

TUKO Group. It is spoken roughly by 10,000 persons (Tucker & Bryan 1956:108) and called *lotúxò* by the Lotuko people (but cf. Tucker & Bryan, loc.cit.).

From a number of publications on Lt the most useful sources are those of Father Muratori (1938, 1948). My own data derive from information received from Mr. Martin Oleha, then 22 years old; he was born in Iloli Village near Torit where he also lived until the age of 13. He then was sent to primary schools, first in Uganda, and later in Nairobi, Kenya, where he also attended secondary school. Since his return to the Southern Sudan in 1977, Mr. Oleha has been employed as a youth officer in the Ministry of Youths and Sports in Juba. He speaks English, Arabic, Swahili, and Acholi.

7.1.15. *Ongamo (On)*

The language name *on* is used here in accordance with its speakers' own name *oggámò* (sg *oggámónì*). Tucker & Bryan (1956:112) estimated their number (following Fosbrooke 1954) to be about 1,000. This figure is certainly far too high. Since only elderly people are able to speak *on* - young people grow up with Chagga as their first language - one may assume that merely two or three hundred people, if not less, have maintained some practical language knowledge.

Probably, at the time when the sociologist H.A. Fosbrooke collected first notes on *on* in the early 1950s, the language started dying out gradually. A short word-list compiled by Fleming (1965), and single words scattered over a number of pages in Ehret (1971, 1974a) were then incorporated into data presented by Heine & Voßen (1975-76) who conducted field research during a short visit in February/March 1975. These data appear here throughout, but occasional reference is also made to an unpublished vocabulary by Ehret (1967).

7.1.16. *Maasai (Ma)*

This is the most important and widespread dialect of *Maa*,

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