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**CODESWITCHING IN TIGRINYA: THE CASE OF TWO  
FM RADIO PROGRAMS**

**BY**

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Programs

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NEG.....	negative marker
PASS.....	passive marker
PAST.....	past marker
PL.....	plural marker
Q.....	question marker
REL.....	relative marker
TFRPs.....	Tigrinya FM radio programs
TFRSs.....	Tigrinya FM radio services
Tigam.....	Amharic switched Tigrinya
Tiglish.....	English switched Tigrinya

## List of Symbols

Symbols	manner and place of articulations
/g <sup>w</sup> /	voiced biarticulated velar stop
/χ/	voiceless velar fricative
/ʔ/	voiceless glottal stop
/ʃ/	voiceless palatal fricative
/ɕ/	voiced palatal stop
/ə/	mid central un round
/h/	voiceless pharyngeal fricative
/i/	high central unround
/j/	palatal approximant
/kʼ/	ejective velar stop
/ɲ/	palatal nasal
/q <sup>w</sup> /	ejective biarticulated velar stop
/sʼ/	ejective dental fricative
/tʃ/	voiceless palatal stop
/tʼ/	ejective dental stop
/tʃʼ/	ejective palatal stop
/χʼ/	ejective velar fricative
/ʁ/	voiced pharyngeal fricative

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## ABSTRACT

This study deals with Codeswitching in Tigrinya: The Case of Two FM Radio Programs broadcasting in and around Mekelle. The rationales, which triggered the researcher to conduct such a research, are the fact that there are very few studies in Ethiopia, no research in Tigray and the researcher was experienced with switched Tigrinya in the Tigrinya FM radio programs (TFRPs). It is tried to address the why, when, how and how often codeswitching incidents are appeared on the TFRPs, and the perception of codemixing by bilinguals and monolinguals. It also attempts to describe what linguistic features of codeswitching are identified and which universal constraints are attested valid in Tigrinya-English or Amharic codeswitching phenomenon. The study aims mainly at exploring the social aspects of codeswitching activities, and describing the linguistic features of codeswitching on the Tigrinya FM radio services (TFRSs) vis-à-vis some earlier studied models and findings.

To address the problems and achieve the objectives, both qualitative and quantitative methods were employed for gathering bits of information from the selected sites and FM radio listeners in focus. Questionnaires, interviews, and audio recordings were used as basic tools to collect genuine information. The bits of information were collected from both monolingual and bilingual TFRPs clients and the newscasters.

The social and linguistic data of codeswitching on the TFRPs are exhibited viewed from different perspectives. There are bulks of codeswitching occurrences on TFRPs more frequently from English and Amharic constituents. Tigrean codeswitchers were engaging in codeswitching incidences motivated by the social attractions. However, monolinguals have remarkably negative attitudes towards codeswitching by overwhelming the bilinguals. Besides, the Trilingual Tigreans are switching multiple constituents intrasententially via Amharic and English. In the Amharic or English switched Tigrinya, the equivalence constraint and free morpheme constraint operational, whereas the size of the constituent constraint is not appropriate.

# CHAPTER ONE

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. Background

The start of the print media opened the way for the start of (digital) audio, video, and audio-video media transmissions in Tigray. The first radio services in Tigrinya language were started at the end of 1958 in Asmera. Birhane (1995, 614) points out that this radio station was the property and voice of the then Ethiopian governments until the down fall of the Derg in 1991. Dimitsi weyane Tigray (radio Tigray) was started in 1969 in collaboration with radio Eritrea and stood by itself after two years in 1971. This radio has had full-fledged services on its course of long historical period till now. Following the government decree allowing nongovernmental organizations free air in the country, FM radio Finot (latter FM 104.4) was started at the end of 2007, and other private owned FM radios were started following this opportunity in Ethiopia as a whole and in Tigray as well. Presently, there are about four radio stations in Tigray including the Ethiopia radio Tigrinya program. Two (FM.102.2 aired from Dimtsi weyane and FM 104.4) of them are serving only in areas found within 100 square km to all directions from the metropolis (Mekelle). The managers of these radio stations' explained that there are Kebeles which are found within this frequency cover and yet do not clearly receive this transmission due to geographical barriers. The only radio which is heard in every corner of Tigray is Dimitsi Weyane in addition to the Ethiopia radio broadcast from Addis-Ababa. Recently, FM radio which is aired from the radio Fana has started to be heard on the frequency of FM 94.8. But, the research sites of this study lies on FM 102.2 and 104.4 which are being listened in Mekelle and its surroundings.

It is quite clear that media are one of the best instruments in which language enhancements, socio-economical, socio-political and socio-cultural issues can be appropriated among other issues. To this end, the language which is used as a medium of transmissions and instructions should be clear and to the point, otherwise, many things may remain on the air without hitting the target points. However, contrary to this reality,

many educated bilinguals and few illiterate bilinguals are heard switching or mixing languages or dialects into their matrix language (Tigrinya) while interviewed, and carried out conversation speeches.<sup>1</sup>

## 1.2. Statement of the Problem

Codeswitching is a difficult task in multilingual or bilingual communities or else where when there are language contact phenomena. The grammar of the switched or mixed language is not random; the reasons are not haphazard, they are plausibly related to the psychology of the speaker and listeners. Pride (1971, 28) disclosed the challenges of codeswitching as:

Codeswitching can be difficult even when each code is well-known. The problem is often that of when to switch in circumstances where cultural meanings or values seem to clash.

Wardhaugh (1992, 105) too put the seriousness of codeswitching problem as: "The actual choice of code in a setting clearly marked as bilingual can be a difficult task." Codeswitching hinders the development of one language since many individual speakers

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<sup>1</sup> Mengstu (2008) notes that Tigrinya mass Medias are not using 'pure' Tigrinya: there appears lack of selection of words, use of informal speeches, redundancy of ideas and languages, mixing of others language into the assumed standard Tigrinya, in correct use of adjectives and fragment of ideas. In general, bilingual speakers committed grammatical error of the language in addition to mixing or switching inter/intradialectal and other languages (286) (My own translation).<sup>1</sup>

of a given language are switching carelessly certain language items into their first language on the presence of the words, phrases, and clauses of the matrix language.<sup>2</sup>

Above all, the researcher has been triggered to conduct codeswitching related research when he encountered with mixed or switched codes while he was listening in the Tigrinya FM radio services. The researcher experienced that many monolinguals who listen in the FM radio have faced with a problem to comprehend the switched Tigrinya on the TFRPs. Not only this but also bilingual and monolingual FM radio listeners are developing mixed feeling towards the switched Tigrinya as to how the mixed Tigrinya is treated grammatically. In addition to this, the researcher is motivated to conduct this research when he realized that there are a few codeswitching studies in Ethiopia and no study in Tigray.

Therefore, the study intends to answer the following basic research questions and come up with findings.

- I. How are the switched linguistic constituents in Tigrinya patterned in the realm of matrix language?
- II. Which linguistic constituents are more frequently switchable and which are not in the TFRPs?
- III. Which types of universal constraints are appropriate in the switched Tigrinya on the FM radios (from English to Tigrinya or Amharic to Tigrinya)?
- IV. When and why do multilingual speakers in Tigrinya switch /mix codes?
- V. What are the attitudes of Tigrean bilinguals and monolinguals towards codeswitching occurrences?

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<sup>2</sup> Isayas (2008) illustrates switching language codes are common phenomena in all languages. This activity halts the enrichment of certain languages especially when speakers are able to express using their own language instead they switch one language items into another. This time, the golden words of the matrix languages will be replaced by words from the embedded language or disappeared from the lexicon of the matrix languages. (154) my own translation from Tigrinya.

### **1.3. Objective of the Study**

The study is aimed at explaining the social features of codeswitching; and describing the linguistic natures or features of codeswitching. The specific objectives of the study are to:

- I. identify the pattern of embedded and matrix language constituents in the Tigrinya-English and Tigrinya-Amharic codeswitchings
- II. distinguish the most frequently switchable and non-switchable linguistic constituents into the matrix language in the Tigrinya-English and Tigrinya-Amharic codeswitchings
- III. determine the universal constraints which are appropriate in the switched Tigrinya on the TFRPs and which are not
- IV. assess the possible causes codeswitchings in the Tigrinya FM radio programs
- V. assess the attitude of monolingual and bilingual individuals towards codeswitching on the TFRPs

### **1.4. Significance of the Study**

This study may be essential for interested readers and researchers in many ways directly or indirectly. Researchers those who can conduct in-depth research on codeswitching phenomenon in Ethiopia in general, and especially in Tigray on the FM radio services in particular will get some benefits from this research paper. Linguistic students and teachers who need to have some concepts about switched language items on the Tigrinya FM radio services are beneficiary from this researcher. Moreover, practitioners and researchers can use this study as a stepping stone to carry out research in the area of codeswitching. It is also important for those who can read to get develop relevant awareness about switched Tigrinya used on the FM radio services. Journalists, media experts and communication experts will benefit from this research to get insight about the use of language on the media, attitude of audiences, and some reasonable switching phenomenon.

### **1.5. Limitation of the Study**

There were many obstacles that the researcher encountered while collecting the data. There was lack of understandings from due respondents especially the monolingual interviewees. They were not convenient to be recorded. Because, they fear that it may have any political message behind in spite of the researcher's continuous persuasions regarding this issue. To this end, the researcher was using an interview with out audio recording in some cases to solve such feeling of political insecurity where necessary. The researcher was also faced with slight problems while selecting individuals to be interviewed for there were individuals who conceal their bilingual skill. This was also the case for the point while distributing questionnaires for there are many bilinguals who do not speak the language used on the FM radio services (Tigrinya). There were also serious problems of selecting and assessing the contents to be pars of the study .It is quite clear that language use is a very pervasive phenomenon in the media services. Many languages or dialects are expected to be switched or mixed into the media language (Tigrinya) consciously or unconsciously. This was a problematic issue especially while I dealt with the linguistic approaches of codeswitching episodes on the Tigrinya FM radio programs. However, to ease out such disorders, the researcher used only the explicitly switched language items synchronically focusing on Amharic and English since these languages have socio-economic, political influence on the country specifically in the region. Besides, the researcher encountered with time and budget constraint to assess the over all switched language items on the Tigrinya FM radio services.

### **1.6. Delimitation of the Study**

The study will be limited in its scope and content. Basically, the topic of the study is confined as "Codeswitching in Tigrinya: The Case of Two FM Radio Programs" in order to make it attainable. Likewise, the study area is limited towards Tigray region for the same purpose; and for I have intended that codeswitching researches in this area are remained untouched for years. Still, the study area will be further restricted into Mekelle city and its surroundings, referring to FM Mekelle 104.4 and 102.2 in

particular to make the study manageable. The two FM radios were selected based on the following possible reasons.

- I. It is assumed that these FM radios have more audiences and time consumptions than FM 94.8 broadcast from Addis-Ababa, Dimitsi weyane and radio Ethiopia.
- II. It is suggested that a lot of public discussions have been carried out in these radios compared to the others.
- III. As far as the researcher's observation is concerned these stations seem neutral from political pressures.

## CHAPTER TWO

### 2. Review of Related Literature

#### 2.1. Conceptual frame works

There are number of works on codeswitching world wide. Since the introduction of the word (codeswitching) linguists, sociologists, anthropologists and socio-linguists have been making an endeavor to survey the social and linguistic features or natures of codeswitching in multilingual societies or any language contact phenomena .As a result , they have tried to devise approaches , models and axioms in which these features or behaviors of codeswitching would be studied and explored . Nilep (2006:1) pointed out the bulk of the codeswitching studies as:

The term codeswitching is broadly discussed and used in linguistics and variety of related fields .A search of the Linguistic and Language Behavior Abstracts database in 2005 shows more than 1,800 articles on the subject published in virtually every branch of Linguistics. However despite this ubiquity –or perhaps in part because of it – scholars do not seem to share a definition of the term.

Therefore, the research is selective while quoting ideas, concepts and facts regarding codeswitching from the abundant journal articles, books, e-books and internet accesses. The researcher also believes that the following cited scholastic genres and facts have closely supported for the present study directly or indirectly.

##### 2.1.1. Concepts of Bilingualism

In a linguistically heterogeneous society, bilingualism /multilingualism are pervasive phenomena. They are the combined results of frequent and continuous language contact phenomena in a multiple linguistic community. Many individuals imagine that multilingualism is the act of using two or more languages equally. The term (multilingualism) is defined by various scholars differently. According to Gumperz(1971,313), bilingualism is, after all, primarily a linguistic term, referring to the fact that linguists have discovered significant alternations in phonology, morphology, and

syntax, in studying the verbal behavior of a particular population (cf. Hudson 1980, Dittmar 1976 and Fasold 1984).

As can be comprehended from various researchers view points, bilingualism is a fertile condition for codeswitching to come about in linguistically heterogeneous community where an individual develops two or more language skills.

Thus, writer of this paper is giving due emphasis on bilingualism because he believes that it is the focal point for codeswitching (the subject of the study). An individual or group may acquaint him/herself with various languages or language varieties in his/her day to day activities within a multilingual community or communities elsewhere. When times pass, the acquired linguistic skills either from the result of multilingual community or foreign influence, it will be developed and deep rooted in the minds of the individuals or groups more or less symmetrically or asymmetrically to his/her vernacular language.

This time, the bilingual/multilingual person can switch or mix codes from second language to first language or vice versa. They may even tend to shift their languages from first language to second language due to political, social, economical pressures. Widdowson (1998, 49) supports the above aforementioned idea as “bilinguals often switch between their two languages in the middle of conversation.”

## **2.1.2. Definition of Codeswitching, Codemixing and Borrowing**

### **2.1.2.1. Codeswitching vs. Borrowing**

Both codeswitching and borrowing are the results of language contact phenomena in a bilingual/multilingual community. Both are technical terms, which are used by Anthropological linguists, Sociologists, Psycholinguists and sociolinguists. Many individuals even language teachers and students use borrowing and codeswitching interchangeably. Even student of linguistics are sometimes confused with the clear-cut distinction between code switching and borrowing in different circumstances.

For better understanding, let us see the scholastic definition of the term codeswitching first and then borrowing as follows. Hudson (1980, 56) defines codeswitching as “the

situation in which a single speaker uses different varieties at different time.” Moreover, According to Webb and Kembo-Sure (2000, 91) codeswitching is the alternating use of two or more languages in the same conversation. Similarly, Savin (1995, 476) adopts a general definition of code switching as “codeswitching is an alternation of two languages within the same discourse, sentence or constituent.” Moreover, Skiba (1997, 2) elaborated codeswitching as:

Code-switching is the alternation between two codes (languages and/or dialects), between people who share those particular codes. Choices about how code-switching manifests itself are determined by a number of social and linguistic factors. It is quite typical in multicultural and immigrant populations. Code-switching can take on several forms including alteration of sentences, phrases from both languages, and switching in a long narrative.

When bilinguals speak, they may splice a sentence with words, phrases, clauses or sentences from the second or third languages into the matrix language. They even prefer to switch one dialect into another or into the standard dialect in which they are using in writing and formal speeches. Therefore, such chunks of speeches can have complete phonological and morphological structure of the host language or keep the morpho-syntactic features of the guest language. Thus, such speakers may have a good command of the language they switched into their own or less competence on it. Lambert (2005, 339) seems to back up the latter as follows:

Contrary to popular belief, codeswitching rarely means the speaker has an imperfect knowledge of the language being used and hence substitutes words from another language to fill in lexical gaps

Some scholars seem to define codeswitching as it is the situation in which immigrants , tourists , urban communities practice in their daily conversation in order to cling themselves to the environmental circumstances in a multilingual community . According to, Rampton (1998, 552), codeswitching is part of the experiences of the immigrant, the tourist, the exchange student, and increasingly any participant in a language in urban community.

Still other scholars define codeswitching in a similar manner. For instance, Fromkin et al (2003) as cited in Lambert (2005, 338) defines code switching as: “The movement of back and forth between two languages or dialects within the same sentences or discourse”

(cf., Pride 1971, Gumperz 1971, Seligson 1986, Myers -Scotton 1993, Pfaff 1979, Skiba 1997, Wardhough 1992, Zelealem 1998, woodford 1983).

By the same token, borrowing is one of the results of language contact phenomena which happen when two or more languages coexist or have geographical proximity to each other. This is related to the use of language items gained through time due to language contact motivations. Like codeswitching, borrowing is defined by various scholars differently. For instance, Hudson (1980, 58) defines borrowing as "It is obvious what is meant by 'borrowing' when an item is taken over lock, stock and barrel from one variety into another." Borrowing refers to the importation of lexical or grammatical elements from another language mainly due to language contact situations (Zelealem 2009, 67). Similarly, Widdowson (1998, 49) indicates that borrowing is the integration of a word from one language into another. Still, Gumperz (1982, 66) defines borrowing as: "The introduction of single words or short, frozen, idiomatic phrases from one language into another" (cf. Kashoki 1982, Torres 1997, and Fasold 1984).

Therefore, from the above given definitions, the differences and similarities between codeswitching and borrowing can be understood in relative ways. However; it seems that there is no consensus reached among linguists about the clear-cut distinction between borrowing and codeswitching. For example, Fasold (1984, 181) explains that the relationship among codeswitching, code mixing and borrowing in the realm of language choice as:

The three kinds of choices (codeswitching, code mixing and borrowing) are best viewed as points on a continuum from relatively large scale to relatively small scale choices. The middle category, code mixing, is very difficult to distinguish from the other two.

The two terms (codeswitching and borrowing) are found in a continuous line of extremes, code mixing is in between them (Ibid). Therefore, codeswitching and borrowing are not easy tasks to skin out their similarity and dissimilarity as can be realized from different scholars view points. Pfaff (1979, 295) illustrated the similarity and dissimilarity between code switching and borrowing as:

Although, Gumperz and Hernandez Chavez (1988), speak of codeswitching- even that involving whole sentences- as a type of borrowing, the two terms are usually construed as making vastly different claims about the competence of the individual speaker. Borrowing may occur in the speech of those with only monolingual competence, while code switching implies some degree of competence in two languages.

Thus, scholars such as Pfaff (1979) and Seligson (1986) seem to set certain clear-cut criteria for differentiating codeswitching and borrowing. For instance, Sridhar and Sridhar (1980, 204) as cited in Webb and Kembo-Sure (2000, 93) pointed out the difference as follows:

Code switching is different from borrowing in the following respects. In code switching first of all, the switched elements do not fill 'lexical gaps' in the hosts language, secondly, they are not restricted to a more or less limited set of lexical items accepted by the speech community of the host language; and thirdly, they are not necessarily assimilated in to the host language by regular phonological and morphological processes.

#### **2.1.2.2. Codeswitching vs. Codemixing**

Codeswitching has been defined earlier from linguistics, sociolinguistic, and anthropology perspectives. Like codeswitching, code mixing has been defined by various scholars differently. For instance, Torres (1997, 25) defines code mixing as: "The alternation use of two languages in a single utterance." For Torres, it seems that there is no difference between codeswitching and codemixing. It is reported as if they were symmetrically equal results of language contact phenomena in a multilingual community or language contact situations. Lambert (2005, 338) defines code mixing in a similar way as: "Code mixing refers to local vocabulary composed of a combination of two languages". It seems ambiguous that sociolinguists or linguists have not reached an accord on the precise peculiarity between codeswitching and codemixing. To this end, as pointed out in his codeswitching: Amharic-English research, Zelealem (1998, 198) indicates that there seems to be no consensus among linguists on the dissimilarity between codeswitching and codemixing.

Similarly, Fasold (1984, 183) suggests that the relationship between codeswitching and codemixing as earlier stated (page 10 of this paper) seems strongly related to each other. They are intertwining each other on point of continuum line in between codeswitching

and borrowing. However, there are many linguists or sociolinguists who argue that there is a clear-cut difference between codeswitching and codemixing. Wardhaugh (1992, 110) elaborates the distinction as:

Codeswitching and codemixing themselves are not uniform phenomena; i.e., the norms vary from group to group, even within what might be regarded as a single community.

Similarly, Bokamba (1990, 19) as cited in Zelealem (1998, 199) points out the difference between codeswitching and code mixing as:

Codeswitching is the mixing of words, phrases and sentences from two distinct grammatical (sub-) systems across sentence boundaries within the same speech event. In other words, codeswitching is intersentential switching. Codemixing is the embedding of various linguistic units such as affixes (bound morphemes), words (unbound morphemes), phrases and clauses from two distinct grammatical (sub -) systems within the same sentence and speech event. That is, code mixing is intrasentential switching.

By the same token, Webb and Kembo-Sure (2000, 92) explains the dissimilarity between codeswitching and code mixing as follows:

Traditionally, the term code switching and code mixing are used to label subtypes of such linguistic behavior; code switching refers to language alternation across sentence boundaries, and code mixing to language alternation within sentence boundaries.

However, current studies or researches tend to use codeswitching as a cover term for instances of both codeswitching and code mixing (Ibid, 93). Therefore, the writer of this study has used the recent idea of codeswitching. Codeswitching in this study is used as an inclusive term for both codeswitching and code mixing. To this end, the writer uses both codeswitching and code mixing interchangeably in this paper or the former as a generic word for both codeswitching and code mixing.

### **2.1.3. Types of Codeswitching**

Different scholars categorize codeswitching differently based on various motives viewed from different streams. Thus, various, educators named differently for the types of mixed or switched codes by bilinguals in their conversations. The classifications may be closely

related to the linguistic and social approaches of codeswitching. To this end, types of codeswitching are treated in two ways in this paper. This is intended to help for clarity and insight to the study directly or indirectly.

### **2.1.3.1. Types of Codeswitching Based on Social Aspects**

This type of switching comes about on the bases of social settings and norms. Thus, sociolinguists, linguists, psycholinguists and anthropological linguists have been busying themselves for years to identify the why, the how, and the when of the occurrences of codeswitching phenomenon. According to Blom and Gumperz (1972) and Gumperz (1982) as cited in Bikila (2008), codeswitching is classified into situational, conversational and metaphorical based on style of shift and scope of switching (cf. Kashoki 1982 and Dulm 2007).

**Situational Codeswitching:** According to, Wardhough (1986, 103), this type of codeswitching occurs when the language used changes according to the situation in which the conversants find themselves that they speak one language in one situation and another in different one.

In such types of codeswitching, bilinguals or multilinguals are switching or mixing their codes not based on the topic of the conversation but based on the social milieu. Comparable to the above mentioned point, Gumperz (1971, 290) points out that the notion of situational codeswitching assumes a direct relationship between language and the social situation.

**Metaphorical Codeswitching:** In such types of codeswitching, bilinguals (multilingual) change or switch the code within the topic. Widdowson (1998, 51) posits that the function of this type of codeswitching is a powerful mechanism for signaling social attitudes or claiming group membership, solidarity or team spirit. Metaphorical codeswitching is described as; “--- when (A) phrases are inserted metaphorically in to a (B) conversation, this may, depending on the circumstances, add a special social meaning of confidentiality or privateness to the conversations (Gumperz 1971, 296).

language.” He adds that the tag switching serves as an emblem of bilingual character and otherwise monolingual sentence. As to Gluth’s explanations this type of codeswitching is the best measure to see whether there is code mixing or switching in a bilingual community. That is why he called it emblem type of codeswitching.

**Intersentential Codeswitching:** Different scholars have defined it in relation to the structural aspects of codeswitching. For example, Zelealem (1998, 198) defines intersentential codeswitching as: “The alternate use of codes between sentences.” By the same token, Gluth (2008, 9) describes that a switch in which a language occurs at clause or sentence boundary, where each clause or sentences is in one language or another (See Romaine 1995, Savin 1995, Seligson 1986 and Pfaff 1979). The types of codes switched into a certain sentences of other languages can be used as a measure of competence or ability of the code switchers on the languages s/he speaks in a mixed manner. As some scholars have been trying to reveal, language mixers can be judged as fluent or not fluent depending the amount of constituents they are switched into the matrix languages. According to Becker (1997), as cited in Bishop (2006, 11- 12), an individual’s level of second language ability can be demonstrated through his manner of codeswitching. For example, those with low levels of proficiency (such as those at the early stages of second language acquisition) engage in intersentential switching .That is, one sentence is first spoken in one language, and another complete sentence is then spoken in the alternate language. This use has been suggested for fear of violating grammatical rules when speaking, as this is less “risky”.

Thus, this type of codeswitching happens in individuals who are not fluent in the second or third languages. They simply mix large-sized constituents of the embedded (guest) languages into their first or second languages consciously.

**Intrasentential Codeswitching:** It has been defined by different sociolinguistic and linguistic experts, and it is perhaps among the relatively studied sociolinguistic elements of codeswitching. According to Gluth (2008, 9), intrasentential type of codeswitching represents a switch at clause, phrase level or at word level if no morphological adaptation occurs and the mentioned above criteria for distinguishing code switches and borrowings

are observed. Similarly, Romaine (1995, 123) identifies that intrasentential codeswitching involves arguably, the greatest syntactic risk and may be avoided by all but the most fluent bilinguals (see Zelealem 1998, Seligson 1986 and Pfaff 1979). It is quite clear that intrasentential codeswitching is a language contact phenomena in which the switch or mix of one code over the other occurs within a sentence or clause level. To this end, codeswitchers have highly developed bilingual proficiency to engage in this type of codeswitching situations. (Becker 1997) as cited in Bishop (2006, 12) confirms this idea as: "More advanced bilingual speakers evidence their proficiency in both languages by participating in intrasentential codeswitching, where the speaker switches back and forth within a single sentence."(cf. Zelealem 1998, Seligson 1986, Pfaff 1979).

#### **2.1.4. Model of Codeswitching**

Researches on codeswitching indicate that there is not any codeswitching theory devised yet. But there is a proposition forwarded by linguists, psycholinguists, sociolinguists and anthropological linguists about the axioms or maxims of linguistic constraints and models of codeswitching. It is tried to present some nitty-gritty models and constraints of codeswitching as follows.

##### **2.1.4.1. Models of Codeswitching Based on Social Aspects**

Normally, the model developed by Myer-Scotton (1993) and the social psychological theory developed by Giles 1973 as cited in Torres (1997) are used by sociolinguists as follows.

**Markedness Model:** Myers- Scotton (1993, 478) elaborates this model as:

The pre-mise underlying my Markedness Model for the social motivations for code switching is that the speakers use the possibility of making code choices to negotiate interpersonal relationships, and by extension to signal their perceptions or desires about group memberships. I propose that this comes about because speakers possess a "Negotiation Principle" (Myer-Scotton 1993b, Scotton 1983, 1988).

According to Myer-Scotton, speakers are expressed their ideas and feelings based on the languages which are associated with particular social roles. She called these social roles as rights-and-obligations (OR) sets. Nilep (2006, 11) confirm this idea as:

...Myers-Scotton assumes that speakers must share, at least to some extent, an understanding of the social meanings of each available code. If no such norms existed, interlocutors would have no basis for understanding the significance of particular code choices.

This model is devised based on four maxims and modeled on Grice's "Cooperative Principle" of 1975 in its structure by Myer-Scotton (1993). Her four proposed maxims are:

The sequential unmarked choice maxim: switch from one unmarked code to another when situational features change during an interaction such that the unmarked choice changes. The codeswitching as unmarked choice maxim: maintaining a pattern of switching between codes when the unmarked rights and obligations balance for participants is that indexed by both codes, not one alone. The marked choice maxim: switch to a marked choice in order to negotiate a different rights and obligations balance than the one indexed by the unmarked choice. The exploratory choice maxim: in the less conventionalized exchanges where unmarked choice is not obvious, use code switch to propose one or more codes, each the unmarked index of a possible rights and obligations balance for the interaction.

The four maxims are not equally important for certain codeswitching situation to motivate. But the unmarked codeswitching and marked codeswitching are most relevant to any intersection of structurally motivated constraints on codeswitching with socio-pragmatic intentions (Ibid). She proposes that codeswitching is marked and unmarked. The unmarked code is the preferred language in that context. To this end, English, Amharic and Tigrinya are the unmarked language in Tigray since all have special use on the region based on certain social, political, and economical attractions. Amharic is unmarked code in some federal issues and English is unmarked too in higher institutions, high schools and NGOs in Ethiopia, whereas Tigrinya is used as marked codes in local issues. Durano (2009, 17) affirms this as:

Unmarked code-switching denotes that the language used is one "that would be expected in that context" (18) while marked code-switching refers to the language choice which "would not be expected in that context" (30).

Markedness model has got critic from some linguistic scholars for it is highly related to external knowledge. Nilep (2006, 11) supported this idea as: "Some critics of the markedness model argue that it relies too heavily on external knowledge, including assumptions about what speakers understand and believe". Similarly, Auer (1998) as cited in Nilep (2006, 11) argues that it is possible to account for codeswitching behavior without appeal to the "conversation-external knowledge about language use" required by the markedness model. However, this model is very essential for measuring codeswitching situations. Nilep (2006, 12) claimed that the markedness model is probably the most influential and most fully developed model of codeswitching motivations.

**Accommodation Theory:** Fasold (1984, 188) explains accommodation theory as:

Normally, accommodation takes the form of convergence, in which a speaker will choose a language or language variety that seems to suit the need of the person being spoken to; under some conditions, though, a speaker may fail to converge or he may even diverge.

This theory mainly lies in the social psychology researches but it is also important in sociolinguistic research as (Ibid) explained above. Accommodation theory can be manifested in the form of convergence and divergence in a bilingual speech community. The bilingual speakers may cling into him/herself linguistically with the person who speaks a similar or dissimilar with either their first language or second language. They could carry out such phenomena depending on the situations in which the two or more bilinguals are twisting in. Moreover, Giles and Powersland (1975, 157) point out that this theory suggests that an individual can induce another to evaluate him more favorably by reducing dissimilarities between them.

The speaker's switch of one language codes into another can be treated as the motivation of converging to or diverging from the speaker for reason of similarity or dissimilarity.

According to Heller (1988b), as cited in Bishop (2006, 44), codeswitching can be used to appeal to the shared understanding characteristic of co-membership, or to create distance by associating oneself, momentarily, with the out group.

Therefore, according to speech accommodation theory, speakers may use codeswitching for purposes of convergence or divergence in social settings. Myers-Scotton (1993, p. 66) as cited in Bishop (2006, 44), explains this position as follows:

Giles suggests that, in many social interactions, speakers desire their listeners' social approval, and use modification of their speech towards the listeners' code as a tactic to get this approval. This is called accommodation or convergence. But in other situations, speakers may wish to disassociate themselves from listeners; they do this by accentuating their linguistic differences. This is called speech divergence.

According to Bishop (2006, 45), codeswitching may also occur between a bilingual and a monolingual. That is, the bilingual will switch to the native language of the monolingual to accommodate the monolingual and enable communication.

#### **2.1.4.2. Models of Codeswitching Based on Structural Aspects**

Cantone (2007, 58) points out that in some studies in the 1970s, it has been argued that there is no evidence for syntactic restriction in codeswitching. In contrast, later studies on the mixture of two languages have at least one shared assumption; namely, there are syntactic restrictions in this specific speech style. Seligson (1986, 313) says that in recent years, research has increasingly pointed toward the universality of three linguistic constraints on codeswitching: an equivalence of structure constraint, size of constituent constraint and a free morphemes constraint.

Besides, there are agreements on the description of these presuppositions which can characterize these restrictions. The universal constraints and linguistic constituents are listed as follows.

**The Equivalence Constraint:** Cantone (2007, 63) clarifies that the equivalence constraint predicts switches only if the word order of the two languages converges. The structure of the two languages involved must be equivalent, and the switching point must be possible in both grammars, otherwise no switching is allowed (see Pfaff 1979, Seligson 1986 and Muysken 2000). Similarly, Poplack (1980, 586) as cited in Zelealem (1998, 20-205) illustrates the equivalence constraint as:

Codeswitching will tend to occur at points in discourse where juxtaposition of L<sub>1</sub> and L<sub>2</sub> element[s] does not violate a syntactic rule of either language, i.e. at points around which the surface structures of the two languages map onto each other. According to this simple constraint, a switch is inhibited from occurring with in a constituent generated by a rule which is not shared by the other.

This kind of constraint is respected when two or more languages which have the same word order or similar morpho-syntactic features are mixed by multilingual individuals. Therefore, equivalence constraint is very essential to distinguish the structural behavior of language codes which are switched into and being switched.

**Size of Constituent Constraint:** Quoting Gumperz and Hernandez-Chavez (1975) and Poplack (1980), Seligson (1986, 313) illustrates that the size of constituent constraints says that high – level constituents, that is major constituents (e.g. sentences, clauses) tend to be switched more frequently than lower- level constituents, or smaller ones (i.e., one word category such as nouns, determiners, verbs, adverbs, adjectives) (see Zelealem 1998, Poplack 1980 Meysken 2000). Likewise, this type of constraint is very essential to analyze the morpho-syntactic nature of the both the matrix and embedded languages in language contact phenomena.

**Free Morpheme Constraint:** It is defined by different scholars, for instance, Cantone (2007, 64) elaborates this constraint as: “The free morpheme constraint (FMC) predicts that no word-internal switches are allowed.” Similarly, Cook (1991, 65) as cited in Skiba (1997) illustrates that free morpheme constraint (FMC) suggests that a speaker may not switch language between a word and its endings unless the word is pronounced as if it were in the language of the ending (see Zelealem 1998, Seligson 1986, and Poplack 1980). Myers-Scotton (1993a , 30-31) as cited in Namba (n.d. , 69) points out that the free morpheme constraint was accepted more than the equivalence constraints in the 1980s. This constraint is allowed when one language or more languages is/are switched into another only in its free morpheme forms but not in its bound forms . For example, chapter-otj is possible in Amharic as attested by Zelealem (1998) but the reverse is not allowed in the Amharic-English code switching. By the same token, in Tigrinya chemical-tat is possible but not the reverse.

**Matrix Language Frame Model:** Matrix language frame model is one of the most influential models to account for intrasentential codeswitching. It was first proposed and used to examine sociolinguistic corpus by Myers-Scotton in the 1990s.

Cantone (2007, 69) points out that the matrix language frame (MLF) model is an attempt, at an abstract grammatical frame that contributes the Morpho-syntactic structure for an utterance. According to Myers-Scotton (1993, 485), the matrix language frame (MLF) model begins by recognizing three types of constituents within intrasentential CS (codeswitching), and goes on to distinguish them in terms of the language production processes involved in their creation.

The constituent types are presented as follows from Myers-Scotton's (1993, 485-486) masterpieces in which she attested based on examples from Swahili /English codeswitching.

- I. Matrix language (ML) island consist entirely of morphemes from the matrix language; they show internal structural dependency while meeting ML well-formedness conditions. Similarly, Savic (1995, 476) defines this type of constraints as "ML islands (constituents) contain only morphemes from the matrix language, which are organized according to the structural principle of ML."
- II. Embedded language (EL) islands –According to Myers -Scotton (1993, 436) this constituent is made up of entirely EL morphemes, and must meet EL wellformedness conditions. Similarly, Savic (1995, 476) explains the embedded language islands as: "Embedded language (EL) islands contain only EL morphemes, organized according to the well-formedness principles of the EL grammar."
- III. Mixed ML + EL constituents consist of two characteristic patterns, a singly occurring lexeme from the EL embedded in any number of ML morpho-syntactic frame (Myers-Scotton 1993, 486). Besides, Savic (1995, 476) illustrates it accordingly as Mixed ML +EL islands contain morphemes from both languages, organized according to the structural principles of both languages: a single EL Morpheme, or an EL island (formed according to the structural principles of EL) embedded within a large ML constituent (e.g., an EL noun +modifier with in a large ML constituent). Savic (1995,476) supported this idea as the constituents

which are relevant in intrasentential codeswitching are ML+EL constituents. It is the ML that determines the morpho-syntactic of these islands.

**Linguistic Constituents:** Bilinguals/multilinguals could switch or mix codes in their day to day activities in a bilingual community or any where else. The switched codes contain various kinds of linguistic constituents from both languages (base and guest languages). Linguistic constituents on the codeswitching can be treated as switchable, non-switchable, frequently switched and less frequently switched as a result of the language contact phenomena.

Constituent is defined by SIL international (2004) that it is one of the two or more grammatical units that enter syntactically or morphologically in to a construction at any level. Furthermore, Zelealem (1998,209) elaborates that constituents are categorized as minimal category such as nouns, verbs, adverbs, adjective etc, and maximum category such as noun phrases, prepositional phrases, complement phrases etc. Similarly, Seligson (1986, 324) classifies constituents as large-sized constituent which contains independent clauses, coordinate clauses, prepositional clauses, and adverbial clauses; and small-sized constituents that includes adjectives, adverbs, nouns, verbs, and determiners. On the other hand, constituents can be classified as closed class and open class constituents based on their sizes and functions. Thus, the opened class constituents are liable to be switched but not the closed class constituents. Namba (n.d.) confirms these concepts as:

Closed class items such as determiners, quantifiers, prepositions, possessives, Aux, Tense, and helping verbs, however, can not be switched. The concepts of asymmetry and the distinction between closed and open class items are redefined and further developed in the MLF model.

**Matrix Language:** According to Eastman (1992), as cited in Zelealem (1998, 202), the term matrix language refers to the language in which the majority of morphemes in a given conversation occur. According to Rezaeian(2009, 8), the most followed approach to codeswitching is that of the Matrix language frame (MLF) model ,according to which one of the language involved in codeswitching has more dominant role in determining the morpho-syntactic structure of the codeswitching utterance and is thus labeled ‘the Matrix language’; the other language (embedded language)has less active role .Similarly, Savic

(1995, 476) elaborates that the matrix language is the one that projects the morpho-syntactic structure of the sentence; it is also the language that provides the largest proportion of morphemes within a discourse of at least two sentences. Besides, Zelealem (1998, 202) elaborates that Amharic was the matrix language in his Amharic-English codeswitching. He used about four criteria to select Amharic as a matrix language. He illustrates the factors as:

In the data, the number of Amharic words, phrases and clauses is greater than the number of English words, phrases and clauses. The interviewee's dominant language was Amharic rather than English. The interview was carried out moreover in Amharic during an Amharic broadcast. And also the organization of the grammatical rules in the discourse, such as word order, syntactic categories, morphological elements and intonation patterns were of Amharic.

**Embedded Language:** Sridhar (1996, 57), as cited in Dawit (2008, 11), defines an embedded language as "... the guest language that serves in the mixture which is governed by the grammar of the host or matrix language." Similarly, Namba (n.d., 71) defines embedded language in collaboration with matrix languages as: "The language which provides the abstract morpho-syntactic frame and the frame itself is called the matrix language (ML) and the other participating language is called embedded language (EL)."

### 2.1.5. Attitudes of Languages

Language attitude is the feeling which people have about their own dialectal or language varieties or about other languages or varieties. These perceptions or feelings may come about due to various negative and positive motives such as economical, cultural, social and political influences. Attitude is defined by (Eagly & Chaiken, 1993), as cited in Durano (2009, 18), as "psychological tendency that is expressed by evaluating a particular entity with some degree of favor or disfavor." This psychological tendency can be intrinsic which can be influenced by the extrinsic factors such as economy, culture, social settings and political tensions and historical background. According to Durano (2009, 18), attitude is the result of judgments experienced collectively. Consequently, each individual's judgment is intrinsic and is affected by peripheral factors such as behavior, culture and belief (cf. Aker 1982, Hill and Kenneth 1980.)

In the same fashion, Koch, Gross and Kolts (2001, 30 ) describe language attitudes as:

If a person is speaking the language of the positively viewed in-group, then the person will likely be viewed as possessing positive attributes. Conversely, people who speak differently may be perceived as possessing undesirable traits.

People may develop hatred or love towards their own language due to psychological, social, economical and political motives. These factors are very important pressure in certain community to have positive or negative attitude towards language in a certain multilingual/bilingual speech community. Many native Tigrinya speakers prefer to express their ideas, feelings and environment in Amharic or a few in English than in Tigrinya. This indicates that Tigrinya speakers have negative attitude towards their language perhaps due to the above mentioned factors.<sup>3</sup>

Therefore, this may be the case for the point that many Tigrinya native bilinguals are heard always uttering out Amharic switched Tigrinya or English switched Tigrinya in their daily conversations.

### **2.1.5.1. Attitudes of Monolinguals and Bilinguals towards Codeswitching**

The attitude towards the switched Tigrinya is viewed from both the bilingual speakers and monolingual speakers. Bishop (2006, 31), quoting (Grosjean 1982; Luna and Peracchio 2005a) describes this idea as: “A bilingual’s attitude toward codeswitching is one of the most important determinants of whether or not he practices it and how he views others who use it.” On the other hand, bilinguals may have negative attitude towards codeswitching even though they have been engaging in codeswitching phenomena.

Bilinguals are believed to possess negative attitudes towards codeswitching, even when its use is common among community members. “Past research has indicated that

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<sup>3</sup> Atakliti (2008) explains when it is observed in general, Tigrinya speakers have negative attitude towards their language though it is not dire to say all Tigrinya native speakers have negative attitude towards their language. (My own translation from Tigrinya)

bilinguals have a negative attitude toward codeswitching in spite of its widespread use in society” (Ibid).

On the other hand, others believe that the attitude of bilinguals towards codeswitching is positive. For example, Stavans (2003) as cited in Bishop (2006, 32) states that others view Spanglish favorably (although in his research he is actually referring to codeswitching), as “a positive manifestation of the Hispanic spirit, that to speak a ‘broken’ language was, in the academic lingo, a construction”. Still, others have mixed feelings towards the mixing of the two codes, one is explicit and the other is implicit. They may say that they have negative attitude towards codeswitching but on reality we see them mixing one language items into another language items consciously or unconsciously .Bishop (2006, 32) confirms by saying:

... Consider mixing two languages as a sign of “linguistic dexterity” and a tool to evidence another positively evaluated identity. Thus, there appears to be a discrepancy between explicit (stated) attitudes and implicit attitudes (actual beliefs) toward codeswitching.

According to Hussein (1999) as cited in Bishop (2006, 32), there seems to be a marked contrast between what some bilinguals believe and their actual verbal behavior. Whereas they call for a separation in the use of the two codes and the elimination of elements from language A in the use of language B and vice versa, their actual speech behavior points to the contrary.

Moreover, many monolinguals have negative attitudes towards bilinguals’ codeswitching material. They even think that this is done deliberately to look down for them. Zelealem (1998,211- 212) elaborate that monolinguals have a negative attitude towards code switching, especially to careless code switching that occurs without consideration for either the situation (formal and informal) or hearers’ backgrounds.

The switching of one language item into another language item is treated as abnormal situation that has happened deliberately by bilinguals. The monolinguals seem to express their hatred to wards those who mix other language items into their first language.

### 2.1.6. Reasons of Codeswitching Incidences

Various reasons of codeswitching have been identified based on scholastically gathered data by researchers. These reasons range from a relatively high to less attributes depending on the respondents perspectives. Skiba (1997) says that there are a number of possible reasons for the switch from one language to another. He presents the possible reasons of codeswitching quoting Crystal's suggestion as summarized as: Speakers may not be able to express him/ her self in one language, so switching to the other may compensate for the deficiency. Codeswitching commonly occurs when an individual wishes to express solidarity with a particular social group. The alternation occurs when the speaker wishes to convey his/her attitude to the listener.

Similarly, Tatioka (n.d., 131) affirms the reasons of codeswitching as follows:

In other words, the speaker may use a different linguistic code when communicating with relatives and close friends, but he/she may wish to switch in the presence of strangers. Furthermore, in cases where two distinct linguistic varieties of the same language participate in code-switching, speakers switch from one to the other in order to signal the status of their relation or the degree of formality or informality of the interaction. Moreover, code-switching has an affective function where the speaker switches in order to amuse the addressee or in order to express approval or disapproval.

According to Holmes (2001, 34-44), codeswitching is mostly affected by the topic of the interaction, the situation in which it occurs as well as by the addressee. Interlocutors that share a common ethnic background may switch to their native tongue in order to demonstrate their common ethnic identity or to express their solidarity towards their fellow addressee.

Moreover, Zelealem (1998, 213) argues that codeswitching is sometimes used by bilinguals as solidarity marker. Myer-Scotton (2005), as cited in Rezaeian (2009, 12), proposes five interrelated factors of codeswitching which are summarized as: First, people switch codes when some concepts are absent from the matrix language lexicon. Second, the embedded language better candidate for certain register. Third, the embedded element narrows down the meaning of the matrix element and specifies it in a way that suites the speaker's intentions. Fourth, the embedded language may have

connotation that is not conveyed by the ML element. Finally, the embedded element may attract the listener's attention or focus.

Thus, the bilinguals need to build rapport with their listeners in a given social settings. This time they may switch language codes from the listener's linguistic repertoires to hint they need to create social or personal bond with him /her.

## 2.2. Related Works

It is not very easy to find books, journal articles and readings written in the indigenous Ethiopian languages, even there is very scanty researches done on codeswitching in Ethiopian. Most of the conducted researches on this realm of codeswitching consider the switch between Ethiopian languages or between indigenous and international languages. It is customary to find MA thesis, BA senior essays and a single journal article about codeswitching in the context of Ethiopia. The following MA theses and BA senior essay are the most available documents of codeswitching data evident from Ethiopian languages and imported language.

Zealelem (1998) conducted a research entitled: **Amharic: English codeswitching**. This is the only published journal article on issues of English codeswitching into the Ethiopian indigenous language (Amharic). Zealelem's work is entirely similar with my study in its topic and methodology. But my study is different from Zealelem's work on the following issues: my research is mainly targeted on Language use on Tigrinya Medias or FM radios unlike Zealelem's Amharic-English codeswitching; it considers social and linguistic features of codeswitching relegating psycholinguistic characteristics. In general, my study differs in its settings and language focus from the above mentioned study.

In addition to this, there is a senior essay conducted by Yemane Tesfay (2006) entitled: **Characteristics and types of English loanwords in Tigrinya**. Yemane has tried to identify English loanwords from a limited issue; he also portrays the phonological and morphological features of English loanwords in Tigrinya language. His study differs from this study in the following ways: the writer of this research mainly focuses on the social

and linguistic features of codeswitching unlike features of loanwords; these linguistic and structural features of codeswitching are described and explained.

Furthermore, Dawit (2004) carried out a research on codeswitching between two indigenous languages (**Kefinoono and Amharic**). He discloses the structural characteristics of codeswitching between Amharic and Kefinoono based on the arguments and findings of Poplack (1980), Myers\_Scotton (1997), Zelealem (1998) and Seligson (1986) using observation as a tool. Dawit's study concises with the writers study for both deal with the descriptive structural aspects of codeswitching. However, in this study, the social aspect of codeswitching is incorporated unlike Dawit's work. This research also differs in the area of study and Language focus. Kefinoono and Bonga are Dawit's study language and area respectively, whereas, the writer's study language is Tigrinya and the area is in Tigray regional state.

In the same manner, Bikila (2008) conducted a study on: **codeswitching between Afan-oromo and English**. He describes the conversational and structural aspects of code switching between the indigenous language (Afan-oromo) and foreign language (English). He has used codeswitching data from archives and recordings to describe the social and structural features of codeswitching between Afan-oromo and English. My research is similar with Bikila's for both focus on the social and structural aspects of code switching; and both deal with when English switches in to indigenous languages. But this work differs from his work in the following ways: unlike Bikila I have targeted on codeswitching on one of the Ethio-Semitic languages (Tigrinya), and regarding the social aspects of code switching the writer of this paper is not focusing on analysis of conversational code switching but on the attitudes and possible reasons of codeswitching.

## CHAPTER THREE

### 3. Research Methodology and Design

#### 3.1. Data gathering Instruments

To undertake an assessment on Codeswitching on Tigrinya FM radio, three major tools were used by the researcher. These were questionnaires, interviews and audio recordings. The importance and the way how they were carried out are discussed as follows.

##### 3.1.1. Questionnaire

Questionnaires have been used by different scholars to gather bits of information from the target population. Many researchers elaborated the importance of questionnaires as follows. Gillham (2000, 7), cited in Tatsioka (n.d.), describes that questionnaires were preferred to other methods such as interview because they are cost and time-efficient and they do not require the development of any personal relations with the respondents. In addition to that, questionnaires are less biased by the interviewer as compared to interviews. Similarly, Widdowson(1998,12) notes that to obtain analyzable data about attitude and behaviors, a common technique is the questionnaire, a prepared list of questions to which strangers are asked to respond. According to, Seliger and Shohamy (1989, 172), confirm this as:

In a second language acquisition research, questionnaires are used mostly to collect data on phenomena which are not easily observed, such as attitudes, motivations and self-concepts.

Therefore, to collect language use information from Tigrinya FM radio broadcasting programs, questionnaires were one of the tools being used. The questionnaires were both close-ended and opened-ended. They were designed to be filled by bilinguals who listen in the TFRPs, and bilingual journalist, who prepare and present the programs on the media. These tools were used to gather bits of sociolinguistic information that are related to the motives, and perceptions towards codeswitching. Thus, they were targeted towards:

- I. Finding out the attitude of bilinguals towards codeswitching in the Tigrinya FM radio programs
- II. Disclosing the possible reasons, that is, why bilinguals switch one syntactic constituent into another languages' syntactic constituents and vice -versa.
- III. Identifying who are the frequent codeswitchers and with whom they are engaged in codeswitching phenomenon.
- IV. Determining the linguistic constituents which are frequently and heavily switched into Tigrinya language on Tigrinya FM radio.
- V. Assessing the sociolinguistic effect of these switched language codes on the matrix language (Tigrinya), and opening a room for bilinguals to give suggestion on the total use of language on the TFRPs in and around Mekelle.

### **3.1.2. Interview**

Interview is an essential instrument that is used to collect first hand data from informants. But it is difficult to incorporate as many respondents as possible for it takes time and energy. Here, the researcher is expected to be patient enough while gathering data through this tool. Widdowson (1998, 11) describes the advantage and disadvantage of interview as: "Interviews provide a good deal of data and are therefore invaluable in studying in depth the language variation of the subject." On the same page, he verifies that interviews are expensive in time and effort, so that the number of different people studied is limited. Thus, in this study, the interview questions were structurally and semi-structurally designed to be answered by monolinguals who are prospected to listen in the TFRPs .It was aimed at digging out the attitudes of monolinguals towards codeswitching (mixed use of language on media); and they suggest possible reasons of codeswitching .

The primary aim of the researcher was to triangulate the issues of sociolinguistic codeswitching from three dimensions, which is, gathering evidences from bilinguals, monolinguals and bilingual journalists. As stated above the interview questions were targeted towards:

- I. Getting the due attitudes form monolinguals towards language use on media (codeswitching phenomena) in focus.
- II. To explore the possible reasons of codeswitching by bilinguals from one language item into another. It is intended to gather some hints from monolinguals.
- III. Identifying who are the frequent codeswitchers and with whom they are engaged in codeswitching phenomena which were given hint by monolinguals to some extent.
- IV. Determining the languages which are frequently and heavily switched into Tigrinya on Tigrinya FM radio programs (Media language).
- V. Assessing the sociolinguistic effect of these switched language codes on the matrix langue; and opening a room for monolingual speakers to suggest on the total use of Tigrinya language on FM media.

### **3.1.3. Audio Recording**

Recording can be carried out through the bilateral agreement of the researchers and interviewees or with out the free will of the respondents. However, the latter has been found unacceptable for some reasons. For example, Widdowson (1998, 10) argues as:

Clandestine recording has been tried and largely abandoned. There are practical reasons, for the tapes are usually noisy and require very expensive processing .There are also ethical ones.

Therefore, hidden recordings were not used in this study since they will have many consequences on the finding of the research. The open and overt audio recordings were the main tools that were used to collect information from monolinguals through interview. Tape recordings are now in the open and researchers are generally satisfied that any initial anxiety affecting the level of formality will disappear as an interview continues (Ibid). Audio recordings were used to gather linguistic data from the aired Tigrinya FM radio programs from both FM 102.2 and 104.4.

Recordings were carried out side by side while the data were gathered through questionnaire and interview. This instrument was basically targeted towards:

- I. Assessing whether the switched language items into Tigrinya are governed by the grammatical rule of Tigrinya or develop to be governed by third grammar.
- II. To prove or disprove which linguistic constituents of the embedded languages were frequently switched, less frequently switched or non-switchable at all.
- III. To verify which type of codeswitching are respected or disrespected successfully in the English-Tigrinya or Amharic-Tigrinya codeswitching phenomena.
- IV. To see which type of universal linguistic constraints apply in the switched language items in the Tigrinya FM radio programs.

### **3.2. Subject of the Study**

The subjects of this study were Tigrinya FM radio journalists, bilinguals and monolingual Tigreans who listen in Tigrinya FM radio programs which are aired in and around Mekelle. In addition to this, the aired programs were part of the study to collect linguistic data of codeswitching on the Tigrinya FM radios. Both the bilingual journalists and bilingual Tigrinya FM radio participant were BA degree holders and above. The monolingual respondents were not totally conversant. They were interviewed from each corner of the city: east, west, north and south. Most of interviewees were selected from Debri, Romant, Aynalem, Mymekiden, Adiha, Serawat and latf'f'i Kebeles.

The journalists were given questionnaires through their representatives, of course, with a serious follow up of the researcher. Most of them are permanent workers and a few are contract workers in both FM 102.2 and FM 104.4 stations.

The bilingual respondents were taken from different organizations: Mekelle University, Mekelle political institute, Mekelle Arts College, and Sheba University College. By the same token, the linguistic data were recorded from the daily aired programs of the two stations (FM 102.2 and 104.4).

### 3.3. Sampling Techniques

In this study, both the quantitative and qualitative way of sampling techniques were used. The qualitative sampling was used to gather linguistic data from the live discussion of daily aired TFRPs. In the two stations (FM 102.2 and 104.4), there are various chunks of daily programs. Thus, the researcher recorded some relevant data from both stations for about a series of four (4) solid weeks. The recorded speeches were loaded in seven (7) cassettes which were later translated into English and then transcribed into the IPA writing systems. The frequently switched languages are taken as subject of the study among others in the TFRPs. <sup>4</sup>243 different Amharic and English linguistic constituents were taken as sample resources from the recorded data. These sample data were used to verify and then clarify the grammatical characteristics of mixed Tigrinya with either English or Amharic languages.

The quantitative sampling techniques were used so as to collect sociolinguistic related issues of codeswitching from FM Participant bilinguals, bilingual journalists and monolinguals.

Monolinguals were selected purposefully for interview for fear that there might be bilinguals among them. Even the place or Kebeles were selected purposefully having the criteria in the researchers mind such as:

- I. Whether the Kebeles are found within the frequency cover of either /both of the two FM radio programs (FM.102.2or 104.4).
- II. Whether there are listeners of Radio FM (102.2/104.4) around the proposed Kebles?

Accordingly, seven (7) Kebeles were taken as a sample with a random distribution of interviewees within those Kebeles. The interviewees were 8 respondents From Serawat, 4

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<sup>4</sup> Although there were multi-switch of language items on the Tigrinya FM radio programs, Amharic and English are treated here because it is difficult to assess all now. I advise for researchers to conduct on the relegated switched topic of codeswitching or I promise to carry out on this topic in depth when I have time and budget.

from Latf'f'i , 7 from Adiha , 10 from Romanat , 5 from Aynalem , 6 from Mymekiden and 5 from Debiri . Therefore, the sampling technique was at first a purposeful samplings technique; and at selecting the number of respondent distribution, it was deviated to simple random sampling.

In regard to bilingual journalists, cluster sampling technique was used. The managers of the organizations told the researcher on Jan. 15-20, 2011 interview series that there are about 31 bilingual journalists, both permanent and contract .Therefore, questionnaires were distributed among all the selected bilingual journalists based on the numbers obtained from the managers of these organizations. All returned the questionnaire successfully. Seventeen (17) were from FM 102.2 and the rest Fourteen (14) were from FM 104.4.

Besides, four important organizations or sites were purposefully selected by the researcher in which the questionnaires were distributed among FM radio bilingual listeners. These were Mekelle University, Mekelle political institute, Mekelle Arts College, and Sheba University College. The criteria which were used to select the preferred place were:

- I. Can bilinguals be found excessively?
- II. Is it the place where individuals can be invited to be interviewed on the FM radio?
- III. Are the bilinguals possibly FM radio listeners?

Thus, the sampling technique was purposeful at the very beginning but latter it was deviated to be random when questionnaires were distributed among the chosen bilinguals. So, it is a multistage sampling technique in this case.

In Mekelle University, about 33 copies of the questionnaire were distributed selectively among students and instructors. It was choosy in order to exclude the non listeners of the Tigrinya FM radio programs and non native Tigrinya speakers. From these 30 copies of the questionnaire were successfully returned. Similarly, 25 copies of questionnaire were randomly distributed among instructors and students in Sheba University College. The dispatching technique was random because unlike the Mekelle Universiy the researcher

believed that there would not be individuals who do not speak Tigrinya as a first language unlike Mekelle University. From the dispatched questionnaires 23 copies were successfully returned. Arts College was formerly known as Mekelle college of Teachers Education, here 16 copies of questionnaire were distributed among instructors, and 15 were successfully returned. Finally, 14 questionnaires were distributed among bilingual workers of the recently established institute: Mekelle political institute and 12 were successfully returned.

### **3.4. Sample Size**

Since the study is both qualitative and quantitative in approach, both sociolinguistic and linguistic data are included. For the social codeswitching data, 31 bilingual Tigrinya FM radio Journalists (both permanent and contract employee), 80 bilingual Tigrinya radio FM Listeners and 45 monolingual Tigrinya FM radio Listeners are the target group from the population. Linguistically, about 243 Amharic and English linguistic constituents are taken as a sample from the collected data while journalists and interviewees were conversing on the TFRPs. From these 41 (16.87%) are Amharic and the rest 202 (83.13%) are English. Still, from the total sample data 62 (25.5%) are recorded while journalists were presenting issues on live discussions and the rest 181 (74.5%) were from the interviewees who were carrying out interviews on live discussions in either of the two FM radios (102.2 or 104.4).

### **3.5. Data Collection Procedures**

Two types of data were collected by the researcher from different sections of the society. The first was sociolinguistic data which carries questions that can explore the reasons of codeswitching and attitudes towards code mixing on Tigrinya FM radios. The second is linguistic data collected from the live discussion of the FM Tigrinya media. Thus, to collect these lists of information, scientific steps were used as follows.

To gather information from live discussions, the following steps were taken into account.

- I. First, schedule of the daily programs were collected from the FM radio media managers, then the researcher arranged his time budget vis-à-vis this daily radio FM programs.
- II. Second, suitable programs for the topic to be researched were carefully selected.
- III. Finally, the speeches from the daily Tigrinya radio programs were tape recorded.

To gather information through questionnaire, the following steps were considered:

- I. First, sample of research areas were purposefully selected where bilinguals and Tigrinya radio FM. Listeners can be easily found.
- II. Second, questionnaires were distributed randomly among bilinguals who speak Tigrinya as a first language.
- III. Finally, after three days the researcher started to collect these questionnaires from respondents.

To gather data through interview, the following procedures were taken into account.

- I. First, the places (Kebeles) were purposefully selected by the researcher taking into account whether they are within the coverage area; whether there are monolinguals in the Kebeles and if they listen in the Tigrinya FM radio programs.
- II. Selecting monolingual speakers who were volunteers to carry out interview.
- III. Check the willingness of the respondent to be recorded and interviewed
- IV. Finally, interview was carried out by the researcher (which most of the time fail to use tape recorder) since the interviewees had anxiety on the possibility that there might be political issues inside.

### **3.6. Data Analysis**

As has been mentioned above, two kinds of data were collected which were analyzed in two different ways. The first kinds of data were highly related to the sociolinguistic aspects of codemixing or codeswitching. It was analyzed based on the quantitative method of data analysis using unit of statistical measurements such as percentage.

In the same manner, the second part of the analysis is all about linguistic aspects of codeswitching. Thus, the linguistic data are presented both in quantitative and qualitative manners. They were analyzed based on the linguistic constraints or models and transcribed qualitatively using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) as an analyzing tool. By the same token, they are glossed vis-à-vis Leipzig glossing rules. Besides, these linguistic data are analyzed quantitatively to see the most frequently switched and non-switched constituents of the embedded languages into the matrix language.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### 4. Data Analysis and Discussion

In this chapter the sociolinguistic and linguistic data are analyzed, and basically the findings are discussed. The first data attributes to the sociolinguistic aspects of codeswitching in Tigrinya language such as possible reasons for codeswitching and monolingual and bilingual attitudes towards codeswitching. The second data have linguistic natures which can add the credibility and acceptability to the sociolinguistic codeswitching data. It also attempts to attest the validity of universal constraints in the Tigrinya-English or Tigrinya-Amharic codeswitching occurrences.

#### 4.1. Sociolinguistic Data Analysis and Discussion

##### 4.1.1. Analysis of Data Obtained through Interviews and Questionnaires

Bilingual TFRPs listeners and bilingual journalists were asked about their language skills so as to figure out the number of switchable, non-switchable, and the frequently switched languages into Tigrinya. First, they were asked the 'Yes' or 'No' question. To this end, all /100% of the bilingual journalists and bilingual TFRSs listeners reported that they can speak more than one language. Following this, they were requested to list their language skills. Let us see their response on table-1 below.

**Table.1. Language Ability of Journalist and Bilingual Respondents**

Items	Participants	Languages spoken , Frequency and percentage					
		Tigrinya and Amharic only		Tigrinya, Amharic & English		Tigrinya, Amharic, English other languages such as kunama, Arabic etc.	
		F	%	F	%	F	%
Write down the languages you speak?	Bilinguals	3	4.22	57	80.28	11	15.49
	Journalists	-	-	23	74.19	8	25.80

As can be seen from the above table-1, 23 or 74.19% of the journalist and 57 or 80.28 % of the bilingual respondents said that they speak fluently one foreign language-English and one indigenous language- Amharic in addition to their first language (Tigrinya). Moreover, 8/25.80 % of the journalist and 11/15.49% of the bilingual respondents reported that they said that they can speak other languages such as Arabic, Italiano, kunama and Irob in addition to their L<sub>1</sub> (Tigrinya) L<sub>2</sub> (Amharic) and L<sub>3</sub> (English). Arabic has strong affinity with Tigrinya and Amharic historically and in language family ties .Consequently, there are many Arabic loanwords in Tigrinya. (See lelau1951).This fact and the data can indicate that many Arabic words have been used in the Tigrinya lexicons since long time ago. Likewise, 3/ 4.22% of the bilingual TFRPs listeners reported that they only speak Tigrinya and Amharic, and no journalists experienced only these languages.

All the respondents' second and third language ability is Amharic and English respectively. But, insignificant bilingual TFRPs listeners make English their fourth language.

As can be understood from the table-1, 80/72.07% the respondents are trilinguals who can fluently speak Tigrinya, Amharic, and English as a first language, second langue and third language respectively. Besides, from the respondents 15% add other languages as their second, third and fourth. Amharic and Afan Oromo, kunama and Irob are belonging to the Afro-Asiatic language family in which Tigrinya shares the same feature with them especially with Amharic, and the other two Afan Oromo and Irob are belonging to the phylum of Cushitic but kunama is belonging to the Nile Sahara. Irob and kunama are the languages which have high contact with Tigrinya due to their geographic proximity and other socio-cultural and political influences. To this end, from the table-1, one can suggest that Amharic and English switch into Tigrinya frequently in respective manner. And the rest have little influence compared to Amharic which is the sister and politically dominant to Tigrinya; and English which is the internationally influential and dominant language. Thus, it is used as medium of instructions in higher institutions, high schools and some international organizations in the country (Ethiopia) and specifically in the region (Tigray).

The respondents were asked “*Whether or not they were listening in the Tigrinya radio FM programs.*” Here, the respondents are both monolinguals and bilinguals excluding bilingual journalists. Because, the researcher believed that journalists are participant of the TFRPs as it is part of their work. Thus, the answers are presented below in the table-2

**Table.2. Tigrinya FM Radio Program Listeners**

Item	Respondents	Frequency and Percentage			
		Yes		No	
Have you ever been listened in any of the TFRPs?		F	%	F	%
	Monolinguals	38	84.4	7	15.6
	Bilinguals	71	88.75	9	11.25

As can be understood from the above table-2, most of the bilingual respondents 71/88.75 % and 38/84.4% of the monolingual speakers said that they have been listening Tigrinya FM radio programs. On the other hand, 9/11.25% bilingual and 7/15.6% monolingual respondents reported that they do not listen any of the TFRPs (Tigrinya FM radio programs). Thus, the TFRPs have many bilingual and monolingual listeners in their daily activities.

To strengthen the above question, bilingual and monolingual non-listeners of the TFRPs were asked to reason out: “*Why have not they ever listened in the TFRPs?*”

Most of monolingual interviewees (6 out of seven or 85.7%) told the researcher that they have no time to listen because they are busy with collecting their crops day in and day out even though their village is found within the frequency cover of both FM 102.2 and FM 104.4 radio broadcastings. Few of them (one out of seven) also said that he has been listening in the radio FM if and only if there is a music or news program. They added that they didn’t listen in the Tigrinya FM radio programs; because these radios serve only to propagate government policies and strategies. They didn’t even try to

mobilize us to develop our language and culture, they said. By the same token, all (100%) the bilinguals who have not ever listened in the Tigrinya FM radio programs supported the ideas of monolinguals too.

As can be understood from the above figures, most of the people who live within the frequency cover of FM radios are attentive listener of different FM radio broadcasting programs. Very limited numbers of individuals neglect to pay attention for the daily programs of FM radio due to various political, personal and linguistic reasons.

For maintaining the questions, the bilingual and monolingual TFRPs listeners were asked: *“How often they are listening in these Tigrinya FM radio Programs?”* The responses for this question are depicted in the following table-3.

**Table.3. The Incidence of Bilingual and Monolingual Tigrinya FM Radio Program Listeners**

Item	Respondents	Percentage and Frequency					
		Always		Sometimes		rarely	
		F	%	F	%	F	%
How often do you listen in the TFRPs?	Monolinguals	1	2.63	25	65.78	12	31.57
	Bilinguals	12	16.9	51	71.8	8	11.26

As shown in the table-3 above, 12/16.9%, 51/71.78%, and 8/11.26% of the bilingual and 1/2.63%, 25/ 65.78% and 12/31.57% of the monolingual respondents reported that they are listening in the TFRPs always, sometimes and rarely respectively. Therefore, the Tigrinya FM radio programs are listened sometimes by monolinguals and bilinguals in and around Mekelle.

Besides, the researcher asked the participants about: *“Strength and weakness of radio FM in relation to language enhancement and ‘purity.’”* Henceforth, in this section my respondents are thirty eight (n=38) monolinguals, seventy one (n=71) bilinguals and all (31) journalists. The rest (9) bilinguals and (7) monolinguals are not client of the TFRPs, who don’t have any relation with my study.

For the above question, 100% of the monolingual respondents mentioned that installing FM radio in our language (Tigrinya) helps us to create awareness about our culture, economy, and socio-political issues on time. It also provides us with worldwide up-to-date ideas or information. They added that the radios are an extraordinary instrument for our language to be developed, standardized and to be free from the influence of other languages such as Amharic and English. Besides, bilingual TFRPs listeners and journalists were asked this question in order to cross check with the answers given by monolinguals above. They all supported or shared the aforementioned monolinguals' ideas.

On the other side, monolingual respondents claimed that there are weaknesses related to language use on the Media. They said that it is normal to find mixture of language items in the FM radio. Even though it is not a serious problem, it has become customary to hear English Mixed with Tigrinya, Amharic mixed with Tigrinya, and some times colloquial words are mixed with assumed standard Tigrinya.<sup>5</sup> These are the frequently appeared linguistic problems occurring on the FM radio services, and there are other languages which are less frequently switched into the Tigrinya used on the Medias such as Arabic and Italian. These incidents create confusion for the audience and resulted in communication gap. They also reported that there seems to hear lack of appropriate translations for scientific and Technological terms from the host languages into Tigrinya. Above all, 75% of bilinguals and 30% of bilingual journalists agreed with some of the justification of monolinguals regarding the weakness of the TFRPs in relation to language use. Besides, insertions or switching of words, phrases, and clauses can contribute for the language to lose its flavor. This is true when the language is complete by itself to express ideas, feelings, opinion and environmental phenomena.

However, the rest, 25% of the bilinguals FM radio listeners and 70% journalists argued that there were problems related to language used on the FM radio services. They tried to conceal the reality by arguing TFRPs are infant and free of mixed Tigrinya .They added

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<sup>5</sup> Tigrinya speakers assume that the Mekelle or Adwa dialects as the standard Tigrinya but this is not well-studied or proved true by scholars or linguists.

**Conversational codeswitching:** According to Gumperz (1982, 59), conversational code switching is the juxtaposition within the same speech exchange of passages of speech belonging to two different grammatical systems or subsystems. Furthermore, Wardhaugh (1992, 108) illustrates the features of conversational type of codeswitching as:

Conversational code mixing is not just a haphazard mixing of two languages brought about by laziness or ignorance or some combination of these. Rather, it requires conversants to have sophisticated knowledge of both languages and to be acutely aware of community norms.

According to Wardhaugh, conversational codeswitching needs the grammatical and lexical command of both the base and embedded languages so as to mix or switch the two codes together. Bilinguals are also expected to really be aware of the norms and values of both Linguistic behaviors; otherwise the switch is said to be asymmetrical. On the other hand, Gumperz (1982) introduces the functional category of conversational codeswitching as Quotations, addressee specification, interjections, reiteration, message qualification, and personalizing vs. objectification.

### **2.1.3.2. Types of Codeswitching Based on Structural Aspects**

According to Pollack (1980) as cited in Cantone (2007, 86) codeswitching is classified into three main types as intersentential, intrasentential and tag switching (each are defined in detail latter) based on the structural approaches of codeswitching. Romaine (1995, 122) and Gluth (2008, 9) support Poplack's (1980) proposition about types of codeswitching which are identified above. Muysken (2000, 2, 96 and 122) classifies these types of codeswitching in different manner as 'insertion' (the insertion of constituents from language B in to a construction in language A where language A is the Matrix language), 'alternation' (occurs where two languages remain relatively separate), and 'congruent lexicalization' (occurs where the two languages share the grammatical structure of the sentence, either partially or fully).

**Tag Switching:** According to Romaine (1995, 122), Tag switching involves the insertion of a tag in one language in to an utterance which is otherwise entirely in the other language. In a similar context, Gluth (2008, 9) defines tag switching as: "In which tags, exclamations and certain set phrases in one language inserted into utterance in the other

if there are problems via language, it will be resolved through time. They considered the switched Tigrinya as a simple task that can be finished over night, and the switching occurrences are normal.

In connection to this, bilingual respondents were asked: *“Whether or not they have been interviewed in any of the Tigrinya FM radio programs.”* See further information in table-4 below.

**Table 4. The Quantity of Bilinguals Interviewed on the Tigrinya FM Radio Programs**

Item	Participants	Frequency and percentage			
		Yes		No	
Have you ever been interviewed in any of the TFRPs?	Bilinguals	F	%	F	%
				12	16.9

As can be seen from the above table-4, most of the respondents 59 /83.1% have not been interviewed in any of the FM radios in any case. The rest of the respondents 12 /16.9 % reported that they have been interviewed in one or the other of the FM radio programs for various purposes.

For those who said that they were interviewed; they were asked that *“Whether or not they were using mixed or switched Tigrinya in the TFRPs.”* Regarding this question, the majority 11 /91.66% of the respondents said that even though they were using mixed Tigrinya, it is normal to come about in any language as matter of fact; and it can not create serious communication gap among audiences and radio presenters or radio interviewees. Insignificant number 1/8.33% of the respondents reported that he was not mixing any language into Tigrinya on the Media where I was interviewed in. From this sample data one can deduce that bulks of codes were switched into Tigrinya on the FM radio programs.

To crosscheck their answers, respondents were asked: *“Whether (there are individuals who) they mix or switch English, Amharic, Irob, and kunama, Arabic or any local*

*dialect into the assumed standard Tigrinya.”* Let us see the data from the table -5 given below.

**Table .5. The Regular Use of Switched Tigrinya on the TFRPs**

Items	Participants	Percentage and frequency			
		Yes		No	
1. Are there individuals who switch English, Amharic, Irob and Kunama, Arabic or any local dialect into the assumed standard Tigrinya?	Monolinguals	F	%	F	%
		37	97.4	1	2.6
2. Have you ever switched/ heard English, Amharic Irob, and kunama, Arabic or any local dialect into the assumed standard Tigrinya?	Bilinguals	59	83.1	12	16.9
	Journalists	27	87	4	13

As can be understood from the above table-5, out of 71 respondents 59/ 83.1% said that they had been switching to English, Amharic or other languages from Tigrinya on their Tigrinya conversations on the FM radios. By the same token, 27/87% of the bilingual journalists reported that they are switching the international language (English), indigenous language (Amharic) and other languages they know into the Tigrinya language while presenting issues and interviewing individuals on live radio FM discussions. Still, it is shown in the table-5 that 37/97.4% of the monolingual respondents gave their eyewitnesses that there are many bilinguals who continuously switch Amharic or English into Tigrinya on the TFRSs. To strengthen this question, respondents were asked to reason out the rationales and situation of codeswitching on the TFRPs. All the bilingual journalists and bilingual TFRPs listeners mentioned as follows. They switch language items such as English, Amharic and others in order to: express ideas clearly and precisely, as a matter of habit /sudden happening, accentuate ideas, translate the newly arrived results of science and technology, quote sayings and proverbs from other languages as it is and to fill lexical gap in Tigrinya /when there is difficulty to express in Tigrinya. On the other hand, the monolingual TFRPs listeners thought that bilinguals mixing one language items into another because they want to be seen as educated section of the society, and to contempt monolinguals. A few, respondents answered that the reasons may be as a matter of habit adapted from schooling or working with foreigners etc. Moreover, bilingual TFRPs listeners and bilingual journalists were asked when, and

with whom they are using this switched Tigrinya. They forwarded that they are using this phenomenon in : informal speeches , all live discussions on the FM radio programs , oral discussions, when they met friends , when the interviewees cannot speak Tigrinya but can perfectly hear it and there is no time limitation . They added that they use the switched Tigrinya with everyone who can speak the language which is mixed, with Friends, peers, colleagues with family and with educators. They added that they use this mixed Tigrinya everywhere, outside work places, at home, school and workplaces. Monolingual respondents also suggested that codeswitchers are using this mixed Tigrinya every where with their peers and even with monolinguals carelessly.

These reasons are succinct to the reasons proposed by Crystal (1987), as cited in Skiba (1997, Para3-4). Here are the summary of these points: Speakers switch one language code into another: when the speakers may not be able to express themselves in one language, so switching to the other compensates for deficiency, switching commonly occurs when an individual wishes to express solidarity with particular social group and codes are switched when the speakers wish to convey their attitudes to the listeners.

Moreover, this finding is closely related to Zelealems' (1998) findings in his Amharic – English codeswitching. Most of the reasons which are mentioned above can be found in Amharic –English codeswitching data.

Beyond this, respondents who reacted negatively to items 1 and 2 in table-5 above believed that the language they speak (Tigrinya) must be 'pure', independent and free from any other foreign or indigenous languages influences. Thus, 12/16.9% of the bilingual TFRPs listeners opposed their peers and said that they never mixed any language into Tigrinya in Tigrinya conversations. In the same fashion, 4/13% of bilingual journalists argued that they do not switch or mix any language they know into Tigrinya speech conversations while interviewing audiences and presenting live FM radio services. One monolingual participant mentioned that there is not any switched language items on the TFRPs. Likewise, bilingual respondents who answered that they dot not use and monolingual respondent who opposed the switch Tigrinya were asked to reason out their rationales. They backed up their answer with the following reasons:

programs. Table-6 below portrays the TFRPs where codeswitching phenomena are frequently heard.

**Table.6. The Subtle Programs for The Occurrences of Codeswitching on the TFRPs**

Items	participants	Percentage and Frequency			
		In all programs except in the news		In live discussions including advertisements and news	
In which programs of the TFRSs the switched Tigrinya frequently occur?	Monolinguals	F	%	F	%
			37	97.4	1
	Bilinguals	68	95.77	3	4.33
	Journalists	30	96.77	1	3.33

As shown in the above Table-6, 37/97.4%, 68/95.77% and 30/96.77 % of the monolingual TFRPs listeners, bilingual TFRPs listeners and bilingual journalists said that most of the switched language items in the TFRPs are occurred frequently in all the programs except during the presentation of news respectively. They reason out that this is because the contents of the news programs are heavily edited and checked by experts before broadcasting into the air. However, it is difficult to control live discussions on the air in the TFRPs. Insignificant numbers of the respondents depict that the switched language items occurred in all the TFRPs including news programs.

As one can comprehend from the above responses, in the Tigrinya FM radio broadcastings, all the programs aired to the audience are victims of language mixing or switching such as English, Amharic and others. Thus, it may create communication barrier among bilingual speakers on the Media and monolingual listeners.

Respondents were asked to identify the time of frequent occurrences of codeswitching on the TFRSs. Let us see the obtained data in table-7 below.

**Table.7. Consistent Occurrences of Switched Tigrinya on the TFRPs**

Items	Participants	Percentage and Frequency							
		Day time		Night time		Evening		Always after the time of news	
		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
1. When do you experience hearing the switched Tigrinya?	Monolinguals	8	21	2	5.3	3	7.89	25	65.78
	Bilinguals	11	15.5	6	8.5	9	12.7	45	63.38
2. When do you hear or speak the switched Tigrinya?	Journalists	8	25.8	3	9.7	5	12.1	15	48.38

As it is indicated in the above table-7, the time in which codes are frequently switched into Tigrinya on the FM radio program were day times. 8/21 % of the monolingual respondents reported that the switched language items frequently occur on the TFRPs. Besides, 11/15.49% bilingual TFRPs listeners and 8/25.8% journalists said that they switch/hear the switched Tigrinya on the day times. And 2/5.26% monolingual respondents gave their eyewitness that codes are switched most frequently on the Night time. And 6/8.45% of the bilingual TRFP listeners, and 3/9.67% journalists reported that they mix language items on the night time. Still, 3/ 7.89% of the monolingual candidates said the languages switched into Tigrinya on the TFRPs appear most frequently on the evening programs. In the same manner, 5/12.12% bilinguals and 9/12.67% of the journalists reported that they switched on the evening programs. However, most of the respondents agreed that the switched Tigrinya occurs always after the time of the news. 25/ 65.78% of the monolingual respondents said that the mixed Tigrinya appears most frequently on always after the time of news. And 45/ 63.38% of the bilingual respondents and 15/48.38% journalists reported that the mixed Tigrinya happens always after the news program.

As can be seen from the above data, there is an implication that codeswitching phenomenon which occurs most frequently always after the time of news whether it is presented on the day time, night time or evening.

The researcher asked the journalists: *“If they have any controlling mechanisms so as to enable interviewees to speak non-switched Tigrinya on their FM radio programs.”* The majority 29 /93.54% of the respondents suggested that in live discussions, there are not any controlling mechanism but they usually requested interviewees leading questions to use only Tigrinya so as to all audiences understand them on the aired programs .And 2/ 6.45% of the respondents reported that they have controlling methods. They suggest that the editors are the controller organs in their organization.

From these figures, one can understand that there are a large number of bilingual professionals and experts who mix other languages into their own first language (Tigrinya) for many predictable and unpredictable reasons.

The bilingual journalists were asked whether or not they were given language related trainings especially language use on the TFRSs. The participants’ responses are presented below in table-8.

**Table .8. Trainings on Language Use Given for Bilingual Journalists**

Item	Participants	Frequency and percentage			
		Yes		No	
Have you ever been given trainings related to language use on medias?	Journalists	F	%	F	%
		28	90.3	3	9.7

As one can understand from the above table-8, most of the respondents 28/90.3% responded positively that they had been provided trainings, workshops and panel discussion on how to use language on media sponsored by Mekelle University. These trainings were aimed at developing the capacity of journalists in all corner of language use on media vis-à-vis media programs, according to them.

On the contrary, 3/9.7% of the respondents answered that they had not been given trainings on how to use language on media. They added that they need training on how to present pure language, that is, Tigrinya which is not polluted by foreign or indigenous languages. One can deduce from the sample data that journalists have updated themselves through the regular trainings and workshops given time to time. But their answer may seem paradoxical because prior to this question they were asked whether they switch any

language into Tigrinya. Most of them or 87% reacted positively for this question. Therefore, if they have been given continuous trainings on how to use language on media, they should not have mixed any foreign or indigenous languages into Tigrinya, or their answer for switch of language should have been reversed. As far as the researcher is concerned, this is happened due to the fear of political sensitivity.

Apart from this, the researcher asked monolingual respondents if they can easily understand the switched Tigrinya on the FM radio services. Besides, bilingual TFRSs listeners and bilingual journalists were asked to give their opinion on whether or not monolinguals comprehend the switched Tigrinya easily. Let us see the data in the following table-9.

**Table.9.The Understandability of Mixed Tigrinya Used on Media**

Items	participants	Percentage and Frequency			
		Yes, we/they understand		No, we/they do not understand	
		F	%		%
1. Do you easily understand the switched Tigrinya?	Monolinguals	24	63.15	14	36.84
2. Do you think monolinguals understand the switched Tigrinya easily?	Bilinguals	58	81.6	13	18.4
	Journalists	31	100	-	-

As can be comprehended from the above table-9, 24/63.15% of the monolingual respondents said that they do understand the mixed Tigrinya up to 70% even though there are switched codes from other languages or dialects. Besides, 58/ 81.6 % of the bilingual TFRPs listeners and all the bilingual journalists or 100% were suggested that monolinguals can easily understand the mixed Tigrinya because the switched Tigrinya is either hinted or translated by the speakers. On the other hand, 14/36.84% of the monolingual respondents responded that they don't clearly understand this mixed Tigrinya. They added that they asked educated individuals for further clarification when they faced such problems. And 13/18.40% bilingual TFRPs listeners suggested that monolinguals may not understand the switched Tigrinya because there are technical

terms carelessly switched from Amharic, English and sometimes from Arabic and other indigenous languages by some bilinguals in the TFRPs.

As can be understood from the above figures and justifications, there is communication barrier among the media activators, interviewees, journalists and monolingual audiences. Even for those who said that we can understand it only 70%, 30% of the aired programs are failing to hit its target. This can surely help the researcher to recognize how the TFRSs are victims of the codeswitching phenomena and problems of language ‘purity’ (non-switched Tigrinya).

Above all, the researcher requested the monolinguals and bilinguals attitudes toward the switched Tigrinya on the Tigrinya FM radio services. They were asked first whether or not they are happy with the use of Tigrinya on the FM radios, and latter to forward their stand towards the mixed Tigrinya. The data are presented in table -10 below.

**Table.10. Attitudes of Bilinguals and Monolinguals towards Codeswitching**

Item	participants	Frequency and Percentage					
		Yes		No		Neutral	
1. Are you happy with the use of language on the TFRPs?	Monolinguals	F	%	F	%	F	%
		-	-	37	97.4	1	2.6
	Bilinguals	37	51.11	29	40.84	5	7.04
	Journalists	21	67.74	7	22.58	3	9.67

The attitudes of monolingual and bilingual Tigrinya FM radio service listeners and Tigrinya FM radio service journalists towards the switched Tigrinya spoken around the FM radio broadcastings are varied as positive, negative and neutral.

As can be understood from table-10 above, 37/51.11% bilingual TFRPs listeners, 21/67.74 % bilingual journalists and no monolingual TFRPs listeners reported that they are happy with the use of language on the TFRPs, and indeed they have positive attitude towards codeswitching on the TFRPs. They argued that codeswitching is a norm in

bilingual communities and in the world of globalization. Therefore, switching of any language into Tigrinya is not an exception especially English because Tigrinya is devoid of words of science and Technology. There is lexical gap in Tigrinya. It is also clear that to borrow and lend is one of the characteristics of any language, so Tigrinya cannot escape from this reality.

On the one hand, 37 /97.4% of the monolingual , 29/40.48% of the bilingual TFRPs listeners and 7/22.58% of the bilingual journalists said that they are not happy with the use of languages on the TFRPs broadcasting in and around Mekelle, and they added that they have negative attitudes towards codeswitching. They reasoned out that our language is rich to express Tigrinya cultures and values. They also expressed that their fear if we use words, phrases or clause from other languages such as Amharic and English replacing Tigrinya words, phrases, clauses and sentences, we will miss our linguistic identity, richness and the language would lose its flavors and essences. They supported their argument through the following reasons.

As can be seen from this data, monolinguals have negative perception or attitude towards the codeswitchers or codemixers overwhelmingly than bilinguals. Even; they express their hatred or negative feeling in different ways. For example, the following sayings were collected during interviews which express the negative attitude of monolinguals towards bilingual codeswitchers.

- (1) betəsəb-a xədiʃʃ-a məwisbo-a ti-ʔamin.  
family – 3FS berray-3FS marriage line -3FS 1PM-trust  
“Having betrayed her family, she trust her marriage line”
- (2) wəw! fərənɕi kojn-u-ləj.  
Oh! foreigner be-3MS-BEN  
“He become a foreigner for me”
- (3) fərənɕi xoj-u/məs’i-u.  
foreigner be-3MS/come.PAST-3MS  
“he came acting like foreigner /a foreigner came .”
- (4) wəw!, tigrinjna di-ʔijj-u t’əfiʔ-wo ?  
wow!, Tigrinya Q-AUX-3MS forget.PAST-3MS  
“wow! , was he forget his Tigrinya ?”

- (5) Wew!, nalomi zi-məs'-a -ss      ħilf              zi-bəll-a      ?ijj-ən.  
 Wow!, present REL-come-3FPL-Foc extraordinary REL-say-3FPL AUX-3FPL  
 "wow!, those who come presently are extraordinary ."
- (6) giramajjilə tigrinja mi-zrab malət ħis's'a ni qollo ni hawis-ka mi-blaʕ malət ?ijj-u.  
 switched Tigrinya to-speak mean sand and roasted crop mix-2MS to-eat mean AXU-3MS  
 "To speak switched Tigrinya means to eat a mixture of sand and roasted crop."

Most of the respondents told the researcher that they doubt whether or not the codeswitchers are educators? They analogically told me that educators should be served the society as headlight for every development.<sup>6</sup> Therefore, those who switch any foreign or indigenous language into Tigrinya, might intended that either to change their linguistic identity or to 'blow their trumpet' on monolinguals. You see if they do not take the responsibility to develop our language as an educator, who else will be more responsible than them?

From the above monolinguals' expression and justification, one can deduce that monolinguals are ardent resistor of codeswitching among languages or dialects. It is also clear that monolinguals seem rational and credible in the sense that educators should be responsible to develop and scale up Tigrinya language use and its standardization. However, it seems paradoxical with the lexical development or characteristics codeswitching or borrowing for the purpose of acquainting with words of science and technology materials.

Besides, as shown in the above table-10, 5/7.04% bilingual TFRPs listeners, 3/9.67% bilingual journalists and 1 / 2.6% monolingual TFRPs listeners reported that they have not any ideas about the language used on the TFRPs. They added that they are neutral towards the codeswitching phenomenon.

It is quite clear that from the respondents answer and the table-10, there are two grand argumentative issues developed by the respondents regarding the reaction towards

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<sup>6</sup> Monolingual interviewees affirmed to the researcher that you see our PM. is well educated person but we did not hear when he switched English or Amharic into Tigrinya conversations or speeches.

codeswitching. If it had been seen on the average of these respondents, most of the bilingual and monolingual TFRPs listeners have negative attitude towards codeswitching.

## **4.2. Grammatical Analysis of Codeswitching**

This sample data was collected through recording from the live discussions of Tigrinya FM radios 102.2 and 104.4 programs. As a result, the grammaticality of the embedded languages and the matrix language are described, and give insight or support for the social findings of codeswitching phenomena in the TFRPs in and around Mekelle discussed earlier in this chapter.

Even though the social findings of this study indicate that there are many languages switched into Tigrinya speech conversations in the TFRPs, the researcher was forced to take the languages that were frequently and commonly switched in this linguistic data to show how frequent codes are mixed in the Tigrinya FM radio services and to attest the grammaticality of these mixed or switched languages. The most frequently switched language items in the TRAPs are English and Amharic as indicated by the respondents in the social codeswitching data and the researcher's careful observations and experiences. Therefore, the two languages are taken jointly to assess the characteristic of grammaticalization in the English-Tigrinya or Amharic-Tigrinya codeswitching in the TRAPs. It should be noted that the intention of the researcher is not to compare and contrast the natures, occurrences, and constraints of the two languages (Amharic and English) on Tigrinya, but to describe the structural natures of codeswitching in the TFRPs. Consequently, Arabic, Italiano and other languages are relegated as materials of loanwords in Tigrinya.

To be clear, the quantitative occurrences of syntactic constituents on Tigrinya language on the sample data from both English and Amharic are presented in the table-II below.

**Table.11. Type and Frequency of Occurrence of English and Amharic Syntactic Constituents on Tigrinya Conversation (Speech)**

Syntactic constituents	Frequency of the occurrence of linguistic constituents					
	English		Amharic		Total	
	F	%	F	%	F	%
Simple sentences	3	1.48	1	2.43	4	1.64
Independent clauses	-	-	1	2.43	1	0.41
Dependent clauses	1	0.49	3	7.31	4	1.64
Relative clauses	-	-	2	4.87	2	0.82
Prepositional clauses	2	0.99	6	14.63	8	3.29
Discourse markers	-	-	2	4.87	2	0.82
Complementizers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subordinating conjunctions	2	0.99	-	-	2	0.82
Coordinating conjunctions	3	1.48	-	-	3	1.23
Interrogatives	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adverb phrases	1	0.49	-	-	1	0.41
Adjectival phrases	1	0.49	1	2.43	2	0.82
Verb phrases	-	-	1	2.43	1	0.41
Noun phrases	29	14.35	-	-	29	11.93
Nouns	91	45.04	15	36.58	106	43.62
Verbs	25	12.37	1	2.43	26	10.69
Adjectives	23	11.38	5	12.19	28	11.52
Adverbs	19	9.4	2	4.87	21	8.64
Pronouns	-	-	1	2.43	1	0.41
Negative markers	1	0.49	-	-	1	0.41
Articles	-	-	-	-	-	-
Affirmative markers	1	0.49			1	0.41
Total	202	100	41	100	243	100

The above data is presented quantitatively in order to depict the qualitative linguistic data. The qualitative descriptions, analysis and discussions are done taking the quantitative data on table-11 above as a spring board. Each linguistic constituent are analyzed and discussed separately even though the mixing phenomena are multiple constituent switching, and both Amharic and English constituents are appearing

simultaneously in the TFRPs conversations. Therefore, you can experience the data for each claim separately in the following sections.<sup>7</sup>

## 4.2.1. Types of Codeswitching

### 4.2.1.1. Intersentential Codeswitching

According to Tatsioka (n.d., 130) intersentential switching is described as the switch between sentence boundaries, where one sentence is in one language and the other in another. Intersentential switching involves a significant amount of syntactic complexity and conformity to the rules of both languages; therefore speakers performing this kind of switching are usually fairly proficient in the participating languages. Codeswitching in Tigrinya-English or Tigrinya-Amharic occurs at sentence level in the sample data. The following four sentences involved codeswitching intersententially from both Amharic and English. Three of them are from English and one from Amharic. It should be noted that the switching in the TFRPs is characterized by multiple constituent switching. The examples are stated below.

- (1) hadə naj ?amaħariŋna ?abahla ?all-o .  
 one GEN Amharic saying exist-3MS  
 “**wi|ət-am səw ras-u-n bə-ras-u ji-tazəb-all.**”  
 liar- ADJ person head-3MS-ACC by- head-3MS IMP-observe-AUX  
 “There exists one Amharic saying .... “A liar observes himself.”
- (2) SMART kojɪn-ə THE EASIEST kojɪn-ə nimintaj zəj-t’ik’əm .WHY DO -  
 smart be- IS the easiest be - IS why NEG-use . Why do -  
 I SUFFER A LOT?  
 I suffer a lot?  
 “Why should not I use the smart and the easiest way? Why do I suffer a lot?”
- (3) g<sup>w</sup>owəz-at ?iwin ji- χ’ədiħ-u ?ijj-om. I KNOW THIS.  
 clever-PL too IMP-copy-3MPL AUX-3MPL. I know this.  
 “Clever students too copy during exam. I know this.”
- (4) fətəna zi-ħaləf-om təmhar-o LOSER-s ?ijj-om. THEY ARE LOSING.  
 exam REL-miss -3MPL student-PL loser-PL COPL-3MPL. They are loosing  
 “Students those who miss the exam are losers. They are loosing”

<sup>7</sup> To be clear in the linguistic data, English constituents are Written in uppercases, Amharic constituents in IPA and bold case, but the Tigrinya constituents are written with the IPA with out bold.

In sentence (1) above, it is shown that intersentential switching from Amharic proverbs (sayings) in to the social context of Tigrinya linguistic uses. For sure, the speaker seems to utter out the Amharic proverb as it is with out translating into his/her mother tongue to keep its flavors. In sentence (2) the adjective **smart** and the adjective phrase **the easiest** are switched intrasententially into Tigrinya conversational speeches in addition to the intersententially switching between the English simple sentence and the Tigrinya compound sentence. Still, sentence (3) indicates purely a switch of the embedded language between sentence boundaries, that is, one sentence uttered out in Tigrinya and the other in English. Likewise, in sentence (4) the English adjective **loser** is intrasententially switched into the Tigrinya sentence with its plural morphemes/s/. This intrasententially switched Tigrinya is also intersententially switched again with another English simple sentence. Generally, the four sentences mentioned above indicate that the switch of codes from English and Amharic into Tigrinya in Tigrinya conversation on TFRPs appears between sentences boundaries, and the intrasententially switched Tigrinya sentences are again switched intersententially with English or Amharic sentences. Therefore, from the sample data, it is verified that intersententially codeswitching rarely happens in Tigrinya-English or Tigrinya-Amharic codeswitching comparing to intrasententially codeswitching which will be discussed latter. However, comparing the two embedded languages (English and Amharic) English –Tigrinya bilinguals were more frequently switched intersententially than Amharic do. The ratio is one to three as can be seen from the sample data. Here, Tigrean trilinguals have switched language items either from Amharic or English into their own first language to be viewed as educated section of the society or to put the proverbs /sayings as it is from its original language. This better described by Myer-Scotton (1993) as unmarked social motives of codeswitching.

From the sample data depicted in table-11 above, one can understand that there are dependent and independent clauses which were switched into Tigrinya from both English and Amharic intersententially. There is switching incidences from Tigrinya-English, Tigrinya–Amharic and Tigrinya-Amharic –English simultaneously in a single sentence. Bilingual Tigreans have uttered out one clause in English or Amharic and the other in their mother tongue (Tigrinya). From the total sample data, 1/0.41 % independent cause

was switched intersententially, and 4 /1.64% dependent clauses were also mixed intersententially into the Tigrinya speech conversations. The examples are listed below.

- (5) **wist'-e je-honə simmet** ki- siməfə-ni kəllə git'mi ji-gət't'im .  
 Inside-IS GEN-any feeling FUT-feel-1PS when poem IMP-write poem  
 "When I feel bad inside I am writing a poem."
- (6) **həzi mi-χad tīrgum jə-lləw-u-mm.**  
 now to-go value NEG-has-3MS-NEG(circumfix)  
 "To go now is valueless"
- (7) **lə-mi-səra səw ?izuj fəbji s'əgga ?ijj.u.**  
 for- to-work person this big wealth COPL-3MS.  
 "For a person who can work this is wealth"
- (8) **NORMALLY minim jə-mikəbd nəgər jə-llə-w-mm** baʕiləj SENSE -  
 normally nothing NEG-difficult thing NEG-has-GEN-NEG as myself sense  
 ki-gəbr-o kəllək-u,  
 FUT- do-3MS when-IS  
 "When I sense it has not any difficulty normally"
- (9) **AT THE END OF THE GRAGUATION,** təmhar-o ?intaj fəjnet səb-at -  
 at the end of the graduation, student-PL what kind person-PL  
 ki-χon-u ?allə-wom?  
 FUT-be-3MPL should-3MPL  
 "What kind of persons should be students at the end of the graduations?"

As can be recognized from the above sentences, the sentences are consisting of two clauses which have been constructed one clause from the matrix language and another from the embedded language. In sentences number (5-7) only Amharic dependent clauses are mixed into Tigrinya independent clause. To this end, the two clauses from different languages construct one well formed sentence. By the same token, in sentence (8) one can experience that the Tigrean Trilinguals switched between three different constituents from three different languages (Tigrinya-Amharic-English) simultaneously. The sentence consists of English adverb **normally** and verb **sense**, Amharic clause **minim jə-mikəbd nəgər jə-llə-w-mm** in addition to Tigrinya clauses. But in sentence (9), the switched Tigrinya sentence comprises of English dependent clause and Tigrinya independent clause.

Besides, Amharic and English relative and prepositional clauses are involved intersententially in the codeswitching phenomena on the FM radio Tigrinya programs. 2/0.82 % Amharic relative clauses were switched intersententially into Tigrinya, and 8/3.29 % prepositional clauses were switched intersententially, two from English and the rest from Amharic into the Tigrinya conversations on the FM radio programs. Instances are presented below.

- (10) **Lə-misale**, naj sigə-dəwijə bi-FUNGUS ji - lləʕal.  
 for-example, GEN skin disease by-fungus IMP- cause  
 "For example, skin disease is caused by Fungus."
- (11) naj səb-at **jə-wisit't'** kiʕillə-tat zi -ans'əbarəχ'ə-lu ʕijj-u .  
 GEN people-PL GEN - inside ability-PL REL-reflect-3MS AUX-3MS  
 "It is a place where peoples' internal abilities are reflected."
- (12) JUST bək'k'a **bə-fit't'inə** ʕijj-u mi-sirah zəllə-ki.  
 just enough by-quick AUX-3MS to-work should -2F  
 "Enough, you should just work quickly."
- (13) təsfa **ni-wədəfit-u** naj birhan tʕ'ilantʕ'il-at ʕijj - a.  
 hope for- prospect-3MS GEN light glimmer -PL COPL-3FS  
 "Hope is the glimmers of light for prospect."
- (14) **bənəgəratʕin laj**, ʕizi FILM zi-təsərħə bi-bizuh-at CAMERA ʕijj-u.  
 by the way, this film REL-do. PAST by-many-PL camera AUX-3MS  
 "by the way this film was done by many cameras ."
- (15) BY THE WAY s'ibux' FILMi ni-misirah PRODUCER-at mis s'əhaf-ti  
 by the way good film for -do producer-PL with writer -PL  
 ki- taħababər-u ʕallə- wom .  
 FUT-cooperate -3MPL should-3MPL  
 "By the way, to do a good film, producers and writers should be cooperated."
- (16) ON THE WAY zi- gibər-u sirah- ti ʕagalis'  
 on the way REL-do -3MPL work -PL disclose.2MS  
 "You should disclose works that are done on the way."
- (17) bit'afimi **adəgə ʔʔa je- honə** χ'us'is'ir jə-ddili .  
 very danger IMP - be control GEN - need  
 "It needs very dangerous control."
- (18) **wisit't' -u je- honə** nəgər kəj-hilj-o mi-rigigas' jə-dilli  
 inside-3MS IMP-be thing NEG-has-3MS to-chek GEN - should  
 "It is better to chek incodeswitching ea there may be some thing inside"

In the above sentences (10-14), it is demonstrated that Amharic prepositional phrases are switched intersententially into Tigrinya conversations on the FM radio broadcastings. In the same sentence, English noun and adverbs are mixed intrasententially. For instance, the inserted English noun **camera** and the borrowed English noun **Filmi** are coexisting with the Amharic prepositional phrase **bənəgəratʃin laj** in the switched Tigrinya sentence (14). The switched Amharic prepositional phrases are utilized in different sentence situations. **lə-misale** can be replaced by the equivalent prepositional phrase in Tigrinya **ni-ʔabnət** which is used for clarification. And **jə-wisit't'**, **bə-fit't'inə** and **ni-wədəfit-u** are prepositional phrases used in the place of an adverb which determine the state of being, manner and time respectively. Even though there are equivalent Tigrinya phrases such as: **naj wift'j,bi-fit't'nət** and **ni-hawaru**, bilingual Tigreans switched superfluously into their speech conversation in the TFRPs.

By the same token, sentences (15) and (16) indicate English prepositional phrases that are switched intersententially into Tigrinya speech conversations in the TFRPs. Likewise, these phrases are used in the place of Tigrinya phrases. Hence, the word **by the way** is used as transitional phrase to connect two consecutive ideas, whereas, **on the way** is used as an adverb to indicate circumstances. They can be replaced by the equivalent Tigrinya phrases **bi-zxonə** and **ʔgirə-məngədi** respectively.

Similarly, in sentences (17) and (18) it is depicted that Amharic relative clauses are mixed into Tigrinya conversational speeches on the TFRPs. These constituents coexist with Tigrinya clauses intersententially. They are used in the place of Tigrinya equivalent phrases **hadəgəjjna zi-χonə** and **wufit'u zi-χonə** respectively. Thus, Tigrean bilinguals used some Amharic clauses interchangeably with Tigrinya due to the similarity between Tigrinya and Amharic.

Therefore, in such codeswitching phenomena, it is very difficult to determine the matrix languages since there are almost equal occurrence of the constituents from both the embedded and matrix languages. Mas(2007,15) confirms this reality as: “Intersententially or clause switching is a switching between languages from sentence to sentence or clause to clause in a turn no language can be identified as ML.” However, this concept is not true in the Tigrinya– English or Tigrinya –Amharic codeswitching. Since, the large-sized constituents which were employed in the intersententially codeswitching are only 18 /7.4% comparing to the small-sized constituents as can be understood from the total

sample data on table-11 above. The rest 225/92.59% are small-sized linguistic constituents which were intrasententially switched (It will be discussed latter on).

According to Myer-Scotton (1997), as cited in Dawit (2004), bilinguals who are engaged in codeswitching are proficient bilinguals and they switch well-formed construction. This construction applies more to constructions of more than word level. Even though the result of this study portrays a lesser use of codeswitching at a sentence level, bilinguals in Tigrinya - English or Tigrinya –Amharic were switching well-formed constructions from either of the two languages stated above into Tigrinya. On the contrary, Tatsioka (n.d.) describes those bilinguals who are engaged in intersentential codeswitching situations are fairly proficient in the languages participating in the codeswitching phenomenon. Therefore; Tigrean codeswitchers on the FM radios are proficient on both the matrix and embedded languages.

#### **4.2.1.2. Intrasentential Codeswitching**

Romaine (1995, 123) elaborates intrasententially types of codeswitching as:

Intra-sentential switching refers to the switching that occurs inside the same clause or sentence which then contains elements of both languages. This type of switching appears to involve special principles governing how the syntax and morphology of both languages may interact and is consequently adopted only by bilinguals with high levels of fluency.

In the Tigrinya FM radios, embedded language items are switched into Tigrinya in phrase and word level (small-sized linguistic constituents). As can be seen from the sample given below, small-sized linguistic constituents are commonly switched into the Tigrinya spoken on the TFRPs. It should be noted that in the sample data it is customary to find multiple Amharic or English constituents which are mixed intrasententially into Tigrinya in the speech conversations carried out in the TFRPs.

Table-11 above depicts that both Amharic and English nouns take the lion share of the sample data. The sample data portrays that both English and Amharic nouns switched into Tigrinya with equal proportional percentage of 45.04% and 36.58% respectively. Hence, the mixing or switching of nouns from both English and Amharic into Tigrinya

on the Tigrinya FM radio programs was carried out intrasententially but with multiple constituents. Some examples are presented below.

- (19) nəti mængisti ?iwın ?abbiji INPUT ?ijj-u.  
for the government also great input COPL-3MS  
“It is also great input for the government.”
- (20) dıms’i wəjjanə ?ab lım?at CONTRIBUTION – u lı?ul nəjr - u .  
dimtsi wejane in development contribution – 3MS high COPL.PAST – 3MS  
“The contribution of dimtsi wejane in development was high”.
- (21) dıms’i wəjjanə ?ab tarix MEDIA killil-na k’idimit ?ijj – u zi-sira?.  
dimtsi wejane in history media region-GEN first AUX-3MS REL-stands first  
“Dimtsi wejane stands first in the history of media in our region.”
- (22) ?iti AGENDA ?ab gəbbəja wərid-u k’ələbləb zəj - bil mən ?ijj-u zi-bil -  
the agenda in market go-3MS make adultery NEG-be who AUX-3MS REL-be  
?ijj-u nəjr-u.  
AUX-3MS PAST.AUX-3MS  
“The agenda was to know the person, who doesn’t make adultery in the Market.”
- (23) dək’k’i-?anəsti-jo naj hədəga MAGNET ?ijj-ən .  
female-3FPL GEN danger magnet COPL-3FPL  
“Females are magnet for danger.”
- (24) zitəfələləj -u TOURISM- at ?allə -wu .  
different -3MPL tourism - PL exist -3MPL  
“There exist different tourisms.”
- (25) COSMETICS mi - t’ik’am fitt-ka jə – bəla fji - wo .  
cosmetics to - use face - 2MS IMP-spoil-3MS  
“Using cosmetics spoils your face.”
- (26) ?ab ? inni - bəlf - om məgbi t’inik’ak’e mi - gıbar jəddili.  
in REL-eat-3MPI food care to - do should  
“We should take care of in the food we eat.”
- (27) ?ab fi?na – na kəbabi rə?si ji - fət’t’ir .  
in bladder -1PL around disease IMP – create.3MS  
“It will create disease around our bladder.”
- (28) malət kali? ?amaratf’f’ jə – llə – n .  
Mean another choice NEG – exist – NEG  
“Mean, there exists no choice.”

There are about 106(43.62%) constituents form both English and Amharic at noun level which were utilized in intrasententially in the TFRPs in Tigray. This indicates that English, Amharic and Tigrinya Trilingual speakers switched small-sized syntactic constituents overwhelmingly than large-sized constituents. In the above sentences, (19-21) English nouns are inserted into Tigrinya in the Tigrinya conversations on the TFRPs replacing Tigrinya lexemes such as **gbiʔat**, **ʔastəwas'ʔo**, **maʕiʔənət zena** respectively. Whereas; in sentences (23) and (24), the English words **magnet** and **tourism** are inserted into the language and lexicalized as parts of it by borrowing for these words have not any equivalent words in Tigrinya. Sentences (22) and (25) involve intrasentential codeswitching taking one constituent from English and the other from Amharic substituting the Tigrinya words. For example, the nouns in sentence (22) **agenda** and **gəbbəja** can be replaced with equivalent words in Tigrinya **zaʕiba** and **ʕidaga** respectively. Besides, sentences (26-28) consist of only Amharic nouns that are mixed intrasententially into Tigrinya. Likewise, these nouns can have their equivalent words in the matrix language (Tigrinya).The nouns can be substituted with the Tigrinya words **t'nk'ak'ə**, **fihiʔna**, and **məmarəs'i** respectively.

As can be understood from the sample data table-11 above, noun phrases are highly switched from English to Tigrinya on the Tigrinya FM radio broadcasting programs. There are about 29 /14.35 % English noun phrases in the sample data, but not Amharic. Noun phrases are switched intrasententially into Tigrinya taking the second rank next to nouns. It is believed that it may be irksome to put them down all here, so some examples are presented below.

- (29) *dims'i wəjjanə naj k'idmit STACK HOLDER-na ʔijj –u .*  
*dimtsi wejjane GEN first stockholder -1PL COPL- 3MS*  
 “Dimtsi wejjane is our first stack holder.”
- (30) *zi-təwəsənə naj FIRST AID hiikkimina wəsidi – u.*  
*REL- some GEN first aid treatments take.PAST-3MS*  
 “He took some first aid treatments.”
- (31) *MAKE UP – at ti -səriḥ səbəjti ,*  
*make up – PL REL- 3FS - make female*

- “The woman who prepares make ups,”
- (32) kali? TEMPERATURE REGULATION zī - bəhal nəgər ʔall-o,  
 another temperature regulation REL – call thing exist - 3MS  
 “There exists another thing which is called Temperature regulation.”
- (33) ʔiti kali? SENSORY FUNCTION malet ʔijj-u,  
 the other sensory function mean COPL- 3MS  
 “The other is sensory function, means.”
- (34) kabʔu BOARD MANAGEMENT ji - t't'ajəf ,  
 then board management IMP - establish  
 “Then, board management will be established.”
- (35) naj ngdi SECTOR ʔintə-kojn-u naj COMPNY -  
 GEN trade sector if-be-3MS GEN company  
 maħawir ʔall-o naj COMPANY MANAGER - at ʔiwin ʔallə – wu.  
 part exist-3MS GEN company manager - PL also exist - 3 MPL  
 “If there exists a trade sector, there exist company managers.”
- (36) ʔab RURAL DEVELOPMENT zī -sərah təmharaj nəjr-u,  
 in rural development REL – work student AUX .PAST – 3MS  
 “There was a student who works in rural development.”
- (37) ʔab PLAN BUREAU ji-səriħ nəjir - ə.  
 in plan bureau IMP - work AUX .PAST - 1S.  
 “I was working in plan bureau.”
- (38) bi-VIDEO FILM COMPLETELY ʔas's'ij – om - wo.  
 INS-video film completely stops - 3MPL - 3MS  
 “They stopped video film completely.”
- (39) NORMALLY nay EVALUATION METHOD-at təməħajf-om ʔijj-om  
 normally GEN evaluation method – PL improve -3MPL AUX -3MPL  
 “Normally, the evaluation methods are improved.”
- (40) GRADUATE PROFILE ʔallə - na ʔijj - u .  
 graduate profile have - 1PL AUX - 3MS  
 “We have graduate profile.”

All the sentences shown above, indicates that English constituents are mixed at noun phrase level intrasententially even though there are multiple constituents switching in number (35), (38) and (39) with the addition of nouns and adverbs. As can be understood from this sample data the switched noun phrases are grammatically well-formed and

governed to the grammatical rule of the matrix language (Tigrinya). For example, in sentences (31), (35), and (39) the English noun phrases are attached to the Tigrinya plural morpheme /-at/, sentence (29) to the possessive first person plural marker /-na/ and sentence (38) to the Tigrinya instrumental marker morpheme /bi-/. Here, almost all the words have not their equivalent words to replace them in the matrix language (Tigrinya). Therefore, Trilingual Trigrams are mixed these phrases to fill the lexical gap in Tigrinya. For example, **video film**, **graduate profile** and **plan bureau** are the results of science and technology, Tigrinya language has not equivalent phrases or words to substitute them.

Above all, adjectives are the third largest constituents which are switched highly into the matrix language (Tigrinya) on the FM radio broadcastings. It accounts about 28 /11.52% of the total sample data of which (23) are English and (5) are Amharic cognates. Examples are listed as follows.

- (41) ?iti ?akal INFECTIOUS ji- xawin.  
the organ infectious IMP- be come  
"The organ will become infectious."
- (42) CYCLIC zi - bəhal nəgər ?innihə.  
Cyclic REL-call thing exist  
"There exists a thing which is called cyclic."
- (43) bi- REAL ?ijj -u nab fənəwə tə-bs'əh-o  
by-real AUX-3MS to air to-send - 2MS  
"You send to air real."
- (44) MATURED ?ijj - om .  
Matured COPL- 3MPL  
"They are matured."
- (45) ?ab fətəna EQUAL ?iχa TREAT ti -gəbr - om .  
in exam equal 2MS treat IMP- do - 3MPL  
"You are treating them equally in the exam."
- (46) FRUSTRATED ti - xawin ,  
Frustrated IMP- become  
"You will become frustrated."

- (47) ʔallə-wu SELECTED zi-χon-u SUBJECT- tat.  
Exist - 3MPL selected REL- be - 3MPL subject -PL ...  
“There exist subjects which are selected.”
- (48) bizuh SOCIABLE ʔaj- kon-ku-n .  
so much sociable NEG -be- IS -NEG  
“I am not so much sociable.”
- (49) SELECTIVE ki- χon -u ʔallə - wom .  
selective FUT -be - 3MPL should - 3MPL  
“They should be selective.”
- (50) ʔəkkaj ʔill-om mət't'ifo jim ji - hibi - wo.  
bookworm say-3MPL bad name IMP-give - 3MS  
“They give him a bad name saying bookworm.”
- (51) zəj - ʔadilij-u zibazink ʔijj -om.  
NEG-need-3MPL hotchpotch COPL -3MPL  
“They are hotchpotches not important.”

The sentences mentioned above show the intrasententially switching of both English and Amharic languages into Tigrinya at word level (i.e. adjectives). But in sentences (45) and (47) portray English noun and verb are intrasententially switched into Tigrinya in addition to adjectives. As has been reviewed in the literature part in this paper, adjectives are small-sized constituents of sentences category of any language. Thus, the sample data (in table-11) shows that small-sized linguistic categories (adjectives) are not attached into the bound morphemes of the matrix language like nouns and noun phrases rather they are functioning as post or pre-modifiers of the nouns in the matrix language by governing to syntactic rules of the language (Tigrinya).

Form the sample data on table 11 above, about one Amharic and 25 English verbs are switched intrasententially. They switched either with in a sentence, or clause and phrase forms. They account about 26/10.69% Of the total sample data which ranks fourth next to noun, noun phrase and adjective. Some examples are listed below.

- (52) kab hədə ʔijj-u MOBLIZE kojn-u.  
form one AUX-3MS mobilize be-3MS  
“It mobilizes form one.”
- (53) naj gəli - om silki BUSY Kojn-u .

- GEN one-3MPL mobile busy be- 3MS  
 "Someone's mobile is busying."
- (54) ʔanə ʔizuj ʔijj-ə ADVISE zi-gəbir kəm bəʔalmoja.  
 I this AUX-IS advise REL-do as expert  
 "I advise this as an expert."
- (55) kab wiʔt'-əj zi - təlʔalə nəgər EXPRESS ji - gəbir .  
 from inside-IS REL-emanate thing express IMP- do.IS  
 "I will express things that emanate from inside."
- (56) ʔizi DECLARE ki - ni-gəbr-o ʔi - na .  
 this declare FUT-IPL-do-3MS AUX - IPL  
 "We will declare this."
- (57) nəzi wadi ki - təhababər - o ASSIGN ji - gəbər .  
 to the man FUT - cooperate -3MS assign IMP - do .IS.PASS  
 "I was assigned for the man to cooperate."
- (58) ʔabzi məs'iʔ-u DEVELOP Kojn -u.  
 here come -3MS develop be - 3MS  
 "It comes and develops here."
- (59) bi-zəj- ART MOBLIZE mi-gibar ʔaj-kəʔal - n .  
 with-NEG-art mobilize to-do NEG-possible- NEG  
 "It is impossible to mobilize without art."
- (60) CONTINUOUSLY ʔi-χa ASSESS ti-gibər.  
 continuously AUX-2MS assess IMP-do.2MS.PASS  
 "You are assessed continually."
- (61) bi-tiχkil IMPLEMENT ki-tigəbir-o ʔigir ʔijj-u.  
 by -correct implement FUT- do - 3MS difficult AUX-3MS  
 "It is difficult to implement correctly."
- (62) bi-tikikil JUDGE ki-tigəbir-om ʔallə-ka.  
 by-correct Judge FUT-do -3MS should -2MS  
 "You should judge them with correct"
- (63) CLASS MISS ji-gəbir-u ʔimmo PERFORMANCE-om tihut ji-χəwin.  
 Class miss IMP-do-3MPL and performance - 3MPL low IMP- become  
 "When they miss class their performance becomes lower."
- (64) g<sup>w</sup>alnət-ki ni-GRADE- ki **ji- t'ibbik' -əl - ki.**  
 female- 2F for-grade-2FS IMP- keep -BEN- 2FS  
 "You being feminist keep your grade."

As can be observed from the above examples, though it is intended to treat only switched Tigrinya with Amharic or English verbs, there appear other constituents such as nouns and adverbs which are mixed intrasententially. Thus, Sentences (59), (60) and (63) are carried out intrasentential codeswitching with multiple constituents. In the same manner, sentence (64) portrays intrasentential codeswitching involving the Amharic verb **t'bak'k'ə** and English noun **grade**. Therefore, codeswitching with in a clause or a sentence is possible with multiple constituents and dual languages in the TFRPs. Both the switched verb and noun on (64) take Tigrinya morphemes to keep the grammaticality of the matrix language. Besides, sentences number (52-58) and (61-62) show English-Tigrinya intrasentential codeswitching at verb level. The Tigrean trilinguals are switching English or Amharic words into their Tigrinya conversation replacing the Tigrinya words. This demonstrates that Tigrean Trilinguals have mixed other language items into their Tigrinya conversation so as to be seen as educated section of the society or to be identified their social classes.

Besides, as can be seen from the sample data on table-11, adverbs are among the highly switched linguistic constituents into the matrix language on the FM radio broadcastings in and around Mekelle from both English and Amharic intrasententially. They account about 21/ 8.64% of the total sample data. From these 19/9.40% English and 2 /4.9% are Amharic cognates. Let us see the following instances.

- (65) bizuh-at ?ijj-om ACTUALLY.  
 many - PL COPL -3MPL actually  
 "They are many actually."
- (66) kullu ?ajnət digaf-om FINANCIALLY i MORALY i ki-gəbr -u nillab-o .  
 all kind support-3MPL financially and morally and FUT-do-3MPL request-1PL  
 "We request to support us both financially and morally."
- (67) gize-na EFFECTIVELY ?aj- ni-t'ik'k'əmmi - n .  
 time - 1PL effectively NEG - 1PL -use - NEG  
 "We do not use our time effectively."
- (68) CAMERAMAN-at gələgəli- ?om ?ab marfa bitfta zi-wassi?-u ?ijj-om.  
 Camera man-PL some -3MPL in marriage only REL-work-3MPL AUX-3MPL  
 "Some camera men can work only on marriage."

- (69) **diro** zəj-fələt't'i- ki-jom MISS ti- gəbri-jom nəgər-at nəjr-om.  
 previously NEG-know-2FS-3MPL miss IMP-do-3MPL thing-PL AUX.PAST-3MPL  
 "Previously, you missed things with out knowing."

Adverbs in the sample data occur more frequently than adverb phrases. Sentences (57) and (58) above reveal that English adverbs that are switched intrasententially into Tigrinya speech conversations on the FM radio. Whereas, sentences (59) and (60), show that Amharic adverbs are intrasententially switched into Tigrinya conversation on the Tigrinya FM radio programs in addition to English noun and verb respectively. Trilingual Tigreans are switching an adverb to modify Tigrinya verbs in the Tigrinya dominated morpho-syntactic situations on their speeches. However, this codeswitching phenomenon is carried out superfluously either replacing the Tigrinya equivalent adverbs or denying the adverb marker /bi-/.

Moreover, one can recognize from the sample data that adverb phrases and adjective phrases were occurred in almost the same frequency from both Amharic and English. In the sample data table-11 above, it is shown that there are two adjective phrases one from Amharic and another one from English. They account 2 /0.82% from the total occurrence of constituents in the sample data .Above all, in the sample data there are only one adverb phrase which is intrasententially switched from English into Tigrinya on the TFRPs broadcasting in and around Mekelle. Examples from the sample data are listed below.

- (70) k'orbət kab səwnət -na **bət't'am ti lik'** ?akal ?ijj -u .  
 skin from body -1PL very large organ COPL-3MS  
 "Skin is very large organ from our body."
- (71) SMART kojn-ə THE EASIEST kojn-ə nimintaj zəj-t'ik'k'əm.  
 Smart be -1S the easiest be -1S why NEG-use  
 "Why should I be smart and use the easiest?"
- (72) SO THE WHOLE hizbi Tigraj ?ab hadə səmir-u .  
 so the whole people Tigray in one unite- 3MS  
 "So the whole Tigrayan people united as one."

Here, sentence (70) indicates Amharic adjective phrase which was switched intrasententially into Tigrinya speech conversations on the Tigrinya FM radio programs.

a few nouns which are switched intrasententially into the Tigrinya used on the FM radios broadcasting in and around Mekelle in addition to subordinating and coordinating conjunctions. In sentence (73) above the subordinating and coordinating conjunctions (even and or) appear consecutively violating the grammatical rules of the language (English). In this case Pfaff (1979, 294) proposes that until very recently, intrasentential codeswitching was considered syntactically random rather than rule governed behavior. Thus, such deviation are seen in sentence (73) above by Tigrinya -English bilinguals. Here, bilinguals create grammatical confusion in both sides of the languages (English and Tigrinya), because, these conjunctions have different syntactic functions. Coordinating conjunctions are used to connect two equal grammatical valued clauses whereas subordinating conjunctions are used to join two or more unequal grammatical valued clauses. Thus, there is not any possibility that subordinate and coordinate conjunctions to occur together functioning the same thing.

Besides, on the sample data table-11 above, there occurs only one (0.41%) verb phrase. This indicates that verb phrases are among the less or non-switchable linguistic constituents of the embedded languages both intrasententially and intersententially. Verb phrases take the list percentage in the sample data the same as pronouns, negative markers, affirmative markers and independent clauses. The only switched constituents in the sample data were from Amharic which is an idiophonic compound verb. It is mentioned below.

(77) **zim-bil-o** suχ' - ?il - u hizzi- wo suχ' yi - bil .  
 Silent-say-3MS silent-say – 3MS catch- 3MS quite IMP– say  
 “He catches and keeps quite.”

In sentences (77) above the Amharic compound verb **zim-bil-o** is constructed from two separate verbs i.e. **zim** which means be silence and **bil** which is a verb ‘to say’. This compound verb was switched into its equivalent Tigrinya morph-syntactic features which is, **suχ' - ?il-u**. In Tigrinya this constituent is a compound verb having the same meaning with the Amharic compound verb mentioned above. Here, this Tigrinya-Amharic

bilingual switching is unnecessary, so there is ill-formed grammaticality to either of the two languages. However, the sample data indicates that the occurrence of verb phrases is insignificant in the codeswitching phenomenon (language use on the FM radio). Zelealem (1998, 210) elaborates this reality in his Amharic-English codeswitching study as:

In Amharic, the head of a VP is a richly inflecting verb coding person, number, gender and tense; a transitive verb also takes an object marker plus an object complement preceding the verbal head. By contrast, English VPs involve a verb with impoverished grammatical inflections but an object complement following the verb in the case of transitive verbs.

Tigrinya and English have different grammatical surface structures; the head of the verb phrase in Tigrinya is the same as its sister Amharic language. The inflecting verb coding person, number gender, and tense; a transitive verb also takes an object marker plus an object complement preceding the verbal head. Thus, the non-occurrence of English verb phrases on the Tigrinya speeches are due to this grammatical dissimilarity between English and Tigrinya. However, what matters with Amharic is a very important question to be answered? Amharic and Tigrinya the gender, tense, object, person and number markers are morphemes. Thus, phonemes and morphemes are unwatchable segments of linguistic categories. Macswan (2000, 46) as cited in Gass (n.d) confirms that codeswitching at PF generates “unpronounceable” elements because phonological system can not be mixed. Therefore, this reason is the case for the point in Amharic and Tigrinya codeswitching at the level of verb phrase.

Pronouns are among the list switched linguistic constituents in the codeswitching data on language use on Tigrinya radios .It accounts only one (0.41%) of the total sample data. This constituent was switched from Amharic into Tigrinya in the Tigrinya speech conversations. It is presented as follows.

- (78) **manəŋŋa- wi-mm nəgər**, dəra<sup>s</sup>i təhag<sup>w</sup>is-u ki- sərih ji-gibba?  
 every -ART- FOC      thing      writer happy-3MS      FUT-work      IMP- should  
 “The writer should work happily everything.”

As can be understood from sentence (78), Amharic pronouns have slight opportunity to switch into Tigrinya comparing with English which had not any grammatical similarity

either to Tigrinya or Amharic. Even though, Pronouns are grouped under the closed class categories which are not liable for codeswitching, Amharic pronouns were switched may be due to the grammatical similarity between the two languages they possess. The word **manəḵḵa-wi- -mm nəgər** is a combination of two different Amharic words **manəḵḵaw** and **nəgər** (noun phrase) which is used as indefinite pronoun. The latter exists in Tigrinya with out morphological, semantic and lexicographic differences but the former is replaced by **ziχonn-ə**. Thus, bilingual Tigreans are mixing Amharic indefinite pronoun in the presence of Tigrinya equivalent words. This may happen due to social and linguistic attraction to wards the embedded language (Amharic).

The negative and affirmative markers can appear in Tigrinya speech conversational turn. The sample data (on table -11) show that there was only one negative and one affirmative marker both of them were from English cognates which are presented as follows.

(79) NO no...?iti hakim ?ijj-u kəkəm kunə-tat-u ki-k'k'ijr-o zi-χi?il.  
 nono... the nurse AUX-3MS as condition-PL-3MS FUT-change-3MS REL-can  
 "Nono...it is the nurse who can change as condition allows."

(80) OK ,tiχik! ?ijj-u.  
 Ok, right! COPL-3MS  
 "Ok, it is right!"

In the sentences (79) and (80) above, Tigrinya speakers switch the negative marker **Nono...** instead of saying **?aj-konənə**, **?aj-falun** and **jələn** to portray disagreement, and **ok** to show approval instead of **?fuj**, **hraj**, and **?wə**.

In the sample data, there were discourse markers which were switched into the Tigrinya speech conversations on the FM radio services. The most frequently mixed discourse markers were from Amharic at word level words is **ingidih**. Examples are presented below.

(81) **ingidih** kab mək'əllnə nab majiməxidən 16 Km ?ijj- u .  
 so from Mekelle to Majmekiden 16 km COPL-3MS  
 "So the distance form Mekelle to Majmekiden is 16 km."

- (82) **ingidih** naj kuraz **tʃ'is-at** t'ifina – xa ji-godiʔa- ka ʔijj-u.  
 SO GEN lump smoke-PL health – 2MS IMP-damage – 2MS AUX-3MS  
 “So the smokes of a lamp damage your health.”

In sentence (81), the Amharic discourse marker is inserted into the Tigrinya speech conversation. It portrays linkage of the speech. Besides, in sentence (82), Amharic multiple constituents were inserted intrasententially into Tigrinya conversations on the Tigrinya FM radio services.

To wind up, from these findings Tigrinya-English-Amharic trilingual individuals highly prefer to mix codes intrasententially. They only switch the small-sized constituents of the language items frequently by inserting the words or phrases to the syntactic structures of Tigrinya going back and forth. Very small percentage of the data portrays that the large – sized linguistic constituents were switched intersententially into the matrix language. This implies that the bilinguals have unbalanced language skill between the matrix and embedded languages. Therefore, this finding is appropriate to the findings of different studies. For example, according to Studies of child bilingual language acquisition (McClure 1981; Zentella 1981) and adult bilingualism (Poplack 1979) as cited in Seligson (1986, 313) frequent intrasentential codeswitching is associated with high bilingual ability, whereas use of intersentential switching is associated with non fluency or dominance in one language over the other.

The Tigrean trilinguals are not only mixing the small-sized linguistic constituents but also they are involving multiple constituents and constituents from two different languages (Amharic and English) within a sentence or clause at the same time. They are constructing such mixed Tigrinya which is grammatically well-formed in the ML. They do not commit errors in codeswitching while engaging in codeswitching phenomenon intrasententially. Therefore, Tigrean trilinguals have high proficiency of the embedded languages (Amharic and English). According to (Becker 1997), as cited in Bishop (2006, 11) confirmed this reality as:

An individual's level of second language ability can be demonstrated through his manner of codeswitching. For example, those with low levels of proficiency

(such as those at the early stages of second language acquisition) engage in intersentential switching.

As it is understood from the sample data table-11 above, almost 95% of the embedded language constituents were small-sized which switched intrasententially. Thus were, intrasentential codeswitching is very risky. Here, codeswitchers may mix code flexibly going back and forth unlike intersentential types of codeswitching. Auer and Muhamedova (2005, 35) elaborate the grammaticality of intrasentential codeswitching as:

There is, then, a strict division of the realms of the two grammars: ideally, the grammar of the matrix language provides the grammatical frame of the sentence/clause as a whole, while the grammar of the embedded language is used in complex insertions.

#### **4.2.2. Linguistic Constraints**

According to Macswan (2008, 285), constraints is used in two very different senses in the codeswitching literature, one descriptive and the other theoretical. In the descriptive sense, when we speak of constraints on codeswitching, we mean only that some codeswitched constructions are well-formed and others are ill-formed. A constraint in the theoretical sense applies to a system of rules or the form of representations, and attempts to capture a range of linguistic facts. Even though there have been arguments about the universality of these constraints or models, the following are attested in different language contact phenomena studies by scholars such as Poplack (1980) and Myer-Scootton (1993). It has been tried to see whether these universal constraints are applied in the Tigrinya-English, Tigrinya-Amharic or Tigrinya-English-Amharic bilingual codeswitchers.

##### **4.2.2.1. The Equivalence Constraint**

According to Cantone (2007, 63), the equivalent constraint predicts that codeswitching is possible only if word order of the two languages converges. This constraint can appear in languages which have the same grammatical properties or typology. In the language use on Tigrinya FM radio services, there exists switch from both the indigenous (Amharic) and foreign (English) languages into the Tigrinya used on FM radios. Therefore, in this

case, the equivalence constraint can be respected in the Tigrinya- Amharic codeswitching phenomenon. Amharic and Tigrinya languages have the same grammatical structure unlike English and Tigrinya. For example; both Amharic and Tigrinya are prodrop languages and have the same word order system of S-O-V. Besides, they share the same ancestor (Geez). Different scholars supported this reality .Bender (1976, 115) elaborates the similarity between Amharic and Tigrinya as:

Tigrinya, like Amharic, has S-O-V word order, and the two languages can usually be translated word for word into each other. The beginner in Tigrinya who knows Amharic and Giiz words according to Amharic sentence patterns, he has an approximation to Tigrinya.

Therefore, the equivalence constraint is allowed in the Tigrinya- Amharic codeswitching but not in the Tigrinya-English. Unlike Amharic and Tigrinya, English is S-V-O language. Thus, the equivalence constraint does not operate in the English-Tigrinya codeswitching occurrences. Examples are presented below.

- (83) naj kəbdi OPERATION gəjr – om.  
 GEN stomach operation carryout. PAST – 3MPL  
 “They carried out stomach operation.”
- (84) naj HORMON-at ləwt’i ?all-o.  
 GEN hormone – PL change exist-3MS  
 “There exists a change of hormone.”
- (85) zi təfələləj- u DRUGS ?allə – wu.  
 different - 3MPL drugs exist - 3MPL  
 “There exist different drugs.”
- (86) ?iti UNIVERSITY həzi CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT ?a-tə?atati-na ?ijj-u.  
 the university now continuous assessment CAU- introduce -1PL AUX-3MS  
 “Now, the university is introducing continuous assessment.”
- (87) həzi mi-χad **tirgum jə-ləw-u-m.**  
 now to-go value NEG-has-3MS-NEG(circumfix)  
 “To go now is valueless.”
- (88) hadə FILMi **wibət** ?all-wo.  
 one film beauty has-3MS  
 “A film has beauty.”
- (89) nəgər-at MANAGE naj mi-gibar **tfillota-χi ji-wisχ.**  
 thing-PL manage GEN to-do skill -2FS IMP-increase

“Your managing skill for things will increase.”

- (90) **iwik' k' at-ki** CALCULATE *ti-gəbir-jo kələ-χi*,  
Knowledge-IFS calculate IMP-DO-IFS when-IFS  
“when you calculate your knowledge ,”

In the above sentences (83-85), English nouns are switched intrasententially into Tigrinya taking the syntactic structure of Tigrinya. The surface structures of these sentences are different from English. All these sentences are constructed with the basic word order structure of S-O-V which is also possible to have such structural types of sentences in Amharic. But, it is usual to get completely different surface structure in English for the same sentences as can be observed from the above sentences since English has S-V-O basic word orders. Similarly, in sentences (86-90) Amharic nouns and English noun and verbs are mixed intrasententially into the Tigrinya speech conversations in a multiple constituent. In all the above sentences the surface structural pattern are S-O-V which is common characteristics for both Amharic and Tigrinya.

Therefore, the equivalence constraints are not allowed in the Tigrinya-English codeswitching unlike the Tigrinya–Amharic codeswitching in which the equivalence constraints are appropriate.

#### 4.2.2.2. Size of Linguistic Constituent Constraint

As has been tired to put the definition of the size of constituent in the literature review, and in this part, (Poplack 1980) as cited in Redouane (2005, 1922) describes this term as:

The ‘size of constituent’ constraint states that major and main constituents such as sentences and clauses tend to be switched more frequently than smaller constituents, for example, nouns, determiners, verbs, adverbs, and adjectives.

It is necessary to prove or disprove whether this constraint is respected in the sociolinguistic codeswitching phenomena taking as special reference language use on Tigrinya FM radio. The codeswitching situations from English into Tigrinya and or from Amharic into Tigrinya are small-sized constituents as can be understood form the sample data. The largest or lion share of the sample data is taken by nouns which account for 106

43.62% followed by noun phrases 29/11.52%, Adjectives 28/11.52%, verbs 26/10.28% and adverbs 21/ 9.87%. These linguistic constituents are switched intrasententially in the Tigrinya- English or Amharic speech repertoires. There are a few or no large-sized constituents that were employed in codeswitching phenomena in the sample data intersententially or intrasententially. Please, see back and compare examples 1-90 above in this section. According to Seligson (1986, 313), the size-of-constituent constraint has important ramifications for theories of bilingualism in the size of constituent repeatedly has been found to be correlated with the bilingual ability of the speaker. Thus, the result of this study shows that there is high preference of switching small-sized linguistic constituents than larger-sized linguistic constituents. Therefore, in Tigrinya-English or Tigrinya –Amharic codeswitching this constraint is not respect.

#### 4.2.2.3. Free Morpheme Constraint

According to Poplack (1980, 586) as quoted in Redouane (2005, 1922), codeswitching will tend to occur at points in discourse where juxtaposition of L1 and L2 elements does not violate a syntactic rule of either language, i.e., at points around which the surface structures of the two languages map onto each other. According to this simple constraint, a switch is inhibited from occurring within a constituent generated by a rule from one language which is not shared by the other.

As can be understood from the literature review and the above mentioned definition, scholars such as Poplack (1980) and Myer-Scooton (1993) propose that codeswitching occurs at free morpheme level, not at bound morpheme level. It has been assessed whether this is respected in the sociolinguistic codeswitching in use of languages on media in Tigrinya language. English is switched at both free and bound morpheme level into Tigrinya, but there reverse is not respected in the Tigrinya-English codeswitching phenomena. Some examples are presented below.

- (91) ?iti wis'ə?at bi-zitəfəlaləj-u BACTERI-tat wəj PARASITE-tat ki-məs'ʔi ji-χiʔil.  
 the diarrhea by-different-3MPL bacteria-PL or paracite-PL FUT-cuase IMP-can  
 “Diarrhea can be caused by different bacteria and parasites.”
- (92) TECHNOLOGY-tat zi- mäs'-u dəhar ?ijj – om.

technology - PL REL- bring -3MPL latter AUX - 3MPL  
 “Technologies that are brought latter,”

(93) HORMON-ka ki-χ'ijjir-u zi-χi?l-u madihanit-tat ?alle -wu.  
 hormone-2MS FUT-change-3MPL REL-3MPL tablet-PL exist- 3MPL  
 “There exist tablets which can change your hormone.”

(94) həzi CONFIDENCE-ki DEVELOP kojn-u ?ijj - u .  
 now confidence-2FS develop become -3MS AUX - 3MS  
 “Now, your confidence develops.”

In the above sentences (91) and (92) the nouns ‘bacteria’, ‘parasite’ and ‘technology’ coexist with the Tigrinya bound morpheme /-tat/ to portray plural forms instead of taking the English plural morpheme /-s/ or /-es/. Similarly, on sentences (93) and (94) the nouns hormone and **confidence** coexist with the possessive masculine and feminine marker of Tigrinya bound morphemes /-ka/ and /-ki / respectively. Therefore, this indicates that Tigrinya bound morphemes are attached to the English free morpheme. Thus, this finding is closely related to the findings of Zelealem (1998) which has attested the appropriateness of free morpheme constraint in Amharic-English codeswitching where Amharic bound morphemes are attached to English free morphemes but the reverse is not allowed. This is also true in the Tigrinya-Amharic codeswitching as can be realized from the sample data below.

(95) iwik'k'ət-ki CALCULATE ti-gəbir-jo kələ-χi,  
 knowledge-IFS calculate IMP-do-IFS when-IFS  
 “when you calculate your knowledge ,”

(96) ?ab fətəna ?iwin wək'k'it-awi zi-χonə STRESS ?aj-fət't'irə-lommi-n.  
 in test also strange-ADJ REL-be stress NEG- create-3MPL-NEG  
 “It will not also create strange stress in the time of the test.”

(97) dingət-awi himamm-at zi-behal-u , lə-misale....  
 strange-ADJ sickness-PL REL-call -3MPL, for-example  
 “What is called strange sicknesses, for example?”

(98) təsifa ni-wədəfit-u naj birihan tʃ'ilantʃ'ill-at ?ijj - a  
 hope for-future-3MS GEN light glimmer -PL AUX- 3FS  
 “Hope is the glimmers of light for future.”

In the switched Tigrinya sentences above, it is customary to find switched Tigrinya with multiple constituents and two-language constituents in a single sentence. To this end, in sentences (96) and (97), the free morpheme, wək'k'it and **dingat** are attached with the bound morpheme/- awi/ which is used in both Amharic and Tigrinya as marker of adjectives especially to indicate nationality. Similarly, in sentence (98) the free morphemes wədəfit and **ʃ'ilantʃ'il** coexist with the Tigrinya bound morphemes /-u /and /- at/ respectively, and sentences (95) the Tigrinya bound morpheme (/ki/) that portrays second person feminine singular is attached to the Amharic free morpheme **iwik'k'ət**. Thus, free morpheme constraint is respected in Tigrinya-Amharic codeswitching and the reverse is true since they share many features in common.

### 4.2.3. Matrix Language Frame Model

As proposed by scholars in the review literature, this model has three parts in which the embedded and matrix languages are structured basically. According to this sample data, both the matrix language island (ML) and the mixed ML + EL Island are respected. In this sample data the matrix language is Tigrinya and the embedded languages are both English and Amharic.

In the English-Tigrinya codeswitching, the switched language items are governed to the Tigrinya morphemes .some examples are presented below from the sample data.

(99) dək'i ʔanəstijo HEEL zə-llə-wo ʃ'amma ji-t'ik'əma .

females heel REL - has -3MS shoe IPM- use  
 "Females use a shoe which has a heel."

(100) liʃli 190 MESSAGE-at nab məhaz- ut-a lliʔi - ʒa .

above 190 message- PL to friend- PL-3FS send. PAST - 3FS  
 "She sent above 190 messages to her friends."

(101) ʔab TRANSPORT ki-ʒəwin ji-ʒiʔil .

in transport FUT- be IMP- may  
 "It may be in the transport."

(102) INFECTIION zə- mis's'iʔ-u CHEMICAL- at ʔallə-wu .

infection REL -cause -3MPL chemical - PL exist- 3MPL  
 "There exist chemicals that cause infection."

In the above sentences, the English free morphemes are dominated by the Tigrinya morphemes; and they are attributing to the well-forkedness or grammaticality of Tigrinya. Therefore, Savic's (1995) and park's (2010, 117) illustration of the matrix language constituent is respected in the Tigrinya–English codeswitching.

Besides, there exist morphemes from both Amharic and Tigrinya which are organized based on the structural principle of both languages in the sample data. Let's see back examples, in sentences (96) and (97). Therefore, the mixed matrix language and embedded language constituents are respected in the Tigrinya-Amharic bilinguals. Still, the matrix language island is applied in the Tigrinya – English bilinguals as well.

#### 4.2.4. Syntactic Categories

As has been discussed earlier, Tigrinya-English or Tigrinya-Amharic multilinguals switched different linguistic constituents in varied scales. They were switching multiple constituent of the same language or multiple constituents from Amharic or English. Both the large-sized and small- sized constituents are engaged in the codeswitching phenomena intersententially and intrasententially. In the sample data, the small-sized constituent such as nouns, noun phrases, verbs, adjectives and adverbs are frequently switched followed by adverb phrases, simple sentences, clauses and conjunctions.

Form the sample data, it can be also realized that there are switchable and non-switchable linguistic constituents .For example, complementizers, interrogatives, pronouns, articles, and negative markers are among the unwatchable or less frequently switched syntactic categories. This has happened due to the disparity among the languages in their grammatical properties. For instance, complementizer in English is indicated by the free morpheme 'that' but in Tigrinya it is verbal prefixes like Amharic. It is indicated through the prefixes such as / zi-/ , /zi-/ and /zə-/ which is the same as to the Amharic verbal prefix/ja-/ .The last two are the allomorph of /zi-/in the syntactic features of Tigrinya language .Les us see a few examples below in addition to the aforementioned instance .

(103) EMOTIONALLY zə-t'ifa?-χi-jom nəgər-at buzuh-at ?ijj- om.  
emotionally REL- spend .PAST-2FS-3MPL thing- PL many- PL AUX-3MPL.

“The things that you spent emotionally were many.”

(104) ጎብ ተገሪክታ ጊ-ሰረክ-ሀ FILMi-tat CONTINUITY ጋ-ብዘ-ወሙ-ነ.  
 in Tigrinya REL-DO-3MPL film-PL continuity NEG-has-3MPL-NEG  
 “The films which are done in Tigrinya have not continuity.”

(105) ALREADY, HEADPHONE - əj kab riʔs -əj ጎawis'i - ጎə,  
 already, head phone - is from head- is take off - is  
 “I already take off my head phone from my head,”

(106) ጎሪ ገዢቲ ነገ ሙንገስቲ ADMINISTRATIVE COST EFFECTIVES ጊ-ሰራክ ጎገገ-ሀ.  
 this below GEN government administrative cost effectives REL-DO AUX-3MS  
 “This can be done below government administrative cost effectives.”

Thus, English and Tigrinya have different structural arrangement of complementizers that is why it is non-switchable constituent in English-Tigrinya code switching. But in the case of Amharic-Tigrinya, they have the same grammatical arrangement with slightly different morpheme features. Here, the possible reason is functional words are rare to switch comparing to content words. According to Namba (n.d, 71), Closed class items such as determiners, quantifiers, prepositions, possessives, AUX, Tense, and helping verbs however cannot be switched. This can be the case for the point for the non-occurrence of interrogatives, Pronouns, articles; and negative markers in the case of Amharic, English and Tigrinya Trilingual language use on the FM radio broad castings. Besides, Bishop (2006, 13) confirmed that it is more uncommon to find codeswitching among elements that are different in grammatical structure between two languages. This is due to the inherent desire of the speaker to maintain grammaticality during the discourse process.

#### 4.2.5. Use of Matrix Language

According to fuller (1996, 495) The ML sets the morpho-syntactic frame; the other language(s) involved in code- switching, i.e. the EL(s), provide content morphemes in mixed constituents. To this end, matrix language is the language in which the majority of morphemes in a given conversation occur. This can be applied into the language use on Tigrinya FM radio that Tigrinya morphemes surmounted to the embedded language (English and Amharic) morphemes. Besides, Tigrinya was used as medium of communication between the researcher and informants during interview and the newly



## CHAPTER FIVE

### 5. Summary, Conclusion and Recommendation

#### 5.1. Summary

As has been indicated in the previous chapters, this study attempts to investigate the social motivations and intentions undertaking codeswitching phenomenon in the FM radio services broadcast in and around Mekelle. It also explored the possible reasons of codeswitching, and the attitudes of monolinguals and bilinguals towards codeswitching. Besides, the structural or grammatical features of switched language items on the Tigrinya FM radio programs are described based on the universal constraints. The frequency and distribution of linguistic constituents are highlighted too. Many bilinguals on the FM radio are heard mixing or switching the embedded languages (Amharic and English) into the matrix language (Tigrinya) frequently. The fact that codeswitching studies in Ethiopia are scanty and no codeswitching study in Tigray triggers the researcher to conduct such research on the Tigrinya FM radio programs.

The data were obtained from different sections of the society such as monolinguals, bilingual journalist, and bilingual FM radio listeners; and from the daily aired programs through interviews, questionnaires and audio recordings respectively. The audio recordings were carried out during live discussions from different programs of the FM radio broadcastings FM 102.2 and FM 104.4 in focus. Thus, the obtained data were analyzed based on the qualitative and quantitative data analysis methods, consequently, the intrasentential type of codeswitching is found as highly practiced empirically by the Tigrean trilingual. This type of codeswitching is carried out with multiple constituents via Amharic and English.

Moreover, based on these qualitative and quantitative analyses different findings are identified. Hence, structural and social related codeswitching phenomena were determined accordingly. Most of the listeners agreed that there is bulk of switched language codes on the Tigrinya FM radio programs especially from Amharic and English. 87.8% of the participants verified that the bulks of mixed codes are appeared on

every programs of the FM radio except on the time of presenting the news. The switched languages on these Tigrinya radio programs happened to be socially, psychologically, and linguistically motivated. To this end , it is found out that most of the switched language items are performed for the reasons of further clarification, to quote ideas in the original languages, to fill the temporal lexical gap in the matrix language, to translate science and technology words are a few to mention.

Whether or not the bilingual and monolingual TFRPs listeners and journalists have equal or different perception towards codeswitching incidents were attested. The attitudes of the respondents were ranged as positive, negative and neutral. The responses are cross checked through triangulating their answers in this study .Indeed , it is investigated that Tigrinya monolingual speakers have remarkably negative attitude (97.4%) towards codeswitching on the FM radio services .They even develop a malignant perception towards codeswitchers. The findings of Zelealem (1998) on codeswitching evidence from Amharic/English verify this reality in the same manner that Amharic monolinguals have negative attitude towards Amharic-English codeswitchers especially to the reckless switching. On the contrary, bilingual journalists and bilingual FM radio listeners have positive attitude towards codeswitching occurrences on the FM radio services overwhelming over those who have negative reaction. But; their answer is below average (19.3) or 41.4% comparing to the total responses given by monolinguals, bilinguals and journalists. Besides, about 9/6.4% of the participants are neutral towards the switched Tigrinya on the FM radio services.

The evidence of codeswitching on the TFRPs is found structurally very difficult for there are many expected languages or dialects switched on the Tigrinya FM radio services possibly. However, the frequently and commonly switched languages or language items are taken synchronically for analysis as unmarked switched language items to insight the phenomena of codeswitching on the underlined subject. Therefore, the synchronic effect of codeswitching are treated here in this study relegating other linguistic and sociolinguistic aspects of codeswitching for further study by other linguists and interested researchers. The diachronic effects of codeswitching incidents are not included in this study for the same purpose. Thus, Amharic and English are found out as the more

frequently switched language items in almost equal proportion due to economic, social and political motives. Besides, there are switched languages items on the Tigrinya radio FM services other than English and Amharic, but their linguistic characteristics are not shown because of time and budget constraints.

Above all, both intrasentential and intersentential types of codeswitching with multiple constituents are attested appropriate in both the switched language items on FM radio services. Intrasentential type of codeswitching is found out the largest quantitatively (225/92.6%), in this case, this study is closely related with earlier findings such as Zelealem (1998), Bikila (2008), and Dawit (2004). Still, it is attested that nouns are the frequently switched linguistic constituent in both Amharic and English into Tigrinya followed by noun phrases, adjectives, verbs and adverbs. In the same token, interrogatives, complementizers, and articles are the non-switchable constituents of both Amharic and English languages into Tigrinya on the Tigrinya FM radio services.

The applicability of the universal constraints is viewed vis-à-vis the findings. The equivalence constraint does not operate in the Tigrinya-English codeswitching for they have dissimilar surface structure of sentences. But this is appropriate in the Amharic-Tigrinya codeswitching since both shares the same basic word order of S-O-V. Besides, the size of the constituent constraint is explored an appropriate in both Amharic-Tigrinya and Tigrinya –English codeswitching phenomenon. Indeed, the small-sized linguistic constituents were involved intrasentential codeswitching surpassing the intersentential one in the TFRPs broadcasting in and around Mekelle.

Moreover, it is found out that the free morpheme constraint operates in both English-Tigrinya and Tigrinya–Amharic codeswitching on the FM radio services. In Amharic-Tigrinya codeswitching occurrences the free morpheme constraint is appropriate bidirectional but it is unidirectional in the Tigrinya- English codeswitching phenomenon. Tigrinya bound morphemes coexist with Amharic free morpheme and vice versa. However, it is only Tigrinya bound morphemes attached to English free morphemes but the reverse is not true.

## 5.2. Conclusion

As can be cognized from the findings, this study provides some information about switched language items on the FM radio Tigrinya programs. It also portrays an insight for researchers of sociolinguistic who are interested in studying codeswitching on Medias in general and radio services in particular.

This study is viewed from both sociolinguistic and linguistic approaches of codeswitching phenomenon. The social approach examined issues which are purely social in nature such as attitudes and reasons of switched linguistic items in the Tigrinya radio FM programs. Many scholars affirm that codeswitching is common and pervasive in many parts of the world, and it is treated as a norm rather than an exception. However, it is essential to recognize the negative effect of codeswitching functions in communication strategies where linguistically heterogeneous (monolingual and bilingual) communities are available. This is quite contradicting with earlier researches such Bikila (2008), in his Afan-oromo/English codeswitching study; he concluded that codeswitching should be considered as a strategy of communication functions.

The social findings indicate that monolinguals have highly exaggerated negative attitudes to wards codeswitching even they express malignant towards the codeswitchers .They are psychologically suppressed while listening mixed or switched Tigrinya on the Tigrinya radio FM services since there are switched codes which they failed to understand. On the other hand, most bilinguals prefer to speak the mixed Tigrinya-English or Tigrinya-Amharic.

Codeswitching is motivated by intrinsic (internal) and extrinsic (external) factors. The reasons for codeswitchers to mix codes on the Tigrinya radio FM programs are attributed to either of these two factors or a combination of the two. Codeswitching in the Tigrinya-English –Amharic is social. It is carried out both in unmarked and marked linguistic constituents. It is unmarked, because, Amharic and English are expected in many social, economical and political aspects of the country. It is marked since Tigrinya is the only expected language in local activities and self determinations.

The structural perspective of codeswitching is dealing with the linguistic description and analysis of Tigrinya-English/Amharic codeswitching on the Tigrinya radio FM programs. It is also possible to conclude, intrasentential type of codeswitching is appropriate in either cases i.e. Tigrinya-English codeswitching or Tigrinya–Amharic codeswitching. Thus, this finding is similar to Seligson (1986), Zelealem (1998) and Dawit (2004) in this case .English words are switched in free morpheme form into the Tigrinya language. Therefore, English verbs are switched into the Tigrinya morpho-syntactic realms taking the Tigrinya auxiliary or main verbs such as /χojīnu/ which means ‘be’ or /gəjīru/ which represents for the equivalent English word ‘do’. It can be concluded from this, Tigrinya verbs are morphologically complex like Amharic which indicate a minimum of a stem, a suffix portraying tense, gender, object, and number. On the other hand, Amharic words are switched at both word level and morpheme level unlike English. This happens due to the typological and genetic similarity between them.

### **5.3. Recommendation**

As could be recognized from the findings of this study, codeswitching born predicaments are explored or characterized. Here are some suggested actions which should be undertaken to resolve these problems.

- I. Newscasters should try to transmit clearly and precisely designed language (Tigrinya used on the medias) with out mixing other languages, and they must contribute their professional skill to upscale Tigrinya standardization, to assuring language ‘purity’.
- II. Interviewees should be aware not to speak switched Tigrinya (Tiglish or Tigam) for there are monolingual listeners from each corner of the city. They should be informed before commencing the live discussion programs by the journalists.
- III. Concerned bodies and educators should take the responsibility to mobilize individuals to carry out research on how to standardize Tigrinya language, lexicalize and develop independent Tigrinya from any indigenous or foreign languages influences situationaly.

- IV. Journalists must be given timely and continuously language related trainings and workshops in order to use non-switched Tigrinya on the Media since media is one of the one-way-communication systems.
- V. Language editors should look seriously for the switched Tigrinya especially for the words, phrases or clauses which haphazardly written with switched language items but have their equivalent meaning in Tigrinya .
- VI. Regional Language Academy should be established in order to enhance the use of the language and to carry out the research for betterment of the language .
- VII. I should recommend that linguists, language experts, and interested researchers are advised to carry out studies on codeswitching in the region. Because, this study is limited in its content and scope. For example, one can conduct a research on codeswitching considering age of switchers, social status, gender, educational level, and widening the horizon of the study in its scope by including large data.

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Appendix A

አዲስ አበባ ዩኒቨርሲቲ  
መፅናዕት ታት ድህረ-ምረቻ  
ክፍሉ ትምህርቱ ስነ-ልቦና

ንተናገርቲ ቋንቋ ትግርኛ ጥራሕ ዝተሰናደኦ ቻለ-መሕትት

እዚ ቻለ-መሕትት ንተናገርቲ ቋንቋ ትግርኛ ጥራሕ ዝተሰናደኦ እንትኸውን ኣድላዩ ዘበለ ናይ ቋንቋ ኣጠቓቕማ መረጃእታ ንምርካብ እዩ። ስለዚ እዚ ቻለ-መሕትት ምስ ፖለቲካ ይኩን ምስ ሃይማኖት ዝተተሓሓዘ ነገር የብሉን።

1. ካብ መደባት ቋንቋ ትግርኛ ብኤፍ.ኤም. ኣዳሚ.ዕኻ/ኸ. ዶ ትፈልጥ/ጠ? እንድሕር መልስኻ/ኸ.

ሀ.እወ  እ ንተኸይኑ፣ ንኸንደይ ግዜ ዝኣክል ተዳምዕ/ሳ?

ከሉ ግዜ  ሓደ ሓደ ግዜ  ብጣዕሚ ወ.ሕድ

ለ.ኣይኮነን  እንተኸይኑ ፣ ንምንታይ ከም ዘይተዳምዕ/ሳ ዘርዘር/ሪ ?

2. ኤፍ.ኤም ፊድዮ ብትግርኛ ምድላወ ንግኻ/ኸ. እንታይ ጥቕማ ኣለዎ ኢልካ/ከ. ትኣምን/ኒ?

3. ኣብ ኤፍ.ኤም ፊድዮ ትግርኛ ምስ ቋንቋ ዝተተሓሓዙ እንታይ እንታይ ፀገማት ኣለውዎ ኢልካ/ከ. ትኣምን/ኒ?

4. ኣብ ኤፍ.ኤም ፊድዮ ብቋንቋ ትግርኛ ዝፍኖ ትግርኛ ሕዋስ ናይ ወሃኢ ቋንቋታት ፣ ናይ ውሽጢ ግዲ ቋንቋታት ወይ ኸፃ ላህጃታት ኣለውዎ ዶ?

እወ   ብሉን

5. ኣብ ቕጽ.4.መልስኻ/ኸ. “እወ” እንተኸይኑ፣ እዚ ግራማይላ ቋንቋ ትግርኛ ከመይ ትሪኦ/ዮ?

6. ትግርኛ ምስ ካልእት ቋንቋታት ሓዊሱ/ሶም/ሶን ገዛረብ/ገዛረቡ/ገዛረባ ብመብላሕትኡ ግዜ መን እዩ/ዮም/ን ኢልካ/ከ. ትኣምን/ኒ?

7. ትግርኛ ምስ ኣምሓርኛ፣ እንግልዘኛ ወይ ካልኦት ቋንቋታት እንዳሓወሱ ገዛረቡ/ባ ሰባት ምክንያቶም/ን እንታይ እንታይ እዩ ኢልካ/ከ. ትሓስብ/ቢ?

8. ግራማይላ ቋንቋትግርኛ ብመብላሕትኡ ግዜ ገዝረብ ኣብ ኣየናይ መደብ ኤፍ.ኤም ፊደሎ ብቋንቋትግርኛ እዩ?

9. ኣብ ኤፍ.ኤም ፊደሎ ብቋንቋትግርኛ ዝመሓላለፍ ግራማይላ ቋንቋትግርኛ ብቐለሉ ዶ ትርጉም/ዮ?

እወ  ኣይርደኦን

10. ኣብ ቐጂ.9. መልስካ/ኸ. “ኣይርደኦን” እንተኾይኑ ፣ ከምዚ ዓይነት ግራማይላ ትግርኛ እንተጋጥመካ/ከ. ትገብር/ሪ?

11. ግራማይላ ትግርኛ ብመብላሕትኡ ግዜ ዝስማዕ ኣብ ኣየናይ እዋን ፈነወ ኤፍ.ኤም ፊደሎ ብቋንቋትግርኛ እዩ?

ቐትሪ  ምሽት  ንጉሆ

ከሉ ግዜ ድሕሪ ዜና

ካለእኣንተሃልዩግለፅ/ሳ?

**ንትሕብብርኩም/ክን የቐንዩለይ!!!!**

## Appendix B

Addis Ababa University  
School of Graduate Studies  
Department of Linguistics

### Questionnaires to be answered by journalists

The purpose of this questionnaire is to collect pieces of language use information from journalists. It does not have any political or religious issues; it carries educational intention. Thus, your humble responses have salient values in this study. Therefore, you are kindly requested to write down your genuine answers for each of the provided questions.

*Thank you for your cooperation in advance!!*

**Instructions:** Please, put (√) on the box that carries the correct answer for each close-ended questions; and write down your opinion on the provided spaces for the open-ended questions.

1. How many Languages can you speak fluently?

One  more than one

2. If your answer for No. '1' is 'more than one', please write them down?

Your L<sub>1</sub> (first language) \_\_\_\_\_

Your L<sub>2</sub> (second language) \_\_\_\_\_

Your L<sub>3</sub> (third Language) \_\_\_\_\_

Your L<sub>4</sub> (fourth Language) \_\_\_\_\_

Specify if there are others \_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you think that there are language related problems while presenting or interviewing in the TFRPs?

---

4. Have you ever switched any Language you know into Tigrinya when presenting public issues?

Yes

No

5. If your answer for No. '7' is 'yes', would you express:

a. Why do you mix other Languages into Tigrinya?

\_\_\_\_\_

b. When do you mix other Languages into Tigrinya?

\_\_\_\_\_

c. With whom do you mix other Languages into Tigrinya?

\_\_\_\_\_

d. Where do you use the mixed Tigrinya Language?

\_\_\_\_\_

e. In which programs of the Tigrinya FM radio programs do you switch or hear the mixed Tigrinya most frequently?

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Which languages do you frequently switch or hear being switched?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Do you think that monolinguals easily comprehend the switched Tigrinya in the TFRPS?

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Have you ever encountered an interviewee who speaks a mixed Tigrinya with other languages in the public speeches?

Yes

No

9. If your answer for No. '9' is 'Yes', how do you control such codeswitching phenomenon?

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Do you have any controlling mechanisms to the switched Tigrinya in your organization when individuals are invited for interview?

Yes

No

11. If your answer for No. '11' is 'yes', please, would you express the controller organ and the controlling mechanisms?

\_\_\_\_\_

12. From your experiences, who and when do you think that other languages are mixed in to Tigrinya frequently?

---

13. From your experiences, Can you express with whom Tigrinya code switchers mixed codes frequently?

---

14. Are you happy with the uses of languages on your organization?

Yes

No

15. Do you accept the switched Tigrinya language positively? If your answer is --

a. Yes  , please express why?

---

b. No  , please express why?

---

16. Have you ever been given training in journalism or on how to use Language on Medias? If your answer is:

a. Yes

Please, write the types of trainings you have taken so far?

---

b. No

Please, write what types of trainings do you need to be given?

---

**Appendix C**  
**Addis Ababa University**  
**School of Graduate Studies**  
**Department of Linguistics**

*Questionnaires to be answered by bilinguals*

The purpose of this questionnaire is to collect pieces of language use information from bilinguals or multilingual. It does not have any political or religious issues; it has educational intention. Thus, your humble responses have salient values in this study. Therefore, you are kindly requested to write down your genuine answers for each of questions provided.

*Thank you for your cooperation in advance!!*

**Instructions:** Please, put (✓) on the box that carries the correct answer for each closed-ended questions; and write down your opinion on the provided spaces for the open-ended questions.

1. How many languages can you speak fluently?

One  more than one

2. If your answer for No. '1' is 'more than one'; please, mention them as:

Your L<sub>1</sub> (first Language) \_\_\_\_\_

Your L<sub>2</sub> (second Language) \_\_\_\_\_

Your L<sub>3</sub> (third Language) \_\_\_\_\_

Your L<sub>4</sub> (fourth Language) \_\_\_\_\_ etc.

3. Have you ever listened in the Tigrinya FM radio services?

Yes  No

4. If your answer for No. '3' is 'yes', how often do you listen to the Tigrinya FM. Radio broadcasting?

frequently  sometimes  rarely

5. Have you ever switched any languages into Tigrinya in your Tigrinya conversation?

Yes  No

6. If your answer for No. '5' is 'yes', please express:

a. Why do you mix other Languages with Tigrinya?

---

- b. When do you mix or hear the mixed Tigrinya on the Tigrinya FM radios?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- c. Where do you use the mixed Tigrinya?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- d. With whom do you use the mixed Tigrinya in your conversations?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- e. In which programs of the Tigrinya FM radio programs do you switch or hear the mixed Tigrinya most frequently  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. If your answer for No. '5' is 'no', express why?  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. Which languages are you switched or heard mixed frequently in Tigrinya conversational speeches?  
\_\_\_\_\_

English  Amharic  Arabic  French  Local  
dialects  others

9. Have you ever been interviewed in any of the Tigrinya FM. Radio broad casting?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Yes  No

10. If your answer for No. '8' is 'yes', express how 'pure' is your Tigrinya in your Tigrinya speech in medias?  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. Are you happy with the use of language in Tigrinya FM Programs?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Yes  No

12. If your answer for No. '11' is 'no', why?  
\_\_\_\_\_

13. What specific language related problems have you encountered so far while listening to the Tigrinya FM radio broad castings?  
\_\_\_\_\_

14. What do you feel when you hear switched Tigrinya in the Tigrinya FM Radio?  
\_\_\_\_\_

15. Do you think the mixed Tigrinya speeches can transfer the intended message to the audiences successfully?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Yes  No

16. If your answer for No. '20' is 'No', why do you use mixed Tigrinya in your speeches?  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Appendix D

### Linguistic data

The Amharic cognates on this codeswitching data are highlighted through bold so as to be easily identified from Tigrinya. The categories of the switched constituents are haphazardly found throughout the data. Therefore, left Superscripted numbers are indicating the right place for the numbers which are fuzzy elsewhere. Hence, 1 =noun, 2=noun phrase 3=adverb (phrase), 4 =adjective or Adjective phrase and 5 = verb or phrase

#### Sentences

- (1) *hadə naj ʔamaharijɲa ʔabahla ʔall-o .*  
one GEN Amharic saying exist-3MS  
“**wiʃət-am** **səw ras-u-n** **bə-ras-u** **ji-tazəb-all**”  
liar- ADJ person head-3MS-ACC by- head-3MS IMP-observe-AUX  
“There exists one Amharic saying .... “A liar is observing himself.”
- (2) SMART<sup>4</sup> *kojin-ə THE EASIEST<sup>4</sup> kojɪn-ə nimintaj zəj-t'ik'əm .WHY DO -*  
smart be- IS the easiest be - IS why NEG-use . Why do -  
I SUFFER A LOT?  
I suffer a lot?  
“Why do not I should be using the smart and the easiest way? Why do I suffer a lot?”
- (3) *g<sup>w</sup>owəz-at ʔiwɪn ji-χ'ədih-u ʔijj-om. I KNOW THIS.*  
cleaver-PL too IMP-copy-3MPL AUX-3MPL. I know this.  
“Clever students too copy during exam. I know this.”
- (4) *fətəna zi-hələf-om təmhar-o LOSER-s<sup>4</sup> ʔijj-om. THEY ARE LOSING.*  
exam REL-miss -3MPL student-PL loser-PL COPL-3MPL. They are loosing.  
“Students those who miss the exam are losers. They are loosing”

#### Independent clauses

- (5) *wisit't'-e je-honə simet ki-siməfə-ni kəllə git'mi ji-gət't'im .*  
inside-IS GEN-any feeling FUT-feel-IS when poem IMP-write poem  
“When I feel bad inside I am writing a poem.”
- (6) *həzi mi-χad tɪrgum jə-ləw-u-m.*  
now to-go value NEG-has-3MS-NEG(circumfix)  
“To go now is valueless”
- (7) *lə-mi-səra səw ʔizuj ʔabji s'əgga ʔijj.u.*  
For- to-work person this big wealth COPL-3MS.

“For a person who can work this is wealth”

- (8) **NORMALLY**<sup>3</sup> **minim jə-mikəbd nəgər jə-llə-w-m** kəm baʃiləj SENSE<sup>5</sup> ki-gəbr-o  
normally nothing NEG-difficult thing NEG-has-GEN-NEG as myself sense FUT-make-3MS  
kəllək-u  
when-1S  
“When I sense it has not any difficulty normally”

- (9) **AT THE END OF THE GRAGUATION**, təmhar-o ʔintaj ʃajnetsəb-at ki-χon-u ʔallə- wom?  
at the end of the graduation, student-PL what kind person-PL FUT-be-3MPL should-3MPL  
“What kind of persons should be students at the end of the graduations?”

### Prepositional clauses

- (10) **Lə-misale**, naj siga-dəwijə bi-FUNGUS<sup>1</sup> ji - lləʃal.  
for-example, GEN skin disease by-fungus IMP- cause  
“For example, skin disease is caused by Fungus.”
- (11) naj səb-at **jə-wisit't'** kiʔillə-tat zi -ans'əbarəχ'ə-lu ʔijj-u .  
GEN people-PL GEN - inside ability-PL REL-reflect-3MS AUX - 3MS  
“It is a place where peoples' abilities are reflected.”
- (12) **JUST**<sup>3</sup> bək'k'a **bə-fit't'inə** ʔijj-u mi-sirah zəllə-ki.  
just enough by-quick AUX-3MS to-work should -2F  
“Enough, you should just work quickly.”
- (13) təsfa **ni-wədəfit-u** naj birhan ʃ'ilantʃ'il-at ʔijj - a.  
hope for- prospect-3MS GEN light glimmer -PL COPL- 3FS  
“Hope is the glimmers of light for prospect.”
- (14) **bənəgəratʃin laj**, ʔizi FILMi<sup>1</sup> zi-təsərħə bi-bizuh-at CAMERA<sup>1</sup> ʔijj-u.  
by the way, this film REL-do. PAST by many-PL camera AUX-3MS  
“by the way this film was done by many cameras .”
- (15) **BY THE WAY** s'ibuχ' FILMi<sup>1</sup> ni-misirah PRODUCER-at<sup>1</sup> mis s'əhaf-ti  
by the way good film for -do producer-PL with writer -PL  
ki-tahababər-u ʔallə- wom  
FUT -cooperate - 3MPL should- 3MPL  
“By the way, to do a good film, producers and writers should be cooperated.”
- (16) **ON THE WAY** zi- gībər-u sirah- ti ʔagalis'  
On the way REL-do -3MPL work -PL disclose.2MS  
“You should disclose works that are done on the way.”

### Relative clauses

- (17) bit'aʃimi **adəgə ɲɲa je-honə** χ'us'is'ir jə-ddili .  
very danger IMP - be control GEN - need

“It needs very dangerous control.”

- (18) **wisit't' -u je- honə** nəgər kəj-hilj-o mi-rigigas' jə-dilli  
Inside-3MS IMP-be thing NEG-has-3MS to-chek GEN - should  
“It is better to chek incsea there may be some thing inside”

## Nouns

- (19) fətəna hadə ELEMENT naj timhrti ?ijj-u  
test one element GEN education AUX-3MS  
“Test is one erlement of an education .”
- (20) kali? PROGRAM-at mi-?iraj jədli  
another program\_PL to-arrange need  
“Another is programs need to arrange.”
- (21) hadə FILMi **wibət** ?all-wo  
one film beauty has-3MS  
“A film has beauty.”
- (22) naj ART sirah χ'iməm ?ijj-u  
GEN art work spice AUX-3MS  
“The work of art is spice.”
- (23) ?aj-godi?-a-ni-n zi-bill IMPRESSION Ki-hiz-u ji-ki?l-u.  
NEG-harm-3MS-1S-NEG REL-say impression FUT-hold-3MPL IMP-able-3MPL  
“They may have an impression that he is not able to harm them.”
- (24) zixonə səb MARK ki-wisχ jə-bill-u-n .  
any body mark FUT-add NEG-should-3MS-NEG  
“Any body should not add mark.”
- (25) himax' EXPECTATION ?allə-wo.  
bad expectation has-3MS  
“He has bad expectation.”
- (26) mis FAMILY-χα mi-nibar LIMIT ?allə-wo.  
with family-2MS to-live limit exist-3MS  
“There exists a limit to live with your family .”
- (27) naj mi-nifax' SITUATION-at ?all-o .  
GEN to-miss situation-PL exist-3MS  
“There exists missing situations.”
- (28) zitəfələləj- u TOURISM -at ?allə - wu .  
different -3MPL tourism -PL exist - 3MPL  
“There exist different tourisms.”

- (29) CHEMICAL-at zi-təfələləj-u ?ijj-om .  
 Chemical - PL REL-different -3MPL AUX - 3MPI  
 "There are Chemicals that are different."
- (30) kullom ?amaratʃ'-tat tə-wəsəd-om ?ijj-om.  
 all choice-PL PASS-take-3MPL AUX-3MPL  
 "All choices are taken."
- (31) bi-χulu ACTIVITY-χi gobəz ?inda hallə-χi,  
 by-all activity-2FS clever but exist-2FS  
 "You are clever by all your activities but,"
- (32) ?ab tigrinja zi-sirh-u FILMi-tat CONTINUITY jə-bill-ommi-n.  
 in Tigrinya REL-do-3MPL film-PL continuity NEG-has-3MPL-NEG  
 "The films which are done in Tigrinya have not continuity."
- (33) INTERNET BROWSE<sup>5</sup> mi-gibar ?ina INFORMATION-at mi-?ikab jə-zənağəʃa-ni  
 internet browse to- do and information - PL to- collect IMP -entertain- IS  
 "I am entertaining to browsing internet and to collect information."
- (34) naj kəbdi OPERATION gəjr - om .  
 GEN stomach operation carryout. PAST - 3MPL  
 "They carried out stomach operation."
- (35) naj HORMON-at ləwt'i ?all-o .  
 GEN hormone - PL change exist-3MS  
 "There exists a change of hormone."
- (36) zi təfələləj- u DRUGS ?allə - wu .  
 different - 3MPL drugs exist - 3MPL  
 "There exist different drugs."
- (37) ?iti wis'ə?at bi-zitəfələləj-u BACTERI-tat wəj PARASITE-tat ki-məs'?i ji-χi?il  
 the diarrhea by-different-3MPL bacteria-PL or paracite-PL FUT-cuase IMP-can  
 "Diarrhea can be caused by different bacteria and parasites."
- (38) TECHNOLOGY-tat zi- məs'-u dəhar ?ijj - om.  
 technology - PL REL-bring -3MPL latter AUX - 3MPL  
 "Technologies that are brought latter,"
- (39) HORMON-ka ki-χ'ijjir-u zi-χi?l-u mədihanit-tat ?alle -wu  
 hormone-2MS FUT-change-3MPL REL-3MPL tablet-PL exist- 3MPL  
 "There exist tablets which can change your hormone."
- (40) həzi CONFIDENCE-ki DEVELOP<sup>5</sup> kojn-u ?ijj - u .  
 now confidence-2FS develop become -3MS AUX - 3MS  
 "Now, your confidence develops."

- (41) dək'i ʔanəstijo HEEL zə-llə-wo tʃ'amma ji-t'ik'əma  
 females heel REL - has - 3MS shoe IPM- use  
 "Females use a shoe which has a heel."
- (42) liʔli 190 MESSAGE-at nab məhaz- ut-a lliʔi - xa  
 above 190 message- PL to friend- PL-3FS send. PAST - 3FS  
 "She sent above 190 messages to her friends."
- (43) ʔab TRANSPORT ki-xəwin ji-xiʔil .  
 in transport FUT- be IMP- may  
 "It may be in the transport."
- (44) INFECTION zə- mis's'iʔ-u CHEMICAL- at ʔallə-wu .  
 Infection REL -cause -3MPL chemical - PL exist- 3MPL  
 "There exist chemicals that cause infection."
- (45) nəti məngisti ʔiwin ʔabbiji INPUT ʔijj-u.  
 for the government also great input COPL-3MS  
 "It is also great input for the government."
- (46) dɪms'i wəjjanə ʔab limʔat CONTRIBUTION - u liʔul nəjr - u .  
 dimtsi wejane in development contribution - 3MS high COPL.PAST - 3MS  
 "The contribution of dimtsi wejane in development was high".
- (47) dɪms'i wəjjanə ʔab tarix MEDIA killil-na k'idimit ʔijj - u zi-siraʔ.  
 dimtsi wejane in history media region-GEN first AUX-3MS REL-stands first  
 "Dimtsi wejane stands first in the history of media in our region."
- (48) ʔiti AGENDA ʔab gəbbəja wərid-u k'aləbləb zəj - bil mən ʔijj-u zi-bil ʔijj-u nəjr-u  
 the agenda in market go- 3MS make adultery NEG-be who AUX-3MS REL-be AUX- 3MS.PAST  
 "The agenda was to know the person, who doesn't made adultery when going to the Market."
- (49) dək'k'i-ʔanəsti-jo naj hədəga MAGNET ʔijj-ən.  
 female-3FPL GEN danger magnet COPL-3FPL  
 "Females are magnet for danger."
- (50) zitəfələləj -u TOURISM- at ʔallə -wu .  
 different - 3MPL tourism - PL exist - 3MPL  
 "There exist different tourisms."
- (51) COSMETICS mi - t'ik'am fitt-ka jə-bəla ʃʃi wo .  
 Cosmetics to - use face - 2MS IMP-spoil- 3MS  
 "Using cosmetic codeswitching spoils your face."
- (52) ʔab ʔinni-bəlf-om mægbi t'inik'ak'e mi - gibar jəddili.  
 in REL-eat- 3MPI food care to - do should  
 "We should take care of in the food we eat."

- (53) ʔab **fijna – na** kəbabi rəχsi ji - fət't'ir .  
 in bladder -1PL around disease IMP – create.3MS  
 “It will create disease around our bladder.”
- (54) malət kali? ʔamaratʔʔ jə –llə – n  
 Mean another choice NEG –exist – NEG  
 “Mean, there exists no choice.”
- (55) naj PRODUCTION ʔina CAMERA bizuh wəʔʔʔi ʔallə -na  
 GEN production and camera many expense have-1PL  
 “We have many expenses for production and camera.”
- (56) məmləsi TRANSPORT ʔiwn jə-blli-ka-n  
 back transport also NEG-have-2MS-NEG  
 “You don’t have transport free to back from.”
- (57) naj PRODUCTION zi-ħazu STUDIO-tat jə-bill-na-n  
 GEN production REL-hold studio-PL NEG-have -1PL-NEG  
 “We don’t have studios that hold production.”
- (58) nimintaj ʔina AUDIENCE siʔi-na ?  
 why 1PL audience lose-1PL  
 “Why do we lose our audience?”
- (59)... bizuh COURSE-tat zi-wəsəd-u PROFESSIONAL-at ʔijj-om .  
 many course-PL REL-take.PAST-3MPL professional-PL AUX-3MPL  
 “...they took many courses that they are professionals.”
- (60) ʔiti zi-sərħo PORTION naj baʔʔil-u ʔijj-u.  
 the REL-do.PAST portion GEN his-3MS AUX-3MS  
 “ ...that he did was his own portion .”
- (61) COMMITTEE ʔiwn ʔat'ajʔʔ-na.  
 committee also establish.PAST-1PL  
 “We established committee.”
- (62) ʔizi PROPOSAL bi-INTERNET sədid-ə-lom  
 this proposal by-internet send.PAST-1S-3MPL  
 “I sent this proposal by internet to them.”
- (63) INFORMATION ʔakib-ə PROJECT x'əris'-ə.  
 information gather-1S project design.PAST-1S  
 “I gathered information and designed a project
- (64) ʔiti PROCESS ʔizuj ʔijj-u  
 the process this AUX-3MS  
 “This is the process .”

- (65) ?izuj naj habar AGENDA ?ijj-u.  
 this GEN common agenda AUX-3MS  
 "This is common agenda."
- (66) naj COMPANY-tat zi-millkət...  
 GEN Company -PL REL-relate ...  
 "That relate to the companies ..."
- (67) ECONOMY-χa ti-χəsir.  
 economy -2MS IMP-lose  
 "you will lose your economy."
- (68) ...?ab dəχ'i-səb-at zəllo naj ?atəhasasiba **giʃ'tʃ'it** ?ijj-u.  
 in human-PL exist GEN ideology conflict AUX-3MS  
 "...It exist conflict in the ideology of human being."
- (69) naj PSYCHOLOGYiPHILOSOPHY i məs'ahf-ti je-nibib.  
 GEN psychology and philosophy and book-PL IMP-read  
 "I read psychology and philosophy books."
- (70) malət hədəhadə **tʃigr-at** ki-ft'ər-u ji-χiʔl-u .  
 mean some difficulty FUT-create-3MPL IMP-able-3MPL  
 "means , some difficulty may be created ."
- (71) naj GAS mi-t'ix'am ki-χəwn ji-χʔil .  
 GEN gas to-use FUT-be IMP-able  
 "It can be the use of gas."

#### Noun phrase

- (72) ALREADY<sup>3</sup>, HEADPHONE - əj kab riʔs -əj ?awis'i - ?ə,  
 already, head phone - IS from head- IS take off - IS  
 "I already take off my head phone from my head,"
- (73) CHRIST-MASχ'ərib-u ?ijj-u.  
 charismas approach-3MS AUX - 3MS  
 "Christ-mas is approaching."
- (74) bi-naj FABRICA CHEMICAL-at zi-məs'? hımam ?ijj-u.  
 by-GEN factory chemical-PL REL-cause illness AUX-3MS  
 "it is an illness that is caused by factory chemicals ."
- (75) sləzi hanti STUDY AREA ?ab majməχidən ni-gəbr-a  
 so one study area in May-Mekiden IMP.1PL-make-PAST-3FS  
 "so, we made May\_mekiden one study area ."

- (76) INDOORACTION-at ?ab naj baʃʃil-na STUDIŌ<sup>1</sup> ni-χ'ərs' ?ina.  
 indooraction-PL in GEN our-1PL studio IMP-recod 1PL  
 "We record indoor actions in our studio."
- (77) ?iti naj 10 dəχ'iχ'a COMEDY FILMi ki-čmir jigba?  
 the GEN 10 minute comedy film FUT-start should  
 "The ten minute comedy film should be stated."
- (78) PROBLEM SOLVER χojn-χα mi-rkab jədli.  
 Problem solver be-2MS to-find.PASS better  
 "It is better to be found as problem solver."
- (79) TIME MANAGEMENT ki-hill-wom jigba?  
 time management FUT-have-3MPL should  
 "They should have time management."
- (80) WELL COME PROGRAM nəzəgəč-ə-u ?ina.  
 welcome program prepare-1PL 1PL  
 "We prepare welcome program."
- (81) GRADUATE PROFILE ?iwn ?allə-na ?ijj-u.  
 graduate profile also have-1PL AUX-3MS  
 "We have also graduate profile ."
- (82) həzi CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT ?atə?atati-na ?allə-na.  
 now continuous assessment introduce -1PL exist-1PL  
 "Now, we are introducing continuous assessment."
- (83) dıms'i wəjjanə naj k'idmit STACK HOLDER-na ?ijj -u .  
 dimtsi wejjane GEN first stackholder -1PL COPL- 3MS  
 "Dimtsi wejjane is our first stack holder."
- (84) zi-təwəsənə naj FIRST AID hikkimına wəsıd - u.  
 REL- some GEN first aid treatments take.PAST-3MS  
 "He took some first aid treatments."
- (85) MAKE UP -- at ti -sərih səbəjti,  
 make up - PL REL- 3FS - make female  
 "The woman who prepares make ups,"
- (86) kali? TEMPRATURE REGULATION zi - bəhal nəgər ?all-o,  
 another temperature regulation REL- call thing exist - 3MS  
 "There exists another thing which is called Temperature regulation"
- (87) ?iti kali? SENSORY FUNCTION malet ?ijj-u,  
 the other sensory function mean COPL- 3MS  
 "The other is sensory function, means"

- (88) kabʔu BOARD MANAGEMENT ji - t't'ajəf ,  
then board management IMP - establish  
“Then, board management will be established.”
- (89) naj ngdi SECTOR<sup>1</sup> ʔintə - kojn -u naj COMPANY<sup>1</sup>  
GEN trade sector if - be - 3MS GEN company  
maḥawir ʔall-o naj COMPANY MANAGER - at ʔiwin ʔallə - wu .  
part exist-3MS GEN company manager - PL also exist -3 MPL  
“If there exists a trade sector, there exist company managers.”
- (90) ʔab RURAL DEVELOPMENT zi -sərah təmharaj nəjr-u,  
in rural development REL - work student AUX .PAST - 3MS  
“There was a student who works in rural development.”
- (91) ʔab PLAN BUREAU ji-səriḥ nəjir - ə.  
in plan bureau IMP- work AUX .PAST - 1S.  
“I was working in plan bureau.”
- (92) bi-VIDEO FILMi COMPLETELY<sup>3</sup> ʔas's'ij - om - wo.  
by-video film completely stop - 3MPL - 3MS  
“They stopped video film completely.”
- (93) NORMALLY<sup>3</sup> nay EVALUATION METHOD-at təməhajj-om ʔijj-om .  
normally GEN evaluation method - PL improve -3MPL AUX -3MPL  
“Normally, the evaluation methods are improved.”
- (94) ʔizi tihti naj mənigsti ADMINISTRATIVE COST EFFECTIVES zi-sirah ʔijj-u  
this below GEN government administrative cost effectives REL-do AUX-3MS  
“This can be done below government administrative cost effectives.”

### Adjectives

- (95) ʔizuj CLEAR zi-χonə məngədi ʔijj-u.  
this clear REL-be way AUX-3MS  
“This is clear way.”
- (96) liḥli 15 PERCENT zi-χəwn s'əs's'ər...  
above 15 percent REL-can be marble ...  
“That can be above 15 percent marble ...”
- (97)...hiwot-χa SUCCESSFUL naj mi-χ<sup>w</sup>an məngədi jərʔi  
life-2MS successful GEN to-be way indicate  
“...it indicates the successful way of your life.”
- (98) PHYSICIST mi-χ<sup>w</sup>an PRODUCTIVE zi-χonə KNOWLEDGE<sup>1</sup>  
Physicist to-be productive REL-be knowledge  
bi-UNDERGRADUATE<sup>2</sup> dərəɖʒa ji-rəkb

- by-undergraduate level IMP-get.3MS  
 “One who become a physicist will get productive knowledge by undergraduate level.”
- (99) ʔab hiwət-əj EFFECTIVELY<sup>3</sup> sərihə do ? SUCCESSFUL ʔojn-ə  
 in life-1S effectively work Q? succesful be- 1S  
 “Do I work effectively and become successful in my life?”
- (100) ʔab MARKETING ʔiwin ti- sərih nəjir-ka ʔixa.  
 in marketing also IMP- work AUX-PAST -2MS AUX- 2MS  
 “You were also working in marketing.”
- (101) ʔiti ʔakal INFECTIOUS ji- ʔəwin.  
 the organ infectious IMP- be come  
 “The organ will become infectious.”
- (102) CYCLIC zi - bəhal nəgər ʔinnihə.  
 cyclic REL-call thing exist  
 “There exists a thing which is called cyclic.”
- (103) bi- REAL ʔijj -u nab fənəwə tə-bs’əh-o .  
 by-real AUX-3MS to air to-send - 2MS  
 “You send to air real.”
- (104) MATURED ʔijj - om .  
 matured COPL- 3MPL  
 “They are matured.”
- (105) ʔab fətəna EQUAL ʔixa TREAT<sup>5</sup> ti -gəbr - om .  
 in exam equal 2MS treat IMP- do - 3MPL  
 “You are treating them equally in the exam.”
- (106) FRUSTRATED ti - ʔəwin ,  
 Frustrated IMP- become  
 “You will become frustrated.”
- (107) ʔallə-wu SELECTED zi-ʔon-u SUBJECT- tat<sup>1</sup>  
 Exist - 3MPL selected REL- be - 3MPL subject -PL ...  
 “There exist subjects which are selected.”
- (108) bizuh SOCIABLE ʔaj- kon-ku-n  
 so much sociable NEG -be- IS -NEG  
 “I am not so much sociable.”
- (109) ʔəkkaj ʔill-om mət’t’ifo ʃim ji - hibi - wo.  
 bookworm say- 3MPL bad name IMP-give - 3MS  
 “They give him a bad name saying bookworm.”

- (110) SELECTIVE ki-χon -u ʔallə - wom .  
 Selective FUT -be - 3MPL should - 3MPL  
 “They should be selective.”
- (111) zəj - ʔadilij-u zibazink ʔijj -om.  
 NEG-need-3MPL hotchpotch COPL-3MPL  
 “They are hotchpotches not important.”\
- (112) ʔab fətəna ʔiwin wək'k'it-awi zi-χonə STRESS<sup>1</sup> ʔaj-fət't'irə-lommi-n.  
 in test also strange-ADJ REL-be stress NEG- create-3MPL-NEG  
 “It will not also create strange stress in the time of the test.”

### Verbs

- (113) kab wiʃʃit'-əj zi-təlliʔalə EXPRESS ji-gəbr.  
 from inside-IS REL-emanate express IMP-do  
 “I do express that emanates from inside.”
- (114) nəgər-at MANAGE naj mi-gibar ʔfillota-χi<sup>1</sup> ji-wisχ.  
 thing-PL manage GEN to-do skill -2FS IMP-increase  
 “Your managing skill for things will increase.”
- (115) həzi bi-MASTER<sup>1</sup>dərədʒa GRADUATE ki-gəbr ʔij-ə  
 this by-master level graduate FUT-do AUX-IMS  
 “I will graduate in master level this time.”
- (116) APPEASE ji-gəbr-a-ni nəjr-ən.  
 appease IMP-do-3FPL-1FS AUX.PAST-3FPL  
 “They were appeasing me.”
- (117) baʔilχi SENSE zəj-tigəbr-yo səb-at APPRECIATE Ki-gəbrə-ki ji-χəwn.  
 yourself sense NEG-do-3MS people-PL appreciate FUT-do-3FS IMP-be  
 “People may appreciate you for the things you don't sense yourself.”
- (118) kab hədə ʔijj-u MOBLIZE kojn-u.  
 form one AUX-3MS mobilize be-3MS  
 “It mobilizes form one.”
- (119) naj gəli - om silki BUSY kojn-u .  
 GEN one-3MPL mobile busy be- 3MS  
 “Some one's mobile is busying.”
- (120) ʔanə ʔizuj ʔijj-ə ADVISE zi-gəbir kəm bəʔalmoja.  
 I this AUX-IS advise REL-do as expert  
 “I advise this as an expert.”

- (121) kab wɨft'-əj zi - təlɣalə nəgər EXPRESS ji - gəbir  
 from inside-1S REL-emanate thing express IMP - do.1S  
 "I am expressing things that emanate from inside."
- (122) ʔizi DECLARE ki - ni-gəbr-o ʔi - na .  
 this declare FUT-1PL-do-3MS AUX - 1PL  
 "We will declare this."
- (123) nəzi wadi ki - təhababər - o ASSIGN ji - gibər.  
 the man FUT - cooperate -3MS assign IMP - do .1S.PASS  
 "I was assigned for the man to cooperate."
- (124) ʔabzi məs'iʔ-u DEVELOP kojn -u.  
 here come - 3MS develop be - 3MS  
 "It comes and develops here."
- (125) bi-zəj- ART<sup>1</sup> MOBLIZE mi-gibar ʔaj-kəʔal - n .  
 with-NEG-art mobilize to-do NEG-able- NEG  
 "It is impossible to mobilize without art."
- (126) CONTINUOUSLY<sup>3</sup> ʔi-ɣa ASSESS ti-gibər.  
 Continuously AUX-2MS assess IMP-do.2MS.PASS  
 "You are assessed continually."
- (127) bi-tiɣkil IMPLEMENT ki-tigəbir-o ʃigir ʔijj-u.  
 by -correct implément FUT- do - 3MS difficult AUX-3MS  
 "It is difficult to implement correctly."
- (128) bi-tikikil JUDGE ki-tigəbir-om ʔallə-ka.  
 by-correct Judge FUT-do -3MS should - 2MS  
 "You should judge them with correct"
- (129) CLASS<sup>1</sup> MISS ji-gəbir-u ʔimmo PERFORMANCWE-om<sup>1</sup> tihut ji-ɣəwin  
 class miss IMP-do-3MPL and performance - 3MPL low IMP- become  
 "When they miss class their performance becomes lower."
- (130) g<sup>w</sup>alnət-ki ni-GRADE- ki<sup>1</sup> ji- t'ibbiɣ'əl - ki  
 female- 2FS for-grade-2FS IMP- keep -2FS  
 "You being feminist keep your grade."
- (131) iwik'k'ət-ki<sup>4</sup> CALCULATE ti-gəbir-jo kələ-ɣi,  
 knowledge-1FS calculate IMP-do-1FS when-1FS  
 "When you calculate your knowledge,"

## Adverbs

- (132) ACTUALLY mis FRIEND-ej<sup>1</sup> mi-tf'wat ?ina CHAT<sup>5</sup> mi-gbar jənzənə-ni  
 actually with friend-1S to-play and chat to-do entertain-1S  
 "Actually, I entertain to play and chat with my friends."
- (133) STILL naj wiʃʃit'-əj FEELING-at<sup>1</sup> ji-gəls'əll-əj  
 still GEN inside-1S feeling-PL IMP-epress-1S  
 "still, it expresses my inside feelings."
- (134) STILL nəti wələdo ki-xəwn ?ijj-u.  
 Still to the generation FUT-be AUX-3MS  
 "Still, it will be to the generation."
- (135) ESPECIALLY naj mahibər-at ...  
 especially GEN organization-PL  
 "Especially, of the organizations ..."
- (136) təmhar-o ATLEAST naj məbrahti ACCESS<sup>1</sup> ki-rəxb-u ji-giba?  
 Student-PL at least GEN electric light access FUT-get-3MPL IMP-should  
 "Students should get at least electric light access."
- (137) JUST ?aj-tixʔlli-n malət ?ijj-u  
 just NEG-able-NEG mean AUX-3MS  
 "It means just you are unable."
- (138) EMOTIONALLY zə-t'ifaʔ-xi-jom nəgər-at buzuh-at ?ijj- om.  
 emotionally REL- spend .PAST-2FS-3MPL thing- PL many- PL AUX - 3MPL.  
 "The things that you spent emotionally were many."
- (139) bizuh-at ?ijj- om ACTUALLY.  
 many - PL COPL - 3MPL actually  
 "They are many actually."
- (140) kullu ʔajnət digaf-om FINANCIALLY i MORALY i ki-gəbr -u nillab-o.  
 all kind support-3MPL financially and morally and FUT-do-3MPL request-1PL  
 "We request to support us both financially and morally."
- (141) CAMERAMAN-at<sup>1</sup> gələgəli- ?om ?ab marʔa bitʃʃa zi-wassiʔ-u ?ijj-om  
 camera man-PL some -3MPL in marriage only REL-work - 3MPL AUX-3MPL  
 "Some camera men can work only on marriage."
- (142) gize-nə EFFECTIVELY ?aj- ni-t'ik'k'əmmi - n .  
 time - 1PL effectively NEG - 1PL-use - NEG  
 "We do not use our time effectively."
- (143) diro zəj-fələt't'i- ki-jom MISS<sup>5</sup> ti- gəbri-jom nəgər-at nəjr-om  
 previously NEG-know -2FS -3MPL miss IMP- do-3MPL thing-PL AUX.PST - 3MPL

“Previously, you missed things with out knowing.”

### Adverb phrase

- (144) SO THE WHOLE hizbi Tigraj ʔab hadə səmir-u .  
so the whole people Tigray in one unite- 3MS  
“So the whole Tigrean people united as one.”

### Adjective phrase

- (145) k'orbət kab səwnət -na bət't'am ti lik' ʔakal ʔijj -u .  
skin from body -1PL very large organ COPL - 3MS  
“Skin is very large organ from our body.”
- (146) SMART<sup>4</sup> kojn-ə THE EASIEST kojn-ə nimintaj zəj-t'ik'k'əm.  
Smart be -IS the easiest be -IS why NEG-use  
“Why should I be smart and use the easiest?”

### Coordinate and subordinate conjunctions

- (147) kab 30 PERCENT<sup>4</sup> OR EVEN kabʔ-u nitahiti ʔijj-u ʔilə EXPECT<sup>5</sup> ji-gəbir.  
from 30 percent or even from-3MS below AUX-3MS say expect IMP-do.IS  
“I expect that it will be 30 percent or even below that.”
- (148) hadə ʔax'χ'iha OR GENERATOR<sup>1</sup> ʔi-n-bill-o ,  
one material or generator REL-1PL-call-3MS  
“One material or we call it generator,”
- (149) mi-χuračǵ kəm MOOD<sup>1</sup> OR STYL -om<sup>1</sup> gəjr-om ji-wəsiddi-wo  
to- copy as mood or style -3MPL do-3MPL IMP-take-3MPL  
“They are taking coping as their mood or style.”
- (150) EVEN IN DORMM<sup>1</sup> ʔab UNIVERSITY<sup>1</sup> ji-hafir nəjr -ə  
even in dorm in university IMP-shy AUX.PAST - IS  
“I was shy even in dorm in university.”

### Verb phrase

- (151) zim-bil-o suχ' - ʔill - u hizzi- wo suχ' yi - bil .  
Silent-say-3MS silent-say -3MS catch-3MS quite IMP- say  
“He catches and keeps quite.”

### Pronouns

- (152) manəɲɲa- wi- -mm nəgər, dəraši təhag<sup>w</sup>is-u ki- sərih ji-gibbaʔ.  
every -ART- FOC thing writer happy-3MS FUT -work IMP- should  
“The writer should work happily everything.”

### Negative and affirmative markers

(153) NO NO...?iti hakim ?ijj-u kəkəm kunə-tat-u ki-k'k'ijr-o zi-χi?i.  
Nono...the nurse AUX-3MS as condition-PL-3MS FUT-change-3MS REL-can  
“Nono...it is the nurse who can change as condition allows.”

(154) OK ,tiχikl! ?ijj-u.  
Ok, right! COPL-3MS  
“Ok, it is right!”

### Discourse Markers

(155) **ingidih** kab mək'əllnə nab majiməxidən 16 Km ?ijj- u .  
so from Mekelle to Majmekiden 16 km COPL-3MS  
“So the distance from Mekelle to Majmekiden is 16 km.”

(156) **ingidih** naj kuraz tʃ'is-at<sup>1</sup> t'iɲina – χa ji-godi?a- ka ?ijj-u.  
so GEN lump smoke-PL health – 2MS IMP -damage – 2MS AUX-3MS  
“So the smokes of a lamp damage your health.”

## Declaration

I, the under signed, declare that this thesis is my own original work. To the best of my knowledge, it has not been presented for a degree in any university, and all resources of the materials have been dully acknowledged.

Name Bahire Araya Kelta

Signature 

Place Addiss Ababa University

Date of submission June, 22/06/2011