CHAPTER VI

SYNTAX
6.0 In the following it is an attempt to deal with only the syntactic structure of the Malaveda speech in bare outline only. Syntax is the study of the principles and processes by which sentences are constructed in particular languages. A sentence is defined as any form that occurs in absolute position. The various sentence types in this tribal language is classified into three major groups such as simple, complex and compound. There are seven major types of sentence patterns viz. Intransitive, Transitive, Causative, Imperative, Optative, Negative and Interrogative.

6.1 SIMPLE SENTENCE

Simple sentence are those with a single subject and predicate with or without attributes qualifying and modifying the subject noun and predicate verb respectively. Such sentences are minimally specified with a subject noun and a predicate finite verb. With respect to the particular verb which occurs in such sentences the structure would show characteristic differences as in the case of copular sentences which do not obligatorily demand the presence of the copular verb. Consequently the following classification can be done.
6.1.1 Single verb predicate

eg: vantu
    'came'

pooyi
    went'

karancu
    'cried'

6.1.2. Copular types (with optional deletion or copular 'be' verb)

eg: addu maram aanRi
    that tree is

addu maram
    that tree

'That is a tree'

iddu oru kaakka aanRi
    this a crow is

iddu kaakka
    'This is a crow'
6.1.3 Other types

6.1.3.1. With existential 'be' verb

a. absolute existence

eg: tayvam untu

God is

There is God

b. temporal existence

eg: naale katakkalu canta aanRi

tomorrow atkadakkal market is

'There is market at Kadakkal tomorrow'

naale pallikkutatttilu patittam untu

tomorrow in the school class is

'There is class in the school tomorrow'

c. With location

eg: viittilu payyu untu

in the house cow is
'There is cow in the house'

anta  kuureelu  untu

father in the house is

'Father is in the house'

d. Possessing thing

eg:  ṅaankekku  panam  untu

We money is

'We have money'

avanu  kuure  untu

he house is

'He has house'

e. Possessing quality

eg:  veyilinu  cuutu  aanRi

Sunlight hot is

'sun light has hot'
6.1.3.2. With nominal and verbal attributives

6.1.3.2.1 Nominal attributives

a. Possessive

eg: enRe payyu

'My cow'

enRe pulle

'My child'

b. Demonstrative

eg: enRe aa payyu

'My that cow'

enRe ii pulle

'My this child'

c. Numeral

eg: enRe aa oru payyu
My that one cow
enRe aa oru moonu
My that one son
d. Adjectival
eg: enRe aa oru karutta payyu
My that one black cow

The adjectival element in the nominal phrase can be extraposed before demonstrative and numeral elements as shown below:

eg: enRe aa oru karutta payyu
  'my that one black cow'
enRe karutta aa oru payyu
  'my black that one cow'.

6.1.3.2.2. Verbal attributives

(a) Manner

eg:- aval vekkam vantu
  she quickly came
  'She came quickly.'
b. Place

avai kateelu pooyi
she to the shop went

'She went to the shop'

c. Time

avan innale vantu
She yesterday came

'She came yesterday'

Nominal elements other than attributives illustrated in the foregoing discussion above (like Direct object, Indirect object and other class nominals) will receive detailed treatment in the discussion of other sentence types.

6.2. Complex sentences

Complex sentences are those which consists of a main sentence with one or more subordinate clauses. These clauses are characterised by typical occurrence of the predicate non-finite verbs with its subject subordinated to the main sentence. In fact a sentence which involves a finite verb and one or more non-finite verbs would be a complex one. There are different types of subordinate clauses which are attested below.
6.2.1  Participial clauses

6.2.1.1 Relative participial clause

eg: addu innale vaankiya payyu aanRi
that yesterday bought cow is

'It is the cow which bought yesterday.'

addu eppalum karayunna pulla aanRi
that always crying child is

'It is the child who is always crying'

6.2.1.2 Verbal participial clause

eg: anta ooti vantu
father having-run came

'Father came by running'

pulla karancu oRanki
child having-cried slept

'child slept by crying'
6.2.1.3. Conditional participial clause

eg: nii parancaal avan paatum
    you(Sg) if said he will sing

'If you said he will sing'

eg: nii viliccaal aval varum
    you if call she will come

'If you call she will come'

6.2.1.4. Purposive participial clause

eg: aval sinima kaanaan pooyi
    she film for seeing went

'She went for seeing cinema'

6.2.2 complement clause

eg: nii parancatu ceri aanri
    you (sg) said that right is

'The fact that you said is right'

avan ceytaddu teRRu aanri
he that did wrong is

'The fact that he did is wrong.'

6.2.3. Nominalized clause

eg: avanRe Paattu nallatu aanRi

of he song good is

'His song is good

6.3. Compound sentence

Compound sentences are those with two or more co-ordinate sentences constituted to function as a single sentence. This involves conjunction (of elements in both the nominal and verbal phrases of the co-ordinated sentences and often, also between the entire sentences in which case no conjunctive particle is being employed as sentential conjunction here), disjunction and sentence initiation in a discourse.

6.3.1. Conjunction

6.3.1.1. Nominal

eg: niiyum naanum neale pookum:

you(sg)-and I-and tomorrow will go
'You and I will go tomorrow'

avanum  avalum  karancu
he-and  she-and  cried

'He and she cried'

6.3.1.2. Verbal

eg:  avaR  pARancum  karancum  talantu
they  said-and  cried-and  tired

'They tired by saying and crying'

pulla  ootim  caatim  vantu
child  ran-and  jumped-and  came

'Child came by running and jumping'

6.3.1.3. Sentential

eg:  avan  paati  aval  aati
he  sang  she  danced

'He sang and she danced'

naan  pARancu  avan  eluti
I said he wrote

'I said and he wrote'

6.3.2. Disjunction

6.3.2.1. Nominal

eg: naale ūsanoo avanoo varum

tomorrow I-or he-or will come

'Either I or he will come tomorrow'

avaloo ammayoo poovum

she-or mother-or will go

Either she or mother will go tomorrow

6.3.2.2. Verbal

eg: avan karaŋcoo paRaŋcoo poonRi

She cried-or laughed-or went

He went either by crying or by laughing

6.3.3. Sentence initiation

eg: 1. appo nii entu ceyyum'
then you(sg) what will do

'Then what will you do'

2. addukontu enikku panam veenam

because of that me money need

'Because of that, I need money'

6.4 Intransitive sentences:

Intransitive sentences are those which involve intransitive verbs which do not co-occur with object nominals.

These verbs are of the following types

6.4.1. Intrasitive verbs  Transitive verbs

eg: 1. keeRī 'to climb' keeRī 'made to climb'

avan marattil keeRī

he on the tree climbed

'He climbed on the tree'

avane marattil keeRī

to him on the tree made to climb
'(She) made him to climb on the tree'

2. niink 'to move'   niikk - 'make to move'

avan  niinki

he   moved

'He moved'

avane       nikki

to him (she)    made to move

'She made him to move'

3. tin-'to eat'   tiiRR - 'make to eat'

avan    cooRu    tintu

he   rice   ate

'He ate rice'

avane    cooRu    tiiRii

'to him   rice   (she) made to eat'

'(She) made him to eat rice'

4. keta- 'to lie'   ketatt - 'make to lie'
aval        paayilu    ketantu
She        on mat     lay

'She lay on the mat'

avale      paayilu    ketatti
to her     on the mat  made to lie

'He made her to lie on the mat'

5. tun̠k - 'to hang'  tuukki - 'made to hang'

avan        tuunki
he           hung

'He hung'

avane       tuukki
to him      made to hang

'(He) made him to hang'.

6.4.2. Intransitive verbs (which will not have transitive counter parts).

eg: avan karañcu
Intransitive verbs will not co-occur with object nominals unlike the transitive verbs.

6.5. Transitive sentence:

Transitive sentences are those which involve transitive verbs of the following types which co-occur with object nominals. These verbs are of the following types

6.5.1. Transitive verbs  Intransitive verbs

eg:  aat - 'make to dance'  aat - 'dance'

avale  aatti

'He made her to dance'

aval  aati

'She danced'
'You (sg) should go'

nii pookanta

you (sg) should not go

'you (sg) should not go'

2. kalikk - to play

avan kalikkinRi

he is playing

'He is playing'

avan kalikkinRilla

he not playing

'He is not playing'

6.8 Optative Sentence

6.8.1. Optative sentences are those which involve the optative verbs.

eg: aval varatte

she let come

'Let her come'
'you (sg) come'

niinke vari

you (pl) 'come'

varii

'you (pl) come'

The imperative sentence can be preceded by a vocative nominal in which case also the second person subject can optionally be deleted.

eg: raamatii nii inku vaa

Ramati you here come

'Ramati, you come here'

raamatii inku vaa

Ramati here come

'Ramati, come here'

6.7.1 Imperative negative

eg: 1. poo- 'to go'

nii pootaa

'you (sg) should go'
6.6 CAUSATIVE SENTENCE

Causative sentence are those which involve a causative verb which would generally satisfy all syntactic functions of transitives by co-occuring with object nominals but also will have an additional function of co-occuring with a nominal other than object nominals whose syntactic function would be that of an external causer.

eg: aval avane utuppa itiiccu

She to him shirt caused to wear

'She caused to him to wear shirt'

ammuttanu panam kotuppiccu

to grandfather money (he) caused to give

'(He) caused to give money, to grand-father'

6.7 IMPERATIVE SENTENCE

Imperative sentences are those which involve imperative verbs. These sentences would typically involve the second person subject which can be deleted optionally.

eg: sg. nii vaa

'You (sg) come'

vaa
The occurrence of the object nominals in intransitive sentences can be illustrated as shown below.

(a) Direct object nominal

The direct object nominal will be in the accusative case.

eg:- avan enne ajju
he to me beat
'He beat me'

(b) Indirect object nominal

The indirect object nominals will be in the dative case.

eg:- anta enikku oru payyine tantu
father to me one cow gave
'Father gave me a cow'

Generally when an inanimate nominal occurs as direct object, the accusative case will not be added.

eg:- anta enikku caaya tantu
father to me tea gave
'Father gave me tea'
2. uRakk - 'make to sleep'    uRant- 'to sleep'

avane uRakki

to him (she) made to sleep

'(she) made him to sleep'

aval uRanki

she slept

'she slept'

3. tiRR - 'make to eat'    tin- 'to eat'

avane mīnu tiIRRī

to him fish (she) made to eat

'(she) made him to eat fish'

6.5.2 Transitive verbs (which will not have intransitive counterparts)

eg:-    kuti-    'to drink'

avan caaya kujju

he tea drank

'He drank tea'
avan aatte
... 
he let dance

'Let him dance'

6.9 NEGATIVE SENTENCES

Negation is effected either by adding a negative marker to the verb stem or by using negative 'be' verbs.

The following would illustrate negation in sentences.

6.9.1 Sentence negation

6.9.1.1. Regular verbs.

eg: 1. avan vantu

'He came'

avan vantilla

'He did not came'

avan vanRi

He comes

avan vanRilla

'He does not come'

avan varum
'He will come'

avan varuulla

He will not come'

2. anta tintu

Father ate

anta tintilla

'Father did not ate'

anta tinninRi

'Father is eating'

anta tinnuntilla

'Father is not eating'

anta tinnum

'Father will eat'

anta tinnuulla

'Father will not eat'
6.9.1.2. Imperative verbs

eg: nii iddu eddo

you (sg) this should take

'You (sg) should take this'

nii etukkantaa

you (sg) should not take

'you (sg) should not take'

6.9.1.3. 'be' verbs

eg: anta kuureelu untu

father in the house is

'Father is in the house'

anta kuureelu illa

father in the house not

'Father is not in the house'

addu maanka aanRi

that mango is

'That is mango'
That is not mango

6.9.2 Clause negation

6.9.2.1 Relative participial clause

eg: innale vanta pulla
     yesterday which came child

'The child who came yesterday'

innale varaatta pulla
yesterday which did not came child

'The child who did not came yesterday'

6.9.2.2 Verbal participial clause

eg: avan paRaṅcu karaṅcu
    he having said cried

'He cried by saying'

aval ootaata vantu
she without running came
'She came without running'

6.10 INTERROGATIVE SENTENCES

The interrogative sentences in the Malaveda speech would fall into the following categories:

(1) Yes - no questions

(2) e - questions

6.10.1 Yes - No questions

They are interrogations of statement sentences demanding an answer either yes or no

6.10.1.1. With regular verbs.

eg: aval paatinRi

she sings

'She is singing'

aval paatimii?

she is singing?

'Is she singing?'

aval varum

she will come
'She will come'

aval varumee
she will come

'Will she come'?

aval vantu
she came

'She came'

aval vantiyaa?
she did come?

'Did she came?

6.10.1.2. With 'be' positive verbs

amma kuurelu untu
mother in house is

'Mother is in the house'

amma kuureelu untee?
mother in the house is?

'Is mother in the house?
6.10.1.3 With 'be' negative verbs

eg: iddu maram aanRi ?

this tree is

'It is tree'

iddu maram allii ?

this tree is it ?

Is it a tree ?

6.10.1.4. With nominal predicate

iddu payyoo

it is it car

'Is it car' ?

6.10.2. e - questions

e - questions consist of interrogative nominals involving the interrogative base e-/ee- and also aaru (who) which do not actually have the e- element but instead an aa- element. The interrogative words are given below.

entu 'what'

eeddu 'which'
The morphological structure of the interrogative words is given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interrogative base</th>
<th>Suffix</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>e -</td>
<td>-ntu</td>
<td>'what'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ee -</td>
<td>-ddu</td>
<td>'which'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aa -</td>
<td>-ru</td>
<td>'who'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e -</td>
<td>-ńku</td>
<td>'where'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e -</td>
<td>-ppalu</td>
<td>'when'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e -</td>
<td>-ttaRa</td>
<td>'how much, how many'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e -</td>
<td>-nkane</td>
<td>'how'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following chart would further illustrate the interrogative words

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interrogative</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>entu ±</td>
<td>animate</td>
<td>payyu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>human</td>
<td>maanka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>coota</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>'personal name (Fem.)'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eeddu ±</td>
<td>animate</td>
<td>kaale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>human</td>
<td>addu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>pulle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>'bullock'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>'that'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>'child'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aaru</td>
<td>+ human</td>
<td>anta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>'father'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>enku</td>
<td>+ location</td>
<td>anku</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>'there'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eppalu</td>
<td>+ temporal</td>
<td>innale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>'yesterday'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ettaRa</td>
<td>+ quantitative</td>
<td>attaRa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>'that much'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>enkane</td>
<td>+ manner</td>
<td>ankane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>'in that manner'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

eg: /entu/ addu entu aanRi ?
  that what is
  'What is that'
addu oru payyu
that one cow
'That is a cow'
addu entu tinninRi
that what is eating
'What is that eating'
addu poocca tinninRi

that grass is eating

'That is eating grass'.

ninRe peeru entu

your name what

'What is your name'

enRe peeru teevani

my name teevani.

'My name is Tevani'

/eeddu/ addu eeddu pulle

that which child

'Which child is that'

addu cooteenRa moolu

that cota's daughter

'That is Cota's daughter'
ninRe kuura eeddu ?
your house which

'Which is your house'

enRe kuure addu
my house that

'My house is that'

addu eeddu payyu ?
that which is cow

'Which is that cow'

addu kun cinRe payyu
that kunju's cow

'That is Kunju's cow'

/aaru/ addu aaru ?
that who

'Who is that'

addu anta
that father

'That is my father'

/enku/ ninRe kate enku aanRi

you (Gen.) shop where is

'Where is your shop?'

enRe kate anku aanRi

my shop there is

'My shop is there'

/eppalu/ nii eppalu vantee?

you when came

'When did you come ?

naan ippalu vantu

I now came

'I came now,'

/ettaRa/ ettaRa maanka tintu ?

howmany mango ate
'How many mangoes (you) ate'?

pattu maanka tintu

ten mango ate

'(I) ate ten mangoes'

/enkane/avan enkane vantu

he how came

'How did he came?'

avan ooti vantu

he by run came

'He came by running'

6.11 BASIC WORD ORDER TYPE

6.11.1 S + V

eg: avan vantu

'She came'

6.11.2 S + O₁ + V

eg: avan manka tintu

he mango ate
He ate mango

6.11.2.1. $O_1 + S + V$

eg: maanka avan tintu

mango she ate

'She ate mango'

6.11.3. $S + O_2 + O_1 + V$

eg: avan enikku maanka tantu

he to me mango gave

'He gave me mango'

6.11.3.1. $O_2 + S + O_1 + V$

eg: enikku avan maanka tantu

to me he mango gave

'He gave me mango'

6.11.3.2. $S + O_1 + O_2 + V$

eg: avan maanka enikku tantu

he mango to me gave

'He gave mango to me'