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#### THE KADU LANGUAGES AND THEIR

AFFILIATION: BETWEEN NILO-SAHARAN,

#### NIGER-CONGO AND AFRO-ASIATIC

### Roger Blench

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background

The Kadu, or Kadugli-Krongo, languages spoken in the Nuba mountains, are now usually held to be Nilo-Saharan. However, they were previously grouped with the other, Kordofanian, languages of the Nuba area, creating a misleading association with West African languages. The Kadu languages were first described by MEINHOF (1915-19), and then by MCDIARMID & MCDIARMID (1931) who named the group 'Talodi-Kadugli' and in more detail by STEVENSON (1956-7), who first used the term 'Kadugli-Krongo'. GREENBERG (1950, 1963) (under the soubriquet 'Tumtum') classified them as Niger-Congo (Niger-Kordofanian in his terminology), but noted that they were distinct from the other Kordofanian languages. TUCKER & BRYAN (1956:72-74; 1966:300-312), whose data all came from Stevenson, maintained an agnostic view typical for languages of this region, treating them as isolates. SCHADEBERG (1981a), while far from reaching a definitive conclusion, proposed that many features of Kadu are better aligned with Nilo-Saharan. This view has subsequently been accepted by scholars of the phylum such as DIMMENDAAL (1987), STEVENSON<sup>1</sup> (1991), and later BENDER (1996, 2000), with only EHRET (1995, 2000, 2001) remaining a significant objector.

Nonetheless, the question of the affiliation of the Kadu languages is not so simply resolved; one problem is the presence of well-established liger-Congo roots in Kadu, including some that appear to be absent in the

Kordofanian languages proper. In addition, Kadu has features that might align it more with Afro-Asiatic, particularly its case systems and gender marking. EHRET (2000) has argued that Kadu is not Nilo-Saharan on the grounds that it does not show the common features posited in his own reconstruction of Nilo-Saharan (EHRET 2001). This argument has a certail circularity, and given the lack of wide acceptance of EHRET's reconstructe Nilo-Saharan this may possibly not be the best basis for classification EHRET assigns Kadu to Niger-Congo by comparing a Swadesh list of Krong with hypothetical proto-Niger-Congo forms, apparently drawn from WESTERMANN (1927). This procedure inevitably has problems; taking on language in isolation may produce resemblances that are not typical of the Kadu group as a whole. For example, the Kadu word for 'ash' is broadle #fudo, but in Krongo it is toolo, which certainly is a Niger-Congo root, but is atypical for Kadu and probably a loan. In addition, in the light of the lack of agreement on Niger-Congo reconstructions, the comparison with an individual language becomes a somewhat subjective matter.

The gradual accessibility of new data, a recent reanalysis of Kadu phonology (HALL & HALL 2004), and the broader context of a re-evaluation of Nilo-Saharan suggest that the time is right for a new look at the classification of the Kadu group. The core of the paper is a tabulation of roots shared either with Niger-Congo, or with Niger-Congo and other Nilo-Saharan languages, as well as a consideration of the gender-marking in Kadu and its possible external parallels. There are five alternative hypotheses as to the classification of Kadu;

- a. Kadu is Niger-Congo
- b. Niger-Saharan<sup>2</sup> is a reality and Niger-Congo and Nilo-Saharan cognates are to be expected
- c. Kadu is an isolate influenced by various African language phyla
- d. Kadu is Afro-Asiatic
- e. Kadu is Nilo-Saharan

Whatever the decision on classification, resemblances between Kadu and Niger-Congo can have three explanations;

a. Apparent cognates (between Kadu and Niger-Congo) are chance resemblances

- b. Kadu came under the influence of now-disappeared Kordofanian languages from which the lexical items were borrowed
- c. The cognates reflect the genetic unity of Niger-Congo and Nilo-Saharan.

This contribution sets out some of this evidence and then asks how, and indeed whether, we can decide between various classificatory hypotheses. No immediate result can be expected; Kadu is clearly quite remote from any of its progenitors and has also borrowed extensively from present and former neighbours. Nonetheless, it is important to try and reconsider accepted wisdom, and in particular the possibility that Kadu languages are isolates, like Laal or Hadza. Traditions of classification in African languages have sometimes been over-anxious to ensure all the languages of the continent fit into a small number of boxes, which is rather at variance with our overall perception of the antiquity of the languages of the continent.

#### 1.2 What data is available?

Considering the generally poor state of our knowledge of the languages of the Nuba hills, documentation on the Kadu group is fair, although most of the data is now rather venerable. The pioneer in the area was Carl Meinhof, who in addition to his work on the Kordofanian languages published a series of articles on Talasa, Miri, Kadugli, Krongo and Deiga (Meinhof 1915-1919). Schadeberg (1994) gives a fairly comprehensive bibliography of the published material available up to the early 1990s, which is reprised in the present references. A significant addition is the comparative Kadu wordlists of Roland Stevenson<sup>3</sup>, who collected extensive data on these languages but published little of it. During the 1990s, considerable new work has gone into the phonology of Kadu languages, with a view to the creation of orthographies, the results of which are found in manuscripts in Khartoum. None of this has been published, although the results are summarised in HALL & HALL (2004). Table 1 lists the major sources of data drawn on in this paper;

Table 1: Major data sources on Kadu languages

Language	References and sources			
General	MEINHOF (1915-1919), McDiarmid & McDiarmid (1931), Stevenson (1956-57), Schadeberg (1994), Dafalla (2000), Stevenson mss.			
Kadu	ABDALLA (1973), MATSUSHITA (1984, 1986), BLANDIA & BLANDIA (1995), ANON. (2002)			

The Kadu Languages and Their Afriliation

Kamda BARSHAM ET AL. (1996), HALL (2004) Kanga KUWA (n.d.) Katcha STEVENSON (ined.) Keiga (Deiga, REH (1994), BLENCH & FRAJALLA (ined.) Yegang) Krongo REH (1983, 1985) Kufo BLENCH & MONGASH (ined.) Miri ELYAS ET AL. (1996) Tamba YOUNIS (1995) Tulishi KUKU ET AL. (1997)

Additional materials are to be found in the references.

## 2 WHAT LANGUAGES CONSTITUTE THE KADU GROUP?

All the Kadu languages are quite close to one another; SCHADEBERG (1994) conducted lexicostatistical counts and found that the remotest languages showed 60% cognacy. DAFALLA (2000) indicates percentages that go as low as 30%, but this may be an artefact of the cultural vocabulary included in her 179-word list. STEVENSON classified Kadu lects into three branches, Western, Central and Eastern, which broadly matches the lexicostatistical results. Table 2 shows the names that STEVENSON (mss.) uses in comparison with SCHADEBERG (1994) and DAFALLA (2000);

Table 2. Reference names of Kadu lects

<b>33</b> 7				-		
Western			Central		Eastern	
RCS	Schadeberg	Other	RCS	Schodohous		
Tulishi	Mudo			Schadeberg	RCS	Schadeberg
		Kutuli- shi	Miri	Miri	Krongo	Krongo-
Kamdang		3111	Kadugli	Tr. II		[Tabanya]
Keiga	Yegang		Katcha	Talla Tolibi	Fama	
Demik			Krongo	TOHOL	Tumtum	Talasa
Kanga	TZ C		Abdulla		Kurondi	
ixanga	Kufo		Tumma	Sangali		
Abu				[Tuna]		
Sinun				Damba=Ta		
Chiroro	[Shororo]			mba		
		Kursi				

Names in italics are lects not mentioned in STEVENSON or SCHADEBERG. Names in square brackets are more recent orthographic versions of the names given by STEVENSON and SCHADEBERG.

SCHADEBERG (1994) gives the names of the languages and peoples in the particular lects and notes where REH (1985, 1994) offers a variant form. Orthographic forms developed in the context of literacy programmes can look somewhat different from more conventional versions; for example, Kamda is now written Tuxmux'daxh.

### 3 THE PHONEMIC INVENTORY OF COMMON KADU

The function of this paper is not to propose a proto-Kadu; the quality of the data remains a problem. SCHADEBERG (1994) proposed the following consonant inventory (excluding the prenasalised stops);

	Labial	Dental	Alveolar	Retroflex	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
Plosive		d		đ	j	g	
Implosive	6		ď				
Nasal	m		n		n	ŋ	
Fricative	f		s				
Approximant					у	w	
Liquids	_	:	l, r				
Glottal							?

This inventory is similar to those of many of the neighbouring languages. HALL & HALL (2004) give more details as to the phonemes recognised for each lect, noting that an implosive /f/ must be recognised as a phoneme for some lects. Kadu languages permit a series of prenasalised stops and a variable range of geminate consonants. /f/ and /f/ occur in some phonologies, notably Kanga and Kufo, but may not be contrastive. Kadu languages have a complex morphophonology that involves the voicing of dentals, retroflex, fricatives and velars in intervocalic position. The orthographies have tended to write the voiceless form; thus intervocalic -k-is pronounced f/f/ but written f/f/.

The vowels are worthy of comment. SCHADEBERG (1994) proposes a 'basic seven vowel system', a symmetrical system lacking the close-mid vowels, and REH (1985, 1994) proposes a similar system for Krongo and Keiga. However, more recent analyses have proposed nine- or ten-vowel ±ATR sets (e.g. Kuwa 1994; Blandia & Blandia 1995; Anon. 2002; Hall & Hall 2004). This would not be unlikely, given the prevalence of such systems in this region (neighbouring Kordofanian languages, Nubian

etc., as well as more distant Nilo-Saharan languages such as Fur and most East Sudanic). So proto-Kadu may have had ten phonemic vowels as in Table 3;

Table 3. Kadu vowels

	Front	Central	Back
Close	i		u
	ι		υ
Mid	e		o
	3	ə*	э
Open		a	

[\*open rather than mid?]

It is the case that minimal pairs are not always forthcoming, especially for the mid vowels, which could be used to argue for an eight-vowel system. Only Kamda and Keiga have clear minimal pairs for the +ATR central vowel [versus a?] (HALL & HALL 2004), but speakers who have been taught to write their language and to distinguish ±ATR sets through orthographic conventions appear to consistently distinguish mid vowels even in monomorphemic words. This argues that these distinctions are underlyingly present throughout. Kadu languages appear to be quite strict in only permitting one harmony set in the stem, but harmony may not necessarily apply to number affixes and any stem can have up to three such affixes. As a consequence, harmony is less than pervasive.

#### a) Tones

Kadu language are certainly tonal; SCHADEBERG (1994) and REH (1994) assume two tones, but MATSUSHITA (1984) posits three for Kadu(gli) and this is also given for Kanga by KUWA (1994). The most common system, though, appears to be two tones plus downstep, which is also common in many non-Kadu languages in the region.

## b) Orthographic conventions

Orthographic conventions, especially for vowels, have been the subject of some controversy. The orthography of Kanga, Kadu, Kamda, Miri and Kufo use a convention whereby the +ATR vowels are followed by -x. Thus in Kufo:

<b>IPA</b>	Orthography	Example	<b>IPA</b>	Gloss
3	e	eeze	<b>ЕЕ</b> ZЕ	fish trap (pl.)
e	ex	`bexlix	beli	farming tool (pl.)

This has the disadvantage of making long written forms, but speakers seem to accept it, and it has the advantage of being easily handwritten. Keiga and Katcha use a dieresis to mark +ATR vowels. Consonants use common Sudanese conventions;

IPA	Orthographic	Geminated
ÿ	th	thth
ê	dh	dhdh
ë	`d	

The dental plosives /d/ and /t/ use unmarked forms in the orthographies. No orthographies mark tone, although this is under consideration (HALL 2004).

#### 4 EXTERNAL COMPARISON OF KADU

#### 4.1 Morphosyntax

In the field of morphosyntax, Kadu shows features that seem to differentiate it from the main African language phyla, notably gender and case-marking. Table 4 tabulates these features and compares them with the on a simple presence/absence basis;

Table 4. Features of Kadu compared with other African phyla

Feature	Kadu	Niger-Congo	Nilo-Saharan	Afroasiatic
Nominal affixes	Yes	Yes	Fragmentary	No
Verbal extensions	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Case-marking	Yes	No	Fragmentary	Yes
Gender affixes	Yes	No <sup>4</sup>	No	Yes

Strangely, this tabulation makes Kadu look more like Afroasiatic than the phyla with which it has lexical cognates. Features such as gender and casemarking are also associated with Khoesanoid languages such as Hadza. Representatives of neither of these phyla are found close to where Kadu is spoken today, which rules out the effect of recent contact.

## 4.1.1 Nominal affixes and concord

Although he seems never to have assumed there was a genetic connection part of Meinhof's fascination with the Kordofanian languages was a parallels between their morphology and that of Bantu, especially alternating nominal affixes and concord. When Westermann (1935) final argued for a genetic link between Bantu and the rest of Niger-Con ('Western Sudanic') he referred to Kordofanian, but never brought eviden from these languages into his argument. STEVENSON (1956-57) was strong influenced by the classificatory aspect of affixes in Kordofanian arorganised his materials as a Bantu-like nominal concord system we semantic associations. Whether his classes of 'long, thin things', 'dangero things' apply to the Niger-Congo Kordofanian languages may be debate but the exercise becomes distinctly Procrustean when it is imposed on to Kadu languages.

GREENBERG's (1963:149-160) assignation of the Kadu languages Niger-Congo cites two main criteria, the apparent presence of an operation system of alternating nominal prefixes and correspondences in the person pronouns. In the case of nominal prefixes, GREENBERG compares the prefix used to form abstract nouns in Katla with the Bantu prefix bubilabial prefix b- (in Keiga and Katla) is also said to characterise a class large animals, comparable to the ba- class in Fulfulde. SCHADEBER (1981a:299 ff.) has evaluated these arguments and shows that they arise from a limited knowledge of comparative material.

The first challenge to the view of STEVENSON and GREENBERG is SCHADEBERG (1981a:301), who argued from then-unpublished data of Krongo that Kadu languages had an underlying three-term system, where the unmarked form was 'inherently' singular or plural (semantically unspecifie might be a better way to name this). Affixes were then used to creat singulatives and pluratives (DIMMENDAAL calls pluratives the 'replacement pattern'). REH (1994) argues that the affixes in Kadu identified by STEVENSON and GREENBERG are in fact productive or fossil morphemes of this tripartite number system. REH gives examples for Krongo (1985:101) and Keiga (1994:219) of the working of these oppositions. Kadu languages have a widespread singulative prefix tV- and a plurative prefix nV-. MATSUSHITA (1984) does not explicitly set out such a system for Kadu, but his lexical data provide numerous examples of affixes showing this pattern. Kufo also has either tu- or ti- for the singulative and na- for the plural. SCHADEBERG (1981a:302) noted the similarities with GREENBERG's characterisation of Nilo-Saharan, in particular the 'abstract and singular' suffix in -t and the plurals in -n. DIMMENDAAL (2000a) has now shown that such a tripartite system is typical of several other branches of Nilo-Saharan.

The analytic problem arose from the way STEVENSON presented his data; the number systems of Kadu languages are *not* best treated as alternating singular/plural affixes.

Another problem for the comparison with Bantu-like systems is the absence of concord in Kadu. The neighbouring Kordofanian languages all have at least some trace of concord where their nominal affixes remain. This is not conclusive, because concord systems can also become lost in Niger-Congo. But this usually goes hand in hand with the loss of affixes; where there is still a trace of affixing, fossil remnants of the concord are likely to persist. I conclude that Kadu has no concord today because it never did have concord.

An aspect of Kadu that does bear some comparison with Niger-Congo is the semantic clustering around specific affixes. The d-ta-/ga- opposition in Keiga always refers to humans (REH 1994:221), and Kufo has an almost exactly cognate set of forms with ta-/ka- prefixes. MATSUSHITA (1984:21) notes that the s-/ap- prefixes in Kadu generally include containers and STEVENSON (1957:136) adds to this household objects such as 'broom' and 'knife'. The Keiga s~f-/ay- class includes almost exactly the same set of objects (REH 1994:221). Kadu also has a striking BVC-/ɛlli- opposition that includes diminutive objects or young things (MATSUSHITA 1984:21), which recalls the bi- class of Niger-Congo. MATSUSHITA (1984:21) identifies still more class unities, but to discern common features among the items they include definitely requires the eye of faith. Nilo-Saharan languages are known for their diverse plural formations and developing anything like consistent affix/meaning associations is problematic (see DIMMENDAAL 2000b for comment on Baale). But Nilotic/Surmic languages do occasionally show traces of suffixes with identifiable semantic coherence; the singular suffix -ic in Mayak, a Western Nilotic language, includes long thin objects such as stick and snakes, and circular objects such as hats and granaries (ANDERSEN 2000; STORCH p.c.). Nilo-Saharan typically has trace systems with elusive semantics and low levels of cross-language cognacy, very remote from the characteristic classes of Niger-Congo. A feature of Niger-Congo noun-classes is that the membership of classes is well-defined and often very conservative, regardless of the morphophonemic changes the affixes may undergo. SCHADEBERG (1981b:112) shows that in Talodi, the assignation of nouns to affix pairings unifies the group, despite the lack of obvious logic for membership. WESTERMANN (1935) was the first to demonstrate these associations for a wide sample of Niger-Congo languages.

This situation in Kadu is hardly accidental and yet the absence of direct parallels with the semantic clustering of Niger-Congo argues that this is not evidence for a genetic connection. There is no evidence for clusters highly

typical of Niger-Congo such as liquids, large animals and trees. Even the human classes, usually highly conservative, show no cognacy with Niger Congo. I suggest an appeal to metatypy, the transfer of typological or conceptual structures without lexical borrowing. This may have arisen from bilingualism in perhaps disappeared Niger-Congo languages, allowing the crossover of the concept of the association between a semantic cluster and affix pairing, but not the particular clusters themselves<sup>5</sup>.

#### 4.1.2 Verbal extensions

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Another very typical feature of Niger-Congo languages is their system of verbal extensions (WILLIAMSON & BLENCH 2000). Almost all branches of Niger-Congo have at least traces of extensions, although there is strong correlation between rich systems, elaborated noun-classes and SVO word order. Kadu languages have derivational affixes which have related meanings although there is limited cognacy even with Kadu. Table 5 shows some Kadu verbal affixes common to three documented languages.

Table 5. Kadu verbal affixes

Extension	Kadu	Keiga	Krongo
Frequentative	-aana	I-	tVV- (where V harmonises with the
Passive	-adinye	-díyé	stem vowel) -Vtípí (where V harmonises with the
Dative/benefactive	-aada	marked on noun	stem vowel) -Àŋ, -(À)kÀ

Several other affixes are reported (Kadu has a reciprocal suffix, for example), but the table makes clear that only the passive suffix is comparable across the Kadu group. The data does not suggest that strings of verbal affixes can be seriated, Bantu fashion, which may reflect the other complexities of verbal inflection in Kadu. Comparing these affixes with other branches of Nilo-Saharan is problematic both because of its diversity and the different terminologies in use. For example, Anywa seems to have derivational affixes performing extension-like functions which are now incorporated in stems (REH 1996:217 ff.). Surmic and Nilotic both seem to have an old causative prefix *I*- (UNSETH 1998) which looks somewhat like the Keiga frequentative. But all the Nilo-Saharan systems have a tendency to be fugitive and to be 'single-slot' systems. The long strings of affixes that regularly occur in Moro (BLACK & BLACK 1971), a neighbouring

Kordofanian language, occur neither in Kadu nor in any neighbouring Nilo-Saharan languages.

## 4.1.3 Gender-marking

A feature of Kadu languages that has attracted the attention of researchers is the system of gender-marking, highly atypical for a Nilo-Saharan language. Although absent in Keiga (REH 1994), it is present in most other Kadu languages. Although other Nilo-Saharan languages mark gender on pronouns or demonstratives (BENDER 2000) rather like Ijo, the Kadu bound affixes seem to be exceptional. The Krongo system, described by REH (1985: 126 ff.), is as follows;

Table 6. Krongo gender-marking

	Verbal		Demonstrative
Gender	Predicate	Attributive	
Masculine	ø	ŋ-	<b>y</b> -
Feminine	m-	m-	m-
Neuter	n-	n-	n-
Plural	k-	nk-	y-
Source: ada	pted from REF	ı (1985:127)	

Kufo is virtually identical to Krongo, with zero, ma-, na- and ka- prefixes on verbs (BLENCH and MONGASH ined.). The system in Kadu(gli) proper seems to be more elaborated (MATSUSHITA 1984:23 ff.), since there is some correspondence with the singular/plural affixes. Nonetheless the system is evidently underlyingly the same, with a distinction between attributive and demonstrative, zero marking for masculine, m- predominant in feminines, and a gV- affix corresponding to the (n)k- in Krongo. The common demonstrative yV- affix that MATSUSHITA lists as corresponding to many singular classes is surely cognate with the y- of Krongo, although MATSUSHITA does not specifically assign it to the masculine gender. MATSUSHITA does not list a neuter gender, but his wordlist contains the unexplained notation 'mf', masculine-feminine, which may be the same thing. Given that Kadu, Kufo and Krongo are relatively remote from one another on the Kadu 'tree', it seems reasonable to assume that this system is uniform and derives from a single source within Kadu.

Given that gender systems are not typical of this region, an important question is whether Keiga lost the gender system retained in the other branches of Kadu, or did the other languages build their system after the initial diversification of the family? REH (1994:234) argues that Keiga lost

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gender; one interesting piece of evidence for this is the  $3^{rd}$  person possessive pronoun mi, which is irregularly formed within Keiga but which looks like the extension of a typical feminine pronoun with m- to a generalised pronoun.

#### 4.1.4 Case

Another feature of Kadu languages that calls for comment is the presence of case systems. Although Afroasiatic languages have case (HAYWARD 2000:88), it is not regarded as typical for African languages, and is virtually completely absent in Niger-Congo. Kadu languages typically show subject/direct object relations only through word order, but mark other cases through prefixes on nouns. Table 7 shows the case markers recorded for Keiga and Krongo, although all Kadu languages apparently have similar forms.

Table 7. Case markers in Keiga and Krongo

Case Dative/benefactive Comitative Locative Source Instrumental Genitive Ablative Possessive	Keiga à- àgíní- gà- ànì gà- à- mà-	Krongo à- yÁ- kt-, kA- Án- mÁ- nkt-, nkA- kA-
Sources (REH 1985,	1994)	KA-

Keiga and Krongo are relatively distant within Kadu, yet the similarities of their case-markers show that the system must be reconstructed to proto-Kadu. Case-marking is recorded for a number of Nilo-Saharan languages, particularly in Eastern Sudanic. In general, Nilotic and Surmic have nominative systems and other Nilo-Saharan branches, such as Ik, Fur, Maba, Nubian, Nyimang and Tama have accusative systems (KÖNIG 2001). Comparison with systems described in detail such as the suffixes of Ik (KÖNIG 2002:93) and Anywa prepositions (REH 1996:272) do not yield any obvious comparisons. The nominative-absolutive systems in Afroasiatic are typically marked by vowel suffixes and do not obviously resemble Kadu. Overall, it seems that although case-marking is fundamental to Kadu, it is built of idiosyncratic elements within the languages themselves and reflects

its wider Nilo-Saharan context typologically but not through cognate morphemes.

#### 4.2 Lexicon

The major attempts to examine the lexicon of Kadu languages for external comparisons are Greenberg (1963), Schadeberg (1981a), and Ehret (2000). All three note cognates with Niger-Congo languages, and Greenberg and Ehret concluded that Kadu languages were Niger-Congo. Schadeberg (1981a) and Ehret (2000) also mention the possibility of an Afroasiatic connection, but neither the lexicon nor the morphosyntax produce any convincing correspondences. Many lexical items known from Niger-Congo turn out to also have Nilo-Saharan cognates. Appendix 1 lists forms that are reconstructible to proto-Kadu and have Niger-Congo cognates. The Kadu forms are listed first, then other Nilo-Saharan attestations and then the Niger-Congo forms.

Various explanations can be canvassed for these widespread forms, but it is clear that many are part of a lexical fund that is common to both phyla and which may constitute evidence that they should be conjoined into a single macrophylum. More surprising are glosses such as 'head' and 'mouse' that seem to be confined to Kadu and Niger-Congo. Borrowing may be the best explanation for these cases.

#### **5 CONCLUSIONS**

The classification of Kadu languages is not susceptible of an easy solution. Despite their apparent closeness to one another, Kadu languages present a 'bundle' of features that does not necessarily align them with the larger African phyla;

Table 8 shows the results of the more detailed comparison undertaken here.

Table 8. Features of Kadu compared with other African phyla

Nominal affixes

Kadu nominal affixes reflect a three-term number system with a singulative prefix tV-, typical of Nilo-Saharan and not Niger-Congo. The resemblances of some Kadu affix alternations to Niger-Congo may not

be entirely fortuitous, but could result from re-analysis in Kadu. Kadu has no concord. but does have semantic

clustering around affix pairings with a typological resemblance to Niger-Congo.

Verbal extensions Kadu has some identifiable derivational affixes, but does not permit the seriation typical of Niger-Congo

Case-marking Kadu case marking resembles some branches of Nilo-Saharan typologically but presents no formal similarities

Gender Kadu gender marking resembles Afroasiatic typologically but presents no formal similarities

Lexicon Kadu has some lexicon that resembles Niger-Congo and which is not found in Kordofanian languages.

Although Table 4 shows that Kadu languages have typological similarities with Afroasiatic, closer examination shows no resemblances in detail and these are probably convergent features. Nonetheless, it is likely that Afroasiatic languages were once spoken in this region (BLENCH 1999), so perhaps metatypy following bilingualism was responsible for some of the more exotic features of Kadu.

Much of the Kadu lexicon appears to be innovative, but Kadu languages share many roots with broader Nilo-Saharan (SCHADEBERG 1981a:297; STEVENSON 1991). However, Kadu also shares roots with Niger-Congo, including some, like 'head', not attested in Kordofanian. A possible explanation for these is contact with now-disappeared Niger-Congo languages. This is difficult to prove, but it is reasonable to suggest that Kordofanian languages were once connected to other Niger-Congo zones by a chain of vanished languages. In most cases, however, shared roots with Niger-Congo attestations are not confined to Kadu, but have a broader distribution within Nilo-Saharan. This is taken as additional evidence for the existence of a Niger-Saharan macrophylum although sceptics would presumably explain these roots through early contact between Niger-Congo and Nilo-Saharan.

Issues of the lexicon are somewhat separate from the overall classification of the Kadu languages, and structural evidence appears to favour Nilo-Saharan strongly. The three-term number system, affixes with idiosyncratic semantic clustering, case-marking, and absence of concord point to the immediate neighbours of Kadu and away from Niger-Congo or Afroasiatic. The level of embeddedness of these features also suggests that Kadu is not an isolate. Given the general divergence of the branches of Nilo-Saharan,

Kadu's individuality is to be expected. Nonetheless, the convergence of its Nilo-Saharan origins and borrowing, both lexical and through metatypy from Niger-Congo and perhaps Afroasiatic, has combined to create a group of languages that are both highly unusual and of considerable theoretical interest in comparative terms.

#### NOTES

<sup>1</sup> STEVENSON (1991) himself changed his opinion, following the publication of REH's Krongo grammar.

<sup>2</sup> This refers to the hypothesis that Nilo-Saharan and Niger-Congo are genetically related. The Niger-Saharan hypothesis, originating with GREGERSEN (1972) and given strong lexical support in BLENCH (1995, in press a, b) is adduced by EHRET (2000) as the explanation for the ambiguous position of Kadu.

<sup>3</sup> After STEVENSON died in 1992, his papers were boxed and summarily catalogued (BLENCH 1997.) They were first lodged in the Oxford Phonetics Laboratory and then later given to UCLA, where they remain, uncatalogued and unconsulted. This is unfortunate, as they remain a major source for many languages of the Sudan, not just Kadu.

The Ijoid languages do have gender-marking but the evidence is that this is a local innovation, not something to be reconstructed to proto-Niger-Congo (WILLIAMSON p.c.).

Kay Williamson (p.c.) notes that Nembe, an Ijoid language has created semantic cluster with the masculine gender, including humans, spirits, animals, containers, knives, palm trees. This is rather more global than Kadu; whether this is evidence for a universal propensity to classify objects can be debated.

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#### Unpublished data

Kufo wordlist BLENCH & MONGASH (ined.) Keiga BLENCH & FRAJALLA (ined.)

## APPENDIX. KADU LEXICAL ITEMS WITH APPARENT NIGE CONGO COGNATES

#-kub- bor	20		
	•		
NS Kao	du Tulishi Kamdang	Attestation gúba/gubúúni ku'ba/ku'boni	Source Sch94
	Keiga	thoŋu'ba/ku'ba	RCS RCS
	Kanga	kubok	RCS
	Chiroro Miri	cigoboni/kuboni	PCC
		thongoba/kubon	i RCS
	Kadu	thoŋo'bá/ku'bor	u RCS
	Katcha	gùbà/gùbùùní ku'ba/ku'boni/	Mt84
	Krongo Abdi	naagu'ba ullah kubini	RCS
	1 umma	cigubini/kubini	RCS
	Krongo	kubóónì/no-	RCS
_	Fama	kuboni/nu-	R85 RCS
NS ES	Kurondi	koboni	RCS
20	*PN	*käw	Dimmen-
NS CS	Moru-Kadiro	kuwa	daal (1988)
NS CS	Kresh	kowa kpokpo	BW
NC Kru	Wobe		<u>ST76</u>
NC Gur	Daghane	kpa	ALKrCI
NC Ubangia	an Ngbaka	kob-li/-a kúà-	RMB
NC Kwa	Ega	kua- ìkù	Mo88
22474	Adele	dì-nànkờbá/à-	ALKwCI
- Foold	Ogbakiri	ókβύkβ <del>ύ</del>	RMB
JUNIMADE		*kup	KW
NC Mambilo NC Eastern	oid Kwanja Ndung	kfê	Sh80
Lastern	_		Co
— Grassfiel	us PEG	*-gớb`	ELV
NC Bantu	#PWN PB	* 1-2-3	M
		*-kúpà	BLR3

Commentary: Westermann (1927:238) identified this as a Niger-Congo root and Mukarovsky (1976:239) provides extensive additional

cognates. The reconstruction of bone in Nilotic is discussed in DIMMENDAAL (1988:33) who notes that an alternative Proto-Nilotic reconstruction was proposed as \*kyoga BENDER (1992:47) reconstructs bone for his Central Sudanic 'Core' group as #kpa, though some of his examples, such as Lokai, above, are very close to Nilotic. STEVENSON (1991:363) also discusses this root and gives more examples of cognates in Nilo-Saharan.

#deŋ-	to cut, split				
Phylum	Group	Language	Attestation	Comment	Source
NS	Kadu	Mudo	εţţe	cut	Sch94
		Deiga	áték	cut	Sch94
		Miri	aaték	cut	Sch94
		Talla	aadek	cut	Sch94
		Kadugli	dèţţè	cut	Mt86
		Talasa	atte	cut	Sch94
		Proto-Kadu	*deg	cut	Sch81a
NS	ES	Maasai	a-dúŋ	cut	RCS
NS	ES	Nuer	daäk	split	RCS
NS	CS	Yulu	-tíiy	couper	Bo2000
NS	Maban	Aiki	dèm	cut	E
<u>NS</u> _	Saharan	<u>Kanuri</u>	<u>ré-</u>	<u>split</u>	<u>Cy</u> _
NC	PWS		#tèN		W
NC	Kru	Koyo	dè	couper	<b>ALKrCI</b>
NC	Gur	Deg	téŋó	couper	ALGCI
NC	Ubangian	Ngbaka	dĕ	with axe	Mo
NC	Benue-Congo	Cara	tem	cut down	RMB
NC	PB		tín	cut	BLR3
~					

Commentary: GREENBERG (1963:155) gives this as evidence for the membership of Kadu in Niger-Congo, although no cognates in other Kordofanian languages are cited. MUKAROVSKY (1976:523) provides extensive additional Niger-Congo cognates and SCHADEBERG (1981:296) notes this as a possible Kadu-Niger-Congo link. However, the widespread Nilo-Saharan cognates of this root show that Kadu is part of a more extensive pattern. A likely original velar nasal in C<sub>2</sub> position presumably explains the velar reflexes in some languages and nasals elsewhere, especially in Niger-Congo.

	TOUL GLOUP	nce, sing, pl P Lang Talas Kadu Kron	guage Attes sa <b>a6ála</b> igli ( <b>d</b> )àb	àlà play	Sch94
NS NS NS NS	Gumia	Keios	abəlá 6eŋ bal-a	dance, pl to play to dance to play to play, da	Sch94 B79 RCS
NS —— NC	Saharan	Teda	abi	pl. kờ da pl. abea. d	nce Demolin (p.c.) ance Le Cœur
NC	Mande Atlantic	Beng Bedik	bèé 6ulú	to dance	(1950) VV
NC NC NC NC NC NC	Kru Senufo Ubangian Kwa West Benue-Cong Mambiloid	Neyo Nabaj Zande Baule Degema go Mambila	61ī vele do gbéré âblê 6ene bene	song sing dance dance a dance dance dance dance, play	Ferry (1991) ALKrCI ALGCI e Mo88 ALKCI Elugbe (1989)
	Bantu ntarv: A root	PB	#bín	dance dance	(1989) Co

Commentary: A root not identified by WESTERMANN and GREENBERG, to distinguish the non-Mambiloid Bantu languages. However, WILLIAMSON (1989b:258) noted a series of forms suggesting a wider distribution in root and the additional forms given here suggest a Niger-Saharan root.

#-па	give			
	Group	Language	Attestation	Source
NS	Kadu Fur Maba Songhay	Tulishi Kamdang Keiga Miri Katcha Krongo Kurondi Fur Masalit Zarma	anyâ nya na nani (a)'daŋga/ag- dáŋà/a- nana aní ɲu	RCS RCS RCS RCS RCS RS5 RCS 'I gave' RCS RCS BERNARD & WHITE-KABA (1994)
NC	Mande	PSM	*nɔ̃	vv
NC	Atlantic	Balanta	-раа	NC
NC	Kru	Теро	лè	ALKrCI
NC	Adamawa	Yungur	na	RMB
NC	Kwa	Ewe	ná	Ro
NC	Kwa	Avikam	nã	ALKwCI
110	TT TD C	proto-Edoid	*na	E89
NC	WBC	proto-Euotu	****	207
NC NC	EBC	Kambari	nèkè	BCCW
		•		

**Commentary:** This root was first identified for Niger-Congo by WESTERMANN (1927) and reprised by GREENBERG (1963:18). One of the most widespread roots in both Nilo-Saharan and Niger-Congo.

#-tu	head			
Phylum	Group	Language	Attestation	Source
NS		Tulishi	kodu/kiedu	RCS
NS		Kamdang	adhu/niŋg-	RCS
NS		Keiga	amdho/n-	RCS
NS		Kanga	ŋudhu	RCS
NS		Chiroro	ŋödhu/naga-	RCS
NS		Miri	ödhu	RCS
NS		Kadugli	òòdù/náŋààdù	Mt84
NS		Katcha	odu/naŋgadu	RCS
NS		Tumma	ŋgadhu	RCS
NS		Krongo	óódù/nig-	R85
NS		Fama	odhu	RCS
<u>NS</u>		Kurondi	udhu	RCS
NC	PWS		#-t(w)i	W
NC	Mande	Yaure	wùlò	ALMSCI
NC	Atlantic	Gola	èdî	M
NC	Kru	Теро	lú	ALKrCI
NC	Ubangian	Sango	ĥ	Mo88
NC	Kwa	Baule	tì	ALKwCI
NC	Kwa	Abure	ètè	ALKwCI
NC	WBC	Nupe	etí	Ba
NC	EBC	Ninzo	itu	RMB
NC	PB		-tớè	BLR3
~			225	(1060

Commentary: WESTERMANN (1927) and GREENBERG (1963:19) identified this as a Niger-Congo root and MUKAROVSKY (1976:523) provides extensive additional cognates. SCHADEBERG (1981:296) observed the further link with Kadu and its absence in neighbouring Kordofanian languages.

#-fe Phylum NS	rat, mouse Group Kadu	Language Tulishi Kamdang Keiga Kanga Miri Kadu Katcha Krongo Kurondi	Attestation kipe kimpe nyife/kife mife fife diife fife/kife nìfe nifa	Source RCS
NC NC NC NC NC NC NC	Atlantic Kru Gur Kwa Kwa WBC WBC EBC EBC	Kisi Tepo Mampruli Krobu Avatime Yoruba Edo Kente Len Batu Afi	ple polo prð ó-vè /b <u>é</u> ð-fó ò-fé i-pyi vīl fyoo /fyóð	ALKrCI Naden (p.c.) ALKwCI ALKwCI A58 Ag Sh Co K
NC NC	PB	Bantu	bèbà	BLR3 dentified this roof

Commentary: GREENBERG (1963:156) first identified this root and MUKAROVSKY (1976:407) gives some additional Niger-Congo material.

#turu	five				
Phylum	Group	Language	Attestation	Comment	Source
NS	Shabo	Shabo	tuul	? < Surmic	Fleming (1991)
NS	Kuliak	Ik	tud-on	to be five	Heine (1999)
NS	ES	Tama	tor	six ?C	Edgar (1991b
NS	CS	Ma'di	tòú		Blackings
					(2000)
NS	Maba	Masalit	tóor		Edgar (1991a)
<u>NS</u>	Kadu	Mudo	<u>túmmu</u>		Sch94
NC	Dogon	Tengu Kan	nune		Ho04
NC	_	e Bani Me	kendundi		Ho04
NC	Ijoid	Defaka	túúno		KW
NC	Mande	Jalkuna	soro		VV
NC	Atlantic	-	tamath		Segerer (ined.
NC	Gur	Lorhon	to'		ALGCI
NC	Kwa	Avatime	ò-tú		Heine (1968)
NC	WBC	Nupe	gutsũ		Banfield
		•	J		(1914)
NC	EBC	Idun	etón		BCCW
NC	Bantoid	Meta'	tán		BCCW
NC	Bantu	PB	-táànò		BLR3

Commentary: MUKAROVSKY (1976:562) recognised this root in Niger-Congo and it is also widespread in Nilo-Saharan.

## ACRONYMS AND TERMINOLOGY

Acronym	Expansion or source	Reference or language
A58	Abraham (1958)	Yoruba
Ab40	Abrahams (1940)	Tiv
Ab58	Abrahams (1958)	Yoruba
Ag	Agheyisi (1986)	<b>Edo</b>
ALGCI	Mensah & Tchagbale (1983)	Gur
ALKrCI	Marchese (1983)	Kru
ALKwCI	Hérault (1983)	Kwa
ALMSCI	Halaoui, Tera and Trabi (1983)	Mande
Ba	Banfield (1914)	Nupe
BC	Benue-Congo	
BLR3	Bantu Lexical Reconstructions III	Bantu

BW C CB Co91 E89 EBC ELV He87 Ho65 Ho04 KW M Ma75 NC NS	(RMCA Website) Boone & Watson (1996) Consonant Common Bantu Connell (ined) Connell (1991) Elugbe (1989) East Benue-Congo Elias, Leroy, Voorhoeve (1984) Hedinger (1987) Hoffmann (1965) Hochstetler (2004) Williamson (ined.) Mukarovsky (1976/7) Manessy (1975) Niger-Congo Nilo-Saharan	Guthrie (1967-71) Mambiloid Lower Cross Edoid  Proto-Eastern Grassfields Manenguba Salka Kambari Dogon Ijoid/Igboid Proto-Western Nigritic Oti-Volta
PB PI PJ PWN PWS R85 RCS Ro RMB Sh80 Sch81a Sch81b Sch94 V VV W WBC	Proto-Bantu Proto-I,.jo,. Proto-Jukunoid Proto-Western Nigritic Proto-West Sudanic Reh (1985) Ronald Stevenson mss. Rongier (1995) Author's fieldwork Shimizu (1980) Schadeberg (1981a) Schadeberg (1981b) Schadeberg (1994) Vowel Valentin Vydrine (ms.) Westermann (1927) West Benue-Congo	Williamson in prep Shimizu 1980 Mukarovsky 1976/77 Westermann 1927 Krongo Sudanese languages Ewe  Jukunoid Kadu Heiban Kordofanian Kadu comparative Mande Western Sudanic

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