

HISTORY OF LANGUAGE STUDY IN ASSAM AND INDIA

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ABSTRACT

'History of language study in India and Assam' through this subject mainly try to discuss about the language related study that continuing in India and Assam and also about the language scholars who extended language study from time to time. On account of India, it seems that language related thought practice running from Vedic age. On other hands in Assam language study started after British officers and American missionaries came. In the main discussion part try to discuss how linguist study a language by writing and publishing grammar, dictionaries also by discovering language theory.

INTRODUCTION

From ancient age there is a glimpse of Language study in India, but or account of Assam the history of Language Study is not so old. It can be say that Language study started in Assam after british officers and Missionaries came. They create the history of language study by composing and publishing Assamese grammar and dictionary.

William Robinson the path maker of Assamese Grammar Composition, His book “A Grammar of Assamese Language” published in 1836 from Sri Rampur is the first grammar of Assamese Language. In 1846 Nathan Brown wrote the second grammar namely “Grammatical notices of the Assamese Language” Though Hem Chandra Baruah was the first person who compose the first Assamese Grammar Completely in Assamese medium His “Ax Omiya Bashar Byakoron” is the grammar where he established the rules of character pairing for the first time. Later on this grammar newly published as “Ax Omiya Byakoron” in 1873 and Ax Omiya Lorar Byakoron” in

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1882. It's worthy to mention that latter on Assamese grammar that composed were according to ideology of Hem Chandra Boruah.

Other hand in 1867 Miles Bronson composed 14000 words dictionary namely "Assamese and English Dictionary Ax Omiya aru Engraji Abhidhan"

As like this from the middle of 19th Century we got serial history of language thought practice in Assam. Language thought practice of this century was mainly grammar centric. Where we see two approach of grammar composition First one is grammar for practical use published by British and missionaries and 2nd one is Hem Chandra Boruah grammar approach which published for school according to Sanskrit grammar ideology.

Language thought practice got importance in the first half of 20th Century. In 1900 Hem Chandra Boruah "Hemkosha" and in 1933 Assam Sahitya Sabhas Sandra kanta Abhidhan" of standard quality published with Historical philology start in Assam through published out of Debananda Bharali Axomiya Bashar Moulik Bisar "in 1912 As like that kaliram Medhis "Axomiya Byakoran aru Bhasa tatwa- Assamese grammar and Philology" is a remarkable book in philology. In Assam, path of language reacherch open through published out Banikanta Kakoties book, "Assamese Its formation and Development" (1941)

Inviatably it seems that Banikanta Kakotis linguistics thought couldnot effect philologist mind because of publishing out of some book historical philology and grammar pertaining to school, in 5th-6th decade of 20th century. In grammar (category) F.O. Poviottions "An Assamese Grammar with Vocabulary and exercised" 1949 Ghanakanta Sharmas "Axomiya Bhasa Sikshyar byakoron"(1950) Giridhar Sarmahs "Adhanik Axomiya Bhasar Byakoron" (1953) Harish Chandra Bhattacharyas "Axomiya Byakoronor Jilingoni" (1954) are remarkable/ Grammar on other hand Birinchi Kumar Boruah (Axomiya Bhasa 1948" Axomiya Bhasa aru Sanskriti (1957)", Axomiya Kotha Sahitya : Purohi bhag (1959) Debaeswar Chaltos "Origin and Growth of the Assamese Language and literature"(1949) were books an philology that published> In 7th decade of 20th century. Golok Chandra Goswami, Promod Chandra Bhattacharya. Upendranath Goswami impentable the foundation of language study in Assam.

As soon as Upendranath Goswami's book "Bhasa Vijnan" published in 1964, general linguistics study started in Assam. Golok Chandra Goswami's book "Dhowni Vijnanar Bhumika" (1966) is the first Assamese and 3rd Indian book on phonetics at the same time. Goswami's other two books, "An Introduction to Assamese Phonology" (1966) and "Axomiya Bornoprakash" (1969), give standard discussion on phonology and phonetics. Moreover, Upendranath Goswami's book "A study on Kamrupi A dialect of Assamese" (1970) opens the path for dialect study in Assam.

From the 8th decade of the 20th century, Assamese language analysis started on the basis of "Axomiya Bhasar Rupkotha" (1974) by An Introduction to Assamese (1978) by T.P. Barmas. "Development of script in Ancient Kamrupa" (1976) are remarkable language-oriented books of this decade. On the other hand, through Promod Chandra Bhattacharya's book "A Descriptive analysis of the Bodo language" (1977) opens the path of linguistics of non-Aryan languages. As like that, orthography-related thought practice also got importance in the 8th decade. Books like "Aakhori Jutoni" by Pathya Puthi Probsti and "Samanway Samiti of Guwahati University, Golok Chandra Goswami's Axomiya Aakhori Jutoni" (1972) by Shivanath Barmas, "Axomiya Aakhori Jutoni" (1973) are remarkable books on orthography.

In the 9th decade of the 20th century, language thought practice spread in Assam. Golok Chandra Goswami's "Structure of Assamese" (1988) by Nagen Bartha, "Pali-Pakrit Apabhraṅsha Bhasa aru Sahitya" (1983), "Prithibir bibhinno bhasa Vijnanok Bhumika" (1985) by "Byakoran aru Prakritivigyan" (1988) by Bisweswar Hazarika, "Assamese Language: Origin and Development" (1985), "Axomiya Bhasar Utpati aru Kromobikas" by Satyaendranarayan Goswami, "Studies on Sino-Tibetan Languages" (1988)

Upendranath Goswami's "Axomiya Byakoran" (1981), "Axomiya Bhasa aru Upobhasa" (1986) by Axomiya Lipi are the books that gave nutrition in the field of language study in Assam. Moreover, Bhagwan Maral Bhasartho Vigyan (1986) has importance in semantics study that published in this decade.

In the last decade of the 20th century, linguists were focused mainly on (Study of General Linguistics). On this account, Phanindranarayan Dutta Baruah's "Adhonik Bhasa Vigyanor Porichay" (1990) by Dipankar Morol's "Upabhasa Vigyan" (1990) by Basanta Kumar Goswami's "Abhidhantatwo" (1995) are worthy to mention. Moreover, Upendranath Goswami's book "Axomiya Bhasar Udbhab, Samridhi aru

Bikas(1990) and An Introduction to Deori Language (1994) Bhimkanta Boruah “Axomiya Bhasa etc Philological books are carrying sign of language study in Assam Bhimkanta Boruahs “ Nagamese : The Language of Nagaland (1993) introduces a new field of Lanuage study like connecting language Sino-Tibetean Language study also spread at that time Upen Rabha Haksams Axomiya Bhasa aru Tibbot-Bormio Bhasa (2000) Rabhamese Bhasa aru Sahityai (2005) Axomiya aru Axomor Bhasa – Upobhasa (2009) Promod Chandra Bhattacharya and Nahendra Padum edited Axomor Bhasa parichay, Dr. Arpana Konwars “Karbi: The people and the Language, etc book gave nutrition to Chino-Tibetean Language Study.

Camperative linguistics got importance in the first decade of 21st century. Saytendra narayan Goswamis, Tulonamolok Byakaran, (2002) Subasana Mhahantas Udbhavkalin Axomiya Bhasa, Dipti Phukan Patgiris Axomiya Bangla aru Udiya Bhasa (2003) Bhimkanta Boruah edited “ Tulanmolok Bhasa Adhyan (2006) etc may be say an effort of compertavie Language thought practice Moreover it is worthy to notice the publication of different subject oriented liteuary composition. Nagen Barthakur and Khogesh sen Deka edited “Bhasa chinta Bichitra (2002) Dipti Phukan Patgiri and lilabati Saikia Bora edited Bhasa Jigyasa (2002) Ramesh Pathoks “Axomiya Bhasar bibidhdisha- mot aru bitorkito mot” are worth to mention on this account more over some other language related book of this time are Bhimkanta Baruah “ Bhasar Itibritto (2002) Dr. Arpana Konwar “Bhasa Vijnanan Upakramanika” An Intrduction to Linguistics (2002) Ramesh Pathoks Upobhasa Vigyanor Bhomika (2005) Lilabati Saikia Borah “Axomiya Bhasar Ruptotwa (2006) Phonindranarayan Dutta Boruah Proyug Bhasar Gyanor repretkha (2005) Anuradha Sarmahs Saili aru Sailivigyan (2010) etc.

HISTORY OF LANGUAGE STUDY IN INDIA

When we study the history of Language study in India, it seems that the language study in India is running from Vedic age 2500AD in Rig-Veda it seems the discussion of meaning of Language.

After the Vedas we found analysis of language in Brahman book. In this book we got basic discussion on (Phonology), junction, affix, number system etc. After this in “Vedanta’s” and

“Niruktaa” gave some information on Language, Yascarya, the author of Nirukta who originate the method of meaning analysis and derivatives by forming the Vedic word Yascaryas this effort gave an amen to dictionary composition.

In 5th AD Panini wrote Sanskrit Grammar “The Ashtadhyayi” European and American Scholar got new source of Language study by Learning this grammar. After Panini Katyaan and Patanjali gave close attention on Language study. Panini, Katyaan, Patanjali Started Language study in descriptive and historical aspect. After them some other grammarian Chandragomi, Vatrihari, Hemachandra etc. Originate Some approach by recorrecting Panini’s law of Grammar. Those are

- 1) Aeindra Approach.
- 2) Chandra Approach
- 3) Jainendra Approach
- 4) Shaktayaan Approach
- 5) Hemchandra Approach
- 6) Katyaandra Approach
- 7) Sarswata Approach.

Certaining though creating these approaches they were not succeed to bring novelty in Grammar writing.

As Like the east, West also has history of Language study. Dr Arpana Konwar in her book “ Bhasa Vijanan Upakramonika – An Introduction to Linguistics” differentiated western history of Language study from 5th AD to present like this

- 1) Ancient Age “Grammar Approach”
 - a) Plato – Aristotle’s Philosophical Grammar Approach.
 - b) Alexzendrial Grammar Approach
 - c) Latin Grammar Approach of Roman Grammmarian Cam my
- 2) Muddle Age (Grammar Approach)
 - Modistate or Speculative approach

- 3) The Renaissance Age (Philology approach)
 - a) Missionaries (Language study) approach
 - b) Port Royal Approach
 - c) New Grammarian Approach
- 4) Modern Ages (Linguistics approach)

There four we can classify the above mentioned approach in to tree categories i.e.

- 1) Grammar approach
- 2) Philology approach
- 3) Linguistics approach

GRAMMAR APPROACH

a) Philosophical Grammar approach

In the world European Language study Plato was the first person who originate the concept of Language study. That is why Plato is Known as “First investigable the potentialities’ of grammar. After Plato Aristotle progressed language study. Aristotle’s gave new dimension to Language study. Plato in his book “Dialogues” gave so many logic full thought on the relation of mind related to production of language and relation between word and meaning. Also in Plato’s “Cralylus and Aristotle’s” poetics we get information of about language study later this Philosopher were separate in to two different type as Resemblances and inconsistence party.

Resemblance team think Language is disciplined and traditional and on other hand inconsistence team think Language is non-regulated and normal.

Though some time debate happened between them they all wrote grammar on philosophical point of view.

b) Alekzendrial (Grammarian Community) Grammar Approach

Alexzendrial Grammar approach started after philosophical grammar approach. Diancious thrqqx wrote “Techno grammar-like in Greek. This is the first complete Greek grammar which consist of grammatical/ aspects like Tense, Gender, Object etc. It is remarkable in the history of traditional grammar.

c) Roman (Grammarians Community’s) Latin Grammar Approach

Romans wrote Latin grammar on pattern of Greek grammar. Varro is the first Roman Grammarian. Donates and Priscian were two famous grammarians of 4-5 century. Who wrote Latin grammar Principals “Instiluliones Grammatical” is a remarkable grammar. Robins gave statement about this book as. It is the product of Roman and Greek’s long term unity”

It is worthy to mentioned that Greek Literature also faded simultaneously with Roman dinsety collapse. After the Roman density Collapse Meditate or Speculative grammarians’ community provide contribution/ contribute grammar. They concentrate on writing a class of grammar that useful for all language. They discovered the relation between word and literature.

PHILOLOGY APPROACH.

a) Missionaries (Language study) approach

In 15th-16th century renaissance start in Europe. Renaissance impact also in Language Scholar (of that time) was concentrated to write Grammar normally (by) breaking the tradition of middle age. That time Missionaries were started composing grammar dictionaries in different language.

b) Port Royal Approach

In 17th Century, a new approach of grammar written in France Namely “Port Royal” Lancelot and Arnold were two grammarians of this approach In 1663 they jointly compose France Grammar.

This Grammar gave an amen to Moan Smokiess “Transformational generative grammar”

c) Comparative Philology Approach

Grammar Composition got attention fill 17th century but in 18th century a new era started in the field of language study. After the British colonization/faded in India two new discretion developed i.e.

- a) European scholar gave attention on language study by learning Sanskrit.
- b) They started comparative study of Sanskrit, Greek and Latin Language. Sir William Jones was the first person of this approach on 2nd Feb. 1786 William Jones addressed a written lecture on third Annual Establishment day of Royal Asiatic Society. Where he gave (made) an open statement that “How Much Sanskrit is ancient, but its formation is wonderful, it is without defeat these Greek and Vas than Latin Language On the basis of his statement a new approach of Language study started by studying ancient Literature in entire Europe.

LINGUISTICS APPROACH

In real Systematic and scientific language study start from middle of 19th century. On this account a new grammarian community which was influenced by lay August Compel Played a major role (which) formed in 1900 This new grammarian community start study of growth change and formation of language More of that study of Michel Bell’s “Historical Semantics” also started for the first time France philologists used the term historical linguistics instead of comparative philology on the basis of this account of language study from historical point of view. On this account philologist Atowan Mayes ‘Historical and general Linguistics’ and “The comparative method of historical linguistics are remarkable book.

Linguistics approach progressed in 2nd decade of 20th century. As soon as swidich linguist Ferdinand De Saussure’s “Course in general Linguistics” Published language study got the dianmision in scientific way. He gave attention on the aspects of systematic discussion of sysmactical phonological, morphological and semantically character it’s of a language. That is why Saussure is called “Father of modern linguistics”

Saussure’s fundamental thought of linguistics mentioned below

- a) Saussure/ Classified linguistics into two category Namely

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- Diachronic
 - Symphonic and he gave importance on symphonic language duly.
- b) Saussure classified presence of language into long parole and gave importance an analysis of lag.
- c) Saussure gave statement of the relation of two directions (aspect) in constructional aspect i.e.
- Syntagmatic
 - Paradigmatic.
- d) Saussure explained that language is a sign method he gave importance on finding mutual relation of elements or sign of language Creating awareness of constructive relation.

Saussure language study is well known as constructive linguistics because of his attention on analysis of constructive aspect of language after Saussure linguistics progressed by linguist like Farm, Boas, Edward Sappy, Leonard Bloomfield Noam Sam ski etc. Franz Boas brought a new thought/ in the field of Language study analysis According to him analysis and description of a language should be done on the basis of Phonological aspects of a Language. Boas was accompanied by Edward sappy Bloomfield in 1921 Sappy published a book namely “Language. An Introduction & the study of speech” in 1933 Bloomfield’s Language published This two book influenced all the linguist to take descriptive point of view in 1957 As soon as Noam Sam skis book Synthetic structure published a new theory developed in linguistics which is known as Transformational Generative theory According to him the aim of language analysis should discovery of rules How a sentence transform and being creative by internal thinking or internal knowledge According to Smokiest theory there is an universality in human language Because the process of talking and listening is same the main objective of Saussure’s Transformational Generative Theory is analysis of language by moving down word from a large syntactic group to a small phonologic group Saussure’s constructive thought got most popularity till 8th decade of 20th century. Now a days in the field of Linguistics Philosophy, Physcology, Anthropology also

combined as consequence of new information relative to language literature and culture is discover day by day.

Discovery of modern machine/ and theres development linguist give language study a bigger dimension.

FINDINGS

It seems that language study serialy extended in India also in Assam.

Language study gets important in different ways in different time. Now a days as consequence of academic recognition of this subject research work also start on language.

