

Verbs can be further prefixed with *bi-* for instrument, as in *di-bi-yai* '1SG-INS-take' = 'I take (it) with something'. The inflected verb stem can be further prefixed with *mi-* 'POSTERIOR', which in simple sentences conveys a sense of 'certainty', as in (1), or *bi-* 'PURPOSIVE', as in (2).

- (1) *Mi-di-yem*      *njinta*      *di-ma*  
POST-1SG-eat    food      REL-that  
  
I will eat that food.

- (2) *Noni ba hamboi bi-digo dani bi-di-bok*  
s/he take machete INS-cut me PUR-1SG-wound

S/he cut me with a machete so that I was wounded.

Demonstratives and attributive adjectives are normally prefixed with a relative marker *di-*, as exemplified by *di-ma* in (1), which never receives stress. Therefore the vowel quality is closer to [ə] than to [i], although a regular sound correspondence between Mansim /a/ and Hatam /i/, as detailed in Reesink (2000b), suggests that this is its basic value. Nominal predicates are often closed with a Focus marker *ri*, which occurs on locative phrases with what I have called an 'areal nominalizer' *ti ~ si* as well, see (38) in the text.

The basic constituent orders are SVO for the clause and Noun-Adjective-Numeral-Demonstrative for the Noun Phrase. In possessive phrases both possessor-possessed and the reversed order are found. Spatial orientation is expressed by prepositions, with spatial nouns to specify the location with reference to an object, which is referred to by a preceding noun, as in (3). However, in (4) and (30) of this text, the order is reversed.

- (3) *Ig-ya ei ig ne-te hi*  
3PL-stand at house 3SG-side other

They are standing beside the house.

Emotional states are expressed by an inalienable noun, prefixed to cross-reference the subject – in this case the grammatical possessor – followed by an adjective or verb, as illustrated by *ni-ngon sibui sut* '3SG-heart twist along.with' = 's/he is angry with someone/something' in this text.

At a few places I will annotate the text to clarify some phenomena. For further details, see Reesink (1999).

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