PROLOGUE
In our day to day life, we use or hear idioms. We use them both consciously and unconsciously in our deliberations. Idioms have become a part and parcel of our communication process and these can not be separated from our day to day life. Like Assamese the Hindi language also abounds in idioms. By going through both Assamese and Hindi literature, it can be safely concluded that the idioms decorate in many ways the language used by one and all.

The original voice of Indian mind has always been one. The difference that we find there is due to the taste, temperament and tradition. Not withstanding the regional differences, there has been a unity of thought and aspirations. "Unity is diversity" is the essence of Indian culture. Indian literature is the sum total of all regional literatures. It is therefore essential to have a comparative study of literatures written in different regional languages. In this context Dr. Bhupendra Roychoudhury has rightly observed:

"In order to have an understanding of the soul of India study of regional language is desirable. Comparative study is the practical aspect of this desire. Mere study of regional languages is not enough to have an indepth understanding of the real picture of our country, rather a comprehensive historical as well as comparative study is a must." "This in the root of present study.

We find unres almost in the whole of our country. Secessionist forces are gaining ground with each passing day. They are eating up the root of our culture. In order to defend the culture of the nation, one has to understand the life style of the common people living in different regions of our country and appreciate the difficulties and hardships being faced by them. This is not enough, one has to establish some emotional relationship with them. This objective can be attained by comparative study of literature of different regional languages.

Idioms have always contributed to the decorative aspect of language. It is a significant part of literature as well. Without idioms, literature would lose much of
its intensity and beauty. Idioms are unique because they imply detailed thoughts and ideas in a very compressed form. They are remarkable for their brevity. Even long sentences can't convey meaning as effectively as idioms do.

The mood, language and composition of idioms are indeed remarkable and we can understand much from them. On the one hand idioms have their literal meaning while on the other they contribute to the richness of a language, besides upholding its independence. Use of Idioms in the appropriate places can make a language figurative, beautiful and rich.

Hindi abounds in idioms. From head to toe, every part of the human body has found a place amid the idioms of Hindi language. In his book, "Bolchal" Kavi Samrat Pandit Ayodhya Singh Upadhayaya has used a variety of idioms in poetry. This book throws considerable light on the origin and development of Hindi idioms.

Along with the different other Indian languages, Assamese also contains a large number of idioms. Unfortunately, in the recent past, the educated class has failed to make proper use of these idioms. It is only now that scholars have taken upon themselves the task of collecting and analysing these idioms.

Thus it is clearly seen that in a systematic study of language, there is ample scope for "Comparative study". Under the systematic study of language the comparative study has it its own importance. Such types of studies not only reveal the facts regarding the concerned language, literature and culture but also establish a meaningful co-relationship between them. In other words, the comparative study between two languages is a system to strengthen the intimacy, unity and understanding between the people who are speaking the concerned languages.

The vastness of the subject, contemporary scenario of the country and my preoccupations took much time in completing the work. There were numerous hurdles to face and many problems to solve. In such a situation, every possibility of remaining some shortcoming is there. For these short comings I tender my apologies. It gives me much satisfaction that the work is now complete.
Sincere gratitude is expressed to those scholars whose works have been of much help for me. For the suggestions, inspirations and enthusiasm that has been received from fellow friends, humble thanks are expressed.

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