

## VERBS WITH POSSESSIVE MORPHOLOGY: A TYPOLOGICAL STUDY ON AUSTRONESIAN LANGUAGES OF EASTERN MALAYO-POLYNESIAN LANGUAGES

Yusuf Sawaki

Center for Endangered Languages Documentation, University of Papua  
ysawaki@fulbrightmail.org

### ABSTRACT

Commonly, verbs have a primarily predicative function, expressing actions, processes and states, regardless of their morpho-syntactic and semantic types. This research focuses on typological study on types of verbs found in some Austronesian languages of Eastern Malayo-Polynesian family. In particular, the research aims at investigating a type of verb, called as 'verbs with possessive morphology,' which become an area feature of this family. In common, South Halmahera-West New Guinea languages and Oceanic languages share the same morpho-syntactic properties in characterising verbs. The obligatory property that characterizes verbs is subject agreement. All types of verbs must take subject agreement. However, the languages such as Biak (Mofu, 2008, 2010), Woi (Sawaki, 2016), Wandamen (Gasser, 2014), Ambai (Silzer, 1983); North Solomonic languages (Palmer, 2003, 2011); Aroma, Suau, Lenakel and Fijian (Lynch, 1974) also appear to have a type of verb that derives from noun, which is called as 'verbs with possessive morphology'. This type of verb is diachronically a noun that then takes a verbalization process that de-nominalizes a noun and change it into a verb. To do so, the possessive construction may take the verbalised affixes or it may without affixes, only the construction, in order to denominalize the noun. Morphologically, the noun structural property of the possessor-possessee construction, is still retained. However, their semantic relation, i.e. the possessor-possessee relation is changed to the grammatical subject and object relation.

Keywords: verbs with possessive morphology, verbalization, Eastern Malayo-Polynesian, possessor-possessee relation, predicative function.

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### CURRICULUM VITAE

Complete Name : Yusuf W. Sawaki  
Institution : Center for Endangered Languages Documentation, University of Papua  
Education :  
★ Bachelor, English, Universitas Cenderawasih  
★ Master, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, USA  
★ PhD, The Australian National University, Australia

Research Interests :

- ★ Austronesian and Papuan Linguistics
- ★ Descriptive Linguistics, Language Typology and Theoretical Linguistics
- ★ Sociolinguistics and Ethnolinguistics
- ★ Language Documentation