



Genitive Case in Kurdish and English Languages

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Article Info

Article history:

Received: January 02, 2024

Revised: January 17, 2024

Accepted: February 16, 2024

Keywords:

Case
Grammatical Case
Genitive Case
Kurdish Syntax
English Syntax

Abstract

Linguistic and grammatical correctness, both in their production and when they are categorized under specialized grammar, involve numerous features unique to each language and the technical intricacies of its grammar. One such feature encompasses processes related to the genitive case, encompassing the nuanced details of genitive attribution, possession, indicators of possession, and the presence or absence of these indicators in their respective contexts. This research delves into the Genitive Case in Kurdish and English, elucidating their positions, commonalities, and distinctions. The methodology employed throughout this study is primarily analytical and comparative, wherein initial observations and insights about the phenomenon are presented, followed by a thorough analysis and demonstration of the genitive case in both Kurdish and English grammar.

To cite this article: Aziz, Aryan Sdiq., Gharib, Nali Adham., Karim, Chia Karim., Gharib, Bahra Salam Hama., Amin, Tanya Ismail Hama., Abdalla, Shabaz. (2024). Genitive Case in Kurdish and English Languages. *Journal of Linguistics and Social Sciences*, 2(1), 1-12

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Comments and Opinions on the Case

For sentence components to manifest in their rightful positions and necessary existence, they require specific circumstances and treatment. This treatment facilitates their role as materials with a true presence, adept at filling gaps, whether brief or supervisory. It ensures their correct placement and formation. This meticulous treatment is imperative for accurate grammar and meaning. As these circumstances pertain to both grammar and syntactic situations, they establish connections within the semantic field. The various types, purposes, and essences of different situations are distinctly elucidated in sections and clauses.

1.1 Case Theory

Every integral component of a sentence holds a designated place and function, with situations serving as the means to fulfill these functions. The allocation of functions in syntactic correctness adheres to the rules governed by specific signs or placements. The foundation of this theory traces back to Chomsky's work in the Government and Binding Theory, initially presented through a series of lectures and later published in 1981 as "Lectures on Government and Binding" (Qader 2011, 13). This grammar model introduced two crucial aspects—judgment and connection—which were overlooked in the theory of the extended standard review. The Power and Binding theory, a pivotal shift in generative grammar, is recognized as the theory of roots and

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parameters, deemed the most widespread theory of construction (For more information, refer to Qadir 2023).

The theory of power and connection is integral to general grammar, capable of addressing the diversities among different languages (Qadir 2017, 129). It encompasses several generational theories, each interpreting one or more components of linguistic sentences. The theoretical offspring of power and connection, including X-bar theory, set role theory, bondage theory, control theory, situation theory, connection theory, and governance theory, contribute to the comprehensive understanding of this theory.

The existence of theoretical branches and descendants within the theory of power and connection implies a fundamental assumption that much of the grammar across all languages shares common characteristics. This underpins the proposition of a universal grammar for all human languages, acknowledging that grammars, despite their relative and slight differences, share these theoretical foundations. Parameters then highlight the specific grammatical distinctions. In 1990, Chomsky encapsulated all aspects of grammatical sentence interpretation into two levels of representation: logical form, elucidating the semantic aspects of sentences, and phonetic forms, delineating sentence structures (Further details on these areas can be found in Sulaiman 2007; Qadir 2011).

In the theory of power and binding, the concept of "situation" is redefined to encompass not just the phonetic entities that constitute bonded morphemes within sentence structures but the notion of "situation" in all languages. What Chomsky suggests is that even when a situation lacks a phonetic manifestation, it can still be considered an abstract case, providing the context for appearance within any phrase. In this context, two types of situations have been identified:

1. **Structural Case:** This type is determined by the superficial positioning of noun phrases (initially, case theory was exclusively associated with noun phrase appearance). Example 1 illustrates the situation of constituent noun phrases:

1. سه‌یوان و کاروان کتێبه‌کانیان گواستوه.
(*Seywan û Karwan Ktêbekaniyan Gwastewe.*)
[*Seywan and Karwan moved the books.*]

In this example, both "Saywan û [and] Karwan" and "Ktêbekan [The books]" assume grammatical positions, corresponding to their placements in the superficial correctness of the sentence.

2. **Inherent Case:** This type of case is inherent in the deep structure, prior to the application of transformational rules, with specific arguments (Qadir 2011, 42). Example 2 illustrates inherent case:

2. ئەو ئوتۆمبێلی براکەمی سووتاند.
(*Ew Otombêlî Brakemî Sutand.*)
[*He burned my brother's car.*]

In Example 2, the object "Otombêl [Car]" takes an accusative position in surface structure, in accordance with grammatical rules, while "Bra [Brother]" assumes a genitive position in deep structure, marked by /î/. According to Mahvi (2001), inherent cases are considered grammatical states and may occur either locally or in a series (Mahvi 2001, 44). (For further insights into these two types of situations, refer to Ma'roof 2009).

From one perspective, each of the cases (genitive, affected/dative verb) is regarded as an "inherent" or "obscure" case, whereas each of the cases (verb/nominative, verb/accusative) is seen as the "structural" or "clear" case. For more on this classification of "obscure" and "clear" cases, see Ahmad (2011, 35-43) and Gharib, B. S. H., & Ismael, S. A. (2020).

As previously noted, not all languages spontaneously categorize functions based on situations, and this classification can be context-dependent, be it based on place or marking. This argument may not hold true for every constituent within all languages. However, this variation does not negate the presence of situations in all languages. In essence, situations represent the realm of syntactic complexity by which noun phrases define their roles, functions, and consequences. Some languages express cases through morphological tools with phonetic manifestations, while in others, cases are determined by consonants (e.g., Kurdish Middle Dialect - Sulaimani dialect). In the same example, states manifest through morphological tools in other dialects of the language, such as Goran and Badini dialects (see Aziz, S. H., & Aziz, A. S. 2019).

Nonetheless, this does not diminish the significance of situations as a critical and distinctive aspect of sentence structures. Syntactic relations play a pivotal role in upholding grammatical correctness. Without these mechanisms, sentences deviate from universal grammar principles and violate established rules. From this viewpoint, following the Case Filter rule, every noun phrase must be assigned a grammatical status (clear/obscure) within the sentence. Consequently, when a noun phrase possesses phonetic content and does not have an assigned grammatical status, it is referred to as "inherent" (Mahwi 2001, 35).

1.2 Grammatical Situations

The emergence of objects and concepts within the confines of grammatical and syntactic correctness creates not only fundamental needs and demands but also gives rise to certain grammatical phenomena deemed necessary. One such phenomenon is grammatical situations. The assignment of grammatical status is imperative; all existing grammatical markers must be employed—they must not be overlooked.

While the lexical head (LK) assigns the objective role in deep structure (DS), it imparts the grammatical status of correctness in surface structure (SS) (see the previous source, p. 44). Therefore, grammatical state constitutes an essential grammatical component across languages, albeit with varying treatments. Differences in opinions among sources relate to the links and principles of the situation itself. For instance, is the subject of the situation (in all its forms) a manifest phenomenon and a superficially correct existence of reality linked to grammatical and syntactic dimensions? Or, despite this role and fact, does the semantic link, the deep level, and the semantic field also influence the situations, their emergence, and their permissibility?

In the past, the subject of a situation was solely associated with examining the various relationships of nouns and the semantic connections that nouns had in their positions to other objects in sentences—all interpreted through syntactic relationships and shaping the concept of a situation. What holds importance is the fundamental concept in which situational relationships are primarily expressed, such as the concepts of verbs or direct actions. From this perspective, it becomes evident that the issue of situations and situational relationships should be interpreted more from a semantic perspective and link. If linked to grammatical and syntactic characteristics, it can be applied to specific languages, not all languages (for further information on this perspective, refer to Fillmore 1968).

Hence, in the analysis of syntactic phenomena, it is inadequate to focus solely on the role and dimension of syntactic and grammatical technical processes. All syntactic concepts manifest for the sake of a logical formal expression. In this perspective and in functional lexical grammar, the verb is ascribed semantic functions and roles "because it can play several semantic roles in sentences. Roles such as (agent, enjoyer, instrument, interactant, time, and place), because in the grammatical task, the verb has been able to play several different semantic roles" (Saddiq 2013, 39).

Therefore, situations and grammatical situations are presented according to two perspectives, both acknowledging the complexity of their existence. However, the differences lie in the ultimate purpose of the situation and the entities within the situation—some linking it to a place within grammatical and syntactic correctness. In addition to this connection at the surface level, another type of situation is presented, related to the deep level and semantic field. After the syntactic connection, its semantic role and imprint become apparent. Indeed, it was from this perspective that two types of situations were initially defined: one in a superficial relationship and the other in innate and deep relationships.

Because grammatical theory deals with noun phrases and scrutinizes the distribution of these phrases, it revolves around the relationship between the head and the complement. That is, it is the relationship between (Y and X), in which the state-giver-X-, the head, must direct the state-receiver-Y- (Saeed 2020, 83).

According to this perspective, situations are invariably connected to two components: the head and the complement, i.e., (X and Y). Consequently, the subject of the situation is posited as a derivative of the power and connection theory. This is because there must be a head (providing the situation) that directs another object (referred to as the complement) and receives the situation. Initial conceptualizations of situations were predominantly associated with noun phrases,

specifically in determining the head of the phrase. This involved identifying the head as part of the phrase and linking situations to the noun phrase.

However, as ideas evolved, particularly concerning the heads of phrases, both demonstrative and genitive pronouns were recognized as integral components of phrase heads and became situational objects. This shift aims to uphold the principles of agreement and allow for syntactic, grammatical, and semantic accuracy. To illustrate this, consider Example 3:

3. كورەكان سەربان دارەكانیان سوتاند.
(*Kurrekan Serban Darekaniyan Sutand.*)
[*The boys burned the wooden roof.*]

For further insights into agreement in Kurdish, refer to (Khalid, T. O., et al 2023).

The presence of (*NP) "Serban [roof]" in Example (3) is attributed to the head of the status-giver (which is not explicitly stated). The verb, serving as the status-giving head, adheres to a singular grammatical state and imparts its nominal complement. Thus, when substituting the conditional head "in" in Example (3), the result is contextually appropriate and grammatically permissible. All these relationships are valid within the framework of sentence structure.

In essence, these relationships are not only possible but also conform to syntactic and grammatical correctness. Consequently, matters of situation and grammar are interconnected, with situations establishing conventions, identifications, and markers for syntactic and grammatical relationships.

1.3 Grammatical State Signs and Their Types

Considering that grammatical cases establish syntactic relationships between nominal and ordinary phrases, it becomes imperative for cases to possess distinct types, signs, characteristics, and explanations for their presence or absence. Consequently, cases manifest on noun phrases both with and without morphological indicators.

According to Mohammed, "Situation theory dictates that each noun phrase must exhibit an explicit or abstract situational sign in a given context." (2009, 188) It has been noted that the treatment of cases in languages varies based on the nature and grammatical characteristics of the language. For instance, in languages with verb-subject directions, such as final languages like Kurdish, verbs proceed from left to right. Thus, situational heads and staters categorize cases based on their complements according to their direction. The treatment and orientation of situational heads and the nature of situational signs also differ across languages. Situations are "manifested and recognized in sentences through marks or arrangements of materials and filling in gaps" (Ahmed 2011, 6).

Languages generally handle cases in two ways: A. Manifestation of the case symbol. B. Absence of symptoms.

In some languages, grammatical case signs are not physically visible and lack phonetic manifestations but are internally stored in the words themselves. These languages employ fixed positions to assign grammatical roles to sentence components. Therefore, the appearance or absence of grammatical case signs is tied to another categorization of case signs (Mustafa, M. R., & Aziz, A. S. 2021, 22). From this perspective, three types of grammatical case signs emerge:

A. Morphological cases, characterized by physical and morphological manifestations. Arabic is an example, where superscripts and subscripts are morphologically manifest signs for nominative, accusative, and genitive cases, as illustrated in Example 4:

4. رسمت الولد السمك. (Rsmt L-ūldu S-smka) [The boy drew the fish].

B. Languages that use inflection to convey grammatical case signs, with physical manifestations. English grammar is an example, using different forms as the basis and signs of cases for various elements (e.g., I for subject, Me for object, My for possessive), as demonstrated in the following examples: a- I went to school. b- He kicked me. c- This is my car. (For further information on inflection, refer to Mahwi, M. A. S., & Aziz, A. S. 2018).

C. Grammatical cases determined by the position of objects and their arrangement in correct structures. This underscores the importance of position in attributing grammatical roles to objects. Even without a specific position sign, we can discern their grammatical role based on their placement. (Additional information on this topic can be found in: Mohammed 2015 and Qadir 2015).

This categorization allows us to identify both the types of grammatical cases and the various signs and manifestations of case signs. However, concerning the cases themselves, there exist several types, with the most common being:

- Verb/Nominative: ئارا نووست. (Ara Nûst.) [Ara slept.]
- Verb/Accusative: سه‌یوان ئارای هینایه‌وه. (Seywan Arayi Hênayewe.) [Seywan brought back Ara]
- Second/Indirect/Dative Verb: نامه‌که‌یان به ئارادا ئاردووه. (Namekeyan be Arada Narduwe) [They have sent the letter by Ara.]
- Possessive/Genitive: سارا جله‌کانی ئارای لیبهرکردووه. (Sara Clekanî Arayi Leberkrduwe) [Sara wore Ara's clothes.]

This once again emphasizes the intricate relationship of syntactic correctness, with all its technical processes, to their semantic dimensions.

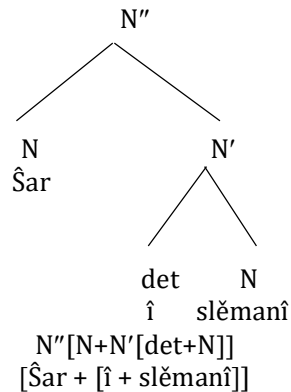
2. Genitive Case in Kurdish and English

2.1 Genitive Case in Kurdish

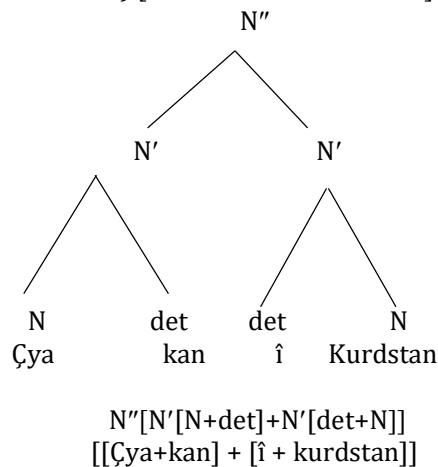
2.1.1 Phrase Structure and the Genitive Case

In Kurdish, the Genitive Case can take on several correct forms depending on the determiners in use. Rules are elucidated through examples, and the correct structures are summarized at the conclusion of this section.

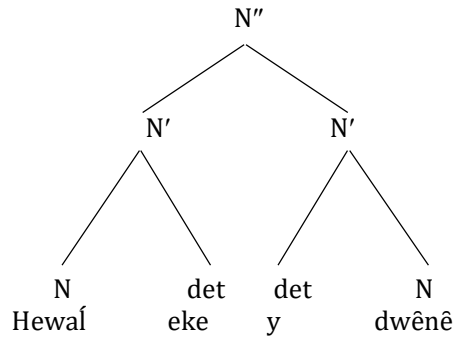
13. ئشاری سلیمانێ (Şarî slëmanî) [City Of Sulaimaniyah]



14. چیاکانی کوردستان (Çyakanî kurdstan) [Mountains of Kurdistan]



15. هه‌وآله‌که‌ی دوینی (Hewalêkey dwênê) [The News of Yesterday]



N''[N'[N+det]+N'[det+N]]

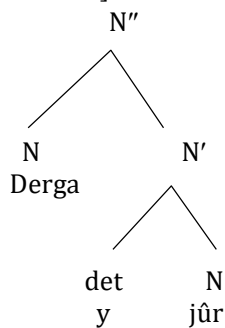
[[Hewal + eke] + [y + dwênê]]

There are two types of Genitive phrases:

2.1.1.1. Genitive Possessive Phrase:

a. Attachment to something:

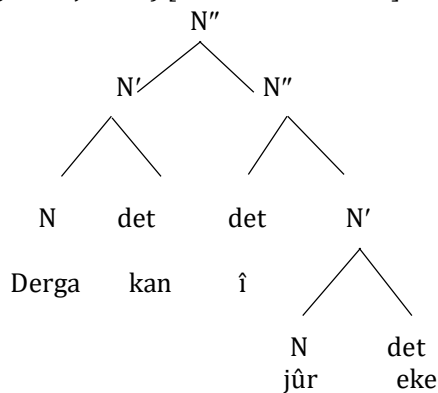
16. دەرگای ژوور (Dergay jûr) [Room Door]



N''[N+N'[det+N]]

[Derga + [y + jûr]]

17. دەرگاکانی ژوورەکه (Dergakani jûreke) [The Room's Doors]

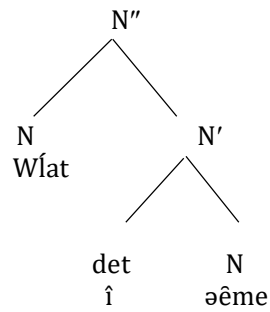


N''[N'[N+det]+N''[det+N'[N+det]]]

[[Derga + kan] + [î + [jûr + eke]]]

b. Full ownership:

18. وڵاتی ئێمه (Wlâtî ême) [Our Country]

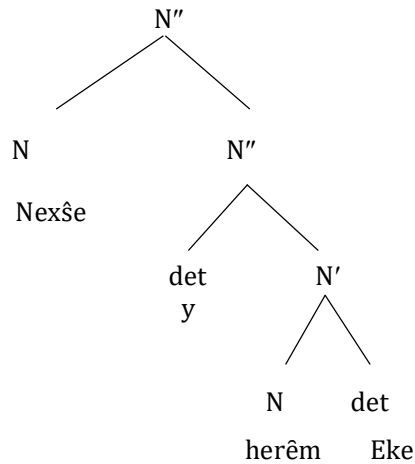


N''[N+N'[det+N]]

[Wlât + [î + ême]]

2.1.1.2. Genitive Phrase Determinative:

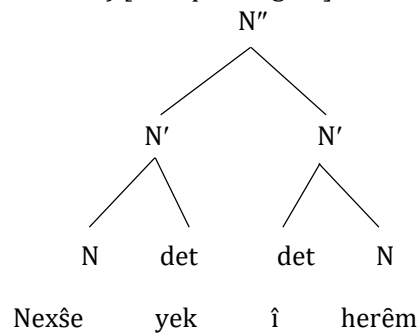
19. نەخشەیی هەرێمەکە (Nexşey herêmeke) [Map of The Region]



N''[N+N''[det+N'[N+det]]]

[Nexşe + [y + [herêm + eke]]]

20. نەخشەییەکەی هەرێم (Nexşeyekî herêm) [A Map of Region]



N''[N'[N+det]+N'[det+N]]

[[Nexşe + yek] + [î + herêm]]

Summary of Structures and Usage

Kurdish Language Grammar:

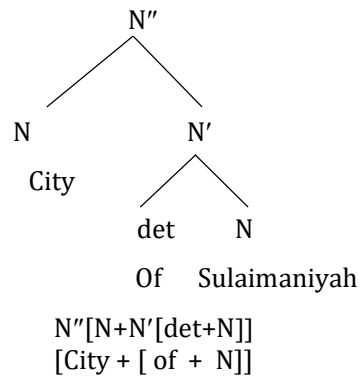
- 1- $N''[N+N'[\text{det}+N]]$
- 2- $N''[N'[N+\text{det}]+N''[\text{det}+N'[N+\text{det}]]]$
- 3- $N'[N+\text{det}]+N'[\text{det}+N[N'']]$
- 4- $N''[N+N'[\text{det}+N'[N+\text{det}]]]$

2.2 Genitive Case in English

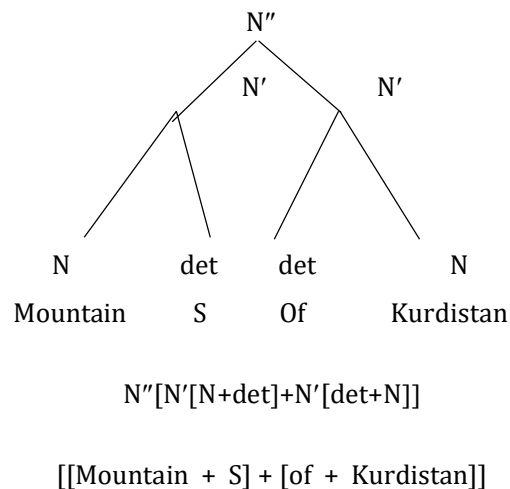
2.2.1 Proper Phrasing and the Genitive Case

Similar to Kurdish, English exhibits various styles of phrases and genitive cases, depending on the positions of their distinct morphemes:

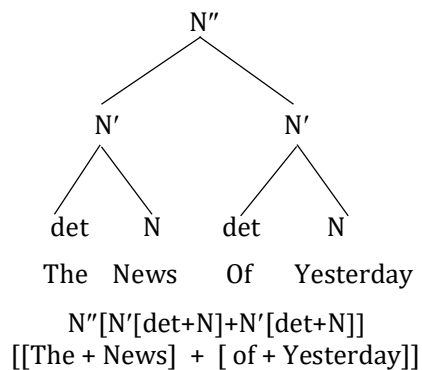
21. City of Sulaymaniyah



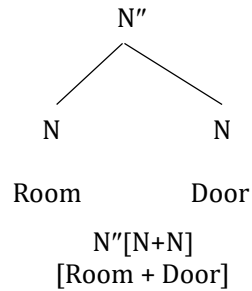
22. Mountains of Kurdistan



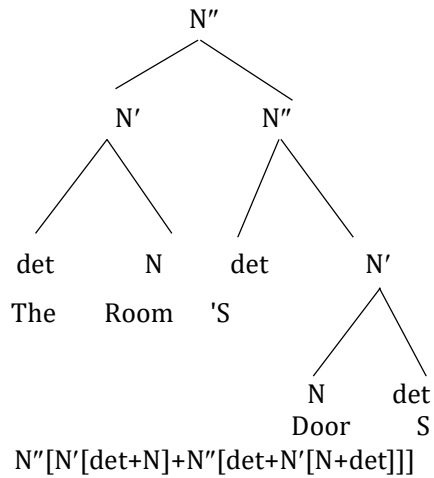
23. The News of Yesterday



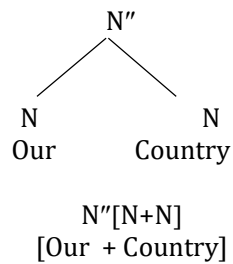
24. Room Door



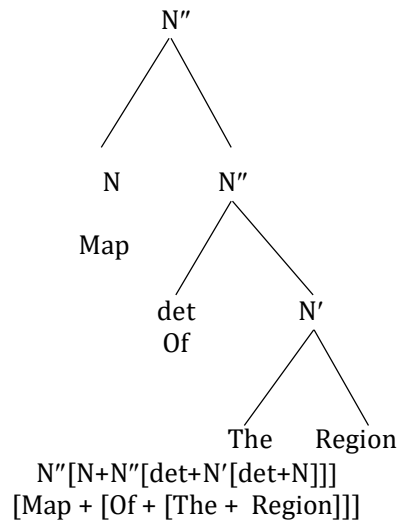
25. The Room's Doors



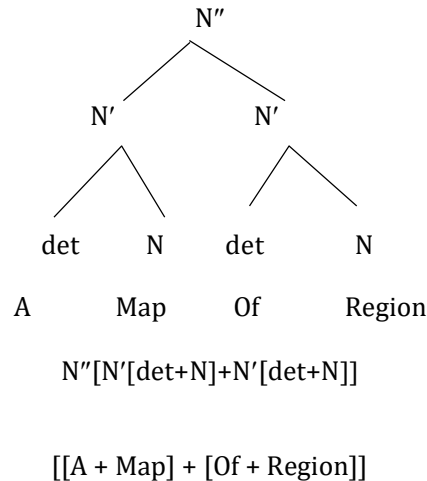
26. Our Country



27. Map of The Region



28. A Map of Region

**Summary of Structures and Usage****English Language Grammar:**

- 1- $N''[N+N'[det+N]]$
- 2- $N''[N'[N+det]+N'[det+N]]$
- 3- $N''[N'[det+N]+N'[det+N]]$
- 4- $N''[N'[det+N]+N''[det+N'[N+det]]]$
- 5- $N''[N+N]$
- 6- $N''[N+N'[det+N'[det+N]]]$

2.3 Similarities and differences**2.3.1 Similarities**

- 1- The first structure in 3.1-2 with the first structure in 3.2-2
 $N''[N+N'[det+N]]$
- 2- Third structure in 3.1-2 with the second structure in 3.2-2
 $N''[N'[N+det]+N'[det+N]]$

2.3.2 Differences

- Second $N''[N'[N+det]+N''[det+N'[N+det]]]$ structure in 3.1-2 and
 Fourth structure $N''[N+N'[det+N'[N+det]]]$ in 3.1-2,
 And third structure $N''[N'[det+N]+N'[det+N]]$ in 3.2-2 and
 Fourth structure $N''[N'[det+N]+N''[det+N'[N+det]]]$ in 3.2-2 and
 Fifth Structure $N''[N+N]$ in 3.2-2 and
 Sixth Structure $N''[N+N'[det+N'[det+N]]]$ in 3.2-2

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the findings presented in this study contribute valuable insights to our understanding of grammar, particularly focusing on the concept of "situation" and its various linguistic manifestations. One of the key observations is that the relevance of the situation within grammar remains consistent across different perspectives and observations. The study highlights that the grammatical treatment of this phenomenon does not dictate its presence or absence; instead, it is inherently tied to the nature of the grammar itself.

Furthermore, the grammatical status of nominal and ordinary phrases emerges as a crucial aspect, wherein governing heads allocate resources by selecting and assigning distinctive roles to complements. This process aims to fulfill surface truths, leading to the interpretation and alignment with logical structures. The examination of situational markers in the Kurdish language reveals

variations across dialects, with differences in the use of morphological or phonetic indicators. The semantic perspective also emerges as significant, emphasizing the connection between situational necessity, phonetic expression, and semantics.

A comparative analysis between Kurdish and English, particularly in the context of the Genitive Case, uncovers both similarities and differences. While the number marking for the genitive case is consistent (one) in both languages, dissimilarities arise in the number marking (two in Kurdish and four in English). Despite analogies in the genitive case structure, disparities exist, highlighting the nuanced nature of language. The study extends its examination to the number marking for the genitive case, revealing variations (five in Kurdish and six in English). In essence, this research underscores the intricate interplay between grammar, semantics, and language-specific structures, providing a comprehensive view of the multifaceted nature of linguistic phenomena.

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