Control in Halh Mongolian

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Halh Mongolian (khk), Altaic
also known as Halh, Khalkha Mongolian, Mongol, Central Mongolian
spoken in Mongolia (Asia)

1 Grammar Profile

1.1 Morpho-Syntax

1.1.1 Head position
Head-final: postpositions, all adjectival and genitival modifiers precede the noun they modify.

1.1.2 Morphological type
agglutinating

1.1.3 Case system
Case system is nominative/accusative

1.1.4 Verbal Agreement
None.

1.2 Matrix Clause

1.2.1 Basic word order
SOV

1.2.2 Ordering of nominal and pronominal arguments
SO
1.3 Embedded Clause

1.3.1 Basic word order
verb-final

1.3.2 Possible morphological categories of the embedded clause
There are no ‘embedded clauses’, so to speak, in Mongolian. Rather, all embedded clauses are nominalizations.

2 Control Profile

2.1 forward subject control into nominalization complement

2.1.1 Example structure
(1) [ganc ödör c. bajld-x-yg] bid xüse-j. baj-na
even day part fight-inf-acc we want-impf be-pres’
We don’t want to fight even a single day.’
(2) pool [end-ees šönö jav-x-yg] xüse-v
Paul here-abl night go-inf-acc want-past
‘Paul wanted to leave here at night.’

2.1.2 Predicates participating in the construction
desiderative verb: xüse ‘want’

2.2 forward object control into nominalization complement

2.2.1 Example structure
(3) [šuudan-gyn xoroon-d jaa-j. xüre-x-ijg] ta na-d zaa-j ögn-nö üü?
post-gen office-dat do how-impf reach-inf-acc you me-dat show-impf give-pres Q
‘Would you please tell me how to get to the post office?’
(4) dendev gerel-t [jav-x-yg] tušaa-v
Dendev Gerel-dat go-inf-acc tell-past
‘Dendev told Gerel to go.’

2.2.2 Predicates participating in the construction
communication verb: zaa ‘show’ tušaa ‘te

References

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