



# Categorical Relationships in Noun Phrases Forming Elements in Mongondow Language

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**Abstract.** This study aims to describe the nominal phrase structure of the Mongondow language in terms of the relationship category of its elements and to describe the structure of the nominal phrase of the Mongondow language in terms of the semantic relationship. This study uses a qualitative method. The data sources of this study were native speakers of the Mongondow language, totaling 5 people. Data collection techniques used are observation, interviews, and recordings. The instruments used were observation sheets, interview questions, and a recording device. Data analysis was carried out descriptively starting from data simplification, data presentation, verification, and conclusion. From the results of the study, it can be concluded that the nominal phrases of the Mongondow language are classified into: 1) nominal phrases with nominal delimiters consisting of, 2) nominal phrases with adjective descriptors, 3) nominal phrases with verb delimiters, 4) nominal phrases with numeral descriptors, 5) nominal phrases with adverbial delimiters, 6) nominal phrases with postpositional phrases, 7) coordinating phrases, 8) attributive nominal phrases, and 10) appositive nominal phrases. Mongondow language nominal phrases have the following meanings: 1) the meaning of addition, 2) the meaning of selection, 3) the meaning of similarity, 4) the explanatory meaning, 5) the limiting meaning, 6) the meaning of the pointer, 7) the meaning of the number, and 8) the meaning of designation.

**Keywords:** Structure · Nominal Phrases · Mongondow

## 1 Introduction

In essence, language functions as a communication tool. A person can convey what he thinks and feels to others through language. With language, a person can also receive the information he needs from other people. A communication is said to be successful if the information conveyed by the speaker can be well received and understood by the listener.

Regional languages in our archipelago are one of Indonesia's cultural wealth that can support the development of the Indonesian language. In addition, regional languages can also enrich Indonesian, especially in the field of vocabulary.

The importance of regional languages, both as a means of communication between fellow members of the local community, as well as for the sake of their maintenance

and existence, the Indonesian government continues to pay attention to and give their position and rights to life, as stated in the explanation of the 1945 Constitution Chapter XV Article 36, "that in regions- an area that has its own language, which is well cared for by its people (for example, Javanese, Sundanese, Madurese and so on) that language will be respected and maintained by the State." Thus, regional languages need to be continuously fostered and preserved in the context of developing and enriching the Indonesian language treasury in the national cultural treasures as one of the identities of the nation's personality.

Starting from the explanation above, research on regional languages in Indonesia can attract the attention of linguists and language enthusiasts, for the sake of fostering and preserving them, both in terms of language and literature.

It is undeniable that many regional languages are nearing extinction, so the government continues to try to carry out research on regional languages that are still functioning, even regional languages that are almost or have become extinct but can still be used in acts of communication between members of the community. The regional language, as stated in the political formulation of the National Language, namely as: (1) a symbol of regional pride, (2) a symbol of regional identity, (3) a connecting tool in the family and regional community.

In the province of North Sulawesi various regional languages. One of the regional languages that is still maintained by its speakers is the Mongondow language. In connection with the function of the regional language as a supporter of the national language, it is necessary to foster and preserve the Mongondow language which is one of the regional languages in Indonesia.

Mongondow language is the language used by speakers in the Bolaang Mongondow district. This language can be said to be close to extinction, because the current Mongondow language, especially among the next generation (youth, adolescents and children), is rarely used in daily communication in Bolaang Mongondow. The tendency of groups of children and adolescents/youth is to use Manado Malay more. This phenomenon is emphasized by Ratu, Meruntu, and Palar that the use of Manado Malay has influenced other regional languages in North Sulawesi, so that in almost all areas of North Sulawesi, namely Minahasa, Bolaang Mongondow, and Sanghie and Talaud, this language has penetrated to remote villages, so that it becomes the lingua franca of young people [1].

It is feared that the strong influence of the Manado Malay language will cause the Mongondow language to become completely extinct. For this reason, the author as a lover and native speaker of the Mongondow language feels the need to research it in order to foster and preserve it. This is in line with the statement by Kumayas that it is necessary to conduct research on regional languages in North Sulawesi so that they do not become extinct [2].

The Mongondow language has its own language structure, both phonologically, morphologically, syntactically, and semantically. One of the problems that attracts the attention of researchers is the problem related to the structure of phrases, especially the structure of nominal phrases.

Phrases have several categories or classes of phrases, one of which is nominal phrases. Nominal phrases are classified as endocentric phrases that have a noun or noun class central element, therefore nominal phrases are phrases that have the same distribution as nouns because the central element is categorized as nouns. In other words, a nominal phrase is a grammatical unit derived from a noun. The relationship of nominal phrases includes: 1) Nominal phrases with noun delimiters are phrases that consist of nouns as core elements with noun delimiters (attributes). 1) A nominal phrase with a noun delimiter that states belonging. This phrase consists of a core element in the form of a nominal with a nominal delimiter that states belonging [3]. According to Wijaya, et. al, a noun phrase is a phrase consisting of a noun or noun (as the center) and other elements in the form of numerals, verbs, adjectives, demonstratives, pronouns, prepositions, and so on [4].

Nominal phrases in the Mongondow language need to be studied by description. This research is expected to provide input as a lesson material for the teaching of regional languages and literature in schools that teach the Mongondow language. In addition, it can provide input in the preparation of regional language teaching curriculum materials in the Bolaang Mongondow Regency area, as well as written documentation in the Bolaang Mongondow cultural archive.

## **2 Research Method**

This study uses a qualitative method. According to Bogdan and Taylor explain that qualitative research is one of the research procedures that produces descriptive data in the form of speech or writing and the behavior of the people being observed [5]. To obtain data in this study, the use of the conversational engagement technique was used. This technique means that the researcher conducts wiretapping by participating while listening, participating in conversations, and listening to conversations. This is in line with the opinion of Damopolii who argues that in research, the data are collected, and the procedure of the collecting is then using approaching technique through the theory as an analysis tool and revealing the facts of the data. In addition, the note-taking technique is also used, an advanced technique used when applying the listening method. Descriptive research data analysis [6].

The data sources in this study were native speakers of the Mongondow language, totaling 5 people spread across various villages in Bolaang Mongondow Induk Regency, East Passi District. This research will be conducted in Bolaang Mongondow Regency.

## **3 Results and Discussion**

### **3.1 Results**

From the results of the data analysis, it turns out that the nominal phrase structure of the Mongondow language has several categorical and semantic grammatical relationships from the elements that make up nominal phrases.

### 3.1.1 Categorical Relationships in the Elements that Form Nominal Phrases in Mongondow Language

Categorically, there is a relationship between nouns as core or central elements with nouns, adjectives, verbs, numerals, adverbs, professional phrases and demonstrative pronouns, either as attributive, appositive or coordinating elements [7].

#### Attributive Nominal Phrases

##### 1. Nominal Phrases with noun attributes (N + N)

*Lilingkop baloy* the door of the house.  
*tosilad uatoy* iron knife.  
*kiama'ku* my mother.

Analysis:

The pattern above is the same as in Indonesian where the noun phrase above is a combination of nouns *lilingkop*, *tosilad*, *kiama* and the nouns *baloy*, *uatoy*, and *ku/my*.

##### 2. Nominal Phrases with adjective attributes (N + Adj)

*buloy momuda* young wife.

Analysis:

The example above is a noun phrase that comes from a combination of the noun *buloy* and the adjective *momuda*.

##### 3. Noun Phrases with adjective attribute (N + V)

*pangkoy molantut* tall tree.

Analysis:

Mongondow nominal phrases have the same characteristics as Indonesian nominal phrases. In addition to nominal phrases that are attributive, there are also nominal phrases that are coordinating and appositive.

The example above is a noun phrase that comes from a combination of the noun *pangkoy* and the verb *molantut*.

##### a. Nominal Phrases that are coordinating.

Coordinative nominal phrases of groups of nouns that have equal standing. Consisting of two or more central elements, all are nominal or nominal phrases. The following is an example of a coordinating nominal phrase:

*apah amah* mother father.

Analysis:

The example above is a noun phrase that comes from a combination of the noun *apah* and the noun *amah* where the position and position of both are equal, namely as father and mother who are equal in position in the family.

b. Frasa Nominal yang bersifat apositif.

Appositive nominal phrases consist of nominal central elements or nominal phrases as well and appositive explanations, namely additional explanations.

### 3.1.2 The Semantical Relationship Between the Elements of the Nominal Phrases of the Bolaang Mongondow Language

In terms of semantics, the relationship between the elements forming nominal phrases in the Mongondow language can be distinguished into several meaningful relationships as described below:

a) Addition relationship

Addition relationships are indicated by the conjunction 'bo' between the two elements.

For example:

*sapatu bo solop* 'shoes and sandals'.

*Leper bo porok* 'spoon and fork'.

Analysis:

An example of an addition relationship is a noun phrase formed by adding the conjunction 'bo' between the noun *sapatu*, *leper* and the noun *solap*, *porok*. The combination of *sapatu* and *solap* is a unified form in a noun phrase whose form is always in pairs like the example above.

b) Preferences relationship

The relationship is marked with a 'bo' between the two elements.

For example:

*Ka'anon bo kuyat* 'rice or vegetables'.

*Siol bo lima* 'feet or hands'.

Analysis:

Preference relation is a noun phrase formed by adding the conjunction 'bo' between the noun *Ka'anon*, *Siol* and the noun *bo kuyat*, *lima*. The combination of *Ka'anon* and *bo kuyat* is a form of choice in noun phrases whose forms are written in pairs with the aim that the hearer chooses one of the two nouns that are aligned.

c) Similarity relationship

This relationship is indicated by 'in' which is placed next to the noun as its central element.

For example:

*Jokowi in Presiden RI* 'Jokowi is the President of the Republic of Indonesia'

Analysis:

The similarity relationship is a noun phrase formed by adding the conjunction 'in' between the noun Jokowi and the noun president of the Republic of Indonesia. The merging of Jokowi and the President of the Republic of Indonesia is a form of similarity in noun phrases whose forms are written in pairs to give the same thing to the two nouns or the two meanings of the nouns are considered the same.

d. Explanatory relationship.

This relationship of meaning is indicated by placing the word 'totok' next to the noun as its central element.

For example:

*Tas totok mobagu* 'new bag'.

Analysis:

The explanatory relationship above is a noun phrase formed by adding the conjunction 'totok' between the noun Tas and the noun mobagu. The merging of bags and mobagu is a form of explanatory or additional explanation in a noun phrase whose form is written in pairs with the aim of clarifying the condition of the goods, namely the bag where the condition is new, not old.

e. Divider relationship.

This relationship of meaning is impossible to put the word 'bo'

*lamari uatoi* 'safe/strongbox'.

*baloi andi* 'andi's house'.

*kukis coklat* 'chocolate cake'.

Analysis:

The relationship discussed above is a noun phrase that is formed without the addition of the conjunction 'bo' between the nouns lamari, baloi, and kukis and the nouns uatoi, andi and coklat. An example of combining lamari and uatoi is a form of divider in a noun phrase whose form is written in pairs and has an explanatory meaning in the word after it and is not accompanied by the addition of the word 'bo' in between.

f. Indicating/Pointer relationship.

This meaning relationship is marked by the meaning of 'ni'.

*Na'a in buuk* 'This book.

*Balao in' onggot tatua* 'the old house'.

Analysis:

Indicating/pointer relation is a noun phrase formed by adding the conjunction 'ni' between the noun Na'a, and the noun bad. An example of combining the words Na'a and buuk is a form of pointer in a noun phrase whose form is written in pairs with the aim of pointing or giving instructions on the location of the object that is the reference.

g. Quantity Relationship.

*Pitu siswa* 'tujuh orang siswa'.  
*tolu bungai due* 'tiga buah durian'

Analysis:

Relationship quantity is a noun phrase formed from the noun Pitu, tolu bungai and the word student, due. An example of combining Pitu and siswa is a form of number in a noun phrase whose form is written in pairs with the aim of providing information on the number or how many objects are referred to.

h. Addressee Relationship.

*ki presiden* 'Mr president'.  
*ki gubernur* 'Mr. Governor'.

Analysis:

The relation of addressee is a noun phrase formed from the noun Ki, and the noun president, governor. An example of combining words Ki and president is a form of mentioning a position or position in a noun phrase whose form is written in pairs with the aim of calling or mentioning people with certain positions.

## 3.2 Discussion

### 3.2.1 The Grammatical Relationship of the Elements of Nominal Phrases in Mongondow

The results showed that nominal phrases in the Mongondow language also have their own grammatical relationship which consists of two or more elements in one clause. This finding is reinforced by the opinion of Mandang that phrases usually consist of two or more words and occupy syntactic functions, if they are at the clause level [8]. The research findings show that the relationship between nominal phrases has the following order: First, nominal phrases with noun delimiters are phrases that consist of nouns as core elements, in which there are: a) nominal phrases with noun delimiters that indicate belonging, b) nominal phrases with noun delimiters which states apart, c) a nominal phrase with a nominal delimiter which states that it is made of or original material, (d)

this phrase consists of a core element in the form of a noun with a nominal delimiter which states that it is made of or the original material of the core element of the phrase.

Second, nominal phrases with adjective delimiters. This nominal phrase with an adjective delimiter is a phrase that consists of a nominal as the core element with an adjective delimiter. Third, nominal phrases with verb delimiters. This phrase consists of a core element in the form of a nominal with a verb as a delimiter. Fourth, nominal phrases with numeral delimiters. A nominal phrase with a numeral delimiter is a phrase that consists of this element in the form of a nominal with a numeral as a delimiter. Fifth, nominal phrases with adverbial delimiters. This phrase consists of a core element in the form of a nominal with an adverbial as a delimiter. Nominal phrases with postpositional phrase delimiters.

### 3.2.2 Semantic Relationship Between Elements of Nominal Phrases in Mongondow

Based on the results of the study, it shows that the semantic relationship of the elements of the Bolaang Mongondow language phrase shows similarities to Indonesian. Ramlan states that semantically the elements of a phrase form a unified meaning that expresses various intentions[9]. It was found that nominal phrases in the Mongondow language have meanings based on the relationship of phrases that arise from the meeting of elements in a phrase. From the results of the analysis, it was found that the meaning of the nominal phrase in the Bolaang Mongondow language includes: 1) the meaning of tethering is indicated by the possibility of placing the connecting word *bo 'and'*, between the two elements, 2) the meaning of selection, marked with *or*, 3) the meaning of similarity, marked by *is*, 4) Explanatory meaning, marked by placing the word *which*, 5) limiting meaning, it is impossible to put the word *which and or*, 6) indicating meaning, marked by *this, that*, 7) meaning of number, and 8) meaning of designation.

## 4 Conclusion

From the results of the study, it can be concluded that the nominal phrases of the Mongondow language are classified into: 1) nominal phrases with nominal delimiters consisting of, 2) nominal phrases with adjective descriptors, 3) nominal phrases with verb delimiters, 4) nominal phrases with numeral descriptors, 5) nominal phrases with adverbial delimiters, 6) nominal phrases with postpositional phrases, 7) coordinating phrases, 8) attributive nominal phrases, and 10) appositive nominal phrases. Mongondow language nominal phrases have the following meanings: 1) additional meaning, 2) preferences meaning, 3) similarity meaning, 4) explanatory meaning, 5) divider meaning, 6) indicating meaning, 7) number meaning, and 8) designation/adreese meaning.

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