

CHAPTER 4: CASES

4.0 Introduction

In traditional grammatical discussion of clause structure, generally a discussion of grammatical relations and semantic roles is also included. In the following pages, the cases which show the relationships between the subject, object and predicate are discussed. Often there can be a discrepancy between grammatical relations and morphological cases because the distribution of morphological cases is sometimes only partially relevant to the operation of syntactic processes. However, the morphological cases still play a role in the conditioning of certain syntactic processes.

In New Indo-Aryan as in any language, as Masica (1991:230) states, "case is vitally a syntactic as well as a morphological category. Its markers establish the function of the NP in the sentence." Chodri, classified as one of the NIA languages, uses the ergative, dative-accusative, locative, instrumental, and vocative cases; these are morphological categories.

The purpose of describing cases in this chapter is: 1) to explain nominative (absolute), ergative, dative or genitive cases on the subject. For example, nominative case is unmarked on the subject of the intransitive, stative and equative clauses. Unmarked nominative case in imperfect tenses and ergative case in perfect tenses are used on the subject of the transitive clause. (See section 4.1 and 4.2 for a discussion of nominative and ergative case.) Dative case and genitive case are marked on the subject of the type1 receptor clause and the subject of the type2 receptor clause respectively. 2) to explain accusative case on the object of the transitive clause, and 3) to explain dative case on the indirect object and genitive case on the subject nouns of the type2 receptor clause which are marked the same as the accusative case. (See section 2.2.7.2 for a discussion of type2 receptor clause.)

Moreover, case shows whether the phrase is the subject, object, indirect object, location or instrument element in a clause.

This chapter first discusses unmarked nominative cases. Then, the ergative case on the subject of the transitive clause in perfect tenses is described. Next, the dative-accusative and the genitive cases are described. A brief discussion of ergative-absolute and nominative-accusative case in Chodri is also given in a section on unmarked and marked. The agreement between the clause elements is described. Then, locative and instrumental cases are described. Finally, vocative case is discussed. A table for all cases is displayed in Appendix 2.

4.1 Nominative case

Nominative case is one of the cases used in a language in which cases are found. In Chodri, the nominative case is always unmarked on the subject of the intransitive clauses in all tenses, and the subject of the transitive and ditransitive clauses in imperfect tenses. Any noun functioning as subject has an inherent gender which is marked by a suffix. This study considers that the nominative case is unmarked. The non-human nouns functioning as objects are marked the same when they function as subjects. Hence, the number-gender suffix on the objects can not be considered nominative case.

In Table 18, \emptyset indicates the unmarked nominative case. The table displays the environments and the clause types in which the unmarked nominative case is used.

Nom.case	Environments	Clauses
\emptyset	All tenses	Intransitive
\emptyset	Imperfect tenses	Transitive, ditransitive

Table 18 Nominative case

In example 156, the subject *poho* ‘son’ in the intransitive clause is in the unmarked nominative case. The tense of this example is present tense.

(156) “Elicited Data” (S 70) (Elements: T: TP, Sub: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

rodz poho- Ø rare
daily son-NOM cries (Pre)

‘Son cries daily.’

In example 157, the subject *poho* ‘son’ is in the unmarked nominative case. The intransitive clause in the example is in the past progressive tense.

(157) “Elicited Data” (S 71) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Loc: PP.P, Pre: VP)

poho- Ø k^har mā ramtono
son-NOM house in playing was

‘Son was playing in the house.’

In example 158, the subject *poho* ‘son’ is in the unmarked nominative case. The transitive clause in the example is in the present progressive tense.

(158) “Elicited Data” (S 72) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

poho- Ø kukɾə vaxto a
son-NOM chicken-nes cutting is

‘Son is cutting (a) chicken.’

In example 159, the subject *kukɾə* ‘chicken’ is in the unmarked nominative case. The intransitive clause in the example is in the present progressive tense. Note that the object *kukɾə* ‘chicken’ in example 158, and the subject *kukɾə* ‘chicken’ in example 159 are marked the same.

(159) “Elicited Data” (S 73) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

kukɾ-ə - ∅ *tfərtə* *hase*
 chicken-nes-NOM grazing is

‘Chicken is grazing.’

In example 160, the subject *poho* ‘son’ is in the unmarked nominative case. The ditransitive clause in the example is in the past progressive tense.

(160) “Elicited Data” (S 74) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, I.Obj: MO.NP, D.Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

poho- ∅ *nitsak-aj* *kukɾ-ə* *aptono*
 son-NOM boy-D/A chicken-nes giving was

‘Son was giving chicken to (the) boy.’

4.2 Ergative case

This section describes what Dixon (1994), and Hopper and Thompson (1980) say about ergativity, and how their explanation applies to perfect tenses in Chodri. Next, the subject of the transitive and ditransitive clauses in perfect tenses, which is in ergative case, is explained. The subject nouns and pronouns are marked for ergative case. The pronouns in ergative case are inseparable. The symbol \emptyset is used to show the unmarked object in certain examples. The unmarked and marked objects will be explained in the section on the dative-accusative case. (See section 4.3 for a discussion of dative-accusative case.)

Many languages have been labeled by the linguists as ergative languages. Some of the Indo-Aryan languages, including Chodri, are ergative. Dixon (1994:1) defines ergativity as that construction in which “the subject of the intransitive clause is treated in the same way as the object of the transitive clause, and differently from a transitive subject.” Hopper and Thompson (1980:271) states that “In a considerable number of languages, an ergative construction is limited to perfective or preterit environments,

while a non-ergative type is used in imperfective or non-preterit environments. Such a distribution can be found e.g., in Hindi and Georgian.” Ergative construction in Chodri is limited to only in perfect tenses. Longacre (in Thomas C. 1990:60) has identified Chodri as a language with the “split ergative system”. (Refer Thomas, Christopher. forthcoming, for a discussion of split ergativity) The past perfect, present and present perfect tenses are classified as perfect tenses in Chodri. In Chodri, subject nouns and pronouns of the transitive and ditransitive clauses are marked for ergative case when the verbs are in perfect tenses. An inanimate noun remains the same regardless of its function as the subject of an intransitive clause or an object of a transitive clause.

The focus of explaining examples from 161 to 166 is on the subject of the transitive clauses in ergative. The gloss given in these examples will be helpful to understand the subject with ergative case.

The subject *bokɽə* ‘goat’ of the intransitive clause in example 161 is marked the same as the object of the transitive clause in example 162. In example 162, the subject *qohoni-e* ‘woman’ in ergative is marked by *-e*, and the verbs are in past tense.

(161) “Elicited Data” (S 75) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

<i>bokɽə -∅</i>	<i>kud-dʒ-ə</i>
goat-nes-ABS	jump-pt-nes

‘The goat jumped.’

(162) “Elicited Data” (S 76) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

<i>qohoni-e</i>	<i>bokɽə -∅</i>	<i>dek^h-s-ə</i>
woman-ERG	goat-nes-ABS	see-pt-nes

‘The woman saw a goat.’

The subject *daruvə* ‘liquor’ of intransitive clause in example 163 is marked the same as the object *daruvə* ‘liquor’ of the transitive clause in example 164. In example 164,

the subject *ḡohonie* ‘woman’ in ergative is marked by *-e*, and the verbs are in present perfect tense.

- (163) “Elicited Data” (S 77) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

ḡaruṽə - Ø *gəl-j-ə* *hase*
 liquor-ABS leak-pt-nes be(pre)

‘Liquor has leaked.’

- (164) “Elicited Data” (S 78) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

ḡohoni-e *ḡaruṽə - Ø* *pi-d-ə* *hase*
 woman-ERG liquor-ABS drink-pt-nes be(pre)

‘Woman has drunk liquor.’

The subject *kukṛə* ‘curry’ of intransitive clause in example 165 is marked the same as the object of the transitive clause in example 166. In example 166, the subject *ḡohonie* ‘woman’ in ergative is marked by *-e*, and the verbs are in past perfect tense.

- (165) “Elicited Data” (S 79) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

kukṛ-ə - Ø *tḡər-in-ə*
 chicken-nes-ABS graze-ptperf-nes

‘The chicken had grazed.’

- (166) “Elicited Data” (S 80) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

ḡohoni-e *kukṛ-ə - Ø* *k^ha-dn-ə*
 woman-ERG chicken-nes-ABS eat-ptperf-nes

‘The woman had eaten chicken.’

Table 19 displays the occurrences of ergative case on the subject nouns. The ergative case *-e* is used with singular and *-he* with plural nouns in masculine, feminine or neuter. The common nouns take plural suffix while proper nouns do not.

Subject	Proper & Common nouns			Ergative case
	Gender	Num	Ending with	
Ergative	Masculine	S	vowel -u	-ve
			vowel -o or -a	-e
			a consonant	
	Feminine	Pl	vowel -a	-he
		S	vowel -i or u	-e
		Pl	vowel -e	-he
Neuter	S	vowel -ə	-e	
	Pl	vowel -e	-he	

Table 19 Ergative case on proper and common nouns

When the subject of a transitive clause is a masculine proper noun ending with vowel *u*, it is marked by the ergative case *-ve*. In example 167, the subject *patu-ve* 'Patu' is a masculine noun ending with vowel *-u*, and it is suffixed by *-ve* 'ergative case'. The verb of the transitive clause is in past tense.

(167) "Elicited Data" (S 81) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

pətu-ve *paŋi -∅* *pi-d-ə*
 Patu-ERG water-ABS drink-pt-nes

'Patu drank water.'

When the subject is the masculine noun ending with vowel *-o* or *-a*. In example 168, *qoh-e* 'man' (*qoho* + *-e*) is the subject ending with vowel *-o* and is suffixed by ergative case *-e*. The verb of the transitive clause is in past perfect tense.

(168) "Elicited Data" (S 82) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

qoh-e *kukɾ-aj* *le-dn-ə*
 man-ERG chicken-ABS beat-ptperf-nes

'The man had beaten the chicken.'

In example 169, the subject *radze* 'king' (*radza* + *-e*) of the ditransitive clause is a masculine common noun ending with vowel *-a* and is suffixed by ergative case *-e*. The verb of the ditransitive clause is in past tense.

- (169) "The king's servant" (III 46) (Elements : Sub: MO.NP, I.Obj: PN, D.Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

<i>radze</i>	<i>tijaj</i>	<i>inam -∅</i>	<i>ap-tf-o</i>
king-ERG	him	gift-ABS	give-pt-ms

'The king gave him a gift.'

When the subject of a transitive clause is a proper noun ending with a consonant, it is marked for ergative case *-e*. In example 170, the subject *sankar-e* 'Sankar' (*sankar* + *-e*) of the transitive clause is marked for ergative case *-e*, and the verb is in present perfect tense.

- (170) "Elicited Data" (S 83) (Elements : Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

<i>sankar-e</i>	<i>nitsak-aj</i>	<i>le-d-o</i>	<i>hase</i>
Sankar-ERG	boy (ms) -ABS	beat-pt-ms	be (pre)

'Sankar has beaten the boy.'

When the subject of a transitive clause is a feminine singular common noun ending with the vowel *-i*, it is marked for ergative case *-e*. In example 171, the subject *dohonie* 'woman' (*dohoni* + *-e*) of the transitive clause is marked for ergative case *-e*.

- (171) "Elicited Data" (S 84) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

<i>dohoni-e</i>	<i>darv-a-∅</i>	<i>gal-j-a</i>	<i>hase</i>
woman-ERG	alcohol-nes-ABS	distill-pt-nes	be (pre)

'Woman has distilled alcohol.'

In example 172, the subject *nirue* 'Neeru' (*niru* + *-e*) of the transitive clause is a feminine proper noun ending with vowel *-u*, and it is suffixed by ergative case *-e*.

(172) “Elicited Data” (S 85) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

niru-e roʈn-a -∅ p^hudʒ-dʒ-a
 Neeru-ERG rice bread-mpl-ABS bake-pt-mpl

‘Neeru baked rice bread.’

In example 173, the subject noun *dik^hre-he* ‘sons’ (*dik^hra* + *he*) of the transitive clause is masculine plural and is suffixed by ergative case *-he*. *dik^hr-o* ‘son’ is the singular masculine noun, and *dik^hr-a* is the plural masculine noun. When a masculine plural noun ending with *-a* is suffixed by ergative *-he*, the final vowel *-a* assimilates the quality of the vowel in the ergative case. The verb of the transitive clause is in past tense.

(173) “Elicited Data” (S 86) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

be dik^hre-he nakɿ-e -∅ vetʃ-tʃ-e
 two sons-ERG wood-nepl-ABS sell-pt-nepl

‘Two sons sold wood.’

In example 174, the subject noun *dohonje-he* ‘women’ of the transitive clause is suffixed by ergative case *-he*. A singular feminine common noun becomes plural when it is suffixed by the plural marker *-je*.

(174) “Elicited Data” (S 87) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

be dohon-je-he roʈn-a -∅ p^hudʒ-dʒ-a
 two woman-pl-ERG rice bread-mpl-ABS bake-pt-mpl

‘Two women baked bread.’

In example 175, the subject noun *kukɿe-he* ‘chickens’ of the transitive clause is neuter plural, and it is suffixed by ergative case *-he*.

(175) “Elicited Data” (S 88) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

kukŕ-e-he *dzuvar -Ø* *k^ha-dn-i*
 chickens-nepl-ERG maize-fs-ABS eat-ptperf-fs

‘The chickens had eaten maize.’

Table 20 shows all pronouns in subject function with inseparable ergative case. Chodri language uses proximal, medial and distal third person pronouns. A proximal pronoun is used to refer to a person who is present in the context or situation. A medial pronoun is used to refer to a person who has just come and is absent in the current situation. A distal pronoun is used to refer to a person who is not present in the current situation and is far from the context.

P	Number	Gender	Ergative Pronouns	Proximal	Medial	Distal
1	S Pl (excl.) Pl (inclu.)	M, F M&F M&F	məjě amehě apŕe			
2	S Pl	M, F M&F	tujě tumehe			
3	S Pl	M, N F M, N, M&N F		ije ijje iŕehě ijŕehě	hije hijje hiŕehě hiŕehě	tije tijje tiŕehě tiŕehě

Table 20 Inseparable ergative cases on pronouns

This section has discussed ergative case in Chodri. This study has described the occurrence of the ergative case on nouns and pronouns. The ergative case occurs only on the subject of transitive and ditransitive in perfect tenses.

4.3 Dative-accusative case

This section discusses accusative and dative cases in Chodri. It displays two tables indicating dative/accusative case on the objects in transitive and ditransitive clauses. It

also describes accusative case and the dative case on the objects which are marked the same.

The dative/accusative case *-aj* or *-aŋe* is used with singular masculine and *-haj* or *-haŋe* with plural masculine nouns interchangeably. D/A case *-ej* or *-eŋe* is used with singular feminine and *-hej* or *-heŋe* with plural feminine nouns interchangeably. However, only the human objects and the definite non-human objects are marked for D/A case in transitive clauses. The D/A case occurs on the objects of transitive clauses in imperfect tenses. The dative-accusative case in Chodri fully agrees with what Masica (1991:365) states in his discussion of Indo-Aryan languages.

This is not to say that Objects are always bereft of case marking. They may take it, in the form of the Dative marker (in the absence of an Accusative: the marker is sometimes called a Dative-Accusative as a result). Its functions, however, are often more pragmatic than syntactic. That is, in the case of non-human nouns, it generally indicates a “definite” object, that is, one that is already known...

Table 21 consists of object-nouns, gender, dative/accusative case and clause. In the object column, the human and the definite non-humans are present. D/A case, used with masculine, feminine and neuter nouns functioning as human and definite non-human objects of the transitive clause, is present. *nitʃkə* ‘child’ is a neuter singular noun in Chodri, and the neuter plural *nitʃke* ‘children’ refers to both male and female. The D/A case is listed in the table only for singular number. All cases with singular and plural nouns are given in Appendix 3. (Refer to Appendix 3.) Only three examples are given for illustrating D/A case with masculine, feminine and neuter plural nouns.

Object-nouns	Gender	Dative/Accusative case	Clause
Human & Definite non-human	M	-aj or -aŋe	Transitive
	F	-ej or -eŋe	
	N	-aj or -aŋe	

Table 21 Dative/Accusative case on the human and definite non-human objects of the transitive clause.

In Chodri, human beings are always considered definite in object function whereas non-human animate and inanimate objects could either be treated as definite or indefinite objects. The masculine human object of transitive clause is marked for D/A case *-aj* or *-aŋe*. In example 176, the object *dik^hraj* ‘son’ is marked for D/A case by *-aj* since it refers to a human and a definite object.

(176) “Elicited Data” (S 89) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

ḍoho -Ø *dik^hr-aj* *leto* *a*
 old man-NOM son (Human) -D/A beating is

‘The old man is beating his son.’

In example 177, the object *dik^hrane* ‘son’ is marked for D/A case by *-aŋe* since it refers to a human and a definite object.

(177) “Elicited Data” (S 90) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

ḍoho -Ø *dik^hr-aŋe* *letno*
 old man-NOM son (Human) -D/A beating was

‘The old man was beating his son.’

In example 178, the masculine plural noun *dik^hra* ‘sons’ functioning as human object *dik^hra* ‘sons’, is marked for D/A case by *-haŋe* in the transitive clause.

(178) “Elicited Data” (S 91) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

doho -∅ *dik^hra-haŋe* *letno*
old man-NOM sons (Human) -D/A beating was

‘The old man was beating his sons.’

Singular feminine nouns referring to human objects are marked for D/A case either by *-eŋe* or *-ej*. In example 179, the feminine singular noun *nitŋki* ‘girl’, functioning as human object, is marked for D/A case by *-eŋe*.

(179) “Elicited Data” (S 92) (Elements: Sub: PN, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

to -∅ *nitŋki-j-eŋe* *leto* *a*
he-NOM girl (Human) -Mph-D/A beating is

‘He is beating the girl.’

In example 180, the singular feminine noun *nitŋki* ‘girl’ refers to a human definite object, and it is marked for D/A case by *-ej*.

(180) “Elicited Data” (S 93) (Elements: Sub: PN, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

to -∅ *nitŋki-j-ej* *leto* *a*
he-NOM girl (Human) -Mph-D/A beating is

‘He is beating the girl.’

In example 181, the feminine plural noun *nitŋkije* ‘girls’ refers to human definite object, and it is marked for D/A case by *-heŋe*.

(181) “Elicited Data” (S 94) (Elements: Sub: PN, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

to -∅ *nitŋkije-heŋe* *leto* *a*
he-NOM girls (Human) -D/A beating is

‘He is beating the girls.’

Singular neuter nouns referring to human objects are marked for D/A case either by *-aj* or *-aŋe*. In example 182, the singular neuter noun *nitŋkə* ‘child’ refers to a human definite object, and it is marked for D/A case by *-aj*.

(182) “Elicited Data” (S 95) (Elements: Sub: PN, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

to -∅ *nitfk-aj* *leto* *a*
 he-NOM child(Human) -D/A beating is

‘He is beating the child.’

In the following example, the singular neuter noun *nitfkə* ‘child’, referring to a human definite object, is marked for D/A case by *-aje*.

(183) “Elicited Data” (S 96) (Elements: Sub: PN, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

to -∅ *nitfk-aje* *leto* *a*
 he-NOM child(Human) -D/A beating is

‘He is beating (his) child.’

In the following example, the plural neuter noun *nitfke* ‘children’, referring to a human definite object, is marked for D/A case by *-haje*.

(184) “Elicited Data” (S 97) (Elements: Sub: PN, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

to -∅ *nitfk-a-haje* *lei*
 he-NOM child(Human) -Mph-D/A beat will

‘He will beat the children.’

A masculine, feminine or neuter noun referring to a non-human definite object is marked for D/A case. A singular masculine or neuter noun is marked either by *-aj* or *-aje*, whereas a singular feminine is marked either by *-ej* or *-ene*. In example 185, the singular masculine noun *kono* ‘fox’, referring to a definite non-human object is marked for D/A case by *-aje*.

(185) “Elicited Data” (S 98) (Elements: Sub: PN, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

to -∅ *kon-aje* *lei*
 he-NOM fox(non-human) -D/A will beat

‘He will beat the fox.’

Table 22 summarizes dative/accusative case on nouns of different genders referring to human and definite non-human indirect object. An example is given to show how the D/A case is marked on a noun referring to indirect object of the ditransitive clause.

I. Object-nouns	Gender	Dative/Accusative case	Clause
Human & Definite non-human	M	-aj or -aŋe	Ditransitive
	F	-ej or -eŋe	
	N	-aj or -aŋe	

Table 22 Dative/accusative case on the human and definite non-human indirect objects of the ditransitive clause.

The following example is a ditransitive clause. The singular masculine noun *dik^hr-aj* ‘to son’ referring to a definite human indirect object is marked for D/A case by *-aj*.

(190) “Elicited Data” (S 103) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, I.Obj: MO.NP, D.Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

doho *dik^hr-aj* *ambə* *ap-ton-o*
 man-NOM son (Human) -D/A mango give-ptprog-ms

‘(The) man was giving a mango to (his) son.’

4.4 Genitive case

This section discusses the genitive case on nouns; it is marked the same as D/A case. (See section 2.2.7.2 for a discussion of type2 receptor clause.) 1st and 2nd person pronouns with genitive case are marked different from 1st and 2nd person pronouns with dative/accusative case whereas genitive case on 3rd person pronouns are marked the same as D/A case. Finally, it displays a table consisting of pronouns with inseparable dative/accusative and genitive cases.

Dixon (1994:58) in his discussion about cases and case forms used in different languages states,

The accusative case form is also used to cover dative function in Dravidian languages such as Konda (Krushnamurti 1969:254-7) ... In Assyrian, the accusative ending was also used for genitive in non-singular numbers (Mercer 1961:46). Many other languages could be mentioned but these examples should suffice to indicate that while the unmarked cases - absolutive and nominative - are almost always used for basic syntactic relations, the marked case forms - ergative and accusative - often (but not always) have wider uses.

This applies to Chodri because the genitive case is marked the same as D/A case. Genitive case *-aj* or *-əŋe* is used on singular masculine and neuter nouns, and *-ej* or *-əŋe* on singular feminine nouns. Two examples are given to show genitive case on nouns functioning as the subject of the type2 receptor clause:

The singular feminine noun *nitʃki* 'girl' functioning as the subject of type2 receptor clause is marked for genitive case by *-əŋe* in example 191 and *-ej* in example 192.

(191) "Elicited Data" (S 104) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Cop: *hasat* 'are')

nitʃki-j-əŋe *be* *dik^hra* *hasat*
girl-Mph-Geni two sons are

'Daughter has two sons.'

(192) "Elicited Data" (S 105) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Cop: *hasat* 'are')

nitʃki-j-ej *be* *dik^hra* *hasat*
girl-Mph-Geni two sons are

'Daughter has two sons.'

In example 193, the singular feminine noun *nitʃki* 'girl' in the possessive noun phrase is marked the same as genitive case in 191, by *-əŋe* 'possessive marker'

(193) “Elicited Data” (S 106) (Elements: Sub: PO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

nitʃki-j-eŋe *dikʰro* *rotŋo* *kʰato* *a*
 girl-Mph-Po.M son bread eating is

‘Daughter’s son is eating bread.’

Table 23 displays pronouns with inseparable dative-accusative and genitive cases. Pronouns in nominative case are unmarked. 1st and 2nd person pronouns with genitive case are marked different from 1st and 2nd person pronouns with dative/accusative case. However, 3rd person pronouns with genitive case are marked same as the dative-accusative. Only 3rd person pronouns have proximal, medial and distal differences.

P	Num	G	Pro.Nom.case			Pro.Dative/Accusative case			Pro.Geni. case
1	S		hãj			mane			mare
	Pl (excl.)		ame			amahaj/amahaŋe			amare
2	S		apɽe			apɽahaj/apɽahaŋe			apɽe
	Pl (inclu.)								
2	S		tũ			tune			tore
	Pl		tume			tumahaj/tumahaŋe			tumare
			Pro.Nom.case			Pro. with D/A and genitive case			
			Pr	Me	Di	Proximal	Medial	Distal	
3	S	M	o	ho	to	ija-j/-ŋe	hija-j/-ŋe	tija-j/-ŋe	
	Pl	F	e	he	te	iŋaha-j/-ŋe	hiŋ	tiŋaha-j/-ŋe	
	S		e	he	te	ije-j/-ŋe	aha-j/ŋe	tije-j/-ŋe	
	Pl	N	e	he	te	ijnehe-j/-ŋe	hije-j/-ŋe	tijnehe-j/-ŋe	
	S		ĩ	hĩ	ti	ija-j/-ŋe	hijnehe-j/-ŋe	tija-j/-ŋe	
	Pl	ĩ	hĩ	ti	iŋaha-j/ŋe	hija-j/-ŋe	tiŋaha-j/ŋe		
						hiŋaha-j/-ŋe			

Table 23 Pronouns with inseparable nominative, dative-accusative and genitive cases

4.5 Marked and Unmarked

In Chodri, the ergative-absolute (marked and unmarked) case occurs in perfect tenses while nominate-accusative (marked and unmarked) case occurs in imperfect tenses. This section discusses the marked and unmarked (cases) on nouns functioning as objects in perfect tenses and imperfect tenses. Dixon (1994:58) discusses the terms “marked and unmarked” cases on ergativity.

The ergative-absolutive case and its operating environments are given in Table 24. Human and definite non-human nouns are always marked for absolutive whereas the indefinite non-human nouns are unmarked. (See section on to 4.2 for a discussion of ergative case.)

Case	Gender	Marked Absolutive (Human & Definite Non-human)	Unmarked Absolutive (Indefinite Non- human)
Ergative-absolutive	M	-aj or -aŋe	∅
	F	-ej or -eŋe	∅
	N	-aj or -aŋe	∅

Table 24 Absolutive case (marked and unmarked) on
nouns

The ergative-absolutive case is illustrated in examples 194 and 195. The absolutive case is unmarked on singular masculine noun *vag* ‘tiger’, referring to a non-human object. The intransitive subject and the transitive object are unmarked absolutive case.

(194) “Elicited Data” (S 107) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

vag -∅ *kuddzo* *hase*
tiger-ABS jumped be(pre)

‘(A) tiger has jumped.’

(199) “Elicited Data” (S 112) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

doh-e *ek* *bəldʒə* *dek^h-sə*
old man-ERG an ox-ABS see-pt

‘The old man saw an ox.’

The absolutive case is marked by *-aj* on singular masculine noun *nitsfak* ‘boy’, referring to a human object. Example 200 is given to illustrate the occurrence of only one singular masculine absolutive case *-aj*, which is interchangeable with *-aŋe*.

(200) “Elicited Data” (S 113) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

doh-e *nitsfak-aj* *viʒro* *hase*
old man-ERG boy-ABS scolded be (pre)

‘(The) old man has scolded the boy.’

The absolutive case is marked by *-ej* or *-eŋe* on the singular feminine noun *nitsfki* ‘girl’, referring to a human object. Example 201 is given to illustrate the occurrence of only one singular feminine absolutive case *-ej*, which is interchangeable with *-eŋe*.

(201) “Elicited Data” (S 114) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

doh-e *nitsfki-j-ej* *viʒri*
old man-ERG girl-Mph-ABS scolded

‘(The) old man scolded the girl.’

The absolutive case is marked by *-aj* on singular neuter noun *nitsfkə* ‘child’, referring to a human object. Example 202 is given to illustrate the occurrence of only one singular neuter absolutive case *-aj*, which is interchangeable with *-aŋe*.

(202) “Elicited Data” (S 115) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

doh-e *nitsfk-aj* *viʒə*
old man-ERG child-ABS scold

‘The old man scolded the child.’

In example 203, the singular neuter noun *bəldʒə* ‘an ox’, referring to the non-human object, is marked for the absolutive case by *-aj*. The non-human object takes the absolutive case, which is marked when the speaker refers to the particular object or the choice of speaker.

(203) “Elicited Data” (S 116) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

qohe *bəldʒ-aj* *le-do*
 Man-ERG ox (non-human) -ABS beat-pt

‘(The) man beat the ox.’

Table 25 summarizes pronouns with inseparable absolutive case. Pronouns with absolutive case are listed in a separate table because they occur in ergative-absolutive. They function as object element in a transitive clause only in perfect tenses.

Case	Per	Num	Gen	Pro.abs.case
Ergative-absolutive	1	S	M, F	mane
		Pl(excl.)	M & F	amaha-j/-ŋe
			(incl.)	M & F
	2	S	M, F	tune
		Pl	M & F	tumaha-j/-ŋe
		3	S	M & N
F	tije-j/-ŋe			
Pl	M & N		tiŋaha-j/-ŋe	
			F	tijnehe-j/-ŋe

Table 25 Pronouns with inseparable absolutive case

The following three examples illustrate the nominative-accusative case, and Table 26 summarizes marked and unmarked accusative case. These examples are not sufficient to explain all the uses of accusative cases. (See section 4.3 for a discussion of the dative/ accusative case.)

Only two examples are given to illustrate human and non-human objects in the nominative-accusative case. In examples 204 and 205, the accusative case is marked

by *-aj* on the singular neuter noun *bəldzə* ‘ox’ referring to the non-human object and the singular masculine noun *dikro* ‘son’ referring to a human object.

(204) “Elicited Data” (S 117) (Elements: Sub: PN, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

<i>to - Ø</i>	<i>bəldz-aj</i>	<i>viq-to</i>	<i>a</i>
he-NOM	ox (non-human) -D/A	scold-prog	be (pre)

‘He is scolding an ox.’

(205) “Elicited Data” (S 118) (Elements: Sub: PN, Obj: PO.NP, Pre: VP)

<i>te - Ø</i>	<i>mare</i>	<i>dikr-aj</i>	<i>teŋ-ti</i>	<i>a</i>
She-NOM	my	son (Human) -D/A	call-prog	be (pre)

‘She is calling my son.’

The accusative case is unmarked on the inanimate nouns functioning as objects except for the root of the tree. In example 206, the feminine noun *dzuvar* ‘maize’, referring to inanimate object, is unmarked for accusative case.

(206) “Elicited Data” (S 119) (Elements: Sub: PN, Obj: MO.NP, Pre: VP)

<i>to - Ø</i>	<i>dzuvar -Ø</i>	<i>or-to</i>	<i>a</i>
he-NOM	maize (Inanimate) -D/A	sow-prog	be (pre)

‘He is sowing maize.’

Table 26 displays the marked accusative case on the nouns referring to human and definite non-human objects, and the unmarked accusative case on the nouns referring to non-human objects in the nominative-accusative case. The nominative-accusative case occurs only when the verb is in the imperfect tenses. (See section 4.1 for a discussion of nominative case.)

Case	G	Accusative -marked (Human)&(Definite Non-human)	Accusative -unmarked (Non-human)
Nominate -accusative	M	-aj or -aŋe	∅
	F	-ej or -eŋe	∅
	N	-aj or -aŋe	∅

Table 26 Accusative case (marked and unmarked) on
nouns

4.6 Locative case

Locative case is used on locative nouns functioning as head of the post-positional phrase. Locative nouns are marked for the locative case by *-e*. Some locative nouns are not marked by locative case, and they are exceptional. Although locative and ergative cases are marked the same, their functions are different. Ergative case is always marked on the subject while locative case is marked on the locative nouns in the post-positional element.

In example 207, the singular masculine locative noun *kuvo* 'well' is marked by locative case *-e*.

(207) "Elicited Data" (S 120) (Elements: Sub: PN, Loc: PP.P, Pre: VP)

ti kuv-e gaje
they well-Lc went

'They went to the well.'

In example 208, the singular feminine locative noun *vaŋi* 'garden' is marked by locative case by *-e*. Note that when *-e* is suffixed to the feminine noun *vaŋi* 'garden' a morphophonemic change (*vaŋi + e = vajŋe*) occurs in the noun.

(208) “Elicited Data” (S 121)

to va-jɽ-e dzato a
he garden-Lc going is

‘He is going to the garden.’

The locative case *-e* is used on locative nouns referring to a destination. In example 209, the locative noun *k^huŋə* ‘corner’ becomes *k^huŋe* when it is marked by locative case *-e*. The demonstrative word *-ĩ* ‘this’ becomes *ije* ‘this’ when the locative noun is marked by the locative case *-e*.

(209) “The king’s servant” (III 18)

ije k^huŋ-e tije k^huŋ-e dzaja kəre
this corner-Lc that corner-Lc going-keep on do

‘(An old lady) keeps on going from this corner to that corner.’

Some locative nouns are not suffixed by locative case *-e*. In example 210, the locative case is unmarked on the locative noun *k^het* ‘field’.

(210) “Elicited Data” (S 122)

te k^het-Ø gaja
they field-Lc went

‘They went to the field.’

4.7 Instrumental case

Usually an instrumental element consists of a noun referring to an instrument followed by a post-positional word. However, sometimes just a noun functions as the instrumental element. In such cases, if the noun is a singular feminine it is marked by instrumental case *-e*. Although the instrumental case is marked the same as the ergative case, its function is different.

In example 211, *-e* is suffixed as the instrumental case with the instrumental noun *tərvər* ‘sword’, which is feminine singular.

(211) “Bhil’s wife” (XIII 97)

bidzə dʒaj tijəne ek tərvər-e uqari nak^he
 next go his one sword-Ic throw away (Pre.hab)

‘He cuts off the one who goes next by a sword.’

In example 212, *-e* is suffixed as the instrumental case with the instrumental noun *tirkam^he* ‘arrow’, which is neuter singular.

(212) “Elicited Data” (S 123)

pəle tirkam^h-e rak^haŋe mari nak^hso
 he arrow-Ic giant killed away (Past)

‘He killed (the) giant by a arrow.’

This study so far has found only singular feminine and neuter noun which are marked by instrumental case *-e*.

4.8 Vocative case

The vocative case is used on nouns referring to an addressee in Chodri. Vocative case *-a* is used on singular masculine and neuter nouns, and *-e* on singular feminine. Proper and common nouns are marked the same for vocative case. The vocative case *-ho* is used on plural masculine, feminine and neuter nouns. The only human neuter noun is *nit^hkə* ‘child’. Non-human nouns do not take vocative case because they are never referred to addressee.

In example 213, the singular masculine noun *babo* ‘brother’ becomes *baba* when it is marked by vocative case *-a*.

(213) “Magical ring” (XVIII 154)

bab-a kadza hovə
brother-Vcms what happened

‘Brother, what happened?’

In example 214, the singular feminine noun *baj* ‘sister’ is marked by vocative case *-e*.

(214) “The king and his son” (IV 23)

baj-e baj-e ijě av ni
sister-Vcfs sister-Vcfs here come familiar-command

‘Sister, Sister come here.’

In example 215, the singular neuter noun *nitfkə* ‘child’ becomes *nitfka* when it is marked by vocative case *-a*.

(215) “Elicited Data” (S 124)

nitfk-a ijě av ni
child-Vcnes here come familiar-command

‘(A) child, come here.’

In example 216, the masculine noun *babo* ‘brother’ is marked by plural vocative case *-ho* and feminine noun *baje* ‘sisters’ is marked by plural vocative case *-ho*.

(216) “Elicited Data” (S 125)

baba-ho ne baje-ho unadza
brothers-Vcmpl and sisters-Vcfpl hear

‘Brothers and sisters hear.’

In example 217, the neuter noun *nitfkə* ‘child’ is marked by plural vocative case *-ho*.

(217) “Elicited Data” (S 126)

nitfk-a-ho ijě ave ni
child-Mph-Vcnepl here come familiar-command

‘Children, come here.’

4.9 Agreement

Almost all languages use one or other kind of agreement pattern. The clause elements subject, object, predicate etc. do usually agree with one another with respect to grammatical categories such as person, number and gender. In Chodri, the agreement between the clause elements is with respect to number-gender. This section first discusses the agreement between the predicate and the subject. Then, it discusses the agreement between the predicate and the object.

There is concord (agreement) between the predicate and the subject of the transitive clause in imperfect tenses with respect to number-gender. The predicate and the subject of the intransitive clause in all tenses are also in concord. Some adverbs in the manner element are marked for number-gender which agree with the predicate and subject. However, occurrence of the manner element in a clause is optional. The agreement between the clause elements of other types of clauses are displayed in Table 27.

Table 27 summarizes the agreement between the predicate and the subject in all types of clauses except receptor clauses. The agreement is explained in all types of clauses at some level. One example is given to illustrate the agreement. (See example 213)

Agreement	Environments	Clauses
Predicate and Subject	Perfect and Imperfect tenses	Intransitive Stative Equative
Predicate and Subject	Imperfect tenses (Present, and past progressive, and future)	Transitive Ditransitive Quotative

Table 27 Agreement between the predicate and the subject in clauses

Figure 14 shows the concord between the predicate, the manner and the subject with respect to number-gender.

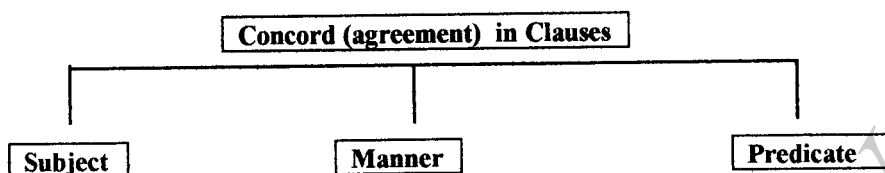


Figure 14 Agreement between the predicate, the manner and the subject

In example 218, the verb in the predicate *vavt-o* 'sowing' is marked for singular number and masculine gender by *-o* which agrees with the singular number and masculine gender of the pronoun *to* 'he' in the subject. The manner *vel-o vel-o* 'fast fast' agrees with the singular number and masculine gender of the predicate. This example is a transitive clause in the present progressive tense.

- (218) "Elicited Data" (S 127) (Elements: Sub: PN, Obj: MO.NP, Man: ADV.P, Pre: VP)
- | | | | | | |
|-----------|---------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|----------|
| <i>to</i> | <i>bivt-a</i> | <i>vel-o</i> | <i>vel-o</i> | <i>vav-t-o</i> | <i>a</i> |
| He (ms) | seed-nes | fast-ms | fast-ms | sow-prog-ms | be-pre |
- 'He is sowing seed fast.'

Figure 15 displays the concord between the predicate, the manner and the object with respect to number-gender.

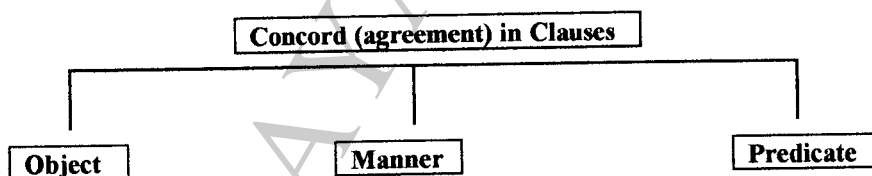


Figure 15 Agreement between the predicate, the manner and the object

Table 28 summarizes the agreement between the predicate and the object of the transitive and ditransitive clauses in perfect tenses.

Agreement	Environments	Clauses
Predicate and Object	Perfect tenses (Present and past perfect aspect and past tense.)	Transitive & Quatative
Predicate and D.Object		Ditransitive

Table 28 Agreement between the predicate and object
in clauses

In example 219, the verb *valj-o* ‘turned’ in the predicate agrees with the singular number and masculine gender of the object noun *k^haʦno* ‘cot’, which is marked by *-o*. The manner *velo velo* ‘fast fast’ agrees with the singular number and masculine gender of the predicate.

(219) “Elicited Data” (S 128) (Elements: Sub: MO.NP, Obj: MO.NP, Man: ADV.P, Pre: VP)

qohonie *k^haʦn-o* *vel-o* *vel-o* *valj-o*
old woman cot-ms fast-ms fast-ms turned-ms

‘The old woman turned (the) cot fast.’

The predicate of all types of clauses in present and future tenses agrees with the person of the subject. In example 220, the predicate *vavtim* ‘am sowing’ agrees with the 1st person and is marked by the suffix *-m* ‘1st person marker’.

(220) “Elicited Data” (S 129) (Elements: Sub: PN, Obj: MO.NP, Man: ADV.P, Pre: VP)

hāj *bivʦə* *t^hir-i* *t^hir-i* *vav-t-i-m*
I-NOM seed slow-fs slow-fs sow-prog-fs-1person(pre)

‘I am sowing seed slowly.’

4.9 Summary

This chapter has discussed that the nominative case is always unmarked on the subjects. The ergative case on the nouns functioning as the subject element and the pronouns with inseparable ergative case have been next described. Then, a brief discussion of the dative and accusative case, which are marked the same, has been given. An explanation about the marked and unmarked absolutive case has been next provided. The genitive case, which is also marked the same as D/A case, has been discussed. Then, the locative, instrumental and vocative cases have been discussed. Finally, the agreement between the predicate, the subject and the object with respect to number-gender has been explained.