

A TYPOLOGICAL STUDY OF ADJECTIVES IN SELECT EA...

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Chapter 1 Introduction 1.1. Research Background Dixon (Dixon and Aikhenvald (eds.), 2004) claims that each lexical class possesses a typical conceptual foundation and grammatical functions. Haspelmath (2001) emphasizes the significance of morphology, syntax and lexical semantics for the classification of POS system in a language. During the first part of the 20th century, structural linguists coined the phrase ‘word class’. Compared to ‘word class’, ‘parts-of-speech’ is a far earlier phrase. It comes from the Latin pars orationis, which translates to ‘sentence constituents’. In today’s context, this notion is no longer used. Moreover, Chomsky (1957) introduced the concept of ‘syntactic category,’ which includes both lexical

categories (such as noun and verb) and phrasal categories (like noun phrase and 54

verb phrase). The overlap of word classes and the unequal importance assigned to different word classes led him to distinguish between

major word classes (noun, verb, adjective, and adverb) and minor word classes 48

(the others). These are also known as ‘content words’ and ‘functional words.’ In Chomskyan theory, these are referred to as ‘lexical categories’ and ‘functional categories,’ respectively.

Words and entire word classes are further categorized **into two** 79

groups:

content words and function words. Nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs fall under **content** 46
words

, while the rest are categorized as function words. Generally, content words are numerous and open-ended, suggesting that it is also possible for there to be closed, small, or medium- sized content word classes. It is attested

that all languages make a distinction between open and closed parts-of-speech classes

1

. Schachter and Shopen (Shopen (ed.), v. 1, 2007) hold the view in line with Robins (1964) that

open classes are **those whose membership is** fundamentally **unlimited** , changing over **time**

1

and between different speakers, while closed classes consist of a fixed, typically small set of

words, which remain **the same for all speakers of the language or dialect**

2

. It is interesting to note that Dixon's (2004) and (2010) studies on the adjective class since they reveal that some languages, like Igbo (Nigeria), contain small and closed adjective classes. In the current study, I have selected four Eastern Indo-Aryan languages (henceforth EIA languages) Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. It examines the type of these languages based

on the nature and behaviour **of the adjective class** or **in**

9

turn the type of adjective class in these languages. This entails the areal feature of the Eastern Indo-Aryan region focusing on the POS adjective. Moreover, it determines the cross-linguistic generalizations and variations; and aids in capturing the language universals in broader scenarios. After setting

the research background in section 1.1, section 1.2 narrows down **the research** topic of **the**

43

thesis, that is, Adjective Class. Different approaches to the adjective class are presented in the section 1.3. The four EIA languages (Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia) which are selected for the current

study are introduced in section 1.4. Section 1.5 manifests where **the**

49

research gap lies. Then, the research

aims and objectives are given **in section 1.6. Section 1.7 presents the research**

40

statements of this thesis. To conclude, section 1.8 shows how the whole thesis is outlined. 1.2. Research Topic The present research broadly encompasses the parts of speech adjective from the perspective of language typology. In simple words, adjectives describe attributes and properties of referents in a discourse. It is designated as one of the major POSs found in the languages of the world. While earlier studies claimed that not all languages possess the part of speech (POS) adjective, recent research by Dixon (2004 and 2010) shows that the adjective class is a universal category found in all languages. Moreover, the profile of the adjective class varies from one language to another. Adjective class is a lexical category beside the noun, verb and adverb. Although each POS is differentiated based on distinct grammatical properties, it is found that they may share some common properties. This may happen between noun and verb, noun and adjective or verb and adjective and others. As a result, the identification of a POS becomes arbitrary (Schachter and Shopen (Shopen, ed.), v. 1, 2007). The similarity and distinction between the adjective class and other POSs are highlighted in the following sub-sections. Similarity among Adjective, Noun and Verb Classes Firstly, noun, verb, and adjective all three are lexical categories that contain semantic content (though semantic areas for these POS may vary from language to language). Secondly, stative vs. active/dynamic is such a property that is found in the mentioned three POSs (Lakoff, 1966) and (Schachter and Shopen (Shopen, ed.), v. 1, 2007). Stative POSs Stative noun/verb/adjective denote relatively permanent states as they are usually fixed and are not controlled by the entity in question. For example, brother, know and tall are stative noun, verb, and adjective respectively in (1), (4) and (7). They are not used in progressive construction as seen in (2), (5) and (8). Due to the feature of permanence and not being controlled, they are not able to be used in imperative construction as shown in (3), (6) and (9). ? Stative noun: 1) John is my brother. 2) *John is being my brother. 3) *Be my brother. ? Stative verb: 4) You know the answer. 5) *You are knowing the answer. 6) *Know the answer. ? Stative adjective: 7) John is tall. 8) *John is being tall. 9) *Be tall. Active POSs: On the contrary, the attributes or characteristics of this active/dynamic noun, verb, and adjective are controlled by the person, animal, or object which possesses them. The example in (10) and (11) show stative noun boor in complement clause and progressive construction separately. ? Active Noun 10) John is boor. 11) John is being a boor. Likewise, verbs and adjectives can be dynamic in nature. They can be used in progressive constructions in (13) and (16) as well as imperative sentences in (14) and (17). ? Active Verb 12) You will do the task. 13) You are doing the task. 14) Do the task. ? Active Adjective 15) They are quiet. 16) Are they being quiet? 17) Be quiet. Distinctions between Adjective, Noun and Verb Classes Now focusing on the POS adjective, the differences are made between adjective and other POSs below. Adjective vs. Noun Adjective as a POS has a distinct semantic characteristic from nouns (Schachter and Shopen (Shopen, ed.), v. 1, 2007). Nouns refer to entities having a group of more conspicuous or permanent features, whereas adjectives contain a single less conspicuous characteristic contrastively. For example, the noun cripple specifies the physical state of the person and labels her permanently. On the other hand, the adjective sick expresses her sole temporary characteristic. 18) The woman is a cripple. 19) The woman is sick. Therefore, nouns play the functions of reference and categorisation, and adjectives are applied attributively more easily than nouns. The given

noun woman provides a broad categorization of the referent while the adjective sick serves to modify **1**
the categorization and indicates **a**

set. Adjective vs. Verb To distinguish verbs and adjectives, Schachter and Shopen (Shopen (ed.), v.1, 2007) follow Langacker (1987) and highlight the prominence of temporal and atemporal relations, respectively. Verbs designate actions, states and processes anchored in time which are not foregrounded in adjectives. Besides, it is seen

that only an adjective can build **a comparative construction** in unmodified **form** **36**

; adjective and verb behave differently while modifying a noun and making reduplication (Dixon, v. 2, 2010). Adjective vs. Adverb Carnie (2002 and 2013, 3rd ed.) differentiates the POSs adverb and adjective based on the syntactic criterion. Adverbs only appear in the verb domain whereas adjectives appear inside the noun phrase usually. He raises the question of whether the POSs adjective and adverb are of the same category. He stresses the characteristic modification by both adjective and adverb; and mentions their nature of appearing in complementary distribution. They can carry the same suffix [-ly] and can be modified by the same word very. That is why, he calls them sub-categories or all-parts-of speech of a supercategory. A somewhat similar phenomenon is also found in case of Bangla as stated by Chatterjee (1939). He groups adjectives and adverbs under the umbrella term biśeṣaṇa because both of them (adjectives and adverbs) possess the characteristic modification. 1.3. Different Approaches to Adjective Class 1.3.1. Adjective Class in Traditional Grammar In traditional grammar, adjectives are designated as words that modify or characterize nouns. They offer additional information about the noun they describe. They are essential for conveying details about the quality, quantity or condition of the head noun. Latin, Greek and Sanskrit adjectives are found to

be inflected with gender, number and **case markers. Adjectives** **35**

in German take gender and number inflections. As a result, traditional grammar in Western (Greek and Latin) and Indian (Sanskrit and Tamil) views either did not recognise the adjective at all or assimilated with nominals, or considered as a subclass of nouns (Panagiotidis and Mitrović, eds. 2022 and Dixon 2010, v. 2). 1.3.2. Adjective Class in Descriptive Study There is a lot of literature on the adjective class in the EIA languages based on the descriptive study. Among them, there are two views. One is aligned with the traditional view where adjectives are subsumed under the noun class. The other view advocates establishing the adjective class as a separate class

from the noun class . A detailed account **of the adjective class** **65**

in the selected EIA languages is presented in the chapter 2. 1.3.3. Adjective Class in Generative Study Struckmeier (Panagiotidis and Mitrović (eds.), 2022) discusses the adjective class in generative syntax, focusing on

categorial features and featurized categories. He critiques 'essentialist' **word**

21

classes and challenges the idea of 'grammar-wide' categories, arguing that categoriality is a multi-layered concept. He emphasizes that not all categorial properties are universally present across languages, as linguistic categorization varies cross-linguistically.

Struckmeier introduces the concept **of** 'molds', **which** are **morpho-syntactic contexts**
where lexical items can

21

occur. These molds define the categoriality of an item as a relational rather than an absolute concept. He demonstrates this by analyzing the

attributive and predicative molds of adjectives in German

21

, reconsidering the traits associated with 'adjectivity' through these distinct molds. Moreover, in case of Indian language families, there are very few works. Among them, the work on the adjective class of the Dravidian languages focusing on the generative typology by Hima S. (2017) is mentionworthy. 1.3.4. Adjective Class in Typological Study Earlier typological studies (Dixon, 1977a and 1982) claimed

that some languages have no adjective class at all

60

. But later works like Dixon (Dixon and Aikhenvald (eds.), 2004) and 2010) demonstrate the adjective class as a universal category though there are cross-linguistic differences. There are some parameters based on which the grammatical sketch of a language becomes unique. Their size, productivity, and grammatical properties are important to set out the position in the broader picture of the POS adjective in the typological study. Schachter and Shopen (Shopen (ed.), v. 1, 2007) like others mention the functions of adjectives. They show that adjectives can function

as attributive modifiers of nouns (e.g. tall in the tall woman) and also as predicates (as in The woman is tall). Like predicate nouns, predicate adjectives may or may not be accompanied by a copula.

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Thus, English (Germanic) **uses a copula while Ilocano** (Austronesian) **does not**

A category for which adjectives are often specified is a degree, which includes the traditional distinctions positive, comparative, and superlative – for example English tall/taller/tallest; Ilocano natayag ‘tall’ / nataytayag ‘taller’ / katatayagan

1

‘tallest’.

In Latin, for example, adjectives are marked for the case, gender, and number of nouns they modify (or are predicated of

1

). Besides, Bhatt (1994) claims that adjectives of the Indo-Aryan language family possess noun-like features. A more comprehensive overview of the adjective class according to linguistic typology is provided in Chapter 2. 1.4. About the Languages Selected 1.4.1. Axomiya Assamese

is the anglicized name of the language

81

Asamīyā. Asama ‘the name of the province’ + adjectival affix –iyā ‘of, relating, belonging to’ becomes Asamīyā (Axomiya) (Goswami and Tamuli, 2003 in Cardona and Jain). It narrates the history; and how the name of the land and people came in use (Goswami, 1982). Axomiya, an Indo-Aryan language (Goswami, 1982),

is the easternmost member of the Indo-European family. It is one of the

8

22 scheduled languages in India. It is designated as

ISO 639-1 (as), ISO 639-2 (asm) and ISO 639-3 (asm) (Wikipedia); and in Glottolog

13

, it is listed as assa1263. According

to the 2011 census , the population of Assam is 31,169,272, which is 2.58 percent of India's population 8

It is the official language of Assam. It is spoken mainly in 51

Brahmaputra Valley (Goswami and Tamuli, 2003 in Cardona and Jain and Patgiri, 2014, 7th ed.). It is used

as a lingua franca among various speech communities in 3

Assam. It is also spoken in Meghalaya, Nagaland, and Arunachal Pradesh 69

Small pockets of Axomiya speakers can also be found in Bhutan and Bangladesh. Immigrants from Assam have carried the language with them to other parts of the world 8

. Grierson (1903, Vol. 5, Part 1), Kakati (1941 & 1962), Goswami (1982), Dutta Baruah (2007) and Patgiri (2012, 2nd ed.) acknowledge two main regional dialects belonging to the east region or ujani (upper) Assam and west region or namani (lower) Assam. Accordingly, these are named Eastern Assamese (Axomiya) and Western Assamese (Axomiya). The former spreads

from Śadiyā down to Gauhati. It constitutes a homogeneous unit 3

. Again, it can be divided into two varieties: Eastern (spoken in Sibsagara and Lakhimpur; east part of Darrang and Nowgong) and Central or Intermediate Assamese (used in the west part of Nowgong, little east of Gauhati in the Kamrup district).

On the other hand, the Western **variety spoken in**

24

the east of Gauhati, west Darrang and Goalpara is heterogeneous in nature. Now

the standard language of Axomiya **is based on the** spoken variety **of** Sibsagara area situated **in**

23

ujani Assam.

The earliest specimen of Axomiya **literature is** recorded **in the** mystic **dohās**

3

(8th -12th c), popularly known as Caryās of the Buddhist Siddhārchāryas.

Developed from Brahmi through Devanagiri , Axomiya **script is** mostly **similar to** Bangla **except** for **the symbols for /r/ and /w/ and highly resembles the Devanagiri script of Hindi, Sanskrit and other Indic languages** . Axomiya **is**

8

surrounded by Sino-Tibetan (Bodo, Mikir, Chutiya), Austric (Khasi), and Dravidian languages (Goswami, 1982 and Goswami and Tamuli, 2003 in Cardona and Jain). Its vocabulary consists of the largest percent tatsbbhavas derived from Sanskrit through Prakrit and Apabhramsha stages. It also possesses tatsama, semi-tatsama and desiya words. The non-Aryan languages of Assam have influenced Axomiya. There are words borrowed from Hindi and other northern Indian languages. Portuguese before English entered Assam. So, Portuguese loan words are found in Axomiya. There are also words from Persian and Arabic sources (Goswami, 1982). Axomiya retained only a minimum of inflection and became much more analytical (Goswami, 1982). The Ethnologue (2024, 27th ed.) marks Axomiya institutional on the scale of language vitality. This means Axomiya has evolved to the level where institutions outside the family and community utilize and maintain it. Patgiri (2012, 2nd ed.) shows that Axomiya has 8 vowels and 23 consonants and possesses nearly 20 diphthongs. Bangla has 7 vowels and 27 consonants. Odia has 6 vowels and 31 consonants. 1.4.2. Bangla Bengali is commonly referred to by its endonym, Bangla. It is designated as

ISO 639-1 (ben), **ISO 639-2** (bn), and **ISO 639-3** (bn); and in **Glottolog**

28

(Wikipedia), it is listed as beng1280. According to the 2011 Census, there are 9,72,37,669 Bangla speakers in India. They are mostly found

in the states of West Bengal, Tripura , Assam, **and** 67

Jharkhand. In addition, they are dispersed throughout the northeastern states, Delhi, Odisha, Bihar, the Andaman & Nicobar Islands and other regions. Worldwide, there are more than 230 million Bangla speakers (Wikipedia). It

is one of the 22 scheduled languages in **India** . Bangla **is the official language of** 28

West Bengal and Tripura (Patgiri, 2012, 2nd ed.).

It is the official **national language of the** neighbouring **country Bangladesh** . Bangla speakers 47
are **also** found in **the**

USA, Europe, Australia, and the Middle East apart from India and Bangladesh (Thompson 2010 & 2012).

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization popularly known as **UNESCO** 33
declared February 21st to be **International Mother Tongue Day** in 1999, honoring **the**

Bangla language martyrs of that era’s Bangladesh, remembering the (Bangla) language movement that took place there in 1952, and encouraging multilingualism and linguistic-cum-cultural diversity around the world (Dasgupta 2003, Sikdar 2002, and Wikipedia). Bangla has been acknowledged

as the honorary **official language of** Sereia Leone (Wikipedia). **Bangla is** 76

linguistically

a member of the eastern **Indo** -Aryan **language family. Its** 36

first recorded instance is found in the Buddhist monks' Charyāpada. The scholar Haraprasad Shastri subsequently found this in the Royal Library in Nepal in 1907, and it went into print in 1916 (Chatterjee 1926, Klaiman 1987, and Bhattacharya 2012). Chatterjee (1926) noted four dialects of it. Rarhi, Bangali, Barendri and Kamrupi. The present scholars added Jharkhandi with them. Modern Bangla is divided into five major regional varieties, or dialects. Depending on the geographical divisions, they are called Rārḥī, Kām̐rūpī, Varendrī, Vangīya, and Jhārkhandī (Islam 1998). The Rārḥī is regarded as the usual colloquial variant of Bangla in India. Bangla script is originated from Brāhmī (Shaw 1984/1390, Islam 2011, Bhattacharya 2012, and Klaiman, 1987). There are numerous origins of words from which they are categorized into four different groups. They are deśī/anjātamūla (unclassified), maulika/samśkr̥tāja (Sanskritised), āguntuka/kr̥taraṇa (loan/borrowed), and navasr̥ṣṭa śabda (newly created words). Words with unknown origins are grouped as unclassified. Three categories of Sanskritized words exist: tatsama, semi- tatsama, and tadbhava. Borrowed words have sources from other Indian languages (Indo-Aryan, Dravidian, and Austric) or foreign languages (English, French, Spanish, Dutch, Portuguese, Chinese). In addition, newly created words are formed by combining Bangla words with words from other (foreign) languages or through translation (Sikdar 2002). Bangla is an inflecting language morphologically. Syntactically, pro-drop and copula-drop phenomena are predominantly exhibited in Bangla. It has a Subject-Object-Verb word order. Not only linguistically, but also socio-culturally, Bangla possesses a rich tradition. However, it is at the point of institutional on the scale of Language Vitality, that is, it is "developed to the point that it is used and sustained by institutions beyond the home and community" (Ethnologue). But a major concern is arising due to the closing of many Bangla medium schools all over India as indicated by recent surveys and reports. On the Digital Language Support scale, it is at the point of vital, that is, it is "supported by multiple tools in all of the above categories and as well as some speech processing" (Ethnologue). This indicates that there is still a huge scope for development for Bangla. Patgiri (2012, 2nd ed.) shows that Axomiya has 8 vowels and 23 consonants and possesses nearly 20 diphthongs. Bangla has 7 vowels and 27 consonants. Odia has 6 vowels and 31 consonants. 1.4.3. Maithili Maithili, one

of the Indo-Aryan languages, is

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listed

in the 8th **Schedule of the Indian Constitution** among **the** 22 Indian **languages**

3

. The word 'Maithili'

is derived from Mithila, an ancient

12

independent state. In Hindu tradition, it is considered the birthplace of Goddess Sita, the daughter of King Janak of Mithila, who later married Lord Ram (Asad 2015). The 2001 Census report indicates that Maithili

is spoken by 12,179,122 native speakers in Bihar , making up **1.18% of** India's **total** 25
population

It is primarily **spoken in** the **Darbhangha, Tirhut, Kosi, Purnia, Bhagalpur, and Munger divisions of** 12
Bihar as well as **in** the **Santhal Pargana division of Jharkhand**

. Yadav (Cardona and Jain (eds.), 2003) mentions that

it is spoken by around **21 million people in the eastern and northern** parts **of Bihar** in **India** 3
and the southeastern plains of Nepal, **known as the tarāi**

It is the second most spoken language in **Nepal** , where **it is** officially recognized as **one of** 12
the

'languages of the nation' in the country's Constitution. Although

Maithili is not yet an official language of Bihar, it has been acknowledged **as an** independent 3
modern Indo-Aryan language by the Indian branch of P.E.N. since 1947 and recognized **as the**
sixteenth largest language in **India by the Sahitya Akademi (Academy of Letters) since 1965**

(Singh (1979), Yadav (1997) and Yadav (Cardona and Jain (eds.), 2003). Surrounding Maithili, several other

modern Indo-Aryan languages are spoken: Bangla to **the east, Bhojpuri** to **the west, Nepali** to 18
the north, and Magahi to **the south. Within its own** region **in India, Maithili has contact with**

Santhali, a Munda language . From the **14th to** the **early 18th centuries, Maithili also**

interacted

with Newari, a Tibeto-Burman language spoken in the Kathmandu Valley, and

3

held a prominent

place in the royal court of the Malla Kings of Nepal

3

. Maithili boasts a rich literary history

dating back to the 13th century. The Varna -Ratnakara of Pañjābī

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, a prose text dating

to the early 14th century and preserved in a 1507 manuscript

52

, is the earliest known work in Maithili. Some scholars argue

that the Caryāpada hymns (circa **900-1200**) **are written in** early forms **of Maithili**

3

, though others, including prominent Bangla scholars, claim they

were written in Old Bangla. The debate has expanded **to include languages** like **Old Assamese** **and Old Oriya. The** most celebrated **poet** in Maithili **is Vidyāpati (c. 1350-1438), whose Padāvalī is** a masterpiece **of graceful** lyrical writing **in Maithili** . Mithilakshar, Kaithi **and**

11

Devanagari are three scripts associated with this language. It is taught in universities across India, including

Calcutta, Patna, Bihar, Bhagalpur, Mithila, and Benares

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, as well as in

Tribhuvan University and Nepal Sanskrit University . It is also

11

part of the curriculum in secondary schools in both India and Nepal Yadav (Cardona and Jain (eds.), 2003). The Ethnologue (2024, 28th ed.) classifies Maithili as an institutional language on the vitality scale, indicating that it has evolved to be used and maintained by institutions outside of the home and community. 1.4.4.

Odia Odia is an Indo-Aryan language

78

. It

is one of the 22 scheduled languages in India. It is the official language of the state of Odisha and the second official language of the state of Jharkhand

16

. Due to its lengthy literary tradition and lack of significant linguistic borrowing,

Odia is the sixth Indian language to be classified as a classical language in the

16

year 2014.

As per the 2011 census, the number of Odia speakers in India is

14

37.52 million, representing 3.1% of the total population. Odia is previously rendered as Oriya/Uriya. Scholars find early Odia specimens in Dohakoshas and Caryagitis composed 8th to 12th c AD and some grammatical peculiarities (Dutta Baruah, 2007). It

is mainly spoken in the state of Odisha

16

(previously Orissa). Also,

it is spoken in parts of West Bengal , Chattisgarh, **Jharkhand and**

16

Andhra Pradesh. It has four dialects: south (Ganjam, Koraput), west (Sambalpur), north (Baleswar, Mayurbhanja) and middle/ central-coastal (Cuttack, Puri and Bhubaneswar). The middle variety has attained socio-cultural, literary predominance and has become the standard variety of Odia language because of the political, cultural, educational, and commercial centers (viz. Cuttack, Bhubaneswar, and Puri) (Tripathy (1962), Dutta Baruah (2007) and Patgiri (2012, 2nd ed.)). Mahapatra (2007) states that Odia language area is bound by three distinct language areas;

Telugu in the south and south-west; **Hindi in the west** (Chattishgarh); **Bangla in the north**

3

. As a result, Odia gets influenced by neighbouring Indo-Aryan languages (Hindi, Bangla) and Dravidian languages (Kui, Khond/Kondh, Kisan, Kurukh/Oraon, Gondi, Koya etc.). Besides, there are some pockets of Munda languages like Santhali, Munda, Ho, Kheria, Mndari, Bhumij, Savara in the Odia speaking regions. There are two stylistic variations in Odia: standard spoken (Kathita Oriya) and standard written (Likhita Oriya). The oral standard variety is generally heard in radio, television, cinema, cassettes and public speaking while the written standard is in literature and news media. It is also used in the medium of instruction in education. This is why, the Ethnologue (2024, 27th ed.) labels it as institutional on the scale of language vitality. The script of Odia is called Oriya script / Oriya Barnamala / Akhyaramala. Brahmi script is the source of Ashokan inscription found in the Dhauli and Jaguar in 3rd BCE during the time of Ashoka. E.g., the Khandagiri inscription of King Kharabela (1st c CE). Odia script has come from Brahmi via Urjam inscription. Odia is an analytic language. It owns 38 segmental phonemes (pure vowel + nasalised = 6, consonant = 32), 2 suprasegmental phonemes and 2 juncture phonemes. Patgiri (2012, 2nd ed.) shows that Axomiya has 8 vowels and 23 consonants and possesses nearly 20 diphthongs. Bangla has 7 vowels and 27 consonants. Odia has 6 vowels and 31 consonants. 1.5. Research Gap There is a lack of research on the typological study of adjective class in the Eastern Indo- Aryan languages covering the criteria for the recognition of adjective class, its semanticity- cum-largeness, openness-cum-productivity, and related word-formation processes. There is no significant study on the orderings of adjectives in the Poly-adjectival Noun Phrases in these languages. Even language-particular studies on adjective class did not address the issues extensively. Existing studies primarily concentrate on defining the adjective class, and classifying adjectives syntactically (attributive adjective and predicative adjective). Though some studies certainly discuss the semantic classification of the adjective class, there is a paucity of uniformity and also those are not extensive. Thus, there is a gap in understanding what characteristics are possessed by adjectives of the EIA languages and in which semantic ordering adjectives in PNPs appear. Addressing this gap could provide a deeper

understanding of cross-linguistic generalizations and variations that can be established in the region of the EIA region for the adjective class. 1.6. Research Aims and Objectives This thesis aims to make a typological analysis of adjective class in the EIA languages Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. In one way, it will help to understand

the parts-of- speech system **in the** given **languages** . Thus, **the** grammar **of**

61

individual languages will be benefitted. On the other hand, it will

contribute to the body **of** knowledge of **parts-of-speech system in**

64

general theoretically. Moreover, this study will help to establish areal features in the EIA region for the adjective class. 1.7. Research Statements The following are research statements that will be investigated in this study: a. Explicate the criteria for the recognition of the adjective class in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. b. State the semanticity-cum-largeness of the adjective class in these languages. c. Elaborate on the openness-cum-productivity of the adjective class in all of them. d. Elucidate the word-formation processes related to the adjectives in the given languages. e. State the nature or grammatical properties of the adjective class in the above- mentioned languages. f. Explore the semantic orderings of adjectives in the poly-adjectival noun phrases in the focus languages. 1.8. Outline of the Thesis

This research work **is divided into** six **chapters. Chapter** 1, Introduction, **describes the**
present work in brief

41

. As it was seen it introduced the languages which were studied in this work. There was a brief introduction of various theories which have been used to describe the adjective class. Chapter 2 deals with the reviews of different kinds of literature concerning the adjective class in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia

and the theoretical framework on language typology **related to the**

37

adjective class. Chapter 3 exhibits the research methodology.

Chapter 4 presents the characteristics **of the** adjective class. **Chapter 5** displays **the**

56

semantic ordering of adjectives in Poly-adjectival Noun Phrases.

Chapter 6 summarizes the findings of the thesis **and** presents **future**

57

implications. Chapter 2 Literature Review & Research Works Concerned 2.1. Typological Study on Adjective Class in World Languages Shopen (ed., 2007, v. 1 and v. 3) states that adjective is one

of the open **parts-of-speech in** many **languages of the world**

1

. Although each POS is differentiated based on distinct grammatical properties, they may share some of the common properties. This may happen

between noun and verb , noun **and** adjective or **verb and** adjective. **As**

10

a result, the identification of a POS becomes difficult. For example, both English boisterous and tall are adjectives, but boisterous is dynamic and tall is stative. English 1) John is being boisterous. 2) *John is being tall. Wierzbicka (2000) opines that adjectives as a POS has a distinct semantic characteristic from others. She proposes that nouns refer to entities with a group of more conspicuous or permanent features. Contrastively, adjectives contain a single less conspicuous characteristic. The noun cripple specifies the physical state of the person and labels her permanently. On the other hand, the adjective sick expresses a temporary state. 3) She is a cripple. 4) She is sick. Therefore, nouns play the functions of reference and categorisation and adjectives are applied attributively more easily than nouns. The given

noun woman provides a broad categorization of the referent while the adjective sick serves to modify **the categorization** and indicates **a**

1

set. In Langacker's scheme, verbs and adjectives are distinguished by the prominence of temporal and atemporal relations respectively. Verbs designate actions, states and processes which are not foregrounded in adjectives. Shopen continues to note that all the languages have the noun-verb distinctions as open classes. However,

only certain languages make further distinctions **and** establish **a third open class**

1

called an adjective. Traditionally, adjectives are known to express qualities or attributes. Functionally they modify nouns. Again, such words which modify nouns are classified into two types:

limiting adjectives and descriptive adjectives. The limiting adjectives like **some, this** do not **constitute an open class**. Therefore, they are **not treated as adjectives at all**

1

. On the other hand, descriptive adjectives functions as attributive modifiers of noun as well as predicates. They are called predicate adjectives. They are

like predicate nouns which **may or may not be accompanied by copula**

1

. Ilocano does not use copula with predicate adjectives but English requires it. Ilocano 5)

Natayag daydyay babae tall TOP woman

1

'The woman is tall' English 6) The woman is good. The degree adjectives are classified as positive, comparative and superlative traditionally. For example, English positive - comparative - superlative 7)

tall - taller - tallest Ilocano 8) **natayag** 'tall' - **nataytayag** 'taller' - **katatayagan**

1

'tallest' Latin

adjectives are marked with **case, gender and number of nouns they modify or are predicated of**

1

. 9)

Feminae procerae homines proceros amant Women tall men tall like 'Tall women like tall men' The adjective **procerae** 'tall' **is a nominative feminine plural form agreeing with** the noun **feminae** 'women' **while proceros** 'tall' **is an accusative masculine plural form agreeing with homines**

1

'men'. Not all languages in the world

express the notion **of adjectives in a similar way as**

55

mentioned above.

There are some languages which possess **a** closed **class of adjectives**

58

ranging from less than ten numbers to fifty-odd adjectives. Igbo, spoken in Nigeria belonging to the Niger-Congo language family has only eight adjectives. Swahili, a Bantu language has about fifty adjectives. Again,

there are some **languages which lack a distinct adjective** word **class**

1

. Dixon (1977b) observes that the closed class adjectives are consistent in expressing certain semantic types like dimension, colour, age, and value . They hardly include the

semantic types such as position, **physical property, human propensity** or **speed**

62

. A paradigm case by Welmers and Welmers (1969) supports the claim of Dixon as available in Igbo. Here eight adjectives are found to manifest four semantic types. It is noticed that specific types of adjectival meanings are attested by other open POSs like verbs and some specific types of nouns. The adjectives of physical property are expressed mostly by verbs but the adjectives of human propensity are manifested by nouns than verbs. Hausa, an Afroasiatic language and Bemba, a Bantu language tend to use nouns and verbs to capture adjectival meanings respectively. Again, these languages also use other less favoured POSs to denote adjectival meanings. Therefore, it can be claimed that nouns and verbs fill the gap of a paucity of adjectives in languages with closed adjective class. The adjectives involving human propensity or physical property are revealed in nouns as possessive modifiers and possessive predicates which are equivalent to attributive and predicative adjectives in English gradually. Hausa 10)

mutum mai alheri person having kindness 'a kind person' **cf** . 11) **mutum mai doki person having**
horse 'a person having a horse' 12) **Yana da alheri he. is with kindness** 'He is kind.' **cf** . 13) **Yana**
da doki he. is with horse

1

'He has a horse' On the other side, Bemba exhibits adjectival meanings through verbs. The attributive (modifying) adjectives of open class are seen to be relativized in the following ways: 14)

umuuntu ùashipa person who. is. brave 'a brave person' cf. 15) **umuuntu ùalemba person who. is. writing** 7

'a person who is writing' Contrastively, the predicative adjectives of open class adjectives are framed in non-relativised verbs in closed class adjective languages. 16)

umuuntu áashipa person is. brave 'The person is brave' cf. 17) **umuuntu áalemba person** 34

is. writing 'The person is writing' Interestingly, it is examined that languages having closed class adjectives may simply possess only the attributive adjectives, not the predicative ones. Hua is such a language. Hua 18)

Bura fu nupa fu baie that pig black pig is 'That pig is a black pig' 19) * **Bura fu nupa baie that pig black is** 1

It is claimed that languages with no adjective class; be it open or closed, express the adjectival meanings in two ways either via noun class or verb class. Thus, those languages are termed as

adjectival-noun languages and adjectival-verb languages 42

respectively. Quechua is an adjectival-noun language where object(s) noun embodies a specified quality. For example, 20)

Rikaška: hatun -(kuna)- **ta I saw big** -(PLU)-ACC 'I saw the big one(s).' cf. 21) **Rikaška: alkalde** - 45
(kuna)- **ta I saw mayor**

-(PLU)-ACC 'I saw the mayor(s).' Bemba is an adjectival-verb language as shown above. Again, there are some languages which barely distinguish verbs and adjectival meanings involving other (stative) verbs like 'understand' or 'know' as

found in Mandarin Chinese . There are **some other languages in**

1

which adjectivals with stative verbs are indiscernible when used as predicates. Mojave

belonging to the River Yuman **language family spoken in** Arizona **and**

23

California is such a language. For example, 22)

?i:pa-č homi:-k (iðu:m) man-SUBJ tall -PRS (AUX) 'The man is tall' 23) **?i:pa-č su:paw-k (iðu:m)**
man-SUBJ know-PRES (AUX) 'The man knows' In the given **examples**

5

the adjectival stem homi : 'tall' **and the stative verb stem su:paw** 'know' carry **the same tense-**
aspect suffixes

1

when they are used as predicates. Besides, the same auxiliary occurs optionally with both of them. But adjectivals are distinct from verbs

when they are applied **as modifiers. When verbs** function **as modifiers, they** are used as **a**
relativized form and **the**

1

prefix kw- is added in relevant cases. 24)

?i:pa kw-su:paw-ny-č iva:k man REL-know-DEM-SUBJ is. here 'The man who knows is here.' On
the

5

contrary, adjectivals as attributive modifiers may or may not be accompanied by the relativizing prefix. 25) ?i:

pa (kw-) homi:-ny-č iva:k man (REL-)tall-DEM-SUBJ is. here

1

'The tall man is here.' Adjectives may take a complement which is marked to indicate a subordinating clause by complementizers like that. 26) I am afraid that I must leave.

The relation between a subject and a predicate adjective may **or**

1

may not be accompanied by copulas. English 27) This book is interesting. In Ilocano, such

relation is indicated by juxtaposition . 28) **Napintas daydyay babae beautiful that woman** 'That woman is beautiful.' Verb-final **languages**

29

like Lezgian (Northeast Caucasian language) show a distinctness in case of comparative constructions. Here the

standard of comparison (St) precedes **the marker of comparison (M)** and finally, **the adjective**

1

follows them. 29)

sad müküda-laj žizwi ask'an-zawa one other -SUPER a.little low-imperf St M Adj

5

'One is a little shorter than the other one.' Affixes, distinct words, and, in the case of

a separate word , different **parts of speech** are **the** forms **in**

1

which the marker can be observed in different languages. For example, English, a verb-medial (SVO) language shows its comparative construction differently. 30) This room is bigger than that room. Adj-M St The order in comparative constructions in Fijian, an Austronesian language, and also a VOS language is adjective-marker-standard. 31)

e vina'a ca'e o Waitabumai **Suva 3SG good more ART Waitabu from Suva Adj M St** 'Waitabu is

1

better than Suva' Interestingly, **the**

order AdjMSt is not applicable to indicate comparative comparison rather may express equative comparison involving a single clause. Turkana 32)

a-wòs ayoŋ à ni-koni` 1SG-clever 1SG.NOM PREP LOC-your Adj M St

38

'I am as clever as you.' 2.1.1. Openness of Adjective class The openness of an adjective class in a language is based on the parameter called

productivity. The productivity of a word class **can be**

4

demonstrated by means of various word formation processes found in that word class in a particular language. Various Word Formation Processes A. DERIVATION Under derivation, three types, category changing, category preserving and category defining.

Category-changing derivational processes involve alteration **in word class**

4

. In this way, adjectives are derived from

nouns and verbs and vice versa. **Adverbs are**

80

derived sometimes from adjectives. Category-changing derivations are usually found in languages where nouns, adjectives, and verbs are distinguished clearly. In languages Boumaa Fijian

where adjectives make **a separate open class, a verbal prefix** dau- 'habitually, often' **derives**
adjectives

19

. 33) qito 'play a game' 34) dau.qito 'habitually playing games' Adjectives are likely to be verbalized in languages with noun-like adjectives. In Watjarri, an Australian Aboriginal language transitive and intransitive verbs are built from adjectives. Verb-like adjectives (independent closed class) as found in Longgu are nominalized like the verbs. Interestingly,

derived members of a word class may vary in their semantic and syntactic characteristics from 19
underived counterparts. For instance , only derived adjectives **in Kobon**

, spoken in Papua New Guinea can play the role of

nonverbal predicates of a clause but simple adjectives cannot 4

. Category-preserving process: There are temporal prefixes like pre- and post- in English which are used with adjectives and other word classes. English 35) pre-Victorian 36) post-independence Likewise, the negative prefix ma- is used with adjectives

in the North Arawak languages Baniwa and Tariana 4

. Category-defining processes: There is another morphological process of derivation known as category-defining process. "The same derivational device can behave differently with different word classes and thus be category-defining." In Kabyle, an Afroasiatic (Berber) language spoken in Algeria

the circumfix t- . . . -t stems the feminine of sex -distinguishable adjectives 19

. Kabyle 37) amellal white-M 'white' 38) t-amellal-t white-F 'white' Splits are found with variable morphological alignment in case of different word classes. Attributive adjectives in Chechen differentiate solely nominative vs. oblique but nouns distinguish eight basic cases. Chechen Adjective Noun 'good' 'person'

Nominative dika stag Genitive dikacha stegan Dative dikacha stegana Ergative dikacha steguo etc. This 4
 is **described as** an instance **of** case syncretism where **all oblique cases** for **the** given **adjective**

are converged. Following (Shopen (Ed.), 2007) we now turn to the word-formation processes in case of adjectives are shown with examples from various

languages of the world belonging to different language families

31

. (i) Incorporation: Adjectives may appear in the process of incorporation. In Bouma Fijian language,

an attributive noun phrase consisting of a noun and an adjective

4

is incorporated within a VP. Bouma Fijian 39) 'ana-[waci-po'i] eat-[cooked.taro.leaves-rolled] 'eat rolled taro leaves' In Australian languages like Rembarrnga and Mayali, adjectival modifiers are incorporated when the head noun is the subject of an intransitive verb or a direct object. Rembarrnga 40) Ø-kartpurr-man 3.min.subj-wounded-went 'He [buffalo] went away wounded' Mayali 41) barri-darrgid-ma-ngi 3.augm/3-alive-pick.up-pi 'They pick [it, i.e. a crocodile] up alive' (ii) Reduplication: Reduplication is iconic in nature in some languages. For example, Turkish adjectives with partial reduplication express intensity. Turkish 42) mavi 'blue' : masmavi 'bright blue' 43) kara 'black' : kapkara 'completely black' Likewise, in Tamambo, an Ocean language the initial CVCV indicates the 'intensive quality' for adjectives expressing physical property, human propensity and value. 44) baru 'fat': baru-baru 'very fat' Adjectives are sometimes reduplicated to indicate intensity of the quality of the given adjectives as found in Longgu, native to Guadalcanal. Longgu 45) muha 'happy' 46) muha-muha 'very happy'. In English -ish suffix can freely occur with basic colour adjectives but not with their hyponyms. It also occurs with adjectives denoting age, speed, dimension and physical property (example?) type, but rarely with adjectives describing human propensity (*cruel- ish). Inchoative and causative marker -en is used with most adjectival types (e.g. quick – quicken, white – whiten), but not with the human propensity type: *rude-en. Partial reduplication happens in the case of a few adjectives, usually colour adjectives in X lg. Here the two final consonants of a base are reduplicated partially and result in the vocalic pattern C1C2V1C3C2V1C3 to mark lesser degree. 47) kaxol 'blue': kxalxal 'blueish' 48) adom 'red': adamdam 'reddish', 49) samen ~ 'fat': smanman ~ 'fattish' (iii) Compound adjectives: The languages which constitute an open class adjective category possess compound adjectives. The languages having noun-like adjectives and the languages having verb-like adjectives form compounds differently. The noun-like adjectives form compound adjectives in the manner of compound nouns mostly. On the other hand, compound adjectives in case of verb-like adjectives are similar to verbal-compounds. Most parallel verbal compounds in Mandarin Chinese contain 'adjectival' verb roots. Verb- subject compounds involve intransitive adjectival verbs. Mandarin Chinese 50) xīn-ruǎn heart-be.soft 24 'be soft hearted' 51) mǐng-kǔ life-be.bitter 'be unfortunate' There is only one verb root in Tariana, Maipurean language spoken in Brazil to make verb compounding. 52) mača 'be proper, good'. Adjectives cannot modify the components of a compound separately. Portuguese 53) fin-de-semana 'weekend' 54) fin-de-semana bonito end-MAS of week-FEM nice-MAS 'nice weekend' 55) *fim bonito de semana end-MAS nice-MAS of week-FEM 56) *fim de semana bonita end-MAS of week-FEM nice-FEM 57) Movie-watching /*horror movie-watching Compounded adjectives indicate comparison in many languages. For examples, English 58) icy-cold 'cold as ice' Estonian 59) haud-vaikne grave-silent 'silent as a grave' 60) meie-taoline we-having.the.image.of 'such as we' Again, several coordinate compound adjectives denote tinges of colour as found in Russian. Russian 61) sero-goluboj 'grey-blue' 25 Adjectives can be formed by derivational processes of category changing. This is highly regular as

found in case of English adjectives with -able in transitive verbs. English 62) readable, understandable (iv) ADJECTIVIZER: Adjectives are formed by means of derivational processes where affixes are added to the units bigger than a stem. Suffixes (adjectivizers) -an and -ery in English make adjectives being added with NPs (especially fixed expressions). 63) South Australian [South Australia]-an 64) fish and chippery [fish and chip]-ery the name of an establishment in Melbourne; note the absence of -s on chips In Hungarian, the adjectivizer -i is affixed nouns to make adjectives. 65) ország 'country' 66) ország-i 'belonging to a country' Besides, -i is also added to NPs consisting of noun and postposition. 67) ebéd után dinner after 'after dinner' 68) ebéd után-i 'belonging to after dinner' (e.g. after-dinner mints) B. Inflection Agreement This happens in Portuguese where gender is used to mark agreement. E.g. 69) agu-a branc-a water-FEM white-FEM.SG 'white water' In French, different gender agreement forms are formed with the doubling of n and the addition of e. 70) bon good-MAS 71) bonne good-FEM Gender agreement is found in Ayacucho Quechua, spoken in Peru in case of a few adjectives borrowed from Spanish. They are as follows: Ayacucho Quechua 72) loko crazy-MAS 73) loka crazy-FEM Number maqta boy sipas girl The number system is also encoded in the word class adjective. There is a very less number of languages where dual (two individuals), triple (three individuals), and paucal (a few individuals) are found. Old Church Slavic is one of them. It shows a singular/dual/plural opposition in adjectives. Hajek (2004) summarised the chapter on the adjective class of the languages spoken in the Asia-Pacific region based on typological features in Dixon and Aikhenvald (eds., 2004). It is seen as similar to Russian, which is spoken in Europe, all four of the languages spoken in the Americas are known to possess adjective class. However, four of the seven languages spoken in the Asia-Pacific area—Lao, North-East Ambbe, Qiang, and Semelai—have adjectives that serve as a verb sub-class, according to the descriptions provided by each of these authors in this volume. According to reports, Mandarin and Japanese have split systems with at least one verb-like primary component, although Korean is said to contain an independent verb-like class of adjectives. The geographic concentration on (South-)East Asia and a strong tendency to attribute verb-like behavior to items belongs to the verb class in Sinitic and Austronesian linguistic descriptive traditions, which strengthen the Eurocentric tradition mentioned by Dixon. Dixon (2004 (Dixon and Aikhenvald (eds.)) and 2010, v. 2)) outlines the criteria for the establishment of adjective class in terms of four characteristics. The first two involve semantic tasks: (A) State a property and (B) Specify the referent of a noun. Other two indicate syntactic features: (C) Appear in a comparative construction and (D) Function like an adverb in further specification of the reference of a verb. Now these are illustrated one by one. "There are two major semantic tasks for an adjective to perform: (A) state a property, and (B) further specify the referent of a noun. In some languages an adjective has an additional function: (C) serving as the parameter in a comparative construction. And in a number of languages we also find (D): an adjective may function like an adverb in further specification of the reference of a verb." Dixon (2010, v. 2, pp. 70 - 72) (A) State a property: A property can be stated or coded by means of the following two syntactic techniques. (A-i): Adjectives are placed in copula complement position in many languages. E.g., English 74) The chief is tall. [The chief]CS [is]COP.PREDICATE [tall]CC (A-ii): Adjectives may play the role of a head of an intransitive predicate in many languages. E.g., Fijian (Austronesian, Fiji) 75) E balavlu a tuuraga [E balavlu]INTRANSITIVE PREDICATE [a tuuraga]S 3sgS tall ARTICLE chief 'The chief is tall.' (B) Specify the referent of a noun: Adjectives modify the referent of the head noun in an NP. E.g., English 76) The tall chief laughed. Fijian 77) E aa dredre a tuuraga balavu [E aa dredre]INT.PREDICATE [a tuuraga balavu]S 3sgS PAST laugh ARTICLE chief tall 'The tall chief laughed.' Studies show that there are some languages where there are either of the above parameters available. (C) Comparative construction: Some languages have comparative constructions. Adjectives may function as the 'parameter of

comparison'. E.g., English 78) Suva is more beautiful than Nadi. [Suva]S [is]COP.PREDICATE [more beautiful]CC [than Nadi]STANDARD Fijian 79) E toto la ca le o Suva mai Nadi [E] [toto la ca le] [o Suva] [mai Nadi]STANDARD 3sgS beautiful more ART place FROM place 'Suva is more beautiful than Nadi.' Comparative construction is an extension of the copula complement clause where an index of comparison and standard of comparison is added. The order in comparative constructions can be seen from the point of two pairs of elements and their pattern. They are the order of standard (St) and marker (M) and the order of standard (St) and adjective (Adj). It is seen that these two pairs of elements, that is, the order MStAdj and AdjStM are distinguishable in few languages. As for example, Mandarin has MStAdj order which is related to VO languages. 80) Zhāngsan bī tā pàng Zhangsan COMPAR 3SG fat M St Adj 'Zhangsan is fatter than her/him' Linguists establish basic word order on the basis of three criteria. They are frequency of usage, distribution test and pragmatics. Korowai, an Awju language spoken in Irian Jaya on New Guinea (Van Enk and De Vries (1997)) is such a language where all adjectives can precede the noun but few can also follow the noun. Here the AdjN order is considered as basic word order because of its less restricted distribution. 81) lembul nggulun bad teacher 'a bad teacher' 82) yanop khonggél-khayan man big-very 'a very big person' In Ilocano, an Austronesian language spoken in the Philippines, adjectives can be placed prenominal or postnominal. The latter position is contrastive (Rubino (1998:40)). The more neutral order is given in (45a), the more contrastive order in (45b). 83) ti nalaingnga ubing ART smart LINK child 'the smart child' 84) ti ubing a nalaing ART child LINK smart 'the smart child (as opposed to the others)' (D) Adjectives may be used to modify verbs: In this case, the adjective may be used in unmodified form or derivational process. In the subsequent examples adjectives are used as adverbs. Colloquial American English 85) He speaks bad. Standard British English 86) He speaks badly. Adverbs may be used to modify adjectives. English 87) Openly hostile Features Techniques Verb-like adjective Noun-like adjective Verb-like and Noun-like adjective Distinct adjective (A) State a property A-i - Adjective functions as a complement in a copula clause or a verbless clause. Occurs as copula complement. appears copula complement slot. in A-ii Adjective as a head of an intransitive predicate like verbs. They cannot be used in a predicate. Adjective as a head of an intransitive predicate like verbs. Cannot function as an intransitive predicate. Grammatical agreement Take similar grammatical features for some or all of tense, aspect, - Take inflections like a verb. Do not take inflections of verbs. modality, mood of verbs. (B) Specify a head noun modification Adjectives like verbs modify a head noun only in a relative clause construction. Adjectives modify a head noun within an NP. Adjectives modify a head noun within an NP. Adjectives modify a head noun within an NP. combination An adjective can be a sole lexeme or accompany with nouns within an NP. Cannot be a sole lexeme within an NP. Grammatical agreement Do not share any morphological processes with nouns. sometimes agree with the head noun in terms of inflectional features like gender, number, and/or case. Take inflections like nouns. Do not agree with noun in terms of grammatical features. Examples Mandarin Chinese, Thai, Vietnamese, Korean Latin, Spanish, Finnish, Hungarian, Igbo, Quechua, Dyirbal Berber languages, Tariana, Nunggubuyu, Takelma English, Tunica, Mam, Teribe Table 1 Excerpted from Dixon (2010, v. 2, p. 63–65 and 72 - 73) and Giri (2023, p. 67) 2.1.2. Largeness of Adjective class Dixon (2004 (Dixon & Aikhenvald, eds.) and 2010) while discussing the semantic classes of adjectives argues that there is a connection between each semantic category and certain parts of speech by emphasizing the relationship between the semanticity and the particular POS. He investigates the typology of adjective class across languages, stressing the differences in the nature and size of adjective classes. Additionally, he explores the universal parts of speech membership of semantic categories, providing insight into the circumstances in which adjectives disappear. Besides, he talks about the four fundamental

semantic categories of adjectives (dimension, age, value and colour), which are important to comprehend the organization of small adjective classes. Dixon (2004, in Dixon & Aikhenvald and 2010) presents semantic types related to the adjective class and categorised them into three sets: SET A, SET B and SET C. The languages that exhibit four semantic types DIMENSION, AGE, VALUE and COLOUR of SET A are called small adjective class language. SET A DIMENSION AGE VALUE COLOUR 'big', 'small', 'tall', 'short' 'new', 'old' 'young', 'good', 'perfect', 'important' 'bad', black', 'red', 'blue' 'white', Again, some languages create adjectives from

the semantic types PHYSICAL PROPERTY, HUMAN PROPENSITY and SPEED belonging to

2

SET B along with the members from SET A. They are called middle adjective class languages. SET B PHYSICAL PROPERTY HUMAN PROPENSITY SPEED hard', 'soft', 'heavy', 'wet' 'happy', 'jealous', 'kind', 'clever', 'fast', 'quick', 'slow' Finally, the languages possessing adjectives from SET C including SET A and SET B are called large adjective class languages.

SET C DIFFICULTY SIMILARITY QUALIFICATION QUANTIFICATION POSITION CARDINAL NUMBERS

20

: (ORDINAL NUMBERS): 'easy', 'difficult', 'tough', 'simple' 'similar', 'different', 'other', 'like' 'definite', 'true', 'probable', 'possible' 'all', 'many', 'some', 'few' 'high', 'low', 'near', 'far' 'one', 'two', 'three' 'first', 'second', 'third', 'fourth', 2.1.3. Adjective class on noun-verb continuum The typological study on adjective class exhibits that there are four types of adjective class based on some semantic and syntactic features as proposed by Dixon (2010, v. 2, p 72 - 73). These are verb-like adjective class, noun-like adjective class, noun- and verb-like adjective class, and distinct adjective class. Depending on them, the languages in turn are also classified into four types and named accordingly: verb-like adjective class language, noun-like adjective class language, verb-like and noun-like adjective class language, and distinct adjective class language. Now the characteristics of four types of adjective classes are mentioned below. a) Verb-like

adjective class : The **adjectives have similar grammatical properties to those of verbs** . Both **verb and adjective may function as head of an intransitive predicate**

15

. Features like tense, aspect, mood, and modality of verbs may be marked on adjectives. They may modify a noun within an NP through relativization. E.g.,

Mandarin Chinese, Thai, Vietnamese, and Korean are **verb** -like **adjective**

10

class languages. b) Noun-like adjective class: The

adjectives have similar grammatical properties to those of nouns. Both noun and adjective may

15

appear inside the

NP, that is, they cannot be used in a predicate. An NP may consist of noun, noun with adjective, or just adjective. Adjectives may

10

have similarities with nouns in bearing grammatical features like gender and number. E.g.,

Latin, Spanish, Finnish, Hungarian, Igbo , Quechan, **and Dyirbal** are **noun** -like **adjective**

10

class languages. c)

Verb-like and noun-like adjective class: **The adjectives**

39

may occur inside an NP, then bear the grammatical features of nouns; and they

may function as an intransitive predicate, then bear the

10

grammatical features of verbs. E.g., Berber (

North Africa), Tariana (Amazonia), Nunggubuyu (North Australia), Takelma (Oregon

10

) belong to the language type of verb-like and noun-like adjective class. d) Distinct Adjective Class: The

adjectives have grammatical properties different from those of nouns and verbs . Neither they can **be the sole lexeme in an NP** , nor do they **function as intransitive**

15

predicates. The morphological processes are different nouns and verbs. Thus, they make a distinct category of adjectives. E.g., English, Tunica (Louisiana), Mam and Teribe (Central America) pertain to the language type of distinct adjective class. The above diagram shows the position of an adjective class in the noun-adjective-verb continuum in case of various language types of the world. Diagram: 1 Extracted from Dixon (2010, v. 2, p. 67) Moravcsik (2013) defines adjectives as words expressing properties of nouns, categorizing them into attributive (modifying nouns directly) and predicative (used in predicates). He also discusses their gradability, which enables comparisons of degrees across languages. He examines typological features of adjectives, noting significant syntactic variation in their placement—either preceding or following nouns—which affects semantic interpretation like definiteness. He also discusses morphological diversity, highlighting that some languages inflect adjectives for gender and number, while others keep them uninflected, revealing insights into adjectival meanings. He explores cross-linguistic variations in adjectives, showing how cultures influence their adjectival lexicon. For instance, some languages have extensive colour terms where colour distinction matters culturally, while others have fewer. He highlights that cultural context shapes the quantity and semantic range of adjectives, especially in gradability and comparison. Thus, he analyzes adjectives, highlighting their characteristics, typological features, and cross-linguistic variations, emphasizing their complexity and integral role in language structure and use. Velupillai (2012) noted that adjectives denoting

qualities or attributes (colour, size, shape and

32

others) may constitute an open class. She restricted her discussion to descriptive adjectives excluding

quantitative or limiting adjectives (many, some, few

32

) which

never constitute an open class . She added that **descriptive adjectives**

32

are not by far universal. She specifies grammatical characteristics for the adjective class. These are: firstly, usage for degree (positive, comparative and superlative) either morphologically or syntactically; secondly, occurrence

with degree words that cannot combine with nouns and **verbs**

7

(too coldA, *too tableN, *too runV). Besides, she mentions that adjectives may agree with nouns they modify. She notes two usages of adjectives which fall

into two groups: modification of a noun (a big apple) and predication

34

(the apple is big). While talking about language universality, she pointed out that “while nouns and verbs form near-universal open class categories, this is not the case with adjectives. (p. 127)”. Then, she presented statistical data for ‘open class’, ‘closed class’ and ‘no separate class’ for adjective class in 153 languages based on WALS 200-sample. Bisang (Song (ed.), 2011) notes

that the status of adjectives as a distinct word class

63

is explored

by Dixon (1977, 1982), Schachter (1985), Bhat (1994), and Dixon and Aikhenvald (2004

6

). Adjectives, defined as property-denoting lexemes that modify, often exhibit degrees, categorized into positive, comparative, and superlative forms (Croft, 1991, 2000b, 2001). Dixon’s approach emphasizes different semantic types, establishing hierarchical relationships among them (Wierzbicka, 2000). Languages may have varying sizes of adjective classes or none at all, with semantic types organized hierarchically. Core types include DIMENSION, AGE, VALUE, and COLOUR, while additional

types like PHYSICAL PROPERTY and HUMAN PROPENSITY are found in

74

medium to large classes. Igbo features

a small adjective class with antonymic pairs for each core type

6

. In languages lacking adjectives, properties are typically expressed via verbs or nouns (Schachter, 1985). Dixon (1977 and 2004) notes trends

in languages with small adjective classes , where terms for **PHYSICAL PROPENSITY** often reside **in the verb class**

6

, and HUMAN PROPENSITY can belong to either class. Rijkhoff (Vogel and Comrie, eds., 2000) presents a detailed examination of the adjective class, highlighting its significance in linguistic typology. Adjectives are defined as words that describe qualities of nouns, encompassing both inherent (e.g., English red) and relational (e.g., English parental) attributes. The authors categorize adjectives into two main types: attributive, which modify nouns directly, and predicative, used in a predicate position. They explore variations in syntactic positioning across languages, noting that some languages allow flexible placement, influencing meaning. They also investigate morphological diversity, contrasting inflected languages with isolating ones. They examine the interaction of adjectives with other grammatical categories, revealing overlaps with adverbs that challenge traditional classifications. Cross-linguistic studies illustrate how cultural factors shape the lexicon of adjectives, particularly in areas like colour terminology. The discussion of gradability, including comparative and superlative forms, further underscores the complexity of adjectives. Overall, the book offers insights into the intricate roles adjectives play in language, encouraging further exploration of their syntactic and semantic dimensions. Bhat (1994) states that there are three functions namely reference, predication, and modification to establish an

adjective class in the continuum of noun-adjective- verb

42

. He examines that in Indo-Aryan languages, adjectives often resemble nouns. Almeida (1989) notes that in Konkani, certain adjectives agree with their head noun when used as adverbs. Cardona (1965) classifies Gujarati adjectives as part of the nominal system due to their gender and number agreement. Marathi also groups adjectives under the nominal category. Bloch (1965) highlights that while complete concord is typical in Sanskrit, modern Indo- Aryan languages, like Kashmiri, exhibit reduced adjectival inflection. In Dravidian languages, adjectives differ from nouns and verbs. In Malto, adjectives lack markers in attributive positions but take personal suffixes in predicative positions (Mahapatra 1979). Similarly, Kui adjectives are unmarked attributively but acquire

agreement markers for person, number, and gender in

3

predicative positions (Winfield 1928). In Austro-Asiatic languages, adjectives often overlap with nouns and verbs. In Mundari, lexical items can function as nouns, verbs, adjectives, or adverbs without suffixes (

Hoffmann 1903; Cook 1965; Osada 1992

44

). In Khasi, adjectives behave like verbs in

(Nagaraja 1985). In Tibeto-Burman languages, adjectives are often indistinguishable from verbs. Burling (1961) notes that Garo's verbal bases encompass both verbs and adjectives, sharing grammatical endings and constructions. Matisoff (1973) indicates that while Lahu possesses 'action verbs and 'adjectival verbs', the distinction is primarily semantic with minor syntactic differences.

2.1.4. Semantic ordering of attributive adjectives in Poly-adjectival Noun Phrases Flanagan (2014) investigates the sequence in which attributive adjectives are positioned when they appear together modifying the same head noun. Noun phrases with multiple adjectives are analyzed across four languages Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. The term 'Poly-adjectival Noun Phrase' was introduced by Bache (1978) to describe any noun phrase that includes more than one modifier (adjective). Bache (1978: 26) proposed that all modification in English noun phrases could be divided into three distinct 'modification zones.' These zones include adjectives that specify (Mod-I), characterize (Mod-II), and classify (Mod-III), with each zone being categorized by Bache according to their semantic properties and syntactic behavior.

Flanagan (2014) primarily used quantitative data (with some qualitative data as well) and applied a mixed-method approach to data collection, combining corpus analysis and field methods. He investigated the phenomenon of adjective ordering in six languages of focus: English, Northern Sotho, Welsh, Polish, Tagalog, and Mandarin Chinese. He finds in English that it is uncommon to encounter noun phrases where altering the order of adjectives within a sequence results in ungrammaticality. The order of adjectives is primarily determined by the context and the overall meaning of the phrase. Northern Sotho possesses a semantic-based order for multiple adjectives within a modification string: -ngwe 'another' > NUMERALS > -golo (adjectival root) > OTHER DIMENSION ADJECTIVES > EVALUATIVES > COLOURS. He demonstrates that the standard order for Mod-II adjectives in Welsh is as follows: SIZE > PHYSICAL QUALITY > COLOUR > NATIONALITY. Chinese displays the most rigid and limited adjective order. The adjective order in Polish closely resembles that of English. In Tagalog, word order within noun phrases is much more flexible, and in all the examples examined, multiple options are available. However, this study largely followed the semantic ordering of Poly-adjectival NPs in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia keeping English from a cross-linguistic perspective. Scontras (2023) states that languages like English, Greek, Mandarin, and Tagalog share a preference for a specific adjective order, such as 'small brown box.' This pattern exists in languages with both prenominal and postnominal adjectives, albeit reversed in postnominal languages (e.g., Arabic, Spanish). These preferences suggest a cognitive principle shaping language. Understanding them involves documenting cross-linguistic patterns, specifying knowledge, and identifying shaping pressures. This article reviews over 100 years of research, discussing predictors (Sweet 1898, Whorf 1945, Quirk et al. 1975, Cinque 1994, 2010, 2014), empirical data, and future directions in adjective ordering studies. The literature on adjective ordering often links preferences to lexical-semantic adjective classes. Dixon (1977) pioneers this approach, documenting seven adjective types in English: value, dimension, physical property, speed, human propensity, age, and color, ordered from closest to furthest from the noun. He suggests this ordering is universal, with evidence from languages like Hungarian, Telugu, and Selepet, where the English order is largely preserved, even in languages with postnominal adjectives. Despite over a century of research, many questions about adjective ordering remain. There is no single explanation for ordering preferences, as they arise from various factors like accessibility, processing cost, communicative success, and meaning. Hetzron (1978) states that multiple pressures, often conflicting, shape these

preferences. Recent approaches, like Wulff (2003) and Futrell et al. (2020), use multifactor models, combining meaning and frequency. Future research aims to extend these models cross-linguistically to understand both similarities and differences in adjective ordering.

2.2. Adjectives in Indian Languages Masica (1991) noted that affective adjectives are found in Bhojपुरi (Tiwari), Rajasthani (Bahl) and Awadhi (Bahl). English word international is calqued in Hindi *antarrāstrīya* 'international' with the adjectival ending *-īya*. In Kashmiri, adjectives have a rich agreement system with gender, number and case. The distribution of the head and its surrounding elements show two different natures based on the positions of those elements.

Hindi 88) *chotāA bāccāN* 'small child' 89) *bahutADV acchāA* 'very good' 90) *jaldīADV ānāV* 'come early' The elements on the left-hand side of the heads (N, A, V) are attributive and sub-ordinate. They are syntactically related. However, the elements on the right-hand side of the lexical base limit it and contextualise it. Hindi 91) *a* 'come' 92) *ānā* 'come-FUT' 93) *ātā hai* 'he comes.' 94) *ā rahī hai* 'she is coming' In some NIA languages, nominal inflections are attached to adjectives along with noun, pronouns. In some other NIA languages, adjectives are marked with numerals and adverbs. Nominal inflectional categories are gender, number, case and definiteness. In NIA languages, gender is an inherent and classificatory property of nouns and a variable / inflectional property of adjectives, certain verbal forms, sometimes pronouns and adverbs and postpositions in some cases. In Literary Sinhala, adjectives are invariant. Maithili shows agreement of extended adjectives with extended nouns in the case of ordinary / diminutive and animate pairs with *- ā /-ī*. For examples, 95) *karikkā dālā, ghorā* 'black basket, horse', 96) *karikkī dālī, ghorī* 'black basket, mare' Angika also shows such distinction with *-o/ ī* (Pandey, 1979). In Hindi and Marathi, number agreement is found in adjectives involving nominal markers. In Hindi, adjectives are marked for number but not for case of nouns. 97) *barā makān* 'large house', 98) *bare makān* 'large houses'. Adjectives take layer-1 affixes when they are declined. In some languages mediating genitives are obligatorily with pronouns. Here the possessive adjectives are equivalent to the genitive ones. Bengali 99) *āmār jāthē* 'with me' The form *āmār* does not belong to noun. The genitive is expressed as adjectival form of a noun in some languages. Adjectives which have inflections are called 'variable' but the rest are invariable. The 'variable' class is important as its inflections are showed by genitive postposition and by participles having role in verbal system. Generally adjectives show agreement in terms of gender, number and case but not for definiteness. Jha pointed out in Maithili there is 'definite adjectives' which are merely variable adjectives and/or adjectives used as nouns. The case inflection of adjectives is seen in layer-1 cases. In Hindi, direct or general oblique case is marked in adjectives. Hindi 100) *chotā ghar* 'small house' 101) *chote ghar se* 'from the small house' In Gujarati, adjectives reflect additional layer-1 cases. For examples, 102) *nanū* ghar 'small house' 103) *nana ghar-thi* 'from the small house' 104) *nane ghare* 'in the small house' In Kashmiri, adjectives show agreement with case. It has different forms for number (SG vs. PLU), gender (M vs. F) and case (dative, ablative and agentive). In Hindi, number is neutralised in masculine oblique case. Hindi 105) *chote ghar* 'in the small house', 106) *chote gharō mē* 'in the small houses'. In Marathi, both number and gender are neutralised in oblique. They end in *-ya*. Number and case are neutralised in the feminine in Hindi and Gujarati. Hindi 107) *barī kitāb* 'big book' 108) *barī kitābe* 'big books' But this is not attested in Punjabi, Sindhi and Marathi. In Nepali, gender is neutralised in case of plural number of adjectives. NIA languages like Bangla, Assamese, Odia and Sinhala do not inflect adjectives. In languages of the transitional belt (Nepali, the Bihari group, the eastern Hindi group) inflection is truncated and often optional only for Gender and/ or Number not for case. In NIA comparative and superlative inflections of adjectives are not exhibited as OIA. It is expressed via syntactic construction. NIA languages exhibit personal or nominal (that is adjectival) or a combination of these. In the eastern group of I- A languages, adjectives do not have an agreement. Odia has *-anta*

endings which are adjectival present participles. E.g., *jionṭā māchō* 'the living fish'. This ending is used in the paradigm of the verb as a conditional. It may come from Sanskrit. The perfective form of the verb is formed with attributive adjectival form in Marathi. This is also used predicatively. NIA non-finite forms are basically of three kinds: with nominal functions, with adjectival functions and with adverbial functions. In Hindi, adjectives agree with gender variation. 109) *aisī citthi likhni hai* In Odia and Sinhalese, infinitives may be used as either nouns or adjectives. In Bangla perfective (/past) adjectival participle is used. E.g., 110) *tār lekhā ækkhānā boi* 'a book written by him' In Marathi desiderative adjectival form is found which has the function of nominal complement. Most NIA languages have adjectival participles. Bangla, Assamese and Odia have adjectival imperfective participles based on MIA present participle. [Bangla: -ontō, Assamese: -onto and Odia: -ontā]. Odia has imperfective adjectival form. In NIA compounds of adjectives with verbs like do and become play important roles. They are called conjunct verbs. Assertion marker is used in verbless constructions of eastern NIA and Sinhalese adjectives. The existential verb 'have' is used in Bangla and Odia with adjectives. Odia 111) *se mo kāmōre khushi oḥ-onti* he mine work happy do-PRS.3 'he is happy with my work.' He highlights whether Maithili has agreement between verb and adjective is to be studied (Hook & Koul, 1984b). Left branching phrasal syntax is seen in NIA languages where qualifiers of adjectives precede them. In NIA there is no inflection on adjectives for comparative constructions. Superlative: 112) *ḷobar theke boro* all-GEN from-POSTP big In complex sentences, embedded sentences are either complete or reduced. They are sometimes in the role of a phrasal component (mainly as adjectival modifiers of nouns). Adjectival predications take complements like verbs. In the case of English, this is called appositive. For example, English 113) It is true that he comes. In Hindi also it is found. *yah sach hai [ki...]* 'it is true [that...]'. NIA languages possess two ways of embedding sentences as modifiers of nouns: relative clause and adjectival participle (/participle clause). Participle constructions have at least perfective (past) and imperfective (present) varieties. Sometimes, they have special markers of their adjectival status (as found in Hindi and Sindhi). Verbal adjectives are found in standard Bengali with two forms: -ā and -no. These are identical to verbal nouns. Assamese, Odia and Bangla indicate various forms (Tripathi, 1962). Bengali 114) *āmi [tār lekhā] ekkhāni boi porech'i*. In adjectival clauses, the relative pronouns may come second rather than at the beginning of the clause, especially in Bengali. Shapiro and Schiffman (1975) discuss the similarity in the field of morphology of Indian languages, Bloch (1965) cited in Shapiro, Michael C.; Schiffman, Harold F. (1975) pointed out that there is an "absence of morphologically marked degrees of comparison of adjectives." He continued with "the independent adoption in Marathi, Odia and Sinhalese of the Dravidian relative participle to their syntax, an invariable adjective admitting a subject in the nominative in any construction." Andronov (1964b cited in Shapiro, Michael C.; Schiffman, Harold F. (1975)) considered that there are many I-A loan in Dravidian language family. One of them is the development of adjectives and adverbs in most modern Dravidian language. There are at least 3 syntactic features shared by Indian languages: (a) Predicate nominals and adjectives are placed in the object position of goals of verbs of motion. 115) *tūni ækḷon daktar chi-l-en* (Bangla) he one-CLA doctor be.PST-3.HON 'He was a doctor'. (b) Patterns of word order: a. Adjectives + nouns b. Genitive phrases + nouns c. Demonstrative + nouns d. Numerals + nouns (c) Qualifiers + adjectives: intensifiers (very, somewhat) are grouped under qualifiers. Masica calls them 'Qualifiers of comparison'. E.g., English 116) greener than a leaf. Bangla 117) *khub gOrom* 'very hoy' Dryer (1988 and 1992) shows that there is no correlation between the order of adjective and nouns and the order of verbs and its object. Previously it was thought that AdjN and NAdj are related to OV and VO languages respectively. But this is not the case. The following examples present both the patterns AdjN and NAdj with the OV languages as in Lezgian and Slave gradually. 118) *i güzel*

this beautiful Adj N cūkw-er | flower-PLU tlj nechá dog big N Adj 'these beautiful flowers' 'big dog' The sample given by Greenberg (1963) suggests that verb-initial languages correspond to NAdj order. For example, Fijian (an Austronesian language spoken in Fiji) and Lealao Chinantec (a Chinantec language spoken in Mexico) have NAdj order. 119) a 'olii loa miVH-ku'i:M tia:M ART dog black clsfr-corn white N Adj N Adj 'black dog' 'white corn' Kachru (2006) observed in Indo-Aryan and languages adjectives always precede the head noun. In Manipuri which is a Tibeto-Burman language, adjectives can both follow and precede nouns. Hindi exhibits verbal agreement and adjectival agreement (participial agreement). 2.3. Adjectives in the Select EIA Languages 2.3.1. Adjectives in Axomiya Kakati (1935) discussed pronominal adjectives, in Axomiya, which are classified into two categories – demonstrative adjectives and multiplicative adjectives. The demonstrative adjectives are also known as demonstrative pronouns which are preserved in Bangla and Magadhan dialects along with the emphatic particle /hi/. E.g. /ei, ei, eja, eiya, xei, xeja/ are few demonstrative adjectives with the definitive affix /-a/ attached to a few of their forms. /xei/ is parallel to OIA /sohi/ and MIA /sehi/. The multiplicative adjectives, in Axomiya, /kei/ can be found in OIA forms as in /kati/ plus emphatic /hi/. Affixal extensions like /-ba/ are found in /keiba/, another multiplicative adjective. He notes adjectives of manner or quality from the historical point of view like Chatterjee (1926). Axomiya pronominal adjectives of quantity and number, which have corresponding Bangla and Odia forms, are in four groups as follows: i. /etḡk/, /etḡk/, ii. /etḡ-, etḡ-, iii. /iman/, /imān/ and iv. /xekelo/, /sakalo/. The source of these form groups following Chatterjee (1926). These groups can be traced back to early and middle MIA and to OIA made up of pronominal base + affixal form -yant- + an adjectival -tya, >-tiya. The form like /etḡ-/ is followed by khjen to indicate time; /man/, /mān/ indicating measure, quantity; and /xekelo/ is derived from sakala + hu <-kkhu <khalu. Goswami (1981) mentioned adjectives as modifiers and nouns which appear before nouns and after nouns in case of predicative position. He stated about the usage of adjectives as nouns. Besides, some nouns are used as adjectives. In this case, the -i ending of nouns becomes -ī in adjectives. He noted that nominal inflections are attached to adjectives. While words with neuter gender take adjectives, the adjectives are marked with a feminine marker. Adjectives are sometimes used as adverbs. Medhi (1988) noted that in Axomiya, only the gender is indicated in a few tatsama and tadbhava words but not number and case. E.g., ajalā larā 'artless boy' : ajalī sowalī 'artless girl' and ejan bhāl mānuha 'a good man' : ejanī bhāl tirutā 'a good woman'. It is a peculiarity of the Dravidian languages as of the Tibeto-Burman family that adjectives can never be declined to agree with the nouns they qualify as in Sanskrit. This rule has been borrowed in an altered form by Axomiya. A large number of Arabic and Persian words have found their way into the Axomiya language; such as, kam 'short'. Practically no grammatical peculiarities have, however, been borrowed from such languages. Medhi (1936) defined adjectives which express quality or attribute of nouns. From the point of form, adjectives of Axomiya have two forms: short (dukhi) and long (dukhiya). Again, the short forms of adjectives are of two types. They are weak and strong. Strong forms can be differentiated using gender (masculine vs. feminine). He mentioned that the gender of adjectives is assigned by the gender of nouns. But not all adjectives take gender markings. Based on gender, adjectives are classified into two types: uninflected and inflected. Uninflected adjectives are those which do not get changed while placed before nouns. But 46 inflected adjectives are marked based on the gender marking of the modified nouns; e.g., sundar purus 'handsome man' and sundar suwali 'beautiful girl'. He also noted that if the modified nouns and the preceding adjectives are tadbhava or native words, the adjectives do not undergo any change (saru lara 'little boy' and saru suwali 'little girl'). But in case of modified nouns and the preceding adjectives belonging to tatsama and semi-tatsama groups, the adjectives go through change (e.g., nimata garu 'silent cattle': nimati gai 'silent cow',

satyabadi kumar 'truth prince' and satyabadini kumari 'truthful princess'). Here it can be pointed out that the data sets presented are wrongly described. Again, it is mentioned that in case of inanimate entities (nouns) tatsama or tadbhaba adjectives do not alter (e.g., madhura bhasha 'sweet language'). Exceptions are also there; e.g., acala bhakti 'steady devotion'. He talked on comparison of adjectives and showed how superiority and inferiority are indicated morphologically. He classified numerals separately from adjectives. These are divided into various types: cardinals, ordinals, fractionals, multiplicatives, collectives, indefinitives, denominatives, subtractives, and distributives. Moreover, there are pronominal adjectives which are grouped into several kinds. They are quantitative and qualitative. Besides, he talked about participle adjectives. 2.3.2. Adjectives in Bangla Majumdar (1980) identified pronouns as specific types of adjectives. There are several types: pronominal adjectives (æmon lok 'such man'), indefinite adjectives (kon 'which'), adjectives of quality (heno kaj 'such work') and adjectives of quantity (kajek 'some') based on semanticity and pronominals. Shaw (1984) distinguished adjectives from nouns. By adjectives, he indicates adjectives of nouns, adjectives of adjectives and adjectives of verbs. He points out the influence of gender on adjective class which is gradually decreasing. He presents examples where gender distinction is not prominent; choto chele 'little boy' and choto meye 'little girl', baro bhai 'elder brother' and baro bon 'elder sister', bhalo kaka 'good (paternal) uncle' and bhalo kakima 'good (paternal) aunty'. On the other hand, words are different in tatsama Bangla adjectives based on the gender of adjectives. E.g., sundar purush 'handsome man' and sundari nari 'beautiful woman'. Besides, the grammatical feature number does not influence adjectives. E.g., bhalo chele 'good boy' and bhalo chelera 'good boys'. By making reduplication, sometimes plurality is indicated. In this case, the plural suffix is not added to the noun. For examples, paka katha 'mature talk', paka paka katha 'mature talks'. Sen (1975) detailed a historical analysis of the Bangla word class adjective. Sanskrit adjectives in Old Indo-Aryan (OIA) have morphological characteristics such as the case, number, and gender of the nouns to which they are connected. Until the Middle Indo-Aryan (MIA), this persisted. Although they were occasionally discovered as examples of antiquity or for prosody's sake, adjectives at the end of MIA were found to be devoid of any inflection markers. Adjectives were hardly ever inflected in old Bangla. Gender markers are used with adjectives in the Jadhū style, which originated in Sanskrit. Two inflectional suffixes, -ṭoro and -ṭomo or -ijoʃ and -iftʰo (in contrast to English -er and -est), were employed to compare adjectives. However, the use of coliṭ, or colloquial style, is dwindling. Instead, the employment of postpositions becomes a crucial element. It's interesting to note that occasionally, simply the possessive form—without postpositions— is employed, as in p̣oler Jera am, which means 'mango is the greatest among fruits'. Klaiman (1987) states that morphology in modern Bengali is non-existent for adjectives, minimal for nouns and very productive for verbs. Loss or reduction of the earlier Indo-Aryan adjective declensional parameters (gender, case, number) is fairly typical of the modern Indo-Aryan languages; hence the absence of adjectival morphology in modern Bengali is not surprising. He notes that an adjective is always placed before the noun it modifies. By contrast, in earlier Indo-Aryan, adjectives showed inflectional concord with their modified nouns and consequently were freer in their positioning. Chaki (1996) divided words into five different classes: nam/bijeʃo, which means "noun," bifeʃo, which means "adjective," ʃorbonam, which means "pronoun," oboj, which means "indeclinable," and krija, which means "verb." He uses the same definition of adjectives as Chatterjee (1939). He divided adjectives into two categories: bidʰeo bifeʃo, or "predicative adjective," and bifeʃer bifeʃo 'adjectives of adjectives'. It is important to note that the syntactic placements in sentences determine the usage of these two categories of adjectives. bifeʃer bifeʃo is further divided into several groups: porimanbacok bifeʃo 'quantitative' (onek lok 'many men'), soṅkʰabacok bifeʃo 'numeral

adjective' (tj̄n konna 'three daughters'), pur̄onbacok bifej̄on 'ordinal adjective' (ʃɔftʰo freni 'sixth standard'), gunit̄ɔ ʃɔŋkʰabacok bifej̄on 'multiplied numeral adjective' (d̄igun b̄ol 'double force'), bʰɔgn̄aŋʃo s̄ɔŋkʰabacok bifej̄on 'fractional numeral adjective' (aek t̄rit̄iŋʃo lok 'one-third people') and dʰɔnn̄att̄ɔk bifej̄on 'onomatopoeic adjective' (k̄ɔnk̄ɔne tʰanda 'biting cold'). He distinguished three categories of adjectives based on their morphological structure: moulik bifej̄on, which means "simple adjective," ʃadʰito bifej̄on, which means "complex adjective," and biyukt̄ɔ bohup̄ɔdm̄ɔj / bakkom̄ɔj bifej̄on, which means "phrasal/sentential adjective". Additionally, he introduced the terms "adjective of pronoun" (ʃɔrbonamer bifej̄on), "pronominal adjective" (ʃɔrbonam bifej̄on), "adjective from pronoun" (ʃɔrbonam̄ɔt̄ɔ bifej̄on), and "adjective of adjective" (bifej̄oner bifej̄on) under the general phrase "adjective of adjective". Islam (1998) mentions the creation of adjectivals by adding genitive (possessive) markers to nouns. E.g., sonar dant 'golden tooth', mamar bari 'maternal house'. Non-finite verbs and other verb forms are used as adjectives. e.g., gaelo bachor 'last year', asche kaal 'next season'. Thus, he indirectly indicates the derivation process of adjectives for productivity. Sikdar (2002) classifies words and word classes into six main groups. They are nouns, adjectives, pronouns, indeclinables, verbs and others. Interestingly, he identifies numerals separately from adjectives. He defines adjectives as qualifying or specifying nouns, verbs, and pronouns. Dasgupta (Cardona and Jain, eds., 2003) notes that vowel harmony (phonological process) can make variants of two diglossic forms with High and Low varieties in case of adjectives that are derived from nouns. For examples, /deʃi/ [H] and /diʃi/ [L] 'indigenous' from /deʃ/ 'country, nation', /iŋreji/iŋr̄āji/ and /iŋriji/ 'English (the language)' from /iŋrej/ 'English(wo)man' and /bileti [[bil̄āti even more formal, etc.]], biliti/ 'English (cooking, law etc.)' from /bilet/ [bilet, bil̄āt] 'England'. By adding /-i/ suffixes adjectives are formed from place names to indicate inhabitant or language names. E.g., /p̄ānjābN, p̄ānjābiA/ 'Panjab, Panjabi'. Again, this process is also applied to create nouns from adjectives. E.g., /cālāk, cālāki/ 'clever, cleverness'. Another suffix /-hin/ is mentioned to produce adjectives like /grihohin, ŝongihin/ 'homeless, companionless'. From a grammatical standpoint, adjectives do not agree with the head noun. He raises an open question to identify adjectives and states that comparison can be a parameter applicable exclusively to adjectives. Adverbs are produced from adjectives. The Human classifier /jon/ is welcomed by some adjectives, particularly ordinals, to produce individual aggregate definites: /prothomjon jāe nāi, ditiyojon gaeche/ [[prothomjon jāe nāi, ditiyojon giyāche]] "The second one has gone, the first one did not." This is puzzling since nouns in Bangla do not take /jon/ to make individual aggregate definites (*/oddhāpokjon/, meaning "professor-Jon," would imply "the professor," if it were even marginally admissible; in Assamese, such forms are common). Morshed (2007) categorizes words into eight classes in Bangla. He defines the adjective class as the word class that modifies nouns or proper nouns or any other types of nouns. He classifies adjectives and adverbs separately. They are nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, pronouns, postpositions, conjunct and exclamatory words. He gives an example from English with the word 'round' to prove that the place and the environment where it sits determines its word class. The following examples show that the word English round can be used as different word classes based on the place and the environment where it appears: roundADJECTIVE table, they sat roundPREPOSITION the table, the first roundNOUN, his eyes roundedVERB with horror. Then, he exhibits that an adjective in Bangla sits between a classifier and a noun. E.g., ekjon meye chole gelo 'a ... girl went'. Even when the classifier is absent, it sits before the noun. E.g., je lok se kakhono kaj kore na 'a ... person does not do a ... deed'. Some qualitative words are used before adjectives in Bangla. E.g., sabhay anek bhalo lok esechilo 'many good people came in the meeting' and kichu kharap lok sab jaygatei ache 'few bad people are everywhere'. The adjectives which modify nouns are placed before the nouns. When adjectives are used in the predicative position, they are placed after nouns.

He also discusses inflection to make a comparison. It is noteworthy that any suffix or bound morpheme is not used in colloquial Bangla. The usage of -taro/-tamo suffix or bound morpheme indicates a comparison. He mentions that adjectives are also created from adjectives by the process of derivation. E.g., lalche/lalima 'reddish' from lal 'red'. He differentiates between adjectives and adverbs. To create the demarkation finely, he exhibits inflectional morphology and syntax of adverbs of Bangla which function distinctly from adjectives. Thompson (2010) states "Adjectives come in all shapes and sizes and don't necessarily have any distinctive features." The question is: is it so? Isn't there any distinctive feature specified for the adjective class? She defines adjectives as descriptive or modifying words. They are non-declinable as they do not take case endings. She classifies adjective types into six types: 1. qualifying/descriptive adjectives (physical attributes, non-physical characteristics, and opinions and comments), 2. quantifying, numeral, ordinal, 3. possessive, 4. distributive, 5. interrogative, 6. deictic/demonstrative. Also, she shows that all the types of adjectives can be used attributively. Regarding possessive and deictic, she mentions that these are essentially pronouns. The question is: Are they not indicating an overlapping situation for adjectives and pronouns? Then, she classifies adjectives into two types based on their occurrence in a sentence. They are attributive (occurs directly before the noun) and predicative (appears as a complement). She exhibits the ordering of possessive, deictic, quantifying and qualifying adjectives before the nouns as attributive ones. She notes "All but descriptive, qualifying adjectives are rather restricted in their use as predicates". Thus, she describes the syntactic distribution of adjectives in Bangla. Predicative adjectives can be equational (copulative) and active. She talks about verbal adjectives like bheja banabhumi, pahar-ghera. Though some suffixes are mentioned to be adjectival, there is no supporting evidence. Sanskrit forms with -taro and -tamo suffixes are used only in the case of specific adjectives. Some superlative forms of adjectives are only used as independent adjectives. E.g., ghonishtho 'close'. They often lose their superlative semanticity and are used normally without any superlative connotation. To make a comparison, aro 'more' is used before the adjective. E.g., se aro sundor 'she is more beautiful'. Besides, some postpositions are used to mark comparisons in Bangla. They are cheye, theke, hote, chaite, tulonay. In restricted situations, no postposition is used at all. Negated comparison (eta anker cheye jitol na) is illustrated. To indicate superlative, sabcheye and moddhye (cheleder moddhe madhu sabcheye lamba) is used. moto 'like' and relative co-relative construction (se jemon lamba amio temon lamba), are used to express equality. Islam and Sarkar (2011) classified Bangla words into 2 categories. They are content words and functional words. Content words are divided into 2 types. They are lexical words and exclamatory words. The lexical words are categorized into 7 categories: noun, pronoun, verb, adjective, adverb. On the other hand, the functional words in Bangla are conjunct and postposition. Loan words of Sanskrit words do not change gender. They classify adjectives based on three criteria: selectional, morphological and syntactic. Based on selectional criteria, adjectives are classified into 2 types. They are nam bishesan and bhab bisheshan. Nam bisheshana is classified into 2 types: bisheshyer bisheshana and sarbonamer bisheshana. Nam bishesahana is divided into 9 types. They express colour, quality, state, numerative, ordinal, cardinal and fractional, material-based, interrogative and deictic. Bhab bisheshana modifies nam bisheshana and adverbs. It is also named as an intensifier. Morphologically adjectives are of 2 types. They are simple and derivational. The derivational adjectives are of different types. They are verbal adjectives, adjectives derived from nouns and pronouns, onomatopoeic adjectives, compound adjectives, and prefixed adjectives. Syntactically adjectives are of 2 types: attributive and predicative. Here the numerative adjectives are classified further. Well, the discussion on this is not required here. They classified adverbs separately based on usage and characteristics. According to David (2015), the majority of Bangla adjectives cannot

be formally distinguished from nouns; however, a few closed classes of historically derived adjectives, such as okhankar (from the adverb "there"), kejo (from the adjective "efficient"), doinik (from the noun "daily"), and ghumanta (from the verb "sleeping"), can be identified by their unique endings (-kar, -o, -ik, -anta). Except in predicative contexts, adjectives usually come before the nouns they modify. Although they do not exhibit agreement, nouns can be derived from them by adding plural ends (-gulo, -guli) and specific classifiers (-ta, -khana) (katogulo, 'how many', pancta, 'the five'). Adjectives engage in partial and reduplication, just like nouns (ḍagor ḍagor kalo noyon 'great big black eyes'). However, no example of the aforementioned partial reduplication of adjectives was observed. In Bangla, comparison frequently occurs periphrastically, but it can occasionally be constituted morphologically. Comparative expressions typically use an adjective as the parameter of comparison, a genitive nominal+postposition ('than') construction as the standard of comparison, or, in the absence of an explicit standard of comparison, an adverb meaning 'more'. These comparisons need not involve a copula; instead, they are equational sentences. Dash (2015) gives structural (morphological) view of adjectives and discusses the word formation processes such as inflection (ghor 'house'+ -erPOSS = ghorer 'of house'), derivation (ḍin 'day' + -ik = ḍoinik 'daily'), sandhi (ḍono + -eko = ḍonoiko 'someone'), prefixation (o + bastob = obastob 'unreal'), suffixation (olon + -fil = olonfil 'mobile'), and prefixation-suffixation (o + bohon+ -fil = obohonfil 'non-carriagable') are quite frequent in Bangla. Bhattacharya (2016) shows adjectives as modifiers of nouns. He also mentions that nouns and verbs also possess the nature of the modification. Then, he raises the question of how to differentiate adjectives from nouns and verbs. He rightly mentions how classifiers can be attached to both nouns and adjectives, and comparison does not solely happen to adjectives but also nouns. He mentions that adverbs (intensifiers) like khub, atyanta 'very' are only used with adjectives, not nouns. He notes word formation process derivation for the adjective class where it is seen that adjectives are created from adjectives themselves and nouns. Lahiri (Tiwari, ed., 2017) grouped adjectives and adverbs under a single category based on the feature modification. further he classified nam-bisheshana into 6 types: gunabacaka, abasthabacaka, akarbacaka, sthanabacaka, barnabacaka, kalabacaka. This classification is not clear due to the lack of uniformity in numbering. Whether sarbanamika bisheshana and sankhyabacaka are classified under nambisheshana or direct categories of bishesahnas is not evident. He notes special usages of adjectives produced through compounding and from/with indeclinables. Bisheshanas are used even before indeclinables. He mentions the comparison of adjectives in two ways. The first is adding -taro and -tamo suffixes with adjectives (tatsama words) as found in Hindi. The second way is to add the postposition ceye 'than'. The question is whether he denoted naam bisheshana (adjective proper) or kriyabisheshana (adverb). 2.3.3. Adjectives in Maithili Jha (1968) briefly mentioned a comparative study of adjectives in old Maithili and modern Maithili relating to gender and number markings. He rejected the idea of adverbs as a separate word class in Maithili based on the shared features between adjectives and adverbs. He discussed how pronouns and adjectives become overlapped. Jha (1970) states that Maithili adjectives change their forms with the features of gender, politeness and formality. Tatsama numbers are more in number in Maithili. In place of animate nouns, adjectives are used which is explained as a trace of antiquity of the language. He distinguished adjective class separately from nouns. There is no definition, no semantic or syntactic classification of adjectives. There is no mention of the word formation process to produce adjectives here. There is no mention of comparison in the case of adjectives. There is no mention of adjectives sharing any features with verbs. He did not discuss features of adjective class distinctly. Jha (1974) presented a historical study on adjectives relating to the case, gender and number ranging from old Indo-Aryan language to modern Maithili through abapramsha and different phases of Maithili. He

talked about adjectival forms to indicate the presence of an attribute partially not completely. He discussed the comparison of adjectives in Maithili in comparison to the old Indo-Aryan language. He also pointed out how -taro and -tamo suffixes are used in literary usage contrary to colloquial usage where adhika/besi 'more' is used before adjectives. Like Jha 1979, he also talked about prabhedsuchak visheshana (e.g. Lalka). He classified the number system into 9 types; cardinals, ordinals, fractionals, gunabacakaa/abrittibacakaa, anupatabacakaa, samuhabacakaa, byashtibacakaa, numbers related to games and finally adjectives derived from numbers. He classified the number system extensively which is rarely covered by other authors. Jha (1976) classified words into 5 types: noun, pronoun, adjective, verb and indeclinable. By 'bisheshana' he means the adjective proper which modifies nouns. Words that modify nouns or specify nouns are called adjectives. E.g., lal g'horā 'red horse'. He mentioned that some adjectives belong to nouns having similar features to nouns. He categorised adjectives into three types. These are gunabacaka, porimanbacaka and sangkyabacaka. This categorisation is based on semanticity. Sangkyabacaka bisheshanas are divided into 2 types: nishchit and anishchit sankhyabacaka. Nishchit sankhyabacaka bisheshans are further categorized into 4 types: samucchayabodhaka (dunu 'two'), abrittikabodhaka (dowar 'twice'), kramabodhaka (dosar 'second'), angshabodhaka (adh 'half'). Maithili has gender distinctions in the case of adjectives. For example, sunnar 'handsome' and sunnari 'beautiful'. He showed word formation processes where nouns are changed into adjectives. E.g., kripaN 'grace' > kripaluA 'graceful', dayaN 'kindness' > dayaluA 'kind', hansavV > hansorA, khelaebV > khalauriyaA/khalariA. Though he mentioned that adjectives share features with nouns, but there is no mention of the features that adjectives and nouns share in Maithili. He still categorizes adjectives as a distinct word class in Maithili. He categorizes adjectives semantically but it is not exhaustive. He mentioned a single word formation process, that is, derivation. There are other word formation processes for the creative of adjectives found in other languages. The change is shown as ghanishthaN 'close' to ghanishthataA 'closeness', which is wrongly presented (p. 106). ghanishtha 'close' is actually an adjective, and ghanishthata is a noun. There is no mention of comparison in the case of adjectives. There is no discussion on the syntactic occurrence of adjectives. There is no mention of whether adjectives share any features with verbs, and the book does not discuss the features of the adjective class distinctly. Jha (1979) stated that based on meaning, nama is of 3 types: sañja, visheshana and sarvanama. He classified adverbs under nipata. He compares his categorization of words with the eight-way categorization of words as proposed in the western tradition. He mentioned that visheshana is of two types: adjectives of nouns and adjectives of verbs and there is very less distinction between adjectives and adverbs. He designated adjective class which modifies or specifies the noun class. This is can be possible in three different ways and accordingly adjectives are classified into three types: uparanjaka, vyavartaka, vinirdharaka. Adjectives are not inflected for any suffix or case marker as just used to happen in Sanskrit. Besides, he had classified the adjective class into various types that are not purely based on semanticity; rather there is some overlap with other word classes like nouns and pronouns. But later he showed that some adjectives take gender inflections and pronominal adjectives take -k and -r genitive case markers. He called these adjectives vikari visheshana. He discussed the comparison of adjectives in Maithili in comparison to Sanskrit and English. Interestingly, he mentioned about prahedbacaka vishesana which specifies a variety of referents. He has not categorized them separately and kept it under the noun class. He did not discussed how adjectives are created. There are various ways of categorization of adjectives that are not exhaustive. There is no discussion on the syntactic occurrence of adjectives. Singh (1979) noted that the OIA gender system is nearly extinct in Maithili, with only a few remaining traces of it. One example of this can be seen in the non-definitive adjectives that agree with nouns of masculine

and feminine genders. Similar to nouns, the gender distinction in adjectives is only maintained when referring to animate objects. However, this system is gradually deteriorating, and in some dialects, the gender distinction is completely lost. In the standard colloquial form, feminine forms are used with feminine nouns and with the names of the disjunctive forms of adjectives. Unlike OIA, modern Maithili adjectives do not change their form based on the number and case of nouns. The comparative degree is indicated by the ablative postposition –ac. He discussed complementation with reference to adjectives. He mentioned that Maithili with its other sister languages permits adjectives to be placed before nouns only. Yadav (1996) began the discussion of adjectives concerning grammatical features like case, number and gender. He stated that there is no case or number distinctions for adjectives though gender distinctions are visible barely. He classified adjectives based on definiteness: definite adjectives (which are marked by definite masculine and feminine suffixes) and indefinite adjectives (which consist of adjectival stems and show gender distinctions sometimes). He presented diminutive forms of adjectives. He exhibited syntactic types of adjectives with examples. He finely pointed out that adjectives in comparison are expressed by syntactic devices but not by morphological formations. He discussed genitives and determiners under the chapter on adjectives which indicate that he treated them (genitives and determiners) as adjectives. He mentioned numerals as adjectives and classified them into 5 types: cardinals, ordinals, fractionals, multiplicatives and aggregatives. Yadav (Cardona and Jain, eds. 2003) noted that in Maithili, adjectives occur before nouns and do not distinguish based on case or number like Yadav (1996). There is some indication of gender differences, but not much. Definite adjectives modifying nouns that are animate in relation exhibit masculine and feminine variants. Adjectives that are non-definite are gender-neutral. Attributive adjectives and genitive modifiers come before head nouns in a noun phrase. He did not mention the definition, categorization based on semanticity, or morphology of adjectives, but mentioned attributive adjectives. He did not see adjectives as separate word class. Rather adjectives are discussed under nominals. He had not discussed any overlapping between adjective and adverb. Jha (2022) defined adjectives as modifiers of nouns and pronouns. He classified adjectives into 6 types: gunabacaka, sankhyabacaka, parimanabacaka, nischayabacaka, anischyabacaka, and sarbanamika. He gave definitions with examples for the above. He discussed the syntactic positions of adjectives as before or after nouns. The adjectives that occur before the nouns are called bisheshya-bisheshana and the adjectives that are placed after nouns are called vidheya-bisheshana. Also, he mentioned the comparison of adjectives. Moreover, how adjectives are produced from nouns, pronouns, adjectives, verbs, and indeclinables are illustrated with examples. Das (n.d.) did not categorized the adjective class separately. In his view, it comes under the noun class. Further, his categorization of adjectives is similar to the one by Jha (1976, 3rd ed.). Well, he classified adverbs separately under indeclinable and adjectives semantically but it is not exhaustive. He classified adjectives under noun class, but there is no mention of the features that adjectives and nouns share in Maithili. He had not mentioned any word formation process for producing adjectives. There is no mention of comparison in the case of adjectives. There is no discussion on the syntactic occurrence of adjectives. There is no mention of adjectives share any features with verbs. It does not discuss features of adjective class distinctly. 2.3.4. Adjectives in Odia Dash (1982) states that syntactically nouns and adjectives can be distinguished but morphologically they belong to only one category and cannot be separated. Nouns can take substantive inflections like number markings (e.g., puo 'boy', puomane 'boys') but adjectives (e.g., ucco 'high', uccotgro 'higher') rarely (comparatively) take substantive inflections. Mahapatra (1995) describes the word formation processes prefixation and suffixation which help to produce new words; various sources of prefixes and other types of affixes; how a single suffix can

be used to denote different meanings and create new words in Odia, e.g. birata (opposite meaning), binamra, bibhinna (special meaning). He does not mention word formation processes for the adjective class separately but states -taro, -tamo, -anta and others that create adjectives. He has not presented other word formation processes except affixation here. Sahoo (1996) discusses adjectives based on their syntactic positions. She mentions both attributive and predicative adjectives are found in Odia. In the pre-nominal position, more than one attributive adjective can be placed. They do not need to agree with nouns in gender and number. Furthermore, she discusses the position of adjectives inside the DP in Odia. Ray (Cardona and Jain, eds., 2003) shows that feminine adjectives (dusta 'wicked', sundori 'beautiful', muliani 'labourer', barikani 'barber', bhikharuni 'beggar') are formed by adding suffixes (/ -a/, / -i/, / -ni/, / -ani/, / -uni/) to masculine adjectives (dusta 'wicked', sundora 'handsome', mulia 'labourer', barika 'barber', bhikhari 'beggar'). Therefore, it is seen that the masculine forms are used as base forms. There is no separate feminine form for all adjectives like bhola 'good', khora 'bad' and others. Neukom and Patnaik (2003) comprehensively examine adjectives in Odia, highlighting their functions and forms. Adjectives are categorized into two main types: qualitative and quantitative. Qualitative adjectives describe qualities, such as sundara 'handsome' and bada 'big', while quantitative adjectives indicate quantity, like dui 'two' and kai 'many'. They illustrate how adjectives in Odia agree with the nouns they modify in terms of gender, number, and case. For instance, sundara 'handsome' is a masculine singular form, while sundari 'beautiful' is a feminine singular form. They note this gender agreement as essential for clarity and coherence in sentences. Furthermore, they discuss the syntactic positioning of adjectives, noting that they typically precede the nouns they modify, as in sundar chabi 'beautiful picture'. However, in some contexts, adjectives can follow the noun for emphasis or poetic effect, demonstrating flexibility in structure. They also delve into compound adjectives, which combine two or more adjectives for nuanced meaning, such as sundara-bada 'beautiful and big'. They highlight the role of adjectives in enhancing descriptive richness and aiding in effective communication. Finally, they mention how adjectives contribute to the language's expressive capabilities. Mahapatra (2007a & b) starts the discussion on adjective class by defining adjectives as 'attributes to nouns' which can be used attributively and predicatively. In both the usages, adjectives are unmarked. In a predicative position. They appear in a copula less construction. He mentions that historically there are adjectives that end with -a but now there are adjectives with other endings phonologically. Attributive adjectives do not agree with nouns but there are also some exceptions (e.g., budha daktar 'old male doctor' and budhi daktarni 'old female doctor'). Well, he has also noticed that modern usages of both speaking and writing are discarding such gender agreements. He classified adjectives structurally or morphologically into 2 types: simple and complex. Then, he presented their definitions, examples, formations and other usages. Complex adjectives are formed by adding formatives with bases. As a result, nouns (bola 'strength' > bolua 'strong') and adjectives (pita 'yellow' > pitulja 'yellowish') by the process of suffixation can make adjectives. He listed examples of verbal adjectives which are formed by adding 5 suffixes (-a, -ba, -la, -nta and -na) with verb roots. He classified adjectives into two types: qualitative and quantitative but has not mentioned the foundation of this classification. Among quantitative adjectives (either numeral or numeral classifier), he found cardinal and ordinal numerals. Further, he discussed numeral classifiers. According to him, 'numeral classifiers form a finite sub-class of Oriya adjectives' and it leads him to the classification of nouns into count and uncount nouns (p. 219). Well, this point is out of the scope of discussion for the present research. He mentions adjectives of adjectives at the end. He treats all numeral classifiers and quantifiers as adjectives of adjectives. Mahapatra (2010) classifies adjectives into two types: descriptive and determinative. He states about the syntactic usages (attributive and

predicative) of descriptive adjectives; how they are formed by suffixation (by adding adjectival suffixes with nominal and verbal stems); and gender concord with the referent noun. He talks about adjectival equivalents. On the other hand, by determinatives he indicates adjectives that are obtained from pronominals, pronominal derivatives, fractionals, and numerals. Interestingly, he classifies numerals into two types: cardinals and ordinals but keeps fractionals separately not under numerals. Sharma (2017) defines adjectives as words that specify or delimit nouns. He has presented examples from Odia literature extensively. He classified adjective class into 8 types. He showed the historical changes from Sanskrit through Prakrit to Odia for numbers. Further, adjectives are classified into three types: prakrita visheshan (adjectives of nouns), adjectives of adjectives (visheshaniya visheshan) and adjectives of verbs (kriyavisheshan). Adjectives appear before nouns. He discusses gender and number agreement between nouns and adjectives through different stages of languages from Sanskrit and Prakrit. He also discussed predicative adjectives. Nayak (n.d.) discusses adjective phrases. He notes the ordering of adjectives while more than one adjective is present inside the NP. The following chapter will discuss the Research Methodology. Chapter 3 Research Methodology 3.1. Introduction As indicated in the title, this chapter includes the research methodology of the thesis. In more detail, in this part, the author outlines the research questions in section 0, the research strategy in section 3.1.vi, the research method in section 3.4, the research approach in section 3.5, the methods of data collection in section 3.6, the selection of the sample in section 3.7, the research process in section 3.8, the type of data analysis in section 3.9, the ethical considerations in section 3.10 and the research limitations of the present research in section 3.11. 3.2. Research Questions The research questions which are going to be investigated in this thesis are presented below. i. How can adjectives in the selected Eastern Indo-Aryan Languages Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia be identified? ii. iii. iv. How large is the adjective class in the mentioned languages? How open is the adjective class in the given languages? What is the semantic ordering of adjectives in Poly-adjectival Noun Phrases (PNPs) in the above-stated languages? v. What is the nature or grammatical properties of the adjective class in the languages mentioned above? vi. What are the cross-linguistic generalizations and variations found in these languages? 3.3. Research Strategy Primarily existing research, regarding the semanticity and word formation processes of adjectives; the semantic ordering of adjectives in PNPs; and the nature of adjective class in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia, has been delineated. Following the review of the existing body of research, data has been collected from L1 speakers. 3.4. Research Method In order to satisfy the objectives of the thesis, a mixed method is employed where both qualitative research and quantitative research within the framework of descriptive typology were held. The present research deals with the four Eastern Indo-Aryan languages Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. It is based on the comparison of the typological study of the POS adjective, used in modern times and can be found in many academic books, theses and articles that the researcher has consulted. These books and articles mostly include information about the profile of adjectives in world languages including the focus languages covering morphology, syntactic appearance, semanticity and others, written by previous scholars. After going through all the details related to the study, the researcher then summarized all the data she had found and gathered from books and articles. 3.5. Research Approach The research approach that was followed for the purposes of this research was a mix of deductive and inductive research. First, following deductive research, a hypothesis is formed, data was collected and analysed, the hypothesis was tested, then I reached a conclusion. Again, following the inductive research, observations are made on morpho- syntactic patterns. A general conclusion is made to modify/develop the existing theory and findings are stated. 3.6. Data Collection Method and Tools Two structured questionnaires are prepared based on the typological

framework. One is for qualitative research and another is for quantitative research. The first questionnaire is based on qualitative research which deals with the recognition of adjective class, its largeness, openness, semanticity and word formation process in four focus languages. The materials and information that are necessary for developing this questionnaire are gathered from both primary and secondary sources. Secondary resources on languages and linguistics, especially on morphology and syntax of Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia from the libraries of various universities and institutions were examined: Jadavpur Univerity (School of Languages and Linguistics Departmental library, Bangla Departmental Library and Central Library), Sahitya Academy (Kolkata and New Delhi), Indian Statistical Institute Kolkata, The Sanskrit College and University, The Asiatic Society, Viswabharati Viswavidyala in West Bengal; Central Institute of Indian Languages in Karnataka; Gauhati University in Assam; Eastern Regional Language Centre, Ravenshaw University and Sambalpur University in the state of Odisha; and Jahangirnagar University (Central Library) situated in the neighbouring country Bangladesh. However, this first questionnaire is initially made in English. Then, following it, Bangla data is self-generated and checked by the supervisor. For Axomiya, Maithili and Odia, a few English inputs of the questionnaire were converted into Bangla as necessary. Some secondary data is also collected as needed. Once Bangla data was prepared to test the hypothesis, the data collection for the other three languages was performed. Axomiya, Maithili and Odia data was recorded in the voice recorder. Transcription is done using International Phonetic Alphabet symbols. The data collected for this qualitative research in the case of Axomiya, Maithili and Odia was verified by two linguists and/or language teachers per language. During qualitative data analysis, several discussions were made via phone calls, emails, personal chats, and online meetings. Discussions were made on phonology and morpho- syntactic features of Axomiya, Maithili and Odia as necessary. Another questionnaire for the quantitative study explores the semantic ordering of adjectives in poly-adjectival noun phrases (PNPs) in the given languages and is based on the English questionnaire following Flanagan (2014). The preparation for the second questionnaire involves several steps. First, the adjectives in PNPs are categorized based on the semantic types as proposed by Dixon (2004). Then, it is simplified in lucid English. After that, the Bangla questionnaire is designed. Following this, three other questionnaires are developed for Axomiya, Maithili and Odia speakers in their mother tongues and respective scripts. Google forms are circulated with the target to get responses from 20 informants for each language to collect the quantitative data. However, to conduct the entire research, the linguistic fieldwork methodology was adopted. In collecting data for this thesis; the researcher visited various places of the four states where the focus languages are spoken. The interview method which is considered to be the most common and widely used for Field Linguistics has been used for collecting data from informants. In fields, interviews are based on the above-mentioned two structured questionnaires.

3.7. Sample Selection

The method of purposive sampling was used to develop the sample of the research under discussion. According to this method, which belongs to the category of non-probability sampling techniques, sample members are selected on the basis of their knowledge, relationships and expertise regarding a research subject (Freedman et al., 2007). In the current study, the sample members who were selected had sufficient and relevant work experience in the field of respective language and linguistics and active involvement in this field, as well as proven research background and understanding of raw data concerning linguistic data. The informants of Axomiya, Maithili and Odia languages are both male and female speakers within the age group of 30-35 years. They speak a standard variety of each language. Axomiya speakers reside in the Sibsagar area of the state of Assam where the standard language variety of Axomiya is spoken. Maithili informants are targeted from the Darbhanga district of Bihar. Besides, Odia speakers reside in the capital city of

Odisha, Bhubaneswar. They are trilingual with a knowledge of English and Hindi. They are highly educated qualifying minimum masters. 3.8. Research Process Fieldworks were performed in Gauhati University campus for Axomiya, in Drabhanga for Maithili data and in Bhubaneswar for Odia data. Before data collection, the acceptances of participation in research were received from the informants. In 2019, Axomiya data was collected, during 2019-2020 Odia data was collected and in 2022 Maithili data was collected from speakers of standard language variety for each. In the field, the researcher came in touch with and asked them to participate in the research after explaining the nature and the scope of the study. The data collection process lasted for 2 hours breaking the period into 2 slots for each language. Discussions were made simultaneously during and after the Questionnaire-based interview method. Then, important and relevant notes were taken in order to help the researcher to analyze the gathered data. During the conduction of the interview, respondents were free to express their views even in topics which were not included in the discussed areas. Finally, it should be noted that the conversations flowed smoothly and pleasantly. 3.9. Data Analysis The data collection is analyzed in two ways. The first part of the data based on the first questionnaire involves content analysis. Here, the researcher attempts to use documentary and qualitative analysis. It will make learners easier to see the type of adjective class in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia in terms of semanticity, largeness (size), openness (productivity) and its nature with respect to other POSs noun, verb and also adverb. In this case, the researcher analyzed the data based on the semanticity and the count of adjectives, their word formation processes, and the types and functions of morpho-syntactic structures. On the other hand, the second part of the data based on the second questionnaire manifests both quantitative data and qualitative data. This helps to understand the preferred semantic ordering of adjectives in PNP's chosen by the native speakers of the respective languages. Data analysis is done keeping in mind the typological framework in both cases. There are some steps that the researcher follows when the researcher tries to do the analyses. Firstly, the researcher reads several grammar and linguistic books about morpho-syntactic structures of the mentioned languages. Then, the researcher makes a comparison indicating the similarities and differences in the data and attempts to establish the typology of adjective class in the selected Indo-Aryan languages Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. Finally, the researcher draws some conclusions after finishing the analysis. 3.10. Ethical Considerations Participants were fully informed regarding the objectives of the study. They were reassured that their answers were treated as confidential and used only for academic purposes and only for the purposes of the particular research. Except for the above, participants were not harmed or abused, both physically and psychologically, during the conduction of the research. In contrast, the researcher attempted to create and maintain a climate of comfort. 3.11. Research Limitations Like any research, this thesis has its limitations. It was conducted during one of the world's most challenging times: the complete lockdown brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. This situation led to the closure of universities, abrupt suspension of discussions with the supervisor, library shutdowns, halted fieldwork, indefinite delays in library visits and prolonged pauses in funding. These challenges significantly impacted the timely acquisition of books, journals and other secondary resources, hindered discussions of linguistic data with the supervisor, informants, linguists and language teachers, and created obstacles in data analysis within the set timeframe. Additionally, it posed considerable difficulties in maintaining the researcher's motivation throughout the study. Chapter 4 Characteristics of Adjectives 4.1. Introduction This chapter examines the criteria for the establishment of adjective class; the typology of the adjective class in the selected Eastern Indo-Aryan languages Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia based on the semanticity-cum-largeness and openness-cum-productivity and also the typology of the adjective class based on the nature or the grammatical properties of

the adjective class in the languages as mentioned above. The latter typological examination will specify the position of the adjective class in the noun-verb continuum in the given languages. 4.2. Criteria for the Recognition of the Adjective Class Dixon (2010, v. 2, pp. 70–72 and Dixon and Aikhenvald (eds.), 2004, pp. 10-12)) mentions a total of four characteristics for the establishment of the adjective class. There are two major semantic tasks: “(A) state a property, (B) further specify the referent of a noun”. Along with these two, there are two additional functions that adjectives perform in some languages, (C) parameter of comparative construction and (D) modifier of verbs. Now in the following section, data from selected four EIA languages will be examined to find out whether adjectives exhibit these functions aligning with Dixon (2010 & 2004). This section endeavours to determine the criteria for establishing the adjective class in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. It will present the characteristics of the adjective class in them as well as establish the areal features of the adjective class in the smaller geographical area within the region of the Eastern Indo-Aryan region. Dixon (2010, v. 2, p. 70) proposes four characteristics as already mentioned. This section will analyse whether all four characteristics are applicable in case of the adjective class of Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia; and whether there is any other characteristic that can be considered to recognize an adjective class in the given languages.

4.2.1. CHARACTERISTIC A: STATE A PROPERTY The first characteristic (A) exhibits that adjectives can state a property. It is represented by means of two ways; either as a verbless copula complement (A-i-VCC) or a copula complement (A-i-CC). A-i: Adjectives as copula complement The examples from (1) to (4) show that adjectives *ok^h*, *lamba*, *namhar*, *ḍeṅga* ‘tall’ in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia can be used as a verbless copula complement. This signifies that adjectives resemble to verbs. A-i-VCC Axomiya 1) *loraṭo ok^h* boy-CLA tall ‘The boy is tall.’ Bangla 2) *chēleta lamba* boy-CLA tall ‘The boy is tall.’ Maithili 3) *chōṛā nāmhar* boy-CLA tall ‘The boy is tall.’ Odia 4) *puṭi ḍeṅga* boy-CLA tall ‘The boy is tall.’ A-i-CC *aiç^h* be-PRS.3P.NH The examples from (5) to (8) manifest that the adjectives *obhōdro* ‘rude’, *āḍhar* ‘dark’, *kāthor* ‘cruel’ and *koṭhor* ‘rude’ in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia gradually can occur in a predicative position with a copula complement. Axomiya 5) *apuni obhōdro* you-HON.SG rude ‘You become rude.’ Bangla 6) *āḍhar holo* 258) dark be-IND.PST.3P *hoi pōre* be-INF fall-IND.PRS *maḍar-gachher ṭṭla* (Chakroborty, 1936, p. coral tree-GEN underneath ‘The underneath of the coral tree became dark.’ Maithili 7) *tō kāthor bhāj jāiṭ^h* che you-2P.SG.NH cruel become-NF go-IMPRF be-PRS.2P.NH ‘You are becoming cruel.’ Odia 8) *tūme koṭhor houchō* you-SG rude be-HON.SG.PRS CONT ‘You are being rude.’ A-ii: Adjectives function as intransitive predicate The examples from (9) to (12) and (13) to (16) demonstrate that adjectives in the selected EIA languages can be represented using two ways: finite and non-finite verbs. A-ii-INT-FV Adjectives in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia appear as finite verbs from (9) to (12). For example, consider the following sentences, Axomiya 9) *pḥol pokise* fruits ripen-PRF.PRS.3P ‘Fruits have ripened.’ Bangla 10) *pḥol pekeche* fruit ripen-PRF.PRS.3P ‘Fruits have ripened.’ Maithili 11) *pḥal pākaiç^h* fruit ripen-PRF.PRS.3P ‘Fruits have ripened.’ Odia 12) *pḥolḍoguriko pacic^{hi}* fruit-PLU ripen-PRF.PRS.3P ‘Fruits have ripened.’ A-ii-INT-NFV Again, adjectives as intransitive predicates in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia do not only emerge as finite verbs but also as non-finite verbs. Examples from (13) to (16) manifest the same. Axomiya 13) *am poki goise* mango ripen-NF go- PRF.PRS.3P ‘The mango has ripened.’ Bangla 14) *amta peke mango-CLA* ripen-NF ‘The mango has ripened.’ Maithili *geche go-PRF.PRS.3P* 15) *am pāk gail chāik* mango ripen-NF go-PRF be-PRS.3P ‘The mango has ripened.’ Odia 16) *amboṭi paci* mango-CLA ripen-NF ‘The mango has ripened.’ *jaic^{hi}* go-PRF.PRS.3P A-iii: Adjective function as Transitive predicate A-iii-T-FV The examples from (17) to (20) strikingly expand the idea of adjectives being intransitive predicates. Here they imply that adjectives can also be used as a transitive verb. The following examples are shown as finite verbs. Axomiya 17) *ṭṭōloke karbaid ḍi kōl* they carbide give-POSTP banana

CAUS.IND.PRS 'They ripen the bananas with carbide.' Bangla pəkaj ripen- 18) tomrai cheletake pakiecho you-PLU-EMP boy-CLA-ACC ripen-CAUS.PRF.PRS.3P 'It is you people who have made the boy mature.' Maithili 19) i kerasəbhəik karbaidṣā he.3P.H.PROX banana-all-ACC carbaide-INST pəkbaṣṣi chəṣṣi ripen-CAUS.IMPRF be.PRS.3P.H 'He has ripened all the bananas with carbide.' Odia 20) semane karbaid ḡeiki kḡḡoliku pḡcanti they carbide give-POSTP bananas-ACC ripen- CAUS.IND.PRS 'They ripen the bananas with carbide.' A-iii-T-INV The examples from (21) to (24) demonstrate that adjectives of Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia also possess transitive infinite verbs. Axomiya 21) loraṣowe kaporbor jukuwabolo dibo boy-CLA-ERG cloth-PLU dry-INF give-IND.PRS.3P 'The boy will let the clothes dry.' Bangla 22) cheleta jamakapoṣ jukoteḡ ḡebe boy-CLA clothes dry-INF give-IND.PRS.3P 'The boy will let the clothes dry.' Maithili 23) choṣa kəṣṣa sukḡabəṣi ḡeiṣ boy clothes dry-INF give-FUT 'The boy will let the clothes dry.' Odia 24) pilaṣi kəṣṣaguṣiko boy-CLA cloth-PLU.ACC 'The boy will let the clothes dry.' sukḡeibo dry-FUT

4.2.2. CHARACTERISTIC B: SPECIFY A HEAD NOUN Another important characteristic of adjectives is specifying the referent of a head noun. Having different sources of words in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia, adjectives in these languages may or may not take inflections of the head nouns. They are reflected via B-i and B-ii as follows: B-i: Non-Agreement The examples from (25) to (28) manifest that the adjective 'red' in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia specifies its referent 'book' which is the nominal head below and does not take nominal inflections. Axomiya 25) rəṣa kitapəkḡon red book-CLA 'the red book' Bangla 26) lal boita red book-CLA 'the red book' Maithili 27) lalka potḡi red book 'the red book' Odia 28) lali bohiṣi red book-CLA 'the red book' B-ii: Agreement As nouns are marked with gender and number inflections, adjectives are also found to be marked in the same way. The examples from (29) to (36) show gender agreement and (37) to (40) except (39) exhibit number marking. Gender-marked It is examined that adjectives belonging to the source of Sanskrit take gender inflections (female) -i of their nominal heads as found in (29), (31), (33) and (35) in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia respectively. Axomiya 29) huṣḡori obḡinetṣi beautiful actress 'beautiful actress' 30) huṣḡor lora handsome boy 'handsome boy' Bangla 31) juṣḡori najika beautiful actress 'beautiful actress' 32) juṣḡor balok handsome boy 'handsome boy' Maithili 33) suṣḡəri əbhinetṣi beautiful actress 'beautiful actress' 34) suṣḡər choṣa handsome boy 'handsome boy' Odia 35) suṣḡri obḡinetṣi beautiful actress 'beautiful actress' 36) suṣḡoro bəṣoko handsome boy 'handsome boy' Number-marked The examples in (37), (38) and (40) exhibit that adjectives in Axomiya, Bangla and Odia take number inflections. On the other hand, Maithili uses reduplication instead of taking nominal inflections on the given adjective. Axomiya 37) mok rəṣabor my red-PLU 'I want the red ones.' lage need.IND.PRS Bangla 38) amar lalgulo my red-PLU 'I want the red ones.' cai want.IND.PRS.1P Maithili 39) həmrə nik nik cəhi my good good want.IND.PRS 'I want the red one.' Odia 40) muṣ naliḡuṣiko cəhuṣḡi I red-PLU want.IND.PRS.1P 'I want the red ones.' B-iii: Specificity Like nouns, adjectives may take classifiers in the EIA languages. The examples from (41) to (44) except (43) manifest that adjectives in Axomiya, Bangla and Odia can carry classifiers like nouns to specify the referent. Axomiya 41) mok rəṣazoni my red-CLA 'I want the red one.' Bangla 42) amar lalta my red-CLA 'I want the red one.' lage need.IND.PRS cai want.IND.PRS.1P Maithili 43) həmrə nik cəhi my good want.IND.PRS 'I want the good one.' Odia 44) muṣ naliṣi cəhuṣḡi I red-CLA want.IND.PRS.1P 'I want the red one.' B-iv: Case Inflected The examples from (45) to (48) demonstrate that adjectives bḡal, bḡalo, nik and bḡolo 'good' in the Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia are also attached to case inflections respectively. Axomiya 45) bḡalok bḡal buli good-ACC good COMPL 'Call a spade a spade.' Bangla 46) bḡaloke bḡalo bḡolo good-ACC good tell.2P.IMP 'Call a spade a spade.' Maithili 47) nikke nik bəṣo good-ACC good tell.2P.IMP 'Call a spade a spade.' Odia 48) bḡolo ku bḡolo boli kuḡo good-ACC good COMP tell.2P.IMP 'Call a spade a spade.'

4.2.3. CHARACTERISTIC C: ADJECTIVES IN COMPARISON CONSTRUCTIONS C-i:

equative construction Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia adjectives can appear in an equative construction to indicate that the referents possess similar kind of qualities as found in (49) - (52). For examples, Axomiya 49) *pəllobi cinmōjer hōman ok^h* Pallabi Chinmay- GEN equal tall 'Pallabi is as tall as Chinmay.' Bangla 50) *pəllobi cinmōjer joman lōmba* Pallabi Chinmay-GEN equal tall 'Pallabi is as tall as Chinmay.' Maithili 51) *pəlləbi cinmōj jətək naim əich^h* Pallabi Chinmay as-POSTP tall be-PRS.3P.NH 'Pallabi is as tall as Chinmay.' Odia 52) *pəllobi cinmōj sōmo dēngā* Pallabi Chinmaya equal tall 'Pallabi is as tall as Chinmay.' C-ii: comparative construction The examples from (53) to (56) exhibit that the adjectives in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia are used in comparative constructions. Axomiya 53) *pəllobi cinmōjtəkoi ok^h* Pallabi Chinmay-than.POSTP tall 'Pallabi is taller than Chinmay.' Bangla 54) *pəllobi cinmōjer t̥h̥eke lōmba* Pallabi Chinmay-GEN than-POSTP tall 'Pallabi is taller than Chinmay.' Maithili 55) *pəlləbi cinmōysə naim əich^h* Pallabi Chinmay-*from*-INFL tall be-PRS.3P.NH 'Pallabi is taller than Chinmay.' Odia 56) *pəllobi cinmōj t̥h̥aru oḡh̥iko dēngā* Pallabi Chinmay than.POSTP more tall 'Pallabi is taller than Chinmay.' C-iii: superlative construction Besides, adjectives of Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia can appear in superlative constructions as shown in (57), (58), (59) and (60) respectively. Axomiya 57) *pəllobi hōkolotəkoi* Pallabi all.POSS.than.POSTP 'Pallabi is the tallest among all.' Bangla *ok^h* tall 58) *pəllobi jōbar t̥h̥eke beji lōmba* Pallabi all-GEN from-POSTP more tall 'Pallabi is the tallest among all.' Maithili 59) *pəlləbi ehi səb^hsə nəmgər* Pallabi these all-*from*-INFL tall.COMP 'Pallabi is the tallest among all of these.' *əich^h* be-PRS Odia 60) *sōmōstōṅkō mōddh̥ijōru pəllobi sōbut̥h̥aru* all-POSS among Pallabi all than.POSTP 'Pallabi is the tallest among all.' *oḡh̥iko dēngā* more tall

4.2.4. CHARACTERISTIC D: ADJECTIVES MODIFY VERBS Reduplicated adjectives can function as adverbs in these languages, consider examples from (61) to (64). D-i: reduplication Axomiya 61) *pəllobi lahe lahe* Pallabi slowly- slowly 'Pallabi speaks slowly.' Bangla 62) *pəllobi ḡh̥ire ḡh̥ire* Pallabi slowly- slowly 'Pallabi speaks slowly.' Maithili *kōt^ha kōj talk speak-IND.PRS.3P kōt^hḡ bōle talk speak-IND.PRS.3P* 63) *pəlləbi ḡh̥ire bəjəit̥ əich^h* Pallabi slowly speak-IMPRF be-PRS.3P.NH 'Pallabi speaks slowly'. Odia 64) *pəllobi dh̥ire dh̥ire* Pallabi slowly- slowly 'Pallabi speaks slowly.' D-ii: manner modification *kōt^ha kuhe talk speak-IND.PRS.3P* Interestingly, Axomiya, Maithili and Odia Adjectives exhibit manner with inflection whereas Bangla uses a separate auxiliary verb. Axomiya 65) *b^hal- kōi k^helā good-INFL play-IND.PRS.2P* 'You play well.' Bangla 66) *b^halo kore k^hælo good do-NF play-IND.PRS.2P* 'Play well.' Maithili 67) *niksə k^heləh good-INFL play-FUT.M* 'Play well.' Odia 68) *b^holō-re good-INFL 'Play well.' k^helō play-IND.PRS.2P*

4.2.5. CHARACTERISTIC E: ADJECTIVES FUNCTION AS INTENSIFIERS Consider examples from (69) to (72) in which the adjectives *bōr* 'big', *bōro* 'big', *bəddə* 'big', *bōhuto* 'many' increase the degree of the modifying adjectives like English. Axomiya 69) *pəllobi bōr b^hal sowali* Pallabi big good girl. 'Pallabi is a very good girl.' Bangla 70) *pəllobi bōro b^halo meje* Pallabi big good girl 'Pallabi is a very good girl.' Maithili 71) *pəlləbi bəddə nik ch̥əūṛi əich^h* Pallabi big good girl be-PRS.3P.NH 'Pallabi is a very good girl.' Odia 72) *pəllobi ḡōt̥ije bōhuto b^holō j^hic* Pallabi one-CLA very good girl 'Pallabi is a very good girl.' Thus, it is investigated that adjective class in the selected four EIA languages Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia can be recognized by all four characteristics as proposed by Dixon (2004 and 2010): (A) state a property, (B) specify a head noun, (C) parameter of comparison and (D) function as a modifier of verbs. These languages also exhibit characteristic E, i.e., intensification apart from the four characteristics.

4.3. Nature or Grammatical Properties of the Adjective Class This section focuses on the nature of the adjective class, i.e., the grammatical properties of adjectives in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. Cross-linguistically four types of adjective classes are found in world languages. They are (A) verb-like adjective class, (B) noun-like adjective class, (C) verb-like and noun-like adjective class, and (D) distinct adjective class based on grammatical properties either similar to nouns, verbs, or both, or neither (Dixon 2010, v. 1, pp. 112-113 and Dixon 2010, v. 2,

pp. 62-64). This section strives to place the position of adjective class in the noun-adjective-verb continuum in the case of the languages as mentioned earlier. Thus, it exhibits the typological classification of the adjective class based on grammatical properties in these languages. Also, it tries to establish areal features based on grammatical features of the adjective class in a smaller geographical region in the Eastern Indo-Aryan region. Following the criteria as mentioned in the theoretical background (Chapter 2), the grammatical properties of the adjectives of Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia will be discussed here. Interestingly, the previous section 0 on the criteria for the recognition of adjective class in the selected EIA languages complementarily covers the grammatical properties of adjectives in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. It is seen that adjectives of these languages possess similar grammatical properties to those of both verbs and nouns. Adjectives in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia can occur as copula complement (A-i), intransitive predicate (A-ii) and transitive predicate (A-iii). The copula complement is represented in two ways: verbless copula complement (A-i-VCC) as exhibited in (1) – (4) and copula complement (A-i-CC) as manifested in (5) – (8). The intransitive predicate is expressed in two ways: finite construction (A-ii-INT-FV) in (9) – (12) and non-finite verb construction (A-ii-INT-NFV) in (13) – (16). The transitive predicate is manifested in two ways: finite verb construction (A-iii-T-FV) in (17) – (20) and infinite verb (A-iii-T-INFV) in (21) – (24). Besides, adjectives in these languages specify head nouns as found in (25) – (36). It is fascinating to note here that adjectives in these languages carry nominal inflections like feminine gender marker -i as observed in the examples (29), (31), (33) and (35) in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia singly. Number markers are found to be attached to adjectives in Axomiya, Bangla and Odia as presented in (37), (38) and (40) gradually. It is also found that classifiers can be attached to adjectives resulting in them becoming nouns as found in (41) – (44) except (43). Additionally, adjectives are also inflected by case markers like nouns as seen in (45) – (48). Therefore, it can be stated that Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia possess grammatical features of both nouns and verbs. That is why, it is claimed here that these languages are both noun-like and verb-like adjective class languages.

4.4. Largeness of Adjective Class

This section deals with the largeness of the adjective class in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. The largeness of the adjective class depends on the parameter size as proposed by Dixon (2010, v. 2, p. 62). The size denotes the range of availability of the thirteen semantic types which are in turn divided into three SETs and the volume of the adjective class or the number of adjectives in a particular language. This section examines whether the selected languages possess three SETs i.e. SET A, SET B and SET C of semantic types and which semantic types are available in each SET. Thus, this section on the one hand will attempt to establish the largeness of the adjective class in selected languages and on the other hand will try to establish areal features based on the largeness of the adjective class in a smaller geographical region in Eastern Indo-Aryan region. Now, let's examine the largeness of adjective class in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia.

SET A: According to Dixon (Dixon and Aikhenvald (eds.), 2004, pp. 3-4) and Dixon (2010, v. 2, p. 73), SET A includes four core semantic types which are available in three types of adjective class languages: large adjective class languages, medium adjective class languages and small adjective class languages. They are DIMENSION, AGE, VALUE and COLOUR. Let us examine the semantic types of adjectives in four selected Eastern Indo-Aryan languages Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia.

DIMENSION: DIMENSION is a semantic type that indicates length, breadth and height of an animate or inanimate object. Axomiya Bangla Maithili Odia Gloss *daŋɔɔ bɔɔɔ pəiŋ^h bɔɔɔ* 'big' *xɔɔɔ* *çhɔtɔ* *çhɔtɔ* 'small' *dighal lɔmba nəmħər lɔmba* 'long' *bɔhol çɔɔɔ çəɔɔgər osarija, çɔɔɔ* 'wide' *gɔbħir gɔbħir gəħra gɔbħiro* 'deep'

Table 1 AGE: By AGE, a semantic type is indicated which helps to understand the time a man or other animate entity spends in his lifetime before expiry or an inanimate object exists until it has its utility. Axomiya Bangla Odia Maithili Gloss

natur notun nua nabhka 'new' deka jojan tpruno juvan 'young' burha bridgho burha burh 'old (man)' purni purono puruna puran 'old'(non-animate) Table 2 VALUE: The semantic type VALUE implies goodness, importance, worth, beauty and others that are subjected to social standards. Axomiya Bangla Maithili Odia Gloss bhal bhalo nik bholo 'good' bea kharap khoran khorab 'bad' dhunia jungori sunnar sundri 'beautiful' odghut odghut wicitra odghut 'starnge' nikhut nikhut srestha nikhut 'perfect' Table 3 COLOUR: The concept COLOUR is established by the perception of community members. It is a visual understanding of the entities around them. Axomiya Bangla Maithili Odia Gloss ranga lal lal nali 'red' nila nil nil nilo 'blue' halodhija holudhija pijar holodhija, pittu 'yellow' kala kalo kari kolo 'black' boga jada uja ghola 'white' Table 4 Hence, it is clear that Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia possess all four core semantic types (DIMENSION, AGE, VALUE and COLOUR) of adjectives. SET B: SET B consists of three peripheral semantic types. It has three semantic types PHYSICAL PROPERTY, HUMAN PROPENSITY and SPEED for the adjective class. They are found in large adjective class languages and medium adjective class languages (Dixon, 2010, v. 2, p. 73). The following table presents data from three semantic types belonging to peripheral semantic types of adjective class in selected EIA languages. PHYSICAL PROPERTY: The semantic type PHYSICAL PROPERTY indicates words related to temperature, corporeal properties, and the like. Axomiya Bangla Maithili Odia Gloss poriskar poriskar saph sapha 'clean' gorom gorom goram goromo 'hot' thanda thanda thand thanda 'cold' sukan jukno sukhal jukhila 'dry' komol norom larom komol 'soft' Table 5 HUMAN PROPENSITY: HUMAN PROPENSITY is a semantic type that manifests mental and emotional states of human beings. Axomiya Bangla Maithili Odia Gloss xukhi jukhi khush subho/ sukhi 'happy' dajalu dajalu dajalu dajalu 'kind' sotur / tenor cotur calak coturo 'clever' nisthur nisthur krur nisthuro 'cruel' udar udar udar baddannijo 'generous' Table 6 SPEED: The semantic type SPEED signifies the rate of motion of an entity. Axomiya Bangla Maithili Odia Gloss xunkale drut res drut 'fast' dhir / monthor dhir / monthor rase-sare dhira / monthoro 'slow' Table 7 So, it is investigated that Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia own members from all three peripheral semantic types (PHYSICAL PROPERTY, HUMAN PROPENSITY and SPEED). SET C: The following data will show whether six semantic types of SET C are available in the given languages. These six semantic types are DIFFICULTY, SIMILARITY, QUALIFICATION, QUANTIFICATION, POSITION and NUMBER. DIFFICULTY: DIFFICULTY, a semantic type usually available in the adjective class, signifies the effort a human needs. Axomiya Bangla Maithili Odia Gloss xohoz johoz okas sohaz 'easy' kothin kothin mojkil kothin 'difficult' xorol jorol sodharon sarol 'simple' Table 8 SIMILARITY: By SIMILARITY, it means the similarity or dissimilarity of two or more objects or human beings with others in comparison. Axomiya Bangla Maithili Odia Gloss xadrisjo / eke jodrisjo/æki adne soddruso 'similar' obhinno obhinno abhinna obhinno 'identical' beleg alada olga olada 'different' onjo onno aro onnijo 'other' Table 9 QUALIFICATION: QUALIFICATION signifies the quality of the referent in a given situation. Axomiya Bangla Maithili Odia Gloss nirdisto nirdisto niscit niscit 'definite' xotjio / xosa / xudho jottu sac sot 'true' misa / oxudho / oxotjio mittha juttha mitthija 'false' xombhabona jombhabbo sambhab sambhabbijo 'possible' svavabik jabhabik samanjab swabhak 'normal' Table 10 QUANTIFICATION: By QUANTIFICATION, we mean the unspecified quantity of the entities present. Axomiya Bangla Maithili Odia Gloss xokolu job/jokol sab somosto 'all' xomogro / gotai jomogro /gota anek somogro 'whole' Bahut onek ek onek 'many' olap olpo adh olpo 'few' keol kebol matre kebol 'only' Table 11 POSITION: The semantic type POSITION indicates the spatial orientation as perceived by members of a language community. Axomiya Bangla Maithili Odia Gloss usso / okho ucu uc 'high' nimno nicu nic nimno 'low' hophal / hohat dan dhina dahan 'right' uttorio utture uttari uttarijo 'northern' duroborti durobortij duras durabortij 'distant' Table 12 NUMBER: In opposition to QUANTIFICATION which implies an abstract concept, NUMBER has a physical realization. CARDINAL: CARDINAL NUMBERS represent the counting system available to a

community. Axomiya Bangla Maithili Odia Gloss æk æk æk eko 'one' dui dui du dui 'two' $\text{tini t̃ñ t̃ñ t̃ni}$ 'three' ḍoḍ ḍoḍ ḍas ḍoḍo 'ten' $\text{biḥ kuḥi bis koḥie}$ 'twenty' Table 13 ORDINAL: ORDINAL NUMBERS mean the ordering of animate or inanimate entities. Axomiya Bangla Maithili Odia Gloss $\text{proth̃om proth̃om p̃h̃il proth̃om}$ 'first' $\text{dit̃ñ dit̃ño ḍos̃er ḍwit̃ño}$ 'second' $\text{t̃rit̃ño t̃rit̃ño t̃es̃er t̃rut̃ño}$ 'third' $\text{ḍoḍom ḍoḍom ḍ̃asma ḍoḍom̃o}$ 'tenth' Table 14 FRACTIONAL: It is a part of the number system of a language that is represented in fractions. Axomiya Bangla Maithili Odia Gloss $\text{oḍḥo / aḍḥa oḍḥo / aḍḥa aḍḥa oḍḥo / oḍḥa}$ 'half' ḍer ḍer ḍerḥ ḍerḥ 'one and half' $\text{aḥoi aḥoi aḍḥai oḥai}$ 'two and half' Table 15 MULTIPLICATIVE: Multiplicatives are formed by the process of multiplication of the cardinal numbers. Axomiya Bangla Maithili Odia Gloss $\text{dubar/dugun ḍigun ḍuguna/ḍunna ḍuit̃h̃oḥo}$ 'twice' $\text{tinibar/tinigun t̃ngun t̃nguna t̃ñit̃h̃oḥo}$ 'thrice' $\text{caribar cargun cariguna/c̃auguna carit̃h̃oḥo}$ 'four times' Table 16 AGGREGATIVE: By aggregative, a mass numeral is indicated. Axomiya Bangla Maithili Odia Gloss $\text{dujo/ubḥoj ubḥoj ḍunu ubḥoj}$ both Table 17 Finally, the last one, SET C consists of six semantic types DIFFICULTY, SIMILARITY, QUALIFICATION, QUANTIFICATION, POSITION and NUMBER (CARDINAL and ORDINAL). Each of them owns a good number of members in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. Interestingly, it is found that the semantic type NUMBER encompasses FRACTIONALS (Table 15), MULTIPLICATIVES (Table 16) and AGGREGATIVES (Table 17) along with CARDINAL and ORDINAL NUMBERS in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. The given data from Table 8 to Table 17 support the claim. Hence, it can be claimed that the selected EIA languages Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia are typologically large adjective class languages. 4.5. Openness of Adjective Class This section deals with the openness of the adjective class in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. The openness of the adjective class depends on the parameter productivity as proposed by Dixon (2010, v. 2, p. 62). Productivity indicates adding new words to the lexicon through various word-formation processes. This section will explore the word-formation processes which involve the formation of adjectives in the given languages. Thus, it tries to establish areal features based on the openness of the adjective class in a smaller geographical region in the Eastern Indo-Aryan spectrum. This section attempts to exhibit whether Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia adjectives belong to open class. The more morphological processes available in a language, the more productive adjective class a language owns. The word formation processes found in the given languages are manifested below. A. Inflection: Inflectional morphemes are morphemes that add grammatical information to a word. When a word is inflected, it still retains its core meaning, and its category stays the same. In case of adjectives of Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia, inflected forms are made with gender inflections and comparative and superlative affixes. a. with Gender inflections Axomiya 73) boga white-SUFM 'white (M)' 74) bogi white-SUFF 'white (F)' Bangla 75) pagla mad-SUFM 'mad (M)' 76) pagli mad-SUFF 'mad (F)' Maithili 77) b̃nggali (Jha, 2022, p. 820) Bengal-iSUF(M) 78) b̃nggalini Bengal-iniSUF(F) Odia 79) buḥa aged-SUFM 'old (man)' 80) buḥi aged-SUFF 'old (woman)'. b. with comparative and superlative affixes Axomiya 81) ussot̃gro high-SUFCOMP 'higher' 82) ussot̃gro high-SUFSUP 'highest' Bangla 83) uccot̃gro high-SUFCOMP 'higher' 84) uccot̃gro high-SUFSUP 'highest' Maithili 85) ñm̃g̃er tall-COMP 'tall' Odia 86) uccot̃gro high-SUFCOMP 'higher' 87) uccot̃gro high-SUFSUP 'highest' B. Assimilation: By means of changing the height of a vowel within a word, a new word can be made retaining the earlier meaning. This word formation process is called Vowel Height Assimilation. Axomiya 88) $\text{ḍehi} > \text{ḍihi}$ 'native' 89) $\text{bilat̃} > \text{bilit̃}$ 'English' Bangla 90) $\text{ḍeḥi} > \text{ḍiḥi}$ 'native' 91) $\text{bilet̃} > \text{bilit̃}$ 'English' Maithili 92) $\text{nil} > \text{lil}$ 'blue' 93) $\text{mukt̃} > \text{mukk̃}$ 'free' Odia 94) $\text{ḍeḥi} > \text{ḍiḥi}$ 'native' 95) $\text{bilet̃} > \text{bilit̃}$ 'English' C. Derivation: Derivation is a word formation process in which involves a change in the part of speech or the creation of a new lexeme. a. Noun-based Axomiya 96) honor gold + -orADJ.SUF 'golden' 97) rupor silver -orPOSS 'of silver' Bangla 98) meḥo fish-oADJ.SUF 'one who loves fish' 99) meḥo mat̃h̃-oADJ.SUF 'made of mud' Maithili 100) sonak aḥḥi

is one of the morphological **processes** to **create new words**

66

. A causative is a linguistic expression referring to a situation consisting of a certain event and a force responsible for the realization of it, as seen in the following examples, where the addressee is understood as the cause of the laughing of the addresser. For example, in English, You make me laugh. Axomiya 155) luko.ḡek^huia kam people.show-INF work 'works which are done to show others' Bangla 156) lokḡæk^hano kaḡ people.show-INF work 'works which are done to show others' Maithili 157) lokodek^hua kaḡ people.show-INF work 'works which are done to show others' Odia 158) lokoḡek^hanija kamo people.show-INF work 'works which are done to show others' It can be noted that there are word formation processes such as inflection, assimilation, derivation, compounding, reduplication, affixation and causation which are applied to produce adjectives in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. It implies that these selected four languages possess open adjective class.

4.6. Summary 4.6.1. Characteristics of Adjectives in EIA Languages From the above data analysed in section 0, there are five characteristics to be recognized for the adjective class in the selected four EIA languages.

A: state a property, B: specify a head **noun**

70

, C: parameter of comparison, D: modify a verb, E: function as intensifiers. Features Techniques (A) State property a A-i Complement clause verbless copula complement copula complement A-ii Intransitive predicate Intransitive Grammatical finite verb agreement: Take Intransitive inflections of verbs in non-finite verb case of Intransitive A-iii Transitive predicate Transitive finite and Transitive verb with predicates both. causation (aspect, tense, person) Transitive non- finite verb noun (B) Specify a head Modification Modifies a head noun Without Grammatical agreement Do not take inflections of nouns With Grammatical Take inflections of nouns (gender, agreement number, case) Specificity Classifiers are attached (C) Comparison C-i Equative construction Constructions C-ii Comparative construction C-iii Superlative construction (D) Modify verbs D-i Reduplication D-ii Manner modification (E) Function as Intensifiers Table 18: Criteria for the Recognition

of the Adjective Class in the **Selected** EIA **Languages** Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili **and**

71

Odia 4.6.2. Cross-linguistic Variations While analysing data from the point of typology based on largeness, openness and nature of adjective class in the given languages, it is examined that all these languages are large adjective class languages, open adjective class languages and finally both noun-like and verb-like adjective class languages. Therefore, it can be stated that from the point of semanticity, productivity and grammatical properties adjectives carry or possess in the selected EIA languages, the adjective class functions similarly in these four languages. Adjectives in Axomiya, Bangla, and Odia take number inflections, as seen by the instances in (37), (38) and (40). However, Maithili indicates plurality by reduplication rather than by using nominal inflections on the provided adjective as found in (39). The examples in (41), (42) and (44), demonstrate that adjectives in Axomiya, Bangla, and Odia take classifier. However, as can be seen in (43), the provided

Maithili adjective is employed without any classifier. In case of equative construction of adjectives, Axomiya and Bangla behave similarly. The possessive marker is attached to the comparee (with which the comparison is made) in Axomiya and Bangla as found in (49) and (52) respectively. In case of Maithili and Odia, examples (51) and (52) does not take any possessive marker. In case of comparative construction, there are some distinctions. the ablative marker is attached to the the comparee except any postposition in Axomiya (53). In Bangla (54), a possessive marker is added to the comparee with a postposition. In Maithili (51), there is no postposition but an inflection is attached to the comparee. On the other hand, postposition is used without any possessive marker/ablative case marker/inflection to the comparee in Odia (56). The Bangla adjective utilizes an auxiliary verb (example 66)), although Axomiya, Maithili, and Odia adjectives show manner with inflection while modifying verbs as found in (65), (67) and (68) respectively. 4.6.3. Cross-linguistic Generalisations From the point of linguistic typology, there are some commonalities between the selected four languages in case of the adjective class. Firstly, examining the parameter size, it is noted that the four selected

Eastern Indo-Aryan languages Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili **and Odia are**

31

endowed with three sets (

SET A, SET B and **SET C**

31

) of semantic types for the adjective class. Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia possess four

core semantic types DIMENSION, AGE, VALUE and COLOUR adjectives from **SET A**

53

. They own adjectives from

the semantic types PHYSICAL PROPERTY, HUMAN PROPENSITY and SPEED

2

of SET B. Each of these languages also owns the rest six semantic types, i.e.,

DIFFICULTY, SIMILARITY, QUALIFICATION, QUANTIFICATION, POSITION and NUMBER (**CARDINAL** and **ORDINAL**). It is

37

striking to note here that Dixon shows (2004 and 2010, v. 2) that there are two sub-types of NUMBER semantic type. But examples presented in the Table 15 to Table 17 exhibit that there are also other three sub-semantic types in the case of Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia which is FRACTIONALS, MULLTIPLICATIVES and AGGREGATIVES besides CARDINAL and ORDINAL NUMBERS. Therefore, it is evident that the three sets of semantic types are available in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. They can be considered as large adjective-class languages. Secondly, while talking about the openness

of the adjective class in the mentioned **languages, it is** seen **that**

9

various word-formation processes like inflection, assimilation, derivation, compounding, reduplication, affixation and causation are found to be employed. It indicates that the adjective class in these languages belongs to the open class which implies the productive nature of adjectives in the given languages. Hence, they are called open adjective class languages. Thirdly, Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia possess both nominal and verbal features. These grammatical properties are presented below in Table 18. Consequently, it can be claimed that these languages are designated as both noun-like and verb-like adjective class languages. Fourthly, it can be said that the criteria to recognize an adjective class is fulfilled in the case of Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia based on the proposition made by Dixon (2010, v. 2). Apart from the Characteristics

A (state a property), B (specify a noun

10

), C (make comparison constructions) and D (modify verbs), there is a unique feature Characteristic E: function as intensifiers available to Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. Including the earlier studies, this chapter supports the view that Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia adjectives behave like nouns. They share grammatical features like gender and number sometimes and get attached to case markers in all four selected languages. They are attached to classifiers to indicate specificity in Axomiya, Bangla and Odia (see Characteristic B). Along with this, they can also behave like verbs based on parameters like transitivity, finiteness and infiniteness. They are marked for grammatical features like tense, aspect and person as shown in the examples under the construction type A-ii and A- iii. Therefore, it can be said that Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia adjectives combine

the grammatical properties of both verbs **and nouns**

39

. Chapter 5 Semantic Ordering of Adjectives 5.1. Introduction This chapter presents quantitative and qualitative data on the semantic ordering of adjectives

in the selected eastern Indo-Aryan languages Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili, and

27

Odia. The quantitative and qualitative data both is focused in the section 0. The section 0 delineates language-specific study. At the end, the cross-linguistic generalisations and variations for

the semantic orderings of adjectives are given in the section 0. 5

35

.2. Ordering of Adjectives This section mainly presents the semantic ordering of adjectives with twenty-one instances in the selected EIA languages. 5.2.1. qualification vs. colour The adjectives kola / kalo / kəria / kɔlə 'black' and xad̪harɔn / jad̪harɔn / səd̪harɔn / jad̪harɔnɔ 'ordinary' belong to the semantic types COLOUR (SET A) and QUALIFICATION (SET C) in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. The table in 1 indicates that 18 Axomiya informants out of 20 responded to the ekhɔn xad̪harɔn kola gari 'an ordinary black car'. This implies that the preferred semantic order of adjectives is QUALIFICATION > COLOUR. In Bangla, 17 informants responded to the order ækta jad̪harɔn kalo gari 'an ordinary black car' whereas only 3 informants responded to the other order. It indicates that the preferable semantic order of adjectives is QUALIFICATION > COLOUR, i.e., if adjectives from COLOUR and QUALIFICATION appear in a poly-adjectival NP, then the COLOUR semantic type places after the QUALIFICATION semantic type. Axomiya Bangla Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence এখন ক'ল াস ধা রাণ গ ড়া ি ekhɔn kola xad̪ arɔn gari a black ordinary car 'a black ordinary car' 2 একটি াক লাল সা ধা রাণ গ ড়া ড় ækta kalo jad̪harɔn gari one-CLA black ordinary car 'a black ordinary car' 3 এখন স ধা রাণ ক'ল াগ ড়া ি ekhɔn xad̪harɔn kola gari an ordinary black car 'an ordinary black car' 18 একটি াস ধা রাণ ক লাল গা ড়া ড় ækta jad̪harɔn kalo gari one-CLA ordinary black car 'an ordinary black car' 17 Table 1 Like Axomiya, it is examined that most Maithili informants replied to the order QUALIFICATION > COLOUR. Like Axomiya and Maithili and unlike Bangla, 19 out of 20 Odia informants favoured the semantic order QUALIFICATION > COLOUR. Maithili Odia Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence एकट ास धा रा णा कररआ स ड़ा ि ekta səd̪harɔn kəria sari one-CLA ordinary black saree 'an ordinary black saree' 15 ଗ ଚୋଷି କଲ ଚୋସ ଯୋ ରୋଶ କ ରେଁ gotije kɔlə jad̪harɔnɔ kar one black ordinary car 'a black ordinary car' 1 एकट ाकररआ स धा रा णा स ड़ा ि ekta kəria səd̪harɔn sari one-CLA black ordinary saree 'an black ordinary saree' 5 ଗ ଚୋଷି ସ ଯୋ ରୋଶ କଲ ଚୋକ ରେଁ gotije jad̪harɔnɔ kɔlə kar one ordinary black car 'an ordinary black car' 19 Table 2 5.2.2. value vs. age The following tables 3 and 4 possess adjectives xund̪ɔr / jund̪ɔr / sund̪ɔr / sund̪ɔrɔ 'beautiful' and not̪un / not̪un / nəv / nua 'new' in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia singly. They come under the semantic types VALUE (SET A) and AGE (SET A) respectively. 13 out of 30 Axomiya informants selected the semantic order VALUE > AGE. Besides, it is seen that 14 Bangla informants out of 20 selected the order VALUE > AGE, not vice-versa. Axomiya Bangla Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence এট সানুদ্র নতুন ঘর eta xund̪ɔr not̪un ghɔr a beautiful new house 'a beautiful new house' 13 একটি সানুদ্র নতুন ব ড়া ড় ækta jund̪ɔr not̪un bari one-CLA beautiful new house 'a beautiful new house' 14 এট ানতুন সনুদ্র ঘর 7 একটি ানতুন সনুদ্র ব ড়া ড় 6 eta not̪un xund̪ɔr ghɔr ækta not̪un jund̪ɔr bari a new beautiful house one-CLA new beautiful house 'a new beautiful house' 'a new beautiful house' Table 3 Out of 20 Maithili informants, 11 chose the order VALUE > AGE rather than the other way around. Of the 20 Odia informants, 20 chose the order VALUE >AGE rather than AGE >VALUE. Maithili Odia Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence एकट सानुद्र नव घर ekta sund̪ɔr nəv ghɔr one-

CLA beautiful new house 'a beautiful new house' 11 ଗ ଗୋଟି ସନ୍ତୁତ ନଅୁ ଘର gotije sundora nua ghoro one beautiful new house 'a beautiful new house' 20 एकट नाव सन्तुत घर ekta nāv sundār ghār one-CLA new beautiful house 'a new beautiful house' 9 ଗ ଗୋଟି ନଅୁ ସନ୍ତୁତ ଘର gotije nua sundora ghoro one new beautiful house 'a new beautiful house' 0 Table 4 5.2.3. physical property vs. qualification Adjectives enimeted / ænimeted / jibənt̪ / ænimeted 'animated' and banḡa / banḡa / bəḡḡa / bəḡḡa 'Bengali' are placed in two orders in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. These pertain to the semantic types PHYSICAL PROPERTY (SET B) and QUALIFICATION (SET C). Most of the informants for each selected language answer to the semantic order PHYSICAL PROPERTY > QUALIFICATION. Out of 20 informants, 13 responded to the order PHYSICAL PROPERTY > QUALIFICATION. 12 Bangla informants out of 20 responded to the order PHYSICAL PROPERTY > QUALIFICATION. Axomiya Bangla Orders Occurrence Occurrence ଏଡନଲ ଲେଟଡ ବ ଲାଂ ଲାଲ କାକଥ ା enimeted banḡa lokokəṭṭha animated Bengali folktale 'animated Bengali folktale' 13 অস্ ডানল লেটড ব লাଂ ାଲ କାକ ଡା ନି ୀ ænimeted banḡa lokokahini animated Bangla folktale 'animated Bengali folktale' 12 ବ ଲାଂ ଏଡନଲ ଲେଟଡ ଲଲ କାକଥ ା banḡa enimeted lokokəṭṭha Bengali animated folktale 'Bengali animated folktale' 7 ବ ଲାଂ ା ଅସ୍ ଡାନଲ ଲେଟଡ ଲଲ କାକ ଡା ନି ୀ banḡa ænimeted lokokahini Bangla animated folktale 'Bengali animated folktale' 8 Table 5 Maithili Odia Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence ଜ ଭୀତ ବଂଗ ାଲ କୌକଥ ା jibənt̪ bəḡḡa lokkəṭṭha animated Bengali folktale 'animated Bengali folktale' 18 ଆନଗି ଗେଟଡ ବଂଗ୍ ାଗ କୋକଥ ା enimeted bəḡḡa lokokəṭṭha animated Bengali folktale 'animated Bengali folktale' 11 ବଂଗ ାଜ ଭୀତ ଲ କୌକଥ ା bəḡḡa jibənt̪ lokkəṭṭha Bengali animated folktale 2 ବଂଗ୍ ାଆନଗି ଗେଟଡ ଗ କୋକଥ ା bəḡḡa ænimeted lokokəṭṭha Bengali animated folktale 9 'Bengali animated folktale' 'Bengali animated folktale' Table 6 5.2.4. qualification (nationality) vs. qualification (genre) Tables 7 and 8 exhibit that there are two adjectives bharot̪t̪jo / bharot̪t̪jo / bhərt̪t̪jə / bharot̪t̪jo 'Indian' and xax̪t̪r̪t̪jo / jax̪t̪r̪t̪jo / sax̪t̪r̪t̪jə / sax̪t̪r̪t̪jə 'classical' in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. Both of them are members of the semantic type QUALIFICATION (SET C). Here, the given two adjectives can be further grouped into two sub-semantic types: NATIONALITY and GENRE. All the Axomiya informants responded to the semantic order NATIONALITY (QUALIFICATION) > GENRE (QUALIFICATION). Similarly, 19 Bangla informants out of 20 prefer the adjective bharot̪t̪jo 'Indian' to be in the first position. Therefore, the most chosen order in Bangla is NATIONALITY > GENRE. Axomiya Bangla Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence ଭ ବାତ ସି ି ଶ ସାତ୍ର ସି ି ସ ଗାଂ ତ୍ରିଜଂ bharot̪t̪jo xax̪t̪r̪t̪jo xəḡḡit̪t̪g̪g̪j̪ Indian classical musician 'Indian classical musician' 20 ଭ ବାତ ସି ି ଶ ସାତ୍ର ସି ି ସଂଗ୍ ତ୍ରିଡଶଲପ୍ ୀ bharot̪t̪jo jax̪t̪r̪t̪jo jəḡḡit̪t̪l̪pi Indian classical musician 'Indian classical musician' 19 ଶ ସାତ୍ର ସି ି ଭ ବାତ ସି ି ସ ଗାଂ ତ୍ରିଜଂ xax̪t̪r̪t̪jo bharot̪t̪jo xəḡḡit̪t̪g̪g̪j̪ classical Indian musician 'classical Indian musician' 0 ଶ ସାତ୍ର ସି ି ଭ ବାତ ସି ି ସଂଗ୍ ତ୍ରିଡଶଲପ୍ ୀ jax̪t̪r̪t̪jo bharot̪t̪jo jəḡḡit̪t̪l̪pi classical Indian musician 'classical Indian musician' 1 Table 7 Likewise, most Maithili speakers selected the semantic order NATIONALITY (QUALIFICATION) > GENRE (QUALIFICATION). As seen in the case of Axomiya, Bangla, and Maithili, the favoured semantic order in Odia is found to be NATIONALITY (QUALIFICATION) > GENRE (QUALIFICATION). Maithili Odia Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence ଧ ରାତ ସି ଶ ସାତ୍ର ସି ସଂ ଠିକ ରା bhərt̪t̪jə sax̪t̪r̪t̪jə səḡḡit̪k̪r̪ Indian classical musician 'Indian classical musician' 18 ଭ ରୋଟ ଯି ଶ ସୋଡ଼ ଯି ସ ା ଗଠିଞ୍ଝ bharot̪t̪jo sax̪t̪r̪t̪jo səḡḡit̪t̪g̪g̪j̪ Indian classical musician 'Indian classical musician' 18 ଶ ସାତ୍ର ସି ଧ ରାତ ସି ସଂ ଠିକ ରା sax̪t̪r̪t̪jə bhərt̪t̪jə səḡḡit̪k̪r̪ classical Indian musician 'classical Indian musician' 2 ଶ ସୋଡ଼ ଯି ଭ ରୋଟ ଯି ସ ା ଗଠିଞ୍ଝ sax̪t̪r̪t̪jo bharot̪t̪jo səḡḡit̪t̪g̪g̪j̪ classical Indian musician 'classical Indian musician' 2 Table 8 5.2.5. colour vs. dimension vs. physical property Adjectives gul / gol / gol / golakar 'round', kothin / jək̪t̪o / thos / taḡ 'hard' and rəḡḡa / lal / lal / nali 'red' in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili, and Odia are affiliated to the semantic types DIMENSION (SET A), PHYSICAL PROPERTY (SET B) and COLOUR (SET A). The semantic order COLOUR > DIMENSION > PHYSICAL PROPERTY is picked up as a favoured one over other orders in the case

of Axomiya. The semantic order DIMENSION > PHYSICAL PROPERTY > COLOUR is the most chosen one in Bangla differing from the Axomiya one. Axomiya Bangla Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence

लग ला बङ्ग काठ नि बल gul rɔŋga kothin bɔl round red hard ball 'round red hard ball' 5 लग ला ल ला शकत् बल gol lal ʃoktɔ bɔl round red hard ball 'a round red hard ball' 1 लग ला कठ नि बङ्ग ाबल gul kothin rɔŋga bɔl round hard red ball 'round hard red ball' 3 ल ला शकत् लग ला बल lal ʃoktɔ gol bɔl red hard round ball 'a red hard round ball' 4 कठ नि लग ला बङ्ग ाबल kothin gul rɔŋga bɔl hard round red ball 'hard round red ball' 0 ल ला लग ला शकत् बल lal gol ʃoktɔ bɔl red round hard ball 'a red round hard ball' 1 कठ नि बङ्ग ालग ला बल kothin rɔŋga gul bɔl hard red round ball 'hard red round ball' 4 शकत् ल ला लग ला बल ʃoktɔ lal gol bɔl hard red round ball 'a hard red round ball' 3 बङ्ग काठ नि लग ला बल rɔŋga kothin gul bɔl red hard round ball 'red hard round ball' 2 शकत् लग ला ल ला बल ʃoktɔ gol lal bɔl hard round red ball 'a hard round red ball' 5 बङ्ग लाग ला कठ नि बल rɔŋga gul kothin bɔl red round hard ball 'red round hard ball' 6 लग ला शकत् ल ला बल gol ʃoktɔ lal bɔl round hard red ball 'a round hard red ball' 6

Table 9 11 Maithili informants out of 20 picked up the semantic order DIMENSION > COLOUR > PHYSICAL PROPERTY. In the same way as Maithili, the most selected semantic order in Odia is DIMENSION > COLOUR > PHYSICAL PROPERTY. Maithili Odia Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence

ग लो ल ला ठ सो गर्दे gol lal thos geñḍ round red hard ball 'round red hard ball' 11 ଗ ଠୋ କୋ ରୋ ନ ଠୋ ି ଟ ଖୋ ବ୍ golakar nali taṇɔ bɔl round red hard ball 'round red hard ball' 6 ग लो ठ सो ल ला गर्दे gol thos lal geñḍ round hard red ball 'round hard red ball' 4 ଗ ଠୋ କୋ ରୋ ଟ ଖୋ ନ ଠୋ ି ବ୍ golakar taṇɔ nali bɔl round hard red ball 'round hard red ball' 5 ठ सो ग लो ल ला गर्दे thos gol lal geñḍ hard round red ball 'hard round red ball' 2 ଟ ଖୋ ଗ ଠୋ କୋ ରୋ ନ ଠୋ ି ବ୍ taṇɔ golakar nali bɔl hard round red ball 'hard round red ball' 2 ठ सो ल ला ग लो गर्दे thos lal gol geñḍ hard red round ball 'hard red round ball' 1 ଟ ଖୋ ନ ଠୋ ି ଗ ଠୋ କୋ ରୋ ବ୍ taṇɔ nali golakar bɔl hard red round ball 'hard red round ball' 1 ल ला ठ सो ग लो गर्दे 1 ନ ଠୋ ି ଗ ଠୋ କୋ ରୋ ଟ ଖୋ ବ୍ nali golakar taṇɔ bɔl red round hard ball 'red round hard ball' 4

Table 10 5.2.6. ordinal number vs. cardinal number vs. age Tables 11 and 12 show that adjectives proṭhɔm / proṭhɔm / pəhil / proṭhɔmɔ 'first', pač / pač / pač / pañco 'five' and prakṭɔn / prakṭɔn / puru / purboṭɔno 'former' in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili, and Odia are allied to the semantic types ORDINAL NUMBER (SET C), CARDINAL NUMBER (SET C) and AGE (SET A). It is fascinating that the preferred semantic order for all four selected languages is the same. It is ORDINAL NUMBER > CARDINAL NUMBER > AGE. Axomiya Bangla Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence

পৰ্থ পে চাঁজন পৰ্ কাহ্ন ব ষাট্ৰপডত proṭhɔm pačɔn prakṭɔn raxṭɔpotɔ first five-CLA former president 'first five former presidents' 13 পৰ্থ পে চাঁজন পৰ্ কাহ্ন ব ষাট্ৰপডত proṭhɔm pačɔn prakṭɔn raftɔpotɔ first five-CLA former president 'first five former presidents' 10 পৰ্থ পেৰ্ কাহ্ন প চাঁজন ব ষাট্ৰপডত proṭhɔm prakṭɔn pačɔn raxṭɔpotɔ first former five-CLA president 'first former five presidents' 3 পৰ্থ পেৰ্ কাহ্ন প চাঁজন ব ষাট্ৰপডত proṭhɔm prakṭɔn pačɔn raftɔpotɔ first former five-CLA president 'first former five presidents' 0 পৰ্ কাহ্ন পৰ্থ পে চাঁজন ব ষাট্ৰপডত prakṭɔn proṭhɔm pačɔn raxṭɔpotɔ former first five-CLA president 'former first five presidents' 3 প চাঁজন পৰ্থ পেৰ্ কাহ্ন ব ষাট্ৰপডত pačɔn proṭhɔm prakṭɔn raftɔpotɔ five-CLA first former president 'five first former presidents' 6 পৰ্ কাহ্ন প চাঁজন পৰ্থ বে ষাট্ৰপডত prakṭɔn pačɔn proṭhɔm raxṭɔpotɔ former five-CLA first president 'former five first presidents' 0 পৰ্ কাহ্ন পৰ্থ পে চাঁজন ব ষাট্ৰপডত prakṭɔn proṭhɔm pačɔn raftɔpotɔ former first five-CLA president 'former first five presidents' 3 প চাঁজন পৰ্ কাহ্ন পৰ্থ বে ষাট্ৰপডত pačɔn prakṭɔn proṭhɔm raftɔpotɔ five-CLA former first president 'five former first presidents' 0 প চাঁজন পৰ্ কাহ্ন পৰ্থ বে ষাট্ৰপডত pačɔn prakṭɔn proṭhɔm raftɔpotɔ five-CLA first former president 'five first former presidents' 1 পৰ্ কাহ্ন প

tjnoti jɔkaɭɔ cold next three-CLA morning 'cold next three mornings' 8 ठंढ ात नीट ाअहगल भा रो thənda tjnta əgila bhor cold three-CLA next morning 'cold three next mornings' 0 ଶ ଡାଦନିର ଡଗିନ ଗୋ ି ପରବରଡ଼୍ ସୀକ ଲେ sitɔdjinɔɔ tjnoti pɔrɔbɔrtj jɔkaɭɔ cold three-CLA next morning 'cold three next mornings' 4 त नीट ठांढ ाअहगल भा रो tjnta thənda əgila bhor three-CLA cold next morning 'cold three next mornings' 3 ଡଗିନ ଗୋ ି ଶ ଡାଦନିର ପରବରଡ଼୍ ସୀକ ଲେ tjnoti sitɔdjinɔɔ pɔrɔbɔrtj jɔkaɭɔ three-CLA cold next morning 'three cold next mornings' 0 त नीट अाहगल ठांढ भा रो tjnta əgila thənda bhor three-CLA next cold morning 'three next cold mornings' 3 ଡଗିନ ଗୋ ି ପରବରଡ଼୍ ଶୀ ଡାଦନିର ସକ ଲେ tjnoti pɔrɔbɔrtj sitɔdjinɔɔ jɔkaɭɔ three-CLA next cold morning 'three next cold mornings' 2 Table 14 5.2.8. cardinal number vs. value vs. age Three adjectives dui / dui / du / dui 'two', ghunija / jungor / sundar / sundaro 'handsome' and deka / ɔpɔbɔjɔfi / chot / choto 'young' belonging to the semantic types CARDINAL NUMBER (SET C), VALUE (SET A) and AGE (SET A) respectively. The most selected order in Axomiya, Maithili and Odia is CARDINAL NUMBER > VALUE > AGE. Though it is seen that Axomiya, Maithili and Odia informants preferred the semantic order of adjectives as CARDINAL NUMBER > VALUE > AGE, the most received response in Bangla is dissimilar from them: VALUE > CARDINAL NUMBER > AGE. Axomiya Orders Occurrence दजून (सब डाधकब धनु यी)ा लडक ाल'ब ा dɔzɔn (xɔrɔbɔdɔhik ghunija) deka lɔra two-CLA (all.more-POSTP handsome) young boy 'two (most handsome) young boys' 14 दजून लडक (ासब डाधकब धनु यी)ा ल'ब ा dɔzɔn deka (xɔrɔbɔdɔhik ghunija) lɔra two-CLA young (all.more-POSTP handsome) boy 'two young (most handsome) boys' 3 लडक दाजून (सब डाधकब धनु यी)ा ल'ब ा deka dɔzɔn (xɔrɔbɔdɔhik ghunija) lɔra young two-CLA (all.more-POSTP handsome) boy 0 'young two (most handsome) boys' लडक ा(सब डाधकब धनु यी)ा दजून ल'ब ा deka (xɔrɔbɔdɔhik ghunija) dɔzɔn lɔra young (all.more-POSTP handsome) two-CLA boy 'young (most handsome) two boys' 1 (सब डाधकब धनु यी)ा लडक दाजून ल'ब ा (xɔrɔbɔdɔhik ghunija) deka dɔzɔn lɔra (all.more-POSTP handsome) young two-CLA boy '(most handsome) young two boys' 1 (सब डाधकब धनु यी)ा दजून लडक ल'ब ा (xɔrɔbɔdɔhik ghunija) dɔzɔn deka lɔra (all.more-POSTP handsome) two-CLA young boy '(most handsome) two young boys' 1 Bangla Orders Occurrence दलुटि ा(सबलचलय ऽ सनुद) अल्पवयस िल लेल duto (jɔbceje jungor) ɔpɔbɔjɔfi chele two-CLA (all.than-POSTP handsome) young boy 'two (most handsome) young boys' 4 (सबलचलय ऽ सनुद) दलुटि ाअल्पवयस िल लेल (jɔbceje jungor) duto ɔpɔbɔjɔfi chele (all.than-POSTP handsome) two-CLA young boy '(most handsome) two young boys' 6 दलुटि ाअल्पवयस ि(सबलचलय ऽ सनुद) ल लेल duto ɔpɔbɔjɔfi (jɔbceje jungor) chele two-CLA young (all.than-POSTP handsome) boy 'two young (most handsome) boys' 3 (सबलचलय ऽ सनुद) अल्पवयस िदलुटि ाल लेल (jɔbceje jungor) ɔpɔbɔjɔfi duto chele (all.than-POSTP handsome) young two-CLA boy '(most handsome) young two boys' 3 अल्पवयस ि(सबलचलय ऽ सनुद) दलुटि ला लेल ɔpɔbɔjɔfi (jɔbceje jungor) duto chele young (all.than-POSTP handsome) two-CLA boy 'young (most handsome) two boys' 4 अल्पवयस िदलुटि ा(सबलचलय ऽ सनुद) ल लेल ɔpɔbɔjɔfi duto (jɔbceje jungor) chele young two-CLA (all.than-POSTP handsome) boy 'young two (most handsome) boys' 0 Table 15 Maithili Orders Occurrence दटू ा(सबसँ सनुद) छ टौ लडक ा dɔta (səbsə̃ sundəɔ) chot ləɕka two-CLA (most.than-POSTP handsome) young boy 'two (most handsome) young boys' 11 दटू ाछ टौ (सबसँ सनुद) लडक ा dɔta chot (səbsə̃ sundəɔ) ləɕka 3 two-CLA young (most.than-POSTP handsome) boy 'two young (most handsome) boys' छ टौ दटू ा(सबसँ सनुद) लडक ा chot dɔta (səbsə̃ sundəɔ) ləɕka young two-CLA (most.than-POSTP handsome) boy 'young two (most handsome) boys' 0 छ टौ (सबसँ सनुद) दटू ालडक ा chot (səbsə̃ sundəɔ) dɔta ləɕka young (most.than-POSTP handsome) two-CLA boy 'young (most handsome) two boys' 1 (सबसँ सनुद) छ टौ दटू ालडक ा (səbsə̃ sundəɔ) chot dɔta ləɕka (most.than-POSTP handsome) young two-CLA boy '(most handsome) young two boys' 2 (सबसँ सनुद) दटू ाछ टौ लडक ा (səbsə̃ sundəɔ) dɔta chot ləɕka (most.than-POSTP handsome) two-CLA young boy '(most handsome) two young boys' 3 Odia Orders Occurrence ଦଲୁଟି (ସବଲଚଳୟ ଽ ସନୁଦ) ଛ ଟା ପଥୁ duiti (sɔbɔtharu sundɔɔ) choto puo two-CLA (all.than-POSTP

handsome) young boy ‘two (most handsome) young boys’ 8 ଦଲୁଟ ଠି ଛ ଟା (ସବୁଠୁ ରୁା ସନ୍ନୁତ୍ର) ପଥୁ duiti c’oto (sobutharu sundora) puo two-CLA young (all.than-POSTP handsome) boy ‘two young (most handsome) boys’ 4 ଛ ଟା ଦଲୁଟ ଠି (ସବୁଠୁ ରୁା ସନ୍ନୁତ୍ର) ପଥୁ c’oto duiti (sobutharu sundora) puo young two-CLA (all.than-POSTP handsome) boy ‘young two (most handsome) boys’ 1 ଛ ଟା (ସବୁଠୁ ରୁା ସନ୍ନୁତ୍ର) ଦଲୁଟ ଠି ପଥୁ c’oto (sobutharu sundora) duiti puo young (all.than-POSTP handsome) two-CLA boy ‘young (most handsome) two boys’ 0 (ସବୁଠୁ ରୁା ସନ୍ନୁତ୍ର) ଛ ଟା ଦଲୁଟ ଠି ପଥୁ (sobutharu sundora) c’oto duiti puo (all.than-POSTP handsome) young two-CLA boy 1 ‘(most handsome) young two boys’ (ସବୁଠୁ ରୁା ସନ୍ନୁତ୍ର) ଦଲୁଟ ଠି ଛ ଟା ପଥୁ (sobutharu sundora) duiti c’oto puo (all.than-POSTP handsome) two-CLA young boy ‘(most handsome) two young boys’ 6 Table 16 5.2.9. physical property vs. physical property All the adjectives uzzal / ujjal / ujjar / ujjalɔ ‘bright’, siksikija / cɔkcɔke / cuh-cuh / cikiciki ‘shiny’, gar / garho / d̪əpd̪əp / garho ‘deep’ in the Tables 17 and 18 belong to the semantic type PHYSICAL PROPERTY (SET B) in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. The order of adjectives for Axomiya is mostly picked as shiny > bright > deep. The most chosen order is bright > shiny > deep in case of Bangla which is different from Axomiya. Axomiya Bangla Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence ଉଞ୍ଜୁବ୍ଲ ଢଚକଡ଼ଚଡ଼କ୍ୟ ଗା ଡା ା ବଞ୍ ଠା uzzal siksikija gar rɔŋga bright shiny deep red ‘bright shiny deep red’ 5 ଉଞ୍ଜୁବ୍ଲ ଢଚକଚଳକ ଗ ଡା ା ଲ ନା ujjal cɔkcɔke garho lal bright shiny deep red ‘bright shiny deep red’ 8 ଉଞ୍ଜୁବ୍ଲ ଗ ଡା ା ଢଚକଡ଼ଚଡ଼କ୍ୟ ରାଞ୍ ଠା uzzal gar siksikija rɔŋga bright deep shiny red ‘bright deep shiny red’ 2 ଗ ଡା ା ଉଞ୍ଜୁବ୍ଲ ଢଚକଚଳକ ଲ ନା garho ujjal cɔkcɔke lal deep bright shiny red ‘deep bright shiny red’ 5 ଗ ଡା ା ଉଞ୍ଜୁବ୍ଲ ଢଚକଡ଼ଚଡ଼କ୍ୟ ରାଞ୍ ଠା gar uzzal siksikija rɔŋga deep bright shiny red ‘deep bright shiny red’ 3 ଉଞ୍ଜୁବ୍ଲ ଗ ଡା ା ଢଚକଚଳକ ଲ ନା ujjal garho cɔkcɔke lal bright deep shiny red ‘bright deep shiny red’ 3 ଗ ଡା ା ଢଚକଡ଼ଚଡ଼କ୍ୟ ାଉଞ୍ଜୁବ୍ଲ ବଞ୍ ଠା gar siksikija uzzal rɔŋga deep shiny bright red ‘deep shiny bright red’ 0 ଗ ଡା ା ଢଚକଚଳକ ଉଞ୍ଜୁବ୍ଲ ଲ ନା garho cɔkcɔke ujjal lal deep shiny bright red ‘deep shiny bright red’ 1 ଢଚକଡ଼ଚଡ଼କ୍ୟ ାଗ ଡା ା ଉଞ୍ଜୁବ୍ଲ ବଞ୍ ଠା siksikija gar uzzal rɔŋga shiny deep bright red ‘shiny deep bright red’ 4 ଢଚକଚଳକ ଗ ଡା ା ଉଞ୍ଜୁବ୍ଲ ଲ ନା cɔkcɔke garho ujjal lal shiny deep bright red ‘shiny deep bright red’ 2 ଢଚକଡ଼ଚଡ଼କ୍ୟ ାଉଞ୍ଜୁବ୍ଲ ଗ ଡା ା ବଞ୍ ଠା siksikija uzzal gar rɔŋga shiny bright deep red ‘shiny bright deep red’ 6 ଢଚକଚଳକ ଉଞ୍ଜୁବ୍ଲ ଗ ଡା ା ଲ ନା cɔkcɔke ujjal garho lal shiny bright deep red ‘shiny bright deep red’ 1 Table 17 Like Axomiya and unlike Bangla, the favoured order of adjectives is shiny > bright > deep in Maithili. Like Bangla, Odia informants mostly chose the order: bright > shiny > deep. Maithili Odia Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence ଚ ଡ୍ରିଚ ଡ୍ରିଜିଅନ୍ନ ଦପଦପ ଲ ନା cuh-cuh ujjar d̪əpd̪əp lal shiny bright deep red 6 ଉଞ୍ଜୁବ୍ଲ ଚକିଚକି ଠି ଛୋ ା ନ ଠୋ ଠି ujjalɔ cikiciki garho nali bright shiny deep red 8 ‘shiny bright deep red’ ‘bright shiny deep red’ ଚ ଡ୍ରିଚ ଦ୍ରିପଦପ ଡଜନ୍ନ ଲ ନା cuh-cuh d̪əpd̪əp ujjar lal shiny deep bright red ‘shiny deep bright red’ 4 ଉଞ୍ଜୁବ୍ଲ ଛୋ ା ଚକିଚକି ଠି ନ ଠୋ ଠି ujjalɔ garho cikiciki nali bright deep shiny red ‘bright deep shiny red’ 2 ଦପଦପ ଚ ଡ୍ରିଚ ଡ୍ରିଜିଅନ୍ନ ଲ ନା d̪əpd̪əp cuh-cuh ujjar lal deep shiny bright red ‘deep shiny bright red’ 0 ଚକିଚକି ଠି ଉଞ୍ଜୁବ୍ଲ ଛୋ ା ନ ଠୋ ଠି cikiciki ujjalɔ garho nali shiny bright deep red ‘shiny bright deep red’ 7 ଦପଦପ ଡଜନ୍ନ ଚ ଡ୍ରିଚ ଲି ଲା d̪əpd̪əp ujjar cuh-cuh lal deep bright shiny red ‘deep bright shiny red’ 5 ଚକିଚକି ଠି ଛୋ ା ଉଞ୍ଜୁବ୍ଲ ନ ଠୋ ଠି cikiciki garho ujjalɔ nali shiny deep bright red ‘shiny deep bright red’ 0 ଡଜନ୍ନ ଦପଦପ ଚ ଡ୍ରିଚ ଲି ଲା ujjar d̪əpd̪əp cuh-cuh lal bright deep shiny red ‘bright deep shiny red’ 3 ଛୋ ା ଚକିଚକି ଠି ଉଞ୍ଜୁବ୍ଲ ନ ଠୋ ଠି garho cikiciki ujjalɔ nali deep shiny bright red ‘deep shiny bright red’ 1 ଡଜନ୍ନ ଚ ଡ୍ରିଚ ଦ୍ରିପଦପ ଲ ନା ujjar cuh-cuh d̪əpd̪əp lal bright shiny deep red ‘bright shiny deep red’ 2 ଛୋ ା ଉଞ୍ଜୁବ୍ଲ ଚକିଚକି ଠି ନ ଠୋ ଠି garho ujjalɔ cikiciki nali deep bright shiny red ‘deep bright shiny red’ 2 Table 18 5.2.10. value vs. value Both the adjectives dhunija / jundori / sundri / sundora ‘beautiful’ and porisromi / porisromi / p̪arisr̪ami / porisromi ‘hard-working’ pertain to the semantic type VALUE (SET A). The preferred order of adjectives is hard-working > beautiful in all four selected languages. Axomiya Bangla Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence ଧନୁ ସି ପାଢ଼ବଶର୍ ଠି ଢେ ଲି ା dhunija porisromi mohila beautiful hard-working lady ‘beautiful hard-working lady’ 7 ସନୁଦ୍ର ଠିପଢ଼ବଶର୍ ଠି ଢେ ଲି ା jundori porisromi mohila beautiful

hard-working lady 'beautiful hard-working lady' 7 ପଢ଼ବର୍ଷ ଶୈନୁ ସ୍ତ୍ରୀ ଡେ ଲି ଠା porisromi ḡhunija mohila hard-working beautiful lady 'hard-working beautiful lady' 13 ପଢ଼ବର୍ଷ ସୈନୁଦ୍ର ଡି ଡେ ଲି ଠା porisromi ḡndḡori mohila hard-working beautiful lady 'hard-working beautiful lady' 13 Table 19 Maithili Odia Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence पररशर्म सीनुदर स्त्री p̄arisr̄ami sundr̄i st̄ri hard-working beautiful lady 'hard-working beautiful lady' 14 ସନ୍ତୁଦ୍ର ପରଶର୍ମ ଠେ ହେଲି ଠେ sund̄oro porisromi mohila beautiful hard-working lady 'beautiful hard-working lady' 9 ସନ୍ତୁଦ୍ର ପରଶର୍ମ ଠେ ସନ୍ତୁଦ୍ର ସ୍ତ୍ରୀ sundri p̄arisr̄ami st̄ri beautiful hard-working lady 'beautiful hard-working lady' 6 ପରଶର୍ମ ସୈନୁଦ୍ର ହେଲି ଠେ porisromi sund̄oro mohila hard-working beautiful lady 'hard-working beautiful lady' 11 Table 20 5.2.11. value vs. age vs. physical property Tables 21 and 22 possess three adjectives oxar / okejo / bekar / oekar / 'useless', puroni / purono / puran / puruṅa 'old' and khali / khali / khali / khali 'empty' in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. They come under the semantic types VALUE (SET A), AGE (

SET A) and PHYSICAL PROPERTY (SET B) respectively. While **they are** placed in

68

six different orders, it is examined that most informants opted for the order AGE > VALUE > PHYSICAL PROPERTY over others in case of Axomiya, Bangla and Odia. Axomiya Bangla Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence অস্ বা পৰଦ୍‌গ খ লা ୀବ কাଚ oxar puroni khali bakos useless old empty box 'useless old empty box' 1 ଅଙ୍କଲଜ ପାରୁଲନ াখ ডাল ব কাস্ okejo purono khali bakjo useless old empty box 'useless old empty box' 5 অস্ বা খ লা ୀব পৰଦ୍‌গ ব কাচ oxar khali puroni bakos useless empty old box 'useless empty old box' 1 ଅଙ୍କଲজ খা ডাল পରুଲন াব কাস্ okejo khali purono bakjo useless empty old box 'useless empty old box' 3 খ লা অস্ বা পৰଦ୍‌গ ব কাচ khali oxar puroni bakos empty useless old box 'empty useless old box' 2 পରুଲন াঅঙ্কলজ াখ ডাল ব কাস্ purono okejo khali bakjo old useless empty box 'old useless empty box' 6 খ লা ୀব পৰଦ୍‌গ অস্ বা ব কাচ khali puroni oxar bakos empty old useless box 'empty old useless box' 3 খ ডাল পରুଲন াঅঙ্কলজ াব কাস্ khali purono okejo bakjo empty old useless box 'empty old useless box' 2 পৰଦ୍‌গ অস্ বা খ লা ୀব কাচ puroni oxar khali bakos old useless empty box 'old useless empty box' 12 খ ডাল ଅଙ୍କଲজ পାରুଲন াব কাস্ khali okejo purono bakjo empty useless old box 'empty useless old box' 1 পৰଦ୍‌গ খ লা ୀব অস্ বা ব কাচ puroni khali oxar bakos old empty useless box 'old empty useless box' 1 পରুଲন াখ ডাল ଅঙ্কলজ াব কাস্ purono khali okejo bakjo old empty useless box 'old empty useless box' 3 Table 21 Maithili response for the same is quite different. The most opted ordering is VALUE > AGE > PHYSICAL PROPERTY. Strikingly, Odia possesses two favoured orders for the given adjectives. One order (AGE > VALUE > PHYSICAL PROPERTY) matches with Axomiya and Bangla. Another preferred order is similar to the Maithili one (VALUE > AGE > PHYSICAL PROPERTY). Maithili Odia Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence बके रा परु ना ख ला ही बिब् ा bekar puran khali dibba useless old empty box 'useless old empty box' 9 ଅଦରକ ରୋ ପରୁଣା ଠେ ଠେ ବ କୋସ୍ ଚ୍ଚରକାରି puruṅa khali bakso useless old empty box 'useless old empty box' 7 ବକେ ରା ଖ ଲା ୀବରୁ ନା ହ ବିବ୍ ଠା bekar khali puran dibba useless empty old box 'useless empty old box' 5 ଅଦରକ ରୋ ଖ ଠା ଠେ ପରୁଣା ଠେ ବ କୋସ୍ ଚ୍ଚରକାରି khali puruṅa bakso useless empty old box 'useless empty old box' 2 ଖ ଲା ୀବକେ ରା ପରୁ ନା ହ ବିବ୍ ଠା khali bekar puran dibba empty useless old box 'empty useless old box' 2 ଖ ଠା ଠେ ଅଦରକ ରୋ ପରୁଣା ଠେ ବ କୋସ୍ khali ଚ୍ଚରକାରି puruṅa bakso empty useless old box 'empty useless old box' 3 ଖ ଲା ୀବରୁ ନା ବକେ ରା ହ ବିବ୍ ଠା khali puran bekar dibba empty old useless box 'empty old useless box' 1 ଖ ଠା ଠେ ପରୁଣା ଠେ ଅଦରକ ରୋ ବ କୋସ୍ khali puruṅa ଚ୍ଚରକାରି bakso empty old useless box 'empty old useless box' 1 ପରୁ ନା ଖ ଲା ୀବକେ ରା ହ ବିବ୍ ଠା puran khali bekar dibba old empty useless box 'old empty useless box' 1 ପରୁଣା ଠେ ଠେ ଅଦରକ ରୋ ବ କୋସ୍ puruṅa khali ଚ୍ଚରକାରି bakso old empty useless box 'old

empty useless box' 0 परु ना बके रा ख ला ही बिब् ्रा puran bekar khali dibba old useless empty box 'old useless empty box' 2
 ପରୁଣା ଓ ଅବକାରକ କୋଖୀ ଓ ଚି ବ କୋସ୍ puruṇa ṁḍḍḍarkari khali bakṣo old useless empty box 'old useless empty box' 7 Table 22
 5.2.12. value vs. physical property Adjectives ḡhunija / junḡor / nik / sunḡoro 'beautiful' and poriskar / porijkar / saph-suṡhra
 / sapha 'clean' are placed in two orders in Bangla. These are related to the semantic types VALUE (SET A) and PHYSICAL
 PROPERTY (SET B) singly. Of 20 Axomiya informants, 12 responded to the semantic order VALUE > PHYSICAL PROPERTY. In
 opposition to Axomiya, 13 Bangla informants out of 20 responded to the order PHYSICAL PROPERTY > VALUE, not vice
 versa. Axomiya Bangla Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence ଧନୁ ସି ପାଢ଼ବସକ୍ ବା ସର ḡhunija poriskar ḡḥor beautiful clean
 room 'beautiful clean room' 12 ସନୁଦ୍ର ପଢ଼ବସକ୍ ବା ସର junḡor porijkar ḡḥor beautiful clean room 'beautiful clean room' 7
 ପଢ଼ବସକ୍ ବା ଧନୁ ସି ସାର poriskar ḡhunija ḡḥor clean beautiful room 'clean beautiful room' 8 ପଢ଼ବସକ୍ ବା ସନୁଦ୍ର ସର porijkar junḡor
 ḡḥor clean beautiful room 'clean beautiful room' 13 Table 23 Like Bangla, the most picked semantic order in Maithili is
 PHYSICAL PROPERTY > VALUE. Again, Odia owns two preferred semantic orders. One is similar to Axomiya and another
 matches with Bangla and Maithili. Maithili Odia Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence ନ କି ସ ଫା-ସୁଥ୍ର ଘାର nik saph-suṡhra
 ḡḥar beautiful neat-clean house 'beautiful clean house' 4 ସନୁଦ୍ର ସଫ ଓଘର sunḡoro sapha ḡḥoro beautiful clean room
 'beautiful clean room' 10 ସ ଫା-ସୁଥ୍ର ନା କି ଘର 16 ସଫ ଓଘରୁ ଘର 10 saph-suṡhra nik ḡḥar neat-clean beautiful house 'clean
 beautiful house' sapha sunḡoro ḡḥoro clean beautiful room 'clean beautiful room' Table 24 5.2.13. dimension vs. value vs.
 qualification Tables 25 and 26 exhibit that there are three adjectives ukho / lōmba / nēmḡer / lōmba 'tall', ḡhunija / junḡori /
 sunḡri / sunḡoro 'beautiful' and baṅgali / baṅgali / baṅgali / baṅgali 'Bengali' in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. They are

members of the semantic types DIMENSION (SET A), VALUE (SET A) and

2

QUALIFICATION (SET C) serially. Axomiya selects the semantic order DIMENSION > VALUE > QUALIFICATION most. The
 most favoured order is VALUE > DIMENSION > QUALIFICATION in Bangla differing from Axomiya. Axomiya Bangla Orders
 Occurrence Orders Occurrence ଓଖ ଧନୁ ସି ରା ଓ ଲା ଲି ରୋ ଲା ି ukho ḡhunija baṅgali suwali tall beautiful Bengali girl 'tall
 beautiful Bengali girl' 9 ଲମ୍ବ ସାନୁଦ୍ର ସି ଓ ଡାଲ ଲ ଲେଷ ି lōmba junḡori baṅgali meje tall beautiful Bengali girl 'tall beautiful
 Bengali girl' 7 ଓଖ ବ ଓ ଲା ି ଧନୁ ସି ଲା ରୋ ଲା ି ukho baṅgali ḡhunija suwali tall Bengali beautiful girl 'tall Bengali beautiful girl' 1
 ସନୁଦ୍ର ିଲମ୍ବ ବା ଓ ଡାଲ ଲ ଲେଷ ି junḡori lōmba baṅgali meje beautiful tall Bengali girl 'beautiful tall Bengali girl' 11 ବ ଓ ଲା ି ଓଖ
 ଧନୁ ସି ଲା ରୋ ଲା ି baṅgali ukho ḡhunija suwali Bengali tall beautiful girl 'Bengali tall beautiful girl' 1 ଲମ୍ବ ବା ଓ ଡାଲ ସନୁଦ୍ର ଲି ଲେଷ
 ି lōmba baṅgali junḡori meje tall Bengali beautiful girl 'tall Bengali beautiful girl' 1 ବ ଓ ଲା ି ଧନୁ ସି ଓ ଓ ଖ ଲ ରୋ ଲା ି baṅgali
 ḡhunija ukho suwali Bengali beautiful tall girl 'Bengali beautiful tall girl' 0 ସନୁଦ୍ର ି ବ ଓ ଡାଲ ଲମ୍ବ ଲା ଲେଷ ି junḡori baṅgali lōmba
 meje beautiful Bengali tall girl 'beautiful Bengali tall girl' 1 ଧନୁ ସି ରା ଓ ଲା ି ଓ ଖ ଲ ରୋ ଲା ି ḡhunija baṅgali ukho suwali
 beautiful Bengali tall girl 'beautiful Bengali tall girl' 3 ବ ଓ ଡାଲ ଲମ୍ବ ାସନୁଦ୍ର ଲି ଲେଷ ି baṅgali lōmba junḡori meje Bengali tall
 beautiful girl 'Bengali tall beautiful girl' 0 ଧନୁ ସି ଓ ଓ ଖ ବ ଓ ଲା ଲି ରୋ ଲା ି ḡhunija ukho baṅgali suwali beautiful tall Bengali girl
 'beautiful tall Bengali girl' 6 ବ ଓ ଡାଲ ସନୁଦ୍ର ଲିମ୍ବ ଲା ଲେଷ ି baṅgali junḡori lōmba meje Bengali beautiful tall girl 'Bengali
 beautiful tall girl' 0 Table 25 Fascinatingly, Maithili data shows that there are four favoured semantic orders. The first one
 (DIMENSION > VALUE > QUALIFICATION) matches with Axomiya and Odia. The second one (VALUE > DIMENSION >
 QUALIFICATION) has a similarity with the Bangla one. The rest are QUALIFICATION > VALUE > DIMENSION and

QUALIFICATION > DIMENSION > VALUE. Like Axomiya and Maithili, Odia also possesses the most opted order DIMENSION > VALUE > QUALIFICATION. Maithili Odia Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence ବର୍ଗ ଲା ସୀନୁଦ୍ର ନମଗର କନୟ୍ ା bəŋgali sundri nəmgəri kənnija Bengali beautiful tall girl 'Bengali beautiful tall girl' 4 ମତ୍ ସଂସ୍କୃତ ବଞ୍ଚି ଲେ ଝାଞ୍ଚି lamba sundro bəŋgali ʃhijo tall beautiful Bengali girl 'tall beautiful Bengali girl' 12 ବର୍ଗ ଲା ନୀମଗର ସନୁଦ୍ର କନୟ୍ ା bəŋgali nəmgəri sundri kənnija Bengali tall beautiful girl 'Bengali tall beautiful girl' 4 ମତ୍ ଚୋବଞ୍ଚି ଲେ ସୀନୁଦ୍ର ଝାଞ୍ଚି lamba bəŋgali sundro ʃhijo tall Bengali beautiful girl 'tall Bengali beautiful girl' 0 ସନୁଦ୍ର ବର୍ଗ ଲା ନୀମଗର କନୟ୍ ା sundri bəŋgali nəmgəri kənnija beautiful Bengali tall girl 'beautiful Bengali tall girl' 2 ବଞ୍ଚି ଲେ ା ମତ୍ ସଂସ୍କୃତ ଝାଞ୍ଚି bəŋgali lamba sundro ʃhijo Bengali tall beautiful girl 'Bengali tall beautiful girl' 0 ସନୁଦ୍ର ନମଗର ବର୍ଗ ଲା କୀନୟ୍ ା sundri nəmgəri bəŋgali kənnija beautiful tall Bengali girl 'beautiful tall Bengali girl' 4 ବଞ୍ଚି ଲେ ସୀନୁଦ୍ର ମତ୍ ଚୋଝାଞ୍ଚି bəŋgali sundro lamba ʃhijo Bengali beautiful tall girl 'Bengali beautiful tall girl' 0 ନମଗର ସନୁଦ୍ର ବର୍ଗ ଲା କୀନୟ୍ ା nəmgəri sundri bəŋgali kənnija tall beautiful Bengali girl 'tall beautiful Bengali girl' 4 ସଂସ୍କୃତ ବଞ୍ଚି ଲେ ା ମତ୍ ଚୋଝାଞ୍ଚି sundro bəŋgali lamba ʃhijo beautiful Bengali tall girl 'beautiful Bengali tall girl' 3 ନମଗର ବର୍ଗ ଲା ସୀନୁଦ୍ର କନୟ୍ ା nəmgəri bəŋgali sundri kənnija tall Bengali beautiful girl 'tall Bengali beautiful girl' 2 ସଂସ୍କୃତ ମତ୍ ଚୋବଞ୍ଚି ଲେ ଝାଞ୍ଚି sundro lamba bəŋgali ʃhijo beautiful tall Bengali girl 'beautiful tall Bengali girl' 5 Table 26 5.2.14. human propensity vs. human propensity vs. age There are adjectives ḡusto / ḡuftu / ukathi / ḡusto 'naughty', biroktīkōr / biroktīkōr / ṭunukah / biroktīkōro 'annoying' and chotto / xōru / chot / choto 'little' in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia. The first two adjectives are affiliated to the semantic type HUMAN PROPENSITY (SET B) and the last one is incorporated in the semantic type AGE (SET A). Notably, it is found that there are two favoured orders of adjectives in Axomiya. These are HUMAN PROPENSITY (annoying) > HUMAN PROPENSITY (naughty) >

AGE and HUMAN PROPENSITY (naughty) > **HUMAN PROPENSITY** (annoying) > **AGE** .

72

Interestingly, **the**

two adjectives naughty and annoying

belonging to the semantic type HUMAN PROPENSITY appear before **the semantic** type AGE in

26

both

the semantic orders. Most Bangla informants responded to the ordering AGE > HUMAN PROPENSITY (naughty) > HUMAN PROPENSITY (annoying) deviating from the semantic orders of Axomiya. Axomiya Bangla Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence ଦଷୁଟ୍ ଡବରକତ୍ତକତ୍ତକର ସର୍ବ ୁ ଡଞ୍ଚା ୁ ḡusto biroktīkōr xōru xixu naughty annoying little child 'naughty annoying little child' 6 ଦଷୁଟ୍ ଡବରକତ୍ତକତ୍ତକର ଲ ଟୋଟି ବ ଚାଞ୍ଚି ା ḡuftu biroktīkōr chotto bacca naughty annoying little child 'naughty annoying little child' 4 ଦଷୁଟ୍ ସର୍ବ ୁ ଡବରକତ୍ତକତ୍ତକର ଡଞ୍ଚା ୁ 0 ଦଷୁଟ୍ ଲ ଟୋଟି ଡବରକତ୍ତକତ୍ତକର ବ ଚାଞ୍ଚି ା 0 ḡusto xōru biroktīkōr xixu naughty little annoying child 'naughty little annoying child' ḡuftu chotto biroktīkōr bacca naughty little annoying child 'naughty little annoying child' ସର୍ବ ୁ ଦଷୁଟ୍ ଡବରକତ୍ତକତ୍ତକର ଡଞ୍ଚା ୁ xōru ḡusto biroktīkōr xixu little naughty annoying child 'little naughty annoying child' 1 ଡବରକତ୍ତକତ୍ତକର ଦଷୁଟ୍ ଲ ଟୋଟି ବ ଚାଞ୍ଚି ା biroktīkōr ḡuftu chotto bacca annoying naughty little child 'annoying naughty little child' 4 ସର୍ବ ୁ ଡବରକତ୍ତକତ୍ତକର ଦଷୁଟ୍ ଡଞ୍ଚା ୁ xōru biroktīkōr ḡusto xixu little annoying naughty child 'little annoying

naughty child' 2 ল টোট্ দষুট্ ডবরকত্‌কত্‌কর ব চাচ্ া chotto d̥ʃʊtʊ birokʈik̥or bacca little naughty annoying child 'little naughty annoying child' 6 ডবরকত্‌কত্‌কর দষুট্ সব ু ডশশ ু birokʈik̥or d̥ʃʊtʊ x̥oru x̥ixu annoying naughty little child 'annoying naughty little child' 6 ল টোট্ ডবরকত্‌কত্‌কর দষুট্ ব চাচ্ া chotto birokʈik̥or d̥ʃʊtʊ bacca little annoying naughty child 'little annoying naughty child' 2 ডবরকত্‌কত্‌কর সব ু দষুট্ ডশশ ু birokʈik̥or x̥oru d̥ʃʊtʊ x̥ixu annoying little naughty child 'annoying little naughty child' 5 ডবরকত্‌কত্‌কর ল টোট্ দষুট্ ব চাচ্ া birokʈik̥or chotto d̥ʃʊtʊ bacca annoying little naughty child 'annoying little naughty child' 4 Table 27 In the same manner as Bangla, the preferred semantic order of Maithili is AGE > HUMAN PROPENSITY (naughty) > HUMAN PROPENSITY (annoying). Like one of the preferred semantic orders of Axomiya, Odia owns the most selected semantic order as HUMAN PROPENSITY (annoying) > HUMAN PROPENSITY (naughty) > AGE. Maithili Odia Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence छ टो उक ठा तीनुकु निने ा chot ukathi t̥ɪnukah n̥aina little naughty annoying child 'little naughty annoying child' 10 दषुट् ्र वरिक्किरि ग ेग' घि ेा d̥ʃʊtʊ birokʈik̥oro choto pila naughty annoying little child 'naughty annoying little child' 4 छ टो तनुकु डिक ठा नीने ा chot t̥ɪnukah ukathi n̥aina little annoying naughty child 'little annoying naughty child' 1 दषुट् ्र ग ेग' वरिक्किरि घि ेा d̥ʃʊtʊ choto birokʈik̥or pila naughty little annoying child 'naughty little annoying child' 1 तनुकु छिा टो उक ठा नीने ा t̥ɪnukah chot ukathi n̥aina annoying little naughty child 'annoying little naughty child' 1 ग ेग' दषुट् ्र वरिक्किरि घि ेा choto d̥ʃʊtʊ birokʈik̥or pila little naughty annoying child 'little naughty annoying child' 2 तनुकु डिक ठा छिा टो नने ा t̥ɪnukah ukathi chot n̥aina annoying naughty little child 'annoying naughty little child' 7 ग ेग' वरिक्किरि दषुट् ्र घि ेा choto birokʈik̥or d̥ʃʊtʊ pila little annoying naughty child 'little annoying naughty child' 3 उक ठा छिा टो तनुकु निने ा ukathi chot t̥ɪnukah n̥aina naughty little annoying child 1 वरिक्किरि ग ेग' दषुट् ्र घि ेा birokʈik̥or choto d̥ʃʊtʊ pila annoying little naughty child 4 'naughty little annoying child' 'annoying little naughty child' उक ठा तीनुकु छिा टो नने ा ukathi t̥ɪnukah chot n̥aina naughty annoying little child 'naughty annoying little child' 0 वरिक्किरि दषुट् ्र ग ेग' घि ेा birokʈik̥or d̥ʃʊtʊ choto pila annoying naughty little child 'annoying naughty little child' 6 Table 28 5.2.15. human propensity vs. age The following tables (29 and 30) display that adjectives buddhiman / buddhiman / budh̥iar / buddhiman 'intelligent' and prakṭon / prakṭon / puru / purbot̥ṇo 'former' in the selected languages are allied to the semantic types HUMAN PROPENSITY (SET B) and AGE (SET A). Most informants of Axomiya, Bangla and Maithili responded to the ordering HUMAN PROPENSITY > AGE. Axomiya Orders Occurrence (सब डाधकब बकुत् नो) पब् कान्न डवज्ज् ना ि (x̥orbadhik buddhiman) prakṭon biggijaṇi (most intelligent) former scientist 12 पब् कान्न (सब डाधकब बकुत् नो) डवज्ज् ना ि prakṭon (x̥orbadhik buddhiman) biggijaṇi (most intelligent) former scientist 8 Bangla Orders Occurrence (সবলচলয ্র বকুত্‌ নো) প্‌ কান্ন ডবজ্জ্‌ না ি (jobceje buddhiman) prakṭon biggæni (all.than-POSTP intelligent) former scientist '(most intelligent) former scientist' 13 প্‌ কান্ন (সবলচলয ্র বকুত্‌ নো) ডবজ্জ্‌ না ি prakṭon (jobceje buddhiman) biggæni former (all.than-POSTP intelligent) scientist 'former (most intelligent) scientist' 7 Table 29 Only the Odia data differs in this case in which the semantic order is opposite to the HUMAN PROPENSITY > AGE : AGE > HUMAN PROPENSITY. Maithili Orders Occurrence प ्रव (सबस ्र बहुधआर) वजैत् हानक puru (s̥abs̥a ~ budh̥iar) v̥aiggij̥anik former (most.than-POSTP intelligent) scientist 5 'former (most intelligent) scientist (सबस ्र बहुधआर) पूव वजैत् हानक (s̥abs̥a ~ budh̥iar) puru v̥aiggij̥anik (most.than-POSTP intelligent) former scientist '(most intelligent) former scientist' 15 Odia Orders Occurrence (ସବବ ଧୋକି ବଦୁଧ୍ ଶେନା) ପବୁବତ୍ତନ ଗବଜ୍ଜେଞ୍ଜ ନୋକି (s̥orbadh̥iko buddhiman) purbot̥ṇo boiggaṇiko (all.more intelligent) former scientist '(most intelligent) former scientist' 9 ପବୁବତ୍ତନ (ସବବ ଧୋକି ବଦୁଧ୍ ଶେନା) ଗବଜ୍ଜେଞ୍ଜ ନୋକି purbot̥ṇo (s̥orbadh̥iko buddhiman) boiggaṇiko former (all.more intelligent) scientist 'former (most intelligent) scientist' 11 Table 30 5.2.16. age vs. value vs. qualification There are adjectives prakṭon / prakṭon / puru / purbot̥ṇo 'former', guruṭwopurno / guruṭṭopurno / məh̥əṭṭuəpurn̥ / guruṭṭw̥opurn̥o 'important' and bharot̥ijo / bharot̥ijo / bh̥əṭ̥ij̥ə / bharot̥ijo

'Indian' which are linked with the semantic types AGE (SET A), VALUE (SET A) and QUALIFICATION (SET C) in succession. Here two semantic orders are found in case of Axomiya. These are AGE > VALUE > QUALIFICATION and QUALIFICATION > VALUE > AGE. It is quite interesting that the given orders are mirror opposite to each other. The most chosen semantic ordering in Bangla is AGE > VALUE > QUALIFICATION which is similar to one of the orders found in case of Axomiya.

Axomiya Orders Occurrence

পৰ্ কাহ্ন গৰুতুৰ্পণূব ভ ৰাত য়ী ি অড্ ৰি prakṭṇ gurutṇopurno bharotṇo ṇphisṇ former important Indian official 'former important Indian official' 5

পৰ্ কাহ্ন ভ ৰাত য়ী ি গৰুতুৰ্পণূব অড্ ৰি prakṭṇ bharotṇo gurutṇopurno ṇphisṇ former Indian important official 'former Indian important official' 2

গৰুতুৰ্পণূব পৰ্ কাহ্ন ভ ৰাত য়ী ি অড্ ৰি gurutṇopurno prakṭṇ bharotṇo ṇphisṇ important former Indian official 'important former Indian official' 3

গৰুতুৰ্পণূব ভ ৰাত য়ী ি পৰ্ কাহ্ন অড্ ৰি gurutṇopurno bharotṇo prakṭṇ ṇphisṇ important Indian former official 'important Indian former official' 4

ভ ৰাত য়ী ি গৰুতুৰ্পণূব পৰ্ কাহ্ন অড্ ৰি bharotṇo gurutṇopurno prakṭṇ ṇphisṇ Indian important former official 'Indian important former official' 5

ভ ৰাত য়ী ি পৰ্ কাহ্ন গৰুতুৰ্পণূব অড্ ৰি bharotṇo prakṭṇ gurutṇopurno ṇphisṇ Indian former important official 'Indian former important official' 1

Bangla Orders Occurrence

পৰ্ কাহ্ন গৰুতুৰ্পণূব ভ ৰাত য়ী ি আড্ধক ড়রক prakṭṇ gurutṇopurno bharotṇo aḍḍhikarik former important Indian official 'former important Indian official' 5

পৰ্ কাহ্ন ভ ৰাত য়ী ি গৰুতুৰ্পণূব আড্ধক ড়রক prakṭṇ bharotṇo gurutṇopurno aḍḍhikarik former Indian important official 'former Indian important official' 3

গৰুতুৰ্পণূব পৰ্ কাহ্ন ভ ৰাত য়ী ি আড্ধক ড়রক gurutṇopurno prakṭṇ bharotṇo aḍḍhikarik important former Indian official 'important former Indian official' 4

গৰুতুৰ্পণূব ভ ৰাত য়ী ি পৰ্ কাহ্ন আড্ধক ড়রক gurutṇopurno bharotṇo prakṭṇ aḍḍhikarik important Indian former official 'important Indian former official' 1

ভ ৰাত য়ী ি গৰুতুৰ্পণূব পৰ্ কাহ্ন আড্ধক ড়রক bharotṇo gurutṇopurno prakṭṇ aḍḍhikarik Indian important former official 'Indian important former official' 3

ভ ৰাত য়ী ি পৰ্ কাহ্ন গৰুতুৰ্পণূব আড্ধক ড়রক bharotṇo prakṭṇ gurutṇopurno aḍḍhikarik Indian former important official 'Indian former important official' 4

Table 31 Like Bangla, AGE > VALUE > QUALIFICATION is the most selected order in Maithili. Distinguishing from the semantic orders examined in Axomiya, Bangla and Maithili, Odia owns a distinct semantic order, i. e., QUALIFICATION > AGE > VALUE.

Orders Occurrence

পৰুৰ্ মহতস্মূৰ্ ম ৰাত য়ী অধ কি ৰা ী puru mähəṭṭəpurnṇ bhəṭṭjə aḍḍhikari former important Indian official 6

'former important Indian official' পৰুৰ্ ম ৰাত য়ী মহতস্মূৰ্ অধ কি ৰা ী puru bhəṭṭjə mähəṭṭəpurnṇ aḍḍhikari former Indian important official 'former Indian important official' 4

ম ৰাত য়ী পৰুৰ্ মহতস্মূৰ্ অধ কি ৰা ী bhəṭṭjə puru mähəṭṭəpurnṇ aḍḍhikari Indian former important official 'Indian former important official' 2

ম ৰাত য়ী মহতস্মূৰ্ পৰুৰ্ অধ কি ৰা ী bhəṭṭjə mähəṭṭəpurnṇ puru aḍḍhikari Indian important former official 'Indian important former official' 1

মহতস্মূৰ্ ম ৰাত য়ী পৰুৰ্ অধ কি ৰা ী mähəṭṭəpurnṇ bhəṭṭjə puru aḍḍhikari important Indian former official 'important Indian former official' 3

মহতস্মূৰ্ পৰুৰ্ ম ৰাত য়ী অধ কি ৰা ী mähəṭṭəpurnṇ puru bhəṭṭjə aḍḍhikari important former Indian official 'important former Indian official' 4

Odia Orders Occurrence

ପ ୁବ ଡନ ଗରୁତପୁରଣୁ ଭ ରାତ ଯୀ ଅଧକି ରା ା purbotṇo gurutṇopurnṇo bharotṇo aḍḍhikari former important Indian official 'former important Indian official' 4

ପ ୁବ ଡନ ଭ ରାତ ଯୀ ଗରୁତପୁରଣୁ ଅଧକି ରା ା purbotṇo bharotṇo gurutṇopurnṇo aḍḍhikari former Indian important official 'former Indian important official' 3

ଭ ରାତ ଯୀ ପ ୁବ ଡନ ଗରୁତପୁରଣୁ ଅଧକି ରା ା bharotṇo purbotṇo gurutṇopurnṇo aḍḍhikari Indian former important official 'Indian former important official' 7

ଭ ରାତ ଯୀ ଗରୁତପୁରଣୁ ପ ୁବ ଡନ ଅଧକି ରା ା bharotṇo gurutṇopurnṇo purbotṇo aḍḍhikari Indian important former official 'Indian important former official' 3

ଗରୁତପୁରଣୁ ଭ ରାତ ଯୀ ପ ୁବ ଡନ ଅଧକି ରା ା gurutṇopurnṇo bharotṇo purbotṇo aḍḍhikari important Indian former official 'important Indian former official' 1

ଗରୁତପୁରଣୁ ପ ୁବ ଡନ ଭ ରାତ ଯୀ ଅଧକି ରା ା gurutṇopurnṇo purbotṇo bharotṇo aḍḍhikari important former Indian official 'important former Indian official' 2

Table 32 5.2.17. human propensity vs. human propensity Two adjectives kḥṇḅgal / ragi / kḥisiojel / krodḥṇṇo

'angry' and birōkṭo / khitkhite / cərbəiṭ / birōkṭo 'irritated' are there in Tables 33 and 34. They both belong to the same semantic type HUMAN PROPENSITY (SET B). It is proved here that two adjectives from the same semantic type can appear within a poly-adjectival NP. The most selected order in all the four languages is irritated > angry. Axomiya Bangla Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence খঙ লা ডবৰকত্ আৰকষ্ ী kʰoŋgal birōkṭo arokkʰi angry irritated police 'angry irritated police' 7 র গা ডীখটডখলট পডুলশ ragi khitkhite puliṭ angry irritated police 'angry irritated police' 8 ডবৰকত্ খঙ লা আৰকষ্ ী birōkṭo kʰoŋgal arokkʰi irritated angry police 'irritated angry police' 13 ডখটডখলট র গা পীডুলশ ragi khitkhite puli irritated angry police 'irritated angry police' 12 Table 33 Maithili Odia Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence खखहसआएल चडबतै पहलस khisiqjel cərbəiṭ pulis angry irritated police 'angry irritated police' 9 ଗର ଯୋଡ଼ି ବରିକଡ଼ ଗପ ୋ ସି kroḍʰiṭ birōkṭo polis angry irritated police 'angry irritated police' 4 चडबतै खखहसआएल पहलस cərbəiṭ khisiqjel pulis irritated angry police 'irritated angry police' 11 ବରିକଡ଼ ଗର ଯୋଡ଼ି ଗପ ୋ ସି birōkṭo kroḍʰiṭ polis irritated angry police 'irritated angry police' 16 Table 34 5.2.18. ordinal number vs. value vs. qualification The adjectives proṭhom / proṭhom / prəṭhəm / proṭhōm 'first', zənoprijo / ꞑnoprijo / lokprija / lokoprijo 'famous' and bharotṭjo / bharotṭjo / bhəṭṭija / bhərotṭjo 'Indian' in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia belong to the semantic types ORDINAL NUMBER (SET C), VALUE (SET A) and QUALIFICATION (SET C) respectively. 8 out of 20 Axomiya informants responded to the semantic order ORDINAL NUMBER > VALUE > QUALIFICATION as the most preferred order. Intriguingly, it is found that two orders are favoured by Bangla informants. The orders are ORDINAL NUMBER > VALUE > QUALIFICATION and ORDINAL NUMBER > QUALIFICATION > VALUE. Among these, the first order is similar to the preferred order of Axomiya. Axomiya Orders Occurrence পৰ্থ জেনডপৰ্ষ ্ ভ ৰাত য়ী ্ (চনদ্ অৰ্তৰণ) proṭhom zənoprijo bharotṭjo (cəṅdro-əwəṭṭron) first famous Indian (Moon-landing) 'first famous Indian (Moon-landing)' 8 পৰ্থ ভে ৰাত য়ী ্ জনডপৰ্ষ ্ (চনদ্ অৰ্তৰণ) proṭhom bharotṭjo zənoprijo (cəṅdro-əwəṭṭron) first Indian famous (Moon-landing) 'first Indian famous (Moon-landing)' 3 জনডপৰ্ষ ্ পৰ্থ ভে ৰাত য়ী ্ (চনদ্ অৰ্তৰণ) zənoprijo proṭhom bharotṭjo (cəṅdro-əwəṭṭron) famous first Indian (Moon-landing) 'famous first Indian (Moon-landing)' 4 জনডপৰ্ষ ্ ভ ৰাত য়ী ্ পৰ্থ (েচনদ্ অৰ্তৰণ) zənoprijo bharotṭjo proṭhom (cəṅdro-əwəṭṭron) famous Indian first (Moon-landing) 'famous Indian first (Moon-landing)' 0 ভ ৰাত য়ী ্ জনডপৰ্ষ ্ পৰ্থ (েচনদ্ অৰ্তৰণ) bharotṭjo zənoprijo proṭhom (cəṅdro-əwəṭṭron) Indian famous first (Moon-landing) 'Indian famous first (Moon-landing)' 0 ভ ৰাত য়ী ্ পৰ্থ জেনডপৰ্ষ ্ (চনদ্ অৰ্তৰণ) bharotṭjo proṭhom zənoprijo (cəṅdro-əwəṭṭron) Indian first famous (Moon-landing) 'Indian first famous (Moon-landing)' 5 Bangla Orders Occurrence পৰ্থ জেনডপৰ্ষ ্ ভ ৰাত য়ী ্ (চনদ্-অব্তৰণ) proṭhom ꞑnoprijo bharotṭjo (cəṅdro əwəṭṭron) first famous Indian (Moon-landing) 'first famous Indian (Moon-landing)' 7 পৰ্থ ভে ৰাত য়ী ্ জনডপৰ্ষ ্ (চনদ্-অব্তৰণ) proṭhom bharotṭjo ꞑnoprijo (cəṅdro əwəṭṭron) first Indian famous (Moon-landing) 'first Indian famous (Moon-landing)' 7 জনডপৰ্ষ ্ পৰ্থ ভে ৰাত য়ী ্ (চনদ্-অব্তৰণ) ꞑnoprijo proṭhom bharotṭjo (cəṅdro əwəṭṭron) 'famous first Indian (Moon-landing)' 'famous first Indian (Moon-landing)' 2 জনডপৰ্ষ ্ ভ ৰাত য়ী ্ পৰ্থ (েচনদ্-অব্তৰণ) proṭhom ꞑnoprijo bharotṭjo (cəṅdro əwəṭṭron) famous Indian first (Moon-landing) 'famous Indian first (Moon-landing)' 0 ভ ৰাত য়ী ্ জনডপৰ্ষ ্ পৰ্থ (েচনদ্-অব্তৰণ) bharotṭjo ꞑnoprijo proṭhom (cəṅdro əwəṭṭron) Indian famous first (Moon-landing) 'Indian famous first (Moon-landing)' 0 ভ ৰাত য়ী ্ পৰ্থ জেনডপৰ্ষ ্ (চনদ্-অব্তৰণ) bharotṭjo proṭhom ꞑnoprijo (cəṅdro əwəṭṭron) Indian first famous (Moon-landing) 'Indian first famous (Moon-landing)' 4 Table 35 The most chosen semantic order in Maithili is quite distinct from the orders found in other languages. It is QUALIFICATION > ORDINAL NUMBER > VALUE. Like Bangla, Odia also possesses two preferred semantic orders. Though one is common which is ORDINAL NUMBER > QUALIFICATION > VALUE. The other one is different. It is ORDINAL NUMBER > VALUE > QUALIFICATION. Maithili Orders Occurrence भ रात यी पर्थम ल कोहपर्य (चदं-अवर)ि bhəṭṭija prəṭhəm lokprija (cəṅdrə-əuroh)

Indian first famous (Moon-landing) 'Indian first famous (Moon-landing)' 9 भ रात यी ल कोहपर्य पर्यम (चदंर्-अवर)िि bhərtjə
lokprjə prəthəm (cəndrə-əuroh) Indian famous first (Moon-landing) 'Indian famous first (Moon-landing)' 1 ल कोहपर्य भ रात यी
पर्यम (चदंर्-अवर)िि lokprjə bhərtjə prəthəm (cəndrə-əuroh) famous Indian first (Moon-landing) 'famous Indian first (Moon-
landing)' 1 ल कोहपर्य पर्यम भ रात यी (चदंर्-अवर)िि lokprjə prəthəm bhərtjə (cəndrə-əuroh) famous first Indian (Moon-landing)
'famous first Indian (Moon-landing)' 1 पर्यम ल कोहपर्य भ रात यी (चदंर्-अवर)िि prəthəm lokprjə bhərtjə (cəndrə-əuroh) first
famous Indian (Moon-landing) 'first famous Indian (Moon-landing)' 5 पर्यम भ रात यी ल कोहपर्य (चदंर्-अवर)िि prəthəm bhərtjə
lokprjə (cəndrə-əuroh) first Indian famous (Moon-landing) 'first Indian famous (Moon-landing)' 3 Odia Orders Occurrence ପର୍ଥ
ଗେ କୋପର୍ଥ ଓ ରୋଡ ଯୀ (ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର ଅବତରଣ) prəthəm lokoprija bharotjja (cəndrə əbətəronə) first famous Indian (Moon-landing)
'first famous Indian (Moon-landing)' 6 ପର୍ଥ ଭେ ରୋଡ ଯୀ ଗ କୋପର୍ଥ (ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର ଅବତରଣ) prəthəm bharotjja lokoprija (cəndrə
əbətəronə) first Indian famous (Moon-landing) 'first Indian famous (Moon-landing)' 4 ଭ ରୋଡ ଯୀ ପର୍ଥ ଗେ କୋପର୍ଥ (ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର
ଅବତରଣ) bharotjja prəthəm lokoprija (cəndrə əbətəronə) Indian first famous (Moon-landing) 'Indian first famous (Moon-
landing)' 7 ଭ ରୋଡ ଯୀ ଗ କୋପର୍ଥ ପର୍ଥ (ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର ଅବତରଣ) bharotjja lokoprija prəthəm (cəndrə əbətəronə) Indian famous first
(Moon-landing) 'Indian famous first (Moon-landing)' 0 ଗ କୋପର୍ଥ ଭ ରୋଡ ଯୀ ପର୍ଥ (ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର ଅବତରଣ) lokoprija bharotjja prəthəm
(cəndrə əbətəronə) famous Indian first (Moon-landing) 'famous Indian first (Moon-landing)' 1 ଗ କୋପର୍ଥ ପର୍ଥ ଭେ ରୋଡ ଯୀ
(ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର ଅବତରଣ) lokoprija prəthəm bharotjja (cəndrə əbətəronə) famous first Indian (Moon-landing) 'famous first Indian
(Moon-landing)' 2 Table 36 5.2.19. qualification vs. qualification vs. cardinal number The succeeding tables 37 and 38 own
three adjectives xadharən / gətnugotjik / samanniə / saḡharəṇə 'usual', ḡui / ḡui / ḡu / ḡui 'two' and sina / cainiz / ciniä /
cainij 'Chinese'. Among them, the first and last adjectives are affiliated to the semantic type QUALIFICATION (SET C) and the
rest pertains to the semantic type CARDINAL NUMBER (SET C). Strikingly, it is observed that the sub-type NATIONALITY of
the semantic type QUALIFICATION comes later than the other sub-type of the same semantic type in Axomiya, Bangla and
Odia. 16 Axomiya informants out of 20 selected the semantic order CARDINAL NUMBER > QUALIFICATION >
QUALIFICATION (NATIONALITY) which is invariably the most chosen order. 11 out of 20 Bangla informants chose the
ordering QUALIFICATION > CARDINAL NUMBER > QUALIFICATION (NATIONALITY). Axomiya Orders Occurrence दू सा धा बाण
च नी था दास ḡuta xadharən sina khaidḡo two-CLA usual Chinese dish 'two usual Chinese dishes' 16 दू चा नी ास धा बाण थ दास
ḡuta sina xadharən khaidḡo two-CLA Chinese usual dish 'two Chinese usual dishes' 1 स धा बाण दू चा नी था दास xadharən ḡuta
sina khaidḡo usual two-CLA Chinese dish 'usual two Chinese dishes' 1 स धा बाण च नी दाटू था दास xadharən sina ḡuta khaidḡo
usual Chinese two-CLA dish 'usual Chinese two dishes' 1 च नी सा धा बाण दू था दास sina xadharən ḡuta khaidḡo Chinese usual
two-CLA dish 'Chinese usual two dishes' 0 च नी दाटू ास धा बाण थ दास sina ḡuta xadharən khaidḡo Chinese two-CLA usual dish
'Chinese two usual dishes' Bangla Orders गत नाणुडतक दलूट चा इडनज थ वा रा gotnugotjik ḡuto cainiz khabar usual two-
CLA Chinese dish 'usual two Chinese dishes' 1 Occurrence 11 गत नाणुडतक च इडनज दलूट ाथ वा रा gotnugotjik cainiz ḡuto
khabar 1 usual Chinese two-CLA dish 'usual Chinese two dishes' च इडनज गत नाणुडतक दलूट ाथ वा रा cainiz gotnugotjik
ḡuto khabar Chinese usual two-CLA dish 'Chinese usual two dishes' 3 च इडनज दलूट ागत नाणुडतक थ वा रा cainiz ḡuto
gotnugotjik khabar Chinese two-CLA usual dish 'Chinese two usual dishes' 0 दलूट ाच इडनज गत नाणुडतक थ वा रा ḡuto
cainiz gotnugotjik khabar two-CLA Chinese usual dish 'two Chinese usual dishes' 1 दलूट ागत नाणुडतक च इडनज थ वा रा
ḡuto gotnugotjik cainiz khabar two-CLA usual Chinese dish 'two usual Chinese dishes' 4 Table 37 Surprisingly, the
NATIONALITY sub-semantic type comes earlier in case of Maithili as found in the most selected semantic order
QUALIFICATION (NATIONALITY) > CARDINAL NUMBER > QUALIFICATION. Like Axomiya, the preferable semantic order in

Odia is CARDINAL NUMBER > QUALIFICATION > QUALIFICATION (NATIONALITY). Maithili Orders Occurrence ହଚହନଭ ାଦୁଟ
 ସା ମା ନାୟ୍ ବଞ୍ଚନି ciniã ðuta samanniã vijanyan Chinese two-CLA usual dish 'Chinese two usual dishes' 6 ହଚହନଭ ାସ ମା ନାୟ୍ ଦୁଟ
 ବଞ୍ଚନି ciniã samanniã ðuta vijanyan Chinese usual two-CLA dish 'Chinese usual two dishes' 3 ସ ମା ନାୟ୍ ହଚହନଭ ାଦୁଟ ବଞ୍ଚନି
 samanniã ciniã ðuta vijanyan usual Chinese two-CLA dish 'usual Chinese two dishes' 0 ସ ମା ନାୟ୍ ଦୁଟ ହାଚହନଭ ବଞ୍ଚନି samanniã
 ðuta ciniã vijanyan usual two-CLA Chinese dish 'usual two Chinese dishes' 5 ଦୁଟ ସା ମା ନାୟ୍ ହଚହନଭ ବଞ୍ଚନି ðuta samanniã ciniã
 vijanyan two-CLA usual Chinese dish 3 'two usual Chinese dishes' ଦୁଟ ହାଚହନଭ ାସ ମା ନାୟ୍ ବଞ୍ଚନି ðuta ciniã samanniã
 vijanyan two-CLA Chinese usual dish 'two Chinese usual dishes' 3 Odia Orders Occurrence ଦଲୁଟ ି ସ ଧୋ ରୋଶ ଚ ଲୋନଜି ି ଖ
 ଦୋଇ ðuiti sadharonã cainiy k'addijjo two-CLA usual Chinese dish 'two usual Chinese dishes' 12 ଦଲୁଟ ି ଚ ଲୋନଜି ି ସ ଧୋ ରୋଶ
 ଖ ଦୋଇ ðuiti cainiy sadharonã k'addijjo two-CLA Chinese usual dish 'two Chinese usual dishes' 1 ଚ ଲୋନଜି ି ଦଲୁଟ ି ସ ଧୋ
 ରୋଶ ଖ ଦୋଇ cainiy ðuiti sadharonã k'addijjo Chinese two-CLA usual dish 'Chinese two usual dishes' 0 ଚ ଲୋନଜି ି ସ ଧୋ ରୋଶ
 ଦଲୁଟ ି ଖ ଦୋଇ cainiy sadharonã ðuiti k'addijjo Chinese usual two-CLA dish 'Chinese usual two dishes' 0 ସ ଧୋ ରୋଶ ଚ ଲୋନଜି
 ି ଦଲୁଟ ି ଖ ଦୋଇ sadharonã cainiy ðuiti k'addijjo usual Chinese two-CLA dish 'usual Chinese two dishes' 3 ସ ଧୋ ରୋଶ ଦଲୁଟ ି
 ଚ ଲୋନଜି ି ଖ ଦୋଇ sadharonã ðuiti cainiy k'addijjo usual two-CLA Chinese dish 'usual two Chinese dishes' 4 Table 38 5.2.20.

position vs. cardinal number vs. physical property The subsequent tables 39 and 40 possess three adjectives xexor / jef /
 pãchila / seso 'last', ðui / ðui / ðu / ðui 'two' and klantõ / klantõ / thakæl / klantõ 'tired'. They come under the semantic types
 POSITION (SET C), CARDINAL NUMBER (SET C) and PHYSICAL PROPERTY (SET B) correspondingly. While they are placed in
 six different orders, it is investigated that most informants opted for the order POSITION > CARDINAL NUMBER > PHYSICAL
 PROPERTY over others in case of Axomiya, Bangla and Maithili. Axomiya Bangla Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence
 ଲଶସବ ଦଟୁ କାଲ୍ ନାତ୍ ପର୍ଡତଲ ଗା ି xexor ðuta klantõ protijjogi final two-CLA tired competitor 'final two tired competitors' 11
 ଲଶସ ଦଜୁନ କଲ୍ ନାତ୍ ପର୍ଡତଲ ଗା ି jef ðujon klantõ protijjogi last two-CLA tired participant 'last two tired participants' 9 ଲଶସବ
 କଲ୍ ନାତ୍ ଦଟୁ ାପର୍ଡତଲ ଗା ି xexor klantõ ðuta protijjogi final tired two-CLA competitor 'final tired two competitors' 3 କଲ୍ ନାତ୍
 ଲଶସ ଦଜୁନ ପର୍ଡତଲ ଗା ି klantõ jef ðujon protijjogi tired last two-CLA participant 'tired last two participants' 2 କଲ୍ ନାତ୍ ଲଶସବ
 ଦଟୁ ାପର୍ଡତଲ ଗା ି klantõ xexor ðuta protijjogi tired final two-CLA competitor 'tired final two competitors' 1 ଦଜୁନ କଲ୍ ନାତ୍
 ଲଶସ ପର୍ଡତଲ ଗା ି ðujon klantõ jef protijjogi two-CLA tired last participant 'two tired last participants' 3 କଲ୍ ନାତ୍ ଦଟୁ ଲାଶସବ
 ପର୍ଡତଲ ଗା ି klantõ ðuta xexor protijjogi tired two-CLA final competitor 'tired two final competitors' 1 ଦଜୁନ ଲଶସ କଲ୍ ନାତ୍
 ପର୍ଡତଲ ଗା ି ðujon jef klantõ protijjogi two-CLA last tired participant 'two last tired participants' 2 ଦଟୁ କାଲ୍ ନାତ୍ ଲଶସବ ପର୍ଡତଲ
 ଗା ି ðuta klantõ xexor protijjogi two-CLA tired final competitor 'two tired final competitors' 2 କଲ୍ ନାତ୍ ଦଜୁନ ଲଶସ ପର୍ଡତଲ ଗା
 ି klantõ ðujon jef protijjogi tired two-CLA last participant 'tired two last participants' 2 ଦଟୁ ଲାଶସବ କଲ୍ ନାତ୍ ପର୍ଡତଲ ଗା ି ðuta
 xexor klantõ protijjogi two-CLA final tired competitor 'two final tired competitors' 2 ଲଶସ କଲ୍ ନାତ୍ ଦଜୁନ ପର୍ଡତଲ ଗା ି jef klantõ
 ðujon protijjogi last tired two-CLA participant 'last tired two participants' 2 Table 39 Unanticipatedly, Odia is found to own
 CARDINAL NUMBER > PHYSICAL PROPERTY > POSITION as the most preferred semantic order. Maithili Odia Orders
 Occurrence Orders Occurrence ପହଡ଼ଲ ଥା କାଲ୍ ଦୁଟ ପାହିତମ ଗା ି pãchila thakæl ðuta prãtibhagi last tired two-CLA competitor
 'last tired two competitors' 5 ଗଣଷ ଦଲୁଟ ି କଲ୍ ନୋଡ୍ ପର୍ଡଗି ଠୋ ା1 seso ðuiti klantõ protijjogi last two-CLA tired participant 'last
 two tired participants' 6 ପହଡ଼ଲ ଦୁଟ ଥା କାଲ୍ ପାହିତମ ଗା ି pãchila ðuta thakæl prãtibhagi last two-CLA tired competitor 'last two
 tired competitors' 7 ଗଣଷ କଲ୍ ନୋଡ୍ ଦଲୁଟ ି ପର୍ଡଗି ଠୋ ା1 seso klantõ ðuiti protijjogi last tired two-CLA participant 'last tired two
 participants' 2 ଦୁଟ ପାହଡ଼ଲ ଥା କାଲ୍ ପାହିତମ ଗା ି ðuta pãchila thakæl prãtibhagi two-CLA last tired competitor 'two last tired
 competitors' 2 କଲ୍ ନୋଡ୍ ଗଣଷ ଦଲୁଟ ି ପର୍ଡଗି ଠୋ ା1 klantõ seso ðuiti protijjogi tired last two-CLA participant 'tired last two

participants' 0 दूत था काल पहल्लल पार्हतम गा ि dūta thakəl pəchila prətībhagi two-CLA tired last competitor 'two tired last competitors' 3 कल्ल नोदु वल्लुठ ि गगष पठरि ि ो ा1 kḷantṛ dūiti seso prətīyogi tired two-CLA last participant 'tired two last participants' 1 थ काल दूत पाहल्लल पार्हतम गा ि thakəl dūta pəchila prətībhagi tired two-CLA last competitor 'tired two last competitors' 2 वल्लुठ ि कल्ल नोदु गगष पठरि ि ो ा1 dūiti kḷantṛ seso prətīyogi two-CLA tired last participant 'two tired last participants' 7 थ काल पहल्लल दूत पार्हतम गा ि thakəl pəchila dūta prətībhagi 1 वल्लुठ ि गगष कल्ल नोदु पठरि ि ो ा1 dūiti seso kḷantṛ prətīyogi 4 tired last two-CLA competitor 'tired last two competitors' two-CLA last tired participant 'two last tired participants' Table 40 5.2.21. ordinal number vs. cardinal number vs. human propensity There are adjectives prōthom / prōthom / pəhil / prōthōmo 'first', tīni / tīn / tīn/ tīni 'three' and xukhōr / Jukhi / anəṅdməj / khusi 'happy' in Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili and Odia which are linked with the semantic types ORDINAL NUMBER (SET C), CARDINAL NUMBER (SET C) and HUMAN PROPENSITY (SET B) singly. The most chosen semantic ordering is ORDINAL NUMBER > CARDINAL NUMBER > HUMAN PROPENSITY in Axomiya, Bangla and Odia. Axomiya Bangla Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence पर्थ डेतडनट ासखुब व बे prōthom tīnita xukhōr bōsor first three-CLA happy year 'first three happy years' 11 पर्थ डेतनलट सखु िव रे prōthom tīnte Jukhi bōchor first three-CLA happy year 'first three happy years' 13 पर्थ सेखु डेतडनट ाव बे prōthom xukhōr tīnita bōsor first happy three-CLA year 'first happy three years' 4 सखु पीर्थ डेतनलट व रे Jukhi prōthom tīnte bōchor happy first three-CLA year 'happy first three years' 3 डेतडनट ापर्थ सेखु व बे tīnita prōthom xukhōr bōsor three-CLA first happy year 'three first happy years' 0 डेतनलट सखु पीर्थ वे रे tīnte Jukhi prōthom bōchor three-CLA happy first year 'three happy first years' 1 डेतडनट ासखु पर्थ वे बे tīnita xukhōr prōthom bōsor three-CLA happy first year 'three happy first years' 0 पर्थ सेखु िडेतनलट व रे prōthom Jukhi tīnte bōchor first happy three-CLA year 'first happy three years' 1 सखु डेतडनट पार्थ वे बे xukhōr tīnita prōthom bōsor happy three-CLA first year 'happy three first years' 2 सखु डीतनलट पर्थ वे रे Jukhi tīnte prōthom bōchor happy three-CLA first year 'happy three first years' 0 सखु पर्थ डेतडनट ाव बे xukhōr prōthom tīnita bōsor happy first three-CLA year 'happy first three years' 3 डेतनलट पर्थ सेखु िव रे tīnte prōthom Jukhi bōchor three-CLA first happy year 'three first happy years' 2 Table 41 The most selected semantic order of adjectives in Maithili is HUMAN PROPENSITY > ORDINAL NUMBER > CARDINAL NUMBER. Maithili Odia Orders Occurrence Orders Occurrence आनदंमय त नीट ापह लि स ला anəṅdməj tīnta pəhil sal happy three-CLA first year 4 पर्थ डेतनलट ि गगषु वषव prōthōmo tīnoti khusi bōrso first three-CLA happy year 12 'happy three first years' 'first three happy years' आनदंमय पह लि त नीट ास ला anəṅdməj pəhil tīnta sal happy first three-CLA year 'happy first three years' 9 पर्थ गेघु ि डेतनलट ि वषव prōthōmo khusi tīnoti bōrso first happy three-CLA year 'first happy three years' 2 पह लि आनदंमय त नीट ास ला pəhil anəṅdməj tīnta sal first happy three-CLA year 'first happy three years' 1 डेतनलट ि पर्थ गेघु वषव tīnoti prōthōmo khusi bōrso three-CLA first happy year 'three first happy years' 3 पह लि त नीट आनदंमय स ला pəhil tīnta anəṅdməj sal first three-CLA happy year 'first three happy years' 5 डेतनलट ि गगषु ि पर्थ वषव tīnoti khusi prōthōmo bōrso three-CLA happy first year 'three happy first years' 0 त नीट ाआनदंमय पह लि स ला tīnta anəṅdməj pəhil sal three-CLA happy first year 'three happy first years' 0 गगषु डेतनलट ि पर्थ वषव khusi tīnoti prōthōmo bōrso happy three-CLA first year 'happy three first years' 2 त नीट ापह लि आनदंमय स ला tīnta pəhil anəṅdməj sal three-CLA first happy year 'three first happy years' 1 गगषु पर्थ डेतनलट ि वषव khusi prōthōmo tīnoti bōrso happy first three-CLA year 'happy first three years' 1 Table 42 5.3. Language-Specific Study of Semantic Ordering of Adjectives 5.3.1. Semantic Ordering of Adjectives in Axomiya In Axomiya, we found that adjectives of QUALIFICATION semantic type precede COLOUR adjectives (Table 1), adjectives denoting VALUE precede AGE (Table 3), PHYSICAL PROPERTY semantic type comes before QUALIFICATION (Table 5), GENE follows NATIONALITY (Table 7), VALUE comes before PHYSICAL PROPERTY (Table 23), AGE goes after HUMAN

PROPENSITY (Table 29). The orderings of three adjectives with the distinct semantic types manifested in the data are as follows: COLOUR > DIMENSION > PHYSICAL PROPERTY ORDINAL NUMBER > CARDINAL NUMBER > AGE AGE > CARDINAL NUMBER > PHYSICAL PROPERTY CARDINAL NUMBER > VALUE > AGE AGE > VALUE > PHYSICAL PROPERTY DIMENSION > VALUE > QUALIFICATION HUMAN PROPENSITY > HUMAN PROPENSITY > AGE AGE > VALUE > QUALIFICATION

Table 9 Table 11 Table 13 Table 15 Table 21 Table 25 Table 27 Table	22
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31 QUALIFICATION > VALUE > AGE ORDINAL NUMBER > VALUE > QUALIFICATION CARDINAL NUMBER > QUALIFICATION > QUALIFICATION (NATIONALITY) POSITION > CARDINAL NUMBER > PHYSICAL PROPERTY ORDINAL NUMBER > CARDINAL NUMBER > HUMAN PROPENSITY 5.3.2. Semantic Ordering of Adjectives in Bangla

Table 35 Table 37 Table 39 Table 41	17
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Bangla data demonstrates that adjectives of QUALIFICATION semantic type come before COLOUR adjectives (Table 1), adjectives indicating VALUE precede AGE (Table 3), PHYSICAL PROPERTY semantic type goes before QUALIFICATION (Table 5), GENRE comes behind NATIONALITY (Table 7), PHYSICAL PROPERTY goes before VALUE (Table 23), AGE comes after HUMAN PROPENSITY (Table 29). The following are the orderings of three adjectives that appear in the Bangla data and

belong to the different semantic types: DIMENSION > PHYSICAL PROPERTY > COLOUR	77
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ORDINAL NUMBER > CARDINAL NUMBER > AGE AGE > CARDINAL NUMBER > PHYSICAL PROPERTY VALUE > CARDINAL NUMBER > AGE AGE > VALUE > PHYSICAL PROPERTY VALUE > DIMENSION > QUALIFICATION AGE > HUMAN PROPENSITY > HUMAN PROPENSITY AGE > VALUE > QUALIFICATION ORDINAL NUMBER > VALUE > QUALIFICATION ORDINAL NUMBER > QUALIFICATION > VALUE QUALIFICATION > CARDINAL NUMBER > QUALIFICATION (NATIONALITY) POSITION > CARDINAL NUMBER > PHYSICAL PROPERTY

Table 9 Table 11 Table 13 Table 15 Table 21 Table 25 Table 27 Table 31 Table 35 Table 37 Table	22
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39 ORDINAL NUMBER > CARDINAL NUMBER > HUMAN PROPENSITY Table 41 5.3.3. Semantic Ordering of Adjectives in Maithili According to Maithili data, adjectives of the QUALIFICATION semantic type appear before those of the COLOUR semantic type (Table 2), adjectives that designate VALUE ahead of AGE (Table 4), PHYSICAL PROPERTY semantic type comes before QUALIFICATION (Table 6), GENRE follows NATIONALITY (Table 8), PHYSICAL PROPERTY comes before

VALUE (Table 24), and AGE follows HUMAN PROPENSITY (Table 30). The following lists three adjectives with the divergent semantic types that are found in the Maithili data: DIMENSION > COLOUR > PHYSICAL PROPERTY ORDINAL NUMBER > CARDINAL NUMBER > AGE AGE > CARDINAL NUMBER > PHYSICAL PROPERTY CARDINAL NUMBER > VALUE > AGE VALUE > AGE > PHYSICAL PROPERTY QUALIFICATION > VALUE > DIMENSION, QUALIFICATION > DIMENSION > VALUE, VALUE > DIMENSION > QUALIFICATION & DIMENSION > VALUE > QUALIFICATION AGE > HUMAN PROPENSITY > HUMAN PROPENSITY AGE > VALUE > QUALIFICATION QUALIFICATION > ORDINAL NUMBER > VALUE QUALIFICATION (NATIONALITY) > CARDINAL NUMBER > QUALIFICATION POSITION > CARDINAL NUMBER > PHYSICAL PROPERTY HUMAN PROPENSITY > ORDINAL NUMBER > CARDINAL NUMBER

Table 10 Table 12 Table 14 Table 16 Table 22 Table 26 Table 28 Table 32 Table 36 17
Table 38 Table 40 Table

42 5.3.4. Semantic Ordering of Adjectives in Odia Odia data show that adjectives of the QUALIFICATION semantic type appear before those of the COLOUR semantic type (Table 2), that adjectives designating VALUE come before those designating AGE (Table 4), that adjectives of the PHYSICAL PROPERTY semantic type go before those denoting QUALIFICATION (Table 6), that GENRE comes after NATIONALITY (Table 8), PHYSICAL PROPERTY both precedes and follows VALUE (Table 24), and HUMAN PROPENSITY follows AGE (Table 30). Three adjectives from the Odia data are listed below, each having a different semantic type: DIMENSION > COLOUR > PHYSICAL PROPERTY ORDINAL NUMBER > CARDINAL NUMBER > AGE PHYSICAL PROPERTY > AGE > CARDINAL NUMBER CARDINAL NUMBER > VALUE > AGE VALUE > AGE > PHYSICAL PROPERTY AGE > VALUE > PHYSICAL PROPERTY DIMENSION > VALUE > QUALIFICATION HUMAN PROPENSITY > HUMAN PROPENSITY > AGE QUALIFICATION > AGE > VALUE ORDINAL NUMBER > VALUE > QUALIFICATION ORDINAL NUMBER > QUALIFICATION > VALUE CARDINAL NUMBER > QUALIFICATION > QUALIFICATION (NATIONALITY) CARDINAL NUMBER > PHYSICAL PROPERTY > POSITION ORDINAL NUMBER > CARDINAL NUMBER > HUMAN PROPENSITY

Table 10 Table 12 Table 14 Table 16 Table 22 Table 26 Table 28 Table 32 Table 36 17
Table 38 Table 40 Table

42 5.4. Cross-linguistic Generalisations and Variations From the above study, it is obvious that there are similarities and dissimilarities in case of semantic ordering of adjectives

in the selected Eastern Indo-Aryan languages Axomiya, Bangla , Maithili and 27

Odia as presented in the following Table 43. QUALIFICATION precedes COLOUR, VALUE comes before AGE, PHYSICAL PROPERTY goes before QUALIFICATION, GENRE follows NATIONALITY, ORDINAL NUMBER precedes CARDINAL NUMBER

and AGE, beautiful goes behind hard-working, irritated appears before angry in these four languages. Apart from the above commonalities, there are some deviations in the results of orderings among the chosen languages. In Axomiya, Bangla and Maithili, AGE precedes CARDINAL NUMBER and PHYSICAL PROPERTY whereas PHYSICAL PROPERTY follows AGE and CARDINAL NUMBER in Odia (Tables 13 and 14). CARDINAL NUMBER comes before VALUE and AGE in Axomiya, Maithili and Odia though Bangla shows a different ordering where VALUE goes before CARDINAL NUMBER and AGE (Tables 15 and 16). On the one hand, Axomiya and Maithili have the ordering shiny > bright > deep and on the other hand, Bangla and Odia informants choose the ordering bright > shiny > deep (Tables 17 and 18). AGE comes earlier than VALUE and PHYSICAL PROPERTY in Axomiya, Bangla and Odia. Maithili exhibits the ordering where VALUE goes before AGE and PHYSICAL PROPERTY which is also common to Odia (Tables 21 and 22). VALUE comes earlier than PHYSICAL PROPERTY in Axomiya and Odia while PHYSICAL PROPERTY precedes VALUE in Bangla and Maithili which is also exhibited in Odia (Tables 23 and 24). AGE goes earlier than two adjectives denoting HUMAN PROPENSITY in Axomiya and Odia but Bangla and Maithili manifest the opposite ordering where AGE comes later (Tables 27 and 28). In Axomiya, Bangla and Maithili, HUMAN PROPENSITY goes before AGE while Odia owns the inverse ordering (Tables 29 and 30). The semantic type POSITION precedes CARDINAL NUMBER and PHYSICAL PROPERTY in Axomiya, Bangla and Maithili whereas Odia possesses the mirror opposite of this ordering where position follows CARDINAL NUMBER and PHYSICAL PROPERTY (Tables 39 and 40). ORDINAL NUMBER comes before CARDINAL NUMBER and HUMAN PROPENSITY in Axomiya, Bangla and Odia but HUMAN PROPENSITY follows ORDINAL NUMBER and CARDINAL NUMBER in Maithili (Tables 41 and 42). Additionally, there are some instances where more variations are found in the semantic orderings of adjectives in the given languages. Though DIMENSION precedes COLOUR and PHYSICAL PROPERTY in Maithili and Odia, Axomiya shows the ordering COLOUR > DIMENSION > PHYSICAL PROPERTY and Bangla DIMENSION > PHYSICAL PROPERTY > COLOUR (Tables 9 and 10). Axomiya, Maithili and Odia possess the ordering DIMENSION > VALUE > QUALIFICATION. Bangla shares the ordering VALUE > DIMENSION > QUALIFICATION again with Maithili. Interestingly, Maithili owns two other orderings. These are QUALIFICATION > VALUE > DIMENSION > and QUALIFICATION > DIMENSION > VALUE (Tables 25 and 26). In Axomiya, Bangla and Maithili, AGE comes before VALUE and QUALIFICATION whereas Odia shows a different ordering QUALIFICATION > AGE > VALUE. Here Axomiya adds another ordering QUALIFICATION > VALUE > AGE which slightly differs from the Odia one (Tables 31 and 32). The semantic orderings ORDINAL NUMBER > VALUE > QUALIFICATION and ORDINAL NUMBER > QUALIFICATION > VALUE are both found in Bangla and Odia. Among these, the first order is common to Axomiya. Maithili displays a somewhat divergent response with the semantic ordering QUALIFICATION > ORDINAL NUMBER > VALUE (Tables 35 and 36). Finally, Axomiya and Odia share the same semantic ordering: CARDINAL NUMBER > QUALIFICATION > QUALIFICATION (NATIONALITY). Bangla and Maithili possess dissimilar orderings. These are QUALIFICATION > CARDINAL NUMBER > QUALIFICATION (NATIONALITY) and QUALIFICATION (NATIONALITY) > CARDINAL NUMBER > QUALIFICATION respectively (Tables 37 and 38).

Chapter 6 Conclusion 6.1. Introduction This thesis focuses on the

50

adjective class from the perspective of language typology. It first aims to establish how to recognize adjective class

in the selected **Eastern Indo-Aryan languages** Axomiya, **Bangla** , Maithili **and**

27

Odia. Secondly, it explores the semanticity-cum- largeness, openness-cum-productivity and the grammatical properties of the adjectives in these languages. Thirdly, it presents the semantic ordering of adjectives in poly-adjectival noun phrases. This helps us to understand the syntactic positions of adjectives within a PNP based on their taxonomy. Finally, the present thesis aids in understanding the areal features of adjectives in the eastern Indo-Aryan region. 6.2. Major Findings Firstly, the adjective class in the selected EIA languages is recognized through five characteristics: (

A) state a property, (B) Specify a head **noun**

10

, (C) constructions in comparison, (D) modify verbs and (E) function as intensifiers. The table below summarizes the characteristics of adjective class in the selected EIA languages. Secondly, the adjective class in the selected EIA languages showed large adjective class languages demonstrating all three sets of a total of thirteen

semantic types as **proposed by Dixon (2004 & 2010). They**

70

were

SET A (DIMENSION, AGE, VALUE and **COLOUR), SET B (PHYSICAL PROPERTY, HUMAN PROPENSITY** and **SPEED**) and **SET C (DIFFICULTY, SIMILARITY, QUALIFICATION, QUANTIFICATION, POSITION**

20

, NUMBER). Significantly, three sub-semantic types FRCATIONAL, MULTIPLICATIVE and AGGREGATIVE were included in the last semantic type NUMBER (SET C) along with the previous two sub-semantic types (CARDINAL NUMBER and ORDINAL NUMBER) as proposed by Dixon (2010 and 2004). In addition, I argued that the adjective class in the chosen EIA languages are open adjective class languages employing various word-formation processes such as inflection, assimilation, derivation, compounding, reduplication, affixation and causation to add new members to the above semantic types of adjectives. Moreover, I found that adjectives carry both nominal features (gender agreement, number agreement and specified with classifier) and verbal features (inflected with tense, aspect, person markers) in these languages. Therefore, they need to be categorised as both noun-like and verb-like adjective class languages. While addressing

similarities and differences in the semantic ordering of adjectives in

73

Axomiya, Bangla, Maithili, and Odia, we noted QUALIFICATION occurs before COLOUR, VALUE before AGE, and GENRE after NATIONALITY, QUALIFICATION after PHYSICAL PROPERTY, ORDINAL NUMBER before CARDINAL NUMBER and AGE. In addition to the similitude, We found several dissimilarities in the ordering of adjectives among the selected languages. In Axomiya, Bangla, and Maithili, AGE preceded CARDINAL NUMBER and PHYSICAL PROPERTY, while in Odia, PHYSICAL PROPERTY followed AGE and CARDINAL NUMBER. CARDINAL NUMBER occurred before VALUE and AGE in Axomiya, Maithili, and Odia, while in Bangla, VALUE preceded both CARDINAL NUMBER and AGE. AGE precedesd VALUE and PHYSICAL PROPERTY in Axomiya, Bangla, and Odia, while Maithili placed VALUE before AGE and PHYSICAL PROPERTY, a pattern also attested in Odia. VALUE came before PHYSICAL PROPERTY in Axomiya and Odia, but PHYSICAL PROPERTY preceded VALUE in Bangla and Maithili. Other distinct orderings included variations in HUMAN PROPENSITY, POSITION, and the relationships between ORDINAL and CARDINAL NUMBERS in these languages. There were additional variations in the semantic ordering of adjectives across the languages. While DIMENSION preceded COLOUR and PHYSICAL PROPERTY in Maithili and Odia, Axomiya ordered them as COLOUR > DIMENSION > PHYSICAL PROPERTY. Bangla preferred DIMENSION > PHYSICAL PROPERTY > COLOUR. Axomiya, Maithili, and Odia followed DIMENSION > VALUE > QUALIFICATION, but Bangla placed VALUE before DIMENSION and QUALIFICATION, a pattern shared with Maithili. Maithili demonstrated two other orderings: QUALIFICATION > VALUE > DIMENSION and QUALIFICATION > DIMENSION > VALUE. In terms of AGE, Axomiya, Bangla, and Maithili placed it before VALUE and QUALIFICATION, while Odia preferred QUALIFICATION > AGE > VALUE, with Axomiya showing QUALIFICATION > VALUE > AGE, which slightly differs from Odia. The orderings ORDINAL NUMBER > VALUE > QUALIFICATION and ORDINAL NUMBER > QUALIFICATION > VALUE appear in both Bangla and Odia, while Maithili opted for QUALIFICATION > ORDINAL NUMBER > VALUE. Finally, Axomiya and Odia shared the ordering CARDINAL NUMBER > QUALIFICATION > QUALIFICATION (NATIONALITY), unlike Bangla and Maithili, which have different variations. 6.3.

Limitations As this research focuses on specific languages of the EIA region, it restricts the findings to those languages. It does not account for the full typological diversity of the region. Besides, this study focuses primarily on synchronic (current) data. It fails to address the diachronic (historical) development of adjective formation processes adequately. Understanding how adjective formation has evolved is essential to fully grasp the openness and productivity of the adjective class in Eastern Indo-Aryan languages. In addition, it concentrates on standardized forms of the selected EIA languages, neglecting the dialectal variation that exists within the language family. This lack of cross-dialectal analysis limits the generalizability of findings and overlooks how noun-like and verb-like features might vary across different dialects or regions. A diachronic perspective would provide a clearer understanding of how adjective forms have evolved and how their noun-like and verb-like properties have developed or changed. This study concentrates on syntax and semantics in isolation, without considering how pragmatic factors or contextual usage influence adjective ordering. In natural speech, the ordering of adjectives can be affected by emphasis, speaker intention, or topicality. Ignoring these pragmatic factors limits our understanding of how flexible or fixed the adjective order is in real-world language use. While some studies focus on specific Eastern Indo-Aryan languages, there is often a lack of cross-linguistic comparison with other Indian language families. Understanding adjective ordering in relation to languages from different families would enrich typological insights

and shed light on potential universals or language-specific features in adjective ordering across the world's languages. 6.4. Future Research A better understanding of adjectives in the selected Eastern Indo-Aryan languages could improve language teaching materials and enhance natural language processing (NLP) tools, especially for applications involving machine translation and syntactic analysis in these languages. Incorporating historical perspectives could offer deeper insights into the evolution of adjectives, enriching the understanding of grammatical change and cross-generational differences in adjective usage

within the Eastern **Indo-Aryan family** . Future research **on the** largeness **of the**

59

adjective class in Eastern

Indo-Aryan languages can illuminate **the extent to which**

11

the adjective class is expanding over time. This could help identify new trends in word formation and the integration of new adjectives, shedding

light on the dynamic **nature of the language** . Understanding **the** largeness **of the**

30

adjective class will enable comparisons with other language families, offering insights into how different languages expand their adjective classes. These comparisons can contribute to typological studies, highlighting similarities and differences in adjective categorization across languages. The research may provide valuable information for lexical acquisition, helping language learners understand the scale and flexibility of adjectives in Eastern Indo-Aryan languages, thus improving learning strategies and educational resources. A deeper understanding of the largeness of the adjective class could improve computational linguistics tools, especially in areas like machine translation, corpus linguistics, and AI-based language processing, aiding in the accurate recognition and use of adjectives. Research on the openness and word-formation processes of adjectives in Eastern Indo-Aryan languages can expand current theories of word formation. Understanding adjective formation processes has significant implications for computational linguistics, especially in developing tools for morphological analysis and machine translation. It will help improve the processing of complex adjective forms in the selected EIA languages. The findings could lead to more effective language teaching materials, allowing learners to better understand adjective formation rules and enhance their grasp of morphological patterns in Eastern Indo-Aryan languages. Research on noun- and verb-like adjectives in Eastern Indo-Aryan languages will refine the classification of word classes.

This could lead to a more nuanced understanding of how these word

75

classes interact and evolve over time. It may improve the analysis of morphosyntactic patterns. A better grasp of noun- and verb- like adjectives will aid in NLP tools, improving the accuracy of syntactic parsing and machine translation, especially when dealing with languages exhibiting complex word class features. The findings can improve language teaching materials, particularly in helping learners understand the flexible nature of adjectives in the selected EIA languages, enhancing both language acquisition and pedagogical approaches. Research on the semantic ordering of adjectives in poly-adjectival noun phrases will deepen our understanding of the interaction between syntax and semantics. It will offer insights into how meaning is structured in noun phrases and how different adjective types contribute to the overall meaning in these languages. Future studies can facilitate cross-linguistic comparisons, allowing linguists to understand universal patterns and language-specific features in adjective ordering. This can contribute to the broader field of typological research in adjective syntax across different Indian language families. Understanding the semantic hierarchy in poly-adjectival noun phrases will improve NLP, particularly in tasks like machine translation and automatic syntactic parsing, ensuring that adjective order is correctly captured. This research will benefit language teaching, offering clearer guidelines for learners on the ordering of adjectives in Eastern Indo-Aryan languages, improving both comprehension and production of complex noun phrases. To conclude, this study shows the diversity and complexity of adjectives in Indo-Aryan languages in terms of semanticity, word-formation processes, grammatical features and semantic ordering in poly-adjectival noun phrases. It highlights the need for more research on under-explored languages, spoken data and context to improve typological understanding.

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