

A DICTIONARY AND GRAMMAR OUTLINE OF MADA, A PLATEAU LANGUAGE OF CENTRAL NIGERIA



2019 version

BASED ON THE RIJA DIALECT

Mada-English-Mada

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(Cambridge, 27 December 2018)

Preface

This dictionary is a preliminary attempt to record the richness of the Mada language. It was prepared in its first form by Roger Blench and Barau Kato. However, Barau died prematurely in 2016, and subsequently, Roger Blench, with assistance from Robert Hedinger, converted the Word file to Flex, which enabled both the preparation of an English-Mada dictionary and more elaborate internal cross-referencing.

The dictionary is intended to help standardise the spelling of Mada words and to define words which are no longer in current use, especially cultural terms. The primary goal is to assist Mada speakers to use and spell words correctly. We hope also that the dictionary will be useful to students of the languages of Nigeria and of African languages in general.

An introduction has been provided to facilitate the effective use of the dictionary. It covers Mada phonology; current orthography; an outline of Mada grammar; Mada language use; abbreviations; and illustrates the structure of individual entries. The appendices provide information of both cultural interest, such as Mada personal names, towns and villages; and words developed for Mada Bible Translation.

The authors are aware that there are still many Mada words which have eluded us and that some words here defined may have secondary meanings that are not included. This is a draft circulated to interested individuals and therefore I would be grateful if any suggestions for amendment, correction and addition could be forwarded to the first author at the address given below.

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Cambridge, 27 December 2018

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Abbreviations

Amer.	American (for Americanisms)
arch.	archaic
CONT	continuous
dial.	dialect
et.	etymology
euph.	euphemism
fig.	figurative
hum.	humorous
idm.	idiom
id.	ideophone
ins.	insulting
lit.	literally
NE	Nigerian English
NEG	negative
Ng.	Ningo dialect
PST	Past
Sh.	Shugbu dialect

Apart from the abbreviations, symbols are used to indicate particular features;

+ see Appendix for further detail

INTRODUCTION

1. The Mada people: Location, Origin and Classification

1.1 Location and Name

The Mada people live primarily in the region between Anjida and Akwanga on and around the road leading from Fadan Karshi to Akwanga in Nasarawa State, Central Nigeria. Their numbers are hard to estimate but probably now exceeds 100,000. Earlier literature refers to the Mada as ‘Yidda’ (e.g. Temple 1922: 260) but no such term is used today. In colonial times a distinction was made between ‘Hill Mada’ and ‘Plains Mada’. The ‘hill Mada’ were however, part of Eggon and as such unrelated to the Mada proper. These terms have now been dropped and today’s Mada now refers to the ‘Plains Mada’ of earlier sources.

1.2 Classification

Mada was classified as part of the Plateau language group by Greenberg (1963) and Williamson (1971), Hansford *et al.* (1976), Gerhardt (1989) and Crozier and Blench (1992) have all followed this view. Mada was put together with Ninzam, Ayu, Che, Ninkyop and some other languages as part of Plateau IV. More recently, this group has been christened ‘Ninzic’ in the light of the numerous languages with a –nin- element in their ethnonym (Blench 2000).

Greenberg’s (1963:9) original list was Rukuba (Kuche), Ninzo (Ninzam), Ayu, Mada, Kaninkwom. The current list of Ninzic languages is as follows;

Ninzo
Ce [=Rukuba]
Mada
Bu-Niṅkada
Numana-Nunku-Gwantu-Numbu
Ningye
Kanufi
Ninkyop-Nindem

Doubtfully

Ayu?

Data on many of these languages is too weak to be confident of their place within the group. However, on Ninzo and Ce relatively extensive data means that we can be sure these are the closest relatives of Mada.

1.3 Scholarly publication

The principal modern work on the Mada language is Price (1989)¹. This work covers the phonology and orthography of Mada spoken in Rija, a village central to Mada country and the dialect chosen for New Testament translation. The anthropology of the Mada is still virtually undocumented. Dandaura & Ngharen (1997) appears to be the first local publication on Mada history and culture. CAPRO (2009: 153 ff.) is a summary account of Mada society and history. Sabo (2011a,b) has published two books which cover the history of individual clans, some ethnography and life stories of prominent Mada individuals.

¹ Gerhardt (1983:112 ff.) includes some notes on the phonology and noun-class systems of two Mada dialects, but these have been comprehensively superseded by Price (1989).

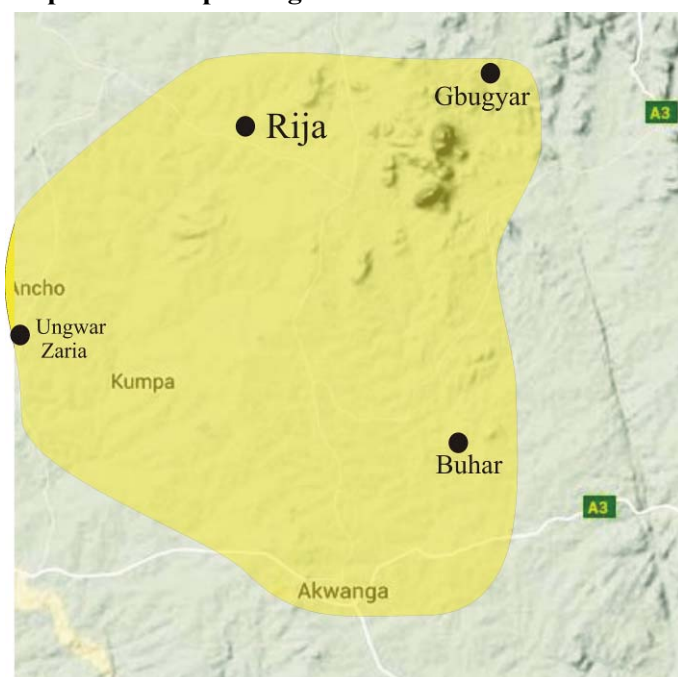
1.4 Dialects

Mada has an extensive dialect network and there is quite high level of variation from village to village. Price (1989) gives a comparative wordlist in different dialects, which shows that at least some have a markedly different phonology from Rija Mada. The following dialects are listed;

Rija, Gbugyar, Anjagwa, Ancho, Buhar, Akwanga, Ungwar Zaria

of these, Akwanga and Ungwar Zaria are markedly different from the others. Nonetheless all dialects are mutually intelligible and Mada speakers are used to adjusting to different lects. Map 1 shows the Mada-speaking area.

Map 1 . Mada-speaking area



1.5 Sources of material

The original starting point for the present document was a dictionary file prepared by Norman and Barbara Price in relation to the translation of the New Testament, a project finally finished and launched in 2000. However, the entries have been rechecked and in some cases retranscribed, many new items entered and it should be thus considered an essentially new document. Most importantly, example sentences have been added for almost all entries which are not nouns, allowing the reader to understand usage. The grammar outline, written newly in 2018, makes use of these sentences to explain Mada morphology and syntax.

2. The Sound System of Mada and its Orthography

2.1 Sound system

2.1.1 Consonants

The account of Mada phonology follows closely Price (1989). Mada has twenty-one consonant phonemes:

	Labial	Labio-dental	Alveolar	Velar	Labio-velar
Plosives	p b		t d	k g	kp gb
Fricatives		f v	s [z]		
Affricates			ts dz		
Nasals	m		n	ŋ	
Laterals			l		
Vibrants			r		
Approximants			y		ɰ w

The voiceless approximant, /ɰ/ is written ‘hy’ in the orthography but always sounds labialised. It is often written *hyw* in other Plateau languages, but there is no contrast with /hy/ so marking the labial is redundant. Price (1989) argues that /z/ and /dz/ are in free variation and the Mada orthography writes all instances of [dz] as 'z'. Final -r in the majority of lects is reflected as -x, a voiceless uvular fricative, in Akwanga.

Consonant modification

Palatalisation

Table 1. Mada palatalised consonants

Orth	IPA	Example	Gloss
py	py	pyâr	to be cold
ty	ty	tyã	duiker
ky	ky	běkyèn	Lima beans
gy	gy	gbàngyèr	never
hy	ɥ	hyēn	camwood
gby	gby	màgbyěŋ	blood-plum
kpy	kpy	mkrəywè	frog sp.
ny	ɲ	bărnɥū	lip
my	my	myô	dark (green)
ry	ry	gàryăn	hairy
ly	λ	nēnlyē	biting ant sp.

/ly/ is restricted to contexts where it is preceded by prenasalisation. However, the following are also contrastive and could be written as underlying phonemes, since they are written with distinct graphemes in the orthography.

IPA	Orth
tsʸ	c
dzʸ	j
sʸ	sh

Labialisation

The set of labialised consonants in Mada is shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Mada labialised consonants

Orth	IPA	Example	Gloss
pw	pw	pwō	eleven
bw	bw	bwā	to fly
tsw	tsw	tswē	rainy season
zw	dzw	zwē	to follow
sw	sw	swē	to bathe
lw	lw	lwè	to carry
yw	ɥw	ywē	egg
kw	kw	kwār	all
gw	gw	gwǎ	snake
ngw	ŋw	ngwɔn	hand

Palatal-labialisation

Table 3 shows the much smaller subset of palatal-labialised consonants;

Table 3. Mada palatal-labialised consonants

Orth	IPA	Example	Gloss
yw	ɥ	ywā	two
nyw	ɲw	ənywī	inside
gyw	gɥ	begywī	flying ants

Rhotacisation and lateralisation

Mada allows consonants to be modified by both -r and -l. Price (1989: 7) argues these are in complementary distribution. However, the argument depends on assumptions about the phonology which are not easy to explain to speakers, so in practice these are distinguished in the orthography. Table 4 and Table 5 show the consonants in Mada that can be rhotacised and lateralised. It is evident that the set of consonants is the same in each case, which argues for complementary distribution. Broadly, consonants are rhotacised before front and high vowels, and lateralised before central and mid-back vowels. The vowel chart shows the -r modifications shaded yellow and -l in red.

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

Table 4. Mada rhotacised consonants

Orth	IPA	Example	Gloss
pr	pr	tàprě	whistle (n.)
br	br	bri	stomach
fr	fr	frē	to peel
vr	vr	vrè	to hurst
kr	kr	kru	barren woman
gr	gr	grì	to bring
kpr	kpr	kprē	calf of leg
gbr	gbr	gbrě	to shiver
nge	ŋr	ngrě	to separate

Table 5. Mada lateralised consonants

Orth	IPA	Example	Gloss
pl	pl	plò	to put excessive pomade
bl	bl	blā	to count
fl	fl	flò	to tread on
vl	vl	mvlǎn	custard-apple
kl	kl	klā	to fry
gl	gl	glà	axe
kpl	kpl	kpla	bachelor
gbl	gbl	gbla	to weed
ngl	ŋl	ngla	to wash

It is striking that nasalised vowels rarely form the nucleus when the onset is C + liquid. In the single example, this co-occurs with prenasalisation, suggesting that the liquids cause assimilation of nasalised vowels.

2.1.2 Vowels

Mada has eight vowel phonemes:

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

but only five corresponding nasalised vowels;

	Front	Central	Back
Close	ĩ		ũ
Open-Mid	ẽ		õ
Open		ã	

This is identical to the vowel system of Ninkyop, another language in the Ninzic group to have lost its nominal affix system. In the original orthography of 1985, the symbol ñ was adopted to mark nasalisation following a vowel, but this was simplified to n. Thus ã is written ‘an’. Mada has no long or doubled vowels except in ideophones and exclamations.

2.1.3 Tones

Mada has three level tones and a rising and falling tone. Tones are marked in the orthography and in this document as follows:

high tone is unmarked
 /ˊ/ mid tone is shown by a macron
 /ˋ/ for a low tone
 /ˋˊ/ for a falling tone
 /ˊˊ/ for a rising tone.

The rising tone is uncommon compared with the other tones. Mada is highly tonal and many lexical and grammatical distinctions are made only by tone. The orthography therefore marks tone on all syllables. Mada distinguishes between tone-bearing and non-tone-bearing nasals, and several words have contrastive tone on a syllabic nasal in final position. Thus;

kpm̃ ‘kapok tree’

Price (1989: 16) notes one example of downstep, with the third person singular pronoun *kə*, but since this is automatic it does not need to be represented in the orthography.

2.2 Letters of the Mada alphabet

The alphabet is phonemic and is made up of 34 letters. These are arranged as follows:

a, b, c, e, ε, ə, d, f, g, gb, h, hw, i, j, k, kp, l, m, n, ng, ny, o, ɔ, p, r, s, sh, t, u, v, w, y, z, zh.

These correspond to the IPA symbols used in the phonology via the following conventions;

Orth	IPA	Notes
ng	ŋ	
c	tsʸ	
j	dzʸ	
sh	sʸ	
ny	ɲʸ	
h	ɰ	before o, ɔ, u
hw	ɰ	elsewhere
z	dz	in free variation

Nasalisation is represented by -n following the relevant vowel.

3. Grammar sketch

3.1 Nouns

3.1.1 Morphology

Table 6 shows the canonical structures of Mada nouns so far identified. Borrowings have introduced some rare structures. The large variety of prosodies in Mada (palatalisation, labialisation, lateralisation and rhotacisation and their combinations) further multiplies the number of possible structures (see Price 1989: 12).

Table 6. Canonical structures of Mada nouns

Structure	Example	Gloss	Comment
CC	<i>kpm̩</i>	kapok tree	
CCV	<i>mlà</i>	first born	
CV	<i>bē</i>	large male patas monkey	
CVC	<i>bān</i>	law	
CVCCa	<i>bārga</i>	lion	
CVCCV	<i>kānggù</i>	crab	
CVCNV	<i>bārnyū</i>	lip	
CVCV	<i>bēki</i>	seed	
CVCVC	<i>bēkan</i>	ring	
CVCVCV	<i>bedārō</i>	millet	
CVCVCVCV	<i>belābelà</i>	cattle egret	borrowing, exceptional
CVCVCVN	<i>bēkitōn</i>	ear-ring	
CVCyV	<i>begywī</i>	flying ants	palatal labial exceptional
CVNCVN	<i>bēmkpàn</i>	maize kernel	
VCV	<i>aku</i>	grey parrot	borrowing, exceptional

The CC structure of *kpm̩* ‘kapok tree’ is very unusual within the context of Plateau and there are only seven words with this form (Price 1989: 13).

3.1.2 Synchronic number marking strategies

Mada strategies for marking of nominal plurals divide into six categories (Table 7):

Table 7. Mada nominal number marking strategies

No.	Strategy
I	tone-change
II	initial syllable reduplication
III	prefix addition
IV	person nouns grammaticalised as pseudo-prefixes
V	diminutives grammaticalised as pseudo-prefixes
VI	suppletives

Prefixes marking size can alternate with non-prefixed nouns creating a plethora of additional forms. Some nouns usually take diminutive prefixes in speech, but these are not easy to predict. Concord of a sort, based on tonal correspondences, exists in Mada. The historical layering of these number marking strategies can be detected through the existence of multiple forms, sometimes with, for example, tone-raising applied to a noun formerly which also has first syllable reduplication or prefix addition. The consequence of this has been that the tones of plurals of Mada show extremely low levels of predictability.

Type I nouns: tone-alternation

The single most common pattern of pluralisation in Mada is tone alternation. Under different guises this is common across much of Plateau, and in the great majority of cases the tone is raised, usually one level in three-tone languages. This rule is applied to productive prefixes where these are present (Izere, Tarok) and to stems where prefixes have eroded (Hyam, Berom) (see Blench 2000b for discussion). Even in languages where productive prefixes are present synchronically, tone-plurals presumably derive from the erosion of former prefixes and their subsequent renewal. However, such forms may have evolved at various periods in the prehistory of Plateau and it is not necessary to assume they were a feature of proto-Mada. Ninkyop, for example, another Ninzic language without prefixes, shares some features with Mada, suggestive of an earlier phase of prefix loss. For some word-classes, tone-plurals may already have been generalised in pre-Mada although they are also

found on very recent loanwords such as ‘motorcycle’ or ‘cutlass’ which never have had a prefix. One word, *aku*, parrot, has been borrowed from Hausa, preserving an undeleted V-initial.

As the examples given below demonstrate, tone-alternations in Mada plurals are highly diverse, pointing to a complex history of compounding, borrowing and reanalysis. Although some patterns are common and others very rare, it would be stretching the case to call these patterns noun-classes. Certainly, they seem to have little semantic unity. Indeed the tones on recently adopted loanwords are probably assigned by interpreting the tone of the donor language, not by a category of semantic content. Mada tone-raising is almost always single-step, L→M or M→H etc. However, where the singular is polysyllabic, the effects on the tone of the plural are highly diverse and difficult to predict. This is undoubtedly due to the creation of new pseudo-prefixes via grammaticalised nouns. These nouns retain their original tone alternations, making a large number of tonal patterns at the word level. The examples give sets of different patterns of tone-raising, divided into single and multiple changes.

Semantically, person, animals and to a lesser extent, trees, are widespread in these classes. In some pairings, animal names form every member of the set, elsewhere they predominate. This strongly suggests that when Mada had a prefix system, classes had a strong semantic element, at least as far as persons and animals were concerned.

Monosyllables

The possible tone-alternations on monosyllables are;

1. L→M
2. L→H
3. M→R
4. M→H
5. R→H
6. H→R

The tables give examples of each possible pairing following the order given above;

1. L	M	Gloss
kyù	kyū	death
bri	brī	ghost
mfēr	mfēr	vagina

2. L	H	Gloss
bàr	bər	royal python
bòn	bòn	hawk
gùr	gur	granary
kpm̄	kpm̄	silk-cotton tree

Only a single case of M→R has been encountered;

3. M	R	Gloss
jū	jü	water-yam

4. M	H	Gloss
bē	bē	monkey
lā	lə	locust tree
tsār	tsər	mahogany
cā	cə	leopard

5.	R	H	Gloss
	dǎ	da	cutlass
	cě	ce	old age
	dǎr	dər	heart
	gbyě	gbye	straight razor
	gbm̄	gbm	sound

The alternation H→R is rare; the following table lists all examples so far encountered;

6.	H	R	Gloss
	cun	cŭn	forest
	jì	jǐ	mortar
	nan	nǎn	flesh, animal
	kpə	kpǎ	shoe
	mbu	mbŭ	mat
	ngwən	ngwǒn	hand

Disyllables

Disyllabic roots admit a wide range of pairings. The following tables exemplify all the pairs so far recorded. Where the examples are numerous, the pairing is common. Where only one or two cases are noted, this represents the total of those so far encountered.

LL	HL	Gloss
bəbè	bəbè	tail
mgbəmgbèr	mgbəmgbèr	navel

LL	ML	Gloss
kpàkì	kpākì	stick
kpàtì	kpātì	box
māmgbyèn	māmgbyèn	wasp

LL	MM	Gloss
gbàrkì	gbārkì	flower
kìkòn	kīkōn	weapon [‘thing of war’]

kì- is a pseudo-prefix, a grammaticalisation of *kì pl.* kī ‘thing’ which appears in a number of other nominal pairings, for example;

kìrē	kīrē	food
kìyǎwò	kīyǎwò	domestic animals, livestock
kìkyε	kīkyε	bicycle

The word for ‘bicycle’ is of particular interest, since it is a borrowing from Hausa *kyeekye* and clearly not part of an ancient word-stock. The first syllable has been analysed as the *kì-* pseudo-prefix and tonal alternation applied regularly.

LL	HH	Gloss
gəntsù	gəntsu	grass sp.
lùm̀vù	lumvu	beetle
mèg̀àn	məgan	sap
mgb̀èryò	mgbəryò	throat

LM mgb̀̀r̀̀n	LR mgb̀̀r̀̀n	Gloss urine
LM mkp̀̀ǹ̀ē	FM mkp̀̀ǹ̀ē	Gloss elderly person
LM yẁ̀k̀̀ā	HM yẁ̀k̀̀ā	Gloss chicken egg
LM k̀̀ā̀̀k̀̀ā	MM k̀̀ā̀̀k̀̀ā	Gloss fowl
k̀̀ā̀̀ng̀̀g̀̀ā̀̀n	k̀̀ā̀̀ng̀̀g̀̀ā̀̀n	drum
k̀̀r̀̀ē	k̀̀r̀̀ē	food
k̀̀ā̀̀mb̀̀ā	k̀̀ā̀̀mb̀̀ā	calabash
t̀̀ṑ̀nz̀̀ē	t̀̀ṑ̀nz̀̀ē	goodness, beauty
ẁ̀ā̀̀nd̀̀ō	ẁ̀ā̀̀nd̀̀ō	trousers
LM g̀̀ā̀̀ng̀̀g̀̀ā̀̀n	HH g̀̀ā̀̀ng̀̀g̀̀ā̀̀n	Gloss barrel-drum
g̀̀ā̀̀nt̀̀ē	g̀̀ā̀̀nt̀̀ē	raft-zither
g̀̀ā̀̀r̀̀ī	g̀̀ā̀̀r̀̀ī	co-wife
kp̀̀ā̀̀l̀̀o	kp̀̀ā̀̀l̀̀o	tree pangolin
s̀̀ā̀̀p̀̀ər̀̀	s̀̀ā̀̀p̀̀ər̀̀	soap
LR mgb̀̀ā̀̀nj̀̀ā̀̀n	MM mgb̀̀ā̀̀nj̀̀ā̀̀n	Gloss beard of maize
LR c̀̀ī̀̀nj̀̀ī	HH c̀̀ī̀̀nj̀̀ī	Gloss hourglass drum
l̀̀ā̀̀ỳ̀w̃̀̀ā	l̀̀ā̀̀ỳ̀w̃̀̀ā	stink-ant
LH b̀̀ā̀̀b̀̀ər̀̀	MH b̀̀ā̀̀b̀̀ər̀̀	Gloss motorcycle
k̀̀ī̀̀kỹ̀̀ε	k̀̀ī̀̀kỹ̀̀ε	bicycle

k̀̀ā̀̀- is likely to be a pseudo-prefix although its etymology is unclear.

ML k̀̀ā̀̀gb̀̀ù	MH k̀̀ā̀̀gb̀̀u	Gloss baboon
ML p̀̀ā̀̀rk̀̀ī	HM p̀̀ā̀̀rk̀̀ī	Gloss cane
ML t̀̀ā̀̀rm̀̀gb̀̀ù	HH t̀̀ā̀̀rm̀̀gb̀̀u	Gloss snake sp.
MM mgb̀̀ā̀̀r̀̀ṑ̀n	HM mgb̀̀ā̀̀r̀̀ṑ̀n	Gloss stool
MM t̀̀ā̀̀t̀̀ē	MH t̀̀ā̀̀t̀̀ē	Gloss father, elder

MM nggūnggū tārmvū	HH nggunggu tārmvu	Gloss metal dish hyena
MM nyōnyōn	LR nyōnyōn	Gloss leather thong
MH gbāntan gūgu kpōgbru lākə tātsu	HH gbəntan gugu kpogbru ləkə tatsu	Gloss sheep goat vulture age-mate amphisbaenid snake

RL brēkrī bēkī	HM brēkrī bekī	Gloss yam heap seed
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RL mgbāshò bēmkràn	HL mgbəshò bemkràn	Gloss speargrass maize kernel
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RM lādē nggāgyū	HM lədē nggagyū	Gloss pig dog
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RM bēkpū bēncī bīshī mgbāntā	HH bekpu benci bishī mgbantə	Gloss kernel of guinea corn acca cultivar eye, face stone
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RH bārga bēkan mkplūn	HH barga bekan mkplun	Gloss lion ring spherical object
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RR bēzū	HH bezu	Gloss bullet
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The pseudo-prefix *bě*, meaning something ‘seed’, ‘small round object’ retains its sg./pl. tone change R → H in all compounds, thereby generating a large subset of tone-plurals.

HL mgbājə	LM mgbəjə	Gloss cane
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HL kənkòn	MM kənkōn	Gloss way
---------------------	---------------------	---------------------

The pair HL/HH is confined to animals.

HL	HH	Gloss
gantàn	gantàn	brown spider
lunkpùr	lunkpur	hartebeest
məsà	məsa	cat
mkpələ	mkpəla	black kite

HL	RM	Gloss
kpəntàn	kpəntān	skin
ncancùn	ncāncūn	story

HM	RM	Gloss
ləgū	ləgū	cassava (< Hausa)
mgbətsā	mgbətsā	spoon

HM	HH	Gloss
gbəjī	gbəji	steam
gbəryūn	gbəryun	knee
kagbōn	kagbōn	tortoise
kaprē	kaprē	nightjar

Trisyllables

Trisyllabic tone alternations are quite rare in Mada and seem to form no obvious groups. Surprisingly, there are several recent loanwords in this restricted set. Table 8 sets out all the alternations recorded.

Table 8. Mada tone-plurals in trisyllables

Singular	Plural	Gloss	Comment
bəbrɛywi	bəbrɛywi	cockroach	redup.
gbəgbakì	gbəgbakì	broken calabash	redup.
gbəlantswē	gbəlantswē	cricket	
kāləbā	kaləba	bottle	< Hausa
kiyòwò	kīyòwò	domestic animals, livestock	
kpòmgbukpòn	kpòmgbukpòn	large male patas monkey	? redup.
kukukì	kùkukì	stick	redup.
mbəmləkì	mbəmləkì	gutter	redup.
mələka	mələkū	angel	< Hausa
məsārā	məsārā	white person	< Hausa
mkpəlōtù	mkpəlōtu	skull	
njilādān	njiladan	gecko	
njìnjākì	njìnjākì	rag	redup.
ntənāntsò	ntənantso	chameleon	? redup.
shəshàrɛ	shəshàrɛ	weaver bird	redup.
tətələ	tətələ	lantern	< Hausa + redup.

As with other tone-plurals, animals predominate. Despite the Hausa source of some of these words they do not appear to reflect the tones of the original Hausa, suggesting that they were borrowed indirectly via neighbouring languages. The word for ‘angel’ has retained the morphology of its Hausa plural, unlike other loanwords. Other languages in the region, such as Hyam also show this same conservation of a Hausa plural in the word for angel.

Many of the trisyllabic alternations show evidence of initial syllable reduplication (see Type II below). Usually these exhibit an additional syllable in the plural, but in this case the tone alternation suggests that the plural was re-analysed as a singular and then a tone-plural formed. The case of *tətələ* ‘lamp’ is interesting because it must derive from Hausa *fiṭila*. The *fi-* element was presumably

analysed as a diminutive prefix (see Type V) and deleted, and then a reduplicated plural generated through a regular process. However, the reduplicated plural then became incorporated in the stem in turn generating the synchronic forms noted above.

Type II nouns: initial syllable reduplication

A pattern familiar from other Plateau languages in this region is the full or partial reduplication of the first syllable of the stem. Ningye, Ninzo, Fyem and Hasha all show this pattern in varying degrees, with Hasha a case where all nouns and verbs form plurals in this way. The probable source of this strategy is the Chadic languages with which Plateau has interacted for a long period, but reduplication rules have become generalised in Plateau languages no longer directly in touch with Chadic languages of this type. As a percentage of the overall lexicon, first syllable reduplication is not all that common in Mada, but its occurrence on rather fundamental items of vocabulary does suggest its antiquity. Table 9 shows all the examples so far recorded, including cases where a second plural form is also in use;

Table 9. First syllable reduplication in Mada nouns

Pattern	s.	pl.	gloss
bə→bə	bār	bābār	farm shelter
bə→bə	bār	bābār	hat
be→bə	bě	be, bəbe	seed
bwə→bə	bwǎ	bābwə	pocket
cu→cu	cūn	màcùn, màcūcùn	chief
gbə→gbə	gbōn	gbāgbòn	short piece of wood
gbə→gbə	gbòn	gbāgbòn	family
gbri→gbə	gbrīn	màgbrīn, gbāgbrīn	spirit, photo, shadow, soul, mirror
gbu→gbu	gbù	gbūgbu	town, hill
gyə→gi	gyǎr	gigyər	mother
kpa→kpə	kpān	kpākpàn	friend
kprə→kpə	kprē	kpākpṛē	lower leg
kri→kə	kri	kākri	yam
lə→lə	lōn	mālālōn	husband
ci→ci	mācī	mācīcī	father-in-law
mbə→mbə	mbā	mbāmbā	wife, woman
mbə→mbə	mbār mpà	mbāmbār mpà	scar
mbe→mbə	mbē	mbāmbē	sprout
mbwa→mbu	mbwà zə	mbūmbwà zə	foot
mgbə→mə	mgbān	māmgbān	armpit
mgbə→mə	mgbān	māmgbān	wing
mgbə→mgbə	mgbà	mgbāmgbà	aroma
mgbi→mgbə	mgbīr	mgbāmgbīr	bush patch
mgbə→mgbə	mgbō	mgbāgbò	rice and beans
mgbə→mgbə	mgbò	mgbāgbò	swamp, fadama
mgbo→mgbo	mgborən	mgbòmgbörən	word
mkpi→mkpə	mkpīr	mkpāmkpīr	hip
młə→mə	młà	māmłà	first born
młə→mə	młə	māməmłə	groping in darkness
mpə→mpə	mpā	mpāmpà	sore, wound
mpə→mpə	mpā	mpāmpā	calabash
mpṛə→mpə	mpṛē	mpāmpṛē	sheet of paper
mpu→mpu	mpù	mpūmpù	thigh
mpu→mpu	mpūr	mpūmpūr	fear
nci→nci	nci	ncīnci	traditional district

Pattern	s.	pl.	gloss
nji→nji	njī	njīnji	knife
njo→nju	njò	njūnju	horn
nkɔ→nkɔ	nkòn	nkòn, nkònkòn	road, way, door
nkɔ→kə	nkən	kənknən	elbow, ankle
nkyə→nkyə	nkyār	nkyānkýàr	group
nkyɛ→nkyɛ	nkyɛn	nkyɛnnkyɛn	remaining part
ri→ri	rì	rīrī	day
te→tə	tè	te, tēte	father
tse→tsɛ	tse	tsōtse	town

Where two forms are given in the plural column both are acceptable to speakers. The shaded items, bə-, can be subject to an alternative interpretation, the compounding of a pseudo-prefix meaning ‘small object’ (cf. Table 9).

This table may conflate two different phenomena, complete reduplication in monosyllables such as knife, district, woman, fly, part and thigh and partial reduplication where syllable copying is not exact. The small number of examples makes these difficult to disaggregate. The great majority of reduplicated syllables begin with prenasalised consonants and labials dominate the remainder. Body parts and kinship terms dominate the semantics of reduplicated plurals although other terms occur. Notably, however, no animals form plurals in this way in contrast to tone-alternations. There are no obvious loanwords in the class of words showing initial syllable reduplication although this process seems to have occurred and then excluded by the adoption of a tone-alternation as a plural, as in the case of *tətələ* ‘lamp’ noted above.

It is clear that these pairings are not generated by morphological rules that admit of no exceptions; the differing results of reduplicating *nkɔ* suggest that historical explanations must be adduced to account for such variation. Despite this, most of the reduplications do follow a pattern, as the following rules show;

- Rule 1. Where V_1 is schwa or a high vowel, the syllable is reduplicated precisely
- Rule 2. All other vowels are reduplicated as schwa, except where C_1 is palatalised
- Rule 3. Rhotacisation, labialisation, palatalisation and fricativisation are ignored in reduplication where Rule 1 has not been applied

Some words suggest ‘fossil’ reduplication, i.e. a previously reduplicated form has now been adapted as a tone-plural and reduplication is now unproductive. In this case, the plural must have been adopted as a base form and a singular created by analogy. The following table gives some examples;

bəbè	bəbè	tail
kəkə	kəkə	fowl
ləlān	ləlān	scorpion

Some trisyllabic tone-plurals seem to derive from a similar source.

A case which looks like segmentation by false analogy and consequent creation of a reduplicated form is the word for ‘sweet potato’, either *kyūnkyū* or *dankyū* (both singulars). *Dankyū* is apparently from Hausa *dankali*. The sweet potato is a recently introduced New World crop, so such a borrowing is very plausible. *da-*, however, is an unlikely prefix in pre-Mada, but it may have been analysed as a generic prefix and deleted in order to form a reduplicated plural. With some exceptions, tubers do not have morphologically marked plurals in Mada, hence *kyūnkyū* no longer has a singular corresponding form.

Type III nouns: prefix addition

The most recent addition to the Mada repertoire of plural strategies is probably the *mə-* prefix. This appears to have two realisations, *mə̀-* and *mə̄-*. The low-tone form seems to have no strongly-defined semantic field (Table 10, Table 11), but mid-tone *mə̄-* is applied quite strictly to persons (Table 12, Table 13). The examples in these tables and in other sections show the prefix has been added, sometimes subsequently to other strategies, such as tone-raising or reduplication, providing evidence for its recent genesis.

Most nouns taking a *mə̀-* prefix conserve stem-tone (Table 10);

Table 10. Mada mə̀- prefixes where stem tone is conserved

bān	mə̀bān	law
gōn	mə̀gōn	back
gā	mə̀gā	shoulder
gbrīn	mə̀gbrīn, gbə̀gbrīn	spirit
jūjū	mə̀jūjū	hole
kpə	mə̀kpə	female agama lizard

However, a minority of nouns with *mə̀-* prefixes alter the stem-tone (Table 11);

Table 11. Mada mə̀- prefixes where stem tone is not conserved

cār	mə̀cār	stranger
do	mə̀dō	market
gbla	mə̀gblā	tribal mark
nzār	mə̀nzār	hoe
kōn	mə̀kōn	war
gyōn	mə̀gyōn	hare

In all these examples, except the words for ‘war’ and hoe, the stem tone falls one level.

Table 12 shows *mə̄-* prefixes with conserved stem-tone;

Table 12. Mada mə̄- prefixes where stem tone is conserved

bre	mə̄bre	grave
lənggə	mə̄lənggə	enemy
m̄la	mə̄m̄la	relation
nē	mə̄nē	person
vənggə	mə̄vənggə	girl

and Table 13 the *mə̄-* prefix with altered stem-tone;

Table 13. Mada mə̄- prefixes where the stem tone alters

grě	mə̄gre	aunt
krě	mə̄kre	uncle
ywe	mə̄ywē	in-law

Table 12 and Table 13 illustrate the strong relationship between the mid-tone *mə̄-* prefix and person nouns. The great variability in stem-tones presumably reflects a wide range of different nominal affixes in pre-Mada.

This prefix may be present in the name of the people themselves, /mə̀da/, a form which has no singular today and is invariant. However, earlier sources give these people the name ‘Yidda’, suggesting that in the early colonial period, /mə̀da/ still alternated with a V- prefix, probably *ì-*, that is

now lost². The persistence of such prefixes in the closely related Ninzo language provides some support for this hypothesis. The fixing of Mada as the name of the people may thus well be a phenomenon of the twentieth century.

Type IV nouns: person nouns acting as pseudo-prefixes

Type IV consists of person nouns or pronouns that alternate in front of stems, giving the appearance of prefixes. Indeed it has been frequently speculated that such systems are the origin of Niger-Congo alternating affix systems (see Williamson & Blench 2000). The most common example is *wān-/bān-*;

wān/bān

Table 14. *wān/bān* alternation for persons

Singular	Plural	Gloss
wāndò	bāndò	farmer
wānfà	bānfà	fool
wāngbò	bāngbò	Igbo person
wāngi	bāngi	thief
wānkò	bānkò	house owner
wānpānnēn	bānpānnēn	soldier, policeman
wānkwār	bānkwār	wizard
wānrèkī	bānrèkī	trader
wānwō	bānwō	blind man
wānywànan	bānywànan	butcher

This alternation exists only in compounds, as there are no corresponding isolated nouns synchronically meaning person. Wilson (2002) gives an example of what is evidently a similar process for Kuche, a related Ninzic language. A prefix *bān* is used to mark plurals of VCV kin terms, which Wilson claims is a grammaticalised form of the old Class 2 affix and the preposition *nà* ‘with’. In the case of Mada, *wān* and *bān* can also function independently as relative pronouns, which suggests an alternative interpretation of the Kuche marker.

In the other example of such alternations, *vān* pl. *nywēn* ‘child’, is attested in isolation and is applied both to human and animal nouns;

vān/nywēn

(və)nzè	nywēnzè	young man
vənce	nywēnnce	bird
vəmbàn	nywēnmban	hawk
vərə	nywēnra	granary
vətò	nywētò	squirrel

The nasalised vowel of *vān* [vã] is homorganic with the initial consonant of the stem that follows and thus assimilates or is deleted. Curiously, the nasalisation of *nywēn* [ɲwễ] is always conserved even when adjacent to a bilabial nasal. The variation of deletion of nasalisation in *vān* is quite surprising and a possible explanation is that it is being synchronically re-analysed as a diminutive prefix (see below), but that this process is still incomplete.

Type V nouns: diminutives acting as pseudo class-prefixes

Like Berom, Mada permits most nouns to take optional diminutives, obligatory in a few cases. The Berom prefix is *ke-*, so it is unlikely to be cognate with Mada *və-*, but the two are used in a very similar fashion. The origin of the Mada diminutive is derived from the word for ‘child’ as described in the previous section. The nasalisation of *vān* for child is deleted, and it has an allomorph *fə-*. Both

² I am grateful to Norman Price for this suggestion

allomorphs have the same plural, namely *nywên*. Table 15 gives some examples of the distribution of these prefixes on syllable reduplicating nouns;

Table 15. Optional diminutive prefixes applied to Mada nouns

fə- Mada	Gloss	Mada	və- Gloss
bār	farm shelter	bār	hat
gbōn	short piece of wood	bě	seed
gbòn	family	gbù	town, hill
gbrīn	spirit	gyǎr	mother
kpān	friend	kprē	lower leg
mbā	wife, woman	lōn	husband
mbār mpà	scar	mbē	sprout
mgbān	armpit	mbwà zə̀	foot
mgbān	wing	mgbò	swamp, fadama
mgbō	rice and beans	mlà	first born
mgborẽn	word	mpō	calabash
mpā	sore, wound	mpù	thigh
mprē	sheet of paper	njò	horn
nci	traditional district	nkòn	road
njī	knife	tè	father
nkyen	remaining part		
tse	town		

There seems to be no easy way to predict which allomorph will be applied to which stem nor are these reflected in other areas of the concord system. Words which use the *wan/ban* alternation cannot also take the *və-* prefix. The distinction between the *və-/fə-* prefix and the word for ‘child’ is illustrated by the fact that the word for child can take a diminutive prefix and that prefix is *fə-* not *və-*. Thus;

fəvèn nywèn small child

Occasionally the intersection of the two systems can produce pseudo-alternations. Thus *lōn*, ‘man’, uses syllable reduplication of Type II to form a plural. However, the use of a diminutive in the singular creates an apparent alternation.

vəlōn ləlōn man

Suppletives

Suppletive plurals in Mada are quite rare. The only examples so far recorded are;

mbrē vē day
vēn nywên child

A unique case is;

màleka màlekū angel

which replicates the Hausa plural alternation. This may well be a transitional form.

Nouns without number marking

Many nouns in Mada have either no plurals, or are only rarely marked for number and the plural form is not known to many speakers. Examples of such nouns are given in Table 16;

Table 16. Mada nouns with no number marking

Mada	Gloss
bùkan	giant kingfisher
ci	front, forehead
cīncī	fly
cìta	African pepper
cūyò	tree sp.
dar	lead
dàdòn	grass sp.
dùdù	local box
gān	feast, party
gbāgbār	weevil

Broadly speaking, trees and grasses rarely have plurals, abstracts, borrowings and other rare cases. Insects are usually treated as inherently plural, although there are counter-examples;

gàr pl. gar army ant

3.2 Verbs

3.2.1 Verb morphology

Mada verbs are predominantly CV(n/r) and longer forms are more likely to be evidence of fossil compound. Table 17 summarises all the canonical structures for verbs so far recorded, with examples of each. The dictionary includes 392, when stative verbs and verb phrases are included,

Table 17. Canonical forms of Mada verbs

Formula	Mada	Gloss
CN	kpīn	to fold
CV	bè	to praise s.o.
CṼ	bā	to take
CVC	bàr	to touch
CVCN	kāgbm	to go home
CVCV	dèbà	to give away
CVCṼ	fòrē	to fight
CṼCṼ	cūntān	to skin an animal
CVCVCV	gbàjiki	to desire
CVNCV	kankrè	to halt
NCVN	nggrēn	to mock

3.2.2 Valency change

There are a few examples of valency change where a verb becomes intransitive through tonal change, as in the examples below.

bu	to open	bǔ	to be open
kri	to shine	kri	to be clean

However, this does not seem to be a common process.

3.2.3 Verb extensions

Plateau languages do not show synchronic systems of verbal extensions which are still productive, but many show traces of fossil morphology, which point to the existence of such a system. Due to the severe reduction in verbal stems, Mada has less sign of a pre-existing system. Nonetheless, there are a

few examples of verbs that seem to provide evidence for this. Table 18 shows what may be a resultative as well as other connected forms;

Table 18. Verb pairs exhibiting traces of verbal extensions

Verb	Gloss	CV- suffix	
kyō	to gather	kyōte	to be gathered
mār	to chase	màrtu	to return
rīn	to extinguish fire	rintu	to go out of sight
dè	to give way, get away from	dètswē	to give way
tār	to break, snap	tārtswē	to start out at daybreak
-m- infix			
shàn	to fetch	shāmān	to be present

3.2.4 Plural verbs

Plural verbs are a common feature of Plateau languages, as well as the Chadic languages with which they are intertwined. Plural verbs can mark plurality in subject or object, iteratives, and sometimes valency change. Mada has only a small number of true plural verbs, marking number on the subject or object of the verb. The forms are always suppletives (Table 19);

Table 19. Mada suppletive plural verbs

Singular	Plural	Gloss
bān	vu	to follow
bān	vu	to take
kyu	tsú	to die
ngūn	nlywe	to kill
ywà	sar	to slaughter

3.2.5 Nominalisation of verbs: gerunds

In languages in the Plateau area where verb stems are highly reduced, nominalisation can proceed via tonal change. This is true for the Chadic languages Mwaghavul and Ngas, but Mada also has some examples of this. The verb is usually higher in tone than the derived noun, although the exact formula for tonal lowering is not always the same. Table 20 presents some examples of nominalisation with their verbal counterparts.

Table 20. Nominalisation of verb stems via tone

Verb	Gloss	Noun	Gloss
gbrě	to shiver	gbrē	shivering
kan	to burp; belch	kăn	burp n.
kūci	to be first	kūcī	beginning
kyu	to die	kyū	death
lwè	to carry	lwe	load
ra	to dream	rā	dream

A small number of Mada verbal nouns with an n- prefix are also recorded (Table 21). Formation of verbal nouns with n- prefixes is common in neighbouring Plateau languages. However, intriguingly, none of these nouns has a synchronic equivalent verb, suggesting this is now an archaic formant procedure.

Table 21. Mada verbal nouns with n- prefix

Mada	Gloss
njìnjē	going on and on about s.t., ‘dragging’ an issue
ncar	crying out with pain, shrieking
nzē	to dress up, fit

Typically, these verbal nouns are a complement of *te* ‘make’, but as the example of ‘shrieking’ shows, they can follow other verbs. Example sentences;

vəlɔn mē te njìnjē rɛn kənàn me
 man this make dragging talk plenty only
 This man goes on and on about one thing

fəvɛn là ngār ncar
 child cont. break shriek
 the child is screaming

gu te nzē
 he make dressing
 he is dressing

3.3 Pronouns

3.3.1 Independent pronouns

Mada independent pronouns form two sets, subject and object. Indirect objects are subject to complex tonal rules. Table 22 shows the subject pronouns;

Table 22. Mada subject pronouns

1s	ŋgǎ	1p	tǎ
2s	wǎ	2p	gyǎ
3s (persons)	gu	3p	bǎ
3s (objects)	yǎ	3p	yǎ

The animacy distinction in pronouns does not seem to be reported elsewhere in Plateau, although it is characteristic of neighbouring Chadic languages. Mada pronouns also divide according to their impact on the stem-tone of the verb they govern. Mada recognises a completed and uncompleted aspect. Where there is no tense/aspect (TA) marker, the tone on the verb stem remains static. Perfective aspect has no auxiliaries and Table 23 shows represents the paradigm with the verb ‘to write’.

Table 23. Mada subject pronoun paradigm

1s	nggǎ	car	I wrote
2s	wǎ	car	you wrote
3s (persons)	gu	car	he wrote
3s (objects)	yǎ	car	it wrote
1p	tǎ	car	we wrote
2p	gyǎ	car	you wrote
3p (persons)	bǎ	car	they wrote
3p (objects)	yǎ	car	it (pl.) wrote

However, when tense is marked, Mada inserts an auxiliary between the pronoun and verb. The stem tone the has two possible realisations. Table 24 shows the present continuous tense with the auxiliary *là*, arranged by the verb-tone;

Table 24. Mada progressive subject pronouns

Number	x	is	writing
2s	wā	là	cǎr
3s	gu	là	cǎr
2p	gyā	là	cǎr
1s	nggā	là	car
1p	tā	là	car
3p	bə	là	car

The same pattern of stem-tone changes also occurs with polysyllabic verbs. Instead Rising and High, a Low-Low pattern becomes Mid-Low. For example, the verb *debə*, ‘to give way’ has the following paradigm (Table 25);

Table 25. Tones on Mada polysyllabic verb-stems

Number	x	is	give way
2s	wā	là	dèbə
3s	gu	là	dèbə
2p	gyā	là	dèbə
1s	nggā	là	debə
1p	tā	là	debə
3p	bə	là	debə

The division of the pronouns by tones is the same, but a low-high opposition replaces the rising-high of monosyllabic stems. Table 26 shows the pronouns re-ordered by their corresponding stem-tone.

Table 26. Mada pronouns re-ordered by tone

2s	wā	1s	nggā
2p	gyā	1p	tā
3s	gu	3p	bə

This pattern occurs in all combinations of subject pronouns and TAMs. The irregular verbs ‘come’ and ‘go’ constitute a partial exception (Table 31). The same stem-tone changes on the verb occur with the auxiliary marking future, which can be expressed either as;

nggā lə car
I will write

or;

nggā lə sə car
I will be writ[ing]

The tone-pattern on the verb follows the pronominal pattern outlined above. However, in the uncompleted past and the conditional, the auxiliaries undergo tone-changes that parallel the verb-stem tone-changes. Table 27 shows the paradigm for the uncompleted past for the sentence ‘x was writing’;

Table 27. Mada uncompleted past paradigm: monosyllabic stems

pron.	x	was	writ[ing]
2s	wā	sə	cǎr
3s	gu	sə	cǎr
2p	gyā	sə	cǎr
1s	ŋgā	sā	car
1p	tā	sā	car
3p	bā	sā	car

In the case of a polysyllabic stem, the tonal changes on the auxiliary copy those on the second syllable of the verb-stem (Table 28);

Table 28. Mada uncompleted past paradigm: polysyllabic stems

pron.	x	was	escape
2s	wā	sə	gbojùn
3s	gu	sə	gbojùn
2p	gyā	sə	gbojùn
1s	ŋgā	sə	gbojun
1p	tā	sə	gbojun
3p	bā	sə	gbojun

The conditional, which uses the auxiliary *dā*, follows the same pattern of changing with the verb-stem tones. Thus;

nggā	dā	car
I	if	write
wā	dà	cǎr
You	if	write

Mada has at least one pair of ‘irregular’ verbs, ‘come’ and ‘go’, where the tone-pattern is different although it still shows the same underlying divisions in pronouns. Table 29 shows the verb-stem tones for the present tense for ‘to come’;

Table 29. Mada verb-stem paradigm ‘come’

pron.	x	prog.	coming
2s	wā	là	nyǎ
3s	gu	là	nyə
2p	gyā	là	nyǎ
1s	ŋgā	là	nyə
1p	tā	là	nyə
3p	bā	là	nyə

The paradigm is the same as in Table 44 except for the 3s. In the case of polysyllabic verb-stems, these very nearly mimic the monosyllabic paradigm except that the 3s is no longer irregular. For example, the verb *gbojun*, ‘to escape’ has the following paradigm for the present continuous (Table 30);

Table 30. Tones on Mada polysyllabic verb-stems

pron.	x	am	escape
2s	wā	là	gbǒjǔn
3s	gu	là	gbǒjǔn
2p	gyā	là	gbǒjǔn
1s	nggā	là	gbojun
1p	tā	là	gbojun
3p	bā	là	gbojun

The uncompleted past is more distinctive however, compared with Table 45. The tone-changes in the auxiliary *sə* have been neutralised and the tone oppositions marked on the verb-stem become a simple high-low (Table 31);

Table 31. Mada imperfective verb-stem paradigm

pron.	x	was	come
2s	wā	sə	nyè
3s	gu	sə	nyè
2p	gyā	sə	nyè
1s	nggā	sə	nyə
1p	tā	sə	nyə
3p	bā	sə	nyə

The same changes apply to the verb *ywe* ‘to go’. No other monosyllabic verbs in this class have yet been identified.

Mada object pronouns are shown in Table 32. Third person pronouns are identical with the subject set, except that there is no inanimate plural pronoun.

Table 32. Mada object pronouns

Number	Mada	Comment
1s	nggà	
2s	wà	
3s (persons)	gu	invariant between subject and object
3s, p (objects)	yā	invariant between subject and object
1p	tà	
2p	gyà	
3p (persons)	bā	invariant between subject and object

kə is an archaic form of *gu*, the third person singular for persons, which appear in some idiomatic expressions. Examples of object pronouns in use;

gu ban njī to nggà
 he took knife pierce me
 he took a knife to stab me

sē nggwǒ wān tse wà?
 is who that beat you sg.?
 Who has beaten you?

sē nānggye yè bā là nan gyà?
 is thing what they CONT do you pl.?
 Is this what they are doing to you?

Datives, or indirect objects, in Mada are complex. An ordinary dative is identical with the object and is not marked either with tone or morphology.

kan y nā nggə̀
 ə
 take it give me
 give it to me

However, in a sequence of two successive clauses, where the object of the first clause is a concrete noun rather than a pronoun, the receiver reverts to the tone of the subject pronoun. Thus;

Mgbāmvū kan kikyən mē nā nggə̀ fà
 M. take bicycle this give me freely
 Mgbāmvū take bicycle this give me free

and;

vũ zəkpə cà nggə̀ mān
 bring pl. shoe bring me there
 Bring me those shoes there

vun kəkə̀ ra nggə̀
 catch hen present me
 catch the hen and give it to me

nā bə te nā gu
 let them fetch give him
 let them fetch [it] and give it to him

3.3.3 Reflexive Pronouns

Reflexive pronouns in Mada are marked by a prefixed *kə-*. However, they are not formed regularly from the ordinary pronoun set. The tone is invariant whether they are a subject, an emphatic subject or an object. The reflexives paradigm is shown in Table 33;

Table 33. Mada reflexive pronouns

kəmù	myself
kəywē	yourself
kəywə	him/her/itself
kəywə̀	ourselves
gyə...kəywə̀	yourselves
bé...kəywə̀	themselves

Table 34 shows a sentence paradigm for these pronouns;

Table 34. Mada reflexive pronoun paradigm

Pronoun	Example sentence	Gloss
kəmù	nggə nan ki me kəmù	I did this thing to myself
kəywē	wə nan ki me kəywē	You...yourself
kəywə	gu nan ki me kəywə	He...him/her/itself
kəywə̀	tə nan ki me kəywə̀	We...ourselves
gyə kəywə̀	gyə nan ki me gyə kəywə̀	You...yourselves
bə kəywə̀	bə nan ki me bə kəywə̀	They...themselves

The following examples show Mada reflexive pronouns in context;

nggə̄ n-kəmù me nggə̄ lə ywē hwan se mē
 I myself only I will go farm year this

I myself only, I'll go to farm this year

Vəmgbūmgburwē! Kəywē mə bə!
 Oh! like a small toad Yourself you are

kǎn yā lwè kəywē
 take it carry yourself
 take and carry it yourself

When the reflexive pronoun becomes the object of the main verb, the tone on the final syllable is lowered. Thus;

gu kan kəywə̀ cò ə mèsər
 he make himself soak in water
 He soaked himself in water

sē g wān nan kəywə̀
 u
 is he who do himself
 He did it to himself

sē bə bān nan kəywə̀
 it-is they those do themselves
 It is those people who do it to themselves

m̄kpumù is an archaic form of *kəmù*;

nggə̄ r̄yun lā m̄kpum
 ù
 I cook food myself
 I cooked the food myself

Mada has a second way of expressing the reflexive, with the composite word *tukpə̀* which means 'head + body'. This is only used with the first person singular pronoun.

nggə̄ nan k̄i mē tukpə̀ nggə̄
 I do thing this head-body me
 I did this thing by myself

3.3.4 Relative pronouns

The relative pronoun in Mada for persons is *wān*, ‘who, one who, one of, one’. Examples;

wā la sē wān bri kpə yo
 you neg is who person quick neg.
 You aren’t someone who is quick

sē nggā wān lə nan kəmē nān
 it-is I who will do this time around
 I’ll do it this time around

3.3.5 Possessive pronouns

Possessive pronouns are created by prefixing the subject pronoun with *mə-*, although the resultant tonal pattern is not always predictable. This can be expressed as a bare final pronoun or in a construction with the relative *yə*, ‘which’. Table 35 shows the two forms of the possessive pronoun, according to whether they are combined with *yə*.

Table 35. Mada possessive pronouns

		with <i>yə</i>
mānggə	mənggā	mine your sg.
məgu	māgu	his, hers, its
mātə	mətā	ours
məgyā		yours (pl.)
mābə		theirs

Thus;

kī mē sē məgu
 thing this is his
 This thing is his

Where the possessive pronouns can be combined with the relative *yə*, ‘which’, the constructions are as follows;

kī mē sē yə mənggā
 thing this is which mine
 This thing which is mine

kā yā māgu
 house which his
 The house which is his

Possessive adjectives are simply the subject pronouns which follow the noun which they qualify.

3.3.6 Indefinite pronouns

Mada has a range of indefinite pronouns with invariant tones whether in subject or object position. For example;

nēnāmān some other people, somebody else

nēnēmān nkan dan sēsānmenàn
Someone else differently said like that
Someone else said something different

nēmān another person, someone else

kì mē sē yè nənè nēmān nkan
thing this it which person who someone else separate
This thing belongs to someone else.

nənē gyār mā somebody, someone, anyone

nənē gyār mā là fō wè
someone CONT look for you
someone is looking for you

nkinē something, anything

nggā lā nan nkinē yo
I neg. do something neg.
I didn't do anything

mwən anything, nothing

wā lə la mwən yo
you fut. neg. get neg.
you will get nothing

3.4 Demonstratives

The demonstratives in Mada are not marked for number or agency;

mē this, these
mū, yāmā that, those

They always follow the noun or pronoun they qualify and their tone is invariant.

wān mē sē krě nggā
he this is uncle my
This is my uncle

bān mē sē mākɾɛ nggā
they those is uncles my
those are my uncles

If the head noun is qualified, the demonstrative follows the adjective;

krī bəbā mē
this rotten yam

mū for that, those, operates in a identical manner;

fār gəga mū
cut grass that
cut that grass

mbəmbə mū là grĩ gəri bə
women those CONT gossip co-wife their
those women are gossiping with their co-wives

mū has an alternate form, *mūn*, used before velars and bilabials.

vəlɔn mūn ku bəbè
man that fall foolish
That man is foolish

gwɔ gi bəbər mūn məgyèr
hear sound motorcycle that particular
hear the noise of that particular motorbike

The demonstratives can be bound to third person inanimate pronouns to create demonstrative pronouns referring to non-human entities. For example;

yəmē this one yəmē these ones
yəmū that one yəmū those ones

nā nggə ban yəmē gē yəmù?
let me take this one or that one?
Shall I take this one or that one?

yəmē sē bə kpār
this is hole large mouse

yəmē sē yè gbàgba
this is which last
this is the last one

yəmā can also be used for ‘that’ in the adjectival slot, qualifying the noun *kì* ‘thing’.

kì yəmā
thing that

nggə là dan wə ətù kì yəmē
I CONT tell you about thing these
I’m telling you about these things

Mada also has an additional demonstrative for persons, which can either be in the adjectival position following the head noun, or precede the noun, implying persons.

Nywen bān wə sē sen?
Children those you are how?
Children, how are you?

and;

bān kè tā là ryun mènnyèn sār
 those house we CONT extract palm oil
 people in our house are extracting palm-oil

mē can be bound to the relative pronouns to create a sense of ‘this one’ as opposed to ‘that one’;

nā wānmē kya nyā
 let this one rather than come
 let this one rather than [that one] come

and when *mē* is bound to *ənə* it creates a type of adverb;

nan ywā sē ənəmē
 do it is like this
 This is how you do it

hǎ, kàdə rən ənəmē yo
 hǎ do not speak like that NEG
 Ha! Don’t speak like that

3.5 Adjectives and qualifiers

3.5.1 Overview

Qualification in Mada takes a number of forms. The great majority of adjectives are invariant and follow the noun they qualify. However, qualification strategies in Mada can be classified as follows (Table 36);

Table 36. Categories of qualifiers in Mada

Category	Agreement	Sub-class	Comment
Adjectives	Agree in number		
	Do not agree in number	Unmarked	
		Ideophonic	Identified by reduplicated structure
		Adjectival intensifiers	Qualify other adjectives
		Colour intensifiers	Qualify colour terms
Stative verbs			

3.5.2 Adjectives

3.5.2.1 Adjective morphology

Adjectives in Mada do not agree with head nouns in the manner of other Plateau languages, where the qualifier has an identical or related segmental prefix reflecting that on the nominal. The exception to this are the diminutive prefixes, where the adjective can copy the nominal prefix directly.

(fə-)nyən small

fə-vèn mū sē fə-nyɛn
 boy that is small
 that boy is small

Apart from showing agreement in number, reduplicated adjectives can indicate intensity;

nyɛnnyɛn very small

and animacy;

hyur close (people)

tā sē hyur bā kəywà
 we are close with one.another

hyuhyur close (objects)

nkòn sē hyuhyur bā t̃
 door is close with us
 the door is close to us

However, they can agree with the noun in number, although the existence and form of plural adjectives is not predictable. These are comparatively rare and those identified so far are shown in (Table 37);

Table 37. Mada adjectives showing number marking

sg.	pl.	Gloss
cīnji	cinji	black
gìgyà̀r	gìgyā̀r	together, equal
hū	hūhū	wide
kukwə	kukwə	small, young
l̃l̃	l̃l̃	cracked, broken
nggòn	nggòn nggòn	big

All adjectives either follow the head noun or are the complement of the copula *sē*.

The following are examples where the form of the adjective agrees in number with the noun.

mbu kukwə
 mat small
 small mat

mbǔ kukwə
 mats small
 small mats

mbu nggò
 n
 mat large
 large mat

mbǔ nggōn
 nggōn
 mats large
 large mats

bàbər nggō sē cīnji
 motorcycle my is black
 my motorcycle is black

bābər nggō sē cinji
 motorcycles my are black
 my motorcycles are black

gìgyèr pl. gìgyēr together, equal

nā tā blā Məda gìgyèr
 let us read Mada together

hū pl. hūhū wide

nkòn sē hū
 gate is wide
 the gate is wide

kānkòn sē hūhū
 gates are wide
 the gates are wide

However, the majority of adjectives lack number marking (Table 38);

Table 38. Mada adjectives not marked for number

sg.	pl.	Gloss		
bəbō	—	decayed, rotten		
goglo	—	hot		
kənàn	—	much		
màmpùr	—	fresh, immature groundnut etc.		
krī	bəbō	mē		
yam	rotten	this		
this rotten yam				
bencwē	mē	sē	màmpùr	me
groundnuts	these	are	immature	only
these groundnuts are immature				
kājī	kənàn			
money	much			
plenty of				
money				

The first two, ‘small’ and ‘big’ show tonal concord with the noun qualified, while others do not. Some of these adjectives can also act as complements to *sē*;

kūkwǎ small, young

yəmē sē kūkwǎ
this is small

kūkwǎ can also agree with a noun. In this case it takes its tone from the noun. Thus;

mbú kúkwó
mat small

3.5.2.2 Adjectival ideophones

Ideophones in Mada are usually reduplicated and are often related to existing lexical roots. They can be adjectival and adverbial. They can function together in equative sentences or directly qualify nouns. In equative sentences, following a copula verb or equivalent.

ntəntən smooth

gōn tsā mū sē ntəntən
outside pot that is smooth
the outside of the pot is smooth

Directly qualifying the noun.

kpārè-kpārè describes a thick liquid that has been diluted

g te prē kpārè-kpārè
u
he make gruel dilute
he made diluted gruel

pûrpûr fresh

tərki mē to mgbā pûrpûr
tree this bud leaf fresh
this tree has fresh buds and leaves

3.5.2.3 Adjectival intensifiers

Adjectival intensifiers qualify other adjectives, corresponding to the English ‘very’. However, Mada seems to only have intensifiers specific to particular adjectives. Colour intensifiers (§3.5.2.4) are similar and also specific to particular colours.

tetswē very (tall)

tàn ndē tetswē
be tall tall very
very tall

mgbě wide (open)

wā bu nkòn gyō hū mgbě
you open door put open wide
open the door wide

3.5.2.4 Colour intensifiers

Mada has a class of colour intensifiers, invariant adjectives that describe the shade or intensity of colours, typically black, white and red. They can act on either true adjectives or stative verbs. Examples;

myô describes s.t. dark green

lan kpəmkpàn mē sər myô
farm maize this be.dark green
The maize farm is dark green

kpî pitch (black)

tswē te bū kpî
place make black pitch
the place is pitch black

pîpî dark (black)

vālōn mūn sər kpə pîpî
man that be.black body dark
that man has a dark black body

3.5.2.5 Adjectives following the copula sē

Adjectives following *sē* are common, and indeed this construction is widespread throughout Plateau, also occurring in Berom and Izere. Some of these adjectives have plurals and thus agree in number with the head noun (see examples under §3.5.2.1).

mgbərə kəkla innocent lit. ‘intestine white’.

nggō sē mgbərə kəkla
I be intestine white
I am not guilty of the offence

Some adjectives can also precede the noun they qualify;

tàlà muddy (water)

yèmē sē tàlà mèsər
this is muddy water

Adjectives can qualify pronouns and demonstratives;

kyame only

sē yəmē kyame yè wā lə nan
 is this.one only that you will do
 you'll only do this

Another interesting aspect of this construction is the fronting of the copula, which may indicate a dropped pronoun in initial position.

Mada allows other verbs to be co-opted as pseudo-copulas, as for example;

te make
 k fall
 u

kpə thick

wəndō mē te kpə
 trouser this make thick
 these trousers are thick

kpəkpə old

vəlɔn mē ce tè kpəkpə
 man this grow make old
 this man has grown old

mpūr (mə) tasteless (local beer)

mə mē ku mpūr
 beer this fall tasteless
 this beer is tasteless

pwà undeveloped (groundnuts)

bencwē ku pwà
 groundnut fall undeveloped
 the groundnuts are undeveloped

3.5.3 Stative verbs

Qualification can often be expressed with stative verbs, i.e. verbs which express a state rather than an action. Many show a relationship with reduplicated adjectives, suggesting that formerly they were more numerous (Table 39).

Table 39. Mada stative verbs and derived adjectives

Mada	Gloss	Example	Gloss
re	to be bitter	məsər re	water is-bitter
rərə	bitter	məsər mē sē rərə	water this is bitter
re	to be long	nkɔn Ndəywan re	road Andaha is-long
rərə	long	mgbərīn mē sē rərə	rope this is-long
bə	to be decayed, rotten	Krī nggə bə	My yams are.rotten
bəbə	decayed, rotten	krī bəbə mē	this rotten yam

Typically, stative verbs are in clause-final position;

re to be sharp

njī wā re
knife your be.sharp
your knife is sharp

rǒ to be heavy

mgbantā mē rǒ
stone this be.heavy
this stone is heavy

However, it is possible to place the demonstrative in clause-final position;

mgbantā rǒ mē
stone be.heav this
 y
this heavy stone

bri to be quick

wā lā sē wān bri kpə yo
you NEG are person be.quick definitely NEG
you are definitely a slow person

bǔ to be open

rən yə kur bǔ menān
matter it lie down be.open only
the issue is out in the open

fà to be free, gratis

bə kan kì mē rē wā fà
they take thing this sale (for) you be.free
They took this object on sale and gave it to you for free

mà be wonderful

yəmē sē kì yə mà
this one is thing which be wonderful
this is wonderful

3.6 Numerals

Mada has a decimal system of counting, although the word for ‘twelve’, *tsɔ*, is cognate with other Plateau languages, which suggests the system was formerly duodecimal. It derives cardinals from ordinals through tonal change and tones also change in compounds. Numerals always follow the head noun, but never show tonal or other concord. Where the numeral indicates the plurality of the head noun, the singular rather than the plural form is used. Table 40 shows the count forms and cardinal numbers of Mada numerals;

Table 40. Mada numerals

Numeral	Count	Cardinal	Adjectival
one	gyǎ̀r	gyè̀r	mgbren is the adjectival form (see below)
two	ywā		
three	tar	tǎ̀r	tà̀r in compounds
four	nlyē		
five	tun	tūn	tūn
six	tānnèn		yàmē sē hwə yā tānnèn this is month of six (June)
seven	tāmbā		
eight	tāndà		
nine	tīyār		
ten	gùr		When referring to time the tone changes.
eleven	pwō		
twelve	tsə		
twenty	sè ywā		
thirty	sè tǎ̀r		
eighty	sè tāndà		
one hundred	gigyè̀r		
thousand	nàgyè̀r		

For the numeral ‘one’ only, the adjectival form is lexically unrelated to the count form.

nggā sē bā mgbren kì gyè̀r me
 I am with one thing one only
 I have only one thing.

yàmē sē krī tar
 these are yam three
 there are three yams

cu mgbantə tūn lwè nyè
 pick stones five carry come
 pick out five stones and bring them

nggā sē wān tūn
 I be one-who fifth
 I was fifth

In this construction, the numeral is fronted, and although in principal it functions as a cardinal, it is treated as a count noun.

tāmbā nggā rīmē nggā la re lā yo
 seven I today I neg. eat food not
 this is the seventh day that I haven’t eaten

sē nggā sē tīyār
 year my are nine
 I’m nine years old

mkpān dàn de gùr vu ngà bā nkyen
 time says that ten go past with half
 It’s half-past ten

nggā	sē	bā	brē	krī	sè tāndà
I	be	with	yam	heap	eighty
I have eighty yam mounds					

3.7 Adverbs

Adverbs qualify verbs or other adverbs. They are not marked morphologically, although there is an ideophonic subclass, marked by reduplication. They usually follow the verb they qualify directly.

Adverbs of duration

be forever

tā	lə	sōn	be
we	will	stay	forever

However, adverbs can also be fronted in the sentence, for emphasis;

jàjà at first

jàjà,	nggā	la	sā	tsə	rən	yo
at first	I	NEG	do	know	matter	NEG
at first I knew nothing about this						

Temporal adverbs

Where specific expressions mark days in the past or future, the adverb is in sentence-final position.

cundè five days hence

tə	lə	ywe	do	ə	cundè
we	will	go	market	at	five days hence

gè now

nan	y	gè
	ā	
do	it	now

Adverbs of potentiality

Adverbs of potentiality are unlike other adverbs syntactically and always appear either fronted or at the end of sentences, like a final tag. The main verb takes the irrealis auxiliary, *lə*.

kàndà maybe

kàndà	gu	lə	nyā	ə	mbre
maybe	he	will	come	on	tomorrow

māgē, mākē maybe, possibly, perhaps

gu	lə	nan	yā	māgē
he	will	do	it	maybe

munyàn probably, perhaps, maybe

munyàn te t̄ə lə ngā nzen
maybe our father will enter sometime
perhaps father will come in sometime

njwên maybe, possibly, likely

gu lə sē kə, njwên?
he will be home, likely
maybe he'll come home

tətò maybe

tətò Mbādo lə nyā mbrɛ
maybe Mbādo will come tomorrow

Adverbs of manner

kuku guiltily

wə là kǎn kuku me mūn?
You cont. walk guiltily this why?
Why are you walking guiltily like this?

bàbè foolishly

vəlɔn mūn ku b̄àbè
man that fall foolish
That man is a fool

In a negative construction, the adverb can be separated from the verb by the object;

b̄àbèbè foolishly

kādə n̄àn kī b̄àbèbè ənəmē yo
NEG do thing foolishly like this NEG
don't behave foolishly like this

bwêbwè slow and steady

bwêbwè me nggā lə kəsū
slow and steady only I will reach
I'll get there by going slowly and steadily

cwe full

te m̄əsər sū shē tsə cwe
fetch water put fill pot full
bring water to full the pot

mgblamgbla [looking] tough

g là kyē mgblamgbla me
 u n
 he CONT look tough onl
 y
 He is looking tough

3.8 Conjunctions and co-ordination

3.8.1 Co-ordinating conjunctions

an and, then

tā dan gu an gu kan bàn nkòn dā ywè
 we tell him and he take take road and go
 we told him, so he took the road and left

mgbāntə tar nggā ə bīshi an yā wu
 stone shoot me at eye and it swell
 a stone hit me in the eye and it swelled up

gu kūcici an tā sə zwē mān
 we lead and we IRR follow there
 he took the lead and we followed

bā with

nggā lə sòn rēnde bā gyā
 I will stay long with you pl.
 I'll be with you for a long time

nggā sē bā nywən tūn
 I be with children five
 I have five children

cā together with

tā sā sē cā kāywè
 we PST be together themselves
 we were together with them

kē or, whether [also *gē*]

g nan y kē g la nān yo
 u ā u
 he do it or he NEG do NEG
 Either he did it or he didn't

man then, so as to

kān tā nan man dètswē ə sākānmē
 let us do then leave at here
 then let us leave here

3.8.2 Subordinating conjunctions

A subordinating conjunction, also called a subordinator, joins a dependent or subordinate clause to a main verb. They show the relationship between them and turn the clause into something dependant on the rest of the sentence for its meaning. Examples;

anrīn before

wā	dè	nàn	ndu	mē	anrīn	wā	sə	rē	lā
you	if	do	work	this	before	you	will	eat	food

you must do this work before you can eat

anrèn because

nggā	nan	ənəmē	anrèn	dər	là	ngār	nggə
I	do	like-this	because	heart	CONT	break	me

I am behaving like this because of heartbreak

də if, when, but

wān	də	kpənyèn	nā	gu	zō	ngwən
who	if	agree	let	him	raise	hand

Anyone who agrees let him raise his hand

dəgba if not

yə	dəgba	sē	ənəmē	yo
it	if-not	be	like	this

if it isn't like this

dətswē so that ...

dətswē	yə	man	nyə	sū	tswetswe
so.that	they	then	come	reach	quickly

so that they should arrive quickly

dùdu on account of

nggā	là	nan	kì	mē	dùdu	wə
I	CONT	do	thing	this	on account of	you

I'm doing this on account of you

gbā if (in negative sentences)

nggā	gbā	ngrèn	gu	yo,	nggā	lə	te	gyār
I	if	NEG	see	him	NEG,	I	will	make

If I don't see him, I'll be angry

tswēyāmē so, therefore, because lit. 'this place'

tā	ma	bā	gu	ə	nkòn	tswēyāmē	tə	kan	nyə	kā	gigyər
we	met	with	him	at	road	so	we	then	come	home	together

we met him on the road so we came home together

3.8.3 Correlative conjunctions

Correlative conjunctions show the relationship between ideas expressed in different parts of a sentence. Examples;

gē or, whether (also **kē**)

nō nggō ban yəmē gē yòmù?
 let me take this one or that one?
 Shall I take this one or that one?

gyên instead, rather

nggō gyên dō ban nggà nōmān
 I instead farm take side another
 I rather took another direction on the farm

kya rather (than)

nggō kpōnyen bō yəmē kya
 I agree with this rather
 I agree with this rather (than that)

nō wānmē kya nyō
 let this-one rather-than come
 let this-one rather-than (that-one) come

3.9 Interrogatives

3.9.1 Polar or closed questions

Polar or closed questions, which require binary answers, yes/no or potentially ‘maybe’, possibly’. Remarkably, Mada seems to have no independent question marker. As in English, questions can be asked through intonation alone, a simply declarative sentence can be interpreted as a question. *kyîin*, described below, is more like an exclamation or tag, implying surprise. *fà*, in sentence final position, which now sounds archaic, may well be a borrowing from Nigerian English.

wō sē wāndò?
 you are farmer?
 are you a farmer?

wō là te do lègā mē?
 you cont. make bargain shirt this?
 Are you bargaining for this shirt?

kyîin? question marker expressing surprise

sē sāsānmenàn gyō nan yō kyîin?
 is like that you do it QM
 pl.
 Is that how you do it?

3.9.2 Content questions

Mada content (WH) questions are usually introduced by interrogatives. A small subset can be identified by the question formant *-tan*. Those identified are shown in Table 41;

Table 41. Mada interrogatives

Mada	Gloss
bər	how many?
mūn	why?
nggyě	what?
nənggyɛ pl.	what?
nənggyè	
rən nggyɛ	why?
sè bər	how long? how much?
sən	how?
nggwǒ	who?
wan	who
ywə	where?
-tan	question formant
mbətan	when?
wāntan	who?
yətān	which?

bər how many?

yə sē bər?
 the be how many?
 y
 How many are they?

mūn why?

wə là ryùn nggə kyen mūn?
 you cont. look-at me suspiciously, why?
 Why are you looking at me suspiciously?

nggyě what?

nggyě là nan wə?
 what cont. do you?
 What is happening to you?

nənggyɛ pl. nənggyè what? Exceptionally, this interrogative agrees tonally with the number of the subject.

sē nənggy yə wə là nan?
 ε
 be what which yo CONT do?
 u
 What are you doing?

yāmē sē nənggyè?
these are what?
what are these?

rên nggyɛ why?

Tsēncun ngwur wā rên nggyɛ
Tsēncun hit you why?
Why did Tsēncun hit you?

sěn how?

nywɛn bān wā sē sěn?
children they your are how?
How are your children?

wā sē sɛn
you are how?
How are you?

sè bər how long? how much?

wā rɛ kpō mē kājī sè bər?
you buy bag this money how much?
How much did this bag cost?

wā bān sè bər dè là nan ndu mē
you take year how many and cont. do work this?
How long have you been doing this work?

wān Who?

sē wān.tan ənywī mōnē mē wān nggō lə cu?
this who among people these who I will choose?
Who shall I choose among these people?

When it is fronted in the sentence, it can take the sense of ‘whoever’ or ‘whosoever’.

wān dè kpənyèn nō gu zō ngwɔn
who COND agree let him raise hand
Whoever agrees, let him raise his hand

wān mē sē wāntan?
who this is which-one?
Who is this?

Who questions can also be expressed with a fronted copula and the additional relative *nggwǒ*.

sē nggwǒ wān tse wà?
it-is who who beat you?
Who was it who beat you?

sē nggwǎ wān ngrən brì gbàgyèr?
it-is who who see ghost ever?
Who has ever seen a ghost?

However, in response to a question, the *nggwǎ* can be omitted;

sē wā wān nan kì mē?
is-it you who do thing this?
Did you do this?

sē gu wān nan kəywā
it-is he who do for himself
He did it by himself

ywā where?

wā là ywe ywā?
you cont. go where?
Where are you going?

-tan is an interrogative formant applied to three conjunctions

mbētān when?

mbētān can be placed both in initial and final position in interrogative questions

mbētān wā lə nyā?
when you will come?
When will you come?

wə lə ngā mbētān
you will return when?
when will you return?

yətān which?

sē yətān ənywī kī mē nə nggə ban?
be which among things these that I choose
Which one of these things shall I choose?

3.10 Particles

3.10.1 Introdurers

Mada introduces reported speech (§4.2.) with *de* ‘that’;

gu dan de
he said that

yā that (relative pronoun)

tā nan yā tā lə
we do that we will...

3.10.2 Discourse particles

Mada has a discourse particle *kàn* ‘then’, which is part of pushing forward the narrative.

gu	kàn	dàn	de
he	then	said	that

3.10 Locatives

The main locatives or prepositions in Mada are shown in Table 42;

Table 42. Mada locatives

Mada	Gloss
bē	outside
ə	at, on, in
(ə)nywī	inside
ənywīnywī	right inside
ətù	atop, about, concerning
gí	next to
nywī	inside
nggà bishi	front, in front of, before
nggà gōn	behind, at the back of
sākànmē	here
sākànmū	there

Examples;

bē outside

gu	sē	ə	bē
he	is	at	outside
he’s outside			

ə at, on, in Introduces many other locative expressions

gu	sē	ə	bē
he	is	at	outside
he’s outside			

(ə)nywī inside

nggā	sē	ənyw	tār
		ī	
I	be	inside	room
I’m inside the room			

ənywīnywī right inside, deep inside

gu	ban	yā	nyār	ənywīnywī
he	take	it	hide	right.inside
he took it and hid it right inside				

ətù atop, about, concerning lit. ‘at head’

yā sa ətù tsā
 it put on.top.of pot
 put it on top of the pot

gi next to, beside

nggō kre gi wə
 I stay next to you
 I stood next to you

nggà bishi front, in front of, before

wə kre ə nggà bishi nggə
 you stand in front of me
 you stood in front of me

nggà gōn behind, at the back of

gu krè ə nggà.gōn wə
 he stand at behind you
 He stood behind you

sākànmē here

kā nggō sē ə sākànmē
 house my is at here
 here is my house

sākànmū there

ywē bàn dǎ ə sākànmū lwe nyə
 go take cutlass at there carry come
 Go and get the cutlass and bring it here

3.11 Ideophones

Mada ideophones are defined principally by their morphology, either reduplicated or repeated *ad libitum*. Ideophones are highly idiosyncratic from the tonal point of view, with a preponderance of rising and falling tones, often on sequences of doubled vowels, which do not otherwise occur in the Mada lexicon. The ideophones are principally adverbial, but some are adjectival (see §3.5.2.2). They can either follow directly the verb they qualify or be placed at the end of the clause. Some ideophones may be further qualified by intensifiers.

brêê describes s.o. falling down unconscious

gu sar gyekū brêê
 he slip fall unconscious
 he slipped and fell down unconscious

bríbrí restlessly

wə là te brībrī mwən
 you CONT do restlessly too.much
 you are very restless

bwêêbwèè describes doing s.t. slowly and deliberately

tə là nan ndu bwêêbwèè me ma tə nan krɛ
 we CONT do work cautiously only reach we do finish
 we are doing the work cautiously until we finish it

frēfrè describes s.t. hanging loosely

kì mē sē frēfrè me
 thing this is loosely only
 this is only loose

Some monosyllabic ideophones take on a specific meaning when reduplicated;

gblǎ pl. **gblǎgblǎ** describes the sound made when gulping down water or food

gu mre lā gblǎ
 he swallow food *gblǎ*
 he swallowed the food *gblǎ*

bə sə məsər gblǎgblǎ
 they drink water *gblǎgblǎ*
 they drank water *gblǎgblǎ*
 (very fast because they were intensely thirsty)

4. Basic syntax

4.1 Noun phrase

The basic word order of Mada is;

S - AUX - V - O - [DAT] - O₂

nggā sən b̀er
 I wear hat
 I wore a hat

nggā lə s̀n r̀ndē bā gyā
 I will stay long-time with you
 I'll stay long with you

The second object can follow the first directly without any overt marking;

nggā gy b̀kan ngẁn
 _o
 I put ring hand
 I put the ring on my hand

Mada inverts the order of O - O₂ in constructions where the beneficiary is fronted;

ywē bù tō nzan ə kə
 go grind us guinea-corn at house
 Go and grind guinea-corn for us at the house

nggō gbla wō kpəmkpàn mbē
 I weed you maize already
 I've already weeded the maize for you

Mada dative markers are quite uncommon, but *dùdu*, ‘on account of’, is used in the following construction;

nggō là nan kì mē dùdu wə
 I cont. do thing this on account of you
 I’m doing this on account of you

However, Mada commonly avoids dative particles by either repeating the verb or introducing a secondary verb, as in the following examples;

cū bəmkpàn mǎ bwê cà nggō mǎn
 fetch maize reach fetch-small bring me there
 bring me a little bit of maize from there

4.2 Verb phrase

4.2.1 Tense/Aspect

The tense/aspect system of Mada is bound up with the pronominal system, already described in §3.3. The system for intransitive verbs can be summarised as follows (Table 43);

Table 43. The Mada verb phrase in intransitive constructions

T/A	Subject	TAM	Pronoun Recapitulation	Verb	cf. Table
Present continuous	+	là	—	concord with subject	Table 44
Future	+	lə	—	concord with subject	
Future continuous	+	lə sə	—	concord with subject	
Uncompleted past	+	sə	—	concord with subject	Table 45
Conditional	+	də	—	concord with subject	
Completed past	+	—	—	concord with subject	

Of these, *sə* and *də* show tonal concord with the number of the subject, while the other TAMs remain invariant.

Table 44 shows a typical present tense marked by the auxiliary *là*;

Table 44. Mada present tense subject pronouns

	pron.	am	writing
2s	wə	là	cǎr
3s	gu	là	cǎr
2p	gyə	là	cǎr
1s	ŋgə	là	cár
1p	tə	là	cár
3p	bə	là	cár

Mada can express future action in two ways, either;

ngə lə cár
I will write

or;

ngə lə sè cár
I will be write

In both cases, the tone-pattern on the verb follows the pronominal pattern outlined above and the TAM is invariant.

nggā tse nggǎgyū
I beat dog

However, in the case of the uncompleted past and the conditional, the auxiliaries undergo tone-changes that reflect the verb-stem tone-changes. Table 45 shows the paradigm for the uncompleted past;

Table 45. Mada uncompleted past paradigm: monosyllabic stems

	pron.	was	writing
2s	wə	sè	cǎr
3s	gu	sè	cǎr
2p	gyə	sè	cǎr
1s	ngə	sā	cár
1p	tə	sā	cár
3p	bə	sā	cár

In the case of a polysyllabic stem, comparable changes occur on the second syllable of the verb-stem (Table 46);

Table 46. Mada uncompleted past paradigm: polysyllabic stem

	pron.	was	escape
2s	wə	sè	gbojùn
3s	gu	sè	gbojùn
2p	gyə	sè	gbojùn
1s	ngə	sə	gbojún
1p	tə	sə	gbojún
3p	bə	sə	gbojún

The conditional, which inserts the auxiliary **də** between pronoun and verb, follows the same pattern of mimicking the verb-stem tones (Table 47). Thus;

Table 47. Mada conditional

ngə də cár
I if write
wə dǎ cǎr
you if write

Table 48 shows the transitive system;

Table 48. The Mada verb phrase in transitive constructions

T/A	Subject	Object	TAM	Verb	Pronoun Recapitulation	cf. Table
Present continuous	+	+	là	invariant	+	
Future	+	+	lə		—	
Future continuous	+	+	lə sə		—	
Uncompleted past	+	+	sə		—	
Conditional	+	+	də		—	
Completed past	+	+	—	invariant	—	

4.2.2 Imperatives

Mada has a variety of constructions marking imperative. In the simplest form, there is no overt imperative marker, but the characteristic VO is inverted, with the object fronted.

yā sa ətù tsā
 it put on top of pot
 put it on top of the pot

The primary imperative verb is followed by a direct object, but the dependent element repeats the pronoun in indirect form in this example;

ywe kə mā bā gu ə nkòn
 go him meet with him on way
 go and meet with him on the road

In this example, the imperative verb is followed by a subordinating conjunction and to has no direct object, since ‘tree’ is understood.

ngǔn shū dè man cùn mənggərō sū nggè
 climb up and so as to shake mango put me
 climb up so as to shake down mangoes for me

Hortatives, ‘let [me], let [us]’ have overt marking using;

nə singular, third person plural
 kan first person plural

placed at the beginning of the command. Examples;

nā nggə ban yəmē gē yəmù?
 let me take this one or that one?
 Shall I take this one or that one?

nā yə man nan da tē nggənggən
 let them then make heads become big
 Let them make the [sorghum] heads grow bigger

kān tē nan man dètswē ə səkàn mē
 let us do then leave at here this
 Let’s leave this place

kān tā ywe tswē glǒ
let us go place dance
Let's go to the dancing place

Negative commands

Mada has an initial particle to mark negative commands;

kàsə...yo singular
kādə...yo plural

which always precedes the primary imperative verb.

kàsə...yo

kàsə nàn sāsānme nàn yo
don't do like that do NEG
Don't do it like that

kàsə zər nyōnnyòn nàmē yo
don't walk lazily like-that NEG
don't walk lazily like that

kādə...yo

kādə nàn kī bəbèbè ənəmē yo
don't do thing foolishly like this not
Don't behave foolishly like that

kādə tè nggā dǎr ngàr yo
don't do me heart break NEG
don't break my heart

4.2.3 Equative constructions

Many sentences which would be equative constructions in English make use of stative verbs, for example;

prē mē mǎr
guinea-corn-drink this be-sweet
guinea-corn drink is sweet

These are covered in more detail in §3.5.3. The common verb used in Mada equative constructions, *sē*, 'is, are', which can either be used in qualifications or expressing the equivalence of one nominal with another. Examples;

kì mē sē məme
thing this is bad
this thing is bad

yəmē sē mē yā glō
this is season it rains
this is the rainy season

sē can also be followed by a locative;

gu sē ə mun
 he is at there
 he's there

or an interrogative;

yə sē bər?
 the be how many?
 y
 How many are they?

Commonly, equative sentences with more abstract nouns are inverted, so that the nominal becomes the subject. Two Mada verbs, *te* 'make', *nan* 'do', are used in these constructions.

hwǎ là te gu
 intoxication cont. make him
 he is drunk

kpəkplǎ là te nggè
 laziness cont. make me
 I am lazy

lələ là nan Tsēncun
 sickness CONT do Tsēncun
 Tsēncun is sick

Another verb commonly found in equative sentences is *ku*, 'fall'.

lā ku mbwàr
 food fall watery
 the food is watery

vəlɔn mūn ku bəbè
 man that fall foolish
 that man is a fool

gu kan kū ywǔr
 he then fall afraid
 he then became afraid

4.2.4 Conditionals

The main particles introducing conditionals are *də* and *gba...yo* [in negative sentences]. Examples;

wān dè kpənyèn nē gu zǒ ngwɔn
 who if agree let him raise hand
 whoever agrees, let him raise his hand

wə dè nən ndu mē anrīn wə sə rē lā
 you if do work this before you will eat food
 you must do this work before you can eat

Where the supposition is negative;

nggā gbā ngrē gu yo
 n
 I if-not see him not
 If I don't see him

4.2.5 Serial verb constructions

Mada has a system of lexicalised verbs which are quasi-auxiliaries, typically *te*, 'do', *nàn* 'make' etc. which are probably the genesis of serial verb constructions. However, it also allows sequences of up to three verbs to form sentences without intervening conjunctions. Examples;

nywɛn blá krɛ
 children read finish
 The children have finished reading

cu jā ləlwè cà nggā mān
 fetch use grass bring me there
 bring the grass to me there

nggā là ca blā
 I CONT learn write
 I'm learning to write

g klwe kō nyā
 u r
 he run g hide
 o
 he ran and hid

4.2.6 Indirect speech

Indirect speech or quotations are introduced by the relative pronoun *de*, which is also used in relative clauses.

dan gu de nggā kre ə sākānmē
 tell him that I stand at here
 tell him I'm standing here

bə dan de nō nggā cī mən̄yēsər
 they say that let me avoid palm-oil
 they said I should avoid palm-oil

Mada allows speakers to omit the main verb introducing the reported speech. In this sentence, the word 'said' is understood.

vālɔn mē de yə te gu dē
 man this that it make him difficult
 this man [said] it was difficult for him

5. Guide to using the dictionary

5.1 Structure of individual entries

Each entry has the following order;

Mada word		Part of speech	Meaning	Examples	Scientific	Grammar notes
Singular	Plural					
		n.				
		v.				

Plural verbs are rarer than nouns, but they are listed in the second column where they occur. Mada also has plural adjectives. Parts of speech are given in §4.5. Class is a semantic classification used to identify different fields of meaning. It will be deleted in the printed version. Hausa is included in some cases, but will probably also be eliminated from the printed version. The final column gives examples of the words in use, but also scientific names and other types of information. Mada words are always in boldface.

5.2 Scientific Names

In this dictionary, many scientific names are given for plants and animals. Scientific names are in Latin, and they are written in *italics* to show they are not English. Scientific names are intended to be an international language so that researchers in all countries will have a single name for a living creature, although the name in their own language will vary. For example, when the definition of a word is baobab, *Adansonia digitata* this means that baobab is the common English name corresponding to the Latin or scientific name following. These may not be familiar to Mada speakers, but it is important to try and identify correctly those plants and animals that people experience in their everyday life.

5.3 Nigerian English Usage

Certain usages in Nigerian English have now diverged from international English, and this is a potential source of confusion in definitions. For example, 'follow' in Nigeria generally means 'to go along with', whereas in International English it means to 'go after' or 'go behind'. Similarly 'use to' has the sense of 'customarily' in Nigeria, so 'he use to go to market' implies a practice. In International English the sense is rather 'formerly', implying that the action referred to no longer takes place. In this dictionary, International English is used for the primary definition throughout. Where Nigerian usage is given, it is always in apostrophes, thus; 'use to' or 'fox'.

Other meanings of a word are listed below the first meaning. Where a word is used in an idiom it is marked 'idm.' and the literal translation of the idiom is given. Examples of the word in use are given first in Mada and then in a natural English translation.

5.4 Etymology and Loan-words

Not every word in the language is native to Mada; like English, Mada has borrowed words from other languages. The sources of many words have not been identified; however, obvious loanwords from other languages are marked in the text. The following abbreviations are used;

E.	= English
F.	= Fulfulde
H.	= Hausa
Y.	= Yoruba

Occasionally a word can be identified as a loan-word but the precise source language is unknown. In this case the word is marked (<?). Etymologies are sometimes given, showing the parts that make up a word.

5.5 Dialects

Some dialect words are included in the dictionary and these are abbreviated as follows;

An.	= Ancho
Gw.	= Gwanje
Sh.	= Shugbu

5.6 Parts of Speech

Like all languages, Mada words can be classified according to the function they have in the sentence. These are known as 'parts of speech' -the most well-known types are nouns and verbs. The following table gives the abbreviations used in the dictionary with short explanations;

Abbreviation	Full form	Explanation
a.	Adjective	Describes a noun
adv.	Adverb	Qualifies a verb
aux.	Auxiliary	Added to a verb to modify it, like a tense-marker
c.i.	Colour intensifier	Invariant word which modifies a colour term
cond.	Conditional	Expresses the relation between two events
conj.	Conjunction	A word used to join two or more nouns, verbs or clauses
dem.	Demonstrative	Words used to point out something. 'this', 'that' etc.
excl.	Exclamation	Greetings or expressions that do not form part of an ordinary sentence
int.	Interrogative	Question words
loc.	Locative	Words describing where a thing is
n.	Noun	Refers to things, objects etc.
n.p.	Noun phrase	A phrase where a head-noun is joined to other words to form an expression
num.	Numeral	Number
part.	Particle	Short words added to complete the sentence
p.n.	Proper Name	A name of a person or object; always capitalised
prep.	Preposition	A word positioning nouns or verbs in time or space
pron.	Pronoun	A word that stands for a noun
s.v.	Stative Verb	Expresses the state of something, often an adjective in English
v.	Verb	Expresses action
v.i.	Intransitive Verb	A verb with no object
v.n.	Verbal Noun	A noun formed directly from a verb to express a state of being
v.p.	Verb phrase	A phrase where a head-noun is joined to other words to form an expression
v.t.	Transitive verb	A verb with an object

Needless to say, these categories were developed to describe English grammar and not all Mada words fit neatly into them. For example, it is sometimes difficult to distinguish verbs from adjectives. Only a clear grammatical description will help the reader understand the function of a word in a sentence. At that point, the assignment to a particular part of speech is somewhat arbitrary; what counts is consistency throughout.

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- c. Alphabet chart
- d. The Jesus Film
- e. Tā Blā Mada (a booklet for non-literate)
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Mada -English Dictionary

A a

aku *n.* grey parrot *Psittacus erithacus*



aku

an *conj.* and; then; subsequently *tā dan gu an gu kan bàn nkèn dā ywe* we told him and he then take road and went → We spoke to him and went out on the road

an àn *excl.* No! (response to a question) *sē wā*

wān nan kī mē? is-it you who did thing this? → Did you do this?

anrèn *conj.* because *nggā nan ənəmē anrèn dār là ngār nggā* I do like-this because heart cont. break (pain) me. → I am behaving like this because of my heartbreak

anrīn *conj.* before; prior to; previously *wā dā nān ndu mē anrīn wā sā rē lā* you if do work this before you will eat food → You must do this work before you get food

atishāū *id.* describes sneezing *nggā te gbàshū de atishāū* I do sneeze atishāū! (Atishoo!)

Āyiririii! *excl.* ululation *Āyiriririii! Là gbo mbā ca Ncān* → (they) are bringing a wife to Ncān

B b

bā *z???*

bābār *pl.* *bābār n.* motorcycle; motorbike (< H.)

bān1 *v.* to accompany; to go with; to 'follow' *gu lā dān mānē tswē yā bā lā ban* he FUT tell people place they them FUT follow. → He will tell people where they are to go

bān2 *pl.* *vu v.* to take (*vu* governs a plural object) *Ban yā nā nggā* Take it give me → Take it and give it to me *Vū zākpā cā nggā mān* → Bring me those shoes

bān3 *dem.* those *Nywen bān wā sē sen?* Children those (of) you are how? → How are your children?

bān4 *pl.* *mābān n.* law; custom; tradition; rules *Bān tā dan de tā ka sā mē yo* → Our law says that we should not drink wine.

ban mgbā *v.p.* to sniff *nggā là ban mgbā* I cont. take sniffing → I am sniffing [it]

bār *v.* to touch *bār nggā dā man kyen* → touch me and see

bārga *pl.* *barga n.* lion *Leo africanus*

bārnyū *pl.* *barnyū, mābārnyū n.* lip *bārnyū gu sē nggān* lips his are big

be *adv.* forever; eternally; everlasting *tā lā sōn be* → we will stay forever

bē *loc.* outside *gu sē ə bē* he is at outside → he is outside

bě *pl.* *be, bēbe n.* seed; pip; stone; grain

bě-- *pref.* diminutive prefix ((applied to crops with small seeds))

bedārō *pl.* — *n.* millet *Pennisetum americanum* (< H. *dauro*)

begywī *n.* flying ants; termites

bėkan *pl.* *bekan n.* ring *nggā gyo bėkan ngwōn* I put ring hand → I put a ring on my hand

bėkī *pl.* *bekī n.* seed; grain

bėkītōn *pl.* *bekītōn n.* ear-ring *yāmē sē bėkītōn* this is ear-ring

bėkpū *pl.* *bekpu n.* guinea-corn kernel

bėkyèn *pl.* *bekyèn n.* Lima beans *Phaseolus lunatus*

belābelā *pl.* *nywēn belābelā n.* cattle egret *Ardeola ibis* (< H.)



belābelā

běmè pl. — *n.* wickedness; malice; evil; animosity *wā là te bémè mē mūn?* you cont. make wickedness this why? → why are you persisting in behaving wickedly?

Běmè *p.n.* personal name

běmkpàn pl. bemkpàn *n.* maize kernel

běncī pl. benci *n.* acca cultivar *Digitaria exilis*

běncwē pl. bencwē *n.* groundnut; peanut *Arachis hypogaea*

běntā pl. bentā *n.* beniseed; sesame *Sesamum indicum*

běntsu pl. béntsú *n.* acca; fonio *Digitaria exilis*

běnzē pl. benzē *n.* jumblebeads; catseyes *Abrus precatorius*



běnzē

běsān pl. bésān *n.* cowpea; bean *Vigna unguiculata*

bětsākā pl. bétsākā *n.* rice *Oryza sativa*

bězǔ pl. bezu *n.* bullet

bə1 *pron.* they; them (3rd person plural pronoun.)

bə2 *s.v.* to be decayed; to be rotten; to decompose *Krī nggā bə* → My yams are rotten

bā *conj.* with; together with *Nggā là sòn rēnde bā gyā* I will stay long with you pl. *Nggā sē bā nywen tūn* I be with children five → I have five children

bà pl. bābà *n.* place; hole (natural); position *yàmē sē bā kpār* → this is the hole of a giant mouse *yàmē sē bā mǎnggā* this is position my → this is my position

bəbàri pl. bəbàri *n.* butterfly

bəbè *adv.* foolishly; stupidly; idiotically; crazily *vālōn mūn ku bəbè* man that fall foolish → that man is a fool pl. **bəbèbè**.

bəbèbè *adv.* foolishly; stupidly; idiotically; crazily *kàdā nān kī bəbèbè ənəmē yo* don't do thing foolishly like this not pl. **bəbè**.

bəbā *a.* decayed; rotten; decomposed *krī bəbā mē* → this rotten yam

bābā *n.* tree sp.

bəbè pl. bəbè *n.* tail

Bəbrê *p.n.* personal name

bəbrègyùn pl. bəbrègyún *n.* large, brown, edible



bəbrèywi

mushroom

bəbrèywi pl. bəbrèywi *n.* cockroach *Periplaneta americana*

bər1 *v.* to add water to a solid *tā là bər nzan* we cont. add water to boiled guinea-corn (local food drink)

bər2 *int.* How many? How much? *Yə sē bər?* it is how many?

bər3 *v.* to appeal; beg; plead; entreat *Nggā là bər wā, kàdā tè gyār yo.* I am begging you, should not make angry not. → [I beg you, don't be angry with me.]

bār pl. bābār *n.* farm shelter *tā sòn ə bār* → we sit at the farm shelter

bār1 pl. bābār *n.* hat; cap *nggā sòn bār* I wear a hat → I wear a hat

bār2 pl. bər *n.* royal python *Python regius*



bār2

bār3 pl. bər *n.* genet cat *Genetta genetta*



bār3

bārbār pl. bārbārbār *id.* describes how a lantern burns (plural describes the continuous burning of the lantern, not necessarily many lanterns.) *tàtələ là ren bārbār* lantern cont. burn bārbār → the lantern is burning bārbār

Bàtərə *p.n.* personal name (bature)

bē pl. be *n.* large male patas monkey *Erythrocebus patas* syn **cār**, **kpòmgbukpòn**.

bè *v.* to praise s.o. for good work *gu là bè zāywā* he cont. praise child his → he is praising his child

bì1 *s.v.* to be adapted; accustomed to (the weather) *kpə nggā ban bì mbē* body my take be adapted already → my body is already

adapted [to the weather]
bì2 pl. bi *n.* cobra *Naja sp.*
bīshī pl. bishi *n.* eye; face; presence *Kə ngwur nggā ə bīshi wə* He slapped me in your presence
bīshizə pl. bishizə *n.* ankle
blā v. **1)** to count; enumerate *tā là blā krī* we cont. counting yams **2)** to read *nywen blā kre* children read finish → The children have finished reading **3)** to teach; instruct *Nggā là ywe tswē blā nywen* → I am going to teach the children
Blā *p.n.* personal name reading
Blāmàkə *p.n.* personal name count houses
Blāntān *p.n.* personal name count animal skin
Blāren *p.n.* personal name count matters
blə pl. — *s.v.* to be flat; to be deflated; punctured *tayā matò wə blə* tyre car your is flat → Your car tyre has gone flat
bǎ pl. bó *n.* grass sp.
bòn pl. bòn *n.* hawk
brè pl. brèbrè *adv.* describes things of the same height, matching *tə tan brè kəywə* we tall same with ourselves → we are as tall as each other
brêbrè *adv.* correctly; rightly; appropriately *kān tā gā yā brêbrè* let us share it out correctly
brêbrè, brêbrè *a.* weak; feeble *gu sē brêbrè* he is weak
brěkrī pl. brěkrī *n.* yam heap; yam mound
bri1 pl. — *v.* to ache; hurt; be painful *nēn là bri nggā* stomach cont. aching me → I've got a stomach-ache
bri2 pl. mǎbri *n.* lower part of abdomen; belly; stomach *sən wəndō ywān bri* wear trouser cover lower abdomen
bri1 pl. brī *n.* ghost; phantom; spirit; spectre *sē nggwǎ wān ngrēn bri gbàgyà?* is who see ghost ever? → Who has ever seen a ghost?
bri2 v. to shuck; shell; dehusk (e.g. maize) *Nggā là bri kpəmkpàn* I cont. shuck maize → I'm shucking maize.
bri3 pl. — *a.* quick; rapid; speedy; fast *wā la sē wān bri kpə yo* you cont. neg. be person of quick not → you are slow
brī pl. brībrī *v.* to appear and disappear ((the plural describes the frequency of the action)) *gu sə kàn brī meme dā kan nānsen?* he just appear and disappear now to where?
brībrī pl. — *n.* twilight; half-light; before sunrise; dusk; dawn *gu gərù mà tswē kasāsē brībrī menrīn* he go out → he went out while

it was still twilight
brībrī pl. — *adv.* restlessly; restively; agitatedly *wə là te brībrī mwən* you cont. make restlessly too much → you are so restless
brè pl. mǎbrè *n.* grave; tomb *tā là gya brè* we cont. dig grave
bu pl. — *v.* to open *bū nggā nkòn* open me door → open the door for me *v.t.* **bǔ**.
bū1 pl. bu *n.* aardvark *Orycteropus afer*



bū1

bū2 pl. — *n.* night; darkness *bū te* night make → it is night *ren yə te nggā bū bishi* matter it make me dark (night) eyes
bù pl. bu *v.* to grind; crush; pulverise *ywē bù tā nzan ə kə* go grind for us boiled guinea-corn at house
bǔ pl. — *s.v.* to be open *ren yə kur bū menān* the matter it lie be open only → the issue's now in the open *v.t.* **bu**.
bu bishi pl. — *v.p.* to be wise; be educated; be knowledgeable; be learned (idiom) *nggā bla mgbāmvū dā bu bishi* I read book and open eyes → I read the book and became wise
bubu *n.* exact spot; place; location *yāmē sē bubu tswēywā* this is exact place of it
būbū pl. — *n.* early morning; daybreak; dawn *tə doglo būbū dā ywe tswē hwā kpu* we got up early morning and went to the place of trampling guinea-corn
bùbù pl. — *n.* taste for something; appetite *gu là te bùbù tan nan* he cont. has an-appetite eat meat
bǔbù pl. bubù *n.* large basket with lid
bùbwò pl. — *n.* petition; pleading; entreating *sē bùbwò nggā là te nə gyā* It-is pleading (that) I cont. make give you (pl). *Nggā te wā bùbwò ka tè gyār yo..* I make you pleading (you) should-not get angry not → please don't get angry
Bùbwò *p.n.* personal name
bùkan *n.* giant kingfisher
bū mǎsər *n.* fish sp. *Gymnarchus niloticus*



bū māsər

- bwā** pl. *bwa* v. to fly *vənce là bwā* (a) bird cont. flying
- bwà** pl. *bwā* v. to pour out; to spill out *kan māsər bwà* take water pour → pour out the water *syn kàre.*
- bwə** pl. *mètərbwə* n. fig tree sp. used to make arrowheads
- bwər** pl. — v. to dance a dance of rejoicing *tā là*

- bwər* we cont. dance of rejoicing
- bwê1** v. to fetch s.t. small; to bring *cū bemkpàn mǎ bwê cà nggā mǎn* fetch maize reach fetch-small bring me → bring me a little bit of maize *syn cū1, fār.*
- bwê2** v. to watch a person so as to catch him at a later time *bwê me nggā lə vūn gu kpaki* watch only I will catch him must → watch him, I'll catch him later
- bwêbwè** adv. slow and steady; cautious *bwêbwè me nggā lə kəsū* slow and steady only I will reach
- bwi** pl. — n. witchcraft; sorcery; magic; conjuration *Nē là te bwi* people cont. make witchcraft.
- bwōbwō** a. parboiled; half-cooked *Mbādo là te nan bwōbwō* Mbādo cont. make meat parboil
- bwōkì, bwō** pl. *bābwōkī* n. pocket (? < E. pocket)

C c

- ca** v. to splash either water or mud on s.o. *Gu ca ncan bwà nggā* → he splashed mud on me
- cā1** pl. — n. unfermented wine; sweet wine *nggā là sə cā* I cont. drink unfermented sweet wine
- cā2** pl. — v. **1**) to learn *nggā là ca blā* I cont. learn write → I'm learning to write **2**) to mock; to ridicule
- cà** pl. — v. to bring to *te māsər cà nggā mǎn* fetch water bring to me
- cā** conj. together with *tā sǎ sē cā kəywà...* we were together with....
- càn** pl. *can, cān* v. to pound; crush (yams or palm nuts); mash with foot; trample *Vānggārīn là càn krī* Vānggārīn cont. pound yam *syn flō, kpàn1.*
- Cāngrēn** p.n. personal name
- Cānkyū** p.n. personal name
- càn nyū** v.p. to be about to cry *Mgbūn là càn nyū yā gu gī menān* → Mgbūn is about to cry
- car** pl. — v. to write; inscribe; mark *Swěnyū là car* Swěnyū cont. write
- cā...zu** v. to spoil; wreck; destroy; damage *rən cazu* matter spoil *gu ca nggā mkpān zū* he spoil my time spoil → he wasted my time *syn fē 2.*
- cō** pl. *cə* n. leopard *Panthera pardus* (dim. *vəcō*)
- cōcar** a. colourful; multicoloured *kì mē sē cōcar* thing this is colourful
- cər** s.v. to be alone; solitary *wā là krè cər me mūn?* you cont. stand alone only why?

- cār1** pl. *màcər* n. stranger; guest; visitor *cār nyā bā nggā* stranger come with me
- cār2** v. to despise s.o.; to refuse to accept s.t. because it is too little; belittle; scorn; be contemptuous of *wā là cār mǎnē kànàn mwōn* you cont. despising people so much *vēn mē là cār lā* child this scorning food this
- cər** pl. *cər* n. patas monkey *Erythrocebus patas* (dim. *vəcər*) *syn bē, kpòmgbukpòn.*



cər

- ci1** pl. — n. vein(s) (already plural)
- ci2** pl. — n. front; forehead
- cī** v. to move; to squeeze together (people) on a bench; shift; squeeze up; give way *cī nā nggā te sōn* move (shift) let me sit down *cī ywè* → move away *syn dē.*
- cì1** pl. *ci* n. rat, general
- cì2** pl. *cī* v. to avoid; abstain from; evade; circumvent *bā dan de nā nggā cī mǎnyēsər* they said that let me avoid palm oil
- Cīkyū** p.n. personal name

- Cimbā** *p.n.* personal name
Cincān *p.n.* personal name
cincì pl. — *n.* fried sweet dough; snack (< H.)
cīncī pl. — *n.* housefly
Cinē *p.n.* personal name
cīnji pl. cinji *a.* black; dark (Agrees in number with the noun it qualifies.) *bàbər nggā sē cīnji* motorcycle my is black
cìnjĩ pl. cinji *n.* hourglass drum [played for funeral dances]



cìnjĩ

- cìta** *n.* African pepper *Xylopiya aethiopica* (< H. citta)
co pl. — *v.* to sew; embroider *gu là cō kī* he cont. sew clothes → he is sewing clothes
Cōntān *p.n.* personal name
cò1 *v.* to get wet; be soaked; to become soggy; be drenched *gu kan kəywā cò ə māsər* he make himself soak in water → he has become soaked
cò2 *v.* to poke *gu là cò bə* he cont. poke hole
cò3 *v.* to cause people to fight; incite; to instigate *wā là cò bə mūn?* you cont. causing them to fight why?
cu *v.* to appoint *bə cu gu nā gu lwè bə* they appoint him let him lead them
cū1 pl. cū *v.* to fetch; bring (grass etc.) *cu jā làlwè cā nggā mān* fetch use grass bring me *syn bwê1, fər.*
cū2 pl. — *v.* to choose; select *tā là cu bān nggən nggən tə* we cont. choose leaders our
cū3 pl. — *v.* to stir; mix *Yā là cū lā* Yā cont. stir food
cū4 pl. — *v.* to plant; sow *tā là cu kpu* we cont. plant guinea-corn
cucu pl. — *n.* wind; breeze
cùcùn(mu) *adv.* always; every time; regularly *nggā là nyə kā wā cùcùnmu* I cont. come house you always
Cudè *p.n.* personal name
cùmbwě pl. cúmbwé *n.* large edible fruit [from a tree that grows by streams. The seeds are extracted and cooked like beans with guinea-

- corn]
cumgbə pl. — *n.* aroma; sweet scent; odour; smell *mànyèn mē cumgbə* pomade this sweet scent
cun pl. cūn *n.* forest; woodland
cūn1 pl. məcùn, məcūcùn *n.* chief; king; ruler; leader *wā là te cūn bā nggwǎ?* you cont. make chief with who?
cūn2 pl. cun *n.* stream; brook; rivulet *nggā là ywe cun* I cont. go stream *syn mblā.*
cūn3 *v.* to not to do any work; to be idle; to slack off
cūn4 *v.* to sigh *gu kùr dè là kpā cūn* he lies and cont. receive sigh
cùn pl. — *v.* to shake *ngūn shū dè man cùn mənggərō sū nggə* climb up and shake mangoes put me *syn gyàn.*
Cūnbə *p.n.* personal name
Cūncò *p.n.* personal name
cuncwən *n.* droplets; globules *glō là te cuncwən* rain cont. make droplets → the rain's coming down in drops
cundè *adv.* five days hence *tə lə ywe do ə cundè* we will go market at five days hence → we'll go to the market five days from now
Cūnjà *p.n.* personal name
Cūnjəma *p.n.* personal name
Cūnmbə *p.n.* personal name
Cūnmgbò *p.n.* personal name
Cūnmwòcu *p.n.* personal name
Cūnndəywān *p.n.* personal name
cūn...ngwən *v.* to release; let go of; leave off; abandon *cūn yə ngwən* leave it
Cūnrīnzē *p.n.* personal name
cūntān *v.* to skin an animal
cū rən *v.p.* to crack a joke *sē nggā là cu rən bā wā me* is I cont. only crack a joke with you → I'm only joking
cū tānrin *v.p.* to swear [This is mostly an old man swearing by the masquerade] *cū tānrin wā lə la mwən yo* (I) swear you will not be given.
cūyò *n.* tree sp. *Vitex diversifolia*
cwàr pl. cwārcwārcwàr *id.* describes feeling cool (This is mostly in answer to a greeting asking how you are feeling. cwārcwārcwàr is not necessarily pl. but for emphasis) *nggā shāmān susù cwàr* I exist cool cwàr → I feel cool, cwàr
cwe pl. — *adv.* full; filled; replete *te māsər sū shē tsə cwe* fetch water put fill pot full
cε pl. — *v.* to be mature; grow up *wā cε tē vənzè* → you have grown up into a young man

D d

dǎ1 pl. da *n.* guinea-corn head *nā yə man nan da tē nggənggən* let them then make heads become big

dǎ2 pl. da *n.* cutlass; matchet (adda)

dān pl. mètərdān *n.* copaiba balsam tree
Daniellia oliveri

dān pl. dan, dān *v.* to say; tell; communicate *dan gu de nggə kre ə sākānmē* tell him that I am standing here

Danbə *p.n.* personal name

dāncà pl. danca *n.* tree sp. *Entada abyssinica*

dāncò pl. dāncə *n.* hard ground (gravelly) *tswē te dāncò* place make hard ground → the place is hard

dankū *n.* tree sp.

dankyū *n.* sweet potato *Ipomoea batatas* (< H.)

Danren *p.n.* personal name

Dantsù *p.n.* personal name

dar pl. — *n.* lead (< H.)

dārdār *id.* describes how s.o. walks quickly *gu là zər dārdār mwən* he cont. walk faster more than → he is always walking faster

dātso pl. datso *n.* green fruit-pigeon *Treron australis*

de *part.* that [introduces indirect speech] *gu dan de* he said that

dē pl. — *n.* tiredness; exhaustion; fatigue *tā lə te sōn mà dē dā te tswe zər* we will sit down when tiredness if make them place walking → we'll sit down when we're tired

dè pl. — *v.* to give way; get away from; move off *doglò dè sākānmē* get up, get away from here *syn cī, dèbà, dètswē.*

dèbà pl. debà *v.* to give way *gyə cī dèbà* you move give way *syn dè, dètswē.*

dètswē pl. detswē *v.* to give way *dan bə nā bə dètswē* tell them to give way *syn dè, dèbà.*

də pl. — *s.v.* to be lost; be missing *gu də* he be lost → he's lost

də *conj.* when; if *bə dā nyə nzen* they if come then → if they come *syn dəsē.*

də *conj.* and; if; when; but *wān də kpənyèn nā gu zò ngwən* who if agrees let him raise (his) hand

dēdār pl. mètər dēdār *n.* fan-palm; deleb palm
Borassus aethiopicum

dēdārglò pl. — *n.* rainbow *kyen dēdārglò mū* see rainbow that

dèdè *n.* grass sp.

dēdèn *n.* grass sp.

dēdūn lā pl. dēdun lə *n.* flower of locust tree
Parkia biglobosa



dēdūn lā

dəgba *conj.* if not *yə dāgba sē ənəmē yo* it if-not be like this → if it isn't like this

dəmgbà rě pl. dēmgbà re *n.* palm midrib

dəmgbà shó pl. dēmgbà shó *n.* beehive

dēmū pl. — *n.* calf (of cow)

dēn pl. — *n.* boundary; limit; frontier *tā te dēn bā kəywə* we make boundary with each other

dən pl. dən *n.* tree sp. *Piliostigma reticulatum*

dənggàn *n.* 1) side-blown reedruck horn [played together with the panpipes for festive occasions] 2) reedruck *Redunca redunca*



dənggàn 1

dənggə pl. mādənggə *n.* rival; enmity; enemy; antagonist *Gu sē dənggə nggə* he is rival me → he/she is my rival *bə sē mādənggə* they are rivals

dəntswe *loc.* in the middle of; between; centre; amidst; among *nggə kre ə dəntswe mənē* I stand in the midst of people

dər pl. — *v.* to swim; bathe *tā là dər māsər* we cont. swim water

dǎr pl. dər *n.* heart

dǎr cīnji *n.p.* unhappy; sad; despondent; downcast *nggə sē bā dər cīnji* I be with heart black → I am despondent

dàrè *n.* whitlow [(this appears only on the leg)]

dàrè là nan Sātī whitlow cont. do Sati
dǎr kākla *n.p.* happy; joyful; merry; jubilant; cheerful; delighted *nggā sē bā dār kākla* I be with heart white → I'm happy
dǎr ngār *n.p.* angry; annoyed; furious; enraged; exasperated; irate; resentful *dǎr là ngar nggā* heart cont. break me → I'm angry
dǎrsù pl. *dārsu n.* red-eyed dove *Streptopelia semitorquata*



dārsù

Dārsùbā *p.n.* personal name
dāsē *cond.* if *dāsē wā lā la nyā yo* if you will neg. come not *syn* **dā, gbā.**
dātswē *conj.* so that *gu dōglō dēn mān dātswē gu mān nyā sū tswetswe* He get up early so that he then come reach quickly
dǎ pl. *nywên de n.* dwarf chicken
dēn1 pl. — *v.* to cure; heal *bā lā dēn gu* they will cure him
dēn2 pl. — *v.* to press *dēn nggā tār* press my waist
dēn pl. *dēn n.* large mammal sp.
dēn ... ngan *v.p.* to press down on *dēn gu ngàn*

press him down
do pl. *màdō n.* market; market-day *mbrε sē do Ndāywan* → tomorrow is market day Andaha *do ywā sē sen?* market cost is how.much? → How much is it?
dō pl. *do v.* to sing *nggā là do sen* I cont. sing song → I am singing a song
doglō pl. *doglo v.* to stand up; to arise; get up *doglō krè ndè* get up stand upright
dòrù pl. — *v.* to come out; exit *dorù nyà sākànmē* come out here *syn* **gārù.**
-dō pl. — *n.* farmer (in compounds)
dō pl. — *n.* tree sp.
Dōhwan *p.n.* personal name
dōn pl. — *v.* to announce; declare *dōn ren sū mənē* announce matter put people → Announce it to the people
Dōnbā *p.n.* personal name
Dōnkōn *p.n.* personal name
Dōnkyū *p.n.* personal name
dōnren pl. — *v.* to shout, yell, scream, shriek *Titi là dōnren bā Tani* Titi cont. shouting with Tani → Titi is shouting at Tani *syn* **ncar.**
dū *n.* history; narrative; tale; story *Tiyà là dan tē dū yā bān Ncò* Father cont. tell us history of Ncò people
dùdu *conj.* on account of; because of; due to *nggā là nan kī mē dùdu wà* I cont. do thing this on account of you
dùdù *n.* local box *syn* **kpàti.**
dùr pl. *dur v.* to doze *gu là dùr nènā* he cont. doze sleep

Ə ə

ə *loc.* at; in; on (Introduces many adverbial expressions.) *gu sē ə bē* he is at outside

ənəmē *dem.* like this *nan ənəmē* do [it] like this

(ə)nywī *loc.* inside; within; in *nggā sē ənywī tār* I

be inside room *syn* **nywī.**

Ə ə

ənywīnywī *loc.* right inside *gu ban yā nyār ənywīnywī* he took it hide right inside
ə rə *adv.* three days hence *Nggā là nyā sākànmē ə*

rə. → I will come here three days from now.
ətù 1) *loc.* on top *yā sa ətù tsā* it put on top of pot → put it on top of the pot **2)** *part.* about;

Ɛ ɛ

ēn *excl.* Yes! (in response to a question) *wā re lā*

mbē? *ēn.* You ate food already? Yes!

F f

fa *a.* useless; pathetic; feeble; futile; worthless (person) *gu sē wān fa* he is person useless → he is useless *syn flōfi.*

fā *pl.* — *v.* to itch *zā là fa nggā* leg cont. itch me

fā1 *int.* question marker (In sentence final position. Now sounds archaic)

fā2 *pl.* — *s.v.* given freely; for free; gratis; cheap *Mgbāmvū kan kikyēn mē nā nggā fā* Mgbāmvū take bicycle this give me free → Mgbāmvū gave me this bicycle for free

fā3 *v.* to cut more than one thing; harvest as grass *tā là fa làlwē* we cont. cut grass *pl. far2.*

fafa *a.* light; not heavy *mgbāmvū mē sē fafa* leaf this is light

far1 *v.* to bless *gu nan kī zāzē dātswe bā mān far nyu zāze gyō gu.* He did a good thing so that people would bless him.

far2 *v.* to cut; to wrench out *fār gāga mū* cut grass that *pl. fā3.*

far3 *pl.* *fā v.* to mark out *bān gbù yā far mpā mgbāji gyār gyō ...* those village it mark out piece bush one put. → The village people marked out an area of bush

Fāvēn *p.n.* personal name

fē *v.* to lick one's finger *gu tsā tswē fē ngwōn nggān* → he knows how to lick his finger very well

fə- *pref.* small; diminutive prefix *kī mē sē fənyēn* thing this is small *syn fətsē.*

fəgbòn *a.* short *nzār nggā sē fəgbòn* hoe my is short *syn kpāmkpūn, krē...nyār.*

fəgyār *a.* only one *gu sē fəgyār me* he is only one only

fəgyāywā *pl.* *nywēngyār n.* comrade; friend; companion; mate *gu sē fəgyār nggā* he is comrade mine *syn kpān, zān.*

Fājè *p.n.* personal name

Fāmbā *p.n.* personal name

Fāntàn *p.n.* personal name

fənyēn *a.* small; little; tiny *fāvēn mū sē fənyēn* boy that is small *syn fətsē.*

Fənyēn *p.n.* personal name

fənzə *pl.* *nywēnzə n.* cup; mug; goblet

fār *pl.* *fār v.* to fetch; bring of solid objects, such as cooked yam *fār nā nggā* fetch give me *syn bwē1, cū1.*

fār1 *v.* to mistreat s.o. because you are stronger than them; bully; oppress *Mbāren là fār Ncaka* Mbāren cont. mistreat Ncaka

fār2 *v.* to come out of a hole; exit mostly of animals that live in holes *cī to ru fār* rat poke come out of hole → the rat came out in a rush

fāròn *pl.* *fāròn n.* calabash cup; ladle

fātse *pl.* *nywēntse n.* village; hamlet; settlement (dim.)

fātsè *a.* few; little; small; tiny *lā nggā sē fātsè* food my is small *syn fə-, fənyēn.*

fāvèn *pl.* *nywēn n.* child; infant (dim.)

fè *mvre v.p.* to make trouble with people; stir up trouble; incite; to instigate *Mbwarnèn là fè mvre kànàn mwōn* → Mbwarnèn always makes trouble

flō *v.* to tread on; trample; match *tā là zār flō tswē* we cont. walk tread place *syn cān.*

flōfi *a.* useless; pathetic; feeble; worthless; futile *gu sē flōfi, fā* he is useless, isn't he? *syn fa.*

fō *v.* to search; seek; look for *nggā là fō wè* I cont. search for you

Fōkyēn *p.n.* personal name

Fōngrēn *p.n.* personal name

fōren *v.* to fight; battle with; combat *Mbārā bā Dānren là fōnren* Mbārā with Dānren cont. fight

Fōrēn *p.n.* personal name

Fōtswē *p.n.* personal name

frē *v.* to peel; skin *frē nggā lēmu* peel me orange

frēfrē *a.* loose; lax *kī mē sē frēfrē me* thing this is loose only *frē tē nkan* peel it make different

fū *pl.* — *n.* lung(s) *yāmē sē fū kākā* this is lung chicken → this is the lungs of a chicken

fū *pl.* — *v.* to blow up a fire; to smoke *fū nggā glo nā yā ren* blow me fire let it talk (flames)

→ fan the fire into flames *Tīyā là fū làta* Grandfather cont. blow smoke pipe → Grand

father is smoking a pipe
fû pl. — *n.* indigestion *nēn nggā kre fû* stomach
 my stand indigestion
fūkān pl. fukan *n.* medium-sized red bird with
 big beak seen around streams
fūkpə *n.* puff adder *Bitis arietans*
fū mgbo *v.p.* to blow one's cheeks as a sign of
 anger *Bəryo là fū mgbo bə nggwǎ?* Bəryo
 cont. blow cheek with who → Who is Bəryo
 angry with?
fə pl. — *v.* **1**) to expose; to reveal *wə là fə bāmā*
zù nggwǎ? you cont. expose buttocks point

who? → Who are you exposing your buttocks
 to? i.e. Who are you insulting? **2**) to destroy;
 damage *bē nyə fə kpəmkpàn kyen* monkeys
 come destroy maize look → See, the monkeys
 have destroyed the maize *syn cā...zu.*
fə bishi1 *v.p.* to stare at s.o. as a warning *wə là fə*
bishi zù nggwǎ? you cont. open eyes point (at)
 who? → who are you staring at?
fə bishi2 *v.p.* to concentrate on doing s.t. *fə bishi*
də krè ndu → concentrate and finish the work

G g

gā pl. mēgā *n.* shoulder
gà mgbān *adv.p.* walking with arms spread out
 [This is a sign of pride] *gu là zār gà mgbān* he
 cont. walk with arms spread out → he is
 walking with arms spread out *syn gà ngwān.*
gān pl. — *n.* feast; party; banquet; celebration
nggā là nan gān ə se yāmù I will do feast at
 year that (next year)
gàn *s.v.* to be too tight; close-fitting *wəndō là gàn*
gu trouser cont. tight him → his trousers are
 tight
gāncě *n.* grass sp. *Brachiaria deflexa*
gà ngwān *adv.p.* walking with arms spread out
syn gà mgbān.
Gānkòn *p.n.* personal name
gan ...kre *v.p.* to halt; to stop; to cease; desist
matō gan kan krē car stop take stop → the car
 came a halt
gān...mkpān *v.p.* to arrive on time; be punctual
nggā nyə gān mkpān yā bə de tē nyə I came at
 the right time which they said we should come
gan ngwān *s.v.* to be plentiful and readily
 available; abundant *mānē gan ngwān* people
 are plenty → there are many people
gantān pl. gantan *n.* brown spider
gānyǎn *n.* dry food
gar pl. mēgar *n.* adze
gār pl. gar *n.* army ant
gāryǎn *a.* very hairy; hirsute *Ridan sē gāryǎn*
 Ridan is very hairy
Gāsūba *p.n.* personal name
gba *a.* all; only; complete *tā dō lan yə gba nānrēn*
 we farm farm it all yesterday → we cultivated
 it all yesterday *syn kwār1.*
gbā *cond.* if (in negative sentences) *nggā gbā*
ngrēn gu yo I if didn't see him not → if I
 didn't see him *syn dāsē.*

gbà1 *cond.* not even; not unless (usually found in
 la..gba yo.) *nggā là la nan ndu me gba yo* → I
 will not do this work under any circumstances
gbà2 *v.* to rub in; smear on as an ointment *nggā*
là gba mənnyèn → I am rubbing in pomade
gbà3 *v.* to crawl; drag yourself along (Usually
 followed by a body part.) *gbà nènèn* drag with
 stomach
gbǎ pl. gba *n.* cock; rooster
gbàdò pl. — *n.* arthritis; rheumatism *gbàdò là*
nān Tōbə arthritis cont. do Tōbə → Tōbə is
 arthritic *syn kpə ngār.*
gbāgba pl. — *a.* last; final *yāmē sē yə gbāgba*
 this is which of the last → Which one is the
 last?
gban1 pl. — *v.* to miss out on; omit; disregard;
 skip *gu gban lā rīmē* → he missed food today
gban2 pl. mēgbān *n.* pubic area *vēn mē ru mfū*
gban child this sprout hair pubic
gbān pl. mēgbān *n.* frog
gbāngyà *adv.* never; ever *nggā là re kī mē kyen*
gbāngyà yo I neg. eat this thing never → I
 never eat this
gbār1 pl. gbārki *n.* flower (general)
gbār2 pl. — *n.* Adam's apple *Junglō sē bā gbār*
Junglō is with Adam's apple → Junglō has a
 pronounced Adam's apple
gbār3 *v.* to confess [This refers to a traditional
 ceremony to force a woman to admit to
 adultery. The cock stays on her head till she
 has confessed everything.] *bə gbō Mbərən*
ywe cun nə gu gbār dàtswe gbā man dōglò dē
gu tu → They took Mbərən to the stream to
 confess so that the cock (would) leave her
 head.
gbə1 *v.* to discuss; debate; consider; confer *bə là*
te gbə bā kəywə they cont. discussing together

gbà2 pl. — *n.* gourd vine
gbàcu *v.* to curse *te gbàcu sū wà* make curse put you → you are cursed
gbàdàr pl. — *n.* soldier termite
gbàgbakì pl. gbàgbakī *n.* broken calabash (dim. vāgbàgbakì, nywēngbāgbakī)
gbāgbār pl. — *n.* weevil
gbāgbākpm̄ *n.* red flying insects found around kapok cotton
gbāgbàzà *adv.* describes s.t. happening under your nose *kì mē te gbāgbàzà nggā dā nggā la tsə yo* → this thing happened under my nose but I did not know
gbāgblà pl. — *adv.* brilliantly *tswē là la gbāgblà* place cont. shine brilliantly → the place is lit up
gbāgbre pl. — *a.* ripe; mature *mānggārō mū sē gbāgbre* mango that is ripe → that mango is ripe
gbāgbre *n.* small brown insects that seek sweet things
gbājā *a.* ugly; wicked; bad; evil *nggā sē gbājā, nggā sē nē gbājā* → I am ugly, I'm a wicked person *syn* mame.
Gbājə *p.n.* village of the Mgbənjə clan
gbājī pl. gbājī *n.* steam; evaporation; vapour *māsər là te gbājī* water is making steam
gbājikì *v.* to covet; desire; envy; lust after *gu là te gbājikì kə̀nànmē* he cont. covet too much
Gbājiki *p.n.* personal name
gbājimkplən pl. gbājimkplən *n.* millipede
gbā kpm̄kpàn *n.* corn forest
gbàlantswē pl. gbàlantswē *n.* cricket (dim. vāgbàlantswē, nywēngbàlantswē)
gbàlantswē *n.* grass sp.
gbāmgbəntən *n.* false termite that flies during the heat of the day
gbəntan pl. gbəntan *n.* sheep
gbār *v.* to drag; pull *gbār bwə ləlwè mē lwè nyà* → drag this bundle of grass and bring it *syn* gbì.
gbārín *n.* levirate marriage *Mgbən cu gbārín Mbəgì* Mgbən has fetch levirate marriage Mbəgì
gbəryūn pl. gbəryun *n.* knee
gbəsho *n.* sneezing *gbəsho là te gu* sneezing cont. make him → he is sneezing
gbī pl. mēgbī *n.* arrow
gbì pl. — *v.* to pull; drag; pull off *gbì nggūnggwūr mē dèbà* pull this vine away *syn* gbār.
Gbìn *p.n.* Rija town
gbla1 pl. mēgblà *n.* tribal mark *gu sē bā gbla ə ngà* he is with tribal marks on the face

gbla2 pl. — *v.* to weed *tā là gbla* we cont. weed → we are weeding
gblà *v.* to disappear; to vanish [respectful way of announcing death] *gu kan gblà* he then 'disappear' → he is dead
gblā pl. — *n.* weeding *tā gbla lan yə kre nānrēn* we weed farm it finished yesterday → we finished weeding the farm yesterday
gblākəntsà pl. gblākəntsà *n.* tilapia spp.
gblancā *n.* termite sp.
gbm̄ pl. gbm̄ *n.* sound *màtò là gbm̄* car cont. make sound → the car is making a sound
gbm̄ pl. mēgbm̄ *n.* canoe; boat; ship *māsər ban gbm̄* water took canoe → the canoe sank
gbò *v.* to remove; take away *nggā là ywe tswē gbo tər gəga mù* I am going place remove tree grass that
gbōjūn *v.* to escape; flee; scarper *gu klwe gbojun* he run escape → he ran away
gbō rō *v.* to play with s.o as playmate *wā là gbō rō* you cont. play
gbō te nkən *v.p.* to see somebody off *tā là gbo gu te nkən* we cont. see him off
gbōtsū pl. gbōtsu *v.* to break suddenly; snap; crack *mgbənrīn gbōtsu* rope broke suddenly
gbō ywe ngā *v.p.* to marry; wed *bā là gbo mbə ywe ngā* they cont. carrying woman to be married
gbōn pl. gbāgbòn *n.* short piece of wood *syn* gbōnkì.
gbòn pl. gbāgbòn *n.* family; kin *tā sē bān gbòn gyār* we are of the same family
gbòngbòngbòn *id.* sound of a big drum *kə̀nggān là gì de gbòngbòngbòn* drum big cont. cry that gbòngbòngbòn
gbōngbōngbōngbōn *id.* sound of water being poured out of a gourd or similar container
gbōnkì pl. gbāgbònkī *n.* log; billet *syn* gbōn.
gbre1 pl. — *s.v.* to be ripe; be mature *mānggārō mē gbre* → these mangoes are ripe
gbre2 pl. — *s.v.* to be cooked *krī nggā gbre ə glo mbe?* yam my be-cooked at fire yet
gbre *n.* shivering; trembling; quaking *kpa nggā ban gbrē te* body mine take shivering make → I'm shivering
gbre pl. — *v.* to shiver; tremble; quake *nggā là gbrē* → I am shivering
gbre *v.* to flaunt; to show off *vānggā mē là gbrē tā bā nggwə?* who is this girl showing herself off with?
gbrēn *adv.* describes cutting s.t. into two quickly; with a snap *gu sar kəkā tyā gbrēn* he cut chicken neck quickly
gbrīn pl. mēgbrīn, gbāgbrīn *n.* 1) photo; picture;

image *yàmē sē gbrīn nggà* this is photo my
2) spirit; shadow; soul *yàmē sē gbrīn* this is spirit *gbrīn nggā ywar wà* shadow my block you *gbrīn nggā la kpānyen bā gu yo* soul my neg. agree with you not
gbrū pl. *gbru n.* vulture *syn kpōgbru, kpōmkpan.*
gbre pl. *məgbre n.* agama lizard (female)
gbū1 pl. *gbūgbu n.* town; settlement
gbū2 pl. *gbūgbu n.* mountain; hill
Gbūkp̄m *p.n.* village along Wamba road
Gbūmkp̄n *p.n.* village name
Gbūncū *p.n.* village name
gbūr pl. *gbur n.* banana; plantain
gbyē pl. *gbye n.* straight razor *yàmē sē gbyē* this is straight razor
gbyēn1 *excl.* Be careful! Look out! *Gbyen!* → be careful
gbyēn2 *v.* to watch out for; look out for; be careful of *gbyēn bā nggagyū mē* take-care with these dogs
gē *conj.* or; whether; either *nā nggā ban yàmē gē yàmù?* let me take this-one or that-one? *syn kē.*
gē *adv.* now; at once; immediately *nan yā gē* → do it now *syn mē1, nzēnmē.*
gē1 pl. — *n.* dry season *yàmē sē mkp̄n gē* this is dry season
gē2 pl. *məgē n.* throwing stick used by hunters *nggā sē bā mēgā ywā* I be with throwing sticks two
gē1 *v.* to split; to divide; to share out *gà lā* share the food *gà yā tē ywā* → divide it into two
gē2 *v.* to snore *gu là kūr nānā dā gē* → he continued to lie there and snore
gēga pl. — *n.* grass (generic)
gēgā *v.* to go to *nggā gēgā Kāgbà* I went Akwanga
gēgrēn *a.* red *bār nggā sē gēgrēn* cap my is red *syn grēn.*
gēlīmgbà pl. *gēlīmgbà n.* sugar ant
gēmē *adv.* this time *gēmē nggā lā la kà wā dōn yo* this time I will not leave you
gēmvar pl. *gēmvar n.* aeroplane; aircraft the sound, *mvār*, divides *gē* your attention
gēmvi pl. *gēmvi n.* smut on guinea-head that is collected and eaten, either raw or roasted *gyā nyā tā ywe kā fō gēmvi* you come we go search smut guinea-head
gēncā tū *n.* migraine; headache
gēnggān pl. *gēnggān n.* barrel-drum beaten with



gēnggān

hooked stick [Played for festive occasions, and the initiation cycle] *syn kēnggān.*

gəntē1 pl. *gənte n.* false locust tree *Prosopis africana*
gəntē2 pl. *gənte n.* raft-zither made of grass-stems *wā tsə ngwūr gənte?* → (do) you know (how to) play *gənte?* *syn mbwē wūyā.*



gəntē2

gəntsū pl. *gəntsu n.* grass sp. *Pennisetum pedicellatum*
gər pl. *məgər n.* slave; serf *gu sē gər nggā* he is slave my
gər pl. — *v.* to become engaged; to be betrothed *gu là gər mbā* he cont. betrothing a lady
gəri pl. *gəri, mēgəri n.* co-wife *bā sē mēgəri* → they are co-wives *Mbēcūn sē gəri Lāmā* Mbēcūn is co-wife with Lāmā
gərīncwē *n.* plant sp.
gərū pl. *gəru v.* to go out; exit *kān tā gərū* → let us go out *syn dōrū.*
gi1 *loc.* next to; beside *nggā kre gi wà* I stay beside you → I am next to you
gi2 pl. — *n.* stealing; theft; robbery; burglary *bā te nggā gi* they make me theft → they robbed me
gi3 pl. *məgi n.* maternal uncle; grand child *gu sē gi nggā* he is uncle my
gi1 pl. — *v.* to cry; to weep *vēn là gi* → (the) child is crying
gi2 pl. — *v.* to settle out (from water) *kà māsər dōn nā yā gi* leave the water let it settle
giga *v.aux.* to get up hastily *gu giga doglò* he got up hastily *syn klā...doglò.*
gigi *adv.* secretly; clandestinely *gyā ka nān kī gigi yo* → (you) don't do things secretly
gigyər *num.* one hundred
gigyər pl. *gigyər a.* together; equal; matching *nā tā blā Mada gigyər* → let us read Mada together
gi gyō *v.* to blame; to criticise; to censure *wā lā la gi gyō nānē yo mē wā dā kpan tu dā nān kī mē* you will neg. cry put anybody not when you if you insist and do thing this

gigyun pl. — *n.* small, white, edible mushroom sp.

gigyūn *adv.* quietly *tswē kur gigyun kāde kyū te* → (the) place is quiet as if there is death

Gikyū *p.n.* personal name

Gimwōn *p.n.* personal name

Gīndān *p.n.* personal name

glā pl. *gla v.* to chase; to drive off; pursue *glā nggāgyū mē dèbà* drive away this dog *syn mār.*

glà pl. *gla n.* axe

Glābā *p.n.* personal name

glà1 pl. *glə v.* to pass through; to 'follow' *nggā là glə sākānmē* I cont. pass through here

glà2 pl. *glə n.* water monitor lizard *Varanus exanthematicus*

glo1 pl. — *n.* fire

glo2 pl. — *v.* to dance *kān tā ywe tswē glō* let us go place dance

glō pl. — *n.* rain

glōkyū *n.* funeral dance *bā là glōkyū* they cont. do funeral dance

goglo *a.* hot *te māsār goglo cà nggā mān* fetch water hot bring me *syn wū 2.*

gōn pl. *mègōn 1) n.* back *gōn là fa nggà* back cont. itch me **2) loc.** behind; around *gu sē sē à nggà gōn* he is still at behind

gōn pl. *gōn n.* bag *Tīyà klā gōn à mgbàn* Grandfather hang bag at armpit

gǎn pl. *gōn n.* tree sp. *Hexalobus monopetalus*



gǎn

grě pl. *māgre n.* aunt *gu sē grě nggà* she is aunt my

grèn pl. *grèn v.* to leer *gu là grèn nggà* he cont. leer at me

grěn pl. *grèn s.v.* to be red *bār nggā grěn* hat my is red *syn gāgrèn, sāmban.*

grěnyū pl. *grěnyū n.* bird sp. medium size with a red beak

grì1 pl. *gri v.* to bring *te māsār grì nggà* fetch water bring me

grì2 pl. *gri v.* to rebuke; to scold; to admonish *gyār gu grì gu nā gu nān kyūn* her mother rebuked her let her do well

grī *v.* to gossip; chatter *mbàmbā mū là grī gəri bā* women those cont. gossiping their co-wife

grīgbo *n.* fried ground maize

gu *pron.* him; her *nā bā te nā gu* let them fetch give him *Gāmē bā kan dan gu de nā gu ngā nyū* this.time 3s then tell 3s that let 3s open mouth

gū1 *v.* to leak; drip *nā bā man kan yā sū gu à nyū.* let them then take 3p put 3s at mouth

gū2 *v.* to flow *māsār là gū* water cont. flowing

gūgu pl. — *n.* goat

gūgū pl. *mègūgū n.* mother-in-law (daughter-in-law) *gu sē gūgū nggā* → she is my mother-in-law

gùgwǎ *v.* to tickle *wā là te nggā gùgwǎ à zà* you cont. make tickle me at leg

gūn *n.* termite sp.

gur pl. — *s.v.* to be crooked; bent; zigzag *nkòn mē gur* road this is crooked

gūr pl. — *n.* interior of traditional grave

gùr1 *num.* ten (count form. But when referring to time the tone changes.) *mkpān dan de gur vungā bā nkyen* time says that ten past with half → It's half-past ten

gùr2 pl. *gur n.* granary; grain-store; barn; silo *syn vārà.*

gurgur *adv.* humbly; submissively *mbā mē là te gurgur nā lonywā* → this woman is submissive to her husband

gwa *n.* **1)** grey hair *nggā ru gwa* I sprout grey hair → I have grey hair food push fungi **2)** fungus; mould *nzan tur gwa* food push mould

gwǎ pl. *gwa n.* snake (generic)

gwār pl. — *v.* to be noisy *nānggye nan dā tswē sē gwār mē nān?* → what happened? the place is noisy

gwǎ rìcī pl. *gwa rìcī n.* West African house snake *Boaedon lineatus*

gwō pl. — *v.* to hear; listen *gu là gwō wā tswē ren* he cont. hear you as you talk

gwò pl. *gwō n.* African beauty snake (plain form) *Psammophis sibilans*

gwònywenggō pl. *nywengwònywenggō n.* African beauty snake (striped form) *Psammophis sibilans*

gwūr *n.* dassie; rock hyrax; rock rabbit

gyà pl. — *v.* to dig; excavate *gu là gyà* he cont. dig → he's digging

gyàn *v.* to shake *gyàn vāmbū mē* → shake this jar *syn cùn.*

Gyancà *p.n.* personal name

Gyānkòn *p.n.* personal name

Gyanzo *p.n.* personal name

gyār *a.* angry; furious; enraged; annoyed *wā sē gyār me kāde wā sē shò* you are just as angry as if you are a bee
gyà *pl.* gyar *n.* buffalo; bushcow
Gyà *p.n.* personal name
Gyārku *p.n.* personal name
gyā *pron.* you *pl.* 2nd person *pl.* subject pronoun *gyā là dō sen* you *pl.* cont. sing
gyè *pron.* you *pl.* 2nd person object pronoun *sē nānggye yà bə là nan gyè?* it is what they cont. do you?
gyǎ *pl.* — *v.* to mock; ridicule *gu là gyǎ nggè* he cont. mocking me
gyəgyərtsò *n.* wasp that lives on trees
-gyār *adv.* times (different prefixes indicate how many times s.t. happened)
gyər *num.* one (time etc)
gyər1 *num.* one (count form)
gyər2 *pl.* gigyər *n.* mother; mum *syn* yā.
gyər3 *n.* longest pipe in the four-note panpipe
gyərgyər *adv.* one by one *gyā sū ndə nyə gyərgyər* you should make line come one by one
gyərndu *p.n.* Monday
gyərtsò *n.* Sodom apple; swallow-wort *Calotropis procera* *syn* məywè.
gyəywə *n.* his, her mother
gyèn *pl.* gyen *n.* cutting grass; grasscutter; cane rat *Thryonomys swinderianus*
gyên *adv.* instead; rather *nggə gyên dō ban nggə nāmān* I instead farm take side another → I would rather go in another direction on the farm
gyo *pl.* — *v.* to call *gyō nggə Fəntàn* → call me Fəntàn
gyō *pl.* — *v.* to put down *kan njī mē gyō* take knife this put down *syn* kan...gyō.
Gyōbə *p.n.* personal name

Gyōgōn *p.n.* personal name
Gyōjə *p.n.* personal name
Gyōkōn *p.n.* personal name
gyōn1 *pl.* məgyōn *n.* hare (dim. vəgyōn)
gyōn2 *n.* starvation; hunger; famine *gyōn là te mōnē mē* starvation cont. make people these *syn* mfə.
gyō zə *v.aux.* to start a journey *nggə là sə gyō zə jī wə* I cont. fut. start journey wait you
gyūn *n.* dizziness *gyūn là te nggə* dizziness cont. make me
gyūn *pl.* gyun *n.* shade; shadow *tā sən ə gyūn* we sit at (under) shade
Gyūnggōn *p.n.* personal name
Gyunka *p.n.* personal name
Gyūnkə *p.n.* personal name
gyùn ngwən *v.p.* to swing one's hand ready to hit s.o. *gu là gyùn ngwən yā gu là ngwur nggə* he cont. swing hand which he will hit me
Gyūnrē *p.n.* personal name
Gyūnrē *p.n.* personal name
gyūr *pl.* — *v.* to deceive; trick; defraud; swindle; mislead; cheat; dupe *Shètan là gyūr mənē* Satan cont. deceive people
gyūr *pl.* gyur *n.* bedbug
Gyūrbə *p.n.* personal name
gywār *pl.* — *adv.* describes rushing into; entering suddenly *cì klwe nyər bə gywār* rat run enter hole in a rush
gye *pl.* məgye *n.* faeces; excrement; manure; dung; stool; shit
gyekū *pl.* — *v.* to fall; to tumble *gu gyekū* → he (has) fallen
gyen ncār *pl.* — *v.p.* to jump up *tā là gyen ncār* we cont. jump up → we are jumping
gyezē *n.* grass sp.

H h

hǎ *excl.* expresses distaste at the way s.o. expresses themselves negatively *Hǎ, kàdə rən ənəmē yo* → Really! Don't, speak like that!
hân? *excl.* Hah! So! *Hân, sē ənəmē gyā nan ren yə?* → So! Is that how you settle the issue?
hen *excl.* expresses disgust *hen, sē nānggye yə wā là nan sāsānmenàn?* → what is it that you are doing like this?
hm *excl.* expresses relief *hm, dər sù nggə nān* → hm, I am now comfortable
hō *v.* to be frightened by s.o.; be terrified; be

terrorised *nggə kan kū hō* → I then became frightened
hū *pl.* hūhū *a.* wide; broad *nkōn sē hū* → the gate is wide *kānkōn sē hūhū* → the gates are wide
hūhwār *pl.* huhwar *n.* crowned crane; crownbird *Balearica pavonina* *syn* lōngā.
hwā *pl.* hwa *v.* to press down; to massage a dislocated part of the body *nywen là hwa kpu* children cont. pressing down guinea-corn *Wuzà là hwā Bùbwò zə* Wuzà cont. massage Bùbwò's leg

hwà pl. mǎhwà *n.* bunch; bundle *yàmē sē hwà kpamkpàn* this is bunch (of) maize *syn* **mkpm**.
hwān pl. mǎhwān *n.* bush; farm *syn* **mgbàjī**.
hwàr pl. hwar *n.* stork sp.
hwə1 *n.* fish sp.
hwə2 pl. mǎhwə *n.* moon; month
hwǎ pl. — *n.* intoxication; drunkenness *hwǎ là te gu* intoxication cont. make him → he is drunk *Ləyà là hwǎ* → Ləyà is drunk
hwən *v.* to roast maize in its husk *Būkī là hwən kpamkpàn* → Būkī is roasting maize
hwən pl. — *v.* to hatch *kàkə nggə hwən nywen gur* → my chicken has hatched ten chicks
hyar *v.* to chat; discuss *tā là hyar ren* we cont. chat
hyēn1 pl. — *v.* to pluck; pick (fruit) *tā là hyēn lā* → we cont. pluck locust bean fruits
hyēn2 pl. hyēn *n.* camwood rubbed on the body during dances
Hyenyū *p.n.* personal name
hyī pl. hyi *n.* fish (generic)

hyuhyur *a.* near; close (objects) *kī mē sē hyuhyur bā kəywə* → things these are close to each other *syn* **hyur1**.
hyūn *v.* to make haste; hurry *tā kan te hyūn ywe mān* we then make haste go there
hyur1 *a.* near, close (people) *tā sē hyur bā kəywə* → we are close to one another *syn* **hyuhyur**.
hyur2 *v.* to approach a lady for love on behalf of s.o. else *nggə là te hyur gu zwe vēn nggə I* cont. approach her for my son
hyūr *v.* to block; support; stop s.t. falling; wedge *kǎn ngwən hyūr* → bring up your hand to wedge it
hyūr tōn *v.p.* to listen attentively *hyūr tōn dā man gwǎ kī yə nggə lə dan wə* → listen attentively and hear what I will tell you
hye pl. hyehye *a.* narrow *nkən mē sē hye me* → this door is very narrow

I i

Ishii *excl.* expresses disappointment at s.o.'s sluggishness *Ishii, sē nānggye yə wā là nan kāde wā la tē mǎgì yo nān?* what is it that you are doing as if you don't have blood?

itsàr *excl.* expressing disgust at s.o. doing s.t. dirty *itsàr; kà kī gbājā mē dān* leave this bad thing that you are doing

J j

jā *v.* to use
jàjà *adv.* at first; primarily; initially *jàjà, nggə la sā tsə ren yo* at first I NEG do know matter NEG → at first I knew nothing about this
Jākī *p.n.* personal name
jan1 *v.* to rebuke s.o. junior *nggə jan gu atù kī yə gu nan* I rebuke him on what he did
jan2 *adv.* s.t. not completely ripe e.g. mango *mānggārō mē te jan* mango these make ripe (not completely) – the sense is understood
jàn pl. mǎjan *n.* tree sp.
Jānbə *p.n.* personal name
jā pl. — *n.* suffering; poverty; penury *jā là te nggə* poverty cont. has me
jə pl. — *v.* to urinate; to fan liquid; to spray (waterfall) *gu là jə mgbànrīn* he cont. urinate *nggə là jə cā* I cont. fan sweet local brewed beer
jəgule pl. — *n.* horseradish tree; ben oil tree;

moringa [The leaves are eaten as soup] *Moringa oleifera* *syn* **mkpən kyəgbò**. (< H.)
Jākre *p.n.* personal name *māsər là jə ə ywār* water is falling (waterfalls)
jən *adv.* low *jən nggūngū lwè nyə sər* lower dish bring come down
Jōnē *p.n.* personal name
jè *n.* civet cat *Civettictis civetta*
ji1 pl. jī *n.* mortar
ji2 *v.* to be weak; feeble *kpə là ji nggə* body mine cont. be weak me → I feel weak
ji3 pl. — *v.* to flow down; climb down; slump *ji nyə* climb down *nggə là ji ban sər fətsè* I cont. going down small
ji pl. — *v.* to wait *ji nggə ə sākānmē* wait for me here
jijà pl. nywen *jijà n.* long-tailed shrike *Corvinella corvina*
Jime *p.n.* personal name

jìmə *v.* to make local beer *te nggā là jìmə yà tō mgbīr* father my cont. make local beer for burning bush
Jingrēn *p.n.* personal name
jū pl. jū *n.* water yam *Dioscorea alata*
jūjū pl. məjūjū *n.* pit; hole in ground (dug by man) *wōnki tā là gya jūjū* we cont. dig hole
jun *v.* to fall (plural); shed (of leaves) *mānggārō jun kākārē* mango fall pour-down → mangoes have fallen down *syn* **kū1**.
jūn pl. — *v.* to remove; to pick out; extract *jūn*

gāga mē dētswē remove grass this give way
jùn *n.* crowd
jūnglō pl. — *n.* thunder *nggā gwō jūnglō* I heard sound thunder
Jūnglō *p.n.* personal name
Jūnnē *p.n.* personal name
jwè *n.* black cobra *Naja melanoleuca*
jwè pl. nywen *n.* fat mouse *Steatomys caurinus*

K k

ka *v.* to separate, divide (as two people fighting) *gu ka bā fōnren* he separated them from fighting
kā1 pl. ka *n.* crab
kā2 pl. ka *v.* to refuse; reject *gu là kà ren nan ndu yā* he cont. refuse to do the work
Kābā *p.n.* personal name *nggā ka gu dān ā nkōn*
kābū *n.* sand
kāca pl. kaca *n.* hedgehog *Erinaceus albiventris*
kādā...[yo] *neg.* don't *kādā tē nggā dār ngār yo* don't do me heart break not → don't break my heart
kādēn *n.* biggest size of winnowing tray *yāmē sē kādēn* this is big winnowing tray
Kādōn *p.n.* personal name
kā...dōn *v.* to leave off; to not do *kā yā dōn* leave it *kā ren Tārmvū dōn* leave talk (of) Hyena leave
kāgbm *v.* to go home; return *nggā là kagbm* I CONT go home → I am going home *syn* **ngā4**.
kāgbōn pl. kagbōn *n.* tortoise
kākū pl. kaku *n.* palm nut
kākūr pl. kakūr *v.* to lie down *kākūr ā sākānmē* lie down at here
Kālā *p.n.* personal name
kālōbā pl. kalōba *n.* bottle (< H.)
kambān pl. kamban *n.* ant sp.
Kāmā *p.n.* personal name
kan1 *v.* to take; put
kan2 *v.* to burp; belch *nggā là ywe tswē kan* I cont. go place burp
kan3 *v.* to twist *gu kan nggā ngwōn* he twisted my arm
kān1 *n.* parts of an animal [assigned to the first person who spotted it, after it is killed.] *nggā re kān yā* I eat part it
kān2 *n.* forest vine sp. used in making roofs

kān3 *v.aux.* let us Hortative plural preceding verb
kān1 *part.* then; subsequently *gu kàn dān de* he then said that
kān2 pl. kan *n.* rim; steering wheel *kān matō can gu ā dār* steering vehicle fall at (his) heart
kān *n.* burp *kān là te nggā* burp CONT do me → I am burping
kān...bishi *v.p.* to not recognise s.o. easily *wā kan nggā bishi* I can't recognise your high tone for the present
Kāncānkī *p.n.* personal name
kāncōn *n.* sweet thing
Kānē *p.n.* personal name
kānggū pl. kanggu *n.* musical bow [played solo by men to express sadness, at funerals, for example]
kānggū *n.* crab [very big, bigger than the usual crab]
kan...gyō *v.* to put down *kan kri gyō ā māmē* take yam put at ground *syn* **gyō**.
kānjār pl. kanjar *n.* deluded spirit that is friendly [It comes to interact with humans whenever a special music is played for it.] *Kādōn là ngwur kānjār gāntē* Kādōn cont. play deluded spirit zither
kanjūn *n.* cashew fruit *Anacardium occidentale* (< E.)
kānkārē *adv.* describes liquid thrown out *gu kan māsār kānkārē* he threw water away
kan kō *v.* to fence *bā là kan kō* they cont. fencing house
Kānkō *p.n.* personal name
kankrē *v.* to stop; halt; cease *gu kankrē jì nggā* he stopped wait (for) me
kan...ngān *v.p.* to put together *kan wāndō ngān bā lāgā* put trousers together with shirt
kan ngwōn sà tu *v.p.* to die [This means the person is dead. [this is usually the polite way

of saying it]] *Cūnjəmǎ kan ngwɔn sà tu*
Cūnjəmǎ take hand put head
Kànzán *p.n.* personal name
kaprē pl. *kaprē n.* nightjar *Caprimulgus sp.*
kar pl. *mèkār n.* prostitute; whore; harlot *syn*
kilakī.
kàrà pl. *kàrà n.* bean-cake (< Y.)
Kàrén *p.n.* personal name
kàrē *v.* to pour away; to spill *wā kan māsər kàrē*
mūn you make water pour away why? *syn*
bwà.
Kasē *p.n.* personal name
kasāsē *v.* to continue doing *bān kà tē kasāsē nǎn*
cā that house our continue doing sweet wine
kàsə...[yo] *neg.* don't Negative imperative *kàsə*
nàn sāsānme nàn yo don't do like that do
 NEG → Don't do it like that
Kàwu *p.n.* personal name
kē *conj.* or; whether; either *gu nan yā kē gu la*
nàn yo he did it or he did not do it *syn* **gē.**
kə1 pl. — *n.* thought; consideration *kə tsɔ kū*
nggā nèn thought drop fall me stomach
kə2 *pron.* him; her; it (archaic)
kə3 pl. — *v.* to borrow; lend *kə nggā mgbāmvū*
tar loan me Naira three
kə- *pref.* number of times s.t. is done *wā nan kī*
mē tē kə ywā mbē you did thing this two times

already
kə1 *v.aux.* marks infinitive (archaic)
kə2 pl. *məkə n.* house; home; compound
kə3 pl. *kə v.* to scratch; scrape *kə nggā gōn*
scratch my back
kəbū *n.* one kobo
kəbū pl. *kəbu n.* pathway
Kəbunyān *p.n.* personal name
kəcē *n.* boomslang snake *Dispholidus typus*
kədē *v.* to remain; stay *bān kədē mān* those who
 remained (left behind)
kəde *adv.* like; similar to *Sonia sē kədə tàywā*
Sonia is like father her
kədē *n.* remains *yəmē sē yə kədē* this is what
 remains
Kəgbà *p.n.* Akwanga town
kəgbù pl. *kəgbu n.* baboon *Tsēcun ngun kəgbù*
Tsēcun kill baboon → Tsēcun has killed a

baboon
kəgyər *adv.* once (N.B. different prefixes indicate
 the number of times s.t. happened.) *Likita nyā*
sākānmē kəgyər Likita was here once
kəji *n.* box; covered basket *syn* **kpātī.**
kəjī pl. — *n.* money
kəjī pl. — *n.* love potion; philtre; aphrodisiac *bā*
ban kəjī tē vānggā mē they take love potion
 make girl this
kəkan...dē pl. — *v.p.* to forget *kəkan nggā dē*
 forget I forget → I have forgotten
kəkə pl. *kəkə n.* fowl; hen; chicken
kəkə gbù pl. *kəkə gbu n.* black birds that move in
 fives found around the hills
kəkərē pl. *kəkərē v.n.* pouring out *kyen pre là*
kəkərē look kunu cont. pouring out
kəklà pl. — *n.* small fish sp.
kəkla *a.* white *kəkə nggā sē kəkla* hen my is
 white
kəklāmfu *n.* fish sp. *Heterotis niloticus*

kəkrē pl. — *n.* fireplace; hearth
kəlānzər pl. — *n.* kerosine; paraffin (< E.)
kələ *n.* age-mate *syn* **ləkə.**
kəmbə pl. *kəmbə n.* calabash; gourd
kəmbə māsər pl. *kəmbə māsər n.* water-lettuce
Pistia stratiotes



kəklāmfu

kəmē *adv.* this time *sē nggā wān là nan kəmē nān*
 is I who will do it this time around
kəmfār *n.* hidden dark place
kəmu *pron.* I; myself (1st singular reflexive
 pronoun.) *nggā n kəmu me nggā là ywē hwan*
sē mē I myself only, I will go to farm this year
kə mu *adv.* next time *kə mu wā là ywē nān* next
 time you will go
kəmvrē ngwɔn pl. *kəmvrē ngwɔn n.* finger
kəmvrē ngwɔn nggɔn *n.* thumb
kənan *a.* many; much *kəkə nggā sē kənan*
chickens my are many
kənanme *adv.* plentifully; abundantly; copiously
glō ku kənanme rain fall plenty
kəndà *adv.* maybe; perhaps; possibly *kəndà gu là*
nyā ə mbre maybe he would come tomorrow
syn **məgē, məkē, munyàn, njwēn, tətò.**
kəndàrī pl. *kəndàrī n.* bird sp.

kānfà pl. — *n.* claw; fingernail; talon
kānggān pl. *kānggān n.* barrel-drum *syn*
gānggān.



kānggān

kānka *adv.* five days hence
kānkā *v.* to make a mistake; err *nggā can wā zā*
kānkā I march your feet by mistake
kānkabān pl. *nywenkabān n.* Abyssinian roller
Coracias abyssinica
kānkabān hwan pl. *nywenkabān hwan n.* swift
Apodidae
kānkōn pl. *kānkōn n.* way; path; road
kānkulwe pl. — *n.* herb sp. [plant with a single
stem that grows in the bush and has small,
black, edible fruits]
kāntā *n.* beniseed; sesame *Sesamum indicum*
kāntsār pl. — *n.* wall
kānvār *n.* disease that cuts the nose (caused by
man)
kānyūjē *n.* snake sp.
kāsàn pl. — *n.* side; edge *nggā ta brēkrī ā kāsàn*
nē I make heaps at side of river *syn* **kātōn,**
nggā.
kātā pl. *kāta n.* hat
kātar *a.* fork; bifurcation; s.t. that divides into
two e.g. a crossroads; junction *yāmē sē kātar*
nkōn this is a junction road → this is a
crossroads
kātōn pl. — *n.* edge *nggā kre ā kātōn nkōn* I stand
at edge road → I stand beside the road *syn*
kāsàn.
kāyāmē *adv.* this time *nggā lā tsē wā kāyāmē* → I
will beat you this time
kāywā *adv.* twice
kāywā pl. *kāywa n.* cave; cavern; grotto
kāywē *n.* yourself *kān yā lwē kāywē* take it carry
yourself
kāywā pl. *nkāywā pron.* himself; herself; itself *sē*
gu wān nan kāywā it-is he who do for himself
kāywā pl. *kāywā pron.* themselves (reflexive) *sē*
bā bān nan kāywā it-is they those do for
themselves
kāywe *n.* Bahama grass, dogtooth grass *Cynodon*

dactylon
kāzēnyān *n.* itchgrass *Rottboelia cochinchinensis*
kāzələba pl. *kāzələba n.* wild duck
kī pl. *kī n.* thing
kīkī pl. — *n.* suffocation; shortness of breath *kīkī*
lā te nggā suffocation is catching me
kīkōn pl. *kīkōn n.* weapon
kīkyē pl. *kīkyē n.* bicycle; cycle (< H.)
kīlakī pl. — *n.* prostitute; prostitution; harlot;
whore *syn* **kar.** (< H.)
kīnēn pl. — *n.* guts
kīnkyēn *n.* skewer
kīnzē *n.* clothes for masquerade
kīrē pl. *kīrē n.* food
kī yē sā *n.* vehicle; car; motor
kīyēwō pl. *kīyēwō n.* domestic animals; livestock
klā pl. *kla v.* to fry *Titi lā klā krī* Titi is frying
yams
klā pl. *kla n.* monkey sp.
klā...bān *v.* to grab; seize; grasp *nggā kla yā bān*
I grab it grab → I grabbed it
klā...doglō *v.* to get up hastily *gu kàn klā...doglō*
he got-up hastily *syn* **gīga.**
klāmkpā *v.* to try to do what older people do
(young person) *vēn mē lā klāmkpā kànānme*
child the cont. trying to do elders → this boy
is always trying to do things as elders
klā1 pl. *klā n.* fruit
klā2 *v.* to hang; suspend *gu lwe kāywā kā klā ā*
shū he carry himself hang on tree *syn* **ncāwū.**
klō pl. *nywen klo n.* bushbuck *Tragelaphus*
scriptus
klwe *v.* to run *gyā vu klwe nyā* you (people)
should run come here
kōmitī pl. — *n.* committee (< E.)
kōn *n.* corpse; carcass; cadaver
kōn pl. *mākōn n.* war; combat; battle; skirmish *bā*
lā ta kōn ā Lebano there is a war in Lebanon
kōn vēn pl. *kōn nywen n.p.* umbilical cord
kpā *n.* shout of joy *tā lā ta krī dā te kpā* we cont.
make yam heaps and make shout
kpā *a.* dot
kpā pl. *kpa n.* roof
kpācō *n.* sickness like smallpox
kpāgē pl. *kpāgē n.* long hooked stick for getting
down fruits such as mangoes [also known in
NE as ‘go to hell’]
Kpakō *p.n.* personal name
kpaki pl. — *n.* necessity; requirement *sē kpaki*
nggā re lā? is it a necessity I fut. eat food? →
must I eat the food?
kpākī pl. *kpākī n.* stick *syn* **kukukī.**
kpakiki *v.aux.* must; be required; be necessary
kpakiki wā lā rē lā it is necessary you fut. eat

- food
- kpăkpă** *id.* describes laughter *gu là mlă kpăkpă*
he cont. laugh *kpăkpă*
- kpakpămkī** pl. *kpakpămkī* *n.* tree bark
- kpăkrīn** pl. — *n.* spherical; round thing
- kpàlo** pl. *kpalo* *n.* tree pangolin *Phataginus tricuspis*
- Kpamə** *p.n.* personal name
- kpă mə** *n.* surface of local beer
- kpān** pl. *kpākpān* *n.* friend *syn* **fəgyəywə**, **zān**.
- kpàn1** *v.* to pound *Mbəmbə là kpàn tswē* women cont. pound place *syn* **cān**, **kyər**.
- kpàn2** pl. — *v.* **1)** to tie; fasten; bind *kpān yə* tie it **2)** to ripen
- Kpānbə** *p.n.* personal name
- kpāncá** *n.* small lizard sp.
- kpāncun** *excl.* describes wishing for a bad thing to happen again *kpāncūn, tɔnzɛ ənəmē gba me* it is good for you like that
- kpàn dər** *s.v.* to be courageous; bold; brave; valiant *gu kpan dər dā ywe* → he took heart and went
- kpandē** *n.* tiger-nut [cultivated plant whose tubers are eaten as a snack] *Cyperus esculentus*
- kpànjūn** pl. *kpanjun* *n.* snuffbox tree *Oncoba spinosa*
- kpānjūn** pl. *kpanjūn* *n.* largest type of gourd *Cucurbita maxima*
- kpàn mgbo** *v.p.* to be sour (e.g. unripe fruit) *kānjūn mē kpàn mgbo* cashew this is sour
- kpānɛ** *n.* tree sp.
- kpār1** pl. *məkpār* *n.* base of a yam
- kpār2** *n.* used in compounds to form abusive expressions *kpār mē* bottom buttocks
- kpār** pl. — *adv.* openly; transparently *frē ren yə gyō bē kpār* peel the matter put outside openly
- kpār** *n.* open space *tswē yə tā kre sē kpār me* the place which we stand is open space only
- kpār** pl. *kpār* *n.* snail spp.
- kpāti** pl. *kpāti* *n.* box *syn* **dūdù**, **kəji**. (< H.)
- kpə1** pl. *kpə* *n.* shoe
- kpə2** *n.* body
- kpə3** *a.* thick *wəndō mē te kpə* trouser this make thick *syn* **kpəntèn**.
- kpə** pl. *məkpə* *n.* small agama lizard

*kpānjūn*

- kpə** *v.* to receive; get *kpə yə* → receive it
- kpəcawù** *n.* brown lizard seen during the rains
- kpə...kà** pl. *kpə...ka* *v.* to disagree, dissent *nggə kpə ren yəmē ka* → I disagreed with him
- kpəkpə** *n.* bird sp. with a big beak
- kpəkpəkpəkpə** *id.* describes chirping of *kpəkpə* bird *kpəkpə là gì de kpəkpəkpəkpə* → (the) bird *kpəkpə* chirps that....
- kpəkpəlaywī** pl. *kpəkpəlaywī* *n.* red centipede [seen only in the rainy season. When children come home with skin broken between the toes, it is attributed to this centipede]
- kpəkpəlōgā** pl. — *n.* sword-bean planted for the large pods which are used by women as rattles *Canavalia ensiformis*.
- kpəkpə** pl. — *n.* cloud
- kpəkpə** *n.* bulbul *Pycnonotus barbatus*
- kpəkpə** *n.* laziness; idleness; indolence *kpəkpə là te nggə laziness* cont. make me → I am lazy *gu là te kpəkpə* he cont. make laziness → he is lazy
- kpəkpəkpə** *id.* describing making too much noise which prevents others from talking *wə là ren kpəkpəkpə nggān mwōn* you cont. talk too much noise
- kpəkpə** *a.* old; aged; elderly *vəlɔn mē cɛ tɛ kpəkpə* man this grow make old
- kpəkpə** *n.* finch *Estrilda*
- kpəkpə** pl. — *n.* shrine; altar *yəmē sē kpəkpə* this is a shrine
- kpəkpə** pl. *kpəkpə* *n.* blue-breasted kingfisher *Halcyon malimbicus*
- kpəkpə** pl. — *n.* catarrh; phlegm; smallpox *kpəkpə là te nggə catarrh* is doing me
- kpəkpə** *sən* pl. — *n.* tuberculosis
- kpəkpə** pl. *kpəkpə* *a.* complete; whole; round *kri mū sē kpəkpə* yam that is complete
- kpəkpə** *n.* exact position; location *yəmē sē kpəkpə tswē yə kì yə te* this is the position place which thing it happen
- kpəkpə** *n.* maize; corn *Zea mays*
- kpəkpə** *n.* epilepsy *kpəkpə là nan gu* epilepsy cont. do him
- kpəkpə** *a.* short *vəlɔn mū sē kpəkpə* man that is short *syn* **fəgbòn**, **kre...nyər**.
- kpə ngār** *n.* arthritis (caused by man) *syn* **gbàdò**.
- kpəntàn** pl. *kpəntàn* *n.* skin
- kpəntèn** pl. — *a.* thick *nzār mē sē kpəntèn* hoe this is thick *syn* **kpə3**, **tsər**.
- kpənyèn** pl. *kpənyèn* *v.* to agree; accept; trust *nggə kpənyèn bā gu* I (have) trust with him
- kpənyìn** *n.* grass sp.
- kpər** *n.* fool; idiot; nitwit; nincompoop; twit;

blockhead; imbecile *wā ku kpār?* you fall fool
→ are you a fool? *syn wānfā.*

kpārè-kpārè *id.* describes a thick liquid that has
been diluted *gu te prē kpārè-kpārè* he make



kpāteglā

gruel dilute → he made a diluted gruel

kpātān *n.* barbet *Lybius spp.*

kpātūr-kpātūr *adv.* very thick liquid *Njumā la kāmū mē kpātūr-kpātūr* Njumā make pap this very thick

kpāteglā *pl.* nywen *kpāteglā n.* bushbaby; galago
Galago senegalensis

kpātenyān *pl.* nywen *kpātenyān n.* small
weeding hoe (< H.)

kpāwu *v.* to burn *kā Bākūntān kpāwu* house B.
burn → Bakuntan's house is burnt down *syn wū 1.*

kpī *a.* pitch black *tswē te bū kpī* place make dark
black

kpīr *pl.* *kpir n.* duiker

kpla *pl.* — *n.* batchelor *vālōn mū sōn kpla* man
that stays batchelor

kplā 1 *pl.* — *n.* haste; hurry *nā gu man tē kplā* →
let him then make haste

kplā 2 *pl.* *kpla v.* to prepare, as a masquerade; set
up *bā kpla njwe zwē* they prepare
masquerades keep

kplā *v.* to beat the floor *mbāmbā là kplā tār tē*
women cont. beat the floor room our

kplabē *pl.* — *n.* courtyard

kplā mgbo *v.p.* z??

kplā nyū *v.p.* s.t. eaten that is not much in the
mouth; eating s.t. sweet *wā là kplā nyū kànàn mwān*
you cont. eat mouth too much

kplō *adv.* hastily (as swallowing) *gu kan lā mrē*
de kplō he swallowed food and it made the
sound...

kplō *adv.* entering at high speed *gu kulwe nyār kā*
kplō he ran enter house hastily

kplō glō *v.* to make incomprehensible noise; to
speak angrily *wā là kplō glō mwān* you make
noise too much

kpm *v.* to wear *gu kpm làgà cīnji* he (is) wearing
shirt black

kp̄m̄1 *pl.* *kpm n.* silk-cotton; kapok tree *Ceiba*
pentandra

kp̄m̄2 *pl.* *kpm v.* to fold back earth in the process
of making ridges *gu là ngār ryā dā bān kà gu*
là kpm zwe gu mān he cont. make ridges and
those of his house are covering following him

kp̄m̄1 *v.* to thresh with sticks *nggā là kpm kpu I*
cont. thresh sorghum

kp̄m̄2 *v.* to fold (cloth) *vu kī mē kp̄m̄ nggā yā*
carry clothes this fold me them

kp̄5 *pl.* *kp̄5 n.* bag

kp̄cūn *pl.* *kp̄cūn n.* clump; grove; cluster of
trees

kp̄ōgbru *pl.* *kp̄ōgbru n.* vulture *syn gbrū,*
kp̄ōmkpan.

Kp̄ōkē *p.n.* personal name

kp̄ōmgbukp̄ōn *pl.* *kp̄ōmgbukp̄ōn n.* large male
patas monkey *Erythrocebus patas syn bē, cār.*

kp̄ōmkpan *pl.* *kp̄ōmkpan n.* vulture (archaic) *syn*
gbrū, kp̄ōgbru.

kp̄ōn *s.v.* to be stylish; fashionable *gu là kp̄ōn*
kāywā he cont. stylish himself

kp̄rē *pl.* *kp̄rē n.* lower leg; calf

kp̄rū *pl.* *kpu n.* guinea-corn; sorghum

kp̄ukp̄ā *n.* grey plantain-eater *Crinifer piscator*

kp̄ukp̄ā *pl.* *kp̄ukp̄ā n.* tree sp.

kp̄ūmkp̄ār *pl.* — *n.* fruit-bat *Epomophorus*
gambianus

kp̄ūr *pl.* *kp̄ūr n.* giant rat *Cricetomys gambianus*

krē *v.* to stand; stay; stop; halt *krē jì nggā mān*
stay wait for me *kan krē* → stop

krē gōn *v.p.* to support *nggā là kre gu gōn I* cont.
stand him back

krē nēn *n.p.* swollen stomach *gu là lā lā krē*
nēn he is sick the sickness of swollen stomach

krē *pl.* *krē v.* to finish; end; complete; finalise *tā*
nan ndu kre we do work finish

krē *pl.* *mākkrē n.* uncle *wān mē sē krē nggā* he
(one-this) is my uncle *bān mē sē mākkrē nggā*
→ they (those-this) are my uncles

kri *s.v.* to be clean *nggā kri* → I am clean

krī *pl.* *kākrī n.* guinea-yam *Dioscorea rotundata*

krī *pl.* *kri v.* to shine (body); gleam; glow as a
result of rubbing lotion *nggā gba mānyèn dā*
kri I rub pomade and (am) shining *syn lan 2.*

kru *pl.* — *n.* barren woman

krū *v.* to gather up s.t. that is scattered *tā là kru*
sāsān ā lan we cont. gather cornstalks on the
farm

krushā *pl.* *krushā n.* night-adder *Causus*
rhombeatus

krē...nyār *s.v.* to be short *ngwān gu kre nyār* his
hands are short *syn fāgbōn, kp̄ōmkp̄ūn.*

ku *v.* to become dry; desiccate; aridify *mpā nggā*

- ku* sore my is dried
- kū1** pl. *ku* *v.* to fall *glō là kū* → rain is falling *syn jun.*
- kū2** pl. *ku* *v.* to follow; pursue *gyā lə kū dā mān ywē kā.* you will fall (follow way) and there go home → if you follow the road you'll reach home *syn mār, zwē.*
- kū3** pl. *ku* *v.* to include; incorporate *tā gā kīyārē kū bə nənən* we divided (the) food included them also (shared with them)
- kū4** pl. *ku* *v.* to be menstruating *mbā là kū* → the woman is having her period
- kūci** pl. — *v.* to be first *nggā kuci wə* I first you (I came before you)
- kūcī** pl. — *n.* beginning; start; inception; commencement *yāmē sē kūcī ndu yā tā nan* this is the beginning work which we did
- kūcici** pl. — *v.* to lead; to go ahead *gu kucici nyā* he lead come (came first) *gu kucici an tā sə zwē mān* → he took the lead and we followed
- kūcūn** pl. *kucun* *n.* ocarina [made from a dried fruit-shell of *Oncoba spinosa* and played only by masquerades or men only during the Rinnzē festival.]
- kūjì** pl. — *v.* to get down *kūjì dè tər mǎnggārō* get down from that mango tree
- kukā** pl. *mèkukā* *n.* baobab *Adansonia digitata* (< H.)
- kuku1** pl. — *n.* bone
- kuku2** *adv.* guiltily *wə là kǎn kuku me mūn?* You cont. walk guiltily this why?
- kukù** pl. — *a.* dry; desiccated; arid *tərki mē sē kukù* tree this is dry
- kūkū** pl. — *a.* old (things) *lāgā nggā sē kūkū* shirt my is old
- kūku** *v.* to forget *bə te nggā ndu dā nggā kpə yə re kuku* they make me message and I receive it eat forget
- kūkù** pl. — *n.* reed grass; arrow shaft
- kukukì** pl. *kukukī* *n.* stick *syn kpàkì.*
- kūkùkpur** pl. *kukukpur* *n.* transverse clarinet [made from guinea-corn stem. Played by young men at harvest-time.]
- kūkukuku** *id.* chirping of *cici* insect *cici là gì de kūkukuku* *cici* cont. cry (chirp) that...
- kū-kukurukū** *id.* crowing of a cock *gbā là to de kū-kukurukū* cock is crowing that...
- kuku-kūrūkùkù** *id.* chirping of bush pigeon *ywudà là gì kuku-kūrūkùkù.* bush pigeon is chirping...
- kukushār** pl. *nywēn kukushār* *n.* jumping frog sp.
- kūkwār** *adv.* completely; totally *tā swē kpəmkpàn kūkwār* → we shuck maize completely
- kūkwǎ** *a.* small; young (*kukwə* can also agree directly with a noun; thus *mbú kúkwó* small mat. In this case it takes its tone from the noun) *yāmē sē kūkwǎ* → this is small
- kùlwè** *v.* to imitate; mimic *gu là kpā kùlwè tàywə* → he is imitating his father
- kumfə** *s.v.* to feel hungry; ravenous *nggā kumfə* → I am feeling hungry
- kùngga** *n.* tree sp. *Burkea africana*
- kunkur** *n.* firewood
- kùr** *v.* to lay down; lay *gu kùr ə tār* → he lies in the room
- kurkpə** *v.* to catch when s.t. is thrown *gu nan kurkpə* → he will catch (it)
- kūsar** *v.* to cross path *tā kūsar vəkəbū nkən* we cross pathway *syn zà.*
- kùtsə** pl. — *n.* hepatitis; jaundice; 'yellow fever' *kùtsə là nan gu hepatitis* cont. do him
- kūwà** *n.* game played by girls *mānggā là kuwà* girls cont. make game
- kwakwà** pl. — *n.* coconut
- kwār1** *a.* all *tā kūkwār nan ndu yə* we all do work it *syn gba.*
- kwār2** pl. *mèkwār* *n.* voice
- kwār3** *n.* wizardry; sorcery; magic
- kwàr1** pl. *kwar* *n.* hook
- kwàr2** *v.* to pet *gu là kwàr vēn* → she is petting the child
- kwār rēn** pl. *mènyū rēn* *n.* language
- kwə1** pl. *mèkwə* *n.* place of former domicile
- kwə2** *v.* to turn around *kwə nyə ə səkànmē* → turn and come here
- kwə** *v.* to grind; crush; pulverise *Yā là kwə* → Mother is grinding
- kwǎ** pl. *kwə* *n.* bushfowl; partridge
- kya** *conj.* only; rather than *nggā kpānyen bā yāmē kya* → I agree with this rather (than that) *nā wānmē kya nyā* let this-one rather-than-that-one come *syn kyame.*
- kyame** *a.* only *sē yāmē kyame yə wā lə nan* it is this one only that you will do *syn kya, me.*
- kyǎn** *v.* to push *nggā kyan gu zwē lāgār* I pushed him kept aside
- kyənkèn** *n.* plant sp.
- kyār** pl. *kyər* *v.* to pound *Mbāren là kyər bentsu* Mbāren cont. pounding acca *syn kpàn1.*
- kyēn** pl. *kyen* *v.* 1) to look at; regard; *sē nānggye yə gyā là kyen?* what are you looking at? 2) to appear; to look like
- kyen nggə ma!** *excl.* calling attention expressing disapproval *kyen nggā man, nggā la kpānyen bā kī yə wā là nan mē yo* look at me, I do not accept what you are doing
- kyūn?** *int.* question expressing surprise *sē*

sāsānmenàn gyā nan yā kyīn? was that how you did (the thing?)
kyō pl. kyo v. to gather; collect *gyā kyō kī sòn zwè ə tswē gyār* gather the seats in one place
Kyōnē p.n. personal name
kyōntàn pl. mākkyōntàn n. karaya gum tree *Sterculia setigera*
kyōte v. to gather in a group (people) *mānē kyote mgbò tswē kyen Gbrīn yā Yēsò* people gather in group to watch the ‘Jesus Film’
kyu pl. tsu v. to die *kyū dā te ə kē nāmān nzen* death if occur at house someone now → if a death has occurred at someone's house.. sg. **tsu**.
kyù1 pl. kyū n. death *dā gwō kyū yə* when (they) hear (of) death the
kyù2 pl. kyu n. land monitor lizard *Varanus niloticus*



kyù2

kyūn pl. kyun v. to gather; prepare *kyūn kī mē nàn zwè* gather these things keep properly
kyūn anrèn ə mbrē tā lə ywē Jos → prepare because tomorrow we will be going to Jos
Kyūnē p.n. personal name
kyūngwōn n. fish sp. *Auchenoglanis occidentalis*
kyūnkyū n. sweet potato (< H.)
kyūnkyūntè n. rizga [Cultivated for its tuber.] *Plectranthus esculentus*
kyūn rē v. to gather and sell
kyūntu n. cooperation
kyūte v.n. dying; death *kyūte bā tā* dying has occurred with us

L I

la1 v. to give or take credit; loan; borrow *nggā kpə mgbāmvū tar bā wā la* I received Naira three with you credit
la2 v. to separate bad seeds from good; to sort *gu là la bekī* he is sorting seeds
la3 v. to harm; be harmed; damage *gu la nggà* he has harmed me
lā pl. mālā n. food
lā1 v.aux. continuous marker *bān nāmān là ryun lā dā la prē* those others cont. cook food and cont. prepare
lā2 v. to help; aid; assist *tekə, yə gu sē bā yā, lə sē yə la mān fātsè ...* thinking, which he is with it, will be of helping then small ...
lā3 s.v. to be mad; crazy; insane; lunatic *fāvèn mū là lā* boy that is mad
lā2 n. madness; craziness; insanity; lunacy *lā là te nggā* madness is having me
lā3 s.v. to be bright, illuminated *tswē là la* → (the) place is bright

Ladi p.n. Sunday *rīmē sē rì* Ladi today is day (of) Sunday → today is Sunday (< H.)
lā...gba yo neg. definitely not *nggā lə la nan ndu mē gba yo* I will my neg. do work this even not → I definitely won't do my work
lāhyē n. snake sp.
Lākpu p.n. personal name
Lākṛē p.n. personal name
lāmgbà pl. lāmgbà n. male agama lizard
lāmū n. orange (< H.)
lamukā n. typhoid (? < H.)
lan1 pl. mālān n. farmland
lan2 v. to shine *hwə là lan nggān me* moon cont. shine plenty only *syn krī*.
lān n. red-lined snake *Bothophthalmus lineatus*
lāndār pl. landar n. cow
lan kyen adv.p. looking unsettled; confused; muddled; mixed up, chaotic, disorganised, jumbled *kyen gu tswē lan kyen mägvar* see the way he is looking (confused, unsettled etc)

lan ngglan *adv.* shiny; gleaming *zā mū là lan ngglan* iron that is bright and shiny

laru *s.v.* to be transparent; translucent *làgā nggā là laru* shirt my is bright and transparent

Làtswē *p.n.* personal name

la...[yo] *neg.* part of the negative marker *nggā là la ywē yo* I will neg. go not

la...yo *neg.* not *nggā là nan nkinē yo* I NEG do something NEG → I didn't do anything

laywī *n.* place where harvested acca is threshed

Lāywi *p.n.* personal name

lā1 *pl.* *lā v.aux.* will; shall *nggā là ywē do mbre* I will go to market tomorrow

lā2 *pl.* *lā n.* locust bean tree *lā mē sē yà te nggā* locust bean tree this is father my

lā3 *v.* to spread out (for drying) *kan bemkpàn lā nā yā man ku* take maize spread let it – dry

lā4 *pl.* *lā v.* to ache; be ill; to be sick; to be in pain *gbaryūn là lā nggā* knee cont. pain I → my knee hurts me

lābasā *pl.* — *n.* onion (< H. *albasa*)

lādē *pl.* *lādē n.* pig *syn* **lāsō**. (< H.)

lādē hwan *pl.* *lādē hwan n.* bushpig *Potamochoerus larvatus*

làgā *pl.* *làgā n.* shirt (< H. *riga*)

làgàr *adv.* aside; to one side *vu kī mē zwē làgàr* → pack these things and keep them aside

làgū *pl.* *làgū n.* cassava; manioc *ywē jūn làgū cà nggā* go remove cassava bring me (< H. *roogoo*)

lākə *pl.* *ləkə n.* age-mate *tā sē bān ləkə gyār bā Susan* we are age-mates one with Susan *syn* **kələ**.

lāla *v.* to reciprocate; pay back; repay; revenge *nggā nan ywan lāla kī yà gu nan nggā* I did pay back what he did to me → I took revenge for what he did to me

lālā *n.* upper palate; roof of mouth

lālā *pl.* — *n.* iron clapper-bell [played during the panpipe dance.]

lālān *pl.* *lālān n.* scorpion

lālān kəkə *pl.* *lālān kəkə n.* centipede which curls up when touched. Does not sting

lələ *pl.* — *n.* sickness; disease; illness; malady *lələ là nan Tsēncun* sickness CONT do Tsēncun → Tsēncun is sick

lələ *pl.* *lələ a.* cracked; broken; snapped *tār mē ngar làlā* room this is broken

lələ *pl.* — *n.* cocoyam; taro *cu làlā sùr nggā yā* fetch cocoyam boil

lələn *pl.* *mələlən n.* man

lələwè *pl.* — *n.* thatching grass [but probably

applies to other thatching grasses] *Hyperthelia dissoluta* *dà shun bwə làlwè gyār gyār ...* and bring out thatch one by one ...

ləmgbò *pl.* *ləmgbò n.* dung-beetle *Heliocopris spp.*

ləndūr *pl.* *ləndur n.* bird sp.

Ləndūr *pl.* *Ləndur n.* masquerade [appears only once every five years. Drives away the Rinnzē.]

ləngā *pl.* *lənga n.* crowned crane; crownbird *Balearica pavonina syn* **hūhwār**.

lənggə *pl.* *mələnggə n.* enemy; antagonist; opponent *gu sē lənggə nggā* he is enemy my *tā sē mələnggə bā Nkònrýān* → we are enemies with Nkònrýān

lənggə *id.* describes groaning in pain *gu là gə lənggə* → he is groaning in pain

lənku *pl.* *bān lənku n.* senior person *gu sē lənku nggā* he is senior my



ləmgbò

lāsō *pl.* *ləsō n.* pig [Sh.] *syn* **lādē**.

lāsūr *v.* to refuse to help s.o. with your possessions *Mbāncān lāsūr kī kənānme* → Mbāncān always refuses to help

lāywǎ *pl.* *lāywa n.* stink-ant

lō *v.* to plait; weave; braid; twine *bə là lo mbā nggā tu* → they are plaiting my wife's head

lo ngàn *pl.* *lo ngan v.p.* to stick to; adhere *làgā lo ngàn gu kpə* shirt stuck to his body

lō^lō *pl.* — *n.* warm water

lən *pl.* *mələlən n.* husband *gu sē lən nggā* he is husband my

lùmù *pl.* *lumū n.* mud-wasp *Belenogaster spp. syn* **màmgbýèn**.

lùmùvù *pl.* *lumvu n.* beetle that flies at night

lunkpūr *pl.* *lunkpur n.* hartebeest *Alcelaphus busephalus*

lwe *n.* load *gu là lwē lwe* he cont. carry load

lwē *pl.* — *n.* garden egg; aubergine; eggplant [Cultivated for its edible fruits] *Solanum sp.*

lwè *pl.* *lwe v.* to carry *nggā lwe nzār ə ngwòn* I carry hoe at hand

lwe nēn *v.p.* to be pregnant *mbā nggā lwe nēn* wife my carry belly → wife my is pregnant

*màgbyě̀n*

M m

ma₁ pl. — v. to meet; encounter *tā ma bā kəywā*
→ we met with each other *syn ma...nkɔ̀n.*
ma₂ pl. — v. **1)** to reach; arrive *tā dɔ ma mān*
nān we farm reach now → now we have
reached the farm **2)** to be okay
mā₁ pl. — n. sorcerer; magician
mā₂ v. to wrestle *Kpātù bā Ntānmā là ma Kpātù*
with Ntānmā cont. wrestle
mà pl. — v. to measure; gauge *Njumā là mà bekī*
Njuma cont. measure seeds
màdār n. wasp
Màdo p.n. personal name
màgbyě̀n pl. — n. blood-plum [fruits edible]
Haematostaphis barteri

Magwa p.n. personal name
màjǎn n. fire-crowned bishop bird *Euplectes*
hordeacea

*màjǎn*

mākī n. person who is believed to use magical
powers to steal other people's crops *vālɔn mē*
sē wān mākī man this is one-who takes away
people's crops
Mākpu p.n. personal name
Mālā p.n. personal name
Mamān p.n. personal name
māmḡ n. crocodile tears *wā là te māmḡ fà me*
you cont. make tears for nothing only → you
make crocodile tears
māmgbān adv. insisting on one doing s.t. *gu te*
nggā māmgbān → he made me insist
māmgbyè̀n pl. *māmgbyè̀n* n. mason wasp *syn*
lùmù.
Māmgbyè̀n p.n. personal name
màmpùr a. fresh; immature groundnut etc.
bencwē mē sē màmpùr me groundnuts these

are just immature only
māmḡ pl. *mamve* n. immature yam
man conj. then; so as to *kān tā nan man dètswē a*
sākān mē let us do then leave this place
mān loc. there *gu sà sē mān a tswēywā* → he was
there also
màn pl. *man* v. to nurse, suck *vēn là màn* child
cont. suck
màndē adv. until *sòn màndē gu dà màrtu ngā* →
sit until he returns *syn se.*
māndē pl. — n. edible immature palm-fruit
ma...nkɔ̀n v.p. to meet on the road; to encounter
ywe kə mā bā gu a nkɔ̀n go meet with him on
way → welcome him *syn ma₁.
Mankòn p.n. personal name
màn mgbo v.p. to lick the mouth after eating s.t.
sweet gu là màn mgbo he cont. lick his mouth
Mǎshi p.n. personal name
matò n. vehicle; car (< H.)
mbàn pl. *mban* n. black kite *Milvus migrans*
mbǎnrìn₁ excl. questioning expression with
hands palm up; bafflement; perplexity *Danrèn*
kan nānsen mbǎnrìn? Danrèn take do where?
→ where has Danrèn been all this while?
mbǎnrìn₂ v. to dive into water *nggā ku mbǎnrìn*
→ I dived deep into the water
mbàr₁ n. false shea; meni oil tree *Lophira*
*lanceolata**

*mbàr₁*

mbàr₂ n. leaves for ceremonial head dress made
from mbàr [Used in a peace-making ceremony
in families where accusations of witchcraft
may be made and to make a charm to put on
farms to stop the land from yielding. Also
placed on mango trees to prevent people from
stealing the fruit.]
mbe fà v. to be later *mbe fà anrìn gu sà nyà* time

<p>later before he came → It was later that he came</p> <p>mbā pl. mbàmbā <i>n.</i> woman; wife; female</p> <p>Mbābār <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbābū <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbācā <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbācūn <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbādān <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbādo <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāgāga <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāgi <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāglā <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāglā <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāglō <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāgribā <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāgyaga <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāgyànkōn <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāgyār <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāgyār <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāgyōn <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāgyūn <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāhwan <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbājā <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbājīmā <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbākābu <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbākā <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbākājī <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbākājī <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbākōn <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbākpu <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbākru <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbākū <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>mbākwò pl. mbàmbā kwò <i>n.</i> daughter-in-law <i>syn</i> mbāzē.</p> <p>Mbākyū <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbākyūbe <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbālā <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>mbəlanzān <i>n.</i> small lizard which makes holes in farm ridges</p> <p>Mbələlə <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>mbəlò pl. mbəlò <i>n.</i> elephant-snout fish spp. <i>Mormyrus spp.</i></p> <p>Mbāmbār <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>mbəmbləkī pl. mbəmbləkī <i>n.</i> gutter</p> <p>mbəmbò <i>n.</i> termites that surround the queen</p> <p>mbəmbərəcā <i>n.</i> early morning</p> <p>mbəmbərəmbərə <i>adv.</i> throughout the morning</p> <p>Mbəmbērī <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbəməshi <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbəmkpàn <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbəmkpūn <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbəncān <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbəngān <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p>	<p>mbā ngān kwò pl. mbàmbā ngān kwò <i>n.</i> widow</p> <p>Mbānggōn <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbānkōn <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbānyān <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>mbār₁ pl. mbàmbār <i>n.</i> remains; dregs; grouts</p> <p>mbār₂ <i>v.</i> to turn around suddenly <i>nggā kan gyōgōn mbār</i> → I then turned around at once</p> <p>mbār pl. mbār <i>n.</i> lovegrass <i>Eragrostis tremula</i></p> <p>Mbārā <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbārāgōn <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbārāntān <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbārē <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbārēdo <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbārēn <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbārī <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbārēmā <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>mbār mpā pl. mbəmbār mpā <i>n.</i> scar</p> <p>Mbāryān <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāsanga <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāsələ <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāsər <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>mbā suswē pl. mbàmbā suswē <i>n.</i> blue insect sp. which appears in Oct/Nov. after the rains</p> <p>Mbāswē <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbātō <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāwānggwe <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāwu <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāwushi <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāywan <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>mbāzē pl. mbəmbāzē <i>n.</i> daughter-in-law <i>syn</i> mbākwò.</p> <p>Mbāzē <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāzā <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāzār <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāzaze <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbāzō <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>mbē₁ <i>adv.</i> already <i>Nggā gbla wā kpəmkpàn mbē₁</i> I weed (for) you maize already → I've already weeded the maize for you</p> <p>mbē₂ pl. mbəmbē <i>n.</i> sprout; shoot <i>Yāmē sē mbē₂ kpu.</i> This is a guinea-corn sprout</p> <p>Mbēkī <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>Mbēkpu <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>mbēnō <i>adv.</i> in the indeterminate future; sometime; someday <i>Mbēnō nggā lā ywē ə America</i> → Someday I will go to America</p> <p>mbētan <i>int.</i> when? <i>Mbētan wā lā nyā?</i> → When will you come? <i>wā lā ngā mbētan</i> → when will you return?</p> <p>mblē pl. mbəmblē <i>n.</i> stream; brook; rivulet <i>syn</i> cūn₂.</p> <p>mblōn pl. mblōn <i>n.</i> skink sp. <i>Mabuya spp.</i></p> <p>mbō <i>n.</i> s.t. rotten <i>yā bā tē mbō ywā</i> it rot make rotten of-it → it is rotten</p>
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- mbō kājī** *n.p.* too much money
Mbōkī *p.n.* personal name
Mbōnē *p.n.* personal name
mbrē pl. *vē n.* day
mbrē *n.* morning
mbrēcā *n.* morning
mbrī1 pl. — *n.* charcoal
mbrī2 *n.* fibrous
mbrī3 pl. *mbri n.* shield
mbrī pl. *mbrī n.* fruit tree sp. [large tree with small golden fruit]
mbrē *n.* tomorrow
mbu pl. *mbū n.* mat
mbū pl. *mbūmbū n.* gum (of mouth)
mbū *n.* gap teeth *syn mbū nyār.*
mbū pl. *mbu n.* narrow-necked pot [women hoist it on their shoulders to carry water]
mbūmbō *n.* small termites that destroy wood
mbumburēn pl. *mbumbu mārēn n.* small (particles of talk)
Mbumburēn *p.n.* personal name
mbū nyār pl. *mbū nyār n.* tooth gap *syn mbū.*
Mbwā *p.n.* personal name
Mbwancā *p.n.* personal name
Mbwanzō *p.n.* personal name
mbwār *n.* ritual food
mbwār pl. *mbūmbwār a.* watery (food) *lā ku mbwār* food fall watery
mbwà zà pl. *mbūmbwà zà n.* foot
mbwě wūyà *n.* raft-zither *syn gāntē2.*
me *adv.* only; just like that *wā cu fātsē me?* you fetch small only? *syn kyame.*
mē1 *adv.* now; at once; immediately *lwě njī cā nggā mān me yā* → bring me the knife now *syn gē, mēmē, nzēnmē.*
mē2 *dem.* this, these *mbā mē* woman this
mēmē *adv.* at once, now, immediately *gu de nā wā nyā mēmē* he said should you come now-now *syn mē1.*
menrīn *adv.* still *nggā kasāsē nan yā menrīn* → I am doing it still
mā1 pl. — *n.* buttocks, arse
mā2 pl. — *n.* secret *kpān wān tsā mā gu* friend who knows secret his
mā1 *n.* beer
mā2 *s.v.* to be wonderful; amazing; marvellous; fantastic *yāmē sē kī yā mā* this one be thing it be. wonderful → this is wonderful
Mābān *p.n.* personal name
mābā *pron.* theirs
mācī1 pl. *mācīci n.* father-in-law [for a woman]
mācī2 pl. *mācīci n.* ancestors
Mācūn *p.n.* personal name
Māda pl. *Māda p.n.* Mada people
- māgān** *n.* sap *tarkī mē te māgān* tree this make sap
māgē, mākē *adv.* maybe; possibly; perhaps *gu lā nan yā māgē* he will do it maybe *syn kāndā, munyān.*
māgī pl. — *n.* blood
māgimbāŪ pl. *māgimbāŪ n.* plant sp. about 1 m. high, with very smooth leaves
Māginē *p.n.* personal name
māgu pl. *māgu p.a.* his *kī mē sē māgu* thing this is his → this belongs to him *kā yā māgu* house of his
māgyā *p.a.* yours (pl.) *kī mē sē yā māgyā* thing this is of yours → this is yours
māgyār *adv.* z??
mākābwā *n.* sieved leftover liquid of palm-oil
Māki *p.n.* personal name
mākāpā *n.* top part of a settled liquid
mākri *n.* sweat; perspiration *nggā lā ku mākri* I cont. fall sweat → I am sweating
Mākwānē *p.n.* personal name
Mākyū *p.n.* personal name
mālekā pl. *mālekū n.* angel (< H.)
māmān pl. — *n.* salt
māmān kancān pl. — *n.* sugar
māme pl. — *a.* bad; evil; wicked *kī mē sē māme* thing this is bad *syn gbājā.*
māmē pl. — *n.* earth; ground; soil; land
Māmērebe *p.n.* personal name
māmè pl. *māmè n.* liquid
māmāmlā *v.* to grope; feel your way *nggā lā māmāmlā ban kātān nē* → I will feel my way along the side of the river *syn mlā.*
māmē pl. - *n.* dew
Māmē *p.n.* personal name
māmgbān *v.* persistence *wā te māmgbān rēn mwān* you make persistence talk too-much
māmi shō pl. *nywēnywēn shō n.* bee larva
mānān pl. — *n.* bean cake
māncā pl. — *n.* yam root
Māncakī *p.n.* personal name
Māncākpu *p.n.* personal name
māncā-māncā *id.* sound of s.o. chewing *kādā tàn kī māncā-māncā yō* do not chew food making sound
māncērē *v.* to tickle *wā lā te nggā māncērē* you cont. tickling me
māndērē *a.* tender; soft *vāgbāntān mē sē māndērē* me this calf is so tender *syn rōrō.*
Mānggānē *p.n.* personal name
mānggā *p.a.* mine *kī mē sē yā mānggā* thing this is mine
mānggārō pl. — *n.* mango
mānggla pl. *mānggla n.* iron clapper [An iron

ring that goes around the wrist is struck with another iron clapper. Played for the festive dance nzōn]



mānggla

Mānggōn *p.n.* personal name
māntè pl. — *n.* beard
mānyèn pl. mānyèn kī *n.* oil
mānzègbù *n.* red-flowering silk-cotton tree
Bombax buonopozense
mānzè pl. mānzè *n.* jumblebeads; cats' eyes [The red seeds are used to decorate masquerades]
Abrus precatorius
mār *v.* to become broken *gu vu kàntsà yə mār* he carry broom it broke
mār *v.* to chase; pursue *bə mār gbǎ vūn* they chase cock and catch it *syn glā, kū2*.
mār *v.* 1) to plait (as a rope); to weave; *Tiyà là mār mgbārīn* → grandfather is weaving rope
 2) to look at
mār pl. mār *v.* to be sweet *prē mē mār* guinea-corn drink this be-sweet → guinea-corn drink is sweet
mārīn *v.* to go deep inside water *nggə ku mārīn* → I fell deep inside water
mār kyen *v.p.* to look at s.t. incessantly; to stare *wə là mār kī kyen mwōn* you cont. look at things see pass
Mārkyen *p.n.* personal name
mār̄tu pl. mār̄tu *v.* to return; come back *gu kan mār̄tu ngā* → he then returned back *syn ngā4*.
mār̄zə *s.v.* to be tired and hungry after a journey *tā nga tswē glā kwə dā mār̄zə* → we have returned from a hunting expedition and are tired
māsà pl. māsà *n.* cat (< H.)
māsārā pl. māsārā *p.n.* white person; European (< H.)
māsər pl. — *n.* water
Māsər-nglazə *p.n.* personal name
māshi pl. — *n.* tears
Māshi *p.n.* personal name
Māshikarə *p.n.* personal name
mātə *p.a.* ours *kì mē sē yə mātə* thing this is of ours

mətò pl. — *n.* potash; natron *te mətò gyō lā ə glo* fetch potash put food at fire
mətù pl. — *n.* pity; compassion; mercy *gu te mətù nggā* he have pity on me
Məwu *p.n.* personal name
məywè pl. — *n.* grease; fat
məywè pl. māywè *n.* Sodom apple; swallow-wort [Medium-sized shrub. The stems are used to make rafters] *Calotropis procera syn gyartsò*.
mē pl. mē *v.* to build; construct *Gyōgōn là mē vərə* Gyōgōn cont. build small granary
mfè *n.* one-eyed person
mfə pl. — *n.* hunger; famine; starvation *mfə là te nggā* hunger cont. do me *syn gyōn2*.
mfə pl. — *n.* foam; froth; bubbles; suds
mfər pl. mfər *n.* vagina
mfū *n.* hair *syn mfūtù*.
mfubrì *n.* grass sp. *Digitaria gayana*
mfuci pl. mfuci *n.* Senegal coucal *Centropus senegalensis*
mfūgban pl. — *n.* pubic hair
Mfūnan *p.n.* personal name
mfūru kp̄m pl. — *n.* kapok cotton
mfūrūrū pl. — *n.* cotton wool
mfūtù pl. — *n.* hair *syn mfū*.
mgbà1 pl. mgbā *n.* fig tree sp. *Ficus platyphylla*



mgbà1

mgbà2 pl. mgbā *n.* sling
mgbādār *n.* edible leaf
mgbākī pl. — *n.* green leaves for making soup
mgbākī ngə pl. — *n.p.* food made from sesame and leaves
mgbākī nggwār pl. — *n.p.* sesame leaves
mgbāmgbān *adv.* firmly *vūn gu nān lwè* *mgbāmgbān* catch him carry firmly
mgbāmvū pl. mgbāmvū kī *n.* leaf; paper money; letter; book; banknote
mgbāmvū blā pl. — *n.* book for reading
mgbāmvū car pl. — *n.* paper; book
mgbāmvū gywi *n.* sharp leaf for wrapping food
mgbāmvū Rì pl. — *n.* Bible
mgban pl. māmgbān *n.* armpit
mgbān pl. mgbāmgbān *n.* wing
mgbān *adv.* very (cold) *māsər sù mgbān* water

be.cool very → the water is very cold
mgbāngān *n.* grass sp. used to make local curry
mgbāntā pl. *mgbantā n.* stone; rock *syn* **ywan**.
mgbāntur *n.* bitterleaf *Vernonia amygdalensis*
mgbārāhū *n.* waterleaf *Amaranthus caudatus*
mgbāsàn *n.* side of a hill
mgbāshē pl. — *n.* roselle; sorrel *Hibiscus sabdariffa*.
mgbě *a.i.* wide (open) *wā bu nkàn gyō hū mgbě*
 you open door put open wide → open the door wide
mgbě hyô *v.p.* to on/off (light) *tār là te glo mgbě*
hyô evil light make fire on/off
mgbā pl. — *n.* panpipe with four/five pipes.
 Used for festive occasions and played in large sets of up to twenty instruments



mgbā

mgbà pl. *mgbəmgbə n.* aroma; scent; smell;
 odour *gu gba məǹyèn dā cu mgbà*. → He rubbed on some cream and it smelt nice
mgbədē *n.* thanks *nggā te mgbədē bā gyà* → I am thankful to all of you
mgbəga pl. — *n.* grass (generic)
Mgbəga *p.n.* personal name
mgbəglò pl. *mgbəglo n.* toad
mgbəgòn *n.* local shoulder bag made of fan-palm leaves
mgbəhwà *a.* wide and big; an abusive word describing mouth *k̀yən sē yā nyū gu sē mgbəhwà* → see how his mouth is wide
mgbəjè pl. *mgbəjè n.* cane stick
mgbəjī pl. *mgbəji n.* bush; wilderness; uninhabited place *syn* **hwān**.
mgbəlà pl. — *n.* tree sp. [Used to symbolise a compound that is deserted.] *Gardenia aqualla ban mgbəlà gyō nkàn* → take a Gardenia and put it over the entrance
mgbəlà pl. *mgbəlà n.* wooden headboard
mgbəlan *n.* tree sp.
mgbəlantū *n.* termite with large head
mgbəlo pl. *mgbəlo n.* tree sp.
mgbələkì pl. *mgbələkī n.* log
mgbəmgbàn1 pl. *mgbəmgbànkī n.* sour thing
mgbəmgbàn2 *n.* sickness caused by man

mgbəmgbār *n.* grass sp. *Loudetia arundinacea*
mgbəmgbər *n.* fig tree sp. *Ficus polita*
mgbəmgbər pl. *mgbəmgbər n.* navel
mgbəmgblan *n.* tree sp.
mgbəmgblān pl. — *n.* pepper
mgbəmgbrè pl. — *n.* world
mgbəmgbrən pl. — *n.* s.t. small and round e.g. lumps; small gravel; small balls of pap.
mgbəncī pl. *mgbəncī n.* chair (modern type)
mgbənjān pl. *mgbənjān n.* silk or beard of maize; corn silk
Mgbənjān *p.n.* personal name
mgbənwōn pl. *mgbənwōn n.* fly sp. that buzzes around the ears and is attracted to sweat
Mgbənyūglo *p.n.* personal name
mgbərə *n.* intestine
mgbərə kəkla *a.p.* innocent *nggā sē mgbərə kəkla* I be intestine white → I am not guilty of the offence
mgbərīn pl. *mgbərīn n.* rope, cord
mgbərīn pl. *mgbərīn n.* urine; piss
Mgbərīngan *p.n.* personal name
mgbərīnkī pl. *mgbərīnkī n.* root
Mgbərīnkī *p.n.* personal name
mgbərīnrin *id.* roots completely removed *gbō tərki mē mgbərīnrin* remove tree this with its roots
mgbərōn pl. *mgbərōn n.* stool
mgbərshi pl. *mgbəmgbərshi n.* Bambara groundnut *Vigna subterranea*
mgbəryān pl. — *n.* fish (generic)
mgbəryò pl. *mgbəryò n.* throat
mgbəshi *n.* egusi melon *Citrullus lanatus*
mgbəshò pl. *mgbəshò n.* speargrass *Imperata cylindrica yàmē sē mgbəshò* this is spear grass
mgbətsā pl. *mgbətsā n.* spoon (metal or wood)
mgbī pl. *mgbī n.* needle; injection
mgbīmgbī *v.* to greet someone properly *nan nggā tàywē zè mgbīmgbī* → greet your father properly for me
mgbīamgbī *id.* looking tough *gu là k̀yən mgbīamgbī* me he cont. looking tough only
mgbīlàn *n.* crag chestnut-winged starling *Onychognathus morio*
mgbīlari *n.* noon; mid-day; hot sun
mgbīlè pl. *mgbəmgblè n.* upward slope; embankment
mgbō pl. *məmgbō n.* inner cheek
mgbò pl. *mgbō n.* bush yam
mgbōmgboyo *adv.* never at all; never *nggā la nan kī mē mgbōmgboyo* I neg. did thing this never not → I never do this
mgbōn *n.* African golden oriole *Oriolus auratus*
mgbōrən pl. *mgbōmgbōrən n.* word

mgb̄ pl. *mgb̄mgb̄* *n.* rice and beans cooked together
mgb̄1 pl. *mgb̄mgb̄* *n.* marsh; bog; swamp; fadama
mgb̄2 pl. — *n.* 1) ball 2) group
mgb̄3 *v.* to gather at a place; assemble *bə kyote*
mgb̄ ə tswē gyār they gather group at place one
Mgb̄kəji *p.n.* personal name
mgb̄ñ pl. *mgb̄n* *n.* stomach; belly *syn* **nēn**.
Mgb̄nē *p.n.* personal name
Mgb̄nje *n.* clan name
mgb̄npər *n.* tooth-billed barbet *Libius bidentatus*
mgbr̄mgbr̄ pl. — *n.* strength
mgbr̄n *num.* one (adjectival form as opposed to count form) *nggā sē bā mbr̄n k̄i gyār me* I have only one thing
mgbr̄n *adv.* tight; tightly *nggā vun gu lwe*
mgbr̄n I caught him carry hold tightly → I caught him firmly
mgb̄ pl. *mgbu* *n.* palm-wine gourd
mgb̄ *n.* to suffer
mgb̄nmgb̄nmgb̄n *id.* sound of liquid being poured from a vessel *kan m̄re j̄n s̄*
mgb̄nmgb̄nmgb̄n. take palmwine remove put
mgbȳr pl. *mgb̄mgbȳr* *n.* bush patch [When an old man dies, a piece of bush is reserved for the end of the dry season. It is then burnt and the hunters of the community go out, catch as many animals as possible and give them to the household of the dead man.]
m̄n *loc.* inside; in; within *syn* **nyw̄**.
miȳū-miȳū *id.* cry of a cat *m̄sà là ḡi de*
miȳū-miȳū cat cont. cry that
mkp̄n pl. — *n.* time
mkp̄n *n.* buttocks of monkeys
mkp̄nē pl. *mkp̄nē* *n.* elderly person *nggā sē*
mkp̄nē I am an elderly person
mkp̄n fa *n.* harvesting season
mkp̄n mvri *n.* harmattan
mkp̄n n̄mān *adv.p.* sometime (near future)
mkp̄n n̄mān ə nggā bishi nggā lə nyē
 sometime in front I will come
mkp̄n s̄n *n.* planting season
Mkpar̄ *p.n.* sky; God
mkp̄ryè *n.* pond-skater
mkp̄lā pl. *mkp̄la* *n.* black kite *Milvus migrans*
mkp̄lāshū pl. — *n.* sky; heavens
mkp̄nā *n.* tree sp.



mkp̄n kyègbò

mkp̄n kyègbò *n.* ben oil tree; horseradish tree
Moringa oleifera *syn* **jəgule**.
mkp̄ryè *s.v.* to become weak; paralysed due to a sudden fright *nggā kan k̄u mkp̄ryè* I then became weak → I then became paralysed
Mkp̄ryèk̄i *p.n.* personal name
mkp̄rywē pl. *mkp̄rywē* *n.* frog sp. small, sits on leaves, not edible
mkp̄i *n.* bundle (mostly of guinea-corn) (mostly of guinea-corn)
mkp̄ir pl. *m̄kp̄ir* *n.* gizzard
mkp̄ir pl. *mkp̄m̄kp̄ir* *n.* hip
mkp̄ir *n.* grass sp.
mkp̄it̄n, mkp̄ont̄n *n.* deaf person
mkp̄lūn pl. *mkp̄lun* *n.* small spherical object e.g. palm-nut, eyeball, ball
mkp̄m *n.* bundle; bunch *syn* **hwà**.
mkp̄n *n.* body
mkp̄ñ *n.* fatness *v̄l̄n m̄u te mkp̄ñ* man that has fatness
mkp̄rishi pl. *mkp̄rishi* *n.* shaggy rat *Dasymys incomptus*
mkp̄l̄t̄u pl. *mkp̄l̄tu* *n.* skull
mkp̄m̄ *pron.* oneself (arch.) *nggā ryun lā*
mkp̄m̄ I cooked food myself
mkp̄un *adv.* finally; at an end; at last *t̄ā nan du yə*
kr̄e mkp̄un we did work it finish end
mkp̄ūn pl. *m̄mkp̄ūn* *n.* bridge
Mkp̄ūnmb̄ *p.n.* personal name
mkp̄ȳn *n.* knock on the head *nggā cu gu mkp̄ȳn*
 I fetch him knock → I gave him a knock
ml̄1 pl. *m̄ml̄a* *n.* relation; kin
ml̄2 pl. *ml̄* *v.* to laugh *nggā là ml̄a* I cont. laugh
ml̄1 *a.* left
ml̄2 *v.* to press forcefully *ml̄a l̄ywa m̄u nḡn*
 press black ant that kill
ml̄a pl. *m̄ml̄a* *n.* first born
ml̄è *v.* to grope; feel your way *w̄ là ml̄è k̄u tswē*
 → you can grope and follow the place *syn*
m̄m̄ml̄è.
m̄ *n.* lie; falsehood; untruth; lying *m̄ la ma w̄*
yo lie neg. fit you not → lying is not for you
w̄ là te m̄ you cont. make lies
mp̄a pl. *mp̄āmp̄a* *n.* ulcer; sore; wound; soreness
mp̄ar nyū *n.* elephant-snout fish *Mormyrus spp.*
mp̄ə *n.* cover (access hole to a granary); lid; piece
mp̄ə pl. *mp̄āmp̄ə* *n.* calabash; gourd
mp̄əmp̄r̄ pl. *mp̄āmp̄r̄* *n.* sheet
mp̄ənk̄n pl. *mp̄ānk̄n* *n.* door
mp̄əryè mp̄ryè *id.* describing a colourful design on somebody's body Usually a

frightening design. *gu ngren nənè gu krè dā car kpə mpəryō mpəryō* → he saw somebody stand and has designed his body colourfully
mplō *id.* describes the sound of a stone dropped inside water
mplomplomplō *id.* sound of water in one's stomach as they run *màsər là tar cū ə nèn mplomplomplō* water cont. move at stomach



mplōn

mplōn pl. *mplōn n.* side-blown horn [Made from a cow's horn and played together with the panpipes for festive occasions.]

mpù pl. *mpūmpù n.* thigh
mpūr pl. *mpūmpūr n.* fear; terror; fright *mpūr là te nggā* fear cont. make me
mpūr pl. *mpur n.* blister
mpūr (mà) *a.* tasteless; bland (local beer) *mà mē ku mpūr* beer this fall tasteless
Mpūrmà *p.n.* personal name
mpwārkədān *n.* plant sp.
mre pl. — *v.* to swallow *kan là mrè* take food swallow
mren1 *v.* to drown *gu kan dā mren* he take lost drown
mren2 *n.* bush yam (splits into fingers)
mū *dem.* that; those (follows the noun it qualifies) *syn mūn2*.
mūcā pl. — *n.* stirring stick for gruel
mùmū pl. — *n.* flour
mūmūn pl. — *n.* maggot found in cow-dung
mūmùn pl. — *n.* winnowing tray
mùmfwōn pl. — *n.* shame; shyness; embarrassment *mùmfwōn là te nggā* shyness
 CONT do me → I'm shy
mū(n) *loc.* there *gu sē ə mun* he is at there
mūn1 *int.* why?
mūn2 *dem.* that; those (Form of *mū* realised before velars and bilabials. Follows the noun

it qualifies.) *vālōn mūn* that man *syn mū*.
mūnyàn *adv.* probably; perhaps; maybe *mūnyàn te tā là ngā nzen*. → maybe our father will come in sometime *syn kàndà, mægē, məkē, njwēn, tətō*.
mur *adv.* completely; fully *nggā nan kre mur* I do finish completely
mvān pl. *mvānmvān a.* disgusting; dirty; bad; revolting
mvē pl. *mve n.* sedge (generic) *Cyperus spp.*
mvōr *n.* red spider-mite
mvōrkì pl. *mvōrkì n.* beetles; general term
mvlōn pl. *mvlōn n.* wild custard-apple *Annona senegalensis*
mvre pl. *mèmvrē, mvrē n.* nose
mvri pl. — *n.* cold; coldness *mvri là te nggā* cold cont. has me → I'm feeling cold
mvu *n.* greed *gu là te mvu kànàn mwōn* he cont. make greed much
mvumvu pl. — *n.* greed for many things
mvūmvūmvūn *id.* describes how vehicles or people pass each other *tā vun kəywà nga mvūmvūmvūn* we catch ourselves passed fast fast
mwāmwār *a.* naked; nude
mwēshō *n.* tree sp.
mwetso *n.* black-crowned tchagra *Tchagra senegala*
mwən1 *v.* to get *wā là la mwən yo* you will neg. get nothing
mwən2 *v.* to rebuke; admonish *nggā mwān gu nānrēn* → I rebuked him yesterday
mwò pl. *mwò v.* to kindle fire *ywē mwò glo* → go make fire
mwō pl. *mwò n.* enlarged testicle; hydrocele *Dantsu ru mwō* → Dantsu has an enlarged testicle
mwōn *v.* to be more than; surpass *nggā mwōn wā* → I surpass you
Mwōnbə *p.n.* personal name
Mwōnshīn *p.n.* personal name
myō *c.i.* describes s.t. that is dark green *lan kpəmkpàn mē sər myō* farm maize this black green → The maize on the farm is dark green
mε *n.* season *yàmē sē mē yā glō* this is season of rain

N n

nà1 *v.* to pass the night *gu kàn nà* he then pass

the night

nà2 *v.* to copulate; to have sex *Danren bā Mbōren là na kəywə* Danren with Mbōren cont. having sex

nàgyà *pl.* — *num.* thousand

nan *pl.* mənán, nán *n.* flesh; meat; animal

nān *p.u.t.* emphasises content of sentence

nàn *pl.* nan *v.* to do; make *gu là nan ndu* she cont. do work

Nānggwe *p.n.* personal name

Nangrēn *p.n.* personal name

nan hwān *pl.* mənán hwān *n.* bush animal; wild animal

Nankrè *p.n.* personal name

Nankyen *p.n.* personal name

nan ngwən *v.p.* to refuse hence to die (euphemism) *gu ka dā nan ngwən* he/she 'refused' and still gave up

nanrèn *adv.* recently (not yesterday) *tā rō nanrèn* → we danced recently

nānrēn *adv.* yesterday *nggā ywe hwān nānrēn* I went farm yesterday

nanren *pl.* — *n.* tongue *syn* **rərən**.

nanren glo *pl.* — *n.* flame

nanren gyà *n.* tree sp.

Nansōn *p.n.* personal name

nār1 *pl.* nar *n.* mongoose *Ichneumia albicauda* [?]

nār2 *pl.* — *n.* lightning

nàr *pl.* nar *v.* to watch closely; watch out for *nār nggā gūgu mū* watch me goat that

Nārcūn *p.n.* personal name

ncā *pl.* mēcāncā *n.* yam hut

ncā1 *excl.* once upon a time (used to recall former times.) *ncā tā sā sē nywenzē* one time we were young

ncā2 *n.* yellow yam grown in gardens, with bitter and sweet types

ncā brī *n.* yellow-fleshed tuber found in the bush [inedible]

Ncaka *p.n.* personal name

ncān1 *n.* bird sp.

ncān2 *pl.* — *n.* mud

Ncān *p.n.* personal name

ncancùn *pl.* mēncancùn, ncāncūn *n.* story; tale; narrative; folktale

ncar *v.n.* crying out in pain; shrieking; yelling; screaming *fāvèn là ngār ncar* child this cont. break shriek *syn* **dōnren**.

ncār *n.* disapproving click of the tongue *wā ta nggā ncār mūn?* you throw me click why?

ncàr *n.* palm wine

ncàwū *v.* to hang; to swing; suspend; dangle *tā là klā ncàwū* we cont. hang swing *syn* **klā2**.

ncə *pl.* mēncə *n.* tail

ncə *pl.* ncə *n.* witchweed [A parasite on sorghum] *Striga hermonthica*

ncəkpu *n.* go-between [intermediary between the boy and girl's house for marriage]

ncəryēn *n.* herb sp. with a single stem and edible green leaves *Corchorus* sp.

ncē *pl.* ncē *n.* tree sp. *Hymenocardia acida*



ncē

ncələdān *pl.* ncələdan *n.* gecko *syn* **ncilādān**.

ncēzəzə *pl.* ncēzəzə *n.* caterpillar found on the shea-tree

nci *pl.* ncīnci *n.* traditional district *tā sē bān nci gyār bā Likita* we are those district one with Likita

ncigān *pl.* — *n.* bean plant with edible tubers [tubers and beans are both eaten. Probably the winged yam]

ncikla *n.* pygmy mouse *Mus minutoides*

ncikrè *n.* dormouse *Graphiurus* sp.

ncilādān *pl.* nciladan *n.* gecko *syn* **ncələdān**, **njilādān**.

ncinrin *n.* small matters; minor issues *nggā la fō ncinrin ren yo* I NEG look for small matters talk NEG → I'm not talking about minor issues

nciryēn *n.* grass sp. used as fire-retardant *tā kan nciryēn ywar tswē*. We took some n. to block the place

nciryen *n.* tree sp.

ncò *n.* game of hiding a stone in one hand and asking s.o. to guess which one *tā là rō ncò* we cont. play hide.....

Ncòcūn *p.n.* Ancho town

Ncòmishòn *p.n.* Ancho mission (< E.)

ncōn *a.* straight *nggā mānggā sē ncōn* pole my is straight

ncū *pl.* mətərncū *n.* black plum tree [edible fruit and leaves] *Vitex doniana*

ncùkùryō *pl.* — *n.* fufu *nggā re ncùkùryō* I eat fufu

ncuwè *id.* describes carrying something and carelessly letting it fall *məsər kan kàre ncuwè* water take pour accidentally

ncwān *n.* grass sp. for demarcating boundary

between portions of land *nggā se ncwān ə dār lan nggā bā* Nggyàren I plant grass at demarcation land mine with Nggyàren

ncwār pl. — *n.* thorn

ndān pl. — *adv.* inaudibly *gu là ren ndān* he cont. speak inaudibly

ndasan *n.* tree sp.

ndē 1) *adv.* for a long time; lengthy *tā kre mān te ndē*. We stood there for a long time **2)** *a.* long; tall

ndèndè *adv.* to stand upright; stand *doglò krè ndèndè* get-up stand straight

ndā *adv.* in line *nyān su ndā* horss put in line

ndò *n.* fish sp. *Mormyrus rume*

ndāndè pl. — *n.* chin

ndàndèn *n.* slippery area (e.g. with mud)

Ndānē *p.n.* personal name

ndār pl. *ndār n.* okra; gumbo *Abelmoschus esculentus*

ndō pl. *ndo n.* cow

ndò pl. — *n.* tree sp.

ndu pl. *ndū n.* **1)** work **2)** message *Tīyà te nggā ndu* Grandfather make me message

Ndwār pl. *Ndwār p.n.* big masquerade that comes afterwards to drive Rinze away

nē1 pl. *mānē n.* person *syn nēnjì.*

nē2 pl. — *n.* river; sea

Nēgyār *p.n.* personal name

Nēkrē *p.n.* personal name

nēnāmān *pron.* somebody else *nēnāmān nkan dan sāsānmenàn* → a different person said so

nēnjì pl. *mānenjì n.* human being; person *syn nē1.*

nā pl. *nā v.* to give; let *kan yā nā nggā* → give it to me

nà *v.* to straighten out *nà kī mē* → straighten out my legs

nà kpā *v.p.* to stretch out the body *nggagyū là nà kpā* dog cont. stretch out body

nāmān *pron.* another person *kī mē sē yà nānē nāmān nkan* This thing belongs to someone else.

nāmē *dem.* like this *nan nāmē* do like this

nānē *pron.* person who (used in relative constructions.) *tā la tsā nānē wān kan kī mē zwè ə sākānmē yo* we neg. know person who take thing this keep at place that not → We don't know who put this here

nānō pl. *mānōnō n.* grinding stone

nānō pl. — *v.* to sleep; doze *gu là kūr nānō* he cont. lie sleep

nānār *adv.* year or so ago; some time ago *tā ren ren mē nānār* we talk matter this some time ago

nānggyē pl. *nānggyē int.* what? (Agrees with the number of the subject.) *sē nānggyē yà wā là nan?* it is what which you cont. do? → What are you doing? *yāmē sē nānggyē?* → What are these?

nānlyē *n.* biting ant sp.

nānlyē cinjì *n.* biting ant sp.

nānlyē sāmban *n.* biting ant sp.

nār pl. *nār v.* to try; to attempt *gu là nār* he cont. try

nēn pl. *mānēn n.* belly; stomach *syn mgbōn.*

ngā1 pl. — *n.* sweat-fly

ngā2 pl. *màngà n.* jaw

ngā3 pl. *nga v.* to collapse; fall down *tār nggā nga* room my has collapsed

ngā4 pl. — *v.* to return; to *gu ngā kē* he returned home *syn kāgbm, mārto.*

ngalā pl. — *v.* to yawn *gu là ngalā* he cont. yawn

ngān1 pl. *ngan v.* to become part of *tā kan ngan bā bā* we take become part of with them → we became part of the same group

ngān2 pl. *ngan v.* to report *nggā ngan ren yā sū bā* I reported the matter to them

ngān pl. — *v.* to crawl; creep *vēn là ngān* child cont. crawl

Ngānsūbā *p.n.* personal name

ngār pl. *ngār v.* to break (as a bottle); smash; crack open; be broken *kāmbā ngār* → the calabash is broken *syn tār2.*

Ngāren *p.n.* personal name [Applied to one who addresses issues bluntly]

Ngārgbù *p.n.* personal name

ngarmpwā *v.* **1)** to be wiped out; eliminated *kpākprē nlywe bā dā bā ngarmpwā* → Smallpox killed them and they were wiped out **2)** to dry up *māsər ngarmpwā* water is drying up [as a well] **3)** to not produce proper fruits (groundnut)

ngā1 *n.* tree sp. *bencwe ngarmpwā* groundnut is not producing fruits

ngā2 pl. — *n.* marriage, wedding

ngā1 *v.* to press cloth *gu là ngā nggā kī* he cont. press my things (clothes)

ngā2 *v.* to mix beniseed with leaves eaten raw as a food *Yā là ngā mgbākī* mother cont. mix leaves

ngā3 *v.* to rub; scrub *gu là ngā zā* he cont. rub legs

ngōganmā *n.* hamerkop *Scopus umbretta*



ngōganmā

ngèngǎn *n.* hotness; heat; warmth *ngèngǎn là te nggē* hotness is doing me → I am hot

Ngèngǎn *p.n.* personal name

nggā1 *pl.* *ngga n.* ladder; forked pole; river fork

nggā2 *pl.* — *n.* fornication; sex; copulation *vālɔn mē là te nggā* man this cont. make fornication

nggà *pl.* *ngga n.* side; direction *syn kāsàn.*

Nggabē *p.n.* personal name



nggā1

nggà bishi *loc.* front; in front of; before *wə kre ə nggà bishi nggə* → You stood in front of me

nggà gōn *loc.* behind; at the back of *gu krè ə nggà gōn wə* → He is standing behind you

nggǎgyū *pl.* *nggagyū n.* dog *nggē tse nggǎgyū* → I beat the dog

nggǎgyū hwān *pl.* *nggagyū hwan n.* jackal *Canis adustus*

nggǎgyū māsər *pl.* *nggagyū māsər n.* otter *Aonyx capensis*

nggākì *pl.* *mōnggākì n.* branch of tree

Nggampwar *p.n.* personal name

nggān *adv.* greatly; intensely; strongly *ləlān là tār ràn nggān* scorpion cont. sting pain greatly

nggà nzān *n.* east

Nggarē *p.n.* personal name

nggà rùglò *n.* west

nggà sər *n.* south

nggà shū *n.* north

nggaswē *pl.* — *n.* twins

nggē *pron.* I first singular subject pronoun

nggə *pron.* me (first singular object pronoun)

nggəbān *pl.* *nggəbān n.* thatch rooftop

nggər *pl.* *nggər n.* axe; hatchet

nggě *pl.* *mènggě n.* ornamental axe held up during the panpipe dance and for bwər rejoicing



nggě

nggerenggereng *id.* sound of bicycle bell *kikyē là te kàràrāwā de* bicycle cont. make sound that

ngglan *adv.* brilliantly *tswē lan ngglan* place shine brilliantly

ngglàn *pl.* *ngglan n.* purple glossy starling *Lamprotornis purpureus*

nggɔn *n.* big; leader; authority *gu sē nggɔn* he is leader

nggòn *pl.* *nggònnggòn a.* big; large; huge; vast

Nggɔnggɔn Ri *p.n.* personal name

nggre *n.* local hanger for drying meat by fireplace (basket-like) *Tīyà kan nan sū ə nggre dā kan klā ə kəkrē* Grandfather take meat put inside hanger and take hang at fireplace

nggrū *n.* wrinkles *nggē cu nggrū* I fetch wrinkles → I am wrinkled

nggren *v.* 1) to make fun of, mock, ridicule

Mbāglā là nan Vənce nggren Mbāglā cont. do Vənce fun 2) to refuse to do s.t when asked *gu là te nggren tswē nan ndu yə* → he is refusing to do the work

nggu *n.* confidence *gu la sē bā nggu yā gu lə krè dā mā bā gu yo.* → He's not confident enough to wrestle with him

nggù *pl.* *mènggù n.* feather

nggūnggū *pl.* — *n.* metal dish

nggūngwūr1 *pl.* *mènggūngwūr n.* emerald snake *Gastropyxis smaragdina*

nggūngwūr2 *pl.* *mènggūngwūr n.* vine; creeper; liana (general)

Nggwě *pl.* *Nggwe p.n.* Hausa man

nggwǎ *pl.* — *int.* who? *sē nggwǎ?* it is who?

nggyār *v.* to stare; to look without blinking eyes; to look straight ahead *wā là kyen kī nggyār mwōn* you cont. look things without blinking much

nggyě *int.* what? *nggyě là nan wā?* what cont. do you? → What is happening to you?

nggyè rən *pl.* — *v.p.* proverb; saying; maxim *gu là te nggyè rən* he cont. make proverb

ngla *pl.* — *v.* to wash *gu là ngla kī* he cont. wash things (clothes)

ngre *v.* to add weight *wā ngre sū* you add weight put

ngrē1 *v.* to separate different items *ngrē krī mē tè nkānkān* separate yams these make different

ngrē2 *v.* to roll over and fall *gu ngre gyekū àtù kī sòn* he roll over fall from thing of-sitting

Ngresubə *p.n.* personal name

ngrēn *pl.* *ngren v.* to see *nggē là ngren wə* I cont. see you

ngrin1 *pl.* — *v.* to give birth; deliver *mbā ngrin* woman give birth

ngrin2 pl. — *v.* to roll up a mat *ngrin mbu man bàn zwè tàr* roll up the mat and take it keep in the room *syn nyen2*.

ngun *v.* to climb; mount *gu là ngun shu* he cont. climb up

ngün1 pl. *nlywe v.* to kill; murder; assassinate *bà ngun vālɔn gyār* → they killed one man *sg. nlywe*.

ngün2 *v.* to bail; scoop out water *tā là ngun māsār* we cont. scoop water *tā nlywe kwɔ tun*

ngũnsū1 pl. — *v.* to add to *wā bla ngũnsu* you cont. add to

ngũnsū2 pl. — *v.* to do s.t. excessively; to overdo *nggā kur nānā ngunsu* I lay sleeping too much → I overslept

ngwār *v.* to filter; strain; sieve; sift *Yā là ngwār māsār* Mother cont. filter water *syn sèn*.

ngwɔn pl. *ngwɔn, mængwɔn n.* hand; arm

Ngwɔn Ri *n.* personal name

Ngwɔnrì *p.n.* personal name

ngwur1 pl. — *v.* to hit; ring; pluck reed instrument; pluck *nggā là ngwur gāntē* I cont. play the zither

ngwur2 pl. — *v.* to skin an animal *tā là ngwur gūgu* we cont. skin goat

ngwur ngār1 *v.p.* to circulate; spread; diffuse *ren kan ngwur ngār tswē* matter then break round place

ngwur ngār2 *v.p.* to break into pieces; smash *gu ban kām̄bā ngwùr ngār* he take calabash break into pieces

njār pl. *mənjār n.* nest

njārkpà pl. *njārkpà n.* male cricket

njārrr *id.* sound of a door bell *kì yà nyūlankòn là gì njārrr* thing of door cont. cry

njər pl. *njər n.* worm (applied both to earthworms and intestinal worms)

njī pl. *njīnji n.* knife *yəmē sē njī* → this is a knife

njī1 *adv.* forever; eternally *nggā lə ywē sòn ā Kāgbā njī* I fut. go sit at Akwanga forever

njī2 *n.* grass sp.

njilādān pl. *njiladan n.* gecko *syn nčilādān*.

njīmgbàn pl. *mənjīmgbàn n.* sword

njinjà pl. — *n.* beniseed; brown sesame cultivar *Sesamum indicuum*

njinjakì pl. *njinjakì n.* rag

njinja nkulwè pl. *njinjà nkulwe n.* piece of cloth from a wrapper

njinjē *v.n.* going on and on about s.t.; ‘dragging’ an issue *vālɔn mē te njinjē ren kànàn me* man this make dragging talk plenty only → This man goes on and on about one thing

njinjì pl. — *n.* truth

njo pl. *mənjò n.* penis; prick

njò pl. *njūnjo n.* horn

njɔ pl. — *n.* whip *syn ntswa*.

njūn pl. — *n.* space beneath a granary

njùn *n.* grass sp. *Scleria verrucosa*

Njùwàci *p.n.* personal name

Njwě pl. *Njwe n.* masquerade *nggā ngrēn Njwě* → I saw a masquerade

Njwě hwākī pl. — *p.n.* masquerade which appears during the funeral dance

Njwě shīshā pl. — *p.n.* masquerade which appears during the funeral dance

njwen pl. — *n.* interest; enthusiasm *njwen là te nggā bə ndu mē* interest cont. making me with work this

njwên *adv.* maybe; possibly; perhaps *gu lə sē kà njwên* he will be home maybe or likely → maybe he’ll come home *syn kàndà, munyàn, tətò*.

nka *adv.* four days hence

nkā pl. *nka n.* fig tree sp. *Ficus thonningii*

nkan1 *n.* gamba grass *Andropogon gayanus*

nkan2 *n.* s.t. dried *kwɔ la kù nkan mbē yo* → guinea-fowl is yet to be dried

nkanka *id.* proudly; boastfully *gu là sa mənē ren nkanka me* he answers people talk proudly only

nkan nan *n.* dried meat

nkan, nkānnkān *adv.* differently; separately; apart *vu kī mē tē nkānnkān* → put these things apart

nkan ntàn *n.* dried skin

nkarèn pl. *nkarèn n.* very large pot for liquids resting in a hole in the ground

nkō *n.* cow-itch vine [A vine with hairy pods that stings badly] *Mucuna pruriens*



nkō

nkəgbò pl. *nkəgbo n.* pawpaw; papaya [Cultivated for its edible fruit] *Carica papaya* *syn ywēmkpār*.

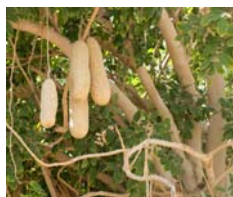
nkānkə *a.* rough (surface)

nkí *n.* tree sp.

nkinē *pron.* something *nggā la nan nkinē yo* I neg. do something not

nklaglo *n.* burning charcoal

nklambrī pl. — *n.* charcoal *gu cu nklambrī sū ə glo yā* he put charcoal in the fire
nklān pl. — *n.* black substance made from locust pods used to seal winnowing trays *Mashi là gbà mūmù nklān* Mashi cont. smear winnowing tray
nkən pl. kən kən *n.* elbow; ankle
nkən1 pl. nkən, nkən kən, mən kən *n.* door
nkən2 pl. kən kən *n.* road; way; path; track; trail
Nkəncə *p.n.* personal name
Nkənggwe *p.n.* personal name
Nkənkyū *p.n.* personal name
Nkənre *p.n.* personal name
Nkənryān *p.n.* personal name
nkən tsǎ pl. kən kən tsǎ *n.* tarred road
Nkənyān *p.n.* personal name
nkən zə pl. kən kən zə *n.* railway; tracks
nkrē1 pl. — *n.* scales of a fish
nkrē2 pl. — *n.* disease which gives the skin a scaly appearance
nkrētəgya pl. nywən nkrētəgya *n.* sand fox [identification uncertain; perhaps the jackal] *Vulpes pallida*
nkrīn1 pl. nkrin *n.* tree sp.
nkrīn2 pl. — *a.* round; circular *tār yā yā sē nkrīn* room of my mother is round
nkrū pl. nkrū *n.* male sheep; ram
nkū *n.* file snake *Mahelya poensis*
nkū *n.* break in rainfall *glō sa nkū* rainfall put break
nkulwe pl. nkulwè *n.* cloth; fabric
nkūr1 pl. nkur *n.* crocodile *Crocodylus niloticus*
nkūr2 pl. nkur *n.* sausage tree *Kigelia africana*



nkūr2

nkūwu pl. nkuwu *n.* owl
nkwār pl. — *n.* kenaf *Hibiscus cannabinus*
nkwō pl. nkwo *n.* tree sp. *Terminalia spp.*
nkyār pl. nkyənkyàr *n.* group *nkyār nē* → group (of) people
nkyēn pl. — *n.* fist *kyen nkyèn yà nggā là ngwūr wā mē* see the fist which I will hit you this
Nkyennē *p.n.* personal name
nkyen pl. nkyennkyen *n.* remaining part *yàmē sē*

nkyen ywā → this is the remaining part of it
nlyē1 pl. — *n.* lightning
nlyē2 *num.* four
nlyēndu *p.n.* Thursday
nlywe *v.* to kill (pl.) *nggā nlywe mānē tar.* I killed people three *sg. ngūn1.*
nrīnmē *adv.* today
ntan pl. — *n.* argument; debate *gyā là rē ntan de nānggye?* you cont. eat argument that give what (why?)
ntān pl. — *n.* wrinkles
ntàn pl. ntān *n.* skin
ntanntan pl. — *a.* thin *làgā nggā sē ntanntan* shirt my is thin
Ntānrin *p.n.* personal name
ntār pl. — *n.* slap on the back *gu te nggā ntār ə gōn* he slapped me on the back
ntēn *adv.* describes watching intently *kyen gu ntēn nā gu man ka gbladā yo* look him intently let him should neg. disappear not → watch him carefully to make sure he doesn't vanish
ntēnāntsò pl. ntēnantso *n.* chameleon
ntēnantān *a.* smooth *gōn tsā mū sē ntēnantān* outside pot that is smooth *syn sən.*
ntēr pl. — *n.* clay
ntōywàn pl. nywēn ntōywan *n.* ground squirrel *Euxerus erythropus*
ntē pl. — *n.* saliva, spittle
ntè pl. ntē *n.* 1) hydrocele; swollen testicle 2) testicle
ntō pl. — *v.* to swing on a rope *gu là klā ntō* he cont. hang swing
ntsē *n.* strawberry tree
ntsər pl. — *n.* purity
ntsār *adv.* describes spitting saliva straight *gu sar nggā ntē ntsār* he cut me saliva straight
ntse *adv.* describes the smell of adolescents or the bad smell of fish *vānggā mē nyōn ntse* girl this smell bad *nggā là gwō ntse mgbàryàn* I cont. 'hear' bad odour of fish
ntsē pl. ntse *n.* star
ntsēkì pl. ntsēkī *n.* pimples; body spots; blemishes *ntsēkì sa wā ə ngà* pimple is-on you at cheek
ntsən pl. — *n.* wooden arrow
ntsū pl. — *n.* maggot
ntswa pl. — *n.* whip *syn njə.*
ntswē pl. ntswē *n.* burrowing locust
ntsen *n.* saddlebill stork *Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis*
nten pl. — *n.* backyard [also stands for a place where people defecate]
nùwàr *v.* to ambush *nggā là nuwar vēn mē dà*

man kyen kì yà gu lā nan I cont. ambush boy this and see thing which he will do
nvər *id.* describing the look on s.o.'s face *sē sen dā wə sən nvər menàn?* It is how you are looking tough like that? (i.e. not smiling)
nvε *v.* to tie or hold oneself *gu kpan tər nvε* he tie waist tightly
nvōkī *n.* hidden place; concealed place *tā klwe kə nyār ə nvōkī* we ran go hide at [a] concealed place *vūn nēn grī nvε* catch stomach hold tightly
nyūūng *id.* sound of a motorcycle speeding *gwə gī bābər mūn mægəyər nyūūng* hear (the) sound of that motorcycle
nwənzàn *n.* tree sp.
nwōn *n.* slender mongoose *Herpestes sanguinea*
nwǎn *n.* rubber vine *Landolphia owariensis*, *Saba florida*



nwǎn

nyàn1 pl. *nyān n.* horse
nyàn2 pl. *mənyinyàn n.* people who share maternal uncles *Rìdan sē nyàn nggə* Rìdan shares maternal uncle with me
nyānmē *dem.* here *nyə nyānmē* come here *syn səkānmē*.
nyàn mkparu pl. *nyan mkparu n.* praying mantis (? Hausa calque)
nyàr pl. *nyar n.* louse
nyār *adv.* of the same height *mətərkī mē krè nyār* trees these stand the same
nyə *v.* to come *nyə nggə kyen* come (let) me see
nyənyər pl. — *a.* raw *krī mē sē nyənyər* yam this is raw
nyənyōn pl. *nyənyōn n.* leather thong made of goatskin; grass whip
nyənyūn pl. — *n.* grass sp.
nyər1 pl. — *v.* to enter; come in *nyār nyə* enter come
nyər2 pl. — *v.* to thank *nggə nyər Mkparu* I thank God
nyār pl. — *v.* to hide; conceal *gu klwe kə nyār* he ran go hide
nyār pl. *nyər n.* tooth; teeth
Nyərèrè *p.n.* personal name

nyār...rin *v.p.* to circumcise *bə là nyər gu rin* they cont. circumcise him *nggə là nyər wə* I cont. deceive you
nyēn1 pl. — *n.* small insects [general term for small insects which does not include beetles, *mvōrkī*]
nyēn2 pl. — *n.* trivial things *gu là tān nyēn ren mwōn* he cont. pick trivial things talks much → he goes on and on about minor details
nyèn pl. *nyēn n.* tick
Nyēnme *p.n.* personal name
Nyēnnē *p.n.* personal name
nyēnnyēn pl. — *a.* very small *kī mē sē nyēnnyēn* things these are very small
nyi pl. — *v.* to roll up (as roofing grass) *nyī ləlwè mē* → roll up this grass *syn nyen2*.
nyī pl. *nyi n.* elephant
nyì pl. *nyi n.* python *Python sebae*
nyinyī pl. *nyīnyī n.* soup
nyōn1 pl. — *v.* 1) to scrub s.o.'s back *nggə là nyōn mbə kə nggə gōn* I cont. scrub wife my back 2) to rub; to reduce the pain caused by the sting or bite of an insect *nyōn nggə zə* → rub my leg
nyōn2 pl. — *v.* to thresh *acca* without sticks *tā là nyōn ntsu* we cont. thresh *acca*
nyōn pl. — *v.* to smell; to stink *tswē nyōn* → the place smells
nyōn mē *adv.* describes walking stiffly as a result of shame *kyen ywe yə gu lā ywe nyōn mē nān* see go which he will go with shame, isn't it?
nyōnnyōn *id.* describes walking lazily *kàsə zər nyōnnyōn nāmē yo* don't walk lazily like that not
nyū pl. *mənyū n.* mouth
nyū lōnkōn pl. *mənyə lōnkōn n.* door; doorway; entrance
nyūren pl. *mənyūren n.* language
nywār-nywār *id.* describes leaving in embarrassment after a request is refused *gu kàn kà tswēywə dōn nywār-nywār* → he then left the place in embarrassment
nywī *loc.* inside; in; within *gu sē ə nywī tār* → He is inside the room *syn (ə)nywī, mīn*.
nyen1 *v.* to love; to embrace *gu là nyen nggə* he is loving me
nyen2 *v.* to roll up *nyēn mbu mē* roll up this mat *syn ngrin2, nyi*.
nzan pl. — *n.* food made from boiled guinea-corn
nzān pl. — *n.* sunrise; daybreak; dawn
Nzàn *p.n.* village name in Kəmgbò clan
nzār pl. *nzār n.* hoe
nzě pl. — *n.* hiccup *gu là te nzě* he cont. make

hiccup
nzanze *n.* ululation *nzanze mū sē yā nānggye?*
 ululation that is for what?
nzanzər pl. — *n.* partition of a room
nzānzē pl. — *n.* chain
nzānzē pl. — *n.* grass sp. *Hyparrhenia involucrata*
nzānzētā pl. — *n.* necklace *vānggā mū klā nzānzētā* girl that hung necklace → girl that has put on a necklace
nzē pl. — *v.n.* dressing up; fitting (clothes) *gu te nzē* he make dressing up
nzē1 pl. nywên *nze n.* plantain-eater *Corythaeola spp.*
nzē2 pl. nywên *nze n.* rat sp.
Nzemwòn *p.n.* personal name
nzēnmē *adv.* now; nowadays; present *mkpān yā nzēnmē* time of nowadays → these days
nywenzè bān nzēnmē la fē bishi te tswe blā yo.
 Those young boys of today open up their

eyes, but not to read *syn gè, mē1.*
nzô *a.* a few *tā sē nzô me* we are few only
nzō *adv.* again *gu nan yā nzō* he do it again
Nzōme *p.n.* personal name [Possibly the baby is either a boy or girl who is following another one]
nzōn pl. — *p.n.* festive dance [involves shaking the back. Played for weddings etc. The *mōnggla* iron clapper is used.]
nzu1 pl. — *n.* cripple
nzu2 pl. — *n.* strong wind [If you are touched by this wind then will become a cripple, hence this is the same word.]
nzū pl. — *n.* tree sp. *Pteleopsis suberosa*
nzen *adv.* later on *nzen wā man nyà* later on you should come
ne *n.* wild date-palm *Phoenix reclinata*



ne

P p

pār pl. par *n.* spear
pā pl. pā *n.* upper arm
pələpələ pl. — *n.* oar; paddle (< H.)
pāmpān pl. — *n.* tin can (< H.)
pār *v.* to be sour *shūn mānggārō mē pār mgbo*
 fruit mango this very sour cheek
pār *v.* to crush dry leaves (usually for making soup) *Mbācā là pār mgbākī kukù Mbācā* cont.
 crush dry leaves
pārki pl. pārkī *n.* cane
pīpī *a.* dark black *vālōn mūn sār kpā pīpī* man
 that black body blackness
plò pl. plòplò *v.* to put excessive pomade on the body ((the plural is for emphasis)) *kyen sē yā wā vu mānyèn plò kpā* see how you carry pomade lavish your-body
pōmpōn *id.* sound of horn of a train or lorry *gbm là te gì de pōmpōn* train cont. make sound that ...
pōmpuu *id.* sound of horn of a motorcycle (rubber type) *gu là te kikye gì de ...* he cont.

make bicycle cry that ...
prē pl. — *n.* drink made of guinea corn *nggā là sà prē* I cont. drink prē
pûrpûr *id.* tender; fresh (of budding flower)
tārki mē tō mgbā pûrpûr tree this bud leaves tender and fresh
pwà *s.v.* to be undeveloped (groundnuts) *bencwē ku pwà* groundnut fell undeveloped
pwapwa *id.* describes the sound of clapping hands *gyā tsē gu ngwān pwapwa* you beat him hands ...
pwâr *adv.* brightly *bishi nggā tsa pwâr* face mine shine brightly
pwâ *adv.* carelessly (talk) *gu ban ren mē dān pwâ*
me he took matter this say carelessly only → He took this matter very casually
pwō pl. — *num.* eleven
pyâr *s.v.* to be chilled *māsər mē sù dər pyâr*
 water this cool heart chill

R r

ra1 pl. — *s.v.* to be bald *vālɔn mū ra tu* man that is-bald (of) head

ra2 *v.* to give ceremonially; present formally *vun kàkà ra nggā* catch hen give me

ra3 *v.* to dream *nggā ra rīn bū* I dream this night → I dreamed this night

rā *n.* dream *Tsēncun ra rā yā tō yo* Tsēncun dreamed dream of good not → Tsēncun had a nightmare

rà pl. — *v.* to lick *gyā ka vu nyìnyī rà krè yo* you neg. carry soup lick finish not

ràn1 pl. ran *n.* gelded, castrated goat *syn* **rǎ1**.

ràn2 *v.* to pain sharply; hurt *Kàmvrè ngwò là ràn nggā*. finger cont. pain me

rànkpə *s.v.* to be difficult; problematic *vālɔn mē rānkpə* this man is not very easy

re1 *v.* to be; is *sān nggā re Barau* my name is Barau

re2 *s.v.* to be bitter *màsər re* water is bitter *syn* **rərə**.

re3 *s.v.* to be sharp *njī wā re* knife your is sharp

rē1 pl. re *n.* oil-palm *Elaeis guineensis*

rē2 *v.* to eat; consume *nyā tā re lā* come we eat food

rē3 *v.* to defeat; to win; vanquish; conquer *tā re bə ə kōn* → we defeated them in war

rē be *v.p.* to enjoy; to appreciate; to relish *wā là rē be* you cont. eat forever → you will continue to enjoy [it]

rē ntan *v.p.* to argue; debate; to discuss *gyā là rē ntan de nānggye?* you cont. eat argument that - why? → why are you harping on about that? *syn* **vən**.

rērè *adv.* slowly *ywē rērè me* go slowly

rə *adv.* three days hence; from now *nggā là nyē rə* → I will come three days from now.

rǎ1 pl. rə *n.* castrated goat *syn* **ràn1**.

rǎ2 pl. rə *n.* termite sp.

rəcũn *n.* termite sp.

rədemə *n.* tiger bittern *Tigriornis leucolopha*

rəhye pl. — *n.* mistletoe *Tapinanthus* or *Loranthus* spp.

rəkye *n.* sugar-cane (< H.)

rəmgbyir pl. rəmgbyir *n.* house-bat [live in caves and hunted for food]

rǎnce *n.* grasshopper

Rənyū *p.n.* personal name

rərə *n.* hanger near fireplace

rərə pl. — *a.* bitter *màsər mē sē rərə* water this is

bitter *syn* **re2**.

rərē pl. — *a.* long, tall *mgbərīn mē sē rərē* rope this is long

rərè *adv.* few days ago

rəryar *n.* termite sp.

rərən *n.* tongue *syn* **nanrən**, **rənren**.

rē1 pl. mərə *n.* front of the house *tā sən ə rē* → we are sitting at the front of the house

mgbərīn mē rē rope this is long

rē2 pl. rē, mətər rē *n.* sasswood *Erythrophleum guineense*

rē3 *v.* to apply to

rē pl. rē *v.* to buy; sell *nggā là kə rē wu* I cont.

(go) buy medicine *nggā là kan wu rē* I cont. take medicine sell

rēkə *n.* enclosed area around granary

rən1 *n.* stump of a worn hoe or anything iron *nzār nggā rən krē* hoe my 'talk' finish → only a stump remains

rən2 *n.* matter, issue

rən pl. rən *n.* large water-pot *rən mū sē yā nggwò?* pot that is of who? → whose pot is that?

Rènē *p.n.* personal name

Rənkre *p.n.* personal name

Rənmwōn *p.n.* personal name

rên nggye *int.* why? *Tsēncun ngwur wā rên-nggye* Tsēncun hit you why? → Why did Tsencun hit you?

rěno *adv.* sometime in the past, ago

Rənsər *p.n.* personal name

Rəshāmān *p.n.* personal name

Rəshū *p.n.* personal name

ri *c.i.* very dirty, black *gu sər ri* he is black very

rī1 pl. rīrī *n.* day; sun; God *rì yā rīmē sē nggyě?* day of today is what?

rī2 pl. rī *v.* to ask; request *nggā là ri wā rən* I cont. ask you question

ribū pl. — *n.* night

ricī pl. rīcī *n.* musk shrew *Crocidura* spp.

Rīdan *p.n.* personal name

rīglò pl. — *n.* evening, dusk, twilight

Rīgwo *p.n.* personal name

rì gyàr *n.* one day *dān nggā rì gyàr yā wā nyā* tell me day one which you (will) come

Rījà *p.n.* Rija town

rījī pl. rījī *n.* sickle (< H.)

Rīkyen *p.n.* personal name

Rīla *p.n.* personal name

rìmū pl. — *n.* day before yesterday
rin *n.* oath *gu shə rin* he took oath
rīn1 *v.* to wipe (as a soup dish) *rīn nyìnyī ə nggūnggū* wipe out soup in dish
rīn2 *v.* to extinguish fire; quench *ywē rīn glo ə tār* go extinguish fire in room
Rinangrən *p.n.* personal name
Rīnanrən *p.n.* personal name
Rīnə *p.n.* personal name
Ringrən *p.n.* personal name
Rīntān *p.n.* personal name
rintu *v.* to go out of sight, vanish, disappear *nggā kyen vālōn mū mā ndē gu rintu* I looked at man that until long-time he went out of sight
Rīn zē *p.n.* masquerade which appears every five years; initiation cycle for young boys
Rin-zè *p.n.* personal name
riri *a.* thin; slender *mgbārīn mē sē riri* rope this is thin (? < H.)
ririmə *n.* Smyth's water-snake *Grayia smithii*
Risangwən *p.n.* personal name
Risēbātə *p.n.* personal name
Risēnggən *p.n.* personal name
Risēnyen *p.n.* personal name
Rishāmā *p.n.* personal name
Ritōnzē *p.n.* personal name
Rītsə *p.n.* personal name
ro *v.* to cross (water) *tā ro nē* we cross river *syn zà.*
rō *n.* boil *syn shīshī1.*
rō *s.v.* to be heavy *mgbantā rō mē* stone heavy this → this heavy stone *mgbantā mē rō* stone this is heavy
rōrō *a.* soft; succulent; tender *səsə vānggā mē sē rōrō* breasts girl this are succulent *syn mändèrè.*
rō pl. — *v.* to play *tā là ro* we cont. play
rən *v.* to make ridges *nggā là rən* I am farming
rù pl. ru, rū *v.* 1) to resemble *gu ru wā* he resembles you *kwə ru kwə, tse ru tse* bush fowl resembles bush fowl, guinea-fowl resembles guinea-fowl → like father, like son 2) to come out; emerge
ru gbār *v.p.* goitre *vālōn mē ru gbār* man this has goitre
runcā *v.* to run fast (water after a heavy rain) *māsər runcā* water runs fast → water runs fast
rur, rər *n.* tree sp.
ruru *n.* alarm *ruru mū sē yā nānggye?* alarm that it-is for what?
rūrū1 *n.* thread; twine; cord
rūrū2 *n.* fishing-net
rūrū gantàn *n.p.* spider web; cobweb *Corvus albus*

rūrūlə pl. rūrūlə *n.* pied crow
ryan *n.* chicken droppings *vū ryan kākā mē dèbà* pack dropping of chicken this give-way
ryān *v.* to hunt *Bān Māda sē bān là ryan kənàn* me. Mada be cont. hunt many
ryāncū *n.* grass sp.
ryā ngwən *n.* reward *nggā kpə ryā ngwən nggā* → I have received my reward
ryār *v.* to persuade; convince *nggā là ryar gu* I am trying to persuade him/her
ryārki *n.* fibrous dirt inside water *nggā kə kū ə tswē ryārki* I take follow at place of fibres (inside water)
ryàn *v.* to go backward; backslide; reverse
ryē *n.* ridge
ryè1 *v.* to dig s.t. out of sand *tā là rye krī* we cont. dig yams
ryè2 *v.* to seize; take s.t. by force from s.o. *nggā rye gu dā kpə kājī* I force hands his and receive money
ryēn *n.* whitlow
ryò1 *n.* antelope sp.
ryò2 pl. ryòryò *v.* to roast (tubers) in charcoal *gu là ryò fəkrī ə tàntōn glo* → he is roasting a small yam in ashes of fire
ryôryô *a.* soft *məmē sē ryôryô* the ground is soft
ryō pl. — *n.* eczema; dermatitis
ryô *id.* describes how s.o. has an innocent face *gu là kyen nggā ryô* → he is looking at me with an innocent expression
ryō pl. — *n.* pounded yam
ryōryō *a.* describing how narrow a path is *nkōn mē sē ryōryō* me → this path is just too narrow
ryōryô *id.* describes a loose animal following sheepishly *gu su nggāgyū dā yə zwe gu mān ryōryô* → he loosed the dog and it followed him sheepishly
ryùn1 *v.* to cook; to extract oil by cooking *bān kà tā là ryun mənnyèn sār* those house (people) ours cont. extract palm oil *ywē ryun nggā lā* go cook (for) me food
ryùn2 *v.* to bury; inter *nggā là ywe tswē ryun kən kākā* I cont. go place bury carcass chicken
ryùn...kyen *v.p.* to look at s.o. with suspicion *wā là ryun nggā kyen mūn?* you cont. look-at me suspiciously, why?
rē1 *n.* thirst *rē là te nggā* thirst cont. has me
rē2 *s.v.* to be long *nkōn Ndāywān rē* road Andaha is long
rēn1 *v.* to speak; tell; say *nggā dān rēn yā Rī nānrēn* I told word of God yesterday
rēn2 pl. mərən *n.* matter; issue *mərən te jùn* matters are plenty
rēn3 pl. mərən *n.* talk *rēn mē tōnzē* talk this is

good
rendē *adv.* for a long time *nggā lə sòn rendē bā gyā* I will stay long time with you

rənren *n.* tongue *rənren nggā te mpā* tongue my do soreness → my tongue is sore *syn* **rərən**.

S s

sà1 *pl. sa v. 1)* to retain; sit on *mān klā yə sà tè vē tāngbā dā mān sē vū* there fry they retain make days seven and there PST carry.away

2) to put on

sà2 *pl. sa v.* to answer; respond; reply *sa gu rən yā gu là rən bā wā* answer him which he cont. talk with you

Sàbərən *p.n.* personal name

sān1 *pl. mèsān n.* name

sān2 *pl. mèsān n.* rib; side of body; cornstalk

sàn1 *pl. san n.* basket

sàn2 *v.* to mix termites with beniseed *Mbādān là sàñ begywi ə kə* Mbādān cont. mix termites at home

sanga *v.* to put cheek (jokingly) *yāmē sē nggā là sanga me lə* this is I cont. just joking only now

sa nkū *v.* to leave s.t. for s.o. based on seniority *nggā kan sa wā nkū* I take it put on you because of seniority

Sà ntān *p.n.* personal name

sàpǎr *pl. sàpər n.* soap (< H.)

sar1 *pl. — v.* to be slippery *tswē là sar* place cont. is slippery

sar2 *v.* to slaughter (pl.) *sār kākā mē tā* cut chickens these necks

sàr tu *v.* to comb hair *nggā là sar tu* I cont. comb

sàzwē *v.* to follow in order of birth *Mbādo sazwē Mankòn* Mbādo followed Mankòn

se *adv.* until *se mbrē* until tomorrow *syn* **màndē**. (< H. sai)

sē1 *v.* to be; is; are *nywen nggā sē ywā* children my are two

sē2 *v.* to plant; transplant *nggā là ywe tswē sē kpu* I cont. go place transplant guinea corn

sə *v.aux.* progressive future marker *gu lə sà nan ndu yə* he will be doing work

sə1 *v.aux.* completed past marker *gu sē nàñ ndu yə* he did the work

sə2 *pl. sə v.* to drink *gu là sē māsər* he cont. drink water

sə *v.aux.* progressive present marker *gu sè sē wāndò* he cont. be farming

səka *n.* gravel *Yā de wā cu səka cà gu mān* Mother (said) that you fetch gravel bring her

səkā *n.* rice (< H. shinkafa)

səkànmē *loc.* here *kā nggā sē ə səkànmē* house my is here *syn* **nyānmē**.

səkànmū *loc.* there *ywē bàn dā ə səkànmū lwe nyə* go take cutlass at there carry come

səmban *a.* red *bār wā sē səmban* cap your is red *syn* **grěn**.

sən *v.* to be smooth *mgbantā mē sən kpə* stone this is smooth thick *syn* **ntəntən**.

səñ *n.* cowpea plant

sər1 *v.* to change; exchange; transform *sər nggā ləgā mē* change (for) me shirt this

sər2 *s.v.* to be black *vələn mū sər* man that be.black

sər *loc.* beneath; under; below *məsər glə sər mgbantā* water pass under stone

səsān1 *adv.* as; like *gu nan səsān tē kyun zwē* he did as we gather keep *syn* **səsānmenàn**.

səsān2 *pl. — n.* cornstalks *nggā là ywe tswē tāñ səsān* I cont. go place collect cornstalks

səsàn *n.* herb sp. laxative used to treat children

səsānmenàn *adv.* like that; so *tē kyun səsānmenàn* we gather like that → we arranged it like that *syn* **səsān1**.

səsemgbò *n.* red-headed lovebird *Agapornis pullaria*

səsə *pl. səsə n.* breast; tit

səsè *adv.* in the past *kə gyār sàsè* one time in the past

səsèmu *adv.* long ago *gu kyu sàsèmu* he die long ago → he died long ago

sāsèn *pl. — n.* beer filter *yāmē sē sāsèn* this is beer filter

səsèn *pl. — n.* large swelling [large swelling that can appear under the armpits or on the breast. Filled with pus, it is usually drained by piercing with a hot iron]

sè bər *int.* how long? how much? *wā rē kpō mē kājī sè bər?* you buy bag this money much how? *wā ban sē bər dā là nan ndu mē* you take years how many and cont. do work this? → How long have you been doing this work?

sèn *v.* to filter liquids; to strain; sieve *vənggā là sèn prē* girl is filtering kunu *syn* **ngwār**.

sěn *int.* how? *wā sē sèn* you are how?

Sənmgbā *p.n.* personal name

sè tādà *num.* eighty *nggā sē bā brē krī sè tādà*

I be with yam heaps eighty
sè tàr *num.* thirty *sɛ nggā sē sɛ sè tàr* years I am years thirty
shā *v.* to be present *gu shā* he is present *syn* **shāmān**.
Shākwo *p.n.* personal name
shāmān *v.* to be present; to exist *gu shāmān ə kà* he is-present at home *syn* **shā**.
shān *n.* acca cultivar [brown, it swells when cooked]
shàn *pl.* shān *v.* to fetch water from a stream *shàn māsər shē tsə mē* fetch water fill these pots
shǎn *v.* to despise *wā shan kī mwōn* you despise things too much
Shǎnnē *p.n.* personal name
shār *pl.* shar *n.* small frog sp. known for its powerful jumps
shàr *v.* to invite *shàr nē tā man ywe glā kwō* invite people we go chase bush-fowl
Shāyo *p.n.* personal name
shàzə *adv.* tiptoeing
shǎ *pl.* shə *n.* iron clapperless bell [beaten during the funeral dance]



shǎ

shər *v.* to grow thin; grow lean; emaciate *vānggā mē shər* girl this is getting lean
shə rin *v.p.* to swear; to take oath *Jalà shə rin* Jalà took oath
shər tōn *v.p.* to pay close attention *shər tōn bā nggā* → pay close attention with (to) me
shəshàre *pl.* shəshàre *n.* village weaver bird *Ploceus cucullatus*
shē1 *v.* to fill *māsər shē tsā* water fill pot
shē2 *v.* to fullfil *nggā shē ren yā nggā kan zwē* I fullfil talk which I take keep
shē3 *v.* to patch up s.t.; fix; mend; repair *nggā là shē zəkpa* I cont. patch up my shoes
shē4 *pl.* mǎshē *n.* fish-trap, conical valve type
Shēkō *p.n.* personal name
Shēngwōn *p.n.* personal name
Shēnnē *p.n.* personal name
Shēren *p.n.* personal name
shī1 *pl.* — *v.* to peel; carve *Mbēcūn là shī krī* Mbēcūn cont. peel yams

shī2 *n.* tree sp.
shì1 *pl.* — *n.* leprosy
shì2 *n.* coolness of room due to excessive rainfall *tār mē ban shì te* room this take coolness make → this room is cool
shirì *adv.* in the open; openly; public *ren mē kur be shirì menān* the matter is lie out openly only → the issue is out in the public
shisha *n.* residue of acca; groundnut; chaff
shishà *a.* describes s.o. who looks pale because of intoxication from wine or drugs *gu sà mǎ dā sē shishà gu me* he drank wine and is pale him only → he's looking pale from drinking too much
shishar *pl.* — *n.* junior *gu sē shishar nggā* he is junior my
shishēn *pl.* — *n.* life
shīshī1 *pl.* — *n.* boil *shīshī ru nggā* boil comes-out (of) me → I have a boil *syn* **rō**.
shīshī2 *n.* black beniseed; sesame *Sesamum* sp.
shò1 *pl.* shō *n.* honey; bee *shò tar Bàba* → bee stung Father
shò2 *pl.* shō *n.* crested porcupine *Hystrix cristatus*



shò2

Shò *p.n.* personal name
shǒ1 *pl.* nywēn shō *n.* calf of cow
shǒ2 *v.* to make trouble *wā là shǒ bə fōren mūn?* you cont. troubling them to fight why?
shū *loc.* up; above *kàkə sa ə shū* hen perched at up
shùn *pl.* shun *v.* to bring out; go out; exit
Shùnkī *p.n.* personal name
shǔnkì *pl.* shunkī *n.* fruit sp.
shun nten *v.p.* to go out and defecate *nggā là shun nten* I cont. defecate outside
shūr *v.* to wander aimlessly; to ramble *vēn nggā là shūr ə Jōs* child my cont. wander at Jos
shushù *a.* wet; green; fresh *gāga sē shushù* grass is green
shē *pl.* — *n.* fermented locust-seed cakes; local maggi
shē kpàn *n.* fermented cakes made from sorrel seeds
shən *v.* to wake up; awake *nggā shen nānā* I wake

sleep
sò *n.* tree sp. *Newbouldia laevis*



sò

sô *adv.* straight; upright *tàrkì mē kre sô* tree that stands straight
sòn *v.* to cough *Māme là sòn kpàkprè* Māme cont. cough catarrh
sòn1 *pl.* *sòn* *v.* to sow *Mbāren là sòn kpu* Mbāren cont. sow guinea-corn
sòn2 *pl.* *sòn* *v.* to sit; stay *te sòn ə sākànmē* sit down at this place
sònsù *n.* holiday; vacation *mbrē se sònsù* tomorrow is holiday
sssp-sssp *id.* describes sipping a hot liquid *nggā là vun māsər gloglo de ssp-ssp* I cont. catch water hot de sssp-sssp
su1 *v.* to unroll; unfold; untie *sū mgbārīn mē* untie rope this
su2 *s.v.* to be cool *māsər sù mgbān* water is cool much
sū *pl.* *su* *v.* to put; reach *shàn māsər sū ə tsā* fetch water put in container
sur *v.* to suffer from diarrhoea *nggā là sur* I cont. suffer from diarrhoea
sūr1 *pl.* — *n.* diarrhoea; dysentery *sūr là te nggā* diarrhoea cont. has me
sūr2 *pl.* — *n.* kidney
sūr3 *pl.* *sur* *n.* hen; chicken; fowl *yàmē sē sūr*

kàkē this is a hen
sùr1 *v.* to boil *sùr nggā māsər* boil (for) me water
sùr2 *v.* to judge *Tīyà là sùr Tsēncun ren* Father cont. judge Tsēncun talk
sùr3 *pl.* — *n.* small, destructive termites
sūrkā *pl.* — *n.* medicinal, scented plant used to cure headaches
susù *pl.* — *a.* well; cool *nggā sē susù* I am well
susur *pl.* — *n.* liver
sūswē *n.* feathergrass *Loudetia annua*
suswē *a.* new *làgā nggā sē suswē* shirt my is new
sūswe *pl.* — *n.* ankle rattles [made from tree seeds on strings. Anyone can put them on to dance for the funeral dance *glòkyū*.]

swā *s.v.* to be sour *nyinyī swa* soup (is) sour
swàà *id.* describes s.o. full up and satisfied lying down *kyen kùr yà gu là kùr swàà nān mägýàr* see how he is lying satisfied and full
swē *pl.* *swē* *v.* to bathe; wash *gu là swē* he cont. bathe
swē *n.* termite sp.
swě *v.* to peel (maize) *tā là swē kpumkpàn* we cont. peel maize
Swěmàshi *p.n.* personal name
Swěnyū *p.n.* personal name
Swěza *p.n.* personal name
swē *v.* to clean *swē nggā gōn* clean (for) me (my) back
se *pl.* *sē* *n.* year *yàmē sē se yā gyər nggā ə Jòs* this is year of first I (am) at Jos *wə se se se tār tun* you years are years three five → you are 35
sen *pl.* *māsēn* *n.* song *nggā là ywe tswē dō sen* I cont. go place sing song

T t

tā *pl.* *ta* *v.* **1)** to throw *ban mgbantā tā* take stone throw **2)** to shoot *syn tar3*.
Tābə *p.n.* personal name
tàcù *pl.* *tacu* *n.* tree sp.
tā gyō *v.p.* to throw away; out; down *kan yā tā gyō* take it throw away
Tākā *p.n.* personal name
takī *pl.* — *n.* fertiliser (< H.)
tāki *pl.* — *n.* owner
tākikə *pl.* *taki məkə* *n.* house owner; landlord



sūswě

Tākpīr *p.n.* personal name
tambrishə *n.* worm-like insect which inflicts wounds on people's feet especially during the rainy season *yàmē sē tambrishə* this is tambrishə
tāngbā *num.* seven; seventh *tāngbā nggā rīmē nggā la re lā yo* seven I today I neg. eat food not → this is the seventh day that I haven't eaten
tāngbā ndu *p.n.* Sunday
-tan interrogative formant

tān *v.* to collect; to pick up *nggā là ywe tswē tān sāsān* I cont. go place collect cornstalks
tàn1 *s.v.* to be tall; high *tərki mē tan* tree this is tall *syn* **tàn ndē**.
tàn2 *v.* to chew *nggā là tan nan* I cont. chew meat
tāncà *v.* to agonise *Tīyà là tāncà* grandfather cont. agonise
tāndà *num.* eight *tā sē ə hwə yā tāndà* we are at month of eight
tāndō *n.* tin
Tānē *p.n.* personal name
tangganrang *id.* sound of broken plates *nywēn nzə kəkəre dā ngar tangganrang* glass cups fell down and broke into pieces
tàn ndē *v.p.* to be tall *vālən mē tàn ndē tetswē yo* man this be tall very not *syn* **tàn1**.
Tānnē *p.n.* personal name
tānnèn *num.* six *yāmē sē hwə yā tānnèn* this is month of six (June)
tan...nyər *v.p.* to bite *tan yā nyər* chew it teeth → bite it
tǎn nyər nyər *v.p.* to regret *gu là tǎn nyər nyər fāfā me* he/she is chewing teeth for nothing → his regrets have no effect
Tānyān *p.n.* personal name
tàprē *pl.* tapre *n.* cruciform wooden whistle played solo for funerals
tar1 *adv.* firmly *gu nan vūn tār* he do catch firmly
tar2 *num.* three *yāmē sē krī tar* these are yams three
tar3 *v.* to shoot; be shot at *wā tar nggā mūn?* you shoot at me why *syn* **tā 2**.
tar4 *v.* to mix; move *tār māsər ə prē* mix water at (with) pre
tār *pl.* mètār *n.* room *yāmē sē tār* this is a room
tār1 *num.* three (in compounds)
tār2 *pl.* tar *v.* to kick *gu kàn zo zə yā ywā tār gu* he took raised leg of two (2nd leg) kicked him
tǎr *num.* third
tǎrcū *v.* sound of s.o. searching for s.t. *sē nggwǒ là tǎrcū ə tār?* it-is who cont. moving at (in) the-room
tarnggā(n) *pl.* mètarnggā(n) *n.* Hadada ibis *Bostrychia hagdāsh*
tārtār *v.* to follow closely; chase; pursue *wā là zwē nggā tārtār mwōn* you cont. follow me too closely
tārwu *pl.* mètārwu *n.* clinic *te nggā ywe ə tārwu* father my went at clinic
tashèn *v.* to awaken from death; to resurrect *Yēsū kyū dā tashèn* → Jesus died and (was) resurrected

tātsu *pl.* tatsu *n.* amphisbaenid snake; blind snake *Typhlops punctatus*
te1 *v.* to have *nggā te bābər* I possess motorcycle
te2 *v.* to occur; happen *kyū te* death occurred → there was a death
te3 *v.* to make *bə te nggā ndu* they make me message
te4 *pl.* tē *v.* to become *nggā kan te wān rē do* I then become one-who sells
te5 *v.* to fetch (water) *te māsər nā nggā* fetch water give me
te6 *v.* to pack; store *tā lə te kpu yā kà tā mbrē* we will pack (into the granary) guinea corn of house ours tomorrow
tè *pl.* te, tōte *n.* father *syn* **tīyà**.
te cucu *v.p.* to be a prostitute *vānggā mē là te cucu* girl this cont. 'make wind' → this girl is a prostitute
te...dē 1) *v.p.* to be difficult *vālən mē de yə te gu dē* man this (said) that it make him difficult → this man said it was difficult for him **2)** *s.v.* to be tired; fatigued; exhausted
te...do *v.p.* to bargain; to be costly *wā là te do ləgā mē?* you cont. bargain (for) shirt this? → Are you bargaining for this shirt?
te...gi *v.p.* to steal; rob *vālən mū te nggā gi ndō* man that did me stole cow → the man that stole my cow
te gyār *v.p.* to be angry; enraged; furious *nggā là te gyār* I cont. make anger → I am angry
tè...kə *v.p.* to think; consider *te kə kyən mū, sē nggwǒ wān ban krī* think see it-is who one-who took the-yam
tekpām *v.* to squat *tekpām ə sākàn mē* squat down here
te ngā *v.p.* to be unconcerned *wā là te ngā bā nggwǒ?* → why are you so unconcerned about me like this?
te...ngwōn *v.* to wave *sē nggwǒ wān te wā ngwōn* it is who one-who make you hand (...who waved to you)
te nka *s.v.* to be playful *gu tsə tswē te nka kànàn me* he knows how to be playful very much
te...nzē *v.* to decorate; ornament *wā te tār wā nzē?* you make room your decorate?
te...sōn *v.* to sit *nyə tè sōn ə sākānmē* come sit down at here
tetswē *a.i.* very (tall) *tàn ndē tetswē* be very tall
tə1 *v.* to fetch (honey) *Dà kəgyō Kagbōn de nā bə ywē kə tə shə* and put to tortoise that let them go to fetch honey
tə2 *s.v.* to be rusty *nzār nggā tə* hoe my is rusted
tā *pron.* we (1st plural subject pronoun)
tà *pron.* us (1st plural object pronoun)

tàbà *n.* tobacco *wā ywe kàn tàbà nā gu?* you went took tobacco gave him?
tàkpàn pl. *təkpan n.* tubular mat enclosing a corpse made from palm leaves and woven in strips
tàkpā tsā pl. *təkpa tsā n.* potsherd used for frying
tàkpǎ pl. *təkpə n.* tree sp.
tàkpǒ *n.* grass sp. *Heteropogon contortus*
tàlà *a.* muddy (water) *yàmē sē tàlà māsār* → this is muddy water
Tāndè *p.n.* personal name
tāndur *n.* sunstroke *tāndur là nan gu* sunstroke cont. do him
tāndūr *n.* tree sp.
tāntàn *v.n.* stammering; stuttering *gu là ngan tāntàn* he cont. break stutter → he's stuttering
tāntō *n.* aerial yam *Dioscorea bulbifera*
tāntōn *n.* ash; cinders
tāntūr *adv.* remotest past; time immemorial *tāntūr sàsè mu* long ago time past
tāntūr matò *n.* tomato (< E.)
tār₁ pl. — *n.* lower back; waist
tār₂ pl. — *v.* to deny *gu là tār rēn nggān me* he cont. deny talks very much
tār₁ pl. *mètār n.* light indicating presence of witches
tār₂ *v.* to break, snap *vūn kukukì tār* catch stick break *syn ngār.*
tārbwè *n.* fig tree sp. *Ficus sp.*
tārki pl. *tərki, mètərki n.* tree
tārkyū *v.p.* to struggle with death *gu là tərkyū* he cont. struggle with death → he is about to die
tārmgbù pl. *tərmgbu n.* snake sp.
tārmvū pl. *tərmvu n.* spotted hyena *Crocuta crocuta*



tārmvū

tārtswē pl. — *v.* to start out at daybreak; get started early *nggā là tārtswē nzen dā ywe kā* I fut. get-up-early later and go house
tātar ywè *num.* three of them
tātē pl. *tāte n.* father; elder
tātā pl. *mètātā n.* bow *ywē bàn tātā ə tār cà nggā mān* go take bow at room bring me
tātələ pl. *tātələ n.* lantern; lamp; light (< H. *fitila*)

tātār *a.* rough; careless; untidy *mfütù wā sē tātār* hair your is untidy
tàtò *adv.* maybe; possibly; perhaps *tàtò Mbādo là nyā mbrē* → maybe Mbādo will come tomorrow *syn kāndà, munyàn, njwēn.*
tātur pl. — *n.* whirlwind; dust-devil *tātur là te* whirlwind cont. happen → there's a whirlwind
tèkpū pl. *təkpu n.* cornstalk
tīyà pl. — *n.* father *syn tē.*
tīyār pl. — *num.* nine *sē nggā sē tīyār* years my are nine
tō₁ *v.* to burn *cu glo tō tswē* fetch fire burn place *syn wū 1.*
tō₂ pl. to *v.* to pierce; stab; to prick *gu ban njī to nggā* he took knife pierce me
tō₃ pl. to *v.* to crow *gbā là tō* cock cont. crows
tō *v.* to say s.t. that hurts s.o. *gu dan nggā rēn yā tō dār* he said s.t. to me that hurt me
Tōbā *p.n.* personal name
tō *adv.* quietly; silently *kan zwè tō me* take keep quietly only
tō pl. *tō s.v.* to be good *kì mē tō* thing this is good
tō mwōn *v.p.* to wish strongly for s.t. to occur again *tō mwōn sāsānmenān me* it is good like that → there is no problem with what has happened
tōn *v.* to drip *māsār là tōn* water cont. drip
tōn pl. *mètōn n.* ear
tōn *v.* to sieve (using winnowing tray) *Gyùrbā là tōn mùmu ə kà* Gyùrbā cont. sieving corn powder at home *syn zōn₁.*
tōn shō *n.* honey *nggā là ywe tswē rē tōn shō* I cont. go place buy honey bee (bee honey)
tōntàn pl. *mètōntàn n.* karaya gum tree *Sterculia setigera*
tōnzē pl. *tōnzē s.v.* to be good; beautiful; fine *vānggā mē tōnzē* girl this be beautiful
Tōnzē *p.n.* personal name
tsa₁ pl. *tsā s.v.* to be white *zā wā tsa* leg your is white *kākā nggā tsa* hens my are white
tsa₂ *adv.* high; tall *tswē mē zo tsa* place this is raised high *tu gu tsa* head his white
tsànì *n.* malachite kingfisher *Alcedo cristata*
tsàr pl. *tsar v.* to show; teach; instruct *tsar nggā kā gya* show me house your
Tsàr kàdəriri *excl.* implies despising s.o. *Tsàr kàdəriri! Wā sē nggwō shishen?* Hah! Who are you? → this is actually looking down on the person as being insignificant
tse pl. *tsētse n.* town; village; settlement *tse yā bā mē yā ə tù gbù là la sē yāryār* yo town which they build it at top hill fut. neg. be secret not
tsē pl. *tse v.* to beat; clap; strike together *tsē gu*

ngwɔn beat him hands → clap for him
tsè pl. tse *n.* guinea-fowl
Tsēbā *p.n.* personal name
tsèkpǎ *n.* banded mongoose *Mungos mungo*
tsā1 pl. tsā *n.* pot, vessel, jar (generic)
tsā2 pl. tsā *v.* to know *gu tsā tswē* he knows places
tsāka *n.* gravel for flooring
tsākì *n.* knowledge; learning *gu tsākì nggān me* he has knowledge
tsàntsā pl. tsantsa *n.* army ant
tsàntsē pl. — *n.* smoke
Tsàntsē *p.n.* personal name
tsār *v.* to be solid; thick; viscous *prē tsār rēn, nggyě?* guinea-corn drink is solid why *syn kpāntèn.*
tsār pl. tsār *n.* mahogany tree *Khaya senegalensis*



tsār

tsārēn *v.* to have wisdom; to have sagacity *gu tsārēn nggān me* he knows talk very much → he has wisdom
tsē pl. tsē *n.* chest
tsê *n.* a little; small amount *yà kədè sē tsê me* which remains is little only
tsēn *v.* to cut down (tree) *gu là tsēn tārki* he cont. cut down tree
tsèn pl. tsen *n.* spitting cobra *Naja nigricollis*



tsèn

Tsēnbā *p.n.* personal name
Tsēncun *p.n.* personal name
Tsēnkpā *p.n.* personal name
tsēn ... mfèn *v.p.* to put out a leg to cause s.o. to stumble *gu tsēn nggā mfèn* he cut me leg to fall me
Tsēnnē *p.n.* personal name

Tsēnrēn *p.n.* personal name
tsō *a.* correct; right; exact *yā sē tsō* it is correct
tsò *n.* poison; toxin; venom *tārki mē te tsò* tree this makes poison
tsòtsò *adv.* completely; correctly *yā sē zwē tsòtsò* it is follow completely → it is complete
tsō1 *num.* twelve *nā nggā tsā tsō* give me pots twelve
tsō2 *v.* to vomit *nggā là tsō* I cont. vomit
tsō3 *v.* to shave the head; to smoothe; plane *te nggā tsō nggā tu* father my shaved me head (my) *tsō nggā kātākū mē* smooth (for) me wood this
tsu *v.* to die (pl.) *kākā nggā tsu* chickens my died *sg. kyu.*
tsū dār *v.p.* to become afraid due to bad news; panic *nggā kan tsu dār òtù kì yà gu dan* I then die heart over thing which he said → I panicked over s.t. he said
tsūr *n.* group; cluster (of small things, tiny creatures, birds, heat rashes etc.)
tsùtsù pl. — *adv.* describes falling gently *glō là te tsùtsù* rain cont. has gentleness
tsùtsùglō *n.* raindrops
Tsùtsùglō *p.n.* personal name
tsutswè pl. — *n.* grasshopper sp.
tswē1 pl. — *n.* place; here *tswē yā tā sē mān* place which we are now
tswē2 pl. — *n.* rainy season (archaic) *yàmē sē mkpān tswē* this is time rainy season
tswē pl. tswe *s.v.* to be strong *vālōn mē tswē* man this is strong
tswēyāmē *conj.* so; therefore; because *tā ma bā gu ə nkòn tswēyāmē tā kan nyā kā gigyār* we met with him at road so we then came home together
tswātswe *adv.* quickly; rapidly; speedily; fast ... *dātswē yā man nyā sū tswātswe ...* so.that it (pl) then come reach quickly
tswē *v.* to scatter helter-skelter because of danger (people, animals) (N.B. falling tone indicates plurality to speakers.) *bā kān vār tswē* they then scatter helter-skelter
tu pl. mètù *n.* top; head *kākā sa ə tū tār* hen perched at top room
tukpà 1) *n.* body *nggā nan kì mē tukpà nggā* I did thing this by body myself **2)** *pron.* myself; first singular reflexive pronoun
tu māmē *n.p.* head of the land; governor *Lalong sē tu māmē* Plateau State Lalong is governor (of) Plateau State
tun *num.* five *cu mgbantə tūn lwè nyà* pick stones five carry come
tūn *num.* fifth *nggā sē wān tūn* I be one-who fifth

tu ngār *n.p.* headache
Tunggōn *p.n.* personal name
tun ndu *p.n.* Friday
tūr *n.* divination to try and find out who has done
s.t. bə vu kəywà ywe tswē tur they carry
 themselves go place divination
tùr1 *pl. tur v.* to push *tur yā* push it
tùr2 *a.* mouldy; rotten; decaying; decomposing
kàmù mē sē tūr me akamu this is mouldy only
tùr3 *n.* guinea-corn husk *yàmē sē tūr kpu* this is

husk guinea-corn
tur...mā *v.p.* to assist s.o. to climb up (the
 context is always understood) *nggā là tur gu*
mā I cont. assist him
tyā1 *pl. tyə n.* duiker *Cephalophus sp.*
tyā2 *pl. mētyā n.* neck
Tyir! *excl.* expressing a wish not to do s.t. bad
Tyir! nggā là lā nan nkinē sāsānmenàn → God
 forbid that I do s.t like that

V v

va *pl. — n.* discharge that forms round the eyes
 during sleep
vā *v.* to scatter (people) *mānē kan kan vā* the
 people then take scatter
vāā *id.* describes talking nonsense *gu là ren vāā*
mwōn he cont. talk nonsense xx
Vānē *p.n.* personal name
vār *pl. vār v.* to scatter (things) *sē nggwō wān kan*
bemkpān vār ə māmē? it is who who took
 maize scattered at (on) the-ground
vē *pl. — n.* days
vəcəkpancin *pl. nywēnkpancin n.* pin-tailed
 whydah *Vidua macroura*



vəcəkpancin

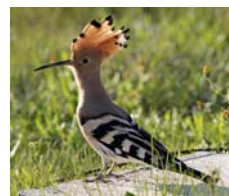
vəcùn *pl. nywēncun n.* striped mouse
Lemniscomys sp.



vəcùn

Vəcùn *p.n.* personal name
vəgrēnnyū *pl. nywēngrennyū n.* pygmy
 kingfisher *Ceyx picta*

vəgyòn *pl. nywēngyòn n.* hare; rabbit *Lepus*
crawshayi
Vəgyòn *p.n.* personal name
vəkagbōn *n.* tortoise
vəkpir *pl. nywēnkpir n.* antelope sp.
vəkpotù *n.* hoopoe *Upopa epops*



vəkpotù

vəlōn *pl. ləlōn n.* man
vəmbàn *pl. nywēnmban n.* hawk; eagle
vəmgbūmgburwē *a.* describes s.o. who looks
 like a small toad (abusive complement
 precedes the reflexive pronoun)
vəmgbūmgburwē kəywē mə bà! yourself is
 like a small toad
vəmkpanār *pl. nywēnkpanar n.* bird sp.
vəmpāne *pl. nywēnmpāne n.* red-billed wood-
 dove *Turtur afer*
vəmpərò *pl. nywēnmpəro n.* long-crested helmet-
 shrike *Prionops plumata*
vəmvèn *pl. nywēnmvèn n.* sunbird *Nectariniidae*
vəncān *n.* bird sp. which sits on ridges in the
 farm, probably the wagtail
vənce *pl. nywēn nce n.* bird (generic)
Vənce *p.n.* personal name
vəndakpyèn *pl. nywēn ndakpyen n.* grass
 warbler *Cisticola sp.*
vəndəndān *pl. nywēn ndəndān n.* wood mouse
Hylomyscys spp.
vənggā *pl. mənggā n.* girl; maiden

Vānggānggwe <i>p.n.</i> personal name	warm-up fire → I'm warming myself by the fire
Vānggārì <i>p.n.</i> personal name	
vānggārin pl. mānggārin <i>n.</i> 1) betrothed virgin <i>vānggā mē sē vānggārin</i> girl this is virgin	vrē <i>n.</i> day after tomorrow <i>nggā lā nyā vrē</i> I fut. come day-after-tomorrow
2) female masquerade <i>yāmē sē vānggārin</i> this is female masquerade	vrè1 pl. — <i>v.</i> to breathe; respire <i>vēn là vrè</i> child cont. breathes
Vānggārin <i>p.n.</i> personal name	vrè2 <i>v.</i> to pain; to hurt <i>kāmvrè ngwòn là vrè nggà</i> finger mine cont. pain me
vānggù pl. nywēnnggu <i>n.</i> dove <i>vānggù hwòn ə kà tà</i> dove hatched at house our	vrējō pl. — <i>v.</i> to whistle <i>gu là vrenjō</i> he cont. whistle
vānjēnjè pl. nywēnjènjè <i>n.</i> bird sp.	Vrējō <i>p.n.</i> personal name
vānkòn pl. nywēnkòn <i>n.</i> path; track; trail	vrūùm <i>id.</i> describes the sound of a motorcycle <i>gyō bābār glo nā yā gī de vrūùm put</i> motorcycle fire let it cry de
Vāntsē <i>p.n.</i> personal name	vū pl. vu <i>v.</i> 1) to sweep <i>Jalà là vu tswē</i> Jalà cont. sweeps place 2) to carry away
vānyēn nggye <i>pron.</i> whatever <i>dàgba sē vānyēn nggye</i> if-not it-is small-whatever (whatever it is)	vūn1 <i>v.</i> to smoke fish, meat on fire <i>Te tē là vūn nan ə glo</i> Father our cont. smoke meat at fire
vānyòn pl. nywēnyòn <i>n.</i> small granary for storing grains such as acca, beniseed etc <i>yāmē sē vānyòn</i> this is small granary	vūn2 pl. vun <i>v.</i> to catch; hold on to; sieze; grasp <i>vūn yā lwè</i> catch it
vānzē pl. nywēnze <i>n.</i> gazelle	vu ngà pl. vū ngà <i>v.p.</i> to go past; out of the way <i>gu ywe vū yā ngà (...)</i> he went siezed it passed → he went by it
vānzè pl. nywēnzè <i>n.</i> young man	vūn nzē <i>v.p.</i> to stubbornly refuse to do s.t. <i>gu vun nzē de gu lā la nan ndu yā yo</i> he stubbornly refuse that he will neg. do work of it not → he stubbornly refused to do the work
vārà pl. nywēnra <i>n.</i> medium size granary <i>yāmē sē rā mānggā</i> this is my granary <i>syn</i> gùr2 .	vwāāp <i>id.</i> describes how s.t. is snatched from s.o. by force <i>vāmbàn kla vākākā bàn vwāāp e agle</i> snatched (a) chick at once
vāryàn pl. nywēnryan <i>n.</i> harrier hawk <i>Polyboroides radiatus</i>	ven <i>v.</i> to quarrel; argue <i>mbāmbā là ven</i> women cont. quarrel <i>syn</i> rē ntan .
vāsàr pl. nywēnsàr <i>n.</i> Gambian tree squirrel <i>Helioscurus gambianus</i>	
vāsùr <i>n.</i> antelope sp.	
vātēndār pl. nywētēndar <i>n.</i> quail	
vātò pl. nywētò <i>n.</i> palm civet ?	
vāvà pl. — <i>n.</i> green insect sp. that sits on leaves and emits a fluid that makes you scratch	
vāywudà pl. nywēnywudà <i>n.</i> domestic pigeon	
vēn1 pl. nywēn <i>n.</i> boy	
vēn2 pl. nywēn <i>n.</i> fruit	
vre <i>v.</i> to warm up by <i>nggā là vre glo</i> I cont.	

W w

wādēn <i>adv.</i> arriving early for s.t. <i>tē ywe mān wādēn</i> we went there early	nincompoop <i>wā sē wānfā</i> you are a fool <i>syn</i> kpàr .
wān pl. bān <i>pron.</i> who; one who; one of; one; person of (relative pronoun, but also a fronted singular pronoun used with demonstratives)	wāngbò pl. bāngbò <i>p.n.</i> Igbo
wān- pl. bān- <i>pref.</i> alternating prefix marking persons (A grammaticalised form of the relative pronoun and not a historical noun prefix)	wāngì pl. bāngì <i>n.</i> thief; robber; burglar
wāndēn pl. bāndēn <i>n.</i> modern doctor	wānkà pl. bānkà <i>n.</i> house owner
Wāndō <i>p.n.</i> personal name	wānkłā pl. wankla <i>n.</i> arm bangle used during dancing <i>yāmē sē wānkłā</i> this is an arm bangle
wāndò pl. bāndò <i>n.</i> farmer; peasant <i>wā sē wāndò?</i> are you a farmer?	wānkpānnēn pl. bānkpānnēn <i>n.</i> soldier; policeman <i>gu sē wānkpānnēn</i> → he is a policeman
wānfā pl. bānfā <i>n.</i> fool; idiot; nitwit;	wānlāzā, wānfùkpò pl. bānlāzā, bānfùkpò <i>n.</i> blacksmith; smith <i>gu sē wānlāzā</i> → he is a blacksmith
	wān(re)kwār pl. bān(re)kwār <i>n.</i> wizard; sorcerer;

<p>witch; magician <i>nggwō sē wānkwār?</i> who is a wizard</p> <p>wānrèkī pl. <i>bānrèkī n.</i> trader; merchant <i>gu sē wānrèdo</i> → he is a trader</p> <p>wāntan <i>int.</i> who? which? <i>sē wāntan anywī mēnē mē wān nggā lā cu?</i> this who among people these who I will choose <i>wānmē sē wāntan?</i> one this is which-one</p> <p>wāntānan pl. <i>bāntānan n.</i> hunter <i>gu sē wāntānan</i> he is one-who hunt</p> <p>wāntēwu pl. <i>bāntēwu n.</i> herbalist; traditional doctor</p> <p>wānwō pl. <i>bānwō n.</i> blind man <i>gu sē wānwō</i> he is a blind man</p> <p>wānwùntān pl. <i>bānwùntān n.</i> tanner <i>ndu gu sē yā wùntān</i> work his is of tanner</p> <p>wānywànan pl. <i>bānywànan n.</i> butcher <i>gu sē wānywànan</i> he is a butcher</p> <p>war1 pl. — <i>n.</i> runniness <i>mvre wā te war</i> nose yours has runniness</p> <p>war2 pl. — <i>n.</i> immoral behaviour; sin <i>yāmē sē kī yā war</i> this is a-thing of immoral behaviour</p> <p>wartàwar-wartàwar <i>id.</i> describes the chirping of small black birds (<i>vəkəgbù</i>) found around rocks <i>nywēn kākəgbu lā gi de wartàwar-wartàwar</i> children-birds cont. cry that</p> <p>wā <i>pron.</i> you sg. subject pronoun <i>wā lā ywē ywā?</i> you cont. go where?</p> <p>wà <i>pron.</i> you sg. object pronoun <i>sē nggwō wān</i></p>	<p><i>tse wà?</i> it-is who who beat you?</p> <p>wəndō pl. <i>wəndō n.</i> trousers (< H. wando)</p> <p>wowowo <i>id.</i> describes the barking of a dog <i>nggāgyū lā te glā de wowowo</i> dog barks that</p> <p>wō pl. — <i>n.</i> blindness <i>zāngyər nggā ku wō</i> brother my fell blind</p> <p>wò pl. <i>wō v.</i> to rear; feed <i>gu lā wò nggāgyū</i> he cont. rear dog</p> <p>wōnkī pl. <i>məwōnkī n.</i> hole in tree <i>yāmē sē wōnkī</i> this is a hole</p> <p>wu1 <i>v.</i> to swell up; inflate <i>mgbāntə tar nggā ə bishi an yā wu</i> stone shoot me at eye and it swell</p> <p>wu2 pl. — <i>n.</i> medicine; medicament; remedy</p> <p>wù1 <i>s.v.</i> to be satisfied <i>nggā sē māsər dā wu</i> I drank water and was satisfied</p> <p>wù2 pl. <i>wu n.</i> mosquito</p> <p>wū <i>v.</i> 1) to burn <i>glo lā wu mgbəga</i> fire cont. burns the grass <i>syn kpōwu, tō1.</i> 2) to be hot <i>māsər mē wu glo</i> water this is-hot fire <i>syn goglo.</i></p> <p>wukī pl. <i>məwukī n.</i> tree sp.</p> <p>wushi pl. — <i>n.</i> happiness; pleasure; joy <i>nggā lā te wushi</i> I cont. make happy <i>syn zāzè.</i></p> <p>Wùzə <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p>
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Y y

<p>yā pl. — <i>n.</i> mother; mum <i>syn gyər2.</i></p> <p>yà pl. <i>māyiyà n.</i> female friend <i>Mbēcūn bā Mbāren sē māyiyà Mbēcūn bā Mbāren</i> are friends <i>Vəntsē sē yà Vənce Vəntsē</i> is a friend of Vənce</p> <p>Yākwə <i>p.n.</i> personal name</p> <p>yà ngwəɔn <i>v.p.</i> to swing arms as you walk <i>gu lā yà ngwəɔn</i> he cont. swing arms</p> <p>yà nyū <i>v.p.</i> to bring out particles of food hidden by the molars with the tongue <i>Bəryo lā yà nyū anrèn nzan sən gu ngà Bəryo</i> cont. ‘moving’ mouth because food sits his cheek</p> <p>yàwū <i>n.</i> grass sp. that has burs which stick to passers-by</p> <p>yə <i>pron.</i> they; them; it [3rd person non-animate pronoun, both singular and plural]</p> <p>yə1 <i>pron.</i> they; them; it 3rd person non-animate object pronoun <i>ban yā débà</i> take it give way <i>bə tse yā</i> they beat it</p> <p>yə2 <i>part.</i> that (relative particle) <i>tā nan yā tā lā ...</i></p>	<p>we did that we will ...</p> <p>yə <i>pron.</i> what (relative pronoun)</p> <p>yəmē pl. <i>yəmē pron.</i> this (only of objects, not people) <i>nggā lā dan wā ətù kī yəmē</i> I cont. tell you about things these</p> <p>yāmā <i>dem.</i> that <i>kī yāmā</i> thing that</p> <p>yəmū pl. <i>yəmū dem.</i> that (objects, not people) <i>nggā lā dan wā ətù kī yəmū</i> I cont. tell you about thing that</p> <p>yətan <i>int.</i> which? <i>se yətan anywī kī mē nā nggā ban</i> this what among things these who I will choose</p> <p>yo1 <i>adv.</i> not <i>nggā lā la nan yo</i> I will neg. do-it not</p> <p>yo2 <i>n.</i> millet <i>yāmē sē be yo</i> this is millet</p> <p>yōkpə <i>s.v.</i> to be lazy <i>wā lā yōkpə kənanme</i> you cont. be lazy too much</p> <p>yōyō <i>id.</i> describing s.o. doing s.t lazily <i>sē nānggye wā lā nan yōyō nān?</i> what are you doing lazily like this?</p>
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yūr pl. yur *n.* male goat
ywa *v.* to mix *Yā là ywa nzan* Mother cont. mix guinea corn food
ywā *num.* two
ywà pl. sar *v.* to slaughter *gu là ywà gūgu* he cont. slaughter goat
ywǎ1 pl. ywa *n.* ravine; canyon *tā klwe kə nyār ə ywǎ* we ran go hide at canyon
ywǎ2 *v.* to cut [idiom for sharp pain] *nēn là ywa nggə* stomach cont. cut me → I am hungry
ywamgbar pl. — *n.* plintain
ywan pl. — *n.* rock; stone *syn mgbǎntā*.
ywān *v.* to cover; close *ban tu nggūngū ywān* take head dish cover
Ywānkā *p.n.* personal name
ywar1 *v.* to prevent; block; obstruct *doglò ywar gu nkən* get up prevent his way
ywar2 *n.* crossroads inside animal burrow
ywār pl. — *a.* sloping; uneven *tswē sē ywār* place is sloping
ywe pl. — *n.* tree used for fish-poison *Tephrosia vogelii*
ywē1 pl. mēywē *n.* in-law *wānmē sē ywē nggə* → this man is my in-law
ywē2 *n.* pumpkin; squash *yāmē sē ywē* this is pumpkin
ywè pl. ywe, ywē *v.* to go *kān tā ywe* let us go
ywēmkpār pl. — *n.* pawpaw; papaya *Carica papaya syn nkəgbò*.
ywə *v.* to wither; be withered; shrivel *kpumkpān ywə* maize is withered
ywə1 *int.* where? *wā là ywe ywə?* you cont. go where?
ywə2 *pron.* of it *nan ywə sē nāmē* the doing of it is like this

ywē pl. mēywè *n.* egg
ywəkā pl. ywəkā *n.* chicken egg
ywèn pl. ywèn *n.* hippopotamus *yāmē sē ywèn* this is a hippopotamus
ywī pl. ywī *v.* to squeeze; to crush *ywi mà làmu nā zāywē* squeeze juice orange give your child
ywī *adv.* describes smelling bad (insect, human being) *mvārki mē nyən ywī* beetle this smell bad
ywīkrū pl. — *v.* to have dysentery *gu là ywīkrū* he cont. have dysentery
ywu pl. — *n.* jealousy; envy *ywu là te gu* jealousy cont. make him
ywudā pl. ywudā *n.* speckled pigeon *Columba guinea* (dim. vəywudā)
ywur pl. — *n.* pus; lymph *mpā là gu ywur* wound cont. run pus
ywūr *n.* dust *ywūr ywan tswē* dust cover the-place
ywūr *a.* fearful; afraid; timorous *gu kan kū ywūr* he then fall afraid
ywūr glō *n.p.* fog; haze; mist *tswē là te ywūr* the-place cont. make fog
ywur nji *n.p.* sheath; scabbard *yāmē sē ywur nji* this is knife sheath
ywūryūrywūr *id.* fearfully *dər là tsū nggə ywūryūrywūr* heart cont. fall me fearfully
ywūrywūr *a.* fearful *dər nggə sē ywūrywūr me* heart my is-fearful only
ywūywār pl. ywuywər *n.* stick for beating flat the floor of a room
ywūywū *n.* tuberculosis

Z z

zà *v.* to cross over to *tā za ngga* we cross over to [the other] side *syn kūsar, ro*.
zāgū *n.* namesake *wānmē sē zāgūn nggə* this man is my namesake
zà kū *v.p.* to go in or out *gu zà kū anywī tār* he went into room
zān pl. — *n.* friend; companion; comrade; mate *tā sē zān* → we are friends *syn fəgyəywā, kpān*.
zàn *v.* 1) to disperse *tā kan zān* we then dispersed 2) to stir
zān gyār pl. nywên gyār, nywên gyəgyər *n.* sibling of the same mother *tā sē nywəngyər bā Ambe* we are brothers with Ambe

zān nzè pl. nywên nzè *n.* young man *wānmē sé zān nzè* → this boy is a young man
zān tè pl. nywên tè *n.* sibling of the same father *gu sē zān te nggə* he is sibling mine
zàr1 *n.* tree sp.
zàr2 pl. zar *n.* mirror *yāmē sē zār* this is a mirror
zē *n.* plague locust *Locusta migratoria zē là re nggə kpu* locusts cont. eat me guinea-corn
zē *v.* to put s.t. down gently *kan yā zwè zē me* take it keep gently only
zē pl. — *n.* metal; iron *yāmē sē zē* this is metal
zè pl. zə *n.* leg
zəkpə *n.* shoe *yāmē sē zəkpə* this is a shoe
zər1 *v.* to walk *gu là zər* he cont. walk

zār₂ pl. m̀̀zār *n.* tree sp. *Berlinia grandiflora*.
Zārmwān *p.n.* personal name
zəzè pl. zəze *n.* goodness ỳmē sē zəze yā Rì this is the goodness of God
zàzè pl. — *n.* joy; pleasure; happiness zàzè là te nggà joy cont. make me *syn* **wushi**.
Zəzerì *p.n.* personal name
zāzā₁ *n.* eggshell
zāzā₂ *n.* shea oak *Vitellaria paradoxa*
zē₁ *n.* kusu; rufous Nile rat *Arvicanthis sp.*
zē₂ *n.* comb ỳmē sē zē this is comb
zē pl. zē *v.* to greet nggā là zē wà I cont. greet you
zèn *v.* to winnow bā là zèn tsàkā they cont. winnow rice
zinari pl. — *n.* silver (< H.)
zō pl. — *n.* part-fermented local beer ỳmē zō m̀̀ this is part-fermented beer
zǒ pl. zo *v.* to raise up; elevate; lift up là nggā zo tsā help me raise the pot
zǒ *v.* to assist; help; aid zǒ nggā bā ndu assist me with work
zən pl. m̀̀zən *n.* junior in-law [joking partners of the speaker]
zən₁ *v.* to sieve, sift Yā là zèn bekpu Mother cont. sieve guinea-corn *syn* **tòn**.
zən₂ *n.* divination; ordeal [there are at least three types; peering into a bowl of water, forcing suspected parties to put their hand in hot oil, and a collar with a sharp point that will stab s.o. who is guilty.]
zu *v.* to soften; to soak Mbāzəze zu kī zwè yā nglā Mbāzəze soak clothes keep for washing
zù₁ pl. zu *n.* warthog *Phacocherus africanus*
zù₂ pl. zū *v.* to knot; tie together nggā là zu mgbərīn I cont. knot the rope
zǔ₁ pl. — *n.* vibration; sound tswē là te zǔ the place cont. make sound
zǔ₂ pl. zu *n.* gun; rifle; pistol ỳmē sē zǔ this is a gun
zù ngwən *v.p.* to point at gu là zù nggā ngwən he cont. point me finger
zuzù pl. zuzùzù *id.* describes sound of movement (human beings, vehicles etc.) sē nānggyè yā klwe dā te zuzùzù ribū rīn nàn? → what are those things that were running and making sound in the night like that?
zuzu pl. nywēn zuzù *n.* flappet lark *Mirafra rufocinnamonea*
zùzǔ *n.* heat rashes zùzǔ là nan vēn mē heat rashes cont. do child this
zwē *v.* to follow, pursue zwē nggā mān follow me then *syn* **kū₂**.
zwè pl. zwe, zwē *v.* 1) to keep; store ban kām̄bā zwè ə sākānmù take calabash keep there 2) to

catch

A a

- a few *a.* **nzô**
a little *n.* **tsê**
aardvark *n.* **bū¹**
abandon, to *v.* **cūn...ngwɔn**
about *part.* **ətù 2**
above *loc.* **shū**
abstain from, to *v.* **cì²**
abundant, to be *s.v.* **gan ngwɔn**
abundantly *adv.* **kənànmè**
Abyssinian roller *n.* **kànkabān**
acca *n.* **běntsu**
acca cultivar *n.* **běncī; n. shān**
accept, to *v.* **kpānyèn**
accompany, to *v.* **bān¹**
accustomed to *s.v.* **bi¹**
ache, to *v.* **bri¹; v. lā⁴**
Adam's apple *n.* **gbār²**
adapted, to be *s.v.* **bi¹**
add to, to *v.* **ngūnsū¹**
add water to a solid, to *v.* **bār¹**
add weight, to *v.* **ngre**
adhere, to *v.p.* **lo ngàn**
admonish, to *v.* **grī²; v. jan¹; v. mwàn²**
adze *n.* **gar**
aerial yam *n.* **tōntō**
aeroplane *n.* **gəmvàr**
afraid *a.* **ywūr**
afraid, to become *v.p.* **tsū dār**
African beauty snake *n.* **gwò; n. gwònywənggə**
African golden oriole *n.* **mgbōn**
African pepper *n.* **cita**
again *adv.* **nzô**
agama lizard *n.* **gbre; n. kpā; n. làmgbà**
age-mate *n.* **kələ; n. ləkə**
aged *a.* **kpəkpə**
agitatedly *adv.* **brībrī**
ago *adv.* **rěno**
agonise, to *v.* **tāncà**
agree, to *v.* **kpānyèn**
aid, to *v.* **lā²; v. zǎ**
aircraft *n.* **gəmvàr**
Akwanga town *p.n.* **Kəgbə**
alarm *n.* **ruru**
all *a.* **gba; a. kwār¹**
alone, to be *s.v.* **cər**
already *adv.* **mbē¹**
altar *n.* **kpəkpə**
alternating prefix marking persons *pref.* **wān-**
always *adv.* **cùcùn(mu)**
amazing, to be *s.v.* **mā²**
ambush, to *v.* **nùwàr**
amidst *loc.* **dəntswe**
among *loc.* **dəntswe**
amphibian *n.* **gbān; n. shār**
amphibian sp. *n.* **kukushār; n. mgbəglò**
amphisbaenid snake *n.* **tātsu**
ancestors *n.* **məcī²**
Ancho mission *p.n.* **Ncəmishòn**
Ancho town *p.n.* **Ncəcūn**
and *conj.* **an; conj. də**
angel *n.* **mələka**
angrily, to speak *v.* **kpłə glə**
angry *n.p.* **dār ngàr; a. gyār**
angry, to be *v.p.* **te gyār**
animal *n.* **nan**
animosity *n.* **bēmè**
ankle *n.* **bīshizə; n. nkən**
ankle rattles *n.* **sūswe**
announce, to *v.* **dən**
annoyed *n.p.* **dār ngàr; a. gyār**
another person *pron.* **nəmān**
answer, to *v.* **sà²**
ant sp. *n.* **kambàn**
antagonist *n.* **dənggə; n. lənggə**
antelope sp. *n.* **ryò¹; n. vəkpir; n. vəsùr**
apart *adv.* **nkan, nkānkān**
aphrodisiac *n.* **kəjì**
appeal, to *v.* **bər³**
appear and disappear, to *v.* **brī**
appear, to *v.* **kyən 2**
appetite *n.* **bùbù**
apply to, to *v.* **rē³**
appoint, to *v.* **cu**
appreciate, to *v.p.* **rē be**
approach a lady, to *v.* **hyur²**
appropriately *adv.* **brèbrè**
are *v.* **sē¹**
argue, to *v.p.* **rē ntan; v. ven**
argument *n.* **ntan**
arid *a.* **kukù**
aridify, to *v.* **ku**
arise, to *v.* **doglò**
arm *n.* **ngwɔn**
armpit *n.* **mgban**
army ant *n.* **gār; n. tsəntsā**
aroma *n.* **cumgbə; n. mgbə**
around *loc.* **gōn 2**
arrive on time, to *v.p.* **gàn...mkpān**
arrive, to *v.* **ma² 1**
arriving early for s.t. *adv.* **wādēn**
arrow *n.* **gbī; n. ntsen**
arrow shaft *n.* **kùkù**
arse *n.* **mā¹**

arthritis *n.* **gbàdò**; *n.* **kpə ngār**
 as *adv.* **sāsān**¹
 as a masquerade, to *v.* **klā**²
 ash *n.* **təntōn**
 aside *adv.* **ləgər**
 ask, to *v.* **rī**²
 assassinate, to *v.* **ngūn**¹
 assemble, to *v.* **mgbɔ**³
 assist s.o., to *v.p.* **tur...mā**
 assist, to *v.* **lā**²; *v.* **zǎ**
 at *loc.* **ə**
 at an end *adv.* **mkpun**

at first *adv.* **jàjà**
 at last *adv.* **mkpun**
 at once *adv.* **gè**; *adv.* **mē**¹; *adv.* **mēmē**
 at the back of *loc.* **nggà gōn**
 attempt, to *v.* **nər**
 aubergine *n.* **lwē**
 aunt *n.* **grě**
 authority *n.* **nggōn**
 avoid, to *v.* **cī**²
 awake, to *v.* **shən**
 awaken from death, to *v.* **tashèn**
 axe *n.* **glā**; *n.* **nggòr**; *n.* **nggě**

B b

baboon *n.* **kəgbù**
 back *n.* **gōn 1**
 backslide, to *v.* **ryən**
 backyard *n.* **ntən**
 bad *a.* **gbəjā**; *a.* **məmə**; *a.* **mvān**
 bafflement *excl.* **mbānrin**¹
 bag *n.* **gōn**; *n.* **kpō**; *n.* **mgbəgōn**
 Bahama grass *n.* **kəywe**
 bail, to *v.* **ngūn**²
 bake, to *v.* **ryō**²
 bald, to be *s.v.* **ra**¹
 ball *n.* **mgbɔ**² **1**
 Bambara groundnut *n.* **mgbərshi**
 banana *n.* **gbūr**
 banded mongoose *n.* **tsəkpǎ**
 bangle *n.* **wānkłā**
 banknote *n.* **mgbāmvū**
 banquet *n.* **gān**
 baobab *n.* **kukā**
 barbet *n.* **kpətān**
 bargain, to *v.p.* **te...do**
 barn *n.* **gūr**²; *n.* **vənyōn**
 barrel-drum *n.* **kənggān**
 barren woman *n.* **kru**
 basket *n.* **būbù**; *n.* **sàn**¹
 batchelor *n.* **klā**
 bathe, to *v.* **dər**; *v.* **swē**
 battle *n.* **kōn**
 battle with, to *v.* **fōrən**
 be *v.* **re**¹
 Be careful! Look out! *excl.* **gbyēn**¹
 be shot at, to *v.* **tar**³
 be, to *v.* **sē**¹
 bean *n.* **bēsān**
 bean cake *n.* **mənān**
 bean plant *n.* **ncìgān**

bean-cake *n.* **kàrà**
 beans *n.* **běkyèn**
 beard *n.* **məntě**
 beard of maize *n.* **mgbənjān**
 beat the floor, to *v.* **klā**
 beat, to *v.* **tsē**
 beautiful, to be *s.v.* **tōnzē**
 because *conj.* **anrèn**; *conj.* **tswēyāmē**
 because of *conj.* **dùdu**
 become, to *v.* **te**⁴
 bedbug *n.* **gyūr**
 bee *n.* **shō**¹
 bee larva *n.* **mōmi shō**
 beehive *n.* **dəmgbà shó**
 beer *n.* **mə**¹; *n.* **zō**
 beer filter *n.* **sāsèn**
 beetle sp. *n.* **lūmvù**
 beetles *n.* **mvārki**
 before *conj.* **anrīn**; *loc.* **nggà bishi**
 before sunrise *n.* **brībrī**
 beg, to *v.* **bər**³
 beginning *n.* **kùcī**
 behind *loc.* **gōn 2**; *loc.* **nggà gōn**
 belch, to *v.* **kan**²
 belittle, to *v.* **cār**²
 belly *n.* **bri**²; *n.* **mgbǎn**; *n.* **nēn**
 below *loc.* **sər**
 ben oil tree *n.* **jəgule**; *n.* **mkpən kyəgbò**
 beneath *loc.* **sər**
 beniseed *n.* **běntə**; *n.* **kāntə**; *n.* **njìnjà**
 bent, to be *s.v.* **gur**
 beside *loc.* **gī**¹
 betrothed virgin *n.* **vənggōrin 1**
 betrothed, to be, to *v.* **gər**
 between *loc.* **dəntswe**
 Bible *n.* **mgbāmvū Rì**

bicycle <i>n.</i> kikyɛ	blow up a fire, to <i>v.</i> fù
bifurcation <i>a.</i> kətar	blue-breasted kingfisher <i>n.</i> kpəkprē
big <i>a.</i> mgbəhwà ; <i>a.</i> nggɔn ; <i>n.</i> nggɔn	boastfully <i>id.</i> nkanka
billet <i>n.</i> gbɔnkì	boat <i>n.</i> gbm̄
bind, to <i>v.</i> kpàn²	body <i>n.</i> kpə² ; <i>n.</i> mkpɔn ; <i>n.</i> tukpə¹
bird (generic) <i>n.</i> vənce	body spots <i>n.</i> ntsēki
bird sp. <i>n.</i> aku ; <i>n.</i> beləbelà ; <i>n.</i> bɔn ; <i>n.</i> bùkan ; <i>n.</i> dàtso ; <i>n.</i> dərsù ; <i>n.</i> fùkàn ; <i>n.</i> gbrũ ; <i>n.</i> grěnyū ; <i>n.</i> hùhwàr ; <i>n.</i> hwàr ; <i>n.</i> jijà ; <i>n.</i> kaprē ; <i>n.</i> kəkə gbù ; <i>n.</i> kəndàrì ; <i>n.</i> kənkabān hwan ; <i>n.</i> kənkabān ; <i>n.</i> kəzələba ; <i>n.</i> kpəkpa ; <i>n.</i> kpəkplā ; <i>n.</i> kpəkpə ; <i>n.</i> kpəkprē ; <i>n.</i> kpətàn ; <i>n.</i> kpəgbru ; <i>n.</i> kpəmkan ; <i>n.</i> kpukpà ; <i>n.</i> kwǎ ; <i>n.</i> ləndūr ; <i>n.</i> ləngā ; <i>n.</i> màjǎn ; <i>n.</i> mbàn ; <i>n.</i> mfuci ; <i>n.</i> mgblàn ; <i>n.</i> mgbɔn ; <i>n.</i> mgbɔnpər ; <i>n.</i> mkpələ ; <i>n.</i> mwetso ; <i>n.</i> ncān¹ ; <i>n.</i> ngəganmə ; <i>n.</i> ngglàn ; <i>n.</i> nkùwu ; <i>n.</i> ntsən ; <i>n.</i> nzé¹ ; <i>n.</i> rədemə ; <i>n.</i> rūrūlə ; <i>n.</i> səsemgbɔ ; <i>n.</i> shəshàrē ; <i>n.</i> sūr³ ; <i>n.</i> tarnggə(n) ; <i>n.</i> tsàni ; <i>n.</i> tsè ; <i>n.</i> vəcəkpancin ; <i>n.</i> vəgrěnyū ; <i>n.</i> vəkpotù ; <i>n.</i> vəmbàn ; <i>n.</i> vəmkpanār ; <i>n.</i> vəmpane ; <i>n.</i> vəmpərə ; <i>n.</i> vəmvèn ; <i>n.</i> vəncān ; <i>n.</i> vəndakpyèn ; <i>n.</i> vənggù ; <i>n.</i> vənjènjè ; <i>n.</i> vəryàn ; <i>n.</i> vətəndār ; <i>n.</i> vəywudə ; <i>n.</i> ywudə ; <i>n.</i> zùzu	
bite, to <i>v.p.</i> tan...nyər	book <i>n.</i> mgbāmvū blā ; <i>n.</i> mgbāmvū car ; <i>n.</i> mgbāmvū
biting ant sp. <i>n.</i> nənlýē cinjǐ ; <i>n.</i> nənlýē ; <i>n.</i> nənlýē səmban	boomslang snake <i>n.</i> kəcè
bitter <i>a.</i> rərə	borrow, to <i>v.</i> kə³ ; <i>v.</i> la¹
bitter, to be <i>s.v.</i> re²	bottle <i>n.</i> kāləbā
bitterleaf <i>n.</i> mgbāntur	boundary <i>n.</i> dən
black <i>a.</i> cīnjǐ ; <i>c.i.</i> ri	bow <i>n.</i> tətə
black beniseed <i>n.</i> shīshī²	box <i>n.</i> dūdù ; <i>n.</i> kəji ; <i>n.</i> kpàti
black cobra <i>n.</i> jwè	boy <i>n.</i> vən¹
black kite <i>n.</i> mbàn ; <i>n.</i> mkpələ	braid, to <i>v.</i> lō
black plum tree <i>n.</i> ncū	branch of tree <i>n.</i> nggākì
black substance <i>n.</i> nklān	brave, to be <i>s.v.</i> kpàn dǎr
black-crowned tchagra <i>n.</i> mwetso	break in rainfall <i>n.</i> nkū
black, to be <i>s.v.</i> sər²	break into pieces, to <i>v.p.</i> ngwur ngār²
blacksmith <i>n.</i> wānlāzə , wānfùkpo	break suddenly, to <i>v.</i> gbòtsū
blame, to <i>v.</i> gì gyɔ	break, to <i>v.</i> ngār ; <i>v.</i> tər²
bland <i>a.</i> mpūr (mə)	breast <i>n.</i> səsə
blemishes <i>n.</i> ntsēki	breathe, to <i>v.</i> vrè¹
bless, to <i>v.</i> far¹	breeze <i>n.</i> cucu
blind man <i>n.</i> wānwɔ	bridge <i>n.</i> mkpūn
blind snake <i>n.</i> tātsu	bright, to be <i>s.v.</i> lǎ³
blindness <i>n.</i> wɔ	brightly <i>adv.</i> pwār
blister <i>n.</i> mpūr	brilliantly <i>adv.</i> gbəgblā ; <i>adv.</i> ngglan
block, to <i>v.</i> hyūr ; <i>v.</i> ywar¹	bring out, to <i>v.</i> shùn ; <i>v.p.</i> yà nyū
blockhead <i>n.</i> kpər	bring to, to <i>v.</i> cà
blood <i>n.</i> məgì	bring, to <i>v.</i> bwé¹ ; <i>v.</i> cū¹ ; <i>v.</i> fār ; <i>v.</i> grì¹
blood-plum <i>n.</i> məgbyěn	broad <i>a.</i> hū
blow one's cheeks, to <i>v.p.</i> fù mgbo	broken <i>a.</i> lələ
	broken calabash <i>n.</i> gbəgbakì
	broken, to be <i>v.</i> ngār
	broken, to become <i>v.</i> mər
	brook <i>n.</i> cūn² ; <i>n.</i> mblə
	brown spider <i>n.</i> gantàn
	bubbles <i>n.</i> mfə
	buffalo <i>n.</i> gyàr
	build, to <i>v.</i> mē
	bulbul <i>n.</i> kpəkplā
	bullet <i>n.</i> bězū
	bully, to <i>v.</i> fər¹
	bunch <i>n.</i> hwà ; <i>n.</i> mkpm
	bundle <i>n.</i> hwà ; <i>n.</i> mkpm
	bundle <i>n.</i> mkpi

burglar <i>n.</i> wāngi	bushbaby <i>n.</i> kp̄əteglā
burglary <i>n.</i> gi²	bushbuck <i>n.</i> klò
burn, to <i>v.</i> kp̄əwu ; <i>v.</i> tō¹ ; <i>v.</i> wũ 1	bushcow <i>n.</i> gyàr
burning charcoal <i>n.</i> nklaglo	bushfowl <i>n.</i> kwǒ
burp <i>n.</i> kǎn	bushpig <i>n.</i> lǒdē hwan
burp, to <i>v.</i> kan²	but <i>conj.</i> dò
burrowing locust <i>n.</i> ntswē	butcher <i>n.</i> wānywànan
bury, to <i>v.</i> ryùn²	butterfly <i>n.</i> bə̀bàrì
bush <i>n.</i> hwān ; <i>n.</i> mgbàjì	buttocks <i>n.</i> mā¹
bush animal <i>n.</i> nan hwān	buttocks of monkeys <i>n.</i> mkpàn
bush patch <i>n.</i> mgbyir	buy, to <i>v.</i> rè

C c

cadaver <i>n.</i> kən	cautious <i>adv.</i> bwébwè
calabash <i>n.</i> kəmbā ; <i>n.</i> mp̄	cave <i>n.</i> kəyǎ
calabash cup <i>n.</i> fə̀rɔ̀n	cavern <i>n.</i> kəyǎ
calf <i>n.</i> kp̄rē	cease, to <i>v.p.</i> gan ...kre ; <i>v.</i> kankrè
calf (of cow) <i>n.</i> dēmū	celebration <i>n.</i> gān
calf of cow <i>n.</i> shǒ¹	censure, to <i>v.</i> gi gyō
call, to <i>v.</i> gyō	centipede sp. <i>n.</i> lālān kəkə
calling attention expressing disapproval <i>excl.</i>	centre <i>loc.</i> də̀ntswē
kyen nggə ma!	chaff <i>n.</i> shisha
camwood <i>n.</i> hyēn²	chain <i>n.</i> nzānzē
can <i>n.</i> pāmpān	chair <i>n.</i> mgbāncī
cane <i>n.</i> pārki	chameleon <i>n.</i> ntānāntsò
cane rat <i>n.</i> gyèn	change, to <i>v.</i> sər¹
cane stick <i>n.</i> mgbājə	chaotic <i>adv.p.</i> lan kyen
canoe <i>n.</i> gbm̄	charcoal <i>n.</i> mbrī¹ ; <i>n.</i> nklambrī
canyon <i>n.</i> ywǎ¹	chase, to <i>v.</i> glā ; <i>v.</i> mār ; <i>v.</i> tārtār
cap <i>n.</i> bər¹	chat, to <i>v.</i> hyar
car <i>n.</i> kì yə̀ sǎ ; <i>n.</i> matò	chatter, to <i>v.</i> grī
carcass <i>n.</i> kən	cheat, to <i>v.</i> gyūr
careful of, to be <i>v.</i> gyēn²	cheerful <i>n.p.</i> dǎr kākla
careless <i>a.</i> tətār	chest <i>n.</i> tsē
carelessly <i>adv.</i> pwê	chew, to <i>v.</i> tàn²
carry away, to <i>v.</i> vũ 2	chicken <i>n.</i> kəkə ; <i>n.</i> sūr³
carry, to <i>v.</i> lwè	chicken droppings <i>n.</i> ryan
carve, to <i>v.</i> shī¹	chicken egg <i>n.</i> ywəkə
cashew fruit <i>n.</i> kanjùn	chief <i>n.</i> cūn¹
cassava <i>n.</i> lögū	child <i>n.</i> fə̀vèn
castrated goat <i>n.</i> ràn¹ ; <i>n.</i> rǒ¹	chilled, to be <i>s.v.</i> pyār
casually <i>adv.</i> pwê	chin <i>n.</i> ndə̀ndè
cat <i>n.</i> məsà	chirping of bush pigeon <i>id.</i> kuku-kùrùkùkù
catarrh <i>n.</i> kp̄əkp̄rè	chirping of cicic insect <i>id.</i> kùkukuku
catch, to <i>v.</i> kurkp̄ə ; <i>v.</i> vūn² ; <i>v.</i> zwè 2	choose, to <i>v.</i> cū²
caterpillar sp. <i>n.</i> ncēzāzā	cinders <i>n.</i> tə̀ntōn
cats' eyes <i>n.</i> mānzē	circular <i>a.</i> nkrin²
catseyes <i>n.</i> bēnzē	circulate, to <i>v.p.</i> ngwur ngār¹
cattle egret <i>n.</i> belābelā	circumcise, to <i>v.p.</i> nyār...rin
cause people to fight, to <i>v.</i> cǒ³	circumvent, to <i>v.</i> cì²

civet cat <i>n.</i> jè	conceal, to <i>v.</i> nyār
clan name <i>n.</i> Mgbònjè	concealed place <i>n.</i> nvōkī
clandestinely <i>adv.</i> gigi	concentrate on doing s.t., to <i>v.p.</i> fè bishi²
clap, to <i>v.</i> tsē	concerning <i>part.</i> ətù 2
claw <i>n.</i> kōnfā	confer, to <i>v.</i> gbà¹
clay <i>n.</i> ntār	confess, to <i>v.</i> gbà³
clean, to <i>v.</i> swē	confidence <i>n.</i> nggu
clean, to be <i>s.v.</i> kri	confused <i>adv.p.</i> lan kyen
climb down, to <i>v.</i> ji³	conjuraton <i>n.</i> bwi
climb, to <i>v.</i> ngun	conquer, to <i>v.</i> rē³
clinic <i>n.</i> tārwu	consider, to <i>v.</i> gbà¹ ; <i>v.p.</i> tè...kə
close <i>a.</i> hyur¹	consideration <i>n.</i> kā¹
close (objects) <i>a.</i> hyuhyur	construct, to <i>v.</i> mē
close-fitting, to be <i>s.v.</i> gàn	consume, to <i>v.</i> rē²
close, to <i>v.</i> ywān	contemptuous of, to be <i>v.</i> cār²
cloth <i>n.</i> nkulwe	continue doing, to <i>v.</i> kasāsē
clothes for masquerade <i>n.</i> kīnzè	continuous marker <i>v.aux.</i> lā¹
cloud <i>n.</i> kpəkpə	convince, to <i>v.</i> ryār
clump <i>n.</i> kpòcūn	cook, to <i>v.</i> ryùn¹
cluster <i>n.</i> tsūr	cooked, to be <i>s.v.</i> gbre²
cluster of trees <i>n.</i> kpòcūn	cool <i>a.</i> susù
co-wife <i>n.</i> gārī	cool, to be <i>s.v.</i> su²
cobra <i>n.</i> bi²	coolness <i>n.</i> shi²
cobweb <i>n.p.</i> rūrū gantàn	cooperation <i>n.</i> kyūntu
cock <i>n.</i> gbǎ	copaiba balsam tree <i>n.</i> dān
cockroach <i>n.</i> bàbrèywi	copiously <i>adv.</i> kə̀nànme
coconut <i>n.</i> kwakwà	copulate, to <i>v.</i> nà²
cocoyam <i>n.</i> lèlè	copulation <i>n.</i> nggā²
cold <i>n.</i> mvri	cord <i>n.</i> mgbə̀rīn ; <i>n.</i> rūrū¹
coldness <i>n.</i> mvri	corn <i>n.</i> kpə̀mkpàn
collapse, to <i>v.</i> ngā³	corn forest <i>n.</i> gbə̀ kpə̀mkpàn
collect, to <i>v.</i> kyō ; <i>v.</i> tān	corn silk <i>n.</i> mgbə̀njan
colour <i>a.</i> gə̀grən ; <i>s.v.</i> grən ; <i>a.</i> sə̀mban ; <i>s.v.</i> sər²	cornstalk <i>n.</i> sān² ; <i>n.</i> tèkpū
colourful <i>a.</i> cə̀car	cornstalks <i>n.</i> səsān²
comb <i>n.</i> zē²	corpse <i>n.</i> kən
comb hair, to <i>v.</i> sàr tu	correct <i>a.</i> tsō
combat <i>n.</i> kōn	correctly <i>adv.</i> brèbrè ; <i>adv.</i> tsòtsō
combat, to <i>v.</i> fōren	costly, to be <i>v.p.</i> te...do
come back, to <i>v.</i> mə̀rtu ; <i>v.</i> ngā⁴	cotton wool <i>n.</i> mfūrūrū
come in, to <i>v.</i> nyər¹	cough, to <i>v.</i> sən
come out, to <i>v.</i> dòrù ; <i>v.</i> fǎ² ; <i>v.</i> rù 2	count, to <i>v.</i> blā 1
come, to <i>v.</i> nyè	courageous, to be <i>s.v.</i> kpàn dǎr
commencement <i>n.</i> kùcī	courtyard <i>n.</i> kplabē
committee <i>n.</i> kòmitì	cover <i>n.</i> mpə
communicate, to <i>v.</i> dàn	cover, to <i>v.</i> ywān
companion <i>n.</i> fə̀gyə̀ywā ; <i>n.</i> zān	covered basket <i>n.</i> kə̀ji
compassion <i>n.</i> mətù	covet, to <i>v.</i> gbə̀jiki
complete <i>a.</i> gba ; <i>a.</i> kpə̀kpri	cow <i>n.</i> lāndār ; <i>n.</i> ndō
complete, to <i>v.</i> krè	cow-itch vine <i>n.</i> nkə
completed past marker <i>v.aux.</i> sā¹	cowpea <i>n.</i> bəsən
completely <i>adv.</i> kūkwār ; <i>adv.</i> mur ; <i>adv.</i> tsòtsō	cowpea plant <i>n.</i> sən
compound <i>n.</i> kā²	crab <i>n.</i> kā¹ ; <i>n.</i> kə̀nggù
comrade <i>n.</i> fə̀gyə̀ywā ; <i>n.</i> zān	crack a joke, to <i>v.p.</i> cū ren

crack open, to v. ngàr	crow, to v. tō³
crack, to v. gbōtsū	crowd n. jùn
cracked a. lələ	crowding of a cock <i>id.</i> kū-kukurukū
crag chestnut-winged starling n. mgblàn	crownbird n. hùhwàr ; n. lòngā
crawl, to v. gbà³ ; v. ngǎn	crowned crane n. hùhwàr ; n. lòngā
crazily <i>adv.</i> bàbè ; <i>adv.</i> bàbèbè	crush dry leaves, to v. pǎr
craziness n. lǎ²	crush, to v. bù ; v. càn ; v. kwò ; v. ywi
crazy, to be <i>s.v.</i> lǎ¹	crustacean n. kà¹
creep, to v. ngǎn	crustacean sp. n. kǎnggù ; n. kpǎr
creeper n. nggūngwūr²	cry of a cat <i>id.</i> miyāū-miyāū
creeper sp. n. gbà² ; n. kān²	cry, to v. gì¹
crested porcupine n. shò²	cry, to be about to <i>v.p.</i> càn nyū
cricket n. gbəlantswē	cup n. fənzə
cripple n. nzu¹	cure, to v. dēn¹
criticise, to v. gì gyō	curse, to v. gbəcu
crocodile n. nkūr¹	custom n. bān⁴
crocodile tears n. màmfē	cut down, to v. tsēn
crooked, to be <i>s.v.</i> gur	cut, to v. fā³ ; v. far² ; v. ywǎ²
cross (water), to v. ro	cutlass n. dǎ²
cross over to, to v. zà	cutting grass n. gyèn
cross path, to v. kūsar	cycle n. kikye
crossroads a. kətar ; n. ywar²	

D d

damage, to v. cā...zu ; v. fə 2 ; v. la³	decomposed a. bəbə
dance n. glōkyū ; <i>p.n.</i> nzōn	decomposing a. tùr²
dance, to v. bwər ; v. glō²	decorate, to v. te...nzē
dangle, to v. ncàwǔ	defeat, to v. rē³
dark a. cīnji	definitely not <i>neg.</i> lā...gba yo
dark (green) <i>c.i.</i> myô	deflated, to be <i>s.v.</i> blə
dark black a. pīpi	defraud, to v. gyùr
darkness n. bū²	dehusk, to v. bri²
dassie n. gwūr	deleb palm n. dādār
date-palm n. nə	delighted <i>n.p.</i> dōr kōkla
daughter-in-law n. gūgū ; n. mbəkwò ; n. mbəzē	deliver, to v. ngrin¹
dawn n. brībri ; n. būbū ; n. nzān	deny, to v. tər²
day n. mbrē ; n. ri¹	dermatitis n. ryō
day after tomorrow n. vrē	describes a loose animal <i>id.</i> ryoryò
day before yesterday n. rimū	describes a thick liquid that has been diluted <i>id.</i> kpārē-kpārē
daybreak n. būbū ; n. nzān	describes carrying something <i>id.</i> ncuwē
days n. vē	describes chirping <i>id.</i> kpǎkpǎkpǎkpǎ ; <i>id.</i> wartəwar-wartəwar
deaf person n. mkpītōn , mkpōntōn	describes cutting s.t. into two quickly <i>adv.</i> gbrēn
death n. kyū¹ ; <i>v.n.</i> kyūte	describes falling gently <i>adv.</i> tsūtsū
debate n. ntan	describes feeling cool <i>id.</i> cwār
debate, to v. gbà¹ ; <i>v.p.</i> rē ntan	describes groaning <i>id.</i> lōnggò
decayed a. bəbə	describes how a lantern burns <i>id.</i> bārbār
decayed, to be <i>s.v.</i> bə²	describes how s.o. has an innocent face <i>id.</i> ryô
decaying a. tùr²	describes how s.o. walks quickly <i>id.</i> dārdār
deceive, to v. gyùr	
declare, to v. dōn	

describes how s.t. is snatched from s.o. by force
id. **vwââp**

describes how vehicles or people pass each other
id. **mvūmvūmvūn**

describes laughter *id.* **kpăkpă**

describes leaving in embarrassment *id.* **nywār-nywār**

describes liquid thrown out *adv.* **kànkàrē**

describes s.o. full up *id.* **swàà**

describes s.o. who looks like a small toad *a.* **vəmgbūmgburwē**

describes s.o. who looks pale *a.* **shishà**

describes s.t. happening under your nose *adv.* **gbəgbəzə**

describes sipping a hot liquid *id.* **sssp-sssp**

describes smelling bad *adv.* **ywì**

describes sneezing *id.* **atishâû**

describes sound of movement *id.* **zuzù**

describes spitting saliva straight *adv.* **ntsōr**

describes talking nonsense *id.* **vââ**

describes the barking of a dog *id.* **wowowo**

describes the smell of adolescents or the bad smell of fish *adv.* **ntse**

describes the sound of a motorcycle *id.* **vrūûm**

describes the sound of a stone dropped inside water *id.* **mplô**

describes the sound of clapping hands *id.* **pwapwa**

describes things of the same height *adv.* **brē**

describes walking lazily *id.* **nyônnnyôn**

describes walking stiffly as a result of shame *adv.* **nyôn mō**

describes watching intently *adv.* **ntēn**

describes wishing for a bad thing *excl.* **kpāncun**

describing a colourful design *id.* **mpəryô**

mpəryô

describing how narrow a path is *a.* **ryəryə**

describing s.o. doing s.t. lazily *id.* **yôyô**

describing the look on s.o.'s face *id.* **nvər**

describing too much noise *id.* **kpăkplăkplă**

desiccate, to v. **ku**

desiccated *a.* **kukù**

desire, to v. **gbəjiki**

desist, to v.p. **gan ...kre**

despise s.o., to v. **cār²**

despise, to v. **shăn**

despondent *n.p.* **dăr cīnji**

destroy, to v. **cā...zu**; v. **fē 2**

dew *n.* **məmə**

diarrhoea *n.* **sūr¹**

diarrhoea, to have, to v. **ywīkrū**

die, to v.p. **kan ngwôn sà tu**; v. **kyu**

die, to v. **tsu**

differently *adv.* **nkan, nkānnkān**

difficult, to be s.v. **rānkpə**; v.p. **te...dē 1**

diffuse, to v.p. **ngwur ngār¹**

dig s.t. out of sand, to v. **ryè¹**

dig, to v. **gyà**

diminutive *pref.* **bě--**; *pref.* **fə-**

direction *n.* **nggà**

dirty *a.* **mvān**; *c.i.* **ri**

disagree, to v. **kpā...kà**

disappear, to v. **gblà**; v. **rintu**

disapproving click of the tongue *n.* **ncār**

discharge *n.* **va**

discuss, to v. **gbə¹**; v. **hyar**; v.p. **rē ntan**

disease *n.* **dərə**; *n.* **kənvər**; *n.* **kpəkpərə**; *n.* **kpəkpərə sōn**; *n.* **kpəmkpi**; *n.* **kpə ngār**; *n.* **kùtsə**; *n.* **lamukā**; *n.* **lələ**; *n.* **mgbəmgbàn²**; *n.* **nkrē²**; *n.* **shì¹**; *n.* **ywüywü**

disgusting *a.* **mvān**

dish *n.* **nggūnggū**

disorganised *adv.p.* **lan kyen**

disperse, to v. **zàn 1**

disregard, to v. **gban¹**

dissent, to v. **kpā...kà**

district *n.* **nci**

dive, to v. **mbānrin²**

divide, to v. **gə¹**; v. **ka**

divination *n.* **tūr**; *n.* **zòn²**

dizziness *n.* **gyūn**

do s.t. excessively, to v. **ngūsū²**

do, to v. **nàn**

doctor *n.* **wāndēn**

dog *n.* **nggāgyū**

domestic animals *n.* **kìyèwə**

domestic pigeon *n.* **vəywudə**

don't *neg.* **kādə...[yo]**; *neg.* **kàsə...[yo]**

door *n.* **mpənkôn**; *n.* **nkôn¹**; *n.* **nyū lānkôn**

doorway *n.* **nyū lānkôn**

dormouse *n.* **ncikrē**

dot *a.* **kpà**

dough *n.* **cincì**

dove *n.* **vənggù**

downcast *n.p.* **dăr cīnji**

doze, to v. **dūr**; v. **nənə**

drag yourself along, to v. **gbà³**

drag, to v. **gbōr**; v. **gbì**

dragging an issue *v.n.* **njìnjē**

dream *n.* **rā**

dream, to v. **ra³**

dregs *n.* **mbār¹**; *n.* **məkəbwə**

drenched, to be v. **cə¹**

dress up *v.n.* **nzē**

dried meat *n.* **nkan nan**

dried skin *n.* **nkan ntàn**

drink *n.* **prē**

drink, to v. sā²	due to <i>conj.</i> dùdu
drip, to v. gū¹ ; v. tɔn	duiker <i>n.</i> kpír ; <i>n.</i> tyā¹
drive off, to v. glā	dung <i>n.</i> gyɛ
droplets <i>n.</i> cuncwən	dung-beetle <i>n.</i> ləmgbò
drown, to v. mren¹	dupe, to v. gyùr
drum <i>n.</i> gənggān	dusk <i>n.</i> bríbri ; <i>n.</i> rìglò
drunkenness <i>n.</i> hwǎ	dust <i>n.</i> ywūr
dry <i>a.</i> kukù	dust-devil <i>n.</i> tàtur
dry food <i>n.</i> gànyǎn	dwarf chicken <i>n.</i> dě
dry season <i>n.</i> gā¹	dying <i>v.n.</i> kyūte
dry up, to v. ngarmpwà 2	dysentery <i>n.</i> sūr¹
dry, to become v. ku	dysentery, to have v. ywīkrǔ

E e

eagle <i>n.</i> vəmbàn	emphasises content of sentence <i>p.u.t.</i> nān
ear <i>n.</i> tɔn	enclosed area <i>n.</i> rēkò
ear-ring <i>n.</i> běkitɔn	encounter, to v. ma¹ ; <i>v.p.</i> ma...nkɔn
early morning <i>n.</i> būbū ; <i>n.</i> mbəmrècə	end, to v. krè
earth <i>n.</i> məmə	enemy <i>n.</i> dənggə ; <i>n.</i> lənggə
east <i>n.</i> nggà nzān	engaged, to become v. gər
eat, to v. rē²	enjoy, to <i>v.p.</i> rē be
eating s.t. sweet <i>v.p.</i> kpłà nyū	enlarged testicle <i>n.</i> mwǎ
eczema <i>n.</i> ryō	enmity <i>n.</i> dənggə
edge <i>n.</i> kəsàn ; <i>n.</i> kətɔn	enraged <i>n.p.</i> dǎr ngàr ; <i>a.</i> gyār
edible leaf <i>n.</i> mgbādār	enraged, to be <i>v.p.</i> te gyār
educated, to be <i>v.p.</i> bu bishi	enter, to v. nyər¹
egg <i>n.</i> ywē	entering at high speed <i>adv.</i> kpłə
eggplant <i>n.</i> lwē	entering suddenly <i>adv.</i> gywār
eggshell <i>n.</i> zəzə¹	enthusiasm <i>n.</i> njwən
egusi melon <i>n.</i> mgbǎshi	entrance <i>n.</i> nyū lənkɔn
eight <i>num.</i> tāndà	entreat, to v. bər³
eighty <i>num.</i> sè tāndà	entreating <i>n.</i> bùbwò
either <i>conj.</i> gē ; <i>conj.</i> kē	enumerate, to v. blā 1
elbow <i>n.</i> nkɔn	envy <i>n.</i> ywu
elder <i>n.</i> tātē	envy, to v. gbəjiki
elderly <i>a.</i> kpəkpə	epilepsy <i>n.</i> kpəmkpi
elderly person <i>n.</i> mkpànē	epiphyte <i>n.</i> rəhyɛ
elephant <i>n.</i> nyī	equal <i>a.</i> gìgyàr
elephant-snout fish <i>n.</i> mpar nyū	err, to v. kənkā
elephant-snout fish spp. <i>n.</i> mbəlò	escape, to v. gbōjūn
elevate, to v. zǒ	eternally <i>adv.</i> be ; <i>adv.</i> njì¹
eleven <i>num.</i> pwō	European <i>p.n.</i> məsārā
eliminated, to be v. ngarmpwà 1	evade, to v. cì²
emaciate, to v. shər	evaporation <i>n.</i> gbəjī
embankment <i>n.</i> mgblə	evening <i>n.</i> rìglò
embarrassment <i>n.</i> mùmwòn	ever <i>adv.</i> gbàngyàr
embrace, to v. nyən¹	everlasting <i>adv.</i> be
embroider, to v. co	every time <i>adv.</i> cùcùn(mu)
emerald snake <i>n.</i> nggūngwūr¹	evil <i>n.</i> běmè ; <i>a.</i> gbəjā ; <i>a.</i> məme
emerge, to v. rù 2	exact <i>a.</i> tsō

exact position <i>n.</i> kpəmkpan	expresses disappointment <i>excl.</i> Ishii
exact spot <i>n.</i> bubu	expresses disgust <i>excl.</i> hen
exasperated <i>n.p.</i> dǎr ngàr	expresses distaste <i>excl.</i> hǎ
excavate, to <i>v.</i> gyà	expresses relief <i>excl.</i> hm̄
exchange, to <i>v.</i> sər¹	expressing a wish not to do s.t. bad <i>excl.</i> Tyir!
excrement <i>n.</i> gyε	expressing disgust <i>excl.</i> itsàr
exhausted <i>s.v.</i> te...dē 2	extinguish fire, to <i>v.</i> rīn²
exhaustion <i>n.</i> dē	extract oil by cooking, to <i>v.</i> ryùn¹
exist, to <i>v.</i> shāmān	extract, to <i>v.</i> jūn
exit, to <i>v.</i> dòrù ; <i>v.</i> fǎr² ; <i>v.</i> gərù ; <i>v.</i> shùn	eye <i>n.</i> bīshī
expose, to <i>v.</i> fε 1	

F f

fabric <i>n.</i> nkulwe	feed, to <i>v.</i> wò
face <i>n.</i> bīshī	feel your way, to <i>v.</i> məmēm̄lǎ ; <i>v.</i> mlǎ
fadama <i>n.</i> mgbò¹	female <i>n.</i> mbā
faeces <i>n.</i> gyε	female friend <i>n.</i> yà
fall down, to <i>v.</i> ngā³	female masquerade <i>n.</i> vōnggārīn 2
fall, to <i>v.</i> gyəkū ; <i>v.</i> jun ; <i>v.</i> kū¹	fence, to <i>v.</i> kan kǎ
false locust tree <i>n.</i> gəntē¹	fermented cakes made from sorrel seeds <i>n.</i> shε
false shea <i>n.</i> mbār¹	kpàn
false termite <i>n.</i> gbōmgbētōn	fermented locust-seed cakes <i>n.</i> shε
falsehood <i>n.</i> mò	fertiliser <i>n.</i> takī
family <i>n.</i> gbòn	fetch water, to <i>v.</i> shàn
famine <i>n.</i> gyòñ² ; <i>n.</i> mfə	fetch, to <i>v.</i> bwē¹ ; <i>v.</i> cū¹ ; <i>v.</i> fār ; <i>v.</i> te⁵ ; <i>v.</i> tǎ¹
fan liquid, to <i>v.</i> jə	few <i>a.</i> fətsè
fan-palm <i>n.</i> dǎdār	few days ago <i>adv.</i> rərə
fantastic, to be <i>s.v.</i> mǎ²	fibrous <i>n.</i> mbrī²
farm <i>n.</i> hwān	fibrous dirt <i>n.</i> ryārki
farm shelter <i>n.</i> bār	fifth <i>num.</i> tūn
farmer <i>n.</i> -dǎ ; <i>n.</i> wāndò	fig tree <i>n.</i> mgbà¹ ; <i>n.</i> nkā
farmland <i>n.</i> lan¹	fig tree sp. <i>n.</i> bwə ; <i>n.</i> mgbəmgbər ; <i>n.</i> tərbwə
fashionable <i>s.v.</i> kpǎn	fight, to <i>v.</i> fǎrən
fast <i>a.</i> brī³ ; <i>adv.</i> tswətswe	file snake <i>n.</i> nkū
fasten, to <i>v.</i> kpàn² 1	fill, to <i>v.</i> shē¹
fat <i>n.</i> məywe	filled <i>adv.</i> cwe
fat mouse <i>n.</i> jwè	filter liquids, to <i>v.</i> sèn
father <i>n.</i> tè ; <i>n.</i> tǎtē ; <i>n.</i> tīyà	filter, to <i>v.</i> ngwār
father-in-law <i>n.</i> mǎcī¹	final <i>a.</i> gbāgba
fatigue <i>n.</i> dē	finalise, to <i>v.</i> krè
fatigued <i>s.v.</i> te...dē 2	finally <i>adv.</i> mkpun
fatness <i>n.</i> mkpǎn	finch <i>n.</i> kpəkpò
fear <i>n.</i> mpūr	fine, to be <i>s.v.</i> tǎnzē
fearful <i>a.</i> ywūr ; <i>a.</i> ywūrywūr	finger <i>n.</i> kəmvrè ngwòn
fearfully <i>id.</i> ywūryūrywūr	ingernail <i>n.</i> kānfə
feast <i>n.</i> gān	finish, to <i>v.</i> krè
feather <i>n.</i> nggù	fire <i>n.</i> glō¹
feathergrass <i>n.</i> sūswē	fire-crowned bishop bird <i>n.</i> mājǎn
feeble <i>a.</i> brēbrē , brēbrè ; <i>a.</i> fa ; <i>a.</i> flǎfi	fireplace <i>n.</i> kəkrē
feeble, to <i>v.</i> ji²	firewood <i>n.</i> kunkur

<p>firmly <i>adv.</i> mgbāmgbān; <i>adv.</i> tar¹ first born <i>n.</i> mlà first, to be <i>v.</i> kūci fish (generic) <i>n.</i> hyī; <i>n.</i> mgbəryàn fish sp. <i>n.</i> bū məsər; <i>n.</i> gblākəntsà; <i>n.</i> hwə¹; <i>n.</i> kəkləmfu; <i>n.</i> kəklà; <i>n.</i> kyūngwən; <i>n.</i> mbəlò; <i>n.</i> mpar nyū; <i>n.</i> ndò fish-trap <i>n.</i> shē⁴ fishing-net <i>n.</i> rūrū² fist <i>n.</i> nkyēn fitting <i>v.n.</i> nzē five <i>num.</i> tun five days hence <i>adv.</i> cundè; <i>adv.</i> kənka fix, to <i>v.</i> shē³ flame <i>n.</i> nanrən glo flappet lark <i>n.</i> zūzu flat, to be <i>s.v.</i> blə flaunt, to <i>v.</i> gbrě flee, to <i>v.</i> gbōjūn flesh <i>n.</i> nan flour <i>n.</i> mùmū flow down, to <i>v.</i> ji³ flow, to <i>v.</i> gū² flower (general) <i>n.</i> gbàr¹ flower of locust tree <i>n.</i> dədūn lā fly sp. <i>n.</i> mgbənwōn fly, to <i>v.</i> bwā flying ants <i>n.</i> begywī foam <i>n.</i> mfə fog <i>n.p.</i> ywūr glō fold back earth, to <i>v.</i> kp̄m² fold, to <i>v.</i> kp̄m² follow closely, to <i>v.</i> tārtār follow in order of birth, to <i>v.</i> sàzwē follow, to <i>v.</i> bān¹; <i>v.</i> kū²; <i>v.</i> zwē ‘follow’, to <i>v.</i> glà¹ fonio <i>n.</i> běntsū food <i>n.</i> grīgbo; <i>n.</i> kàrà; <i>n.</i> kirē; <i>n.</i> lā; <i>n.</i> mbwār; <i>n.</i> mənān; <i>n.p.</i> mgbākī ngè; <i>n.</i> mgbō; <i>n.</i> ncùkùryō; <i>n.</i> nzan fool <i>n.</i> kp̄r; <i>n.</i> wānfà</p>	<p>foolishly <i>adv.</i> bəbè; <i>adv.</i> bəbèbè foot <i>n.</i> mbwà zə for a long time <i>adv.</i> ndē 1; <i>adv.</i> rəndē for free <i>s.v.</i> fā² forehead <i>n.</i> ci² forest <i>n.</i> cun forever <i>adv.</i> be; <i>adv.</i> nji¹ forget to deliver a message, to <i>v.</i> kùku forget, to <i>v.p.</i> kəkan...dā fork <i>a.</i> kətar forked pole <i>n.</i> nggā¹ forms abusive expressions <i>n.</i> kpar² fornication <i>n.</i> nggā² four <i>num.</i> nlyē² four days hence <i>adv.</i> nka fowl <i>n.</i> kəkə; <i>n.</i> sūr³ fresh <i>a.</i> māmpūr; <i>id.</i> pūrūr; <i>a.</i> shushū Friday <i>p.n.</i> tun ndu friend <i>n.</i> fəgyəywə; <i>n.</i> kpān; <i>n.</i> zān fright <i>n.</i> mpūr frightened by s.o., to be, to <i>v.</i> hō frog <i>n.</i> gbān frog sp. <i>n.</i> mkpəywè front <i>n.</i> ci²; <i>loc.</i> nggā bishi front of the house <i>n.</i> rē¹ frontier <i>n.</i> dən froth <i>n.</i> mfə fruit <i>n.</i> klā¹; <i>n.</i> vən² fruit sp. <i>n.</i> cùmbwě; <i>n.</i> kanjùn; <i>n.</i> mənggərō; <i>n.</i> shūnkì fruit-bat <i>n.</i> kpūmkpār fry, to <i>v.</i> klā fufu <i>n.</i> ncùkùryō full <i>adv.</i> cwe fullfil, to <i>v.</i> shē² fully <i>adv.</i> mur fungus <i>n.</i> gwa 2 furious <i>n.p.</i> dōr ngār; <i>a.</i> gyār furious, to be <i>v.p.</i> te gyār futile <i>a.</i> fa; <i>a.</i> fləfi</p>
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G g

<p>galago <i>n.</i> kpətəglā gamba grass <i>n.</i> nkan¹ Gambian tree squirrel <i>n.</i> vəsər game <i>n.</i> kūwà; <i>n.</i> ncō gap teeth <i>n.</i> mbù garden egg <i>n.</i> lwē gather and sell, to <i>v.</i> kyūn rē</p>	<p>gather in a group, to <i>v.</i> kyōte gather up s.t., to <i>v.</i> krū gather, to <i>v.</i> kyō; <i>v.</i> kyūn; <i>v.</i> mgbō³ gauge, to <i>v.</i> mà gazelle <i>n.</i> vənzē gecko <i>n.</i> ncèlādān; <i>n.</i> ncilādān; <i>n.</i> njilādān gelded goat <i>n.</i> ràn¹</p>
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genet cat *n.* **bàr**³
 get away from, to *v.* **dè**
 get down, to *v.* **kūjì**
 get started early, to *v.* **tārtswē**
 get up hastily, to *v.aux.* **giga**; *v.* **klà...doglò**
 get up, to *v.* **doglò**
 get wet, to *v.* **cò**¹
 get, to *v.* **kpè**; *v.* **mwàn**¹
 ghost *n.* **bri**¹
 giant kingfisher *n.* **bùkan**
 giant rat *n.* **kpūr**
 girl *n.* **vōnggō**
 give birth, to *v.* **ngrin**¹
 give ceremonially, to *v.* **ra**²
 give or take credit, to *v.* **la**¹
 give way, to *v.* **cī**; *v.* **dèbà**; *v.* **dètswē**; *v.* **dè**
 give, to *v.* **nā**
 given freely *s.v.* **fā**²
 gizzard *n.* **mkpīr**
 gleam, to *v.* **krī**
 gleaming *adv.* **lan ngglan**
 globe *n.* **kpàkrīn**
 globules *n.* **cuncwàn**
 glow, to *v.* **krī**
 go ahead, to *v.* **kūcici**
 go backward, to *v.* **ryàn**
 go deep inside water, to *v.* **mèrīn**
 go home, to *v.* **kāgbm**
 go in or out, to *v.p.* **zà kū**
 go out and defecate, to *v.p.* **shun ntèn**
 go out of sight, to *v.* **rintu**
 go out, to *v.* **gərù**; *v.* **shùn**
 go past, to *v.p.* **vu ngà**
 go to, to *v.* **gəgō**
 go with, to *v.* **bān**¹
 go-between *n.* **ncəkpū**
 go, to *v.* **ywè**
 goat *n.* **gūgu**; *n.* **rǎ**¹; *n.* **yūr**
 goblet *n.* **fənzə**
 God *p.n.* **Mkparū**; *n.* **rì**¹
 going on and on about s.t. *v.n.* **njìnjē**
 goitre *v.p.* **ru gbàr**
 good, to be *s.v.* **tānzē**; *s.v.* **tō**
 goodness *n.* **zəzè**
 gossip, to *v.* **grī**
 gourd *n.* **gbàgbakì**; *n.* **kəmbā**; *n.* **kpānjūn**; *n.* **mgbù**; *n.* **mpā**
 gourd vine *n.* **gbā**²
 governor *n.p.* **tu māmē**
 grab, to *v.* **klà...bàn**
 grain *n.* **běki**; *n.* **bě**
 grain-store *n.* **gūr**²
 granary *n.* **gūr**²; *n.* **vənyòn**; *n.* **vərà**

grand child *n.* **gi**³
 grasp, to *v.* **klà...bàn**; *v.* **vūn**²
 grass (generic) *n.* **gəga**; *n.* **mgbəga**
 grass sp. *n.* **bǎ**; *n.* **dədə**; *n.* **dədən**; *n.* **gǎncě**; *n.* **gbàlāntswē**; *n.* **gəntsù**; *n.* **gyezē**; *n.* **kəywe**; *n.* **kəzēnyān**; *n.* **kpənyìn**; *n.* **ləlwè**; *n.* **mbǎr**; *n.* **mfùbrì**; *n.* **mgbāngān**; *n.* **mgbāmgbār**; *n.* **mgbǎshò**; *n.* **mkpīr**; *n.* **ncìryēn**; *n.* **ncwān**; *n.* **njì**²; *n.* **njùn**; *n.* **nkan**¹; *n.* **nyənyūn**; *n.* **nzənzè**; *n.* **ryāncū**; *n.* **sūswē**; *n.* **təkpǒ**; *n.* **yāvū**
 grass warbler *n.* **vəndakpyèn**
 grasscutter *n.* **gyèn**
 grasshopper *n.* **rǎnce**
 grasshopper sp. *n.* **tsutswè**
 gratis *s.v.* **fā**²
 grave *n.* **brə**
 gravel *n.* **mgbāmgbrən**; *n.* **səka**; *n.* **tsəka**
 grease *n.* **məywè**
 greatly *adv.* **nggān**
 greed *n.* **mvu**
 greed for many things *n.* **mvumvu**
 green *a.* **shushù**
 green fruit-pigeon *n.* **dàtso**
 green leaves *n.* **mgbākī**
 greet someone, to *v.* **mgbīmgbī**
 greet, to *v.* **zè**
 grey hair *n.* **gwa 1**
 grey parrot *n.* **aku**
 grey plantain-eater *n.* **kpukpà**
 grind, to *v.* **bù**; *v.* **kwò**
 grinding stone *n.* **nānā**
 grope, to *v.* **məmāmlà**; *v.* **mlə**
 grotto *n.* **kǎywǎ**
 ground *n.* **dāncò**; *n.* **māmē**
 ground squirrel *n.* **ntəywàn**
 groundnut *n.* **běncwē**; *n.* **shisha**
 group *n.* **mgbǎ**² 2; *n.* **nkyār**; *n.* **tsūr**
 grouts *n.* **mbār**¹
 grove *n.* **kpàcūn**
 grow lean, to *v.* **shər**
 grow thin, to *v.* **shər**
 grow up, to *v.* **cə**
 guest *n.* **cār**¹
 guiltily *adv.* **kuku**²
 guinea-corn *n.* **kpū**
 guinea-corn head *n.* **dǎ**¹
 guinea-corn husk *n.* **tūr**³
 guinea-corn kernel *n.* **běkpū**
 guinea-fowl *n.* **tsè**
 guinea-yam *n.* **krì**
 gum (of mouth) *n.* **mbū**
 gumbo *n.* **ndər**

gun *n.* **zǔ²**
guts *n.* **kīnèn**

gutter *n.* **mbə̀mblā̀kì**

H h

Hadada ibis *n.* **tarnggə̀(n)**

Hah! So! *excl.* **hā̀n?**

hair *n.* **mfù**; *n.* **mfùtù**

half-cooked *a.* **bwə̀bwə̀**

half-light *n.* **brībrī**

halt, to *v.p.* **gan ...kre**; *v.* **kankrè**; *v.* **krè**

hamerkop *n.* **ngə̀ganmə**

hamlet *n.* **fə̀tse**

hand *n.* **ngwə̀n**

hang, to *v.* **klə̀²**; *v.* **ncə̀wũ**

hanger *n.* **rə̀re**

happen, to *v.* **te²**

happiness *n.* **wushi**; *n.* **zə̀zè**

happy *n.p.* **dǎ̀r kə̀kla**

hare *n.* **gyə̀n¹**; *n.* **və̀gyə̀n**

harlot *n.* **kar**; *n.* **kilakī**

harlot, to be *v.p.* **te cucu**

harm, to *v.* **la³**

harmattan *n.* **mkpā̀n mvri**

harmed, to be *v.* **la³**

harrier hawk *n.* **və̀ryà̀n**

hartebeest *n.* **lunkpù̀r**

harvest season *n.* **mkpā̀n fa**

harvest, to *v.* **fā³**

haste *n.* **kplā̀¹**

hastily *adv.* **kplǒ**

hat *n.* **bə̀r¹**; *n.* **kə̀tə̀**

hatch, to *v.* **hwə̀n**

hatchet *n.* **nggə̀r**

Hausa man *p.n.* **Nggwě**

have sex, to *v.* **na²**

have, to *v.* **te¹**

hawk *n.* **bə̀n**; *n.* **və̀mbà̀n**

haze *n.p.* **ywū̀r glō**

head *n.* **tu**

head dress *n.* **mbà̀r²**

head of the land *n.p.* **tu mə̀mē**

headache *n.* **gə̀ncə̀ tū**; *n.p.* **tu ngā̀r**

heal, to *v.* **dḕn¹**

hear, to *v.* **gwə̀**

heart *n.* **dǎ̀r**

hearth *n.* **kə̀krē**

heat *n.* **ngə̀ngǎ̀n**

heat rashes *n.* **zù̀zǔ**

heavens *n.* **mkpə̀lā̀shū**

heavy, to be *s.v.* **rǒ**

hedgehog *n.* **kā̀ca**

heel *n.* **nkə̀nzə̀**

help, to *v.* **lā̀²**; *v.* **zǎ**

hen *n.* **kə̀kə̀**; *n.* **sū̀r³**

hepatitis *n.* **kù̀tsə̀**

her *pron.* **gu**; *pron.* **kə̀²**

herb *sp. n.* **kə̀nkulwe**; *n.* **ncə̀**; *n.* **ncə̀ryě̀n**; *n.*

sə̀sà̀n

herbalist *n.* **wā̀ntě̀wu**

here *dem.* **nyā̀nmē**; *loc.* **sə̀kà̀nmē**; *n.* **tswḕ¹**

herself *pron.* **kə̀ywə̀**

hiccup *n.* **nzě**

hidden dark place *n.* **kə̀mfā̀r**

hidden place *n.* **nvə̀kī**

hide, to *v.* **nyā̀r**

high *s.v.* **tā̀n¹**; *adv.* **tse²**

hill *n.* **gbù̀²**

him *pron.* **gu**; *pron.* **kə̀²**

himself *pron.* **kə̀ywə̀**

hip *n.* **mkpì̀r**

hippopotamus *n.* **ywè̀n**

hirsute *a.* **gə̀ryǎ̀n**

his *p.a.* **mə̀gu**

history *n.* **dū**

hit, to *v.* **ngwur¹**

hoe *n.* **kpə̀tə̀nyā̀n**; *n.* **nzār**

hold on to, to *v.* **vū̀n²**

hole (natural) *n.* **bə̀**

hole in ground *n.* **jū̀jū**

hole in tree *n.* **wə̀nkì**

holiday *n.* **sə̀nsù**

home *n.* **kə̀²**

honey *n.* **shə̀¹**; *n.* **tə̀n shə̀**

hook *n.* **kwà̀r¹**

hooked stick *n.* **kpà̀gə̀**

hoopoe *n.* **və̀kpotù**

horn *n.* **də̀nggà̀n 1**; *n.* **mplṑn**; *n.* **njò**

horse *n.* **nyā̀n¹**

horseradish tree *n.* **jə̀gule**; *n.* **mkpə̀n kyə̀gbò**

hot *a.* **goglo**

hot sun *n.* **mgblarì**

hot, to be *v.* **wū̀ 2**

hotness *n.* **ngə̀ngǎ̀n**

hourglass drum *n.* **cì̀njǐ**

house *n.* **kə̀²**

house owner *n.* **tā̀kikə̀**; *n.* **wā̀nkə̀**

house-bat <i>n.</i> rəmgbɪyɪr	hunt, to <i>v.</i> ryān
housefly <i>n.</i> cīncī	hunter <i>n.</i> wāntānan
how long? how much? <i>int.</i> sè bər	hurry <i>n.</i> kplā¹
How many? <i>int.</i> bər²	hurry, to <i>v.</i> hyūn
How much? <i>int.</i> bər²	hurt, to <i>v.</i> bri¹ ; <i>v.</i> ràn² ; <i>v.</i> vrè²
how? <i>int.</i> sěn	hurtful, to be <i>v.</i> tǒ
huge <i>a.</i> nggòn	husband <i>n.</i> lɔn
human being <i>n.</i> něnji	hut <i>n.</i> ncā
humbly <i>adv.</i> gurgur	hydrocele <i>n.</i> mwǒ ; <i>n.</i> ntè 1
hunger <i>n.</i> gyǎn² ; <i>n.</i> mfə	hyena <i>n.</i> tǎrmvū
hungry, to feel <i>s.v.</i> kumfə	

I i

I <i>pron.</i> kəmù ; <i>pron.</i> nggō	injection <i>n.</i> mgbī
idiot <i>n.</i> kpər ; <i>n.</i> wānfā	inner cheek <i>n.</i> mgbo
idiotically <i>adv.</i> bəbè ; <i>adv.</i> bəbèbè	innocent <i>a.p.</i> mgbərə kəkla
idle, to be <i>v.</i> cūn³	insane, to be <i>s.v.</i> lǎ¹
idleness <i>n.</i> kpəkplǎ	insanity <i>n.</i> lǎ²
if <i>conj.</i> də ; <i>conj.</i> dā ; <i>cond.</i> dəsē ; <i>cond.</i> gbā	inscribe, to <i>v.</i> car
if not <i>conj.</i> dəgba	insect sp. <i>n.</i> begywī ; <i>n.</i> bəbàri ; <i>n.</i> bəbrèywi ; <i>n.</i> cīncī ; <i>n.</i> gantàn ; <i>n.</i> gār ; <i>n.</i> gbədār ; <i>n.</i> gbəgbār ; <i>n.</i> gbəgbəkpɪn ; <i>n.</i> gbəgbərə ; <i>n.</i> gbəjimkplɔn ; <i>n.</i> gbəlantswē ; <i>n.</i> gbəmgbēntɔn ; <i>n.</i> gblancā ; <i>n.</i> gəlimgbè ; <i>n.</i> gūn ; <i>n.</i> gyəgyərtsò ; <i>n.</i> kambàn ; <i>n.</i> kpəkpalaywī ; <i>n.</i> ləlān kəkə ; <i>n.</i> ləlān ; <i>n.</i> ləmgbò ; <i>n.</i> ləywā ; <i>n.</i> lùmù ; <i>n.</i> lùmvù ; <i>n.</i> mādār ; <i>n.</i> màmgbyèn ; <i>n.</i> mbəmbò ; <i>n.</i> mbəsuswə ; <i>n.</i> mbùmbò ; <i>n.</i> māmi shə ; <i>n.</i> mgbəlantù ; <i>n.</i> mgbənwōn ; <i>n.</i> mkparyə ; <i>n.</i> mūmūn ; <i>n.</i> mvārki ; <i>n.</i> mvār ; <i>n.</i> ncēzəzə ; <i>n.</i> njàrkpà ; <i>n.</i> njàr ; <i>n.</i> ntsū ; <i>n.</i> ntswē ; <i>n.</i> nyàn mkparu ; <i>n.</i> nyār ; <i>n.</i> nyèn ; <i>n.</i> rǎ² ; <i>n.</i> rəcūn ; <i>n.</i> rəncə ; <i>n.</i> rəryar ; <i>n.</i> shò¹ ; <i>n.</i> sùr³ ; <i>n.</i> swə ; <i>n.</i> tambrishə ; <i>n.</i> tsutswè ; <i>n.</i> vəvā ; <i>n.</i> wù²
image <i>n.</i> gbrīn 1	insects <i>n.</i> nyēn¹
imbecile <i>n.</i> kpər	inside <i>loc.</i> (ə)nywī ; <i>loc.</i> mīn ; <i>loc.</i> nywī
imitate, to <i>v.</i> kùlwè	insisting on one doing s.t <i>adv.</i> màmgbān
immature <i>a.</i> màmpùr	instead <i>adv.</i> gyēn
immediately <i>adv.</i> gè ; <i>adv.</i> mē¹ ; <i>adv.</i> mēmē	instigate, to <i>v.</i> cǒ³ ; <i>v.p.</i> fè mvre
immoral behaviour <i>n.</i> war²	instruct, to <i>v.</i> blā 3 ; <i>v.</i> tsàr
implies despising s.o. <i>excl.</i> Tsàr kədəriri	intensely <i>adv.</i> nggān
in <i>loc.</i> ə ; <i>loc.</i> (ə)nywī ; <i>loc.</i> mīn ; <i>loc.</i> nywī	inter, to <i>v.</i> ryùn²
in front of <i>loc.</i> nggà bishi	interest <i>n.</i> njwen
in line <i>adv.</i> ndō	interior of traditional grave <i>n.</i> gūr
in pain, to be <i>v.</i> lǎ⁴	interrogative formant -tan
in the middle of <i>loc.</i> dəntswe	intestine <i>n.</i> mgbərə
in the open <i>adv.</i> shiri	intoxication <i>n.</i> hwǎ
in the past <i>adv.</i> səsè	invite, to <i>v.</i> shàr
in-law <i>n.</i> ywē¹	irate <i>n.p.</i> dǎr ngàr
inaudibly <i>adv.</i> ndān	
inception <i>n.</i> kūcī	
incite, to <i>v.</i> cǒ³ ; <i>v.p.</i> fè mvre	
include, to <i>v.</i> kū³	
incorporate, to <i>v.</i> kū³	
indigestion <i>n.</i> fū	
indolence <i>n.</i> kpəkplǎ	
infant <i>n.</i> fəvèn	
inflate, to <i>v.</i> wu¹	
initially <i>adv.</i> jàjà	
initiation cycle <i>p.n.</i> Rín zē	

iron <i>n.</i> zā	issue <i>n.</i> rɛn² ; <i>n.</i> rɛn²
iron clapper <i>n.</i> mānggla	it <i>pron.</i> kə² ; <i>pron.</i> yā¹ ; <i>pron.</i> yə
iron clapper-bell <i>n.</i> lālā	itch, to <i>v.</i> fā
iron clapperless bell <i>n.</i> shā	itchgrass <i>n.</i> kəzēnyān
is <i>v.</i> re¹ ; <i>v.</i> sē¹	itself <i>pron.</i> kəywā

J j

jackal <i>n.</i> nggāgyū hwān	jumblebeads <i>n.</i> bēnzē ; <i>n.</i> mānzē
jar <i>n.</i> mbū ; <i>n.</i> rɛn ; <i>n.</i> tsā¹	jumbled <i>adv.p.</i> lan kyɛn
jaundice <i>n.</i> kùtsò	jump up, to <i>v.p.</i> gyɛn ncār
jaw <i>n.</i> ngā²	jumping frog sp. <i>n.</i> kukushār
jealousy <i>n.</i> ywu	junction <i>a.</i> kətar ; <i>n.</i> ywar²
joy <i>n.</i> wushi ; <i>n.</i> zəzè	junior <i>n.</i> shishar
joyful <i>n.p.</i> dār kākla	junior in-law <i>n.</i> zɔn
jubilant <i>n.p.</i> dār kākla	just like that <i>adv.</i> me
judge, to <i>v.</i> sùr²	

K k

kapok cotton <i>n.</i> mfūru kpɪ̀	kindle fire, to <i>v.</i> mwò
kapok tree <i>n.</i> kpɪ̀¹	king <i>n.</i> cūn¹
karaya gum tree <i>n.</i> kyōntàn ; <i>n.</i> tōntàn	knee <i>n.</i> gbəryūn
keep, to <i>v.</i> zwè 1	knife <i>n.</i> njī
kenaf <i>n.</i> nkwar	knock on the head <i>n.</i> mkpyɛn
kerosine <i>n.</i> kəlānzər	knot, to <i>v.</i> zū²
kick, to <i>v.</i> tār²	know, to <i>v.</i> tsā²
kidney <i>n.</i> sūr²	knowledge <i>n.</i> tsāki
kill, to <i>v.</i> ngūn¹ ; <i>v.</i> nlywe	knowledgeable, to be <i>v.p.</i> bu bishi
kin <i>n.</i> gbòn ; <i>n.</i> mī¹	kusu <i>n.</i> zē¹

L l

ladder <i>n.</i> nggā¹	law <i>n.</i> bān⁴
ladle <i>n.</i> fərɔn	lax <i>a.</i> frɛfrè
lamp <i>n.</i> tətələ	lay down, to <i>v.</i> kùr
land <i>n.</i> māmē	lay, to <i>v.</i> kùr
land monitor <i>n.</i> kyù²	layer <i>n.</i> məkpā
landlord <i>n.</i> tākikə	laziness <i>n.</i> kpəkplə
language <i>n.</i> kwār rɛn ; <i>n.</i> nyūrɛn	lazy, to be <i>s.v.</i> yōkpə
lantern <i>n.</i> tətələ	lead <i>n.</i> dar
large <i>a.</i> nggòn	lead, to <i>v.</i> kūcici
large male patas monkey <i>n.</i> bē ; <i>n.</i> kpòmgbukpòn	leader <i>n.</i> cūn¹ ; <i>n.</i> nggɔn
last <i>a.</i> gbāgba	leaf <i>n.</i> mgbāmvū gywi ; <i>n.</i> mgbāmvū
later on <i>adv.</i> nzen	leak, to <i>v.</i> gū¹
later, to be <i>v.</i> mbe fā	learn, to <i>v.</i> cā² 1
laugh, to <i>v.</i> mī²	learned, to be <i>v.p.</i> bu bishi

learning *n.* **tsōki**
 leave off, to *v.* **cūn...ngwɔn**; *v.* **kà...dɔn**
 leave s.t. for s.o., to *v.* **sa nkū**
 leer, to *v.* **grèn**
 left *a.* **mlā¹**
 leg *n.* **zə**
 lend, to *v.* **kə³**
 lengthy *adv.* **ndē 1**
 leopard *n.* **cā**
 leprosy *n.* **shī¹**
 let go of, to *v.* **cūn...ngwɔn**
 let, to *v.* **nō**
 letter *n.* **mgbāmṽ**
 levirate marriage *n.* **gbəřin**
 liana (general) *n.* **nggūngwūr²**
 liana sp. *n.* **kān²**
 lice *n.* **nyàr**
 lick one's finger, to *v.* **fē**
 lick the mouth, to *v.p.* **màn mgbo**
 lick, to *v.* **rā**
 lid *n.* **mpə**
 lie *n.* **mò**
 lie down, to *v.* **kakūr**
 life *n.* **shishēn**
 lift up, to *v.* **zō**
 light *a.* **fafa**; *n.* **tār¹**; *n.* **tətələ**
 lightning *n.* **nār²**; *n.* **nlyē¹**
 like *adv.* **kāde**; *adv.* **sāsān¹**
 like that *adv.* **sāsānmenàn**
 like this *dem.* **ənəmē**; *dem.* **nəmē**
 Lima beans *n.* **běkyèn**
 limit *n.* **dān**
 lion *n.* **bārga**
 lip *n.* **bārnyū**
 liquid *n.* **məmə**
 listen, to *v.* **gwə**; *v.p.* **hyūr tōn**
 little *a.* **fənyen**; *a.* **fətsē**
 liver *n.* **susur**
 livestock *n.* **kìyəwə**
 lizard sp. *n.* **kpáncá**; *n.* **kpəcawù**; *n.* **kyù²**; *n.*

mbəlanzān
 load *n.* **lwe**
 loan, to *v.* **la¹**
 local hanger *n.* **nggre**
 local maggi *n.* **shē**
 location *n.* **bubu**; *n.* **kpəmkpan**
 locust bean tree *n.* **lě²**
 log *n.* **gbōnkì**; *n.* **mgbəlōkì**
 long *a.* **rərē**
 long ago *adv.* **səsēmu**
 long-crested helmet-shrike *n.* **vəmpərò**
 long-tailed shrike *n.* **jijà**
 long, to be *s.v.* **rē²**
 look at s.o., to *v.p.* **ryùn...kyen**
 look at s.t. incessantly, to *v.p.* **mər kyen**
 look at, to *v.* **kyēn 1**; *v.* **mər 2**
 look for, to *v.* **fō**
 look like, to *v.* **kyēn 2**
 look out for, to *v.* **gbyēn²**
 look straight ahead, to *v.* **nggyər**
 look, to *v.* **nggyər**
 looking tough *id.* **mgbłamgbł**
 looking unsettled *adv.p.* **lan kyen**
 loose *a.* **frēfrē**
 lost, to be *s.v.* **də**
 louse *n.* **nyàr**
 love potion *n.* **kəjì**
 love, to *v.* **nyen¹**
 lovegrass *n.* **mbər**
 low *adv.* **jən**
 lower back *n.* **tər¹**
 lower leg *n.* **kpərē**
 lower part of abdomen *n.* **bri²**
 lunacy *n.* **lě²**
 lunatic, to *s.v.* **lě¹**
 lung(s) *n.* **fū**
 lust after, to *v.* **gbəjikì**
 lying *n.* **mò**
 lymph *n.* **ywur**

M m

mad, to be *s.v.* **lě¹**
 Mada people *p.n.* **Məda**
 madness *n.* **lě²**
 maggot *n.* **mūmūn**; *n.* **ntsū**
 magic *n.* **bwi**; *n.* **kwār³**
 magician *n.* **mā¹**; *n.* **wān(re)kwār**
 mahogany tree *n.* **tsər**
 maiden *n.* **vənggə**

maize *n.* **grīgbo**; *n.* **kpəmkpan**
 maize kernel *n.* **běmkpan**
 make a mistake, to *v.* **kānkā**
 make beer, to *v.* **jimə**
 make fun of, to *v.* **nggren 1**
 make haste, to *v.* **hyūn**
 make incomprehensible noise, to *v.* **kpłə glə**
 make ridges, to *v.* **rən**

make trouble with people, to *v.p.* **fě mvre**make trouble, to *v.* **shǒ²**make, to *v.* **nàn**; *v.* **te³**malachite kingfisher *n.* **tsàni**malady *n.* **lələ**; *n.* **mgbəmgbàn²**male cricket *n.* **njàrkpà**male sheep *n.* **nrù**malice *n.* **běmè**mammal sp. *n.* **bǎrga**; *n.* **bàr³**; *n.* **bē**; *n.* **bū¹**; *n.***cā**; *n.* **càr**; *n.* **dèn**; *n.* **gwūr**; *n.* **gyà**; *n.* **gyèn**;*n.* **gyòn¹**; *n.* **jè**; *n.* **jwè**; *n.* **kāca**; *n.* **kāgbù**; *n.***klǎ**; *n.* **klò**; *n.* **kpàlo**; *n.* **kpətēglā**; *n.* **kpīr**; *n.***kpòmgbukpòn**; *n.* **kpūmkpār**; *n.* **kpūr**; *n.***lǎdē hwan**; *n.* **lunkpūr**; *n.* **mkprishì**; *n.* **nār¹**;*n.* **ncikla**; *n.* **ncikrè**; *n.* **nggǎgyū hwān**; *n.***nggǎgyū māsər**; *n.* **nrètəgya**; *n.* **ntəywàn**; *n.***nwōn**; *n.* **nyī**; *n.* **nzè²**; *n.* **rəmgbyir**; *n.* **ricī**; *n.***ryò¹**; *n.* **shǒ²**; *n.* **tārmvū**; *n.* **tsèkpǒ**; *n.* **tyǎ¹**; *n.***vəcùn**; *n.* **vəgyòn**; *n.* **vəkpīr**; *n.* **vəndəndān**;*n.* **vənzē**; *n.* **vəsər**; *n.* **vəsūr**; *n.* **vətò**; *n.* **ywèn**;*n.* **zē¹**; *n.* **zù¹**man *n.* **lələn**; *n.* **vələn**mango *n.* **mənggərō**manioc *n.* **ləgū**manure *n.* **gye**many *a.* **kənàn**mark out, to *v.* **far³**mark, to *v.* **car**market *n.* **do**market-day *n.* **do**marks infinitive *v.aux.* **kā¹**marriage *n.* **ngǎ²**marry, to *v.p.* **gbō ywe ngǎ**marsh *n.* **mgbò¹**marvellous, to be *s.v.* **mǎ²**mash with foot, to *v.* **càn**mason wasp *n.* **màmgbyən**masquerade *n.* **Ləndūr**; *p.n.* **Ndwər**; *p.n.* **Njwě****hwākī**; *n.* **Njwě**; *p.n.* **Njwě shīshā**; *p.n.* **Rin****zē**massage, to *v.* **hwā**mat *n.* **mbu**; *n.* **təkpàn**match, to *v.* **flǒ**matchet *n.* **dǎ²**matching *adv.* **brè**; *a.* **gìgyèr**mate *n.* **fəgyəywā**; *n.* **zān**maternal uncle *n.* **gi³**matter *n.* **rən²**; *n.* **rən²**mature *a.* **gbəgbrè**mature, to be *s.v.* **gbre¹**mature, to be, to *v.* **cē**maxim *v.p.* **nggyè rən**maybe *adv.* **kəndà**; *adv.* **məgē, məkē**; *adv.***munyàn**; *adv.* **njwēn**; *adv.* **tətò**me *pron.* **nggə**measure, to *v.* **mà**meat *n.* **nan**; *n.* **nkan nan**medicament *n.* **wu²**medicine *n.* **wu²**meet on the road, to *v.p.* **ma...nkən**meet, to *v.* **ma¹**mend, to *v.* **shē³**meni oil tree *n.* **mbār¹**menstruating, to be *v.* **kū⁴**merchant *n.* **wānrēkī**mercy *n.* **mətù**merry *n.p.* **dǎr kēkla**message *n.* **ndu 2**metal *n.* **zō**mid-day *n.* **mgblari**migraine *n.* **gəncə tū**millet *n.* **bedərō**; *n.* **yo²**millipede *n.* **gbəjimklən**mimic, to *v.* **kùlwè**mine *p.a.* **mənggə**mineral *n.* **zinari**minor issues *n.* **ncinrin**mirror *n.* **zār²**mislead, to *v.* **gyūr**miss out on, to *v.* **gban¹**missing, to be *s.v.* **də**mist *n.p.* **ywūr glō**mistletoe *n.* **rəhye**mistreat s.o., to *v.* **fǎr¹**mix beniseed, to *v.* **ngǎ²**mix, to *v.* **cū³**; *v.* **sàn²**; *v.* **tar⁴**; *v.* **ywa**mixed up *adv.p.* **lan kyen**mock, to *v.* **cā² 2**; *v.* **gyǎ**; *v.* **nggrən 1**Monday *p.n.* **gyərndu**money *n.* **kājī**mongoose *n.* **nār¹**monkey sp. *n.* **bē**; *n.* **cər**; *n.* **klǎ**; *n.***kpòmgbukpòn**month *n.* **hwə²**moon *n.* **hwə²**more than, to be, to *v.* **mwən**moringa *n.* **jəgule**morning *n.* **mbrēcā**; *n.* **mbrè**mortar *n.* **ji¹**mosquito *n.* **wù²**mother *n.* **gyǎr²**; *n.* **gyəywā**; *n.* **yā**mother-in-law *n.* **gūgū**motor *n.* **kì yə sǎ**motorbike *n.* **bàbər**motorcycle *n.* **bàbər**mould *n.* **gwa 2**

mouldy <i>a.</i> tùr²	mum <i>n.</i> gyǎr² ; <i>n.</i> yā
mount, to <i>v.</i> ngun	murder, to <i>v.</i> ngūn¹
mountain <i>n.</i> gbù²	mushroom sp. <i>n.</i> bàbrègyùn ; <i>n.</i> gigyun
mouth <i>n.</i> nyū	musical bow <i>n.</i> kànggū
move off, to <i>v.</i> dè	musical instrument <i>n.</i> cìnjǐ ; <i>n.</i> dònggàn 1 ; <i>n.</i> gònggān ; <i>n.</i> gòntē² ; <i>n.</i> gyǎr³ ; <i>n.</i> kànggū ; <i>n.</i> kànggān ; <i>n.</i> kùcūn ; <i>n.</i> kùkùkpur ; <i>n.</i> lǎlá ; <i>n.</i> mbwě wùyà ; <i>n.</i> mānggla ; <i>n.</i> mgbā ; <i>n.</i> mplōn ; <i>n.</i> shā ; <i>n.</i> sūswě
move, to <i>v.</i> cī ; <i>v.</i> tar⁴	musk shrew <i>n.</i> riçī
much <i>a.</i> kənàn	must <i>v.aux.</i> kpakiki
mud <i>n.</i> ncān²	myself <i>pron.</i> kāmù ; <i>pron.</i> tukpè 2
mud-wasp <i>n.</i> lùmù	
muddled <i>adv.p.</i> lan kyen	
muddy (water) <i>a.</i> tələ	
mug <i>n.</i> fənzə	
multicoloured <i>a.</i> cəcar	

N n

naked <i>a.</i> mwāmwār	nightjar <i>n.</i> kaprē
name <i>n.</i> sān¹	nincompoop <i>n.</i> kpər ; <i>n.</i> wānfā
namesake <i>n.</i> zāgū	nine <i>num.</i> tīyār
narrative <i>n.</i> dū ; <i>n.</i> ncancùn	nitwit <i>n.</i> kpər ; <i>n.</i> wānfā
narrow <i>a.</i> hye	No! <i>excl.</i> an àn
narrow-necked pot <i>n.</i> mbū	noisily <i>id.</i> kpəkpləkplō
natron <i>n.</i> mətō	noisy, to be <i>v.</i> gwār
navel <i>n.</i> mgbəmgbər	noon <i>n.</i> mgblarì
near <i>a.</i> hyuhyur ; <i>a.</i> hyur¹	north <i>n.</i> nggà shū
necessary, to be <i>v.aux.</i> kpakiki	nose <i>n.</i> mvre
necessity <i>n.</i> kpaki	not <i>adv.</i> yo¹
neck <i>n.</i> tyā²	not do, to <i>v.</i> kà...dòn
necklace <i>n.</i> nzēnzētē	not even <i>cond.</i> gbā¹
needle <i>n.</i> mgbi	not produce, to <i>v.</i> ngarmpwà 3
nephews <i>n.</i> nyàn²	not recognise s.o. easily, to <i>v.p.</i> kàn...bishi
nest <i>n.</i> njār	not to do any work, to <i>v.</i> cūn³
never <i>adv.</i> gbàngyər ; <i>adv.</i> mgbomgboyo	not unless <i>cond.</i> gbā¹
never at all <i>adv.</i> mgbomgboyo	now <i>adv.</i> gè ; <i>adv.</i> mē¹ ; <i>adv.</i> mēmē ; <i>adv.</i> nzēnmē
new <i>a.</i> suswē	nowadays <i>adv.</i> nzēnmē
next time <i>adv.</i> kə mù	nude <i>a.</i> mwāmwār
next to <i>loc.</i> gi¹	number of times s.t. is done <i>pref.</i> kə-
night <i>n.</i> bū² ; <i>n.</i> ribū	nurse, to <i>v.</i> màn
night-adder <i>n.</i> krushā	

O o

oar <i>n.</i> pələpələ	of it <i>pron.</i> ywā²
oath <i>n.</i> rin	of the same height <i>adv.</i> nyār
obstruct, to <i>v.</i> ywar¹	oil <i>n.</i> mònyèn
ocarina <i>n.</i> kùcūn	oil-palm <i>n.</i> rē¹
occur, to <i>v.</i> te²	okay, to be <i>v.</i> ma² 2
odour <i>n.</i> cumgbə ; <i>n.</i> mgbə	okra <i>n.</i> ndər
oedema <i>n.</i> səsēn	old <i>a.</i> kpəkpo

old (things) <i>a.</i> kūkū	only <i>a.</i> gba ; <i>conj.</i> kya ; <i>a.</i> kyame ; <i>adv.</i> me
omit, to <i>v.</i> gban ¹	only one <i>a.</i> fəgyār
on <i>loc.</i> ə	open space <i>n.</i> kpār
on account of <i>conj.</i> dùdu	open, to <i>v.</i> bu
on top <i>loc.</i> ətù 1	open, to be <i>s.v.</i> bū
on/off (light), to <i>v.p.</i> mgbě hyô	openly <i>adv.</i> kpār ; <i>adv.</i> shiri
once <i>adv.</i> kəgyār	opponent <i>n.</i> lənggə
once upon a time <i>excl.</i> ncà ¹	oppress, to <i>v.</i> fǎr ¹
one <i>num.</i> gyār ¹ ; <i>num.</i> gyār ; <i>num.</i> mgbren ; <i>pron.</i> wān	or <i>conj.</i> gē ; <i>conj.</i> kē
one by one <i>adv.</i> gyərgyər	orange <i>n.</i> lāmū
one day <i>n.</i> rì gyər	ordeal <i>n.</i> zòn ²
one hundred <i>num.</i> gigyər	ornament, to <i>v.</i> te...nzē
one kobo <i>n.</i> kəbū	otter <i>n.</i> nggəgyū məsər
one of <i>pron.</i> wān	ours <i>p.a.</i> mōtə
one who <i>pron.</i> wān	out of the way, to <i>v.p.</i> vu ngà
one-eyed person <i>n.</i> mfè	outside <i>loc.</i> bē
oneself <i>pron.</i> mkpumū	overdo, to <i>v.</i> ngūnsū ²
onion <i>n.</i> ləbasā	owl <i>n.</i> nkūwu
	owner <i>n.</i> tāki

P p

pack, to <i>v.</i> té ⁶	pathetic <i>a.</i> fa ; <i>a.</i> flòfi
paddle <i>n.</i> pələpələ	pathway <i>n.</i> kəbū
pain sharply, to <i>v.</i> ràn ²	pawpaw <i>n.</i> nkəgbò ; <i>n.</i> ywēmkpər
pain, to <i>v.</i> vrè ²	pay back, to <i>v.</i> lələ
painful, to be <i>v.</i> bri ¹	pay close attention, to <i>v.p.</i> shār tōn
palm civet ? <i>n.</i> vətə	peanut <i>n.</i> běncwē
palm midrib <i>n.</i> dəmgbà rě	peasant <i>n.</i> wāndə
palm nut <i>n.</i> kəkū	peel (maize), to <i>v.</i> swě
palm wine <i>n.</i> ncār	peel, to <i>v.</i> frē ; <i>v.</i> shī ¹
palm-fruit <i>n.</i> māndē	penis <i>n.</i> njo
panic, to <i>v.p.</i> tsū dār	penury <i>n.</i> jə
panpipe <i>n.</i> gyār ³ ; <i>n.</i> mgbā	pepper <i>n.</i> mgbāmgblān
papaya <i>n.</i> nkəgbò ; <i>n.</i> ywēmkpər	perhaps <i>adv.</i> kəndà ; <i>adv.</i> məgē, məkē ; <i>adv.</i> munyàn ; <i>adv.</i> njwēn ; <i>adv.</i> tətə
paper <i>n.</i> mgbām vū car	perplexity <i>excl.</i> mbānrìn ¹
paper money <i>n.</i> mgbām vū	persistence <i>v.</i> məmgbān
paraffin <i>n.</i> kəlānzər	person <i>n.</i> nē ¹ ; <i>n.</i> nějji
paralysed due to a sudden fright	person of <i>pron.</i> wān
parboiled <i>a.</i> bwəbwə	person who <i>pron.</i> nənè
part of the negative marker <i>neg.</i> la...[yo]	person who uses magical powers <i>n.</i> mākī
part of, to become <i>v.</i> ngàn ¹	personal name <i>p.n.</i> Bēmè ; <i>p.n.</i> Bəbrê ; <i>p.n.</i> Bətərē ; <i>p.n.</i> Blāməkə ; <i>p.n.</i> Blāntān ; <i>p.n.</i> Blā ;
partition <i>n.</i> nzənzər	<i>p.n.</i> Blārən ; <i>p.n.</i> Būbwə ; <i>p.n.</i> Cāngrēn ; <i>p.n.</i> Cànk yū ; <i>p.n.</i> Cīkyū ; <i>p.n.</i> Cīm bā ; <i>p.n.</i> Cīncān ; <i>p.n.</i> Cīnē ; <i>p.n.</i> Cōntān ; <i>p.n.</i> Cudè ;
partridge <i>n.</i> kwǎ	<i>p.n.</i> Cūnbə ; <i>p.n.</i> Cūncə ; <i>p.n.</i> Cūnjà ; <i>p.n.</i> Cūnjəma ; <i>p.n.</i> Cūnmbə ; <i>p.n.</i> Cūnmgbò ; <i>p.n.</i> Cūnmwəcu ; <i>p.n.</i> Cūnndəywān ; <i>p.n.</i> Cūnrīnzē ; <i>p.n.</i> Dānbə ; <i>p.n.</i> Dānrən ; <i>p.n.</i>
parts of an animal <i>n.</i> kān ¹	
party <i>n.</i> gān	
pass the night, to <i>v.</i> nà ¹	
pass through, to <i>v.</i> glə ¹	
patas monkey <i>n.</i> cər	
patch up s.t., to <i>v.</i> shē ³	
path <i>n.</i> kənkən ; <i>n.</i> nkən ² ; <i>n.</i> vənkən	

Dantsù; *p.n.* **Dərsùbə**; *p.n.* **Dòhwan**; *p.n.* **Dònbə**; *p.n.* **Dònkòn**; *p.n.* **Dònkū**; *p.n.* **Fàvèn**; *p.n.* **Fəjə**; *p.n.* **Fəmbə**; *p.n.* **Fəntàn**; *p.n.* **Fənyən**; *p.n.* **Fəkyən**; *p.n.* **Fəngrən**; *p.n.* **Fəren**; *p.n.* **Fətswē**; *p.n.* **Gànkòn**; *p.n.* **Gàsùba**; *p.n.* **Gbàjikì**; *p.n.* **Gìkyū**; *p.n.* **Gimwòn**; *p.n.* **Gìndàn**; *p.n.* **Glābə**; *p.n.* **Gyancè**; *p.n.* **Gyànkòn**; *p.n.* **Gyanzo**; *p.n.* **Gyārku**; *p.n.* **Gyàr**; *p.n.* **Gyàbə**; *p.n.* **Gyōgòn**; *p.n.* **Gyōjə**; *p.n.* **Gyōkòn**; *p.n.* **Gyūnggòn**; *p.n.* **Gyunka**; *p.n.* **Gyūnkə**; *p.n.* **Gyūnrē**; *p.n.* **Gyūnrē**; *p.n.* **Gyūrbə**; *p.n.* **Hyenyū**; *p.n.* **Jākì**; *p.n.* **Jànbə**; *p.n.* **Jākre**; *p.n.* **Jānē**; *p.n.* **Jime**; *p.n.* **Jingrən**; *p.n.* **Jūnglō**; *p.n.* **Jūnnē**; *p.n.* **Kābə**; *p.n.* **Kadòn**; *p.n.* **Kālā**; *p.n.* **Kāmə**; *p.n.* **Kancānkì**; *p.n.* **Kānē**; *p.n.* **Kānkə**; *p.n.* **Kānzàn**; *p.n.* **Kāren**; *p.n.* **Kasē**; *p.n.* **Kāwu**; *p.n.* **Kābunyān**; *p.n.* **Kpākə**; *p.n.* **Kpamə**; *p.n.* **Kpānbə**; *p.n.* **Kpōkə**; *p.n.* **Kyōnē**; *p.n.* **Kyūnē**; *p.n.* **Lākpu**; *p.n.* **Lākre**; *p.n.* **Làtswē**; *p.n.* **Lāywi**; *p.n.* **Màdo**; *p.n.* **Magwa**; *p.n.* **Mākpu**; *p.n.* **Mālā**; *p.n.* **Mamān**; *p.n.* **Māmgyè**; *p.n.* **Mankòn**; *p.n.* **Māshi**; *p.n.* **Mbābār**; *p.n.* **Mbābū**; *p.n.* **Mbācā**; *p.n.* **Mbācūn**; *p.n.* **Mbādān**; *p.n.* **Mbādo**; *p.n.* **Mbāgəga**; *p.n.* **Mbāgi**; *p.n.* **Mbāglā**; *p.n.* **Mbāglē**; *p.n.* **Mbāglō**; *p.n.* **Mbāgribə**; *p.n.* **Mbāgyaga**; *p.n.* **Mbāgyànkòn**; *p.n.* **Mbāgyār**; *p.n.* **Mbāgyār**; *p.n.* **Mbāgyòn**; *p.n.* **Mbāgyūn**; *p.n.* **Mbāhwan**; *p.n.* **Mbājə**; *p.n.* **Mbājimə**; *p.n.* **Mbākābu**; *p.n.* **Mbākāji**; *p.n.* **Mbākāji**; *p.n.* **Mbākə**; *p.n.* **Mbākòn**; *p.n.* **Mbākpu**; *p.n.* **Mbākru**; *p.n.* **Mbākū**; *p.n.* **Mbākyūbe**; *p.n.* **Mbākyū**; *p.n.* **Mbālā**; *p.n.* **Mbālələ**; *p.n.* **Mbāmbār**; *p.n.* **Mbāmbri**; *p.n.* **Mbāməshi**; *p.n.* **Mbāmkpàn**; *p.n.* **Mbāmkpūn**; *p.n.* **Mbāncān**; *p.n.* **Mbāngān**; *p.n.* **Mbānggòn**; *p.n.* **Mbānkòn**; *p.n.* **Mbānyān**; *p.n.* **Mbārāgòn**; *p.n.* **Mbārāntān**; *p.n.* **Mbārā**; *p.n.* **Mbārèdo**; *p.n.* **Mbārən**; *p.n.* **Mbārè**; *p.n.* **Mbāri**; *p.n.* **Mbārmə**; *p.n.* **Mbāryān**; *p.n.* **Mbāsanga**; *p.n.* **Mbāsələ**; *p.n.* **Mbāsər**; *p.n.* **Mbāswē**; *p.n.* **Mbātə**; *p.n.* **Mbāwānggwe**; *p.n.* **Mbāwu**; *p.n.* **Mbāwushi**; *p.n.* **Mbāywan**; *p.n.* **Mbāzè**; *p.n.* **Mbāzə**; *p.n.* **Mbāzār**; *p.n.* **Mbāzəze**; *p.n.* **Mbāzō**; *p.n.* **Mbēkì**; *p.n.* **Mbēkpu**; *p.n.* **Mbōkì**; *p.n.* **Mbōnē**; *p.n.* **Mbumburən**; *p.n.* **Mbwancə**; *p.n.* **Mbwanzō**; *p.n.* **Mbwā**; *p.n.* **Məbàn**; *p.n.* **Məcùn**; *p.n.* **Məginē**; *p.n.* **Məki**; *p.n.* **Məkwōnē**; *p.n.* **Məkyū**; *p.n.* **Məmərebe**; *p.n.* **Məmə**; *p.n.* **Məncakì**; *p.n.* **Məncàkpu**; *p.n.* **Mənggānē**; *p.n.* **Mənggòn**; *p.n.* **Mərkuyən**;

p.n. **Məsər-nglazə**; *p.n.* **Məshikarə**; *p.n.* **Məshi**; *p.n.* **Məwu**; *p.n.* **Mfūnan**; *p.n.* **Mgbəga**; *p.n.* **Mgbəjan**; *p.n.* **Mgbənyūglo**; *p.n.* **Mgbəringan**; *p.n.* **Mgbərinkì**; *p.n.* **Mgbōkəji**; *p.n.* **Mgbōnē**; *p.n.* **Mkpāryōkì**; *p.n.* **Mkpūnmbə**; *p.n.* **Mpūrmə**; *p.n.* **Mwōnbə**; *p.n.* **Mwōnshīn**; *p.n.* **Nānggwe**; *p.n.* **Nāngrən**; *p.n.* **Nānkərə**; *p.n.* **Nānkuyən**; *p.n.* **Nānsòn**; *p.n.* **Nārcūn**; *p.n.* **Ncaka**; *p.n.* **Ncān**; *p.n.* **Ndānē**; *p.n.* **Nēgyār**; *p.n.* **Nēkre**; *p.n.* **Ngānsūbə**; *p.n.* **Ngāren**; *p.n.* **Ngārgbū**; *p.n.* **Ngōngān**; *p.n.* **Nggabē**; *p.n.* **Nggampwar**; *p.n.* **Nggarē**; *p.n.* **Nggōnggòn Ri**; *p.n.* **Ngresubə**; *n.* **Ngwōn Ri**; *p.n.* **Ngwōnrì**; *p.n.* **Njūwàci**; *p.n.* **Nkōncə**; *p.n.* **Nkōnggwe**; *p.n.* **Nkōnkuyū**; *p.n.* **Nkōnrē**; *p.n.* **Nkōnrīyān**; *p.n.* **Nkōnyān**; *p.n.* **Nkyennē**; *p.n.* **Ntānrin**; *p.n.* **Nyōrèrè**; *p.n.* **Nyēnme**; *p.n.* **Nyēnnē**; *p.n.* **Nzemwòn**; *p.n.* **Nzōme**; *p.n.* **Rānyū**; *p.n.* **Rēnē**; *p.n.* **Rēnkərə**; *p.n.* **Rēnmwōn**; *p.n.* **Rēsər**; *p.n.* **Rēsāmān**; *p.n.* **Rēsū**; *p.n.* **Rīdan**; *p.n.* **Rīgwo**; *p.n.* **Rīkuyən**; *p.n.* **Rīla**; *p.n.* **Rīnāngrən**; *p.n.* **Rīnanrən**; *p.n.* **Rīnə**; *p.n.* **Rīngrən**; *p.n.* **Rīntān**; *p.n.* **Rīn-zè**; *p.n.* **Rīsāngwōn**; *p.n.* **Rīsēbōtə**; *p.n.* **Rīsēnggòn**; *p.n.* **Rīsēnyən**; *p.n.* **Rīshāmā**; *p.n.* **Rītōnzē**; *p.n.* **Rītsə**; *p.n.* **Sābərən**; *p.n.* **Sā ntān**; *p.n.* **Sēmgbə**; *p.n.* **Shākwo**; *p.n.* **Shānnē**; *p.n.* **Shāyo**; *p.n.* **Shēkə**; *p.n.* **Shēngwōn**; *p.n.* **Shēnnē**; *p.n.* **Shēren**; *p.n.* **Shō**; *p.n.* **Shūnkì**; *p.n.* **Swēməshi**; *p.n.* **Swēnyū**; *p.n.* **Swēzə**; *p.n.* **Tābə**; *p.n.* **Tākə**; *p.n.* **Tākpīr**; *p.n.* **Tānē**; *p.n.* **Tānnē**; *p.n.* **Tānyān**; *p.n.* **Tāndè**; *p.n.* **Tōbə**; *p.n.* **Tōnzē**; *p.n.* **Tsēbə**; *p.n.* **Tsəntsē**; *p.n.* **Tsēnbə**; *p.n.* **Tsēncun**; *p.n.* **Tsenkpə**; *p.n.* **Tsēnnē**; *p.n.* **Tsēnrən**; *p.n.* **Tsūtsūglō**; *p.n.* **Tunggòn**; *p.n.* **Vānē**; *p.n.* **Vəcùn**; *p.n.* **Vəgyōn**; *p.n.* **Vənce**; *p.n.* **Vōnggōnggwe**; *p.n.* **Vōnggārīn**; *p.n.* **Vōnggārī**; *p.n.* **Vəntsē**; *p.n.* **Vrēnjō**; *p.n.* **Wāndō**; *p.n.* **Wūzə**; *p.n.* **Yākwō**; *p.n.* **Ywānkə**; *p.n.* **Zərmwōn**; *p.n.* **Zəzerì**

perspiration *n.* **məkri**

persuade, to *v.* **ryār**

pet, to *v.* **kwār²**

petition *n.* **bùbwō**

phantom *n.* **brì¹**

philtre *n.* **kəji**

phlegm *n.* **kpəkprè**

photo *n.* **gbrīn 1**

physician *n.* **wāndēn**

pick out, to *v.* **jūn**

pick up, to *v.* **tān**

pick, to *v.* **hyēn¹**

picture <i>n.</i> gbrīn 1	pound, to <i>v.</i> càn ; <i>v.</i> kpàn¹ ; <i>v.</i> kyār
piece <i>n.</i> mpə	pounded yam <i>n.</i> ryǒ
piece of cloth <i>n.</i> njinja nkùlwè	pour away, to <i>v.</i> kàre
pie crow <i>n.</i> rūrūlə	pour out, to <i>v.</i> bwà
pierce, to <i>v.</i> tō²	pouring out <i>v.n.</i> kəkàrē
pig <i>n.</i> lǎdē ; <i>n.</i> lǎsō [Sh.]	poverty <i>n.</i> jō
pimples <i>n.</i> ntsēki	praise s.o. for good work, to <i>v.</i> bè
pin-tailed whydah <i>n.</i> vəcəkpancin	praying mantis <i>n.</i> nyàn mkparu
pip <i>n.</i> bě	pregnant, to be <i>v.p.</i> lwe nēn
piss <i>n.</i> mgbàrīn	prepare, to <i>v.</i> kplā² ; <i>v.</i> kyūn
pistol <i>n.</i> zǔ²	presence <i>n.</i> bīshī
pit <i>n.</i> jūjū	present <i>adv.</i> nzēnmē
pitch dark <i>a.</i> kpī	present formally, to <i>v.</i> ra²
pity <i>n.</i> mètù	present, to be <i>v.</i> shā
place <i>n.</i> bà ; <i>n.</i> bubu ; <i>n.</i> tswē¹	present, to be, to <i>v.</i> shāmān
place of former domicile <i>n.</i> kwǎ¹	press cloth, to <i>v.</i> ngǎ¹
place where harvested acca is threshed <i>n.</i> laywī	press down on, to <i>v.p.</i> dēn ... ngan
plague locust <i>n.</i> zē	press down, to <i>v.</i> hwā
plaintain <i>n.</i> ywamgbar	press forcefully, to <i>v.</i> mlā²
plait (as a rope), to <i>v.</i> màr 1	press, to <i>v.</i> dēn²
plait, to <i>v.</i> lō	prevent, to <i>v.</i> ywar¹
plane, to <i>v.</i> tsǎ³	previously <i>conj.</i> anrīn
plant sp. <i>n.</i> gārīncwē ; <i>n.</i> kàmbà mèsar ; <i>n.</i> kyànkèn ; <i>n.</i> məgimbəŪ ; <i>n.</i> mpwàrkədān ; <i>n.</i> sūrkā	prick <i>n.</i> njo
plant, to <i>v.</i> cū⁴ ; <i>v.</i> sē²	prick, to <i>v.</i> tō²
plantain <i>n.</i> gbūr	primarily <i>adv.</i> jàjà
plantain-eater <i>n.</i> nzē¹	prior to <i>conj.</i> anrīn
planting season <i>n.</i> mkpān sōn	probably <i>adv.</i> munyàn
play with s.o., to <i>v.</i> gbō rō	problematic <i>s.v.</i> rànkpə
play, to <i>v.</i> rō	progressive future marker <i>v.aux.</i> sə
playful, to be <i>s.v.</i> te nka	progressive present marker <i>v.aux.</i> sə
plead, to <i>v.</i> bər³	prostitute <i>n.</i> kar ; <i>n.</i> kilakī
pleading <i>n.</i> bùbwǎ	prostitute, to be a <i>v.p.</i> te cucu
pleasure <i>n.</i> wushi ; <i>n.</i> zəzè	prostitution <i>n.</i> kilakī
plentiful, to be <i>s.v.</i> gan ngwǎn	proudly <i>id.</i> nkanka
plentifully <i>adv.</i> kə̀nà̀nme	proverb <i>v.p.</i> nggyè rən
pluck reed instrument, to <i>v.</i> ngwur¹	pubic area <i>n.</i> gban²
pluck, to <i>v.</i> hyēn¹ ; <i>v.</i> ngwur¹	pubic hair <i>n.</i> mfùgban
pocket <i>n.</i> bwǎki, bwǎ	public <i>adv.</i> shiri
point at, to <i>v.p.</i> zù ngwǎn	puff adder <i>n.</i> fùkpə
poison <i>n.</i> tsò	pull off, to <i>v.</i> gbì
poke, to <i>v.</i> cǎ²	pull, to <i>v.</i> gbār ; <i>v.</i> gbì
policeman <i>n.</i> wā̀nkpā̀nnēn	pulverise, to <i>v.</i> bù ; <i>v.</i> kwǎ
pond-skater <i>n.</i> mkparyə	pumpkin <i>n.</i> ywē²
position <i>n.</i> bà	punctual, to be <i>v.p.</i> gàn...mkpān
possibly <i>adv.</i> kə̀ndà ; <i>adv.</i> məgē, məkē ; <i>adv.</i> njwēn ; <i>adv.</i> tətò	punctured, to be <i>s.v.</i> blə
pot <i>n.</i> mbū ; <i>n.</i> nkarèn ; <i>n.</i> rèn ; <i>n.</i> tsǎ¹	purity <i>n.</i> ntsər
potash <i>n.</i> mètò	purple glossy starling <i>n.</i> ngglàn
potherb <i>n.</i> mgbākī ; <i>n.</i> mgbāntur ; <i>n.</i> mgbārəhū	pursue, to <i>v.</i> glā ; <i>v.</i> kū² ; <i>v.</i> mār ; <i>v.</i> tārtār ; <i>v.</i> zwē
potherb sp. <i>n.</i> mgbādār	pus <i>n.</i> ywur
potsherd <i>n.</i> təkpā tsā	push, to <i>v.</i> kyǎn ; <i>v.</i> tūr¹
	put cheek, to <i>v.</i> sanga
	put down, to <i>v.</i> gyō ; <i>v.</i> kan...gyō
	put excessive pomade, to <i>v.</i> plò

put on, to v. **sà¹ 1**; v. **sà¹ 2**
 put out a leg, to v.p. **tsě̃n ... mfèn**
 put s.t. down, to v. **zê**
 put together, to v.p. **kan...ngàn**

put, to v. **kan¹**; v. **sū**
 pygmy kingfisher n. **vəgrēnnyū**
 pygmy mouse n. **ncikla**
 python n. **nyì**

Q q

quail n. **vətə̀ndār**
 quake, to v. **gbrē**
 quaking n. **gbrē**
 quarrel, to v. **vən**
 quench, to v. **rīn²**

question expressing surprise int. **kyīn?**
 question marker int. **fā¹**
 quick a. **brī³**
 quickly adv. **tswə̀tswe**
 quietly adv. **gigyūn**; adv. **tə**

R r

rabbit n. **vəgyōn**
 raft-zither n. **gə̀ntē²**; n. **mbwě wùyà**
 rag n. **njīnjaki**
 railway n. **nkōn zā**
 rain n. **glō**
 rainbow n. **də̀dārglō**
 raindrops n. **tsùtsūglō**
 rainy season n. **tswē²**
 raise up, to v. **zō**
 ram n. **nrū**
 ramble, to v. **shūr**
 rapid a. **brī³**
 rapidly adv. **tswə̀tswe**
 rat sp. n. **nzē²**
 rat, generic n. **ci¹**
 rather adv. **gyēn**
 rather than conj. **kya**
 ravenous, to be s.v. **kumfə**
 ravine n. **ywǎ¹**
 raw a. **nyənyèr**
 reach, to v. **ma² 1**; v. **sū**
 read, to v. **blā 2**
 rear, to v. **wō**
 rebuke, to v. **grī²**; v. **jan¹**; v. **mwən²**
 receive, to v. **kpə**
 recently adv. **nanrèn**
 reciprocate, to v. **ləla**
 red a. **gə̀grən**; a. **sə̀mban**
 red centipede n. **kpə̀kpalaywī**
 red spider-mite n. **mvār**
 red-billed wood-dove n. **vəmpān**
 red-eyed dove n. **də̀rsù**
 red-flowering silk-cotton tree n. **mənzègbù**
 red-headed lovebird n. **sə̀semgbò**

red-lined snake n. **lān**
 red, to be s.v. **grēn**
 reduce the pain caused by the sting or bite of an insect, to v. **nyōn¹ 2**
 reed grass n. **kùkù**
 reedbuck n. **də̀nggàn 2**
 refuse hence to die, to v.p. **nan ngwōn**
 refuse to accept s.t., to v. **cār²**
 refuse to do s.t when asked, to v. **nggrən 2**
 refuse to do s.t., to v.p. **vūn nzē**
 refuse to help s.o., to v. **ləsur**
 refuse, to v. **kà²**
 regard, to v. **kyēn 1**
 regret, to v.p. **tǎn nyər nyər**
 regularly adv. **cùcùn(mu)**
 reject, to v. **kà²**
 relation n. **młā¹**
 release, to v. **cūn...ngwōn**
 relish, to v.p. **rē be**
 remain, to v. **kədə**
 remaining part n. **nkyen**
 remains n. **kədə̀**; n. **mbār¹**
 remedy n. **wu²**
 remotest past adv. **tə̀ntùr**
 remove, to v. **gbò**; v. **jūn**
 repair, to v. **shē³**
 repay, to v. **ləla**
 replete adv. **cwe**
 reply, to v. **sà²**
 report, to v. **ngàn²**
 reptile sp. n. **gbrē**; n. **glə̀²**; n. **kagbōn**; n. **kpáncá**;
 n. **kpə̀cawù**; n. **kpā**; n. **kyù²**; n. **lámgbà**; n.
mbə̀lanzān; n. **mblōn**; n. **ncələ̀dān**; n.
ncilādān; n. **njilādān**; n. **nkūr¹**; n.

<p>ntānāntsò; <i>n.</i> vəkagbōn request, to <i>v.</i> rì² required, to be <i>v. aux.</i> kpakiki requirement <i>n.</i> kpaki resemble, to <i>v.</i> rù 1 resentful <i>n.p.</i> dǎr ngàr residue of acca <i>n.</i> shisha respire, to <i>v.</i> vrè¹ respond, to <i>v.</i> sà² restively <i>adv.</i> brībrī restlessly <i>adv.</i> brībrī resurrect, to <i>v.</i> tashèn retain, to <i>v.</i> sà¹ 1 return, to <i>v.</i> kāgbm; <i>v.</i> màrtu; <i>v.</i> ngā⁴ reveal, to <i>v.</i> fè 1 revenge, to <i>v.</i> lala reverse, to <i>v.</i> ryèn revolting <i>a.</i> mvān reward <i>n.</i> ryǎ ngwōn rheumatism <i>n.</i> gbàdò rib <i>n.</i> sān² rice <i>n.</i> bětsàkà; <i>n.</i> sàkà rice and beans <i>n.</i> mgbō ridge <i>n.</i> ryē ridicule, to <i>v.</i> cā² 2; <i>v.</i> gyǎ; <i>v.</i> nggrēn 1 rifle <i>n.</i> zǔ² right <i>a.</i> tsō right inside <i>loc.</i> ənywīnywī rightly <i>adv.</i> brêbrê Rija town <i>p.n.</i> Gbin; <i>p.n.</i> Rijà rim <i>n.</i> kàn² ring <i>n.</i> běkan ring, to <i>v.</i> ngwur¹ ripe <i>a.</i> gbəgbrè ripe, to be <i>s.v.</i> gbre¹ ripen, to <i>v.</i> kpàn² 2 rival <i>n.</i> dənggə river <i>n.</i> nē² river fork <i>n.</i> nggā¹</p>	<p>rivulet <i>n.</i> cūn²; <i>n.</i> mblē rizga <i>n.</i> kyūnkyūntè road <i>n.</i> kānkōn; <i>n.</i> nkōn²; <i>n.</i> nkōn tsǎ roast, to <i>v.</i> hwèn; <i>v.</i> ryò² rob, to <i>v.p.</i> te...gi robber <i>n.</i> wāngi robbery <i>n.</i> gi² rock <i>n.</i> mgbāntā; <i>n.</i> ywan rock hyrax <i>n.</i> gwūr rock rabbit <i>n.</i> gwūr roll over and fall, to <i>v.</i> ngrē² roll up a mat, to <i>v.</i> ngrin² roll up, to <i>v.</i> nyi; <i>v.</i> nyen² roof <i>n.</i> kpǎ roof of mouth <i>n.</i> lələ room <i>n.</i> tār rooster <i>n.</i> gbǎ root <i>n.</i> mgbōrinkī roots removed <i>id.</i> mgbərinrìn rope <i>n.</i> mgbərīn roselle <i>n.</i> mgbāshe rotten <i>a.</i> bābā; <i>a.</i> tūr² rotten, to be <i>s.v.</i> bā² rough <i>a.</i> tātār rough (surface) <i>a.</i> nkānkā round <i>a.</i> kpākpri; <i>a.</i> nkri² round thing <i>n.</i> kpākrīn royal python <i>n.</i> bār² rub in, to <i>v.</i> gbā² rub, to <i>v.</i> ngǎ³; <i>v.</i> nyōn¹ 2 rubber vine <i>n.</i> nwōn rufous Nile rat <i>n.</i> zē¹ ruler <i>n.</i> cūn¹ rules <i>n.</i> bān⁴ run fast, to <i>v.</i> runcā run, to <i>v.</i> klwe runniness <i>n.</i> war¹ rushing into <i>adv.</i> gywār rusty, to be <i>s.v.</i> tā²</p>
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S s

<p>s.t. dried <i>n.</i> nkan² s.t. not completely ripe <i>adv.</i> jan² s.t. rotten <i>n.</i> mbō s.t. small and round <i>n.</i> mgbəmgbrēn sad <i>n.p.</i> dǎr cīnji saddlebill stork <i>n.</i> ntsēn saliva <i>n.</i> ntē salt <i>n.</i> mēmān sand <i>n.</i> kàbū</p>	<p>sand fox <i>n.</i> nkrētəgya sap <i>n.</i> məgān sasswood <i>n.</i> rē² satisfied, to be <i>s.v.</i> wū¹ sausage tree <i>n.</i> nkūr² say s.t. that hurts s.o., to <i>v.</i> tǎ say, to <i>v.</i> dān; <i>v.</i> rēn¹ saying <i>v.p.</i> nggyè rēn scabbard <i>n.p.</i> ywur nji</p>
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scales of a fish <i>n.</i> nkrē¹	shave the head, to <i>v.</i> tsɔ³
scar <i>n.</i> mbār mpà	shea oak <i>n.</i> zəzə²
scarper, to <i>v.</i> gbōjūn	sheath <i>n.p.</i> ywur nji
scatter, to <i>v.</i> tswé ; <i>v.</i> vār ; <i>v.</i> vâ	shed, to <i>v.</i> jun
scent <i>n.</i> mgbə	sheep <i>n.</i> gbāntan
scold, to <i>v.</i> grī²	sheet <i>n.</i> mpəmpɾə
scoop out water, to <i>v.</i> ngūn²	shell, to <i>v.</i> bri²
scorn, to <i>v.</i> cār²	shield <i>n.</i> mbrī³
scorpion <i>n.</i> lālān	shift, to <i>v.</i> cī
scrape, to <i>v.</i> kā³	shine, to <i>v.</i> kri ; <i>v.</i> lan²
scratch, to <i>v.</i> kā³	shiny <i>adv.</i> lan ngglan
scream <i>v.n.</i> ncar	ship <i>n.</i> gbm̄
scream, to <i>v.</i> dōnrən	shirt <i>n.</i> lāgā
scrub s.o.'s back, to <i>v.</i> nyōn¹ 1	shit <i>n.</i> gyɛ
scrub, to <i>v.</i> ngə³	shiver, to <i>v.</i> gbrě
sea <i>n.</i> nē²	shivering <i>n.</i> gbrē
sealant <i>n.</i> nklān	shoe <i>n.</i> kpā¹ ; <i>n.</i> zəkpə
search, to <i>v.</i> fō	shoot <i>n.</i> mbē²
season <i>n.</i> mɛ	shoot, to <i>v.</i> tā 2 ; <i>v.</i> tar³
secret <i>n.</i> mā²	short <i>a.</i> fəgbōn ; <i>a.</i> kpəmkpūn
secretly <i>adv.</i> gigi	short piece of wood <i>n.</i> gbōn
sedge (generic) <i>n.</i> mvē	short, to be <i>s.v.</i> krə...nyər
see somebody off, to <i>v.p.</i> gbō te nkòn	shortness of breath <i>n.</i> kiki
see, to <i>v.</i> ngrēn	shoulder <i>n.</i> gā
seed <i>n.</i> bēki ; <i>n.</i> bě	shout of joy <i>n.</i> kpā
seek, to <i>v.</i> fō	shout, to <i>v.</i> dōnrən
seize, to <i>v.</i> klà...bàn ; <i>v.</i> ryɛ²	show off, to <i>v.</i> gbrě
select, to <i>v.</i> cū²	show, to <i>v.</i> tsàr
sell, to <i>v.</i> rè	shriek <i>v.n.</i> ncar
Senegal coucal <i>n.</i> mfuci	shriek, to <i>v.</i> dōnrən
senior person <i>n.</i> lōnkū	shrine <i>n.</i> kpōkpō
separate bad seeds from good, to <i>v.</i> la²	shrivel, to <i>v.</i> ywə
separate, to <i>v.</i> ka ; <i>v.</i> ngre¹	shrub sp. <i>n.</i> gyərtsò ; <i>n.</i> məywe
separately <i>adv.</i> nkan, nkānnkān	shuck, to <i>v.</i> bri²
serf <i>n.</i> gər	shyness <i>n.</i> mùmwòn
sesame <i>n.</i> běntə ; <i>n.</i> kāntə ; <i>n.</i> shīshī²	sibling <i>n.</i> zān gyər ; <i>n.</i> zān tè
sesame cultivar <i>n.</i> njīnjā	sick, to be <i>v.</i> lā⁴
sesame leaves <i>n.p.</i> mgbākī nggwār	sickle <i>n.</i> rījī
set up, to <i>v.</i> klā²	sickness <i>n.</i> kpàcò ; <i>n.</i> lələ ; <i>n.</i> mgbəmgbàn²
settle out (from water), to <i>v.</i> gī²	side <i>n.</i> kəsàn ; <i>n.</i> nggà
settlement <i>n.</i> fətse ; <i>n.</i> gbù¹ ; <i>n.</i> tse	side of a hill <i>n.</i> mgbàsàn
seven <i>num.</i> tāmgbā	side of body <i>n.</i> sān²
seventh <i>num.</i> tāmgbā	side-blown reedbuck horn <i>n.</i> dōnggàn 1
sew, to <i>v.</i> co	sieve, to <i>v.</i> ngwār ; <i>v.</i> sən ; <i>v.</i> tōn ; <i>v.</i> zōn¹
sex <i>n.</i> nggā²	sieze, to <i>v.</i> vūn²
shade <i>n.</i> gyūn	sift, to <i>v.</i> ngwār ; <i>v.</i> tōn ; <i>v.</i> zōn¹
shadow <i>n.</i> gbrīn 2 ; <i>n.</i> gyūn	sigh, to <i>v.</i> cūn⁴
shaggy rat <i>n.</i> mkprishī	silently <i>adv.</i> tə
shake, to <i>v.</i> cùn ; <i>v.</i> gyàn	silk-cotton <i>n.</i> kp̄m¹
shall <i>v.aux.</i> lā¹	silo <i>n.</i> gūr² ; <i>n.</i> vənyòn
shame <i>n.</i> mùmwòn	silver <i>n.</i> zinari
share out, to <i>v.</i> gə¹	similar to <i>adv.</i> kōde
sharp, to be <i>s.v.</i> re³	sin <i>n.</i> war²

sing, to v. **dō**
 sit on, to v. **sà¹**
 sit, to v. **sòn²**; v. **te...sòn**
 six *num.* **tännèn**
 skewer *n.* **kinkyèn**
 skin *n.* **kpàntàn**; *n.* **ntàn**
 skin an animal, to v. **cūntān**; v. **ngwur²**
 skin, to v. **frē**
 skink sp. *n.* **mblōn**
 skip, to v. **gban¹**
 skirmish *n.* **kōn**
 skull *n.* **mkpūlōtū**
 sky *p.n.* **Mkparū**; *n.* **mkpələshū**
 slack off, to v. **cūn³**
 slap on the back *n.* **ntār**
 slaughter, to v. **sar²**; v. **ywà**
 slave *n.* **gər**
 sleep, to v. **nə̀nə̀**
 slender *a.* **riri**
 slender mongoose *n.* **nwōn**
 sling *n.* **mgbà²**
 slippery area *n.* **ndə̀ndə̀n**
 slippery, to be v. **sar¹**
 sloping *a.* **ywār**
 slow and steady *adv.* **bwḕbwḕ**
 slowly *adv.* **rḕrḕ**
 slump, to v. **ji³**
 small *a.* **fə̀nyən**; *pref.* **fə̀-**; *a.* **fə̀tsè**; *a.* **kūkwǒ**; *n.*
mbumburen
 small amount *n.* **tsê**
 small balls of pap. *n.* **mgbə̀mgbren**
 small frog sp. *n.* **shār**
 small matters *n.* **ncinrin**
 small spherical object *n.* **mkplūn**
 smallpox *n.* **kpəkprè**
 smash, to v. **ngàr**; *v.p.* **ngwur ngār²**
 smear on, to v. **gbà²**
 smell *n.* **cumgbə̀**; *n.* **mgbə̀**
 smell, to v. **nyǒn**
 smith *n.* **wānlāzə̀**, **wānfùkpə̀**
 smoke *n.* **tsə̀ntsə̀**
 smoke, to v. **fù**; v. **vūn¹**
 smooth *a.* **ntə̀ntə̀n**
 smooth, to be v. **sən**
 smoothe, to v. **tsə̀³**
 smut on guinea-head *n.* **gə̀mvī**
 Smyth's water-snake *n.* **ririmə̀**
 snack *n.* **cinci**
 snail spp. *n.* **kpār**
 snake (generic) *n.* **gwǎ**
 snake sp. *n.* **bər²**; *n.* **bī²**; *n.* **fùkpə̀**; *n.* **gwǎ rīcī**; *n.*
gwə̀; *n.* **gwə̀nywə̀nggə̀**; *n.* **jwè**; *n.* **kàcè**; *n.*
kə̀nyūjə̀; *n.* **krushə̀**; *n.* **lāhyə̀**; *n.* **lān**; *n.*

nggūngwūr¹; *n.* **nkū**; *n.* **nyì**; *n.* **tātsu**; *n.*
tārmgbù; *n.* **tsèn**
 snap, to v. **gbōtsū**; v. **tār²**
 snapped *a.* **lələ̀**
 sneezing *n.* **gbə̀sho**
 sniff, to *v.p.* **ban mgbə̀**
 snore, to v. **gə̀²**
 snuffbox tree *n.* **kpànjūn**
 so *adv.* **sāsānmenàn**; *conj.* **tswḕyə̀mē**
 so as to *conj.* **man**
 so that *conj.* **də̀tswḕ**
 soak, to v. **zu**
 soaked, to be v. **cə̀¹**
 soap *n.* **sàpǎ̀r**
 Sodom apple *n.* **gyə̀rtsò**; *n.* **mə̀ywè**
 soft *a.* **mə̀ndè̀rè̀**; *a.* **rṑrṑ**; *a.* **ryṑryṑ**
 soften, to v. **zu**
 soggy, to become v. **cə̀¹**
 soil *n.* **mə̀mē**
 soldier *n.* **wā̀nkpā̀nnḕn**
 soldier termite *n.* **gbə̀dà̀r**
 solid, to be, to v. **tsər**
 solitary, to be *s.v.* **cər**
 some time ago *adv.* **nə̀nǎ̀r**
 somebody else *pron.* **nḕnə̀mā̀n**
 someday *adv.* **mbḕnṑ**
 something *pron.* **nkinḕ**
 sometime *adv.* **mbḕnṑ**; *adv.p.* **mkpā̀n nḕmā̀n**
 sometime in the past *adv.* **rě̀no**
 song *n.* **sən**
 sorcerer *n.* **mā¹**; *n.* **wā̀n(re)kwār**
 sorcery *n.* **bwi**; *n.* **kwār³**
 sore *n.* **mpā**
 soreness *n.* **mpā**
 sorghum *n.* **kpū**
 sorrel *n.* **mgbā̀she**
 sort, to v. **la²**
 soul *n.* **gbrīn 2**
 sound *n.* **gbǎ̀**; *n.* **zǔ¹**
 sound of a big drum *id.* **gbə̀ngbə̀ngbə̀n**
 sound of a door bell *id.* **njā̀rrr**
 sound of a horn *id.* **pṑmpṑn**; *id.* **pṑmpuu**
 sound of a motorcycle speeding *id.* **nyū̀ūng**
 sound of bicycle bell *id.* **nggə̀rə̀nggə̀rə̀ng**
 sound of broken plates *id.* **tə̀nggə̀nrə̀ng**
 sound of liquid *id.* **mgbū̀nmgbū̀nmgbū̀n**
 sound of s.o. chewing *id.* **mənca-mənca**
 sound of s.o. searching for s.t. v. **tārcū**
 sound of water *id.* **gbə̀ngbə̀ngbə̀ngbə̀n**
 sound of water in one's stomach as they run *id.*
mplomplomplō
 soup *n.* **nyīnyī**
 sour thing *n.* **mgbə̀mgbà̀n¹**

sour, to be <i>v.p.</i> kpàn mgbò ; <i>v.</i> pàr ; <i>s.v.</i> swǎ	stink, to <i>v.</i> nyǎn
south <i>n.</i> nggà sàr	stir up trouble, to <i>v.p.</i> fè mvre
sow, to <i>v.</i> cū⁴ ; <i>v.</i> sòn¹	stir, to <i>v.</i> cū³ ; <i>v.</i> zàn 2
space beneath a granary <i>n.</i> njūn	stirring stick <i>n.</i> mūcā
speak, to <i>v.</i> ren¹	stomach <i>n.</i> bri² ; <i>n.</i> mgbǎn ; <i>n.</i> nēn
spear <i>n.</i> pàr	stone <i>n.</i> bě ; <i>n.</i> mgbǎntā ; <i>n.</i> ywan
speargrass <i>n.</i> mgbǎshò	stool <i>n.</i> gye ; <i>n.</i> mgbārōn
speckled pigeon <i>n.</i> ywudò	stop s.t. falling, to <i>v.</i> hyūr
spectre <i>n.</i> bri¹	stop, to <i>v.p.</i> gan ...kre ; <i>v.</i> kankrè ; <i>v.</i> krè
speedily <i>adv.</i> tswətswe	store, to <i>v.</i> te⁶ ; <i>v.</i> zwè 1
speedy <i>a.</i> bri³	stork sp. <i>n.</i> hwār
spherical <i>n.</i> kpàkrīn	story <i>n.</i> dū ; <i>n.</i> ncancùn
spider web <i>n.p.</i> rūrū gantàn	straight <i>a.</i> ncōn ; <i>adv.</i> sō
spill out, to <i>v.</i> bwà	straight razor <i>n.</i> gbyě
spill, to <i>v.</i> kàrɛ	straighten out, to <i>v.</i> nə
spirit <i>n.</i> bri¹ ; <i>n.</i> gbrīn 2 ; <i>n.</i> kǎnjār	strain, to <i>v.</i> ngwār ; <i>v.</i> sèn
spitting cobra <i>n.</i> tsèn	stranger <i>n.</i> cār¹
spittle <i>n.</i> ntē	strawberry tree <i>n.</i> ntsē
splash, to <i>v.</i> ca	stream <i>n.</i> cūn² ; <i>n.</i> mblā
split, to <i>v.</i> gǎ¹	strength <i>n.</i> mgbṛēmgbṛē
spoil, to <i>v.</i> cā...zu	stretch out the body, to <i>v.p.</i> nə kpə
spoon (metal or wood) <i>n.</i> mgbətsā	strike together, to <i>v.</i> tsē
spray, to <i>v.</i> jə	striped mouse <i>n.</i> vəcùn
spread out, to <i>v.</i> lǎ³	strong, to be <i>s.v.</i> tswě
spread, to <i>v.p.</i> ngwur ngār¹	strongly <i>adv.</i> nggān
sprout <i>n.</i> mbē²	struggle with death, to <i>v.p.</i> tərkyū
squash <i>n.</i> ywē²	stump of a worn hoe <i>n.</i> ren¹
squat, to <i>v.</i> tekpīm	stupidly <i>adv.</i> bàbè ; <i>adv.</i> bàbèbè
squeeze together, to <i>v.</i> cī	stuttering <i>v.n.</i> təntàn
squeeze up, to <i>v.</i> cī	stylish, to be <i>s.v.</i> kpǎn
squeeze, to <i>v.</i> ywi	submissively <i>adv.</i> gurgur
stab, to <i>v.</i> tō²	subsequently <i>conj.</i> an ; <i>part.</i> kàn¹
stammering <i>v.n.</i> təntàn	succulent <i>a.</i> rōrō
stand	suck, to <i>v.</i> màn
stand up, to <i>v.</i> doglō	suds <i>n.</i> mfā
stand upright, to <i>adv.</i> ndèndè	suffer from diarrhoea, to <i>v.</i> sur
stand, to <i>v.</i> krè ; <i>adv.</i> ndèndè	suffer, to <i>n.</i> mgbū
star <i>n.</i> ntsē	suffering <i>n.</i> jə
stare at s.o., to <i>v.p.</i> fɛ bishi¹	suffocation <i>n.</i> kikì
stare, to <i>v.p.</i> màr kyen ; <i>v.</i> nggyār	sugar <i>n.</i> məmān kancōn
start <i>n.</i> kùcī	sugar ant <i>n.</i> gəlīmgbə
start a journey, to <i>v.aux.</i> gyō zə	sugar-cane <i>n.</i> rəkɛ
start out at daybreak, to <i>v.</i> tārtswē	sun <i>n.</i> ri¹
starvation <i>n.</i> gyōn² ; <i>n.</i> mfə	sunbird <i>n.</i> vəmvèn
stay, to <i>v.</i> kədə ; <i>v.</i> krè ; <i>v.</i> sòn²	Sunday <i>p.n.</i> Ladi ; <i>p.n.</i> tāmgbā ndu
steal, to <i>v.p.</i> te...gi	sunrise <i>n.</i> nzān
stealing <i>n.</i> gi²	sunstroke <i>n.</i> təndur
steam <i>n.</i> gbəjī	support, to <i>v.</i> hyūr ; <i>v.p.</i> krè gōn
steering wheel <i>n.</i> kàn²	surface of local beer <i>n.</i> kpǎ mə
stick <i>n.</i> kpàkì ; <i>n.</i> kukukì ; <i>n.</i> ywūywār	surpass, to <i>v.</i> mwōn
stick to, to <i>v.p.</i> lo ngàn	suspend, to <i>v.</i> klǎ² ; <i>v.</i> ncàwǔ
still <i>adv.</i> menrīn	swallow-wort <i>n.</i> gyərtsò ; <i>n.</i> məyɛwè
stink-ant <i>n.</i> ləywǎ	swallow, to <i>v.</i> mre

swamp *n.* **mgbò¹**
 swear, to *v.p.* **cū tār̀rìn**; *v.p.* **shē rin**
 sweat *n.* **màkrì**
 sweat-fly *n.* **ngā¹**
 sweep, to *v.* **vū 1**
 sweet potato *n.* **dankyū**; *n.* **kyūnkyū**
 sweet scent *n.* **cumgbò**
 sweet thing *n.* **kancòn**
 sweet, to be *v.* **mǎr**
 swell up, to *v.* **wu¹**
 swelling *n.* **sàsēn**
 swift *n.* **kànkabān hwan**

swim, to *v.* **dār**
 swindle, to *v.* **gyùr**
 swing arms as you walk, to *v.p.* **yà ngwòn**
 swing on a rope, to *v.* **ntō**
 swing one's hand ready to hit s.o., to *v.p.* **gyùn ngwòn**
 swing, to *v.* **ncàwǔ**
 swollen stomach *n.p.* **krè nēn**
 swollen testicle *n.* **ntè 1**
 sword *n.* **njimgbàn**
 sword-bean *n.* **kpəkpalōgà**

T t

tail *n.* **bàbè**; *n.* **ncə**
 take away, to *v.* **gbò**
 take oath, to *v.p.* **shē rin**
 take s.t. by force from s.o., to *v.* **ryè²**
 take, to *v.* **bān²**; *v.* **kan¹**
 tale *n.* **dū**; *n.* **ncancùn**
 talk *n.* **rēn³**
 tall *adv.* **tsa²**
 tall, to be *s.v.* **rē²**; *s.v.* **tàn¹**; *v.p.* **tàn ndē**
 talon *n.* **kānfà**
 tanner *n.* **wānwùntān**
 taro *n.* **lòlò**
 taste for something *n.* **bùbù**
 tasteless *a.* **mpūr (mə)**
 teach, to *v.* **blā 3**; *v.* **tsār**
 tears *n.* **məshi**
 teeth *n.* **nyǎr**
 tell, to *v.* **dàn**; *v.* **rēn¹**
 ten *num.* **gùr¹**
 tender *a.* **məndērè**; *id.* **pūrpūr**; *a.* **rōrō**
 termite sp. *n.* **gblancā**; *n.* **gūn**; *n.* **mgbəlantù**; *n.* **rǎ²**; *n.* **rəcūn**; *n.* **rəryar**; *n.* **swe**
 termites *n.* **begywī**; *n.* **mbəmbò**; *n.* **mbùmbò**; *n.* **sūr³**
 terrified, to be *v.* **hō**
 terror *n.* **mpūr**
 terrorised, to be *v.* **hō**
 testicle *n.* **ntè 2**
 thank, to *v.* **nyər²**
 thanks *n.* **mgbədə**
 that *part.* **de**; *dem.* **mū**; *dem.* **mūn²**; *part.* **yə²**; *dem.* **yəmā**; *dem.* **yəmū**
 thatch rooftop *n.* **nggəbān**
 thatching grass *n.* **ləlwè**
 theft *n.* **gi²**
 theirs *pron.* **məbə**

them *pron.* **bə¹**; *pron.* **yə¹**; *pron.* **yə**
 themselves *pron.* **kəywə**
 then *conj.* **an**; *part.* **kàn¹**; *conj.* **man**
 there *loc.* **mān**; *loc.* **mū(n)**; *loc.* **səkānmū**
 therefore *conj.* **tswēyāmē**
 these *dem.* **mē²**
 they *pron.* **bə¹**; *pron.* **yə¹**; *pron.* **yə**
 thick *a.* **kpə³**; *a.* **kpəntèn**
 thick, to be *v.* **tsər**
 thief *n.* **wāngi**
 thigh *n.* **mpù**
 thin *a.* **ntanntan**; *a.* **riri**
 thing *n.* **kì**
 think, to *v.p.* **tè...kə**
 third *num.* **tǎr**
 thirst *n.* **rē¹**
 thirty *num.* **sè tār**
 this *dem.* **mē²**; *pron.* **yəmē**
 this time *adv.* **gāmē**; *adv.* **kāmē**; *adv.* **kəyāmē**
 thong *n.* **nyənyōn**
 thorn *n.* **ncwār**
 those *dem.* **bān³**; *dem.* **mū**; *dem.* **mūn²**
 thought *n.* **kə¹**
 thousand *num.* **nàgyər**
 thread *n.* **rūrū¹**
 three *num.* **tār¹**; *num.* **tar²**
 three days from now *adv.* **rə**
 three days hence *adv.* **ə rə**; *adv.* **rə**
 three of them *num.* **tōtar ywə**
 thresh acca without sticks, to *v.* **nyōn²**
 thresh, to *v.* **kpām¹**
 throat *n.* **mgbàryò**
 throughout the morning *adv.* **mbəmbərəmbrè**
 throw away, to *v.p.* **tā gyō**
 throw down, to *v.p.* **tā gyō**
 throw out, to *v.p.* **tā gyō**

throw, to v. tā 1	toxin <i>n.</i> tsò
throwing stick <i>n.</i> gā²	track <i>n.</i> nkòn² ; <i>n.</i> vənkòn
thumb <i>n.</i> kəmvrè ngwòn nggòn	tracks <i>n.</i> nkòn zā
thunder <i>n.</i> jūnglò	trader <i>n.</i> wānrèkī
Thursday <i>p.n.</i> nlyēndu	tradition <i>n.</i> bān⁴
tick <i>n.</i> nyèn	traditional doctor <i>n.</i> wāntěwu
tickle, to v. gùgwǎ ; v. məncəɾè	trail <i>n.</i> nkòn² ; <i>n.</i> vənkòn
tie or hold oneself, to v. nve	trample, to v. càn ; v. flò
tie together, to v. zū²	transform, to v. sər¹
tie, to v. kpàn² 1	translucent <i>s.v.</i> laru
tiger bittern <i>n.</i> rədemə	transparent <i>s.v.</i> laru
tiger-nut <i>n.</i> kpandē	transparently <i>adv.</i> kpār
tight <i>adv.</i> mgbrīn	transplant, to v. sē²
tightly <i>adv.</i> mgbrīn	transverse clarinet <i>n.</i> kùkùkpur
tilapia spp. <i>n.</i> gblàkəntsà	tread on, to v. flò
time <i>n.</i> mkpān	tree bark <i>n.</i> kpakpāmkì
time immemorial <i>adv.</i> təntùr	tree pangolin <i>n.</i> kpàlo
times <i>adv.</i> -gyər	tree sp. <i>n.</i> bəbə ; <i>n.</i> bwə ; <i>n.</i> cūyò ; <i>n.</i> dàncà ; <i>n.</i> dankū ; <i>n.</i> dān ; <i>n.</i> dən ; <i>n.</i> dò ; <i>n.</i> gəntē¹ ; <i>n.</i> gǔn ; <i>n.</i> jàn ; <i>n.</i> jəgule ; <i>n.</i> kpànjūn ; <i>n.</i> kpānə ; <i>n.</i> kpām¹ ; <i>n.</i> kpùkpə ; <i>n.</i> kukā ; <i>n.</i> kùngga ; <i>n.</i> kyòntàn ; <i>n.</i> lā² ; <i>n.</i> màgbyěn ; <i>n.</i> mbār¹ ; <i>n.</i> mbri ; <i>n.</i> mənzəgbù ; <i>n.</i> mgbà¹ ; <i>n.</i> mgbələn ; <i>n.</i> mgbəlà ; <i>n.</i> mgbəlo ; <i>n.</i> mgbəmgbər ; <i>n.</i> mgbəmgblən ; <i>n.</i> mkpənǎ ; <i>n.</i> mkpən kyəgbò ; <i>n.</i> mvlǒn ; <i>n.</i> mwəshə ; <i>n.</i> nanrən gyər ; <i>n.</i> ncē ; <i>n.</i> nciryən ; <i>n.</i> ncū ; <i>n.</i> ndasan ; <i>n.</i> ndò ; <i>n.</i> ngā¹ ; <i>n.</i> nkā ; <i>n.</i> nkí ; <i>n.</i> nkřīn¹ ; <i>n.</i> nkūr² ; <i>n.</i> nkwō ; <i>n.</i> ntsē ; <i>n.</i> nwənzàn ; <i>n.</i> nzū ; <i>n.</i> ne ; <i>n.</i> rē² ; <i>n.</i> rur , rər ; <i>n.</i> shī² ; <i>n.</i> sò ; <i>n.</i> tàcù ; <i>n.</i> təkpǎ ; <i>n.</i> təndūr ; <i>n.</i> tərbwə ; <i>n.</i> tǒntàn ; <i>n.</i> tsər ; <i>n.</i> wukì ; <i>n.</i> ywe ; <i>n.</i> zār¹ ; <i>n.</i> zār² ; <i>n.</i> zəzə²
tin <i>n.</i> tāndō	tree, generic <i>n.</i> tərki
tin can <i>n.</i> pāmpān	tremble, to v. gbrě
tiny <i>a.</i> fənyən ; <i>a.</i> fətsə	trembling <i>n.</i> gbrě
tiptoeing <i>adv.</i> shàzə	tribal mark <i>n.</i> gbla¹
tired and hungry, to be <i>s.v.</i> mǎrzə	trick, to v. gyùr
tired, to be <i>s.v.</i> te...də 2	trivial things <i>n.</i> nyēn²
tiredness <i>n.</i> dē	trousers <i>n.</i> wəndō
tit <i>n.</i> səsə	trust, to v. kpənyèn
to become weak	truth <i>n.</i> njinjì
to cry out with pain <i>v.n.</i> ncar	try, to v. klàmkpā ; v. nər
to decompose <i>s.v.</i> bə²	tuber <i>n.</i> jū
to one side <i>adv.</i> lègər	tuber sp. <i>n.</i> ncà brī
to stand upright	tuberculosis <i>n.</i> kpəkprè sǒn ; <i>n.</i> ywùywù
to suffer	tumble, to v. gyəkū
toad <i>n.</i> mgbəglò	turn around suddenly, to v. mbər²
tobacco <i>n.</i> təbà	turn, to v. kwə²
today <i>adv.</i> nrìnmē	twelve <i>num.</i> tsə¹
together <i>a.</i> gìgyər	twice <i>adv.</i> kəywā
together with <i>conj.</i> bə ; <i>conj.</i> cā	twilight <i>n.</i> brībrī ; <i>n.</i> rìglò
tomato <i>n.</i> təntùr matò	twine <i>n.</i> rūrū¹
tomb <i>n.</i> brə	twine, to v. lō
tomorrow <i>n.</i> mbrə	
tongue <i>n.</i> nanrən ; <i>n.</i> rərən ; <i>n.</i> rənren	
too much money <i>n.p.</i> mbō kējì	
too tight, to be <i>s.v.</i> gàn	
tool <i>n.</i> gar	
tooth <i>n.</i> nyər	
tooth gap <i>n.</i> mbù nyər	
tooth-billed barbet <i>n.</i> mgbōnpər	
top <i>n.</i> tu	
tortoise <i>n.</i> kagbōn ; <i>n.</i> vəkagbōn	
totally <i>adv.</i> kūkwār	
touch, to v. bār	
town <i>n.</i> gbù¹ ; <i>n.</i> tse	

twins *n.* **nggaswɛ**
twist, to *v.* **kan³**
twit *n.* **kpər**

two *num.* **ywā**
typhoid *n.* **lamukā**

U u

ugly *a.* **gbəjā**
ulcer *n.* **mpā**
ululation *excl.* **Āyiririii!**; *n.* **nzanze**
umbilical cord *n.p.* **kōn vĕn**
uncle *n.* **krě**
unconcerned, to be *v.p.* **te ngà**
under *loc.* **sər**
undeveloped, to be *s.v.* **pwà**
uneven *a.* **ywār**
unfold, to *v.* **su¹**
unhappy *n.p.* **dǎr cīnji**
uninhabited place *n.* **mgbəjī**
unripe *a.* **màmpùr**
unroll, to *v.* **su¹**

untidy *a.* **tətǎr**
untie, to *v.* **su¹**
until *adv.* **màndē**; *adv.* **se**
untruth *n.* **mò**
up *loc.* **shū**
upper arm *n.* **pā**
upper palate *n.* **lələ**
upright *adv.* **sō**
upward slope *n.* **mgblə**
urinate, to *v.* **jə**
urine *n.* **mgbərīn**
us *pron.* **tə**
use, to *v.* **jā**
useless *a.* **fa**; *a.* **flōfi**

V v

vacation *n.* **sònsù**
vagina *n.* **mfər**
valiant, to be *s.v.* **kpàn dǎr**
vanish, to *v.* **gblà**; *v.* **rintu**
vanquish, to *v.* **rē³**
vapour *n.* **gbəjī**
vast *a.* **nggòn**
vehicle *n.* **kì yə sə**; *n.* **matò**
vein(s) *n.* **ci¹**
venom *n.* **tsò**
very *adv.* **mgbân**
very (tall) *a.i.* **tetswē**
very hairy *a.* **gàryǎn**
very small *a.* **nyĕnnyĕn**
very thick liquid *adv.* **kpətùr-kpətùr**

vessel *n.* **mbǔ**; *n.* **tsā¹**
vibration *n.* **zǔ¹**
village *n.* **fətse**; *n.* **tse**
village along Wamba road *p.n.* **Gbùkpm**
village name *p.n.* **Gbəjə**; *p.n.* **Gbùmkpàn**; *p.n.* **Gbùncū**; *p.n.* **Nzàn**
village weaver bird *n.* **shəshàre**
vine *n.* **nggūngwūr²**
vine sp. *n.* **kān²**; *n.* **mōnze**; *n.* **nkā**; *n.* **nwǎn**
viscous, to be *v.* **tsər**
visitor *n.* **cār¹**
voice *n.* **kwār²**
vomit, to *v.* **tsə²**
vulture *n.* **gbrǔ**; *n.* **kpōgbru**; *n.* **kpōmkpan**

W w

waist *n.* **tər¹**
wait, to *v.* **jī**
wake up, to *v.* **shən**
walk, to *v.* **zār¹**
walking with arms spread out *adv.p.* **gà mgbān**;
adv.p. **gà ngwɔn**

wall *n.* **kəntsər**
wander aimlessly, to *v.* **shǔr**
war *n.* **kōn**
warm up by, to *v.* **vre**
warm water *n.* **lɔ^lò**
warmth *n.* **ngəngǎn**

warthog <i>n.</i> zù¹	whore <i>n.</i> kar ; <i>n.</i> kilakī
wash, to <i>v.</i> ngla ; <i>v.</i> swē	whore, to be <i>v.p.</i> te cucu
wasp <i>n.</i> mādār	why? <i>int.</i> mūn¹ ; <i>int.</i> rēn nggyε
wasp sp. <i>n.</i> gyəgyərtsò	wicked <i>a.</i> gbəjā ; <i>a.</i> məme
watch closely, to <i>v.</i> nār	wickedness <i>n.</i> bēmè
watch out for, to <i>v.</i> gbyēn² ; <i>v.</i> nār	wide <i>a.</i> hū
watch, to <i>v.</i> bwē²	wide (open) <i>a.i.</i> mgbě
water <i>n.</i> məsər	widow <i>n.</i> mbə ngān kwò
water monitor lizard <i>n.</i> glà²	wife <i>n.</i> gə̀rī ; <i>n.</i> mbə
water yam <i>n.</i> jū	wild animal <i>n.</i> nan hwān
water-lettuce <i>n.</i> kəmbə məsər	wild custard-apple <i>n.</i> mvlōn
water-pot <i>n.</i> rēn	wild duck <i>n.</i> kəzələba
waterleaf <i>n.</i> mgbārəhū	wilderness <i>n.</i> mgbəjī
watery <i>a.</i> mbwār	will <i>v.aux.</i> lā¹
wave, to <i>v.</i> te...ngwən	win, to <i>v.</i> rē³
way <i>n.</i> kənkən ; <i>n.</i> nkən²	wind <i>n.</i> cucu ; <i>n.</i> nzu²
we <i>pron.</i> tā	wine <i>n.</i> cā¹
weak <i>a.</i> brēbrε , brēbrē	wing <i>n.</i> mgbān
weak, to be, to <i>v.</i> ji²	winnow, to <i>v.</i> zēn
weak, to become <i>s.v.</i> mkpəryò	winnowing tray <i>n.</i> kàdèn ; <i>n.</i> mūmùn
weapon <i>n.</i> kikèn	wipe, to <i>v.</i> rīn¹
wear, to <i>v.</i> kpm	wiped out, to be <i>v.</i> ngarmpwà 1
weave, to <i>v.</i> lō ; <i>v.</i> mər 1	wisdom, to have <i>v.</i> tsōrən
wed, to <i>v.p.</i> gbō ywe ngā	wise, to be, to <i>v.p.</i> bu bishi
wedding <i>n.</i> ngə²	wish strongly for s.t., to <i>v.p.</i> tō mwōn
wedge, to <i>v.</i> hyūr	witch <i>n.</i> wān(re)kwār
weed, to <i>v.</i> gblā²	witchcraft <i>n.</i> bwi
weeding <i>n.</i> gblā	witchweed <i>n.</i> ncā
weep, to <i>v.</i> gi¹	with <i>conj.</i> bō
weevil <i>n.</i> gbəgbār	with a snap <i>adv.</i> gbrēn
well <i>a.</i> susù	wither, to <i>v.</i> ywə
west <i>n.</i> nggà rùglò	withered, to be <i>v.</i> ywə
West African house snake <i>n.</i> gwǎ rìcī	within <i>loc.</i> (ə)nywī ; <i>loc.</i> mīn ; <i>loc.</i> nywī
wet <i>a.</i> shushù	wizard <i>n.</i> wān(re)kwār
what <i>pron.</i> yə	wizardry <i>n.</i> kwār³
what? <i>int.</i> nānggyε ; <i>int.</i> nggyě	woman <i>n.</i> mbə
whatever <i>pron.</i> vənyēn nggyε	wonderful, to be <i>s.v.</i> mə²
when <i>conj.</i> də ; <i>conj.</i> dā	wood mouse <i>n.</i> vəndəndān
when? <i>int.</i> mbētān	wooden headboard <i>n.</i> mgbələ
where? <i>int.</i> ywā¹	woodland <i>n.</i> cun
whether <i>conj.</i> gē ; <i>conj.</i> kē	word <i>n.</i> mgborən
which? <i>int.</i> wāntān ; <i>int.</i> yə̀tān	work <i>n.</i> ndu 1
whip <i>n.</i> njə ; <i>n.</i> ntswa ; <i>n.</i> nyānyān	world <i>n.</i> mgbəmgbrè
whirlwind <i>n.</i> tə̀tur	worm <i>n.</i> njər
whistle <i>n.</i> tə̀prě	worm-like insect <i>n.</i> tambrishə
whistle, to <i>v.</i> vrēnjō	worthless <i>a.</i> fa ; <i>a.</i> flōfi
white <i>a.</i> kākla	wound <i>n.</i> mpā
white person <i>p.n.</i> məsārā	wreck, to <i>v.</i> cā...zu
white, to be <i>s.v.</i> tśa¹	wrench out, to <i>v.</i> far²
whitlow <i>n.</i> dərè ; <i>n.</i> ryēn	wrestle, to <i>v.</i> mā²
who <i>pron.</i> wān	wrinkles <i>n.</i> nggrū ; <i>n.</i> ntān
who? <i>int.</i> nggwǎ ; <i>int.</i> wāntān	write, to <i>v.</i> car
whole <i>a.</i> kpəkpri	

Y y

yam *n.* **kpar**¹; *n.* **màmvē**; *n.* **mgbò**; *n.* **ncà**²
yam heap *n.* **brěkrì**
yam mound *n.* **brěkrì**
yam root *n.* **màncà**
yam sp. *n.* **mren**²
yawn, to *v.* **ngalā**
year *n.* **sε**
year or so ago *adv.* **nènǎr**
yell *v.n.* **ncar**
yell, to *v.* **dònrɛn**

yellow fever *n.* **kùtsɔ**
Yes! *excl.* **ɛn**
yesterday *adv.* **nānrēn**
you pl. *pron.* **gyā**; *pron.* **gyà**
you sg. *pron.* **wā**; *pron.* **wà**
young *a.* **kūkwǎ**
young man *n.* **vānzè**; *n.* **zān nzè**
yours (pl.) *p.a.* **màgyā**
yourself *n.* **kəywē**

Z z

z?? *v.p.* **kplà mgbo**; *adv.* **məgyər**
z??? **bà**
zigzag, to *s.v.* **gur**