Typological similarities between Munda and (Sub-)Himalayan languages

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Note: none of these variables have yet been surveyed on a world-wide scale. At this point we cannot determine whether the similarities are due to an area or an enclave effect.

1. Finite verb compounds (Steever 1993, Ebert 1999)

Athpahre (Ebert 1999)
rikta-n-desu-ya-
chase-3P-1AA-move.away-3P-1AA-PST
‘He chased it away.’

Limbu (van Driem 1987:123)
me-boye me-gheur-e-
3ms-get.up-PST 3ms-RESULTATIVE-PST
‘They’ve all gotten up and left.’

Santali (Neukom 2001: 176)
sea daka sea mandi-n em-a-m cal-a-m-kan-a-
rotten rice rotten food-1sS give-APPL-2sP hand.over-APPL-2sP-IPFV-IND-1sS
‘I am giving you rotten rice, rotten food.’

Parengi (Gorum) (Ebert 2001:1532)
slay-ing ta’y-ing!
sow-1s give-1s
‘Sow for me!’

Kurux (=Dhangar; N. Dravidian) (Krishnamurti 2003 reconstructs this to PDr)
ukki-as ker-as.
sit-PST-3sm go-PST-3sm
‘He has sat down’

2. Person-marked verbs (Ebert 1993, 1999)

Athpahre (Ebert 1999; CVB = finite form minus final –e ‘PST’)
khad-a-nag meruba in-u-e. (cf. khad-e < khad-a-e ‘he went’)
go-PST-[1sS]-CVB goat buy-3P-PST
‘He went and bought a goat’

Santali (Neukom 2001:188; CVB = finite form minus –a ‘indicative’)
nui ia sala-dzoka-khon c=e ojok-ga’en-te
DEM.ANIM PTCL scoundrel-TOP where-ABL ever=1sS come.out-V2-PST.MED-CVB
in bara-dwe or-ruar-ed-e-kan-a.
1pPASS wife-TOP=1sS pull-return-IPFV.ACT-1sP-IPFV-IND
‘This dirty scoundrel came out from who knows where and is pulling my wife back.’

Kurux (Gordon & Pike 1973; Ebert 1993)
Mankhu’s huq taq-is-hi baat-an khandi-as-k
M-3sIm also 3REFL.PASS-mother-GEN word-ACC cut-PST-3sIm-SEQ
cala-kar-as
go-go-PST-3sIm
‘Anyway, Mankhu did not obey his mother’s words and went away.’

3. Partitional agreement

Belhare (Bickel 2000)
a. sa-ti khar-e-i-go?
who-ABS go-PST-p-2
‘Who of you went?’
b. sip-paj khar-e-i-ga.
two-HUM go-PST-p-2
‘Two of us went.’

Hakka Lai (Chin, Tibeto-Burman; Bickel 2000)
a-haw da? na-n-ra?
3-who Q 2-p-come
‘Who of you came?’
4. WITH-Adverbialization (manner adverbs)

Written Tibetan

dal-gyis hgro

slow-INSTR go

'go slowly'

Bellare

khan-lo ce-akt-he

nice-COM [1s1]-L-[4]-PST.V-PST

'he talked nicely'

Santali (Neukom 2001:175)

a. ŋle=bon cala-k'-'a?

who-1PI go-MID-IND

'who of us will go?'

b. adom hə-d'le cala-k'-'a.

some person-TOP-1PS go-MID-IND

'Some of us should go.'

Kharia (Peterson 2004:61)

botop-ta-pe ho-ki lutui su kon...

four-MID.NPST-2p DEM-P clothes put.on SEQ

'Those of you who are afraid, you put on your clothes and...'

Oriya (Neukom & Patnaik 2003:75)

sohj̥o-re
easy-INSTR

'easily'

Korku (Nagaraja 1999: 84)

kha3-ten

loud-INST/ABL

'loudly'

Nepali bīstāri-le jānu slow-INSTR go

'go slowly'

5. Attributive articles (agreeing with head; and/or DEF or SPEC semantics)

Athpare (Ebert 1997:130) "nominalizer"

a. aniya des-ni-nu raja

1pE country-LOC.ART.SG king

'the king of our country'

b. nahi-ga yapmi-ci

here-AVT.NSG person-NSG

'the local people'

Limbu (van Driem 1987/39, 43) "definite absolutive/ergative/genitive etc."

a. krm-ba-re-n ku-boden hìn?

2IP POSS-father-GEN-ART 3 POSS status what

'What's your father's position (in society),'#

b. phenda-re ku-yumlakp=n kɛ-dzɛ=ki?

tomato-GEN 3 POSS pickle-ART 2-eat.3P=Q

'Do you eat tomato acid?'

Belhare (Bickel 2003)

a. un-n̥a ɛi7=nu kʰim

3s-GEN big-ART.SG house

'his/her big house'

b. ei-kʰa kʰim

big-ART house

'a big house'
Santali (Neukom 2001:32, 58f, 203) “nominalizer”

a. got’-ic’
   cut-ART.ANIM.SG
   ‘the one who got cut’

a’. got’-ko
   cut-ART.ANIM.PL
   ‘the ones who got cut’

b. tur’u-ic’
   gidra
   six-ART.ANIM.SG
   child
   ‘the sixth child’

c. ha’ra-ak’
   jangra
   old.man-ART.INAN.SG
   foot
   ‘the old man’s foot’

d. onko-ak’
   sik
   DEM.PROX-ART.INAN.SG
   method
   ‘their method’

Mundari (Osada 1992:48)

a. ora‘-ra‘
   parkom
   house-GEN.INANIM
   bed

b. ora‘-ren
   hon
   house-GEN.ANIM
   child
   ‘a child of the house (i.e., of the family)’

Maithili (mostly “rustic” Maithili; Burghart 1992:94; also Jha 1958: 284f, 360)

a. ba‘-ka
   bha‘ayā (vs. ba‘d bha‘ayā)
   big-MASC
   brother
   ‘eldest brother’

b. ba‘-ki
   bha‘ajī (vs. ba‘d bha‘ajī)
   big-FEM
   wife
   ‘eldest brother’s wife’

Brahui (Elfenbein 1998:398, 411), but not in Kurux or Malto (!)

a. ba‘l-ī
   inām-as
   large-INDEF award-INDEF
   ‘a large award’

b. hul‘-as
   jwān-ī
   horse-INDEF
   good-INDEF
   ‘a good horse’