Inpui Adverbs

Waikhom Pinky Devi, M.A, NET, Ph.D.
Department of Linguistics, Assam University, Silchar

Abstract:*'Inpui' is the name of the language as well as the name of the community. The language belongs to the Naga-Bodo sub group of Kabui section of Tibeto-Burman family (cf: Grierson, LSI Volume III & part II, 1903). The language is spoken in 15 villages of Manipur. It is one of the recognized schedule tribe of Manipur. It has a population of 11,000 approximately as told by the native speaker Rev. Achun (63 years). The present paper is an attempt to describe the structure of adverb found in the language. Adverb in the language is found in two types i.e. derived adverb and lexical adverb. The suffix -gə takes an important role in the formation of adverb in the language. This suffix can be added to the stative verb like 'bəzaŋ' 'slow' to derive 'bəzaŋgə' 'slowly'. Action verb also takes this suffix to form reduplication as 'ŋaigə ŋaigə' 'by hearing'. The language has five kind of lexical adverb i.e., Manner adverbs, Temporal adverbs, Locative adverbs, Epistemic adverbs, Intensifying adverbs and Adverb of number. The above points have been discussed in this paper with appropriate illustrations.*

Key words*: Inpui, Tibeto-Burman, Adverbs, suffix.*

1. Introduction

The present paper attempts to discuss a detail study of adverbs in Inpui, a Tibeto Burman language of the Naga-Bodo subgroup (Grierson's Linguistic Survey of India Volume III part II, 1903). The term Inpui refers to *'In'* means *'house'* and *'Pui'* means *'big or large'*. So the literal meaning of the name of the language is 'Big House'. It has a population of about 11,000 approximately which is mainly concentrated in 15 villages of Manipur i.e. 9 in Tamenglong district and 3 each in Imphal district and Senapati district. The present analysis is based on the data collected from Haochong village of Tamenglong district which is situated in the northern side of National highway 37 (Noney) at a distance of 37 km. from Imphal city. Zeme, Liangmei and Rongmei tribe neighbours with Inpui tribe. The present paper aims to describe the structure of adverb found in the language; it attempts to show that adverb constitutes an important lexical category in the morphological structure of Inpui. The present paper is divided into two parts; first a description of the adverb in the language is presented followed by a brief discussion of kinds of adverb found in the language.

2. Review of Literature

A very limited literature of Inpui is found. The only available literature which can be dealt for analysis of Inpui language includes *'English to Inpui Mini Dictionary'* by Inpui students union Delhi, and an article on *'Nominal morphology in Inpui'* by W. Pinky Devi. Relating to tradition and culture of Inpui, a book on *'The Inpui Nagas: Traditional Culture and Christanity'* by Alung Kumba (2012) is found. No descriptive study on Inpui language has been done except the two mention above. Inpui doesn't have its own script. The Roman alphabet is used for writing
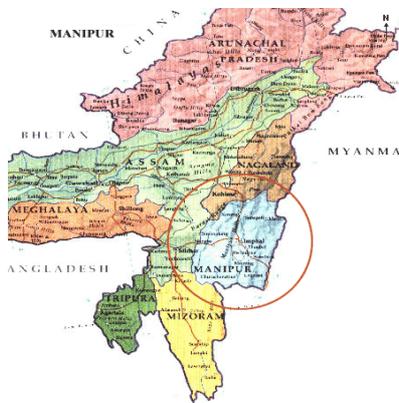
purposes in stories, songs, bible translations etc. The language is not yet introduced in any government or private educational institution. This work is the pioneer in this field.

3. Methodology

The present analysis is based on both the Primary and secondary data. For primary data a multiple number of word list and sentences of different types such as Declarative, Negative, Interrogative, Imperative, etc. has been elicited from the native speakers Achun (58 years), Amosh Inka(32 years), and Simna Inka(22 years) of Haochong village of Tamenglong District of Manipur. For secondary data a number of books and articles related to morphology and syntax have been referred.
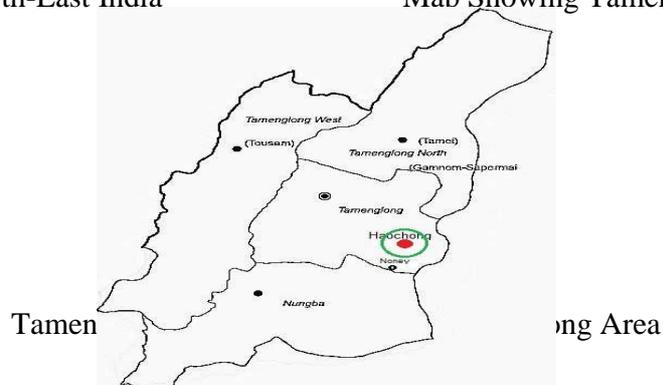
4. Typological Characteristics

Inpui is an agglutinating language having a word order of SOV structure. The process of suffixation is very rich. It has post verbal negative. The direct object precedes the indirect object in this language. Adjective and demonstrative precedes the noun while determiner and numeral follows the noun; the order of Adverb precedes the verb. Like many other Tibeto-Burman language, Inpui is also a postpositional language. It is a tonal language.

Map Showing North-East India   Map Showing Tamenglong District

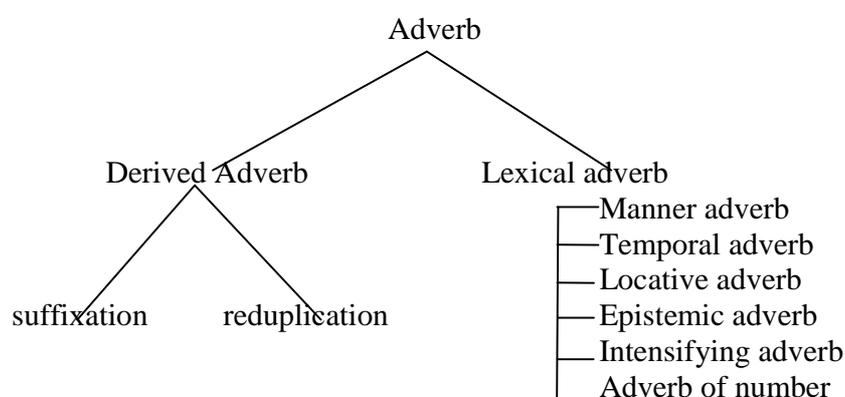Tamen   ng Area

5. What is an Adverb?

Many linguist and grammarians have given many definitions and explanations regarding the notions of Adverb. J. van der Auwera(8:1999) explains that the term 'adverb' comes down from antiquity. He explains that it is the English cognate to the *adverbium* of the Roman grammarians, who themselves translated the Greek *epirrhema.* This term transparently suggests that an adverb is a word that is placed with the verb or, in semantic terms, modifies the verb. Givon (2001) mention that Adverbs are the least universal lexical class among the four major classes of lexical word that appear most widely across languages i.e. Nouns, Verbs, Adjectives and Adverbs. In the definition given by P.H Mathews (2007) also, he has defined Adverbs as words typically used with verbs, to provide more information about actions, states and events. It is one of the word class denoting circumstances or characteristics which modify verbs, adjectives and other adverbs. It includes words with different lexical meanings. The present paper aims to provide a detail description of adverb found in Inpui language.

Adverbs in Inpui are generally formed by the process of derivation by suffixing *-gə to* the verbal root as in *'bəzaŋ' 'slow'* to *'bəzaŋgə'* 'slowly', *'toy' 'short'* to *'toygə'* 'shortly'. Regarding the word order universal with reference to the order of adverb and verb, Inpui agrees with Greenberg's Universal 7 which says that "If in a language with dominant SOV order, there is no alternative basic order, or only OSV as the alternative, then all the adverbial modifiers of the verb likewise precede the verb". The following examples support the statement as

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SOV
 1. ramnə       tui-yə        in-ne
   ram-NOM     water-DET     drink-ASP
  'Ram drinks this water'
OSV
 2. tui-yə       ram-nə        in-ne
    water-DEC   ram-NOM      drink-ASP
   'Ram drinks this water'

 AdvV
 3. man     bərəp-gə             sa-ye
    he      quick-ADV          eat-ASP
    'He eats quickly'
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The structure of Inpui adverb can be established as below. It is divided into two types one is Derived adverb and another is Lexical adverb which will be explained in the following discussion.

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                          Adverb
                         /      \
                        /        \
              Derived Adverb      Lexical adverb
                 /    \                  ┌─ Manner adverb
                /      \                 ├─ Temporal adverb
               /        \                ├─ Locative adverb
         suffixation  reduplication      ├─ Epistemic adverb
                                         ├─ Intensifying adverb
                                         └─ Adverb of number
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5.1   Derived Adverbs

Adverb in Inpui are derived by suffixing *-gə* to the verbal root. The suffix *-gə* can be added to stative and action verb. When the suffix *-gə* is added to stative verb it gives manner adverbs, on the other hand when the suffix *-gə* is added to action verb it produces reduplicative adverb. Such adverb answers how the action in question has been performed.

5.1.1 Adverbs Derived by Suffixation

The suffix *-gə* is added to the stative verb to derive adverb in Inpui. In the following example the adverb *'bəzaŋgə'* 'slowly', *'toy-gə'* 'in small' *and* ' *sin-gə'* 'short' answer 'how the person walks?', 'how the house built?' and' how the man speak?'

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Stative verb +    gə
bəzaŋ      +   gə  >  bəzaŋgə 'slowly'
sin        +   gə  >  singə   'in small'
toy          +  gə  >  toygə      ' shortly'
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4.  man             bəzaŋ-gə         se-ye
    2S              slow-ADV         walk-DECL
   'He walks slowly'
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5.  in              sin-gə           bəca-ye
   House        small-ADV    built-DECL
  'The house builds small'
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6. man              coŋ     toy-gə              kəbiya-ye
   2S               word    short-ADV       speak-DECL
  'he speaks shortly'
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5.1.2 Reduplicative Adverbs

The reduplicative adverb in Inpui is also formed by suffixing *-gə* to the action verb. As explained above the adverb in the following example 7-9 also answers the nature of action being performed.

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Action Verb + gə
ŋai +  gə >  ŋaigə 'by hearing'
cəp +  gə >  cəpgə ' by crying'
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phaŋ+ gə > phaŋgə 'by seeing'

7. man   la   ŋai-gə   ŋai-gə   cwən   to-we
   2S   song   hear-ADV   hear-ADV   work   do-DECL
   'He does the work by listening music' (How does he work?)

8. man   bu   swəŋ-gə swəŋ-gə   coŋ   kəbiya-ye
   2S   rice   cook-ADV   cook-ADV   work   speak-DECL
   'She cooks rice by speaking' (How does he cook?)

9. tom   cəp-gə   cəp-gə   in-roy
   Tom   cry-ADV   cry-ADV   sleep-PRF
   'Tom slept crying' (How did tom sleep?)

Lexical Adverbs

Semantically adverbs in Inpui fall into the following classification

5.2.1 Manner Adverbs

In Inpui manner adverbs are derived adverb which is formed by suffixation of *-gə* to the verbal root as explained above. Such adverbs modify or add to the meaning of the verb.

10. man bərəp-gə se-ye
    2S   quick-ADV   walk-DECL
    'He walks quickly'

11. man sunsya-gəse-roy
    2S   angry-ADV   go-PRF
    'He went angrily'

12. man coŋ   rək-gə   kəbiya-ye
    2S   word loud-ADV   speak-DECL
    'He speaks loudly'

Here also the adverb *'bərəp-gə', 'sunsya-gə',* and *'rək-gə'* explain how he walks?- 'he walks quickly'; How he went?- he went angrily ; And how he speaks?- He speaks loudly.

5.2.2. Temporal Adverbs

Temporal adverbs are adverbs which indicate year, day, part of the day, time duration and temporal question. Such adverbs in Inpui are explained below:

Adverb indicating year in Inpui are as follows :

Inpui	gloss
səŋwən	*year*
ənikum səŋwə	*this year*
kumthəŋ səŋwən	*next year*
nəkum/kətək səŋwən	*last year*

Table 1

Here *səŋwən* is a common element which indicate year while *kumthəŋ* and *kətək* indicate the following and previous year.

Adverbs indicating day are as follows

Inpui	Gloss
əniya	*today*
inswən	*tomorrow*
tipni	*the day after tomorrow*
loyni	*two days after tomorrow*
inzan	*yesterday*
təpʰan	*the day before yesterday*

Table 2

The temporal adverb indicating days in Inpui don't share a common element and the lexeme constitutes a different meaning of its own.

Adverbs indicating part of the day
Inpui have six adverbs which indicate the part of the day.

Inpui	Gloss
ləutʰwən	*morning*
lumik bədiŋ	*noon*
təhnun	*afternoon*
kʰwazin	*evening*
ziŋpʰa	*night*
nitʰən	*dawn*

Table 3

Adverb indicating time and tense of a verb

Inpui	Gloss
ətun	*now*
bətəkʰət zəbinnə	*sometimes before*
ətunbəhək	*at this moment*
tənlugə	*a little later*
tələyto	*later*
kəmana	*earlier or in the past*

Table 4

Here the entire six adverbs indicate the point of time where *ətun* indicates the present moment. *bətəkʰət zəbinnə* indicates some indefinite or unstated time or previous time where *bətəkʰət* is sometimes and *zəbinnə* is before. The adverb *ətunbəhək* shows a particular point in time or instant time. *tənlugə* shows the time which will happen shortly. *tələyto* indicates some eventual time in the future. *kəmana* indicates the previous moment.

Adverb indicating duration of time

Inpui	Gloss
bətək^{h}ətləŋ	*for sometimes*
bəkanseiləŋ	*for a long time*
puŋk^{h}ətləŋ	*for one hour*

Table 5

Here *'ləŋ'* is a common element which indicates the extent of duration.

5.2.3. Locational Adverbs

Inpui	Gloss
bəsaŋ-bi	*up there*
kəthwəy-bi	*down there*
kəsak-bi	*over there (At or to a point across intervening space etc.)*

Table 6

Here *-bi* is the locative marker in Inpui. *bəsaŋ* indicates higher location and *kəthwəy* indicates lower location while *kəsak* on other hand refers to the same level location.

5.2.4. Epistemic Adverbs

Epistemic adverbs are those adverbs which denote the speaker's attitude toward the truth, certainty or probability of the state or event (Givon, 92:2001). Inpui uses three kinds of epistemic adverbs which are shown below.

Inpui	Gloss
bətəkgə	*truely*
kəbakgə	*falsely*
soiməkgə	*certainly*

Table 7

13. man-nə   bətək-gə   kəbiya-ye
    2S-NOM   true-ADV   say-DECL
    'He said it truly'

14. man-nə   kəbak-gə   kəbiya-ye
    2S-NOM   false-ADV   say-DECL
    'He said it falsely'

15. man   soimək-gə   huŋ-lu-ne
    2S   certain-ADV   come-FUT-ASP
    'He will certainly come'

5.2.5. Intensifying Adverbs

P.H. Mathews has defined intensifiers as a class of adverbial elements with an intensifying role that is either positive or negative. Adverbs that function as intensifiers in Inpui are found following adjectives. In Inpui there is only one intensifier *'tək'* which can be used in both the positive and negative environment. Such adverb can also be termed as adverb modifying adjective. They also quantify the extent of adjective as in

	Positive		Negative
15.	ə-om in bəron-tək-e		ə-om in sin-tək-e
	My-GEN house big-very-DECL		My-GEN house small-very-DECL
	'My house is very big'		'My house is very small'
16.	man soy-tək-e		man toy-tək-e
	He tall-very-DECL		he small-very-DECL
	'He is very tall'		'He is very small'
17.	man sa-tək-e		man sia-tək-e
	he good-very-DECL		he bad-very-DECL
	'He is very good'		'He is very bad'

5.2.6. Adverb of Number

In Inpui adverb indicating number are formed by suffixing *-ləŋ* to the basic number.

wəyləŋ	*Once*
kəniləŋ	*twice*
int^{h}umləŋ	*thrice*

Table 8

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18. man      simla-bi    kəniləŋ        se-roy
    2S           simla-LOC  twice      go-PRF
    'He went to Shimla twice'
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Conclusion

From the above analysis, it can be put that the role of adverb in this language is very significant. The present study reveals that Inpui uses different kind of adverbs indicating its significant function. Adverb precedes the verb in the language. The suffix *-gə* is used to derived manner adverb and reduplication. Twenty five kinds of temporal adverb are found in the language. Three kinds of locative adverbs and epistemic adverbs are used in the language. Inpui uses only one suffix *-tək* which indicates intensifying adverb in the language. Lastly the suffix *-ləŋ* is added to the basic number to show adverb of number. This is the initial stage of exploring this language. There is more room for further in depth analysis.

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