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Title **Kikamba passive construction: a challenge for the government and binding based analyses**

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Abstract Studies relating to the passive construction have focused on two main areas: 1) the universal characterisation of the construction, (Comrie 1977, Perlmutter and Postal 1983, Siewierska 1984 and Keenan 1985); and 2) the interested in the formulation of theories on the passive construction, (Chomsky 1965, 1981; Jaeggli 1986; Roberts 1987; Baker 1988; Afarli 1989, 1990; Perlmutter and Posta/ 1983; Postal, 1986;. Recent Government and Binding based approaches analyse the passive morpheme as an argument of the verb which must receive the External Theta-role and the Structural Case assigned by the verb (Roberts 1987; Baker 1988; and Afarli 1989, 1990) . This paper describes the passive construction in Kikamba and examines the descriptive adequacy of the Government and Binding claims.

Subject Linguistic theory | Syntax | passive constructions

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