The region of the present study includes part of Ambala district and Northern Karnal district of the state of Panjab and the South-Eastern portion of Himachal Pradesh, i.e. the former Sirmur state. This region of mixed di (Punjabi, Pahari and Khari Boli) extends between the latitudes of 30° N and 31°10' N and longitudinally it between 76°20' E and 77° E. The natural boundaries taken into consideration for the area are in the north 3000 feet contour line, in the south the river Nai, the tributary of the Ghaggar in the west the river Ghaggar and in the east the Jumna has a total rural population of 1 million as per the census. The whole of the area is an upland region comprised by the beds of the tributaries of the river Ghaggar and the Sirmur state area which has an elevation of more than 3000 feet from sea-level. In the northern portion the Himalayan i.e. the Siwalik ranges have made it almost mountainous region whereas in the southern portion, of recent alluvium and sandstone, shale and conglomerate responsible for its undulating terrain from south to north, the Siwalik ranges which have limestone and slate formation in the southern tracts and quartzite formation in the northern tracts.

In this region the Ghaggar with its tributaries carved out shallow river basins running parallel from...
to south-west. The whole region has been divided into three sub-divisions i.e., the western tract west of river Surasti, the middle tract confined between river Surasti and Chenab, and the eastern tract confined between the Chenab and east Khadir and riverain tracts of the Jamuna. This eastern tract is a great watershed area dividing the drainage system of the northern plains of India i.e., on the western side drainage towards Arabian sea and on the eastern side drainage towards Bay of Bengal. In the northern portion of this region i.e., in the former Sirmur state area, except the broad valley of Kiarda Dun, running longitudinally, which has been separated by the Tons river from Dehra Dun valley, is the river Giri which has divided the tract into two significant area - (i) Giriwar, or south-west of river Giri; and (ii) Giri par, or north-east of the river. This river has the significance of dividing the people having different cultural backgrounds and languages. In the Giri par area of sirmur - the Pahari dialect is a spoken language and in the Giriwar area a dialect of Panjabi is spoken, mainly confined to the sizeable population of Sikhs who have concentrated there as Phonta is a Sikh religious centre; while the language of the indigenous people is influenced by Hindi.

The climatic conditions vary from north to south. The areas of heavy rainfall are confined to the northern side where rainfall ranges between 65 to 80 inches, whereas in the south and south-eastern areas of this region the rainfall varies between 25 and 30 inches. The temperature conditions
of this region vary accordingly. In the northern tracts, the summer temperature ranges between 15.4°C and 18.6°C, and the winter temperature between 1.4°C and 4.2°C. In the southern areas, i.e., in the districts of Ambala and Karnal, it varies between 32.2°C to 40°C in summer, and between 4.2°C to 7°C in winter.

The climatic conditions in this region have greatly influenced the natural vegetation and types of economy. The climatic impact has been further accentuated by the uneven terrain of the area. The northern tracts have the dominance of pastoral and forest economy and the southern portions have the well-set irrigated agricultural economy. These types of economy have been further responsible for the regional distribution of population and human settlements of this region.

The population distribution, as shown in the map, has dense population in its western sector of the tehsils of Ambala, Narsingarh, and in the western Kharar tehsil and north-western Thanesar tehsil where density per square mile is very heavy due to larger percentage of cultivated land and well developed network of means of communication lines. On the eastern side of this region in the area of western Jamuna canal, the population is quite dense i.e., in the south eastern sectors of Jagadhari tehsil and eastern Thanesar tehsil. Otherwise areas of scanty population are found in the hilly tracts of former
Sirmur state and in central parts of the tehsil of Narain- 
garh and western Thanesar where population is scanty because 
of the criss-crossed nature of terrain due to the old beds 
of the tributaries of the river Ghaggar.

The rural population of this region in its 
distributional pattern is controlled by the physical terrain, 
availability of irrigation facilities and extension of 
cultivated land. The tehsil-wise population is given in the 
table No.1:

Table No.1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tehsil</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Rural Population</th>
<th>Urban Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thanesar</td>
<td>2,34,950</td>
<td>1,86,690</td>
<td>48,260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambala</td>
<td>3,75,000</td>
<td>1,72,500</td>
<td>2,02,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kharar (Eastern Parts)</td>
<td>2,16,250</td>
<td>86,920</td>
<td>1,29,330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jagadhari</td>
<td>2,62,500</td>
<td>2,03,750</td>
<td>58,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naraingarh</td>
<td>1,63,750</td>
<td>1,43,750</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sirmur</td>
<td>1,97,550</td>
<td>1,83,280</td>
<td>14,270</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total       | 14,40,000        | 9,76,890         | 4,53,110         |

In this region there are many big urban centres, 
as indicated in table No.2, below which have developed due 
to economic, social, cultural and political factors:
Table No. 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Urban Centres</th>
<th>1961 Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ambala</td>
<td>1,81,747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chandigarh</td>
<td>99,262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jagadhari</td>
<td>28,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shahabad</td>
<td>18,975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kalka</td>
<td>18,068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanesar</td>
<td>16,828</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nahan</td>
<td>12,439</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Among the urban centres, some have flourished because of being the administrative centres and district headquarters, such as Ambala and Nahan. Chandigarh is a new city which has grown as capital of the Panjab after the partition. It has a composite population mostly hailing from Panjabi-speaking areas. Some of these towns have grown as centres for means of communication and lines and some like Jagadhari, as industrial centres. Shahabad is a big trading town. The population growth of these urban centres has been very rapid due to the settling of refugees from West Pakistan. In this study Ambala and Chandigarh have been left out as the dialects therein are related to Panjabi. The total population of the tracts speaking mixed dialects is about 1.34 millions.
Social background.

The composition and organization of the population in these areas broadly follows the general patterns obtaining in other parts of the U.P. and the Panjab, almost entirely Hindu, with Brahmans, Jats, Banias, Khatri, Rajputs and many low castes while there is an appreciable number of Sikhs in Nahan, Bassula, Pinjor and Shahabad. There are some Sikhs scattered only in Babial and Jagadhari, Tepla and Chhachrauli.

By Indian as well as local standards some of the villages may be classed as well-to-do, with the occupation almost exclusively agricultural and even the peasants who are better-off working very hard in their own farms. The population in historical times, has been considerably affected by wars, mainly between some local chieftains and some Pahari overlords and subsequently during Mughal times with others too. During the 19th century and the early 20th century, these tracts enjoyed a comparative peace. Thus, though the racial character has been subject to other extraneous influences, and there have been some small scale migrations to and from these areas, it now seems to have evolved into a homogeneous entity. But the partition of the Panjab in 1947 has affected this homogeneity immensely. The immigration has been quite large in cities and towns, but it has not been negligible in villages. The effects of this mingling of population, on language are now coming up especially in younger generations. The older people have been tenaciously preserving the expressions of their mother tongue.
VII

The importance of this study is, therefore, evident. In two or three generations from now these dialects may be fundamentally changed. Now is the time to record and analyse them.

Practically all the houses are what are called Kuchchas (thatched sheds) with only a few which are Packa (or brick-built), particularly those adjoining the major roads. The level of literacy is pretty low, with many of the villages seemingly content with elementary schools and only a few of the larger ones having schools with provision up to the 10th class. Besides, these dialects do not have any literature worth the name and hence there are no distinctive cultural traits, except in folk songs.

The villages.

In this study, the linguistic data obtained from twelve different villages (1. Jagadhari, 2. Thanesar, 3. Sadhaura, 4. Kesari, 5. Shahabad, 6. Chhachrauli, 7. Nahan, 8. Babial, 9. Bassula, 10. Pinjor, 11. Tepla, and 12 Kalka) have been taken up for consideration. The name Kalka, for example, signifies not the dialect spoken in Kalka but the adjoining villages stretching towards Simla. These may broadly be divided into two groups - one influenced by Panjabi and the other more by Hindi. The Panjabi influence is naturally greater in the western villages than in the eastern ones. Some of the elements of the Panjabi influenced group indicate its proximity to Pahari.
At every point the history of the various sounds is also provided which also inevitably includes some comparative elements, e.g. in the consideration of long /i/, initial, medial and final, OIA, MIA and Per. origins are traced. The comparative section is inter-dialectal and not with respect to Hindi and Panjabi. This practice of systematic presentation of history along with the descriptive parts has been maintained throughout in the chapters dealing with morphology also. The history part of the consonant has also been dealt with in great detail and the frequency of the various consonants deriv from OIA, MIA, Per. etc. has also been indicated. Attention has also been drawn to the foreign elements or influences. Before morphology proper is taken up a sort of inter-chapter about morphophonemic has also been given.

Morphology.

Under morphology, dealing with the formative affixed a distinction has been made between productive and unproductive morphemes. The suffixes, forming nouns, adjectives adverbs and verbs have been further classified and arranged alphabetically. Reference is also made to suffixes which have dropped out in the course of history and those which have been borrowed from other languages. These dialects are particularly rich in suffixes and many of them seem to be creations, while prefixes and infixes are not abundant.

Under compound-nouns, hybrid compounds involving Per. or Eng. elements are considered. Compounds formed entirely
from native resources follow with a study of their inflection. After this comes the classification of compounds. In the classification further divisions have been observed like e.g. Noun + Noun compound forming an adjective of degree or adjective of quality.

Later chapters deal with the declension of Nouns, Adjectives and Verbs. In dealing with verbs a distinction has been made between causals and transitives because it was felt that they have often been confused. Here too before taking up the chapter on Syntax, allomorphs have been treated in relation to morphology and this leads to the study of morphosyntax.

Morpho-syntact.

Under morpho-syntax noun, adjectival and adverbial phrases have been subjected to close analysis, with an examination of their structure.

Syntax.

In dealing with Syntax the method has been to present the various patterns beginning with a kernel sentence leading to the most elaborate structures.

Findings.

The present study seems to lead to the following broad conclusions about these dialects.

A very interesting feature is the dropping of the initial short vowel. It has also been noticed that there is a
great tendency for diphthongs and triphthongs to be reduced to monothongs. Further there is no perceptible difference between retroflex /ɭ/ and flapped /r/ which is perhaps explained by the fact that the flapping is so tenuous or weak that it is reduced to the sound /ɭ/. Retroflex /ɭ/ sound is a distinctive characteristic of these dialects. A particularly pronounced phenomenon which has been designated by the term *split aspiration*, appears. The aspirate /h/ also seems to have been dropped in all the position of the words, except in Tepla dialect where it appears to be preservered initially and the vowel is more pronounced. Long consonants are fairly common in these dialects. It has also been noticed that these dialects do not favour the presence of consonant clusters as a result of the stress falling equally on the syllables, thereby leading to a suggestion of a pause or svarbhakti e.g. b 1 da. Yet another peculiarity is that in a few words stress seems to be phonemic, something which does not obtain in standard hindi.

These dialects are particularly rich in suffixes and many of them seem to be creations, while prefixes and infixes are not abundant. Also in some of these dialects, the present and imperfect tenses are formed from radical tenses and not from the participles as in Hindi or Panjabi. A noteworthy feature is that unlike Hindi or Panjabi, in some of these dialects the gender is not uniformly indicated by inflections. While in standard Hindi postpositions are added to the oblique case, here they are added to the genitive case.
In brief, the foregoing chapters only go to confirm the general impression which the history and the geography of these areas already give sufficient grounds for presuming, that these dialects are more influenced by Hindi, though a considerable Panjabi influence is also evident.