

Process of Nominal Affix to express the sense of plurality in Boro and Rabha Languages

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ABSTRACT

In this paper an attempt will be made to discuss the “*Process of Nominal affix to express the sense of plurality in Boro and Rabha Languages*” it is analysis to discuss some process of formation of number system in Boro and Rabha language. Number is a part of Morphology, which can be discuss under nominal head. In Boro and Rabha language number is divided in to singular number and plural number. For the scope of better discussion it is categories n to three heads. All these points will be discussed elaborately in this paper.

Keywords: pluralization by suffixation, pluralization by using nouns of multitude, pluralization by reduplication.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION:

The Boro and Rabha two Tibeto-Burman of languages of the North- East India are genetically similar in cultural and linguistic features. They have long years of association since of remote. In this paper an attempt will be made to discuss the “*Process of Nominal affix to express the sense of plurality in Boro and Rabha Languages*” it is analysis to discuss some process of formation of number system in Boro and Rabha language. Number is a part of Morphology, which can be discuss under nominal head. In Boro and Rabha language number is divided in to singular number and plural number. In this paper discussion has been done on function of plural affix which are using in representation of nominal class of words in Boro and Rabha languages. There are three types of plural suffixes in both the languages; and these have functional

representation in expressing sense of plurality. Grammatical morphemes like {-sur}, {-mun}, {-p^hur} of Boro; on the other hand same types of suffixes in Rabha language like {-tan}, {-bizan}, {-ron} etc. play functional role in expressing sense of plurality. In Boro {-p^hur} is used with human and non human nouns. Thus the plural suffix {-mun} is used with the kinship terms and personal pronouns; the suffix {-sur} is also used with personal pronouns. The same process is occurred in the Rabha language. The suffix {-tan} is applicable with human nouns and kinship terms; and thus the suffix {-ron} is applicable with personal pronouns while the suffix {-bizan} is innately connected with non-human animate nouns. For the scope of better discussion it is categories to three heads. All these points will be discussed elaborately in this paper.

1.1. OBJECTIVE OF STUDY:

The study is aims to analyzing the process of pluralization as used in Boro and Rabha. It is observed that essentially pluralization is made by adding the plural suffixes with the noun words in Boro and Rabha language. In Boro and Raba language number is divided in to singular number and plural number. In this paper discussion has been done on function of plural affix which are using in representation of nominal class of words in Boro and Rabha languages.

1.2 METHODLOGOY:

The proposed study has been analyzed from the typological view point. Required data relating to the Rabha language are gathered from the speaker of Rongdani, Maitaroi, Koch groups. Thus data for Boro languages are also taken from the published and unpublished source. To take convenient the discussion necessary linguistic materials of Morphology especially a variety of plural suffixes have been utilized where necessary. Basically use of plural suffixes in different linguistic context as well as situation in both the language has been discussed from a typological view point.

2.0 Types of plural Suffix:

From a primary observation it is seen that there are three types of process of pluralization found in both the languages. These are: (i) Pluralization by suffixation (ii) plurlization by using nouns of multitude (iii) pluralization by reduplication.

2.0.1 Pluralization by suffixation:

In Boro and Rabha language there is the used of plural suffixes. There are three types of plural suffixes in both the languages and these are have functional representation in expressing sense of plurality. Grammatical morphemes like-Boro {-sur},{-phur},{-mun} and on the other hand same types suffix in Rabha language like- {-ton},{-ron},{-bizan} etc. The plural suffix {-sur} is used with the personal pronoun and demonstrative pronouns and {-p^hur} suffix is used with the human and non- human nouns and {-mun} plural suffix is used in the kinship terms and personal pronouns. On their hand same types of process in Rabha language the plural suffix {-tan} is used in the with human nouns and kinship terms, {-ron} is used with the personal pronouns and {-bizan} suffix is used with non-human animate nouns. For example-

- (i) **Boro:{-p^hur} and {-bizan}:** Both of them are similar in functional point of view. In Boro the suffix {-p^hur} is added with the noun class of words used for expression of plurality. It is used

chiefly with human and non-human nouns. On the other hand in Rabha {-bizan} is applicable with non-human. For example:

Boro	Rabha	Meaning
mʊsʊu-pʰʊr>mʊsʊpʰʊr	masu-bizan	Cows
pʰitʰai-pʰʊr>pʰitʰai pʰʊr	tʰe-bizan	Fruits
dau-pʰʊr>daupʰʊr	tə-bizan	Birds
/bibar/-pʰʊr>bibarpʰʊr	/par/-bizan	Flower
/na/-pʰʊr>napʰʊr	/na/-bizan	Fishes
/nə/- pʰʊr>nəpʰʊr	/nək/-bizan	Houses
bizab/- pʰʊr>bizabpʰʊr	/kausa/-bizan	Books
/suima/pʰʊr>swimapʰʊr	/ki/-bizan	Dogs
/bilai/- pʰʊr>bilaipʰʊr	/chak/-bizan	Leafs
/bipʰaŋ/pʰʊr>bipʰaŋpʰʊr	/pan/-bizan	Trees
/əma/-pʰʊr>əmapʰʊr	/bak/-bizan	Pigs
/mʊsrʊm/-pʰʊr>mʊsrʊmpʰʊr	/kaŋku/-bizan	Ants
/mʊsa/-pʰʊr>mʊsapʰʊr	/masa/-bizan	tigers
/mauzi/-pʰʊr>mauzipʰʊr	/miŋku/-bizan	Cats
/zi/- pʰʊr>zipʰʊr	/nen/-bizan	Cloths
/guma/-pʰʊr>gumapʰʊr	/guk/-bizan	Grasshoppers
/bʊrma/pʰʊr>bʊrmapʰʊr	/prʊn/-bizan	Goats
/mʊkʰra/pʰʊr>mʊkʰrapʰʊr	/makra/-bizan	Monkeys
/mʊider/pʰʊr>mʊiderpʰʊr	/huti/-bizan	Elephants
/mʊi/-pʰʊr >mʊipʰʊr	/makchək/-bizan	Deers

- (ii) **Boro:{-mun}and Rabha:{-taŋ}**: Both the suffixes are functionally similar. These are used with the kinship terms and honorifics indicating personal pronouns. For example:

Boro	Rabha	Meaning
/ada/-mun>adamun	/dada/-taŋ	Elder brothers & others
/abo/-mun>abomun	/bibi/-taŋ	elder sisters & others
/ai/-mun>aimun	/aya/-taŋ	mothers and others
/apʰa/-mun>apʰamun	/baba/-taŋ	father and others
/abui/-mun>abuimun	/zuzu/-taŋ	Grandmother & others
/abuu/mun>abuuumun	/	Grandfathers & others

Boro {-mun} plural suffix is used with 2nd personal pronoun and 3rd personal pronoun. For example:

Boro	Meaning
/nuŋ-t ^h aŋ-mun/	You
/bi-t ^h aŋ-mun/	They

(iii) **Boro: {-sur} and Rabha: {-rəŋ}**: suffixes are used with personal pronouns and demonstratives pronoun in Boro and Rabha languages. For example:

Boro	Rabha	Meaning
/bi/-sur	/ə/-rəŋ	You
/be/-sur	/ə/-rəŋ	They
/nuŋ/-sur	/naŋ/- rəŋ	These
/bui/-sur	/ə/-rəŋ	Those

In Rabha the plural suffix {-rəŋ} is sometimes used with kinship terms. For example:

Rabha	Meaning
baba (father)/-rəŋ/> babarəŋ	Fathers
buzi(sister-in-law))-rəŋ/>buzirəŋ	sisters-in-laws
bibi (elder sister)/ rəŋ/>bibirəŋ	elder sisters
aia (mother)/-rəŋ/ >aiarəŋ	Mothers

From the above discussion it is observed that the function of plural suffix using with the noun class words is similar in both the languages.

2.1.2 Pluralization by Noun multitude: Both the Boro and Rabha language used by there are some nouns words which denote uniquely a meaning of multitude. It is worth mentioning here that nouns multitude and themselves independent words. For example- Boro: gubaŋ, burza, p^halau, hanza, zak^hri etc. on the other hand the words pal, zakri etc are used as nouns of multitude in Rabha languages also. For example-

Boro:

Boro	Meaning
musu-u-p ^h alw	Herd of cows
dao- p ^h alw	Herd of birds
musa- p ^h alw	Herd of tigers
gubaŋ-mansi	Many man
gubaŋ-phithai	Many fruits
Sengra-hanza	Group of boys
Na- zak ^h ri	Group fishes

Rabha:

Rabha	Meaning
Masu-pal	Herd of cows
Na-zakri	Group of fishes
Pran-pal	Herd of goats

2.1.3 Pluralization by Reduplication:

In Boro and Rabha language the pluralization can be expressed by reduplication. The nouns, pronoun and adjective are reduplicated in order to make it plural. For example-

Noun:

Boro	Rabha	Meaning
No-no	Nok-nok	From house to house
Gami-gami	Soŋ-soŋ	From village to village
dui-dui	Chika-chika	Water to water

Pronoun:

Boro	Rabha	Meaning
sur-sur	Chaŋ-chaŋ	Who are
Ma-ma	Ata-ata	What are

Adjective:

Boro	Rabha	Meaning
guidan-guidan no	Pidan-pidan nok	News houses
muzaŋ-muzaŋ	Nema-nema sabra	Good boys
Geder-geder dao	Chuŋa-chuŋa to	Big birds

3.0 CONCLUSION:

From the above discussion it seen that the process of pluralization in Boro and Rabha languages is almost similar from typological point of view. pluralization is formed by adding suffix with the noun words. In both the Boro and Rabha languages pluralization can be formed by using plural suffixes, by using nouns multitude and by reduplication. In the word level suffixation is primary way of pluralization and in sentence level by using nouns multitude and by reduplication. In both the two languages all these are aspects can be seen almost in similar manner.

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