Types of Sentences (বাক্য প্রকৰণ) ঃ

When we speak something to someone, we use a word or a group of words called a sentence to express what we want to say. Any sentence has a form or structure with main clause and optionally one main and subordinate clause. A clause is that construction which has an obligatory verb. A main clause has a finite verb and in addition, may have one or more noun phrases. A subordinate clause has a non-finite verb (verb preceded or followed by a subordinator) and it forms part of a sentence.

The sentences in terms of form are broadly classified into three types, viz., simple, compound and complex.

Simple Sentence (সৰল বাক্য) ঃ

A simple sentence has one subject and atleast one finite verb or predicate except in imperative sentences in which the subject is optional. It is a construction which has only one main clause or an independent clause. The followings are the basic simple sentence structure of Karbi.

Vo ingjar 'Bird flies'
s v
La hem arlosi do 'He is in the room'
s a v
Nangke inut thanbang 'You are a teacher'
s c
Ne football pathu 'I play football'
s o v
Netum alangphan kitap epak pilo
s o o v
'We gave a book to him'

Generally, we use the sentences for some purposes, especially for making statement, asking question, giving instruction or request, or expressing one's strong feeling etc. In terms of the function of such type of the simple sentence construction it may be classified as assertive or declarative, interogative, imperative, obtative, exclamatory or negative as of English.

(a) Assertive Sentence (বর্ণনামুলক বাক্য) ঃ

An assertive or a declarative sentence is one that affirms or negates a fact. It may be stative or active whether it states or denies facts.

The stative sentences state some information about the subject and may be equational, existential, possessive or descriptive.

(i) In equational sentence, the subject is identified and there is no copula verb in Karbi.
Lake meng 'This is a cat'
Lahaike thengpi kethe 'These are big trees'
Nemenke Sarthe 'My name is Sarthe' etc.

(ii) The existential sentences describe the existence or location of a person, animal or thing. The existential verb is 'do' which also means 'stay' 'live'.

Ne daksi do 'I am here'
Nang ladak donon 'You stay here' etc.

(iii)The possessive sentences indicate that the subject is in possession of person, animal or thing. The possession verb is the same as above.

Nesopo inut do 'I have one son'
Nang car ihum do 'You have a car'
Monit amek hini do 'A man has two eyes' etc.

(iv)In descriptive sentences, the quantity, size, colour, etc. of the subject noun is described.

Arvoke akilir 'The leaf is green'

Labangso anglong ingtuiving 'The hill is high'

Alangli ajon dinglen 'He is tall' etc.

All the sentences which are not stative in the content are called active.

Netum dak vanglo 'We come here'

Nang lothe theni chonangji 'You should eat two bananas' etc.

(b) Interrogative Sentence (প্রশ্নবাচক বাক্য) ঃ

We have previously discussed about the inerrogative pronouns. There are three types of interrogative sentences distinguished to evoke a reply from the person.

(i) The first type of interrogative is formed by adding **<-ma>** (QST) to the verb and the answer of this type is an agreement or denial of the question. The answer of such type of question can be with the word itself.

Nang an choji ma? 'Will you eat food ?'

affirmative: Choji

negative: Choche

Alangli hem do ma ? 'Is he at home ?

affirmative: Do

negative: Ave

La Sarthe ma? 'Is he Sarthe?

affirmative: Kalang

negative: Kali

(ii) The second type of interrogatives are formed with interrogative pronouns and adjectives, such as komat, konat, kodak, kopi, komantu, kopuson or koson etc..

Nanghem konatlo?

'Where is your home ?'

La kopilo ?

'What is this ?

(iii) The third type of interrogatives is the tag questions, put for achieving support from the person whom the qestion is asked.

Sika arje mesen, kali ma?

'Sika is beautiful, isn't she ?'

Nang patumidik vang di?

'You came on the day before yesterday, didn't you ?

(c) Interjection (আবেগবোধক বাক্য) ঃ

A sentence that expresses some strong emotions and sudden feeling is called an Interjection or Exclamatory sentence. It indicates that the words expressed the feeling of happy, sadness, astonishment or distress etc. In Karbi the exclamation is expressed with the words *ai, aitema, ahoklo, hai, is, jo, kalang, kali, oho, opeija, thekma, therama* etc.

(i) as expressed in happy-

Ba ! ok kethe ta.

'Oh my god ! what a big fish !'

Heija ! netum haichit lo

'Bravo ! we have won finally'

(ii) as expressed in sadness-

Mai ! kidukta.

'Alas ! what a pity'

(iii) as express in anguish-

Chi ! therakre ma?
'Shit ! what a shame'

(iv) as expressed in astonishment-

Opeija ! ahir ketan.
'Oh no ! how dreaded'

(v) as expressed in admiration-

Pu-an alon kedo amir !
What a beautiful flower !

(d) Obtative sentence (ইচ্ছাবোধক বাক্য)ঃ

A sentence expressing a wish or blessing is called an Obtative sentence. In Karbi there are some ways of expressing one wishes or blessing as discussed below.

KCS achethe peding nang.
'KCS long live'
Jutanglangno pevir nang.
'Evil culture, damn down'
Damme jume
'Have a save journey'

(e) Imperative (আদেশ বা অনুরুধবোধক বাক্য)ঃ

A sentence that conveys an order, a command, an instruction or a request is called an imperative sentence. The sentences in Karbi function three ways to give instruction or make request for the listener to perform an action as follows—

(i) The simple imperative is marked by adding **<-non>** (COND), **<-noi>** (COND), **<-tha>**(CON), **<-tu>** (UNCOND) to the verb to indicate a comand, a direction, an instruction or a request etc. to perform an action as indicated by the marker.

dam*non/noi* 'get off, do move'(comand)
cho*non/noi* 'do eat' etc. (comand)
vang*tha* 'please come' (request)
ingni*tha* 'please take seat'(request)
vang*tu* 'you should come'(instruction)
charli*tu* 'you should study'(direction)

(ii)The imperative is also marked by obligatory **<-nang >** (HORT) to explicate a command. It is a reflexive form of ***'-non'*** inclusive of the person addressed, used to express a verb in progression in immediate future corresponding to the English verb starting with 'let', 'please'. The future marker **<-po>** (IRR) and **<-ji>** (IRR) can be followed the imperative to mark obligation etc.

dam *nang* 'let's go' (incl)
cho *nang* 'let's eat' (incl)
dam *nangpo* 'need to go' (aprox)
cho *nangji* 'need to eat' (dist)

(iii) When giving an instruction or making a request to a respected person the honorific particle ***-ik*** is preceded by the imperative marker to denote request, order etc. in polite manner.

Nangli penap vang *iktha* (request)
'please, come tomorrow'
Nangli dak ingni *iktha* (request)
'please, take seat here'
Nangli penap vang*iktu* (instruction)
'you should come tomorrow'
Nangli charli *iktu* (instruction)

'You should study'

Compound Sentence (যৌগিক বাক্য) ঃ

A compound sentence consists of two or more principal or main clauses or simple sentences— that is clauses linked by co-ordinating conjunction. The components of a compound sentence is conjoined by the conjunctive particles or past participle in Karbi.

(a) The conjunctive particles ***lapen*** 'and' is used to conjoin two sentences. Each of the sentences contains two independent clauses or co-ordinate clauses as generally called.

Damnon lapen vangnon
'Go and come back'
Alangli ingnilo lapen cholo
'He sat down and ate'

(b) The past participial form of the verb is formed by adding ***-si, -pen*** and ***-ra*** to the verb in compound sentence construction.

La vangsi cholo
'Having come, he ate'
Nang chodet pen nelong nangduntha
'Having eaten, you go with me'
Ladak vangra nangcherapduntha
'Having come, help me'

(c) The contra-propositional conjunction is ***bonta*** 'but' and it conjoins two sentences of which the second is based on the first. The other forms are ***bonsita, sita*** which conjoins two independent clauses having the status of simple sentences.

La vang nangji apotlo sita vangvedetlo
'He should come but he didnot come'
Ne chini sita nangphan nangthanthe
'I know but I do not tell you'
Ne nangthanji bonsita nang dip nangji
'I will tell you but you should keep secrete'

Complex Sentence (জটিল বাক্য) ঃ

A complex sentence consists of one main clause that can stand independently by itself as a simple sentence and one or more subordinate clauses that can not stand by itself as a simple sentence. It can be divided into conditional, purposive, causal, temporal and infinitive. Some of the subordinate clauses of Karbi are discussed below-

(a) Conditional (চর্তমুলক) ঃ

The action mentioned by the finite verb takes place only if the condition mentioned by conditional clause fulfilled. It is expressed by adding ***-te, -asonte, -tik*** to the verb.

Nangle rapdun ***asonte*** la jokji apotlo.
'If you help him he would have escaped'.
Alang dolo***te*** kam chunji.
'If he is there, the work will be finished'.
Ne vangve***tik*** nang damri.
'You donot go until I come'.

(b) Purposive (উদেশ্যমুলক) ঃ

Any action mentioned by the finite verb has a purpose. Such a purpose is expressed by adding **<ji aphan>** (PUR), **<pu>** (QUOT) or **<pusi>** (QUOT) to the dubitative future form of verb.The future form **<-ji>** (IRR) is optionally dropped with the nominalised form of the verb.

Nang vangji ***pusi*** ne inghongbom lo.
'I have been waiting for you to come'.

Ne an kecho***ji aphan*** chisikbomlo.

'I am getting ready for eating meal'.

(c)Infinitive (নিমিত্তার্থক) ঃ

The infinitive clause is also expressed by adding ***aphan, pu*** or ***pusi*** to the finite dubitative future form of the verb. The future form **<-ji>** (IRR) is optionally dropped with the nominalised form of the verb.

Ne vangji ***pusi*** mathalo.

'I think (I) will come'.

Ne kecho***ji aphan*** chisiklo.

'I am ready to eat'.