# GRAMMATICAL ALLIANCE AND PIVOT SYSTEM OF BATAK SIMALUNGUN LANGUAGE: A SYNTACTIC TYPOLOGY STUDY

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**Abstract**: Syntax, morphology, and phonology can be used as a reference for language classification. This research aims to determine the grammatical alliance of the Simalungun language syntactically and its typology. It is a qualitative study with the typology approach. The data are phrases and clauses of the Simalungun language collected from informants and books – Simalungun language syntax books, by interviews and notes. It found that a transitive verb formulates the intransitive clause of the Simalungun Batak language as a predicate. The predicative verb appears with affixes. In general, the Simalungun language contains verbs that, in their presence, correspond to the subject. Simalungun language has a grammatical alliance system that treats subject (S) the same as agent (A), and a different treatment is given to predicate (P). Based on grammatical relations, the Simalungun language treats S the same as A at the syntactic level. Thus, it can be typologically grouped into syntactical accusatives. Based on the Pivot test, it also belongs to the accusative language group.

**Keywords**: grammatical alliance, typology, syntax, Simalungun language

# INTRODUCTION

Every language has specific attributes with different dialects. The differences create specific uniqueness of language that invites linguists to study. According to David (2010), language can be studied at phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics levels. One area of linguistics study is known as language typology. According to Velupillai and Viveka typology (2012),linguistic investigates comparative and systematic language structures. It classifies languages according to the type of sentences and words they use.

There are three types of language typologies: phonological, semantic, morphological, and syntactic types. The phonological component addresses speech parameters. The semantic component addresses the external meaning, while the phonological component addresses speech parameters. The morphological aspect of natural language is concerned with word formation, while the syntactic aspect is the most distinctive. Syntactic typology is a branch of linguistics that aims to classify languages according to how phrases, clauses, and sentences are structured (Dennis, 2020; Basaria, 2016; Whaley, 2012).

Numerous researchers have conducted studies on the syntactic typology of regional languages. Surbakti (2016) carried out a study of the Karo language. The Karo Language Syntax Typology is the Verb-Subject-Object type because it is generally a passive sentence in that Predicate (Pr) is at the beginning of the sentence, and the Subject (S) is a noun. Karo language is a structural typology of the agglutinative type. Budiarta (2012)investigated the Dawan language's typology. To determine the language's grouping, he grammatical refers to the alliance. Typologically, data from the Dawan language's coordinate and subordinative constructions (BD) confirm that, syntactically, BD treats S the same as Agent(A) and treats Patient (P) differently (S'='A' P). The BD language group

collaborates with the Pivot S/A system. This grammatical alliance system demonstrates that the Dawan language is a syntactic nominative-accusative language. Word order and grammatical alliances were used in these two studies to create language groupings.

Hasibuan and Mulyadi (2019) wrote about the Mandailing language's syntactic typology. They explained the three aspects of its causative construction of morphosyntax – analytic, morphological, and lexical – for example, the *mambaen* verb "makes" a part of the causative verb. For the morphological causative, Batak Mandailing's causative affixes are (ma-ko), (tar), (pa-kon), (pa-on), and (pa). The same verb also exists in semantic parameters, but their meanings are distinct.

The syntactic typology of the Angkola language was discussed in a paper by Nasution and Mulyadi (2022). The typology was analyzed using word order with the result: a) for intransitive sentences, it uses verb, subject, and object; b) for transitive, it uses the verb, object, and subject; c) for imperative, it uses verb, subject, and object.

The present study explores the syntactic typology of Simalungun language typology. However, it combines the syntactic typology concept with the pivot test. Simalungun language or *Sahap Simalungun* is a language spoken by the Simalungun tribe living in Simalungun Regency, Serdang Bedagai, Deli Serdang, Dairi, Medan, Tapanuli in Indonesia.

Research on the Simalungun language has been done though they are in a limited number. For example, Saragih et al. 2020) wrote about possessive sentences in Simalungun. Akmal et al. (2022) wrote about affixes in the Simalungun language. The research on the Simalungun language is mainly related to culture and kinship. Research about language groupings still needs to be done.

Simalungun language, like other regional languages, has a basic sentence form that can be used as a reference to determine the typology of the language. For example:

 /Manaba hayu ai bapa/ Cut down tree that father.
 Father cut down that tree.
 /Maridi inaη/ Take a bath mother.
 Mother took a bath. From the sentences, *bapa* or father and *inal*] or mother function as the Subject, *manaba* and *maridi* as the Predicate (Pr), and *hayu ai* as the Object or Patient. In the Batak language of Simalungun, Verb lies ahead of the Subject. In general, the structure of the Simalungun language is *Verb* + *Subject* (sentence 2) or *Verb* + *Object* + *Subject* (sentence 1). The pattern differs from Indonesian and English, which position the Subject at the beginning of the sentence.

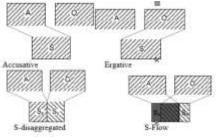
In using the pivot test of a language, one must know the type of sentence, whether it is transitive or intransitive. Of the two examples, sentence 1 is a transitive sentence, with an object *hayu ai* or tree in the sentence. *Hayu ai* is as a patient (P) and Bapa as an agent (A). In contrast, the second sentence is an intransitive sentence due to the absence of an object (Patient) in the sentence, *Inal*, as a subject (S).

Research on the Simalungun language is rarely conducted. As a cultural treasure, regional languages must be preserved amid the increasing prevalence of foreign languages in the community. Therefore, this study aims to examine the syntactic typology of the Simalungun language by analyzing the grammatical alliances and using pivot tests as references.

## LITERATURE REVIEW Grammatical Alliances

A Grammatical alliance is a system or tendency of grammatical communion within or between clauses in a language (Aidina, 2017). The term grammatical alliance refers to morphosyntactic properties that relate arguments to clauses, such as their subject or object. It distinguishes grammatical alliances from semantic roles or thematic roles.

Comrie (1998) and Artawa (1995:60; 1998:127; 2000:487-689) stated that the purpose of linguistic typology is to group a language based on the structural properties (properties) of the language. Its primary purpose is to answer the question: *what does the x language look like?* There are two main assumptions of typological linguistics, (a) all languages can be compared based on their structure, and (b) there are differences between them. Languages can be grouped into groups, such as accusative, ergative, and active languages. To analyze the language grammatically, Dixon (1994:72,79) suggested the following scheme:



A language belongs to the ergative type if the patient's argument (P) of the transitive predicate is treated the same as the intransitive predicate argument (S) and is different from the agent argument (A) of the transitive predicate. Equal treatment can occur at both the morphological and syntactic levels. The accusative system names languages that treat A the same as S and a different treatment is given to P.

## Syntactic Typology

Syntactic typology is the determination of language types and, simultaneously, the formation of language constructs in phrases and clauses. Determination of the type of a language, whether it is accusative or ergative refers to the syntactic behavior of A and P (Mulyadi, 2007, p. 5).

## **Pivot Test**

A pivot test is a test system that associates Subject (S) and Agent (A), S and Patient (P); A and P. Pivot is the most grammatically central nominal phrase. The nominal phrase that functions as a pivot can coordinate and control the alignment in the language system (See Dixon, 1994; Jufrizal, 2004).

Туре	Clause I	Clause 2	Coreference Relations
Ι	Intransitive	Intransitive	S1 = S2
II	Intransitive	Transitive	S1=P2
			S1 = A2
III	Transitive	Intransitive	P1 =S2
			A1=A2
IV	Transitive	Transitive	P1=P2
			A1=A2
			P1 = A2
			A1=P2
			P1 = P2 dar

	A1 =A2
	P1 = A2 dan
	A1 = P2
(Source: Dixon (1994: 157)	

According to Dixon (1994:159), the schema packaged above only presents a basic framework for finding whether a language has a pivot, if it is correct, and what the pivot is. The framework can be improved according to the grammatical organization of each language.

A language is said to be of the ergative type if argument S and argument P have the same pattern, while argument A has a different nature from argument S and P (Song, 2001; Mulyadi, 2007; Shibatani, 2021). In this language, the pivot is the nominal phrase (NP) which is the patient. According to Dixon (1994), the ergative system occurs within onesixth of the world's languages. An example of a language classified as ergative is the Yalarnnga language.

a.	Nia	waka-mu		
Ι		fall - PST		
	Ί	fell'		
b.	Kupi	waya	kunhu-Ŋka	
	Fish	that	water	
'That fish is in the water.				

The Noun phrase (NP) in the function argument A is endowed with the suffix of the ergative symbol with NP on the argument function S and P, which is endowed differently from the marking A.

A language typology becomes accusative when argument A is of the exact nature as argument P. The pivot is a grammatical subject. The following is an example in an English sentence:

John (A) saw Mary (P), and [] sat down.

The constituent applied to the second clause is argument S, which corresponds to A in the first clause and not to argument P. Argument A is the exact nature of S. Thus, English can be designated as an accusative language.

A language is categorized into S language, disaggregated (active language), if argument S has the same behavior as

argument A, and argument S has the same behavior as P in a language (Jufrizal,2008).

In syntactic typology, the determination of the type of a language is based on three syntactic arguments, namely S (Subject), A (Agent), and P (patient). Syntactic typologies group languages into ergative, accusative, and S-disaggregated (Active Language). Testing a language to determine its type can use pivot tests. The study of Syntax typology can determine the type of a language in 3 syntactic arguments: Subject (S), Agent (A), and Patient (P). Song (2001:40-41) suggested that the existence of the three arguments can result in 5 logical possibilities in the grouping of languages: nominative, accusative, ergativeabsolutive, tripartite and neutral agent and patient subjects. Creissels (2020) made it clear that syntactic typology studies are often described in 3 areas: clause structure, noun phrase structure, and complex constructions.

Studies on language typology using the pivot system have been carried out in regional languages, such as Dina and Ritonga (2022), which analyze the Mandailing language and Basaria (2013) in the Pakpak Dairi language. However, in the Simalungun language, no study uses the Pivot system for grouping languages in typology.

## Simalungun Language

Syntax deals with the formation of phrases, sentences, and clauses. Phrases are combinations of words that still need to meet the requirements of the archetype sentences. Phrases in the Simalungun language can be classified into five types, namely object phrases, verb phrases, adjective phrases, number phrases, and partial phrases. A noun phrase occupies a noun element within a sentence.

Example:

- a. /tayup rih/ Roof farm 'Farm roof'
  b. /jenges tumang/ Beautiful very
- Very beautiful c. /I juma/ In farm In the farm

In the example of the phrase above, the noun *tayup* meets another noun *rih*,

forming the noun phrase *tayup rih*—sentence as an adjective phrase when the adjective *jenges* is added with the particle *tumang*. Sentence b is the partial phrase. I is the particle, and *juma* is a noun.

The basic sentences of the Simalungun Batak language are generally almost the same as those of Indonesian, which have a Subject (S) and a Predicate (Pr). This subject can be positioned as an agent, for example:

> /marhorja amaŊ/ Work Dad Dad works.

From the sentence *marhorja* as Pr and ama¶ as subject (S). In the Simalungun language, it is generally the position of the predicate at the beginning of the sentence and followed by the subject. Therefore, this sentence can be expanded into a clause.

A clause is a series of words that contain a subject and a predicate and become part of a broader sentence. For example, in the following clause:

# 7. /boi do ibotoh ho **aha na** huharosuhkon? /

'Can you guess what I want?'

In the above sentence, *aha na huharosuhkon* serves as a noun since each word among the three sets has a subject (*aha*) and a predicate (*huharosuhkon*) but are still parts of a sentence *boi do ibotoh ho*.

The above examples show that the Simalungun language can be determined by the type of language based on the formation of phrases, sentences, and clauses.

# METHOD

The method used in the research is qualitative. The technique used in the study is an interview by recording and taking notes. This technique aimed to obtain data naturally without any conditions from the two informants.

The data are in the form of phrases, sentences, and clauses in the Simalungun language. The data sources are informants who use Simalungun as a colloquial language in conversation. The informants are 58 years old and 60 years old. They use the Simalungun language in everyday conversation. They also live around Raya Bosi (Simalungun Regency). Most people living in the area use the Simalungun language for daily conversation. Therefore, it is expected that choosing informants who still use the Simalungun can maintain the purity of the language. The researcher asked the informants to translate some of the Indonesian phrases, sentences, and clauses to be translated into Simalungun. They also recorded the results of the interview, which were then analyzed.

#### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

As another regional language, Simalungun language has classes of words such as nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs. Those words are constructed to formulate a sentence. Therefore, the sentence structure of the Simalungun language is different from that of Indonesian or English. For example:

1. Dad cuts down trees.

The structure of this sentence is S + V + O

In the Simalungun language, the sentence becomes:

/Manaba hayu Bapa./ The sentence structure is V + O + S.

The structures of the sentences are different, especially in the position of subjects and verbs. In English, the verb lies after the subject. In the Simalungun language, the position of the Subject is not at the beginning but after the verb or before the object. To determine the typology of a language, it is necessary to look at several sentences and clauses as a reference for using pivot theory. Here are some data in the form of simple to complex clauses. Grouping the Simalungun language can determine the category of the language typology.

## **Basic Sentence of Simalungun language**

To analyze the type of typology of the Simalungun language, it is necessary to look at the primary form of the sentence. In a sentence, we will find classes of words, such as nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs. Here are some data on Simalungun language clauses with no verbs.

> 2./ Penter ia./ Clever 3Tg She is clever

The structure of the sentence is Compliment as Adjective + Subject. The *Panter*  is an adjective. The subject *ia* occurs after the adjective.

2. /tarmurmur dakdanak ai hara huja pe/

The child is famous everywhere.

This sentence is also the same as the previous one. That is, the subject *dakdanak ai* occurs after the adjective *tarmurmur*.

Sentences 2 and 3 are sentences devoid of verbs, and there is only one Subject who is an Agent at once.

3. /pokkut marlajar nasiam/ pokkut ACTlajar 2Tg You study hard.

This sentence presents a verb. The verb *marlajar* is present before the subject. It is an active sentence where the verb *marlajar* is derived from the primary form of *lajar*. In this sentence, the verb *marlajar* becomes a predicate and has only one agent, i.e., *nasiam*.

- 4. / I huta tulang ni. / Prep huta tulal] ni His uncle is in the village.
- 5. /Lima Huda ni domma torasan. / Num hudani domma torasan 'The old horse is five.

Sentences 5 and 6 are also devoid of verbs, but the structure is similar to sentences 2 and 3.

In the presentation of the data, in the Simalungun language, there is a clause whose basic structure has a predicate instead of a verb. Predicates, not verbs, can be a. adjective clause (*panter, tarmurmur, pokkut*), b. adverb clause (*i huta*), c. numerelia clause (*five*), and noun clause (*parmabuk*). The above sentences have syntactic arguments and subject and agent arguments. The subject argument can also play the role of Agents, such as the first person and the second person singular.

Simple sentences in the Simalungun language consist of verbs and subjects. Example:

/roh ia/

6.

Roh 3Tg

He came

The basic sentences of the Simalungun language are present without any reference to the verb. As in the example of data no 7. The *roh* verb is a primary verb that undergoes neither the addition of prefixes nor suffixes. Therefore, this preceding sentence has only one argument. In this sentence, *ia* also acts as a patient. As mentioned above, in sentences of the Simalungun language, verbs are first present before the subject. Therefore, if the subject is present first to be *ia roh*, it is less acceptable in the Simalungun language.

Basic sentences in the Simalungun language can also be seen where verbs experience the addition of a prefix, such as ma-, mar-, and tar-. The prefix ma-and marindicates the activities carried out by the Subject. Meanwhile, the prefix tar- shows activities that occurred accidentally. The Simalungun language clause, whose basic structure is a verbal predicate, is found in this language as follows:

- 7. /manortor ia/ ACTIVE tortor 3Tg She dances
- 8. /Torpodom gunup sidea/ ACTIVE modom ganup 3Tg They fell asleep
- 9. / maridi inal/ ACTIVE ridi inal/ Mother took a bath.
- 10. / marhorja amaη/ ACTIVE horja amaη Father works

From the above examples, in the Simalungun language, a clause consists of the intransitive verb (*maridi, mahorja, tarpodom*), the predicate of the clause, and one subject argument (*la, sidea, inang, amang*).

The sentence */manortor ia/* is the sentence whose verb acquires the prefix ma, and the verb is intransitive. Prefix ma-functions as a word (the marker) and a verb (verbal word) which have prefixed me- in the Indonesian Language. In this sentence, ia as a subject (S) and agent (A), and patient (P) too. This sentence consists of one clause, and the subject acts as an Agent and a Patient. It is the same as in the sentence /maridi ia/.

The sentence */marhorja amang/* is an active sentence with the prefix mar-. The verb *marhorja* is also an intransitive verb. Therefore, the prefix mar- serves as a verb marker of the horja, which in Indonesian the prefix ber-. */amang/* acts as S. An and P.

The intransitive verb that occupies the position of the predicate in the Simalungun language are present with the prefix, i.e., *ma-*, *mar-*, and *tar-* in sentences 8 to 11, and some are without prefix, as in sentence 7. The type

of intransitive verb that comes with a prefix is found in sentence 9. The prefixes are *tar* - in tarpodom, ma – in maridi, and mar – in *marhorja*. In sentence no 8, the verb *manortor* comes from the verb *nortor*, which means to dance. This word gets the prefix ma- which means to do an activity that is dancing. In this sentence, there is one agent, and it also acts as a patient, namely, *ia*. In sentence no 8, the verb *podom* gets the prefix tar, *tarpodom*. Tarpodom is an activity accidentally carried out by an agent. In this sentence, the agent and the patient are also the same, i.e., *ganup sidea*. Sentences 10 and 11 are examples where the verb gets the prefix ma-. Maridi comes from the base form *ridi*, and *mahorja* comes from the verb horja. These two verbs denote an activity carried out by the subject. In these two sentences, the agent acts as a Patient, i.e., *inang* and *amang*.

The above sentences are intransitive. An intransitive sentence does not require an object. The sentences above can stand alone without an object. For example, in the sentence:

# /Manortor ia./ He dances

In this sentence, there is no object. He, as an agent, is also a patient. The subject he experiences and hits on is dancing verbs.

The above example shows that the intransitive verb that occupies the position of the predicate comes with an affix that serves as the subject. Besides, the intransitive verb of the Simalungun language is also present without affixes.

In addition to an intransitive verb, in the Simalungun language, there are also transitive verbs, as in the following example:

12. /mamboli baju na jeŊes tumaŊ amaŊ/ ACT boli baju na jeŊ tumaŊ amaŊ

Father bought stunning clothes. 13. *manliplip hiou inal*/ ACT liplip hiou inang Mother is folding fabric.

14. / mandarang omei ia hu jabu / ACT darang omei 3Tg hu jabu He delivered the rice to the house.

The intransitive clause of the Simalungun language is formed by the presence of transitive verbs as a predicate. The verb that occupies the position of the predicate appears with affixes. In the Simalungun language, the verb position is generally present before the subject. Few occur at the beginning of the sentence. To be able to determine the language type, it is necessary to mark the case. Case marking refers to 3 grammatical semantics, namely A (Agent), S (Subject), and P (patient). In example (12), amal (father) is S as well as agent (A), and *baju na jelles tumal (stunning* clothes) is as Patient (P). The examples in sentences (13) and (14) where the verb is present after the subject is in contrast to the previous example sentence. The case in both sentences is that the position of the agent and subject is the same and different from that of (P). From the three sentences, there is one Agent, and there is an affixed verb.

The data presented the grammatical alliance system of Bahasa Simalungun. In the grammatical alliance system of Bahasa Simalungun, the argument S is equal to A and different from P, as below:



Or S =A, # P

The grammatical alliance system in the chart concluded that Bahasa Simalungun tends to be accusative language.

To establish the Simalungun language pivot system, first, determine coordinate sentences as a reference for the type of Simalungun language typology.

## Coordinate Sentences of Simalungun Language

Coordinate sentences in the Simalungun language are characterized by the presence of connecting words and without connecting words. The connecting words are *halani, laho, and ase.* This conjunction is present to connect one clause with another. Example:

15. /maŊarap au halani maŊihon [] marhasil./ I hope. There are two clauses in this sentence, namely *ma*η*arap au and ma*η*ihon* [] *marhasil.*/

In these two clauses, there is a linking word, namely *halani*. The first clause, i.e., *maŋarap au* joins coordinately with the second clause, i.e., *maŋihon* [] marhasil. From this merger occurred the discharge of Nouns, i.e., *au*. The coordinative merging of two clauses indicated that no derived syntactic structure is required. Coordinate sentences can also be used as a reference in pivot tests to determine the typology of the Simalungun language.

## **Pivot System**

To determine the Simalungun pivot, as presented in the table above, it takes several sentences with transitive and intransitive clauses. The pivot test is a reference to determine the type of Simalungun language.

S1=S2 (both intransitive clauses)
 15. / maŊarap au halani maŊihon
 [] marhasil./
 'I hope that I will succeed.

The above sentence consists of two intransitive clauses, namely malarap au (I hope) and malihon ahu marhasil (I will *succeed*). These two sentences are clauses that do not require an object after the verb. mallarap ahu, where this sentence does not require an object, nor does the second clause mallihon marhasil also without any object. In this sentence, the subject ahu does not appear in the second clause because it is considered the same as the previous clause. Based on the example of sentence 15, the Simalungun language shows no need for a syntactic derivative structure. The merging of two clauses, with the release of Noun *au* on one of the clauses, is carried out directly without changing the syntactic structure on either the one or the two merged clauses.

II. S1=A2 (the first clause is intransitive, and the second clause is transitive)
16. /Ro do ahu laho manŊankhon kue nasiam/
I came so I could eat cake.

The first clause of *Ro* do ahu is an intransitive sentence, where the Subject and the Agent are endowed the same, au. Ahu acts as an agent as well as a patient. The second clause of manflankhon, where the Subject and Agent are here, are also the same. In the first clause, the verb is present at the beginning and is intransitive, while in the second sentence, the verb is a transitive verb that can be converted into a passive sentence.

III. S1=P2 (the first clause is intransitive; the second clause is transitive)
17./Ahu ijon laho makkasomani inaŊ/
I came here so my mother could accompany me.

The first *clause*, *Ahu ijon*, is the intransitive clause, and the second clause, *makkasomani inal* is also transitive. In the first clause, ahu is endowed with S and A the same. In the second clause, Subject and Agent are endowed the same, and argument P is endowed differently from S and A.

IV. P1=P2 (Transitive first clause, transitive second clause) 18./Ahu maŊindo ase adek makkasonami inaŊ/

I asked my sister to see mom.

The first clause *is Ahu maljindo*, and the second is *adek makkasonami inalj*. The first clause is transitive, and the verb *maljindo* is present after the subject. Arguments S and A are endowed the same. In the second clause, *adek makkasonami inalj* arguments S and A are also endowed the same, and P is endowed differently. The test shows that the Simalungun language syntactically works with S/A pivots.

Based on the examples presented, the above explanation concluded that the intransitive verb marking does not distinguish the semantic property of the S argument (argument S has the same form) as well as the marking of the verb as a pivot (head marking). The same can also be used to bruise the subject (agent) intransitive verbs. The data described the grammatical alliance system of the Simalungun language. In the grammatical alliance system, the argument S equals A and differs from P. Besides, the Simalungun language tends to be accusative.

The current result is different from that of the previous studies. For example, the Karo

with the Karo Batak language still has a language kinship, and the sentence structure is also the same, predicate is present before the Subject, but typologically, these two languages are different. Correspondingly, the Mandailing language and the Simalungun language also have a kinship relationship and are spoken in the same region of North Sumatra, yet in terms of language typology. They are in different language groups. Mandailing language research uses syntactic studies and is included in the causative language group, yet the Simalungun language has the same language grouping as the Angkola language. The grouping of Angkola languages is the same as that of Simalungun using syntactic studies. The Angkola language uses word order, and the Batak Simalungun language uses alliance grammar as a reference. Although with different references, they can be grouped into causative languages.

language is grouped into agglutinative

languages. The Batak Simalungun language

Previous research using pivot tests on regional languages, such as Pakpak Dairi language and Minang language, have the same research results; the two languages have the same type of language, namely accusative language. The pivot test system in the Mandailing language is the same as that in the PakPak Dairi language, which works with the S/A pivot system, also known as accusative language. It is the same as the Simalungun language, where the absorption of FN can be done directly if the FN is in the S or A function.

The typology of the Simalungun language can be grouped into accusative languages using syntactic studies. It is a grammatical alliance where S and A have the same position but differ from P. From the pivot test, the Simalungun language is also included in the accusative language.

# CONCLUSION

In general, the Simalungun language has the construction of intransitive clauses and transitive clauses. The transitive Verb that occupies the position of predicate comes with an affix that serves as the speaker of the subject. However, some are also present without affixes. In a typological study of the grammatical behavior of coordinate and subordinate constructs, the Simalungun language has a grammatical alliance system that treats S the same as A. However, different treatment is given to P. Simalungun language treats the subject the same as the agent (A) at the syntactic level. Therefore, it belongs to the accusative language. This study is expected to lead other researchers to study the Batak Simalungun language, specifically in syntax, as it received little attention.

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