THE PHILIPPINE KANKANAEY *-AN* MORPHEME

JEVERA C. DOMOGEN
https://orcid.org/**0000-0003-2213-6913**
jeveradomogenc@gmail.com
Mountain Province State Polytechnic College
Bontoc, Mountain Province, Philippines

ABSTRACT

Language is a significant aspect of every culture. Kankanaey is one of the most widely spoken languages in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR), Philippines. Regrettably, the study of this language has very few resources and material available for it. This study presents the Kankanaey language centering on -an morpheme words, how they developed, the present situation, and how they can be improved or enriched to meet the needs of the present and future times and generations in terms of linguistic knowledge. It examines the range of words that are formed with the Kankanaey -an morpheme, then it attempts to classify the input words according to affix/es used, part of speech, and aspect. It also figures out the meanings of the -an morpheme; summarizes some of the morphological phenomena that were observed during the study; and defines the conditioning factors that govern the rules in the usage of the Kankanaey -an words. More so, it uses qualitative descriptive analysis through observation, classification and analysis, inquiry, abstraction, and verification and revision. It was revealed in the study that the input Kankanaey -an words are made up of one or more prefixes, infixes, the -an suffix, and base words. It appears that the -an suffix has many meanings, so it represents many morphemes; its number of meanings corresponds to its morpheme count or number that appears in nouns, verbs, and adjectives. Kankanaey verbs are inflectable for three aspects: perfective, imperfective, and contemplated. Because of this verb characteristic, including the transitiveness of some verbs, Kankanaey verbs are governed by grammar rules when they are used in sentences. Similarly, morphological changes were observed in attaching -an suffix whether alone or with other affixes to base words and conjugating derived -an verbs.

Keywords: affix, analysis, base words, morphology, Kankanaey

INTRODUCTION

The preservation of indigenous languages ensures the transmission of cultural knowledge. Kankanaey is a language spoken by 276,196 people according to the survey conducted by the Philippine Statistics Authority – Cordillera in 2010 in the Cordillera Administrative Region, mostly in northern Benguet and western Mountain Province (Palangchao, 2016). This variant of the Filipino language belongs to the Malayo-Polynesian branch of the Austronesian language family. The study examined the Kankanaey Applai dialect of Poblacion, Tadian, Mountain Province. This dialect variant is continuously evolving and is currently assimilating words mainly from the Ilocano language. With the nearness of Tadian to Cervantes, Ilocos Sur, the dominance of Ilocano in the region as it is the lingua franca of Cordillera Administrative Region and the entire Northern Luzon area, and the intermarriage between and among the people from the province and the lowland people, the younger generations of Tadian are observed using more and more Ilocano terms

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mixed with Kankanaey words in expressing themselves. The older ones are also observed to have been influenced by this code-switching. This phenomenon, in a way, is helping enrich the Kankanaey dialect of the I-Tadian. On the other hand, heritage language proficiency faces challenges due to these factors.

Kankanaey is one among the many Philippine languages that count -*an* among their morphemes/affixes. The use of this morpheme is observed among the Ilokanos, Bontoks, Ifugaws, Tagalogs, Bikols, Aklanon, Hiligaynon, Cebuanos, and the Maranaos. The Ifugaw tongue employ -*an* morpheme to mark a location. For the Tagalogs, -*an* morpheme focuses on the person or object or place toward which the action is directed or where the action is being carried out. Aside from its locative meaning, the Cebuanos use the -*an* morpheme as a noun-forming affix to refer to a person possessing a certain power or describe a person 'characterized with' (Austronesian Comparative Dictionary, n.d.). Such is also observed in Atayal, Paiwan, Murut (Timugon), Kelabit, Malagasy, Bahasa Indonesia, Simalur, Lampung, Mongondow, Banggai, and Chamorro language (Austronesian Comparative Dictionary, n.d.).

There are several studies conducted with Austronesian languages. Ampa et al. (2019) conducted a morphophonemic analysis on the affixation in the Indonesian language. Tambusai et al. (2016) investigated the characteristics of morphological typology and affixation process in Riau Malay. Townsend (n.d) studied the endangered Serudung Murut language in Malaysia, focusing on reduplication. Ambarita (2018) conducted a descriptive analysis of adjectival affixations in Toba Batak language. Hanafi (2020) conducted a contrastive analysis of the Indonesian and Banten Javanese languages. Such studies presented -*an* as among the affixes. It would be interesting to characterize the Kankanaey affix -*an*, the system of categories and rules involved in the word-formation and interpretation, and seek its similarities and differences with the -*an* affix from other Austronesian languages.

Many Kankanaey words are formed by combining a base or root word with one or more affixes. The root usually gives the meaning of the affixed word. This word-forming process makes the Kankanaey dialect a morphologically complex language because it uses different affix combinations and even duplication of syllables; hence, this study tried to investigate the internal structures of some Kankanaey words with -*an* morpheme to be able to analyze how they were formed and then formed some generalizations and rules that govern their correct formation. This may also give insights into future development processes aside from addressing issues on effective communication by filling in information gaps and providing tips to secure a polished and full command of the language.

There were few studies conducted on the Kankanaey language. However, it must be noted that when it comes to studying the language, there were more foreign researchers than native speakers who took the initiative to delve into the grammatical aspects of the language.

McDonnell (2007), investigated Kankanaey's diminutive heavy syllable reduplication but on the aspect of its prosodic and segmental properties. Reid (n.d) reviewed Carl Wilhelm Seidenadel's 1909 published grammar, vocabulary, and texts of a closely related language he termed Bontoc Igorot. The review focused on the descriptions of the phonology and syntax of the language. Himes (n.d) likewise studied two closely-related languages spoken in Mountain Province, the Bontok and Kankanaey, and presented evidence as to their phonological diversity in the area of allophonic variation. Basco (n.d) studied the basic syntactic analysis of the Kankanaey language, focusing on combining or relating Kankanaey words to identify the basic patterns and basic sentence structures. Kankanaey affixes were also mentioned in Allen's (2006) research; however, the focus was classifying their functions as operators. Another study by the same author focused on Kankanaey infix -om, identifying the range of predicates that are formed with this infix. While these studies mentioned -*an* as an affix, there

is a need to conduct a study solely focusing to *-an* morpheme to provide a systematic and substantive analysis to gain a clearer sense of what and how words are formed with *-an*.

The literature suggests that only a few research studies look into the Kankanaey language. This necessitates the study of Kankanaey morphemes. Awareness of the functions of morphemes is necessary to develop proficiency in using the language in written and oral communication, especially to writers, linguists, language translators, school officials, teachers, would-be teachers, and learners of Kankanaey language. Identifying the range of words that are formed with the Kankanaey *-an* suffix, classifying the input words according to affixes used, part of speech, and aspect; including the morphological phenomena and the conditioning factors that govern the correct formation of the Kankanaey *-an* words will add to the existing corpse of research studies on Filipino language morphology.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

This study looked at the range of words that are formed with the Kankanaey *-an* suffix. It sought to fulfill the following specific objectives: 1) Classify the input words according to affixes used, parts of speech, and aspect; 2) Identify morphological phenomena that are observed during the study; 3) Determine the conditioning factors to govern the correct construction of the Kankanaey *-an* words.

METHODOLOGY

The study used a qualitative descriptive-analysis approach to determine and describe the nature of *-an* suffixed Kankanaey words. The qualitative method provides a close analysis of a case generating valuable insights (Nimehchisalem, 2018). With a qualitative descriptive approach, the nature of the circumstances of the usage of Kankanaey *-an* and its characteristics is generated. It also used descriptive classification to identify and classify the *-an*

words according to affix used, part of speech, and aspect.

The Kankanaey speaking residents of Poblacion, Tadian, age 15 or above were chosen as respondents of the study. They were observed to be proficient in the Kankanaey language and respond to queries during the morphological analysis.

For verification and validation, the researchers consulted five (5) elders and five (5) elementary teachers from the barangay, and five (5) higher education teachers. They were picked based on the following criteria: they are native Kankanaey speakers, they have lived in the community for at least ten years, they have no speech problems, and they have a good reputation.

The branch of Linguistics that deals with words, their internal structure, and their development is known as morphology. Aronoff and Fudeman (n.d) posit that to appreciate what morphology really is, it is best to understand the morphology of individual languages. To do this, specifically for the Kankanaey language in this study, morphological analysis, the process of identifying the root and its affixes, was done.

In the theory of morpheme-based morphology, word forms are analyzed as arrangements of morphemes. This theory presupposes those words can be thoroughly segmented into morphemes and are built up from them (Marantz, 2013; Popova, 2019). The study's morphological analysis went through several processes to arrive at the data needed in the study.

The researchers observed the nature of the Kankanaey language as spoken by native speakers of the language. The observation was conducted in three series of community meetings with various topics. Conversations were noted, and the Kankanaey *-an* were systematically organized for analysis. After classifying, generalizations were formed, and rules on the formation and use of K–an words were concluded.

The more knowledgeable informants were consulted for verification, modification, or revisions for matters under question or doubt.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. Classification and Analysis of the Input Kankanaey -*an* Words

The Kankanaey -*an* (K-*an*) morpheme is a minimal form in that it cannot be decomposed or further analyzed. *[a]* does not mean anything, though it may be used by a Kankanaey speaker seeking an affirmation from somebody she is talking to, as in, "*Ya umunod ka a*." translated as 'You follow (yes).' *[n]* of course, just like [a] has no meaning as an individual part of the -*an* morpheme. In other words, -*an* is a bound or dependent morpheme which cannot stand alone; it is always affixed to another morpheme, usually a root, such as *basura(an)* 'trash bin' or *kanta(an)* 'to sing'.It is always attached to the end of a word. It is written with an initial hyphen in this study. It is also called a derivational morpheme because it changes the grammatical category or the meaning of the word it is attached to.

Sometimes, dual or multiple affixations can take place with the K-*an* suffix. The base word or affixed word it is attached to can have a prefix or more and an infix. These affixes are attached to it in a fixed order and continual manner. For example: *men-\d\-in-\ar\dara-an → (men)\d\(in)\ar\dara(an)*. Here, *dara* is the root; *men-,* its prefix; *-in-,* its infix; and *-an* is its suffix. The word's hierarchical structure, which is more than merely a morpheme sequence, is reflected in this order. The diagram to illustrate the internal structure of this adopted Ilocano word in the Kankanaey language is as follows:

The diagram represents the application of five morphological rules and changes, where –*an* morpheme is concerned:

1. *men-* + affixed Noun + -an *mendinardaraan* → Verb 'cook midnight stake'
2. *\dar* + root Noun + *-an dardaraan* → Verb 'spilling blood on'
3. *\d\ -in- \ar* + root Noun + *-an dinardaraan* → Noun 'midnight stake'
4. *\d\ -in- \ar* + root Noun + *-an dinardaraan* → Verb 'had been spilling blood on'
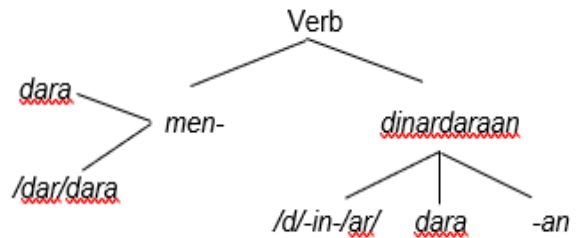5. *-in-* between partial reduplication

Figure 1. Sample internal structure of a Kankanaey word

Rule 1 attaches the derivational prefix *men-* and the suffix *-an* to the infixed root with partial reduplication, *\d\ -in- \ar\ dara*, forming an interfixed aspectless verb. Rule 2 comes from the decomposed affixed noun or verb *dinardaraan* and becomes a verb, *dardaraan*. Rules 3 and 4 are formed similarly but produced different parts of speech: noun and verb in the past progressive form. The infix *-in-* is between partial reduplication.

The study also found that *-an* is a derivational suffix that attaches to a verb and turns into another verb, an adjective clause, a noun clause, or an adverb clause; attaches to a noun and becomes a verb; attaches to a noun (*miyat* 'chatter') and turns into an adjective; attaches to a noun (*linnas-i* 'race') and turns into another noun, and attaches to an adjective (*menkaan-ando* 'as long/tall as') and turns into another adjective. *-an* as a derivational suffix can be observed in the Indonesian language.

Three affixes identify double-object verbs: actor-focus (AF), object-focus (OF), and directional-focus (DF). To illustrate, a base in the *mang-/i-/-an* derived verb forms an AF verb with *mang-*, and OF verb with *i-*, and a DF verb with –*an*: *mang-isaksakan* 'wash'.

The K-*an* suffix may change its form because of the influence of its environment. It has four forms called allomorphs: *-an, -/h/an, -*

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wan, and *-yan*. Each allomorph has its own distribution. The allomorph *-an* (no change in form) is used if the affixed root words end with /a/ and consonant sounds; *-/h/an* is used with morphemes ending in /ə/ (*dedengehan, kehangan*); *-yan* is used with roots ending in /i/. *-wan* is attached to roots ending in /o/.

The natural Kankanaey sentence is in the passive voice when translated into English, and this is due to the different natures of these two languages wherein English sentence has a subject-predicate structure while Kankanaey sentence has a predicate-topic structure. Because of this difference, some of the Kankanaey predicate-topic statements in this study were translated into the active voice since the natural order of the English sentence is subject-predicate. In this statement, *Inayagan Joe si Dr. Jose.* (Dr. Jose was called by Joe.), the subject is Dr. Jose which the speaker is talking about and Joe, the actor or doer of the action of the verb 'called', is only a part of the predicate. Instead, a native English speaker would state this in the active voice: 'Joe called Dr. Jose.'

2. Meanings of the *-an* Morpheme

The Kankanaey *-an* morpheme can be a nominal suffix, a verbal suffix, an adjectival suffix, or an adverbial suffix. Just like other types of affixes, *-an* has more than one meaning. In other words, *-an* as one form of an affix is considered as more than one morpheme because it has more than one meaning.

The following lists the different forms of the *-an* morpheme with different meanings and some examples.

2.1 As a nominal suffix

According to structure, a Kankanaey-derived noun is a noun that includes at least one nominal affix and a nominal base. A nominal *-an* suffix, just like any kind of affix, may have more than one meaning like the following:

1. *-an$_1$* denotes a particular object, spot, or locality where many things are placed or located.
   begas(an) 'rice bin'
2. *-an$_2$* denotes a place where many plants expressed by the root are planted.
   \ka\kaiw(an) 'forest'
3. *an$_3$* is attached to a base word to form a noun denoting an object, a place, or area where the action expressed by the base is done.
   tukdowan 'chair'
4. *-an$_4$* with root reduplication means an act of doing with gusto.
   \de\dengnge^h(an) 'listening'
5. *in-…-an* forms a noun denoting an action expressed by the root that is contestable. The prefix comes before a root starting with a vowel.
   (in){n}alisto(wan) 'any bet for the fastest'
6. *-in-…-an* is a derivation of in-…-an. It forms a noun denoting a reciprocal or joint performance of the action designated by the related verb. The infix is between a root that starts with a consonant.
   g(in){n}uyod(an) 'tug of war'
7. *ka-…-an$_1$* means the class or group of things/people instanced by the base designates. It may also be a place where the group of the base is located.
   (ka)igorot(an) 'the Igorots or Igorot village'
8. *ka-…-an$_2$* indicates a reciprocal relation (between or among people) expressed by the base word.
   (ka)badang(an) 'helper'
9. *ka-…-an$_3$* means "state of becoming".
   (ka)\bik\bikas(an) 'prime age'
10. *ka-…-an$_4$* is an object, spot or place designated by the base word.
    (ka)etdag(an) 'spot for falling'
11. *ka-…-an$_4$* means "act or state of causing".
    (ka)^{te}tey(an) 'cause of death'
12. *men-…-ka-…-an* indicates a reciprocal relation expressed by the base word between two persons only.
    (men)(ka)ibaw(an) 'enemies'
13. *men-…-ka-… -in-…-an* is a derivation of *men-…-ka-…-an.* It indicates a reciprocal

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relation between two persons of equal strength or skill expressed by the base word.

(men)(ka)d(in){n}aytak(an) 'match in kicking'

14. *pag-…-an₁* signifies a thing/place where the action expressed by the root is done
(pag)-ames(an) 'place for bathing'

15. *pag-…-an₂* states an abstract idea expressed by the base word.
(pag)laing(an) 'expertise'

2.2. As an adjectival suffix

Kankanaey *-an* suffix is used to make adjectives from other parts of speech. It adds a single specific meaning to a word.

1. *-an* is a suffix that states having an excessive or more than the usual quantity, size, or quality of the thing expressed by the root word.
subilan 'with thick lips'

2. ka-…- *indicates the superlative degree of an adjective,* usually equivalent to English 'most' + adjective, or adjective + 'est'. The first syllable of the baseword is sometimes duplicated.
(ka)laing(an) 'wisest'

3. men-, ka-…-*an* The reciprocal prefix *men-* occurs before *ka-* plus base followed by *-an* suffix expresses a quality shared equally by exactly two people, things, places, etc.
menkaandowan 'as tall as'

2.3. As a verbal suffix

Like *-an* as a nominal suffix, any form of the *-an* as a verbal suffix can be a different morpheme because it can have different meanings like the following:

1. *-an₁* means an ability to do the action expressed in the base word to a person or animal.
ayagan 'to call'

2. *-an₂* forms object-focus (OF) and directional-focus (DF) verbs. OF *-an* verbs typically denote actions affecting the surface or appearance of the goal. Many DF *-an* verbs denote movement in relation to a goal. It also derives meaning from noun bases.
punas(an) 'to wipe'

3. *i-…-an₁* forms a directional-focus or benefactive-focus (BF) verb which action expressed by the base is to be done by a person to another person.
iyalaan 'to get for'

4. *i-…-an₂* is an action caused by an event.
iyagaan 'to cry (because)'

5. *ma-…-an ~ ka-…-an* is an object-focus (OF) or directional-focus verb.
(ma)atong(an) 'to feel hot'
Other *ma-…-an* verbs denote actions typically involving a human goal. It also signifies a place where or time, when the action stated in the root, is to be done.

6. *ma-, i-…-an ~ ka-, i-…-an* is derived from ma-…-*an*; signifies a place where or time, when the action stated in the root, is to be done.
(ma)(i)tayon(an) 'where/when to hang

7. *mang-…-an* signifies a reason, a place where or time, when the action stated in the root, is to be done.
mang-adiyan 'to reject (because)'

8. *mang-, i-…-an* is derived from mang-…-*an*; combined with another prefix (i) attached to a stem signifies a place where or time, when the action stated in the root, is to be done.
mang-ipa°y-an ~ mangipa°y-an 'to put where/when'

9. *mang-, ipa-…-an* is derived from mang-…-*an*; combined with prefixes (*ipa-*) attached to a stem signifies a place where or time, when the action stated in the root, is to be done by a person or animal to another person, animal or thing.
mang-ipautowan ~ mangipautowan 'to be cooked by (where/when)'

10. *maki-…-an* is actor-focus (AF) stating a request to join a person or others in doing the verb's action *maki-…-in-…-an* is a derivation of *maki-…-an* which expresses a social action

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makibalkisan 'when/where to pan gold with'

11. *men-…-an* is a locative-focus (LF) or DF verb, indicating a place where or time, when an action stated in the root, is to be done.
men-…-in-…-an is a derivation of *men-…-an*.
This may also be a causative-focus (CF) verb.
(men)-anap(an) 'to search (where/ when)'

12. *menpa-…-an* is an actor-focus or locative-focus verb denoting an action expressed by the root to be done by a person in a place or to a thing or another person.
menpaitdowan 'where/when to be taught by'

13. *om/um-…-an₁* is an OF or DF verb designating an area or time where/when the root (starting with a vowel) is done.
omototan 'to fart (where/when)'

14. *–om-/-um-…-an₂* is a derivation of *om-…-an₁*. The base of the derived word starts with a consonant.
tumagtagan 'to run (where/ when)'

15. *om/um-…-an₃* is causative-focus (CF) which gives a meaning "result of or condition resulting from". The base word starts with a vowel.
(um)agyod(an) 'to improve (due to)'

16. *-om/um-…-an₄* is a derivation of *om-…-an₃*. The root starts with a consonant.
s(um)ika(an) 'to become plenty (due to)'

3. Rules in Forming Kankanaey *-an* Verbs

Table 1 presents some Kankanaey verbs in the infinitive, perfective, imperfective, and contemplative aspects as bases in formulating rules in forming and using correct K-*an* verbal predicates in sentences.

Table 1

Kankanaey -an Verbs in the Infinitive, Perfective, Imperfective, Contemplative Aspects

Infinitive	Meaning	Perfective	Imperfective	Contemplative
atepan	'to put roof' + DO	*inatepan*	*at-atepan*	*atepanto*
ibaliyan	advance payment + IO	*inbaliyan*	*ibalbaliyan*	*ibaliyanto*
omanayan	'to suffice'	*immanayan*	*oman-anayan*	*omanayanto*
badangan	'to help' + IO	*binadangan*	*badbadangan*	*badanganto*
sag-enan	'to get near'	*sinag-enan*	*sagsag-enan*	*sag-enanto*
tumagtagan	'to run to'	*tinmagtagan*	*tumagtagtagan*	*tumagtaganto*
mapaitan	'to taste bitter'	*napaitan*	*mapapaitan*	*ma/kapaitanto*
ma/kaetdagan	'to fall'	*naetdagan*	*maet-etdagan*	*ma/kaetdaganto*
menbaesan	'to take revenge on'	*nenbaesan*	*nenbabaesan*	*menbaesanto*
mang-anapan	'where/when to find + DO'	*Nang-anapan*	*mang-an-anapan*	*mang-anapanto*

As shown in Table 1, Kankanaey verbs are inflectable for three aspects: perfective, imperfective, and contemplated.

The perfective aspect denotes an action that was already started and done. The following rules form the inflection in this aspect:

1. A verb with *-an* suffix, be it alone or with *i-*, *om-/um-* or *-om-/-um-* affixes retains its *-an* but adds a prefix *in-* if the derived verb starts with a vowel (See Rows 1-3 above), and an infix *-in-* if the verb starts with a consonant. (See Rows 4-6).

2. If the affix of the verb's infinitive form has an initial sound /m/, the /m/ becomes /n/ (See Rows 7-10).

The imperfective aspect denotes an action that was started but is not yet done and is presently being done. This is done by reduplicating the root word's first consonant-vowel or first vowel. All the prefixes and infixes

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of the formed verbs combined with the *-an* suffix are retained in their original orders or infinitive forms.

The contemplative aspect describes an action that is not started. The infinitive form of the verb ends with the syllable to, or it can be added with adverbs denoting future time, like: *idalusanto; dalusan si bongbongo* 'will clean for tomorrow morning'
mang-ilaanto; mang-ilaan si Lunes 'will see on Monday' – who/what, where, when

Almost all the Kankanaey *–an* verbs are transitive verbs needing direct objects, indirect objects, or objective complements.

men- + B + -an verbs may be used in general statements but not *mang- + B + -an* and *mang- + i- + B + -an* verbs which are always followed by direct objects.

The Kankanaey morpheme *-an* is an actor-focus or locative-focus verb denoting an action expressed by the root that is to be done by a person in a place or to a thing or another person. For instance, *mang-ilaan* 'where/when to see' from the word *'ila'*. This word is inflectable.

4. Summary of the Morphological Phenomena Observed in the Study

Table 2
Morphological Phenomena Observed in the Study

Phenomena	Example/s
1. Morpheme *–an* has three forms: *-an, -wan,* and *-yan*	1. *kanta(an), itdo(wan), las- i(yan), maskeh(an), kadengeh(an)→kadngeh(an)*
2. Combination of different affixes applied to a single word	2. *(mang)(i){y}aba(an), (i){y}imbinto(wan)*
3. Addition of phoneme \y\ before a root starting with a vowel	3. *(ka)aksidinti(yan)*
4. Infix applied between partial word reduplication of root words starting with consonants	4. *k(in)ad\kad\wa(an)*
5. Application of more than one infix between a word	5. *s(in)(ma) lulong(an), T(in)(ma)gtag(an)*
6. Phoneme deleted	6. *(pag)dakes(an)→ pagdakˢsan g(um)i\gi\nekan ~ g(um)i\gi\nᵉkan*
7. Change of phoneme	7. *itakdegan→itakderan*
8. Change of phoneme and phoneme deleted	8. *eneb(an)→emban*
9. Prefixes in- and om-/um- are used before words that start with vowels.	9. *(in)itdo(wan), inungosan, (um)onod(an), umitlogan*

Table 2 summarizes some of the morphological changes that were observed during the study.

It was observed that *-an* morpheme has three forms: *-an, -wan*, and *-yan*. The allomorph *-an* with no change in form is used if the affixed root words end with consonants and /h/, a voiceless fricative glottal phoneme. The suffix *-wan* is used with roots ending in /o/, while *-yan* is attached to roots ending in /i/.

In some cases, different affixes are applied to a single word. For instance, the word *(mang)(i){y}aba(an),* is composed of four morphemes. The root word *aba,* prefixes mang- and *i-,* and suffix *-an*. There is also the addition of phoneme \y\ before the root *aba.* This occurs with words starting with a vowel.

There were some phenomena observed in the use of infix. An infix is applied when there is partial reduplication of root word beginning with a consonant. For the word *k(in)ad\kad\wa(an),* the rootword is *kadwa.* Infix *in* is applied. There are also instances when there can be two infixes in an *-an* word. For example, the word *s(in)(ma) lulong(an)* has two infixes- *in* and *ma.*

An observation on the phonemes were deletion, changes in a phoneme, and changes and deletion of a phoneme in a word. From *(pag)dakes(an)* to *pagdakˢsan*, it is observed that *e* was omitted. For example, the word *itakdegan* to *itakderan, g* is changed to *r.* in a more complicated morphological observation is with the *eneb(an)* to *emban.*

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A change and deletion can be seen in the phonemes. Lastly, prefixes *in-* and *om-/um-* are used before words that start with vowels such as *(in)itdo(wan)* and *(um)onod(an).*

CONCLUSIONS

Given the findings of the study, the following conclusions were arrived at:

The input Kankanaey *-an* word in this study comprises one or more prefixes, infixes, the *-an* suffix, and base words.

The Kankanaey *-an* suffix that is useful for determining word meaning appears in nouns, verbs, and adjectives.

Kankanaey verbs are inflectable for three aspects: perfective, imperfective, and contemplative.

The suffix *-an* has many meanings, so it represents many morphemes; its number of meanings corresponds to its morpheme count or number.

There are morphological phenomena observed and conditioning factors that govern the correct usage of the Kankanaey -an verbs.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings and conclusions, the following recommendations are forwarded:

Other writers are encouraged to continue researching the history of the Kankanaey language, how it developed, its present situation, and how it may be improved or enriched to meet the needs of the present and future times and generations. They may include the other aspects of the Kankanaey *-an* morpheme that were not covered by this study.

The Kankanaey language of Tadian may adopt the letters r, h, c,q, ñ, x, f, j, v, and z in speaking and in writing borrowed words from other dialects and languages so that the Kankanaey children will not be confused in spelling their English and other borrowed words.

Writers in the vernacular shall survey the preferred spelling and methods of contracting Kankanaey words and recommend the same, for the standardization of Kankanaey orthography.

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AUTHOR'S PROFILE

Dr. Jevera Cawilan Domogen is an currently an instructor at the Mountain Province State Polytechnic College in Poblacion, Tadian, Mountain Province, Philippines. She handles English and other Professional courses.

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