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MORPHOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF BODO LANGUAGE

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Abstract

Bodo language is derived from the Sino-Tibetan language family under the branch of Tibeto-Burman group. Among Tibeto-Burman group, Bodo-Garo group is one of the most prominent group to influence the Bodo language. The language which is spoken naturally by the Bodo peoples is Bodo language. Bodo language is one of the most developing languages of the Sino-Tibetan language family. Sino-Tibetan language is the second largest language of the world. Different types of languages of the Bodo-Garo group are mainly Bodo, Garo, Rabha, Dimasa, Tiwa, Hajong, Kokborok, Wanang and Deori. Among these, Bodo language is most populated and developing language. All communities of the world have their own different languages. All these languages have their own unique characteristics through which different forms of a language like phonemes, morphology, words etc are identified. Morphology is the study of words, how they are formed and their relationship to other words in the same language. It analyzes the structure of words and parts of words such as stems, root words, prefixes, suffixes etc. Therefore, in this article it is going to be discussed the morphological characteristics of Bodo language.

Keywords: Bodo Language, Characteristics, Morphology.

Introduction

Each and every language has its own characteristics. The technique through which human beings express their thoughts and feelings to others is a language. All communities of the world have their own different languages. As for example, Bodo language, Rabha language, Garo language, Assamese language, Dimasa language, Hindi language, English language etc. All these languages have their own unique characteristics. The hidden face or inside face of a people is known by their characteristics, likewise the inside linguistic forms of a language are also known by its characteristics. Especially characteristics are living habits, working habits etc of a people. Language has also same characteristics through which different forms of a language like phonemes, morphology, words etc are identified.

Description

Each and every language has its own unique characteristics in morphology. It is the study of word structure; the way words are formed. Bodo language has also its own characteristics in morphology. These are:

Characteristics of Bodo Morphology:

a) **Agglutinating:** Agglutinating is also one of the special characteristics of Bodo language. In Bodo language two or more independent words or bound morphemes are combined to form a word. Example:

megɔn + dui = mudui

megɔn + k^hi = muik^hi

ha + sib = hasib

bi + bar = bibar

b) **Opposite meaning of the verb:** There are some rules to make an opposite meaning of a verb in Bodo language. To make an opposite meaning of a verb there are some prefixes and suffixes in Bodo language. These are- (da-), (u-) and (-a). Example:

Da+ za = daza (don't eat)

(v)

Da- + t^haŋ = dat^haŋ (don't go)

(v)

u- + hu = uhu (no)

(v)

t^haŋ + -a = t^haŋa (will not go)

(v)

Maw + -a = mawa (will not do) etc.

(v)



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c) **Uses of numerical word:** There are only ten basic numbers from one to ten for counting in Bodo language. These are:

Numbers	Bodo numbers
1	se
2	nui
3	t ^h am
4	brui
5	ba
6	dɔ
7	Sini
8	daen
9	gu
10	zi

d) **Uses of numerical classifier:** It is also one of the special characteristics of Bodo language. There are various uses of numerical classifiers in Bodo language. These are mainly uses before the numerical words in Bodo language. Moreover, sometimes numerical classifiers are use in Bodo language before or after the noun words.

example:

- Sa + se = sase (in case of human being)
- ma + se = mase (in case of animals)
- p^haŋ + se = p^haŋse (in case of trees)
- bar + se = barse (in case of flower)
- t^hɔ + se = t^hɔse (in case of bamboo) etc.

e) **Agglutinating of independent word for plural form:** To make plural form of a noun different independent words are combined before and after of the noun words in Bodo language. example:

- muisu + p^halu = muisu p^halux
(n)
- Daw + p^halu = daw p^halu. etc
(n)

f) **Uses of noun words to make plural form:** Using a noun word more than once form a word from singular to plural number in Bodo language. example: nɔ nɔ, gami gami, bari bari etc.

g) **Uses of adverbs:** Uses of last syllable of a adverb more than one time makes the meaning of the adverb more effective in Bodo language.

example:

- guza + za = guzaza.
- gusum + sum = gusum sum
- gu^haŋ + t^haŋ = gu^haŋ t^haŋ etc.

h) **Gender change:** There are three formulae to change the gender from male to female in Bodo language. These are:

Through the use of independent word

Male	Female
ada	bazui
gumui	abo
adui	madui
huɔja	hinzaw. etc

Through the use of male female words before and after noun words.

(In case of human being)

Male	Female
p ^h isa zu	p ^h isa zula
huɔja mansi	hinzaw mansi. etc



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(In case of animals)

Male	Female
suima baŋgra	suima baŋgri
musuɔ dambra	musuɔ dambri

(In case of birds)

Male	Female
dawzuɔla	dawzu
daw ^h u zuɔla	daw ^h u zu. etc

Through agglutinating of suffixes after noun words

Male	Female
k ^h ana + /i/	k ^h ani
beŋga + /i/	beŋgi
hait ^h a + /u/	hait ^h u
hɔŋla + /e/	hɔŋle. Etc

Conclusion

From the above analysis and discussions, one can summarize that Bodo language has unique characteristics in morphology such as agglutinating, uses of numerical classifier, gender change etc.

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