CONJUNCTIONS AND CO-ORDINATION IN TAROK

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION	1
4. SERIAL VERB CONSTRUCTIONS	5
REFERENCES	5

TABLES

Table 1. Tarok conjunctions	
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1. Introduction

Table 1 shows the conjunctions so far identified in Tarok.

Table 1. T	arok conjunctions	
Tarok	Gloss	Comment
bén k-	because of	The vowel and tone following k- assimilates to the prefix of the following noun.
hár	until	< Hausa
k-	with, and	The vowel shows concord and tonal agreement with the following noun- prefix. The particle is used together with tnumber nouns aman 'addition of' and ìsòm 'multiple of' in composite number.
k <u>a</u> kúl kang	because and/but	
té	when, then	narrative conjunction particle (then) linking one part of a story to another
kipi	with	Brackets noun
kpá	also	
mo té	maybe, perhaps	
ра	like that, as that	used to make comparisons
wa, w-	like	The vowel can assimilate to the prefix of the following noun.

bén k- because of...

The vowel and tone following k- assimilates to the prefix of the following noun.

uTali	bén kù	ùyèn	wò	kang	à	pá	ìlùkwàn
Tali	because	child	his	before	he	wear	shirt
Tali was	able to wea	ır a shirt	because	e of his c	hild (i	i.e. the cl	nild supported him).

uTalibén kámmayikangàgbálamantaTalibecausewebeforehefinishschoolTali was able to to finish schoolbecause of us (i.e. we supported him through).

uTali bén ko wò te, arìzàng bíbén á ná ocar Tali because wives his that Rainy-season good for him Tali was able to have a good harvest because of the help of his wives (i.e. his wives have been most supportive).

uTali bén ki iva wò kang a ba cu nzhi Tali because dog his that he came reach home Tali was able to return home because of the help of his dog (i.e. his instrumental to his safe return).

hár, hál until

I lòk **ù**kpàng yál hál á i rí kang gà. i porridge until it before We waited cook went-away. we ate we We waited until the porridge cooked we ate before leaving.

Bu	làk	mi	hál	mi	wóng	nzhi	kang	i	σà.
You-will	wait	me	until	I	close-for	home	before	we	g0.
You have to wait for me to close from work before we can go.							-		

k- with, and

The vowel shows concord with the following noun-prefix.

n	tat	agúng	nzhí	kí	ìwàr		
Ι	shot	derelict	house	with	arrow		
I shot against the derelict house with an arrow.							

n tat agúng ìzhí ká ashár I kicked derelict house with foot I kicked the wall with my foot.

Assimilation with any central vowel in the stem is with the neutral central vowel <u>a</u>;

ÙJùlcít	yár	ngbət	k <u>á</u>	ndakal.		
Julcit	carry	pot	and	mat.		
Julcit carried a pot and a mat.						

ùTali	wur	ován	k <u>á</u>	ngbát
Tali	carry pl.	children	with	pots
Tali and	the children	carried the	pots.	

ùTali	kú	ùPàì	cíng.
Tali	and	Pai	run away pl.
Tali and	Pai ran		

k- also forms composite numbers for higher numerals together with aman 'addition, plus' and isim 'multiple'

ùgb <u>á</u> pci	(ká)	am <u>a</u> n	р <u>а</u>	sháɗəng.		
ten	and	addition	of	three		
ten plus three i.e thirteen						

ìsàm	pi	ipàrśm	(ká) am <u>a</u> n	р <u>а</u>	pàrśm.
ten	of	two	(and) addition	of	two
twenty-	·two				

The conjunction is optional. Further shortening can take place as in these examples;

nzhizhi	р <u>а</u>	ngb <u>a</u> pci	aman	ра	sháɗəng.		
House-his	of	ten	plus	of	three.		
He has thirteen houses.							

nzhí	р <u>а</u>	ngb <u>a</u> ci	asháɗəng.
House-his	of	ten	of-three.
Thirteen hou	ises.		

nzhí houses twenty-tw	ìsòm multiple ro houses.	pi of	ipàrám two	(ká) am<u>a</u>n (and) addition	p <u>a</u> of	pàróm. two
nzhí houses twenty-tw	ìsòm multiple o houses.	pâpà twent	r y-two			

A compound sentence can consist of two main clauses joined by the same k- coordinating conjunction:

n	gà	p <u>á</u>	kèlák	káng	k <u>á</u>	'nnà	kpá	té,	n	gà	n	yá	ná	k <u>á</u> t
Ι	went	INTR	quick	but	with	it-is	too	then,	Ι	go	Ι	see	him	not
I went there on time, but I missed him all the same.														

kang and/but

ùwà	kun	kpá	kang	g ùw	à	fam	kpá.	
It-is-he	poor	also	and	It-i	s-he	proud	also	
It-is-him	that is poo	or as well a	as proud.			_		
	-		-					
ùwà	kùn	kpá	kang	ùwà	cang	ac	en	kpá.
ùwà It-is-he	kùn scarce	kpá also	kang but	ùwà it-is-he	cang likes		e n urney	kpá. also

kakúl because, for the sake of

k<u>a</u>**k**úl usually is placed after the main verb and introduces the dependent clause;

ùz <u>á</u>	cír	k <u>á</u> kúl	p <u>á</u>	ayáng	i	gb <u>á</u> l	wò
he	run	because	that	hunger	will	kill	him
He ran							

However, it is possible to front it, when emphasis is required;

k <u>á</u> kúl	wó	nà	n	lé,	k <u>á</u> t	té	k <u>á</u>	ń	ga	nggà	ìkù
because	you	that	Ι	return,	not	then	should	Ι	go	going-	as-if-dead
										of	

It is for your sake that I returned, if not I should have gone forever.

A wrong tone on **ìkù** is deliberately employed as a rhetorical device to cushion the effect of a direct reference to absconding or death.

(nzəng) k-...pi along with, together with

(nzəng) k-...pi brackets the conjoined noun but young people are changing tit o k-...ki in their speech.

m	6á	kí	ivá	pi	ìpàrśm				
Ι	come	with	dogs	with	two				
I can	me with t	wo dogs							
		-							
Ν	gà	ká	azúl	ikpáng	Ş	pi	itúkún	ôgwár	mi.
Ι	took	with	melon	calabas	sh	of	five	to-in-laws	mine.

I took five measures of melon to my in-laws.

kpá...[kpá] also, too

kpá is placed in a variety pf positions in a clause or sentence. An example of sentence-final position is;

yil té, á càng **ì**yil á kpá n ná Ι laugh then it be sweet laughing him also to When I laughed, so did he.

It can be copied between the first and second clausal elements;

uzi i wá mmáng kpá kang i wá **ìcè** kpá he HAB drink gruel also and he drink beer too He drinks kunnu but he also drinks beer.

U	бá	cít	kpá	té	î	le	nzəng.
You	come	already	too	then	we-will	return	together.
Since you h	nave already	come, we sh	together.				

mo té maybe, perhaps

mo té can either conjoin clauses or can be fronted for emphasis;

là mo té ò 6á té té, kát **ìlomò** ùzá р<u>а</u>, ìpín nggò he that maybe he come tomorrow doubt then not then day after tomorrow say He said that maybe he will come tomorrow or the next day.

The particle **hggò** expresses doubt about intentions and adds to the emphasis on uncertainty

Mo té,	mmaɓú	na	u	wur	akwàp	mi	dakbo?
May be	you-are	one	who	took	shoes	mine	is-it?
Perhaps it w	as you who t	took my sho	bes?				

pa like, as

té when, then

ùz <u>á</u>	bá	té,	á	là	р <u>а</u>	i	gà
he	reached	then	he	said	INTR	we	go
When h	e came, he said	that we sl	nould g	o together with	h him.		

0	gà	0	cú	'nZhàn	té,	0	lòk	mi	k <u>a</u>	tà.
You	go	yo	reach	Gerkawa	then,	you	wait	me	at	there.

When you reach Gerkawa wait for me there.

Ma	la	a	na	р <u>а</u>	upupon	ku.	Té,	uz <u>a</u>	túl	ka	aying.
They	told	to	him	that	his-father	died.	Then	he	burst	in	crying
People told him that his father had died. Then he burst into tears.											

wa, w- like

Ipəri i nəm ikum wi ina k<u>á</u>t.

Horse it do fight like bull not The horse is not as aggressive as the bull.

N rəng pa mi ban na ban kang mmami ka nwa nzam na pa mwang. I thought I might catch up with him but it was in vain.

4. Serial verb constructions

Tarok allows serial verb constructions (SVC) although the long strings of verbs found in southern languages such as Igbo and Yoruba do not usually occur. SVCs are a common way of expressing sequencing of two events;

akèri	fál	gà	arán
soup	boil	go	over the brim
The soup boiled and spilled over		-	

Ìpəripəri	cir	rú	gwak	té	a	wuwóng	k <u>a</u> ďí		
his horse	run	fall	gwak	then	it	get up	again		
His horse ran and fell gwak and then got up again.									

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