

GOALPARIYA LANGUAGE

A BRIEF STUDY

Dr. Mir Jahan Ali Prodhani



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By

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GOALPARIYA LANGUAGE : A BRIEF STUDY is a synchronic study by Dr. Mir Jahan Ali Prodhani based on his knowledge as a native speaker of the language and the information collected by him as the investigator of an MRP on Goalpariya Language: A Synchronic Study financed by the UGC during the financial year 2009-10.

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DECLARATION

This is to declare that this book represents my own original work, except for the materials gathered from scholarly writings and guidance required from the experts, retired teachers, parents and all other sources, acknowledged appropriately in the book. In connection with the phonetic transcription, I further declare that I have followed the system adopted by “THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY” rather than the I.P.A. in order to avoid certain inconveniences.

- The Writer

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I must acknowledge the financial help of the UGC against an MRP on Goalpariya Language: A Synchronic Study during the financial year 2009-10 and the tiring help and co-operation of Md. Rezaul Karim, one of my students who spent much of his valuable time for me throughout the whole period of this work. I thank my students from different places of this district and my family members who helped me in many ways while writing this book. I express my indebtedness to all other writers and authorities who helped me directly or indirectly in this work. I also express my hearty thanks to NINAD GOSTY, GAUHATI UNIVERSITY CAMPUS, GUWAHATI-14, for publishing the book.

- The writer.

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FOREWORD

Historians and linguists of different times have never been found to bother about or attempt at a thorough and scientific study of Goalpariya language. They remain satisfied in merely mentioning the language in their works. Consequently, there prevail ample doubts and confusions among people as to whether Goalpariya Language is a language proper or a dialect of Assamese Language or of Bengali Language and so on. In order to help resolving the controversy, a synchronic study of the language has been made in this book taking Dhubri, district (Assam) as the geographical boundary of the study. Goalpariya Language is the mother tongue of the people of Dhubri district. A scientific study of the language may help us in establishing an interdisciplinary link among Indian languages and the cross-cultural life of different parts of the country. This may help us understanding the way of life in the district and the socio- economic and the religious framework of the people. It is hoped that the book will help the language learners and the language teachers in discovering new facts about the functions of the language. The book may help us analyzing the error of the learners comparing the structures of the language with that of other Indian languages and also with foreign languages, in diagnosing and solving the learners' problems due to the interference of mother tongue, and understanding the style of writing etc.

So far as our knowledge is concerned, no research work on the subject has ever been undertaken by anybody in the past. The subject has remained almost untouched and unexplored with regard to research study and development. Even, no seminar or workshop on the subject has ever been conducted in college/university level. Dhubri is one of the border districts of Assam, which borders with Bangladesh. This book is an original work of mine and is hoped that it will provide the readers with knowledge of the language to be used in further research and scholarly studies. The following objectives were set so that the book may delight and benefit all concerned:

1. To describe the phonological rules and principles of the language.
2. To describe the morphological rules and principles of the language.
3. To describe the syntax of the language.
4. To describe the semantic properties and their context in the language along with their cultural relevance.

In this book, the analytical method of study has been followed. Data are collected in the direct field work from different parts of the district and also from other parts of the country where the language is spoken. Those were identified, placed and analyzed under the four heads of four language levels viz. Phonology, Morphology, Syntax and Semantics. Various social, cultural, religious festivals etc. of the native speakers were observed with a view to describe the linguistic properties of the language after due consultation with experts and authorities so far as practicable. I take the responsibility of any kind of mistake / omission / commission etc. which are due to my own limitations and welcome all sorts of suggestion from the readers for the improvement of this book.

- *Dr. Mir Jahan Ali Prodhani*

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

It is no exaggeration, perhaps, to call the cosmopolitan society of Dhubri district to be a prototype of the Indian ‘unity in diversity’. Irrespective of caste, creed and religion, people in this district speak *Goalpariya* language. Of course, the language has been called by different names by different philologists in different times. *Grierson* and *Dr. B.K.Kakoti* called it ‘*Rajbongshi Bhasha*’ while *Dr. Birendra Nath Dutta* called it ‘*Goalpariya language*’. Unfortunately both the terms ‘*Rajbongshi Bhasha*’ and ‘*Goalpariya language*’ reduce the dialect range of the language. It is neither spoken only by a single community (*the Rajbongshis*) nor is it spoken only in *Goalpara* District (erstwhile). Rather, it is spoken in some parts of *North Bengal* and of *Bangladesh* (up to *Rongpur*) too i.e. the *Kamata* state of 15th century. Also that there is no particular language which can be claimed by a community as to be its own. The common speakers of the language call it ‘Des/i- B^ha-s-a-’ or ‘Dhes/i- Kata-’ which means local language. Philologists observe:

“The various apbhrumsa dialects represents the concluding phase of the secondary Prakrit.....The secondary Prakrit became fixed and stereotyped for literary purposes by the grammarians but the actual spoken language (desa bhasha) on which they were founded continued to develop and as compared with literary Prakrits, were looked upon as corrupt, though, nevertheless, popular

narrative poems were also composed in them(Baisya,B,quoted, Grierson,Prakrit Bhasha Sahitya Parichay,p-38). ”

The famous hero *Bir Chilaroy* ordered *Pitambar Sidhyantabagish* to translate the *Puranas* into ‘Des/i- B^ha-s-a-’ so that the common people could read and understand the teachings in them (Sarma, S, quoted, Goalpara Zilar Itihas, 1976,p-91).

Goalpariya language, thus, is one of the dialects of *Prakrit* spoken all over India before *Panini* wrote a grammar of Sanskrit language in 5th century B.C (Gune, P,D,An Introduction to Comparative Philology,1970,p-234).” After the milestone of *Panini*, the dialects of *Prakrits* had been given their written forms in different parts of the country in different times. The recognized form of the dialect of *Sibasagar(Assam)*has established itself as Assamese, that of Bengal as Bengali etc. they acquired their recognition as distinct languages with a geographical territory each. As a consequence of the dearth of strong political background and illiteracy, the speakers of *Goalpariya* language could not follow the footprints of the speakers of the sister dialects. As a result, it has to remain a dialect till date. Besides, degeneracy has crept into the cultural and linguistic life of the district. The non-native cultures have engulfed the life of the district from all corners. People today hardly think that *Goalpariya* language is a living language with all the linguistic potentialities to serve the communicative purposes of the people of the district from times immemorial and the official purposes during the Koch Dynasty. It is interesting to note here that the language of 17th century Assamese literature is more *Goalpariya* than the standard Assamese of today: “*Before17th century, the literary works of Assam were done in the language of lower Assam by Hem Saraswati, Madhab Kandali, Mankar, Durgabar, Narayan Deva, Sankar Deva, Madhab Deva and Bhatta Deva. The chief patrons of these writers were*

the kings of Kamatapur,, Jayantapur and Coochbihar(Goswami,U,N,Bhasha Bigyan, 1993,p-11).”

A better understanding and preservation of the culture, language and literature of the district with its rich Legends and Gathas have become a necessity for a healthy socio-cultural development of the generation to come and to realize the resourcefulness of the language and the archetype underlying the *Legends* and *Gathas* of the district.

CHAPTER II

THE PHONOLOGY OF GOALPARIYA LANGUAGE

I. VOWELS

The speakers of *Goalpairya* language produce seven pure vowels, eleven diphthongs and some vowel- glides of complex nature. These seven pure vowels can be described in three- term labels:

1. / a /- A back rounded vowel just below the low position. It occurs word - initially and medially and does not occur word finally as in:
[anek], many, [d^han], property .
2. /ā/ A central unrounded vowel just above the low position. It occurs word initially, medially and finally as in :
[ām], a mango, [kām], a work, [kat ā], a speech.
3. /i/ - A centralized front vowel just above the higher- mid position. It occurs word initially, medially and finally as in –
[ic̣ ā], a will, [din], a day, [hāti], an elephant.
4. /u/ - A back rounded vowel just above the higher- mid position. It occurs word initially, medially and finally as in:
[uc̣ ā], high, [kuttā], a dog, [kāc̣ u], a ram plant.
5. /e/ - A front unrounded vowel just above the higher- mid and lower – mid position . It occurs word- medially and finally and does not occur word initially as in:

[kebol], only, [t^ha^e le], (he) pushes.

6. /o/- A back rounded vowel between higher-mid and lower- mid position. It occurs word – initially, medially and finally as in:

[ol], an esculent root, [kadom], a kind of tree, [ba^ˈro], twelve.

7. /a^e /-A front unrounded vowel just bellow the lower –mid position. It occurs word – initially, medially and finally as in:

[a^e k], one, [ka^emon], how, [gua^e], a betel nut.

The interesting point is that these seven pure vowels are in free-variation which can be shown as follows:

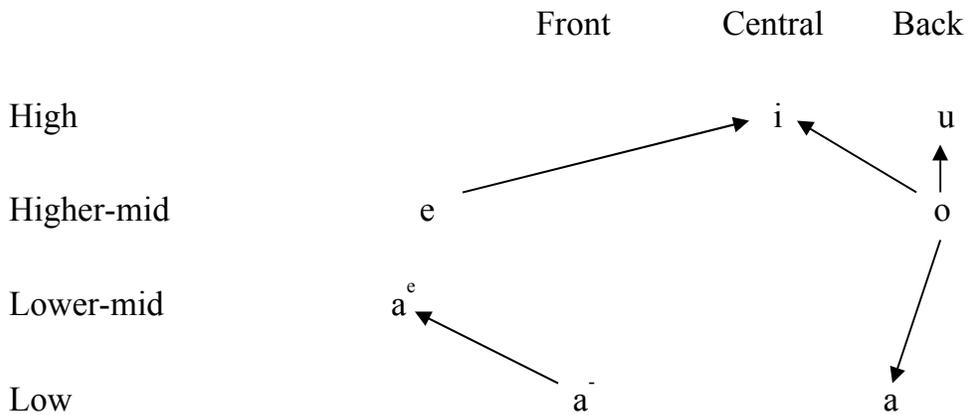
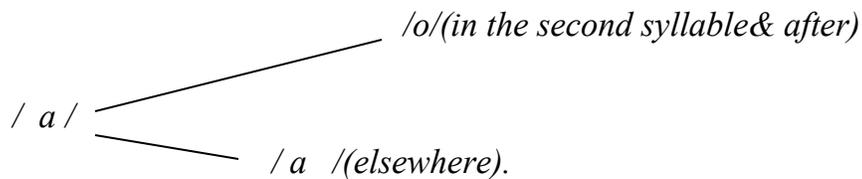


Table-1

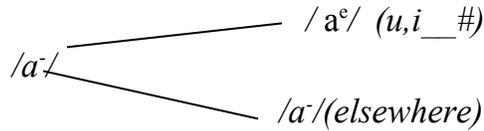
The environment for the phonemic variations can be illustrated as:

1. / a / becomes /o/ in second syllable and after in the word
[d^ha n], property, > [d^hanobal], strength of wealth.

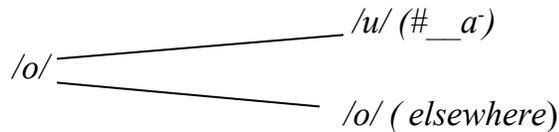


2. /a⁻/ becomes / a^e / when preceded by /u/ or /i/ as in

- (i). [d^ho], to wash + [baːr] > [d^hub a^er], inftv. to wash.
 /o/ becomes /u/ when followed by /aː/ and the sound
 /aː/ in the suffix [baːr] changes to /a^e/ as is preceded by /u/
- (ii). [de], to give + [baːr] > [diba^er], ifntv. to give.
 /e/ has become /i/ as is followed by /aː/, and /aː/ in the suffix [baːr] has
 changed to /a^e/ as preceded by /i/.



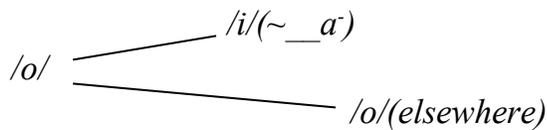
3. /o/ becomes /u/ when followed by /aː/



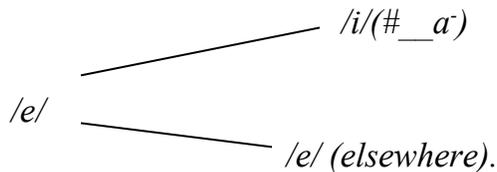
(illustrated in 2. above)

4. /o/ becomes /i/ when nasalised and immediately followed
 by /aː/, as in:

[gaːo~], a village + [aː] > [gai~a^e], related to a village.



5. /e/ becomes /i/ when followed by /aː/.



The description of the articulation of the eleven diphthongs of Goalpariya language needs the description of the movement of the tongue. It starts in the position required for the articulation of a particular vowel and moves in the direction required for the articulation of a different vowel. They can be shown with the help of the following words:

1. /aạ/- A glide from back rounded vowel just above the low position to a centralized front unrounded vowel just above the low position. It occurs word-medially and finally and does not occur word-initially as in:

[paaṛ], a rhyme, [naạ], new.

2. /ai/- A glide from back rounded vowel just above the low position to a central front unrounded vowel just above the higher-mid position. It occurs word-initially, medially and finally as in:

[aiḍ], sunshine, [kainạ], a bride, [k^ha i], fried rice.

3. /au/- A glide from back rounded vowel just above the low position to a back rounded vowel just above the higher-mid position. It occurs word-medially and finally and does not occur word-initially as in :

[dauṛ], a run, [bau], a daughter in law.

4. /aj/- A glide from back rounded vowel just above the low position to a vowel between front-high and front higher-mid position. It occurs word-initially, and finally and does not occur word-medially as in:

[(r)aj], (he) stands/ waits, [kaj], (he) says.

5. /ạj/- A glide from central unrounded vowel just above the low position to a vowel between front-high and front higher-mid position. It occurs word-initially, medially and finally as in:

[ạjnạ], a mirror, [k^hạjnạ], (he) does not eat, [k^hạj], (he) eats.

6. /ạu/- A glide from central unrounded vowel just above the low position to a back rounded vowel just above the higher-mid position. It occurs word-initially, medially and finally as in:

[ạulạ], disorderly, [mạus/ạ], a maternal uncle, [nạu], a guard.

7. /ạo/- A glide from a central unrounded vowel just above the low position to a back rounded vowel between higher-mid and lower-mid position. It occurs word-initially, medially and finally as in :

[ạo], a speech, [s/ạọn], name of a month, [mạo], mother.

8. /ại/- A glide from a central unrounded vowel just above the low position to a centralized front unrounded vowel just above the higher-mid position. It occurs word-initially, medially and finally as in:

[ạil], a borderline in a field, [mạil], a mile, [c^hại], ashes.

9. /ia/- A glide from a centralized front unrounded vowel just above the higher-mid position to a back rounded vowel just above the low position. It occurs word-medially only as in:

[niãm], a custom.

10. /ua /- A glide from back rounded vowel just above the higher- mid position to a back rounded vowel just above the low position. It occurs word- medially and finally and does not occur word- initially as in:

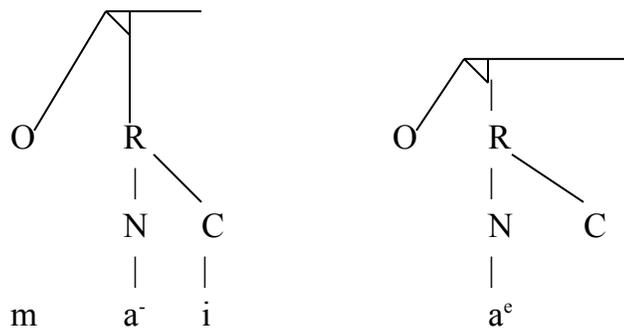
[s'uar], a pig, [bua], an elder sister.

11. /ua[°] /- A glide from back rounded vowel just above the higher-mid position to a front unrounded vowel just below the lower- mid position. It occurs word- initially, medially and finally as in:

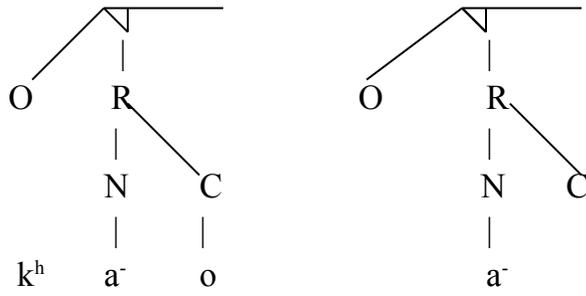
[ua[°]r], his/ her, [dua[°]ri], facing, [gua[°]], a betel nut.

The set of words cited also show the place of occurrence of the diphthongs i.e. word-initially, medially and finally. Absence of an example in these three positions means that the diphthong does not occur in that position. Apart from the seven pure vowels and eleven diphthongs, the language allows combinations of a diphthong and a pure vowel or two diphthongs and a pure vowel. The syllable divisions show that the complex vowel glides are not the ingredient part of the same syllable, rather, they belong to separate syllables. e.g.

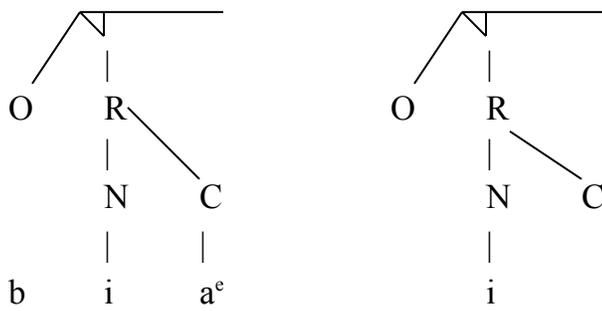
1. /a[°]ia[°] /, as in [ma[°]ia[°]], wife.



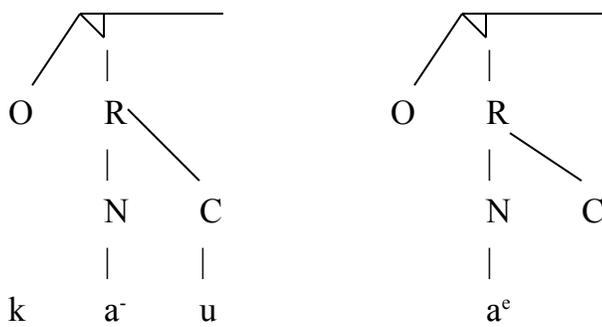
2. /a⁻oa⁻/ as in [k^ha⁻oa⁻], the act of eating.



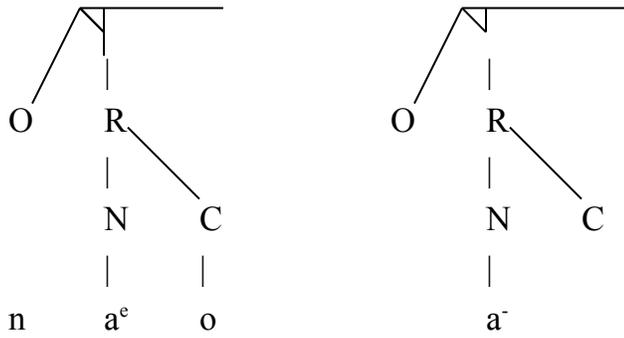
3. /ia[°] i/, as in [bia[°]i], an in law's father.



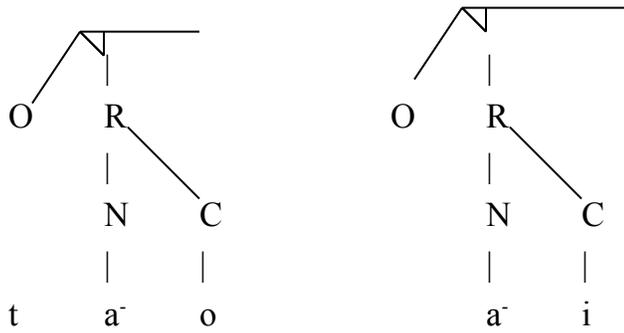
4. /a⁻ua[°] /, as in [ka⁻ua[°]], a crow.



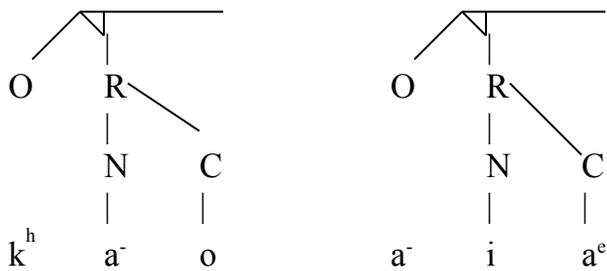
5. /a⁻oa/, as in [na^ooa⁻], the act of taking.



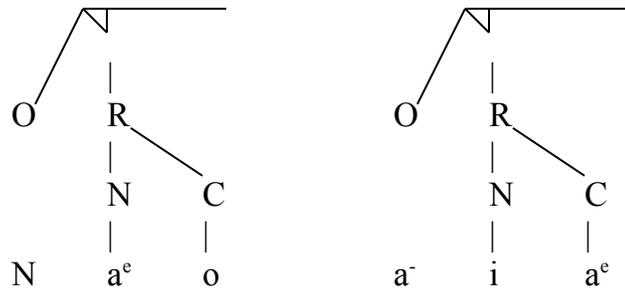
6. /a⁻oaⁱ/, as in [t a⁻oaⁱ], father of a friend.



7. /a⁻oaⁱa^e/, as in [k^ha⁻oaⁱa^e], an eater.



8. /a°oa'ia° /, as in [na°oaia°], a taker.



etc.

II. CONSONANTS

The speakers of Goalpariya language produce thirty consonant sounds. Of these consonant sounds(phonemes) twenty are plosives, four nasals, three approximants two fricatives and one lateral. They can be described in three terms label :

1. /k/ - a voiceless velar plosive. During the articulation of this consonant the active articulator i.e. the back of the active articulator i.e. the back of the tongue comes closer to the soft palate and there is a complete closure of the passage of air at some point of the vocal tract. As a result of it, air pressure is built up behind the closure. The closure is then, suddenly removed, causing in the process, a sudden release of the blocked air with some explosive noise. During the articulation of this consonant, the vocal cords do not vibrate. It occurs word- initially, medially and finally as in-

[kəlom], a pen, [a°kəta°], unity, [b^hok], hunger.

2. /k^h/ - a voiceless aspirated velar plosive. The articulation of this sound is same as the articulation of / k/. The only difference is that a puff of breath follows the

release of the plosive. It occurs Word- initially and does not occur word- medially and finally as in

[k^haː], to eat.

3. /g/- a voiced velar plosive. The articulation of this sound is same as the articulation of / k/. The only difference is that the vocal cords vibrate during the articulation of this sound. It occurs word- initially, medially and finally as in:

[gaːn], a song, [b^haːɪgnaː], a nephew, [b^haːg], a share.

4. /g^h/- a voiced aspirated velar plosive. The articulation of this sound is same as the articulation of / k/. The only difference is that a puff of breath follows the release of the plosive. It occurs Word- initially and does not occur word- medially and finally as in:

[g^horaː], a horse.

5. /ng/- a voiced velar nasal. During the articulation of this sound, the active articulator i.e. the back of the tongue comes closer to the passive articulator i.e. the soft palate and there is a complete closure, only the oral passage remains open. During the articulation of this sound the vocal cords vibrate. It occurs Word - medially and finally and does not occur word- initially as in-

[d aːngor], big, [b^haː ng], to break.

6. /c /- The articulation of this sound is same as the articulation of / k/. The only difference is that a puff of breath follows the release of the plosive. It occurs Word- initially, medially and finally as in:

[c or], a thief, [kaːc aːl], a quarrel, [c aːc aː], a paternal uncle.

7. /c^h/, -a voiceless aspirated palatal plosive. The articulation of this sound is same as the articulation of /c /. The only difference is that a puff of breath follows the release of the plosive. It occurs Word- initially and does not occur word- medially and finally a voiceless aspirated palatal plosive as in

[c^haːt i], an umbrella. tongue comes closer to the soft palate and there is a complete closure of the passage of air at some point of the vocal tract. As a result

of it, air pressure is built up behind the closure. The closure is then, suddenly removed, causing in the process, a sudden release of the blocked air with some explosive noise. During the articulation of this consonant, the vocal cords do not vibrate. It occurs word- initially, medially and finally as in-

[kəlom], a pen, [a^əkota^ə], unity, [b^hok], hunger.

2. /k^h/ - a voiceless aspirated velar plosive. The articulation of this sound is same as the articulation of /k/. The only difference is that a puff of breath follows the release of the plosive. It occurs Word- initially and does not occur word- medially and finally as in

[k^ha^ə], to eat.

3. /g/- a voiced velar plosive. The articulation of this sound is same as the articulation of /k/. The only difference is that the vocal cords vibrate during the articulation of this sound. It occurs word- initially, medially and finally as in:

[gaⁿ], a song, [b^ha^əigna^ə], a nephew, [b^ha^əg], a share.

4. /g^h/- a voiced aspirated velar plosive. The articulation of this sound is same as the articulation of /k/. The only difference is that a puff of breath follows the release of the plosive. It occurs Word- initially and does not occur word- medially and finally as in:

[g^hora^ə], a horse.

5. /ng/- a voiced velar nasal. During the articulation of this sound, the active articulator i.e. the back of the tongue comes closer to the passive articulator i.e. the soft palate and there is a complete closure, only the oral passage remains open. During the articulation of this sound the vocal cords vibrate. It occurs Word - medially and finally and does not occur word- initially as in-

[daⁿgor], big, [b^ha^əng], to break.

6. /c /- The articulation of this sound is same as the articulation of / k/. The only difference is that a puff of breath follows the release of the plosive. It occurs Word- initially, medially and finally as in:

[c_{or}], a thief, [ka^cca^l], a quarrel, [c_ac_a], a paternal uncle.

7. /c^h/, -a voiceless aspirated palatal plosive. The articulation of this sound is same as the articulation of /c /. The only difference is that a puff of breath follows the release of the plosive. It occurs Word- initially and does not occur word- medially and finally a voiceless aspirated palatal plosive as in

[c^ha^t i], an umbrella.

8. /J/, a voiced palatal plosive. The articulation of this sound is same as the articulation of /c /. The only difference is that the vocal cords vibrate during the articulation of this consonant. A puff of breath follows the release of the plosive. It occurs Word- initially, word- medially and finally as in:

[Ja^l], a net, [ba^Ja^r], a market, [ka^JgoJ], a paper.

9. /J^h/, a voiced aspirated palatal plosive. The articulation of this sound is same as the articulation of /J/. The only difference is that a puff of breath follows the release of the plosive. It occurs Word- initially, and does not occur word- medially and finally as in:

[J^hari], rain.

10. /~/, a voiced palatal nasal. During the articulation of this consonant, the active articulator, the front of the tongue moves to the soft/ hard palate releasing in a partial closure of the oral passage so that the air can pass through the nose and the oral passage. During the articulation of this consonant, the vocal cords vibrate. It occurs word- medially and finally and does not occur word initially as in :

[nia~m], a custom, [ga^o~], a village.

11. /ṭ/ a voiceless retroflex plosive. During the articulation of consonant, the active articulator, the underside of the tongue comes closer to the passive articulator, the front of the hard palate resulting in a complete closure of the passage of air at some point of the vocal tract. As a result, air pressure is built behind the closure. The closure is then suddenly released, causing, in the process, a sudden release of the blocked air with some explosive noise. During the articulation of this consonant, the vocal cords do not vibrate. It occurs word-initially, medially and finally as in:

[ṭạ^hạ/ṭạ^hkạ] a rupee, [bạ^hṭạ], a son, [ḅ^hạ^hṭ], a lily flower.

12. /ṭ^h/, a voiceless aspirated retroflex plosive. The articulation of this consonant is same as the articulation of /ṭ/. The only difference is that during the articulation of this consonant, a puff of breath follows the release of the plosive. It occurs word-initially and does not occur word- medially and finally as in:

[ṭ^hạ^h ng], a foot

13. /ḍ/, a voiced retroflex plosive. The articulation of this consonant is same as the articulation of /ṭ/. The only difference is that during the articulation of this consonant, the vocal cords vibrate. It occurs word-initially and does not occur word- medially and finally as in:

[ḍabol], two- times.

14. /ḍ^h/, a voiced aspirate retroflex plosive. The articulation of this consonant is same as the articulation of /ṭ^h/. The only difference is that during the articulation of this consonant, the vocal cords vibrate. It occurs word-initially and does not occur word- medially and finally as in:

[ḍ^hol], a drum.

15. / t /, a voiceless dental plosive. During the articulation of this plosive, the active articulator, the tip of the tongue comes closer to the passive articulator, the upper teeth resulting in a complete closure of the passage of air at some point in the vocal tract. As a result, air pressure is built up behind the closure. The closure is, then, suddenly released, causing, in the process, a sudden release of the blocked air with some explosive noise. During the articulation of this consonant, the vocal cords do not vibrate. It occurs word-initially, medially and finally as in :

[t^hɪ], oil , [bɑːtɑːs /], air, [hɑːt], a hand.

16. /t^h/, a voiceless aspirated dental plosive. The articulation of this consonant is same as the articulation of / t /. The only difference is that during the articulation of this consonant, a puff of breath follows the release of this plosive. It occurs word-initially and does not occur word- medially and finally as in:

[t^hɪˈli], a plate.

17. / d /, a voiced dental plosive. The articulation of this consonant is same as the articulation of / t /. The only difference is that during the articulation of this consonant, the vocal cords vibrate. It occurs word-initially and does not occur word- medially and finally as in:

[dɑːm], price, [bɑːdɒl] an exchange, [ɑːbɑːd], crops.

18. /d^h/, a voiced aspirated dental plosive. The articulation of this consonant is same as the articulation of /t^h/ . The only difference is that during the articulation of this consonant, the vocal cords vibrate. It occurs word-initially and does not occur word- medially and finally as in:

[d^hɑːn], paddy.

19. /n/, a voiced dental nasal. During the articulation of this plosive, the active articulator, the tip of the tongue comes closer to the passive articulator, the upper teeth, resulting in a complete closure of the oral passage. The lung air passes freely through the nose as the nasal passage remains open. It occurs word-initially, medially and finally as in:

[nãm], a name, [kãnã], blind, [kãn], an ear.

20. /p/, a voiceless bilabial plosive. During the articulation of this consonant, the two lips come closure, resulting in a complete closure of the passage of air at some point of the vocal tract. As a result, air pressure is built up behind the closure. The closure is, then, suddenly released, causing, in the process, a sudden release of the blocked air with some explosive noise. During the articulation of this consonant, the vocal cords do not vibrate. It occurs word-initially, medially and finally as in:

[pãtã], a leaf, [kapãl], the forehead, [kãp], a cup.

21. /p^h/, a voiceless aspirated bilabial plosive. The articulation of this consonant is same as the articulation of /p/. The only difference is that during the articulation of this consonant, a puff of breath follows the release of this plosive. It occurs word-initially and does not occur word- medially and finally as in:

[p^hal], a fruit.

22. /b/, a voiced bilabial plosive. The articulation of this consonant is same as the articulation of /p/. The only difference is that during the articulation of this consonant, the vocal cords vibrate. It occurs word-initially, medially and finally as in:

[bal], a ball, [Kabul], a confession, [ab^hãb], a need/want.

23. / b^h/ , a voiced aspirated bilabial plosive. The articulation of this consonant is same as the articulation of /p^h/. The only difference is that during the articulation of this consonant, the vocal cords vibrate. It occurs word-initially, medially and finally as in:

[b^hãt], boiled rice, [ab^hãb], a need/want, [lã b^h], a gain.

24. /m/, a voiced bilabial nasal. During the articulation of this plosive, the two lips come closer resulting in a complete closure of the oral passage. The lung air passes freely through the nose as the nasal passage remains open. During the articulation

of this consonant, the vocal cords vibrate. It occurs word-initially, medially and finally as in:

[man], the mind, [kaˈmlaː], a worker, [naˈm], a name.

25. /r/, a voiced post alveolar roll. During the articulation of this consonant, the active articulator, the tip of the tongue taps against the alveolar ridge or the uvula against the back of the tongue for several times so that the air can pass only intermittently between the articulators. The vocal cords vibrate during the articulation of this consonant. It occurs word-initially, medially and finally as in:

[ˈraɪd], sunshine, [ˈbɑːr], big, [ˈmɔːr], my.

26. /l/, a voiced alveolar lateral. During the articulation of this consonant, the active articulator, the blade or tip and the blade of the tongue comes in contact with the teeth ridge with one or both sides of the tongue remaining low so that the lung air can escape freely without friction through the side or sides. The soft palate remains in its raised position, shutting of the nasal passage. The vocal cords vibrate during the articulation of this consonant. It occurs word-initially, medially and finally as in:

[ˈlaɪb], a gain, [ˈkɑːlɒm], a pen, [ˈnaɪl], red.

27. /w/, a voiced labio-velar approximant. During the articulation of this consonant, the active articulator, the tongue assumes a position required for the articulation of a back vowel between the higher and the lower-mid position depending upon the closeness (rounded or unrounded) of the vowel that follows it. The soft palate is raised so that the nasal passage of air is blocked completely. The tongue moves immediately to the position of the sound that follows. The lips are rounded during the articulation of this consonant depending upon the lip position of the vowel that follows it. The vocal cords vibrate during the articulation of this consonant. It occurs word- medially, and finally and does not occur word- initially as in:

[ˈjuːwəːn], young, [ˈkʰaːoːwəː], the act of eating.

28. / s' /, a voiceless palato- alveolar fricative. During the articulation of this consonant, the soft palate is raised so as to shut the nasal passage. The tip and the blade of the tongue are brought very near to the teeth ridge. At the same time, the front of the tongue is raised in the direction to the hard palate. The lung air escapes through the narrow gap between the tip and blade of the tongue and teeth ridge and between front of the tongue and the hard palate with audible friction. The vocal cords do not vibrate during the articulation of this consonant. It occurs word-initially, medially, and finally as in:

[s' il], a stone, [s'angs' a'r], a family/ the world, [s'a^e s/], the end.

29. /h/, a voiceless glottal fricative. During the articulation of this consonant, the air from the lungs escapes through the narrow glottis with audible friction. The soft palate is raised. As for the position of the tongue and the lips, they are determined by the vowel following this consonant. It occurs word-initially and medially and does not occur word-finally as in:

[ha't], a hand, [a'ha'r], food.

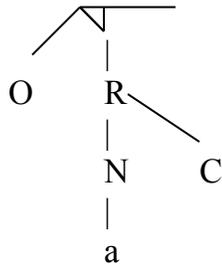
30. /j/, a voiced palatal approximant. During the articulation of this consonant, the active articulator, the front of the tongue assumes a position required for the articulation of a front vowel and moves away immediately to the position of the vowel that follows it. The lips are generally spread or neutral, but may become rounded if a rounded vowel follows. The soft palate is raised to shut off the nasal passage. The vocal cords vibrate during the articulation of this consonant. It occurs word- medially, and finally and does not occur word- initially as in:

[s'ija^e~n], an adult, [s'ama' j], time.

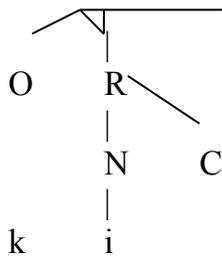
III. SYLLABLES IN GOALPARIYA LANGUAGE

Goalpariya language allows four types of syllable constructions:

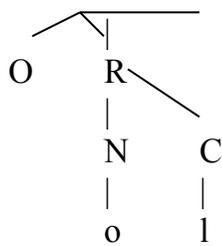
Type-1: [a], Intj. A sound indicating recollection ,



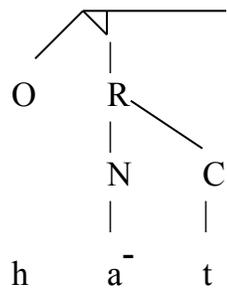
Type-2 :[ki], pron. What ,



TYPE-3 : [ol], an esculent root ,



TYPE-4: [haːt], a hand,



Thus, the structure of a typical syllable in this language is: C₀₋₁ V C₀₋₁ where C stands for the optional consonant element and V stands for the obligatory vowel element.

CHAPTER III

MORPHOLOGY OF GOALPARIYA LANGUAGE

Being a living language, *Goalpariya* language has the potentiality to create new words from the existing ones. The two most common ways of forming new words in this language are: i. Derivation and ii. Compounding.

i. DERIVATION

1. Formation of causative:

Causatives are formed in this language by suffixing [a⁻o] to the root of the verb as in :

[k^h a⁻], to eat +[a⁻o]> [k^h oa⁻o], to cause to eat.

[ka], to speak+[a⁻o]>[kaa⁻o], to cause to speak

2. Formation of infinitive:

Infinitives in this language, are formed by suffixing [ba⁻r] or [pa⁻r] to the root of the verb ending in voiced and unvoiced phonemes respectively as in:

[k^h a⁻], to eat +[ba⁻r]> [k^h a⁻ba⁻r], to eat .

[ut[.]],to rise + [pa⁻r]> [ut[.]pa^e r], to rise.

3. Formation of conditional:

To form the conditional, [ile] is added to the root of the verb as in:

[k^ha⁻],to eat + [ile]> [k^h a⁻ile], if eaten.

4. Formation of gerund and adjective:

Suffix [oa⁻] is added to the root of the verb to form gerunds and adjectives as in:

[k^ha⁻], to eat + [k^ha⁻oa⁻], the act of eating /eaten.

5. Formation of adverb from a verb: To form an adverb from a verb, [ite] is suffixed to the verb as in:

[k^ha⁻], to eat + [ite] > [k^ha⁻ite], while eating.

6. Formation of infinite verb:

The suffix [a⁻] or [i] is added to the root of the verb ending in a vowel and a consonant phoneme respectively to derive an infinite verb as in:

[k^ha⁻], to eat + [a⁻] > [k^ha⁻ja⁻], after eating.

[kar], to do + [i] > [kari], after doing.

7. Formation of the verb of propriety:

The formation of the verb of propriety is, root+[oa⁻] + [k^ha⁻j] as in:

[k^ha⁻], to eat + [oa⁻] + [k^ha⁻j] > [k^ha⁻oa⁻k^ha⁻j], should be eaten.

8. Formation of the verb of probability and ability:

The verb of probability and ability are formed in the following way:

Infinitive+[pa⁻j]

e.g. [k^ha⁻ba⁻r], to eat + [pa⁻j] > [k^ha⁻ba⁻rpa⁻j], (he) may eat .

[ut.pa^{er}], to rise + [pa⁻j] > [ut.pa^{er}pa⁻j], (he) may rise.

9. Formation of the verb of willingness:

The formation of the verb of willingness is: infinitive+[c,a⁻j]

e.g. [k^ha⁻ba⁻r], to eat + [c,a⁻j] > [k^habarca⁻aj], willing to eat.

[ut.pa^{er}], to rise + [c,a⁻j] > [ut.pa^{er}ca⁻aj], willing to rise.

10. Prefixation is another way of forming new words. The following are some of the common prefixes used in this language:

<u>prefixes</u>	<u>changes</u>	<u>Semantic effect</u>	<u>examples</u>
[patti]	N__Adj	every x	[din]n., a day, [pattidin]Adj.,daily
[a]	N__N	reverse x	[bic,a ^e r]n,justice, [abic,a ^e r]n. injustice.
[apo]	N__N	reverse x	[bja ^e j]n., an expense, [apobja ^e j]n., wastage
[ku]	N__N	bad x	[ab ^h ja ^e s/]n., a habit, [kuab ^h ja ^e s/]n.,a bad habit
[s/u]	N__N	good x	[k ^h abor]n.,anews [s/uk ^h abor]n.,a good news.
[be]	N—N	Without X	[S/ ^a rom]n, a shame [bes/ ^a rom]adj.,shameless
[an]	Adj._Adj.	Without X	[da ^e ha ⁻]adj., seen, [anda ^e ha ⁻]adj., Unseen etc.

Table2

11. Suffixation in Goalpariya language:

The Suffixation in Goalpariya language is another way of deriving new words. The common suffixes are as follows:

<u>Suffixes</u>	<u>Changes</u>	<u>Semantic effect</u>	<u>Examples</u>
[aia ^e]	V—N	One who xes	[kar]v., to do [kara ⁻ ia ^e]n., One who does
[ni]	V—Adj	Able to x	[ura ^e]v., to fly [ura ^e ni]Adj., able to fly.
[na ⁻]	V—Adj.	Pertaining to x	[k ^h oJ]v., to seek [k ^h uJna ^e]Adj., thing got by seeking
[nia ^e r]	V—Adj .	Pertaining to x	[da ^e k]v., to see [da ^e hnia ^e r]Adj., beautiful
[i]	N—Adj.	Pertaining to x	[uja ^e n]n., upper part. [uja ^e ni]Adj., belonging to upper part.
[ua ^e]	N—N	One who xes	[ga ⁻ n]n., a song. [ga ⁻ nua ^e]n., a singer
[ura ^e]	V—N	One who xes	[ha ⁻ g]v., to void. [ha ⁻ gura ^e]n., one who voids.
[an]	V—N	The act of xing	[ka ⁻ nd]v., to weep. [ka ⁻ ndon]n., the act of weeping
[i]	N—Adj.	Having x	[s [/] uk]n., happiness. [s [/] uki]Adj., happy
[a ⁻ mi]	Adj.— N	The act of xing	[t ^h ag]Adj., a deceiver. [t ^h aga ⁻ mi]n., the act of deceiving.

etc.

Table-3

ii. COMPOUNDING

Compounding is the most productive way of deriving new words from the existing ones. Some of the common types of compounding in this language are :

1.N+N(two elements similar in meanings) as in:

[garu-ba⁻c^{ur}]n., cattle, [ha⁻t⁻ ba⁻Ja⁻r]n., market places, [k^habor – ba⁻tra⁻]n., news,
[d^ha⁻n- c^a-ul]n., corn, [t^ae^ha⁻ pais/a^e]n., material wealth, [g^har-duar]n., dwelling houses. etc.

2.N+N(two elements opposite in meaning) as in:

[ba⁻p-ma⁻o]n., parents, [c^ae^{ng}ra⁻ c^ae^{ng}ri]n., children, [b^ha⁻ta⁻r-ma⁻ia^e]n., a couple,
[b^ha⁻i - bain]n., brother and sister, [b^ha⁻l - ba^eja⁻]n., the result, [a⁻it - din]n., a duration. etc.

3.Partial Reduplication(Two elements , the second does not have a meaning) as in :

[ma⁻nus/ –dunus/]n., human beings, [ka⁻por - c^a,opor]n., clothes etc.,
[bura^e – ma⁻t^a]n., elderly people, [c^ha⁻wa⁻ – powa⁻]n., children,
[dig – bidig]n., left and right,etc.

4. Reduplication as in:

[ka⁻ - ka⁻] n., cry of a crow, [t^ang – t^ang]n., sound of a bell, [gurum-gurum]n., sound of a gun, [ma^er – ma^er]n., sound of breaking, [ga^er – ga^er]n., nature of pulling, [hir- hir]n., nature of approach, (without

hesitation), [gir – gir]n., sound of the clouds, [huk – huk]n., nature of weeping (sobbing), etc.

5. Reduplication indicating repetition of action or state as in :

[ba[~]re-ba[~]re]adv., again and again, [kataj – kataj]adv., most often in speech, [hate – hate]adv., hand in hand, [g^hare –g^hare]adv., in every house, [s/a^ela[~]j - s/a^ela[~]j], at once, [ac,te – ac,te]adv., slowly, etc.

6.Reduplication indicating abundance as in :

[(ma[~]nus^l) dale –dale] adj., crowds of people, [(d^ha[~]n) da[~]lije – da[~]lije]adj., abundance of paddy, [(b^ha[~]t) t^ha[~]lije – t^ha[~]lije] adj., abundance of rice, [(k^hari) pa[~]la[~]j – pa[~]la[~]j] adj., abundance of firewood, etc.

7. Reduplication indicating plurality as in:

[d^hala[~]- d^hala[~] p^hul]n., white flowers, [na[~]l – na[~]l t[~]upi]n., red caps, [baro – baro ga[~]c, h]n., big trees, [uc, a^e – uc, a^e pa[~]ha[~]r]n., high hills, [naja[~] – naja[~] Jinis^l]n., new things etc.

8. Idiomatic expressions:

[d^hala[~] phat[~] – p^hat[~]a[~]], extremely white, [na[~]l t[~]ak – t[~]aka], extremely red, [naja[~] c,al – c,ala[~]], brand new, [s/uka^en d[~].han – d[~].hana[~]], extremely dry, [k^hus/ite gul- gula^e], extremely glad, [garom ka[~]u – ka[~]ua^e] extremely hot, [pa[~]tla[~] p^ha^el – p^ha^ela[~]], extremely light, etc.

9. Reduplication (the doer is repeated to indicate plurality):

[ka[~]i[~] - ka[~]i[~]], who are, [j^hai[~] - j^hai[~]], those are, [tai[~] - tai[~]], they are, [ka[~]r – ka[~]r], whose (plural), [kaemon – kaemon], how (plural), [j^ha^emon – j^ha^emon], like those, etc.

10. Reduplication indicating the nature of bilateral relation:

[ha^ˉte- ha^ˉte]adv., hand in hand, [muke-muke]adv., orally,
 [niJe- niJe]adv., by oneself, [ma^ˉins/e-ma^ˉins/e]adv., between man and
 man, [c,a^ˉngra^ˉj-c,a^ˉngra^ˉj]adv.,between boy and boy, etc.

11. Reduplication indicating partial action or state:

[ha^ˉs/ong-ha^ˉs/ong]adj., about to laugh, [ka^ˉndong- ka^ˉndong]adj.,
 about to weep, [da^ˉhong-da^ˉhong]adj.,about to see, [Ja^ˉr-Ja^ˉr]adj.,
 half-cold, [Jar- Jar]adj., feverish, etc.

12. Reduplication indicating spontaneous action by repeating the infinitive verb:

[s/uti-s/uti]adv., by sleeping, [bas/i- bas/i]adv., by sitting,
 [ha^ˉs/i-ha^ˉs/i]adv., laughingly, [da^ˉhi-da^ˉhi]adv., by seeing
 [s/uni-s/ uni]adv., by hearing, etc.

13. Reduplication indicating the continuity of an incomplete action by repeating the adverb:

[da^ˉeikte-da^ˉeikte]adv., continued observation, [s/unte-s/unte]adv., con
 tinued listening, [k^ha^ˉite-k^ha^ˉite]adv., continued eating, [nite-nite]adv.,
 continued taking, [kaite-kaite]adv., continued talking, etc.

14. Reduplication indicating uncertainty by repeating the corresponding negative:

[da^ˉhong-na^ˉda^ˉhong]adj., not firm to see, [kang-na^ˉkang]adj., not
 firm to say, [karong-na^ˉkarong]adj., not firm to do, [da^ˉng-na^ˉda^ˉng]
 adj., not firm to give, [ut.ang-na^ˉut.ang]adj., not firm to rise,etc.

iii. Inflexion

1. Nominal inflexion

The nominal inflexion in Goalpariya language can be described in terms of number, gender and case of a noun.

Number: to indicate number of a noun in Goalpariya language no inflexional suffix is needed, instead of that some words, meaning plural forms are added before or after the noun as in:

[ma⁻nus/], man

[a^ekt.a/ a^ekJ^han ma⁻nus/], a man, [pa⁻c,t.a⁻ / pa⁻c,J^han ma⁻nus/], five men,

[dale-dale ma⁻n us/], crowds of men, [d^hani-d^hani ma⁻nus/], rich men,[s[/]aug ma⁻nus/], all the men, [ma⁻nus/ gula^e], the men, etc.

Sometimes, some pleonastic suffixes are used to indicate plural number of the noun as in:

[ma⁻nus/a^er dal], crowds of people, [ma⁻nus/a^er har/g^har], the men, [ma⁻nus/e- ma⁻nus/], many men, etc.

Gender: The nouns in Goalpariya language takes [i] or [ni] as suffix to indicate feminine gender. If the noun ends in a vowel, it takes [i], if in consonant it takes [ni] as feminine marker as in:

[c,a^engra⁻], a boy——[c,a^engri], a girl

[b^hot.a⁻], a he dog,——[b^hut.i], a she dog

[ba^et.a], a son——[ba^et.i], a daughter

[ma⁻s[/]t.a⁻r], a male teacher——[ma⁻s[/]t.a⁻ni], a female teacher

[da⁻kt.a⁻r], a male doctor——[da⁻kt.a⁻ni], a female doctor, etc.

Case: Goalpariya language takes the following as case marker:

i. Nominative: [j] or [e]

If the noun ends in a vowel sound, it takes [j] and if it ends in a consonant sound, it takes [e] as its nominative marker.

[ma⁻], mother, [ma⁻j kaj], mother says

[ma⁻s/t.a⁻r], a teacher, [ma⁻s/t.a⁻re kaj], a teacher says.

ii. Objective: [k] or [ok]

If the noun ends in a vowel sound, it takes [k], and if it ends in a consonant sound, it takes [ok] as objective marker as in:

[ma⁻k dic,ang], (I) have given to mother

[mast.a⁻rok dic,ang], (I) have given to the teacher.

iii. Possessive: [r] or [er]

The noun takes [r] or [or] as possessive marker if the verb ends in vowel and consonant sound respectively as in:

[ma⁻r], mother's

[ma⁻s/ta⁻rer], the teacher's

iv. Locative: [t] or [ot]

The noun takes [t] or [at] as possessive marker if the verb ends in vowel and consonant respectively as in:

[ba⁻ri], a house

[ba⁻rit], in the house(campus)

[g^har], a house,

[g^harot], in the house(campus)

v. Instrumental: [dia^e]

In instrumental case in this language, [diae] is used after the noun as in:

[haːt], a hand

[haːtdia^e], with a hand

vi. Ablative: [t^haːki]

In ablative case in this language, [t^haːki] is used after the noun as in:

[haːt.], a market

[haːt.t^haːki], from the market

2. Verbal paradigm of Goalpariya language:

Verb: [k^haː], to eat

Simple Tense(Present)

	Singular	Plural
1 st person -	- muiː k ^h aːng, I eat,	- aːmraː k ^h aːi, We eat
2 nd person -	tuiː k ^h aːis/, You eat	- tomraː k ^h aːn, You eat
3 rd person -	aiː k ^h aːj, He/She eats,	- omraː k ^h aːj, They eat

Simple Tense(Past)

1 st person -	muiː k ^h aːic, ang, I ate,	- aːmraː k ^h aːc,i, We ate
2 nd person -	tuiː k ^h aːc, is/, You ate,	- tomraː k ^h aːic, a ^e n, You ate
3 rd person -	aiː k ^h aːic, e, He/She ate,	- omraː k ^h aːic, e, They ate.

Simple Tense(Future)

- 1st person - mui~ k^ha-im, I shall eat, - a~mra- k^ha-mo, We shall eat.
2nd person - tui~ k^ha-bu, You will eat, - tommra- k^ha-iba^{en}, You will eat.
3rd person - ai~ k^ha-ibe, He/She will eat, - omra- k^ha-ibe, They will eat.

Progressive Tense(Present)

- 1st person - mui~ k^ha-ja- a~c,ong, I am eating, - a~mra- k^ha-ja- a~c,i,
We are eating.
2nd person - tui~ k^ha-ja- a~c,is/, You are eating., - tomra- k^ha-ja- a~c,en,
You are eating.
3rd person - ai~ k^ha-ja- a~c,e, He/She is eating, - omra- k^ha-ja- a~c,e,
They are eating.

Progressive Tense (Past)

- 1st person - mui~ k^ha-ja- a~c,nu,, I was eating, - a~mra- k^ha-ja- a~c,lang,
We were eating.
2nd person - tui~ k^ha-ja- a~c,lu, You were eating, -tomra- k^ha-ja- a~c,la^{en},
You were eating.
3rd person - ai~ k^ha-ja- a~c,il, He/she was eating - omra- k^ha-ja- a~c,il,
They were eating.

Progressive Tense(Future)

- 1st person - mui~ k^ha-ja- t^ha-kim, I shall be eating - a~mra- k^ha-ja- t^ha-kmo,
We shall be eating.
2nd person - tui~ k^ha-ja- t^ha-kpu, You will be eating, - tomra- k^ha-ja- t^ha-
ikpa^{en}, You will be eating.
3rd person - ai~ k^ha-ja- t^ha-ikpe, He/She will be eating, - omra- k^ha-ja- t^ha-ikpe,
They will be eating.

Perfect Tense(Present)

1st person - - mui~ k^ha~nu, I have eaten, - a~mra~ k^ha~ilang,
We have eaten.

2nd person - tui~ k^ha~lu, You have eaten - tomra~ k^ha~ila^en,
You have eaten.

3rd person - ai~ k^ha~il, He/She has eaten, - omra~ k^ha~il,
They have eaten.

Perfect Tense(Past)

1st person - mui~ k^ha~ja~ ut.c,ang, I had eaten, - a~mra~ k^ha~ja~ ut.c,i,
We had eaten.

2nd person - tui~ k^ha~ja~ ut.c,is/, You had eaten, -tomra~ k^ha~ja~ ut.c,aen,
You had eaten.

3rd person - ai~ k^ha~ja~ ut.c,e, He/She had eaten, - omra~ k^ha~ja~ ut.c,e,
They had eaten.

Perfect Tense(Future)

1st person - mui~ k^ha~ja~ ut.im, I shall have eaten, - a~mra~ k^ha~ja~ ot.mo,
We shall have eaten.

2nd person - tui~ k^ha~ja~ ut.pu, You will have eaten, -tomra~ k^ha~ja~ ut.pa^en,
You will have eaten.

3rd person - ai~ k^ha~ja~ ut.pe, He/She will have eaten, - omra~ k^ha~ja~ ut.pe,
They will have eaten.

Perfect Progressive Tense(Present)

1st person - mui~ k^ha~ja~j a~c,ong, I have been eating, - a~mra~ k^ha~ja~j a~c,i,
We have been eating.

2nd person -tui~ k^ha-ja-j a⁻c, is/, You have been eating, - tomra⁻ k^ha-ja-j ac, en,
You have eating.

3rd person - ai~ k^ha-ja-j a⁻c, e, He/She has been eating, - omra⁻ k^ha-ja-j a⁻c, e,
They have been eating.

Perfect Progressive Tense (Past)

1st person - mui~ k^ha-ja-j a⁻c, nu, - a⁻mra⁻ k^ha-ja-j a⁻ic, lang,
I had been eating, We had been eating.

2nd person - tui~ k^ha-ja-j t^ha-kpu, -tomra⁻ k^ha-ja-j a⁻c, la^en,
You had been eating, You had been eating.

3rd person - ai~ k^ha-ja-j a⁻c, il, - omra k^ha-ja-j a⁻c, il,
He/She had been eating They had been eating.

Perfect Progressive Tense(Future)

1st person - mui~ k^ha-ja-j t^ha-kim, - a⁻mra⁻ k^ha-ja-j t^ha-kmo,
I shall have been eating, We shall have been eating.

2nd person - tui~ k^ha-ja-j t^ha-kpu, -tomra⁻ k^ha-ja-j t^ha- ikpa^en,
You will have been eating, You will have been eating.

3rd person - ai~ k^ha-ja-j t^ha-ikpe, -omra⁻ k^ha-ja-j t^ha-ikpe,
He/She will have been eating, They will have been eating.

3. Words denoting collection:

[J^ha-k]- [c, ara-ir J^ha-k], a brood of chickens.

[J^hopa⁻]- phula^er J^hopa⁻], a bunch of flowers.

[boJa⁻]- [na⁻ṭ.ir boJa⁻], a bundle of sticks.

[dal]- [c,a^enra⁻r dal], a crowd of boys.

[pa⁻la⁻]- [k^harir pa⁻la⁻], a stack of firewood etc.

4. Onomatopoeia:

[gun-gun], humming of bees.

[ka^ec,-ma^ec,], twittering of birds.

[ha[~]mla[~]ni], lowing of cows.

[ma^eo[~]- ma^eo[~]], mewing of cats.

[b^heu- b^heu], barking of dogs etc.

5. Antonyms in Goalpariya language:

[c,a^engra-c,a^engri], boy-girl, [bura^e- buri], old man –old womam,

[ba^eṭ.a-ba^eṭ.i], son- daughter, [a⁻it-din], day- night, [pa⁻ṭ.a⁻pa⁻ṭ.i], he-

goat— she-goat, [c,a⁻la⁻k- b^hoda⁻i], clever- dull , [d^hani-garib], rich-

poor [batta⁻-mara⁻], alive-dead etc.

6. Definitives in Goalpariya language:

[ṭ.a^e/ kajṭ.a⁻]- [ma⁻nus/^{ṭ}.a^e/ma⁻nus/^{ṭ} kajṭ.a⁻], the man/ men

[k^ha^en/kajk^ha^en]- [baik^ha^en/ baikajk^ha^en], the book/ books

[J^han/kajJ^han]- [c,a^engra⁻J^han/c,a^engra⁻kajJ^han], the boy/ boys

[muṭ / kajmuṭ.]-[b^ha⁻tmuṭ./b^ha⁻tkajmuṭ.], a little amount of rice

[c,a-iṭ.ṭ.a^e]- b^ha-tc,a-iṭ.ṭ.ae], a little amount of rice etc.

7. Pleonastic suffixes in Goalpariya language:

[to]- [ai~ Ja-ibe], He will go, [ai~to Ja-ibe], None but he will go, [ai~ Jaibeto] he will not but go.

[da^ehong]- [ai~ na-ha-il], oh! he has not eaten, [ai~ na-ha-ilda^ehong] oh! he has not eaten (expressing surprise)

[fa^ela-il/ s/a-ril]- [ai~ k^ha-il], he has eaten, [ai~ k^ha-ja-pha^ela-il/ k^ha-ja-s/a-ril], he has already been eaten(emphasizing the completeness), etc.

CHAPTER IV

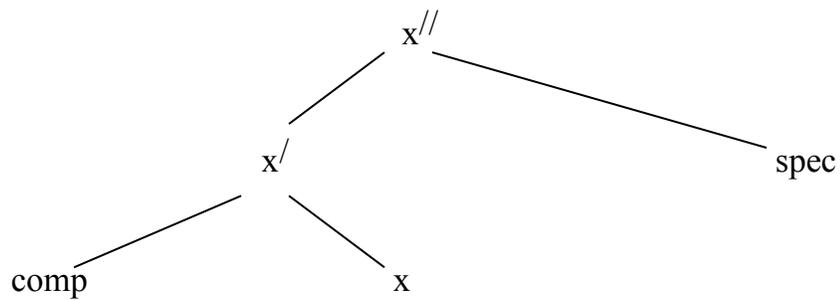
SYNTAX OF GOALPARIYA LANGUAGE

I. PHRASES

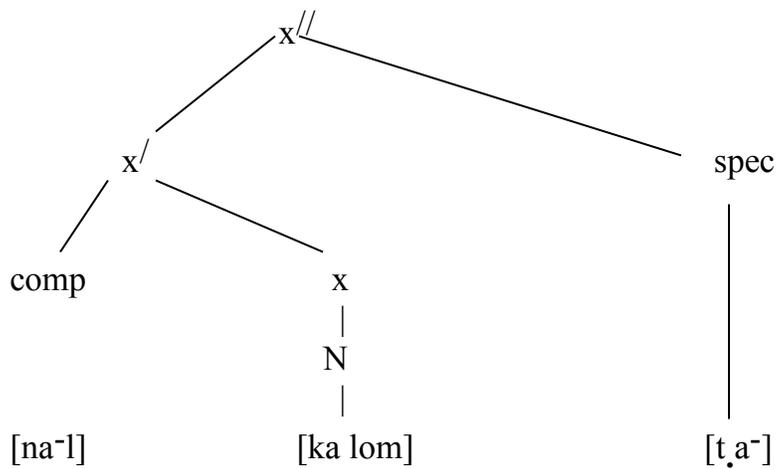
The structure of a typical phrase in this language is :

Comp ___ head ___ spec or Comp ___ x ___ spec(in an XP)

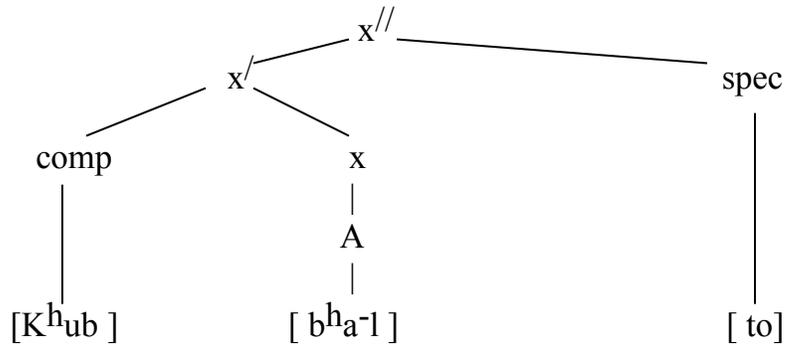
Or



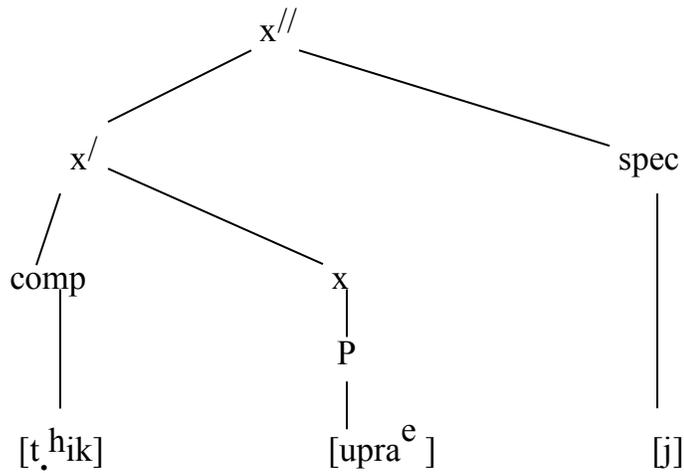
e.g.1. Noun Phrases: [na⁻¹ kalom ṭ.a⁻], The red pen.



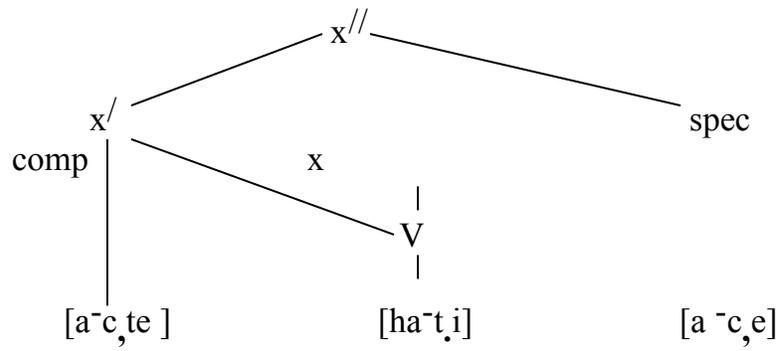
2. Adjective Phrase: [k^hub b^ha⁻¹ to], Indeed very good.



3. Prepositional Phrase: [t^hik upra^e j], exactly on/upon.



4. Verb Phrase: [ac,te hat.i ac,e], (he) is walking slowly.

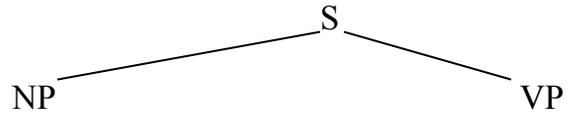


II. SENTENCES IN GOALPARIYA LANGUAGE

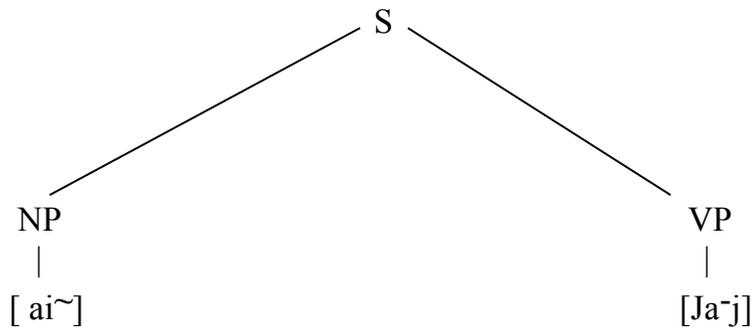
The structure of a typical sentence in this language is:

S ___ NP, VP

or



e.g. [ai~ Ja~ j], he goes.



The basic sentence-patterns in this language are:

1. SV- [mui~ Ja~ ng], I go.
2. SOV- [ai~ a^e ha~ n kec,ç,a~ kaic,e], he told a story.
3. SOOV- [ai~ mok a^e ha~ n kec,ç,a~ kaic,e], he told me a story.
4. SCV- [ai~ ba~ ri geic,e], he went home.

5. SOCV- [ai~ mok pa~gla~ kaic,e], he called me a lunatic.
6. SAV- [ai~ ta~ra~ta~ri a~s'il], he has come soon.
7. SOAV- [ai~ kalomt.a~ Ja^ebot nic,e], he took the pen in the pocket.

[S-subject, O- object, V- verb , C-complement, A-adjunct].

From the above discussion, it has been found that Goalpariya language is a head - next language.

III. FORMATION OF NEGATIVE

The negative prefix in this language is[na~]as in:

[a i~ kaj], he says ,

[ai~ na~ kay], he does not say.

IV. FORMATION OF INTERROGATIVE

In order to form interrogative in this language, [na^eki] is suffixed with the verb as in:

[ai~ kaj],he says .

[ai~ kajna^eki], does he say?

V. FORMATION OF OPTATIVE MOOD

The verb takes [uk] to form optative in this language as in:

[ai~ kaj], he says .

[ai~ kauk], let him say.

VI. FORMATION OF DUBITATIVE

The verb takes [hajto/ buJi/ bodaːj] before it to indicate doubt, expectation, probability etc.

e.g. [ai˜ kaj], he says ,

[ai˜ hajto / buJi/ bodaːj kaj], he may say.

VII. FORMATION OF EXCLAMATION

The verb takes [baː/ ki/ haːj/ c^{hi} etc.] before it to form exclamations according to the intended message in the mind of the speaker.

e.g. [baː! ki s^{undar}], how beautiful !

VIII. CLAUSES

The speakers of Goalpariya language use the following subordinate clauses:

1. Subordinate nominal (that) clauses,

a. subject to a verb: [ai˜ Je baːc, i aːc, e etˌaː a^{ekt}ˌaː s^a-ntonaː],

That he/she is alive is a consolation.

b. object to a verb: [mui˜ Jaːnong Je ai˜ a^{ela}-o baːc, i aːc, e],

I know that he/she is still alive.

c. complement to a verb: [(etˌaː a^{ekt}ˌaː) d^{ha}-ronaː Je ai˜ a^{ela}-o baːc, i aːc, e],

The assumption that he/she is still alive.

2. Subordinate nominal (wh) clauses,

a. subject to a verb: [ai˜ ki kairbe (s^{et}ˌaː) tor upra^e nirb^{har} kare],

what he/ she will do depends on you.

b. object to a verb:[mui˜ Jaːnong tui˜ ki c, aːs^{is}],

I know what you want.

c. complement to a verb: [ua^er manot ki (s[/]et.a⁻) ka⁻mot da^eha⁻ Ja⁻ibe],

What is in his/her mind will be found in work.

3. Subordinate restrictive / non- restrictive relative clauses.

a. Subordinate restrictive relative clause: [ra⁻mer b^ha-i, J^ha-i[~] ba⁻ira^e

t^ha⁻ke a⁻ic,ç,e], Ram's brother, who lives abroad came.

b. Subordinate non- restrictive relative clause: [ra⁻mer b^ha-i J^ha-i[~]

ba⁻ira^e t^ha⁻ke a⁻ic,ç,e], Ram's brother, who lives abroad came.

4. Subordinate adverbial clauses:

a. of time: [J^hatk^ha^en pa⁻ng t^ha⁻kim], I shall wait as long as I can.

b. of place: [J^het.a-i a⁻c,ong at i t^ha⁻kim], I shall stay where I am.

c. of reason: [J^hehetu ai[~] a⁻is/e na⁻i[~] mui[~] na⁻Ja⁻ng],

I do not go as he/ she did not come.

d. of purpose: [ai[~] man dija^e pari a⁻c,e J^ha⁻te pa⁻s/ kare], He/she is

reading attentively so that he/ she passes.

e. of result: [a^eto haira^en haic,ang Je k^ha⁻ra⁻j haba⁻r na⁻pa⁻ng], I am so

tired that I cannot stand up.

f. of condition : [tui[~] a⁻is/le mui[~] Ja⁻im], I shall go if you come.

g. of contrast: [J^hedio garib, ai[~] s[/]uki], Though poor, he/ she is happy.

h. of manner: [tor kaowa⁻mate ka⁻m karim], I shall do as you say.

CHAPTER V

SEMANTICS OF GOALPARIYA LANGUAGE

The semantic properties of the language may be discussed as follows:

1. **Antonyms in binary opposition as in:**

[c,a^engra⁻], a boy——[c,a^engri], a girl, [batt a⁻], alive——[mara⁻], dead.

2. **Antonyms in gradable opposition as in:**

[baro], big——[c,^hot.o], small.

3. **Antonyms implying the presence of the opposite in the pair (Converse terms) as in:**

[ba^ec,a⁻], to sell——[kena⁻], to buy.

4. **Figures of speech in Goalpariya language:**

a. Figures based on similarities:

1. Simile- An explicit statement of the similarity between two different things as in:

[Jha^emon hekra⁻ s/a^emon hekri , Jha^emon pa⁻t.a⁻s/a⁻g
s/a^emon na⁻ hri], As is X so is Y.

2. Metaphore- Transfer of word from the object to which it properly belongs, to another in order to imply a comparison though not formally expressed, as in:

[Ja⁻ga⁻r t.^ha⁻kur, b^hinJa⁻ga⁻r kuhur],[t.^hakur]- the literal meaning is an idol but the metaphorical meaning here is an honoured man, [kuhur] -the literal meaning is a dog but the metaphorical meaning is a dishonoured man.

b. Figures based on association:

1. Metonymy- Substituting the name of one thing to another, to which it has certain relation as in:

[til kura^eite-kura^ete ta⁻l haj], [til] is the name of sesamum (implying insignificance) and [ta⁻l] is the name of a palm (implying significance).

2. Allegory-Description of one thing under the image of another as in:

[das[/]er na⁻t i a^eher boJa⁻], [na⁻t i] means stick and [boJa⁻] means bundle but here[das[/]er na⁻t i] implies the contribution of many and [a^eher boJa⁻] implies the strength of one.

c. Figures based on difference:

1. Antithesis- Contrasted words or ideas are set against each-other in a balanced form for the sake of emphasis as in:

[a^s/a^r kannu p^haⁱ, a^s/a^t paril c^haⁱ], [p^haⁱ] means large in quantity and [c^haⁱ] means ashes. Here, the figure means the great hope coming to nothingness.

2. Climax- An artful amplification of the circumstances of some objects or actions which are intended to present in a strong light as in:

[duka^er madde duk J^ha^r g^hat^e b^ha⁻nga⁻ na⁻o, ta⁻r c^haite adik duk J^ha^r g^hare s[/]ata⁻l ma⁻o], This figure tresses the bad name of a step mother in bringing about unhappiness in a family.

3. Anticlimax or Bathos- A sudden declension from a lofty thought to an insignificant one as in:

[kapa⁻ler na⁻m a⁻s[/]i, barua^e c^ha⁻ja⁻ b^ha⁻ta⁻r d^hannu ta⁻i[~]o g^hora⁻r g^ha⁻s[/]i], The figure means “Man proposes, God disposes”

d. Figures based on construction:

1. Interrogation-An earnest interrogation for a strong affirmation as in :

[a^eto dukko kis[/]at, ma⁻g ma⁻s[/]i s[/]itat?], This figure is used to denote something undeserving.

2. Hyperbole- Presenting things as much greater or less, better or worse than really they are as in :

[ha⁻ti-g^hora⁻ ga^eil tal, mas[/]a⁻ kaj kato Jal], This figure is used to denote an insignificant role of something/ somebody.

2. Epigram- A brief statement involving considerable meaning as in:

[hoka⁻ da^ehi noka⁻ tol, ma⁻o da^ehi c^ha⁻o tol], This figure means “ As is the mother, so are the children”.

Goalpariya language is the mother tongue of the people of Dhubri district(Assam) which has a lot to do with the development of the imaginative faculty of the people in general and the learners of the district in particular. Neglect of its cultivation means making the people imaginatively handicapped as it has many differences as well as similarities with Assamese language. It is an unpleasant truth that the local people of the district learn Assamese language in the primary level not as the first language but as the second language (the first being *Goalpariya* language). The district is different from other parts of Assam culturally too. In this book, an endeavour has been made to present the marked linguistic principles underlying the speech-pattern of the native speakers of the language in brief. The components parts of the language dealt with are only illustrative and not exhaustive, rigorous and minute investigations are made for the discovery of the linguistic elements. Attention has been paid to the cross-curricular link among different local, regional and supra-regional dialects so as to provide the speakers of the languages with a complementary area of language for discourse to cope with the demand of multi-lingual communication in our national life. This would generate in the speakers the feeling of local flavour easily accessible and attainable. Provided, further studies is made, it will generate a new momentum in organizing seminars, workshops and further research work on the language.

CHAPTER VI

CONCLUSION

Phonologically speaking, Goalpariya Language is a very simple dialect which neither realize the distinction between short and long vowel, nor the consonant cluster, nor the word –accent, though it has a few emphatic speech intonations. Morphologically considered, the vocabulary of Goalpariya Language consist of the words related with the commonest life of bare necessity and does not consist the words of a cultured life. The derivational affixes are very regular except a few variations following the voiced and voiceless sounds, vowels and consonants etc. Syntactically, Goalpariya Language is a head-next dialect though it allows some alternative constructions. It does not involve the movements of the grammatical categories like NP movement, Wh - movement or Aux-movement. The ornamental

expressions like the figures of speech and the idioms are also easily intelligible and simply constructed.

In this book, an attempt has been made to present, in brief, some of the linguistic principles underlying the speech –patterns of the native speakers of Goalpariya Language. However, the component parts of the dialect touched upon are simply illustrative and not exhaustive, and that some rigorous and minute investigations are due to for the discovery of the linguistic elements in the dialect. The discussions of this book are absolutely based upon my own experience as a native speaker of the dialect and an individual can, therefore, feel free to modify or supplement the discussion in relation to the communicative competence of the dialect.

It is all-encouraging that the University of Gauhati has included the language and culture of Goalpara (erstwhile) in the university curriculum, that “Mahoot Bandure”, the first cinema of Assam bears the testimony of Deshi culture and language, that the noted singer of Goalparia Lokageet, Pratima Pande has been awarded with ‘Padma-Sree’ award. I am optimistic that the time has come to consider the point of establishing a cross- curricular link among the different local, regional and supra-regional dialects to provide the speakers of Indian languages with a complementary area of language for discourse to cope with the demand of multi-lingual communication in our national life. This would generate in the speakers the necessary motivation to improve the speakers feeling of local flavour easily accessible and attainable. Seminars, workshops, project works on Goalpariya Language may usher in new insight into language studies. Goalpariya Language has indeed, a wide scope in the context of research work, and , therefore, we need not or should not waste our time on petty cavils about whether it is proper or not to call it Goalpariya Language or Ra⁻ jbangs/i Bha⁻s/a⁻ or Des/i Bha⁻s/a⁻ which is not of immediate concern to us, if not altogether irrelevant.

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