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**DETERMINING ADVERBIAL CLAUSES WITHOUT SUBORDINATE CONJUNCTIONS IN TONGA**

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**Abstract**

This research is on adverbial clauses without conjunctions in Tonga. Adverbial clauses have been generally analysed to have conjunctions that introduce them. Most of the adverbial clauses in Tonga, however, do not contain conjunctions but are expressed through morphological means. Since the elements in verbal forms do not introduce the adverbial clauses, these elements have been viewed as elements signalling adverbial clauses. The study used a descriptive research design. Data was purposively selected. Only adverbial clauses without conjunctions were selected for analysis. The study has established that in Tonga, many adverbial clauses are signaled by subordinate morphemes and tense morphemes in verb forms. Despite lack of the relevant subordinators, it has been possible to classify such adverbial clauses through context and co-textual analysis of syntagmatic lexical relations; relations directly linked to a verb form constituting tense, aspect and mood. The study has also established that tone in identical adverbial constructions would distinguish a statement (indicative) from adverbial clauses and a temporal clause from a conditional, among adverbial clauses. Tonal sequences play a role for several adverbial clause types. The study recommends further researches on the language and other Zambian languages so as to develop the linguistics of Zambian languages as part of Bantu Linguistics.

**Key Words:** Adverbial Clause, Conjunctions, Linguistics

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