

Lesson 10

Perfective participle – stative participle – verb noun – relative participle – agent noun – causal converbs in {-an/-ān} – adversative converb in {-ānā}

As we have seen above (§§ 33-35), Classical Newari verb forms can be classified by both morphological and syntactical criteria: only certain forms can take case markers, and only certain forms can be the head of a non-subordinated VP. When it comes to verb forms that can be the head of a subordinated VP, a further twofold distinction can be made depending on whether the VP is subordinated to another VP, or to a NP in the role of an attribute. * While VPs subordinated to a VP are headed by a converb, VPs serving as attributes to a NP can be headed by (1) the perfective participle, (2) the stative participle, (3) the verb noun (in its property as non-past participle), and (4) the relative participle. 89

The perfective participle. Its formation has been discussed above, §§ 39, 58: 90

I	II	III	IV	V
khañ-ā “seen”	yāñ-ā “done”	biy-ā “given”	pāl-ā “beheaded”	dayak-ā “made”

Besides its role as a finite conjunct verb (§§ 39, 48), the perfective participle can serve as the head of an attributive VP; it usually expresses an action that was completed in the past (cf. the examples given in § 23 above): 91

(10.1) झुपाया छनके तथा बिल्वफल सकलं हिव ।

ñhapāyā chana-ke ta-yā bilbaphala sakalā-Ø hi-wo.

“Bring all the bilva fruits that (I) have previously put with you!”

*) More often than not, these attributive VPs can only be translated into English as relative clauses: “the Eve-bitten apple” = “the apple that was bitten by Eve”. The German language may be more accommodating in this respect, but it is highly debatable whether an expression such as “die dir von mir anvertrauten Bilva-Früchte” is in any more desirable than “die Bilva-Früchte, die ich dir anvertraut habe.”

- (10.2) अर्द्धरात्रिस दक्षिणदिशास स्त्री छम्हंन विलाप याडा सर तायाव राजान धारं ।
ardharātrī-s dakṣiṇadiśā-s strī cha-mhā-n bilāpa yān-ā sal-Ø
tāy-āwo rājā-n dhāl-ā.
 “When at midnight he heard the sound of a woman *wailing* in
 the southern direction, the king spoke.”

- 92 **The stative participle.** The formation of this participle has been discussed above, §§ 47, 58:

I	II	III	IV	V
woñ-a	yāk-a	bi-wo	māl-a	dayak-u
“going”	“doing”	“giving”	“being necessary”	“being made”

- 93 Like the perfective participle, the stative participle can be the head of an attributive VP, with the difference that it usually expresses not a completed action, but rather a state with no discernable temporal deixis:

- (10.3) दक्षिणदिशास अनेक राजापनिसेन सेबलपं चोड वीरबाहु नाम राजा दस्यं चोड ।
dakṣiṇadiśā-s anek rājā-pani-sen sebalap-ā coñ-a bīrabāhu
nām rājā-Ø da-sē coñ-a.
 “In the southern region, there was a king by the name of
 Vīrabāhu, who *was served* by all kings.”

- 94 **The non-past participle (verb noun).** As head of an attributive VP, it expresses an action that will be or is to be performed. This usage is comparatively rare.

I	II	III	IV	V
khan-e	yā-ye	lhā-ye	māl-e	dayak-e
“is to be seen”	“is to be done”	“is to be spoken”	“is to be necessary”	“is to be made”

- (10.4) खें चाय बेलस ...
khē-Ø cā-ye bela-s ...
 “when (he) was *washing* (his) face ...”

- (10.5) जिपनिस दुःख सुख ल्हाय थास म दु । (Jørgensen)
ji-pani-s duḥkha sukha lhā-ye thās-Ø ma du.
 “There is no place to speak of our sorrows and joys.”

In addition to its functions that have so far been discussed, the verb noun can form the head of a NP; of all the participial forms (in the sense of our definition – see above, § 34), it is the only one that can take case markers without automatically being grammaticalised as a converb. Note that in the oblique cases, the verb noun of derivative stems sometimes ends not in $[-e]$, but in $[-ā]$:

(10.6) छे पोसलपेयातं छु जिवनी माल ।

che- \emptyset posalape-yātā chu jībanī- \emptyset māl-a?

“What salary is required (*for your nourishing=*) in order to keep you fed?”

(10.7) दन्तन छेदलपाया अर्थ थ्व राजाया मन्त्री दन्ताघात नाम दव ।

danta-n chedalapā-yā artha- \emptyset – thwo rājā-yā mantri

dantāghāta nām- \emptyset da-wo.

“the meaning of *biting* (it) with (her) teeth is: that king has a minister by the name of Dantāghāta”.

The relative participle. This is formed by adding $\{-kō\}$ (*varr.* $\{-ko\}$, $\{-ku\}$) to the zero grade stem of classes I-III, and to the first grade stem of classes IV and V. 96

I	II	III	IV	V
se-kō	yā-kō	ha-kō	māla-kō	bhālapa-kō
“what is learnt”	“what is done”	“what is brought”	“what is necessary”	“what is thought”

The relative participle has two functions: in attributive VPs, it can fill the same slot as the stative participle, expressing a state or action without overt temporal deixis. In contrast to the stative participle, however, the relative participle implies a degree of definitiveness. Apart from this, it can also be the head of a NP in the sense of a relative noun: “that which is done” etc. 97

(10.8) तोयुव्बेलान खको म्हंस यल यल गातं ।

toyubelā-n kha-ko mhā-s yela yela gāt-ā.

“Blisters appeared on (her) body *that the moonlight was shining on.*”

(10.9) अना मालको छेके इनाप याय ।

anā māla-ko che-ke ināpa yā-ye.

“There, I will tell you *what is needed.*”

- 98 **The agent noun.** While the relative participle refers to the patient of an action, the agent noun refers to the agent, expressing the notion “one who does”. It is formally identical with the stative participle. The (animate) generic particle is regularly added as nominaliser.

(10.10) लिथें जताधारी जुवम्हं दक्षिनावर्त्तनः पृथ्वी भ्रमलपाव जुले नगर छगुलिस वनं ।

lithē jatādhāri ju-wo-mhā dakṣiṇābarta-n pṛthwī-Ø
bhramalap-āwo ju-le nagara-Ø cha-guli-s won-ā.

“Then, when the one who had become an ascetic was roaming the earth in the Southern region, he came to a town.”

(10.11) तीर्थस अस्ति षेपलपुम्हंयातं पुत्रकार्यं याकन थ्व पुत्र जुलं: ।

tīrtha-s asti-Ø khepalap-u-mhā-yātā putrakārya-Ø yāk-a-n
thwo putra-Ø jul-ā.

“As for the one who carried (her) bones around the sites of pilgrimage, he has performed the office of the son and has therefore become (her) son.”

- 99 The formant {-go} (*var.* {-gu}) added to the second grade stem seems to express a similar notion; the references given in *DCN* as well as the examples found in *NVP* suggest that it is restricted to predicative use with the first person: **naye ma yelago** “(I am one who does not want to eat =) I don’t want to eat.”
- 100 **Causal converbs.** Classical Newari has two converbs that describe a positive or negative (adversative) causal relationship between the actions of the converb and main verb.
- 101 *The converb in {-ān}*: This is formed by adding the ergative marker {-n} to the stative or to the perfective participle. It describes an action as causing or being instrumental to the action of the main verb (“because ... does”, by doing”).

I	II	III	IV	V
kān-a-n	yān-a-n	(dha-wo-n)	—	mocak-u-n
(kāy-ā-n)	yān-ā-n	dhay-ā-n		
“because ... says”	“because ... does”	“because ... speaks”		“because ... kills”

NB – Note the irregularity in **yānan** besides the more regular (attested) form **yākan**.

(10.12) थ्व लुयके म जीवन छलपोलया समीपस वया ।

thwo-Ø luyak-e ma ji-won chalpola-yā samīpa-s wo-yā.

“*Because (I) have not been able to find this, I have come to you.*”

The adversative converb (“although ... does”) is formed by adding the emphatic marker {-ā} to the causal converb: **juye (jul-)** “to become” > **juy-ā-n-ā** “although ... becomes”; **dhāye (dhāl-)** “to speak” > **dhāy-ā-n-ā** “although .. says”; **soye (sol-, sot-)** “to look” > **soñ-a-n-ā** “although ... looks”.

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(10.13) अनेक जत्नन सोयानं जे भण्डालस थथिंग्व रत्न लुयके म जिव ।

anek jatna-n soy-ān-ā je-Ø bhaṇḍāra-s thathiña ratna-Ø luyak-e ma ji-wo.

“*Although searching with a lot of effort, a jewel like this cannot be found in my store.*”

Exercise 10

1) थथें राजान ल्हाया वचन डेडाव सालिकान धालं ।

thathē rājān lhāyā bacan ñeñāwo śārikān dhālā.

2) थ्व बेलस मृतकया शरीरस चोडः वेतालन राजासके धालं ।

thwo belas mṛtakayā śārīras coṇa betālan rājāske dhālā.

3) अहो आश्चर्य्य । समस्त वीरया सिनं वीर थ्व राजा । गथिंग्व महापुरुष थ्व । सिकन खा ल्हायानं त्रास संखा म दू ।

aho āścarya! samasta bīrayā sinā bīra thwo rājā! gathiña mahāpurukha thwo! sikan khā lhāyānā trāsa-śāṅkhā ma du.

4) जेन ल्हाया खं छेन डेडाव अत्यन्त सुख छे जायलपीव ।

jen lhāyā khā chen ñeñāwo atyanta sukha che jāyalapiwo.

5) भो सखा । बिल्वफल विवम्हं जेन सोय बौड हिव ।

bho sakhā, bilbaphala biwomhā jen soye boña hiwo.

6) भो राजन् । छे वशश जेपनि निम्हं जुरगो ।

bho rājan, che baśas jepani nimhā julago.

