

2. MORPHOLOGY**2.1. Noun :**

The noun is the clause of words which is capable of taking the case marker. The sub-classes of the noun are the substantive (or the noun), the pronoun, and the numeral.

The nouns may be classified into two classes, which may be called masculine and feminine on the basis of adjectives which are declined to agree with the gender of the noun that follows. These two classes based on gender are not natural classes based on sex. Though among the animate nouns, the nouns referring to males belong to the masculine class and the nouns referring to the females belong to the feminine class, the inanimate objects are also divided into

these two classes. Thus, the gender system is purely grammatical.

2.1.1. Gender:

In Brokskat gender is not morphologically marked in the noun with consistence. Most of the nouns do not have any marker for gender as in the following examples.

zu : za	'brother'
sasu	'grandson'
šeʃRi	'sister's husband'
phodyaŋ	'widower'
moči	'cobbler'
muš	'man'
usta : t̥	'teacher'
sa : s	'younger sister'
mole	'daughter, girl'
mačen	'first wife'
qa : qye	'elder sister'
mačuŋ	'second wife'
t̥ʃiga	'wife'
a : v	'she-goat'

Though some of the nouns referring to males end in -o, which is the masculine suffix, the noun referring to the corresponding females do not have the feminine suffix.

bo	'father'	a : ye	'mother'
byo	'son'	mole	'daughter'
baRo	'husband'	t̥ʃiga	'wife'
ba : yc	'brother'	sa : s	'sister'
<u>du</u> do	'grandfather'	<u>de</u> de	'grandmother'
la : ŋto	'ox'	go : li	'cow'
čha <u>ta</u> lo	'he-goat'	a : v	'she-goat'
muš	'man'	t̥ʃiga	'woman'

It may be seen in the examples that the stems do not recur in the masculine and feminine nouns. Moreover, the masculine nouns have -o ending are very few. Further, if -a is segmented, the remaining root in some cases violates syllabic structure of stems of this language. For example, if -o is segmented from bo 'father' one is left with the root b-

which is a single consonant and the roots in this language do not otherwise have this syllabic structure. For these reasons -a is not segmented in the nouns given above.

However, the gender distinction is not morphologically marked in derived nouns, which are derived from nouns and verbs by adding the agentive suffix. There are different suffixes for masculine and feminine gender. The masculine agentive suffix is -pa and the feminine agentive suffix is -ma. These two agentive suffixes, viz., -pa and -ma may alter with -po and -mo respectively.

2.1 1. Masculine :

gulus <u>d</u> us-pa	'washerman'
zulithis-pa	'sweeper'
kist <u>i</u> -pa	'sailor'
daRzi-pa	'tailor'

2.1.1.2. Feminine :

lumkhan-ma	'singer'
dzemkhan-ma	'dancer'

The number is not marked in the derived nouns.

2.1.2. Number :

The count noun is inflected for number. Brokskat distinguishes between singular and plural. If the noun refers to one being or object it is singular, if it refers to two, then, it is dual, and if it refers to more than two, then it is plural.

2.1.2.1. Singular :

The singular suffix is -k and it is derived from the numeral e : k 'one'. The singular suffix -k occurs with common noun and adjective and gives the sense of one.

hamo go : li-k be <u>t</u>	'this is a cow'
1 2 3 4	1 4 3 2
hamo bilu-k be <u>t</u>	'this is a cat'
1 2 3 4	1 4 3 2

2.1.3. Pronoun :

A pronoun is the noun which 'stands for' some noun which was referred to earlier, explicitly or implicitly in the context. A pronoun is thus a noun substitute. There are five kinds of pronouns, i.e., (1) Personal pronoun, (2) Demonstrative pronoun, (3) Interrogative pronoun, (4) Reflexive pronoun, and (5) Indefinite pronoun.

2.1.3.1. Personal Pronoun :

There are three personal pronouns, viz., first person, second person and third person. The first person refers to the speaker, the second person refers to the hearer ; and the third person refers to the person or object other than the speaker and the hearer. The first and second person are in contact but the third person may or may not be in contact. The first and second person pronouns are definite but the third pronoun may be either definite or indefinite.

In the personal pronouns, there is masculine, feminine gender distinction only in the person singular as given in the table below :

	Singular	Plural
First person	mo~mi~ma	ba
Second person	ti~tu	ci~co
Third person	so (mas) sa (Fem)	te

2.1.3.1.1. First Person Singular :

The first person singular pronoun has three allomorphs viz., mo, mi- and ma, mi- occurs before -ya, an allomorph of the nominative case suffix, ma- occurs before -sa, an allomorph of the nominative case suffix and before the dative case suffix -Ra and mo occurs elsewhere.

mo ane yu :ñs	'I am coming here'
1 2 3	1 3 2

mo bunuRa ba :suñs	'I am living in the village'
1 2 3	1 3 2

mi-ya guliyo buniṭ	'I tied the sticks'
1 2 3	1 3 2

2.1.4. Case :

The case defines the relationship between the noun and the predicate in a sentence. Even though the genitive indicates a relationship between two nouns, it is also considered a case traditionally. The number of cases in a language may be set up on the basis of the different forms of the case markers and their different meanings. But, there is not always one to one correspondence between form and meaning. Whenever there is a discrepancy, the case is set up on the basis of distinct meaning. For example, the same case marker is used for both Accusative and Dative and another one for both Instrumental and Ablative. Since there are four different meanings, four cases are set up. Following this procedure ten cases may be set up for Brokskat, viz., Agentive, Accusative, Dative, Benefactive, Locative, Sociative, Instrumental, Ablative, Genitive and Vocative. All the case markers except Benefactive, Instrumental, Ablative and Sociative are bound forms and are suffixed to the noun except the vocative case marker which is prefixed one. The cases and their markers are given below :

Cases	Markers
1. Agentive Case	-i, -sa, -ya
2. Accusative Case	-Ra
3. Dative Case	-Ra
4. Benefactive Case	phya : ċi
5. Locative Case	-Ra, -ža
6. Instrumental Case	-sa
7. Sociative Case	cisuma
8. Genitive Case	-s, -n
9. Ablative Case	žono
10. Vocative Case	va-, li-

2.1.4.1. Agentive Case :

The nominative case defines the subject. The case marker is added when the sentence has a transitive verb. The allomorphs of the nominative case markers are -i, -sa, and -ya. They are morphologically conditioned.

2.2.7. The Verb 'be':

There are three kinds of be verbs in Brokskat, viz., hañ, la, and bet. The verbs hañ and la have their plural forms as hane or hani and la:n respectively, but the verb bet is an uninflected verb. Again the verb hañ inflects for all persons but the verb la inflects for plural alone. There is no difference either in the usage of these forms of the verb or in the meaning.

bet

hamo gotik bet	'this is a house'
1 2 3	1 3 2
heme goti du bet	'these are two houses'
1 2 3 4	1 4 3 2
hamo golik bet	'this is a cow'
1 2 3	1 3 2
heme myo goti bet	'these are my houses'
1 2 3 4	1 4 2 3
homo myo kita : p bet	'this is my book'
1 2 3 4	1 4 2 3
pho myo bo bet	'he is my father'
1 2 3 4	1 4 2 3
pho myo byo bet	'he is my son'
1 2 3 4	1 4 2 3
pha myo mole bet	'she is my daughter'
1 2 3 4	1 4 2 3

hañ

myo got seno hañ	'my house is small'
1 2 3 4	1 2 4 3

ma : Ra byo e : k hañ
1 2 3 4

'I have one son'
[lit. : me son one is]
1 2 3 4

myo byo gota : Ra hañ
1 2 3 4

'my son is in the house'
1 2 4 3

ma : Ra moleyo ðu hani
1 2 3 4

'I have two daughters'
[lit. : me daughters two are]
1 2 3 4

tyo byo ane hane
1 2 3 4

'your brothers are here'
1 2 4 3

la

ti ane la
1 2 3

'you are here' (sg.)
1 3 2

so ane la
1 2 3

'he is here'
1 3 2

sa ane la
1 2 3

'she is here'
1 3 2

so xi : gok la
1 2 3

'he is tall'
1 3 2

pho muşpo go la
1 2 3 4

'that man is fat'
1 2 4 3

te ane la : n
1 2 3

'they are here'
1 3 2

ci ane la : n
1 2 3

'you are here' (pl.)
1 3 2

2.2.8. Verb Paradigm :

sosa bañdisu : ñ
sosa bañdyu : ñ
sosa bañdya : le
soya bañdeṭ
soya bañḍañ
soya bañḍa : v
soya bañḍisşunisula

'he runs'
'he runs'
'he is running'
'he ran'
'he has run'
'he had run'
'he may run'

soya banda : ba : su

'he would have run'

soya bandetopa

'he might have run'

(or the one who ran)

3. SYNTAX

The sentences may be divided into simple sentences, complex sentences and compound sentences. In the simple sentence, the surface phrase structure has only one s. The simple sentence may have a single word also as in the imperative; in the complex sentence, it has more than one s of which except one all others have daughter relationship; in the compound sentence, it has more than one s which have sister relationship.

3.1. Word Order:

The normal order of words in a sentence is SOV, i.e., Subject + Object + Verb. The following sentences show the order of words in Brokskat.

masa teRa skiyu : ns

'I see him'

1 2 3

1 3 2

masa mani : li rus : ns

'I eat bread'

1 2 3

1 3 2

sosa soqbu zbri : cha : le

'he writes book'

1 2 3

1 3 2

sasa guliyo buniya : li

'she ties the sticks'

1 2 3

1 3 2

ba sukuluRa biyenes

'we go to school'

1 2 3

1 3 2

tisa teRa skiya : le

'you see him' (sg.)

1 2 3

1 3 2

cisa teRa skiya : len

'you see him' (pl.)

1 2 3

1 3 2

tesa sinaRa skiya : len

'they see the child'

1 2 3

1 3 2

When the verb is intransitive, there will be no object in the sentence. Then the surface structure will be NP + VP

when NP is the subject. VP is the predicate.

mo biyu : ns	'I go'
ba biyenes	'we go'
<u>ti</u> biya : l	'you go' (sg.)
ci biya : len	'you go' (pl.)
so za : za : le	'he walks'
sa za : za : li	'she walks'
te za : za : len	'they walk'

Sometimes, the object comes first before the subject giving the order OSV, i.e., Object + Subject + Verb. This order is used when the topic of discourse is the noun referred to by the object.

pho ki <u>ta</u> : p miya aRe <u>t</u>	'I brought that book'
myo poloRa pene miya <u>de</u> <u>t</u>	'I gave money for my ball'

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