Dissertations of MA Linguistics and Language Technology Students, 2014-16 batch:

1) Name of the student: Bloomee Kalita
   Title of the dissertation: ***Event Schemas: The Case of Assamese***
   Supervisor: Prof. Gautam K Borah.

Grammar is a way of expressing our recurring experiences of the world, which are called events. Events are either events of the material world; the psychological world; or the force dynamic world. Accordingly, we have mental schemas of these three categories of events, which are called event schemas.

Situations in the material world include occurrence, location and motion of things and possessions, all of which include the role theme. Situations in the psychological world comprises of people's emotional, perceptual and mental experiences. This involves the roles of an experiencer and a theme. Situations in the force-dynamic world include action schema, self-motion schema, caused motion schema and transfer schema. All of these schemas involve an agent from which the energy flows and a theme, goal or recipient.

In Assamese the material world is constructed mainly with the copulas *hɔ* 'be'; *as* 'exist' (relatively temporary); and also *tʰak* 'exist' (relatively permanent). In our analysis, we have also observed that Assamese has an ingressive progressive aspect, which is *–is*. Also we saw that in a copulative construction the action involved is not perceived as a typical action (to exist is not a typical action) and thus the use of *hɔ* 'be' is optional in Assamese. This is an evidence supporting the view of Cognitive Linguistics that grammar is not an extra human construct, but very much a part of our cognition.

Situations in the psychological world include people's emotional, perceptual and mental experiences. The emotion schema describes the emotional state or process a human being experiences, as in *I am afraid of tigers.* However in Assamese two types of constructions are possible for the English alternative construction, with the verbs *kɔr* 'do' (used with nominative subject) and *lag* 'come and touch'(used with genitive subject). Although both the sentences on the surface have the same meaning, they differ in terms of the control of the

experiencer. The experiencer's control in the nominative construction is more than the genitive. Since the degree of control in both the sentences differ from each another, their grammars also are different. Thus, the subject *mɔi*, a nominative subject changes to *mur*, a genitive subject. We have also observed that in Assamese *lag* 'come and touch' and *pa* 'get' are the two most typical emotional verbs. Perception and Cognition are closely related to emotion. The perception/ cognition schema describes an experiencer's perceptual or mental awareness of a thing and involves the roles of an experiencer and a theme. The close connection between perception and cognition is reflected in words which mean both 'perception' and 'cognition, such as *dek^h* 'see'; *budʒ* 'understand'; *xun* 'hear', etc.

Situations in the Force-Dynamic world are energetic. They are brought about by a human agent or another causal entity and include actions, self-motions, caused motions and transfers. The action schema describes events in which a human agent deliberately and responsibly acts upon another entity, the theme. The agent generates energy and the theme is affected by the energy. Body parts and instruments may serve as energy transmitters within the energy chain. In Assamese, non-human entities may also be viewed as energy sources and coded as the subject of the sentence, such as natural forces, causes, means and instruments. A low degree of energy is generated by enabling conditions, which are expressed by the middle constructions as in, *pentue nilikhe* 'The pen won't write.'

The self motion schéma describes an agent's own initiated motion and is typically conflated with aspects of 'manner' as in jumping or hurrying.

The transfer schema describes events in which an agent passes a thing to a recipient, who becomes its new owner. In Assamese a transfer can be expressed by the ditransitive construction as in, *rame xitak kitapk^hɔn dile* 'Ram gave the book to Sita' or *rame kitapk^hɔn xitak dile* 'Ram gave Sita the book.' Both the sentences are normally interpreted as having the same meanings but while the former focuses on the recipient *xita-k* 'Sita-ACC' which is expressed as an indirect object, the latter focuses on the thing being transferred. The ditransitive construction also applies to beneficiaries as in *mɔi ɔlɔp pɔisa pɔt^hai disu (tumar babe)* 'I have sent some money (for you).' Beneficiaries can be coded as adjuncts of transitive sentences. The transfer verb *give,* lastly, is widely used to describe metaphorical transfer as in, *xi mɔk eta budd^hi dile* 'He has given me an idea.'

The current dissertation is an attempt at a study of the grammatical constructions expressing the event schemas in contemporary Assamese.

2) Name of the student: Bediskiva Nath
   Title of the dissertation: *Quantifier in the Karbi Language*
   Supervisor: Dr Pramod Kumar

This dissertation discusses about different types of quantifiers in the Karbi language. I have made an attempt to find out different types of quantifiers that exist in the Karbi language. I tried to find out which quantifier occurs with which types of nouns. I also discussed about which quantifiers occurs with countable noun and uncountable and which quantifiers occurs with both countable and uncountable noun and +human, -human, +animate, -animate nouns. In this dissertation I also explain the typological features of Karbi. In this part I discussed about the phonological, morphological, syntactic and typological features of Karbi language. I have found eighteen consonant sounds and seven vowel sounds. I have also explained their minimal pairs, and the positions where they occur in a word. In morphology, I have discussed about their affixation. In syntactic feature I have discussed about their word order. In this work I have collected data by adopting questionnaire method. I have done my field work in Karbi Anglong district, Taukhadi and Dikhleng villages. I took my data from three informants. There are very little work that has been done on Karbi. According to Linda Konnerth (2014) this is an agglutinating verb final language. I have also found that it is an agglutinating language which follows SOV word order. According to my research I have found that the pattern of Karbi quantifier is Noun-Quantifier. As it is a verb final language, scrambling is possible. Therefore, sometimes quantifiers occur before the noun. But when this happens, the Genitive or Possessive marker *{a-}* added to the head noun which the quantifier modifies. Their numeral system is somehow different from other languages.

3) Name of the student: Chandana Mahanta
   Title of the dissertation: ***The Motion Verbs and the Motion Event Constructions in Assamese***
   Supervisor: Prof. Gautam K. Borah

This dissertation is an attempt at a study of the motion verbs and the motion event constructions in Assamese from a Cognitive Linguistics point of view. Thus, it tries to find out whether Assamese comes under the category of satellite framed language or verb framed language, a fundamental division of language in the framework.

Along with this typology put forwarded by Leonard Talmy, some other aspects of the motion events will also be investigated in this work. These are namely, the concept of co-event, its relation to the motion event such as Precursion, Enablement, Onset causation, Extended causation, Concomitance, Concurrent result and Subsequence, Types of Motion - the Real or Actual Motion and Fictive Motion, Types of Fictive Motion such as Emanation Path, Frame-Relative Motion, Advent Path, Coextension Path or Coverage Path and Access path, The Cognitive mechanisms behind the fictive motion expressions such as Conceptual Blending, Perspective State or the scanning mode and Metonymy.

4) Name of the student: Chutikan Sae Wang
   Title of the dissertation: ***Numeral Classifiers of Hmong***
   Supervisor: Prof. Gautam K. Borah

This dissertation is an attempt to study the numeral classifier system of Hmong, a member of the Miao or Hmongic branch of the Miao-Yao (Hmong-Mien) language family by adopting the Cognitive Linguistics approach. The data collected for this dissertation are the White Hmong variety from Phayao and Chiang Rai Provinces, Thailand; and I, myself, the author of this work am a White Hmong native speaker. Even though there is some prior work on Hmong numeral classifiers by Nomoto et.el. (2011), Bisang (1993) and Jaisser (1987), as a native speaker, I would like to explore it as a preliminary work from a native speaker's point of view.

Even though, it has been claimed that there are three classifier systems in Hmong language; numeral classifiers, noun classifiers, and genitive classifiers, due to the limitation of the dissertation, the focus here is Hmong sortal classifiers (a type of numeral classifiers). The findings in this dissertation are as follows;

1. It is found that there are sixteen classifiers; two animate classifiers, twelve classifiers by shape, one classifier by function, and one classifier for thought and sound (legend, song, etc.).

2. Based on the heterogeneity of the class, there are two types of classifiers in Hmong: specific and general. The specific classifiers are *lub* '3dmsnl', *tsob* 'plant', and *rab* 'instrument' and the general classifier is *tus* 'animate [-human]'

3. The choice of classifiers in Hmong depends on either the shape or the function the speaker wants to focus on.

4. There are two definite determiners; *nov* 'this' and *ntawv* 'that', taken from the locational deixis; *nov* 'near the speaker' and *ntawv* 'near the addressee'.

5. There are three structures for singular quantification: (CLF N) 'anaphoric referent', (one CLF N) 'used to introduce a referent', and (CLF N nov/ntaw) 'a particular referent'

6. There are two structures for imprecise quantification; the sequence occurrence of two numerals with the classifier and the noun (the numerals in the sequence can only be from one to nine), and the combination of the numerals such as ten, twenty, thirty, etc. with the adjective *tawm* 'around, more, approximate' is used to indicate the approximate amount.

5) Name of the student: Dinkur Borah
   Title of the dissertation: ***Case Marking on Core Arguments in Assamese***
   Supervisor: Prof. Madhumita Barbora

In this dissertation entitled "Case Marking on Core arguments in Assamese", I have made an attempt to discuss the structure of the Subject and Object Case in Assamese. The functions of Structural Case of the Assamese language will be the primary importance for the discussion of this dissertation. The Case marking system in Assamese language and propositional

functions in different contexts – their syntactic analysis with the help of Case theory and the implications proposed in Minimalist Approach will be the analytical discussions of this dissertation which I will try to justify with some empirical evidences. At the very beginning of first chapter, I have given a brief introduction of the Assamese language - its geographical area, development of the form of language and its orthography and population. I have also discussed the typological features of the Assamese language to some extent. In the second chapter, I have given a detailed description of the theoretical approaches of Generative Grammar among which are relevant to the Case theory. In the third chapter, the morpho-syntactic features of Assamese Case systems such as Nominative-Accusative, Genitive, Ergative are discussed. The most important chapter of this dissertation is the fourth one where I have tried to explore the evidences of Case system of Assamese with the help of Minimalist Approach. Though, Assamese Case is assumed as morphologically marked but there we have got some evidences where it explored that they are not restricted in the sense of carrying individual meaning or in simple we can say that no rigid uniformity is maintained. Consequently, in the fifth chapter I have concluded this dissertation.

6) Name of the student: Dulumoni Das
   Title of the dissertation: ***Variation Study: A comparison between the Standard Assamese variety and Barpetiya variety***
   Supervisor: Dr Arup Kumar Nath

The area of my field study is Keotkuchi village, in the district of Barpeta. In order to collect data for my dissertation, I have prepared a questionnaire and then tried to meet some people belonging to different age groups. Also, I tried to collect some recording clips and most of my data are from the village Keotkuchi (Barpeta-Bausi area). Some of my data are also from certain resources, that is, books and internet; and being a native speaker of the variety, I also tried to put my observation by giving some of the data.

In this dissertation, an attempt has been made to show the differences between the Barpetiya variety and the Standard variety of Assamese. It is a comparative study between both the varieties. Along with this a socio-cultural sketch has also been provided. The main objective of my dissertation is to show the differences found in the Barpetiya variety of Assamese in terms of phonology and morphology. Another area of interest is to find the markers and stereotypes as well as social variable and linguistic variable used in the Barpetiya variety by

different age groups of the native speakers of the variety. An attempt has also been made to find the attitude and loyalty of the native speakers towards their variety.

It has been found that the Barpetiya variety differs from the Standard variety of Asaamese in terms of phonological as well as morphological levels. The variety also possesses an intonation which is totally different from that of the Standard variety. Also there are certain markers and stereotypes that are available only in the Barpetiya variety.

7) Name of the student: Jayashree Saikia
   Title of the dissertation: ***Tense and Aspect in Hajong***
   Supervisor: Dr Pramod Kumar

Hajong is a small community of Assam. They have migrated from Bangladesh in the year 1964. This group is a very small community found in some places of Assam, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh and West Bengal in India and the Mymensingh district in Bangladesh.

Hajong falls under the Indo-Aryan language family. This language is of SOV word structure. Hajong people use Assamese script to write their language and it is being supplanted by the Assamese language in India. They have very few speakers compared to other communities in Assam. Moreover, many of them are switching their language to Assamese. They are forgetting their language and perhaps in due course of time the language will be extinct. The surname, the community and the people are Hajong in general. This is a study of Hajong language based on my fieldwork in the village 'Kodom Hajong Gaon'.

The Hajongs have their own language. According to some scholars, the language that is spoken by the Hajong people is *Jharuwa*. According to Mr. Makenjee, in the census report of 1881, only 581 Hajong people out of 3789 people speak that language. In some provinces the Hajong language is somewhat similar to Kamrupi and Bengali sub language. It is also somewhat similar to Bengali mixed Goalpara dialect.

This dissertation focuses on the description of the tense system and the aspectual categories of the Hajong language spoken in Assam in the Lakhimpur district. No other varieties are found in Lakhimpur district, but there are some dialectal differences in other districts of Assam. Typologically, Hajong is an inflecting language with SOV word order. In my study, I have found that the language has twenty five consonants and eight vowels. It has been found

that Hajong marks the distinction between all the three tenses. It has three clear divisions of tense; past, present and future tense. There is no morpheme to express present tense unlike past and future. The past and the future tense are marked grammatically; on the other hand the present tense takes the help of some other strategies. Again within the past tense the speakers do not use different morphemes to indicate immediate, intermediate or distant past. In this language agreement is found for both first person singular and plural; and third person singular and plural only in present tense. In aspectual category, it is seen that the language marks only progressive aspect grammatically. To refer to habituality the language uses lexical items. However, this dissertation may not include all the aspects of the language. It is not possible to capture all the aspects related to the topic. Still efforts have been made to capture all the aspectual categories and to draw out the tense system of the language.

8) Name of the student: Kashmiri Deka
   Title of the dissertation: ***Imperative in Bodo***
   Supervisor: Dr Pramod Kumar

Bodo is a Tibeto-Burman language mainly spoken in Assam in the north-eastern part of Assam. It exhibits an interesting composite of behaviour in imperative structures. This paper seeks to examine four imperative markers found in the language namely, permissive suffix /-ni/ and /-hɯ/, /-tʰɯŋ/ marker for wishing or permitted and /ɔnanɯi/ marker for the request and some honorary verbs in Bodo.

Some examples are provided below-

(1) zɯŋɯ dɯikʰɯɔ luŋni

    zɯŋ-ɯ   dɯi-kʰɯɔ   luŋ-ni

    3PL-NOM water-ACC   drink-IMP

    'Let us drink the water'.

(2) aŋ dɔrzakʰɯɔ pʰaŋni

    aŋ   dɔrza-kʰɯɔ   pʰaŋ-ni

1sg   door-ACC   shut/close-IMP

'Let me shut/close the door'.

In the above examples we find the suffix /-ni/ which acts as a permissive where it occurs only with the first person and third person singular number.

(3) bisɯrkʰɯɔ pʰitʰa zanɯhɯ

    bi-sɯr-kʰɯɔ pʰitʰa za-nɯ-hɯ

    3-PL-ACC   cake   eat-DAT-IMP

    'Let them eat the cake'.

(4) bikʰɯɔ be kʰamanikʰɯɔ maɔnɯhɯ

    bi-kʰɯɔ   be   kʰamani-kʰɯɔ   maɔ-nɯ-hɯ

    3sg-ACC this   work-ACC   do-DAT-IMP

    'Let him/her do this work'.

In the above examples (3) and (4), we find the suffix /-hɯ/ which has occurred only in the third person singular and plural marker and it also acts as the permissive only in the third person.

(5) bijɯ gabɯn tʰaŋtʰɯŋ

    bi-jɯ   gabɯn   tʰaŋ-tʰɯŋ

    3sg-NOM   tomorrow   go-IMP

    'Let him/her go tomorrow'.

(6) bijɯ mɯsani kʰatʰiaɔ tʰaŋtʰɯŋ

    bi-jɯ   mɯsani   kʰatʰi-aɔ   tʰaŋ-tʰɯŋ

    3sg-NOM   tiger   near-LOC   go-IMP

    'Let him/her go near the tiger'.

In the above two examples (5) and (6) it is seen that the suffix /-tʰɯŋ/ which express as the wishing or permitted and it has occurred only in the third person singular number. The suffix /-tʰɯŋ/ includes imperative with the overt subjects.

(7) ɔnanɯi siri tʰa

    ɔnanɯi   siri   tʰa

IMP   quiet   stay

    'Please keep quiet'.

(8) ɔnanɯi bejaɔ pʰɯi

    ɔnanɯi   bejaɔ   pʰɯi

    IMP   here   come

    'Please come here'.

In the examples of (7) and (8), we see that the morpheme / ɔnanɯi/ which is used for the request something to someone and this morpheme is used only for the elder ones for the request.

   (9) hɔr and hɔrlai

In the example (9), the verb 'hɔr' is the root form means 'to give' and the verb 'hɔrlai' which is used in the honorary. The root form of the verb is used for the younger ones to order in polite and the honorary verb used for the elder ones to request something.

   (10) za,zadɯ,zasai

In example (10), here the three verbs where the root verb is 'za' which means 'to eat' and the other two verbs are the free variables where /-dɯ/ and /-sai/ are the honorary markers to request elder to do something.

This dissertation will describe the mood of the speakers and how the speaker is viewed in the mood i.e. imperative mood and also focuses on the markers of the imperative.

9) Name of the student: Krishna Borah
    Title of the dissertation: ***Polysemy and Polysemy in Munda***
    Supervisor: Prof. Gautam K. Borah

This paper is an attempt to present a cognitive explanation of polysemy as exhibited by Munda nouns, adjectives, verbs and postposition. Take for instance the following examples:

The basic meaning of /sab/ is 'to catch'

 (a) *hɔri bolke sabkedi*

     hɔri   bol-ke   sab-ked-i

hari   ball-CLF   catch-PST-3

'Hari caught the ball.'

Extended meaning of /sab/

(b) *ram saŋkat gʰeru sabkedi*

    ram   saŋkat   gʰeru   sab-ked-i

    ram   problem   surrounded   catch-PST-3

'Ram was surrounded by problems.'

(c) *ram monke sab zagao kai*

    ram   mon-ke   sab   zagao   kai

    ram   mind-CLF   catch   keep   NEG

'Ram couldn't control his mind.'

The verb /sab/ 'to catch' incorporates the sense of seizing something which has been thrown by someone else as seen in (a) By extended use as in (b) it means that he is surrounded by problems and now he is unable of coming out of it. In (c) the verb /sab/ means unable to capture his mind which was moving in some other direction.

In the current paper we make an attempt at a detailed study of polysemy in Munda.

10) Name of the student: Krishna Hazarika
   Title of the dissertation: **Adverb in Relation to X bar Theory**
   Supervisor: Prof. Madhumita Barbora

This dissertation puts an attempt to discuss a detail study of Adverb in Assamese. The present analysis is based on the Minimalist Approach with the aims of describing the structure of adverb found in the language. It attempts to show that adverb constitutes an important lexical category in the morphological structure of Assamese as well as for the syntactic study of the language.

An adverb is a word that is placed with the verb or, in semantic terms, modifies verbs, adjectives and other adverbs. It includes words with different lexical meanings. The purpose of this dissertation is to investigate issues concerning the syntax of adverbs in Assamese. My first task will be to examine how these adverbs are distributed in the clauses. After identifying their positions, I will briefly discuss the structure of the clause in Minimalist Program. My aim will be to provide structural positions for adverbs that will account for the data presented. Finally, I will make a brief mention to subject-oriented adverbs and I will speculate about an analysis for them.

The study of current work is written within the framework of Minimalist Program. The Minimalist Approach is a descriptive framework for describing the sentence structure of a language. In Minimalist Program the functional heads are assumed to have the features to check the lexical item; when the head c-commands them. The lexical items get checked when the functional head have uninterpretable features. This checking occurs under c-command relation.

11) Name of the student: Manas Jyoti Bora
    Title of the dissertation: **The Meaning and Grammar of Space in Assamese**
    Supervisor: Prof. Gautam K Borah

This dissertation is an attempt at a description of the meaning and grammar of space in the standard variety of Assamese from a cognitive linguistics perspective. We see two types of roles in a sentence: core and peripheral. Non-participant roles do not belong to the core but to the peripheral. These non-participant roles are called 'adjunct'. They do not participate in event schemas. These peripheral roles describe the notions of *space, time, circumstance, cause, reason, and purpose.* Next to the experience of our bodies, our interaction with objects in physical space is among the most basic experiences. Space is one of the most basic and tangible domains of experience. It is characterized by an elaborate system of spatial relations. By metaphorically extending the senses of spatial nominals, the domains of time and other abstract domains are conceived of and expressed in a variety of space-like ways. The analysis of the spatial nominals and their motivated extensions amply demonstrates the pervasiveness

of conceptual metaphor in grammar. The notion-based explanation of the non-participant roles is relatively new.

The conception of space is expressed quite differently in Assamese. It is expressed chiefly by case markers and spatial nominals and also some post-positions. However, the spatial nominals denote more specific relationships than case endings. In the current work, I am relying on the insights of Günter Radden and René Dirven about space and extensions of space. The second chapter discusses about the physical space, and the third and fourth chapters are about temporal and abstract space respectively.

12) Name of the student: Murchana Lopamudra
      Title of the dissertation: **Morphophonemic Change and Morphological Productivity in Assam Kurux**
      Supervisor: Dr Arup Kumar Nath

The Kurux language is a North-Dravidian language spoken by approximately 1.5 million people across India and some parts of Bangladesh. Another name for the Kurux language is Oraon. The main concentration of Kurux people is found mainly in Ranchi, Chota Nagpur, Bhagalpur and Jharkhand but there are also some pockets of this language in Assam, Orissa and Bangladesh. This dissertation mainly focuses on the Kurux variety spoken in Assam or Assam Kurux. There are many Kurux speakers in Assam; most of them live in the tea-districts as they work in the tea-gardens. In the districts of Nagaon, Sonitpur, Dibrugarh, Duliajaan and Kokrajhar there are small pockets of these people. I conducted my research in Nagaon where my field was Rangamati village. Due to the prolonged contact situation with Assamese and its neighbouring languages Assam Kurux has developed many changes regarding its phonetic and syntactic inventories. This language has been pronounced as a 'vulnarable' language by UNESCO.

This dissertation has two main subjects. First, it investigates and describes the morphophonemic changes that occur within the language. A morphophonemic rule has the form of a phonological rule, but is restricted to a particular morphological environment. Morphophonemic variation occurs at morpheme boundaries and it involves sounds that are associated with separate phonemes. The study examines the different types of internal as well

as external morphophonemic rules. The internal morphophonemic changes are more in number than the external morphophonemic changes in Assam Kurux. Here, these changes are explained with various suitable examples.

The second aspect of the dissertation is that it focuses upon the various degrees of morphological productivity of Assam Kurux. Productivity is the process by which the native speakers of a language are able to attach new morpheme to an already existing root, sometimes forming a new lexeme. This dissertation makes an effort to show the various factors contributing to productivity. It also tries to show the restrictions over a morpheme that makes a morpheme less productive and shows the productivity rate among different inflectional and derivational morphemes. The productivity of a morpheme is measured in a scale of fully productive, intermediately productive and less productive. A chart has also been made to show the productivity rate of various morphemes distinctively.

13) Name of the student: Parag Kumar Deka
Title of the dissertation: **Lexicography in the Rabha Language: with Special reference to a few selected Semantic Domains**
Supervisor: Dr Arup Kumar Nath

This dissertation deals with the lexicography in the Rabha language. The purpose of this study is to show how rich the language is in terms of lexical items and words. The semantic domain plays a fundamental role in this study. A semantic domain investigates the possible words that are semantically related to each other within its semantic fields. And also looks for the synonyms, homonyms words in the language. In this study, seven semantic domains are selected namely, universe, person, physical action, daily life, state, grammar and social behaviour to see the usage of the words which they use in their day to day communication.

The Rabha language belongs to the Tibeto Burman language family. The Rabha language consists of three dialects, Rongdani, Maitori and Kocha dialect. The Rongdani and Maitori dialect are mutually intelligible but Kocha dialect is not mutually intelligible to both of them. The study is done on the Rongdani dialect. Rongdani dialect is the standard dialect among other Rabha dialects. This dialect is rich in literature. Most of the Rabha people speak Assamese. These are called Pati Rabha who lost their language and adopted Assamese as their mother tongue. The study shows the usage of the words relating to those particular

semantic domains and how the Rongdani speakers use words of semantic domains in the different contexts of different situations and how semantically related words function differently in different context in their day to day communication. The study also investigates those words that are originally there in the language but nowadays they use borrowed Assamese words in their daily communication. Again, this study investigates that if there is possibility of having distinct semantic domains due to geographical variations. In this study I mainly focus on the usage of semantically related words used in their communication that falls under certain specific semantic domains to compile the Rabha dictionary.

14) Name of the student: Pooja Saikia
    Title of the dissertation: **A Minimalist Approach to Small Clause of the Assamese language**
    Supervisor: Prof. Madhumita Barbora

The topic of my dissertation is '*A Minimalist Approach to Small Clause of the Assamese language.*' In the paper, I have first of all discussed briefly the characteristics of the Assamese language, which is a head-final language which exhibits both inflecting and agglutinating features. The evidence has been provided that the pro-drop language exhibits tense feature, not just by inflecting tense morpheme but also sometimes by just the subject-agreement marker. The paper next provides an introduction to the Minimalist Framework, with regards to small clause; where a brief Pre-Minimalist proposal of Stowell (1980, 1983) and Aarts (1992), among many has been provided; and then the Minimalist Approach: Levels of Representation, Checking Theory and Economy of Representation. The Lexical Correspondence Axiom (1994) which says that '*X asymmetrically c-commands Y iff X c-commands Y and Y does not c-commands X*' has been introduced and then the Phase Theory of Cyclicity and then finally the DP-Hypothesis.

In the later part of the paper I have discussed the morpho-syntactic features of the Assamese language, where I have discussed the Agreement features of Assamese and then the de-verbal verbs. Here I have brought into the context of the works of Barbora (2001) and Haddad (2006): which says the markers /-i/, /-a/ and /-ib/ or /-ibo/ are the deverbalisers; out of which /-a/ is gerundive whereas /-i/, /-ib/ or /-ibo/ are more like the infinitival.

In the final part of the paper it has been found out that the Assamese small clause is not the verb-less clause but the clause with a de-verbal verb, or to be clearer, a nominalized clause. It has been found that when the small clause is formed by an infinitival, the clause occurs in a structure typically similar to the finite TP structures in Assamese. But when the clause is formed by the gerundive, I found that it becomes the counterpart of English relative clause and hence it may be so that a TP occurs in the DP, and this TP is followed by AspP [Hockett (1958)] and most interestingly it occurs in a structure similar to the English TP, in terms of headedness.

There are areas that have been discussed extensively in the dissertation; since it is a short time project, it is only an attempt to raise the issue of my work.

15) Name of the student: **Punpun Basumatary**
    Title of the dissertation: **Lexicography in Bodo: A Descriptive Analysis**
    Supervisor: Dr Arup Kumar Nath

Bodo language is the offshoot of Bodo Language family which is the sub family of greater Bodo-Naga group. Again it is the sub branch of the Assamese Burmese group which is a branch of Tibeto-Burman subfamily of the Sino-Tibetan Language family.

"Lexicography is the art of practice of making, editing, building and writing dictionaries". Through this study on Lexicography, I have dealt with the issues related to dictionary making, highlighting the need for it to analyse the usage of the concerned language exemplifying the aspects of the language. I have used the software Fieldwork Language Explorer or Flex which is designed for language documentation and analysis.

Two methods were followed for data collection- primary approach and secondary approach. In Primary approach, data were collected through interview method, I prepared a questionnaire, used pictorials for better illustrations of the questions. In secondary approach, data were collected through available books and e-resources.

A dictionary can be very useful in our day to day life. It can be the redeemer of a language because people can rely upon dictionary as an authentic source. It serves as a bank where one would find the very essence of the language and its technicalities imbided in a detailed manner which one can turn to. The dictionary emerges as a saviour in case of languages like

Bodo, whose unique features are often overshadowed by the dominating languages in the nation sweeping in along with developments.

The dissertation tries to highlight the importance of dictionary when it comes to documenting a language and in this case the Bodo language. It has also made efforts to display the grammatical features of the language that set it apart from the dominating languages and contribute to the formulation of a distinct identity.

The purpose of this dissertation is to write Lexicography in Bodo language, this study shows how rich the language is in terms of literature, lexical items and words. It puts forward different types of synonyms, homonyms and homophonous words found in the language. My paper focuses on the Lexicography of Sonabari dialect i.e. standard dialect of Bodo Language.