

## Case of Core Arguments of the Muna Verbs

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**Abstract** : Muna language (here in after abbreviated BM) is used as a communication tool or language of instruction in the interaction of life by almost all residents who inhabit the island of Muna. Muna Language is a language that has a high function and position in the speaking community. Muna language that is actively mastered by its speakers is used as a social language and communication tool in the Muna sociocultural area. This study aims to uncover the facts of language especially those related to the case of the core argument of Muna verbs. The method used in this research is descriptive method with the aim of making an accurate description of the data, the properties and the relationship of the phenomena under study. Based on the results of the core Muna verb core argument cases include: (a) the case of the stative verb core argument which consists of (i) the basic stative verb core argument case, (ii) the core stative verb core argument case, (iii) the case of the stative verb core argument , and (iv) case of locative stative verb core arguments; (b) core verb case process arguments which consist of (i) core verb case core process arguments, (ii) core verb case experience process process, (iii) core verb case ownership process arguments, and (iv) core verb process case arguments locative; and (c) the case of core verbs of action verbs consisting of (i) the case of core verbs of basic action verbs, (ii) the case of core arguments for action experience verbs, (iii) the case of core verbs of action verb ownership, and (iv) the case of core verbs of argument locative action.

### 1. Introduction

Muna language (here in after abbreviated BM) is used as a communication tool or language of instruction in the interaction of life by almost all residents who inhabit the island of Muna. Language is not a stand-alone system, but is part of the social process of society, because language is part of culture. Muna Language is said to be the product of Muna culture because it is one of the seven aspects of culture. Muna Language is a language that has a high function and position in the speaking community. Muna language that is actively mastered by its speakers is used as a social language and communication tool in the Muna sociocultural area.

Research on Muna has been done by many people. The fields that have been studied are the fields of linguistics and literature. The aspects of Muna that have been studied are phonology, morphology, and structure or grammatics. The aspects of the Muna language that have been studied are: 1. The Relationship of People's pronouns with Verbs in Muna [1]; 2. Wuna Language [2]; 3. A Grammar of the Muna Language [3]; 4. Muna verbs [4]; 5. Prolitic Forms of Muna that are Attached to Verbs [5]; 6. Pronounce of Monaural Persona [6]. Referring to the results of the research that has been carried out, it appears that the semantic aspects of Muna language especially the Case of the Core Verbal Arguments of the Muna Language have not been specifically examined. Based on the linguistic phenomena above,

the writer wants to analyze the case of the Muna verb core argument by applying the Case Theory from Cook [7]. The case of the core arguments of the Muna verb is important to discuss because it can reveal the core arguments of the stative verbs, process verbs, action verbs in Muna. In general, this study aims to uncover the facts of language especially those related to the case of the core arguments of Muna language.

## 2. Research method

### 2.1 Research Method

The method used in this study is a descriptive method that aims to make an accurate description of the data, the properties and the relationship of the phenomenon under study [8]. By using descriptive methods, this research is based on facts in the Muna language community.

### 2.2 Data source

The ingredients language is divide oral variety and written variety. There are three sources of data in this study, namely (a) oral data obtained directly from the informant, (b) the texts of the Muna story, and (c) the results of previous research. In addition to using data on various spoken languages, this research also uses written language variations as secondary data [9].

### 2.3 Technique of Data Colection

The research data needed is the Muna language data that is used in everyday conversation by the Muna community. The method used in the data collection stage is the listening method and proficient method. Listen method is a method that is done by listening to the object that is the source of the data [10]. The method of listening is done by listening to the use of language by speakers. In this study, the listening method is used to listen to the language used in daily conversation spoken by informants with the help of note taking techniques.

The reflection-introspection method is also used in this study, namely the method of providing data by utilizing the intuition of the researchers who examine the language they master (their mother tongue) to provide the data needed for analysis in accordance with the objectives of the study [10]; [11]. When the above techniques are used, researchers can apply record techniques. What is meant by recording technique is to record with a tape recorder speech acts that are spoken by the informant. The record technique was followed up by the note taking technique. The note taking technique is done on a data card that has been prepared and continued with data clarification.

### 2.4 Technique of Data Analysis

The method used by researchers at this stage of data analysis is the aggregate method. The method of using the determinant method of language elements that are in the language itself [8]. The distribution method uses the technique for direct elements as the basic technique, which is dividing the lingual unit of data into several parts of the element and the element concerned is seen as the part that directly forms the intended lingual unit. The driving force for the determinant of this technique is an intuitive power, which is based on the researchers' intuition of language (including grammatical intuition as a result of understanding a researcher's linguistic theory).

### 2.5. Technique for Presenting Analysis Results

There are two methods that can be used by a researcher in presenting the analysis results, namely using formal methods and informal methods. Formal methods are methods that use symbols and signs. Signs and symbols used in this study are signs or letters that include **A** symbolizing the agent, **O** symbolizing the object, **P** symbolizing the experience, which is a noun that gets or experiences a loss from an action, **K** symbolizes ownership, which is a noun who owns or obtains, and **L** symbolizes location, which is a noun stating the place where the action took place [10].

### 3. Case of the Core Arguments of the Muna Verb

The core argument case is a case that is bound semantically with verbs as the core of the proposition. Verbs in Muna can be classified into three, namely (1) stative verbs; (2) process verbs; and (3) action verbs. Muna stative verbs have four types, namely (1) basic stative verbs; (2) stative verbs of experience, (3) stative verbs of ownership; and (4) locative stative verbs. The Verbal Muna process consists of four types, namely (1) basic process verbs; (2) experience process verbs; (3) ownership process verbs; and (4) locative process verbs. Verbal Muna actions consist of four types, namely (1) basic action verbs; (2) verbs of experience; (3) verbs of ownership; and (4) locative action verbs. Realization of the case of the core arguments of the Muna verbs with markers marking each type of verb described in detail below.

#### 3.1 Case of Basic Stative Verb Core Arguments.

The case for core arguments for basic stative verbs is semantically bound to basic stative verbs. The basic stative verb has one core argument, in the form of nouns in a state. The core argument cases of this type verb are labeled as stative object cases (Os). The Os case in the basic stative verb is openly stated in the structure of the birth clause. The case of the core Os stative verb basic argument in the structure of birth is marked as **no** as a marker of the subject of stative verbs. Position of marking subject **no** in the structure of the clause present before the verb. The subject marker grammatically functions to state the argument (noun) is in the state stated verb. The case for the basic core stative verb arguments is stated in the following example.

- a. *Anoanosaki* + [ Os ]  
She 3T Sick  
'She is Sick'  
Os
- b. *Ghunteli amaitunojolo* + [ Os ]  
The egg 3T oval  
'The egg is oval shape'  
Os
- c. *Kamara aini noseke* + [ Os ]  
This rooms 3T narrow  
'This room is narrow'  
Os

Basic *nosaki* stative verb 'sick' *anoa* 'core arguments 'he', *nojolo* verb 'oval' argued *ghunteli* 'egg', and *noseke* 'narrow' argued *kamara* core 'room'. The *anoa* inti core 'argument, *ghunteli amaitu* 'the egg' and *kamara aini* 'this room' is labeled as a stative object (Os) case. **No** as a marker of the subject in a stative verb grammatically confirms the meaning of the state of the noun or noun phrase as an argument. The basic stative verb *saki* 'sick' semantically binds the human noun as an argument. Especially in the *saki* 'sick' verb, nouns that have the opportunity to become arguments are only animated nouns. The arguments in clauses (b) and (c) have no chance of being arguments in clause (a). The relationship between verbs and their arguments applies the principle of matching verbs to arguments (a), for example.

- d. *Fotunonojolo* + [ Os ]  
His head POSS 3T 3T oval  
'His Heads oval'  
Os
- e. *Fotunonolepe* + [ Os ]  
Head POSS 3T 3T flat  
'His Heads flat'  
Os

#### 3.2 Case of the Core Argument of a Stative Experience Verb

The case for core arguments for stative experience verbs is the case for arguments that are bound semantically to the stative verbs of experience. The experience stative verb argument is labeled P case. The P case argument is in the form of a human animated noun. Human animatine nouns are in an entity that psychologically feels a situation. Muna's stative verb argument is openly stated in the structure of its formation. The stative verb of experience with the accompanying core argument is realized in the structure born in the following example.

- a. *Ananonorindi* + [ P ]  
Chils POSS 3T 3T cold  
'His Child is cold  
P
- b. *Amanobheinanonoambanu* + [ P ]  
Father POSS 3T and mother POSS 3T 3T shy  
'His father and mother is shy  
P
- c. *La Bahinogharo* + [ P ]  
la bahi 3T hungry  
'La Bahi is hungry  
P

The *norindi* verb 'cold', *noambanu* 'shame', and *nogharo* 'hunger' have one core argument, namely *anano* 'his child', *amano bhe inano* 'father and mother', and la bahi 'noun persona'. *Anano* core argument 'child', *amano bhe inano* 'father and mother' and La Bahi 'noun persona' are labeled **P** because they directly experience a situation. The core argument desired by the stative verb above is an argument in the form of a human noun. *Anano* argument 'her child' feels the *norindi* 'cold', *Amano bhe inano* argument 'father and mother' psychologically feels *noambanu* 'shy', and La Bahi's argument 'noun persona' feels *nogharo* 'hungry'.

### 3.3 Case of Core Arguments of Ownership Stative Verbs

The case for the core argument of ownership stative verbs is a case of arguments that are semantically bound to ownership verbs. Stative verbs of ownership have two core arguments. The argument case labeled O and the argument case labeled K. The core argument case labeled O is the case for arguments stating nouns as objects and the case argument K is the case for arguments stating nouns as owners. The case for the core stative verb ownership labeled O and K can be seen in the following example.

- a. *La Indunobharigaluno* + [ O – K ]  
la indu 3T many farm POSS 3T  
'La Indu has many farm  
K O
- b. *Inanonorangkaeaghobheta wuna* + [ O – K ]  
Mother POSS 3T 3T has traditional sarong  
'Her mother has traditional sarong'  
K O
- c. *Wa Aninopakesimbibulawano* + [ O – K ]  
wa ani 3T using a gold bracelet POSS 3T  
'Wa Ani uses a gold bracelet'  
K O

*Nobhari* Verbs 'lot', *norangkaeagho* 'rich', and *nopake* 'wear' have the core arguments of *galuno* 'garden', *bheta wuna* 'traditional sarong', and symbol of *bulawa* 'gold bracelet' and La Indu 'nomina persona', *inano* 'mother', and Wa Ani 'noun persona'. The *galuno* arguments 'Farm', *bheta wuna* 'traditional sarong', and *simbi bulawa* 'gold bangles' are labeled as object (O) and La Indu 'nomina

persona', *inano* 'mother', and Wa Ani 'nomina persona' labeled case K. The object case is a noun that functions as an entity that belongs to the arguments of La Indu 'noun persona', *inano* 'her mother', and Wa Ani 'noun persona' and case K is a noun that functions as a profit entity, namely La Indu, *inano* and Wa Ani.

### 3.4 The Case of Locative Stative Verb Core Arguments

The case for locative stative verb core arguments is a case of arguments bound semantically to verbs. Locative stative verbs have two core arguments, namely object (O) and locative (L). The object argument (O) is a noun that is at a location or moves around a location that does not indicate movement. The locative core argument (L) is a noun that represents the place of origin of the object argument. The case for the locative stative verb core arguments of Muna can be explained in the following example.

- a. La UrinolenteweRaha + [ L – O ]  
 la uri 3T born Pl Raha  
 'La Uri born in Raha'  
 O L
- b. La BionomateteKandari + [ L – O ]  
 la bio 3T died Pl Kendari  
 'La Bio died in Kendari'  
 O L
- c. La BahinogaatePalu + [ L – O ]  
 la bahi 3T married Pl Palu  
 'La Bahi married in Palu'  
 O L

The verb  *nolente* 'born',  *nomate* 'died', and  *nogaa* 'marriage' have the core arguments of Raha, Kandari, Palu and the arguments of La Uri 'noun persona', La Bio 'noun persona', and La Bahi 'noun persona'. Raha, Kandari, and Palu's argument is labeled a locative case (L) because it acts as the location of a situation and La Uri, La Bio, and La Bahi's 'noun persona' is labeled as object (O) because it acts as an object at a location. The locative stative verb object argument in the above clause is filled with animat noun and the locative argument is filled with non-animat noun. The locative argument is centered on we and te. We and te grammatically function as markers of arguments (Pa). The markers of the we and te arguments function to state the locative meaning of the place in which a verb states.

### 3.5 Case Arguments Core Verbs Basic Processes

The case of core arguments for basic process verbs is the case for arguments bound semantically to basic process verbs. The basic process verb of Muna has one core argument, namely the case argument labeled object (O). The case of the core argument labeled object (O) is an argument case in the form of a noun which acts as an entity that proceeds to produce a condition that is different from the previous condition. The process of changing the condition of an argument in the form of nouns takes place continuously and naturally. The case for core process verb basic arguments in Muna can be seen in the following example.

- a. Katofanokele + [ O ]  
 cucian 3T kering  
 'Cucian mengering'  
 O
- b. Kadondonokuniroono + [ O ]  
 kedondong 3T kuning daun POSS 3T  
 'Kedondong leaves turn yellow'  
 O
- c. Karondominohansuru + [ O ]  
 wall 3T destroyed

'The wall is destroyed'  
O

The verb *nokele* 'dries', *nokuni* 'yellowing', and *nohansuru* 'becomes destroyed' has a core argument, namely *katofa* 'laundry', *roono kadondo* 'leaf', and *karondomi* 'wall' that change conditions. *Katofa*'s argument 'laundry', *roono kadondo* 'leaf', and *karondomi* 'wall' are labeled as object (O) cases. The case of argument O is in the form of nouns undergoing a process of changing conditions from wet to dry, from green to yellow, and from whole to destroy. The relationship between verbs with arguments in the structure of the birth verb clause in the above process uses the marker's subject *no*. Subject markers function states that the object argument has experienced or has undergone a process. The argument that acts as effectors in the structure of the clause above is expressed in disguise.

### 3.6 Case Arguments Core Verbal Experience Process

The case for the core verbs of the experience process is the case for arguments that state changes in conditions that are felt psychologically. The core argument is in the form of an animated noun that is labeled experience (P). Changes in conditions that occur in the core argument are the result of a process that is done intentionally. Case arguments core to the experience process labeled case experience (P) can be explained in the following example.

- a. WaTatinobaru + [ P ]  
wa tati 3T happy  
'Wa Tati fell happy'  
P
- b. La Urinonarakaa + [ P ]  
la uri 3T difficult  
'La Uri becomes difficult'  
P
- c. Wa Nasanotaanamisino + [ P ]  
wa nasa 3T happy POSS 3T  
'Wa Nasa fell happy'  
P

The *nobaru* verb 'happy', *nonaraka* 'hard' and the note amis happy 'are verbs that have one core argument, namely Wa Tati, La Uri, and Wa Nasa. Wa Tati, La Uri and Wa Nasa arguments are arguments that psychologically feel a change in circumstances that occurs. Arguments that act as effectors that cause the process of psychological changes that occur in object arguments are implicitly stated in the birth structure of the clause above. The verb nobaru process 'happy' expresses the meaning that nouns feel the happy state as a result of a process that occurs within the noun or the process as a result that occurs outside the noun themselves. The *nonarakaa* verb 'difficult' states the meaning that nouns are difficult as a result of a process that occurs within a noun or the process comes from outside the noun's self which is carried out by nouns which causes the noun to be difficult. The *notaanamisino* verb 'happiness' states the meaning that nouns are in a happy condition as a result of the processes that occur within the nouns or as a result of something that happens outside the nouns themselves. Subject markers grammatically state the meaning that the process that occurs in nouns as an argument is happening or has already taken place, so that what is felt by the argument is the result of the process. To understand the meaning of the process in the verb above, it is necessary to do an expansion test by presenting the following non-core arguments.

- d. *Wa Tatinobarunembalisarajana* + [ P ]  
wa tati 3T happy to be bachelor  
'Wa Tati happy to be a bachelor'  
P
- e. *La Urinonarakaaramparabunotambano* + [ P ]  
la uri 3T difficult because in law behaviour POSS 3T  
'La Uri is being difficult because his brother in law behaviour'  
P
- f. *Wa Nasanotaanamisinonembalipegawai* + [ P ]  
wa nasa 3T happy POSS 3T being employee  
'Wa Nasa happy after being employee'  
P

With the presence of non-core arguments returning bachelor in clause (a), foregoing *rabuno tambano* in clause (b), and *nembali pegawai* in clause (c) act as effectors. Wa Tati's argument is that he is happy because he has graduated as a scholar. La Uri's argument is in a predicament because of his brother-in-law's behavior. Wa Nasa's argument is in a happy state because it has become an employee.

### 3.7 Cases of Verb Core Arguments of Ownership Processes

The case for core localized process verbs is the case for arguments bound semantically to verbs. The core argument is nouns that have a process or come from a process or noun where the process originated. The core argument of the verb is that the object process moves location because the process is done intentionally or the process occurs because the will of another person. The case for the core verbs of the Muna language locative process can be explained in the following example.

- a. *Nerakorusatekarumbu* + [ O – L ]  
3T catching deer Pl forest  
'Catching deer in the forest'  
O L
- b. *Nekarudukentawelaa* + [ O – L ]  
3T Fishing Pl river  
'Fishing in the river'  
O L
- c. *Nehambawewitegalu* + [ O – L ]  
3T hunt pig Pl garden  
'Hunting pig in the garden'  
O L

*Nerako* verbs 'catch', *nekarudu* 'fishing', and *nehamba* 'hunt' are verbs that have two core arguments, O and L. Rusa argument 'deer', *kenta* 'fish', and the *wewi* of 'pig' are nouns that experience or the results of the process of catching in the forest, the results of the process of fishing in the river, and the results of the process of hunting in the garden. 'Rusa' deer, 'fish', and 'pig' deer nominees are nouns that are labeled as case objects (O) and 'forest' reefs, 'river', and 'garden' huts are nouns that are labeled locative cases (L).

### 3.9 Cases of the Core Verb Arguments of Basic Actions

The case for core verbs of basic action is the case for arguments that are bound semantically to verbs. The case for core arguments verb basic actions have at least one core case agent (A). The core case agent (A) can be explained in the following example.

- a. *La Urineburi* + [ A ]  
la uri 3T write  
'La Uri writes'

- A
- b. *Wa Nasa netula-tula* + [ A ]  
wa nasa 3T storries  
'Wa Nasa telling stories'
- A
- c. *Wa Tatinelagu* + [ A ]  
wa tati 3T sings  
'Wa Tati sings'
- A

The *neburu* verb 'writing' has a core argument in the form of nouns labeled with an agent case (A), the *netula-tula* verbs' have a core argument in the form of nouns labeled with an agent case (A), and the verb 'singing' has a core argument in the form of nouns that are labeled case agents (A). The basic action verb labeled with case agent (A) in the birth structure uses only the verb marker *ne* action. The marker of the *ne* subject grammatically states that the action taken by the agent by (A) takes place in the present rather than the past. Past events declared as verbs must have the *padamo* aspect 'already'.

### 3.10 Cases of Core Verbs of Experimental Action

The case for the core argument in the experience of action verbs is the case for arguments bound semantically to verbs. The core argument in the experience of action verbs is in the form of nouns which act as entities that feel psychologically the results of an action. The verb of the experience action with object case label (O) and experience case label (P) can be seen in the following example.

- a. *La Indunofekirirabunoanano* + [ O – P ]  
la indu 3T think behavior child POSS 3T  
'La Indu is thinking about his son behaviour'  
P O
- b. *La Bahinopotimbaghodhandino* + [ O – P ]  
la bahi 3T consider Suf KAUS promise POSS 3T  
'La Bahi considers his promise'  
P O
- c. *Wa Tatinobhotukipalakarano* + [ O – P ]  
wa tati 3T decide Suf KAUS case POSS 3T  
'Wa Tati decided her case'  
P

The *nofekiri* verb 'thinks', *nopotimbago* 'considers', and *nobhotuki* 'decides' to have two core arguments, namely *rabuno* 'deed', *dhandino* 'promise', and *palakarano* 'case' and 'La Indu' nomina persona 'argument, La Bahi' nomina persona', and 'Wa Tati' noun persona'. The *rabuno* arguments' deeds', *dhandino* 'promises', and *palakarano* 'cases' are labeled as object cases (O) and 'La Indu' arguments' noun persona', 'La Bahi' noun persona', and 'Wa Tati' nomina persona' are labeled case experience (P). The case of core object arguments (O) is a noun that functions as an entity resulting from an action which causes a psychological burden on arguments in the form of an animated noun.

### 3.11 Cases of Verb Core Arguments of Ownership Acts

The case for core arguments for the ownership of action verbs is the case for arguments bound semantically to verbs. The verb of ownership has two core arguments, namely the noun which acts as the entity resulting from the action and the noun that benefits or loses. The verb of the act of ownership is always soaked in the structure of birth. The case verb argument for ownership can be seen in the following example.

- a. *Negholikalapitisoamano* + [ O – K ]  
3T buy slippers Pk father POSS 3T  
'Buy slippers for his father'  
O K
- b. *NerakomanusoWa Lina* + [ O – K ]  
3T catch chicken Pk wa lina  
'Catch chicken for Wa Lina'  
O K
- c. *Neghondohidoisoanano* + [ O – K ]  
3T Looking money Pk child POSS 3T  
'Looking Money for his child'  
O K

Verbal *negholi* 'buy', *nerako* 'catch', and *neghondohi* 'looking for' have the core arguments of *kalapiti* 'slippers', *manu* 'chicken' and *doi* 'money' and *anano* 'child', *wa lina* 'nomina persona', and *amano* 'father'. The 'slippers', *manu* 'chicken', and *doi* 'money' arguments are labeled as case objects (O). Case objects act as object actions. The 'father' *Amano* 'argument, *wa lina* 'noun persona', and *Anano* 'his son' are labeled ownership cases (K). The ownership argument case is a case that acts as a party those benefits from the results of the action. The verb of the above acts of ownership in a logical structure has three core cases, namely (1) the agent case (A); (2) object (O) cases; and (3) ownership case (K). Of these three cases only two core cases, namely the object (O) case and ownership case (K) which are stated in a guarded manner while the agent case (A) is stated in a defenseless manner. Case agent is lexicalized in case object (O).

### 3.12 Verb Case Arguments for Locative Action

The case for locative core arguments for action verbs is the case for arguments bound semantically to verbs. The localized action verb has at least one core argument and a maximum of two core arguments, namely object and case cases. The object case is a noun that acts as an entity that moves locations and the locative case is a noun that acts as the location of origin or destination of action. The two core cases in the structure of birth clauses are sometimes stated openly or sometimes only one case is stated. The locative case in the following example is stated openly.

- a. *NokalateKandari* + [ L ]  
3T Go Pl Kendari  
'Go to the Kendari'  
L
- b. *NosuliweRaha* + [ L ]  
3T come back Pl Raha  
'Come back to Raha'  
L
- c. *NokalaweBali* + [ L ]  
3T Go Pl Bali  
'Go to the bali'  
L

The verb of the locative action above semantically in a logical structure has two core arguments, namely the agent argument case (A) and the locative argument case (L). The case of the core argument A corresponds to the case of L. The case L in the birth structure is stated in a guarded manner. Muna language besides having locative action verbs which only has one core case of L, also has locative action verbs with the core argument [A – O – L]. The core argument O is a noun that acts as a noun that moved or was intentionally placed at the desired location as in the following example.



- [10] Sudaryanto. 1993. *Metode dan Aneka Teknik Analisis Bahasa*. Yogyakarta: Duta Wacana University Press.
- [11] Mahsun. 2005. *Metode Penelitian Bahasa: Tahapan strategi, metode, dan tekniknya*. Jakarta: Penerbit PT. Rajagrafindo Persada.