

FORMATION OF VERBAL NOUN, ADJECTIVE AND ADVERB IN MANIPURI

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ABSTRACT

The present paper studies on formation of verbal noun, adjective and adverb in Manipuri. There are two types of roots namely free root and bound root. Free roots are considered as nominal classes while bound roots are verbal. All Manipuri verbs are bound roots. The exact verb forms are derived by affixation of modal markers or aspect markers to the bound root. Verbal root may be used to form verbal nouns, adjectives and adverbs. Verbal nouns are formed through the suffixation of the nominal marker **-bɔ̄ -pɔ̄** to a verbal root. Adjectives are formed by adding adjective marker **ɔ̄-** to the nominal (bound root + nominal marker). Adverbs are formed by adding adverb marker **-nɔ̄** to the verbal root.

Keywords: Free root, bound root, verbal root, affixation and nominal marker.

Introduction

The study of morphology of all the languages defines the root, but most of the languages do not classify the root (it is because they do not find bound root and root is used instead of free root). In Manipuri roots are classified into two namely, free root and bound root. Free roots are considered as nominal classes while bound roots are all verbal. The exact verb form is derived by affixation of aspect markers or modality to the bound root.

A verbal is a noun or adjective formed from a verb. The fundamental difference between verbal and other nouns and adjectives is that verbal can take their own objects, even though they are no longer verbs (Abraham, 2009). Verbal is often used in traditional grammatical description though one must be careful not to confuse it with 'verbal' meaning 'spoken', as in 'verbal skill', 'verbalize' etc, for instance verbal noun is a noun similar in form or meaning to a verb and verbal adjective is an adjective similar in form or meaning to a verb (David, 1985).

According to Manipuri (a Tibeto-Burman language spoken in North Eastern parts of the state of Manipur in India) traditional grammarians namely, (Kalachand Shastri, 1977) and (Dwijamani Dev Sharma, 1969) define the Manipuri Verbs are the translated words of other languages grammars. No one has studied the very aspect, Manipuri verbs, in detail at all. New concept of Manipuri verbs, as

treated by Bhat and Ningomba(1997), Thoudam(1988), Chelliah(1997) and Yashawanta(2000), are bound verbal roots and they may be formed by adding affixation of aspect markers or modal markers to the bound root. Manipuri verbs are quite different from that of English and other Indo- European languages. In English, Verbs are free root whereas in Manipuri, Verbs are bound roots. Verbal root may also be used to form verbal nouns, adjectives and adverbs as described in the following sections.

Verbal Nouns

Verbal noun is a noun similar in form or meaning to a verb. Verbal nouns are formed through the suffixation of the nominal marker **-bɔ̄ - pɔ̄** to a verbal bound root as shown the following way.

Bound root + nominal marker (-bɔ̄ - pɔ̄) → Nominal form

ca + bɔ̄ → cabɔ̄ 'eating'

eat

cɔ̄t + pɔ̄ → cɔ̄tpɔ̄ 'going'

go

t^hɔ̄k + pɔ̄ → t^hɔ̄kpɔ̄ 'drinking'

drink

t^hoŋ + bɔ̄ → t^hoŋbɔ̄ 'cooking'

cook

pa + bɔ̄ → pabɔ̄ 'reading'

read

ADJECTIVES

Adjectives are formed by adding adjective markers **ɔ̄-** to the nominal (bound root + nominal marker) as shown in the following way.

Adjective marker + Nominal → Adjective form

ɔ̄ + pa-ba → ɔ̄paba 'thin'

ɔ̄ + waŋ-bɔ̄ → ɔ̄waŋbɔ̄ 'tall'

ɔ̄ + caw-bɔ̄ → ɔ̄cawbɔ̄ 'big'

ɔ̄ + pik-pɔ̄ → ɔ̄pikpɔ̄ 'small'

ɔ̄ + t^ha-bɔ̄ → ɔ̄t^habɔ̄ 'thick'

ɔ̄ + ŋɔ̄w-bɔ̄ → ɔ̄ŋɔ̄wbɔ̄ 'white'

ADVERBS

Adverbs are formed by adding adverb marker **-nɔ̄** to the verbal root as shown in the following way.

Bound root + Adverb marker (-nɔ̃) → Adverb

tɔ̃p + nɔ̃	→	tɔ̃pnɔ̃	'slowly'
tɔ̃n + nɔ̃	→	tɔ̃nnɔ̃	'lazily'
kɔ̃p + nɔ̃	→	kɔ̃pnɔ̃	'crying'
kɔ̃n + nɔ̃	→	kɔ̃nnɔ̃	'strongly'
yaŋ + nɔ̃	→	yaŋnɔ̃	'fastly'
ŋaŋ + nɔ̃	→	ŋaŋnɔ̃	'speaking'
cen + nɔ̃	→	cennɔ̃	'running'

CONCLUSION

In Manipuri, a Tibeto-Burman language, there are two types of roots namely free root and bound root. Free roots are considered as nominal classes while bound roots are verbal. All Manipuri verbs are bound roots and are formed by affixation of modal markers or aspect markers to the bound root. Verbal root may be used to form verbal nouns, adjectives and adverbs. Verbal nouns are formed by the suffixation of the nominal marker **-bɔ̃ -pɔ̃** to a verbal root while adjectives are formed by adding adjective marker **ɔ̃-** to the nominal form and adverbs are formed by adding adverb marker **-nɔ̃** to the verbal root.

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