Lesson 6

Postpositions

The pronoun *wat* وَت
Postpositions

In English and Swedish we are used to prepositions (see lesson 2, slide 7), but in Balochi, in addition to a few prepositions, there are numerous postpositions. These words have the same function as preposition, namely to express spatial or temporal relations (e.g. *in*, *under*, *towards*, *before*) or to mark other roles in the sentence (e.g. *of*, *for*), but they come AFTER their headword (object) instead of before.
Balochi postpositions

In Balochi the postpositions take their object in the genitive case.

tahá تها ‘in’

ketábay tahá کتابیا تها ‘in the book’
ketábéay tahá کتابیا تها ‘in a book’
ketábáni tahá کتابانی تها ‘in the books’
Some more postpositions in Balochi

poshtá ‘behind’
lógay poshtá ‘behind the house’
sará ‘on’
kóhay sará ‘on the mountain’
chérá ‘under’
sáhegay chérá ‘in the shadow’

(note that Balochi says ‘under the shadow’ - prepositions and postpositions are very language individual and sometimes not totally logical, think about English: in the car, on the train, at five o’clock, in the evening, on May 1 etc.)
More postpositions

tolká ‘in’ (frequently used in Pakistan)
logay tolká ‘in the house’

demá  ‘in front of’
mardomání demá  ‘in front of the people’

gwará  ‘beside, to, with (about people)’
mani gwará  ‘beside me, with me, to me’
Mani gwará nendit. ‘He sits down beside me.’
Mani gwará kayt. ‘She comes to me.’
Ketáb mani gwará ent. ‘I have the book with me (lit. The book is with me).’
The reflexive pronoun *wat* وت

A reflexive pronoun “reflects back” in the clause, in the case of Balochi to the subject. There is a Swedish reflexive pronoun “sig, sin, sitt, sina” used only for 3rd person:

Han såg sig själv i spegeln ‘He saw himself in the mirror.’
De tog sina saker och gick ‘They took their stuff and left.’
wat وَت in Balochi

wat وَت in Baloch works in ALL persons and must be used when the subject is the same as e.g. the object or the owner.

I myself came
I saw my brother
They ate their food
etc.
Forms of *wat* ٠ﺕ

*wat* ٠ﺕ is the nominative form, but also the oblique form used after prepositions.

*watā* ٠ﺕā is the object form, used for the direct object.

*wati* ٠ﺕی is the genitive form, also used before postpositions.
Examples with *wat* وَت

Man wata káyán. (NB! the a on wat is the a of the present indicative verb form)
‘I myself will come.’

Gón wat ché karay? ‘What will you bring with you?’

Á hamé ketábá pa wat gechéna kant. ‘She chooses this book for herself.’

(gechén kanag گچین کنگ ‘to choose’)

Examples with *watá* وَتَا

Pa ché watá negrána kanay? ‘Why do you worry (lit. why do you make yourself worried)?’

( negerán نَغْرَان ‘worried’)  ﭼﮯﭘﮫ گﻧﯨں نﻧﮔرﺎنَ كﻧئے؟

Watá tayára nakanay? ‘Don’t you make yourself ready?’

(tayár تَئِيَار ‘ready’)
Examples with *wati* وتي

Man wati ketábá wánán. ‘I read my book.’

*Taw wati ketábá wánay?‘Do you read your book?’*

Á wati ketábá wánit. ‘He/she reads his/her book.’

*Má wati ketábá wánén.‘We read our book.’*

Shomá pa ché wati ketábá nawánét? ‘Why don’t you read your book?’

Á wati ketábá wánant. ‘They read their book.’

(note that the only difference between the 3rd person singular and plural is the verb ending)
An example with *wati*.before a postposition

Wati bárawá ché gwashay? ‘What do you say about yourself? (What are your claims about yourself?)

(بَرَاوْا بَارْئِوَآ ‘about, concerning’)