CHAPTER – ONE

INTRODUCTION

The researcher carried out her research work on 'Noun Phrase Structures in Maithili and English Language: a comparative study.' In this research, the researcher aimed at finding out some facts in the process of forming of noun phrase in Maithili language. Similarly, she also wanted to discover similarities and differences in the processes of forming noun phrase between Maithili and English Languages.

1.1 General Background

Language is the most basic thing for human beings in their daily life. In the absence of language, one cannot lead one's life now. Its history starts from the time when the human civilization prevailed on the earth and when they were living a forest life in small groups. From the time, both human civilization and human language have been developing and changing continuously along with the time as it went on embracing ups and downs in itself. Language was used at that time, too and is being used at present as well. If anything changed from that time that is only its shape and structure but nothing else. Similarly, there are some changes in human beings as well and that are their living style and their culture. Thus, language is as old as human race.

Here, we are not concerned with the history of language and human civilization. Our concern is to throw light on "What is language?" In fact, language is a social phenomenon which connects people to each other. In a general sense, language is a means of communication. It is now broadly used to refer to all the forms of communication. For example: if we speak and communicate through vocal sounds to

each other, then it is verbal language; if we write and communicate, then it is written language and if we use signs or gestures to communicate our feelings, ideas and thoughts then it is called sign language. From this it is clear that we can communicate in different ways. Here, communication is a broad term which incorporates all modes of communications; both verbal and non verbal. Verbal communication is human specific i.e. language used only by human being. Language is thus called species specific. On the other hand, non verbal communication indicates all modes of communications except verbal mode. To make it clear, non verbal communication includes sign language, bird's language, and zoo communication and so on.

According to Bhattarai (1991), "Language is the universal medium for conveying facts including complex thoughts, emotions and feelings of everyday life. Language had enabled man to establish great civilization. Man differs from the other species on this earth only because he possesses a unique faculty of speech. Man expresses his personality through language".

What we can conclude from this definition is that, language is a universal medium used only by human beings to convey their thoughts, emotions, and feelings to each other in their daily life. Language is a social phenomenon to establish good relation in the human community. It is because; language is only for human being since human being is the most intelligent animal on the earth. Language is their very unique property which distinguishes him/her from animals. Language is a means of communication which is made of sounds and symbols which are voluntarily produced by human beings. Since it is made up of voluntarily produced sounds and symbols, it is a string of sounds and symbols, to express one's ideas, emotions, feelings and desires. However, human being can show instinctive quality like eye blinking,

walking, eating or even producing involuntary sounds. Here we can quote Sapir (1971) in support that "language is a purely human and non instinctive method of communicating ideas emotions and desires by means of system of voluntarily produced symbols". Similarly Block and Trager (1942) define language as, "a system of arbitrary vocal symbols by means of which a social group co-operates" (as cited in Lyons, 1981). These definitions correspond to some extent to the above definition given by Sapir (1971).

In conclusion, on the basis of the above mentioned definitions, what we can say that there are different modes of communications which are broadly categorized into two different ways: verbal and non verbal communication. The purpose of division of different modes of communication in two different broad terms is to clarify that not all sorts of sounds and symbols, and activities produced and performed by human beings are languages, but they are only those sounds and symbols which are voluntarily produced by human beings and that convey some message to the listeners, this is called verbal language. The voluntarily produced sounds and symbols give a certain shape to language only when they are linked to make a string of them. And this string of sounds and symbols is used only by human being in their daily life to share their emotions, feelings, desires, thoughts etc. On the other hand, there are some activities which are also used to convey some sorts of message. These activities are known as sign language. The sign language refers to different gestures and postures such as eye winking, shaking and nodding head, waving hand in the air, facial expressions and so on. This is called non-verbal communication. Besides human activities, non-verbal communication also covers bird's language, zoo communication and so on.

1.1.1 An Introduction to the English Language

The English language is a language which is spoken all over the world as an international Language. It is also one of the languages of the U.N.O. and is an international lingua- Franca. It has become an assistance to establish communication between two persons belonging to different linguistic background or two different countries. This characteristic has made it the most dominant language of the whole world. Since it is the most dominant Language in the world, it is used as an official and semi- official language in over 60 countries and has become successful to get a prominent place in 20 countries. It is also the major language of books, newspapers, airports, international business, academic conference, science, medicine, diplomacy and advertising.

In division of the language spoken all around the world in terms of their family, the English language is one of the widely used West Germanic sub branches of the Germanic branch of the Indo- European family. According to the population census of 2001, 1937 people speak English as the native language or mother tongue in Nepal. As a result, it stands in the sixty- fourth position in Nepal on the basis of native speakers of it. That is why, it is extremely important in a country like Nepal. In Nepal, it is taught as a compulsory subject from primary level to graduate level. Teaching English in Nepal aims at making students able to communicate their ideas, feelings, emotions, beliefs and thoughts in English with one another and with the people of other countries. Teaching English aims at developing four skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Learning language is regarded as achieving skills that make students able to get their things done.

1.1.2 The English Language and its Significance in Nepal

The English Language is worldwide Language. More than half of the world's books are written in this language. Not only this, but also three quarters of international mails are delivered and received in English. Of all languages, English has the largest vocabulary perhaps as many as two million words and one of the noblest bodies of literature.

English is, of course, the means of international communication and is also the world's major language. It is one of the languages recognized by the U.N.O. It entered into Nepal with the foundation of the Darbar High School in 1854 A.D. by a defector, ruler named Jung Bahadur Rana. Then in 1919, it was included in the higher education with the establishment of Trichandra College. In course of time, S.L.C. examination Board (1933) and T.U.(1959) were established and since then it has occupied a vital position in the educational field of Nepal. Having realized the importance of the English language the government of Nepal has included it in schools and Higher Education curricula as a compulsory subject. Especially, the NESP (1971) has brought evolutionary changes by planning curricula and text books with the provision of Compulsory English of 100 marks from primary level to bachelor's level including optional English at secondary level as well as higher education. Now with the proliferation of English medium school, and growing demand for more English from the general mass, the government has reintroduced English from grade one to Bachelor level.

Now a day, teaching English is gaining much popularity in Nepal. It aims at enabling the students to exchange their ideas, feelings, and thoughts with other people of any other countries who speak and write in English. This language also helps the students

to enjoy English literature which is very vast in itself. With good knowledge of English, the learners or students can easily adjust in any bilingual or multilingual community or country and in any business field as well. It will be noteworthy to mention here that language is learnt for developing four skills, namely listening, speaking, reading and writing. As English has become an inevitable tool for anybody to achieve their target in the academic field. Maithili speaking students are not an exception to it. Thus, we can say that the English language has been proved a vital tool for any student to become successful in local, national and international communication. So, the importance of English in the present day world needs to be over emphasized.

1.1.3 Linguistic Situation in Nepal

Nepal is rich in terms of language, culture and religion according to population census 2001. There are more than 92 languages in this small country. Unfortunately, most of them don't have their written script but only used in daily communication. If appropriate attention is not paid to those (Indigenous) languages, their existence will be just imagination in future. All the languages identified in Nepal are classified under the following four major groups or language family

a) Indo Aryan Group

This group includes following languages.

Nepali	Manahi
Maithali	Marwadi
Bhojpuri	Kumal

Tharu	Darai
Rajbanshi	Majhi
Awadi	Bote
Danuwar	Hindi/Urdu
Bengali	Chureti Languagees

b) Tibeto – Burman Group

This group includes following languages

Limbu	Chamling
Thakali	Hayu
Chepang	Gurung
Kaike	Bahing
Sangpang	Sunuwar
Newari	Dura
Tamang	Dhimal
Koche	Meche
Route	Thami
Raji	Lepcha
Kham	Jirel/er

c) Dravidian Group

Jhangad is the only language of the Dravidian family which is spoken on the Province of Koshi River in the eastern region of Nepal.

d) Austro-Asiatic Group

Satar (Santhali) is the only one language in this group. It is especially spoken in Jhapa district of the eastern region of Nepal.

1.1.4 An Introduction to the Maithili Language

Maithili is one of the branches of New Indo- Aryan (NIA) Language spoken in two adjoining South Asian Countries 'Nepal and India'. Maithili, as its name implies is the mother tongue of the inhabitations of Mithila, the pre- historic kingdom ruled by the king Janak who was the father of the Goddess Sita . However the modern Mithila is politically spilt into adjacent parts of two different nations Nepal and India and yet it exists as an inalienable cultural entity mainly owing to the proximity of regular interaction between the Maithili speaking community of the two nations.

This language is written in Devanagari script at present, however, in the ancient time, it was written in the Maithilakshar or Tirhut. It has a very long rich tradition of written literature in both countries Nepal and India. Vidyapati Thakur is the most celebrated poet on Maithili. He is an immortal singer of beauty, youth and vigour. Maithili literature has a very long tradition of oral story telling. Some renowned story writers in Maithili literature are Shree Krishna Thakur, Baidhanath Mishra and Kali Kumar Das. Both Nepali and Indian literary writers have penned literary genres especially poems, plays and fictions in the Maithili language. In addition to writing literary genres, they are working in the other fields as well like culture, history journalism, and linguistics and so on and so forth.

The earliest grammar of Maithili by a native grammarian has been written by Jha (1946), in the Maithili language. In this study, the grammatical rules are presented in

the form Sutras as in Paninian style of Sanskrit grammar. It was followed by Jha (1979) in 'Maithili Grammar and Composition' which attempts to analyze the language with modern linguistic insights.

1.1.5 Maithili: Its Speakers and Linguistic Boundaries

The language on which the researcher is going to have her research work is the Maithili language. The Maithili language is spoken mainly in the eastern and northern regions of the state of Bihar in India and in the Terai district of Nepal. According to Yadav (1990), this language is spoken by more than 21 million Indian and Nepali people. Jha (1994) states that the areas in India where Maithili is being spoken are Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi, Vaishali, Darbhanga, Madhubani, Samastipur, Saharsa, Supaul, North Munger, North Bhagalpur and parts of Champaran and Purnia. Similarly in Nepal, it is broadly spoken in some districts of Nepal in the Terai. These districts are Rauthat, Sarlahi, Mahottari , Dhanusha, Siraha, Saptari and Morang. These geographical boundaries include all those principal areas where the main concentration of the Maithili-speaking population lies these days. According to the population census of 2001, 48.98% people speak the Nepali language and just after this 12.40% people speak Maithili language. Hence, the Maithili language is the second dominant language after Nepali i.e. the national language of Nepal.

Actually, the exact dimensions of the area have been fluctuating from age to age. It has nevertheless managed to keep itself, always distinguished in common parlance as a distinct 'Country' with its own traditions, its own poets and its own pride in everything belonging to itself. Today this area is known as Trihut or Mithila. But in the earliest known period of history, it was called Videha and it included several Kingdoms in it: Mithila and Vaishali being most important ones. To quote Grieson (1881:16), "Maithili was originally the language of the ancient Mithila, the Kingdom of Janak, the father of Sita which was bounded on the west by the river Gandak, on the north by the Himalaya mountains, on the east by the Koshi , and on the south by the Ganges. It has, however, in later times been encroached upon by Bhojpuri on the west and in revenge has itself crossed the Ganges and occupied North Patna and so much of the Munger and Bhagalpur district as it lies to the north of the river. It has also crossed the Koshi and occupied Purnea" (as cited in Jha, 1994:4)

1.1.6 Grammar and its Importance

To be a full fledged language and for its existence, grammar is a basic thing. As the skeleton of human being is a must for human body, grammar is also the skeleton of all languages. The grammar is used either in spoken form or in written form and is equally important for development and existence of any language. The skeleton of language is given flesh and blood by linguistic units, viz. sounds, morpheme, word etc.

Grammar governs language. It means it is related to language which is a set of an infinite number of well formed sentences. Grammar is a set of structure of language on the basis of which different kinds of sentences are formed. The word "Structure" means the arrangement of elements in their relationships to each other. By "Structure of Language" we mean the interrelationship of linguistic units such as sounds, morphemes, words, phrases and sentences at various levels, namely, phonological morphological, syntactic, semantic and discourse levels.

When we talk about grammar, we cannot forget the name of Noam Chomsky. He defines grammar in his theory of Transformational Generative Grammar in his book

syntactic structure (1957) that a grammar is a model of the native speaker's competence. That is to say, whatever the native speakers say or produce is because of the model of grammar they acquire. They form a number of sentences on the basis of some certain rules. Thus, grammar is a set of finite rules. And though there are only finite rules as the competence of the native speakers, they can generate the infinite number of new sentences or utterances. In terms of grammaticality, sentences are of two types, viz. well-formed and ill-formed sentences. Well formed sentences sound absurd to them.

In course of defining grammar, different grammarians have defined grammar in different ways paying their close attention to different aspects of language. According to Yadav (2004), in early 80s, Permutter and Postal for example, define grammar to compare natural Languages and find out the ways in which they differ and are all alike. Paying close attention to the above mentioned facts about grammar, we can deduce the conclusion that the importance of grammar is a must in both learning and teaching language. It is because without having good knowledge of grammar, neither teachers can teach language in a proper way nor learners can learn it appropriately.

1.2. Review of the Related Literature

Various research works have already been conducted in different areas of grammar in the Department of English Education, Kirtipur Kathmandu. However, no one has attempted to carry out their research works on "The Noun Phrase structures in Maithili and English languages: A comparative study" up to now. That is why; the researcher has selected this very new topic for her research work. Before selecting this topic for their research work, she went through different researches available to her. After that she reached the final conclusion to select this topic. Different researchers

have found out different things in their different respective research works. Some of them which were pertinent to the researcher's present topic were consulted. Those research works with their findings are cited below: Bhattarai (2001) conducted his research on "Case in English and Nepali: A comparative study". His findings were verbs agree with the subject in both languages. The verb plays the central role in determining cases in both languages.

Mukhiya (2001) carried out a research on "Passivization system between English and Maithili: A comparative study". He found that the passivization system between English and Maithili are different in almost all grammatical aspects. For example, both transitive and intransitive verbs are passivized in Maithili: ham-ra-s∂ nai has-ae-1 = It was not laughed by me*. Only the constructions with imperfective (Simple/progressive) aspects are passivized in Maithili but all aspects except perfective progressive are passivized in English, etc. However, he also found that there are some areas which are similar in both languages. They are

- Changing the form of pronouns,
- Inserting the preposition 'by' in English and the post position /s∂/ in Maithili, and
- Omitting subjects if they are irrelevant, unknown or obvious.

Karn (2004) carried out a research on 'A comparative study of cases of the Maithili and English languages". He found seven cases in Maithili language and common cases identified in both languages are nominative, instrumental, ablative locative and dative. Thapa (2006) conducted a research on "Noun Phrase Structures in English and Limbu Languages : A comparative Study". He found that in terms of structural organizations, English has at least 18 types of nominal head noun phrase structures , 2 types of pronominal head , 8 types of generative head, 4 types of infinitival head and 3 types adjectival head noun phrase structure.

On the other hand, Limbu contains 14 types of Nominal head structures, 2 types of pronominal ones, 6 types of generative ones, 2 types of infinitival ones and 5 types of adjectival head noun phrase structures. In general, the distribution of the structures of different heads seems to be similar but English phrase structures are slightly greater in number.

Yadav (2007) carried out his research work on "Negative and Interrogative Transformation in English and Maithili Language: A Comparative study". This research showed that there are similarities as well as differences in the system of negative and interrogative transformation in English and Maithili language. Both languages have their own separate words for transforming statement into negative statement and question. In the absence of auxiliary verb in English, operator addition is required to form a negative statement whereas it is not the case in the Maithili Language. Similarly, in WH- Question operator, addition and subject operator inversion rules are applied in English but they are redundant in the Maithili language.

Despite the multiplicity of the study, this research is completely a new attempt of the researcher because no one has worked on this topic up to now. Thus, the researcher has made it her subject of the research work.

1.3 Objectives of the study

This study has the following objectives:

- To find out the structures of noun phrase in Maithili.
- To compare noun phrase structures: heads and their properties in Maithili and English Language.
- To point out some pedagogical implications of the study.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This research particularly deals with the comparison of Maithili and English noun phrase structures. The comparative study deals with the similarities and the differences in the formation of noun phrase between the two languages. Similarities between two languages make the target language learning easy for the Maithili speakers and the differences cause difficulty. Therefore, this study will be beneficial for those who teach English to the Maithili speaking children as well as other learners of Maithili. The teachers who are teaching Maithili language as an optional subject in the secondary level in the Maithili language speaking communities, the syllabus designers, language experts, linguists, text book writers and the people who are interested in this field also will be equally benefited by this study.

1.5 Definition of the Terms

Noun Phrase

A noun phrase is a phrase, which can act as subject, object or complement of a clause or as a prepositional complement. It is called a noun phrase because the word that is its head (i.e. main part) is typically a noun. It is a constituent of a sentence consisting of at least a noun, pronoun and additionally infinitive, gerund and adjective.

Number

Singular, plural in Maithili and singular and plural in English.

CHAPTER TWO

METHODOLOGY

The researcher had adopted the following methodologies to conduct this research work.

2.1 Sources of Data Collection

The researcher entertained the use of both primary and secondary sources of data collection. Primary as well as secondary sources of data were equally important for collecting data in Maithili language but for collecting data in English, only secondary sources were entertained.

2.1.1 Primary Sources

The study was mainly based on the primary data i.e. the answer from the respondents through the questionnaire distributed to them. For this source the researcher selected her informants from two VDCs of Saptari District.

2.1.2 Secondary Sources

Various books, journals, magazines, reports, articles and other written materials related to the proposed study were used as the secondary sources of data. These include; Yadav,(2004) 'Theories of grammar', Lyons (1981) 'Language and Linguistics', Jha (1994) 'Maithili Grammar', Arts and Arts (1997) 'syntactic structure', Bhattarai (1996) 'An introduction to linguistics', Adhikari (1993) 'Samasamaik Nepali Byakaran' and so on.

2.2 Tool(s) for Data Collection

The tool for the study consisted of a set of questionnaire or a check list that contained simple words, phrases and sentences in Nepali and the informants were asked to provide equivalent translation in Maithili language. (See Appendix)

2.3 Process of Data Collection

The pre-determined set of questions was used as the tools for the data collection. On the basis of these pre-determined set of items, oral interviews were taken with the native speakers of Maithili of Saptari district. The snow-ball sampling procedure was used in the process of data collection.

The distribution of population among Maithili native speaker of Raypur and Dadha are as follows.

S.N.	Generation	Raypur		Dadha			Total No of	
								Respondents
		М	F	Total	М	F	Total	
1	Old	10	10	20	10	10	20	40
2	Young	10	10	20	10	10	20	40
Total			•		•	•		80

2.4 Limitations of the Study

This study has the following limitations.

1. This research was limited to only the young and old people.

- 2. The questionnaire consisted of only one type.
- 3. The data were collected only from secondary/ primary sources.
- 4. There were only 80 informants.
- 5. The study was confined to the selected VDCS of Saptari District.
- 6. Only the Maithili speakers were the informants for this study.
- This study includes selected words from noun/phrase structures from the collected data in Maithili and selected words, noun phrase structure from the books on English Grammar in English.
- 8. The data are based on Saptariya dialect of Maithili.

CHAPTER THREE

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

The present chapter deals with the analysis and interpretation of the collected data. The required data from the respondents were collected, checked and rechecked. The comparison of noun phrase structures between Maithili and English was made with the help of presenting different examples. The possible structures of noun phrase were shown in the tree diagrams. Then the structures were interpreted on the basis of examples and illustrations. In the process of analysis and interpretation, comparison was made, first by stating with simple Maithili sentence and their equivalent translation in to English. More emphasis was given to Maithili while presenting the examples.

3.1 Comparison of Noun Phrase structures, Heads and their properties between Maithili and English.

The noun phrase structures consist of an obligatory head and one or more than one optional modifiers. The heads of the noun phrase in Maithili and English can be of any of these categories, nominal, pronominal, gerund, and adjectival. e.g.

1 Nominal Head

In Maithili	In English
Ladaki	girl
ghar	home

2 Pronominal Head

In Maithili	In English
Hum	Ι
O sub	they
0	he/ she
3 Gerundive Head	
In Maithili	In English
Nachai	dancing
Sutai	sleeping
4 Adjectival Head	
In Maithili	In English
Sundar	beauty
Jabani	youth

In addition to an obligatory head, a noun phrase may optionally contain modifiers. These modifiers include noun, determiner, adverb, adjective phrase and relative clause.

3.1.1 Comparison of Nominal Heads

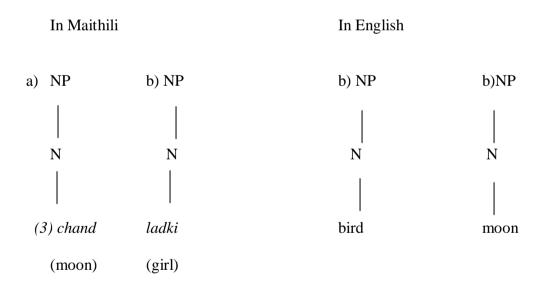
1. Noun as the Head of NP

The most commonly used terminology for a nominal head is noun. The head of a noun phrase in Maithili and English can be a noun.

eg.

Chidai udai chhai	Chand sunder chhai
bird fly	moon beautiful is
'Bird flies.'	'Moon is beautiful'

In the following examples, single noun is the NP in both Maithili and English.



The head of a noun phrase in nominal heads can be preceded by pre-modifiers and followed by post modifiers. They can be exemplified and illustrated in the following ways.

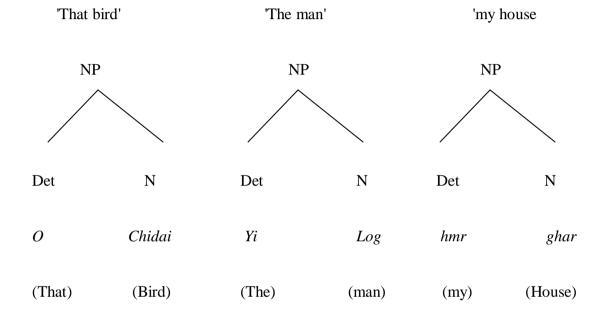
2. Pre- m +H

Under this structure the head of the noun phrase is preceded by different types of premodifiers in Maithili and English. The possible structure can be seen from the following tree diagrams:

1.a)	0	chidai
1	\sim	Creterer

Yi log

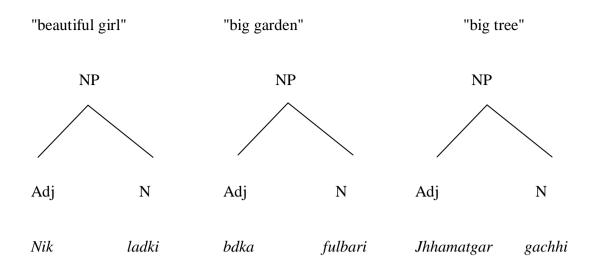
hmr ghar



The Np structures in the above examples in Maithili is Det. N. This structure can also be found in English.

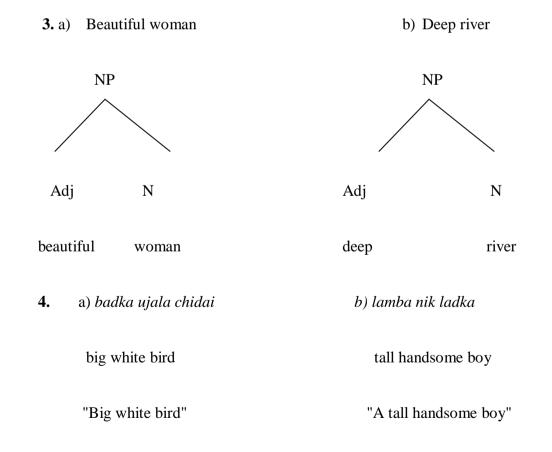
e.g.

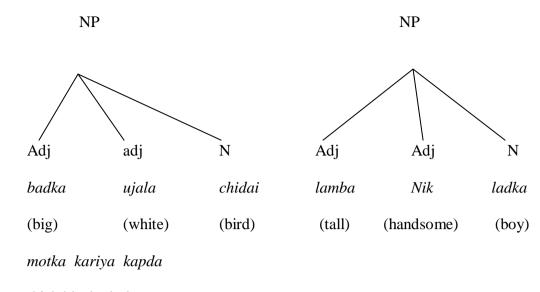
2.b.Nik ladkiBdka fulbariJhhamatgar gachhibeautiful girlbig gardenbig tree



Here, the Np structure of the above illustrations in Maithili is Adj+N which are also found in English.

e.g



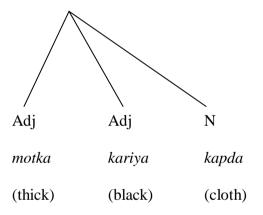


thick black cloth

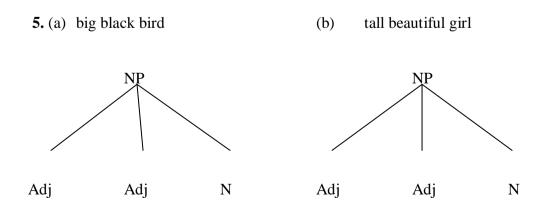
(c)

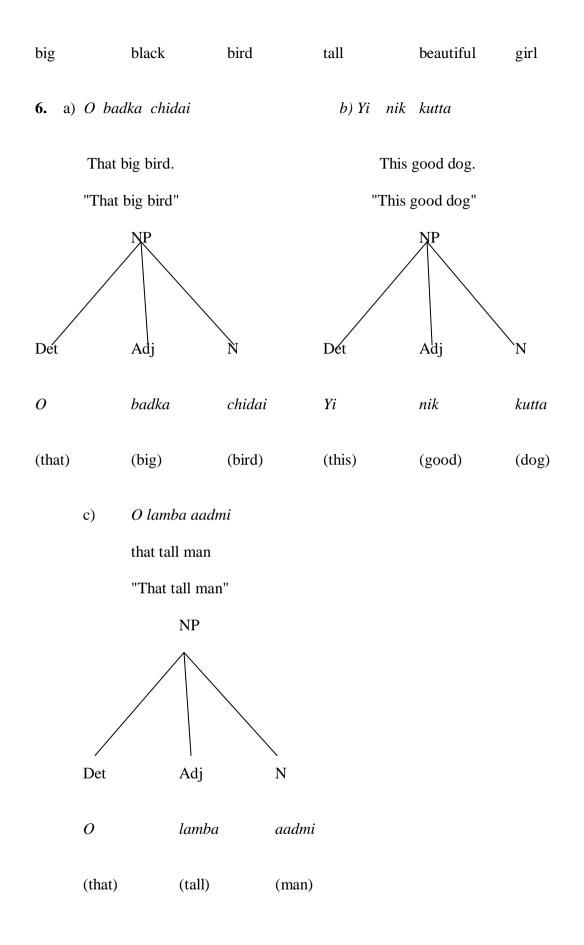
'The thick black cloth'





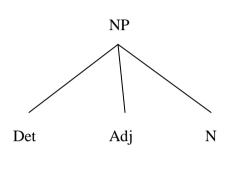
The NP structure of above illustrations in Mathili is Adj+Adj+N which are also found in English.eg.





The Np structure of the above examples in Maithili is Det+Adj+N which are found in English too.

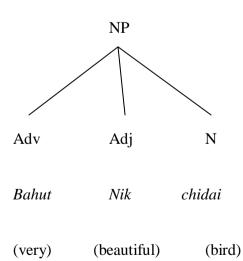
- E.g. In English
- 7. a) The tall girl

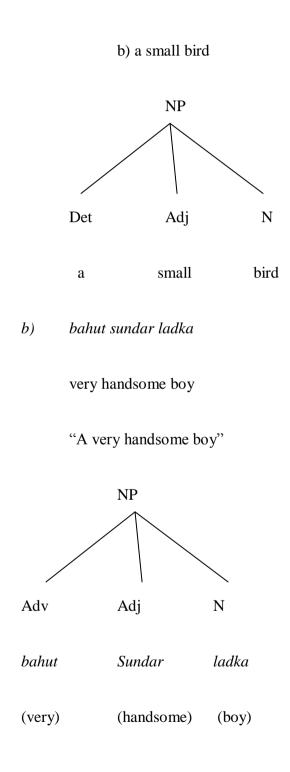


- the tall girl
- **8.** a) bahut nik chidai

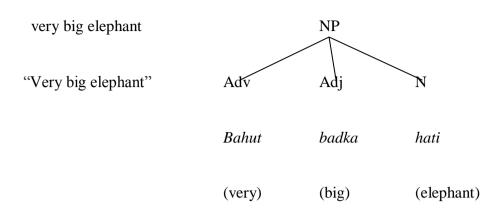
very beautiful bird

"A very beautiful bird"



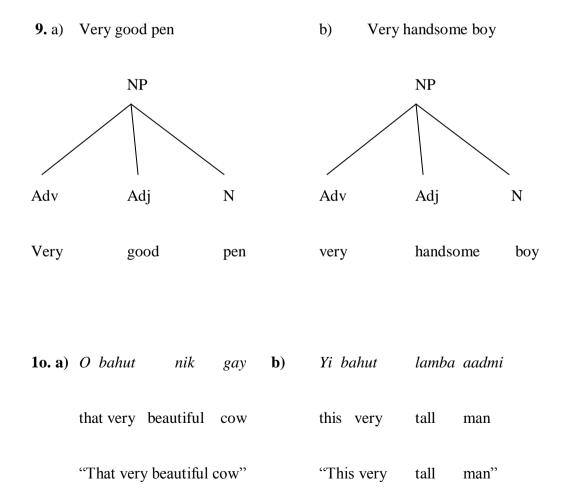


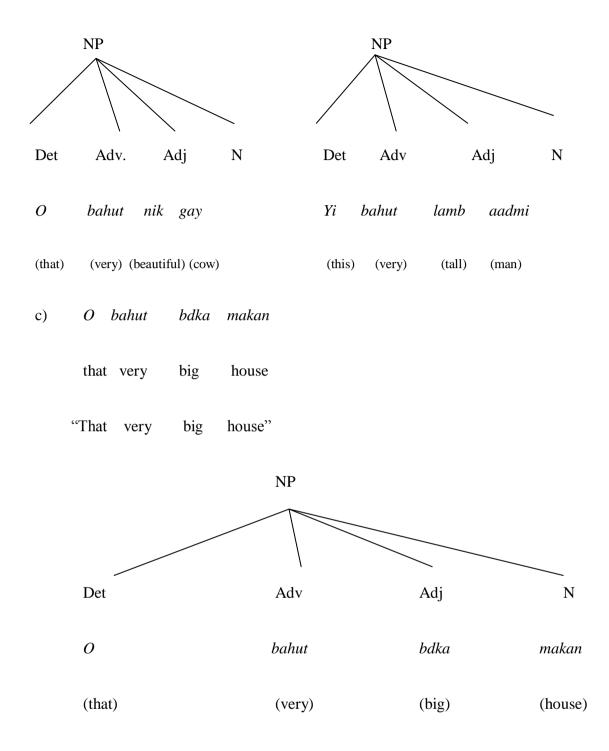
c) bahut badka hati



The Np structure of the above examples in Maithili is Adv+Adj+N which are also found in English.

e.g. In English

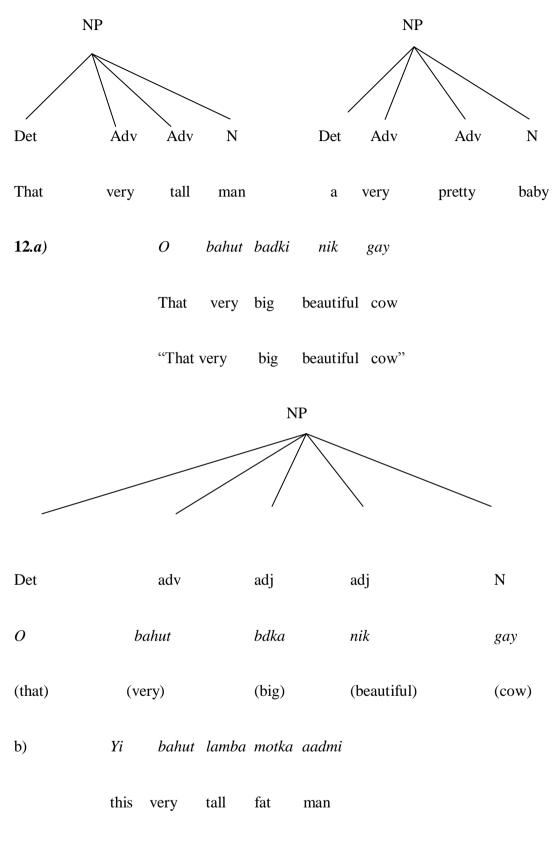




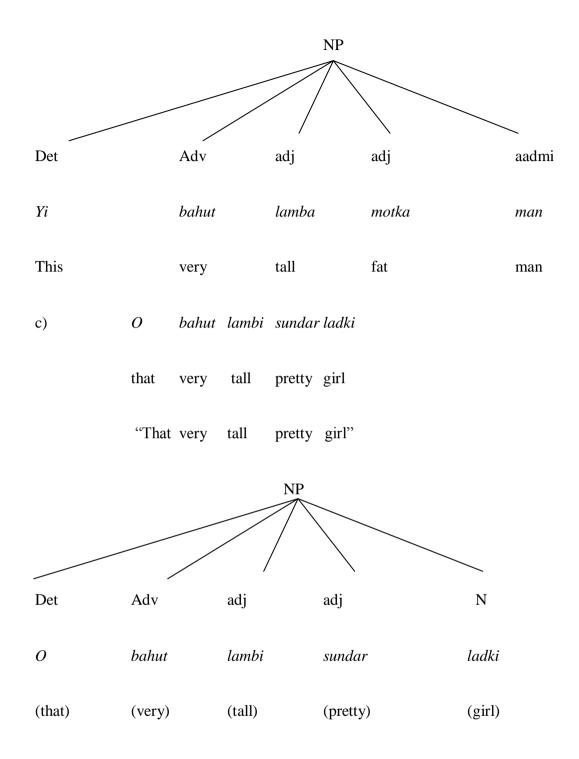
The Np structures of the above examples in Maithili is Det+Adv+Adj+N which are found in English.

e.g. In English

11. a) That very tall manb)a very pretty baby



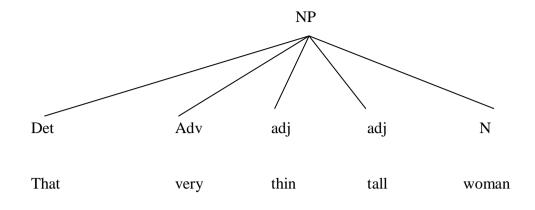
"This very tall fat man"



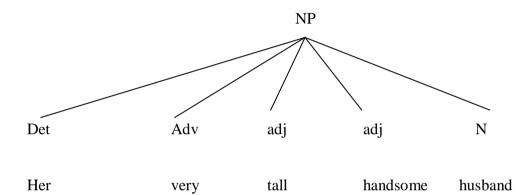
The Np structures of above examples in Maithili is Det+Adv+Adj+N which are found in English.

e.g. In English

13. a) that very thin tall woman



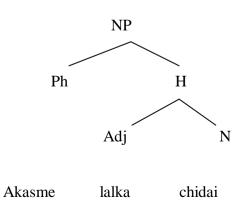
b) Her very tall handsome husband



14. a) akas me lalka chidai b) lamba kes bali lambi ladki

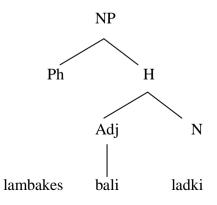
Sky in red bird

"The red bird in the sky"



long hair with tall woman

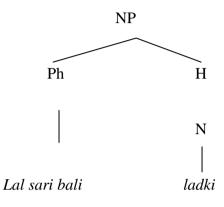
"The tall woman with long hair"



c) lal siri bali ladki

red sari in woman

"The woman in red sari"

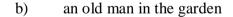


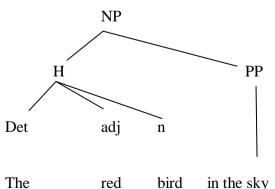
(in red sari) (woman)

The Np structures of the above examples in Maithili is Ph+H and the above mentioned examples show us that prepositional phrases are pre-modifies in Maithili but they are post modifiers in English. There for no ph+H but ph-H is used in English.

e.g. In English

15. a) the red bird in the sky





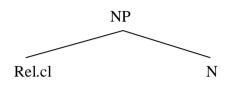
NP H PP Det adj n

in the garden

bird in the sky an old man

Bird which has long tail

"The bird which has a long tail



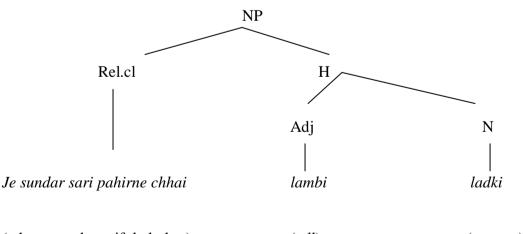
Jakar lamba puchhar

(Which has a long tail)	(bird)
-------------------------	--------

b) *lambi ladki je sundar kapada pahirne chhai*

tall woman who beautiful cloth wear

"The tall woman who wears beautiful cloths"

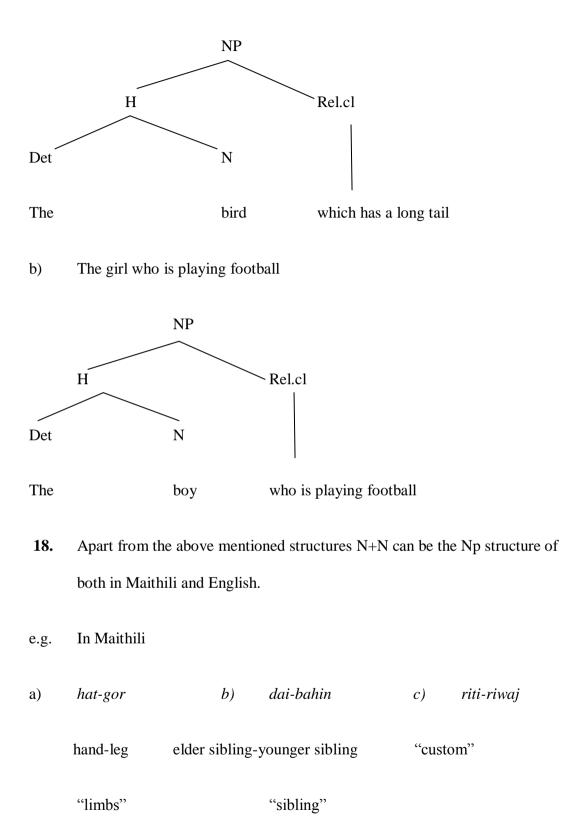


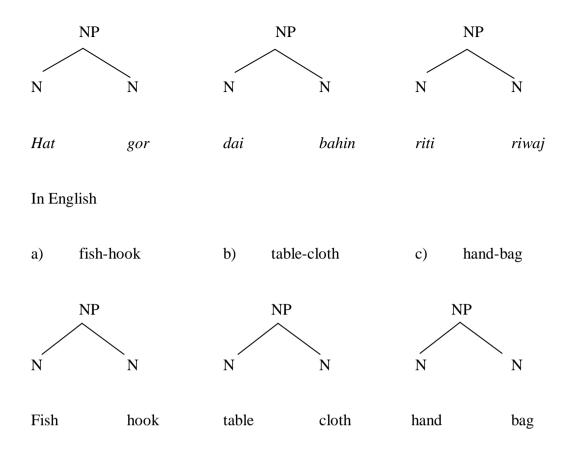
chidai

(who wears beautiful clothes) (tall) (woman)

The above structures Re.cl+H in Maithili is acceptable in English because relative clauses are also post-modifies in English where as they are pre modifiers in Maithili. Therefore H+Rel.cl is used in English

17. e.g. a) The bird which has a long tail

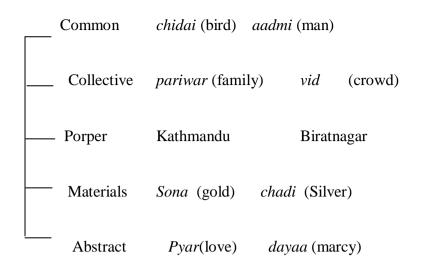




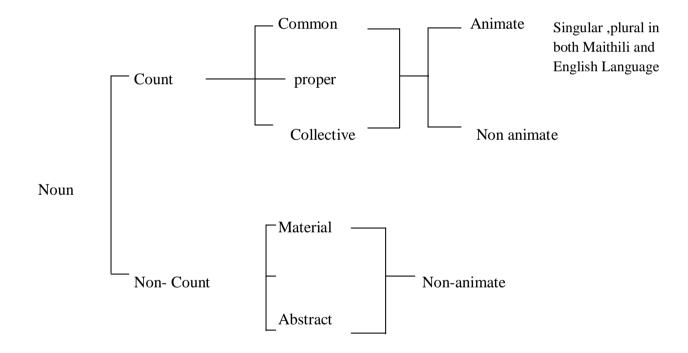
3.1.2 Comparison and classification of Nouns

According to traditional grammar nouns in the Maithili and English language can be divided into five kinds. They are proper noun, common noun, collective noun, material noun and abstract nouns. Besides them, Maithili and English nouns can be divided into count and non count nouns too.

Generally, non count nouns are; material and abstract noun. But common noun, proper noun and collective nouns are count noun. The count noun can further be divided into animate and non animate. All the count nouns in Maithili have two numbers- singular and plural whereas English has also two. The types of nouns in Maithili and English are illustrated by the following examples.



The above classification of noun in Maithili and English can be shown in the following diagram.



3.1.3 Comparison of Number in Nominal Head

As it has already been pointed out in (3.1.11) count nouns in Maithili have 2 numbers; singular & plural whereas English has two numbers. The morphemes associated with the types of numbers both in Maithili and English are exemplified in the following ways.

In Maithili

Singular

Plural

a)	Chidai	Chidaisub
	(a bird)	(birds)
b)	bail	bailsub
	(an ox)	(oxen)
In Eng	glish	
Singul	ar	Plural
a)	bird	birds
b)	potato	potatoes

In Maithili singular and plural are formed by adding "sub" in plural from of noun respectively whereas in English plural is generally made by adding s/es in the singular form of noun except some exceptional rules (i.e. ox-oxen, man-men, child-children etc.)

3.1.4 Comparison of Gender in Nominal Head

In both Maithili and English there are some animate nouns which can show sex distinction though their inflections.

e.g. In Maithili

Masculine	feminine
Dactor	dacterni
(doctor)	(doctress)
Master	masterni
(teacher)	(Teacheress) (lady teacher)
Kutta	kutti
(He dog)	(She dog)
Murga	Murgi
(Cock)	(Hen)
In English	
Masculine	Feminine
Actor	actress
Waiter	waitress
Prince	princess
Lion	lioness

There are other sex distinctions both in Maithili and English.

e.g.	In Maithili	
	Masculine	feminine
	Babu	mai
	(Father)	(mother)
	Dada	dadi
	(grand father)	(grand mother)
	Murga (cock)	murgi (hen)
In Eng	glish	
	Masculine	feminine
	Boy	girl
	Husband	wife
	Man	woman

Both Maithili and English have only natural but no grammatical gender system that is to say gender is not marked in verb.

E.g. In Maithili

ram ghar jaichai

Ram home go

"Ram goes home"

Feminine

Ramita ghar jaichhai

Ramita home go

"Ramita goes home"

In English Masculine: Boy goes home

Girl goes home

3.1.5 Comparison of Pronominal Head

A pronoun as the Head of NP

The head of a noun phrase in Maithili and English can be a pronoun.

e.g.a) hum jaichhiy b) hum sub sutaliyai c) tu ghar gelhi

you home went	slept	we	go	Ι
"you went home	slept"	"we	go"	ίΊ

This structure can be shown in the following tree diagrams:

In Maithili				In Engl	ish
a) NP b)	NP c)	NP	a) NP	b) NP	c) NP
Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р
Hm	Hmsb	tu	Ι	we	you
(I)	(we)	(you)			

Pronouns don't have any determines or modifiers therefore there are not other structures in pronominal head.

3.1.6 Classification of Pronouns

Pronouns in Maithili and English are classified separately.

A. Pronouns in Maithili

Ist

1. Personal pronouns in Maithili

	Singular	Plural
Person	Hum	Hmsub
	(I)	(we)

2 nd Person	Ти	Tusub
	(You)	(You)
3 rd Person	0	O sub
	(he/she/it)	(they)

The given list of personal pronouns in Maithili shows that personal pronoun can be animate and human and consist of three persons: first person, second person and third person. The first person singular and plural pronoun has inclusive and exclusive markers and the second have third person singular and plural have both honorific and non-honorific markers.

2. Demonstrative Pronouns in Maithili

Singular	Plural
Yi	Yi sub
(this)	(these many)
0	O sub
(that)	(those many)

In Maithili demonstrative pronouns can be animate and human as well as non-animate and non-human. These pronouns also have the usual two numbers singular and plural.

3. Interrogative Pronouns in Maithili

This can be divided in two sub classes they are.

	i.	Human	ii.	Common	
	i.	Human			
		Singular			Plural
		Ke			Kesub
		(Who)			(What many)
ii.		Common			
		Singular			Plural
		Kon			Kon sub
		(Which)			(Which many)
		Ke			Ke sub
		(What)			(What many)

The interrogative common pronoun in Maithili can be both animate and non-animate human and non-human. They also have the two numbers singular and plural.

B. Pronouns in English

There is not uniformity in the classification of pronouns in English. Different writers have classified the pronouns in their own ways. Among the different books, Celce-Murcia and Larsen Freeman have stated the pronouns in English as follows:

a) Personal pronouns (I, we, you, he, she, they)

- b) Possessive pronouns (Mine, ours, yours, his, hers, its, Their)
- c) Reflexive pronoun (myself, ourselves, yourself,

Yourselves, himself, herself, themselves)

- d) Demonstrative pronouns (this, that, these, those)
- e) Indefinite pronouns (anybody, anyone, anything, everybody, nobody, no one, nothing, somebody, someone everyone, everything)
- f) Reciprocal pronoun (each, other, one, another)
- g) Relative pronoun (whom, who, which, that, whose)
- h) Interrogative Pronoun (who, whose, which)

In English there are eight kinds of pronouns but in Maithili there are only six (personal, demonstrative, interrogative, relative reflexive, indefinite) pronouns in use.

In Maithili the first person and plural in personal pronoun have inclusive and exclusive markers but such markers are not found in English. In Maithili the second person and third persons in personal pronouns have both honorific and non-honorific forms but such honorific forms are not found in English personal pronouns.

3.1.7 Comparison of Gerundive head.

Verbal roots	present participles
Chalnai	(chailrahnai)
(go)	(going)

Khenai	(khyarahnai)
(eat)	(eating)
Denai	(dyarahnai)
(give)	(giving)
Nachnai	(naichrahnai)
(dance)	(dancing)
Udnai	(uidrahnai)
(fly)	(flying)

The above table shows that gerunds are the present participle forms formed by the addition of suffix *"rahnai*" in Maithili whereas-ing form in added to the verbal roots in English.

A. A gerund as the head of NP

In gerundive head the head of Np may consist only a gerund in both Maithili and English.

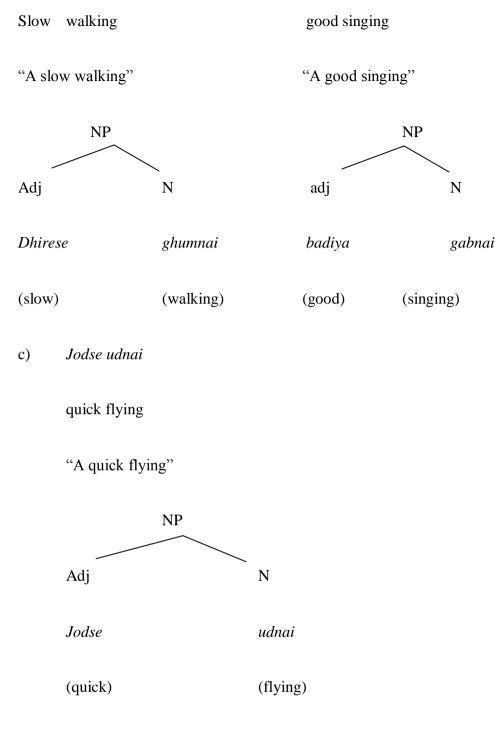
e.g. In Maithili
a) udnai nik chhhai
b) ghumnai kharab haichhai
flying good is
"flying is good"
"walking is bad"

	NP		NP
	Ν		Ν
	Udnai	Ghumr	ıai
	(flying)	(walkii	ng)
In Eng	lish		
a)	Flying is easy	b)	Smoking is bad
	NP		NP
	Ν		Ν
	Flying		smoking

B. Pre.M+H

Under this structure the gerundive head can be preceded by pre-modifiers both in Maithili and English. The possible structures can be seen from the following illustrations:

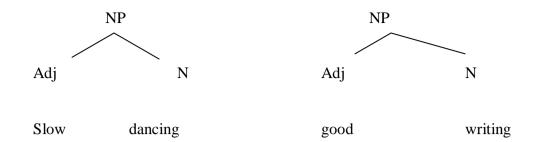
1. a)	Dhirese ghumnai	b)	Badiya gabnai	



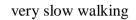
The Np structure of the above examples In Maithili is Adj+N. which are found in English.

e.g In English

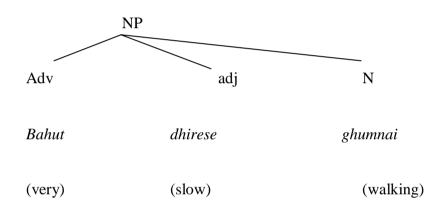
a) Slow dancing b) good writing



2.a) Bahut dhirese ghumai



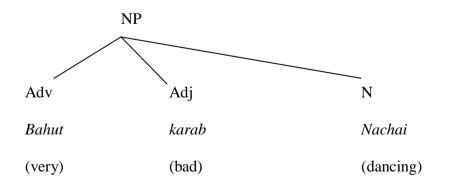
"Very slow walking"



b) Bahut kharab nachai

very bad dancing

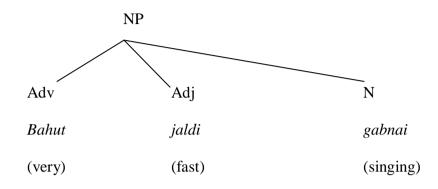
"very bad dancing"



c) Bahut jaldi gabnai

Very fast singing

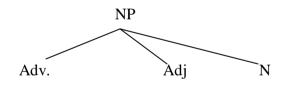
"very fast singing"



The Np structure of the above examples in Maithili is Adv+Adj+N which is found in English

In English

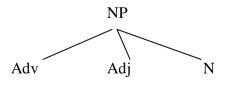
e.g.(a) very slow dancing



Very

dancing

(b) very quick writing



quick

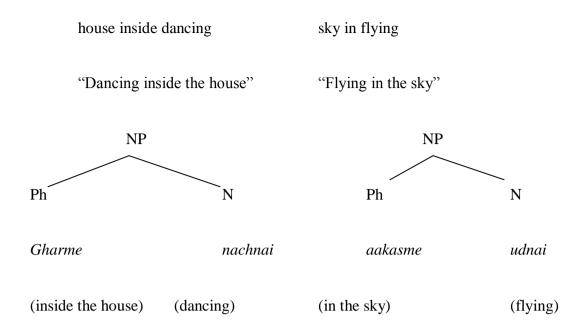
slow

Very

writing

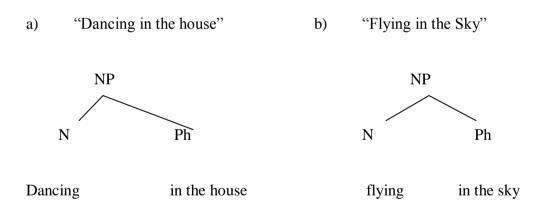
3..a) gharme nachnai

b) aakashme udnai



The Np structure of above examples in Maithili Ph+N is not acceptable in English because phrases are post modifies in English.





3.1.8 Comparison of Number in Gerundive Head

Gerundive needs do not take plural inflections in Maithili and they do not take plural inflections in English.

3.1.9 Comparison of Gender in Gerundive Head

The gerundive needs are not influenced by any gender inflection both in Maithili and English.

3.1.10 Comparison of Adjectival Head

A. An adjective as the head of NP

In adjectival head the noun phrase structure in Maithili and English may consist of only an adjective both in Maithili and English.

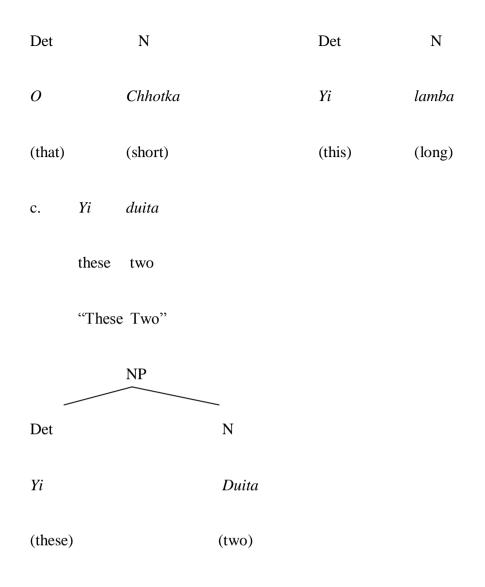
e.g.

	In Maithili:		In English
a.	Sundar,kala ladka	a.	Handsome, short boy
	NP		NP

B. Pre. M+H

Under this structure the adjectival head is preceded by different modifiers. They are exemplified in the following tree diagrams:

1 .a.	O Chhotka	b.	Yi Lamba
	that shrot		this big
	"That short"		"This big"
/	NP		NP

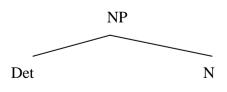


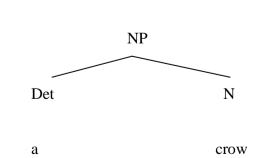
The Np structure of the above examples in Maithili is Det+N which is acceptable in English

e.g. In English

a. The door

The





a crow

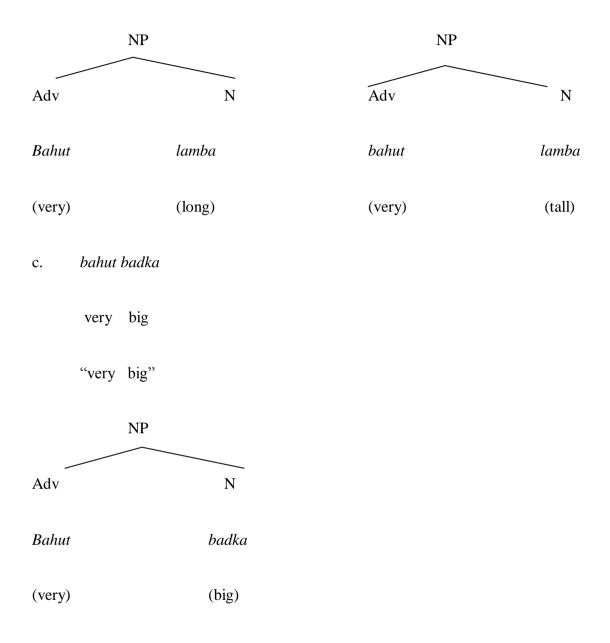
b.

52

door



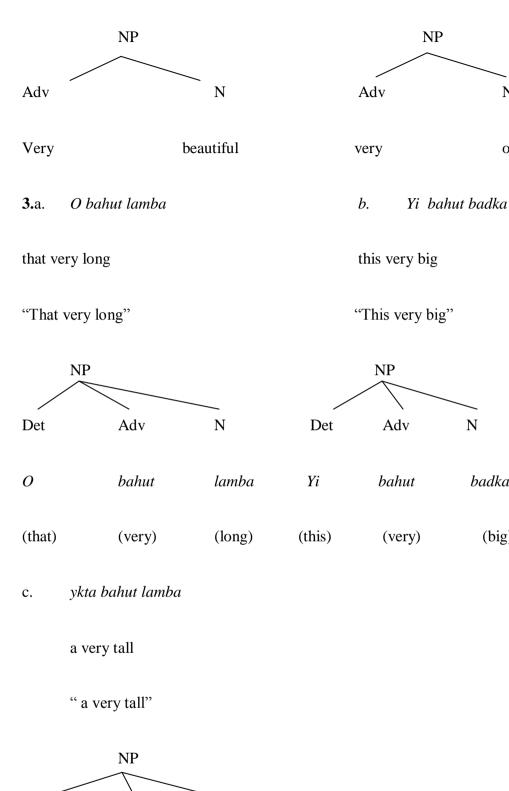
very tall



The Np structure of the above examples in Maithili is Adv+N+ which is acceptable in English.

e.g. In English

a. very beautiful b. very old



Ν

old

Ν

badka

(big)

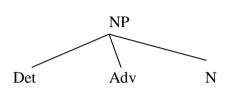
Adv Det

bahut lamba ykta

Ν

(very) (a) (tall) The Np structure of above example in Maithili is Det+Adv+N which is acceptable in English.

- e.g. In English
- a. That very long

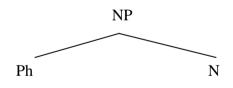


long

that very

- **4.**.a. ghar me lamba
- house inside tall

"Tall inside the house"



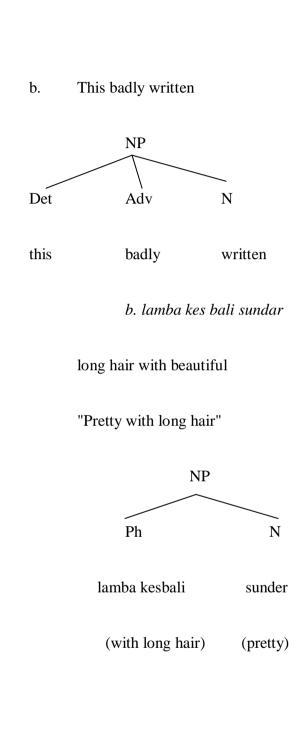
lamba

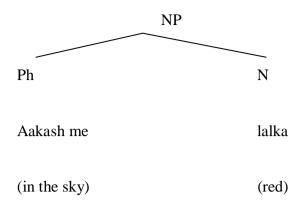
gharme

(inside the house) (tall)

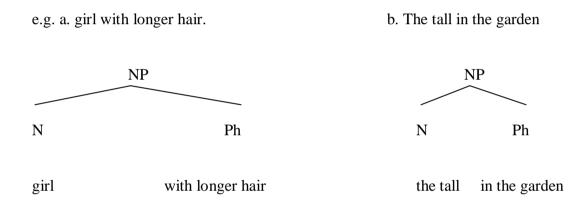
- a. Aakash me lalka
 - Sky in red

"Red in the sky"





The NP Structure of the above examples in Maithili is Ph +N which is not acceptable in English because phrases are post modifiers.



3.1.11 Comparison of Number in Adjectival Head

Adjectival heads can have singular and plural numbers in Maithili whereas there is not any singular and plural system in adjectival heads of English except demonstrative and possessive adjectives.

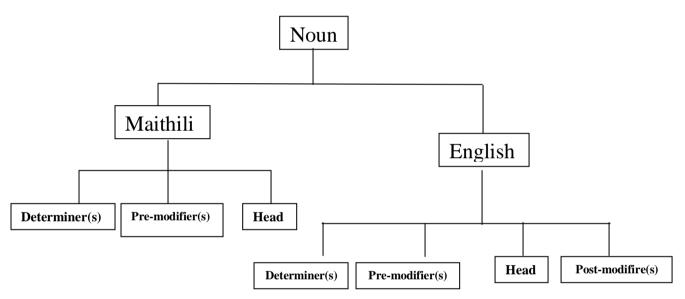
3.1.11.1 Comparison of Gender in Adjectival Head

Gender inflections as discussed in (3.1.4) are used to a how sex distinction both in Maithili and English.

3.1.12 Summary

On the basis of analysis and interpretation we can sum up by stating that there are two kinds of noun phrase structures both in Maithili and English. They are simple noun phrase consisting of only one head word and complex noun phrase consisting of premodifiers preceding the head and post modifiers following the head word.

Thus noun phrase structure of both Maithili and English can be presented in the following ways.



On the basis of the above chart some examples of noun phrases in Maithili and

English are:

	Determiner(s)	Pre-modifiers	Head	Pos-modifiers
	0	Badka	Ghar	-
	(that)	(big)	(house)	
	Yi	Aakasme lalka	Chidai	
Maithili				
	(the)	Sky in red	(bird)	-
		(red in the sky)		
English	The	Tall	Girl	with long hair whose
	An	Old	Bird	wife left him last
				week

3.1.13 Noun phrase structures in Maithili and English at glance

A. In Maithili

Structures		Example
1.	Ν	Chidai, mai
		(bird),(mother)
2.	Pre.m+H	
a) N+	N	hat- pyar
		(hand-leg)
b) De	t+N	O ladka

	(That Boy)
c) Adj+N	lamba aadmi
	(tall man)
d) Adj+N	kala badka gay
	(black big cow)
e) Det+Adj+N	(O badka mkan)
	that big house
f) Adv+Adj+N	Bahut chhot gachhi
	(very short tree)
g) Det+Adv+Adj+N	O bahut badka billi
	(that very big cat)
h) Det+Adv+Adj+Adj+N	Yi bahut lamba lathi chokh
	(this very long stick rope)
i) Ph+N	Aakasme lalka chand
	Sky in red moon
	(the red moon in the sky)
j) Rel.cl+N	O lambi ladki je sundar kapadame chhai

tall girl who beautiful cloth

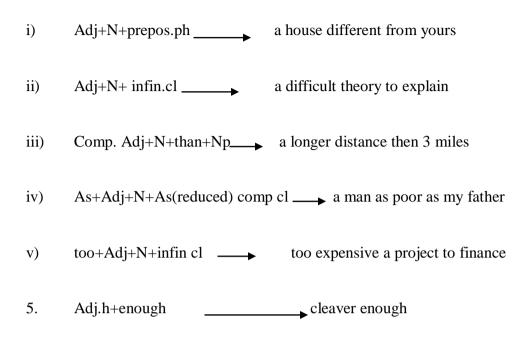
(the tall girl who is in beautiful cloth)

B. In English	
Structures	Example
1) N	Johan, I , you
2) Prem+H	
a) N+N	Table cloth,
b) N+N+N	Police, petrol car
c) Det+N	My uncle
d) Adj+N	Big bird
e) Adj+Adj+N	Woolen red sweater
f) Det+Adj+Adj+N	A wooden big basket
g) Det+ Adj+Adj+ Adj+N	A Swiss old small watch
h) Det+ Adj+Adj+ Adj+Adj+N	A French black young brave hero
i) Det+ Adj+Adj+ Adj+Adj+ Adj+N	That red old round small expensive pen
j) Adv+Adj+N	very small box
k) Det+Adv+Adj+N	A very old lady

i. Head+post m

- a) N+Ph
- b) N+Adj ph court martial
 c) N+Adv ph the man outside
 d) N+prepos ph a pound of sugar
 e) N+Prepos ph + prep. the house of the corner of the street
- ii. N+cl
- a) N+Rel.cl \longrightarrow Johan, whose wife left him last week?
- b) N+appos.cl _____ the news that he is ill
- c) N+Cl introduced by temp .conj _____ the time since he has been chair person
- d) N+infin.cl \longrightarrow the first man to land on the moon
- e) N+ing participle cl \rightarrow the point being made here
- f) N+ed participle cl _____ the evidence advised for his Hypothesis

4. Noun With Dim



CHAPTER FOUR

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Findings

The major factor of the present study was to determine, compare and contrast the noun phrase structure of the Maithili and English Languages. On the basis of the analysis and interpretation of the data, it came up with the following similarities and differences between the two languages as the findings.

4.1.1 Similarities

 i) Single noun, pronoun, adjective, gerund and infinitive can be the head of the noun phrase both in Maithili and English.

a) Single Noun as the Head of NP

In Maithili

Chidai udaichhai

(bird flies)

b) Single Pronoun as the Head of NP:

In Maithili

Hum kail ghar geliyai

you gave me yesterday

In English

In English

Boy plays football

I yesterday home went

(I went home yesterday)

c) Single Gerund as the Head of NP:

In English In Maithili Udnai nik chai dancing is bad Flying good is (flying is good) d) Single Infinitive as the Head of NP: In English In Maithili to open it is difficult Udbaklel kharab chhai Fly to bad is (to fly is bad) e) Single Adjective as the Head of NP: In English In Maithili Lamba badiya chhai old is gold long good is (long is good)

 ii) Determiners, adverbs and adjective are pre-modifiers both in Maithili and English;

eg. In Maithili	In English
O bahut badka gachhi	That very tall boy
(that very tall tree)	(Det+Adv+Adj+N)
(Det+Adv+adj+N)	

iii) N+N can be the head of the noun phrase both in Maithili and English

eg. In Maithili	In English
hat pyar	News- summary

(hand leg)

iv) Maithili and English have both singular and plural number system.

4.1.2 Differences

- i) The head of the noun phrase in Maithili is preceded by determiners and premodifiers but not followed by post modifiers but the head of the noun phrase in English is preceded by determiners and pre-modifiers are followed by post modifiers. Therefore, the NP structure of Maithili is Determiner(s)+pre modifiers(s)+Head whereas the NP structure of English is Determiners + Pre modifier(s) + Head + Post modifier(s)
- ii) Clauses are pre-modifiers in Maithili but they are post modifiers in English

eg. In Maithili

lamba puchhar bala chidai

long tail which has bird

(The bird which has a long tail)

iii) Phrases are pre-modifiers in Maithili but they are post modifiers in English.

Eg. In Maithili

Ghar me aadmi

Have inside man

(the man inside the house)

In English:

The man with long hair

4.2 Recommendations and pedagogical Implications

On the basis of the findings of the present study some recommendations are suggested below:

 The main aim of this comparative study is to find out similarities and differences in noun phrase structure between Mathili and English language. There would be no problems in the areas where the two languages are similar but differences between the first and the target language create difficulty in learning the target language. Therefore, teaching should be focused on the areas of difficulty.

- 2) This study will help the native speakers of English, no native speakers of English who are learning Maithili as a target language through the medium of English language and native speakers of Maithili who are learning English as a foreign language. So, the special attention should be given in the following areas of difficulty while teaching noun phrase in English to Maithili speaking learners and vice –versa.
- 3) The secondary teachers who are teaching Maithili language as an optional subject indifferent schools throughout the nations as well as who are preparing text books in Maithili language for the same purpose should have a clear concept of noun phrase structure as well as the whole structure of Maithili language.
- 4) The teacher who is teaching English to the students of Maithili native speakers should identify the similarities and differences between Maithili and English languages and special attention should be given in the areas of difficulty.
- The syllabus designers and textbook writers should be more conscious while designing syllabus and preparing textbooks for the learners learning Maithili and English.

The researcher from this study realized that this thesis covers only or part comparative study on noun phrase structure between Maithili and these two languages. Therefore, to make comparison different aspects of language with widely used language English further comparative studies need to be carried out as soon as possible. Comparative studies can be carried out focusing on subject verb agreement, transformation, plasticization and kinship terms between Maithili and other languages.

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APPENDIX

नाम : (name) :	लिङ्ग : (sex) :
ठेगाना : (Address) :	मिति : (Date) :
उमेर : (Age) :	

कृपया तल सोधिएका शब्द तथा वाक्यहरुलाई तपाईको मैथिली भाषामा अनुवाद गरी वताइदिनुहोस् ।

(Please Translate the following words or sentences into your Maithili Languages)

त्यो अग्लो मानिस बगैंचामा डुलिरहेको छ.

That tall man is walking in the garden.

.....

२) यो गाई कालो छ।

This cow is black.

.....

३) लामो कपाल भएकी महिला घरमा छिन ।

The woman with a long hair is in the house.

.....

४) मेरी बहिनी अग्ली छिन्।

My sister is tall.

..... स्न्दरी महिला ल्गा धुन्छे। **X**) Beautiful woman washes cloth. रातो गाईले द्ध दिइरहेको छ। ६) Red cow is giving milk. कालो लुगा राम्रो छ। છ) The black cloth is good. त्यो लामो घर धेरै ठुलो छ। ፍ) That long house is very big नदी गहिरो छ। **S**) The river is deep. त्यो ढिलो हिडीरहेकी महिला रााम्री छे। 90) That slowly walking woman is beautiful. त्यो छिटो हिडीरहेको मानिस मेरो बुवा हो । 99) That quickly walking man is my father. भोलामा कलम छ। 92) The pen is in the bag.

..... छोटो कपाल भएकी अग्ली महिला भेरी बहिनी हुन्। १३) The tall woman with short hair is my sister. (لا ٩ रालो साडी लगाएकी महिला मेरी बहिनी हुन् । The woman in red sari is my sister. 9٤) हाम्रा हातखुट्टा लामा छन्। Our limts big. यी मेरा दाजुभाइ हुन। **१**६) These are my brothers. हाम्रा रितीरिवाज असल छन्। (e p Our costomd are good. दमाई, दमिनी, बाहन, बाहनी, क्क्र, क्क्रीं, भोटे, भोटेनी ٩८) Damai, damini, bahun, bahuni, he dog, she dog, vote, voteni हाम्री वहिनी घर जान्छे। 99) Our sister goes home. रामको व्वा **२०**) Ram's Father

तिम्रो वुवा मलाई कलम दिनुहुन्छ। **२१**) Your father gives me a pen व्वाले कलमले चिठ्ठी लेख्न्भयो। **२२**) My brother wrote a letter with a pen व्वा त्यहा वसवाट जान्भयो। २३) Father went there by bus मेरी आमा द्वारा भात पकाइयो। २४) Rice was cooked by my mother **२**४) वुवा मान्छेहरुसंग घर आउनुभयो। Father came home with men रमिता घरमा छे। २६) Ramita is at home ऐ ! कान्छी । २७) Hello ! kanchhi रामले ढिलो लेख्यो । **२**८) Ram wrote yesterday रीताले आज लेख्छे । **२९**)

Rita wirte today

..... मोहन हिजो आयो। 30) Mohan went yesterday **३१**) भाइ घर जान्छ । Brother goes home अविनास आज जान्छ । ३२) abisash goes today भाइ घर जान्छ । ३३) Borther goes hoem त, तपाइ, तपाइहरु, द्इजना , तपाइहरु धेरै जना । ३४) You, you, you (two), you (more than two उ, उनी, उहाँ, उहाँहरु दुइजना , उहाँहरु धेरैजना । 3X) He, She, He, they (two), they more than two यो, गोरु, यी दुइ गोरुहरु, यी धेरै गोरुहरु ३६) This ox, these two oxen , these oxen (more than two) त्यो, तिनीहरु दुइवटा , तिनीहहरु धेरैवटा । રૂ૭) That house (two) those many

३८) को एकजना? को दुइजना ? को धेरै जना?

	Who(one)? who(two)? who(more than two?)
३९)	कुन चाही एउटा ? कुन चाही दुइटा ? कुन चाही धेरैवटा?
	Which(one) ?which (two) ?which more than two?
XO)	के भयो ?
	What happened?
8 9)	तिमीले भात खान्छौ ।
	You eat rice
४२)	हामी क्याम्पस जान्छौ ।
	We go to the campus
४३)	म कलम दिन्छु।
	l vive pen
XX)	उसले गित गाँउछ।
	He Sings a song
RX)	यो चरा उड्छ।
	This bird flies
४६)	दुइजना मानिसहरु हिडिरहेका छन ।
	Two mer are walking

धेरै मानिसहरु नाचिरहेका छन । ୪७) Many people are dancing धेरै गाइहरु चरिरहेका छन । many cow are eating grass उनीहरु मलाइ पैसा दिइरहन्भएको छ। ४९) They are givint me money नाचिरहन असल हुन्छ । XO) dancing is good **X9**) ढिलो हिडिरहनु नराम्रो हुन्छ । Slow walking is bad छिटो नाचिरहन् राम्रो हुन्छ । **X**2) Quick dancing is good ढिलो नाचिरहन् खराव हो । **५**३) Slow dancing is bad XX) छिटो गाइरहनु नराम्रो हुन्छ । Quick singing is bad घर भित्र नाचिरहने मेरी बहिनी हुन । XX)

Dancing inside the names my brother

X ६)	पकाइरहनु राम्रो हुन्छ ।
	Cooking is well
१ ७)	घरमा बसिरहनु सजिलो हुन्छ ।
	Siting in he house ins easy
१ ८)	यो गर्नलाई असल छ ।
	To do this is good
X S)	लामो केश भएको महिला।
	The woman with long hair
६0)	दुध पिउनु राम्रो हो ।
	To drink milk is good
६१)	आकाशमा उड्नलाई राम्रो हुन्छ ।
	To fly in the sky is good
६२)	ढिलो नाच्नलाई सजिलो हुन्छ ।
	To dance slowly is easy
६३)	घर भित्र काम गर्नलाई सजिलो छैन ।
	To word inside the house is no easy
६४)	लामो डोरी ।

	long rope
६ ४)	गहौँ भोला ।
	heavy bag
६६)	अग्लो घर ।
	tall house
૬७)	मोटो मानिस ।
	Fat man
६८)	थोरै भात ।
	a little rice
६९)	धेरै भात ।
	more rice
90)	थोरै ताराहरु ।
	A few starts
ଏ)	हाम्रो घर ।
	Hour House
७२)	मेरो लुगा ।
	My cloth
ଓୖଽ)	कस्का दुइवटा गोरु ।
	Whose oxen(two)?
ଓ ୪)	यसको पुच्छर ।
	It's tail
પ્ર)	उसको घर
	His house
હદ્દ)	यो एउटा ।
	This

७७)	यी (दुइटा) ।
	These two
ଓମ୍)	यी धेरै ।
	These Many
७९)	वोलक्कड ।
	Talk a tire
5 0)	वादर जस्तै ।
	Monkey like
۲ ۹)	त्यो केटी राम्री छे।
	That girl is beautiful
८ २)	नौ ।
	Nine
८३)	एक ।
	One
८ ४)	दुइ ।
	Two
۲ ()	तीन ।
	Three
८ ६)	चार ।
	Four
ଟ୍ ତ)	पाँच ।
	Vive
55)	छ ।
	six
८ ९)	सात ।
	Seven
९०)	आठ ।

	Eight
९१)	नौ ।
	Nine
९२)	दश ।
	Ten
९३)	प्रथम ।
	First
९४)	द्वितिय ।
	Second
SX)	तृतिय ।
	Third
९६)	चौथो ।
	Fourth
९७)	पाँचौ ।
	Fivth
९८)	चन्द्रमा ठुलो छ ।
	The moon Is big
९९)	एउटा मानिस ।
	One Man
900)	रातो फूल
	Red flower