

# THE GRAMMAR.

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## CHAPTER I.

### 1.

#### THE ALPHABET.

THE Baris have no writing of their own. Seeing a stranger write they say, "*nge wurur*," he is scratching, engraving, drawing. *Wur* = to write. *Wuruti* = writing.

The complete Alphabet, expressed in the Latin characters with modifications and the addition of the Teutonic "*w*," is as follows:—*a, á, â, ð, b, d, e, é, ê, f, g, i, í, î, y, j, k, l, m, n, ng, 'ng, ny, o, ó, ô, õ, p, r, s, t, u, ú, ú, w.*

NOTE 1.—The letters *c, h, q, x, z* do not appear, because there is no corresponding sound in Bari.

NOTE 2.—"*Y*" is placed immediately after "*i*," because it sometimes serves as a short English "*e*" or "*y*."

NOTE 3.—"*P*" is almost always pronounced as "*F*," with the exception of very few words. Consequently in this book "*P*" has been generally replaced by "*F*" in the Grammar. In some villages the "*P*" is more often pronounced; therefore when looking up a word in the Vocabulary commencing with "*P*" the reader must look it up under "*F*." In the Vocabulary "*F*" only has been used.

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## CHAPTER II.

### 2.

#### A.—THE VOWELS AND THEIR PRONUNCIATION.

- a* is, like all vowels without accent, clear and pure, like the English "*a*" in farthing and father. **Ex.:** *kak*, earth; *baka*, to cease.
- á* corresponds to the broad *á* (*â*) in French and Greek. **Ex.:** *bárara*, to go and bring, to fetch; *barádu*, to overflow; *adá?* how?

- á* (rare) is pronounced like the circumflex "a" in other languages. **Ex.**: *dák*, tobacco-pipe; *dára*, to be tired; *bongguát*, clothes.
- â* occurs only in two words, *buryâ*, seven; *logulâu*, cock, and is sounded like the English "a" in fall, all.

## 3.

- e* A pure, clear sound. **Ex.**: *def* or *dep* (*dedep*), to raise, to keep; *dede*, later, then.
- é* is like the oxytone "e" in other languages. **Ex.**: *dé*, to hide; *delé*, hide; *kelé*, tooth; *kiasér*, sister.
- ê* The long "e." **Ex.**: *dêru*, grass, hay; *ngê*, to eat.

## 4.

- i* Pure and clear. **Ex.**: *jik* (*jijik*), to lead; *gin* (*gigin*), to tear; *ying* (*yiying*), to hear.
- í* The sharp "i." **Ex.**: *möji*, imp. (*möjita*), drink.
- î* Long. **Ex.**: *likin*, to lose; *lîlik*, to be dry; *kulîk*, small.
- y* (as a vowel) always a quite short "i." **Ex.**: *töwyli*, heart; *murye*, blue; *nányet*, her (suffix).

## 5.

- o* read clear and pure. **Ex.**: *lodoke*, toad; *lokokorit*, boundary; *lom*, side.
- ó* spoken sharply. **Ex.**: *løyur*, sad; *lómurye*, blue; *lótör*, red.
- ô* read long. **Ex.**: *dók*, to wind a skein; *gwóso*, similar, like, as: *mó* (contr. of *molu*), later.
- ö* corresponds to the Turkish "ö," and approaches the English sound in murder, or the French "eu" in seul. It occurs frequently and care must be taken to keep the sound well closed, so as not to confound it with "e." **Ex.**: *ködini*, tree, wood; *töki*, again; *köfuröt* or *köpuröt*, smoke; *lupö* or *lufö*, to enter; against this, *lupe* or *lufe*, to go out; *durjö* (*durjyö*); to grow; *durje*, to milk.

## 6.

- u* Clear and pure. **Ex.**: *but* (*bubut*), to strike; *buku*, shield.
- ú* An oxytone "u." **Ex.**: *karútet*, exchange; *lukulúlu*, bat; *lutú*, son-in-law.
- û* a long "u," only occurs in a few words. **Ex.**: *úri*, pl. *úryö*, bear; *kukúdi*, armhole, armpit.

There are no so-called diphthongs in Bari, except "au" in *kau*, whip; *kaurélong*, matter of the eye; *yaua*, beer (merissa). The remaining words

with "au," in which the "a" and "u" are pronounced separately, are distinguished by the acute accent, which is placed over each accented vowel. **Ex.**: *áulue*, chosen; *áurö* (*awürö*), written; *lóuyn*, f. *náuyn*, wet, damp. In the same way the remaining vowels coming together are always pronounced separately. **Ex.**: *gei* (*gei*) = *ge-í*, *dotoet* = *doto-et*; *diediéro* = *di-e-di-éro*.

## 7.

## B.—THE PRONUNCIATION OF THE CONSONANTS.

The consonants are produced by three parts of the vocal mechanism, directed from the back towards the front of the mouth. They are divided into six classes:—

- I. Gutturals: *g, k*.
- II. Palatals: *s, j, y*.
- III. Liquids: *l, r*.
- IV. Dentals: *n, d, t*.
- V. Labials: *b, w, p, f, m*.
- VI. Nasals: *ng, 'ng, ny*.

## 8.

## I.—THE GUTTURALS.

*g* is pronounced soft throughout, like a German "ch," or as before *a, o, u*, in Roman. **Ex.**: *gaf* or *gap*, to protect; *gege*, never; *gin*, to tear.

NOTE.—If two "g's" occur immediately together ("gg") both must be heard. **Ex.**: *yanggo*, mother; *kapenggo* or *kafenggo*, big sack; read *yang-go*, *kapeng-go*.

*k* corresponds to the English "k" as in king, kitchen, kiss. **Ex.**: *kak*, earth; *ki*, heaven.

## 9.

## II.—PALATALS.

*s* always like the English "j" in jeer, jest, just, and the Italian "ge," "gi." **Ex.**: *sape*, mug, jug; *sar* (*sasar*), to judge; *sógoro*, hens; *subi*, wax; spoken *jape, jar*, etc.

*j* is much softer than "s," especially in the plurals in "ji" and "jin," resembling the Arabic *dj* in hadji.

*y* as consonant is like the English "y" in yes, year. **Ex.**: *yá?* whence? *yayu*, to move (of water).

## 10.

## III.—LIQUIDS.

*l* and *r* } have the ordinary pronunciation as in other languages, English,  
           } Italian, etc.

## 11.

## IV.—DENTALS.

- n* has the same sound as in other languages.  
*t* is always hard like the Greek τ and is never suppressed.  
*d* like the modern Greek δ or English “the”. Double *d* (*dd*) is read as in English, wedding, pudding. If it occurs at the end of a word the second “*d*” is continued in sound from the first. **Ex.**: *kwadd* = *kwad-d* = to honour.

## 12.

## V.—LABIALS.

- b* has mostly a very soft sound, sometimes, namely, before “*a*,” to such a degree that it may be suppressed altogether. **Ex.**: *baláng* = *aláng*, salt; *bang* = *ang*, court-yard; *baka* = *aka*, to cease.  
*w* (1) is pronounced very softly or may be omitted altogether. **Ex.**: *wuju* (*wuwúju*), to take; *awürö*, written; one can also read and write: *uju* (*uwúju*) and *aürö*.  
 (2) It may be replaced by “*u*.” **Ex.**: *síwa* = *síua*, bees; *yítwe* = *yítue* = to return; *múdwe* = *múdue*, dark.  
 (3) It is pronounced somewhat harder after the letters “*g*” or “*f*.” **Ex.**: *gwon* (*gwogwon*), to remain, to live; *kwe*, head; *kwélen* (*kwéwélen*), to be beautiful.  
*p* and *f* appear in some words for each other. **Ex.**: *fárana* or *párana* = peace; *ferok* or *perok* = time; *fúrué* or *púrué* = to awake. Only *fungöt* and *furyö* have “*f*” alone. V. Vocab., under *F*.  
*m* has the ordinary sound of *m*.

## 13.

## VI.—NASALS.

The Nasals are very important and are divided into three classes, i.e.,

(1) *ny*; (2) *ng*; (3) *'ng*.

*ny* has the least nasal sound (when followed by a vowel). With a person speaking naturally through the nose, the “*y*” is almost inaudible. **Ex.**: *nyu*, there; *nyob*, to welcome; *nyanyar*, to love.

*ng* in the first and final sound is like the “*ng*” in the English sing, ring. **Ex.**: *dingít*, time; *bunguán*, nine; *geleng*, alone; *yango*, leprosy; read *ding-ít*, *yang-o*, *bung-uán*.

*'ng* (*ng* in the final sound) at the beginning of a word has the strongest and most pronounced nasal sound. **Ex.**: *ngesu* (*nge'ngesu*), to eat; *ngö'ngögu*, to relate; *ngá* (*ngálo*)? who?

**NOTE.**—Only the pronoun *nge* (he, she) is read as *enclitica* like the soft nasal “*nye*.”

## CHAPTER III.

## 14.

## A.—THE APOSTROPHE AND DIÆRESIS.

The apostrophe appears but seldom in Bari and is of importance in the following words only: *l' yá* (*lo yá*), where is he? and *n' yá* (*na, yá*), where is she? In all other cases words which take the apostrophe may be written in full. **Ex.**: *d' afo* or *d' apo* (also: *do apo*), you are come; *ko t' améle* (*ko ta améle*), if you have seen; *takíta nan, n' amét ko n' aying ta kune*, tell me what you have seen and heard.

NOTE.—For the signification of the apostrophe before “*ng*” at the beginning of a word, V. Parag. 13.

The diæresis is used on “*i*” to show that it must be read separately from the preceding vowel. **Ex.**: in *gei*, used, read *ge-i*: *ain*, not, read *a-in*.

## 15.

## B.—QUANTITIES AND ACCENTS.

The vowels *a, e, i, o, u*, as a rule are rather short, but when they are to be pronounced long they are written with a circumflex accent, thus: *á, é, í, ó, ú*, the accent remaining on this syllable. V. Parags. 2–6.

The vowels *a, e, o, u*, can also be quite short; the short “*i*” is indicated by “*y*.” V. Parag. 4.

A short vowel to be read or spoken in a very pronounced manner is designated by the acute accent, and these are divided into two classes.

## 16.

## (a)—WORD-ACCENTS.

(1) In Bari there are a number of words of one, two or more syllables, of which the vowels coming together have the same accent, and as each vowel must be clearly and distinctly pronounced, each should take the acute accent. **Ex.**: *de = dé, dede = dédé; fafarasak = fáfárásák*. In order to avoid excess of accents, in this case all are omitted.

(2) There are many expressions and forms of words in which one syllable is especially prominent, namely, in all imperatives. **Ex.**: *agí*, compelled; *lóbut*, fem. *nábut*, good; *adá?* how? *musála*, three; *lunjí*, imp. (*lungíta*), call; *biú*, imp. (*biúta*), kiss.

NOTE 1.—The vowel “*ö*,” generally short, is mostly unaccented—only the imperative of some verbs is also oxytone in the singular and paroxytone in the plural; with these the accent is omitted. **Ex.**: *durjyö* (*durjö*) = to grow, imp. *durjyö*, plur. *durjyöta*; *juruddyö*, to sink, imp. *juruddyö*, plur. *juruddyöta*.

NOTE 2.—A vowel following immediately an accented syllable, and when forming a syllable of itself, must be read very short. **Ex.** : *níylu* (*níilu*), fem. *níynu* (*níinu*), that there—read *nílu*, *nínu*; *níelo*, fem. *níena*, this there—read almost *nílo*, *nína*.

17.

(b)—THE SENTENCE-ACCENT.

The sentence-accent resembles the enclitica in Greek.

(1) A word of one or two syllables following an oxytone, of which the first syllable is short (or half length) and the second unaccented, must be read as formal enclitica. **Ex.** : *dongé lo* (*na*), drive him (her) away—read *dongélo* (*dongéna*); *delé mugun*, hide yourself—read *delémugun*; *tí nan*, give me—read *tínan*.

NOTE.—The plural exponent of the imperative “*ta*” (you) is also a similar enclitica.

(2) The articles *lo* (*lu*), *na*, *ti*, as well as the prepositions *i*, *ko*, *ku*, the conjunction *on* and other monosyllables under the above circumstances are mostly oxytone; therefore the word immediately following must be read as enclitica. **Ex.** : *molokótyo ló ngutu*, the soul of the man; *molókojin tí<sup>1</sup> ngutu*, the souls of the men; *i lor*, on the day; *i ki*, in heaven; *i lak*, on earth.

*i jameilot*, according to thy word.

*kó do*,<sup>2</sup> with thee.

*kó ta*, with you.

*kó ce*, with them.

*kó ngutu*, with people.

*kú baba*, by the father, or with the father.

*kú ngote*, by the mother, or with the mother.

NOTE 1.—The negative “*ti*” has also this peculiarity. **Ex.** : *nge tí bulö*, he (she) cannot.

NOTE 2.—If stress is laid upon the pronoun, it must take the accent. **Ex.** : *ko dó*, with thee; *ko tá nan tutu?* shall I go with you?

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# BARI GRAMMAR

AND

# VOCABULARY

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