# Negative Particle in Bodo and Assamese Language: A Comparative Study

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**Abstract:**

The Bodo and Assamese languages are not derived from a same language family. Both languages originated from different sources. The Bodo language is a language that originated from the Sino-Tibetan language family. The Assamese language originated from the Indo-European language family. Although both languages are derived from different sources, there are some similarities and differences. In the same way, some similarities exist in the grammar of the Bodo and Assamese languages. Negative particle is also a small part of syntax. While these particles are found in both Bodo and Assamese languages, there are also similarities and differences. Negative particles can be represented in three main ways in the Bodo language. Similarly, in Assamese, negative particles can be represented in three ways. However, in both languages, the negative particle can be represented in three ways, but only in different ways.

**Keywords:** Bodo, Assamese, language and negative particle.

## 1.1 Introduction:

Particle is the word has a grammatical function. But particle is not fit into the main parts of speech (i.e. noun, verb, and adverb). Particles are not change. J.S. Speijer wrote about the particles in his book "Sanskrit Syntax" – As to the employment of the particles they serve different purposes, but they may be brought under two general heads: modality and connection. When model, they are expressive of emphasis, negation, interrogation, exclamation and the like, when connective they are wanted to connect either whole sentences or parts of them. The distinction between these two classes of particles is, however, not an essential one. The same word may be sometimes a modal, sometimes a connective.[1] Thus there are found particles in Bodo and Assamese language. Divide the particle into two types in Bodo and Assamese language. They are- word base or free form and bound or suffix form. In word base or free form found the interrogative particle, exclamation and connective particles. Thus, there are found free form in both the language. In bound or suffix form mainly taken the negative particles. Negative is the important aspect of verb systems. In Bodo and Assamese language have negation or negative particles.

## 1.2 Aims and objectives of the study:

This paper is linguistically study on Bodo and Assamese sentence. So, we can say that negation is the one part of sentence. All languages have a system of negation. So, in this paper work, the main aims and objectives are as follows-

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[1] J.S. Speijer : Sanskrit syntax, P-310.

1. To study how the particles in Bodo and Assamese language is formed.
2. To study of usage of negative particles in the both languages.
3. To know the types of particles in Bodo and Assamese language.
4. To find out the similarity and dissimilarity of particles in both the languages.

## 1.3 Methodology:

In this paper followed by mainly descriptive and comparative method. The study of the negative particles will be show in descriptive ways. Besides, to compare between the two languages in comparative method. For this paper work is sample design. The present study is based on negative particles in both languages.

## 1.4 Data collection:

For this paper, data will be collected from two sources. They are- primary and secondary sources. Primary source may be the only suitable method for some type of research. Through this source is go to the field. In this paper, the data collected from this source. On the other hand, secondary sources will be collected from different libraries i.e. Krishna kanta Handiqui's Library (G.U), Department of Bodo Library of the Gauhati University and different books, Journals, Internet, Website etc. For these data collection have been visited during the period.

## 1.5 Discussion:

Particle is the important part of syntax. Without having sentence, it is difficult to show particles. Particle is a word that has a grammatical function and particle is not change. According to P.H. Mathews said- Particles are uninflected words uses of diverse classes of uninflected words in diverse languages.[2] Thus, the particles are divided into two types in Bodo and Assamese language. They are- free morpheme and bound morpheme. There are found interrogative, Exclamation and connective particles in free morpheme. Generally, there are some words interrogative in Bodo and Assamese language. In Bodos are- ma (what), suɯr (who), bobe (which), boha (where), mabuɯruɯi (how) etc. and in Assamese are- ki, kone, kɔlɔi, kenekɔi etc. Thus, the found exclamation and connective particles in both languages.

Generally, there are found bound morpheme in Bodo and Assamese language. There is mainly negative particle in bound morpheme. In Bodo and Assamese language find the negative particle. We can say that negative particle is the part of syntax. In Bodo language found the three types of negative particle. This are- /da/, /a/ and /uɯi, i/. It discusses the below with example-

/da/: This prefix is the make negative sentence by adding to verb. This /da/ prefix is used only with second and third persons and never with first person forms. The negative prefix is referred to third person suffix /-tʰuɯŋ/ always accompanies the verb. But second person has no need of this suffix after verb. One of the most interesting characters of this prefix is that it is only prefixed to the verbs. For example-

nuɯŋ da tʰanŋ.

Eng.- You don't go.

bijuɯ da pʰuɯitʰuɯŋ.

Eng.- He/ She doesn't come.

/-a/: This suffix is used with all persons and numbers. There are three different phonologically conditioned allomorphs in this suffix. These are- /-a/, /wa/ and /-ja/. /-a/ suffix is used with verbs.

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[2] P.H. Mathews: Oxford concise dictionary of linguistics, p- 289.

Sometimes, this negative sentence is expressing the positive in standard Bodo language. Then /-wa/ suffix is negative suffix and /-ja/ suffix has also some definite systems for its use. For example-

> aŋ ɯŋkʰam za-a ( ja>zaja )
> Eng.- I don't eat rice.
> sitaja pʰinnaj lir-a ( lira )
> Eng.- Sita does not write answer.
> aŋ zi su-a ( suwa )
> Eng.- I don't wash the cloth.

/ɯI, i/: This suffix is used with all persons and numbers. This suffix is used very rarely in the Bodo language. For example-

> aŋ pʰɯi-ɯi ( pʰɯijɯi )
> Eng.- I have not come.
> aŋ pʰɯi- i ( pʰɯiji )
> Eng.- I have not come.

Sometimes some opposite meanings are also found negative or positive sentences and some positive sentence meanings are negative sentences.

There are found negative particle in Assamese language. Negative particle is indicated by three different ways in Assamese language. This are- (i) By using negative verbs, (ii) By using negative affixes and (iii) By using negative auxiliaries. It discusses the below with example-

(i) By using negative verb:

There are found three negative verbs. These are- /nai/, /nɔhɔj/ and /noaro/. /naj/ negative verb is the negative form of 'no/ not exists/ have'. Sometimes this negative verb is use as substantive in the formation of interrogatives to mean 'whether or not'. Then, it is used in all tenses and aspects without any change. /nɔhɔj/ negative verb is the form of 'be/ becomes'. Then this negative verb is generally used to indicate negation in the equation sentences. / nɔhɔj / and /noaro/ negative particle is used 'na' prefixing. For example-

> xi rumɔt nai.
> Eng.- He is not in the room.
> ramuje peparkʰɔn pɔrhisa ne nai?
> Eng.- Has Ramu read the paper or not?
> razuje pɔrhat bʰal nɔhɔj.
> Eng.- Raju is not good in study.
> mɔi bʰat randibɔ noaro.
> Eng.- I do not know how to cook.

(ii) By using negative affixes:

There are only one negative affixes- /na/. This negative affix is prefixed to the inflected verbal form. Negative affixes are assimilated with the vowel of the initial syllable of the verb and alternatively be changed. For example-

na- sao> nasao (not see)

na- kʰa> nakʰa (not eat)

na- di> nidi (not give/ don't give)

na- xu> nuxu (not sleep)

(iii) By using negative auxiliaries:

There are found two negative auxiliaries. These are- /nai/ and /nasil/. Both negative auxiliaries is the negative form of 'not existed/ had no'. /nai/ negative auxiliaries has contributed nothing in the formation of nasil. Thus, asil is made negative prefix of negative particle 'na' and formation nasil. Generally, /nai/ and /nasi/ follows the verb. In Assamese language 'tʰɔka' occurs between principal verb with /i/ and /nai/ and /nasil/ as finite verb. For example-

xi pɔrha nai.

Eng.- He has not read.

tumi bɔl kʰela nasial.

Eng.- You did not play ball.

mɔi pɔrhi tʰɔka nai.

Eng.- I am not reading.

tumi bɔl kʰeli tʰɔka nasial.

Eng.- You were not playing ball.

On the basis of the above discussion on negative particle in Bodo and Assamese language, a conclusion can be drawn. The formation of negative in Bodo and Assamese they follow two completely different ways. There are found two types of particles in both languages. Negative particle is the part of bound morpheme. Then find the negative particle in both languages. In Bodo and Assamese language find the three types of the negative particle. In this way, both languages be pre- fixation is almost same. i.e. In Bodo language, In prefix 'da' is added with a morpheme 'tʰaŋ' (go). Then it becomes negative form of word 'da tʰaŋ' means do not go. In Assamese language too, if prefix 'na' is added with a morpheme 'ga' (sing). Then it becomes negative form of word 'naga' means do not sing. In Bodo negative particle is indicated /da/, /a/ and /ɯɟi,i/ and Assamese negative particle is indicated by using negative verb, negative auxiliaries and negative affixes. Here, sometimes negative verb and auxiliaries are conjugated and not. And negative affixes /na/ is always prefixed to the fully inflected verb forms. This prefix is assimilated with the vowel of the first syllable of the verb. But, in Bodo language is no use of negative auxiliaries. There is one more process of negative verb /a/, but it is not practice in the Assamese language.

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