

PHONOLOGY

Part IV

Phrases and Sentences

This section contains a number of phrases and sentences on which you are to practice pronunciation. Besides pronunciation and stress you must now be concerned with a third factor -- intonation pattern. Each language has its own set of intonation patterns which may serve in various ways to help words convey meaning. In English, for instance, rising tone at the end of a sentence is used to indicate a question, while falling tone indicates the end of a statement. Varying this pattern can markedly change the meaning of a sentence. The same is true for Pushto. Intonation can change a statement to a question, and so on. Unfortunately, intonation tends to be a particularly difficult habit to break and is a large barrier to speaking a foreign language flawlessly. Listen carefully in class and on the tapes and try to reproduce the Pushto intonation as close to the original as possible.

As in the earlier sections our main concern here is with pronunciation, so no meanings will be given at this point.

stáre máše.

hárkala ráša.

assalám o alékum

walékūm assalām.
pa xáyra ráġlī.
sta mæx néwe xkára kíġī.
tæda kūm zay ye.
ze da mardān yem.
xwār máše.
sta sénga hāl de.
jor̄yama.
da xodáy fázal de.
šúkar de.
sta sə nūm de?
zema nūm ákbar xān de.
tə pa mardān ke sə sabəq way?
ze poxtó wayyém.
poxtó se grāna da.
pa de mosém ke pa mardān ke déra garmí wī?

The following is a short conversation. This section is to be practiced until it can be recited perfectly from memory.

A: māl aw fásal de sánge dī? barān šéwe wo kaná?

B: pa téra meášt ke barān xo mámūlī ġūnde šéwe wo,
lekín kafí néde. zmakə déra ócada; wátar peké læg
de. nórī obe ġwārī.

A: də néher nə obé wúle na áxle, néher xo sta da
zmóko na nizdé bayíġī.

B: róra, ġarīb saġī tə də néher nə obé sok warkáy.

A: tə košís óka. košís zarúrī de.