

Morpho-phonological Study of Maithili Verbs

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ABSTRACT

Maithili, an Indo-Aryan and a scheduled language of India, has shown remarkably a unique feature so far as its verbal system is concerned. Though the verbal dynamism of this language has been tried and tested by many linguists and grammarians, yet the morpho-phonemic properties have never been explained to the extent the way this paper examines. In earlier works (Grierson 1881; Jha 1992; Singh 1979; Yadav 1994; Mishra 2004), Maithili verbs have been studied on several grounds but most of them get confined either with morphological or syntactic approaches. The present paper stands as a unique revelation of the morpho-phonological relationship observed in these verbs. Apart from this, the paper also takes into account the various morphological verb markers found in Maithili on the basis of testing and analyzing the data obtained so far. It is basically the representation of various sounds representing the different morphological markers that makes this study highly fascinating.

Keywords: Verbal dynamism, morpho-phonemic, morphological markers, syntactic, etc.

1. INTRODUCTION

Maithili, an Indo-Aryan language, is a scheduled language of India. Being a language of Indo-Aryan family, it possesses almost all the typological characteristics of its sister languages like Punjabi, Gujarati, Assamese, Oriya, Hindi-Urdu, etc. One can trace the beginning of any authentic or purely linguistic study of this language only with the works of Grierson. Before