CHAPTER-II

PHONOLOGY
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2.0 PHONOLOGY

2.1 PHONEMIC ANALYSIS OF WESTERN BORO DIALECT:

The western Boro dialect comprises the districts of Dhuburi, Kokrajhar, Bongaigaon and Chirang of the Brahmaputra valley. It has gained the status of standard language and developed a written form as well. The following are the analysis of Western Boro Dialect.

2.1.1 VOWELS: There are Six-Vowel phonemes in Boro showing contrast in tongue position: front, central and back, tongue height; high, high- mid, low mid and low. Back vowels are rounded and others are unrounded. According to rise of tongue and to the place of articulation the vowel phonemes are shown as given bellow:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Front UR R</th>
<th>Central UR R</th>
<th>Back UR R</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Close i</td>
<td>U</td>
<td>U</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High half close e</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid half open a</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low open o</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table-1
2.1.1.1 DESCRIPTION OF VOWEL PHONEME:

/i/: Front un-rounded high close
/e/: Front un-rounded mid half open
/a/: Central un-rounded low
/o/: Back rounded mid half open
/u/: Back un-rounded half close
/\u/: back un-rounded half close
/u/: back rounded high close

2.1.1.2 DISTRIBUTION OF VOWEL PHONEME:

The Vowel Phonemes of Boro Language occur in all positions of word; i.e. initially, medially and finally as shown below:

Initially:

/i/: /isi\eta/ (typical Boro dining room)
    /int^h\eta/ (ear ring)
/e/: /em/ (bed)
    /ent^h\eta ab/ (a kind of Boro cake)
/a/: /agan/ (footstep)
    /amaj/ (uncle)
/o/: /ok^h\eta/ (rain)
    /oma/ (pig)
/u/: /u\eta k^h\eta m/ (rice)
    /u\eta k^h\eta r u\eta i/ (curry)
/u/: /udu\eta i/ (stomach)
    /uk^h\eta undu\eta i/ (smoke)
Medially:

/i/: /bisi/ (wife)
    /bipʰan/ (tree)
/e/: /berema/ (honey bee)
    /beze/ (fiber)
/a/: /bar/ (wind)
    /gar/ (leave/to give up)
/o/: /bon/ (fire wood)
    /goŋ/ (horn)
/u/: /guɾʰar/ (pure)
    /duŋ/ (keep/put)
/u/: /kʰulum/ (to salute)
    /buhum/ (Earth)

Finally:

/i/: /si/ (cloth)
    /bi/ (ask)
/e/: /ne/ (wait)
    /ze/ (net)
/a/: /agda/ (right)
    /za/ (eat)
/o/: /no/ (house)
    /zo/ (sit)
/u/: /kʰu/ (to heap)
    /buʔ/ (draw)
/u/: /su/ (measure)
    /bu/ (to swell)
2.2.1 CONSONANTS: There are sixteen consonant phonemes in the Boro language. The consonants include three un-aspirated, three aspirated, three fricative, three nasals, one lateral, one trill and two semi-vowels.

All the consonants occur initially, medially and finally with the exception of /r/, /t/ and /h/. /r/ does not occur initially and /t/ and /h/ finally. The inventory of consonant phonemes is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plosive</th>
<th>Unaspirated</th>
<th>Aspirated</th>
<th>Fricative</th>
<th>Nasal</th>
<th>Trill</th>
<th>Lateral</th>
<th>Semi-vowel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bi-labial</td>
<td>b</td>
<td>pʰ</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>m</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>w</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alveolar</td>
<td>d</td>
<td>tʰ</td>
<td>z</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>r</td>
<td>l</td>
<td>j</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palatal</td>
<td>g</td>
<td>kʰ</td>
<td>h</td>
<td>η</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Velar</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glottal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table- 2

2.2.1.1 DESCRIPTION OF CONSONANT PHONEMES:

/b/: Bilabial un-aspirated voiced stop
/pʰ/: Bilabial aspirated voiceless stop
/d/: Alveolar un-aspirated voiceless stop
/tʰ/: Alveolar aspirated voiceless stop
/g/: Velar un-aspirated voiced stop
/kʰ/: Velar aspirated voiceless stop
/s/: Alveolar voiceless spirant
/z/: Alveolar voiced spirant
/h/: Glottal voiced spirant
/m/: Bilabial voiced nasal
/n/: Alveolar voiced nasal
/ŋ/: Velar voiced nasal
/l/: Alveolar voiced lateral
/r/: Alveolar voiced trill
/w/: Bilabial voiceless
/j/: Palatal voiceless

2.2.1.2 DISTRIBUTION OF CONSONANT PHONEMES:

Initially:

/b/: /bilai/ (leaf)
/d/: /dɯŋkʰɔr/ (well)
/g/: /ɡɯɗuŋa/ (neck)
/pʰ/: /pʰanlu/ (chilly)
/tʰ/: /tʰalir/ (banana)
/kʰ/: /kʰuŋma/ (ear)
/s/: /saraj/ (frying pan)
/z/: /ziu/ (life)
/h/: /han/ (toast)
/m/: /met\textsuperscript{b}ai/ (song)
/n/: /naza/ (try)
/\eta/: /------/
/r/: /radab/ (news)
/l/: /lama/ (road)
/w/: /------/
/j/: /------/

Medially:
/b/: /abo/ (elder sister)
/d/: /madu\textsuperscript{i}/ (aunt)
/g/: /megen/ (eye)
/p\textsuperscript{h}/: /lap\textsuperscript{h}a/ (a kind of leafy vegetable)
/t\textsuperscript{h}/: /at\textsuperscript{h}in/ (leg)
/k\textsuperscript{h}/: /gaik\textsuperscript{h}er/ (milk)
/s/: /alasi/ (guest)
/z/: /bizab/ (book)
/h/: /gaham/ (good)
/m/: nimaha/ (excuse)
/n/: /lanzai/ (tail)
/\eta/: /ze\eta na/ (problem)

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/r/: /berema/ (bee)
/l/: /gola/ (shop)
/w/: /zewza/ (twins)
/j/: /hajtʰa/ (short)

Finally:
/b/: /gab/ (colour)
/d/: /abad/ (cultivation)
/g/: /zug/ (era)
/pʰ/: /pʰapʰ/ (sin)
/tʰ/: /-------/  
/kʰ/: /kʰorakʰ/ (good)
/s/: /bis/ (poison)
/z/: /aroz/ (prayer)
/h/: /-------/  
/m/: /gũswũn/ (black)
/n/ /ran/ (to divide)
/η/: /mesenη/ (winter)
/r/: /bibar/ (flower)
/l/: /hal/ (plough)
/w/: /pʰaw/ (action)
/j/: /laj/ (to bring)
2.3 ALLOPHONES: Both the vowel and consonants of Boro dialect also has allophones. Every vowel and consonants has minimum two and maximum six allophones.

2.3.1 VOWEL ALLOPHONES:

High unrounded front vowel /i/

Allophones: the high unrounded vowel /i/ has six allophones which are as follows:

(a) [i] is short and simple and occurs in words initial, medial and final position. e.g

\[\text{isi} \quad \text{‘kitchen’} \quad \text{bisi} \quad \text{‘wife’}\]

(b) \(\overline{[i]}\) occurs in mono syllabic and di-syllabic word.

\[\text{si} \quad \text{‘to wet’} \quad \text{si:la} \quad \text{‘Eagle’}\]

(c) \(\hat{[i]}\) is voiceless and occurs when followed by voiceless consonants.e.g

\[\text{bi}^{h} \hat{\text{i}}^{a} \quad \text{‘chest’} \quad \text{bi}^{h} \hat{\text{i}}^{a} \quad \text{‘base of house hold.’}\]

(d) \(\dot{[i]}\) is half falling. Occurs in low tone syllable e.g

\[\text{p}^{h} \text{\hat{i}}^{a} \text{sa} \quad \text{‘small’} \quad \text{b’}^{h} \text{\hat{i}}^{a} \text{da} \quad \text{‘one’s elder brother.’}\]

(e) \(\hat{\hat{[i]}}\) is half rising, occurs in high tone syllable e.g

\[\text{bí} \quad \text{‘he / she’} \quad \text{si} \quad \text{‘cloth’}\]

(f) \(\hat{[i]}^{n}\) is partially nasalized and it occurs when preceded by nasal. e.g

\[\text{mini}^{n} \quad \text{‘to laugh’} \quad \text{mizi}^{n} \quad \text{‘smooth’}\]
Vowel: Mid front unrounded vowel /e/

Allophones: It has six allophones which are as follows:

i. [E] is short

ii. [E:] is long

iii. [E] is voiceless

iv. [ˈE] is half falling

v. [É] is half rising

vi. [Eⁿ] is short and partially nasalized.

**Distribution:**

i. [E] occurs in both mono and poly syllabic word e.g

sE 'one'   EsE 'a little'   bEsE 'how much'

ii. [E:] occurs in mono syllabic words e.g

sE:m 'deminising'   mE:sE:η 'winter'

iii. [E] occurs in voiceless consonant words

bEsE 'how much'   bE:da 'bunch of fruits'

iv. [ˈE] occurs in mono syllable as in-

'Em 'bed'   g'El'Em 'twisted'

v. [É] occurs in high tone syllable

bÉ 'he' (honorific)
vi. \([E^n]\) occurs when preceded by nasal

\(nE^n\) 'wait' \(mE^n\) 'toast'

Vowel: The low central unrounded vowel -- \(/a/\)

Allophones: It has six allophones as in-

i. \([a]\) is a short and

ii. \([a:]\) is long

iii. \([a]\) is voiceless

iv. \([\acute{a}]\) is half falling

v. \([\acute{a}]\) is half rising

vi. \([a^n]\) is partially nasalized and short

**Distribution:**

i. \([a]\) occurs in any position of the syllable e.g

\(ap^h^a\) 'father' \(ada\) 'elder brother'

ii. \([a:]\) occurs in mono syllabic words e.g

\(sa:\) 'pain' \(ga:b\) 'color'

iii. \([a]\) occurs in voiceless consonant words e.g

\(ok^h^a\) 'rain' \(bu:k^h^a\) 'to divide'

iv. \([\acute{a}]\) occurs in mono syllable as in-

\(\text{\ 'r}a\eta\) 'I' \(g\text{\ 'r}a\eta\) 'feather'
v. [a'] occurs in high tone syllable e.g

na' 'fish' la' 'take'

vi. [a^n] occurs in nasalized consonants e.g

ma^n 'what' oma^n 'pig/hog'

Vowel: Half open rounded back /o/ vowel

Allophones: it has six allophones which are as follows:

i. [o] is short and simple

ii. [o:] is long

iii. [o] is voiceless

iv. [‘o] is half falling

v. [ó ] is half rising

vi. [o^n] is short and partially nasalized

Distribution:

i. [o] occurs in polysyllabic words e.g

on 'to love' bon 'fire wood'

ii. [o:] occurs in mono syllabic words e.g

zo: 'to tear out' lo:ha 'iron'

iii. [o] occurs when followed by voiceless consonant words e.g

zok 'measure' sok 'sparrow'

iv. [‘o] occurs in low tone syllable as in-

g'o 'sitting on egg' b'o 'to spread down'
v. [ó] occurs in high tone syllable e.g 

   go ‘to release’  kʰó ‘busket’

vi. [o^n] occurs in nasalized consonant e.g 

   no^n ‘house’  mo^nno^n ‘to swallow’

Vowel: close rounded back vowel /u/

Allophones: It has six allophones, which are as follows:

i. [u] is short and simple

ii. [u:] is long

iii. [u] is voiceless

iv. [‘u] is half falling

v. [u] is half falling

vi. [u^n] is short and partially nasalized

**Distribution:**

i. [u] occurs in polysyllabic words e.g

   un ‘in back’  nu ‘to see’  kʰun ‘cotton’

ii. [u:] occurs in mono syllabic words e.g


iii. [u] occurs when following voiceless consonant words e.g

   ukʰum ‘roof’  kʰulum ‘to salute’

iv. [‘u] occurs in low tone words as in-
g’uar ‘vast’

v. [u̯] occurs in high tone words e.g

lu’ ‘to build’ bu’ ‘to beat’

vi. [un] occurs in nasalized consonant e.g

nu’n ‘seen’ mu’n ‘name’

VOWEL: half close unrounded back vowel /u̯/

ALLOPHONES: It has six allophones, which are as follows:

i. [u̯] is short and simple

ii. [u̯ː] is long

iii [u̯] is voiceless

iv. [ˈu̯] is half falling

v. [u̯] is half rising

vi. [u̯n] is short and partially nasalized

Distribution:

i. [u̯] occurs in polysyllabic words; e.g:

ωηkʰ am ‘rice’ buľw ‘force’ guɦw ‘power’

ii. [u̯ː] occurs in mono syllable; e.g:

hui: ‘to give’ duː ‘to head’

iii. [u̯] occurs when followed by voiceless consonant words; e.g:

kʰwutʰ ‘speak’ gukʰ ‘bitter’
iv. [\'u] occurs in low tone syllable e.g

  b\'uq ‘pull out’  s\'ula ‘swallow’

v. [\u] occurs in high tone words; e.g

  k^h\u ‘to heap’  p\u ‘seedling’

vi. [\u^n] occurs in nasalized consonant; e.g

  mu\u^n ‘ripe’  nu\u^n ‘you’

2.3.2 CONSONANT PHONEMES:

Consonant: Bilabial voiceless unaspirated /b/

Allophones: It has two allophones

i. [b^1] is unreleased

ii. [b] is released

Distribution:

i. [b^1] occurs word medially and finally; e.g

  gu\u^b^1 ‘salted’  gu\u^b^1‘hard /tough’  ba\u^b^1‘jump’

ii. [b] occurs else where in word initials and medial position as in-

  seb\u ‘squeeze’  ha\u^b^1\u ‘come’  ha\u^b^1bru ‘mud’

Consonant: Alveolar voiceless unaspirated /d/

Allophones: It has four allophones

i. [d^+] is pre – alveolar and fully released

ii. [d^1] is alveolar and unreleased
iii. \([\text{d}^l]\) is alveolar and slightly released

iv. \([\text{d}]\) is alveolar and fully released

**Distribution:**

i. \([\text{d}]\) occurs before vowel phoneme as in

\[
\text{bidint'ha 'age or era'} \quad \text{gudun 'hot'} \quad \text{gwidi 'precipitated'}
\]

ii. \([\text{d}^l]\) occurs in cluster with \(/n, l, r, d, /etc\); e.g.

\[
\text{gud'ina 'neck'} \quad \text{bed'raj 'to be dis sharpened'} \quad \text{bed'dan 'to swell'}
\]

iii. \([\text{d}^l]\) occurs word finally as in-

\[
\text{k^h'd\text{f} 'rice malt'(dia)} \quad \text{bud\text{f} 'sense'}
\]

iv. \([\text{d}]\) occurs before the low-vowel as in-

\[
\text{boda 'fool'} \quad \text{dohola 'low-land'} \quad \text{dari 'beard'}
\]

**Consonant: Velar voiced unaspirated /g/**

Allophones: It has four allophones, which are voiced unaspirated stop.

i. \([\text{g}^l]\) is pre-velar unreleased

ii. \([\text{g}]\) is pre-velar fully released

iii. \([\text{g}^l]\) is pre-velar slightly released

iv. \([\text{g}]\) is fully released

**Distribution:**

i. \([\text{g}^l]\) occurs in cluster and first member in germinations as in-

\[
\text{big'rai 'to move'} \quad \text{ag'ron 'naughty girl (as meaning)}
\]

\[
\text{t^hog'tuwn 'Light natured' (girl or women)}
\]
ii. [g] occurs before low-vowels; e.g.

- gilit 'weight'
- geder 'elder'
- gudun 'hole'

iii. [gr] occurs word finally; e.g.

- zug 'era'

iv. [g] occurs before low vowels as in-

- gEsao 'rotten'
- gonguña 'a musical instrument'
- gahai 'short'
- bEger 'bone'

Consonant: Bilabial voiceless aspirated /pʰ/

Allophones: It has two allophones which are voiceless and bilabial

i. [pʰ] is a strongly released aspirated stop

ii. [ph] is weakly released aspirated stop

Distribution:

i. [pʰ] occurs word initially, as in-

- pʰisa 'son / little'
- pʰadu 'bitter like test'
- pʰami 'lotus'
- pʰasra 'dopatta'
- pʰitai 'fruits'
- pʰesla 'joke'

ii. [pʰ] occurs word medially; e.g.

- hapʰan 'girl of foolish nature'
- tʰanpʰwi 'fly'
- sumpʰram 'guava'

Consonant: Alveolar voiceless aspirated /tʰ/

Allophones: It has two allophones which are voiceless and aspirated stop.

i. [tʰ] is pre alveolar and fully released

ii. [tʰ] is alveolar and fully released
Distribution:

i. \([t^h]\) occurs between vowel phonemes as in-
   \(k^h\text{ort}_\text{er}\) 'lean and thin'
   \(h\text{at}_\text{or}\) 'piece of soil'
   \(m\text{et}_\text{ai}\) 'song'
   \(p^h\text{it}_\text{ai}\) 'fruits'

ii. \([t^h]\) occurs word initially and medially as in-
    \(t^h\text{aigir}\) 'banana'
    \(t^h\text{aigir}\) 'wood apple'
    \(t^h\text{ep}_\text{a}\) 'seed less'
    \(t^h\text{ulungs}_\text{a}\) 'encourage'
    \(k^h\text{ant}_\text{al}\) 'jack fruits'
    \(g\text{ot}_\text{o}\) 'child'

Consonant: Velar voiceless aspirated \(/k^h/\)

Allophones: It has three allophones which are voiceless and aspirated stop.

i. \([k^h\text{±}]\) is pre-velar and slightly released

ii. \([k^h]\) is mid velar and fully released

iii. \([k^h\text{±}]\) is pre-velar and fully released

Distribution:

i. \([k^h\text{±}]\) occurs word medially and as first member in cluster with \(/n.r.i/\) as in-
   \(b\text{ak}_\text{h}@\text{nai}\) 'to praise'
   \(b\text{ak}_\text{h}@\text{ri}\) 'granary'
   \(s\text{ik}_\text{h}@\text{ri}\) 'butterfly'
   \(s\text{ik}_\text{h}@\text{la}\) 'maid'
   \(z\text{aŋk}_\text{h}@\text{la}\) 'ladder'
   \(k^h\text{aŋk}_\text{h}@\text{rai}\) 'crab'

ii. \([k^h]\) occurs before low vowel as in-
    \(k^h\text{ot}_\text{a}\) 'kernel'
    \(k^h\text{ard}_\text{u}_\text{i}\) 'alkali'
    \(h\text{ak}_\text{h}\) or 'hole'

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kʰar ‘to run’ kʰopʰri ‘typical Boro hat’ hakʰa ‘to cut out
(made of bamboo)

iii. [kʰ] occurs before the non-low vowel, as in-
    kʰumə ‘ear’ kʰerkʰa ‘an utensil to wash rice etc’ kʰi ‘stool’
    kʰilama ‘anus’ kʰuntʰia ‘post’ horkʰab ‘immediately /suddenly’

Consonant: Alveolar voiceless fricative /s/
Allophones: It has two allophones which are voiceless.

i. [s] is a short alveolar fricative

ii. [s:] is a long alveolar fricative

Distribution:

i. [s] occurs before non-front vowel, as in-
   tʰaso ‘colocasia’ sokʰa ‘sparrow’
   muṣa ‘tiger’ nersuṃ ‘example / an instance’

ii. [s:] occurs word elsewhere after a non-front vowel, as in-
   kʰam ‘ring’ nisʰer ‘pure’ bes:or ‘mustard seed’
   has:i'b ‘broom’ daos:ri ‘martin’ daŋs:u ‘fly’

Consonant: Alveolar voiced fricative /z/
Allophones: It has two allophones

i. [z] is short alveolar fricative

ii. [dz] is a alveolar affricate
Distribution:

i. [z] occurs in inter vocalic position before a non front vowel as in-
   guţa ‘red’ k̞aza ‘food stuff’ gezer ‘middle’
   inzur ‘wall’ haizer ‘ginger’ mizir ‘hope’

ii. [dz] occurs word initial and medially as in-
   dzuţa ‘a variety of rice’ hindzao ‘wife / women’ dadzab ‘to add
   mudzan ‘wel / good’

Consonant: Glottal voiced fricative /h/

Allophones: It has two allophones which are glottal

i. [h] is a weakly voiced fricative

ii. [h] is a voiceless fricative

Distribution:

i. [h] occurs in inter vocalic position e.g
   gaham ‘good’
   dahuţa ‘paid- boy’

ii. [h] occurs elsewhere as in-
   hasar ‘fertilizer’
   hə ‘toast’
   hənkar ‘circle’
   hənk ‘pipe’
   hak ‘pit’

Consonant: Bilabial voiced nasal /m/

Allophones: It has two allophones which are voiced bilabial nasal.
i. \([m^1]\) is a unreleased nasal

ii. \([m]\) is a released nasal.

**Distribution:**

i. \([m^1]\) occurs word finally and first member in germination and cluster with

\(/s, t^h, l/ \quad \text{e.g.}

- mezEM^1 \text{‘fat’}
- tazIM^1 \text{‘fresh’}
- ga\text{ham}^1 \text{‘good’}
- p\text{aham}^1 \text{‘to cure’}
- gom\text{t}^h\text{a} \text{‘grave / serious’}
- gam\text{l}a \text{‘utensil’}

ii. \([m]\) occurs elsewhere, e.g.

- met\text{h}aj \text{‘song’}
- gum\text{m}un \text{‘ripen’}
- gu\text{m}um \text{‘black’}
- mabla \text{‘when’}
- amaj \text{‘uncle or mother’s brother’}
- em \text{‘bed’}

Consonant: Alveolar voiced nasal

**Allophones:** It has three allophones which are voiced.

i. \([n]\) is a pre-alveolar orally released nasal

ii. \([n^1]\) is an alveolar orally unreleased nasal.

iii. \([n]\) is an alveolar orally released nasal.

**Distribution:**

i. \([n]\) occurs before the non-low vowel, as in-

\[+\text{neolai ‘mongoose’} \quad +\text{nersu\text{m} ‘example’} \quad +\text{manu\text{t} ‘why’}\]

\[+\text{nihir ‘dew’} \quad +\text{no ‘house’} \quad +\text{mu\text{n}abili ‘evening’}\]

ii. \([n^1]\) occurs finally and as first member in germination in cluster
with /i, d, tʰ, z/ and three member cluster with /d r/ and /tʰ r/ as in-
zan’zi ‘waist’ zan’tʰi ‘an iron tripod’ megon’ ‘eye’
ban’la ‘an married man’ t’h arun’ ‘arum’ man’dab ‘squirrel’

iii. [n] occurs before the low-vowel, as in-
nat’hur ‘proun’ bana ‘flood’ k’h ona ‘corner’
dona ‘plate, made of banana plant’

Consonant: Velar voiced nasal /ŋ/

Allophones: It has two allophones which are voiced.

i. [ŋ] is a pre- velar orally released nasal.

ii. [ŋʰ] is a pre- velar orally unreleased nasal.

**Distribution:**

i. [ŋ] occurs medially and as first member in germination, in cluster with
   /g,s,m,,n,d/ and three member cluster with /gr/, /br/ and /kʰr/ e.g
   bEnɡa ‘dumb’ senɡra ‘youth’ beŋsi “a variety of fish’
   meŋbraŋ ‘besmeared with colour’ zɛnɡa ‘problem’ lanḍaŋ ‘open’

ii. [ŋʰ] occurs word medially and finally and as a three member cluster with /kʰr/
   and /gr/; e.g:
   atʰiŋ’ ‘leg’ okʰon’ ‘typical Boro dining room’
   kʰen’kʰ ra ‘bent’ len’gra ‘lame male’

Consonant: alveolar voiced lateral /l/

Allophones: It has two allophones, which are voiced
i. \[l] is a pre alveolar unreleased lateral

ii. \[l] is an alveolar released lateral

**Distribution:**

i. \[l] occurs word finally and as first member in germination and in cluster with /m, t\[^h\], z, s/

\[a_t^{h} a_l^{l}] ceiling’ \[h_{a}l^{l}] ‘plough’ \[k^{h}a_n^{h}a_l^{l}] ‘jack fruit’

\[h_{a}l^{m}a_zi] ‘a village messenger’ \[h_{a}l^{h}i_{n}g_{a}] ‘a string use to contain fishes’

\[h_{l}^{l}a_za_{N}^{h}a_{k}^{h}r_{a}] ‘the final day of plough’ \[o_l^{l}s_{i}a] ‘idle’ \[u_l^{h}a] ‘opposite’

ii. \[l] occurs elsewhere in initials and medial position; e.g:

\[h_{a}l_{a}l_{a}i] ‘land of light’ \[l_{a}n_{a}^{|}] ‘let it bring’ \[h_{a}l_{u}a] ‘cultivator’

\[l_{a}n_{a}^{\omega}u_{a}n_{a}] ‘gate’ \[t_{a}^{h}a_{l}_{a}r] ‘banana’ \[l_{a}n_{z}_{a}i] ‘tail’

Consonant: Alveolar trill /\[r]/

**Allophones:** It has three allophones, which are voiced.

i. \[r] is a pre- alveolar trill

ii. \[f] is an alveolar tap

iii. \[r] is an alveolar approximant

**Distribution:**

i. \[r] occurs medially as first member cluster with /s, h, l, k\[^h]/

\[s_{a}r_{a}i] ‘frying pan’ \[g_{a}r_{a}i] ‘sore’ \[g_{o}r_{a}i] ‘horse’

\[g_{o}r_{a}i] ‘bean’ \[g_{a}r_{a}^{h}a] ‘zar’ \[g_{u}r_{a}^{h}k_{a}i] ‘heap of soil’
ii. [r] occurs in inter vocalic positions as in-

- bakʰri ‘granary’
- pʰarou ‘pigeon’
- buɾuɾi ‘aged woman’
- buɾrəi ‘aged man’

iii. [r] occurs in initial, medial and final position as in-

- radab ‘news’
- adai ‘treaty’
- raga ‘angry’
- muɾiher ‘hunting’
- hadri ‘dust’
- bar ‘wind’
- habranj ‘steep’
- tʰogrən ‘light natured girl or women’

2.4 PHONOLOGICAL VARIATION: The variations among the western Boro dialect; Eastern Boro dialect and Southern Boro dialect are attempted below.

2.4.1 THE VARIATION OF VOWEL:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variation</th>
<th>W.B.D</th>
<th>E.B.D</th>
<th>S.B.D</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/i&lt;e/</td>
<td>/atʰiŋ/</td>
<td>/atʰeŋ/</td>
<td>/hatʰeŋ/</td>
<td>leg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>/pʰitʰaj/</td>
<td>/pʰetʰaj/</td>
<td>/betʰaj/</td>
<td>fruit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>/siloura/</td>
<td>/seleura/</td>
<td>/seroura/</td>
<td>one kind of insect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/e &lt; o/</td>
<td>/megon/</td>
<td>/- -/-</td>
<td>/magon/</td>
<td>eye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/u&lt; e/</td>
<td>/uŋkʰam/</td>
<td>/- -/-</td>
<td>/eŋkʰam/</td>
<td>rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>/uɾuɾihej/</td>
<td>/- -/-</td>
<td>/eɾehej/</td>
<td>this side</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/a &lt; e/</td>
<td>/lanza/</td>
<td>/lenza/</td>
<td>/lanza/</td>
<td>tail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/u&lt; a/</td>
<td>/buɾra/</td>
<td>/bara/</td>
<td>/bara/</td>
<td>old man</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
/ɡuːlau/ /galau/ /galau/ long
/ɡuːba/ /ɡuːbba/ /ɡaba/ thin
/ɡuːza/ /ɡuːzza/ /ɡaza/ red
/o <ʊ/: /ɡontʰoŋ/ /- - -/ /ɡuːniʰoŋ/ nose
/gorsi/ /- - -/ /ɡuːrsi/ bean
/ʊ<ʊ/: /ɡudna/ /- - -/ /ɡodo/ the neck
/ɡuːlʊi/ /- - -/ /ɡoloi/ fall-down
/ʊ<ʊ/: /muːsa/ /muːsa/ /musa/ tiger
/du/ /du/ /du/ pitcher
/ɡuːzuŋ/ /ɡuːzuŋ/ /ɡuzuŋ/ glittering
/nu/ /nu/ /nu/ the thread for handloom
/ʊi < i/: /madʊi/ /adi/ /madi/ aunty (mother’s sister)

/udʊi/ /udʊi/ /udi/ belly
/undʊi/ /undʊi/ /mudi/ kid/little
/suːima/ /suːima/ /sima/ the dog
/u < ʊu/: /embu/ /embu/ /embu/ the frog
/tʰu/ /tʰu/ /tʰu/ proceed
/ʊə < a/: /ʊŋkʰam/ /akʰam/ /enkʰam/ rice
/ʊŋkʰar/ /akʰar/ /enkʰar/ get out
2.4.2 CONSONANT VARIATION: The consonant variation occurs in all the three dialectical areas. The following are the examples of the variation of the said three dialectical zones:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variation</th>
<th>W.B.D</th>
<th>E.B.D</th>
<th>S.B.D</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/s &lt; kʰ/</td>
<td>/sase/</td>
<td>/kʰase/</td>
<td>/kʰase/</td>
<td>one</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/muːsa/</td>
<td>/muʔkʰa/</td>
<td>/makʰa/</td>
<td></td>
<td>to dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/daosri/</td>
<td>/daokʰri/</td>
<td>/daokʰari/</td>
<td></td>
<td>martin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/samu/</td>
<td>/kʰamu/</td>
<td>/kʰamuk/</td>
<td></td>
<td>snail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/satʰao/</td>
<td>/kʰaotʰa/</td>
<td>/kʰatʰua/</td>
<td></td>
<td>continuous fall of rain for several days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>/ b &lt; bʰ/:</th>
<th>bikʰa/</th>
<th>bʰikʰa/</th>
<th>bʰikʰa/</th>
<th>the chest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/bitʰa/</td>
<td>bʰitʰa/</td>
<td>bʰitʰi/</td>
<td></td>
<td>the base of households</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/bibu/</td>
<td>bʰibu/</td>
<td>bibu/</td>
<td></td>
<td>the bowel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/bihao/</td>
<td>bʰihao/</td>
<td>behao/</td>
<td></td>
<td>father-in-law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/d &lt; dʰ/:</td>
<td>dʰinkʰi/</td>
<td>dʰinkʰi/</td>
<td>dʰinkʰi/</td>
<td>rice husking paddle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.5 VARIATION OF DIALECTS:

/i/< /e/:

1. Whenever close un-rounded vowel /i/ in the medial position in Western Boro Dialects is transformed into /e/ in Southern Boro Dialects and Eastern Boro Dialect; e.g:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>W.B.D</th>
<th>E.B.D</th>
<th>S.B.D</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/atʰiŋ/</td>
<td>/atʰen/</td>
<td>/hatʰen/</td>
<td>the leg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/pʰiθʰaj/</td>
<td>/pʰiθʰaj/</td>
<td>/beθʰaj/</td>
<td>the fruit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
/siloura/ /seeoura/ /seroula/   one kind of insect
/e/ < /o/:

2. The front un-rounded half-close vowel /e/ in W.B.D. is transform into back rounded half open /o/ in S.B.D and it remains same in E.B.D; e.g

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>W.B.D</th>
<th>E.B.D</th>
<th>S.B.D</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/megon/</td>
<td>/megon/</td>
<td>/mogon/</td>
<td>eye</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

/ʊ/ < /a/:

3. The un-rounded Back vowel /ʊ/ in Western Boro Dialect in initial position is transformed into /a/ in the Eastern Boro Dialect and /e/, /o/ in southern Boro Dialect; e.g

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>W.B.D</th>
<th>E.B.D</th>
<th>S.B.D</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/uηkʰam/</td>
<td>/akʰam/</td>
<td>/eηkʰam/</td>
<td>rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/uηkʰar/</td>
<td>/akʰar/</td>
<td>/oηkʰar/</td>
<td>to get out</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

/w/ < /a/:

4. The vowel /w/ in the W.B.D. Transforms into central low vowel /a/ in the S.B.D. and E.B.D. If the phoneme /b/ or /z/ is in penultimate stage then it will occur Diphthong in E.B.D. Nothing phonetic change is in E.B.D; e.g

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WBD</th>
<th>EBD</th>
<th>SBD</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/bʊraj/</td>
<td>/braj/, or</td>
<td>/baraj/</td>
<td>oldman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>/baraj/</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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5. The un-rounded vowel /u/ in the W.B.D. transforms into /u/ in S.B.D. And it remains un-changed in E.B.D

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WBD</th>
<th>EBD</th>
<th>SBD</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/mʊsə/</td>
<td>/mʊsə/</td>
<td>/musə/</td>
<td>tiger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/du/</td>
<td>/du/</td>
<td>/du/</td>
<td>pitcher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/nu/</td>
<td>/nu/</td>
<td>/nu/</td>
<td>the thread</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>for handloom</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.6 Gemination: Generally, gemination occurs inter vocally in some Boro words and to a very limited number of consonants. Eastern Boro Dialect has its special feature. For example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WBD</th>
<th>EBD</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/bb/</td>
<td>/gũba/</td>
<td>/gũbba/ thin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/phpʰ/</td>
<td>/kʰopʰ⁰/</td>
<td>/kʰopʰ⁰/ phlegm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/dd/</td>
<td>/kʰ̣wrdwji/</td>
<td>/kʰ̣wddwji/ a kind of fruit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/kʰkʰ/</td>
<td>/gũkʰᵃ/</td>
<td>/gũkʰᵃ/ bitter like taste</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.7 Consonant cluster: Consonant clusters also occur in both Eastern Boro Dialect and Southern Boro Dialect e.g.

### 2.7.1 TWO MEMBER CLUSTER:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EBD</th>
<th>SBD</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/br/</td>
<td>/lebra/</td>
<td>left handed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/dn/</td>
<td>/guḍna/</td>
<td>neck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/kʰl/</td>
<td>/---/</td>
<td>typical filter made of bamboo used in filter rice beer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/---/</td>
<td>/kʰakʰlu/</td>
<td>pumkin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/kʰr/</td>
<td>/nokʰraŋ/</td>
<td>the sky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/nd/</td>
<td>/pʰenda/</td>
<td>thigh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/indra/</td>
<td>/landu/</td>
<td>well</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/---/</td>
<td>/gandu/</td>
<td>pillow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/duṇḍal/</td>
<td>/---/</td>
<td>the road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/mb/</td>
<td>/embułu/</td>
<td>the frog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/mn/</td>
<td>/---/</td>
<td>juncturev of river</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
/ntʰ/ /guMontʰwηn/ /guMontʰwηn/ nose
/gantʰi/ /gantʰi/ knot
/nz/ /lenzai/ /lenzai/ tail
/hinzao/ /---/ wife
/bonzar/ /-------/ fire flamed on

/mz/ /bihamzuJ/ /- - -/ daughter-in-law
/rm/ /kʰurma/ /- - -/ guest
/rkʰ/ /kʰirkʰa/ /- - -/ an utensil to

/kʰirkʰini/ elbow

/nl/ /banla/ /- - -/ unmarried aged man

/rl/ /- - -/ /barla/ unmarried aged man

/rkʰ/ /gorkʰai/ /pʰarkʰwηnə/ heap of soil

/mpʰ/ /zampʰwηi/ /zʰampʰwηi/ rivulet

/ηkʰ/ /dʰηkʰi/ /dʰηkʰi/ rice husking
paddle

the fern

aged unmarried

girl

a big bundle of

stalks

2.7.2 THREE MEMBER CLUSTER:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WBD</th>
<th>EBD</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/bkʰr/</td>
<td>/kʰebkʰra/</td>
<td>an utensil to wash rice etc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/mpʰr/</td>
<td>/kʰompʰram/</td>
<td>the guava</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/kʰkʰr/</td>
<td>/tʰokʰkʰro/</td>
<td>into two pieces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/nzt/</td>
<td>/zinzri/</td>
<td>chain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/nsr/</td>
<td>/sinsrai/</td>
<td>to make loud cry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/nbr/</td>
<td>/menbran/</td>
<td>besmeared with colour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ngr/</td>
<td>/saŋrema</td>
<td>a kind of insect or woman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>/saŋreŋma/</td>
<td>who has no child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>/soŋraí/</td>
<td>the chives</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.8 SYLLABLES: Boro syllable structure may divide according to the pattern of the distribution of segmental phonemes and consonantal cluster as follows:

2.8.1 MONO SYLLABLE WORDS:

**open syllable:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WBD</th>
<th>EBD</th>
<th>SBD</th>
<th>MEANING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>v:</td>
<td>/o/</td>
<td>/o/</td>
<td>/o/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/a/</td>
<td>/a/</td>
<td>/a/</td>
<td>pain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/-/</td>
<td>/i/</td>
<td>/i/</td>
<td>he</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vv:</td>
<td>/ai/</td>
<td>/ai/</td>
<td>/ai/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cv:</td>
<td>/za/</td>
<td>/za/</td>
<td>/za/</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**close syllable:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>vc:</th>
<th>/or/</th>
<th>/or/</th>
<th>/od/</th>
<th>fire</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/un/</td>
<td>/un/</td>
<td>/un/</td>
<td>back</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/em/</td>
<td>/em/</td>
<td>/em/</td>
<td>bed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cvc:</td>
<td>/zir/</td>
<td>/zir/</td>
<td>/zid/</td>
<td>to peel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/bir/</td>
<td>/bir/</td>
<td>/bir/</td>
<td>to fly</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/zuəm/</td>
<td>/zuəm/</td>
<td>/zum/</td>
<td>to wrap</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**open syllable:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ccv:</th>
<th>/sra/</th>
<th>/kʰra/</th>
<th>/kʰra/</th>
<th>completely</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/sro/</td>
<td>/kʰro/</td>
<td>/kʰro/</td>
<td>selected</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
closed syllable:

cvc:

/sruːd/ → to silence
/pʰram/ → to fry deeply
/zrab/ → swiftly and strongly
/zruːm/ → enough, considerable

2.8.2 DI-SYLLABLE:

second syllable open:

v-cv:

/a-pʰa/ → father
/a-da/ → brother
/o-ma/ → pig

cv-cv:

/guː-za/ → red
/ruː-za/ → thick
/pʰuː-za/ → to weak up

second syllable open:

v-cvc:

/a-roz/ → prayer
/a-pʰaŋ/ → the end of the bed to which leg are stretched
/a-ph\ud/ /a-ph\ud/ /a-ph\ud/ disaster
/u-lar/ /u-lar/ /u-lar/ lop sided
/u-sun/ /u-sun/ /u-sun/ the outer part of the
floor of a house

second syllable open:

v-ccv: /u-t\ri/ /u-t\ri/ /u-t\ri/ to succeed
/a-bru/ /a-bru/ /a-bru/ virgin
/a-sra/ /a-sra/ /a-sra/ fishing net
/o-gra/ /o-gra/ /o-gra/ a kind of plant

2.8.3 POLY SYLLABIC WORD:

Final syllable open:

cv-cvc-cv-cv: /bi-zir-gi-ri/ /bi-zir-gi-ri/ /bi-zir-gi-ri/ the Judge
/p\u-rw\eta-gi-ri/ /p\u-rw\eta-gi-ri/ /p\u-rw\eta-gi-ri/ teacher
/p\o-raj-sa-li/ /p\o-raj-sa-li/ /p\o-raj-sa-li/ school
/k\e-raj-sa-li/ /k\e-raj-sa-li/ /k\e-raj-sa-li/ place of worship
of Kherai

/cv-cv-cvv: /ha-su-duqi/ /ha-k\u-duqi/ /ha-k\u-duqi/ urine
/ra-p\u-dai/ /ra-p\u-dai/ /ra-p\u-dai/ prophet

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Final syllable closed:

cv-cv-cvc: /hu-kʰʊ̃-muːr/ /hu-kʰʊ̃-muːr/ /hu-kʰʊ̃-muːd/ to rub off
/lu-kʰʊ̃-muːr/ /lu-kʰʊ̃-muːr/ /lu-kʰʊ̃-muːd/ to pour
/su-bu-run/ /su-bu-run/ /su-bu-run/ to give
advice

/ma-ha-kʰal/ /ma-ha-kʰal/ /ma-ha-kʰal/ a god
worshiped
by Boros

2.9 DIPHTHONG:

The vowel diphthongs are given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>e</th>
<th>a</th>
<th>o</th>
<th>u̯</th>
<th>u</th>
<th>i</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>iu</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>eo</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>eu</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>ao</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>au</td>
<td>ai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>oi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>u̯</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>u̯u</td>
<td>u̯i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>u</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>uo</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>ui</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 2.9.1 ILLUSTRATION OF DIPHTHONGS:

#### INITIALLY:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WBD</th>
<th>MEANING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/ui/</td>
<td>zinc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/uima/</td>
<td>caterpillar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ai/</td>
<td>woman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/aisa/</td>
<td>fin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/eo/</td>
<td>to be fried</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/eop(^h)ram/</td>
<td>deeply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/eoza/</td>
<td>fry to eat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/oi/</td>
<td>honorific</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ao/</td>
<td>to take care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/aot(^h)aj/</td>
<td>the raw milk</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WBD</th>
<th>MEANING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/ua/</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ou/</td>
<td>calling to dog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/umu/</td>
<td>bamboo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Medial:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WBD</th>
<th>MEANING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/iu/</td>
<td>soul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ou/</td>
<td>a kind of insect</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
/ai/: /kʰaila/ a kind of bitter vegetable fruit
/kʰaipʰa/ somebody
/eo/: /zeoza/ twine
/seo/ to decay
/ao/: /pʰ'aotʰaj/ action drama
/kʰaora/ half ripe
/ua/: ---
/uũi/: /bũigri/ plum
/bũisũ/ age
/uũ/ /tʰũule/ shallow
/tʰũu/ to be deep

Final:

/iũ/: /zũu/ life
/uũ/ /pʰũzũu/ to high
/ũu/ hundred
/ai/: /mũdai/ god
/lai/ leaf
/ao/: /gũtʰao/ tasty
/satʰaο/ continuous rain
falls for several days

/ua/: --- ---

/ou/: /abou/ grandfather
      /zibou/ snake

/eo/: /geo/ open
      /seo/ to decay

/auː/: --- ---

/iuː/: --- ---

/uːi/: /lasuːi/ slowly
      /thuːi/ to expire

/au/: /huxkʰrau/ to shout

2.9.2 DIPHTHONG VARIATION: The final diphthong /uːi/ of the Western Boro dialect appears as /i/ in the Southern Boro dialect. But it is rare in Eastern Boro dialect; e.g.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WBD</th>
<th>EBD</th>
<th>SBD</th>
<th>MEANING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/kʰuruːi/</td>
<td>/kʰuri/</td>
<td>/kʰuri/</td>
<td>utensil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/anuːi/</td>
<td>/ani/</td>
<td>/ani/</td>
<td>aunt/ father’s sister or uncle’s wife</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.10 PHONOLOGICAL CHANGE: There were several changes occurred in Boro Language also. Following are some instances of them:

2.10.1 ADVENT: If there is a consonant phoneme between two vowel phonemes in W.B.D there is a tendency of addition of another consonant phoneme in the initial position in E.B.D and S.B.D; e.g

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WBD</th>
<th>EBD</th>
<th>SBD</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/asi/</td>
<td>/hasi/</td>
<td>/hasi/</td>
<td>finger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/atʰiŋ/</td>
<td>/hatʰiŋ/</td>
<td>/hatʰen/</td>
<td>leg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/akʰai/</td>
<td>/hakʰai/</td>
<td>/hakʰai/</td>
<td>hand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/okʰoŋ/</td>
<td>/nokʰoŋ/</td>
<td>/nokʰoŋ/</td>
<td>typical Boro dining room</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.10.2 ELISION: Elision occurs due to absence of stress or accent in particular words. This elision can be found both in vowel and consonant
sounds. This results in the contraction in the words and also a phonological change; e.g:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WBD</th>
<th>EBD</th>
<th>SBD</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/hanthu/</td>
<td>/anthu/</td>
<td>/ant'hu/</td>
<td>kneel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/hathai/</td>
<td>/hathai/</td>
<td>/at'hai/</td>
<td>teeth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/obla/</td>
<td>/oba/</td>
<td>/ala/</td>
<td>then</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/maduqi/</td>
<td>/aduqi/</td>
<td>/adi/</td>
<td>mother-sister or aunt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/naodra/</td>
<td>/naodra/</td>
<td>/naora/</td>
<td>a vessel in shape of a boat to reserve water or a wooden utensil for feeding hog etc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/nalait'i/</td>
<td>/nalait'i/</td>
<td>/nara't'i/</td>
<td>careless (woman)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.10.3 PROTHESIS: The opposite process of Elision is called Prothesis.

Prothesis also occurs in Boro dialects; e.g:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WBD</th>
<th>EBD</th>
<th>SBD</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/asi/</td>
<td>/hasi/</td>
<td>/hasi/</td>
<td>finger</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.10.4 **METATHESIS:** In rapid colloquial speech act or in connective speech or inability to imitation of sounds sometimes the phones or phonemes in the words undergo certain changes. The inter change of places of phones or phonemes in words are called Metathesis. Similar things are quite common in Boro dialects too. e.g:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WBD</th>
<th>EBD</th>
<th>SBD</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/tʰaigir/</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>/tʰaigri/</td>
<td>wood apple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/asan/</td>
<td>/hasan/</td>
<td>/hasan/</td>
<td>bangle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ajonŋ/</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>/azonŋ/</td>
<td>father's elder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>brother or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>mother's elder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>sister</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>