

**SUBJECT-VERB AGREEMENT IN WAMBULE AND
ENGLISH**

**A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English Education
In the Partial Fulfilment for the Master of Education in English**

Submitted by

Buddhi Bahadur Rai

Faculty of Education

Tribhuvan University

Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal

2014

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that to the best of my knowledge this thesis is original; no part of it was earlier submitted for the candidature of research degree to any university.

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This is to certify that **Mr. Buddhi Bahadur Rai** has prepared this thesis entitled **Subject-Verb Agreement in Wambule and English** under my guidance and supervision.

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TO

MY GURUS AND PARENTS

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ABSTRACT

The present thesis entitled **“Subject-Verb agreement System in Wambule and English”** aimed to find out subject-verb agreement system in the Wambule language in terms of person and number, tense and aspect and gender. It aimed find out the similarities and differences between English and the Wambule language. To accomplish the stated objectives in this thesis, the researcher collected the primary data from thirty Wambule native speakers from the specified place using non-random purposive sampling procedure and consulted the secondary sources given the the reference section. The researcher interpreted the data and came to these major findings: Both types of verbs (intransitive and transitive) in the Wambule language. The agents inflect verbs/auxiliary verbs. Affixation varies according to the person, number and aspect that occurred in a sentence. On the other hand, gender does not affect this language. This language introduces lexically three pronouns like ‘*u*’, ‘*un*’ and ‘*a*’; but they function of eleven. The first person personal pronoun ‘*u*’ functions of the first person singular, dual (inclusive and exclusive) and plural (inclusive and exclusive) numbers. The second person pronoun ‘*un*’ functions of singular, dual and plural numbers. And the third person pronoun ‘*a*’ functions of singular, dual and plural numbers. As the English language, the Wambule language has twelve tense and four aspects. However, there is nominal distinction in gender like ‘*papa*’ for ‘father’ and ‘*mama*’ for ‘mother’, same pronoun ‘*a*’ is used for both masculine and feminine gender. There is another findings of the Wambule language that is ‘*a*’ which always comes as a prefix to the inflected verbs/auxiliary verbs for negative. In case of the verbs/auxiliary verbs inflected by the first person dual and plural exclusive pronouns, negative marker ‘*a*’ comes between morphemes ‘*sa*’ and ‘*pu*’ for negative.

This research includes five chapters. The first chapter contains general background of the study, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, research questions, significance of the study, delimitations of the study and operational definition of the key terms. The second chapter deals with the related literature review such as linguistic scenario of Nepal, the English language in Nepal, subject-verb agreement system, subject-verb agreement system in English an introduction of the Wambule people and contrastive analysis: an overview and conceptual framework. The third chapter deals with the methods and procedures of the study. This chapter includes research design, population and sample, sampling procedure, data collection tools, data collection procedure and data analysis and interpretation procedure. Similarly, the fourth chapter deals with results and discussions of the collected data. The last chapter (chapter five) deals with the summary, conclusion and implications of the study.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

1	first person
2	second person
3	third person
ABL	ablative marker
ACT	marker of the active verbal adjective
adj.	adjective
adv.	adverbial
aux.	auxiliary verb
CA	contrastive analysis
CDC	curriculum development centre
d	dual
DIR	directive marker
e	exclusive
etc.	et cetera
ELT	English language teaching
FCT	marker of the factual verbal adjective
FM	frequency modulation
GEN	genitive marker
i	inclusive
i.e.	that is to say
inf	infinitive
L1	first language
L2	second language
LOC	locative case
MoE	Ministry of Education
NEG	negative case

np	noun phrase
NPT	non-preterite
p	plural
POS	possessive
postp	postposition
PT	preterite
Q	question
s	singular
SIM	similaritive marker
SML	marker of the simultaneous gerund
SOV	subject object verb
SRC	source marker
SVO	subject verb object
TU	Tribhuvan University
VDC	village development committee
viz.	videlicet, that is namely
WLL	Wambule language learning
WLT	Wambule language teaching
-	morpheme boundary
	direction of a transitive relationship
~	alternates with
< >	morpheme/allomorph
/	or
//	phonemic transcription
[]	phonetic transcription
	verb stem
∅	null