

i. '-no'-INFINITIVE

INFINITIVE	STEM	INF-MARKER	GLOSS
pəɾ-a-no	pəɾ	-no	'Teaching'
poɾ-a-no	poɾ	-no	'Burning'
čulka-a-no	čulka	-no	'Scratching'
kam ɾ-a-no	kam ɾ	-no	'Biting'

ii. '-te'-INFINITIVE

INFINITIVE	STEM	INF-MARKER	GLOSS
pəɾ-a-te	pəɾ	-te	'to teach'
poɾ-a-te	poɾ	-te	'to burn'
čulka-a-te	čulka	-te	'to scratch'
kamɾ-a-te	kam ɾ	-te	'to bite'
jan-te	jan	-te	'to know'

iii. '-ya'-INFINITIVE

INFINITIVE	STEM	INF-MARKER	GLOSS
jə-o-ya	jə	-ya	'to go'
de-o-ya	dI-I	-ya	'to give'
le-o-ya	lI-I	-ya	'to scratch'

The infinitives in Birbhum Bangla are formed by putting suffixes to the bare verb stems. The phenomenon of agreement in the infinitival constructions in Birbhum Bangla may be noticed.

2. šərmila pʰəraSI-to p r-te jan-e
sharmila-N-FS persian-N-DEF read-V-INF know-V+PRS-3S
'Sharmila knows how to read French.'
3. kəɾIm səlma ke taka-to rak^h-te diyec^he
kareem-N-MS salma-N-FS-ACC money-N keep-V-INF give-V+PST-3S
'Kareem gave Salma money to keep.'
4. dɪpɛs sɪmrən ke kʰabar bana-I-te bʊllo
deepesh-N-MS simran-N-FS-ACC food-N make-V-INF say / tell-V+PST-3S
'Deepesh asked simran to make the food.'

b. PARTICIPLES : A participle is a non-finite verb form that has some of the characteristics and functions of both verbs and adjectives. Functioning as a verb, a participle comprises imperfective and perfective aspects in numerous instances.

Birbhum Bangla has three participles:

1. The imperfective participle
2. The perfective participle
3. The conjunctive participle

1. IMPERFECTIVE PARTICIPLE : Imperfective participle denotes incomplete activities. They are predominantly verbal in nature. The imperfect participle occurs in an adverbial function as a manner adverbial.

5. ɔ čələntə gari t^heke pəɾ-e gɛ-l-o
3S running- train-N ABL fall-V1-SFM go-V2-PST-3S
ADJ

'He fell from the running train.'

6.	ʊ	ʊɾəntə	biman	tʰeke	jʰāp	di-l-o
	3S	flying-ADJ	plane-N	ABL	jump-N	do-V-PST-3S

'He jumped from the flying plain.'

'-čələntə gari tʰeke' 'from the running train' and '-ʊɾəntə biman tʰeke' 'from the flying plane' both mark the imperfective participle in the above examples. The imperfective participles are reduplicated and used as adverbials to indicate a state resulting from the process or action denoted by the verb.

7.	ʊ	bos-e	~	bos-e	fiɾpse	gɛl-o
	3S	sit-V-IPFV	DUR	sit-V-IPFV	tire-V	go-V-PST-3S

'He became tired after being seated for a long time.'

2. PERFECTIVE PARTICIPLE : The perfective participles represent a complete activity. Perfective participles perform both adverbial and adjectival functions. Like all Birbhum Bangla adjectives, adjectival perfective participles also do not show agreement with the noun. As adjectival modifiers they precede the nouns and express a state of being.

8.	ʊ-r	bana-no	bari	ʈo	pər-e	gɛ-l-o
	3S-POSS	running-ADJ	house-N	DEF	fall-V1-SFM	go-V2-PST-3S

'The house constructed by him fell down.'

'-bana-no bari-ʈo pər-e gɛ-l-o' 'constructed house fell down' marks the perfective participle in the above example. The perfective participles are also used with the emphasis marker '- '.

9.	mʊ	dekʰ-t-e-	bʊl-l-am
	1S	see-V-PFV-EMP	say-V-PST-1S

'As soon as I saw, I said.'

In the above examples, the perfective participles functioning as adjectives are shown respectively. They also function as complements of copulas which take adjectival complements. The participles show contrast in sentences 3a-3b. The participle may also function as the complement of the copula and as a modifier of the noun which follows it.

10a.	tərkar	rādʰ-a	ačʰ-e
	vegetable-N	cook-CAUS-PFV	AUX-PRS-.3S

'The vegetable is cooked.'

10b.	rādʰ-a	tərkar	ačʰ-e
	cook-CAUS-PFV	vegetable-N	AUX-PRS-3S

'Cooked vegetables are available.'

3. CONJUNCTIVE PARTICIPLE : Conjunctive participles are used to form sentences in which two or more verbs share the same subject. Such sentences are also known as the sequential verb constructions. The action denoted by the preceding verb takes place earlier than the other temporally, i.e. the participle signals sequential action as a temporal adverbial.

11. ʊ bajar gi-ye tərkar kin-e bari e-l-o
 3S market go-V vegetable buy-V bring-N come-V-PST-3S
 'He went to the market and bought vegetables.'

12. ʊ ek^han kar kaj kər-e ʊk^hane j -b-e
 3S here work-N do-V-SFM there go-V-FUT-3S
 'He /she will finish the work here and start there.'

The conjunctive participles can be used as adverbials of manner, time and reason as exemplified by the sentences below respectively.

13. mʊ bari e-se kapər bodle šʊ-ye pər-l-am
 1S house-N come-V cloth-N change sleep-V fell-V-PST-1S
 'They hit him and killed him.'

In Birbhum Bangla the opposite actions are expressed using a conjunctive participle, and a non-finite verb phrase and a finite VP. The negative particle and the conjunctive participle signal the instead of interpretation.

14. ʊ ʊk^hane la gi-ye bajar-e čɔ-l-e gɛ-l-o
 3S there no-NEGgo-V market-N-SFM walk-V go-V-PST-3S
 'Instead of going to the school, he went to the market.'

15. ʊ dhənɪ həy-e- o konjʊs-ɪ bət-e
 3S rich be-V-EMP miser-ADJ COP-PRS-3S
 'In spite of being rich, he is miser.'

16. ʊ dhənɪ həy-e-o dəyalʊ bət-e
 3S rich be-V-EMP kind-ADJ COP-PRS-3S
 'In spite of being rich, he is kind.'

However, these sentences can also be analyzed in terms of the ability of the conjunctive participle with the emphasis marker of invoking the scope of negation and also an identity constraint among the events. In the sentences, an identity constraint is expressed by joining semantically contrasting events through the conjunctive participle. The scope of negation of the event described in the sentence is provided by the adverbial with the emphasis marker and the conjunctive participle.

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