**Abstract**

**Revisiting the independent pronouns in Hamar: a historical-comparative perspective**

**Moges Yigezu**

**Addis Ababa University**

**moges.yigezu260@gmail.com**

Independent pronouns in Hamar have been briefly described in previous studies such as Lydall (1976), Moges (2005) and Petrollino (2016). In the historical-comparative studies made on Hamar and related languages of the Ariod group, the origin of these pronouns has been a point of discussion due to their resemblance to some neighboring Nilotic languages such as Nyangatom.

Bender (2000:198), for instance, assumed that the third person singular forms of Hamar (**kisi** and **kosi**) must be a loan from Nilotic. Zaboriski (2004:181) rejects the idea of borrowing and argues that these pronouns prove that Aroid languages are in fact Nilotic in their origin. Moges (2016) has shown the similarity of the same independent pronouns to the Nilo-Saharan Surmic further suggesting that the similarity of these independent pronouns goes beyond Nilotic.

The current contribution makes further investigation into the independent pronouns in Hamar from a historical-comparative perspective and tries to shed some light on the possible origins of these pronouns.