

## **The Expression of motion events in Swahili narratives**

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*The clustering of world languages into verb-framed, satellite-framed and equipollently-framed (Dan Slobin 2004; John Beavers et al 2008) could not make use of enough data from Bantu languages (Robert Botne 2005). The focus of this paper, therefore, is to present the cognitive schemas of motion events as particularized in verbs in Standard Swahili. Data for the study were obtained from Swahili narratives, and following (Dan Slobin, 1996), I had worked with 248 tokens of motion events. Following Ronald Langacker (2000), I employed a framework which takes into account anchored landmarks (Source and/or Goal) signaling that place is the salient feature encoded by the verb; and Figure, Motion, Path and Direction signaling that motion is the salient feature encoded. Briefly, for Swahili, I have given five conclusions: (i) several verbs are used to express the notions GO and COME in Swahili; (ii) there are common verbs which denote horizontal motions with both deictic and non-deictic centers as exemplified by –kuja ‘come’ and –enda ‘go’ respectively; (iii) some verbs denote initiation of motion situations as –nyanyuka ‘set out’, and others mark completion of events as –fika ‘arrive’. (iv) in Swahili, we find that some verbs encode motion+manner as in –kimbia ‘run’ while others encode motion+path like –panda ‘climb’. (v) in discourse, a state of movement and the completion of motion events are highly denoted by Swahili speakers.*