Noun Phrases and Nominalization

Nouns and Verbs

Nouns, Verbs and Adjectives

"Adjectives" in Chinese

Adjectives in Boro

Adjectives in Boro have almost the same distribution as nouns:

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nwng-bw sakri　　　　*ang-bw*　　*sakri*

you-also　civil.servant　I-also　　civil.servant

'You're a government worker, and so am I.' (*Ungrateful Son*)

khanai　　*gwlao*

hair　　　　long

'[Her] hair is long.' (*Mirror*)

Adjectives in Boro

ang   sakri   nong-a

I   civil.servant   be-NEG

'I am not a government worker.'

khanai   gwlao   nong-a

hair   long   be-NEG

'[Her] hair is not long.'

Adjectives in Boro

1) *malai-baidi*   *nong-a*   *mwzang-a-nw*
   other-like   be-NEG   good-SUBJ-CONTRAST
   'The good one is not like the others.' (*Hainamuli*)

2) *nwngza*   *mao-w*
   you   whatever   do-GENERIC

mwzang-khou-nw   *maomar-w* *gosai*
good-OBJ-CONTRAST   do-GENERIC   (name of a god)

'Lord Gosai, whatever you do, you do good!' (*Hainamuli*)

Adjectives in Boro

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Some are just like nouns:

Adjectives in Boro

Some are just like nouns:

nwhamzwa raikhosi

nw-hamzw-a　　raikhosi

2-媳妇-SUBJ　　巫女

'Your daughter-in-law is a witch.' (*Treasure*)

'你的媳妇是巫女。（宝贝故事）'

Adjectives in Boro

Some are just like nouns:

sinemaya mwzaŋ

sinema-ya   mwzaŋ

电影 -SUBJ   好

'The film is good.'   '（那个）电影好看。'

Adjectives in Boro

othor   '肤浅',

mwzaŋ   '好',

gazri   '坏',

khathi   '近'

somaina   '美丽'

bouthala   '钝'

Adjectives in Boro

The other kind have a *gw-* prefix:
*gV-*开头的形容词

- *gwzam*   'old, ancient'
- *gwdan*   'new'
- *gwzwu*   'tall'
- *gwláu*   'long'
- *gwkhá*   'bitter'
- *gwkhwi*   'sour'
- *gwdẃi*   'sweet'
- *gwswm*   'black, dark'
- *gwzá*   'red'

Adjectives in Boro

Without the prefix these are verbs:

be gotho-a   gwswm

this   boy-SUBJ dark

'The boy is dark (in complexion).'

be gotho-a swm-bai

this   boy-SUBJ darken-PERF

'The boy got dark (as, sunburned).'

Adjectives in Boro

dér '成大'   *ge-der* '大'   *phe-der* '使变大'

suŋ '变小'   *go-suŋ* '矮'   *pho-suŋ* '使变矮'

zam '变老'   *gw-zam* '老' *phw-zam* 'wear out (tr.)'

Adjectives in Boro

The *gw-* adjectives are old, and show the original Sino-Tibetan way of forming adjectives

Adjectives in Tibetan

བཙོག་པ་ gtsog-pa   'dirty'

གཙང་མ་ gtsang-ma   'clean'

ཞིམ་པོ་   zhim-po   'tasty'

སྐྱུར་མོ་   skyur-mo   'sour'

Adjectives in Tibetan

བཙོག་པ་ gtsog-**pa**   'dirty'

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Adjectives in Tibetan

ཁང་པ་མགྲོན་ཁང་ལས་གཙང་གི་རེད་

khang.pa	mgron.khang-las	gtsong-gi-red
home	hotel-ABL	clean-IMPF

'Home is cleaner than a hotel.'

Adjectives in Tibetan

ཁང་པ་མགྲོན་ཁང་ལས་གཙང་གི་རེད་

khang.pa   mgron.khang-las   gtsong-gi-red

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'Home is cleaner than a hotel.'

Noun Phrases

名词短语

Noun Phrase structure in English

*Man is teacher.

Noun Phrase structure in English

*Man is teacher.

That man is a teacher.

Noun Phrase structure in English

*Man is teacher.

That man is a teacher.

That tall man is a teacher.

Noun Phrase structure in English

*Man is teacher.

That man is a teacher.

That tall man is a teacher.

That very tall man is a teacher.

Noun Phrase structure in English

*Man is teacher.

That man is a teacher.

That tall man is a teacher.

That very tall man is a teacher.

That very tall man who just came is a teacher.

Noun Phrase structure in English

the man   *man the

the tall man   *the man tall

the man who came   *the who came man

Noun Phrase structure in English

the man   *man the

the tall man   *the man tall

the man who came   *the who came man

The order of elements in the English Noun Phrase is fixed:

Noun Phrase structure in English

the man   *man the

the tall man   *the man tall

the man who came   *the who came man

The order of elements in the English Noun Phrase is fixed:

Determiner-AdjectivePhrase-Noun-RelativeClause

Noun Phrase structure in Boro

Noun Phrase structure in Boro

bwi   aŋ-ni   bwrma   gidir   ma-nwi

that   I-GEN   goat   big   CL.animal-two

那   我-的   山羊   大   只-两

'those two big goats of mine'

我的那两只大的山羊

Noun Phrase structure in Boro

bwi   aŋ-ni   bwrma gidir ma-nwi

that I-GEN   goat   big   CL.animal-two

'those two big goats of mine'

Determiner-Possessive-Noun-Adjective-CL+Numeral

那   我-的   山羊   大   只-两

Noun Phrase structure in Boro

bi-ha   **na ma-se**-*a-nw*   *zekhai-ou*

s/he-POSS fish CL.animal-one-SUBJ-CONTRAST fishtrap-LOC

他   鱼 只 - 一   渔梁 一在

wthi-thar-a

climb-at.all-NEG

登 -都   -不

'Not one fish came into her fishtrap.'

Noun Phrase structure in Boro

bi-ha   ***na ma-se****-a-nw*

s/he-POSS   fish CL.animal-one-SUBJ-CONTRAST

他   鱼 只 - 一

bi-ha   ***ma-se***   ***na****-a-nw*

s/he-POSS   CL.animal-one fish-SUBJ-CONTRAST

只 - 一   鱼

'Not one fish came into her fishtrap.'

Noun Phrase structure in Boro

bi-ha   *na-ya-nw*   *ma-se-bw*
s/he-POSS fish-SUBJ-CONTRAST CL.animal-
   ADDITIVE

 gakhw-a   *zekhai-ou*
登-NEG   渔梁-LOC

'Not even one fish came into her fishtrap.'
'连一条鱼都没有抓到她的渔梁里。'

Noun Phrase structure in Tibetan

You have to tell me about this

Nominalization

Nominalization

manswi-phwr mai   ha-bai

person-PL   paddy   reap-PERF

'The people harvested rice'

Nominalization

mai   ha-nai

paddy   reap-NOMZ

'rice harvesters'

OR

'rice-harvesting'

Nominalization

mai   ha-nai

paddy   reap-NOMZ

'rice harvesters'

OR

'rice-harvesting'

Nominalization

mai   ha-nai   manswi-phwr

paddy   reap-NOMZ person-PL

'the people who were harvesting rice'

Nominalization

phipha   thwidar-nai

father   die-NOMZ

'one whose father has died'

Nominalization

tháŋ-nai-a   mwzaŋ

go-NOMZ-SUBJ   good

'It would be good to go'

Nominalization

tháŋ-nai-a   mwzaŋ

go-NOMZ-SUBJ   good

'It would be good to go'

Nominalization

aŋ bihuŋ   tháŋ-nai-khw gaham   mẃn-akhwi

I Bihung   go-NOMZ-OBJ   suitable get-
NEG.PERF

'I didn't like Bihung's going.'

Nominalization

aŋ bihuŋ tháŋ-nai-khw gaham mẃn-akhwi

I Bihung go-NOMZ-OBJ suitable get-NEG.PERF

'I didn't like Bihung's going.'

Nominalization

dáosindáola bír-nai-a

birds   fly-NOMZ-SUBJ

"uhhhhh"-na   bír-na   hw-bai

"uhhhh" QUOT   fly-NF   give-PERF

'The birds' flying made a "uhhhh" sound.' (*Mirror*)

Nominalization

be   *bakos-khw*   *phwr*   *bwr-khaŋ-nai-khw*

that   box-OBJ   swiftly   open-finish-NOMZ-OBJ

nu-yw

see-GENERIC

'Then [she] saw [him] quickly open the box.' (*Mirror*)

Nominalization

be   *bakos-khw*   *phwr*   *bwr-khaŋ-nai-khw*

that   box-OBJ   swiftly   open-finish-NOMZ-OBJ

nu-yw

see-GENERIC

'Then [she] saw [him] quickly open the box.' (*Mirror*)

Relative Clauses

Relative clauses in Indo-European languages

the book which I read

Relative clauses in Indo-European languages

the book which I read

Relative clauses in Indo-European languages

the book which I read

a man (who) she knows

Relative clauses in Indo-European languages

the book which I read

a man (who) she knows

countries that you have visited

Relative Clauses

mai   ha-nai   manswi-phwr

paddy   reap-NOMZ   person-PL

'the people who were harvesting rice'

Relative Clauses

phipha   thwidar-nai

father   die-NOMZ

'one whose father has died'

Nominalization and relative clauses in Tibetan

Nominalization and relative clauses in Tibetan

ངས་དེབ་དེ་བློགས་ཡོད་

'I have read that book.'

Nominalization and relative clauses in Tibetan

ངས་དེབ་དེ་བློག་ཡོང་

'I have read that book.'

ངས་དེབ་དེ་བློག་ཡོང་པ་

Nominalization and relative clauses in Tibetan

སློག་པ་

ངས་སློག་པ་

དེབ་སློག་པ་

ངས་དེབ་སློག་པ་

Nominalization and relative clauses in Tibetan

སློག་པ་

ངས་སློག་པ་

དེབ་སློག་པ་

ངས་དེབ་སློག་པ་

Nominalization and relative clauses in Tibetan

ངས་སློབ་པ་

Nominalization and relative clauses in Tibetan

ངས་སློག་པ་

Nominalization and relative clauses in Tibetan

ངས་སློག་པ་

དེབ་སློག་མཁན་

Nominalization and relative clauses in Tibetan

ངས་བསྒྲིགས་པ་

དེབ་བསྒྲིགས་མཁན་

Nominalization and relative clauses in Tibetan

ངས་བཀློག་པའི་དེབ་

the book which I read

Nominalization and relative clauses in Tibetan

ངས་ཀློག་པའི་དེབ་

the book which I read

Nominalization and relative clauses in Tibetan

ངས་བཀླག་པའི་དེབ་

the book which I read

དེབ་བཀླག་མཁན་གྱི་སློབ་གྲྭ་བ་

the student who read the book

Nominalization and relative clauses in Tibetan

ངས་བཀློག་པའི་དེབ་

the book which I read

དེབ་བཀློག་མཁན་གྱི་སློབ་གྲྭ་བ་

the student who read the book

Nominalization and relative clauses in Tibetan

- པ་

- མཁན་

- ས་

- ཡག་