ABSTRACT

ECONOMY OF ARTICULATION IN NEWATI PHONOLOGY.

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The dissertation presents an analysis of NEWATI phonological system, with the principle aim of highlighting the role of economy of effort in the articulation of Newati phonological units. The theoretical framework of this study is fully based on Diver's "Form and Content Linguistics" developed at Columbia University. This approach analyzed the non-random characteristics of language and explains each and every twist and turn of the structure of language. The goal of this study is to explain the role of economy of articulation in the Newati phonology. The result of this study is presented in the following chapters: chapter I- Physiological Mechanism, chapter II- Human Behaviour, chapter III- Communication, chapter IV- Acoustic Medium, and Chapter V- Vision. These chapters are preceded by an Introduction and followed by Summary and Conclusion.
Chapter I: Physiological Mechanism

The first chapter deals with the speech sounds in terms of Physiological Mechanism. It analyses the role of physiological Mechanism in the production of Mewati speech sound.

The first section of this chapter, establishes the Mewati Phonological units by exploiting the inter relationship of articulators and apertures, at which they fall. The so called "positional variants" of the traditional phonemics is given the status of phonological units, in this study if they fall on the relevant axis. As a result the number of phonological units of Mewati, is more than the number of Mewati phonemes.

The preference given to the combinations that conserve the source of energy is analysed in the second section of this chapter. It highlights the physiological aspect of the preference given to the combinations that conserve the source of energy over those that dissipate it.
The section 'three' attempts to analyse the Hambichet's concept of asymmetry of the vocal tract.

In section four of this chapter we examine the mobility of lingual articulators, and its effect on the frequency of units articulated by mobile articulators.

The section 'five' examines the non-apical portion of the tongue and its role in the production of units articulated at higher aperture.

Thus this chapter highlights the role of Physiological Mechanism in the production of speech sounds.

**Chapter II : Human Behaviour.**

The second chapter analyses the role of Human Behaviour in Mewati Phonology. The human behaviour, to do minimum effort to get maximum result is highlighted in this chapter. The first section of this chapter analyses the effect of large change of aperture on the combination of Mewati phonological units. Different combinations
with large and small change of aperture is analysed to reach to the conclusion.

The second section examines the preference given to uni-directional combinations over multi-directional combinations, to see whether uni-directional combination is preferred over multi-directional combination or not.

In section 'three' of this chapter we analyses the sounds articulated by fewer articulators and the sounds articulated by the combination of more articulators.

The next section analyses the re-use of the same articulators and the change of articulator and its effect on the frequency of Newati words.

The section five examines the preference given to the sounds articulated at the nearest point of articulation over those, that are articulated at the remote point of articulation.

In the next section attempt is made to examine the apico-dental and apico-palatal units in all such combinations which begins with apico
palatal units. The rationale for the preference of apico-palatal units is analysed in this section.

The last section of this chapter examines the stable and mobile dichotomy of Mewati phonological units and its effect on the sound combinations of Mewati.

Chapter III. Communicative Intent

Chapter III of this dissertation provides justification for the phonological units of Mewati in terms of communication as an Orienting principle. In this chapter the traditional Bloom fieldian method is employed to provide communicative justification for Mewati phonological units.

In different sections, of this chapter different sets of Mewati phonological units is contrasted against another set of units to examine the communicative role of these units.

In section "B" of this chapter the role of communication in the non-random arrangement of Mewati phonological unit is analysed, to see how
a limited number of units play a vital role in communicating the message from a speaker to the listener.

The section 'C' examines the Newati treatment of Perso-Arabic loan words and demonstrates how 'homonymy' effects the frequency of such words.

Thus this chapter highlights the economy achieved through the manipulation of Newati phonological units in terms of communication.

Chapter IV: Acoustic Medium.

The fourth chapter explains the primacy of Acoustic Medium in the production of Labio-Dorsal vowels, over Physiological Mechanism with reference to asymmetry of the vocal tract, and the human tract fewer articulator versus more articulators.

The result of this chapter is further reinforced through another Orienting principle namely Vision.

Chapter V: Vision.

Chapter V examines the role of Vision in the simple process of identifying speech sounds.
The visibility of labial articulators and its effect on the frequency of labial speech sound is analysed and presented in this chapter.

Chapter VI: Summary and Conclusion.

Chapter VI summarizes the discussion carried out in chapter I, II, III, IV, and V, and presents the conclusion that economy of articulation plays a vital role in the production of Mewati speech sounds.

The dissertation contains both theoretical and methodological innovations in the study of Mewa-ti phonological system. It is expected that it will be helpful in the understanding of the inner mechanism of Mewati Phonological system.