Typological Characteristics of Liangmai Language

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Abstract

This paper investigates the typological perspective of Liangmai, a language of the Tibeto-Burman family which is spoken in the states of Manipur and Nagaland in the northeastern region of India. The language has SOV type of word order. The goal of the present paper is to examine the typological characteristics of the language in the light of Greenberg's principles of language universals and see the features it attests to as a verb final language.

Key words: Liangmai, Tibeto-Burman, Language Universals, Agglutinative, Typology, Word Order, Tense, Aspect.

1. Introduction

Liangmai is a Tibeto-Burman (henceforth TB) language which is of the Kuki-Chin-Naga sub group (Bradley 1997). The bulk of Liangmai speaking population resides in the Tamenglong and Senapati districts of Manipur and Peren district of Nagaland. According to 2001 census the total Liangmai speaker was 34,232. It is one of the ethnic groups of the 'Zeliangrong', a collective term given to embrace the Zeme, Liangmai, Rongmei and Puimei under one generic term. Grierson (1903), in his Linguistic Survey of India, assigned each of the Naga language a definite place in the family of TB languages. According to him, between Angami-Naga and the Bodo languages there is a group, which he calls the Naga-Bodo group, bridging over the difference between the characteristic features of the two forms of speech, and similarly, between Angami-Naga and the Kuki languages there is another group which he calls the Naga-Kuki group. The Naga-Bodo group consists of two main languages, viz., Mikir and Kachcha Naga. Subordinate languages closely akin to but not dialects, of, Kachcha Naga, are Kabui Naga and Khoirao Naga. He did some work on 'Kachcha Naga' or 'Empeo' and 'Kabui' or 'Kapwi' and the language of specimen he used for 'Kachcha Naga' is Zeme and for the 'Kabui' he used Rongmei. May be he was not aware of the fact that 'Kachcha Naga' clubbed

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together Zeme and Liangmai and 'Kabui' represent Rongmei and Puimei, and these are separate languages though closely related. In this way Liangmai was missed out and no work was done on it.

Interestingly, some vocabularies of Liangmai are found in Linguistic Survey of India Vol. III, Part II, page 480, listed under 'Kwoireng or Liyang'. Another important point to be clarified here is that 'Kwoireng' and 'Liyang' are not the same language. The language of the Kwoireng is certainly a form of Kuki; however Liyang is a Naga language closely related with Kacha Naga and Kabui. This distinction between Kwoireng and Liyang was rightly pointed out by Grierson himself. The words used in the list are of Liyang (Liangmai), and that particular variety is now the standard variety of the Liangmai.

The goal of the present paper is to represent the typological characteristics of Liangmai in the light of the Greenberg's (1963) principles of language universals. The language exhibits many similar characteristics with other TB language spoken in the northeastern part of India. It shares many genetic features with other TB languages, which includes phonemic tone, agglutinative verb morphology, verb derivational suffixes, nominalization, noun classifier system, lack of gender marking, Subject Object Verb (SOV) word order, aspect, rather than tense marking, and many more.

2. Basic Word Order

The basic constituent order or word order of Liangmai is SOV, i.e. the verb occurs in the final position of the sentence.

2a. Intransitive Verb: S V

1. i   c^{h}ɑp   e
    I.1S-Nom   stand   Decl
    'I stand.'

2. pɑ   zi   mide

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S/he.3S-Nom   sleep   Perf

'S/he has slept.'

2b. **Transitive Verb: S O V**

3. pɑ   zɑo   sɑk   e

   S/he.3S-Nom   wine-Acc   drink   Decl

   'S/he drinks wine.'

4. ben-niu   cʰɑgɑn   lɑŋ-bɑm   e

   Ben.3FS-Erg   curry-Acc cook-Prog   Decl

   'Ben is cooking curry.'

2c. **Ditransitive Verb: S IO DO V**

5. jon-niu   ben-tu   ɑriɑk   pi   e

   john.3MS-Erg   Ben-3FS-Acc   book   give   Decl-pres

   'John gives a book to Ben.'

6. i-niu   ben-leŋ   cʰɑlui   tʰiu   e

   I.1PS-Erg   Ben-3FS-Dat   song   sing   Decl-pres

   'I sing a song for Ben.'

Greenberg's Universal 1 states that *"In declarative sentences with nominal subject and object, the dominant order is almost always one in which the subject precedes the object"*. The basic constituent order or word order of Liangmai sentence or a clause is SOV as we see in the constructions above. **Greenberg's Universal 4** states that *"If in a language the verb follows both the nominal subject and nominal object as a dominant order, the language almost always has a case system"*. The constructions above are in accordance with Greenberg's universals 1 and 4.

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3. Word Order in Different Sentence Types

3a. Declarative Sentence

In declarative sentences the basic constituent order or the word order is SOV in Liangmai.

7. i   tei   tiu   e
    I-1PS   rice   eat   Decl

    'I eat rice.'

3b. Imperative Sentence

The word order in imperative sentence is SOV.

8. ətu   cʰɑrɑpen   pi   lo
    1PS-Dat   flower   give   Imp

    'Give me flower.'

3c. Interrogative Sentence

Liangmai has interrogative pronouns viz; **sou** *'who'* and **de** *'what'*. The question particles **mɑ** and **lo** are suffixed at the end of interrogative constructions. The word order in interrogative sentences is SOV and there is no obligatory position or wh-movement but scrambling of wh-word is allowed.

3c.1. Questioning the Subject: Wh OV

9. sou-niu   tɑsiŋbɑŋ   hui   lo
    Who-Erg   tree-Acc   cut   Imp

    'Who cut the tree?'

3c.2. Questioning the Direct Object: S Wh V

10. pɑ-niu   de   din   lo
    S/he-3S-Erg   what   say   Imp

    'What did s/he say?'

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3c.3 Questioning the Indirect Object: S DO Wh V

11. naŋ cʰɑpiu de-gɑsu liu lo

you-2S-Nom medicine what-Abl buy Imp

'From where did you buy medicine?'

3d. 'Yes-no' Questions

The word order in 'yes-no' questions construction is SOV. Question particle **'mɑ'** is use at the end of every 'yes-no' questions and it is marked by rise in pitch or stress is given to the question particle.

12. naŋ raŋkaŋ bɑm mɑ

you-2S-Nom money have Qpart

'Do you have money?'

13. naŋ suɑnɑi wɑŋ rɑ mɑ

you-2S-Nom tomorrow come Fut Qpart

'Will you come tomorrow?'

Greenberg's Universal No. 8 states that *'When a yes-no question is differentiated from the corresponding assertion by an intonation pattern, the distinctive intonation features of these patterns are reckoned from the end of the sentence rather than from the beginning.'* Liangmai 'yes-no' question construction is in accordance with the universal above.

4. Causative Sentences

A causative in Liangmai is form by two verbs. Consider the following example:

14. rina-niu ŋenɑ-tu dui pi-sɑk e

Rina.3FS-Erg baby-Acc milk give-drink Decl

'Rina feed the baby (with milk)'

15. i-niu pə-tu pi-pɑk e

I.1PS-Erg 3PS-Acc give-run Decl

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'I make him run'

The verb root **–pi,** meaning *'give'* function as the causative marker in Liangmai. It occurs before the main verb.

5. Negative Sentences

Negation in Liangmai is formed by suffixation of negative markers **–lɑk** and **–mɑk** to the main verb. **–mɑk** is used in realized aspect and it is associated with non-future construction.

16. jon   tʰɑinɑi   skul   tɑdmɑk   e
     John-3SM-Nom   today   school   go-Neg   Decl
     'John doesn't go to school today.'

17. pɑ   zɑo   sɑkmɑk   e
     s/he-3S-Nom   wine   drink-Neg   Decl
     'He does not drink wine'

-lɑk is also used post verbally and this negative marker carries meaning of futurity. It is used in unrealized aspect.

18. i   cʰɑlu   tɑd-lɑk   e
     I-1PS-Nom   field   go-Neg   Decl
     'I will not go to the field'

19. lily   cʰɑlui   tʰiu-lɑk   e
     Lily-3FS-Nom song   sing-Neg   Decl
     'Lily will not sing'

In case of imperative sentences, the negative particles **-tu ~ -du** is used after the verb to give the negative meaning of the sentence. It implies prohibition.

20. zɑo   sɑk   tu   lo

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wine	drink	Neg	Imp

'Do not drink wine'

21.	pɑwɑn	kɑmkɑsɑ	tu/du	lo
	time	waste	Neg	Imp

'Do not waste time'

6. Verb

Verb roots in Liangmai are in bound forms. A verb may be a free standing word if it is minimally suffixed by an inflectional marker. It can be inflected with tense-aspect-modality markers; compounding, serial construction, reduplication etc. to name few are a very common phenomena of Liangmai verbs. Verb roots may also be used to form verbal nouns, adjectives and adverbs. However, they are not inflected for number and gender. Liangmai verb functions as the head of the predicate and is either mono-syllabic or di-syllabic. Tri-syllabic verb roots are very rare in this language. Verbs can be broadly classified into simple and complex.

6a. Simple Verb

A simple verbal root has a single morpheme and is always monomorphemic in nature. In other words they cannot be divided further into smaller meaningful units. In most cases they are monosyllabic and polysyllabic. Tri-syllabic is rare, it occur mostly with the case of compound or complex verbs. There is large number of homophones in the lexicon which has two to three potential meanings, for example, **/ri/** has two potential meanings: *'late'*, and *'hide'*.

Simple roots

22. /tɑd/   -go

23. / wɑŋ /   -come

24. / pi /   -give

25. / tiu /   -eat

26. / mɑjiŋ /   -climb

27. / kɑlɑ /   -roll

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6b. Complex Verbs

A complex verb refers to a form which consists of a main verb in its roots form plus a secondary verb which bears tense and agreement morphology (Bashir, 1993). It functions as a single unit even though it may consist of multiple verbs or morphemes. Some examples are given below:

28. / pɑk-duɑk /   -escape

29. / mɑniŋ-tɑo /   -remember

30. / di-su /   -develope

31. / wi-kʰɑi /   -heal

32. / lu-wɑŋ /   -bring

33. / din-tɑo-kʰɑi /   -convey, remind

7. Postposition

Liangmai, like many other verb final language, is a postpositional language and the postposition follows head noun. Postposition in the language has the same purpose as that of case suffix. Consider the following examples:

34. tǝbol   rigɑ   ǝriɑk   bɑm   e

     table   on-Loc   book   have (exist)   Decl

'The book is on the table / There is a book on the table.'

35. cʰɑki   luŋ-gɑ   gut   lo

     house   in-Loc   come   Imp

'Come inside the house'

36. iniu   nɑmɑiduŋ-leŋ   tɑruɑ   liu   e

     I-1PS-Erg   children-Dat   bread   buy   Decl

'I buy bread for the children.'

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Liangmai constructions above are in accordance with the **Greenberg's Universal 4**: *"With overwhelmingly greater than chance frequency, languages with normal SOV order are postpositional."*

8. Genitive

The genitive case indicates ownership or possession on the possessor. The genitive marker **-gu** is used in Liangmai to indicate the possessor of the object.

37. ə-gu   ɑriɑk   pi   lo

     1PS-Gen   book   give   Imp

    'Give (me) my book'

38. nə-gu   c^{h}akuɑn   ŋouwi   e

     2PS-Gen   horse   beautiful   Decl

    'Your horse is beautiful'

39. joe-gu   c^{h}aheŋ   di   e

     joe.3MS-Gen   sword   big   Decl

    'Joe's sword is big'

The possessive pronominal prefixes **ə-, nə-** and **pə**- is the first person, second person and third person possessive prefixes respectively. These may be affixed to kinship terms and inalienable possessed nouns like the following examples:

40. əmik   'my eye'

41. əpiu   'my father'

42. əji   'my bed'

43. nəben   'your hand'

44. nəpe   'your grandmother'

45. nəki   'your house'

46. pəbuŋ   'his/her stomach'

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47. pəpui   'his/her mother'

48. pəkuɑŋ   'his/her plate'

Both these genitive markers precede the governing noun. The genitive marker **–gu** is used with alienable noun whereas the pronominal prefixes are used with inalienable nouns. **Greenberg's Universal 2** says that *'In languages with prepositions, the genitive almost follows the governing noun, while in languages with postpositions it almost always precedes.'*

9. Adverbs

Adverbs precede the verb in Liangmai like many other SOV languages. Adverbial expressions normally modify the verb with respect to place, time and manner of the action referred to by the verb.

9a. Manner of the Action

In Liangmai manner adverbs are formed by suffixation of **–ziu** to a verb root.

49. pə   cʰaki   kɑlɑŋziu   tɑd   mide
    S/he.3PS-Nom house   quick.Adv   go   Perf
    'S/he quickly went home.'

50. tina-niu   cʰɑlui   tɑnziu   tʰiu-bɑm   e
    Tina.3FS-Erg song   loud.Adv   sing-Prg   Decl
    'Tina is singing loudly.'

9b. Locative Adverb

Adverb of place is derived through the prefixation of **pɑ-** to verbal noun roots:

51a.	hɑŋ	'be under'	pahɑŋ	'below', 'underneath'
b.	ri	'be up'	pɑri	'above', 'on top'
c.	sɑi	'be back'	pɑsɑi	'behind'
d.	kʰiɑn	'be near'	pɑkʰiɑn	'adjacent', 'near'

9c. Adverb of Time

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There are lexical adverbs of time in Liangmai and they can be categorized into two types based on the time reference it makes: 1. Lexical items indicating past time like **dɑnɑi** *'yesterday'*, **kɑlu** *'earlier'*, **dɑtʰɑikum** *'last year'*. 2. Lexical items indicating future time like **nɑk** *'later'*, **suɑnɑi** *'tomorrow'*, **nɑnɑi** *'day after tomorrow'* and **mɑkum** *'next year'*.

The Liangmai adverbial constructions are in accordance with **Greenberg's Universal 7**: *'In a language with dominant SOV order, all adverbial modifiers of the verb precede the verb.'*

9d. Order of Adverbials

Time adverbial precedes place adverbial in Liangmai.

52. ben   suɑnɑi   deli-lɑm   tɑdrɑbo   e

    Ben.3FS-Nom   tomorrow   Delhi-Dir   go-Fut   Decl

    'Ben will go to Delhi tomorrow.'

10. Modifiers

Adjectives may appear before or after the nouns they modify in Liangmai. There is no agreement between the noun and the adjective. **Greenberg's Universal 5** says that *'If a language has dominant SOV order and the genitive follows the governing noun, then the adjective likewise follows the noun.'*

53. cʰɑrɑpen   heŋbo

    flower   red

    'A red flower.'

54. mɑluɑŋ   dibo

    mountain   big

    'A big mountain.'

55. mɑthɑbo   tiŋmik

    happy   day

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'A happy day.'

56. ɑgibo   nchun

    cold   night

'A cold night.'

Demonstrative precedes the head noun. Referential determiner is used in this language.

57. hɑi   cʰɑrɑpen   mɑjinbo   pi   lo

    this   flower   yellow   give   Imp

    'Give (me) this yellow flower.'

58. wi   tɑsiŋbɑŋ   si   di   e

    that   tree   Det   big   Decl

    'That tree is big.'

Numeral follows the head noun and the 10+1, 10+2, 10+3, etc. system of numeral formation is followed in Liangmai.

59. ɑriak-kʰwɑŋ   khɑt

    book-Cla   one

    'One book/ A book.'

60. cʰamɑi   kʰaŋ   kɑriu   sum

    person   Cla   ten   three

    'Thirteen people.'

61. kɑbui   mɑkɑi   mɑdɑi

    cow   twenty   four

    'Twenty four cows.'

Adjectives may follow or precede the head noun. **Greenberg's Universal 18** states that *'When the descriptive adjective precedes the noun, the demonstrative and the numerals do*

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likewise.' In Liangmai, demonstratives precede the noun but the numerals follow the head noun.

11. Quantifier

Quantifier follows the head noun in unmarked position.

62. cʰamɑi   matʰiu-niu   sui   mide

      person   all-Nom   agree   Perf

‘All people have agreed.’

63. pɑniu   cʰarasi   pakʰiaŋ   tiu   mide

      S/he.3PS-Erg   fruit   all   eat   Perf

‘S/he has eaten all the fruits.’

12. Order of Determiner, Quantifier and Noun

Determiner (D), Quantifier (Q) and Noun (N) follow the following order: **D-N-Q**. Determiner precedes the noun and quantifier follows the noun.

64. hɑi   cʰarapen   pakʰiaŋ   wi   e

      this   flower   all   good   Decl

‘All these flowers are good.’

65. wi   cʰarasi   kasiɑ   pi   lo

      that   fruit   some   give   Imp

‘Give (me) some of those fruit.’

13. Reduplication

Reduplication is rich in Liangmai and the used of it is very common in speech. It can be classified into complete and partial reduplication. Complete reduplication refers to the phenomenon when a single word or clause is repeated once in the same sentence without any phonological or morphological variations. It can occur in:

13a. Noun

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66.	nɑm	nɑm-gu	cʰɑlɑd	tɑm	e
	village	village-Gen	language	different	Decl

'Each village has different language.'

67.	pɑki	ki	mɑlɑn	mide
	3PS-house	house	return	Perf

'They have return to their home.'

13b. Wh-Question Words

It is also found in wh-question words like **de** *'what'* and **sou** *'who'*.

68.	wi	cʰɑki-gɑ	sou-sou	bɑm	lo
	that	house-Loc	who-who	have (exist)	Imp

'Who are there in that house?'

69.	nɑgu	de-de	ɑriɑk	bɑm	lo
	you.2PS-Gen	what-what	book	have (exist)	Imp

'What are the books you have?'

13c. Adjective

In adjective reduplication the first is a base while the repeated form is a complete adjectival form.

70.	tɑsiŋ-tɑŋ	tʰeŋ-tʰeŋbo	luwɑŋ	lo
	wood-Cla	long-long	bring	Imp

'Bring (me) long sticks.'

71.	cʰɑpʰɑi	di-dibo	kɑdɑ	lo
	shawl	big-big	choose	Imp

'Choose big shawls.'

13d. Adverbs

The occurrence of adverb reduplication in sentence is as follows:

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72.	pɑ	kɑbjiu-kɑbjiu	skul	tɑd	mide
	S/he.3PS	crying-crying	school	go	Perf

'S/he goes to school crying.'

73.	tiŋ	koi-koinɑ	riu-bɑm	e
	rain	slowly-slowly	fall-Prg	Decl

'It is raining slowly/ The rain is falling slowly.'

Verbal reduplication is absent in Liangmai. Repetition of verbs generally functions as adverbs.

13e. Partial Reduplication

It refers to the paired construction in which the second word is not an exact repetition of the first but is similar or related to the first word.

74.	pɑ	tɑdpɑd-tɑdgut	bɑm	e
	S/he.3PS	go out-go in	Prg	Decl

'He is walking to and fro.'

Reduplication in Liangmai has the meanings of distributiveness, plurality and emphatics.

14. Comparative Marker

The comparative marker **-bi** and the superlative marker **-thu** follows the standard adjective:

75.	pɑ-cʰi	suɑŋ	pɑ-kinɑ-niu	tɑn-bi	e
	3PS.Pos-sibling (elder)	than	3PS.Pos-sibling (younger)-Nom	strong-Comp	Decl

'His younger brother is stronger than the elder brother.'

76.	jon-niu	matʰiu	ruɑŋ-gɑ	wi-tʰu	e
	John.3MS-Nom	all	among-Loc	good-Sup	Decl

'John is the best among all.'

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15. Relative Clause

Relative Clauses in Liangmai are formed by the addition of the nominalizer -**bo** to the embedded verb and a determiner **si** is used with the head noun. Consider the following example:

77. [i-niu   dɑnɑi   liu-bo]   ɑriɑk-kʰwɑŋ   si   achun-kʰugɑ   pi   mide
    1PS-Erg yesterday buy-Nomz   book-Cla   Det   Achun-Loc   give   Perf
    'The book which I bought yesterday has been given to Achun'

78. [Tiɑŋ   heŋbo   ruŋ-bo]   nɑpiu   si   tʰɑinɑi   wɑŋ   e
    shirt   red   wear-Nomz   boy   Det   today   come   Decl
    'The boy who wears a red shirt came today'

It can be noticed from examples above that, in Liangmai, the relative clause are pre-nominal. The embedded clause **i-niu dɑnɑi liu-bo** *'(that) I bought yesterday'* precedes the head noun **ɑriɑk-kʰwɑŋ** 'book'. Also, relative clauses in Liangmai, like other TB languages, are participial in nature.

16. Tense

The tripartite distinction of tense into past, present and future is absent in Liangmai. In this language one might say that the only tense distinction grammatically is between future and non-future. The verb form for the non-future tense is unmarked and futurity is indicated by the future marker **–rɑbo** in Liangmai.

79. i   tɑruɑ   tiu   ø   e
    1PS-Nom   bread-Acc   eat   NFut   Decl
    'I eat bread.'

80. pɑ   ɑriɑk   ken   ø   e
    S/he.3PS-Nom   book-Acc   read   NFut   Decl
    'S/he read book.'

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81. i   tɑruɑ   tiu-rɑbo   e
     1PS-Nom   bread-Acc   eat-Fut   Decl
     'I will eat bread.'

82. pɑ   ɑriɑk   ken-rɑbo   e
     S/he.3PS-Nom   book-Acc   read-Fut   Decl
     'S/he will read book.'

Time adverbials play a very important role in expressing time reference in the language.

83. pɑ   dɑnɑi   ɑriɑk   liu-ø   e
     S/he.3MS-Nom   yesterday   book   buy-NFut   Decl
     'S/he bought a book yesterday.'

84. pɑ   tʰɑinɑi   ɑriɑk   liu-ø   e
     S/he.3MS-Nom   today   book   buy-NFut   Decl
     'S/he buys a book today.'

85. pɑ   suɑnɑi   ɑriɑk   liu-rɑbo   e
     S/he.3MS-Nom   yesterday   book   buy-Fut   Decl
     'S/he will buy a book tomorrow.'

There is no morphological marker for past and present but future is indicated by the suffix –**rɑbo**. It is the time adverbial **tʰɑinɑi** *'today'* and **dɑnɑi** *'yesterday'* which brings out the difference between past and present. The adverbial **suɑnɑi** *'tomorrow'* is optional because the future tense marker denotes the time frame clearly.

17. Aspect

Aspects are different way of viewing the internal temporal constituency of a situation or an event. It indicates the internal structure of an event or situation. Liangmai has three way

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distinction of aspect; they are simple or indefinite aspect, progressive or imperfect aspect and perfect aspect.

17a. Simple or Indefinite Aspect

It expresses simple statement, habitual meaning and universal truth.

86. nɑimik-niu   tiŋbɑŋ-lɑmsu   pɑd   e

    sun-Erg   east-Abl   come   Asp

    'The sun rises in the east.'

87. jon   əpal   tiu   e

    John.3PS-Nom   apple-Acc   eat   Asp

    'John eats an apple.'

17b. Progressive or Imperfect aspect: It expresses the action that is continuing.

88. pɑ   ɑriɑk   ken-bɑm   e

    S/he.3PS-Nom   book-Acc   read-Prg   Decl

    'S/he is reading a book.'

89. i   tɑruɑ   tiu-bɑm   e

    1PS-Nom   bread-Acc   eat-Prg   Decl

    'I am eating bread.'

17c. Perfect Aspect

It indicates the completion of an action at the time of speaking.

90. i   tɑruɑ   tiu   mide

    1PS-Nom   bread-Acc   eat   Perf

    'I have eaten bread.'

91. pɑ   skul   tɑd   mide

    S/he.3PS-Nom   school   go   Perf

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'S/he has gone to school.'

18. Conclusions

Based on the above discussions, it can be said that Liangmai exhibits the following attributes in clause constructions; Liangmai has SOV word order, it is a postpositional language, genitive precedes the governing noun, it lacks agreement and adverbs precede verbs. In Liangmai adjectives may precede or follow noun, modifiers like demonstrative precede the head noun, however, numerals follow the head noun. Causative marker occurs before the main verb, marker of comparison follows the standard of comparison, negative markers occur post-verbal, wh-question words occurs pre-verbally whereas yes/no question marker follow the verb, relative clause is pre-nominal and indirect object precedes direct object. The language attests to most of SOV language features with few exceptions. The language is SOV and genitive precedes the governing noun but adjectives may follow or precede the noun. The demonstrative precede the noun but numerals follow the noun.

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Abbreviations

ø- null form	Imp.- Imperative
1.2.3.P- First, Second, Third Person	IO.- Indirect Object
Abl.-Ablative	Loc.- Locative
Acc.- Accusative	M.- Masculine
Adv.- Adverb	Neg.- Negation
Asp.- Aspect	NFut.- Non-Future
Comp.- Comparative	Nom.- Nominative
Cla.- Classifier	Nomz. Nominalizer
Dat.- Dative	Perf.- Perfective
Dem.- Demonstrative	Prog.- Progressive
Det.- Determiner	Q- Question
Decl.- Declarative	Quant.-Quantifier
Dir.- Directional	S,Pl- Singular, Plural
DO.- Direct object	Sup.- Superlative
	S,V,O- Subject, Verb, Object

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Erg.-Ergative   TB - Tibeto-Burman

F.- Feminine

Fut.- Future Tense

Gen.- Genitive

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