



Phonological Analysis of Latifpuri Dialect

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Letter of Approval

The thesis titled *Phonological Analysis of Latifpuri Dialect* authored by Alfe Sani Tajim, bearing Id: 191-10-2038, has been prepared and submitted as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Research paper. After examination, it is recommended for approval and acceptance.



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Declaration of Authorship

I, Alfe Sani Tajim, solemnly declare that the academic thesis titled 'Phonological Analysis of Latifpuri Dialect ', submitted for the completion of Bachelor of Arts at Daffodil International University, is my original work and was prepared in accordance with the university's regulations and guidelines. This thesis, I declare, is the outcome of my own independent investigation and intellectual endeavors, based on my own thoughts, expertise, and analysis. Any outside sources, whether published or not yet published, have been adequately acknowledged through citations and references, in accordance with established academic practices. I have not committed any sort of plagiarism or academic misconduct, such as illegal use of others' ideas, data, or written works without due attribution.

Furthermore, I confirm that I have not previously submitted this thesis for the granting of any other academic degree or diploma. It does not violate any individual's or entity's intellectual property rights or copyrights.

Sincerely,

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Department of English

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Abstract

The Latifpuri dialect in the Gopalganj district is known for its distinct phonological, syntactic and morphological features. This research paper specifically focuses on analyzing the phonological features of the Latifpuri dialect. The consonants are examined based on their place and manner of articulation, using various rules and tests such as the Minimal Pair Selection Test, Contrast Test (including initial, medial, and final positions). During the research, the study identified seven oral vowels, and twenty-seven consonants in the Latifpuri dialect. The research mainly focused on the analysis of every single consonant sound and the vowel sounds separately. With this analysis many unknown features like having different consonant sounds in comparison to regular Bangla have been highlighted.

Acknowledgement

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my respected supervisor, Dr. Md Mostafa Rashel, associate professor of the Department of English at Daffodil International University. His exceptional guidance and unwavering support have played a crucial role in the successful completion of this research. The valuable expertise, insightful feedback, and constructive suggestions provided by Dr. Rashel have significantly enhanced the quality of this paper. I am profoundly thankful for his dedicated mentorship and enthusiasm in exploring the intricacies of the Comilla dialect. I would also like to extend my appreciation to the Department of English at Daffodil International University for providing valuable resources and creating a conducive research environment. Additionally, I am grateful to the participants whose generous contributions made this study possible. Finally, I am indebted to my beloved friends and family for their constant encouragement and support throughout this endeavor.

Preface

I dedicate this work from the core of my heart to my precious mother and my friends who have always been there for me and supported me as well as motivated me to complete this work gaining the utmost successful result.

Chapter One

General Description of Latifpuri Dialect

1.1 Introduction

A dialect is a geographical or sociological variety of the same language that may be identified from other varieties by changes in phonology, grammar, and word. Dialects are localized to a certain geographic or socio-cultural area, yet the national standard language is used both orally and in writing. Bangladesh is a region with a great diversity of dialects and languages, as well as a rich cultural and linguistic history. It is known to all Bengali language users that Bengali is the fifth most spoken language in the world and is an Indo-Aryan language. It is spoken by over 230 million individuals around the globe (Ethnologue: 22nd ed-2019)). Despite this, little has been learned about the phonology of Bengali dialects, particularly the dialects of Gopalganj. The phonological characteristics of this dialect have not been investigated properly. Bangladesh's central area includes the district of Gopalganj. The district is primarily rural and has a demographic of about 1.5 million people (Bangladesh Population & Housing Census-2011: 15). The bulk of the population works in farming, and the region is well renowned for its agriculture. The history of

this area is also enriched. It was the home of Rani Rashmoni when Gopalganj was known as Rajganj bazar. Later the name of this district was changed in order to pay homage to the prematurely late great grandson of Rani Rashmoni Nabo Gopal. Because of this enriched historical background and the occupational diversity of this area brought about a slight change in the dialect diverting it from the standard colloquial Bangla dialect. By performing a thorough phonological analysis of the Latifpuri dialect, this thesis proposal aims to fill this data deficiency. Data collection for the study will focus on the dialect's phonological characteristics, such as its sound inventory, syllable structure etc. The study will also look at the phonological methods and rules that regulate how sounds are allocated and organized in the dialect. This study will further our understanding of the linguistic variety in Bangladesh by studying the phonology of the Latifpuri dialect.

1.2 Origin

Before diving deep into the analysis of the sounds of Latifpuri Dialect, a preface of it is a prerequisite. Based on the information retrieved from ethnologue a preface is developed and presented below:

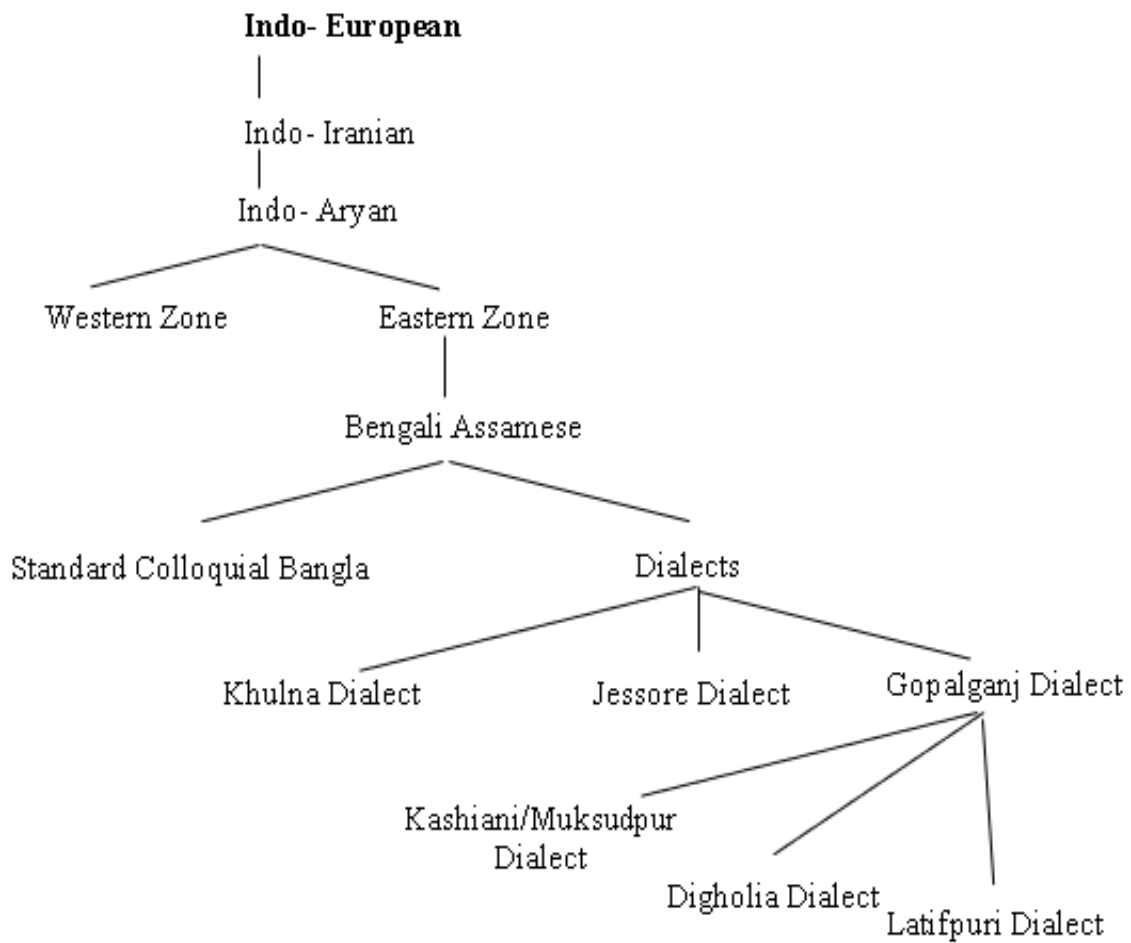


Figure 1: Origin of Latifpuri Dialect (Ethnologue 2017)

Chapter two

Previous works on Latifpuri Dialect

2.1 Literature Review

The research on the phonological features of Bangla and its different dialects must first be reviewed in order to conduct this research. A thorough overview of the Bengali language and its dialects is provided by Banglapedia, the official encyclopedia of Bangladesh. The unique phonological system of Bangla, which has 11 vowels and 39 consonants, is defined by Banglapedia as having additional nasalized vowels and consonants (Banglapedia 2023). The Gopalganj dialect is distinguished from normal Bangla pronunciation by the way it pronounces several consonants and vowels. A significant amount of study on the language along with its numerous dialects has been done by Bangladesh's national research institute, the Bangla Academy. They have primarily centered their research on the phonological features of Bangla and its dialects. According to David Crystal (1992: 155)". Because no two speakers have physically similar vocal tracts, no one creates sounds exactly the same manner. However, when we use our language, we can ignore most of this variety and concentrate on only those sounds, or qualities of sound, that are

vital for communicating meaning. Even if our fellow speakers do not use the 'same' sounds, we believe they do. Phonology is the study of how we discover order in the seemingly chaotic world of spoken sounds." Although very little research has been done focusing on the dialects of Gopalganj which can be found out to be discussed, there are some studies that are made out in journals and publications which are based on other closely related dialects to Gopalganj dialects. For example, A Cross-Generational Study of Navaron Dialect which is one of the many Dialects of Jessore very much similar to Gopalganj Dialects by Sajib Kumar Ghosh (2016:67) was published. In this study, Sajib Kumar highlighted the origin of this dialect, vowel inventory and more. By evaluating these materials, this thesis proposal intends to add to the body of research by conducting an in-depth phonological analysis of the Bangla dialect spoken in Latifpur, Gopalganj.

2.2 Research Questions

Several sorts of questions may arise in this research centered on a phonological analysis of Latifpuri Dialect. These questions can cover a wide range of topics, including the dialect's phonological features, originality, similarities or differences etc to other linguistic variants.

- What are the phonological features of the Latifpuri dialect?
- What are the similarities and differences between the Latifpuri dialect and other regional dialects of Bangla?

Chapter Three

Research Methodology

3.1 Methodology

The phonological features of the Latifpuri dialect will be analyzed in this research using qualitative methodologies. Data will be gathered by recording native speakers of the Gopalganj dialect expressing opinions. The data will be transcribed using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), and analyzed using the following methods. From the Union of Latifpur in Gopalganj, a representative sample of Latifpuri dialect speakers from various age groups and genders will be collected. Reasons for choosing different age groups and genders is that the sounds of a specific dialect can vary with different groups of people. But as it is mentioned that this research will follow a qualitative method, for this reason, the quantity of the sampling volunteers will be few and specified. Data on the Latifpuri dialect's sound inventory will be gathered via a standardized face to face interview with a storytelling session, and audio recordings of speech samples. Also I will arrange group discussion to get the best outcome of the original dialect usage. A Sennheiser Pro Audio (MKE600), which is a short shotgun mic with high tonal range will be used for the recordings.

All those data will be preserved in Google Drive and will be processed in wavepad software for better auditory examinable ability. I will use word lists, sentences, and narratives to elicit speech samples also. The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) will serve as the basis for the interpretation of the gathered data . The Latifpuri dialect's phonetic and phonemic patterns will be examined using the speech sound inventory. Also, the data will be statistically analyzed to find patterns of variation across age and gender. The Latifpuri dialect's sociolinguistic and linguistic environment will be taken into consideration when interpreting the analyses' findings. A detailed report including tables, figures, and descriptive data will be used to present the results. The paper will also include a thorough analysis of the Latifpuri dialect's phonological patterns, emphasizing any distinctive features of the dialect. To complete this whole research project from data collection to analysis and presentation, the whole process will not take approximately more than 5 months.

3.2 Objectives:

This research's primary goal is to examine the Latifpuri dialect of Gopalganj's sound patterns. Following objectives are specifically what this study attempts to accomplish:

- Determining the Latifpuri dialect's sound inventory.
- Examining the phonological shifts that the Latifpuri dialect undergoes.

- Surveying the Latifpuri dialect's prosodic features, including stress, tone, and intonation.

Chapter Four

Phonological analysis of Latifpuri Dialect

The study analyzes articulation patterns, phonetic features, phonological inventory, and processes through detailed analysis of voice samples from local speakers. It highlights the need of recording and knowing local dialects in order to comprehend linguistic variation. The study discloses consonant and vowel sounds, analyses their properties and usage, and admits the difficulties in evaluating southern Asian languages. The research also emphasizes the distinctive nature of the Latifpuri dialect and the need of studying and comprehending non-western languages, particularly less-explored dialects.

4.1. Consonants

The Latifpuri dialect derived from Gopalganj district main dialect, as a result its consonants have some specialty in them by characteristics. There are twenty-seven (27) consonants in this dialect: /k/, /k^h/, /g/, /g^h/, /ŋ/, /c/, /z/, /z^h/, /ʃ/, /t/, /t^h/, /d/, /d^h/, /ʈ/, /ʈ^h/, /ʈ^h/, /ɖ/, /ɖ^h/, /p/, /f/, /b/, /b^h/, /m/, /n/, /l/, /s/, /h/ and they are discussed below according to the place of articulation and manner of articulation.

Manner →	Asp/UnAsp	Plosive		Nasal		Rolling		Fricatives		Lateral	
Place ↓		V	V. Less	V	V. Less	V	V. Less	V	V. Less	V	V. Less
Bilabial	Asp	[b ^h]									
	Un Asp	[b]	[p]	[m]							
Labio Dental	Asp							[f]			
	Un Asp										
Dental	Asp	[d ^h]	[t ^h]								
	Un Asp	[d]	[t]								
Alveolar	Asp							[z ^h]			
	Un Asp			[n]				[z]	[s]	[l]	
Palatal	Asp										
	Un Asp		[ç]					[ʃ]			
Palato-alveolar	Asp	[d ^h]	[t ^h]								
	Un Asp	[d]	[t]			[ɹ]					
Velar	Asp	[g ^h]	[k ^h]								
	Un Asp	[g]	[k]	[ŋ]							
Glottal	Asp							[h]			
	Un Asp										

Table 1: Inventory of phonemes of latifpuri dialect

According to the feature matrix, the consonants of Latifpuri dialect can be mentioned in the following way -

Manner→ Place ↴	Signs Of Sound	Plosive	Nasal	Rolling	Fricativ es	Lateral	Voiced	Aspirate d
Bilabial	/p/	-	+	-	-	-	+	-
	/b/	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
	/b ^h /	+	-	-	-	-	+	+
	/m/	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
Labio Dental	/f/	-	-	-	+	-	-	+
Dental	/t̪/	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
	/t̪ ^h /	+	-	-	-	-	+	+
	/d̪/	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
	/d̪ ^h /	+	-	-	-	-	-	+
Alveolar	/n/	-	+	-	-	-	+	-
	/l/	-	-	-	-	+	+	-
	/s/	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
	/z/	-	-	-	+	-	+	-
	/z ^h /	-	-	-	+	-	+	+
Palatal	/ç/	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
	/ʃ/	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Palato-alveolar	/t̪/	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
	/t̪ ^h /	+	-	-	-	-	-	+
	/d̪/	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
	/d̪ ^h /	+	-	-	-	-	+	+
	/t̪̣/	-	-	+	-	-	+	-
Velar	/k/	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
	/k ^h /	+	-	-	-	-	-	+
	/g/	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
	/g ^h /	+	-	-	-	-	+	+
	/ŋ/	-	+	-	-	-	+	-
Glottal	/h/	-	-	-	+	-	-	+

Table 2: The consonants of latifpuri dialect according to the feature matrix

4.1.1 Phoneme

The concealed elements of language are called phonemes. Although they may not seem like much, these little sounds have the ability to alter the meaning of a word. Imagine them as a secret code that only the most knowledgeable linguists can decipher. Consider attempting to understand your friend over the phone but finding it difficult to understand what they are saying. That's because you're attempting to comprehend the phone calls, which are genuine physical noises. But as soon as you understand the phonemes, everything becomes evident since phonemes can be deduced from the way a language uses its phones. The smallest part of meaningful sounds is commonly referred to as a phoneme. To better comprehend the connection between speech sounds and meaning in a language, we study phonemes in phonology, a field of linguistics. Since phonemes are language-specific, their meanings might vary from one language to another. To identify phonemes, there are certain basic rules. They are Initial, Medial, and Final contrast tests, Sub-minimal pair tests, and Minimal pair choices tests. Using the minimal pair test, the consonant phonemes of the Chatkhil dialect may be divided into the following groups:

Initial Contrast

- I. /c/ /caʔ/ 'Bamboo bridge'
II. /zʰ/ /zʰaʔ/ 'Brooming' /c/ > /zʰ/

Medial Contrast

- I. /g/ /ʔuga/ 'Sick'
II. /ɟ/ /ʔuza/ 'Fasting' /g/ > /ɟ/

Final Contrast

- I. /m/ /kom/ 'Few'
II. /n/ /kon/ 'Which' /m/ > /n/

4.2 Categories

These Consonants sounds that are found in Latifpuri dialect, are categorized according to four characteristics:

- Place of articulation
- Manner of articulation
- Voicing
- Aspiration

4.2.1 Place of articulation

The area in the vocal cord where the articulators—tongue, teeth, lips, or glottis make contact to produce consonant sounds is referred to as the place of articulation. The vocal mechanism's active articulators, usually a portion of the tongue or lips, are moveable elements that block or direct the flow of air. The lips, the stretchy front of the tongue, the entire body of the tongue, the base of the tongue together with the epiglottis, and the glottis are the five main moving elements of the vocal tract. Languages may identify consonants by articulating them in distinct contrastive locations since there are many of them, but few languages contrast two sounds in the same area unless there is another element that contrasts as well. Contrasting areas include the following:

- The upper lip **labial**
- The innermost part **dental** or tooth margin of the upper teeth
- The gum line close to the teeth, or the **alveolar** ridge
- The rear **post-alveolar** alveolar ridge
- The **palatal** or hard palate is the upper part of the mouth.
- The **velar**, or soft palate, is located farther back on the top of the mouth.
- the epiglottis, which is located at the mouth of the windpipe and above the voice box, **epiglottal**.

4.2.2 Manner of articulation

How the 'articulators' make sounds is referred to as the way of articulation. Humans can produce sounds by using articulators, formed by vocal tract organs. These consist of the teeth, lips, tongue, palate, and so on. Here are the different types of methods of articulation before we begin the analysis -

- Plosive
- Nasal
- Rolling
- Fractives
- Lateral

4.3 Analysis of the Consonant sounds

It will be easier to understand the place of articulation and the manner of articulation of the consonant sounds of latifpuri dialect properly by considering a group of consonant sounds of the same area of articulation together to analyze their articulation system based on the four characteristics mentioned above.

4.3.1 Bilabial

/p/ /b/ /b^h/ /m/ these four consonant sounds are bilabial sounds, because the two lips are pushed together to make these sounds. Consonants known as bilabial sounds can be generated by moving both lips together. Depending on how the sound is made, they can be categorized as plosives or nasals in analysis.

- /p/ - is a voiceless bilabial **plosive** sound as it is produced by pressing the two lips together. At the same time, during making this sound we increase the air pressure before letting it go. This sudden burst of air creates the /p/ sound which indicates that it is a plosive/stop consonant. So, it is a bilabial plosive sound that is voiceless and Unaspirated also.

For example: /p/ /puʃi/ ‘food’

- /b/ - is a voiced bilabial **plosive** sound as it is also produced by pressing the two lips together and at the time of making this sound we increase the air pressure before letting it go. That means it is a plosive/stop consonant. So, it is a bilabial plosive sound that is voiced because it vibrates the chord while producing the sound and is also unaspirated.

For example: /b/ /bikel/ ‘afternoon’

- /b^h/ - is a voiced bilabial **plosive** sound because it is likewise made by pushing the two lips together, and we inflate the air before letting it out when we make the sound. It is hence a plosive/stop consonant. As a result, it is a voiced bilabial plosive sound that is aspirated.

For example: /b^h/ /b^hũi/ ‘land’

- /m/ - is a bilabial **nasal** sound as it is also produced by pressing the two lips together and at the time of making this sound we divert our palate and allow air to enter our nose. So it is a bilabial nasal consonant sound which is voiced and unaspirated.

For example: /m/ /maɪ̃te/ 'liver'

4.3.2 Labio-Dental

/f/ is a labio dental sound produced by placing the bottom lip in close proximity to the top teeth. Air is compressed as it exits the body between a small gap to produce fricative sounds. So, /f/ is a Labio Dental **Fricative** sound which is voiced and unaspirated. For example: /f/ /fal/ 'jump'

4.3.3 Dental

/t/ /tʰ/ /d/ /dʰ/ these four consonant sounds are Dental sounds. We know the rear of the upper teeth can be touched with the tongue blade to create a dental sound. These four consonants are produced in this way, so these are dental sounds. Depending on how the sounds are made, they can be categorized as plosive sounds in analysis. All four of these sounds are Dental **plosive** sounds but -

- /t/ sound is voiceless and unaspirated.

- /t̪ʰ/ sound is voiceless and aspirated.
- /d̪/ sound is voiced and unaspirated.
- /d̪ʰ/ sound is voiced and aspirated.

For example:

/t̪/	/kɔ̪t̪a/	‘talk’
/t̪ʰ/	/t̪ʰabɾa/	‘slap’
/d̪/	/d̪abɾa/	‘exile’
/d̪ʰ/	/d̪ʰand̪a/	‘confusion’

4.3.4 Alveolar

/n/ /l/ /s/ /z/ /zʰ/ these five sounds are Alveolar. Alveolar consonants are generated when the tongue is in close contact with or touches the ridge on the roof of the mouth that is located behind the teeth. Depending on how the sounds are made, they can be categorized as Nasal, Fricatives, Lateral sounds in analysis.

- /n/ - is an alveolar **nasal** sound which is produced when the tongue is in close proximity to the ridge behind the teeth on the upper part of the mouth. At the same time of making this sound we divert our palate and allow air to enter our nose. So it is an alveolar nasal sound that is voiced and unaspirated.

For Example: /n/ /næɾa/ ‘bald’

- /l/ - is an alveolar nasal sound which is also produced when the tongue contacts the ridge behind the teeth on the upper part of the mouth. At the same time it is created with a lateral blockage in the middle point caused by raising the tongue's tip against the upper part of the mouth. So it is an alveolar lateral sound that is voiced and unaspirated.

For Example: /l/ /laga/ 'install'

- /s/ /z/ /zʰ/ - all of these sounds are alveolar **fricatives**. Air is compressed as it exits the body between a small gap to produce fricative sounds. So, these are alveolar fricatives where-

/s/- is voiceless and unaspirated

/z/- is voiced and unaspirated

/zʰ/- is voiced and aspirated

For example:

/s/ /sal/ 'skin'

/z/ /zal/ 'net'

/zʰ/ /zʰaŋ/ 'brooming'

4.3.5 Palato Alveolar:

/t/ /tʰ/ /d/ /dʰ/ /ɹ/ - these five sounds are Palato- alveolar consonant sounds because while pronunciation of these sounds we use the tip of the tongue touching the alveolar ridge and the primary tongue portion close to the hard palate.

- /t/ /tʰ/ /d/ /dʰ/ are all Palato alveolar consonant sounds. Depending on how the sounds are made, they can be categorized as plosive sounds in analysis.

All four of these sounds are Palato Alveolar **plosive** sounds but -

- /t/ sound is voiceless and unaspirated.
- /tʰ/ sound is voiceless and aspirated.
- /d/ sound is voiced and unaspirated.
- /dʰ/ sound is voiced and aspirated.

For example:

/t/ /tan/ 'pull'
/tʰ/ /tʰaɪ/ 'space'
/d/ /dan/ 'right'
/dʰ/ /dʰan/ 'paddy'

- /ɹ/ - is a Palato alveolar rolling sound which is produced by the both active and passive articulators vibrating together.

For example: /ɹ/ /ɹʉji/ 'earning'

4.3.6 Palatal

/c/ /ʃ/ are the two palatal consonant sounds which are produced by raising the tip of the tongue against our hard palate situated behind the alveolar ridge.

- /c/ - is a Palatal **plosive** or stop sound as it is produced by pressing the two lips together. At the same time, during making this sound we increase the air pressure before letting it go. This sudden burst of air creates the /c/ sound which indicates that it is a plosive/stop consonant. So, it is a Palatal plosive sound that is voiceless and Unaspirated also.

For example: /c/ /caɾ/ ‘bamboo bridge’

- /ʃ/ - is a palatal **fricative** sound. Also we know air gets compressed when it exits the body between a small gap to produce fricative sounds. So /ʃ/ is a palatal fricative sound that is voiceless and unaspirated.

For example: /ʃ/ /ʃida/ ‘that’

4.3.7 Velar

/k/ /k^h/ /g/ /g^h/ /ŋ/ these are the velar consonant sounds because these sounds are produced by pressing the back part of tongue against the velum. At the same time these are **stop** sounds as it is produced by pressing the two lips together. Considering the voicing and aspiration -

- /k/ is voiceless and unaspirated
- /k^h/ is voiceless and aspirated
- /g/ is voiced and unaspirated
- /g^h/ is voiced and aspirated

For example:

/k/ /kaga/ ‘uncle’

/k^h/ /k^hũji/ ‘search’

/g/ /goĩre/ ‘make’

/g^h/ /g^hai/ ‘strike’

- /ŋ/ - is a velar **nasal** sound because is produced when the tongue is in close contact to the ridge behind the teeth on the upper part of the mouth. At the same time of making this sound we allow air to enter our nose making it a nasal sound. So it is a velar nasal sound that is voiced and unaspirated. For example : /ŋ/ /ʝoŋgol/ ‘forest’

4.3.8 Glottal

/h/ is the only glottal sound that is a **fricative** consonant sound. It is voiceless and aspirated.

For example: /h/ /haɾ/ ‘defeat’

4.4 Vowel

After analyzing the Latifpuri dialect of Gopalganj district of Bangladesh, we have found seven vowels in particular and they are:

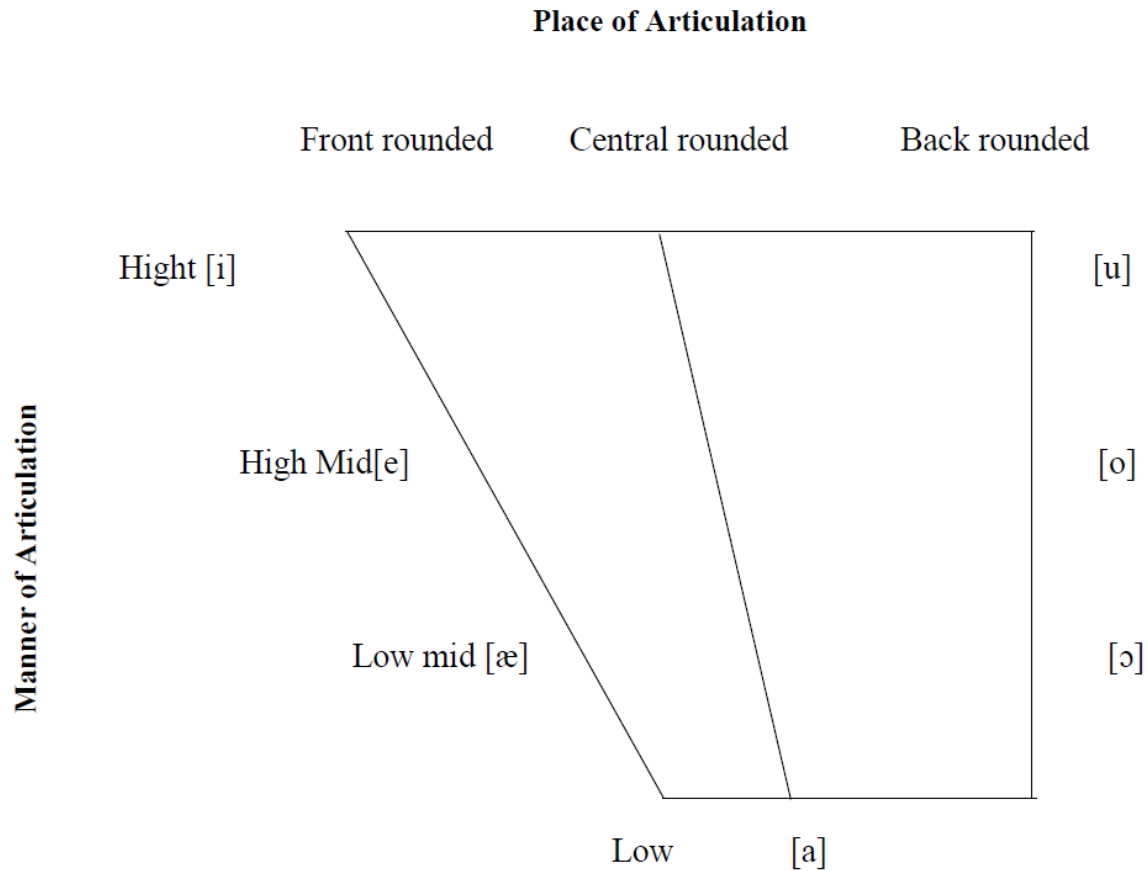


Figure 2: Oral Vowels of Latifpuri Dialect

The vowels of the Latifpuri dialect could potentially be demonstrated using three units of extent. Depending on the parameters, these are given in the following order-

4.4.1 Place of Tongue

We can arrange accordingly- frontal, central and back vowels based on the position of the tongue.

Front vowels: [i], [e], [æ]

Central vowels : [a]

Back vowels : [u], [o], [ɔ]

4.4.2 Height of Tongue

In this dialect, we have high, high-mid, low-mid, and low vowels based on the height of the tongue.

Height of Tongue	Place of Tongue		
	Front	Central	Back
High	/i/		/u/
High- mid	/e/		/o/
Low -mid	/æ/		/ɔ/
Low		/a/	

4.4.3 Lips Position:

We can consider lips position depending on rounded or unrounded position of lips also based on open or closed lips position.

	Unrounded		Rounded
Close	/i/		/u/
Half-Close	/e/		/o/
Half-Open	/æ/		/ɔ/
Open		/a/	

Based on these parameters we can categorize the vowels of Latifpuri dialect according to the feature matrix.

	/i/	/e/	/æ/	/a/	/u/	/o/	/ɔ/
Front	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
Central	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Back	-	-	-	-	+	+	+
High	+	-	-	-	+	-	-
High-mid	-	+	-	-	-	+	-
Low-mid	-	-	+	-	-	-	+
Low	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Rounded	-	-	-	-	+	+	+
Unrounded	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
Open	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Half-open	-	-	+	-	-	-	+
Half-close	-	+	-	-	-	+	-
Close	+	-	-	-	+	-	-

Table 3 Oral Vowels of Latifpuri Dialect

4.5 Analysis Of Vowels

To understand the characteristics of the vowels we got in Latifpuri dialect, we need to analyze them separately. Let's analyze them below -

- /i/ - while producing this vowel the tongue curves to the front of the mouth. The height of the tongue remains high and the lips remain unrounded.
- /e/ - This is also a front vowel which has a high-mid tongue position and unrounded lips as well as half close.
- /æ/ - Similar to the previous ones, it is also a front and unrounded vowel with half open and low mid position of the tongue.
- /a/ - During the production of this vowel the height of the tongue is low and lips position open making it a central vowel.
- /u/ - The tongue curves to the back while producing it. The tongue height remains high and lips rounded.
- /o/ - This vowel is mostly common as it is a back vowel with a high mid height of tongue. Lips rounded and half close.
- /ɔ/ - This vowel is similar to the previous one, place of tongue is back and lips position rounded while being half open and low mid vowel.

Chapter Five

Conclusion

In conclusion, the study dives deep into the phonological analysis of the Latifpuri dialect of Gopalganj District which is situated in Bangladesh. By dropping the spotlight on its particular pronunciation patterns and phonetic traits, we came to learn a lot about the dialect's phonological inventory, phonological processes etc by carefully analyzing speech samples collected and stored from local speakers of Latifpur Union. The results of the research emphasize the need of recording and comprehending local dialects in the context of linguistic variety. We got consonant and vowel sounds in this analytical research where we discussed the characteristics of those finding sounds and their usage. Although phonological analysis of any dialect of any language has been easier to work on, it is still very difficult for the dialects used in the southern asian part of the globe, most precisely the Indian subcontinent and its neighboring countries to analyze properly using popularly used models of renowned linguists. It is necessary to add that, during the research of phonological analysis of Latifpuri dialect, many common rules that we use for colloquial speech of Bengali were found while doing the analysis. As this dialect belongs to a region of Bangladesh which is situated at the southern part of Bangladesh, there has hardly been any previous research done on it. So, it was a

challenge to complete the analysis based on only the speech pattern and contrastive words collected from the locals. At the same time, this analytical research focused on the shaded part of Bengali dialect: that, there are a lot of dialects that are unique in itself and need to be studied to know and gain more understanding of non-western language properly.

Appendix

Initial Contrast

/z ^h /	/z ^h aɾ/	‘brooming’
/m/	/mal/	‘goods’
/t̪/	/t̪al/	‘palm fruit’
/k/	/kaṽ/	‘tomorrow’
/ʃ/	/ʃida/	‘that’
/g/	/goṽle/	‘melting’
/t̪/	/t̪ɔ̪to/	‘precise amount’
/t̪ ^h /	/t̪ ^h aṽte/	‘chopping board’
/c/	/caṽ/	‘want’
/t ^h /	/t ^h aṽ/	‘space’
/ɾ/	/ɾuṽi/	‘earning’
/b ^h /	/b ^h aga/	‘drive away’
/ʃ/	/ʃuṽ/	‘laying’
/ɾ/	/kɔ̪ɾa/	‘extreme’
/b/	/banda/	‘tie’
/l/	/kol/	‘lap’

Set: 1

/s/	/saŋ/	‘discount’
/m/	/maŋ/	‘boiled rice extraction’
/c/	/caŋ/	‘bamboo bridge’
/b ^h /	/b ^h aŋ/	‘clay pot’

Set: 2

/z/	/zaŋ/	‘whosever’
/k/	/kaŋ/	‘whose’
/h/	/haŋ/	‘defeat’
/t̪/	/t̪aŋ/	‘his/her’

Set: 3

/z/	/zal/	‘net’
/k ^h /	/k ^h al/	‘canal’
/s/	/sal/	‘skin’
/d/	/dal/	‘branch’
/f/	/fal/	‘jump’

Set: 4

/ɔ/	/ɔ̃t̪o/	‘more than enough’
/k/	/kɔ̃t̪o/	‘how much’
/m/	/mɔ̃t̪o/	‘like’

/n/ /noṭo/ 'humble'

Set: 5

/a/ /aṭil/ 'boundary'

/c/ /caṭil/ 'rice'

/d/ /daṭil/ 'lentil'

/g/ /gaṭil/ 'curse words'

Set: 6

/k/ /kida/ 'who'

/z/ /zida/ 'whichever'

/i/ /ida/ 'someone'

set: 7

/b/ /boṭile/ 'speaking'

/c/ /coṭile/ 'going'

/ṭ^h/ /ṭ^hoṭile/ 'bag'

Set: 8

/h/ /haṭite/ 'walk'

/m/ /maṭite/ 'liver'

/b/ /baṭite/ 'smashing'

/f/ /faṭite/ 'fracture'

Set: 9

/z/	/zai̯/	‘go’
/tʰ/	/tʰai̯/	‘so’
/kʰ/	/kʰai̯/	‘eat’
/p/	/pai̯/	‘get’
/gʰ/	/gʰai̯/	‘strike’

set: 10

/n/	/niki/	‘a questioning word’
/tʰ/	/tʰiki/	‘correct’

Set: 11

/dʰ/	/dʰoi̯re/	‘catch’
/k/	/koi̯re/	‘do’
/g/	/goi̯re/	‘make’
/c/	/coi̯re/	‘ride’
/p/	/poi̯re/	‘falling’
/bʰ/	/bʰoi̯re/	‘inserting’

Set: 12

/d̪/ /d̪ese/ ‘give’

/n/ /nese/ ‘take’

Set: 13

/b/ /buji / ‘sister’

/kʰ/ /kʰũji/ ‘search’

Set: 14

/z/ /zaga/ ‘place’

/a/ /aga/ ‘tip’

/l/ /laga/ ‘install’

/k/ /kaga/ ‘uncle’

Set: 15

/bʰ/ /bʰũi/ ‘land’

/t̪ʰ/ /t̪ʰuĩ/ ‘keep’

/c/ /cuĩ/ ‘a spice’

/t̪/ /t̪uĩ/ ‘you’

Set: 16

/d̪/ /d̪abɾa/ ‘exile’

/t̪ʰ/ /t̪ʰabɾa/ ‘slap’

Set: 17

/k/ /kuɾi/ ‘twenty’

/p/	/puʃi/	‘food’
/m/	/muʃi/	‘puffed rice’
/k ^h /	/k ^h oʃi/	‘stick’
/d̪/	/d̪oʃi/	‘rope’

Set: 18

/g/	/gamla/	‘bowl’
/ʃ/	/ʃæmɔla/	‘brown’
/k/	/kamla/	‘worker’

Set: 19

/b/	/bikel/	‘afternoon’
/c ^h /	/c ^h ikel/	‘shackle’

Set: 20

/r/	/raŋda/	‘cook’
/k/	/kaŋda/	‘cry’
/d̪ ^h /	/d̪ ^h an̪da/	‘confusion’
/p ^h /	/p ^h an̪da/	‘trap’

Set: 21

/d̪ ^h /	/d̪ ^h æʃa/	‘musical instrument’
/b/	/bæʃa/	‘fench’
/n/	/næʃa/	‘bald’

Set: 22

/t/	/tan/	‘pull’
/d/	/dan/	‘right’
/d ^h /	/d ^h an/	‘paddy’

Medial- Contrast

Set: 1

/t̪/	/kɔ̪t̪a/	‘talk’
/b/	/kɔ̪ba/	‘tell’
/c/	/kɔ̪ca/	‘stick’
/t/	/kɔ̪ta/	‘yellow’

Set: 2

/g/	/ʃuga/	‘sick’
/z/	/ʃuza/	‘fasting’

Set: 3

/ŋ/	/ʃoŋgol/	‘forest’
/g/	/moŋgol/	‘wellbeing’

Final Contrast

Set: 1

/m/	/kom/	‘few’
/n/	/kon/	‘which’
/c/	/koc/	‘a tool for fishing’
/p/	/kop/	‘strike’

Set: 2

/k/	/pak/	‘cook’
/p/	/pap/	‘sin’
/t̪/	/pat̪/	‘food platter’

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