Linguistic Evaluation of Nepali Grammatical Terms

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Abstract

A number of different grammatical terms from different sources, such as Nepal (2056), Aryal (2062) and Dhakal (2065) have been included in this study. The grammatical terms included in this study are most frequently used in grammar books. English translations of these grammatical terms were made based on the original Nepali definitions. These definitions are assumed as authentic which were first defined in Nepali. The grammatical terms taken for evaluation were compared mainly with the definitions as found in Crystal (2008).

The traditional definitions are often defined through examples rather than actual features of the terms. A large number of definitions in traditional Nepali grammar are found in this category. As the definitions were defined in this way, a large number of definitions in traditional grammar are not adequate to describe the linguistic feature. There are some traditional definitions which are identical to that of modern ones. A large number of definitions of grammatical terms are heavily relied on the grammatical features of the Nepali language. A few definitions differ greatly from modern concept.

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List of Abbreviations

AP adjective phrase

C consonant

CP complementizer phrase

Du dual

Fem feminine

IP inflectional phrase

IPA international phonetic alphabet

Masc masculine

Neut neuter

NP noun phrase

O object

PF perfect

PL plural

PP postpositional phrase

PP prepositional phrase

SG singular

Sub Subject

syll syllable

TG transformational grammar

V verb