



Research Paper

Noun Morphology in Kannada

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ABSTRACT

The study aimed to delineate Morphological processes. Kannada is developed language. In linguistics, morphology is the study of words, including the principles by which they are formed, and how they relate to one another within a language. Kannada language is one of the major Dravidian languages of India. Noun is a Naming word. We may therefore speak of a substitution class of noun stems, with two sub-classes: simple root or derivative nouns, without further suffixation, and plural Noun stems, containing a plural suffix.

Key words: morphology, suffix, form, stems, masculine, feminine, neuter

I. Introduction:

Noun is a grammatical category which takes optionally Gender – Number and case – suffixes, Nouns are of two types' viz., simple nouns and derived nouns. Simple nouns are based forms; they are Human nouns or Non-human nouns. Derived nouns are those derived by adding certain suffixes to the stems. Although noun stems are not always substitutable for noun roots, the roots are substitutable for the stems.

II. Morphology in Kannada

Nouns.

The nouns for the sake of convenience can be classified into three groups, viz., Masculine, Feminine and Neuter. This classification is based more on syntactic criteria than morphological.

Masculine nouns

maga son, aṇṇa elder brother, rayta farmer, guru teacher, avanu he etc.

Feminine nouns.

ta:yi mother, atte mother-in-law, akka elder sister, magaḷu daughter etc.

Neuter nouns,

Giḷi parrot, mane 'house', mara tree, ka:ḍu forest, ca: tea, canda: contribution, u: flower etc.

Some derivational nouns as oḍṇa:ḍi companion', buddige:ḍi 'dull', the pronouns of the first and second persons and the reflexive pronouns are common to all genders. Plural nouns are not distinct for masculine and feminine gender.

The nouns mostly ending in -i or -e are either feminine or neuter. Those ending in -u or -a are found in all the three genders. There are two neuter nouns which end in a:, The noun ending in u: is u: flower.

Majority of the nouns are mono morphemic. There are some nouns which consist of more than a single morpheme. The formation of such nouns can be shown as follows.

The following masculine, feminine and neuter nouns are formed by suffixing --a, i and u respectively to certain bound roots.

Kuḷḍa	'blind man'	kuṇṭa	'lame man'
Kuldi	blind woman'	kuṇṭi	'lame woman'
Kuḷḍu	blindness, blind	kuntu	'lameness'
ucca	'mad man'	kullā	'dwarfish man'
ucci	mad woman	kullī	'dwarfish woman'
uccu	madness	kullu	dwarfishness
eḍḍa	'dull man'	eḍḍi	dull woman

The following masculine and feminine nouns are formed by adding the suffixes a and ti respectively to certain bound bases.

kornga a man of the kornga community, korngiti a kornga woman; domba a tumbler, dombiti a domba woman; kuruba shepherd, kurubiti a shepherd woman; agisa washerman, agisiti a washer woman; korama a man of the Korama Community, karamiti a korama woman; (marakutiga 'wood pecker').

The suffix itti is used instead of iti in the following.

ma:diga a cobbler, ma:digitti a cobbler woman; madavana- gitti bride

u:~u:vu - flower, u:va:digitti female florist; uva digitti female florist; a:vu snake, a:va:diga snake charmer, a:va:digitti female of a snake charmer.

The noun vayassu 'age' takes the suffix ig before these suffixes. The feminine suffix after it is aḷu
vayassiga young man, vayassigalu young woman.

The following masculine and feminine nouns are formed respectively by suffixing.

(i) a and i preceded by ga:r- and ga:t respectively. aṭaga:ra obstinate man, ataga:ti obstinate woman; jotega ra male companion, jotega:ti female companion'.

(ii) a and i preceded by va:l-

madivala 'washerman', The suffix-gitti (feminine) is optionally used after this base.

Modiva:lḷi, modiva:lḷigitti washer woman.

The following masculine nouns are formed by suffixing a preceded by da:r to some neuter nouns.

Va:rasda:ra heir (va:rasu 'heirship'); ba:digeda:ra person living in a rented house (ba:dige rented house); guttigeda:ra contractor (guttige contract)

The suffix a preceded by vant is used with the noun buddi 'mind' to form a masculine noun.

buddivanta 'intelligent'

The suffix a preceded by k is used with the verbal root the final kuḍi 'to drink' to form the following masculine noun the final I of the root is changed into u before this suffix.

kuḍuka 'drunkard'

The following nouns are formed by suffixing alu to the indeclinable (syntactically adjectives) expressive of cardinal points.

badəgu	'north'	badəgəlu	'northern side'
tenku	'south'	teṅkəlu	'southern side'
mu:du	'east'	mu:dəlu	easternside
'pədu'	'west'	paḍuvalu	western side'

The suffix tana is used with some substantives (or object nouns) to form abstract nouns.

Mane	'house'	manetana	'nobleness of a family'
Tuṅṭa	'wicked'	tuṅṭatana	wickedness'

ige or ge

oli to sew, olige stitch; nadi to walk naḍige walking, behaviour'; teru to pay terige tax; toḍu to wear, toḍige ornament; uḍu to put on clothes, uḍige dress; na:cu to feel shy, na:cige shyness; oppu to agree, oppige agreement; eru to beget, erige delivery of a child.

The final i or the root mari to forget becomes i

marevu 'forgetfulness'

The roots gellu to win noyyu to pain sa:yi to die have the allomorphs gelu, no:- and sa: respectively.

geluvu	'victory';
no: vu	'pain';
sa: vu	'death';

ku, klu, lu.

The final vowel of the roots is dropped before these suffixes

biri	'to split',	birku	'breach':
muri	'to break',	murku	'broken thing';
kəli	'to rot',	koḷku	dirty';
kəri	'to drill',	kərku	'drilling':
koyyi	'to cut',	koylu	cutting';
ḍi			
tinnu	'to eat'	tindi	'a dish'
ta			
iri	'to pain',	irita	'(tooth) ache';
iḍi	to catch,	iḍita	control';
kəḍi	'to cut',	kəḍita	'cutting';
duḍi	'to work'.	Duḍita	'working';
kuḍi	'to drink',	kuḍita	'drinking';

ugi	'to spit',	ugita	'spitting, abuse';
kuṇi	'to dance',	kuṇita	dancing';
tivi	'to pierce',	tivita	piercing';
tuḷi	'to trample',	tuḷita	trampling';

The final i of a verbal root with a low vowel in its penultimate syllable becomes i before this suffix.

negi	'to jump',	negita	jumping';
oḍi	'to strike',	oḍita	'blow';
esi	'to throw',	esita	'throwing';
baḍi	'to beat',	baḍita	'beating';
me			
Duḍi	'to work',	dudime	'labour, earning',
geyyu	'to earn',	geyme	'earning, livelihood',
ta:lu	'to wait',	ta:ḷme	'tolerance'
ba:ḷu	'to live',	ba:ḷme	'life'

The following nouns are formed by combining some bound elements initially with some nouns.

Ex. an-

angəy palm of the hand', (kay 'hand')

anga:lu, 'sole of the foot', (ka:lu 'leg')

ara- aramane palace', (mane 'house')

eb~~ebb-

eb-occurs before b and ebb-before a vowel.

ebberəlu 'thumb' (berəḷu 'finger'); ebbiduru big bamboo'(biduru 'bamboo');

ebba:glu city gate', (ba:glu 'door'); ebba:vu 'python', (a:vu'snake').

maṇi~ maḷi

manikəy ~ maḷikay 'the elbow' (kay 'hand');

mala-

maləta:yi 'step mother', (ta:yi 'mother');

maləmagā step son' (maga 'son');

maləmagāḷu step daughter' (magāḷu 'daughter');

mun- ~ mum -

Initial k of the nouns changes into g.

mungəy 'wrist', (kay 'hand');

mummaga 'great grand son' (maga 'son');

mummagaḷu 'great grand daughter' (magāḷu 'daughter');

mut- ~ mutt-

muttājja 'great grand father', (ājja 'grand father');

muttājji 'great grand mother', (ājji 'grand mother');

mutta: ta great grand father', (ta:ta 'grand father');

The following nouns are formed by compounding a noun with another noun.

Ka:ldari track (ka:lu leg and da:ri road); ka:lungra ring of a toe (ka:lu and ungra ring); kaṇṇi:ru tears (kaṇṇu eye

and ni:ru water); bennelubu back bone (bennu back and elubu bone); bayəla:ṭa field drama (bayalu field and a:ṭa

play); ka:ḍəndi wild hog (ka:ḍu forest and andi pig); va:ntibe:di cholera (vanti vomiting and be:di purging);

aṇṇatammandiru brothers (aṇṇa elder brother and tamma younger brother); ba:vamaydagaḷu brothers in-law,

(ba:va sister's husband and mayda wife's brother); me:lvica:ra supervision (melu upper side and vicara

consideration);(anna boiled rice); attemma mother-in -law, (atte father's sister and amma mother); eṅgara

female calf, (eṅṅu female and kara calf); mundgade front side, (mundu front and kade side); maraguṭiga wood

pecker, (mara tree and kuṭiga pounder); tingḷimava moon, tingḷu month or moon and ma:va mother's sister),

tingḷibəḷku moon beam, (tingḷu moon and beḷəku light): o:didara reading and writing (o:du reading and bara

writing); taḷidimbu pillow, (tale head and dimbu pillow); bembala support, (bennu 'back' and bala strength);

mukka:lu three quarters (mu:ru three and ka:lu quarter); okkaṇṇa one eyed person, (ondu one and kaṇṇu eye);

(Acharya, 1971)

III. CONCLUSION:

This paper includes the information about the Morphology of Kannada Nouns. Nouns include rational and irrational. Rational nouns include men and deities; irrational Nouns include women, animals, objects, and everything else. Singular is unmarked, the plural is marked by the suffix. Adjectives share properties with nouns. Some linguists think that they do not constitute a separate word class.

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