

## CHAPTER -6

### CONCLUSION

This chapter is basically a summarisation of the findings based on forgoing chapters.

The present research work entitled '**Word Formation in Bodo**' is an attempt to present a detailed analysis of various types of word formation processes used in Bodo language. The important word-formation processes of Bodo Language are affixation, compounding and reduplication. With the help of aforesaid three word formation processes i.e. affixation, compounding and reduplication, Bodo language forms different words in the Language.

The present study comprises of six chapters excluding **bibliography**. The chapters are **Introduction, Review of Literature, Affixation, Compounding, Reduplication** and **Conclusion**.

The **introduction chapter** discusses briefly on Bodo people, ethnic identity and their geographical boundary, genetic origin of the people, position of Bodo language within the Tibeto-Burman language family, Bodo dialects, status of the language, literature of the language, history of the Bodo script and theoretical background of word formation.

Bodo is the name of a language and also the community. It is one of the major tribes of North-eastern India. The language belongs to the Tibeto-Burman branch of the Sino-Tibetan language family. The Bodos are recognized as a plain tribe in the Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution and called themselves as Bodo or Bodo phisa (son of

the Bodo). According to G. A. Grierson, the exact sound of generic name '**Bodo**' applied by B. H. Hodgson might be better represented by the spelling "**Bâḍâ** or **Bârâ**" which is known as Bodo or Boro, Kachary, Mech, Kirata etc. in different places and different times. According to S. K. Chatterji (1951) and Kalaguru Bishnu Prasad Rabha, the word 'Bodo' is derived from the word 'Bod' meaning "land or country". Renowned writer Kameswar Brahma (1998: 13) mentioned that the word '**Bod**' is supposed to mean a homeland. It is also said that there were many parts in the country known as **Hor Bod**, **Kur Bod**, etc. and inhabitants of **Bod** land are known as **Bodo Phicha** or **Bodocha** or **Borosa** (**Bod** means land or country and **phicha** or **cha** means son or children, hence the children of the Bod or country). In course of time, it came to be known as simply Bodo or Boro. In Indian constitution, Bodo people and their languages are recognized as Bodo.

At present, Bodo speakers are mainly found in different parts of Assam as well as in some parts of West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Nepal and Bhutan etc. According to 2001 census of India, the total population of Bodo speakers in Assam is 13,52,771 having 61.3% literary rate and 40.9% of the total ST population in Assam.

According to S.K. Chatterji, Rev. Sidney Endle and some other scholars, genetically the Bodo people belong to the Mongolian race and they are originally from Tibet and China. Dr. Anil Boro observed that "the original homeland of the Bodos should be North Western China or between the head waters of the Hoang Ho and the Yang-tsze kiang." On the other hand, some linguists opined that the '**Bodo**' belongs to the Tibeto-Burman language family. This family is now widespread throughout the eastern and the southern parts of Asia including Burma and North-East India including Assam.

Bodo language is one of the Tibeto-Burman group of languages which genealogically falls under the Sino-Tibetan or Tibeto-Chinese family of languages. W. W. Hunter mentioned that the Bodo or Káchári is a Non-Aryan language and Bodo is under the Tibeto-Burman group of languages as per the preparation by Mr. Brandreth (*The Imperial Gazetteer of India, Vol.-VI, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edi*, 1886, Pp-67). G. A. Grierson (1903) in his '*Linguistic Survey of India, Vol III, Pt II*', said that Bodo language belongs to the Bodo (Boro) sub-section of the Bodo-Naga section under the Assam Burmese group of the Tibeto-Burman branch of the Sino-Tibetan or Tibeto-Chinese speech family. P. C. Bhattacharya (1977: 7) followed the classification given by Robert Shafer (1955) and observed that the Bodo or Boro language belongs to the western branch of the Barish section under the Baric division of the Sino-Tibetan family. As per Another classification of Tibeto-Burman languages given by Paul Benedict (1972) was that Bodo is included in Bodo-Garo group of the Tibeto-Burman branch of the Sino-Tibetan family. The above proposals for the classification of Tibeto-Burman languages do not agree with each other. But it is clear that Bodo is one amongst the Tibeto-Burman languages which has close affinities with languages like Dimasa, Rabha, Garo, Tiwa (Lalung), Kokborok, Deori, Koch, etc.

Bodo language has some dialects and they have mutual intelligibility between the dialects. Some scholars have classified the Bodo dialects but the classifications are not matching with each other. According to P. C. Bhattacharya (1977), there are four dialect areas of Bodo language in Assam viz. (i) North-west Dialect area having sub-dialects of North-Kamrup and North-Goalpara (ii) South-west dialect area comprising South-Goalpara and Garo Hills Districts (iii) North-central Assam areas comprising Darrang, Lakhimpur

district and a few places of Arunachal Pradesh and (vi) the southern Assam dialect area comprising Nowgaon, North Cachar, Mikir Hills and Adjacent districts.

On the other hand, Phukan Basumatary (2005) has mentioned that Bodo language has only three dialects i.e. (i) Western Bodo dialect (ii) Eastern Bodo dialect and (iii) Southern Bodo dialect. Again Kazuyuki Kiryu (2008) included one dialect of Bodo i.e. Meche (Nepal).

The Bodo language has been introduced as a medium of instruction in 1963 at the primary level in Assam. The language is established as different levels of academic courses in Assam through the Bodo Sahitya Sabha. Presently, Bodo language is used as M.I.L. (Major Indian Language), elective, major subject, certificate course and PG degree under the Gauhati University. The Bodo language has also been using as one of the M.I.L. subject under DU (Dibrugarh University), NEHU (North-Eastern Hill University) and AUS (Assam University, Silchar) respectively.

Bodo has a rich traditional folk literature. They have their rich folk tales, folk songs, legends, charms which are related to various religious festivals and performances in the Bodo folk society. Various myths, riddles, idioms and sayings are also still prevailing as relics of the folk knowledge in the Bodo society. Mr. J. D. Anderson is the first gleaner of the Bodo folk songs and tales and his book '*A collection of Kachari Folk-tales and Rhymes*' was published in 1895.

The written Bodo literature came into existence in the 20<sup>th</sup> century with the publication of two books viz. '*Bathunam Bwikhaguni Gidu*' is the first literary work compiled by Prasanna Lal Khaklary in the year 1920 regarding Bathou Song and Bwisagu

and '*Boroni Phisa O Ayen*' is the first book of Bodo written by Ganga Chandra Basumatary in the year 1915 regarding the customary laws of Bodo. In 1924, the first Bodo magazine '*Bibar*' was published and edited by Satish Chandra Basumatary containing the themes of religion, culture, ethics, morality and advice to the Bodo community for the social upliftment.

The history of the Bodo script started in the beginning of the twentieth century in which the most of the Bodo writers used Assamese and Roman scripts for writing of Bodo language. In the last decade of the nineteenth century, the Christian missionaries used roman script. The first Bodo Magazine '*Bibar*' (1924) was published in Assamese script.

Later Bodo Sahitya Sabha (BSS) started the Roman script movement for the Bodo language in the year 1974. But they did not get approval from the Government to use the Roman script. Instead of Roman script, Devanagiri script for the Bodo language was given by the Assam Government in 1975 on the advice of Central Govt. of India. As a result of the Bodo movement, an agreement was reached between the central government of India and the Bodo Sahitya Sabha adopting Devanagiri script as standard script to be used for the Bodo language.

**The second chapter on Review of Literature** presents a review of selected books on Bodo language. Only a few linguistic researches have been done on Bodo. But separately no work on word formation processes is found in Bodo. So some books on Bodo language are selected for the purpose of review.

Rev. Sidney Endle wrote a grammar on 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). Though this book supposed to discuss the grammar of Bodo, he discussed here only about nouns (gender, number, case), pronoun, adjective, verb and a little bit of syntax. He mentioned agglutinative character of the Bodo language briefly, but it is not enough to understand it completely. He did not discuss about word formation processes in Bodo.

Another work on Bodo language is done by a British Officer-in-Charge G. A. Grierson in 1903. His famous book '*Linguistic Survey of India*' (1903) Vol.-III, Part-II states that the generic name "Bodo" 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 comprise of the languages spoken by the Bârâ-fisā and the cognate language spoken by the other tribes i.e. the Bârâ (kachāri or Mech), Rābhā, Lālūng, Dimā-sā (Hill Kachāri), Gārō (or Mande) Tipurā Chutiyā. He included BÂRÂ SKELETON GRAMMAR which is based on Darrang dialect of Bodo language. He discussed here about nouns, pronouns, and verbs.

P. C. Bhattacharya's PhD thesis entitled '*A Descriptive Analysis of Boro Language*' (1977) is an authentic work on the history and structure of the Bodo language where he includes phonology, morphology, syntax and vocabulary. In morphology part, he mentioned about nouns, pronouns, numerals, verbs, adjectives and adverbs. But he did not include the reduplication in Bodo.

Madhu Ram Baro discussed about phonological, morphological and syntactic structure of the Bodo language in his book entitled '*The Boro Structure: A Phonological and Grammatical Analysis*' (2008). He has discussed in morphology section about kinship terms, numeral terms, gender system, number system, verbs, adjectives and adverbs. But he did not discuss clearly about word formation.

Phukan Basumatary in his book entitled '*An Introduction to the Boro Language*' (2005) has discussed about the phonology, morphology and vocabulary of the Bodo language. In morphology, he has mentioned two types of nouns viz. basic and derived noun, two types of adjectives viz. primary and derived adjectives. Simple verb, complex verb and compound verbs are also explained in his book.

Swarna Prova Chainary's in her book entitled '*Boro Raokhanthi*' (Boro Grammar)" (2006) discussed the phonology, morphology and syntax. In the morphological section, she analysed the noun, number, gender, pronoun, case, numerals, adjective, verb and adverb. She mentioned three kinds of noun and they are basic, derived and compound noun and three kinds of verbs, simple, complex and compound verb.

Aleendra Brahma has also discussed about phonology and morphology of the Bodo language in his recently written 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 nouns, pronouns, number, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, interjections, numerals and classifiers, particles, onomatopoeic sounds, compounding, reduplication, contraction and versatile inflections.

Since the available books on Bodo did not make any exclusive attempt to discuss the various word formation processes used in this language, we felt the need to do such a research only on word formation processes employed in Bodo language from the point of view of modern linguistics so that a clear cut idea can come out as far as word formation in Bodo is concerned.

**The third chapter** deals with **Affixation** of Bodo language. Like other Tibeto-Burman languages, many words are formed by affixation in Bodo. Affixes are added to the verbs, nouns, adjectives to form new words in this language. As per our investigation, there are two types of affixation processes used in Bodo language. These are Prefixation and Suffixation.

**Prefixation:**

A lot of new words are realized by employing prefixation process. Causative verbs in Bodo are formed by adding prefixes. The causative prefixes in Bodo are /p<sup>h</sup>o-/, /p<sup>h</sup>a-/, /p<sup>h</sup>u-/, /p<sup>h</sup>e-/, /p<sup>h</sup>i/, /p<sup>h</sup>u-/, /su-/, /si-/and /so-/ which derives the causativeness from main verbs. For example:

- |                      |       |                  |   |            |   |                          |
|----------------------|-------|------------------|---|------------|---|--------------------------|
| /p <sup>h</sup> o-/: | (i)   | p <sup>h</sup> o | + | dob        | > | p <sup>h</sup> o-dob     |
|                      |       | CAUS.PREF.       | + | to bend    | > | ‘cause to curve’         |
|                      | (ii)  | p <sup>h</sup> o | + | zó         | > | p <sup>h</sup> o-zó      |
|                      |       | CAUS.PREF.       | + | to sit     | > | ‘cause to sit’           |
| /p <sup>h</sup> a-/: | (iii) | p <sup>h</sup> a | + | hai        | > | p <sup>h</sup> a-hai     |
|                      |       | CAUS.PREF.       | + | to be down | > | ‘cause to put head down’ |



|                      |       |                  |   |               |   |                            |
|----------------------|-------|------------------|---|---------------|---|----------------------------|
|                      | (iv)  | p <sup>h</sup> a | + | ham           | > | p <sup>h</sup> a-ham       |
|                      |       | CAUS.PREF.       | + | to be good    | > | ‘cause to make good’       |
| /p <sup>h</sup> u-/: | (v)   | p <sup>h</sup> u | + | ruŋ           | > | p <sup>h</sup> u-ruŋ       |
|                      |       | CAUS.PREF.       | + | to loose      | > | ‘to make loose’            |
|                      | (vi)  | p <sup>h</sup> u | + | su            | > | p <sup>h</sup> u-su        |
|                      |       | CAUS.PREF.       | + | to be cool    | > | ‘cause to make cool (tea)’ |
|                      | (vii) | p <sup>h</sup> u | + | suŋ           | > | p <sup>h</sup> u-suŋ       |
|                      |       | CAUS.PREF.       | + | to be short   | > | ‘cause to make short’      |
| /p <sup>h</sup> e-/: | (vii) | p <sup>h</sup> e | + | der           | > | p <sup>h</sup> e-der       |
|                      |       | CAUS.PREF.       | + | to become big | > | ‘make large/ nourish’      |
|                      | (ix)  | p <sup>h</sup> e | + | sem           | > | p <sup>h</sup> e-sem       |
|                      |       | CAUS.PREF.       | + | to lessen     | > | ‘cause to make small’      |
| /p <sup>h</sup> i-/: | (x)   | p <sup>h</sup> i | + | sì            | > | p <sup>h</sup> i-sì        |
|                      |       | CAUS.PREF.       | + | to wet        | > | ‘cause to make wet’        |
|                      | (xi)  | p <sup>h</sup> i | + | gidiŋ         | > | p <sup>h</sup> i-diŋ       |
|                      |       | CAUS.PREF.       | + | to move       | > | ‘cause to move’            |
| /p <sup>h</sup> u-/: | (xii) | p <sup>h</sup> u | + | rán           | > | p <sup>h</sup> u-rán       |
|                      |       | CAUS.PREF.       | + | to become dry | > | ‘make dry’                 |

|        |        |                  |   |                 |   |                           |
|--------|--------|------------------|---|-----------------|---|---------------------------|
|        | (xiii) | p <sup>h</sup> u | + | zuub            | > | p <sup>h</sup> u-zuub     |
|        |        | CAUS.PREF.       | + | to complete     | > | ‘cause to complete’       |
| /su-/: | (xiv)  | suu              | + | máo             | > | suu-máo                   |
|        |        | CAUS.PREF.       | + | to jerk         | > | ‘cause to jerk’           |
|        | (xv)   | suu              | + | gáb             | > | suu-gáb                   |
|        |        | CAUS.PREF.       | + | to cry          | > | ‘cause to cry’            |
| /si-/: | (xvi)  | si               | + | gi              | > | si-gi                     |
|        |        | CAUS.PREF.       | + | to fear         | > | ‘make fear/ frighten’     |
|        | (xvii) | si               | + | bái             | > | si-p <sup>h</sup> ái      |
|        |        | CAUS.PREF.       | + | to break        | > | ‘cause to break’          |
| /so-/: | (xix)  | so               | + | gó              | > | so-gó/so-k <sup>h</sup> ó |
|        |        | CAUS.PREF.       | + | to out/ to lose | > | ‘make out/ ‘make lose’    |

There is a most productive negative imperative prefix found in Bodo language i.e. /da-/. It prefixes to the verb to form the negative imperative verb in this language like-

|      |         |   |                   |   |                      |
|------|---------|---|-------------------|---|----------------------|
| (i)  | da      | + | buŋ               | > | da-buŋ               |
|      | NEG.IMP | + | say               | > | ‘don’t say’          |
| (ii) | da      | + | t <sup>h</sup> áŋ | > | da-t <sup>h</sup> áŋ |
|      | NEG.IMP | + | go                | > | ‘don’t go’           |

- (iii) da + p<sup>h</sup>ut<sup>h</sup>ai > da-p<sup>h</sup>ut<sup>h</sup>ai  
 NEG.IMP + to believe > ‘don’t believe’

Many adjectives are also formed by prefixation process in Bodo. The adjectivalizer prefixes are /guu-/, /gu-/, /ga-/, /ge-/,/gi-/ and /go-/ used to form different adjectives from different verbal bases. Among these adjectivalizer prefixes,/gu-/, /ga-/, /ge-/,/gi-/ and /go-/ are added to the verbs having identical vowel, but the prefix /guu-/ can be added to verb having identical as well as different vowels to form adjectives as in examples from (i) to (iv). The prefixation process of the adjective is ‘**Adjectivalizer Prefix + Verb = Adjective**’.

- /guu-/: (i) guu + sum > guu-sum  
 ADJLZ.PREF. + to darken > ‘black’
- (ii) guu + duí > guu-duí  
 ADJLZ.PREF.+ be sweeten > ‘sweet’
- (iii) guu + k<sup>h</sup>a > guu-k<sup>h</sup>a  
 ADJLZ.PREF.+ to taste bitter > ‘bitter’
- (iv) guu + bab > guu-bab  
 ADJLZ.PREF.+ be over salt > ‘salty’
- /gu-/: (v) gu + p<sup>h</sup>úr > gu-p<sup>h</sup>úr  
 ADJLZ.PREF.+ to glare > ‘white’

|        |        |             |   |                  |   |            |
|--------|--------|-------------|---|------------------|---|------------|
|        | (vi)   | gu          | + | dun              | > | gu-dun     |
|        |        | ADJLZ.PREF. | + | to heat          | > | 'hot'      |
| /ga-/: | (vii)  | ga          | + | ham              | > | ga-ham     |
|        |        | ADJLZ.PREF. | + | be well          | > | 'fine'     |
|        | (viii) | ga          | + | hai              | > | ga-hai     |
|        |        | ADJLZ.PREF. | + | become low       | > | 'low'      |
| /ge-/: | (ix)   | ge          | + | der              | > | ge-der     |
|        |        | ADJLZ.PREF. | + | become large     | > | 'big'      |
|        | (x)    | ge          | + | zén              | > | ge-zén     |
|        |        | ADJLZ.PREF. | + | to lose          | > | 'defeated' |
| /gi-/: | (xi)   | gi          | + | zí               | > | gi-zí      |
|        |        | ADJLZ.PREF. | + | to rend/to tear  | > | 'tattered' |
|        | (xii)  | gi          | + | sì               | > | gi-sì      |
|        |        | ADJLZ.PREF. | + | to be wet        | > | 'wet'      |
| /go-/: | (xiii) | go          | + | zò               | > | go-zò      |
|        |        | ADJLZ.PREF. | + | tear into pieces | > | 'choppy'   |

Many nouns are formed by adding prefix in Bodo language. The prefixing nouns in Bodo are formed by adding general nominalizer prefixes and pronominal prefixes. General nominalizer prefixes form different nouns except kinship nouns. And pronominal prefixes produce only kinship nouns in Bodo.

The general nominalizer prefixes are /bì-/ , /p<sup>h</sup>ì-/ and /be-/ in Bodo. The prefix /bì-/ is used to form a noun from the verb base or root. For example:

- Verb base:    (i)    bì       +       záb    >    bì-záb
- PREFIX. + to arrange (closely) > ‘book’
- (ii)    bì       +       bar     >    bì-bar
- PREFIX. + to bloom            >    ‘flower’
- Root:            (i)    bì       +       p<sup>h</sup>añ   >    bì-p<sup>h</sup>añ
- PREFIX. +       tree       >    ‘tree’
- (ii)    bì       +       gur     >    bì-gur
- PREFIX. +       skin       >    ‘skin’

The prefix /p<sup>h</sup>ì-/ is used to form a noun from a verb base having voiceless aspirated alveolar plosive in the initial position. For example:

- (i)    p<sup>h</sup>ì       +       t<sup>h</sup>uwb >    p<sup>h</sup>ì-t<sup>h</sup>uwb
- PREFIX. +       to wrap >    ‘cocoon’
- (ii)    p<sup>h</sup>ì       +       t<sup>h</sup>ái     >    p<sup>h</sup>ì-t<sup>h</sup>ái
- PREFIX. +       to fructify >    ‘fruit’

And the prefix /be-/ is also used to form a noun only from a few roots. For example:

(i) be + gor > be-gor

PREF. + seed > seed

(ii) be + dor > be-dor

PREF. + tuber/ small size edible root > ‘fleshy root/ tuber/ small size meat’

Most of the kinship nouns in Bodo are bound root; they are used as a word by adding pronominal prefixes. The pronominal prefixes in Bodo are /a-/, /nuu-/, /num-/, /nuuŋ-/and /bi-/. The prefix /a-/ is taken from the first person /aŋ/ ‘I’ and it is added to the kinship noun to indicate the ‘1<sup>st</sup> person’s kinship relation’. The /nuu-/, /num-/and /nuuŋ-/are taken from the second person /nuuŋ/ ‘you’ and they are also added to the kinship noun to show the ‘2<sup>nd</sup> person’s kinship relation’. And the /bi-/ is taken from the third person /bi/ ‘he/she’ which is attached with the kinship noun to denote ‘the possession of the 3<sup>rd</sup> person’. For example:

/a-/: (i) a + da > a-da

PRON.PREF.+ elder brother > ‘my elder brother’

(ii) a + bo > a-bo

PRON.PREF. + elder sister > ‘my elder sister’

/nuu-/: (iii) nuu + ma > nuu-ma

PRON.PREF. + mother > ‘your-mother’

(iv) nuu + mai > nuu-mai

PRON.PREF. + maternal uncle > ‘your maternal uncle’

|               |            |   |                         |   |                                |
|---------------|------------|---|-------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| /num-/: (v)   | num        | + | p <sup>h</sup> a        | > | num-p <sup>h</sup> a           |
|               | PRON.PREF. | + | father                  | > | ‘your father’                  |
| (vi)          | num        | + | bazui                   | > | num-bazui                      |
|               | PRON.PREF. | + | sister-in-law           | > | ‘your sister-in-law’           |
| /nuŋ-/: (vii) | nuŋ        | + | da                      | > | nuŋ-da                         |
|               | PRON.PREF. | + | elder brother           | > | ‘your elder brother’           |
| (viii)        | nuŋ        | + | gui                     | > | nuŋ-gui                        |
|               | PRON.PREF. | + | younger brother/ sister | > | ‘your younger brother/ sister’ |
| /bi-/: (ix)   | bi         | + | hao                     | > | bi-hao                         |
|               | PRON.PREF. | + | father-in-law           | > | ‘his/her father-in-law’        |
| (x)           | bi         | + | da                      | > | bi-da                          |
|               | PRON.PREF. | + | elder brother           | > | ‘his/her elder brother’        |

There is a large number of classifier prefixes used in Bodo language to classify the nouns on the basis of the qualities of the object that is identified by the noun. The qualities include the physical shape, size, and state etc. The classifier /sa-/ is used to classify the human being, /ma-/ is used to classify the animals, birds, insects, fish and ghosts, /mun-/ is used as a general classifier except human and animal, /goŋ-/ is used to classify the long or strong materials, /duŋ-/ is used to classify the rope, line, lyric, song and road, /p<sup>h</sup>oŋ-/ is used to classify the speech sounds and voice, /t<sup>h</sup>uŋ-/ is used to classify

hands and legs, /t<sup>h</sup>ai-/ is used to classify the fruits, /gaŋ-/ is used to classify the leaf of tree, plant etc. or some other leaf size flat objects, /gur-/ is used to classify skin, big cover and flat size things, /k<sup>h</sup>óŋ-/ is used to count for curve like small cover or shell, /k<sup>h</sup>or-/ is used to count a pit of earth, ponds and wells, /dúŋ-/ is used to classify a small hole, /gor-/ is used for seeds, coin size and small round objects, /p<sup>h</sup>aŋ-/ is used to classify the trees and plants, /t<sup>h</sup>oŋ-/ is used for standing post, /bar-/ is used to classify flowers in Bodo Language.

**Suffixation:**

A large number of suffixes are used in Bodo language in order to create new words. The passive verb in Bodo is formed by adding suffix /-za/. It is a productive passive suffix used in Bodo language. For example:

- |      |                    |   |           |   |                       |
|------|--------------------|---|-----------|---|-----------------------|
| (i)  | zá                 | + | za        | > | zá-za                 |
|      | to eat             | + | PASS.SUF. | > | ‘to be eaten’         |
| (ii) | mit <sup>h</sup> i | + | za        | > | mit <sup>h</sup> i-za |
|      | to know            | + | PASS.SUF. | > | ‘to be known’         |

There is a productive suffix found in Bodo i.e. /-huu/ which is added to the main verbs to indicate the sense of permission.

- |      |                   |   |           |   |                             |
|------|-------------------|---|-----------|---|-----------------------------|
| (i)  | sóŋ               | + | huu       | > | sóŋ-huu                     |
|      | to cook           | + | PERM.SUF. | > | ‘permit to cook’            |
| (ii) | t <sup>h</sup> áŋ | + | huu       | > | t <sup>h</sup> áŋ-huu       |
|      | to go             | + | PERM.SUF. | > | ‘permit to go/let (him) go’ |



Agentive nouns are formed by adding suffixes in Bodo language. The agentive nominalizer suffixes are /-gra/, /-giri/ and /-yari/, they are added to the verbal base to form agentive noun in Bodo language. /-gra/ is the most productive nominalizer suffix in Bodo. The suffix /-giri/ is used to denote the special good quality of any person and it shows also respect when added to the verb. The meaning of the /-yari/ is ‘agentive and the action is being continued’. For example:

|          |       |                     |   |             |   |                          |
|----------|-------|---------------------|---|-------------|---|--------------------------|
| /-gra/:  | (i)   | mao                 | + | gra         | > | mao-gra                  |
|          |       | to work             |   | + NMLZ.SUF. | > | ‘worker’                 |
|          | (ii)  | p <sup>h</sup> an   | + | gra         | > | p <sup>h</sup> an-gra    |
|          |       | to sell             |   | + NMLZ.SUF. | > | ‘seller’                 |
| /-giri/: | (iii) | p <sup>h</sup> uruŋ | + | giri        | > | p <sup>h</sup> uruŋ-giri |
|          |       | to teach            |   | + NMLZ.SUF. | > | ‘teacher’                |
|          | (iv)  | k <sup>h</sup> uŋ   | + | giri        | > | k <sup>h</sup> uŋ-giri   |
|          |       | to rule             |   | + NMLZ.SUF. | > | ‘ruler’                  |
| /-yari/: | (v)   | bibai               | + | yari        | > | bibai-yari               |
|          |       | to beg              |   | +NMLZ.SUF.  | > | ‘beggar’                 |
|          | (vi)  | dàobai              | + | yari        | > | dàobai-yari              |
|          |       | to tour             |   | +NMLZ.SUF.  | > | ‘tourist’                |

Verbal nouns in Bodo are also derived from verb bases by adding derivative suffixes /-nai/ and /-t<sup>h</sup>ai/. For example:

/-nai/: (i) zá + nai > zá-nai  
to eat + NMLZ.SUF. > ‘eating’

(ii) lá + nai > lá-nai  
to take + NMLZ.SUF. > ‘taking’

/-t<sup>h</sup>ai/: (iv) nú + t<sup>h</sup>ai > nú-t<sup>h</sup>ai  
to see + NMLZ.SUF. > ‘scenery’

(v) k<sup>h</sup>ár + t<sup>h</sup>ai > k<sup>h</sup>ár-t<sup>h</sup>ai  
to run + NMLZ.SUF. > ‘running’

/-sali/ is also a nominalizer suffix which forms a concrete noun and it represents ‘a place’ in Bodo language.

(i) p<sup>h</sup>orai + sali > p<sup>h</sup>orai-sali  
to read + NMLZ.SUF. > ‘school’

(ii) dint<sup>h</sup>i + sali > dint<sup>h</sup>i-sali  
show/ to exhibit + NMLZ.SUF. > ‘exhibition hall’

It is found that adjectives can be derived from verb bases, noun bases and adjective bases by adding suffixes in Bodo language. The adjectivalizer suffixes /-lù/, /-slu/, /-duub/, /-k<sup>h</sup>reŋ/, /-k<sup>h</sup>ur/, /-geo/, /-bur/, /-druun/, /-dén/, /-leŋ/, /-lól/, /-t<sup>h</sup>aŋ/, /-do/, /-raŋ/ and /-diya/ are added to the verb bases to form adjectives. The adjectivalizer suffixes /-bru/, /-braŋ/, /-sru/ and /-ri/ are added to the noun base to form adjectives. And the suffix /-brun/ is added to the adjectives base to show the diminution of adjectives in Bodo.

In the adjective comparison, Bodo uses comparative degree suffix /-sin/ and superlative degree suffix /-t<sup>h</sup>ar/. The superlative suffix /-t<sup>h</sup>ar/ is added to the adjective with preceding comparative suffix /-sin/ in Bodo. For example:

|      | Positive      | Comparative                 | Superlative                                  |
|------|---------------|-----------------------------|--|
| (i)  | guuzuú ‘tall’ | guuzuú- <b>sin</b> ‘taller’ | guuzuú- <b>sin-t<sup>h</sup>ar</b> ‘tallest’ |
| (ii) | muzaŋ ‘good’  | muzaŋ- <b>sin</b> ‘better’  | muzaŋ- <b>sin-t<sup>h</sup>ar</b> ‘best’     |

Adverb of manners and locative adverbs are also formed by suffixes in Bodo. The adverbs of manner are derived from adjective bases by suffixing /-wi/, e.g.:

|      |                      |   |            |   |                         |
|------|----------------------|---|------------|---|-------------------------|
| (i)  | gubrab               | + | wi         | > | gubrab-wi               |
|      | difficult            |   | + ADV.SUF. | > | ‘difficultly’           |
| (ii) | guk <sup>h</sup> ruŋ | + | wi         | > | guk <sup>h</sup> ruŋ-wi |
|      | strong               |   | + ADV.SUF. | > | ‘strongly’              |

Locative adverbs in Bodo are formed by adding locative marker /-ao/ to the noun, pronoun and adjectives like-

- (i) ok<sup>h</sup>raŋ + ao > ok<sup>h</sup>raŋ-ao  
 sky + LOC > ‘in the sky’
- (ii) hazu + ao > hazu-ao  
 hill + LOC > ‘in the hill’

There are two types of negative suffixes used to make a negation in Bodo language i.e. /-úí/ and /-a/. The suffix /-úí/ is added to the main verbs to form negative nouns and also added to the adjectives to form opposite meaning of adjectives. For example:

- Verbs: (i) gáb + úí > gáb-úí  
 cry + NEG.SUF. > ‘a rejection of crying/ not crying’
- (ii) p<sup>h</sup>ut<sup>h</sup>ai + úí > p<sup>h</sup>ut<sup>h</sup>ai-yúí  
 believe + NEG.SUF. > ‘not believing’

Adjective:

- (i) luŋt<sup>h</sup>ao + úí > luŋt<sup>h</sup>aw-úí  
 drinkable + NEG.SUF > ‘undrinkable’
- (ii) hat<sup>h</sup>ao + úí > hat<sup>h</sup>aw-úí  
 possible + NEG.SUF. > ‘impossible’

The suffix /-a/ is attached to the verbs to form a negation of verbs in Bodo. It is a most productive negative suffix in this language. When /-a/ is added to the vowel ending verbs in that case it is replaced by /-ya/ or /-wa/. The /-a/ is replaced by /-ya/ if the verb is ended with /a, e, i/ vowel. If the verb is ended with /o, u/ vowel phonemes then /-a/ is replaced by /-wa/. But /-a/ can be added with /u/ vowel ending verbs (See: 3.2.6.3. sub chapter).

There are large number of verbal suffixes found in Bodo which are suffixed to the simple verbs to derive complex verbs. These suffixes are /-bao/, /-brob/, /-drai/, /-dla/, /-dao/, /-gruu/, /-zen/, /-zlai/, /-k<sup>h</sup>a/, /-k<sup>h</sup>áj/, /-k<sup>h</sup>é/, /-k<sup>h</sup>rao/, /-p<sup>h</sup>á/, /-p<sup>h</sup>u/, /-p<sup>h</sup>laŋ/, /-haŋ/, /-p<sup>h</sup>ram/, /-p<sup>h</sup>er/, /-sab/, /-t<sup>h</sup>o/ and /-t<sup>h</sup>ro/. While these suffixes are added, the verbs do not change its grammatical class and derive new lexeme (See: 3.2.7. sub chapter).

There are three types of plural suffixes used in Bodo, i.e. /-p<sup>h</sup>uur/, /-sur/ and /-mún/ which are added to the nouns and pronouns to form the plural. /-p<sup>h</sup>uur/ is added after human, animate and material nouns, /-sur/ is used after second and third person pronouns and reflexive pronoun whereas /-mún/ is used after the kinship nouns as well as second and third person honorific pronouns.

Case markers are suffix forms in Bodo language. There are nine types of cases found in Bodo, i.e. nominative, accusative, dative, instrumental, ablative, genitive, possessive, locative, and allative case which are suffixed to the noun and pronouns to form the respective cases. The nominative case markers in Bodo are /-a/, /-ya/, /-wa/, /-u/ and /-yu/. The /-a/ occurs generally with consonant ending nouns, honorific personal pronoun and also occurs after /u/ vowel ending nouns. /-ya/ occurs after /i/, /e/ and /a/ vowel ending nouns. /-wa/ occurs after /o/ and /u/ vowel ending nouns. /-u/ occurs after consonant

ending pronouns. /-yuu/ occurs with vowel ending person pronoun and demonstrative pronoun. Accusative case is formed by suffixing /-k<sup>h</sup>uu/ marker in Bodo. Dative case is formed by marking /-nuu/ suffix. Instrumental case is expressed by the addition of /-zuuŋ/ suffix. Genitive case is formed by adding /-ni/ suffix. Possessive case is formed by adding /-ha/ suffix in Bodo. Ablative case in Bodo is expressed by the suffix /-p<sup>h</sup>rai/, it is added to the noun and pronoun by preceding genitive marker /-ni/. There are three kinds of locative markers found in Bodo language, i.e. /-ao/, /-yao/ and /-wao/. The /-ao/ occurs with nouns of consonant ending, /-yao/ occurs with /i/, /e/ or /a/, vowel ending nouns, /-wao/ occurs with /u, o/ vowel ending nouns. The suffix /-t<sup>h</sup>iŋ/ is used as an allative case marker in Bodo language. Double case marking system is also found in Bodo language.

It is generally believed that Bodo uses three kinds of tense, viz. present, past and future. Present tense does not have a particular marker in Bodo. It is expressed with the help of aspect markers. There are three kinds of aspect found in Bodo, i.e. habitual, progressive and perfect aspects. The habitual aspect markers are /-uu/ and /yuu/, the progressive aspect are /-gasinuu/, /-duuŋ/ and the perfect aspects are /-bai/, /-k<sup>h</sup>uu/ and /-k<sup>h</sup>ui/. The perfect aspects marker /-bai/ is used in the affirmative sentence, the /-k<sup>h</sup>uu/ is used in the interrogative and the /-k<sup>h</sup>ui/ is used in the negative sentence. The past tense marker is /-muun/ in Bodo. It is added to the principal verb by preceding aspect markers. And the future tense markers are /-guun/, /-sùii/ or /nūsùii/, /-guuu/ and /-liya/. The suffix /-guun/ is used to indicate the indefinite future, /-sùii/ or /-nūsùii/ are used to denote the definite future, /-guuu/ is used to indicate the meaning of immediate future and /-liya/ is used to denote a negative future in Bodo. The future tense formation rule is ‘principal verb + future marker’.

There are mood suffixes used in Bodo language which are suffixed to the verbs to indicate the attitude of the speakers. The imperative mood suffix is /-dɯ/, definitive mood suffix are /-t<sup>h</sup>ár/ and /-már/, interrogative mood suffixes are /-na/ and /-da/, optative mood suffix is /-t<sup>h</sup>uŋ/, uncertainty mood suffix are /-gún/ and /-k<sup>h</sup>úma/, decisive mood suffix is /-si/ in Bodo.

There are some postpositional particles suffixes used in Bodo which are suffixed to the noun phrase. The emphatic particle suffix is /-nú/, inclusive particle is /-bu/ and exclude particles is /-lo/ is suffixed to the noun and pronoun to exclude others.

**The third chapter** deals with **Compounding** where the words are formed by two or more roots. Compounding is also a very important area in the word formation process in Bodo language. According to semantic criteria, the endocentric, exocentric, copulative compounding processes are used in this language. Both right-headed and left-headed endocentric compound formations are found in Bodo. For example:

Right-headed endocentric compound:

- |      |         |                        |   |   |
|------|---------|------------------------|---|---|
| (i)  | háphuú  | + muik <sup>h</sup> un | > | háph <sup>h</sup> uú-muik <sup>h</sup> un |
|      | hillock | + mushroom             | > | ‘a kind of mushroom’                      |
| (ii) | mai     | + bip <sup>h</sup> aŋ  | > | mai-bip <sup>h</sup> aŋ                   |
|      | paddy   | + tree                 | > | ‘paddy plant’                             |

Left-headed endocentric compound:

- (i) k<sup>h</sup>aolai + p<sup>h</sup>aodur > k<sup>h</sup>aolai-p<sup>h</sup>aodur  
cheek + beautiful > ‘chubby-cheek’ /
- (ii) hinzaō + guudan > hinzaō-guudan  
female + new > ‘bride’

The exocentric type of compounding is also available in Bodo language where compounds are unexpressed semantic head.

- (i) bibu + guulao > bibugulao  
intestine + long > ‘lazy’
- (ii) buri + t<sup>h</sup>ok<sup>h</sup>on > burit<sup>h</sup>ok<sup>h</sup>on  
old woman + stick > ‘a kind of plant’

Many Bodo words are realized in copulative compounding process, which words are closely related to each other.

- (i) bisi + p<sup>h</sup>isai > bisi-p<sup>h</sup>isai  
wife + husband > ‘husband and wife’
- (ii) p<sup>h</sup>isazla + p<sup>h</sup>isazu > p<sup>h</sup>isazla-p<sup>h</sup>isazu  
son + daughter > ‘son and daughter’



There is a ‘free root + bound root = noun’ compounding process also used in Bodo.

Many names of the birds, animals and fish are realized in this process. For example:

|       | <b>Free root</b> | + | <b>Bound root</b>     | = | <b>Noun</b>            |
|-------|------------------|---|-----------------------|---|------------------------|
| (i)   | dáo              | + | /k <sup>h</sup> á/    | > | /dáo-k <sup>h</sup> á/ |
|       | bird             | + | it indicates crow     | > | ‘crow’                 |
| (ii)  | dáo              | + | bó                    | > | dáo-bó                 |
|       | bird             | + | it indicates heron    | > | ‘heron’                |
| (iii) | mi               | + | ru                    | > | mu-ru/                 |
|       | animal           | + | it denotes wild cat   | > | ‘wild cat’             |
| (iv)  | mi               | + | suu                   | > | mu-suu                 |
|       | animal           | + | it denotes cow/ox     | > | ‘cow/ ox’              |
| (v)   | na               | + | t <sup>h</sup> úr     | > | na-t <sup>h</sup> úr   |
|       | fish             | + | it indicates crayfish | > | ‘crayfish’             |

There is another common type of compounding process used in Bodo. In this process, nouns, adjectives and verbs are compounded to each other and produce new words. The noun compounding processes in Bodo are- ‘noun + noun’, ‘noun + adjective’, ‘adjective + noun’, ‘noun + verb’, ‘verb + noun’, ‘verb + adjective’. The adjective compounding processes are- ‘noun + adjective’, ‘noun + noun’, ‘verb + adjective’ ‘noun + verb’ ‘verb + verb’, ‘adjective + adjective’. The verb compounding processes in Bodo are- ‘noun + verb’, ‘adjective + verb’, ‘verb + verb’, ‘verb + verb + verb’. The adverb compounding processes are- ‘noun + noun’ and ‘adverb + adverb’.

It is also found that in ‘verb + verb’ compounding, sometimes the second constituent of compound is modified in Bodo language. For example:

|       | <b>Verb</b> | + | <b>Verb</b>                                     | > | <b>Verb</b>               |
|-------|-------------|---|---|---|---------------------------|
| (i)   | bú          | + | sok <sup>h</sup> ó                              | > | bú-k <sup>h</sup> ó       |
|       | to pull     | + | make out  | > | ‘pull out (from the box)’ |
| (ii)  | bú          | + | sit <sup>h</sup> ar                             | > | bú-t <sup>h</sup> ar      |
|       | beat        | + | kill  | > | ‘kill by biting’          |
| (iii) | dán         | + | si <sup>h</sup> p <sup>h</sup> ái               | > | dán-p <sup>h</sup> ái     |
|       | to chop     | + | cause to break                                  | > | ‘break by chopping’       |
| (iv)  | sub         | + | dint <sup>h</sup> i                             | > | sub-t <sup>h</sup> i      |
|       | to smoke    | + | to show   | > | ‘show by smoking’         |
| (v)   | súu         | + | k <sup>h</sup> u <sup>h</sup> l <sup>h</sup> ui | > | súu-k <sup>h</sup> lai    |
|       | to punch    | + | make fall down                                  | > | ‘punch and fall down’     |

**The fifth chapter** discusses about **reduplication** of the Bodo language. The reduplication can be broadly classified into three types in Bodo, viz. word reduplication, echo-formations and expressives reduplication. The word reduplication of Bodo is found in two types, i.e. complete and partial word reduplication. The complete word reduplication can be classified in two types, viz. class changing and class maintaining word reduplication.

It is found that the adverbs are formed by complete reduplication in this language. The adverbs of Bodo are formed by complete repetition of adjectives, verbs and numerals.

There are different meanings produced in Bodo by complete reduplication of nouns, pronouns, adjectives, verbs and adverbs. The meanings are plural, locative, co-occurrence, persuasive, repetition, each etc. Plural meaning is indicated by complete reduplication of interrogative pronoun, indefinite pronoun, reflexive pronoun, adjectives and nouns. Some nouns denote locative meaning by complete reduplication of common noun. When adverbs derived from verbs get repeated, they convey the meaning of co-occurrence. Some adverbs are reduplicated to express the meaning of repetition. If the simple or imperative verbs are completely repeated, they may convey the meaning of ‘persuasion’. When cardinal numeral is reduplicated, it denotes the meaning of ‘each’ in Bodo language.

In the partial word reduplication, adjectives are repeated partially and it expands its meaning. For example:

- |       |  |                  |
|-------|--|------------------|
| (i)   | ránt <sup>h</sup> ej-t <sup>h</sup> ej | ‘very thin’      |
|       | (ugly) thin-RED                        |                  |
| (ii)  | dego-go                                | ‘very big (eye)’ |
|       | big (eye)-RED                          |                  |
| (iii) | gusuŋ-suŋ                              | ‘very short’     |
|       | short-RED                              |                  |

In the echo-formation, the echo words are mostly formed by /t<sup>h</sup>/ sound in Bodo, e.g.

- (i) mansi-t<sup>h</sup>ansi                      ‘man and the like’  
man-RED.
- (ii) hagra-t<sup>h</sup>agra                      ‘bush etc.’  
bush/jungle-RED

When a word begins with /t<sup>h</sup>a/ sound, initial syllable of the base is replaced by /t<sup>h</sup>u/ sound in echo words. For example:

- (i) t<sup>h</sup>adun-t<sup>h</sup>udun                      ‘arum and etc.’  
Arum-RED
- (ii) t<sup>h</sup>ailir-t<sup>h</sup>uilir                      ‘banana and etc.’  
banana-RED

Expressive reduplication in Bodo is used to indicate all the five senses of perception, i.e. of hearing, smell, sight, touch and taste. There are many types of acoustic noises found in Bodo which are expressed by reduplication like animal voices, noise of natural phenomena, noise made by human, scolding or dispersing sound of animal and bird, calling sound of domestic animal and bird.

It has revealed that Bodo is an agglutinative language; many of the morphemes are juxtaposed to each other to form a meaningful word. It is also seen that some verbs are modified when it is compounded to another verb in Bodo language. The study of word formation in Bodo helps to understand word formation processes of the Bodo language in particular and other Bodo group in general. It will further enrich the knowledge of future researchers who are going to undertake research work on the languages of Bodo group.