# Verb Formation of the Nocte Language

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**Abstract**

India is a multi lingual state. North-East of India is a fascinating land of different ethnic tribes. Arunachal Pradesh, a state from north-east is a communicating land of different ethnic tribes. Among these tribes Nocte is significant for its varied culture. It is found mainly in Tirap district of Arunachal Pradesh. Anthropologically Nocte belongs to Mongoloid stock and in linguistic evidences it is an offshoot to the Tibeto-burman of Sino-Tibetan language family. At present the Noctes are situated at 63 villages of Tirap district of Arunachal Pradesh and in Assam they are inhabited at three villages. In this paper as a part of morphology the formation verb has been chosen for study.

**Key-words:** Verb*, Root, Verb formation, Conjugation, Tense, Mood.*

**0.0 Introduction:**

India is a multi lingual state. North-East of India is a fascinating land of different ethnic tribes. Arunachal Pradesh, a state from north-east is a communicating land of different ethnic tribes. Among these tribes Nocte is significant for its varied culture. It is found mainly in Tirap district of Arunachal Pradesh. Anthropologically Nocte belongs to Mongoloid stock and in linguistic evidences it is an offshoot to the Tibeto-burman of Sino-Tibetan language family. At present the Noctes are situated at 63 villages of Tirap district of Arunachal Pradesh and in Assam they are inhabited at three villages. The Nocte villages of Arunachl Pradesh are belongs to the Laju, Deomali, Soha, Khonsa, Dadam circle. The Noctes of Assam mainly live at Dihing Kiner Nacte Gaon, Jaypure, Paniduoria, Namrup and Shiloni Naga gaon (Shivasagar). Nine dialectical forms are found within the Nocte community. In this paper entitled 'Verb formation of the Nocte Language' has been chosen for study.

**0.1 Objectives of the Study:**

    a. To discuss the formation of verb of the Nocte.

    b. To discuss the formation of verb in terms of tense and mood.

0.2 **Sphere of the Study:** The sphere of the study is limited. How the verbs form in terms of tense and mood in the Nocte language, only these aspects have been chosen for study.

0.3 **Methods of study:**

In this paper basically two kinds of methods have been chosen for study. These methods are- Data Collection method and Data Analysis Method. The Dihing Kiner Nocte village is selected for field study. The data have been collected in colloquial form from the Nocte respondent. Prepared questionnaires have been adopted in data collection. Different samples are taken for selection of informants. In data collection Interview and observation methods have been chosen. For data analysis descriptive linguistic method has been adopted.

**0.4 Source of data collection:**

Two kinds of sources are selected for the study-

▼ Primary Source

▼ Secondary source.

Primary data have been collected through filed study. As secondary source books, magazines, articles, research papers have been chosen.

**1.0 Verb formation of the Nocte Language:**

The processes of verb formation of the Nocte language can be illustrated as follows-

▼ Root + Personal Marker

▼ Root + Aspect + Personal Marker.

▼ Root+ Temporal affix+ zero morpheme.

a) **Root + Personal Marker:** The Nocte verbs are formed with the combination of personal marker and root. Example-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sa‖ | = √sa + ‖ | = eat |
| wa‖a | = √wa + ‖a | = go |
| sat$^h$u | = √sa + t$^h$u | = you eat |

b) **Root + Aspect + Personal Marker:** In this formation aspect and personal markers are attached to the root. Example-

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| √Mo | + t | + | ak | = motak (have done, did) |
| √Sa | + t | + | ak | = satak (have eaten, ate) |

c) **Root + Temporal affix+ zero morpheme**: Some verbs of Nocte Language are formed by addition of temporal affix to the root. Examples-

√Mo + a⏐        = Moa⏐ 'will do'

√Sa+ a⏐         = Sa⏐ 'will eat'

√Ra+ a⏐         = ra⏐ 'will write'

## 1.1 : Tense of the Nocte Language:

The personal morphemes are contrasted in terms of persons in Nocte language. Different kinds of morphemes are added to the root to indicate different tenses in Nocte language. The same form is used to indicate tense and person. The conjugated forms in future indefinite and simple present are same in the Nocte language. Moreover the same forms are used to indicate the Past indefinite and present perfect tense. To express past indefinite tense 'yesterday', 'last year'-these kinds of words are used.

The three tenses of Nocte Language are as follows-

a) Present

b) Past

c) Future

### 1.1.1 Present Tense- Present tense can be divided into two kinds-

a) Present Indefinite

b) Present continuous.

a) Present Indefinite: The personal affixes or conjugated suffixes are contrasted in terms of Person. The verbal forms are changed according to number also. But in third person the singular and plural forms are same in the Nocte language. The Personal affixes of Nocte language in present Indefinite can be illustrated in a table as follows-

| Person | Singular | Plural |
|---|---|---|
| 1st | ⏐a sam sa⏐ <br><br> 'I eat Rice' | Ni sam sai <br><br> 'we eat Rice' |
| 2nd | na⏐ sam tsao <br><br> 'You eat rice' | Nakhu sam tsaan <br><br> 'You eat rice' |
| 3rd | Te sam tsa a <br><br> 'He/she/ eats rice' | Ahe sam tsa a <br><br> 'They eat rice' |

b) Present Continuous Tense: There is no any difference between the singular and plural conjugated forms of present continuous tense. The same forms express both singular and plurality in the Nocte language.

| Person | Singular | Plural |
|---|---|---|
| 1st | ‖a sa tʰu <br> ‘I am eating’ | Ni sa tʰu <br> ‘we are eating’ |
| 2nd | na‖ sak <br> ‘You are eating’ | Nekʰu sak <br> ‘You are eating’ |
| 3rd | Te saika <br> ‘He/she is eating’ | Ahe saika <br> ‘They are eating’ |

1.1.2 Past Tense: The past tense can be divided into two parts-

a) Ordinary Past
b) Past Indefinite tense

a) Ordinary Past:

| Person | Singular | Plural |
|---|---|---|
| 1st | ‖a moatpa motak <br> ‘I have done the work’ | Ni moatpa moti <br> ‘we have done the work’ |
| 2nd | na‖ moatpa mouta <br> ‘you have done the work’ | Nekhu moatpa moutou <br> ‘you have done the work’ |
| 3rd | Te mouatpa mouta <br> ‘He has done the work’ | Ahe moatpa mouta <br> ‘They have done the work’. |

b) Past Indefinite tense:

The same forms of ordinary past are used to indicate the remote past. Sometimes yesterday, last year this kind of words are used to express remote past in Nocte language.

Ex-    |a moatpa      moja mou tak= I have done the work yesterday.

I   yesterday     work  do  personal affix.

### 1.1.3 Future Tense:

There is no difference in conjugated forms between the simple present and future indefinite tense.

The conjugational suffixes of the Nocte can be illustrated in a table according to the tense, person and mood as follows-

| Tense | 1st Person | | 2nd Person | | 3rd Person |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Singular | Plural | Singular | Plural | |
| Simple present | a| | I | o | an | a |
| Present continuous | $t^h$u | $t^h$u | K | K | eka |
| Ordinary past | tak | ti | ta | to | ta |
| Simple future | a| | e | o | an | a |
| Simple Past | tak | ti | ta | tou | ta, wa |

### 1.2 Mood :

1.2.1 Indicative Mood: The indicative mood is a verb form which makes a statement or asks a question. To express indicative mood in Nocte the temporal and personal suffixes are used. The indicative mood is found in all three tenses in the Nocte Language.

Examples-

    a) Present Indefinite-

          │a　　mo　　ka │　　　　'I go for walk'.

          I　　　walk　go T.M

    b) Present continuous-

          ni　　│iap ra│　　lam　ki　　'We want books'

          we　　books　　　want　T.M

    c) Past tense:

          │a mo atpa　mo　　tak　　　　'I did the work'

          I　　　work　do　　T.M

    d) Future Tense

          │a　mo atpa　　mo a│　　　　'I will do the work'

          I　　work　　　do T.M

**1.2.2 Imperative Mood:**

The imperative mood is used in second and third person to give commands, request, advice etc. In Nocte language imperative mood is found in present and future tense. Examples-

Present tense-

    a) na│akzo  to│ o　　　　　　'You stay here'

        you  here  stay  imperative

    b) na│tʰaan Pʰoa│ka  o　　　　　　'You go for walk'

        you　　walk　go  imp.

Future tense-

    a) na│mian wan　　da│o　　　　　'you sh

        you  good  man　be  imp

        .

## 2.0 Conclusion-

After above discussions we got some findings. These are-

▾ Different kinds of morphemes are added to the root to indicate different tenses in Nocte language. The same form is used to indicate tense and person. The conjugated forms in future indefinite and simple present are same in the Nocte language.

- ▼ The conjugated forms in future indefinite and simple present are same in the Nocte language.

- ▼ The personal affixes or conjugated suffixes are contrasted in terms of Person.

- ▼ There is no difference in conjugated forms between the simple present and future indefinite tense.

- ▼ To express indicative mood in Nocte the temporal and personal suffixes are used.

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