

Verbalization Affixes in the Limola Language: A Descriptive Analysis

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Abstract—This article highlights the verbalization of affixes in the Limola language. This study uses a qualitative descriptive method with the following data collection techniques: elicitation, recording, and note-taking. The affixation process proves three kinds of verbalization affixes in the Limola language, i.e., 1) prefixes: {ma-}, {mo-}, {pa-}, {mopa-}, {mapa-}, {ipa-}, {i-}, and {ti-}; 2) suffixes: {-i}, {-nga}; and 3) confixes: {i—i}, {i—a}, {ipa—i}, {mapa—i}, and {mopa—i}. Verbalization of an inflectional affix does not change the word class when attached to a verb root morpheme. Meanwhile, the affix attached to an adjective base morpheme called derivation changes the word class. The change due to the morphophonemic process is found in the prefix {ma-}, which has allomorphs /mang-/, /man-/, /mam-/, and /mab-/. These allomorphs occur when the initial phonemes of the word are /k/, /s/, /t/, /p/, and /b/. In addition, the process of affixing the suffix {-i} to the base morpheme endings in vowels /i/, /u/, and /e/ causes epenthesis of the vowel /a/, which lies between the end of the base morpheme and the beginning of the bound morpheme. This study's results provide a comprehensive viewpoint of the affixation process in Limola, illustrate how affixes interact with base morphemes to affect word formation and class transformation and emphasize the complex role of morphophonemic processes in the Limola language. The findings are beneficial for deepening understanding of the Limola language structure and, simultaneously, can be used in designing teaching materials for the Limola society to preserve and maintain the Limola language.

Index Terms—descriptive analysis, morphophonemics, Limola language, verbalization affixes

I. INTRODUCTION

According to the language website ethnologue.com, Indonesia has the second-highest linguistic diversity of any nation in the world except first-place New Guinea (Ibrahim, 2011; Kemdikbud, 2022; Mu'jizah, 2018; Umar et al., 1998; Wiyanti et al., 2018). Accordingly, the most recent data from the Badan Bahasa survey conducted throughout the 1990s successfully mapped 718 regional languages in Indonesia. Sixty-two languages, or 90% of the total, are spoken in

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Sulawesi, eastern Indonesia. The Limola language – a regional language of the Indonesian archipelago – is one of the regional tongues that make up Sulawesi's 62 official languages and is spoken by people living in Sassa Village and Makumpa Hamlet, Baebunta District, North Luwu Regency, South Sulawesi Province. Moreover, Limola belongs to the Austronesian class of Malay-Polynesian languages (Navez, 2006).

There have been two major studies of the Limola language related to this paper, namely the report on the vitality of the Limola language written by Agus et al. (2019) and the Limola language phonological system written by Garing et al. (2021). The first study revealed that this language's vital power had shifted and was even endangered. This is evidenced by the results of the accumulated index of ten indicators based on the study of the vitality of the Limola language, which scored 0.4915, indicating that the Limola language is an unstable and endangered language (Agus et al., 2019). Further, the research of Garing et al. (2021) shows that the Limola language has five basic vowel phonemes and thirteen variations of vowels; in total, 18 vowels function as meaning differentiators. Moreover, the Limola language consonant phoneme consists of 17 consonants (Garing et al., 2021).

Based on this information, further and in-depth research on the Limola language needs to be carried out rather expeditiously, considering that the language is already unstable and on the verge of extinction. Therefore, the author attempts to conserve the Limola language by compiling its morphological structure and filling in the gaps between the existing research results. The focus of this study is a morphological system for the verbalization of affixes in the Limola language. Verbalization affixes can be derivational or inflectional. Therefore, this study discusses the derivation that changes the word classes: a newly derived word with a different word class from the base word and an inflectional affix that does not modify the word class. Thus, the problem of the study is to determine how verbalization affixes are formed in the Limola language. The findings of this research aid the Limola-speaking community by offering essential educational resources for the younger generation. Moreover, it will help strengthen the viability of the Limola language and assist in mitigating its extinction.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

This paper discusses verbalization affixes in the Limola language. Verbalization affixes are verb-forming affixes, making this study a part of a morphological study. Chaer (2008) stated that etymologically, the word morphology comes from the word *morph*, meaning "form," and the word *logi*, meaning "science". Therefore, the term "morphology" implies the study of form. In linguistics, morphology is the study of forms and word formation. Meanwhile, Aronoff and Fudeman (2005) state that the study of "linguistic morphology refers to the mental system involved in word formation or the branch of linguistics that deals with words, their internal structure, and how they are formed" (pp. 2-3). Kridalaksana (2008) proposes that morphology is a part of language structure that includes words and features. This is also in line with Morley (2015), who stated that morphology discusses the internal structure of word forms (Firdaus, 2018; Gaeta & Angster, 2019; Häikiö & Vainio, 2018; Kasim et al., 2022; Matthews, 1997).

In this manner, this study relies on the viewpoints developed by structuralists. For example, Nida (1970) states that a word resulting from combining one morpheme with another morpheme can be in the form of affixation, reduplication, or compound. The combination of morphemes becomes words; thus, the word is the most significant morphological form, whereas the minor form is a morpheme. Until now, morphemes and words have been the main topics of morphological studies (Rahmawati, 2019; Resticka, 2017; Sukri, 2015). Furthermore, the approach used in analyzing this research data is based on the principles of descriptive analysis, as stated by Nida (1970), as follows:

1. Descriptive analysis is based on what people say. This principle implies that the analyzed data are in the form of written data, whereas written data are used as complementary data.
2. The form is primary, and usage is secondary. This principle determines the analysis stage, especially when deciding the affixes.
3. A speech act cannot be entirely performed without reference to other speech acts. Its fundamental idea can be used to defend morphological creations (Jerniati, 2017).

Affixation is the process of forming words from a basic form or base (Herianah et al., 2022; Jerniati, 2019; Kawasha, 1970; Mappiasse, 2018). In the Limola language, words such as *moboso* ("cut"), *wowai* ("bring"), and *ibokkea* ("tied up") consist of the base words *boso* ("cut"), *wowa* ("bring"), and *bokke* ("tie"), each of which is attached with bound forms in the form of {*mo-*}, {*-i*}, and {*i-a*}. An affix is a bound form or morpheme used to derive the three words. According to KBBI (Pusat Bahasa Kemdikbud, 2016), an affix is a bound form that changes the grammatical meaning when added to the base. An affix added at the beginning of a base word is called a prefix, whereas an affix added at the end of words is called a suffix (Ndlovu & Dube, 2019; Nugroho, 2018). If an affix is inserted in the middle of a word, it is called an infix or insertion (no data on this was found in the Limola language). In contrast, if an affix is added at the beginning and end, it is called a infix or simulfix. There is occasionally a class shift after this affixation procedure (Mappiasse, 2018). Class shift describes the derivation. The derivation is the formation of new words by adding an affix to a base (Kasim et al., 2022), which can be in the form of a root, stem, or bottom (Acedo-Matelln & Real-Puigdollers, 2019; Ba'dulu & Herman, 2012; Simonović & Mišmaš, 2020). Likewise, Yule in Ataman et al. (2019), Butts (2017), and Ermanto (2008) distinguish derivational affixes from inflectional affixes. The derivational affix is used in the derivational word process, whereas the inflectional affix is used in the inflectional affixation process (Davies & Embick, 2020; Pakendorf, 2019). Derivational affixes change word classes (Goodness, 2020; Simaremare et al., 2021), while inflectional affixes do not alter word classes

(Ghembaza et al., 2018). Lyon in Putrayasa (2010) argues that derivation registers various formations of a new word from an existing word (Ningsih et al., 2020). Further, inflection is a morphemic change process that maintains the lexical identity of the word. Verhaar (1996) notes that the inflectional group comprises a paradigmatic set of forms of a single word. Likewise, Ismail (2016) and Luthfan and Hadi (2019) explain that inflection is a construction that shares the same distribution as its base form.

Regional archipelago languages have affixation patterns that also characterize the language's specificity. Chaer (2008) argues that affixation is one of several morphemic processes in word formation. In line with Muslich (2008), who posits that affixation generally causes a morphophonemic process, namely a change in specific phonemes due to the affixation process, either in the form of a prefix, suffix, or infix (Idiatov, 2019; Karlin, 2022; Kasim et al., 2022; Morley, 2015). According to Tustiantina (2016), the consequences of these changes cause the derivation form's presence (Astafieva, 2016; Ningsih et al., 2020).

Based on these data, morphophonemic or morphophonological processes also occur in the Limola language. Schane (1973) states that morphophonology occurs when morphemes combine to form words, segments of adjacent morphemes line up, or sometimes change. This perspective implies sound change rules in word formation (Hendrokumoro & Temaja, 2019; Jerniati, 2017; Mappiasse, 2018). The theories presented are the primary references that support this study. In addition, because this study discusses verbalization affixes, the underlying references are related to derivation, inflection, and morphophonemic concepts. The three ideas synergize in this analysis by considering how they fit into the discussed data corpus.

III. METHODOLOGY

A. *Research Design*

The method used in this research is a descriptive method using a qualitative approach. Field research uses natural objects experienced by specific communities (Berutu, 2019; Hadari, 2019; Mahsun, 2005; Sugiono, 2013). The data source in this research is the Limola language spoken by the people who own the language in Makumpa Hamlet and Sassa Village, Baebunta District, North Luwu Regency, South Sulawesi.

B. *Procedure for Collecting and Analyzing Data*

The techniques used to collect data were: 1) the elicitation technique, which obtains data related to the problem studied by using direct and directed questions to informants; 2) the recording technique, which completes the data obtained through the elicitation technique. The recording is done by preparing the question in advance; 3) the noting technique, which notes data related to the Limola language verbalization affixes; and 4) the retrospective technique, which selects the data obtained to gain more accurate data (Miles & Huberman, 2012; Sangidu, 2007; Sudaryanto, 2015).

The collected data were processed, analyzed, and selected as objectively as possible to obtain a description of verbalization affixes in the Limola language. The data analysis procedures were classification, identification, interpretation, and conclusion. Classification is a technique for selecting and sorting data as required. Identification is intended to determine or convey data that goes through morphological processes, particularly affixation processes. Interpretation is a data analysis method that examines the classified and identified data based on the demands of the data. The final data analysis process is the conclusion after executing the classification, identification, and interpretation procedures. The conclusion presents the outcomes and discoveries, discusses them briefly and in detail, and identifies the novelties discovered during the investigation.

C. *Participants*

The informants in this study were fluent Limola language speakers who lived in Sassa Village and understood and mastered the morpheme-forming elements in the Limola language. The researcher used 15 male and female interviewees between the ages of 25 and 50 to acquire these data. Furthermore, it required two experts, i.e., native speakers considered to be good data sources, who know more information, linguistic history, linguistic contexts, and the phenomena of changes that occur in the Limola language's word development process.

D. *Materials*

The data came from the findings of the answers given on the instrument, which included a series of questions about the form and process of verb morphology in the Limola language. The informants and resource individuals created a list of Indonesian questions as a reference and then described them in Limola. The questions dealt with the Limola language's morpheme elements, specifically essential and derived morphemes. In the Limola language, the instrument consisted of a vocabulary of verbs, nouns, adjectives, adverbs, and various morphological components. The number of questions or instruments used to gather data was not limited because the researcher constructed questions based on the answers and explanations of the informants to find types of verb-forming morphemes.

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. *Verbalization Affixes in the Limola Language*

Affixing is an essential factor in word formation or in determining the category of certain word classes. Some of the Limola language's affixes are verbalization or verb-forming affixes, and some can cause morphophonemic events. It can be identified by phoneme modifications brought about by the affixation process, such as prefixes, infixes, suffixes, or confixes. Several forms of verbalization affixes were established in this study, i.e., prefixes, suffixes, and confixes. The three affixes are explained below:

TABLE 1
VERBALIZATION AFFIXES IN LIMOLA

Prefixes	Suffixes	Confixes
<i>ma-</i>	<i>-i</i>	<i>i-i</i>
<i>mo-</i>	<i>-nga</i>	<i>i-a</i>
<i>pa-</i>		<i>ipa-i</i>
<i>mopa-</i>		<i>mapa-i</i>
<i>mapa-</i>		<i>mopa-i</i>
<i>ipa-</i>		
<i>i-</i>		
<i>ti-</i>		

(a). Prefix

The prefix is an affix attached to the base form's left. In the Limola language, there are eight kinds of verb-forming prefixes, namely {*ma-*}, {*mo-*}, {*pa-*}, {*mopa-*}, {*mapa-*}, {*ipa-*}, {*i-*}, and {*ti-*}. The prefix {*ma-*} in particular, has the allomorph {*mang-*}, {*man-*}, {*mam-*}, and {*mab-*}. These prefixes are explained as follows:

1. Prefix {*ma-*}

The prefix {*ma-*} is one of the verbalization affixes or verbs in the Limola language. The prefix {*ma-*} can only be combined with verbs, with some changes due to morphophonemics. In the first example (Table 3), the prefix {*ma-*} changes to {*mang-*} when it meets a base whose initial phoneme is /k/, and it changes to {*man-*} when it meets a base whose initial phonemes are /s/ and /t/. Furthermore, prefix {*ma-*} has the allomorph {*mam-*} if the initial phoneme of the base attached is /p/ and becomes {*mab-*} if the initial phoneme attached is /b/. These prefix forms are called allomorphs. The morphophonemic prefix {*ma-*} can be defined as follows:

TABLE 2
MORPHOPHONEMIC PREFIXES IN LIMOLA

Prefixes <i>ma-</i>
{ <i>mang-</i> }/# /k/
{ <i>man-</i> }/# /s/, /t/
{ <i>mam-</i> }/# /p/
{ <i>mab-</i> }/# /b/

Table 2 above shows some examples of morphophonemic processes in Limola verbs.

TABLE 3
PREFIX {*MA-*} IN THE LIMOLA

	Verb Root	Morphophonemic Process
Prefix <i>ma-</i>	<i>mang-</i>	<i>kowa</i> "carry" → <i>mangkowa</i> "carrying"
	<i>man-</i>	<i>solo</i> "buy" → <i>mansolo</i> "buying"
		<i>tampera</i> "slap" → <i>mantampera</i> "slapping"
	<i>mam-</i>	<i>pilio</i> "find" → <i>mampilio</i> "finding"
	<i>mab-</i>	<i>balu</i> "sell" → <i>mabbalu</i> "selling"

The prefix {*ma-*} in the example above combines with stems in the verb class category and produces derivative words that belong to the same word category. This means that the prefix {*ma-*} is classified as a verbalization affix. The morphological process is inflection, which does not change the word class (Ghembaza et al., 2018).

2. Prefix {*mo-*}

The prefix {*mo-*} is also a verbalizer affix in the Limola language. This prefix can be used as the base in verb and adjective clauses. If the base attached is a verb, then the derived morpheme is the same as the word class category, i.e., verb. However, if the base attached is an adjective, then the resulting derived morpheme is categorized as a different word class, namely verbs. Here is the case of the prefix {*mo-*}:

TABLE 4
PREFIX {MO-} IN THE LIMOLA

Prefix <i>mo-</i>	Verb Roots	Morphophonemic Process	Adjectives Roots	Morphophonemic Process
	<i>boso</i> "cut"	<i>moboso</i> "cutting"	<i>karrao</i> "away"	<i>mokarrao</i> "avoiding"
	<i>bare</i> "break"	<i>mobare</i> "breaking"	<i>roso</i> "strong"	<i>moroso</i> "strengthen"
	<i>bauru</i> "throw"	<i>mobauru</i> "throwing"		
	<i>sempa</i> "kick"	<i>mosempa</i> "kicking"		
	<i>tobo</i> "stab"	<i>motobo</i> "stabbing"		
	<i>tosu</i> "pierce"	<i>motosu</i> "piercing"		

Thus, two affixation processes occur in Table 4: the affixation of the prefix {*mo-*} on the verb roots and the prefix on the base adjectives. The first affixation process is an inflection that does not change the word class (Ghembaza et al., 2018). In contrast, the second affixation process is a derivation that changes the word class (Goodness, 2020).

3. Prefix {*pa-*}

The Limola language's prefix {*pa-*} is categorized as a verb-forming affix. Results show that the prefix {*pa-*} can be paired with adjectives and verbs. A verb-derived word is created when the prefix {*pa-*} is joined to the base of an adjective. However, if the prefix {*pa-*} meets the verb base form, it has a derivative word, which is a noun (not a verbalization affix). Here is the case of the prefix {*pa-*}:

TABLE 5
PREFIX {PA-} IN THE LIMOLA

Prefix <i>pa-</i>	Adjectives Roots	Morphophonemic Process	Verb Roots	Morphophonemic Process
	<i>malessi</i> "beautiful"	<i>pamalessi</i> "beautify"	<i>lappo</i> "crash"	<i>palappo</i> "crasher"
	<i>mapacci</i> "clean"	<i>pamapacci</i> "cleaner"	<i>patei</i> "kill"	<i>papatei</i> "killer"
	<i>macanni</i> "sweet"	<i>pamacanni</i> "sweetener"	<i>solo</i> "buy"	<i>pansolo</i> "buyer"
	<i>makarra</i> "hard"	<i>pamakarra</i> "harden"	<i>jaga</i> "dance"	<i>pajjaga</i> "dancer"
	<i>makundu</i> "blunt"	<i>pamakundu</i> "to dull"		

In verb roots case, the combination of the prefix {*pa-*} with the base word *solo* into *pansolo* 'buyer' and *jaga* into *pajjaga* 'dancer', a morphophonological event occurs, namely the change of {*pa-*} into {*pan-*} and {*paj-*}. The appearance of these two phonemes, /n/ and /j/, follows the initial phoneme of the base word they enter.

4. Prefix {*mopa-*}

TABLE 6
PREFIX {MOPA-} IN THE LIMOLA

Prefix <i>mopa-</i>	Adjectives Roots	Morphophonemic Process
	<i>mandate</i> "long"	<i>mopamandate</i> "lengthen"
	<i>mariboi</i> "low"	<i>mopamariboi</i> "lower"
	<i>manyangko</i> "light"	<i>mopamanyangko</i> "lighten"
	<i>malemma</i> "weak"	<i>mopalemma</i> "weaken"

The prefix {*mopa-*} is a combination of the prefixes {*mo-*} and {*pa-*}. This prefix is categorized as a verbalization affix. If the prefix is attached to an adjective base, it will be a derivative word that is different from the base form (verb) (Simaremare et al., 2021). Therefore, this prefix belongs to the verbalization affix and is classified as a derivation that changes the word class from adjective to verb. This affixation process gives additional meaning to the base word, which affects the action or state described by the base word.

5. Prefix {*mapa-*}

The prefix {*mapa-*} is the same as {*mopa-*}, a duplicate affix that is created with the combination of the prefixes {*ma-*} and {*pa-*}. This prefix is a verbalization affix, or Limola language verb-forming. If the prefix is combined with an adjective base, it results in a verb (Simaremare et al., 2021). This means that the derivation process that occurs in the affixation process is a class-changing derivation.

TABLE 7
PREFIX {MAPA-} IN THE LIMOLA

Prefix <i>mapa-</i>	Adjectives Roots	Morphophonemic Process
	<i>macanni</i> "sweet"	<i>mapamacanni</i> "sweeten"
	<i>makessi</i> "good"	<i>mapamakessi</i> "make good"
	<i>makarra</i> "hard"	<i>mapamakarra</i> "harden"
	<i>malessi</i> "beautiful"	<i>mapamalessi</i> "beautify"

6. Prefix {ipa-}

The prefix {ipa-} is one of the verbalization affixes of the Limola language and is a double prefix derived from the combination of the prefixes {-i-} and {-pa-}. However, this is different from the prefixes {-i-} and {-pa-}, which, when attached to a verb base word, will result in a derivative word with the same word class (Ghembaza et al., 2018). Meanwhile, as shown in the eighth example below, when the prefix {ipa-} is attached to a base-form adjective, it produces a different word class, namely a verb. Thus, this prefix affixation process is a derivation that changes the word class.

TABLE 8
PREFIX {IPA-} IN THE LIMOLA

Prefix ipa-	Adjectives Roots	Morphophonemic Process
	<i>marangke</i> "dry"	<i>ipamarangke</i> "dried up"
	<i>masanna</i> "fresh"	<i>ipamasanna</i> "refresh"
	<i>marosoi</i> "strong"	<i>ipamarosoi</i> "strengthened"
	<i>manyiu</i> "sharp"	<i>ipamanyiu</i> "sharpened"
	<i>manyakko</i> "light"	<i>ipamanyakko</i> "lightened"

7. Prefix {i-}

The prefix {i-} is one of the verbalization affixes of the Limola language. When this prefix is combined with the verb root, it produces the same class derivative word (verb) (Ghembaza et al., 2018). The new morpheme is in the same category as the root form. Thus, this affixation is classified as an inflection that does not change the word class, and combining these prefixes does not undergo a morphophonemic process (Muslich, 1990).

TABLE 9
PREFIX {I-} IN THE LIMOLA

Prefix i-	Verbs Roots	Morphophonemic Process
	<i>tosu</i> "stab"	<i>itosu</i> "stabbed"
	<i>wele</i> "see"	<i>iwela</i> "seen"
	<i>sempa</i> "kick"	<i>isempa</i> "kicked"
	<i>kowa</i> "carry"	<i>ikowa</i> "carried"
	<i>boso</i> "cut"	<i>iboso</i> "cut"

8. Prefix {ti-}

The prefix {ti-} is the same as the prefix {i-}, both of which are verbalization prefixes that, when combined with a verb root, produce the same word class. Thus, this affix is classified as an inflectional affix that does not change the word class, and the merging of these prefixes does not undergo a morphophonemic process (Muslich, 1990).

TABLE 10
PREFIX {TI-} IN THE LIMOLA

Prefix i-	verbs roots	morphophonemic process
	<i>tunu</i> "burn"	<i>tītunu</i> "burned"
	<i>kawe</i> "dig"	<i>tīkawe</i> "dugged"
	<i>kombo</i> "gather"	<i>tīkombo</i> "gathered"
	<i>boso</i> "cut"	<i>tīboso</i> "cut"

(b). Suffix

The suffix is an affix placed to the right or at the end of the base form. There are two types of verbalization suffixes in the Limola language: {-i} and {-nga}.

1. Suffix {-i}

When combined with a verb root, the suffix {-i} will produce the same class word. In the affixation process (see Table 11), the suffix {-i} attaches to the root, which has the final vowel phoneme /a/. When it connects to a basic morpheme other than the ending vowel /a/, it will add phonemes or epenthesis. Hence, in the Limola language, the suffix {-i} is a verbalization affix or an inflected verb that does not change the word class (Goodness, 2020).

TABLE 11
SUFFIX {-I} WITH FINAL VOWEL PHONEME /A/ IN LIMOLA

Suffix {-i}	Verbs Roots	Morphophonemic Process
	<i>bikka</i> "break"	<i>bikkai</i> "break it"
	<i>kowa</i> "carry"	<i>kowai</i> "carry it"
	<i>wowa</i> "bring"	<i>wowai</i> "bring it"
	<i>bila</i> "count"	<i>bilai</i> "count it"

The suffix {-i} in the Limola language matches the suffix /-kan/ in Indonesian. In addition, the affixation process of the suffix {-i} in Tables 12, 13, 14, and 15 shows that one additional vowel phoneme, /a/, appears at the end of the root before being affixed with the suffix {-i}. This occurs when the final phoneme of the root is the vowel phoneme /o/, /u/, /e/, and /i/. This differs from the affixation process in Table 11, where the base word attached has the final vowel phoneme /a/.

TABLE 12
SUFFIX {-i} WITH FINAL VOWEL PHONEME /O/ IN LIMOLA

Suffix {-i}	Verbs Roots	Morphophonemic Process
	solo “buy”	solo(a)i “buy it”
	karo “dig”	karo(a)i “dig it”
	kondo “hit”	kondo(a)i “hit it”
	pilio “find”	pilio(a)i “find it”

TABLE 13
SUFFIX {-i} WITH FINAL VOWEL PHONEME /U/ IN LIMOLA

Suffix {-i}	Verbs Roots	Morphophonemic Process
	<i>bauru</i> “throw”	<i>bauru(a)i</i> “throw it”
	<i>rabu</i> “decide”	<i>rabu(a)i</i> “decide it”
	<i>posu</i> “sew”	<i>posu(a)i</i> “sew it”
	<i>tosu</i> “stab”	<i>tosu(a)i</i> “stab it”

TABLE 14
SUFFIX {-i} WITH FINAL VOWEL PHONEME /E/ IN LIMOLA

Suffix {-i}	Verbs Roots	Morphophonemic Process
	<i>bare</i> “break”	<i>bare(a)i</i> “break it”
	<i>wele</i> “see”	<i>wele(a)i</i> “see it”
	<i>bokke</i> “tie”	<i>bokke(a)i</i> “tie it”

TABLE 15
SUFFIX {-i} WITH FINAL VOWEL PHONEME /I/ IN LIMOLA

Suffix {-i}	Verbs Roots	Morphophonemic Process
	<i>ru</i> “pull”	<i>ru(a)i</i> “pull it”

Because of the presence of the phoneme /a/ between the final phoneme of the root and the suffix /i/ connected to it, the affixation of the suffix “-i” in the tables above displays a distinct affixation process (Herianah et al., 2021).

2. Suffix {-nga}

The suffix {-nga} is the same as the suffix {-i} and is a verbalization affix. If the suffix is combined with the verb root form, it will produce the same word class. This suffix is classified as an inflectional affix that does not change the word class (Ghembaza et al., 2018; Kasim et al., 2022).

TABLE 16
SUFFIX {-NGA} IN THE LIMOLA

Suffix {-nga}	Verbs Roots	Morphophonemic Process
	<i>solo</i> “buy”	<i>solo(a)nga</i> “to buy for”
	<i>posu</i> “sew”	<i>posu(a)nga</i> “to sew for”
	<i>bare</i> “break”	<i>bare(a)nga</i> “to break for”

TABLE 17
SUFFIX {-NGA} IN THE LIMOLA

Suffix {-nga}	Verbs Roots	Morphophonemic Process
	<i>kowa</i> “carry”	<i>kowanga</i> “to carry for”
	<i>bila</i> “calculate”	<i>bilanga</i> “to calculate for”
	<i>wowa</i> “bring”	<i>wowanga</i> “to bring for”

In Table 16, the suffix {-nga} is attached to the verb root /solo/, which has the final vowel phoneme /o/, as well as the root words {posu} and {bare}, which have the final phonemes /u/ and /e/. The affixation process of the three forms produces derivative words with the same word class category, namely verbs. The uniqueness of the affixation process is the appearance of the phoneme /a/ between the root and its suffix. This phenomenon is called “epenthesis” (Idiatov, 2019; Karlin, 2022; Morley, 2015). Compared to Table 17, the three forms have the final phoneme /a/; therefore, in the affixation process with the suffix {-nga}, there is no appearance of the phoneme /a/.

(c). Confix

In addition to prefixes and suffixes, the confixes $\{i-i\}$, $\{i-a\}$, $\{ipa-i\}$, $\{mapa-i\}$, and $\{mopa-i\}$ are also found in the Limola language. These confixes also act as verbalization affixes or verb forms in the Limola language. The five confixes are described as follows:

1. Confix $\{i-i\}$

TABLE 18
CONFIX $\{I-I\}$ IN THE LIMOLA

Confix $\{i-i\}$	Verbs Roots	Morphophonemic Process
	<i>posu</i> "stab"	<i>iposui</i> "to be stabbed"
	<i>lompa</i> "jump"	<i>ilompai</i> "to be jumped"
	<i>sempa</i> "kick"	<i>isempai</i> "to be kicked"
	<i>dange</i> "hear"	<i>idangei</i> "to be heard"

In Table 18, the confix $\{i-i\}$ is the verbalization affix process. If the confix is attached to a verb root form, it results in the same derivative word class, namely verb. This happens to all root words that are affixed. The affixation process is inflection because the class formed is the same as the basic morpheme.

2. Confix $\{i-a\}$

TABLE 19
CONFIX $\{I-A\}$ IN THE LIMOLA

Confix $\{i-a\}$	Verbs Roots	Morphophonemic Process
	<i>bokke</i> "tie"	<i>ibokkea</i> "to be tied"
	<i>kondo</i> "hit"	<i>ikondoa</i> "to be hit"
	<i>sunu</i> "burn"	<i>isunua</i> "to be burned"
	<i>solo</i> "buy"	<i>isoloa</i> "to be bought"

As described in Table 19, the confix $\{i-a\}$ is a verbalization affix attached to the verb root form. This combination produces derivative words from the same class of words. Therefore, this affixation does not change the word class (Ghembaza et al., 2018; Kasim et al., 2022).

3. Confix $\{ipa-i\}$

TABLE 20
CONFIX $\{IPA-I\}$ IN THE LIMOLA

Confix $\{ipa-i\}$	Adjective Roots	Morphophonemic Process
	<i>karo</i> "far"	<i>ipakaroi</i> "put at a distance"
	<i>marivo</i> "low"	<i>ipamariwoi</i> "lowered"
	<i>jujuku</i> "near"	<i>ipajujuki</i> "brought closer"
	<i>kapodde</i> "short"	<i>ipakapoddei</i> "shortened"

Confix $\{ipa-i\}$ in Table 20 combines with an adjective base form to produce a different class derivative word, a verb. This confix is a verbalization affix, and the process of classified derivation changes word classes, illustrating how affixation can transform the word class function by converting descriptive qualities into actions or processes. This morphophonemic process demonstrates the dynamic nature of word formation in language, reflecting how morphological rules govern the transformation of word classes (Mappiasse, 2018).

4. Confix $\{mapa-i\}$

TABLE 21
CONFIX $\{MAPA-I\}$ IN THE LIMOLA

Confix $\{mapa-i\}$	Adjective Roots	Morphophonemic Process
	<i>mapute</i> "white"	<i>mapamaputei</i> "to whiten"
	<i>malaga</i> "handsome"	<i>mapamalagai</i> "to make handsome"
	<i>majaja</i> "worse"	<i>mapamajajai</i> "to worsen"

5. Confix $\{mopa-i\}$

TABLE 22
CONFIX $\{MOPA-I\}$ IN THE LIMOLA

Confix $\{mopa-i\}$	Adjective Roots	Morphophonemic Process
	<i>macalla</i> "red"	<i>mopamacallai</i> "to turn red"
	<i>marajji</i> "diligent"	<i>mopamarajji</i> "to make diligent"
	<i>maloto</i> "black"	<i>mopamalotoi</i> "to make black"

As described in Tables 21 and 22, confixes {*mopa-i*} and {*mopa-i*} combine with an adjective base form to produce different class derivative words, namely verbs. All root words affixed in examples 21 and 22 occurred. These affixations create a new word class called derivation, which changes the word class (Ghembaza et al., 2018; Kasim et al., 2022). Hence, these affixes are verbalization affixes in the Limola language.

V. CONCLUSIONS

Based on the results of the study, the researchers have drawn several conclusions. First, there are three kinds of verbalization affixes of verb-forming affixes process in the Limola language: 1) prefixes: {*ma-*}, {*mo-*}, {*pa-*}, {*mopa-*}, {*mopa-*}, {*ipa-*}, {*i-*}, and {*ti-*}; 2) suffixes: {*-i*}, {*-nga*}; and 3) confixes: {*i-i*}, {*i-a*}, {*ipa-i*}, {*mopa-i*}, and {*mopa-i*}. Second, inflectional affixes in the Limola languages are marked as not changing the word class. This happens if the prefixes {*ma-*}, {*mang-*}, {*man-*}, {*mam-*}, {*mab-*}, {*mo-*}, {*i-*}, and {*ti-*}, suffixes {*-i*} and {*-nga*}, as well as confixes {*i-a*} and {*i-i*} are attached to the verb root form. Third, affixes derived from the Limola language are identified as changing word classes. These occur only with the prefix {*pa-*} and the confixes {*mopa-i*}, {*mopa-*}, and {*ipa-*}, which combine with an adjective base form. Fourth, the changes in the affix form are due to morphophonemic events resulting from the morphological process. Changes due to the morphophonemic process are found in the prefix {*ma-*}, which has allomorphs /*mang-*/, /*man-*/, /*mam-*/, and /*mab-*/. These allomorphs occur when the initial phonemes of the word are /*k*/, /*s*/, /*t*/, /*p*/, and /*b*/. Furthermore, the process of affixing the suffix {*-i*} to the base morpheme endings in vowels /*i*/, /*u*/, /*e*/, and /*o*/ causes epenthesis of the vowel /*a*/, which lies between the end of the base morpheme and the beginning of the bound morpheme. Regarding the results, it was found that the verbalization process in the Limola language involved complex morphophonemic changes. Therefore, further studies on how phonemic changes affect word structure are needed to understand this process better. This greatly helps deepen our knowledge, develop better teaching materials, and, at the same time, support the preservation and maintenance of languages, particularly the Limola language.

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