

THE Pro-drop PARAMETER IN LUBUKUSU

BY

MAKOKHA, SITUMA.

UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI
EAST AFRICANA COLLECTION

A Dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree
of **Master of Arts** in the University of Nairobi.

1998

University of NAIROBI Library



0442164 0

ABSTRACT

This study is an attempt to analyze the syntax of null subjects and objects of thematic positions in derived simple sentences in Lubukusu. The central aim is to determine the nature, distribution and reference of the null NP positions. The study is done within the government and binding theory.

The work is divided into four chapters. Chapter one provides an introduction to the study with the background information on the language under study, the problem statement, objectives, theoretical framework, methodology and hypotheses.

Chapter two is a presentation of data. A theory independent analysis of categories is given here.

Chapter three is an illustration of some of the characteristics of language that are associated with the Pro-drop phenomenon. The chapter is devoted to establishing the occurrence of these properties in the language under study.

Chapter four provides an analysis of the derived sentences that have null NP positions. We look at the Pro-drop phenomenon and also provide an analysis of the nature and status of the empty object position.

The findings of the study are also given in chapter four which is also the summary section of the whole study. The implications of the study are stated in this final chapter.