Mukrî [1] Pronominal Clitics distribution and absolute prepositions interaction: Klavans Cliticization Parameters

Abstract

This paper investigates the direction of clitic movement in Mukrî Central Kurdish (CK) according to Klavans' Cliticization parameters. Prepositional complements in Mukrî can always appear as syntactic constituents of noun phrases, independent pronouns and clitics. Prepositions have two realizations according to the following constituent: simple and absolute prepositions. Noun phrases and independent pronouns appear with simple prepositions while clitics come with absolute ones. Complements of absolute prepositions can separate from their heads and move to the left or right of their domain. When the transitive verbs are in the past tense, clitics move to the right side and convert to Set 1 affix pronouns at the right hand margin of the verb. In case of moving to the left of the verb, clitics appear in second-position. Clitic movement to the right is sensitive to the category of the host while movement to the left is sensitive to the position of its host, so the first arrangement is called affixational and the latter is called clitic. That's why Mukrî pronouns are divided into two categories: affixes and clitics. Klavans' parameter 1 is absolutely capable of explaining the direction of clitic movements. The data come from recorded two-hour-long connected speech and the author's judgment (as a Mukrî native speaker) is used for grammaticality.

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1. The Kurdish subdialect under discussion called "Mukrî" is a subdialect of 'Sorani', also known as "Central Kurdish" and is the language of a plurality of Kurds of Kurdistan and West Azarbaijan provinces in Iran. The speakers of Mukri are found in Mahabad, Oshnaviye (Ŝino), Piranshar (Xanê), Sarsasht, Naghade and Bokan in Iranian Kurdistan. The variety of Mukri which is under discussion is particularly spoken in Ŝino. The term Mukri is used for short in this article.