

VERB MORPHOLOGY IN URANW-KUDᵀUX

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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This is to certify that this dissertation entitled VERB MORPHOLOGY IN URANW-KUDPUX is written by Mr. Ram Kisun Uranw under my supervision. I recommend this dissertation for evaluation.

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ABSTRACT

Uranw-Kudᵑux is a Dravidian language spoken in Nepal by Uranw/Kudᵑux people. They live in the Terai districts. It is one of the endangered languages of Nepal. Most of its speakers are gradually shifting their tongues to other languages for various reasons. In addition, with the pace of time, speakers are scattering over different places, which may have two results: either the emergence of dialect or the gradual loss of the language, Uranw-Kudᵑux in many places is facing situation referred to by the latter. However, the language still retains the strong linguistic identity.

This work 'Verb Morphology in Uranw-Kudᵑux' is divided into five chapters. The first chapter deals with introduction of the Uranw-Kudᵑux language, its people and linguistic demography. The second chapter includes brief summary of the Uranw-Kudᵑux phonological sketch and nominal morphological system. The chapter three analyzes its required morphophonemic processes. The chapter four is the analysis of the verb morphology of Uranw-Kudᵑux. It examines both inflectional and derivational morphology of the language in details.

The verb morphology in Uranw-Kudᵑux introduces a productive system like other Dravidian languages with which it shares many linguistic affinities. The Uranw-Kudᵑux verb stems are classified into three categories: primitive, derivative and compound. The morphological structure of the first one is simple i.e. it employs only one morpheme, and the morphological structure of the latter two are complex i.e. they are made up of more than one morphemes. Further classification of the stem is in terms of the final segment it contains because the final segment can be the major conditioning factor for the stem's structural modification during affixation. Two broad divisions as vowel final stem and consonant final stem can be put forward. Both vowel and consonant final stems undergo various modifications.

A simple finite verb in Uranw-Kudᵑux consists of a stem and concord. The verb becomes finite after the affixation of the finite suffix. If the verb is in the aspectual form the occurrence of finite auxiliary is obligatory. The situation external time implied by the verb can be presented by contrast of two tenses: Past and Non-past. The situation internal time is indicated by different aspectual forms of the verb. In Uranw-Kudᵑux, there are seven different moods: Indicative, Interrogative, Imperative, Optative, Hortative, Subjunctive (Conditional) and Probabilative. There are two different forms of the 'be' verb: */rə/* existential and */hik/* identificational. In Uranw-Kudᵑux, the verb inflects for number, person, gender, tense, mood agreeing with its subject. There are single and double causative constructions in it. The passive construction is derived from active. And, the Uranw-Kudᵑux compound verb is formed by combining a verb with a substantive or with a verb.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ϕ	Zero
1	First Person
2	Second Person
3	Third Person
ABL	Ablative
ACC	Accusative
ALL	Allative
ASP	Aspect
be	Be Verb
CAUS	Causative
DCAUS	Double Causative
CONV	Converb
DAT	Dative
DIST	Distal
EXCLA	Exclamation
GEN	Genitive
IMP	Imperative
LOC	Locative
NUL	Null
INST	Instrument
PRO	Pronoun
NPST	Non-Past Tense
OBJ	Object/objective
OPT	Optative
PASS	Passive
PERF	Perfective
PL	Plural
PROG	Progressive
PROX	Proximal
PST	Past Tense

REQ	Request
SEQ	Sequential
SG	Singular
SUB	Subject
V	Verb
NOM	Nominative
MAN	Manner
NEG	Negative
CLT	Clitic
CLF	Classifier
DEMNT	Demonstrative
M	Masculine
F	Feminine

Diacritics

.	Syllable break
:	Vowel length
ᵐ	Dental
↗	Rising intonation