CHAPTER - IV
CONCLUSION
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4. This analysis basically deals mainly on the formation of words in Manipuri and the classification of the words in the language. This is an area which is very important but least emphasis is given by the linguists working on the language. It may be mentioned here that it is not very simple as they appear. A careful examination of the behavior of the words and the constituents which composes them along the variants is necessary. It is also necessary to find out that these forms are actually allomorphs or are they homophonous forms. Further the attention shall be given on semantics which will lead to show correct and equivalent gloss. But the difficulty of finding exact equivalent cannot be avoided; hence some of the glosses shown in the analysis are near equivalent.

4.1. At the outset in the chapter on Introduction some basic ideas of the typological and genealogical classification of the languages have been explained in a nutshell thereby giving an idea of the different types of languages and the different language families of the world. Further, there is discussion about the people and the language. The
probability of changing the name of the language from Meeteiron/Meiteiron to Manipuri has also been incorporated. So far our knowledge goes, it is University of Calcutta which introduced the language as a Major Vernacular at the Matriculation Examination under the name Manipuri. It may also be recalled that the earlier name of Manipur was Meitrabak, which is derived from Meitei ‘name of the people’ and Leibak ‘land’ and together it means ‘the land of the Meitei People’.

There is also some information on the status of the language and its dialects. Once again it is repeated here that the language is not planned at all and at the same time nothing has been done in this direction. This cannot be done by an individual. It is already high time the State Government shall take care of this vital problem which has become a hurdle in the development of the language including the revival of the archaic Manipuri original old script. The language is already in the eight schedule of the Indian Constitution but the State Government has not been able to extract the benefit of it from the Centre. The Language Planning Cell of the Manipur Government in the
Directorate of Education has failed miserably because of lack of experience and knowledge as well as competency.

The Language cell shall have proposed for the development of the Unicode Font of the Meitei Mayek, Machine translation and Script transfer, Development of vocabularies, Handbooks for learning the language by outsiders, Standardization of the spelling system and writing, Codification of the language, identification of the dialects of the language, Development of the Corpora, Preparation of Monolingual and Multilingual Dictionaries both in print and electronic media, and various others necessary for the development of the language.

The thesis has two major chapters. One is on the formation of words and the other is on the classification of the words. In the chapter on formation of words, the different processes of word formation have been explained. It is noticed that there are three major processes of word formation in Manipuri. They are affixation, derivation and compounding. The three processes have been explained and
illustrated giving adequate amount of Examples from the language. In the affixation the two major processes i.e. prefixing and suffixing have been dealt with. Thus, the words formed with prefixes and the words formed with suffixes have been shown. Infixed is not found in the language although there are some misconceptions on this by some scholars. Hence infix has been illustrated with examples and properly explained.

4.2. Since affixation has been a process of word formation, it is felt that a distinction shall be made between roots and affixes. Hence it is explained in detail. In this process a large number of prefixes and suffixes have been listed and their occurrences have been illustrated. Some of the affixes perform the syntactic function but they are not discussed here as this is beyond the purview of this thesis. Further, the structural constituents i.e. the different morphs which are found in the word have been shown. The Principles of Nida in the Identification of morphemes have been always kept in mind whenever the morphemes in the language are identified. The changes occurred in the morphemes -ge ~ -ke, -de ~ -te, -re ~ -le, etc. to -ge ~ -ke, -de ~ -te, -re ~ -le,
-rə- ~ -lə-, etc. respectively, have not been included in the present analysis.

There are cases of derivation in which some changes the class and in most cases they maintain their class. Thus the two types of derivation have been discussed. The class changing derivations are very few. Most of the changes are from verb forms or roots to noun after adding the prefix e- and/or the suffix -be ~ -pe.

In the discussion on Compounding the different types of compounds are identified and discussed. There are compounds with more than two roots. Again, there are hyphenated compounds also. They are illustrated with adequate examples. In all stages of the analysis the identification of the morphemes and the forms or the particles are given special attention. There are cases of reduplication but it is not discussed in detail. Thus the various types and processes of word formation are discussed and explained in the analysis.

4.3 Coming to the chapter on the classification of the words, the different classes of the words are identified and also discussed. The
distinguishing factor of the nouns and the verbs in the language are the affixes. Hence sets of affixes for Nouns and Verbs have been identified and listed. Those forms which can take the noun prefixes and suffixes are classified as nouns while those forms which can take the verbal suffixes are regarded as verbs. It is important to mention here that nouns cannot take the verbal suffixes and verbs cannot take the noun affixes. However, in the case of derivation the suffix -bèle ~ -pèle is added after the verb root or the verb form. Once this suffix is added none of the verb suffixes can be added to it, only the noun suffixes can be affixed. These are explained and illustrated in the analysis.

In this manner the words are classified into Pure Nouns, Derived Nouns, Pronouns, Verbs, Adjectives, Adverbs, Numerals, Conjunctions, Exclamatory and Onomatopoetic. But there is difficulty in maintaining the above word classes because the same form function modifies a noun or a verb and some modifiers function as nouns according to the position which occupies in the utterance or the sentence. These issues were explained and illustrated in detail in the analysis. Therefore, the term substantives have been used to include the Nouns (Pure and Derived), Adjectives, Adverbs and the Ordinal numerals. Thus, the
words in the language are grouped into the major classes Substantives, Pronouns, Numerals, Conjunctions, Exclamations and Onomatopoetic.

The prepositions, post-positions, etc. which are available in other languages are not found in the language. Hence they are not included in the analysis.

Finally, it is concluded that the words in Manipuri are formed in three processes viz., Affixation, Compounding and Derivation. Since the affixes play the vital role in the morphology as well as the Syntax of the language the understanding of the roots and the different categories of affixes is a must. Hence, the different types of roots and different types of affixes are shown with examples. Further, considering the various complicacies with the clear cut demarcation of the form classes the term substantives have been employed to cover the Nouns (Pure and Derived), Modifiers (Adjectives, Adverbs and Ordinal Numerals), Pronouns, Verbs, Numerals, Conjunctions, Exclamatory and Onomatopoetic. These are the main findings put together in the present analysis.
Footnotes:

1 & 2 Many people including linguists write Mejlo or Mejllon disregarding the phonological rules of the language and ignoring the pause between Mejel or Meel and Ion. It is required to consider the change of // into /Ł/ in intervocalic positions in Manipuri.

3 Verb here means verb roots.

4 Both the verbs are roots only.