

# CHAPTER ONE

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Background

Limbu is spoken in the eastern part of Nepal which comprises 9 districts of Koshi and Mechi zones such as Taplejung, Panchthar, Ilam, Jhapa in the Mechi zone and Sankhuwasabha, Dhankuta, Terhathum, Sunsari and Mornag in the Koshi zone. Traditionally, the entire area is called Limbuwan, 'the land of the Limbu'. A considerable number of the Limbu, who have migrated to the Kathmandu valley from their homeland, also speak it. Outside Nepal, it is spoken in Bhutan, Sikkim, West Bengal, and Asam states of India, Myanmar, Hongkong and the U.K. In Nepal alone, the number of Limbu speakers constitutes 343,603 (Social Inclusion Atlas of Nepal Vol II 2014).

Limbu is called *Yakthung pan* "Limbu language" in the mother tongue. It belongs to eastern Kiranti group of Himalyish subdivision of Bodic division of Tibeto-Burman sub-family of Sino-Tibeto-Burman family of languages. Wiedert and Subba (1985), Van Driem (1987), Kainla (2059 B.S.) mention four major dialects of Limbu such as Panthare, Phedappe, Tamarkhle and Chhattare.

The Limbu who are inhabitants of the Phedap area are known as Phedappe Limbu. This area lies between the Tamorkhola River in the east and the Nuwakhola River in the west of Terhathum district. The language spoken by the Limbu living here is known as Phedappe Limbu.

It is called Phedappe pan "Phedappe language" in the native parlance. It is one of the dialects of Limbu. Except in Panchakanya, Pokhari, Phakchamara, Hamarjung, Okhre, Sudap, Angdim, Dangappa, Phulek and Basantapur Village Development Committees (VDCs), it is spoken all over the Terhathum district.

Geographically, Phedappe Limbu's closest neighbors are the Chhattare Limbu, who lives in the south west of Phedap. In its northern part, there lies the settlement of

Tamorkhole people who speak Tambarkhole Limbu. Similarly, in the eastern part of Phedap, across the river Tamor there are Panthare Limbu people who are linguistically close to the Phedappe Limbu.

Limbu has own script viz. Sirijangga script and literature. In terms of the development of script and literature, Limbu is second to the Newar among indiginious people of Nepal.

## **1.2. Statement of the problem**

Although there have been done researches on the other dialects of Limbu language (Tumbahang 2011, Wieder and Subba 1985, Mikhailovsky 2002), very few studies have been done in Phedappe Limbu. George Van Driem published "A Grammar of Limbu" in 1987 based on Phedappe dialect of Limbu language. However, this grammar does not specifically deal with 'the Clause Combining in Phedappe Limbu'. So for the specific linguistic analysis of this language, clause combining is most necessary. This study has two research questions:

- a) What are the types of clauses in Phedappe Limbu?
- b) How do clauses combine to make different sentences in Phedappe Limbu?

## **1.3. Objectives of the study**

The primary objective of this study is to investigate the clause combining processes in Phedappe Limbu. Following are the main objectives of this study:

- a) To analyze the clause types in Phedappe Limbu; and
- b) To describe clause combining processes in Phedappe Limbu.

## **1.4. Review of the literature**

Kirkpatrick (1811:250-52) lists altogether 63 Limbu words. Almost all words are nouns. In addition, it contains numerals up to ten and a single numeral 'twenty'.

Campbell (1840) records the Kiranti script consisting of nineteen consonants and vowels. Campbell (1855) also lists 326 Limbu words with their Nepali meanings in the Roman script.

Hodgson's manuscript (1864) is the collection of old documents written in the Kiranti script. Hodgson has collected 713 words in the manuscript.

Senior (1908) lists 3200 words of English and their Limbu equivalents in the Roman script.

Konow (1909:283-304) is a short grammar of Limbu with a list of 241 Limbu words in a traditional model.

Chemjong (2018 B.S.) lists 5500 Limbu words with their meanings in Nepali and English. He gives the grammatical classes of words within the brackets.

Wiedert and Subba (1985) is the first Limbu grammar written on Panthare dialect following modern linguistic theories. This grammar has studied phonemes, morphemes and syntax. It has also listed a few Limbu words in the lexicon. van

Driem (1987) is a grammar of Phedappe Limbu which describes phonology, morphology and syntax in detail. It has also listed a few Limbu words in the lexicon.

Limbu (2049 B.S.) records only eight vowels including two diphthongs and 35 consonant sounds. He presents numerals up to one hundred. He makes word entry in Devanagari script with their meanings in Limbu in the Devanagari script and then in English in the Roman script. The order of the entry follows the order of the Nepali vowels and consonants. A retired inspector of Singapore police with no formal education, Limbu deserves appreciation for his contribution to the preservation and promotion of Limbu language. Sambanphe (1992) lists 544 Limbu words in his dictionary and Yonghang (2052 B.S.) makes the entry of 7432 words in Sirijangga script with their pronunciation and meanings in Nepali.

Ebert (1994) compares the structures of the Kiranti languages like Bantawa, Thulung, Limbu, Khaling etc.

Michailovsky (2002) is a dictionary of Mewakhole Limbu. Kainla (2059 B.S.) lists forty thousand words in total with twelve thousand headwords and other derivatives.

The entries of headwords follow the alphabetical order of the Sirijangga script and are written in the *Devanagari* script. Their pronunciations are transcribed in International Phonetic Alphabet. Their word-classes and meanings are given in Nepali. Tambahang (2007) is a Ph.D. dissertation written on a descriptive grammar of Chhatthare Limbu. A linguistic study of Chhatthare Limbu (2011a) and A grammar of Limbu (2011b) describe phonology, morphology and syntax of Chhatthare Limbu and standard Limbu respectively.

## **1.5. Research methodology**

### **1.5.1. Data collection**

This study was based on both primary and secondary data. The primary data was taken from the native speakers of Phedappe Limbu. Some of the data in this research are based on the intuition of the researcher, as native speaker of Phedappe Limbu of the Sabla V. D. C – 2, Terhathum. Phedappe Limbu spoken in Sabla V. D. C- 2, 3 and Tamphula VDC -6 of Terhathum was also included in the data

As the secondary sources of data, the researcher used the Limbu grammar book of van Derim, George. (1987).

### **1.5.2. Framework**

This study was carried out following the structural framework as followed by Payne (1997).

## **1.6. Significance of the study**

This study will be helpful for those who want to work on clause combining. It will facilitate the reasearchers and students to learn and help in describing and analyzing the different types of clauses. It will work as a reference book for them.

### **1.7. Limitations of the study**

This study is based on the data collected from the Tamphula and Sabla VDCs of Terhathum district.

### **1.8. Organization of the study**

This study is organised in five chapters. The first chapter is the introduction and background of the research work in the clause combining in Phedappe Limbu. In the second chapter, there is the description of clause types (finite, non-finite). The third chapter is the presentation of co-ordination process of clause combining in Phedappe Limbu. The fourth chapter presents the subordination process. Finally the fifth chapter includes major findings and summary of the whole research work.

## CHAPTER TWO

### CLAUSE TYPES

#### 2.0 Outline

This chapter deals with clause types of Phedappe Limbu. It consists of three sections. Section 2.1 deals with finite clauses in the language. In section 2.2, we analyze the non-finite clauses. Section 2.3 presents the summary of the findings of the chapter.

#### 2.1 Finite clause

Finite clauses are made of the verbs with inflectional affixes which mark person, number, case, tense, negation, exclusion etc. They are independent clauses and therefore can function as a sentence without depending on any clause. The clause given in (1a) presents its example.

(1) a. aŋga sapla nir -u -ŋ  
1sg book read -3O -1sgA  
"I read a book."

b. hənɛ ips-ɛ  
3sg sleep-PT  
"He slept."

In the example (1a) the verb inflects for number, person, participants and tense. Similarly, in the example (1b), the verb comprises third person, past tense expressing suffixes. So, these clauses are finite clauses.

#### 2.2 Non-finite clause

Non-finite clauses are made of verbs which do not contain number and tense markers. Exceptionally, infinitival verbs contain number marking suffixes. They are dependent clauses as they can not function independently without depending on main clauses. In fact, they are subordinate clauses, which depend on main clauses for the communication of meaning. Examples in (2a) and (2b) justify it.

(2) a. *hunε a - dum -se phεr -ε*

3sg me -meet -PUR come -3PT

"He came to meet me."

b. *anga kən yambək cək -ma a- sira me- dhaŋ -nən*

1sg this work do -INF my-like Neg -come-Neg

"I do not like to do this work."

c. *hunchi tək pima-si pong*

3pl rice give -3pl should

They should be given rice.

In example (2a), the verb *adumse* doesn't express tense and number. Therefore, it is a nonfinite clause, and as it expresses meaning "to meet me", it is a clause, but as it can't stand alone as a sentence, it is a dependent clause or subordinate clause. It depends on the independent clause or main clause *hunε phεrε* "he came" to make a sentence.

In example (2b), the verb *cək-ma* does not express tense and number. So the clause *kən yambək cək -ma* "to do this work" is a non finite clause as it can't stand alone as a sentence. It depends on the independent clause or main clause *a- sira me- dhaŋ - nən* "I do not like" to make a sentence.

Example (2c) shows that the infinitival verb *pima* "to give" contains numbr marking suffix *-si* which indicates "-3pl" in the non-finite clause *hunchi tək pima-si pong* "They should be given rice."

Finite clauses consist of declarative, interrogative, imperative, exclamative, optative clauses. They are described in the following sub-headings.

### 2.1.1 Declarative clause

Declaratives are most typically used to make statements and assertions. In Phedappe Limbu, declarative clause is used to make statements and assertions. The statements and assertions can be affirmative and negative. For example,

(3) a. *hənε? nuba nichamsa-ro*

he good student-Part

"He is a good student."

b. hənɛ?        vyadik        yambək        co:g        -u?  
he            morning        work            do            -3O

"He works in the morning."

c. aŋga? Sumbak -o yum me-get-u-ŋ-nen  
I        curry        -LOC salt Neg-put-3O-1sgA-Neg

"I don't put salt on curry."

d. ain        ta:dik        hənɛ? səpa ni-mɛ-det-nən  
today tomorrow he        happy look-Neg-Pass-Neg

"He does not look happy these days."

The clauses in (3a) and (3b) are affirmative declarative clauses whereas (3c) and (3d) are negative declarative clauses respectively

Affirmative clause consists of intransitive and transitive clauses in Phedappe Limbu. They are described as follows:

**(i) Intransitive affirmative declarative**

Phedappe Limbu intransitive affirmative declarative clause doesn't take an object in order to express meaning. For example,

(4) a. maksu im

Maksu sleep.NPT

"Maksu sleeps."

b. sikkum e:r-e

Sikkum laugh-PT

"Sikkum laughed."

c. mukum hap-lə        wa?

Mukum weep.NPT-PROG        be.NPT

"Mukum is weeping."

d. a-mba?                ək

1sg-father        shout.NPT

"My father shouts."



In the example (4a), (4b), (4c) and (4d) there are no objects. However, the clauses are meaningful.

### (ii) Transitive affirmative declarative

Phedappe transitive affirmative declarative clause takes object necessarily. For example,

- (5) a. hənɛ? tək cə  
he rice eat.NPT  
"He eats rice."
- b. huni? teŋba-ha? me -dum -u -si  
they friend-pl 3pl-meet .PT 3O -3plO  
"They met friends."
- c. aŋga? sapla hənɛ? Pir -u -ŋ  
I book 3sg give -3O-1sgA  
"I gave him a book."
- d. hənɛ? kheda? nir-u  
he story study -3O  
"He read a story."

### 2.1.2 Interrogative clauses

In Phedappe Limbu, there are two types of interrogative clauses. They are polar interrogative and informative. Those are described as follows:

#### (i) Polar interrogative clause

"Polar interrogative clauses typically function to ask questions to which the answer is yes or no (yes-no questions), or questions with x or y (alternative questions), where the respondent must choose between alternatives (Carter and McCarthy 2008:534).

In Phedappe Limbu polar interrogative clauses are formed by using the suffix -i to ask questions to which the answer is 'yes' or 'no'. For example,

- (6) a. hənɛ? tɔ:k ke-dzɔ-i  
you rice 2sg-eat-Q  
"Do you eat rice?"

b. ani? him -o a -yuŋ -I a -bek -i  
 1pl home -LOC 1pl -stay -Q 1pl -go -Q  
 "Do we stay at home or go?"

c. hənɛ? khiiŋ co:g-u-aŋ wa-i  
 3sg phone do-3O -have be-Q  
 "Has he phoned?"

On the other hand, negative polar interrogatives are used to ask questions which function to check or confirm something which the speaker believes or expects to be the case, or which the speaker considers to be a viable course of action. The polar interrogative is marked by the suffix *-i*, and by addition of the negative prefix and suffix to the verb, negative polar interrogative is formed with 'me' or 'kən'. For example,

(7) a. hənɛ? chhəikwa kɛ -n -dhuŋ -u -n -i  
 2sg tea 2sgA -Neg -drink-3O -Neg -Q  
 "Don't you drink tea?"

b. hənɛ?-aŋ pek-ma me -boŋ -nen-i  
 1sg-also go-INF Neg -be -Neg-Q  
 "Shouldn't you go?"

c. hənɛ? to:k ca:-ma ke -n -yand -u -n -i  
 2sg rice eat-INF 2sgA-Neg-can -3O -Neg-Q  
 "Can't you eat rice?"

**(ii) Informative clause**

Phedappe Limbu informative clauses typically function to ask questions which seek information, and can not be answered simply by 'yes' or 'no'. They are formed by the words such as *en* "who", *atto* "where" *hen* "what" etc.

(8) a. en -le khamladha khut-u  
 who -ERG car steal-3O  
 Who stole the car?

b. hənɛʔ    atto    pe:ʔ  
           3sg        where go.PT  
 "Where did he go?"

c. hənəŋ        huniʔ ya:mbok        me-dzog-u  
           why        they    work            3PlA-do-3O  
 "Why did they do the work?"

d. hənɛʔ        hən    co:k-ma        ke-yand-u  
           you        what    do-INF        2sg-can-3O  
 "What can you do?"

In negative informative clause, the negative prefix 'me' and negative suffix *-n* are used with the verb stem. The 3nsO is followed by the copy morphem *-n*. Words like *hənəŋ* 'why', *ən* 'who', etc. occur as a subject. For example,

(9) a hənəŋ hənɛʔ kun-dəŋ    -ba -haʔ me -ut -u -n    -si    -n  
           why    3sg    3sg-friend-NOM-pl    Neg call -3O -Neg -3plO -Neg  
 "Why didn't he call his friends?"

b. ən -le    nu me -dhuŋ -u    -n    -ba  
           who -ERG milk Neg -drink -3O -Neg    -NOM  
 "Who did not drink milk?"

### 2.1.3 Imperative clause

Phedappe Limbu imperative clauses typically function to give directives. Imperative does not have overt subject and object markers. It is marked by the suffix *-ɛ*. For example,

(10) a. khɛdaʔ        sapt-ɛ  
           story        write-IMPR  
 Write the story!

c. hənɛʔ        ut -ɛʔ  
           3sg        call-IMPR  
 Call him!

d. təŋəŋ        pɛ:g -ɛʔ

ahead go -IMPR

Go ahead!

In the examples in (10), the verb stems *sapt-ε*, *ut-ε?* and *peg-ε?* have imperative marker -ε, but they do not have any other markers such as person and case. However, it is clearly understood that first person is giving order or direction to the second person.

Phedappe Limbu negative imperative clause is constructed with negative prefix and negative suffix, which are attached to the verb stem. For example,

(11)a. him -o mε-bεg-ε -n -ε

home -Loc Neg-go-3O-Neg-IMPR

Don't go home!

b. khi:ŋ mən-dzok-ε mε -mεt -ε -n -ε

phone Neg-do Adv Neg-say-3O-Neg-IMPR

Don't say until he calls!

#### 2.1.4 Exclamative clause

Phedappe Limbu exclamative clause consists of 'akhyak' followed by an adjective. For example,

(12)a. akhyak kεm-man -bε

how tall-Fe -EXL

How tall she is!

b. akhyak sət-t-e-cchi-ba nidet khεnchi

how happy-PT-Du-NOM seem.NPT they-Du

How happy they both seem!

c. akhyak nuba- phuŋ bε kən

what beautiful flower EXL this

"What a beautiful flower it is!"

In the example(12a),(12b) and (12c) the word *akhyak* is followed by adjectives *kemma* “tall”, *səttechhiba* “happy” and *nuba* “beautiful” to construct the exclamative clauses.

### 2.1.5 Optative clause

Optative indicates a wish or desired situation.(Derim,1987:133).Optative clauses are formed by adding the optative suffix *-lo* to the verb.For example,

- (13) a. hənɛ? yəm̩ba mən̩a ke -boŋ -lo!  
           2sg big man 2sgO become -OPT  
           "May you become a great man!"
- b. ain wahit me dha ne -n -lo!  
           today rain Neg fall-3O-Neg-OPT  
           "May the rain not fall today!"

### 2.1.6 Question tags with affirmative and negative

Phedappe Limbu tag is a type of clause without a lexical verb but which relates to the verb in the main clause of a sentence. Question tag is used to check or clarify information, or simply to involve the listener in a more interactive way. Question tag polarity refers to whether a verb phrase is affirmative or negative. For example,

- (14) a. hənɛ? siksam -ma-ro, mən-i  
           3sg teacher-Fe-Part, Neg-Q  
           "She is a teacher, isn't she?"
- b. hənɛ? yambək cog-u-aŋ wa?, mən-i  
           3sg work do-3O-PERF be, Neg-Q  
           "You have done work, haven't you?"
- c. hənɛ? tək mən-dza-ɛ wa?, hə-i  
           3sg rice Neg-eat-PREF be, have-Q  
           He has not eaten rice, has he?
- d. hənɛ? sam mɛ-llo-ɛ wa?, hə-i  
           3sg song Neg-song-PREF be, has-Q  
           He has not sung a song, has he?

In (14a) and (14b) the main clauses: *hənɛ? siksam-ma-ro* “She is a teacher” and *hənɛ? ya:mbək cog-u-aŋ wa?* “You have done work” are affirmative that is why question tags in both the sentences *mən-i* “isn't she?” and “haven't you?” are negative clauses without lexical verb which are related to the main clause of a sentence. On the other hand in (14c) and (14d) the main clauses: *hənɛ? tɔ:k mən-dza-ɛ wa?* “He has not eaten rice” and *hənɛ? sam mɛ-llo-ɛ wa?* “He has not sung a song” are negative. Therefore, question tags in both the sentences *hə-i* “have he?” are affirmative.

### 2.2.1 Infinitival clause

In Phedappe Limbu, infinitive clause is marked by the suffix *-ma*. The infinitive verb does not take person, subject, object and tense markers. The clause headed by such verb is called an infinitival clause, which is a non-finite clause. For example,

- (15) a. *siŋ -ha? taŋ-ma nuba mən*  
 Tree -pl cut -INF good Neg  
 "To cut trees is not good.
- b. *phɛsɛ:pa thuŋ - ma nu:ba mən*  
 cigarette smoke-INF good Neg  
 "To smoke is not good."
- c. *yərik cwa? thuŋ -ma nu:ba -ro*  
 enough water drink-INF good -Part  
 "To drink enough water is beneficial."
- d. *thakmaŋ laŋghe-ma sa:k*  
 uphill walk-INF difficult  
 "To climb uphill is difficult."

In (15a), (15b), (15c) and (15d) *taŋ-ma* "to cut", *thuŋ - ma* "to smoke", *thuŋ-ma* "to smoke", *laŋghe -ma* "to climb" are infinitival clauses which don't inflect for person, subject, object and tense.

### 2.2.2 Purposive clause

In Phedappe Limbu, purposive clause is headed by a purposive verb which is marked by the suffix *-sɛ*. The purposive verb doesn't take tense and number markers. The purposive clause is a dependent clause as it can't function as a sentence without the help of an independent clause. For example,

(16) a. *hɔnɛ sa iŋ -sɛ pe*  
3sg meat buy -Purp go-PT  
"He went to buy meat."

b. *huni cawa thuŋ -sɛ me-bhɛr-ɛ*  
3pl water drink -Purp 3O come-PT  
"They came to drink water"

In the example (16a) and (16b) : *sa iŋ -sɛ* "to buy meat." and *cawa thuŋ -sɛ* "to drink water" are the purposive clauses and dependent clauses as they depend on the independent clauses *hɔnɛ pe* "he went" and *huni me-bhɛr-ɛ* "they came" respectively.

### 2.2.3 Converb clause

Converb verbs are formed by adding the suffix *-i* to the verb stems. The clauses headed by such verbs are converb clauses. They are dependent clauses and therefore depend upon independent clauses to function as sentences.

(17) a. *hɔnɛ? sapla nit -ni yɛp*  
3sg book read -CONV stand  
"He stands reading a book."  
b. *aŋga? samlo -i laŋghe -ga -ŋ*  
I sing -CONV walk -PT -1sg  
"I walked singing a song."

### 2.2.4 Verbless clause

According to Aarts and Aarts (1982: 85)

"Verbless clause does not contain a verbal form. They often consist of a noun phrase or adjective phrase only. Frequently they lack a subject and they may be looked upon

as a clause in which a form of the verb 'be' has been omitted."

In Phedappe Limbu, the particle *-gɔɔ* optionally occurs with the negation and nominizer *-ba* in the final position of the subordinate clause for the verbless clause.

For example,

(18) a. mɛn      gɔɔ              hɛʔyo      pɛk      - ɛ  
         Neg      Part              there      go      -1sg

"If not, I go there."

b. mɛn      gɔɔ      kɔn      sur -u-ŋ  
         Neg      Part              it      complete-3O-1sgA

"If not, I complete it."

### 3. Summary

In this chapter, we discussed the types of clauses in Phedappe Limbu. They are broadly divided into two types: 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 clause, interrogative clause, imperative clause, exclamative clause and optative clause. The non-finite clause, on the other hand, consists of infinitival, purposive and converb clauses.



## CHAPTER THREE

### CO-ORDINATION

#### 3.0 Outline

This chapter consists of three sections. Section 3.1 deals with the independent clause, section 3.2 presents coordinate clause and section 3.3 consists the summary. This chapter looks at coordination processes with examples.

In Phedape Limbu, sentences are constructed by the use of only one independent clause or by the use of two independent clauses or by the use of independent and dependent clauses. The second type of combination process is called coordination and the third type of combination process is called subordination. From the viewpoint of clause combining, Phedappe Limbu can be broadly divided into independent and dependent clauses.

#### 3.1 Independent clause

According to Carter and McCarthy (2008:553),

Independent clause is one which does not depend syntactically on another clause. Independent clause acts as main clauses that are clauses which can form whole sentences on their own but a dependent clause is one that is syntactically dependent on another clause. Dependent clauses include subordinate clauses (which combine with main clauses to form sentence) and embedded clauses."

The basic clause types mentioned in chapter two under finite clauses are the examples of the independent clauses of Phedappe Limbu as the clauses they can function as sentences on their own. Two examples are given here to capture the concept.

- (19) a. aŋgaʔ pɛg-a -ŋ -lə            wɛy-a-ŋ  
1sg      go-PT-1sg-PROG   be-PT-1sg  
"I was going."
- b. hənɛʔ tɛŋ-ba-haʔ    ut -u -si  
3sg   friend-Ma-pl   call-3O-3NSO  
"He called his friends.        "

The independent clauses function as main clauses if they occur with dependent or subordinate clauses.

When an independent clause occurs with another independent clause, it is usually called a coordinated clause as the status of both clauses is the same, main clause. Such process of clause combining is called co-ordination. For example,

c. *mirak -re sapla nir -u həkyaŋ mukum -re samila sapt-u*  
 3sg ERG book read-3O and 3sg ERG song write-3O  
 "Mirak reads a book and Mukum writes a poem."

d. *aŋga? tum-nε - llε siksamba kε- wɔy -ε*  
 1sg meet-1-2O -when teacher 2sg -be -PT  
 "When I met you, you were a teacher."

In the example, (2c) is the example of coordinated clause as this sentence consists of two clauses *mirak -re sapla nir -u* "Mirak reads a book" and *mukum-re samila sapt-u* "Mukum writes a poem."

### 3.2 Coordinated clause

Two independent clauses are combined by the use of coordinators such as *həkyaŋ* "and" and *kərə* "but". In such coordinated clauses, the statuses of each independent clause are same and as such are main clauses. Such processes of combining clause is called co-ordination.

In the following example (20) two independent clauses have been used. Those two independent clauses have been combined by *həkyaŋ* "and" and *kərə* "but". conjunctions. For example,

(20) a. *numa-rε tək thoktu həkyaŋ nisam-re tamji tug -u*  
 numa-ERG rice cook-3O and nisam-ERG dirt sweep-3O  
 " Numa cooks rice and Nisam sweeps the dirt."

b. taŋsaŋ      nisamhim   pe:k   kəɾə   tancho   him-o      yuŋ  
Tang sang   school   go   but   Tanchho   home-LOC   stay  
"Tangsang goes to school but tancho stays at home."

### **3.3 Summary**

In this chapter, we discussed the coordination process of clause combining in Phedappe Limbu. Two independent clauses are combined to make a single sentence. In this process, conjunctions like həkyəŋ “and” and kəɾə “but” are used. Such types of clause combining process is called co-ordination process.

## CHAPTER FOUR SUBORDINATION

### 4.0 Outline

This chapter consists of five sections. Section 4.1 describes the dependent clause and section 4.2 discuss main clause. Similarly, section 4.3 analyze subordinate clauses. Section 4.4 and 4.5 deal with combination of non-finite clauses and summary of the section respectively.

This chapter presents the subordination process of clause combining in Pheappe Limbu. In Phedape Limbu, sentences are constructed by combining independent and dependent clauses. Subordinating conjunctions are used to combine independent and dependent clauses. Similarly, two dependent clauses are also combined to make a single sentence with the help of subordinating conjunctions. This process of clause combining is known as subordination. This chapter looks at subordination processes with examples.

### 4.1 Dependent clause

The type of clause which can not function as a sentence without depending on another clause is called dependent clause. Nonfinite clauses are dependent or subordinate clauses. Finite clauses can be made dependent or subordinate clauses by addition of conjunction suffixes.

Phedappe dependent clause is syntactically dependent on another clause. In the example, the bracketed clause is the dependent clause because it is syntactically dependent on another clause. For example,

(2) a. [huni? ani? hen am-mett-ε-i]     aŋga? thaiŋ mε -gətt     -u -ŋ -nen

[3pl     1Pl     what 1pl-say-PT-IMPR] 1sg know Neg-have-3O-1sgA-Neg

"I don't know what they told us."

b. aŋga? yeksamba     tum - u - ŋ     [həne nisamhim-o     wəy-ε]

1sg     headmaster     meet-3O-1sgA [3sg     school - LOC     be - PT]

"I met the headmaster who was at school."

In the example (2), the bracketed clauses are dependent which can not stand alone and not complete in themselves. Those clauses have been dependent on other main clause to be meaningful.

Similarly in (2d), there are two clauses with different status. *siksamba kε- wɔy-ε* "you were a teacher." is a main clause whereas *aŋga? tum-ne- lle* "when I met you" is a subordinate clause. The second clause depends on the first one for the completion of meaning. The first clause is called an independent clause and the second is called a dependent clause respectively.

## 4.2 Main clause

According to Carter and McCarthy (2008:544),

"Main clause is not dependent on any other clause in the sentence. A sentence must have one main clause..A main clause must be finite, that is, it must have a verb which is inflected for tense"

In Phedappe Limbu, main clause is independent . It is not dependent on any other clauses to construct a sentence. On the other hand, if two independent clauses are combined by the use of conjunction, one of them becomes a dependent clause which is marked by conjunction suffixes or followed by particles. The dependent clause is called a subordinate clause and the independent clause is called main clause. The following examples justify this:

(3) a. *aŋga? him -o ker -a -ŋ -ille mukum ha:b -rɔ woye.*

1sg house –LOC reach-PT-1sgS while 3sg cry -Prog be-PT

"While I reach home, Mukum was crying.

b. *wahik?nam mɛn-on -dhariʔk aŋga? yambɔk mɛ -hɛk -ɛʔ-n*

weather Neg-improve -till 1sg work Neg-start-3O-Neg

"Untill the weather improves, I will not start my work"

### 4.3 Subordinate clause

According to Aarts and Aarts (1986, p. 82), "Subordination involves the use of a sentence as an element in the structure of another sentence".

According to Quirk, et al. (1985, p. 44), "clauses, which are embedded in other clauses, are subordinate clauses, and they are often introduced by a subordinating conjunction."

If an independent clause occurs with a dependent clause, the first one is called main clause the second one is called as a subordinate clause. In Phedappe Limbu, sentences are made of main clause and subordinate clause. Subordinate clause consists of nominal, adjectival or relative, gerundive, sequential and adverbial clauses. Adverbial clause includes time, place, reason, concession, correlative and, clause of comparison and similarity.

#### 4.3.1 Nominal clause

According to Leech and Svartvik (1985:1047),

"Nominal clauses have functions that approximate to those of noun phrases: Subject, object complement, appositive and prepositional complement Every nominal clause may function in some of all of these functions unlike noun phrase; however nominal clauses may also function as adjective complementation without a preposition."

According to Leech and Svarvik (1985:1049) say, "Nominal that clause is a subordinate clause that consists of the word 'that' and that clause may function as the subject, direct object, subject complement, appositive and adjectival complementation."

Nominal clauses are made by placing the conjunction *phaŋ* after the first clause. This clause usually answers the question what. The examples (5a) and (5b) justify it.

- (5) a. *khen mōna nuba cōk phaŋ kerēkle me-nes-u*  
that man good be Conj all-ERG 3plA- see-3O  
"Every one knows that that man is good."

- b. *lɔθhik mɔna sye phaŋ khɛn-lɛ pat-u*  
 one man die –PT Conj 3sg-ERG tell- 3O  
 "He said that one man died."

In the first sentence, *kerɛkle me-nes-u* "Everyone knows" is a main clause and *khɛn mɔna nuba cɔk phaŋ* "that the man is good" is a subordinate clause". Similarly, in the second sentence *khɛn-lɛ pat-u* "He said" is a main clause and *lɔθhik mɔna sye phaŋ* "That a man died" is a subordinate clause. In both sentences, *phaŋ* is a subordinator.

### 4.3.2 Relative clause

Relative clauses are formed by the prefix *kɛ-* and suffix *-pa* in intransitive verbs, but by the suffixes *na-ba* in transitive verbs.

- (6) a. *aŋga kɛ- lok -pa ɔn rɔk iŋ -u -ŋ*  
 1sg Rel -run -Rel/M horse only buy-30-1sgA  
 "I buy the only horse which runs"

- b. *aŋga? caŋ -na -ba te? me -iŋ -e -n*  
 1sg wear-Pass- Rel cloth Neg- buy -1sgO-Neg

"I don't buy the cloth which is worn by others."

In the example (6a) *kɛ- lok -pa* "which runs" is the relative clause with the intransitive verb *-lok* having two relativizer affixes: prefix- *kɛ-* and suffix-*pa*. In (6b) *caŋ -na -ba* " which is worn by others." is the relative clause with transitive verb. Both the clauses are subordinate clauses as they depend on main clause to be meaningful.

### 4.3.3 Gerundive clause

The clause having gerundive verb is called gerundive clause. Gerundive verbs are formed by adding the suffix- *rɔ*. Gerundive clauses are dependent as they depend on the main clause to be meaningful in a sentence.

(18) a. *hɔnɛ samlo -rɔ yep.*

3sg sing -GER stand

"She stands singing."

b. *hanpal phikwa -ca -rɔ langhek*

hanpal whistle play -GER walk.

"Hangpal walks whistling."

In the example (18a) and (18b), the clauses *samlo -rɔ* "singing." and *phikwa -ca -rɔ* "whistling." are the gerundive clauses. Similarly, (18a) *hɔnɛ samlo -rɔ yep* "She stands singing." is made combining two main clauses *hɔnɛ yep* "She stands" and *hɔnɛ samlo* "she sings." (18b) *hanpal phikwa -ca -rɔ langhek* "Hangpal walks whistling." also is made of combination of two main clauses *hanpal langhek* "Hangpal walks" and *hanpal phikwa -ca* "Hangpal whistles." Gerundive subordinator *-rɔ* has been used to combine two different independent clauses in both the examples.

#### 4.3.4 Sequential clause

Sequential clauses are headed by sequential verbs which are marked by the suffix *-aŋ*. It is a non-finite clause plus dependent one.

(19) a. *anɡaʔ tɔk caŋ -aŋ ips -a -ŋ*

I rice eat -SEQ sleep-PT-1sgS

"I slept having rice."

b. *numa-rɛ sapla nir -u -aŋ tɔk thokt -u*

numa -ERG book read 3O -SEQ rice cook-3sgA

"Numa cooked rice after reading."

In the example (19a) and (19b) *tɔk caŋ -aŋ* "having rice." and *sapla nir -u -aŋ* "after reading." are sequential clauses as they are immediately followed by another clause.

In (19a), two main clauses *anɡaʔ tɔk caŋ* "I ate rice." *anɡaʔ ips -a -ŋ* "I slept" are



combined to form a single sentence *an̄ga? tək caŋ -aŋ ips -a -ŋ* "I slept having rice." Similarly, in (19b) two main clauses *numa-rɛ sapla nir -u* "Numa read a book" and *numa-rɛ tək thokt -u* "Numa cooked rice" are combined to construct a single sentence *numa-rɛ sapla nir -u -aŋ tək thokt -u* "Numa cooked rice after reading." In both the examples sequential subordinator *-aŋ* has been used to combine two different independent clauses.

### 4.3.5 Adverbial clause

Crystal (2003) says, "An adverbial clause is a dependent clause which takes the place of an adverb in another clause or phrase. An adverbial clause answers questions such as "when?", "where?", "why?"."

Payne (2003:316-317) says, "Adverb clauses are those that serve an 'adverbial' function. They modify a verb phrase or a whole clause."

Strumpf (2008:351.) says, "Adverbial clauses modify verbs, adjectives and adverbs in the same way that standard adverbials do but most simply modify verbs. They are always introduced by subordinate conjunctions".

In Phedappe Limbu, adverbial clause includes the the clause of time, reason, purpose, result, concession, place and conditio

#### a. Clauses of time

Quirk, et al. (1985:1078) say, "Adverbial present participle clause of time is introduced by one of the following subordinators: *once, till, until, when, whenever, while, whilst.*"

In Phedappe Limbu, the suffixes *-sorik, -ille, -tɔgi, -aŋtho, -dharik* and *-aŋ* function as the subordinators of the clause of time. Those subordinators occur with adjective, verb, noun in the final position of the subordinate clause for the clause of time.

The subordinator *-sorik* always occurs with the verb in the final position of the subordinate clause. For example,

- (7) a. *hɛŋɛ? lɛŋhim kɛ-gɛ? -sorik cyulik? sɛrimɛ-ha? iŋ-ɛ*  
 2sg shop 2sg-reach-as soon as some orange -pl buy-IMPR

"Buy some oranges as soon as you reach the shop."

b.t hiboŋ yakpha sɔbɔt kɛ-bo:ŋ sorik yəmba nisamhim pɛ:g-ɛ?  
 SLC pass 2sg-be as soon as college go -IMPR

"Join the college as soon as you pass the SLC."

The subordinators *-llɛ* and *-illɛ* occur in the final position of the subordinate clause to indicate time. For example,

(8) a. aŋga? nin -ɛ -llɛ tərthum kɛ -yuŋ- ɛ  
 1sg see -2sg -when terhrathum 2sg -live -PT

"When I last saw you, you lived in Terhrathum."

b. aŋga? tumn-ɛ -llɛ siksamba kɛ- wɔy -ɛ  
 1sg meet-2sg -when teacher 2sg -be -PT

"When I met you, you were a teacher."

c. hɔnɛ? yandha-o yambɔk-in co:k-illɛ sami?la sapt-u  
 3sg field-LOC work -ABS do-while poem write-3O

"He wrote a poem while working in the field."

d. aŋga? ips -a -ŋ -illɛ sɛpmaŋ -o ni:n - ɛ  
 1sg sleep-PT-1sgA -while dream -LOC see - PT

"While I was asleep, I dreamed about you."

Similarly, the subordinators *-tɔgi* and *-aŋ* occur in the final position of the subordinate clause for the clause of time. For example,

(9) a. ca:-ma - tɔgi ki -huk -in ɔsi?r-ɛ  
 eat-ING- before 2sg -hand-ABS wash-IMPR

"Wash your hand before eating."

b. nisamhim pɛ:k-ma -tɔgi laŋghop-in nuba co:g - ɛ?  
 School go-ING -before shoes-ABS good make-IMPR

"Brush your shoes before going to school."

c. seʔik -o yambək cog-u-ŋ -aŋ urumsiŋ -a-ŋ  
 garden -LOC work do-3O-1sgA -after bath -PT-1sgA

"I took a bath after working in the garden."

d. tɔ:k ca-ŋ -aŋ a -huk -in ɔsiʔr -u-ŋ  
 rice eat-1sg -after 1sg -hand-ABS wash -3O-1sgA

"I washed my hand after eating rice."

In the examples (9a) and (9b), the subordinator *-tɔgi* occurs with the verb after the present participle subordinator *-ma* in the final position of the subordinate clause and in the examples (9c) and (9d), the subordinator *-aŋ* occurs with the verb in the final position of the subordinate clause for the clause of time.

In the same way, the subordinators *-aŋtho* and *-dhariʔk* occur in the final position of the subordinate clause for the clause of time. For example,

(10) a. koʔyo phɛmn-a -aŋtho yək nuba poks -ɛ -aŋ -waʔ  
 here came-1pl- -since more good happen -NPT -SEQ -be

"Since coming here, life has been much more pleasant."

b. nisamhim lɛr -u-ŋ -aŋtho yambək co:k -ma hɛkt-u-ŋ  
 school leave-3O-1sgA -since job do -INF start-3O-1sgA

"Since I left school, I started a job."

c. thibonj yakpha mɛn-lɔ -dhariʔk aŋgaʔ kathmandu mɛm-bekp-ɛ -n  
 ten class Neg-pass -until 1sg kathmandu Neg -g -3O-Neg

"I didn't go to Kathmandu until I passed SLC."

d. khadzonj ɔsiŋ mɛn-nit -dhariʔk a -siraʔ mɛ- dhaŋ -ɛ -n

khajong know Neg-near -until 1sg-like Neg -come- 3O-Neg

"I disliked Khajong until I knew him."

In the examples (10a) and (10b), the subordinator *-aŋtho* occurs in the final position of the subordinate clause after the pronominal for the clause of ti

## b. Clause of reason

In Phedappe Limbu, the subordinator *-aŋ* occurs with the subordinating verb in the final position of the subordinate clause for the function of the reason clause. For example,

- (11) a. hɔŋɛ makkhi pɛss -u -aŋ se  
he blood vomit - 3sgO-due to die  
"He died because he vomited the blood."

- b. a -sɛtla:kt -e -aŋ khɛn tɔk-in ca-ŋ  
1sg -hungry -PT -because that rice-Abs eat-1sgA  
"I ate rice because I was hungry."

The subordinator *henaŋ bhɛʔ llɛ* occurs in the initial position of the subordinate clause for the reason clause. For example,

- c. hɔŋɛʔ sigikkippa co:k henaŋbhɛʔllɛ nuba ca mɛ-dzɔn -ɛ -n  
2sg thin be because good food Neg-eat -3O -Neg  
"He is thin because he doesn't eat good food."

- d. hɔŋɛʔ phuŋ -haʔ -o cwaʔ ket -u henaŋbhɛʔ llɛ khɛn -ha mɛ-hɛr-ɛ-aŋ  
3sg fower -Pl -LOC water put -3O because 3 -Pl Neg -dry-3O-SEQ  
mɛ -wəy -ɛ  
3S be -PT  
"She watered the flowers because they were dry."

The nominalizer *-bɛ* and the oblique case marker *-llɛ* occurs together with the subordinating verb in the final position of the subordinate clause for the reason clause. For example,

- e. yɔrikʔ kuy -u -bɛ -llɛ na:s -ɛ  
more carry -3O -Nom -OBL tire -3O  
He was tired because he carried more.

f. him cəŋdhaŋ -o -nu pindε-be -lle ku -laŋ εg -e  
 house over -LOC -from jump-NOM-OBL 3sg -l eg break -3O  
 "Due to the jump from above the house, his leg broke."

In the examples (11e) and (11f), the oblique case marker *-ille* occurs after the nominalizer *-ba* with the subordinating verb in the final position of the subordinate clause for the clause of reason.

Similarly, the subordinators *-dhari?k* and *-aŋtho* come with the subordinating verb in the final position of the subordinate clause for the reason clause. For example,

- (12) a. wahik?nam men-on -dhari?k aŋga? yambək mε-hək-ε?-n  
 weather Neg-improve -since 1sg work Neg-start-3O-Neg  
 "Since the weather has improved, I will not start my work".
- b. hənε? khiiŋ hε?yo -nu cog -u -aŋtho pa? -ma mε-yan -ε -n  
 3sg phone there -from do -3O -since speak -INF Neg-can-3O-Neg  
 "Since he phoned from there, I can't tell you that."

### c. Clause of purpose

According to Close (1986, p. 66),

"The purpose clause is commonly expressed by an infinitive. It can also be expressed by finite clauses beginning with *so that, in order to, lest, for, to.*"

Non-past tense marker *-ε* and to-infinitive clause marker *-ma* occurs with the subordinating verb in the final position of subordinate clause for the purpose clause in Phedappe Limbu. For example,

- (13) a. lamdhεp -εn həm -ma ind -ε?  
 door -ABS open -INF push-IMPR  
 "To open the door, push it."
- b. tet -ha? iŋs -ε aŋa? paŋdzum pεg -a -ŋ  
 cloth -Pl buy -INF 1sg market go -3O-1sgA  
 "I went to market to buy clothes."

Consider another examples of the purpose clause,

c. cyɔʔ ca iŋ -ma -rɛ mɛo hɔnɛʔ nu: sɔŋs-u  
some food buy-INF-GEN in order to 3sg milk sell-3O  
"She sold milk in order to buy some foods."

d. him iŋ -ma -rɛ mɛo hɔnɛʔ yɔk yaŋ thɔg-u  
house buy -INF -GEN in order to 2sg more money earn -3O  
"He earned more money in order to buy a house."

In the examples (13c) and (13d), the subordinator *mɛo* follows ergative case marker -*rɛ* in the final position of the subordinate clause for the clause of purpose.

Similarly, the subordinator *phaŋ* occurs in the final position of the subordinate clause after to-infinitive clause marker *-ma* for the purpose clause. For example,

e. miŋ sap -ma -phaŋ hɔnɛʔ dhankuta pɛ  
name admit -INF -to 3sg dhankuta go  
"To join the college, he went to Dhankuta."

f. ku-mba nu ku-sa paŋli ta? -ma -phaŋ pe:-si  
3sg-father and 3sg-son bride bring -INF -in order to go-2DUL  
"Father and son went out in order to bring bride."

#### **d. Clause of result**

According to Quirk, et al. (1985:1108)

"Clauses of result are introduced by the subordination *so that* and *so*. These clauses overlap with those of purpose both in meaning and in subordinators. The chief semantic difference is that result clauses are factual rather than putative: both express result, but in the result clause the result is achieved, whereas in the purpose clause it is yet to be achieved- it is a desired or aimed -at result. Hence, finite clauses of result do not require a modal auxiliary."

In Phedappe Limbu, the subordinator *cogulle* occurs after the nominalizer *-ba* with the subordinating verb in the final position of the subordinate clause for the clause of result. For example,

(14) a. hɔnɛʔ tɔr -u -ŋ -ba -cogulle aŋgaʔ -in yakpha ler -u  
 3sg scold- 3O -1sg -NOM -so 1sg - ABS room leave -3O  
 "I scolded him, so he left my room."

b. hɔnɛʔ kuvaʔ sapla -haʔ iŋ -u -ba -cogulle hɔnɛʔ yɔk nir -u  
 3sg some book -Pl buy-3O-NOM -so that 3sg a lot read-3O  
 "He bought some books, so that he read a lot."

The nominalizer *-ba* and oblique case marker *-llɛ* occur together with the subordinating verb in the final position of the subordinate clause for the clause of result. For example,

c. wahitʔ-in tha - rɔ -wa - bɛ-llɛ pakha mɛ -bɛk -ɛ -n  
 rain -ABS rain-SIM-be-NOM-Subord outside Neg -go-1sg -Neg  
 "It is raining, so I don't go outside".

d. ku -set lak -bɛ -llɛ yɔk tɔk cɔ  
 3sg -hunger feel -NOM -OBL more rice eat  
 "She was hungry, so she ate more rice."

**e. Clause of concession**

Clause of concession in Phedappe limbu are introduced by subordinating conjunction *-saŋ* "although, though, even if." These clauses are used to make two statements, one of which contrasts with the other to make it seem surprising.

The subordinator *-saŋ* occurs after the be verb *-wɛʔ*, past tense markers *-ɛ* and third person object in the final position of the subordinate clause for the function of clause of concession. For example,

(15) a. wahit-in the -rɔ -wɛ -saŋ aŋgaʔ him -o pɛg -a -ŋ  
 rain -ABS fall -ING -be -although 1 sg house -LOC go -PT -1sg  
 "Although it was raining, I went home."

b. hɔnɛʔ kundhɛtaŋ -ma cog-ɛ -saŋ ku -him hopt -ɛ  
 3sg rich -Fe do-PT -although 3sg -house not have -PT  
 "Although she was rich, she had no home."

c. aŋgaʔ-nu yaŋ ho:pt -ε -saŋ ləthikkap ləghet iŋ -u -ŋ  
 1sg -with money not have -PT -though a pair suite buy-3O-1sg  
 "Though I had no money, I bought a pair of suit."

d. hənɛʔ siŋ siŋ -nu sapla nir -u -saŋ son mɛ- lɔs -u -n  
 3sg hard labor -with book study-3O -though exam Neg-pass -3O -Neg  
 "He couldn't pass in exam even though he did hard labour."

### f. Clause of place

According to Quirk, et al. (1985:1087)

"Adverbial clause of place is introduced mainly by *where* and *wherever*. *Where* is specific and *whenever* non-specific. The clause may indicate position or direction."

In Phedappe Limbu, the nominalizer *-ba* and the locative case marker *-o* occurs together with the subordinating verb in the final position of the subordinate clause for the clause of place. For example,

(16) a. ya:mbək kɛ -ghos -ba -o p:ɛg -ɛʔ  
 job 2sg -get -NOM -LOC go -IMPR  
 "Go there where you get job."

b. yuŋ -ɛʔ -ba -o kɛʔp -ma kɛ -yan  
 stay -2sg -NOM-LOC reach -INF 2sg -can  
 "You can reach wherever I stay."

The subordinator *hɛʔyo* occurs in the initial position of the subordinate clause that subordinate clause functions as the clause of place. For example,

c. aŋgaʔ ilam pe:g -a -ŋ hɛʔyo nu:si tɔŋbe yuŋ -a -ŋ  
 1sg ilam go -3O -1sg where 7 year stay -3O-1sg  
 "I went to Ilam where I stayed for 7 years."

### g. Clause of condition

According to Close (1986:58),



"Conditional clauses are adverbial clauses beginning with *if* or *with* conjunctions having similar meaning, like *unless*."

In Phedappe Limbu, clause of condition occurs with topic marker *gərɔ* and optionally followed by topic marker to the oblique case suffix *-illɛ* in the final position of the subordinate clause. For example,

(17) a. sapla ki -nir -u -gɔrɔ kɛ -lɔs -u?  
 book 2sg -study -3O -sub 2sg -pass -3O

"If you read, you will pass."

b. niŋwa? kɛ -dzog -u -gɔrɔ kɛ -gɛ?  
 want 2sg-do -3O -Top 2sg -reach

"If you want, you will reach."

c. haŋ -illɛ -gɔrɔ mɛ -dza? -ɛ -n  
 biting test -OBL -Top Neg -eat -3O -Neg

"If it has biting test, I don't eat."

d. pe:k -ɛ -lle -gɔrɔ tum -u -ŋ  
 go -NPT -OBL -Top mee - 3O -1sgA

"If I go there, I meet him."

#### **h. Correlative clause**

Correlative is a clause that refers to a construction which uses a pair of connecting words. In Phedappe Limbu, correlative clause is found. For example,

(28) a. hɛnɛ? atto -atto kɛ-bɛk? hɛ?yo hɛ?yo mɛ -bɛk -ɛn  
 2sg where -where Ap-go there there Neg -go -Neg

"I can't go to the places where you go."

b. hɛnɛ? hɛn-hɛn pat-u-i hɛn-hɛn co:k-ma-ba-i  
 2sg what-what say-3O-Q that-that do-INF-NOM-Q

"Should we do whatever he says?"

c. *atto -nuŋ kɛ -dɛ hɛʔyo -nuŋ pe:g -ɛʔ*  
 where-from 2sg -come there -from go -IMPR

"Go to the place from where you came."

d. *hɛn-hɛn pa:t -uʔ hɛn-hɛn co:k -ma -po:ŋ*  
 what-what say -3O that-that do -INF -must

"We should do whatever he says."

In the example (a) *atto-atto* correlates with *hɛʔyo-hɛʔyo*, in (b) *hɛn-hɛn* correlates with *hɛn hɛn*, in (c) *atto* correlates with *hɛʔyo nuŋ* and in (d) *hɛn hɛn* correlates with *hɛn hɛn*.

### i. Clause of comparison and similarity

According to Close (1986:62),

"Comparison clause, a gradable adjective or adverb in the comparative degree, is often followed by a clause beginning with the conjunction *than* comparison clause is introduced by *than, as ...as, the same...as.*"

In Phedappe Limbu, the subordinator *hɛkke* occurs after the the monatalizer *-ba* in the final position of the subordinate clause for the clause of similarity. For example,

(27) a. *pa:t -u -ŋ -bɛn hɛkke kən cog -ɛʔ*

Say -3O -1sg -NOM as it do -IMPR

"Do it as I said."

b. *it -u -ŋ -bɛn hɛkke kən wəy -ɛ*

imagine -3O -1sg -NOM as it be -PT

"It was as I imagined."

The ergative case marker *-llɛ* and commutative case marker *-nu* merge together and follow the noun and pronoun in the final position of the subordinate clause for the clause of comparison. For example,

c. *Mukum -nu -llɛ mirak kɛm -ba co:k*  
 3sg -COM -ERG 3sg tall -Nom.Ma be

"Mirak is taller than Mukum."

b. aŋga?      -nu   -lle                    numa   cən  
           1sg -COM -ERG                    3sg    quick

"Numa is quiker than me."

#### 4.4 Non-finite clause

Non-finite clause consists of infinitival, purposive and converb clauses.

##### 4.4.1 Infinitival clause

In Phedappe Limbu, infinitival verb is formed by *-ma*. It is a non-finite verb as it does not contain person and tense marker. A clause led by this verb is an infinitival clause. It is a dependent clause and therefore it requires an independent clause to construct a sentence. For example,

(18) a. aŋga yambək cok-ma a-sira me-dhaŋ nen

I    work    do-INF 1sPoss-like NEG-come-Neg

"I don't like to do work."

b. thak-maŋ lok -ma carik sak

up-ward run -INF very diffult

"It is very difficult to run upward."

c. həne yaŋ nak-sɛ a-him-o te

he    money borrow-PUR 1sgPoss-house-Loc come/Pt

"He came to my house in order to borrow money."

In the sentence (18a) *a-sira me-dhaŋ nen* "I don't like" is the main clause and *yambək cok-ma* "to do work" is a subordinate clause, which is made by the addition of the infinitive suffix *-ma* to the verb stem *cok*.

##### 4.4.2 Purposive clause

In Phedappe Limbu, purposive clause is headed by a purposive verb which is marked by the suffix *-sɛ*. The purposive verb doesn't take tense and number markers. The purposive clause led by this verb is purposive clause. For example,

(19) a. lojima sa iŋ -sɛ pek

lojima meat buy Pur go

"Lojima went to buy meat."

b. hənɛ yambək cok - sɛ phɛɛ  
 3sg work do Pur come

"He came to do work."

In the example (19a), two independent clauses *Lojima sa iŋ* and *Lojima pek* are combined using the purposive marker –se. Similarly, in (19b) the purposive subordinator-se combines two different clause *hənɛ yambək cok* and *hənɛ phɛɛ*.

#### 4.4.3 Converb clause

According to Noonan (1999:401),

“The verbal noun, in association with an appropriate case clitic, can also be used for adverbial subordination, but adverbial subordination can also be accomplished by means of a set of specialized nonfinite forms referred to as converb”. (Yadava and Glover, 1999)

Converbs are verbal conjunctive elements and are used to join clauses. Converb is the participle form of the verb in an adverbial clause which can function both as a conjunctive and as non-finite verb. In Limbu language following converbs can be found. The Simultaneous converbs in Phedappe Limbu is formed by attaching the suffix **rə** and **i** to the verbal root. For example,

(20) a. hunchi samlo -i mi -im  
 song -SIM 3pl -sleep  
 "They sleep singing a song."

In the example (20a) the suffix -i combines two independent clauses *hunchi sam –me-lo* and *hunchi mi-im* to form a single sentence *hunchi samlo-i mi-im*.

#### 4.5 Summary

In Phedappe Limbu, clauses are combined to construct meaningful sentences. Clauses are of different types on the basis of whether they can stand alone to be meaningful or need help of other clauses to be meaningful. The first types of clauses are known as independent or main clause and second type of clauses are called dependent or subordinate ones. Clauses are combined through two main processes viz. coordination

and subordination. When two independent clauses are combined with the help of coordinating conjunctions like *həkyəŋ* "and" *kərcə* "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*, *-aŋ*, *-phaŋ*, *saŋ* etc. The clauses made following such processes are known as subordinate clauses.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

#### 5.0 Outline

This chapter deals with the summary and conclusion. At first major findings are listed and the summary of the whole study is presented.

#### 5.1 Major findings

This study has the following major findings which are given in the points:

1. Phedappe Limbu clauses are classified in to finite and non finite
2. Finite clauses inflect for person, number, case, tense, negation, exclusion etc. whereas in non finite clauses, the number of inflectional categories are reduced.
3. Finite clauses are independent whereas non finite clauses are dependent clauses
4. Finite clauses consist of declarative, interrogative, imperative, exclamative, optative clauses.
5. Declarative clause is used to make statement and assertive and affirmative and negative declarative clauses typically function as statement but sometimes it may also occasionally function as question in Phedappe Limbu.
6. Phedappe Limbu polar interrogative clauses are formed by using the suffix *-i* to ask questions to which the answer is 'yes' or 'no'.
7. Informative clauses are formed by the words such as *en* "who", *atto* "where", *hen* "what"
8. Imperative clauses typically function to give directives which do not have overt subject
9. Exclamative clause consists of '*akhyak*' followed by an adjective
10. Optative clauses are formed by adding the optative suffix *-lɔ* in the verb.

11. Purposive clause is headed by a purposive verb which is marked by the suffix *-se* .
12. Gerundive verbs are formed by adding the suffix- *rc*.The clause having gerundive verb is called gerundive clause.
13. Converb clauses.are depended clauses marked by suffix *-i*
14. Sequential clauses are headed by sequential verbs which are marked by the suffix *-aŋ*.
15. Verbless clause is found in Phedappe Limbu.
16. To infinitival clause is marked by *-ma* subordinator which occurs in the final position of the subordinate clause.
17. Phedappe independent clause is one which does not depend syntactically on another clause but the dependent clause is syntactically dependent on another clause.
18. Main clause is meaningful in itself. It is not dependent on any other clauses to construct a sentence.
19. In coordinated clauses, the status of each independent clauses are same and as such are main clause
20. Independent or main clauses are combined with dependent or subordinate causes using subordinating conjunctions such as *-ille*, *-aŋ*, *-phaŋ* , *saŋ* etc.to make subordinate clause
21. Nominal clauses are made by placing the conjunction '*phaŋ* ' after the first clause.
22. In Phedappe Limbu, adverbial clause includes the the clause of time, reason, purpose, result, concession, place and condition.
23. Relative clauses are formed by the prefix *ke-* and suffix *-pa* in intransitive verbs, but by the suffixes *na-ba* in transitive verbs.
24. *sorik*, *ille*, *lle*, *togi*, *aŋ*, *thi?leŋ*, *aŋtho*, *dharik* are the subordinators of the clause of time which are used in the final position of the subordinate clause.

25. The subordinators - *aŋ*, -*aŋtho*, *heŋaŋve?lle* and *balle* occur in the final position of the subordinate clause for the reason clause.
26. The suffixes -*ma* (infinitive marker) and -*ε* (non-past tense marker) occur with the subordinating verb in the final position of the subordinate clause for the purpose clause.
27. *mεo*, *phaŋ* are the subordinators for the purpose clause which are used in the final position of the subordinate clause.
28. *saŋ*, *gəɾə*, -*lle*, and *ille* are the subordinators of the clause of concession which are used in the final position of the subordinate clause.
29. The suffix -*o?* is the subordinator of the clause of place.
30. The subordinator *gəɾə* occurs in the final position of the subordinate clause for the clause of condition.
31. The Limbu coordinators are *nu*, *hekyan*, *aŋ*, *kəɾə* and *i..i*.
32. Sequential and simultaneous converbs are found in the Phedappe Limbu.
33. The suffix -*a ŋ*, attaches to the root verb for the sequential converb in Phedappe Limbu.
34. The suffix -*rə* and -*i* attach to the root verb for the simultaneous converb in the final position of the subordinate clause.
35. In Phedappe Limbu, the subject of the converbal construction has two options i.e. a null N.P and lexically overt NP.
36. The subordinator *hekke* occurs after the nominalier -*ba* in the final position of the subordinate clause for the clause of similarity and the subordinator *nullε* is used for the clause of comparison in the final position of the subordinate clause.
37. Correlative clause is marked by a clause that refers to a construction which uses a pair of connecting words. (i.e. *atto-atto* ‘where where’, *he?yo-he?yo* ‘there there’)



## 5.2 Summary

This study is organised in five chapters. The first chapter is the introduction and background of the research work in the clause combining in Phedappe Limbu. In the second chapter, there is the description of clause types (finite, non-finite). The third chapter is the presentation of coordination process of clause combining in Phedappe Limbu. The fourth chapter deals with the subordination process. Finally the fifth chapter presents the summary and conclusion.

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 clause, interrogative clause, imperative clause, exclamative clause and optative clause. The non-finite clause, on the other hand, consists of infinitival, purposive and converb clauses.

In Phedappe Limbu two independent clauses are combined to make a single sentence. In this process, conjunctions like *həkyaŋ* “and” and *kərɔ* “but” are used. Such types of clause combining process is called co-ordination process.

In Phedappe Limbu, clauses are combined to construct meaningful sentences. Clauses are of different types on the basis of whether they can stand alone to be meaningful or need help of other clauses to be meaningful. The first types of clauses are known as independent or main clause and second type of clauses are called dependent or subordinate ones. Clauses are combined through two main processes viz. coordination and subordination. When two independent clauses are combined with the help of coordinating conjunctions like *həkyaŋ* “and” *kərɔ* “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*, *-aŋ*, *-phaŋ*, *saŋ* etc. The clauses made following such processes are known as subordinate clauses.

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## APPENDIX

nɛpphu hinzaʔ

Two boys

1. thik yan-le kɛ-boŋ -ba nɛpphu hɛndzaʔ-haʔ wɔy -ɛ -tchi  
one day-GEN AP-born-AP two boy -Pl be -PT-dps

‘There were two boys who had been born on the same day.’

2. thik yan hɛn -haʔ nisamhim-o peg -ɛ chi  
one day 3pl school -LOC go -PT -dps

‘One day they went to school.’

3. hɛn -haʔ yɛtchi tɔŋbe kɛr -ɛ -tchi-aŋ wɔy -ɛ -tchi.  
-3pl eight years reach-PT 3pl-PREF be -PT -dps

‘They had become eight years old.’

4. hunchi siksmbe -lle hɛn hɛndzaʔ-haʔ akkhen akkhen tɔŋbe  
their teacher ERG -3pl boy-pl how many how many year  
kɛ-gɛʔr -ɛ-tchi phaʔaŋ sendo- su -si  
2 -reach -PT -dps Conj ask -3o -nsp

‘Their teacher asked those boys, "How many years old are you?"

5. thik-le patt-u "aŋga yɛtchi tɔŋbe kɛʔr-aŋ"  
one-ERG say -3o I eight year reach-1sg/PT

‘One of them said, "I'm eight years old."'

6. thiksəmm-lle patt-u "aŋga nusi tɔŋbe kɛʔr -aŋ "  
another -ERG say-3o I seven years reach-1sg/PT

‘Another said, "I'm seven years old."'

7. kən pan -in thik-le khɛps-u-aŋ

this word ABS one-ERG hear-3o-PREF

‘When the first one heard this,’

"men-na anchi -gɔ thik yan -le kɛ -boŋ -ba si -mu -ba

no-EMPH we Dul-Part one day-GEN 2sg born -AP AP be-REP- IPF

"No, we are said to have been born on the same day.

akkhelle hɛnɛ? nusi tɔŋbe rɔk kɛ -gɛʔr -ɛ ?

how you seven year only 2sg reach-PT

‘How did you become only seven years of age?’

8. yetchi tɔŋbe a gɛʔr -ɛ-tchi na."

eight years 1-reach-PT-dps EMPH

“We are eight years old!"

mɛtt-u-lle thiksəmm-lle patt-u "aŋga-gɔ tɔŋbe-dhik tug -aŋ inna

say-to -3p-SUB another -ERG say-3o I-Part year one be-ill -1sg/PT EMPH

‘Which the other replied “I was ill for one year!’

9. həkæyŋ nusi tɔŋbe rɔk kɛʔr-aŋ. "

so seven year only reach-1sg/PT

‘So, “I’m only seven years old."

10. kən pan -in khɛps-u-aŋ hunchi siksamba yɛr -ɛ.

this word- ABS hear-3o-PREF their teacher laugh-PT

‘Hearing this, their teacher laughed.’

