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A Critical Review of “On Case Grammar” by John M. Anderson

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The review is structured by obtaining the points sequentially —

1. PREVIEWING
2. ANNOTATING
3. SUMMARIZING
4. ANALYZING
5. RE-READING and RESPONDING
6. BIBLIOGRAPHY.

1. PREVIEWING

To review the book first point is previewing. This section contains following points —

- a. Purpose or reading;
- b. About cataloguing like information;
- c. Structure of the book from title page to index.

Purpose of reading of the selected book: In the history of case grammar, this book is a milestone after a paper by Fillmore’s “The Case for Case” in the generative syntacticism. This book is essential to study any case oriented research activity as a primer. I want to discover a role and relationship in the analysis of “GRAMMAR OF CONVERSATION: A CASE STUDY OF BANGLA”. To see or discover, the situation, if there is any role beyond the area



of case in syntax. I want to identify the impact of case in BANGLA CONVERSATION into the level of discourse. I want to identify how much responsibility of case and case elements to run a communicative successful conversation and the ratio of usage of case marker/ identifier/ recognizer in the BANGLA CONVERSATION monolingual or bilingual even multilingual environment among Bengali Speakers.

- Name: “ON CASE GRAMMAR: PROLEGOMENA TO A THEORY OF GRAMMATICAL RELATIONS”
- Author: JOHN M. ANDERSON
- Publisher: CROOM HELM LONDON HUMANITIES PRESS
- Publication Year: 1977
- Total Page: 317

Information about this book is coded as following manner:

© 1977 John M. Anderson

Croom Helm Ltd, 2-10 St John's Road, London SW11

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data

Anderson, John M

On case grammar.

1. Case grammar

I. Title

415 P163

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The content page is organized by following manner:

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2. ANNOTATING

The second point is Annotating. Here the main point is to find out the author's purpose of writing of this selected book. And also many peripheral points to find out the supporting materials which gives the nutrition to grow up the fulfilment of research or research perfection. For this how many TERMINOLOGIES are used by author to analyse his view(s). Among them may have some unfamiliar words or may not or may have new role and function of old TERM(S). I need to find out these one by one. Now the main point I will go to discuss in this section is author's purpose(s).

2.1 Author's purposes of writing: Mark the Thesis and Main Points of the Piece

Author discussed his ambition of this research into his book under the PREFACE section without marked any number before the numbering chapter started named "1. GRAMMARS OF CASE" as per modern Doctoral Thesis Design.



2.2 Information about the Sources mentioned by Author: Author, Anderson mentioned or added “BIBLIOGRAPHY” after discussing the main views. Point to be mentioned is need that after numbered chapter author added a chapter without number named by “NOTES”. In this section, 49 notes are added between page no. 281 to 283.

In Bibliography, two things is available, these are — (1) Abbreviation; (2) Included book name.

2.2.1 Abbreviation: In abbreviation section, 32 abbreviated forms are encoded.

2.2.2 Book name encoding style: To refer the bibliographic information of books is made by the style of APA. The book is added following manner —

2.2.2.1 BOOK (SINGLE AUTHOR): The single author book is encoded as —

Anderson, John M. (1971b), *The Grammar of Case: Towards a Localistic Theory*, London & New York, Cambridge University Press

2.2.2.2 BOOK (CO- AUTHOR): Co- author book is encoded as —

Lees, Robert B. & Edward S. Klima (1963) ‘Rules for pronominalization’, *Lg.* 39, 17-28

2.2.2.3 EDITED BOOK: The edited book is encoded as —

Zwicky, Arnold M. (1968), 'Naturalness arguments in syntax', *CLS* 4, 92-102—Peter H. Salus, Robert I. Binnick & Anthony L. Vanek (eds.) (1971), *Studies out in Left Field: Defamatory Essays presented to James D. McCawley on the occasion of his 33rd or 34th Birthday*, Edmonton & Champaign, Linguistic Research Inc.

2.2.3 Journal Article: Journal Article is referred as

Anderson, John M. (1968a), 'Ergative and nominative in English', *J L* 4, 1-32

2.2.4 Bibliographic Style Specificity



But one point is that here is not followed the completed APA style. Because in APA, surname is full and first and middle name is short like —

Anderson, J. M. (1977). *On Case Grammar*. Great Britain: Croom Helm London Humanities Press.

3. SUMMARIZING

Now let summarize the book's subject-matter followed by chapter name and obtaining contents. It is said about how many chapters were there in the previous section under "PREVIEWING". Those three chapters are summarized below following into 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3.

1. Grammars of Case: This chapter contains to notify the development of case grammar —
"In the preceding I have tried to sketch out some of the motivations underlying the development of case grammar and to indicate in a preliminary fashion some of its properties."[Anderson: 1977:63]. This chapter deals the following topics —
 - a. A traditional notion of case
 - b. Case notions and the aspects theory
 - c. Fillmorean case grammar
 - d. Some problems for case grammar 1: Multiple case relations per noun phrase
 - e. Some problems for case grammar 2: Multiple case tokens per proposition
 - f. Some problems for case grammar 3: Coordinating cases
 - g. Some problems for case grammar 4: Preposition marking
 - h. Some problems for case grammar 5: The spray paint cases
 - i. Some problems for subject- object grammar
 - j. Postscripts
 - k. PPs on Serialisation.

Here the chapter name is very specific, “Grammars...”. This word ‘grammars’ implies that there exist multiple model to analyze the CASE notion of grammar. The basic some prepositions are reliable to mark the CASE RELATION, these are “to”, “in”, and “on”.

2. Localist Case Grammar:This chapter contains following topics —

- a. Predicate subcategorization and multiple CRs
- b. Dependency case grammars
- c. On Ablatives
- d. Localist case grammar 1: A brief history
- e. Localist case grammar 2: A Proposal
- f. The Localist hypothesis and the complementarity criterion
- g. On the derivative status of Indirect Object 1: Case relation
- h. On the derivative status of Indirect Object 2: Decomposition.

3.3. On the Nature of Grammatical Relations: This chapter contains following topics —

- a. Introduction
- b. Case relations and grammatical relations 1: Reflectivisation
- c. Reflectivisation, Passives and Equi
- d. Case relations and grammatical relations 2: Equi.

Among them which obtain the main focuses of this book are analyze in the analyzing part in this article, section “4. ANALYZING”.

4. ANALYZING

- This book is mainly depends on the language of English. But the author one or two places consider the other language word order typological notions. To consider this notion he refers the Greenberg’s UNIVERSALS RULES which contain (1) preposition and (2) postposition marking languages. These are SVO type and SOV type.
- **MULTIPLE CASE RELATION:** Let consider following sentences —



- a. The stone moved [abs]
- b. John moved [abs, erg]/ [abs]
- c. John moved the stone [abs] [erg]

Here is clear one thing that, the ABSOLUTE CASE is basic and compulsory case feature of the verb “MOVE”. [Anderson: 1977: 82].

- About the DEPENDENCY CASE GRAMMAR, the rule is —

$$[_y[_\alpha[_V^a] V [_W^b] W]_\alpha[_X^c] X [_\beta[_Y^d] Y [_Z^e]Z]_\beta]$$

- Any verb may contain many CASE FEATURES and CASE RELATIONS [Anderson: 1977: 100] —

$$V \rightarrow [\quad]$$

- The markers of loc and allatives are frequently identical: “in” and “on” in English.
- Following sentences are considerable as per CASE RELATION COMPLEXITY —

1. a. Mary gave John an apple
b. Mary gave an apple to John [Anderson: 1977: 146-147]
2. a. Mary taught John linguistics
b. Mary taught linguistics to John [Anderson: 1977: 147]
3. a. Bill gave a book to Mary
b. Bill gave Mary a book [Anderson: 1977: 153]

Here the considerable thing is that the ordering position of NP and PP followed by verb. [+Human] Object is always takes a PREPOSITION if it follows the NP which follows the verb. This position changing is reason for the changing of CASE RELATION as well as THETA ROLE.

- IMPORTANCE in BANGLA CONVERSATION: Let consider the examples in Bangla which are available in our everyday conversation pattern.

4. A: □□□□□□□-□□□□□□□ □□□□ □□ □□□□□□□□

Shrimayee-Editor a book give-PAST



Shrimayee-Editor gave me a book.

B: □□□□?

Whom

Whom?

A: □□□□□□

Me

Me./ To me.

The surface representation is not clear “what is the case and theta role of this word?” So consider the example (5).

5. □□□□□ □□□□ □□ □□□□□□□□

Me a book give-PAST

Gave me a book.

Here is the full deep interpretation of the ELIPTIC SENTENCE “□□□□□□”.

Now consider the example no (6).

6. □□□□□ φ □□□□□□□

Me φ give-PAST

Gave me φ.

Here is created the THEME ellipsis. The CASE feature is ACCUSATIVE.

Now consider the example no (7).

7. □□□□□ φ □□□□□□□

Me φ give-PAST

Gave φ to me.

Here is created the THEME ellipsis. The CASE feature is ABLATIVE. S



So in CONVERSATION ANALYSIS of INDIAN LANGUAGES as well as Bangla is needed to consider this multiple notion of case relation.

- Evidentiality of Example Usage: About evidence of the examples are loaned, those are marked by reference like (1974a, 157) format. [Anderson: 1977: 147].

5. RE-READING and RESPONDING

This text or Research is very valuable to analyze or further any research in CASE RELATION. This book is a milestone in study of the CASE as a Grammatical relation. We need to develop this multiple notion of CASE in INDIAN LANGUAGES' CONVERSATION ANALYSIS or any type of structural analysis of INDIAN LANGUAGES.

6. WORKS CITED

Anderson, John M. *On Case Grammar*. Great Britain: Croom Helm London Humanities Press, 1977.

Zwicky, Arnold M. *Naturalness arguments in syntax*. . Vol. CLS., 1968. 4 vols.