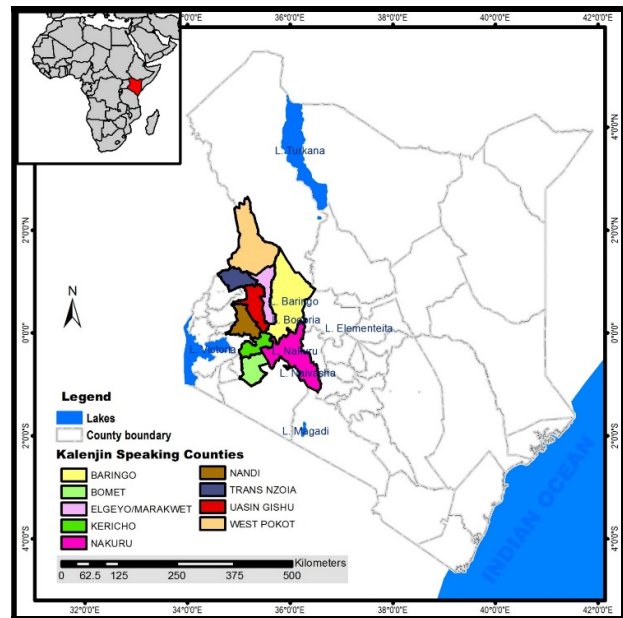


A Description of the Intransitive Verb And Enunciation of Its Function In Samor Of Baringo County, Kenya. A Morpho- Syntactic Study

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Abstract— The desire of the present study is an excursion into the characteristic features and function of the Samor intransitive verb phrase. The Samor speakers are a group of inhabitants living in Baringo County. The reason for studying Samor which is a dialect of Tugen is because this dialect has not received much attention in documented previous research. Languages and their subsequent dialects have varying features that distinguish them from other languages of the world. In previous analysis of world languages and dialects, findings indicate that a language may be verb second or verb initial. In addition, a language may also agglutinate phi- features in the verb, fuse the features or isolate such features. The current research hopes to find out how Samor which differs from other conventional languages analyzes the intransitive verb and also seek to understand the function of the transitive verb in Samor. The objectives of the study were achieved by analyzing ten (10) select utterances in Samor that were used to understand the intransitive verb and its functions in sentential constructions. The present study was carried out in Baringo County which is highlighted in yellow in the map of Kenya as can be seen in figure 1 below, this is a region that is inhabited by the Tugen people. These people can be split into four sub- dialects. They are Samor, Arror, Endorois and Lembus. The current research focused on the Samor which is the main focus of study. The other sub- dialects may also need to be investigated in future research. According to the map of Kenya shown below, the Samor live in the Eastern side of communities living around Lake Victoria see map of Kenya figure 1.

The researcher sampled approximately ten (10) Tugen speakers speaking Samor as their dialect. The ten speakers were selected using systematic random sampling procedure as proposed by Dornyei (2007). According to him, such kind of sampling involves picking subjects in a manner that one is able to get the specific people who will provide data. The ten respondents were then subjected to a questionnaire that had been prepared earlier by the researcher. The questionnaire had expressions in Samor that needed to be translated into English. After the respondents were subjected to the select expressions. The researcher transcribed the responses and translated them into English equivalent expressions. These expressions were then analyzed using Chomsky’s (2007) minimalist theory. The aim was to understand the Samor intransitive verbs and understand its functions in a grammatical sentence.



Index Terms— Samor, Intransitive, Minimalist Program, Dynamic and Stative..

I. INTRODUCTION

A number of studies on world languages and dialects have tended to describe the grammatical properties of languages such as parts of speech, inflectional properties of verbs among others which is normally referred to as the grammar of a language. In the analysis of grammatical category and function, we are able to understand how languages perform various functions such as tense, aspect, number and classes of words. In the process of categorization of words in a language’s grammar, we can come across various parts of speech such as the noun phrase (NP), the verb phrase (VP), the Prepositional Phrase (PP), the adverb phrase (ADVP), and Adjectival Phrase (AP). This traditional method of analyzing the sentence has been done in major languages while the minority ones did not receive any attention. This present study seeks to fill this gap by attempting to analyze Samor a minor dialect spoken in Baringo County Kenya. The research does not aim to analyze the various phrase structure rules but narrows down to transitivity in Samor. The verb phrase is usually made of a main verb and one or more auxiliary verbs (Eastwood, 2002). In phrase structure rules (PSR) the main verb that is obligatory. The other forms are optional and that

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is why these are called auxiliary or helping verbs. The auxiliary verbs that combine with the main verb as helping verbs are as follows:

- a) BE- is, was, were, are, am, been, being.
- b) HAVE- have, has, had, having.
- c) DO- do, does, did, doing.

Hewings (2005) classifies such kind of verbs as falling under the category of primary auxiliary verbs (copula). Apart from primary auxiliary verbs, the other verb types that express mood and modality are referred to as modal auxiliaries (Huddleston & Pullum, 2008). They list the following examples:

- i. Can and could
- ii. May and might
- iii. Shall and should
- iv. Will and would

The modal listed above are but a few that have been identified. These authors also state that primary auxiliary verbs may perform the following functions:

- i. Mark future time
- ii. Express the perfective
- iii. Indicate progressive aspect
- iv. Present and past progressive.

In Turkish, the transitive subjects are marked with the ergative case; intransitive subjects and direct objects receive nominative case marking. These are aspectual forms; temporal meanings are expressed periphrastically, by one of these forms and a copula. Syntactically, Turkish is a dependent marking language; its basic word order is SOV and the language makes use of postpositions (Manker, 2016). The assertion about Turkish can also be replicated in Samor which is a verb initial language with the following word orders; SOV, OSV since the language selects the arguments cyclically. Transitive verbs have more than one argument, while the intransitive verbs have one argument. The transitivity of a verb can only be determined by looking at which non-past suffix the stem takes. In another analysis of verb form and function, Meyer (2002) and Manker (2016) categorize languages as falling under the following categories: fusional, isolating and polysynthetic. This is because languages do not share similar characteristics. He explains the categories as follows:

i) Agglutinating- easily segmentable into constituent morphemes.

- concept of adding prefixes, infixes and suffixes (affixation) as Rieger (2011) puts it is demonstrated using the Swahili utterance “a”.
- a) ni-li-m-fung-u-li-a
- SUB-TA-INF-ROOT-EXT-FV

ii) Fusional- morphemes combine multiple pieces of information in a single morpheme.

iii) Isolating- lack any morphology i.e. segmentable parts.

iv) Polysynthetic- Words may contain a considerable number of suffixes after the root.

From the above categorization, the present study was in position to classify Samor as an agglutinating dialect. This means that the dialect has segmentable parts that is base/ root and its affixes attached as prefixes or suffixes. The affixes in

this dialect have grammatical function marking tense and aspectual features.

In a majority of world languages, a bound morpheme is that morpheme that cannot stand or occur as an independent word (Bello, 2001). This is because it needs to be attached to a free morpheme or word to have a clear meaning. There are many examples of bound morphemes such as the following:

Derivational morphemes- -ment, -dom, -ness etc

Inflectional morphemes- -en, -ing, -ed

Eastwood (2002) defines an inflectional morpheme as one which is a type of a bound morpheme, is defined by linguists as a mere grammatical indicator or marker while the derivational morpheme which is also called a derived morpheme is a type of bound morpheme which generates or creates new words. The process of attaching these morphemes to the base word is important in word formation processes in morphology. This is important since most verbs in Samor agglutinate affixes to the base intransitive verb so as to perform a number of grammatical functions.

These grammatical functions include tense and aspect marking. Bello (2001) argues that a morpheme is “the smallest meaningful unit in the structure of a language”. By smallest meaningful unit, she meant the unit which cannot be further broken up without destroying or drastically altering its meaning. Words are made up of morphemes either free or bound. The free morpheme is the core part which usually sit anywhere within a word. On its own, it can function as an independent word, that is, a word that can stand on its own because it carries meaning. The intransitive verb has the function of expressing tense and time distinctions.

- Present time situations

According to Rieger (2011) the primary use of the present tense is to locate the situation in the present time ‘situation’. We note that present time is the time of the utterance. The verb marks different types of situations which can be classified as either static (states of affairs, relations) or dynamic (actions, processes, events). Huddleston and Pullum (2005) note that static situations will be understood to extend beyond the moment of the utterance e.g.

Kim lives in Berlin- static (Huddleston, 2008)

However, they say that dynamic situations will be understood as not extending beyond that moment e.g.

John plays defensively. Dynamic (Hewings, 2005)

Present tense utterances are simultaneous with the time of an utterance. However, we can also note present time future situations:

ii) Present time schedules of the future situations

These can be classified under the dynamic situations which are in the future time, not present time. The concern is what is presently arranged or ‘scheduled’ e.g.

The ceremony starts tomorrow- Eastwood (2002)

iii) Future in subordinate clauses

Busmann (2006) identifies some other form of future in subordinate clauses. He says in this situation, some certain types of subordinate clauses, a present tense verb is combined with a temporal expression e.g. before, after etc. or combined with conditional clauses to express a future condition. For

instance;

The child sleeps early after a heavy meal.

Other than the present, he also identifies the

b) Past tense

Bussmann (2006) states that the past tense has the following uses:

i) Past time situations

The past tense according to Hewings (2005) serves to locate the situation in the past time. This is for static and dynamic situations. Static and dynamic situations if converted into the past will terminate the current situation the person is in and convert it into something that happened or used to happen. e.g.

Kim lived in Berlin

ii) Factual remoteness- Indicates the likelihood of the situation in the past or remote time.

e.g.

If Mary came tomorrow, I would be happy.

Tense in Samor also identifies a number of distinctions e.g. present, past and future. This is the ultimate aim of this study to find out the various tense markings.

- Theoretical framework

The present study borrowed from Chomsky's (2007) Minimalist Program (MP). The theory argues that in an operation or sentence formation strategy, the aim of Minimalism is to utilise only the theoretical apparatus that are at the bare minimum. The theory argues thus the operation merge that is building phrases and sentences an operation merge is required to construct any type of a phrase since one particle demands for another. The combination enables one item to be added to another. In an operation merge, null constituents developing a constrained theory of UG which makes use only of constructs which are conceptually necessary in sentential constructions. These constructions formed must only be those that are permitted in Universal Grammar (UG). The operation merge include contain (ment) and c-command in that if we merge a head X with a complement YP to form an XP projection, XP contains X, YP and all the constituents of YP, and X c-commands YP and all the constituents of YP. These according to Chomsky (2006) are the only primitive relations in syntax. The current research used the principle of merge to ascertain that only the primitive units of the word that are allowed to combine with the phrasal categories NP, PP, ADVP, AP and VP are allowed. The theory argues that only those components that the phrase type takes as its complements are allowed or merged together.

According to Crystal (2010) transitivity refers to a category used in the grammatical analysis of clause/ sentence constructions, with particular reference to the verb's relationship to dependent elements of structure. The main members of this category are transitive referring to a verb which can take a direct object and intransitive where it cannot. Many verbs can have both a transitive and an intransitive use and in some languages this distinction is marked morphologically. More complex relationships between a verb and the elements dependent upon it are usually classified separately. For example, verbs which take two objects are

sometimes called ditransitive while others are monotransitive. Dialects and languages differ, this then means that every human language has unique grammar rules that govern sentential construction. These sentences demonstrate transitivity in unique ways. A study by Spencer (1998) argues that an intransitive verb has two characteristics. First, it is an action verb, expressing a doable activity like cheer, cry, shout etc. However, unlike a transitive verb, it does not take a direct object. Another author that is Hewings (2005) states that a transitive verb is a verb that requires an object to receive the action of the verb. On the other hand, intransitive verb does not take an object. As such, an intransitive verb doesn't require a direct object to indicate the person, thing acted upon. Hence any verb that takes a direct object is categorized as transitive. In some sentential constructions, a transitive verb may take more than one object, such verbs are referred to as ditransitive whereas sentences that take only one object are referred to as monotransitive verbs. However, this type of sentences is primarily categorized as Subject Verb Object (SVO) word order languages. On the contrary, in verb initial languages, the verb and its dependants or object come after the verb. The dependants can be adverbs, prepositional phrases. As a consequence of the differences in word order in world languages, there will be marked difference in the way in which functions of the intransitive verb combines with its objects and dependants. These researchers opine that an intransitive verb has the main function of expressing tense and aspectual contrasts.

III FINDINGS FROM THE RESEARCH

In the analysis of the intransitive verb in Samor, the study identified a category of verb type in Samor called intensive verbs. This is a class of verbs that only allow adverbs and adjectives as complements; this means that they lack objects that appear after the verb like the transitive verbs. The intensive verbs explain feelings and refer to the same person. The dialect uses expressions that describe a condition. In addition, utterances that corefer use an intensive verb. Coreference is the characteristic of pronouns to refer back to themselves. In the Samor dialect the prefix "uu-" is used to express someone's condition. As such, if you want to say that someone appears sick, you will say "uu". This is because the expression discusses an assumption about something that has not been verified. Feelings in Samor are examples of things that cannot be verified.

The data below which was picked from the interview schedule illustrates how intensive verbs combine with adverbs of time to express a state of a person in the current time or period. See the extract below:

Extract 1

EXB3- Uu baibai inen ra- *S/he seems happy today.*

EXB4- Uu neregat inen ra- *S/he appears angered today.*

EXB4- Uu neregat inen ra- *S/he appears angered today.*

In extract 1 above, the example EXB3 below indicates a state in Samor. The sub- dialect uses the expression {uu} which expresses states. Another state is in example EXB4

below which implies that the person being referred to is angry. Anger cannot be seen unless someone expresses it outwardly. The examples EXB3 and EXB4 below indicates how intransitive verbs show states in the present.

EXB3- úú- bàibài ínén rá.

INTRA PEF PRES úú- ADJ bàibài- DO ínén- ADV rá

S/he seems happy today.

EXB4- úú- nèrègát ínén rá.

INTRA PEF PRES úú- ADJ nèrègát- DO ínén- ADV rá

S/he seems angered today.

Extract 2

The original data below, was picked from interview questions below.

QKS- Ileni nee yo imache imwa ile, kit ne imwae ra ko agopo chi agenge kityo?

QKE- How do you state that the object of discussion in the present is singular in nature?

RK3S- Kergei inen ak lakwenyuu

RK4S- Tinyei lakwee tong'oyon

Translation- RK4T- The child has a cough.

In example RK4S below, we can see another state in Samor whereby the child is said to display signs of fever.

RK4S- Tinyei lakwee tong'oyon.

RV tinyéi- DO lakwee- DO- tong'oyon

The child has a cough.

The examples EXB3, EXB4 and RK4S above express attributes of the subject and hence refer to the subject itself. There are no objects in examples EXB3 and EXB4 however, in example RK4S the noun 'tong'oyon' takes an intransitive 'tinyei' since it expresses a condition. These three examples are in the present tense. However, for one to express them in the past tense, we need to use the {ka-, ko- and ki} time allomorphs. The second category of intransitive verbs in Samor may fall under the category called dynamic verbs in English.

- Dynamic Verbs

The other category of verbs in Samor which is the dynamic verbs express something happening or dynamism. These activities show an active activity that can be seen or even measured. For instance, the activity of running is observable and someone can see the distance covered. Dynamic verbs are also referred to as action verbs (Hewings, 2005). This category covers a higher percentage than the other classes of verbs in Samor since it expresses various human actions. This class of verbs is also the main class of verbs in Samor that allows affixation in general. This class of verbs is used to contrast with the stative verbs. Dynamic verbs express tense and aspect in Samor. Most dynamic verbs are essentially monosyllabic in this sub- dialect. Study the example in picked from the original data extract 3

Extract 3

QWS- Ileni nee ye imache ile iyae kiy em sait ne kaking'alalun?

QWE- How do you say you are doing something at the time someone is speaking to you?

RW1S- Aleni, atile ketit.

RW2S- Aleni abae lakwee.

Translation

RW1E- I will say, I am cutting the tree.

RW2E- I will say, I am feeding the child.

In example RW1S below, we can see an example of a dynamic action.

RW1S- á – til- è ketit

SG á- RV PRES til- PROG è- DO ketit.

I am cutting the tree.

The example RW1S above also expresses a dynamic action in the present time. The base verb highlights the current time whereas the {-e-} suffix is an aspect marker showing progress. An action can also be expressed as having taken place a while ago. This other example picked from extract 4 expresses an immediate past activity because of the use of {ka-} a past tense marker. See example 106, S2ME below.

S2ME- Ká – til- è ket eng mbar.

PST SG ká- RV til- PROG è-IO ket- PREP eng- DO mbar.

I was cutting a tree in the farm.

A dynamic action can also be expressed in the future by using the future time modal 'mo tun' I will. See example coded S4AP below picked from extract 4.

S4AP- Mo tun aam malik kab boiyot.

FUT Mo- ADV tun- SG á- RV am- IO malik kab- DO boiyot

I eat (metaphor) the wealth of my father.

Most of the examples discussed earlier fall under dynamic verbs in Samor. The examples above are for illustration purposes. Further research, will enable other researchers to unearth more data.

The present study also found out this dialect has another category of intransitive verbs which in English we refer to as stative verbs.

- Stative verbs

This class of verbs is the opposite of the dynamic verbs, stative verbs are the group of verbs that do not admit affixation. Stative verbs explain the state of someone or something. Such verbs do not describe an action or activity. As a result of this, these verbs in Samor cannot express the progressive. Apart from highlighting the state of something, these verbs may also be used to give facts or factual information for example "ángén"- know. State verbs express tense as seen in extract 28 pg. 117. The verb "angen" is stative since it expresses an intrinsic attribute. Another stative verb is "achame" as seen in extract 5 below.

Extract 5

QKS- Ileni nee yo imache imwa ile, kit ne imwae ra ko agopo chi agenge kityo?

QKE- How do you state that the object of discussion in the present is singular in nature?

RK5S- Aluuche lakwee

RK6S- Achame inen

Translation

RK5T- I will box the child.

RK6T- I love him.

In example 108, RK6S below extract 42 provides another example of a stative verb. A state is defined as condition that something or someone is in (Hanks, 1994). In example, 108, RK6S below, the state occurs at the present moment.

RK6S á-chám- é inen
SG á- RV chám- FV é- PRON inen

I love him.

In example 109, RK6S below, the addition of {ka-} highlights a state in the immediate past. The speaker expresses his liking towards the object of admiration. In example 109, RK6S below, the only difference in that the utterance is that it is in the past tense. The base verb remains the same.

RK6S ká/ko/ki- achám- é inen
IMM PST ká- RV chám- FV é- PRON inen

I loved him.

Extract 6

S4AP- SERMON- Amu sait amwae ale sirutik ko nuok. Jehova ko kergei itontonyen ak nenyoo. Kitinye itondo agenge ak inen. Angen ale okuysoti okwek kou noto. Ak ngo uu noto, ko kingen kele uu ma ya sobenyo ak acheke amu kitinye chi ne ribeech. Jehova ko tinyei robisiek che sirei chi ne tinyei robisiek chich. Lenei bich alak atinye tugukchu ako makergei ak che bo Jehova.

Translation

Because of time, I am saying my preaching will be short. God's image is the same as ours. We have one image/ similarity with him. I know that you all know it that way. And as it is like that, we know that, it seems our live isn't bad since we have someone who takes care of us. God has more money than those who have money/ rich. Some people say they have their possessions but they aren't the same as God. There is no man who can equal God.

In example coded S4AP extract 6 above, the the pastor describes that we human beings have a similar look to that of God. See example (h) S4AP below.

S4AP- Kergei itontonyen ak nenyoo.
PRES RV kérégi – ADJ itontonyen- PREP ak- DO nenyoo

His complexion is the same with ours.

The expression coded S4AP above, illustrates that God's resemblance is the same as ours. The example S4AP above also shows how a stative verb can be used to explain a state in the present time. However, if the speaker wants to focus on an earlier comparison, he or she will use a past tense prefix {kí-, ko- and ka}. See example S4AP below.

S4AP- ka/ko/ki-í- kérégi itontonyen ak nenyoo.
PST TNS kí- RV kérégi – ADJ itontonyen- PREP ak- DO nenyoo

His complexion was the same as ours.

Apart from expressing resemblance, stative verbs may also indicate people's thoughts. In the following example, a person states that s/he understands what is being said at the present time. See the example below.

Extract 7

QZS- Ileni nee ye imache imwa akobo kapwatutik?

QZE- How do you state thoughts?

RZ1S- Aleni, akuysoti chichin.
RZ2S- Aleni, ipwati tugun chichin.
RZ3S- Aleni, tinyei kapwatut chichin.

Translation

RZ1E- I will say, I understand him/her.

RZ2E- I will say, s/he is thinking of things.

RZ3E- I will say, s/he has thoughts.

In example RZ1S above, the speaker states that s/he understands someone. See example coded RZ1S below.

RZ1S- Á- kùysòtí chichin.

SG á- PRES RV kùysòtí- DO chichin.

I understand that person.

The example RZ1S above, illustrates a present circumstance. However, if someone is reporting an action in the past, s/he will use the three past tense allomorphs of Samor {ki-, ko- and ka}. State are intransitive and hence lack objects. As had been discussed earlier, Samor uses {úú} prefix markers to highlight to express an intrinsic state. Intrinsic states are attributive since they modify the subject. See extract 7 example EXB3 below.

EXB3- Uu baibai

PREF úú- RV PRES baibai

He seems happy.

Example above shows an intrinsic attribute of a person. The base verb 'baibai' modifies the subject. The stative may also highlight the status of someone. In the example RBBS below extract 7, the speaker states that a person appears to have own money.

Extract 8

QBBS- Ileni nee ngimache ile tinyei chi tugun?

QBBE- How do you state that someone has his/her things?

RBBS- Aleni, tinyei robisiek chichin.

RBBE- Aleni, tinyei tuguk chichin.

RBBS- I will say, s/he has his/her money.

RBBE- I will say, s/he has his/her things.

Example RBBS below, expresses a state in the present moment.

RBBS- Tinyei robisiek chichin

RV PRES tiny- PROG e- FV i- IO robisiek- DO chichin

That person has money.

The expression RBBS above is in the present tense. However, if a speaker wants to report a state in the past, the past s/he uses the {ka-, ko- and ki-} past tense allomorphs. The stative in Samor does not admit the emphatic aspect such as can be seen in example coded S3AUB below. This utterance indicates that someone is eating.

S3AUB- á –bír- í:sy- ê- ì –hhh(hl)l

1PSG á –PRES RV bír- PERF í:- EMP IMPERF ASP sy- ê- FV ì

I am beating.

Extract 9

S3UN: Ochamegei bichu tugul? Kanyoo aka nee maema amu ating'een kai emoo ochei. Kai ko kapchi nee achame anee ochei. Kingo akas ale kakograduaten lakwee nebo kai, ko kiabaibaitu mising. Kiamwaa eng muguleldanyuu ale agoi anyoo agochi ngulyaan lakwaa nib o kai. Ara anyon Jeptonnyuu agonin berur ale, iwe keny! Tichin bolik! Itesage ko uu gogelik! Chamin Jehova, Ibor wee warweenyuu. Kongoi mising.

Translation

How are (all of) you? I have also come as your uncle since I have a lot of desire to here from this family. This family is a

family that I really love. When I heard that their daughter has graduated, I felt so happy. I said in my heart that I must come and give a blessing to her. (cultural practice of spitting on the neck of the person receiving a blessing in Samor). Therefore, my daughter, I am giving you a blessing by saying, live long! Be covered by the clouds! Increase as the stars! May God bless you, may you gain my lamb (invoking/chanting a blessing). Thank you very much.

In example S3UN below, the state verb ‘achame’ cannot admit the emphatic stress marker {i:sy}. See the erroneous example coded S3UN below.

S3UN- * á –chám – í:sy- ê- ì
 SG á- RV chám- PERF í:- EMP IMPERF ASP sy- ê- FV ì
 *I am loving him.

The data below collected from the research shows how the dynamic verbs express different time distinctions.

MCE1: Ochamegei okwek tugul bik che kobwa keyai boisiet nebo ra?

How are you all the people who have come so that we can do today's business?

AUDIENCE: (in chorus) kichamegei.

We are fine.

MCE2: Amache asomok ale amu kiribe sait, ko amache amwa ale, amache ketoun tuyee nebo betut nebo ra eng saet. A some Pastor Kipsomet kotoweche tuyoni eng saet. Karibu pastor.

I want to request that since we want to keep time, I want to say that we need to begin the today's meeting with prayer. I request pastor Kipsomet to begin for us the meeting in prayer. Welcome pastor.

S4AP: (Kororiei; kole oni ee katou) Kongoi MCE3, ongetononyien ak kinemu kobyiesiek si kobiit kesaa. Ongesaa anyun (as they close their eyes). Kongoi Jehovah ne toror, Jehovah nebo Calvary amu betut ne kechamweech keitun yuu si kobiit yeyai boisiet ne bo kweanutik. Kongoi Jehovah amu ichameech, gongoi amu lagochu kegochi koyai komwie eng sugul ak college. Ara eng betuni bo ra kisome kele igoneech mugulelwek the tangus asi kobiit kegonun tugukhyo eng ayebindo. Asochini chi age tugul asi kobiit igochi chametagei. Ara Jehovah, indoiweech kongeete kakitou, agoi kikesu boisioni kemwa kongoi, Amen.

(Comically and in laughter; I am starting right away) Thank you MCE3, let's stand and remove our caps so that we can pray. Let's pray. Thank you the most high God, the God of Calvary for this day that you have allowed us to congregate here, with the objective of fundraising. Thank you, God, since you love us, thank you because of these children who have performed well in school and also in colleges. Now on this particular day, we request that you give us soft hearts so that we can give our belongings in abundance. I pray that you may give each person good health. I pray God that you will lead us from the start of this function until we accomplish we will give thanks, amen.

- i. Kobwa- They came/ they have come- past time distinction
- ii. Kegochi- We give- Present time distinction
- iii. Kisome- We request- present time distinction

iv. Kakitou- We started- past time distinction

The different Samor verbs listed above use the different prefixes [ko-, ke-, ki-, and ka-] to distinguish the different time distinctions. In Samor, [Ko-, Ki- and Ka] are a past tense markers while that express the immediate, recent and distant past distinctions. On the other hand, the [Ke-] prefix marker is used to indicate a polite request to someone if one wants to indicate that s/he want to get some assistance for work to be done. In the extract marked as MCE4 below, we can see how the prefix [a-] is used to indicate a singular entity making a request.

Amache- I want

The prefix [a] is glued to the root verb [mach] which stands for {want}. In Samor, the suffix [e] is classified as a final vowel.

MCE4: (Standing up) Kongoi pastor amu kaiberureech ak igoneech berurto ne bunu Jehova. Nguuni, amache agochi kasarta sikinde ne bo tai kongalal akobo betuni bo raa.

As he stands, thank you pastor because you have blessed us and given us blessings from God. Now, I want to give this opportunity to our first parent to speak about today's function.

The data above shows clearly how the prefixes [Ka-, Ko- and a-] have been used in utterances that were sourced from Samor. This sub- dialect is an agglutinating Nilo- Saharan language that glues together the affixes. These affixes are unique in the sense that they carry phi- features. These prefixes are used to indicate the different tense and aspectual time distinctions in Samor. This dialect is spoken by the Samor a group of people who live in Baringo County in the former provincial territory in Kenya.

Intransitive verbs and time distinction in Samor

In the examples coded QAS- QZS below, we can see how present time expressions are marked in Samor.

QAS- QZS- (Question number “A” in Samor- Question “Z” in Samor)

RA1T- RZ6T- (Respondent 1 translation- Respondent 6 translation)

QAS- Kileni nee ngimache iyai kiy?

RA1S- Amache aam.

RA2S- Amache a lapat.

Expresses the present time occurrence.

QAE- What do you say when you want to do something?

RA1T- I want to eat.

RA2T- I want to run.

Demonstrates time distinction in the present time.

QBS- Ileni nee ngimache ile amache ayai kiy em sait ne kile?

QBE- How do you say you want to do something in a more specific time frame?

RB1S- Amache awo ng'uni

RB2S- Amache aam ra

RB3S- Kosgoleny, ne amache kimyeet.

An event that expresses a current event and a wish.

RB1T- I want to go now.

RB2T- I want to eat today.

RB3T- In the evening, is the time I want ugali.

QCS- Ileni nee ye imache ile tesetai kiy ng'uni?

QCE- what do you say if you want to state that something is going on now?

RC3S- Amishie inen

RC4S- Lalei inen

An expression in Samor that illustrates an ongoing activity using the intransitive verbs.

RC3T- S/he is eating

RC4T- S/he is coughing.

QDS- Imwae ile nee ye imache imwaa ile keyae kiy am sait ne kakosirto?

QDE- How do you state that you did something a while ago?

An activity showing an action in the immediate past and Table 1

recent past showing an intransitive verb(s) in Samor. The action is achieved by using the affix [a].

RD5S- Kapire lakwee

RD6S- Koaame amwitwogik.

RD5T- I was beating the child.

RD6T- I was eating (my) food.

In Samor, different types of affixations are attached to the main verb to illustrate the intransitive verb see table 1 below. The table below shows us the different types of affixations attached to the main verb and how they express the three different types of time distinctions that is immediate, recent and remote. The examples also illustrate person and number phi- features as used in Samor.

1PSG	1PPL	2PSG	2PPL	3P (SG/PL)
Immediate past [ka-]				
EXF1 Ka- a- sir <i>I wrote</i>	EXF2 Ka- ki-sir <i>We wrote</i>	EXF3 Ka- i- sir <i>You wrote</i>	EXF4 Ka- o- sir <i>You wrote</i>	EXF5 Ka- Ø- sir <i>s/he wrote</i>
Recent past [ko-]				
EXF6 Ko- a- sir <i>I wrote</i>	EXF7 Ko- ki-sir <i>We wrote</i>	EXF8 Ko- i- sir <i>You wrote</i>	EXF9 Ko- o- sir <i>You wrote</i>	EXF10 Ko- Ø- sir <i>s/he wrote</i>
Remote past [ki-]				
EXF11 Ki- a- sir <i>I wrote</i>	EXF12 Ki- ki-sir <i>We wrote</i>	EXF13 Ki- i- sir <i>You wrote</i>	EXF14 Ki- o- sir <i>You wrote</i>	EXF15 Ki- Ø- sir <i>s/he wrote</i>
Future in the Immediate, Remote Past and Recent Past				
EXF16- Mo tun ka-a-sir EXF17- Mo tun ko-a-sir EXF18- Mo tun ki-a-sir				

The examples as used in the table above demonstrate that in Smor, the intransitive verb can be analyzed putting into consideration number and person distinctions. These distinctions include first person, second person and third person in that order. See table 1 above. Utterances in Samor just like any other language distinguishes number and person features. In sentential constructions, these features must come to play.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, the study found out that Samor is a verb initial dialect and theto roles are normally assigned last to the verb phrase head in a cyclic manner since in this dialect, the main verb which agglutinates with various affixes. These

affixes whether prefix or suffix have grammatical function. These grammatical functions include tense, aspect and mood. The intransitive verbs can be categorized either as dynamic or stative. A dynamic verb illustrates an action, process or a sensation unlike a state verb that normally relate to opinions and thoughts.

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