PREFACE
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As a student of M.A. Final year in the Deptt. of Hindi, Gauhati University, I attended a seminar in the year 1990. The Chief guest of the seminar was Dr. Devendranath Sarma, a noted linguist and Prof & Head, Deptt. of Hindi, Patna University. He delivered a valuable lecture on the importance of Bhashavijnan and that inspired me to pursue research work for the Ph. D. Degree in the field of linguistic studies after the completion of my Post Graduation.

In this field, I was encouraged by honourable Sir Dr. Achyut Sarma, Reader, Hindi Deptt. Gauhati University and he gave his consent to guide me in my Ph. D. research work. He helped me into selecting the subject of my choice in the field of linguistics as "A Comparative Study of the Avyayas in Hindi and Assamese."

Both Hindi and Assamese, originated from Sanskrit, belong to the Indo-European Family of languages through the Indo-Aryan branch. Thus Hindi and Assamese are sister languages with lots of similarities and differences as well. A comparative study of both the languages may immensely contribute towards national unity and integrity of a great country like India. In this backdrop comparative study of Hindi and Assamese has more relevance and practical value.

In any language, the sentence is regarded as its basic unit. A sentence is a well organised unit of words which are known as the Padas, i.e. parts of speech. Sanjna or Visheshya i.e. Noun, Sarvnaam i.e. Pronoun, Visheshan i.e. Adjective, Kriya i.e. Verb and Avyaya i.e. non-declinable words are the
commonly accepted parts of speech in context of the Hindi and the Assamese languages. All these five parts of speech have their own roles to play in a sentence and they have their importance too. As far as the avyayas are concerned, some of them use to signify the verbs, some others use to join two words or two clauses in a sentence, some more use of establish relation of a noun or a pronoun with the rest of the sentence, while some others use to denote strong feelings like happiness sorrow, astonishment etc. Thus the avyayas use to play very significant roles in a sentence. In fact they are the vital factors in understanding the meaning and structure of a sentence. Moreover, unless one is well acquainted with the meaning and usages of the avyayas, one is not able to speak and write correct sentences in any languages.

If a detailed study of all the parts of speech was undertaken, it would have been difficult to cover all the essential features in one thesis. Therefore, the present comparative study of the avyayas in Hindi and Assamese, untouched till today, is certainly a more important subject than any other topic to give some fruitful results having practical utility.

To make the above mentioned study more clear and scientific, we have divided the thesis into nine chapters as follows, which are internally connected:

The First Chapter contains the discussion on the scope and other relevant aspects of the study. Few points, like - importance of language, its different units, parts of speech in Hindi and Assamese, significance of the avyayas, methodology to be adopted in the study and works done in the proposed field are dealt here briefly.

The Second Chapter incorporates a brief description of the growth and development of both the Hindi and Assamese languages.

The theoretical analysis of the avyayas have made in the Third Chapter.
The important points, like definition, classification and kinds of the avyayas are dealt here exhaustively.

The **Fourth Chapter** contains the comparative discussion on the *Kriyavisheshanas* i.e., Adverbs in Hindi and Assamese in respect of definition, kinds, etymology, meaning and usages.

The **Fifth Chapter** encompasses the comparative discussion on the *Samuchchaybodhakas* i.e. Conjunctions in Hindi and Assamese in respect on definition, kinds, etymology, meaning and usages.

The **Sambandhbodhakas** i.e. words to indicate relation in Hindi and Assamese take place in the **Sixth Chapter**. Here, a comparative discussion have made on the *Sambandhbodhakas* in respect of definition, kinds etymology, meaning and usages.

The **Seventh Chapter** contains the comparative discussion on the *Vismayadibodhakas* i.e., Interjections in Hindi and Assamese in respect of definition, kinds, etymology, meaning and usages.

The **Eighth Chapter** includes the discussion on the *Nipatas* i.e. words used to put emphasis or to add other meaning. Here, a comparative discussion have been made on the *Nipatas* in Hindi and Assamese in respect of definition, kinds, etymology, meaning and usages.

The **Ninth Chapter** is the last one and the conclusion, the findings and their practical utility in learning the languages have been discussed here.

Here a clarification is timely although the classification of the avyayas are not similar in the two languages under consideration, but to make the study scientific, the widely accepted Hindi classification has been taken as the basis for the purpose.

Another clarification is noteworthy that the present study is a *synchronic*
one being confined to the contemporary standard Hindi and Assamese languages and the examples have been collected mainly from published literature and standard use in day-to-day life. The explanatory method has been adopted along with necessary charts and tables for better convenience to make the subject matter clear.

We have found out that even being originated from Sanskrit, the avyayas of Hindi and Assamese have got some differences in shape, meaning and usages owing to various causes. The Bhashik Vyaghatast i.e. linguistic interference faced by the Hindi-speaking Assamese-learners and Assamese-speaking Hindi-learners have also been pointed out with the study on the differences between the two languages in respect of the avyayas. This will immensely help the above mentioned learners with proper precautions.

I met several Hindi and Assamese renowned scholars to make the study more clear and scientific. I met Prof. Ravi Prakash Gupta, In-Charge, Central Hindi Institute, Jatia, Kahilipara, Guwahati, Dr. Golok Chandra Goswami, Rtd. Professor, Deptt. of Assamese, Gauhati University and Dr. Promod Ch. Bhattacharyya, Ex. Principal, B. Baruah College, Guwahati. All the three scholars helped me a lot with their valuable advice, which can not be forgotten.

During the research work, I have visited the several libraries, like K.K. Handique Library, Gauhati University, Departmental Library, Hindi Deptt. G.U., Guwahati Commerce College Library, District Library, Guwahati, Historical and Antiquarian Library, Guwahati, Hindi Teachers Training College Library, North Guwahati; Nowgong College Library, Nagaon; District Library, Nagaon; Nowgong Girls College Library, Nagaon; ADP College Library; Nagaon and Collected good amount of basis materials related to my topic. I have also taken help from many reference books as advised by my research guide. These are
mentioned in Bibliography of my thesis. The name of the books are also mentioned in appropriate places of my thesis with quotations etc. A list containing the transliterations has also found its place in the thesis just after this preface.

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(Md. Abdul Mannan)