# Nominalization in Mayrinax Atayal* 

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#### Abstract

This is a preliminary, descriptive study of nominalization in Mayrinax Atayal as spoken in Chinshui Village, Taian Township, Miaoli County. Like most other Formosan or even Austronesian languages, nominalization in Mayrinax occurs at both the lexical and the clausal level. Except for focus and tense/aspect/mood markers, however, there are no productive morphological devices to produce lexical nominals; nominalized elements and verb forms are, therefore, identical. An examination of the functions of Mayrinax derived nominals shows that they may designate actions or states, and may also manifest the agent, patient, locative, or instrumental argument of an event. These findings should prove useful to future typological or comparative research.


Key words: nominalization, Mayrinax Atayal, morphosyntactic, case marker, focus, tense/aspect/mood, argument

## 1. Introduction

Nominalization is the process by which a non-nominal element (e.g., verb, adjective, verb phrase, or clause) is changed into a nominal (Comrie and Thompson 1985, Payne 1997). The present paper examines nominalization in Mayrinax Atayal. ${ }^{1}$ Atayal is an Austronesian language spoken principally in the mountainous area of northern Taiwan. Its two major dialects are Squliq and CRuli?; the latter is thought to be more conservative and hence more useful for historical and comparative studies. Mayrinax is a variant of the C?uli? dialect spoken in Chinshui Village, Taian Township,

[^0]Miaoli County. The data for this paper is based on the speech of Mr. ßaRay ßayan, collected from time to time between June 1987 and January 2001.

This is a preliminary, descriptive study of nominalization in Mayrinax Atayal. We shall begin by illustrating some of the morphosyntactic properties of nouns and verbs in the language to show how lexical and clausal nominalizations are recognized (i.e., by the presence of preceding case markers and their syntactic distribution) and how they are formed (i.e., through the affixation of focus and tense/aspect/mood markers). The rest of the paper is divided into two parts: the first concerns the types of nominalization (i.e., lexical and clausal); the second part focuses on the functions of nominalization. We hope this study proves useful to future typological or comparative research.

## 2. Morphosyntactic properties of nouns and verbs in Mayrinax Atayal

Mayrinax Atayal is a verb-initial language, and nouns manifesting participants of events usually occur elsewhere in the sentence (i.e., in non-sentence-initial position). Furthermore, nouns can be grammatically differentiated from other lexical categories by, e.g., the presence of preceding case markers. ${ }^{2}$ This criterion holds true for Mayrinax Atayal; that is, a preceding case marker can identify each nominal element. As will be shown below, case markers in Mayrinax are first categorized into two sets: one preceding personal proper nouns and the other common nouns. And those preceding common nouns are further divided into two subsets: 'referential'3 and 'non-referential'. Each of the aforementioned three sets appears in four different case forms: nominative, accusative, genitive/oblique, and comitative. Table 1 is a summary of the case marking system of the language: ${ }^{4}$

[^1]Table 1: Case markers of Mayrinax Atayal

| Case |  | Nominative | Accusative | Genitive/ <br> Oblique | Comitative |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Noun | ?i? | ?i? | ni? | ki? |  |
| Proper Noun | Common Noun | Referential | ku? | cku? | nku? |
|  | Non-referential | a? | cu? | na? | --- |

Following are some examples with case markers underlined: ${ }^{5}$


[^2]On the other hand, verbal elements in Mayrinax Atayal are recognizable by the co-presence of focus ${ }^{6}$ markers and/or tense/aspect/mood markers (Huang et al. 1999:675). The focus system is rather complex, with focus markers categorized as agent focus (AF), patient focus (PF), locative focus (LF), and instrument as well as beneficiary focus (IF/BF). Huang (2001) further points out that semantic roles like AGENT, PATIENT, LOCATIVE, BENEFICIARY, INSTRUMENT, and REASON can all be put in focus, serving as grammatical subject. Thus, as expected, there are many more distinct verb forms than can be found in languages like English. Table 2 presents the focus markers of the language:

Table 2: Focus markers of Mayrinax Atayal (Huang 2001:55)

|  | Affirmative |  |  |  |  | Negative |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Declarative |  |  |  | Imperative | Declarative | Imperative |
|  | Realis |  | Irrealis |  |  |  |  |
|  | Neutral | Perfective | Future/ Remote | Projective/ Immediate | Atemporal |  |  |
| AF | m-; ma-; -um-; $\varnothing$ |  | $\varnothing$ | m-/ma-/-um-...-ay | $\varnothing$ |  |  |
| PF | -un | $\varnothing$ | -un | -aw | $\varnothing$ | -i |  |
| LF | -an |  |  | -ay | -i |  |  |
| IF/BF |  | si- | $\varnothing$ | -anay |  | -ani |  |

Some affirmative declarative sentences containing verbs affixed with different focus markers are given below:


[^3]

As for the tense/aspect/mood system of Mayrinax Atayal, there is a contrast between realis and irrealis. On the one hand, verbs marked with only AF focus markers (ㅍm-/na-/-um-/ $\underline{\boldsymbol{q}}, \mathrm{PF}$-un, LF -an and IF si-, but no others) may designate either perfective, progressive, or habitual events, i.e., realis/realized events; while verbs with the additional infix -in- indicate perfective events; and verbs co-occurring with auxiliaries kia?/haniPan manifest on-going events. On the other hand, AF verbs prefixed with pa- and NAF verbs with initial consonant reduplicated plus an additional -a- vowel designate irrealis/unrealized events ${ }^{7}$ (commonly represented as $C a$ - in the literature since Blust (1998)). This mechanism is shown in Table 3:

[^4]Table 3: Tense/aspect/mood system of Mayrinax Atayal (Huang 2001:57)

| Focus Tense/Aspect/Mood | Realis |  |  | Irrealis |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Neutral | Perfective | Progressive | Future |
| AF |  |  |  | pa- |
| PF | $\varnothing$ | -in- | kia? <br> haniPan | Ca- |
| LF |  |  |  |  |
| IF/BF |  |  |  |  |

Below are examples of verbs affixed with some of these tense/aspect/mood markers:

| (3) a. | m-aniq | cup | $\beta$ uya? | ii? | sayun |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | AF-eat | Acc.Nrf | sweet:potato | Nom | Sayun |

'Sayun is eating sweet potatoes'
$\begin{array}{lllll}\text { a'. } & \text { niq-un } & \text { nii } & \text { sayun } & \text { kuP }\end{array}$ ßuya? $\quad \begin{array}{lll}\text { eat-PF } & \text { Gen } & \text { Sayun } \\ \text { nom.Rf } & \text { sweet:potato }\end{array}$
'The sweet potato was eaten by Sayun'
b. m<in>aniq cu? ßuna? Ri? sayun AF $<$ Prf $>$ eat Acc.Nrf sweet:potato Nom Sayun 'Sayun ate sweet potatoes'
c. kia? m-aniq cu? ßuya? ?i? sayun Prog AF-eat Acc.Nrf sweet:potato Nom Sayun 'Sayun is eating sweet potatoes (there)'
$c^{\prime}$. $\begin{array}{llllll}\text { haniPan } & \text { m-aniq } & \text { cu? } & \text { Buya? } & \text { ?i? } & \text { sayun } \\ \text { Prog } & \text { AF-eat } & \text { Acc.Nrf } & \text { sweet:potato } & \text { Nom } & \text { Sayun }\end{array}$ Prog AF-eat Acc.Nrf sweet:potato Nom Sayun 'Sayun is eating sweet potatoes (here)'
d. pa-ø-qaniq cu? ßuna? Pi? sayun Irr-AF-eat Acc.Nrf sweet:potato Nom Sayun 'Sayun will eat sweet potatoes'
d'. na-niq-un ni? sayun ku? $\beta$ uya?
Red-eat-PF Gen Sayun Nom.Rf sweet:potato
'The sweet potato will be eaten by Sayun'
This brief discussion of the case system, and the focus and tense/aspect/mood markers, is the basis for the following discussion, which attempts to help (i) recognize the lexical as well as phrasal/clausal nominalizations in Mayrinax Atayal, that is, through the presence of preceding case markers and their syntactic distribution; (ii) determine whether lexical nominalizations are formed through the affixation of
focus markers and/or through the addition of tense/aspect/mood markers; and (iii) illustrate what functions each shape serves. The next two sections will examine the types and functions of nominalization in Mayrinax Atayal.

## 3. Types of nominalization in Mayrinax Atayal

Nominalization, as pointed out by Comrie and Thompson (1985), happens not only at the lexical level, but also at the phrasal/clausal level. At the lexical level, what usually concerns linguists are morphological derivations, while at the phrasal/clausal level, how syntactic categories like tense, aspect, mood, voice, transitivity and negation are retained deserves more attention. In this section, we shall examine whether these two types of nominalization appear in Mayrinax Atayal.

### 3.1 Lexical nominalization

In section 2, it was noted that nouns in Mayrinax Atayal seem to be recognizable by means of their being preceded by case markers and by their occupying non-sentence-initial position. Nevertheless, this language does not seem to have any distinct morphological mechanisms to produce nominalizations, as some other Formosan/Austronesian languages do. For example, Saisiyat has nominalizers such as ka-, kama-, -in-, ka-...-en, and ka-...-an (Yeh 2000), Mantauran Rukai has a-, ta-, ?a-, $\underline{a}-\ldots-\underline{a}$, ta-..- $\underline{a}$, kala-...-ą, and ni-...-a(ə) (Zeitoun 2000), Puyuma has -an (Teng 2000), Kavalan has qena- and -an (Chang and Lee 2000), and Yami has ika-, ipi-, ka-, $\underline{\text { ni}}-$, noka-, tey-, and ka-...-an (Rau 2000). In forming nominalizations, Mayrinax Atayal has neither distinct nominalizers nor any unique morphological strategy; instead it utilizes focus and tense/aspect/mood markers, as will be illustrated below. Therefore, elements that function as nominals may morphologically share their shape with verbals in the language.

Moreover, although nouns in Mayrinax Atayal, as discussed earlier, seem to be differentiated from other grammatical categories by preceding case markers and by their occupying non-sentence-initial position, verbal categories which are generally identifiable by their being affixed with focus or/and tense/aspect/mood markers can sometimes present the aforementioned nominal properties. Consider the following:
$\begin{array}{lll}\text { (4) a. } & \varnothing \text {-aqih } \quad \underline{\text { kup }} & q<u m>\text { uriq } \\ & \text { AF-bad Nom.Rf } \\ & \text { 'Stealing is bad' }\end{array}$

| b.kiPicuP-un cu? ßalay ku? | m-acvo? <br> frightening-PF very | Nom.Rf | AF-fight |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 'The battle is frightening' |  |  |  |

(5)

| a. | m-asituin | $\underline{\text { cup }}$ | ma-tanah | RiP |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |$\quad$ yaßa?

'Father is wearing red clothes'
b. m-aqaßußin cku? $\varnothing-i \beta a \beta w i q$ ku? naßakis

AF-wear:hat Acc.Rf AF-tall Nom.Rf old:man
'The old man is wearing the tall hat'

Occupying the post-predicate positions and being introduced by the Nominative case marker ku? or the Accusative cu?/cku?, the italicized elements in the above sentences seem to function as nominals, serving either as grammatical subject (e.g., (5a-b)) or object (e.g., (6a-b)). Consequently, it is legitimate to postulate, regardless of whether an element in Mayrinax Atayal is a verbal category or a nominal, that it is syntactically determined, instead of morphologically.

That nominal and verbal categories cannot be morphologically differentiated is not unique to Mayrinax Atayal; similar cases are also found in some other Austronesian languages. For instance, in Pazeh, P. Li remarks that 'there is not much morphological difference in shape between a noun and a verb in Austronesian languages in general' (2000:64), and that 'morphology alone ... does not tell whether a certain form is a noun or a verb. We have to resort to syntactic evidence' (2000:65). Rau also has a similar observation: 'since the same morphemes continued (and continue) to be used to form nominalizations, a predicate or a nominalization can be ambiguous in modern Formosan and Philippine languages' (2000:2).

### 3.2 Clausal nominalization

In Mayrinax Atayal, clausal nominals appear in two different constructions, namely, equational sentences and relative clauses.

### 3.2.1 Equational sentences

Below, let us first examine some equational sentences containing clausal nominals in Mayrinax Atayal (the clausal nominals occurring in brackets):
(6) a. Q: ima? kup \{pa-ø-Payal cku? pila?\}
who Nom.Rf Irr-AF-take Acc.Rf money
'Who is the one that will take the money?'

| A: | yaßa? $\quad \mathrm{ku}$ | $\{$ pa- $\varnothing$-Rayal $\quad$ cku? | pila? $\}$ |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- |
|  | father Nom.Rf $\quad$ Irr-AF-take Acc.Rf | money |  |
|  | 'Father is the one that will take the money' |  |  |

b. Q: ima? ku? \{m-ayal cku? pila?\} who Nom.Rf AF-take Acc.Rf money 'Who is the one that took the money?'
A: yaßa? kup \{m-ayal cku? pila?\} father Nom.Rf AF-take Acc.Rf money 'Father is the one that took the money'

Each of the sentences above, either declarative or interrogative, contains a nominalized clause serving as subject of the sentence, as indicated by the Nominative case marker ku?. Semantically, these clausal nominals manifest patient participants. Nevertheless, such nominals may designate some other semantic roles, as illustrated below:



As indicated by the English gloss, the clausal nominal can either refer to a patient participant (e..g. (7a-d)), a beneficiary participant (e.g. (7e)), an instrument participant (e.g. (7f)), an action (e.g. (7g)), an abstract noun (e.g. (7h)), or manner (e.g. (7i)). The functions of Mayrinax nominalizations will be further discussed in Section 4.

### 3.2.2 Relative clauses

Relative clauses in Mayrinax Atayal may or may not have an overt expression of the head noun (Huang 1995:216-217). Compare the following sets of sentences (head nouns in bold face):

## (8) a. kia? PiP m-aniq ku? \{yakaat $m<$ in $>$ uwah cu?hisa?\} Prog Lin AF-eat Nom.Rf Neg AF $<\operatorname{Prf}>$ come yesterday '(The one) who did not come yesterday is eating (there)'

$a^{\prime}$. kia? pi? m-aniq kup cuquiq ka? Prog Lin AF-eat Nom.Rf person Lin \{yakaat $m<$ in $>$ uwah cu?hisa? $\}$ Neg $\quad$ AF $<$ Prf $>$ come yesterday 'The person who did not come yesterday is eating (there)'
b. ø-payux ku? $\quad\{\beta a-\beta i n a s-u n=m i ? \quad k i s a ?\}$ AF-plenty Nom.Rf Red-buy-PF=1S.Gen today 'What I will buy today is plenty'


Notice that in each set of sentences above, whether there is an overt head or not, the clauses within the braces/brackets resemble each other. However, with respect to their functions, these clauses in sentences with head nouns serve as modifiers (i.e., ( $8 a^{\prime}, 8 b^{\prime}$, $\left.8 c^{\prime}\right)$ ), whereas the named clauses in sentences without head nouns serve more like arguments (i.e., $(8 a, 8 b, 8 c)$ ).

## 4. Functions of nominalization in Mayrinax Atayal

According to Comrie and Thompson (1985:347), nominalization can be categorized as action/state nominalization or argument nominalization. While action/state nominalization refers to a noun being derived from a dynamic verb or a stative verb (or what is usually treated as 'adjective') and designating an activity or a state, respectively, argument nominalization designates the semantic role of the verbal argument (e.g., agent, patient, instrument, location, product, manner, reason).

As we shall observe below, nominals derived by the affixation of focus and tense/aspect/mood markers in Mayrinax Atayal can also be categorized as the aforementioned two types, and fulfill various functions. Moreover, we shall notice that the focus markers utilized in forming nominalizations are only those appearing in affirmative declaratives, ${ }^{8}$ while excluding those used in projectives (recall Table 2). In other words, only focus markers like $\underline{m}-, \underline{m a}-,-\underline{u m}-, \underline{\varnothing},-\underline{u},-\underline{\text { an }}$, and $\underline{\text { si- can }}$ be used, and

[^5]not circumfix m-...-ay, ma-...-ay, -um-..-ay, or -aw, -ay, -anay.

### 4.1 Action/state nominals

Different from Formosan languages like Mantauran Rukai (Zeitoun 2000), Mayrinax Atayal has only one way to derive action and state nominals; that is, through the presence of AF markers in affirmative declarative realis sentences (i.e., $\underline{\mathrm{m}}$, $\underline{\text { ma-, }}$ -um-, $\underline{\varnothing}$ ) to the verb roots, as shown below:

Table 4: Action/state nominals

| Dynamic verb root |  | Meaning | Realis AF | Action nominal | Meaning |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | pacvo? | 'to fight' | m-acvo? | macvo? | 'war; battle; fighting' |
| 2 | payhahowa? | 'to boast' | m-ayhahowa? | mayhahowa? | 'boasting' |
| 3 | paquwas | 'to sing; to study' | m-aquwas | maquwas | 'singing; studying' |
| 4 | patauwaw | 'to work' | m-atauwaw | matauwaw | 'working' |
| 5 | 2anßaciaq | 'to commit suicide' | m-anßaciaq | manßaciaq | 'committing suicide' |
| 6 | qaniq | 'to eat' | m-aniq | maniq | 'eating' |
| 7 | quriq | 'to steal' | q-um-uriq | qumuriq | 'stealing' |
| 8 | rakis | 'to climb trees' | r-um-akias | rumakias | 'tree climbing' |
| 9 | p?akiyaw | 'to gamble' | ø-p?akiyaw | p?akiyaw | 'gambling' |
|  | ive verb root | Meaning | Realis AF | State nominal | Meaning |
| 1 | kaskaiyuy | 'hungry' | ma-skaiyuy | maskaiyuy | 'being hungry' |
| 2 | kat?yi? | 'satiated; full' | ma-t?yi? | mat?yi? | 'being satiated' |
| 3 | kßusinuq | 'drunk' | $\varnothing$ - $\beta$ usinuq | Businuq | 'being drunk' |
| 4 | kauhaay | 'sick' | ma-uhaay | mauhaay | 'disease; illness' |

Notice that when the verbs in question are dynamic verbs, the derived nominals refer to actions/activities, as shown below:
(9)

| a. | kiPicuP-un <br> frightening-PF | cui ßalay $\quad$ kup | Nom.Rf | $\underline{\text { macvo? }}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | fighting |  |  |  |
|  | 'The fighting/battle is frightening' |  |  |  |



Some of the action nominals may also designate agent participants, and the context seems to help determine which interpretation (i.e., an action or an agent participant) is intended (discussion of which to be presented in sec. 4.2.1).

When verbs are stative, their derived nominals may designate states (e.g., (10a-b)) or abstract nouns (e.g., (11a-b)):

[^6]| (10) a. | $\begin{array}{llll}\varnothing \text {-aqih } & \text { ku? } & \text { maskaiyun } & \text { cu } \\ \text { AF-bad } & \text { Nom.Rf } & \text { hungry } & \text { ex }\end{array}$ | cu? kaan extreme |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 'Being too hungry is bad' |  |
| $\mathrm{a}^{\prime}$. | $\underline{\text { ma-skaiyun ku? }}$ Pulaqi? |  |
|  | AF-hungry Nom.Rf child |  |
|  | 'The child is hungry' |  |
| b. | $ø$-aqih ku? ßusinuq |  |
|  | AF-bad Nom.Rf drunk |  |
|  | 'Being drunk is not good' |  |
| $\mathrm{b}^{\prime}$. | $\underline{\chi}$-ßusinuq ku? naßakis ka? | ka? haca |
|  | AF-drunk Nom.Rf old:man Lin | Lin that |
|  | 'That old man is drunk' |  |
| (11) a. | ø-mamati? cup ßalay ku? | mauhay $=$ nia? |
|  | AF-serious very Nom.Rf | illness=3S.Gen |
|  | 'His illness is serious; He is badly ill' |  |
| $\mathrm{a}^{\prime}$. | ma-uhay la? fip hiya? |  |
|  | AF-sick Part'He is ill (now)' |  |
|  |  |  |
| b. | pa-ka-mamati? cu? ßalay ku? | Rf illness=3S.Gen |
|  | Irr-Stat-serious very Nom.Rf |  |
|  | 'His illness will become very serious' |  |
| $\mathrm{b}^{\prime}$. | pa-ka-uhaay ?i? hiya? |  |
|  | Irr-Stat-sick Nom 3S.Neu |  |
|  | 'He will be ill' |  |

While derived state nominals may designate states or abstract nouns, some may have different functions. The situation seems to be that when the involved participant in the original state verb is inanimate, the corresponding state nominal will then function as patient (cf. sec. 4.2.2).

### 4.2 Argument nominals

As will be shown below, the semantics of argument nominals correlates with the semantic role of the argument involved in an event. In other words, if an argument is an agent in an event, the derived nominal designates the agent participant carrying out the given event. If the argument is an experiencer, the derived nominal manifests the experiencer in the given state. And if an argument is a patient, the derived nominal manifests the patient.

### 4.2.1 Agentive nominals

In Mayrinax Atayal, irrealis forms of AF verbs may serve as agentive nominals; in other words, agentive nominals can be derived by prefixing the irrealis/future marker pa- to dynamic verb roots, giving a reading of 'one that does ...(as a profession)' or 'one that will do ... ${ }^{10}$, as shown in Table 5a:

Table 5a: Agentive nominals (resembling irrealis dynamic AF)

| Dynamic verb root | Meaning | Irrealis AF | Agentive nominal | Meaning |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | paquwas | 'to sing' | pa-paquwas | papaquwas | 'singer; one who <br> will sing' |
| 2 | patauwaw | 'to work' | pa-ptauwaw | paptauwaw | 'worker; one who <br> will work' |
| 3 | quriq | 'to steal' | pa-quriq | paquriq | 'thief; one who will <br> steal' |

Notice that the verbs in Table 5a seem to be only dynamic verbs; whether stative verbs can have similar functions will require further research. Below are examples with polysemous verbs/nouns:


It has already been pointed out (in sec. 4.1) that realis forms of AF verbs may

[^7]designate action nominals. Such verbs may sometimes serve as agentive nominals as well. In other words, agentive nominals can be derived either through prefixation of the irrealis/future marker pa- or through affixation of AF markers m-/ma-/-um- to the verb roots, except that the agentive nominals prefixed with pa- seem to our Atayal informant better and unmarked candidates for designating professionals. The agentive nominals affixed with AF markers $\underline{m}$ - $\underline{\text { ma- } /-u m-, ~ a n d ~ w i t h o u t ~ a n y ~ o v e r t ~ t e n s e / a s p e c t / m o o d ~}$ markers, although they may give a reading of 'one that does ...', tend to designate 'one that is doing $\ldots$ '. Why the agentive nominals prefixed with irrealis marker pa- are better candidates for professionals remains puzzling; further investigation is required.

The agentive nominals affixed with AF markers $\underline{m}-/ \underline{\mathrm{ma}} /-\mathrm{um}-$ and without any overt tense/aspect/ mood markers, though may give the reading 'one that does ...', tend to designate 'one that is doing ...'. Table 5 b presents some agentive nominals affixed with AF markers $\underline{m}-/$ ma-/-um-:

Table 5b: Agentive nominals (resembling realis AF dynamic)

| Verb root |  | Meaning | Realis AF | Agentive nominal | Meaning |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | paquwas | 'to sing' | m-aquwas | maquwas | 'singer; one who is <br> singing' |
| 2 | patauwaw | 'to work' | m-atauwaw | matauwaw | 'worker; one who is <br> working' |
| 3 | payhahowa? | 'to boast' | m-ayhahowa? | mayhahowa? | 'boaster; one who is <br> boasting' |
| 4 | quriq | 'to steal' | q-um-uriq | qumuriq | 'thief; one who is <br> stealing' |
| 5 | paynaßalay ${ }^{11}$ | 'fat (eating)' | $\mathbf{m - a y n a ß a l a y ~}$ | maynaßalay | 'one who is fat' |

Some examples:

| (13) a. | $\beta \mathrm{aq}-\mathrm{un}=\mathrm{mu}$ | ku? | maquwas | ka? | haca? |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | know-PF=1S.Gen | Nom.Rf | singer | Lin | that |
|  | 'I know that singer | who is si | ing there)' |  |  |
| $\mathrm{a}^{\prime}$. | m-aquwas ku? | iraw |  |  |  |
|  | AF-sing Nom | frien | $=1 \mathrm{~S}$.Gen |  |  |
|  | 'My friend is singin |  |  |  |  |

[^8]

As for nominals affixed with AF markers $\underline{m}-/ \underline{m a}-/-$ um- serving as action nominals or agentive nominals, the context seems to help justify either interpretation, as illustrated in the following set of sentences:
(14) a. ø-aqih ku? mayhahowa?

AF-bad Nom.Rf boasting
'Boasting is bad; The boaster is bad'
$\mathrm{a}^{\prime}$. tutiy-un=mu $\quad$ kup $\quad \underline{\text { mayhahowa? }}$
beat-PF=1S.Gen Nom.Rf boaster
'I beat the boaster; *I beat the boasting'
b. ø-aqih ku? qumuriq

AF-bad Nom.Rf stealing
'Stealing is bad; The thief is bad'
b'. m-ayiyay ku? qumuriq la
AF-escape Nom.Rf thief Part
'The thief has escaped; *Stealing has escaped'

### 4.2.2 Patient nominals

Comrie and Thompson (1985:350) remark that agentive nominalization yields the
meaning 'one which "verbs", but 'the noun need not be in an "agent" relationship with the verb'. Although such a multi-correlation between derived agentive nominals and the involved event participants is not present in Mayrinax Atayal, similar phenomena are observed in patient nominalization. In other words, patient nominals in Mayrinax Atayal may have their involved participants serving semantic roles other than patient, which can be illustrated by how patient nominals are derived. As shown below, patient nominals in Mayrinax Atayal can be derived through four different processes: (i) realis forms of AF stative verbs; (ii) irrealis forms of PF verbs; (iii) realis forms of PF verbs; and (iv) realis forms of LF verbs.
(i) Realis forms of AF stative verbs

Patient nominals derived through the first process, i.e., though the presence of an AF marker, are not many. Moreover, the examples collected are both stative verbs, and the AF marker is a zero morpheme, as shown in Table 6a:

Table 6a: Patient nominals (resembling realis AF stative)

| Stative verb root | Meaning | Ralis AF | Patient nominal | Meaning |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | katatimu? | '(to be) salty' | ø-tatimu? | tatimu? | 'salty things/food' |
| 2 | kasiqsalsow | '(to be) sour' | $\varnothing$-siqsalsow | siqsalsow | 'sour things/food' |

As stated in Section 4.1, why the above derived nominals manifest patient participants may be because the involved participants in the original stative verbs are inanimate. Some examples follow:

(ii) Irrealis forms of PF verbs

The second type of patient nominal includes irrealis forms of PF verbs; that is, the process involves the Ca - reduplication (i.e., reduplication of the initial consonant followed by an -a- vowel) and the PF marker -un, as given in Table 6b:

Table 6b: Patient nominals (resembling irrealis PF)

|  | Verb root | Meaning | Irrealis PF | Patient nominal | Meaning |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | qaniq | 'to eat' | na-niq-un | naniqun | 'food; things to be eaten' |
| 2 | nußuway | 'to drink' | na-nußup-un | nanußu? | 'drink; things to be drunk' |
| 3 | ßainay | 'to buy' | $\beta a-\beta$ inas-un | $\beta a \beta$ inasun | 'things to be bought' |
| 4 | jahapuy | 'to cook' | ঠa-yhapuy-un | jayhapuyun | 'food; things to be cooked' |
| 5 | tahuq | 'to cook (dishes)' | ta-tahq-un | tatahqun | 'dish to be cooked' |
| 6 | patu? | 'to cut' | $p a$-putu?-un | paputu?un | 'things to be cut' |
| 7 | patauwaw | 'to work' | pa-ptwa-un | paptwaun | 'work to be done' |

## Examples:

(16) a. m<in>aniq cu? aqih na? naniqun ru? si-putak=nia? AF $<$ Prf $>$ eat Acc.Nrf bad Gen.Nrf food and IF-vomit=3S.Gen 'He ate spoiled/bad food and threw up'
b. ø-ßalaiq ku? nanußu?un=mu

AF-good Nom.Rf drink=1S.Gen
'My drink is good'
c. haniPan kuP
ßaßinasun=mu
'I have things to buy'
d. kia? ku? $\quad \begin{aligned} & \text { paptwaun=nia? }\end{aligned}$ exist Nom.Rf work=3S.Gen 'He has work to do'
(iii) Realis forms of PF verbs

The third type of patient nominal concerns realis forms of PF verbs; that is, the
process involves the infixation of -in- to the PF verbs (though here the focus marker is a zero morpheme), as shown in Table 6c:

Table 6c: Patient nominals (resembling realis PF)

|  | Verb root | Meaning | Realis PF | Patient nominal | Meaning |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | patiq | 'to write' | $\mathrm{p}<$ in $>$ atiq | pinatiq | 'word; handwriting' |
| 2 | ßainay | 'to buy' | $\beta<$ in>ainay | Binainay | 'things being bought' |
| 3 | patauwaw | 'to work' | $\mathrm{p}<$ in $>$ twawaw | pintwawaw | 'things being done' |
| 4 | tahuq | 'to cook (dishes)' | $\mathrm{t}<$ in>ahuq | tinahuq | 'cooked dish' |
| 5 | yahapuy | 'to cook' | $\mathrm{\gamma}<$ in> hahapuy | yinhahapuy | 'cooked food' |

Examples:

(iv) Realis forms of LF verbs

The fourth type of patient nominal deals with realis forms of LF verbs; that is, the process involves the suffixation of -an, with or without the perfective aspect marker -inExamples designating such a patient argument are shown in Table 6d:

Table 6d: Patient nominals (resembling realis LF)

|  | Verb root | Meaning | Realis LF | Locative nominal | Meaning |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | timami | 'to pickle' | t $<$ in $>$ mami-an | tinmamian | 'pickled meat' |
| 2 | cumiyok | 'to answer' | c $<$ in>yok-an | cinyokan | 'answer' |
| 3 | payonao? | 'to play' | paynao?-an | paynao?an | 'toy' |

Why realis form of some LF verbs may designate patient argument deserves future research. Below are some examples containing realis LF verbs:


### 4.3 Locative nominals

The formations of locative nominals, like those of patient nominals discussed above, differentiate between irrealis and realis forms. That is, locative nominals can be derived either (i) through the $C a$ - reduplication and the LF marker -an, or (ii) through the infixation of -in- and the LF marker -an. Below are some examples of locative nominals formed through the first process:

Table 7a: Locative nominals (resembling irrealis LF)

|  | Verb root | Meaning | Irrealis LF | Locative nominal | Meaning |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | qaniq | 'to eat' | na-niq-an | naniqan | 'restaurant; table; place <br> where one will eat' |
| 2 | yahapuy | 'to cook' | ra-yhapuy-an | yayhapuyan | 'kitchen; cooker; place <br> where one will cook' |
| 3 | thawnaq | 'to sit' | ta-thawnaq-an | tathawnaqan | 'chair' |
| 4 | paquwas | 'to sing' | pa-pqwas-an | papqwasan | 'singing hall' |
| 5 | palalu | 'to cradle' | pa-plalu-an | paplaluan | 'cradle' |
| 6 | tahuq | 'to cook <br> (dishes)' | ta-tahq-an | tatahqan | 'place where one will <br> cook dish' |


| 7 | アahuq | 'to wash <br> (clothes)' | $\beta a-\beta a h q-a n$ | $\beta a \beta$ ahqan | 'washing machine' |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 8 | patiq | 'to write' | pa-patiq-an | papatiqan | 'school; desk; place <br> where one will study or <br> write' |
| 9 | paima? | 'to bathe' | pa-pima-an | papimaan | 'bathroom; place where <br> one will take a bath' |
| 10 | qilaap | 'to sleep' | qa-qlap-an | qaqlapan | 'place where one will <br> sleep' |
| 11 | pacvo? | 'to fight' | pa-pavo?-an | papavo?an | 'battlefield' |
| 12 | patauwaw | 'to work' | pa-ptuwaw-an | paptuwawan | 'factory' |

Examples:
(19)

| a. | ø-rahuwaay | ku? |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |$\quad$| naniqan=su? |
| :--- |
| AF-big |

'Your dining room is big'
b. Jayhapuyan ku? naniqan cu? ßupa? nku? Pulaqi? kitchen Nom.Rf eating:place Acc.Nrf yam Gen.Rf child 'The kitchen is where the child eats yams'
$\begin{array}{lllll}\text { c. } \beta<\text { in }>\text { ninay }=m u & \text { ku? } & \underline{\text { tathawnaqan }} & \mathrm{ka} & \text { hani } \\ \text { buy }<\operatorname{Prf}>\text { buy=1S.Gen } & \text { Nom.Rf } & \text { chair } & \text { Lin } & \text { this }\end{array}$ 'This chair was bought by me'
d. kia? ?i? m-aquwas cku? papqwasan $=m u$ ?i? watan Prog Lin AF-sing Acc.Rf singing:hall=1S.Gen Nom Watan 'Watan is singing in my singing hall'

Similar to the contrast between the irrealis and realis forms of AF verbs, the irrealis forms of LF verbs seem to be better and unmarked candidates for locative nominals; while the realis forms designate places where the involved events have already taken place. Table 7 b presents some locative nominals derived through the second process mentioned above:

Table 7b: Locative nominals (resembling realis LF)

|  | Verb root | Meaning | Realis LF | Locative nominal | Meaning |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | yahapuy | 'to cook' | Y<in>hapuy-an | yinhapuyan | 'place where one <br> cooked' |
| 2 | pacvo? | 'to fight' | p<in>avol-an | pinavo?an | 'place where people <br> had battles' |
| 3 | kat | 'to bite' | k<in>ac-an | kinacan | 'place being bitten' |
| 4 | capux | 'to sweep' | c<in>apux-an | cinapuxan | 'place being <br> swept/cleaned' |

Below are some examples containing realis forms of locative nominals:

| (20) a. | $\varnothing$-ßalaiq | cu? ßalay | ku? | pinavo?an=niam | cu? ya? |
| ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | AF-good | very | Nom.Rf | battlefield=1PE.Gen | before |

AF-good very Nom.Rf battlefield=1PE.Gen before
'The (old) battlefield is very beautiful'
$\begin{array}{llllll}\text { b. ma-oßaq } & \text { cu? ßalay } & \text { ku? } & \text { cinapuxan } & \text { ni? } & \text { yaya? } \\ \text { AF-clean } & \text { very } & \text { Nom.Rf } & \text { place:being:swept } & \text { Gen } & \text { mother }\end{array}$
'The place where Mother swept is very clean'

### 4.4 Instrumental nominals

As shown in Table 2, the realis forms of the IF verbs have the prefix si-, while the corresponding irrealis forms have Ca - reduplication, but without the presence of si-. As for the instrumental nominals in Mayrinax Atayal, they resemble irrealis forms of IF verbs; the language does not seem to have realis counterparts. Table 8 presents some of the instrumental nominals in the language:

Table 8: Instrumental nominals (resembling irrealis IF)

|  | Verb root | Meaning | Irrealis IF | Instrument nominal | Meaning |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | patiq | 'to write' | pa-patiq | papatiq | 'pen' |
| 2 | hawßin | 'to cut' | $h a$-hawßin | $h a$ hawßin | 'instrument used to <br> cut' |
| 3 | kalo? | 'to comb' | $k a$-kalo? | $k a$ kalo? | 'comb' |
| 4 | kiri | 'to grind' | $k a$-kiri | $k a$ kiri | 'knife grinder' |
| 5 | capux | 'to sweep' | $c a$-capux | cacapux | 'broom' |
| 6 | hirhir | 'to saw' | $h a$-hirhir | $h a$ hirhir | 'saw' |
| 7 | samay | 'to place (mat)' | sa-samay | sasamay | 'mat' |

## Examples:



## 5. Concluding remarks

This paper has presented a preliminary study of the types and functions of nominalization in Mayrinax Atayal. Three generalizations are made, as shown below:
(i) With respect to types of nominalization, it is observed that, like most of the other Formosan/Austronesian languages, nominalization in Mayrinax Atayal happens at the lexical and clausal levels (and hence lexical and clausal nominals).
(ii) The language does not have productive morphological devices in forming lexical nominals; only focus and tense/aspect/mood markers are utilized. Consequently, the derived nominals are identical to the verb forms, which appears to be a rather common phenomenon in Formosan and other Austronesian languages (cf. Starosta, Pawley and Reid 1982, Ferrell 1982, Ross 1995).
(iii) As for the functions of derived nominals, such nominals may designate actions or states. They may also manifest participants such as agent, patient, location and instrument, depending on what semantic role the involved participant illustrates in the associated event.

Table 9 presents a recapitulation of the processes involved in forming nominals in

Mayrinax Atayal and of the possible participants the derived nominals may designate:
Table 9: Lexical nominalizations in Mayrinax Atayal

| Type | Form | Verb root | Meaning | Nominals | Meaning |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Action/state nominals |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Dynamic verb | m- | patauwaw | 'to work' | matauwaw | 'working' |
|  | -um- | quriq | 'to steal' | qumuriq | 'stealing' |
|  | $\emptyset$ | p?akiyaw | 'to gamble' | p?akiyaw | 'gambling' |
| 2. Stative verb | ma- | kauhaay | 'sick' | mauhaay | 'disease' |
|  | $\varnothing$ | kßusinuq | 'drunk' | Businuq | 'being drunk' |
| Argument nominals |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Agentive <br> (1) Irrealis AF <br> dynamic | pa- | patauwaw | 'to work' | paptauwaw | 'worker' |
| (2) Realis AF dynamic | ma- | payhahowa? | 'to boast' | mayhahowa? | 'boaster; one who is boasting' |
|  | -um- | quriq | 'to steal' | qumuriq | 'thief' |
| 2. Patient <br> (1) Realis AF stative | $\varnothing$ | tatimu? | 'salty' | tatimu? | 'salty things/food' |
| (2) Irrealis PF | Ca-...-un | qaniq | 'to eat' | naniqun | 'food' |
| (3) Realis PF | -in- | patiq | 'to write' | pinatiq | 'word' |
| (4) Realis LF | -in-...-an | timami | 'to pickle' | tinmamian | 'pickled meat' |
|  | -an | payonao? | 'to play' | paynao?an | 'toy' |
| 3. Locative <br> (1) Irrealis LF | Ca-...-an | yahapuy | 'to cook' | yayhapuyan | 'kitchen; cooker; place where one will cook' |
| (2) Realis LF | -in-...-an | yahapuy | 'to cook' | yinhapuyan | 'place where one cooked' |
| 4. Instrumental <br> (1) Irrealis IF | Ca | kalo? | 'to comb' | kakalo? | 'comb' |

Nominalizations in Mayrinax Atayal seem to exhibit some puzzling phenomena, as illustrated below, which deserve further research:
(iv) The language seems to favor irrealis verbal forms, instead of realis ones, in forming argument nominals, especially agentive, locative and instrumental ones. In other words, irrealis forms of AF, LF and IF verbs seem to be better candidates for forming agentive nominals, locative nominals and instrumental nominals, respectively.
(v) While realis and irrealis forms of PF verbs may manifest patient arguments, some realis AF forms of stative verbs and realis forms of LF verbs can also serve as patient nominals, which may have something to do with their verbal semantics.
(vi) Realis IF forms seem unable to serve as instrumental nominals.

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# 汶水泰雅語名物化結構探究 

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本篇論文主要探討汶水泰雅語名物化結構的類型和功能。文中指出，如同許多南島語言一樣，汶水泰雅語的名物化結構發生在詞彙和子句兩個層面，不過汶水泰雅語除了利用焦點符號和時態語氣標記外，並沒有再利用其他詞綴機制以標示名物化結構。是故該語言中名物化形式與動詞形式極爲相似。再者，本篇論文也檢視名物化結構的功能，發現除了可以標示事件或狀態外，也可以標示事件論元，如主事者，受事者，處所或工具等。希望本研究成果能提供給類型研究者和比較語言學者一些有用的資訊。

關鍵詞：名物化，汶水泰雅語，構詞句法，格位標記，焦點，時態語氣標記，論元


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    ${ }^{1}$ Of all Formosan languages and dialects, Mayrinax is one of the only two known dialects that show certain distinctions between male and female speech forms; the other is Pa?kualiP. For details, refer to Li 1982.

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ As pointed out by Huang et al. (1999:655), while working on interrogatives in some Formosan languages. Payne (1997) makes a similar remark. He considers that in determining whether a given word is a noun, it is necessary to determine the morphosyntactic characteristics of prototypical nouns. In addition to the position a noun can occupy in a phrase or clause, the properties that distinguish nouns from other grammatical categories are important criteria for in identifying a nominal element.
    ${ }^{3}$ The notion of 'referentiality', according to Givón (1978:293), 'involves, roughly, the speaker's intent to "refer to" or "mean" a nominal expression to have non-empty references-i.e., to "exist" - within a particular universe of discourse... If a nominal is "non-referential" or "generic" the speaker does not have a commitment to its existence within the relevant universe of discourse. Rather, in the latter, the speaker is engaged in discussing the genus or its properties, but does not commit him/herself to the existence of any specific individual member of that genus.'
    ${ }^{4}$ Note that the case marking system presented here is different from that given in Huang (1995).

[^2]:    ${ }^{5}$ The abbreviations and symbols used in this paper are as follows. Acc: Accusative; AF: Agent focus; Asp: Aspectual; Ben: Beneficiary; BF: Beneficiary focus; Com: Comitative; Gen: Genitive; IF: Instrument focus; Imp: Imperative; Prog: Progressive aspect; Irr: Irrealis; LF: Locative focus; Lin: Linker; NAF: Non-agent focus; Neg: Negator; Neu: Neutral; Nom: Nominative; Nrf: Non-referential; Part: Particle; PF: Patient focus; Prep: Preposition; Prf: Perfective aspect; Q: Question; Rf: Referential; Stat: Stative; 1PI: First person plural inclusive; 1S: First person singular; <>: indicates that the enclosed element is an infix or its gloss; =: indicates that the following bound pronoun is a clitic.

[^3]:    ${ }^{6}$ The term focus 'refers to the phenomenon whereby a verbal focus establishes a special relationship between the verb and one of the noun phrases in the sentence' (French 1988:1). In other words, a focus system functions to show the 'role agreement' between the subject (i.e., the focused noun phrase) and the verb, yet showing no person, gender or number agreement between them. Such an agreement system is one of the characteristics shared by many western Austronesian languages. Some linguists, however, prefer to use different terms instead of focus. Schachter (1987:940) and Wouk (1996:369), for example, prefer to use the term trigger while Chang (1997:iv) and Ross (2001) use the term 'voice'.

[^4]:    ${ }^{7}$ For details, please refer to Huang (1995).

[^5]:    ${ }^{8}$ Ferrell (1982:17) also points out that the morphemes occurring in indicative forms are also used to form nominalizations in Formosan as well as in Philippine languages.

[^6]:    ${ }^{9}$ We have also collected sentences like the following, which seem to have structures similar but not exactly identical to $(9 \mathrm{c})$. Whether the underlined nominals below refer to actions or instruments (thus the forms are irrealis IF) deserves further investigation.
    $\varnothing$-ßalaiq a? qaqaniq=nia?, ru? ø-ßalaiq a? qaqilaap=nia? AF-good Nom.Nrf eating=3S.Gen and AF-good Nom.Nrf sleeping=3S.Gen
    'Lit. His eating is good, and his sleeping is good'
    'What he eats is good, and the place he sleeps in is good'

[^7]:    ${ }^{10}$ Comrie and Thompson (1985:350) make a similar remark; that is, agentive nominalization yields the meaning 'one which "verbs"", but 'the noun need not be in an "agent" relationship with the verb'.

[^8]:    ${ }^{11}$ The word maynaßalay 'fat' is considered to be a dynamic verb because certain action 'eating' must have taken place before the present stage. For a detailed discussion of Mayrinax verbs, please refer to Huang 2000.

