Chapter-16

16. Function words and Emphatic Particles.

16.0. In both the languages, there are some elements which can't be defined morphologically. They are not inflected for any of the grammatical categories like gender, number, person, case, tense, voice etc., But they play very important roles in the construction of sentences. They can be defined syntactically and can be discussed under two heads each of which can again be sub-classified as follows:
(a) Function words—

(i) Pre-positional,

(ii) Post-positional, and

(iii) Miscellaneous.

(b) Emphatic particles—

(i) Inclusive, and

(ii) Restrictive.

16.1. Pre-positional function words in Assamese.

In addition to the 20 pre-positional to function words that occur in Skt. environment, there are some other pre-positional function words in the language. Most of them mark negativity and a few of them mark assertion.

16.1.1. → & /-u

&-ux "not God"
&-zen "un-known"
&-kazun "unkind"

16.1.2. one-

one-one "non-Assamese"
one-kota "uncut"
16.1.3. ao-
- ao-mor^n: "ill-death"
- ao-bet: "ill-path"

16.1.4. bod-
- bod-nam: "defame"
- bod-hoxa: "indigestion"

16.1.5. be-
- be-ain: "unlawful"
- be-izzot: "disrespect"

16.1.6. ne-
- ne-monzur: "disapprove"

16.1.7. xo-: xo-thik: "correct"
- xo-zor: "with force"

16.2. Post-positional Function words in Assamese.

The post-positional function words in Assamese can be discussed under 3 heads depending upon their limitations of occurrences. Some of them occur after nouns (including pronouns), some after verbs, and some others are highly mobile in character and can occur after any element in the sentence which is required to be stressed.
16.3.1. Function words used after nouns.

The following are the principal post-positional function words, occurring after the genitive formations of the nouns including pronouns. Some of them are single-morpheme, others are dimorphemes.

### Function words

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case</th>
<th>Function of Noun</th>
<th>Example</th>
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<tr>
<td>(a)</td>
<td>tai-r or gita-r</td>
<td>dore</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>nisina</td>
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<td>&quot;towards Gita&quot;</td>
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<td>(b)</td>
<td>tai-r or gita-r</td>
<td>karon-e</td>
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<td>nimitt-e</td>
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<td>pas-t</td>
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<td>write</td>
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<td>&quot;for Gita&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;after Gita&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;before Gita&quot;</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>&quot;with Gita&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

/dore, nisina/ and the dimorpheme post-positions under (b) above may occur after demonstrative pronoun /ai/
and /xai/. Examples:

- xai dôre, nisine "this way"
- xai kar:ne, nisitte "for this reason"

A few post positions occur after the instrumental formations.

- x:hanubhuti-re x:nte "with sympathy"
- xeibat-o-di "by this road"

16.2.2. The following are the principal post-positional function words occurring after verbs in Assamese.

(i) Completive (proximate) -hi <ah-i "having come"

- pô-la-hi "has arrived(here) already"
- di-la-hi "has given(here) already"
- ni-b-hi "will take(here) already"

(ii) Completive (remote) -gai < ze-i "having gone"

- pô-la-gai "has arrived(there) already"
- gô-la-gai "has gone (there) already"
- di-e-gai "gives(there) already"

(iii) Politeness expressive -dei. Adds politeness to the request.

- ahôba dei "please come"
- dîba dei "please give"
(iv) Politeness expressive (intimate) -na.
aha na "please come, (why don't you come?)"
dia na "please give, (why don't you give?)"

(v) Affectionate assertive -pai/bepai
nezó pai "would not go indeed"
lez lage pai "feel shy indeed"

(vi) Confirmative -noh. Same in form with the negative
verb noh + -hoi "is not".

(vii) Optative -hök.
karisök-hök "we have done in fact"
zaba-hök "you will go"

(viii) Conditional -hiten.
khalö-hiten "we would have eaten"
shor-hiten "(he) would have come"

(ix) Narrative -buli.
khobo buli "that (he) will eat"
ase buli "that (it) is"

(x) Permissive -de, -dis, -dik according to person,
zabo de, dis, dik "let (it) go"
kook dia "let (him) say"
16.2.3. The following are the principal post-positions of highly mobile character that usually occur after verbs, but may also occur after any other class of word in the sentence to mark stress.

(i) Politeness expressive—son. Usually occurs after verbs in imperative, but may also occur after nouns to mark surprise in affirmative sentence.

dia-son "please give"

tumi-son nehila "you(stress on time) did not come"

(ii) Surprise expressive —dikhon.

nahila dikhon "you did not come(stress on come)"

tumi dikhon nehila "you did not come(stress on you)"

(iii) Probability —segni.

ti o segni shibo "he will probably come (stress on home)"

ti o shibo segni "he will probably come (stress on come)"

ti o fai01 segni shibo "he will probably come here (stress on here)"
(iv) Narrative -bole.

tie kola bala kaarairkhon dhunia "he says that the Kashmir is beautiful"

Kashmirkhon bole dhunia "(it is said) that the Kashmir is beautiful (stress on Kashmir)"

kashmirkhon dhunia bole "(it is said) that the Kashmir is beautiful (stress on beautiful)"

(v) Interrogative -ne.

tumi xaba na? "will you go?"
tumi ne mara? "whether you or me?"

16.3. Miscellaneous function words in Assamese.

Taking their syntactic function into consideration, the function words of this class can again be sub-classified as follows:

16.3.1. Conjunctive:

aru "and"
aknu "again"
punor "-do-
gntika "therefore"
xili "-do-"
16.3.2. Dejunctive:

- othoba "or"
- be "or"
- natube "or"
- ki "what to speak of, or"
- tothapi "still then"

16.3.3. Suspective:

- xanose "in case"
- zodi "if"
- kizani "probably, who knows"
- hito "might be"
- bodhhoi "probably"

16.3.4. Exclamatory:

- aha, oh ! "oh !"
- aih ! "alas !"
- hai ! "alas !"
- bah ! "wonderful"

48. The dejunctive use of \{ki\} may be seen from the following examples:

(i) kapor ki xandur ke kinibö "not to speak of clo-
nowars than even vermillion (he) cannot buy"

(ii) duta ki tinita "two or three"
16.3.5. Vocative:

he, hire, haei  "hallow"
Al  * -do- *(in non-hon. sense)

16.3.6. Asserative:

o  "yes"
ira  "yes"
hoi  "yes(hon. response)"
baru  "well"
o  "no"

16.4. Inclusive Emphatic Particles in Assamese.

In Assamese, there is only one inclusive emphatic particle. This is -o, which carries two functions: (i) positive sense and (ii) negative sense.

16.4.1. Emphatic -o in the positive sense.

In its positive sense, -o is highly mobile in character and can be added to different classes of words to mark inclusivity. It occurs as the terminal element in the word-formation. Examples:

Added to noun: bob=
i=
\( \text{bora-ni-o (gabo)} \)  "Mrs. Bora also (will sing)"

Added to pronoun: xi=
\( \text{xi-hot-o (gabo)} \)  "they also (will sing)"
Added to verb  
\( ge-b-o \)  \( nae-ib-o \)  "(they) will sing as well as dance"

Added to adverb  
\( et-ia-o \)  "now also"

Added to post. pos.  
\( (xi-h\hat{t}-x) \)  \( para-o \)  "from (them) also"

Secondly, this emphatic -o is essentially to be added to the definitive when the latter is preceded by

\( kei-be \)  "a number of ....". Examples :

\( kei-be-\text{khawne} \)  \( (kitap) \)  "a number of (books)"

\( kei-be-\text{zar-o} \)  \( (manuh) \)  "a number of (men)"

16.4.2. Emphatic -o in the negative sense.

In its negative sense, its occurrence is highly limited. It occurs after a few adverbs and pronouns and it expresses the total negation. Examples :

\( ke\text{tse-o} \)  \( (n\text{kosa}) \)  "I shall never (say)"

\( ke\text{loai-k-o} \)  \( (naza\ddot{o}) \)  "I shall not (go) anywhere"

\( ke\text{no-o} \)  \( (nai) \)  "nobody (is)"

16.5. Restrictive Emphatic Particles in Assamese.

In Assamese, there are a number of restrictive emphatic particles. They are also quite mobile in character, and can be added to any word which is required to be emphasised or stressed in the sentence. They are as follows :
16.5.1. -(e) -ei.

Added to pronoun  : (am-to) m:i-e kham  "I myself(shall eat the mango)"

Added to verb    : (am-to m:i) kham-ei  "I shall certainly eat the mango"

Added to noun    : (si) am-to-k-e     (m:i kham)  "I shall eat this particular mango"

If the verb is repeated to express high emphasis, -ei occurs after the first verb.

kham-ei kham    "(I) shall certainly eat"
zam-ei zam      "(I) shall certainly go"

16.5.2. {he} . This occurs post-positionally only, and is mobile in character.

The use of {he} after any particular word in a sentence emphasises that particular word in such a way that the involvement is strictly restricted to the actor, action or object expressed by that word and the involvement of allied categories of actors, actions or objects is automatically denied. Examples :

Actor emphasised : m:i he m:aŋko zamh-i-î-ô  "I only(none else) have cooked meat"
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Action
emphasised: &a i mயx co randhias he "I have cooked only meat (not done any other action)"

Object
emphasised: &a i mயx co he randhias "I have cooked meat only (not anything else)"

16.5.3. {no} This is also mobile in character.

This is used to mark word-stress in such sentences where there is an interrogative pronoun. Examples:

Actor
emphasised: apuni no ki kolo? "what did you say?" (stress on 'you')

Action
emphasised: apuni ki kolo no? "what did you say"? (stress on 'say')

Object
emphasised: apuni kinc kolo? "what did you say?" (stress on 'what')

16.5.4. {to} This is also mobile in character and can be used after any word (expressing actor, action or object) to mark stress in assertive sense. This is just in complementary distribution with {no} in that the latter occurs in sentences where there is an interrogative pronoun and the former occurs in sentences where there is no interrogative pronoun. Below are few examples:
Actor
stressed: mōi to tek kaisō
"I have told him" (stress on 'I')

Action
stressed: mōi tek kaisō to
"I have told him" (stress on 'have told')

Object
stressed: mōi tek to kaisō
"I have told him" (stress on 'him')

16.5.5. (be). This is also mobile in character, and can be used after any word (expressing actor, action or object) to mark stress with a sense of surprise or astonishment. This generally occurs in a dependent clause when the principal clause is in the interrogative, or in an interrogative sentence expressing an impersonal question or soliloquy. Examples:

Actor
emphasised: mōi be tek dakhāl nai,
mōi kaisē kūlo? "I have not seen him (stress on 'I'), when did I say?"

kone be matise ihilekō? "Who has called on these people? (stress on 'who')"

Action
stressed: mōi tek dakhāl nai ba! "I have not seen him (stress on the verb)"
16.6. Pre-positional Function words in Oriya.

In Oriya also, there are, in addition to the 20 pre-positional to. function words, a number of other pre-positional function words. Most of them express negativity and a few of them express assertion.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-positional Function Word</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
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<td>ḍhona</td>
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<tr>
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<td>ḍī</td>
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<td>16.6.2. ṇon</td>
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<td>ṇonōdia</td>
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<td>16.6.3. ṇon</td>
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<td>ṇonōthon</td>
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<td>16.6.4. ḍon</td>
<td>ḍonōkona</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.6.5. na-</td>
<td>na-nanjur</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.6.6. bod-</td>
<td>bod-nāp</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>bod-hōjam</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.6.7. ba-</td>
<td>ba-ain</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ba-tain</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

16.7. Post-positional Function words in Oriya.
In Oriya also the post-positional function words are of three types -

(i) some occur after nouns,

(ii) some occur after verbs,

(iii) some are mobile in character; they could be added to any class of words in the sentence which is required to be emphasised.

16.7.1. Function words occurring after nouns.

The following are the principal post-positional function words in Oriya that occur after the genitive formations of the nouns (including pronouns.)

(a) ta(-ra) or gita(-ra) ④ pɔr i "like her or Gita"

  "for her or Gita"

  "with her or Gita"

  "by her or Gita"

  "in comparison to her or Gita"

49. (a) The optional deletion of the genitive -ra is noticed before while discussing the inflection of nouns for case.

(b) Pattanausk, D.P. in "Conversational Oriya" has all through the text mentions such case-suffixes as "post-positions".
In examples under (c) above, {the-} occurs as the intervening locational noun, as -re or -ru in Oriya is not directly added to animate nouns.

16.7.2. The following are the principal post-positional function words occurring after verbs. They do substantially modify the meanings of the verbs.

(i) Confirmative -ni. Added to past tense verbs in -il.

- gêlê-ni  "want already"
- kheîlê-ni  "ate already"

(ii) Interrogative confirmative -ti.

- as-ibé-qi  "would you come sure ?"
- bujh-il-e-qi  "did you understand sure ?"

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(iii) Intimacy expressive -mō.

ja-mō "go please"

hō-mō "yes, indeed!"

(iv) Imperative -nu or -nehanti after conjunctive

In -u, here although they occur like finite verbs, they
don't carry the normal negative sense.

ja-u-nu "(you, non-hon.) do go"

sa-u-nehanti "(you, m-hon.) do come"

(v) Narrative (boli)

khebō boli "that (he) will eat"

ōshi boli "that (it) is"

16.7.3. In Oriya also there are few principal post-

positional function words that are highly mobile in cha-

racter. Although they generally occur after verbs, they
can be shifted and used post-positionally after any other

word in a given sentence to mark stress.

The following are the two such function words

(1) Assertive and to-

This marks stress in assertive sense.
Actor
stressed: .mu to jibi

"I will go indeed
(stress on 'I')"

Action
stressed: .mu jibi to

"I will go indeed
(stress on verb)"

Object
stressed: .nu ghoro-ku to jibi

"I will go home indeed
(stress on 'home')"

(ii) Assertive in astonishment: .pore.

This also marks stress in assertive sense but
with a sense of astonishment. This is used to mean "as
if the fact should have been known to the hearer". Ex.: 

.mu jibi .pore

"I will go (surprise is on
the verb)"

.mu .pore jibi

"I will go (surprise is on
the pronoun)"

16.8. Miscellaneous function words in Uriya.

In Uriya also, there are some other function words,
which cannot be classified as prepositional nor as post-

positional but they carry important syntactic function.
Taking their syntactic function into consideration, they
can be sub-classified as follows:
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16.8.1. Conjunctive:
- o, au, ahuzi, obɔj "and"
- puuni "again"
- tena "therefore"

16.8.2. Dejunctive:
- ḍgha, ḍh "or"
- ȯ1 "what to speak of"
- t̓th̓api "still then"
- ȯtube "or"

16.8.3. Suspective:
- kala "in case"
- j̓di "if"
- kajani "probably"
- boÁhhus "-do- -
- huetọ "-do- -"

16.8.4. Exclamatory:
- aha, oh "oh!"
- chi "also!"
- hai "also!"
- bah "wonderful!"

51. Its dejunctive use could be seen from the following example:

laga kọọọ caulo to "Not to speak of cloth I can't
kini paru ni purchase even rice"
16.8.5. Vocative:

he, she "hallow"
\(\text{\textquotedblleft}yo\text{\textquotedblright}\) "-do-
alo "-do-

16.8.6. Assertive:

\(\text{\textquotedblleft}a\text{\textquotedblright}\) "yes(hon.)"
\(h\tilde{\text{\textacute{\textcircled{\textdagger}}}}\) "yes(intimate)"
h\(\text{\textdagger}u\) "well"
na "no"


In Oriya also, the inclusive emphatic particles are few in number. Some of them can even occur after other post-positions.

16.9.1. -o. Its use is very limited.

\(\text{\textquotedblleft}su-o\text{\textdagger}jibi\text{\textquotedblright}\) "I also shall go"
\(\text{\textdagger}d\text{\textdagger}i-o\) "even if"

16.9.2. \{\textit{bi- \textdaggeriddhy}\}. Highly productive and they are mutually exclusive in their occurrences. They are free-positional in character. They can be shifted from one position to other depending upon the shifting of the word-stress.
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mū mūdhyō jā bhaanti "I also would have gone"
mū bhatō mūdhy kheibi "I shall eat rice also"
mū gaibi mūdhyō "I shall sing also"

The restrictive emphatic particles are also few in number.

16.10.1. (hi) This is also free positional and can be shifted from one position to the other depending upon the word-stress. This may also occur after other post-positions.

mū hi tō pāi mecho anishi "I only have brought fish for you"
mū tō pāi hi mecho anishi "I have brought fish for you only"
mū tō pāi mecho hi anishi "I have brought fish only for you"

16.10.2. (be)
This is also mobile in character, but generally does not occur after the verbs.

mū be koḿo kohibi? "what shall I say(stress on 'I')?"
mū koḿo be kohibi? "what shall I say(stress on 'what')?"
16.11. Conclusion.

As has been seen in the foregoing pages, the function words and the emphatic particles in both the languages are indeclinables, and hence no formal comparison could be attempted between the two languages in respect of these words. Depending upon their syntactic behaviour, the following correspondences could be established.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agamese</th>
<th>Oriya</th>
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<tr>
<td>e : corresponds with</td>
<td>bi, middhyo</td>
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<tr>
<td>son, dei : corresponds with</td>
<td>mo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to : corresponds with</td>
<td>to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>na : corresponds with</td>
<td>nu, na, nehanti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>he : corresponds with</td>
<td>pra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>he : corresponds with</td>
<td>hi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>