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Numerals in Poula

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ABSTRACT: The goal of this paper is an attempt to describe the numerals of Poula which comes under Naga-Kuki sub group of Tibeto-Burman language family. Poula, an Angami-Pochuri language is the language of the Pouma Naga tribe and is spoken in the Senapati district of Manipur and Phek district of Nagaland and also in some other adjoining areas. Poula numeral system is basically decimal however, vigesimal system that is 'twenty-based system' is found from 20-29. This paper describes the various classifications of Poula numerals into Cardinal numerals, Ordinal numerals, Multiplicative numerals, Aggregative numerals,Approximate numerals, Fractional numerals ,Distributive numerals ,Restrictive numerals and Indefinite numerals.

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I. INTRODUCTON

Poula is the language of the Poumai naga tribe. The tribe is one of the Naga tribes mainly concentrated in the Senapati district of Manipur and Phek district of Nagaland and also in some other adjoining areas. The tribe is recognised under the constitution of the Scheduled Caste and Tribe order (Amendment) Act 2002, Government of India.According to 2011 census the Poumai Naga tribe has a population of 1,79,189.There are 94 Poumai inhibited villages of which 85 are revenue recognized villages and 9 are unrecognized villages. The Poumai villages fully covered the whole Sub-Division of Paomata, Purul, Chilivai-Phaibung and 1/3 of Tadubi Sub-Division, some villages in Kangpokpi Sub-Division and some villages in Phek Districk of Nagaland.

Even within Poula, there are variations from village to village in terms of phonology and lexemes. Villages like Oinam, Thiwa, Khongdei and Ngari, the dialect differs so much that they are not mutually intelligible to the majority of the Poumai Naga community speakers. As such these people learn and speak the common poula lexemes for communication. The Present study is based on the data collected from Saranamai Village which is the oldest village of the Poumai Naga tribe.

II. NUMERAL

In Poula, numeral is a word or phrase denoting a number. Poula numeral system is basically decimal however, vigesimal system that is 'twenty-based system' is found from 20-29. Poula numerals can be classified as follows:

1. Cardinal numerals
2. Ordinal numerals
3. Multiplicative numerals
4. Aggregative numerals
5. Approximate numerals
6. Fractional numerals
7. Distributive numerals
8. Restrictive numerals and
9. Indefinite numerals.

2.1. Cardinal numerals:

Cardinal is a traditional term retained in some grammatical model of description referring to the class of numerals, one, two, and three…ten etc. (Crystal 1985). Cardinals can be divided into two types viz. i) Basic cardinal numerals and ii) Compound cardinal numerals.

I. Basic cardinal numbers:

The basic Cardinals in Poula are listed as follows:

əli	'one'
əhai	'two'

əsə	'three'
ədai	'four'
əŋəu	'five'
ərəu	'six'
əne	'seven'
əca	'eight'
əko	'nine'
cirəu	'ten'
ke	'hundred'
t^he	'thousand'
ŋa	'lakh'

In Poula, the prefix */ə-/* does not occur in the numeral */cirəu/* 'ten', *kai*/ 'twenty' and /*ɕirəu*/ 'thirty'. But the prefix /*rai-/* is suffixed to the roots /*dai*/ 'four', /*ŋəu*/ 'five, /*rəu*/ 'six', /*ne*/ 'seven', /*ca*/ 'eight 'and */ko/* 'nine' to make the numerals /*raidai/* 'forty', /*raiŋəu/* 'fifty', /*rairəu/* 'sixty', /*raine/* 'seventy' , /*raica*/ 'eighty' and */raiko/* 'ninety'. The prefix /*ə-/* and /*rai-/* are not suffixed to the numerals /*ke*/ 'hundred', /t^h*e/* 'thousand' and */ŋa/* 'lakh'.

II. Compound cardinal numerals:

Compound cardinals are formed by compounding the basic cardinal numerals. It is divided into three types viz.

a) Additive Compound
b) Multiplicative Compound
c) Multiplicative-cum-Additive Compound Numerals.

A. Additive compound numeral:

The numerals from 11-19, 21-29, 31-39, 41-49, 51-59, 61-69, 71-79, 81-89, 91-99,101-109,201-209 and so on are additive compound numerals. The numerals from11-19 is formed by adding the prefix /*ci-/* means 10 to the basic numeral 1-9. The numerals 21-29 are formed by adding the prefix /*kai-/* means 20 to the basic numerals, numerals from 31-39 are formed by adding the prefix /*ɕi-/* means 'thirty' ,41-90 by adding the prefix /*rai-/* to the basic numerals etc. respectively.

ci-əli	'eleven'	< 10+1
ci-ərəu	'sixteen'	< 10+6
ci-əko	'nineteen'	< 10+9
kai-əsə	'twenty-three'	< 20+3
ɕi-ədai	'thirty-four'	< 30+4
ɕi-əne	'thirty-seven'	< 30+7
raidai-əŋəu	'forty-five'	< 40+5
raiŋəu-əhai	'fifty-two'	< 50+2
rairəu-əli	'sixty-one'	< 60+1
raine-ərəu	'seventy-seven'	< 70+7
raica-əca	'eighty-eight'	< 80+8
raiko-əhai	'ninety-two'	< 90+2
raiko-əko	'ninety-nine'	< 90+9

B. Multiplicative Compound Numerals:

There are two types of multiplicative compound. They are- i) Lower Multiplicative Compound and ii) Higher Multiplicative Compound numerals.

I. Lower Multiplicative Compound Numerals: In the formation of lower multiplicative compound numerals i.e. from 40-90 are formed by ten x basic cardinals. A new morpheme /*rai/* is introduced in place of /*ci/* 'ten' and the prefix */–ə/* gets deleted.

raidai	'forty'
raiŋəu	'fifty'
rairəu	'sixty'
raine	'seventy'
raica	'eighty'
raiko	'ninety'

II. Higher Multilicative Compound Numerals

Higher multiplicative are multiples of hundred, thousand, lakh. The */ke/* 'hundred', /*t*^{h}*e/* 'thousand' and /*ŋa/* 'lakh' are the roots of hundred, thousand and lakh respectively. In the formation of these numerals, the basic numerals are suffixed to the */ke/* 'hundred', i.e. the root of hundred, to the /*t*^{h}*e/* 'thousand', i.e. the root of thousand etc. The prefix */ə-/* of the basic numerals gets dropped as shown below:

ke-hai	100x2	'two hundred'
ke-dai	100x4	'four hundred'
t^{h}e-ko	1000x9	'nine thousand'
ŋa-dai	100000x4	'four lakh'
ŋa-ne	100000x7	'seven lakh'
ŋa-ko	100000x9	'nine lakh'

III .Multiplicative-cum-additive Compound numeral

The numerals from 41-49, 51-59, 61-69, 71-79, 81-89, 91-99, 101-109, 201-209, 301-309 etc. are all multiplicative-cum -additive Compound numerals. It is formed through the multiplication of the first two numerals and the summation of the third one. There are seven forms of Multiplicative-cum-additive numerals.

1. Decade X basic numerals + basic numerals
2. Century X basic numerals + basic numerals
3. Thousand X basic numerals + basic numerals
4. Lakh X basic numerals + basic numerals

rai-dai-əli	'forty one'	< 10x4+1
rai-ŋəu-əhai	'fifty two'	< 10x5+2
rai-rəu-ərəu	'sixty six'	< 10x6+6
rai-ne-əca	'seventy eight'	< 10x7+8
rai-ca-əli	'eighty one'	<10x8+1
rai-ko-əko	'ninety nine'	< 10x9+9
ke-li-əsə	'one hundred and three'	< 100x1+3
t^{h}e-hai-ədai	'two thousand and four'	< 1000x2+4
t^{h}e-sə-əko	'three thousand and nine'	< 1000x3+9
ŋa-li-əli	'one lakh and one'	< 10000x1+1

2.2. Ordinal Numerals:-

In Poula, Ordinal numbers are derived from the cardinal numbers by adding the suffix/ *–nya/* to the cardinal numbers.

rai -nya	'first'
əhai-nya	'second'
əsə-nya	'third'
ədai-nya	'fourth'
əŋəu-nya	'fifth'
ərəu-nya	'sixth'
əne-nya	'seventh'
əca-nya	'eight'
əko-nya	'ninth'
cirəu-nya	'tenth'
ci-əli-nya	'eleventh'
kai-əhai-nya	'twenty-second'
rai-dai-nya	'fortieth'
ke-nya	'hundreth'

2.3. Quantitative numerals

The quantitative numerals are formed by prefixing /*bak*^{h}*a/*-or/ *vu-/* 'repetition' to the basic numerals.

bak^{h}a-əli /vu-əli	'once'
bak^{h}a-əhai / vu-əhai	'twice'
bak^{h}a-əsə / vu- əsə	'three times'
bak^{h}a-ədai /vu-ədai	'four times'
bak^{h}a-əŋəu/ vu-əŋəu	'five times'
bak^{h}a-ərəu /vu-ərəu	'six times'
bak^{h}a-əne /vu-əne	'seven times'

bak^{h}a-əca / vu-əca	‘eight times’
bak^{h}a-əko / vu-əko	‘nine times’
bak^{h}a-cirəu /vu-čirəu	‘ten times’
bak^{h}a-kai/ vu-kai	‘twenty times’
bak^{h}a-ɕirəu /vu-ɕirəu	‘thirty times’
bak^{h}a-ke /vu-ke	‘hundred times’

2.4. Fractional Numerals

The word /*ŋ^{h}ini*/ ‘from’ is used in the formation of fractional numerals. But in the case of half, quarter and full, it has a separate word as given below:

dali	‘half’
təi	‘full’
daɕek^{h}ai	‘quarter’
əsə-ŋ^{h}ini-əli	‘one-third’
ədai-ŋ^{h}ini-əhai	‘two-fourth’
ədai-ŋ^{h}ini-əsə	‘three-fourth’
ərəu-ŋ^{h}ini-əhai	‘two-sixth’
cirəu-ŋ^{h}ini-ədai	‘two-tenth’

2.5. Distributive Numerals

Distributive numerals in Poula are formed by adding the suffix /*–ce*/ to the cardinal numerals.

əli-ce	‘one each’
əhai-ce	‘two each’
əsə-ce	‘three each’
ədai-ce	‘four each’
əŋəu-ce	‘five each’
ərəu-ce	‘six each’
əne-ce	‘seven each’
əca-ce	‘eight each’
əko-ce	‘nine each’
ke-hai-ce	‘two hundred each’
ke-hai-əsə-ce	‘two hundred and three each’

2.6. Restrictive Numerals

Restrictive numerals is formed by adding the suffix /*-lik^{h}i*/ ‘only’ to the cardinal numerals but in case of ‘only one’ only /*–k^{h}i*/ is added to the cardinal numeral.

əli-k^{h}i	‘only one’
əhai-lik^{h}i	‘onlt two’
əsə-lik^{h}i	‘only three’
ədai-lik^{h}i	‘only four’
əŋəu-lik^{h}i	‘only five’
ərəu-lik^{h}i	‘only six’
əne-lik^{h}i	‘only seven’
əca-lik^{h}i	‘only eight’
əko-lik^{h}i	‘only nine
cirəu-lik^{h}i	‘only ten’
ci-əŋəu-lik^{h}i	‘only fifteen’
kai-dai-lik^{h}i	‘only twenty four’
raica-hai-lik^{h}i	‘only eighty two’

2.7. Aggregative Numerals

To form aggregative numerals in Poula, prefix /*–ni* /and/*-təitəi*/ ‘everything’ is added to the cardinal numerals. The prefix /*–ni/* is used to express the meaning ‘two together or both’ and the prefix /*–təitəi*/ ‘everything’ is used to express the meaning ‘three together or all the three’, ‘all the four’ etc. as given below:-

əhai-ni	‘both’
əsə-təitəi	‘all the three’
ədai-təitəi	‘all the four’
əŋəu-təitəi	‘all the five’’
ərəu-təitəi	‘all the six’

əko-təitəi	'all the nine'
kaidai-təitəi	'all the twenty four'
kaisə-təitəi	'all the twenty three'

2.8. Approximate Numerals

Approximate numerals can express approximate number in counting. They can be divided into two :

a) Successive approximate numerals and

b) Non-successive approximate numerals.

a) Successive numerals are used to indicate successive approximate numerals with a connective /*monə*/ 'or' in Poula.

əli-monə-əhai	'one or two'
əhai-monə-əsə	'two or three'
əsə-monə-ədai	'three or four'
ədai-monə-əne	'four or seven'
cirəu-monə-kai	'ten or twenty'
keli-monə-kehai	'one hundred or two hundred'

b) Non-successive numerals can be made by adding the suffix /*-p^{h}a/* 'about' to the particular numeral number.

əli-p^{h}a	'about one'
əhai-p^{h}a	'about two'
əsə-p^{h}a	'about three'
ədai-p^{h}a	'about four'
cirəu-p^{h}a	'about ten'
raidai-dai-p^{h}a	'about forty four'
ke-ko-p^{h}a	'about nine hundred'
t^{h}e-hai-p^{h}a	'about two thousand'

2.9. Indefinite numerals

Poula uses the following as indefinite numerals.

dəutya	'few/some'
tara	'any'
baʑə	'amt. that one hand can grasp'
k^{h}u	'bunch'
me	'group'
de	'bundle'

III. CONCLUSION

Poula numeral system is basically decimal however, vigesimal system that is 'twenty-based system' is found from 20-29. In Poula, cardinal numerals are found in basic and compound numerals. The basic numeral prefix /ə-/ does not occur in the numeral /*cirəu/* 'ten', */kai/* 'twenty' and /*ɕirəu/* 'thirty'. The prefix */rai-/* is suffixed to the roots /*dai/* 'four', /*ŋəu/* 'five, /*rəu/* 'six',/*ne*/ 'seven', /*ca/* 'eight 'and /*ko/* 'nine' to make the numerals /*raidai/* 'forty', /*raiŋəu/* 'fifty', /*rairəu/* 'sixty', /*raine/* 'seventy' , /*raica/* 'eighty' and /*raiko/* 'ninety'. The prefix /***ə-/** and /*rai-/* are not suffixed to the numerals /*ke/* 'hundred', */t^{h}e/* 'thousand' and /*ŋa*/ 'lakh'. For ordinals, aggregative, distributive, approximant, distributive and fractional, indefinite numerals different markers are used.

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