Comparative Study of Dialect (Words) of Marathi in Konkan Region (Ratnagiri & Malvan)

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Abstract- Mention the abstract for the article. An abstract is a brief summary of a research article, thesis, review, conference proceeding or any in-depth analysis of a particular subject or discipline, and is often used to help the reader quickly ascertain the paper's purpose. When used, an abstract always appears at the beginning of a manuscript, acting as the point-of-entry for any given scientific paper or patent application.

Indexed Terms- Region of Konkani Marathi , Dialect of Malvan , Dialect of Ratnagiri , Social Linguistic

I. INTRODUCTION

Marathi is an Indo-Aryan language predominantly spoken in the western Indian state of Maharashtra and neighboring regions.

It is an ancient language with roots dating back to the 8th century. The earliest known inscriptions in Marathi date from this period, and over time, it evolved as a distinct language. It developed from the Maharashtrian Prakrit, which was spoken in the ancient region of Maharashtra. Marathi has a rich literary tradition with works dating back to the 13th century, including the writings of Saint Dnyaneshwar. It continued to evolve and develop over the centuries, with various influences from Sanskrit and other languages. Marathi has a long and diverse history, making it one of the oldest languages in India. It is one of the 22 officially recognized languages of India and has a rich literary and cultural heritage. Marathi script is written from left to right and is similar to Devanagari, the script used for Sanskrit and several other Indian languages. Marathi has a diverse range of dialects, but the standard form is based on the dialect spoken in Pune.

Ratnagiri Marathi refers to a dialect of the Marathi language spoken in the Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra, India. Ratnagiri is situated along the Konkan coast and is known for its rich cultural heritage, stunning landscapes, and historical significance. The Marathi spoken in this region exhibits certain distinct characteristics that set it apart from standard Marathi and other dialects.

Due to its proximity to Goa and the Konkan coast, Ratnagiri Marathi may also exhibit influences from Konkani and Malvani languages. This can be observed in certain words, expressions, and grammatical structures unique to the region.

Ratnagiri Marathi has its own vocabulary and pronunciation, which may differ from standard Marathi. This includes unique words, expressions, and intonations that reflect the local culture and way of life. Due to its coastal location, there might be a significant presence of words related to fishing, maritime activities, and coastal flora and fauna.

Malvani Marathi is a regional dialect spoken in the coastal areas of the Sindhudurg district in Maharashtra, India, particularly in the Malvan region. This dialect is deeply influenced by the geographical proximity to Goa and historical interactions with Konkani-speaking communities. Malvani Marathi exhibits distinct vocabulary, pronunciation, and grammatical features compared to standard Marathi. Due to its coastal location, Malvani Marathi incorporates words related to maritime activities, fishing, and coastal flora and fauna. The dialect also reflects the cultural heritage of the region, with traditional folk songs, rituals, and festivals playing a significant role in shaping the language. Malvani Marathi is not only a means of communication but also a symbol of local identity and pride for the people of the Malvan region, contributing to the rich linguistic and cultural diversity of Maharashtra. Malvani Marathi has its own distinct vocabulary, pronunciation, and grammatical features, setting it

apart from standard Marathi. It is known for its unique blend of flavors in cuisine, with dishes like Malvani fish curry being popular not only in the region but also across Maharashtra.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

1.Phonology of Marathi-Hindi contact in Eastern Vidarbha –
Multilingualism and bilingualism are likely to be common phenomenon throughout the world. There are so many languages spoken in the world where there is much variation in language over short distances. These variations develop differences of between the languages. In the language contact situation, speakers of different languages interact in their respective languages and influence each other. This type of situation mostly occurs near the border area of any two or more than languages. Language contact situation mostly occurs in the border areas because of migration and business communication language. This type of situation does responsible for the formation of new pidgins, creoles that start with the code-mixing and code-switching. The impact of Hindi language can find at each and every level of language and deeply affected the Phonology, Morphology and Syntax in course of time. [1]

2.Phonotactic frequencies in Marathi-
The analysis of phonotactic frequencies in Marathi reveals that breathy sonorants are underrepresented in the language. This is consistent with the pattern observed in other languages in Nepal, where breathy voiced obstruents are retained while breathy sonorants are lost. In Marathi, back rounded vowels and bigrams involving back-rounded vowels are disfavored. The study highlights the importance of understanding phonotactic probabilities in language processing and contributes to psycholinguistic and behavioural research. The Marathi portion of the EMILLE/CIIL corpus was used for the analysis. The corpus consists of 2.2 million words and is part of a larger collection of South Asian language corpora. The analysis of a written corpus is a crucial first step in identifying phonotactic patterns. The token frequency and type frequency of consonants in the corpus are discussed. The results show that breathy sonorants account for less than 1% of the consonants. The retention of breathy voiced obstruents in Newari and the Kiranti

family suggests that breathiness is more likely to be preserved in obstruents than in sonorants. [2]

3.Synchronic Variation and Diachronic Change in Dialects of Marathi-
This paper explores linguistic variation and change in Marathi, specifically focusing on the relationship between synchronic variation and diachronic developments in the language. Traditional dialectology has shifted to incorporate sociolinguistic methods and quantitative analysis based on large corpora. The study examines the synchronic variation in the object-marking case in Marathi and confirms the connection between synchronic gradience and diachronic gradualness in language change. The availability of an electronic corpus of spoken Marathi will enhance comparative and cross-linguistic study. The study analyses dialectal data from Chandgad and uses a combination of written and spoken sources to uncover transitions in the diffusion of linguistic features. The study concludes that synchronic gradience is both the result and the cause of diachronic gradualness. [3]

4.Development of Marathi Language Speech Database from Marathwada Region-
The paper describes the development of speech databases in Marathi language for agriculture and travel purposes. It discusses the selection of speakers, recording environment, and software used. The databases consist of isolated words and continuous speech samples. The development process faced challenges in finding agriculture-related information in Marathi and convincing speakers to provide samples. The speech databases are phonetically rich and can be used for developing a speech recognition system. [4]

5. Comprehensive Study of Marathi Dialects in Satara Region-
IJFL (2021) reports that this text discusses the concept of dialects and focuses on the Marathi language. It mentions the study of dialects in the Satara region and the creation of a database for solving criminal cases using dialectology. The study collected audio samples and identified different dialects. It also highlights the variations in spoken language in different areas of Satara district. The text emphasizes the importance of

forensic linguistics in criminal investigations, particularly in Maharashtra. [5]

6.Comparative Study of Marathi Dialects in Kolhapur and Satara Region-
This study focuses on the dialect similarities and differences between the Kolhapur and Satara regions of the Marathi language. The sample was collected through auditory analysis and compared to standard Marathi. The study aims to find significant differences between regional languages. The collected data includes call and audio recordings, which were analysed using pen and paper. Dialectology can be used in forensic cases to reconstruct crimes based on recordings found at the crime scene and identify the suspect's region. [6]

7.Comparative Study of Marathi Dialects of Migrated People of Satara Region-
Human migration involves people moving from one place to another with the intention of settling permanently or temporarily. Migration to a country with the same language as the origin country is higher than to a destination with a different language. The project aims to study the variation in dialects of migrated people in Satara. Factors such as bilingualism, language, and dialect variation are influenced by migration. The study found significant differences in the Marathi language of migrants in Satara. Factors like education, age, culture, and duration of migration affect bilingualism and dialect. The project aims to create a database of dialect variation for police investigation and analyse the variation in Marathi language of migrants. [7]

8.Development of Isolated Words Speech Database of Marathi Words for Agriculture Purpose-
Speech is the most common form of communication between humans. There is a need to develop systems using Indian languages, particularly Hindi, which is the national language. The Technology Development for Indian Languages program has initiated a project to develop voice interfaces in six Indian languages. Marathi is one of these languages and has the fourth largest number of native speakers in India. The development of a speech database for Marathi words is being carried out in Maharashtra. The data collection process involves selecting speakers from different demographics and recording their speech in

various environments. PRAAT, a software tool, is used for labelling and analysis. The goal is to develop a robust automatic speech recognition system. [8]

9.Aspect in Marathi in a Cross-dialectal Perspective-
This study examines the aspectual system in regional varieties of Marathi and compares it with the standard dialect. The focus is on the synchronic variation in the aspectual systems of Chandgad, Shirol, and Yerla villages in Maharashtra. The study finds differences in the use off's' plus present tense to show habitual in Shirol data. There is also a systemic difference in the progressive aspect. The study uses a multi-pronged approach to analyse the data and compares it with the standard dialect. The findings suggest that the aspectual system does not vary in regional dialects of Marathi. [9]

10.Simplification: A Case of Phonetic Salience of Consonant Clusters in Marathi-
Milind Pedhekar (2023) reported on simplification. Cluster simplification is more evident in the speech of speakers of Ahirani, a dialect of Marathi. They find it difficult to pronounce clusters in English standard form and do not consider it prominent. The study focuses on the production of consonant clusters in English by speakers of Ahirani in the Northern region of Maharashtra. The study population includes illiterate and semi-literate individuals. The rule-based and syllable-based approaches to cluster simplification are discussed. The study highlights that cluster simplification is more common in initial positions and less prominent in final positions. Overall, the study contributes to understanding how English is assimilated in Indian speech society. 12 native speakers were included in the analysis. However, "The study collected data from 12 participants on their production of consonant clusters in English. There is potential to gather more examples of clusters. The study had a smaller number of female speakers compared to male. The participants included both literate and illiterate individuals, but their numbers were not comparable. The data also revealed other simplification processes, but the analysis focused on cluster simplification," admit the investigators. [10]

11.Variation and Change in The Speech Variety of Sawantwadi

The speech variety of Sawantwadi (in the Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra, adjoining the state of Goa) belongs to the Konkani-Marathi dialect continuum. Both speech varieties belong to the Indo-Aryan language family. Grierson (1905) and Ghatage (1965) are two important previous documentations of this speech variety. Grierson's The Linguistic Survey of India (LSI 1905) refers to this speech variety as the 'Kudali' dialect of Konkani spoken in the area of Ratnagiri and Sawantwadi. Ghatage's A Survey of Marathi Dialects-Kudali gives a detailed grammatical outline of the speech variety spoken in Kudal, Sawantwadi, Vengurla, Malwan and the southern part of Ratnagiri district. The two main aims of this paper are (i) to locate the current speech variety of Sawantwadi on the Marathi-Konkani dialect continuum and (ii) to provide a preliminary description of change in this speech variety by undertaking a comparison of the present day Sawantwadi speech variety with the documentation in LSI (1905) and Ghatage (1965). (Satam, VARIATION AND CHANGE IN THE SPEECH VARIETY OF SAWANTWADI, 2020)

III. METHODOLOGY

This study aims to create a database to solve criminal cases containing telephonic calls, anonymous calls, extortion calls, suicidal calls, etc., and find out the region of that criminal using dialectology. The study is mainly based on quantitative and qualitative data. The research was carried out with people who were members of Ratnagiri & Malvan Region.

Collected data: samples were collected from different speakers with the help of a mobile phone in two ways, such as: a) call recordings; b) audio recordings; Voice analysis is a method that uses various techniques to understand a person's emotional state, health, or identity. It includes pitch analysis, spectrogram analysis, formant analysis, prosody analysis, speech recognition, acoustic analysis, speaker identification, and speech pathology assessment. These methods help identify patterns and emotional changes in speech, allowing for better understanding and treatment.

Firstly, samples will be collected by meeting with people and interacting with more than 500 people. The people who belong to the different regions of Ratnagiri & Malvan

IV. RESULT

Standard Dialect	Ratnagiri Dialect	Malvan Dialect
आहे	आहे	असंय
इथला	इथला	हयस्लो
राहूदे	राहूदे	रहवांदे
चालेल	चालेल	चलता
आलो	आलो	इलो
गंमत	थट्टा	भगल
सकाळ	सकाळ	फाटफट
दुपार	दुपार	दोपार
थोडं	थोडसं	वायच
कोणाला	कोणाला	कोणाक
बोलतात	बोलतात	बोलताव
बाहेर	बाहीर	भायेर

Standard Dialect	Ratnagiri Dialect	Malvan Dialect
बनवताय	बनवताय	बनवताव
आवळा	आवळा	आवला
खाल	खाल्यान	खाल्यान
जाईल	जाईल	जायत
कशाला	कशाला	कशाक
मासा	मासा/मच्छी	मासो/म्हवरे
आहे	आहे	हा
चाल्ले	चाललय	चालली
कुठे	कुठे	खय
बगतेय	बगतंय	बगतंय
हवय	हवयं	व्या
विडा	विडा	विडो
जाने	जाव	जावचा
करत	करत	करीत
तो/ती	तो/ती	ता
होतास	होतास /होतीस	होतस

CONCLUSION

The dialectical words found in Ratnagiri and Malvan reflect the rich cultural and linguistic heritage of the region. Through their unique vocabulary and

pronunciation, they preserve the traditions and history of the local communities. Embracing these dialectical words not only enriches our understanding of language diversity but also fosters a deeper connection to the cultural fabric of Ratnagiri and Malvan.

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