

NAIROBI EVANGELICAL GRADUATE
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

THE COMPLEMENT CLAUSES OF VERBS
OF SPEECH AND COGNITION IN KIKUYU

BY
MARY WAMBUI KAMAU MUCHESIA

*A Linguistics Project Submitted To The Graduate School
in Partial Fulfillment of The Requirements for The Degree
of Master of Arts in Translation Studies*

JULY 2009

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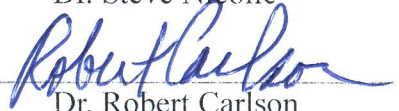
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July, 2009

Student's Declaration

THE COMPLEMENT CLAUSES OF VERBS OF SPEECH
AND COGNITION IN KIKUYU

I declare that this is my original work and has not been submitted to any College or University for Academic credit.

The views presented in this paper are not necessarily those of Nairobi Evangelical Graduate School of Theology or of the Examiners.

(Signed) 
Mary Wambui Kamau Muchesia

July, 2009

ABSTRACT

This study discusses complement clauses of verbs of speech and cognition in Kikuyu. The aim is to look at what types of complement clauses these verbs can take. I have achieved this by looking at some Kikuyu data, which I have collected from my knowledge of the language as a native speaker and by using a narrative text taken from a Kikuyu first lessons book. It will be shown that Kikuyu verbs of speech and cognition operate like other Complement-Taking Predicates (CTP), as they allow complementizers [but... there are some differences, e.g. it is not possible for the subject of the embedded clause to be marked as an Object Concord marker in the main verb if that verb is a verb of cognition]. However, this research is not exhaustive and more work remains to be done on the subject.

TO

My late son, James Nyanga Muchesia

and

to my dad, Peter Kamau Nguro, who passed on before they could read this work

and

to the unreached people groups in the world.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

First, my gratitude goes to the almighty God for his sufficient grace in enabling me to complete my studies. Second, I would like to thank Dr. Regina Blass for recognizing the potential in me and working hard towards my admission. Her prayers, encouragement and financial support went along way in helping me to cope with the studies. I also thank Dr. Maik Gibson, the HOD of Translation Studies, for his input and encouragement during my time at NEGST.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BEN	- Benefactive
COMP	- Complementizer
CONS	- Consecutive marker
COP	- Copula
DEM	- Demonstrative
FM	- Focus Marker
FUT	- Future
FV	- Final vowel
INF	-Infinitive
IMPFV	- Imperfective
LOC	- Locative
NC	- Noun Class
PASS	- Passive
PERF	- Perfect
PFV	- Perfective
POSS	-Possessive
PST1, PST2, PST3, PST4-	Past Tense
PRES	- Present Tense
PROG	- Progressive
REL	- Relativizer
SUB	- Subjunctive
1SG, 2SG, 3SG	- First, Second, Third Person Singular

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Genetic Affiliation of Kikuyu Language

Kikuyu language belongs to Niger- Kordofanian family, Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, Benue-Congo, Bantoid, Southern, Narrow Bantu, Central, E.50, Kikuyu - Kamba (E.20). There are five dialects; Southern Gikuyu (Kiambu, Southern Murang'a), Ndia (Southern Kirinyaga), Gichugu (Northern Kirinyaga), Mathira (Karatina), Northern Gikuyu (Northern Murang'a, Nyeri). The language population is about 5,347,000. The Kikuyu Bible has been translated since 1965 (Gordon, 2005, 133).

1.2 Method of Data Collection

The data in this study has been collected by the researcher. Being a native speaker of the language, the researcher has constructed most of the data with the help of other speakers of the language who helped in checking the naturalness of the same. The appendix in this study, which is a narrative text, is taken from a Kikuyu Children's book *Wĩrute Gũthooma, book III*, which is a collection of stories. A few examples in chapter three have also come from this text.

1.3 Previous Research

Kikuyu language orthography and literatures have existed for many decades. The complete Bible in the language was completed in 1965 and has ever since been used in Churches and by individuals. Many grammar books have been written on the language. Some of the significant contributors of Kikuyu language are: Gecaga (1953) and Mugane (1997). Perez (1985), has also written on the aspect of complement clauses in Kikuyu.

1.4 Purpose and Scope of the Study

The purpose of this study is to demonstrate how complement clauses are formed in Kikuyu. We will look at the main constituents of the complement clauses and since the topic is wide for this specific research, we will concentrate on one area to enable us handle it in depth. Therefore, the topic will be limited to constructions of complement clauses that involve speech and cognition verbs in the language.

This study is divided into four main chapters, the first one is introduction, the second one is about complement clauses in Kikuyu and the third chapter is about complement clauses that involve verbs of speech and cognition. In the fourth chapter, we will present conclusions from the study.

1.5 Morphological Information

Kikuyu verbs and nouns are formed through a morphological process. I have included this information because the data presented in this research contains more or less the morphological processes of the two grammatical categories. Therefore, the

information is vital in helping the reader understand what is happening.

1.5.1 Verb Morphology

The Kikuyu verb is formed morphologically by a complex inflectional process whereby morphemes are added to the root as prefixes and suffixes. These morphemes are meaningful in that they represent the grammatical categories in the Kikuyu language. The verb can be a simple one consisting of a root and a suffix marking aspect, or a complex one with other suffixes and prefixes, marking the person, number, tense, voice, mood and aspect. The following example consists of simple verbs. The verbs are in imperative mood. Suffixes **-a** and **-ĩ** are final vowels:

- (1) rug-a
cook-fv
'cook!'
- (2) thi-ĩ
go-fv
'go!'

In (1) **rug-** 'cook' and (2) **thi-** 'go' are the roots of the verbs they represent.

Being a polysynthetic language, the Kikuyu verb can express a complete thought with all the grammatical categories:

- (3) nĩ-ma-ra-mũ-rug-ĩ-ire
FM-3PL-PST3-3SG-cook-BEN-PFV
'They cooked for her'

The subject of the sentence is marked by morpheme **-ma-**, the object by morpheme **-mũ-**, the verb root by morpheme **-rug-**, tense is marked by morpheme **-ra-**, aspect by morpheme **-ire** and morpheme **-ĩ-** is used to mark the beneficiary of the action.

In following session, we will consider briefly how tense and aspect are indicated on the Kikuyu verb.

1.5.1.1 Tense

Tense is used to mark the time of events that happened before, after and during the speech time (Saeed 1997, 116). In Kikuyu tense is divided into three: present, past and future. It is not only divided according to distance in relation to the speech time, but also according to its relationship to other events in time. These tenses are marked by use of prefixes in the verb. The table below gives a summary of the Kikuyu tenses followed by a discussion of each.

Table 1: Tenses in Kikuyu Verb

PAST				PRESENT	FUTURE		
Remote past (earlier than yesterday)	Yesterday's Past	Recent Past (earlier today)	Recent past (just now)	Present Tense (Now)	Future (immediate)	After today future	Indefinite future

1.5.1.1.1 Past tense.

This tense is used to refer to the happening of event before the speech time. There are four past tenses represented in the Kikuyu verb as we mentioned above.

1.5.1.1.1.1 Recent past (just now)

This is the marking of an event that has just happened prior to the speech time.

This is marked by use of prefix **-a-**. Examples:

- (4) nĩ-ma-**a**-thi-ĩ
FM-3PL-PST1-go.fv
'I have just gone'
- (5) nĩ-nd-**a**-rug-a
FM-1SG-PST1-cook-fv
'I have just cooked'

1.5.1.1.1.2 Recent past (earlier today)

This marks the time of an event that happened earlier in the day, prior to speech time. It is marked by use of a prefix **-a-** and a suffix **-ire**. This prefix differs with the just now recent past tense in tone. Examples:

- (6) nĩ-a-a-thi-ire
FM-3SG-PST2-go-PFV
'he/she went'
- (7) nĩ-m-a-rug-ire
FM-3PL-PST2-cook-PFV
'they cooked'

1.5.1.1.1.3 Yesterday's past

This marks the time of an event that happened the day before the speech time. It is marked by use of a prefix **-ra-** and a suffix **-ire**. Examples:

- (8) nĩ-ndĩ-ra-thi-ire
FM-1SG-PST3-go-PFV
'I went yesterday'
- (9) nĩ-tũ-ra-kom-ire
FM-1PL-PST3-sleep-PFV
'We slept yesterday'

1.5.1.1.1.4 Remote past (before yesterday)

This indicates events that happened earlier than yesterday. It is marked by use of prefix **-a-** before the root and a suffix **-ire** as in (10) below. Note that the tense marker for remote tense looks the same as the one for recent past (earlier today). They are different from each other, distinguished by their different tones, which are marked on the tense morpheme. The remote past morpheme carries a high tone while the recent past is marked with a low tone.

- (10) nĩ-a-a-thom-ire
FM-3SG-PST4-read-PFV
'he read/studied'

1.5.1.1.2 Present tense.

Present tense refers to events that take place at the same time as the speech time. There are two ways of expressing this. The first one is by repeating the verb, with the second verb taking prefix **-ra-**, which marks an ongoing event (imperfective aspect) and the other way, is using the prefix **-ra-** without repeating the verb.

Examples:

- (11) nĩ-kũ-rug-a ndĩ-**ra**-rug-a
 FM- INF-cook-fv 1SG-PRES-cook-fv
 'I am cooking (lit. It is to cook I am cooking)'

- (12) nĩ-ndĩ-**ra**-thi-ĩ
 FM-1SG-PRES-eat-fv
 'I am going'

1.5.1.1.3 Future tense.

This refers to events that are expected to happen after the speech time. Kikuyu marks three future tenses: Immediate, distant and indefinite future tenses as follows:

1.5.1.1.3.1 Immediate future tense (any time from now)

This tense refers to the events that will happen soon after, or the same day as the speech time. It is formed by adding prefix **-kũ-** or **-gũ-** to the root. Examples:

- (13) nĩ-**ngũ**-rug-a hwa-inĩ
 FM-1SG-FUT1-cook-fv evening-LOC
 'I will cook in the evening'

- (14) nĩ-ma-**kũ**-rug-a o rĩu
 FM-3SG-FUT1-cook-fv just now
 'They will cook just now'

1.5.1.1.3.2 Distant future tense (after today)

This refers to the events that will happen tomorrow or after tomorrow. Prefix **-ka-** or **-ga-** is used to form this. Examples:

- (15) nĩ-ma-**ka**-in-a rũciũ
 FM-3PL-FUT2-sing-fv tomorrow
'They will sing tomorrow'
- (16) nĩ-tũ-**ga**-thi-ĩ mũico wa mw-aka
 FM-1PL-FUT2-go-fv NC3.end of NC3-year
'We will go at the end of the year'

1.5.1.1.3.3 Indefinite future tense.

This refers to the events expected to happen in the future, but at an indefinite time (Gecaga, 1953, 33). It is formed by adding prefix **-rĩ-** to the root. Examples:

- (17) nĩ-ndĩ-**rĩ**-thi-ĩ gũ-thoom-a
 FM-1SG-FUT3-go -fv INF-study-fv
'I will go to study' (but not sure when)
- (18) a-**geni** nĩ-ma-rĩ-ũk-a
 NC2-visitor FM-3PL-FUT3-come-fv
'The visitors will come' (but not sure when)

1.5.1.2 Aspect

Aspect shows the internal structure of the event. In Kikuyu there is marking of complete events and incomplete events. Four aspects are realized in the verb (Mugane, 1997:119).

1.5.1.2.1 Imperfective aspect.

This is marking of an incomplete events and repeated or habitual events. Imperfective aspect in Kikuyu is marked with suffix **-aga** attached to the root. This is marked on all the three main tenses. Examples:

Habitual:

- 19) Njeri a-thi-aga cukuru o mũ-thenya
 Njeri 3SG.PRES-go-IMPERF school every NC3day
'Njeri goes to school every day'

Ongoing activity;

- 20) Njeri a-a-thi-aga cukuru
 Njeri 3SG-PST4-go-IMPERF school
 'Njeri was going to school'

Gnomic;

- 21) Ng'ombe nĩ-i-ciar-aga
 NC10-cow FM-NC10-give.birth- IMPERF
 'Cows give birth'

1.5.1.2.2 Perfect aspect.

This is marking showing that the event is complete prior to or before the event in the reference time. This aspect is marked with suffix **-ĩite** attached to the root. This is marked on all the three main Tenses. Example:

- 22) Kĩrĩba nĩ-a-a- ku-ĩite ma-buku
 Kiriba FM-3SG-PST4-carry-PERF NC6-book
 'Kiriba had carried the books'

1.5.1.2.3 Perfective aspect.

Mugane calls this completive, but the description given by Payne (1997: 239) fits in the perfective aspect better. "...the situation is viewed in its entirety, independent of tense". So, we will consider it as perfective throughout this research. Perfective aspect in Kikuyu is marked with suffix **-ire** attached to the root. This is marked on only the past tense. Example:

- 23) Maitũ nĩ-a-ra-in-ire rw-ĩmbo
 Mother FM-3SG-PST3-sing- PFV NC11-song
 'My mother sang a song yesterday'

1.5.1.2.4 Progressive aspect.

This is only marked on events in the present tense, showing that the action is in progress. It is marked by adding prefix **-ra-** to the root, in a verb. Examples:

- 24) Kamau a-ra-a-rĩ-a irio (Progressive)
 Kamau 3SG-PRES-PROG-eat -fv food
 'Kamau is eating some food'
- Compare;
- 25) Kamau a-a-rĩ-a irio (Recent past, complete)
 Kamau 3SG.-PST1-eat-fv food
 'Kamau ate some food'

1.5.2 The Noun Morphology

The Kikuyu noun is of two kinds: un-derived and derived. The noun is composed of morphemes; the root prefixes and suffixes. “All nouns exist in a complex of gender type classes (familiarily known as noun classes in Bantu linguistics) which determine the morphology of almost all nominal elements including demonstratives, numerals, quantifiers, associative words, pronouns, subject and object prefixes, possessives, relative words and a set of question words. “However, the noun class system does not determine the morphological shape of prepositions” (Mugane, 1997, 22). Therefore, the modifiers agree with the noun they modify in class and number. The modifiers are usually placed after the noun. The following are examples showing agreements.

Agreement with adjectives and numerals:

- (26) mũ-ndũ ãmwe mũ-irũ
 NC1-person NC1-one NC1-black
 'one black person'
- (27) mũ-ndũ ã-mwe mũ-raihu mũ-irũ
 NC1-person NC1-one NC1-tall NC1-black
 'one tall black person'

Agreement with possessives

- (28) mũ-irĩtu wa-kwa
 NC1-girl NC1-POSS
 'my girl (daughter)'

- (29) a-irĩtu a-kwa
 NC2-girl NC2-POSS
'my girls (daughters)'
Agreement with demonstratives
- (30) mũ-tĩ ã-yũ
 NC3-tree NC3-DEM
'this tree'
- (31) mĩ-tĩ ã-no
 NC4-tree NC4-DEM
'these trees'

Kikuyu noun classes are 17 in number, and are marked by prefixes added to the root of the noun. Some derived nouns have prefixes, root and suffix such as **gĩ-thom-o** (education), **mw-ndĩk-i** (writer), **gĩ-thuran-o** (election). Singular and plural nouns are classified as two different classes. For example, class 1 (**mũ-**) is the singular of class 2 (**a-**), class 3 (**mũ-**) is the singular of class 4 (**mĩ-**) and so on. Class 14 (**ũ-**) contains abstract nouns, as in *ũcũrũ* 'porridge', *ũgĩ* 'intelligence' which have no plurals. Below is a presentation of these classes as presented by Mugane (1997, 25).

Table 2: Kikuyu Noun Classes

<i>Class</i>	<i>Prefix</i>	<i>Examples</i>	<i>Gloss</i>
1	<i>mũ-</i>	<i>mũndũ</i>	<i>person</i>
2	<i>a-</i>	<i>andũ</i>	<i>people</i>
3	<i>mũ-</i>	<i>mũtĩ</i>	<i>tree</i>
4	<i>mĩ-</i>	<i>mĩtĩ</i>	<i>trees</i>
5	<i>i-</i>	<i>ihuti</i>	<i>leaf</i>
6	<i>ma-</i>	<i>mahuti</i>	<i>leaves</i>
7	<i>ki-</i>	<i>kĩga</i>	<i>organ</i>
8	<i>ci/ĩ-</i>	<i>cĩga</i>	<i>organs</i>
9	<i>N-</i>	<i>nyumba</i>	<i>house</i>
10	<i>N-</i>	<i>nyumba</i>	<i>houses</i>
11	<i>rũ-</i>	<i>rũĩ</i>	<i>river</i>
12	<i>ka-</i>	<i>kahuti</i>	<i>small leaf</i>
13	<i>tũ-</i>	<i>tũhuti</i>	<i>small leaves</i>
14	<i>Ũ-</i>	<i>ũcũrũ</i>	<i>porridge</i>
		<i>Ũgĩ</i>	<i>intelligence</i>
15	<i>kũ-</i>	<i>kũgũrũ</i>	<i>leg</i>
		<i>kũrũga</i>	<i>to cook</i>
16	<i>ha</i>	<i>haha</i>	<i>here</i>
17	<i>gũ-</i>	<i>guku</i>	<i>here</i>

The categorization of these classes cannot be said to be semantic as we find different concepts in the same class. For example, class 14 mostly marks abstract concepts such as intelligence, knowledge, but at the same time, it contains concrete nouns such as porridge. However, class one and two is exclusively for human nouns e.g. **mũndũ** 'person', **andũ** 'people' **mũirĩtu** 'girl', **airĩtu** 'girls'.

1.6 Kikuyu Sentence Structure

Kikuyu is a subject verb object (SVO) language (Mugane, 1997:141). It is an agglutinating language; morphemes are put together into the root of the verb as prefixes and suffixes. As mentioned above, a verb can have all the grammatical categories needed to make a complete thought, which is a sentence. The prefixes in the verb represent subject, object, tense, and progressive aspect while the suffixes mark the other aspects and voice of the verb. In this case, “it is possible to eliminate both the subject and object arguments, when the verb is inflected with subject and object prefixes” (ibid.). Below is an example of such a verb:

- (32) S O V(root)
 nĩ-a-ra-mũ-tũm-ire
 FM-3SG-PST3-3SG-send- PFV
 'He sent him'

The *nĩ-* prefix is a focus marker which is normally used with finite verbs. This sentence is only possible when the speaker and the hearer share the same context, as it is ambiguous who the referents of the subject and the object are.

The other way of forming a sentence is to supply a separate subject and object to the verb. This is the basic way of forming sentences in the language. For example:

- (33) S V O
 Kĩrĩba nĩ-a-ra-gũr-ire i-buku rĩ-mwe
 Kiriba FM-3SG-PST3-buy- PFV NC5-book NC5-one
 'Kiriba bought one book'

However, the normal structure of the sentence can be altered for discourse purposes. These purposes are mainly marking the topic and or highlighting the focus. This can be done either by using active voice as shown in (34) or passive voice as in (35) below:

	O		S	V
(34)	Nĩ	i-buku	rĩ-mwe	Kĩrĩba a-ra-gũr-ire
	It.is	NC5-book	NC5-one	Kiriba 3SG-PST3-buy- PFV
	<i>'It is one book that Kiriba bought'</i>			

	O		V	S
(35)	i-buku	rĩ-mwe	nĩ-rĩ-ra-gũr-ir-wo	ni Kĩrĩba
	NC5-book	NC5-one	3SG-PST3-buy-PFV-PASS	by Kiriba
	<i>'One book was bought by Kiriba'</i>			

In both (34) and (35), the focus is on the object (book), thereby altering the normal order of the constituents. In terms of the semantic meaning, example (34) means that **Kĩrĩba** bought one book as an answer to the question 'what did **Kĩrĩba** buy?' However, example (35) means that there are many books and the speaker is reporting that one of them was bought by **Kĩrĩba**. In the passive sentence, the subject can be omitted when the speaker wants to avoid mentioning the doer of the action thereby giving us an object verb (OV) order as follows:

	O		V
(36)	i-buku	rĩ-mwe	nĩ-rĩ-ra-gũr-ir-wo
	NC5-book	NC5-one	3SG-PST3-buy-PFV-PASS
	<i>'One book was bought'</i>		

It is also possible to omit the subject in an active sentence as it is represented by a subject morpheme **-a-** inflected in the verb as follows:

	V		O
(37)	nĩ-a-ra-gũr-ire	i-buku	rĩ-mwe
	FM-3SG-PAST-buy- PFV	NC5-book	NC5-one
	<i>'He/she bought one book'</i>		

1.7 Presentation of Data

In this research, the data is presented orthographically rather than phonetically. The language has a 7 vowel system which is represented in the orthography as in table 3 below. Kikuyu uses a diacritic to mark a distinction between vowels that are orthographically written the same, to disambiguate them for easy reading of the

language. These vowels are **i** and **e** represented by **i**; symbols, **u** and **o** represented by symbol.

Table 3: Vowels in Kikuyu

Phonetic representation	Orthography
i	i
e	ĩ
ε	e
a	a
u	u
o	ũ
ɔ	o

CHAPTER TWO

COMPLEMENT CLAUSES IN KIKUYU

Before we move on to our subject of discussion, that is, complement clauses, it is necessary to look at other subordinate clauses that are easily confused with complement clauses. There are three subordinate clauses namely; relative clauses, adverbial clauses and complement clauses. We will cover the first two clauses briefly just to give us an idea of what their functions are so that we are able to distinguish them from complement clauses.

2.1 Relative Clauses

A relative clause modifies a noun, that is, it describes or identifies a noun. This clause is usually introduced by a relativizer. Kikuyu relativizers agree in class and number with the nouns they modify. The relativizer is - **rĩa** as demonstrated below:

(38) mũ-ndũ ũ-rĩa ũ-ra-thi-ire na i-buku nĩ-a-rĩ-coki-a
NC1-person NC1-REL 3SG-PST3-go-PFV with NC5-book FM-3SG-NC5-return-fv
The person who went with the book has returned it'

(39) nyama ã-rĩa Wanjirũ a-ra-rug-ire nĩ-ĩ-ra-thir-ire
NC9-meat NC9-REL Wanjiru 3SG-PST3-cook- PFV FM-NC9-PAST-finish-PERF
'The meat that Wanjiru cooked got finished'

In (38) **ũ-rĩa ũ-ra-thi-ire na i-buku** 'who went with the book', is the relative clause modifying **mũ-ndũ** 'person' and in (39), **ã-rĩa Wanjirũ a-ra-rug-ire** 'that Wanjiru cooked' is the relative clause modifying **nyama** 'meat'.

2.2 Adverbial Clauses

Longacre and Thompson (1985: 172) have defined an *adverbial clause* as “one which modifies a verb phrase or a sentence.” Let us consider the following:

(40) Mwana a-ra-rĩ-ire i-rio a-kĩ-rĩr-aga
 NC1-baby 3SG-PST3-eat-PFV NC5-food 3SG-CONS-cry-IMPERF
 'The baby ate food crying'

(41) a-ra-rug-ire ngima ta ũyũ mũ-tengeri-e
 3SG-PST3-cook-PFV ugali as DEM 3SG-run.after-SUB
 'he cooked the ugali as one who is being run after'

(42) rĩrĩa tw-a-thi-aga nĩ-tw-on-ire thiya
 when 1PL-PST4-go-IMPERF FM-1PL-see- PFV antelope
 'when we were going, we saw an antelope'

As we have seen, a relative clause modifies a noun and an adverbial clause modifies a verb or sentence. Complement clauses play a different role from the two subordinate clauses; they function as the arguments of verbs. Therefore, the main difference that distinguishes a complement clause from the other two subordinate clauses is its function.

2.3 Complement Clauses

Noonan (1985:43) defines complementation as “the syntactic situation that arises when a notional sentence or predication is an argument of a predicate.” Syntactically, the function of a complement clause is the same as that of arguments, which are typically nominal (NPs); however some authors, such as Verhagen¹ would dispute this.

1 Arie, Verhagen, *Constructions of Intersubjectivity: Discourse, Syntax, and Cognition*. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2005), 96-97.

Below is an example of a complement clause:

- (43) Kamau a-ra-ug-ire atĩ nĩ-a-g-ok-a
 Kamau 3SG-PST3-say-PFV COMP FM-3SG-FUT2-come-fv
 'Kamau said that he will come'

In this sentence, the subject of the embedded clause can either be co-referential with the subject of the matrix clause or could be a different subject. When it is co-referential, the third person singular prefix marker **-a-** refers back to **Kamau**. The same can be used to refer to a different subject. The interpretation of the utterance is determined by its context. **Nĩagoka** (he will come) is the object of the matrix clause; **araugire** (he said) is the predicate of the matrix clause and **Kamau** is the Subject of the matrix clause.

One of the features of complement of utterance and cognition verbs is their independent in time reference from that of the complement taking predicate (Noonan, 1985:92). Let us consider an example taken from Noonan:

I know that { Zeke ate the leek
 Zeke is eating the leek
 Zeke will eat the leek }

In this example, the predicate **know** expresses present time at the time of speech, which is different from the time expressed in the complement clause. This characteristic is also evident in Kikuyu:

- (44) Njoki a-ra-ug-ire atĩ Kamau nĩ-a-ka-mũ-reh-er-a
 Njoki 3SG-PST3-say-PFV COMP Kamau FM-3SG-FUT2-3SG-bring-BEN-fv
 ngũũ
 firewood
 'Njoki said that Kamau will bring firewood for her'

The predicate of the matrix clause, **a-ra-ug-ire** 'she said' is in past tense, while the predicate of the complement clause, **nĩ-a-ka-mu-reh-er-a** 'he will bring', is in

future tense.

In Kikuyu sentences can be formed where the subject of the embedded clause is coded as an object marker prefixed to the matrix verb. In this case, both finite and infinitive complement clauses are possible as in (45) and (46). Complementizers are not possible in this kind of construction. Let us consider the following examples:

- (45) Nĩ-ndĩ-ra-mũ-ririkan-irie kũ-hinga mũ-lango
 FM-1SG-PST3-3SG-remind-BEN INF-close NC2-door
 'I reminded him to close the door'
- (46) Nĩ-ndĩ-ra-mu-on-ire a-kĩ-hing-a mũ-lango
 FM-1SG-PST3-3SG-see- PFV 3SG-CONS-close-fv NC2-door
 'I saw him closing the door'

2.3.1 The Constituents of a Complement Clause

Complement clause constructions contain three major components namely, the *matrix clause*, the *embedded clause* and an optional complementizer.

2.3.1.1 The matrix clause

This is the main clause of the complex construction. It “is one that has another clause as one of its core arguments” (Payne 1997, 313). The following is an example of a matrix clause in Kikuyu:

- (47) [Nĩ-ndĩ-ra-meny-ire [atĩ ni-ũ-ra-thi-ire ndũnyũ]]
 FM-1SG-PRES-know-PERF COMP FM-2SG-PAST-go-PERF market
 'I knew that you went to the market'
-

2.3.1.2 The embedded clause

The embedded clause is the argument of the matrix clause. It can either be the subject or the object of the matrix. Let us consider an example taken from Noonan (Ibid.). The embedded clause is bracketed:

[That Elliot entered the room] annoyed Floyd

The embedded clause here is the subject of matrix clause and therefore the argument of the predicate, **annoyed**. Let us consider an example in Kikuyu:

- (48) [Kũ-rĩa i-rio nyingĩ] nĩ ũru
 INF-eat-fv NC5-food much COP bad
 'To eat a lot of food is bad'
- ←———— **matrix clause** —————→
 ← **embedded clause** —————→

(48) **Kũ-rĩa i-rio nyingĩ** 'to eat a lot of food' is an embedded clause that serves as a preposed subject of the matrix clause.

2.4 The Complementizers

Noonan (1985, 44) has defined a complementizer as a form like “a word, particle, clitic, or affix whose function is to identify” an entity as a complement clause. English uses the particle *that* to introduce complement clauses. Kikuyu has two particles *atĩ* and *kana*, which function like the English *that*. We also have the words *atĩrĩ* and *ngiuga* used as complementizers.

2.4.1 The Oplementizer *atĩ*

This particle is sometimes referred to as a hearsay particle (Gathumbi 2001, 37) as it is used to report what the speaker has heard and is not sure or does not want to commit to its truth or falsity. It is also used as a complementizer introducing the complement clause. Complementizer *atĩ* can be used with both an indicative and an interrogative sentence as shown below:

- (49) Mũthoni a-ra-nj-ir-ire atĩ nĩ-w-a-thi-ire
 Muthoni 3SG-PST3-1SG-tell- PFV COMP FM-1SG-PST4-go- PFV
 'Muthoni told me that you went'

- (50) Wa-ug-a atĩ nd-ũ-kũ-rĩ-a?
 2SG-PST1-say-fv COMP NEG-2SG-FUT1-eat-FV?
'Did you say that you will not eat'

Here, **atĩ** introduces the embedded clauses; **nĩ-wa-thi-ire** 'you went' and **nd-ũ-kũ-rĩ-a** 'you will not eat'.

The complementizer in all the above sentences can be optional without interfering with the meaning of the proposition as follows:

- (51) Mũthoni a-ra-nj-ĩr-ire nĩ-wa-thi-ire
 Muthoni 3SG-PST3-1SG-tell-PFV FM-2SG-PST4-go- PFV
'Muthoni told me you went'
- (52) Wa-ug-a nd-ũ-kũ-rĩ-a?
 2SG-PST1-say-fv NEG-2SG-FUT1-eat-FV?
'Did you say you will not eat'

As we have seen, the complementizer **atĩ** is used with the object complements and not with the subject complements.

2.4.2 Complementizer atĩrĩ/rĩ

In discourse, complementizer **atĩrĩ/rĩ** is used in introducing direct speech as follows:

- (53) Njũĩ ĩ-gi-keera atĩrĩ, "O na nĩ nĩ-ngũ-thi-ĩ na-we
 Fox NC9-CONS-tell COMP "Even me FM-1SG-FUT-go-fv with-you
'The fox told her that, "Even me, I will go with you'

2.4.3 The Complementizer kana

This particle is used like the English **if** and **whether**. It is used to mark indirect questions as in (54) below and only used with object complements.

- (54) Kamau a-r-ori-a kana nĩ-ũ-gũ-thi-ĩ ndũnyũ
 Kamau 3SG-PRES-ask-fv COMP FM-2SG-go-fv market
'Kamau is asking if you will go to the market'
- (55) A-ndũ ma-rend-a kũ-igwa kana nĩ-a-gũ-thom-a wega
 NC2-person 3SG-want-fv INF-hear COMP FM-3SG-FUT-read-fv well
'People want to hear if he will read well'

- (56) Aciari ma-rend-a kũ-meny-a kana ci-ana nĩ-i-ga-thi-ĩ
 NC2-parent 3SG-want-fv INF-know-fv COMP NC8-child FM-NC8-FUT2-go-
 fv cukuru
 school
'The parents want to know whether the children will go to school tomorrow'

It is possible to use complementizer **kana** with infinitive complements:

- (57) Ci-ana nĩ-cĩ-rori-a kana gũ-thi-ĩ mũ-titũ nĩ ũru
 NC8-child FM-NC8-ask-fv COMP INF-go NC3-forest COP bad
'The children are asking if going to the forest is bad'

Complementizer **kana** can be used to introduce two contrastive object complements:

- (58) ndi-renda kũ-menya kana nĩ-a-ga-thi-ĩ kana nd-a-gathi-ĩ
 NEG.1SG-want INF-know COMP FM-3SG-FUT2-go-fv COMP NEG-3SG-FUT2-go-
 fv
'I don't want to know whether he will go or whether he will not go'

2.5 Types of Complement Clauses in Kikuyu

2.5.1 Finite Complement Clauses in Kikuyu

These are embedded clauses with finite verbs. Payne (Ibid. 314) assimilates them to independent clauses as “they carry their own tense and aspect, they express their subjects directly; subject referent is not restricted to that of the matrix clause.” In Kikuyu they can be introduced by the complementizer **atĩ** which is optional as follows:

- (59) Kĩrina a-ra-ug-ire atĩ nĩ-a-ga-cok-a wĩra rũciũ
 Kirina 3SG-PST3-say-PERF COMP FM-3SG-FUT2-return-fv work tomorrow
'Kirina said that he will return to work tomorrow'
- (60) Kĩrina a-ra-ug-ire nĩ-a-ga-cok-a wĩra rũciũ
 Kirina 3SG-PST3-say-PERF FM-3SG-FUT2-return-fv work tomorrow
'Kirina said he will return to work tomorrow'

When used with a different subject, the construction of the complement predicate remains the same as follows:

- (61) Kĩrina a-ra-ug-ire atĩ Kamau nĩ-a-ga-cok-a wĩra
 Kirina 3SG-PST3-say-PERF COMP Kamau FM-3SG-FUT2-return-fv work
 rũciũ
 tomorrow
 'Kirina said that Kamau will return to work tomorrow'

As mentioned above, finite clauses carry tense, aspect and mood. All tenses and aspects are possible in complement clauses. In Kikuyu, this is indicated by morphemes in the verbs. As we mentioned earlier, Kikuyu has four past tenses (remote past, yesterday's past, recent past (earlier today), recent past (just now) and three future tenses (immediate future tense (any time from now), distant future tense (after today), and indefinite future tense. The following examples are representation of the tenses and aspects possible in complement clauses. We have used the remote past, which is marked with the morpheme **-a-** and distant future marked with morpheme **-ga-**. The present tense here is marked with morpheme **-ra-**, which indicates an ongoing action at the time of speech.

- (62) PAST TENSE: Kamau nĩ-a-meny-ire nĩ-w-a-thi-ire
 Kamau FM-3SG-PST4-know-PFV FM-2SG-PST4-go-PFV
 'Kamau knew that you went'
- (63) PRESENT TENSE: Kamau nĩ-a-ra-meny-a nĩ-ũ-ra-thi-ĩ
 Kamau FM-3SG-PRES-know-fv FM-2SG-PRES-go-fv
 'Kamau knows that you are going'
- (64) FUTURE TENSE: Kamau nĩ-a-ra-meny-a nĩ-ũ-ga-thi-ĩ
 Kamau FM-3SG-PRES-know-fv FM-2SG-FUT2-go-FV
 'Kamau knows that you will go'

2.5.2 Infinitive Complement Clauses in Kikuyu

Payne (ibid. 315) defines these types of complements as “more tightly knit, less independent, less like a separate clause from the matrix clause than are finite complements.” The subject of the complement is co-referential to the one in the matrix clause.

The infinitive clause in Kikuyu is marked with **-ku-** or **-gu-** (this is one morpheme, which is morphophonemically determined by the process of dissimilation when the voiceless plosive appears before a subsequent voiceless sound).

- (65) Kũ-menya Ngai nĩ-gũ-tũm-aga mũ-ndũ o-hĩge
 INF-know-fv God FM-NC17-make-IMPERF NC1-person NC1-be.wise
'To know God makes a person wise'
- (66) Gũ-thi-ĩ cukuru rũ-ciinĩ tene nĩ wega
 INF-go-fv school NC11-morning early COP good
'To go to school early in the morning is good'

In (65) **Kũ-menya Ngai** 'to know God' and (66) **Gu-thi-i cukuru ru-ciini tene** 'to go to school early in the morning' are the infinitival clauses functioning as the subjects of the matrix clause. **Kũ-meny-a** and **Gũ-thi-ĩ** are the infinitival verbs 'to know' and 'to go'. The infinitive markers are **Kũ-** and **Gũ-**.

It is more common to use infinitive complement clauses as objects in Kikuyu than as subjects. Here are some examples:

- (67) Wanjirũ a-rend-a gũ-ker-a mboga
 Wanjiru 3SG-PROG-want-fv INF-cut-fv cabbage
'Wanjiru wants to cut the cabbage'
- (68) Maitũ nĩ-a-re-hok-a kũ-rug-a a-geni ma-tan-ok-a
 Mother FM-3SG-PRES-hope-fv INF-cook-fv NC2-visitor 3SG-NEG.FUT1-come-fv
'My mother hopes to cook before the visitors come'
- In (67) **gũ-ker-a mboga** 'to cut cabbage' and (68) **kũ-rug-a a-geni ma-tan-**

ok-a 'to cook before visitors come' are infinitive complement clauses, functioning as the objects of the matrix clause.

2.5.3 Subjunctive Complement Clauses in Kikuyu

Noonan (Ibid. 51), refers to these complement types as “non-indicative s-like (sentence-like) complement types.” They contrasted with the indicative ones as they

2.6.1 Subject Complement Clauses

These are complement clauses that function as the subject of the matrix clause.

Subject complements in Kikuyu are only formed using the infinitive clause.

- (72) Kũ-rum-a mũ-kũrũ ñĩ ũrũ mũno
 INF-abuse-fv NC1-old.person COP bad very
'To abuse an old person is very bad'

- (73) Kũ-rug-a hamwe ñĩ-gw-a-keni-ri-e Nduta
 INF-cook-fv together FM-NC17-PST4-happy-BEN-SUB Nduta
'Cooking together made Nduta happy'

In (72) **Kũ-rum-a mũ-kũrũ** 'to abuse an elder' and (73) **Kũruga hamwe** 'to cook together', are subject complement clauses.

In English, it is possible to use a complementizer to introduce a subject complement as follows. Noonan (Shopen, 1985:45) calls these types of construction 'that-clauses'. Let us consider Noonan's example:

[[That Hugh is vulnerable] is remarkable]

The subject complement clause in the above example is introduced by the complementizer 'that'. It is not possible to have such type of construction in Kikuyu.

Consider the following;

- (74) *ati Wangari ñĩ-a-ra-um-ire gw-ake a-ndũ
 COMP Wangari FM-3SG-PST3-leave-PFV NC17-POSS NC2-person
 ñĩ-ma-ra-mak-ire
 FM-3SG-PST3-afraid-PFV
'That Wangari left her home amazed people'

2.6.2 Object Complement Clauses

Object complements function as the object of the matrix clause. In Kikuyu, object complements can either be infinitival or finite or subjunctive. Below are examples:

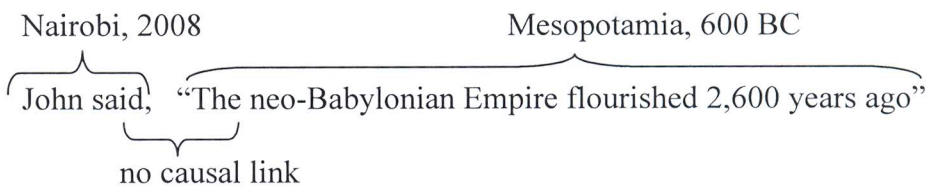
- (75) Wanjikũ a-r-end-a gũ-thi-ĩ duka
 Wanjiku 3SG-PRES-want-fv INF-go-fv shop
'Wanjiku wants to go to the shop'
- (76) Wanjikũ a-ra-ug-a nĩ-a-gũ-thi-ĩ duka
 Wanjiku 3SG-PRES-say-fv FM-3SG-FUT1-go-fv shop
Wanjiku says/is saying that she will go to the shop'

In (75) **gũ-thii duka** 'to go to the shop' is the object of the matrix clause and it is in the infinitive form marked with **gũ-**; in (76) **ni-a-gũ-thi-ĩ duka** 'she will go to the shop' is the object of the matrix and it is in the finite form.

CHAPTER THREE

COMPLEMENT OF VERBS OF SPEECH AND COGNITION IN KIKUYU

“From a semantic-pragmatic point of view, these complements are the most independent from the main clause, because one can talk or think about virtually anything, and there is no causal link or restriction on participants, time, or place between the event of the main clause and the event or events of the complement clause” (Carlson 2008). Let us consider an example from Carlson:



We will look at the construction of complement clauses that involve verbs of speech and cognition. Our aim is to establish how each of these complement taking predicates (CTP) differs in the kinds of embedded clauses and complementizers it can or cannot take.

3.1 Complements of Verbs of Speech

These verbs are referred to as “utterance predicates”. Verbs of speech introduce direct and indirect speeches, which are mainly objects of the matrix verb. They take all tenses as the speaker has the freedom of expressing information whether it happened before or he thinks that it will happen in the future as we saw earlier.

In Kikuyu, direct speech can be introduced by the complementizers, *atĩ/atĩrĩ*; while indirect speech can be introduced by *atĩ*, *kana* or zero complementizer. The following are examples in Kikuyu both of direct and indirect speech with utterance verbs in Kikuyu:

3.1.1 The Utterance Predicate of Saying

The predicate of saying takes complementizer *atĩ* or zero complementizer in indirect speech as follows:

- (77) A-ra-ug-ire (atĩ) nĩ-a-g-ok-a
 3SG-PST3-say-PFV (COMP) FM-3SG-FUT2-come-fv
'he said that he will come'

3.1.2 The Utterance Predicate of Telling

The predicate of telling takes complementizer *atĩ* or zero complementizer in the indirect speech, while the direct speech takes *atĩrĩ* or zero complementizer as follows:

- (78) Nĩ-a-ra-tw-ĩr-ire (atĩ) nĩ-a-ga-twa-rĩr-a ci-ana
 FM-3SG-PST3-1PL-tell-PFV (COMP) FM-3SG-FUT2-take-BEN-fv NC8-child
 i-rio
 NC5-food
'He told us that he will take the food to the children'
- (79) A-ra-me-r-ire (atĩrĩ) “thiĩ-i nja!”
 3SG-PST3-3PL-tell-PFV (COMP) “go-2PL out!”
He told them, “go out!”

3.1.3 The Utterance Predicate of Asking

The predicate of asking takes complementizer *kana* or zero complementizer in the indirect speech, while the direct speech takes the complementizer *atĩrĩ* as follows:

- (80) Njoki a-r-ori-a kana nĩ-tũ-kũ-mũ-twar-a
 Njoki 3SG-PRES-ask-fv COMP FM-1PL-FUT-3SG-take-fv
'Njoki is asking whether we will take her.'

- (81) Kinya Hiti ã-gĩ-koria atĩrĩ, “Ĩ mũ-riũ wa-kabũkũ
 Until Hyena NC5-CONS-NC12-ask COMP, “Son of-hare
- ũ-ra-rĩr-io nĩ-kĩĩ?”
 2SG-PRES-cry-PASS by-what
Until the hyena asked him, “Son of hare, what is making you cry”

As we have seen above, in the indirect speech, the utterance verbs take the finite embedded clauses. Direct speech is introduced with complementizer *atĩrĩ*, while indirect speech is introduced by *atĩ* and *kana*.

The verbs of utterances are independent in expressing propositions across the different tenses. This means that one can talk of events that happened in the past or what will happen in the future using the verbs of telling, saying asking etc. Let us look at the following examples in Kikuyu:

- (82) Rũciũ a-ka-ug-a atĩ nd-a-ka-hot-a
 tomorrow 3SG-FUT2-say-fv COMP NEG-3SG-FUT2-able-fv
'Tomorrow he will say he cannot be able'
- (83) Ñ-ngĩ-muri-a a-ngi-ug-a atĩ nda-na-m-on-a
 2SG-COND-3SG-ask-fv 3SG-FUT-say-fv COMP NEG-3SG-PST1-3PL-see-fv
'If you ask him he would say that he did not see them'

3.2 Verbs of Cognition

3.2.1 Factive and Non-factive Cognitive Verbs

Verbs of cognition are divided into two categories; factive and non-factive. Complements of factive verbs are said to be true, whether the main clause is true or not, while non-factive verbs do not indicate anything about the truth of the complement they introduce (Carlson, 2008). These verbs include the following:

Factive
 know
 perceive
 notice
 remember

Non-factive
 believe
 think
 suppose
 hope

forget
regret
be happy
be angry

doubt
be certain
imagine
fear
claim
assert

These verbs describe speech acts, as they overtly communicate the speaker's attitude towards what they say (Blass, 2008,56). They give rise to higher-level explicatures as they supply the hearer with the information that helps him/her in understanding the intention of the speaker. For example:

John is coming
I *hope* that John will come
I *believe* that John will come

The first utterance describes a fact, while the other two tell us more about the speaker's attitude. The second utterance uses a non-factive verb, and so does not indicate the truth or falsity of John's coming. The third one, which uses a factive verb, indicates that the statement is true.

However, as Blass states (Ibid.), speech acts are culture specific, as some languages do not “have the institution of betting and even thanking and promising.” Kikuyu does not have words for, *promise, notice, imagine, claim, assert, suppose*, to mention just a few. In this paper, we shall look at those that exist in the language, which are not limited to the list above.

3.2.2 The Complements of Cognitive Verbs

As we saw above verbs of cognition are culture specific and so we do not expect all the verbs that are found in English to be present in Kikuyu. The verbs that are present in Kikuyu are; *know, remember, forget, learn, regret, see, be happy, be angry, believe, think, hope, doubt, and fear*.

3.2.2.1 The cognitive predicate of knowing

The cognitive verb of knowing takes two forms; **kū-menya** 'to know' and the other form which does not take **kū-** (infinitive marker), **njūī** 'I know', **ūī** 'you know' **oī** 'he/she knows', with the root **-ī** 'know'. Both can have complementizer **atī** introducing a finite embedded clause as shown below:

- (84) Nī-ndī-ra-meny-a atī nī-nj-a-gīrīir-wo gū-thoom-a
 FM-1SG-PRES-know-fv COMP FM-1SG-PRES-supposed-PASS INF-read-fv
'I know that I am supposed to read'
- (85) Nī-nj-ū-ī atī nī-ū-g-ok-a
 FM-1SG-PRES-know COMP FM-2SG-FUT2-come-fv
'I know that you will come'

In both (84) and (85), it is possible to omit the complementizer without changing the meaning of the proposition as follows:

- (86) Nī-ndī-ra-meny-a nī-nj-a-gīrīir-wo gū-thoom-a
 FM-1SG-PRES-know-fv FM-1SG-PRES-supposed-PASS INF-read-fv
'I know that I am supposed to read'
- (87) Nī-nj-ū-ī nī-ū-g-ok-a
 FM-1SG-PRES-know FM-2SG-FUT2-come-fv
'I know that you will come'

3.2.2.2 The cognitive predicate of remembering

The verb **ku-ririkana** 'to remember' can take both infinitive and finite clauses.

With the finite clauses, the complementizer **atī** is used optionally as shown below:

- (88) Kīrība nī-a-ra-ririkan-ire gū-ūk-a
 Kiriba FM-3SG-PRES-remember- PFV INF-come-fv
'Kiriba remembered to come'
- (89) Kīrība nī-a-ra-ririkan-a atī nī-tū-mū-etere-ire
 Kiriba FM-3SG-PRES-remember-fv COMP FM-1PL.PRES-3SG-wait- PFV
'Kiriba is remembering that we are waiting for him.'

- (101) Kamau e-tĩkĩti-e kũ-horera mũno nĩ-gũ-tũm-aga
 Kamau 3SG-PRES-believe INF-be.silent very FM-NC17-make-IMPERF
 mũ-ndũ a-kĩĩg-e
 NC1-person 3SG-foolish-SUB
'Kamau believes that being too silent makes someone foolish.'

3.2.2.9 The cognitive predicate of hoping

The Kikuyu verb **gũ-tanya** 'to hope' takes both finite and infinitive embedded clauses, with an optional complementizer **atĩ** introducing the finite clause as follows:

- (102) Nĩ-ndĩ-ra-tany-a (atĩ) nĩ-n-gũ-kor-a ma-ta-thi-ĩite
 FM-ISG-PRES-hope-fv (COMP) FM-1SG-FUT2-find-fv 3SG-NEG-go-PERF
'I hope that I will find them not gone'
- (103) Nĩ-ndĩ-ra-tany-a gũ-thi-ĩ
 FM-ISG-PRES-hope-fv INF-go-fv
'I hope to go'

3.2.2.10 The cognitive predicate of doubting

The Kikuyu verb **nganja** 'doubt' takes two complementizers; **atĩ** and **kana**, in introducing the embedded clauses as in (104) and (105). This verb cannot allow an infinitive embedded clause.

- (104) Mũ-thuri ũcio ena nganja atĩ nĩ-mũ-kũhota
 NC1-man NC1-DEM 3SG.has doubt COMP FM-2SG-INF-be.able
 kũ-ruta wĩra wega
 INF-remove work well
'That man doubts that you will be able to work well'
- (105) Maitũ ena nganja kana mw-arĩ nĩ-a-rĩ-ũka
 Mother 3SG.has doubt COMP NC1-daughter FM-3SG-FUT3-come
'My mother doubts whether her daughter will ever come'

3.3 Object Concord with Verbs of Cognition

As we saw earlier, in Kikuyu, it is possible to have the subject of the embedded clause as an Object Concord marker in the main verb. It is not possible to

have such a construction with the cognitive verbs. The following sentence is not acceptable in Kikuyu:

- (106) *Nĩ-ndĩ-ra-**mu**-ririkan-ire a-kĩ-hing-a mũ-lango
 FM-1SG-PST3-3SG-remember-PFV 3SG-CONS-close-fv NC3-door
'I remembered him closing the door'

However, verbs of speech and perception in Kikuyu; **kuona** 'to see' **kũĩra** 'to tell', **kũigwa** 'to hear' and **kũũria** 'to ask' allow that kind of construction as follows:

- (107) Nĩ-ndĩ-ra-**mu**-on-ire a-gĩ-thi-ĩ ndũnyũ
 FM-1SG-PST3-3SG-see-PFV 3SG-CONS-go-fv market
'I saw him going to the market'
- (108) Nĩ-ndĩ-ra-**mu**-ĩr-ire a-thi-ĩ ndũnyũ
 FM-1SG-PST3-3SG-tell-PFV 3SG-go-fv market
'I told him to go to the market'
- (109) Nĩ-ndĩ-ra-**mu**-igu-ire a-kĩ-hing-a mũ-lango
 FM-1SG-PST3-3SG-hear-PFV 3SG-CONS-close-fv NC3-door
'I heard him closing the door'
- (110) Nĩ-ndĩ-ra-**mu**-ũri-rie kana nĩ-a-kw-end-a kũĩria
 FM-1SG-PST3-3SG-ask-PFV COMP FM-3SG-FUT1-want-fv INF-eat
'I asked him if he wanted to eat'

3.4 Different Subject with Cognitive Verbs

The embedded clause either uses a different subject from the one in the matrix clause, or uses the same subject as the matrix clause. As we have seen, the subject of the infinitive embedded clause is always co-referential with that of the matrix clause. The embedded clause with a different subject only allows finite and subjunctive constructions, which are introduced by complementizers **atĩ** and **kana** (with cognition of doubting) or with zero complementizer.

3.5 The Impersonal Complements

As Verhagen (2005:133) states, the impersonal complements are characterized by passive predicates. In this case, the subject of the matrix clause is not mentioned. In Kikuyu the passive suffix **-o** or **-wo** marks the passive verbs. We will look at the impersonal complements involving the verbs of speech and cognition in Kikuyu.

The impersonal complements follow the same order as that of the personal complements. They take complementizer **atĩ** which introduces the embedded clause as follows:

- (111) Nĩ-e-tĩkĩty-o atĩ nĩ-o-orot-aga mbĩrĩra
 FM-3SG-believe-PASS COMP FM-3SG.PRES-point-IMPERF graves
'He is believed to point at graves'
- (112) Nĩ-kũ-ĩ-rag-wo atĩ a-ndu a tene
 FM-NC15-3SG-say-PASS COMP NC2-person of long.time
 ma-ti-a-ku-aga
 3PL-NEG-PAST4-die-IMPERF
'It is said that people of old never died.'

3.6 Multiple Embedded Complement Clauses

Kikuyu can have complement clauses with more than one embedded clause, optionally joined by the complementizer **atĩ** as follows:

- (113) Wanjikũ [a-ra-ug-ire atĩ [a-ra-igu-ire [ngi-ug-a
 Wanjiku 3SG-PST3-say-PFV COMP 3SG-PST3-hear-PFV 1SG-say-fv COMP
 atĩ [nĩ-ng-ũk-a]]]]
 COMP FM-1SG-FUT1-come-fv

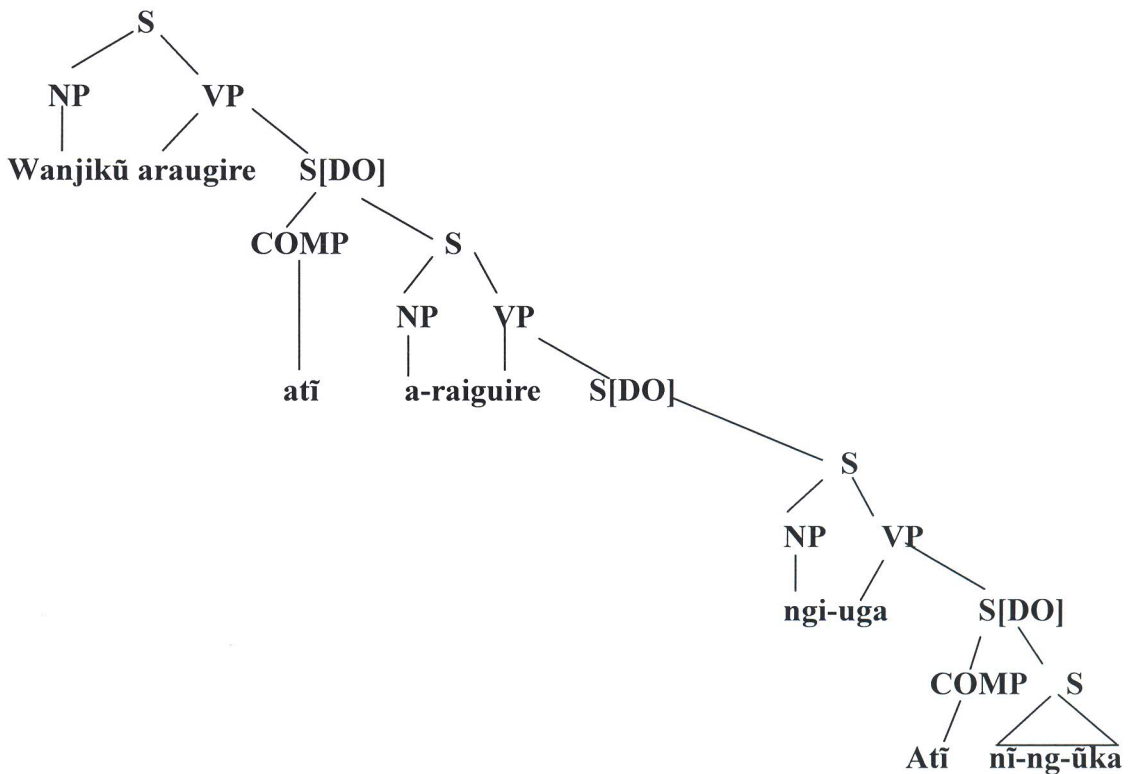
'Wanjiku said that she heard me saying that I will come'

In (113) the matrix clause has **Wanjikũ** as the subject, **araugire** 'said' as a verb and **[araiguire ngiuga nĩngũka]** 'she heard me saying that I will come' as complement of the verb. There are three embedded clauses in this sentence.

The first one is **araiguire ngiuga nīngūka**, has **araiguire** 'she said' as the subject and verb (the subject is the Subject Concord **a-**) and [**ngiuga nīngūka**] 'saying that I will come' as complement of the verb.

The second clause has **ngiuga** 'saying', as the subject and the verb (the subject is the Subject Concord **ngi-**) and [**nīngūka**] 'I will come' as complement of the verb.

The third embedded clause is **nīngūka** 'I will come' which has subject and verb (the subject is the Subject Concord **-ng-**). The tree diagram below presents the complex construction:



CHAPTER FOUR

CONCLUSION

This research has been divided into four main chapters. In chapter one, we have looked at the introduction, which covers the general information about Kikuyu language group as well as the two major grammatical categories: verbs and nouns. We have looked at the morphological process involved in formation of these grammatical categories.

In Chapter two, we looked at the complement clauses in Kikuyu, first by defining the other two clauses (relative clauses and adverbial clauses) that are easily confused. We saw that the three clauses have different functions and that the complement clauses stand out from the rest as they function as arguments of the verbs, while the other two are modifiers of verbs and nouns.

The complement clauses in Kikuyu are introduced by four different complementizers, namely; *atĩ*, *atĩrĩ* and *kana*. Kikuyu has three complement clause types: the finite complement clauses, the infinitive clauses and the subjunctive complement clauses. The finite complements function as object complements, while the infinitive clauses can function as subject and as object complement clauses. The complementizer *atĩ* introduces finite and complement clauses and cannot introduce subject complements.

In chapter three, we looked at the complements of verbs of speech and cognition. These complement taking verbs behave like other verbs in Kikuyu, though they slightly differ. We can have the subject of the complement clause marked as the

object concord in the matrix verb. However, we discovered that this is not possible with the verbs of cognition but it is possible with verbs of speech.

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APPENDIX

NARRATIVE TEXT

(The Complement clauses are underlined)

Mbūkū na Hiti

Hare and Hyena

- 1) Hingo ãmwe tene mũno mbūkū na hiti nĩ-ma-tukan-agia ng'ombe
Time one long.ago very Hare and hyena FM-3PL-mix-HAB NC10-cows

ciao ma-ka-riĩthi-a hamwe.
theirs 3PL-CONS-fv together.

'One time, very long ago, hare and hyena used to mix their cows and would graze them together'

- 2) Na nĩ-gw-a-kiny-ire atĩ i-hinda rĩ-mwe gũ-gĩ-ũk-a
And FM-NC17-PAST-arrive-PERF COMP NC5-time NC5-one NC17-PAST-come-fv

mu-rimũ mũ-ũru ũ-ki-ambĩrĩri-a kũ-nina ng'ombe.
NC3-sickness NC3-bad NC3-PAST-start-fv INF-finish NC10-cow

'A time came that some bad sickness started to kill the cows.'

- 3) Mbūkū nĩ-yer-ire hiti atĩ gĩ-tũmi kĩ-a ng'ombe
Hare FM-3SG-tell-PERF hyena COMP NC7-reason NC7-of NC10-cow

ciao ci-kue ũguo nĩũndũ nĩ nyina wa hiti
NC8- theirs NC8-die that-way because COP mother of hyena

wa-ci-rog-aga.
3SG-NC8-bewitch-IMPERF

'The hare told the hyena that the reason why their cows were dying was because the mother of the hyena was bewitching them.'

- 4) Rũ nĩgetha ngarari i-thire ma-kĩrĩkanĩra atĩ o
Now so.that arguments NC8-end-PERF 3PL.agreed COMP every

mũ-ndũ o mũ-ndũ a-thi-ĩ a-k-orage nyina a-rehe
 NC1-person every NC1-person 3SG-go-fv 3SG-FUT-kill mother 3SG-bring

ngoro ya-ke
 NC9-heart NC9-POSS

ma-rĩ-e nĩgetha ma-meny-e nĩ-ũ-rĩkũ mũ-ũru.
 3PL-eat-SUB so.that 3PL-know-SUB FM-NC1-REL NC1-bad

'Now, so that they would stop arguments, they agreed that each one of them would kill his mother and bring her heart; they would eat the hearts and know who was bad.'

- 5) Hiti ya-inũka ĩ-gĩthi-ĩ ĩ-kĩ-ũraga nyina na
 Hyena NC9-returned.home NC9-PAST-go-fv NC9-CONS-kill mother and
 ĩ-kĩ-ruta ngoro ĩ-kĩ-reh-e.
 NC9-CONS-remove NC9-heart NC9-bring-SUB

'When the Hyena arrived home, he killed his mother and removed her heart and brought it (the next day).'

- 6) Nako ka-bũkũ ga-thi-ĩ ga-ti-orag-ire nyina,
 And.him NC12-hare NC12 -go-fv NC12-NEG-kill-PERF mother,
 ka-mu-oy-ire ga-kĩ-mũ-twar-a ha-ndũ gĩ-tara-inĩ
 NC12-3SG-take-PERF NC12-CONS-3SG-take-fv NC16-place NC7-nest-in
 mũ-tĩ igũrũ na ga-kĩ-mũ-he ma-rigũ a-rĩ-age.
 NC3- tree up and NC12-CONS-3SG-give NC6-banana 3SG-eat.IMPERF

'When the hare went home, he did not kill his mother, he took her and placed her in a nest on top of a tree and gave her some bananas to eat.'

- 7) Ga-gi-cok-a ga-gĩ-thi-ĩ ga-kĩ-ũraga thiya
 NC12-CONS-return-fv NC12-go-fv NC12-CONS-kill antelope
 ga-kĩ-rut-a ngoro ga-gĩ-twara.
 NC12-CONS-remove-fv heart NC12-CONS-took

'He then went and killed an antelope, removed the heart and took it.'

- 8) Rĩrĩa ma-hĩhiri-e ngoro cierĩ, ya nyina wa hiti
 When 3PL-roast-SUB heart NC8-both, of mother of hyena

ĩ-kĩrema kũ-rũmika nĩ kũ-rũra, no ya mbũkũ
 NC9-CONS-difficult INF-bite because INF-bitter, but of hare

ĩ-kĩ-gia na mũ-rĩo mũno.
 NC9-CONS-have with NC3-taste very

'When they roasted both hearts, the one of hyena's mother was difficult to eat because it was very bitter, but the one belonging to the hare's mother was very delicious.'

- 9) Ma-kĩrana, “Ndũ-gũ-kiona nĩ nyũkwa
 3PL-said.to.each.other, “NEG.2SG-FUT-see COP your.mother
- ũ-ratũm-aga ng'ombe ci-itũ ci-ku-e. A-rokua!
 2SG-PST3-make-IMPERF NC10-cow NC8-our NC8-die-SUB. 3SG-let.die!

'They told each other, "Cant you see it was your mother who was making our cows to die. May she die!'

- 10) Mũ-thenya ũmwe hiti nĩ-ya-hũt-ire mũno na
 NC3-day one hyena FM-NC9-hungry-PFV very and

ĩ-kirigwo nĩ kũ-rĩa ã-ngĩruta irio.
 NC9-CONS-did.not.know COP NC15-ADV NC9-remove NC5-food.

'One day, the hyena became very hungry and did not know where to get food.'

- 11) Nayo mbũkũ ã-kĩ-mw-ĩra atĩrĩ, “Rigia thutha wa
 And.him hare NC9-CONS-3SG-tell COMP "Remain behind of
- ng'ombe na wa-thamie ka-nua nĩgetha rũkũngũ rw-oka na
 NC10-cow and 2SG-open NC12-mouth so.that NC11-dust NC11-come and
- rũtonye nĩ-u-kũ-hũna.”
 NC11- enter FM-2SG-FUT-get.full.”

'And the hare told him, "Remain behind the cows and open your mouth wide, so that when the dust enters, you will be satisfied.'

- 12) Hiti ãgĩka ũguo o kinya ã-kĩ-iyũr-wo nĩ rũ-kũngũ
 Hyena NC9-did that until NC12-CONS-fill-PASS with NC11-dust
- ka-nua, ã-kĩ-rakara ã-gĩ-teng'era gwĩ ka-bũkũ
 NC12-mouth, NC9-CONS-be.angry NC9-CONS-run NC17-to NC12-hare

ĩgikera no kinya ka-mu-oni-e kũ-ria
 NC9-CONS-tell it.is must NC12-3SG-show-SUB NC15-where
 e-kũ-ruta i-rio.
 3SG-NC15-remove NC5-food

'The hyena did that until his mouth was full of dust, he was very annoyed and he ran to the hare and told him that he has to show him where he could get food.'

- 13) A-gĩ-twar-wo mũ-tĩ-inĩ ã-rĩa nyina wa ka-bũkũ
 3SG-CONS-take-PASS NC3-tree-LOC NC3-REL mother of NC12-hare
 a-hithit-wo a-kĩ-ĩrwo a-iniani-e na
 3SG-hide-PASS 3SG-CONS-tell-PASS 3S--shake-SUB and
 nĩ-he-ku-uma ma-rigu a-ri-e.
 FM-NC16-NC15-come.out NC6-banana 3SG-eat-SUB

'He was taken to the tree that the mother of the hare was hidden and was told to shake it and some bananas will come out for him to eat.'

- 15) A-giika o uguo na ya-inainia ha-kĩ-gwa i-rigũ
 3SG-CONS-do just that and NC9-shake NC16-CONS-fall NC5-banana
 rĩ-mwe ã-kĩ-rĩa na ya-inainia ringi ha-kĩ-aga kũ-gwa
 NC5-one NC9-CONS-eat and NC9-shake again NC16-CONS-lack NC15-fall
 mangi ã-ki-uga nĩ-ĩ-ku-haica mũ-ti igũrũ
 NC6-others NC9-CONS-say FM-NC9-NC15-climb NC3-tree top
ĩ-gĩr-e.
 NC9-get-SUB

'He did that and when he shook the tree, one banana fell; he ate it, but when he shook again, other bananas did not fall. He said that he would climb on top and get some more.'

- 16) Ya-kinya ha-u iguru ã-gĩ-kora nyina wa mbuku
 NC9-CONS-arrive NC16-there top NC9-CONS-find mother of hare
 a-ikar-ĩite ho, ã-kĩ-maka muno.
 3SG-sit-PERF there, NC9-CONS-amazed very.

'When he reached the top, he found the mother of the hare seated there, and he was amazed.'

- 17) Ī-kĩ-mu-oya ĩ-gĩ-thi-ĩ nake kũ-mũ-hitha nyũmba
 NC9-CONS-3SG-take NC9-CONS-go with.him NC15-3SG-hide NC9-house
 kwayo tondu wa ma-rakara nĩũndũ wa uria ya-heniri-o
 NC15-POSS because of NC6-anger because of NC9-REL NC9-lie-PASS
 kinya ĩ-kĩ-uraga nyina, no mbũkũ ndĩ-orag-ire nyina.
 until NC9-CONS-kill mother, but hare NEG.3SG-kill-PFV mother.

'He took her and went with her and hid her in his house because of the anger because he was cheated to kill his mother but the hare did not kill his mother.'

- 18) Rĩrĩa ka-bũ-kũ ga-thi-ire kũ-rora nyina ga-gĩ-kora
 When NC-12-hare NC12-go-PFV NC15-look mother NC12-CONS-find
 ndarĩ ho
 NEG.3SG-is there

'When the hare went to see the mother, he found that she was not there.'

- 19) Ga-gĩ-coka na mũ-ciĩ ga-kĩ-rĩr-aga.
 NC12-CONS-return towards NC3-home NC12-CONS-cry-IMPERF

'He returned home crying.'

- 20) Na ga-ikara gu-ota mw-aki ma-ithori ma-ko-ima.
 And NC12-sit NC15-bask NC3-fire NC6-tear NC6-CONS-come.out

'And when he would sit to enjoy the fire, tears would come out.'

- 21) Kinya Hiti ĩ-gĩ-koria atiri, "I mũ-riu Wa-ka-bũkũ
 Until Hyena NC9-CONS-NC12-ask COMP, "NC1-son of-NC12-hare
ũ-ra-rĩr-ĩo nĩ-kĩĩ?"
 2SG-PRES-cry-PASS by-what

'Until the hyena asked, "Son of hare, why are you crying?'

- 22) Mbuku ikiuga, "Ni ndogo."
 Hare NC12-CONS-say "It.is smoke"

The hare said, "It is smoke"

- 23) Thutha-ini ka-bũkũ ga-gĩ-thi-ĩ nyũmba thĩiniĩ
 After-wards NC12-hare NC12-CONS-go NC9-house inside

ga-gĩ-carangia kinya ga-gĩ-kora ha-ria nyina
 NC12-CONS-searching until NC12-CONS-find NC16-where mother

a-hithit-wo ga- kĩ-mũ-ruta.
 3SG-hide-PASS NC12-CONS-3SG-remove.

'Later, the hare went into the house searching until he found where the mother was hidden and he removed him.'

- 24) Na tondũ nĩ-ge-tigir-ire hiti ndĩ-ka-mũ-urag-e
 And because FM-NC12-fear-PFV hyena NEG.NC9-3SG-kill-SUB

nĩũndũ ĩ-rihiri-e, ma-kĩ-ĩhitha ũtukũ na
 because NC9-revenge-SUB, 3PL-CONS-hide NC14-night together.with

ng'ombe ci-ao magĩthiĩ bũrũri mũ-raya
 NC10-cow NC10-POSS 3PL-CONS-go country NC3-far

'And because he was afraid that hyena would kill him as a revenge, they hid at night together with their cows and they went to a far country.'

- 25) Na ku-uma hingo ĩyo hiti na mbuku i-ti-rĩ ciacoka
 And NC15-from time DEM hyena and hare NC5-NEG-have return

kũ-gĩ-a na ũ-rata rĩ-ngĩ.
 NC15-have with NC14-friendship again.

'And from that time, the hyena and the hare have never been friends again.'