

CHAPTER 7

CONCLUSION

7.0 Summary

This thesis has described the structure of verb phrases functioning in the predicates of different clauses in Chodri. Simple verb phrases and complex verb phrases are the two types of verb phrases identified. The head elements of verb phrases are: copula, simple, compound, conjunct and inverse verbs. The optional elements of verb phrases are: negative, modal verb and tense auxiliary verb.

A compound verb is a combination of a simple, conjunct or an inverse verb ending with the conjunctive participle *-i* and a vector verb. Intensive, completive and potential are the three kinds of compound verbs. The meaning of completive and potential compound verbs is easily predictable. Whereas the meaning of the intensive compound verbs is not easily predictable. The use of intensive compound verbs in past tense in narratives plays an important role in discourse.

Conjunct verbs can be formed by a combination of a noun plus a verb or an adjective plus a verb. The set of verbs which can act as a verbalizer with such nouns or adjectives in conjunct verbs is very limited. A conjunct verb can also be compounded when it is followed by the vector verb *d3a*.

Direct or single and indirect or double causativity process has been described. A direct causative, which means A causes B to do or undergo an action or event, can be done analytically, morphologically or lexically in Chodri. Analytical causative, a less common process, is marked syntactically. Morphological causativity, the most common process, is derived by adding one of the causative markers (*-av*, *-aʃ* or *-uv*)

to a transitive or intransitive verb root. A few verbs, which cannot be causativized analytically or morphologically, can be causativized lexically by modification of the verb stem. The process of indirect causativity, which means A causes C to do or undergo an action or event by the means of B, is done by adding a causative marker (*-av*, or *-ar*) to a causativized verb.

In Chodri, a split ergative language, the verbs agree with the gender-number of the subject when the subject is nominative and of the object when the subject is ergative. Transitive verbs in past and perfect tenses require ergative subject. The absolutive case is marked only on human nouns and non-human nouns referring to specific or definite objects.

On the basis of semantic criteria, tenses are grouped into simple and complex tenses. Simple tenses indicate whether an action or event occurs at a fixed position in the time continuum. Complex tenses include aspect and indicate whether an action or event is completed or not completed and in the present or past.

Six different modals, which indicate the speaker's illocutionary force, are used in complex verb phrases. The six different moods, imperative, intentional, dubitative, hortative, subjunctive and advisory, reflect the attitude of the speaker and are indicated by verbal category.

7.1 Discussions

The functions of a verb in elements other than the verb phrase are not accounted for in the above analysis. These include: 1) noun-like verbal forms (*pivanə* 'drinking') and adjective-like verbal forms (*pidno matəro* 'drunk man') 2) reduplication of a finite or non-finite form of a verb as such reduplication functions at sentence level and is more appropriately dealt with there.

3) Abilitative aspect in Chodri is used to express whether an action is able to be done by a person. The abilitative aspect is formed by adding the suffix *-aj* to verb stems ending in a consonant and *-vaj* to verb stems ending in a vowel. When a verb expresses abilitative aspect, the subject of the verb is in dative construction. Both the abilitative aspect suffix and the passive suffix *-a* occur immediately following a verb root. Either one of these and not both of them can occur at the same time.

7.2 Further Research

One of the limitations of this thesis is that this description does not help someone to identify the dramatic instances of semantic change caused by the intensive compound verbs. The vectors, although independent lexical items, lose some features of their meaning when they compound with another verb. Further research on this kind of semantic bleaching would be of great interest.

This study also does not answer why a given vector only compounds with certain verbs. Further analysis on the domains of the verbs with which a given vector can compound may provide answer to this question.