

**Towards a dictionary of the Jili (Migili)
language
of
Central Nigeria**

[DRAFT CIRCULATED FOR COMMENT]

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION	1
1.2 Existing classifications	1
2. LOCATION, HISTORY AND SOCIOLINGUISTIC SITUATION	1
2.1 Nomenclature	1
2.2 Location and settlements	1
2.3 Language status	2
3. PHONOLOGY	2
3.1 Vowels	2
3.2 Consonants	2
Free variation	3
Prosodies	3
3.3 Tones	3
4. MORPHOLOGY	4
4.1 Nouns	4
4.2 Pronouns	4
JILI DICTIONARY	6
REFERENCES	31

TABLES

Table 1. Matrix showing matching of singular and plural prefixes in Jili	4
Table 2. Jili pronouns	4

1. Introduction

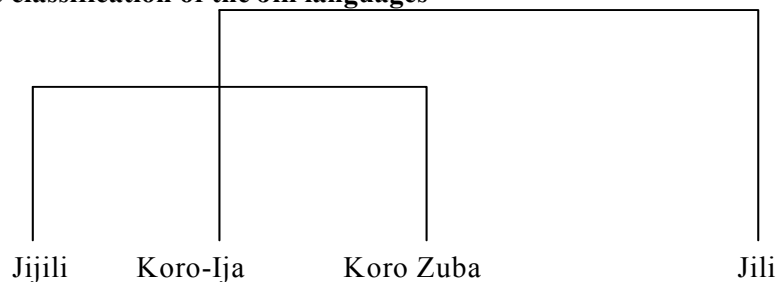
This is a draft dictionary of the Jili language, spoken in about twenty villages in Nassarawa State in Central Nigeria. The material is from two sources: extracted from Stoffberg (1978a,b) documents never published and available only on microfiche and data collected in Jos in January 2001. This document is being circulated to scholars for comment.

1.2 Existing classifications

Jili, under the names Koro of Lafia and Migili is known through some ethnographic references (xx) and through Stoffberg (1978a,b). On the basis of a short list collected by Roger Blench in 1982, Jili was classified together with Jijili, the language of the Koro of Kafin Koro in Niger State. This classification was circulated as a comment and published in Gerhardt (1989) and Crozier and Blench (1992).

The term 'Koro' is widespread as an ethnonym in Central Nigeria and Gerhardt (1983) has published data on the Koro spoken in the Kadarko area. However, neither Jili nor Jijili show any particular relationship with these languages and this seems to be a case of a floating outsiders' name applied to quite distinct peoples. There are two more groups of Koro, the Koro-Ija and Koro Zuba reported for the first time in Crozier and Blench (1992). These languages are spoken near Lambatta on the Suleja-Minna road and near Zuba rock on the main Kaduna-Abuja highway. No data was available for these languages, then as now, but discussions in Adunnu suggest that they are related to Jijili. It is likely that 'Jili' is the base ethnonym of these peoples and it is here used to refer to the group. The following proposal is therefore made;

Figure 1. Tentative classification of the Jili languages



The historical scattering of these languages is something of a puzzle, as Lafia is quite geographically remote from Kafin Koro. The explanation may lie in the precolonial slave trade. Recent communications have made these groups aware of each other and church groups now hold annual meetings to unite the disparate Jili groups.

2. Location, history and sociolinguistic situation

2.1 Nomenclature

The Jili are usually known as 'Koro' in the literature, although this name applies to a number of disparate groups in Central Nigeria and should generally be discarded. The name Migili, used extensively locally, is a version of their name, but still incorrect. The Jili call themselves /**jjili**/ and their language /**linjili**/. The reduplicated **ji-** element is almost certainly a prefix and thus should be deleted to make a reference name.

2.2 Location and settlements

The Jili live in Lafia Local Government Area and in the Obi, Doma and Keffi areas of Nassarawa State. They are bounded to the north by the Gwandara and Eggon peoples, and to the south by Alago. Tiv live east and west of them. Their main villages are; Adeb, Agewu, Agyaragu, Akaba, Akalegu Motor, Anuwu, Ashige, Atabla, Buba, Dazhila, Debe, Doka, Duglu, Echuwanza, Gbodu, Gidan Musha, Giditye, Goli, Gude, Ichichene, Idazogwa, Ishugu, Kanga, Keleku, Kpanungwa, Kponwa, Kunza, Kyakale, Nene, Shiga, Shipe, Ume, Zagy, Zedumu, Zergba.

2.3 Language status

The Jili language is probably spoken by 30-50,000 individuals and there is no reason to think that it is presently declining. Although it is divided into several dialects, no research is available as to the relations between these.

An orthography was devised for Jili in the 1970s and this underwent some undocumented revisions in the 1980s. A Reading and Writing book was published in 1975 and a book of Folk Tales in 1976. The entire New Testament was published in 1987. It seems that the absence of an accompanying literacy programme has meant that it is little used.

3. Phonology

The phonology of Jili is based on Stoffberg (1978b) emended in the light of current research.

3.1 Vowels

Jili has nine phonemic vowels;

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

Jili operates a limited harmony constraint, such that an open-mid vowel will never occur with its close-mid counterpart. Some exceptions have been identified in complex compounds.

Following the work of Stoffberg in the early 1970s, a translation of the New Testament was prepared. However, the orthography was changed from that proposed by Stoffberg, on what basis is not now clear. The IPA symbols ɛ, ɔ and ɨ were used and ® and ʌ were introduced. The justification for the extra phonetic symbols has never been published, although on the basis of current research it seems that the i represents /ɪ/ and ʌ /ʊ/.

Jili has seven nasalised vowels;

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

These are all contrastive but only occur in word-final syllables. These can shown to be contrastive with CVN syllables, which also occur with every non-nasalised vowel except /u/. In the orthography, final ‘ŋ’ is used for nasalisation, but since ɨ occurs elsewhere, the tilde is used throughout in this document.

3.2 Consonants

Jili consonants are as follows:

	Bilabi- al	Labio- dental	Alve- olar	Alveop alatal	Palata l	Velar	Labial -velar	Glott al
Plosive	p b		t d		c j	k g	kp gb	'
Nasal	m		n		ɲ	ŋ	ŋm	
Fricative		f v	s z	ʃ ʒ				h
Affricates			ts dz					
Approximant					y		w	
Vibrant			r					
Lateral			l					

Stoffberg (1978b:67) notes a single example of a contrast between long and short /l/;

/lí/ to sell
/llí/ wart-hog

It may be that the first /l/ of wart-hog is actually a prefix and could be analysed as tone-bearing.

Free variation

The following, although clearly distinct phonemes, can sometimes be interchanged;

/l/ and /r/
/l/ and /n/
/s/ and /ʃ/
/z/ and /ʒ/
/z/ and /d/

Prosodies

Jili permits labialisation, palatalisation, lateralisation and rhoticisation of most consonants. In the case of C + R clusters, these can also be labialised. Thus;

trwâ to swell
drwã to groan
srwẽ to join
zrwẽ precariously
tjrwâ sound of stalks being cut

3.3 Tones

Jili has three level tones, as the following minimal triplets show;

Form	Gloss	Form	Gloss
bé	to come	ká	'that he'
bɛ	question particle	ka	to guard
bè	to choose	kà	to exceed

There are also numerous complex glide tones. These symbolised as follows;

Rising	Low-High	hachek over the syllable	ˇ
	Low-Mid		◻
	Mid-High		˘
Falling	High-Low	circumflex over the syllable	ˆ
	High-Mid		˘
	Mid-Low		˘

4. Morphology

4.1 Nouns

Jili has a system of nominal plurals based on prefix alternations. Table 1 is a matrix showing the possible pairings of singular and plural prefixes.

Table 1. Matrix showing matching of singular and plural prefixes in Jili

Singular prefixes	Plural prefixes								
	á-	à-	àmà-	í-	mí-	mì-	mú-	mù-	Ñ-
cù-							+		
jì-						+			
kí-	+			+					
kú-	+								
lú-				+					+
mí-				+					
mú-				+					
Ñ-				+					
Ñ-			+		+		+		
ò-/ô-	+			+			+	+	
rí-	+								+
rú-									+
ø-	+	+		+	+		+	+	

Source: adapted from Stoffberg (1978:316)

4.2 Pronouns

Table 2 shows the pronouns in Jili. The distinction between the two types of third person pronoun is not entirely clear; Stoffberg (1978a:337) notes that it is connected with paragraphs in discourse. Tones on pronouns change according to the TAM features of the clause in which they occur.

Table 2. Jili pronouns

	Set 1	Set 2	Set 3	Set 4
I	n	me	ìmè	íme
You	ɔ	wɔ	ìwɔ	íwɔ
He/she/it (1)	a	nɔ	ìnɔ	ínɔ
He/she/it (2)	inɔ			nwâ
we	la	la	ìla	íla
you pl.	yi	yi	ìyi	íyi
They (1)	ba	ba	ìba	íba
They (2)	iba			iba

Source: adapted from Stoffberg (1978:331)

- Set 1. pronouns are usually the subject of a sentence and also function as recapitulating pronouns.
- Set 2. pronouns are identificatory or deictic and usually precede a subject noun.
- Set 3. pronouns are usual when the pronoun appears in isolation.
- Set 4. pronouns are used only in reported speech

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

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

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

JILI DICTIONARY

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
ácansòlò		n.	Fingernail I	
ádzi		n.	Faeces	
adzi' shá		n.	Diarrhoea	
áfufā		n.	Broken pieces	
ágá		n.	Thing	
ágbágblà		n.	Indecision	
ágbā		n.	Smell I	
ágèwú		n.	Village name	
ágìbàkúć		n.	Comb	
ágīniwee		n.	Pen	'thing of writing marks'
ágītā		n.	Food	'thing of eating'
àglàmà		n.	Ant (Generic)	
áglo	—	n.	Sorghum ¹	
ájá		n.	Witchfinder	
ájî		n.	Night	
akã		n.	Shell, outer covering	
áklodzi		n.	Money	
akpe ⁺		n.	Tree sp.	
àkpòshí		n.	Amen	
álí		n.	Forest	
álo		n.	Air (fresh)	
amla		n.	Lie	
àmò		n.	Bulrush millet ² (<i>gero</i>)	
àmotò		n.	Motor vehicle	
anakɔ		n.	Masquerade IV	
asetra		n.	Fireplace	
áse		n.	Fireplace	
ási		n.	Face	
ásò		n.	Bush	
átra		n.	Fire	
avambù		n.	Harmattan	
avandē		adv.	At this time	
ávli		n.	Groundnut (Peanut) ³	
áwá		n.	Fear/fright	
áwýáro		n.	Dew	
áyé		n.	Heart	
àyé		excl.	No (denial)	
áyékpõ		n.	'Tough-heart'	
áza	—	n.	Name	
ázádana		conj.	otherwise, or else	

¹ (*Sorghum bicolor*)² (*Pennisetum* spp.)³ (*Arachis hypogaea*)

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
B.				
baga		excl.	Salutation to a chief	cf. Nupe Bagadozhi
bā		v.	Hatch (egg) II	
bè		v.	Choose	
bèkíyì		v.	Invent	
bène	íbène	n.	Patas monkey ⁴	
bène		v.	Pull	
bě		num.	Two	
bé		v.	Come	
bε⁺		v.	Question	
bεbε		a.	Both	
bène		v.	Drag	
béré	ábéré	n.	Partner	
blà	áblà	n.	Slave	
blá		v.	Be ripe	
bla múdǎ		v.	Feel (hot)	
blamba		n.	Castrated animal	
blê		conj.	Perhaps	
blêde	í-blêde	n.	Ram	
blemε	i-blemε	n.	Female goat	
bô...zhi		v.	Get lost	
bô...zhi		v.	Disappear, get lost	
bō⁺		v.	Feed	
brô		v.	Become spoiled	
brō⁺		v.	Spoil	
buba		n.	Village name	
C.				
cá		excl.	Expresses intense emotion	
cakale		p.n.	Village name	
càkpà	—	n.	Slatted head carrier	
cē		v.	Pick up (objects)	
cene		v.	Get, find	
cε		v.	Worship	in traditional religion. Also 'to greet an elder'
cène, cēm, cē		dem.	Here	
cé		num.	Three	
cémé	í-cémé	n.	Sheep	
cε⁺		v.	Greet	

⁴ (*Erythrocebus patas*)

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
cē		v.	To pick	
cɛɛ		dem.	There	
cɛɛ ⁺		v.	Find	
cí		v.	Add to	
ci kutrò		v.	Tie (knot)	
cíci		adv.	Together	
cìcì		adv.	Consecutively	
côitsi	—	n.	Master of the house	
cômbla	—	n.	Master of slaves	used for Christ, Saviour
crwâ		id.	Sound of stalks being cut	
cùco	múco	n.	Grandfather	
cuwɔ ⁺		v.	Remember	
cwe ⁺		v.	Be on (s.t.), put on top of	
cwe ⁺		v.	Follow	
D.				
da		v.	Blow (flute etc.)	
da ⁺	dala, dara	v.	Do II	
da ⁺		v.	Touch	
da ⁺	dala	v.	Tread	
da kpútro		v.	Cough	
da kutro		v.	Dance	
da kúlǎ		v.	Fight (in quarrel)	
da nsǎ		v.	Run	
dǎ		dem.	Thus	
dǎ, dē		dem.	This way (manner)	
dàma		v.	Bend down s.t. (branch)	
dàma		v.	Sway	
dǎne, dǎ		dem.	There (remote)	
dánkálì		n.	Sweet potato ⁵	
dàvɛ		v.	Welcome back	
dǐ, didǐ		v.	Cold	
dídɛ		v.	Sit down	
dó		v.	Praise	
dǎ ⁺		v.	Hot	also dud [~]
dɔ ⁺		v.	Give	
dǎ		v.	Be (II)	
dǎrɔ		v.	Meet	
dǎtra		v.	Burn (fire burns)	
drǎ	mudrǎ	n.	Hare ⁶	
drǎ		v.	Say/speak	

⁵ (*Ipomoea batatas*)⁶ (*Lepus Crawshayi*)

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
dró kishishā	mùdró kishishā	n.	Storyteller	
drólóló		a.	Long	
dró ⁺		v.	Bathe	
drɛ		v.	Sitting, be	
drɛmɛ		v.	To wake	
drɛmɛ		v.	Awaken (s.o.)	
drí		v.	Shake	
drì		v.	Drive away	
drídrō		a.	Withered	
drwǎ		v.	Groan	
dúglu		p.n.	Village name	
dugo ⁺		v.	Move	
dùmù	ídùmù	n.	He-goat	
dzá	ádzá	n.	Child	
dzákìcɛ		n.	Grindstone (top)	
dzákùzwa		n.	Pestle	
dzánda	ádzánda	n.	Brother, sister II	father's side
dzánma	ádzánma	n.	Brother, sister I	mother's side
dzáravé	ádzáravé	n.	Childhood	
dzárùnɔ	ádzárùnɔ	n.	Bird (generic)	
dzi		v.	Come out (of room)	
dzi ⁺		v.	Go out/exit	
dzídzí		a.	Bad	
dzidzi ⁺		a.	Evil	
dzisà		adv.	Next day	
dzúgò		n.	Nephew, niece	
E.				
ê		excl.	Surprise	
ê		excl.	Acknowledgement I	
èyɛ		excl.	No	
èhê		excl.	Acknowledgement II, Satisfaction	
F.				
fa		v.	Bite s.t. soft	
fa ⁺		v.	Break s.t. soft	
féfégê		a.	Light	
fê		v.	Easy	
flò		v.	Wet	
flá		v.	Press down	

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
flɔflɔ	aflɔ	n.	Mushroom	
fli		v.	Fold (cloth etc.)	
flò		adv.	Slowly	
fofogo ⁺		a.	Light (weight)	
fòro	—	n.	Hat	? cf. Hausa fula ?
frɔ ⁺		v.	Peel (maize)	
frú		v.	Boil	
frú		v.	Sprout (new shoots from a tree)	
funu ⁺		v.	Swell	
G.				
gbágblà		v.	Think	
gbálò		v.	Shout	
gbégbě		adv.	On the way	
gbètánà	ágbètánà	n.	Prophet	
gbètánà	—	n.	Prophesy	
gbètúmá	ágbètúmá	n.	Messenger	
gbɛ ⁺		v.	Buy	
gbɛ ⁺		v.	Receive	
gbè		v.	Resemble	
gbě	ágbě	n.	Hunter	
gbɛnwala		excl.	Good afternoon!	
gbèrɛ		n.	Falling	
gbèridzà		excl.	Said to a naughty child	
gbî		n.	Consensus	
gbî		v.	Agree	
gbî		v.	Answer (call)	
gbìgblin		n.	Electric fish ⁷	
gbìli		v.	Tremble	
gbili awo		v.	Feel (cold)	
gbìyènè		excl.	Good evening!	
gbìsa		excl.	Good morning!	
gblù		id.	Sound of fire	
gbo		v.	Throw	
gbo ⁺		v.	Grind	
gbo ⁺		v.	Shoot (arrow, gun)	
gbòdu		n.	Village name	
gbogbo ⁺		adv.	Exceedingly, ever	of time or degree
gbolu	i-gbolu	n.	Elephant	
gbomiji				
gbòno		v.	Weed	
gbòtò		id.	Sound of horses' hooves	

⁷ (*Malapterurus electricus*)

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
gbō	gbèrè	v.	Fall (rain)	
gbónkwále		v.	Swim	
gbɔrɔ		v.	Bark (dog)	
gbúgbla		v.	Fall over	
gbùgblo		v.	Rub	
gɛ ⁺		v.	be small	
gē		v.	be different	
gēgē		a.	Different, various	
gèné		v.	To cross	
gàgā		n.	Drum I	
gidinyè		n.	Village name	
gige ⁺		v.	Be able	
gige ⁺		v.	Repeat	
gige ⁺		adv.	Again	
gìjìmi		adv.	Late, last	
gìsí		int.	What thing?	
gló		excl.	Welcome	
glúmá		n.	Onion (<i>Allium cepa</i>)	
gò		v.	Catch	
gò		n.	Female personal name	
gòno		a.	Very, too much	
gru	gùgra	v.	Wash	pl. 'to wash thoroughly'
gúgú		n.	Basket I	
gúgrɔ		n.	Old (thing)	
guguma		n.	Poison	
gúndúgùndù		id.	Expresses bigness	
gúsho	àgusho	n.	Stool	
gùso		v.	Close	
gwāgwa		n.	Head-pad	? < Hausa
gwàra		v.	Open	
H.				
hár, yár		adv.	Until	< Hausa
I.				
ìbô		int.	What event?	
ìbà		n.	Fish sp. I	
ìbe	—	n.	Spear	
ìbɛ		n.	Shelf	built near cooking area
ìbeni	—	n.	Stick to stir food	
ìcē		n.	Broom (hard)	
ìcìcèné		n.	Village name	

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
ícízwe		n.	Village name	
ídò	ádò	n.	Granary	
ídó		n.	Sweat	
ídà		n.	Treading	
ídrò		n.	Pot I	
ídú		n.	Masquerade II	
ídzi		n.	Going out	
ífò		n.	Axe	
ifúnú		n.	Boil, swelling	
ígā	ágā	n.	Thorn	
ígaba		n.	Lion	
ígbá		n.	Iron	
ígbá		n.	Snare	
ígòyè		n.	Courage	
ígri		n.	Buttocks	
ígrifò		n.	Toad	
ígúbé		n.	Fish-trap, fish-hook	
íjèè		n.	Weaving	
íkò		n.	Bulrush millet (<i>maiwa</i>)	
íkāzò		n.	Palm kernel	
íkísí		n.	Remainder	
íklévù		n.	Zither	
íklwā		n.	Plant sp. I	poisonous
íkpíní		n.	Drinking gourd	
íkplinyè		n.	Evil spirit	
ìkúkplá		n.	Strength	
ílwé		n.	Harvesting	
ílwí		n.	Mixing	water with a dry substance
ímò	ámò	n.	Dry grass stalk	left after burning
ímà		n.	Boundary	
ímà		n.	End	
íme		n.	Back	
ímlò	amlò	n.	Throat	
ímrù		n.	Chin	
ínò		n.	Plaiting	
ína	—	n.	Scorpion	
ínâ'glò		n.	Dragon-fly	
inágloo		n.	Earwig	'scorpion of guinea-corn'
íne		n.	Tips of millet sprouts	
ínrò		n.	Pain	
ínù		n.	Pot (generic)	
ínùma		n.	Hunger	
ínyè		n.	Yesterday	
inyènè		n.	Evening	
ípéré		n.	Time	
ípérésí		int.	When?	

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
ípêgã		n.	Knowledge	
ípênyí		n.	Wisdom	
íprisà		n.	Dawn	x + 'day'
író		n.	Calling	
ísà		n.	Day	
ísási		n.	Eyeball	
ísé		n.	Field	
íséle	aséle	n.	Armpit	
íséme		n.	Cutting II	
isele		n.	Rib	
íseni		n.	Large River	
íshá		n.	Divination (types)	
íshó		n.	Bee	
íshénéré		n.	Cloud	
ishishe ⁺		n.	Dirt	
ísí		n.	Giant Cricket	
ísí		n.	Strumming	
ísìmi		n.	Cloth	
ísisà		n.	Morning	x + 'day'.
ísvòdrô		n.	Day after tomorrow	
íwò múzò		n.	Palm-fruit	
íswile		n.	Plaiting	
ítà	átà	n.	Charm sewn in goatskin	
ítalá		n.	Personal name	
itsi		n.	Nest (of bird)	i.e. 'house' ()
ítsi		n.	Compound	
itsiga		n.	Village name	'house of salvation'. Where Migili people went during the slave raid era
ítuma		n.	Vagina	
ítútrò		n.	Laughter	
ívò		n.	Tomorrow	
ívà		n.	Gourd-bottle ⁸	
íwò		n.	Killing	
íwi		n.	Water-hole	
iwi ⁺		n.	Stream II	
íwòro		n.	Breath	
íyè		n.	Mosquito	
ìyí		excl.	No (refusal)	
ízà		n.	Grave	
ízà		n.	Returning home	
íze		n.	Sin	
ízi		n.	Sesame seeds ⁹	
ízùmà	ázùmà	n.	Tail	
ízwá		n.	Vein	

⁸ (*Lagenaria siceraria*)⁹ (*H. Ridfi*) (*Sesamum indicum*)

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
J.				
javõ		n.	Water-lily	
jè		v.	Wear	
jè kúva		v.	Begin II	lit. 'put hand'
jè	jèḗ	v.	Put (I)	pl. to put repeatedly, including 'to stoke' (fire)
jè	lòo	v.	Put (II)	pl. reflects a plural subject or mass nouns and other multiple objects
jè		v.	Put on (clothes)	
jè		v.	Send	
jè		n.	Taro (Old cocoyam) ¹⁰	
jè ígbā		v.	Set trap	
jème		v.	Take a long time	
jèrɛ		v.	Plant (crop etc.)	
jèrɛ		v.	Snap II	
jètuma		n.	Sender of message	
jejeje ⁺		adv.	Equally, exactly, side-by-side	
jì	jili	v.	Sting	
jìjì		adv.	Ticklishly	
jìjili	mìjili	n.	Human being	
jò	jòno	v.	Cut down (small tree)	
jòno		v.	To harvest (sorghum)	
jrijri		v.	Follow s.o. closely	
K.				
kà		v.	Surpass	
kâ		adv.	Only, merely	
kă		?	Like	
ka ⁺		v.	Guard	
kà...lúkpo		v.	Be impossible	The object is inserted between the two halves of the verb
ká		v.	Request	
kaba	íkaba	n.	Baboon	
kácá		a.	Hard, strong	
kàkà	àkàkà	n.	Grandmother	borrowed Hausa term gradually displacing nywa ⁺
káká		adv.	Firmly, securely, strongly	
kàlè	íkàlè	n.	Vervet monkey ¹¹	
kan ⁺		excl.	Don't	

¹⁰ (*Colocasia esculenta*)

¹¹ (*Cercopithecus aethiops*)

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
kan ⁺		adv.	Nearly, imminent, soon	
kanɔ ⁺		v.	Fry (in oil)	
kàngà		n.	Fan-palm ¹²	
kéri		adv.	Straight, intently	
kě		v.	Struggle	
kéri		n.	Whirlwind	
kádáda		n.	Plain, clearing	
kəgā		n.	Mat (generic)	
kəlawɔ	alawɔ	n.	Charm sewn in skin	worn in sets on the upper arm
kəna ⁺	áná	n.	Farm	
kíce		n.	Grindstone (lower)	
kíce mùlo	áce mùlo	n.	Locust-bean cakes	
kíci	áci	n.	Tree (generic)	
kíci		n.	Handle (of tool)	
kída	—	n.	Swamp/wetland	
kída nàgblà		n.	Proverb	
kidegé		n.	slope	
kidényé		n.	Shea-fruit	
kídiga		n.	Gun	< Hausa bindiga .
kídrî	ádrî	n.	Housefly	
kíje	áje	n.	Thigh	
kíji	áji	n.	Feather	
kíkā	ákā	n.	Charm sewn in animal skin	
kikandre, ndre ⁺	akandre ⁺	n.	Charcoal	
kìkì		id.	Sound of digging	
kílà	álà	n.	Hole in tree	
kílélé		n.	Dream	
kílí	álí	n.	Rope	
kìnikìní		a.	Spherical	
kínri		n.	Dust	
kínyí	ányí	n.	Tooth	
kíplá(má)	áplá(má)	n.	Branch	
kísǎ	ásǎ	n.	Stalk	
kísǎ	ásǎ	n.	Volunteer seed	
kísā		n.	Sugar-cane	
kishagā	ashagā	n.	Rag	
kíshíshā		n.	Story, folktale	
kísí	ási	n.	Eye	
kísi		n.	Clay	
kísi		n.	Matting	
kísísí		int.	Where?	or sí, sisí, cisí .
kísētra	ásētra	n.	Fireplace	
kíta	áta	n.	Skin	the pl. refers to animal skins
kítá	átá	n.	Debt	
kítâci	átâci	n.	Base of tree	
kítátrè	átátrè	n.	Shoe	

¹² (*Borassus aethiopum*)

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
kítrè	átrè	n.	Leg, foot	
kitukpa		n.	Calf	
kíyarɔ	áyarɔ	n.	Broom (soft)	
kíyè	áyè	n.	Relations	
kíyé	ayé	n.	Liver	
kizhizhi	ázhízhī	n.	Earthworm	
kízī		n.	Soup/stew	
klô		v.	Be finished	
klɔ ⁺		v.	Finish (a task)	
klà		adv.	At a distance	
klèlè		a.	Circular	
klú		n.	Land tortoise	
klúmu	áklúmu	n.	Barren woman	
klwá		v.	Complete	
kēnge		n.	Sickle	
ko ⁺		v.	Cover	
ko ⁺		v.	To carry a baby on the back	
kokà		p.n.	Masquerade III	
kolí		n.	Giant Snail	
kò		v.	Pluck	
kó		v.	Say/speak II	
kó		conj.	Then	
kólɔ		v.	Become dry	
kòrókò	ákòrókò	n.	Cock	
kɔsɔ ⁺		v.	Finish up	
kpô	kùkpô	adv.	Strongly	
kpəfá	ákpəfá	n.	Young girl	
kpâ		id.	Sound of a slap	
kpálábá		n.	Cutlass	
kpangwa		n.	Village name	
kpàshó	—	n.	Gourd (Generic)	
kpété		a.	Shallow, flat	
kpètè		a.	Short (animates)	
kpéle		v.	Return II	
kpɛ ⁺		adv.	Again	
kpɛle ⁺		v.	Turn back	
kpézī		v.	Stop	
kpézī		v.	Wait	
kpî		v.	Be short (inanimates)	
kpī	ikpī	n.	Rat (generic)	
kpīkpī		a.	Dead	
klɔ ⁺		v.	Turn	
klákplá		adv.	Healthily	
klě		adv.	Suddenly	
klî	áklî	n.	Women's shrine where dead spirits are consulted	

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
kpíja		n.	Sore/wound	
kpô		v.	Grow tall	
kpô		adv.	Idly, uselessly, merely	
kpo ⁺		v.	Die	
kpô ⁺		v.	Hoe, cultivate	
kpôkpô		a.	Only, just, ordinary	
kpokú	àkpokú	n.	Masquerade I	
kporo		v.	Vomit	
kprɔ̀		id.	How Hare begins to run	
kpû		id.	Sound of a heavy fall	
kpútrû		a.	Tough, thick	
krɔ̀ ⁺		v.	Pack away	
krɔ̀ ⁺		v.	Sweep	
krɔ̀...ku		v.	Gather/collect	
krùkrù		a.	Intensity of burning	
ku ⁺		adv.	Publicly, openly, unashamedly	
kû ⁺		v.	Gather	
kú		v.	Cover with lips when biting	
kû		v.	Make (hole etc.)	
kû		v.	Bend s.t. (stick)	
kúcɔ̀	ácɔ̀	n.	Bundle	
kúcɔ̀ dī		n.	Patience I	
kúcɔ̀ sɔ̀		n.	Patience II	
kúcɔ̀	ácɔ̀	n.	Head	
kudunu ⁺	adunu ⁺	n.	Rubbish-heap	
kúdza	ádza	n.	Pawpaw ¹³	
kúfrɔ̀	áfrɔ̀	n.	Bark (of tree)	
kúfrɔ̀	áfrɔ̀	n.	Peelings	
kufufã		n.	Half	
kugbá	agbá	n.	Jaw	pl. means 'molars'
kúgbã	ágba	n.	Thatch roof	
kúgbadɔ̀		n.	Groundnut cultivar	
kúgbɛ	ágbɛ	n.	Neck	
kúgbéntrĩ	ágbéntrĩ	n.	Yam-heap	
kúgúmu	ágúmu	n.	Root	
kújúwɔ̀		n.	Sand	
kúkú	ákú	n.	Bone	
kúkú		n.	Shield	
kúkpa	ákpa	n.	Egg	
kukpã ⁺		n.	Bird sp. I	
kúkpála	ákpála	n.	Raphia/ bamboo palm ¹⁴	
kúkpĩ		n.	Outside	
kùkpô	klɔ̀klɔ̀ ⁺	n.	Big	Note suppletive plural. See also 'strongly' ()
kúkū		n.	Kneel, bend down	

¹³ (*Carica papaya*)¹⁴ (*Raphia* spp.)

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
kúkùma		n.	Hyena ¹⁵	
kúkúmú		n.	Silk-cotton tree ¹⁶	
kukunsulo		n.	Fingernail II	'bone of finger'
kúkwáshó	àkwáshó	n.	Kitchen	
kukwɛ		v.	Be near to s.o.	
kúlu	álu	n.	Knee	
kúmru		n.	Wind	
kúnɔ	ánɔ	n.	Chicken (General)	
kùndrù		n.	Fist	
kúnwɔ̄	ánwɔ̄	n.	Nose	
kúpɔ̄	ápɔ̄	n.	Village/settlement	
kúpele	ápele	n.	Stone	
kúpì	ápì	n.	Building	
kúpì	ápì	n.	Wall (of room)	
kúpla	ápla	n.	Wing (of bird)	
kúsɔ̄	ásɔ̄	n.	Shoulder	
kusɔ̄nɔ̄ ⁺		n.	Suffering	
kúsò	ásò	n.	Grass (generic)	
kúsolo	ásolo	n.	Finger	
kúswé	áswé	n.	Fish (generic)	
kùswi		adv.	Persistently	
kútɔ̄	átɔ̄	n.	Ear	
kutró		n.	Song	
kútsa	—	n.	Resting-place in front of a man's house	
kútsà		n.	Wealth	
kútū kídénýé	átū kídénýé	n.	Shea tree ¹⁷	
kútū múlo	átū múlo	n.	Locust fruit	
kutulukpɔ̄	atulukpɔ̄	n.	Navel	
kútú má	átú má	n.	Horn	
kútuma		n.	Work	
kutuŋ muga	atuŋ muga	n.	Shrine II	
kúva	áva	n.	Arm, hand	
kuvi	avi	n.	Intestines	
kúvóyó	ávóyó	n.	Fog	
kúwa	áva	n.	Leaf	
kúwóro		n.	breath	
kúwó		n.	Thirst	
ku-yɛ	a-yɛ	n.	Chest	
kúyo	áyo	n.	Room	
kuzɔ̄	ázɔ̄	n.	Hole in ground	
kúzùgbè	ázùgbè	n.	Star(s)	
kuzunu ⁺	azunu ⁺	n.	Shadow	
kuzunu ⁺	azunu ⁺	n.	Sperm	
kúzwa		n.	mortar	
kwana ⁺		v.	Take s.t. off s.t. else	

¹⁵ (*Crocuta crocuta*)¹⁶ (*Ceiba pentandra*)¹⁷ (*Vitellaria paradoxa*)

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
kwara ⁺		n.	Hoe II	small
kwê		a.	Small (few)	
L.				
le...tri		v.	Drop	
lɛ		v.	Leave	
lɛ		v.	Stop	
lè		adv.	Today	
létɔ̃		n.	Sorghum clarinet	
lê		a.	Many I	
lɛ...yɛ		v.	Leave out	
li		v.	Arrive at destination	
lí		v.	Sell	
li ⁺		v.	Enter	
ligâ	aligâ	n.	Seller	
lĩngĩni		a.	Single	
lĩnyɛ		n.	Language	
liyí		n.	Price	
lízhã		n.	Well	<Hausa rijiya .
líí	mùllí	n.	Wart-hog ¹⁸	
ló		v.	Tie (sheaves)	
lõ		num.	One	
ló		n.	in-law	
lõhò		n.	Waterleaf ¹⁹	< Hausa
lóló		v.	'Remain'	
lɔlɔ		n.	Fool, stupid person	
lùbɛ		n.	Village square	
lúcò	mĩnyɛcò	n.	Junior sibling	
lucwe		n.	Death	
lúfi, lísi		adv.	Before, first	
lugbà		n.	Ant-hill	
lúkó	ńkó	n.	War	
lúkpe		n.	Belly, stomach, inside	
lúkpò	mĩnyɛkpò	n.	Elder sibling	
lúkpólúkpo		adv.	Authoritatively	
lúme		n.	Cunning	
lúnwò	nwò	n.	Voice	
lũwɔ̃		n.	Dry season	
lwe		v.	Cut down (large tree)	
lwe ⁺		v.	Harvest (sorghum)	
lwe ⁺		v.	Reap	
lwí		v.	Mix	dry substance with water

¹⁸ (*Phacochoerus aethiopus*)

¹⁹ (*Amaranthus spp*)

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
M.				
mà		v.	Be enough	
ma ⁺		v.	Take	
ma nyran		v.	Marry wife	
ma...so		v.	Hide	the object is inserted between the two halves of the verb
mádā		conj.	Also	
màdā		n.	Winnowing tray	
mágló		v.	Shine brightly	
makpò		n.	Father's or mother's younger sister	
màkwê		n.	Father's or mother's elder sister	
mbá		n.	Anger	
mbâm		n.	Palm-wine	
mbana		n.	Village name	
mbámhá		adv.	Angrily	
mbé		n.	Female breast	
mbélé		n.	Kind, type	
mblē		n.	Urine	
m̀blim̀bli		adv.	At dawn	
mèrè		v.	Learn	
meshè	ámeshè	n.	Servant	
mèdà		n.	Whistle, cross-shaped	
mgbíjá		n.	Cheek	
míjē	íjē	n.	Road, path	
míkélé		a.	Medium-complexioned	
míne	íne	n.	Tongue	
mínyĩsí		int.	Who? pl.	
misí ⁺		a.	Sour I	
mìsìsùmá		v.	Dare to do s.t.	
mitî		a.	Deep-black	
mízē		n.	Market	
mízê		n.	Distance	
mizí ⁺		num.	Six	
mlá		n.	Bitterness	
mlā		v.	Hang	
		v.	Suspend	
mlāmlā		a.	Sour II	
mlí		v.	Mould (pounded yam etc.)	
mlu		v.	Be heavy	
m̀ma	—	n.	Mother I	
mô		excl.	Wonder, amazement	
mru		n.	Smell	
mrû	múmrú	n.	Mother II	

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
múdũ		n.	Sorghum-beer	
múdó		n.	Heat	
múdrõ		n.	Inheritance	
múdrɔ		n.	Length	
mùgǔ	ámugǔ	n.	Grandchild	
mugá	igá	n.	Medicine (generic)	
mùkǔ	ìkǔ	n.	Corpse	
mùkɔ̀nù		n.	Monitor lizard	
múkɔ̀ɔ		p.n.	Clan name	
múlá		n.	Bitterness	
múlámúlá		id.	Sternly, angrily	
múmlu		n.	heaviness	
mùɔ̀		conj.	With	
múna		n.	Flesh	
múna		n.	Meat	
muna ⁺		adv.	Not	
múnãso	ínãso	n.	Animal (Bush)	
múpánó		n.	Clan name	
músǔ	ísǔ	n.	Year	
musǔ ⁺	isǔ ⁺	n.	Seed/stone/pip	
mùshà		n.	Clan name	
músù	ámúsù	n.	Cat	< Hausa
mùtà		num.	Seven	
múwa	íwá	n.	Snake (Generic)	
múzǔ		n.	Journey, travel	
múzǔ	ízǔ	n.	Oil-palm ²⁰	
múzã		n.	Stream I	
múzrɔ̀		n.	Clan name	
mótà		n.	Bow	
m̀vê		excl.	Expresses sympathy	
mvéle		n.	Manliness	
N.				
na		v.	Go	
na		v.	Work	
na lubala		v.p.	Marry husband	
na ⁺		v.	Do I	
nàjìmi		conj.	After	
nàrɔ̀		num.	Four	
narà		n.	Goitre	
narùkpené	ànàrùkpené	n.	Pig	pl. also m̀nàrùkpené
nayisi		int.	When?	

²⁰ (*Elaeis guineensis*)

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
ńbã		n.	Knife	
ńcĕ		n.	Saliva	
ńcĕ		n.	Fence	
ńcô		n.	First	
nda	—	n.	Father	
ndakpò		n.	Father's, mother's elder brother	
ndakwê		n.	Father's, mother's younger brother	
nere		v.	Lick	
nènè		a.	Sweet	
ńéré		n.	Rain	
nerε		n.	Eunuch	
ńgblã	ágblã	n.	Manner	
ńgbladzí	ágbladzí	n.	Wrongdoing	
ńgúnu		id.	Sound of hitting	
ngwâbè		excl.	Greeting to a man	
ní		v.	Extinguish	
nì		v.	Bury	
nì mí	ànì mí	n.	Orange ²¹	< Hausa
níní		v.	See	
nínkpi	munínkpi	n.	Seer	
ninyrã	míninyrã	n.	Wife, female	
ńjĕ		n.	Fat/grease	
ńklwī		n.	Patience	< Hausa <i>hankuri</i> .
ńkɔɔ		n.	Gruel	
ńkpī	—	n.	Place	
nkpĩdzèla		n.	Brightness, plainness	
ńkplĕ		n.	Okra ²²	
ńkpō		n.	Wickedness	
ńkwálè		n.	Water	
ńkwálε		n.	'Drink'	
ńla		n.	Sleep	
ńlá		n.	Difficulty	
ńna	àmùna	n.	Cow, cattle	
ńne		dem.	that	
ńne ⁺		art.	The/this	
ńnoro	ánoro	n.	Mud	
ńnɔsónó		n.	Palm-oil	
ńnɔ		n.	Oil	
ńnyε	mínyε	n.	Person/people	
ńnyé		int.	Who?	
ńnyi	inyi	n.	Mouth	
ńηmàlè		n.	Happiness	
nònó		v.	Become fat	

²¹ (*Citrus sinensis*)²² (*Abelmoschus esculentus*)

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
nɔ		v.	Write	
nɔ⁺		v.	Be (I)	
nɔ⁺		v.	Become	
nrɔ⁺		v.	Give pain	
ńsá		n.	Salt	
ńsí		n.	Tear	
ńsó		n.	Ashes	
ńsɔ̃		n.	Shame	
ńsɔ̃		n.	Race/running	
ńswàná		n.	Hair	
ńswanimru		n.	Beard	'hair of chin'
ńtòtòkɔ		n.	Mud	
ńtrè		n.	Gum/glue	
ńtrí		n.	Guinea-yam ²³	
nùnu nkɔlɔ		v.p.	Make gruel	
ńvǎ		n.	Birdseye chili ²⁴	
nwǎ		v.	Obey	
ńwalá		n.	Sun	
nwàɛ		dem.	This	
nwǎɛ		dem.	That I	
nwísì		int.	Which?	
ńwo		excl.	Yes	
nwó		n.	Cutting I	
ńwô		excl.	Yes	
nwù		v.	Butcher	
nyankwáɛ	ínyankwáɛ	n.	Hippo	
nyèzǔ	mínyèzǔ	n.	Guest/stranger	
nyéłó	mínyéłó	n.	In-laws	
nyémùla		n.	Needle	
nyézhò	ázhò	n.	Young man	
nyê		adv.	Past time	
nyekúkǔ	mínyekúkǔ	n.	Old person	
nyemūgá	mínyemūgá	n.	Doctor	
nyenyé	mínyenyé	n.	Bravery	
nyeríná		v.	Walk	
nyevelè	mínyevelè	n.	Man	
nyí⁺		conj.	Because	
nyíbǔ		int.	Why?	
nyíkpíkṗí	mínyíkpíkṗí	n.	Ghost	
nyínyê		n.	Truth	
nyinyrǎ	mínyinyrǎ	n.	Woman	
nyo kínyî		v.	Tear with teeth	
nyolo		pron.	Somebody	
nyrajo	ijò	n.	Woman in joking relationship	

²³ (*Dioscorea guineensis*)

²⁴ (*Capsicum annuum*)

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
			with man	
nyrá mudru		n.	Widow	'inherited wife'
nyrḑ		v.	Sharpen	
nywa ⁺		n.	Grandmother	original term, but also used in insults
ńzá		int.	What type?	
ńzane		adv.	At this moment	
ńzē		n.	Blood	
nzi		n.	Sesame leaves ²⁵	
ńzò		n.	Cowpea ²⁶	
ńzḑ		n.	Smoke	
		n.	Tobacco	
Ŋ.				
ńgà		n.	Personal name	woman
ńgbá		n.	Claw	
ńgbetré		n.	Forehead	
ńmlb ⁺		n.	River frog	
ńmlb ⁺		v.	Swallow	
ńmḑńmlḑ ⁺		n.	Naked	
O.				
òcā	múcā	n.	Uncle	
òco	múco	n.	Male ancestor	
òdó	ídó	n.	Horse	
oka	ka	n.	Word, matter, issue	
oka		n.	News	
óplà	áplà	n.	Lightning	
òsi		n.	God	This is the vocative form, with o-prefix. nasi is also possible. cf. Jijili usi ,
oyi	áyí	n.	Thief	
òzò	ízò, mùzò	n.	Guinea-fowl	
Ɔ.				
ḑ		excl.	Pause-filler	
ḑcī		n.	Bush-rat I	
ḑjé	ìjé	n.	Witch	
ḑkḑ	mùkḑ	n.	Buffalo	
ḑke		n.	Animal sp. I	

²⁵ (H. *karkashi*)²⁶ (*Vigna unguiculata*)

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
ðkpa		n.	Antelope sp. I	
ðtsa	átsa	n.	Moon/month	
ðvõ	ivõ	n.	Goat	
ðzhì	mùzhì	n.	Bush-rat II	
P.				
pa		v.	Beat (drum)	
		v.	Beat (s.o.)	
		v.	Flog	
pà		v.	Hit/strike (drum)	
pà...sala		v.	Smash	
pákítá		v.	Pay debt	
pánó		n.	Floor-beater	
pàplà		adv.	Fast, quickly	
parɔ		v.	Tear (cloth etc.)	
para ⁺		v.	Wipe	
pàtà		?	All over, plenty, much	
pê		id.	Sound of object falling	
pê		id.	Expresses gentleness or softness	
pε ⁺		v.	Know	
pise		v.	Want/need	
pise ⁺		v.	Seek	
píyē		v.	Pour (liquid)	
plà		v.	Change direction	
plâ		v.	Turn off	
plâ		id.	Sound of a catapult	
plâ, pàplà		adv.	Early	
pligě		v.	Deviate	
pló		conj.	Plus	
põ ⁺		v.	Stagger	
prɔ ⁺		v.	Clear bush	
púpú		a.	Deep white	
R.				
rà		v.	Play	
rətóməzǎ		n.	River-bank	
ri ⁺		v.	Rise	
ríblí	—	n.	Body	
rici	áci	n.	Firewood	
ríje		n.	Porridge	
rísí, lísí		?	Like	

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
ritre muga	atre muga	n.	Shrine I	
rogò		n.	Cassava ²⁷	
rɔ ⁺		v.	Call (to someone)	
rúbõ		n.	Land, country, ground, world	
rùbõrùbõ		id.	Lower	
rúgǔ	ńgǔ	n.	Mountain, hill	
rúgõ		n.	Disease (generic), sickness	
rugbẽ		v.	Hunt	
rùgbã		adv.	Clearly, perfectly, well	
rugrɔ		n.	Rainy Season	
rúgɔsónó		n.	Leprosy	'disease + x'
rújwe		n.	Fish-Net I	
rúlwe		n.	Sky	
rúmɔ		n.	Worm sp.	
rùnó		num.	Eight	
ruplé		n.	Penis	
rúsonò		n.	Well-being, peace	
rúvõ		n.	Trust, confidence	Originally referred to the juice from a poisonous plant used in ordeals
S.				
sala		v.	Split	
sàprù		n.	Soap (Modern)	< Hausa sabulu .
sásò		n.	Lessening	
sawá		n.	Fear	
sɛ	ala	v.	Hatch (egg) I	
sèlɛ		v.	Slip	
sé		v.	Sing	
sé		v.	Snap I	
sé		v.	Strain	
sɛlɛ		v.	Dig	
sɛmɛ		v.	Cut in two	
sɛmɛ		v.	Cut off (head etc.)	
sɛmɛ bẽ		v.	Snap in two	
sɛrɛ		v.	Deny	
shĩ		?	All I	
shá	múshá	n.	Husband	
shakata		n.	Water-yam ²⁸	
shámá	àshámá	n.	Louse (Human)	
shishe ⁺		a.	Dirty I	
shishíshe		a.	Dirty II	

²⁷ (Manihot esculenta)

²⁸ (*Dioscorea alata*)

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
sho ⁺		v.	Ask/beg for something	
shōka, shōyi		v.	Ask a question	
sho ⁺		v.	Dip, draw water	
sho ⁺		v.	Fetch	
shō	páŋ	v.	Lying down, be	
shòkopa		n.	Rice ²⁹	< Hausa
shònlà		v.	Sleep	
shró ⁺		id.	Sound of rustling	e.g. a snake
shúshō		v.	Lie down	
sí		v.	Point	
símí		v.	Carve (wood etc.)	
sísá		a.	New	
sise ⁺		v.	Stir (soup)	
sìsèlè		n.	Maize ³⁰	
sìtsalísà		excl.	Goodnight!	
sívò		excl.	Until tomorrow!	
sō		num.	Five	
sō		adv.	Quietly	
sṵ	mùsṵ	n.	Python	
sṵ		adv.	Quiet	
sòno		v.	Roast on coals	
srwē		v.	Join	
srwīsrwē		v.	Float	reduplication of srwē ‘to join’
súlúlú		adv.	Immediately	
súrú		a.	Many II (emphatic)	
súsónó		a.	Red, yellow	
swa		v.	Climb, ride (horse etc.)	
swé		v.	Drink	
swé		v.	Suck (breast etc.)	
swí		v.	Fill hole	
swile		v.	Twist (rope etc.)	
swile		v.	Plait (hair)	
T.				
ta		v.	Chew	
tā ⁺		v.	Eat	
tá		v.	to dissolve	
tana ⁺		v.	Tell	
tàsò		v.	Untie	
tàtà		adv.	Steeply	
tàtà		adv.	More so	

²⁹ (*Oryza sativa/ glaberrima*)

³⁰ (*Zea mays*)

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
tátàcò		v.	Do s.t. more	
tàtàkplĩ		n.	Butterfly	
tàtàwâlo		?	More, all the more	
tê		conj.	Whether, or	
tényê		a.	very old (person)	
tíne		adv.	That time	
tingĩli		a.	Small II	
títê		a.	Dark-coloured	inc. green, blue etc.
to...lugba		v.	Help	
tónónó		v.	Remain silent	
tó		adv.	Now	
tɔ ⁺		v.	Hate	
tɔ ⁺		v.	Refuse	
tɔ̀		v.	to peel (yams)	
tɔɔ ⁺		v.	Abuse	
trémé	átrémé	n.	Chameleon	
trĩ		v.	broadcast seeds	
tritré		v.	Pronounce curse	'to sow a curse'
trõtrõ		a.	Smooth	
tró		v.	Cook	
trɔ		v.	Carry	
trumo ⁺		v.	Be cold	
trwã		v.	Swell up	
tsa		v.	Give birth	
-tsè		adv.	a while	
tsé	àtsé	n.	Blacksmith	
tsene ⁺		v.	Count	
tsi		v.	Harvest (yam)	
tsrôtsrô			?	
tsrà(tsrà)		adv.	Quickly I	Emphatic. Used mainly to children.
tú		v.	Germinate	
		v.	Pierce	
		v.	Sew	
		v.	Stab	
túlo		adv.	Ever	
túlo		adv.	Very fast	
tùtrɔ		v.	Laugh	
tútró	átútró	n.	Unripeness, freshness	
U.				
ùvã		n.	snake sp. I	
ùva/òva	íva	n.	Dog	

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
V.				
vélevéle		a.	Full	
vlò		v.	to mix	
võ		v.	Be rotten	
võ		v.	Harvest (cassava)	
võ̃		v.	Uproot (tuber)	
vrò		a.	Red (emphatic)	
vri		id.	Sound of stone being thrown	
vrî		id.	Intensity of speed	
vukɔ⁺		v.	Forget	
vúvlú		a.	Light-coloured	
W.				
wá		v.	Stative	
wara		v.	Break (stick)	
wara		v.	Harvest (maize)	
wara⁺		v.	Pluck	
wàyàwàyà		v.	Openly, freely	
wɔ⁺		v.	Kill	
wrɔ̃		v.	Break object	
wrùtùtù		id.	Describes whirring of wings or the hum of a crowd	
wũ		v.	Slaughter (animal)	
wusɔ		v.	Listen	
		v.	Hear	
Y.				
yà	áyà	n.	Friend	
yàka		v.	Show, explain, tell	
yé		v.	Fly (birds)	
ye gbõ		v.	Jump up	
ye zuzwe		v.	Jump down	
yi		v.	Steal	
yise		v.	Push	
yuwɔ⁺		v.	Hold	
ywara		v.	Dry in sun	
ywara⁺		v.	Spread out	

Singular	Plural	PoS	Meaning	Additional information
Z.				
zǎ		v.	Return I	
zà		v.	Arrive home	
zá, zǎ		v.	Short while	
zābɛ àbě		num.	Twenty	10 x 2
zābɛ mizī		num.	Sixty	
zābɛ nàrɔ		num.	Forty	
zābɛ rúnó		num.	Eighty	
zābɛ rúnó		num.	Hundred	
zābè		num.	Ten	12-2 ?
zābè plo àbě		num.	Twelve	10 cross-over 2
zābè plo lo		num.	Eleven	10 cross-over 1
zacé		num.	Nine	12-3 ?
záŋwǒ		v.	Weep	
zàrɔ		n.	Fanning	
zàrɔ		v.	to choose	
zē		v.	Far	
zhédùmú		n.	Village name	
zhàgàzhàgà		adv.	Fancily, excessively	
zhé	àzhé	n.	King/chief/ruler	
zhegbɛn		n.	Leopard	
zhri		conj.	Still, for a while	
zì		v.	Standing, be	
zìkpǒ		v.	Be bent	
zízì		v.	Stand up	
zó		part.	Pre-verbal negative	
zoro		v.	Mould (pot)	
zoro...nkpǒ		v.	Hurt	
zǒ		v.	Flow (water etc.)	
zòrɔ		v.	Make	
zɔrɔ		v.	Continue (to do s.t.)	
zrwē		adv.	Precariously	
zrwâzrwâ		adv.	Younger in group	
zûm		?	All II	
zuma ⁺	àzuma	n.	Large hoe	
zúzwá		a.	Good	
zuzwa ⁺	ázuzwa ⁺	n.	Goodness	
zwe		v.	Build (house etc.)	
zwé		v.	Pound (in mortar)	
zwì ncě		v.	Spit	

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