



## A STUDY ON THE USE OF IDIOMATIC WORDS IN THE SENTENCES OF THE BODO LANGUAGE

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**ABSTRACT:** The use of idiomatic words can see in every language. When using in a sentence the idiomatic words do not explain directly the external meaning of the words. These are explained indirectly the internal meaning of the words. Idiomatic words are formed by adding more than one different meaningful word. Therefore, these are can be called forming of the compounding process. Many idiomatic words also can be found in the Bodo language. The use of idiomatic words is a traditional knowledge system in Bodo which is given by the Forefathers. It is a part of daily activities in the Bodo society. These idiomatic words of Bodo are discussed below.

**Keywords:** Bodo, Idiomatic word, Type, Structure, Uses.

### Introduction

The speaker person of a language cannot understand the internal meaning of idiomatic words of other languages. Idiomatic words are also called parts of the Folk-Literature of a community because it is a traditional grammar of a community that comes with the traditional knowledge system. Idiomatic words can form various appreciate sentences, satirical sentence, and positive sentences in a language. There is the use of many idiomatic words also in Bodo. The Bodo Language is very rich in the use of various idiomatic words. Linguistically Bodo Language belongs to the Bodo-Garo groups under the Tibeto-Burman branch of the Sino-Tibetan language family which is lives enormously in the Assam state of the North-East region of India. The Bodo language has been accepted as a Scheduled language of India. Till now there can see the reflection of some similar characters of the Tibeto-Burman language in the formation of different words or Phonology, Morphology, and Syntactic Structure of Bodo. Apart from the Bodo language, there can see the use of idiomatic words in the other Tibeto-Burman languages of North-East India. The parts of idiomatic word, its structure, and use in a sentence of Bodo are discussed below with suitable examples.

### Objectives of the Study

The main objective of this study is to clearly describe the use of idiomatic words and its structural use in a sentence of the Bodo language.

### Methodology

To clearly describe the use of idiomatic words in Bodo the study depends on the descriptive and analytical methods from the linguistic point of view. For the study, the related data has been collected from both primary and secondary sources.

### Hypothesis

The hypothesis of the study is given below.

- 1). There is the use of Idiomatic noun, Idiomatic verb, and Idiomatic adjective in the Bodo language.
- 2). An Idiomatic word is formed in Bodo by adding two meaningful words are together.
- 3). There can be formed many meaningful sentences in Bodo by using various idiomatic words.
- 4). Idiomatic words can be used as a Phrase and Clause in a meaningful sentence of Bodo.

### Discussion

The used technique of a language, social context, and different social pictures reflect clearly with the idiomatic words. All people of a community can understand the internal meaning of their idiomatic words. All the Bodo people also can understand the internal meaning of their idiomatic words. Some Bodo scholars have been done a few research works on the idiomatic words of Bodo. But the study on this topic is not sufficient to date. Therefore, cannot be found full knowledge and information about the idiomatic word, its parts, structure, and used in a sentence of the Bodo language. Depending on these points is discussed below clearly.

### Parts of Idiomatic words in Bodo

Many Bodo linguists and grammarians have divided the Bodo idiomatic words into different parts. According to Swarna Prabha Chainary, the idiomatic can divide into three grammatical parts like, Noun, Verb, and Adjective. Kamal Kumar Brahma says about idiomatic word of Bodo, there are many idiomatic words in Bodo like other languages. It can use as a different type. These are

- a) Idiomatic uses of Verbs
- b) Idiomatic uses of Noun



- c) Idiomatic uses of adjective
- d) Idiomatic uses of verbs with particular Noun
- e) Idiomatic uses of various words and phrase.

Many linguists of Bodo have been classified the Bodo idiomatic words into those different parts. But from the structural, meaning, and lexical point of view, the Bodo idiomatic words can be classified into only three types. These types are given below.

- i) Idiomatic noun
- ii) Idiomatic adjective, and
- iii) Idiomatic verb

The structure of these idiomatic words is discussed below with suitable examples.

### Idiomatic Noun in Bodo

There is use of idiomatic nouns in both the written and oral form of Bodo Language. Idiomatic nouns are formed in Bodo by the compounding process, because an idiomatic noun is formed by combining two different meaningful nouns are together. But, in a sentence all idiomatic nouns do not explain directly the external meaning. These are explained indirectly the internal or deeper meaning. The structure of idiomatic nouns is given below with suitable examples.

- e.g.: n. muuk<sup>h</sup>ra (Monkey) + n. asi (Finger) > i. n. muuk<sup>h</sup>ra asi (Unsteady.)  
n. dabk<sup>h</sup>a (Pot) + n. udwui (Belly) > i. n. dabk<sup>h</sup>a udwui (Who eat too much)  
n. dausa (Chicken) + n. mawria (Orphan) > i. n. dausa mawria (Helpless Person)  
n. suima (Dog) + n. atir (Leg) > i. n. suima atir (Person of bad Character)  
n. zigab + n. bunt<sup>h</sup>a > i. n. zigab bunt<sup>h</sup>a etc.

In the above examples have seen that the adding two different nouns are together a new idiomatic noun has formed. After the use in a sentence the meaning of these idiomatic nouns reflects certainly. The examples are given below.

- a) bitu sase muuk<sup>h</sup>ra asi ak<sup>h</sup>uni mansi. (He / She is a unsteady person.)
- b) ḥorgenja sase dabk<sup>h</sup>a udwui huua. (Argeng is a glutton man.)

In the above first example, the word ‘suima atir’ is used as an idiomatic noun, because this word is not clarifying directly the external meaning of the word. It is clarifying the internal meaning. Apart from this also in the second example, the word ‘dabk<sup>h</sup>a udwui’ is not clarifying the external meaning. It is clarifying a deep or internal meaning in a sentence.

### Idiomatic Adjectives in Bodo

The Bodo have some idiomatic words that can explain the meaning of the adjectives. These are also formed by the compounding process. Idiomatic adjective of Bodo can be found into three structural parts. These are given below.

- a) Noun + Adjective > Idiomatic Adjective
- b) Noun + Noun > Idiomatic Adjective
- c) Adjective + Noun > Idiomatic Adjective

These are described below with suitable examples.

**Noun + Adjective > Idiomatic Adjective:** In Bodo idiomatic adjectives can be formed by adding a noun before an adjective that can explain certainly the meaning of an adjective in a sentence. The examples are given below. E.g.:

- i) n. bik<sup>h</sup>a (hearth) + adj. guar (broad) > i. adj. bik<sup>h</sup>a guar (Kindful / Compassionate)  
Example: anarija sase bik<sup>h</sup>a guar hinzaw. (Anari is a compassionate woman.)
- ii) n. ak<sup>h</sup>ai (hand) + adj. guar (broad) > i. adj. ak<sup>h</sup>ai guar (Prodigal)  
Example: ak<sup>h</sup>ai guar mansia ziwao dawganu haja. (The prodigal person cannot develop in life.)
- iii) n. bigur (Skin) + adj. ruza (Thick) > i. adj. bigur ruza (Ego)  
Example: biju sase bigur ruza got<sup>h</sup>o. (He is a ego child.)
- iv) n. dawbo (Bird) + adj. guran (dry) > i. adj. dawbo guran (Thin)  
Example: daub<sup>h</sup>o guran at<sup>h</sup>inj. (Small and Thin leg.) Etc.

In the above examples, all idiomatic adjectives are explaining their internal meaning indirectly.



**Noun + Noun > Idiomatic Adjective:** By adding the meaningful nouns together a new idiomatic word can be formed in Bodo that can define the meaning of the adjective. The examples are given below. E.g.:

i) n. muhkra (monkey) + n. asi (finger) > i. adj. muhkra asi (unstable)

Example: muhkra asi mansi. (Unstable Person.)

ii) n. ontai (stone) + n. bikha (hearth) > i. adj. ontai bikha (kind less)

Example: ontai bikha aizuu. (Kind less woman.) Etc.

In the above examples, all idiomatic words are explaining the internal meaning of the adjectives indirectly.

**Adjective + Noun > Idiomatic Adjective:** A few idiomatic adjectives can be formed in Bodo by adding some noun before an adjective. This kind of idiomatic adjective is not available in Bodo. The example is given below. E.g.:

i) adj. guthaj + n. gusu > i. adj. guthaj gusu (non-Interested)

ii) adj. guthaj + n. haba > i. adj. guthaj haba (Bad work)

**Idiomatic Verb in Bodo:** There can be found the use of some idiomatic verb in Bodo. These are formed by adding the two different words together. Idiomatic verb is not available in Bodo. It can find in a structure. This structure is noun + verb > idiomatic verb. The examples are given below.

n. khoro + v. hom > i. v. khoro hom

n. khuga + v. muthu > i. v. khuga muthu

n. lai + v. bisi > i. v. lai bisi

kaphal + v. gew > i. v. kaphal gew

#### The use of Idiomatic words in a sentence of Bodo

The use of an idiomatic word can be formed a deeper meaningful sentence. By the use of different idiomatic words, various deeper meaningful sentences can be formed also in the Bodo language. The idiomatic words can reflect the different meanings in a sentence. Depending on the reflection of the idiomatic word the sentences can be divided into various meaningful types in bodo. These are Positive sentence, satirical sentence, Appreciate sentence, and etc. These are described below with suitable examples.

1) Satirical sentence: A satirical sentence can be formed in Bodo by the use of various idiomatic words. The example is given below.

a) Abarija sase akhai guar hinzaw. (Abari is a prodigal woman.)

b) nuuj sase bikhuguba gotho. (You're a coward child.) etc.

In the above examples, the 'akhai guar' (prodigal) and 'bikhuguba' (coward) are idiomatic words.

2) Appreciate or Assertive sentence: The appreciate sentence can be formed in Bodo with idiomatic words because by the use of various idiomatic words, appreciated meaning reflects in a sentence. The example is given below.

a) ajni apaja sase bikha guar mansi. (My father is a compassionate person.)

b) binaja akhai gulaw hinzaw. (Bina is rich woman.)

In the above examples, the 'bikha guar' (compassionate) and 'akhai gulaw' (rich) are idiomatic words.

3) Imperative sentence: Many imperative sentences can be formed in Bodo by the use of idiomatic words. E.g.:

a) ojkhaki bikhluni mansi daza. (Don't become a coward man.)

b) muhkra asi dakhalam. (Don't be unsteady.)

In the above examples, the 'ojkhaki bikhlur' (coward) and 'muhkra asi' (unsteady) are idiomatic words.

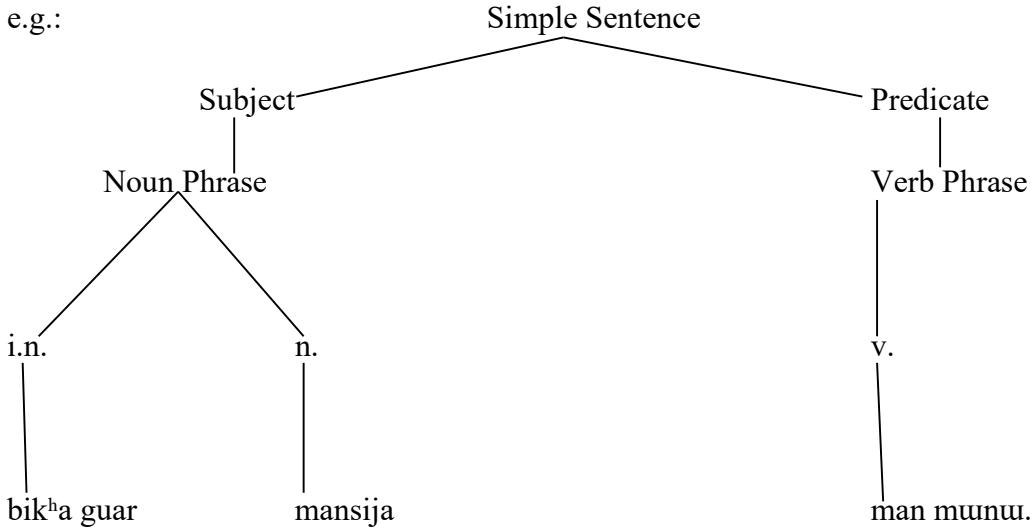
Apart from this by the use of various idiomatic words, many Interrogatives, Exclamatory, Negative sentences also can be formed in Bodo. From the structural point of view, sentences can be divided into three structural parts. These are simple, Complex, and compound sentences. By the use of various idiomatic, also these three sentences can be formed in Bodo. These are described below with suitable examples.

1. Simple sentence: In a sentence idiomatic word can be used as a subject in the bodo language. E.g.:

'bikha guar mansia man munuu.' (A compassionate person can find respect.)

This simple sentence can be shown by immediate constituent analysis of Bloomfield.

e.g.:

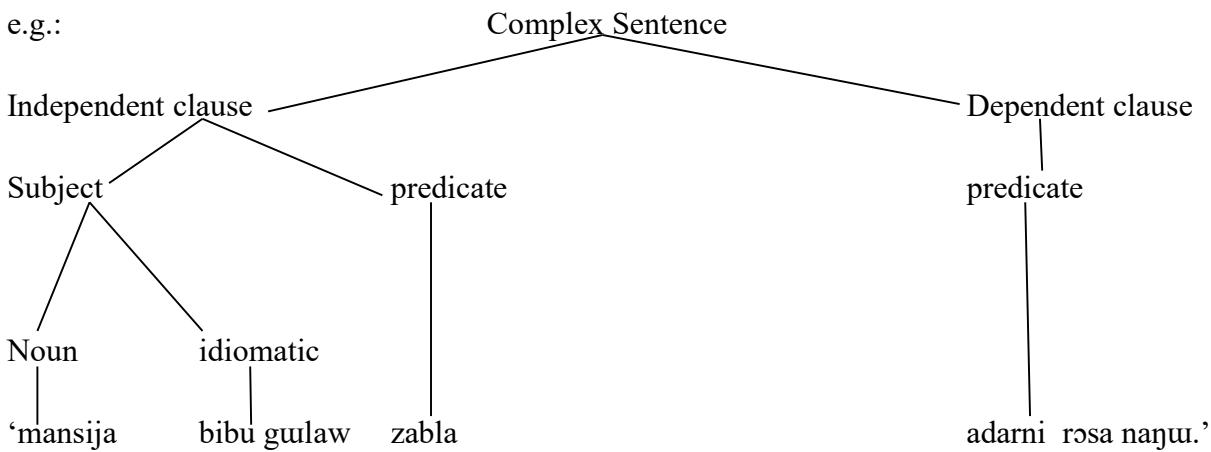


2. Complex sentence: There are two clauses in a complex sentence. These are independent clause, and dependent clause. In the formation of complex sentences of Bodo, all idiomatic words can be used as a principle or independent clause. The example is given below. E.g.:

‘mansija bibu gulaw zabra adarni rōsa nañuu.’ (The man becomes poor when makes an idler.)

This complex sentence can be shown by Immediate Constituent Analysis of Blommfield.

e.g.:



3. Compound Sentence: The compound is a sentence where added two or more simple sentences by using particles. By the use of various idiomatic words, a compound sentence can be formed in Bodo. The examples are given below. E.g.:

‘anarua sase bibu gurlaw aru ḥont̄hai bik<sup>h</sup>a mansi.’ (Anaru is an idler and unkind person.)

‘biju duhuuni nat<sup>h</sup>ai ḥont̄hai bik<sup>h</sup>a mansi.’ (He is rich but unkind person.)

In the first example, idiomatic words are used with both the two simple sentences. But in the second example, idiomatic word have used only in a second simple sentence.

### Conclusion

From the discussion above it can be clearly said that there can be found idiomatic nouns, verbs, and adjectives in Bodo. Mainly these words are formed by adding two meaningful words together. The use of idiomatic words can create various



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meaningful sentences in Bodo. These are Imperative sentence, Positive sentence, satirical sentence, etc. Apart from this, in the formation of simple, complex, and compound sentences of Bodo the idiomatic words can be used as a phrase, clause, and subject. After the use in a sentence, all idiomatic words can reflect certainly their internal or deep meanings. Sometime the use of idiomatic words can see in Bodo depending on the various situations.

## ABBREVIATION

n.	Noun
i. n.	Idiomatic Noun
adj.	Adjective
i.adj.	Idiomatic Adjective
v.	Verb
i. v.	Idiomatic Verb

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