Postpositions in Bangla
With special reference to Prepositions in English

Anwesa Bagchi, M.A.
Abstract

This paper focuses on the concept, origin and functional behavior of Postpositions in Bangla with special reference to Prepositions in English. It has been often observed Postpositions in Bangla function as case endings that develop syntactic relationship between different syntactic units. Furthermore, Postpositions carry valuable semantic information about the relationship between the noun and the verb syntagm. This study concentrates on these aspects of the Postpositions in Bangla with special reference to similar functions performed by Prepositions in English.

1. Introduction

Bangla is spoken by almost 100 million people in Bangladesh, and by 171 million worldwide. The total number of native and second language speakers of Bangla is estimated to be around 211 million [1], making it one of the Ten most spoken languages in the world.

Bangla is a ‘head-final language’ that exhibits 'subject object verb' word order, although variations to this word order are very frequent in the language.[2] Unlike English and other European languages, Bangla features the use Postpositions instead of Prepositions.

2. CONCEPT: Postpositions in Bangla

Postpositions in Bangla, occur after the nominal or the pronominal where the nominal or the pronominal function as their object.

For example: 1. rAma tomAra pAshe baseChe
(Ram has sat beside you.)

2. tAra kAjaTA karAra Age tAra anumati nin
(Take his permission before you begin to do his work)
They never precede the nominal or the pronominal [3] excepting in few colloquial uses and in interrogative sentences.

Postpositions perform functions similar to Inflectional markers³ or ‘Vibhakti’⁴ as they often indicate different relation between noun and verb. But unlike inflectional markers, Postpositions in Bangla are free forms⁵. For example:

1. taroYala **diYe** ghAsa kATA uchita naYa.
   (It is not appropriate to trim grass with a sword)

2. tA.Nra jIbana **theke** aneka kichhu shekhAra Achhe.
   (There is much to learn from his life)

However, these postpositions sometimes demand inflectional markers such as -ra, -era, -dera, -ke.

Table: 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inflectional Marker</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-ra</td>
<td>tomAra dbArA e kAjTA habe nA. (It is not possible for you to do this work)</td>
<td>This genitive/possessive marker is used when there is a vowel in word final position</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-era</td>
<td>chAra dinera madhye kAjTA kore deba. (I will do this work within four days)</td>
<td>This genitive/possessive marker is used when there is a consonant in word final position</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-dera</td>
<td>tomAdera dbArA e kAjTA habe nA. (It is not possible for you to do this work)</td>
<td>This marker when followed by a postposition acts as a plural marker.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ke</td>
<td>rAmake diYe ei kAjTA kariYe neba. (I will get this work done by Ram)</td>
<td>This marker is used in an accusative sense.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the semantic perspective, postpositions carry significant information regarding spatial, temporal, comparative, content, causal, manner related, locative and other aspects of the noun or pronoun in relation to the finite verbal elements of the sentence.

3. ORIGIN: Postpositions in Bangla

Postpositions in Bangla can be divided into two basic categories depending on their origin, namely, the Nominal Postpositions (nAmajAta) and the Verbal Postpositions (kriyAjAta).[4]

3.1. Nominal Postpositions

The nominal postpositions have originated from nouns, adverbs, and conjunctions while the verbal postpositions have originated from verbs.

---

³ Inflectional markers or case endings are directly added to the word. They perform the same function as prepositions in English.
⁴ Case endings
⁵ Free morphemes, a unit of meaning which can stand alone or alongside another free or bound morpheme
Nominal Postpositions can be further divided into Tatsama\(^6\), Tatbhava & Deshi\(^7\) and Bideshi\(^8\) Postpositions.[5]

3.1.1. Nominal Postpositions: Tatsama – These postpositions originated from Tatsama, is the term used for referring to borrowed words which retained their Sanskrit form. [6] They belong to an educated and more erudite register than simple common words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Postposition</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>apexA</td>
<td>mAnuShera njera jIlbana <strong>apex</strong> priYa Ara kichhui nei. (There is nothing more important to man <strong>than</strong> his life.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>abhimukhe</td>
<td>sai nadI chalechhe samudra <strong>abhimukhe</strong>. (That river is flowing <strong>towards</strong> the sea.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>upara/upare/opera</td>
<td>gAchhatAra <strong>upare</strong> bA.NdaraTA base Achhe. (The monkey is sitting <strong>on</strong> the tree.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kartika</td>
<td>debatA <strong>kartika</strong> dAnabadera nidhana haibe. (The demons would be killed <strong>by</strong> the Gods)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kAraNe</td>
<td>banyAra <strong>kAraNe</strong> saba school chhuti. (<strong>On account of</strong> flood, all the schools are closed.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>janye/janya</td>
<td>se sabAra <strong>janye</strong> chintA kare. (He is concerned <strong>for</strong> everyone)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dike</td>
<td>tumi bAjAra <strong>dike</strong> Aja yeYa nA (You should not be going <strong>towards</strong> the market today.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dbArA</td>
<td>rAmera <strong>dbArA</strong> ei kAjaTA habe nA. (This work can not be done <strong>by</strong> Ram)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nikaTe</td>
<td>nagarera <strong>nikaTe</strong> tAra bAsasthAna. (His residence is <strong>around</strong> the town)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nyAYa</td>
<td>sei sbapna marlchikAra <strong>nyAYa</strong> udhAo haiYA gela. (The dream had vanished <strong>like</strong> a mirage)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pashchAte</td>
<td>andhera mato arthera <strong>pashchAte</strong> chhuTiYo nA (Donot run <strong>after</strong> money like a blind man)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prati</td>
<td>tA.Nra <strong>prati</strong> AmAra kartabya Achhe.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

\( ^6 \)Tatsama(Sanskrit tatsama) where ‘tat’ means ‘its’, belonging to Sanskrit, and ‘sama’ meaning akin.

\( ^7 \)Tatbhava (Sankrit ‘tadbhāva’) where ‘tad’ means ‘from’, from Vedic and Sanskrit words, and ‘bhāva’ meaning ‘product of’).

\( ^8 \)Foreign words
### 3.1.2. Nominal Postpositions: Tatbhava and Deshi

This category of postpositions originated from Sanskrit, but has undergone changes to fit the phonology of Bangla. These words cannot be traced back to Sanskrit.\[7\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Postposition</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>tAra kAjA tAra anumati nin (Take his permission before you begin to do his work)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kAchhe</td>
<td>AmAra duto bai rAdhAra kAchhe Achhe. (Two of my books are with Radha)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chhA.DA</td>
<td>e chhA.DA Ara kono upAYA nei. (There is no other alternative apart from this.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tare</td>
<td>kisera tare tomAra nAYa ashru jhare? (For what reason do you cry?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pAne</td>
<td>tini sai chhabira pAne cheYe Achhena (He is staring at the painting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pAshe</td>
<td>rAma tomAra pAshe baseChe (Ram has sat beside you.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bai</td>
<td>AmAra ekati bai duti ghara Achhe (Not only do I have one room but also another.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>binA</td>
<td>parishrame binA kono kAja saphala haYa nA. (Without hardwork, no work can be successful)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bhitara/bhitare/bheto re</td>
<td>gharera bhitare se lukiYe Achhe (He is hiding inside the room)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.1.3. Nominal Postpositions: Bideshi-These postpositions originated from a category of foreign words borrowed from different languages due sociological, cultural and political changes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Postposition</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>daruna</td>
<td>kharAr daruna Agera bachhara phasala bhAlo haYani. (Last year the yield was not good because of the drought.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>badale</td>
<td>tumi penera badale pencil dite pAro. (You can give a pencil instead of a pen)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>banAma</td>
<td>East Bengal banAma Mohan Baganera khelATA bhAloi jamechhe. (The match between East Bengal and Mohan Bagan has become interesting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bAbada</td>
<td>ApnAke jAmAra dAma bAdada kata TAKA deba? (How much money should I give you for the price of the shirt?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>barAbara</td>
<td>pashchima dika barAbara michhila egobe. (The procession would proceed towards the west)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.2. Verbal Postpositions-These postpositions originated from verbal forms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Postposition</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>kare/kariYA</td>
<td>tumi taxi kare bA.Di chale eso. (You should come home by a taxi)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cheYe/chAite</td>
<td>dAdAra cheYe Ami aneka chhoTo. (I am much younger to my brother)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>theke</td>
<td>dAdAra theke Ami aneka chhoTo. (I am much younger to my brother)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
diYe rAmake diYe ei kAjaTA habe nA.  
(This work could not be done by Ram)

dhare/dhariYA eka TAAnA dui dinA dhare baropha parachhe. 
(Its been snowing continuously for two days)

hate/haite kothA hate se ba.Dite upasthita haila. 
(Suddenly, he came to my house from nowhere)

### 4. Functions and Behavior of Postpositions in Bangla

#### 4.1. Inflectional Behavior

In Bangla, the syntactic unit of nominal expression is either inflected with inflectional markers or has a postpositional segment. Sometimes, these postpositions demand inflectional markers such as -ra, -era, -dera, -ke. Postpositions almost perform functions similar to the inflectional markers and play a significant role in “the relation subsisting between a noun and a verb in a sentence”. Kale refers to this relation as ‘Karaka’. In principle, Karaka corresponds to the term ‘case’ but may be in a complex notion. In English, the case forms are established on the basis of modification to nouns. In Sanskrit, Bangla and other Indian languages Karaka determines the syntactic function whereas in English, it is often the position in the sentence that plays the deciding role. Bengali has five cases or Karaka. An in-depth analysis of the Karaka would assist further understanding of the inflectional behavior of Postposition better.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Karaka in Bangla</th>
<th>Function and Inflectional marker</th>
<th>Cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>kary</td>
<td>Agent(Subject) No inflectional marker</td>
<td>Nominative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>karma- Direct(mukhya karma) -Indirect(gauNa karma)</td>
<td>Direct object- No inflectional marker Indirect object- -ke,-re</td>
<td>Accusative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>karaṇa</td>
<td>Instrument –ke diYe, -ra dbArA</td>
<td>Instrumental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>apādāna</td>
<td>Ablative, Cause, Origin, Source-only postposition</td>
<td>Ablative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>adhikaraṇa</td>
<td>Locational, Spatial, Temporal - -e,-te</td>
<td>Locative</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In Bangla, almost all the Karaka’s exhibit signs of the presence of inflectional markers as well as postpositions.
Debatā kartikā dAnabadigera nidhana hāibe (The demons would be killed by the Gods)

Note: - Generally, in this karaka, no postposition or inflectional marker is used. The above example is an occasional usage.

Karma - Direct (mukhya karma) - Indirect (gauNa karma)

Indirect (gauNa karma)-banyAra kArAne saba school chhuti.
(On account of flood, all the schools are closed.)

Note: - In this karaka, the postpositions demands the inflectional marker –ra in the word final position of the preceding segment. However, Direct (mukhya karma) does not have any postpositional form.

Karaṇa

rAmake diYe ei kAjaTA habe nA.
(This work can not be done by Ram)

Note: - In this karaka, the postposition does not demand any inflectional marker. But in many cases the postposition does demand the inflectional marker –ra, -ke.

Apaḍāna

dAdAra cheYe Ami aneka ba.Da.
(I am much elder to my brother)

Note: - In this karaka, the postposition generally demands the inflectional marker –ra.

Adhikaraṇa

rAma tomAra pAshe base Achhe
(Ram is sitting beside you.)

Note: - In this karaka, the postposition generally demands the inflectional marker –ra.

Prof. S.K. Chatterjee believed that the Karaka relationship is to be understood as the semantic relationship at the sentence level. This relationship, similarly, determines to a significant extent, the syntactic behavior of the constituents in the sentences.

4.2. Semantic Behavior

In the sentence level, Postposition carries a significant amount of semantic information with it. It expresses quintessential information regarding the spatial, temporal, causal, comparative, manner related, source related and locational aspects of noun with respect to the verb. Prepositions in English reveal similar information about place, time, instrument, cause and other relation between two entities. [12] Both preposition and postposition carry out certain vital semantic function or ‘roles’ in the environment of different verbs. Although Fillmore and Langendon believed that there are few other ‘roles’ as well [13] but in the broad spectrum, all the ‘roles’ can be summed up under these basic semantic
‘roles’ namely, Directional, Manner related, Content related, Causal, Comparative, Locational, Spatial and Temporal aspect.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Postposition in Bangla</th>
<th>IPA</th>
<th>English Correspondence</th>
<th>Semantic role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. abhimukhe</td>
<td>obʰimukʰe</td>
<td>towards</td>
<td>Directional-Source Destination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Age</td>
<td>ege</td>
<td>before/in front of</td>
<td>Temporal/Locational</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. antare</td>
<td>ōntore</td>
<td>inside</td>
<td>Locational/Spatial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. apexA</td>
<td>ʰpekkʰe</td>
<td>than/in comparison to</td>
<td>Comparative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. AshepAshe</td>
<td>ʰpepepe</td>
<td>near by/near/around</td>
<td>Locational</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. atirikta</td>
<td>otirikto</td>
<td>above</td>
<td>Manner related/Content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. bAbada</td>
<td>bebod</td>
<td>for/on account of</td>
<td>Causal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. badale</td>
<td>bɔdole</td>
<td>instead/instead of/opposite to/in place of</td>
<td>Comparative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. bai</td>
<td>boi</td>
<td>instead</td>
<td>Causal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. baire</td>
<td>beire</td>
<td>outside/beyond/out/out of</td>
<td>Locational</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. banAma</td>
<td>bɔnɔm</td>
<td>between</td>
<td>Comparative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. barAbara</td>
<td>bɔrebɔr</td>
<td>towards/in</td>
<td>Directional-Source-Destination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. bhitara/bhita re/bhetare</td>
<td>bʰitor bʰitore bʰetore</td>
<td>inside</td>
<td>Locational/Spatial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. biruddhe</td>
<td>biruddʰe</td>
<td>against</td>
<td>Causal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postposition (Bangla Script)</td>
<td>Postposition (English)</td>
<td>Function</td>
<td>Category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. byatita</td>
<td>baêtito</td>
<td>apart/unlike</td>
<td>Manner related/Content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. chAite/cheYe</td>
<td>tʃeite tʃeje</td>
<td>than/in comparison to</td>
<td>Comparative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. chhA.DA</td>
<td>tʃʰeʃe</td>
<td>besides/except/without/ aside/apart from/from</td>
<td>Manner related/Content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. chhe.De</td>
<td>tʃʰeʃe</td>
<td>without</td>
<td>Manner related/Content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. daruna</td>
<td>dorun</td>
<td>because/for</td>
<td>Causal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. dbArA</td>
<td>dere</td>
<td>by/for/through</td>
<td>Instrument</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. dhariYa/dhar e</td>
<td>dʰorije dʰore</td>
<td>for(time)</td>
<td>Temporal/Causal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. dike</td>
<td>dike</td>
<td>towards/for/at/to/into</td>
<td>Directional-Source-Destination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. diYe</td>
<td>dije</td>
<td>by/over</td>
<td>Instrument</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. haite</td>
<td>hoite</td>
<td></td>
<td>Directional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. hate</td>
<td>hote</td>
<td></td>
<td>Directional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. hisAbe/hisebe</td>
<td>hifʃebe hifʃebe</td>
<td>in this respect</td>
<td>Manner related/Content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27. janye/janya</td>
<td>dʒonne dʒonno</td>
<td>for/because/due to/because of</td>
<td>Causal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28. kachhAkAch</td>
<td>kʃeʃ'ekʃ'ʃi</td>
<td>near/near by/close to</td>
<td>Locational/Spatial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29. kachhe</td>
<td>kəʧʰe</td>
<td>near/near by/from/to</td>
<td>Locational/Spatial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30. kariYA/kare</td>
<td>koriʃe kore</td>
<td>by means of /by</td>
<td>Causal/Instrument</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31. kAraNe</td>
<td>kəɾone</td>
<td>on account of/for/because/since</td>
<td>Causal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32. kartika</td>
<td>kortrik</td>
<td>by</td>
<td>Instrument</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33. laiYA</td>
<td>loiʃe</td>
<td>including/with</td>
<td>Manner related/Content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34. madhye</td>
<td>məddʰe</td>
<td>amid/amidst/between/in the middle of/among/amongst/in the meanwhile/within</td>
<td>Locational/Spatial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35. mAjhakhAne</td>
<td>mədʒʰkʰe</td>
<td>in the middle of/sometime back/in between</td>
<td>Locational/Spatial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36. mAjhe</td>
<td>mədʒʰe</td>
<td>in the middle of</td>
<td>Locational/Spatial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37. mata</td>
<td>moto</td>
<td>as/like</td>
<td>Manner related/Content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38. nIche</td>
<td>nʃe</td>
<td>below/beneath/underneath/down/under</td>
<td>Locational/Spatial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39. nikaTe</td>
<td>nɪkəʈe</td>
<td>near by/near</td>
<td>Locational/Spatial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40. niYe</td>
<td>nɪje</td>
<td>including/with/along/along with</td>
<td>Manner related/Content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41. nyAYa</td>
<td>næʃ</td>
<td>in comparison to</td>
<td>Comparative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42. pane</td>
<td>pəne</td>
<td>at</td>
<td>Directional-Source-Destination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43. para/pare</td>
<td>pɔr pɔɾe</td>
<td>after/next</td>
<td>Temporal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Bengali</td>
<td>Transliteration</td>
<td>Translation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44.</td>
<td>paryanta</td>
<td>pordɔnto</td>
<td>until/till</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45.</td>
<td>pashchAte</td>
<td>postʃete</td>
<td>after/behind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46.</td>
<td>pashe</td>
<td>peʃe</td>
<td>beside</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47.</td>
<td>paxe</td>
<td>pokkʰe</td>
<td>for/in favor of/on behalf of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48.</td>
<td>pichhane/pec hhane</td>
<td>pɨtʃʰɒne</td>
<td>behind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49.</td>
<td>prati</td>
<td>proti</td>
<td>for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50.</td>
<td>sa~gNe</td>
<td>ʃɒnge</td>
<td>with</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51.</td>
<td>sahita</td>
<td>ʃohit</td>
<td>with/including</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52.</td>
<td>samandhe</td>
<td>ʃɔmɔndʰe</td>
<td>about/regarding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53.</td>
<td>sAmane</td>
<td>ʃemne</td>
<td>in front of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54.</td>
<td>sammukhe</td>
<td>ʃɔmmukʰe</td>
<td>in front of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55.</td>
<td>samparke</td>
<td>ʃɔmparke</td>
<td>about</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56.</td>
<td>sAthe</td>
<td>ʃetʰe</td>
<td>with/along/alongwith/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57.</td>
<td>tare</td>
<td>tɔre</td>
<td>because/for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58.</td>
<td>theke</td>
<td>tʰeke</td>
<td>from/away from/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59.</td>
<td>upara/upare/ opara</td>
<td>upɔr, upore, opor</td>
<td>above/onto/upon/on/over/up/on top of</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.3. Postpositional Phrase and Adverbial Phrase
A postpositional segment with their head, as a postposition behaving either a functional adverb or postposition is a very common occurrence in Bangla. The postpositional segments which reveal spatial, temporal or locational information can be categorized under the name of Adverbial phrase [14] since they carry vital information regarding the time, place and manner in which the activity has taken place. Whereas other postpositional segments disclosing information regarding other aspects such as causal, content, directional, comparative, manner related and other aspects can be grouped under the category of Postpositional phrases in Bangla. In English, prepositional phrases often perform almost similar functions. [15]

For example: Adverbial Phrase: - rAma rAdhAra pAshe baseChe
(Ram is sitting beside Radha.)

Postpositional Phrase - tA.DatA.Di ekhAna theke chale JAo
(You should, quickly go away from this place.)

5. Further scope of work
A number of postpositions are identical to certain non-finite verbs. This at times leads to a lot of ambiguity since identifying such postpositions from non-finite verbs becomes very difficult. These postpositions are chaite, cheYe, haYe, haite, hate, theke, diYe, diyA, tare, dhare, dhariYA, kare, kariYA, chhA.DA, and chhe.De. Initial study has revealed that when these syntactic units occur as non-finite verbs they are immediately followed by a finite verbal form. In the absence of the finite verb, they function as postpositions. For example:-

1. tAke diYe kAjaTA habenA.  
   (This work can not be done by him)

2. tumi tAke baiTA diYe AmAra bA.Di chale eso.  
   (You give him the book and come to my place.)

However, this study requires further analysis for providing better solution to this problem and accounting for the exceptions.

6. Conclusion
During the course of this paper, the concept, and the origin as well as the functional role of Postpositions in Bangla has been carefully studied. A thorough analysis of Postposition in Bangla has been conducted with the concept and behavioral aspects of Preposition in English, in mind. Like Preposition in English, Postposition in Bangla secures a quintessential position and plays a vital role in the understanding of the language. In this paper, the functional behavior of postposition in Bangla has been one of the major areas of focus. An in depth analysis of these area with the help of Karaka theory has enabled a better understanding of the myriad facets of Postpositions and Prepositions in their respective languages.
7. Appendix

Table: - 9

Bangla script in ITRANS notation (http://www.aczoom.com/itrans/beng/beng.html)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Buti</th>
<th>Its Beng</th>
<th>ITRANS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>অ</td>
<td>অ</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>আ</td>
<td>আ</td>
<td>aa or A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ই</td>
<td>ই</td>
<td>i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ঈ</td>
<td>ঈ</td>
<td>ii or i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>উ</td>
<td>উ</td>
<td>u</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ঊ</td>
<td>ঊ</td>
<td>uu or U</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ঋ</td>
<td>ঋ</td>
<td>RI or R’i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>এ</td>
<td>এ</td>
<td>e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ঐ</td>
<td>ঐ</td>
<td>al</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ও</td>
<td>ও</td>
<td>o</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ঔ</td>
<td>ঔ</td>
<td>aU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vowels  Numerals  Accents/Specials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Buti</th>
<th>Its Beng</th>
<th>ITRANS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ক</td>
<td>ক</td>
<td>ka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>খ</td>
<td>খ</td>
<td>kha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>গ</td>
<td>গ</td>
<td>ga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ঘ</td>
<td>ঘ</td>
<td>gha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ঙ</td>
<td>ঙ</td>
<td>“n or n’a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>চ</td>
<td>চ</td>
<td>cha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ছ</td>
<td>ছ</td>
<td>chha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>জ</td>
<td>জ</td>
<td>ja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ঝ</td>
<td>ঝ</td>
<td>jha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ঞ</td>
<td>ঞ</td>
<td>“n or n’a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ট</td>
<td>ট</td>
<td>ta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ঠ</td>
<td>ঠ</td>
<td>tha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ড</td>
<td>ড</td>
<td>da</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ঢ</td>
<td>ঢ</td>
<td>dha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ণ</td>
<td>ণ</td>
<td>na</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ত</td>
<td>ত</td>
<td>ta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>থ</td>
<td>থ</td>
<td>the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>দ</td>
<td>দ</td>
<td>da</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ধ</td>
<td>ধ</td>
<td>dha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ন</td>
<td>ন</td>
<td>na</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ব</td>
<td>ব</td>
<td>ba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ভ</td>
<td>ভ</td>
<td>bha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ম</td>
<td>ম</td>
<td>ma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>য</td>
<td>য</td>
<td>ja or ja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>র</td>
<td>র</td>
<td>ra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ল</td>
<td>ল</td>
<td>la</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>শ</td>
<td>শ</td>
<td>sha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ষ</td>
<td>ষ</td>
<td>she</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>স</td>
<td>স</td>
<td>sa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>হ</td>
<td>হ</td>
<td>ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ফ</td>
<td>ফ</td>
<td>kha or xa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ক</td>
<td>ক</td>
<td>ka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ঙ</td>
<td>ঙ</td>
<td>“n or n’a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ঘ</td>
<td>ঘ</td>
<td>gha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>কং</td>
<td>কং</td>
<td>kha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ঙং</td>
<td>ঙং</td>
<td>“n or n’a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ঘং</td>
<td>ঘং</td>
<td>gha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ঘঃ</td>
<td>ঘঃ</td>
<td>gha</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Consonants
8. Reference

1. (Ethnologue – Languages of the World)


5. Pabitra Sarkar, Bhasha Jigyasa, chapter 10[153-155], Vidyasagar Pustak Mandir, 2003


11. Pabitra Sarkar, Bhasha Jigyasa, chapter 10[150], Vidyasagar Pustak Mandir, 2003


Anwesa Bagchi
M.A. in Linguistics
Department of Linguistics