

The Ayu language
of
Central Nigeria and its affinities

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TABLES

1. Introduction

This is an annotated wordlist of the Ayu language, spoken in Ungwar Nungu village in Kaduna State, Nigeria. The wordlist was collected by Roger Blench with the assistance of Barau Kato from Shittu B. Salihu with assistance from other villagers in Ungwar Nungu on the 10th of February 2001 and 17th December 2002. The wordlist was collected as a ‘one-shot’ exercise and the transcription must therefore be regarded as very preliminary. This analysis was prepared by Roger Blench, who added the comparative observations. This document is being circulated to scholars for comment.

The Ayu language appears in many sources classified as Plateau IV ?, in other words part of the group of languages that include Mada and Ninzo. Published data are very scarce, confined to a few citations in the Benue-Congo Comparative Wordlist, most of which have turned out to be highly inaccurate. To remedy this situation, I visited the Ayu area with Barau Kato on the 10th of February 2001 to try and obtain more definitive information. We first visited the chief, who is resident in Fadan Ayu [=Iciyai], a large settlement on the road from Fadan Karshe to Wamba, some 15 km. south of the junction. The chief and his councillors turned to no longer speak Ayu and recommended us to his brother in Ungwar Nungu, a large village some 5 km. north of Fadan Ayu in Kaduna State. We eventually contacted Mr. Shittu B. Salihu who kindly assisted us with a very complete wordlist.

Ayu speakers live in the following villages: Kongon, Gwade, Tayu, Arau, Diger, Ikwa [=Mayir], Agamati, Anka Ambel and Amantu all in the hilly region around Fadan Ayu. Many of these are mixed settlements and many of the ethnic Ayu living there have only a limited command of the language. The dominant language in this area is Hausa and almost the entire population seems fluent in it. The Ayu are almost entirely Muslim, in contrast to most other groups in the area which may account for the prestige of Hausa. Children appear to have a passive knowledge of Ayu but do not speak it on a daily basis. Even the older generation are easily at a loss for words in Ayu and it seems that it is not spoken all that much on a daily basis. Despite this, the Ayu are intensely proud of their culture and history and it clear that Ayu identity is not under threat. Consequently the loss of the language could probably be reversed. The number of ethnic Ayu might be as high as 10,000 given the relatively large settlements, but truly fluent speakers are probably only in the hundreds. Nonetheless, there are many individuals with a fragmentary knowledge of the language.

2. Phonology

2.1 Vowels

Ayu has seven phonemic vowels;

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

There are no nasal vowels and no sequences of dissimilar vowels.

2.2 Consonants

Ayu consonants are as follows:

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

/dʒ/ is represented as /j/ in this paper.

As with many other Plateau languages, there is non-phonemic labialisation of high back vowels and non-phonemic palatalisation of high front-vowels.

2.3 Tones

Ayu has three level tones and a rising and falling tone. These are represented as follows;

High	H	wór	Tear (cloth etc.)
Mid	M	rɔp	Tie
Low	L	cɛl	Walk
Rising	R	wǎk	Want/need
Falling	F	kwâk	Sharpen

3. Ayu Morphology

3.1 Overview

The most striking feature of Ayu nouns is their plural morphology. Ayu employs the following pluralisation strategies;

- a. prefix alternation or addition
- b. consonant mutation
- c. tone-change
- d. nasal insertion

Ayu permits combinations of the above strategies.

3.2 Prefix alternation or addition

Ayu has an extremely restricted range of prefixes, namely a- and i-, both of which can occur in singulars and plurals and can occur, if rarely, in combination with a zero-prefix. Their tones are highly variable, and appear to be driven by the stem-tone(s) rather than reflecting an older system of prefix-pairing. In particular, the prefixes are combined with mutating prefixes, without any demonstrable phonological effect, suggesting that they are recent additions. The following tables give some examples of Ayu prefix pairings.

Gloss	s.	pl.
Nail (Finger/toe)	kububòk	akúbubok

Gloss	s.	pl.
Root	ishî	ashî
Thorn	idor	ador
Hill	ibal	àbal

Gloss	s.	pl.
Star(s)	àndindár	ándindar
Old man	àrùm	àrùm
Father	àbà	abâ
Doctor	afiyál	áfikàl

Gloss	s.	pl.
Tail	idúm	idùm
Medicine (generic)	iyal	ikàl
Forehead	igwóf	igwòf
Mosquito	ibo	ibo

3.3 Consonant mutation

Ayu is also notable for consonant mutation, a procedure well-known from the Beromic languages, notably Berom, Cara and Iten, as well as the Hyam group. However, its presence in this area is more surprising. The alternations occasionally include the addition of nasals, a process recorded in Ninzo.

w/k

Gloss	s.	pl.
Tree (generic)	iwoon	íkóón
Duiker antelope ¹	iwó	àkó
Bird sp.	iwɔɔli	akɔɔli
Nile crocodile	iwórò	ikórò
Handle (of tool)	iwùt	ikùt
Knife	iwór	ikòr
Stool	itówɔ̀n	itókɔ̀n
Guest/stranger	àwɛɛŋ	àkwɛɛŋ

y/k

	s.	pl.
Medicine (generic)	iyal	ikàl
Baboon	iyaw	ikyaw
Crab	iyale	àkale
Chicken	iyánáŋ	ànkánáŋ
Adze	iyáp	akáp
Hoe I	iyash	akásh
Head-pad	iyâr	akár

h/k

Leopard **ihwè** **ikwé**

¹ (*Cephalophus* spp.)

y/j

Tooth	inyiniŋ	idžiniŋ
Buffalo	iyár	idžár
Patas monkey ²	iyaram	idžaram

Ayu would originally have had an affix system of classic Niger-Congo type, whose traces remain only in the system of consonant mutation. With one exception, the alternating consonant in the singular is a semi-vowel, ‘y’ or ‘w’. The palatal occurs before central or front vowels and the labial before back vowels. This points strongly to original close vowel prefixes, -i or -u and a now deleted initial stem consonant. The above tables give many examples of tone changes. Nasal insertion is more difficult to characterise.

	s.	pl.
Tooth	inyiniŋ	idžiniŋ
Mushroom	kwínkwèrɛm	aŋkwínkwèrɛm
Work	itûm	antomóŋ
Grasscutter ³	idžep	àndžep
Chicken	iyánáŋ	ànkánáŋ

Many words appear to have a nasal inserted before the stem in both singular and plural, suggesting that this process occurred prior to the prefixing system.

	s.	pl.
Star(s)	àndindár	ándindar
Bark (of tree)	iŋkpák	aŋkpák
Horn	àŋkólók	aŋkólók
Nose	iŋgwóf	iŋgwòf

From this data we can reconstruct a tentative morphological history of Ayu nouns.

4. The classification of Ayu

The group of languages originally named Plateau IV by Greenberg, I have recently renamed ‘Ninzic’ because they seem to include the element Nin- in their name which is a root for ‘person’ in some languages. Membership currently includes the following;

- Ninzic
 - Ninzo
 - Ce
 - Bu-Niŋkada
 - Mada
 - Numana-Nunku-Gwantu-Numbu
 - Ningye
 - Kanufi
 - Ninkyop-Nindem
- Others
 - Vaghat-Ya-Bijim-Legeri
 - Ayu?
 - Shall-Zwall?

² (*Erythrocebus patas*)

³ (*Thryonomys Swinderianus*)

Roger Blench: Ayu Wordlist

Of these, Shall-Zwall can be excluded, as it is apparently Beromic and data on the Vaghat cluster is too exiguous to be certain. More extensive data for the Ninzic group suggest that these languages are correctly classified together but doubts about the position of Ayu must arise from the very fragmentary data so far published. To contribute towards resolving the classification of Ayu, I have compared the major wordlist items with nearby languages in §5. The sources of comparative data are as follows;

Hasha, Shall, Sur, Yangkam, Tarok, Ninzo, Berom, Ce, Ningye, Mada, Rukul, Toro, Alumu, Cara, Horom, Bu, Təsu, Izere, Fyem, Bo, Pe, Eggon, Iten, Kulu	own data
Ura, Bokyi, Anaang, Kiong, Ashe, Gure, Kambari, Tiv, Kajju, Rindre, Kwanka, Kuturmi, Gworok, Nindem, Rigwe, Eloyi, Cori, Gyong, Lungu, Jarawan Bantu,	BCCW
cLela	Detweiler
Tala, Buli, Ngas, Dera, Karekare	J & I (1994)
Ron languages: Daffo, Bokkos, Sha, Fyer	Uwe Seibert (n.d.)
Mambiloid languages	Bruce Connell (n.d.)
PLC	Bruce Connell (n.d.)
Hausa	Abraham (1962)
Nupe	Banfield (1914)
Degema	Kari (2000)

5. Ayu wordlist with lexical comparisons

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
1.	Tree (generic)	iwoon	íkóón	cf. Kulu í-kòṅ , Izere kâkón , Hasha iko , Shall kun , Sur kon , Yangkam koon , Tarok akún ‘firewood’. This root is widespread in Niger-Congo, often meaning ‘firewood’.
2.	Leaf	ihwíhwì	ahwíhwì	
3.	Root	ishî	ashî	cf. Tahoss shehe , Ninzo u-zhízhi , Nyankpa ishak ,
4.	Branch	ishár iwoon	ashár íkóón	
5.	Bark (of tree)	ĩkpák	añkpák	cf. Mada kpakp̄m̀kì ,
6.	Thorn	idor	ador	cf. Nyankpa i-dòk , Ningye ntu , Alumu tòtò , Hasha i-tyok , Ce i-ttò , Mada ncw̄r
7.	Grass (generic)	ibele	abele	cf. Nyankpa ube ,
8.	Mushroom	kwíkwèrɛm	añkwíkwèrɛm	
9.	Seed/stone/pip	ihwe	—	cf. Iten hwi , ? Izere izhà
10.	Charcoal	incirà	—	
11.	Dust	imbüt	—	cf. Berom bwúm , Iten abùṅ , Kulu ge-mpuṅ ⁺
12.	Ashes	antóra	—	cf. Ninzo intúró , ?connected with widespread Niger-Congo -toṅ roots?
13.	Rubbish-heap	itúdúk	—	
14.	Mud	imborin	—	cf. Berom bwórók , Hasha mbimbar ,
15.	Clay	itém	—	cf. Ce ko-ntè , Ningye nkyem , Bu nteme , Mada nt̄r , Hasha titef ,
16.	Dew	iméṅ	—	cf. Berom mwengɛ , Kulu u-muṅ , Iten imiṅ , Ninzo àmé , Ningye mmeṅ , Mada m̄m̄é , Hasha eme , Rukul mmaṅ , Tarok imìmyàṅ , Yangkam myaṅ Niger-Congo root #me-
17.	Stone	itári	itári	cf. Toro tari , Ce ki-tár , Shall tiri , Niger-Congo root #ta-
18.	Sand	incé	—	cf. Nyankpa acep ,
19.	Smoke	àncò	—	cf. Nyankpa u-ḟò , Kulu inci , Ce inci ,
20.	Fire	ira	—	Ningye ntɛṅ , Bu ɛntɛ , Berom kyéṅ , cf. widespread #-ra roots. Shall ra , Kuturmi ura , Ebira , Kulu ù-lá , Alumu ifira
21.	Water	mayír	—	cf. Nyankpa ame , Ninzo amasírr , Bu mma , Cara mal , Horom bamal , also Ura mò and Bokyi ɔ-mo . Also in Chadic: Tala maal , Buli màl . Words for ‘water’ with ma- are Africa-wide and may derive from the Niger-Congo ma- class-prefix for liquids. ? cf. Ce àwòrò , Kulu ibilá ,
22.	Rain	ibúr	—	
23.	Cloud	abút	—	
24.	Lightning	iràt	arát	
25.	Rainy Season	ibur’ùwò	—	
26.	Dry season	icíp’gwè	—	‘season of sun’
27.	Harmattan	àshàwin	—	
28.	Year	iray	aray	
29.	Today	itúró	—	

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
30.	Yesterday	ǎrè		cf. Ninzo nârè , Rukul irɛ , Ningye ryɛɛŋ , Kulu ùlé ,
31.	Tomorrow	icám̀bìrì		cf. Ce kambàlà , Bu mbrɛ , Ningye mbwer , Təsu merebi ,
32.	Morning	icám̀bìrì		
33.	Evening	icàrì		
34.	Dawn	ihwál		
35.	Day	icám̀bìrì		
36.	Night	igwécò		
		atúk		cf. Nyankpa ucuk , Berom túrūk , but also tūk ‘day of 24 hours’. Also Izere kâ-túk , Sur gutuk , Kulu gè-túk , cf. widespread #tuk- forms See BCCW
37.	Moon/month	ihwé		cf. Nyankpa ufe , Ce ì-hél , Mada hwó , Berom pwél , Rukul u-fye , Fyem fyél , Bo fye , but an old Niger-Congo root. Also Ron, Sha, Kulere #fen though probably a loan into Chadic.
38.	Sun	igwé		cf. Berom gwey , Iten gbey ,
39.	Star(s)	àndindár	ándindar	
40.	Wind	igúl		cf. Berom gul ,
41.	God	igwé		as ‘sun’ (38.)
42.	Sky	àhwalabùr		
43.	Ground	icí		
44.	Large River	igókwi		
45.	Stream	igóŋ		
46.	Forest	igóŋ		
47.	Mountain	itùbàl	àtùbàl	
48.	Hill	ibal	àbal	cf. Ce ì-gbòl , Bu ŋbulu , Ningye nkugbu , Ninzo i-gbú , Cara i-gale ,
49.	Bush	àyây		
50.	Farm	àyây		
51.	Market*	ìtun’òshir		‘hut of trading’
52.	Compound	ìba hurik		
53.	Room	ìgaŋ	àgaŋ	
54.	Field shelter	ìmbùt		cf. Ninzo i-burr ,
55.	Wall (of room)	ìshincinì		
56.	Thatch roof	alí	—	
57.	Granary	íŋkpok	àŋkpok	cf. Ninzo ,
58.	Road	icúkwi	àcúkwi	
59.	Path	ìhwìnì	àhwìnì	
60.	River-bank	núgòŋ	anugòŋ	
61.	Swamp/wetland	irók	ìròk	
62.	Place	àtèr	—	
63.	Person/people	incéŋ	acéŋ	
64.	Man	incéŋ	acéŋ	
65.	Woman	ìŋar	aŋar	
66.	Child	ihwe	aŋwê	
67.	Husband	aráy	àrày	
68.	Wife	ìŋar	aŋar	
69.	Young man	ìhwìfòŋ	aŋwéfòŋ	

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
70.	Young girl	ihwélǎŋ	aŋwélàŋ	
71.	Old man	àrùm	àrùm	
72.	Old woman	iyakùk	ayakùk	
73.	Father	àbà	abâ	
74.	Mother	iyâ	—	cf. Ningye iya , Mada yā . Also widespread in Afroasiatic e.g. Hausa iya
75.	Barren woman	ikpà	—	
76.	Relations	anér		
77.	Ancestors	àshíci		
78.	Brother	atíŋ		
79.	Sister	ala		
80.	Friend	adžèn	àdžen	cf. Ningye tsen ,
81.	Guest/stranger	àwɛɛɛŋ	àkwɛɛɛŋ	
82.	King/chief/ruler	àgòm	agòm	cf. Butu gwomu , Wapa kəmu , Abuan ùwémú , Mapeo gàŋ , PEG *- kúm ,
83.	Hunter	àshilum	—	
84.	Thief	àyí	ayí	
85.	Doctor	aŋyál	àŋkàl	the -kal element is widespread across Plateau as ‘medicine’ (cf. Below).
86.	Witch	àgòròm	àgòròm	
87.	Corpse	ikóm icén	akóm acén	cf. Nyankpa ukom , Jijili ukɔ , Ake ɔkwɔ , Eggon okom , Ce ki-kúm , Izere kukóm , Mada kón , Tarok akúm . Also in Chadic Goemai kum , Ngas kuum .
88.	Blacksmith	aŋítúgátúk	—	
89.	Slave	ákwà	—	
90.	Masquerade	aboof	ábóof	cf. Izere Àbòs . Generic term for masquerade
91.	Masquerade I	ámberéntú		celebrates the first cutting of palm-fruits
92.	Masquerade II	àdàkir		
93.	Masquerade III	àgbàfa		
94.	Masquerade IV	ìdžàŋgbòŋ		
95.	Masquerade V	akobéré		
96.	Shame	ishà		
97.	Fear/fright	anik		
98.	Bravery/courage	ashékígir		
99.	Laughter	imem		
100.	Wisdom	igùp		
101.	Guilt	ashétaátik		
102.	Anger	ikèrè		
103.	Race/running	àtele		
104.	Suffering	irishiyâ		
105.	Death	kpók		
106.	Name	índíshi		
107.	Grave	ikút	akút	
108.	Song	ile	àle	
109.	Story	abínòŋ	ábínòŋ	
110.	Word	àŋkpeŋ	àŋkpéŋ	
111.	Lie	ihwák	ihwàk	
112.	News	abín		
113.	Hunger	iyon		Widespread throughout Plateau. cf. Kulu

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
				iyon ⁺ , Berom vyon , Ningye ɖɔŋ , Nyankpa uvome , Fyem yón , Tarok ayán , Sur yyɔŋ
114.	Horn	àŋkɔ̀lɔ̀k	àŋkɔ̀lɔ̀k	
115.	Tail	idúm	idùm	Throughout Benue-Congo cf. Egeṅe ù-tùmù , Hasha i-ɖum , Arum idzimù , Ningye ndum , Izere kúrùm , Vute dūúm , Tahoss rum ,
116.	Egg	icèbè	àcèbè	cf. Tarok aci , Nyankpa ku-cay , Nupe ezi , Pe ti-ci pl. a-ci , Yanjam gyɔ Common in Plateau in this form, but reflects a Niger-Congo root with g- initial (W. 214)
117.	Wing	àkún	—	
118.	Beak	ikɔ̀bénù		
119.	Nest	ikut	—	
120.	Feather	ishêm	àshêm	
121.	Gum/glue	intàm	—	
122.	Ant-hill	ikuruŋɔ̀k	—	
123.	Hole in ground	irók	iròk	see ‘swamp’
124.	Hole in tree	iduŋ	idùŋ	
125.	Smell	ilák	—	
126.	Poison	itòsh	—	
127.	Load	ìgom	—	
128.	Bundle	ìto	—	
129.	Firewood	ikon’orà		
130.	Stick	àgâr	agâr	
131.	Yam-heap	afil	—	
132.	War	ìren	—	
133.	Work	itùm	ántomón	Widespread Niger-Congo root #-tom
134.	Medicine (generic)	iyal	ikàl	cf. Ce íkál , Berom hwal ⁺ , Iten hwál ,
135.	Money	àtom	—	
136.	Shadow	imà	àmá	
137.	Thing	ìgum	—	
138.	Strength	àcéshek	—	
139.	Length	indɔ̀ŋ	—	
140.	Land/country	ici	—	
141.	Sleep	àrà	—	
142.	Disease(generic)	indo		
143.	Smallpox	indodà		
144.	Diarrhoea	ihwirín		
145.	Goitre	ikururkêk		
146.	Boil	ihwík		
147.	Sore/wound	ihoor	àhoor	
148.	Head	ito	ato	cf. Ningye tu , Mada tú but probably a vowel-change from the more common #ti- roots
149.	Eye	idɔ̀	adɔ̀	cf. Tari adɔ̀ ,
150.	Face	adɔ̀	—	i.e. ‘eyes’
151.	Cheek	abató	—	
152.	Forehead	igwóf	ìgwòf	
153.	Nose	ingwóf	ìngwòf	
154.	Ear	ito	ato	cf. Nyankpa ku-tɔ̀ , Kulu gù-tón , Ninzo ùtú ,

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
				Mada tɔ̃n , Fyem hutóŋ , Bo utó also throughout Tarokoid, but a PVC root # tuN- . Also Chadic: Sha 'a-tôn
155.	Mouth	inú	—	cf. Berom nú , Ningye nyu , Mada nyū , Fyem núŋ , but a Niger-Congo root
156.	Tooth	inyiniŋ	idziniŋ	cf. Ninzo inyirr , Bu enyiri , Shall yinin , Tarok inyin . A Niger-Congo root
157.	Tongue	ibér	ibèr	cf. Kulu i-blé 'lip',
158.	Throat	ìŋìŋwòr	—	the -gor element is widespread in Niger-Congo
159.	Neck	ikèk	akêk	
160.	Chin	irèfèŋ	arèfèŋ	
161.	Shoulder	atòdžak	—	
162.	Armpit	abâk	—	cf. Tarok abáksím ,
163.	Arm	adžák		
164.	Hand	ibok	abók	PP2 gu-bok but a widespread Niger-Congo root
165.	Leg	ihwól	ahwól	cf. Nyankpa ku-vo , Berom bwol ,
166.	Thigh	iták	àtak	also ìŋkpá iták . cf. Shall tak , Berom tà ,
167.	Knee	itúkùl	àtúkùl	
168.	Nail (Finger/toe)	kububòk	akúbubok	
169.	Female breast	ìŋgbál	àngbál	cf. Kulu di-báára ,
170.	Stomach	ilǎw	ilǎw	cf. Niger-Congo words for 'intestine'.
171.	Chest	àgìr		
172.	Navel	iwòp	àwòp	cf. Nyankpa ivop , Berom hwóp , Pe, Tarok ìgum , Yanjam kum , Nindem ìkom , also PLC *-kóp , Nizaa kómni , Vute cómè .
173.	Back	ìŋkùni	àngkùni	
174.	Buttocks	atámbùn	—	
175.	Penis	ihwì	àhwì	
176.	Vagina	ihwél	ahwél	
177.	Skin	ihwá ilòk	—	
178.	Bone	ikùp	àkùp	cf. Berom, Iten kùp , Hyam kup , Bo ukúp , PJ *kup , Kwanja Ndung kfê , Ninzo ukfúkú , Nyankpa ku-fup , Fyem huhúp pl. ahúp , weakened from the more widespread Niger-Congo #kup .
179.	Vein	icíp	acíp	cf. Tarok icìp , Kulu è-cóp , Cara i-vip , Hasha i-jif ,
180.	Blood	àmiŋ	—	cf. Berom nèmi , Eggon mandzi ,
181.	Breath	ishán	—	
182.	Tear	ayil	—	cf. Kulu bè-ziri ,
183.	Saliva	àncésh	—	
184.	Sweat	icil	—	
185.	Urine	ahwirì	—	cf. Kulu bepílí ,
186.	Faeces	idzin	—	
187.	Hair	antúli	—	
188.	Beard	àntèn	—	cf. Ninzo à-ntàrr ,
189.	Liver	aŋai	—	cf. Cara anye ,
190.	Heart	àdžòr	—	
191.	Intestines	igilau	—	cf. Ningye rìre , Rukul ilel , . Proto-Ijoid ílá

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
192.	Body	ilau	—	as ‘stomach’
193.	Meat	ìnám		Niger-Congo #- nam
194.	Animal (Bush)	ìnàm yây	ìnàm kây	
195.	Cow	àràndonḡ	áránónḡ	cf. Ninzo a-lando , but widespread in Plateau
196.	Goat	ibúlú yit		cf. Ce ì-wól , Kulu gí-mbuḡ ,
197.	He-goat	agbôm	—	
198.	Castrated goat	irà̀m	—	cf. Mada ràm ,
199.	Sheep	itambas	àtambas	cf. Tarok itám ,
200.	Ram	átúrù		
201.	Dog	idzá	andzá	
202.	*Cat	adamús	ádámús	< Hausa
203.	*Horse	idûsh	àdûsh	
204.	Elephant	inyè	ànyé	cf. Nyankpa inyè , Anaang é-nìn , Kìong e-jie , Ashe ini , Mada , Eggon è-ndjí , and also in WBC
205.	Buffalo	iyár	idzár	cf. Tarok izà̀r , Ninzo iyár , Hyam hyas , widespread in BC also in Chadic, cf. Daffo yà̀t .
206.	Lion	adár	ádár	
207.	Leopard	ihwè	ikwé	cf. Nyankpa ike , Horom kyè , Rukul ì-kwì , Niger-Congo root #- gbe , -kpe
208.	Civet cat ⁴	idzèbur		
209.	Wart-hog ⁵	idúra	adúra	
210.	Duiker antelope ⁶	iwó	àkó	= H. <i>barewa</i>
211.	Roan antelope ⁷	irosh	arosh	
212.	Porcupine ⁸	anyicat	ányicát	
213.	Baboon	iyaw	ikyaw	cf. Hyam
214.	Patas monkey ⁹	iyaram	idzaram	cf. Izere izà̀ram ,
215.	Vervet monkey ¹⁰	agarama	ágáramà	
216.	Squirrel (ground)	itòk	àtòk	cf. Ce ì-tòk , Berom rók , Kulu gè-cúk , Ganang a-ròk , Alumu i-tò , presumably proto-Plateau
217.	Rat (generic)	iku	àḡku	cf. Alumu ì-kwì , Hasha ì-kwi , Fyem kwi , Pe ikuu , probably also Tarok ipi . + LC
218.	Bush-rat I	ikucècè		
219.	Bush-rat II	ikuyenḡ		
220.	Giant rat ¹¹	ihwèrè	àhwèrè	cf. Kulu gè-kúré ,
221.	Grasscutter ¹²	idzèp	àndzèp	
222.	Hedgehog ¹³	iciricà	iciricà	
223.	Hare ¹⁴	àḡwúmíndzèḡ	àḡwúmíndzèḡ	

⁴ (*Viverra civetta*)⁵ (*Phacochoerus aethiopus*)⁶ (*Cephalophus* spp.)⁷ (*Hippotragus equinus*)⁸ (*Hystrix cristata*)⁹ (*Erythrocebus patas*)¹⁰ (*Cercopithecus aethiops*)¹¹ (*Cretomyces* sp.)¹² (*Thryonomys Swinderianus*)¹³ (*Atelerix albiventris*)

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
224.	Fruit-bat	ĩgbok	aᅅgbok	
225.	Nile crocodile	iwórò	ikórò	cf. Tari nhworin , Kulu èguru , Toro kuru , Bu ᅅkuru , Ninzo àkur , Ce ikut , Also in Chadic: Goemai kut , Ngas kut .
226.	Chameleon	ishùrùwé	áshùrùwé	cf. Kulu è-cùrú ,
227.	Agama lizard	ibwól	ábwól	
228.	Skink	íntámbêr	ántambér	cf. Ningye cimbwər ,
229.	Gecko	íntalâs	ántalâs	
230.	Monitor lizard (<i>damo</i>)	ákúrúbá	—	
231.	Monitor lizard (<i>guza</i>)	id̥zɛŋ	ád̥zɛŋ	
232.	Toad	ĩᅅkpònd̥zɛrè	áᅅkpònd̥zɛrè	
233.	Tortoise	ĩᅅkúrùhwà	aᅅkúrùhwà	
234.	Snake (Generic)	igwak	ágwak	cf. Ninzo iwa , but a widespread Niger-Congo root
235.	Spitting cobra	itúk	átúk	
236.	Python	iceŋ	áceŋ	cf. Kulu i-ceŋ ,
237.	Crab	iyale	ákale	
238.	Fish (generic)	imbére	ambére	cf. Ningye mbe , Bu lambɛ ,
239.	Bird (generic)	inòn	anón	cf. Horom nòn , Tarok inyil , Pe i-nol , Yan̄kam noi A common Benue-Congo root also found in Bantu. Mukarovsky (II, 405) gives examples that suggest a reconstruction to Proto-Volta-Congo.
240.	Chicken	iyánáŋ	ánkánáŋ	
241.	Cock	agwák	—	cf. Ningye gbak , Bu bakɔ ,
242.	Guinea-fowl	itèk	aték	
243.	Hooded Vulture ¹⁵	ĩᅅgùlùk	áᅅgùlùk	
244.	Black kite ¹⁶	ihweŋ	áhweŋ	
245.	Owl (spp.)	ikùp	àkùp	
246.	Woodpecker	igòsikò		
247.	Swallow	agáhywèrè		
248.	Senegal coucal	itùtu		
249.	Dove	irátèrè		H <i>kurciya</i>
250.	Bird I	àkad̥zà	—	3/3
251.	Bird II	acétòri		long beak
252.	Bird III	akwiríkwa		big, white and black
253.	Bird IV	iwoɔli	akɔli	10/2
254.	Bird V	itèk	aték	
255.	Scorpion	iláŋ	àláŋ	cf. Berom lyàŋ , Kulu ì-naŋ ,
256.	Mosquito	ibo	ibo	cf. Nyankpa i-bɔ ,
257.	Spider ¹⁷	àntfintaŋ	—	
258.	Bee	ĩᅅwək ikò		
259.	Housefly	icúwè	icúwè	
260.	Ant (Generic)	adashí		cf. PP2 #- s(u)an ,

¹⁴ (*Lepus Crawshayi*)¹⁵ (*Neophron monachus*)¹⁶ (*Milvus migrans*)¹⁷ (*Acarina spp.*)

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
		shànáŋ		
261.	Termite	ìŋwòk		
262.	Giant snail	kwikwári		Nupe ekpa , Mada kpār , Kulu gí-kwel ,
263.	Oil	ànò		cf. Bu inye , Hasha ane , Təsu amene , Berom nói , Iten noi , Gure mani , Tarok m̀m̀i , Central Kambari m̀ǹi and ultimately Hausa mai .
264.	Fat/grease	ahwêp		cf. Kulu dì-pép , Chawai bap , Jijili mbye , Berom sēbwép , Yangkam m-byep , Nnakenyare byep , reconstructed to EBC as #-byep
265.	Salt	imbâsh		cf. Cara imbasi , Berom nvwāshè , Rukul mmək , Fyem, Horom ma , Tarok m̀m̀àn , but also Fulfulde manda
266.	Soup/stew	àniŋ		cf. Izere riniŋ , Ningye nyiŋ , Nindem à-niŋ , Ninkyop níŋ ,
267.	Porridge	ingbò		
268.	Sorghum-beer	àncì		cf. e.g. Tarok ̀ncè , Ningye ncen ,
269.	Palm-wine	àncànàk		
270.	Handle (of tool)	iwùt	ikùt	
271.	Iron	itom		cf. Kulu ì-com ,
272.	Axe	ígbè	agbé	cf. Hasha ikai , Ningye ŋgai , Ninzo á-ŋgar , Bu ijge , Nupe egbà ,
273.	Adze	iyáp	akáp	cf. Gworok kap ‘hoe’
274.	Hoe I	iyash	akásh	
275.	Knife	iwór	ikòr	cf. Izere ̀tsòr , Hyam kõn ,
276.	Comb	igwésh	igwèsh	
277.	Fireplace	àhwírà	—	
278.	Shoe	ahwahwól	—	
279.	Mortar (wood)	ìntúm	àntúm	cf. Hyam ntuur ,
280.	Pestle	ìntíshi	àntíshi	
281.	Pot (generic)	ìre	àre	cf. Rukul a-risen , Ningye rɛn , Ninzo àmpíri ,
282.	Head-pad	iyâr	akár	ka- element is a widespread Volta-Congo root. cf. PWN
283.	Basket (generic)	íshèn	áshèn	cf. Ningye sisan , Ninzo í-sísà , Hyam shisɛŋ ,
284.	Winnowing tray	imûm	amûm	cf. Ningye mbumbum ,
285.	Mat (generic)	ìgomolóòk		
286.	Mat I			
287.	Needle	iwêp	—	
288.	Spear	ìŋkâm		widespread Niger-Congo root
289.	Bow	àtáù		#-ta is a Niger-Congo root
290.	Arrow	ishér	ishèr	cf. Toro jara , Doka ire-sala , Surubu u-cira , Hasha ikir , Piti ucir . Also ? LC -dan , Mambila sàn . See BCCW,4
291.	Quiver	agbanduŋ	ágbándúŋ	cf. Ningye banduŋ ,
292.	Rope	irik	irik	cf. Tarok irik , Ningye riri , Kulu ù-lík ,
293.	Stool	itówòŋ	itókòŋ	
294.	Wooden door	ankpòŋ		
295.	Fence	ìntaŋ	antaŋ	

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
296.	Bee-hive	àkáshítóŋ	—	
297.	Fish-Net	àkpòrò		
298.	Fish-trap I	ihûsh		
299.	Fish-trap II	àŋgwôk		
300.	One	idi		cf. Kulu ,
301.	Two	àhwà		cf. Tari hwan , Mbəŋno hwaan , Somyev haan , Tiv -hár' , Kajju -hwa , Mada há , Rindre a-ha , These may all be independent weakenings of the more widespread #-fa root.
302.	Three	atáár		#-tar- roots are widespread in Niger-Congo
303.	Four	ànáǵàs		#-naas- roots are widespread in Niger-Congo
304.	Five	atúgen		#-toon- roots are widespread in Niger-Congo. The intervocalic -g- is somewhat unusual but cf. Kwanka towon and Berom tūngūn ,
305.	Six	àtээр		cf. Tari titar , Horom taran , Izere igàtaar , ? cognate with widespread roots such as Nindem ù-táání
306.	Seven	atáráǵash		
307.	Eight	kánárash		cf. Izere ikara ,
308.	Nine	atúlí bwook		cf. Tari abok ,
309.	Ten	ishók		cf. Izere kùsók , Hyam shok , Təsu tsə , Tari nsok , Ninzo tsó 'twelve',
310.	Eleven	iŋgbedî		
311.	Twelve	aŋgehwâ		
312.	Twenty	ishoo hwâ		
313.	Twenty-four	ishoo hwâ nenagàsh		
314.	Forty	ishoo náǵash		
315.	Hundred	inàk		cf. Izere kùsók inyak ,
316.	'Remain'	shik		
317.	Add to	mólùk		
318.	Answer (question)	yit		
319.	Arrive	yek		
320.	Ask a question	lúǵúk		cf. Kuturmi u-runo ,
321.	Ask/beg for something	cumáà		
322.	Awaken (s.o.)	yèlèk		
323.	Bark (dog)	gbush		cf. Izere gbúsùm , Gworok gbúm , Ningye bus , Ningye bus , Ake bǵ , Jijili boro ,
324.	Be bent	yàlàk		
325.	Be heavy	lígen		
326.	Be on (s.t.)	hwal		
327.	Be rotten	dǵish		
328.	Be short	kpésh		cf. Ningye pes ,
329.	Beat (drum)	góròk		
330.	Beat (s.o.)	góròk		? cf. Gyong ywət ,
331.	Become dry	láp		also 'dry in sun' (364.).
332.	Begin	túmûk		

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
333.	Bite		rət	cf. Fyem đót , Berom rot and Rigwe ryo and possibly Akpet ro . All may ultimately derive from the loss of the final nasal on forms related to PB #- dum - which appears as #- rom - in some Plateau languages
334.	Blow (flute etc.)		gwi	
335.	Boil		sháshe	
336.	Build (house etc.)		lok	cf. Berom, Kwanka lok , Gworok nók , Izere nək ,
337.	Burn (fire burns)		gwən	
338.	Bury		yap	
339.	Buy		yáye	
340.	Call (to someone)		wush	
341.	Carry		bək	
342.	Carve (wood etc.)		shábak	cf. Fyem sep , Kulu, Nindem, Kwanka sep and Jju fab , Cara fipal , Ningye, Bu ʃɛ , Pe ʃap , Hasha sep . < Proto-Plateau ʃɛp . cf. Fyem, Horom wum ,
343.	Catch		wúm	
344.	Chew		rəŋ	
345.	Choose		shəl	cf. Kulu sèè ,
346.	Climb		ɖʒɛrək	cf. Izere ŋárák ,
347.	Close		cit, kábak	
348.	Come		yek	
349.	Come out (of room), exit		wirik	cf. Izere wúruk , Rigwe wùrù , Iten wuru , Gworok wurug , Kulu wuluu , Hasha wərək , Degema wòlá ,
350.	Continue (to do s.t.)		kəl	
351.	Cook		sháshe	
352.	Cough		kòròsh	
353.	Count		hwágak	
354.	Cover		cit	
355.	Cut down (tree)		cam	cf. Kulu cám , Gworok tyam ,
356.	Cut off (head etc.)		cat	cf. Kəjju tyat ,
357.	Dance		cét	
358.	Die		kpómó	cf. Eloyi é-kpómò , Cori aŋ-kpu , Kulu kpu ⁺ ,
359.	Dig (earth etc.)		shiŋ	cf. Fyem cin , Berom cīŋ , Yaŋkam suŋ , Sur ʃiŋ , Təsu ʃumu , Kulu tum ⁺ ,
360.	Do/make		kəl	
361.	Drag		cuk	
362.	Drink		wó	cf. Tarok wá , ? Gyong xwa , Hasha wu ,
363.	Drop		kpàk	
364.	Dry in sun		láp	also ‘become dry’ (331.). cf. Ninzo là , Mada lá ,
365.	Eat		re	cf. Fyem ɖyé , Bo ré , Mada ré , linked to the widespread -ri , -di roots found in Niger-Congo
366.	Enter		kóyò	

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
367.	Extinguish		riŋ	cf. Gyong limi , Berom rimo , Mada rin , Izere rimíŋ , but a widespread Niger-Congo root.
368.	Fall (rain)		kúsh	cf. Mada kū , Gworok kwa ,
369.	Fall over		kó	cf. Rindre ruku ,
370.	Fear		nik	cf. Anaang n-dik , Iten ,
371.	Feel (cold etc.)		coroshè	
372.	Fight (in war)		gwa	
373.	Finish (a task)		taramò	
374.	Flow (water etc.)		shishì	
375.	Fold (cloth etc.)		yàl	
376.	Follow		kwishí	cf. Izere kúùs ,
377.	Forget		kpà shúnùŋ	
378.	Fry (in oil)		yáláŋ	
379.	Gather/collect		mólùk	
380.	Get		wó	
381.	Give		nàma	cf. Izere naŋ , Tarok ná #na is widespread throughout Plateau. Also Chadic: Tangale oni .
382.	Give birth		már	cf. Tarok mar , Idū mara , Niger-Congo #ma ,
383.	Go		naŋ	
384.	Grind		kwàk	cf. Mada, Bu kò , Rukul kwə , Cara kəŋ , Pe kòk , PLC *kók , Sur gwak , Yaŋkam gba , Tarok kpà . < PEBC #kpwak . Also in Chadic: Ngas gwak
385.	Grow (plants)		wùshék	
386.	Hatch (egg)		hoshok	
387.	Hear		coroshè	
388.	Hoe		coŋ	
389.	Hunt		lúm	
390.	Jump		lár	
391.	Kill		hu	Weakening of widespread Niger-Congo root #ku
392.	Know		ye	cf. Tarok nyí , Pe yi ,
393.	Laugh		mèm	cf. Horom mis , Izere mas , etc. Also found in Chadic, e.g. Diri mēs , Tera mósó but probably a loan into Chadic.
394.	Learn		másh	
395.	Lick		le	cf. Gyong lén , Buji lama , Kwanka lyam , cLela lèmse , Lamnso la . Forms with initial l- are very widespread in Niger-Congo and there may be an ideophonic element
396.	Lie down		lsh	
397.	Listen		cò	
398.	Lose s.t.		bùdúmò	cf. Kulu bùlù ,
399.	Marry		ɖʒòòm	
400.	Mix		shen	cf. Ningye saŋ ,
401.	Mould (pot)		lok	cf. 'build' (336.)
402.	Open		yáراك	
403.	Pierce/stab		torok	cf. Izere túbùk ,
404.	Plait (hair)		lok	cf. 'build' (336.)

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
405.	Plant (crop etc.)	tùrĕk		cf. Izere túùs ,
406.	Play	ɖǝ̀ɔ̀l		cf. Izere yórók ,
407.	Pound (in mortar)	tòk		widespread Niger-Congo root
408.	Pour (liquid)	kwírík		cf. Izere kórók ,
409.	Pull	cùk		
410.	Push	cálàk		? cf. Kulu tal ⁺ ‘pull’,
411.	Put on (clothes)	kwírík		
412.	Receive	yáí		
413.	Refuse	ɖzak		
414.	Resemble	ri		cf. Mada ru , Kulu lílí ,
415.	Return	kpiŋ		
416.	Ride (horse etc.)	ɖzerék		cf. Izere ŋárák ,
417.	Roast on coals	gwĕk		
418.	Rub	hwáŋ		cf. Gworok kwan ,
419.	Run	téléŋ		cf. Izere téŋ , Yamba cəŋ , Tarok cír , < PBC # fir -
420.	Say/speak	shé		cf. Izere fè ,
421.	See	rin		cf. Izere dí ,
422.	Seek	bè		
423.	Sell	shĩŋ		
424.	Send	coshè		
425.	Set trap	kushi		
426.	Sew	toreŋ		widespread but scattered in Plateau. cf. Kulu taà , Berom tolo Lungu sór , Cori tar , Gworok twáy , Tari fwel , Izere tós and Fyem twol , but probably also Jarawan Bantu # soro . Also in Chadic: Daffo, Bokkos toor , Fyer sool .
427.	Shake	gbik		
428.	Sharpen	kwâk		
429.	Shoot (arrow, gun)	táák		cf. Izere, Kulu tá , Tarok, Yangkam, Sur tat ⁺ . A Niger-Congo root often found as # ta ‘bow’
430.	Sing	lé		
431.	Sit down	wósh		
432.	Slaughter (animal)	kwàr		
433.	Sleep	lóshàra		? cf. Hyam of Kwoi lô , and widespread # la elements in Niger-Congo
434.	Smash	wòdòk		cf. Ningye wòl ,
435.	Smell	làk		cf. Tari lam ,
436.	Snap in two	bun		cf. Tarok ón ,
437.	Sow seeds	hwík		
438.	Spit	kpáncəs		
439.	Split	wórók		
440.	Stand	yele loi		see homophonous ‘fly’. cf. Fyem yila , Bo yaláx , Sur yel , where similar associations obtains. Also in Chadic: Dera yir- , Karekare ’yaar- , perhaps Hausa tsáyàà
441.	Steal	yí		cf. Tarok yí , Kulu ɖji ⁺ ,

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
442.	Stir (soup)	hwírik		
443.	Suck (breast etc.)	wo		
444.	Surpass	shòò		cf. Kulu seele ⁺ , ? Tyap jak ,
445.	Swallow	mé		cf. Mada mrě , Yanjam mər , Sur mərək , Tarok məkən ⁺ , Ekoid mèl , Mambila mènà . Connected with a widespread root for 'throat' reconstructed for PEBC as #- mərən
446.	Sweep	yásh		
447.	Swell	hùluk		
448.	Take	hwăk		
449.	Tear (cloth etc.)	wór		
450.	Tell	ruyí		
451.	Throw	táák		cf. 'shoot' (429.)
452.	Tie	rəp		cf. Nindem lɔp , Gworok láp ,
453.	Touch	tálak		
454.	Twist (rope etc.)	yálăk		
455.	Untie	bírik		cf. Izere bísík , Gworok byuk ,
456.	Uproot (tuber)	cúnúk		cf. Ningye cun ,
457.	Vomit	hwésh		
458.	Walk	cèl		cf. Tarok cèn ,
459.	Want/need	wǒk		cf. Kulu wáá , Nupe wá , Kadara waŋ , Tarok wá , Yakö wó , cf. Izere kúsú ,
460.	Wash	kùsh		
461.	Wear	kwírik		
462.	Weed	tolon		cf. Izere koron ,
463.	Weep	kúr		
464.	Wipe	yásh		
465.	Work	tùm		cf. Ningye tum , but a widespread Niger- Congo root
466.	Yawn	yáshé àkpərən		
467.	I	mè		
468.	You	ndʒuk		
469.	He/she/it	yíyo	inyàntò	
470.	we	bibîr		
471.	you pl.	bìbìn		
472.	They	bíra		

Edible and Useful Plants

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
473.	Guinea-yam ¹⁸	icit	acít	cf. Nyankpa acit , widespread Benue-Congo root #-ci
474.	Aerial yam ¹⁹	itom	àtom	
475.	Water-yam ²⁰	cíbéyən		

¹⁸ (*Dioscorea guineensis*)

¹⁹ (*Dioscorea bulbifera*)

²⁰ (*Dioscorea alata*)

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
476.	Taro (Old cocoyam) ²¹	àgù	ágù	
477.	Cassava* ²²	cíbíwòòn	cíbíkòòn	
478.	Sweet potato* ²³	àdàṅkálì		< Hausa
479.	Wild yam I	irûk	arûk	
480.	Wild yam II	ákácây		
481.	Sorghum ²⁴	kwírík		
482.	Bulrush millet ²⁵ (<i>gero</i>)	àngai		
483.	Eleusine* ²⁶	àṅkwana		
484.	Fonio (H. <i>acca</i>) ²⁷	ìkan		
485.	Iburu (H. <i>iburu</i>) ²⁸	àmana		
486.	Maize* ²⁹	àkurû		cf. Tarok ìkùr ‘sorghum’,
487.	Rice* ³⁰	ìhwé bèlè		
488.	Cowpea ³¹	itèk		
489.	Bambara groundnut ³²	ìwhítùm		
490.	Groundnut (Peanut) ³³	ìwhí		cf. Tarok afi
491.	Pigeon pea	itek shirû		an important crop
492.	Tiger-nut ³⁴	ibêk		
493.	Garden egg ³⁵	ìwhe		cf. Izere ìwhè
494.	Okra ³⁶	andani		
495.	Chili pepper* (large) ³⁷	ishép		
496.	Birdseye chili* ³⁸	ishebicì		
497.	Edible squash ³⁹	ìwhêtâr		
498.	Sorrel/roselle ⁴⁰	idzobe		
499.	Kenaf ⁴¹	ìhwash		
500.	Sesame seeds ⁴²	ànkon		

²¹ (*Colocasia esculenta*)²² (*Manihot esculenta*)²³ (*Ipomoea batatas*)²⁴ (*Sorghum bicolor*)²⁵ (*Pennisetum* spp.)²⁶ (H. *tamba*) (*Eleusine coracana*)²⁷ (*Digitaria exilis*)²⁸ (*Digitaria iburua*)²⁹ (*Zea mays*)³⁰ (*Oryza sativa/ glaberrima*)³¹ (*Vigna unguiculata*)³² (*Vigna subterranea*)³³ (*Arachis hypogaea*)³⁴ (*Cyperus esculentus*)³⁵ (*Solanum melongena*)³⁶ (*Abelmoschus esculentus*)³⁷ (*Capsicum frutescens*)³⁸ (*Capsicum annum*)³⁹ (*Cucurbita pepo*)⁴⁰ (H. *yakuwa*) (*Hibiscus sabdariffa*)⁴¹ (H. *rama*) (*Hibiscus cannabinus*)⁴² (H. *Ridii*) (*Sesamum indicum*)

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
501.	Sesame leaves ⁴³	ànyiyir		
502.	Bitterleaf ⁴⁴	àtúle		
503.	Plantain (<i>Musa</i> AAB)	ìṅwàr		
504.	Orange* ⁴⁵	lèmu	—	
505.	Bamboo	id̩za	àd̩za	
506.	Gourd (Generic)	icè	àcé	
507.	Pawpaw* ⁴⁶	ihwèè		
508.	Gourd (Generic)	icè	àcé	
509.	Oil-palm ⁴⁷	ìwol	ìkol	cf. Tarok akúlóm,
510.	Palm-fruit	ìtuwòl	àtokòl	
511.	Palm-oil	ànḍ'yèṅ	—	
512.	Palm kernel	ìṅkpè'wol	ankpe'kòl	
513.	Fan-palm ⁴⁸	ìṅkwòk	àṅkwòk	cf. Kulu gáṅkúk,
514.	Canarium tree ⁴⁹	ìhwar	àhwar	
515.	Custard apple ⁵⁰	àmùrùgwák		
516.	Wild date-palm ⁵¹	àshíshare		
517.	Silk-cotton tree ⁵²	ìkúm	akum	cf. Kulu gù-kúúmú, but a widespread root in the W. African savanna
518.	Shea tree ⁵³	ìndíndèn		cf. Tarok itíní,
519.	Locust tree ⁵⁴	ìlòy	àlòy	cf. Tarok ilúr, Mada Iḽ, Nupe lonci, and widespread in West Africa
520.	Locust fruit	idúshilòy	adúshilòy	
521.	Locust-bean cakes	ibè	abé	
522.	<i>Daniellia oliveri</i>	ìtup	—	
523.	<i>Jatropha curcas</i>	ìṅgàr	—	
524.	<i>p. 288</i>	ìntèp		
525.	<i>Parinari</i> <i>curatellifolia</i>	ìndùn		
526.	<i>Piliostigma</i> <i>thonningii</i>	àṅbàṅ		H. kalgo
527.		ìkpār		224
528.		ìṅgút		218
529.	<i>Lannea acida</i>	ìhwár	—	
530.	<i>Khaya senegalensis</i>	ìndzàr	àndzàr	
531.	<i>Terminalia</i> sp. ⁵⁵	ìkírìṅ		

⁴³ (H. karkashi)⁴⁴ *Vernonia amygdalina*⁴⁵ (*Citrus sinensis*)⁴⁶ (*Carica papaya*)⁴⁷ (*Elaeis guineensis*)⁴⁸ (*Borassus aethiopum*)⁴⁹ (*Canarium schweinfurthii*)⁵⁰ (*Annona senegalensis*)⁵¹ (*Phoenix reclinata*)⁵² (*Ceiba pentandra*)⁵³ (*Vitellaria paradoxa*)⁵⁴ (*Parkia biglobosa*)⁵⁵ (H. baushae)

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
532.	<i>Vitex doniana</i>	ítú	atú	cf. Tarok ìcù, Kulu gè-nshù,
533.	<i>Vitex sp.</i>	ítú'yàr	atú'yàr	

Musical Instruments

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
534.	Barrel-drum	àngìngàṅ	àngíngan	corresponds to Hausa <i>gangaa</i>
535.	Hourglass Drum	aṅkandûṅ	àngkándûṅ	
536.	Long drum	ìṅgìngǎ wàsa	—	long drum, beaten with the hands, held between the legs. Played after the harvest
537.	Flute	aṅáf	aṅaf	vertical flute, 40 cm. long with three fingerholes, played to praise important people
538.	Raft-zither	ìrùm	—	played to accompany women's dancing. high-pitched
539.	Raft-zither	ìrùm òkwì	—	played for important people. low-pitched
540.	Lute	ìrùm ùcè	—	played by old people for personal amusement
541.	Transverse clarinet	àndzór	—	made of a guinea-corn internode. Played by young men after harvest
542.	Bean-pod rattle	akwíkwá	—	played by old women for amusement
543.	Musical bow	àngiringòn	—	
544.	Ankle rattles	atándzòk	—	palm-leaf boxes made from the fan-palm. Used when the masquerade appears
545.	Women's dance	ìhwas ìrùm	—	performed during marriage

6. Conclusion

The most striking thing about the lexical cognates of Ayu is the wide variety of Plateau subgroups they appear to draw on. Kulu, Izere, Berom, Tarok and Ninzic languages all show some good or very good cognates. since many of these do not go back to Niger-Congo or even proto-Plateau, it is reasonable to assume they are borrowings, adopted when the migrant Ayu stayed long enough to intermarry and become partial bilinguals.

From the present data it seems likely that Ayu is not fundamentally a Ninzic language; cognates are essentially the result of contact, not genetic links. The cognates with Izere and Beromic languages, with which it is not today in contact directly, suggest a quite different geographical location in the past. Berom has a wide influence on languages in the region, whereas Izere is remote and is not used as a second language. This suggests that Izere cognates have important significance in historical terms. Is it possible that Ayu is originally a Plateau 2 group (called South-central in the most recent classification). South-central Plateau consists of;

Rigwe

Izere cluster

Jju

Tyap cluster (Tyap, Gworok, Atakar, Kacicere, Sholyo, Kafancan

The principal published source on this group is Gerhardt (1983).

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