

The Verb Morphology of Byansi Language
[Spoken in Darchula District]

A Dissertation Submitted to
The Central Department of Linguistics
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
For the Degree of Master of Arts in Linguistics

By

Dhan Bahadur Roka

Exam Roll No.: 4132

T.U. Reg. No.: 11637-90

Tribhuvan University

Kirtipur, Nepal

2065

Letter of Recommendation

This is to certify that Mr. Dhan Bahadur Roka has completed this dissertation entitled 'The Verb Morphology on Byansi Language' under my guidance and supervision. I recommend this dissertation for evaluation.

.....

Balaram Prasain
Lecturer
Central Department of Linguistics
Tribhuvan University
Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal

Date: 2066-4-25

Letter of Approval

Central Department of Linguistics
Faculty of Humanities and Social Science
Tribhuvan University
Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal

The undersigned members of the Dissertation Committee have approved this dissertation, entitled `The Verb Morphology on Byansi Language`, submitted by Mr Dhan Bahadur Roka to the Central Department of Linguistics, Tribhuvan University in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Linguistics.

.....

Dissertation Supervisor

.....

External Examiner

.....

Head of the Department of Linguistics

Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur, Kathmandu

Date: 2066-4-25

Acknowledgements

Though the study on `The Verb Morphology of Byansi Language` took about two years long time which has now come to the end. As a fresh researcher I have been faced with several problems and difficulties to complete it. However the helpful hands extended to me with hospitability and warmth at that moment which will throb in my heart forever.

First of all my deepest debt of gratitude goes to my respected teacher and supervisor Balaram Prasain of central Department of Linguistics, TU, Kirtipur, inspired and advised me patiently to complete this thesis and recommended this language to be studied. Without his valuable suggestions and persistent encouragement this work would not have been completed. I am grateful to Prof. Dr. Yogendra P. Yadava, the Head of the Department, suggested and inspired me to complete this thesis and permitted this language to be studied. I am grateful to Prof. Dr. Madhav Prasad Pokharel, senior professor of the Department, who guided me about phonological rules and analysis. I am indebted to renowned language researcher Sueyoshi Toba, who gave me valuable suggestions and materials related to this language. I am grateful to Central Department of Linguistics and all its members.

To language teachers, Miss Kabita Budhathoki and Gopal Singh Bohara, I owe more than I can say. And finally I am grateful to all my classmates as well.

Date 2066-4-25

Dhan Bahadur Roka

CONTENTS

Chapter - One

	Page No.
1. Introduction	1
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Statement of Problems	1
1.3 Theoretical Framework	2
1.4 Previous Research	2
1.5 Objectives of the Study	4
1.6 Research Methodology	4
1.6.1 Selection of the Study Area	4
1.6.2 Research Design	5
1.6.3 Nature of the Data	5
1.6.4 Data Collection Technique	5
1.7 Significance and Output	6
1.8 Limitation of the Study	6

Chapter - Two

2. Byansi People and Their Language	7
2.1 People and Their Culture	7
2.1.1 Origin of Byansi People	7
2.1.2 Geographical Location	7
2.1.3 Population Distribution	8
2.2 Byansi Language	9
2.2.1 Ethnonyme and Glotonyme	9
2.2.2 Byansi and its Dialects	9
2.2.3 The place of Byansi in Tibeto-Burman	10
2.2.4 Phonology	12
2.2.4.1 The Consonant Phonemes	12
2.2.4.2 The Vowel Phonemes	14
2.2.4.3 Syllable Structure	14
2.2.4.4 Consonant Clusters	15
2.3 Nominal Morphology	15
2.3.1 Formation of Noun	16
2.3.2 Compound Nouns	17
2.3.3 Gender	18
2.3.4 Number	19
2.3.4.1 Singular and Plural	19
2.3.4.2 Dual forms	20
2.3.5 Pronouns	20
2.3.5.1 Personal pronouns	20
2.3.5.2 Demonstrative pronouns	21
2.3.5.3 Interrogative pronoun	22
2.3.5.4 Reflexive Pronoun	24
2.3.5.5 Relative Pronoun	24
2.3.6 The Case Marking in Byansi	25
2.3.7 Numeral Classifiers	26
2.3.8 Summary of Nominal Suffixes	28
2.4 Adjectives	28

2.4.1	Types of Adjective	28
	2.4.1.1 True Type of Adjective	29
	2.4.1.2 Derived Type of Adjective	29
	2.4.1.3 Qualitative Function	30
	2.4.1.4 Simulative and Demonstratives	30
	2.4.1.5 Quantitative Adjectives	30
	2.4.1.6 Numerals	31
	2.4.1.7 Multiplicative	31
2.5	Adverbs	32
	2.5.1 Adverb of Time	32
	2.5.2 Adverb of Place	32
	2.5.3 Adverb of Manner	33
2.6	Syntax	33
	2.6.1 Constituent Order	33
	2.6.2 Negativization	34
	2.6.3 Interrogative	35
	2.6.3.1 Direct question	35
	2.6.3.1.1 Intonation based question	35
	2.6.3.1.2 Insertion of interrogative pronoun	36
	2.6.3.2 Indirect questions	36
	2.6.3.2.1 Intonation based question	37
	2.6.3.2.2 Insertion of interrogative pronoun	37
	2.6.3.3 Intro-Negative	37
	2.6.4 Co-ordination	38
	2.6.4.1 Copulative	38
	2.6.4.2 Adversative	38
	2.6.4.3 Alternative	39
	2.6.4.4 Illative	39

Chapter 3

3.	Verb Morphology	40
3.1	Byasi Verbs and its Class	40
	3.1.1 Copula Verb	40
	3.1.1.1 The Copula /in/	40
	3.1.1.1.1 Existence	40
	3.1.1.1.2 Attributive	41
	3.1.1.1.3 Possession	41
	3.1.1.1.4 Location	41
	3.1.1.2 The Copula /leh/	42
	3.1.1.2.1 Equative	42
	3.1.2 Transitivity	42
	3.1.2.1 The Dummy Subject Verb	42
	3.1.2.2 The Transitive verb	43
	3.1.2.3 Intransitive Verb	43
3.2	Derivational Affixes	44
	3.2.1 Causative Morphology in Byansi	44
	3.2.2 Reflexive Verb	48
3.3	Tense and Aspects	48
	3.3.1 The Tense	49
	3.3.1.1 Non-Past	49

3.3.1.2	The Past Tense	49
3.3.2	The Aspect	51
3.3.2.1	The Perfective Aspect	51
3.3.2.2	The Imperfective Aspect	52
	3.3.2.2.1 Indefinite Aspect	52
	3.3.2.2.2 Continuous aspect	54
	3.3.2.2.3 The Habitual Past	55
3.3.2.3	The Perfect	55
3.3.2.4	Future Modes and Aspects	56
3.3.2.4.1	Predictive Mode	56
	3.3.2.4.1.1 Counter-Factive	57
3.4	Mood	58
3.4.1	Probability	58
3.4.2	Deontic Mood	58
3.4.3	Capability	59
3.4.4	The Mirative	59
3.4.5	Imperative Mood	60
3.4.5.1	Direct Imperative	60
	3.4.5.1.1 Immediate Imperative	60
	3.4.5.1.2 The Non-Immediate Imperative	61
	3.4.5.2.3 Hortative	62
3.4.5.2	Indirect Imperative	62
	3.4.5.2.1 Optative	63
3.5	Verb Agreement	63
3.6	Nominalization	67
3.6.1	The Nominalized Declarative	67
3.7	Converb	68
3.7.1	Simultaneous Converb	68
3.7.2	Sequential Converb	69
3.8	Negativization	69
3.9	Intro-Negative	70
3.10	Morphophonemics	71
3.10.1	Morphological Type	71
3.10.2	Sound Change	72
	3.10.2.1 Metathesis	72
	3.10.2.2 Buccalization	72
	3.10.2.3 Consonant deletion	73
	3.10.2.4 Voicing Alternation	73
Chapter-4		
4.	Summary and Conclusion	74
	References	77
	Appendix-1	80
	Appendix-2	83
	Appendix-3	84

LIST OF TABLES

1. The Distribution of Byansi Language speaker	8
2. Environment Chart of Consonant Sound [s] and [ʃ]	13
3. Phonemic Inventory Chart of Consonant	14
4. Syllable Structure	15
5. Personal Pronoun	22
6. Byansi Case Marking	26
7. Numeral Classifier in Byansi	27
8. Nominal Suffixes in Byansi	28
9. Transitive Paradigm of Verb Agreement	66
10. Intransitive Paradigm of Verb Agreement	66

Abbreviations

O	null marker
1	first person
2	second person
3	third person
ABL	ablative
ADJ	adjective
ADS	adessive
ADV	adverb
ALL	allative
ASC	associative
CAUS	causative
CIS	cisative
COM	comitative
CON	conjunction/ coordinator
CONT	continuous aspect
CONV	converb
COP	copula
DAT	dative
DEL	delative
DEON	deontic
DET	detransitivize
ELA	elative
ERG	ergative
FEM	feminine
GEN	genitive
HOR	hortative
IMP	imperative
IN	inessive
INF	infinitive
INS	instrumental
INT	intransitive

INTER	interrogative
INT.PRO	interrogative pronoun
LOC	locative
MASC	masculine
MID	middle
MIR	mirative
N	noun
NEG	negative
NF	non-final marker
NOML	nominalizer /nominalized
NOM	nominative
NUM	number
OBJ	objective
OPT	optative
PL	plural
PASS	passive
PFV	perfective
POSS	possessive
PROB	probability
PROG	progressive
REFL	reflexive
SG	singular
SUPE	superessive