síglib (D.): damana síglib (or sigib), heavy rains.
síkit (D.): da nauyi síkit, gigantically heavy.
sil (D.): kadan ne zil, it is quite little.
sínkin (K.): da nauyi sínkin, gigantically heavy.
sir (D.): ya zamna zir, he was quite naked.
da wari zir, frightfully smelly.
siri (K.): ya zamna ziri, he was quite naked.
sírim (D.): da zurfi zírim, gigantically deep.
soi (D.): da zini zoi, quite sharp (pointed).
zowi (D., K.): da zaki zowi, deliciously sweet.
da dadi zowi, very tasty.
sur (D., K.): tsaka rana zur, noontide heat.
súrai (K.): da zini zúrai, quite sharp (pointed).
súrai (K.): da zini zúrai, quite sharp (pointed).

For ease of reference, an alphabetical list of Hausa words with their adverbs is now given :

azige zigib, ziglib.	doachi fur.		
babba shirim.	dufu kirin.		
bakki kirin, sit.	fari fat, fer, fet.		
biu rak.	gajere gubal, kidil,		
chikke fal.	kilit.		
dadi zowi.	ganye sharaf.		
daia lak.	hankuri lau.		
damana shirit, zigib, ziglib.	harshi shakat.		
danye shar, sharab, sharat,	ja wur.		
shatak, shirit.	kabri dabas, kataf,		
darme mazau, sab.	kirtib, kitib.		
dauda dakab, dakan.	kadan zil.		
dia farzak, fazak.	kaifi faiyau, flau.		

# IN HAUSA AND KANURI

kankanni kilit. shudi shar. shau. karami kurum. shuni shau. kekashashe karau, marau. tabshi limas, lukos, tilas, kora tal. tubus, tukos. kurma fitik, futik. tauri igir, kigir, tikir. kusa dibis, tis. tsaka rana zur. lafia lan. tsami kor. lami shatak. tsaya kam. tsofo tukub, tukuf. maikarifi gagau. maikeau yom. wada kidil. mailafla kalau, tilas. wari dowi, zir. makafo dilim. wayo kwanai. nauvi zikit, zinkin. zafi kau. rubabbe zagob, zagom. zaki zowi. sabo garau, karau, sanka. zamna dom, zir, ziri. samtsi sibal, silib, silim. zanwa shar. sanyi kalau, karau. zini zoi, zurai. sasari fal. surfi zirim, surum. sauki furat.

# **KANURI ADVERBS (78)**

bug (buggo): wu shiga buggo bangi, I gave him a violent blow.chab: sasali chab, heavily loaded with chains.

chir (Kl. tsirit): kau dabu chir, noontide heat. (Koelle gives kau tsou tsirit, the sun is very hot.)
chit: kime chit, deep red.
chom: chim-chim chom, quite sour.
chwai: kgji chwai, deliciously sweet.

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## 96 SPECIFIC ADVERBS OF EMPHASIS

- dam: ngai dam, thus exactly. [Cf. Benton, Sultanate of Bornu, p. 312.]
- damasák: mbarena damasák, we are tired out. [Cf. Benton, Sultanate of Bornu, p. 312.]
- de: berage de, quite naked.
- dígid: kurgoge dígid, gigantically heavy.
- fárei: bunye fárei, pitch dark.
- flau: amasę flau, quite cool (of weather). timiwa flau, quite sharp (edged).
- filak : tęlam-zę filak, very talkative.
- flyat (Kl. piot): kurugu flyat, gigantically long.
- fog: bul fog, quite white. chim fog, quite bitter.
- for: de for, quite empty.
- fulot: kambai fulot, quite light (of weight).
- futik. Vide poteg.
- kal: kalkalniskena kal, I have made it quite straight.
- kam (Kl. ken): dunoa kam, gigantically strong. (Cf. kan, and also kam in Hausa, upright.)
- kan : belin kan, quite new (metal).
- karan: ndi karan, only two.
- kędęg : nemgata kędęg, quite silent.
- keden : keden nemgin, I will be quite silent.
- ken. Vide kam.
- kirik : ndi kirik, only two.
- kirtíb: temruwa kirtíb, very thick (porridge).
- kítib: temruwa kítib, very thick (board or material).
- kong: kela-nem kong dega, sit down by yourself. [Cf. Benton, Sultanate of Bornu, p. 315.]

kúrum : gana kúrum, quite small.

wada kúrum, a regular dwarf.

lai: kellefia lai, very well. kalali lai, quite gentle (of character). kanadiwa lai, very patient.

las. Vide telas.

- lok (Kl. lon): tilo lok, only one.
- lon. Vide lok.
- miau (Kl. miu, mou) : keji miau, very tasty (especially if well spiced).
- nchil (Kl. ntsil): gana nchil, very little. [Cf. chillaga, little.]
- nden : kabugu nden, quite short.
- ngaral: bone ngaral, lie down at your ease. [Cf. Benton, Sultanate of Bornu, p. 311.]
- ntsil. Vide nchil.
- pau: kurkum pau, quite yellow. [Cf. Benton, Kanuri Readings, vocabulary, 'Khurgum'.]

angal pau, very wise.

- [perat. von Duisburg, p. 96, gives Kirnagu perat, very yellow, but I cannot get this confirmed.]
- pet: chelim pet piot. Vide fiyat coal-black.
- pit: tsou pit, great heat.
- póleg: kagafu poleg, very foolish.

póteg : muga poteg, stone-deaf. kumbu pótęg, stone-blind. [chelim póteg, very black; vide von Duisburg, p. 112.]

# 98 SPECIFIC ADVERBS OF EMPHASIS

ráshak : tamsugu tata ráshak, the fruitful tamarind (proverbial expression). sal: selle sal, quite bald. sálag. Vide silat. salag: kambai salag, quite light (of weight). serám: dubdo serám, the whole day. shau: ribla (lifila) shau, quite blue. (Cf. Koelle, lifula, silver.) shíliu: amase shíliu, quite cool (weather). sílak : telala sílak, quite smooth. sílik: telala sílik, quite smooth. silat (Kl. salag): kelam silat, quite tasteless, unsalted. silit: amase silit, quite cold (water). sul: de sul, quite empty. berage sul, quite naked. taret. Vide tirit. tébes (tubus): telala tébes, quite soft (food). tel: bul tel, quite light-coloured. telás (Kl. las); telala telás, quite soft (pillows and garments). kalali telas, quite gentle (of character). tsabal kellefia telas, a perfectly secure road. teles: dubdo teles, the whole day. telésso; tsebed telésso, the whole day long. ten : kabugu ten, quite short. tes: karange tes, quite near. kabugu tes, quite near. tikib: jereskina tikib, I tie tightly. tilib: telala tilib, quite soft (pillows and garments). tim. Vide tum.

[tirik: keri tirik, very green. Vide von Duisburg, p. 98.]

tírit (Kl. taret): keri tírit, quite green.

ningeri tirit, time of the fresh green after the rains. (Koelle's translation of kali taret by 'quite blue' must be the result of an oversight. His vocabulary supports the meaning of 'green, unripe' by giving da kali taret, underdone meat.)

tsai: belin tsai, quite new (garment).

tsar: ngamdu tsar, quite dried up.

kibu tsar, hard as a rock.

tser: nga tser, very well (health).

tsirit. Vide chir. [von Duisburg, p. 96, gives kirnagu njirit, very yellow, but I cannot get this confirmed.]

tubus. Vide tębęs.

- tukúb: kiarizina tukúb, he is as old as the hills.
- tum (Kl. tim): kura tum, gigantically large. (Also kura ngela.)
- zazír: kime zazír, deep red. (The first syllable of zazír is the Hausa word ja, red.)
- zíglib: ningeri zíglíb, heavy rains.
  - kilizina ziglib, it is very sloppy.
- zói : tsiniwa zói, quite sharp (pointed).

For case of reference, an alphabetical list of Kanuri words, with their adverbs, is now given:

amasę fiau, shiliu, silit.	belin kan, tsai.
angal pau.	bęragę de, sul.
bangin bug, buggo.	bongin ngaral.

#### 100 SPECIFIC ADVERBS OF EMPHASIS

bul fog, tel. bunye farei. chelim pet, poteg. chim fog. chim-chim chom. de for, sul. dubdo seram, teles. dunoa kam. gana kurum, nchil, ntsil. nemgin kedeg, keden. jereskin tikib. kabugu nden, ten, tes. kagafu poleg. kalali lai, telas. kalkalniskin kal. kambai fulot, salag. kanadiwa lai. karange tes. kau dabu chir. keji chwai, miau. kelam salag, silat. kela-nem kong dega. kellefia lai. keri tirit, tirik. kiarizina tukub. kibu tsar. kilizina ziglib. kime chit, zazir. kirnagu perat, tsirit (?). wada kurum.

kumbu potęg. kura tum. kurgogę digid. kurkum pau. kurugu fiyat, piot. mbarena damasak. muga poteg. ndi karan, kirik. nga tser. ngai dam. ngamdu tsar. ningeri tirit, ziglib. ribla shau. sasali chab. selle sal. tamsugu tata rashak. telala silak, silik, tebes, telas, tilib, tubus. telam-ze filak. temruwa kirtib, kitib. tilo lok. timiwa flau. tsabal kellefia telas. tsebed telesso. tsiniwa zoi. tsou pit.

Although some of the adverbs given above are common to both Hausa and Kanuri (out of 85 Hausa and 78 Kanuri adverbs 17 show obvious similarities) this is probably mostly due to borrowings. What is really more remarkable in this class of words is the type of sound which is common to both languages, by virtue of which, to a certain degree, they seem cast from the same mould.

Their different character is most noticeable in the sound of the final syllable. Whilst both in Hausa and Kanuri vowel terminations are the rule, the majority of the words given above end in a consonant, and quite a considerable number of them in t, g(k), and b, which otherwise are never found at the end of a word. Moreover, in these explosive final syllables only the restrictive sound is heard, not the explosive.

Still more striking is the very general difference which appears in the accent of these adverbs. In comparison with the preceding word which they are to strengthen, they are distinguished by emphatic stress and by a rising inflexion of perhaps about a quarter of a tone; owing to this the inflexion in twosyllabled words remains the same in each syllable.

For lack of sufficient material I cannot here pursue the question of whether and to what extent they are borrowed from other languages. Perhaps Koelle was right in considering them as recently coined soundsymbols. This is very probably true in the cases where the adverb borrows its sound from the particular word which it has to emphasize. Whilst in the Turkish phrases qap qara = coal-black, kup kuru =

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perfectly dry, mas mawy = sky-blue, bom bosh = quite empty, &c., &c., the prefix is formed from the adjective which follows by means of alliteration and assonance, so also a like similarity of sound would account for the similar formation of the adverbs in lafia lau (H.), lafia lai (B.), fari fat (H.), zafi zou (H.), shudi shau (H.), zaki zoi (H.), zini zoi (H.), zurfi zirim (H.), karami kurum (H.), tabshi tubus (H.), dauda dakab (H.), telala telas (B.), selle sal (B.), chim-chim chom (B.); perhaps even in the Hausa kaifi flau and the Kanuri keji chwai and tilo lok, where the alliteration depends on the second syllable of the adjective.

In connexion with this, one may here mention another method of forming sound-symbols, which is used in Hausa (Damagaram dialect) to express bodily defects. I have found it in the following instances: tunkuyin tunkuikui = maidoro (hump-backed); sunkuyin zunkuikui = maibabbanchibi = Kanuri sumbultu, abu dabua, i.e. afflicted with a prominent navel; dakirin dakaka = maimara (cf. Mischlich mara, belly), i. e. pot-bellied, one who has put on flesh only round the stomach.

# THE PARTS OF SPEECH

# 1. THE NOUN

There are two kinds of nouns:

(a) primitive; (b) derivative.

By primitive nouns are meant such as appear as independent substantives in the sentence without having been composed by transformation from another word; nearly all these substantives denote concrete ideas, e.g. aba, father; ya, mother; tata, child; for, horse; fe (pe), cow; koro, donkey.

In contrast to the primitive nouns, the derivative ones are for the most part of an abstract nature. They are composed:

- I. By the addition of a prefix to the root-word in question, which is either :
  - (1) a primitive substantive;
  - (2) an adjective;
  - (3) the infinite of a verb;
  - (4) a substantival infinitive.
- II. By the addition of a suffix :
  - (1) to a primitive substantive;
  - (2) to an infinitive.

#### Examples.

I. (1) Prefixing the syllable nem in front of a concrete substantive:

nem-aba, fatherhood, de	erived	from	aba, father.
nem-ya, motherhood,	,,	,,	<b>ya</b> , mother.
ngm-tata, childhood,	"	. 33	tata, child.
nem-mai, kingship,	,,	,,,	mai, king.
nem-mallam, priesthood	,,,	**	mallam, priest (lite-
rate person).			

(2) Prefixing the syllable nem in front of an adjective:

nemgana, smallness, derived from gana, small.

,,	**	kura, big.
,,	**	kurugu, long.
,,	,,	ngela, good.
57	,,	karite, excellent.
"	,,	dibi, bad.
,,	"	keji, sweet.
,,	"	chim, bitter.
	>> >> >> >> >> >> >>	22 22 23 23 29 29 29 29 29 29 29 29

(3) Prefixing the syllable nem in front of the infinitive of the verb ending in -ngin (first person singular Present II, Verb Class A):

nemgotu, deprivation,	derived	from	gotu, to take.
nømløtu, departure,	"	,,	letu, to go.
nembotu, sleep,	,,	"	botu, to sleep.
nęmkamtu, cut,	,,	,,	kamtu, to cut.

Prefixing the syllable ken in front of the infinitive of the verb ending in -skin (first person singular Present II, Verb Class B). As a rule substantives composed in this way are rarer than those of the former class. Some examples are :

kendio, deed, derived from dio, to do. kengago, entry, "," gago, to enter.

If the root-word to which the syllable ken is prefixed begins with the letter r, l, or m, the ken becomes by assimilation kel, ker, or kem, e.g.:

kellado, sale, derived from lado, to sell. kerru, sight, "," ru, to see. kerrago, love, "," rago, to love. kumbu, food, "," mbu, to eat.

(It is to be noted that the letter **e** of the prefix becomes **u** whenever **u** is the first vowel in the rootword.)

(4) Every infinitive can be used as a substantive. It thus corresponds to the substantival infinitive in German. Usually the substantival infinitive is only of the first and third conjugations, e.g. ritu:

ritu, fearing, fear,	derived	from	ritu, to fear.
tultu, washing, wash,	"	,,	tultu, to wash.
botu, sleeping, sleep,	**	,,	botu, to sleep.
gotu, depriving, deprivati	on, "	>>	gotu, to take.

On the other hand,

rita, fearing, derived from rita, to be afraid. tulta, washing, ", tulta, to wash oneself. Accordingly one has at one's disposal several forms of a word to express the same thing, e.g.:

> cut, nemkamtu, kamtu, kamta. fear, nemritu, ritu, rita.

II. (1) The addition of a suffix to a primitive noun:
(a) The syllable -ma is suffixed to a noun to denote profession;

belama, village headman, derived from bela, town. kagelma, blacksmith, \* kagel, anvil. \*\* lifulama, silversmith, lifula, silver. \*\* ,, sunoma, shoemaker, suno, shoe. ,, " katima, mason, kati, clay. \*\* .,

(b) The syllable -ram, to denote a thing standing

in some particular relation to the root-word :

muskoram,	bracelet,	derived	from	musko,	ar <b>m.</b>
kasamram,	window,	"	,,	kasam,	wind.
kannuram,	fire-place, ov	en, "	"	kannu,	fire.

(2) The addition of the suffix -ram to an infinitive : derived from tultu, to wash. tulturam, washtub, " botu, to sleep. boturam, sleeping-place, " kiddatu, to work. kiddaturam, tool, ... 19 perateram, broom, peratu, to sweep. ,, 33 kuteram, looking-glass, kuto. to bring •• •• (because looking-glasses used to be brought from Tripoli).

It is to be noted with regard to this method of wordformation that the m of the prefix ngm is commonly assimilated to the letter which follows it, but with the

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exception of the examples given above this should be regarded as incorrect. In the correct speech of the learned men of Bornu one finds practically no trace of assimilation. The same holds good of the elision of consonants when a prefix or suffix is added to the root. When talking quickly, one or other letter appears to be elided, but this is not the correct usage.

Corresponding to the compounds made with nouns are the compounds made with proper names and titles; it happens, however, that these compounds are only of the suffix variety, e.g.:

mairam, princess, derived from mai, king. mallamram, priest's daughter, ", " mallam, priest. askuram, soldier's daughter, ", " askur, soldier (Arabic).

Adami, son of Adam.Aisami, son of Aisa.Kellumi, son of Kellu.Isami, son of Isa.

To denote the inhabitants of different places, the syllable -bu is added to the place-name, e.g.:

Dikoabu, the	inhabitants of	Dikoa.
Morabu,	**	Mora.
Gadjibobu,	**	Gadjibo.

To denote a place or district name the syllable -ri is added, e.g.:

Mandarari, Mandara country. Shuwari, Shuwa country. Gubdori, Gubdo's town. Adamri, Adam's town.

(Koelle considers words compounded with -ri as

adjectives. This cannot be right, since, for example, the Kanuri living in Mandara are expressly spoken of as Kanuri-Mandararibe, and Kanuris in Shuwa country as Kanuri-Shuwaribe, whence it is obvious that the word compounded with **-ri** is to be considered as a substantive, for **-be** is the genitive termination.)

#### 2. THE PLURAL

There is a plural form for the substantive (though it is seldom used), which consists in the addition of the syllable -wa. In words ending in u or o, however, the w is elided, e.g.

abawa, fathers; yawa, mothers; kamua, women; koroa, donkeys; patoa, compounds.

Exceptions occur in the words:

tatoa, children, derived from tata, child; mainoa, princes, ", ", maina, prince; where the final a is changed into o.

At the present day, this plural form is only used when one specially wants to denote a considerable number of objects. The plural form is seldom used in ordinary conversation, especially with numerals or words denoting number. The plural form, however, is commonly used in documents. Thus one says:

aba ndi, two fathers, instead of abawa ndi. ya ndi, two mothers, "yawa ndi. fer ndi, two horses, "ferwa ndi.

An example of a collective plural is: am, people.

#### GENDER

## 3. GENDER

There is usually no difference between the masculine and the feminine genders. In the case of living beings, however, special words for distinguishing sex are sometimes found, e. g. :

koa, koanga, kam, man.	kamu, woman.
zairo, youth.	pero, girl.
kiari, old man.	kemerso, old woman.
tata, boy.	pero, girl.
kalia, slave.	kir, woman slave.
dala, knemo, ox.	pe, cow.
ngalaro, ram.	dimi, ewe.
dal, he-goat.	<b>kani,</b> she-goat.
gubogum, cock.	kui, kugui, hen.

To distinguish the sex of other living beings, one employs as auxiliary words koa, man, and kamu, woman; or one adds the word bi for masculine beings, and kurguri, mare, or kani, she-goat, for the corresponding feminine, e.g.:

fe kamu or fe kurguri, female of cattle. pe koa or pe bi, male of cattle. fer kamu or fer kurguri, mare. fer koa or fer bi, stallion. koro koa or koro bi, donkey stallion. koro kamu or koro kurguri, donkey mare. keri koa or keri bi, dog. keri kamu or keri kurguri, bitch. kalgimo kamu or kalgimo kurguri, she-camel. kalgimo koa or kalgimo bi, he-camel. ngeri dal, buck gazelle. ngeri kani, doe gazelle.

It is to be noted that the feminine word is used to denote the species, thus :

pe, cattle; dimi, sheep; kani, goat; kui (kugui), fowl.

Special names of species are :

am, people; kenji, slave of either sex; tatoa, children.

# 4. THE ARTICLE

There is an article which is attached to the substantive. It is the syllable -tg, e.g.:

> kam-tę, the man (a particular one). kamu-tę, the woman "", for-tę, the horse ""

It is to be noted that if no particular object is meant, the article is not attached. This -te has a meaning intermediate between that of a definite article and a demonstrative pronoun. If no particular object is meant then the syllable -te is omitted.

# 5. DECLENSION

Substantives are declined by the addition of suffixes, and the cases include Nominative, Accusative, Genitive, Dative, and Locative (which includes the Latin Ablative). *Examples*:

### DECLENSION

Nom.	aba-ye,	father;	tata-ye,	son;	askur-ye, s	oldier.
Acc.	aba-ga,	,,	tata-ga,	,,	askur-ga,	,,
Gen.	aba-be,	,,	tata-be,	,,	askur-be,	,,
Dat.	aba-ro,	"	tata-ro,	"	askur-ro,	,,
Loc.	aba-n,	<b>))</b>	tata-n,	"	askur-nin,	"
					(better tha	.n -n).

In conversation one seldom hears the nominative and accusative case-endings, but they are common in the written language.

By the case here called Locative is expressed 'means, position, direction', &c., e.g.:

aba-n, three	ough,	with,	by, on,	from	(the)	father.
tata-n,	**	,,		"		son.
bęla-n,	"	,,		,,		town.
kasugu-n,	"	,,		,,		market.
musko-n,	"	,,		,,		hand.
shila-n,	,,	"		33		bone.

As may be seen above in the case of the word askur, the locative case of words ending in a consonant is usually formed with -in or -nin, not -n. Still more commonly with such words one employs the suffix -lan, which may be considered as the locative case of a primitive but now obsolete substantive -la. It is difficult to translate the exact meaning of -la into English; the nearest equivalent, perhaps, would be -la, reference to; -lan, with reference to. In consequence of this comprehensive meaning of -lan it is commonly employed in default of an exactly corresponding preposition, whether the word ends in a vowel or in a consonant, e.g.:

musko-lan,	with,	through,	or because	of the hand.
før-lan,	"	**	**	horse.
dibal-lan,	,,	**	,,	road.

The declension of personal pronouns follows the same rules as those given above for substantives.

## 6. THE ADJECTIVE

There are two kinds of adjectives : (1) primitive ; (2) derivative, e.g. :

(1) ngela, good; dibi, bad; ngubbu, many; gana, small; kura, large; kurugu, long; kabugu, short; kuyintu, far; karange, near; dendi, sick; karite, accurate; butu, cheap; zau, dear; dua, quick; bul, white; tselim, black.

(2) (a) Adjectives formed by suffixing -wa (pronounced quickly like -ua); -wa can be suffixed to any substantive. It means roughly 'provided with', 'furnished with':

<b>duno,</b> strength,	becomes	dunowa, dunoa, strong.
angal, understandi	ng, "	angalwa, prudent.
nki, water,	,,	nkiwa, watery.
kangadi, horn,	,,	kangadiwa, horned.
tata, child,	,,	tatoa, prolific.
tsuro, belly,	"	tsurowa, pregnant.
kanna, hunger,	33	kannawa, hungry.

This syllable **-wa** can also be attached to an adjective which is in agreement with a substantive preceding it; the suffix then has the meaning of 'with, accompanied by ', e.g.:

fer kurawa iskina, I arrived with a big horse. pe yasgewa kongina, I passed by with three cattle.

(b) Adjectives formed by suffixing -ma to a name or a word which already itself denotes profession or position, e.g.:

Bornuma	Bornuese.
Fulatama	Fulani.
Musguma	Musgu.
Tubuma	Tubu.
mallama	priestly.
maima	kingly.
mainama	princely.
mairama	princess-like.
tatama	child-like.

Adjectives thus formed are closely related to the substantives formed with -ma in section 1. II. (1).

In certain cases the Locative form of the noun mentioned in section 5 can take on an adjectival significance, e.g.:

> ferlan or fernyin, mounted on horseback. dalon or dalolan, mounted on pack-oxen. shilan, on foot.

magaran or magaralan, by boat.

# KANURI GRAMMAR

#### 7. COMPARISON OF ADJECTIVES

Strictly speaking only one degree of comparison exists. It is expressed in two different ways:

(1) By affixing -go to the adjective to be compared ;

(2) By a paraphrase with the verb kotu, to surpass, excel.

### Examples.

shi wuro kura-go he to me bigger He is bigger than me

or

shi ngmkurantson wuga kotsona he as regards his bigness me he has passed He is bigger than me.

dabondon  $\left\{ \begin{array}{c} ndaso\\ ndu \end{array} \right\}$  wuro kurago in your middle who to me bigger Which of you is bigger than me?

#### or

dabundon ndu wuga kotsena nemkurantselan in your middle who me has passed in his bigness i. e. Who is bigger than me?

That there is no special form for the superlative is proved by the following examples:

ndu-ndo kiari kura-be-go who of you old big of is Which of you is the oldest? ndu-ndo nemkiarin nandi-so kotsena who of you in age you all passes Which of you is the oldest?

The comparative form is commonly omitted, so that it is a question of a simple statement regarding the length, size, or age of two substantives.

## Examples.

dibal ate ra dibal tutu nduso kuyintu road this or road that which far Is this road or that one the farther?

for ato ra for tutu nduso kura horse this or horse that which big Is this horse or that one the bigger?

One kind of comparison comparable to the English 'very, extremely', is expressed by the words tsouro and linta, e.g.:

fer ate tsouro kura horse this very big This horse is very big.

for ato kura linta horse this big extremely This horse is extremely big.

nki atę tsouro kęji This water is very sweet.

fer ate teouro kura linta. This horse is extremely big.

# KANURI GRAMMAR

# 8. PRONOUNS

# (1) PERSONAL PRONOUNS

wu		(com	mon	ly pro	onoun	ced a	s u);	, I
ni	•	•	•	•	•		•	thou
shi	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	he, she, it
andi	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	we
nandi,	, nai	•	•	•	•	•	•	you
sandi,	sai	•	•	•	•	•	•	they

When standing alone and not in conjunction with a verb, the strengthening suffix -ma is usually added: Wuma, nima, shima, andima, nandima (naima), sandima (saima).

The personal pronouns may stand in front of the various forms of the verb, but in conversation at least they are often omitted, since the verb itself denotes the person by the inflexions of its conjugation. Thus one can say:

I go, wu lengin, or simply lengin (more accurately, I am going).

thou goest, ni lengmin, or simply lengmin. he goes, shi letsin (lejin), or simply letsin (lejin). we go, andi lenyen, or simply lenyen. you go, nandi (nai) lenuwi, or simply lenuwi. they go, sandi letsai (lezai), or simply letsai (lezai).

The declension of the personal pronoun is the same as that of the noun. It is to be noted that the accusative ending is employed and not omitted in the case of pronouns, e.g.:

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bisga niga ruskina, I saw you yesterday. ate shiro gulngina, I told him that.

The genitive case is usually only employed with the addition of the strengthening suffix -ma; thus wumabe, nimabe, &c., are better than wube, nibe, &c.

By an idiomatic usage one does not employ the genitive of the pronoun, but makes use of the following paraphrase:

> fer ate ndube, whose horse is that? horse that who of.

Answer: kaske (not wumabe), mine. kagenem (not nimabe), thine. kagentse (not shimabe), his.

The word kage means 'property', and in the first person singular is contracted into kaske instead of kageni.

If the verb is the interrogative or imperative the pronoun commonly comes after the verb, and in this case takes the case-ending in the dative but not in the accusative, e.g.:

gulle shiro instead of shiro gulle, tell him.

panemma shi instead of shiga panemma-ba, do you hear it?

bobonemma shi? instead of shiga bobonemma-ba, have you called him?

[In British Bornu at any rate, the second form is the more usual.]

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## (2) THE POSSESSIVE PRONOUN

The possessive pronoun is suffixed to the word it qualifies, and consists of the following syllables :

```
-ni, my.

-ngm, thy.

-ntsg, his, her, its.

-ndo, our.

-ndo, your.

-ntsa, their.
```

#### Examples.

abani, my father, yani, my mother, tatani, my child. abangm, thy father, yangm, thy mother, tatangm, thy child, &c.

To strengthen the possessive meaning one uses the word kage with the possessive pronoun attached; for the meaning of this word, *vide* above.

#### Examples.

førni, my horse; strengthened form, før kaske, my (own) horse.

førnøm, thy horse; strengthened form, før kagenøm, thy (own) horse.

With the help of the possessive pronoun also the word 'self' is expressed by suffixing the pronoun to the noun kela, head (or ro, life).

# PRONOUNS

wu kelani, I myself (literally, I my life). ni kelangm, thou thyself, &c. abani kelantse, my father himself. yangm kelantse, thy mother herself. belama kelantse, the village headman himself. belamawa kelantsa, the village headman themselves.

When the substantive to which the possessive pronoun belongs is followed by an adjective, the pronoun is placed between them, i. e. it follows immediately after its substantive. Thus:

> førni kura, my big horse. koroni gana, my small donkey. abani døndi, my sick father.

If these phrases stand alone without anything following they can also mean 'my donkey is small', 'my horse is big', 'my father is sick'. The sense is given by the context.

# (3) THE DEMONSTRATIVE PRONOUN

ate, this, *plural* these; Koelle gives ani, these. tutu, that, *plural* those; Koelle gives toni, those. Both pronouns can stand alone; in this case they are commonly strengthened by the suffix -ma, e.g.:

> atema, this (emphatic). tutuma, that (emphatic).

When used in accordance with a substantive, the pronoun stands immediately after such substantive. If the substantive is qualified by a numeral or an

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adjective, the pronoun follows the numeral or adjective, e.g.:

kam ate, this man. kam tutu, that man. fer ate, this horse. kamu tutu, that woman. mai kura ate, this great king. mai kura tutu, that great king.

If in the last example but one the words were transposed and read **Mai atg kura** it would mean 'this king is great'.

It is to be noticed that in speaking quickly the letter **a** of **atq** is often omitted, especially when **atq** follows an **a**, less commonly some other vowel. In correct speaking, however, special emphasis is laid on the demonstrative pronoun, and the word **atq** is clearly pronounced as a dissyllable. Thus in talking quickly one may say:

før-tø, this horse. kam-tø, this man. kamu-tø, this woman. aba-tø, this father.

In the above-mentioned instances it cannot be decided whether the -tg is a mutilated demonstrative pronoun or the article.

An omission of the syllable -tu in tutu is not admissible.

[Koelle says -tu is the usual form.]

In connexion with the above it is to be noticed that the suffix -te can also have the meaning of 'as

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regards', 'with respect to'. In this case -tg cannot be considered as an article or as a demonstrative pronoun, especially at the beginning of a sentence when followed by a personal pronoun or substantive. It then usually has a similar meaning to the emphatic syllable -ma.

With regard to the use of -to in relative sentences, *vide* the section thereon. *Examples*:

wu-te mana ate pangani. As regards me words this I have not heard. mai-te shi matsin ba. As regards the king he seeks not.

andi-te nantsero lenyen.

As regards us to him we go.

With the help of the demonstrative pronoun the following expression is composed :

ategai, such (gai or ngai, like, as).

Examples :

kam ategai, such a man. fer ategai, such a horse.

When ategai stands alone (usually in answers to questions) it has the meaning of 'truly, it is so, quite right'. The expression atema standing alone may have the same meaning.

(4) THE RELATIVE PRONOUN

There is no relative pronoun in our sense. Where in English one would have a relative sentence, in

# KANURI GRAMMAR

Kanuri there is either simply the syllable -to suffixed to the verb, or -to is omitted and the sense is given only by the context. *Examples*:

#### Kam bisga ruskina -tę bobone

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or

Kam bisga ruskina bobone. Call the man whom I saw yesterday.

Fer ku seba ruskina -te kute

or

For ku soba ruskina kute. Bring the horse which I saw this morning.

Gadu kerma yeskina -te gemne

or

#### Gadu kerma yeskina gemne.

Throw away the wart-hog which I shot just now.

One can see from the foregoing examples that the relative sentence standing between the noun and the syllable -to assume to a certain extent the place of an adjective; this may be seen also from the following examples:

#### Pato bisga ruskina -tę -ro lene.

Go to the compound which I saw yesterday.

Bela bari bongin -te -ro kam pal note.

Send a man to the town where I am going to sleep to-morrow.

Instead of the syllable -to (the syllable denoting the article) one can also use the demonstrative **ato**; in

# PRONOUNS

this way the noun to which the relative sentence refers is emphasized, thus:

Kam ngela -te -ro mana gulle. Tell the matter to a man who is good.

or

### Kam ngela ate -ro mana gulle.

Tell the matter to this good man.

If in English the relative pronoun is in the genitive or dative while the noun to which it refers is not, the correct way of expressing oneself is in (a) to attach the corresponding possessive pronoun, in (b) to insert the personal pronoun, e.g.:

(a) Belama kamuntse tsegashina nuna. The village-headman whose wife ran away is dead.

Tata muskontse kadabua bane [bangne]. Beat the boy whose hand is dirty.

Kam manantse jire kolle. Let go the man whose story is true.

(b) Kamu ago ate shiro yiskina tsouro tsuroa. The woman to whom I gave this thing is far gone in pregnancy.

## Kęri kombu shiro yiskina kaske.

The dog to whom I gave food is mine.

When two nouns follow each other and are dependent on each other, the relative sentence follows the noun to which it belongs; the other noun follows the relative sentence and has the possessive pronoun attached to it, e.g.:

Kam bisga ruskina -tę patontsęro lene.

- Go to the compound of the man whom I saw yesterday.
- Fer ku yibuskina -te kundurintse kamne.
- Hog the mane of the horse which I bought yesterday.
- Pato bisga ruskina -tę kęmantsę bobone.

Call the master of the compound which I saw yesterday.

## (5) THE INTERROGATIVE PRONOUN

- I. Ndu? Who?
- 2. Abi (afi) ? What, which ?
- 3. Ndaso ? Which ?
- 4. Ndagu, ndawo? How much?

All interrogative pronouns have the same caseendings as nouns and adjectives.

I. Ndu only refers to persons (but vide note); e.g.: Ndu atę tsędę? Who did this? Ndu mana atę gultsę? Who told this word? Ndu bari ishin? Who is coming to-morrow? Fęr atę ndube? Whose horse is this? Nduro manatsę? To whom did he speak? Nduga rumma na atęn? Whom did you see here?

Note. In the following case ndu does not refer to a person:

Tsungm ndu ? What is your name?

2. Abi manemin (manem)? What do you want?
Abi ate? What is this? what does this mean?
Abi gulemma? What did you say?

- For abi touro pomtsin ? Which horse is a good walker?
- Kisga abi bari kamnemin? Which tree are you going to cut down to-morrow?
- Kangadi da abibe ragem? Which animal's horns do you want?

Bela abiro letsin ? Which town did he go to ?

3. Newso always refers to some one out of a limited (and before-mentioned) number; as well as of persons, it is also used of animals and things. *Examples*:

Bela ndi ate ndaso ragem ? Which of these two towns do you like ?

Sai yasge ate fer -te ndasobe? To whom of these three does the horse belong?

**Pato ndi ate ndasoro lenemin?** To which of these two compounds are you going?

4. Ndagu? How many, how much? Ago ate gursu ndagu? How many dollars does this thing cost?

Kasugun am ndagu kerma ?

How many people are there now in the market?

Am ndaguro mana atę gultsę? To how many people did he tell this word? Tata (tatoa) am ndagube nuna? How many people's children are dead? Notes. If a word preceding **abi** ends in an **a**, both letters are contracted when speaking quickly into one broad **a**, e.g.:

kęsga abi (afl)	=	kęsga-bi, which tree?
da abi	=	da-bi, which meat?
bęla abi	=	bela-bi, which town?
saa abi	=	saa-bi, which time?

Even with other nouns it is not unusual for the **a** of the pronoun **abi** to be contracted; e.g.:

```
suno abi = suno-bi, which shoe?
fer abi = fer-bi, which horse?
ago abi = ago-bi, which thing ?
```

To all interrogative pronouns the strengthening or emphatic syllable -ma can be suffixed in connexion with the negative word ba; they have the following meanings:

nduma ba, no one. ndasoma ba, no one. afima ba, nothing.

(6) INDEFINITE PRONOUNS

(a) By suffixing the syllable -so :

nduso, any one (referring to persons only when standing alone), but koa abiso, any man. kamu abiso, any woman. da abiso, any animal. ago abiso, any thing.

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Obsolete and unusual forms are:

ndaguso, however many (i. e. all). ndasoso, whichever (i. e. each).

(b) By suffixing the syllable -yaye (which when speaking quickly sounds almost like aye, yai, ai):

nduyaye (ndu-ai), any, any you please (standing alone).

ndasoyaye (ndaso-ai), whoever.

```
abiyaye (abi-ai), whichever, whatever.
```

ndaguyaye (ndagu-ai), however many.

Examples :

koa abiyaye (ndasoyaye), any man. kamu abiyaye (ndasoyaye), any woman. da abiyaye (ndasoyaye), any animal. ago abiyaye (ndasoyaye), any thing. kam ndaguyaye, however many men.

(c) To express the idea of illimitability in a strengthened form, both suffixes (a) and (b) may be attached at the same time:

ndusoyaye (nduso-ai), whosoever.

abisoyaye (abiso-ai), whatsoever.

To express the idea of totality, one can use the following words:

samma, all.

ngaso, all, whole (composed of nga, safe, unhurt, and the suffix -so).

kam samma, all, everybody.

kare ngaso kute, bring all the loads.

To the indefinite pronouns belong also:

(a) kam (literally, man), which often has the indefinite meaning of 'one', 'some one', e.g.:

Mana ate kam wuro gultaina. Some one told me this news.

(b) gade, another (used of both animate and inanimate things):

kam gade, another man. kamu gade, another woman. da gade, another animal. ago gade, another thing.

- (c) laga, a certain one, a single one, some.
   yini, some.
   yini laga, a certain one.
- e. g. Am laga (yini) kasugube wuro gultsana Certain of the market people told me.

# (7) REFLEXIVE PRONOUNS

These are formed by suffixing the possessive pronouns to the noun kela (literally, head) or ro (literally, life). Examples:

I myself, wu kelani, wu roni. Thou thyself, ni kelanem, ni ronem. He himself, She herself, It itself, We ourselves, andi kelande, andi ronde.

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Ye yourselves, nandi (nai) kelando, nandi (nai) rondo.

They themselves, sandi (sai) kelantsa, sandi (sai) rontsa.

Examples of Reflexive Pronouns in a Sentence.
Wu kelani lengin, I am going myself.
Ni kelanem ragemma, Thou thyself wishest.
Fer-te kelantse mangin, I want the horse itself.
Aba-te shi (shiga) kelantse bobone, Call the father himself.

From the last example it is to be seen that it is correct to put in the personal pronoun as well as the substantive.

(8) RECIPROCAL PRONOUNS

The Kanuri language has no special reciprocal pronoun in our sense; it supplies the want in the following way:

To the word kama, comrade, companion, equal, is suffixed the possessive syllable, and with the addition of the syllable -ro a pronominal meaning is acquired; e.g.:

Tata ndi atę kamantsaro baktsana. These two boys beat each other. Sandi atę kamantsaro yiltsagai.

These men shouted at each other.

Niwa shiwa kamandoro yiltuwi.

You and he shouted at each other.

Note. In both the last two examples the reflexive form of the verb yiltu, to shout, is used to strengthen the meaning; the reflexive form is not absolutely necessary, since the verb has already been given a reflexive sense by means of the reciprocal pronoun.

### 9. THE VERB

Verbs in Kanuri are divided, according to their meaning, into simple and expanded. Whilst the simple verbs merely express the putting into action of an idea, the expanded verbs bear relation to something in some way; they are found, for example, with a causative, reflexive, or demonstrative meaning. Each expanded verb can be traced back to some simple verb, and conversely each simple verb can be formed into various expanded verbs. Let us first deal with the simple verbs.

# 10. SIMPLE VERBS

They may be divided into two chief classes: Class A includes verbs which form the infinitive in to and in which the ending of the first person singular of most tenses includes the sound ng. To Class B belong all the remaining simple verbs; these mostly form the infinitive in o and have the sound sk instead of the sound ng of Class A. The idea suggests itself that we ought to consider the endings ng and sk as the sounds of two auxiliary verbs, which confer vigour and effect on a verbal stem, i.e. on a conception of a verb. If, for example, one adds the ending nge of the first person singular present indefinite of the word meaning 'to make, to make something', and joins it to a concrete or abstract root, one practically gets the meaning of a simple verb, e.g.:

le-nge, I go; le is the idea of going, nge, I make; compounded, I make going, i.e. I go.
bo-nge, I sleep; bo is the idea of sleeping, nge, I make; compounded, I make sleeping, i.e. I sleep.

The sound **sk** in the first person singular of most tenses formed with an auxiliary verb in Class B has a similar meaning. Since these so-called auxiliary verbs are only joined to an idea, whose inflexion is formed by them but which can never stand alone, they may be called auxiliary verbs of inflexion. Typical examples of the different simple verbs are :

> Class A. lenge, I go.

bonge, I sleep.

# Class B.

diske, I do, make. raggske, I love, like.

All Class A verbs are conjugated alike and all Class B alike, but in both conjugations there are verbs with special peculiarities, such as the so-called irregular verbs.

Kanuri has the following tenses:

[I do not agree entirely with either Koelle's or von Duisburg's nomenclature of tenses, or with the latter's translation of their meaning. I therefore give below, in a comparative table, (1) the nomenclature I propose to adopt, (2) that of Koelle, and (3) that of von Duisburg. Mine differs very little from Koelle's, but considerably from von Duisburg's.—P.A.B.]

Tenses in the Radical or Ordinary Conjugation.

P.A.B.	Koelle	von Duisburg
Future	1st Indefinite	Participial Present (II)
Present Indefinite	2nd Indefinite	Present (I)
Perfect	Perfect	Participial Imperfect (I)
Aorist	Aorist	Perfect (II)
Future Perfect (not common)	Future	Future
Participial (very common)	Present Participial	Perfect (I)

In the tenses called Indefinite, not much emphasis is laid on the time at which an action takes place.

Duisburg also has a tense which he calls Imperfect (I); Koelle regards this as a variant of the Second

Indefinite, *vide* note (2) on page 56 of Koelle's *Grammar*. As it practically only differs from other tenses in the first person singular, I omit it.

Koelle also has two tenses which he calls the Past Participial and the Future Participial, vide page 91 of his Grammar. As these tenses are rarely met with, I omit them, as does also von Duisburg. Koelle also has a Present Participle, vide page 97 of his Grammar, for both classes of verbs. It is formed by suffixing -ma to the Infinitive, e.g. botema, sleeping; ndeoma, doing. But as these are not common, I omit them.

In addition to the above tenses Kanuri has:

Perfect Participle (only in Class A verbs).

Imperative.

Infinitive.

It is to be noted that the use of the personal pronouns in front of the verb is only usual when the person has to be specially emphasized; e.g. Wu (wuma) lenge, I went (i.e. I and not some one else).

### 11. CONJUGATION OF CLASS A: SIMPLE VERBS

As mentioned above, Class A verbs form the infinitive by the addition of the syllable -te to the root, e.g. lete, to go; bote, to sleep; manate, to speak; kamte, to cut.

By omitting the infinitive syllable, one gets the root or verb-stem, which expresses the conception of an idea but cannot stand alone. Most verbs of this Class form the first person singular of most tenses by the addition of the syllable -ng derived from the auxiliary verb of inflexion ....

The root itself remains in most cases unaltered; a few exceptions will be dealt with later. Below are given the various forms of the auxiliary verb of inflexion in -ng.

	Future.	Present Indef.	Perfect.	Aorist.	Future Perf.	Parti- cipial.
I	p.sngin	-nge (-ngo)	-ngi	-gosko	-t <b>s</b> oko	-ngina
2	p.snemin	-nem	-nemi	-gam	-tsam	-nemma
3	p. s. <b>-tsin</b>	-tse	-tsi	-gono	-tsono	-tsina
I	p. p. <b>-niyen</b>	-niye	-niye	-gaiye	-tsaiye	-nyena
	(-nyen)	(-nye)	(-n <b>y</b> e)			
2	p. p. <b>-nuwi</b>	-nu	-nuwi	-gau	-tsau	-nuwa
3	p. p. <b>-tsai</b>	-tsa	-tsai	-geda	-tseda	-tsana

Perfect Participle. -gata (invariable).

Imperative.

Second person singular -ne.

Second person plural -nogo (second syllable hardly audible).

First person plural -nyogo.

Infinitive.

-to (sometimes pronounced as -tu).

Note. The ts in the third person singular and plural of most tenses often sounds like j or like z, e.g.: mbetsi, mbeji, mbezi, there is. botsin, bojin, bozin, he will sleep.

Full conjugations of the verbs bote (botu), to sleep, and manate (manatu), to say, speak, are given below.

# Future (singular).

I.	bongin, I shall sleep.	manangin, I shall say.			
2.	<b>bonęmin,</b> thou shalt	mananemin, thou shalt			
	sleep.	say.			
3.	botsin, he shall sleep.	manatsin, he shall say.			
	(plural.)				
1.	bonyen, we shall sleep.	manayen, we shall say.			
2.	bonuwi, ye shall sleep.	mananuwi, ye shall say.			

3. botsai, they shall sleep. manatsai, they shall say.

# Present Indefinite.

1.		ongo), I sleep (at definite time).	manange (manange	
0		hou sleepest.		
	-	nou sieepest.	mananem, t	hou sayest.
3.	botsę	&c.	manatsę	&c.
I.	bonye	&c.	mananye	&c.
2.	bonu	&c.	manu	&c.
3.	botsa	&c.	manatsa	&c.

### Perfect.

I. bongi, I h	1. bongi, I have slept.		manangi, I have said.	
2. bonęmi, th	2. bonemi, thou hast slept.		hou hast said.	
3. botsi	&c.	manatsi	&c.	
1. bonye	&c.	mananye	&c.	
2. bonuwi	&c.	mananuwi	&c.	
3. botsai	&c.	manatsai	&c.	

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# Aorist.

1. bogosko,	I slept.	managosko,	I said.
2. bogam	&c.	managam	&c.
3. bogono	&c.	managono	&c.
1. bogaiye	&c.	managaiye	&c.
2. bogau	&c.	managau	&c.
3. bogeda	&c.	manageda	&c.

# Future Perfect (not common).

I.	botsoko,	I shall	have	manatsosko,	I shall have
		slep <b>t.</b>			said.
2.	botsam	&c.		manatsam	&c.
3.	botsono	&c.		manatsono	&c.
1.	botsaiye	&c.		manatsaiye	&c.
2.	botsau	&c.		manatsau	&c.
3.	botseda	&c.		manatseda	&c.

# Participial (very common tense).

1.	bongina, I	am sleeping,	manangina, I	am saying,
	I	sleep, I slept.	I	say, I said.
2.	bongmma	&c.	manangmma	&c.
3.	botsina	&c.	manatsina	&c.
I.	bonyena	&c.	mananyena	&c.
2.	bonuwa	&c.	mananuwa	&c.
3.	botsana	&c.	manatsana	&c.

### Perfect Participle (invariable).

bogata, slept. managata, said.

### Imperative.

manane, speak thou. 2 pers. sing. bone, sleep thou. 2 pers. plur. bonogo, sleep ye. mananogo, speak ye. mananiyogo (mana-I pers. plur. boniyogo (bonyogo), nyogo), let us speak. let us sleep.

### Infinitive.

bote (botu), to sleep.

manate (manatu), to say, speak.

# Substantival Forms.

manatu, manata, the speakletu, leta, the going. ing.

#### 12.

The following verbs of Class A are conjugated like the above examples with a few differences:

(1) Those verbs whose root ends in p or k change these consonants when followed by ng into m and ñ (nasal n) respectively, and drop the n of the ng.

(2) Verbs with the root ending 1 change the n into 1.

(3) Verbs whose root terminates in se or su drop the g or u before g and ts and only retain the s of the ts.

# Examples of (1).

laptę,	to load.	nemte, to sit.
foktę,	to j <b>oin.</b>	bakte, to beat.

# KANURI GRAMMAR

# Future.

1. lamgin	nęmgin	foñgin	bañgin
2. lamnęmin	nęmnęmin	foñemin	bañemin
3. laptsin	neptsin	foktsin	baktsin
1. lamnyen	nęmnyen	foñyen	bañyen
2. lamnuwi	nęmnuwi	foñuwi	bañuwi
3. laptsai	nęptsai	foktsai	baktsai

# Aorist.

1. lapgosko	nęmgosko	fokgosko	bakgosko
2. lapgam	nemgam	fokgam	bakgam
3. lapgono	nemgono	fokgono	bakgono
1. lapgaiye	nęmgaiye	fokgaiye	bakgaiye
2. lapgau	nçmgau	fokgau	bakgau
3. lapgeda	nemgeda	fokgeda	bakgeda

# Perfect Participle.

lapgata	nemgata	fokgata	bakgata

# Imperative.

2 p. s. lamne	nęmne	foñe	bañe
2 p. p. lamnogo	nęmnogo	foñogo	bañogo
1 p. p. lamniyogo	nęmniyogo	foñiyogo	bañiyogo

# Infinitive.

laptę	neptę	foktę	baktę
-------	-------	-------	-------

# Examples of (2).

gulte, to say; ndalte, to steal; kolte, to leave; kasalte, to bathe.

Future.	Aorist.			
I. gulgin	gulgosko			
2. gullęmin	gulgam			
3. gultsin	gulgono			
1. gullyen	gulgaiye			
2. gulluwi	gulgau			
3. gultsai	gulgeda			

# Perfect Participle.

gulgata

Imperative.

2 p.s. gulle

2 p. p. gullogo

1 p. p. gulliyogo

Infinitive.

# gultę

Examples of (3).

kastę, I draw, drag; tustę, I rest, repose; wastę, I light, kindle.

### Future.

<b>1</b> .	kasengin	tusungin
2.	kasengmin	tusungmin
3.	kassin	tussin

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I.	<b>kas</b> ęni <b>yen</b>	tusuniyen
2.	<b>kas</b> ęnuwi	tusunuwi
3.	kassai	tussai

### Aorist.

1. kasgosko &c. tusgosko &c.

### Imperative.

2 p.s.	kasene	tusune
2 p.p.	kasenogo	tusunogo
1 p.p.	kasęniyogo	tusuniyogo

#### 13.

A peculiarity of Class A verbs is that they have another form for the first person singular of most tenses (except the Aorist and Future Perfect), which sounds similar to that of Class B verbs. But this form has really nothing in common with verbs of the latter Class.

One can substitute the syllable nesk... (lesk) for the letters ng in the first person singular. Thus one can say

# lenęskin, lenęske (lenęsko), lenęski, lenęskina instead of

lengin, lenge (lengo), lengi, lengina;

or gullęskin, gullęske (gullęsko), gullęski, gullęskina, instead of

gulngin, gulnge (gulngo), gulngi, gulngina.

All other verbs can be easily conjugated on the

pattern of those already given. It is to be noted that the form in nesk... lends greater emphasis to the verb.

#### 14.

To express repeated action Kanuri not uncommonly makes use of a reduplication of the verb-stem, e.g.:

lelengina, I went again and again. lelengmma, you went again and again. leletsina, he went again and again. tultullyena, we bathed several times. tultulluwa, ye bathed several times. tultulltsana, they bathed several times.

### 15. CONJUGATION OF CLASS B: SIMPLE VERBS

The characteristic of all verbs belonging to this class is the sound sk... It appears in all the forms where Class A verbs have the sound ng, i.e. in the first person singular of most tenses. One may regard the sound sk, with flexional endings attached to it, as a species of auxiliary verb of inflexion, which, attached to a verb-stem, confers vigour and effect on the conception of a verb. Conjugational forms of the verb with sk... differ from the forms in -ng, especially in the formation prefixed to the verb-stem in the third person singular and plural as well as in all persons of the Aorist and Future Perfect. It is noted that almost all expansive verbs also have an auxiliary verb of inflexion with the sound sk... in the first person singular of most tenses; this may easily be confused with the Class B of simple verbs (in sk...). But on nearer inspection one can perceive by the form of conjugation to which species the verb belongs and from which simple verb it is to be derived.

### 16.

To Class B belong the verbs which form the first person singular of most tenses with the aid of the auxiliary verb of inflexion in <code>gsk...</code> This ending is assimilated to the preceding vowel of the verb-stem, or, in cases where the stem ends in a vowel, it is absorbed in such vowel. Consequently one commonly hears first person singulars in <code>gsk</code>, <code>ask</code>, <code>isk</code>, and <code>usk</code>, e.g.:

baske, I mount; derived from ba-eske. diske, I do, make; derived from di-eske. buske, I eat; derived from bu-eske.

Owing to the contraction of the vowel, slight differences are introduced into the inflexion, as may be seen in the examples of conjugation with the auxiliary verb of inflexion in esk which are given below. One classifies these verbs into four subdivisions according to their phonetic differences:

Subdivision (a) vowel of inflexion g (the primitive vowel).

(b) vowel of inflexion a (compounded from the stem vowel and the g of the auxiliary verb).

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Subdivision (c) vowel of inflexion i (i and g). , (d) , , u (u and g).

Those verbs in Class B which begin with the letter y have the peculiarity that the inflexional prefix coalesces with this y. Hence Class B verbs are properly divided into the following groups:

First group. Verbs not beginning with y.

Subdivision (a) in esk, e.g. rageske, I like; kendeske, I tie on.

- Subdivision (b) in ask, e.g. baske, I mount; taske, I catch.
- Subdivision (c) in isk, e.g. diske, I do, make; liske, I learn.
- Subdivision (d) in usk, e.g. buske, I eat; ruske, I see; lifuske, I take care of.

Second group. Verbs beginning with y.
Subdivision (a) in esk, e.g. yateske, I take away.
Subdivision (b) in ask, e.g. yesaske, I repair, restore.
Subdivision (c) in isk, e.g. yetiskin, I plait.

Subdivision (d) in usk, e.g. yimbuluskin, I fill; yifuskin, I buy.

The best way to explain the conjugation of these verbs is by concrete examples.

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# 17. FIRST GROUP

# SUBDIVISION (a)

# rago, to like ; kendo, to tie on.

# Future.

I. rageskin,	shall lik <b>e</b> .	kendeskin, I	shall tie on.
2. ragemin	&c.	kendemin	&c.
3. tseragin	&c.	tsekendin	&c.
1. rageyen	&c.	kendiyen	&c.
2. raguwi	&c.	kęnduwi	&c.
3. tsaragin	&c.	tsakendin	&c.

# Present Indefinite.

1. ragęske,	I like.	kęndęske,	[ tie on.
2. ragem	&c.	kendem	&c.
3. tserage	&c.	tsekende	&c.
1. ragiye	&c.	kęndiye	&c.
2. ragu	&c.	kendu	&c.
3. tsarage	&c.	tsakende	&c.

# Perfect.

I. r	ageski,	I have liked.	kendeski, I	have tied on.
	agemi	&c.	kęndęmi	&c.
	seragi	&c.	tsekendi	&c.
1. r	agiye	&c.	kendiye	&c.
2. r	aguwi	&c.	kenduwi	&c.
3. t	saragi	&c.	tsakendi	&c.

# Aorist.

1. kiragęsko,	I liked.	kikendesko,	I tied on.
2. kiragem	&c.	kikendem	&c.
3. kirago	&c.	kikendo	&c.
1. kiragiye	&c.	kikendiye	&c.
2. kiragu	&c.	kikendu	&c.
3. kerago	&c.	kekendo	&c.

# Future Perfect.

I.	tsiragęsko, 1	I shall have	tsikendesko, ]	shall have
		liked.		tied on $s \to \infty$
2.	tsiragem	&c.	tsikendem	&c.
3.	tsirago	&c.	tsikendo	&c.
I.	tsiragiye	&c.	tsikendiye	&c.
2.	tsiragu	&c.	tsikendu	&c.
3.	tserago	&c.	tsekendo	&c.

# Participial.

1.	ragęskina,	I	am	liking,	I	like,	I	liked.	
				0					

2. ragemma	<b>&amp;с.</b>
3. tseragina	&c.
1. ragiyena	&c.
2. raguwa	&c.
3. tsaragina	&c.
1. kendeskina, I	am tying on, I tie on,
2. kęndęmma	&c.
3. tsekendina	&c.
I. kendiyena	&c.
2. kenduwa	&c.
3. tsakendina	&c.

I tied on.

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#### Imperative.

2 p. s. rage, love thou.kgnde, tie thou on.2 p. p. ragogo, love ye.kgndogo, tie ye on.1 p. p. ragiyogo, let us love.kgndiyogo, let ustie on.

### Infinitive.

rago, to like. kendo, to tie on (also ngendo).

### Verbs conjugated like rageskin.

laręskin, be glad.sangęskin, erect, set up.magęskin, take.natęskin, plant.pandęskin, get, obtain.nandęskin, bite.sagęskin, unload.pęrtęskin, pluck.meręskin, recover,get well.

### 18.

Those verbs which begin with k may change the k into g when a softer sound, like the prefix tso or tsa, precedes the k. Hard consonants may likewise be influenced by softer consonants following them, such as b or d; vide baskin below.

### Examples.

kendęskin, tie on. tsękęndina or tsęgęndina, he tied on. tsakęndina or tsagęndina, they tied on.

.

kaseskin, run.

tsekasina or tsegashina, he ran. tsakasina or tsagashina, they ran. Cf. kareskin, tattoo; kegeskin, divide; &c.

19.

Verbs which have u or o in the first syllable of their root change the conjugational prefix tsg into tsu, and tsa into tso.

Examples.

rumbuskin, pay.	kuteskina, bring.
tsurumbina, he paid.	tsukutina, he brought.
tsorumbina, they paid.	tsokutina, they brought.
lugęskin, come out.	duteskin, sew.
tsulugina, he came out.	tsudutina, he sewed.
tsolugina, they came out.	tsodutina, they sewed.
Cf. noteskin, send; dor	skin, pick up, gather;
koreskin, ask.	

20. SUBDIVISION (b)

Verbs with the ending ask... in the first person singular. There are only four:—baskin, mount; baskin, beat, pound; gaskin, follow; taskin, catch.

Examples.					
	Future.	Pres. Indef.	Perf.	Aorist.	
1.	baskin	baske	baski	kibasko or giba- sko, <i>vide</i> sec. 18.	
2.	bamin	bam	bami	kibam	
3.	tsębai	tsęba	tsębai	kiba	
I.	baiyen	baiye	baiye	kibaiye	
2.	bawi	bau	bawi	kibau	
3.	tsabai	tsaba	tsabai	keba	

Future Perfect.	Participial.	
I. tsibasko	baskina	
2. tsibam	bamma	
3. tsiba	tsębana	
1. tsibaiye	baiyena	
2. tsibau	bauwa	
3. tseba	tsabana	

Imperative.

2 p. s. bai 2 p. p. baigo 1 p. p. baiyogo

> Infinitive. mba (ba)

21. SUBDIVISION (c)

Verbs with the ending isk... in the first person singular. There are only three. Their root is monosyllabic. They are : diskin, make, do; liskin, learn; tiskin, suffice (practically only used in the third person).

	Future.	Pres. Indef.	Perf.	Aorist.
1.	diskin	diske	diski	kidisko
2.	dimin	dim	dimi	kidim
3.	tsędin	tsędę	tsędi	kido
1.	diyen	diye	di <b>yə</b>	kidiye
2.	diwi	diu	diwi	kiđiu
3.	tsadin	tsadę	tsadi	kedo

Participial. Future Perfect. I. tsidisko diskina 2. tsidim dimma 3. tsido tsędina I. tsidiye divena 2. tsidiu diwa tsadina 3. tsedo Infinitive. Imperative. de; dego or deogo; diyogo dio, ndio, ndeo

22.

Verbs with the ending usk... in the first person singular. There are only three. They also are monosyllabic. They are:

> buskin, eat; muskin, put on (of clothes); ruskin, see.

> > Examples.

Future.	Pres. Indef.	Perfect.	Aorist.
I. ruskin	ruske	ruski	kirusko
2. rumin	rum	rumi	kirum
3. tsuruin	tsuru	tsurui	kiru
1. ruiyen	ruiye	ruiye	kiruiye
2. ruwi	ru	ruwi	kiru
3. tsarui	tsaru	tsarui	keru

Future Perfect.

2. tsurum

I. tsuruiye

3. tsuru

2. tsuru

3. tseru

Participial.

ruskina rumma tsęruna ruiyena ruwa

tsaruna

Imperative.

rui, ruigo, ruiyogo

Infinitive.

ru

23. SECOND GROUP

Class B: Verbs beginning in y.

These verbs elide in the third person singular the g of the prefix tsg as well as the y of the root; the sound ts therefore immediately precedes the first vowel of the root. The prefix of the third person plural remains tsa, but combines with the first vowel of the root to replace the y of the root by an s. In the Aorist and Future Perfect the y of the root is elided, the i of the prefix becomes e, and the prefix ke or tse is connected with the first vowel of the root by an s.

# 24. SUBDIVISION (a)

Verbs with the ending esk in the first person singular.

### Examples.

Future.	Pres. Indef.	Aorist.	Participial.
1. yatęskin	yatęske	keatęsko	yatę <b>skina</b>
take awa 2. yatemin 3. tsatin	ay yatęm tsatę	keatem keato	yatęmma tsatina
<ol> <li>yatiyen</li> <li>yatuwi</li> <li>tsasatin</li> </ol>	yatiye yatu tsasatę	keatiye keatu kesato	yatiyena yatuwa tsasatina
Imp	erative.	Infin	itive.

yato (tsato)

yate, yatogo, yateyogo

Note. In conversation one often makes use of abbreviated forms of the verb, e.g.:

kuskin for kuteskin. yeskin for yetseskin. kumin for kutemin. yemin for yetsemin.

25. SUBDIVISION (b)

Verbs with the ending ask ... in the first person singular. There are only a few verbs in this subdivision, such as yaskin, drink, and yesaskin, repair, restore.

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	Future.	Pres. Indef.	Aorist.	Imperative.
2.	yaskin yamin tsain	yaske yam tsa	keasko keam kea	2 p. s. <b>ya</b> 2 p. p. <b>yago yaigo</b> 1 p. p. <b>yaiyogo</b>
2.	yaiyen yawi tsasai	yaiye yau tsasa	keaiye keau kesa	Infinitive. ya (ntsa)

Future. Pres. Indef. Aorist. 1. yesaskin yesaske keesasko (kesasko) 2. yesamin yesam keesam 3. tagaain tsesa keesa I. yesaiyen yesaiye keesaiye 2. yesawi yesau keesau 3. tsasasai tsassasa kesasa

Imperative,

2 p.s. yesai

ì,

2 p.p. yesaigo I p.p

I p.p. yesaiyogo

Infinitive.

yesa (ntsasa)

# 26. SUBDIVISION (c)

Verbs ending in isk ... in the first person singular. Conjugate as in Section 24, substituting i for g.

# 27. SUBDIVISION (d)

Verbs with the ending usk ... in the first person singular.

	Examples.	
Future.	Aorist.	Imperative.
1. yimbuluskin, fill.	kimbulusko	2 p. s. yimbule
2. yimbulumin	kimbulum	2 p. p. yimbulogo
3. tsumbulin	kimbulo	1 p. p. <b>yimbuliyogo</b>
I. yimbuliyen	<b>k</b> imbuliye	Infinitive.
2. yimbuluwi	kimbulu	yimbulu
3. tsasambulin	kesambulo	(ntsimbulo)

Verbs conjugated similarly, though with some differences :

yifuskin, buy. yuruskin, fall down. yunduskin, swallow. yukuruskin, attack. yuwuruskin (yuruskin), laugh.

# 28. EXPANDED VERBS.

The expanded verbs may be classified as follows: (a) those with a reflexive meaning.

•••			0
(b)	,,	"	relative meaning.
(c)	,,	,,	causative meaning.
(d)	,,	,,	relative and reflexive meaning.
(e)	,,	,,	causative and reflexive meaning.
(f)	<b>53</b>	**	causative and relative meaning.
(g)	,,	<b>&gt;</b> )	reference to a personal pronoun
			(Koelle calls this 'Objective In-
			flexion': vide p. 99 of his Grammar).

It is obvious that not every verb is found in all the expanded forms, of which (a) and (b) are the commonest in conversation. Form (g) is very seldom used, and then only in a few turns of phrase. [This is a very disputable statement. Plenty of examples may be found in *Kanuri Readings*, and it is especially common in the Imperative. The Objective Inflexion is one of the chief difficulties in Kanuri, and it is no use blinking it.—P. A. B.] It is in general doubtful whether the majority of the Kanuri are aware of all the formations of the verb. [This is true, but any Kanuri may suddenly use an odd tense or an odd conjugation of the Objective Inflexion.—P. A. B.]

# 29. (a) Reflexive Conjugation of Class A Verbs.

One adds to the stem of a Class A verb an auxiliary verb of inflexion which has the sound tesk in the first person singular of most tenses, and which is inflected similarly to the verbs in esk in Section 16.

### Examples.

bakta, to beat oneself, derived from bakte, to beat. tulta, to wash oneself, derived from tulte, to wash. kamta, to cut oneself, derived from kamte, to cut.

It will be sufficient to give the most important forms:

bakteskin, I shall beat myself. baktin, he will beat himself.

baktai, they will beat themselves. bakkatçsko, I beat myself. bakkato, he beat himself. bakkata, they beat themselves.

In conclusion, it should be noted that the reflexive form of the verb in tesk, &c., may also have a passive meaning:

bakta, to beat oneself, or to be beaten. tulta, to wash oneself, or to be washed. kamta, to cut oneself, or to be cut.

Which is the actual meaning (reflexive or passive) in any particular sentence must be determined by the context. Those verbs which from their meaning cannot have a reflexive form can consequently only have a passive meaning.

# 30. (b) Relative Conjugation of Class A Verbs.

If one adds to the stem of a Class A verb an auxiliary verb of inflexion, which has the sound gesk in the first person singular of most tenses and is conjugated analogously to the simple verb in ng or ngsk, the verb receives a relative or objective meaning.

# Examples.

ganategge, to place on, derived from ganate, to place. pitegge, to pour out, derived from pite, to spout, scatter, spread, pour. peletege, to indicate, exhibit, derived from pelete, to show.

manatege, to discuss, derived from manate, to speak. ganageskin, I shall place on. ganategin, he will place on. ganategie, they will place on. ganagigesko, I placed on. ganagigo, he placed on. ganagega, they placed on.

It is to be noted that one can form a relative or objective conjugation of all verbs provided they have reference to an object. At the same time the verb receives a strengthened meaning as soon as one adds the object to which it has reference.

# 31. (c) Causative Conjugation of Class A Verbs.

If one puts the prefix yita on to the simple verb, the resulting simple verb receives the meaning of causing some one to do something. The conjugation endings of the various tenses are in conformity with the forms of the Relative Conjugation (vide Section 30).

### Examples.

yitalete, to cause some one to go. yitagulte, to cause some one to say. yitabobote, to cause some one to call. yitasakte, to cause some one to shut.

# 32. (d) Relative and Reflexive Conjugation of Class A Verbs.

This conjugation is a combination of (a) and (b). It is not commonly employed. It is formed by putting the syllable to in front of the endings of the auxiliary verbs of inflexion of the (b) conjugation, e.g.:

ganategeskin, I shall put myself on. peletetsegin, he will exhibit himself.

# 33. (e) Causative and Reflexive Conjugation of Class A Verbs.

This conjugation is formed by prefixing yita to the verb, and using the endings of the reflexive auxiliary verb of inflexion of the (a) conjugation, e.g.:

yitabakteskin, I shall cause some one to beat himself. yitatulteskin, I shall cause some one to wash himself. yitakamteskin, I shall cause someone to cut himself.

&c.

# 34. (f) Causative and Relative Conjugation of Class A Verbs.

Formed by a combination of (b) and (c) conjugations. One prefixes yita to the verb and uses the endings of the auxiliary verb of inflexion of the (b) conjugation, e.g.:

yitaganategge, to cause some one to put on. yitapitegge, to cause some one to pour out. yitapeletegge, to cause some one to exhibit. yitamanategge, to cause some one to discuss.

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# (g) Conjugation with Reference to a Personal Pronoun. Koelle, 'Objective Inflexion'.

Vide Section 44.

35. (a) Reflexive Conjugation of Class B Verbs.

One prefixes the syllable to the verb (or tu in the case of verbs whose predominant vowel is u).

In verbs beginning with  $\mathbf{y}$  (verbs of the second group of Class B) the  $\mathbf{y}$  of the verb and the  $\mathbf{e}$  of the first syllable are elided. The flexional endings of the different tenses correspond to those given for subdivisions (a) to (d).

As regards the passive meaning of this conjugation, *vide* Section 29.

### Examples of Group 1.

I.

tonando, to bite oneself. tonandoskin, I shall bite myself. tonandin, he will bite himself. tanandin, they will bite themselves. katonandosko, I bit myself. katonando, he bit himself. katanando, they bit themselves. toragosko, to love oneself. toragoskin, I shall love myself. toragin, he will love himself. taragin, they will love themselves. katoragosko, I loved myself. katorago, he loved himself. katorago, they loved themselves.

# Examples of Group 2.

tambo, to be born. tambuskin, I shall be born. tambin, he will be born. tasambin, } they will be born. tatambin. katambusko, I was born. katambo, he was born. katasambin, } they were born. katatambin, tumbulo, to fill oneself, to be filled. tumbuluskin, I shall fill myself. tumbulin, he will fill himself. tatambulin, tasambulin, } they will fill themselves. tasumbulin. katumbulusko, I was filled. katasambulo. katatambulo, they were filled. katasumbulo,

36. (b) Relative Conjugation of Class B Verbs.

This conjugation is formed by prefixing the syllable yek to the verb. Before a verb beginning in b, d, j, r, and y the syllable yek becomes yer, and before l yel.

### Examples.

yekkoro, to inquire. yerrago, to feel oneself drawn towards some one. yerjero, to tie to. yellado, to sell.

The verbs are conjugated like the simple verbs of Group 2 (beginning in y), e.g.:

tsergerin, he will tie to. tsargarin, they will tie to.

# And

tergerin, he will tie himself to, or he will be tied to. targerin, they will tie themselves to, or they will be tied to.

37. (c) Causative Conjugation of Class B Verbs.

As in the causative conjugation of Class A verbs, yita is prefixed to the simple verb, but this does not affect the conjugation endings.

38. (d) Relative and Reflexive Conjugation of Class B Verbs.

Wanting.

39. (e) Causative and Reflexive Conjugation of Class B Verbs.

Formed by prefixing yita to a reflexive verb.

40. (f) Causative and Relative Conjugation of Class B Verbs.

Wanting.

41. (g) Conjugation with Reference to a Personal Pronoun. Koelle, 'Objective Inflexion'. Vide Section 44.

### 42.

# Wanting.

43. IRREGULAR CLASS B VERBS

Note. Herr von Duisburg discusses these. I think it is simpler to give the conjugation of tenses which are irregular, and learn them by heart.

#### ndio, ndeo, to come.

Future.	Aorist.	Future Perfect.
is <b>eskin</b> or iskin	kadisko	tsadisko
isemin or imin	kadim	tsadim
ishin	kadio	tsadio
ishyen	kashye or kadiye	{ tsashye { tsadiye
isuwi	kashu or kadiyu	(tsashu (tsadiyu
isai	kasha or kashyo	(tsashya tsashyo
	nu, to die.	
Future.	Aorist.	Future Perfect.
nuskin	kanusko	tsanusko
numin	kanum	tsanum
nui	kanu	tsanu
nui <b>yen</b>	kanuiye	tsanuiye
nuwi	kanu	tsanu
sanui	kasunu	tsasunu

gago, to enter.

Future.	Aorist.	Future Perfect.
gagęskin	kargagesko	tsargagesko
gagemin	kargagem	tsargagem
gagin	kargago	tsargago
gagen	kargage	tsargage
gaguwi	kargagu	tsargagu
gagagin	(kasargago	(tsasargago
l tamui	(katumo	(tatumo

baso, to ripen.

Future.	Aorist.	Future Perfect.
bafuskin	karfafuskin	tsarfafuskin
bafumin	karfafum	tsarfafum
bafin	karfafo	tsarfafo
3 pl <b>. bafafin</b>	kasarfafo	tsasarfafo

dega, to stop, remain (Pidgin English 'live').

Future.	Aorist.	Future Perfect.
degaskin degamin degai pl. dagui	kargasko kargam karga {kasargu	tsargasko tsargam tsarga (tsasargu
•	(kargu tso, to give.	( <b>tsargu</b>

Present Indefinite. Future. Aorist. yiskin yiske kesko yimin yim kem tshim tsho keino yiyen yiye keiye yuwi yu keau tsadin. tsade kedo

ntshetsho, njetsho, to kill.

Future.

Aorist.

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yetseskin	ketsesko	or kesko
yetsemin	ketsem	
tshetshin (chechin)	ketso	kejo
yetshen	ketshe	keje
yetsuwi	ketsu	
tshesheshin (chechechin)	kesheso	

44. Conjugation with reference to a Personal Pronoun of Class A and Class B Verbs

It is found in all tenses of all conjugations, but is especially commonly used in the IMPERATIVE. For a full discussion of this complicated conjugation, which Koelle calls 'Objective Inflexion', vide Koelle, Kanuri Grammar, pp. 99–139, where full conjugations are given. As examples there will only be given here the Future, Aorist, and Imperative of specimen verbs, (a) wungin (see), (b) diskin (do), (c) yifuskin (buy), and the irregular verb (d) yiskin (give).

		nandiga	wungin wuntsai	wuntsai		nandiga	wungedasko wungeda	wungeda			
		andiga	wusamin wusai	wusawi wusai		andiga	wuskedam wuskeda	wuskedau wuskeda			
(a) wungin (sec).	Future.	ahiga sandiga	wungin wungmin wutsin	wunyen wunuwi wutsai	Aorist.	{ shiga { sandiga	wugosko wugam wugono	wugaiye wugau wugeda	Imperative.	(shiga sandiga	wune wunogo
<i>(a)</i>		niga	wungin wuntsin	wuntsai		niga	wungosko wungono	wungeda	Ι	andiga	wusane wusanogo
	•	8 MnBa (90)	wusęmin wushin	wusuwi wutsai		88 M 723(90	wuskam wuskono	wuskau wuskeda		wnga M <sup>jsc</sup> t	ozouðanm euðanm
		Subjt.	wu ni Bhi	nandi sandi		Subjt.	1	andı nandi sandi		Subjt.	ni nendi

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# KANURI GRAMMAR

			7	ruture.		
Subjt.	.06ject.	wuga	niga	(shiga sandiga	andiga	nandiga
wu ni		sedemin	ntsędęskin	diskin dimin	sadęmin	ntsadęakin
shi		sedin	ntsędin	tsędin Jieros	Badin	ntsadin
nandi		seduwi	nueguyen	di <del>w</del> i	<b>Baduwi</b>	TRATTRATT
sandi		sadin	tsadin	tsadin	sadin	ntsadin
			Y	Aorist.		
Subjt.	.129]ect.	พาเยล	niga	(shiga sandiga	andiga	nandiga
TI.AA			ngidisko	kidisko		ngedesko
Ŀ.		<u>skidem</u>		kidem	skedem	
shi		skido	ngido	kido	skedo	ngedo
andi			ngidiye	kidiye		ngidiye
nandi		skidu		kidu	Bkedu	
sandi		skedo	ngedo	kedo	skedo	ngedo
			Im <sub>i</sub>	Imperative.		
Subjt.	0 <b>6ject</b> .	พาธุษ	andiga	(shiga sandiga		
ni nandi		sede sedogo	sade sadogo	de dego		

(b) diskin (do). Future.

THE VERB

	nandiga	ntsashifuskin ntsashifan ntsashifan ntsasfin	nandiga	ngeshifusko ngeshifo ngeshifo ngeshifo	
	andiga	sashifumin sashifu sashifuwi sashifuwi	andiga	skeshifum skeshifo skeshifu skeshifu	
(c) yifuskin (buy). Future.	(shiga (sandiga	yifuskin yifumin tshifin yifen yifuwi tsashifin	Aorist. [shiga [sandiga	keifusko keifum keifo keife keifu keshifo	Imperative. [shiga sandiga yifo yifo
(c) yi	niga	ntshifuskin ntshifu ntshifen ntsashifin	niga	ngeifusko ngeifo ngeife ngeshifo	I. niga sashife sashifogo
	•19:2:[90]	shifumin shifin shifuwi sashifin	•139](qO	skeifum skeifo skeifu skeshifo	<i>ماندد.</i> wuga ahifa ahifogo
	Subjt.	wu ni shi andi nandi sandi	Subjt.	wu ni shi andi nandi sandi	Subjt.

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# KANURI GRAMMAR

	nandiga	ntsadçakin ntsadin ntsadiyen ntsadin	nandiga	ngedesko ngedo ngediye ngedo	
	andiga	sadęmin sadin saduwi saduwi	andiga	skedęm skedo skedu skedu	
(d) yiskin (give). Future.	(shiga sandiga	yiskin yimin tshin yiyen yiwi taadin	Aorist. [shiga [sandiga	keako kem keino kesu keau	Imperative. (shiga sandiga yogo
(7)	niga	ntshiekin ntshin ntshiyen ntsedin	niga	ngesko ngeino ngeiye ngedo	andiga sade sadogo
	09)ect.	shimin shin shiwi sadin	.10)(40)	skem skeino skedu skedo	. <i>toold</i> ahe bhogo bhog
	Subjt.	wu ni shi andi sandi sandi	Subjt.	wu ni shi andi nandi sandi	Subji. ni nandi

THE VERB

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# KANURI GRAMMAR

#### 45. THE NEGATIVE MOOD

The negative mood of a verb is formed by adding the word **ba** or **gan**i, meaning 'not', to any tense, e.g.:

> letsin ba, he will not go. ladeske gani, I did not sell.

Special negative tenses, Present Indefinite, Aorist, and Future Perfect, are formed by contraction with an irregularity in the first person plural, e.g.:

#### Present Indefinite. ruskeni lengeni lenemmi rummi tsuruni letseni ruiyende lenvende ruwi lenuwi letsani tsaruni Anrist. kiruskeni legoskeni kirummi legammi kiruni kiruiyende legeiyende kiruwi legauwi keruni

The Future Perfect is formed like the Aorist.

# Imperative.

The word wote, wate is joined with the negative mood, e.g.:

wote lengmmi, do not go (literally, that thou mayest not go).

wote gulluwi, do not tell (literally, that ye may not tell).

Note. It should be remembered that the particle ba is interrogative as well as negative, and may be placed after any tense, e.g.:

> lenem ba? did you go? lenemmi ba? did you not go?

It often corresponds to the French n'est-ce pas.

47. CONJUNCTIONAL OR CONDITIONAL MOOD

The syllable ya is suffixed to the Perfect and the Aorist, with certain euphonic changes.

Present	Conjunctional.	Past Conj	junctional.
lengiya, il	or when I go.	legoskanya, if c	or when I went.
lenęmiya	&c.	legamya	&c.
letsiya	&c.	leganya	&c.
lenyeya	&c.	legeiyenya	&c.
lenuwiya	&c.	legauya	&c.
letsaiya	&c.	legedanya	&c.
ladęskiya,	if or when I sell.	kiladęskanya,	if or when I sold.
&c.	&c.	&c.	&c.

The Conjunctional and Negative Moods are also found combined.

#### KANURI GRAMMAR

Present Conjunct. Negative. lengeniya, if or when I do not go. &c. &c.

Past Conjunct. Negative. legoskeniya, if or when I did not go. &c. &c.

### 48.

### THE ADVERB

Adjectives become adverbs by the addition of the dative ending -ro, e.g.:

ngelaro, well; dibiro, badly; dauro, quickly.

#### ADVERBS OF PLACE

here, na atę, natę (literally, this place). there, na tutu (literally, that place). from here, na atęn, natęn (literally, from this place). from there, na tutun (literally, from that place). hither, na atęro, natęro (literally, to this place). thither, na tuturo (literally, to that place). behind, ngabon. in front, fugun. near, karęngę. far, kuyintę, kintę. from afar, kuyintęn, kintęn. everywhere, ndaranyaye, ndaranyai. together, roko, yoro, kalkalro, kalkallo, chi tiloro (literally, with one mouth).

# THE ADVERB

Adverbs of	OF TIME
to-day, ku.	sunset, <b>magarifu.</b>
to-morrow, bari.	this year, kiminde.
yesterday, bisga.	last year, minde.
day before yesterday, bis- ganto.	next year, bari mina, galagia.
day after to-morrow, bari-	year before last, mindeto.
koja.	first, burgo.
next day but two, ku kabu yasgen, ku kabu yasgewa (literally, to-day three days); wagerre.	last, <b>darge</b> . again, <b>kuru</b> . then, <b>wonte</b> . afterwards, <b>ngabon</b> .
now <b>, kęrma, kęrmama</b> .	befor <b>e, fugun.</b>
at night, <b>bunye.</b> by day, <b>kausu.</b> midnight, <b>derte.</b>	presently, afterwards, wage,wagge,wagejiya. quickly, suddenly, na-
forenoon, balte.	gędę.
evening, kajiri.	quickly, <b>kambairo.</b>
morning, sęba (very early morning, fajęr).	presently, tusshiya, tusi- ya.
mid-day, <b>kausu dabu.</b>	
49. Adverbs of Kind and Pup	, Manner, Degree, Rpose

angalan,	quickly,	softly,	dua, di	<b>1aro</b> , quick	dy.
carefull	у.		ngęla,	ngelaro,	good,
	<b>alan, v</b> ery (		well,	properly.	
very ca	refully, gra	dually.	zauro,	very.	
ngubu, m	uch.		linta, v	ery.	
<mark>gana,</mark> littl	e.		kal, ka	<b>lkal,</b> equal	ly.

karitero, excellently, especially good. sai, merely, only, except. wonigge, perhaps. kedeg, quietly, silently. ngai, thus (after the sub- ba? interrogative particle. stantive).

jire, truly.

keji, pleasantly, sweetly.

ba, not.

#### **INTERROGATIVE ADVERBS** 50.

abi, afi ? what ? nda? how? afigai? how? nda ? ndara ? where ? ndaran ? whither? yimbi? when? yimbin ? since when? ndagu ? ndawo ? how much? how many?

For Specific Adverbs, i. e. adverbs only attached to one or two particular words, vide Koelle, Kanuri Grammar, pages 142 and 283, and article by Prietze in Mitteilungen des Seminars für orientalische Sprachen (Berlin), Jahrgang XI, 1908 (page 307).<sup>1</sup>

These adverbs are exceedingly numerous. Some of the commonest are:

> bul fog, quite white. tilo lon, only one. tselim pet, jet black. ndi karan, only two.

<sup>1</sup> Vide below, p. 88, for translation of this article.

### THE PREPOSITIONS

#### **51. THE PREPOSITIONS**

The Kanuri language has no proper prepositions. The expressions which may be regarded as prepositions are always used in connexion with a postposition, i.e. with the locative suffix -n or -lan, e.g.:

on, kela ... n; on the horse, kela perben.
in, tsuro ... n; in the town, tsuro belaben.
in front of, fugu ... n; in front of him, fuguntsen.
behind, ngabo ... n; behind me, ngabonyin; behind the town, ngabo belaben.
between, dabu ... n.

under, tshidiga . . . n.

#### 52. THE POSTPOSITIONS

with, through, on, in, ..., n, ..., lan. around, deri ..., n. thus, like, -ngai, -gai. because, nanga. still, yet, dugo. indeed, marre. similarly, tsabun.

# 53. THE CONJUNCTIONS

and, -n ....-n, -wa....-wa, -nyin ....-nyin. or, -ra. either ... or, -ra ....-ra. only, except, sai. if, kwoya.

# 54. INTERJECTIONS

```
labuda, quite right.
wai, alas !
waiyo, help !
yowa, very good, very well.
aya, to express astonishment.
atema,
atema,
atema,
atema,
}right, that is so.
ngaima,
```

# 55. NUMERALS

I	tilo, pal, lasg	ę
2	ndi	-
3	yasgę	
4	degę	
	ugu	
6	arasgę	
•	tulur	
8	wusgę	
	legar	
10	megu	
11	$\mathbf{megu} egin{cases} \mathbf{luku} \\ \mathbf{tata} \end{cases}$	tilon; or lagari
12	$\mathbf{megu} iggl\{ egin{smallmatrix} \mathbf{luku} \ \mathbf{tata} \end{pmatrix}$	ndin; or nduri
13	megu { luku tata	yasgen; or megu yasgen

# NUMERALS

	luku	dogon tor (megu degen
		degen; or {megu degen megu deri
15	$megu \begin{cases} luku \\ tata \end{cases}$	ugun; or {megu ugun megu wuri
		arasgen; or megu arasgen
17	$\mathbf{megu} iggl\{ egin{smallmatrix} \mathbf{luku} \\ \mathbf{tata} \end{pmatrix}$	tulurnyin; or megu tuluri
18	$\mathbf{megu} egin{cases} \mathbf{luku} \\ \mathbf{tata} \end{cases}$	wusgen; or megu wusgen
	megu { luku tata	
20	pindi	
21	pindi { luku tata	tilon
	piyasgę	
	pidegę	
	piugu	
60	pirasgę	
	pitulur	
80	{piusgu pitusku	
90	pilęgar	
100	mia, y <b>eru</b>	
200	yeru ndin	
300	yeru y <b>asg</b> ę	
1000	dubu	
1111	dubu mian n	negu luku tilon

#### ORDINALS

These are formed by prefixing ken to the Cardinals, c.g.:

kentilo, first. kendege, fourth. kellegar, ninth.

Note. 'First' is often expressed by burgo-be, 'second' by ngabo-be, 'last' by derge-be.

Numerals always follow the noun, and if the noun is qualified by an adjective, they follow the adjective, e.g.:

pe ngela yasge, three good cows. per dege maibe, four of the king's horses.

# NUMERAL ADVERBS

These are formed by adding -ro to the Cardinals, e.g. : tilo-ro, once. ndi-ro, twice. megu luku yasgę-ro, thirteen times. Or to the Ordinals :

Or to the Ordinals:

kentilo-ro, the first time.

#### FRACTIONS

1/2 reta 1/3 sanna yasgę 1/4 sanna degę

### NUMERALS

#### DISTRIBUTIVES

Formed by repeating the Cardinal, e.g.:

tilo tilo, one each. megu megu, ten each.

#### INDEFINITE NUMERALS

tiloma, a single one. afima, abima, anything. nduma, any one. samma, all. afiso, abiso, whatever. ndasaso, whichever. nduso, whoever. ngaso, all; every.

```
yasgęso, all three.
degęso, all four, &c.
afiyaye, all; everything.
ndasoyaye
nduyaye
yasgęyaye, all three, &c.
ndasoyaye
each; every
ndusoyaye
one.
```

# THE SPECIFIC ADVERBS OF EMPHASIS IN HAUSA AND KANURI

# TRANSLATED AND RE-ARRANGED FROM THE GERMAN OF RUDOLF PRIETZE

[The original of this article appeared in the Mitteilungen des Seminars für orientalische Sprachen, Berlin, Jahrgang XI, Dritte Abteilung, 1908. I have usually adopted the Royal Geographical Society spelling used in Robinson's Hausa Dictionary and Benton's Kanuri Readings instead of the complicated though more scientific system favoured by Prietze.—P.A.B.]

Mischlich in his *Haussa-Lehrbuch*, p. 54, under Adverbs, points out that there are certain ones which mean 'very' only in a certain connexion, and quotes as emphatic suffixes of this species lau attached to lafia, meaning 'quite'; wur to ja (red), fet or fer to fari (white), kirin to bakki (black).

Although Mischlich states that lau-lau means the same as lafla-lau, wur-wur as ja-wur, the expression cannot be exactly translated thus. According to my inquiries, such duplication can only be employed to contradict an expressed or implied doubt. If, for example, a merchant has recommended some material as fari-fet or ja-wur, and the customer finds it not so white or so red as he wants, the former would protest that it is fet-fet or wur-wur; the duplication therefore does not imply kind but degree. Koelle, in § 289 (p. 282 ff.) of his *Kanuri Grammar*, gives thirty-three such specific or confined adverbs, each of which is only found applied to a definite particular word or its synonyms. It appears that adverbs of this stamp are to be found in other African languages, e. g. Aku and Vei, and are to be regarded as onomatopoeic (or rather sound-symbolic) expressions.

I have traced this remarkable phenomenon in discussions with people from the Sudan in the Azhar Mosque here [i. c. Cairo]. What I have been able to collect regarding words of this class, drawn in Hausa from the dialects of Damagaram (capital, Zinder) and Kano, and in Kanuri from the Manga dialect of the district of Borsari, may serve to illustrate the differences from Koelle's material, which was drawn from the Gazir district [i. e. Gazirregomo or old Birni].

### **Abbreviations**:

K. = Kano dialect.	Kl. = Koelle.
D. = Damagaram dialect.	H. = Hausa.
M. = Mischlich.	B. = Bornu (Kanuri).

In addition to the specific adverbs of emphasis enumerated below, it should be noted that many of them can also be expressed by the common words for 'quite', 'fully', 'very', viz. in Hausa by **kwarai** 

# 90 SPECIFIC ADVERBS OF EMPHASIS

(Kano, Sokoto) and sarrai (Daura, Damagaram), by dakeau (Kano, Sokoto) and kakeau (Daura, Katsena), in Kanuri by linta or tsouro.

# HAUSA ADVERBS (85)

- dábas (K.): da kabri dábas, very thick (board, material).
- dakáb (D.): da dauda dakáb, filthily dirty.
- dákan (K.): da dauda dákan, filthily dirty.
- díbis (K.) : kusa ne díbis, it is quite near.
- dílim (D., K.): makafo dílim, totally blind.
- dom (D., K.): ya zamna dom, he remains quite still.
- dowi (D.): maiwari dowi, frightfully smelly.
- faiyáu (K.): da kaifi faiyáu, quite sharp (edged).
- fal (D., K.): a chikke fal, it is quite full.
  - da sasari fal, loaded with chains.
- farzák (D., K.): dia farzák, enormous fruit.
- fat (D., K.) (M. Sokoto fet, Kano fer): fari fat (D., K.), snow-white. (There is a remarkable similarity between the emphatic word used in Hausa with 'white', and in Kanuri with 'black'.)
- fazák (D.): dia fazák, enormous fruit. [Cf. ? Kanuri gajak, bloated; vide Benton, Kanuri Readings, p. 29.]
- fer. Vide fat.
- fet. Vide fat.
- fláu (D.): da kaifi fláu, quite sharp (edged).
- fitik (K.): kurma fitik, deaf as a post.
- fur (D., K.): da doachi fur, quite bitter.

fúrat (D.) : da sauki fúrat, quite light (weight).
fútik (D.): kurma fútik, deaf as a post.
gágau (K.), gagáu (D.): maikarifi gágau, gigantically
strong. (Cf. M. gágauta (K.), to be hasty, rash.)
gárau (D., K.): sabo gárau, quite new (garment).
gúbal (K.): gajere gúbal, quite short.
igír (D.): da tauri igír, hard as a rock.
kaláu (K.): da sanyi kaláu, quite cool (weather).
mailafia kalau, mild, tender-hearted.
kám (D., K.): ya ke kám, he stands upright.
karáu (D.): da sanyi karáu, quite cold (water).
sabo karáu, quite new (metal).
kekashashe karáu, quite dry.
kátaf (K.): fura ta yi kabri kátaf, the porridge is
quite thick.
kau (D.): zafi kau, great heat.
(kau is also the Kanuri word for 'Sun'.)
kídil (D., K.): wada kídil, a regular dwarf.
gajere kídil, quite short.
kígir (D.): da tauri kígir, hard as a rock.
kíkam (K.): ya tsaya kíkam, he stands upright.
kílit (K.): gajere kílit, quite short.
kankanni kílit, quite small.
kírin (D., K.): bakki kírin, coal black.
dufu kírin, pitch dark.
kirtíb (D.): fura ta yi kabri kirtíb, the porridge is
quite thick.
kítib (D.): da kabri kitíb, very thick (board,
material).

kor (D., K.): da tsami kor, quite sour.

### 92 SPECIFIC ADVERBS OF EMPHASIS

- kúrum (D., K.): karami kúrum, quite small. (Cf. M. kurum, rest, usually silence.)
- kwánai (D.): da wayo kwánai, very clever.
- lak (D., K.): daia lak, only one.
- lau (D., K.): lafia lau, very well.

ka yi hankuri lau, pray be patient.

- límas (K.): da tabshi límas, quite soft (cushions and cloths).
- lúkos (D.): da tabshi lúkos, quite supple. (In Kano lúkos = asunder, not according to M.)
- maráu (K.): kekashashe maráu, quite dry.
- mazáu (D.): a-darme mazáu, he is tightly bound.
- rak (D.): biu rak, only two.
- sab (K.): a-darme sab, he is tightly bound.
- sánka (K.): sabo sánka, quite new (garment).
- shákat (D., K.): harshinsa shákat, he is very talkative. (Cf. M. sákot in duatsu sákot, light stones.)

shar (D., K.): shudi shar (K.), quite sky-blue. zanwa shar (D., K.), quite green. danye shar (D.), quite unripe.

- shárab (K.): danye shárab (K.), quite unripe.
- sháraf (K.): ganye sháraf (K.), quite green leaf.
- shárat (K.): danye shárat (K.), quite unripe.
- shátak (D., K.): lami shátak, quite insipid, unseasoned.

danye shátak (K.), quite unripe.

shau (D., K.): shuni shau (D., K.), deep dark blue. shudi shau (D.), quite sky-blue.

(According to my informants, Mischlich has changed

# THE LANGUAGES AND PEOPLES OF BORNU

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# P. A. BENTON ''

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# VOLUME ONE

#### NOTES ON SOME LANGUAGES OF THE WESTERN SUDAN



FRANK CASS & CO. LTD.

1968 ТАН the meanings of shuni and shudi the wrong way round.)

shírim (D.): babba shírim, gigantically big.

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(K. babba kato; cf. M. kato, thick.)
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shirit (D.): danye shirit (D.), quite unripe. damana shirit (D.), time of fresh green after the rains.

atter the rains.

- síbal (K.): da samtsi síbal, quite smooth.
- sílib (D.): da samtsi sílib, quite smooth.
- silim (K.): da samtsi silim, quite smooth.
- sit: bakki sit, coal black.
- tal (D., K.): da kora tal, quite bald.
- tíkir (K.): da tauri tíkir, hard as a rock.
- tílas (D., K.): da tabshi tílas, quite soft (cushions and cloths).
  - mailafia tilas (D.), quite gentle (of character).
  - tafariki lafla tílas, perfectly secure road.
- tis (D.): kusa ne tis, it is quite near.
- túbus (D.): da tabshi túbus, quite soft (food).
- túkos (D.): da tabshi túkos, quite soft (food).
- túkub (D.): tsofo túkub, as old as the hills.

túkuf (K.): tsofo túkuf, as old as the hills.

- wur (D., K.): ja wur (D., K.), deep red.
- yom (D.): maikeau yom, very beautiful, very good.
- zagób (D., K.): rubabbe zagób (K.), quite spoilt (e.g. a garment).
- zagóm (D.): rubabbe zagóm, quite putrid (e.g. meat). zigib (K.): azige zigib (or ziglib), it is very sloppy.

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