Non-morphological devices for expressing TAM in Kadorih

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Abstract

Kadorih is a dialect of Ot Danum (West Barito, Austronesian), spoken in the upper reaches of Kahayan River in Central Kalimantan, especially in the west of Tumbang Miri.

Kadorih has no morphological device for expressing tense, aspect and mood/modality (TAM), that is, there is no grammaticalized TAM category in the grammar of Kadorih. In this paper, I will describe various non-morphological (lexical, syntactic, or phonological) devices which express or interpret TAM meanings. In Kadorih, TAM meanings are wholly or partly denoted by content/function words or larger linguistic units, for example, nouns, adverbials, particles, auxiliaries, prepositions, verbal repetition (not reduplication), or intonation. In particular, aspectual meanings are denoted by a large variety of lexical devices. I will consider 5 temporal functions (past, near-past, present, near-future, future), 4 aspectual functions (iterative, perfect, liminal, imperfective), and 5 modal functions (imperative, interrogative, volitive, deontic, evidentiality).

Temporal functions:

PAST:	*lomoi* 'era (=formerly)', temporal noun + *(o)rih* 'in that …'
NEAR-PAST:	*malom* 'yesterday, not long ago', *(na)nai* 'a moment ago, earlier'
PRESENT:	*tuh* 'this'
NEAR-FUTURE:	*nain/noin* 'later'
FUTURE:	*(ah)kan* 'for', *pongo* 'later, last'

Aspectual functions:

ITERATIVE:	*baas* 'strong (=habitually)', *bojoin* 'always', *hino* 'again', *miar…* 'forward (=every…)', *nganda'i nganda'i* 'everyday', *nyinong/sinong…* 'each, every…', numerals of times, verbal repetition
PERFECT:	*puji* 'have …ed', *tohko* 'there be', *yaro* 'there be not'
LIMINAL:	*harun* 'newly', *iyo* 'then', *napara* 'begin', *ndai* 'already', *nyamah* 'until', *salenga* 'suddenly', *ukur…* 'so as to…', *uli…* 'after…', *umbot* 'finished'
IMPERFECTIVE:	*behteng* 'midst', *honong* 'being', *tahi* '(time) long', *tiok* 'take time out to'

Modal functions

IMPERATIVE:	*ara* 'Don't', *ayo/(a)yu* 'Let's'
INTERROGATIVE:	*boh* '(qestion particle)', interrogative pronoun, intonation
VOLITIVE:	*huang* 'inside (=intend to)' *jolik* 'desire', *kani* 'want'
DEONTIC:	*bada'i* 'possible', *duon* 'be able to', *himat* 'must' *tou* 'can', *yataan* 'cannot'
EVIDENTIALITY:	*hion* 'utterance', *hom* 'just (visible)', *kihtan* 'apparently'

I will conclude that Kadorih has various non-morphological devices for expressing or interpreting TAM meanings.