

3. Grammar

3.1. Pronouns

Pronouns are of two types: independent or free-standing, and suffixed. There are seven personal pronouns, including an inclusive and an exclusive first person plural.

<u>aani</u>	'I'	<u>ɔɔni, waani</u>	'we' incl. & excl.
<u>yīīni</u>	'you' sing.	<u>uuni</u>	'you' pl.
<u>eni, yɛni, yɛ</u>	'he, she, it'	<u>gɛni</u>	'they'

Shortened forms of these (dropping -ni) are used with the preposition mar (sing. possessed) or mo (pl. possessed), 'of', to form the possessive pronoun. These same forms are also suffixed to verbs, and to the combining forms of nouns to indicate possession.

1	<u>Sing. Possessed</u>		<u>ɔɔɔ</u>	"house"
sg.	pl.	sg.	pl.	
1	<u>mar-a</u> 1 incl.	<u>mar-ɔ</u>	1 <u>ɔd-a</u> 1 incl.	<u>ɔd-ɔ</u>
2	<u>mar-i</u> 1 excl.	<u>mar-wa</u>	2 <u>ɔd-i</u> 1 excl.	<u>ɔd-wa</u>
3	<u>mar-ɛ</u> 2	<u>mar-u</u>	3 <u>ɔd-ɛ</u> 2	<u>ɔd-u</u>
	3	<u>mar-gɛ</u>	3	<u>ɔd-gɛ</u>

Similarly, mo-a, mo-i, etc. for pl. possessed.

The form of the pronoun is the same whether it is subject or object.

The interrogatives ana, agīnaɔ, and anɔ mean literally 'who is it?', 'what is it?', and 'why is it?', e.g., man ana 'this who-is-it?' ('Who is this?').

The function of relative pronoun is served by several constructions, more or less interchangeable, but each giving a slightly different shade of meaning: mo, mana, na, na nāk 'who, which, that', ḡata, ḡata nāk 'the one who'.

<u>dōaano mo bäär</u>	'a man who is tall'
<u>dōaano mana bäär</u>	'the man who is tall'
<u>bēeyē eni na tiīc ḡo</u>	'it is he that did it'
<u>bēeyē eni na nak dīpōōy</u>	'it is he who is the teacher'
<u>oḡulo bēeyē ḡata tiīc ḡo</u>	'Oḡulo is the one who did it'
<u>oḡulo bēeyē ḡata nāk dīpōōy</u>	'Oḡulo is the one who is the teacher'.

The reflexive pronoun is formed by using the word dēēl 'body' or r- 'self' with the personal endings:

<u>dēēra akḡna</u> , <u>raa akḡna</u>	'I helped myself'
<u>dēētḡe akḡḡe</u>	'they helped themselves' or 'they helped each other'

The intensive uses the same forms of dēēl preceded by ki:

<u>atiīa ki dēēra</u>	'I did (it) myself'
-----------------------	---------------------

The demonstrative pronouns are suffixes added to the combining forms of nouns: -i 'this or these', -oḡo 'that or those' (near), -oḡe 'that or those' (far).

<u>paac</u>	'village'	<u>paan-oḡo</u>	'that village' (near)
<u>paan-i</u>	'this village'	<u>paan-oḡe</u>	'that village' (far)
<u>miīr-i</u>	'villages'	<u>miīy-oḡo</u>	'those villages' (near)
<u>miīy-i</u>	'these villages'	<u>miīy-oḡe</u>	'those villages (far)

3.2 Nouns

Nouns have singular and plural forms, and each of these has a combining form for possession. Plurals are formed in several ways, of which the most common are listed here; some nouns are suppletive.

1. Changes of suffix: the suffix may be added, dropped, or replaced, e.g.:

<u>luum</u> , <u>luumē</u>	'grass'	<u>lwēedo</u> , <u>lwēedi</u>	'finger'
<u>tielo</u> , <u>tiel</u>	'foot'	<u>neya</u> , <u>neye</u>	'king'
<u>lamba</u> , <u>lambae</u>	'lamp'		

2. Changes in the internal vowel from plain to breathy, and change in the length of the vowel, e.g.:

naam, nām 'river'

3. Internal changes of the vowel, combined with changes of the final consonant and the suffix, e.g.:

a. Plain to breathy vowel, add suffix, vowel length may or may not change:

lɛɛp, lɛ̃ɛpi 'tongue' caam, cāmi 'left-hand'

bat, bāadi 'arm'

b. Plain to breathy vowel, change final consonant, e.g.:

liɛc, lĩy 'elephant'

c. Plain to breathy vowel, drop final consonant, and add suffix, e.g.:

caak, cāai 'milk'

d. Breathly to plain vowel, drop suffix, e.g.:

cɛ̃ɛro, cɛɛr 'star'

e. Change length of vowel, final consonant may be geminated or replaced, and suffix, e.g.:

jur, juurɛ 'foreigner'

buul, bulli/buri 'drum'

tuuɔ, tuɔi 'horn'

4. Changes of final consonant and suffix: final consonant may be geminated or dropped, and suffix may be added or replaced, e.g.:

olāmi, olāmmɛ 'sacrifice' kāabi, kāap 'harlot'

lwaak, lwaac 'crowd' nɛn, nɛnni 'name'

5. Changes in tone, suffix may be added or replaced, e.g.:

lāáy, lāáy 'beast'

káwáyà, káwáyè 'Greek (person)'

máðó'fír, máðó'firé 'governor'

6. Suppletive:

paac, mi'iri 'village' dó'aago, māan 'woman'

Both cardinal and ordinal forms of numerals are found. Counting, as in some other Nilo-Saharan languages, is on the basis of fives.

<u>aciɛl</u>	'one'	<u>abĩciɛl</u>	'six'
<u>ariio</u>	'two'	<u>abiriio</u>	'seven'
<u>adäk</u>	'three'	<u>abära</u>	'eight'
<u>aŋwɛɛn</u>	'four'	<u>abĩŋwɛɛn</u>	'nine'
<u>abiĩc</u>	'five'	<u>apaar</u>	'ten'
<u>apaar kurciɛl</u>	'eleven'	<u>piĩr ariio</u>	'twenty'
<u>apaar wiĩɛ da abĩciɛl</u>	'sixteen'	<u>piĩr adäk</u>	'thirty'
<u>dĩpa</u> (Oromo)	'hundred'	<u>kuma</u> (Oromo)	'thousand'

Ordinals follow the same pattern, using the combining form with a plural personal suffix, or another noun.

riɛtɛ 'the second of them' ŋwɛɛr udi 'the fourth house'

ocɛɛlɛ 'one by one'

Future Qualitative

"I shall drink water"

an-o määo ki pīī	on-o määo ki pīī
yīn-o määo ki pīī	wan-o määo ki pīī
en-o määo ki pīī	un-o määo ki pīī
	gen-o määo ki pīī

B. Past Applicative

pīī amaaō-a	pīī amaaō-o
pīī amaaō-ī	pīī amaaō-wa
pīī amaaō-ε	pīī amaaō-u
	pīī amaaō-ge

Perfect Applicative

"I have drunk the water"

pīī yaa maaōo	pīī yoo maaōo
pīī īī maaōo	pīī ewa maaōo
pīī εε maaōo	pīī you maaōo
	pīī ege maaōo

Imperative forms are the verb stems of each aspect with the appropriate personal suffixes. More polite forms are also used, in which both the auxiliary and stem are conjugated in the Qualitative, and the verb stem is conjugated in the Applicative.

Qualitative

<u>māōi ki pīī</u>	'drink (sg.) some water'	<u>maat^ou pīī</u>	'drink (pl.) the water'
<u>gēēdu ki oto</u>	'build (pl.) a house'	<u>gēer oto</u>	'build (sg.) the house'
		<u>gēerī</u>	'build (it)'
<u>worī māōi ki pīī</u>	'drink (sg.)	<u>wor pīī maat^oī</u>	'drink (sg.) the water'
<u>woru gēēdu ki oto</u>	'build (pl.) a house'	<u>oto wor gēeru</u>	'build (pl.) the house'

A common form used mostly with the Applicative is the particle di preceding the verb. This is used as a polite way of command, and also as

a statement that the action is in progress, especially if an adverb of time is added.

pīf di maaōo 'the water is to be drunk, is being drunk'

otō di gēero 'the house is to be built, is being built'

3.6 Derived Forms

Two common noun derivations from verbs are the agent (from the Qualitative) and the action (from the Applicative):

Qual.	Applic.		Agent		Action
<u>gēēdo</u>	<u>gēer</u>	'to build'	<u>dīgēēti</u>	'builder'	<u>gēer</u> 'building'
<u>nāk</u>	<u>nak</u>	'to kill'	<u>dīnāy</u>	'murderer'	<u>nak</u> 'murder'
<u>pōo</u>	<u>pwop</u>	'to teach'	<u>dīpōoy</u>	'teacher'	<u>pwoc</u> 'teaching'

There are no separate forms for subordinate verbs.

The action form is also used in the equivalent of dependent verbs, the Amharic converb, etc., as in:

"I you, etc., having eaten, went to the forest" or "when I finished eating, I went to the forest."

na lōp-a ki cam ana aay paap

when I finished part. eat I went forest

na lōp-i ki cam yīina aay paap

when you finished part. eat you went forest

Some derived forms of the verb are made consistently by internal change. In the benefactive (action done for someone), the final consonant of the Qualitative stem is nasalized and geminated, e.g.:

aan-a-gēēdo ki otō 'I built a house'

kwaāro agēēna ki otō 'chief I-built-for-him a house'
('I built a house for the chief')

The duplicative form uses the Applicative stem, and can indicate a future idea, a habitual action, or intention to act, e.g.:

pīf maaōa maaōo 'I shall drink the water'

The repetitive is formed from the Applicative stem, by "polarizing" the length of the vowel, i.e., the vowel is lengthened if it is short, or shortened if it is long, e.g.:

akwaya yīini 'I beg you';

akwaaya yīini 'I beg you' (over and over)

4. Syntax

Normal declarative sentences follow the order SVO, when the Qualitative aspect is used, and in the present tense of the Applicative. Other tenses of the Applicative have the order SOV-s or OV-s, the V-s being the verb with subject suffix.

Negation as well as other verb qualifications are shown by particles which precede the verb and are inflected in the Applicative

but not in the Qualitative. Note, however, that in the future tense of the Applicative, it is the verb stem which is inflected rather than the negative particle. The main negative particles are: ba, kār, paa, and bāŋ. Examples:

	Qual.	Applic.	
past	<u>a kār māōo</u>	<u>pīī kāra maaōo</u>	'I didn't drink the water'
pres.	<u>a ba maōo</u>	<u>a ba maat^θ pīī</u>	'I am not drinking . . .'
fut.	same	<u>pīī ba maaōa</u>	'I shall not drink . . .'
habit.	<u>a bāŋ wō maōo</u>	<u>pīī baŋ wō maaōa</u>	'I do not usually drink . . .'
perf.	-	<u>pīī paa yaa maaōo</u>	'I haven't drunk . . .'

Other verb qualifications:

<u>a do māōo</u>	<u>pīī daa maaōo</u>	'I should drink . . .'
<u>an-a-laar māōo</u>	<u>pīī alaara maat^θ</u>	'I drank the water quickly'

When these forms are used together, the order is as follows:

<u>a ba do laar māōo ki pīī</u>	'I not should quickly drink water'
<u>pīī ba daa laar maat^θ</u>	'water not should I quickly drink'

Interrogative sentences using 'who' or 'what' may begin or end with the question word. In either case the rest of the sentence is in the form of a relative clause.

<u>ana na caan gīn?</u>	'who-is-it that said this?'
<u>nata caan gīn ana?</u>	'the-one-who said this who-is-it?'
<u>agīnaŋo na caanε?</u>	'what-is-it that he-said?'
<u>gīna caanε agīnaŋo?</u>	'the-thing-that he-said what-is-it?'

Relative clauses usually follow the noun modified, but may be separated from it by the main verb, especially if the relative clause is rather long.

<u>oto mana dwōŋ bεεr</u>	'the house which is big is good'
---------------------------	----------------------------------

Possessives: the modifier follows the noun possessed, either the combining form, or the regular form plus the particle mar 'of' (mo, pl.).

<u>oto kwāāro, oto mar kwāāro</u>	'house of chief' ('the chief's house')
-----------------------------------	--

For the construction "I have . . .", the following form is used:

<u>da ɔtɔ yīra, yīra da ɔtɔ</u>	'there-is house to-me' ('I have a house')
<u>da ɔtɔ yīrī</u>	'there-is house to-you'
<u>da ɔtɔ yīre</u>	'there-is house to-him' etc.

Copulas: there are two words for the verb "to be",

bēyɛ and a, as well as ɛna 'to be present' (emphasizes location), and nutɔ and its negative counterpart tɔɔɔ 'to be absent', e.g.:

<u>bēyɛ aani</u>	'it is I'	<u>dōaano nutɔ</u>	'the person is present'
<u>man a aani</u>	'this is I'	<u>ɛni tɔɔɔ</u>	'he is absent'

dōaano ɛna kany 'the person is present here' (i.e., not anywhere else)

All noun qualifiers follow the noun modified, in the following general order: noun modifier, demonstrative, numeral, other adjectives. Examples:

dōɔk moɔɔ na ariɔ ni bēyo no olɔr yɔɔ 'cows those which two which good which fat' ('those two fine fat cows')

wāata moa bēyo dāai, or wāata moa nāk adāk na bēyo 'sons-my which are good three' or 'sons-my which are three which good' ('my three good sons')

wāat kwāro moi na aŋwɛn ii, mo wɔpɛ mo bāayo 'sons chief these which four which good which tall' ('these four fine tall sons of the chief')

The particles yɔɔ and ii above are not easily translatable, but refer back to the demonstrative and complete it, as it were. There are a number of other particles also used in Anywa which give the language an idiomatic flavor, such as no, mo, ke, bɛ, e.g.: the Anywa greeting dēɛri jōt? 'how are you?' has an alternate form meaning the same: dēɛri jōt no?

Connectives: to join elements of a sentence with "and", the particle ki is used to connect nouns and phrases, and the particle ni to connect verbs, including adjectival forms, e.g.: dōaano ki cīɛ 'a man and his wife'

moa bēyo ki moa rēyo 'which are good and which are bad'

ɔtɔ dwɔŋ ni bēɛr 'the house is big and good'

ɛna ci pāān ni ɛna cān duuo 'he-past went (to the) city and he-past again returned'

The particle wala (probably from Arabic; cf. Berta, p. 527) is generally used for 'or', but the Lul "dialect" seems to prefer nɛɛ. In some instances ki carries the sense of 'or', e.g.: yī ɔɔa, wala yī ba ci?

ANYWA

'(are) you going, or (are) you not going?'

jiy adäk ka aḡwɛɛn 'people three or four' ('three or four people')

Adjectives have a comparative form, but superlative is not morphologically marked. Examples:

ɔtɔ dwɔŋ 'the house is big'

ɔdi dwɔŋŋa ɛni ki ɔdogɔ 'this house is bigger than that house'

Monograph No. 5
Occasional Papers Series
Committee on Ethiopian Studies

The [Non-Semitic Languages of Ethiopia]

Edited by M. Lionel Bender
Acting Series Editor, John Hinnant

Please send two copies of your review to
the African Studies Center, MSU, E.
Lansing, Mi. 48824

Copyright © 1976 by the Board of Trustees, Michigan State University
All rights reserved

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number: 76-42008

Printed in the United States of America

Published by the
African Studies Center
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan 48824

In cooperation with
Southern Illinois University
Carbondale, Illinois