

**Abstract:-**

The present paper investigates the classifiers in Bodo. In Bodo classifiers have function as specific determiner of the physical shape or size, quantity and quality of the noun. Classifiers in Bodo are predominantly of monosyllabic structure. It occurs with numeral and the classifiers precede numeral. The monosyllabic structure may be single verb or simple verb and noun; it functions as classifiers by suffixing numerals. In Bodo, classifier can occur before and after in noun and pronoun. Bodo has no free form of classifier, it may noun or verb.

**Keywords:**

Classifier, Bundle, Group, Loan word.

## CLASSIFIER IN BODO

**Pratima Brahma**



**Scope of the study:** This topic attempt to highlight and analysis the classifier which are applied everyday in Bodo community.

**Method:** In this paper data have been collected from two main sources: primary and secondary. Primary sources have been collected from different speaker of different group of people, different profession and different age group of different dialect areas, through observation and interview method. Secondary sources have been collected from available written books, articles, journal articles and Ph. D thesis. It is difficult from my side to define reason of classifier from scientific view point; as a result this paper will be simple explanatory and example.

### 1.0. INTRODUCTION:

Bodo is the name of the language as well as of the Community. The word Bodo was first used by Hodgson. It is the major tribe of Eastern and North-East India which belong to Tibeto-Burman language family. According to Suniti Kumar Chatterjee (1951) and Kalaguru Bishnu Prasad Rabha, the word Bodo or Boddo is derived from the word 'BOD' which means "land or country". Furthermore, the word Boddo or Bodo is derived from Prakrit word "Bodh" or "Badh" which means "sense or knowledge" according to Bakul Chandra Basumatary (Bodo Civilization in India, 2009). The Bodo speakers are found mainly in B.T.A.D. area and all districts of Assam except Cachar, Hailakhandi, Karimganj. They are also found in some adjacent areas of West Bengal, Bangladesh, Nepal, Meghalaya and Bhutan. According to 2011 census of India, the total population of Bodo speakers in Assam is nearly 2 million.

### 2.0. THE POSITION OF BODO LANGUAGE:

Bodo language was introduced as a medium of instruction in 1963 in Assam at the primary level of education. Text book and other necessary literary work were brought out in Bodo. Bodo language is now one of the modern Indian Languages (MIL). Bodo was recognized as an associate official language in the Bodo areas by the government of Assam in 1984. Further, Bodo language is recognized as a subject as well as an optional paper in ACS, IAS, UPSC etc. examination and being introduced as a computer language. It is now recognized as one of the 8th scheduled language of the Indian constitution. Program in Bodo language is broadcasted in All India radio, Guwahati centre and telecasted in the various North Eastern regional TV channels.

### 3.0. THE SCRIPT OF BODO LANGUAGE:

The history of the Bodo script is that in the beginning of the twentieth century most of the Bodo writers used Roman, Assamese and Bengali script for the writing of the Bodo language. In 1974-75, Assamese was replaced by Devnagiri script for writing the Bodo language. A movement for Roman script for Bodo language was launched from September 12, 1974 to February 12, 1975. The movement was spearheaded by the Bodo Sahitya Sabha. Devnagiri script was accepted for the Bodo language from 1975.

### 4.0. GENETIC CLASSIFICATION AND GEOGRAPHICAL AREA:

The linguist opined that the stock of Tibeto-Burman language family in the plain areas of Yang-Tsze-Kiang and Huang-ho river of China. This family is now widespread throughout the western and the southern part of the Asia continent including Burma, Assam and North east India. As per the classification given by Robert Shafer, the Bodo language belongs to the branches of Barish section under the basic division of the Sino-Tibetan language family. The Linguistic survey of India describes the Bodo language under the Bodo sub-section under the Assam Burmese group of the Tibeto-Burman branches of Sino-Tibetan Chinese family. G. A. Grierson had also designated Bodo as Boro or Bodo. The group of tribes known as Bodo or Boro forms the most numerous and important section of non Aryan tribes of the province of Assam.

### 5.0. DIALECTAL VARIATION OF BODO:

Like many other Tibeto-Burman language family of North East India, Bodo has several dialects. P.C Bhattacharya, in his thesis "Descriptive analysis of Boro language 1977, p. 11-12", divided four major dialects of Bodo namely:

- (i) North-west dialect area having sub dialects of north-Kamrup and North Goalpara.
- (ii) South-West dialects area comprising of south Goalpara and Garo hills Districts.
- (iii) North-Central Assam comprising of Darrang, Lakhimpur district and a few place of Arunachal Pradesh.
- (iv) Southern Assam dialects comprise of Nagaon, North Cachar, Mikir Hills and adjacent districts.

On the other hand, Phukan Basumatary in his book entitled "An introduction to the Boro language,

2005, pp-10” divided Bodo into three major regional dialects, namely:

- (i) The Western Bodo dialects
- (ii) The Eastern Bodo dialects and
- (iii) The Southern Bodo dialects.

However, the classification of dialects is not satisfactory i. e. Bodo has some other dialects which are not mentioned by the scholars. One of the instances is that Bũrdũn, a dialect of Bodo which is spoken mainly in Bengtol and Amthekha area in the Chirang district of Assam. The western Bodo dialect is the widest spread one and considered as the standard dialect

#### 6.0. TYPOLOGICAL FEATURES OF BODO LANGUAGE:

1. Bodo is a verb ending language. It follows subject object verb (sov) basic word order. E.g.

/mũidera hagra -yao tha -jũ/  
elephant jangle loc. live nom.  
'Elephant lives in jangle'

2. The indirect object precedes the direct object in unmarked word order. E.g.

/rita -ya a nũ ga se bizab hor dũ mũn/  
rita nom. I dat. clf num. book give pt.  
'Rita gave a book to me'

3. Like in other verb-final languages, Bodo has postposition. E.g.

/mona si ɔo/  
beg in loc.  
'In the beg'  
'On the table'

4. Tone is phonemic in Bodo i.e. Bodo has two tones high and low. E.g.

/zâ/ - 'eat'  
/zà/ - 'to be'  
/bâr/ - 'jump'  
/bâr/ - 'air'

5. Interrogative:

(i) Question word occurs in-situation and there is no obligatory w/h movement. E.g.

/nũ bobe -niphrai phũi dũ ? /  
You where abl. come pre.t. m.  
'Where from you come?'

(ii) Yes/No and question markers occurs post verbally. E.g.

/bi -yũ tha dũ nama/  
she nom go pre. Y/N question marker  
'Did she go?'

(iii) Negative occurs post verbally. E.g.

/a tha ɣa/  
I go neg.  
'I won't go'

(iv) Numerals either precede or follow the head noun. E.g.

/ma se mũsũũ/  
clf. num. cow  
'One cow'

(v) The adjective precedes as well as follows the head nouns. E.g.

/mũza gotho/



good child  
'Good child'

6. The genitive precedes the governing noun. E.g.

/sima ni mobile/  
sima gen mobile  
'Sima's mobile'

7. The marker of comparison follows the standard of comparison. E.g.

/Raza-ya rumi niphrai gukhrui sin/  
raza nom. rumi then strong more  
'Raja is stronger than rumi'

8. The complimentizer (quotative verb say) follows the embedded sentence. E.g.

/apha -ya gabui phui guui hui nnanui bu dn /  
father nom. tomorrow come fut. Comp said  
'Father said that he would come tomorrow'

#### 7.0. DISCUSSION OF CLASSIFIER IN BODO:

Classifiers of Bodo have function as specific determiner of the physical shape or size, quantity and quality of the noun. Classifiers in Bodo are predominantly of monosyllabic structure. It occurs with numeral and the classifiers precede numeral. The monosyllabic structure may be single verb or simple verb and noun; it functions as classifiers by suffixing numerals. In Bodo language classifiers occur before or after the nouns. e.g. /ga se bizab/ or /bizab ga se/. A small number of classifiers of loan words are also used in Bodo language influence of Indo-Aryan language since long time without knowing their origin. Classifiers are discussed under through examples:

(1) To denote human noun takes the classifier /sa/. It occurs only with human noun. E. g.

(i)/subung sa se/ (/sa se subu / )  
Man (n) clf. num.  
'One man'

(2) To denote animate noun, takes the classifier /ma/ in Bodo, it does not occur human and inanimate noun. E. g.

(i) /ma se enzor/ (/enzor ma se/)  
clf. num. rat (n)  
'One rat'

(3) Noun denoting plants, three, weeds etc. especially in growing stage takes the classifiers /pha/. E. g.

(i)/pha se do pha / (do/ pha pha se/)  
clf. num. tree (n)  
'One tree'

(4) Noun denoting musical instruments, weapons, wooden furniture, houses, sticks and similar long small things, household articles made of bamboo; agricultural tools etc. take classifier /go/. E. g.

(i)/go sni gonsi/ (/gonsi go sni/)  
clf. num. Stick (n)  
'Seven sticks'

(5) To indicate flat things like cloths, books, leaves, papers, feather of bird classifier takes /ga/ in Bodo. E.g.

(i)/ga se zi/ (/zi ga se/)  
clf. num. cloth (n)  
'One cloth'

(6) To denote holes, trenches, ponds, wells canal etc. take the classifier /khor/. E.g.

(i)/khor se duikhor/ (/duikhor khor se/)  
clf. num. well (n)

'One well'

(7) To denote a piece of meat, and plots of a land, a number of villages, kingdoms etc. take the classifiers /dor/. E.g.

(i) /dor se dubli/ (/dubli dor se/)  
clf. num. cultivation field (n)

'One boundary paddy field'

(ii) /dor se bedor/ (/bedor dor se/)  
clf. num. meat (n)

'One piece of meat'

(iii) /dor se gami/ (/gami dor se/)  
clf. num. village (n)

'One village'

(iv) /dor se raizɯ/ (/raizɯ dor se/)  
clf. num. kingdom (n)

'A kingdom'

(8) To denote a piece of meat, fish the classifier /so/ takes place. E.g.

/na so se za/  
Fish (n) clf. num. eat (v)

'Eat one piece of fish'

/bi -nɯ bedor so nɯi hor/  
He/She de. meat (n) clf. num. give

'Give him two piece of meat'

(9) To denote egg, small bundle of thread etc. take the classifier /dwi/. E.g.

(i) /dwi brwi daodwi/ (/daodwi dwi brwi/)  
clf. num. egg (n)

'Four egg'

(ii) /dwi brwi khundu / (khundu dwi brwi/)  
clf. num. thread (n)

'Four threads'

(10) To denote seeds, corn, piece and similar small and round or roundish objects take the classifier /gor/. E.g.

(i) /gor se phɯisa/ (/phɯisa gor se/)  
clf. num. rupee (n)

'One rupee'

(ii) /gor se begor/ (/begor gor se/)  
clf. num. seed (n)

'One seed'

(i) /gor se mairo / (gor se mairo / )  
clf. num. rice (n)

Rice'

(11) To denote months take the classifier /dan/. It is not require an antecedent noun. E.g.

(i) /dan tham/ (/tham dan/)  
clf. num

'Three months'

(12) To denote day take the classifier /san/. It is not require an antecedent noun. E.g.

(i) /san se/ (/se san/)  
clf. num.

'One day'

(13) To denote skins, hides, husks, bark (derive from bi-gur) etc. classifier takes /gur/. E.g.

(i)/ gur se bi-gur/ (/bi-gur gur se/)  
 clf. num. skin (n)  
 'One husk skin'

(ii)/ gur se ruthi/ (/ruthi gur se/)  
 clf. num. bread (n)  
 'One piece of bread'

(14)Noun denoting long and something flexible things like rope, hair, animal's tail, thread etc. take the classifier /duw/ E. g.

(i)/ duw se duru / (duw duw se/)  
 clf. num. rope (n)  
 'One rope'

(ii)/ duw se thar/ (/thar duw se/)  
 clf. num. wire (n)  
 'One wire'

(15)To denote half part of the things, take the classifier /khaŋ/. E. g.

(i)/ khaŋ se goi/ (/goi khaŋ se/)  
 clf. num. betle-nut (n)  
 'One half of areca-nut'

(16)Noun denoting packets takes the classifier /khab/. E. g.

(i)/ khab se solai/ (/solai khab se/)  
 clf. num. match (n)  
 'One box of match'

(17)To denote four half of things etc. take classifier /sui/. e. g.

/ sui tham khumbra/ (/khumbra sui tham/)  
 clf. num. pumpkin (n)  
 'Four half of pumpkin'

/ sui nui thaibe / (thaibe sui nui/)  
 clf. num. cucumber (n)  
 'Three half of cucumber'

(18)Noun denoting bunch of betel-nut etc. takes classifier /beda/. E. g.

(i)/ beda se goi/ (/goi beda se/)  
 clf. num. betel-nut (n)  
 'A bunch of betel-nut'

(19)To denote a pair of bags or sacks capable of receiving solid things carried on the shoulder on the two ends take the classifier /ban/. E.g

(i)/ ban tham mai/ (/mai ban tham/)  
 paddy clf. tree (n)  
 'One shoulder paddy'

(20)To denote a morsel of rice take the classifier /khobo/. E.g

(i)/ khobo se ŋ kham/ (/ŋ kham khobo se/)  
 clf. num. rice (n)  
 'A morsel of rice'

(21)To denote a sip or mouthful of water take the classifier /gorod/. E.g

(i) /gorod se dui/ (/dui gorod se/)  
 clf. num. water (n)  
 'One mouthful water'

(22)Noun denoting an amount that contains in one open palm takes the classifier /aowai/. E. g.

(i) /aowai se on/ (/on aowi se/)  
 Clf. num. rice powder (n)

'A handful of rice powder'

(iii) /aowai se sini/ (/aowai se suger/)  
 clf. nu. sugar (n)  
 'A handful of sugar'

(23) Noun denoting bunch, ears of corn etc. take classifier /da/. E. g.

(i) /da se thalir/ (/thalir da se/)  
 clf. num. banana (n)  
 'A bunch of banana'

(24) Noun denoting an amount of handful of things like rice, sugar, seeds and so on take the classifier /muzzum/. E. g.

(i) /muzzum se mairo / (mairo muzzum se/)  
 clf. num. rice (n)  
 'Handful rice'

(25) Noun denoting length between two knots like bamboo, sugarcane etc. take the classifier /phor/. E. g.

(i) /phor se khuser/ (/khuser phor se/)  
 clf. num. Sugarcane (n)  
 'A length of sugarcane between two knots'

(26) To denote bamboo, long (timber), cane etc classifier takes /tho/. E. g.

(i) /tho se wua/ (/wua tho se/)  
 clf. num. bamboo (n)  
 'A bamboo'

(27) To denote fruits, rupees, teeth, eyes, fingers etc. take the classifier /thai/. E. g.

(i) /thai se thaizuo/ (/thaizuo thai se/)  
 clf. num. mango (n)  
 'One mango'

(ii) /thai se megon/ (/megon thai se/)  
 clf. num. eye (n)  
 'One banana'

(iii) /thai se hathai/ (/hathai thai se/)  
 clf. num. teeth (n)  
 'A teeth'

(iv) /thai se asi/ (/asi thai se/)  
 clf. num. finger (n)  
 'A finger'

(28) To denote flower in blooming stage take the classifier /bar/. E. g.

(i) /bar se bibar/ (/bibar bar se/)  
 clf. num. flower (n)  
 'One flower'

(29) To denote small round hard things take the classifier /thor/. E. g.

(i) /thor se onthai/ (/onthai thhor se/)  
 clf. num. Stone (n)  
 'One stone'

(30) To denote leg and hand of +human and +animate take the classifier /thw/. E. g.

/thw tham athi / (ath thw tham/)  
 clf. num. leg (n)  
 'Three legs'

(31) To indicate cocoon (of silkworm), heads of cabbage, etc. and some time liqueate things like water, oil

etc. takes the classifier /thɯb/. E.g.

(i)/thɯb tham phithɯb/ (/phithɯb thɯb tham/)  
 clf. num. cocoon (n)  
 'Three co-con'

(ii)/thɯb brɯi thao/ (/thao thɯb brɯi/)  
 clf. num. oil (n)  
 'Four packets Oil'

(iii)/thɯb se dɯi/ (/dɯi thɯb se/)  
 clf. num. water (n)  
 'Water'

(32) To denote ear and side or direction take the classifier /phar/. E.g.

(i)/phar se khɯma/ (/khɯma phar se/)  
 clf. num. ear (n)  
 'One ear'

(ii)/phar nɯi khɯrkhi/ (/khɯrkhi phar nɯi/)  
 clf. num. window (n)  
 'Two windows'

(33) To denote liquate, like drop of water, drop of rain, drop of tear, drop of blood, drop of urine, drop of oil, etc. take classifier /thorthi in/ Bodo. E.g.

(i)/thorthi nɯi thao/ (/thao thorthi se/)  
 clf. num. oil (n)  
 'A drop of water'

(ii)/thorthi nɯi dɯi/ (/dɯi thorthi nɯi/)  
 Clf. num. water (n)  
 'Two drops of water'

(iii)/thorthi tham mɯdɯi/ (/mɯdɯi thorthi tham/)  
 clf. num. tear (n)  
 'Three drop of tear'

(34) The classifiers /pho in/ Bodo is used in case of speech. E.g.

(i) /pho se rao/ (/pho se rao/)  
 clf. num. voice (n)  
 'A bit voice'

(35) The classifiers /bɯthi/ in Bodo is used to denote a meal of rice. E. g.

/bɯthi se ɯ kham/ (/ɯ kham bɯthi se/)  
 clf. num. rice (n)  
 'A meal of rice'

(36) To denote only for divided piece of areca-nut takes the classifier /khandi/. It is particularly used for the divided piece of areca-nut. E.g.

(i) /khandi nɯi goi/ (/goi khandi nɯi/)  
 clf. num. betle-nut (n)  
 'Two pieces of areca-nut'

(37) To denote a pair of man, animals, birds take the classifier /zuli/ (it may derived from loan word). /zuli/ means the pair of same sex in various social contexts.

(i) /zuli se mɯsɯu/ (/mɯsɯu zora se/)



Clf. num. cow (n)  
'One pair of cow'

(i)/zora se dao/ (/dao zora se/)  
Clf. num. bird (n)  
'One pair of bird'

(38) To denote a plot or circular of land, cloth, pond, river, cloud etc. take the classifier /dokhor/. E. g.

(i) /dokhor tham ha/ (/ha dokhor tham/)  
clf. num. land (n)  
'Three plots of land'  
(ii) /dokhor se zwmwi/ (/zwmwi dokhor se/)  
clf. num. cloud (n)  
'One circular of cloud'

(39) To denote pieces of cloths, paper, leaf etc. take classifier /zikhlab/. E.g.

/zikhlab nui bilai/ (/bilai zikhlab nui/)  
clf. num. leaf (n)  
'Two piece of leaf'  
/zikhlab se zi/ (/zi zikhlab se/)  
clf. num. cloth (n)  
'One piece of cloth'

(40) To denote a plot of land takes classifier /dab/. E. g.

/dab se ha/ (/ha dab se/)  
clf. num. Land (n)  
'a plot of land'

(41) To denote a cluster of bamboos, bananas take the classifier /suba/. E.g.

(i) /suba se wuwa/ (/wuwa suba se/)  
clf. num. bamboo (n)  
'A cluster of bamboos'

(42) To denote line take the classifier /lari/ or /sari/. E.g.

(i) /sari se mai/ (/mai sari se/)  
clf. num. paddy (n)  
'Four line of paddy'

(43) To denote half part of the things, take the classifier /khaw/. e. g.

(i) /khawse goi/ (/goi khaw se/)  
clf. num. betle-nut (n)  
'One half of betle-nut'

(44) To denote shells of eggs, rinds of three and fruits etc. classifier takes /kho. Some examples are given below with illustration. E.g..

(i) /bi kho kho se/ (/kho se bi kho / )  
Rind (n) clf. num.  
'One rind'

(45) To denote occasion and time take the classifier /khon or kheb/. It does not require an antecedent noun to express the numeral classifying sense fully. E.g.

(i) /khon nui/  
clf. num.  
'Two times'

(46) To denote some colors and other things marked on the cloths, shirts etc. take the classifiers /dagla/. E.g.

(i) /dagla se zwmwi/ (/zwmwi dagla se/)  
Clf. num. cloud (n)  
'Deep and broad Cloud'

(47) To denote marriage, festivals etc. take the classifier /khu/ E.g.

(I) /khu tham haba/ (/haba khu tham/)  
 clf. num. marriage (n)  
 'Three times of marriage'

(48) To denote pipe, tubes or similar things take the classifier /su/ E.g.

(i) /hasu su se/  
 Tube (n) clf. num  
 'One tubful'

(49) To denote one fourth or quarter of night take the classifier /muga/. It is only used for sleep and noun is omitted. E.g.

(i) /muga se/  
 clf. num.  
 'One quarter of night'

(ii) /muga nui/  
 clf. num  
 'Two quarter of night'

(50) To denote small piece of wood, pieces of meat and such like other things take the classifier /dokhla/. E.g.

(i) /dokhla se bedor/ (/bedor dokhla se/)  
 clf. num. meat (n)  
 'One pieces of meat'

(iii) /dokhla se zi/ (/zi dokhla se/)  
 clf. num. cloth (n)  
 'One piece of meat'

(51) Noun denoting shoe, sandal takes the classifier /khob/. E. g.

(i) /khob se zutha/ (/zutha khob se/)  
 clf. num. shoe (n)  
 'One shoe'

(52) Noun denoting a string of fishes, string of meat, string of anything etc. takes classifier /haldi ga/. E. g.

(i) /haldi ga se na/ (/na haldi ga se/)  
 Clf. num. fish (n)  
 'A string of fish'

(53) To denote a shoulder load i.e. a bundle that can be carried by a person in one of his shoulder take the classifier /sor/. E.g.

(i) /mai sor ga se/ (/sor ga se mai/)  
 Paddy (n) clf. part. num.  
 'Read of paddy'

(54) To denote blood, cloud and filth in conglomerated stage take the classifier /dakha/. e.g.

(i) /dakha se badamali/ (/badamali dakha se/)  
 clf. num. moss (n)  
 One conglomerate mosses

(i) /dakha se thui/ (/thui dakha se/)  
 clf. num. blood (n)  
 'One conglomerate blood'

(55) To denote year of publication and general action take classifier /ga/. E. g.

(i) /dihun ga se/

Edition            clf.        num.  
 'One edition'  
 (i)/za    ga        se/  
 Eat (v) clf        num.  
 'Eat once'

(56) To denote cluster of grown paddy the classifier /so / takes place (In simple sense /hor/ is a verb, although at this point functioned as particle like order). E.g.

/mai    so        se        gai hor/  
 Paddy clf.        num.    plant part.  
 'Plant one cluster of paddy'

(57) To denote piece of jackfruit the classifier /sob/ takes place. E.g.

/a        de. kxanthal sob se    hor/  
 I        nom. jackfruit clf. num. give/

'Give me a piece of jackfruit.'

Furthermore as mentioned above some classifiers to signify bundle different classifiers are applied depend in its size and shape. These are given below with Example:

(58) To denote bundle of paddy, bundle of thatch, bundle of broom, bundle of straw etc. takes the classifier /bunda/. E.g.

(i)/bunda                    se        mai/                    (/mai bunda se/)  
 clf.                    num.    paddy (n)  
 'One bundle of paddy'

(ii)/bunda                    se        hasib/                    (/hasib bunda se/)  
 Clf.                    num.    broom (n)  
 'One bundle of broom'

(59) To denote big bundle of paddy, thatch, straw etc. take the classifier /da gri/. E.g.

(i)/da gri        se        mai                    (/mai da gri se/)  
 clf.                    num.    paddy (n)  
 'One big bundle of paddy'

(ii)/da gri        nui        zigab/                    (/zigab da gri nui/)  
 clf.                    num.    straw (n)  
 'One big bundle of straw'

(iii)/da gri        nui        hasib/                    (/hasib da gri nui/)  
 clf.                    num.    broom (n)  
 'One big bundle of broom'

(iv)/da gri        se        thuri/                    (/thuri da gri se/)  
 clf.                    num.    thatch (n)  
 'One big bundle of thatch'

(60) To denote medium bundle of thatch, stick of jute, paddy etc. take the classifier /gaina/. E.g

(i)/gaina se        thuri/                    (/thuri gaina se/)  
 clf.        num.    thatch (n)  
 'One bundle of thatch'

(61) To denote bundle of book, leaf and other such type of noun take the classifier /zab/. e.g.

(i) zab    se        bizab                    (/bizab zab se/)  
 clf.        num.    book (n)  
 'One bundle of book'

(ii)/ zab nui phathui (/phathui zab nui/)  
 clf. num. betle leaf (n)  
 'Two bundle of betle leaf'

(62) To denote bundle of fuel, sugar cane etc. take classifier /athi/. E. g.

(i)/ athi nui bon/ (/bon athi nui/)  
 clf. num. fire wood (n)  
 'Two bundle of fire wood'

Resembling bundle, to signify group, different classifiers are applied depends in its size and shape. Examples are given below:

(63) To denote a group of animate human and non-human noun takes the classifier /hanaza/ and /duiui/. Following are the given some illustration:

(i)/ hanza se subu / (subu hanza se/)  
 clf. num. human (n)  
 'One group of people'

(ii)/ hanza se se gra (/se gra hanza se/)  
 clf. num. youth (n)  
 'One group of youth'

(iii)/ duiui se subu /  
 clf. num. human (n)  
 'One group of human'

(iv)/ hanza nui sikhla/ (/sikhla hanza nui/)  
 clf. two girl (n)  
 'Two group of girl'

(64) To denote flock of animate noun takes the classifier /phalui/. E. g.

(i)/ phalui se muisui/ (/muisui phalui se/)  
 clf. num. cow (n)  
 'A flock of cow'

(ii)/ phalui nui mui/ (/mui phalui nui/)  
 num. clf. deer (n)  
 'Two flock of deer'

Bodo is very rich in classifier, even though they applied a number of classifiers without doubt and hesitation even they have knowledge as loan word. Some examples are given below.

(65) To denote pair in general take the classifiers /zora/ (loan word). E. g.

(i)/ zora se pharui/ (/pharui zora se/)  
 pair num. pigeon (n)  
 'A pair of pigeon'

(66) To denote piece or patch of cloths, meat, fish, bamboo, wood, etc. take the classifier /thukhra/ (loan word).

(i)/ thukhra se do pha / (do pha thukhra se/)  
 clf. num. wood (n)  
 'One piece of wood'

(ii)/ thukhra nui goi/ (/goi thukhra nui/)  
 Clf. num. betle-nut (n)

'Two piece of betle-nut'

(67)Noun denoting determines sheaves, of betel-leaves, bundle of paddy-stalks etc. take the classifier /mutha/ (loan word). E. g.

(i)/ mutha se mai/ (/mai mutha se/)  
clf. num. paddy (n)  
'A stalk of paddy'

(68)The classifiers /hali/ in Bodo is used for the ploughing bulls pair of animals like cow, buffalo, goat horse, elephant etc. Examples are given below with illustration.

(i) /halise mʊsʊʊ/ (/mʊsʊʊ hali se/)  
Clf. num. cow (n)  
'One pair of cow'

Once more Bodo has fastidious counting method in numeral like /se, nʊi, tham, brʊi, ba/ etc. They count up nicely up to /ba/ means 'five', and classifier /ma/ is supplemented before numeral /ba/, i.e. "/ma ba/", after /ba/ "five" /soi/ is automatically comes out in their vocalizations without hesitation and classifier /ta/ is supplemented by numeral /soi/ i.e. /soi ta/ "six" but interesting is that it never occur before numeral. It happens only because of influence of other language and language contact. A few numbers of examples are given below.

(69)The classifier /ta/ applied in Bodo to denote animate and inanimate noun, illustration are given below.

(i)/soi ta maʊzi/  
Six clf. cat (n)  
"six cats"

(ii)/dos ta laothi/  
Ten clf. stick (n)  
"Ten sticks"

(70)The classifier /zʊn/ or /zon/ applied in Bodo to denote human noun. It occurs only with human noun, Examples are given below.

(i)/noi zʊn/zon alasi/  
Nine (num) clf. guest (n)  
"Nine guests"

## 8.0.CONCLUSION:

Classifiers in Bodo are monosyllabic structure; most of classifiers in Bodo's are single verbs or noun, after addition numerals it occupies as classifiers. The classifiers /athi, phalw, so, khor, dor,/ are neither noun nor verb, these are pure classifiers in Bodo. Basically these are exploiting to denote group or cluster depending on its size and shape. It should noticed that Bodo have 70 classifiers. In Bodo, classifiers followed and preceded the noun, there have no difference, and it is free variation. Classifier can occurs after numerals 10th only because of other languages influence. A number of loan words are also applied in Bodo because of influence of other language and language contact i. e. Indo Aryan language family. Though the present study is not extensive in scope, it would still be a very great help to both the linguists as well to those who learn Bodo language as first language or second language.

Abbreviations & symbols  
Clf-classifier  
De-dative  
n. Noun  
Num-numeral  
Part. Particle  
v. Verb root  
/ʊ/-high-back unrounded vowel phoneme  
/w/- bilabial voiced semi-vowel  
/j/-palatal voiced semi-vowel



/    velar voiced nasal

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