

A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF DEIXIS OF ADI LANGUAGE WITH ENGLISH AND HINDI

Tokmem Yomso

PG Student, Dept. of English, Galgotias University, Greater Noida

Dr. Vijay Kumar

Associate Professor, Dept. of English, Galgotias University, Greater Noida

Abstract

This research paper aims to study about the deixis or deictic expression taken place in Adi language. It also aims at describing the types of deixis, findings and reference of them. In the first level it presents the social and historical background of the language. Secondly methods used to obtain the data. And lastly the results and discussion obtained.

We are greatly happy to introduce the first study on deictic study of Adi language to the readers. The Adi language has no book form. Therefore, we could neither find any guidance nor precedent in any corner. So, to do this observation-based research, we engaged ourselves in Research work in Adi language for few months. Hence this paper, no matter how big or small, how good or bad, how correct or incorrect and how proper or improper, is an outcome of our endeavor of observation based research work. As Adi's have accepted a foreign script, they had to adjust according to phonetic sound of their tongue.

Keyword: Deixis, Deictic expression, Person deixis, Spatial deixis, Temporal deixis

Introduction

The Adi are the most important tribe living in the East Siang district, Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh having a quite good number of sub tribes. The Adis were presumably known as Abors. The term 'Abor' means in Assamese an independent, remote and unknown people and is applied somewhat loosely to a number of tribes and clans, especially those who occupy the hills east of the Miris as far as Dibang river. But the people living there call themselves Adis and not Abors.

Adi is a language spoken by the Adis, one of the largest hill's tribes of Arunachal Pradesh. Though they were formerly known as Abors, their tribe's name as per the census records is Adi. The Adis are Sub-divided into different sub-tribes. Among them are Padam, Minyong, Pang, Shimong, Ashing, Pasi, Karko, Bokar, Bori, Ramo, Pallibo, Millang, Tangam. Among which Padam and Minyong are the largest groups.

The Total population of the Adis According to the 1991 census is 1.2 lakhs, and they constitute the largest tribal groups in Arunachal Pradesh. The Adis spread over in the East, West and Upper Siang districts of Arunachal Pradesh. The Adi inhabited areas are about 21,229 sq.kms excluding the areas in the Dibang and Subansiri valley.

The place of Adi in the Tibeto-Burman family of languages

Tibeto-Burman is generally regarded as a member of Sino-Tibetan family. Most of the classifications done on Tibeto-Burman are based on their genetic relationship, in which the languages so classified are claimed to have descended from a single ancestral language Tibeto-Burman. Tibeto-Burman is one of the four languages families of India. The other three are Indo-Aryan, Dravidian and Austro-Asiatic.

Methodology

Linguistic fieldwork methodology was adopted for this research study. Elicitation of linguistic data was done with the help of informants of various age groups using linguistic field procedures. For the collection of the primary data, the following methods were used.

Observation Method

This requires fairly good advance knowledge of the language under consideration. While adopting this method, it is assumed that basic grammar is already known to the fieldworker, yet to refute or validate hypotheses one can adopt this method to collect further evidence. The observation method involves the participation of the field investigator in various social activities of the community. She/he may not play an active part in day-to-day life. However, she/he will have to engage herself/himself in some social activities of community life.

Since I myself is from Adi tribe, I have the fairly knowledge about the culture the basic aspects of the of Adi language but for the data collection I have visited certain places for 3 months in Pasighat, East Siang District, Arunachal Pradesh. During this time, I took part in various community activities and cultural festivities. And this experience hence gave me more knowledge about the culture and also about Adi language and sufficient time to collect the data.

Documentary Source Method

In the absence of real speakers of the Adi language, either because they no longer exist, as the language is extinct, or because they are out of bounds of the investigator, the documentary source is adopted. One has to rely on published materials and make a trip to several places where such materials is available.

For writing this dissertation, I have made use of few books, papers and material available on Adi language and also those that are related to Tibeto-Burman languages of the North east in general.

Deictic study of Adi language

Deixis

A deixis or deictic expression is a word or phrase (such as this, that, these, those, now, then, here) that points to the time, place, or situation in which the person is speaking. Deixis is expressed in English by way of personal, pronouns, demonstratives, adverbs and tense. Deixis is a “speaker-centric notion”. That is, a speaker uses deixis and deictic elements while producing language. These deictic elements meaning comes from a speaker and his/her location, time of speaking the utterance, and position of the utterance in the discourse. Deictic words meaning changes depending on the speaker or writer.

Deictic categories

- 1) **Person deixis: Any expression that is used to point to a person: I, me, mine, me, you, your, yours, she, her, his, her, they, their, them, we, our, us.**

Example(Sikepe):

| English | Hindi | Adi |
|---------|------------------|--------|
| I | Main | Ngo |
| My | Mera, Mere, Meri | Ngokke |
| Mine | Mera, Mere, Meri | Ngokke |

| | | |
|-------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Me | Mujhe | Ngo |
| You | tum | No |
| Your | Aapka, tumara | nom |
| Yours | Aapka, tumhara | Nokke, Nolukke |
| She | Vah, yah | Not availabe |
| Her | Usaki, Iski | Not available |
| His | Usaka, iska | Not available |
| Him | Usko, Iska, Usse | Not available |
| They | Unhe, Unko, Unke | Bulu |
| Them | Unhe, Unko, inko | Bulum |
| We | Hum | Ngolum, Ngolu, Ngoluk, |
| Our | Hamara, Hamare, Hamari | Ngolukke, Ngoluk |
| Us | Hum | Ngolum, Ngolu, Ngoluk |

So, by this diagram we could find that there Adi lacks grammatical gender.

In Adi language there is no use of He,She,His, Her.

Gender: Adi has natural gender but lacks grammatical gender. In the case of human beings, suppletive forms reflect gender. They does not differentiate the gender by He, She,Him,Itwhite speaking or making a sentence, they simply uses different names for it.

Eg: Abu(father) Ane(mother)

Biro(brother) Birme(sister)

Abing(elder brother) mimi(elder sister)

With regard to animals, the suffixes for gender are –bo for masculine and –ne for feminine.

Ekki(dog) (masculine)= ki-bo (Feminine) –=Kine

Perok(hen) (masculine)= rok-po (feminine)= rok-ne

Eg(pig) (masculine)= e-bo (feminine)=e-ne

The nouns drop their initial syllables dropped are the head. But fuller expressions are also permissible as in Eki-ki-bo, perok-rok-po and so on. In such cases, the second syllable of the noun is reduplicated. The names of animals unless distinguished by a masculine or feminine suffix, and all inanimate objects, are of the neuter gender.

Also in adi language whenever someone is expressing to point on a person they use:-

1) 1st person- they use 'ngo', 'Ngokke'-I, Me, Myself for singular and 'Ngolu' or 'Ngolum', 'Ngolukke' –We, Our, Us for Plural.

Example;

a) **I- Iam so hungry! -English**

Ngo- Ngo kenong e idung. –Adi

Mujhe- Mujhebukhlagihai- Hindi

Me- I don't have money with me right now. -English

Ngo-Ngokkingabalkamang. - Adi

Mere- Mere paasavi paisa nae hai- Hindi

My- Myname is Rita Arora. -English

Ngokke-Ngokkeamin e Rita Arora e.- Adi

Mera- Meranam Rita Arora hai.-Hindi

Myself- I always amaze myself by my cleverness. – English

Ngokke- Ngokkekennam him kasi la ngoaseng e esido.- Adi

Mai- Maihamesaapnechaturrai ko dekhkarhehranhojatihu.-Hindi

We – WeLive here. -English

Ngolu- Ngoluholddudung. –Adi

Hum- Humyaharehtehhai.-Hindi

Our- India is OurMotherland. -English

Ngolukke- India e Ngolukkeane among e.- Adi

Hamari- Bharat hamarijanambumihai.-Hindi

US- He worries about all of us. –English

Ngoluk- Bi Ngoluktakamlega pe mibidung. –Adi

Hum- Wohhum sav klyechintakrtehai.- Hindi

2) 2nd person- they use 'No', 'nom'- 'You' for singular and 'Nokke', 'Nolukke'-Yours for Plural.

a) **You- Youare so beautiful. -English**

No- NoKampo rung e edo.-Adi

Tum-Tumbhut Sundar lagrhi ho.- Hindi

b) **Yours- Are this Shoes Yours? -English**

Nokke-Hi joota hi nokkeya? –Adi

Tumhara- Ky yehjootatumharahai? -Hindi

3) 3rd person- they use 'bulu', 'buluk' and 'Bulum'- 'they' and 'them'.

They- Theyhave three Cars. -English

Buluk- Bulukking tinta ko gari e kadung. –**Adi**

Unke- Unkepaas tin gariyahai.- **Hindi**

Them- I gave it to them. -**English**

Bulum- Ngo Bulumbito.- **Adi**

Unko- Maine unkodediya.- **Hindi**

2) Temporal deixis: - Words used to point to a time like, Now, Then, When, last week, Tomorrow, Yesterday, Today.

Example: -

| English | Hindi | Adi |
|-----------|-------------------|---------|
| Now | Ab, avi | Hupak |
| Then | phir | Delokke |
| When | Kav, Jab | Edidlo |
| Last week | Pichahalesaptaah | kenno |
| Tomorrow | Kal, aane walakal | Yampo |
| Yesterday | Bithahuwakal, Kal | Melo |
| Today | Aaj | Hilo |

- a) **Now:** -She is in her Hotel Now. -**English**
Hupak: - BihupakHotel e dudung. –**Adi**
Avi- Wohavihotel maihai.- **Hindi**
- b) **Then:** -I ate a burger then went to bed. -**English**
Delokke: -Ngo burger detodelokkeiptoku. -**Adi**
Uske- Maine burger kayeuskebaadmaisogaya. - Hindi
- c) **When:** -Whendid you come back? -**English**
Edidlo: -No EdidloAtokun?– **Adi**
Kab:-Tum kabwapasaaye ho?- **Hindi**
- d) **Last week:** -Last weekit was very Rainy. --**English**
Kenno: - Kennobojaru pepedongoti to. –**Adi**
Pichhalehapte:-Pichhalehaptebhut barishhorhithi.-**Hindi**

- e) **Tomorrow:** -Wait till tomorrow morning. -**English**
Yampo: -Yampo rokomloh pe toyala. -**Adi**
Kal: -Kal subha tak ka intezarkro. - **Hindi**
- f) **Yesterday:** -It was a beautiful day today but it was it really cold yesterday. -**English**
Melo: Hilo ke longa e kampo e edoedokommeloansing e etuai. -**Adi**
Kal- Aaj ka din bhut kubsoorathailknkal bhut thandhorhithi.-**Hindi**
- g) **Today:** -I went shoppingtoday. - **English**
Hilo: - Ngohhiloatoreko lo ento. -**Adi**
Aaj:-Aajmai shopping krnegayithi.- **Hindi**
- 2) **Spatial Deixis:** -**Words used to point to a location; There, Here, Where, Near.**

Example (sekepe): -

| English | Hindi | Adi |
|---------|--------|-----------|
| There | Wahaan | Elo, Delo |
| Here | Yaha | Holo |
| Where | Kaha | Kolol |
| Near | Paas | Anin |

- a) **There:** - I cannot be there today. -**English**
Delo: -Ngo hilodeloalamaye. -**Adi**
Wahaan:-Mai wahaan nae aasakti hu.-**Hindi**
- b) **Here:** - Can you come here? -**English**
Holo: -Noholo alayeh? -**Adi**
Yaha:-Tum yahaaasakete ho?- **Hindi**
- c) **Where:** -Where are you now? -**English**
Kolol: No kolol a Hupak? -**Adi**
Kaha:-Tum kaha ho avi?- **Hindi**

- d) **Near:-**There are ants nearby.-**English**
Anin:-Holanin lo tarukkadung- **Adi**
Samne:-Yahasamnemaichitiyahai- **Hindi**

Conclusion

In person deixis as one can see by the diagram there is lots of variation for one single word like for exam in English word 'our' Hindi language have three variation like 'hum, humara, hamari' and Adi language there is one variation like 'ngoluk, ngolukke'. And in all the other words listed Hindi language have 2,3 variation for each word. In temporal deixis Hindi language have some variation but English and Adi language does not have any variation. And lastly in Spatial Deixis the Adi language have only one variation in one word but in Hindi and English there is no variation. Hence, In English language they don't have any variation in any of the word listed in the deixis structure but in Hindi and Adi languages there is a lot variations in the deixis word. English Language is very rule bound but in Hindi and Adi language it changes accordingly to sentence formation. And in comparison, to all the languages, Hindi languages has the most variation in the Deixis.

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