Strategy to Combine Clauses In *Waijewa* Dialect

A Sumbanese Language

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Abstract

Clause is defined as a grammatical unit consisting of the elements of subject (S) and predicate (P), both with object (O) and adverbial (A), and has the capability of being a sentence. Clauses can be categorized based on (i) the core arguments, (ii) the presence or absence of negative words in predicate, (iii) the categories of words or phrases that occupy predicate function, (iv) its capacity of being a sentence, (v) their functions in sentences. A clause can be combined in two ways, *first* using coordinate conjunction forming a coordinate construction, and second using subordinate conjunction forming a subordinate construction. This research attempted to analyze the strategy of combining clauses in *Waijewa* Dialect; a *Sumbanese* language.

This research applied qualitative method in which the written data were collected from three key informants and four supporting informants from each district in *Waijewa* using four techniques namely; (1) observation, (2) structure-based interview, (3) documentation, and (4) triangulation. The collected data were analyzed using distributional method. The theory used to analyze the data was the language typology theory proposed by Dixon (1994) and 2010) and Comrie (1983).

The result showed that in *Waijewa* dialect clauses could be divided into two; namely, the clauses having verbal predicates and the ones having nonverbal predicates. *Waijewa* dialect has clitic pronouns marking the arguments of the verbs. They showed nominative, accusative, and genitive cases. The coordinate constructions in BSDW could be categorized into two forms such as: (1) syndetic (construction marked by conjunction) and (2) *asyndetic* (without conjunction marker). The forms of

subordinate clause in subordinate construction were divided into three; namely, (1) relative clause, (2) complementation clause, and (3) adjunct clause. Arguments A and S were relativized by gapping and attaching the prefix *{a-}* to the V and the relativization of the arguments O, E, locative, and instrument was done by gapping and attaching prefix *{pa-}* to the V. The complementation clause could be combined using either the conjunction *ba* 'that' or without the conjunction *ba*, verb serialization, relative clause construction, purposive linking with the conjunction *{ka}* 'for' or without the conjunction *ka*. The adjunct clause could be combined using either conjunction or without conjunction.

Keywords: clitic, nominative, accusative, genitive, syndetic, asyndetic.

1. Introduction

Bahasa Sumba dialek Waijewa (hereinaffer abbreviatred to BSDW) is a language spoken in South West Sumba regency especially in North Waijewa, West Waijewa, East Waijewa , and South Waijewa districts . BSDW is a Bima-Sumba subgroup language. It is classified as Central Malayo-Polynesian. According to Syamsudin (1996) the Bima-Sumba language consists of three subgroups, namely (a) the Bima and Komodo language, (b) Manggarai language, Ngada, which consists of Manggarai and Ngada-Lio language, (c) the Sumba and Sawu language.

Not many studies of Waijewa dialect have been conducted so far. The previous research was solely focused on the Kambera dialect. Several studies have been conducted among them was the study conducted by Widarsini (1985) entitled "the affinity phoneme of Austronesian ancient language with Kambera dialect and Manggarai". The other studies were conducted by Ariningsih (1997) entitled "Taboo Words of Sumba Dialects", Marian Klamer (1998) entitled "A Short Grammar of Kambera", Sari (1998) entitled "The Phonology of Sumbanese language in East Sumba: Generative and Transformation", and by Simpen (2008) entitled "Politeness on using language in native Language in East Sumba (dissertation)".

Another reason why BSDW was used as the object of the present study was that BSDW does not have any written document especially about its grammatical system. So

far the grammar book available is only about Kambera dialect. If Waijewa dialect is compared to Kambera dialect, several differences were identified with respect to the clitic pronouns marking the verbal arguments and the other forms of syntactic markers like aspect, modality, definiteness, and the like. A different marking system certainly influences the strategy of combining clauses. Therefore, this research is focused on the strategy of combining clauses in Waijewa dialect.

This research aimed at analyzing (1) the basic structure of the clause, (2) the structure of the arguments and the valence of the verb, and (3) the strategy of combining clauses in coordinate and subordinate constructions.

2.   Material and Method

This research is a field research based on post positivism philosophy or interpretative paradigm, meaning that the object cannot be partially broken into some variables. The method used to collect the data was qualitative method. The data were in the forms of written and oral data. The written data were taken from informants through; (1) observation, (2) structure-based interview, and (3) triangulation. The written data were taken using documentation technique. The collected data were then analyzed using distributional method. The result of the analysis was presented formally and informally.

3. Result and Discussion

The discussion of the strategy of combining clauses in Waijewa dialect is focused on the result of data analysis. Three points are discussed here; they are: (1) the basic structure of the clause, (2) the structure of the argument and the valance of the verb; and (3) the strategy of combining clauses in coordinate and subordinate constructions.

3.1 The basic clausal structure in Waijena

The clause in Waijewa dialect can be divided into two; they are: the clause having verbal predicate and the clause having nonverbal predicate. The verbal clauses are in the forms of intransitive and transitive clauses. The clauses having non verbal predicates are the clauses having noun, adjective, number, and adposition as predicates. BSDW has

clitic pronouns marking the arguments of the verb. They show nominative, accusative, and genitive cases.

Examples:

(1) *Nati   ka'bani   na - dakura-   ga   yauwa*
    DEM   man   3SgN - stabbed   1SgA   1Sg

That man stabbed me.

(2) *Nati lakawa   na   – nego*
    DEM anak   3SgN -   dance
    That girl danced

The clitic pronoun *{na-}* is attached to the verb *dakura* 'stab' in example (1) and the verb *nego* 'danced' functons as the nominative marker of the third person singular. The clitic *{-ga}* in example (1) functions as the acussative marker of the first person singular.

3.2 The Structure of the Argument and The Valence of The Verb

The argument structure of intransitive clause is S - (Pro,NP animate/non animate)- nominative case-intrV. S can also have genitive, accusative, and double markers (nominative and accusative). The S marked with genitive case in interrogative clause relates to the mood of the clause, while the S marked with accusative case in declarative relates to modality or aspect. S is marked like O in imperative when the verb receives more emphasis than the verbal argument. S is marked in accusative case in the nominal predicate clause because, semantically, S does not control the activity. The S which has double markers (nominative and accusative) shows that the speaker is certain about the situation expressed in the clause.

Examples

(3) *You'wa ne'e – ngga   rio.*
    1Sg   ASP – 1SgA mandi
    I am taking a bath.

(4) *Kako-mi   yemmi!*
    Go-2PlN 2Pl
    You , go

(5) *You'wa guru – wa – ngga*
1T   guru – P.def – 1TA
I am a teacher

(6) *Pirra mba ammi – nggu?*
QW   ASP datang – 1SgPOS
When did you come?.'

(7) *Wai-na   na-malau-na*
Leg-3SgPOS 3SgN-long-3SgA
His legs are long

Sentences (3—5) show that S is marked with accusative case while sentence (6) shows that S is marked with genitive case. The S in (7) has double markers.

The structure of clause transitive is A - nominative case - trnV- accusative case/Def.EMP – (O (Pro/NP)). A can also be marked with genitive, accusative, or double markers (nominative plus accusative). The A marked with genitive case in interrogative sentence relates to mood and the status of the clause as a subordinate one in relative construction. The A marked with accusative case relates firmly to aspect or modality. A is marked simultaneously with nominative and accusative when the speaker is certain about the situation expressed by the clause. The argument O has different marking system. The marking system of O is closely related to definiteness or non definiteness. Pronouns are considered definite so they are marked with accusative case. The O realized by NP definite may be marked with accusative or definite emphasis. The NP indefinite is not marked with accusative case.

Examples:

(8) *Appa pa – woi – mu   ne   pasara dana.*
QW   Rel$_o$ – buy – 2SgPOS DEM   market   AP
'Waht did you buy in the market ?.'

(9) *Na   ata   pa – pamai – nda   na –   kendu bana.*
DEM perso Rel$_o$ – panggil – 3PlPOS 3SgTN – run   ASP

'The person who called me has run away.'

(10) *Ne'e-ndi   a -gezo   pare*
      ASP-3PlN 3PlN-polish rice
      They are polishing rice.'

(11)   *Na   lakawa na –   kaula – ngga   you'wa.*
       DEM boy   3SgN –calll –   1SgA 1Sg
       'That boy called me.'

The valence increasing in BSDW is done through the process of causative and applicative. The valence reducing is done through reciprocal and anti causative. Morphologically, causative is marked by the prefix *{pa-}* before the intransitive verb of adjective. The anti causative is marked by prefix *{ma-}* before the transitive verbs *todi* 'close and '*bukke* 'open'. The meaning of reciprocal is marked by the clitic *{pa-}*on the verb after the nominative marker showing plural person.

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3.3 Coordinate and Subordinate Construction

Coordinate construction in BSDW can be categorized into two forms such as: (1) syndetic (construction marked by conjunction) and (2) *asyndetic* (without conjunction marker). The subordinate clause is divided into three namely, (1) the relative clause construction, (2) the complementation clause, (3)the adjunct clause. The arguments A and S in relative constructions are relativized by gapping and attaching the prefix *{a-}* before the PRED. The relativization of the arguments O, E, locative, and instrument are done by gapping and attaching the prefix *{pa-}* before the PRED. Possessor is relativized using the resumptive pronoun strategy. The complement clause comes after the primary verb B or after the secondary verb type A, B, and C. The table below shows the semantic type of the verb and the types of complement clause in BSDW.

	Primary Type B		Type of clause
1	attention	*eta* 'see'	fact and activity
		rengge 'dengar'	fact and activity
2	thinking	*pange'da* 'think'/'consider'	fact and activity
		pande 'know'	fact, potential

3	deciding	*pata 'decide'*	fact, potential
4	liking	*mbei* 'like'	potential, activity
5	speaking	*tekki* 'say'	fact
		patuka 'ask'	potential
		roru 'persuade'	potential

Secondary type		Type of Clause
A	*mulai* 'begin' *ba* 'finish' *nungnga* 'try'	potential and activity
B	*mbei* 'want' *kambu* 'plan	potential
C	*paksa* 'force' *ngai* 'let'	potential

The complementation clause can be combined using the conjunction *ba* 'that' or without the conjunction *ba,* verb serialization, relative clause construction, purposive linking with the conjunction *ka* 'for' or without the conjunction *ka.* The adjunct clause can be combined using conjunction or without conjunction.

4. Novelties

Some novelties found in the research are as follows.

(1) Waijewa dialect is a limited affix language. Being a limited affix language does not mean that the language is not capable of expressing various meanings in a clause structure. The limited affixes are optimally used to convey many various meanings in the clause using the same marker to express different meanings in different structures.

(2) Based on the word order, the clausal structure in Waijewa belongs to SVO type.

(3) BSDW is a head-marking language, that is, the language which is rich in morpho-syntactic marking on the (verbal, nominal, adjectival) predicator; the pronominal, aspect, definite emphasis or modality clitic together with predicate constitute the nuclear clause.

(4) Waijewa has three paradigms of clitic pronouns namely, nominative, accusative, and genitive. Those clitics mark person, number, and morphological case in the clause structure.

(5) BSDW belongs to *NP drop* language because the clitics are the predicate arguments and the NPs are optional. Verb plus pronominal marker already constitute a complete clause. The full NPs are included only for emphasis or disambiguation.

(6) Typologically, BSDW belongs to fluid S, in which S is marked like A; however, S can also be marked like O. S is marked like O in nominal predicate because S is identical with the situation expressed by the predicate; thus, S in that situation is non active or does not control the activity. S is marked by O in verbal predicate when the structure emphasizes modality, the verb, or aspect of the verb.

5. Conclusion and Suggestion
5.1 Conclusion

Based on the data analysis it was found that BSDW clause could be divided into two namely, the clause having verbal predicate and the clause having nonverbal predicate. BSDW has clitic pronouns marking the arguments of the verbs. They show nominative, accusative, and genitive case. BSDW is regarded as NP drop since the clitic pronouns may already constitute a complete clause without the appearance of the NP as their hosts.

The argument structure of intransitive clause has the pattern S - (Pro,NP animate/non animate)- nominative case-intrV. S can also have genitive, accusative, and double markers (nominative and accusative). The structure of transitive clause is A - nominative case - trnV- accusative case/Def.Emp – (O(Pro/NP)). A can also be marked with genitive, accusative case, and double markers (nominative plus accusative). The marking system for O is closely related to definiteness or non definiteness. The valence increasing in BSDW is done through the process of causative and applicative. The valence reducing is done through reciprocal and anti causative.

Coordinate construction in BSDW can be categorized into two forms such as: (1) syndetic (construction marked by conjunction) and (2) *asyndetic* (without conjunction marker). The subordinate clauses found in subordinate construction are (1) relative clause construction, (2) complementation clause, (3) adjunct clause. Argument A and S are relativized by gapping and attaching prefix *{a-}* before the PRED and the relativization

of argument O, E, locative, and instrument is done by gapping and attaching prefix {pa-} before the PRED. Possessor is relativized using resumptive pronoun strategy. Complementation clause can be combined using the conjunction *ba* 'that' or without conjunction, verb serialization, relative clause construction, purposive linking with conjunction *ka* 'for' or without conjunction. The adjunct clause can be combined using conjunction or without conjunction.

5.2 Suggestion

Waijewa dialect seems interesting to be investigated because it is rich in language phenomena. Being a language without written document, many problems need to be observed such as phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics. This gives other researchers opportunities to explore the phonology and morphology of Waijewa especially about clitics and affixes. On syntax level, the things which need to be deeply observed are complex predicate and verb serialization. It is hoped that further research on Waijewa can be used as a complete document to avoid the language from becoming extinct.

6. Acknowledgements

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