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Panjabi, Hindko has tonal realizations of historical aspiration, but the phonetic features associated with the Panjabi low-rising tone accompany a high-falling tone in Peshawar Hindko, e.g., Sanskrit bha¯ra- ‘load’ → Aw, Ser /bḥar/, versus Pe /pʰ’al/ (Pj /pʰ’l/). The Seraiki sigmatic future and pronominal suffixes are shared by Hindko, where the model sentence would appear as Aw /mə̀ usaŋ kiha jo bɔ’ɔ jaldı wəŋça pɔsıl, Pe /mə̀ ne unu ki’a ke bɔ’ɔ jaldı jaña pasgil.

See also: Pakistan: Language Situation; Punjabi.

**Lak**

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**Introduction**

The Lak language (Ethnologue code LBE) belongs to the Daghestanian branch of the Nakh-Daghestanian family and has over 200,000 speakers, mostly in the Republic of Daghestan, Russian Federation (maps of the region are available through the website ‘Thesaurus Indogermanischer Text- und Sprachmaterialien’; see Relevant Websites, at the end of this article). The Lak self-designation is (TITUS); see Relevant Websites, at the end of this article. The Siraiki language of central Pakistan: the Panjabi low-rising tone accompany a high-falling tone in Peshawar Hindko, e.g., Sanskrit bha¯ra- ‘load’ → Aw, Ser /bḥar/, versus Pe /pʰ’al/ (Pj /pʰ’l/). The Seraiki sigmatic future and pronominal suffixes are shared by Hindko, where the model sentence would appear asAw /mə̀ usaŋ kiha jo bɔ’ɔ jaldı wəŋça pɔsıl, Pe /mə̀ ne unu ki’a ke bɔ’ɔ jaldı jaña pasgil.

**Phonology**

The Lak vowels are /a, i, u/, all of which can be distinctively pharyngealized, which results in their allophonic centralization [æ, ʌ, o]. The Lak consonants are shown in Table 1. Geminate (emphatic) consonants are realized as simple unaspirated, except in prevocalic (and, for stops, noninitial) position. Consonant labialization is distinctive in some dialects, and vowel length and stress interact.

**Table 1** Lak consonants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>b</th>
<th>p</th>
<th>p’</th>
<th>w</th>
<th>m</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>d</td>
<td>t</td>
<td>t’</td>
<td>c</td>
<td>c’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ć</td>
<td>ć’</td>
<td>ć</td>
<td>ą</td>
<td>ś</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g</td>
<td>k</td>
<td>k’</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>o’w’e-a</th>
<th>wi-l-a</th>
<th>dus-tur-a-j-n</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>invite-IMP</td>
<td>you.SG-GEN-EMPH</td>
<td>friend-ORL.PL-ORL.LA-TO-MA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wa</td>
<td>malla-na-j-n</td>
<td>pulaw b-uk-an</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and mullah-ORL-ORL.LA-TO-MA</td>
<td>pilaf(III) III-eat-INF</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

‘Invite your friends and the mullah to eat pilaf’.

**Bibliography**

Lak has five sets of deictics, which also serve as third-person markers: *wa*, near the speaker, new information; *mu*, relevant to the addressee, old information; *ta*, opposite, level (older unmarked); *ga*, unmarked (older below speaker); and *k’a*, above speaker. The verb has three aspectual stems, perfective/unmarked (*buc-in* ‘bring-INF’), durative in -*la* (*buc-la-n*), and iterative in -*awa* (*buc-awa-n*). Synthetic forms of the marked aspects occur only in the present and future. The infinitive serves as the base for the future. Past tense forms usually have a class marker infixed before the last root consonant, and an infixed negator (indicative *qa*-*, imperative *ma*-) precedes the infixed class marker. The verb has numerous synthetic and analytic paradigms marking aspect, tense, mood, and evidential, some with marking for person as well as class and number.

**Syntax**

Lak is basically object-verb, attributive/genitive-head; it has pragmatically conditioned free word order and a mixed ergative/accusative system. The converses *ban* ‘to do’ and *sun* ‘to become’ are the most frequent markers of transitive/causative vs. intransitive, respectively. For the agent of an ordinary transitive verb, personal pronouns (first and second person) remain in the nominative; other agents take the genitive, which also functions as ergative. Case assignment and verb agreement also depend on the semantics of the verb, focus, and the pragmatic implications of the clause. Experiencers take dative; ability semantics of the verb, focus, and the pragmatic implications of the clause. The following sentences are illustrative (a resumed morpheme interrupted by a class marker is indicated by `<$>`; *GER*, gerund; *PRES*, present; *ABL*, ablative; *DAT*, dative; *ABS*, absolutive; *DUR*, durative aspect; *PA*, perfective aspect).

```
  ga-na-l  k’ili  d-a-r-χ:-unu
he-OBL(II)-GEN saddle(iv)  IV-sell-IV-$-PAST.GER
O-u-r
  i-be-3SG.PRES
‘He has sold the saddle’.
```

```
  ga-na-l  k’ili  d-a-r-χ:-unu
he-OBL(II)-GEN saddle(iv)  IV-sell-IV-$-PAST.GER
d-u-r
  IV-be-3SG.PRES
‘Apparentely he sold the saddle’.
```

```
  ga-na-s’a  k’ili  d-a-x:-an
he-OBL(II)-ABL saddle(iv)  IV-sell-INF want-PRES.GER
b-u-r
  III-be-3SG.PRES
‘He wants to sell the saddle’.
```

```
  ga-na-s’a  k’ili  d-a-x:-an
he-OBL(II)-ABL saddle(iv)  IV-sell-INF b-u’q-la-j  b-u-r
  III-can-DUR.PRES.GER  III-be-3SG.PRES
‘He can sell the saddle’.
```

```
  ni-ti-l  qa-t-lu-w-un-m-aj
mother(II)-ABL GEN house-OBL-in(LA)-toward(MA)-III-$
  çat’  la-w-s-un  na-j
bread(III) bring-III-$-PA.GER  go-PRES.GER
d-u-r
  III-be-3SG.PRES
‘Mother brings bread into the house’.
```

```
  ni-ti-l  qa-t-lu-w-un-n-aj
mother(II)-ABL house-OBL-in(LA)-toward(MA)-III-$
  çat’  la-w-s-un  na-j
temp(III) bring-III-$-PA.GER  go-PRES.GER
d-u-r
  III-be-3SG.PRES
‘Bread is brought by mother into the house’.
```

```
  ni-ti-l  qa-t-lu-w-un-n-aj
mother(II)-ABS house-OBL-in(LA)-toward(MA)-III-$
  çat’  la-w-s-un  na-j  d-u-r
bread(III) bring-III-$-PA.GER  go-PRES.GER  II-be-3SG.PRES
‘It is mother who brings bread into the house’.
```

See also: Caucasian Languages; Russian Federation: Language Situation.

**Bibliography**


Žirkov L (1955). Lakskij jazyk [The Lak language]. Moscow: AN SSSR.

**Relevant Websites**


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**Lakota**

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**Introduction**

Lakota is one of a group of closely related dialects sometimes referred to by linguists as Dakotan. These include Lakota in the west, Dakota in the east, Nakota in the north, and Nakoda in the northwest. The speakers of Lakota and Dakota were traditionally referred to in English as the Sioux, those of Nakota as the Assiniboine, and those of Nakoda as the Stoney. Lakota and Dakota are mutually intelligible. Reports differ as to how far Nakota and Nakoda are intelligible with the other two. Dakotan is part of a group of languages known as Siouan-Caddoan centered mainly on the central plains and prairies, but also represented on the eastern seaboard.

Reports on the number of speakers of Lakota range from 6000 to 20,000. Great efforts are being made to preserve the language in schools, colleges, and universities in the region and there is probably a considerable degree of partial or receptive knowledge of it.

**Morphology**

Major word classes of Lakota are noun, verb, adverb, postposition, demonstrative, pronoun, and conjunction. The verb in particular can be regarded as polysynthetic and noun incorporation occurs in the verb and adverb. The functions often covered by adjectives in other languages are covered in Lakota by stative verbs and adverbs.

The verb system is of the split intransitive type, where agents occur only in the Active verb class while patients occur with the Active and Stative types. These are marked in the verb by prefixes or infixes as shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agent Marker</th>
<th>Patient Marker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>wa-’I’</td>
<td>ma-’me’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ya-’you’</td>
<td>ni-’you’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>uy(k)-’we’ (you and I)</td>
<td>uy(k)-’us’ (you and me)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wic-’a-them’ (animate)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Composite pronoun prefix:

c’i-’I (agent)-you (patient)’

Plurality in the third and second person and inclusiveness of third persons in the first plural is marked by a suffix -pt. The occurrence of these markers with the two verb types is shown below:

**Active verb u ’to come**

- sing, exclusive: wau ‘I come’
- yau ‘you (sing) come’
- u ‘he, she, it comes’
- ūŋk’u ‘we (excl) come’ ūŋk’upi ‘we (incl) come’

**Stative verb k’uja ‘be ill**

- sing, exclusive: mak’u je ‘I am ill’
- nik’u je ‘you (sing) are ill’
- k’u je ‘he is ill’ k’u japi ‘they are ill’
- ūŋk’u je ‘we (excl) are ill’ ūŋk’u japi ‘we (incl) are ill’

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