



Research Article

FORMATION OF VERB OF NOCTE LANGUAGE AND ITS APPLICATION

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ABSTRACT

India is a linguistically diverse country. Due to the migration of many ethnic groups since pre-historic times to India, its language and culture have been developing. Unlike other states of India, The North East is varied in terms of its linguistic and cultural features which are full of wonders. The North east comprises of Assam, Arunachal, Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur, Tripura, Meghalaya and Sikkim. Sikkim has got the recognition of being an indispensable state of North East recently. One of the indispensable states of North East India is Assam. Assam, that is popularly known as the threshold of NorthEast is the abode of many ethnic groups. Each group has its own distinguished linguistic and cultural characteristics that make it beautiful. Therefore, sometimes Assam is regarded to be the hub of linguistic assimilation. In Assam, many regional languages are in practices which have its origin from different language family, such as: Indo-European, Chinese-Tibetan, Austrick and Dravidian family. One of the languages that is in practice in Assam is NOCTE, which decedents from 'Tibbet-Burma'. The NOCTE's live in Tirap district, which is situated in the South-West part of Arunachal Pradesh, is considered as the important Tribe of Naga origin. They are rich in their cultural and linguistic identities. They belong to the Mongoloid ethnic group. Apart from Arunachal Pradesh, The Nocte tribes are seen living there in *Dihing Kinar Nocte Gaon*, situated in Jaypur, Dibrugarh, *Paniduwariya Gaon* (Namrup) and *Hiloni Gaon* (Sivsagar). Presently, nine dialectal forms are available of Nocte tribes. They are bilingual; they used Nocte as their first language. In this research paper, an attempt has been made to discuss the formation of verbs and its application by the Nocte people.

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INTRODUCTION

India is a linguistically diverse country. Due to the migration of many ethnic groups since pre-historic times to India, its language and culture have been developing. Unlike other states of India, The North East is varied in terms of its linguistic and cultural features which are full of wonders. The North east comprises of Assam, Arunachal, Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur, Tripura, Meghalaya and Sikkim. Sikkim has got the recognition of being an indispensable state of North East recently. One of the indispensable states of North East India is Assam. Assam, that is popularly known as the threshold of NorthEast is the abode of many ethnic groups. Each group has its own distinguished linguistic and cultural characteristics that make it beautiful. Therefore, sometimes Assam is regarded to be the hub of linguistic assimilation. In Assam, many regional languages are in practices which have its origin from different language family, such as: Indo-European, Chinese-Tibetan, Austrick and Dravidian family. One of the languages that is in practice in Assam is NOCTE, which decedents from 'Tibbet-Burma'.

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The NOCTE's live in Tirap district, which is situated in the South-West part of Arunachal Pradesh, is considered as the important Tribe of Naga origin. They are rich in their cultural and linguistic identities. They belong to the Mongoloid ethnic group. Apart from Arunachal Pradesh, The Nocte tribes are seen living there in *Dihing Kinar Nocte Gaon*, situated in Jaypur, Dibrugarh, *Paniduwariya gaon* (Namrup) and *Hiloni Gaon* (Sivsagar). Presently, nine dialectal forms are available of Nocte tribes. They are bilingual; they used Nocte as their first language. In this research paper, an attempt has been made to discuss the formation of verbs and its application by the Nocte people.

The Noctes are the second largest Chinese Tibetan language family group of the world. They highly inhabit in North East, particularly in Arunachal Pradesh, have their own ethnic, linguistic and cultural identities. So far as Ethnic identity is concerned, they belong to the Mongoloid species. The root meaning of the word 'Nocte' is 'Noc' (নক) means Human (মানুষ) and Te (টে) means Village, i.e. those who live in village. As per the folk tale, they believe that Zauban (জাউবান) is the creator of their breeds. Due to many commercial and social factors, a good relationship has been developed between Noctes of Arunachal Pradesh with Assamese people of Assam.

The most important fact that needs to be highlighted here is that such relationships still in continuance. Many views have been prevailing regarding the migration issue of Noctes. By analyzing those views, it can be estimated that, the Noctes have come to Tirap by crossing Patkai Mountain long ago. Firstly, they lived in high hilly side. But later on, they immigrated to the plain area and started living by making village. In The Noctes, Parul Dutta talks vividly about how the Noctes have crossed the Patkai Mountain. Nowadays, the Noctes are living in the 63 villages of Tirap district and three villages of Assam. The Nocte villages are under the subdivisions of laju, Deumali, Soha, Khunsa, Dadam etc. The inhabitants of Nacte ethnic group are seen in the *Dihing Kinar Nocte Gaon* (Dibrugarh), *Paniduwariya Gaon* (Namrup) and *Siloni Gaon* (Sivsagar) of Assam.

According to the census of 2001, the populations of Noctes living in Arunachal Pradesh are 33,680. There are 10 villages wherein 'Hawa' dialect is in practice. It should be noted that, the people of *Dihing Kinar Gaon* also use 'Hawa' dialect to some extent. 40 houses of *Dihing Kinar* District were selected to do this research. There, we found that almost 200 people from those 40 houses using the HAWA dialect. Nocte language is verbal or oral. Due to the non existence of scripts of its own, there are no written literary outputs are found. It is in practice in oral forms, though traces of oral or verbal literature have also been found.

Objectives

The Main Objectives of the Research Paper are as Follows

1. To study how the verbs of Nocte language are formed and how to apply it.
2. To study the formation of verbs and its application in terms of Tense and Numbers.
3. To study how scientific study of Nocte language may help the oral/verbal Nocte language to form a written gesture.

Importance of the Study

A scientific study of a language helps to establish an identity of its own. Still, nobody has made an attempt to study the formation of verbs of Nocte language scientifically. Through this research report, it is believed that a way/pave will be created to the scientific thinking of Nocte language. Nowadays, it is seen that the present generation do not give much attention the development of Nocte language, they are not showing any kind of interest; therefore it can be said that this paper will help to preserve the language that might help to give it a written form later on.

Scope of the study

The present study deals with the formation of verbs of Noctes, Its classifications and application in different areas. The data has been collected from '*Dihing Kinar Nockte Gaon*' which falls under the Jaipur sub division, Dibrugarh. Through field study, data from Hawa Dialect has been collected.

METHODOLOGY

In this paper, descriptive method has been adopted. This study encompasses to the ongoing oral form of Nocte language.

Literature Review

1. While analyzing the languages of Arunachal Pradesh, George A. Grierson in his '*Linguistic survey of India*'(1903), just only mentioned Nacte Language. No detail study has been done by him.
2. '*An Introduction to Nocte Language*' (1971) of K. Das Gupta discusses of the overview of Nocte dialects.
3. In '*Hindi Nocte English Vocabulary*'(1974), published by Nagaland Language Council on analyses has been done on Nacte language in this book.
4. In '*The Noctes*'(1978), Parul Dutta has analyzed the socio cultural aspect of Nocte people. No detailed study has been done in this book.
5. In the Research Book '*Tribel chieftainship*'(2003) of Dr. P.C. Dutta hah analyzed the social arrangement of Nocte People.
6. In the '*Linguistic Situation in North-East India*' (1982), book edited by Mrinal Miri, 'Sino Tibetan of North-East India, Social Aspects' the article of Promod Chandra Bhattacharji has been mentioned about the generation of Nocte Language.
7. In the Research Book '*Nocte aru Wansusakalor lokacar*' (2013) of Khanikar Mout has been a few suggestion of Nocte Language.
8. In the Book '*Nocte Bhasar Nampadar gathan aru Rupsadhan*' (2013) of Amar Saikia has been expanded discuss the word structure and word derivation of Nocte Language, structure of Noun word and morphological form of Nocte Language.

After reviewing these above mentioned books, it seems that nobody has ever attempted to underscore the formation of Nocte language in a full-fledged form. In regards to Nocte Language, even through K. Das Gupta and Amar Saikia have attempted to study it in a detailed manner, it is not sufficient to make it a distinguishable language. The larger aspects of the language would come to the fore if we study it only through unified methods and data collected from field studies.

Problems of the Study

Every tribes of North East has it own kind of spoken/oral language. It is true that many researchers have done works on these oral languages. But, research on Nocte language is still limited. There are many problems that a researcher has to face while studying Nocte language. The main problems are as follows:

1. Nocte language does not have scripts of its own. That is why it is available in oral/verbal forms. No written documents have been found out yet about Nocte Language.
2. Due to the lack of interest shown by young generation, it is in practiced within limited people.
3. As no systematic study has been done yet, there are no grammar books, dictionary and text books are found written in Nocte language
4. As the people are not conscious regarding their language, it is considered as endangered language.
5. It is seen that, nowadays Hindi and English language have a great impact in Nocte populated areas.

Verb

A verb is a word that expresses an action or a state of being. A word used to describe an action, state, or occurrence, and

forming the main part of the predicate of a sentence, such as hear, become, happen. it conveys an action, an occurrence or state of being. Nocte language has no roots and syllables. It is seen the verb of Nocte language is formed in terms of its Tense, person, and numbers. It is formed by adding a Affix and Inflective.

There are Three Verbs in Nocte Language in Terms of its tense. These are

1. Present Tense
2. Past Tense
3. Future Tense.

In the same way, there are also three verbs which are formed in terms of its person. These are

1. First Person
2. Second Person.
3. Third Person.

It is seen that Verb is formed in Terms of Numbers also

1. Singular
2. Plural

An attempt has been made to discuss the formation of verbs of Nocte language in terms of its Tense, persons and numbers.

Formation of Verb in terms of Tense

A tense is a set of forms taken by a verb to indicate the time of the action in relation to the time of the utterance. Tense is a category that expresses time reference with reference to the moment of speaking. In terms of time and aspects, Tense is classified into three categories:

1. Present Tense
2. Past Tense
3. Future Tense

In the same way, in terms of its Tenses, verbs are formed in Nocte language. To indicate Tense, there are many forms are used with the root. In Nocte Language, the same form indicates both Tense and persons. In Nocte Language, the verb forms of present indefinite and future tense are the same. However, to Indicate Past indefinite and insignificant or simple past, same kind of forms are used. But, Last year, last moths etc are used to indicate Past indefinite.

Formation of Verb in Present tense and its Application

Present tense is an expression of an action that is currently going on or habitually performed, or a state that currently or generally exists. Present tense can be classified into two categories: Present indefinite and present continuous tense.

Present indefinite

Present indefinite tense is an expression of an action which is happening right now. It represents an action which is regular or normal or true and uses the base form of the verb. Depending on the person, the simple present tense is formed by using the root form or by adding to the end.

In Present indefinite the verb forms are changed depending on its persons and numbers. But, the same form is used in both third person singular and plural numbers. For example:

In terms of Singular Form

In the first person singular number of Nocte language, 'aŋ' or 'kaŋ' is used. For instance

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 1. I read. | ŋa ve <u>kaŋ/aŋ</u> |
| 2. I play ball. | ŋa raŋ lam- <u>aŋ</u> |

In the second person singular number, 'ɔ' is used. For instance

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. You read | naŋve- <u>ɔ</u> |
| 2. You play ball | naŋ raŋ lam- <u>ɔ</u> |

In the third Person Singular Number, 'ka' and 'ta' is added. For Instance

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. He /She/ reads. | te ve- <u>ka/ta</u> |
| 2. He/She/ plays ball. | te raŋ lam- <u>ta</u> |

In terms of plural number

In the first Person Plural Number of Nocte Language, 'e' is added. for Instance

- | | |
|-------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. We read. | naŋk ^h u ve- <u>e</u> |
| 2. We go. | naŋk ^h u ka- <u>e</u> |

In the second person plural number of Nocte language, 'aŋ' is added. For instance

- | | |
|--------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. You read. | nek ^h u ve- <u>aŋ</u> |
| 2. You go. | nek ^h u ka- <u>aŋ</u> |

In the third person plural number of Nocte language, either 'ka' or 'ta' is added.

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. They read. | tink ^h u ve- <u>ka</u> |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|

Present Continuous tense

Present continuous tense is tense which is used to show that an ongoing action. Personal inflective is used Present continuous tense. In Present continuous tense Personal inflective are Impartial. To indicate Present continuous tense in Nocte language, 'kaŋ' are used.

In terms of Singular Number

In the first person singular number of Nocte language, 'kaŋ' is added. For instance

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1. I am reading | ŋa ve ri- <u>kaŋ</u> |
| 2. I am eating | ŋa sai- <u>kaŋ</u> |

In the second person singular number of Nocte language, 'ɔ' is added. For instance

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. You are reading | naŋve ri- <u>ɔ</u> |
| 2. You are eating | naŋ saika- <u>ɔ</u> |

In the third person singular number of Nocte language, 'ka' or 'ta' is added. For instance

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. He /She/ is reading. | te ve ri- <u>ka</u> |
| 2. He /She/ is eating. | te saika- <u>ta</u> |

In terms of Plural Number

In the first person plural number of Nocte language, 'e' is added. For instance

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. We are reading. | naŋk ^h u ve ri- <u>e</u> |
| 2. We are eating. | naŋk ^h u saika- <u>e</u> |

In the second person plural number of Nocte language, 'aŋ' is added. For instance

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. You are reading. | nek ^h u ve ri- <u>aŋ</u> |
| 2. We are eating. | nek ^h u saika- <u>aŋ</u> |

In the third person plural number of Nocte language, 'ka' and 'ta' is added. For instance

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. They are reading. | tink ^h u ve ri- <u>ka</u> |
| 2. They are eating. | tink ^h u saika- <u>ta</u> |

Formation of verbs in past tense and its Application

Past tense describes an action, event or condition that occurred in the past or at a specified time. The past tense of Nocte language can be classified into two forms: Past indefinite and Simple past. To indicate past indefinite and simple past same kind of verb forms is uses. But, to indicate past indefinite, yesterday, last year etc words are used. For example:

I did the work yesterday. ḡaməutua moutak

Past Indefinite tense

Past indefinite tense implies an action, event or condition that occurred in the past. In Nocte language, verbs are formed in past tense in terms of its person and numbers. For example:

In terms of Singular number

In the first person singular number of Nocte language, 'tak' is added. For instance

- | | |
|----------------|------------------------|
| 1. I read. | ḡa ve- <u>tak</u> |
| 2. I ate rice. | ḡa tsom sa- <u>tak</u> |

In the second person singular number of Nocte language, 'tak-ə' is added. For instance

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. You read | naḡve <u>tak-ə</u> |
| 2. You ate rice. | naḡ tsomsa <u>tak-ə</u> |

In the third person singular number of Nocte language, 'tak-ka' is added. For instance

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. He read | te ve <u>tak-ka</u> |
| 2. He/ She ate rice. | te tsom sa <u>tak-ka</u> |

In terms of Plural Number

In the first person plural number of Nocte language, 'tak-e' is added. For instance

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 1. We read. | naḡk ^h u ve- <u>tak-e</u> |
| 2. We ate. | naḡk ^h u tsom sa- <u>tak-e</u> |

In the second person plural number of Nocte language, 'tak-an' is added. For instance

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1. You read | nek ^h u ve <u>tak-an</u> |
| 2. You ate rice. | nek ^h u tsom sa- <u>tak-an</u> |

In the third person plural number of Nocte language, 'tak-ka' is added. For instance

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 1. They read. | tink ^h u ve- <u>tak-ka</u> |
| 2. They ate rice. | tink ^h u tsom sa- <u>tak-ka</u> |

Simple past: It describes an action or event that occurred in the distant past. In Nocte language, verbs are formed in the Simple past. For instance:

In terms of Singular number

In the first person singular number of Nocte language, 'a'/'va' is added. For example

- | | |
|-------------|---------------------|
| 1. I did | ḡa məuv- <u>a</u> |
| 2. I played | ḡa lə məu- <u>a</u> |

In the second person singular number of Nocte language, 'a'/'va-ə' is added. For example

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| 1. You did | naḡ məuva- <u>ə</u> |
| 2. You played | naḡ lə məua- <u>ə</u> |

In the third person singular number of Nocte language, 'a'/'va'-'ka'/'ta' is added. For example

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. He/She did | te məuva- <u>ka</u> |
| 2. He/ She played | te lə məua- <u>ta</u> |

In Terms of Plural Number

In the first person plural number of Nocte language, 'a'/'va-e' is added. For example

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. We did | naḡk ^h u məuva- <u>e</u> |
| 2. We played | naḡk ^h u lə-məua- <u>e</u> |

In the second person plural number of Nocte language, 'a'/'va'-'an' is added. For example

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. You did | nek ^h u məuva- <u>an</u> |
| 2. You played ball. | nek ^h u lə məua- <u>an</u> |

In the third person plural number of Nocte language, 'a'/'va'.... 'ka'/'ta' is added. For example

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. They did. | tink ^h u məuva- <u>ka</u> |
| 2. They played. | tink ^h u lə məua- <u>ta</u> |

Formation of verbs in Future tense and its Application

Simply, Future tense expresses an action or event that has not yet happened or a future state of being. In Nocte language, no differences are found between present indefinite and future tense. The formation of verbs in the future tense in terms persons and numbers are discussed.

In terms of Singular number

In the first person singular number of Nocte language, 'an' and 'kan' is added. For example

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. I shall read. | ḡa ve <u>an</u> / <u>kan</u> |
| 2. I shall eat. | ḡa tsom sa- <u>an</u> |

In the second person singular number of Nocte language, 'ə' is added. For example

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. You will read. | naḡve- <u>ə</u> |
| 2. You will eat. | naḡ tsom sa: <u>ə</u> |

In the third person singular number of Nocte language, 'ka' and 'ta' is added. For example

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. He/She will read. | te ve <u>ta/ka</u> |
| 2. He/She will eat. | te tsom sa- <u>ta</u> |

In terms of Plural form

In the first person plural number of Nocte language, 'e' is added. For example

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. We will read. | naḡk ^h u ve- <u>e</u> |
| 2. We will eat. | naḡk ^h u tsom sa: <u>e</u> |

In the second person plural number of Nocte language, 'an' is added. For example

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. You will read. | nek ^h u ve- <u>an</u> |
| 2. You will eat. | nek ^h u tsom-sa: <u>an</u> |

In the third person plural number of Nocte language, 'ka' and 'ta' is added. For example

1. They will read tink^hu ve ta/ka
2. They will eat. tink^hu tsom sa-ta

Tense	1 st person		2 nd person		3 rd person
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	
Present indefinite	Kaŋ/aŋ	E	ɔ	Aŋ	Ka/ta
Present continuous	Kaŋ	E	ɔ	Aŋ	Ka/ta
Past indefinite	Tak	Tak-e	Tak-ɔ	Tak-aŋ	Tak-ka
Simple Past	a/va	a/va-e	a/va-ɔ	a/va-aŋ	a/va-ka/ta
Future	Aŋ/kaŋ	E	ɔ	Aŋ	Ka/ta

Type of verb of Nocte Language in base of Form and Meaning

By looking into the completions of sentences and its meaning, the verb of Nocte language can be classified into two categories

1. Finite verb
2. Infinite verb

Formation of Finite verb and its application: Those verbs which indicate the completions of a sentence and ending of an event or situation, known as Finite verb. Usually, this kind of verb comes into the end of a sentence. Finite verb cannot be used in a sentence by not adding Personal Inflective. In terms of Object, Finite verb can also be classified into two categories:

(A) Transitive verb and (B) Intransitive verb

Transitive verb: Those Finite verbs, which have Object, known as Transitive verb.

1. You are singing. naŋ se se ka-ɔ
2. We went to school. naŋk^hu school raŋ-ka-ti

Intransitive verb: that Finite verb that have no Object, known as Intransitive verb.

- 1 People die. minjaŋ rija
2. Birds fly. uɔpuva

Formation of Infinite verb and its applications

Those verbs, which is dependent on other verbs to make a complete sentence is known as Infinite verb. Personal Inflective and Tense suffix are not added in Infinite verb. For Example:

1. He will go on a tour after having a meal te tsom sa rana-p^hoŋ ka:
2. He will go to market after doing the work te mout pa t^hon mona-ma bazaar ŋa-ka:sa

Other Forms of verb

In Nocte Language, it can be classified in to three categories of other verb form. These are: Negative verb, Causative verb and onomatopoeic verb.

Negative verb: A Negative verb or negation verb is a type of auxiliary that is used to form the negative of a main verb. To indicate 'Negative verb' in Nocte language 'ma' is used. For example:

1. He does not read. te kitap vei-ma

2. The boy does not go to school. lata-pa school rŋ-vaŋ-ma

Causative verb: When somebody causing some someone to happen or causing another person to do something, is called Causative verb. To indicate 'Causative verb' in Nocte language 'ka' is used. For example:

The work was being done by him. te-ma mout-mao t^hu-ka

Onomatopoeic verb: It implies the verb resembles or mimics the sound produced by the thing. To indicate 'Onomatopoeic verb' in Nocte language 'ka' is used. For example:

1. Water is boiling zɔ-pa p^hɔt ka
2. Heart is beating rin-pa te-ka
3. Snake is hissing pu-ma p^hus-p^hus-ŋae-ka

Findings

1. It is seen that, in Nocte language, verbs are formed in terms of tense, persons, and numbers.
2. Similarities are found between the formations of verb in the present tense with the future tense.
3. It is a rhythmic language. Meaning of a sentence is changed in terms of tone of a pronunciation.
4. Nocte Language is a Monosyllabic Language
5. Structure of sentence of the Nocte Language in regular series is: Subject + Object + Verb
6. In third Person without Gender distinction the word 'te' is used

Appendix

Name of the Informant who helped to collect data to prepare to 'Formation of verb of Nocte Language and its application' in these Research work, they are:

Name of the Informant	Age	Gender	Education Qualification
Huju Nocte	40	Male	Graduate
Lanjo Nocte	69	Male	NO
Jya Jya Nocte	50	Male	NO
Khuncid Nocte	40	Male	H.S.L.C Pass
Jonali Nocte	14	Female	Class 8 pass
P. lowing	25	Female	Graduate
Chak hang	27	Female	Graduate
Mongwang			

CONCLUSION

One of the major tribes of North East India is Nocte. Dialectical differences are visible within Nocte people. Linguistic diversity has become a kind of obstacle in the development process of the language. It seems that no detailed study has been undertaken by anyone yet. Apart from these factors, other noticeable factors are -no written documents, no text books, grammar books, and problems in compilation of grammar books etc. This language is still in practice in oral forms only. Those people who have been surveyed by us through field study are capable of writing their language by using Assamese scripts. Nowadays they have adopted Assamese language as second language.

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