

Yana has five vowels and twenty-two consonants, whose approximate phonetic relationships may be shown by the following table:

Spirants			s	x	h
Aspirates	p	t	c	k	
Glottalized	p'	t'	c'	k'	
Neutral stops	b	d	ʒ	g	ʔ
Nasals	m	n			
Oral sonorants	w	l r	y		
Apex vowels	u		i		a
Mid vowels	o		e		

The automatic phonological adjustments can be stated as a series of rules.<sup>2</sup>

(1) If two glottal stops are brought into contact, one is lost, e.g., čob<sup>2</sup>asin<sup>2</sup>ža "I make it good" from čub<sup>2</sup>- "good" plus -<sup>2</sup>a causative.

(2) /b d/ are replaced by the corresponding nasals, /m n/, when they come before a nasal, either directly or with glottal stop intervening, e.g., čum<sup>2</sup>mauna "being good," from čub<sup>2</sup>-. The sequence m-n may be assimilated to /nn/, e.g., žaužamna, žaužanna "north" from žau-žam- plus -na. In Yahi the assimilation across glottal stop is not consistent so that sometimes one finds forms like dud<sup>2</sup>mauna "many."

(3) When /n/ comes into contact with /l/, either directly or with intervening /<sup>2</sup>/, and when /d/ or /d<sup>2</sup>/ are followed by /l/, they are assimilated to /l/, e.g., dal-la "hand" (-na, absolute), dal-<sup>2</sup>ligi "our hands" (-<sup>2</sup>nigi "we"), <sup>2</sup>ul-lau-<sup>2</sup>i "stick your feet out" (<sup>2</sup>un- "extend foot").

(4) Suffix-initial /r/ is retained as such only after a vowel but becomes /d/ (or /n/ in contact with nasal) after a consonant. Evidently some suffixes have fixed /d/, which remains both after vowels and after consonants; much more frequent are suffixes showing the interchange of /d/ and /r/.

(5) /w/ changes to /m/ in N and C when preceded by /m/, /b/, or /b<sup>2</sup>/, and the /b/ becomes /m/, e.g., yum<sup>2</sup>maldisinža "I spit down," from yub<sup>2</sup>- "spit" plus -waldi- "down." Yahi retains the w-group, e.g., camwul<sup>2</sup>aiwaldis "he sleeps underneath something on ground."

(6) Double vowels are simplified when they come to stand in closed syllables; thus, by vowel mutation, /a/ becomes doubled /oo/ in wookui- "to sew" (from wakui-) but single vowel in <sup>2</sup>om<sup>2</sup>ži "to kill" (from <sup>2</sup>am<sup>2</sup>ži-). Yahi has /i/ and /u/ as the shortened form of /ee/ and /oo/, therefore <sup>2</sup>ub<sup>2</sup>ži- "to kill."

(7) When vowel elision would produce the sequence -<sup>2</sup>nC, the glottal stop and nasal are transposed, e.g., -n<sup>2</sup>ti remote past quotative, from -<sup>2</sup>ni remote past plus -ti quotative.

(8) Where elision of a vowel brings a non-aspirate into contact with preconsonantic /x/, contraction to aspirate results, e.g., <sup>2</sup>oowaltdagusee<sup>2</sup>nuga "you will just go ahead and bury him" (190.7)<sup>3</sup> from <sup>2</sup>oo-waldi "bury" plus -xda- "straight ahead."

# YANA DICTIONARY

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