

## **ESTABLISHMENT OF ARGUMENT STRUCTURE IN BALOCHI VERB PHRASES: AN ANALYSIS OF RECIPIENT, LOCATION AND BENEFICIARY THETA ROLES**

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### **Abstract**

*The present research study aims to investigate, analyze, explore, and describe the establishment of Argument Structure in Balochi verb phrases in terms of the assignment of Recipient, Location as well as Beneficiary Theta Roles in consort with Thematic Relations. The current study intends to see that how arguments are allotted Recipient, Location as well as Beneficiary Theta Roles/Semantic Roles by Balochi verbs. The objective of this study is to explore and establish the Argument Structure and Thematic structure in terms of Recipient, Location as well as Beneficiary Theta Roles/Semantic Roles by Balochi verbs. The assignment of Recipient, Location as well as Beneficiary Theta Roles are analyzed, explored, and described under the theoretical framework of Carnie's (2006) Theory of Theta/Thematic Roles. Distinguishing between Goal and Location is quite confusing. The Goal is the entity towards which the action of the verb moves. The Location is the entity where the action of the verb is taking place. Theta-Criterion theory declares that a preposition cannot be used to designate a Theta Role but if a noun appears in a prepositional phrase (PP), it receives a Theta Role that is determined by the function it performs in the sentence (Chomsky, 1988; Carnie, 2007). The data for the concerned research work were collected by means of unstructured interviews from native speakers of Balochi language. The data are collected from natural verbal/oral form of Balochi sentences. The qualitative*

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*method has been applied in consort with analytical, explorative, and descriptive research designs (Neuman, 2005; Kumar, 2011; Creswell, 2013; 2014). The analysis also illustrates that a slight morphological, lexical, and phonological modification in verbs become the cause of completely new shape as well as the meaning of the Balochi verb.*

**Keywords:** *Argument Structure, Theta/Thematic Roles, Balochi, Recipient, Location, Beneficiary.*

## 1. Introduction

The word “Argument Structure” is used to describe to the lexical description of argument taking lexical elements typically predicates. It shows the relationship among predicates that are the verb phrases in addition to their arguments that are the noun phrases. Furthermore, an Argument Structure normally specifies the number of arguments lexical item a verb takes (for e.g., the essential number of noun phrases in the possibility a verb donates). The concept of Argument Structure was first implemented by the researchers in 1980s who worked in Government-binding theory and a successor of the sub classification framework of 1960s transformational grammar.

The study provides details attention to the establishment of Argument Structure in terms of Recipient, Location as well as Beneficiary Theta/Thematic Roles by the Balochi verbs. This idea also promulgated in advance linguistics with the concept of many linguists and later on this theory was applied to many other languages. It demonstrates the relationship among predicates (VPs) with its arguments (NPs).

Theta Theory is related to the arguments that have a connection with the verb phrases. (Chomsky, 1981; 1986; and Chomsky & Lasnik, 1993). There is a semantic association with verb to its arguments in Thematic Roles (Carnie, 2007). The predicates or the verb phrases need a subject to build up the relation and then assign Theta Roles and Thematic Relations. We find the two central general features of Theta Theory: 1. There must be only one Theta Role to each argument assigned by the verb. 2. It can be allotted only a single theta role. Theta Roles are semantic categories, and Thematic Relations operates the Theta Roles (Ouhalla, 1999; Jahani, 2013).

### 1.2. Balochi Language

Language is a crucial instrument or method for communication. Language is not only a means of communicating beliefs, ideas, opinions, views, and speech, but it builds friendships, relationships, social and literary connections. The three key purposes of a language are instructive functions, expressive function, and direct function (Chomsky: language and mind, 1996).

Korn (2003) placed the Balochi language among the western Iranian languages' family. The world languages are classified into these families which are Dravidian, Indo-European and Indo-Iranian (Dashtiari, 2005). He further categorizes that the Balochi language exists in the sub-class of the Indo-European language family. In the word of Wind Fuhr (2009) the Balochi language is utilized as source of communication in the Baluchistan province extensively. The Baloch were like the antique Arabs, definitely they moved here and there in quest of meadowlands (Syed Iqbal. A, 1992). The part of terrestrial which ultimately became their home-based finally emanated to be known Balochistan, the land of Baloch. The Baloch folks are found predominantly in Pakistan, Iran, Afghanistan, and Turkmenistan.

Moreover, Wind Fuhr (2009) proves that Balochi language is not considered to be the official language, as well as it is not the medium of instruction of any country where it is being spoken. He enhances that instead of having various idea regarding appropriate writing system for Balochi, based on Arabic/Persian/Urdu, Roman and Cyrillic script, yet the Baloch art, music, and literature (elite) has acknowledged none. He additionally utters that the writing system of Balochi language was first introduced during the 19<sup>th</sup> century with the Roman script after the independence of Balochi script gradually and progressively. The three primary dialects of Balochi are Makrani dialect, Rakhshani dialect and Koh-e-Sulamani dialect (Jahani, 2013).

### **1.3. Research Concern/Purpose**

The core advantage of this study carries light to fruitfulness in terms of syntactic as well as semantics aspects of Balochi Verbs. This study may help the researchers or investigators to understand this phenomenon in concerned with the Balochi language as well as the other languages of the world of the same category. The purpose of this study is to investigate, analyze and explore the establishment of Argument Structure with respect to Recipient, Location as well as Beneficiary Theta Roles in Balochi language. Theta Theory is applied to many languages of the world, but

Balochi grammar lacks this crucial feature. Therefore, this is the concern of the researcher to attempt an additional work in Balochi grammar.

It is also significant to note that Balochi language is also one of the major and richest languages of the world; it is full of vocabularies Utas (2006: 206; 209). The corresponding study deals with the establishment of Argument Structure in terms of Recipient, Location as well as Beneficiary Theta Roles and Thematic Relations. It also focuses on enlightening the syntactic and semantic constructions with Argument Structure, the assignment of Recipient, Location as well as Beneficiary Theta Roles and Thematic Relations. Yet, there is no complete study on Balochi syntax, in addition many writers would highly recommend having an extensive study on the syntax as well as semantics (Badal Khan, 2013).

#### 1.4. Objectives of the Study

The objective of this research is to study and establish the Argument Structure in terms of Recipient, Location, and Beneficiary Theta Roles of Balochi verbs. It aims to build the argument first and then assign Recipient, Location and Beneficiary Theta Roles and Thematic Relations according to the condition or state uttered by the Balochi verbs. It attempts to explore that how Balochi verbs assign Recipient, Location as well as Beneficiary Theta Roles as well as Thematic Relations to their arguments attached by the verbs.

## 2. Background of the study

### 2.1. Argument Structure

Spencer & Sadler (1998) therefore claim that Argument Structure is an edge among syntax along with morphology. The syntax and morphology are interconnected with each other; neither of them can be separated nor detached and the inflections are the hint to get the accurate grammar. (Holmberg, 2013; Laks, 2014). Additionally, the properties of word are divided into three structures; syntactic (verb, tense aspect, numbers, and form), recursion (enlarges the structure along with the repetition of the same process) including arbitrariness (meaning carried by letters). Morphological changes are easy to learn and help you learn the syntax.

Moreover, Haegeman (1994) claims that the Syntactic represents Lexical information. A subject need to be there in all English sentences. The syntactic structure is ascertained by Project Principle (PP) which is lexical facts (Haegeman, 1994). EPP is a supplement to Projection Principle. EPP claims that there must be a subject in a sentence nevertheless of their

Argument Structure. These languages are null subject languages or pro drop in which their subject or object at Phonetic Form can be deleted or hidden but due to their morphologically rich agreement, they recognize the subject or object argument.

## **2.2. Theta Roles and Thematic Relations**

Theta Theory is related to the arguments that have a connection with the verb phrases. (Chomsky, 1981; 1986; and Chomsky & Lasnik, 1993). Commonly, the predicates or the verb phrases want the arguments to have a connection with and then the verb assign Theta Roles but not more than one Theta Role to each argument. The verb also identifies that which elements are elective, and which are mandatory. We find the two central general features of Theta Theory: 1. There must be only one Theta Role to each argument assigned by the verb. 2. It can be allotted only a single theta role. Theta Roles are semantic categories, and Thematic Relations operates the Theta Roles (Ouhalla, 1999).

Haegeman (1994) states that it is not easy to identify the Theta Roles. One must be careful to identify the Theta Roles. After looking at the condition or state of the verb, it is important to find the number of Thematic Relations which are ascribed to a sentence's arguments. Some arguments might get one Theta Role while some may get more than one Thematic Relations. The lexical knowledge of the intuitive speakers as well as the connection among the predicate with its arguments is a part of semantic connection in a sentence that is the reason it would therefore be noted in the lexicon. Likewise, she declares that one Theta Role is only given to one argument there cannot be two Theta Roles to a single argument while it is possible to have more than one Thematic Relations looking at the condition of the verb. Some arguments are not difficult ones as well as some are clausal arguments. There is expletive in English Language (There and It) arguments that can be used in the subject argument position in a sentence. Verbs are the main element of a sentence without the verbs it is impossible to assign the Theta Roles as well as Thematic Relations to the arguments. Verbs are the chief lexical of a sentence. The perception in a sentence is grounded on whether the components of the verb phrase were comprised or not. There are certain verbs like 'sleep' which is not allowed to be followed by a direct object, however, the verb 'bought' is allowed.

## **3. Research Methodology**

### **3.1. Data Collection**

The research design of this study is descriptive as well as exploratory by using qualitative method (Creswell, 2013; Neuman, 2005; Kumar, 2011; 2014). The natural verbal form for data collection is selected for the study. The data were generated from conversation and spoken sentences of Balochi language. The daily conversation was observed and then prepared in the form of unstructured interviews in terms of oral form with the purpose of observing and looking at the task of generative grammar, syntax, morphology along with semantics and within these categories, the Argument Structure in terms of Goal, Location as well Beneficiary Theta Roles were observed thoroughly by Balochi verbs.

The language in written form is identical which includes both reading and writing, where reading or writing requires basic language capabilities. Further, skilled reading and writing requires an awareness that what is being written or read owing to give meaning. However, we do not find errors and mistakes in the written form of language respectively. Thus, the specific use of language content for a purpose is the function of a form. The spoken form of the language is not identical.

The researchers used the convenience sampling to choose participants for collecting data for the purpose of the study. This type of sampling method engaged approaching to the participants simply, because the researcher got the respondents and usually whereas convenient. There was no arrangement whatsoever in getting the respondents.

After collecting data, the researchers kept the research ethics, cultural values, manners, or behaviors in thoughts and proceeded to ask the relevant questions for the said study. In this concern, only male members of society were considered to be the participants for this work. In this viewpoint the participants were interviewed on daily basis discussion. The researcher therefore used audio-visual recorder for data collection from the participants. The researcher/examiner gained access to the pertinent individuals and located by getting permission and through this agreement, this helped the researcher to understand better his central phenomenon. Permission is highly appreciated and necessary while collecting data because.

### **3.2. Theoretical Framework**

The Argument Structure in terms of Recipient, Location as well as Beneficiary Theta Roles in Balochi language are established by applying Carnie's theory of "Theta Theory". This theory is perfectly applicable for

assigning the Recipient, Location as well as Beneficiary Theta Roles as well as Thematic Relations to the arguments (NPs) of the verbs (VPs). Thematic Roles are presided by the help of Thematic Structure that in a sentence the arguments are allocated because of the verb (Carnie, 2007). Therefore, a verb receives noun phrases in accordance with the situation or condition denoted by the verb as per of its meaning. Similarly, the arguments or the noun phrases are uttered around the predicates in a sentence and the verbs present that how arguments are expressed. Predicates refer to the verb phrases that help to determine arguments in a term that situation or action is specified through the verbs. Predicates can be one-place predicates, two-place predicates, or three-place predicates. The predicate is thereby recognized by prepositional phrase (PPs) as well as by noun phrases (NPs) in any sentence.

### 3.3. Data Analysis

The data were also analyzed in order to know that how Balochi verbs assign Recipient, Location and Beneficiary Theta Roles (similarly known as Theta Relations) to their arguments. Therefore, the theoretical framework of Andrew Carnie (2007) is used to understand the assignment of these three Theta Roles or Thematic Structure.

### 3.4. Recipient Theta Role

According to the Carnie's definition of the 'Recipient'. It is a particular form of goal when someone receives something from another entity. The following three examples debate on the Recipient Theta Roles as well as Recipient Thematic Relations which are ascertained by the Balochi verbs. In order comprehend the construction among arguments with verbs and their Theta Role let's consider the following example:

**They gave me a bundle of chocolates.**  
(Ditransitive verb) [VP=NP+NP+NP] (Haegeman, 1994)

Like in this example, there are three underlined arguments to discuss about. 'They', 'me' as well as 'chocolates' are semantic members of the predicate (verb) 'gave' as well as its central syntactic arguments- the subject with two objects the direct object and the indirect object. The argument 'me' is considered to be the direct object of the sentence whereas, the 'chocolates' that is being received from the argument 'they' is considered to be the internal argument or indirect object.

The following three examples of Balochi sentences debate on Recipient Theta Roles as well as Recipient Thematic Relations which are ascertained by the Balochi verbs.

*Table 1: Example (1) presents a di-transitive verb in Balochi sentence, the arguments (NPs) of the predicates (VPs), and the assignment of Recipient Theta Roles and Thematic Relations.*

Sentence Description	Sentence
Persian script	وازدار شما شه با ڙوگت
Roman script	waazdar shamah sha barhah geit
Transliteration	وازدار = waazdar =owner; شما =shamah= me; شه=sha=from ڙوگت=barhah=rent; گت=geit=gets
Translation	Owner gets rent from me.

The verb phrase ‘گت=geit=gets’ has two arguments as well as a complement object comes in the prepositional phrase. The arguments are ‘ڙوگت=barhah=rent’ and ‘وازدار=waazdar=owner’, and ‘شما=shamah=you’ assigned three theta roles by the said verb. They are Theme, Recipient as well as Source in the said sentence. In nature the verb ‘get’ can be used as a transitive as well as ditransitive, a verb which needs two objects, one direct object as well as one indirect object to act upon in the sentence. Here the nature of the verb is ditransitive. The verb ‘get’ is the first form which is literary a derivative of the infinitive verb ‘گرگ=gerag=to get’.

The receiver of the rent is the first argument ‘وازدار=waazdar=owner’. This argument is a common noun which takes the position of sentence’s subject. He or she ‘*the owner*’ is the one that receives rent from the argument that gives ‘rent’. Therefore, this argument is the Recipient of the rent. This argument does not do any sort of action only it just gets rent from someone. Therefore, it is not the agent of the verb. However, it provides benefit from the argument ‘me’ to the argument ‘owner’, this argument likewise gets a Beneficiary Thematic Relation.

Moreover, the second argument ‘ڙوگت=barhah=rent’ lacks the capability to sustain an action in the given sentence instead this argument endures an action. In other words, this argument undergoes an action. However, it is

received, gotten, taken, or given by somebody to someone else. This assertion contends that the sentence's direct object or the theme is this argument that has both a Theme Theta Role as well as a Theme Thematic Relation.

The third argument comes in prepositional phrase. The verb in the preceding sentence gives this argument the Source Theta Role. This argument is the internal argument. The indirect object is this argument, which is also its complement. Therefore, the verb assigns Source Theta Role as well as a Source Thematic Relation to this argument.

*Table 2: Example (2) presents a di-transitive verb in Balochi sentence, the arguments (NPs) of the predicates (VPs), and the assignment of Recipient Theta Roles and Thematic Relations.*

Sentence Description	Sentence
Persian script	اُسْتَاادَا اَرَا بَشْتِي كَالَسْءِ دَاخِلَه دَات
Roman script	Ustaadan ara hashtey classa dakhila dat
Transliteration	; اَرَا=ara=him; بَشْتِي اُسْتَاادَا=Ustaadan=teachers =hashtey=eighth, كَالَسْ=klass=class; ءِ=aa=in; دَاخِلَه=dakhila=admission; دَات=dat=gave
Translation	Teachers gave him admission in class eighth.

The verb phrase ‘دات=dat=gave’ is a ditransitive verb that carries three arguments or noun phrases as explained by (Roberts, 1997; Carnie, 2006; Zahid, 2016) for English di-transitive sentences. Additionally, the sentence contains a prepositional phrase at object position. However, the base form of verb ‘دات=dat=gave’ is ‘دِيگ=dayag=to give’. The verb ‘دات=dat’ is itself a free morpheme that can be used by itself to complete the verb and provides a complete sentence's meaning. It is simple verb in Balochi language. The arguments are: ‘اُسْتَاادَا=Ustaadan=teachers’, ‘دَاخِلَه=dakhila=admission’ as well as ‘اَرَا=ara=him’ holding three Theta Roles Agent, Theme along with Recipient. The argument ‘اَرَا=ara’ relates to both male and female gender, because in Balochi there is no gender marker, but in the said sentence the interviewer has given information about his brother.

The first argument 'اُسْتَاذَانِ=Ustaadan=teachers' is a common noun. This argument is being engaged in the action of providing 'دَاخِلَةٌ=dakhila=admission' to 'اَرَا=ara=him' in the above-mentioned sentence. Therefore, this argument is considered to be the sentence's external argument, subject, or agent because it plays the action of granting admission to someone. As a result, it is given an Agent Theta Role in the said sentence as well as an Agentive Thematic Relation. Additionally, the sentence's context reveals that this argument also gets a Source Thematic Relation, since the argument 'admission' is given by the argument 'teachers' to the argument 'him' of the verb. As a result, the Source Thematic Relation for this argument is also represented by the verb.

The sentence also illustrates that second argument 'دَاخِلَةٌ=dakhila=admission' endures the action of (being provided) is admission. However, the admission that is being given from the argument 'اُسْتَاذَانِ=Ustaadan=teachers' to the second argument 'اَرَا=ara=him'. As a result, it may be assumed that this argument is the direct object or internal argument as well as the sentence's theme. As a result, the Theme Theta Role as well as Theme Thematic Relation are ascertained by the verb to this argument. The argument 'admission' shifts from the argument 'teachers' to the argument 'him', the sentence's context also reveals that the same argument is also allotted a goal Thematic Relation.

The third argument 'اَرَا=ara=him' is an indirect object that takes up the position of the object. This argument is third person singular used as the objective case of 'he' because in the sentence, the admission was being provided to this argument. This argument has capability to carry out an action, but it doesn't perform any sort of action. It only gets admission from the teachers. Consequently, the aforementioned argument is the Recipient whereas the verb allots Recipient Theta Role. This argument obtains advantages from the subject of the action (granted admission) as a result the verb allots a Beneficiary Thematic Relation to this argument.

### 3.6. Location Theta Role

According to Carnie (2007) the Location is the entity where the action of the verb is taking place.

#### **Ali lives in Quetta.**

The first argument is 'Ali' and the second argument 'in Quetta' comes with one prepositional phrase accompanied by the first argument which is used to represent or to express the Location of a place. Poole (2012) claims

that DPs/NPs as well as sometimes PPs come in arguments. The arguments are ‘*Ali*’ and ‘*in Quetta*’ are the semantic participants of the verb ‘*live*’.

The argument ‘*Ali*’ comes in the place of subject which sets off the action of living. As a result, it is assigned an Agent Theta Role by the verb.

The second argument ‘*in Quetta*’ indicates the destination (a place) by the verb of the subject because the action is directed at this place in the given sentence. Therefore, it is allotted locative Theta Role by the Balochi verb.

Now let’s take look at the following Balochi sentences that how verbs assign the Location Theta Roles and Thematic Relations to the arguments of the following sentences.

*Table 3: Example (3) presents an intransitive verb in Balochi sentence, the arguments (NPs) of the predicates (VPs), and the assignment of Location Theta Roles and Thematic Relations.*

Sentence Description	Sentence
Persian script	ہم ہر یکشمبہ ے پکنک ے ویا۔
Roman script	hama har yakshambeh a picnic a raya.
Transliteration	ہما = hama = we; ہر = har = every; یکشمبہ = yakshambeh = sunday; ے = a-on, پکنک = picnic a = picnic; ریا = raya = go
Translation	We go to picnic on every Sunday.

The verb phrase ‘*ریا = raya = go*’ is an intransitive verb. However, there are still two arguments of the said sentence. The first argument occurs at the place of subject whereas the second argument is presented as an object complement in consort with adverbial phrase. The word ‘*ریا = raya = go*’ has been derived from the infinitive ‘*راوگ/راوگ = rawag/rayag*’ which means ‘to go’. The noun phrases lie in place of subject as well as object. However, object complement is used to give proper meaning to the said sentence. Therefore, it cannot be the theme of the sentence. The arguments are ‘*ہما = hama = we*’ and ‘*پکنک = picnica = picnic*’ in which the verb allots the Theta Role Agent for ‘we’ and Theta Role Locative for ‘picnic’ respectively. Moreover, the adverbial phrase is ‘*ہر یکشمبہ = har yakshambeh a = on every Sunday*’.

The first argument ‘ہما = *hama* = *we*’ is considered to be second person plural pronoun which occupies the place of the subject. This argument is the initiator of an event therefore it is considered to be the agent of the verb. This argument serves as both the subject as well as the agent. Therefore, this argument is allotted Theme Theta Role in consort with Theme Thematic Relations by the verb in the given sentence.

The second argument ‘پکنگ = *picnica* = *picnic*’ is a common noun that occupies the place of the object. This argument is considered to be an object complement or a predicative expression which is considered to be the constituents of the predicate. Moreover, this argument cannot undertake an action. The verb phrase (VP) ‘*going*’ somewhere is a place in mountain or a point that just states the destination or location of the action in order to have a picnic. As a result, the verb ascertains Locative Theta Role in consort with Locative Thematic Relations. This is the entity from where the action moves from one place to another direction and therefore allotted Goal Thematic Relation by the same verb as well.

*Table 4: Example (4) presents an intransitive verb in Balochi sentence, the arguments (NPs) of the predicates (VPs), and the assignment of Location Theta Roles and Thematic Relations.*

Sentence Description	Sentence
Persian script	من زى شا كودا اآئون
Roman script	mn zee sha koh a ahtun.
Transliteration	من = mn = I; زى = zee = yesterday; اآئون, شا = sha = to, كو = koh = mountain, = ahtun = came
Translation	Yesterday, I came from the mountains.

The above-mentioned verb phrase is also intransitive in nature but here it has two arguments ‘من = *mn* = *I*’ as well as ‘شا كودا = *koha* = *from mountain*’. The second argument comes with one prepositional phrase accompanied by the first argument which is used to represent or to express the location of a place. Poole (2012) claims that DPs/NPs as well as sometimes PPs come in arguments. The verb phrase ‘آئون = *ahtun* = *came*’ is mainly a composition of two morphemes ‘آبت = *aht*’ a free morpheme accompanied with ‘ون = *au*’ a bound morpheme which is affixed to the stem of the main verb to give proper meaning to the sentence. The inflection (INFL) is attached with the

main verb (INFL) to indicate that the subject is first person singular, whether male or female because there is no gender marker in Balochi language. It is the inflection that also reveals the tense which is past simple.

First person singular pronoun ‘من=mn=I’ is utilized as the first argument of the verb. It is doing an action of (coming) in the aforementioned sentence. This argument is the subject or the agent (performer of an action) who is carrying out the action of coming from somewhere to the (mountains). Therefore, the verb ascertains an Agent Theta Role as well as Agentive Thematic Relations to this argument.

Likewise, the other argument ‘شا کوه= koha=from mountain’ comes with a prepositional phrase which is represented as an object complement as well as used in place of the object in turn to complete or give a whole meaning to the sentence. It is important to note that prepositions are not assigned Theta Roles by the verbs, but when such prepositions are accompanied with nouns phrase in certain case then they are assigned Theta Roles by the predicates in sentences. Though, it represents the place or the location of the said sentence from where the subject ‘I’ is coming from. Thus, the predicate allots Locative Theta Role in consort with Locative Thematic Relations to the argument by the verb.

The argument ‘پکنک=picnica=picnic’ shows the destination or a point in a sentence. The subject ‘I’ is coming from the ‘mountains’. As a result, the argument ‘mountains’ is considered to represent the sentence’s goal and then the verb allots a Goal Thematic Relations as well. Basically, the verb phrase assigns two Thematic Relations to the argument ‘mountains’, one is Locative, and the other is Goal Thematic Relations in the above-mentioned sentence.

### 3.7. Beneficiary Theta Role

Carnie (2007) also proclaims that an entity which gets benefit from an action or the one for whose profit an occasion by the verb. The following three examples debate on the Beneficiary Theta Roles as well as Beneficiary Thematic Relations which are ascertained by the Balochi verbs. For example, in order comprehend the construction among arguments with verbs and their Theta Role let’s consider the following example:

**They were taught by the teacher.**

(transitive verb) [VP=NP+NP] (Haegeman, 1994)

Like in this example, there are two underlined arguments to discuss about *'they'* as well as *'the teacher'* are semantic members of the predicate (verb) *'were taught'*. The argument *'they'* gets benefits from the action. There is no action taken by this argument in the sentence. However, it only gets benefits by the object of the verb. As a result, it may be claimed that the argument *'the teacher'* benefits the argument *'they'*. Therefore, it gets the Beneficiary Theta Role as well as Beneficiary Thematic Relations by the verb.

The following three examples of Balochi sentences debate on Beneficiary Theta Roles as well as Beneficiary Thematic Relations which are ascertained by the Balochi verbs.

*Table 5: Example (5) presents a transitive verb in Balochi sentence, the arguments (NPs) of the predicates (VPs), and the assignment of Beneficiary Theta Roles and Thematic Relations.*

Sentence Description	Sentence
Persian script	من زهگان وازن ان
Roman script	Mn zahgan waninan
Transliteration	وازن ان =zahga=children; ا =a=the; من =Mn=I; =wanenan=teach
Translation	I teach the children.

The above-mentioned example is also a transitive verb. It requires an object to provide whole meaning to the sentence. The verb *'ان وازن'* =*wanenan=teach*' is the derivative form of the infinitive *'وانینگ=wanenag=to teach*' and then it is also said that the infinitive is stemmed from the imperative *'وانین=wanen=teach*' which is the stem of the above verb phrase. The bound morpheme is attached with the stem of the main verb *'ان وازن =wanenan=teach*', the inflection *'ان=an*' shows the tense, aspect, number, and person. The inflection (an) represents the actor (subject) of the sentence. The subject is first person singular as well as it may be masculine or feminine in gender, because there is no gender marker in Balochi language.

From the above verb phrase, it has two arguments to talk about. The first argument is *'من=Mn=I*' performer of the action of (teaching) someone,

while the other argument is ‘زہگ=zahg=children’ which is getting benefits from the first subject. Therefore, the first argument gets Agent Theta Role, and the second argument is allotted Beneficiary Theta Role.

The first argument ‘من=Mn=I’ is a common noun that occupies the place of the subject. It gets an Agent Theta Role by the verb in the sentence. This argument is the doer of an action, likewise it performs the action of teaching his children in school or home. This is the argument from which children get benefits. Therefore, this argument is considered the sentence’s agent and ascertains Agent Theta Role as well as an Agentive Thematic Relation by the predicate.

In the words of Carnie (2007) there are always two arguments in most of the sentences, they can be internal as well as external argument. A verb’s internal argument is the one that must be realized inside the verb’s maximal projection. One or more internal arguments may exist for each verb. Generally, the argument nearest to the verb is referred to as the direct internal argument, while the rest are referred as the indirect internal arguments. In contrast, external argument is the subject of a predicate.

Furthermore, the argument ‘زہگ=zahg=children’ is also a common noun that occupies the place of the object. Although, the benefit from the action is only taken by this argument. The argument ‘من=Mn=I’ is the agent of the verb that does the action of teaching the arguments ‘زہگ=zahg=children’. This argument is neither involved in any action nor it carries out any sort of action. Therefore, the argument ‘زہگ=zahg=children’ without doing anything gets or takes benefits from the agent. Consequently, it is claimed that the argument ‘زہگ=zahg=children’ is the beneficiary of the verb and then the verb allots Beneficiary Theta Role in consort with Beneficiary as well as Recipient Thematic Relations.

*Table 6: Example (6) presents a transitive verb in Balochi sentence, the arguments (NPs) of the predicates (VPs), and the assignment of Beneficiary Theta Roles and Thematic Relations.*

Sentence Description	Sentence
Persian script	منا نوکری دانی ملکہا رستا
Roman script	mna nokriye danni mulkea rasta.

Transliteration	منا=mna=I; نوکری=nokriye=job; دنی=anni=foreign; مُلک=mulka=country; اے=aa=in; رستا=rasta=got
Translation	I got a job in a foreign country.

The verb phrase 'رستا=rasta=got' has two arguments accompanied by a prepositional phrase in the said sentence. The arguments are 'منا=mna=I' as well as 'نوکری=nokriye=a job' having two Theta Roles, they are Beneficiary as well as Theme. Whereas the prepositional phrase 'مُلک م دنی=anni mulka=in a foreign country' illustrates the location of a place. The verb 'رستا=rasta=got' is the second form and it is literary taken from the infinitive verb 'گراگ=gerag=to get'. This verb phrase is a free morpheme that may be used by itself to convey the intended meaning in this sentence. However, this verb also shows the aspect of the tense which is past simple tense.

The first argument 'منا=mna=I' neither does an action nor undergoes an action of the sentence, wherever this argument only receives 'نوکری=nokriye=a job' from a place in foreign country in the given sentence. For this reason, it can be stated that this argument gets benefit of getting a job in foreign country. Therefore, it is ascertained as Beneficiary Theta Role in consort with Beneficiary as well as Recipient Thematic Relations. It can also be said that this argument is the recipient because it receives or gets a job. The sentence's context further demonstrates that the argument 'job' is given to somebody or the argument 'منا=mna=I' in the said sentence.

The other argument 'نوکری=nokriye=a job' is a thing that is not living or that does not move on its own because of being inanimate thing and does not have animate quality in the sentence. It can only be said that such arguments can only be received, got, or given from someone else to somebody in the sentence. For example, (giving job, receiving, or getting job) from someone. It might be claimed that it goes through an action, but it is unable to perform an action on its own. As a result, this argument serves to be the sentence's theme of the predicate (verb), because this argument is such a thing that is being focused. Thus, the verb ascertains a Theme Theta Role in consort with a Theme Thematic Relation to this argument.

#### 4. Findings and Discussion

The current study has also drawn results and findings that support the Argument Structure, the assignment of Recipient, Location and Beneficiary Theta Roles and Thematic Relations by the verbs. Through the inflections or bound morphemes, the aspects of the tense have been identified. Retaining and highlighting this unique characteristic with respect to Argument Structure, the assignment of Recipient, Location and Beneficiary Theta Roles paves the ways to the research the related or the remaining hidden qualities to save the language from attrition. Previous studies possessing this aspect which is helpful in identifying common characteristics and unique features on this topic to the students of language to satisfy the research questions. On the basis of the results and findings, it is claimed that the establishment of Argument Structure and the assignment of Recipient, Location as well as Beneficiary Theta Roles in consort with Thematic Relations have been successfully used in Balochi language. Balochi language is enriched by this feature, and it can be further used in more details and wonderfully.

However, Theta Criterion Theory states that each argument receives a single theta role and vice versa (Haegeman, 1994; & Carnie, 2007). Although the verb gives the argument one theta role while there may be more than one thematic relation. As a result, each argument in the above Balochi examples has been analyzed and the Theta Roles as well as Thematic Relations have been extensively discussed. After the exploration and analysis of the oral sentences, the study has successfully proved that all of the arguments or noun phrases as well as prepositional phrases are assigned Recipient, Location and Beneficiary Theta Roles in consort with Thematic Relations in the Balochi sentences.

## **5. Conclusion**

This study indicates some exceedingly key facts that Balochi language may be more investigated and researched in the field of Semantics and Pragmatics which both fields have not been kept under consideration for research study. As a result, it can be extremely prosperous for the development of Balochi language. This study has successfully used the above theory of Theta Roles projected by Carnie (2007). On the basis of the condition or state of the verb phrases, the Argument Structure is established and then assigned Recipient, Location or Beneficiary Theta/Thematic Roles to the arguments or noun phrases in Balochi language. The Argument Structure and Theta/Thematic Roles also need to be investigated by applying tree diagrams for future studies.

## 6. Contribution of the study

This study has contributed fresh linguistics data for Balochi grammar and linguists of the era. Such contribution keeps this language under attention for study which can be enormously prosperous for the advancement, progress, and construction of the Balochi language. The concerned study is significant for the students, speakers of the prospective language, researchers, and investigators in the field of linguistics, Syntax, Semantics, Sociolinguistics and Historical linguistics with respect to Rakshani and Makrani dialects in particular and Balochi language in general. The current study also opened multi approaches concerning to this research in Syntax in Pakistan as well as in other places or countries where the Balochi language exists.

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