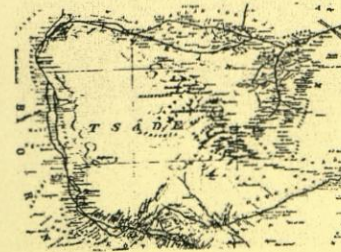


CHADIC NEWSLETTER



BULLETIN D'INFORMATIONS TCHADIQUES
MITTEILUNGEN ZUR TSCHADSPRACHENFORSCHUNG

founded by / fondé par / begründet von

Herrmann Jungraithmayr

on behalf of / au nom de / namens der

WEST AFRICAN LINGUISTIC SOCIETY –
CHADIC WORKING GROUP

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Editorial

Dear Colleagues,

in the past 31 years 22 Numbers of *Chadic Newsletter* were produced, each being distributed to ca. 130 colleagues and/or institutions in the whole world. The Editor-in-Chief, Herrmann Jungraithmayr alone deserves the credit for developing the five pages leaflet (1969) into an important and up till now the only forum of exchange and source of information in the field of Chadic linguistics. For his work we owe him our deep appreciation.

The new editors of *Chadic Newsletter* are going to continue the established tradition making use of the new means of communication – the Internet. *Chadic Newsletter, New Series* will be electronically published and permanently updated making quick and current information flow possible. In addition it will help us to reduce the publication and mailing costs. Once per year a printed issue of *Chadic Newsletter* will be made available to colleagues who do not have access to the Internet (or to a printer) yet as well as at a special demand.

All contributions, suggestions or comments may be sent either to Michael Broß (Email: sannunku@aol.com) or to Dymitr Ibrizimow (Email: dymitr.ibrizimow@uni-bayreuth.de). Please note also that the new postal address is now: Chadic Newsletter, c/o LS Afrikanistik II, Universität Bayreuth, D-95440 Bayreuth, Germany.

We want to call your special attention to two sections of this issue:

- “Reviews”: we invite you to share your opinion on recent publications in Chadic and especially on those which might be problematic in terms of presentation of field material. We are happy to have B. Caron’s contribution for this section.

- “Contacts”: all colleagues who would like to have their e-mail (or postal) addresses included into this section are requested to inform us.

Dear colleagues, please remember that our *Newsletter* is only as useful, valuable and current as your contributions make it!

Bayreuth, in December 2000

The Editors

Additional Remarks

Dear Colleagues,

This printed edition of the Chadic Newsletter appears once in a while and is sent to Libraries, and Colleagues without access to the Internet.

It is a print out of the online version (<http://www.uni-bayreuth.de/afrikanistik/cnl/01>), which covers a certain period, here January 2001 to August 2002. Newest information is obtainable online, now in volume 2 (24).

Bayreuth, in September 2002

The Editors

A Word of Farewell

by Herrmann Jungraihtmayr

It's time to say good-bye. To bid farewell as an editor of this modest but useful means of communication among scholars active in the field of Chadic linguistic research.

The last issue, number 22, appeared in 1998, that is, four years ago. The long delay, for which I have to apologize, is mainly due to the fact that after my retirement in 1996 I had to prepare a smooth transfer of the editorship into the hands of somebody who was at the same time capable and willing to accept the responsibility. Both qualifications, capability and willingness, have manifested themselves in my lucky choice: Professor Dymitr Ibrizimow who – in the past ten years, especially during our years of intense collaboration over the two volumes of *Chadic Lexical Roots* (Berlin 1994) – developed into one of the worldwide leading Chadicists, has agreed to take over the task of editing our bulletin.

CHADIC NEWSLETTER was founded more than thirty years ago. The first issue, an extremely simple mimeographed leaflet, appeared in 1970, soon after the West African Linguistic Society meeting held in Abidjan where a newly founded Chadic Working Group entrusted me with the task of creating and editing a newsletter dedicated to research in the field of Chadic languages and linguistics. Thus, over the years, we did our best, to report on and document the actual progress in Chadistics. Of course, the editor could hardly have succeeded in his task firstly without the innumerable written contributions and information as well as financial support rendered by so many colleagues from all over the world, and secondly, by the efficient aid from various student and secretarial staff. Here, (now Dr.) Michael Bross' name deserves special mentioning. Our thanks also go to the University Libraries of Marburg and – after 1985 – Frankfurt for their untiring readiness to publish and distribute the copies to the international addressees.

The study of Chadic languages has made enormous progress since the thirties of the past century when Johannes Lukas opened the field with his pioneer works. May the quantity and quality of the research continue to increase so that one day each of the approximately 150 languages may receive its own, however modest, adequate description. This will not only be in the interest of the peoples speaking them but also for the benefit of linguistic science and in particular historical-comparative linguistics which will permit us to trace back the history of the individual Chadic languages to early common forms increasingly illuminating the complex relationship of the Chadic family within the Hamitosemitic/Afroasiatic phylum.

Frankfurt am Main, in August 2002

Herrmann Jungraihtmayr

1. Research in Progress

1.1 On individual languages

Glavda

Jonathan Owens (Bayreuth): As time allows I am working on a descriptive grammar of Glavda with Mr. Bello Buba of the Univ. of Maiduguri. The ultimate aim is to examine what happens to a small language in a large urban context, i.e. Glavda in Maiduguri. Before this can be done the basic grammar has to be described.

Hausa

Michael Broß (Bayreuth): Within the framework of a Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)-project I am working on Hausa as language of wider communication mainly among Hausa and Shuwa in Maiduguri. During two phases of field research, interviews with 63 Hausa born in Maiduguri and Shuwa from the town or nearby villages have been conducted and are presently being prepared for linguistic and socio-linguistic analysis. Apart from this, 109 questionnaires have been completed with Hausa, Shuwa, Kanuri and speakers of West- and Central Chadic languages.

Ahmad Tela Baba (Maiduguri): I am undertaking a research on Hausa spoken as a second language in the East Hausa border zone with the aim of determining the differences between the Hausa spoken in that zone and other varieties of Hausa. So far the researcher was able to cover Jos Plateau area. Although the focus is on Jos Plateau area, a preliminary survey is intended in the very near future with a view to covering the Gombe, Biu, Damaturu, Potiskum, Gashua and Nguru Kanuri-Hausa border zone. The aim of extending the field work to these areas is to have a wider perspective of the working mechanism of Hausa spoken outside the Hausa land.

Mission KOTOKO, 27 décembre 2001 - 23 février 2002, Cameroun

Henry Tourneux: Ma dernière mission en pays « kotoko » a été principalement consacrée à la vérification de données que j'avais recueillies soit en 1989-1990, alors que je menais des enquêtes dans le cadre du programme camerounais intitulé « Description de langues camerounaises », soit en 1994. J'étais alors (1989-1990) en poste à l'ORSTOM (devenu maintenant IRD) et ce programme de recherche avait été défini à la demande de l'Institut des Sciences Humaines (Yaoundé, Ministère de la Recherche scientifique et technique). En 1991, l'institut était dissous et l'ORSTOM me demandait d'abandonner cette recherche dont l'intérêt n'apparaissait pas prioritaire dans la perspective du Développement. J'avais pu compléter quelque peu mes enquêtes au début de l'année 1994, alors que j'avais réintégré le CNRS, mais sans pouvoir procéder aux vérifications souhaitables.

Les derniers jours de décembre et les premiers de janvier ont été consacrés à la prise de rendez-vous avec Kousseri, Logone-Birmi et Goulfey. J'ai pu travailler à Logone-Birmi du 4 au 22 janvier avec deux collaborateurs âgés respectivement de 43 et 59 ans. Toutes les données précédemment recueillies auprès d'un homme né en 1912, et malheureusement décédé actuellement, ont été revues et complétées (lexique, syntaxe, texte).

Du 28 janvier au 14 février, j'ai fait la même chose à Goulfey. Les données dont je disposais avaient été recueillies principalement auprès d'un jeune homme âgé à l'époque (1994) de 24 ans. J'ai pu les confronter à deux locuteurs non francophones âgés respectivement de 84 et 71 ans, et à un autre locuteur francophone né vers 1951. Cette confrontation m'a permis de prendre une exacte mesure de l'ampleur du changement linguistique intervenu en l'espace de deux ou trois générations. Ces changements touchent la phonétique, la phonologie, le lexique, la morphologie nominale et verbale ainsi que la syntaxe.

Les 16 et 17 février ont été consacrés à la vérification de données du parler de Maltam. Cette fois, j'ai constaté particulièrement un remplacement automatique du

lexique « kotoko » par des mots d'origine arabe dans tous les cas où le mot « kotoko » n'est plus connu. Les données syntaxiques et textuelles n'ont pu être contrôlées intégralement, faute de temps.

Le 18 février a été consacré à un sondage dialectologique à Kala-Kafra et Houlouf. Ces deux parlars sont réputés être des dialectes appartenant au même ensemble que le parler de Kousseri. J'ai noté particulièrement la fusion des personnes 2 et 3 du pluriel dans le paradigme des indices de personne-aspect de Houlouf.

Le 19 février, j'ai fait un sondage analogue à Sahu, qui appartient à l'ensemble dialectal de Maltam. Toutes ces enquêtes ont été faites avec des informateurs non francophones et âgés (Kala : 57, 70 et 80 ans ; Houlouf : 55 et 75 ans ; Sao : 54, 56 et 67 ans).

Le temps de battement entre les deux terrains principaux a été mis à profit principalement pour étudier les sources anciennes relatives au parler de Kousseri (Dr Decorse, d'une part, et J.-P. Lebeuf, de l'autre). Une confrontation de ces données a été effectuée avec un collaborateur de Kousseri âgé de 42 ans.

Malgwa ("Gamergu")

Doris Löhr (Frankfurt): I am about publishing my Ph.D. dissertation titled "*Nára Málgwa - Die Sprache der Malgwa. Eine grammatische Erstbeschreibung einer zentralschadischen Sprache Nordostnigerias*" (320 p.)

Preparations of a Malgwa-English dictionary with the assistance of Bukar A. Bulama and Kathe H. Mbuliah are continuing. It contains about 3.000 entries from my Malgwa data bank (with sentence examples), and is accompanied by an English-Malgwa index. As an introduction a grammatical sketch is planned.

I am presently working on locative-derivational verbal extensions in Malgwa. Some results will be presented in August 2000 during the Lomé conference.

Ron

Uwe Seibert (Jos-Dillenburg): I continued working on a multi-dialect dictionary of the Ron language by collecting more Ron words and texts, including the Ron varieties of Bokkos, Monguna, Sha, Mundat, Karfa, and Mangar.

We started a Ron language and culture journal which we call FINDEL (“talk, story”). It is published locally in Nigeria and contains stories, poetry, cultural background information, and news from the different Ron dialects. Three issues have appeared up to now. Interested persons can write to me, using my email address Uwe_Seibert@sil.org

1.2 Comparative Chadic / General

Codeswitching

Jonathan Owens and **Michael Broß** (Bayreuth): The multilingual behavior and competence of native Shuwa Arabic speakers in Maiduguri is being investigated with special reference to codeswitching. A corpus of eight texts has so far been recorded, transcribed, coded and text analysis has begun using MS Access. The final corpus should contain ten texts (90,000-100,000 words). No specific CS model is being employed, though various approaches (Meyers-Scotton’s Matrix Frame Model, Poplack’s Equivalence principle, DiSciullo et alia’s governance constraint, etc.) will be critically drawn upon. Four languages or language varieties appear with greater or lesser frequency in the corpus (from most to least frequent): Shuwa Arabic, Hausa, English, Standard Arabic. The switching behavior of each of these languages will be examined.

It is also intended that Mr Jidda Hassan of Maiduguri University works on the phonological integration of non-Shuwa material in these texts.

The project is sponsored by the DFG and has been integrated into the new Africa Forschungskolleg (SFB/FK 560) at Bayreuth.

Verbal extensions

Uwe Seibert (Jos-Dillenburg): I am planning to do a research on “Verbal extensions in Chadic”.

Verbal extensions are a well-known grammatical feature of Chadic languages, which is also wide-spread in other language families, e.g. Niger-Congo.

The grammatical means by which these extensions are formed include morphological processes of affixation, reduplication and modification (e.g. ablaut, variations in tone and length). In a wider sense one may also include particles and adpositions connected to a verb.

Semantic and syntactic functions of verbal extensions include the following:

- marking of aktionsart and verbal aspect (plurality/totality/intensity of an action; iterative, frequentative, distributive, conative, reversive);
- marking of the spatial orientation of an action (towards the speaker, away from the speaker, at a different location);
- valency-changes (causative, transitive, reciprocal, applicative).

Some Chadic languages – especially of the Central branch – seem to be very rich in verbal extensions, whereas in others only a few productive verbal extensions seem to exist.

The aim of this research is to study systematically both the forms and the functions of verbal extensions in the whole of Chadic, taking into account both productive and no longer productive forms.

Our hope is to be able to reconstruct those verbal extensions which are common for a larger number of Chadic languages the same way this has been done for the Bantu languages (Meussen 1967).

A study of productive verbal extensions might also help to explain the origin of di- and polysyllabic verb roots in those languages which have predominantly monosyllabic verb roots.

In any case, we feel that such a comparative study will be helpful for the reconstruction of Proto-Chadic morphosyntax and lexicon as well as for comparison with other language families.

I would be very grateful if those of you who have found (productive or no longer productive) verbal extensions in the languages you worked on, could share with me how they are formed and for which functions they are used.

I will be grateful for any information on this topic you are willing to share – short and informal or verbose and sophisticated.

I have started compiling a reading list on verbal extensions with titles mostly from Chadic. I would be willing to make the list available if you are interested in it.

Here is my email address: Uwe_Seibert@sil.org.

2. Conference reports

Afrika 2000

The international Conference “Africa 2000” – 17th Biennial Conference of the German African Studies Association (*Vereinigung der Afrikanisten in Deutschland*) organized by Prof. A. Jones, Prof. R. Kappel and Prof. E. Wolff of the *Institut für Afrikanistik*, was held at the University of Leipzig, 30th March - 1st April 2000.

More than 500 participants from more than 40 countries in Africa, America and Europe attended this multidisciplinary conference. In 38 panels a wide range of topics were discussed, encompassing social and political sciences, anthropology, linguistics, gender studies and economics. The main questions dealt with the transformation and challenges that the African continent has to cope with and stand at the threshold of the third millennium.

Following all linguistic papers concerning Chadic languages, delivered within the linguistic panel “*Dimensions of change in Hausa: Historical and sociolinguistic approaches*” that was chaired by Mahamane L. ABDOULAYE (Leipzig):

- Mahamane L. ABDOULAYE (Leipzig): *Dialectal differences in a grammaticalized construction in Hausa.*
- Nikolai DOBRONRAVIN (St. Petersburg): *Dialects and language standardisation in precolonial and early colonial Ajami manuscripts [in Hausa].*
- Joe MCINTYRE (Hamburg): *Verbal compounding and lexical innovation [in Hausa].*
- Mohammed MUNKAILA (Bayreuth/Maiduguri): *Hausa lexical expansion.*

More information is given on the Institutes web page: <http://www.uni-leipzig.de/~ifa/>.

Doris Löhr
Frankfurt

3rd World Congress of African Linguistics/ 3e Congrès Mondial de Linguistique Africaine

The 3rd World Congress of African Linguistics/ 3e Congrès Mondial de Linguistique Africaine was held at the Université du Bénin-Lomé (Togo), 21st - 26th August 2000 and organised by a committee lead by Prof. Dr. Kézié K. Lebigaza.

In more than 100 papers various grammatical aspects of African Languages were discussed. At least one plenary session was held daily (e.g. the opening session by Bernd Heine (Köln) on "Typology and areal linguistics in Africa"). Unfortunately the necessity of having four parallel sessions (Syntax; Historical/Comparative Linguistics; Semantics/Pragmatics/Lexicology; Phonetics/Phonology/Tonology/Morphology) led to a weary "room-hopping". Social activities (an excursion, a collective dinner and a gathering with traditional Togo dances) rounded up an interesting conference.

Participants of the conference are asked to submit final versions of their presented papers not after December 31st 2000 to the committee.

Relevant Papers for CNL:

- CARON, Bernard (Paris): *Dialectologie zaar*.
- FRAJZYNGIER, Zygmunt (Colorado): *Coding locatives in a Chadic language: a system interaction approach*.
- GENSLER, Orin (Leipzig): *Proto-Afroasiatic as a 'marked nominative'*.
- KIM, Hak-Soo (Leipzig): *Impersonals in Chadic*.
- LÖHR, Doris (Frankfurt): *Locative-directional verbal extensions in Malgwa (Central Chadic)*.
- PAWLAK, Nina (Warsaw): *The structural features of Plateau Hausa*.
- TOURNEUX, Henry (Paris): *Le système vocalique dans les langues kotoko*.
- WOLFF, Ekkehard (Leipzig): *On the grammaticalization of verbal plurality in Chadic*.

A one-day symposium on 'Major African Languages in the 21st Century' was held within the conference, lead by Dr. Matthias Brenzinger (Köln) and sponsored by the Fritz Thyssen-Foundation. An overview on the situation of the major languages was given by residents of the respective countries. Two papers relevant to Chadic were given by M. Dakubu on "Major African Languages in Ghana: elective ambiguities"

focused on the Hausa and Twi languages and by Salmatou Sow on dialectological problems in Niger.

Doris Löhr
Frankfurt

14th Afrikanistentag, Hamburg

The 14th Afrikanistentag has been held at Hamburg, October 11-13, 2000. The following papers on Chadic or Afroasiatic topics have been presented:

- Adwiraah, Eleonore: *Ideophone als Merkmal mündlichen Erzählens am Beispiel einiger tschadischer Erzählungen*.
- Broß, Michael: *Gud ivininku! Hausa in Maiduguri*.
- Löhr, Doris: *Zur Genese des Perfekt II im Malgwa*.
- McIntyre, Joseph: *More on ban-N compounds*.

A publication of the papers is planned by the co-ordinations of this well organised conference.

Michael Broß

Biennial International Colloquium on the Chadic Languages

The Biennial International Colloquium on the Chadic Languages was held at the Institut für Afrikanistik, Universität Leipzig (Germany) 5th - 8th July 2001. The Colloquium took up two discontinued traditions (the series of Leiden 1976, Hamburg 1981, Boulder 1987) and the Franco-German meetings in Paris (1980 - 1997). The idea of the Colloquium arose last year during an informal meeting when the "Permanent Committee of the International Colloquium on Chadic Linguistics" presently represented by D. Ibriszimow (Bayreuth), H. Tourneux (Paris), and E. Wolff (Leipzig) was established. The first Colloquium was very well organised by E. Wolff.

After an introducing slide show presented by Gerhard Kossack on *The bull festival in the Mandara Mountains*, various aspects of Chadic Languages from all branches and general topics of this language family were discussed in 18 papers:

- Ari Awagana: *La pluralité verbale en Buduma*.
- Václav Blazek: *Lexicostatistics applied to the East Chadic languages*.
- Roger Blench: *Why reconstructing comparative Ron is so problematic*.
- Michael Broß: *Suna magana da harshe mai lan'kwasa – Results of a matched guised text on Hausa in Maiduguri*.
- Karsten Brunk & Dymitr Ibriszimow: *A geolinguistic approach towards Chadic lexicon*.
- Bernard Caron: *Gùùs, aka Sigidi (Chadic, West-B, South-Bauchi): Grammatical notes and vocabulary*.
- Véronique de Colombel: *Grammaticalisation et ordre des unités en dix langues du groupe tchadique-central*.
- Amadeo de Domenicis: *The Masa tonal system*.
- Andrew Haruna: *Chadic-Afroasiatic links: the evidence from the phonemes b', d', ts, and k'*.
- Dymitr Ibriszimow & Victor Porkhomovsky: *Towards a typology of kinship terms in Hamito-Semitic (Afro-Asiatic): I. West Chadic and Modern South Arabian*.
- Hak-Soo Kim: *On the position of Cinene*.
- Doris Löhr: *Aktionsarten in Malgwa*.
- Joseph A. McIntyre: *On the relationships between internal and external meanings of Hausa verbal compounds (VCs)*.
- Mohammed Munkaila: *The interaction between morphological causatives and indirect object constructions in Hausa*.
- Uwe Seibert: *Chadic languages in the cyberspace (CliC): An online resource for speakers and students of Chadic languages. Prospects, problems and possible uses*.
- Olga Stolbova: *Kirfi verbal classes – back to Lukas?*
- Henri Tourneux: *Le système consonantique dans les langues dites kotoko*.
- H. Ekkehard Wolff: *Predication control in Chadic languages*.

In a round table discussion, Philip Jaggard announced the termination of his voluminous reference grammar of the Hausa language, which is going to the publisher; Andrew Haruna informed about his grammar of the Guruntum language, ready for publication. Discussing Uwe Seibert's thoughts about Chadic online resources, the participants welcomed the idea of putting material on Chadic languages online on the existing Chadic Newsletter Site. Roger Blench took over the

responsibility for this part of the Web Site (<http://www.uni-bayreuth.de/afrikanistik/cnl>).

The organising committee is planning to edit the papers of the Colloquium, the participants are asked to submit their contributions for the "Proceedings" until end of October 2001.

Apart from the idea of hosting the Colloquium in turn between Leipzig, Paris and Bayreuth, the auditorium accepted the invitation of Petr Zima and thus the next Biennial International Colloquium on the Chadic Languages will be held in 2003 in Prague. The participants agreed that the meeting has been very successful and well organised in each respect. It was the right time to revive the tradition of the Chadic meetings.

Michael Broß

31st Colloquium on African Languages and Linguistics (CALL)

The annual meeting in Leiden took place on 27-29 August 2001. During this 31st Colloquium on African Languages and Linguistics (CALL) two papers were presented on Chadic:

- Hedy Boss: *From associative to nominalization in Chadic*.
- Dymitr Ibriszimow: *Karekare and Ngamo dialectal situation*.

Dymitr Ibriszimow

International Round-Table, Bechyne, (Czech Republic)

2nd - 5th November 2001

The international round-table "Theoretical and Methodological Questions of the Lexical and Structural Diffusion in the Sahel-Sudan Region: the Interplay of External and Internal Factors in Language" was organised by Petr Zima and his research group "Dynamics of contacts between languages and populations: lexical and structural diffusion and the genealogies in the Sahel-Sahara Region" from the

Faculty of Humanities of Charles University, Prague. During the three days spent in the beautiful castle of Bechyne (some 100 km south of Prague), 14 papers were presented on problems of language contacts in West Africa. Two panel discussions were held around the topic "Are there structurally and/or lexically pertinent features characteristic for lingua franca languages and for sociologically minor (insular) languages in the Sahel". Below follow the titles of the papers relevant to Chadic:

- Karsten Brunk & Dymitr Ibrizimow: *A Geolinguistic Approach towards Chadic Lexicon: First Evaluation of Distributional Patterns.*
- Bernard Caron: *La situation du hawsa au Sud de l'état de Bauchi (Nigeria).*
- Viktor Cerný: *Relations entre les séquences mitochondriales/(l'ADN) des populations de Monts Mandara et le problème de l'échantillonnage biologique d'un groupe linguistique donné.*
- Norbert Cyffer: *Lake Chad – A Sprachbund Boundary?*
- Jan Jeník & Petr Zima: *Methodological Problems Concerning Research of Selected Fields of Flora in the Sahel: the Case of Digitaria and Millet.*
- Herrmann Jungraihtmayr & Rudolf Leger: *Loss, Shift and Growth in Southern Bole-Tangale Languages.*
- Klaus Schubert: *Contribution to TAM Systems of Hausa, Kanuri and Fula.*
- Petr Zima: *Preverbal TAM Systems of Hausa in the Light of its Dialects.*

Dymitr Ibrizimow

6th International Conference

"Languages Of Far East, Southeast Asia and West Africa"

LESEAWA

September 25-28, 2001

University of St. Petersburg, Russia

At the *University of St. Petersburg* and *The Institute for Asian and African Studies (Moscow State University)* the 6th International Conference "LANGUAGES OF FAR EAST, SOUTHEAST ASIA AND WEST AFRICA" was hosted on September 25-28, 2001. This conference aimed to encourage a spirit of dialogue between students of Far East/Southeast Asia and of West Africa.

A Special Session was held, devoted to formal methods of linguistic analysis as applied to the languages of FE/SEA and WA. No conference report was submitted yet.

Victor Porkhomovsky

Africa in the Context of North-South Relations

9th Conference of Africanists

Moscow, 21-23 May, 2002

At the Academic Council on Problems of African Countries and the Institute for African Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, the Ninth Conference of Africanists on the subject "Africa in the Context of North-South Relations" was held on May 21-23, 2002. The major themes of the conference were: The whole and intertwined world: causes and prospects of internal differentiation. Africa in a contemporary system of world order. Challenges of globalisation: are there alternative ways? Problems of African economy. Internal and external factors of development. Positive and negative results of structural adjustment. Currency and financial problems. "African debt". Sustainable development, social progress and ecological problems. The Information Society and Africa. Internet in Africa. Problems of African integration. African Union. Interstate and intrastate conflicts. Ethnic and religious factors. Problems of security. Problems of political modernisation in Africa. Attempts of democratisation and its results. Role of ideologies. Neo-archaism and African renaissance. Africa: overcoming asocial phenomena and destructive processes. Shadow economy, criminal world, narco-business, their relations with the outside world. Africa and Africans in context of world history. "Cold War" in Africa. European Union and Africa. North Africa and Southern Europe. Africa and problems of Indian Ocean. North (Arab) Africa: models of development in global, regional and local dimensions. Southern Africa: unequal development of regions. Is levelling off possible? Russian-African relations. Politics,

economy, culture, education, military ties. Russians in Africa and Africans in Russia. Federalism and regional development in multi-ethnic and multi-confessional societies. Gender problems of transitional societies. AIDS pandemic in Africa as regional and global threat. Methodology of African studies: from formation approach to multitude of methods. Civilisational approach in African studies. Contemporary state and development of African languages and literatures under conditions of globalisation.

So far no conference report was submitted.

Victor Porkhomovsky

15. Afrikanistentag, September 30 – October 2, 2002, Frankfurt/Main

The 15th Afrikanistentag was organised by *Institut für Afrikanische Sprachwissenschaften der Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main* together with *Afrikanischen Philologie am Institut für Ethnologie und Afrika-Studien der Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz*.

The following papers concerning Chadic languages have been given:

- Michael Broß: *Sprachnormen und Koineisierung – Hausa in Maiduguri*.
- Angelika Jakobi and Doris Löhr: *Neues aus der Sprachkontaktzone Tschadisch-Saharanisch*.
- Mohammed Munkaila: *Double object and indirect object constructions in Hausa*.
- Eva Rothmaler: *Kontinuität von Toponymen in Borno – einige Beispiele*.
- Uwe Seibert: *Lokative und direktionale Verbaextensionen im Tschadischen*.
- Ulrike Zoch and Rudolf Leger: *Pronominalsysteme in den Bole-Tangale-Sprachen*.

Michael Broß

3. Announcements

Borno Museum Society NEWSLETTER - quarterly journal

The Borno Museum Society (BMS) was founded in May 1989 and NEWSLETTER no. 1 appeared in the last quarter of that year. In the meantime, the initially touching rather than professionally looking NEWSLETTER has improved markedly. Financial constraints have led BMS to mostly publish double numbers twice a year, hence our latest edition, nos. 40 & 41, covers the period July to December 1999. We have been fortunate so far and could always present the 'current' edition one to two months after the period covered, i.e. NEWSLETTER nos. 42 & 43 are expected to be out in July/August 2000.

The publication is for sale in Nigeria (prices depend on volume of the edition and production expenses). Foreign members of the BMS receive the publication free of charge. Membership can either be registered with Borno Museum Society in Maiduguri or with the Society's European outlet c/o Dr. Editha Platte (Email: platte@em.uni-frankfurt.de).

To give potentially interested readers an impression of the journals scope, below, please, find the accumulative table of contents of articles published in nos. 1 – 41, not included are reviews, notes, etc.

ABBA, Shettima Bukar. Borno towns and their gates. nos. 11/12, 1992. pp. 15-26.

ABDULRAHMAN, Fanna. Traditional medicine and mental illness in Borno. nos. 13/14, 1992-1993. pp. 5-13.

ADAM, Mohammed. The historical importance of the old city of Dikwa. no. 2, 1990. pp. 3-12. The fiftieth anniversary of Bama. no. 10, 1992. pp. 21-26.

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Key-Words: text, rhythm, voice, gesture, meaning, transposition, playing/play, situated/embodied cognition, semiotics, Chad.

Summary:

When Voice and Gesture Make Sense

A corpus of two sung texts and their variants in four languages spoken in Chad (Arabic, Tobanga, Mbay and School French) was recorded in context in several places in the country. Their meaning and function are determined by social practices. A common point was thus emphasised: these semiotic performances constitute a playful aid to the efforts needed to undertake or pursue a repeated physical or intellectual action. The Chameleon song accompanies a driving activity; the song of Fati, which is danced, parodies a French lesson. The morphosymbolic processes at work in these performances are stressed by the description of the pronunciation of texts, rhythm, melody and body language which accompany them. These processes are compared to those available in French or used by the author, composer and performer Francis Bebey, thus highlighting various cases of transposition. The texts can only make sense thanks to the framework in which they are performed: the quality of voice and gesture. These processes are composite and thus require to be seen through a multidisciplinary perspective, allowed here by taking into account the propositions of semioticians, anthropologists, linguists, musicologists, psychologists and philosophers. The semiotic system and performance are connected by symbolic mediations and social practices in the "lived world" (Lebenswelt) of a human "embodied logic" understood as a "sensible" frame of cognition.

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5. Reviews

COSPER, Ronald. *Barawa Lexicon: a wordlist of eight South Bauchi (West Chadic) languages: Boghom, Buli, Dott, Geji, Jimi, Polci, Sayanci and Zul*, (vol 39). Munich: LINCOM EUROPA, 1999, 158 p. LINCOM Studies in African Linguistics.

The publication of new data on little documented Chadic languages is rare enough an event for any linguist to be enthusiastic when they hear the news. So was I when Ronald Cospers's *Barawa Lexicon* was announced and published by Lincom Europa. Before this, the main reference on the topic was Shimizu (1978).

Shimizu's work, written after a survey carried out in 1974 and 1975, comprises wordlists covering 108 items on 32 languages, map, subclassification, cognate percentages, and sound correspondences. 'Barawa' is a term chosen by Shimizu to name the speakers of these 32 languages, which he considers to be a dialect continuum. He adds that "the use of the term 'Barawa' to denote this group was confirmed both in the Dass district generally and by the Chief of Boot" (*op.cit.*, p. 7). In the various trips I did to the Dass area, Boot, Sigidi and during my fieldwork in the Sayanci area over the past decade, the term Barawa was accepted by all speakers except those of Sigidi and Zaar who don't know the word.

Cospers's *Barawa Lexicon* covers 915 lexical items for 8 languages: Jimi, Zul, Geji, Polci, Dott, Sayanci, Buli and Boghom. In the introduction, he gives the chart of phonemes for the eight languages. The main interest of this work lies then in the increase in the number of lexical items documented. Unfortunately, from what I can judge, the quality of the data is far from satisfactory. I will give a few examples where I will compare Cospers's data with the one I collected on two of these languages: Zaar (Cospers's Sayanci) on which I have been working regularly since 1991, and Zodi (Cospers's Dott) on which I did 2 weeks' fieldwork in 1999.

Zaar

Cospers marks two tones for Zaar, although he says "Some of these languages, e.g., Sayanci, may in fact have three phonetic levels of tone, but as Schneeberg points out,

they are phonologically analyzable as two-level systems." Sayanci does have a three-level phonetic tone system. The phonological two-level system can only be the result of a phonological analysis involving a very elaborate system of rules (cf. Schneeberg 1974). Failing that, we are left, in the case of Cospers's work, with a two-level phonetic transcription, which in the case of Saya, is simply wrong.¹ We will just mention a few cases of plain mistakes in marking the tones:

number	gloss	Cospers	Own data
2	woman, female	gât	gât
124	compound	dân	dân
146	grindstone	vúun	vuun
148	hut	vîin	vîin
448	war	máàndô	maandô
664	fight	máàndô	maandô
294	insect	zhíbar	???
304	worm	zhíbar	zhìbàr

Some cases of strange translations or notations:

number	gloss	Cospers	Own data
5	girl	ɲaayət (sic!)	ɲaa-gət
7	daughter	nyíi, ɲáagət	ɲíi
688	walk, wander	nyalán	ɲgeláy [ɲgyeláy]
453	conversation	ɲgáághənláa	???
508	short	afúbm	àà fúpm hí ³

Items 477, 495, 595 and 596 concern the 'indefinite' [cf. Hausa *wani* (sing.) /*wasu* (pl.)]. As a determiner, it is postposed to the noun and appears as wón / gón [gwón]. As a pronoun, it has two forms: gón (sing.) *gyaa gón* (pl.) resp. [gwón] and [gyaa gwón].

¹ When quoting my own data, I will use a three-level (phonetic) transcription (H= acute ; L =grave ; M = unmarked ; long vowels will be marked with double letters, each one marked for tone).

² I have no translation for the word *conversation*. ɲgááyən láa means *to rest*, lit. *to take work* (?!?!).

number	gloss	Cosper	Own data
477	most	gyaagwón	???
495	some (wasu)	gyaagwón	gyaa gón
595	one (wani)	gwán	gón
596	some (wasu)	gyaagwán	gyaa gón

A cursory look at the items concerning demonstratives is sufficient to wonder whether the author has taken the care of reading his manuscript before sending it to the printer. The same translation (**gíi**) is given for (601) *this* and (602) *that*, which should be resp. **gín/gíní** and **gíí**, whereas (597) *this* is given as **gíin** and (598) *that* as **gii!**

Generally, what strikes the reader when having a cursory look at Cosper's lexicon is the absence of a minimum analysis of the data, which leads the author to mistaking syntagms for lexical items, or being inconsistent in his use of verbs or verbal nouns in the translations.

Let's take the following items:

number	gloss	Cosper	Own data
734	fart	tuurgunyoghən	túúryə̀n nòyỹ ⁴
748	smell ⁵	duughənzóghɛ	wúmɡə̀n zòyỹ ⁶
75	mouth	vii	vii
704	shout	dláarvi ³	ɣááryə̀n vii ⁷
706	speak	wúlvi	wúlyə̀n vii ⁸

³ Lit.: *it is not far/long/tall* (**àà** = 3s. Perf.); the negation (**híj**) is missing in Cosper's translation. The adjectives **ndóngat** or **ndúmɕí** are a good translation. So is the verb **ɗat**, to be short. The adjective **ndúúri** is used to qualify something that has been shortened.

⁴ Lit: to cook shit; [**nòyỹ**] is in fact /**nòkn**/.

⁵ From the Hausa *sansana*, one guesses the English verb is supposed to be transitive.

⁶ Lit: *hear/feel a smell*. **duúỹn** is the noun verb of the verb **du**, to beat. The expression **du zòyỹ** may mean "to have a strong smell".

⁷ Lit.: *cut mouth*; NB: **riiŋ** = a shout. **ɣiyá** (3s. Continuous) **riiŋ** = *he is shouting*

⁸ Lit.: *say mouth*.

Likewise, (30), **saghátkən** (**sayátkən**) is the verbal noun of **sayát**, to be intelligent; intelligent person should be **mur yó sayákən**. The mistakes are too numerous for me to go on listing them. To conclude this passage concerning Zaar, I will just give the list of independent pronouns:

number	gloss	Cosper	Own data
608	I	myân	myááni / myàan
609	thou	kyan	kyááni / kyàan
610	he, she, it	yân	yááni / yàan
611	we	myâni	myààní / myàán
612	you	kyàani	kyààní / kyàán
613	they	yaashi	yààshí

Zođi

The same problems appear in the work on Zođi. The general impression is that of a sloppy work due to lack of analysis.

If one looks at the list of verbs given by Cosper, it is obvious that some suffixes have not been properly identified.

The suffix **-ti** is used in Zođi to form verbal nouns. On the forms given by Cosper, the suffix appears haphazardly:

number	gloss	Cosper	Own data ⁹
715	peep at	yéli	yeli, yeliti
716	see	yeli	yeli, yeliti
717	watch	yeliti	yeli, yeliti
762	blow (of wind)	bakti	fwat; fwatti
763	burn (of fire)	bak	bàk; bàkti
730	desire	ndəkti	ndókə; ndókəti
739	hear, feel	wom	wóm, womti

⁹ My own data comes directly from my field notes, and needs to be further analysed, specially concerning tone: I have heard and marked three tones, which may eventually be reduced to two. For each verb, I give the lexical form, followed by the verbal noun.

Likewise, a **-tiya** suffix (secondary verbal noun?) appears in his data, which has not been properly analysed:

number	gloss	Cosper	Own data
675	return	dɔŋtíya	dòŋ, dɔŋtì
774	break (in pieces)	tlaartíya	ɬar, ɬarti
885	be suitable (?)	taatita, taatiyá	taa, taati¹⁰

The perfect/accomplished in Zodi is formed with **-ak** suffixed to the verb:

number	gloss	Cosper	Own data
788	fill	zuwak	dzù, dzùti
724	be tired	kəmmak	kóm, kəmti
691	agree to	kappák	kap, kapti

As a conclusion, I can only say that this work is seriously questionable, and should never have been accepted for a publication. It is not a reliable source, and I would not advise anyone to use it for comparative work.

As matters stand, Shimizu (1978) and Kraft (1981) remain the only reliable sources.

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¹⁰ For this verb, I have been given the meaning *to look like, to resemble*.

6. Useful links

Hausa Home Page

<http://www.humnet.ucla.edu/humnet/aflang/Hausa/haus.html>

The Chadic Languages

<http://www.humnet.ucla.edu/humnet/aflang/chadic/>

Zime

<http://zime.free.fr/>

Bulletin Méga-Tchad

<http://www.uni-bayreuth.de/afrikanistik/mega-tchad>

Bulletin d'Information sur les Recherches en Linguistique Berbère (BIRLiB)

<http://www.uni-bayreuth.de/afrikanistik/birlib>

Borno Studies Homepage

<http://www.univie.ac.at/afrikanistik/MAIN.html>

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