

WORD-FORMATION OF SUPERLATIVE DEGREE OF ADJECTIVES IN NIAS LANGUAGE IN *SOERA NI'AMONI'Õ*

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to form superlative adjectives in the Nias language in Soera Ni'amoni'õ. This study used a descriptive qualitative method. This research applies Sidney E. Lang's theory in the book An Intermediate English Grammar (1912). Based on the research results, there were 29 data found in superlative form. This data was found in the form of 2 basic types of adjectives, namely adjectives with one word and adjectives with two words. The data is divided into 8 adjectives ending in -est, 14 adjectives with the addition of the word most, 5 adjectives ending in -y and 2 irregular adjectives found in Soera Ni'amoni'õ in the Torah section of the Old Testament. In the Nias language, there are two ways to form degrees of comparison. First, in adjectives with one word, the formation of superlatives in the Nias language, the word sibai is added after the adjective. Second, for adjectives with two superlative formation words in the Nias language, the word sibai is added between the two Nias language adjectives. In this case, it can be concluded that the Nias language has its own character and uniqueness in each word and sentence it forms.

Keywords: *Adjectives, Nias language, Superlative degree, Soera Ni'amoni'õ*

INTRODUCTION

Language is a communication tool as a form of interaction with other people. According to Keraf (1991:2), language is a symbol of sound produced by humans as a means of communication with other communities. In language, there are aims and objectives conveyed in order to understand assumptions, views, thoughts, and emotions both in oral and written form. Various aspects can be found from various points of view, because language is composed of several words that are structured and become more dominant in a sentence and idea. Ispording & Otten (2014) explain that there are two meanings of language. First, language is a tool used to form feelings and thoughts, actions and desires to influence or be influenced by someone. Second, language is a character and sign that explains personality, be it family, nation, human dignity. Indonesia has many varieties of regional languages which are used in each region as regional identity and everyday language use.

In *Ethnologue: Languages of the World* (2023) there are 7168 varieties of languages in the world which are active languages and still used by native speakers. The large variety of languages we have makes it difficult for people outside the region to know the history and origins of the languages used. Several regional languages in Indonesia are also starting to have fewer speakers, and the quantity in each region is on the verge of extinction and is the influence of the slow disappearance of regional languages in Indonesia. Therefore, the influence of this impact causes regional language groups to be divided into majority groups and minority groups. One of the minority language groups in Indonesia is the Nias language.

Nias language is a regional language originating from the Nias area which is located on a small island west of Sumatra Island, North Sumatra province. The Nias language is a regional language that has its own uniqueness, namely a language that has affixes that end in vowels, consisting of ö, a, i, u, e, and o. The letter ö is read like the number four or six. For example, *dödö* (heart), *khömö* (to you), *lövö* (no) and so on. This language is also used as a daily communication tool. As time goes by, the number of speakers of the Nias language is decreasing because many Nias people

have migrated to other countries, leaving their hometowns to improve the quality of life and better income, pursuing education by taking advantage of opportunities to learn, and looking for opportunities to gain wide contacts. This is a trigger for the people of Nias not to use their local language every day. This language is also rarely known by many people. The small number of speakers makes this language fall into the category of a minority language group.

Therefore, the Nias language is the topic discussed in this research. This is an interesting phenomenon for the writer to study in regional languages in Indonesia, especially the Nias language. This research will carry out so that the language is not threatened with extinction and maintains the uniqueness of the Nias language as well as giving regional speakers attention to the continuity of their regional Nias language. The writer focuses on morphological linguistics, namely *Word-Formation of Superlative Degree of Adjectives in Nias Language in Soera Ni'amoni'õ*. In the book *Free English Grammar*, Ansell (2000:294) explains that an adjective is a word that is used to modify a pronoun or noun called an adjective. Adjectives also precede nouns or pronouns. In general, adjectives are able to describe an object to identify the type of word in question. In meaning, adjectives modify the formation of degrees of comparison. Adjectives also have a very important role in using a good sentence idea and being more specific. Modify which means to change; in the sense of changing nouns or pronouns by limiting and describing them.

The use of adjectives can also change meaning, when the position of a word moves from one position to another, for example, a small trader (meaning a person who has small trade). Physically, a small trader means a small person. This shows the difference between two people, objects, places, or more which shows the comparison between the words. In the book *An Intermediate English Grammar*, Lang (1912:117) states that there are 3 degrees of comparison levels in adjectives: positive, comparative, and superlative. A positive degree states that two things are compared at a comparable or equal level. Comparative degree states that two different things can be compared that have more properties than the other. The superlative degree states a sentence that has the most characteristics among others. Therefore, based on the explanation above, the writer examines adjectives in the Nias language congregation's Bible regarding superlative forms of adjectives.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Morphology is a science that studies the structure of word formation. According to Yule (2006:52), word formation is a process used to assemble new word forms. The process of word formation is created through new terms using previous words. According to Aronoff and Fuderman (2011), the science that studies word formation and is a branch of linguistics is morphology. It can be stated that morphology focuses on word formation and studying the internal structure of words. Carstairs-Mc Charty (2002) also states that morphology is a word formation structure that is related to grammar and connects one morpheme to another. Harman (1972:73) suggests that an adjective is a word followed by a noun as information related to the noun and other substantives. For example, brave lady, beautiful girl, and sweet apples. The words brave, beautiful, and sweet describe a noun that follows an adjective. Adjectives can also modify the pronoun or noun that precedes them and are able to identify the type of word in question. Moreover, adjectives can be modified with nouns and describe their basis.

The use of adjectives can also change meaning, when the position of a word moves from one position to another, for example, a small trader (meaning a person who has small trade). Physically, a small trader means a small person. This shows the difference between two people, objects, places, or more which shows the comparison between the words. In the book *An Intermediate English Grammar*, Lang (1912:117) states that there are 3 degrees of comparison levels in adjectives: positive, comparative, and superlative. A positive degree states that two things are compared at a comparable or equal level. Comparative degree states that two different things can be compared that have more properties than the other. The superlative degree states a sentence that has the most characteristics among others. Therefore, based on the explanation above, the writer examines adjectives in the Nias language congregation's Bible regarding superlative forms of adjectives.

In the book *An Intermediate English Grammar*, Lang (1912:117), the superlative degree is a form of computational level that states that an object has the highest properties or qualities compared to other objects. The superlative degree uses the addition of the suffix *-est* and the word *most* to adjectives to express an incomparable comparison, in the highest sense.

For examples:

1. Best
2. Strongest
3. Most beautiful

The superlative form is a form of level of comparison that states an object or person has a higher quality or quantity than another using the suffix *-est* and the word *most*. In the book *Basic English Grammar for English Language Learners*, Seaton (2000:67) explains that there are rules used to form an adjective in comparative and superlative comparisons, namely:

1. If the adjective ends in *-e* then add *-r* or *-st*

For examples:

No	Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
1	close	closer	closest
2	large	larger	largest
3	safe	safer	widest

In the three examples above, there are the adjectives close, large, and safe. These adjectives have the ending *-e* in each word. If the adjective ends in *-e*, then *-r* and *-st* are added to the adjective to form comparative and superlative words. For this reason, the adjectives change, such as the adjective close becoming closer (comparative), closest (superlative); large becomes larger (comparative), largest (superlative); and safe becomes safer (comparative), safest (superlative).

2. Short Adjectives

In an adjective, there are several words that have one syllable ending in a consonant, and adjectives that have a vowel before the consonant. The adjective, then the last letter is doubled by suffix *-er* (comparative) and suffix *-est* (superlative). For examples

No	Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
1	big	bigger	biggest
2	dim	dimmer	dimmest
3	sad	sadder	saddest

Based on the three examples above, it can be seen that these adjectives have endings that have been doubled by adding the suffix *-er* (comparative) and suffix *-est* (superlative). For examples, the adjective big becomes bigger (comparative), biggest (superlative); dim becomes dimmer (comparative), dimmest (superlative); and sad becomes sadder (comparative), saddest (superlative).

3. Long Adjectives

Adjectives not only have short adjectives but also long adjectives. Long adjectives have two or more syllables, ending in *-y*. The adjective is changed from the *-y* ending to the *-i* ending. Then add the suffix *-er* to form a comparative comparison and the suffix *-est* to form a superlative comparison.

For examples:

No	Adjectives	Comparative	Superlative
1	busy	busier	busiest
2	dirty	dirtier	dirtiest
3	happy	happier	happiest

In the examples above, there is a long adjective that has two syllables and changes the ending -y to *i*. This rule applies to adjectives that end in -y. For examples, the adjective busy becomes busier (comparative), busiest (superlative); dirty becomes dirtier (comparative), dirtiest (superlative); happy becomes happier (comparative), happiest (superlative).

In addition, to form a comparison with long adjectives, the words *more* (comparative) and *most* (superlative) are added. The words *more* and *most* are added before long adjectives.

No	Adjectives	Comparative	Superlative
1	active	more active	most active
2	delicious	more delicious	most delicious
3	comfortable	more comfortable	most comfortable

Based on the third examples above, there are adjectives that have two or more syllables. For examples, the adjective active has two syllables, delicious has three syllables, and comfortable has four syllables.

The adjectives are then added with the words *more* (comparative) and *most* (superlative), as in the example active becomes more active (comparative), most active (superlative); delicious becomes more delicious (comparative), most delicious (superlative).

4. Irregular Adjectives

Short adjectives and long adjectives have their own rules for forming comparisons. But there are some exceptions to some adjectives that don't follow that rule.

No	Adjectives	Comparative	Superlative
1	bad	worse	worst
2	little	less	least
3	good	better	best

In these adjectives, there is no need to suffix -*er* or the word *more* to form a comparative and suffix -*est* or the word *most* to form a superlative

RESEARCH METHODS

In conducting this research, the writer applied descriptive qualitative methods. This method is carried out by investigated, analyzed, and explained data. According to Narbuko and Abu Achmadi (1997:44), descriptive qualitative is research carried out by analyzing, interpreting, and presenting data based on data whose problem will be solved. The process that the writer has carried out in analyzing this research is joint interviews with sources with questions that are by certain research qualification requirements.

The source of data is the Nias language Bible book, known as *Soera Ni' amoni' õ*, which was published in 2009, second edition. The writer limits this research to the Old Testament part of the Torah books consisting of *Soera Moze si fõfõna/ I Moze* (Genesis), *Soera Moze fanete zi fõfõna / II Moze* (Exodus), *Soera Moze fanete zi domboea/ III Moze* (Leviticus), *Soera Moze fanete zi tõloe/ IV Moze* (Numbers) and *Soera Moze fanete zi õfal/ V Moze* (Deuteronomy). In this case, uses several theories from books, articles and links related to morphology, degrees of comparison, adjectives, comparatives and superlatives.

The process carried out in collecting data was, reading the data source, namely the Nias language Bible book, *namely Soera Ni' amoni' õ* in the Old Testament portion of the Torah, underline adjectives in superlative form, make a list containing adjectives, group the data that has been collected, identified and explained the use of superlative adjectives found in the Torah.

In this research, qualitative descriptive methods were used to analyze research data. The steps used are classifying data from data sources from the Old Testament of the Torah based on the form of superlative adjectives, identify data, observe and re-verify all well-structured data, describe and explain the forms of superlative adjectives, and draw conclusions as a result of the analysis.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The writer described the research results based on the research problem, namely word-formation of Superlative degree of Adjectives in Nias Language in Soera Ni'amoni'ö, namely Old Testament part of the Torah books consisting of *Soera Moze si föföna/ I Moze* (Genesis), *Soera Moze fanete zi föföna / II Moze* (Exodus), *Soera Moze fanete zi domboea/ III Moze* (Leviticus), *Soera Moze fanete zi töloe/ IV Moze* (Numbers) and *Soera Moze fanete zi öfa/ V Moze* (Deuteronomy).

The writer used theory in the book *An Intermediate English Grammar*, Lang (1912:117) to analyze research problems. The superlative degree is a form of computational level that states that an object has the highest properties or qualities compared to other objects. The superlative degree uses the addition of the suffix *-est* and the word *most* to adjectives to express an incomparable comparison, in the highest sense. There are two types of adjectives found in *Soera Ni'amoni'ö*, namely: one-word adjectives and two-words adjectives. In *Soera Ni'amoni'ö*, the writer found 29 data in superlative form, 24 data with one-word adjectives and 5 data with two-word adjectives. This formation has been arranged in table form as follows.

Table 1. Superlative forms with One-Word Adjective

No	Superlative Degree		Old Testament	Positive Degree	
	Nias Language	English language		Nias Language	English language
1	abao sibai	most girlish	-I moze 34:7	abao	girlish
2	abölö sibai	strongest	-I moze 31:30 -II moze 1:20	abölö	strong
3	aföchö sibai	sickest	-I moze 35:16 -I moze 35:17 -II moze 8:24	aföchö	sick
4	ahatö sibai	nearest	-V moze 2:19	ahatö	near
5	ara sibai	longest	-I moze 39:7	ara	long
6	ata'oe sibai	most scared	-I moze 32:8 -II moze 14:10 -IV moze 22:3	ata'oe	scared
7	ato sibai	most crowded	-I moze 17:6 -I moze 22:17 -I moze 26:4 -I moze 50:9 -II moze 1:7 -II moze 1:20 -IV moze 22:3 -V moze 1:10 -V moze 6:3	ato	crowded
8	ebolo sibai	widest	-V moze 2:7	ebolo	wide
9	eboea sibai	biggest	-I moze 6:5 -I moze 7:18 -I moze 7:19 -I moze 13:2 -IV moze 22:17	eboea	big
10	faehoe sibai	most different	-V moze 11 (title)	faehoe	different
11	foeri sibai	most back	-I moze 32:21	foeri	back
12	moboe sibai	hairiest	-I moze 27:11	moboe	hairy
13	modoeroe sibai	shakiest	-V moze 19:8	modoeroe	shaky

14	mofõnoe sibai	most angry	-II moze 11:8 -III moze 10:16 -IV moze 11:10 -IV moze 12:9 -V moze 9:20	mofõnoe	angry
15	ni'amoni'õ sibai	holiest	-II moze 30:10 -II moze 30:29 -II moze 30:37 -II moze 40:11 -III moze 2:3 -III moze 2:10 -III moze 6:17 -III moze 6:26 -III moze 6:30 -III moze 7:1 -III moze 7:6 -III moze 10:12 -III moze 10:12 -III moze 21:22 -III moze 27:28 -IV moze 4:5 -IV moze 4:19 -IV moze 7:9 -IV moze 18:9 -IV moze 18:10	ni'amoni'õ	holy
16	ogõmi-gõmi sibai	darkest	-I moze 15:17	ogõmi-gõmi	dark
17	olofo sibai	hungriest	-I moze 25:29	olofo	hungry
18	oroma sibai	most real	-I moze 31:10 -IV moze 14:17	oroma	real
19	oja sibai	most	-I moze 13:7 -I moze 16:10 -I moze 17:2 -I moze 17:20 -I moze 30:43 -II moze 8:24 -II moze 10:14 -II moze 12:39	oja	many
20	sõchi sibai	best	-I moze 6:2 -I moze 39:7 -IV moze 10:32 -IV moze 32:1 -IV moze 32:4	sõchi	good
21	te'adoegõ sibai	most destroyed	-I moze 19:13	te'adoegõ	destroyed
22	tefoeyoe sibai	most blasted	-V moze 32:20	tefoeyoe	blasted
23	tokea sibai	most surprised	-I moze 27:33	tokea	surprised
24	zise'ise sibai	most narrow	-IV moze 22:26	zise'ise	narrow

In the Nias language, there are two types of adjectives in the formation of superlatives. In *Soera Ni'amoni'õ*, found 24 adjectives with one word. To form a superlative in the Nias language

with one word, the word *sibai* is added after the adjective. The formation of words in the Nias language in superlative form in adjectives with one-word has been arranged in table 1.

Data 1: *abao sibai*

In the first data, the superlative form of adjectives in the Nias language was found, namely *abao sibai*. This form is found in:

I *Moze* 34:7 “*Ba me so nono Jakobo, si otarai mbenoea ba me larongo, ba abao sibai dōdōra, tesao wōnoera sabōlōbōlō. Ba dōdō Ndraono Gizeraēli, ba no horō a nifazōchinia, me no oroedoe ia chō nono Jakobo; lō’ō manō sa tola zi manō mena’ō!*”

Abao sibai is an adjective with one word, which comes from the word *abao* and is added by adding the word *sibai* after the adjective and forms a superlative. The way to read *abao sibai* is *abao sibai*. In English, *abao sibai* can be interpreted as most girlish. The superlative form in English is added with most before the adjective. The adjective girlish is a long adjective. So, to form superlative long adjectives, the word *most* is added to the adjective.

Data 2: *abōlō sibai*

The superlative form found in *Soera Ni’amoni’ō* is *abōlō sibai*. This form is found in:

I *Moze* 31:30

“*Ba laoe oea, noa sa moloi’ō me no abōlō sibai adōni dōdōoe ba chōmi, ba hana wa no ōtagō Lowalangigoe?*”

II *Moze* 1:20

“*Ba ifahowoe’ō zangamōi taloe andrō Lowalangi, ba ato sibai niha ba abōlō sibai ira.*”

In the Nias language, the word *abōlō* has two different functions and meanings, namely as an additional a word to form comparative and as an adjective which means strong. In the data sources found, the word *abōlō* functions as an adjective and to make form a superlative, the word *sibai* is added after the word *abōlō*. The way to read the word *abōlō sibai* is *abōlō sibai*. In English, to make a form of superlative, the suffix *-est* is added, because the adjective strong is a short adjective. So, the adjective strong is added with the suffix *-est*, becoming strongest.

Data 3: *afōchō sibai*

In the third data, the writer found *afōchō sibai* in *Soera Ni’amoni’ō*. The superlative form is found in:

I *Moze* 35:16 “*Ba aefa da’ō, ba lafa’ese ira, larōi Mbetiēli, ba me lō arōoe tō irege Geferata, ba afōchō oepstream of Rachela, ba afōchō sibai chōnia wadono.*”

I *Moze* 35:17 “*Ba me no afōchō sibai chōnia, ba imane chōnia sangamōi taloe: Bōi boesi dōdōoe, ono matoea sa gōi chōoe iada’e!*”

II *Moze* 8:24 “*Ba ifatōrō da’ō Jehowa. Ba oja sibai ndrī mhōhō, si mōi jomo ba gōdo Wara’o ba ba nomo ngonioninia ba danō Miseraji ma’asagōrō, ba afōchō sibai ba danō ndrī mbōhō andrō.*”

The superlative form in the Nias language is added with the word *sibai* after the adjective, as in the data found, namely *afōchō sibai*. The way to read *afōchō sibai* is *afōchō sibai*. In English, *afōchō sibai* means sickest. The superlative form sickest comes from the basic word sick, which is added with the suffix *-est*, because the adjective sick is a short adjective.

Data 4: *ahatō sibai*

In *Soera Ni'amoni'ō*, the next data found by the writer is *ahatō sibai*. The data is found in:

V *Moze* 2:19 “*ba ahatō sibai dania ndra'oegō ba Ndraono Gamoni andrō; bōi soewō ira, bōi fa'oedoe ami! Ma'ifoe sa lō oebe'e chōoe tanō Ndraono Gamoni, me no oetehe tana ba ma'oewoe Loti andrō mitooe.*”

The *ahatō sibai* form is a superlative form where the word *sibai* is added after the adjective *ahatō*. The way to read *ahatō sibai* is *ahatō sibai*. The formation of superlatives in Nias and English is different. In English, *ahatō sibai* means nearest. The nearest form comes from the adjective near and the addition of the suffix *-est*. The adjective near is a short adjective, so to form a superlative the suffix *-est* is added.

Data 5: *ara sibai*

The next data found was the *ara sibai*. The superlative form is found in:

I *Moze* 39:7 “*Ba no si sōchi sibai mboto Yosefo ba si sōchi gōi mbawania. Ba lō ara sibai, ba ileke'ō Josefo fo'omo zochō ja'ia ba imane chōnia: Fōrō ba ngaigoe!*”

The data is found in superlative form. In the Nias language, the word *sibai* is added after the adjective to form a superlative. The adjective *ara* is an adjective with one word which is added with the word *sibai* after the adjective and then it becomes *ara sibai*. In English, the *ara sibai* is the longest. The adjective long is a short adjective. So, the word is added with the suffix *-est* to create a superlative form in English.

Data 6: *ata'oe sibai*

The data found in another superlative form is *ata'oe sibai*. The data found in *Soera Ni'amoni'ō* is *ata'oe sibai*. This form is found in:

I *Moze* 32:8 “*Ba ata'oe sibai Jakobo, mogichi dōdōnia. Ba ifosasi niha, si fao chōnia, ba biribiri ba sawi ba ondra, ifodoea mbawa.*”

II *Moze* 14:10 “*Ba me no ahatō Wara'o, ba lafachōlō ira Iraono Gizeraēli: ba i'ogomoezaō so moroi furira Ndrawa Miserayi. Ba ata'oe sibai ira. Ba la'angarōfi li Yehowa Iraono Gizeraēli.*”

IV *Moze* 22:3 “*Ba ata'oe sibai Ndraono Mo'abi Ndraono Gizeraēli; ato sibai sa ira, ba hoemocha mboe Ndraono Moabi Ndraono Gizeraēli |andrō.*”

The data is Nias language adjectives, which are divided into the basic adjective *ata'u* and the addition of the word *sibai*. The word is found in I *Moze* 32:8; II *Moze* 14:10; IV *Moze* 22:3. The way to read the word *ata'oe sibai* is *ata'u sibai*. Adding the word *sibai* after an adjective is a form of superlative formation. In English, *ata'oe sibai* is the most scared. Addition of the word *most* which functions as a superlative form in long adjectives. The adjective scared is a long adjective.

Data 7: *ato sibai*

The next data the writer found was *ato sibai*. The writer found the data in:

I *Moze* 17:6 “*Ba ato sibai dania ma'oewoemō oebe'e, tobali mosoi dania ira, razo na'i dania ōsa ma'oewoemō.*”

I *Moze* 22:17 “*ba oehōna chōoe howoehowoe, ba ato sibai dania ma'oewoemō oebe'e, fa'oja ndrōfi ba mbanoea si jawa ba fa'oja ngawoea nene ba mbewe nasi, ba sochō*”

bawa gōli ba nemalira ma 'oewoemō dania.”

I Moze 26:4 “Ba **ato sibai** dania ma 'oewoemō oebe'e, fa'oya ndrōfi ba mbanoe yawa, ba oebe'e ba ma 'oewoemō dania danō da'e fefoe, ba moroi ba ma 'oewoemō tefahowoe'ō dania fefoe soi ba goeli danō,”

I Moze 50:9 “Ba fao gōi khōnia goereta ba si fakoedo; tobali **ato sibai** ira.”

II Moze 1:7 “Ba mo'ono'ono Ndraono Gizeraēli, itoegoe fahōna ba tobali **ato sibai**, tobali anōnō danō ja'ira.”

II Moze 1:20 “Ba ifahowoe'ō zangamōi taloe andrō Lowalangi, ba **ato sibai** niha ba abōlō sibai ira.”

V Moze 1:10 “No **ato sibai** ami ibe'e Lowalangimi Jehowa, fa'oya ndrōfi ba mbanoea sa'ae ami ma'ōkhō.”

V Moze 6:3 “Ba na no mirongo, ja'ami Iraono Gizeraēli, ba mitōngōni, ba wolo'ō ja'ia, ena'ō sohahoe tōdō ami, ba ena'ō **ato sibai** ami dania, si mane nifaboe'oe Lowalangi ndra toeami andrō, Jehowa, tanō si no falawoe soesoe ba we wani.”

Ato sibai is the superlative form of the Nias language with one word. The data is found in: I Moze 17:6; I Moze 22:17; I Moze 26:4; I Moze 50:9; II Moze 1:7; II Moze 1:20; V Moze 1:10; V Moze 6:3. This form is divided into the adjective *ato* and the addition of the word *sibai*. The way to read *ato sibai* is *ato sibai*. The adjective *ato* is an adjective with one word. To form superlatives in the Nias language, the word *sibai* is added after the adjective. On the other hand, in English, *ato sibai* is the most crowded. The adjective crowded is a long adjective. So, to make superlatives in long adjectives, add the word *most*.

Data 8: *ebolo sibai*

In *Soera Ni'amoni'ō*, the writer finds the superlative form of the Nias language, namely *ebolo sibai*. The superlative form is found in:

V Moze 2: 7 “Noa sa atō ifahowoe'ō ndra'oegō Lowalangioe Jehowa, ba nilaoemō, fefu; no irorogō ndra'oegō ba wanōrōoe tanō si mate andre, si no **ebolo sibai**: ōfa woeloe fache iada'e zi no faofao khōu Lowalangioe Jehowa; lō hadia ia zambō khōoe.”

The data is found in V Moze 2:7. *Ebolo sibai* is a superlative form in the Nias language. The addition of the word *sibai* to the adjective is a rule in the superlative form of the Nias language. The adjective *ebolo* is an adjective in the Nias language with one word and the way to read *ebolo sibai* is *ebolo sibai*. In English, *ebolo sibai* means widest. The widest superlative form expands upon the adjective wide with the addition of the suffix *-est*. Wide adjectives are short adjectives that have one syllable. So, to form superlatives in short adjectives, the suffix *-est* is added.

Data 9: *eboea sibai*

The writer found further data, namely *eboea sibai* in:

I Moze 6:5 “Ba me i'ila Jehowa, wa no **eboea sibai** zi lō sōchi ba niha ba guli danō, wa no si lō sōchi manō gera'erara, awō nikhoi dōdōra, si lō mamalōmalō,”

I Moze 7:18 “Ba itoegoe **eboea sibai** molō, tedoedooe sibai ba goeli danō, ba hoelō zolojo ba molō andrō.”

I Moze 7:19 “Itugu **eboea sibai** nidanō ba guli danō, tobali anōnō hili salawa fefoe, ba goeli danō.”

I Moze 13:2 “Ba no **eboea sibai** gokhōta Gaberamo, he oerifō ba he firō ba he ana’a.”

IV Moze 22:17 “**Eboea sibai** loeooe ube’e, ba fefoe hadia ia niwa’ōoe khōgoe, ba oe’o’ō; ba ae elifi khōgoe niha andrō!”

The data is found in: I Moze 6:5; I Moze 7:18; I moze 7:19; I Moze 13:2; IV Moze 22:17. *Eboea sibai* is the superlative form of the Nias language. *Eboea sibai* is divided into the adjective *eboea* and the addition of the word *sibai*. The function of adding the word *sibai* in the data is a form of superlative in the Nias language. To create a superlative form in the Nias language, the word *sibai* is added after the adjective. The way to read this data is *eboea sibai*. In English, *eboea sibai* is biggest. Adding the suffix *-est* to big is a superlative form in English. The adjective big is a short adjective, so to form superlatives in English it is given the suffix *-est*.

Data 10: *faehoe sibai*

In this data, a superlative form is found, namely *faehoe sibai* in:

V Moze 11 (title) “*Tohoetohoe wamarooe tōdō ba wolo’ō, na lafasugi ba dōdōra zi no ilaoe khōra Lowalangi. II. No **faehoe sibai** ira danō Gana’ana danō Miserayi. III. Bōi manō olifu ira goroisa Jehowa.*”

The data is found in V Moze 11 (title). The data is in superlative form with the addition of the word *sibai* after the adjective. *Faehoe sibai* describes the basic adjective *faehoe* and the additional the word *sibai*. The adjective *faehoe* is an adjective with one word. The way to read *faehoe sibai* is *faehu sibai*. Meanwhile, in English, *faehoe sibai* is very different. The data is given the addition of the word *most* to create a superlative form. Different are long adjectives, so the word *most* is added to form superlatives.

Data 11: *foeri sibai*

In the first data, the superlative form of adjectives in the Nias language was found, namely *foeri sibai*. This form is found in:

I Moze 32:21 “*Sawoeyoemō Yakobo andrō, ba moroi **foeri ma sibai**. Imane sa dōdōnia: Da’oe’alōsi dōdōnia boeala andrō, sowaōwaō fōnagoe, ba awena dania faloecha ndra’o chōnia, ma atō ibologō dōdōnia khōgoe.*”

Foeri sibai is an adjective with one word, which comes from the word *foeri* and is added by adding the word *sibai* after the adjective and forms a superlative. The way to read *foeri sibai* is *furi sibai*. In English, *foeri sibai* can be interpreted as most back. The superlative form in English is added with the word *most* before the adjective. So, to form superlative long adjectives, the word *most* is added to the adjective.

Data 12: *moboe sibai*

The next data, the writer found *moboe sibai* in *Soera Ni’amoni’ō*. The superlative form is found in:

I Moze 27:11 “*Ba imane Yakobo chō ninania Rebeka: Hiza, ba no **moboe sibai** ga’agoe Ezau, a ja’o, ba si lō boe.*”

The superlative form in the Nias language is added with the word *sibai* after the adjective, as

in the data found, namely *moboer sibai*. The way to read *moboer sibai* is *mobu sibai*. In English, *moboer sibai* is the hairiest. The adjective hairiest comes from hairy the word which has the ending -y. There is a change in the ending -y when the adjective hairy is changed to the superlative form, namely changing to the ending -iest.

Data 13: *modoeroe sibai*

In *Soera Ni'amoni'õ*, the next data the writer found was *modoeroe sibai*. The data is at:

II *Moze* 19:18 “*Ba no anõnõ simbo hili Zina'i, me no mõi tooe ba zoezoenia Jehowa ba galitõ; ba noemalõ miyaw~a zimbo, moroi khõnia, hoelõ zimbo galitõ mbaho, ba modoeroe sibai hili andrõ ma'asamboea.*”

The *modoeroe sibai* form is a superlative form where the word *sibai* is added after the adjective *modoeroe*. The way to read *modoeroe sibai* is *moduru sibai*. The formation of superlatives in Nias and English is different. In English, *modoeroe sibai* means shakiest. The shakiest form comes from the adjective shaky which has the ending -y. The adjective shaky is also a short adjective, so to form a superlative the ending -y changes to the ending -i, then the ending -iest is added.

Data 14: *mofõnoe sibai*

The next data the writer found was *mofõnoe sibai*. The writer found the data in:

II *Moze* 11:8 “*Ba ndramoe'ondrasido dania ngonioniu andrõ fefoe, ba wangaloeloe khõgoe ba ba wangandrõ khõgoe: Heta'õ, ya'oegõ ba banoami fefu, solo'õ chõu! ba awena dania oehetado. Aefa da'õ, ba irõi Wara'o, mofõnoe sibai ia.*”

III *Moze* 10:16 “*Ba i'aloeloei nambi si matoea andrõ, soemange fameta horõ, Moze, ba hiza, no moetoenoe. Ba mofõnoe sibai ia chõ ndra Eleazari Itamari, ono Ga'aroni andrõ, si tosai na khõnia, ba imane.*”

IV *Moze* 11:10 “*Ba me irongo Moze mangarõngarõ zamõsana ba mbawandruhõ nosenia, niha sato, sambasamba omo, ba mofõnoe sibai Jehowa ba anozoe sibai dõdõ Moze gõi.*”

IV *Moze* 12:9 “*Ba mofõnoe sibai chõra Jehowa, ba iheta ia,*”

V *Moze* 9:20 “*Ba chõ Ga'aroni gõi, ba mofõnoe sibai ia, irege ifakiko mena'õ, ba ba chõ Ga'aroni gõi mangandrõ ndra'o, me loeo da'õ.*”

Mofõnoe sibai is the superlative form of the Nias language with one word. The data is found in II *Moze* 11:8; III *Moze* 10:16; IV *Moze* 11:10; IV *Moze* 12:9; V *Moze* 9:20. This form is divided into the adjective *mofõnu* and the addition of the word *sibai*.

The way to read *mofõnoe sibai* is *mofõnu sibai*. The adjective *mofõnoe* is an adjective with one word. To form superlatives in the Nias language, the word *sibai* is added after the adjective. On the other hand, in English, *mofõnoe sibai* is the most angry. The adjective angry is a long adjective. So, to make superlatives in long adjectives, add the word *most*.

In *Soera Ni'amoni'õ*, finds adjectives with two words in superlative forms totalling 5 data. In the Nias language, the superlative form is added with the word *sibai* between the two adjectives. The formation of words in the Nias language in superlative form in adjectives with two words has been arranged in table 2.

Table 2. Superlative forms with Two-Word Adjectives

No	Superlative Degree		New Testament	Positive Degree	
	Nias Language	English language		Nias Language	English language
1	aboe sibai dōdō	saddest	-I moze 44:29 -IV moze 14:39	aboe dōdō	sad
2	anoezoe sibai dōdō	most wicked	-IV moze 11:10	anoezoe dōdō	wicked
3	erege sibai dōdō	most tired	-I moze 3:16	erege dōdō	tired
4	omoeso sibai dōdō	happiest	-II moze 4:14	omoeso dōdō	happy
5	sebolo sibai dōdō	most gentle	-IV moze 12:3	sebolo tōdō	gentle

Data 1: *aboe sibai dōdō*

I Moze 44:29 “Ba na mihalō na da’e gōi khōgoe, ba na gōna ia hadia ia ena’ō, ba horōmi, na oe’ohe huwagoe andre, we’amōi mitooe, ba mbanua niha tooe **aboe sibai dōdō**”

IV Moze 14:39 “Ba me i’ombacha’ō ba Ndraono Gizeraēli fefoe niwa’ō andrō Moze, ba **aboe sibai dōdō** ra.”

Aboe sibai dōdō is found in I Moze 44:29 and IV Moze 14:39. The superlative form of the Nias language is two adjectives (*aboe dōdō*) which are added with the addition of the word *sibai*, which is between the adjectives. The superlative form *aboe sibai dōdō* is read as *abu sibai dādā*. In English, *aboe sibai dōdō* is saddest which comes from the basic adjective sad and is added with the suffix *-est* to make a superlative form. The adjective sad is a short adjective. So, in Nias language in two words adjectives, the addition of the word *sibai* in forming the superlative is placed between the adjectives.

Data 2: *anoezoe sibai dōdō*

IV Moze 11:10 “Ba me irongo Moze mangarōngarō zamōsana ba mbawandruhō nosenia, niha sato, sambasamba omo, ba mofōnoe sibai Jehowa ba **anoezoe sibai dōdō** Moze gōi.”

Based on the data found in IV moze 11:10, the word *anoezoe sibai dōdō* in the Nias language is a superlative form with two adjectives. This word comes from the basic adjective *anoezoe dōdō* and the addition of the word *sibai* which is placed between the two adjectives which functions as a superlative form. How to read the word *anoezoe sibai dādā* is *anuzu sibai dādā*. In English, the word *anoezoe sibai dōdō* means most wicked. Wicked is a long adjective, so to form a superlative the word *most* is added after the adjective wicked.

Data 3: *erege sibai dōdō*

I Moze 3:16 “Ba ba ndra alawe, ba imane: **Erege sibai dōdō** oe ba dabidabina oebe’e, afōchō dania wadono chōu, ba ō’isō [sa atō] ngambatōoe ba samatōrō ja’oegō ia!”

The next data found is *erege sibai dōdō*. This data is found in I Moze 3:16. It can be seen that the word *erege sibai dōdō* is a superlative form of an adjective. The word is divided into *erege dōdō* which is then added with the word *sibai* and placed between the two adjectives. The way to read these adjectives is *erege sibai dādā*. The word *erege sibai dōdō* in English is most tired. To form superlatives in English, the word *most* is added if the word is a long adjective. Tired is a long adjective that has two syllables. So, in the superlative formation of the adjective tired is added to the word *most*, and it

becomes most tired.

Data 4: *omoeso sibai dōdō*

II Moze 4:14 “*Ba mofōnoe Jehowa khō Moze, imane: Ba hadia, ba lō A’aroni, ga’aoe, ono Lewi andrō? Noa sa oe’ila khōnia, wa i’ila sibai fahoehoeo. Ba ifaondragō na ndra’ugō dania ba omoeso sibai dōdō nia, na i’ila’ō.*”

The next data is *omoeso sibai dōdō*. The data was found II Moze 4:14 and V Moze 16:15. *Omoeso sibai dōdō* is an adjective divided into *omoeso dōdō* and the addition of the word *sibai*. *Omoeso dōdō* is an adjective with two words, so to form a superlative the word *sibai* is added and placed between the two adjectives. How to read *omoeso sibai dōdō* is *omuso sibai dādā*. In English, *omoeso sibai dōdō* is happiest. The adjective happiest comes from the word happy which has the ending *-y*. There is a change in the ending *-y* when the adjective happy is changed to the superlative form, namely changing to the ending *-iest*.

Data 5: *sebolo sibai dōdō*

IV Moze 12:3 “*Ba no sebolo sibai tōdō Moze andrō, moroi ba niha bō’ō fefoe ba guli danō*

The last data found in superlative form is *sebolo sibai dōdō*. The data is found in IV Moze 12:3. *Sebolo sibai dōdō* are two adjectives which are divided into *sebolo dōdō* and the addition of *sibai* to form a superlative. *Sebolo dōdō* is an adjective with two words, so the addition of the word *sibai* is placed between the two words. How to read *sebolo sibai dōdō* is *sebolo sibai dādā*. In contrast to English, *sebolo sibai dōdō* is most gentle with the addition of the word *most*. The adjective gentle is a long adjective. So, to make a superlative, add the word *most* to the adjective gentle.

CONCLUSION

In this chapter, that has completed an analysis related to the *Word-Formation of Superlative Degree of Adjectives in Nias Language in Soera Ni’aroni’ō*. In this case, got 29 data found in superlative forms. This data was found in the form of 2 basic types of adjectives, namely adjectives with one word and adjectives with two words. The data is divided into 8 adjectives ending in *-est*, 14 adjectives with the addition of the word *most*, 5 adjectives ending in *-y* and 2 irregular adjectives found in *Soera Ni’aroni’ō* in the Torah section of the Old Testament the formation of the superlative degree used the addition of the word *sibai* after the adjective.

This formation is very different from the formation of superlative degrees, both in one word and two words. The formation of superlatives in one of the Nias language adjectives can be seen in one example, namely *abao sibai*. In this example, the word *sibai* is added after the adjective. Different from the two adjectives in the Nias language, the superlative degree is formed by adding the word *sibai* which is placed between the two adjectives, as in one example of the adjective, namely *abu sibai dōdō*.

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