

CLASSIFICATION OF POSTPOSITIONS IN TULU LANGUAGE

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1. Introduction

Since Caldwell, Tulu language has been considered as the most highly developed and independent member of Dravidian Family languages. It occupies the fifth position among the five major Dravidian languages such as Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada, Telugu and Tulu. Dr. Bh. Krishnamoorthy (1958) is of the opinion that Tulu preserves the features of Telugu and other Central Dravidian languages. But Dr. P. S. Subramanyam (1968) concluded that Tulu is basically a member of the South Dravidian sub-group and first deviated as a separate language from Proto- South Dravidian whereas, the rest of the languages remained together for some more period.

The present paper attempts to Classificies and analyze the postpositions of Tulu language. The postpositions are classified to the case form of the preceding noun. In other words, they are classified according to the case that precedes a noun which occurs in a phrase or sentence .The postpositions in Tulu, occur with case forms. Some of the postpositions occur with noun and relative participial forms also. These can be classified on the basis they signify semantic nuisances into the following groups.

1. The postpositions of topic, direction, sociative meaning, means, location which occur after the genitive case.
2. The postpositions of purpose which occurs after the dative case form
3. The postpositions of cause which occur after the ablative case form
4. The postpositions of limitation which occurs after the relative participial form and the noun
5. The postpositions of comparison which occur after the relative participial form and after the genitive case form also.

2. The following are the post positions of topic, direction, sociative meaning, means, location which occur after the genitive case.

2.1 Postposition of Topic

The following is single postposition which occurs after the genitive case form

mitti - 'About'

Example:

a:li əgəlnə sa:le:də mitti kəte bərejo:li

'She wrote the story about her school'

2.2 Postposition of Direction

The following is the postposition of direction which occurs after the genitive case form **əntʃi** - 'Towards'

Example:

əjkəlnə pettə kəndəəntʃi pə:ŋdu

'Our cow went towards the field'

2.3 Postpositions of Sociative meaning

The following is the postposition of Sociative meaning which occurs after the genitive case form

oʃtʃugu - 'Along with'

Example:

əgəlnə oʃtʃugu ja:nɪ səntʃegɪ poje

'I went to market along with them'

2.4 Postposition of means

The following is the postposition of means which occurs after the genitive case form

muka:ntərə - 'Through'

Example:

a:je:nə muka:ntərə əle:gi be:ŋkiɖi tikiŋɖi

'She got the job in the bank through him'

The postposition is also used when the means refer to human beings.

Example:

a:je i: pustəkənu enəkəjtɪ kəɖəpuɖje

'He sent this book through me'

2.5 Postposition of Location

(a).The following is postposition of spatial location which occurs after the genitive case form

Example:

a: me:jidə tirt̥i put̥t̥fe d̥ejd̥iŋd̥i

'The cat has kept below/ under that table'

mitt̥i 'above, on, upon'

Example:

i: kursudə mitt̥i t̥ləmbuŋd̥i

'The pillow is on the Chair'

ediri 'in front of'

Example:

əgəlnə sa:ledə ediri məllə pu:t̥ə to:t̥ə uŋd̥u

'There is a big flower garden in front of their school'

pira:vu 'behind'

Example:

eŋkəlnə illədə pira:vu ne:lə pelətəmərə uŋd̥u

'There is a big jack tree behind our house'

pida:ji 'outside'

Example:

eŋkəlnə na:ji əgəlnə kidet̥ə pida:ji d̥ejjit̥iŋd̥i

'Our dog slept outside of their cow-shed'

ula:ji 'inside'

Example:

a: kudke ka:qdula:ji po:ŋd̥u

'That fox went inside the forest'

kaj̥ta:li 'beside'

Example:

ja:nu a:l̥na kaj̥ta:li kalluve

'I sit beside her'

sutt̥ə 'around'

Example:

əgəlɲə sa:le:də suttə pu:tə to:tə uŋɖu

'There is a flower garden around their school'

(b).The following are the postpositions of temporal location which occur after the ablative case form.

nəŋtərə / bokkə 'afterwards

Example:

a:ja:ɖɖi nəŋtərə / bokkə əgəlɲə oʃelnɪ ja:nɪ geʃonuue

'After him, I will buy their hotel'

dumbu / suru 'first, before, earlier'

Example:

a:li a:jaɖɖi dumbu / suru sa:le:gi po:jo:li

'She went to school before him'

3. The following is postposition of the purpose which occurs after the dative case form.

3.1 Postposition of the purpose

The following is the postposition of purpose which occurs after the dative case form

-əʃərə / -a:di 'for the sake of'

Example:

(a) eŋkəʃərə / eŋka:di a:li əŋga: ɖigi po:ja:li

'She went to the shop for the sake of me'

(b) a:jə gəʃərə / a:jə ga:di ja:nɪ mərdi kənərə pəŋɖe

'I told to bring the medicine for the sake of him'

4. The following is postposition of the cause which occurs after the ablative case form.

4.1 Postposition of cause

The following is the postposition of cause which occurs after the ablative case form.

-əʃərə 'because of, due to'

Example:

əgəle:ɖdət̪rə ja:n̩ sa:le:gi se:rde:

'Because of them, I have joined school'

5. The following postposition of limitation which occurs after the relative participial form and the noun

5.1 Postposition of limitation

The following is the postposition of limitation which occurs after (a) the noun and (b) the relative participle form.

-muɽə 'till, upto'

Example:

(a) ja:n̩ rəɖɖi vərsə muɽə illəgu bərpud̪zi

'I do not come to the house upto 2 years'

(b) a:lnə o:dunə muɽə i: d̪ɛppu:d̪ɽi

'You (sg.) do not sleep up to her reading'

6. The following postposition of comparison after the relative participial form and after the genitive case form also.

6.1 Postpositions of comparison

The following is the post position of comparison which occurs (a) after the genitive form and (b) after the relative participial form

lekkə / -lekə 'like'

Example:

(a) ja:n̩ əgəlnə lekkə / əgəlnəlekə ɽɪnpud̪zi

'I do not eat like them'

(b) əgələ d̪ɛppu (nə) lekkə / d̪ɛppu (nə) lekə ja:n̩ d̪ɛppud̪zi

'I do not sleep like them'

Conclusion

It is through the above analysis, understood that Tulu is a Post Positional Language. Apart from case markers, post positions are also employed in Tulu Language to refer to the case relationship. These forms occur with noun detaching-not like case markers - the noun. However there are some Stylistic variations when the postpositions are used in written Tulu. The Tulu postpositions are classified into five types, based on the proceeding noun and case markers and relative participle form either. Through this paper it has been observed that certain postpositions signify the topic, direction, sociative meaning location

etc. Certain other postpositions' appear after dative case marker, certain other postpositions' appear after ablative case marker and some other postpositions occur after relative participle and genitive case form. This analysis however denotes the uniqueness of the pattern of postposition usage in Tulu Language. This type of usage has to be compared with other Dravidian Languages in order to understand the uniqueness of Tulu and have the totality of the pattern of using postposition among the postpositions of final Languages.

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