

## CHAPTER 26

### LINGUISTICS

#### Doctoral Theses

01. DAIMAI (KAILADBOU)  
**Morphology of Tense and Aspect in Liangmai**  
Supervisor : Prof. Pradeep Kumar Das  
Th 22954

*Abstract*  
*(Not Verified)*

The aim of this thesis is to provide a morphological analysis of tense and aspect system in Liangmai. It aims at identifying and classifying different tense and aspect markers in the language and recognizing how time is encoded in the language. The thesis is divided into five chapters. Chapter One gives an introduction to Liangmai and its speakers. A brief history of the people is highlighted in the first part of the chapter. The second part gives the genetic classification of language. It provides brief typological characteristics of the language. Chapter Two discusses about the general concept of time and tense and how it is encoded in different languages. The chapter looks into the nature of tense based on the works by some renowned linguists like Reichenbach (1947), Comrie (1985), Hornstein (1990), etc. The notion of aspect and it expresses situation in the flow of time is studied in this chapter. The study of aspect by linguists like Vendler (1967), Comrie (1976), Smith (1991), Dahl (1985), etc. were taken into account. The concept of tense and aspect in Tibeto-Burman languages with reference to Manipuri is discussed. Chapter Three discusses tense and aspect in Liangmai. The main goal is to identify the grammatical categories or markers which function as tense and aspect. The difference in absolute and relative tense and how it is represented in Liangmai is studied. Different aspectual markers and their distribution are also discussed in this chapter. Chapter Four begins with the study of Liangmai verb. The nature and characteristics of Liangmai complex predicate is discussed. Different vectors that are use in forming Liangmai complex predicates and how it conveys information regarding situation is discussed in this chapter. The Chapter Five gives an overall conclusions of the study made in chapter one to four.

#### *Contents*

1. Introduction: The people and the language 2. Methodology and review of existing work 3. Tense and aspect in simple predicate 4. Tense and aspect in complex predicate 5. Conclusions. Bibliography. Notes. Appendix.

02. GHOSH (Anumitra Dastidar)  
**Semantic Knowledge of Indefinite Pronouns: A Detailed Case Study of Bangla**  
Supervisor : Prof. Tista Bagchi  
Th 22953

*Abstract*  
*(Not Verified)*

Bangla indefinite pronouns exist in a number of series including those of Free Choice Items (FCIs) and Negative Polarity Items (NPIs). In this thesis, I respond to the central theoretical problem as to why we need different series in a language if they do not have different functions. Most of these series are restricted in their distribution and remain dependent on particular contexts. In this thesis I argue that a combination of morpho-semantics, contextual distribution and quantification provides a roadmap to the semantics of indefinite pronouns. For the purpose of this study I choose the following words – quantifying adjective/indefinite pronoun kichu (some/something), quantifying adjective kono (some/any),

indefinite pronouns *keu* (somebody), *kothao* (somewhere) and adverb *kOkhono* (sometime). While each of these words qualify as different grammatical categories, but they always appear together in a series.

*Contents*

1. Introducing the complexities of the Bangla indefinite pronoun series 2. Existential indefinites in Bangla and issues in quantification 3. Bangla free choice items 4. Bangla negative polarity items 5. Concluding remarks. Bibliography.

03. SINGH (LOUREMBAM SURJIT)  
**Some Complex Predicates in Meiteilon**  
 Supervisor : Prof. Pradeep Kumar Das  
Th 22955

*Abstract*  
*(Not Verified)*

The present work attempts to investigate the patterns of some complex predicates in Meiteilon (Manipuri). The complex predicate in Meiteilon is an interesting phenomenon because it reveals some interesting grammatical patterns that have not yet been analyzed in the language. The work is based on a descriptive analysis that deals with the framework of complex predicates in the area of Verb1 + Verb2 Compound, Noun + Verb and Adjective + Verb Conjunct constructions. This work carefully examines various kinds of form and function of compound verbs and conjunct verbs constructions in Meiteilon under the covered term complex predicate. It further analyzes the patterns of complex predicates in Meiteilon and also examines various kinds of compounding and conjoining of the verbs with different lexical items in Meiteilon. Meiteilon has huge construction of the co-occurrences of Noun- + Verb and some constructions of Adjective + Verb and Verb + Verb complex predicates. The thesis further examines and discusses some semantic and syntactic properties of complex predicates in Meiteilon mainly based on the semantic conditions of compound verb, syntactic conditions of compound verb, semantic conditions of conjunct verb and syntactic conditions of conjunct verb in Meiteilon. It further examines the semantic and syntactic functions of explicators (V2) in CP and how an explicator functions in agreement patterns of  $\pm$  transitivity that decides the genitive case, theta role and number of valency of a clause in CP. Thus the areas of this work are very interesting to have as a discussion and will also become a key point for the family of this language in conducting further research in future. Again, this thesis states to recapitulate the major observations drawn in the study and also presents an overall conclusion of the analysis and discussion carried out through the thesis.

*Contents*

1. Introduction 2. Theoretical background and review of literatures 3. Semantic and syntactic features of CP in meiteilon 4. Compound verbs in meiteilon 5. Conjunct verbs in meiteilon 5. Conclusion.