A SEMANTIC ANALYSIS OF ENGLISH AND MAITHILI VERBS

A Thesis submitted to the Department of English Education,
University Campus, Kirtipur
in partial fulfilment of the Master's Degree
in Education (Specialization in English Education)

By
Manoj Kumar Jha

Faculty of Education
Tribhuvan University
Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal
December, 2007

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RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

This is to certify that Mr. Manoj Kumar Jha has worked and completed this thesis entitled **"A Semantic Analysis of English and Maithili Verbs"** under my guidance and supervision.

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DEDICATED

To

My beloved parents who devoted their entire lives for making me what I am now.

I will always cherish their love, care, affection and utmost support.

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Date: 2064-08-20 Manoj Kumar Jha

ABSTRACT

In this thesis, the researcher has attempted to compare the English and Maithili verbs that are related to actions performed by different parts of the body and find out the similarlies and differences. The researcher has also compared and contrasted the semantic description of the verbs of both languages using componential analysis approach.

Data for the English verbs were collected from various dictionaries and thesauruses. Similarly, data for the Maithili verbs were collected by the researcher himself. The ten Maithili native speakers who were educated and adult and also available in Kathmandu were consulted for the primary sources of data. Books and articles related to the Maithili language were also consulted for the secondary sources.

One of the major findings of this study is that Maithili verbs are structurally complex compared to English verbs. They generally end with '-nai' (eg, Khe-nai, pi-nai, je-nai, etc.) which is the distinctive feature of Maithili.

The study has been divided into four chapters: introduction, methodology, analysis and interpretation and findings and recommendations. Each of them has been divided into various sub-chapters.

The first chapter consists of introduction with general background, review of the related literature, objectives of the study and significance of the study.

The second chapter includes methodology. It is sub-divided into sources of data which is further sub-divided into primary sources and secondary sources, tools and procedure of data collection and limitations of the study.

The third chapter deals with analysis and interpretation of data.

The fourth chapter comprises findings, recommendations and pedagogical implications.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

A	-	Air
Ang	-	Anger
Aff	-	Affection
App	-	Appendix
Bel	-	Below
Bor	-	Bored
Ch	-	Chapter
CBS	-	Central Bureau of Statistics
Cl	-	Close
Com	-	Compound
Cont	-	Contempt
Del.	-	Deliberately
Ed.	-	edition
e.g.	-	Exampli gratia (for example)
etc.	-	etcetera
Exp.	-	Express
ESLM	-	English Speakers Learning Maithili
Exc.	-	Excitement
F.	-	Flavour
F.D.	-	Feel difficulty
Hap.	-	Happiness
Hi.	-	High
Hor.	-	Horizontality
i.e.	-	That is to say
Irt.	-	Irritation
L	-	Liquid
Lg.	-	Language
Mot.	-	Motion
No.	-	Number
Nor.	-	Normal
MSLE	-	Maithili Speakers Learning English
Obj.	-	Object
Op.	-	Open
O.S.	-	Oneself

P. - Produce
Pes. - Pieces
Ran - Randomly
Rec. - Receive
Rel. - Release
Rem. - Remove
Res. - Respect
S. - Sound
S.b. - Somebody
Sec. - Secretly
Sev. - Several
S.F. - Semantic Features
S.N. - Serial Number
S-O-V - Subject Object Verb
Sm. - Smoke
Sol. - Solid
Sor. - Sorrow
Sor. Thr. - Soar throat
St. - Sight
Sth. - Something
Surf. - Surface
Tog - Together
Tow. - Towards
Upr. - Upright
Utens - Utensils
Vol. - Volume
Vs. - Versus
Veg. - Vegetable
Vert. - Vertically
Vol. - Volume
W. - Water
– - Syllable division marker
* - Asterisk (It indicates an unacceptable form/expression)