

NEGATION IN BODO AND DIMASA: A BRIEF STUDY

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ABSTRACT

This paper tries to encapsulate the uses of Negation in Bodo and Dimasa. It also tries to accentuate the similarities and dissimilarities of negation in both the languages. Negation plays very important role to communication in every language. It is also affects the logical structure as well as the semantic analysis of a sentence used in a particular language. It also plays a very important role in determining the adequacy of various grammatical constructions. In attendance have no free negative morpheme, although have bound negative morpheme in both the languages. The present study deals with negative particles, negative copula and negative morpheme etc.

KEYWORDS: Negative Copula, Negative Morpheme, Negative Suffix

INTRODUCTION

Bodo and Dimasa are mongoloid origin which linguistically belong Bodo-Naga sub section of Tibeto-Burman group of language family and transitory largely in Assam through China, Burma and Bhuttan. They constitute an important ethnic group in North-East India. For the common people, there is no difference between Bodo and Dimasa. It was popularly believed that either Bodo was a dialect of Dimasa or Dimasa was Bodo's dialect. The difference was most probably noticed in the later part of 11th century by linguist like Grierson. According to G. A. Grierson "the Europeans called Dimasas the Hill Kacharis to distinguish them from the plains Kacharis speaking Bodo" (The linguistics survey of India, Vol-III, Part-II 1967, pp-56).

OBJECTIVE

To find out and analyses the formation of negation in Bodo and Dimasa.

DATA AND MYTHOLOGY

The data have been collected from two major sources; primary and secondary, primary sources have been collected which are based on different people of different age group and different profession in different dialect areas as well as my personal knowledge. Secondary sources have been collected from books, magazine, short stories, audio visual aids etc.

NEGATION

"Negative or Negation is a process or construction in grammatical and semantics analysis which typically expresses the contradiction of some or all sentences's meaning". (Crystal, David. (1995) *A dictionary of linguistics and phonetics* (4th ed.). Cambridge: black well publisher.)

There are three ways of expressing negation in Bodo and Dimasa, one is by using negative particles and other is

with the help of negative copula and negative morphemes. Negative particles in both the languages are supplemented by prefixation and suffixation. /-da/ is negative prefix in both the languages and /a~ja~uqa/ in Bodo, /-ja/ in Dimasa are negative suffixes. /-ja/ is most frequently applied form which occurs in the post verbal position in both the languages. The stated negative particles are revealed under through illustration:

/da-/ is applied to denote prohibition in both the languages. It occurs only before the verbs, patterns:

Bodo

- /sanduŋ -ao k^har/ (affirmative sentence)
Sunshine (N) nom. run (V)
'Run in the sunshine'
- /sanduŋ -ao da- k^har/ (negative sentence)
Sunshine (N) nom. neg. pre. run (V)
'Do not run in the sunshine'
- /dui -yao gele/ (affirmative sentence)
water (N) nom. play (V)
'Play in the water'
- /dui -yao da- gele/ (negative sentence)
water (N) nom. neg.pre. play (V)
'Do not play in the water'

Dimasa

- /ébo k^he mao/ (affirmative sentence)
this (Pro) acc. do (V)
'Do this'
- /ébo k^he da- mao/ (negative sentence)
This (Pro) acc. neg.pre. do (V)
'Do not do this'
- /t^haŋ/ (affirmative sentence)
go (v)
'Go'
- /da- t^haŋ/ (negative sentence)

neg.pre. go (V)

'Do not go'

/-a/: occurs while the word preceded by verb ending in /ŋ/, /o/, /u/, /u/, /e/ and /i/, patterns are specified below:

- /aŋ p^horaisaliy -ao t^haŋ -a/
I (Pro) school (N) nom. go (V) neg. suf.
'I do not go to school'
- /aŋ dui luŋ -a/
I (Pro) water (N) drink (V) neg. suf.
'I do not drink water'
- /aŋ zuu luŋ -a/
I(Pro) rice bear (N) drink (V) neg. suf.
'I do not drink tea'
- /aŋ bok^ho -a/
I (Pro) pull out (V) neg. suf.
'I do not pullout'
- /aŋ bu -a/
I (Pro) beat (V) neg. suf.
'I do not beat'

/-ja/, occurs while the word preceded by verb ending in /a/ /i/, /e/, patterns are set under through illustration.

- /aŋ ɪŋk^ham za -ja/
I rice (N) eat (V) neg. suf.
'I do not eat rice'
- /aŋ gele -ja/
I (Pro) play (V) neg. suf.
'I do not play'
- /udaŋ but^hur -ao bilai k^hili -ja/
Spring season nom. leaf grow (V) neg.
'Leaf does not grow in the spring season'

/-ɪa/ occurs while preceded by a verb ending in /o/, /u/ and diphthong /ao/, patterns are specified underneath.

- /aŋ bok^ho -ɪa/

I pullout (v) neg.

‘I don’t pullout’

- /aŋ bini muŋ k^huu mok^ho -wa/

I his/her name acc. say neg. suf.

‘I don’t say her/his name’

- /aŋ bu -uŋa/

I beat (v) neg.suf.

‘I don’t beat’

- /aŋ alu ru -uŋa/

I potato boil neg.suf.

‘I do don boil potato’

- /bi -yu bauŋ -uŋa/

She/hePro. nom. forget neg.suf.

‘She/he does not forget’

- /Romen a haba mauŋ -uŋa/

Romen nom. work do neg.

‘Romen does not do work’

In addition /k^hui/ particle is supplemented with negative suffixes in some conditions in Bodo. It seems resembled declarative, because of declaring the deed, patterns.

- /daoharu -a be k^huu mauŋ -ja k^hui/

N. nom. this acc. do (V) neg. suf. de.part.

‘Daoharu does not do this’

- /aŋ mini -ja k^hui /

I laugh (V) neg.suf. proba

‘I do not laugh’

- /maibari -a lek^ha k^huu bisi -ja k^hui/

N. mon. book acc. torn neg.suf. de.part.

‘Maibari does not torn book’

These processes are not originated in Dimasa. The negative suffix /-ja/ occurs when preceded through a verb ending in /a/ /i/, /e/ in Bodo which patterns are specified on top conversely, /-ja/ occurs with all phonemes in Dimasa.

Dimasa

- /aŋ p^hurik^ho -ha taŋ -ja/
I school loc. go (V) neg.suf.
'I do not go to school'
- /bo graozima p^huri -ja/
She/He (Pro.) news paper (N) read (V) neg.suf.
'She/he does not read news paper'
- /niŋ laisi p^huri -ja/
You (Pro) book (N) read (V) neg.suf.
'You do not read book'
- /misip mak^ham zi -ja/
Buffalo (N) rice (N) eat (V) neg.suf.
'Buffalo do not eat rice'

From the above stated data we can say that /-da/ is the negative prefix in both the languages. /-ja/ and /-uqa/ is the allophone of /-a/ negative suffix in Bodo, these occur on the basis of phonemes conclusion. On the other hand /-ja/ is the only negative suffix in Dimasa. It occurs with all phonemes which conclude the word.

Negative Morpheme

Morphological negation occurs whenever the negative morpheme must be considered to form a part of the derivational morphology of the verb. /noŋ-a/ in Bodo and /ni-ja/ in Dimasa is applied to negate a statement. In Bodo and Dimasa, morphological negation occurs in verb, noun, adjective, and adverb, patterns are stated below:

Bodo

- /bi zunad noŋ-a /
She/He (Pro) animal (N) neg. morp.
'She/he is not animal'
- /aŋ somaina noŋ-a/
I (Pro) beautiful (adj) neg. morp.
'I am not beautiful'
- /be k^hamani -ja dinui noŋ-ja/

This (pro.) work (V) nom. today (adv) neg. morp.

‘The time of work is not today’

Dimasa

- /bo halua noŋ-a /

she/he (Pro) cultivator (N) neg. morp

‘She/ He is not cultivator’

- /ébo laisi grao ni-ja/

This (pro.) book (N) clear (adj.) neg.morp.

‘This book is not clear’

- /aŋ gaham ni-ya/

I(Pro) good (adj) neg.morp

‘I am not servant’

- /həbo k^husi dini noŋ-ja/

This (pro.) work (V) today (adv) neg. morp.

‘The time of work is not today’

Negative Copula

Copulative is a grammatical description to refer to a linking verb, i.e. a verb which has little independent meaning, and whose main function is to relate other elements of clause structure, specially subjects and complement. Crystal, David. (1995)

A dictionary of linguistics and phonetics (4th ed.). Cambridge: black well publisher.

Negative copula /guija/, /guila/ in Bodo and /giri/ in Dimasa are used to convey negation in existential constructions, locative predicates and possessive sentences. Consider the following patterns:

Bodo

- /lama -yao ont^haj guiya/

road (N) loc. stone geg.cop

‘There is no stone on the road’

- /bari -ao megoŋ guiya/

Garden (N) -nom. vegetable (N) neg.cop

‘There is no vegetable in the garden’

- /no -ao mansi gui-la/

House (N) nom. man (N) neg.cop.

‘There is no man in the house’

- / uŋk^ham-du -ao uŋk^ham gwi-la/

cooking utensil (N) nom. rice (N) neg.cop.

‘There is no rice in the cooking utensil’

Dimasa

- /nolai -ha subuŋ giri/

Village (N) nom. man (N) neg.cop.

‘There is no man in the village’

- dima -ha na giri/

River (N) -nom. fish (N) neg.cop

‘There is no fish in the river’

COCLUSIONS

From above it becomes clear that Bodo and Dimasa have no free negative verb. Mutually the language, negation is completed mostly by affixes. Negation plays a very important role in communicate coordination of every language. Bodo and Dimasa able to be negate the sentence either by prefixing or suffixing, by using negative morpheme and negative copula. {-da} is merely negative prefix in Bodo and Dimasa, conversely {-a} is negative suffix in both the language although the allophone {-ja. -uŋa} of {-a} able to be occur on basis of proceeded by verb ending in Bodo, nevertheless in Dimasa. Semantically it also able to be negate by using negative morpheme and negative copula. These two languages belong from universal source in the dim and distance past and have bunch of similarities as well as dissimilarities in different height of linguistics study and comparative study on these languages. No proper study has yet been done either by the native speakers or other well wishers of the languages. So, the intention of this paper is to encouraged linguists and researchers to carry out more and more research work along with give a peep on these two languages and explore to the world about their affluent and gorgeous language structure.

Note: Abbreviation and Symbols Applied for this Paper is Noted Below

acc.: Accusative case

cop.: Copula

morp.: Morphology

N.: Noun

neg.: Negation

nom.: Nominative case

pre.: Prefix

part.: Particle

pro.: Pronoun

suf.: Suffix

V.: Verb

//: Phonemic transcription

-: Prefix and Suffix

~: Allophone

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