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.

I. INTRODUCTION

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 Distric 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:
ali ‘one’
shai ‘two’
Numerals in Poula

әәә ‘three’
adai ‘four’
әәә ‘five’
әәә ‘six’
one ‘seven’
әәә ‘eight’
sko ‘nine’
әәә ‘ten’
ke ‘hundred’
tә ‘thousand’
әa ‘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 from 11-19 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 /sãi- means ‘thirty’ ,41-90 by adding the prefix /rai- to the basic numerals etc. respectively.

ci-әli ‘eleven’
ci-әәә ‘sixteen’
ci-әәә ‘nineteen’
kәi-әәә ‘twenty-three’
ci-адә ‘thirty-four’
ci-әәә ‘thirty-seven’
raidai-әәә ‘forty’
raiŋәu ‘fifty’
rairәu ‘sixty’
rәu ‘seventy’
rәu ‘eighty’
rәi ‘ninety’

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 /raif/ is introduced in place of /ci- ‘ten’ and the prefix /-ә/ gets deleted.

raidai ‘forty’
raiŋәu ‘fifty’
rairәu ‘sixty’
rәi ‘seventy’
rәi ‘eighty’
rәi ‘ninety’
II. Higher Multicative Compound Numerals

Higher multicative are multiples of hundred, thousand, lakh. The /kel/ ‘hundred’, /ṭʰe/ ‘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 /kel/ ‘hundred’, i.e. the root of hundred, to the /ṭʰe/ ‘thousand’, i.e. the root of thousand etc. The prefix /o-/ of the basic numerals gets dropped as shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numeral</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ke-hai</td>
<td>100x2</td>
<td>‘two hundred’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ke-dai</td>
<td>100x4</td>
<td>‘four hundred’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ṭe-ko</td>
<td>1000x9</td>
<td>‘nine thousand’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ḋa-dai</td>
<td>100000x4</td>
<td>‘four lakh’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ḋa-ne</td>
<td>100000x7</td>
<td>‘seven lakh’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ḋa-ko</td>
<td>100000x9</td>
<td>‘nine lakh’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

2.2. Ordinal Numerals:

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numeral</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>rai-nya</td>
<td>‘first’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ahai-nya</td>
<td>‘second’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ṭa-nya</td>
<td>‘third’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>adai-nya</td>
<td>‘fourth’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ṭe-nya</td>
<td>‘fifth’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ṭe-nya</td>
<td>‘sixth’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ṭe-nya</td>
<td>‘seventh’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ṭa-nya</td>
<td>‘eight’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ṭa-nya</td>
<td>‘ninth’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ne-nya</td>
<td>‘tenth’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ci-nya</td>
<td>‘eleventh’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kai-shai-nya</td>
<td>‘twenty-second’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rai-dai-nya</td>
<td>‘fortieth’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ke-nya</td>
<td>‘hundreth’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.3. Quantitative numerals

The quantitative numerals are formed by prefixing /bak⁸al-oṭa/ vu-/ ‘repetition’ to the basic numerals.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numeral</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ḍak⁸al-oṭa /vu-oli</td>
<td>‘once’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ḍak⁸al-ahai /vu-ahai</td>
<td>‘twice’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ḍak⁸a-oṣa /vu-oṣa</td>
<td>‘three times’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ḍak⁸a-adai /vu-adai</td>
<td>‘four times’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ḍak⁸a-āṇāu /vu-āṇāu</td>
<td>‘five times’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ḍak⁸a-āṇe /vu-āṇe</td>
<td>‘six times’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ḍak⁸a-ane /vu-ane</td>
<td>‘seven times’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.4. Fractional Numerals

The word /ŋ 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’
- tәi = ‘full’
- daсeckәi = ‘quarter’
- әә-ŋIni-oli = ‘one-third’
- әә-ŋIni-әhai = ‘two-fourth’
- әә-ŋIni-әә = ‘three-fourth’
- әә-ŋIni-әә-әhai = ‘two-sixth’
- цirәu-ŋIni-әә-әә = ‘two-tenth’

2.5. Distributive Numerals

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

- әә-li = ‘one each’
- әә-hai = ‘two each’
- әә-әә = ‘three each’
- әә-dai = ‘four each’
- әә-әә-әә = ‘five each’
- әә-әә-әә-әә = ‘six each’
- әә-hai = ‘seven each’
- әә-әә = ‘eight each’
- әә-hai = ‘nine each’
- әә-hai-ke = ‘two hundred each’
- әә-hai-әә-әә = ‘two hundred and three each’

2.6. Restrictive Numerals

Restrictive numerals is formed by adding the suffix /–liк h/ ‘only’ to the cardinal numerals but in case of ‘only one’ only /–k h’d is added to the cardinal numeral.

- әә-liк h = ‘only one’
- әә-hai-лик h = ‘only two’
- әә-әә-лик h = ‘only three’
- әә-dai-лик h = ‘only four’
- әә-әә-лик h = ‘only five’
- әә-әә-лик h = ‘only six’
- әә-hai-лик h = ‘only seven’
- әә-әә = ‘only eight’
- әә-әә = ‘only nine’
- әә-hai-лик h = ‘only ten’
- әә-әә-лик h = ‘only fifteen’
- әә-hai-лик h = ‘only twenty four’
- әә-hai-лик h = ‘only eighty two’

2.7. Aggregative Numerals

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

- әә-hai-ni = ‘both’
- әә-tәрәi = ‘all the three’
- әә-tәрәi = ‘all the four’
- әә-tәрәi = ‘all the five’
- әә-tәрәi = ‘all the six’
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 /monә/ ‘or’ in Poula.

ali-mono-shai ‘one or two’
shai-mono-ssa ‘two or three’
assa-mono-әdaи ‘three or four’
adai-mono-one ‘four or seven’
cirәu-mono-kai ‘ten or twenty’
kelи-moны-kehai ‘one hundred or two hundred’

b) Non-successive numerals can be made by adding the suffix /pә ‘about’ to the particular numeral number.

ali-pә ‘about one’
shai-pә ‘about two’
assa-pә ‘about three’
adai-pә ‘about four’
cirәu-pә ‘about ten’
raidai-dai-pә ‘about forty four’
ke-ko-pә ‘about nine hundred’
tә-e-hai-pә ‘about two thousand’

2.9. Indefinite numerals

Poula uses the following as indefinite numerals.

dәautya ‘few/some’
tara ‘any’
bәza ‘amt. that one hand can grasp’
kә ‘bunch’
me ‘group’
de ‘bundle’

III. CONCLUSION


REFERENCES