartī hū. (I like to speak pure Hindi. The question of mixing Hindi and English does not arise. I also encourage my daughter and sons to speak pure Hindi.) (transcription standardized) Here a number of English-origin lexemes are used despite the declaration not to do so.

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