

# A Comprehensive Account of Marathi Causatives

## 1 Introduction

In the preceding chapter a critical review of past studies of Marathi causatives was presented. Employing the functional perspective and semantically oriented framework set out in Shibatani and Pardeshi (2002) this chapter presents a comprehensive account of the morphology, semantics, and syntax of all types of Marathi causatives: synthetic (lexical/morphological) and analytic (syntactic/periphrastic).

## 2 The Morphology of Causative Verb Forms

In present day Marathi both synthetic and analytic causatives co-exist. As noted in the previous chapter, all the previous accounts of the Marathi causative focus exclusively on the synthetic (lexical/morphological) causatives. They do not discuss analytic (syntactic/periphrastic) causatives at all. Let us first take a look at the repertoire of Marathi's causatives.

### 2.1 *Inventory of Formal Types of Causative Verbs*

From a formal point of view, causatives in Marathi can be broadly classified into two groups: synthetic (lexical and morphological) and analytic (syntactic/periphrastic). As stated in chapter six, synthetic causatives can be further divided into six sub-types on the basis of the morphological relationship between the non-causative and the causative verb. Representative examples of each type are given below. In each example, the (a) version is a causative and the (b) version is the corresponding non-causative.

Labile

- (1) a. *ti-ne kheḷṇa mod-l-a*  
 she-ERG toy.NSG break-PST-NSG  
 'She broke the toy.'

- b. *kheḷṇa moḍ-l-a*  
 toy.NSG break-PST-NSG  
 'The toy broke (by itself).'

- (2) a. *rām-ne khiḍki ughaḍ-l-i*  
 Ram-ERG window.FSG open-PST-FSG  
 'Ram opened the window.'

- b. *khiḍki ughaḍ-l-i*  
 window.FSG open-PST-FSG  
 'The window opened.'

## Suppletive

- (3) a. *ti-ne muli-n-nā kholi-t {āṇ-l-e / ne-l-e / pāṭhav-l-e}*  
 she-ERG girl-PL-ACC room-in {bring-PST-NSG / take-PST-NSG /  
 send-PST-NSG}  
 'She {brought/took/sent} the girls into the room.'

- b. *muli kholi-t {āl-yā / gel-yā}*  
 girls.FPL room-into {come.PST-FPL / go.PST-FPL}  
 'Girls {came/went} into the room.'

- (4) a. *dogh-ā-n-ni ekmek-ā-n-nā kek bharav-l-ā*  
 both-OBL-PL-ERG each.other-OBL-PL-ACC cake.MSG feed-PST-MSG  
 'Both of them fed cake to each other.'

- b. *dogh-ā-n-ni kek khā.l-l-ā*  
 both-OBL-PL-ERG cake.MSG eat-PST-MSG  
 'Both of them ate cake.'

## Internal consonant change

- (5) a. *t-yā bāi-ne kāgad phāḍ-l-ā*  
 that-OBL lady-ERG paper.MSG tear (tr)-PST-MSG  
 'That lady tore the paper.'