Chapter 1

PHONOLOGY

1.1 Inventory

The following are the segmental phonemes of Halbi.

They are grouped into 1) non-syllabic non-vowoids (Consonants)
2) Non-syllabic vowoids (Semivowels) and 3) Syllabic vowoids
(Vowels). There are no syllabic non-vowoids. (The class symbols
are respectively C, W, and V.)

1.1.1 Consonants:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bi-labial</th>
<th>Dental</th>
<th>Alveolar</th>
<th>Retro-flex</th>
<th>Lamino-palatal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stops</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voiceless</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unaspirated</td>
<td>p</td>
<td>t</td>
<td>(\ddot{t})</td>
<td>c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aspirated</td>
<td>(p^h)</td>
<td>(\dddot{t})</td>
<td>(\dddot{c})</td>
<td>(k^h)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voiced</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unaspirated</td>
<td>b</td>
<td>d</td>
<td>(\ddot{d})</td>
<td>j</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aspirated</td>
<td>(b^h)</td>
<td>(\dddot{d})</td>
<td>(\dddot{j})</td>
<td>(g^h)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fricative (Voiceless)</td>
<td>s</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nasals (Voiced) :</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Unaspirated</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>(\ddot{n})</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Aspirated</td>
<td>(m^h)</td>
<td>(\dddot{n})</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lateral (Voiced) :</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unaspirated</td>
<td>l</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Aspirated</td>
<td>(l^h)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trill :</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unaspirated</td>
<td>r</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aspirated</td>
<td>(r^h)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

(Note: The four lamino-palatal stops are affricated.)
1.1.2 Semivowels:

Voiced back rounded vocoid : \textit{v}
Voiced front unrounded vocoid : \textit{y}
Voiced vocoid with local glottal friction : \textit{h}

1.1.3 Vowels:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Front Unrounded</th>
<th>Central Unrounded</th>
<th>Back rounded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>\textit{i}</td>
<td></td>
<td>\textit{u}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High-mid</td>
<td>\textit{e}</td>
<td></td>
<td>\textit{o}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low-mid</td>
<td>\textit{e}</td>
<td></td>
<td>\textit{a}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>\textit{a}</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.1.4 Suprasegmentals:

1.1.4.1 Co-articulation

\textit{/ ~ /} nasalization accompanies vowels.

1.1.4.2 Balbi has intonation which is not considered in this study

1.1.4.3 Of the juncture only word juncture is identified and symbolized by space.
1.2 The Contrasts Illustrated

Three kinds of contrasts are illustrated. (a) Contrasts between 'comparable' phonemes; (b) Contrasts between a phoneme and its absence; (c) Contrasts of 'arrangement'.

1.2.1 Contrasts between comparable phonemes, especially phonemes differing in only one or two components.

(i) Consonants: A Contrast of voiced, unvoiced, aspirated and unaspirated phonemes.

/para/ 'locality'; /phara/ 'board';
/bara/ 'twelve'; /bhara/ 'sheaf of paddy'
/thari/ 'metal plate'; /dar/ 'lentil',
/dhar/ 'sharpness'
retroflex stops: /t/ : /th/ : /d/ : /dh/ :
/bat/ 'path'; /bat/ 'back'
/pang/ '(a lunar month)'; /bang/ 'grow'
/ceda/ 'be hot (verb)', /chedi/ 'stick';
/jed/ 'root (of plants)', /jedi/ 'fall (verb)'
/kodi/ 'lame woman'; /godi/ 'Gond woman';
/godi/ 'mare'
nasals: /m/ : /mh/ : /somar/ 'monday'; /kumhar/
/wu 'potter';
/n/ : /nh/ : /penya/ '(a type of comb)',
/kenhaya/ 'waist'
lateral: /l/: /lʰ/: /ku:li/ 'worker';
/dulʰi/ 'bride'.

trills: /r/: /rʰ/: /nerändin/ 'the day before the day before yesterday'.
/mærʰan/ 'field in which lentils and vegetables are grown'.

(ii) Contrasts of position of articulation between all the voiceless stops, all the voiceless aspirated stops, all the voiced stops; all the voiced aspirated stops and all the nasals.

Voiceless unaspirated: /p/: /t/: /k/: /q/: /s/: /tˢ/: /kʰ/: /sʰ/: /m/: /n/: /ŋ/:
/sap/ 'snake'; /hat/ 'hand'; /haːt/ 'market';
/hak/ 'call'.

/pʰer/ 'again'; /tʰe:ɾ/ 'wait (Imp.sg.)';
/tʰec/ 'crush;' (imp.sg.)' /kʰep/ 'a turn', a round'.

Voiced unaspirated: /b/: /d/: /ɡ/: /g/: /bː/: /dː/: /ɡː/: /gː/: /baːt/ 'path'; /dɑt/ 'tooth'; /dɑt/ 'press!'
(imp.s.g): /gɑt/ 'thread!' (the beads or flowers) (imp.s.g).

Voiced aspirated /bʰ/: /dʰ/: /ɡʰ/: /gʰ/: /kʰ/: /pʰer/ 'fill'
(imp.s.g): /tʰer/ 'take (imp.s.g.)'; /dʰer/ 'does not subside'; /ɡʰer/ 'house'.

(iii) Other Consonantal Contrasts

/\b/ : /\m/ : /bok\d\a/ 'he goat'; /mok\d\a/ 'spider'.

/\d/ : /\n/ : /doni/ 'leaf cup made of two leaves'

/noni/ 'a term of address to girls younger in age to the speaker'.

/\g/ : /\n/ : /sag/ 'vegetable curry or meat curry or dal'

/sa\n/ 'tell\xf1 (imp.sg.)'.

/\l/ : /\r/ : /levlise/ '(she) has bent'

/revlise/ '(she) has got accustomed'

/\d/ : /\l/ : /k\^edese/ 'chases away'

/k\^elese/ 'plays'

/\d/ : /\r/ : /dag/ 'blot, stain'; /rag/ 'voice'

/s/ : /h/ : /sati-\chati/ 'chest'; /hati/ 'elephant'

/s/ : /t/ : /sar/ 'but'; /tar/ 'wire'.

(iv) Semivowels :

/\y/ : /\v/ : /gay/ 'cow'; /gav/ 'sing\xf1 (imp.sg.)'

/\v/ : /\h/ : /k\^ha/ 'where?'; /r\^va/ 'feathers'

/\y/ : /\h/ : /saya/ 'petticoat'; /ceha/ 'tea'

(v) Vowels :

/\l/ : /\a/ : /u/ : /ni p\^hire/ '(he, she) will not return'

/ni phere/ '(it) will not bear fruit'

/pur\^h\x{e}n\^hure/ 'infront, ahead'.
/a/ : /a/ : /o/ : /ilē/ 'I came'
   /ila/ '(they) came'
   /ilo/ '(he) came'.

/i/ : /e/ : /jib/ 'tongue'; /jeb/ 'pocket'
/e/ : /a/ : /pʰer/ 'fruit'; /pʰar/ '(a part of a plough')
/u/ : /o/ : /jhukese/ 'is making a mistake'
   /jhokese/ 'is buying'.

(vi) Vowels and Semivowels :

/i/ : /y/ : /bʰai/ 'brother'; /ni bʰay/ 'do not like it'
/u/ : /v/ : /cuʰa legato/ 'make noise'
   /cuʰa/ 'roasted and flattened rice'

1.2.2. Contrasts between a phoneme and its absence :

(i) Semivowels :

/y/ : /v/ : /o/ : /cepayse/ 'flattens'
   /cepavlē/ '(I) flattened'
   /cepalī/ '(she) flattened'

/h/ : /ə / :

/həhase/ '(you pl.) will eat'
   /həhase/ '(you, sg.) will eat'

(ii) Vowels :

/a/ : /a/ : /ə / :
   /ədalst/ 'court'; /ada/ 'ginger',
   /dar/ 'lentil'

/a/ : /ə / :
   /sətəɡi/ 'umbrella'
   /sətri/ 'mother-in-law'

/a/ : /ə / :
   /əsəɡi/ '(a lunar month)'
   /asra/ 'pregnancy'.
/i/ : /e/ : 0 : /isu/ 'this way', /esu/ 'this year', this time',
/sut/ 'string'
/i/ : /e/ : 0 : /cuďi/ 'bangle'; /cuďi/ '(it)cooked'
/e/ : 0 : /ipʰoše/ '(it) does not suit'
/phoše/ '(it) suited'.
/u/ : /o/ : 0 :
/u/ : 0 : /kukur/ 'dog'; /kukḍa/ 'rooster',
/o/ : 0 : /gʰokor/ '(a part of the bullock cart)'
/gokra/ 'old man'

(iii) Coarticulation:
/"/ : 0 (i.e. ʰ V : V): /hasa/ 'goose'
/hasa/ 'laugh (imp.pl.)'
/cabęše/ '(I) am biting'
/cabesę/ '(he, she, it) is biting'

(iv) Contrasts between double and single consonants.
/peṭta/ '(a part of a wheel)'
/peṭa/ 'flat, silver bangle'
/lugga/ 'saree'
/phuga/ 'baloon'

(v) Contrasts between double and single vowels.
/ni piis/ 'won't (you, sg.) drink ?'
/bis/ 'twenty'
/hoo/ '~' /hoło/ 'may become'
/ho/ '~' /hev/ 'yes'
1.2.3 Contrasts between the varying arrangement of phonemes

(i) Permutation between segments

/kəmrə/  'blanket';  /kərma/  '(type of songs)'
/honhar/  'work';  /kohni/  'elbo'
/busra/  'calf';  /brausahaan-kidda/  '(a kind of larva)'
/surti/  'tobacco';  /kutri/  'bitch; female dog'
/gepüli/  'a small basket';  /səlpü/  'sap of a palm tree' (which is used as a drink)
/beği/  'stick';  /bagdi/  'rough & unclean rice'
/putka/  'feathers';  /cukta/  'all'
/darpen/  'mirror';  /karepra/  'tile'
/jhunki/  'rattle';  /ṭukni/  '(a kind of basket)'
/kolki/  'corner bracket' /kəkli/  'a cough'

(ii) Position of /\nw/

/bhəvti/  '(a small platform around the wall of the house)'
/bhədəv/  '(a lunar month)'

(iii) Contrast between aspiration and /h/

/konhə/  'corner';  /honhar/  'work'

(iv) Contrasts between vowels followed by nasals and nasalized vowels

/pənc-ədalət/  'a court of Panch'
/pə 니/  'five'
/kgəvə-əndəva/  'blind'
/kəvri/  'tender'
1.3 Phonetic Realization of Phonemes

1.3.1 Consonants.

/ð/ and /gʰ/ show some manner variation.

[ɡ, ɡʰ] are voiced unaspirated and aspirated retroflex stops respectively, occurring initially and non-initially only after the nasal /n/ (which has the allophone [n̥] in this environment. See below).

[r̥, rʰ] are unaspirated and aspirated retroflex flaps respectively, occurring elsewhere.

/c, j/ are voiceless and voiced lamino-palatal groove affricates; phonetically [t̚s̠, d̚z̠,]

/n/ shows position variation.

[n] is dental. It occurs initially, intervocally and finally.

[p] is retroflex. It occurs only before the retroflex stops /t̚, ʈ, ʈʰ/

[r̥] is lamino-palatal. It occurs only before lamino-palatal affricates /c, jʰ, jʰ/

ŋd --->> [p] / - C e.g.

/kənd-to/ ----> [kənd-tʰ]

The geminated /r/ means a strong trill (as against a weak trill).

All the consonants except /ŋ/, s/ occur in pairs unaspirated and aspirated. The aspirated consonants are treated as unit phonemes rather than as sequences. These consonants are not very strongly aspirated.
1.3.2 Semivowels.

The semivowels /v, y, h/ are nasalized when they follow nasalized vowels, e.g.

/pey/ → [pey] 'but'

/gav/ → [gav] 'village, town'

/deh/ → [deh] 'body'

/v/ is voiced labiodental fricationless continuant [v]

sometimes freely varying with [φ] or [u]

/y/ is a voiced unrounded front vocoid, phonetically [i]

/h/ is stronger than aspiration.

(i) When /h/ occurs in the position V — CV where the first vowel is e, or or u, or in the position CV — #, there is an echo vowel following /h/.

Examples.

/bohli/ → [bohli] '(she) carried'

/cehra/ → [cehra] 'face'

/gohdi/ → [gohdi] 'cattle'

/leh/ → [leh] 'a creeper'

/deh/ → [deh] 'body'

If the first vowel in the position V — CV for /h/ is i, a or e, there is a vocalic release 'e' coming after /h/ as it is with other consonant sequences.

Examples.

/tihda/ → [tihda] 'triple'

/pahli/ → [pahli] '(the day) broke'

/kohni/ → [kohni] 'story'
(ii) /h/ in the environment V — V where the first vowel is e or a and the second vowel is i, u or a, is sometimes (usually in fast speech) dropped or weakly pronounced. Examples.

/behydration/ ----> [behydration] 'carpenter'
/mehu/ ----> [mehu] 'the berries of the Mahuva tree'

1.3.3 Vowels.

(i) Vowels between two nasals are nasalized. Examples.

/maň/ ----> /maň/ 'cobra'
/meň gær/ ----> /meň gær/ 'crocodile'

(ii) When the semivowels occur between two vowels, if one of the vowels is nasalized, the other gets nasalized too. Examples.

/jähä/ ----> [jähä] 'where'
/kūvā/ ----> [kūvā] 'a well'
/gherjīya/ ----> [gherjīya] '(a husband who lives with his wife's family

The vowels /e/ and /o/ have the higher varieties [e^, o^] in the positions —# — Ce, — Co.

/e/ has a higher variety [e^] in the position C — C,
  e.g. /khæs/ ----> [khæs] '(a kind of tree')

It has a lower variety [e_v] when it occurs before —h,
  e.g. /ceha/ ----> [ce_v ha] 'tea'
1.3.4 Predictability of syllable division, stress, and position of vowel length within a phonological word.

(i) Syllabic boundary: In a phonological word every vowel is a syllabic nucleus. The syllable boundary falls between a pair of successive vowels. If there is one or more than one consonant occurring between the vowels, the last consonant (or the only one, as the case may be) belongs to the following syllable, while the remaining consonant(s), if any, belong to the preceding syllable. (A syllable boundary is marked with [·] where it does not coincide with a stress mark).

(ii) Stress: Heavy (tonic) stress is marked [ʼ] at the beginning of the syllable. Weak stress is left unmarked.

A. Monosyllabic words have heavy stress. They are therefore unmarked.

Examples.

- ber 'sun'
- jhar 'hot'
- kay 'what'
- pher 'fruit'

B. In disyllables, when the second syllable is closed and at the same time the first syllable has a vowel other than a, the second syllable is stressed.

Examples.

- ə'sad '(a lunar month)'
- ti'har 'festival'
- ko'zhar 'store room'
- ku'mhar 'potter'
kʰə'par 'roof'
cər'ben 'estables'
sə'kal 'famine'
gəw'gur 'ant hill'

But
'

'ad.e.n 'a kind of tree''
'sa.vən 'a lunar month''
'na .ər 'plough'
'man .tər 'however, but''

In all the other cases the first syllable is stressed.

Examples.
'le ̞ n .đə 'tail''
'bah .na 'husking pit''
'gir .li '(she) fell''
'kən .ki 'small pieces of uncooked rice''
'a .kʰi 'eyes''
'tu .i 'you(sg.)''
'də .hi 'curds''
'pʰəy .le 'beyond''
'kəv .ra 'crow''

Ck. Words ending in a sequence of the shape VCVV have the heavy stress on their antepenultimate syllable.

Examples.
'ci .də.i 'bird''
'to .re.i '(a type of gourd)''
All other words having three or more than three syllables have the heavy stress on their penultimate syllable. The remaining syllables are weakly stressed.

Examples.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{mu'theja} & \quad \text{'hammer'} \\
\text{mu'ka'ri} & \quad \text{'(a small stick from the branch of the tree used for brushing teeth)'} \\
\text{oy'la'va'se} & \quad \text{'(you, pl.) will make someone enter.'} \\
\text{ci'ci'ya'va'sit} & \quad \text{'(you, pl.) are making noise'}
\end{align*}
\]

(iii) Length: Long vowels are marked with a long [ : ] after them. Short vowels are left unmarked.

A. Monosyllabic words have long vowels.

Examples.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{ga:r} & \quad \text{'egg'} \\
\text{bu:d'h} & \quad \text{'intelligence'} \\
\text{be:t'h} & \quad \text{'(rope made of hay)'} \\
\text{be:d} & \quad \text{'(a kind of tree)'}
\end{align*}
\]

B. In disyllables, if the syllable stressed according to the rules above has e or when it ends in a semivowel, it is short, the remaining syllable being long.

Examples.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{'ber'ha:} & \quad \text{'pig'} \\
\text{'jha'g.li:} & \quad \text{'(leaves) fell'} \\
\text{'me.hi:} & \quad \text{'butter-milk'} \\
\text{'je.he:r} & \quad \text{'poison'} \\
\text{'pey.li:} & \quad \text{'(a measurement)'} \\
\text{'kev.ra:} & \quad \text{'(a kind of plant)'}
\end{align*}
\]
In other cases, the stressed syllable has also a long vowel, the other vowel being short.

Examples.

\[ \text{cu:kva} \quad \text{'a well'} \]
\[ \text{a:gi} \quad \text{'fire'} \]
\[ \text{du:i} \quad \text{'two'} \]
\[ \text{ra:kh:gi} \quad \text{'ashes'} \]
\[ \text{ko'tha:r} \quad \text{'store-room'} \]

C. The words of three or more than three syllables have their stressed syllables (which is a penultimate syllable) long.

Examples.

\[ \text{su:pai:ri} \quad \text{'betel-nut'} \]
\[ \text{a'da:let} \quad \text{'court'} \]
\[ \text{he.sa'va:se} \quad \text{(You, pl.) will make someone laugh'} \]

Words ending in a sequence of the shape VCVV, however, have their penultimate vowels long even though they do not have heavy stress.

Examples.

\[ \text{ke.ke:i} \quad \text{'small bamboo comb'} \]
\[ \text{si.he:i} \quad \text{'ink'} \]
1.4 Distribution of Phonemes.

1.4.1 General observations.

(i) All of the unaspirated consonant phonemes except /ɾ/ occur initially, intervocally and finally. /ɾ/ occurs only intervocally and finally.

All of the aspirated consonant phonemes except /mʰ, nʰ/ lʰ, rʰ/ occur initially. All of them occur intervocally. All of them except /pʰ, mʰ, lʰ, rʰ/ occur finally.

Aspirated consonants occur less frequently in the final position than in the non-final positions. In the final position /dʰ, tʰ, kʰ/ occur more frequently than others.

Though the aspirated nasals and liquids are established as distinct phonemes from their unaspirated counterparts (because they contrast with their unaspirated counterparts intervocally), their occurrence as such is limited to a very few words and in many cases they freely vary with their unaspirated counterparts.

(ii) The semivowels /v/ and /y/ occur intervocally or after a consonant or after a vowel. They do not occur in the syllable-initial position. The only exception is the root e — 'come' which freely varies with 'ye-' e.g.

eto - yeeto 'coming'
seun - yeun 'having come'

/h/ occurs initially, intervocally and finally, in a very few words. It also occurs after a consonant.
(iii) The vowels /i, e, u, o, a/ occur initially, medially and finally. /æ/ occurs only initially and medially.

1.4.2 Typical Sequences.

1.4.2.1 Combination of Consonants.

(i) Halbi exhibits consonant sequences mainly at the syllabic boundaries within morphs. After most of the first and first two members of the sequences, there is a vocalic transition, phonetically [CV(C)CvCV] which tends to coincide with the syllabic boundary. There is no such vocalic transition between the sequences of nasals and homorganic stops.

The examples are:

 USAGE \begin{align*}
\text{gëndik} & \quad \text{"a little"} \\
\text{mënjhi} & \quad \text{"in the middle"} \\
\text{bënjsei} & \quad \text{"change (of money)"} \\
\text{sungëse} & \quad \text{"(he, she) is smelling"}
\end{align*}

(ii) The only examples of sequences occurring syllable finally, i.e. as complex codas of the final syllables of words are those of nasals and homorganic stops.

Examples.

 USAGE \begin{align*}
\text{p\text{\textasciiacute}nd} & \quad \text{"(a lunar month)"} \\
\text{k\text{\textasciiacute}nd} & \quad \text{"arrow"}
\end{align*}

(iii) There are no consonant sequences in the syllable initial position.

(iv) The phonemes /p, t, ṭ, k, b, g, l, r/ can occur geminated in the intervocalic position. /p, ṭ, r/ are geminated more frequently than others.
The following sequences of two consonants are possible.

p:  t, ţ, ŏ, l, r, s.
    /gupti/  '(a small knitted money purse)'
    /kʰepra/  'tile'
    /phopsa/  'lung'

b:  ţ, l, r.
    /lebdī/  'saliva'
    /debra/  'left (Adj.)'

t:  k, kʰ, n, l, r.
    /putka/  'feathers'
    /thotni/  'beak'
    /sētri/  'mother-in-law'

d:  l, r.
    /bedli/  'transfer'
    /kʰodra/  'ditch'

ţ:  p, ţʰ, k, n, l.
    /cuţki/  'toe-ring'
    /gʰaṭna/  'a flat turning stick (used while pounding)'
    /paṭlin/  'patel's wife'

ḋ:  t, d, dʰ, k, g, gʰ, c, r.
    /budga/  'old bull'
    /kǣdri/  'knife'
k : t, t, d, ɗ, n, l, r, s.
/ɗεkna/ 'bad-hug'
/kʰokli/ 'cough'
/kʰəski/ '(a kind of fish)'

ɡ : ɗ, n, r.
/gʰegra/ 'brass, water-pot'
/jogni/ 'glow-worm'

c : k, ch, l, r, m.
/cecmə/ 'glasses'
/uclato/ 'to peel'

j : n, l, r.
/bijnə/ 'bamboo fan (which bride and bridegroom hold in the hand at the time of marriage)'
/bijli/ 'lightening'

m : p, ph, t, d, ɗ, k, n, l, r.
/tʰumka/ 'round'
/cimni/ 'kerosine lamp'
/kemra/ 'blanket'

n : t, t, d, dh, ɗ, dh, k, g, c, ch, j, jh.
/səndən/ 'pickle'
/menja/ 'fun'
/munɡ/ 'head'
\[\text{n} : \quad \text{d, k, g, g}^h
\]
\[\text{l} : \quad \text{p, b, t, k, k}^h, n, \text{\textit{r}},
\]
\[\text{r} : \quad \text{p, b, b}^h, t, t^h, d, t, t^h, k, k^h, g, c, c^h,
\]
\[\text{j, m, n, l}.
\]
\[\text{s} : \quad \text{t, k, n, r, p}.
\]
\[\text{\textit{d}^h : n}
\]
\[\text{\textit{d}^h} : \quad \text{\textit{n}}
\]
\[\text{\textit{k}^h : \quad \text{\textit{d}, n, l}
\]
\[\text{\textit{g}^h : \quad \text{\textit{d}}
\]
\[\text{\textit{g}^h} : \quad \text{\textit{d}}
\]

\[
/\text{len}^\text{\textit{d}}\text{a}/ \quad \text{tail'}/
/\text{en}^\text{\textit{k}}\text{a}l/ \quad \text{famine'}/
/\text{ni\text{\textit{n}i\text{\textit{r}}}a}/ \quad \text{live coals'}/
/\text{b}^h\text{ulka}/ \quad \text{hole'}/
/\text{j}^h\text{ulna}/ \quad \text{swing'}/
/\text{c}^h\text{er}^\text{\textit{t}a}/ \quad \text{earthen, oil lamp'}/
/\text{j}^h\text{arni}/ \quad \text{strainer'}/
/\text{kur}^\text{a}(\text{\textit{m}u\text{\textit{o}}}\text{\textit{t})}/ \quad \text{\textit{rin}\text{\textit{s}}^\text{\textit{a}}(\text{the mouth)}/}
/\text{p}^\text{\textit{h}\text{e}r}^\text{\textit{s}a}/ \quad \text{(a kind of tree)'/}
/\text{me}^\text{\textit{n}i}\text{\textit{b}i}/ \quad \text{straw mat'}/
/\text{busra}/ \quad \text{calf'}/
/\text{esk}^\text{\textit{s}t}/ \quad \text{boredom'}/
/\text{bud}^\text{\textit{h}n}^\text{\textit{i}/} \quad \text{(name of a girl)'/}
/\text{rak}^\text{\textit{h}\text{\textit{g}i}/} \quad \text{ashes'}/
/\text{p}^\text{\textit{h}\text{e}k}^\text{\textit{na}/} \quad \text{stone'}/
/\text{ug}^\text{\textit{h}d}^\text{\textit{a}to}/ \quad \text{to open'}/

\[ c^h : r \]

\[ /mec^hri/ \quad 'fish' \]

\[ ph, bh, th, f^h, q^h, jh, mh, nh, lh, rh, \] are not followed by consonants.

The following sequences of three consonants are possible.

\[ n + t + r : /sentra/ \quad 'orange' \]
\[ n + d + r : /mandri/ \quad 'drums' \]
\[ n + \tilde{d} + k, k^h, r : /s\tilde{d}k^h\tilde{a}/ \quad 'thumb' \]
\[ /pen\tilde{d}ri/ \quad 'white(N)M' \]
\[ n + j + l, r : /benj\tilde{l}l/ \quad 'barren woman' \]
\[ n + j^h + l : /menj^h\tilde{a}/ \quad 'the middle one(M)' \]
\[ l + \tilde{\eta} + g : /\tilde{\eta}lo\tilde{\eta}gi/ \quad 'huge bamboo basket (used for storing grains)' \]

1.4.2.2 Combination of Consonants and Semivowels:

The combinations of consonants and semivowels occur only medially. The only exception is the word /g\tilde{a}n/ 'knowledge'.

(1) Consonant + Semivowel.

\[ \tilde{d} + y : /k\tilde{h}odya/ \quad 'lame' \]
\[ \tilde{t} + v : /pet\tilde{v}ari/ \quad 'village tax-collector' \]
\[ k + v : /k\tilde{ek}va/ \quad 'comb' \]
\[ g + y : /igyara/ \quad 'eleven' \]
\[ gh + y : /bag\tilde{h}ya/ \quad '(name of a dog)' \]
\[ n + v, y : /k\tilde{en}va-\tilde{and}^h\tilde{va}/ \quad 'blind' \]
\[ /benya/ \quad '(name of a snake)' \]
l + v : /kʰilvā/ 'kind of silver earings'
l + y : /kəl̪̪ʰya/ 'fox'
r + v, y : /hərvā/ 'a kind of lentil'
   /berya/ 'a kind of basket'

(ii) Two Consonants + Semivowel

n + ɖ + v, y : /kʰingvā hə-/ 'wane, (vb)'
   /ghongya/ 'name of a snake'

n + dh + v : /endʰvā/ 'blind'

(iii) Semivowel + Consonant.

h + t̪̪ : /bəhta/ 'armlet'

h + ɖ : /gohda/ 'group'

h + k : /mohka/ 'time'

h + c : /pobhī/ 'armlet'

h + n : /bahna/ 'husking pit'

h + l : /gehlato/ 'to get warm'

h + r : /lohra/ 'blacksmith'

(iv) Semivowel + two consonants.

h + ɳ + g : /mahn̪̪ga/ 'expensive'

(v) Semivowel + Semivowel.

h + y : /behya/ 'mad'

1.4.2.3 Vowel Sequences.

i + u : /ciud la̱gato/ 'to make noise'

u + i : /bʰui/ 'ground, earth'

e + i : /bilei/ 'cat'
a + u : /saut/ 'co-wife'
A + i : /lai/ 'puffed-rice'
a * u : /caur/ 'uncooked rice'

1.4.2.4 Vowel Semivowel sequences.

i + v : /gʰiv/ 'ghee (clarified butter)'
e + v : /kʰv/ 'where?'
o + v : /sovto/ 'to sleep'
o + y : /koytorin/ 'Gond woman'
e + y : /levto/ 'to bend'
e + u : /mey/ 'I'
a + v : /mavli/ '(name of a Goddess)'
a + y : /chay/ 'shade'

1.4.3 Syllabic Structure.

There are four syllable types in Halbi:
V, CV, VC, CVC.

A phonological word may contain one, two or three syllables. Words containing four to five syllables are only the verbs + verbal suffixes. Hence, words having one to three syllables are most common.

All the possible combinations of vowels and consonants in words having one to five syllables are given below.
[Note: The symbol C* in this section stands for semivowels.]
(i) Monosyllabic Words.

| V     | /e/     | 'this'            |
| CV    | /kʰə/   | 'eat (imp., sg.)' |
| CV    | /gay/   | 'cow'             |
| VC    | /iʃ/    | 'brick'           |
| CVC   | /rukʰ/  | 'tree'            |

(ii) Words having two syllables.

| V.V   | /ai/     | 'father's mother' |
| CV.V  | /bʰai/   | 'brother'          |
| V.VC  | /eis/    | 'come (2 sg., with negative)' |
| CV.VC | /jais/   | 'go (2 sg., with negative)' |
| VC.CV | /deuk/   | 'to give'          |
| V.CV  | /uja/    | 'right (as against left)' |
| V.CVC | /ujug/   | 'light (as against darkness)' |
| VC.CV | /okʰni/  | 'louse'            |
| VC.CVC| /eːstir/ | 'leisure'          |
| CV.CV | /guda/   | 'cage'             |
| CV.CVC| /gudam/  | 'button'           |
| CVC.CV| /putka/  | 'feather'          |
| CVCC.CV | /penɡra/ | 'white (M.)'       |

(iii) Words having three syllables.

| CV.CV.V | /ciʃəi/ | 'bird' |
| CV.CV.CV | /beleti/ | 'guava' |
CV.CV.CV : /hǐalīs/ ' (you, sg.) removed'
CV.CV.CV : /pʰil+pʰil/ 'butterfly'
CV.CV.CV : /hesemt/ 'immodest'
CV.CV.CV : /paqʰasət/ ' (they) bow down'
CV.CV.CV : /lektʰinbar/ 'thursday'
CV.CV.CV : /thʰerʰerlís/ ' (you, sg.) shivered'
CV.CV.CV : /uqesə/ ' (it) is flying'
CV.CV.CV : /uθhalís/ ' (you, sg.) have picked (something) up'
VC.CV.CV : /edgedí/ ' latch'
VC.CV.CV : /outbetti/ 'incense stick'
VC.CV.CV : /odlisit/ ' (you, sg.) have beat down'
VC.CV.CV : /nỳtʰí/ 'thick silver bracelet'

(iv) Words having four syllables.
VC*.CV.C*V.CV : /oyalavase/ ' (you, pl.) will make someone enter'
VC*.CV.C*V.CV : /oyalavasit/ ' (you, pl.) are making someone enter'
CV.CV.C*V.CV : /hasavase/ ' (you, pl.) will make someone laugh'
CV.CV.C*V.CV : /hasavasit/ ' (you, pl.) are making someone laugh'

(v) Words having five syllables.
CV.CV.C*V.C*V.CV : /ciciyavase/ ' (you, pl.) will make noise'
CV.CV.C*V.C*V.CV : /ciciyavasit/ ' (you, pl.) are making noise'.