

Information structure in Kadorih

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Abstract

The aim of this presentation is to look into the information structure of Kadorih, an Austronesian language which belongs to the Barito language group. The analysis, focused on formal and communicative aspects of information structure, will be conducted within the theoretical frameworks proposed by Chafe (1976), Prince (1981), Lambrecht (1994) and others. The empirical data has been obtained from native speakers' natural speech, such as recorded folklore tales, narratives, and interviews. In particular, the following four formal aspects will be analyzed from the viewpoint of linguistic and extralinguistic context, pragmatic assertion, and mental states of interlocutors: (i) prosodic properties of sentences, (ii) entity-introducing, event-reporting, and topic-comment constructions, (iii) zero, pronominal, and lexical coding of referents, (iv) topical and focal constructions.

Chafe, Wallace L. 1976. Givenness, contrastiveness, definiteness, subjects, topics and point of view. In *Subject and Topic*, ed. by Charles N. Li, chapter 2, 25–55. New York: Academic Press.

Lambrecht, Kund. 1994. *Information Structure and Sentence Form: Topic, Focus, and the Mental Representations of Discourse Referents*, volume 71 of *Cambridge Studies in Linguistics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Prince, Ellen. 1981. Toward a taxonomy of given–new information. In *Radical Pragmatics*, ed. by Peter Cole, 223–255. New York: Academic Press.