

## WORD ORDER IN THE NIAS LANGUAGE: A SYNTACTIC TYPOLOGICAL STUDIES

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### Abstract

Linguistic typology is a branch of linguistics that studies the patterns and types of all languages in the world. Languages with the same or similar patterns are grouped together based on the characteristics of their word and sentence structure. This research focuses on syntactic typology, which determines language types based on three syntactic arguments: Subject (S), Agent (A), and Patient (P). This research also examines language groupings based on their structural characteristics and explores the differences between these languages. By utilizing typological methodology, this research attempts to explain word order in the Toba Batak language from the perspective of syntactic typology developed by Greenberg, especially in terms of basic word order (SVO, SOV, VSO). In addition, this research highlights the importance of preserving regional languages as national cultural assets in accordance with the mandate of the 1945 Constitution. Through analysis of translation errors from Indonesian to regional languages, this research highlights the need to understand the typology of regional languages naturally. The focus of this research is on the syntactic typology of the Nias language, with the aim of determining word order and grammatical alliances.

**Keyword:** *linguistic typolog, syntactic typology, word structure*

### Sari

Tipologi linguistik merupakan cabang ilmu linguistik yang mempelajari pola dan jenis semua bahasa di dunia. Bahasa-bahasa yang mempunyai pola yang sama atau serupa dikelompokkan berdasarkan ciri-ciri kata dan struktur kalimatnya. Penelitian ini berfokus pada tipologi sintaksis, yang menentukan jenis bahasa berdasarkan tiga argumen sintaksis: Subjek (S), Agen (A), dan Pasien (P). Penelitian ini juga mengkaji pengelompokan bahasa berdasarkan ciri-ciri strukturalnya dan mengeksplorasi perbedaan antara bahasa-bahasa tersebut. Dengan memanfaatkan metodologi tipologi, penelitian ini mencoba menjelaskan susunan kata dalam bahasa Batak Toba dari sudut pandang tipologi sintaksis yang dikembangkan oleh Greenberg, khususnya dari segi susunan kata dasar (SVO, SOV, VSO). Selain itu, penelitian ini menyoroti pentingnya melestarikan bahasa daerah sebagai aset budaya nasional sesuai amanat UUD 1945. Melalui analisis kesalahan penerjemahan bahasa Indonesia ke bahasa daerah, penelitian ini menyoroti perlunya memahami tipologi

bahasa daerah secara alami. Fokus penelitian ini adalah pada tipologi sintaksis bahasa Nias, dengan tujuan untuk menentukan susunan kata dan aliansi gramatikal.

**Kata Kunci:** *Tipologi Linguistik, Tipologi Sintaksis, Struktur Kata*

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## Introduction

Etymological typology may be a department of etymology that considers the styles and sorts of all dialects within the world. Dialects that have the same or at slightest comparative designs are gathered together or in one lesson and assembled by type. Typology is the gathering of dialects based on the characteristics of their word structure and sentence structure (Mallinson and Blake, 1981:1-3). Typology is by and large expecting to gather dialect languages along auxiliary behavior based on the characteristics of the dialect. In common, dialect typology considers can be carried out on each dialect structure by considering the foremost prevailing characteristics of that dialect. Syntactic typology is deciding the sort of dialect based on three syntactic contentions, to be specific Subject (S), Operator (A), and Quiet (P). The relationship between these components will coordinate the hypothetical system so that dialect typology can be found.

Mallinson advance expressed that dialects can be assembled based on their auxiliary characteristics. The consider of phonetic typology endeavors to make wide bunches based on a set of interrelated linguistic highlights. The premise and heading of etymological typology investigate is dialect contrasts. Concurring to Walley, typology in a phonetic setting could be a gathering of dialects or dialect components based on common formal characteristics. According to Van Valin, Jr. and Lapolla (2022:2-3) stated that describing linguistic phenomena is one of the important goals in linguistics. This description can include individual descriptions, describing what all languages have in common (language universality) or describing how languages differ from each other (language typology).

According to Song (2001:40-41), the syntactic typology of a language is basically formed by three grammatical parameters, Dixon (1989) calls it three basic core relations.

Mallisaon & Blake (1981:3) say that languages can be grouped based on their structural characteristics. Language typology is a branch of linguistics that follows the patterns or

types of all languages in the world. Languages with the same/similar pattern can be grouped into one group or in the same class.

The goal of typology is to identify patterns in languages and the connections among them. As such, typological research's methods and findings are fundamentally consistent with any theory of grammar. Three significant prepositions are bundled in a typological manner. Typology does three things: (a) compares languages; (b) groupings languages or parts of these languages; and (c) looks into the outside features of language. Language typology, according to Comrie (Newmeyer, ed., 1988), is used to categorize languages according to their structural and behavioural traits. He claims that typology is predicated on two main ideas. That is, there exist distinctions among the languages that employ and (a) all languages can be compared on the basis of their structural similarities. Languages fall into various categories (typology).

Syntactic typology not only examines the functional relations between words that make up a sentence, or is related to the type or type of sentence, but also concerns the relations between words in a construction above words, word class issues. Syntactic typology is also closely related to concordance. Concordance is a grammatical category in the form of agreement between nouns and adjectives, or between subjects and predicates (Keraf, 1990: 116). Language typology at the syntactic level is related to the grammatical alliance system. grammatical alliance is a system of grammatical alliances within or between clauses in one language typologically; is the partnership  $S=A, \neq P$ . or  $S= P, \neq A$ , or  $Sa=A$ ,  $Sp=p$  or other systems (Dixon 1994). Dixon said that the grammatical alliance system is a point of attention for determining the grammatical typology of languages in the world which is divided into three parts, namely the accusative system, the ergative system and the S-disaggregated system (active language).

Starting from the background of the problem described above, the formulation of this research problem is the order of words in the Batak Toba language in a review of syntactic typology. In the syntactic typology developed by Greenberg (in Comrie, 1989), the order of words in the basic sentence construction of a language can be a measure to predict several things in language grammar. Greenberg looked at the influence of word order on the formation of adposition types (preposition or postposition) and nominal phrases

involving adjective and genitive forms. In this case, he developed the universal word order theory which divides the world's languages into three types, namely SVO, SOV, and VSO. In typological thinks about, dialects within the world can be grouped agreeing to the fundamental arrange of subject, protest and verb. Regional languages as mother tongues play a vital role within the day by day lives of Indonesians. Its supportability is additionally exceptionally imperative to preserve. Since, it has gotten to be a order of the 1945 Structure of the Republic of Indonesia, in article 32 section 2 it is expressed, "The State regards and keeps up territorial dialects as national social resources". Different endeavors and endeavors have been made by the Indonesian government through the Service of National Instruction to preserve territorial dialects as Indonesian assets so that they proceed to exist and be protected. Indonesian individuals are moreover anticipated to preserve and protect their particular territorial dialects.

The way to preserve and protect territorial dialects is by executing them in learning at school, deciphering territorial dialects into Indonesian as the national dialect, and holding territorial dialect competitions, such as narrating, addresses, singing, and other social presentations. In any case, for a few reason, the comes about of the Indonesian interpretation into territorial dialects don't coordinate the characteristic structure of the target dialect (territorial dialect). Young people and youthful individuals who utilize Indonesian as their to begin with dialect will communicate in territorial dialects as a translation handle from the national dialect to the regional dialect. This happens since the speakers do not get it the territorial dialect typology that many children talk within the language Nias. These errors can happen in phonology, morphology, sentence structure, semantics, and indeed pragmatics of the territorial dialect itself. This investigate examines the Nias territorial dialect in terms of its syntactic typology.

There are around 6,500 dialects all through the world, extending from ethnic/local dialects to the national dialect of a nation. In typological ponders, dialects within the world can be assembled agreeing to the fundamental arrange of subject, question and verb. Territorial languages as mother tongues play an important part within the daily lives of Indonesians. Its supportability is additionally exceptionally critical to keep up. Since, it could be a command of the 1945 Structure of the Republic of Indonesia, in article 32 section 2 it is expressed, "The State respects and keeps up territorial dialects as national social resources". Different endeavors and endeavors have been made by the Indonesian government through

the Ministry of National Instruction to preserve territorial dialects as Indonesian resources so that they proceed to exist and be protected. Indonesian individuals are moreover anticipated to preserve and protect their particular territorial languages. The way to preserve and protect territorial dialects is by actualizing them in learning at school, interpreting territorial dialects into Indonesian as the national dialect, and holding territorial language competitions, such as storytelling, speeches, singing, and other social presentations. Be that as it may, for a few reason, the comes about of the Indonesian translation into territorial dialects don't coordinate the characteristic structure of the target dialect (territorial dialect). Young people and youthful individuals who utilize Indonesian as their to begin with dialect will communicate in territorial dialects as a translation process from the national dialect to the regional language. This happens since the speakers don't get it the regional dialect typology that many children talk in Angkola. These errors can occur in phonology, morphology, sentence structure, semantics, and indeed pragmatics of the territorial dialek.

This research discusses the Nias regional language in terms of its syntactic typology. From the depiction over, it can be concluded that there's awesome trust that territorial dialects will be protected by interested parties, the Indonesian government and the community. This is often moreover in line with the order of the 1945 Structure of the Republic of Indonesia in article 32 passage 2. On the other hand, there's a territorial dialect wonder that happens, particularly in AL, when interpretations of composed and talked dialect frequently show up in territorial dialects.

'S+P+O' design. The creator saw and listened this when tuning in to sentences talked by children utilizing Indonesian and territorial dialects within the Padangsidempuan city region. The sentences talked are Indonesian interpretations, for example:

(1) 'I go to school'

Ya'o mofanö ba zikola,

1Sg goPreparationschool

Sentence 1 above can be said to be a direct translation from Indonesian. This is also seen by the author in research article data published in reputable journals with example sentences:

(2) 'They left me because I was late'

Ya'ira

Sentence 2 above was translated from Indonesian literally without considering whether the target language typology is similar or not to the source language. Therefore, research needs to be carried out to provide an explanation of what the natural syntactic typology of Nias Language is, and this research can be used as a scientific reference if Nias Language is used by speakers or those who study it. The types of syntactic typology that are often discussed are: typology based on word order (SOV, SVO, VSO, VOS, OVS, OSV), typology based on mode (declarative, interrogative, imperative), typology based on clauses (single sentence, compound sentence), typology based on active-passive sentences, or zero constructionssas stated by Jufrizal, 2018 in his research (Jufrizal, 2018). Due to the breadth of coverage and language of syntactic typology, the author in this study only focuses on it on typology based on word order (SOV, SVO, VSO, VOS, OVS, OSV) and this research aims to see what and how typologyNias languageThat. its order (word order) and determines its grammatical alliances.

### **Methods**

In collecting information, the tuning in and writing survey strategies were utilized (Mahsun, 2006:56), whereas the methods utilized were note-taking procedures and elucidation methods, considering that this paper examines verbs in English.Nias. In looking into the information required in this paper, the agih strategy was utilized (Sudaryanto in Kesuma, 2007:108). The agih strategy is connected to distinguish dialect syntactic typology Nias. A few of the examination strategies utilized are supplant methods, alter of shape methods, rewording methods, and extension procedures. Through the application of extension methods and change strategies, it is conceivable to appear contrasts in word arrange and development of dialect syntactic typology attributes Nias. Not all of these methods are connected at once, but their utilize is balanced concurring to needs. The comes about of information examination in this paper are displayed utilizing casual strategies and formal strategies (Sudaryanto in Mahsun, 2006:123). Casual strategies show up within the utilize of words or sentences that are created deductively and inductively. Formal strategies are realized through the utilize of signs, and pictures.

### **Results and Discussion**

The information collected makes it simpler for scholars to analyze and draw conclusions. From the most information source, a few straightforward revelatory sentences were gotten,

such as the taking after information: This sentence shapes a V + S design for intransitive sentences that don't require an question, but sentence designs in Indonesian are as a rule shaped by S + V. The arrange of Nias dialect is in understanding with the predicate going before the subject, such as data 3 in Indonesian "When we arebathing within the waterway, I saw a wind within the bushes" gets to be:

(3) When we were bathing in the river

Me modri yaita ba mbuma'ae

I saw a snake in the bushes

U'ila guloba du'u

Me is a conjunction, modri-V, yaita- additional S, ba-preparation and mbuma'ae-river, U'ila -V, gulö-S, ba- preparation, du'u- bushes. For data 3, the V+S pattern is 74.5% and the S+V pattern is 25.5%. Data 3 is a complex sentence and if translated using the S+V pattern it will sound strange to speakers of the Nias language. However, if the sentence is formed with a transitive pattern that requires an object.

(4) Watch us

Manoto ya'aga

(5) Frying mother's fish

I gore gia inak

From data 4 and 5 above, it can be seen that the word order of transitive sentences is V + O + S and this form is a common and acceptable sentence in the Nias language. For negative sentences/forms, the data is obtained in sentences such as "He is not good at swimming". become;

(6) He is not good at swimming

Loonekhe he molangi

For this data, 82.1% answered that the word order of the Nias language sentence was V + S, meaning the predicate in Nias language normal and usually precedes the subject. The grammatical alliance in the Nias language has the typological pattern  $S = A$  and  $S \neq P$ , and this is called 'accusative'. This is because the Agent's (A) argument behaves the same as the Subject's (S) argument and differently from the Patient's (P) argument, so this language pattern is classified as the 'accusative' type.

## Conclusion

Word order in the Nias language varies according to the type of sentence. First, declarative sentences in the Nias language have the pattern: Verb + Subject + Object in intransitive sentences and the pattern: Verb + Object + Subject in transitive sentences. Second, the negative type in the Nias language has 2 patterns: 1) Negation + Subject + Verb + Object; 2) Subject + Negation + Verb + Object. Third, interrogative sentence has 3 patterns: 1) Subject + Verb + Object; 2) Verb + Subject + Object; and 3) Passive Verb + Subject + Object. Last, in Nias language, the Agent (A) argument behaves the same as the Subject (S) argument but different from the Patient (P) argument, therefore, this language pattern is classified as the 'accusative' type.

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### **Conflict of Interest**

Potential conflict of interest, if any, should be reported here during data collection.

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