Lesson 13

The past perfect
The past perfect

• The past perfect denotes something that had happened and was still relevant at a later time before the present time or a state in the past. It corresponds to the English ‘I had done’ and the Swedish ‘jag hade gjort’.
The past perfect in Balochi

- The past perfect uses the past participle (e.g. kortag, shotag, wártag) which is formed by adding -ag to the past stem of a verb. To form the past perfect, the past copula is added to the past participle.

- The formation of past perfect differs for intransitive and transitive verbs.
Intransitive verbs

shotagatán ‘I had gone’
shotagatay ‘you had gone’
shotagat ‘he/she had gone’
shotagatén ‘we had gone’
shotagatén ‘we had gone’
shotagatét ‘you had gone’
shotagatant ‘they had gone’
Transitive verbs

man kortagat / kortagaton ‘I had done’
taw kortagat / kortagatet ‘you had done’
áiá kortagat / kortagati ‘he/she had done’
má kortagat / kortagaten ‘we had done’
shomá kortagat / kortagató ‘you had done’
áyán kortagat / kortagatesh ‘they had done’

The verb can also take the plural ending, kortagatant (if the direct object is a plural entity).
Man é kár kortagatant. ‘I had done these things (lit. works).’
Examples from a text, transitive verbs

Azhdiáyá anchosh hél kortagat...
The dragon had become so tame...
(azhdiá=dragon, hél kanag=to become tame, to get accustomed to)

yak andóhéay hawrá mán áiay delay ásmáná jambar bastagat ...
A rain of sorrow had made clouds appear (lit. had tied clouds) on the sky of his heart...
(andóh=sorrow, hawr=rain, del=heart, ásmán=sky, jambar=cloud)
Examples from the text, intransitive verbs

Angat sháhi kasr o kóthá narasetagat ...
He had not yet reached the royal palace...
(angat=still, yet, sháhi=royal, kasr=palace, kóth=palace, royal mansion)

Gotth cha é zahrnák o portaptén topákáni ácheshá hoshk butagat...
The throat had become dry from the fire of these painful (lit. poisonous) and agitating happenings...
(gotth=throat, zahrnák=bitter, posionous, painful, portapt=disturbing, agitating, topák=event, happening, áchesh/ás=fire, hoshk=dry)
Optative

Optative is a form that denotes a wish. The optative forms of the verb ‘to become’ are as follows:

bátán ‘may I be’  bátén ‘may we be’
bátay ‘may you be’  bátét ‘may you be’
bát ‘he/she may be’  báltant ‘may they be’

This form is negated by ma-
(mabátay ‘may you not be’)

Example from the text

Bádsháhay sará mabát parwáh
May the king be free from worries.
(lit. May there be no worry for the king.)
(parwáh=worry)

Del o jánon nadr bátant
I would die for you.
(lit. May my heart and soul be a sacrifice.)
(nadr kanag/bayag = to sacrifice/to be sacrificed)
The past tense

In the past tense there is a distinction between

1) past perfective
which denotes past events viewed as a single unit

2) the past imperfective
which denotes past events viewed as repeated or ongoing
Past imperfective

The past imperfective in Balochi adds the same -a as in present indicative to the word preceding the verb. For an intransitive verb it is realised as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Past perfective</th>
<th>Past imperfective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>man shotán</td>
<td>mana shotán</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>taw shotay</td>
<td>tawØ shotay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>á shot</td>
<td>áØ shot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>má shotén</td>
<td>máØ shotén</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shomá shotét</td>
<td>shomáØ shotét</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>á shotant</td>
<td>áØ shotant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
past imperfective, continued

- bachak kapt ‘the boy fell (once as a completed action)’
- bachaka kapt ‘the boy fell (several times, as a habit etc.)’
- bachak har rócha kapt ‘the boy fell every day’
Past imperfective, negated

The past imperfective in Balochi adds the same -a as in present indicative to the word preceding the verb. For an intransitive verb it is realised as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Past perfective</th>
<th>Past imperfective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>man nashotán</td>
<td>mana nashotán</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>taw nashotay</td>
<td>tawØ nashotay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>á nashot</td>
<td>áØ nashot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>má nashotén</td>
<td>máØ nashotén</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shomá nashotét</td>
<td>shomáØ nashotét</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>á nashotant</td>
<td>áØ nashotant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
past imperfective negated, continued

- bachak nakapt ‘the boy didn’t fall (once as a completed action)’
- bachaka nakapt ‘the boy didn’t fall (several times, as a habit etc.)’
- bachak hechbara nakapt ‘the boy never fell’
Past imperfective, transitive verbs

For transitive verbs, the past imperfective is realised as follows:

**Past perfective**
- man nán wárt / nánon wárt
- taw nán wárt / nánet wárt
- áiá nán wárt / náni wárt
- má nán wárt / nánen wárt
- shomá nán wárt / nánó wárt
- áyán nán wárt / nánesh wárt

**Past imperfective**
- man nána wárt / nánona wárt
- taw nána wárt / náneta wárt
- áiá nána wárt / nánía wárt
- má nána wárt / nánena wárt
- shomá nána wárt / nánóa wárt
- áyán nána wárt / nánesha wárt

**Negated form:**
- man nán nawárt / nánon nawárt
- man nána nawárt / nánona nawárt
past imperfective transitive verb, continued

• bachaká nán wárt ‘the boy ate food (bread) (once as a completed action)’
• bachaká nána wárt ‘the boy ate food (bread) (several times, as a habit etc.)’
• bachaká har róch nána wárt ‘the boy ate food (bread) every day’
Examples from the text

É bádsháhá chokka nabut.
This king had no children (for a long time).

Har wahdé ke préshán o deltanga but ...
Whenever he got distressed and sad ...
(préshán=worried, distressed, deltang=sad, longing)

á ham ráha gept ...
...he, too, kept coming (lit. took way)

cf. á ham ráh gept ...
...he, too, came (once) (lit. took way)