6.0 **Classification and Inflection of Verbs in Assamese and Boro.**

6.1 **Structure of Verbs in Assamese**

Verbs in Assamese are those forms which function as the main element in the verb-phrase in the predicate. Assamese verbs consist of a lexical root or stem + inflection for tense, aspect person and mood. The following example could be seen:

- stem alone: /kha/ '(you) eat'
- stem + past: /kha-le/ 'he/she has eaten'
- stem + present progressive: /kha-i as-il/ 'he/she was eating'
- stem + 1st person: /kha-o/ 'I eat'
- stem + Indicative mood: /kha-o/ 'you (non-hon..) eat'

6.2 **Position of Occurrence of verb.**

In the VP the other elements such as verbal suffixes or auxiliaries are added to the head form.

Verbs related with nouns in the subject verb relation. Verbs may colligate with adjectives in V.P. in the Adjective verb relation.

Sometimes only one word, the verb make a sentence in Boro too.

The following. The following examples of position of occurrences of verb could be seen

Sub-V. /mɔi khaɔ/ 'I eat'

N. V.
6.3 Classification of Verbs.

Verbs in Assamese can be classified into the categories such as simple compound and derivative (complex)

6.3.1 Simple Verbs

Simple verbs are one of the class of lexical units whose characteristic syntactic role is as a predicate or predicator and which is characteristic that of words denoting actions or process. e.g. /khoa/ ‘eating’ /zoa/ ‘going’ /hoh/ ‘laughing’ /konda/ ‘crying etc.

All the verbs (simple) verbs are capable of talking inflections and derivations except four irregular verbs such as /nai/, /as/, /thak/ and /bol/.

6.3.2 Compound Verbs.

Some verb root adding some other verbs or verb roots such as noun or adjective, non finite form of verb, third personal form of future tense verb, imperative past tense verb form etc. may add and express the verb form, such verb forms are called complex verbs in Assamese. Examples could be cited as follows:

/zorna kor/ ‘make collection’

/mar k'a/ ‘be beated’

/xekh kor/ ‘make finish’
6.3.3 Derivative (complex) verbs.

Derivative or complex verbs are such kind of verbs which undergo in taking different derivations. Examples could be seen as follows:

/kh\ai pela/ ‘eat and finish’
/dh\ra por/ ‘(make) be caught’
/cha zoa k\or/ (make) go and come’ etc.

6.4 Functional Classification of Verbs.

Functionally the verb in Assamese could be classified as under:

```
Verb
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Finite</th>
<th>Non-finite</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transitive</td>
<td>Intransitive</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

6.4.1 This classification is naturally based on syntactic Consideration.

Assamese verbs thus manifest both finite and non-finite use which consist of a lexical root or stem + inflection for person, tense, aspect (mood). On the other hand the non-finite verb does not show the inflection for person, tense and aspect. The following example could be seen

/te\ b\at kh\ai ofis\loi g\ol/ ‘having eaten rice he has gone to the office’.

/te\ zo\ami b\al pais\o/ ‘we feel good in his going’.

6.5 Other dimension of classification of verb.

The finite verb forms in Assamese can be, from another dimension,
could be classified as under -

1. Transitive and

2. Intransitive verb.

6.5.1 Transitive verb

Transitive is a verb in which a verb is related to at least two nouns or their equivalent, whose semantic roles are characteristically those of an agent and a patient: e.g.

/ram-e _kitap_ porhile/ 'Ram has read a book'.

/mak-e _kesuwak_ gakhir dile/ 'mother gave milk to the baby'.

/teo b^at-∅ k^ale/ 'he has eaten rice'.

6.5.2 Intransitive verb.

Intransitive verb is a construction in which a verb is related to a single noun or its equivalent: e.g. that of

/kaporkhon _bhizile_/ 'the cloth become wet'

/manuhzɔn _mɔriʃ/ 'the man died'.

6.6 Structural Categorisation of Non-finite verb.

The non-finite verb can be categorised in three heads:

(i) Infinitives

(ii) Present participle

(iii) Past participle

6.6.1 Infinitives

Infinitive is a non-finite form of a verb characteristically used in clauses and in other constructions subordinate to another verb. e.g. {-bɔ},
{-boloi} as in
/teo \k^habl/i 'he will eat'
/apel \k^haboloi\ b\al/ 'It is good to eat an apple'.

6.6.2 Present participle

The present participle is a verb which is present in tense conventionally of forms such as {-i}, {-ote} etc. e.g.
/teo b\at \k^hai skuloloi g\ol/ 'having finished eating he has gone to school'.
/mor ahote p\al\om h\ol/ 'I am late to come'.

6.6.3 Past participle

Any participle which is past in tense is past participle. Conventionally of forms such as {-il\at}, {-l\at}, {-ile}, {-le}
/teo k\ai korile/ 'he has done the work'.
/ma-e b\at \khale/ 'mother has eatenrice'.
/moi \bohilot teo bohil/ 'he sat down after my sitting'.

6.7 Classification of Verbs in terms of Morphological Characteristics.

In terms of regularity of inflection for categories of tense and person, Assamese verbs may be classified into three major classes. This can be represented diagramically as under -
6.7.1 Regular verbs

Regular verbs are those that show regular inflection for all grammatical categories relevant to verbs. They are divided -

(i) Simple verb

(ii) Periphrastic and

(iii) Compound verb.

6.7.1.1 Simple verb

For this section we can show the section No. 6.3.1. as discussed above.

6.7.1.2 Periphrastic verbs

Periphrastic verbs are those that consist of a main verb in non-finite forms in {-i} or in {-bɔ́, -ibɔ́} and auxiliary /as/ ‘be’ or ‘par/ ‘can’ which carry tense and person marker.

6.7.1.3 Compound verbs

This can be discussed to the preceding section, 6.3.2.

6.7.2 Irregular verbs

Irregular verbs are those that do not undergo to take inflection or derivation in as usual way. There are four irregular verbs such as:

/nai/, /as/, /bək/, /zə/ and /bəl/

Of those verbs above /nai/ does not undergo regular inflection of regular verb form. /za/ ‘go’ only undergo after changing to /gɔ́/ and then the present and future form /bəl/ occurs only in imperative mood.

3.7.3 Anomalous Verbs.

6.7.3.1 There are two anomalous verbs in Assamese. They are /as/ ‘have’
and /lag/ ‘to want/need’. The verb stem /lag/ sometimes shows grammatical person agreement with object rather than the subject and it obtains patient rather than the agent: Example could be seen as under.

/mok kitapkh on lage/ ‘I need the book’
object

/taik kapor lagibo/ ‘she need cloth’
patient

In all those examples the verb shows person agreement with the object (person).

6.8 Nature of the Verb stem in Assamese.

The verb stem or root in Assamese could be classified as under:

(i) Vowel ending verb stem/root and

(ii) Consonant ending verb stem/root

The classification is relevant in respect of the selection of the morphemic alternants of tenses; e.g. a verb stem ending in vowel such as {kha-} takes {-m} to constitute /kham/ ‘(I) shall eat’. Whereas a verb stem ending in a consonant such as {porh-} ‘read’ takes {-im} to constitute /porhim/ ‘(I) shall read’ in the future. Similarly in the past; the vowel ending verb stem can be sub-classified as follows:

(i) {o} and {a} ending

(ii) {i} ending and

(iii) {o} ending.

6.9 Mood and Person in Assamese verbs.

Assamese verbs manifests the moods are as follows:

(i) Indicative mood
6.9.1 Indicative mood

The mood and person marks in the indicative mood along with their allomorphs of the verbs in Assamese could be tabulated as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person and Rank</th>
<th>Per. Morpheme (= marker)</th>
<th>Allomorphs</th>
<th>Conditions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st person</td>
<td>{-6}</td>
<td>[-5, -4]</td>
<td>{-φ} after future tense suffix, {-6} elsewhere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd person (non-honor.)</td>
<td>{-i}</td>
<td>{-i, -a}</td>
<td>{-φ} occurs after simple present tense suffix and {-i} elsewhere.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd person (honorific)</td>
<td>{-a}</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>{-a} occurs with all tenses suffix and in all mood.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd person (more hon.) &amp; 3rd person</td>
<td>{-e}</td>
<td>[-e, -j, -6]</td>
<td>{-φ} after future tense suffix {-φ} after past indefinite and past perfect, {-a} or {-a} elsewhere.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Illustrations:

The following examples in the sentences will illustrate the use of the personal morpheme given in above table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present</th>
<th>Past</th>
<th>Future</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/moi kʰa -6/ ‘I eat’</td>
<td>/moi kʰal-6/</td>
<td>/moi kʰa-m/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/tɔi kha-6/ ‘you eat’</td>
<td>/tɔi kʰa-li/</td>
<td>/tɔi kʰa-bi/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/tumi kʰow-a/ ‘you eat’</td>
<td>/tumi kʰla/</td>
<td>/tumi kʰab-a/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/teô kʰa-e/ ‘he eats’</td>
<td>/teô kʰai-is-il/</td>
<td>/teô kʰab-a/</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.9.2 Imperative mood

The imperative mood restricted to the second and third person only.

It expresses a command, a request and an wish. The mood and person marker
in the imperative mood tabulated below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person and Rank</th>
<th>Per. Morpheme (= marker)</th>
<th>Allomorphs</th>
<th>Conditions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd person</td>
<td>{-φ}</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>{-φ} occurs with the verb root in the imperative mood and present tense.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(non-hon.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd person</td>
<td>{-a}</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>{-a} occurs with the verb root in imperative mood.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(hon.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd person</td>
<td>{-k}</td>
<td>[-ok, -ok]</td>
<td>{-ok} occurs with verb root ending in /-a/ or /-o/ and {-ok} elsewhere.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(more hon.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd person</td>
<td>Some as above</td>
<td></td>
<td>same as above</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As could be seen mood morpheme are same as personal morpheme.

Illustrations:

The above mood morpheme could be illustrated as under:

2nd person (non-hon.) /tɔi kha-φ/ 'you eat'
2nd person (hon.) /tumi kho-a/ 'you eat'
2nd person (more hon.) /apuni kha-ok/ 'you eat'
3rd person same as above.

6.9.3 Contrafactive mood.

Assamese obtains contrafactive mood along with the past tense verb {-hsten} is suffixed, Example could be seen as follows -

/mɔi kɔrilɔ-keten/ ‘I would have done’
/tumi xula-heten/ ‘you would have slept’
/tɔi dhɔrilɔ-heten/ ‘you would have caught’
/apuni lɔle-heten/ ‘you would have taken’
6.10 Tense in Assamese.

Assamese verb manifests three tenses, viz, present, past and future tense. They are marked by suffixation. These morphemes are directly suffixed to the verb stem. If there is any aspect marker, it variably precedes the tense marker. They are not terminal suffixes; person markers invariably are added to the tense marker.

6.10.1 Present tense

The present tense is marked by {-φ}, person markers are added to them. It may be seen that verb stems ending in {-e} change to {-i} when any person suffix is to be added to them and the stem final /-o/ is deleted when the first person /-ő/ is added to them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb stem</th>
<th>1st person</th>
<th>2nd person (non-hon.)</th>
<th>2nd person (hon.)</th>
<th>2nd person (more hon.) &amp; 3rd person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/ah/</td>
<td>/ah-φ-ő/</td>
<td>/ah-φ/</td>
<td>/ah-φ-a/</td>
<td>/ah-φ-e/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/de/</td>
<td>/di-φ-ő/</td>
<td>/di-φ/</td>
<td>/di-φ-a/</td>
<td>/di-φ-e/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/xo/</td>
<td>/xo-φ-ő/</td>
<td>/xo-φ/</td>
<td>/xp-φ-a/</td>
<td>/xo-φ-e/</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.10.2 Past tense

The past tense is marked by {-il}. It has another allomorphs, that is {-l}, {-il} occur with consonants ending stem and {-l} occurs with verbs ending stem. In precede the past tense markers the absence of aspect suffixes the past tense markers are directly suffixed to the verb stem. The person markers are added to tense morpheme. The following illustrations could be seen.
The morphemic change to be noted here is that the stem final /-o/ > to /-u/ and the stem final /-e/ > to /-i/ when the past tense marker is to be added.

### 6.10.3 Future tense

The future tense is marked by {-ib}. It has three allomorphs {-b}, {-im} and {-m}. {-im} and {-m} occur with first person, {-ib} and {-b} occur with second and third person. Of them, {-ib} and {-im} occur with consonant ending verb stems, {-b}, {-m} occur with vowel ending verb stems.

The following illustrations could be seen.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb stem</th>
<th>1st person</th>
<th>2nd person (non-hon.)</th>
<th>2nd person (hon.)</th>
<th>2nd person more (hon.) &amp; 3rd person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/ah/</td>
<td>/ah-im-φ/</td>
<td>/ah-ib-i/</td>
<td>/ah-ib-a/</td>
<td>/ah-ib-ɔ/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/thɔ/</td>
<td>/thɔ-m-φ/</td>
<td>/thɔ-ib-i/</td>
<td>/thɔ-ib-a/</td>
<td>/thɔ-ib-ɔ/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ne/</td>
<td>/ni-m-φ/</td>
<td>/ni-ib-i/</td>
<td>/ni-ib-a/</td>
<td>/ni-ib-ɔ/</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The morpheme changes of the ending in /-e/ and /-o/ as noted in the preceding sec. 6.10.2 hold good here too.
6.11 Aspects in Assamese Verbs.

Assamese verbs manifest aspectual contrast. The simple verb or non-compound verb in present or past tense manifests two aspects such as -

(i) Habitual or indefinite and

(ii) Perfective

6.11.1 The simple verb or non compound verb in future tense manifest only one aspect namely habitual or indefinite. It does not manifest the perfective aspect. The aspect marker have no allomorphs. They could be tabulated as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aspect</th>
<th>Aspect marker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Habitual or indefinite</td>
<td>{-φ-}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perfective</td>
<td>{-is-}</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.11.2 The aspect markers are directly added to the verb stem; tense marker, if any, is suffixed to the aspect markers; in the absence of tense marker, the person marker is directly added to the aspect marker, since for tense does not manifest aspectual content and present tense is marked by {-φ}, the following tabulation may be presented

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tense</th>
<th>Habitual or Indefinite</th>
<th>Perfective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Present</td>
<td>/kό - φ - φ - ő/ V.S.+ A + T + P ‘(I) tell’</td>
<td>/kό - is - φ - ő/ V.S+ A + T + P ‘(I) have spoken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past</td>
<td>/kό - φ - ő/ V.S.+ A + T + P ‘(I) told’</td>
<td>/kό - is - il - ő/ V.S+ A + T + P ‘(I) have spoken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future</td>
<td>/kό - φ - m - φ/ V.S+ A + T + P</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.12 Structure of verbs in Boro.

Verbs in Boro are those forms which function as the heads of verb phrases in the predicate slot of non-equational sentences. Boro verbs consist of a lexical root or stem + inflection for tense, aspect and mood. Boro verbs do not have person inflection. The following examples could be seen.

Stem alone: /kʰon-a/ ‘I/you/he/she sing’
Stem+past: /kʰon-daŋ/ ‘I/you/he/she sang’
Stem+present: /kʰon-daŋ-maŋ/ ‘I/you/he/she was singing’
   progressive
Stem+imperative: /kʰon-a/ ‘(you) sing’

6.13 Position of Occurrence of verbs.

Generally the verb stem functions as the head of a verb-phrase in the predicate slot. Other elements such as verbal suffixes or auxiliaries are added to the head form.

Like Assamese verbs colligate with nouns in the Subject verb relation and with nouns in VPs in the object verb relation. Verbs may colligate with adjectives in VPs in the adverb verb relation. Sometimes are verb alone can make a sentence. The following example of position of occurrence of verbs could be seen.

Sub.+V. /an tʰaugun/ ‘I shall go’
   N. V.
Obj.+V. /bi ənkʰam zaguŋ/ ‘he will eat rice’
   Pron. N. V.
V+Adj. /be sikʰlaja somajna/ ‘this girl is beautiful’
   N. N. Adj.
V-alone /zaguŋ/ ‘(I) shall eat’
   V.
6.14 Classification of Verbs.

Verbs in Boro also can be classified into three categories; such as

(i) Simple verbs

(ii) Compound verbs and

(iii) Derivative verbs (complex verbs).

6.14.1 Simple verbs

A simple verb is one which consist of a lexical root or stem+inflection for tense, aspect or/and mood. The Boro verb does not show inflection for person. The verb form /kʰalam/ ‘I/you/he/she do’ is a simple verb; it consist of a single verb stem {kʰalam-} ‘do’ + present tens suffix {-jʊ} /kʰalamjʊ/. Similarly, {za-} eat + present tense suffix {-jʊ}, /zajʊ/ ‘I/you/he/she eat’ etc. also are simple verbs. There is no other elements in between the root or stem and the tense inflection.


Some verb roots adding some other verbs or verb roots such as noun or adjective, non-finite form of verb, third personal form of future tense verb, imperative past tense verb form etc. may add and express the verb form, such verb forms are called complex verbs in Boro. Examples could be cited as follows:

/zə kʰalam/ ‘make collection’

/tʰarjlai pʰʊi lai kʰalam/ ‘go and come’

/za zʊb/ ‘eat and finish’ etc.

6.14.3 Derivative (Complex) verbs.

Some verbs are there in Boro which undergo in taking different
derivations are called derivative or complex verbs. Examples could be seen as under:

\[ /\text{bi baj}/ \text{`go on begging'} \]
\[ /\text{thar\_ baw}/ \text{`go again'} \]
\[ /\text{la bdl}/ \text{`take and come with the thing'} \]
\[ /\text{thar\_ bro}/ \text{`go accidentally'} \]
\[ /\text{za brob}/ \text{`eat hastily'} \]
\[ /\text{hubtha}/ \text{`oppose'} \]

6.15 **Functional Classification of Verbs.**

Functionally the verbs in Boro could be classified as under:

\[ \begin{array}{c|c|c|c|c}
\hline
\text{Verb} & \text{Finite} & \text{Non-finite} \\
\hline
\text{Finite} & \text{Transitive} & \text{Intransitive} & \text{Infinitives} & \text{Participles} \\
\hline
\end{array} \]

6.15.1 This classification is also naturally based on syntactic consideration.

Boro verbs thus manifest both finite and non-finite use which consist of a lexical root or stem + inflection for person, tense, aspect (mood). On the other hand the non-finite verb does not show the inflection for person, tense and aspect. The following example could be seen:

\[ /\text{bij\_ q\_k\_am zanana}\_ p\_oraisaliao t\_nd\_n}/ \text{`having eater rice he has gone to school.'} \]
\[ /\text{bij\_ t\_annajao a\_ m\_z\_n m\_nd\_n}/ \text{`I feel good in his going'} \].
6.16 Other dimension of Classification of verbs.

The finite verb forms in Assamese can be from another dimension, could be classified as under -

1. Transitive verb and
2. Intransitive verb

6.16.1 Transitive verb

Transitive is a verb in which a verb is related to at least two hours or their equivalent, whose syntactic roles are characteristically those of an agent and a patient; e.g.:

/adaja biza p'orajaj/ '(My) elder brother has read a book'.

/laokhara mason gaq sa huda/ 'the cowboy has given grass to the cow'.

/bazwija anhan gata/ 'sister-in-law has eaten rice.'

6.16.2 Intransitive verb

Intransitive verb is a construction in which a verb is related to a single noun or its equivalent; e.g. that of

/mansia t'jwa huda/ 'the man died.'

/k'jula ma gmadh/ 'the pen has lost'.

6.17 Structural Categorisation of Non-finite Verb.

The non-finite verb of Boro can be categorised in three heads:

(i) Infinitives

(ii) Present participle and

(iii) Past participle
6.17.1 Infinitives

Infinitive is a non-finite form of a verb characteristically used in
classes and in other constructions subordinate to another verb e.g. {–nə} as in

/gəkʰəi zənə muəən nənə/ ‘it is not good to eat sour’.
/ziboukʰou homnajao gınə nəŋəu/ ‘one should careful to hold a snake’

6.17.2 Present participle.

The present participle is a verb which is present in tense conventionally of forms such as {–nənəj} and {–nəjəo} e.g.

/aŋə phənənajəo ʒəbəəo zadəŋə/ ‘I am late to come’
/bijə əŋkəhm zənənəj ələnə homdəŋə/ ‘having finished his eating he started playing’.

6.17.3 Past participle

Any participle which is past in tense is past participle, Conventionally of forms such as {–bəj}, {–dəŋə} and {–bfə} are past participle suffixal morphemes in Boro. The following example could be seen.

/bijə khanənikhou maobaj/ ‘he has done the work’
/gothoə undubaj/ ‘the baby has slept’
/nilimajə səpənədəŋə/ ‘Nilima has come’
/aŋ undujəbəla bi ələdəŋə/ ‘he played when I was sleeping’.

6.18 Classification of verbs in terms of Morphological Characteristics.

In terms of regularity of inflection for categories of tenses and aspect, Boro verbs may be classified into two major classes. This can be
represented diagrammatically as under:

```
Verb
  ↓  ↓
Regular  Anomolous
  ↓  ↓
Simple  Periphrastic  Verb Compound
```

6.18.1 Regular verbs

Regular verbs are those that show regular inflection for all grammatical categories relevant to verbs. Depending upon their morphological scatter regular verbs are divided into three categories. These are -

(i) Simple verb
(ii) Periphrastic verb
(iii) Verb compound

6.18.2 Simple verb

This has been discussed in the preceding section 6.14.1.

6.18.3 Periphrastic verb.

Periphrastic verbs are those that consist of a main verb in non finite forms in {-nanqi}, or {-nq} and an auxiliary {-gasino} + inflection for tense, aspect and/ or mood.

6.18.4 Verb compound

This has been discussed in the preceding section no. 6.14.2.

6.18.5 Anomolous verbs

There are two anomolous verbs in Boro. These are /doη/ 'have' and /naη/ 'want', 'need'. The verb stem /naη/ in the sense of 'needing' and 'wanting' something forms immediate constituency with the object rather than the subject and it does obtain a patient rather than an agent. Similarly
/dor/ also forms immediate constituents with the object and the subject, noun or pronoun appear in the possessive form. Besides, the verb stem /naŋ/ and /dor/ undergo inflections for all tenses. The following example could be seen.

/ŋəŋ bizaŋ naŋgəw/ 'I need the book'.
(patient) (object)

/ŋəŋ bizaŋ naŋgən/ 'I will need the book'.
(patient) (object)

/biŋ dəi naŋgən/ 'she will need water'.
(patient) (object)

/ŋəha no doŋo/ 'I have a house'.
(possessor) (object)

/ŋəŋha raŋ doŋmən/ 'you had money'.
(possessor) (object)

6.18.6 In all these examples the verbs with the objects, which are in third person and not with the subject which are sometimes patient and sometimes possessor and represent three different persons.

The verbs inflected from the stem /naŋ/ in the sense of 'feeling' or 'experiencing something' also show person agreement with the object rather than the subject, and does obtain a possessor rather than an Agent. The following example could be seen.

/ŋə məzan məŋə/ 'I feel happy'.
(possessor)

/ŋəŋə gazri məŋdən/ 'you felt bad'
(possessor)

/biŋ məzan məŋgən/ 'she will feel happy'.
(possessor)
In all these examples too the verbs form immediate constituents with the objects /bizab/ ‘book’, /μαζαυ/ ‘good/happy’ /gazri/ ‘bad’ and not with the subject which appear in possessive form and represent are three different persons of the pronoun concern.

6.18.7 The verbs inflected from the stem /νοη/ in the sense of ‘obliged to do something’ show no grammatical person agreement with the Agent although it obtains an Agent in Agentive form proper. It remains same irrespective of the person of the subject pronoun or tense/mood of the main verb. The following example could be seen.

/αν θανον νανγα/ ‘I shall have to go’.

/ναη ζανω ναγα/ ‘you will have to eat’.

/bi pʰoraino nanγuṃan/ ‘she/he had to read’

6.19 Mood in Boro Verbs.

Boro verbs manifest three moods. They are as follows-

(i) Indicative mood

(ii) Imperative mood and

(iii) Contrafactive mood.

6.19.1 Indicative

Boro verb have no modal marker for the indicative mood. Mood and tense marker in Boro go together so far indicative mood is concern.

6.19.2 Imperative mood

The imperative is restricted to the second and third person only. As per tense is concerned it is relevant to present tense only. The imperative mood in Boro is marked by {-də} which is used to when there is a second
person both (hon. and non.hon.) and with the third person \{tʰəni\} is added \{-du\} has an allomorph also \{-naj\}. Example could be seen as under -

/ṇən kʰalam du/ ‘you (please) do’.
/bi kʰalam tʰəni/ ‘It may be done by him’.
/ṇən kʰalamnaj/ ‘you (pleas) do’.

6.19.3 Contrafactive mood

Boro obtains contrafactive mood along with the past tense verb like assamese \{-grənən\} is suffixed. Example could be seen as follows -

/aṇ kʰalam - gu - mən/ ‘I would have done’.
V.S + future tense +past tense mood
/ṇən undu - gu - mən/ ‘you would have slept’.
V.S + future tense +past tense mood
/ṇən hom - gu - mən/ ‘you would be caught’.
V.S + future tense +past tense mood

It may be noted that in all moods of Boro there is no person marker in different mood of the verbs. In Boro verb is fully inflected for future and past tense and then the mood marker is suffixed to it.

6.20 Tense in Boro.

Boro verb manifests three tenses as Assamese does, viz, present, past and future tense. They are marked by suffixation. These morphemes are directly suffixed to the verb stem. If there is any aspect marker, it invariably precedes the tense marker. They are not terminal suffixes but person markers are not added to the tense marker like Assamese.

6.20.1 Present tense

The present tense in Boro is marked by \{-ə\}, no person markers are added to them. The following illustrations could be seen.
### 6.20.2 Past tense

The past tense in Boro is marked by {-baj} which has no allomorph like Assamese. The past tense marker is directly suffixed to the verb stem. No person marked is added to tense morpheme. The following illustration could be seen:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb stem</th>
<th>1st person</th>
<th>2nd person (non. hon.)</th>
<th>2nd person (hon.)</th>
<th>3rd person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/phogi/</td>
<td>/phi-ø/</td>
<td>/phogi-ø/</td>
<td>/phogi-ø/</td>
<td>/phogi-ø/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/hor/</td>
<td>/hor-ø/</td>
<td>/hor-ø/</td>
<td>/hor-ø/</td>
<td>/hor-ø/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/za/</td>
<td>/za-ø/</td>
<td>/za-ø/</td>
<td>/za-ø/</td>
<td>/za-ø/</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 6.20.3 Future tense

The future tense in Boro is marked by {-gøn}. It has also no allomorphs and common to all and no person marker is added to them. The following illustrations could be seen:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb stem</th>
<th>1st person</th>
<th>2nd person (non. hon.)</th>
<th>2nd person (hon.)</th>
<th>3rd person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/phogi/</td>
<td>/phogi-gøn/</td>
<td>/phogi-gøn/</td>
<td>/phogi-gøn/</td>
<td>/phogi-gøn/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/hab/</td>
<td>/hab-gøn/</td>
<td>/hab-gøn/</td>
<td>/hab-gøn/</td>
<td>/hab-gøn/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/za/</td>
<td>/za-gøn/</td>
<td>/za-gøn/</td>
<td>/za-gøn/</td>
<td>/za-gøn/</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 6.21 Aspects in Boro Verbs

Boro verbs manifest no aspectual contrast like Assamese. The simple verb or non compound verb in near past manifest aspects. The aspectual marker is /-kʰaŋ-/ . It does not manifest in present and future tense verbs. The following examples could be seen.

/əŋ buŋkʰaŋbaj/ ‘I have just told’
/bi tʰaŋkʰaŋbaj/ ‘he has just gone’
/mansa pʰwïkʰaŋbaj/ ‘the man has just arrived’.

### 6.22 Concluding Remarks.

#### 6.22.1 Verbs in Assamese consist of a lexical root or stem + inflection for tense, aspect, person and mood. But verbs in Boro consist of a lexical root or stem + inflection for tense, aspect and mood. Boro verbs do not have inflection.

#### 6.22.2 Position of occurrence of verbs in both the languages are same.

#### 6.22.3 Both the languages can be classified into three categories namely, simple, compound and complex verbs.

#### 6.22.4 Functionally the verbs in both the languages could be classified as under

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>finite</th>
<th>non-finite</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>finite</td>
<td>transitive</td>
<td>intransitive</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A transitive verb in Assamese necessarily colligates with a transitive subject which is overtly marked by nominative case. But in Boro it is not
possible; because Boro does not have nominative case morpheme.

6.22.5 Both the languages make a distinction between finite and non-finite verbs. The non-finite verbs show many sub categories such as infinitives present participle and past participle. Each of these sub categories manifests two types each in Assamese, whereas only one type in Boro.

6.22.6 In terms of regularity of inflection for categories of tense and person, verbs in Assamese may be classified into three major classes. They are regular, irregular and anomalous. Regular verbs can be sub categorised into three types namely, simple, periphrastic and verb compound. But Boro verbs may be classified only two types, they are regular and anomalous. The anomalous verbs in both the languages manifest the same pattern.

6.22.7 Verbs in both the languages manifest three moods, they are indicative, imperative and contrafactive mood. Assamese mood morpheme and person morpheme go together. The imperative mood is restricted to second and third person in both languages. The imperative mood and person morpheme in Assamese are {-ϕ} and {-ɔk} (see sec. 6.9.2) and are distinct from imperative mood like the person morphemes {-ɔ} and {-e}, {-ɔ} being common. Boro imperative mood morphemes are {-nʊŋu}, {-dahaj} {-najsaj} (kʰalam najsaj). They are not person marker.

6.22.8 Assamese simple or one word verbs manifest two aspects, such as habitual or indefinite and perfective, Boro simple or one word verbs also manifest three aspect such as habitual or indefinite, progressive and perfective. In addition to these Boro manifest progressive.
6.23 Notes and Explanations


3. This classification of verbs followed the classificatin stated as sec. 6.4.