TABLE OF CONTENTS

DEDICATION ii

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS iii

LIST OF TABLES viii

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS ix

CHAPTER

1. INTRODUCTION 1

1.1 Motivations of this study 1
1.2 Background notes on the dialect 3

1.2.1 Historical background 3
1.2.2 The current linguistic status of RPA 5

1.3 Variation in RPA 7

1.3.1 Phonological variation 7
1.3.2 Morphological variation 15
1.3.3 Lexical variation 17

1.4 Data base 18

2. LITERATURE REVIEW 20

2.0 General review 20
2.1 General works on Palestinian Arabic (PA) 21
2.2 Works relevant to this study 22

2.2.1 Pedagogical works 22
2.2.2 Analytical and descriptive studies 24

2.2.2.1 *The Arabic Dialect of Negev Bedouins* 24
2.2.2.2 *Studies in the syntax of Palestinian Arabic* 25
2.2.2.3 *A Grammar of the colloquial Arabic of Syria and Palestine* .. 26
2.2.2.4 *Syntax des Palästinensischen Bauerndialekts von Bīr-Zēt* 34

3. SUBJECT MORPHEMES 37

3.1 Clitics as defined in the literature 37

3.1.1 Zwicky's criteria for clitichood 38
3.1.2 Klavans' criteria for clitichood 41

3.2 RPA nominative morphemes 42

3.2.1 RPA nominative morphemes as non-clitics 42

3.2.1.1 Stressability 45
3.2.1.2 Categorial membership 47

3.2.2 RPA nominative morphemes as agreement markers 48

3.3 Discourse topics and syntactic topics 59
3.4 RPA nominative morphemes as verb inflections 65
3.5 Summary 69

4. RPA OBJECT CLITICS AND PRONOUNS 71

4.0 RPA object morphemes 73

4.1 Examining the clitic/non-clitic features of RPA object forms 75

4.1.1 Stressability 77
4.1.2 Negation 80
4.1.3 Isolation 82
4.1.4 Free position 84
4.1.5 Host selection 85

4.1.5.1 The *=ha* (O) set of forms 85
4.1.5.2 The *=lha*(D) set of forms 90
4.1.5.3 The *iyyaaha* set of forms 92
4.1.5.4 The *ʔilha*(FD) set of forms 93

4.2 Classification of RPA object forms 94

4.9.1 The clitic status of *=ha*(O) and *=lha*(FD) forms 94
4.2.2 The non-clitic status of *ʔilha*(DF) forms 98
4.2.3 The non-clitic status of *ʔiyyaaha*(A) forms 99

4.3 Features of strong and clitic/ weak object forms 106
4.4 General features of RPA pronouns 107

4.4.1 Noun phrase-like features 107
4.4.2 Syntactic and semantic features of RPA pronouns 109

4.5 Constraints on the syntax of RPA object clitics 112

4.5.1 Dative movement and dative advancement 115
4.5.2 RPA and Egyptian Cairene Arabic 120
4.5.3 Broselow's rules for ECA 124
4.5.4 The new ordering of Broselow's rules 127

4.6 Summary 136

5. OBJECT DOUBLING: CONSTRAINTS ON ITS OCCURRENCE 137

5.0 Object doubling 137
5.1 Definition of doubling 137
5.2 Object doubling in RPA 141

5.2.1 Direct and indirect object doubling 141
5.2.2 Restrictions on the use of ***la-*** 146

5.2.1.1 *la-* marking the IO 146
5.2.2.2 *la-* Marking the doubled DO 149

5.2.3 Other object doubling 152

5.3 General constraints on object doubling 153

5.3.1 Definiteness 153
5.3.2 Word order and other features 159
5.3.3 Person feature 166
5.3.4 Discourse and pragmatic conditions 169

5.4 Inter-clause function of object clitics 173

5.4.1 First and second person arguments 173
5.4.2 Third person arguments 177

5.5 Summary 188

6. CONCLUSION 190

6.1 Summary and results of the study) 190
6.2 Implications of this study 193

BIBLIOGRAPHY 195