

Control in Dumi

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Dumi (dus), Sino-Tibetan
also known as *Dumi Bo'o*, *Dumi Bro*, *Ro'do Bo*, *Lsi Rai*, *Sotmali*
spoken in *Nepal* (Asia)

1 Grammar Profile

1.1 Morpho-Syntax

1.1.1 Head position

head-final: postpositions (p.xiv/i), GEN-N (p.67;34/i), REL-N (p.63;11)

1.1.2 Case system

ERG/ABS (p.62;3.2./i) -ABS unmarked (p. 64;3.2.2/i)

1.1.3 Null Arguments

null subject (p.38;9/i)

1.2 Matrix Clause

1.2.1 Basic word order

SOV (p.61;1/i)

1.2.2 Alternate word orders

seems to be the same as nominal ordering (p.81;i)

1.3 Embedded Clause

1.3.1 Verbal agreement

seem to be same a matrix, both EC and MC subject can be ERG (p.63;11/i)

1.3.2 Possible morphological categories of the embedded clause

gerunds (p.245/i) participles (p.272/i) nominalization (p.190/i)

2 Control Profile

2.1 forward subject control into infinitival complement

2.1.1 Example structure

- (1) Intsi-?apit-nitsi-k-t-a
1p-ERGbring-INFmust-1p-NPT-e
'We must bring it.'
(p.176; 173/i)
- (2) AN-a su:lepEn-ni kuk-t-E
1s-ERGthreadspin-INF know.how-NPT-1s
'I can spin thread.'
(p. 269; 142/i)
- (3) AN-atomkhEiENekir-nI tsa:p-t-E-nE
1s-ERG thisallEMPHcarry-INFbe.able-NPT-1s-NEG
'I can't carry all this!'
(p. 269; 143/i)
- (4) AN-a min-ni tsa:p-t-E
1s-ERG do-INF can-NPT-1s
'I can do it.'
(p.269; 145/i)
- (5) An-atsEp-nisyen-nikhEIE NE a-kuk-t-a
you-ERGwrite-INFdiscern-INFeverything EMPH MS-know.how-NPT-s23
'You know how to write and how to look at things and everything.'
(p.269; 148/i)

2.1.2 Predicates participating in the construction

modal verb: tsi 'must' tsa:p 'can' kuk 'know how'

2.2 backward subject control into supine complement

2.2.1 Example structure

- (6) AN dza: dzi-kiyi khus-t-E
1s rice eat-SUP go-NPT-1s
'I'm going off to eat./I'm going away in order to eat.'
(p.199; 102/i)

2.2.2 Predicates participating in the construction

directional verb: go (off) 'khus'

2.3 backward subject control into infinitival complement

2.3.1 Example structure

- (7) Na:m lin-niNyi:r-a
sungo.under-INFfinish-1p-e
'The sun has finished going under.'
(p. 214; 177/i)

- (8) AN kaʔo:khot-ni o:-sa:go:-IEkElo:-t-E
1s rivergo-INF my-mind-fromfeel.like-NPT-1s
'I feel like going [down] to the river.'
(p. 235; 44;46/i)

2.3.2 Predicates participating in the construction

aspectual verb: finish 'Nyi:r'

desiderative verb: feel like 'lo:'

References

Driem, George van. (1993) A Grammar of Dumi. Mouton de Gruyter: Berlin.

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