

Chapter XVIII.Word Order.

201. The position of the definitives, indefinitives, case-endings, emphatic forms, negative particles, interrogative particles, compound verbs etc., has been indicated in the foregoing chapters of morphology. In this chapter other cases of word order have been shown in general.

The Kasmiri sentence normally is small. Complex ideas are expressed by combining together sentences by means of conjunctions. (§ 182). For example :
 māi sēntor gharok sām āru sudi mok boihbā kaue tenāholi bohim nahli
 thiāi thiāi kathā kheni koi gusi ahim 'I will go ~~km~~ to their house and if
 they ask me to sit then I will sit otherwise expressing my views standing I will come
 back'.

202. In a Kasmiri sentence the demonstrative precedes a noun; the adjective precedes a noun, the possessive precedes a noun and the adverb precedes the adjective but when all of them come together the order becomes this : demonstrative + possessive + adjective + noun and demonstrative + possessive + adverb + adjective + noun; e.g.

kitāp 'book'
 ekhān kitāp 'this book'.
 mor kitāp 'my book'.
 bhāl kitāp 'good book'.
 bar bhāl kitāp 'very good book'
 ekhān mor kitāp 'this is my book'
 ekhān mor bhāl kitāp 'this is my good book'
 ekhān mor bar bhāl kitāp 'this is my very good book'.

The adverb generally precedes the verb. The infinitive also does the same, e.g. māi kāli sām 'I will go to-morrow'. xi xainbā āhe 'he comes to hear'.

203. The normal order of words is subject + verb or subject + object + verb. The indirect object generally precedes the direct one. Examples :

māi khāū 'I eat'.

māi bhāt khāū 'I eat rice'.

māi garām bhāt khāū 'I eat hot rice'.

māi bar garām bhāt khāū 'I eat very hot rice'.

māi tāk dah takā deū 'I give him ten rupees'.

204. When two pronouns of different persons stand as the subject, the order is 3rd, 2nd, 1st and the verb also agrees with the first in preference to the second or third and with the second in preference to the third, e.g. xi, tumi āru māi sām 'he, you and I shall go'. tumi āru māi sām 'you and I shall go'. xi āru tumi sām 'he and you will go'. xi āru māi sām 'he and I shall go'.

205. The normal order of words in the dialect is, however, not rigidly fixed. Except for the post-positions which must follow the noun or pronoun concerned, other parts of speech may have a different order for emphasis and for expression of emotion. Thus the subject may come at the end of a sentence, e.g. āk āsil rāsā 'there was a king'. tāk āru moh kare rāsāi 'the king loves her'. The vocative which generally comes at the beginning, may come after or last just for emphasis, e.g. bāpā māi daktāri okhud nakhāū 'O my dear boy, I do not use medicine of a medical practitioner'. behu rāsār sāl khālū bāpā māi 'O my dear boy, I have seen the changes of many kings'. tākē to koisū piti 'I am saying that my boy'. So also the verb may come before the subject, the adverb may go after the verb, the infinitive may go after the verb and the persons of the pronouns may change place. The adverbs of time and place particularly has the least fixed place. Examples : āse bakrār māk 'mother of Bakra is living'. behut sāgāt phuissifū māi 'I travelled in many places'; nek khālāk enkeri 'in this way he did harm to me'; tār kathāo lāigbo xuinbā 'his words also will have to be heard'; tumi, gapāl āru māi sām 'you, Gopal and I shall go'; māi kāli guahātik sām or māi guahātik kāli sām 'I will

go to Gauhati to-morrow', etu bostu nalbārit bar xastā or nalbārit etu bostu bar xastā 'this thing is very cheap at Nalbari.

Predicatively the possessive and the adjective will come after the noun, e.g. etu ghar mor 'this house is mine'; etu bostu bhāl 'this thing is good'.

206. In a Kamrupi sentence the verb is always not essential. It is left out generally in the following patterns of sentences, e.g.

- (a) demonstrative + noun : eglā kathā 'these are the things'
ehnāi xākhī 'these are the witnesses'.
- (b) demonstrative + adjective : eglā baiā 'these things are bad'.
ehnā xoru 'these are juniors'.
- (c) demonstrative + possessive + noun : etu kār ghar 'whose house is this'.
 etu mor salā 'this is my shirt'.
- (d) possessive + noun + interrogative pronoun : tor nāu ki 'what is your name'.
- (e) possessive + noun + noun : mer nāu hori 'my name is Hari'.
- (f) possessive + noun + adjective : mer dia baiā 'my days are bad'.
 tār pitāktu bhāl 'his father is good'.
- (g) possessive + noun + adverb : gapālor ghar tātei 'Gopal's house is there
 itself'.

207. The subject is also omitted in a sentence in Kamrupi in the following situations :

- (a) in imperative constructions : parh 'thou read'
 xetu kām kar 'thou do that work'.
 bhāithbeila āihbā 'you please come in the
 evening'.

(b) in asking questions : xāntor gharok sa nā nāsa 'you go to their house
or not'.

ālu kenke leli 'at what price you have purchased
potatoes'.

kot thākāh 'where do thou stay'.

(c) in expressing doubt : kali bā ki kase 'said this much what he says
(is not certain)'.

gali na ki bhāibbo 'If I go there what they will
think of me (is not certain)'.

(d) in general statements : tāk iskulet khedbā noru 'I cannot send him to
school'.

itā eke āhsū ale 'now I have come here'

duilāg khāisū sāh 'I have taken tea twice'.

208. If once something or some body is referred to and the following
statement is concerning that person or thing, then generally that thing or person is
omitted, e.g.

xi āpi biā dilāk duṭā āru tintā āse 'he has given two daughters in
marriage again three daughters are remaining'.

tumār na baiḥ kimān hal, mer tinkuri das mān hal 'how much aged you
are ? My age is nearly seventy'.

tāi sāh khābi nā, khām de 'will thou take tea, I will take'.