

A DICTIONARY OF EGGON

This is a version of a dictionary of the Eggon language apparently prepared by I.D. Hepburn in the 1940s. Mr. Hepburn was also responsible for the translation of the New Testament into Eggon. A photocopy of the original was taken by Ian Maddieson and the present draft edition has been prepared from the photocopy. The initial typing was done by Clement Madugu in Kaduna and the computer text-processing was carried out by Roger Blench in Cambridge. The text has been modernised in many places and the intention is to use this as a basis for publishing a modern tone-marked dictionary of Eggon. Additional entries have been added on the basis of fieldnotes from the files of Ian Maddieson. This is an appropriate place to pay tribute to the author of this dictionary which displays an extremely wide range of interests and elicits a great many unusual lexical items.

[DRAFT PRINTOUT.]

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Introduction

The Eggon language is spoken by a large number of people in south-western Plateau State in Central Nigeria (Map 1). These represent the modern Local Government Areas of Akwanga, Lafia and Nasarawa-Eggon. The main towns of the Eggon people are Akwanga, Nasarawa-Eggon, Kagbu and Wana. They stretch as far south as Lafia and west of Akwanga as far as the railway line. They are bordered on the north by the Mada and to the south by the Migili and the Alago.

In much of the colonial literature, the Eggon were known as the 'Hill Mada' in contrast to the 'Plains Mada', the people known as Mada today. The Eggon lived in the Mada hills south of Akwanga in the pre-colonial period, but there is no connection between the groups that would justify these terms and they have now been discarded.

The exact number of speakers is unknown but it is unlikely to be less than the estimate of 200,000 given by Sibomana (1985). Ames (1934) gave a figure of 41,276 for the 1920s, but this is likely to have been substantially underestimated. Welmers (1971) estimated 52,000 although this may have been only a projection from Ames. Very little has been written about Eggon society and Temple (1922) and Ames (1934) are the only sources that contain any descriptions of Eggon social organisation.

The Eggon live in Nasarawa Eggon Local Government Area (formerly Akwanga LGA) of Plateau State. Their population is about 80,000 people. This ethnic group is spread all over N/Eggon LGA and over other LGAs, namely Akwanga, Lafia, Awe, and Obi, all in Plateau State. However, wherever they live, they still recognise that they came from Eggon hill in Nasarawa Eggon LGA. This tribe is bounded by the Gwandara to the west, the Migili to the south, some Alago (Assakio) groups to the east, and the Mada and Nungu (Rindre) to the north.

2. Eggon Dialects

Eggon is conventionally divided into twenty-five mutually comprehensible dialects and a twenty-sixth, Madantara [=Alogani] said to be impossible to understand without special learning. The only author to discuss dialects is Sibomana (1985) whose discussion focuses on Kagbu, which he states is the main dialect. He also cites data from the Nassarawa-Eggon dialect. The Benue-Congo Comparative Wordlist (1969, 1972) also gives data from two dialects.

Within the body of the dictionary, numerous dialectal form are cited. These are usually the name of the town where they were recorded, but these do not correspond to the modern dialect names. The following are cited in the text;

Alizaga	Bekana	Matatuwa ?
Alogani	Ekpon	Umme
Angbashin	Lizzi	Wulko

The citations are a mixture of forms that differ only from the dialect of the dictionary by a regular vowel correspondence, forms with different noun-class prefixes and distinct lexical items. No decision has yet been made as to the treatment of dialect in the present dictionary and for the present, these forms are simply conserved.

A so far unsolved problem of Eggon dialects is the language of the 'Madantara'. Spoken by a group of Eggon east of Nassarawa-Eggon it is sufficiently different from other lects as to be effectively a new language. Only further research will resolve its status and origin.

3. A history of attempts to write the Eggon language

The earliest written material in Eggon appears to be scripture portions from 1937, probably prepared by I.D. Hepburn. The dialect chosen for bible translation is based on the Wana dialect, although it is supplemented by forms from other dialects and so is a sort of synthetic Eggon not based on the speech of a particular

group. A hymnbook and 2 readers were prepared, and the translation of the New Testament was completed in 1974. The orthography of the New Testament is somewhat different from the earlier publications.

Eggon is apparently in use in churches only in remoter regions and it has been displaced by Hausa in all establishments along the main road. However, there is apparently a move to revive the use of Eggon. Some evidence of this is the recent publication of new material in Eggon, a book of history and customs and a women's magazine which is intended to make a regular appearance.

A problem with this is that there is no established writing system and so such publications are not as easy to read as they might be. Still, it is clear evidence that Eggon is emerging again as a major language for literary development.

4. How is Eggon related to other languages?

The exact classification of the Eggon language has been in dispute and it can be said that this issue remains unresolved. Eggon was first classified by Greenberg (1963) as a Plateau language in his group 5, together with Nungu and Yeskwa. In the revision prepared by Carl Hoffman published in Hansford et al. (1976) a Benue group was set up that combined Greenberg's Plateau 5 and 7 with Jukunoid. The new subgrouping classified Eggon together with Nungu, Ake and Jidda-Abu. The concept came from the lexicostatistical studies of Shimizu (1975) who argued against the unity of Greenberg's Plateau and proposed the Benue group. However, in 1983, Gerhardt published a convincing rebuttal of Shimizu's arguments. The version of classification of Plateau languages in Gerhardt (1989) adds Yashi to the Eggon subgroup but removes the links with 'Benue' i.e. Tarok and the Jukunoid languages.

The non-specialist can deduce from these debates that the matter is by no means settled. Much of the reason for this uncertainty is the poor quality of data on so many of the languages in question. All writers seem to agree on the nearest affiliated languages but to dispute the broader connections. All the other languages are spoken in extremely small communities and indeed, in some cases, no new data has been published since Meek recorded wordlists in the 1920s.

N.B. The manuscript has two introductions: a general introduction for Eggon-speakers and a technical introduction for those interested in the linguistics of Eggon. The technical introduction explains the principles behind the orthography/writing system adopted.

Editing Principles

In this version, which is essentially an updating of the original manuscript, a number of changes have been made in preparation for a more modern dictionary. The most important of these are;

- a) Updating and correction of scientific names
- b) Addition of parts of speech where these are evident
- c) Deletion of Hausa names where these add nothing to the gloss and can easily be determined from reference works.
- d) Insertion of tone-marked words in modern transcription from Sibomana (1985) and Maddieson (1982) and from Maddieson's annotations on the photocopy. This is a temporary expedient as the dialects cited by these authors do not necessarily correspond to those given in the dictionary.

Phoneme Chart

The only published description of the Eggon sound-system is in Sibomana (1985), although Maddieson (1982) describes some of the consonant-clusters. The following charts of vowels and consonants are thus based on Sibomana.

Consonants

	Bila-bial	Labio-dental	Alveolar	Retro-flex	Alveopalatal	Palatal	Velar	Labial-velar	Glottal
Plosive	p b		t d		c j		k g	kp gb	
Implosive	ɓ			ɗ					
Fricative	β	f v	s z		(ʃ) (ʒ)		x		h
Affricate			ts dz						
Nasal	m		n			ɲ	ŋ		
Approximant	w					y			
Tap			r	ɽ					
Lateral			l						

Palatalisation and labialisation are extremely common phonological processes.

Prenasalized Segments

Prenasalization only affects consonants in the initial position of the stem. The following prenasalized segments have been recorded

mb, mɓ, nd, ng, nz, ndz, nj, nʒ, mv

Vowels

There appear to be seven underlying vowels

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

Nasalization is probably not phonemic but appears on oral vowels as a result of a following nasal consonant. In every case in the lexicon, this is represented by a nasal rather than a tilde over the vowel. Thus o-zhen not ozhẽ 'road'.

Tones

There are three level tones and two glides, rising and falling. These latter are rare and they could be analysed as combinations of level tones. However, they seem to occur in isolation on some words which indicates that they must be treated as separate tonemes.

High	´
Mid	Unmarked
Low	`
Rising	˘
Falling	ˆ

A common phonological process in Eggon is the deletion of V₁ in the stem leaving the somewhat unusual CCV structures. The tone on this vowel normally remains and effectively creates a complex tone on C₂. Because some dialects of Eggon retain V₁ it is more helpful to retain the tone in its 'correct' place as a 'floating' tone. Thus the word for 'kill' is transcribed b`gá, not bgá or bìgá.

In this version of the lexicon, tones are marked only occasionally. Some of the tone-marks are drawn from published material, some from Ian Maddieson's annotations on the photocopy of the dictionary. Many words in the dictionary must be rechecked in the field before being used in transcription.

This is intended for checking and comment only and should not be considered a finished document.

1. References in the text refer to the articles about the Eggon people cited in the bibliography at the end.

2. The order of letters is; a, b, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, ŋ, o, p, r, s, sh, t, u, v, y, z.

I have followed the outline of the European alphabet, but have put closely related sounds together, so that words are easier to check.

Remember this also affects the alphabetisation of words so, 'xx' comes before 'yy' in the listing. Words beginning with consonants represented by two letters, such as 'kp' or 'gb' are found under the entries for 'k' and 'g'.

When a vowel is doubled, for example, 'aa' or 'ee' then the second vowel is treated separately. Thus a word ending in 'aat' comes before one ending in 'am'.

When words are different only in tone, they are listed in the order low, middle, high.

Some grammatical notes.

These are adapted from some loose sheets appended to the dictionary manuscript, corrected where possible from Sibomana's publication of 1985.

Pronouns

Direct Object			Indirect Object		
	Sg.	Pl.		Sg.	Pl.
1.	me	gi	1.	nè	dàgi
2.	ŋwo	mo/bmi/mo	2.	dŋwo	dàmo
3.	ŋà/lo	mo	3.	dŋà	dàmo

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The following are the main things that have been written about Eggon. Some have not been published and are only available in mimeo.

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Missing words!

jaw, armpit, word, proverb, bat types, adze, hammer, arrow, rib, fly, bark (dog), hatch, remember

a	architecture	dr	item of dress	mt	mat
ai	agricultural implement	e	emotions	p	person
am	amphibian	f	fish	pd	personal decoration
an	ant	fa	farming		
ap	animal part	fo	food	pl	plant
		fr	fruit	po	pot
b	bird	g	grass	r	reptile, amphibian
bf	bodily fluid	ga	game	s	snake
bm	body mark, sore etc.	go	gourd	sh	shrub
		gr	grasshopper		
bp	body part	h	herb	so	song
bs	basket	ho	household goods	t	tree
c	crop	hu	hunting equipment	ti	title
		i	insect	tm	temporal (adverbs)
co	colour	k	kinship	to	tool
cr	crustacean	la	landscape	tp	tree part
d	disease, sickness	ma	mammal	tr	traditional religion
da	domestic animal	me	medicine	tx	textile
dc	dance	mi	musical instrument	v	vine
dk	drink	mo	money	we	weaving
				wt	weather

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
A.				
a ku ashiki		p.n.		male name et. he gathers and hoards up
-àbá ògbyì	moò-	n.p.	p	old person
àbá osku		n.	p	stranger et. he of (another) town
àbèle		a.		soft, premature, fresh mo kolo abele agulu I want some soft maize la abele ligi ligi ligi me aan I eat that which is very soft a wo abele nga mbò it is no longer soft
àbèle eligi		n.		rope made of oil-palm leaves
àbi		n.		evil badness àbi a wa dzi mbò evil is not nice ezhi àbi bad eggs ezhi enu i wo ibi are a wa bi the man is bad as an egg can be rotten
àbì		n.		our place gi y i àbì we are going home
-abi	moo-	pron.		ours i.e. our people often used as an exclamation há abì
abibahe		int.		what do you call this?
à-bìdzím	á-	n.	m	hare
à-bìlì	á-	n.	tr	ghost
			tr	fairly (also àmò) or bibili
àbimi		n.	bp bf	breast milk
Abimazhe(le)		p.n.		woman's name
àbme		a.	co	name given to a child born after a previous child's death red àbme mbwi bright red
abmre		a.		wet, muddy
àbom		n.	dc	song gi fo abom let us sing a song
abon				your home
àbro	a-	n.		bag
àbrò	ábrò	n.	a	hut in the fields
à-bú	í-, é-	n.	m	dog
àbùgà	—	n.	la	pool low-lying land where water collects name of a clan in Ekpon bucket for drawing water from a well also ènzhè àmi
àbùgo	—	n.		feast festival a kpo àbùgo he makes a feast ma ri àbùgo they feasted
àbukun		n.		next, the one after, the following
-àbùṇadga	moo-	n.	p	cripple et. bun to break + adga leg
abun ukun		n.	ap	horse tail

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
ényema				also ehre , agyehe , ajehre
àbwee	ábwee	n.		bag made of raffia and slung over the shoulder
abyé		n.		judgement discussion ma ba abyé akpolatyen ibu Alumbugu they came to Alumbugu's place for judgement
àbye akpà		n.	b	house-martin also called amu oden not killed or eaten
àbyèbyè	ábyébyé	n.	b	small bird cf. wunu
ábzé		a.		raw, unripe, uncooked cf. awu labze ekpon aze Alogani ave Alizaga laba
-ábzé	mòò-	pron.		some òskú ábzé
à-dá	á- mòò	n.	p	father adugu my father adigi our father, forefathers, ancestors adimo their father
adan oden		n.	p p	householder master adigi is what he might be called
Adagadzu		p.n.		male name et. he stayed for a long time
Adagidzi		p.n.		male name child born during the period of a father's absence. et. a he + daga stays + idzi outside sometimes Adaga or Lidzi are used as short forms of the names
adomo		n.	bp	liver
àdne	—	n.	to	needle, syringe or kadné
-àdrò	mòò-	n.	p p	deaf-mute madman a ana wo àdro or Adra dró
adró		n.		foolishness akpo adró
àdu	—	n.	mi	large drum with a single skin
à-dùbà	á-	n.	tp	midrib of leaves of raffia palm <i>gongola</i> (Hausa)
àdóm	á-	n.	bp	kidney
àdom	—	n.	c c	aerial yam <i>Dioscorea bulbifera</i>
adunota		a.		cloudy cf. efita
àdyùm		n.		groan a ta adyum he groans
à-dzà(gà)	á-	n.	ai	large hoe <i>garma</i> (Hausa) Alizaga zizga

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
àdzaŋ		n.	c	yam
			c	bitter wild yam
àdzaŋ arefaŋ		n.		Alizaga ezan
àdzedzi		n.		useless person
				goodness
				also adzi
adzi		n.		goodness
				also adzedzi
				a wa dzi it is good lit. it with goodness
				cf. dzedzi
àdzum	mòò-	n.	p	father-in-law, mother-in-law
				Alizaga azimo
àdzní		n.		red camwood
àdzò(dzò)	á-	n.	po	earthen pan
				potsherd
				àdzò zga ovro put pan on fire
àdzodzo		n.		earthen pan
àf(y)é, àhyé		n.	da	male goat
				Bekana afirí
afige ogbu		n.	b	lark
				Hausa <i>shuda mai labari</i>
				afiki ogbu (ngobi)
àfóm	—	n.		dust
Afubu		p.n.		medicine with which a murderer has to be washed/purged or his stomach swells up and he dies
				ma ngola Afubu they wash with Afubu
àfré		n.	c	eggplant
				‘garden egg’
				<i>gauta</i> (Hausa)
				tafra Alizaga
afro		n.	m	soil used by girls to make hands red
afón		n.	mi	double iron clapperless bell
afye		v.		to sit with knees drawn up and arms around knees (not permitted to small boys as it is said to prevent growth)
				adzu afye, a gana mbò he is sitting huddled up, but he has not yet reached the age for it
afo kòfoká		n.	tr	magic made to kill in revenge
				stone is used, also <i>Euphorbia</i> , placed at the door of the victim's house
				a fòfoká atyen he made magic to kill someone
àfù	áfù	n.	s	puff adder
afi		n.		judgement
				or kafi
aga		n.		new idea, thought
				unexpected thing
				a nyín aga he did an unexpected thing
				ka bana kpo aga he just look at this surprising thing he has done
agala		n.		grumble
				a nyé agala he grumbles
agba		n.	c	pumpkin
agba		excl.		hello! Welcome!
agbadu		n.		box
				also àkpàdu

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
agbán ato		n.		<H. back yard gi w agban ato atyetyen we have one back yard i.e. we are neighbours
àgbàrà èzhim		n.		disintegrating rock
àgbí	agbí	n.		hollow rock
agbɔ̃mre		n.		farm, field
àgbró	ágbró	n.		fat
				ball
				any spherical object
àgbro		n.	bm	ezhba efu agbro the shea is fruiting
agbro		n.	c	lump
			c	banana
				plantain
				Angbashim agboho
agbro ivi		n.	c	Alizaga agburu
				pawpaw fruit
				also ivi ebme
Agbro		p.n.		Bekana aboro
				name of the S.U.M. station at Wana which is on or near the site of an old town of that name formerly inhabited by the people now at Wanjibi
agbu		n.	c	rizga
agbu arogo		n.	c	<i>Plectranthus esculentus</i>
ivi				groundnuts, large variety
agbu ashele		n.	c	et. groundnuts with goitre
			c	tumuku
agbù ògro		n.	p	<i>Solenostemon rotundifolius</i>
àgèn		n.		invalidity
				hunt
àgì		n.	bp	gi yi àgèn ekala we are going to hunt monkeys
				chin
agiṛiso		n.	cr	aretyen a kpu agi ban a ba egbu ekpiki ashe atyen If a person dies, his chin enters a woman and he is reborn
				crab
àgme iyi		v.p.		or agen ekso (?)
				big eyes
àgóló		excl.		cf. gme to be fat
agombé		n.	da	Used in greeting when a man meets another with his name
				kid
agre okyen		n.		or a-wyén agombe
				rag
àgró òdga		n.	bp	cf. okyen, agrokyen
				ankle, calf of leg
àgù		n.		Alizaga agro kedaga
				time
				period
				epoch
				era
agulu (agbi)		n.	c	àgù embili aba the time when famine came
			c	guinea-corn
				sorghum

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
agulu		n.	c	cooked beans or grains Alizaga awula
agulù ebrò		n.	c	maize et. agulu sorghum ebro ? see obro agulu a sè èbrò atà the stalk has two cobs i.e. corn in a parcel se puts out ata because the cob is lying Dakana kuburu Nungu lebro
àgum		n.		medicine
aguya		n.		? ta aguya to sow and cultivate acha
à-gwàgwá		n.	da	duck (<H.)
agyé		n.		horsetail switch òsha èndga
agyere enyema		n.	ap	horse tail or agyche enyema et. agye tail + yere tail agye Ngubi dialect (see into this word)
àgzu		n.	ho	mat for shutting door Hausa <i>zana</i> or àzzu Alizaga gugzu
ahe		int.		how many?
ahe		?		this thing it is it a he lo a wo ndom ndom this thing is different
ahe		prep.		here Marefin ahe a ba a wo e ka he it is so alright a wa he it is here a wo a he a he lo this is it
àhe		n.		sky also arugme Alizaga kaha
àhé		a.		new riga a lahe a new robe
ahiílí		n.		twins formerly sometimes one was killed
Ahogbren		p.n.	tr	God also Ahugban
áhòlò		n.	a	frame of roof
áhòlò igbyi		n.	hu	leopard trap of clay with wooden trapdoor
ahon	mahon	pron.		another someone else someone
ahon		n.	la	stream also eholo, ohon rare yi ahon o fu ami go to the stream and scoop water ma kpo apa ohon they bridge the stream
ahro		n.		powder
ahro		n.		pulling

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
Ahugban		p.n.	tr	cf. hro God
Ajigéku		p.n.		also Ahogbren woman's name
àjgé		n.		she went to a house to mourn for a death, and there she was born beer
ájigè		n.	tp	Angbashim azhiga Alizaga ajigha
a-kòsù		n.	ho	bunch of oil palm fruit, unripe
akpashi		n.	wt	basket made of strips of bamboo
àkpghú		n.		cloud
àkpki		n.	bp	leather haversack
akpolotyen		n.		stomachs
akpokayi		n.		something
akpololo		n.		mirror et. parchment in which you see your eyes me keme akpokayi I saw myself in a mirror
àkpúkpùkhú		n.	la	person who believes in traditional religion
akpun		n.	la	person who engages in curing rituals
àkpúshi		n.	ho	rocky peaks
akpuzhàgà		n.	i	hills leather haversack
áksù		n.		cf. ázhùgùlú skin used as bag and slung from shoulder by two forelegs
àkù	akuku	n.	a	et. àkpa skin + ushì load large black ant with hunched back
akodzum		n.	a	Hausa <i>tururuwa</i>
àkufa		n.	a	straw
àkufó		n.	b	áksù alem acha straw
a-kufu	(a-/ku-)	n.	tp	hut
àkùfú	ákúfú	n.	bp	Alizaga koko where food is prepared with bin in centre
àkum		n.	i	inside of hut roof
Akumbi		p.n.		fi akufa apex of inside a roof
Aha-				ota oka akufa the bow is suspended from the roof
akun		n.		partridge
Akun Anza		p.n.		francolin
akpadudu		n.	am	palm nut
akoŋ		n.	b	bone
aksu		n.	b	Alizaga mbaku small fly that sucks blood
				Alizaga akum ezgo
				Wei Wei Hills
				et. the hill which is double
				also Akun ambi aha
				hill
				a section of Ngobi
				stream west of Wana mission station
				tadpole
				eagle
				eagle
				or asu

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
àkhwá		n.	s	Egyptian cobra
àkhá-		n.	p	maternal grandfather maternal uncles
akase		n.	ho	broom
àkàlà		n.	la	veldt
			la	bush
			la	wilderness
				Alizaga kekala
àká		n.	t	fan palm
			t	<i>Borassus aethiopicum</i>
				cf. anganga
akimazba			p	my friend or akimadzaba cf. adzaba beautiful et. akyena friend + mazaba beautiful
akìrì		n.	tx	blanket
aklizi		n.	i	cricket
ako		n.		it is finished spelt akho in primer Alizaga ako
ákó		n.	hu	leopard trap
àkó		n.	m	baboon
akòm		n.	c	kenaf
			c	<i>Hibiscus cannabinus</i> amun akon the fibre
akón		n.	b	eagle
àkón		n.		sword àkoŋ èngùba
akpá		n.	bp	skin Alizaga kpakpa
akpaahé		n.	wt	clouds parchment of heaven or akpa ishi Alizaga kokpa kha
akpa ero		n.	bm	scar Alizaga takpa oro
akpa malibi		n.		paper et. skin of luck
akpikí		n.		stomach
akpokayi		n.		mirror et. it makes a beholding of the eyes Alizaga kakariye
akpolatyén		n.		something
akpolatyene		n.		nothing
mbo				et. a he + kpo made + la which + tyen one + mbo not
akpolo		n.		thing et. he makes it
akpu		v.		to be lost a ta kpu he got lost a ta ozhen akpu he missed the road, lost his way to spoil a ta ra kpu he spoilt the dance a tengala kpu he spoilt the writing, made an error

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
akpuko		n.		a ta algo akpu he spoilt the food crack a gbu akpuko it is cracked
à-kù		n.	a	room
akun		n.	la	hill, mountain
akyele		a.		white
akyēa		n.	p	friend (?) atshan? Wulko akyan <Hausa <i>akya</i>
Alaku		p.n.		man's name et. he stays at home
Alambaga				a town S.W. of Wana
Alandem		p.n.		town near Wulko or Andem
alem		n.	c	fonio acha unhusked or the plant
algori		n.	c	<i>Digitaria exilis</i>
aligi		n.	b	food palm eagle the following verse is said about it; fa bono ne, ne fa me don dish out some of yours for me and I will dish out some of mine and give it to you
alim		n.	p p p	man fellow male form of address or are alam Bekana lanimo Angbashim anim
Alukuru		p.n.		the town West of Enebi of Wanjibi or Alukulu
Alushi				town 5 km. west of Akwanga or Aloce
a-makpa	mo-	n.		Hausa also ango also osan
amago		n.	m m	monkey patas monkey cf. ekala cf. etsim used for a big individual red monkey
amangolo		n.		husks of acha or iburu
ambala		adv.		after behind Osan a wa ga ambala Osan is behind a lim ambala he follows behind ambala he nga after that
ambala		n.		<i>Tacca involucrata</i> West Indian Arrowroot Hausa <i>amara</i> ekon ambala arrowroot
ambila eligi		n.	i	white grub in palm trunks eaten by Mada
ambila		n.		greed

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				a kpo ambila he is greedy
a-mbla		n.		plank
a-mbí	e-mbí	n.	bf	faeces
			bf	excrement
			bf	manure
			bf	dung
			bf	shit
Ambi		p.n.		Ekpon ehe agbi man's name also in Ninzam
ambi aha				double bifurcated forked ambi aha akyi forked tree ekun ambi aha the double Wei Wei peaks agbro a kpo ambi aha a double banana
ambí	a	n.	sh	<i>Mussaenda elegans</i>
kpajú				scrambling shrub with velvety red flowers and edible berries
a-mbímbzi		n.		Ekpon ehe agbi charcoal
ambo		conj.		also
ambor		n.		sand also ambur Alizaga tambur
ambu		n.	da	pup or awumbu
ambugu		n.		leprosy
ambugu		n.		a shen ambugu he has leprosy clod lump brick
Ambugu				place where the Wana rest-house stood et. judgements
ambugu		n.		earthworm casts
kpashoshon				also ambugu ashoshon
ambulu		n.		hole eshen e vuva ambulu the pot has a hole ambulu akyi hollow in tree trunk
ambumbwi		n.	pp	flower
			pp	bloom
			pp	petal
				cf. ekro et. red Angbashim- amumu cf. mbumbwi white man.
à-mbùtú		n.		hat <H.
ambye		n.	i	small termites or ambyi ambye anzaku the termites are building a nest
à-mbátku	e-	n.	bp	finger nail
vgo				

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				also atuku evugo
à-mbèbí		n.	c	pepper
ame				my home
amem		n.	i	sandfly or amime
àmgbakoŋ		n.	b	kite
ami		n.		water ami efin black water i.e. pure water Alizaga ami laton pure water
ami ekum		n.		washings from a pot
amimzi		n.		soot
amo		n.		wrestling game gi ta amo let us play the wrestling game
amom		a.		dry
amvushe		n.	r	large sluggish lizard or anvuashe, anvashe, amvoshe, anvanzhe, amvoshe It lives in cavities in the rocks. The Mada believe that its bite is fatal Alizaga amvulashe
amwé		adv.		expression of uncertainty, perhaps or amwí odzumbo Alaku a ba nye amwé perhaps Alaku will come today
amwe		v.		to be dirty (spelling doubtful) amwe ekim it is dirty lit. it dirt- cf. bili cf. erim it is dirty
amu		n.		shade shadow spirit soul
amu ode		n.	b	house-martin lit. spirit of house (it is not killed or eaten)
amva		n.	t	fig tree
amum		n.		fibre amum akon fibre of kenaf
a-mvbo		n.		animal fat lard suet
amvum		n.	b	hawk
amze		v.		to build or anze
Anabi		p.n.		town just south of the rest house at Wanjibi a gbu andum he has a fit
anbangálá		n.		plank board see a-mbla
anbye		n.	b	Plantain eater <i>Turacus corythaix</i> The crimson quill feathers used for charms Equivalent to the name "Jatau" and applied red (fair) people
anbye		n.	t	African tulip tree <i>Spathodea campanulata</i>
andakopo		n.	p	elder

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				ruler
				old man
				great man
				master
				Alizaga anda man + ekopo greatness authority
àndàsé		n.	mn	gravel
				sand
ande ondegá		n.	p	blacksmith
				or ande kondega
				Alizaga andega kendege
				et. ande man (Alizaga dialect) ondega smith
ande tse		n.		younger brother or sister
andu		n.	da	ox
andum		n.		epileptic fit
andyn		n.		wealth
				also angyi
andyn		prep.		on top
				or anjen, angye
				above
				up
				or ondyn or kanjen or ansin or andyn cf. engi cf. nja .
Anekó		p.n.		place where the chief's compound is at Wana
angam		n.	i	termite
				also arurugu, arucuku, eden
				Flying termite sp. said to cause death if eaten.
				Edible variety of flying termite
				or angum
angam		n.		file made of sorghum stalks
				or langam
angam		n.		opportunity
				cf. avan
anganga		n.	t	fan palm
			t	<i>Borassus aethiopicum</i>
				Matatuwa aka-
a-ngba		n.	ap	wing
angbala		n.	ap	droppings of sheep, goats, mice
				eben a ta angbala the goat made droppings
angbala		n.		bench, wooden plank
angbán				money
angbàn		n.		iron
Angbashu		p.n.		town sometimes wrongly called Angwar Shuru
				or Angwashu
angbon		n.	bp	cheek
angbon		n.	bf	urine ?
				or angbi, anme
				cf. abzangbon
angbungbuv		n.	d	yaws
u				
				also ashe or ombuvo or ambu vo
				Kudu a gbu angbungbuvu Kudu has yaws
angitina		n.	b	crow (trilled 'r')
				or angilina
				Bekana aridabwa
Ango		p.n.		Shabu

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
Ango (ø- /mo-)		p.n.		a town 5 miles. north of Lafia Hausa
Ango a ba			pl pl	Angbashin angwai akne Ango a common man's name et. he fled from the Hausas sensitive plant <i>Biophytum sensitivum</i>
Angon		p.n.		lit. 'the Hausa are coming'. Boys pull up the plant and as the leaves close in they say Ango a ba? Ango a ba? representing slave raiders closing in round their victims
angre		n.	c c c	Place where Ekpon people farm on eastern escarpment between Ekpon and Ogboshon bulrush millet gero <i>Pennisetum typhoideum</i>
angú		n.		Matatuwa angara fibre rope thread
angum		n.		yawn a ta angum he yawns
angum		n.		small bag made of palm leaf Wanjibi bubu
anguvu, angubu		n.	tp	bark of tree
àngyú		n.	c	shell of groundnut or egg peel yam
ahwpe		n.		small termite
anjige		n.	tp	oil palm frond
anjím ogbu		n.		lightening
anju		n.	c	yam <i>Dioscorea</i> spp.
anju anváshè		n.	pl	arum lily with dark flesh-coloured flowers with smell of carrion
anjugu		n.	a	<i>Amorphophallus Schweinfurthii</i> small granary used for millet and other cereals smaller than ebon , usually used for acha
anme		n.	bf	urine or angbon ami anme ami angbon me yi so ami anme I am going to urinate
anme		n.		large flat rock
Anme		p.n.		large dome of a rock south of Walon
Bashanata				also Anmabwa
anna		n.		mother annana his mother
annana-		n.		his brother annana ba anna -his brother by the same mother
annime		n.		my brother or anneme

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
annigi		n.		our brother
annogo		n.		your brother
ánnungu		n.		our mother
anumese		n.	p	aloe used in arrow poison <i>Strophanthus?</i> or alumese
anva		n.	t	fig several varieties with large leaves
anvan		n.		mischievous waste
anvigan iyi		n.	bf	pus in corner of the eye
anvigatiki		n.	i	flat brown millipede anvugataka Alizaga gyaga nem бага take
anvigitiki		n.	sh sh	bush, shrub scrub
anvive		n.	i	spider also anvebe cobweb
			d	ringworm dry lips or throat ogbuga teten anyu a ta anvivé when the wind blows from the east your mouth dries
anvum		n.	b b	black kite <i>Milvus migrans</i> Hausa <i>shirwa</i> cf. atrenu
anvuvo		n.		animal fat or anvubo
anwo		n.	m m m	rock hyrax dassie <i>Procavia capensis</i>
ànyè		n.	tm	today
anyé		n.	bp	liver
anyema		n.	e	anger swelling up cf. olum a kpo anyema he is angry Wulko kanyema
anyu		int.		what how ameekpo ányu me kp ányu ke what shall I do? me be kpanuyu a wányu what is it?
Anyu		p.n.		river south of hills or Eholo anyu
anyu		n.	bp	mouth language
anyu eso		n.	i	comb of honey
anyún		n.		wax big giant anyun asu a huge dog

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
anze		n.	bp	this adjective precedes the noun. part of shoulder near neck cf. ehrwe
anzi	anzi	n.		East or azzi owanzi anzi <i>Sabida</i> fruits red edible berry
ánzi		n.	e	shame disgrace ta addon anzi mbo don't disgrace your father
anzim		n.		chain or anzum
anzim		n.	pl	Matatuwa azum small weed used in soup <i>Gynura cernua</i> also anzum
anzhin		n.		clay used for building
anzhigí		n.	b	owl
ánzho		n.		tale or story Matatuwa kanjo
a-nzhò		n.		cloth
anzò		n.	t	Red-flowering silk cotton tree
			t	<i>Bombax buonoponenze</i> see ekum anzo
anzu		n.		thrashing used with the verb yela a yela na anzu he thrashed him anzu a vulo nzenze the thrashing is painful Matatuwa azu
ajwo		pron.		you (s.)
ápà		n.	a	bridge
apete		n.		battle axe or apiti
àpfú		n.		suckers and foliage which spring up in cultivated fields
à-pla		n.	ho	mat made from raffia woven in strips and sewn together Hausa <i>taberma</i> Matatuwa iti
appà		n.	c	large pumpkin
apre abugu		n.	bp	palm of hand
apropre		n.		Alogani: white man
apu		n.		rest house
apye or api		n.	c	Wanjibi ground nuts cf. ivi
arityuku		n.	i	edible flying termites. Perhaps the same as ede eden but when they emerge in the morning they are called arityuku
arúrugu		n.		purse
arun		v.		to be sweet to sweeten eso arun gishi he sweetens my heart very much i.e. I love him arun ishi gishi he is popular
arugu		n.		to charge to accuse cf. njugu
arugú		n.	dr	loin-cloth

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
àrà		n.	dc	or orugu dance a ta ra kpu he can't dance gi yi zhig ara let us dance Alizaga angya di zhiga angya we dance
áraga		n.	la	rock pool cf. edun
aralem		n.	p	husband male cf. alem male
are a-rewhin	mo- (a-/ma-)	n. n.	p	person, people man et. earth man Matatuwa andefin
are embaga aren are oshala aren eden a-retyen	mo- (a-/ma-)	n. n. n. n. n.	p p i	witch chief, leader Saviour queen termite someone a certain man also arekyen
arika arogo arogo	 ararogo ararogo	n. n. n.	 ap d	ring animal throat goitre a gbu arogo he has goitre
arogo		n.		someone anyone
aru		n.	tx	thread Alizaga ruru
asakpa		n.		entrance hut cf. akudzum & ekpro
Asalokro		p.n.		man's name et. a he + sala scatters scatterer of okro- place of peace
ashala ashē Ashe Anme	—	n. n. p.n.	r bp	jumping frog thigh common woman's name et. born during good acca harvest lit. 'my wife'
Ashim		p.n.	tr	ancestor masquerade
ashowa aska		n. n.		beads fibre left (after palm oil is extracted) agulu a pum aska the guinea corn is forming grain aska may be the glumes asale for short
à-ssí	(à-/ma-)	n.	p	thief si to steal
asuku asusku ashaumagala		n. n. n.	 c r	laterite gravel husks of guinea corn chameleon (Alizaga) cf. mashmangili
ashe	ma-she	n.		woman Alizaga akye

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
ashela		n.	am	jumping frog it is eaten by the people also called agyere or asha (Alizaga) azhele
ashele	ashashele	n.		fireplace
ashre		n.	d	yaws a gbu ashe he has yaws cf. angbungbuvu or ashesheu cf. ombuvo cf. ambuvo
ashe	ashe	n.		beam made by splitting palm trunk A man was farming and a woman from Ogen came with what professed to be an oracle and told him not to farm famine followed
apu ondaga		n.		bellows of blacksmith blacksmith ondaga forge ashe cf. ogala
ashim		n.	c c	cowpea, early maturing <i>Vigna unguiculata</i> or ashuvm Hausa <i>waken damana</i>
ashi oshi		n.	da	donkey or eshi oshi or shi oshi et. shi carry + oshi load
Ashim Abi		n.		section of Ekpon
Ashim Okme		n.	tr	spirit represented by a bracket like mud projection on a wall with 7 little pillars in a row on it
ashishi agulu		n.	c	maize cob contrast donkey ashioshi contrast obro agulu a cob with grains on it
ashuvm		n.	b	vulture or ashuvm
ashko		n.		spoon
angban				
asoso		n.	gr gr	weeds grass
asu		n.	b	eagle
ataka		n.	dr	hat or etaka or kataka Alizaga kata Ninzam akata
atandala		n.		girder pole placed across stream or building
Atatra	ø-/mo-	p.n.	bm	man of the Alizaga section etc. with broad arrow marks at the corners of eyes.
a-Tengala	ma- Tengala	p.n.		man with heavy scarification
atyun odaga		n.	bp	calf of leg
atili		a.		own applied to a child (perhaps as opposed to an adopted child) me wo a-wyén bantili I am his own son
atolo		n.		place on body singed by fire
atoto	matato	n.	p	hunter applied to professional Hausa hunters
atrenu		n.	b	brown hawk

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				Bekana avwa
atsá		n.		Ume kasike cursing cf. tsa to curse
atsà		n.	f	atsa pa la isi a wadzi mbo cursing and stealing are not good
atse		n.	hu	fish grass ring used as a lizard trap. Boys go about with it hanging from their belts. ma sko atse ma te ehola kpaju they take the trap and set it at the lizard hole
atsim ogba		n.	b b	hammerkop <i>Scopus umbretta</i> Considered to call the rain, so people do not kill it. If a man sets fire to its nest, when he gets home he will find his own home on fire.
atson		n.		age (old) a kp atson he is old are he atson are this man is old (If atson were an adj. it would follow the noun)
atsum atun		n.	p	deaf man et. a he + tsum closes up + atun ears
atuku		n.	t	The tree bears clusters of bright red follicles. The pulp around seeds is edible and the boughs are used for making bows. <i>Sterculia cinerea</i> .
atutũ		n.		ashes
atkú		n.	go	calabash bowl used for eating.
atuku akulu		n.	am am	Alizaga katuko tortoise turtle
atulu		n.	tx	Alizaga kpatako akulu cloth (Alizaga dialect)
atuvku		n.	bp	fingernail
evugo				or nbatuku or mbatuku or batuevugo
atyele		n.	tx	Alizaga totuko cloth white or akyele akyekele pyepypye pure white Bokana atele white psep-psep-psep
atyen		n.	num	one unit atyetyen or tyetyen Alizaga tete
atyen		n.		? or aki
atyi		n.	bf	a ri aki he kills by magic cf. ehola spittle ta aki mbò don't spit akyi or aki
atyi or aki		n.	tm	tomorrow ondaki onda day Bekana ondati ati Lodzi akye

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
aty		n.	t	Alizaga ondate tree
aty makpa		n.	t	<i>or akyi or akyiky or tyityi or tshitshi</i> <i>Newbouldia laevis</i> et. tree of Hausa. = <i>aduruku</i>
atyu		n.	b	several introduced plants are called of Hausa Senegal coucal <i>Centropus senegalensis</i> bird much connected with magic and not eaten Alizaga tutu .
atyun		n.		bang boom gun or atyum ami a kpo atyun the waterfall roars jirgi a kpo atyun the train puffs me gon atyun amanga I hear the roll of drums Alizaga atu
avan		n.		opportunity cf. angbam
aven		adv.		this year ba vauven long ago
avi		n.	i	tsetse fly avi a tan azhiga a kpo la la la the tsetse has a painful bite
avi		n.		wire nail Alizaga kafyi Angbashim afyi or kavi
avile		n.	am	toad cf. mangu, azhele, awyle
avugayi		n.	p	blind man cf. vuga avugayi a ka okmo the blind see by feeling with the palm
avum ako		n.		thatch (when on the roof) before on the roof it is called azzi
avum		n.	s	puff adder
avue obugu		n.	bp bp	biceps, upper arm
Awayi		p.n.		section of Wakama
awhĩ		a.	co	black
awulese		n.	b	rock fowl awulese a hwuloso amo- the rock fowl is whistling
awalen		n.	c	husked acha cf. alem
awandyin	(a-/ma-)	n.		rich man or wanjin
awo so son		adv.	tm	the other year, i.e. a few years ago
awu		n.	m	otter?
a-wyle		n.	am	toad
Awuvlashe		p.n.		section of Wakama or Awalashe
Awogren		p.n.		section in which the chief lives at Wakama
Awogba		p.n.		market of Wularo
awu		a.		raw

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				unripe
Awasho		p.n.		a la wu it is raw
awunu	awunu	n.	b	section of Wanjibi
a-wyén		n.	p	bird
			p	son
			p	boy
			p	child
a-wyén ashe		n.	p	girl
a-wyén		n.	bp	small finger
evugo agba				
a-wyén fifi		n.	p	Alizaga amokulu (i.e. the finger which completes the number
a-wyén		n.	p	small child
labele				baby
a-wyén riga		n.		et. soft child
aya	ayeya	n.	tp	pocket
aya		n.		leaf
		n.		betrothal
				a ba aya she has come to be betrothed (during the first visit of
				a girl to her future husband's parent's home she has become the
				betrothed of the man who first put a leaf on her.
aya tsim		n.	t	fig tree with rough leaves
				<i>Ficus exasperata</i>
Ayalo		p.n.		et. aya leaves tsim
				man's name
ayan		int.		et. medicinal leaves. aya leaves + olo treatment
				which?
				where?
				gi her ekayan amutu? we do not know how much we'll have
				to pay
				eka yan how which to what extent, how much
				omba yan what time?
				onda yan what day?
				a yi ayan where is he going
				Ekpon ana
				Ekpon no yi ana mo where are you going?
				Kigbu ba gi yan Kigbu is a native of where?
				Kigbu ba ngubi Kigbu of Ngubi
				Ekpon Kigbu ba gina? Kigbu is a native of where?
Ayan Kpaju		p.n.		stream east of mission
ayanawu		n.	p	et. lizard stones, from the number of lizards on its piled rocks
				innocent person
				asi a buga ayanawu proverb meaning the innocent suffers for
				the guilt (thief)
ayan		n.		panting sigh
				a ta yan he pants
				a full ayan he whistles
				sigh (which they do when tired)
ayan		n.		pillar of flat stone
				monolith
a ya kre		n.		dawn
				early morning
				Matatuwa ayakara
				aya kr okra amo the day is breaking

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
ayezhem		n.		doorway or ayizhe or ayenzhe or azhen
ayi		int.		who?
ayi mom		n.		light
ayi rigi		n.		early morning, dawn
ayi shi		n.		early morning dawn
ayi son		n.		last year
ayugu		n.		bird's nest.
azaba		n.	ho	large needle sail needle (? cf. Latin via Berber via Hausa <i>tazubula</i>)
azaga		n.	ai	large hoe also adzaga
azan		n.	c	bitter broad kind of yam also adzan
azha		n.	I	large black scorpion cf. elan <i>Pandinus imperator</i> Alizaga gigya
azha		n.		engagement betrothal
azha		v.i.		to be betrothed a kpo azha pa la a-wyén ashe he became engaged to a girl
azhbo		n.	bp	vagina
azhe		n.	m	wild cat
azhen	azhezhen	n.		door Matatuwa kalazhen or karegen
azhen	mo-azhen	n.		stranger orphan domestic slave visitor guest
azhen		n.	gr	grass for thatching a bun azzi he is cutting thatch bug break
azhga	azhazhga	n.	bp	tooth
azhga vile		n.p.		cowrie shells et. 'precious teeth'
		n.p.		money Alizaga dyavile , azhga , awe
azhiba		n.	bp	womb
azhili		n.	ho	head pad
azhugulu		n.	ho	haversack
azi		n.		engagement betrothal

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
B.				
ba		v.		to come be (past tense) me be kondatyena mbo I have never come before ba yi to pass ba gre to have passed (come and gone) ayi a ba gre who passed
ba aban		v.p.		let each ba aban a tsipi ibu azi ban let each stand at his bundle of grass
babuga		v.		to have mercy
be shen		v.p.		to enter
begyeku		n.	da	cat (Alizaga Ekpon dialect) bezhyeku cat Alizaga begyaku cf. matsamada embzi
bele		v.		to be soft to be gentle to weaken a-wyén a bele a baby (soft child) teten a yi wo bele the morning is still soft sun not strong
bedzim		n.	m	hare bezimo
bi		v.		to be bad to be evil or should this appear under the noun abi , see?
bi		v.		to be condemned ombugu o bi ana he is condemned by the evidence
bibi		v.		to be owed by or vi, vivi me bibi kudu kobo I am owed a penny by Kudu Alizaga fibi
bila		v.		to return a sa bila a ba odne he returned home
bile		v.		to deceive ma bile mo be shen they ambushed them
bili		v.		to fill to be full
bili		v.		to wait adzu a bili aren he is sitting and waiting for the chief
bili		v.		to be dirty okyen o bili the cloth is dirty erim amwe
bogodugo		adv.		abundantly elum a fu agbro bogodugo the sesame is bearing abundantly (only in this expression)
bola		v.		to mix food with oil
brubin		v.		to mix earth for building Angbashim brobin
bre		v.		to pass Alizaga bira
bubi		v.		to tie o bubi lo he tied it
bubi		v.		to leave a place

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				also vubu
bubu		n.	ho	a bubu a gre he removed and went small bag made of palm leaf
bubu		v.		Wana angum to come to nothing
buga				odolo he lo a bubu this matter has come to nothing ?????
b`gá		v.		a buga la na- to kill
				ogbuga o b`gá me I am very cold (lit. cold kills me)
buga		v.		Alizaga buga to grind (level tone)
buga		v.		buga ekon grind corn-meal to cause to germinate by soaking in water to make sprout
bugu (b (u) gu)		adv.		ma buga iyi agulu they cause the millet to sprout thoroughly
				altogether completely sign of perfect tense
bugu		conj.		me ba bugu I have come
				also
bugwi		adv.		me bugu me yi koko I am also going completely already
				ño ka lo bugwi have you already seen it? a form of bugu used in a question
bulo		v.		Alizaga bwi to forget (reflexive verb)
bulu		v.		o bulo me I forget it to run away to elope
				a bulu a gre ebele she eloped to escape
				o bulu me it has escaped me i.e. I have forgotten it to be lost
bun		v.		mbutu me a bulu my cap is lost break
				bun azze- cut the thatch
				ma bun kokon they break wood
buva		v.		bun azhiga to break a tooth to take off
				eshen a buva ambulu the pot has a hole to unthatch
				buvo or buba ma buva aku they remove the thatch from the hut
buvi		v.		to burrow to tie
				or bubi me buvi a gbu mbo I cannot tie
				buv ayi shut eyes
				buv anyu shut mouth
				buv ongom shut fist

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
bye		v.		to be ripe ivi makpa a bye the pawpaw is ripe teten a bye the morning is ripe (the time of morning when the sun gets hot, ca. 10 a.m.)
bye		v.		to drum a bye amanga he beats a drum also byin
bye		adv.		softly quietly eglu bye speak softly
bye ayi		v.		to see much to reach maturity to be exposed to experience a bye ayi ayi(ka a ba) ebala when she is mature she will be married
byen		v.		to roll up byen lo roll it up
byen		v.		to be active to be expert a byen ba luba agbi gishi he is expert at tilling the farm to be cooked
byim		v.		to agree to allow to consent
byuvk		adv.		sweet or buuvm, byuvm eso arahn byuvm byuvm byuvm honey is very sweet
bza		v.		to be sour Ekpon za a bza angbon it is sour to the tongue
bzi		v.		to be holed eshen a bzi ewele the pot has a hole eshen a zibive the pot has a hole Alizaga zu
D.				
da		v.		to cause dana dzuma cause it to remain i.e. leave it
da		v.t.		to give to often used where in English one would use the prep. shi oda me bring give me, bring to me
daga		v.		to stay to delay a daga kagbu he stays at Kagbu to be lost forever
daren		n.	t	wild date palm <i>Phoenix reclinata</i>
dala		v.		to scratch (associated with evugu finger) ambzi a dala me evugo adaga the cat scratched me
dakuta	mo-dakuta	n.	p	doctor < English
de		v.		to tear

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				to be torn okyen a de the cloth is torn Alizaga dere Ginda dala, ogba, dele
deŋ		a.		only, except yara fifi deŋ amo only a little remains
di hi		n.p.		it is so (Alogani) Wana eka he na lu di hi they said thus
didzidzi		a.		true also dilidzi a wa didzidzi it is true
dindindin		adv.		quite cf. rigt no kso pyen din din din have you arisen quite well
dolo		v.		to accuse na dolo na they accuse him to tell tales about cf. ndyugu
do		pron.		it Used at Ekpon instead of lo a we ka he do a he do this is it it is so <i>or to</i>
dra		v.		to form eno a dra enze the locust bean tree is forming fruits (pods)
dhra		v.		to pull to drag to draw ma dra eve akme they pull down the bean runners (to reap them)
dum		v.		to sink or dam a dum a gre shen it sank
dze		v.		to tether a dze etyulu he tethers the sheep
dzedzi		adv.		well, good cf. dzi a kpo dzedzi mbo he did not do it well, his was not good behaviour
dzedzi		v.		to be well also dzudzi me ba ka no dzedzi I have come to enquire about your health carefully
dzen		adv.		kama lo dzen hold it carefully
dzi		v.		to be enough (cf. atse ma it is enough) a dzi bugu it is enough a dzi amo it is sufficient
dzigi		v.		to come out or zigi adzigi a ba idzi it came outside
dzigi ge		v.p.		to be ill-fated me dzigi ge ba he I should not have come here (where evil befell me)

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				a dzigi ge iyi he lo he has lost out on this one
dzin		v.		to despise
dzu		v.		to exist
				to stay
				me dzu he amo I am going to stay here
				dzu ɲo tuki be patient, to be quiet
				dzu okpo be silent
				dzu tu ki wait a bit!
				dzu kayi wait and see!
				to sit
				a dzu okun enyema he is sitting on a horse
				to place
				ma dzi na zga da na kpu They placed him left caused him die
				i.e. they left him to die.
dzu bin		v.		to sit down
dzu ma		v.		to exist
		v.		to be
				Alizaga gi zo gwabu- we rest
dzu odum		v.		to rest
				to have a respite
dzu ovu		v.		to rest
				Ogba dzu abhu
dzuma		v.		to exist
				cf. dzu
				no dzuma pyen are you well
				to allow to remain
				to spare
				da he a dzuma cause this to remain, leave this, spare this
E.				
ebele		n.	fa	yam-heap
				or ebile
ebele		n.		marriage (used only of a woman)
				a tyu ebele she got married
				a ba ebela she came for marriage
				a ge ebela she went to get married
				or ebela
eben		n.	da	goat (female)
				Bekana ebono pl ebe
				or ebon
èbièkpɲmrè		n.	c	butter beans
ebive		n.	i	spider
ebmon ebon		n.	a	granary
				ebmon alem the granary in the centre of a house for cereals
				Bekana tabo o
				Oganzhi embo
ebro		n.	t	wild custard apple
			t	<i>Annona senegalensis</i>
				agulu ebro maize
				Alizaga eburu
				Oganzhi ebuhu
ebro elaba		n.p.		fez (Alizaga)

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
ebuga		n.		elaba red killing murder war see e-mbgù Osan pa la Eggon ma kpo ebuga there was war between Lafia and Eggon people
ebum	abum	n.	bp	breast or milk or ebim Alizaga lembem
ebum		n.	t t	sausage tree <i>Kigelia aethiopica</i> or ebim et. breast flowers used by women at Angbashu as medicine
ebwa		n.		pair of pincers
ebzi akum		n.	t t t	silk cotton tree kapok <i>Ceiba pentandra</i>
ebziga		p.n.		big Wana market
ebzo		n.	m	wild cat
eda		n.	hu	fishing net a ndba eda ata he cast a net
eda		n.	hu	stone trap for lizards, consisting of a stone held up by a stick and released when the bait is pulled ma zhin eda they set a trap
eda		n.		wisdom, cunning a we da mbo he is not wise kpo lo deda do it wisely do it carefully
e-da	ada			for meaning see above
edivi		n.	pl pl	fence-cactus <i>Euphorbia kamerunica</i> or edibi
edjimediyim		n.	s	black snake Alizaga eduvm
edogo		n.	m	ground squirrel
edugo		n.	tp	shea-nut
edugu		n.		kind sort type ishi edugu he lo what kind of thing is this? edugu he lo what do you call it? Lisha odugu
edun		n.		rock pool cf. arauga
eduzu	edzu	n.	i	housefly
edza		n.		lead silver
edzefin		n.		black metal cf. Hausa "bakin" Karfe cf. amefin pure water Farin Ruwa Falls are called Edza because of their silvery appearance
edzga		n.		thorn

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
edzi		n.		luck edzi a be mi gishi I am very lucky
edzi nyin		n.p.		something wonderful (has happened)
edzibi		num.		thousand
edzin		n.	i	mosquito or ezin
edzin		n.	i	termites, <i>or ezin</i> the winged ones are eaten
edzo		n.		wooden mortar
edzu		n.	pd	twisted metal bracelet
edzu		n.	t	black plum <i>Vitex doniana</i>
effi		n.	i	tick or effivi
effita		n.p.		to be cloudy et. effi thickness + ta to be in place cf. adun ota or andun ota
efiyangbu		n.	r	female lizard cf. aga
efi akufa		n.	a	apex of the inside of a roof,
efin		a.	co co	blue black okyen ofin blue cloth Ogba awhin
efin		n.		ignorance no yi odzu efin ayika are you still as ignorant as this?
efi(vi)		n.		odour scent smell a shika efivi gishi it has a strong scent
efpu		n.		jealousy at efpu he is jealous ofubu (Alizaga)
egala		n.	bp	nose Alizaga legala
egala		n.	la	steep place ozhe a wo egala the road is steep
egan		n.		evidence testimony arefin adzigi egen- the man bore witness
egba		n.		jump a ta egba he jumped hurrying
egba		n.		voice speech, babbling cf. enzi a kpo legba he babbles or legba
egbaga		n.	m	hyena
egban		a.		thick or legban
egbe	—	n.	bp	throat

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				see also ohl
egbili		n.		wrestling game ma te gbili they play the wrestling game. The cry during play is amo amo hence gi ta mo -let us play the wrestling game
egbon		n.		sale (from gbon to buy) kp egbon to make a sale to trade ri egbon to eat a sale- to make a profit
egbre!		excl.		wonder- an expression of amazement at something new egbregbre
egbre		n.		wages
egbye		n.		fibrous strips from palm leaves used in roofing
ege		n.		salt Alogani etc. ena lena Alizaga lina Ogba enhren
ege		n.		place of refuge me idzigi ege ba he I emerged from a place and came here apparently means Had I known I would be caught I would not have come out of hiding Alizaga aga
egen		n.		cross ege ozhe a kpulo egen a road crosses it (another road)
egen		n.	hu	bracelet knife worn on hand for archery Hausa <i>kanga</i> or egne Wanjibi akme Alizaga Manga
egibe		n.		Fermented extract of bark of <i>Bridelia ferruginea</i> used to harden floors or edyibi <i>makuba</i> H.
egimo		n.	bf	breath
Ègón		p.n.		Eggon people, language and country abegon single individual moa ègón people in general
eguba		n.		number a ri eshuko eguba eha- he is called by two names
eguba		n.	bp	body Alogani eguvo
egze		n.	c	bulrush millet
			c	corresponding to Hausa <i>maiwa</i>
			c	<i>Pennisetum sp.</i>
egzo		n.		animal horn car-horn cf. ogzo
egzo etifa		n.p.	m	horn of a small antelope
egzu enema		n.		linseed oil
eh hwe		n.	bp	grey hairs adzigi eh hwe he is getting grey
eha		n.	tr	divination a kolo eha he has gone to the diviner
eh egi		n.	fo	left-over food also eh egiyi

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
			t	fruit
ehe		n.	fo	<i>Napoleonea sp.</i> cereal porridge
ehe		n.		Alizaga lehe moon (Alizaga)
cher		adv.		cf. oha unsatisfactorily unsuitably left-handedly no lu me alo leher you said an unsatisfactory thing to me obugo e her left hand
ehili		n.	bp	testicles
ehimi		n.		foundation agreement covenant promise cf. him a nyun ehim ba na da na sule he made a promise to give him a shilling a him odolo ba na da na sule he promised him a shilling
ehola		n.		cave
ehon		n.	t	tree covered with red flowers in December
ehre		n.	t	<i>Firmiana Barteri</i>
ehrwe		n.	bp	bottle shoulder cf. anze Alizaga ehura
ehwala		n.		stream
eka		adv.		thus a we ka he like this it is so just so eka he nga and thus
eka		n.		meanness covetousness a kpo eka gishi he is a miser
ekala		n.	m	monkey
ekala		n.	hi	ring for standing pots on (made of palm leaf) ekala angban an iron ring sometimes applied to bicycle
ekan ayi		n.	bp	eyebrow
eken		n.		poverty pity a kpo eken he is poor, suffering, pitiful Alizaga sule a sim ekulu
ekilimi		n.	da	camel (< E. camel)
eko		n.	e	covetousness (fricative ekho) kpo eko to covet
eko		n.		shooting, archery ma teeko they are fighting with arrows loko archery Alizaga taloko to shoot with bow and arrows
ekon		n.	hi	war knife or iyekon Bekana ikuru Alizaga iyikon

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
ekon		n.	fo	flour Waji lekon Alizaga lokon
ekpatsife		adv.		midnight
ocuku				
ekpile		n.		game play joke Alizaga lekpila
ekpodga		n.	bp	calf of leg (upper muscle)
ekpomo		n.	e	friendship involving exchange of gifts
Ekpon		p.n.		section of Wana, N. of mission station
ekpro		n.		inside hut bedroom
ekpu		n.	pd	bracelet worn above elbow
ekpu evugo		n.	bp	thumb (Alizaga)
ekpuku odga				see ekpodga
ekpulu		n.	bp	forearm
obugo				
ekro		n.	m	giant rat <i>Cricetomys</i>
ekro		n.	tp	flower
			tp	blossom cf. mbumbwu ako ekro it is flowering Alizaga likuri (ago ekro)
ekro		n.	ht	fish hook
e-kró a-mí		n.	r	crocodile Alizaga ekru or ekuru
ekro enme		n.		small beads (pink)
eku		n.		mourning funeral death
ekufa		n.	m	lynx
ekufu		n.		small path footpath Oche Akda
ekufu		n.		exchange cf. kufa
ekufu		n.		leavings in a pot
ekufu		n.		authority ana we kufo bi he has authority over us
ekulu		n.		<i>Cissampelos Pareira</i>
ekulu		n.		Infusion of the tuber is used for stomach trouble
ekulu		n.		barren a dzu ekulu a mbre mbo she was barren and did not give birth
ekum		n.	pl	mushroom or ekom
ekum		n.	g	sword grass
			g	<i>Imperata cylindrica</i>
ekum anzo		n.		Red flowering silk cotton tree <i>Bombax buonopozense</i>

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
ekum ogbu		n.		Name given to a male child born during the rains when there was a death, or a number of deaths lit. the corpses of rain.
ekyen		n.		net (all types) Alongani kokyen Gako kotyen
ekyim		n.	bf bf	sweat, perspiration <i>or ecim</i> a ta ekyim he is perspiring
ela		n.		rag
ela okyen				rag
ela akpa				bit of paper
elan		n.	i	scorpion
elem		n.	bp	tongue (lower tone than olum- sun) also olum olom Alizaga elem enem
eligi em	eligi	n. dem.	t	oil palm there yonder look there cf. mim, emi ba gi em- Let's go!
ema		n.		thing something
emakyekeyeg	ama-	pron.		one particular thing
embaga		n.	tr	power of witchcraft
embaga		n.		swelling embaga oto swelling of the neck evil spirit by which witches can kill a ri embaga he is possessed by the spirit Opa a wa embaga ba ɲa buga mare Opa is possessed by a spirit which kills people ma wugo embaga agbyi they put magic in a farm (to kill a trespasser)
embe		n.	h h	castor oil plant <i>Ricinus communis</i> leaves used to treat ulcers ay embe a bwe ero leaves of castor oil cover ulcers
e-mbgù		n.		fight
embile		n.		hunger embile e buga me hunger kills me I am very hungry. embile a kpo me ngbulu I am very hungry Alizaga lembile
embugu		n.	g	coarse grass used for making zana mats
agzu				
embwe		n.	v v	jumblebeads lucky beans <i>Abrus precatorius</i> used in magic
embze		n.	m	lion or enbze
e-mbzi		n.	da	domestic cat cf. matmada cf. bezhaku

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
emebi		n.	s	Alizaga megyaku evil thing snake
emze egala	adzigi	n.p.	bf	eme tana me may a snake bite me! (common oath) nosebleed
emzu emre emve ashim	emzu	n.	hi	Alizaga obzo flask for palm oil
		n.		orange root used for stomach troubles.
		n.	tp	leaves of <i>Lophira alata</i> tree held sacred by most peoples in this region. A common oath is emve ashim vu me
emvo		n.	t	<i>Lophira alata</i> or envo tree used for magic with nut which contains oil
embro		n.		crowd cluster (Wakama) ma shiki embro the crowd gathers
ende ende		adv.	tm	every day regularly
ena		n.		irritation indignation a dzu ena la me he was indignant with me
è-ndgá	a-ndu	n.	da	cow, bull
enema or elema		n.	da	cattle
		n.	c	sesame,
			c	beniseed
			c	<i>Sesamum indicum</i>
engama gba		n.	i	plague locust cf. engbatso
engatsiki		n.	b	sparrow-hawk
engbatso		n.	i	solitary edible locusts cf. swarming variety engamagba Wakama engbu atso Angbashim engbi atso Alogani takpano
engbetsi		n.		tales a tsi engbetsi he shows the culprit i.e. he tells tales
engets		n.		"skinner" a tsi engets gre eshri
engbize		n.	an	stink ant <i>Anono</i> sp.
engbo		n.		Hausa <i>gwano</i>
engbolo	engbolo	n.	mi	potash
engbu		n.	tp	ripe bunch of palm fruit (cf. Ajige)
		n.	go	flask water gourd navel
engbu amba		n.		snuff-box snuff-box tree
			t	<i>Oncoba spinosa</i> The hard round shells of fruit are used as snuff boxes et. engbu flask + amba tobacco
engbyé		n.	e	miserliness

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
èngbye		n.		a kpo engbye he is a miser smithed metal
engo		n.	da	cock
engro		n.	i	mantis cf. abunadaga
enje		a.		times a la enje inyi he slept four times
enje or enzhe		n.		well pit enzhe ami pit for water (better for "well")
Enje Egon		p.n.		town east of Wana or Lenge Egon
enme		n.	t	Negro peach <i>Sarcocephalus russergeri</i>
ejo		n.	t	locust tree <i>Parkia biglobosa</i> or elon, ejon Alizaga ela
enu	enu	n.	da	fowl
enugubo		n.		large brick
envigi		n.		gum
envigi		n.	la	ravine
envre		n.		miserliness a kpo envre he is a miser
envrho		n.	t	tree that grows along rivers used for medicine
enwo	lenwo	n.		laughter cf. nwenwo to laugh ano nwo enwo egle eshre
enyema		n.	da	horse
enyi		n.	m	elephant Alizaga eni
enyin		n.	fo	sauce me ri ehe la nyin I eat food and sauce Alizaga enine
enzi		n.		voice sound te enzi to greet
enzige	enzige	n.		toy arrow made of grass stem
enzo	enzo	n.		star Lodzi enzoho (the H very strongly aspirated)
endaga	endaga	n.		cf. andu ex one hundred
Ende		p.n.		group of towns north east of Wana, including Endehu, Ende Wulko, Ende Wowen
engala		n.	bm	cicatrices scarifications scars tribal marks ma ta ali engala they are cutting tribal marks on Ali school education
enyu		n.	tr	defilement or curse connected with a corpse e.g. if a corpse is allowed to fall, this defilement must be removed by sacrifice me dra enyu
epa		n.	t	bush-candle tree

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
			t	<i>Canarium schweinfurthii</i> edible fruits, used in magic Hausa <i>atili</i>
epi enu	epipi	n.	ap	feather
epipi ayi		n.	bp	eyelashes
erim		n.		knee or agbarim et. egbu erim
ero		n.	bm	ulcer
ero		dem.		down yonder (there, when it is a lower place) (pointing to a higher place usu is used) a wa ero mi it is down there ame e ye ero I'm going down there
ere		n.		blanket cf. akiri
erim		n.		dirt cf. nwe cf. bili a wa erim it is dirty
erhe		n.	ap	tail cf. osha cf. abunukun agyehe
erhe		n.	t	Alizaga yere Sasswood
			t	<i>Erythrophleum guineense</i> Formerly used for trial by ordeal ma pomo ere they pound sasswood a wa ere he drank sasswood infusion
ese		n.	m	buffalo also etse
ese		n.	m	small black monkey cf. ekala etsam
esesé	sése	n.	an	biting ant
eshe		n.		slippery okro kp esge- the place is slippery Ogba ahre
eshekpa		n.		entrance hut also sakpa
eshen		adv.		inside gi woma eshen we are inside beshen come in ge ba ako shen go into the hut
eshen		n.	po	pot Bekana ekye Alizaga yekyen
eshen aku		n.	a	roof or esheku (sh pronounced forward in the mouth)
eshi ere		n.		fez et. ere blanket
èshkó		n.		name (generic) or eshoko Bekana letyuko letyoko
esho zonko		n.	bp	tuft of hair or eshu ishi
eshru		n.	tr	charm sewn in snake skin and fixed on a ring

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				sh sound is curious cf. ogu bazha eshaga a toka chuchuku the charm talks at night Eshaga a tsi engbe tsi gishi Eshaga tells many tales
eshu		n.	d	leprosy a gbu eshu his body is leprous
eso		n.	i	bee honey
eson		n.	bp	heart a fa eson he is mentally unstable
eson ta eson		n.p.		Alizaga li ison intimacy heart to heart
esum		n.	c	iburu cereal with a small seed like acca
etambro		n.	c wt	<i>Digitaria Iburua</i> mist, dust Alizaga taburu, tabo
etbo		n.		
etifa		n.	m	duiker Hausa <i>gada</i>
etru		n.		funeral service gi yi etru aku we are going to funeral festival
etsi		n.		lamp (earthenware) a fu etsi he lit the lamp
etsim		n.	m	grey monkey or etsum cf. ekala esse
etsim ezhugu		n.	g g	Grass species <i>Paspalum scrobiculatum</i> et. iburu of the guinea fowl
etson		n. a.		age old cf. tson a gbu etson he is old
etuko ukun		n.	bp	buttocks
etyityibi		n.	c	okra also ekyikyipi <i>Abelmoschus esculentus</i>
etyulu	etyulu	n.	c da	sheep kanze etyulu ram onzhim iya hornless ram etyulu or etyulu eshele ewe ekylu enum ram
Eva		p.n.		village on the hill northwest of the rest house at Wanjibi
eva		n.	t t	fig tree <i>Ficus Thonningii</i> commonly grown for shade, with broad dark green leaves
eve akme		n.	c c	butter beans <i>Phaseolus lunatus</i> effe akma iye kma (Alizaga)
eve eyi ekme		n.	c	beans
eve		n.		nails wire nails

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
eve nasala		n.		imported nails
evile		n.		razor
evon		n.	m	civet cat
evubu		n.		a w efivi gishi it has a strong odour darkness (Alizaga) evubu efin gishi the darkness is very black evugu e dra darkness falls
evugo	evugo	n.	bp	finger
evum		n.	bp	toe
evum		n.	bp	side
evum		n.	bp	ribs
evum		n.		or eviim dent
ewan		n.		a kpo evum it is dented
ewolo		n.	da	tax enwa or lewan goat cf. eben Used when a goat is sacrificed on a stone etc. when the formula is yiga unzi ewolo bon take the tether of your goat. This is an archaic word introduced with new religious ideas
ewu		n.	g	reddish grass
ewu		n.		trouble
eyi	eyeyi	n.	bp	suffering
eyison		n.		face
eyi eyiga		n.	bp	soul
eyiga		n.		awoson or ayi son ayi aso last year
eyiga		n.	i	edible flying termites
eyuga		n.		eyika edne (Walk)
eyugu		n.	m	boundary
èzga		n.		eyiga egbi boundary of the farm
ezhagu		n.	m	porcupine
ezh(i)		n.		eyugu a w ezga the porcupine has spines
ezh(i)		n.		thorn
ezh(i)		n.		also edzga
ezh(i)		n.	mi	small brass bells from Wanjibi made like a three petalled flower bud and hung on a girdle.
ezh(i)		n.		iron bell
ezh(i)		n.		to be weak
ezh(i)		n.		to be fatigued
ezh(i)		n.		to be tired out
ezh(i)		n.		to be exhausted
ezh(i)		n.		eguba ezh(i) ga me- my body is tired out
ezh(i)		n.		cf. kpezh(i) ga bugo to be lazy
ezhiba		n.	t	shea butter tree
ezhim		n.	t	<i>Vitellaria paradoxa</i>
ezhugu	ezhugu	n.		stone
ezhugu		n.	da	guinea-fowl
ezi		n.		anywe ezhugu azigi ezhugu the chick of a guinea-fowl resembles the mother
ezi		n.	g	big journey
ezen		n.	g	grass used for thatching
ezen		n.	t	iroko tree

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
<i>Chlorophora excelsa</i>				
F.				
fa		v.		to bite abu a fa na abu a tsifa na abu a tanna azhiga (the dog bit) fa eson a fa me he bai I am beginning to get angry
fa		v.		to take out fa ubin yiga a he -take some earth out and put it here to elect to select
fa anyu		v.p.		to wish s.o. well to curse
fa ehe		v.p.		to take some food out of the dish
fa eson		v.p.		to become mad a fa eson he is not quite sane
fa ka		v.p.		to taste (take and see)
fa olu		v.p.		to pray fa olu ma fa the prayer they prayed
fabim	fu	v.p.		to sing
abim				
fashe		v.		to be in half eten a fashe the rising sun is halved (is barred with cloud) fashe ivi atyen a nye -half the pawpaw with me snail(Wana) shemvi akpro shembi akpro (Oganzhi) kyembi akpara (Alizaga) fitila ta ovro a fmla light a fire
fi annan		v.		to revile a man's mother or fivi annan
fin		v.		to find also hwyen
fo		v.		to sew cf. sima also sum, s'ma aknye sew cloth
fo		v.		to sing gi fo abim let us sing
fo		v.		to roof a fo aku he roofs the hut
fo		v.		to plant (with foot) agbi fo agulu a he plants millet
fofa eve		v.i.		cheap me gbon lo fofa eve I bought it cheaply
fɔha		num.		seven
foka		v.		to forbid
fɔte		num.		eight
fu		v.		to be a co-wife Oren a fu Ashedzi Oren is married to the same husband as Ashedzi
fu ishi		v.		to conspire

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				ma fu ishi ban they conspired against him
fu		v.		to unite to light fu ovro light the fire a fu etsi he lit the lamp
fu		v.		to pierce to prick to stab to poke adne a fu na evugo a needle pricked his finger a fu mare agzo it pokes people with its horns
fu		v.		to bear fruit ivi makpa a fu agbro the pawpaw is bearing fruit a fu wo mbo it is not yet fruiting
fu		v.		to dish out fu ami to fetch water, to scoop out water
fu		v.		to place down ogbu a fu adaga ubin lit. lasting downpour of rain plants its feet on the ground i.e. a heavy downpour began a fu abugo usin he stands with his hands on his hips, with arms akimbo fu erim ubin place knees on ground kneel down fu erum obin a fu abugo zizi fifi amo he places his hands on the ground and the child begins to crawl a little zhine lo fubin turn it upside down
fubu		v.		to sweat eguba e fubu the body is sweating
fye		v.		to blow a fye akpro he blows his nose
fye		v.		to cheat in a bargain to overcharge to defraud to oppress a kpo efye to crowd to crush ma fye ɲo they crushed you = you were crushed
fye		v.		to play as politics, tricks etc.
fye emvye		v.p.		to gamble (usually using beans as dice) Alizaga fye evye
fyen		v.		to find to obtain alos wyen
f(y)egen		n.	c	sweet potato <i>Ipomoea batatas</i> also fyegne Alizaga fyegna Angbashin figan
fyegen angbengbala		n.	c	yam bean <i>Pachyrhizus tuberosus</i> Hausa <i>girigiri</i>

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
G.				
gaṇa		v.		to attain to suffice a gaṇa mbò- it is not sufficient, he is not equal to it
gazhiga		n.		half or what is left over
gba		v.t.		to divide
gbagba or agba		excl.		common greeting
gbagbagba		a.		worn out
gbaku		adv.		swaying (as of body)
		a.		very big giant a wa gbaku a lo it is very big gbaku are a giant of a man
gbala		v.		to hoe to scrape off weeds Hausa "shema" a gbala gbyi he hoes the farm
gban		adv		firmly kama lo gban hold it firmly
gban		v.		to surround (as a fence)
gban		v.		to lead (as a shepherd)
gbana		v.		to lack me gban algori I lack food
gbanju		v.		to be short-handed
gbanjugu		v.		to be short et. gbu + anju
gbarim		n.	bp	knee cf. erim
gbe		adv.		even eson egbe a vre me he ma my heart is rising with anger
gbegbegbe		adv.		zigzag (in running)
gbying		adv.		very deaf stunned a sim atum gbying
gbin gbin		adv.		of necessity insistently also gbyingbyin
gbyingbbyin		adv.		describes a deep noise like drumming or thunder
gbe		v.		to be fat to bulge out a gbe ayi he has bulging eyes gbre ogbre a gbe gishi he is very fat also gbren Alizaga gba
gbile		v.		to bend over to dance vigorously
gbi		a.		old stale or gbyi che egbyi leftover food
gbodu		n.		box

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
gbu		v.		to snore a gbru enu he snores lit. he snores sleep also gbre Alizaga a gburu lenu
gbre		v.		to commence to learn to do to imitate a gbre ozi he begins to learn to walk Alizaga gbere
gbre		v.		to pay wages
gbre		v.		to roar igbyi egbre the leopard roars
gbre		v.		to purr
kalimvibe				
gbren		v.		Alogani gbro anvibo to be fat
gbu		v.		also gbe to cast a shadow ayeya a gbu evubu the leaves cast a deep shade ayeya agbu okro evubu the leaves shade ayeya a ta okro amu the place
gbu		v.i.		to be able me sko e gbu I am able to lift (it) a dzigi a gbu mbo it can't come out
gbu		v.		to become to have a gbu ogro he is an invalid a gbu arogo he has goitre a gbu anbuvu he has yaws a gbu ashe he is engaged a gbu eguva eshu he has a leprous body
gbu		v.		to arrive
gbu		v.		to set olum o gbu the sun set
gbu anjugu		v.p.		to be short in stature
gbu arogo		v.p.		to have goitre
gbu babuga		v.p.		to plead a case
gbu bin		v.p.		to fall cf. tsegbu gbu arrive ubin ground kokon a gbubin the tree fell tsegbu could not be used here Kudu a tsegbu or Kudu a gbubin Kudu fell
gbu egbon		v.p.		to be expensive
gbu etson		v.p.		to be old to lose freshness (as vegetables)
gbu evubu		v.p.		to cast a deep shadow to become dark
gbu ogme		v.p.		to be fat
gbu ombugu		v.p.		to commit an offence ombugu bi gbu he lo the offences we committed a gbu ombugu la me he offended against me
gbùhu	gbúhù	n.		sack < H.
olum ogbu		v.		the sun set

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
ge ozhe		v.		to go before to lead a ge ozhe a tsa me ozhe he went before to show me the road
ge		v.		went (perfect of yi) Alizaga ga Lindere ka
ge		v.		to sink cf. dum it is probably the perfect tense of yi -to go, and is used in the future or present viewed as a complete action. azhi la ge shen a wadzi the egg which went in is good the egg which sinks in a bucket of water is good a ge ami a vu usin lit. he went water it caught waist i.e. he sank into the water up to his waist also gre
gi		prep.		at by in kigbu ba giyan Kigbu is a native of where? me ba guri I came first a ngagha lo gogha he took it by force gi eson yere a ba gukun me He came behind me
gi ayi		adv.		at eyes in front
gi eson yere		v.t.		lit. to hide in heart i.e. to forget me gi eson yere I have forgotten gi in eson heart yere hide
gihi		adv		in that direction
gihi		prep.		there in that direction cf. prep. gi kagbu a wa gihi Kagbu is in that direction (pointing)
giligiligili		adv.		slowly
gimi		pron.		you (pl.) cf. anwo
giyan		int.		where?
giyan, giya		adv.		at where prep. gi cf. yan no ba giyan where do you come from? you are a native of where? no dzigi ayana oba where do you come from?
gre agre		v.p.		to miss ata (a gre) agre- he threw and missed Alizaga gambe
gre		v.		to exceed Alizaga gara
gro		v.		to escape a kven agro it ran and escaped
gogala		adv.		lonely a lima gogala he stayed in a lonely place
golo		v.		to name ma golo no eshko aha they call you by two names gbagba a golo good morning my namesake
gon		v.		to hear, to listen
guba		v.		to divide

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
gum(a)		v.		to break to shatter (used of earthenware etc.) gum a lo break it eshen e guma the pot broke
guvu		v.		to pull out to be pulled out also gubu guvu asoso pull out the grass guvu kataka ishi bon remove the hat from your head isin akyi a guvu the tree trunk is uprooted akpa ishi a guvu the clouds drift (the idea seems to be they break loose and so drift away)
gunguvu		n.		Pods or shells of ground nuts etc. or anguvu
gyile		v.		to climb down to descend
H.				
hala		v.		to reprove
he		v.		to slip to be slippery odoga a he- the foot slipped okro o he the place is slippery also hre
he ekpaga		v.p.		to be over-ambitious to be overbearing
hehehe		adv.		in crowds(tulli) marefin ma shki Edziga hehehe the people throng the Edziga market
hen		v.		to sweep to castrate also hren
heje		adv.		slowly lu shoshon mbò lu hej don't say it quickly, say it slowly
her		v.		to pay (debt, fine, price) Ogboshon hiri or hili Alizaga here
her eguba		v.p.		to cause an uproar to be puffed up
him		v.		to mould him ubin to mould balls of clay for building to decide an affair to make an agreement
him odolo		v.p.		to make a covenant to promise cf. ehim ma him odolo ma da na iyi angba sule they promised to give him a shilling
hon		v.t.		to slaughter or honwe (almost howe)
hon		v.t.		to shave (sometimes sounds like ho we) to scrape off weeds

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
homo		v.t.		a hon ozhe he is cleaning the path of grass to shed (leaves) a hom aya it dropped its leaves to fall off (of fruit) ezhiba a hom ubin the shea fruit fell to the ground to send
honohono		adv.		yellow or hohohohon a bye honohono it ripened yellow
hro		v.t.		to pull hro riga take off gown lit. pull off gown kam a hro to pull a kam enyema unzi a hro he leads the horse by a rope
hro aku		v.		to thatch a house Alizaga huru ako
hum		v.t.		to send usually hum otum to send a hum akolo otum -he sent Akolo ave otum messenger
hwe		v.		to make wide kufa lo da le hwe dig it wider
hwa		v.		to hasten hwa yi oyi zi go quickly hwa yi oyi ba come quickly
hwulu		v.		to honour
hwulutu		n.	an	sugar ant Hausa <i>sha zuma</i>
hwahwahwa		id.		in swarms
hwa				ma woma hwahwahwahwa there are crowds of them
hwu		v.		to pound in a mortar
hwulu		v.		to blow or fulu ma hwulu nangam they are blowing horns ma hwulu oso they whistle hwulu amba to take snuff
hwul ayan		n.		sighing whistle
hwulu		v.		to grow tall
hwyen		v.		to find also fin
I.				
ì-bí		n.		meat flesh or ebyi
ibu		n.		place Lisha ibugu Alizaga libu
ibzi ekum		n.	t	Kapok
			t	Silk-cotton tree
			t	<i>Ceiba pentandra</i>

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
ì-ckú		n.		market etuku
idzi		adv.		Alizaga letuku outside abroad lucky occurrence idzi nyin a nye a wonderful thing happened today idzi pyen everywhere a lu idzidzi he told it outside he told the secret a ta lo idzi he exposed the secret
		exp.		idzi idzi byimi ɲa gishi he was very fortunate. lit. outside agreed with him i.e. he went outside and found something good
idzu		n.	i	fly
idzu		n.	t	black plum
			t	<i>Vitex doniana</i>
idzu		n.	pd	brass bangles or zhidzu
ifi		n.		scent perfume odour cf. nyuɲ a shki ifi it has an odour
ifi		n.		dampness also ifibi
			d	cold
			d	fever okro a wa ifi the place is cold
ifu alem		n.	c	self sown acha
ì-gyù		n.	hi	axe
igbi	igbi	n.	m	leopard
ihum ishi		n.		crown of head centre of head
iku		n.		death ma zhiliku they are dancing the funeral dance
ikpi		n.	m	mouse, rat
ikpidza		exp.		me ta na ikpidza I tempted him I trapped him
ikpim		n.		bundle ikpim agulu a bundle of sorghum ikpim angre a bundle of bulrush millet
ikpu		n.	pd	thick bracelet worn above elbow
ikyi		n.		what (Alizaga) cf. ishi
i-lemú		n.	fr	orange (<H.)
ì-mbù		n.	bp	navel
indidyin		n.		morning Alogani andidyin Alizaga adidin
ingbu		n.	i	small borer beetle
inji		a.		times (pl. of enji) a gre inji atra he went three times

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
ì-nú		n.		or ingyi sleep slumber nzé ì-nú lit. he sleeps slumber i.e. he sleeps Alizaga anze lenu lenu a wadzi slumber is sweet
ì-nú inyi		n. adv	da	chicken the third day, hence the day after tomorrow inyidzi the fourth day hence (idzi outside) inyi etaka the fifth day hence (etaka)
iri		n.		eating feast a ri iri gishi he eats much eating he eats much obugo iri hand of eating right hand
isin isin		n. n.	tp	right place tree trunk beginning start origin a zg isin he begins a yi isin eda ma he has only the rudiments of wisdom as yet
ishi		int.		what? ɲokpo shi what did you do ? ishi ka he lo- whatever is it Alizaga ikyi
ishi		n.	bp	head chief leader or isi overhead meridian (cf. ishi head) olum a vu ishi the sun is overhead ishi ishi ba hogme the head of the sky- i.e. the eastern horizon Alizaga lishi
ishi		n.	bp	spot on the crown of the head near forehead much connected with magic)
			e	a run ishi he is popular, fortunate
			e	abi ishi gishi he is very unpopular, unfortunate
ishi ere		n.		fez (used as costume in dance) ere red
ishi		n.		day after tomorrow Bekana eyili
ishiki		n.		crowd meeting gathering cf. shiki to gather Usually ishiki shiki (lit. the crowd gathers) Alogani iciki
isi		n.		theft isi a buga ubin theft destroys the land
isti itu		n. n.	bp	kidney indigo or litu
ive		n.	c	vegetable marrow (Alizaga)

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
ivi		n.	c	groundnuts
ivi		n.	go	gourd
			c	ivi ubin vegetable marrow
			fr	ivi makpa pawpaw lit. Hausa gourd
ivigi		n.	tp	Alizaga sambu pawpaw
ivigi		n.		constriction in tree or twig
				profit
				if one keeps a goat for someone, he gives the third kid as a reward
ive kon		n.		i.e. afa ivigi
iyi	iyi	n.		knife cf. ekon
		n.		seed
				grain
				iyi ivi makpa pawpaw seed
iyi angba		n.p.		piece
iyi ezhim		n.		coin
iyi	ayi	n.	bp	pebble
				eye
				a kpo iyi gishi lit. he makes eye much i.e. he is greedy
				a tsegbu a la iyi he fell and lay on his face
iyi		n.		Alizaga liyi
iyili		n.		key
				fear
				me kpo iyili I make fear I am afraid
				iyili a kpo it is fearsome
iwi		excl.		expression of surprise or complaint
				also ewe
izi		n.	m	wild pig
				boar
Izi		p.n.		Wana town
				also Lizi
izhi	azhi	n.		egg
				Matatuwa agyi
				or ezhi
izin	izin	n.	i	mosquito
izuru		n.		star (Alizaga dialect)
				cf. enzo
izzi	izzi	n.	i	giant cricket
J.				
jibi		v.t.		to pound in mortar
				ma jibi angulu they pound sorghum
jigijigi		adv.		quickly
jim		n.		groan
				grunt
				a ta jim he grunts
				or dyin, agyim
jim		v.		to thunder
				or dyim
				ogbu o jim the rain is thundering
jugu		v.t.		to thresh (acha)
				to beat a floor

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				to beat down on to pound (floor) ma jugu alem they thresh acha ma jugu asuku they beat the gravel to make a floor ogbu a jugu mo the rain beat them
jugu		v.		to germinate
jugu omwe		v.p.		to germinate agulu a jugu omwe the maize germinates Ginda ajugu oma germinates
jun or zon		v.		to be far a jun gishi it is very far
K.				
ka		v.		to choose
ka		conj.		so that
ka		adv.		never before (cf. kondatyen) me kpo ka mbò I have never done it me ba he ka mbò I have never been here before ki ma ka tala akpolo ma lu ambo mbo and they do not reject what is told. kama agum ka da no shan drink the medicine that you may get well Yesu a kpu ka da gi dzu dzedzi Jesus died that we should be at peace
ka		v.		to see to look to behold me ka iyi mbò I have not seen it with my eyes
ka		excl.		is that so? also oka
Ka ahe		p.n.		sky
Ka ahe ogme		p.n.		god's dwelling also kahogban, kaha ogma, hagma
kaffi		n.		judgement or affi
kafin		n.		needle (Alizaga) nail cf. aden
Kagbu		p.n.		farming district south of hills where the early missionaries lived
kahen ka han kahogme		n.		sky God or ahogme
kahogban ahogban		n.		god's dwelling
kaka		n.	fr fr	hog-plum <i>Spondias mombin</i>
kakili		a.		alone me kikili I alone
kakpan kala		n. v.		trap consisting of a noose attached to a stick bent over to scramble for

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				to compete for to vie for ma kala ekupu they strive for position (office)
kam		v.		to grasp to hold (used with obugo hand) a kam ovro obugo he holds a light
kam...ahro		v.p.		to pull a kam unzi a hro he pulls the rope a kam ahro he pulled Alizaga kam a pye jo a kufo ma shi akpa kam Alumbugu they took a letter to Alumbugu
kan ozi		v.		to walk about without direction to stroll no kan ozi a grayan o ba ame where did you wander round to when you came?
kangi		n.	fo	oil fat
kanizhen		n.		door (Alizaga)
kanze etulu		n.	da	ram et. etyulu (Y) ram cf. onjumiya etyulu ram (hornless)
kasara		n.		broom (Alizaga dialect) cf. kase, ase (Wanjibi)
kataka		n.	dr	hat
katsa		n.	ad	madness (of a dog) rabies abu a gbu katsa the dog is mad
kaya		adv.		previously first already cf. ayika, ayaga or ka
kayanjen		n.	c	large variety of groundnut
ken		v.		to join ken abugo join hands also kren
keka		v.		to see thoroughly to understand me keka lo mbo I don't see how it is done
ken		v.		to drape to wrap oneself a ken okyen he draped a cloth around himself
keshana		n.	bm	scarifications of the Wana people the word is used at Alizaga, Angbashin etc. <i>or geshana</i>
kha		v.		to be suspended from ota o ka akufa the bow is suspended from the roof ha (Alizaga)
kha		v.t.		to shut cover area Alizaga he
kho		v.i.		to be finished a kho it is finished Alizaga a ko it is finished
ki manga		n.	b	small hornbill

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
kikiriya		n.	c	or ku manga Bambara groundnut <i>Vigna subterranea</i>
koko		conj.		or kikiliya also
koko		n.	da	pig
koko		n.	a	hut
kokon	kokon	n.	t	cf. aku or akuku tree (generic) firewood
kolo, klo		v.		to seek to want to look or to like to love
koma		n.		somewhere
kone		n.		gi yi kola we are going to some place the day before yesterday Bekena kena or one
konone		adv.		days ago
kopà		v.		to dig
koshe embe		n.		black cakes used for food flavouring made from the fermented seeds of <i>Parkia biglobosa</i>
kore		n.		yesterday cf. ore Alizaga kere
kpadzidzi		n.	i	worms
kpaja		n.	c	sorrel
			c	roselle
			c	<i>Hibiscus Sabdariffa</i>
kpaji		n.		place in front of a house
kpaju		n.	r	agama lizard
kpakpa		n.		skin paper mat made of oil palm stalks Alizaga cf. akpa .
kpala		v.		to pluck (fruit)
kpan		v.t.		to shepherd to drive home me kpan etyulu drive the sheep home
Kpanvan		p.n.		man's name et. mischief maker
kpara		n.	wp	gun (Alizaga)
kpashoshon	kpashoshon	n.	i	earthworm
kpatsifa	n	n.		late at night
kpatsifa		n.	pl	small weed used in soup
			pl	<i>Gynura cernua</i>
kpatson		a.		old
kpazhen		n.	hi	matchet
kpe		v.t.		to scratch a kpe eguva he scratches his body also kpren

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
kpezh(i)gabu go		v.		to be lazy et. kpe to make + ezhiga -weakened + abugo hands also azhagabugo no kpezh(i) gabugo you are lazy
kpizha kpo		n. v.t.	b	small bird to make to do to help kpo gwa na help him kpo lolo to perform a ritual
kpo..wug		v.t.		to help shortened form of wugo kpo wug a me help me
kpo		conj.		but only me ba one kpo I only came the day before yesterday anye mbo atyi kpo not today but tomorrow
kpo (dzu kpo) kpo...lolo		v.p. v.		to be quiet to perform curing ritual to be a follower of traditional religion
kpon ovro kpotum kpre		v. v. v.		to light a fire to work to watch for me yi kpre eden I am going to watch for flying ants
kpú kpú kpulu		v.i. v.i. v.t.		to die to kneel to cut to sever to chop down kpulu lo cut it ma kpulu akyi they felled a tree
kro		v.		to prepare food ma kro ehe they prepared food Alizaga kuru
kre		v.		to scrape Alizaga koro
kso		v.		to arise to wake up to get up no kso pyan pyan? have you risen well? no kso bugu good morning have you risen well? to migrate or so
ku		v.t.		to gather together a ku ondan a shiki he frowns ku ekro gather up the sweepings
Kudu		p.n.		boy's name If a child dies, the next one born is called Kudu et. iku death + udu talk i.e. Death wants to hear me talk
kudzum kulu		n. a.		hut behind the asakpa complete cf. ukulu

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				akulu otsko a full dozen.
kufa		v.		to exchange gi kufa ekufo we made an exchange me shi mbutu me kufa ta la arugu I exchanged a cap for a loincloth
kufa		v.		to dig out to excavate also kupo ma kufa enje they dig a pit
kufa		v.		to awake
kufo		n.		greatness (age) anda kufo great man, elder
kufu		v.		to herd to watch ma kufu eben they are herding goats igbi a kufu bedzim the leopard is watching for a hare embzi a kufu ikpyi the cat is watching for a mouse
kufu		v.		to crouch kufubin to crouch down (on the ground) to squat to lay on (chicken) enu a kufu ezhi the fowl is sitting on eggs
kukuku		a.		many
kulu		v.		to creep cf. atuku akulu tortoise lit. calabash that creeps
kulu		v.t.		to accuse ma kulu mare they accuse people
kumbi		adv.		long ago
kumbyumbi		adv.		very long ago ogbyobi
kun		v.		to place in to fix to hammer in to ingest ma kun amba egala they snuff tobacco. a kun avi akyi he hammered a nail in the tree
kye		v.i.		to be straight ozhe oleme mbo, o kye the road does not bend it goes straight also tiri
kyekye		n.	pl pl	purslane <i>Portulaca oleracea</i> or kyekye atun
kyu		v.		green leaf that is cooked and eaten to marry

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
L.				
la		pron.		the relative pronoun, which, who, etc
la		prep.		with by (sign of the instrument) o gama lo la ezhim split it with a stone
la		part.		complaint (placed at the end of a sentence) also emphasises sentence me yi agbi, la I am going to my farm now (expressing complaint of delay)
la		v.		to spend the night to lie down
lamwe		n.		soft mud also amwre
laŋa		v.		to make ridges ma lan agbi they are ridging the land to cultivate
lée		conj.		or a ka è-ndgá lée i-kylù? Did he see a cow or a sheep?
leme		v.		to curve twist ozhe o leme mbo the road does not twist about
legba		v.i.		to be hollow a legba g eshen it is hollow inside also egba
lega		n.		road cf. ozhen
ligi		adv.		softly ta ligi throw softly tender agulu le bele ligiligiligi maize which is very tender (young) a la wo ligiligiligi me tani eat those that are soft
lige		v.		to be adorned a lige gishi he shows off very much olum olige obugo just past midday
lima		v.		to lie down
lim ubin		v.t.		to lie down (on the ground)
Lizi		p.n.		hero in folklore
lolo		n.		sickness
			tr	ritual etc. a kpo lolo he is performing a ritual
lola		adv		for a long time ogbu o ba lola he mbo rain has not come here for a long time
lo		pron.		it a we ka lo it is so ema he lo this thing Ekpon to
lu		v.		to follow lu me ma follow me
lu		v.		to say a lu me le he said (in narrative) cf. Hausa "wai"
lubi		v.i.		to be heavy

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
lubi		v.		also lubu to weed to hoe a lub agbi he is hoeing the farm
lubin		v.		to lie down on the ground
M.				
ma me		adv.		long time
ma'-a ma		n.	p	youngest son of the family
abugo ave				
mabaka		n.		forked stick Alogani mbaha
mabishi		n.		People who cause bad luck in hunting. In a hunt if one of them kills game, no one else will kill. If a hunting party sets out and meets one of them, all return home, as there will be no luck. (the B. seems different) ma they+ bi evil+ ishi head Alizaga mabeleshe
mada		n.	mi	whistle made of wood
		n.	i	leech
madzu etsam		v.p.		to watch over the crops for monkeys
malibi akpa		n.		paper (magic parchment) malibi me a gre a ban I was more fortunate than him asi a yigi na malibi the thief bewitched him and so was not caught ma ka seson emo a fu ami they ladled water of their own accord (without being told to do so) ma ka ba soson mo ba fu ami Alizaga
mambaga		v.i.		to be alone me mambaga I alone
mangili		n.	g	rush sp.
amebi				species of <i>juncus</i> rush plant in compound to keep snakes away, and tied round the waist for same purpose
mangre		n.	b	heron dangre it is not eaten
mangu		n.	am	edible frog with big eyes
manji		n.	bf	blood or manjili Alizaga mangyi , or mangyili , or mangyiri
manyi, manyi eyi		n.	bf	tears
manyi bidzim		n.		gum (of trees) White gummy substance exuded by trees. Boys knead it into gum used for catching birds. It seems to be the product of a scale insect et. manyi tears + bidzim hare
manziba agulu mashmangili		n.	r	the hair of maize (styles) chameleon

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				a dana she (the phrase used for its hesitating slow movement) mashmangili, a tsa ligi it goes slowly = rebuke for delay a yi gililigili it goes slowly sword Alizaga ashamagala Angbashu mashangere
mà-sín		n.		palm oil
matato		n.		hunters
matsmada		n.	da	cat <i>or matmada</i> cf. embzi Angbashu matinda megyaku (cf. Arago ibityaku)
matsen		n.	bp	hair Alizaga masan
mbakala		n.	t	velvet tamarind
			t	<i>Dialium guineense</i>
mbakyi		n.	t	blood plum
			t	<i>Haematostaphis barteri</i>
mbawu		n.	am	toad see awele, mgbawu
mbacin		n.		chair stool also mgbakin
mbaga akufu		v.		to test strength i.e. to wrestle lit. to measure bones ma mbaga akufu ma ka they are testing their strength (wrestling) or ma mbaga emo aka
mbakam adu		n.	c	cassava
Mbigbu		p.n.		woman's name et. hunger has arrived embili gbu
mbigi		v.		to swallow
mbili		v.		to repeat a man's words to tease him
mbili ka		v.p.		to investigate to check again
mbiti		n.		hartebeest (H. gwanki)
mbó		part.		loincloth made of this skin no not also mbu or mbe
mbo mbi		conj.		mbó la certainly not please don't if not or mbi ami awadzi mbombi me wa mbo if the water was not good I'd not have not drunk it me wodne mbi me kpo lo If I was at home I'd have done it odzumbwimbi odzumbombi perhaps
mbre		v.		to give birth
mbuga		v.t.		to measure
mbutu		n.		cap Oganzhi lakro Alizaga iburu

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
mbwumbwi		n.		white man cf. apropre et. mbwi red red
mbye		v.		to increase (population, goats)
mi		dem.		there yonder
mimi no ba		excl.		so you have come
mimi				
mina		v.		No wonder! to put in order to do carefully to repair or nyuna a mina lo a kpo gishi a mina lo a kpo dzedzi do it carefully
mo andu		n.		Fulbe, Fulani et. they of cattle
mo aze		pron.		some (people) mo-aze kpo ka he some do it like that
mo yadda		n.		ancestors or mayadda
momu	emu	n.		limes
mon		v.i.		to be thin to be emaciated cf. shen
mon		v.i.		to be dry ivi a mom the groundnuts are dry
movro		v.		to light fire
mu		v.		to push
mu ovro		v.p.		to blow up the fire with bellows
mutu		part.		expression of uncertainty a ba nye mutu, mhm whether he will come today is uncertain.
mvyé		n.		all
mza	nza	v.		mosan mvyé all the Hausa to build or mze
N.				
nagidi		n.		flat white beads H. <i>ta-gode</i>
naŋma		n.	mi	flute made of a reed
nda		v.		to give
ndbó tá		v.		to throw
ndeshika		n.		bag made from raffia leaves used for grain
ndilo		num.		thousand
		v.		to roast also nduru ndilovro roast in fire
ndondom		a.		Ekpon- njulo different
nduba		v.		to stretch out

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				anduba abugo ban he stretched his hand
ndyibi		v.		to relax
ndyo ndyen		adv.		to bury high up or ndyandyen, nyagyen
ndyugu		v.		ma ta apa ndyondyen they made a bridge high up. to accuse to threaten to complain to gossip cf. rugū, dolo
ndzà		v.t.		to wash me yi ndzà anjo I am going to wash the things to launder to eulogise
ngafre		v.		to lie on the back Wana a la ngafre he lies on his back
nga		adv.		again also
nganga		adv.		once again
ngale		conj.		and again then
ngbalege		n.	bp	wrist
obugo			bp	two protruding bones of the wrist
ngbatuku		n.	bp	shell (egg, shea-nut) nail groundnut shell angubu ivi ngbatuku evugo finger nail kpatukho Alizaga
ngbavi		n.	wp	fire-hardened wooden arrow head
obuga				
ngilá		v.		to untie to spread out in sun
ngili otun		v.p.		to listen to pay attention lit. to spread ear ma ngili otun a gon pyen they are paying attention and hearing everything
ngo		v.		to reap (pull up) acha
ngo		v.		to weave
ngolo		v.i.		to bathe to wash Alaku a ngolo ami Alaku washed with water cf. nza
ngre		a.		many
nguba		v.		to pull up to rip apart to split
nguba alum		v.		to reap (pull up) acha
nguba mem		n.	m	umbrella
			pl	bat stag's-horn fern The umbrella and stags'-horn fern resemble a bat's wing

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
ngugo		v.t.		to weave a ngugo ndeshika he weaves a raffia bag a ngugo akyele he weaves cloth
njugu		v.		to rot
njo njo		n.	i	to gossip dragonfly also angyongyo
no		v.i.		to be bitter a no kpo rele le le it is very bitter
no		v.		to be sick or nolo a no nzenze he is very sick a nolo he is sick cf. lolo
none		adv.		long ago
nonum		n.		sun cf. olum
nugura		v.		to turn out of the road
nwe'nwo		v.		to give way to laugh et. nwe to laugh + enwo laughter
nyanye		adv.		a long time gi dzu he ba nyanye we have stayed here a long time
nye		v.		to teach a nye mo eda he teaches them wisdom
nye		v.		to answer (a call) also nyi
nye		v.		to be insufficient to be lacking iyi angban a nye gi the money was insufficient for us sisi a nye sixpence is lacking
nye		v.t.		to grind to strop to whet to sharpen a nye ekon he is sharpening the knife
nyem		v.		to swell
nyi agala		v.		to whine to complain to grumble to murmur
nyime		v.		to frustrate to hold back to deny s.o. s.t. to refuse a nyim ahon algo he refused someone food
nyin		v.		to stop to relieve alu a yi nyin anzaku a kagbu dana ba odne Alu is going to relieve Anzaku at Kagbu that he may come home. a nyin gi akpu he died for us
nyin aga		v.		to change to exchange to change policy

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				to change one's mind to do something unexpected ka aga bana sa nyin a kpo look at this thing he has now changed and done how much? angban ba ahi wanyu? how much is this? awanyu? how is it? Often used as a complaint
nyu		int.		to relate to tell to narrate na nyem anjo they related a story
nyum		v.t.		to prepare to get in order to go carefully to repair cf. mina . nyun ozhe kpo repair the road nyun ozizi walk carefully nyuna lo kpo repair it prepare it
nyun		v.		to smell to have an odour, to stink a nyun ifwi it has an odour
nza		v.		to wash
nzatuku		n.	go	loofah gourd <i>Luffa aegyptica</i> nza to wash atuku a bowl
nze		v.		to sleep
nzenu		v.		to sleep nze to sleep enu slumber Alizaga nze lenu
nzenze		a.		many
nzi		v.t.		to lick to build up (anthills)
nzonze		v.		to dream et. nze + sleep onze ?
O.				
ò-bgá		n.	h	arrow
o-bgó	abgo	n.	bp bp	arm hand wealth Bekana kabugo obugo eher left hand eher unsatisfactory obgó iri right hand (hand of eating) but also favoured hand, hand of strength obgo okyen long narrow strip of cloth <i>or</i> obgo atyele
obro agulu	ebro	n.	c	maize cob with grains on it ashi agulu empty maize cob

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
obubo		id.		agulu a se ebroy aha the stalk has two cobs describes bigness a wo bubo it is big
obuga	ebuga	n.		murder
oda		n.		veranda where food is cooked.
ode, odne	adadne	n.		home Alizaga keda
òdǵá	adga	n.	bp bp	foot leg Alizaga kedaga
odolo		n.		speech matter act a run odolo gishi he is good at conversation a kpo odolo dzi mbò he did not act seemingly ma kolo odolo they are seeking an opportunity to quarrel.
odolobi		n.		evil words a kpo odolo bi he made evil words i.e. he did evil
odzumbo		conj.		perhaps
odyum mba		adv.		previously long ago me lu da na odyum mba I told him long ago. Alizaga me lo nda na odum a wo kombom bwa I told him long ago.
odzo		n.		smoke
odzo		n.		repercussions
odzum		n.	k	relation through marriage (the abstract state of in law) adzum in-laws (m. or f.)
ofa		adv.		cheaply profitably no yiga ofa you obtained it cheaply
ò-fin		num.		six
o-frú		n.		dry season o-frú a gbu idzi huhuhi now it is the dry season
ofulu		n.	mt	mat made of raffia in which people are buried
ofuvu	efuvu	n.		hoe handle
Ogaben		p.n.		town 5 miles E. of Wana. Aden
Ogagen		p.n.		Alogani a town 9 miles from Wana. Ogaben
Ogba		p.n.		town at the foot of the Eggon hills
Ogbagi		p.n.		town 3 miles W. of Wana
ogba eyu ma		excl.		expression used when an arrow is shot into the quarry bullseye! or ogba kyu ta me ma
ogbi ogbi		adv.		long ago in former times or ogbyiogbyi mo-ogbyi people of long ago
Ogboshon		p.n.		town of Bekana Kasa, now usually called Aboshon
andum				
Ogboshon		p.n.		Bekana Bisa
egon				
ogbu		n.		rain

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				egbu Alizaga
				egbo Angbashim
				ogbu gbu bin lit. the rain reaches the earth --the beginning of the rains, torrential downpour
ogbu		n.		half
				Alizaga Legbu
ogbu			i	small green caterpillar which sometimes destroys crops
ogbu		n.	bp	back of the head
ogbu okyen	agbu	n.		shirt
	akye			
ogbuga		n.		wind
				cold
				spirit
				egbuga Alizaga
ogbye		n.		rope made of palm leaves
				tie
ogbye		n.		patience
Ogen		p.n.		a gbu ogme wor he is very patient.
				town 3 miles E. of Wana
				or Ogan= Alogan= Ogenzhi=Aloganzhi
ogórò		n.	c	cola nut
				<H.
ogro		n.		weakling
ogu	egu	n.		section of a town
				clan
ogu		n.		inheritance
				a ri ugu he received his inheritance
				ogu ogbiogbi an inheritance of olden times
				When food is offered to a rock in rituals, they mix otsá with water and each man pours some on the rock. They then say "yiga otsá ugu azaga" --receive bread, inheritance of the hoe
ogu odaga		n.	bp	heel
ogubazha		n.	tr	charm sewn in a piece of snake skin and fixed to a ring.
				eshaga
oguga		n.		force
				violence
				ma ngaga me algo goguga they seized my things by violence.
ogunju		n.		place behind the house
				Alizaga kungu, agungu
ogzo	agzo	n.		horn
				cf. egzo
				agzo endaga ox horns
oha		num.		two, second
oha		n.		moon
				Alizaga ehe
				mo a a kyubi oha they quarrelled
ohen		n.		character
				disposition
				ohen ban a kso his wrath arises
				ohene ban a wadzi mbo his character is bad
ohló		n.	bp	throat
				see also egbe
ohum		n.	c	oil-seed, yields edible only seeds, fibre
				<i>Polygala butyracea</i>

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
ojo	aju	n.	hi	axe
oka		excl.		Is that so?
oken		n.		debt meri oken I contracted a debt me he oken I paid a debt me bibi oken I asked for a debt to be repaid
okha	ókokò	n.	da	maternal relationship cf. akha cousins me ta okha pa la na he and I have maternal relationships
òkòkò		n.		pig
okom		n.		corpse
okoma		n.		another place no yi okoma? are you going anywhere?
okpala		n.		cough
okpan		n.		load
okpó		num.		ten
okpombo		conj.		perhaps okpombo Alaku a ba nye perhaps Alaku will come today.
okro		n.		place
okso		v.		to stand to migrate
okso		n.	bp	elbow also eshakso
okufa		n.	pl	arrow-poison plant <i>Strophanthus sarmentosus</i>
okulu		v.		to end to finish to conclude
okulu		n.		layer of mud on top of a wall used to finish it off okulu aku the finished top of a wall ma ta lo okulu they finished it
okulu		excl.		That is the end of it!
okun		n.		weeping crying wail a wu kun he cries me gon okun ba anwyen a wu I hear the wail which the child cried
okun		n.	bp	back bottom small of the back Alizaga ekun okun ba hogme- the back of the sky i.e. the Western Horizon
okun oriori		adv.		since the beginning first
okupo		num.		ten
okuum		n.	bp	fist cf. ongom closed hand holding something
okyen	akye apu	n.		cloth Alizaga otulu
okyen apu		n.	i i	butterfly moth
okyuki		n.		et. okyen cloth + pu fold
				pestle

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
olawyen		n.	p	youth o- prefix forming abstract noun+ la who + awyen a boy
olge		n.		rejoicing
olgo	algo	n.		thing algo'ri things to eat
Ologo		p.n.	tr	rite murderers must go through ma kpo ologo ipo perform the Ologo rite
olo(lo)		n.	d	sickness disease ritual to cure any sickness or other problem
ololum		adv.		daily, regularly
olubi		n.	e	honour cf. lubi to be heavy
olum		n.	e	anger cf. anyem , onomo a kpo olum he is angry
olum		n.	bp	tongue cf. elem
olum	elim	n.		sun
olum ore		n.		day
olum olige		n.p.		evening
obugo		n.p.		1 p.m. cf. lige
olum a tse		n.p.		3 p.m.
algo a kp				
edzo				
olum a fu		n.p.		the sun has reached the time for the food to be in the mortar)
amago				5-30 p.m.
olum o wre		n.p.		lit. the sun pierced the patas monkey
ebzo				4 p.m.
olun		n.		lit. the sun split rays
oma		excl.		generation
oma		n.	m	expression of surprise with doubt
o-mbâ		n.		hartebeest (?)
				time
ombagadu		p.n.		appointment
ombi		n.		male name pronounced almost mgadu
				meanness
				stinginess
				miserliness
				selfishness
ombige		n.		a kpo mbi gishi he is a very mean man
				act of swallowing
o-mbró		n.		a ta oto ombige he has hiccoughs (oto throat)
				dust
ombugu	embugu	n.		cf. afrom , afomo , tambor
				judgement
				quarrel
				fight
				rebuke
				gbu mbugu to commit a fault

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				a sonombugu he is judging a lu mbugu he pronounces judgement kolo ombugu mbo don't seek a quarrel cf. effi
ombugu	embugu	n.	tp	branch of tree
ombyime		n.		lust for meat a kpo ombyime he lusts for meat
ombze		n.		dew gi ri ombze awo we will get wet with dew onzibe Angbashim
omen		n.		bet a vu omen ta na he made a bet with him insistence
omi		n.		cave crevice
Onda		p.n.		Venus
o-nda	ende	n.		day cf. olum kondatyen ever (some day) a ba ende ende he always comes every day onda kyī tomorrow
onda yan?		inter.		which day?
Ondaga		p.n.	tr	ritual intended to protect the one who performs it
ondaga		n.	tr	leaves of a tree, or a stone put on firewood etc. to prevent thieving kendaga Alizaga
ondan		n.	bp	forehead
onde		n.		unfortunate day onde ota la me I have had misfortune today me wo onde eishi I am very unpopular a gbu onde he had no luck a ta me onde he spoilt my trade i.e. he proposed too low a price and so spoilt my bargain
onde	mo-	n.	p	blacksmith
gondega	ndegondeg a			cf. abondega the place of the blacksmith me yi abondega I am going to the blacksmith.
ondyen		prep.		on top above cf. andyen, ongyen, anjyen
ondyibi		n.		argument unreasonableness obstinacy a ta ondyibe gishi he is very argumentative
ondyum		n.	bp bp	foreskin penis ma shen na ondyum they circumcise him cf. uṅyumu Alizaga endibi
onfin eko		n.		battlefield
ongboba		n.	bp	tendons metaphorically, a difficult person
ongbon		n.		flat rock where farm produce is left to dry

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
o-ηmgbbó	e-ηmgbbó	n.	tp	root
		n.	bp	vein
		n.		stubbornness, hard-headedness, complex
				akpo o-ηmgbbó agisi he is a difficult person (lit. 'he does stubbornness too much')
Ongbon		p.n.		section of Ngubi in saddle between ridges
ongbon eso		n.		honey (fluid)
ongobo		n.	ap	wings of bat
ameme				
ongom		n.		closed hand holding something cf. okom fist hands put together to form a flute a hwulu ongom he is using his hands as a flute
ongu		n.	fa	kitchen garden ta ongu to cultivate a garden
ongu		n.	bp	chest angù ofile ongu pneumonia cf. shangu
o-nguba	a-nguba	n.	ap	wing
ongubo		n.		wet season
ò-njñì		n.		sky
onjugu		n.		complaint accusation gossip < njugu to accuse cf. onum orugu
onjumiya		n.	da	hornless ram cf. kanze etyulu
onum		n.		accusation malice anger cf. onjugu orugu
onwo		n.		thirst onwo a kpo me I am thirsty
onye		v.i.		to be with young ebon a kpo onye the goat is with young
onze		n.		dew
o-nzho	e-nzho	n.		story history tradition Alogani enjo
o(n)zho		n.	bp	beard
o-nzí		n.		rope
onzu		n.		large river sea
opele		n.	dk	kunu, a slightly fermented drink like thin gruel also opule
opo		v.i.		to be empty adzu opo it is empty
o-pyi	a-pyi	n.		stick
oren		n.		kingship (from aren king) a ri oren egon he obtained the kingship of Eggon laziness

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				akpo oren he is lazy idleness
ori		a.		first
orógo		n.	c	cassava
			c	<i>Manihot esculenta</i> <H.
oron		adv.		peaceably
				a dzu oron he lives in peace
orugu	arugu	n.	dr	loin cloth
orugu		n.		accusation
				letting out a secret
				cf. onjugu onum
orwe (ogbu)		n.	wt	rainbow
				Ekpon oluwe
ososele		n.	hi	fine broom used to sweep room interiors
				Alizaga sesele
ota		n.		bow
otnô		num.		five
otno	atno	n.	bp	ear
ots	—	bp	neck	
otsa		n.		loaf
				see ogu
otsoko		num.		twelve
				dozen
otson		n.		old age
otúm		n.		work
ovro		n.		fire
oyi		n.		act of going
P.				
pa		conj.		and
				Alaku pa la Anzaku pa la Ayalo Alaku, Anzaku and Ayalo
				also ta
pala		adv.		quickly
pe		v.t.		pa pa pala to trust
				to be intimate
				me kolo pe pa na ayika I wish to know intimately
				epe seems to be the noun
				me ka epe pa na ayika I wish first to see intimacy between us
pe		v.		to meet
				gi pe gi to meet
pili		v.t.		to graze
				or popili
				obuga o pili na opili the arrow grazed him
pom		v.t.		to beat soft things in mortar
				cf. shu for grains)
				mo ashe a pom anju the women are pounding yam
pre		v.		to press down
pyan		adv.		well
				no kso pyan? have you risen well?
pyapyan		a.		clean

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				eguba ban a wo pyapyan his body is clean
pyen		a.		all every
R.				
ra		v.t.		to remain to make (profit) a ra ogbu there is half left sule a ra ogbu me I made a profit of a shilling
ratsipa		v.i.		to stick out to project arefin a ratsipa soso a man appeared out of the grass anju a ratsipa idzi a yam is sticking out of the ground ami a ratsipe engbu de ámo a little water remains in the flask et. ra to remain + tsipe a little
rémérémería mé		adv.		smooth
réréréén		adv.		variegated (like the skin of a snake) thoroughly kpo lo réréréén do it thoroughly
ri		v.t.		to enter into ri oken to contract a debt a ri mi oken he contracted a debt with me
ri		v.t.		to be named to call s.o. a ri shi? What is it called? eshuko ban a ri ayi What is his name? me ri Abimiku my name is Abimiku
ri		v.t.		to eat to be consumed oden o ri ovro the house burnt down to be successful
rigá		n.		gown <H.
rigí		adv.		truly cf. di dzidzi lu lo rigí
rum		v.i.		to die down to be extinguished to put out (a fire) ovro orum the fire has gone out gi rum ovro amo we are putting the fire out
rum		v.i.		to scrape food remains from a pot with the forefinger
rwe		v.t.		to split to cleave to cut in two Alizaga ra

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
S.				
sa		adv.		until a dzuma sa bari a ba he will stay until he comes
sa		v.i.		to return to repeat an action o sa ba he came back
sakpa		n.		entrance house
sála		v.i.		to sprout aki a sosala ámo the tree is putting out new leaves to put out new leaves
salé		v.t.		to break up to scatter to disperse ogbu o salé the weather has broken odolo o salé the whole affair came to nothing, everything fell apart
salé mo		pron.		they (emph.) mo salé mo ma nyuna ega they themselves mocked him among themselves mo salé mo ma guba akyen bari they divided his clothes amongst themselves mo salé mo ma ta ka they are conversing amongst themselves
sambu		n.	fr fr	pawpaw <i>Carica papaya</i> agburu sambu atete one pawpaw fruit
se		v.t.		to extract to pick out a se ivi he is picking out groundnuts (left in the ground)
segan		n.	an	driver ant also esekge
sela		v.t.		to tie grass for thatching me sel azi I am tying the thatch
sela		v.t.		to thread (beads) a sela ashówa he is threading beads
shá		excl.		expression of approval or appreciation it is so exactly so just right a wadzi shá
sha		v.t.		to grind with water sha ajigé to grind sprouting corn for beer
shàń		v.i.		to become well to heal
shán		v.i.		to become ripe for eating agulu ebro a shán The maize is ripe to take root after transplanting to dry out (weather)
shash ka		adv.		just now
shasha		adv.		carefully discreetly are la wo shasha the man behaves carefully
she		v.i.		to be strong
shekere		a.		small

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				also cekere a recent addition to the language
shela		v.i.		to be tired eguba a shela me gishi My body is tired
shela		v.t.		to save to spare to separate in a quarrel to redeem
shen..nye		v.i.		to be insufficient a shen a nye it is not enough a shen ozhen a nye he failed to complete the journey
shen		v.i.		to be thin to be emaciated cf. mom
shen		v.t.		to have gone past to be past teten atra a shen the sun is burning, the morning is past
shen		v.t.		to meet (an apparition) a shen abili he met a ghost
shen		v.t.		to cut to break to divide to cease a shen ombugu he delivered judgment a shen avile a hole has worn through ogbu a shen bugu the rain has ceased shen azhi kpakpakpan beat the eggs thoroughly
shen evugo		v.p.		to stumble lit. to break a toe a shen evugo ebi he stumbled on his left foot i.e. he was unlucky
shen		v.t.		to slap a shen me obugo agba he slapped me on the cheek
shen akpu		v.p.		to faint a shen akpu, awayi gyigyi nga mbò he fainted and is nearly dead
shen akpro		v.p.		Alizaga a kyen a kpu to lie Ginda ta akpro Bakyano kyin kpo para
shen ambugù shen atolo		v.p.		to have leprosy
		n.	i	millipede et. shen slap + atolo 'place on body singed by fire' (believed to be the effect of contact with a millipede)
shí		v.t.		to carry to bring to give shí ne give me shí o bi ne bring it to me
shiki		v.t.		to close to cover to put on (clothes) a shin mbutu he put on a cap

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
shiki		v.i.		a shin ayi nzhe he closed the door to gather to collect ishiki shiki a crowd gathers embugu shiki impending issues
shime		v.t.		to covet to entice s.o. to offer cf. ekgo o shime lo mbò don't covet it a shime lo he offered it
shin (ata)		v.p.		to have already done s.t. a shin (ata) a gre he has already gone
shipa		v.t.		to whisper a shipa mare he is whispering tales about others
shka		v.i.		to smell to stink a shka ifi it smells
shka		v.i.		to shine a shka lana lana lana it shines brightly
shkó		v.t.		to greet me shkó gimi ngbu I greet you all Bekana tyuko
shko ovro		v.p.		to strike fire from flint or match
shon		v.t.		to gamble shon emvye to gamble with beans used as dice
shoshoshon		adv.		quickly
shu		v.t.		to go irreversibly down olum o shu yi the sun is sinking
shú		v.t.		to pound in mortar ashe a shù alum the woman is pounding acha
shuma		v.t.		to reprove to cut palm fruit for processing
sí		v.t.		to steal
si ogbmo		v.t.		to sell
sima		v.t.		to sew cf. fo a sima riga he is sewing a robe
skó		v.t.		to lift to carry
sku		v.t.		to give the road to a tyon a sku na he moved aside and gave him the road
skusku		adv.		near
so amí		v.p.		to urinate
angbon				
soŋ		v.t.		to make (judgement)
soŋ ombugu		v.p.		to judge a soŋ ombugu he judges
sósó		v.i.		to be naked a dzu sósó he is naked
sù		v.t.		to halt to postpone
sun		v.i.		to leak gongon esun the tin leaks

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
sùsú		v.t.		esheni sun the pot leaks to proclaim
T.				
ta		conj.		and cf. pa
tá		v.t.		to throw to scatter a tá alum agbi he broadcasts acha in the fields a tá me ezhim he threw a stone at me
ta..(gbu)		v.p.		to throw a jack Jacks are played with stones and small boys must throw them up in the air and catch them. Kigbu a ta ra me Kigbu has had his turn in jacks
ta..idzi		v.		to reveal (secret) (lit. 'to throw outside') a ta lo idzi he revealed it
ta		v.		to greet a ta gi "gbagba!" He greeted us "Hello!" a ta mare anyu He greeted the people
ta		v.		to incise a ta engala he is cutting scarifications, he is writing
ta		v.		to increase oma ta ma ata to increase
ta		v.		to lay (an egg) enu a ta azhi the fowl laid an egg
ta		v.		to make ma ta ápa they made a bridge
ta...(dzi(dzi))		v.		to put in place to be about to Olum o ta gbu ámo the sun is about to set a ta dzi yi amo he is about to go me ta dzidzi yi ri algo I am about to eat a meal
ta		v.		to be on time to help to assist me fa sule ta Alaku obugo I helped Alaku to pay with a shilling
ta..ami		v.		to swim a ta ami amo he is swimming
ta..atyun		v.		to shoot (with gun) ta na atyun shoot him!
ta dzi		v.p.		to be early, to be on time gi yi ta dzi yi amo we are just about to go
ta ebele or tebele		v.p.		to prepare ground for yams
ta..egla		v.		to prepare yam mounds to jump
ta..ekyim		v.		to perspire
ta...embaga		v.		to compete
ta...engala		v.p.		to write ma ta kp'engala they are writing

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
ta..kpu		v.		to lose oneself to make a mistake to miss the road a ta ozhi ekpu he missed the road et. ta + ekpu
ta..ubin		v.		to reduce (lit. 'to throw to the ground') a fa me ta ubin sule tyeten he reduced the price for me by a shilling
ta..ungu		v.		to cultivate garden
ta..yan		v.		to pant
tabye		v.		to wait tabye fi ayika wait a little! me tabye nzenze no ba mbo I waited a long time, but you didn't come. Alizaga tabere
tafara				to lie on the back (Alizaga) a la tafara he lies on his back
taka		v.		to touch to be next to
Takpá		p.n.		town Kwandiri (Gwandere) 7 miles north of Lafia
talá		v.		to refuse me talá mbó I don't refuse
tan		v.		to bite to eat (only certain foods, not porridge) tan...azhiga to bite with teeth abu a tan ana azhiga the dog bit him
tanzhe		n.		sand also takse
tató		v.		to hunt
tató		v.		to play at a task to waste time me hum aná otum a tató sha ba mbo I sent him a message, but he wasted time and did not come.
tazhi		n.	wp	spear
té		?		amongst ma kpo legla té amo they are talking amongst themselves
tega		v.		to play to romp
teko		v.		to fight with bows and arrows to make war on
ten		v.		to run a ten gbegegbe he ran zigzag
teten		n.		morning East teten idzigi the sun rises teten a we ka he mi no, ba when the sun is there, come teten a tra a shin a gre the sun is burning, the morning is past
tipayí		v.		to be spoilt to grieve et. tipi to spoil + ayi eyes eson me a tipayí my heart is vexed
tipi		v.		to stir (as kunnu) a tipi lo ? should he stir it?
tiri		v.i.		to be straight

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				laga a leme mbo, a ga tiri the road does not twist, it goes straight also kye to have hiccoughs
to embige	(ta)	v.		gi toká we are conversing to converse gi toká we are conversing
toká		v.		to ride
ton		v.		a ton ókun enyema he rides a horse
toton		adv.		for nothing, for no reason a wa toton he has nothing a kpo toton he did it for no reason
tra		v.		to shoot
tra		dem.		there
tsa		adv.		until dzu tsa me ba sit until I come
tsa		v.		to show to point out tsa me ozhe show me the road! a tsa me evugo he pointed a finger at me
tsa...atsa		v.		to curse to swear a tsa Alaku atsa he cursed Alaku
tsaka				to cut off a tsaka na otun he cut off his ear
tse		a.		all
tse		v.		to be sufficient to be enough a tse ma bugu it is enough ako he ta he a tsetse sha this house and that one are exactly equal
tse egbón tsà		v.		to do business tse egbon gi ka? what price is it?
tsen		v.		to carve (wood) a tsen mada he carved a flute
tsi..(ka)		v.		to count to indicate tsi me mbo don't give me away! tsi marefin ka count the people!
tsi		v.		to sacrifice to propitiate ma shi ebe tsi aki they bring a goat to sacrifice to the trees
tsi...gbu		v.		to fall
tsi		v.		to pay attention to read ma tsi odolo me mbo, me wo mo toton they did not pay attention to my instructions, so I was ignored by them
tsi...engala		v.p.		to read
tsígàri		n.	mi	stibnite or kohl used to blacken eyelids (< H. <i>tozali</i>)
tsip´		v.		to stand tsip anjin stand up!
tsipè		n.		a little

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				no kpo tsipe bugu le kyu abugo when you have done a little, leave off
tsipi		v.		ami a ra tsipe engbu a little water remains in the flask to know to understand
tsipo		v.		to bite (of an animal)
tsitse		a.		very small
tsolo		v.		to take away to remove ma tsolo ubin they are removing the soil
tson		v.		to follow (road) tson ozhe he follow this road ozhe ma tson he this is the road they followed
tson		v.		to be old a tsotson amo he is getting old a tson gishi he is very old
tsotse		v.		to be together to be equal
tsú		v.		to keep guard, watch dzu tsú to keep guard
tsú		v.		to set (sun) Olum o tsu yi the sun is setting
tsum		v.		to close up to stop up ma tsum enje ikpi they closed up the mouse-hole a tsum atun he closed his ears i.e. 'he is deaf'
tuko		v.		to crow engon a tuko the cock crows
túm me		v.		to lift down a load from the head túm me Help me unload!
tyabwa		n.	c	pumpkin (Alizaga) cf. appa
tyakpa		n.		frame for carrying goods
tyibi		v.		to swear by tyibi Ashim to swear by Ashim
tyibi oha		v.		to quarrel
tyibi		v.		to fall into ruins aku a tyibi the house fell down ami a tyibi ápa the water destroyed the bridge
tyòń		v.		to give away to withdraw to stand aside tyòń a sko me make way for me tyòń ózhe me get out of my way!
tyu		v.		to marry or cu, kyu a tyu ashe he married a woman ava she a tyu ebela a girl got married
tyu or kyu		v.		to catch a tyu atsa he caught a fish
tyu...abugo		v.		to leave hold to release to forgive to pardon

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
tyu...akpa		v.		to skin
tyu manga		n.	b	small hornbill
tyuku		v.		to chase
tyuku ibzu		v.		to wrestle
tyutyuku		n.		Osan tyuku ibzu pa la Ali Osan wrestled with Ali night tyutyuku fin the night is far on
U.				
Ubbe		p.n.		village bordering Akwanga where the NA court used to be
ubín		n.		ground earth
ugli		n.		ladder
ugu		n.		inheritance ri ugu to receive an inheritance
umbí		v.		meanness miserliness a kpo umbí gishí he is a miser
ungibi		n.		grave
ungywumu		n.	bp	penis
uno go lo		v.		to stir (something stiff)
usin		n.		waist
usu		prep.		up there, higher up cf. ero
uvi ovro		v.		torch
uzi		n.		journey trip
V.				
van		v.		to lean against a van ezhin he is leaning against a wall
vave		adv.		long ago me kpotum ba vave I have been working a long time
vén		v.		to be boiling ami a vén the water is boiling
vén		v.		to beg to request to ask for
vi		v.		to be a creditor to be owed a debt me vi Kudu kobo Kudu owes me a kobo
vigi		v.		to sustain to rear to shepherd a vigi etyulu he feeds sheep a vigi ave ban he nourishes his son
vovén		n.		begging
vre		v.		to climb to ascend to go up

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				Alizaga vra eson ban a vre he is angry eson a vre no shí? why are you angry?
vro		v.		to fry vro lo ovro fry it
vro aken		v.		to be an upstart to put on airs
vu		v.		to catch to hold to sip to meet up
vu ebro		v.p.		to head (cereal) alum a vu ebro the acha is coming into head to produce fruit
vugà		v.		to be blind
vulo		v.		to be painful
vum		v.		to roast a vum ibi ovro he is roasting meat
vwé		v.		to rot to putrefy
vyé		v.		to rejoice to thank me vyé I rejoice me vyé no I thank you
W.				
wa		v.		to drink
Wacukwu		p.n.		Alushi village
Wakama		p.n.		hamlet 2 miles s. of Alushi
wala		v.		to drip ami a wala gbubin the water drips down
wala		v.		to be useful to a wala yi it is useful to us a wo wala ma it is useful to be profitable
(a)walen		n.	c c c	fonio, (husked) <i>Digitaria exilis</i> acha
wan		v.		to be worn kobo a wan eguba the kobo coin is worn
waligí		n.		oil fat wangí ezhíba shea butter a nze wangí alze he has sleeping sickness
wanjubu		n.	bp	calf of leg (lower sinew)
odga				
Wanwe		p.n.		town 4 miles northeast of Wana
wanye		n.	p	slave
warsh		excl.		expression of disdain
wò		adv.		yet a ba wò has he come yet? a ba wò mbò he has not come yet

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
wo		v.		ma tari agulu awò are they eating maize yet? to exist to be a wo ódne he is at home a wo ma akwai does it exist?
Wojibi		p.n.		town of Alogani north of Ehese
wre		v.		to hide
wre		v.		to split Alizaga woro
wú		v.		to be troublesome a na wú gishi it is with much difficulty a kpo na wú gishi it gives him much trouble
wu...kun		v.p.		to cry me gon okun ba are a wu I hear the child crying
wugo		v.		to put on to put in to immerse a wugo aviká évugo he put a ring on his finger a wugo na unzi he tied his limbs with a rope a wugo okyen amí he immersed the cloth in the water a wugo adaga ban amí he put his foot in the water a wugo unzhi shi he put a ring of rope on his head (in mourning) a she a wugo a-wyén úkun the woman carrying a child on her back
wugo..bin		v.p.		to put under the earth to repent to apologise to humble oneself before a wugo bin a dan he apologised to him
wugo.. ishi		v.p.		to magnify to honour to show respect a wugo na ishi he showed him respect
wula..kán		adv.		listless relaxed also wolo kán a dzu wolo kan he sits down listlessly
Wularo		p.n.		section of Wana
wulidzi		v.		to be inflamed to steam wulu burn + idzi outside eguba me a kpo a wulidzi my body is hot
wulko		n.	t t	fig tree <i>Ficus populifolia</i>
Wulko		p.n.		town 5 miles northeast of Wana
wulu		v.		to become aware me wulu nna ria before I was aware of it I came upon him to appear suddenly
wulu		v.		to burn to hurt to be painful ovro a wulu me ibu he the fire burned me here a wulu iyi lit. he burns eyes i.e. he is hot-tempered

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
wuneden		n.	b	adaga a wulu me jajaja my foot is very painful small buff-coloured bird larger than a sparrow heard in the wet season. It sings; ederi fo, ederi fo ederi fo the termites are beginning to fly zga dzo vro, zga dzo vro, zga dzo vro put the pan on the fire ta m engbo, ta m engbo put water on the ash (to make salt)
Y.				
yara		v.		to remain over et. yi remain + ra remain over otum yara there's still some work to do
yela		v.		to melt to dissolve
yela..anzú		v.		to beat a yela Anzaku anzú he thrashed Anzaku
yele		v.		to transplant
yer		v.		to warm oneself ma yer ovro otyuku ogbuga they warm themselves at the fire because of the cold Alizaga yir
yèr		v.		to be tired
yerè		v.		to hide
yere		n.	ap	tail (Alizaga) cf. erhe
yi		v.		to go also auxiliary verb to form future past (?) ge, ga, gan in Alizaga Rindre ya
yi		v.		to know
yi		v.		to take to to carry yi toro nda Akolo take 3d. to Akolo
yi...engala		v.p.		to go to school
yí..woma		v.		to remain over to be still here algo yi a woma there is still some food a gre mbo, yi a woma he did not go, he is still here
yigá		v.		to take to receive o yigá take it!
yigi		v.		to wear a yigi riga akyele he is wearing a white gown Ekpon yigu
yigi		v.		to have patience babuga dalo yigi ka he have patience, let it be
yigi		v.		to push yigi aki lit. push the tree i.e. to breathe heavily
yigi		v.		to pour shi ami yigi gorigori bring water and pour it in the tin to tell s.o. else

sg.	pl.	PoS	Class	Definition, Etymologies, Examples
				lu yigi aren tell it to the chief
yih		adv.		nearby cf. gihi
yinbyé		n.	ai	Panda a wo yih mbò Panda is not just around the corner small hoe (Alizaga) cf. adzaga
yro		v.		to satisfy to be full to be replete Alizaga yuru
Z.				
zga		v.		to like alum he a zga me mbò this man does not like me
zga		v.		to put on zga lo ovro put it on the fire i.e. cook it shi zgubin put it on the ground a dzi me zga tyetyen he left me alone, he departed
zhezghiga		n.	pd	thin twisted metal bangles waste materials
zhi		n.		task
zhiga		v.		to overthrow in wrestling a zhiga Ali he threw Ali to the ground
zhiga		v.		to shake a zhiga ra he shakes his body i.e. dances a zhiga eson he shakes his heart i.e. he becomes inspired
zhile		v.		to stamp on to weep to cry a zhile ku he weeps for a death
zhin		v.		to set a trap ma zhin ada they set a stone trap
zhin		v.		to turn over to pour out zhin ami yig ubin pour the water on the ground
zi		v.		to walk to travel zi ozi to walk travelling, to travel zi evugo dzedzi lit. walk toes well i.e. have a good journey
zibi		v.		to call (Angbashim dialect)
zin		v.		to despise to ignore
zinzi		n.		charcoal
zizi		n.	i	wasp
zon		v.		to be burnt (food)

The name Eggon refers to the hill where they settled before coming down to the plains. The word means "a good sense of hearing or perception ability". They call themselves Eggon but are known by the Hausa as Madan Dutse. Eggon people are different from the Mada of the Andaha area. However, they share similarities in spoken language, cultural beliefs, and moral code, as they do with the Rindire and Buh of Akwanga LGA.

The Eggon are divided into three major clans namely: Anzo, Eholo and Eggon Ero.

The Anzo clan are mostly found around Alogani Gale, Ezeng, Waama, Okgba, Gunyi, Angbaku, Ogbagi, Ugba and Wogna while the Eholo clan are in villages like Wana, Wangibi, Ika, Alushi, Ginda, Wulko, Wuwen, Endeho, Gaji, Ungwashuru, Warizo, and Lizin Keffi. The Eggon Ero are mostly around Ume, Alizaga, Bakyono, and Arigbadu Sako. However today, these clans have spread and inter-woven with each other in the quest for fertile farm land among other tribes such as the Alago and Migili.

These clans have different tribal marks. The Anzo and Eholo have fifteen lines on each cheek running from the temple. The Eggon Ero have nine marks on the face. This group is also called Mada Tara (nine marks). They both have patterns of lizards and birds on the neck, while some choose to draw drums or arms [DO YOU MEAN ON THE ARMS?] and other objects. Marks are also cut on other parts of the body like the belly, sometimes even the legs, and women's backs. Both men and women in Eggon land traditionally pierced their ears, but only women pierce one nostril. All these marks were for decoration and to prove how brave those who had them were, to have endured the pain of making them.

Nowadays most of these marks are not seen on young ones, only on the elderly people. Girls have adapted different types of marks due to the influence of outsiders. The type depends on the individual. These days however, modern cosmetics are replacing these traditional marks which are becoming extinct.

Many years ago they dressed in animal skins, before the use of a hand-woven piece of white cloth (*Akile*) which was used to cover their nakedness, both men and women. Apart from weaving, Eggon women mould pots of different shapes and designs, which are used for various purposes e.g. for ceremonial or religious purposes.

During festivals in Eggon land, some decorations are used for dressing in honour of the occasion. Such decorative items include; beads, bangles, anklets and baboon skin (very hairy) used in making a man's cap. However, there are also decorative items for the masquerade (dodo) which are meant to be kept sacred by the chief priest. In addition, women wear traditional skirts during festivals. Their traditional weapons of war include the shield (*umbili*) which is made out of wild ox skin. Other weapons include spears, axes and swords, bows and arrows.

In years past, due to misunderstandings over land, the Eggon fought wars among themselves and with neighbouring tribes. Being agriculturists, the Eggon people cherish farm land. They grow crops like maize, guinea corn, yam and millet. Conflicts also came about over wives snatched by one clan from another.

History:

Oral tradition has it that the Eggon came to their present land from the east (Yemen) through Ngazargamu in the present Borno State of Nigeria. From there, they moved away, and were part of the Kwararafa kingdom. It was when Kwararafa was scattered that they crossed the river Benue at Ibi. They camped in many places before finally settling on the Eggon hill. They were on this hill before the coming of the white man. Today many Eggon people have come down to the plains but there are still some living up the hills. They claim to have come with the Nungu (Rindire) tribe from the east.

In the beginning the Eggon were ruled by the chief priest *Adanashim*. The people were governed by religious laws. On complex issues seers were consulted to know the cause, and the cure. In each village or ward there is a ruling clan known as Tsagbeju.

Today, there is an organised political chieftdom in Eggon land. The chieftaincy title is called *Aren Eggon*, which is a first class chieftaincy. This political seat is only open to bonafide Eggon men, especially those in the three clans of Eggon (Anzo, Eholo, and Eggon Ero). The kingmakers (*Malase Aren*) are twelve village heads, carefully selected from these three clans. The elected chief is then presented to the Local Government Council.

In Eggon land the chief rules through the District Head, who discharges information and duties to the Village Heads who are over the Ward Heads. These leaders settle disputes and conflicts within their power. Tougher complaints or disputes are taken to higher authorities.

Culture

Birth:

During labour, men are not allowed to be present. Elderly women who have mid-wife experience are called upon to assist. In cases where the woman finds it very difficult to deliver and the efforts of the midwives have failed, a special man experienced with herbs used to help in labour is called. The seer is also consulted to look into the situation. The woman is asked if she had any sexual relationship with anyone other than her husband. If so, she must confess with pleading, after which, she is expected to deliver the baby safely. But if she refuses to confess, she will die in labour. This is because adultery was seen as an abominable act.

When a woman gives birth in Eggon land she is expected to remain in the room together with the child for about seven days. When she comes out, a certain rite is performed by the family elder. A bow and arrow is given to a baby boy to show that he will be a brave warrior or hunter. In some cases a hoe is also given to the baby showing that he will be a farmer to feed his family. On the other hand, a broom, or some traditional cooking utensil is given to a baby girl showing that she will keep the home clean and cook food to feed her husband. These symbolic items are given to the baby after some good pronouncements about the future and prayer on behalf of the baby. It is after this rite that the elder pronounces the name of the child. Most names are of respected ancestors or names that have meanings related to the events or circumstances that surrounded the birth of the child.

On the day of the naming ceremony, the neighbours, close relations and friends are invited. Food and drink are prepared for the ceremony, which takes place in the morning.

Circumcision:

Nowadays, boys are often circumcised soon after birth, before the naming ceremony. But traditionally, boys of about ten years are gathered in one place for circumcision every three years. After the circumcision the boys are cared for by their parents. When the circumcision wounds are healed, a feast is organised in honour of the boys. There is not much ceremony attached to circumcision.

Initiation:

In Eggon tradition, boys of about fifteen, are gathered and taken to the shrine for initiation into the fetish cult known as *Ashim*. However, not every boy is invited to this ceremony, only those recommended by the elders, as disciplined boys. The initiates pay a goat or chicken and beer provided by their parents, to the priest. This is used for sacrifices to appease the gods. The boys are taken to the shrine, where the gods are believed to be. They are introduced to the secret behind the fetish cult (*Ashim*). Other gods of the land are shown to the boys in order to remove fear and doubt from their minds.

The exercise is performed within a day but the feast, especially drinking of local beer, continues for about a week. During the initiation process the boys are warned to avoid women and never to disclose the secrets of the gods which women are not allowed to know nor see. Also at this time, the boys are disciplined severely in different aspects of life, in order to make them responsible men in the society. Stubborn boys are beaten

severely to make them respectful. It is after the initiation exercise that boys are considered as responsible men in the society and are free to marry. The chief priest of the Ashim cult is known as Adanhashim.

Marriage:

When a girl is born, she is betrothed to a man immediately, usually to a boy recommended by the midwife. This is why it is said that not every woman is allowed to touch the blood of a woman in labour. Only those that have a cordial relationship with the woman in labour are welcomed. The midwife claims a female baby as a wife for a boy in her clan or family, and a boy baby as a friend of a boy in her family.

If the baby is a girl, the request for betrothal is followed up immediately with a bunch of firewood, given to the mother of the child to boil water, and keep the baby warm. The agreement is concretised when firewood and a special kind of grass, called *gamba*, is used as a lamp, is provided by the suitor.

If the girl's parents agree to the arrangement, they accept these gifts. Other gifts that follow include twenty-five tubers of yam, many sheaves of guinea corn, maize, measures of acha and other food items as the need may be. The food items are given to the girl's parents every year until the girl is old enough for marriage. Also each year the suitor and his age mates or close friends cultivate, plant, or harvest crops for her family. At least on the year of the wedding, the suitor must mobilise at least twenty-five young men to cultivate the girl's father's farm. The suitor makes sure he keeps the relationship cordial by showing complete respect in his attitude and behaviour towards the girl's people.

The food items and the services rendered serve as the bride price. It is only in recent years that a recognised amount of money has been set or service rendered before the bride is taken to the groom's home. Before, it was when the bride price had reached the satisfaction of the parents that the bride was given in marriage. The bride was captured by surprise and carried off to the groom's house. When the parents did not see their daughter they knew she had gone to her husband's house.

When the bride is brought to her new home, there is an outbreak of joy. The marriage ceremony is marked by many styles of dances, with special songs sung in honour of the groom, the bride and the moment. Feasting and merry making from both clans marks the occasion.

Polygamy is common amongst the Eggon people. It is practised for many reasons, sometimes for women to help in farm work and for some domestic responsibilities, and to breed many children which is a pride in Eggon society. It is believed by the Eggon that the more wives one has the wealthier one becomes.

Divorce is practised. Women divorce their husbands when they no longer get along with them or lack respect for the husband's people, or a stubborn and unsubmitive woman can be sent away by her husband any time. The bride price of the woman is paid by the new husband especially in the case where the woman did not give birth to a child.

Adultery was highly prohibited because it was believed that it was an abominable act, which could bring a curse on the family or clan or cause an epidemic. Therefore offenders were punished without delay and had to pay a fine or be considered as outcasts from the family. The fine was used to appease the gods. However, today it is not so. Men, women, and young people are not ashamed to be engaged in such immoral acts. This is common amongst the Eggon found in the city and towns like Lafia, Akwanga, and Nassarawa Eggon.

Burial

There is a general burial format for all men but the burial of a chief priest is different, because it is considered more sacred. Whichever case, the grave structure is the same. The grave is dug by a group trained for it, called the *Makpngibi*. [PLEASE CHECK SPELLING] They dig the grave as a round shaft with a horizontal tunnel leading off it at four feet deep. The corpse is laid inside the tunnel.

Before burial, the corpse is washed and adorned with good cloth but when the corpse is taken to the grave the piece of cloth is removed. A stone is used to cover the grave mouth.

When a chief priest or an old man who was prominent in the society or took a lead in benefiting society dies, the corpse is treated with sacred honour. Only a few individuals may see the corpse, and only responsible men may touch it before burial. The burial procedure is believed to be ordered by the fetish (dodo).

In any burial, when the grave is ready the corpse is buried prostrate facing the east where men are believed to have come from. A man's right hand serves as a pillow on the ground while a woman's left hand is used. [ARE WOMEN BURIED FACING WEST?] After burial the deceased's relations shave half of their heads. This symbolises that they are in mourning and prevents the deceased's ghost from attacking them. The sympathizers mourn throughout the mourning period, that is twelve days. After the last mourning feast, they all disperse to their homes.

The deceased's estate, including his wife (if any) is inheritable by the children or his brothers. They believe in life after death. There is a saying in Eggon land that if one continues to do evil, one will become a stone (*gbin*) in the life after death. In other words, the victim will be useless in the ancestral world. But a good person is believed to still live or come back to be reincarnated in the family. This is known as *inkyiya* or reincarnation.

Religion

There is the general belief in the Supreme Being, who is found beyond the sky. He is called *Ahogben*. He owns everything, knows everything and is everywhere and does anything. He is the Creator and is very far from man. Therefore man communicates with him through *Ashim* or other objects kept by the people.

The Eggon people differentiate the name of the sun (*onomo*) from *Ahogben*. They also believe that since *Ahogben* is everywhere, he will judge and punish all wicked people after death through *Angbashim* (see below). In other words, he is the rewarder of all good people.

They attach more importance to the god found under the ground because he blesses their land, and gives them good harvest. Also it is this god, people who die see and not the high god. Therefore this cult is consulted or appeased before planting season, harvest season and before festivals commence. This god is known as *Angbashim*. When consulting this god libation is poured on the ground seven times with some confessions by the elder or the priest and some prayers are made to this god.

The *Ashim* cult is believed to ward off wicked or evil spirits from the land. The cult is physically represented by leaves of the tree called *mijikadenya* in Hausa. These leaves are kept on a farm to ward off thieves. The victims of this cult are afflicted with a severe sickness until they confess.

No one has the right to play with *Ashim* and if one eats *Ashim*'s food unworthily one is afflicted by *Ashim* in such a way that one's stomach will become swollen. Women are not allowed to go near nor see *Ashim*. However, women past menopause may be introduced to the cult. They are warned strictly never to disclose the secrets to younger ones and such old women are not allowed to eat *Ashim*'s food.

Apart from *Ashim*, there are other cults kept by individuals, families or clans. Among such cults are: *Akuk*, *Gango*, *Yamba* and *Ariky*. These cults are represented by objects like pots, stones, sticks or cowries. They are believed to function in various ways, that is, to make the soil fertile for good harvest, to protect the family or clan from any misfortune or evil, to bless the wombs of women so that they might give birth, and to ward off sicknesses and diseases of all sorts. That is why sacrifices of chicken, goat, and beer are made to these gods in order to appease them, and to maintain a good relationship with the gods of the land. A related cult known as *Yambu* is found in the Tashan-Mada area. In January to April, offerings are made to the gods before the planting season during which people plead for sufficient rainfall and blessings on their farms. In September, they again appease these gods and give sacrifices in thanksgiving. The cult shrines are kept sacred, and away from people. Only the priest and those involved are allowed to go there.

In honour of these gods, important festivals are celebrated. An example is the Ashimu festival celebrated in March/April annually. During the ceremony only men who have been initiated into the Ashim cult can participate in the feast. The ceremony lasts for about a week. This period is marked by much beer drinking and feasting. The Arashim dance is done during the ceremony.

Witchcraft is greatly feared in Eggon land. Many people spend money seeking for protection against witchcraft. Witches discovered or suspected are forced to confess or be killed. Witch doctors in Eggon make a lot of money. An example is Mrs. Maryamu, whose fame has reached all over Eggon land. This woman is believed to have power to see and catch witches, especially those who kill people. She is also believed by the Eggon to have herbs that can disengage one from witchcraft. This woman is not just consulted; she is worshipped. In fact, her influence is so strong that even church leaders consulted her at a time. In essence, there is a great fear of witches amongst the Eggon.

Christianity

The gospel was brought to Eggon land in 1920 by Mr. Ivan Hepburn of the Sudan United Mission. When he first came, he wanted to open a station at Lezin-Lafia town but he was refused by the colonial government because of how harsh the Eggon people were then.

But Hepburn had a burning desire to settle and start work among the Eggon. Prior to this time he had been living in Keana. From there the Divisional Officer of Wamba called him for discussion on how he could enter and start work amongst the people. This was in 1922. In April 1924 Mr. G. Dawson and Mr. Hepburn decided to visit Lezin-Lafia, where they hoped to find a place to locate the mission station. After this visit they went back to Keana until the following year. On his return, Mr. Hepburn brought with him Mr. Farrant. The mission station was established at Lezin-Lafia (Agboro) and from there the missionaries went about visiting other villages.

Whenever they reached a village they sought for the chief's palace, where they usually resided. The chiefs welcomed the missionaries and mobilised their children for literacy classes. The missionaries came to Eggon during the reign of Aren Eggon Alumbu Twehwi, who gave his child Alaku for training to show his acceptance. The village heads did the same. For example the Aren Wanjibi, Abutsa, gave his son Akwanshi; the Aren Ungwashuru, M. Binga, gave his son Ambwai Binga, to go to school. Other village heads who gave their children include the Aren Ginda, M. Musa, the Aren Gale, M. Otsala; the Aren Agunji, M. Natsa; and the Aren Wakama, Angashim Natsa, amongst others. The chiefs not only gave their children but also helped the missionaries to mobilize their subordinates.

The missionaries established enquiry or literacy classes where the people came together to learn how to read and write. In the process the missionaries presented the truth of the gospel. In 1926 December 25, Mr. Hepburn went to Randa for Christmas celebrations. When going, he took with him twelve Eggon boys. After the ceremony the boys were encouraged and could see beyond just learning how to read and write. This journey repeated itself the following year with more Eggon boys. Then in 1927 Mr. Elatkpo (an Alagon man) was sent to take a course of the enquiry class, which was like a primary school, in Lezin-Lafia. That year also, the name of the village was changed to Wana. The first church was built in 1927 at Agbo.

As the work progressed, Dr. Jackson and his wife arrived in 1928. He opened a dispensary through which he preached the gospel as well as helped the people medically. His assistants were M. Ozengya, Rome and Auta Keana. However, for more medical attention, a leprosy settlement was open in Alushi by Dr. A. W. Adam in 1944. It received government approval in 1945. Around this period many Eggon began to come down to the plains. Therefore, the primary school was shifted to Kagbu. In 1950 Alushi hospital was founded to promote good health in the area. In 1960 Dr. Adams [IS IT ADAM OR ADAMS?] was transferred to Obi and Dr. Prestman took over the leprosy settlement in Alushi. Another medical ministry was a maternity/ dispensary which was opened in 1963 at Alushi. Today, dispensaries and clinics are found in almost every Eggon major settlement e.g. Alushi, Kagbu (Wana), Laraba Ezen, Ginde etc. There are also government dispensaries and clinics in the area. e.g. at Nassarawa Eggon.

Mr. Hepburn was very eager to see the few Eggon people who had accepted Christ read the Bible in their own language. So he embarked on the translation of the book of Mark which was completed in 1929 followed by a book titled *Allah alu odolo* meaning "God has spoken". The translation of this Bible portion encouraged the youth in Eggon land to learn how to read and write. But up till this time, Mr. Hepburn's work had not started yielding fruits. However in 1930 he got a breakthrough in many villages, where conversions took place. These villages included Wakupu, Wazhi, Ngubi, Ere and Wulaso.

Mada station was opened in 1935 by Evangelist Ali Kutsa. When this fellowship station was opened and the work was progressing, seven indigenous leaders were appointed to take care of all the stations. Those appointed were; Anta Tsanyi, Masin Kushi Aya Akwashiki, Akwanshiki Ogya, Bezina Kushi, Alaku Ombugula and Aklo Lidzi. These leaders did not understand English which made things difficult for them. During council meetings with the white missionaries, Mr. Adgadzu Emuladu was responsible for interpretation. Communication was a problem between the indigens and the white missionaries. In 1950, Nassarawa Eggon station was opened. The converts were fellowshiping in Mr. Adagdzu Ewuga's [IS THE SPELLING ADAGDZU OR ADGADZU AS ABOVE?] house until 1955. The evangelist was Mr. Abimiku Ega-wuyi and his wife.

The first indigenous catechist was Mr. Kpandam Oloku, after his training at Gindiri in 1953, followed by Mr. Aklo Lidzi in 1954. This time the indigens were given some responsibility by missionaries.

In 1935 Mr. C. Sanderson came from Lafia to Wana for the continuation of Bible translation into Eggon language. He translated John's gospel. He was assisted by Adagadzu Envuladu, [IS THIS THE SAME AS ADGADZU EMULADU ABOVE? SPELLING?] Aklo Lidzi and Auta Tsanyu. Mr. Ivan Hepburn died on 24th November 1937. He was buried at Wana. It was a sad period but the work did not stop since Mr. Graham, Miss E. Shasby, Mr. D. Douglas and Mr. Judd through whom new stations were opened, amongst which were Arikyia and Ekpon in Kagbu area, were still there.

However a Bible school was opened in honour of his name, Hepburn Memorial Bible school at Kango. It was later transferred to Alushi in 1952. Alushi today, serves as the headquarters of Evangelical Reformed Church of Christ (E.R.C.C.) formerly known as Church of Christ in Central Nigeria (CCCN). In 1970 the New Testament was completed by Mr. Fibus Adigidzu and Mr. Ricketts.

The difficulties that the early missionaries faced cannot be over-emphasized. It was hard in terms of communication and transportation up and down the hills. They were opposed and persecuted by the idol worshippers and their priests. They were however determined to see the seed of gospel planted in Eggon land, although it meant some of them giving their lives for the gospel. Today, in most of the Eggon villages there is an ERCC church.

[SOME OF THE SPELLINGS OF THESE PLACES IS CLOSE BUT DIFFERENT FROM PLACES NAMED EARIER. FOR EXAMPLE: DOES WANGIBI=WANIGIBI; WULOKO=WULKO; GUINDA=GINDA; LIZEN KEFFI=LIZIN KEFFI. IF THEY ARE THE SAME, PLEASE CHOOSE ONE SPELLING FOR USE IN THE WRITE-UP. IN FACT, PLEASE CHECK ALL PLACES AND NAMES CAREFULLY WITH THE ORIGINAL]

1938 witnessed the advent of the Roman Catholic Mission in the Eggon area. The first Catholic missionaries in the area were Rev. Father D. Horrison and Rev. Father A. Garaghty. The mission goal was to establish a mission centre for the propagation of the good news and to educate the youths through formal education. The missionaries were welcomed by the Divisional Officer, Mr. Hall, at Wamba (the Divisional headquarters). However, the D.O. expressed pessimism about cooperation from the traditional chiefs, especially, the chief of Wana, the then president of the council of chiefs. The D.O. could not guarantee their personal safety. Despite all odds, the missionaries were undaunted in their assignment. On 1st November that same year they went to see the chief of Wana who, to their surprise, gave them a warm reception. The chief that was reigning then was Aren Alumbuğu Tsawhin. The mission house at Alogani commenced immediately and reached completion on the 8th April 1939. The first mass was celebrated on Sunday 9th of

April 1939. When people began to come down the hill to the plains, a primary school was set at Alushi in 1948 and by January 1950 Rev. Father D.O. Donovan commenced the construction of a new mission house at Alushi in addition to a church. By 1960 the mission had, in addition, a convent, a hospital, a maternity and child welfare centre, and a teachers' college for girls. A junior seminary was established but was later transferred to Barkin Ladi.

There are many denominations found working amongst the Eggon people today, such as Anglican, Baptist, Assemblies of God, Deeper Life Bible Church, and ECWA (Evangelical Church of West Africa). ECWA came to Nassarawa Eggon on 6th February, 1989. Although ECWA is one of the more recent churches found in the land, they are making an effort to see that the Eggon are reached with the gospel through ECWA. So far, ECWA has opened stations in villages like Mada Station, Nassarawa Eggon, Aligba, Langalanga, Landa Ligba, Sabon Gida, B.A.D. and a new station at Ungwar Bashaye. Effort is still on to get more EMS workers.

The impact of Christianity seems to be one sided. In this case Eggon people could be divided into two groups: Mada Tara and Mada Zube. Mada Zube are the clans that have many facial marks (about fifteen). This group seems to be more friendly to Christianity than the Mada Tara (nine marks). The rivalry between the two groups worsens the situation, to the extent that neither party can preach to the another. They find it uncomfortable to be in the same church, except those who are specially touched by God. The Mada Tara are mostly Muslims or traditionalists. On the other hand, the Mada Zube have also accepted Islam to an extent.

Islam in Eggon land seems to be gaining ground, especially in places like Arogbadu, Bokono, Gale, Alagan and Nassarawa Eggon.

Traditional religion is one of the problems the church workers are fighting in Eggon land. Many people are not willing to give up their former religion, although most of their beliefs about their gods are no more strong, and young people are no longer keen on idol worship. However, the Ashim cult is still strong among Eggon people. This cult is greatly feared by every Eggon person. Most traditionalists are found in places like Tashan Mada, Alogani and Ogbiniyi.