Complementation in Caodeng rGyalrong

Jackson T. -S. Sun
Academia Sinica

Abstract

This work aims at systematically exploring the intricate system of verbal complementation in a major dialect of the rGyalrong language of northwestern Sichuan. Both sentence-like and reduced clauses in bi-clausal as well as mono-clausal patterns are employed by the language to implement its repertoire of complementation syntax, comprising a total of four true complement-clause types and four complementation strategies. The distribution of these abundant grammatical devices depends very much on the semantic types of predicates they are associated with, and accords to a large extent with the typologically expected correlations between semantic integration and the likelihood for clausal reduction.