

SWL8

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Internal possession in Korean and the genitive

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Presentation's plan:

1. Korean language, a quick introduction
2. Genitive marking
3. Internal possessor construction
4. Contexts that permits zero marking in IPCs
5. Concluding remarks

1. Korean language, a quick introduction

About Korean:

- ▶ Official language of North and South Korea
- ▶ Has its own alphabetic system (한글 *hangeul* or *hangul*)
- ▶ No official romanization system

Table of romanization systems

Hangeul	MR	MMR	Yale
서울	Sŏul	Seoul	Sewul
이승만	I Sŭngman	I Seungman	I Sungman
안녕하세요	annyŏnghaseyo	annyeonghaseyo	annyenghaseyyo
한라산	Hallasan	Hallasan	Hanlasan

Typological and functional specificities:

- ▶ Isolate language
- ▶ Agglutinative language
- ▶ Its canonical word order is Subject Object Verb (SOV)

1) Subject	Object	Verb
저는	사과를	먹었어요.
<i>chǒ-nŭn</i>	<i>sagwa-rŭl</i>	<i>mǒg-ǒss-ǒyo</i>
1SG.HBL-TOP	apple-ACC	eat-PST-POL
'(As for me) I ate an apple'		

2. Genitive marking

A-Type

- 2) a. 여성 잡지
yŏsŏng-∅ chapchi => Aa-type (N1 is independent)
woman magazine
'Woman's magazine'
- b. 국제 결혼
kukche-∅ kyŏrhon => Ab-type (N1 is dependent)
international wedding
'An international wedding'

B-Type

3) a. 문제의 해결

munje-ŭi haegyŏl

problem-GEN solution

'The solution to the problem'

=> BA-type (with genitive)

b. 문제 해결

munje-∅ haegyŏl

problem-∅ solution

'The solution to the problem'

=> BC-type (without genitive).

C-Type

4) a. 평화의 종소리
p'yŏnghwa-ũi *chongsori*
peace-GEN bell sound
'The chime of peace'

b. *평화 종소리
p'yŏnghwa-∅ *chongsori*
peace-∅ bell sound

- ▶ There are some other constructions where the genitive mark is compulsory:

5) 나의 가방이야 = 내 가방이야 ≠ ??나 가방이야
na-ŭi kabang-i-ya *nae kabang-i-ya* *na-∅ kabang-i-ya*
1SG-GEN bag-be-INF my bag-be-INF 1SG-∅ bag-be-INF
'My bag' 'My bag' 'I am a bag'
(*na* is topicalized if ∅)

3. Internal Possessor construction

3.1. Possessive expression

▶ The possessor bears the genitive mark

6) a. 선생님의 차가 빨간색이에요
sönsaengnim-ũi *ch'a-ka* *ppalgansaeg-i-eyo*
teacher-GEN car-NOM red-be-POL
'The teacher's car is red'

b. 선생님 차가 빨간색이에요
sönsaengnim-Ø *ch'a-ka* *ppalgansaeg-i-eyo*
teacher-Ø car-NOM red-be-POL
'The teacher's car is red'

3.2. Noun types involved in B-Type IPCs

- ▶ Han (2012): 5 types of relations expressed by B-Type constructions.

I. Argument relation

- 7) a. 문제의 해결
munje-ŭi haegyŏl
problem-GEN solution
'The solution to the problem'
- b. 문제 해결
munje-∅ haegyŏl
problem-∅ solution
'The solution to the problem'

II. Quantitative relation

- 8) a. 두 권의 책 BUT *두 권 책
tu kwǒn-ŭi ch'aek *tu kwǒn ch'aek*
twoCL-GEN book twoCL book
'Two books'
- b. 책 두 권 BUT *책의 두 권
ch'aek tu kwǒn *ch'aek-ŭi tu kwǒn*
book two CL book-GEN two CL
'Two books'

III. Partitive relation

9) a. 책상의 다리
ch'aeksang-ŭi tari
desk-GEN leg
'The leg of a/the table'

b. 책상 다리
ch'aeksang-∅ tari
desk-∅ leg

IV. Possessive relation

▶ Inalienable possession

10) a. 어머니의 손
ömöni-ŭi son
mother-GEN hand
'The hand of a/my mother'

b. 어머니 손
ömöni-∅ son
mother-∅ hand
'The hand of a/my mother'

▶ Alienable possession

11) a. 소년의 가방
sonyŏn-ŭi kabang
boy-GEN bag
'The boy's bag'

b. 소년 가방
sonyŏn-∅ kabang
boy-∅ bag
'The boy's bag' / 'A boy's bag'

v. Kinship

12) a. 주인의 아들
chuin-ŭi adŭl
owner-GEN son
'The owner's son'

b. 주인 아들
chuin-∅ adŭl
owner-∅ son
'The owner's son'

4. Contexts that permit zero marking

4.1. Nominal relations

- ▶ Lee Hee-Seung (1998): genitive marking is optional in constructions that express possession

Possessive

13) a. 이 아이들의 구두를 맞춰 주세요.
i ai-tŭl-ŭi kudu-rŭl match'u-ŏ chu-se-yo
DEM child-PL-GEN shoe-ACC adjust-LI give-HON-POL
'Make the shoes of these children match (their feet)'.

b. 이 아이들 구두를 맞춰 주세요.
i ai-tŭl-Ű kudu-rŭl match'u-ŏ chu-se-yo
DEM child-PL-Űshoe-ACC adjust-LI give-HON-POL
'Make the shoes of these children match (their feet)'.

Partitive

- 14) a. 안쪽문의 손잡이는 구멍이 세 개 있습니다.
antchongmun-ũi sonjabi-nŭn kumǒng-i se kae iss-sŭmnida
inside door-GEN handle-TOP hole-NOM three CL exist-TS.HON
'The inside door's handle has three holes'.
- b. 안쪽문 손잡이는 구멍이 세 개 있습니다.
antchongmun-Ø sonjabi-nŭn kumǒng-i se kae iss-sŭmnida
inside door-Ø handle-TOP hole-NOM three CL exist-TS.HON
'The inside door's handle has three holes'.

Kinship

- 15) a. 회사 오너의 딸인 조 부사장...
hoesa *onŏ-ŭi* *ttal-i-n* *cho pusachang...*
company owner-GEN daughter-be-AS Cho vice-president
'Vice-president Cho, who is the company owner's daughter, ...'
- b. 회사 오너 딸인 조 부사장...
hoesa *onŏ-∅* *ttal-i-n* *cho pusachang...*
company owner-∅ daughter-be-AS Cho vice-president
'Vice-president Cho, company owner's daughter, ...'

▶ Semantic constraints on some possessive constructions:

- 16) a. 여자의 개
 yöja-ũi *kae*
 woman-GEN dog
 ‘The woman’s dog’.
- b. * 여자 개
 yöja-∅ *kae*
 woman-∅ dog
- c. 옆집 여자 개
 yöpchip *yöja-∅* *kae*
 next-door woman-∅ dog
 ‘Next-door woman’s dog’

4.2. Specificity

- ▶ Han (2012:52) shows that the N1 in Aa-Type constructions can take the genitive if N1 is specific.

17) a. ??여성의 잡지.

yösöng-ŭi chapchi

woman-GEN magazine

'The magazine of the woman'

b. [내가 어제 만난 여성]의 잡지.

[*nae-ka öje manna-n yösöng*]-*ŭi chapchi*

1SG-NOM yesterday meet-AS woman-GEN magazine

'The magazine of the woman I met yesterday'

c. * [내가 어제 만난 여성] 잡지.

[*nae-ka öje manna-n [yösöng-∅ chapchi]*]

1SG-NOM yesterday meet-AS woman-GEN magazine

▶ This also works for B-Type genitives

18) a. 아이의 볼
ai-ũi pol
child-GEN cheek
'The child's cheek'

b. 아이 볼
ai-∅ pol
child-∅ cheek
'A child's cheek'

19) a. 장난을 하다 들켜 버린 어린
changnan-ül ha-ta tülk'i-ö böri-n öri-n
 prank-ACC do-INTER get caught-LI throw-AS young-AS

아이처럼 정수의 볼이 빨갱게
ai-ch'öröm chöngsu-üi pol-i palgah-ke
 child-COMP Chöngsu-GEN cheek-NOM red-ADVS

상기되어 가는 것을, 영선은
sanggi-toe-ö ka-nün kös-ül, yöngsön-ün
 blush-become-LI go-AS thing-ACC Yöngsön-TOP

슬쩍 훔쳐보았다.
sültchök humch'i-ö po-ass-ta.
 furtively steal-LI see-PST-TS

'Yöngsön saw Cheongsu's cheek turning red like a child caught playing a prank'

b. ?? 장난을 하다 들켜 버린 어린
changnan-ül *ha-ta* *tülk'i-ö* *böri-n* *öri-n*
 prank-ACC do-INTER get caught-LI throw-AS young-AS

아이처럼 정수 볼이 발갡게
ai-ch'öröm *chöngsu-Ø* *pol-i* *palgah-ke*
 child-COMP Chöngsu-Ø cheek-NOM red-ADVS

상기되어 가는 것을, 영선은
sanggi-toe-ö *ka-nün* *kös-ül,* *yöngsön-ün*
 blush-become-LI go-AS thing-ACC Yöngsön-TOP

슬쩍 훔쳐보았다.
sültchök *humch'i-ö po-ass-ta.*
 furtively steal-LI see-PST-TS

'Yöngsön saw Cheongsu's cheek turning red as if he was a child caught playing a prank'

4.3. Scope and segmentation

20) a. 그 아이의 장난감
[[*kũ ai*]-*ũi* *changnan'gam*]
DEM child-GEN toy
'This child's toy.' (= the toy of this child)

b. *그 아이의 장난감
[*kũ [ai-ũi* *changnan'gam*]]
DEM child-GEN toy

21) a. 그 아이 장난감
[[*kũ ai*]-∅ *changnan'gam*]
DEM child-∅ toy
'This child's toy.'
= the toy of this child

b. 그 아이 장난감
[*kũ [ai-∅ changnan'gam]*]
DEM child-∅ toy
'This child's toy.'
= this toy for children

- ▶ The demonstrative's scope covers the whole genitive phrase

22) 그 아버지의 가방

[*kũ* [*abõji-õi* *kabang*]]

DEM father-GEN bag

'The bag of this father'

5. Concluding remarks

- ▶ The zero marking depends on (i) the nominal relation and on (ii) the phrasal context of the genitive phrase
- ▶ The genitive may also function as a 'scope blocker' (restricts the scope of the demonstrative or other determinant that comes before the genitival phrase to the N1)
- ▶ There is still much to be discovered not only about IPCs, but about Korean genitive constructions that belong to other relations than possession (argument relation, quantitative relation, characterization etc.)
- ▶ The other types of suffixation (compulsory and prohibited) must also be studied in a more detailed way to help understand the constraints put on the genitive marker

Table of abbreviations

1SG	First person singular
1SG.HBL	First person singular, humble form
ACC	Accusative
ADVS	Adverbializer suffix
AS	adnominalization suffix
COMP	Comparison
CON	Connective suffix
GEN	Genitive
HON	Honorary suffix
INF	Informal suffix
INTER	Interruption suffix
LI	Linkage suffix (for helping verbs)
NOM	Nominative
PL	Plural
POL	Politeness suffix
PST	Past
TOP	Topic
TS	Terminative suffix

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