This thesis presents the descriptive grammar of Sadu Koireng. Sadu Koireng is a Tibeto-Burman language spoken 30 kilometres away from Imphal at Senapati district of Manipur. As a background of this study we give the origin, habitation, growth and identify among other tribes of Manipur.

The thesis “A descriptive grammar of Sadu Koireng is important from two angles: the work will help developing the grammar of the language. As the language is spoken by numerically very weak people, it is very important that the language needs to be documented. They have no printed text worth to be analysed linguistically. Sadu Koireng language has not been introduced yet for teaching in any government educational institute. This thesis consist of six chapters.

The first chapter provides a basic introduction to the Sadu Koireng language and people. Their origin and settlements are also briefly discussed in this chapter. The method of data collection has also been included in this chapter.

Chapter two examines the phonology of Sadu koireng. There are thirty-one phonemes altogether. This chapter started with a phonological analysis which includes segmental phonology of the vowels and the consonants. This is followed by analysis of syllables and tones. There are six vowel phonemes, namely, /i, e, u,
ə and o/. The occurrences of these vowel phonemes have also been discussed. All the six vowels can occur in all the positions of the word – initial, medial and final positions. However, the phonemes /e/ and /o/ occur rarely in the initial position. There are four diphthongs. They are /əi/, /ai/, /oi/ and /ui/. We then discussed the consonant phonemes. The consonant phonemes are /p, t, c, k, pʰ, tʰ, kʰ, b, z, s, h, m, n, .ConnectionString1, r, w and y/. There are nineteen consonants, out of these nineteen consonant phonemes, nine phonemes /p, t, k, m, n, ConnectionString1, l, r and y/ can occur in all positions of a word. But phonemes /b, d, z, c, s, h, pʰ, tʰ, kʰ and w/ cannot occur in the final position. In Sadu Koireng language consonant cluster is very limited and only one type of cluster is found in initial and medial positions. The type of cluster is stop + liquid. eg. /kross/ ‘cross’, /klass/ ‘class’ and /cəkri/ ‘crusher’. All the consonant clusters are found only on borrowed lexical items.

The chapter three discusses about the morphological processes of the Sadu Koireng language. In the morphological processes roots and affixes have been discussed. Derivational processes includes affixation and compounding. Two types of roots namely, free roots and bound roots in Sadu Koireng have also been examined. Bound roots are divided into two, nominal and verbal bound roots. Nominal bound roots are all kinship terms, e.g., /pa/ ‘father’, /pu/ ‘grandfather’ and /nu/ ‘mother’, etc. Unless one of the pronominal suffixes is added to the nominal bound root, it does not give a complete sense, for example ki- is to be prefixed to the root –pa to form ki-pa ‘my father’. The verbal bound roots again have
been divided into two types as stative and dynamic bound roots. Affixes are divided into two types as prefix and suffix. Prefix also has been divided into two types as pronominal and non-pronominal prefixes. These pronominal prefixes can occur with nouns and verbs. In suffix, there are two types, that is, nominal and verbal suffixes. Nominal suffixes are gender, number, case, and interrogative suffixes etc. In verbal suffix, various verbal suffixes are found in this language. They are suffixes indicating aspects, negatives, imperatives and interrogative. In compounding, there are three types of compounding. They are (a) Endocentric (b) Exocentric and (c) Co-ordinate compounds.

Chapter four provides analyses about the lexical and grammatical categories of the language. It includes noun and categories of nouns, pronouns and its classification, pronominal prefixes, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, gender, number, case, etc. There is no grammatical gender in this language. It is denoted by the natural gender suffixes. The gender suffixes /nul, lpa/, /lpu, pəsə/ and /numəyl/ etc. indicate human noun and /təŋ, lcəl/ and /khoŋ/ etc., indicate animates nouns respectively. Further, it has also discussed about the number, case, connective and numerals.

Different types of functional sentences are discussed in the chapter five. They are: declarative, negative, exclamatory, imperative, optative, interrogative and reduplication.
Declarative sentence expresses a statement or an assertion. Like any other Tibeto-Burman language in Sadu Koireng the word order is also SOV and it is pronominalized language.

Sadu Koireng negation is formed by the suffixation of negative marker /mək/ to the verb root. Prohibitive negation is formed by the suffixation of /–mək rəl/ and /–mək rul/, singular and plural respectively.

Exclamations are indicted by the markers /oh/, /əŋəŋtukka/ and /əhoykokjəy/. They are used to express surprise and happy emotion. There are also discussed about the interrogative question markers. They are divided into two.

1) Yes/No question and
2) Wh-question markers. Yes/No question is formed by adding the question marker /nə/ to the nouns and wh-question is formed by adding wh-question words in the sentences.
3) Optative Sentence is indicated by the suffix /sən/ rise.
4) In this language there are two types of imperative. It is formed by adding the suffix /–ro/ and /–ru/ to the verbal roots. In the request imperatives of /ni-/ and suffixation of /–pek/ followed by the imperative marker /–ro/ or /–ru/.
5) Let imperative is formed by suffixing /–roy/ to the verb directly root.