

Research article

Grammatical Alliance of South Nias Dialect

Thomas Alfa Edison Telaumbanua^{1*}, I Nyoman Kardana², Ni Wayan Kasni³

Master of Linguistics Study Program Universitas Warmadewa, Denpasar

ORCID

I Nyoman Kardana <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6855-0576>

Orcid ID Ni Wayan Kasni: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3766-1115>

Abstract.

This research aimed to understand (1) the types of complex sentence structures in BNDS, and (2) the determination of grammatical alliance system. This study used a qualitative descriptive method and applied the theoretical framework of language typology proposed by Van Vallin Jr, Lapolla (1999) and Dixon (1994) as the main theory. The data of this research were in the form of clauses and sentences. Based on the results of data analysis that has been carried out, it was found that syntactically BNDS is included in the accusative language group that treats the subject the same as the agent, and gives different treatment to the patient ($S = A, \neq P$). BNDS is a language group that works with the S/A pivot system. This grammatical alliance system showed that BNDS is syntactically a nominative-accusative language. Paying attention to S's behavior in intransitive clauses with A and P's behavior in BNDS transitive clauses which showed a tendency to be nominative-accusative language.

Corresponding Author: Thomas
 Alfa Edison Telaumbanua; email:
 thomastelaum-
 banua7@gmail.com

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1. INTRODUCTION

Nias language is one of the 718 regional languages (Kemendikbud) in Indonesia. This Nias language is spoken by residents who live on an island to the west of the island of Sumatra which is called the island of Nias (Djunaidi, 1996). Nias Island is geographically located about 100 kilometers from the west of the island of Sumatra (1° from the equator), adjacent to the Sibolga coast and is part of the second-level region in the regional government of North Sumatra (Brown, 2001). Nias Island is approximately 220 kilometers long and about 145 km wide (Halawa, Harefa, & Silitonga, 1983). The island is surrounded by many small islands, some of which have inhabitants. The majority of the inhabitants of Nias island and the surrounding small islands are of the Nias tribe (Ono Niha) (Lapoliwa, 1990). Administratively, this island belongs to the province of North Sumatra. There are 4 districts and 1 city on this island, namely: Nias Regency, South Nias, West Nias, North Nias and Gunungsitoli City (Mackey & Gass, 2005). The use of the Nias language is spread throughout these districts and cities.

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This scientific study of the Nias language (abbreviated as BN) has been carried out by local researchers as well as researchers from outside with different studies. Brown (2001) conducted a scientific study on BN especially BNDS. His research examines the structure of the BNDS with the title *A Grammar of Nias Selatan*. Furthermore, Crysmann (2009) conducted a study on BN with the title *Deriving Superficial Ergativity in Nias*. The BN case and agreement system is the focus of his research study. In addition, Gulö (2014) examined the characteristics of BN with the research title *Unique Characteristics of Nias Language*. In addition, Nazara (2019) reviewed the research title *Syntax Representation for the Efforts to Preserve Nias Language*. These studies focus more on the assessment of BN in the phonology, morphology, and syntax fields of BN itself (Lyons, 1987). Previous studies are indeed very important for literacy, but they do not touch on grammatical alliances in particular BNDS, so the study of grammatical alliances is equally important to researched.

Research on grammatical alliances is a part of a syntactic typology study that is very interesting to study (Netra, 2008). There are two main reasons. First, grammatical alliances have universal (universal) functions in communicating by analyzing the formal behavior that is identical in the language (Payne, 2002). Second, gramatic alliances are fundamentally examined through the examination of the typology of the relevant languages (Dixon, 1994).

Language researchers have studied grammatical alliances. For example, Mulyadi (2007) examines Indonesian language coordination terms by proposing a syntactic typology approach; Netra et al (Mackey & Gass, 2005) examined the subordinate choreferential system in Indonesian; Budiarta (2012) examined grammatical alliances in terms of syntactic typology. And Mahya (2015) grammatical alliances in Aceh language: a syntactic study of typology. These studies contribute to this research even though they use different languages.

The phenomenon of grammatical alliance can also be found in Nias, the South dialect. This occurs when two clauses combine to form a syntactic construct so that the subject can cross-link (choreferentially) with the agent or patient. There are several previous studies in this research, the first from Halawa et al (1983) conducted a study on the BN structure with the title *Nias Language Structure research*, the different between this research is the object. And the second is from, Mulyadi (2007) in his article "Indonesian Coordination Sentences: An Design of Syntactic Typology" the different between this research is the object. And for the last is from Brown (2001) conducted a study on BN with the research title *A Grammar of South Nias*, the different between this research is the theory, which is this research discuss about typology syntax.

In this research there is three research question (1) What is the basic construction of clauses in the South Nias dialect? (2) What are the types of complex sentence structures in South Nias dialect? and (3) What is the grammatical alliance system in the South Nias dialect. The aim of this research is This study is to (1) explain the basic construction of BNDS clauses, (2) explain the types of complex sentence structures in BNDS and (3) describe the BNDS grammatical alliance system and at the same time determine whether BNDS is a nominative-accusative or ergative-absolute language.

2. METHOD

This research was designed using qualitative research approach. Qualitative methods are also defined as research procedures that produce descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words from people or observable behavior (Bogdan dan Taylor dalam Moleong, 2010). The location of this research is on the island of South Nias. This island is located west of the island of Sumatra, Indonesia. The data of this study were obtained from oral data by native speakers of the language which were transcribed in the form of written data. The source of this research data was taken from 5 informants who were selected based on the conditions (Zaim, 2014), namely: age, gender, language, cultural quality, psychological quality and alertness. Researchers become a key instrument that plays an active role in obtaining data directly from informants (Zagoto, 1976). However, the data acquisition process in question is carried out through online media, namely making video calls with informants using the WhatsApp application, and also using interviews. The method of data collection were directly by having conversation between the researcher and the informant (Zaim, 2014), namely fishing, talking, surface and record. The presentation of the results of this research analysis was summarized in two methods, namely the formal method and the informal method. Informal method means the method of presenting the results of data analysis presented in the form of exposure using ordinary words (verbal language). The formal method is a method of presenting the results of data analysis by using certain signs, symbols, such as arrows, asterisks.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This research was conducted to describe the types of complex sentence structures in BNDS and determine the grammatical alliance system. In accordance with the results of data analysis, BNDS' sentence consists of multilevel compound sentences that show the relationship between time, conditions, objectives, connectiveness, causation, means

and complementation. In addition, syntactically BNDS is included in the accusative language group that treats the subject the same as the agent, and gives different treatment to the patient (S = A, ≠ P). BNDS is a language group that works with the S/A pivot system.

3.1. BNDS Pronoun

Pronouns are one of the important elements in a grammatical structure of language which has several variations of forms according to the function it occupies in a sentence construction.

- (1) *Tena ya'ia.* not 3T
 'Not him'
- (2) **Tena he.*
 not 3J
 'Not him'

In clause (1). Clause (2) is filled by the personal pronoun *ya'ira* 'they' which serves as an argument for the negative existence marker *lö* 'no' with a verbal form.

3.2. Basic Construction of the BNDS Clause

The use of the term clause in this study is not different from the sentence as stated in the previous chapter. Both sentences and clauses are syntactic constructions in which there is an element of a predicate

Noun Predicate Clause

A noun clause is a clause built by a predicate whose filler elements are categorized as nouns

- Sa-ma* \square *a n-ina nia*
 PREF-trade MUT-mother 3T-Poss
 'Mother of merchants'
- Baga ma'am mö*
 nice hair 2T-Poss
 'Your hair is beautiful'

Clause above is an example of a BNDS clause where the predicate is occupied by a noun. Predicate clauses occupied by *nina* 'mother', *guru* 'guru', *nomo* 'rumah'

and *bu* 'hair' are categorized as nouns based on the grammatical behavior of nouns which have the main function as arguments.

Adjective Predicate Clause

An adjective predicated clause is a clause construction whose predicate is occupied by an adjective

Ebua hörö gu

Adj eyes 1T-Poss

'My eyes are big'

Alawa niha hö

DEM people's height

'That person is tall'

The clause above is an example of a clause whose predicate is occupied by an adjective. Predicate clauses occupied by *Ebua* 'big', *alawa* 'tall' and *mohua* 'fragrant'. The above clause is categorized as an adjective. It is based on the most dominant grammatical behavior possessed by adjectives to distinguish them from other categories

Prepositional Clause Predicate

A prepositional clause is a clause construction whose predicate is occupied by a prepositional

Ba laja ndraga

Prep rice field 1J

'We're in the fields'

Indicates that the subject *ndraga* 'kami' is followed by the predicate *ba laja* 'in the rice fields' with a prepositional phrase category. In addition, the subject in the prepositional BNDS clause is at the end of the clause.

Predicate clause Numeral

BNDS has a common numeral system, as many languages have.

nö n-ono ra

six MUT-kids 3J-Poss

'Their six children'

The above clause is a clause constructed by a core argument and a predicate occupied by numerals. The structure of a clause with a numeral predicate shows that the numeral position that occupies the predicate position is on the right or after S which is the only argument in the intransitive clause.

Verbal Predicate Clauses

Verbal predicated clause is a clause construction whose predicate is occupied by verbal

Toni mo-gai gitö

3T PREF- rubber crane

'Toni crunches rubber' Shows that the subject can be followed by a predicate with the verb category *mogai ' menderes '*. In BNDS there are two types of predicate verbs that can fill a clause with a verb predicate, namely transitive and intransitive verbs. Here's the explanation

3.3. BNDS Complex Sentences

This discussion is also expected to obtain an overview and grammatical points that provide support and explanation of the study of the BNDS grammatical alliance.

Omasi ndrao gu-tumötöi n-ono u, (IK) nai – tehe

want Tg1T-pply for MUT- 2T ifitfits - accept

li gu moroi ba piha ndra alawe . (AC)

1T vote from by the female DEM party

'I want to propose to your child, if my application is accepted by the woman'

Wildan (2001) states that multilevel compound sentences are two or more single sentences in which one of the sentences serves as an explanation of the other sentences.

3.4. BNDS Complex Sentence Types

Time Relationship

This subordinate clause states the time of occurrence of the event or condition stated in the main clause.

3.4.1. Start-up Time

Simatua Ho mama a ba phase, (IK)

3T DEM Trading Prep Market

iotarai toröi khö sibaya nia (AK)

since living with uncle 3T-Poss

'The man trades in the market, since living with his uncle'

In example there is a complex sentence type BNDS which shows the relationship between the time limit of the beginning of the *conjunction iotarai* 'since' .

3.4.2. Simultaneous Time

To express a concurrent relationship, several subordinators are used, one of which is *me* 'when'

Mofanö ndraga ba n-omo lowalangi, (IK)
 go 1J Prep MUT-house of God
me tohare ya ba n-omo. (AC)
 when arrived 3T Prep MUT-home
 'We went to church, when he got home'

In example, there is a complex sentence type BNDS which shows the conjunction of the same time in the conjunction *me* 'when'

3.5. Sequential Time

Sequential time relationship indicates that what is stated in the main clause is earlier or later than what is stated in the subordinate clause.

Sialawe toröi ba n-omo simatua, (IK)
 3T live Prep MUT- male house
start mang-owalu ira. (AC)
 after PREF-married 3J
 'Women stay in men's houses, after they get married'

In example, there is a complex sentence type BNDS which shows the sequential time relationship in the *prefix* 'after'.

H an association Terms

The conditional relationship is contained in a sentence whose subordinate clause states the conditions for the implementation of what is referred to in the main clause.

Omasi ndrao gu-tu-mötöi n-ono u (IK)
 want 1T KLI-PREF-apply MUT-child 2T
na i – tehe li gu moroi ba piha
 if PAS-received cover me from the party

ndra alawe (AK)

DEM girls

In example there is a complex sentence type BNDS which shows the conditional relationship in the conjunction *na* 'if'.

Relationship Goals

The objective relationship is found in a sentence whose subordinate clause states a goal or expectation from what is referred to in the main clause.

{ ... } *Ta be-e mböwö* (IK)

1J *beri-SUF dowry*

mea löna la – gadu ndraga niha bö'ö (AK)

so that KLI doesn't fit – disturb 1J other people

'We give a dowry so that we are not disturbed by others'

In the example, there is a complex sentence type BNDS which shows the relationship of purpose in the word *mea* 'agar'.

Concessive Relationship

Concessive relationships are found in compound sentences whose subordinate clauses contain statements that will not change what is stated in the main clause.

Hewae kayo ya (IK)

even if it's like 3T

mböwö – nia teta 15 naeu bawi (AK)

The dowry is still 15 pigs

'Even though he is rich, the dowry is still 15 pigs'

In example (44a) there is a complex sentence type BNDS which shows a concessional relationship in the conjunction *hewae* 'although'.

3.6. BNDS Grammatical and Syntactic Typology Alliance

The discussion of grammatical alliances and syntactic typology are two interrelated discussions. The grammatical alliance system of one language, both S=A and S=P and the other reflects the typology of that language. So, the grammatical alliance system of one language is used as a guide to determine the typology of the language, whether it is accusative (S=A and P), ergative (S=P and A), or Sa= A and Sp=P.

Ergative and Accusative

Morphologically, an ergative sentence is when the subject argument (S) of the intransitive verb is marked in the same way as the patient (P) of the transitive verb and different from the argument of the agent (A) of the transitive verb.

Ya'ia (S/P) *omuso sibai* (KAU) *börö simatua hö* (ERG)

3T is so happy because DEM male

mu- be böwö khö-nia (ERG)

PREF-give a dowry for-3T-Poss

'She is very happy because the man gave her a dowry is a sentence with ergative typology, because the subject, 'he' is treated the same as the patient 'his' in the second clause.

Judging from the relationship between the two clauses in the coordinating sentence, it can be explained that the sentence is a complex sentence with a causative conjunction which is realized with *börö* 'because' where the core clause is *yaia omuso sibai* 'he feels happy' is the effect of the subordinate clause which is considered the cause of the incident. Therefore, the relationship between the two clauses causes the emergence of a causative sentence.

Passive and Ergative Sentences

Events hada la-Falua me

PAS traditional event - do it when

grow n-ono si'ideas

born MUT -small REL-baby

'Traditional events are performed when the baby is born'

Clause above is a passive sentence because one of the verbs is marked morphologically by adding the prefix *la* 'di'.

Active and Antipassive Sentences

Start famanö-manö (AKT) *ya* (ANPAS) *khö*

after talking 3T Prep

niowalu ,

bride women

I- anemaö manawuli

3T straight home

'After he spoke to the bride, he went straight home'

Clause above is an active and anti-passive sentence, the implication of the subordinating clause marked by the *prefix* 'after'

3.7. BNDS Pivot Test

To further discover whether BNDS has S/ A pivots or S/P pivots will be looked at with the pivot test-frame. The basis of comparison used to find common or common FN treatments in coordinatively and subordinatingly joined clauses in BNDS is based on the basic framework for pivot discovery proposed by Dixon (1994:157-160). Here is a basic framework for finding those pivots.

1. S1 = S2

He puzzle mai then [] megedi Enggal-Enggal

he came here then left quickly

'He came here then left again'

The example above shows that no structural revaluation is needed, namely from a clause structure whose verb does not have a nasal affix to a structure whose verb has a nasal affix. In example (a) both clauses are intransitive, S1 corresponds to S2 and S2 can be omitted.

4. CONCLUSION

The BNDS complex sentence consists of multiple term limits which indicate the types of relationships between time, condition, goal, connectiveness, causation, method and complementation. Pivot testing based on the eleven work frameworks proposed by Dixon (1994) shows that BNDS works with pivotgS / A. Based on the observations of the systematic behavior of the syntactic construction, it was found that syntactically BNDS is a discussion that has a systematic alliance system that treats the same as FA and provides different treatments for P. Based on the systematic alliance system that treats S to A and gives different treatments to P, then BNDS can be classified as languages that have a nominative-accusative (or jussive) typology.

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