

## Tharua Grammar

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### Chapter 1- Phonology

#### PART -2

#### CONSONANTS

- Consonants : 34

		Bilabial		Dental		Alveolar		Alveo-Palatal		Palatal		Retroflex		Velar		Glottal	
		vl	vd	vl	vd	vl	vd	vl	vd	vl	vd	vl	vd	vl	vd	vl	vd
Stop	Unaspirate d	p	b	t	d			c	ɟ			ʈ	ɖ	k	g	ʔ	
	Aspirated	p <sup>h</sup>	b <sup>h</sup>	t <sup>h</sup>	d <sup>h</sup>			c <sup>h</sup>	ɟ <sup>h</sup>			ʈ <sup>h</sup>	ɖ <sup>h</sup>	k <sup>h</sup>	g <sup>h</sup>		
Nasal			m				n				ɲ			ŋ			
Fricative						s											h
Trill							r										
Tap or Flap													ɽ				
													ɽ <sup>h</sup>				
Lateral							l										
Semivowel		w	v								j						

## Examples

### • STOPS

1. /p/- paha:ɾ 'hill'
2. /p<sup>h</sup>/- ba:p<sup>h</sup> 'steam'
3. /b/- ba:dər or bədri 'cloud'
4. /b<sup>h</sup>/- b<sup>h</sup>a:r 'cave'
5. /t/- ta:ra: 'star'
6. /t<sup>h</sup>/- hət<sup>h</sup>ia 'male elephant'
7. /d/- din 'sun'
8. /d<sup>h</sup>/- d<sup>h</sup>ərti 'earth'
9. /c/- citər 'female deer'
10. /c<sup>h</sup>/- bəc<sup>h</sup>ia 'female calf'
11. /ʃ/- ʃonhi 'moon'
12. /ʃ<sup>h</sup>/- ʃ<sup>h</sup>ərua 'hay'
13. /t̪/- ciɽi 'ant'
14. /t̪<sup>h</sup>/- ʃet̪<sup>h</sup> 'husband's elder brother'
15. /d̪/- d̪əd̪<sup>h</sup>əia 'male deer'
16. /d̪<sup>h</sup>/- d̪əd̪<sup>h</sup>əia 'male deer'
17. /k/- kəhra 'fog'
18. /k<sup>h</sup>/- k<sup>h</sup>əlla 'slope'
19. /g/- gəɾgəra:na 'thunder'
20. /g<sup>h</sup>/- g<sup>h</sup>a:mu 'heat'
21. /ʔ/- kahe kiʔ 'because'

### NASALS

22. /m/- ma:ɽi / məɽɽi 'clay'
23. /n/- nədia: 'river'
24. /ɲ/- ciɾəɽɲã 'bird'
25. /ŋ/- ciŋgna 'chick'

### FRICATIVES

26. /s/- sono 'gold'
27. /h/- həwa 'air'

### TRILL

28. /r/- ra:t ‘night’

### FLAP

29. /ɾ/- ləũɾa ‘boy’

30. /ɾʰ/- saɾʰhu ‘wife’s elder sister’s husband

riɾʰ ‘back (of body)’

ɾʰaɾʰiaɟa ‘to stand up’

### LATERAL

31. /l/- ləhər ‘wave’

### SEMIVOWEL

32. /j/- biləija ‘cat’

33. /w/- pərwa:r ‘family’

34. /v/- pi:v ‘pus’

pirvaɟ do ‘give pain to someone else’

### Distribution

Presently 34 consonant sounds are identified in the language. 22 out of 34 sounds [p] [b] [t] [tʰ] [d] [dʰ] [c] [cʰ] [ɟ] [t] [tʰ] [d] [dʰ] [k] [kʰ] [g] [gʰ] [m] [n] [h] [r] [l] show word-initial, word-medial, and word-final occurrence. The rest 12 sounds [pʰ] [bʰ] [ɟʰ] [ʔ] [ɟ] [ŋ] [s] [ɾ] [ɾʰ] [w] [v] [j] are not distributed equally in all the three positions. For example: [bʰ] [s] [p] [pʰ] [ɟʰ] occurs word-initially and -finally and never word-medially. [ɾ] and [ɾʰ] are absent word-initially and present in word-medial and word-final positions. [j] [w] never occurs word-finally, rather word-initially and word-medially. [ʔ] occurs word-finally only. /v/ doesn’t occur in any of the three positions. It has a rare occurrence and is mostly seen in variation with [b]/[w]. For example:

/b/ and /v/ as in pi:b-pi:v ‘pus’

/v/ and /w/ as in əsirva:d-əsirwa:d ‘to bless (give a blessing)’

## **Free Variation**

After the preliminary analysis we notice few instances of free variation. The examples that are identified are mainly phonemic free variations such as:

/d/ and /d̪/ as in *din-d̪in* ‘sun’

/k/ and /g/ as in *nək̪ta-nəgət̪a* ‘crocodile’

/g/ and /g<sup>h</sup>/ as in *si:ŋg-si:ŋg<sup>h</sup>* ‘horn’

/c/ and /c<sup>h</sup>/ as in *kəcuha-kəc<sup>h</sup>uha* ‘tortoise’

/b/ and /b<sup>h</sup>/ as in *ba:p<sup>h</sup>-b<sup>h</sup>a:p* ‘steam’\*

\* In the above example /p/ and /p<sup>h</sup>/ also appears to be in free variation but presently /p<sup>h</sup>/ has not been established as a phoneme in the language.

## **Consonants in contrast**

At present we find the following consonants in contrast

/p, b, b<sup>h</sup>, t, d, t̪<sup>h</sup>, d̪, c, c<sup>h</sup>, ʃ, ʃ<sup>h</sup>, k, g, g<sup>h</sup>, m, n, s, h, l /

The following are examples of some minimal pairs identified in the language.

Examples:

- /p/ and /d̪/: *pək̪ma* ‘wing’ & *d̪ək̪ma* ‘feather’
- /t̪<sup>h</sup>/ and /b/: *pi:t̪<sup>h</sup>* ‘back of body’ & *pi:b* ‘pus’
- /d/ and /m/: *deh* ‘body’ & *meh* ‘rain’
- /s/ and /c/: *sun* ‘cripple’ & *cun* ‘flour’/’atta’
- /g/ and /m/: *guh* ‘stool’ & *muh* ‘mouth’
- /h/ and /t/: *muh* ‘mouth’ & *mut* ‘urine’
- /c/ and /n/: *cun* ‘flour’ & *nu:n* ‘salt’
- /c<sup>h</sup>/ and /k/: *c<sup>h</sup>or* ‘boundary’ & *kor* ‘eyelid’
- /d/ and /ʃ/: *didi* ‘father's sister's daughter’ & *ʃiʃi* ‘husband’s elder sister’

- /s/ and /l/: sa:r ‘cowshed’ & la:r ‘saliva’
- /b<sup>h</sup>/ and /g/: b<sup>h</sup>it ‘wall’ & gi:t ‘music’
- /ʃ<sup>h</sup>/ and /g<sup>h</sup>/ ʃ<sup>h</sup>oɽa (ʃ<sup>h</sup>oɽa lei le mæ) ‘to carry in hand’ g<sup>h</sup>oɽa ‘horse’

### **Gemination**

In the present language, after preliminary analysis we find that 15 consonants occur in gemination. All the geminate consonants are found in the word medial position. We may note here that the first consonant of the geminates belong to the previous syllable as a coda and the second one belongs to the next syllable as an onset.

Examples:

[kk] : kækku ‘father’s younger brother’

[tt] : tətto ‘to boil the water’

[ll] : cillər ‘louse’

[pp] : tæppu ‘ear-ring’ (the one which hangs)

[gg] : dilæggi kærna ‘to joke’

[tt] : mət̪ti ‘desert’

[cc] : bæcca ‘child’

[nn] : g<sup>h</sup>unnəs ‘ankle’

[dd] : hæddə ‘bone’

[rr] : k<sup>h</sup>urra nun ‘salt’

[ss] : ræssi ‘rope’

[mm] : səmman (ma:n səmman kəri ræhe) ‘to respect’

[ʃʃ] : uʃʃər ‘white’

[bb] : æbbe ‘after’

[dd] : mæddəd ‘to help’

### **Consonant sequences**

Those consonant sequences that occur in word medial position are divided between two syllables. The following are some examples of consonant sequences occurring in word-medial position in the language Tharua.

[dr] : bədri ‘cloud’

[rt] : dh̄arti 'earth'  
 [hr] : kohra 'fog'  
 [ɟl] : bijli 'lightning'  
 [nh] : ʃonhi 'moon'  
 [tʰ] : pətʰər 'rock'  
 [nd] : səmundər 'sea'  
     nəndoi 'husband's younger sister's husband'  
     bəndəra 'monkey'  
 [sm] : a:sma:n 'sky'  
 [ndʰ] : ā:ndʰi 'storm'  
 [ʈg] : gəʈgəra:na 'thunder'  
 [dm] : a:dmi 'husband'  
 [dʰɽ] : buɽʰa: 'old man'  
 [md] : dəmda 'son-in-law'  
 [mdʰ] : səmdʰi 'daughter-in-law's father'  
 [lh] : dulhin 'bride'  
     dulha 'bridegroom'  
     gilha:ri 'squirrel'  
 [ɲ] : kəɲus 'miser'  
 [nb] : ʃa:nbər 'cattle'  
 [ŋg] : dʱiŋgər ,louse'  
 [kt] : nəktə 'crocodile'  
 [tʰn] : hətʰni 'female elephant'  
 [kʰm] : pəkʰma : 'feather'  
 [cʰr] : məcʰri 'fish'  
 [mɽ] : lomɽi 'fox'  
 [skʰ] : biskʰəpro 'lizard'  
 [pr] : biskʰəpro 'lizard'  
 [ŋgʰ] : gʰuŋgʰi 'snail'

[kr] : məkra ‘spider (male)’  
 [gʰt] : bəgʰtə ‘tiger’  
 [ʈk] : muʈka ‘toad’  
 [ŋkʰ] : kʰəŋkʰəŋʃa ‘toy’  
 [ndr] : mundri ‘ring’  
 [ŋgn] : cīŋgna ‘chick’  
 [ʈgʰ] : peʈ gʰuʈgʰuʈana ‘acidity’  
 [rd] : murda ‘corpse’  
     hərđi ‘turmeric’  
 [ʃr] : hiʃra ‘eunuch (male like)’  
 [ck] : hucki ‘hiccup’  
 [dʄʰ] : gəʄdʄʰa ‘pimple’  
 [mh] : ʃəmhuai ‘yawn’  
     kumhra ‘potter’  
 [sk] : məska ‘butter’  
 [rc] : mirca ‘chilli’  
 [pʈ] : kʰopʈa ‘coconut’  
 [kʰn] : cakʰna ‘taste’  
 [kb] : kəkba ‘comb (small and broad)’  
 [ʈkʰ] : guʈkʰa ‘ear-ring’  
 [rp] : dərpən ‘mirror’  
 [tr] : cʰətri ‘rain hat (made of leaves)’  
     pətro ‘lean (man)’  
 [hk] : mahkua ‘fragrance’  
 [ʈkʰ] : kʰuʈkʰuʈi ‘stair’  
 [hs] : lahsun ‘garlic’  
 [nd] : bʰindī ‘lady’s finger’  
 [ʈr] : məʈra ‘pea’  
 [dʰn] : dəbudʰni ‘mid wife’

[rb] : gurba ‘sorcerer (for the entire village)’

[rɿ] : burɿah ‘old’

[nk] : ənkaciti ‘suddenly’

[mb] : ləmbo ‘tall (man)’

[kk<sup>h</sup>] : dəkk<sup>h</sup>in ‘south’

[ŋ<sup>h</sup>] : səŋ<sup>h</sup>a ‘evening’

### **Consonant Clusters**

The language Tharua possesses consonant clusters. In terms of their phonological distribution, consonant clusters can be found in two places, namely word-initial, and word-final positions. The clusters mostly comprise of two consonants. Word initial and word final consonant clusters can be seen in the following examples:

Word initial consonant cluster	Word final consonant cluster
<b>dw</b> aro ‘door/entrance’ <b>sw</b> ast <sup>h</sup> ‘health’ sti:l ‘steel’	<b>sənk<sup>h</sup></b> ‘conch’ jōŋ <sup>h</sup> ‘nest’ səkəlgəŋ <sup>h</sup> ‘sweet potato’ nənd ‘husband’s sister’ si:ŋg ‘horn’

Consonant clusters remain intact initially and finally, while word-medial consonant sequences, including geminated consonants, are always divided between two syllables, the first member being the coda of the preceding syllable and the second member being the onset of the following syllable.

### **Syllable structure**

In the Tharua language there can be a maximum of one to four syllables. The syllables present 8 canonical forms. They are as follows:

V        a:/gi: ‘fire’

VC       a:m ‘mango’

CV       ha:/la:/ca:/la: ‘earthquake’

CVV      nə/dia: ‘river’

CVC      b<sup>h</sup>a:r ‘cave’

CCV      pət/t<sup>h</sup>ra ‘stone’

CVCC     ciŋg/na ‘chick’

CVVC      beah ‘marriage’

### **Morphophonemic alterations**

1. Presently there has not been noticed any instances of sandhi in the data.
2. Morphophonemic change can be seen in the following example

p<sup>h</sup>ul p<sup>h</sup>uli gəʊ ‘to bloom flower’

p<sup>h</sup>ul p<sup>h</sup>uli gæ ‘to bloom flowers’

In the above example, morphophonemic change results in the differentiation between singular and plural.

However, there are no further data to support this claim.