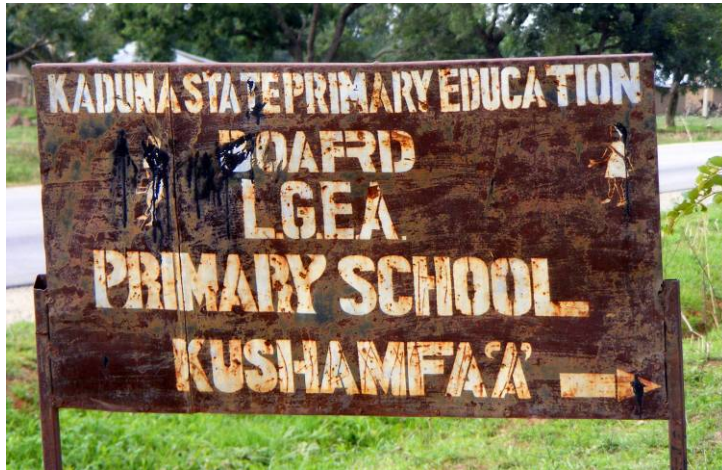


The Shang language of Central Nigeria and its affinities



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This printout: August 31, 2010

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1. Introduction

This is an annotated wordlist of the Shang language, spoken in Kushampa village in Kaduna State, Nigeria. The wordlist was collected by Roger Blench with the assistance of Barau Kato and Rev. Danjuma Ndaka from a group of villagers in Kushampa on the 11th of May 2009. There is no previous record of the existence of this language. Mr. John Y. Jatau was the main informant. The wordlist was collected as a ‘one-shot’ exercise and the transcription must therefore be regarded as preliminary. This analysis was prepared by Roger Blench, who added the comparative observations. This document is being circulated to scholars for comment.

2. Location, history and sociolinguistic situation

2.1 Nomenclature

The name the community gives to itself is;

ù-fàŋ pl. àfàŋ language fàŋ

2.2 Location and settlements

The Shang live in two settlements, Kushampa A and B. Kushampa A is on the road between Kurmin Jibrin and Kubacha on the Jere road. The village is also called Shang.

2.3 Language status

From the size of the settlements, it seems that there might be 2-3000 speakers of Shang. Although Shang is currently spoken, older people are pessimistic about its future. As one said, the language is ‘dying from the youth’. Parents speak Hausa and English to children. Apart from these the main second languages are Zhire [Kenyi], Hyam and Ashe. There is a Development Association known as *Ingbe shigong Ashang* i.e. ‘Let us meet and develop our language’.

2.4 Shang culture and history

The Shang people claim to have originated with the Kenyi or Zhire, one of the Hyamic subgroups and this may very well be true, given the many cognates with Hyamic.

2.5 The classification of Shang

Shang is undoubtedly a Hyamic language, part of the same cluster as Hyam, Coori, Samban and Zhire.

3. Phonology

The phonology of Shang should be regarded as tentative.

3.1 Vowels

Shang probably has eight phonemic vowels;

	Front	Central	Back
Close	i		u
Close-Mid	e	ə	o
Open-Mid	ɛ		ɔ
Open		a	

Shang has three nasalised vowels as follows;

	Front	Central	Back
Open-Mid	ẽ		õ
Open		ã	

They are extremely rare in the current dataset and may be regarded as marginal phonemes.

3.2 Consonants

Shang consonants are as follows:

	Bilabial	Labio-dental	Alveolar	Alveopalatal	Palatal	Velar	Labial-velar	Glottal
Plosive	p b		t d		tʃ dʒ	k g	kp gb	
Nasal	m		n		ɲ	ŋ		
Trill			[r]					
Fricative		f v	s z	ʃ ʒ		x ɣ		h
Approximant					y		w	
Lateral Approximant			l					

3.3 Tones

Shang appears to have three level tones, plus a falling tone. In this transcription, mid tone is left unmarked. Tones are marked as follows;

High	´
Mid	Unmarked
Low	`
Rising	˘
Falling	ˆ

4. Morphology

4.1 Nouns

Compared with Hyam, Shang has an extremely reduced system of nominal affixes. The main noun-class pairings are between zero affixes in the singular and a- and i- prefixes. Rare plural prefixes include ka-, u- and ru-. No singular affix, either productive or fossil, has been recorded. Some nouns referring to persons have an alternation nè-/ fú- but these are probably not old affixes but compounded terms for ‘person’. The tone on the vowel of the plural affix always appears to be low tone.

Table 1. Shang nominal affix pairings

Affix	sg.	pl.	Gloss
ø-/a-	dʒàŋ	à-dʒàŋ	leaf
ø-/i-	tàà	i-taa	stone
ø-/u-	xá	u-xá	load
ø-/ka-	kwè	kà-kwè	nose
ø-/ru-	à-bin	ru-bin	thing

Semantic correlations are not very clear for most of these. However, there is a strong predominance of body parts with the ka- affix.

Other types of nominal plural are all extremely rare and all are concerned with persons. For example, the following \emptyset -/fa- alternation only occurs in these two words;

Husband	xax	fá-xáx
Wife	ziŋgɛ	fá-ziŋgɛ

The ne/fa opposition attested also occurs in other Hyamic languages. However, these are not likely to be old noun-class affixes, but rather a suppletive plural connected with words for 'person'.

Hunter	ne-ɣáp	fu-ɣap
Diviner	né-tàŋfaŋ	fú-tàŋfaŋ

The following is a so far unique plural formed by tone;

Man	cakàx	cákáx
-----	-------	-------

There are some rare examples of vowel doubling in plurals;

Back	fà	ì-faà
Skin	tà	ì-táà

The single suppletive plural so far noted is;

Person/people	nekê	néétùŋ
---------------	------	--------

Some nouns show reduplication of the first syllable, an attested pluralisation strategy in other Plateau languages;

Bark (of tree)	guguk	à-guguk
Father	tité	a-tité

This seems to be no longer productive in Shang.

5. Shang wordlist

The words are classified in sections as; Nouns Pronouns Verbs Numerals Adjectives
Other

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
1.	Tree (generic)	iti	ití	
2.	Leaf	dʒàŋ	à-dʒàŋ	cf. Hyam jàŋ ,
3.	Root	nàana	náána	cf. Hyam nyân ,
4.	Branch	ɲayti	à-ɲayti	
5.	Bark (of tree)	guguk	à-guguk	
6.	Thorn	tùm	túm	
7.	Grass (generic)	sà	ì-sa	
8.	Vine (generic)	rik	à-rik	cf. Hyam rik ,
9.	Mushroom	kpyòk	ì-kpyòk	cf. Hyam kpyòb ,
10.	Algae			
11.	Seed/stone/pip	kpyò	ì-kpyò	cf. Hyam ɸyó ,
12.	Charcoal	rùkà	-	
13.	Dust	gbyèna	-	cf. Cori angjina
14.	Ashes	àtɔŋ	-	cf. Hyam (n)twɔŋ ,
15.	Rubbish-heap	kwí	-	
16.	Mud	dòbà	-	cf. Hyam ndwòb ,
17.	Clay	àbè	-	cf. Hyam, Cori bi ,
18.	Dew	mèm	-	cf. Ninzo àmé , Ningye mmeŋ , Hasha eme , Rukul mmanŋ , Tarok imimyaŋ , Yanƙam myaŋ going back to a Niger-Congo root # me-
19.	Stone	tàà	ì-taa	
20.	Sand	zyep	-	cf. Hyam njep ,
21.	Smoke	à-dzòŋ		cf. Hyam jòŋ ,
22.	Fire	yáŋ		cf. Hyam yaŋ ,
23.	Water	ʃír		
24.	Rain	mòr		
25.	Cloud	mìnè		
26.	Lightning			
27.	Rainy Season			
28.	Dry season			
29.	Harmattan			
30.	Year	mèk	à-mêk	cf. Hyam mêk ,
31.	Today	ɽɽe		cf. Hyam re ,
32.	Yesterday	à-ɽéŋ		cf. Hyam rèŋ ,
33.	Tomorrow	rùcé		cf. Hyam rici ,
34.	Morning			
35.	Evening			
36.	Dawn			
37.	Day	nɔm	nòmwo	cf. Hyam nóm ,
38.	Night	à-tuk		cf. Hyam tuk ,
39.	Moon/month	fe	à-fe	cf. Hyam fè ,
40.	Sun	nɔm		
41.	Star(s)	jè	ì-jê	cf. Hyam yèt ,
42.	Wind	sèŋ	-	cf. Hyam shíshèŋ ,

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
43.	God	nɔm		
44.	Sky	fáfá		cf. Hyam fai ,
45.	World			
46.	Ground	rube		cf. Hyam ribi ,
47.	Large River	f̄ər	ì-f̄ər	
48.	Stream			
49.	Lake, pond	káp	-	cf. Hyam kàb 'river',
50.	Forest	sék	à-sek	cf. Hyam f̄ək ,
51.	Mountain	jɔ	ì-jɔ̀	cf. Hyam jò ,
52.	Hill	kpəri	ì-kpəri	
53.	Bush	tóndà	-	
54.	Farm	càŋ	ì-caŋ	
55.	Field			
56.	Market*	dze	ì-dzè	
57.	Compound	àha	ì-hà	cf. Hyam har ,
58.	Room	yú	ì-yú	cf. Hyam zú ,
59.	Wall (of room)	banjin	-	cf. Hyam jín ,
60.	Thatch roof			
61.	Granary	dudu	à-dúdu	
62.	Well			
63.	Road	ɣvé	ì-ɣvè	
64.	Path			
65.	Village/settlement	ɣweb sutsi	ì-ɣwèb sútsi	
66.	River-bank			
67.	Swamp/wetland			
68.	Place	f̄ètè	à-f̄ètè	
69.	Person/people	nekê	néétùŋ	
70.	Man	cakàx	cákáx	cf. Hyam f̄əxàk , Cori axak ,
71.	Woman	f̄aziŋge	a-f̄aziŋge	cf. Hyam f̄əxàk ,
72.	Child	wéfawène	a- wefawene	cf. Hyam wè ,
73.	Husband	xax	f̄áxáx	cf. Hyam xák ,
74.	Wife	ziŋge	f̄aziŋge	cf. Hyam zi ,
75.	Widow			
76.	Young man			
77.	Young girl			
78.	Old person			
79.	Father	tité	a-tité	
80.	Mother	yà	a-ya	
81.	Barren woman			
82.	Relations			
83.	Ancestors			
84.	Grandparents			
85.	Grandchild			
86.	Brother	were	à-were	cf. Hyam wera ,
87.	Sister	tere	à-tere	cf. Hyam tirda ,
88.	Friend	dóké	à-dóke	cf. Hyam ndwàk ,
89.	Guest/stranger	tsén	a-tsén	cf. Hyam cyen ,
90.	King/chief/ruler	kpóp	a-kpóp	cf. Hyam kpòp ,

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
91.	Hunter	ne-yáp	fu-yap	
92.	Thief	fêp	à-fêp	cf. Hyam fyèp ,
93.	Diviner	né-tàn faŋ	fú-tàn faŋ	
94.	Doctor	nera gwòp	fúru gwòp	
95.	Witch	jímàtù	à-jímàtù	
96.	Corpse	kom	ì-kòm	cf. Hyam kòm , Jijili ukɔ , Ake ɔkwɔ̃ , Eggon okom , Izere kùkóm
97.	Blacksmith	nenâ	funâ	cf. Hyam na naa pl. fu naa ,
98.	Slave	gánà	à-gánà	cf. Hyam gààn , Ningye gan , Bu egərǎ
99.	Masquerade I	kú	a-kú	cf. Hyam kù ,
100.	Masquerade II	negbî	ànègbî	cf. Hyam nan̄gbwózi ,
101.	Masquerade III	akú ùfe		
102.	Masquerade IV	akú d̀òbà		
103.	Prophecy			
104.	Shame			
105.	Fear/fright			
106.	Bravery/courage			
107.	Laughter			
108.	Wisdom			
109.	Guilt			
110.	Anger			
111.	Race/running			
112.	Suffering			
113.	Death	acé		cf. Hyam cí ,
114.	Name	xók	à-xok	cf. Hyam xwək ,
115.	Grave	kùu	à-kùu	cf. Hyam kùùr ,
116.	Song			
117.	Proverb			
118.	Story			
119.	Word			
120.	Lie			
121.	News			
122.	Hunger	mèŋ		
123.	Horn	hwòm	à-hwòm	cf. Hyam hwom , Jijili utuma , Pe ucom , Uda ndòk , Nkim ̀n-tâŋ , PEG *-d̀óŋ` , Manenguba *-t̀óŋ .
124.	Tail	yâ	à-yâ	cf. Hyam xaà ,
125.	Egg	kêb	à-kêb	cf. Hyam cèb ,
126.	Wing	hwíp	a-hwíp	cf. Hyam xwěp ,
127.	Beak			
128.	Nest			
129.	Feather			
130.	Gum/glue			
131.	Ant-hill			
132.	Hole	dùk	àdùk	
133.	Smell			
134.	Poison			
135.	Load	xá	u-xá	cf. Hyam xek ,
136.	Bundle			
137.	Firewood	rukɔ	-	cf. Hyam kúkó ,
138.	Stick			

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
139.	Yam-heap			
140.	War	huŋ	-	
141.	Work	tómá		
142.	Divination (types)			
143.	Medicine (generic)	gəp	ru-gəp	cf. Hyam gwab , Jili mugá , Ce íkál , Berom hwal [†] , Aten hwál ,
144.	Money	kwék	-	cf. Hyam hwək ,
145.	Shadow	siŋsiŋ	à-siŋsiŋ	cf. Hyam fírŋiŋ ,
146.	Thing	à-bin	ru-bin	cf. Cori bin , perhaps cf. Hausa abina
147.	Strength			
148.	Length			
149.	Land/country			
150.	Sleep			
151.	Disease(generic)	ròŋ	ì-ròŋ	cf. Cara inrɔ , Hyam rwoŋ
152.	Smallpox			
153.	Diarrhoea			
154.	Eczema			
155.	Goitre			
156.	Boil			
157.	Sore/wound	tso	i-tso	cf. Hyam tsò ‘sores, wounds’,
158.	Leprosy			
159.	Head	ru-xe	ì-xè	cf. Hyam xi
160.	Eye	fu	à-fu	cf. Hyam fú ‘face’,
161.	Face	nòk	i-nòk	
162.	Cheek	tám	i-tam	cf. Hyam tam ,
163.	Forehead	fěŋ	kà-fěŋ	cf. Hyam kisěŋ
164.	Nose	kwè	kà-kwè	cf. Hyam hywès
165.	Ear	təŋ	kà-təŋ	
166.	Mouth	ŋé	ka-ŋe	
167.	Tooth	zì	kà-yí	
168.	Tongue	ɾem	kà-ɾem	
169.	Throat	júktəŋ	kà-júktəŋ	
170.	Neck	təŋ	kà-təŋ	
171.	Jaw	namzi	kà-namzi	
172.	Chin	dájòr	kà-dájòr	
173.	Shoulder	fək	kà-fək	
174.	Armpit	dúáfək	kà-dúáfək	
175.	Fist			
176.	Arm	bók	rú-bók	cf. Cori bòk ,
177.	Hand			
178.	Leg	dák	ru-dak	cf. Cori dàk ,
179.	Foot			
180.	Thigh	nama dak	kà-námá dak	
181.	Knee	kpəri	kà-kpəri	
182.	Nail (Finger/toe)	fòtò	à-fòtò	
183.	Female breast	baŋ	à-baŋ	cf. Cori ba ,
184.	Stomach	neŋ	ì-neŋ	
185.	Chest	jàn	ì-jăn	
186.	Navel	fùrùkpop	à-fùrùkpop	

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
187.	Back	fà	ì-faà	
188.	Buttocks	kpóx	kà-kpòx	
189.	Penis	bòrà	ì-bòrà	
190.	Vagina	cwòy	ì-cwôy	
191.	Skin	tà	ì-tàà	
192.	Bone	kùp	kà-kùp	
193.	Rib	gbyam	kà-gbyam	
194.	Rib external	fap	kà-fap	
195.	Vein	xwím	kà-xwím	
196.	Blood	mêŋ		
197.	Breath	huŋ		
198.	Tear	fá	-	
199.	Saliva	xè	kà-xè	cf. Cori axik ,
200.	Sweat	sisip		
201.	Urine	firè		
202.	Faeces	biŋ		
203.	Hair	hhé	ru-hhe	
204.	Beard	zùl	kà-zùl	
205.	Liver	fêkè	kà-fêkè	
206.	Heart	rèi	-	
207.	Intestines	naŋ	-	
208.	Body	ruram	-	
209.	Meat	nàm	-	
210.	Animal (Bush)	namtondà	-	
211.	Cow	nàk	nák	
212.	Goat	bòx	ìbòx	
213.	He-goat	fik	ìfik	
214.	Castrated goat			
215.	Sheep	γèŋ	ì-γèŋ	
216.	Ram	mgbàk	ìngbàk	
217.	Dog	wèbi	à-wèbi	
218.	*Cat	kpádúmà	kà- kpadumà	
219.	*Pig	à-lédè	kà-lédè	< Hausa
220.	*Horse	dòò	kà-dòò	
221.	*Donkey	zāncí	kà-zāncí	< Hausa jaki but indirectly
222.	Elephant	jòm	ì-jòm	
223.	Hippo	hèm	ì-hem	
224.	Buffalo	hày	ì-háy	
225.	Lion			
226.	Leopard	náŋgòŋ	à-náŋgòŋ	'big animal'
227.	Hyena ¹			
228.	Civet cat ²			
229.	Genet cat ³			

¹ (*Crocuta crocuta*)² (*Viverra civetta*)³ (*Genetta genetta*)

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
230.	Jackal ⁴			
231.	Wart-hog ⁵	yii	kà-yii	
232.	Bush-pig ⁶			
233.	Duiker antelope ⁷	cər	kà-cər	
234.	Kob antelope ⁸			
235.	Roan antelope ⁹			
236.	Porcupine ¹⁰	kěyā	kà-kěyā	
237.	Tree pangolin ¹¹	wèbikùnù	kà-wèbikùnù	
238.	Baboon	kòò	kà-kòò	
239.	Patas monkey ¹²	far	kà-far	
240.	Vervet monkey ¹³	dup	kà-dup	
241.	Colobus monkey ¹⁴			
242.	Squirrel (ground)	dok	kà-dok	
243.	Squirrel (tree)			
244.	Rat (generic)	kpi	ì-kpí	
245.	Bush-rat I			
246.	Bush-rat II			
247.	Bush-rat III			
248.	Bush-rat IV			cf. Cori bàm ,
249.	Dassie	kpiríkpi	kà-kpiríkpi	
250.	Giant rat ¹⁵	kòòra	kà-kòòra	
251.	Fat mouse			
252.	Pygmy mouse			
253.	Grasscutter ¹⁶	jèp	ì-jèp	
254.	Hedgehog ¹⁷	jákfā	à-jákfā	
255.	Hare ¹⁸	fè	à-fè	
256.	Bat all	kpàŋ	à-kpàŋ	
257.	Nile crocodile	fàà	ì-fàà	
258.	Chameleon	xàní	ì-xàní	
259.	Agama lizard	fāndəm	kà-fāndəm	
260.	Skink			

⁴ (Canis aureus)⁵ (Phacochoerus aethiopus)⁶ (Potamochoerus Porcus)⁷ (Cephalophus spp.)⁸ (Kobus kob)⁹ (Hippotragus equinus)¹⁰ (Hystrix cristata)¹¹ (Manis tricuspis)¹² (Erythrocebus patas)¹³ (Cercopithecus aethiops)¹⁴ (Colobus polykomos)¹⁵ (Cretomyces sp.)¹⁶ (Thryonomys Swinderianus)¹⁷ (Atelerix albiventris)¹⁸ (Lepus Crawshayi)

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
261.	Gecko	hàŋ gúbèra	kà-hàŋ gúbèra	
262.	Monitor (<i>damo</i>)	lizard kuŋ gbwel	kà-kuŋ gbwel	
263.	Monitor (<i>guza</i>)	lizard		
264.	Toad	hògòyirà	à-hògòyirà	
265.	Frog			
266.	Tortoise	kókòfi	kà-kókòfi	
267.	Snake (Generic)	súm	à-súm	
268.	Spitting cobra	ʃík	kà-ʃík	
269.	Python	tèyàrè	kà-tèyàrè	
270.	Turtle			
271.	Crab	dakana	kà-dakana	cf. Cori akanya ,
272.	River molluscs			
273.	Fish (generic)	cère	ì-cère	
274.	Tilapia (spp.)			
275.	Puffer fish ¹⁹			
276.	Catfish (spp.) ²⁰			
277.	Nile Perch ²¹			
278.	Electric fish ²²			
279.	Bird (generic)	wenò	a-wenò	
280.	Chicken	nò	ì-nò	
281.	Cock	xəŋ nò	kà-xəŋ nò	
282.	*Duck (Domestic)			
283.	Pigeon (Domestic)			
284.	Guinea-fowl	wók	kà-wók	
285.	Hooded Vulture ²³	gbébi	kà-gbébi	
286.	Village Weaver ²⁴			
287.	Cattle-egret ²⁵			
288.	Black kite ²⁶	càk	kà-càk	
289.	Standard-wing Night-jar			
290.	Owl (various spp.)	juk	ì-juk	jifiri húdú
291.	Grey Parrot ²⁷			
292.	Senegal Coucal ²⁸			
293.	Bush-fowl/partridge	cey	kà-cey	

¹⁹ (*Tetraodon fahaka*)²⁰ (*Synodontis* spp.)²¹ (*Lates niloticus*)²² (*Malapterurus electricus*)²³ (*Neophron monachus*)²⁴ (*Ploceus cucullatus*)²⁵ (*Ardeola ibis*)²⁶ (*Milvus migrans*)²⁷ (*Poicephalus senegalus*)²⁸ (*Centropus* spp.)

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
294.	Swallow			
295.	*Pied crow ²⁹			
296.	Woodpecker			
297.	Insect (Generic)			
298.	Scorpion	nàŋ	ì-nàŋ	
299.	Butterfly	téǰépu	kà-téǰépu	
300.	Dragon-fly			
301.	Mosquito	bòŋ	ì-boŋ	
302.	Spider ³⁰	fátan	kà-fátan	
303.	Mason wasp ³¹			
304.	Bee	hwè	hwe	
305.	Sweat-fly			
306.	Sandfly			
307.	Housefly	dzùŋ	ì-dzùŋ	
308.	Ant (Generic)			
309.	Louse (Human)			
310.	Millipede			
311.	Cockroach			
312.	Termite	heŋ	kà-heŋ	
313.	Flying-ant			
314.	Grasshopper			
315.	Praying mantis			
316.	Firefly			
317.	Giant Cricket			
318.	Earthworm			
319.	Giant Snail	còra	ì-cora	
320.	Soap (Traditional)			
321.	Oil	ǰɛ		
322.	Fat/grease			
323.	Salt	tòk		
324.	Soup/stew	bàtana		
325.	Porridge	rukpa		
326.	Sorghum-beer	kàm		
327.	Palm-wine	bàm		
328.	Peelings			
329.	Filter			
330.	Rag			
331.	Floor-beater			
332.	Handle (of tool)	fwòp	ì-fwòp	
333.	Sickle	nàmbyɛ	-	
334.	Cutlass			
335.	Iron	jòm		
336.	Axe	jòò		
337.	Adze	hep	ì-hep	

²⁹ (Corvus albus)³⁰ (Acarina spp.)³¹ (Belenogaster spp.)

Roger Blench: Shang Wordlist

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
338.	Hoe I	kay	kà-kay	
339.	Hoe II	jam	kà-jam	
340.	Hoe III			
341.	Hammer			
342.	Knife	cɔn	kà-cɔn	
343.	Comb			
344.	Broom	fá	i-fá	
345.	Bag			
346.	Sack			
347.	Fireplace			
348.	Shoe			
349.	Cloth			
350.	Grindstone (top)			
351.	Grindstone (lower)			
352.	Mortar (wood)	tuu	ì-tùù	
353.	Pestle	ywii	kà-ywii	
354.	Pot (generic)			
355.	Pot I			
356.	Pot II			
357.	Pot III			
358.	Pot IV			
359.	Head-pad	yər	kà-yər	
360.	Basket (generic)			
361.	Basket I			
362.	Basket II			
363.	Winnowing tray			
364.	Mat (generic)			
365.	Mat I			
366.	Needle			
367.	Spear	kpan	à-kpàn	
368.	Bow	ʃɔna	ì-ʃɔna	
369.	Arrow	gbye	ru-gbye	
370.	Quiver			
371.	Chain			
372.	Rope			
373.	Stool			
374.	Wooden door			
375.	Fence			
376.	Bridge			
377.	Ladder			
378.	Canoe			
379.	Paddle			
380.	Bee-hive			
381.	Fish-Net			
382.	Fish-trap I			
383.	Fish-trap II			
384.	Fish-trap III			
385.	Snare			
386.	One	yini		
387.	Two	fani		

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
388.	Three	taa		
389.	Four	nààn		
390.	Five	tòó		
391.	Six	tsúnjì		
392.	Seven	tǎfáà		
393.	Eight	wàrice		
394.	Nine	kùnu bək		
395.	Ten	bòsók		
396.	Eleven	kúp		
397.	Twelve	sók		
398.	Twenty	sək	kè	
		fani		
399.	Twenty-four			
400.	Forty			
401.	Sixty			
402.	Eighty			
403.	Hundred	nàka		
404.	Black	ǰírí		
405.	White	búru		cf. Cori búli ,
406.	Red	ǰǎdò		
407.	Sweet	rǒwrò		
408.	Bitter	sè		
409.	Half	kwíkò		
410.	Hot	kpòyá		
411.	Cold	dòí		
412.	Old	ǰǎkpò		
413.	New	ǰafa		
414.	Wet	bògró		
415.	Dry	kògró		
416.	Smooth			
417.	Add to	tǎr		
418.	Answer (question)	ǰimré		
419.	Arrive	ba		
420.	Ask a question	rimǰe		
421.	Ask/beg something	for fèn		
422.	Awaken (s.o.)	sòksòk		
423.	Bark (dog)	jei		
424.	Be bent	kùní		
425.	Be heavy	kàn		
426.	Be on (s.t.)			
427.	Be rotten	séyè		
428.	Be short			
429.	Beat (drum)	pěr		
430.	Beat (s.o.)	pěr		
431.	Become dry	kògro		
432.	Begin	càí		
433.	Bite	běr		
434.	Blow (flute etc.)	fèbé		
435.	Boil	ǰǎk		

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
436.	Build (house etc.)	ǰǎn		
437.	Burn (fire burns)	bòyá		
438.	Bury	nínjè		
439.	Buy	gòí		
440.	Call (to someone)	xiyé		
441.	Carry	yà		
442.	Carve (wood etc.)	xè		
443.	Catch			
444.	Chew	γvè		
445.	Choose	tù		
446.	Climb	kàyè		
447.	Close	bǎŋfè		
448.	Come	bà		
449.	Come out (of room)	wùr		
450.	Continue (to do s.t.)			
451.	Cook			
452.	Cough	cùcèpà		
453.	Count	fàrá		
454.	Cover			
455.	Cut down (tree)	ǰàrí		
456.	Cut in two	bùnǐ		
457.	Cut off (head etc.)			
458.	Dance	ǰwar		
459.	Die	cɛ		
460.	Dig (earth etc.)	kàp		
461.	Divide/share	gàbǰa		
462.	Do/make	tòo		
463.	Drag	dàrí		
464.	Draw water			
465.	Dream	kiraya		
466.	Drink	hwà		
467.	Drop	taŋfè		
468.	Dry in sun	rúyò		
469.	Eat	γwè		
470.	Enter	yà		
471.	Extinguish	rímǐ		
472.	Fall (rain)	gbò		
473.	Fall over	gbò		
474.	Fear			
475.	Feel (cold etc.)	gò		
476.	Fight (in war)			
477.	Fill	tòk		
478.	Finish (a task)	ròk		
479.	Float	rim		
480.	Flog			
481.	Flow (water etc.)	tɛ		
482.	Fly (birds)	fūrò		
483.	Fold (cloth etc.)	kùnǐ		
484.	Follow			
485.	Forget			

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
486.	Fry (in oil)	kǎyá		
487.	Gather/collect	kǒŋrò		
488.	Get			
489.	Give	mǎ		
490.	Give birth	màr		
491.	Go	jùŋô		
492.	Go out/exit			
493.	Grind	gɔk		
494.	Grow (plants)			
495.	Hatch (egg)			
496.	Have	pò		
497.	Hear	gɔ		
498.	Hit/strike (drum)			
499.	Hoe			
500.	Hunt			
501.	Jump	sóg gbyàŋ		
502.	Kill	fɛrǰě		
503.	Kneel			
504.	Know	kěr		
505.	Laugh	ǰěné		
506.	Learn	tàámá		
507.	Lick	rɛn		
508.	Lie down	ya		
509.	Listen			
510.	Lose s.t.			
511.	Marry			
512.	Mix	gààma		
513.	Mould (pot)	kpimré		
514.	Mount			
515.	Open	kwòrí		
516.	Pierce/stab	kábórá		
517.	Plait (hair)	xěné		
518.	Plant (crop etc.)	ɣwěŋ		
519.	Play	tènè		
520.	Pound (in mortar)	rùŋ		
521.	Pour (liquid)	táŋ		
522.	Pull	dàrí		
523.	Push	zìgòrɛ		
524.	Put on (clothes)	tũk		
525.	Receive	hǎy		
526.	Refuse	kpèèŋô		
527.	'Remain'			
528.	Remember	dàŋrá		
529.	Resemble	hay		
530.	Return	gèrí		
531.	Ride (horse etc.)			
532.	Roast on coals	hǎy		
533.	Rub			
534.	Run	tèèŋô		
535.	Say/speak	rěm		

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
536.	Scatter			
537.	See	t͡ʃí		
538.	Seek	kèré		
539.	Sell	gòí		
540.	Send	tòóm		
541.	Set trap	ɣwě̀n		
542.	Sew	tõŋ		
543.	Shake	jíkʃè		
544.	Sharpen	kè̀èné		
545.	Shoot (arrow)	tãŋ		
546.	Sing	bõm		
547.	Sit down	ʃɛʃɛr		
548.	Slaughter (animal)	wǎ̀yè		
549.	Sleep	t͡ʃa		
550.	Smash	ɣǎr		
551.	Smell			
552.	Snap in two			
553.	Sow seeds	ɣvě̀n		
554.	Spit	tãŋ		
555.	Split			
556.	Stand			
557.	Steal	fɛɛp		
558.	Stir (soup)			
559.	Suck (breast etc.)	hàám		
560.	Surpass			
561.	Swallow	hòná		
562.	Sweep	hě̀l		
563.	Swell	sèŋ		
564.	Swim	rĩm		
565.	Take	hǎ̀y		
566.	Tear (cloth etc.)	sèrà		
567.	Tell	dèté		cf. Cori dera ,
568.	Throw	tãŋ		
569.	Tie	ʃɪʃɛ		
570.	Touch	bǎ̀r		
571.	Twist (rope etc.)	kùní		
572.	Untie	gàrí		
573.	Uproot (tuber)	kàp		
574.	Vomit	kpè		
575.	Walk	zè̀nè		
576.	Want/need	ʃimnɛ		
577.	Wash s.t.	gbìì		
578.	Wear	tũk		
579.	Weave	hywénè		
580.	Weed	tòóŋ		
581.	Weep	ɣè		
582.	Wipe	kox		
583.	Work	tò̀òma		
584.	Yawn	hári		
		bòŋbòŋ		

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
585.	I	mɛ		
586.	You	ŋó		
587.	He/she/it	ŋáà		
588.	we	rɛ		
589.	you pl.	ŋí		
590.	They	bóò		
591.	Who?	nàá		
592.	Which?	săsa		
593.	What?	cicé		
594.	When?	àkă		
595.	Where?	náa		

Edible and Useful Plants

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
596.	Guinea-yam ³²	à-kər	ru-kər	
597.	Aerial yam ³³			
598.	Red yam ³⁴			
599.	Water-yam ³⁵	dúŋgba	kà-dúŋgba	
600.	Taro (Old cocoyam) ³⁶	fɛkènu	kù-fɛkènu	
601.	New cocoyam ^{37*}			
602.	Cassava ^{*38}			
603.	Sweet potato ^{*39}	lawúr	kù-lawúr	< H.
604.	Wild yam I	fɛk	ku-fɛk	
605.	Wild yam II			
606.	Tumuku ⁴⁰			
607.	Rizga ⁴¹			
608.	Sorghum ⁴²	gùrò	kà-gùrò	
609.	Bulrush millet ⁴³ (<i>gero</i>)			
610.	Bulrush (<i>maiwa</i>)	millet mara	kà-mara	
611.	Fonio (H. <i>acca</i>) ⁴⁴	kpya	kà-kpya	
612.	Iburu (H. <i>iburu</i>) ⁴⁵	gbaní	kù-gbàni	

³² (*Dioscorea guineensis*)

³³ (*Dioscorea bulbifera*)

³⁴ (*Dioscorea cayenensis*)

³⁵ (*Dioscorea alata*)

³⁶ (*Colocasia esculenta*)

³⁷ (*Xanthosoma mafaffa*) (H. *wali*)

³⁸ (*Manihot esculenta*)

³⁹ (*Ipomoea batatas*)

⁴⁰ (*Plectranthus esculentus*)

⁴¹ (*Solenostemon rotundifolius*)

⁴² (*Sorghum bicolor*)

⁴³ (*Pennisetum* spp.)

⁴⁴ (*Digitaria exilis*)

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
613.	Maize* ⁴⁶	gùrù jòkò	kà-gùrù jòkò	
614.	Rice* ⁴⁷	ʃɪŋkafa		< H.
615.	Cowpea ⁴⁸	nyɛp	kà-nyɛp	
616.	Spiral cowpea			
617.	Lima bean ^{49*}			
618.	Other beans I			
619.	Other beans II			
620.	Other beans III			
621.	Bambara groundnut ⁵⁰	màndèr	kù-màndèr	
622.	Kersting's ground-nut ⁵¹			
623.	Groundnut (Peanut) ⁵²	hwyé	kà-hwyé	
624.	Tiger-nut ⁵³			
625.	Garden egg ⁵⁴	fàà	kù-fàà	cf. crocodile
626.	Okra ⁵⁵	dàanà	kà-dàanà	
627.	Chili pepper* (large) ⁵⁶			
628.	Birdseye chili* ⁵⁷			
629.	Onion (<i>Allium cepa</i>)	gburuma	kù-gburuma	
630.	Garlic ⁵⁸			
631.	Tomato ⁵⁹			
632.	Melon (other) ⁶⁰	cicey	ku-cicey	
633.	Edible squash ⁶¹	fè	kà-fè	
634.	Sorrel/roselle ⁶²	cɛn	kà-cɛn	
635.	Jews' mallow ⁶³			
636.	Kenaf ⁶⁴			
637.	Sesame seeds ⁶⁵	hɔɔ	kà-hòò	

⁴⁵ (*Digitaria iburua*)⁴⁶ (*Zea mays*)⁴⁷ (*Oryza sativa/ glaberrima*)⁴⁸ (*Vigna unguiculata*)⁴⁹ (*Phaseolus lunatus*)⁵⁰ (*Vigna subterranea*)⁵¹ (*Macrotyloma geocarpa*)⁵² (*Arachis hypogaea*)⁵³ (*Cyperus esculentus*)⁵⁴ (*Solanum melongena*)⁵⁵ (*Abelmoschus esculentus*)⁵⁶ (*Capsicum frutescens*)⁵⁷ (*Capsicum annuum*)⁵⁸ (*Allium sativum*)⁵⁹ (*Lycopersicon esculentum*)⁶⁰ (*Cucumis* spp)⁶¹ (*Cucurbita pepo*)⁶² (H. yakuwa) (*Hibiscus sabdariffa*)⁶³ (*H. lalo*)(*Corchorus olitorius*)⁶⁴ (H. rama) (*Hibiscus cannabinus*)⁶⁵ (H. Ridfi) (*Sesamum indicum*)

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
638.	Black sesame ⁶⁶			
639.	Sesame leaves ⁶⁷	ɣən	ka-ɣən	
640.	Bitterleaf ⁶⁸	toy	kù-toy	
641.	Waterleaf* ⁶⁹			
642.	Plantain (<i>Musa</i> AAB)			
643.	Banana (<i>Musa</i> AAA)			
644.	Orange* ⁷⁰			
645.	Bamboo			
646.	Pineapple* ⁷¹			
647.	Coconut* ⁷²			
648.	Pawpaw* ⁷³	fé jòrkɔ	kà-fé jòrkɔ	‘pumpkin + x’
649.	Gourd (Generic)	ɣwép	kà-ɣwep	
650.	Gourd-bottle ⁷⁴	rédène	kà-rédène	
651.	Gourd (spherical) ⁷⁵			
652.	Other gourds			
653.	Cotton			
654.	Tobacco*			
655.	Sugar-cane*			
656.	Loofah ⁷⁶ (<i>H. soso</i>)			
657.	Cola			
658.	Oil-palm ⁷⁷	tí còna	tí cóná	
659.	Palm-fruit			
660.	Palm-oil	ǰǰífidò		
661.	Palm kernel			
662.	Raphia/ palm ⁷⁸	bamboo ha		
663.	Fan-palm ⁷⁹	gey	kà-gey	
664.	Monkey-guava ⁸⁰			
665.	Canarium tree ⁸¹			
666.	Custard apple ⁸²	nap	kà-nap	

⁶⁶ (*Sesamum radiatum*)⁶⁷ (*H. karkashi*)⁶⁸ *Vernonia amygdalina*⁶⁹ (*Amaranthus spp*)⁷⁰ (*Citrus sinensis*)⁷¹ (*Ananas comosus*)⁷² (*Cocos nucifera*)⁷³ (*Carica papaya*)⁷⁴ (*Lagenaria siceraria*)⁷⁵ (*Cucurbita maxima*)⁷⁶ (*Luffa cylindrica*)⁷⁷ (*Elaeis guineensis*)⁷⁸ (*Raphia spp.*)⁷⁹ (*Borassus aethiopum*)⁸⁰ (*Diospyros mespiliformis*)⁸¹ (*Canarium schweinfurthii*)⁸² (*Annona senegalensis*)

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
667.	Wild date-palm ⁸³	ney	kà-ney	
668.	Baobab ⁸⁴			
669.	Silk-cotton tree ⁸⁵	cùm	kà-cùm	
670.	Shea tree ⁸⁶	fàk	kà-fàk	
671.	Shea-fruit			
672.	Locust tree ⁸⁷			
673.	Locust fruit	wó	kà-wó	
674.	Locust-bean cakes			
675.	Tamarind ⁸⁸			
676.	Sodom apple ⁸⁹			
677.	Terminalia sp. ⁹⁰			
678.	Black plum ⁹¹	kòyò	kà-kòyò	

Musical Instruments

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
679.	Drum I	gùgaŋ	kà-gùgaŋ	
680.	Drum II			
681.	Drum III			
682.	Flute			
683.	Zither	gbyam	ì-gbyam	
684.	Lute			
685.	Xylophone			
686.	Harp	gbyam	ì-gbyam	
687.	Transverse horn	hwòm	kà-hwòm	
688.	Clarinet	hwe	kà-hwe	
689.	Iron gong			
690.	Gourd-rattle	hwyep	kà-hwyep	
691.	Ankle rattles	gey	kà-gey	

6. Lexical comparison and the classification of Shang

Shang is a so far unrecorded member of the Hyamic group of Plateau. Its closest relatively, lexically speaking, may be Zhire. However, unlike the rest of the cluster, it shows no consonant alternation and a marked affix alternation system, which has clear resemblances to some of its neighbours in the Koro cluster such as Tinor and Ashe. There is also a proportion of the lexicon with no clear etymology. It is therefore suggested that either Shang retains archaic features of the Hyamic languages which were lost after it separated from the remainder of the cluster, or else it has rebuilt its affix system through contact with Ashe

⁸³ (Phoenix reclinata)

⁸⁴ (Adansonia digitata)

⁸⁵ (Ceiba pentandra)

⁸⁶ (Vitellaria paradoxa)

⁸⁷ (Parkia biglobosa)

⁸⁸ (Tamarindus indica)

⁸⁹ (Calotropis procera H. tumfafiya)

⁹⁰ (H. baushe)

⁹¹ (Vitex doniana)

and other languages where such systems are still functional. Many of the outlying Hyamic dialects remain poorly known, so it may not be possible to decide between these alternatives without further data on the group as a whole.

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