

Aspectual and modal clitics in Makassarese and Makassar Indonesian

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Abstract:

Makassarese has a set of clitics which are associated with tense, aspect, mood, modality and polarity.

This set consists of two proclitics: ta= (NEG negator) and la= (FUT future); and four enclitics: =mo (PFV perfective), =pa (IPF imperfective), =ja (LIM limitative), and =ka (OR 'or', also a question tag). This paper will examine the use of this system of clitics in Makassarese, and also illustrate the pervasive borrowing of these elements into Makassar Indonesian.

The use of spatial metaphors to refer to time will also be examined. Makassarese has a system in which PAST = FRONT and FUTURE = BACK, which contrasts with the Indonesian system and (perhaps as a result) appears to be in flux. Data from literary and historical manuscripts will be compared with modern recordings, to show that new expressions have emerged which avoid the 'traditional' Makassarese temporal/spatial metaphoric system.