

## Syntactic Behavior of Verbs in Bima Language

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### Abstract:

*This research was conducted to determine the syntactic behavior of Verbs in the Bima language. The analytical method used in this study is a qualitative descriptive method that describes data in the form of words or sentences containing verbs in the Bima language. The research locations were conducted in several villages in Bima Regency and Bima City. Data collection was carried out using introspection, listening, and speaking methods. The result of the research is that the syntax behavior of the Bima language verbs in this study is adapted to the structural environment. Data found related to how the behavior of verbs in their syntactic construction. The forms of verbs in the syntactic behavior referred to are transitive verbs and intransitive verbs. Intransitive verbs are analyzed based on whether or not there is an object that will follow the verb. If a verb can have a complete meaning without the presence of an object, it is declared as an intransitive verb. On the other hand, if a verb has a complete meaning and must be followed by an object, then it is stated as a transitive verb. In the Bima language, many transitive verbs are dominated by words with affixes. Many intransitive verbs are dominated by prefixes ka, ma, na, ta, da, di, ra and endings ku, mu, na, ta, ja, si, ro, ra, du, ni, pu, and mpa.*

**Keywords:** *Bima Language, Syntactic behavior, Verbs*

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

Bima language is the language used by residents who live in the eastern part of the island of Sumbawa (Kadri & Wahid, 2021). Generally, the Bima language is called Ngahi Mbojo by its speakers. Bima language is a language that has different behavior in marking diathesis when compared to Lombok and Indonesian (Nugraha, 2015). Bima language has its own uniqueness and potential that needs to be analyzed in depth. Bima language is a supporter of regional culture which has structures such as verbs and nouns (Budasi, 2018; Argubi et al., 2020). Verbs are a central element that can determine the construction of a Bima language verb sentence which is decisive for the presence of a semantic role that exists in each argument described (Müter et al., 2019; Adawiyah & Syakur, 2022). Many of the riches or

features of the Bima language have not been touched or analyzed in more depth so natural semantic meta-language theory is usually associated with mapping analysis and explication of the Bima language which has the potential to be developed in the future (Habibi & Martutik, 2020; Sari et al., 2019).

Bima language, like Indonesian, has a semantic structure, namely verbs, and nouns (Adawiyah, 2021). Verbs in the Bima language are a central element because they can determine the construction of a sentence (Maulidan, 2020). The meaning of a verb in a proposition varies, depending on its relation to the argument, with the various meanings of the verb, the meaning discussed in this study is focused on conceptual meaning (Leech, 1981). There are three semantic classifications of verbs, namely state verbs, process verbs, and action verbs (Sudipa, et al., 2021; Semin & Fiedler 1988). When verbs are used, the uniqueness of the language appears (Unterladstetter, 2020). The uniqueness is identified in every verb construction used. Each of these verbs shows in more detail their respective characteristics. In sentences, for example, the diversity of word classes applies from verbs to changing into noun word classes either due to the process of forming words or changing the role of words in sentences (Arafiq, 2020). This proves that each verb has its own role or behavior in a sentence.

Verb behavior like this is usually called syntactic behavior. The syntactic behavior of verbs is the ability of verbs to distribute with higher grammatical units (Arafiq, et al., 2019). Darwis (2008) states that syntactic behavior is a word (in this case a verb) observed in relation to other words that can accompany it at a higher grammatical level, especially phrases, clauses, and sentences. The determination of verb classes should be based on event types or more accommodating concepts, to recognize verbs is to treat them as events. Frawley (1992:145) categorizes four events encoded by verbs namely: action, state, cause, and movement. Furthermore, Givon (1984:51-52) uses the basis of time stability in determining the various types of verbs. The verbs are classified into three with sub and sub-subtypes: state, process, and action.

In syntactic behavior, verbs have the possibility to distribute with other grammatical units (Asnawi and Mukhlis, 2019). The distribution of verbs that can be formed, for example, can become the core element of the phrase. Besides that, verbs can also be distributed into attributive and appositive forms in noun phrases. Or even verbs can also be distributed into forms of filling syntactic functions, namely subject (S), predicate (P), object (O), complement (Pel), and description (K) (Asnawi and Muklis, 2019; Darwis, 2008). This indicates that verbs have a productive distribution in their behavior at the syntactic level (Alex et al, 2020). In addition, verbs also have a distribution to accompany other word classes as a central element of the functional structure of a sentence which is marked by the presence of a predicate. Based on the productivity of the syntactical behavior of these verbs, it is necessary to carry out a related study on the behavior of verbs in the Bima language. From the description above, it can be seen that the study of the Bima language is still small and there is a fundamental reason behind the urgency of this research, namely to find out the syntactic behavior of Bima language verbs.

Research on verbs as the object of study has been conducted by many previous researchers. For example, research conducted by Sudipa (2014); Widani (2016); Satyawati (2009) on valency and syntactic relations of the Bima language using RRG (Role and Reference Grammar) theory. The theory focuses on the relationship of verb meaning in a clause structure with other relations in grammar. These studies focus on Natural Semantic Metabasic Studies on Balinese Verbs and Bima Syntactic Relations. These studies highlighted aspects that are considered central in verbs which include their syntactic and semantic structures. Research on Bima verbs is very minimal, and there is no research specifically on syntactic behavior.

## **2. LITERATURE REVIEW**

Syntactic behavior of verbs, namely the nature of verbs in relation to other words at a higher grammatical level. Especially at the level of phrases, clauses, and sentences (Wilcox, 2022). In this case, verbs are seen as having the potential to become core elements of phrases, to become attributive and appositive forms in noun phrases, and to become filling forms of syntactic functions. A verb is one part of a sentence. In

every language, verbs are the most basic category of words in the semantic structure and are most often discussed by grammarians (Betti, 2021; Bychkovska, 2021).

Syntactically, verbs are classified as one of the lexical categories that fill grammatical functions or core elements in sentences (Walker dkk, 2020). The essence of a verb is based on the consideration that the presence of a functional unit subject, object, complement, or adverb is strongly influenced or determined by the form and type of verb which functions as a predicate (Liubchenko, 2019). On this basis, verbs are very dominant in determining the presence of core constituent functional units, while other constituents are referred to as supporting constituents. For example, eating, drinking, bathing, sitting, running, and others (Johnston, 2019; Wang, & Wang, 2020)

Verbs' characteristics can be known by observing (1) their semantic behavior, (2) their syntactical behavior, and (3) their morphological forms (Kastner, 2020). Judging from the morphological structure, verbs are formed in two ways. First, the verb comes from the main form. This form is a free form that can be categorized as a verb. Second, the verb comes from a morphological process in the form of affixation (Genon-Sieras, 2020; Yeboah, et al., 2021). Verbs are divided into two kinds, namely basic verbs and derived verbs (Vorobiova, & Saienko, 2019; Chamalaun, et al., 2021)). Origin verbs are verbs that can stand alone, while derived verbs are verbs formed through the process of transposition, adding affixes, reduplication (repetition), or compounding (integration) (Smolka et a., 2019; Creemers et al., 2020).

Verbs, especially those that mean circumstances, cannot be given a prefix that means 'the most'. Verbs like dead, for example, cannot be changed to dead. In general, verbs cannot be joined with words that express the meaning of exaggeration. There are no forms like somewhat learn, very go, and work once although there are forms such as very dangerous, somewhat disappointing, and expect once (Wilcox, 2022).

### **3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This research on 'Syntactic Behavior of Verb in Bima Language' is a qualitative descriptive study. This study aims to find and explain the syntactic behavior of verbs in the Bima language. The location of this research was carried out in Bima Regency and Bima City. The selection in the district aims to see the purity of the language of action verbs while the selection of research locations in the city is to see the millennial influence of action verbs.

#### **3.1 Source of Data**

Sources of data in this study consisted of primary and secondary data. The data source groups several sections that will be used as data sources in this study, including; 1) spoken utterances, spoken utterances which contain verbs in the form of lexicons and clauses of the Bima language in several natural speech settings observed during the interviews. (2) written data, and (3) language intuition as a source of spoken data. The data in this study are utterances in the form of sentences which will be analyzed to determine the syntactic behavior of Bima language verbs.

#### **3.2 Data Collection Methods and Techniques**

There are three methods used, namely; the introspection method, the listening method, and chap method. The introspection method was used because the researcher is a native speaker of the Bima language, in other words, the researcher already has linguistic competence regarding the Bima language. In this case, the researcher can apply her knowledge of the Bima language to facilitate the study of research data. This listening method has advanced techniques in the form of listening techniques, free listening techniques, note-taking techniques, and recording techniques (Mahsun, 2014: 92). The discourse method is used with a basic technique in the form of a fishing rod technique which is further elaborated in one advanced technique in the form of an open discourse technique (Mahsun, 2017). At this stage, the researcher will listen to Bima language utterances in daily conversation or communication to obtain data. The chakap method is also called the interview method, which is a method of collecting data by

conducting conversations between researchers and informants, and by making contact between the two orally. and aims to find forms that behave syntactically and prove the truth of the data obtained regarding the syntactic behavior of Bima language verbs. In connection with this, the application of the discourse method is also accompanied by the introspection method. In addition to the chakap method and introspection method, the data collection of this study also used the listening method with the basic technique in the form of tapping technique which was further elaborated in the advanced technology in the form of listening technique and note-taking technique (Mahsun, 2017). The collected data were then analyzed using the intralingual pairing method with the techniques of comparative relations equating and comparative relations differentiating. Thus, the lingual unit used as the object of study is compared with other data that is thought to have the same position and function. From this comparison, the similarities and differences that exist between the two things being compared are finally found (Mahsun, 2017).

### 3.3 Methods of Data Analysis

In data analysis, the matching method and distribution method will be used. The equivalent method has basic techniques in the form of equating comparisons, distinguishing comparisons, and equating the main points. These three techniques are used both in the stage of classifying Bima language verbs and in discussing action verbs, namely mapping, and explication. In addition to the equivalent method, the agih method is also used by applying the technique of changing the form of paraphrasing, (Sudaryanto, 2017) is used to express the original meaning contained in the Bima language. The original meaning is used to determine the semantic structure of Bima language verbs with explication or paraphrase techniques.

### 3.4 Data Presentation Method

This study uses one method, namely the informal method. The application of the informal method is used in descriptions with strings of words, usually so that the explanation seems detailed and unraveled so that the meaning of the verb can be identified. A descriptive presentation of the results of the study of Bima language verbs is expected to be able to provide a detailed explanation. The descriptive presentation of the results of the study of Bima language verbs is expected to be able to provide a detailed explanation. This method seems promising because it has generally been used in qualitative research (Bungin, 2003:197).

## 4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The syntactic behavior of the Bima language verbs in this study was adjusted to their structural environment, among which were described and presented data on intransitive verbs and transitive verbs (Nida, 1966:166-169).

### 4.1 Intransitive Verb Environment

*Nahu nono* 'I drink'  
*Sia maru* 'He sleeps'  
*Ari nahu nangi* 'My sister is crying'

In the structure as above, namely in intransitive sentences, the subject, namely *nahu* 'I', *sia* 'he', and *ari nahu* 'my sister' is immediately followed by the predicate *nano* 'drinking', *maru* 'sleeping', and *nangi* 'crying'. There the verb is present in its original form (Rachman, 1985).

To express denial, the root verb must be preceded by an assignment word *wati* 'not' or *watipu* 'not yet' and followed by a persona ending (-ku, -mu, -na, and -ta).

*Nahu nono* 'I drink' becomes *Nahu wati nonoku* 'I haven't drank' or *Nahu watipu nonoku*  
*Nggomi ngaha* 'You eat' becomes *Nggomi wati ngahanu* 'You don't eat' or *Nggomi watipu ngahanu*  
*Sia maru* 'He's sleeping' becomes *Sia wati maruna* 'He hasn't slept' or *Sia watipu maruna*

*Ari nahu nangi* 'My sister is crying' becomes *Ari nahu wati nangina* 'My sister is not crying' or *Ari nahu watipu nangina*

*La Rahma lampa* 'Si Rahma Jalan' becomes *La Rahma wati lamp ana* 'Si Rahma does not walk' or *La Rahma Watipu lampana*

*Ama Nahu rai* 'My father ran to be' becomes *Ama Nahu wati rai na* 'My father did not run' or *Ama Nahu watipu raina*

To indicate that the action contained in the base verb is complete, the verb must be preceded by *waura* 'already' or 'had' and followed by the suffix persona (*-ku, -mu, -na, -ta*).

<i>Nahu nono</i>	'I drink becomes <i>Nahu wa'ura nonoku</i>	'I already drink'
<i>Sia maru</i>	becomes <i>Sia wa'ura maruna</i>	'He is a sleep'
<i>Ari nahu nangina</i>	becomes <i>Ari nahu wa'ura nangina</i>	'My sister has been crying'
<i>Nggomi ngaha</i>	becomes <i>Nggomi wa'ura ngahamu</i>	'You have eaten'
<i>Nahu Sambea</i>	becomes <i>Nahu wa'u ra sambeaku</i>	'I have prayed'
<i>Nahu ngahi</i>	becomes <i>Nahu wa'u ra ngahiku</i>	'I already talked about'
<i>La Ahmad mbako</i>	becomes <i>La Ahma wa'u ra mbakona</i>	'Si Ahmad is ripe' (In Bima language for personal names, every consonant in personal names is lost, as in the example above, Ahmad's name becomes Ahma).

Verbs belonging to intransitive verbs are verbs that do not require an object of action

<i>Sia wati maina ainaina ake.</i>	'He didn't come today'
<i>Ari nahu nangi nggaona.</i>	'My sister was crying out loud'
<i>Nahu bolaku satenga lima.</i>	'I wake up at half past five'
<i>Ama nahu lampana roci.</i>	'My dad walks fast'
<i>La Fatima wa'a gala ru'u tamu</i>	'The Fatimah brought a glass for the guest'
<i>Ina waca uta mbeca</i>	'Mother washes vegetables'
<i>Ana dou to I aka nangi na ba hido</i>	'The baby is crying because it is hungry'
<i>Sarumbuna bore ba dana</i>	'His body was covered in mud'
<i>Ina ma lao aka amba Sanai-sanai</i>	'Mother goes shopping at the market every day'

Verbs such as *maina* 'he came', *nangi* 'crying', *bolaku* 'wake up', and *lampana* 'walked', *wa'a*, *waca*, *nangi*, *bore*, *lao* in the example sentences above are classified as intransitive verbs because they do not require the presence of the object of an action. So do the following words:

<i>laomu</i>	'(you) go'
<i>maruta</i>	'(we) sleep'
<i>danonoku</i>	'(I) don't drink'
<i>kadulata</i>	'(we) will go home'
<i>tamaiku</i>	'(we) really came'
<i>mangaha</i>	'(who) eats'

In the example sentences above and the following examples, it turns out that intransitive verbs can take the form:

- (a) a base verb, for example, *nangi* 'to cry'
- (b) prefix verbs, for example, *mangaha* 'who eats'
- (c) verbs ending in *-ku, -mu, -na, -ta*:

<i>laomu</i>	'(you) go'
<i>maina</i>	'(he) goes'
<i>bolaku</i>	'(I) wake up'
<i>maruta</i>	'(we) sleep'

- (d) prefix + ending verbs:  
*kadulata* '(we) will go home'  
*danonoku* '(I) don't drink'

## 4.2 Environment of Transitive Verbs

### 4.2.1. Transitive Active

<i>Sia doho weli baju</i>	'They buy clothes'
<i>Ndai wa'a bongi</i>	'We brought rice'
<i>Ori nahu wa'u maju</i>	'My uncle caught a gazelle'

Within the scope of the sentence as above, the behavior of the morphological form of the verb manifests as follows. The base verb is followed immediately by the object. Disclaimer statements for verbs like the one above can be made by adding an assignment marker of denial 'no' or *watipu* 'not yet' before the base verb and the persona ending (*-ku, -mu, -na, -ta*).

<i>Sia doho weli baju</i>	becomes <i>Sia doho wati welina baju</i> or <i>Sia doho watipu welina baju</i>
<i>Ndai wa'a bongi</i>	becomes <i>Ndai wati wa'ata bongi</i> or <i>Ndai watipu wa'ata bongi</i>
<i>Ori nahu mba'u maju</i>	become <i>Ori nahu wati mba'una maju</i> or <i>Ori nahu watipu mba'una maju</i> .

To express an action or action that is complete, the base verb must be preceded by an assignment marker that is complete (*wa'ura* 'already' or 'had') and followed by a personal suffix (*-ku, -mu, -na, -ta*).

<i>Ori nahu mba'u maju</i>	to become <i>Ori nahu wa'ura mba'una maju</i>
<i>Sia doho weli baju</i>	becomes <i>Sia doho waura welina baju</i>
<i>Ndai wa'a bongi</i>	becomes <i>Ndai waura wa'ata bongi</i>

### 4.2.2 Passive Transitive

If the object of a transitive active sentence is transposed into a subject in a transitive passive sentence, there will be a change in the form of the verb. •

<i>Oha ede rangaha ba nahu</i>	'The rice has been eaten by me' or 'I have eaten the rice'
<i>Oha ede ranggahaku ba nahu</i>	'I have really eaten the rice'
<i>Maju ede rawa'u ba ari nahu</i>	'The deer has been caught by my uncle'
<i>Bongi ede ra wa'a ba nggomi</i>	'The rice you have brought'

The verbs in the transitive passive sentence above are as follows:

- (a) subject (passive) *-ra- KK -ba*-object (passive);
- (b) subject (passive) *-ra- KK- (-ku, -mu, -na, -ta) -ba*-object (passive)

The base verb must be preceded by the ending *ra-*, or to emphasize, get the confix *ra-* (*-ku, -mu, -na, -ta*) and always followed by a passive marker assignment *ba* 'by'. In addition to the constructions as above, in the transitive passive sentence, there is a construction (*di- KK kai ba*).

<i>Kota ede dilao kai nahu</i>	'The city that came to me'
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*Kadera ede di doho kai ba ana nggomi*  
 'That chair your son sat on'

The word *kai* means goal. So, if a verb suggests 'purpose', then the characteristic of the verb form in the transitive passive sentence construction is *di- + KK* followed by the verb *kai* as a marker of the passive *ba* 'by'.

Transitive verbs are verbs that require the presence of an object of the action.

*Ompu nahu sambelena Sahe.*  
 'My grandfather slaughtered the buffalo'

*Ndai ranonota kahawa ede*  
 'We already drank the coffee'

*Sia doho ngahana uwi*  
 'They eat yams'

*Nahu ndukuku lako ede*  
 'I hit the dog'

The verbs in the sentence above are *sambelena* '(he) slaughtered', *ranonota* '(we) drank', *ngahana* '(he) ate', and *nduduku* '(I) beat' are transitive verbs because the verb is followed directly by the object deed:

<i>Sambelena</i>	'(she) slaughters' followed by <i>sahe</i> 'cow'
<i>Ranonota</i>	'(we) already drank followed by <i>kahawa</i> 'coffee'
<i>ngahana</i>	'(she) eats' followed by <i>uwi</i> 'sweet potato'
<i>nduduku</i>	'(I) hit' followed by <i>lako</i> 'dog'

So do the following words:

<i>kanina</i>	'(she) wears'
<i>wiimu</i>	'(you) leave'
<i>maoto</i>	'deliver'
<i>kamai</i>	'bring'
<i>racondota</i>	'(we) have brought'

As is clear from the sentences above and the following examples, transitive verbs can take the following form.

(a) Verbs ending in *-ku, -mu, -na, -ta*.

<i>ndukuna</i>	'(he) hit'
<i>wiimu</i>	'(you) leave'
<i>wa'aku</i>	'(I) brought'
<i>racondota</i>	'(we) have brought'

(b) Verbs with a join affix *sa- + -na*.

<i>sambelena</i>	'(he) slaughtered'
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(c) verbs with a join affix *ra- + -ta*.

<i>racondota</i>	'(we) have brought'
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(d) verbs with join affixes *da- + -mu*,

<i>Dahenggamu</i>	'(you) don't open'
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(e) Verbs with affixes *ma-, ra-, ka-*,

<i>marao</i>	'deliver'
<i>kamai</i>	'bring'



<i>racondota</i>	'(we) have brought'
<i>nandukuku</i>	'really going to hit'

From the description above, it can be concluded that in verbs there are transitive and intransitive basic verbs. The presence of transitive and intransitive basic verbs is marked by similarities and differences. The similarity is that both transitive and intransitive basic verbs can be combined with the prefixes *ka-*, *ma-*, *ta-*, and *ra-* and can also be combined with the endings *-ku*, *-mu*, *-na*, and *-ta*, while the difference lies in the presence whether or not the object of the action is, while the intransitive variety of verbs is not.

Example:

<i>lao</i>	'go'
<i>maru</i>	'to sleep' is an intransitive base verb
<i>weli</i>	'buy'
<i>condo</i>	'to draw' is a transitive base verb

## 5. CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the analysis and explanation of the data that realizes the use of action verbs in the Bima language, it can be inferred from matters relating to the research problem, namely: The syntax behavior of the Bima language verbs in this study was adapted to their structural environment. The forms of verbs in the syntactic behavior referred to are transitive verbs and intransitive verbs. Intransitive verbs are analyzed based on whether or not there is an object that will follow the verb. If a verb can have a complete meaning without the presence of an object, it is declared as an intransitive verb. On the other hand, if a verb has a complete meaning and must be followed by an object, then it is stated as a transitive verb. In the Bima language, many transitive verbs are dominated by words with affixes. Many intransitive verbs are dominated by prefixes *ka*, *ma*, *na*, *ta*, *da*, *di*, *ra*, and endings *ku*, *mu*, *na*, *ta*, *ja*, *si*, *ro*, *ra*, *du*, *ni*, *pu*, and *mpa*.

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