Some Aspects of the Ge'ez Causative Verb Stem in Comparison with Akkadian, Biblical Hebrew, Biblical Aramaic, and Epigraphic South Arabian

A thesis submitted for the Master's degree of Arts in philology in the department of linguistics, School of Graduate Studies,

Addis Abeba University

ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY
IES LIBRARY

Kassahun Sisay

May 2007, Addis Abeba

Acknowledgement

I would like to express my deep gratitude to all those who gave me the possibility to complete this thesis. I want to thank particularly the Department of Linguistics, in the Institute of Languages Studies at Addis Ababa University which enabled me to do the necessary research work and to use all the available sources, for their financial grant. In this connection, I want to thank the current Chairperson of the Linguistics Department, Dr. Hirut W/mariam for her constant encouragement at the time she was the unit leader of Philolgy. Not only did she encourage me to continue with the thesis but she also permitted me to audit her class of "Morpho-Syntax" and allowed me to make a copy of an important book on current Morphological theory. However, three professors deserve special thanks: Paulo Marrassini, Alessandro Gori of Florence University and Rainer Voigt of Berlin (Frie Universitat); they copied some important materials from European libraries and sent it to me at their own expense. Moreover, I am deeply indebted to my supervisor Dr. Amsalu Aklilu who accepted to supervise my research and encouraged me to go ahead with my thesis.

My friends and fellow Evangelical Christian believers (particularly, friends from International Evangelical Church), whom I met on my way, have supported me in my research work. And last, but not least, I would like to thank Carl and Vera Hansen for their unfailing commitment to support me financially on a regular basis and for their generous gift of a laptop computer. Evidently, without their help I would not have been able to complete my studies.

Abbreviations

Akk. Akkadian

Bar. Biblical Aramaic

BH. Biblical Hebrew

ESA. Epigraphic South Arabian

MSA Modern South Arabian

Table of Contents

Abstract 1

Acknowledgement 2

Abbreviations 3

Chapter1: Introduction 4

1.1 Significance and justification of the thesis 4

1.2 Objectives of the research 6

Chapter2: Comparative study of the causative verb morphemes of Ge'ez, BH, BAr, Akk, and ESA 7

2.1 General features of Semitic morphemes 7

2.2 General features of Semitic causative verbs 7

2.2.1Types of linguistic data needed 10

2.2.2 Reconstruction of the Semitic causative stem 11

2.3. Semitic morphology 13

2.3.1Third person plural pronominal prefixes and causative morphemes 15

Chapter3 Analysis of the causative stem in Ge'ez, Akk., ESA,BH.and BAr. 16

3.1 Geez 16

3.1.1 Root 16

3.2Akkadian 18

3.2.1 Stems 18

3.2.2 Verb types and vocalic classes 19

3.3 Causative stem in Akk 20

3.2.3.1 Use of enclitic and proclitic 20
3.2.3.2 Distinctive properties 20
3.2.3.3 The Š stem in AKK 20
3.2.3.4 Distinctive feature of Akkadian word formation 21
3.2.3.5 Bases for adjective 25
3.2.3.6 Non-causative use of Š 26

3.3 Epigraphic South Arabian verbal stems 26
3.4 Biblical Hebrew causative stem 27
3. 4.1 Denominative and isolated Hiphils 31
3. 4.2 Modal sense of causatives in BH 31
3.5 Biblical Aramaic verbal stems 32
3.5.1 Biblical Aramaic causatives 32
3.6 Semantic aspects of the causative verbs of the Semitic languages 32
Chapter 4 Conclusion and recommendations 37
4.1 Conclusion 37
4.2 Recommendations 39
References

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Significance and justification of the thesis

Ge'ez (Ethiopic) is one of the ancient Semitic languages, generally classified under South East Semitic category of the larger Semitic family. It has already been well studied by scholars over the last few centuries. Ludolf (1699) Dillmann, (1899) 1907, Praetorious (1886), Lambdin (1978), treated its grammar, while South Arabian languages such as Epigraphic South Arabian have been studied by Beeston (1962). Ge'ez cognates with North-west Semitic sub family such as Classical (Biblical) Hebrew or Classical (Biblical) Aramaic languages were listed by Leslau, (1952). Its relation to Akkadian and Ugartic languages of the North-East Semitic sub family were examined earlier by the same scholar (1946). General Comparative Semitic Studies including Ge'ez were conducted by Brockelman (1918), Bergstrasser (1928), Moscati (1964), etc. There are also specialized works like these on the Ge'ez verbal system by Getachew Haile (1962) and Stefan Weninger (2001). However, based on the evidence and comparative study so far, there is controversy on the origin of the Ge'ez language. Is Ge'ez an offshoot of South East Semitic subfamilies or did it evolve directly from Proto-Semitic?

Scholars have given deferring opinions on the origin of Ge'ez and its relation to the classical Semitic languages. This question has been addressed by not a few authors (cf. Drewes, 1958: 113-115; Ullendorff, 1971:261-273; Lambdin, 1978; 261-272):

1. These classifications simply reflect the geographical facts without drawing any genetic or typological inferences.
2. The entire framework of comparison and the testing of affinities on the typological and historical level present formidable problems, which will require more detailed methodological probing than they have previously to receive.

3. The position of South Arabian vis-a vis the other two (Ge'ez and Arabic) groups of the South East Semitic sub family is not securely established on the basis of historical, cultural and linguistics facts observed so far. [Ullendorff, 1971: 261-273].

Although some important works have been done by the scholars in order to provide answers to the research problems mentioned above, they never distinctively formulated for us in detail their similarities and dissimilarities (e.g. Moscati, 1964). In summarizing the picture of comparative Semitics, Eddward Ullendorff made the following important remark:

> The values of a linguistic classification scheme is purely pragmatic and calls for countless qualifications and contingent allowances, for it's comparatively easy to lump together any two languages and show the special affinities they bear (Ullendorff, 1971: 64).

Moreover, any kind of Semitic comparative study done so far with regard to our topic is incomplete in many ways, and the stated problem still exists even in our days.

Even though the aim of this research is not to solve the above problem once for all, it obviously attempts to give a tentative conclusion at the end.

Specifically, the researcher tries to investigate affinities and distinctions by closely looking into comparative verb-morphological elements, particularly from the Causative stems, beyond examining the symbolical and phonological connections. And finally, the research is seeking to come up with some kind of comparative statement, concerning the position of Ge'ez among these selected Semitic languages.

ILS LIBRARY ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY

1.2 Objectives of the research.

Sabatino Moscati's *The Comparative Grammar of the Semitic Languages* (1964) became a standard in the past three decades on the study of comparative Semitics.

However, his work is not without its shortcomings. And as a result, different scholars have given their comments and complements, Stanislav segert, for example, calls upon the further need of morphological studies. In reviewing the book, he wrote:

> A systematic treatment of the vocabulary of the Semitic languages from the comparative viewpoint also remains a desideratum (Segert, 1965: 3).

Although the main objective of this thesis is not to furnish the said desideratum, it tries to work on selected ancient Semitic languages: Epigraphic South Arabian (ESA), Biblical Hebrew (BH), Biblical Aramaic, (BAR.) and Akkadian (Akk) languages from the angle of the understanding the Causative verb morphology in Ge'ez (Ethiopic).

CHAPTER TWO: COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE CAUSATIVE VERBS OF GE'EZ, BH, BAR, AKK and ESA.

2.1 General features of Semitic morphemes:

Semitic Morphology has recently been discussed, mainly by McCarthy (1981) in certain theory motivated studies which, using notation derived from auto-segmental phonology, involve syllabic structure (or Consonantal – Vowel sequence pattern). Accordingly interesting Semitic morphological theories have been formulated and established by him and his collaborators.

Morphemes could be studied by dividing them into two major divisions (Petrāĉek, 2002: 565-568):

(I). Lexical and (II) Grammatical:

(I) Lexical:

a) Root Morphemes

b) Vocalization (as a means of derivation)

c) Internal consonantal morphemes (in the form of gemination and other points)

d) Affirmatives (derivational prefixes, infixes and suffixes);

(II) Grammatical Morphemes:

a) Affixes (prefixes and suffixes of declension and conjugation)

b) Internal vocalic morphemes (Vowel gradation and other related points relevant in the formation of inner plural and passive)

c) Syntactical.

2.2. General features of Semitic causative verbs.

In the study of Semitic morphology, verbs have a pivotal place. Accordingly, the verb may even be seen as the "future (feature) of morphology, a phase in a cyclic historical process". This is evident in history again and again (Goldenberg, 1995: 172).

In order to describe the overall picture of the Semitic feature of the causative verbs, let us begin with Hebrew whose grammar is well studied. The Hebrew verbal system has got a Causative stem called Hifil (HiCCiC). Hif'il verbs are traditionally defined as the Causative of basic pe'el verbs (and sometimes of Niv'al verbs as well (Waltke, 1990).

"Barax" (b.r.x) means to run away while the Hifil form hibrriax means 'to chase away' (or 'cause to run away') ' "akal" means "to eat (food)" while hekil means "to feed (somebody) food" or "cause to eat food".

A process of clause union occurs on the underlying causative logical structure together with universal grammatical principals such as the accessibility, hierarchy principles (Mannings et al, 1998): Advantage of the causative verb analyses:

1. The conceptual analysis of the causative Hifil focus in Hebrew provides a cognitive Semitic characterization of the Hifil stem, and of the different argument structure that are used with Hifil verbs (Waltke 1990).
2. The different argument structure integrate of the causal sequence of events into different synthetic constructs (based on correlation between the generic structure of the causal event and the semantically associated).
3. The Hifil verbal morphology is constructed on a particular type of causal event evolved, what is mapped into the verbal slot (expressed by the verbal root) in the integrating construction is the conceived causal event.

Two important points in the making of Hifil verbs:

1. **Phonetic and "phonological factors** play a role in the formation of Hifil forms in addition to Semitic conceptual parameters. For instance conditions on being able to pronounce may interface with the generation of an Hifil form, as well as instances where, the Hifil is not is already taken by homonymic root (Bolosky, 1978: 64ff).

2. Nounss that do not link verbal forms are imposed concepts as the speaker chooses the syntax and words needed to express through concept of noun and verbs that are not linked to an underlying concept of verb in Semitic memory (Bolosky: 1978 as quoted in Goldenberg: 1995). According to the study of scholars (cf. Bolosky, 1978), the cluster effect of words by grammatical category should affect that proper names cluster strongly. Nouns like verbs are found to be only lexical distinctive, not based on in "hard cognitive or semantic differences between noun and verbs" (Bolosky: 1978). Rather 'noun verbal /are imposed on word concepts as the Morphological Causatives in (BH) are derived by fusing consonantal roots with the consonant/ vowel skeleton known as the causative template Hifil.

By studying Modern Hebrew, Gideon Goldenberg (1994) has shown that morphological causativeness in MH gives rise to a wide range of meanings that does not necessarily coincide with the causation in its strict sense. For example, the MH causative verb Hifil (feed) is derived from the root (a) (k) (l) eat) although it is debatable whether feed is equivalent to 'cause to eat' verbs in English. This shows "that preparedness for causative verbs to deserve ongoing/incomplete events as they happened for simple verbs to describe completed events and derive the strong time-link forwards. We conclude that simple verb forms are morphologically unmarked, and semantically unmasked with respect to particular element with internal structure of an event Goldenberg (1994).

Thus, they refer to events in their entries which make them appropriate for perfective use. Causative verbs, on the other had, make explicit reference to elements in the internal structures of the event (i.e. its

cause), and focus on its filtration and development phases. Therefore, their aspectual value is semantically marked, which makes them appropriate for describing imperfective situations. A causative from in linguistics is an expression of an agent causing or forcing a patient to perform an action (or to be in a certain condition). All languages could have ways to express causal, though they are different in the means. As a result, all languages also have lexical causative forms (e.g. English rise-raise). And these are the kind of causatives formations that are discussed in comparison in this paper.

2.2.1 Types of linguistics data needed.

Morphological analyses of BH words consist of at least the stem, prefixes, and person, number and gender inflection morphophonemic suffixes (Segal: 1965). The different morphological processes that take place in the formation of BH words can be divided into inflection, plugged into templates of cognates /vowels skeleton directly derived from mainly tri-consonantal roots.

Thus, Ethiopic Semitic verbs have a form of internal reduplication. Scholars termed this as the"frequentative", which appears to be formed by infixing a reduplicative syllable into a regular verb stem. As a result, there is a clear semantic correlation between the frequentative and the regular form of the verb.

Two analyses have been presented in the literature for the formation of the literature frequentative:

1. The inflectional hypothesis, a word-based derivative and,
2. Affixation hypothesis a root and pattern based derivative, Ethio-Semitic verbs are classified lexically into at least three conjugation patterns, termed as types (class) A, B and C. These types have specific characteristics, vowel patterns or gemination of the penultimate consonant, but they are not associated with a specific Semitic connotation (Barr: 1962). Most Ethio-Semitic languages

do not have typical "Binyamin" like Hebrew or Arabic. Causative and passive/reflexive prefixes do engender internal stem changes. In other words, the conjugations of verbs are not according to its root origin in connection to consonant and vowel insertion.

For Example: Type C is characterized in Ge'ez by a vowel (a) [s-] between the first two constants, type B is characterized by geminate of the penultimate constant in all verb forms in those languages that allow gemination. Type A is generative of the penultimate consonant in the imperative, in North Ethio-Semitic (Ge'ez, Tigre Tigrigna).

2.2.2 Reconstruction of the Semitic Causative Stem

. Explanation on the historical development of Semitic Phonemes: š/h/Ø

The origin of the causative stem in Semitic.

(a) Semitic formed its causative stems by means of morphemes which are ultimately three. The 1st is with the sibilant initial case in the Akkadian Šafel, and the 2nd is a sibilant initial case in the Hebrew hifil, and the 3rd is the prefix "'asta" (causative-passive) in Ethiopic.

(b) With the Semitic languages the initial sound of the 3rd person has similarity with the verbal morpheme h.

(c) South Arabian dialects (here s^2 >s), with the exception of Sabean have prefix is h, Biblical Aramaic h// ⇨Š akli (They completed).

Accordingly, the causative stem prefixes are: Prefixes Š- or h – or', as distinctive causative phonemes presented in the Semitic languages. Thus, the causative stem has got the following Semantic values:

1. Since the causative stem is referring to a state or condition of action it may coincide with 'reactive' of the stem with geminating

the second radical. As a result, it is difficult to make distinction between them (Moscati, 1964, p 125).

2. Another Semantic value of the causative stem is declarative.
3. It may have interrogative value in cases where the action remains affected to the subject the causative 'has got also the Intransitive significance i.e. in cases where the active remains affected to the subject (eg. Akk. "Šulbura" to grow old"; Heb. "HeŠmin" he grew fat")

Ethiopic "sagal" (divination) ⇨ as gala, "he divined"

ba'a-1 (feast) ⇨ 'ab' ala (he feasted).

Reconstruction of causative stem ⇨ Š > h> ø.

The Semitic languages have got a causative stem prefix, be it Š-or-h- or '.

I. The Prefix – s

Akk. Mgt (fall) ⇨ u Ša mqit (he caused to fall '')

ESA. ṣ d b (place) ⇨ s' 'ḏb (he caused to place")

Biblical Aramaic = KHL (complete) ⇨ Ša killÛ

Ethiopic = "askatala" (he let to be killed) Causative reflexive.)

II The Prefix – h

Hebreaw = q d Š	⇨	hiqdiŠ, (righteous), He consecrated).
Biblical = hpq	⇨	hanpeq
Aramaic = (to go out)	⇨	(he caused to go out)
Sabean = (ḏr)	⇨	hdr'
(him')		(He subdued)

Even though the presence of causative h- could be more more of a historical sequence in Ugaritic it is not known whether it is a local

development or imported from Akkadian [Harris (1958), p111, and Spieser: 81, fn 45].

The more striking resemblance and the regularity found between the verbal morphemes [Š,h,'] with the initial sound of the 3rd person pronoun preclude any possibility of coincidence (Spicer, 81). And Spicer holds this "later relationship" view as the relationship established is morphologic but not phonologic or etymological.

III Prefix -'- and 'ast

Ethiopic = sataya ⇨ astaya (drink) (he gave to drink)

2.3. Semitic Morphology.

Semitic Morphology has recently been reinvestigated by scholars, particularly by McCarthy.In value syllabic structure, consonants vowel sequence pattern can have a distinct place in representing stem-formation, besides "root" and vocalic melody (Anderson: 1990). McCarthy's method is mostly centered in the Semitic languages germination particularly by taking the Arabic language – radical root (k-t-b) as to be fused into the four congenital slots of the temper CVVCVC by associating the radical to the medial CC (Goldenberg: 1994). However, some scholars in the field of Semitic linguistics did not appreciate his method of OCP (obligatory contour principle).

> In such explanation, where the right order of things is reversed, one fails to see the whole function of morphologically-motivated generation in Semitic structure, with the heavy pressure it exerts on the system in all cases of accumulated geminators, and when the choice has to be made whether to suppress germination orexpand the "template" in the case of multiracial or regimented roots [Goldberg, 1995, p. 54].

ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY ILS LIBRARY

Goldenberg in the long critical analysis of his article, "Principles of Semitic Word Structure" [1995] particularly explained the unnecessary adaptation of hypotheses from the already known Semitic phonology.

> Stem defiantly patterns by missing to recognize the structural equivalence of long vowel and short vowel arresting consonant [1v;1=/vc1]. This structural equivalence in Arabic stem-formation is proved not by one, prosodic identity, but also by the identical vocalic scheme; to show that the indiscriminate analysis of long vowels as vv is not a necessary consequence of the theory adopted, suffice to quote clematis and kaysev Cv phonology, where it is shown that ā may be represented either as vv or VC, the "choice between the two depending upon the language specific considerations. (Goldenberg, 1995: 54].

And further, Goldenberg had the following argument against McCarthy's OCP (Obligatory Contour Principle-adopted for morphological analysis).

> If Arabic roots are subject to the OCP, and all auto segmental spreading is rightward, then, as McCarthy suggests, medial germinate can be described as out spread birdcalls and the incapability's rules simplified [McCarthy:1982, 208-209; cf. Goldenberg: 1995,34).

Indeed, Goldenberg has pointed out the irrelevance of the OCP in the study of classical Semitic languages occurrence of restricted forms as the Semitic roots is primarily interesting from the historical aspect [Goldenberg 1995, 54]. As a result, the current researcher is inclined to use the traditional or historical means of reconstruction rather than using theories developed by modern scholars.

2.3.1. Third person plural pronominal prefixes and causative morphemes

Consider the following table

Semitic	Personal/pronouns	Causative/prefix morphem
Akkadian	Š-	Š-
Ugaritic	h-	Š-
Minean	S_1	S_1
Sabean	h-	h-
Biblical Hebrew	h-	h-
Arabic	h-	(?)-
Mandaic	h-	(?)
Ethiopic	(h)[4]	(?) (?as-Causative refelexive)

Table 12: Comparative Semitic Pronouns Suffixes.
Adapted from, Voigt, con Rainer M. (1987): Die personal pronominal der 3 Personhem in semiyrche, : in *Die Welt des Orients*, Band XVII/ 1987, pp49-61. Gottingen, Germany.

According to the above table, it is possible to make a Semitic languages family tree as proposed by in Voigt (1987).

[4] The Ethiopic normally forms the 3rd person masculine and feminine as wa'atu and ya'ati, respectively. However this is due to the deletion of the initial h- followed by the process, 'uw)wu) wa and 'iy) ya and subsequent attachement of final _tú and ti (Moscati, 1964: p105)

CHAPTER THREE:

ANALYSIS OF THE CAUSATIVE STEM IN GE'EZ, ESA.,and BH.,

3.1. Ge'ez

3.1.1. Root.

Roots are considered as the source where words are fashioned in a given language. However, to identify their extant origin and classification, the Lexicon is the base. The following points are to be noted:

. The pronominal roots, the most widely extended and most variously employed are the Demonstratives.

The primordial demonstrative "ta" has been "softened". According to Dillmann, this sub class of primordial has been transformed through mute into the sibilants from which the two further modes expressions Sa' and Za are involved. This phenomenon is a distinctive property of Ge'ez. The root (t) or (d), has become h, through a further "subtilizing" of the mute into a mere breathing like the Hebrew.

Note : Like the "Mute and Sibilant Dentals" the two liquids u and 1 also serve to form demonstrative pronouns, with either a preceding or succeeding vowel and they are still frequently employed in the Ethiopic language[5].

The Interrogative Root

This part of Ge'ez root system is, may be sprung from demonstrative roots.

The orders relative pronouns are taken from Demonstrative roots, viz "who, which" , "who, which" (f). "who" "which" (p1), as well as the consummations "that, is in order that", "while" (seeing

[5] Dillman says ha, an are extensively used in Sanskrit- The first branch of this type appears first of all in the form ha, is employed in Semitic generally besides its presence in Ethiopic [Dillman, p117].

that)". And the prepositions such as"with regard to"," because of ".

The purely personal pronouns of the three persons, "I, Thou, He" – are the strongest pronouns in the Ethiopic tongue, "thoroughly compounded" (Dillmann, 120). The special root for the 3rd person is of a purely vowel character, viz. "u" or 'I', but not 'a'[6], and this is employed whenever a demonstrative root had to be developed into a form with a personal reference. According to Dillmann, Personal Pronoun other than I or though, "u" or "I" was at one time quite sufficient and so, with the help of a final é. The Ethiopic u^e, u^e emerged. . When further destinations between "u" and "I" had become established in the language so that u stood for the masculine and I for the feminine [See, Barth, ADMG volume 86 as quoted in Dillmann) there emerged the pronouns "he" and "she"

. According to Dillmann, The third and highest stage of roots is formed by the conception of roots conveying an idea, conception or notation (Dillmann (1907): 122-125). And according to him, such type of roots are different from other types, due to their connection to the highest ideas and concepts developed out ancients Ethiopians thought. However, Dillmann wasn't able to identify concretely, of this "highest stage of roots". Though, he was confined to say only that, he confirmed as this is a common phenomenon in the entire Semitics that he didn't mention whereabouts of the origin, from where these roots were derived, as he said:

[6] Although at one point, even a "possessed demonstrative force", as is still clearly shown in Sanskrit, it yet looked to that which was nearer and more intimate state [Dillman, p120]. In Semitic also there is a relative ia, derived from that I of which a trace is still preserved in Ethiopic in the binding vowel of the construct state and in the adjective ending I, and it is not clear why this "ia" must be only a shortened form of "tia" (Dillman, (1907), p121).

"The majority of the vowels and particularly all the short vowels, belong invisibly to the formation and not to the root, and that the root thus consists of former letters only" (Dillmann, 122].

Denominative uses of causative in Ge'ez

Additionally, Ge'ez makes quite extensive use of nouns with nominal morphemes in the creation of denominatives. The nominal morphemes used in these denominatives are the prefixed elements m-, t--, '-, and the suffixed elements –m, -t, -n, -w, -y. The vocalic suffixed morphemes –e, -I, -a, -u, are likewise used in the creation of the denominatives (Leslau, 1962, 140). Accordingly, in case a denominative verb with an active meaning is expressed by the basic stem, the reflexive passive and the causative meanings are expressed by the stem and (?) a stem or (?) as stems respectively.

Examples:

a) Mäzäggäbä (to put in a register) Active
b) Tämäzäggäbä (be put in a register) Passive
c) As-mäzäggäbä (cause to put in a register) Causative.

3.2. Akkadian.

In Akkadian, cuneiform words are not easily recognized, since they are presented as a group of signs.

Stripping of the affixes

Word	Class	Formed with noun	Out of
Šarqum (stolen)	Verb- Šarqum (pervect)	Šarrãqum (thief)	*Šrq

3.2.1. Stems: As in Hebrew or Ge'ez, Akkadian verbs are conjugated in several subsystems called "stems". These are distinguished by lack or

presence of reduplicated and infixed elements (Caplice: 1980, 30). The main stems are four:

G (rundstamm) or I corresponds to Arabic stem I and Hebrew Qal.

D (opplungstamm) or II corresponds to Arabic Stem II and Hebrew pi 'el'.

Š (or III corresponds to Arabic stem IV and Hebrew Hifil.

N or IV corresponds to Arabic stem VII and Hebrew Ni'fal.

Further stems can be formed from these by infixing –ta or –tan. The suffixed stems are referred to as Gtor I/2, Gtn or I/3, Dt or II/2, Dtn or II/3, etc. (Caplice, 1980: p.31)

3.2.2 Verb types and vocalic classes

Akkadian verbs are divided into two basic groups: These having an originally verbal function of expressing action verbs, and verbs derived from adjectives and expressing existence of a state, which may call state verbs.

Action verbs are found in four classes, characterized by different stem vowels:

Accordingly, 1) u/a and a (classes contain transitive verbs)

2) the u class intransitives:

3) the i class transitive whose result is seen as momentary and some

intransitive verbs of motion.

However, state verbs are predominantly of the i type, but the stem vowel a is also found: damäqum "to become good", idmiq, idammiq, baŠãlum "to become roasted": ibŠal ibaŠŠal (Caplice, 1980:32).



3.2.3 Causative Stem in Akkadian

3.2.3.1 The use of Enclitic and Proclitic

Particle is common in the Ancient Semitic languages like Akkadian. E.g. The Akkadian enclitic particle ma occurs frequently. And it functions for coordination, emphasizing and marking a nominal sentence.

Stem is a morpheme (word part) consisting of the word without its affixes and case endings. E.g. Akk. Šarrum (king) < Šrr-(stem). These verbal stems convey an additional meaning to the verb (e.g. causative, causing the action, (Repeated action), etc). Accordingly, there are verbs that could be categorized according to their type of event (causing the action), which is called Causative, for the fact that the subject caused the action of the verb.

3.2.3..2 Distinctive property[7]

Root of a word in the Semitic languages is the skeleton of most three consonants that carry the fundamental meaning of a word.

Root	Akk	Meaning	Type	Stem
*prs	Paräsum	'to decide'	Infinitive	Paräs
*prs	Pärasum	'he who decides' 'decision'	Participle	Paräs
*prs	Purussum	'decision'	Noun	Puruss

3.2.3..3 The Š stem in Akkadian

The causative stem is called Š stem in Akkadian. It is characterized by the prefix- Ša and the prefix-vowel u - The Š stem in Akkadian is derived from the G-stem (the subject cause the second person or thing to perform the action or process specified by the verb G-stem.

---

[7] "Subsequent development of h->" –is demonstrated for the causative unambiguously within Aramaic and (less directly in Arabic) (Spicier: JAOS, pp56-25) I can not accept the conclusion of C-H. Gorden, Ugaritic Handbook (1947)72, that "proto- West Semitic apparently contained all three types" (i.e., š-, h-, and '-); "This statement finds stricking support in Minaean (ESA) where š characterizes both the third person pronoun and the causative, as distinct from Sabaean where the same factors are performed by h-. In Aramaic the limited number of Š causative can be, and generally, has been, traced to Šaf'els borrowed from Akkadian ( ). The other notable exception ot the rule would seem to be Ugaritic, because here the Šaf'el is clearly established (along side the h-pronoun), wheaars the h- Causative is rudimentary (Cf. Harris, JAOS 58(1935) (103-11).

In verbs derived from adjectives (state verbs) the Š stem also expresses the factitive, like the D stem, (Caplice, 1980: p.59).

In connection to the Š stem, there is another stem called as Št-stem. This item has two uses, corresponding to the different forms of the present. And its uses are:

1. The Št may serve as a passive to the Š-stem, in the short form u Štapra, without gemination of the middle radical.
2. The Š stem verbal adjectives and statives are already passive in a sense; the passive Št has no verbal adjective on stative (See, Caplice, 1980).

Examples:

a. Ustãkil[8] Š stem, perfect, he caused to eat, graze.

b. labã Šum Š stem, intransitive verb, to close (metaphorical use)

3.2.3..4 Distinctive feature of Akkadian word formation.

As a consequence of the syllable structure a word never starts nor ends with two consonants, unlike in English and other Germanic languages. Short (two or three letter) syllables word structure is common in Semitic languages. In Semitic, there is adding of vowels. If the formation of a word is according to the exact application of a grammatical consent, additional vowels (auxiliary vowels) are added. Thus, adding an additional vowel is called prosthesis.

Additionally, these specific morphemes are originally demonstratives and function as pronouns.

Other relations are:

1. The use of Hebrew Hifil for such non-transitive concepts as colors physical states, and the like
2. The formation of Arabic adjectives of color, or enduring qualities by measures of a morpheme that identical, at least in form, with the performative of stem IV (?qtala);

[8] The D and Š stems and their t and tn stems have uniform vocalization for verbs of all vocalic classes (Caplice, 1980: p69).

3. And lastly, it accounts also for the Arabic elative (emphatic).

The Semitic causative is a relatively late form which owes its origin to one of several prominent applications of specialized morphemes emphasis. Semitic in general had once an elative (emphatic) or emphatic form indicated as special prefixes (Š-, h- '-) and that these prefixes are homogenous with that of the so-called causative.[9]

As already by suggested by "Kentic Grammarians" Paul de la Garde has pointed out the position of these elatives in Hebrew demonstrative of the Hifil class which are notable for their intransitive/non-Causative connotations [however, the pre Arabic "as a whole origin of the formation could be established by using cognate widely outside Arabic"[10]

Conclusion:

1. "The formatives employed for the purpose by both languages are precisely the same that are used in their respective causatives."
2. Arabic has reserved additional for the formation as adjectives (for all three types) while Hebrew has reserved the formation for denominativc (for type A & B only). But the Arabic denominative will take for the from 'qtalla (Class IX) or 1qtâlla [XI] at the same time Hebrew adjectives of Type A appear in the basic stem-from (1ābān "white"); And for type B: Usually occurs in the form qittil, hereš "dumb" [Bergstrasser, Hebrasime Grammatic (1940): pp 102-104].
3. "Type in Hebrew has no morphologic representation being expressed instead syntactically or by means of prepositions".[11]

---

[9] This thesis is originally held by Spieser, E-A [1952] the "Elative" in West Semitic and Akkadian in: Journal of Cunieform Studies Vol. 6, University of Pennsylvania: "some modern students of Arabic hold that the 'aqtal form of the adjective is a specifically Arabic [Brockelman, Grundris: 372] while others would associated 'aqtal (u) with the verbal stem 'aqtala (IV) [ ] this assuming older background for the elative (Spiecer, 1952:82).

[10] (See, Speiser, 1952, 82).

[11] Note: [after, type B in Hebrew quittil occurs), "dumb." Occasionally of qattūl, as in Šakkulā "childless", with corresponding verbs in the qal as well as Hif'il (Speicer, 1952: p.82).

In Akkadian the favorite nominal class with this function is quttulu. Note also the doubling of the 3rd radical in the Arabic stems IX and XI, which configurate with 'aqtal. Further, Hebrew nominal forms of the types Ša'nān "peaceful" and , umlāl "languishing" as well as the htqtil verbs = including *h Šthww "bowed down"[12]

> If only specific causative morphemes of the given language prove to correlate with the third person pronoun on the one hand and the elative morpheme on the other, the underlying significance of such correlation should be immediately apparent for the four morphemes (Š,s,h,')[13]

However, Spicer's rejection of Nyberg's hypothesis (Nyberg hypothesis is based upon the fact that he held a view which says. *'arba "four" is a common Semitic instance of the elative-Causative morpheme (1920: 244), is based up on the following notions:

1. In this case, only one numeration is affected.
2. The phonological explanation accounts for the form very well. However, this could be a prosthetic and hence a Phonology.
3. Similarly Nyberg's analogy of the common Proto Semitic *samay "heaven" (210) is not etymologically supplanted.
4. The elative element in Hebrew has to be h- and is indeed found in this form in the numerals examples of the intransitives Hifil.

Accordingly Spicer suggested the following points:
"If Akkadian causative morpheme is Š plus a vowel, the posited Akkadian elative should have the same initial consonant if the correlation the above is valid" (1952: p83). Nyberg viewed nominal forms with Š initial as a product of relative Ša plus genitive an initial non-radical Š.

---

[12] See. Speicer, 1952: p82.
[13] He suggested South Arabic and Ethiopic have got a regular correlation. However, the Ugaritic case is uncertain (originally not known).

The relative particle be connected ultimately with the demonstrative Šu [However, Spiecer said: the two cannot be related for phonemic reasons[14] (83. to 17 Cf Jcs 1.3 26).

Consider the following table for elative comparison.

	Arabic	Hebrew	Akkadian
Elatives	Adjectives (A,B &C)	Present examples stative verbs as follows	1. Nominal forms 2. Substitutes Adjectives and the Verbal nouns Stative verbs 3. Transitive (verb) forms.

They (transitive) or "Akkadian elatives" will prove to correspond in put to typical Arabic forms, particulary *type c.

Table 14: Adopted from Esler's, ZDMG 89 (1935) 18.

In some states Akkadian- has possesses relative types not known elsewhere in Semitic.

The problem of identifying or making distinctions between Adjectival and statistical verbal bases in Akkadian is due to:

1. Adjective and 'permansive' (stative) verbs in Akk are after interchangeable. In that "the permansive actions" functions as an adjective predicatively employed.
2. While the converse use of apparent "permansive" is in an attributive sense (equipped with the nomination envoy) is also well attested.

[14] See, Spiecer, 1952: p83

Is a given Š- from attributively used (might it not be regarded as a "Permansive" or the causative stem?

If the answer is yes and it has to be made claims that:

1. An Š from in apposition to clear adjectives will usually have to be classified as an adjective.
2. *ex. 'a from live u "Ša labor" which can mean only "becomes old" established conclusively the divergence in the existence of non – causatives Š forms even with the verb.

The significant passage (sennacheib, or inst. Prissy 69,71) reads " rasi ina sis arkabma … a Šru Šup Šuqu in a Š pe ya re ma n I Š ["well the teaming was difficult I rode on house back"] "where it was too steep I made my way on foot like the wild-ox." There can be here no question of the terains having been made difficult (permissive).

3.2.3.5 Bases for adjectives

According to Eseler (1935), adjectives are classified:

1. The basic sense of assigning adjectives in "a grane" (The normative),
2. The left over is he measurement of the quality of others, if it is
    A) meliorative or
    B) teriorative

Examples:

(1) I have no repose by day (or) rest by night E-el 38, not the parallel sall aku (with out Š-) which confirms the non-causative force of Šup Šuh a ku.

(2) dalip = is restless= Š udlupu ah-hu. Šu-nu-hu Šu-ud-lu-pu aread-ka) they weary exhausted, agitated servant RA 25 1125; cf. also JCs 565,

(3) nadu= anxious, revent = Šanudu=' illustrious Ša-nu-da-at i-la-ti "most illustrious of the goodness" KAR 158::31. This (ZA41/67) example is particularly instructive in that if constitutes a strictly adjectival format with Ša/ Šu.

3.2.3.6 Non-causative use of Š

It is declarative rather than adjectival-with the intransitive hif'il of Hebrew providing here a closer parallel than can be fond in Arabic ' aqtal (See, Spiecer. 1952).

Some of the pertained forms are transparent denominativizers. Other are based on statives verbs and show either elative or a durative cenotaph.

e.g. Akkadian

Labira "old" =e-nu-ma a Š-ru Šu-u

Û- Šal –ba-ru-ma e-na-hu.

U when this place should because old weak i.e. "weak with age"

No causative means could readily be forced on this type of occurrence, especially with statitive En ah (h) (See, Caplice,1962).

3.3 Epigraphic South Arabian Verbal Stems

The simple ground stem of the verb shows the radical letters alone. Distinguishable graphically by the addition of extra consonants to the ground stem are the following derivative stems, all of them well attested and frequent (Beeston, 1962: p.19).

Accordingly,

a) Causative stem characterized by prefixed –h in SAB (Sabian), and HAR (Harrusa), and by s^1-in Minn (Minean), QAT (qatabanian) and HAD (Hadramout): e.g. SAB hedb' QAT s'elb
b) t- prefix Stem, as in 'tqdm'
c) t- infix Stem, as in qtdm
d) S^1t prefix stem, as in s^1tmhd.

ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY ILS LIBRARY

Also it is assumed that as ESA possessed a N- prefix stem, but the only instances of it adduced is the unique form nhql, of which there are five

occurrences (Beeston, 1962: p.19) but all these occurrences are being Infinitives. The interesting point here is the n- prefix stem is exceptionally rare in the Modern South Arabian dialects, but in Ge'ez this stem is confined to a restricted class of verbs with a frequentative meaning and usually from a reduplicative root of the type, e.g. angargara- "revolve".

According to Hofiner the ESA verb stem system is closely allied with that of North Arabic. However, Beeston (1962) rejected this view, and he said it is only because we didn't know much about ESA. Accordingly, he suggested ESA relationships with Ge'ez and MSA than with Arabic (Beeston, 1962).

Examples of Caustives in ESA:

Root	Verbs	Gloss	
B 's[1]	(Yhb' s[1])[15]	He damaged	
w-k-b[16]	hwkb		
d-h-n[17]	s[1]twty, s[1]tyfe, yhdlln, hs[3] nn		

3.4 Biblical Hebrew Causative Stem

Language is a system that uses finite means for infinite expressiveness. Obviously, many aspects of a language working are to perform a variety of functions. And this multifaceted quality of functions could be seen over and over again in BH. Grammar (Waltke, 1999: p343) and the great

[15] In the imperfect of the derived stems the Y or t is prefixed to the verb stem, this applies also to the causative, which retains its characteristic Stem-prefix, e.g. SAB C/444/2, (Beeston (1962): p.26)

[16] W or y as the first radical is usually preserved in the graphic form the causative and in the graphic form and s[1]tfel stems (Beeston, 1962: p.26)

[17] This is a type of Media Geminatie (doubling the second radical).

amount of multi functionality involves the verbal system Generally the BH verbal system has expression of predication as the core while the language uses non-verbal clauses such as where the two parts of the clauses usually occur in the order: subject- predicate, Emphatic words, (Waltke (1990): p. 131, fn. 15) and interjections and exclamations are found intermittently (Waltke (1990) p. 674-685).

However, the major role in predication is played by the various verbal stems such as Qal, Niphal, Piel, Pual, Hithpael, Hiphil, Hophal, etc., and forms such as: perfective conjugation, non-perfective conjugation, imperative, etc.

Accordingly, Ernest Jenni and Claus Westerman have given the following statistical summary of the uses of the verb stems. Let us consider the following table.

Occurrences		**%**		**Roots used**	
Qal	49,180	68.8		1,115	
	71.2				
Niphal	4.140	5.8		435	
	27.8				
Piel	6450	9.0		415	
	26.5				
Pual	460	0.6		190	
	12.1				
Hithpael	830	1.2		175	
	11.2				
Hiphil	9370	13.1		505	
	32.2				
Hophol	400	0.6		100	
	6.4				

Other	680	0.9	130
8.3			
Total	71,510		1,565

Table:

In fact, this summary of statistics doesn't show us how the different stem (binyanim) is working. However, it shows the statistical distribution (its uses) in the Biblical Hebrew.

In Biblical Hebrew, causative verbs are presented in quite different ways. Accordingly, various scholars have made their analyses of the source of causative verbs. Several years ago, this was made clear that among the seven Hebrew binyanim, the Pi'el which signifies to bring about state (factitive) and the Hifiel which cause an event, are the main source of referring to causative verbs. According to Jenni, though both stems (binyanim) involve causation, the factitive-resultative Pi'el generally has to do with the bringing about of a state or condition, and the causative Hifiel stem with the causing of an event[18]. The Hifil stems characterstic h-performative, derived from a third person personal pronoun, reflects a designation of a second subjects participation in the action[19]. Accordingly, the fundamental Causative notion of the Hif'el can be nuanced by consideration of the kind of verbal root to which it is affixed and by the model relationship that exists between the subject and object.

Accordingly, examples of causative verbs in Biblical Hebrew are:

1) Vahayabar bəratukot zăhăb lefnē Hadebir (1 Kings 6:21) (Lit. And he extended (pe'el) made passed over Gold chains across the front of the inner sanctuary.
2) Vahiyabər ēlohim ruhă al Harētz (Gen. 8:1) (lit. And God caused a wind to pass over (Hifil) the earth.

---

[18] As quoted in: Waltke (1990): p.433, fn. 2 and p.434.

[19] The Semitic personal pronouns for the third person exibit virtually the same variations of the intial sound that we have found in the causative prefixes, i.e.Š in Akk. H in: BH., Ge'ex (Ethiopic) Sabian, BAR (Biblical Aeramaic).

3) A major group of Qal intransitive fientives is the verbs of motion, including the followings[20]:

3.1. Va?a havt/a to bring (take, lead, send) in, to, into.

3.2. Yits?a hatsi?a to bring (take, lead, send) out.

4) Some intransitive verbs are attested in niphal but not in Qal, the hif'el of these follows the pattern of roots with Qal intransitive usage. Thus, Nəgad forms a two-place Hif'el, to cause (something) to be poured, pour. Example:

4.1. Vigadti lagi havania (Mic. 1.6). (Lit. I will pour (lit. Cause to be poured) in her stones into the valley.

5) Qal stative verbs tend to form two places hif'els usually rendered as transitive. The sence is often ingressive, describing the object intering into a state. Examples:

5.1. gadol kaboudu (Ps. 21:6) (lit. His glory (is) great (predicate-Adjective)

5.2. gadăktă (2Sam. 7:22), (Lit. you are great (Qal) stative.

5.3. gadăl Adoni at yeshuă (Lit. YHWH made Joshua great (Pe'el – factitive)

5.4. Hagdalta himartiă (Ps. 138:2), (lit, You caused your word to be freat (hif'el) causative.

In the internal hifil, the subject works in connection with itself as the causer of the action, even when an object other than the subject is elided. In contrast to the pe'el stem, to which is attached, the reflexive Hitpael ste, the Hifi'el has no reflexive stem form[21].

---

[20] See, in Waltike (1990): p. 437.

[21] The internal hef'il may have an inchoative or ingressive sense, referring to entering into a state, e.g. hly 'to become ill', zyd 'to (come to a) boil. The internal hif'il also occurs with verbs for expressing or receiving a quality;? Hl, zhr, yp' 'to be clear, bright verses hŝk, 'to be dark;' ?ma 'to be strong' versus 'tp' 'to be week' (Waltike (1990): p.440.

3.4.1 Denominative and isolated Hiphils[22].

Like niphal and the piel, the hiphil has a donominative function. The causative value is always present in this use but with a wide range of meanings, and extended meanings. Depending on the root, one important group refers to:

1) Generation (e.g. Bakūr- first born (Jr. 4:31).
2) Growth (e.g. Shorēsh-root (Isa. 27:6). Another group refers to the use of body parts (cf. English 'to make eyes'), example:
3) Ve-lo hazing alekom (Deut. 1:45) (lit He turned a deaf ear to you)
4) Al talshan ébēd al adonian (Prov. 30:10). (Lit. do not slander (lit, use a tongue on a servant to his master).

3.4.2 Modal sense of causatives in Biblical Hebrew

The Hiph'ils causative notion can assume various nuances or functions not only because of the nature of the root, but also because of the relationship that may exist between the principal subject and the subject of the caused action. Because the expression of such functions is associated with the non-indicative moods in languages that use them, they are called modal functions[23].

The following examples are taken from (Waltike (1990) p.445).

a) Kumä Adoni kadema fanio Hacariyehu (ps. 17:13). Arise YHWH confront him (the foe) make him bow.
b) Va?ashiba Ôtam (Jer. 5:7) And I took care to satisfy them.

3.5. Biblical Aramaic verbal stems

Use of X:- In Biblical Aramaic (&) Interchanges with consonantal as follows:-

1.1. in the cause the stem, when af occurs inteas of haf, (See Baumgattner ZAW 45 (1927), 106f= Umwelt 93f (bawer leader Barn. G1h).

---

[22] Waltike (1990): p.443

[23] English expresses than with a small category of irregular verbs, called the modals (e.g. can, could, should. Would, may, might, etc).

3.5. Biblical Aramaic verbal stems

Use of X:- In Biblical Aramaic (&) Interchanges with consonantal as follows:-

1.1. in the cause the stem, when af occurs inteas of haf, (See Baumgartner ZA W 45 (1927), 106f= Umwelt 93f(bawerleader Barn. G h).

1.2. In the reflexive prefix to verbs, where Rx/rX . occurs instead of m: (Se Baumgortner ZA W at 5 (1972), 108f=Umwelt 957: Bauer leander BArm. 108). (1.3. Zemmoney in other words,

2. X interchanges with 1 as mater lectionis as follows:-

2.1 In masc. def. and term. Abs: (see Baumgartner ZAW 45 (1927), goff=Umwelth 77ff; schaeder Iranishe Beitrage 33ff: Bawerleander barm. 204a.

2.2 In verbs l'y and l'y (see Baumgartner ZA W 45 (1927), 112ff=umwelf 100ff, Schnaeder Iranish beitrage 35ff, Schaeder Iranish Beitrage 35ff; Bawer leader barm. 151 ff.

3.5.1 Biblical Aramaic causatives

Sap'el formations: in addition to Saklilu (they completed) and masoblin)foundations laid) Ezra 6:3.

Biblical Aramaic has two more Sap'el formations borrowed from Akkadian: Theses are: Sahtsia "to complet" Root wd? And Shazib (to save) root ('zb). Accordingly, Biblical Aramaic has got two stems dealing with causatives Pa'el causative. Since the reflexive of the hap'el is not attested in Bar. (except by doubtfull textual correction of Ezra 4:13). its form is somehow uncertain (Rosenthal (1963): pA2).

3.6 Semantic aspects of the causative verbs of the Semitic Languages.

The semantic varieties found in the Hebrew "Benyamin" (Stem) system are not found elsewhere (e.g. In European languages like English, German, French etc). Similarly, this is evidently true for all of the above mentioned Semetic languages. Consider the following table.



Language	Root	Binyam/Stem	Message
Biblical Hebrew	a.k.m.	Pal'al:Nif'al pe'el Hofal Hit pa'el	-Take avenge - be avenged, take revenge avenge on self - be avenged suffer a vengeance - take one's vengeance
Ge'ez		?afqara causative of the simple (type A): ?agabbara (causative of the Intensive (type B):	Love Comple Comfort Inhale Practive patience Make similar

ILS LIBRARY ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY

		ofrefelexive-simple (type A): ?asta?agasa causative of Intensive (type B): ?astamasala (causative of Reflexive/conative)	
Biblical Aramaic			
Akkadian	1-b-s	D-stem (factitive) Šstem (causative)	1) to clothe someone (acc.) 2) to clothe metapho rical use)
Epigraphic South Arabian	n-k-r	Mhnkr ms^{1}nkr S^{1}nkr hnkr	One who damages One who damages He damages

Causative prefixes: The Minean dialect forms its causative by prefixing S,(a) with correspondence to the Akaddian.

The prefix S is found in Akkadian too. It is also found in Arabic in the form of Prefix (i)sta.

However, the claimed distinctive property of the presence of these causative prefixes (morphemes) in Ge'ex, ESA,BH,BAR. And AKK. Semitic languages based on the following notions:

1. The Causative and Causative reflexive stems in these languages are derived not only from the simple stem, but also from the intensive and co native stem. Also, the presence of laryngeals influence the values is Biblical Aramaic just are, exactly as in Biblical Hebrew.

   According to Proto Semitic inventory of consonants (See above), the Ge'ez (Ethiopic) language has fully preserved these consonants. As a result this is a rule for the Sibilants and laryngeals phonemes of the causative-prefix. Additionally, the Semi-vowels in Ethiopic never disappeared as it is the case in some Semitic languages. And this phenomenon that made Ge'ez, specially Archaic compared to others [Bergstrasser, 1928: p. 128] Bergstrasser said that this is a characteristic and tree of Semitic in general. E.g. of P to f and s' to s and like wise that of s to s, where by original s[24]and the one developed from merged with original S. However, most of thse sounds are pronounced closer to more known in Amharic.

   The emphatic sounds [including the sound we are dealing with in this paper, the causative prefix] are pronounced in what may with following frattad stop (thus sa= something like s,'a) the laryngeals show the beginnings of weakly in safell as they influence the vocalization.

[24] Additionally, Bergstrasser gave the following remark: The Ge'ez sound (d) like the corresponding Arabic and not merged with s, nor h with h (though g had merged with c).

CHAPTER FOUR

. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 CONCLUSIONS

In this thesis we have examined the causative stem of Ge'ez language in comparison to Biblical Hebrew (BH), Biblical Aramaic (Bar.) Akkadian (Akk.) and Epigraphic South Arabian (ESA).

In general, the classifications of verbs according to different grammarians (both traditional and modern scholars) in each ancient Semitic language are not following the same pattern. Due to this fact, it is difficult to arrive at a rule as such.

As a result, it will be suggested to classify the verbs according to their root and pattern categories than simply following the already existing forms of their lexicon appearance. In this case, lessons from the well-studied ancient Semitic language, Biblical Hebrew are very important to be referred here. The Hebrew verbs are classified as either "strong" ("Sound") or ("weak") according to the grammarians.

Among the seven stems traditionally recognized by Grammarians, the verbs in "Qal" perfect third masculine singular (V(Qal) 3ms) have got three consonants as it is listed in the lexicon. According to this pattern, the middle vowel verbs are classified as week verbs, since in their lexical forms they have only two consonants. Furthermore, a verb is considered weak if one or more of its consonants is (dare) a guttural (א ,ה, ח, ע,and sometimes ך)

The verb is weak if it begins with י,ו, or כ or if its second and third consonants are identical. Additionally sub classes of week verbs include those that end with ה, and those that either begin or end withא.

However, this traditional system is not without its deficiency. Since all strong verbs are grouped together in one class and on the other hand, it is not easy to determine under a single verb Paal ("he did, made"), instead they could have chosen any verb as a head of a pattern. And on the other hand, weak verbs fall into ten separate classes, without their actual differences. And this is mainly due to the fact that weak verbs could have also more than one consonant and their classification falls into question.

The other important point of deficiency relates to the fact that verbs appear in the classifications have no tense markers, and as a result their positions will be known only in context as they appear in the texts. Therefore, the same verb form may be translated as past in one context and as present in another and as future in still another. Accordingly, this thesis has the following concluding points:

1) The presence of these causatives in Semitic: Ge'ez, ESA, BH, BAr and AKK, languages are may be due to a drift or Parallel development.
2) The presence and preservation of all these three Causative prefix phonemes of laryngeals, respectively, in accordance to the Proto Semitic Consonants inventory, the researcher is inclined to say that Ge'ez shares features with Proto-Semitic.
3) At the same time Ethiopian Semitics in general has developed archaic heterogeneity in the usage of these causative phonemes as a prefix, ?a/as,h.
4) Recently, Testein (1998) has made the following conclusion regarding the position of the Semitic Causative prefix phonemes with compared to the Substantive "myrtle".

   Thus, in the light of this discussion, the correspondence found in the initial position of the various Semitic terms for "myrtle" becomes recongnizable: the h-?-set found in "myrtle" represents, in principle, the same correspondence as that seen in the various

Semitic forms above for which we have reconstructed a vowel-intial precursor.

Myrtle	**Causative stem**
Arabic-?as-un	?aqtil
Ge'ez ?adas	?aqtal
Syraic ?as-a	?aqtel
Hebrew hadas	haqtel
Akkadian as-um	(Šapris)

Based on the above remarks, one can suggest other Semitic language family tree.

4. 2 Recommendations:

In the past historical linguists have made a comparison between a linguistic description known as overall or generalization and Polysynthetic. However, it is difficult to make underlined statement than making its approximate guessing. In this regard, it seems a wise consideration to quote a scholarship on the topic.

Accordingly, Lodge said:

To improve one or the other at the outset seems to put linguistic analysis in unwarranted straitjacket [Lodge. Pp92-93].

On the other hand, Plugram (1964) has made explicit the importance of reconstruction when he said:

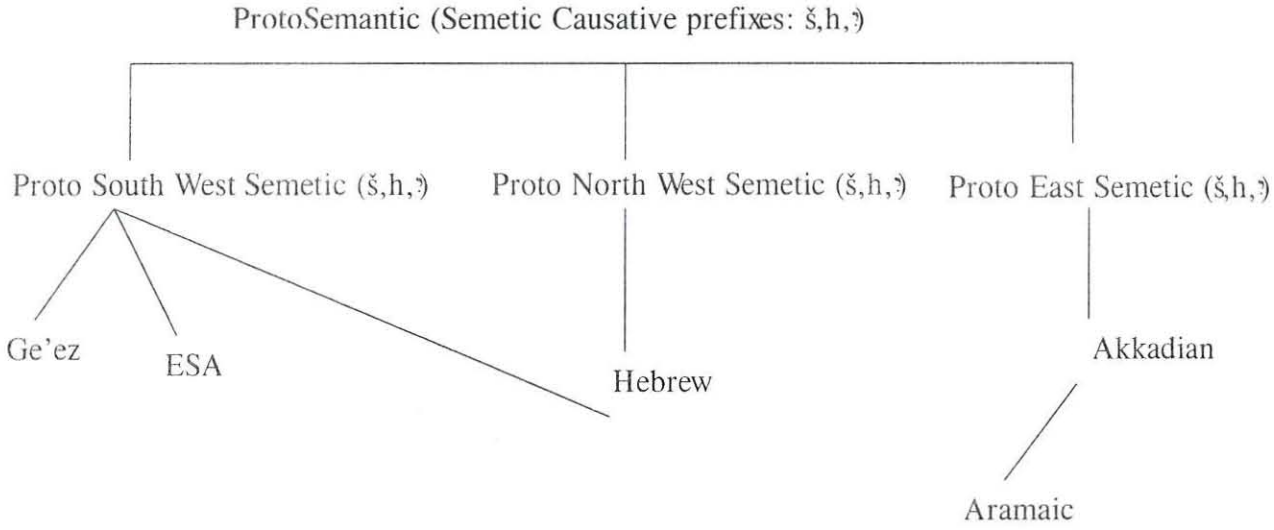
> One of the most important procedures in historical linguistics is the construction of a single language out of several related dialects, though not in a synchronic direction, as (may be) exhibited in the schemes, but in a diachronic one; that is one constructs or rather,

Semitic forms above for which we have reconstructed a vowelintial precursor.

Myrtle Causative stem	
Arabic- ?as-un	?aqtil
Ge'ez ?adas	?aqtal
Syraic ?as-a	?aqtel
Hebrew hadas	haqtel
Akkadian as-urn	(Sapris)

Based on the above remarks, one can suggest other Semitic language family tree .

Several years ago Rössler(1951) has suggested that there is a "transition grouppe" between old south Arabian languages; such as Epigraphic South Arabian and Ge'ez(Ethiopic). And this was also supported in Getachew (1962). As a result of the above mentioned main points on the causative prefixes the current researcher would like to suggest the following chart.



4. 2 Recommendations:

In the past historical linguists have made a companson between a linguistic description known as overall or generalization and Polysynthetic. However, it is difficult to make underlined statement than making its approximate guessing. In this regard, it

ILS LIBRARY ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY

seems a wise consideration to quote a scholarshipon the topic.

Accordingly, Lodge said:

To improve one or the oher at the outset seems to put linguistic analysis in unwarranted straitjacket [Lodge. Pp92-93].

On the other hand, Plugram (1964) has made explicit the importance of reconstruction when he said:

> One of the most important procedures in historical linguistics is the construction of a single language out of several related dialects, though not in a synchronic direction, as (may be) exhibited in the schemes, but in a diachronic one; that is one constructs or rather,
>
> reconstructs, a proto language, and protodiasystem (Pulgrarn (1964): p373-383].

As a result, the reconstructed proto-languages is therefore also a combination, and a source point for all the forms necessary to derive the known ancestor dialects (Pulgram (1964)]. Accordingly, a proto language is indeed a diasystem which, owing to its diachronic dimension, may legitimately be cause a proto-diasystem (cf. Pulgrom, 1984).

As a result, it is desideratum to study proto Ethio Semitic languages from various points of view such as its relation to Afro-Asiatic phyla in general and Ethiopian language in particular in order to know the position of Ge'ez within the Semitic family.

Such incorporation of evidence may develop our understanding to which language Ge'ez has close connections, though it might be difficult to trace, implicitly and explicitly its actual origin.

REFERENCES

Amsalu Akililu (1962): *Etymoligischen Beitrag Zu A-Dillmanns Lexicon Linguae Aethiopicae. Inaugural – Dissertation.*

Arad, Maya (2003): Locality constraints on the interpretation of roots, The case of Hebrew denominatives, in *Natural Language Linguistics, Theory* 21, pp787-728.

Aronoff. M (1985: *Orthographic and Linguistic theory: The Syntactic base of Masoretic Hebrew punctuation*, vol 61: pp. 28-72.

Afework Tekle (1997E.C): "a- and as-"verb forms in Amharic, *Bulletin of SOAS* 35 (18-26), UK.

Beeston, A.F.L., (1962): A descriptive Grammar of Epigraphic South-Arabia. Luzac and Co. Ltd. 46. London. *Introductio to the Semitic Languages*, Isenbrauns, USA.

Belay Mekonnen Siyoum (1999E.C): *Heyaw Lisan (Ge'ez-Amharic) Dictionary*, Commercial Printing Press, A.A. Ethiopia.

Barton, Geroge Aaron, (1934): *Semitic and Hamitic Origins*, Oxford University Press, London, England.

Baumgartner, Walter and Ludwig Kohler (2001): *The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*, Two volumes, Brill, Lieden, The Netherlands.

Beeston, A.F.L, (1954): "Problems of Sabean Chronology", in *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies,* University of London: Published by S.O.A.A.S, Germany, pp 37-56.

Bernal, Martin. (1987): *Black Athena: The Afroasiatic Roots of Classical Civilization the Fabrication of Ancient Greece* 1785-1985.

Bergstrasser, Gotthelf (1928), (1983): *Introduction to the Semitic Languages*, Iesenbroun, USA.

Bynon, Theordora (1977): Historical Linguistics. GB: Athenaeum Press. Ltd. Gateshead, Tyne and Wear.

Bhas, Georges (1990): "A Diachronic Effect of the OCP", in *Linguistic Inquiry* Vol. 21 pp 298-301.

Caplice R (1980: *Introduction to Akkadian*, Biblical Institute Press, Rome.

Cohen, David (1972): *La forme verbale à marques personnelles prefixes en Sud-Arabiqes moderne.*

Cohen, Marcel (1960) : *Linguistique Ethiopienne_ et prespectives pour le proche avenir.*

Comrie, Benard (1987) : *Language Universals and Linguistics Typology*, Basil Blackwell Oxford.

Decker, Rodney J.(1994): A condensation and summarization of verbal aspect in the Greek of the New Testament, with reference to tense and mood, by Stanley E.Porter (New York Peter Lang, pp 1-30).

Demeke, Girma A: (2000): The Ethio-Semitic Languages: Reexamining the Classification. in *Journal*

of Ethiopian Studies. 34:2. A.A.U., Ethiopia.

Drews, A.J. (1958): The Origin of the Semitic Language of Ethiopia, in *Ethiopian Observer*. 2:3; pp 113-115, London.

Ehret, Christopher (1988): Social Transformation in Early History of the Horn of Africa: Linguistics clues to Developments of the Period 500 BC toad 500. In Taddesse Beyene (ed). Eighth International Conference of Ethiopian Studies. Volume I, pp 639-651 A.A. (IES Collection), A.A.

Fitzymyer, Joseph (2003): And Lead Us not into Temptation in *Biblica* (84), pp259-286.

Fleming, Harold, (1968): Ethiopic Language History: Testing Linguistic Hypotheses in an Archeological and Documenatay Context. *Ethno-History* 15: pp 353-388.

Garbni, Giovanni (1984): *Le Lingue Semitiche (Studi di storia Linguistica)*, Universitario Orientale Series minor xx, Napoli, Italy.

Gragg, Gene (1997): Ge'ez (Ethiopic). In Robert Hetzron (ed), *The Semitic Languages*. Pp. 242-260. London: Rutledge.

Getachew Haile (1962): Das Verbal System im Aithiopichen Sparachen (Doctoral dissertation: Tubingen University.)

Getachew Haile (1967): "Amharic Archaic Forms" in Annual Ethiopian Studies Conference.

Goldenberg, Gideon (1972): L'etude du Gourague et la comparison chamito-Simitique, in *Studi Ethiopci*, Vol. 5 pp. 235-249.

Katscher E.Y. (1971) : "Aramaic", in *Encyclopedia Judaica* Vol.2, pp. 259-288, Macmillan, Jerusalem.

Hetzron, Robert and
Marvin L.Bender(d1976): "The Ethio-Semitic Languages" in Bender, M.L. et al (eds.) (1976)< *Languages in Ethiopia*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

MacCharty, Alec (2007): "Words, could be retrieved" from http;/web.mit.edu/afs/Athena met.edu/org/1/linguistics/ www/marants.home.html

Hetzron, Robert (1976): "Two principles of Genetic reconstruction" [Abstract is cited]. In lingua 38, No. 2, p.89.

Hoffner, M. (1959): "Uber historichliche und kulturishe bezieh ugeh zwiseher Sudarabiabien and athiopien" in studi Ethiopie, Vol. 1 pp. 435-443.

Hudson, Grover, (1977): "Language Classification and the Semitic Prehistory of Ethiopia" Floria Orientalia. 18: pp.119-166. [IES collection].

(1978): Geo Linguistics Evidence for Ethiopian Semitic Prehistory. Language Miscelanea 8 Addis Ababa University IES, (Institute of Ethiopian Studies Library); pp. 235-248.

(1994): Agaw words in South Ethiopian Semetic? In New Trends in Ethiopian Studies Papers of the 12th international

conference of Ethiopian studies. Pp. 1261-1269.

(2000a): Ethiopian Semitic Archaic Heterogeneity. 14th International conference of Ethiopian Studies. A.A Addis Ababa University Press.

(200b) "Ethiopian Semitic Languages", in *Reporter* (Text in Amharic) 4:32, pp 8-11.

(2000b) "Ethiopian Semitic Overview", in *Journal of Ethiopian Studies*. XXXIII: 2:pp. 5-86.

Kelly, Page.H. (1992): *Biblical Hebrew, Grammar*, William B. Eardmans, Publishing, Company, Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA.

Katscher E.Y. (1971): "Aramaic" in *Encyclopedia Judicaica* Vol. 2, pp. 259-288, Macmillan, Jerusalem.

Lambdin, Thomas O., (1978) *Introduction to Classical Ethiopia* (Ge'ez), Scholars Press, Horvord Semetic Studies, Boston.

Lesalu, Wolf, (1958a): "The Languages of Ethiopian and their Geographical Distribution", Ethiopian *Observer* 2:3; pp. 116-121.

Leslau, W. (1959): Sketches in Ethiopic classification, In Proceedings of Ethiopian Studies.

Leslau, W., (1962): Ethiopic denominatives with nominal morphemes in: Le Museon Vol LXXV, 3-4, pp. 39-175.

Leslau, Wolf. (1965): Is there a proto-Gurage? Reprinted in Leslau, Wolf (1992), Gurage Studies: Collected Articles Wiesbaden: Otto Harrasowitz, Germany.

- (1969a): Hebrew cognates in Amharic Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz, Germany.
- (1979): Etymological dictionary of Gurage (Ethiopic): Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz, Germany.
- (1988): Comparative Ge'ez Dictionary: Weisbaden: Otto Harrassowitz, Germany.

Long, Gary Alan, (1996): Literature that communicates (Old Testament text and exegetical task), Jerusalem, University College, Teachin manual for Advanced Biblical.

McCarthy, J. (1981): A prosodic theory of Non-Concatenative morphology In: Linguistic Inquiry 12. pp. 373-418.

MacCarthy, Alec (2007): "Words, could be retrieved from http;/web.mit.edu/afs/Athena met.edu/org/1/linguistics/www/marants.home.html

Mccall, Daniel F.(1998): The Afro Asiatic Language Phylum: African in Origin, or Asia? In current Anthropology. Vol. 39: University Chicago Press. Pp. 139-144.

Mercer Samuel A.B, (1920): *Ethiopic Grammar*, Oxford, at the Clarendon Press, U>K>

Mosacati, S. (1964): *An Introduction to the Comparative Grammar of Semitic Languages: Phonology and Morphology,* Wiesbaden: Otto Harrasswitz, German.

Tubiana, Joseph (1972): "Le Chamito Semitique les langues Africaines", in Studi Ethiopici, Vol, II, pp 79-103.

Trumpp, E.(1874): uber den accent im Althiopicshen, in *ZDMG* Vol. 28.

Ullendorff, Edward 91971): Comparative Semitics (offprint from current trends in Linguistics). 6 Mouton, pp. 261-273. [in his *Miscellanae* 2, IES collection].

Voigt, Rainer M 91987): The Classifications of Central Semitic in: *JSS* Vol. 32 No 1, pp 1-21.

Vycichl, W. (1987): The Origin of the Hamito-Semitic (Afro Asiatic Languages. H. Jungraithmayer and W. Mullur (eds.) Proceedings of the 4th International Hamito-Semitic Congress. Pp. 109-121. Amsterdam: Jon Ben Jamin's publishing company.

Waltke, Bruc K and M.O'Connor (1990): *An Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*, Eisenbrouns, Winona lake, Indiana, USA.

Wright William, (1966): Lectures on the Comparative Grammar of the Semitic Languages. Amsterdam, Philo Press, The Netherlands.

Declaration

I, the undersigned, declare that this thesis is my original work and has not been presented for a degree in any other university, and that all sources of materials used for the thesis have been duly acknowledged.

Kassahun Sisay

November 19, 2007

Confirmation

This thesis has been submitted for examination with my approval as thesis advisor

Amsalu Aklilu (Dr)

November 19, 2007

ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY ILS LIBRARY