

Grammatical Feature: {Objective}

Both the accusative object and the dative object in a standard Marathi sentence are marked by the same suffixal form. That is, we note accusative-dative case syncretism in the standard dialect of Marathi. The term ‘objective’ is used to refer to this case syncretism. A typical accusative object and a dative object indicated by the single inflected form *raṇila* are seen in the following standard Marathi sentences respectively. ‘*raḷane raṇila pahile*’ (king-by queen-to saw; ‘The king saw the queen.’) and ‘*raḷane raṇila har dila*’ (king-by queen-to necklace gave; ‘The king gave the necklace to the queen.’) The suffixes [-la] (singular) and [-na] plural are used in standard Marathi to mark the case function ‘objective’. Variants of the objective were noted in the regional and social dialects in the survey, details of which are given below.

1.0 Dialectal variation in marking the {Objective}

The objective case function is marked by nine variants forms in the various regional/social dialects of Marathi: (1) [-la/l], (2) [-le/l], (3) [-lə/l], (4) [-ka/k], (5) [-s], (6) [-na/n/nə], (7) [-hi/ha], (8) [-te], (9) [-ši]. The geographical distribution and examples of the variant forms are given below.

1.1 Variant 1: [-la/l]

Variant [-la/l] of the objective case was noted in all the sampled districts in the state of Maharashtra.

1.1.1 Example (District Aurangabad, taluka Paithan, village Pachod, F40, Maratha, 6th)

ह्या मुलीने पानी दिलं मुलाला

hya muline pani dilə mulala

hya muli-ne pani di-l-ə mula-la

DEM.PROX.OBL girl.OBL-ERG water.3SGN give-PFV-3SGN boy.OBL-DAT

This girl gave water to the boy.

1.1.2 Example (District Aurangabad, taluka Paithan, village Pachod, F40, Maratha, 6th)

काल एकानी आमाला ठोकलय गाडीनं

kal ekani amala tʰokləy gaḍinə

kal eka-ni ama-la tʰok-l-ə-y gaḍi-nə



yesterday somebody-ERG we.EXCL-ACC hit-PFV-3SGN-be.PRS car-INS
 Somebody hit us with a car yesterday.

1.2 Variant 2: [-le/l]

Variant [-le/l] of the objective case was observed in twenty-two of the sampled 34 districts in the state of Maharashtra. The geographical spread of this variant and examples are given below:

District	Taluka and Village
Chandrapur	Chandrapur - Chaknimbala and Datala, Rajura - Kadholi (Budruk) and Koshtala, Brahmapuri - Pachgaon and Torgaon (Budruk)
Gadchiroli	Gadchiroli - Khursa and Shioni, Korchi - Bori and Mohgaon
Gondia	Gondia - Temni and Tedhwa, Sadak Arjuni - Chikhali
Bhandara	Bhandara - Dhargaon and Mujbi, Tumsar - Lobhi and Bori
Nagpur	Nagpur - Yerla, and Sonegaon (Lodhi), Bhiwapur - Sawargaon and Botezari, Ramtek - Bhojapur, Narkhed - Umari and Pandhari
Wardha	Wardha - Karanji (Bhoge), Ashti - Khadka and Thar, Hinganghat - Ajanati and Poti, Selu - Wadgaon Jangli and Zadshi
Yavatmal	Ghatanji - Khapri and Kurli, Ner - Kolura and Dagad Dhanora
Amravati	Amravati - Sawardi and Malkapur, Warud - Satnur and Gadegaon, Daryapur - Bhambora, Jitapur and Bhamod, Dharni - Kawdaziri
Akola	Akola - Gopalkhed and Yeota
Washim	Washim - Shirputi, Risod - Ghonsar, Karnaja - Girda and Donad (Budruk)
Buldhana	Buldhana - Palaskhed Bhat and Warwand, Jalgaon-Jamod - Wadgaon Patan and Nimkarad, Shegaon - Shirajgaon (Nile) and Padsul
Hingoli	Hingoli - Karwadi, Kalamnuri - Morwad
Nanded	Nanded - Limbgaon, Mukhed – Shirur (Dabde)
Aurangabd	Aurangabad - Pimpalkhunta, Paithan - Pachod (Budruk), Soegaon - Ghosla and Palaskheda
Ahmednagar	Ahmednagar - Narayan Doho, Newasa - Khalapimpri
Jalgaon	Jalgaon - Dhamangaon and Wadli, Jamner - Wakod and Waghari, Raver - Nirul and Mangalwadi,



Dhule	Chalisgaon - Hatle and Dahiwad, Chopda - Vaijapur Dhule - Laling, Songir, Khede and Khordad, Shirpur - Ambe, Shingave and Boradi, Sakri - Dighave and Dhadne
Nandrubar	Nandrubar - Ghotane and Dhanora, Navapur - Khandbara and Chinchpada, Shahada - Prakasha and Shahada
Nashik	Nashik - Vilholi, Malegaon - Kalwadi, Satana - Mulher and Daregaon, Triambakeshwar - Goldari
Palghar	Dahanu - Bordi, Murbad and Pimpalshet, Talasari -Girgaon, Jawhar - Hateri, Mokhada - Dandwal and Karegaon
Thane	Murbad - Patgaon, Shahapur - Borsheti
Raigad	Karjat - Salokh

1.2.1 Example (District Nagpur, taluka Bhiwapur, village Sawargaon, F38, Mahar, 11th)

तिनं लोकंडी कुराड काडून देली त्याची कुराड त्याले

tinə lokəṇḍi kuraḍ kaḍun deli tyāci kuraḍ tyale

ti-nə lokəṇḍi kuraḍ kaḍ-un de-l-i tyā-č-i kuraḍ tyā-**le**

she-ERG iron axe.3SGF draw-CP give-PFV-3SGF he.OBL-GEN-3SGF
axe.3SGF he.OBL-**DAT**

She took out the iron axe and gave it to him.

1.2.2 Example (District Nagpur, taluka Nagpur, village Yerla, M70, Mang, Illiterate)

एकीमेकीले धकाऊन रायल्या त्या

ekimekile dhəkaun raylya tya

ekimeki-**le** dhəka-un raylya tya

each other-**ACC** push-CP STAY.PRS.PROG.3PLF

They are pushing each other



1.3 Variant 3: [-lə/l]

Variant [-lə/l] of the objective case was observed in nineteen of the sampled 34 districts in the state of Maharashtra. The geographical spread of this variant and examples are given below:

District	Taluka and Village
Chandrapur	Brahmapuri - Pachgaon and Torgaon (Budruk)
Gadchiroli	Gadchiroli - Khursa and Shioni
Gondia	Sadak Arjuni - Chikhali
Bhandara	Bhandara - Mujbi, Tumsar - Bori
Nagpur	Bhiwapur - Botezari and Bhiwapur
Yavatmal	Ner - Dagad Dhanora
Washim	Risod - Ghonsar
Buldhana	Jalgaon-Jamod - Wadgaon Patan, Shegaon - Shirajgaon (Nile)
Hingoli	Kalamnuri - Morwad
Latur	Latur - Babhalgaon
Jalna	Jalna - Dhawedi, Mantha - Uswad
Aurangabad	Aurangabad - Bhikapur-Naigaon, Paithan - Pachod (Budruk)
Jalgaon	Jalgaon - Dhamangaon, Jamner - Wakod and Waghari
Nandurbar	Navapur - Chinchpada
Nashik	Satana - Daregaon, Surgana - Surgana, Triambakeshwar - Goldari
Palghar	Vasai - Wagholi, Dahanu - Bordi and Murbad and Pimpalshet, Talasari - Udhwa and Girgaon, Jawhar - Hateri and Khambala, Mokhada - Dandwal and Karegaon
Thane	Shahapur - Borsheti and Chaundhe (Budruk)
Ratnagiri	Rajapur - Kumbhavade
Kolhapur	Kagal - Gorambe

1.3.1 Example (District Hingoli, taluka Kalamnuri, village Morwad, M60, Andh, Illiterate)

मलं थंडी वाजायली

mələ thəṇḍi wajayli

mə-lə thəṇḍi waj-ayli

I-DAT cold.3SGF sound-PRS.PROG.3SGF



I am feeling cold.

1.3.2 Example (District Jalna, taluka Mantha, village Uswad, M45, Maratha, 6th)

ती मनला नाय नाय तुलं कसं मारू

ti mənla nay nay tulə kəsə maru

ti mən-l-a nay nay tu-lə kəsə mar-u

he say-PFV-3SGM NEG REDUP you-ACC how.3SGN hit-NON.FIN

He said, “How can I hit you?”

1.4 Variant 4: [-ka/k]

Variant [-ka/k] of the objective case was noted in four of the sampled 34 districts in the state of Maharashtra. The geographical spread of this variant and examples are given below:

District	Taluka and Village
Kolhapur	Chandgad - Kodali, Radhanagari - Olavan
Sindhudurg	Dodamarg - Ayee and Matne, Malwan - Katta, Deulwada and Dandi, Kudal - Amrad, Mangaon and Kudal, Vengurla - Vengurla, Devgad - Taramumbri and Jamsande, Vaibhavwadi - Nadavde, Sawantawadi - Kolgaon and Satarde
Ratnagiri	Rajapur - Kumbhavade
Thane	Shahapur - Borsheti

1.4.1 Example (District Sindhudurg, taluka Malwan, village Deulwada, F48, Maratha, B.A.)

ती आजारी असा बरं नाइ तिक्का

ti ajari əsa bərə nai tika

ti ajari əsa bərə nai ti-ka

she sick be.PRS good NEG she-DAT

She is sick, she is not well.



1.4.2 Example (District Sindhudurg, taluka Malwan, village Katta, F50, Bhandari, 7th)

सांगतत एकामकाक काइतरी

saŋgtət ekaməkak kaitəri

saŋg-t-ət ekaməka-k kaitəri

tell-IPFV-PL each other-ACC something

They are telling each other something.

1.5 Variant 5: [-s]

The use of the variant [-s] was observed in five of the sampled 34 districts only to mark the dative case relation. The geographical spread of this variant and examples are given below:

District	Taluka and Village
Sindhudurg	Kudal - Kudal
Kolhapur	Kagal - Ekondi, Chandgad - Chandgad and Tudiye, Radhanagari - Sonyachi Shirolī
Solapur	Barshi - Gaudgaon
Latur	Latur - Tandulja
Nagpur	Bhiwapur - Sawargaon

The accusative NP is marked by the suffix [-la] and [-ka] in Sindhudurg, the suffix [-la] and [-lə] in Kolhapur, Solapur and Latur districts and by the suffix [-la] and [-le] in Nagpur district.

1.5.1 Example (District Kolhapur, taluka Kagal, village Ekondi, F50+, 5th)

मुलीन त्या मानसास ग्लास दिला

mulin tya mansas glas dila

muli-n tya mansa-s glas di-l-a

girl.OBL-ERG DEM.DIST.OBL man.OBL-DAT glass.3SGM give-PFV-3SGM

(The) Girl gave that man a glass.

1.6 Variant 6: [-na/n/nə]



Variant [-na/n/nə] of the objective case was noted in four of the sampled 34 districts in the state of Maharashtra. The geographical and social spread of this variant and examples are given below:

District	Taluka and Village
Raigad	Alibag - Mandwa, Bodni and Baple, Murud - Chinchghar, Shrivardhan - Bagmandla, Mahad - Narwan
Thane	Murbad - Patgaon (Agri community)
Palghar	Vasai - Kalamb (Mangela community)
Jalgaon	Jalgaon - Wadli (Maratha community)

1.6.1 Example (District Raigar, taluka Alibag, village Bodni, F51, Koli, 2nd)

माझी बुक कुट हाय मना नाय कलत

māj^hi buk kuṭ hay mənā nay kəḷət

ma-ǰ^h-i buk kuṭ hay mənā nay kəḷət

I-GEN-3SGF book.3SGF where be.PRS I-DAT NEG understand-IPFV

I don't know where my book is.

1.6.2 Example (District Palghar, taluka Vasai, village Kalamb, M80, Mangela, B.A.)

ते पोरीला हांगनार तेना हाक मारा

te porila haṅgnar tenā hak mara

te pori-la haṅg-nar te-nā hak mara

DEM.DIST.3SG girl-ACC tell-PROS he.OBL-ACC call hit.IMP

(She) will tell that girl to call him.

1.7 Variant 7: [-hi/ha]

The variant [-hi/ha] of the objective case marking was noted only in the Wadwal community in Wagholi village and Mangela community in Kalamb village in Vasai taluka and in the Warli community in Girgaon village in Talasari taluka of Palghar district.



1.7.1 Example (District Palghar, taluka Vasai, village Wagholi, F61/41, Pachkalashi Wadwal, 9th, M.A.)

तेही गाढ निज लागली

tehi gaḍ^h nij lagli

te-hi gaḍ^h nij lag-1-i

he.OBL-DAT deep sleep.3SGF attach-PFV-3SGF

He fell into a deep sleep.

1.7.2 Example (District Palghar, taluka Vasai, village Kalamb, M80, Mangela, B.A.)

त्यानं उप्पट मारली त्याही

tyanə uppəṭ marli tyahi

tya-nə uppəṭ mar-1-i tya-hi

he.OBL slap.3SGF hit-PFV-3SGF he.OBL-ACC

He slapped him.

1.8 Variant 8: [-te]

The use of the variant [-te] was observed in the Roman Catholic Samvedi community in Nirmal village in Vasai taluka of Palghar district only to mark the dative case relation; the accusative is marked by the suffix [-la] in the speech of the same community.

1.8.1 Example (District Palghar, taluka Vasai, village Nirmal, M60, Roman Catholic Samvedi, B.A.)

मते का करहें

məte ka kərḥē

mə-te ka kər-hē

I-DAT what do-NON.FIN

What should I do? (= I am not concerned about this.)



1.9 Variant 9: [-ši]

The use of the variant [-ši] was observed in the Katkari community in Salokh village in Karjat taluka of Raigad district only to mark the dative case relation; the accusative is marked in the speech of this community by the forms [-la] and [-le]. Note that an example of the canonical function of the dative case (i.e. to mark the recipient) was not recorded in the survey; the dative [-ši] is used in example 1.9.1 to indicate the purpose of the action.

1.9.1 Example (District Raigad, taluka Karjat, village Salokh, F25, Katkari, Illiterate)

मंजुरीशी जातो आमी

məñjuriši jato ami

məñjuri-ši ja-t-o ami

daily wages-DAT go-IPFV-1PL we.EXCL

We go for daily wages.

