

AFFIXATION IN THE JAHR LANGUAGE

BY

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**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
LINGUISTICS AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES, FACULTY OF ARTS AND
ISLAMIC STUDIES, BAYERO UNIVERSITY, KANO, IN PARTIAL
FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF
MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE (M.A) IN LINGUISTICS.**

January, 2020

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this dissertation titled ‘Affixation in the Jahr Language’ is the product of my research effort undertaken under the supervision of Prof. HafizuMikoYakasai and has not been presented anywhere for the award of degree or certificate. All sources have been duly acknowledged.

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CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that the research work for this dissertation“*Affixation in the Jahr Language*” and the subsequent write-up is by Mohammed Auwal Said with registration number (SPS/15/MLG/00024) were carried out under my supervision.

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DEDICATION

The research dedicated to my parents, brothers and sisters for their genuine support throughout this period. May Allah reward them abundantly.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

All my thanks and praises go to Allah the Beneficent the Merciful who revealed knowledge and guided mankind through his great messenger Muhammad (SAW), Maypeace and blessing be upon him, his descendants and followers expressly his companions. I am grateful to my creator for giving me wisdom, understanding and knowledge to carry out this research with a great deal of effort. My gratitude goes to my supervisor, Prof. HafizuMikoYakasaiwho diligently taught me, makesinputs, correctionsand guidance to the success of this research, may Allah reward him abundantly. I could not have done without the support of my lecturers especially my internal examiner Dr. Yahaya M. Ahmed for the overwhelming contributions, inputs and corrections to this work; I say thank you. Special thanks to my external examiner Prof. Ahmed Halliru Amfani for constructive criticism, correction and suggestions, may Allah in his infinite mercy guide and protect you. My gratitude also goes to all lecturers of the Department of Linguistics and Foreign Languages. I am grateful to Prof. Bello Salim, Prof. Muktar A. Yusuf, Prof. GarbaKawuDaudu, Prof. LawanDanladiYelwa, Prof. Bashir Sambo, and Prof. Aliyu Musa. I am grateful to Dr. Isah Yusuf Chamo (H.O.D), Dr. TijjaniShehuAlmajir, Dr. Ummulkhair A.Dantata, Dr. MaimunaAbubakarIsma'il, Dr. Halima Umar Sani, Dr. Yahaya M. Ahmed and the Secretary of the Department Mal. Jamil Sale Abdulsalam.

I am really indebted to my father Mal. Said Abubakar not only for financial support, but for prayers and good will. May Allah spare our lives to celebrate more achievements and success. My late mother Aisha, I pray that Allah in his infinite mercy will accept her sacrifices on me as an everlasting charity and shower His mercies and forgiveness on her and make Aljannatul Firdausi her abode, amin.

My profound gratitude goes to Alhaji Shehu Usman Abubakar (Chiroma) and Hajiya Ramatu Usman for their moral and financial support. May Allah reward them with Al-Jannatul Firdausi. I am indebted to my lovely brother Abubakar Shehu Usman (Yagi) for his support financially and help plans for my future, may Allah reward you with Jannatl firdausi.

I wish to thank my brothers and sisters; all of them are the backbone of my success. My utmost appreciation goes to friends, course mates and colleagues who are surely contributed in one way or the other toward the successful completion of this research: Abubakar Dauda, Sulaiman Musa, Auwal Abubakar, Ibramim Hamma, Ibrahim Mamawa, BalarabeBabayo, Muhammad SaniLawan, Malan Shafi'u, NuraMu'azu, Rabilu Muhammad, Salisu Yana, HafsatAbubakarK, Jamila Goga, and all my colleagues.

Lastly, my appreciation goes to Emir of Bununu Alhaji Salisu, Dr. Ahmad Bununu, Mal. Aliyu Bununu, Emir of Bashalan and all the people that contributed to the success of this study.

ABSTRACT

This research is focuses on Affixation in the Jahr language with a view to describing and analyzing the data obtained. It justifiesthe occurrence of affixation which uses bound morphemes to derived or inflect a base and the resultant impact of the affixes on the derived element and establish the fact about the categories of word that undergo different kinds of prefixation, suffixation and circumfixation operations. The primary sources of data was mainly collected through interview and observation, the data analyzedbased on the Gwak dialect of Jahr spoken in Southern BauchiState, Nigeria.This research adopted the descriptive approach of Nida's principles of descriptive statements.Relevant literatures on affixation in different languages were reviewed. The affixation process were investigated and analyzed usinga sample descriptive approach. It indicates the change of category of the derived element(s), as well as the elements that take inflectional morphemes. The study reveals that, derivation processes include verb to noun derivation, noun to noun and adjective to noun through the attachment of prefix in the language. It also disclosed that attaching the inflectional morpheme at the initial position of a base to change them to singular adjectives of color and stature to the plurals. Furthermore, the study discovers that, suffixation also uses the derivation process and inflection in forming class changing i.e noun to noun derivation and class-maintaining derivation, the inflectional morpheme in circumfix formed the past perfect of regular verbs by attaching an inflectional morphemes both initially and word finally.

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CHAPTER ONE

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

The present work is an attempt to study affixation in the Jahr language. This chapter therefore, sees a general introduction of the work and discusses basic concepts of the study. It contains historical background of Jahr, statement of the problem, aim and objectives, scope and limitation and significance of the study. This work hints on the affixation involved in Jahr language.

Language is purely human and non-instinctive method of expressing ideas, emotions and desires by means of a system of voluntarily produced symbols (Sapir, 1921). Language is the principal systems of communication used by particular groups of human beings within the particular society (linguistics community) of which they are members (Lyons, 1970).

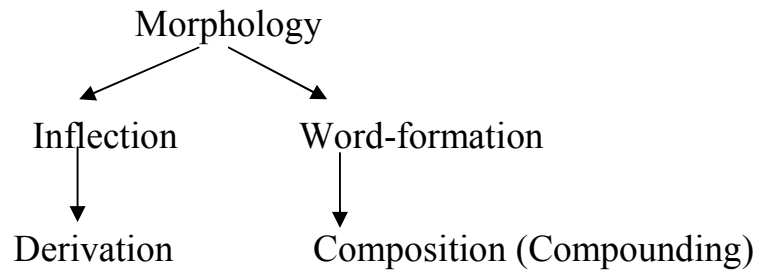
Language, to me, is a living thing that can die or survive and be neutralized with the changing of time, especially in this technology era. It has become obvious that some newly invented materials be provided, with names that befit them. In giving these new inventions names, their usage or modes of operations are used in the Jahr language to go with the times and this makes the language even more dynamic. For instance: *gúngsán* – *gúng* in the Jahr language means ‘air’ or ‘wind’

and *sán* means ‘to take to’. Since it is considered or believed that the wind is responsible for transferring voices from one to other listener the name *gúngsán* become the name of the Cell phone. Also, *búrkwák- búrr* is the ‘sound of motorcycle starting’ and *kwák* in the Jahr language means ‘ride’. This means when the cycle starts with *búrr* the person rides it. The *búrr* and *kwák* combines to produce the name for a Motorcycle – *búrrkwák*. This research is going to explore the affixation in the Jahr language through derivational and inflectional affixes.

According to Aronoff and Fudeman (2005:1) the term ‘morphology is generally attributed to the German poet, novelist, playwright and philosopher, Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe (1749 –1832) who coined it early in the nineteenth century in a biological context. Its etymology is Greek: ‘*morph*’ means ‘shape’, and *logy* is the study of form(s). In biology, *morphology* refers to the study of the form and structure of organisms, and in *geology*, the term refers to the study of the configuration and evolution of land forms. On the contrary, Trinder (2012) formulates that the term morphology was coined by Schleicher in (1859). Morphology is superficially the sum of all the phonological means for expressing the relations of the constituents of words, in phrases, and of the phrasal constituents of sentences.

Bauer (1983:34) summarizes the main areas and approaches covered under the study of morphology as we can see below:

(1)



Thus, the above shows that morphology is directly concerned with morphemes through inflection and the word-formation processes of derivation and composition (compounding). Hence, the classification of the field into two major branches; inflectional morphology and derivational morphology. Malmkjaer (1991: 314), affirm that morphology is the study of the meaningful parts of words. Fromkin and Rodman (1998: 69) are of the view that “the study of the internal structure of words, and the rules by which words are formed is called morphology”. For Tomori (1997: 21), morphology is “the study of the structure of word, meaning – the study of the rules governing the formation of linguistic words in a language”.

According to Matthews (1991:37), “word – formation is that branch of morphology which deals with relations between a complex lexeme and a simple lexeme”. Rufa’i (1979:1) says that “it thus deals with formally and semantically analyzable composite forms”. The free encyclopedia of linguistics (2008) maintains that word – formation rules form “new words” (that is, lexemes).

Based on what has been said so far, it is pertinent to mention that word –formation is concerned not only with the issues of creating new words and their rules, but also the relationship that exists between the words (simple and complex), as posits by Matthews (1991:36). Thus, word – formation deals with the processes in which languages tend to involve themselves in forming new words.

Morpheme: In the words of Crystal (1980: 223), are the “minimal distinctive units of grammar and the central concern of morphology”. Downing and Locke (1992: 13) consider the morpheme to be an abstract category, which has either lexical or grammatical meaning. Omotunde (2006:8), all morphemes have meaning, but not all morphemes that can stand independently as words. A morpheme that can stand as a word is a free morpheme, while any that cannot is a bound morpheme. The free and bound morphemes can further be sub-grouped into lexical and grammatical morphemes. Grammatical morphemes express grammatical information (nothing more). Lexical morphemes, on the other hand, have constituted meaning beyond whatever grammatical information they carry. This is to say that their function is more than giving grammatical information. Lexical morphemes are categorized into “base” and “affixes”, as in ‘unacceptable’, ‘un –’ serves as a prefix, ‘accept’ as a base, and ‘ – able’ as a suffix. A morpheme, according to Omotunde (2006: 10), is said to be a “base” morpheme if another morpheme can be structurally attached to it. The morpheme “need” is the base of

the word “needy”. A base can have attachments before, inside and after it – prefix, infix and suffix, respectively.

Just as lexical morphemes have two categories, grammatical morphemes also have two: function words and inflections. While function words are free morphemes, inflections are bound. Function words do not welcome the attachment of other morphemes. For instance, the conjunction “and” cannot serve as a stem. A function word conveys specific grammatical information. The second group of grammatical morphemes is inflections. They are word endings. For instance, the number inflections “– s” and “– en” distinguish the singular forms “dog” and “child” from the plural forms “dogs” and “children” in terms of number.

A morpheme whose form can be a word by itself is called a free morpheme whereas a morpheme that must be attached to another element is said to be a bound morpheme. The morpheme ‘buy’, for example, is free since it can be used as a word on its own; the plural marker -s, on the other hand, is bound.

Affixation is a morphological process whereby a bound morpheme, an affix, is attached to a morphological base. Diachronically, the English word *affix* was first used as a verb and has its origin in Latin: *affixus*, past participle of the verb *affigere*, ad- ‘to’ + *figere* ‘to fix’. Affixation falls in the scope of Morphology where bound morphemes are either roots or affixes. Prefixes (affixes that precede the root) and suffixes (affixes that follow the root) are the most common types of

affixes cross-linguistically. Affixes mark derivational (-*er* in *teach-er*) and inflectional (-*s* in *teacher-s*) changes, and affixation is the most common strategy that human languages employ for derivation of new words and word forms. (Katamba & Stomham, 2008).

Abubakar (2001:1) points out that,

(2) Affixation involves attaching a formative to an existing word. The affix which is attached to a word initial position is called a prefix, while the one which comes word-finally is called suffix. The affixes which used in forming words are called derivational affixes, while those used in inflecting them are called inflectional affixes. The words and affixes are technically called morphemes.

The appearance of prefixes and suffixes on a radical is described as circumfixes (Aronoff & Fudeman 2011:3). According to Elson and Pickett (1976: 12), “affixes are bound morphemes which occur with roots and, in general, modify the basic meaning of the root in some way”. Rubba (2004:1) posits that ‘an affix is a bound morpheme which attaches to a base (root or stem)’. Gerlach, (2002: 62) is of the view that, “affixes are normally bound morphemes which can be added to a root in order to derive new words in a particular order according to morphological rules”. For Katamba, (1994: 42) Affixation is the way of creating new words with or without a change in their grammatical categories.

Crystal (1980:12), views affixation as: “a morphological process whereby grammatical or lexical information is added to a stem”. Based on the scholarly

definitions, affixation plays a major role in forming new word in worlds languages, specifically, in the Jahr language that has few borrowed words.

1.1 Background of the Study

The study is about affixation in the Jahr language. It involves the formation of word through derivational and inflectional affixes. The morphemes may be attached at the initial (prefix), medial (infix), word final (suffix) position or both sides of the word (circumfix) to either derive or inflect a base. It also looks at the possible affixation process in the language. This descriptive study is only concerned with affixation.

1.1.1 Brief History of Jahr

“Jahr language belongs to Niger- Congo language family and is among the Bantu tonal languages. The speakers of Jahr belong to a race of Bantu tribes of south-east Africa. The Bantu languages spread from parts of Kenya where you find the Labal and parts of Kenya where the Sikwanga lives. Others who settled at other places having entered the Cameroun through the Tambo Hills of Adamawa are called Ngumi and Mboa. And those who settled at Adamawa are called Mbula. The Mbula people are the ancestors of the Kullung people in Taraba State. Those who entered Nigeria from Ngazargamu are the Jahr people who live in Bauchi State. The Jahr people of Bauchi State have four major groups and although they speak the same language generally, there are some disparities which are minor and

understandable among the groups. The major groups are Gwak, who are mostly inhabitants of Bununu and Dass. The Duguri who live in Alkaleri and parts of Kirfi Local Government, the Mbad who are living in Dull and its surroundings. The Gwak and Mbad live mostly in Tafawa Balewa local Government while the Bakal are mostly inhabitants of Bauchi Local Government Area” (Sulaiman, 1991:7).

Many writers of history have written and are still writing about the Bantu people believed to be in Africa. Suggestions and opinions have explained that the Bantu people are a collection of 500- 650 language groups (Guthrie 1962:280). “It’s written that the proto-Bantu are the real or original speakers of the Bantu language and the Jahr people in Bauchi State in Nigeria that comprises the Gwak, Duguri, Mbad, Bakal, Jaku and Bombaro are of pure Bantu stock. Some opinions have posited that the Jahr came from Ngazargamu area of present Yobe State of Nigeria, but research has shown that these people came from beyond Gazargamu or other parts of Borno State like Kukawa e.t.c. In fact they were at those parts of Nigeria during their transits. Most, if not all writers of the Bantu, Semi Bantu and other related tribes always assume that the Bantu people have their original or dispersal points from somewhere in either Nigeria or Cameroun, all in West Africa. Theories largely proved by some archeologists support that the Bantu people stated their series of migrations from West of Africa to the east. It is this assumption that prompted the belief in an imaginary line called Bantu line drawn from the mouth

of Rio-del-Rey along the frontier of Nigeria and Cameroun eastward across French equatorial Africa and Belgium, south of eullel river of the head lake Victoria, across Tanganyika and Northwards to the hinter land of mombasa where a narrow strip runs north-west to Kenya” (Roland, 2009).

The English alphabets from A-Z are used with the exception of the letters C, X and Q. These three letters have no relevance in the writing either in the beginning, middle or end of a spelling. Some Hausa innovations on some of the letters are also included, because the language doesn’t have standard orthography. These are the Hausa innovations: /b/, /6/, /d/ and /d/ respectively.

1.1.2 Geographical Location of Bununu

Palmer (1936) states that most of the town’s names are derived from the historical events of the place or the common favor which are peculiar to those places. Bununu is located in southern part of Bauchi State about 65 kilometers away from the state capital and 20 kilometers in present Tafawa Balewa Local Government which has become the centre of social and political unrest, that attracted national attention. The foundations of these crises are unequivocally political and seething, deeply rooted in the history of the areas, reference to the reports of various commissions of inquiry that had been set up by the Bauchi State government to

investigate the remote course of crises that was happened in the Local Government Area. The town surrounded by metamorphic rocks by the south has a total of one hundred and thirteen (113) hamlets, a total land mass of about one thousand two hundred squared kilometer 1,200 with a projected population of sixty five thousand two hundred and forty two point eight (65,242.8) people based on the approved census figures using United National (Sogiji, 2001).

1.1.2 Jahr Dialects

Jahr is a language which has been classified by Lewis, Gary & Charles into four major dialects namely:

(3) iGwak

ii Bakal

iii Duguri

iv Mbad

The dialectical classification was made only on the basis of the linguistic similarities rather than the native speaker's social status, the dialects share common norms and culture. Majority of Gwak people are found in Bununu itself and its surrounding towns Dass, Giin-Zum, Dani and Yalwan Shandam,

the bakal dialect speakers are mostly resides in Mburwat, Gyelkil and Wurno, while Duguri found in Duguri district and other villages surrounding it in Alkaleri Local Government Area. The Mbad dialect is another Jahr variety which is found in Tadnum, among others (Lewis, Gary & Charles, 2015).

1.2 Statement of the Problem

There has been a great concern and interest by linguists in the study of African languages with appreciable focus on Niger-Congo family. The Jahr speakers scattered across northern Cameroun and some parts of northern Nigeria, they remain poorly documented and poorly characterized Blench (2011). Recent research suggests that Mboa and Nagumi in Cameroun are both extinct; even now the situation for published data remains extremely weak. But there is a great deal of informally circulated data Blench (2011:31-2). The linguistic literature in Jahr needs a systemic research on morphology, the speakers of the language are very few now. A few works have been done on Jahr language. Blench (2011), researched on Bantu languages, Sulaiman (1991) and Sogiji (2002) worked on the historical aspects of Jahr. None was done in the area of morphology of the language. In view of these, this research is going to build on the morphological aspect, to explore the possible affixation in the Jahr language.

1.3 Aim and Objectives

The aim of this research is to study affixation in the Jahr Language and has the following objectives:

- (4) i. To identify possible affixation in the Jahr language.
- ii. To examine the structure and meaning of the derived or inflected words.
- iii. To identify the derivational and inflectional affixes in the language.

1.4 Research Questions

The research attempts to answer the following questions:

- (5) i. What are the possible affixations in the Jahr language?
- ii. To what extent does derivation and inflection change the structure and meaning of the words formed?
- iii. What are derivational and inflectional affixes in the Jahr language?

1.5 Significance of the Study

This study particularly seeks to provide the analysis of possible derivational and inflectional affixes in Jahr language. Even though some works have been done on historical aspect, the present study is on morphology, precisely affixation which will undoubtedly help in preserving knowledge of Jahr derivational and inflectional affixes. It will also fill the linguistic gap created by the absence or

limited material on Jahr affixation. This work, on the other hand, is expected to serve as instructional material to the Jahr speakers/ learners of the language and serve as a guide for further research.

1.6 Scope and limitation of the study

This work is limited to the affixation in the Jahr language spoken in Bauchi State, particularly in Bununu, Bar, Dull and Gital speech communities. The work pay a particular attention to Gwak dialect.

1.7 Conclusion

In this chapter, attempt was made to present a general introduction of the study which consists of background to the study, brief history of the Jahr language, definition of language, the concept of the term morphology, word formation, morpheme and affixation where touched. We also discussed the statement of the problem, aim and objectives of the research, research questions, significance of the study and scope and limitation of the study.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter reviews works that are concerned with affixation in the Jahr language and other related works. Thus, it discusses the issues on derivational and inflectional affixes. It makes an overview of existing works pertinent to clearly formulated research questions of the study. Among the relevant works reviewed by this chapter are researches on African and other languages.

2.1 Review of Related Literatures on African Languages

Caron (2012) discusses derivation in Hausa. He particularly talks about nominal derivation, adverb derivation and derived adjectives. As regard to nominal derivation, he mentions that the prefix ‘ma-’ is used to derive nouns of agent, place and instrument respectively from a verb as in; *manòòmii* ‘farmer’ agent *majeemaa* ‘tannery’, *masassabii* ‘harvesting tool’ instrument. The study reveals the set of nouns that use prefix *bà-* to derive nouns denoting a person’s place of origin, nationality, ethnicity, occupation or social group. These are referred to as ethnonyms as in the words: *bàkanòò* where in prefix *ba* is attached to a stem *kan* in the word *Kanòò* ‘a place name’, *bàduukùù* ‘leather worker’.

Pertaining to adverb derivation, he expresses that, many adverbs are derived from body-part nouns and nouns of place and time through the processes of shortening the final vowel as in; *kafàà* ‘foot’ – *à kafà* ‘on foot’ or by dropping the feminine gender suffix as in; *zuuciyyaa* ‘heart’ – *à zuuci* ‘in the heart’ change of tone to high-high (HH) as in the preceding examples and the addition of a tone – integrating suffix ‘– a’ with high-low (HL) as in; *bakà dà hancii* ‘tooth and nail’ from the words *bààkii* ‘mouth’ and *hancii* ‘nose’.

He further discusses how statives, which are a subclass of adverbs, are derived from verbs by means of a tone-intergrating ‘–e’ with low-high (LH) as in; *mace* ‘dead’ from *mutù* ‘die’ and *zàùne* seated from *zaunàà* ‘sit’.

On derived adjectives in Hausa, he states clearly that many of the agent nouns which are derived from intransitive verbs can also function as adjectives known as agentive adjectives. For example, the adjective *mahàùkàcii* ‘mad’ can function as agentive adjective in the phrase *wani mahàùkàcin direebà* ‘a certain mad driver’.

Fagge, (2012) discusses the processes of derivation in Hausa. The study identifies three types which include person types, where a prefix *ba-* or suffix *-uwa* is used with the resultant form indicating the place of origin of the person referred to: *bà* + noun stem ‘singular’ – Gender noun stem + *àwa* ‘plural’ – Number *bà* + *haus-e/iya* – Palatalization changes the *s* in the stem to *sh* as in this example;

bàhaushèè ‘masculine singular’ *bàhaushiyyaa* ‘feminine singular’ *hàùsàawaa* ‘plural’ Verbs are turned into Nouns through the addition of suffix *-au* or *yau* as in the word *màntau* ‘forget’ and *jààyyau* ‘pull’ respectively.

And Fagge also discusses how prefix *ma-* is added to a verb stem to derive nouns of agents or agential adjectives with suffix *-i* for masculine, *-iya/a* for feminine and ‘-a’ for plural as in the examples below: *ma + yank + ii – mayànkii* ‘cutter’ masculine *ma + yank + iyaa – mayankiyaa* ‘cutter’ feminine *ma + yank + aa – mayànkkaa* ‘cutters’ plural. This research will help us in describing derived words in Jahr.

Fagge (2004) gives an account of derivation in Hausa. The study describes derivation as a linguistic process that involves the addition of an affixes to a base form (root/stem) as in the word ‘*makèeri*’ from ‘*keerà*’. He is of the view that, in Hausa there are at least three major lexical categories that are involved in the formation of new words. These are nouns, verbs and adjectives. Furthermore, Fagge asserts that, there are three sub-divisions of word-formation through the use of stem and affixes as follows: Noun-formation, Verb-formation and Adjective-formation.

Under noun-formation, there are two types of derivational processes. That is, the derived nominals which are formed by the use of noun-stems and verb-stems

through the attachment of certain derivational affixes. Processes that are involved here include the formation of person-type nouns. In this process, certain nouns are prefixed with *ba-* or suffixed with *-wa* indicating the place of origin of the person referred to as in: *ba + Hausa – Bàhaushèè* ‘Hausa man’, *Hausa + wa – Hàùsààwaa* ‘Hausa people’. The book also establishes another process of forming agentive nouns which involves the use of a bound morpheme ‘ma-’ that is built on both verb and noun stems as in: *ma + harbàà – mahàrbii* ‘hunter’ *ma + hassadàa – mahàssàdii* ‘envious person’ there is also the formation of an instrumental noun that uses prefix *ma-* attached to a verb stem or root as in: *ma + burgè – maburgii*. Likewise, locative nouns are formed by the use of prefix ‘ma-’ with verb stem or root as in; *ma + saaqa – masaaqaa* ‘a place of weaving’. Abstract noun is also a derivational process whereby noun stems are suffixed with *-taa, -ntaa, -ntaka, cii,* and *-ncii* as follows: *nàgàrtaa* ‘uprightness’ from *nagàri* ‘upright’, *sàbùntaa* ‘newness’ from *saabo* ‘new’, *dàngàntakàa* ‘relationship’ from *dangii* ‘relative’, *annabcii* ‘prophecy’ from *annabii* ‘prophet’ *wawancii* ‘foolishness’ from *wawa* ‘fool’.

Other derivational processes that are discussed in the Fagge’s book include: Deverbal noun as in; *màkaràà* ‘late’ from *màkarà*, Deverbal noun of mutuality as in; *kìyayyà* ‘hatred’ from *ki* and other ways that are used to derive adjectives include the following: Participial adjective as in; *ràgagge* ‘reduced’ from

rage 'reduce' Derived denominal adjective as in; *bubbùga* 'intense beating' from *bugà* 'beat', to mention just two (Fagge, 2004). The research will also be helpful to the present study because both study derivation but they differ on scope.

However, Sani (2002) sees derivation as a word formation device and their forms. Relationship between inflection and derivation were also examined in his work. The research explained the derivation of new words in Hausa from verbs, nouns and adjectives. The study also explained words derived from verbs as adjectives, adverbs and nouns. And the ones derived from nouns include verbs, nouns, adjectives and adverbs, then the ones from adjectives are verbs and nouns. The findings reveal that both the derivation and affixation are using affixes in forming new words. The work would help in identifying some derivational operations in Jahr which is very important to this research.

Sogiji (2001) works on the impact on Islam on Jarawa people of Bununu. The study looks at their various dialects in language, historical distinction, social life, which include law and order, marriage among others and marriage to them simply means nothing rather than canalize desire of man self, that is why intimation among them is common. The research also discussed with the contrast extensively evaluate the extent to which Islam made impact on the life of Jarawa socially, economically and level of their contribution to Islam after the advent of the Jihad of Shehu Usman Dan Fodio of 1804 A.D -875 A.H. The work does not cover any

aspect of morphology, but provides us with secondary information on the Jahr language.

Muazu (1995) examines the affixation in Kilba. The study discovered two types of affixation namely: prefixation and suffixation. He identified four prefixes namely: *ndôr-*, *njir-*, *mbor-*, and *vi-*. Similarly five types of suffixes were identified, namely: Abstract suffix *-kur*, possessive suffixes, *-da*, *-nga*, *-nyi*, *kô'yô*, *-kôhyi*, *-kônda*, demonstrative suffix *-na* and *-nda* emphatic suffixes *-na* and *-nda*, and *ari* suffix. Other suffixes in the language are *-áni*, *-biyà*, *-yà*, *-nà*, *-nyà*, *-ngərì*, *-tì* and *rì*. The data cited in example (1 & 2) below is an indications of these phenomena.

The Kilba prefixes **ndùr-** and **njìr-**

(6) ndùr + mafaku → ndùrmafaku

To take message

One who take message (messenger)

ndùr + hōrà → ndùrhōrà

to build

one who builds (builder)

(7) njìr + miya → njìrmìyà

to sing

people who sings (singers)

njìr + tlōra → njìrtlōrà

to work

people who work (workers) (Adopted from Muazu, 1995)

He further discuss prefixes **mbòr-** and **vìr** *mbò mbòr + Wàdà* 'to bath' → *mbòrwàdà* 'bathing place' (bathroom), *Vìr + tatôm* 'to cook' → *vìrtátùm* cooking

place (kitchen). The finding reveals that in Kilba, it is possible to derive a noun from a verb through prefixation process using the prefixes *ndùr-*, *njìr-*, *mbòr-*, and *vìr-* respectively.

Muazu further discusses suffixation as a process involving the occurrences of bound morpheme at the end of a root/stem. He discovered five types of suffixes in Kilba, namely: abstraction suffix-, possessive suffixes, demonstrative suffixes, and the *ari-* suffix. The research also shows that *kur-* suffix forms abstract noun. It functions in much the same way as English suffixes (*-ness*), (*-hood*), (*-ship*).

Abstract nouns derived from adjectives *dìmi* + *kùr* ‘bad’ → *dìmikùr* ‘badness’
dzáù + *kùr* ‘difficult’ → *dzáùkùr* difficulty.

Abstract nouns derived from verbs; *zìr* + *kùr* ‘child’ → *zìrkùr* ‘childhood/childishness’. The findings reveal that the suffix *kùr-* can be used to derive abstract nouns from the followings: adjective, nouns, verbs, and a word group of verb + noun object. In addition, Muazu identified the following possessive suffixes in Kilba namely: *+dà*, *+ngà*, *+nyì*, *+kò’yà*, *+kòhyì*, and *kòndà*. The research finds that these possessive suffixes can never occur alone and are thus written as part of the word, which they modified. He also divides them into singular and plurals, out of the six possessive suffixes, three are singular (*+dà*, *+ngà*, *+nyì*) while the other three are plural (*+kò’yà*, *kòhyì* and *kòndà*). He illustrated in example below:

-*da* ‘my’ *màlà* + *dà* ‘wife’ → *màlàdà* ‘wife of mine’, ‘my wife’, *lìkàtkàtà* ‘book’ + *dà* → *làkàtkàtà dà* ‘book of mine my book’. -*nga* ‘yours’ *gàm* + *ngà* → *gàmngà ram* ‘. (Adopted from Muazu, 1995). The study also identified two types of demonstratives suffixes in Kilba, there: namely: - *na* ‘this’ and -*nda* that. Consider the following example below: *ndù* ‘person’ + *nà* → *ndùnà* ‘this person’ *sàl* ‘man’ + *ndà* → *sàlndà* that man. The finding show that Kilba demonstrative suffixes *na-* and *nda-* both have a low tone. This study is very relevant to this research especially on the classification of affixes. The study helps this work greatly because it discusses the way words formed in in Kilba through prefixation and suffixation.

Abubakar (2001) perceives morphology from a wider range. He pointed out morphological processes such as affixation, reduplication, suppletion, vowel change, stress change, tone modification, subtraction etc. The book reveals how words are derived and shows how nouns are derived from various nouns in Hausa language such as abstract nouns and proper nouns. It also discovers that suffixation and compounding are among derivation. He also discusses inflections. The issues raised in the book are related to the present study because they both study word formation through various processes of affixation.

Newman (2000) examines derivations in Hausa. The study shows that some derivations in Hausa are endocentric (e.g nouns derived from other nouns)

and others are exocentric (e.g. nouns derived from verbs). Most of the derivations employ suffixes, some employ prefixes, some employ both. Newman (Ibid) discussed derivational formations, along with a few illustrated examples. The finding reveals that abstract nouns are derived from common nouns by means of a set of related suffixes *-ci* HL, *-n*, *ta* (variable tone) and *-n*, *taka* LHL

(8) - *aadalci* ‘fairness’, *aadalii* ‘honest person’

- *saabuntaa* ‘newness’, *saaboo* ‘new’
- *kaasuwanicii* ‘trading’, *kaasuwaa* ‘market’.

This work would be of great help in the present research, because both of them deals with derivation.

2.2 Review of Related Literatures in other Languages

Trinder (2012) defines morphology as the identification, analysis and description of the structure of morphemes and other units of meaning in a language; like words, affixes, parts of speech and intonation/stress. The study classifies languages according to morphological typology from the analytic that use only isolated morphemes, through the *agglunative* (stock together) and *fusional* languages that

use suffixes, up to the *polysynthetic* which compress lots of separate morphemes into single words. He distinguishes two morphological rules i.e inflection and word formation. Inflectional rules relate to different forms of the same lexeme, eg *dog* and *dogs*, while word formation rules relate to different lexemes- they form new words, i.e (new lexemes), eg: compounds like *dog catcher* and *dish washer* – they yield variant forms of the same word (lexeme). Trinder further distinguishes the two kinds of word formation: compounding and derivation, and identifies three principal models of approach to morphology, namely: morpheme-based morphology, lexeme-based morphology and word-based morphology. The book will be helpful to the present study because we agree with his definition and it touches inflection, one of our major concern in the present study.

Haspelmath and Sims (2010) point out that, an affix attaches to a word or a main part of a word usually has an abstract meaning, and it cannot occur by itself. They work on Russian nouns in which different affixes in the paradigm have cases meaning (-a for nominative, -u for accusative, etc.), and Classical Nahuatl nouns have different affixes in the paradigm in that indicates it a possessor (*no-* for ‘my’ *mo-* for ‘your’, etc.). The book present that, suffixes are affixes that follow the main part of the word (e.g. the Russian case suffixes follow the base Russian –a in *ruk-a* ‘hand’. English *-ful* in *event-ful*. In addition, they discuss that, Prefixes are affixes that precede the main part of the word, (e.g the Classical Nahuatl possessor

prefixes precedes the base classical Nahuatl *no-* in *no-cal* ‘my house’, English *un-* in *unhappy*. Infixes occurs inside the base Arabic *-t-* in *(i)s-t-ag’ala* ‘be occupied’, (base: *sag’ala*) tagalong *-um-* in *s-um-ulat* ‘write’ (base: *sulat*). They further discusses on Circumfixes that occur on both sides, eg: German *ge-...-en*, *ge-fahr-en* ‘driven’ of the base (base: *fahr*). This book discussed issues that are related to our research, it talk about prefixation, suffixation and circumfixation. This will help us in discussing affixes in the present research.

Yule (2010) examined word formation and identifies several processes of word formation which includes, coinage, borrowing, compounding, blending, backformation, conversion, acronyms and abbreviation. The book examines the differences between derivational and inflectional morphemes and demonstrates the operation of derivational affixes in forming new words into English Language. The study reveals a number of derivation occur through affixation including prefix, suffix, infix and circumfix. Yule also holds that infixation do not normally occur in English, but cites some examples that arouse as a results of certain expressions, occasionally used in fortuitous or aggravating circumstances by emotionally aroused English speakers: *Absogoddamlutely*, *Hallebloodylujah*, and *Unfuckinbelievable*. This will be of great importance to this research it touches all the affixation processes.

Ryding (2005) studies inflectional affixes. The study mentions two terms for inflection: Conjugation and declension. Conjugation refers to the process of verbs inflection by adding affixes and the combination of verbs with the pronouns. Verbs are conjugated for tense, person, number and gender. Declension is the process that refers to the inflection of nouns and adjectives by adding affixes to the roots. The findings reveals that words are declined for number, gender, case, and determination. Both nouns and verbs are inflected according to their types and morphological rules in the language. Arabic has types of nouns and verbs and each one has its own morphological rules through the process of affixation.

According to Agezi (2004: 40), affixation is a collective term for the types of formatives that can be used only when added to another morpheme (the root or stem). The research find out that, the root is that part of the word left when all affixes are removed. For example: “faith” in “faithful”. The stem, on the other hand, is the minimal unit on which affixes apply. It may consist solely of a single root morpheme, e.g. ‘faith’ or of two root morphemes, e.g. “blackbird”.

Lieber (2004) is a textbook that examines morphology and lexical semantics of verb- forming word-formation process in English and identifies the process of conversion as productive source of new verbs. The book identifies affixation of *ize* and *ify* and conversion as the only means of creating new verbs in English, which involves in creation of new words of one lexical category from words of another

lexical category with no overt formal change. The research found that conversion can create nouns from verbs (e.g. *throw* from *throw*), verbs from nouns (*to boot* from *boot*), and sometimes verbs from adjectives (*to cool* from *cool*). The study concluded that: an affix with a broad range of polysemy can be characterized by means of a unitary semantic skeleton. He further explores the meaning of morphemes and how they combine to form the meanings of complex words, including derived words, compounds, and words formed by conversion.

In addition, Leiber develops and justifies the theoretical apparatus necessary for raising and answering many questions about the semantics of word formation - distinguishing between a lexical semantic skeleton and a lexical semantic body. She shows how the semantics of word formation has a paradigmatic character. Leiber's work though, focuses on interface between morphology and lexical semantics; it would greatly help in the present research because it touches affixation.

Fromkin and Rodman (1998:73) points out that, circumfixes are morphemes that are attached to a root or stem both initially and finally these are sometimes called discontinuous morphemes. The book further discusses on Muskogean language spoken in Oklahoma, in which the negative is formed by using both a prefix *ik* and the suffix *-o*. The book reveals that, the final vowel of the affirmation is deleted before the negative suffix is added, example: *Chokma* 'he is good', *ik* + *chokm* +

o‘he isn’t good’. An example of a more familiar circumfixing language is German. They also found that past participle of regular verbs is formed by adding the prefix *ge* – and the suffix – *t* to the root verb. This circumfix added to the root (which is a verb) *lieb* ‘love’ produces *geliebt*, ‘loved’ (or ‘believed’, when used as an adjective).

The book reveals that, it is possible to find out various divisions of prefixes in languages. Furthermore, they noticed that suffixes could be inflectional or derivational and the differences that exist are in their syntactic and semantic functions. Circumfixation could also be realized as another subprocess of affixation, which occurs when prefixation and suffixation surface in a single root word. This work is relevant because it discusses circumfixation which is one of our concern in the present research.

Matthews (1991) is a book that discusses inflectional and lexical morphology, derivational processes and productivity, compounds, paradigms and other aspects of iconicity. He states that “the term morphology comprises *morph* and (o) *logy*, and is categorized into lexical and inflectional morphology”. He identifies affixation, reduplication and modification as the major morphological processes, and describes affixation as a process which deals with the addition of morphemes to the base. He further discusses on Reduplication on its part involves repetition of

the base while modification is concerned with modifying the base. Matthews divides affixation into prefixation, suffixation and infixation. The work will help in carrying out this research because we agree with his definition and morphological processes.

Matthews (1991) identifies affixation, reduplication and modification as the major morphological processes and describes affixation as a process which deals with the addition of morphemes to the base. We agree with him because under affixation there are derivation and inflection our main concern in the present research. The book identified three division of affixation include: prefixation, suffixation and infixation. He also observes that,

(9) “The commonest processes are those of suffixation: they are involved in most lexical derivations ‘generate + ion= *generation*, happy + ness= *happiness* and so on’, and in most inflectional formations (sail + ed, sea + s, etc). Examples of prefixation are found, however, in the negative formations, eg: un + happy, dis + order, etc”. (Matthews, 1991:37).

The finding show that, English tendency to suffixation continues a characteristic of Indo-European languages. The work is related to the present study because both of them deal with how words are form through the affixation process.

Robins (1967) is a textbook on general linguistics and examines two classification of derivation. He explained that there is class-maintaining derivation, which produces a derived form of the same class. There is also a class-changing derivation which produces a derived form of another class. He demonstrates how a

morpheme in class maintaining never changes even if a suffix added to it, and shows how it behaves in a contrary in class-changing. This work is related to the present research in that they treat on derivation resulting to class-maintaining and class-changing. We agree with Robin's work, therefore is equally useful.

2.2.1 Derivational Affix

According to Haspelmath (2002: 68). Derivational patterns commonly change the word-class of the base lexeme i.e. noun can be derived from verb, adjectives from noun and so on. Siberani, (2002:47) Derivational affix is the morphology which studies derivational morphemes and the principles governing the new words.

Bauer (1988) Stated that, derivational affixes may cause a change in category, but inflectional ones never do. It is clear that Bauer differentiated the concept of derivational affix and inflectional affix in terms of changing the category. Derivational affix change the category as well as the effect to the meaning, Inflectional affix never change the category. We agree with their definitions because they defined affixation based on concatenation to either derive or inflect a base.

2.2.2 Inflectional affix

Inflectional affixes are those which do not create new meaning. They only refine and give extra grammatical information about the already existing meaning of

words which they are attached (Bauer, 1988: 12). Inflection is the process of forming words with a change in its grammatical use but it does not create a new lexical form. Inflectional affixes are defined as the types of affixes which are used to indicate the grammatical function of the words to which they are added. For example, the aspects of number (plurality: *cats*); tense (present simple: *walks*, past tense: *walked*, past participle: *walked* and present participle: *walking*); comparative: *big* - *bigger* - *biggest*; and possession: *rose's*. Inflectional affixes include suffixes only. One inflectional affix is used in a word. They always occur at the end of the word (Al-Hamash & Abdulla, 1976, p.88). Based on their findings inflection always occur at the end of the word, I didn't agree with this opinion because in some languages inflectional affixes occur in either initial or final position of a base.

2.2.2.1 Prefixation

Prefixation as a process of word formation is not commonly obtained except in some few cases. Many languages have prefixes and suffixes, but languages may differ in how they deploy these morphemes. A morpheme that is a prefix in one language may be a suffix in another and vice versa. For example in English all plural are suffix by adding -s at the final position of a word, while in some other languages may be attach at the initial position of a word. (Fromkin & Rodman, 1998). Elson and Pickett (1976:12) define prefixes as “the affixes which occur

preceding roots”. Agezi (2004:40) sees a prefix as ‘an affix which is added initially to a stem.’ Thus, prefixation refers to a process whereby an affix is added initially to a stem. In other words, prefixation is a sub-process of affixation in which morphemes known as prefixes are added before the “operands” (bases, roots, stems). We agree with the definition because he used morpheme (prefix) at the beginning of a word. In jah, the plural morpheme “*ba*” is a prefix. Example: The word “*puba*” means *white*, while “*bapuba*” means *white ones*. Unlike in English language.

2.2.2.2 In fixation

Infixation is a process that involves the insertion of a bound morpheme within another morpheme (Finegan, 2008:44). The process of infixation, according to Crystal (1980), does not occur in European languages, English being one of them; but it is commonly found in Asian, American, Indian and African languages (e.g. Arabic and Hausa).

Infixation, according to the free encyclopedia (2008), is the “insertion of an affix within the root morpheme”. Fromkin and Rodman (1998: 72) posit that ‘infixation is the process whereby morphemes are inserted into other morphemes’. They are of the view that English has a very limited set of infixes. They observe that English infixation has become a subject of discussion among some interested linguists. We

agree with their opinion the infix always inserted within a root morpheme for instance in Hausa language, a word “*gurgu*” cripple, the “*a*” is inserted to formed plural “*guragu*” cripples. (Adopted in Abubakar, 2010). While in Jahr language this pattern may not be happen.

2.2.2.3 Suffixation

This process involves the occurrences of bound morpheme at the end of a root/stem. Unlike free morpheme, a suffix has no meaning in itself; it acquires meaning only in conjunction with the free morpheme which it transposes. As Agezi (2004: 44) posits, are “affixes added following roots”. In English, suffixes frequently alter the word-class of the base. Hence, suffixation, as Matthews (1991: 131) observes, is the commonest process because it is involved in most lexical derivations (generate - generate + ion = generation, happy - happy + ness = happiness, etc) and in most inflectional formations (sail - sail + ed, = sailed, sea - sea + s = seas, etc). Thus, suffixation in English could be either for the derivational formation of new lexical items or for expressing grammatical relationships. Haspelmath (2002) practically demonstrates the idea that the suffixes are of two types: derivational and inflectional suffixes. (Lieber, 2004). In context, derivational suffixes change either syntactic or semantic class. This means the

occurrence of a bound morpheme after the root or stem. We satisfied with their views because they talk about affixes which is our major concern in this research.

2.2.2.4 Circumfixes

Circumfixes are affixes that come in two parts, one attaches to the front of the word and the other to the back. Circumfixes are controversial because it is possible to analyze them as consisting of a prefix and a suffix that apply to a stem simultaneously (Aronoff & Fudeman 2011). We agree with their opinion, this would help us greatly in identifying circumfixation in the Jagr language.

2.3 Conclusion

This chapter has taken the reader on a brief tour of different reviews which were based on the available literature on affixation in the African and other languages. The chapter explains divergent views of different scholars on how new words are formed through affixation process. However, their works contribute immensely to the present work because they touched derivational and inflectional affixes. Such works are: (Agezi, 2004; Caron, 2012; Fagge 2012; Newman, 2000, Haspelmath and Sims, 2010; Matthews, 1991; Sani, 2004; Muazu, 1995, etc) works on the formation of words through derivational and inflectional affixes in different

languages. Sogiji (2002) and Slaiman (1991) work on the historical aspect on Jahr. The chapter also discuss some definitions of derivation and inflection. It can be realized that, none of the previous studies describes affixation in the Jahr. Hence the need to conduct a research on Affixation in the Jahr language.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

3.0 Introduction

Research Methodology deals with the description and procedures for data collection and analysis. The following will be presented and discuss under this chapter: Research design, area covered by the research, research population, sample selection procedure, method of data collection.

3.1 Methodology

Method of data collection refers to the way through which research will be conducted, that is, the strategies that will be adopted by the researcher in his work. The method employed in collecting data for this research is interview with recording of the respondents speeches.

This research is based on the Gwak dialect spoken in Bununu and its environs. In carrying out this research we adopt randomization technique through sampling

method which will be used to obtain unbiased sample for the study. This is possible to ensure uniformity and balance in the responses.

3.2 Research Design

This study uses descriptive method to answer the research problems. It describes a phenomenon in words instead of measure in basics of qualitative research. Data are often collected through interview, observation and focus groups, within the analyzed identifying patterns within and across cases to provide a descriptive pattern (Creswell 2009:217). In other words, the research is field-based intensive one which involves direct interaction with native speakers.

3.3 Area Covered by the Research

The areas of this study are Bununu, Bar, Dull and Gital. However, the research population covered would equip us with the required information for our analysis. The research population is made up of the few residents of Bununu and nearby villages covered by the research. It is impossible to get the response of the whole population from each of the areas covered due to some circumstances and time frame.

3.4 Research Population

The population of this research is the Jahr native speakers resident in the selected research areas. And we have selected forty (40) respondents to represent the entire population across men and women include both literate and non-literate in each of the areas covered by this study. We selected forty respondents due to insecurity situation in north eastern part of Nigeria. In this case we made efforts to make sure that native speaker, who were born and grown in the area are represented. And the interview was conducted with five (5) Jahr community leaders, eleven(11) farmers, five(5) blacksmiths, twelve(12) traders and seven (7) laborers, making a number of forty (40) informants.

3.5 Sample Selection Procedure

The principle of selection of respondents will certainly not work in certain areas as observed by Artwood (1986) in Girei (2009). However, it is easier to get sample of the entire population from places under our research. Tafawa Balewa Local Government Area is one of the areas were attacked during insurgency. In selection of our respondents for this research, we made contacts with elders, farmers and market traders of Jahr means we used only part of the population to represent the entire research population. All the members of the target population for the present research were accessible, and each member had an equal chance of being selected. The age of the respondent depends on the available and acceptance of the

respondents in very covered area. However, the respondents between the age ranges of 30 to 70years are preferred for easy interaction and effectiveness of the native speaker's competence in speaking the language. Moreover, we selected 40 informants due to the insecurity situation in those areas, four from each of the localities visited during the field work, in order to get the required sample data of the study.

3.6 Data Collection Procedure

In the study, data were gathered through unobtrusive observation and interview procedure. A range of lexical items would be randomly recorded from the native speakers who would be engage in conversation and interview. The researcher himself is supposed to be an additional primary source of data for the research; but I can't speak the language fluently, it is good for the linguists to study different languages especially endangered languages. We gathered some words during conversation such as: *tum* [tum], *nli* [li], *nùm* [num], *tùl*, [tul], *bàl*,[bál] *bó* [bo], *làr* [làr] etc.

3.7 Research Instruments

This refers to the instrument which we used in our data collection from different sources in order to gather our analysis. This includes unobtrusive observation and interview among others.

3.8 Unobtrusive Observation

This is an effective technique for data collection by a native speaker. Because it makes the researcher to collect useful data from different data sources within a given period of time. The observation was made by the research at market places like traders selling points, dairy selling points, places of worship, Jahr festival and communal gatherings, at the places visited during the field work. Some lexical items collected are: *pwàntú* [wàntú], *ɓàl* [ɓàl], *kùr* [kù:r], *bún* [bún], *gúl* [gú:l], *dàd* [dād], *yìk* [ik], *kàm* [kʌm], *bìn* [bìn] etc.

3.9 Fieldwork

This research sourced its data primarily through visits to some few Gwak dialect speaking communities in Tafawa Balewa Local Government Area of Bauchi State. The village communities include: Bununu, Bar, Dull, and Gital, and in each place we made a familiar contact with the Jahr community elders who assisted by providing us with the respondents for the interview.

3.10 Interview

The structured interview serves as technique of data collection. The research was conducted with both literate and illiterate Jahr speakers. Meanwhile, a set of guided questions would be administered based on the research agenda, but they would not be imposed. Instead, the interviewees are encouraged to improvise;

allowing the interview or focus group to follow whatever course it takes. The guided questions may be as follows:

1. What is the past tense of sell in Jahr?
2. What are the plural nouns in Jahr called?
3. What is the feminine form of male?
4. How do you run your businesses and other activities?

In this case, some words such as: *ndàkba*, *nvóba* [nvoɪba], *yì*, [jiɪ], *bánbwárám*, *bánhàd*, *tákúnù* [tá:kùnúɪ], *máták* [mʌtá:k] etc. Would be identified from the conversation.

The interview was conducted in an orderly manner, in such a way that the informant is not distracted. This is a direct contact with the informant with the intention of extraction all forms of affixes in his/her speech.

3.11 Secondary Sources of Data

The secondary source of data also provide needed relevant and reliable information to the research. Therefore, the use of past related literatures which include books, theses, articles and any other relevant electronic materials were used as a guide and reference, towards efficient presentation of this work.

3.12 Theoretical Framework

Linguistics has always required a process called description, which involves observing language and creating conceptual categories for it without establishing rules of language. By the early 20th century, focus to modern language as the descriptive approach of analyzing speech and writing became more formal. In descriptive linguistics, nonstandard varieties of language are held to be no more or less correct than standard varieties whether observational methods are seen to be more objective than prescriptive methods, the outcomes of using prescriptive methods are also subject to description.

The descriptive approach, therefore, simply recognizes that the forms exist, observes the differences and similarities between them, and describes the uniformity of linguistic phenomena in human languages. The descriptive approach is still applied in analyzing many of the world recognized languages. This research adopted the descriptive approach of Nida's (1946) principles of descriptive statements.

A simple descriptive approach was employed in the analysis of the data collected for this research. Thus, the procedure followed is a synthesis of the analytic model of Nida.

3.13 NIDA'S MODEL

Nida (1949) contains a descriptive statement of morphology which is paraphrased below:

- (10) a. The formal description of morphology should reflect, as accurately as possible, the structure of the language under consideration. In other words, the morphemes and combinations of morphemes should be described according to their pertinent environments.
- b. The system of outlining must be clear and formal.
- c. The use of linguistic terminology should reflect the intended reader although it must conform to terms used by other linguistics. New terms are to be clearly defined and consistently used.
- d. The use of mentalist, historical, subjective and imperative statements should be avoided.

Nida's work deals with writing out the description of a particular sub-field of language, which is morphology. Therefore, the present study is morphological in nature, Nida's principles are adopted.

The research is therefore based on a description of affixation in the Jahr language. The results can help the research towards important discoveries of word formation in the language.

3.15 Conclusion

This chapter explains the method applied in the research work. It indicated the way data collections are made and the procedures of collecting the data. We selects only 40 randomly sampled native speakers that cut across different ages and social

class comprising men and women within the few selected speech communities. Interview and group/individual talks will feature the critical event in the field. Other way of collecting the data would be the use of hard and soft printed relevant materials. This descriptive research only present and analyses the findings by indicating the class of the derived element with English glossary.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

4.0 Introduction

This chapter presents and analyses the available data on affixation to find the categories of words formed either through derivational and inflectional process. English gloss will accompany each element and the resultant changes it undergoes.

4.1 Data Presentation and Analysis

Affixation refers to attachment of a morpheme to the root. Therefore, an attempt is made to explore the kind of affixations and to look at the productivity and less productivity of derivational and inflectional affixes in the Jahr language. This research adopted the descriptive approach of Nida's (1946) principles of descriptive statements.

A simple descriptive approach was employed in the analysis of the data collected for this research.

4.1.1 Prefixation in Jahr

Jahr prefixes can be divided into two: derivational and inflectional prefixes. The derivational prefixes involve the formation of verbs from nouns, nouns from other nouns and nouns from adjectives. While the inflectional prefixes with a high tone

marking singular and plural for adjective of color and stature. Also changing the present tense into past tense. They include: *tá-*, *má-*, *bán-* and *bá-*; the *tá-* and *má-* are derivational prefixes, while *bá-* and *bán* are inflectional prefixes.

41.1.1 Derivational Prefix:

The following section illustrate derivation of verbs from noun, nouns from other nouns and nouns from adjectives using prefix *tá-* and *má-*.

4.1.1.1.1 Derivation of Verbs from Nouns:

The derivational prefix *tá-* with high tone is used in order to create verbs from nouns as exemplified below:

(11)	Prefix	Stem (nouns)	Gloss	Derived (verbs)	Gloss
a.	<i>tá-</i>	kùnú	mouth	[tá:kùnú:]	talk
b.	<i>tá-</i>	kídú	ear	[tá:kídú:]	listen
c.	<i>tá-</i>	músú	eyes	[tá:músú:]	wake up
d.	<i>tá-</i>	njár	road	[tá:njar]	block the passage
e.	<i>tá-</i>	mírí	tears	[tá:mírí]	shed tears

In relation to the derivational affixes referring to the verb-formation presented in (11a-e) , the prefix *tá-* in example (11a), is attached to the word *kùnú* means ‘mouth’ and the derived word *tákùnú* meaning ‘talk’, also examples (11b-e) show the attachment of prefix *tá-* to the noun base to form a verb. This shows that, in Jahr language verbs are derived from nouns through prefixation processes. It also keep the tone constant throughout the process.

4.1.1.1.2 Prefix *má-*

The marking of the derivational prefix *má-* with high tone attached to the noun base in the examples 12 and 13 below form another noun. Here are the examples:

(12)	Prefix	Stem	Derived	Gloss
		(Noun)	(Noun)	
a.	<i>má-</i>	<i>ták</i> (land)	[mʌtá:k]	west
b.	<i>má-</i>	<i>mùd</i> (sky)	[mʌmù:d]	east

From examples (12a and b) above, the derivational affix *má-* attached at the initial position of a noun base *ták* ‘land’ to derive the term *máták* ‘west’ and *mùd* ‘sky’ to form another noun *mámùd* ‘east’, this shows the class maintaining derivation in the language, Noun to Noun *ták* to *máták*.

Examples of adjectives:

(13)	Prefix	Stem	Derived	Gloss
		(Adjective)	(Noun)	
a.	<i>má-</i>	kàláng (left)	[mʌkàláŋ]	north
b.	<i>má-</i>	nlí (right)	[mʌnlí]	south

In examples (13a & b), *má-* is attached to the adjectives base *kàláng* ‘left’ and *nlí* ‘right’ form a nouns base *mákàláng* ‘north’ and *mánlí* ‘south’, this shows the class-changing derivation in the language where Adjectives change to Nouns.

4.1.1.2 Inflectional Prefix:

This section illustrate inflectional prefixes *bá-* and *bán-*.

4.1.1.2.1 Prefix *bá-* with high tone.

The prefix *bá-* with a high tone marks plurality of adjective of color and stature as shown in examples (14&15) below:

(14)	Prefix	Stem	Gloss	Derived	Gloss
a.	<i>bá-</i>	púbá	white	[bápú:ḃá]	white ones

- b. *bá-* jámbúk green [bádʒa'mú:k] green ones
- c. *bá-* nzálá brown [bæŋza:lá] brown ones

From examples (14a) above the inflectional prefix *bá-* is attached to the base *púbá* ‘white’ marked singular to plural adjectives of color *bápúbá* means ‘white ones’.

Examples (14b &c) also show the same process.

(15)	Prefix	Stem	Gloss	Derived	Gloss
a.	<i>bá-</i>	dálaá	tall	[bádálá:]	tall ones
b.	<i>bá-</i>	ndík	short	[báŋdí:k]	short ones
c.	<i>bá-</i>	gwánrá	thin	[bágwánrǎ]	thin ones

Example (15a-c), prefix *bá-* is also use to mark ‘plural’ for adjectives of stature.

Also, all the prefixes have a high one and are very productive in the language. In addition, they keep tone constant throughout the process.

4.1.1.2.2 Prefix *bán-*

Tenses in Jahr are present, past and future. In this setting we have simple past. in the normal set up the noun comes before verb. It is essential to always check the signs on the words to allow for identifying where to apply the low or high tone, because reading the words without following the order of the reading may alter the meaning of a word.

This inflectional prefix ‘*bán-*’ with high tone marking, takes up this pattern changing present tense to past tense, the tenses in Jahr are present, past and future as illustrate in the examples below:

(16)	Prefix	Stem	Gloss	Derived	Gloss
a.	<i>bán-</i>	<i>bwáram</i>	sell	[báŋbwáraːm]	sold
b.	<i>bán-</i>	<i>hàd</i>	open	[báŋhàd]	opened
c.	<i>bán-</i>	<i>bawl</i>	catch	[báŋbàwl]	caught
d.	<i>bán-</i>	<i>rúb</i>	meet	[báŋrúb]	met
e.	<i>bán-</i>	<i>purnà</i>	go	[báŋpúːrnà]	gone out
f.	<i>bán-</i>	<i>dábwaàd</i>	accompany	[báŋdábwaːd]	accompanied
g.	<i>bán-</i>	<i>tuúlnà</i>	call	[báŋtúːlnà]	called

From examples (16a-f) above, the prefix *bán-* with a high tone is attached to the verb stem *bwáram* ‘sell’ to become *bánbwáram* meaning ‘sold’ changed the verb from present to past tense. Also in examples (16b-f) take the same pattern in changing the verbs in present tense to past tense. Furthermore, the prefix *bán-* is very productive in the language.

4.1.1.2.3 Prefix *gìn-*

The morpheme *gìn* means don't and in urging someone to do or not to do something as exemplified below:

(17)	Prefix	Stem	Gloss	Derived	Gloss
a.	<i>gìn</i>	<i>bàl</i>	count	[gìṇbàl]	don't count
b.	<i>gìn</i>	<i>sá</i>	go	[gìṇsá:]	don't go
c.	<i>gìn</i>	<i>dàl</i>	jump	[gìṇdà:l]	don't jump
d.	<i>gìn</i>	<i>bàwl</i>	catch	[gìṇbwàl]	don't catch
e.	<i>gìn</i>	<i>tàr</i>	pick	[gìṇtà:r]	don't pick

In example (17a) above, a morpheme *gìn* prefixed to verb stem *bàl* 'count' to become *gìṇbàl* 'don't count' in order to mark negation and example (17b-e) followed the same pattern in making negative words in the language.

4.1.2 Suffixation in Jahr

This process involves the occurrences of bound morpheme at the final position of a root/stem. They are used to realize the process of derivation and inflection in Jahr. The derivational suffixes consist of *-lé* with high tone use to derive noun from verb, *-rá* with high tone mark negation, *-là*, *-lù*, *-lè*, *-sù*, and *wùn*, with low tone marking possession, *-mí*, and *-má*, forming demonstrative in the language. While inflectional suffix *-bá* with high tone use to mark singular nouns into plurals.

4.1.2.1.1 Derivation of noun from verbs.

The derivational suffix *-lé* with a high tone marking is employed to form noun from verb base. Consider the examples given below:

(18)	Stem	Gloss	Suffix	Derived	Gloss
		(Verb)		(Noun)	
a.	wàl	laught	-lé	[wàl:é]	laughter
b.	ǵàl	count	-lé	[bàl:é]	counter
c.	yál	jump	-lé	[já:lé]	jumper
d.	bíl	follow	-lé	[bí:lé]	follower
e.	bàng	run	-lé	[bàn:lé]	runner
f.	bín	dance	-lé	[bí:nlé]	dancer

From examples (18a) above, the suffix *lé* is attached to the verb base *wàl* ‘laugh’ and formed a nouns *wàllé* ‘laughter’. It also shows the same in (18b-f) suffix *lé* with high tone marking is suffixed to the verbs stem to form nouns base. This process shows the class-changing derivation in the language. Furthermore, we also observed that most of the verbs start with plosive sound.

4.1.2.1.2 Suffix *-rá*

The other negation in Jahr is *-rá* suffix with a high tone mark negation in the language, as exemplified in (19a-e) below:

(19)	Stem	Gloss	Suffix	Derived	Gloss
a.	<i>shábá</i>	tell	<i>-rá</i>	[ʃábára]	not tell
b.	<i>dábá</i>	take	<i>-rá</i>	[dǎbáːrá]	not take
c.	<i>sá</i>	go	<i>-rá</i>	[sáːrá]	not go
d.	<i>jàk</i>	good	<i>-rá</i>	[jàːkrá]	not good

in example (19a) above, we can infer that the morpheme *-rá* is suffixed to verb stem *shábá* ‘tell’ to become *shábára* ‘don’t tell’ in order to mark negation also example (19b and c) shows the same pattern in making negative word in the language through suffixation process.

4.1.2.1.3 Possessive suffixes:

In Jahr, the possessive suffixes are as follows: *là, lù, lì, lè, sù* and *wùn*. Out of the six possessive suffixes, three are singular *là, lù, lì* while the other three are plural *sù, wùn, lè*.

Here are the examples:

(20)	Stem	Gloss	Suffix	Derived	Gloss
a.	ndák	cow	-là	[ndáɪklà]	my cow 1 st person sgl
b.	ndák	cow	-lù	[ndáɪklù]	your cow 2 nd person sgl
c.	ndák	cow	-lì	[nádáɪkli]	his/her cow 3 rd person sgl
d.	mbíl	goat	-wùn	[mbílbáwù:n]	their goats 3 rd person pl.
e.	mbíl	goat	-là	[mbílbálà]	my goats' 1 st person sgl.

Examples (20a-e) above show that additionally, suffixation in Jahr function as possessive marker. This can be seen as in example (20a) above a suffix *-là* is added to the noun base *ndák* ‘cow’ at the word final to mark possessive pronoun *ndáklà* ‘my cows’. Also in example (20c) a suffix *-lí* is attached to the noun *ndák* ‘cow’ which gave us possessive pronoun *ndáklì* his/her cow. Here we are able to deduce that the language under investigation has no gender classifications. When these possessive suffixes are use with the *bá* affix, it indicates that the objects are many, as shown in example (20e) *mbíl* ‘goat’ *mbílbálà* ‘my goats’. All the suffixes are

pronounced with a low tone. It should be understood that Jahr language has no gender classification.

4.1.2.1.4 Demonstrative suffixes

In Jahr language, there are four demonstrative suffixes: namely *-mí*, and *-má*, with a high tone, while *-bì* and *-bà* with a low tone, as exemplified below:

(21)	Stem	Gloss	Suffix	Derived	Gloss
a.	<i>bó</i>	man	- <i>mí</i>	[bó:mí]	this man
b.	<i>bó</i>	man	- <i>má</i>	[bó:má]	that man
c.	<i>lah</i>	house	- <i>bì</i>	[lahbaði:]	these houses
d.	<i>lah</i>	house	- <i>bà</i>	[lahbaða:]	those houses

Example (21a) above, affix *-mí* is suffixed to the word *bó* ‘man’ to become *bómí* meaning ‘this man’ approximat, also in example (21b) suffix *-má* attached to the word *bó* to derive *bómá* ‘that man’ a long distance, these data show the presence of demonstrative suffixes in the language.

4.1.2.2 Inflectional Suffix

The inflectional suffix is used to mark plurality in the language.

4.1.2.2.1 Suffix –*há* the suffix –*há* with a high tone is used to mark singular nouns into plurals as in example (22) below:

(22)	Stem	Gloss	Suffix	Derived	Gloss
a.	<i>láh</i>	house	– <i>há</i>	[<i>láhbá</i>]	houses
b.	<i>mbíl</i>	goat	– <i>há</i>	[<i>mbí:l bá</i>]	goats
c.	<i>ndák</i>	cow	– <i>há</i>	[<i>ndá:kbá</i>]	cows
d.	<i>nvó</i>	dog	– <i>há</i>	[<i>nvó:bá</i>]	dogs

From example (22a,b &c) above, the inflectional suffix –*há* is suffixed to the noun base *láh* means ‘house’ and derive word *láhbá* ‘houses’, –*há* is also is attached to another noun *mbíl* ‘goat’ singular to get the plural noun *mbílhá* ‘goats’. These examples show that, the suffix –*há* is marking plurality in the Jahr language.

4.1.3 Circumfixation in Jahr

Circumfixes in Jahr language formed the past perfect of regular verb and concern with the first person pronoun by adding inflectional affixes ‘*m*’, “*am*”, and “*n*” to the verb root.

Here are the following examples:

(23)	Stem	Gloss	Derived	Gloss
a.	bàl	count	[mɓàlá:m]	I counted
b.	dǔl	finish	[ndǔlá:m]	I finishd
c.	yál	jump	[nyálá:m]	I jumped
d.	dãbá	take	[ndãbá:m]	I took
e.	báng	run	[mɓáŋm]	I ran
f.	báwl	catch	[mbwálá:m]	I caught
g.	yík	test	[njí:m]	I tested
h.	bíl	follow	[mɓílí:m]	I followed
i.	dád	play	[ndádá:m]	I played

From example (23a) above, inflectional morphemes *m-*, is attached at the initial position and *-am* attached at the final position of verb *bàl* ‘count’ to form *mbàlám* ‘I counted’. Similarly, in (23c) the morphemes *n-* and *-am* attached to the verb *yál* at the initial and final position, form *nyálám* ‘I jumped’. From examples (23a-i) above, we observed that circumfixation in Jahr language are form with the verbs stem through the attaching of morphemes both initially and word finally formed

past perfect. We also noticed that circumfixations in the language are formed through verbs and concerned with the first person pronoun.

4.1.4 Findings of the Study

From the position and the function of the affixes classified, we identified three types of affixes in the Jahr: prefixation, suffixation and circumfixes.

Prefixation is divided into derivational and inflectional. Four prefixes are identified in Jahr. They are: *tá-*, *má-*, *bán-* and *bá-ta-* and *ma-* are derivational prefixes, while *bá-* and *bán-* are inflectional prefixes. Suffixation in Jahr is also realized as a process of derivation and inflection. The derivational suffixes are *-lé*, *-rá*, *-là*, *-lù*, *-lè*, *-sù*, *wùn*, *-mí*, and *-má*, while the only inflectional suffix in the language is *-bá*. Furthermore, we realized that, the language has no gender classifications. In addition, we realized that the inflectional prefixes *-bá* and *-bán* are very productive, while the derivational prefixes are less productive in the language.

We observed the formation of derivational affixes in the language: derivational prefixes formed verbs from nouns, nouns from other nouns and nouns from adjectives. Some of the derivations changing their class, while some maintained e.g. derivational affix *má-* attached at the initial position of a noun base *ták* ‘land’ to *máták* ‘west’, this shows the class maintaining derivation in the language, Noun to Noun *ták* to *máták*. Also *má-* is attached to the adjectives base *kàláng* ‘left’

formed a nouns base *mákàláng* ‘north’, this shows the class-changing derivation in the language. Adjectives to Nouns.

The derivational suffixes in Jahr are used in deriving nouns from verbs, it mark negation and possession in the language, the *-bán* suffix is very productive while the prefixes *tá-* and *má-* are less productive in the language.

We also observed the inflectional prefixes and suffixes. The inflectional suffixes with a high tone marking singular and plural for nouns, adjective of color, and stature. The inflectional prefix “*ban-*” changing the present tense to past of a verbs, we have also observed that the inflectional prefix and suffixes are very productive in the language.

The circumfixes in Jahr formed the past perfect and concerned with the first person pronoun by attaching affixes in both initial and word end. They include: *m*, *am*, and *n* e.g an inflectional morphemes *m-*, is attached at the initial position and *-am* attached at the end of verb *bàl* ‘count’ formed *mbàlám* ‘I counted’. We also noticed that circumfixation in the language are formed through verbs and are very productive in the language. It is opined that this a descriptive of this nature, eventually stimulate further research on the other Morphological processes in the Jahr studies.

4.1.5 Conclusion

In conclusion, this chapter explores the available processes in forming words in one major morphological process Affixation. However, the chapter also shows how derivational and inflectional affixes operates in forming new word in the language. The data shows the present of prefixation, suffixation, and circumfixation in the language. It is also observed that, the derivational affixes formed the derivation of Noun from Noun, Verb from Noun, and noun from adjective, while the inflectional affixes mark plurality, also change present tense to past tense in the language. In addition, we observed that the language doesn't have infixation.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

5.0 Introduction

This chapter provides summary and conclusive on the whole chapters of the dissertation also presents some recommendations.

5.1 Summary

In this descriptive study, we attempt to account for the affixation in the Jahr, specifically within Gwak dialect in North Eastern Nigeria. The content of the research in chapter one discussed the background of the study, origin of the Jahr language and its people in a narrower perspective. The Jahr classify into four main dialects include: Gwak, Mbad, Duguri, and Bakal in Bauchi State. We discussed that a review of African language classification indicates that Jahr belongs to the Niger-Congo family. The Jahr people of Bauchi State have four major groups and they speak the same language. However, there are some disparities which are minor and understandable among the groups. The major groups are: Gwak, who are mostly inhabitants of Bununu and Dass, the Duguri who are live in Alkaleri and parts of Kirfi, the Mbad who are living in Dull and its surroundings. The Gwak and Mbad live mostly in Tafawa Balewa local government area, the Bakal are mostly inhabitants of Bauchi local government area. We touched the socio-

economic and their policies in the past; we also discussed Statement of the problem, aim and objectives and scope of the study in chapter one.

Chapter two present a review of Jahr literatures that are related to our research and other works on affixation. We reviewed the work of Sulaiman(1991) on historical aspect of Jahr, Matthews (1991), Newman (2000), Mu'azu (1995), Sani (2002), Haspelmath and Sims (2010), Caron (2012), Fagge (2012) among others.

In chapter three we discussed the methodology employed in this work has adopted the descriptive approach of Nida's (1946) principles of descriptive statements. A simple descriptive approach was employed in the analysis of the data collected for this research principles of descriptive statements. A simple descriptive approach was employed in the analysis of the data collected for this research The data of the research were draw from an intensive fieldwork using a deliberate unstructured interview between the researcher and the target respondents; we discuss the areas covered by the research, which are: Bununu, Bar, Dull and Gital in Tafawa Balewa local government areas of Bauchi State. We also discuss the sample selection procedure. Speeches of forty informants ranging between the ages of thirty to seventy years were used for our data analysis. Unstructured interview and observation were our primary sources and relevant literature serves as our secondary source of data collection.

Chapter four of the dissertation discussed the morphological analysis i.e the Affixation. Under the analysis we found the prevalent of affixation process (*prefix, suffix and circumfix*) in Jahr, they play a significant role in derivation and inflection of word formation.

5.2 Conclusion

In conclusion, we can state that the classification of Jahr affixation presented was primarily based on the morphological and syntactic structure of the affixes. In this regard, affixation were morphologically divided into three: prefixation, suffixation and circumfixation. Each of these processes were further divided into smaller categories. The language doesn't have infixation unlike in Hausa language. The prefixes divided into two: Derivational and Inflectional prefixes, the derivational formed Verbs from Nouns, while inflectional prefixes mark plurality of some adjectives and change present tense to past tense. The plurals of Jahr appeared either at the beginning (prefix) or word end (suffix), unlike in English language that always comes at the end of a word (suffix). Affixation in Jahr has revealed the occurrence of both class-maintaining and class-changing derivation of complex words. They create a word with a new category. For example, 'Noun' *kùnú* 'mouth', *tákùnú* 'talk' 'Verb'.

Suffixation on the other hand, recorded a number of derivational and inflectional. It proves to have derived categories such as demonstrative and possessive suffixes. Other suffixes are: *-má*, *-bá* and *-rá* respectively. When these possessive suffixes are used with the *bá*, it indicates that the objects are many. All the suffixes are pronounced with a low tone. The negation is divided into two, they are *gìn-* come as prefix and *-rá* as suffix to change statement into negative. It should be understood that Jahr language has no gender classification, for instance: a word *byàk* 'slave' (m) and *byàk* 'slave' (f), as far as our fieldwork is concerned. Similarly, circumfixation in Jahr formed past perfect and concern with the first person pronoun. It is opined that this a description of the nature, eventually stimulate further research into Jahr language.

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