

CHAPTER 5: SENTENCES

5.0 Introduction

Longacre defines a sentence as, “a class of syntagmemes of a hierarchical order ranking above such tagmemes as the clause and below such syntagmemes as the paragraph and discourse” (1964:125).

A sentence is made of one or more clauses in Chodri. Sentences can occur in isolation; however, clauses cannot. Sentences in Chodri are divided into two types: non-clausal and clausal. The following diagram summarizes the types of sentences in Chodri.

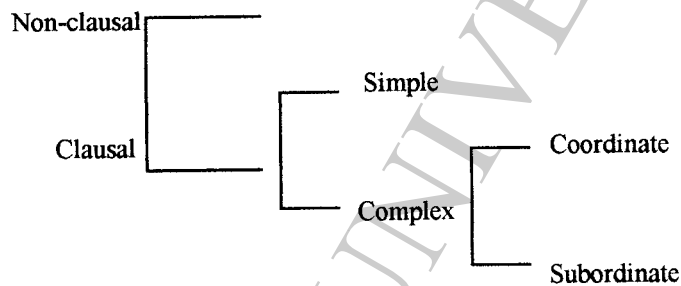


Figure 16 Types of sentences in Chodri.

Clausal sentences in Chodri are divided into two types: simple and complex sentences. Then, the complex sentences are divided into two types: coordinate and subordinate sentences.

In this chapter, sentences in Chodri are explained in some detail. First, the non-clausal and clausal sentences are described with examples. Then, simple and complex clausal sentences are discussed in detail with examples. Next, coordinate and subordinate clausal sentences are described with examples. Finally, interdependent sentences are

described. In each sentence type, base elements, obligatory and optional elements, the minimum required elements and the maximum required elements are detailed. The function of sentences in paragraphs is not described in this research.

5.1 Non-clausal sentences

Non-clausal sentences are used as substitutes for clausal sentences; however, they do not have the same structures as clausal sentences. They tend to be shorter sentences, and they do not have all the obligatory nucleus elements. They are referred to as fragmentary sentences and have the same intonation pattern as clausal sentences.

The four examples given below are non-clausal sentences. The first two examples consist of two elements without a predicate element. This type of non-clausal sentence typically occurs when persons or things are commented as being seen by anyone.

(221) "Elicited Data" (S 130)

nađi bəhũ lətʰ
bride very beautiful

'Bride (is) very beautiful.'

Note: Normally a stative clause has a copula; thus this is a fragment of a Chodri sentence. This type is used when people describe things given and received by anyone.

(222) "Elicited Data" (S 131)

pʰunə bəhũ pʰain
flower very fine

'Flower (is) very fine.'

The answers for the questions given below in examples 223 and 224 are fragments, although they do not have the structure of a clause. This type of non-clausal sentence is used for conveying the information whether the person is gone or not.

(223) “Elicited Data” (S 132)

te gəjje ka həve
they went what yes

‘Did they go ? Yes.’

(224) “Elicited Data” (S 133)

tujē kadza kədə kāj nat
you what did anything not

‘What did you do? Nothing.’

Out of fifteen texts, two texts do not have a predicate element in a sentence at the beginning of the text. Since this type of non-clausal sentence occurs in the beginning of the text, it presents no problems of understanding for the listeners.

(225) “The son of the king” (VI 1)

ek radza
one king

‘(There was) a king.’

(226) “Brahmin” (II 1)

ek baməŋ
one Brahmin

‘(There was) a Brahmin (man).’

In example 227, the sentence does not have the predicate element, which is normally obligatory in the text. This sentence is a fragmentary sentence even though it occurs in a text.

(227) “The king and his son” (IV 27)

həve dʒi mare nəsiḅ mǎ a ti kʰərə
now which my luck in is it true

‘The one which is my luck (is) true.’

5.2 Clausal sentences

Clausal sentences consist of one or more obligatory base elements filled by a clause. They are considered to be complete utterances, and they are divided into two types: simple and complex sentences.

5.2.1 Simple sentences

A simple sentence in Chodri consists of an optional introducer and a single base element with sentence intonation. An independent clause functions as the base element in a simple sentence.

The structure of a simple sentence in Chodri is as follows:

Simple sentence	=	(Introducer) həve	Base Indep.cl
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Figure 17 Structure of simple sentences

Examples 228 and 229 are simple sentences. Each simple sentence has the mandatory independent clause functioning as the Base element.

(228) “Elicited Data” (S 134) (Element: Base: Indep.cl)

dohonje *ʈfok^ha* *sap^h* *kəda*
woman rice clean did

‘The woman cleaned the rice.’

In example 229, the simple sentence consists of an introducer *həve* ‘yes’ and an independent clause *hāj dʒam* ‘I go’. The independent clause functions as the Base element.

(229) “Elicited Data” (S 135) (Elements: Introducer: *həve*, Base: Indep.cl)

həve həj dzam
yes I go

‘Yes I shall go.’

5.2.2 Complex Sentences

Complex sentences in Chodri are composed of more than one clause bound together by sentence intonation. This study classifies them into coordinate sentences and subordinate sentences.

5.2.2.1 Coordinate sentences

Coordinate sentences in Chodri consist of two or more independent clauses with sentence intonation, connected by coordinate conjunctions. The coordinate conjunctions are *ne* ‘and’, *bak^hu* ‘but’ and *ka* ‘or’. A minimum number of clauses (both independent) in a coordinate sentence is two connected by a link. The maximum number of clauses in a coordinate sentence is four in this corpus.

Coordinate sentences contain a minimum of elements in the following order:

Base1, Link, Base2.

An independent clause functions as the Base1 element, and an independent clause functions as the Base2 element connected by conjunctions *ne* ‘and’, *bak^hu* ‘but’ and *ka* ‘or’ in coordinate sentences.

An introductory structure of a coordinate sentence with two bases is as follows:

Co-ordinate Sentence =	Base1	Link	Base2
	Indep.cl	<i>ne</i> <i>bak^hu</i> <i>ka</i>	Indep.cl

Figure 18 Introductory structure of coordinate sentences

Examples 230-233 illustrate the introductory structure of coordinate sentences. In example 230, two independent clauses function as Base1 and Base2 elements, and the conjunction *ne* 'and' is the Link.

- (230) "Seven brothers" (IX 9) (Elements: Base1: Indep.cl, Link: *ne*, Base2: Indep.cl)
kabri avi ne tarpi negi
 myna came and flute took

'Myna came and took away the flute.'

In example 231, an independent clause functions as Base1, and an independent clause functions as Base2. They are connected by the conjunction *ne* 'and'. The independent clauses are marked in bold letters.

- (231) "Phil's wife" (XIII 39) (Elements: Base1: Indep.cl, Link: *ne*, Base2: Indep.cl)
pälje *dotfrä muki dedä ne pälaj kätì a mare p^haha avo*
 she pot kept gave and he says, my brother came

'She put down the pot and told him, "My brother came."'

An example for conjunction *bak^hu* 'but' and an example for conjunction *ka* 'or' are given in the following coordinate sentences. In example 232, the conjunction *bak^hu* 'but' occurs as the link. Independent clauses function as Base1 and as Base2.

- (232) “Pumpkin” (XV 63) (Elements: Base1: Indep.cl, Link: *bak^hu*, Base2: Indep.cl)
*p^həl p^həla radʒa avat **bak^hu** p^hunə hat^h ave bave ni*
 many many king come but flower hand come echo not

‘Many kings come but they do not reach the flower.’

In example 233, the conjunction *ka* ‘or’ occurs as the link. Two independent clauses function as Base1 and as Base2 elements. The conjunction is marked in bold letters.

- (233) “The son of the king” (V 7) (Elements: Base1: Indep.cl, Link: *ka*, Base2: Indep.cl)
*bar kaʃi dem **ka** pənnavi dem*
 send out would or cause-to marry give

‘Shall I send him out or make him get married.’

The maximum number of base elements in a coordinate sentence is four, and the base elements are joined by only links *ne* ‘and’.

The complete structure of the Coordinate sentence as follows:

Co-ordinate sentence =	(Base1	Link) ³	Base4
	Indep.cl	ne	Indep.cl

Figure 19 The complete structure of coordinate sentences

The following coordinate sentence has four bases connected by *ne* ‘and’.

- (234) “Crocodile” (I 14) (Elements: Base1: Indep.cl, Link: *ne*, Base2: Indep.cl, Link: *ne*, Base3: Indep.cl, Link: *ne*, Base4: Indep.cl)
*tune hāj iŋɔ navo **ne** hivajʒo **ne** p^hoʃavjo*
 you I egg brought and hatched and caused to break

ne moṭo kado
and big did

‘I brought an egg (you), caused it to hatch, made you a baby, and raised (the crocodile).’

5.2.2.2 Subordinate sentences

A subordinate sentence in Chodri consists of a dependent clause and an independent clause. Dependent clauses in Chodri use subordinate conjunctions (*tañũ* ‘till’, *te* ‘when’ and *tija* ‘if’) at the final position, the participial suffixes *-ton, -to, -ta* ‘ing’ or non-participial suffixes *-i, -in*, ‘non-participial suffix’ with the verb root in the predicate. (See section 3.4 for the discussion on dependent clauses.) Note that all the subordinate links are not listed here.

The minimum occurrence of clauses is two, and the maximum is four clauses in a subordinate sentence. The dependent clause always occurs in the first base in a subordinate sentence.

A subordinate sentence consists of elements in the following order:

Base1, Base2.

A dependent clause functions as Base1, and an independent clause functions as Base2 in a subordinate sentence.

The structure of a subordinate sentence in Chodri is as follows:

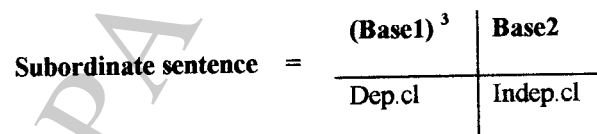


Figure 20 Structure of subordinate sentences

In example 235, a temporal sentence, the dependent clause, which uses the subordinate conjunction *tañũ* ‘until’ in the final position, functions as the Base1 element, and the independent clause functions as the Base2 element. The dependent clause is marked in bold letters in the following example.

- (235) “King and his son” (IV 36) (Elements: Base1: Dep.cl, Base2: Indep.cl)
hatmo d̄arvadzo torvaŋo hoto tañũ radze kəjə
 seventh door break-about was still king said
dem mar.....
 breath beat

‘As (he) was about to break the seventh door, the king told (him) wait.’

In example 236, the subordinate conjunction, which occurs in the final position of the dependent clause, is *te* ‘when’.

- (236) “The story of a king and his son” (IV 45) (Elements: Base1: Dep.cl, Base2: Indep.cl)
uqadi nak^hsə te t̄ferkinə p^hadzə bəhũ p^hain unɡə
 threw away when a kind of spinach very fine sprouted

‘When (some one) threw away it, it sprouted as very beautiful spinach.’

In example 237, a conditional sentence, the conjunction *tija* ‘if’ occurs at the final position of the dependent clause.

- (237) “Elicited Data” (S 136) (Elements: Base1: Dep.cl, Base2: Indep.cl)
tũ kam kəre tija h̄aj tune pəjha apə
 you work do if I you-to money give

‘If you work, I shall give you money.’

The following examples illustrate the suffixes *-i*, *-in*, *-ton*, *-to* and *-ta* with the verb root in the predicate used in dependent clauses in subordinate sentences.

In example 238, the verb root in the predicate is suffixed by *-i* in the dependent clause. Note that *-i* suffix may be present between verbs considered compound verbs and others. (Refer to Thomas, Christopher. forthcoming for a discussion on compound verbs.) When the *-i* inherent suffix occurs with a noun, it is identified as a feminine noun.

- (238) “Elicited Data” (S 137) (Elements: Base1: Dep.cl, Base2: Indep.cl)
mare bapo tarpi bənav-i navo
 my father music instrument made-Nonpsu brought

‘Having made a flute, my father brought (it).’

Example 239 consists of a dependent clause which is suffixed by *-in* with the verb root, and an independent clause in the subordinate sentence.

- (239) “Elicited Data” (S 138) (Elements: Base1: Dep.cl, Base2: Indep.cl)
to nitfak ijē av-in be^ho
 that boy here come-Nonpsu sat

‘Having come here, that boy sat.’

In example 240, a dependent clause which is suffixed by *-ton* with the verb root functions as the Base1 element in the subordinate sentence.

- (240) “Five sons” (X 86) (Elements: Base1: Dep.cl, Base2: Indep.cl)
to te mənno k^horo ne-ton avo
 he ANT-P dead horse take-Psu came

‘Taking the dead horse, he came.’

In example 241, a dependent clause is suffixed by *-to* and functions as the Base1 element in the subordinate sentence.

(241) “Five sons” (X 53) (Elements: Base1: Dep.cl, Base2: Indep.cl)

to pāla nitsakaj ne-to avo
 he that boy take-Psu came

‘Taking that boy, he came.’

In example 242, a dependent clause is suffixed by *-ta* in the subordinate sentence.

(242) “Phil’s wife” (XIII 63) (Elements: Base1: Dep.cl, Base2: Indep.cl)

tijē dza-ta-dz ho vətʃən aptʃə
 there go-Psu-EMP EMP promise gave

‘As soon as he went over there, he gave a promise (to God).’

The maximum number of bases in a subordinate sentence in this corpus text is four.

The first three bases are dependent clauses, and the last base is an independent clause.

Example 243 consists of three dependent clauses and an independent clause in the subordinate sentence. The three dependent clauses in this example are suffixed *-in* ‘ing’ in the predicate. *mədʒa karte hasat* ‘making merry’ is the independent clause in the subordinate sentence.

(243) “Pumpkin” (XV 105) (Elements: Base1: Dep.cl, Base2: Dep.cl, Base3: Dep.cl, Base4: Indep.cl)

bade hari rite tijē rə-in k^ha-in
 all good manner there live-Nonpsu eat-Nonpsu

pi-in mədʒa karte hasat
 drink-Nonpsu merry do are

‘All are living, eating, drinking (and) making merry.’

5.2.3 Interdependent sentences

A interdependent sentence in Chodri consists of two base elements which are both dependent clauses, joined by a link with sentence intonation. Conjunctions which occur in the link are *tija*, *te* and *ne* ‘if’.

The predicates in the two dependent clauses are both suffixed by *ti* 'ing', indicating the number and gender, and agreeing with the subject. Note that *te* and *ne* 'if' have more than one function and meaning in other places.

The structure of the interdependent sentence is as follows:

Interdependent sentence =	Base1	Link	Base2
	Dep.cl	<i>tija</i> 'if' <i>te</i> 'if' <i>ne</i> 'if'	Dep.cl

Figure 21 Structure of interdependent sentences

The two dependent clauses in the following example have the predicate suffixed *-ti* 'ing', and they function as the Base1 and Base2 elements in the interdependent sentence. They are marked in bold letters in example 244. The suffix *-ti* 'ing' indicates singular feminine and agrees with number and gender of the subject *pāli* 'she'.

(244) "Barren couple" (XVII 18) (Elements: Base1: Dep.cl, Link: *tija*, Base3: Dep.cl)

k^ha-ti *tija* ***pāli*** ***māri*** ***dza-ti***
eat-Psu if she died go-Psu

'If she had eaten (poisoned food), she would have died.'

In example 245, the two dependent clauses function as the Base1 and Base2 elements in the interdependent sentence and are suffixed by *ti* 'ing' in the predicate.

(245) "Elicited Data" (139) (Elements: Base1: Dep.cl, Link: *te*, Base3: Dep.cl)

dik^hri ***rā-ti*** *te* ***k^het*** ***dza-ti***
daughter live-Psu if field go-Psu

'If (I) had a daughter, she would have gone to the field.'

In example 246, the two dependent clauses are connected by *ne* ‘if’ and function as the Base1 and Base2 elements. They are suffixed by *-to* ‘ing’ in the predicate. The suffix *-to* ‘ing’ indicates singular masculine and agrees with the subject *pəlo* ‘he’.

(246) “Phil’s wife” (XIII 47) (Elements: Base1: Dep.cl, Link: *ne*, Base3: Dep.cl)

pəlo kuva mā behe-to ne pəɽi dʒa-to mā
 he well in sit-Psu if fell go-Psu in

‘If he had sat, he would have fallen down in the well.’

5.3 Conclusion

This chapter focused on the structure of sentences and the function of clauses in sentences in Chodri. The analysis of sentences discussed here consists of the structure of simple, coordinate and subordinate sentences. Also the function of clauses in simple, coordinate and subordinate has been described. This study does not include the analysis of sentences with non-finite verb *ne* ‘to’ and *ne haru* ‘in order to’. Sentences which have dependent clauses with reduplicated verbs are also not discussed in this study. *ne*, *te*, *puṭ^{hi}*, *eṭle* and *ka* have more than one meaning and function. Further research is needed on dependent clauses in sentences, and additional functions of *ne*, *te*, *puṭ^{hi}*, *eṭle* and *ka*.