



Morphological processes in Sanzari Boro

Ratul Mahela ^{a 1} , Sweta Sinha ^b 

^{a,b} *Indian Institute of Technology Patna, Patna, India*

APA Citation:

Mahela, R., & Sinha, S. (2021). Morphological processes in Sanzari Boro. *Journal of Language and Linguistic Studies*, 17(2), 686-696. Doi: 10.52462/jlls.47

Submission Date:04/02/2021

Acceptance Date:03/05/2021

Abstract

This paper is an attempt to present the morphological processes that have been observed in Sanzari Boro, an eastern variety of the Boro language. Boro belongs to the Tibeto-Burman language family. The Standard variety of Boro is mainly spoken in the present Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR) of Assam, India but Sanzari Boro speakers primarily reside outside and eastern part of the BTR. For this research data have been collected from native Sanzari Boro speakers of the Nagaon district of Assam. After examining the data, it has been noticed that affixation, mainly suffixation and prefixation, plays important role in the morphological processes in Sanzari Boro. The major morphological processes that have been observed in the language variety are inflection, derivation, compounding, and reduplication.

Keywords: Sanzari Boro; inflection; derivation; compounding; reduplication

1. Introduction

Sanzari Boro (henceforth SB) is one of the varieties of the Boro (also Bodo) language (Mahela & Sinha, 2018). The standard variety of Boro is primarily spoken in the present Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR), Assam, India. Boro is the second Tibeto-Burman (Grierson, 1903) language, after Manipuri, which is included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India. It is also an associate official language in the state of Assam, India. But SB is spoken outside and in the eastern part of the BTR, Assam. There is no official record of the SB speakers but unofficially more than 15000 speakers are residing in different villages under Nagaon district, Assam. Therefore, this research is done based on the data collected from the SB native speakers of the district.

1.1. Literature review

There is some previous literature available on the Standard variety of Boro which has highlighted the morphological processes of the language. Halvorsrud (1959) has written a short grammar of the Boro language. Bhat (1968) has provided a grammatical sketch of Boro. Endle (1884) has given an outline grammar of Kachari (Boro) based on the speaker of Darrang district of Assam. Bhattacharya (1977) and Brahma (2013b) have provided a descriptive analysis of Boro morphology. Basumatary (2005) has also given descriptions of Boro morphology. Boro & Basumatary (2015) have discussed

¹ Corresponding author.

E-mail address: rl.mahela@gmail.com

adverbial suffixes in Boro and DeLancey (2015) have described adjectival constructions in Boro and Tibeto-Burman languages. The Standard Boro has been studied by a number of researchers, however, no such specific literature is available in SB.

2. Method

For this research data have been gathered through interview method from the native SB speakers who reside in some villages in the Nagaon district of Assam. Moreover, being a native speaker of the language, the data have been partly designed and self-established. The collected data have been transcribed using Leipzig Glossing Rules to show the morpheme-by-morpheme analysis. This research follows the Basic Linguistic Theory (Dixon, 2010) and the gathered data have been used to form rules. In the following section, the morphological processes that have been observed in SB have been discussed as the result of the research.

3. Result and discussion

This section provides and discusses the major morphological processes like inflection, derivation, compounding, and reduplication that have been observed in SB. The languages of the world are classified morphological typologically in different types such as synthetic, agglutinating, isolating, and fusional. Abiog & David (2020) have highlighted different grammatical structures of indigenous languages. According to Brahma (2016), Boro is an agglutinating language. As a variety of Boro, SB also follows agglutinating nature. SB words tend to consist of multiple morphemes but their morpheme boundaries are usually clear. SB new words are mainly formed by adding affixes to the roots/words. The various morphological processes in SB have been discussed below.

3.1. Inflectional processes in SB

In SB, different grammatical categories that are inflected with comprise not less than a number, classifier, case, tense, aspect, mood, and degree. These inflection processes are discussed below.

3.1.1. Number inflections

SB nouns get inflected for plural suffixes {-p^hur}, {-mu} and {-sur}. These suffixes are shown below with their usages and examples.

Plural suffix and usage	Singular {-Ø}	Plural suffix	Examples
{-p ^h ur} 'animals/objects'	mosa 'tiger' gon 'stick'	{-p ^h ur} {-p ^h ur}	mosap ^h ur 'tigers' gonp ^h ur 'sticks'
{-mu} 'personal name/kinship terms/ second and third-person singular honorific pronouns'	bina 'Bina' aduui 'aunt' bit ^h aŋ 's/he(HON)'	{-mu} {-mu} {-mu}	binamu 'Bina and others' aduimu 'aunt and others' bit ^h aŋmu 'they (HON)'
{-sur} 'second and third person non-honorific personal pronoun'	bi 's/he' nuŋ 'you'	{-sur} {-sur}	bisur 'they' nuŋsur 'you (PL)'

3.1.2. Classifiers

SB numerals are inflected for classifiers. In SB, classifiers precede the numerals. For example:

Classifiers	Prefixed with	Examples
{k ^h a-}	person and God	k ^h a-se 'one person'
{ma-}	animal	ma-t ^h am 'three animals'
{bar-}	flower	bar-nui 'two flowers'

{p^haŋ-} tree p^hanŋ-ba ‘five trees’

3.1.3. Case inflections

SB nouns are also inflected for case markers. There are at least ten cases in SB (Mahela & Sinha, 2018). The case inflections have been shown with examples in the table (Table.1) below.

Table 1. SB case inflections

Cases	Markers	Examples
Nominative	{Ø}/optional ‘if personal pronoun’/	bi ‘s/he’
	{-a} ‘if noun ends with consonant and /u/ sound’/	sidum-a ‘Sidwm (NOM)’
	{-ja} ‘if noun ends with front vowel’/	abui-ja ‘grandmother (NOM)’
	{-wa} ‘if noun ends with back vowel’/	mainao-wa ‘Mainao (NOM)’
	{-u} ‘if pronoun ends with consonant’ and	aŋ-u ‘I (NOM)’
	{-ju} ‘if pronoun ends with vowel’	bi-ju ‘s/he (NOM)’
Accusative	{-k ^h u}	oma-k ^h u
Instrumental	{-zu}	silai-zu ‘with gun’
Comitative	{-zu}	siri-zu ‘with Siri’
Dative	{-nu}	bip ^h oŋ-nu ‘to brother’
Ablative	{-nip ^h rai}	no-nip ^h rai ‘from home’
Genitive	{-ni}/	guugum-ni ‘Gwgwm’s’
	{-ha} ‘family members as a whole’	siman-ha ‘Simang’s’
Locative	{-ou ~ -uu }	d ^h iŋ-ou ‘at Dhing’
Allative	{-t ^h i} ‘with objects’ /	dubuli-t ^h i ‘towards field’
	{-nit ^h i} ‘with human and animals’	sona-nit ^h i ‘towards Sona’
Illative	{-halagui}	t ^h ana-halagui ‘up to the police station’

3.1.4. Tense inflections

SB has three tenses - present, past, and future. The present tense is generally unmarked whereas past tense and future tense are marked with {-mun} and {-gun} respectively. For example:

Tense	Markers	Examples
Present Tense	{Ø}	za ‘eat’
Past Tense	{-mun}	zadu-mun ‘ate’
Future Tense	{-gun}	za-gun ‘will eat’

3.1.5. Aspect inflections

As a grammatical category, aspect is related to verbs. It expresses the temporal view of the event or state expressed by the verb. In SB, four kinds of aspects have been observed which are shown below with examples.

Aspect	Markers	Examples
Habitual aspect	{-u}/	sub-u ‘smokes’
	{-ju}/	za-ju ‘eats’
	{-wu}	sou-wu ‘grinds’
Progressive aspect	{-gasenu}	soŋ-gasenu ‘cooking’
Perfective aspect	{-du}	t ^h aŋ-du ‘started going’
Perfect aspect	{-bai}	p ^h ai-bai ‘have come’

3.1.6. Mood

SB has different types of moods. These are discussed along with examples below.

Mood	Markers and their usages	Examples
Energetic	{-k ^h a} ‘forcefully’	p ^h ai-k ^h a ‘have to come’
	{-t ^h ar} ‘truly’/	p ^h ai-t ^h ar ‘truly come’
	{-mar} ‘definitely’/	p ^h ai-mar ‘definitely come’
	{-t ^h armar} ‘truly and definitely’/	t ^h aŋ-t ^h armar ‘truly and definitely go’
Imperative	{-mar ^h ar} ‘definitely and truly’	p ^h ai-mar ^h ar ‘definitely and truly come’
	{-du} ‘show the politeness’/	t ^h aŋ-du ‘go (IMP)’
Optative	{-nai} ‘to fulfil a purpose’	p ^h ai-nai ‘come (IMP)’
	{-t ^h u}	p ^h ai-t ^h u ‘come (OPT)’
Permissive	{-hu} ‘to someone’/	zo-hu ‘let someone sit’
	{-ni} ‘for self’	nai-ni ‘take permission to look’
Conditional	{-ba} ‘if’	p ^h ai-ba ‘if someone comes’

3.1.7. Degree inflections

SB adjectives are inflected for the degree. SB positive degree is unmarked whereas comparative and superlative are marked. For example:

Degree	Markers	Example
Positive	{∅}	muzan ‘good’
Comparative	{-sin}	muzan-sin ‘better’
Superlative	{-sint ^h ar}/	muzan-sint ^h ar/ ‘best’
	{-t ^h arsin}	muzan-t ^h arsin ‘best’

3.2. Derivational processes in SB

Through the derivational process, a word is derived from another word or word elements. In SB, new words are derived by various processes. The processes are discussed below.

3.2.1. Derived nouns

There are some nominalizing affixes in SB which are added to different grammatical categories like noun, verb, and adjective to derive nouns. For example:

Noun	Suffix	Derived nouns
{gami} ‘village’	{-ari}	gamiari ‘villager’
{hal} ‘plough’	{-uwai}	haluwai ‘cultivator’

Verb	Suffix	Derived nouns
{rai} ‘scold’	{-nai}	rainai ‘chanting’
{mak ^h a} ‘dance’	{-gra}	mak ^h agra ‘a dancer’

Adjective	Suffix	Derived nouns
{gat ^h ar} ‘pure’	{-thi}	gathart ^h i ‘pure’
{gut ^h ou} ‘deep’	{-thi}	gut ^h out ^h i ‘depth’

Categorical affixes

Free categorical prefix	Suffix	Derived nouns
{dao} ‘bird’	{-k ^h rai}	daok ^h rai ‘house moina’
	{-thub}	daot ^h ub ‘dove’
{na} ‘fish’	{-srai}	nasrai ‘snakehead fish’
	{-th ^u }	nat ^h u ‘prawn’
{mai} ‘paddy’	{-k ^h ali}	maik ^h ali ‘type of a paddy’
	{-bra}	maibra ‘type of a paddy’
Bound categorical prefix	Suffix	Derived nouns
{mo-} ‘animal’	{-k ^h ou}	mok ^h ou ‘cow’
	{-sa}	mosa ‘tiger’
{thai-} ‘fruit’	{-zou}	thai ^z ou ‘mango’
	{-sumu}	thaisumu ‘cucumber’
{bi-} ‘tree’	{-p ^h aŋ}	bip ^h aŋ ‘tree’
	{-lai}	bilai ‘leaf’
{ha-} ‘body part’	{-k ^h ai}	hak ^h ai ‘hand’
	{-sugur}	hasugur ‘nail’

3.2.2. Derived verbs

In SB, derived verbs can be gained by the process of causation and by adding two or more verb roots or particles. Derived verbs have more than one morphemes but structurally they are single constituents or stems. Larnyo & Glover-Meni (2020) mentioned that several situations of causation involve a change of state verbs some of which include stative verbs, action, and process verbs. The types of SB verbs that take causative affixes and derive new verbs have been shown in the following examples.

Causative prefixes	Verbs	Derived verbs
{p ^h i-}	{si} ‘wet’	p ^h isi ‘make it wet’
{p ^h a-}	{ran} ‘dry’	p ^h aran ‘make it dry’
{p ^h u-}	{muun} ‘ripe’	p ^h umuun ‘make it ripe’
{bu-}	{p ^h u} ‘uproot’	bup ^h u ‘uproot’
{sa-}	{gab} ‘cry’	sagab ‘make someone cry’
{si-}	{gi} ‘fear’	sigi ‘make some scared’
Verbs	Causative suffixes	Derived verbs
{bu} ‘beat’	{-za}	buza ‘beaten by somebody’
{luŋ} ‘dring’	{-hu}	luŋhu ‘feed some liquid’

SB verbs are also derived by adding two or more verb roots or particles. For example:

Verb + Verb

Verb	Verb	Derived Verb
{nai} ‘look’	{p ^h ai} ‘come’	naip ^h ai ‘come and look’
{zu} ‘kick’	{p ^h olonj} ‘make hole’	zup ^h olonj ‘kick and make hole’

Verb + Verb + Verb

Verb	Verb	Verb	Derived Verb
{lanj} ‘take’	{zurb} ‘finish’	{p ^h ai} ‘come’	lanzurbp ^h ai ‘come and take all’
{bu} ‘beat’	{p ^h u} ‘uproot’	{p ^h ai} ‘come’	bup ^h up ^h ai ‘come beat and uproot’

Verb + Adverbial Particle

Verb	Adverbial Particle	Derived Verb
{t ^h an} ‘go’	{-k ^h ra} ‘stay no longer’	t ^h an ^h ra ‘do not stay longer and go’
{t ^h ui} ‘die’	{-p ^h ram} ‘almost’	t ^h uip ^h ram ‘almost died’

3.2.3. *Derived adjectives*

In SB, adjectives are mainly derived by {gV-} form of adjectivation, by adding suffixes with verbs, and by changing the final vowel of an adjective. These processes are discussed in the following.

{gV-} form of adjectivation

DeLancey (2015) has stated that Boro has a substantial set of adjectives that are characterized by an initial minor syllable gV- like other Tibeto-Burman languages. SB also follows this form to derive adjectives. For example

{ga-}	{hai} ‘lower’	gahai ‘low, short’
{gi-}	{si} ‘to wet’	gisi ‘wet’
{gu-}	{k ^h ui} ‘sour’	guk ^h ui ‘sour’
{gu-}	{k ^h u} ‘become cold’	guk ^h u ‘cold’

Derive adjective by adding suffixes

{ran} ‘to dry’	{-t ^h en}	rant ^h en ‘thin’
{mao} ‘do’	{-t ^h i}	maot ^h i ‘active’
{dui} ‘water’	{-bru}	duibru ‘tasteless (like water)’
{duj} ‘to heat’	{-hao}	dujhao ‘slightly hot’

Derive adjective by changing the final vowel

SB adjective masculine gender is sometimes converted to feminine gender by changing the final vowel. For example:

Vowel change	Masculine	Feminine
{-a} to {-i}	ben ^h ga ‘idiot’	ben ^h gi
	k ^h ala ‘deaf’	k ^h ali
{-a} to {-u}	hait ^h a ‘short’	hait ^h u
{-u} to {-i}	onzalu ‘dear’	onzali
	ronzalu ‘one who enjoys’	ronzali

3.2.4. *Derived adverbs*

In SB, adverbs are derived by adding suffixes like {-i} {-ji}, and {-je} with verbs, nouns and adjectives. The derived forms of adverbs are shown below.

Verb to adverb	{buŋ} ‘tell’	{-i}	buji ‘having said’
	{za} ‘eat’	{-ji}	zaji ‘having eaten’

Adjective to adverb	muzaŋ ‘good’	{-i}	muzaŋi ‘well’
	gazri ‘bad’	{-ji}	gazriji ‘badly’
Noun to adverb	na-k ^h usia ‘fish-eel’	{-je}	naje-k ^h usiaje ‘with fish and eel’
	bip ^h aŋ-bilai ‘tree-leaf’	{-je}	bip ^h aŋe-bilaije ‘with tree and leaf’

3.3. Compounding in SB

Compounding is one of the major word-formation processes in SB. Compounding is a process of word formation in which two independent words of a language are joined to form a new word (Abbi, 2001). According to Brahma (2013a), semantically there are four types of compounding, namely, endocentric, exocentric, copulative, and appositional. Compounds can be again classified structurally into several classes, like, Noun-Noun, Noun-Verb, Noun-Adjective, Verb-Verb, etc. The compounding that has been observed in SB is discussed below.

3.3.1. Endocentric compound

In an endocentric compound, one element becomes the head of the compound word. For example:

narzui ‘jute’	+	garan ‘dry’	=	narzui garan ‘dry jute’
oma ‘pig’	+	bibou ‘intestine’	=	oma bibou ‘pig intestine’

Here, narzui ‘jute’ and oma ‘pig’ are the heads of the derived compound words narzui garan ‘dry jute’ and oma bibou ‘pig intestine’ respectively.

3.3.2. Exocentric compound

In an exocentric compound, none of the constituents acts as ahead. For example:

daok ^h a ‘crow’	+	k ^h amp ^h lai ‘wooden flat stool’	=	daok ^h a-k ^h amp ^h lai ‘a kind of creeper fruit’
k ^h oro ‘head’	+	gumun ‘ripe’	=	k ^h oro gumun ‘old person’

3.3.3. Copulative compound

In a copulative compound, the two or more semantic heads are joined together. For example:

k ^h ala ‘south’	+	k ^h anza ‘east’	=	k ^h ala-k ^h anza ‘south-east’
sak ^h ri ‘job’	+	bak ^h ri ‘grain treasurer’	=	sak ^h ri-bak ^h ri ‘job-grain treasurer’

3.3.4. Appositional compound

In an appositional compound, the components provide different descriptions of a single referent. For example:

huwa ‘male’	+	got ^h o ‘child’	=	huwa got ^h o ‘male child’
hinzaο ‘female’	+	p ^h isa ‘small’	=	hinzaο p ^h isa ‘girl child’

3.3.5. Structurally classified compounds

There are several possible structurally classified compounds observed in SB. These are shown below.

Noun-Noun

boro ‘Boro people’	+	gami ‘village’	=	borogami ‘Boro village’
numana ‘your mother’	+	no ‘house’	=	numana no ‘kitchen’

Noun-Verb

k ^h an ‘sun’	+	duŋ ‘to heat’	=	k ^h anduŋ ‘the heat of the sun’
dui ‘water’	+	lu ‘pour’	=	duilu ‘tasteless’

Noun-Adjective

hinzao ‘woman’	+	gadan ‘new’	=	hinzaogadan ‘bride’
dao ‘bird’	+	zala ‘male’	=	daozala ‘cock’
Pronoun-Noun				
aŋni ‘my’	+	ap ^h a ‘father’	=	ap ^h a ‘my father’
nuŋni ‘your’	+	abo ‘sister’	=	nuŋbo > numbo ‘your sister’
Verb-Verb				
k ^h u ‘pierce’	+	k ^h ao ‘make half’	=	k ^h uk ^h ao ‘make half by piercing’
buŋ ‘tell’	+	p ^h ai ‘come’	=	buŋp ^h ai ‘come and tell’
Verb-Adjective				
za ‘eat’	+	gadan ‘new’	=	zagadan ‘a tradition of eating rice’
lir ‘write’	+	gadan ‘new’	=	lirgadan ‘newly written’
Noun-Verb-Adverb				
k ^h an ‘sun’	+	zou ‘become high’	+	p ^h uŋ ‘morning’ = k ^h anzup ^h uŋ ‘noon’

3.4. Reduplications in SB

Reduplication is a morphological process by which all or part of a form is repeated. In SB, reduplication is used to form plural nouns, adjectives, compound adjectives, to intensify the action of the verb, and so on. Generally, reduplicants occur to the right of the roots or stems in SB. Based on the data, reduplication can be categorized into the following types in SB.

3.4.1. Full reduplications

Full reduplication is a process where the entire word is reduplicated. For example:

- (1) zuŋ sip^huŋ *dam-i* *dami* mak^ha-guŋ
 1PL flute play-ADVLZ RED dance-FUT
 ‘We will dance playing a flute.’
- (2) aŋ k^hona k^hona namai-guŋ
 1SG corner RED search-FUT
 ‘I will search every corner.’

3.4.2. Partial reduplication

In partial reduplication, only a part of the reduplicated root or stem is reduplicated. For example:

- (3) sona-ja *nait^hao-t^hao* hinzaok^ha
 Sona-NOM beautiful- RED girl
 ‘Sona is a beautiful girl.’
- (4) megoŋ-a *duibru-bru*
 curry-NOM salt less- RED
 ‘The curry is saltless.’

3.4.3. Expressives (Morphological reduplication)

In expressive (Abbi, 1992), the non-reduplicated syllable does not exist as a word. It becomes a word only after it is duplicated. For example:

- (5) k^hiu k^hiu bar bu-gasenu doŋ
 cold RED wind blow-PROG be
 ‘Cold wind is blowing.’
- (6) nok^ha p^hiri p^hiri ha-gasenu doŋ

rain drizzle RED rain- PROG be
 ‘It is drizzling.’

3.4.4. Rhyming reduplication

In rhyming reduplication, a rhyme ending is added with the root/stem which often forms a collective meaning. For example:

- (7) aŋ mansui dunsui-ni gezer-ou t^haŋ-a
 1SG man RED-GEN middle-LOC go-NEG
 ‘I will not go in the midst of people.’
- (8) mok^hou-wa hagra boŋgra za-juu
 cow-NOM grass RED eat-HAB
 ‘Cow eats grass.’

3.4.5. Exact reduplication

In this type of reduplication, the word is reduplicated without any alteration. For example:

- (9) bi dubuli dubuli p^hai-gun
 s/he field RED come-FUT
 ‘S/he will come through fields.’
- (10) bisur gazri gazri k^hat^ha buŋ-u
 s/he.PL bad RED language speak-HAB
 ‘They speak slangs.’

3.4.6. Ablaut reduplication

In this reduplication, the vowel sound of the reduplicant changes. For example:

- (11) zerem-ni haŋk^hu-p^hur-a p^hak^hara p^hak^huri
 Zerem- GEN duck-PL-NOM multiple color RED
 ‘Zerem’s ducks are having multiple colors.’
- (12) bengga biŋgi badi k^hambai da-t^ha
 idiot RED like do-PRF NEG-stay
 ‘Do not do like idiots.’

In SB, reduplication is used to get different forms of words. Some of the examples have been shown below.

dam-i ‘play’ + *dami* ‘play’ = *dami dami* ‘having played’ (verb to adverb)
k^hona ‘corner’ + *k^hona* ‘corner’ = *k^hona k^hona* ‘every corner (becomes plural)’
duibru-bru ‘salt less’ (intensified the adjective)
mansui-dunsui ‘people’ (collectively)
k^hiu + *k^hiu* = *k^hiu k^hiu* ‘cold’ (forming new word)

4. Conclusions

In the previous section, various morphological processes that have been observed in SB have been discussed. The major morphological processes in SB are inflection, derivation, compounding, and reduplication. SB grammatical categories are inflected with at least one number, classifier, case, tense, aspect, mood, and degree. In SB, inflection is gained mainly through suffixation but it has been observed that SB classifiers precede numerals. The derivation is a process of word formation in SB through which new words of noun, verb, adjective, and adverb are formed by adding affixes to the different roots/words. The causative prefix is also added with some verbs to create a new verb. The

process of compounding also helps in forming new words in SB. The compounding processes that have been observed are like, Noun-Noun, Noun-Verb, Noun-Adjective, Pronoun-Noun, Verb-Verb, Verb-Adjective, and Noun-Verb-Adverbial Suffix. Reduplication is also another process of word formation through which new words are formed in SB. The types of reduplication that have been found in SB are full reduplication, partial reduplication, expressive, rhyming reduplication, exact reduplication, and ablaut reduplication. Sometimes, apart from forming new words, reduplication intensifies the action of verbs and the quality of adjectives. In this research, an attempt has been made to show the various morphological processes observed in SB. In fine, this research is based on limited data so further depth research may bring more morphological processes and examples in SB.

References

- Abbi, A. (1992). *Reduplication in South Asian Languages. An Areal, Typological, and Historical Study*. Delhi: Allied Publishers.
- Abbi, A. (2001). *A Manual of Linguistic Field Work and Structures of Indian Languages*. Muenchen: Lincom Europa.
- Abiog., E.B., & David, R. (2020). More than words: A documentation and a morphological analysis of an indigenous language in the Philippines. *Journal of Language and Linguistic Studies*, 16(4), 1774-1783. Doi: 10.17263/jlls.850999
- Basumatary, P. (2005). *An Introduction to the Boro Language*. New Delhi: Mittal Publications.
- Bhat, D.N.S. (1968). *Boro Vocabulary (With a Grammatical Sketch)*. Poona: Deccan College.
- Bhattacharya, P. C. (1977). *A Descriptive Analysis of the Boro Language*. Guwahati, Assam: Gauhati University.
- Boro, K., & Basumatary, P. (2015). Adverbial suffixes in Bodo. In M. W. Post, S. Morey, & S. DeLancey (Eds.), *Language and Culture in Northeast India and Beyond* (pp. 57-99). Australia: Asia-Pacific Linguistics.
- Brahma, A. (2013a). Compounding in Bodo. *Language in India*, 13(2), 15-23.
- Brahma, A. (2013b). *Modern Boro Grammar*. Guwahati, Assam: N.L. Publications.
- Brahma, D. (2016). Adverb Formation Process of the Bodo Language. *Language in India*, 16(2), 46-58.
- DeLancey, S. (2015). Adjectival constructions in Bodo and Tibeto-Burman. In M. W. Post, S. Morey, & S. DeLancey (Eds.), *Language and Culture in Northeast India and Beyond* (pp. 41-56). Australia: Asia-Pacific Linguistics.
- Dixon, R.M.W. (2010). *Basic Linguistic Theory: Volume 1 Methodology*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Endle, R.S. (1884). *Outline Grammar of the Kachári (Bârâ) Language as Spoken in District Darrang, Assam; With Illustrative Sentences, Notes, Reading Lessons, and a Short Vocabulary*. Shillong: Assam Secretariat Press.
- Grierson, G.A. (1903). *Tibeto-Burman Family. Vol. III, Part II. Specimens of the Bodo, Naga, and Kachin Groups*. Calcutta: The Linguistic Survey of India.
- Halvorsrud, H. (1959). *A Short Grammar of the Boro Language*. Goalpara: The Boro Literature Board.

Larnyo, P.K.A., & Glover-Meni, N. (2020). Causative verbs and event segmentation in Ewe. *Journal of Language and Linguistic Studies*, 16(3), 1115-1126. Doi: 10.17263/jlls.803564

Mahela, R. & Sinha, S. (2018). Case Markers in Bodo and Sanzari Bodo: A Comparative Investigation. *International Journal of Linguistics*, 10(3), 1-13.

Abbreviations

1	-	First-person	NEG	-	Negative
∅	-	Empty	NOM	-	Nominative case
DAT	-	Dative case	OPT	-	Optative mood
FUT	-	Future tense	PL	-	Plural
GEN	-	Genitive case	PRF	-	Perfect aspect
HAB	-	Habitual aspect	PROG	-	Progressive aspect
HON	-	Honorific	RED	-	Reduplication
IMP	-	Imperative mood	SG	-	Singular
LOC	-	Locative case			

AUTHORS BIO DATA

Ratul Mahela did his MA from Tezpur University, Assam, India. He is pursuing a Ph.D. in Linguistics at the Indian Institute of Technology Patna, India. His areas of research interest are Tibeto-Burman linguistics and language documentation.

Dr. Sweta Sinha, a Ph.D. from JNU, New Delhi, is employed as an assistant professor in the Department of HSS, Indian Institute of Technology Patna. She is also the coordinator of the Centre for Endangered Language Studies at the institute.