

Lesson 18

Causative verbs

Predicative genitive forms

Causative verbs

A causative verb denotes an action in which someone causes something to happen to someone/something. Causative verbs are always transitive. They can be formed from another verb or be a separate lexical item. In some languages, the same verb can be intransitive and transitive/causative, e.g. English 'burn' and Swedish/English 'torka/dry'.

Intransitive: The light is burning

Transitive/causative: I burned the cake. (I caused the cake to burn.)

Intransitive: Tvätten torkade i solen. 'The laundry dried in the sun.'

Transitive/causative: Jag torkade disken. 'I dried the dishes.' (I caused the dishes to become dry.)

Double causative verbs

It is also possible to have double causative verbs. This means that there are two layers of cause. In the examples above, that would be:

I made him burn the cake. (e.g. by talking too long with him on the phone) (I caused him to cause the cake to burn.)

I had my son dry the dishes. (I caused my son to cause the dishes to become dry).

Causatives in Balochi

The simplest formation of causatives in Balochi is to add *-én-* to the present-future stem of a non-causative intransitive verb.

rasag رَسَگ 'to arrive' > *rasénag* رَسِينِگ 'to cause to arrive, give a lift, take someone somewhere'

gisshag گِشِگ 'to walk away, to be separated' > *gisshénag* گِشِينِگ 'to select, to appoint, to determine (something for someone)'

tarrag تَرِگ 'to walk around, to turn back' > *tarrénag* تَرِينِگ 'to return something, to turn something around'

rakkag رِگ 'to be rescued, to be saved' > *rakkénag* رِکِينِگ 'to rescue, to save (someone else)'

tawrag تَوَرِگ 'to get hurt' > *tawrénag* تَوَرِينِگ 'to hurt (someone)'

hallag هَلِگ 'to finish itr.' (e.g. the food finished) > *hallénag* هَلِينِگ 'to finish tr.' (e.g. he finished the food)

Lengthening of the stem vowel in the causative verb

Sometimes the vowel in the verbstem is lengthened. Some examples:

gwazag گوزگ 'to pass by' > *gwázénag* گوازینگ 'to spend time'

rodag رڊگ 'to grow' > *ródénag* رڊدینگ 'to cultivate, to make something grow'

There can also be other changes in the stem. Here the vowel is lengthened and the *s* is lost:

wapsag وپسگ 'to sleep, to lie down' > *wápénag* واپینگ 'to put someone to sleep, to put something in a lying position'

Additions in the stem in the causative verb

Sometimes *-árén-* is added to the non-causative intransitive verb. Some examples:

óshtag اۆشتگ 'to stand up' > *óshtárénag* اۆشتارینگ 'to make something/someone stand, to put something in a standing position'

nendag نندگ 'to sit down' > *nendárénag* نندارینگ 'to make something/someone sit, to put something in a sitting position'

(The verb *nádénag* نادینگ 'to place in a sitting position' also exists.)

Causative verbs formed on nouns

For these verbs there are no non-causative counterparts.

jórhénag جوڑینگ 'to make, to fix, to arrange' (from *jórh* جوڑ 'well, fixed, fine')

náménag نامینگ 'to give a name to something/somebody (from *nám* نام 'name')

Double causatives

Double causatives are formed from transitive verbs. In double causatives there are two actors, the one who initiates the action and the one who carries it through.

The normal addition in double causatives is *-áén-*, sometimes with lengthening of the stem vowel. Some examples:

gerag گَرگ 'to catch, to take' > *geráénag* گَراینگ 'to have someone arrest someone'

janag جَنگ 'to hit, to beat' > *janáénag* جَناینگ 'to make someone beat up someone'

lóthag لَوٹگ 'to invite, to want' > *lótháénag* لَوٹاینگ 'to extend an invitation to somebody (by means of another person)'

kanag کَنگ 'to do' > *kanáénag* کَناینگ 'to cause someone else to do something'

In this verb, the double causative is formed by *-árén-*,

koshag کَشگ 'to kill' > *kóshárénag* کَوشارینگ 'to have someone executed'

Predicative genitive forms

Predicative genitive forms are not followed by any noun. They occur mainly with the verbs be and become, but they can also occur if one leaves out the noun.

This book is **mine**.

The house became **ours**.

We didn't buy his car, we bought **hers**.

Predicative genitive forms in Balochi: nouns

In Balochi, predicative genitive forms of a noun add a *-g* to the attributive genitive form (the one we have already learnt).

Singular:

É ramag sardárayg ent. . اے رمگ سردارئیگ انت . 'This flock (of sheep and goats) is the tribal chief's.' (*sardár* 'tribal chief', attributive genitive: *sardáray*, predicative genitive: *sardárayg*)

Compare: *Sardáray ramag mazan ent.* . سردارئے رمگ مزن انت . 'The tribal-chief's flock is big.'

Jenek zargarayg ent. . جنک زرگرائیگ انت . 'The girl is the goldsmith's.'

Plural:

É molk Balóchánig ent. . اے مُلک بلوچانیگ انت . 'This land belongs to the Baloch (lit. is the Baloch's).'

Predicative genitive forms in Balochi: pronouns

The predicative genitive form of a pronoun also adds a *-g* to the attributive genitive form (the one we have already learnt).

SG

1st *manig* منیگ

2nd *taig* تئیگ

3rd *áiyag* آییگ

PL

mayg مئیگ, *mayshomayg* مئے شمئیگ

shomayg شمئیگ

áyánig آیانیگ

Examples of predicative genitives with pronouns

É lóg manig ent. . اے لوگ منیگ أنت . 'This house is mine.'

Bárig shomayg ent. . باریگ شمئیگ أنت . 'It is your turn.' (Lit. The turn is yours.)

Mayg o áyáni mozz barábar ant. . مئیگ و آیانی مزّ برابر أنت . 'Our and their salary is the same. (Lit. Ours and their salaries are the same.)

Note that English does not use the predicative form in this case, but Balochi needs the predicative genitive form as soon as there is no noun following the genitive.