



On Determiner Phrase Analysis in English and Central Kurdish: A Comparative-Generative Study

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Abstract

The paper explores the determiner phrase analysis in English and Central Kurdish from a comparative-generative perspective. It specifically focuses on the structure of determiner phrase within the X-bar theory to examine whether the construction of determiner phrase can be applied in the same way in both languages or not. The X-bar theory deals with the structure and components of different phrase types with determining the right position for each of the components according to the phrase type. Also, one of the aspects of generative grammar is 'Principles & Parameters' which suggests that while languages share universal principles, they vary according to specific parameters. In this way, the existence of different phrase types is universal among languages, but the structure and the components of each phrase are parameters as each language have its own construction with respect to have some similarities with another language. On this basis, the research aims to investigate the structure of determiner phrase depending of the Determiner Phrase Analysis (DPA) in English and Central Kurdish in the light of X-bar theory. The data used in the paper is formal written language in both languages. The core question of the research is that whether the determiner phrase analysis is applicable in both languages or not. One of the remarkable conclusions is that the determiner phrase analysis is applicable in both languages with specific constructions and elements according to the form of the phrase in each language. Moreover, the study shows that some phenomena, such as Izafe construction, exist in CK, while it is not found in English.

Keywords: Generative, DP, Central Kurdish, (In)Definite, Determiner

دهبارهی گرپی دیارخهر له زمانی ئینگلیزی و کوردیدا: لیکۆئینهوهیکی جێرهتیفی-بهراوردکارییه

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پوخته

ئهم توێژینهوهیه تیشک دهخاته سهر فریزی دیارخهر له زمانی ئینگلیزی و کوردی سۆرانیدا له چوارچۆیهی ریزمانی جێرهتیفیدا، بهتایبهتی جهخت دهکات لهسهر پیکهاته و دروست بونهی فریزی دیارخهر به پشت بهستن به تیۆری ئیکس بار بۆ زانین و دهرخستی ئهوهی که ئایا له ههر دو زمانه کهدا ئهم فریزه ههمان پیک هاته و شیوازی دروست بونی ههیه یان نا. تیۆری ئیکس بار یه کیکه له تیۆرهکانی ریزمانی جێرهتیف که له شیواز و چۆنیهتی دروست بونی فریزه جیاوازهکان و پیکهاتهکانیان دهکۆلێتهوه، ههروهها دیاری کردنی شوپن دروست بۆ ههریه ک له پیکهتهره جیاوازهکان که بهشدارن له دروست کردنی فریزهکاندا. به گۆیهی ریزمانی جێرهتیف، زمانهکان هاوبهشن له بونی چهند بنچینهیه کدا که پێی دهوتری (principles)، له ههمان کاتدا جیاوازان له یه کتر له روی پارامیتهرهوه (parameters). لهسهر ئهم بنهمایه، ئهم توێژینهوهیه ئامانجی ئهوهیه که له ژیر رۆشنایی بیردۆزی ئیکس بار له چۆنیهتی دروست بونی فریزی دیارخهر له پیکهاته و شیوازی به کارهێنایی بکۆلێتهوه. پرساری سهرهکی که ئهم نامهیه مه بهستیهتی وهلامی بداتهوه ئهوهیه که ئایا فریزی دیارخهر له ههر دو زمانه کهدا به کاردیت یان نا. به درێژایی لیکۆئینهوه که بۆمان دهرده کهوێ که فریزی دیارخهر به کاردیت له ههر دو زمانه کهدا به شیواز و پیکهاتهی جیاواز به گۆیهی تایبهتمهندی و پیکهاتهی زمانه که.

کلێله وشهکان: جێرهتیف، گرپی دیارخهر، کوردی ناوهراست، ناسراو/نه ناسراو، دیارخهر

1. Introduction

The study of language, just like other fields of investigation, has deep roots in the history of humanity. The scientific study around 1900s, has been marked as an important turning-point in the history of modern linguistics. Then in the twentieth century, the study of language, has more developed. Linguistics, in the twentieth century, can be classified depending on time and place: the first half of the century and the second half of the century, Europe and America. The generative approach of language, which began in the second half in America and it has expanded and spread all over the world, was founded by the linguist Noam Chomsky (Ahmed, 2018; Sampson, 1980).

In the case of dealing with language from a generative perspective, it can be logical to refer to Chomsky's definition of language which he defined as "a set (finite or infinite) of sentences, each finite in length and constructed out of a finite set of elements" (Chomsky, 1957/2002, p.13). According to this formal definition of language by Chomsky, first the focus is on the components which compose the units of language, then the language itself.

In closer and deeper consideration to Chomsky's words, we realize that language has the feature of productivity: having a limited number of elements to produce a limitless number of larger components out of the existing elements. For instance, from forty-four English phonemes, a limitless number of words can be produced, and out of the words, a countless number of phrases and sentences are produced. Chomsky mainly deals with structures of grammar, in that, an infinite number of sentences can be created with a finite number of rules (Deming and Helong, 2024).

Concerning language and grammar, Chomsky (2006, p.27) states that a speaker of a language can possess grammar "that *generates* the infinite set of potential deep structures". Regarding the same thing, Cook and Newson (2007, p. 35) state that "When we say that a grammar *generates* a language, we mean that it *describes* the language in an *explicit way*". Thus, we can say that generativism in linguistics, is not connected with producing structures. Rather, it is concerned with describing and characterizing grammatical and string of words in an explicit way.

As far as the researchers are concerned, it was found that too little research has targeted Determiner Phrase (DP) in Central Kurdish (CK); therefore, it can be regarded as a gap in the literature which needs to be filled. This is also regarded as the limitation of the study in that it was impossible to have a section provided to a survey on previous studies. On this basis, the research aims at dealing with Determiner Phrase Analysis (DPA) in English and CK by comparing the potential structures of DPs in both languages. The study tries to answer a research question whether the DP structure in English and CK has the same status or different due to language parameters of the two languages in question. It is hypothesized that the DP structure varies from language to language, hence it has different structure in English and Kurdish.

2. DPA in English

In English, NPA has been used and discussed, but there are problems with NPA that can be reasons to reject it and use a new hypothesis or analysis. NPA is described as the traditional analysis in which the head of the NP is the noun and determiner is the specifier of the NP as it comes before the noun. Syntacticians had different views regarding NPA, some of them accepted, but some others rejected it as a traditional analysis. Abney (1987) proposed as new hypothesis which was DP hypothesis. According to the DP hypothesis, the head of the nominal phrase is determiner (D), rather than a noun. In doing so, there are

two views: one states that the head of the NP is the noun and D is the specifier of the noun, this hypothesis is NPA; the second one states that the head of the NP is D and NP is a part of another phrase which DP, this hypothesis is DP hypothesis (Abney, 1987).

According to Abney (1987, p.38) "the noun phrase is headed by infl-like category in many languages, including English, and probably *universally*." Abney explains the status of Infl-like category. Infl-like node or "inflectional elements" is considered to be typical of a class of elements, they are functional elements, in contrast to thematic elements. Typically, they are called non-lexical categories.

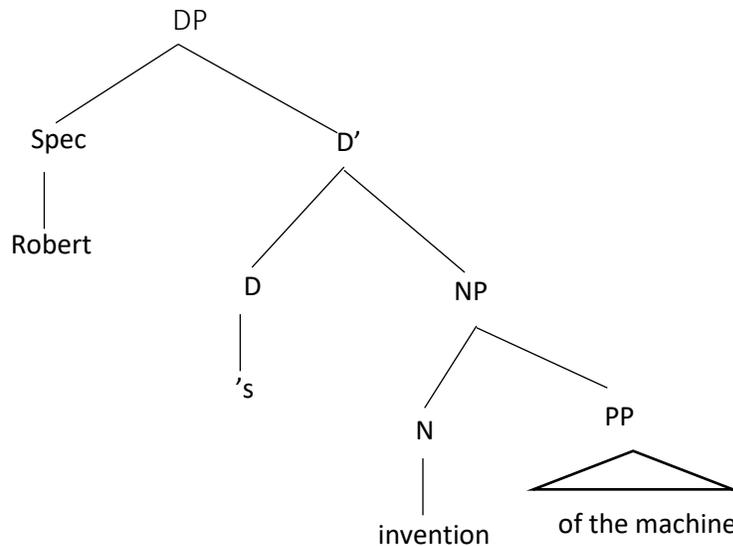
Furthermore, other linguists supported and followed Abney's proposal concerning DPA, like Bernstein (2001), Haegeman (1994), and Radford (2004). They consider DPA more applicable than NPA syntactically and semantically. Syntactically, the determiner like other categories, can project phrasal nodes and take complement. Thus, the determiner is the head in the combination of determiner + noun. In contrast with the traditional NPA as it states that determiner sits in the Spec position of NP and the noun is the head. Semantically, it is the determiner, not the noun, which indicates the reference of the noun phrase. For example, in 'the book' and 'a book', we have the same noun (book), thus, we do not know which book is meant. However, the use of determiners which are definite and indefinite articles determine exactly which book the speaker is talking about (see also Ahmed, 2018).

Further discussion about rejecting NPA, perhaps the important reasons for linguists to abandon the NP hypothesis are concerned with possessive constructions and parallelism with clausal structure. Regarding the possessive constructions, the NPA and DPA are different in how the structure of possessive is understood, specifically, which element is considered the head of the phrase and where the possessor sits in the syntactic tree. According to the traditional NP analysis, the noun is the head of the phrase and the possessor is treated as the modifier or specifier within the NP (Abney, 1987; Ahmed, 2018; Radford, 2004).

Moreover, depending on NPA, NP is the maximal projection and the possessor is a part of NP often as a specifier. Also, the functional projection like DP is not assumed. The clitic 's is treated as part of the possessor or genitive Case marker. Linguists see this assumption of possessive structure as a problem that can be solved by DPA. According to DPA, the possessor appears in the specifier of DP and DP is the maximal projection, and the clitic 's is syntactically a determiner, not part of the noun or possessor. The head of the DP is 's in

the possessive construction. Also, the possessor sits in Spec, DP (Bernstein, 2001, Haegeman, 1994).

(1) Robert's invention of the machine



Concerning the parallelism with clausal structure, Chomsky (1986) states that clauses and phrases are structurally parallel. And the structure of clauses as CP, IP, etc. are functional heads, as they fit the X-bar schema. Hence, Chomsky (1986) proposed that not only lexical elements like nouns and verbs, but also functional elements like determiners, project to the phrasal level. This provides a notion that lexical as well as functional elements project phrasal level.

It was stated that after rejecting NPA by linguists as it cannot be applicable in all situations, Abney (1987) proposed a new analysis which is DP analysis. The term 'DP' is equivalent to the conventional term 'NP'. However, Abney further developed the hypothesis and used the word 'analysis' with DP as it labels under 'The DP Analysis' whereas the majority of other writers use the word 'hypothesis'. It appears that semantically the word 'analysis' is stronger than the word 'hypothesis'. The present study also uses the word 'analysis' rather than 'hypothesis' (see Ahmed,2018).

The main idea of DPA is that it is the determiner, not the noun which is the head in the combination of determiner + noun. Thus, determiner is not a specifier of the noun phrase, rather it is the head and the noun phrase becomes a part of determiner phrase. Also, as mentioned before, Abney (1987) claims that the noun phrase is headed by 'Infl-like

category in many languages, including English, or may be universally. This claim leads to the assumption that DPA becomes inseparable issue of UG in being a universal phenomenon. On this basis, Central Kurdish is also one of the languages that applies DPA rather than NPA. Thus, DPA is applicable for English and Central Kurdish which is related to principles but there are some differences in the positions which are related to parameters (Ahmed, 2018; Salzman, 2020; Winter, 2000).

2.1 Possible Structures of DPs

It is well-known that DPA was proposed in 1980s and further developed by Abney (1987) as an alternative for NPA. The rationale behind DPA is to solve problems that cannot be answered by NPA and the head in DPA is a functional category. There are possible internal structures of DP like other phrases (Bernstein, 2008).

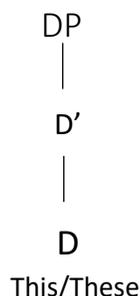
2.1.1 Determiner as the Head

It has been discussed that one word from a specific category can create a phrase, this is also true for determiners as a functional category that they can be the head and create a phrase (DP) even when they come alone without specifier or complement. Actually, this idea comes from DP hypothesis in which the determiner is regarded as the head of DP. This case is not true for all types of determiners, some of them can come alone as a phrase and give meaning such as demonstratives (Abney, 1987; Cook and Newson, 2007; Master, 2013).

(2) a. *This* was my book.

b. *These* are my friends.

Here, demonstratives are determiners and heads of DP that can stand alone without having specifier or complement. In NP analysis, it was explained that noun as the lexical category is the head of NP and when it comes alone, it can create a phrase which is NP. In this way, the determiner as the head of DP can create a phrase when it comes alone. The tree diagram for this structure can be like this:



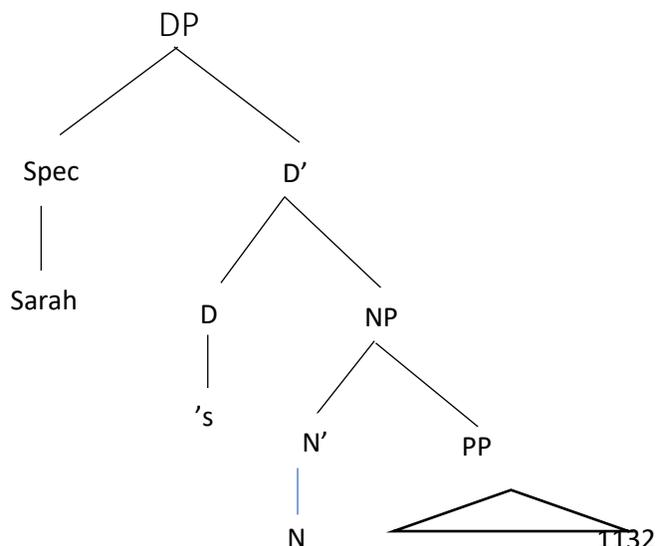
2.1.2 Determiner with Specifier

One of the components of X-bar schema is specifier. Specifier is the sister of the intermediate level (X') and the daughter of maximal projection XP (X''). It can be found in any phrasal category, lexical or function, and it is not specific to DP. Other phrases also have specifier, for example in VP the specifier is auxiliary (ies), in AP, the Spec is a degree adverb, and in PP, the Spec is an adverb (Ahmed, 2018). Our focus will be on the specifier in DP in possessive structures.

Ahmed (2018) indicates that Spec exists in three different areas. In traditional grammar, specifier is used as a synonym of determiner. In formal semantics framework, it is the element which defines the NP reference. Concerning the current GB theory of syntax, Spec can perform three roles. First, specifier can be the target for the external theta role (subject) in phrases headed by verbs, which are θ -role assigners. Second, it can be a position for arguments to raise from or move into. Third, Spec is described in a way that it can close off the phrasal projection in which it is the daughter of the maximal projection. Thus, the Spec c-commands the rest of the phrase.

In possessive structure, the view for the POSS and Spec is different according DPA and NPA. In the case of determining which element fills the position of Spec, there are different points of view. According to Coene and D'hulst (2003), in NPA the 'possessor+ 's' is the Spec of NP, whereas in DPA the possessor alone sits in the Spec position and 's is determiner which 's is the head of the DP. The case will be clearer with these examples:

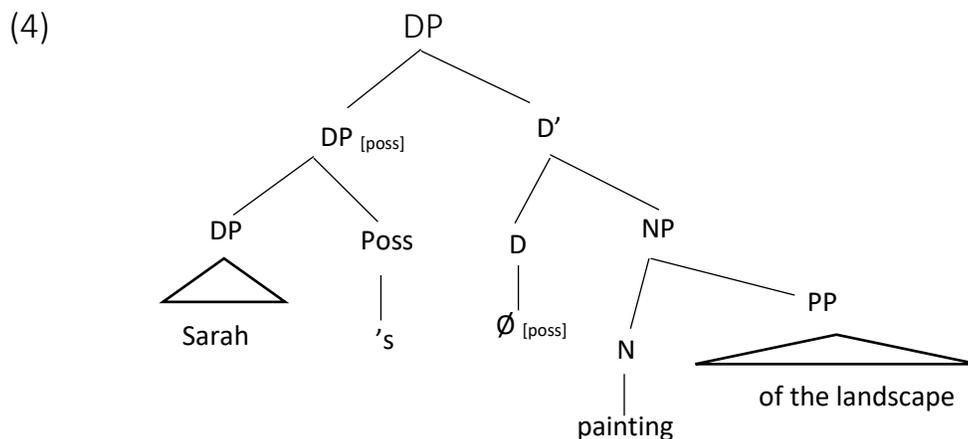
(3) Sarah's painting of the landscape



|
painting
of the landscape

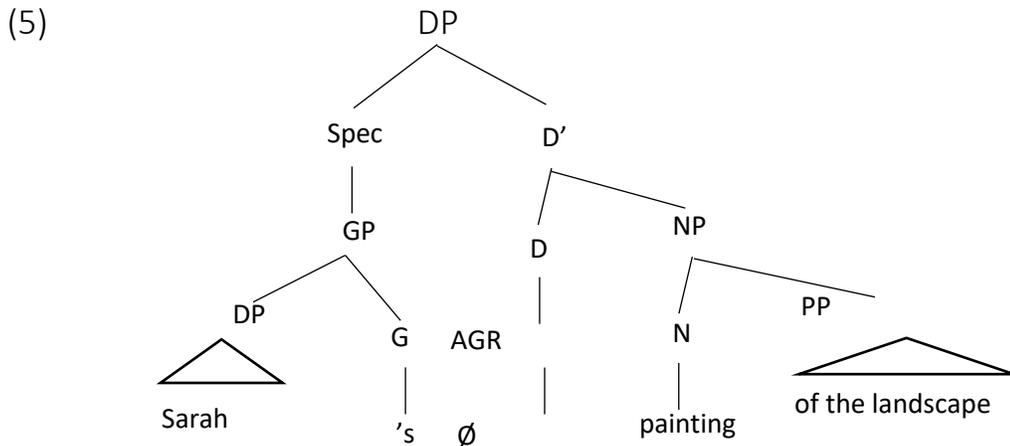
Here, according to NPA, the possessor with the clitic 's (Sarah + 's) fill the position of specifier. However, according to DPA, only the possessor (Sarah) fills the position of Spec and the clitic 's is the head.

Moving to another view by Baker (1995) regarding the element which sits in the Spec position, he claims that both the possessor and POSS sit in the Spec position, but he rejects POSS ('s) as the head of the DP. Rather, Baker thinks that POSS is only a syntactic marker. His view can be shown in (4).



Abney (1987) and Lyons (1999) also mention the idea of D' occurrence as an empty node as it is shown in the tree (4). Here, a question arises if POSS is D, how can it be possible to come after noun? The answer can be "POSS is a special determiner and the situation is an exceptional one given that many others regard POSS as determiner" (Ahmed, 2018, p.119).

Moreover, Ahmed (2018) indicates that Baker's analysis for POSS as simply a syntactic marker is unsatisfying and lacking. For this reason, he suggests that POSS is the head of possessive DP and provides an alternative tree as it is shown in (5).



In the tree, the AGR node shows agreement between the possessor and POSS in number ('s for singular and s' for plural).

Turning to possessive pronouns, a question may arise as to whether possessive pronouns are treated as full DPs or they have different analysis. According to Cook & Newson (2007) possessive pronouns in NPA become the Spec, NP, but they do not in DPA. In DPA they are themselves determiners. A simple reason for that since they cannot be sisters of D', they cannot appear in Spec, DP.

In addition, full DPs and possessive pronouns differ in terms of coordination. In the case of having two full DPs together in a phrase, only the second one takes a genitive Case as in *Emma and Anna's house*. In contrast, when there are possessive pronouns, both must be in genitive Case, for example: *our and their car*, *her and their car*, but not **we and their car*, or **she and their car*. It is important to consider that a full DP and a possessive pronoun cannot be used together within the same phrase: **my and Emma's house*. There is a possible alternative of the combination of a full DP and a pronoun, is using a pronoun with objective Case and a full DP with genitive Case as in *me/his and Emma's house*. This alternative is colloquial rather than standard (Bernstein & Tortora, 2005).

2.1.3 Multiple Determiners

In DPA, it is possible to have multiple determiners. When there is more than one determiner, the first one is called the pre-determiner and the second one is called the post-

determiner which is the Spec of NP. This can be a distinctive feature of DP as it introduces a second specifier position of the NP that is post-determiner and it comes after the standard determiner (Ahmed, 2018; Cook & Newson 2007; Master, 2013; Newson, 2006). We can consider the example and the tree diagram below that is taken from (Cook & Newson, 2007, p. 107).

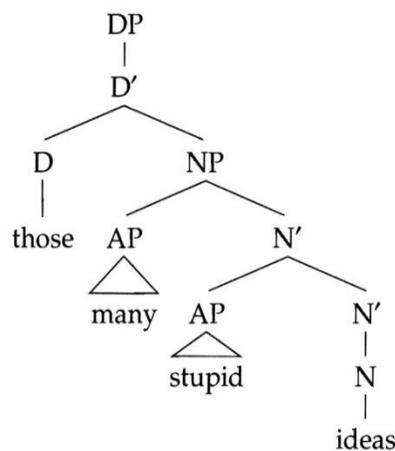
(6) *those many stupid ideas*

Cook and Newson (2007) discuss that these elements such as *many*, *several*, and *few* cannot be attached within the traditional NPA, as the only place for them would be adjoined to the N'. However, they are not recursive and they are not well analyzed as adjuncts. Furthermore, it is claimed that they always precede adjectival modifier, which are adjoined for N'. Thus, the post-determiner to sit is the within the DP.

3. DPA in Central Kurdish

There is controversy in CK equivalent of NP. We can be more applicable than DP is a functional category. According to DPA, NP is inside the complement. Although, DP

specific phrase that is different from other phrases in CK in which the head of the DP is a functional category whereas the head of other phrases is a lexical category. These functional categories can be definite or indefinite markers which are the head determiner

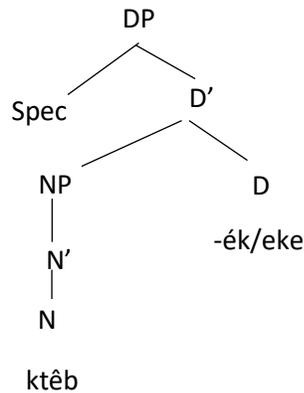


ideal position for NP specifier position

regarding DP as mentioned that DP NP and the head of which is determiner. DP and functions as is regarded as a

phrase. In CK, the determiner whether it is definite or indefinite comes after the noun. The structure can be like this: N + Det. (Rashid, 2015).

- (7) a. *Ktěbeke* (Definite marker)
 b. *Ktěběk* (Indefinite marker)



A nominal phrase in CK can be interpreted as definite when it contains definite marker *-eke*, but as indefinite when it contains *-ěk*. These articles are types of determiners. Concerning the term definite, it is used to characterize a noun which denotes an entity already established in the context where the interlocutors necessarily share the same knowledge about it. Furthermore, the inflection *-e*, co-occurring with demonstratives, also attaches to the end of the nominal phrase to mark definiteness. Thus, there are two definite markers: *-eke* and *-e*, and one indefinite marker: *-ěk* (Rashid, 2015; Tahir, 2018).

3.1 The Structure of Definite DP

The definite markers in CK are *-eke* and *-e* occurring with all types of common nouns regardless of grammatical form or reference. When pluralizing the noun, the suffix *-an* attaches to the definite determiner. In the case of having definite marker and plural with a noun, this means there are two determiners: one shows the definiteness and the other one shows the number which is plural. Regarding this case, Tahir (2018) and Fattah (1997) claim that in order for the two DP-layers to make sense at this point, an intermediate functional projection has to be postulated between the category D and NP. Also, the pluralization process is cross-linguistically attested to be the result of plural marker merging as a functional category above NP, selecting this nominal projection as complement.

The distribution of number projection can have a considerable bearing on motivating two DP layers in CK, while the definite marker *-eke* precedes the number marking *-an*, and the second definite marker *-e* follows it.

- (8) a. esp-ek-an
horse-DEF-PL
the horses
- b. esp-e gewre-ek-an
horse-IZ big-DEF-PL
the big horses
- c. ew esp-an-e
that horse-PL-DEF
those horses.
- d. ew esp-e gewr-an-e
that horse-IZ big-PL-DEF
those big horses

In (8a), there are two determiners as they are definite markers: one is *-eke* which indicates the singular noun. The second is *-an*, which is used to show plurality. In (8b), there are two definite markers to show singularity which are *-eke* and *-e*. Also, there is a plural marker to show plurality which is *-an*. In relation to (8 c&d), there are two determiners, namely split determiner: one is a free morpheme appearing before the noun; the other one is a bound morpheme attaching to the noun. Moreover, the bound morpheme appears twice, attaching to the noun and to the adjective, in (8d).

3.2 Adjectives within DP

In the DP structure, it is possible to have an adjective within the phrase. It was mentioned that there are definite and indefinite articles which functioning as determiners and they are the head of the DP. When there is an adjective within DP, the place of determiner will be different according to whether the noun is definite or indefinite. In this case, there are two possible structures: one is that the determiner comes at the end of the DP which attaches to the adjective, when the noun is definite. The second is that the determiner comes after the noun, when the noun is indefinite and the Izafe *-î* is necessary to appear between the noun and the adjective within DP (Qadir, 2009; Qadir, 2015; Rashid, 2015).

- (9) a. şaxe berizeke

mountain-Izafe high-DEF

the high mountain

b. şaxêkî beriz

mountain-INDEF- IZ high

a high mountain

In (9a), the head of the DP, namely the determiner, attaches to the adjective while in (9b) it attaches to the noun. Also, in (9b), the noun (şax) is indefinite as there is indefinite marker (-êk) which is the head of the DP, the Izafe -î connects the noun to the adjective.

3.3 Possessive Structure within DP

The common possessive construction in CK is the combination of two nouns with the aid of genitive Case marker which is Izafe -î/y. This genitive Case marker is equivalent to the genitive Case markers *POSS* and *of* in English possessive structure. This Izafe functions and appears like *POSS* and *of*, but it is perfectly used in the same structure as *of* because it follows the possessee and is followed by the possessor. On the other hand, it appears in the same position as *POSS* as it is attached to the preceding word (Ahmed, 2018). The example below explains the discussion.

(10) a. seyare-y kureke

car-POSS boy-DEF

the boy's car

b. kolěj-î perwerde

college-POSS education

college of education

c. Ktëb-î Sara

book-POSS Sara

Sara's book

As seen above, the Izafe, which is equivalent to POSS in English, is /î/ when attaching to a word ending with a consonant sound while it is /y/ when attaching to a word ending with a vowel sound.

3.4 The Izafe Construction in CK

The Izafe construction is regarded as crucial characteristic of CK which plays an essential role in the syntactic structure of its nominal phrase. The term of Izafe simply means additional or supplement. Also, it can be described as a semantically vacuous adnominal element linking all the postnominal modifiers or complements to the noun. In CK, the construction of Izafe is attested to be a functional category realized as either -î/y or -e. The Izafe -e co-occurs only with definite nominal phrases, when the noun is followed by an adjective modifier. By contrast, the Izafe appears as -y when the postnominal modifier is a noun or a proper noun. Based on this, it can be said that two structures of Izafe are argued to occur in CK: NP Izafe which introduces the noun to a following modifying noun, and AP Izafe that attaches to the noun as it is always followed by an adjective modifier. Further, AP Izafe agrees in definiteness with D. On the other hand, NP Izafe is argued to be Case-assigning category entering an agreement relation in Case feature with a following DP complement (Aziz, 2024; Tahir, 2018).

A question may arise concerning the morphology of Izafe whether it should be treated as a suffix or a clitic. For answering this question, it is necessary to discuss the characteristics of affixes and clitic to decide about Izafe. Characteristics of both affixes and clitics can be explained in some key points: clitics show a low degree of selection in respect of their hosts, while affixes show a high degree of selection. Clitics can attach to materials already containing clitics but affixes cannot. Also, in the set of combination, arbitrary gaps are more characteristics of words with affixes than of clitic gaps. Concerning the rules of syntax, they can affect affixed words, but they cannot affect clitic groups (Dehghan & Hasar, 2021).

According to these characteristics, there are two criteria that support Izafe to be considered as clitic rather than as an affix. The first criterion is that Izafe is not highly selective regarding the category of the word it follows. Constituents like NPs, APs, and PPs and infinitives can host the Izafe in complex nominal phrases (Karimi, 2007; Tahir, 2018).

- (11) Ruxandin-î şura-y zor berz-î naw şar-î Berlin
 destroying-IZ wall-IZ very high-IZ inside city-IZ Berlin
 destroying the very high wall inside Berlin

The second criterion that further supports the clitic status of Izafe is that Izafe is obligatorily required whenever a noun is post-modified by other categories without exception. Thus, it is hard to find a complex nominal phrase where the noun is not followed by Izafe (Karimi, 2007; Tahir, 2018).

4. Comparative Remarks

4.1 Differences

4.1.1 The Position of Determiner in DP in English and CK

The distinction between English and CK can be drawn concerning the position of determiner within the DP. In English, there is only one position for determiners in DP. It does not matter whether the determiner is definite or indefinite, there is a stable position for them which is prenominal position in the DP. The determiner 'a' or 'the' come before the noun in English and they become the head of the DP. There is no other possible position for these determiners except the prenominal position. In contrast, the possible position for determiners in CK is post-nominal. Determiners, whether it is definite or indefinite, appear after the noun in the DP. The definite marker is *-eke* and the indefinite marker is *-êk*. These determiners become the head of the DP (Rashid, 2015; Salzman, 2020; Winter, 2000).

(12) a. the book

b. a book

(13) a. ktěběk

book-INDEF

a book

b. ktěbeke

book-DEF

the book

Furthermore, there is a case in CK that the determiner is divided into two parts: one part comes at the beginning of the DP and the second part comes at the end of the DP. This is called split determiner (as exemplified in examples 8 c & d above). However, this case cannot be found in English, the determiner is not divided into parts as it comes at the beginning of the DP (see Amin, 2016).

(14) a. *that* book

b. *ew* ktěbe

that book

Concerning the specifier in the DP, it is the determiner and its position in the tree diagram is leftmost in English. However, depending on the new analysis (namely DPA), determiner is not the specifier. Rather, it is the head. In CK, the specifier position in the DP can be filled with numerals, distributives, and quantifiers while the head (D) appears rightmost (Carnie, 2013; Tahir, 2018).

(15) a. *this* girl

b. *hemu kēkeke*

all cake-DEF

all the cake

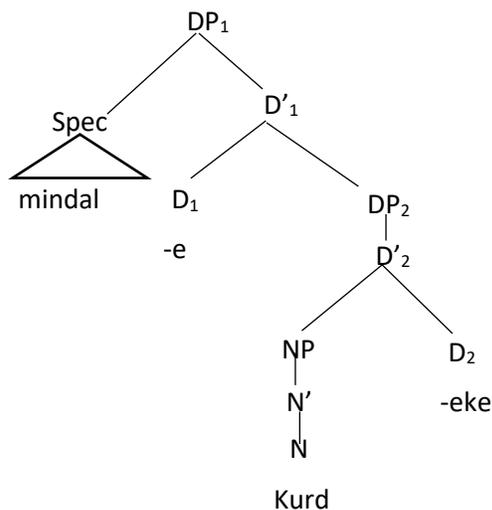
In the example (15b), the word (*hemu*) fills the specifier position and the determiner is ‘-eke’, which is the head of the DP.

In addition, in CK, the specifier position can be filled with a noun. This means a noun becomes the specifier of the DP. This case can appear when a noun modifies another noun in a DP (Tahir, 2018). It can be shown in the example below:

(16) *mindalē kurdeke*

child-IZ Kurd-DEF

the Kurdish child



As it is shown in the tree, the noun ‘*mindal*’ takes the specifier position of the DP and the head of the DP is ‘-e’.

The position of the determiner varies according to whether it is definite or indefinite when it comes with an adjective. It was mentioned in the previous chapter that the

adjective within the DP in CK comes at the end of the phrase after the noun which functions as the post-modifier of the noun. Concerning the determiner, when it is definite, it attaches to the adjective at the end of the phrase. However, the indefinite determiner attaches to the noun within the DP. Thus, the position of the indefinite article is before the adjective in the DP. Regarding English language, there is only one position for the determiner, whether definite or indefinite, with adjective in the DP which is initial position before both the adjective and the noun (Cook & Newson, 2007; Qadir, 2015; Rashid, 2015).

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| (17) a. <i>kuṛe zîrekeke</i> | b. <i>baxêkî cwan</i> |
| boy-IZ clever-DEF | garden-INDEF-IZ beautiful |
| the clever boy | a beautiful garden |

In (17a), the noun is definite as the definite marker (-eke) attaches to the adjective at the end of the phrase. Also, the head of the DP is *-eke*, the Izafe (-e) functions as a connector between the noun (*kuṛ*) and the adjective (*zîrek*). This Izafe is called Adjective Phrase Izafe (AP Izafe). However, in (17b), the noun is indefinite as the indefinite marker (-êk) attaches to the noun (*bax*) and it is the head of the DP. In contrast, in English, there is no Izafe to link the adjective to the noun as it can be seen in the examples below:

- (18) a. the beautiful girl
 (18) b. a nice place

In English, the position of the determiner is stable which is the beginning of the DP. The existence of the adjective and the choice of the determiner whether it is definite or indefinite do not affect the position of the determiner (Salzman, 2020; Winter, 2000).

There is another case in CK and English in which the noun can be the modifier of another noun. In CK, when a noun modifies another noun, there are two DPs and two determiners. The determiner which comes after the second noun becomes the head of the whole DP (Qadir, 2009).

- (19) *Kiçe kurdeke*
 girl Kurdish-DEF
 the Kurdish girl

4.1.2 Possessive DP

The construction of any phrase can distinguish a language from another one. The structure of the possessive DP in English is different from its structure in CK. In English prenominal possessives, the *POSS* is used as the possessor appears first while the opposite is the case in postnominal possessives. On the other hand, there is only postnominal possessive in CK in which the possessed comes first. The possessor in English can appear in three different forms: a pure noun, a proper noun, and a possessive pronoun. Concerning the possessed, it can be either a pure noun or a nominal. The form of the possessor in CK can be proper noun, a pure noun, a clitic, a reflexive pronoun, or an absolute pronoun. Also, the possessed can appear in the form of a pure noun or a nominal. Furthermore, there is a phenomenon in English which is known as ‘double genitive’ possessive as both *POSS* and *of* genitive can be found in the DP. In contrast, there is no such phenomenon in CK (Ahmed, 2018; Ferhadi, 2013; Storto, 2000).

- (20) a. a notebook of Tom’s (Singular)
 b. two notebooks of Tom’s (Plural)

- (21) a. kitêbêk-y Adam (Singular)
 book-INDEF-POSS Adam
 a book of Adam’s
 b. dw kitêb-y Adam (Plural)
 two book-POSS Adam
 two books of Adam’s

Moreover, by changing the indefinite determiner in the CK example to the definite determiner, the English possessive DP examples have to be prenominal one. It will be more illustrative by the examples below:

- (22) a. kitêb-eke-y Adam
 book-DEF-POSS Adam
 Adam’s book
 b. dw ktêb-eke-y Adam
 two book-DEF-POSS Adam
 Adam’s two books

We can consider that the determiner is crucial to change the structure from one language to another one as by substituting the indefinite article to definite, the structure

of possessive DP changes in English from post-nominal to prenominal possessive. One more point to be mentioned, in (22 a&b), in CK examples the determiner is definite, while this definite determiner does not appear in the English example. This is due to the structure of possessive DP, which is prenominal.

4.2 Similarities

4.2.1 Definite and Indefinite articles in English and CK

In both languages there are definite and indefinite articles to be used with the noun in the DP. These articles are determiners and they are the head of the DP. The definite article in English is *the* and the indefinite articles are *a* and *an*. In CK, the definite article is *-eke* which is used with singular nouns and *-ekan* which is used with plural nouns. Also, the indefinite article is *-êk* (Greenbaum & Nelson, 2016; Qadir, 2015).

- (23) a. *the* house
 b. a house
 c. an elephant

- (24) a. mindateke
 child-DEF
 the child
 b. midatekan
 child-DEF-PL
 children
 c. mindatêk
 child-IDEF
 a child

From the examples above, it can be said that the existence of (in)definite determiners is the sharing point between English and CK. However, the position of (in)definite determiner is a distinguishing point between them.

4.2.2 Multiple Determiners

There is a case in both languages that more than one determiner is allowed to appear within the DP. In English, multiple determiners can be found in the structure of the DP, especially in possessive DPs as there are two determiners: the first one is pre-determiner

and the second one is post determiner. Similarly, in CK, the existence of more than one determiner is also possible (Cook & Newson, 2007; Mahwi, 2010). Let us consider the examples below:

- (25) a. *those many* books
 b. *her several* attractive painting

- (26) a. *hemu kêkeke*
 all cake-DEF
 all the cake
 b. *hemu pareke-y* Aram
 all money-DEF-POSS Aram
 all of Aram's money

From the examples above, it can be clear that the existence of more than one determiner in English and CK is generally allowed in DPs, and particularly in the possessive DP structure. Thus, it can be regarded as a similarity between the two languages.

5. Conclusions

The study provides some crucial findings regarding the determiner phrase structure in English and CK. The determiner phrase can be found in both languages with specific construction according to the form of the language. In both languages, the head of the DP is a determiner appearing in different positions. In English, the position of the determiner, whether definite or indefinite, is fixed; it comes at the beginning of the phrase. In CK, the right position for the determiner is the end which attaches to the noun within the determiner phrase. The existence of other components such as adjective does not affect the position of the determiner in the determiner phrase in English, but in CK the existence of the adjective directly affects the position of the determiner. The definite determiner attaches to the adjective which comes at the end of the phrase. In contrast, the indefinite determiner attaches to the noun and it comes before the adjective within the DP. Moreover, in CK, the *Izafe* is necessary in the case of having a noun with another noun or a noun with an adjective. Thus, there are two types of *Izafe* which are Noun Phrase *Izafe* which is used between two nouns. Also, Adjective Phrase *Izafe* which is used between a noun and an adjective. On the other hand, the *Izafe* construction is not found and used in English. Beside all the differences between English and CK, they are similar in having

definite and indefinite determiners and multiple determiners that more than one determiner can appear within the DP.

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