Chapter XVII.

Compound Words.

197. In Kamrupi, the habit of grouping two synonymous or different words for the sake of 'amplification or generalisation of the meaning conveyed by one of them' is very much seen. Sometimes the compounding words give a related meaning also. The constituent elements in both the parts may be of completely foreign or native origin or one of them may be of foreign origin. The following examples will make this clear:

siri - biddhi 'appearance, form, prosperity' (skt. śrī - vṛddhi).
kām - kās 'work' (skt. karma - kārya).
sākar - nākar 'servant' (Pers. sākar - naukar).
māmlā - makāddāmā 'a suit' (Ar. māmlā - mukdamā).
dakān - pahār 'shop' (Pers. dukān - skt. pāśara).
hāuā - pānī 'climate' (Ar. havā - skt. pāṇīya).
āhā - za 'connection' (lit. coming and going).
kha - la 'close connection' (lit. eating and taking)

198. Other examples:

kās - kārkhanā 'ceremony'. cf. kārkhanā 'factory'.
kāpur - kāni 'clothing'. (lit. cloth and rag).
kāndā - kātā 'crying'.
kathā - bāstrā 'talk, advice'. cf. kathā 'talk'; bāstrā 'news'.
gah - goti 'behaviour, tendency'.
giri - ghar 'family'.
sā - soli 'offspring'. cf. sāūā 'child'.
199. Another variety of compound words is that here one of the constituent elements carries no meaning independently at present but they are always compounded with the other element. In the examples of § 198 both the elements carry meaning and they can be used independently. In the following examples the second element has no meaning and cannot be used independently. Examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sānā - sānā</td>
<td>'acquaintance, acquainted'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sāl - bākāl</td>
<td>'skin, the covering'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sāti - kul</td>
<td>'caste'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>takā - poisā</td>
<td>'money'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tiri - soli</td>
<td>'family'. (lit. wife and child)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dām - dar</td>
<td>'price, value'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dāi - segā</td>
<td>'quarrel'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dekhā - xunā</td>
<td>'acquaintance'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pār - kul</td>
<td>'shore, bank'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bāu - batāh</td>
<td>'wind'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bari - beti</td>
<td>'women folk' (lit. daughter-in-law and daughter)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bār - tāthi</td>
<td>'auspicious day'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bhāi - bhāgi</td>
<td>'blood relations'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bhār - bheti</td>
<td>'bribe'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>moti - goti</td>
<td>'behaviour, tendency'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sātā - bulā</td>
<td>'speaking terms'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rāndhā - bārā</td>
<td>'cooking'. (lit. cooking and distribution)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lā - dhunā</td>
<td>'anything of little value'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xudhā - pusā</td>
<td>'asking'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xāsān - kāsān</td>
<td>'dressing'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xadāi - xarbodāi</td>
<td>'always'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>āi - utpān</td>
<td>'income'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Another variety of compound words is that here one of the constituent elements carries no meaning independently at present but they are always compounded with the other element. In the examples of § 198 both the elements carry meaning and they can be used independently. In the following examples the second element has no meaning and cannot be used independently. Examples:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>kāiśā - pesāl</td>
<td>'quarrel'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kharās - bharās</td>
<td>'expense'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gudā - gādi</td>
<td>'fragments of wood'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>soli - poli</td>
<td>'child'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thāṭṭhā - bislākha</td>
<td>'joke'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dihā - pahā</td>
<td>'advice'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dhār - dhupār</td>
<td>'lean'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nāti - puti</td>
<td>'posterity'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>poti - āti</td>
<td>'nursing'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pusā - pātāl</td>
<td>'worshiping ceremony'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>phal - phakār</td>
<td>'fruit'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ban - bāri</td>
<td>'work'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bandhā - bheinnā</td>
<td>'servant'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bābu - bhāīā</td>
<td>'gentlemen'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bāmun - xazān</td>
<td>'brahmins'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>biā - bāru</td>
<td>'marriage'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>biā - bhīn</td>
<td>'marriage'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>māhnu - duhnu</td>
<td>'man, people'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lag - zug</td>
<td>'companion'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>laghān - bhakhān</td>
<td>'without taking any food'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rāti - piāl</td>
<td>'(a) night'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xoru - xurā</td>
<td>'small'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

200. In the following examples none of the two elements carries any meaning independently but taken together they convey on sense:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>leru - petu</td>
<td>'system'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kahān - gahān</td>
<td>'discussion'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kahān - mahān</td>
<td>'discussion'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>phāhā - phuahā</td>
<td>'whispering'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>