

CHAPTER -2

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1. Review of Literature

A lot of Linguistic research works have been done on Bodo language. The grammatical descriptions of Bodo have also been done by many linguists. However detailed works on word formation is so far not available. Hence, the present review chapter intended to view various published works done on the Bodo language in general.

It is important to mention that one of the pioneer works on Bodo language was done by Rev. Sidney Endle during 1884. He wrote a grammar on the Bodo language spoken by the people of Darrang district (now Udalguri) in Assam. His grammar is entitled '*Outline Grammar of the Kachari (Bara) language*' (1884). The grammar book on Bodo starts from this work. The data given in this book does not belong to the standard variety of Bodo but belongs to the Darrang dialect of Bodo. He tried to describe the noun, gender, number, case, adjective, pronoun, verb and syntax of Darrang Dialect.

According to Rev. S. Endle, nouns denoting inanimate objects have no formal distinction of gender as *Oá*, a bamboo, *mai* rice (paddy). In the case of animate objects, the gender of the noun is indicated by a separate qualifying word, placed usually after the noun. For example, **Hóá**, man (male) **Hingzhau**, woman (female) used only of human beings. "**Zălá**and **zǒ**" used of birds, e.g. *Dau zalá*, a cock: *dau zǒ*, a hen. Endle mentions regarding plurality of animate nouns by adding the suffixes **fūr**, **frá** or **far** to the singular. For example: *masá* 'a tiger' *masá-fūr* (-*frá* or -*far*) 'tigers'

According to his data, Bodo has two plural suffixes i.e. **fūr** and **frá** or **far** but as per our data, standard Bodo has three plural suffixes viz. /-suur/, /-p^huur/ and /-múin/. The suffix /-suur/ is used to indicate the plurality of second and third person pronouns, /-p^huur/ is used to indicate the plurality of animate noun and inanimate things and objects and the /-múin/ is used to indicate the plurality of kinship noun and honorific human noun.

He mentioned the nominative, objective, instrumental, dative, ablative, possessive, locative and vocative case. According to him “many adjectives begin with the letter /g/, in which a short vowel is attached, hence, short indeed that in rapid speaking the vowel of the first syllable may not be heard at all.

“mánsoia	gahàm	ná ?”	hám-go
man	good	(is he ?).	Good (he) is

In composition, the adjective usually, though not invariably, follows the noun it qualifies.

For example:

Dõima ga-súm.

(The) water black = (kálá páni in Assamese).”

He wrote about the comparison, this is effected by appending the syllable “sari” or “khri” (=than) to the word with which comparison is made, this word being always in the dative case. The superlative degree is denoted much in the same way, the noun being preceded by some word signifying “all,” thus

Bi áng-no-khri gã-zau . ‘He (is) taller than I.’ (Comparative)

Bi böi-na-sari ga-zaú-sin. ‘He is the tallest of all. (Superlative)

In making these comparisons the first syllable /ga/ of the adjective is often omitted: as

nang ang-nõ-khri zau (ga-zau). i.e. zau = (ga) zau. ‘tall’

you I than tall (are)

“You are taller than me.”

According to his data, the /sari/ is comparative marker and /sin/ is superlative marker. But our data has shown /-k^hrui/ (=than) is a comparative particle and /-sin/ is comparative marker in Bodo.

He wrote about numeral adjectives that the numeral system in this Darrang district is very defective, it is only seven digits, i.e. /sè/, /nè/, /thám/, /brè (broi)/, /bâ/, /râ (dâ)/, /sni (sini)/, being generally used, though the remaining three, /skhó, zát, zì (zu)/ are occasionally recognized. It is also mentioned by him that a useful collective word /za-khai/ ‘four’ which is used for counting.

/zakhai-thàm sa thàm/

four × three + three = fifteen (men).

/Burmá zakhai-brè má-nè/

Goat four × four + two = ‘18 goats’

He mentioned five types of pronouns viz. the personal, possessive, interrogative, demonstrative and relative pronoun. According to him, the personal pronouns undergo no change of form to indicate gender. Those are exemplified below.

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Ang ‘I’ | záng-fur ‘we’ |
| 2. Nang ‘thou’ | Nang-sur ‘you’ |
| 3. Bi ‘he, she, it’ | Bi-sur (fūr) ‘they’ |

The possessive pronoun is expressed simply by putting the personal pronoun in the possessive case, as-

/Be ang ni nõ/, ‘this (is) my house.’
 This me of house (is).

Interrogative pronouns of common use are-

1. Sūr (sar)--- who ?
2. Má--- what ? Plural **má-fūr**.
3. Bâ-bê---which (of two or more) ?

The demonstrative pronouns are:-

1. Bé---this (near)
2. Bõi---that (far)
3. Bí---that (remote distance).

He wrote that the 1st, 2nd and 3rd person plurals are formed by adding plural markers e.g. /záng-fur/ ‘we’, /Nang-sur/ ‘you’ and /Bi-sur (fur)/ ‘they’. However, according to the present study, the 1st person plural does not take a plural marker e.g. /zuŋ/ ‘we’ and the 2nd and 3rd person plural are formed by adding plural marker i.e. /nuŋ-sur/ ‘you’ and /bi-sur/ ‘they’. He did not mention about the honorific personal pronouns i.e. /nuŋ-t^haŋ/ ‘you (honorific)’ and /bi-t^haŋ/ ‘he/she (honorific)’. The suffix /-t^haŋ/ is an honorific marker of the second and third person pronoun in Bodo.

He mentioned here that the interrogative pronoun /má/ is added by the plural suffix /fūr/ in plural form. If the plural suffix is added with interrogative pronoun, it is ungrammatical in Bodo standard. In Bodo, every plural interrogative pronouns are formed by repetition e.g. /ma ma/ ‘what (PL)’, /sur sur/ ‘who (PL)’, /bobe bobe/ ‘which (PL)’ etc.

In the demonstrative pronoun, he wrote that /bé/ ‘this (near)’, /böi/ ‘that (far)’, /bí/ ‘that (remote distance)’. But our present data shows that /bé/ ‘this’ is used to denote near distance and /buí/ ‘that’ is used to indicate far or remote distance.

He discussed about the verb, but he did not clearly mention about the verbal suffixes of tense and mood. He mentioned /dang-a/ ‘is’, /dang-man/ ‘was’, /zá-gan/ ‘will be’, but it is not clear to understand whether it is present, past or future, one can understand it by looking at the gloss provided by him. The words mentioned here like /dang/, /zá/ are simple verb root in standard Bodo language.

He mentioned that the passive voice is expressed by conjugating the verb /zá-no/ ‘to be’. But he did not mention the passive marker. In our research study, the suffix /-za/ is used as a passive suffix in Bodo which make a passive verb in this language.

Endle mentioned about the compound verbs in his discussion on the syntax, but he did not discuss compound noun and compound adjective. He did not mention about the reduplication in this grammar. He briefly mentioned agglutinative character of the Bodo language based on his data of the Darrang district (now Udalguri) for that reason some data are different from standard Bodo which is understandable.

Secondly, the next work on Bodo language is done by a British Officer-in-Charge G. A. Grierson in 1903. His famous book is ‘*Linguistic Survey of India*’ Vol.-III, Part-II. He mentioned here generic name “Bodo” which was first applied by Hodgson to this group of languages. He used the term “Bârâ” or “Bodo Group” to mention the cognate languages of Bodo which is comprise of the language spoken by the Bârâ-fisā and the cognate language spoken by the other tribes i.e. the Bârâ (kachāri or Mech), Rābhā, Lālung, Dimā-sā (or Hill Kachāri), Gārō (or Mande), Tipurā, Chutiya.

He has given a chart which is following the note by Mr. J. D. Anderson on the mutual relationship of the languages forming the Bodo group. It is very interesting to understand about the phonetic changes in Bodo group. The below mentioned chart reveal the details.

Table 2:

English	Bârâ	Rābhā	Lālung	Dima-sā	Hojai	Gārō	Tipurā	Chutiya
Get	<i>Man</i>	<i>Mān</i>	<i>Mān</i>	<i>mai</i>	<i>mai</i>	<i>Mān</i>	<i>Mān</i>	<i>nim</i>
Give	<i>Hũ</i>	<i>Ra</i>	<i>As</i>	<i>Ri</i>	<i>ri</i>	.....	<i>Ru</i>	<i>ro</i>
Seize	<i>Hom</i>	<i>Rim</i>	<i>Ram</i>	<i>rim</i>	<i>rem</i>	.....	<i>Rom</i>	.....
Cloth	<i>Hi</i>	<i>Nen</i>	<i>Re</i>	<i>Ri</i>	<i>rei</i>	.....	<i>Ri</i>	.....
Far	<i>g^azān</i>	.....	<i>Chāla</i>	<i>jain-bi</i>	<i>kejeng</i>	<i>chela</i>	<i>Kachāl</i>	.....
Go	<i>Thāng</i>	<i>Reng</i>	<i>Li</i>	<i>tung</i>	<i>thāng</i>	.....	<i>Thāng</i>	.....
Good	<i>Gahām</i>	<i>Nem</i>	.....	<i>hām</i>	.....	<i>nām</i>	.....	.....
Do	.....	.....	<i>Khān</i>	<i>kh lai</i>	<i>khalai</i>	.....	<i>Khalai</i>	.....

Become	<i>Za</i>	<i>Chhāng</i>	<i>Hāng</i>	<i>Jā</i>	<i>jā</i>	.....	<i>Chā</i>	<i>sā</i>
House	<i>Nā</i>	<i>Nok</i>	<i>Na</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>na</i>	<i>nok</i>	<i>No</i>	.....
how many	<i>Bese</i>	.....	<i>Penechek</i>	<i>bishli</i>	.....	<i>bāditā</i>	<i>Busuk</i>	.....
Swine	<i>ō-mā</i>	.....	<i>o-u</i>	<i>hono</i>	<i>han</i>	<i>wak</i>	<i>Wāk</i>	.....
Goat	<i>bur-mā</i>	<i>Prin</i>	<i>Barun</i>	<i>burun</i>	<i>brin</i>	.....	<i>Purun</i>	.....
Eat	<i>Zā</i>	<i>Sā</i>	<i>Chā</i>	<i>Ji</i>	<i>ji</i>	<i>chā</i>	<i>Chā</i>	<i>hā</i>
Hunger	<i>Ukhui</i>	.....	.....	<i>hukhri</i>	<i>hukhri</i>	<i>okhri</i>	<i>Ukhu</i>	.....
Die	<i>Thoi</i>	<i>Si</i>	<i>Thi</i>	<i>Ti</i>	<i>thei</i>	<i>Si</i>	<i>Thai</i>	<i>si</i>
See	<i>nu (nai)</i>	<i>Nuk</i>	<i>Nui</i>	<i>nai</i>	<i>nu</i>	<i>Ni</i>	<i>Nug</i>	.....
Kiss	<i>Khudum</i>	<i>Khutum</i>	.....	<i>kadom</i>	<i>khudum</i>	.....	<i>matām- su</i>	.....
put on clothes	<i>Gān</i>	.....	<i>Gān</i>	<i>gāi</i>	<i>keng</i>	<i>gān</i>	<i>Kān</i>	.....
Again	<i>Fin</i>	.....	<i>Fensā</i>	<i>fini</i>	.....	.....	<i>Fi</i>	.....
Breathe	<i>Thāng</i>	<i>Kheng</i>	<i>Thāng</i>	<i>tāng</i>	.....	<i>tāng</i>	.....	.....
Lose	<i>Gamā</i>	<i>Mā</i>	<i>Kamai</i>	<i>gama</i>	<i>Kamā</i>	<i>gimā</i>	<i>Kamā</i>	<i>kimāng</i>
Ask	<i>Sang</i>	<i>Sing</i>	<i>Sang</i>	<i>shing</i>	<i>Sang</i>	<i>sing</i>	<i>Sung</i>	<i>shi</i>

He points out that the Bârâ language is having an agglutinative type of character. According to him, verb roots can be agglutinated to one another and form ‘compound verbs’. For example:

Fai, e.g.	$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{lāng-} \\ \text{zā-} \\ \text{mān-} \\ \text{hǔ-} \\ \text{khi-thi-} \\ \text{sō-} \end{array} \right\}$	$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{fai= come and get.} \end{array} \right\}$	$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{take.} \\ \text{become.} \\ \text{give.} \\ \text{show.} \\ \text{arrive.} \end{array} \right\}$
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Fin, e.g.	$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{thāg-} \\ \text{lābō-} \\ \text{nai-} \end{array} \right\}$	$\text{fin} =$	$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{go} \\ \text{bring} \\ \text{look} \end{array} \right\}$	back
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Hǔ, e.g.	$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{zā-} \\ \text{fān-} \\ \text{lā-} \\ \text{bān-} \\ \text{hom-} \\ \text{hot-} \end{array} \right\}$	$\text{hǔ} = \text{give (or cause to)}$	$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{eat.} \\ \text{sell.} \\ \text{take.} \\ \text{bear.} \\ \text{seize.} \\ \text{bite.} \end{array} \right\}$
	etc.		

He mentioned that the adverb is usually formed by adding the suffix /ũi/ to an adjective and the adjective is formed by prefixing /g^a/ to a verbal root in the language, e.g. /ham/ ‘be well’, /g^ahām/ ‘good’, /g^ahām-ũi/ ‘in a good manner’. In our present study, the

adjective is not only formed by the prefix /g^a/ but also it is formed by adding the prefixes /guw-/ , /gu-/ , /ge-/ , /gi-/ and the suffixes /-lù/, /-slu/, /-dub/, /-k^hreŋ/, /-k^hur/, /-geo/, /-bur/, /-raŋ/, /-brum/ etc.

Grierson included the BÂRÂ SKELETON GRAMMAR in his book ‘*Linguistic survey of India*’ (1903) Vol. III, Part II, which is based on Darrang dialect. He also discussed here about the noun, pronoun, and verb. According to him “the gender of animate noun is denoted by suffixed words, e.g., in the case of human being, /hōā/ ‘male’; /hingzhāu/ ‘female’; in the case of birds, /zalā/ ‘male’, /zū/ ‘female’; and so on.” But in our research work, It is found that the /zuula/ ‘male’ and /zu/ ‘female’ are not only used in the case of birds but also used in the case of human. For example:

/p^hisa-zuula/ > /p^hisazla/ ‘son’

child-male

/p^hisa-zu/ > /p^hisa-zu/ ‘daughter’

child-female

He has mentioned that the plural is formed by adding /fūr/, /far/ or /frā/. But in the present study, there are three types of plural markers used in Bodo language viz. /-suur/, /-p^hur/ and /-múu/

He has mentioned seven types of cases namely nominative, accusative, instrumental, dative, ablative, genitive and locative.

Singular: NOM. *mānsüi* ‘a man.’

ACC. *mānsüi-khō* or *khaū*.

INST	.....-zang.
DAT.	.....-aũ.
ABL.	.....-ni-frai.
GEN.	.....-ni or -ha.
LOC.	.....-ni-āu or -āu
Plural: NOM.	<i>mānsũi-fūr, -far, or -frā.</i>
ACC.	<i>mānsũi-fūr-khō, and so on.</i>

He mentioned here about the pronominal prefixes; according to him, pronominal prefixes of possession commonly added to the noun expressing relationship.

Table 3:

	Father	Mother	Elder son	Elder daughter
My	<i>āng-ni ā-fā</i>	<i>āng-ni ā-i</i>	<i>āng-ni ā-dā</i>	<i>āng-ni ā-bā</i>
Your	<i>nang-ni nang-fā or nam-fā</i>	<i>nang-ni nam-mā</i>	<i>nang-ni nang-dā</i>	<i>nang-ni nang-bā</i>
His	<i>bī-ni bī-fā</i>	<i>bī-ni bī-mā</i>	<i>bī-ni bī-dā</i>	<i>bī-ni bī-bā</i>

He has further mentioned about the function of the verb of the Bodo language, according to him, the verbal substantives are /dang-a/ means ‘is’; /dang-man/ means ‘was’. The negative forms are /gũiā/ and /nūnga/ ‘it is not’; /gũi-li-ā/ is more emphatic. /nāng-gō/, negative form /nāng-ā/. /gnāng/ means ‘possessed of,’ as in /bē thākhā gnāng/ ‘he owns money.’” But our present data do not have the word /dang-a/. If the word /dang/ (/doŋ/ in

standard Bodo) means ‘is’, it is considered as auxiliary verb. The word /dang-man/ is a combination of ‘auxiliary verb + past tense marker’. For example:

<p>/aŋ t^haŋ-gasinu doŋ/</p> <p>I go-Prog. be</p> <p>‘I am going.’</p>		<p>/aŋ t^haŋ-gasinu doŋ-muun/</p> <p>I go-Prog. be-Past</p> <p>‘I was going.’</p>
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He mentioned that the causal verbs are formed by conjugating /hũ-nũ/ ‘to give’, with the infinitive of the principal verb. Thus /nu-nũ hũ-nũ/ ‘to give’, or ‘cause to see’. They are also made by the prefix /fⁱ/, as in /det-nũ/ ‘to grow’; /fⁱ-det-nũ/ ‘to make big’. But in our present work, it is mentioned simply as causative verbs, which are formed by adding prefix in Bodo language. The causative prefixes are /p^he-/ , /p^ho-/ , /p^ha-/ , /p^hu-/ , /p^hu-/ , /p^hi- / , /su-/ , /si-/ , /so-/ and /-hu/ is the permissive suffix.

According to him, the passive is formed by conjugating *zāa-nũ* ‘to be/become’, the past participle of the principal verb. Thus *āng-nu-nai zāa-i-ũ*, ‘I am seen’. But as per the present data, passive verb is formed by adding suffix /-za/ in Bodo. For example:

/bi-yu	p ^h ulis-zuŋ	hom- za -yu/
he-NOM	police-INST	arrest- PASS -HAB
‘He is arrested by the police.’		

An authentic work on the structure of the Bodo language is done by P. C. Bhattacharya in his PhD thesis entitled '*A Descriptive Analysis of Boro Language*' (1977) which includes phonology, morphology, syntax and vocabulary. In the phonology part, he mentioned that Bodo has six vowel phonemes i.e. /i, u, e, o, a/ and sixteen consonant phonemes i.e. /p^h, b, t^h, d, k^h, g, m, n, ñ, s, z, r, l/, non-syllabic (semivowels) frictional /h/, frictional-palatal /y/, and frictional rounded velar /w/. According to him, Bodo has four types of tones i.e. high, mid, low and neutral tone. But the present study, it is found that Bodo uses only three tones i.e. high tone, low tone and level tone. High tone is marked with / ' /, low tone is marked with / ` / and level tone is unmarked.

In the morphology, he discussed about nouns or nominal group which includes nouns, pronouns, numerals and verbal group which includes verbs, adjectives and adverbs. He mentioned here two types of nominalising affixes viz. personal pronominal prefixes and general nominalising affixes. According to him, the personal pronominal prefixes are /a- ~ am- ~ Φ /, /nōñ- ~ nōm- ~ nō- ~ Φ /, /bi- ~ phi- ~ Φ / and the general nominalising affixes are /a-/ , /si-/ , /phi- ~ bi-/ and /bi- ~ be-/.

He mentioned about simple and derived pronouns of Bodo. According to him, the simple first person singular is /aĩ/ 'I', first person plural is, /zōñ/ 'we', second person is /nōñ/ 'you' and the third person non-honorific are /bi/ 'he/she/that', /be/e/ey/i/ (dialect variants) 'this one' or 'it' and /bōy/ 'that (person or thing) far off'. And all the personal pronouns are formed with nominal suffixes like /añō/ (nominative definitive) 'I exclusively', /añzōñ/ 'by or with me', /añ¹lo/ 'I only', /zōñkhow/ 'us', /zōñbō/ 'we too', /zōñni/ 'our', /zōñha ~ zaha/ 'our' or 'belong to us', /nōñni/ 'your', /nōñō/ 'you definitively', /nōñlokha/ 'you only definitely', /nōñsōr/ (general nominative) 'you (plural)',

/nōnsōrō/ ‘you all definitively’, /biō/ (nominative definitive) ‘he/she/that’, /bisōr/ (general nominative) ‘they’, /biphōr :biphōrō/ (non-human) ‘they/those’, /bizōñ/ ‘by or with him/her/that’, /bisōrzōñ/ ‘by or with them/those’, /bibō/ ‘he/she/that also’, /besōr/esōr/eyōr/bisōr/ ‘these (human beings)’, /bephōr/ephōr/iphōr/eyphōr/ ‘these (non human beings and other things), /ibō/bebō/ebō/eybō/ ‘this one also/it also’, /bōyō/ ‘that one far off (nominative with definitive sense)’, /bōysōr/ ‘those ones far off (general nominative, in respect of human beings)’, /bōyphōr/ ‘those ones far off (non human, general nominative)’, /bōykhōw/ ‘that one far off (determinative/definitive accusative)’, /bōyly/ ‘that very one far off’ etc.

He mentioned here that Bodo has three types of demonstrative pronoun i.e. /bi/ ‘that’, /be/ ‘this’ and /bōy/ ‘that (very far off)’. But in our present study, Bodo has only two types of demonstrative pronouns i.e. /be/ (proximal) ‘this’ and /bui/ (distal) ‘that’. The /bi/ is a third person singular pronoun in the standard Bodo. He has mentioned six types of interrogative pronouns, i.e. /sōr/ ‘who’, /ma/ ‘what’, /bow/ ‘where’, /bobe/ ‘which’, /bōzōñ/ ‘which side/which direction’ and /bese/ ‘how much’. According to him, the relative pronoun in Bodo is /ze/ ‘that, what, which’ and reflexive pronoun is /gaw/ ‘self’.

He mentioned about fifty (50) numeral classifiers of Bodo, viz. /sa- or kha-/ , /ma-/ , /thay-/ , /gañ-/ , /phañ-/ , /dōy-/ , /tho-/ , /thoñ/ , /suba- or thuba/ , /mōn-/ , /soñ-/ , /goñ-/ , /dōñ-/ , /dañ-/ , /beda-/ , /mutha-/ , /gayna-/ , /athi-/ , /dalab-/ , /dor-/ , /so-/ , /zora-/ , /zuli-/ , /hali-/ , /khoñ-/ , /khor-/ , /gor-/ , /thor-/ , /bar-/ , /phoñ-/ , /gur-/ , /thōñ-/ , /khon/ , /dan-/ , /san-/ , /dagla-/ , /sor-/ , /muñ-/ , /khuñ-/ , /dakha-/ , /ban-/ , /phar-/ , /thōb-/ , /ga-/ , /khaw-/ , /suñ-/ , /khobo-/ , /gorod-/ , /muga-/ and /dokhla-/ which are used to indicate different shape and size. In verb, he discussed about verb bases, derivation of verb bases and verbal inflections. He has

shown here principal verbal affixes, subordinate verbal suffixes, substantive verbal suffixes and verbal terminating suffixes.

While discussing the adjective, he mentioned that /m+vowel-/ type of prefixes which are added to the verb bases to form an adjective in Bodo language, like /²mō¹zañ/ ‘good’, /²mō³dōm/ ‘good scented’, /²mō¹led/ ‘indistinct’, /²mō¹slid/ ‘week, with less light’, /²me¹señ/ ‘dry (season)’, /²mu¹dōy/uñ¹dōy/ ‘small, little’, /²mu²hu¹khub/ ‘busy’, /²me³lem/ ‘content’ etc. But present study did not get the /m+vowel-/ type of adjectivalizer prefix in standard Bodo. The examples /²mō¹zañ/, /²mō¹led/, /²mō¹slid/, /²me¹señ/, /²mu¹dōy/uñ¹dōy/, /²mu²hu¹khub/, /²me³lem/ are the basic adjectives and the /²mō³dōm/ ‘to be scented’ is a basic verb in Bodo which are not affixed in the language. He discussed about the adverb, according to him, the only regular inflectional suffix of adverbs is /-ōy/ in Bodo like /²ga²ha¹mōy/ ‘well, in physically good manner’, /²ga²zri¹ōy/ ‘badly’ etc. But as per our data, /-ōy/ (present study /ui/) is a derivational suffix in Bodo, which derive adverbs from adjectives.

Dr. P. C. Bhattacharya is not a native speaker of the Bodo language yet he has done a detailed descriptive analysis of the Bodo language from the point of view of descriptive linguistics. It is the best work produced by non-native speakers of the Bodo Language so far.

Madhu Ram Baro has discussed about phonological, morphological and syntactic structure of the Bodo language in his book entitled ‘*The Boro Structure: A Phonological and Grammatical Analysis*’ (2008). In the phonology part, he has discussed about consonants, vowels, diphthongs, triphthongs, syllable structure, juncture, contour and tones.

According to him, Bodo has sixteen consonant segmental phonemes i.e. /ph, th, kh, b, d, g, m, n, ŋ, s, z, h, r, l, w, j/ and six vowel segmental phonemes i.e. /i, u, u, e, o, a/. He mentioned here that Bodo has two contrastive tones i.e. (1) rising tone e.g. /¹si/ ‘cloth’ and (2) falling tone e.g. /²si/ ‘to be wet’.

In the morphology section, he discussed about the kinship terms, numeral terms, nouns, pronouns, gender system, number system, verbs, adjectives and adverbs. According to him, the Bodo words may broadly be divided into two structural classes, i.e. (i) non-particles and (ii) particles. In the non-particles, he divided into following types of structural classes, viz. (a) Nominoids or nominal group, having (i) nouns, (ii) pronouns, (iii) numerals and (b) verboids or verbal group, having (i) verbs, (ii) adjectives, (iii) adverbs.

He mentioned three types of pronominal prefixes which are used to construct the kinship terms in Bodo, i.e. first personal prefix /a/, second personal prefix /nuŋ/num/nuu/ and third personal prefix /bi/p^hi/. He pointed out seven types of nominal case in Bodo i.e. nominative, accusative, instrumental, dative, genitive, ablative and locative cases. He said that linguistically there are two genders in Boro to distinguish the sex of the animate beings. The two genders are viz. (i) masculine and feminine gender. He mentioned two types of number in Bodo i.e. singular and plural number, according to him, the plural is expressed by following suffixes /ϕ/, /p^hur/, /sur/ and /mun/. He divided the adverb into two types’ i.e. regular and irregular adverbs. According to him, the regular adverbs are derived by poly-morphemic formation made out of verbal base and the irregular adverbs are sometimes mono-morphemic and share the function of other structural classes of nominal and adjectives.

In the syntactic structure section, he mentioned about the three kinds of sentences, i.e. (i) simple sentence, (ii) complex sentence, (iii) compound sentences and he also discussed here about the non-idiomatic phrase, idiomatic phrase, non-idiomatic clause and idiomatic clause.

Phukan Basumatary has also worked on the Bodo language in his book entitled “An Introduction to the Boro Language” (2005). In his book, he has discussed about the phonology, morphology and vocabulary of the Bodo language. In the phonology section, he has mentioned six vowels, sixteen consonants, two tones (high and low), eight diphthongs, open and closed syllable, vowel and consonant clusters.

In the morphology, he has discussed about noun, gender, number, case ending, numeral, pronoun, adjective, verb, tense, and adverb. He mentioned two types of nouns i.e. basic noun and derived noun, two types of adjectives i.e. primary and derived adjectives, three kinds of verbs i.e. simple, complex and compound verb and three kinds of adverbs viz. (A) adverb of place, (B) adverb of time and (C) adverb of manner. According to him, Bodo has three tenses and every tense has two aspects each, viz.-

Present tense:

(i) Habitual present tense: it is marked by the suffix /-u/

(ii) Present progressive tense: /it is realized by adding the suffix /-duŋ/

Past tense:

(i) Immediate past: this tense is realized by adding the suffix /-bay/

(ii) Remote past: it is realized by the suffix /-duŋmun/

Future tense:

(i) Definite future: this is realized by the suffix /-nuusui/

(ii) Indefinite future: this aspect is realized by adding suffix /-gun/.

But according to our data, Bodo has three tenses and three aspects, present tense is denoted by aspects markers, past tense is indicated by adding suffix /-mun/ and future tense is indicated by adding suffixes /-gun/, /-sui/ and /-liya/. The three aspects are viz. habitual, progressive and perfect aspects. In the vocabulary section, he mentioned body parts, kinship terminology, animals and insects, birds, fish, trees and flowers, natural phenomenon and objects, household articles and agricultural tools, Assamese loan words, English loan words and Arabic loan words.

Swarna Prova Chainary has discussed about phonology, morphology and syntax in her book entitled '*Boro Raokhanth*' (Boro Grammar, 2006). She mentioned six vowels i.e. /i, e, a, o, u, u:/, sixteen consonantal phonemes /b, d, g, p^h, t^h, k^h, s, z, h, m, n, ŋ, r, l, w, y/ and seven diphthongs i.e. /iu, eu, ai, au, oi, ui, uu/. She point out two types of tones i.e. high ⁽¹⁾ and low tone ⁽²⁾ e.g. /k^ha¹/ 'to pluck', /k^ha²/ 'to tie/bind', /bu¹/ 'to beat', /bu²/ 'to swell'.

In the morphological section, she mentioned basic and derived noun, two types of number i.e. singular and plural number, gender, pronoun, case, numerals, verb, tenses, adjective and adverb. She mentioned three types of plural number suffixes i.e. /-sur/, /-p^hur/ and /-mún/. She mentioned five types of pronouns viz. Personal pronoun, demonstrative pronoun, interrogative pronoun, indefinite pronoun, reflexive pronoun and seven types of grammatical cases viz. nominative case, accusative case, instrumental case, dative case, ablative case, genitive case and locative case.

She discussed about simple, complex and compound verb, transitive and intransitive verb, causative verb, finite and infinite verbs. According to her, Bodo uses three types of tenses i.e. past, present and future tense. Every tense is sub-divided into two types respectively, i.e. immediate past, remote past, present indefinite, present continuous, immediate future and remote future tense. But she did not mention about the aspects of verbs in Bodo.

She discussed about primary adjective, derived adjective, qualitative adjective, quantitative and predicative adjective in Bodo. According to her, adjectivalizer prefix is/g-/ and adjectivalizer suffixes are /-sula, -suli, -k^hor, -k^ho, -lu, -brum, -t^hi, -siya/ which are used to form an adjective in the language. But she fails to mention about compounding adjective. She mentioned three kinds of adverbs, i.e. (i) adverb of time, (ii) adverb of manner and (iii) adverb of place.

Chainary mentioned here that the word order of the Bodo is ‘subject object verb’ (SOV) and discussed about the negative particle, interrogative particle, exclamation and connective particle. According to her, negative particles are /da-, -a, -ui/; interrogative particles are /ma, suur, bobe/; exclamations are /ayo, habab, is, ah, si, hay-hay, us/ and connective particles are /aru, nat^hai, obla, eba, teubu/. She mentioned three kinds of sentences, i.e. (i) simple, (ii) complex and (iii) compound sentences.

Aleendra Brahma has discussed about phonology and morphology of the Bodo language in his recently published book entitled ‘*Modern Bodo Grammar*’ (2013). He mentioned six vowels, eight diphthongs, sixteen consonants and two kinds of tones i.e. high and low tone. In the morphology section, he discussed about the nouns, pronouns,

number, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, interjections, numerals and classifiers, particles, onomatopoeic sounds, compounding, reduplication, contraction and versatile inflections.

He classified three different classes of nouns viz. (a) primary or basic noun (root), (b) derived noun (stem) and (c) compound noun (stem). He mentioned seven classes of pronouns in Bodo, i.e. personal pronoun, demonstrative pronoun, interrogative pronoun, reflexive pronoun, reciprocal pronoun, relative pronoun and indefinite pronoun. According to him, the Bodo nouns are inflected for number, gender and case. He said that Bodo has two kinds of numbers i.e. singular and plural number. Plural is expressed by several different suffixes such as /-mun/, /-p^hur/ and /-sur/. He further mentioned that the plurality is expressed by using nouns of multitude like /gubaŋ/ ‘many’, /burza/ ‘many’, /p^halu/ ‘herd, group’, /hanza/ ‘group’ etc. and it is expressed by reduplication e.g. /no-no/ ‘houses’ /gami-gami/ ‘villages’. He explained about the masculine and feminine gender and clarified that there is no gender division of inanimate objects in Bodo.

He broadly classified the verb into two major groups, viz. auxiliary and main verbs. He sub-categorized the main verbs into three groups, i.e. (a) simple, (b) complex and (c) compound verbs. He mentioned about the causative verbs, negative verbs, passive verbs, verb plus verb complex verb and compound verbs. He explained the conjunct verbs, noun-verb conjunct verbs, light verbs, adjective-verb conjunct verbs, regular verbs, irregular verbs, quasi-regular verbs, deficient verbs, finite verbs, transitive verbs, intransitive verbs, copulative verbs and non-finite verbs.

He classified the adverbs into two main branches i.e. basic and derived adverbs. In basic adverbs, he divided it into three categories, which are: (i) adverbial of time, (ii) adverbial of place and (iii) adverbial of manner and the other is derived adverbs, which are derived from verbs, adjectives and adverbs by using suffix /-ui/.

He has discussed here about the conjunctions and according to him, the coordinating conjunctions are /aru/, /eba/, /nat^hai/, /benik^hainu/, /uŋk^hainu/, /bek^hainu/ and subordinating conjunctions are /manuna/, /-bla/, /-di/, /-zerao/, /zebla/, /obla/ and /t^heobu/.

He further discussed about the reduplication, he mentioned here full reduplication, partial reduplication, rhyming reduplication, exact reduplication and ablaut reduplication. According to him, the copying direction in Bodo can be formulated as ‘R-L copying’.

2.2. Scope of the study

According to the review and evaluation of the available literature on word formation of the Bodo language is not adequate. Some more detailed research works have to be attempted by linguists on word formation. A large numbers of grammatical descriptions are available on Bodo Language. Rev. S. Endle, G. A. Grierson, P. C. Bhattacharya, Madhu Ram Boro, Kamal kumar Brahma, Phukan Basumatary, Swarna phrova Chainari and Aleendra Brahma have worked on Bodo language and Grammar. But no one has worked in detail on the word formation processes found in Bodo. Thus, in this present research work, an attempt has been made to explore various word formation processes of the Bodo Language.

2.3. Methodology

Data for the word formation of Bodo language are collected and checked based on which the present result came up. There were several field trips conducted in different parts of Assam during 2011 to 2015. The different informants belonged to both the gender groups, age groups and the native speakers were contacted in different periods of time frame in terms of collecting data as well as checking the same. The methods of approach to the acquisition of data were both direct and indirect. Folksongs, folktales, narratives, and conversations were recorded and transcribed for a closer study for the consistent analysis of word formation of Bodo Language. On the other hand, some data were collected from books, journals, riddles, stories and novels as an Indirect method. Being a native speaker of the standard Bodo, it was not much difficult for collecting the language data. However, for the betterment of the research study a number of informants of different age-groups of native speakers have been referred to in order to cross check of the data.

The sources of linguistics information for the study of word formation in Bodo Language were from different age groups, professions, occupations as well as sexes. Some of the informants were multilingual having knowledge of English, Assamese, Bengali, Hindi and mother tongue. The informants who were mainly associated with this research work are stated as under with heartfelt thanks.

1. Jatin Basumatary (27 years), Gohpur (Sonitpur), Research Scholar
2. Sanjay Kumar Basumatary (27 years), Gossaigaon, High School Teacher
3. Ramtanu Brahma (32 Years), Gossaigaon, Research Scholar

4. Ramen Basumatary (32 years), Basugaon, health counsellor, NACO
(National Aids Control Organization.)
5. Mihir Kumar Brahma (41), Kokrajhar, Assistant Professor
6. Dhanjoy Narzary (40 years), Langhin (Karbi Anglong), Assistant Professor
7. Nilut Swargiary (39 years), Udalguri, Assistant Professor
8. Ishna Kumar Brahma (30 years), Tipkai (Kokrajhar), L P School Teacher
9. Sukumar Narzary (30 years), Tipkai (Kokrajhar), L P School Teacher
10. Rangjalu Basumatary (30 years), Basugaon, Assistant Professor
11. Billion Basumatary (26 years), Chirang, Student
12. Francis Muchahary (29 years), Kokrajhar, Research Scholar
13. Musuka Bala Brahma (32 years), Dotma (Kokrajhar), Research Scholar
14. Munjuna Kakhrary (30 years), Tangla (Udalguri), Student
15. Rashmi brahma, (34 years), kajiamati (Udalguri), Assistant Professor
16. Gwjwnsri Brahma (23 years), Basbari (Kokrajhar), Student.