

CLAUSE COMBINING IN PHEDAPPE LIMBU

**A thesis
Submitted to the Central Department of Linguistics
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of Tribhuvan University
in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirement for the
Master's Degree of Arts
in
Linguistics**

By

**Mrs. Anita Tumbahangphe
Roll No: 281843
T. U. Regd. No.: 9-2-219-1-2002
Central Department of Linguistics
Tribhuvan University
Kirtipur, Kathmandu
Nepal**

November, 2014

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This is to certify that this thesis entitled **Clause Combining in Phedappe Limbu** has been written by Mrs. Anita Tumbahangphe under my supervision. I recommend this thesis for evaluation.

.....
Dr. Govinda Bahadur Tumbahang
Supervisor
Associate Professor
Centre for Nepal and Asian Studies,
T.U., Kirtipur.

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTCS

Letter of Approval

The undersigned members of the thesis committee have approved this thesis entitled **Clause Combining in Phedappe Limbu** submitted by Mrs. Anita Tumbahangphe to the Central Department of Linguistics, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur, Kathmandu in partial fulfilment of the requirement for the Master's Degree in linguistics.

Supervisor:

.....
(Dr. Govinda Bahadur Tumbahang)
Associate Professor
Centre for Nepal and Asian Studies,
T.U., Kirtipur

External Examiner

.....
(Prof. Dr. Churamani Bandhu)

.....
(Prof. Dr. Dan Raj Regmi)
Head
Central Department of Linguistics
Tribhuvan University
Kirtipur, Kathmandu
Date: 2071/7/27

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Govinda Bahadur Tumbahang, my thesis supervisor and I am very much indebted to him for his constant guidance, insightful comments and encouragement for carrying out this research. I have been extremely fortunate to have him as my supervisor, who gave me invaluable support both at professional and personal levels. I highly appreciate the support I received from him during the research work.

Especially, I acknowledge with gratitude Prof. Dr. Dan Raj Regmi, Head of the Central Department of Linguistics, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu for his insightful comments on various topics and constant encouragement throughout this study.

Similarly, I owe a great debt of thanks to my Gurus, Prof. Dr. Yogendra Prasad Yadava, and Prof. Dr. Madhav Prasad Pokharel, Dr. Churamani Bandhu, Dr. Balaram Prasain, Dr. Dubinanda Dhakal, Mr. Ram Raj Lohini, Mr. Bhim Narayan Regmi, Mr. Bhim Lal Gautam, Mr. Kamal Poudel Mr. Karnakhar Khatiwada and Mr. Krishna Prashad Parajuli of Central Department of Linguistics, T.U. who gave light to my life and instilled in me the art of doing something in the every steps of life.

I highly appreciate the support of non-teaching faculty members of the Central Department of Linguistics for their direct and indirect academic and moral support during the entire study.

I wish to express my heartfelt appreciation to Mrs. Amita Subedi Librarian and the other staff of Linguistics Department for their wonderful support to locate and obtain materials during this research.

I am grateful to Ms. Rikhi Rai, Mr. Kishor Sherpa, Mr. Ajit Dhimal, Mr. Ashok Yadav, and all my friends for their intellectual inputs and constructive suggestion during the entire study to improve this thesis.

I am profoundly indebted to my father, Mr. Bijuli Bahadur Tumbahangphe, brothers Mr. Yogesh Tumbahangphe, Mr. Sunil Tumbahangphe and Mr. Bikram Rai sisters, Mrs. Anumati Tumbahangphe, Mrs. Sarita Rai and Mrs. Binita Sambahangphe for their inspiration, support, kindness, care and encouragement.

Finally, I am extremely thankful to my husband, Mr. Lok Singak, for his tolerance, patience, kind support in my life and insightful advice for this research. This task would have been impossible to accomplish without the support I received from him.

Anita Tumbahangphe

ABSTRACT

This study is an attempt to analyze the clause combining system of Phedappe Limbu. The Phedappe Limbu is one of the dialects of Limbu language which belongs to the east Himalayan group of Tibeto Burman languages. It is mainly spoken in the Phedap area which borders the Nuwa Khola river in the west and the Tomor Khola river in the east of Terhathum district.

In Phedappe Limbu clauses are broadly divided into Finite and Non-finite clauses on the basis of full and reduced affixes on the verb stems. The finite clause consists of basic clauses such as declarative, interrogative, imperative and exclamative clause. The non-finite clause, on the other hand, consists of infinitival, purposive, converb, gerundive and sequential clauses. There is verbless clause in Phedappe Limbu.

Phedappe independent clause does not depend syntactically on another clause but the dependent clause depends. Clauses are combined through two main processes viz. coordination and subordination in Phedappe Limbu. When two independent clauses are combined with the help of coordinating conjunctions like *hɛkyan* "and" *kɔɔ* "but" etc. it is called coordination process. The clauses constructed through such process are called coordinated clauses. Subordination is the process in which independent or main clauses are combined with dependent or subordinate clauses using subordinating conjunctions such as *-ille*, *-an*, *-phan*, *san* etc. The clauses made following such processes are known as subordinate clauses. Within subordinate clause -nominal, relative, gerundive, sequential and adverb clauses are found. Gerundive clause is marked by the subordinator *-ɔ* and the suffix *'-an'* attaches to the root verbs for sequential clause.

In Phedappe Limbu, under the adverbial clause- clause of time, reason, purpose, result concession, place, condition, clause of comparison and similarity and correlative clauses are found. Similarly, infinitival, purposive, and converb clauses are dealt under non-finite clauses.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION	I
LETTER OF APPROVAL	II
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	II
ABSTRACT	IV
LIST OF ABBREVIATION	Vii
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1. Background	1
1.2. Statement of the problems	2
1.3. Objectives of the study	2
1.4. Review of the literature	2
1.5. Research methodology	4
1.6. Significant of the study	4
1.7. Limitation of the study	5
1.8. Organization of the study	5
CHAPTER TWO: CLAUSE TYPES	6
2.0 Outline	6
2.1 Finite Clause	6
2.2 Non-Finite Clause	6
2.1.1. Declarative clause	7
2.1.2. Interrogative clauses	9
2.1.3 Imperative clause	11
2.1.4 Exclamative clause	12
2.1.5 Optative clause	13
2.1.6 Question tags with affirmative and negation	13
2.2.1 Infinitival clause	14
2.2.2 Purposive clause	15
2.2.3 Converb clause	15

2.2.4 Verbless clause	16
2. 3 Summary	16
CHAPTER THREE: CO-ORDINATION	17
3.0. Outline	17
3.1. Independent clause	17
3.2. Coordinated clause	18
3.3. Summary	19
CHAPTER FOUR: SUBORDINATION	20
4.0. Outline	20
4.1. Dependent clause	20
4.2. Main clause	21
4.3. Subordinate clause	22
4.3.1 Nominal clause	22
4.3.2 Relative clause	23
4.3.3 Gerundive clause	23
4.3.4 Sequential clause	24
4.3.5 Adverbial clause	25
4.4 Non-finite clause	35
4.4.1 Infinitival clause	35
4.4.2 Purposive clause	35
4.4.3 Converb clause	36
4.5. Summary	36
CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION	38
5.0. Outline	38
5.1. Major findings	38
5.2. Summary	41
REFERENCES	42
APPENDIX	45

LIST OF ABBREVIATION

ABL	=	Ablative
ABS	=	Absolutive
ASS	=	Assertive
CONJ	=	Conjunction
ERG	=	Ergative
GER	=	Gerundive
IMPER	=	Imperative
INF	=	Infinitive
INTER	=	Interrogative
NEG	=	Negative
LOC	=	Locative
NOM	=	Nominalizer
NPT	=	Non Past Tense
OBL	=	Oblique
PART	=	Particle
pl	=	Plural
PROG	=	Progressive
PT	=	Past Tense
PUR	=	Purposive
SEQ	=	Sequential
SIM	=	Simultaneous
3O	=	Third person