CHAPTER VI
TYPES OF SENTENCES IN MARAM

6.0. Introduction:

This chapter attempts to analyse different types of sentences in Maram. The analysis of Maram sentences is based on sentence patterns and on functions. The classification of sentence patterns includes simple, compound and complex types. Based on functions, sentences in Maram can be classified into declarative, interrogative, imperative and exclamatory. Negative sentences are also presented in this chapter.

6.1. Types of Sentences:

Lockwood (2002) mentions two types of traditional classification of sentences.

a) A four-way traditional classification includes simple sentence, complex sentence, compound sentence and compound-complex sentence. This type of classification is based on the sentence structures.

b) Another type of classification involves the differences between declarative, interrogative and imperative. This is based on their functions.

Based on the traditional classification of sentences mentioned by Lockwood (2002), the analysis of the types of sentences in Maram can be divided into two parts:

a) according to their structure and

b) according to their function.

6.1.1. Sentences Based on Their Structure:

Based on the structure, sentences can be classified into simple, compound and complex types.

6.1.1.1 Simple Sentences:

Simple sentence in Maram has only one main clause. This can be illustrated with the following examples:

172. u kʰraw u sa sɔʔpuɲ
    3MSg khraw 3MSg eat mango
    ‘Khraw eats Mango’.

173. ka thiaʔ
    3FSg sleep
    ‘She sleeps’.
174. ki laʔ lar
3Pl Pst arrive
‘They had arrived’.

The above sentences 172, 173 and 174 consist of only one main clause. The sentences have one subject and one predicate.

6.1.1.2. Compound Sentence:

In Maram, compound sentences are formed by joining the independent clauses together by coordinators such as ‘bad’, ‘la’, ‘nore’, ‘a’ and ‘tawa’.

175. u kyrwat u kʰləŋ bad u kit
3MSg kyrwat 3MSg strong and 3MSg carry
jaw maw baʔ haʔ cjɛw
ACC stone big LOC market
‘Kyrwat is strong and he carries the big stone to the market’.

176. ηa laʔ cʰapti tawa ηa cʰɛm mareʔ - re
1Sg Pst scare but 1Sg Neg-Pst run Neg
‘I was scared but I did not run’.

177. pʰi laʔ bun tʰɔʔ cʰi let nore
2Sg/Pl can to write INST pencil or

pʰi laʔ bun tʰɔʔ cʰi kʰulɔm
2Sg/Pl can to write INST pen
‘You can write with a pencil or you can write with a pen’.

178. ka kwaʔ re bun pule la ka kwah-re
3FSg want Neg to read yet 3FSg want -Neg

bun ɲic - re ia kme
to obey Neg ACC mother
‘She did not want to study yet she did not want to disobey (her) mother’.
There are other compound sentences in Maram which do not use conjunctive markers but clauses are juxtaposed one after another in a co-ordinate relation. This can be shown in the examples below:

180. ci sjɛn jaj kʰɔn ci sjɛn jaj ksu
   1Pl love ACC child 1Pl love ACC grandchild
   ‘We love (our) children we love (our) grandchildren’.

181. ƞa Ɛn haʔ cuŋ ƞa sda pliaŋ
   1Sg BE LOC house 1Sg wash plates
   ‘I am at home, I wash dishes’.

6.1.1.3 Complex Sentences:

In Maram, a complex sentence consists of an independent clause and one or more dependent or subordinate clauses. This can be shown in the following sentences:

182. u kam bu u de u traj cuŋ
   3MSg claim COMP 3MSg BE 3MSg owner house
   ‘He claims that he is the house owner’.

183a. ka ọŋ bu ka kan re aja u ban u kwaʔ
   3FSg say COMP 3FSg know Neg QMkr 3MSg ban 3MSg want
   ‘She said that she does not know what Ban wants’.

183b. ka ọŋ bu ka kan re u ban u kwaʔ aja
   3FSg say COMP 3FSg know Neg 3MSg ban 3MSg want QMkr
   ‘She said that she does not know what Ban wants’.

Sentence 182 consists of only one subordinate clause- [bu de u traj cuŋ] whereas sentences 183a and 183b consists of two clauses: [bu ka kan re] and [u ban u kwaʔ aja]/[aja u kwaʔ u ban]. It is to be noted that in sentence 183a, ‘aja’, a
question marker, occurs in the initial position of the direct question subordinate clause. However, in sentence 183b, it occurs in the final position.

Maram exhibits subordinate clauses which can either precede or follow the main clause. This can be illustrated with the following examples:

184a.  
\[ u \quad da \quad e \quad  \etaa-n \quad di? \]
\[ 3\text{MSg if come} \quad \text{ISg-Fut go} \]
‘If he comes, I will go.’

184b.  
\[  \etaa-n \quad di? \quad u \quad da \quad e \]
\[ \text{ISg-Fut go} \quad 3\text{MSg if come} \]
‘I will go, if he comes.’

185a.  
\[ ka \quad da \quad e \quad ha-p\text{\textordmasculine}r \quad bu \quad \etaa \quad En \quad ha? \quad cu\text{\textordmasculine}} \]
\[ 3\text{FSg if come at-time} \quad \text{COMP} \quad \text{ISg BE LOC home} \]
\[ \etaa \quad n \quad ai \quad c^b\text{a} \]
\[ \text{ISg-Fut give tea} \]
‘If she comes when I am at home, I will give tea’

185b.  
\[ \etaa-n \quad ai \quad c^b\text{a} \quad ka \quad da \quad e \quad ha-p\text{\textordmasculine}r \quad bu \]
\[ \text{ISg-Fut give tea} \quad 3\text{FSg if come at-time} \quad \text{COMP} \]
\[ \etaa \quad En \quad ha? \quad cu\text{\textordmasculine}} \]
\[ \text{ISg BE LOC home} \]
‘I will give tea if she comes when I am at home’.

The subordinate clause precedes the main clause in sentences 184a and 185a whereas it follows the main clause in sentences 184b and 185b. It is to be mentioned here that sentences 185a and 185b have two subordinate clauses: [ka da e] and [ha-p\text{\textordmasculine}r bu ya En ha? cu\text{\textordmasculine}}].

Subordinate clauses in Maram include the following types:

i) Complement clause: In Maram, a complement clause or embedded clause is introduced by a complementizer ‘bu’. A complementizer is left-peripheral, that is,
‘bu’ precedes the subordinate clause. The occurrences of subordinate clauses can be shown in the following examples:

186. ḋa  bəm  ja  dɔʔ  bu  cʰEt  pʰwi  ənnin
   1Sg  eat  ACC  meat  COMP  cook  2EMPH  yesterday
   ‘I ate the meat that you cook yesterday’.

187. ci  ṅic  bu  u  kānsŋɛj
   2Pl  believe  COMP  3MSg  good
   ‘We believe that he is good’.

188. kʰɛ  bu  pʰi  ewan  re
   3Pl  lie  COMP  2Sg/Pl  come  Neg
   ‘They lie that you are not coming’.

189. u  kam  bu  u  laʔ  cɔʔ  cʰibɔn  ä  spaʔ
   3MSg  claim  COMP  3MSg  Pst  get  much  3Fsg  wealth
   ‘He claims that he has got so much wealth’.

As seen in examples 186, 187, 188 and 189, the complement clause, in Maram, can only follow the main clause.

ii) Relative clause: The relative clause, in Maram, follows the head noun which they modify, that is, the relative clause is postnominal. Relative clauses are formed by the relative pronoun ‘mən’ or ‘bu’. The grammatical relation of the head noun in the relative clause is signalled by the choice of using these relative pronouns: ‘mən or bu’ for subject as in 190, 191 and 192; and only pronoun ‘bu’ for direct object as in 193 and 194. Following sentences show the occurrences of relative clauses:

190. u  bru  mən/bu  jaʔkren  jaʔ  pʰi
   3MSg  person  REL  talk  ACC  2Sg/Pl
   ‘The person who talks to you’.

191. u  bru  u  mən/bu  jaʔrap  jaʔ  pʰi
   3MSg  person  3MSg  REL  help  ACC  2Sg/Pl
   ‘The man who saves your life’.
192. ka–taw ä bru  mən/bu ceŋ ä de ä mej ņa
3FSg-DEM 3FSg person REL  stand 3FSg BE 3FSg mother 1Sg
‘That woman who is standing is my mother’.

193. ka bru ka bu phi hikai
3FSg person 3FSg REL 2Pl  teach
‘The woman whom you taught.’

194. u bru u bu ņa sjən
3MSg person 3MSg REL 1Sg  love
‘A Person whom I loved’
As shown in examples 190,191, 192, 193 and 194, the head noun appears outside the relative clause, thus, Maram exhibits external relative clause.

iii) **Adverbial clauses:** Adverbial clauses are clauses that modify the verbs. Adverbial clauses indicate concepts such as time, place, condition, cause, and purpose. The occurrences of adverbial clauses are illustrated in the following examples:

**Time clauses**

195. ha-par bu ka cap ka la? Ɛnnoʔ ja spaʔ  ha
at - time PAR 3FSg die 3FSg PST leave ACC wealth LOC

kʰɔŋksu
grandchild
‘When she died, she left her wealth to her grand-daughter’.

**Place clauses**

196. buʔ jaj jaŋ hɔŋŋu ɦɔŋŋu bu ɛn jaka
keep ACC.Pl thing wherever PAR BE place
‘Keep your clothes wherever there is place’.
Cause clauses
197. ka maɾeqʔ stet habu ka cʰapti
3FSg run fast because 3FSg scare
‘She runs fast because she is scare’.

Purpose clauses
198. ci tre cʰitom kʰnaŋ bu ci- n lac
2Pl work hard so PAR 2Pl-Fut pass
‘We work hard so that we will pass’.

Result clauses
199. ka laʔ kəndit εʔ bu ka kɾɛn kan-rat
3FSg Pst shock so PAr 3FSg talk know Neg
‘She was so shock that she could not speak’.

Conditional clauses
200. u da e n-a-n diʔ ciəw
3MSg if come ISg-Fut go market
‘If he comes, I will go to market.’

6.1.1.4 Compound-complex sentence:

Compound-complex sentence consists of compound sentences that are subordinate to another clause. Following are the examples of compound-complex sentences in Maram:

201. u njeć bu ka bani laʔ ka diʔ haʔ cjɛw
3MSg believe COMP 3FSg bani Pst 3FSg go LOC market

bat ka-n ewan jla haʔ cuŋ
and 3FSg-Fut come early LOC home
‘He believes that Bani went to market and she will come home early’.

202. u-taw bru bu/mən sam nɛpbaʔ ṭu de re
3MSg-DEM person REL distribute blanket 3MSg BE Neg
NOMZ-rich but 3MSg want INF help ACC.Pl NOMZ-poor
‘That person who distribute blankets is not a rich person but he wants to help
the poor people’

6.1.2. Sentences Based on Their Function:

Based on functions, sentences in Maram can be classified into declarative,
interrogative, imperative and exclamatory sentences.

6.1.2.1. Declarative Sentence:

Declarative sentences, in Maram, are sentences in which the subject is present
and generally followed by the predicate. In Maram, declarative sentences form a
statement, i.e. both affirmative statement and negative statement. This can be shown
in the following sentences:
203. ka phiła ka diʔ haʔ cjɛw
3FSg Phila 3FSg go LOC market
‘Phila goes to market’.

204. ka de ka kʰɔn ŋa
3FSg is 3FSg child 1Sg
‘She is my daughter’.

205. u Ban u diʔ re haʔ skur
3MSg Ban 3MSg go Neg LOC school
‘Ban is not going to school’.

6.1.2.2. Interrogative Sentence:

Interrogative sentences are sentences that form a question. Maram exhibits the
following types of Interrogative sentences:

(a) Wh-question Sentence:

Wh-question sentence is a sentence that forms a question by using question
words. In Maram, question words or Wh-questions can occur either in the initial or in
the final position of the sentence. Both these forms are unmarked. Following are the
examples of different questions words in Maram:
aja ‘what’
haʔno ‘where’
lƐʔno ‘how’
lano ‘when’
liʔja ‘why’
katno ‘how much’
bia ‘who’

The following are the examples of Wh-question sentences:

206a. pʰi saʔ haʔnoʔ
2Sg/Pl stay where
‘Where (do) you stay?’

206b. haʔno pʰi saʔ
Where 2Sg/Pl stay
‘Where (do) you stay?’

207a. ä aia ä - ne
3FSg what 3FSg - DEM
‘What is this?’

207b. ä - ne ä aia
3FSg-DEM 3FSg What
‘What is this?’

208a. katnɔ ü - ne
how much 3MSg-DEM
‘How much (is) this?’

208b. ü - ne katnɔ
3MSg-DEM how much
‘How much (is) this?’
209a. ji bia ji-ne 3Pl who 3Pl-DEM
   ‘Who are these?’

209b. ji-ne ji bia 3Pl-DEM 3Pl who
   ‘Who are these?’

Sentences 206a, 207a, 208a and 209a showed occurrence of question words at
the initial position whereas in sentences 206b, 207b, 208b and 209b, the questions
words occurs in the final position.

(b) Yes/no Question Sentence:
   In Maram, yes/no question sentence do not take a question marker. They are
   expressed by the use of intonation. The end of the sentence usually carries the rising
   pitch. Examples of yes/no question sentences are given below:

210. phi laʔ thoʔ laʔ 2Sg/Pl Pst write finish
   ‘Have you finish writing?’

211. ka-n diʔ haʔ cjƐw 3FSg -Fut go LOC market
   ‘Will she go market?’

   In sentences 210 and 211 ‘laʔ’ and ‘cjƐw’ carry the rising intonation
   respectively.

(c) Tag Question Sentence:
   Tag-question markers in Maram occur post-verbally. The following are the
   examples of tag-question sentences:

212. pʰi laʔ cʰim ia kot dere 2 Pst take ACC book Tag-Q.Mkr
   ‘You have taken the book, right?’
In sentences 212 and 213, ‘dere’ functions as a tag-question marker in Maram.

6.1.2.3. Imperative Sentences:

Imperative sentences in Maram normally have no overt grammatical subject but the verb is the base form. In Maram, imperative sentence in Maram can be classified as under:

(a) Command: Examples of imperative sentences which express a command are as follows:

214. diʔ haʔ twar
    go LOC outside
    ‘Go outside’.

215. e haʔne
    come here
    ‘Come here’.

It is to be noted that there is no grammatical marker which expresses a command. However, in Maram, a command is expressed by intonation.

(b) Request: In Maram, ‘lεm’ expresses a request. Examples of imperative sentences which express a request are shown as under:

216. iaʔtʰuŋ lεm jaʔ ɳa
    tell please ACC ISg
    ‘Please tell me’.

217. ai lεm ʂɔʔ jaw ɳaʔluŋ
    give please fruit Acc child
    ‘Please give fruit for the baby’.
It is to be noted that in Maram, ‘lem’ is a request marker. However, the young generation also use ‘spewbʰa’ ‘please’ which is borrowed from standard Khasi ‘spewbʰa’. This can be shown in the following sentences:

218. spewbʰa iaʔtʰɔʔ lem jaʔ ŋa
   please tell please ACC ISg.
   ‘Please tell me’

219. spewbʰa iaʔrap lem jaw ban
   Please help please ACC ban
   ‘Please help Ban’

In sentences 218 and 219, it is noted that two forms ‘lem’ and ‘spewbʰa’ expressing request are used. The use of both the forms is acceptable in present Maram speech. It is used commonly by the younger generation.

6.1.2.4. Exclamatory Sentences:

In Maram, exclamatory sentences are formed by using different exclamatory words. Examples of exclamatory sentences in Maram are as follows:

220. ani u laʔ ɟɔt
    EXCL 3MSg Pst ruin
    ‘Alas! He is ruined’

221. ade ɟɔŋɟitinnad ne ɟaka
    ‘EXCL nice DEM place
    ‘Ha! This is a nice place’

222. ak sma – utuŋ
    EXCL smell filthy
    ‘Pooh! Dirty smell’

‘ani’, ‘ade’ and ‘ak’ shown in 220, 221 and 222 are some of the exclamatory words in Maram.
6.3 Negative Sentence:

The negative sentences in Maram are formed mainly by using the following negative marker ‘re’. It occurs after the verb. The marker ‘re’ occurs in all types of negative sentences. Examples of different negative sentences in Maram are as follows:

223. Ṉa e re katta
    1Sg come Neg now
    ‘I am not coming now’.

224. u diʔ re haʔ skur lamynstep
    3MSg go Neg LOC school tomorrow
    ‘He will not go to school tomorrow’.

225. u eʰem ewan re
    3MSg NegPst come Neg
    ‘He did not come’

226. ka eʰem phəwsnai re
    3FSg NegPst rest Neg
    ‘She did not rest’

227. ka caw e re
    3FSg never come Neg
    ‘She never come’

228. u caw diʔ re saʔmən
    3MSg never go Neg alone
    ‘He never go alone’

229. ki diʔ raṭ
    3Pl go Neg
    ‘They are not going anymore’
230.  u  noŋhikai u-n  hikai rat
3MSg  teacher  3MSg teach Neg
   ‘The teacher will not teach anymore’

231.  ka  cʰεm  dic  dut  rat
3FSg  Neg-Pst  drink  milk  Neg
   ‘She did not drink milk anymore’.

Observation on negative sentences of Maram:

1. In sentences 223 to 228, the negative marker ‘re’ is found to occur after the verb.

2. As mentioned in Section 5.2.2, Maram exhibits double negation. This can be seen in the examples 225 and 226 which show the presence of two negative markers- ‘cʰεm’ and ‘re’. In the present study ‘cʰεm’ is considered as a past tense negative marker because it negates only past tense sentences.

3. In sentences 229, 230 and 231 ‘rat’ is a negative marker. It is interesting to note that ‘rat’ conveys a meaning of ‘not anymore’ or ‘no longer’. Sentence 231 is a past tense sentence, therefore exhibits double negation.