AN ATLAS OF NIGERIAN LANGUAGES

Roger Blench

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2020 Edition

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Introduction

The present electronic document is a completely new edition of ‘An Index of Nigerian Languages’ by David Crozier and Roger Blench (1992), which in turn replaced Keir Hansford, John Bendor-Samuel and Ron Stanford (1976), a pioneering attempt to synthesise what was known at the time about the languages of Nigeria and their classification. It has been renamed the ‘Atlas’ to mark a radical revision of these documents. Since 1990, all new information was either collected in the field by Roger Blench or resulted from personal communications with him, hence his sole authorship of the present version. Many new categories of information have been added since the 1992 edition, largely resulting from technological and social change. The bibliography has been effectively created from scratch, covering a wide range of published and circulated material. A new print version will eventually be created, accompanied by a revised map. An interim map, published by SIL, is available, but it does not necessarily match everything found in this document.

Jos, March, 2019
I. Changes to the structure of the Atlas

1. Form of the Head-Entries
Hansford et al. (1976) established a basic structure for entries, which was updated in Crozier and Blench (1992). The desire to use a common orthography for head-entries has involved the making a series of choices which may not always turn out to be appropriate. The principles used are as follows;

a. Where a community, through the agency of a literacy committee or a community development association has definitely selected a particular form for use as an ethnonym then that form is used.
b. Where there is no agreed name, then the name a community uses to refer to itself is preferred.
c. Where the name of the language and of the people are different, the name of the language is preferred. Thus Fulfulde for Fulɓe. In some cases, where the variation is through the use of different prefixes or suffixes, the convention for Bantu languages is adopted; the variable affix has been deleted and the remaining stem used for both people and language. Thus the Wom people are ‘Pere’, and the suffixes marking people and language are omitted.
d. Where this would lead to confusion through a variety of communities using the same name, geographical or other markers are used to make the distinction. Thus in the case of Basa, region names, such as ‘Basa-Benue’ are used, even though the people themselves do not use these names. In the case of Yungur, where various peoples call themselves by the same name, Ɓәna, the outsiders’ names, Lala and Roba, are retained.
e. An alternative situation is where undefined dialectal differentiation has led to a variety of different names for people and language within one language. Thus the Longuda have four different versions of their name. In: this case the usual name, ‘Longuda’, is retained.
f. Where the community’s own name is unknown the most common reference name if preferred, except where this is apparently pejorative.
g. Where a reference name has been adopted from a community’s own name, it is usually cited without tone marks or other diacritics. Subdots are so widely accepted in Nigeria that they constitute an exception.
h. Phonetic symbols such as schwa ‘ә’ and eng ‘ŋ’ are not generally used in head-entries although the implosives and ejectives such as ɓ, ɗ, and ƙ are acceptable. The exception is where the correct name is known but the community has made no decision about the form to adopt. Thus the Kotoko name Afade (Afaɗә) has been used until an alternative is accepted.

The consequence of this is that reference names will continue to be in a state of flux.

2. Changes in the Language Map
The language map accompanying the Index has inevitably changed substantially since the first edition and it is worth tabulating the types of changes that have occurred;

2.1 From Numbers to Names
The map accompanying the first edition had numbers assigned to individual languages. This has the advantage of taking up less space on the map but it was extremely difficult to actually find the less well-known languages. In the present version, language names have been placed on the map. No significance should be attached to the point size in which the names are printed which is usually the largest that will fit in the space available. The use of names makes for easier cross referencing between the index and the map and this has helped in the elimination of certain inconsistencies in the first map.

a) detailed maps of complex regions
b) maps to show the migrations of pastoral groups
c) maps of the distribution of major linguae francae, and other important socio-linguistic features.

2.2 Addition of new languages
Since the second edition of the Index, approximately thirty previously unreported languages have been recorded and in some cases, dialects or dialect clusters have been split into their component members following more detailed research.
2.3 Addition and correction of topographic and institutional features

The outline of Nigeria used in the first edition of the map was schematic and so did not include water-bodies such as the lagoon region of Lagos, for example. Also Lake Chad was noted but no open water marked. Since the 1970s, a large number of dams and barrages have been built, especially in Northern Nigeria and the lakes formed by backing up now cover sizeable land areas. These have been traced from Landsat imagery. It is generally assumed that no language is spoken ‘on’ a water body, although this is clearly not the case on Lake Kainji, where Sarkawa and Reshe fishermen inhabit islands within the Lake. Lake Chad, by contrast, has virtually disappeared and almost all the land area within Nigeria is inhabited, and is so represented.

The first edition of the map did show some of the main National Parks. The present version of the map adds some more National Parks and also a number of significant Forest Reserves. Ordinance Survey maps show a very large number of Forest Reserves, but many of them are inhabited and are thus for language mapping purposes treated as absent.

Another addition has been the inclusion of urban areas where these are sufficiently large as to constitute a significant region of the map and are known to be polyglot and cannot therefore be assigned to a particular language. The most important of these are Lagos and Kaduna urban areas. Other large urban areas, such as Enugu, Ibadan and Kano are considered to be sufficiently homogeneous linguistically as to not require special treatment.

3. New fields

3.1 New Media

Since the earlier editions, much has changed in the technology of language dissemination; no reference was made even to radio and television in previous syntheses. Now both the internet and SMS text-messaging have to be considered. Indeed, text-messaging and the possibilities of transmitting texts in particular languages may turn out to be crucial to their acceptance among the next generation of speakers.

- The last decade has seen a major expansion in the numbers of languages broadcast on radio and television, partly because of the growth of private stations.
- Benue State, for example, broadcasts on the radio in eight languages
- However, there is no single source to refer to for information on this, although it clearly affects language vitality and dialect choice
- Since 2005, social media now affects how Nigerians communicate.
- Texting and contributions on Faceeook,Twitter etc. have become popular and informal solutions to orthographic problems develop which are at variance with the established orthography
- New ‘apps’ such as the ability to see a text scroll by on smartphone and hear it read simultaneously are working for Mwaghavul and other languages, with enormous potential for electronic dictionaries, for example. Such dictionaries are now in circulation and are listed in the Index, where these are known
- Larger languages, such as Hausa, Yoruba etc. have a thriving film industry, which support dedicated television channels
- Generally speaking, the Atlas now documents languages in new ways appropriate to the 21st century

Categories for media other than print: such as radio, television, cassettes, film and video have become more important and they are becoming significant in the promotion or otherwise of individual languages. Data on the use of these media would be valuable.

3.2 Literacy and printed materials

Printed materials in Nigerian languages go back to the nineteenth century (Hair 1965). Originally almost all publications were religious in intent, and literacy materials were intended to assist in reading the bible. Secular material first appeared in Yoruba and later in other southern languages. The first attempt to develop a policy on secular orthographies (and to introduce modern linguistics into their design) was in the early 1950s, when the Government of Northern Nigeria hired Hans Wolff to develop minority writing systems. The outcome was
Wolff (1954) which established the orthography for some ten northern languages. Unfortunately, there is very little research on the impact of this material in schools, but at least some of the vernacular education in languages like Mwaghavul dates from this era.

Even today, religious publication remains predominant. The culture of primers for reading has almost disappeared and it may be competence in many minority languages has declined. However, languages such as Yoruba are commonly written and increasingly tone-marked (Photo 1).

There is little reliable information on the incidence and competence of literates in different communities. To know that there is printed material in a language is not to have information on whether literacy is actually a significant feature of a language.

There has, however, been a significant upsurge in interest in minority languages since around 2012, driven largely by the communities and their aspirations. New Reading and Writing books are now being published without the missionary input that was previously essential. Organisations like CONAECDA are pressing state governments to re-introduce vernacular languages in the school system.

Trudell (2018) is a significant overview of language in education in Nigeria. Although its focus is above all on English teaching, it reviews in part the literature on vernacular programmes and in particular Nigerian Government policy in this area. The Federal Government first promulgates a National Policy on Education in 1977 and it has since been revised many times. In particular, Trudell (2018) focuses on the contrasts between the 2004 and 2013 versions. Still in 2004, the policy was that all schoolchildren should learn one of the three major languages, Hausa, Yoruba and Igbo. This was never fully implemented and was dropped in 2013, presumably under pressure from other large minorities. An interesting provision is for all children to be taught in the ‘language of the immediate community’ for the first four years. This would have been impossible to implement in practice, but even the expression of the aspiration represents an important step in the development of minority curricula. Similar policies have long been in place in Cameroun, which has a well-developed pattern or minority curricula compared with Nigeria.

3.3 Scripts

Earlier editions of the Index had little to say about indigenous (i.e. pre-European) scripts. The most well-known script falling into this category is the use of adapted Arabic script to write Hausa and other northern languages. Although far behind the use of the Roman alphabet, Islamic revivalism has led to a renewed interest in Arabic script, something also encouraged, ironically, by the Arabic Script initiative supported by Christian organisations. Currently, the following languages are written in Arabic script (Table 1);

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hausa</td>
<td>Ajami</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fulfulde</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanuri</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nupe</td>
<td>Ajami</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Warren (2012) is a valuable overview of Arabic script use in Northern Nigeria. The main indigenous script is Arabic, mostly in the form of Ajami. This is quite widespread for Hausa, and is certainly used for Fulfulde and Kanuri. There are poorly catalogued collections of manuscripts in Arabic script which may represent other Nigerian languages. It was used for Nupe and other minority languages, but seems to have died out. There are also ‘dream-scripts’ among the Hausa which have had short-lived followings. Symbolic systems such as the Nsibidi among the Ejagham which have sometimes been described as writing. Apart from this, there are a number of other scripts, all of twentieth century origin, invented by inspired individuals, which have had more or less currency. These are principally for Hausa, but there is also the intriguing Ibibio script (Dalby ref).

### 3.4 Deaf and sign languages

Another area which has been poorly documented until recently are sign languages, spoken typically by deaf communities but in some case also by hearing individuals. There is a Nigerian sign language, taught in deaf schools, but this derives from American Sign Language (ASL). Information about numbers of users and their competence is extremely sparse. At least one indigenous sign language has been documented, that used by the Bura people in NE Nigeria (Blench 2004 and Photo 3). However, by virtue of sheer numbers, there must be many more waiting to be recorded. Among the Hausa people there is an indigenous sign language which has been documented by Constanze Schmaling (2000 and ff.). A continuing project to create a dictionary of this language has seen eight folios published.

### 3.5 Language Status

Language status is a highly controversial area, and much subject to politicisation. In reality, there have been few studies of language viability in recent years, so claims in this area are often either very old, or not very reliable. Restudies usually indicate the status of languages is quite different from previous assertions. The EGIDS scale, used in the Ethnologue is reasonably practical, if good sociolinguistic data exists, but in many cases, languages may be assigned a number on the scale based on nothing but assumed population figures. The statuses in this document have been either verified by the author, or other reliable published source. In cases where there is no data, this is noted.

### 3.6 Second language use

First and second language use are controversial topics and there are few up-to-date sociolinguistic surveys which provide this type of information. What other languages are commonly spoken by the speakers of particular lects? Where this is known, it is stated under the entry.

### 3.7 Extinct languages

Nigeria has seen a number of languages go extinct in the twentieth century. Other languages are presumed extinct, in cases where only two aged speakers were alive when a survey was undertaken. Currently, the known extinct languages are given in Table 2 together with their presumed affiliation;
Table 2. Extinct Nigerian languages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Presumed affiliation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aja</td>
<td>Chadic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akpondu</td>
<td>Plateau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auyokawa</td>
<td>Chadic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basa-Gumna</td>
<td>Plateau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basa-Kontagora</td>
<td>Plateau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cen Tuum</td>
<td>Isolate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kwacika</td>
<td>Plateau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damakawa</td>
<td>Kainji</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lere cluster</td>
<td>Kainji</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigbo</td>
<td>Plateau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kere-Ziriya</td>
<td>Kainji</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sambuga</td>
<td>Kainji</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shira</td>
<td>Chadic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sorko</td>
<td>Mande</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teshena</td>
<td>Chadic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeem-Tule</td>
<td>Chadic</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.8 Documentation status

Many languages have been classified with no reference to actual documentation. Where I can find no data at all, then I have said so. It may be that a previous researcher had access to data, but if so no trace remains.

3.9 References

The References (Refs) section includes references to documents on the language, usually published or otherwise available. I have divided the references into a number of subcategories:

- Wordlist
- Grammar
- Dictionary
- Survey
- Ethnographic

The references should either be published or should be available for download on the internet.

4. Queries

4.1 Resolving Queries

The first edition of the Index of Nigerian Languages listed the following languages as extinct;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ashaganna</th>
<th>Fali of Baissa</th>
<th>Shirawa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Auyokawa</td>
<td>Kpati</td>
<td>Taura</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bassa-Kontagora</td>
<td>Lufu</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further investigations have established the status of some of these languages:
The following languages appear to have become extinct:

- Ajanci, a north Bauchi language, reported by Skinner (1977) (=Ajawa in the first edition)
- Akpondu, a language related to Alumu
- Basa-Gumna, a Basa lect, no competent speakers in 1987
- Buta-Ningi, an East Kainji language, Speakers were contacted by Ian Maddieson in 1975 but enquiries in 1990 revealed no remaining speakers
- Holma, a relative of Njanyi, with 4 aged speakers in 1987

4.2 Unresolved Queries
Notes on Unresolved Queries in Editions 1 and 2.

Agalawa A Hausa clan no distinct linguistic element
Ambo Tivoid
Bakarawa possibly a-Koor (see Kag cluster)
Bellawa Now known from Schuh (1978) (see entry)
Buru Bantoid language of the Baissa region
Cineni A distinct language closely related to Gava-Guduf (Kraft 1981) now given an entry
Dazawa Daza: a Chadic language of the Bole-Tangale group (Schuh 1978)
Ganawa Northern Jos language (Shimizu 1982)
Jilbu Fali of Jilvu
Jiriya Ziriya (Shimizu 1982). Now extinct
Jubawa =Jibawa, i.e. Jibu
Kofo Language spoken near Sorau in Adamawa State related to Bata
Kolbila Spoken only in Cameroun
Laka =Kamuku Laka, Hausa-speaking Kamuku
Oruma Inland Ijo. Listed as part of a cluster in earlier editions, but now treated as a separate language.
Purra A cover term for the northern clans of the Yungur
Roma A village in the Zuru area referred to in Rowlands (1962), whose inhabitants are the Adoma. Although the language spoken there today is Lela, the original language was presumably related to Gwamhi-Wuri (Regnier, p.c.)
Rumada Generic term for former serfs of the Fulɓe, no distinct linguistic identity
Shau Northern Jos language (Shimizu 1982)
Subku =Subtuu, a Yungur clan
Teshenawa An extinct Chadic language
Wudufu =Kariya Wudufu, i.e. Mbarku
Wushishi Probably Basa-Gumma
Yan =Yang (town name), i.e. Lala
Yingilim Not spoken in Nigeria
Yumu Town name. Kambari spoken in the region
5. Data quality

One of the most problematic aspects of seeking out the literature on Nigerian languages is the poor quality of much of the work. It is extremely frustrating to eventually find an obscure document and then discover the data is so badly transcribed as to be effectively useless. There are rather extreme cases, such as the thesis on Lopa (ref) where the data appears to have been entirely invented. It is sometimes tempting to place a mark on a reference similar to those made clandestinely by doctors - ‘Not to be resuscitated’. I have eschewed this temptation. The references for minor languages are as complete as possible, but it should not be considered that they are in any way endorsed by this publication. A particularly frustrating case is the publisher LINCOM Europa which publishes any manuscript submitted (apparently) without apparent quality control. Since its publications are quite expensive, the wary reader is encouraged to seek them out before ordering them for a library.

II. Understanding the data

1. Definition of a Language

The preparation of a listing of Nigerian languages inevitably begs the question of the definition of a language. The terms ‘language’ and ‘dialect’ have rather different meanings in informal speech from the more rigorous definitions that must be attempted by linguists. Dialect, in particular, is a somewhat pejorative term suggesting it is merely a local variant of a ‘central’ language. In linguistic terms, however, dialect is merely a regional, social or occupational variant of another speech-form. There is no presupposition about its importance or otherwise. Because of these problems, the more neutral term ‘lect’ is coming into increasing use to describe any type of distinctive speech-form.

However, the Index inevitably must have head entries and this involves selecting some terms from the thousands of names recorded and using them to cover a particular linguistic nucleus. In general, the choice of a particular lect name as a head-entry should ideally be made solely on linguistic grounds. In the first edition of the Index of Nigerian languages it was suggested that in the absence of absolute recognised criteria, mutual intelligibility, lexicostatistics and sociolinguistic factors would be needed to determine appropriate groupings of lects as languages and dialects.

As recognised then, the information about many of the languages listed in this index is too limited to actually make these sorts of judgment in a scientific way. Linguists have long recognised that lexicostatistical counts made ‘cold’, i.e. in the absence of information about the phonology of a language group, will inevitably be lower than those made by someone who has studied the sound correspondences. The idea that an arbitrary lexical cognate level of 80 per cent alone determines the boundary between language and dialect was not espoused. Other factors must be taken into consideration. Moreover, it has become clearer that lects can have high cognacy counts and still differ substantially. For example, the languages in the Yungur cluster have cognacy counts well above 80 per cent. However, a syntactic process that has caused some of them to switch from noun-class suffixes to prefix systems has had profound implications for sentence structure. As a result, to call these languages ‘the same language’ would be to stretch the usual meaning of these words to breaking point.

The choice of many of the head-entries must therefore rest on the judgment of individual linguists or the viewpoint of the speech communities and will not necessarily conform to a unitary standard. This should not be taken as a charter to give any lect the status of an individual language. One of the problems of a developing sense of ethnicity is that there is a tendency to over-emphasise (or deny) linguistic differences for political or administrative reasons. A linguistic atlas should as far as possible refrain from becoming entangled in local and regional politics and stay with the language data. Nonetheless, it should also be recognised that there is an element of self-fulfilling prophecy. A group of people that retains a strong sense of apartness must inevitably develop an image of this in their language, especially in cultural vocabulary.

One of the features of the first edition of the Index developed to characterise situations where there are groups of related languages was the ‘language cluster’ and ‘dialect cluster’. Language cluster was defined as where together with sociolinguistic factors and the issue of mutual intelligibility ‘the percentage of related words is not less than 70 per cent’ and the figure of 80 per cent was adopted for dialect cluster. As suggested above, ‘hard’
figures like this can be problematic, but the principle of not giving primacy to a particular speech-form is practical and also tactful. For the present version of the Index, the number of clusters have been substantially expanded, and many lects, previously listed as dialects, have been reclassified as equal members of a cluster.

2. Language and ethnicity

Linguists trying to develop language classifications always warn about the dangers of confusing language and ethnic group distributions. These warnings are routinely disregarded by non-linguists since the language maps produced handily illustrate the distribution of ethnic groups. Indeed, it would be disingenuous to claim that there are no general correspondences between language and ethnic distribution, especially in the case of minority groups. However, it must be emphasized that the social definition of an ethnic group has many aspects, of which language is just one. The following examples illustrate the wide range of variation that can occur;

1. Fulɓe /Fulani. The Fulɓe people presumably originally came to Nigeria as pastoral nomads and many of them still pursue this occupation today. The language of the Fulɓe is Fulfulde (Pulaar in regions west of Nigeria) although not all Fulɓe still speak this language. They are divided into a complex nexus of inter-related clans, leyỳi, which are kinship-based units. Speakers usually claim that the clan of a speaker can be known from the way they speak, but this is only true when the speaker is also resident in the same geographical area. Broadly speaking, Fulfulde has developed regional dialects, notably in Sokoto and Adamawa. However, these have no distinct boundaries, as would be expected from mobile populations; populations entering a new geographical region must accommodate regional peculiarities with the speech of their ‘home’ clan. Nonetheless, the differences at extreme ends of the dialect chain are enough to make western Sokoto speech incomprehensible to Fulɓe from Adamawa.

Distinctions are equally strong between urban and pastoral Fulɓe, between the Fulɓe wuro and the Fulɓe na’i. An urban speech lect has developed among the town Fulɓe in Yola and adjacent centres in Cameroun, which is syntactically and lexically distinct from rural speech forms. In: this case, there is an asymmetric relationship between the town and country, as urban Fulɓe have difficulty understanding rural Fulɓe speaking among themselves, but the rural groups are fluent in the speech of the towns.

Apart from these distinctions, many Fulɓe no longer speak Fulfulde. For at least two centuries, Fulɓe have been settling in both the towns and rural regions of Hausaland and other parts of Northern Nigeria. Their gradual assimilation into the local community has led them to drop Fulfulde in favour of Hausa and to adopt external features of Hausa society in terms of dress and other customs. However, they retain the ethnic label ‘Fulani’ and social distinctions are still made between individuals on this basis, regardless of the linguistic homogeneity.

3. Reclassification of Languages

3.1 Overview

Language classification in Nigerian Niger-Congo languages remains in flux. The second edition of the Index (Crozier & Blench 1992) used the classification in ‘The Niger-Congo languages’ (Bendor-Samuel 1989) which meant that ‘Eastern Kwa’ (i.e. languages such Yoruba and Igbo) were merged into (New) Benue-Congo. In crude terms, the ‘red’ areas of the first map were now simply considered part of the blue. Kwa is retained for the former Western Kwa and the only languages that fall into this category are Gun and Aja. Ijọ and its related single language Defaka, have been excluded from either group and are now recognised to constitute a distinct branch of Niger-Congo. ‘New’ Benue-Congo has now been effectively dropped and the division proposed by Greenberg re-instated. However, the unity of Kwa is questioned by many and it seems most likely that the ‘Eastern Kwa’ of Nigeria forms a branch of Niger-Congo, together with the Gbe languages (i.e. Ewe, Gun). All these languages have undergone major reeducation of the nominal affix systems and appear to form a coherent group. This group is provisionally named ‘Volta-Niger’. Much more is known about minority languages such as Akpes, Akokoid and Ahan, but their position is still uncertain. They are presently treated as independent branches of Volta-Niger.

Nigeria then encompasses three of Africa’s four language phyla, Niger-Congo, Afroasiatic and Nilo-Saharan. The branches presently include;
One of Africa’s rare isolates, the moribund Jalaa, is also found in Nigeria. Nigeria thus represents a remarkable crossroads of African languages. The following sections are intended to summarise the classification of individual branches.

### 3.2 Niger-Congo

Niger-Congo has more languages than any other in the world and it occupies a greater land area than any other African phylum. It includes the well-known Bantu languages, which spread over nearly all of Eastern and Southern Africa, although they are only a sub-branch of Niger-Congo. Map 1 shows the present-day distribution of Niger-Congo languages. If compared with Nilo-Saharan, one difference is immediately apparent. Niger-Congo languages form large territorial blocks with much less of the fragmentation and geographical isolation characteristic of Nilo-Saharan. Typically, this suggests both more recent expansions and the gradual spread of more sedentary populations colonising areally rather than moving rapidly along line features such as waterways. Nonetheless, Niger-Congo has its own perplexing problems; why should Bantu have covered such a large area and how is it that the Kordofanian languages are isolated from the remainder by a large stretch of Nilo-Saharan speakers?

Map 1. Niger-Congo languages
Making a tree of Niger-Congo is no simple task; Niger-Congo has the largest number of languages of any phylum in the world and is far more internally diverse than Austronesian, its nearest counterpart. Formerly accepted groups such as Kordofanian, Kwa and Atlantic have been split into individual branches, which may be independent. There are also clearly isolates, which have no place with established families. No branches of Niger-Congo have a set of generally accepted reconstructions, with even Bantu under attack. Under these circumstances, any tree is likely to be controversial. Nonetheless, it is essential to understanding early Niger-Congo that we model its internal structure, and with suitable caveats, this is presented in Figure 1.
Figure 1. Niger-Congo restructured

Proto-Niger-Congo

- Dogon
- Mande
  - Ijoid
    - Ijo
    - Defaka
  - Proto-Niger-Congo
    - Rashad
    - Tegem-Amira
    - ‘Kordofanian’
    - Kwaalak-Domurik
    - North Atlantic
    - South Atlantic, ‘Mel’
    - Senufic
    - Kru
    - Bijogo
    - *Gur-Adamawa continuum
  - “Central Gur”
    - Adamawa 1,8
    - Adamawa 2,4,5,12
    - Adamawa 6,13,14,+ Day
    - Adamawa 7,9,10
    - Gbaya
  - “Ubangian”
    - Nyo
    - West Bank
    - Central Togo
    - Ga-Dangme
    - Ubangian
  - Volta-Niger linkage
    - Benue-Congo linkage
      - Gbe
      - Yoruboid
      - Akokoid
      - Edo, Igboid
      - Akpes
      - Ayere-Ahan
      - Nupoid
      - Okoid
      - Idoiond
3.2.1 Mande

The Mande languages in Nigeria are all part of the Southeastern Branch. The core areas of Mande are much further west, so this is the extreme eastern branch. Its nearest relatives are the Samo languages and Bisa, found in Burkina Faso. Figure 2 shows the place of Nigerian Mande languages in the larger Mande family.

Figure 2. Place of Nigerian Mande languages

![Diagram showing the place of Nigerian Mande languages]

3.2.2 Atlantic

The only Atlantic language in Nigeria is Fulfulde, the language of the mobile pastoralists, the Fulɓe. The nearest relatives of Fulfulde are Sereer and Wolof, in Senegambia. More generally, Fulfulde is part of North Atlantic. Many doubts have been raised about the unity of Atlantic languages in recent years, but North Atlantic or Senegambian is likely to be a coherent group. Figure 3 shows one possible model of the place of Fulfulde, which has it closest to the Tenda languages.

Figure 3. Place of Nigerian Fulfulde within Atlantic

![Diagram showing the place of Nigerian Fulfulde within Atlantic]

3.2.3 Ijoid

The Ijọ languages are now definitely considered a high-level branch of Niger-Congo, quite distinct from the languages that surround them. Ijoid is used to denote Ijọ plus Defaka, a highly endangered language spoken in the eastern Delta. Ijoid is spoken entirely within Nigeria. The most recent tree is shown in Figure 4;
3.2.4 Gur

Nigeria is extremely marginal to the Gur-speaking area, with only the Baatọnun language spoken within its boundaries. Baatonun is an outlier in Gur, not closely affiliated to core families such as Oti-Volta and Gurunsi.

3.2.5 Adamawa

The Adamawa languages of Nigeria show considerable similarities to Eastern Gur and Kleinwillinghöfer has argued there is no linguistic boundary between the two families. The Adamawa website has a valuable summary
as well as maps of much of the existing information about Adamawa in Nigeria. There is virtually no structure the the Adamawa languages, which consist of a large number of independent branches. The easternmost families are split between Nigeria and Cameroun.

3.2.6 Gbaya

Gbaya has formerly been treated as part of Ubangian, following Greenberg (Moñino 1988). However, the arguments for this are weak, and it is more likely that it constitutes part of an array which includes both Gur-Adamawa and the other Ubangian languages, as shown on the Niger-Congo tree (Figure 1). Gbaya is only represented very marginally in Nigeria and its main body of speakers are found in Cameroun and RCA.

3.2.7 Volta-Niger

The Volta-Niger languages are the newly named ‘Eastern Kwa’ plus the Gbe cluster. They constitute virtually all the languages of SW Nigeria and are probably broadly equal to Chadic in numerical terms. Figure 5 shows the ‘tree’ for Volta-Niger, although at present, all language subgroups are on an equal basis, with no obvious nesting.

Figure 5. The Volta-Niger languages

3.2.8 Benue-Congo

Bantoid and Bantu represent nested subsets of Benue-Congo, a large and complex group of languages, whose exact membership remains disputed. Originating with Westermann’s (1927) Benue-Cross-Fluss, it took shape in Greenberg (1963), Williamson (1971) and De Wolf (1971). Benue-Congo was introduced by Greenberg (1963) and Ukaan, a small cluster of languages spoken southwest of the Niger-Benue Confluence may be part of it. Figure 6 provides a revised subclassification of Benue-Congo languages;
Benue-Congo is of considerable importance for the understanding of Bantoid, because some languages exhibit features which resurface in Bantu, but which are only attested in fragmentary form or not all in Bantoid. However, the Kainji languages in northwest Nigeria show striking evidence for Bantu-like systems (or more accurately, Bantu retains Kainji-like systems). The conclusion must be that these have to be reconstructed back to this level, and that therefore they must have been present in early Bantoid.

Similarly with noun-classes, Kainji languages show more complete systems than elsewhere in Benue-Congo. These languages have alternating prefixes with alliterative concord and semantic correlates, although no languages show quite the baroque complexity of Bantu. Evidence for many Bantoid languages suggests that noun-classes can be radically restructured, to the point where the correspondences with Bantu are difficult to discern (e.g. Tikar). The likely conclusion is that early Bantoid had a noun-class system, but that it was relatively simple, and that it has gradually evolved through re-analysis and class-splitting to the complex systems found in Bantu today. Languages with no traces of such a system, must have lost it, despite a lack of segmental evidence for this.

Within Benue-Congo the most distinctive feature has been the ramification of sub-groups. The now standard view (Williamson 1989) divides Benue-Congo into twelve branches without proposing higher-order linkages. Blench (1989) constitutes one proposal for the internal classification of Benue-Congo but it is clear that much work remains to be done before the situation is clarified.

Figure 6 shows the subgroups that ‘stand between’ Eastern Benue-Congo and Narrow Bantu. The languages represented are very numerous (>200) and also highly diverse morphologically. It seems likely that new languages are yet to be discovered and more work in historical reconstruction will improve our understanding of how these languages relate to one another. In the absence of more extensive historical linguistics it is assumed individual groups split away from a common stem, and developed their own characteristics. The order
in which this took place remains controversial, and will take considerable further work to resolve in a satisfying manner. A proposal is presented in Figure 7;

**Figure 7. Proposal for the divergence of Bantoid languages**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>South Bantoid</th>
<th>Grassfields</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bendi ?</td>
<td>Part of Bantu A group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tivoid</td>
<td>including Jarawan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buru</td>
<td>Narrow Bantu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furu cluster</td>
<td>Nyang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yemne-Kimbi</td>
<td>Ekoid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-Mbe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Blench (2019)

### 3.3 Nilo-Saharan

Nilo-Saharan may well be the most ancient of the large African language phyla and it is one of the most controversial, with membership of particular branches questioned in different sources (e.g. Dimmendaal 2011). However, on the assumption that it is a coherent phylum, Figure 8 shows a tentative model of its internal structure.
Only the Songhay and Saharan branches have substantial representation in Nigeria, although the recent discovery of a small community of Central Sudanic speakers (related to Kaba, a Sara language) represents a third branch.

3.4 Afroasiatic

The Afroasiatic languages are one of the major phyla globally, largely due to the extension of Arabic. Within Nigeria, the main representatives of Afroasiatic are the West and Central Chadic languages. However, the presence of Arabic and Berber-speaking Tuareg means that Semitic and Berber are also represented. The internal structure of Afroasiatic is controversial, but a compromise ‘tree’ is shown in Figure 9.
Nigeria could be said to be the home of Chadic, where the majority of its languages are spoken. The internal structure of Chadic is usually considered to be as in . Classification of Chadic goes back to Newman (1977); although this has been questioned over the years, no convincing alternative model has yet been proposed. West Chadic is confined to Nigeria, with the exception of Hausa outliers, and Central Chadic is split between Nigeria and Cameroon. The structure attributed to West Chadic is as shown in Figure 10;

**Figure 10. Classification of the West Chadic languages: received view**

![Classification of the West Chadic languages: received view](image_url)

The structure attributed to West Chadic is as shown in Figure 10;

Central Chadic has been studied in some detail by Gravina (2015) and the model he presents of its internal structure is as in Figure 11. Map 2 shows the distribution of Central Chadic languages.

**Map 2. Central Chadic languages**

![Map 2. Central Chadic languages](image_url)
3.5 Isolates

Nigeria has only known isolate (i.e. a language with no known relatives) which is Jalaa or Cen Tuum, spoken among the Dijim in Gombe State. The only information on this language is from the work of Ulrich Keinwillinghöfer (200x). Recent research suggests that this language is now moribund or extinct.

Source: Gravina (2015)
3.6 Naming of subgroups

As the pattern of previously little-known language groups gradually becomes clearer, new names will be proposed and some adopted. The author has been particularly active in the area of Plateau and is responsible for the first records of many languages, or else for extended wordlists. As subgroups have become delineated, so names that reflect their linguistic features or other aspects become appropriate. Following a series of publications, the following names have been adopted.

Beromic  Plateau 2
Ninzie  Plateau 4

A number of subgroups whose membership has at best been uncertain are now given names to reflect this. For example, the ‘Jaba cluster’ is now renamed Hyamic, and the various languages falling under the label Koro are now renamed the Koro cluster. No doubt not all of these will survive, but classification is an ongoing process and affected by political and social considerations.

4. Changes in Language Distribution

Languages are spoken by people and in a developing society such as Nigeria change is a constant feature of human populations. The most common source of change is migration.

4.1 Rural-Rural Migration and language distribution

One result of the increasing human population of Nigeria is pressure on farmland and the consequent urge to migrate to less densely populated regions. This process has probably always occurred but it has been boosted by the ready availability of roads, transport and other communications. As a result, farmers can assess other regions of the country for their agricultural potential and may move their villages wholesale. The Zarma populations southeast of Lake Kainji resulted from a transplanting of Zarma villages in the northwest to the region north of Mokwa in the early 1980s.

4.2 Rural-Urban Migration and language distribution

Cities by their very nature attract polyglot mixtures of ethnic groups. Even in the pre-colonial era, major cities such Kano and Lagos had quarters for non-indigenous peoples such as the Nupe. However, the growth of cities during the twentieth century has accentuated this trend dramatically and the oil-wealth of Nigeria has permitted an urban expansion hardly paralleled elsewhere in Africa.

4.3 Languages spoken by refugees

Nigeria is perhaps not usually considered a country as a recipient of refugees, but the situation has changed in the light of the crisis in Western Cameroon. Since the crackdown on insurgent groups and the rise of the ‘Ambazonia’ movement, there have been significant numbers of communities fleeing the Grassfields region. These have been coming as far as Benue State in Nigeria, as well as in the Cross River area. What languages may be spoken by these refugees, and whether their change of location is permanent is so far unknown.

4.4 Languages spoken by pastoralists

One of the most problematic aspects of representing languages on maps with fixed boundaries is the case of pastoral societies. Pastoralists move with their herds, carrying their language with them and interpenetrate settled communities. The most well known are the Fulbe but there are many other groups, especially in northeastern Nigeria, such as the Jetko, Koyam, Teda, Shuwa and Yedina. Some nomadic pastoralists, such as the Uled Suliman and the Twareg, only enter Nigeria in the dry season, returning to the Republic of Niger during the rains. Obviously the movements of such peoples cannot be captured on a single map and sketches to show the migratory circuits of some pastoral groups have been added. It should be noted, however, that these are at best schematic. Pastoral peoples are by the nature of their life-style, flexible and liable to change their movements. They could therefore expand into new regions or withdraw from them very rapidly. The maps therefore only represent the situation recorded in 1990 and should be regarded as subject to change.

Civil insecurity in Northeast Nigeria has radically changed the distribution of pastoralists in this region. Since 2009, when the Boko Haram insurgency took off, FulBe, Shuwa and Koyam have all been driven out of the region. Those whose herds were stolen have often ended up in the refugee camps outside Maiduguri. We know
that many FulBe have fled south and west into the Nigerian Middle Belt. Shuwa who have escaped are now largely in Chad. Little is known about the secretive Koyam. Peace and security may be a long time coming to this region and it likely the language distribution will be significantly different from the previous situation.

4.5 Regions of mixed population

One of the most problematic aspects of representing languages is regions of mixed population. Populations often form linguistically homogeneous zones, especially with the more widespread languages. Elsewhere, communities develop networks of interdependence that create interlocking communities and thus intertwined languages. A notable example of this is the region immediately northeast of the Niger-Benue confluence, where Gbari, Ebira and Basa villages co-exist. Many large settlements have wards representing the three major groups. These are marked as together in single polygon, but an approximate border is shown where one group begins to dominate. This cartographic convention should be taken as only a schematic representation of reality.

4.6 Distribution of second languages

The use of second languages for communication and in administration was well-established in pre-colonial Nigeria and has further expanded as the diversity of migrations has required the development of linguae francae. The most notable languages used in this way are English, Pidgin, Hausa, Kanuri, Fulfulde, Yoruba, Igbo and Efik. Some of these are expanding, such as Hausa and Yoruba and others are in decline, notably Kanuri and Efik.

4.7 Language endangerment and death

Since this enterprise began, interest in language endangerment has become a highly significant topic, although this has not necessarily led to significantly more documentary work being undertaken on endangered languages in Nigeria. Nonetheless, a category of degree of endangerment has been introduced and information provided where recent sociolinguistic data is available. The following data compares Nigeria with the other countries of West Africa.

‘Declining’ and ‘moribund’ are categories to try and capture languages that are apparently in decline despite having a viable number of speakers. The assumption is that there are many more languages of this type. The availability of information is extremely uneven, so the data was further analysed by country, as shown in Table 3. This illustrates yet again Nigeria’s exceptional situation; its languages are less-known than any other country even in percentage terms.

Table 3. Distribution of languages with no status data by country

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Total languages</th>
<th>No Data</th>
<th>% No data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Togo</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sierra Leone</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guinea-Bissau</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>14.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>15.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberia</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mauretania</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>23.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Côte d’Ivoire</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>23.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gambia</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>26.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guinea</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>29.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>32.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>42.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total and Mean</td>
<td>1050</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>30.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The explanation for this is actually quite simple; all other West African countries have had a fairly active programme of language survey conducted either by the French research establishment or by the SIL. In: Nigeria, since the virtual cessation of SIL activities in 1976, very limited further survey work was conducted.
4.8 Pattern of language endangerment

In general, West African languages are in a healthy state. Compared to Eastern and Southern Africa, only a few languages are disappearing. The clear contrast with East Africa which almost certainly reflects the dominance of smallholder farming systems. A lack of mobility and a relative inflexibility in reinventing subsistence strategies tends to conserve language and maintain classic patterns of diversification such as areal spread and dialect chains. Language endangerment in West Africa generally through language shift, which usually reflects the rise of a dominant culture, formerly military, but often nowadays commercial or religious. This is particularly the case with Islam; conversion to Islam was historically associated with the rise of highly militarised cultures and indeed the slave trade. Thus, Hausa, Arabic, Mandinka, Bambara, Fulfulde and Kanuri have all been associated with aggressive expansionism and the forcible conversion of enslaved peoples. In: the colonial era, the convenience of these languages was such that they were frequently adopted as secondary languages of communication. Promoted by the administration they became ever more the vehicle of assimilatory forces pressing on minority languages.

Box 1 illustrates the case of Yangkam, a language of Central Nigeria that is severely endangered because the association of its people with Islamic expansion during the nineteenth century.

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**Box 1. The case of Yangkam**

The Yangkam people live in a region west of Bashar town, on the Amper-Bashar road, in Plateau State, Central Nigeria. They are known as ‘Bashar’ or ‘Basherawa’ (the Hausaised name for the people) in almost all the literature (Greenberg 1963; Crozier & Blench 1992). The correct name of the Bashar language and people is Yàŋkàm, plural aYangkam. Crozier and Blench 1992) give a figure of 20,000 speakers of the language located in and around Bashar town, some 50 km east of Amper on the Muri road. This estimate turned out to be entirely erroneous. The Yangkam people were heavily affected by nineteenth century slave raids, perhaps by the Jukun as well as the Hausa. They converted to Islam and a relatively powerful centre was established at Bashar. At the same time they began to switch to speaking Hausa, while still retaining strongly their Bashar identity. In: the region of Bashar town in 1997, there were just two old men who remain reasonably fluent in the language, in the village of Yuli, some 15 km northwest of Bashar. However, it turns out that at the time of the raids, the population split into two and another group sought refuge in Tukur. Yangkam is spoken in some four villages, Tukur, Bayar, Pyaksam and Kiram. However, even here Yangkam is only spoken by people over fifty and all the young people speak Hausa. There seems to be no likelihood that Yangkam will be maintained as speakers are quite content with the switch to Hausa. The local estimate of the number of fluent speakers is 400, and falling every year. There are many hamlets around Bashar town in Wase local Government whose populations are ethnically Yangkam but who no longer speak the language.

Yangkam is something of a paradox; members of the ethnic group are very proud of their history and identity, but do not associate that with retention of the language. Hausa is not spoken as a first language by any populations nearby and Bashar is today well-off major routes for long-distance trade. A typescript of the history of Bashar circulates in the district, larded with non-Hausa names and words but Yangkam do not draw the conclusion that there is any link between this identity and the language they formerly spoke. Although Yangkam has nearly disappeared as a language, the populations who formerly spoke it are likely to retain Basherawa and Basheranci as their name for the people and language as long as they retain a separate identity.

Source: Author’s unpublished fieldwork

Not all large vehicular languages were the products of Islamisation; Moore, Yoruba, Efik/Ibibio, Akan and Wolof seem to have expanded, often in a military context, but prior to or unrelated to Islam. Interestingly, these languages have been less successful in the post-colonial phase of cultural expansion, suggesting that the transition to a trade language was less successful than, say, Hausa or Bambara. Islam, as also Christianity, has always had long-distance trade as a second arrow in its quiver, when the impetus for military conquest was exhausted. This made languages with a prior embedded trade vocabulary highly suitable to the colonial administrators. Less commerce-oriented languages made more limited inroads in an era of relative peace.
Interestingly, the apparent preconditions for language death set up negative expectations that turn out to be unnecessarily pessimistic. Surveys of Plateau languages 1993-1999 showed that in almost every case, even languages with relatively small numbers of speakers appeared to be flourishing, rather against expectation. Box 2 gives an example of two related languages form the Mambiloid family which might appear prime candidates for endangerment which appear to be thriving.

### Box 2. Mvanɨp and Ndunda

Meek (1931) gives a short wordlist of a language he calls Magu, spoken at Zongo Ajiya in the northwest of the Mambila Plateau in southeastern Nigeria. While undoubtedly a Mambiloid language, it seems to be distinct from Mambila proper. In: Crozier & Blench 1992) the population is given as ‘less than 10,000’ and called ‘Mvano’. Following a field visit in 1999 we ascertained how incorrect this information was. The Mvanɨp people are only 100 (chief’s estimate) consisting of a few households in one quarter of Zongo Ajiya. Almost all individuals seemed to be fluent in the other languages of Zongo Ajiya, Fulfulde, Mambila and Ndoro. Despite this, the language seems to be alive –the Jauro assured us that all the children still speak it, and we observed this to be true. A long wordlist was taped and there is no doubt this is the same language given in Meek as Magu.

When we asked for the language closest to Mvanɨp, to our surprise, we were given the name of the Ndunda people. Ndunda is a village some 5km. from Yerimaru, past Kakara on the tea estate road south of Zongo Ajiya. And indeed, there are a people and language of this name whose existence seems so far to have entirely eluded the reference books. Their language resembles Mvanɨp but the two are sufficiently distinct as to be regarded as separate languages. There are probably 3-400 speakers of Ndunda. The language is also alive and well although the Ndunda settlement is much more ethnically homogeneous than Zongo Ajiya.

Mvanɨp and Ndunda would appear to be prime candidates for language loss. Their numbers are very small, and the populations live in close proximity to prestigious and numerically dominant languages associated with Islam. However, they seem to have developed a situation of stable multilingualism and religious synthesis that allows them to conserve their traditions without seeming anomalous to outsiders. In: contrast to the Yangkam (see Box 1) the Mambila Plateau is off major trade routes and remains highly inaccessible even in modern Nigeria.

Blench & Connell, survey notes 1999

### Acknowledgments

An enterprise such as the Atlas of Nigerian Languages is above all a co-operative enterprise. It depends on scholars making available advance copies of field materials and local enthusiasts willing to assist in the plotting of language distribution and discussion of dialect and intelligibility issues.

Table 4 below may be said to constitute major acknowledgments, that is scholars who have contributed substantially to improved knowledge of language distribution in unpublished communications. The acknowledgments given in the introduction to the first edition are not repeated here, but the author would like to thank those earlier contributors for their work. New maps of published materials are included in the bibliography and are therefore not referred to here.
Table 4. Individuals contributing information on particular languages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Region or Language(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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Key to the Index

The index is arranged alphabetically with the language entries in large print at the margin. Cross references are in smaller print and indented.

The information about each language is classified according to the numbers 1 to 17.

1.A Alternate spellings of the head name
1.B The peoples’ own name for their language
1.C The peoples’ own name for themselves
2.A Other names for the language based on its location
2.B Other names for the language
2.C Other names for the people
3. Location by state and local government area
4. Approximate number of speakers
5. Linguistic classification
6. Dialects
7. Publications in the language
8. Scripture publications in the language
9. Linguistic publications
10. Second language use
11. Endangerment status
12. Media use (Television, Radio)
13. Literacy
14. Internet presence
15. Text-messaging
16. Sign languages
17. Scripts

Below these numbered heads is a category Sources. This refers to information collected either by direct visits or from personal communications. So Blench (2006) would mean that the present author was responsible for the information, usually due to a field visit in the year in question.
A.

aBaangi = Baangi: a dialect of Kambari I
Abacha = Basa-Benue
Abadi = Avadi: a dialect of Kambari I
Abak – a dialect of Anaang
Abakan = Kpan
Abakpa = Ekin: see the Ejagham cluster
Abakwaria = Hausa – (from Jukun)
Abanliku = Obanliku
Abanyom = Bakor
Abanyum = Bakor
Abaro = Boro–Abaro
Abatsa = Basa Benue
Abawa – Gupa–Abawa
Abayongo – member of the Agwagwune cluster
Abbi – dialect of Ûkwuanj: see Ûkwuanj–Aboh–Ndönj
Abeawa = Asu
Abini – member of the Agwagwune cluster
Abinsi – member of the Kororofa cluster
Abiri = Abini: see the Agwagwune cluster
Abisi = Piti
Abo – dialect of Bokyi
Aboh – a member of Ûkwuanj–Aboh–Ndönj cluster
Abokpna – a dialect of Gbari
Abong = Abon

1. Abon
1.A Abong
1.B Abô
1.C Abô
2.A Abon
2.C Ba’ban
3. Taraba State, Sardauna LGA, Abong town (east of Baissa)
4. Only spoken in Abong town
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Southern Bantoid: Tivoid

Source(s) Blench (1990)
Refs.
Wordlist: Meek (1931: II:562)
Comparative: W&B (1952: 113); Shimizu (1980a: 22)
Aboro = Nincut
Abu = Jida–Abu cluster

2. Abua
1.B Abuan
1.C Abua
3. Rivers State, Ahoada LGA
4. 11,000 (1963): estimated 25,000 (Faraclas 1989)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Central Delta
6. Central Abuan, Ûmughan, Òtabha (Ôtapha), Òkpeden
7. Reading and Writing Book 1966; Primer 1 1971;
Primer 2 1973; 3 post–primer books 1972, 73;
8. New Testament 1976; Scripture portions from
1967; Selections from Psalms, 1990;
11. Vigorous

Refs.
Overview: Wolff (1959);
Ethnographic: Talbot (1926: I:14, II.2)

Abuan = Abua

3. Abureni
1.C Mini
2.C Mini
3. Rivers State, Brass LGA
4. 3 villages
5. No data. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross:
Central Delta group

Source(s) Williamson (2002)

Abeele = Bele
Àɓéelé = Bele
Ache = Koron Ache = Begbere, see the Tinor-
Myamya cluster
Abuloma = Obulom
Achipa = next
Achipawa = Sagamuk
Achiro – mentioned in Shimizu (1971)
Açipa = Sagamuk
Ada = Kuturmi
Adamawa – dialect group of Fulfulde
Adara = Kadara
Adarawa – a Hausa subgroup
Adce – unknown except for a reference by Temple
(1922: Kabba Province)
Adere = Dzodzinka
Àdëdka = Madaka: dialect of Bauchi
Adibom – dialect of Ògûal
Adikummu Sukur = Sakun
Adim – member of the Agwagwune cluster
Adiri = Dzodinka
Adoma = Kar: see the Kag–Fe–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–
Us–Zuksun cluster
Adong = Idun
Adû = Idun
Aduge = Òkpamheri
Adun = Idun
Adun – dialect of Mbenbe
Adyaktye = Kakanda
Afa = Paá
Afa – member of Arigidi cluster
Afade = Afadê
Afadee = Afadê
4. Afaɗә
1. A Afade, Affade, Afadee
2. A Kotoko, Mogari
3. Borno State, Ngala LGA; and in Cameroon
4. Twelve villages in Nigeria, estimate less than 20,000 (1990)
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara B: Mandage group

Source(s)
Blench (1990);

Refs.
Wordlist: Barth (1858: 759); Olderogge (1952)
Grammar: Seetzen (1810); Lukas (1936); Tourneux (1997); Mahamat (2005); Allison (2012)

Afakani = Defaka
Afal: Mbe Afal = Obe cluster
Afango = Berom
Afao = Eloyi
Afawa = Paá
Afenmai = Etsako = Yeekhee
Aferikpe = Afrike: see the Obe cluster
Afua – member of the Arigidi group
Affade = Affadә
Afi = Batu Afi: a member of the Batu cluster
Afkiko – dialect of Igbo
Afizarek = next
Afizere = Izere
Afkabiye = Guduf: Guduf–Gava cluster
Afo = Eloyi
Afo – dialect of Yoruba
Afrike – member of the Afrike-Irungene cluster

5. Afrike-Irungene cluster
5. Bantoid: Bendi
*Afrike
1. A Aferikpe
3. Cross River State, Ogoja LGA
4. 3,500 (1953)
*Irungene
3. Cross River State, Ogoja LGA

Refs.
Wordlist: Cook (1976)

Agolok = Kagoro: see the Katab cluster
Agoma = Kagoma
Agudia – a dialect of Epi
Aguro = Kagoro: see the Katab cluster

7. Agwagwune cluster
1. A Agwa–Gwune
3. Cross River State, Akamkpa LGA
4. 20,000 (SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Upper Cross

Refs.
Overview: Williamson (1971: 275)

7.b Agwagwune
1.C Gwune

Refs.
Wordlist: Koelle (1854); BCCWL 2

Ethnographic: Talbot (1926: II.422)
3. Cross River State, Akamkpa LGA, Erei Development Area

Refs.

7.c *Abini
1.A Bini, Abiri
1.B Obini
3. Cross River State, Akamkpa LGA, Egup–Ipa Development Area

Refs.

Ethnographic: Talbot (1926: IV.195)

7.d *Adim
1.A Arәm, Dim
1.B Odim
2.B Orum
3. Cross River State, Akamkpa LGA, Egup–Ipa Development Area

Refs.

Ethnographic: Talbot (1926: IV.195)

7.e *Abayongo
1.A Bayono, Bayino
3. Cross River State, Akamkpa LGA, Egup–Ipa Development Area

Refs.

Wordlist: Cook (1969b)

7.f *Etono II
1.C Etuno
3. Cross River State, Akamkpa LGA, Ubaghara Development Area

Agwara = Nwanci – dialect of Kambari II
Agwatashi – dialect of Alago
Agwe = Koro Agwe: see the Tinor-Myamya cluster
Agwere = Begbere–Ejar
Agwolok – next
Agwot = Kagoro: see the Katab cluster

8. Ahan
1.C Àhàn
3. Ondo State, Ekiti LGA, Ajowa, Igashi, and Omou towns
5. Volta-Niger: Ayere-Ahan

Source(s)

Refs.

Aike = Ake
Aho = Eloyi
Aholio = Sholio: see the Katab cluster
Ahwai = Nandu-Nyeng-Shakara cluster
Aika = Ukaan
Aja – part of the Gbe cluster
Ajami = Hausa Arabic script

9. Aja [†]
1.A Ajanci
4. Extinct: formerly spoken at Kworko, Bauchi State
5. No data. Chadic: West: North Bauchi

Refs.

Comparative: Skinner (1977)

Ethnographic: Thomas (1914); Temple (1922); Thomas in Meek (1925); Gunn (1953)

Ajanji = Janji
Ajawa = Aja

10. Ajiya
1.A Ajuli
1.B Ajiya
1.C Ajiya
2.A Idon, Idong, Idon-Doka-Makyali
3. Kaduna State, Kachia LGA
4. Three towns
5. East Benue–Congo: Plateau: Northwestern group

Sources:

Ethnographic: Talbot (1926: IV.195)

11. Ajuwa-Ajegha
1.B Ajuwa
1.C Ajuwa
3. Kaduna State, Kajuru LGA
4. Towns; Kalla, Afogo, Iburu, Idon, Makyali
5. East Benue–Congo: Plateau: Northwestern group

Sources: Maikarfi (2007)

Aje – a member of the Arigidi cluster
Ajure = Kajuru: see Kadara
Akajuk = Ekajuk
Akam – dialect of Mbmbe
Akamkp = Ejaham
Akanda = Kakanda: see the Nupe cluster
Akasa = next
Akassa = Akaha: member of KOIN: Ijọ cluster
Akọyọ = Kiông

12. Ake
1.A Akye, Aike
3. Nassarawa State, Lafia LGA
4. 354 (Meek 1925); 3000 (Blench 1999)
5. Benue-Congo: Plateau: Southern; Eggonic

Source: Blench (1999); Kato (2006)

Refs.

Wordlist: Blench (2016)

Ethnographic: Temple (1922: 6); Meek (1925: II.185);

Akọnfai – a dialect of Epie
Akọtsụkpọ = Ashuku: see Mmbme (Tigong)
Akimbà a dialect of Kambari II
Akọta – member of Inland Ijọ cluster: Ijọ
Akọzà – dialect of Ninzam
Ako – dialect of Ëkpeye
Akoiyọyọ = Kiông
Akoko - a term used for the Arigidi cluster, Ahan, Ayere and Oka
Akono – dialect of Yoruba
Akonto = Mbenbe (Tigong) cluster
aKoor = Koor: Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zuksun cluster
Akpa-Yace – see Akpa and Yace

13. Akpa
2.B Akweya
3. Benue State, Otukpo LGA
4. 5,500 (1952 RGA)
5. Volta-Niger: Idomoid
Refs.
Comparative: Armstrong (1979)
Phonology: Armstrong (1983)

Akpa-Yace = see Akpa and Yace
Akpet–Ehom = the Ukpet–Ehom cluster

15. Akpondu [†]
1.B Akpondu
3. Plateau State
4. 1 (2005). The last speaker was only a remember
and can only recall fragmentary vocabulary
5. Benue-Congo: Plateau: Alumic
10. Ninzo
11. Moribund or extinct
Source: Blench & Kato (2005)

Akpot = Idoma
Akpọ–Mgbu–Tolu – dialect of Ikwere
Ákúcūkpú = Ashuku see Mbembe (Tigong)
Akuku = Ọkpẹ–Idesa–Akuku

16. Akum
1.C Anyar
3. Taraba State, ca. 6°50N, 9°50E
4. 3 villages in Nigeria; 600 in Cameroun (1976)
5. Benue-Congo: Jukunoid
Refs.
Survey:

Akunakuna = Agwagwune
Akunnu = Akpes
Akurakura = Agwagwune: see the Agwagwune
cluster
Akurumi = Kurama
Akusa = Yoruba
Akuut = Berom
Akwa = Rin
Akweya = Akpa
Akye = Ake
Aly = Koron Alas: see Ashe
Alada – dialect of Gbe

17. Alago
1.A Arago
1.C Idoma Nokwu
3. Nasarawa State, Awe and Lafia LGAs
4. 15,000 (1953 RGA); at least 100,000 (Blench
2017)
5. Benue–Congo: Idomoid: group b
6. Agwatashi, Assaikio, Doma, Keana in towns of
these names
8. Mark 1929
Source(s) Gya (2012)
Comparative: Armstrong (1979)

Alataghwa = Zaladva: see the Lamang cluster
18. Alege
3. Cross River State, Obudu LGA

References
Wordlist: BCCL

Alifokpa – dialect of Yace

19. Alumu-Tәsu cluster
1. A Arum–Chessu
3. Nasarawa State, Akwanga LGA
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Alumic

19.a *Alumu
1. A Arum
1.B Alumu
4. Seven villages. ca. 5000 (Blench 1999)

19.b *Tәsu
1. Chessu
4. Two villages. ca. 1000 (Blench 1999)

Source(s)
Wordlist: Blench (2016)

Aлду – dialect of Ikwere
Am Pikка = Bole
Amala = Mala
Amana = Emane
Amanda = Batu Amanda: see the Batu cluster
Amar = Amar Randa, Amar Tita – dialects of Ninzam
Amap = Amo

20. Ambo
3. Taraba State, Sardauna LGA
4. A single village east of Baissa
5*. No data. Benue–Congo; South Bantoid; Tivoid?

Source(s)
Blench (1987)

Amegi = Biseni: member of Inland Ijo
Amo = Map
Amon = Umon
Among = Amo
Ampeyi = Nupe
Ampika = Bole
Amtul = Tal
Amusigbo – a dialect of Yoruba
Amziriv = Zizilivәkәn

21. Anaang
1. A Annang, Anang, Anәn
3. Akwa–Ibom State, Ikot Ekpene, Essien Udum,
Abak, Ukanafun and Oruk–Anam LGAs
4. 246,000 (F&J 1944-5): estimated 1,000,000 (1990)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Lower
Cross: Central group
6. Abak, Ikot Ekpene, Ukanafun

References
Comparative: Connell (1991)
Grammar: Santos (2007)

Anabeze = Buji: see the Jere cluster
Anafejanzi = Janji
Anaguta = Iguta
Anang = Anaang
Anәn = Anaang
Anarubünü = Ribina: see Jere
Anazele = Jere: see the Jera cluster
Ancha – dialect of Ninzam
Andombo = Batu Andombo – a dialect of Batu
Andoni = Obolo
Anegorom = Gurrum – dialect of Ribina: see the Jera cluster
Anemoro = Lemoro
Anep = Balep: member of the Ndoe cluster
Angan = Kamantan
Angbe = Angwe: see the Batu cluster
Aniakawa – only referred to in Temple (1922: 17) who lists 220 in Bauchi Division:
Anibau = Gusu: see the Jera cluster
Anika = Bole
Aniocha = next
Aniucha – dialect of Igbo
Anirago = Niragu: see Gbiri–Niragu
Aniragu = Niragu: see Gbiri–Niragu
Ankulu = Ikulu
Ankpa – dialect of Igala
Ankwa = Iku, Gora
Ankwe = Goemai
Ankwai = Goemai
Annwai = Anaang
Annang = Anaang
Anorubuna = Ribina: see the Jera cluster
Anosangobari = Gusu: see the Jera cluster
Anowuru = Lemoro
Anpika = Bole
Anufawa = Nupe
Anupe = Nupe
Anupeewai = Nupe
Anuperi = Nupe
Anyama – member of Kolo cluster
Anyaran = Ukaan
Anyeb = Balep: member of the Ndoe cluster
Ànyìgbá – dialect of Igala
Anyima = Lenyima
Anjma = Anjma Asanga: see Sanga
Apa – dialect of Kpan
Apanị – dialect of Ikwere
Apiapum – dialect of Mbembe
Apoi = Apoi – a south central dialect of Izọn: Ijo cluster
Apoi – a south central dialect of Izọn: Ijo cluster
Appa – dialect of Kpan
Appa = Tarok
Aqua = Ekin: see the Ejagham cluster

23. Arabic cluster
1. A Arabic
1.B Arabiyye
3. Borno and Yobe States
5. Afroasiatic: Semitic

23.a *Shuwa
1. A Choa, Chiwa, Schoa, Shooa, Shuge, Sōougé, Shua
2. A Shuwa Arabic: Shuwa is regarded as pejorative in Chad at least
3. Borno State: Dikwa, Kunduga, Ngala and Bama LGAs can be regarded as residential areas, but Shuwa range widely across Borno and Yobe States on transhumance. Also in Cameroun, Chad and Niger. In: Cameroun & Chad it has *lingua franca* status.
4. Over 1.7 million total: 1.56 million in Chad (1986); 63,600 in Cameroun (1982 SIL); approximately 100,000 in Nigeria (1973 SIL). Fluctuating population as many Shuwa migrate to neighbouring countries.
Boko Haram insurgency has caused many Shuwa Arabs to leave Nigeria and their villages have been devastated.
Source(s) Blench (1990)

Refs.
Phonology: Djibrine Moussa (2001)
Texts: Howard (1921)
Pedagogic: Carbour (1913), Abu-Absi & Sinaud (1968), Jullien de Pommerol (1999c)

23.b *Uled Suliman
1. A Libyan Arabic
1.B Arabiyye
1.C Uled Suliman
2.C Ouled Suliman
3. Borno State, Geidam, Mober, Yunusari LGAs. Also in Chad and Niger.
4. The Uled Suliman were formerly seasonal migrants to Nigeria, but now are based in NE Borno. their migratory loops are now extending far southwards into Yobe and Jigawa states in the Hadejia-Nguru wetlands. There are probably as many as 20,000 regularly transhuming in Nigeria. The impact of the Boko Haram insurgency remains unknown.
5. No specific data on Nigerian variety.
Source(s) Blench (1990, 2003)

23.c *Baggara
1. A Sudanese Arabic
1.B Arabiyye
1.C Baggara
3. Yobe State. Also in Chad, Sudan. The impact of the Boko Haram insurgency remains unknown.
5. No specific data on Nigerian variety.
Source(s) Blench (1990)

Arabiyye = Arabic: see Arabic cluster
Aragba – dialect of Mbe West: see the Mbe cluster
Arago = Alago
Arek – Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA. South of the Rumada, east of Gwandara, north of Mada and east of Numana. Shown on map of Gunn (1956).
Arewa – subgroup of Hausa
Aram = Adim: see the Agwagwune cluster
Arhe – a member of the Ivbie North–Okpela–Arhe cluster
Arĩ = Rin

24. Arigidi cluster
3. Ondo State, Akoko North LGA; Kwara State, Kogi LGA
5. Benue–Congo: Defoid: Akokoid

24.a *Afa
1. B Òwọ̀n Àfá
1.C Àfá
2. A Oke–Agbe
3. Ondo State, Akoko North LGA, Oke–Agbe town, Afa section

24.b *Arigidi
1. C Arigidi
3. Ondo State, Akoko North LGA, Arigidi town

24.c *Eruṣu
1. A Erusu, Erushu
1.C Erúṣú
3. Ondo State, Akoko North LGA, Erusu town

Refs.
Ajiboye (1986)

24.d *Ese
1. B Òwọ̀n Èsé
1.C Èsé
2. A Aje, Oke–Agbe
3. Ondo State, Akoko North LGA, Oke–Agbe town, Ese section
24.e *Igaṣi
1.A Igashi, Igsi
1.B Òwọ̀ Ìgáṣí
1.C Igashi
3. Ondo State, Akoko North LGA, Igaşi town
4. 45,000 (1986)

Refs.
Fakoyo (1986)

24.f *Oge
1.B Òwọ̀ Ògè
1.C Oge
2.A Oke–Agbe
3. Ondo State, Akoko North LGA, Oke–Agbe town, Oge section

24.g *Ojo
3. Ondo State, Akoko North LGA, Ajọwa town

24.h *Oyìn
3. Ondo State, Akoko North LGA, Oyìn–Akoko town

24.i *Udo
1.A Ìdo
1.B Òwọ̀ Ìdò
2.A Oke–Agbe
3. Ondo State, Akoko North LGA, Oke–Agbe town, Ìdò section

24.j *Uro
3. Ondo State, Akoko North LGA, Uro–Ajọwa town
4. 3,000 (1986)

Refs.
Phonology: Ayodele (1986)

aRor = Ror. Member of the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zuksun cluster
Arogbo – south western dialect of Ìzọn: Ìjọ cluster
Arokwà = Èruwa
Arrìngẹ̀ = Òrin
Arughaunyà – dialect of Òdual
Arum–Chesu = Alumu–Tesu
Arumarumà = Ruma
Aruo – only known from Ballard (1971) Map H14 Jos Division area
Asanga = Gusu: see the Jera cluster
Asanga = Sanga
Ase – member of the Akpes cluster
Asebi = Rin
Asennize = Sheni
Asétọ̀ – dialect of Gbe
asFer = Fer: a member of the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zuksun cluster
Ashaganna – Benue–Congo: Kainji, extinct
Ashaku = Ashuku: see the Mbembe (Tigong) cluster

25. Ashe
1.A Ache
1.C Ìzɛ̀
2.A The Ashe share a common ethnonym with the
people and Ìzar for the language. This name is the
origin of the term Ejar.
2.C Koron Ache
3. Kaduna State, Kagarko LGA, Nasarawa State, Karu
LGA
4. 35,000 including Tinɔr-Myamya (Barrett 1972). 8
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Koro
7. Literacy programme in progress

Source(s) Blench (1982, 2008); Rueck (2016)

Ortography: Goro (2000)

Ashaminai = Cishingini: see the Kambari I cluster
Asingini – member of Kambari I cluster
Asholio = Sholio: see the Katab cluster
Ashuku – dialect of the Mbembe (Tigong) cluster
Asiga = Leyigha
Asolio = Sholio: see the Katab cluster
Assaiko – dialect of Alago

26. Asu
1.B Asu
1.C Asu
2.A Abewa
2.B Ebe
3. Niger State: Mariga LGA: several villages south of
Kontagora on the Mokwa road
4. 5000 (Blench 1987)
5. Benue–Congo: Nupoid: Nupe group

Source(s) Blench (1987)

Asumbo = Iyive
As–Us = Us: a member of the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–
Koor–Ror–Us–Zuksun cluster
Ataba – dialect of Obolo
Atak = Jiru
Atakar – member of the Katab cluster
Atakat = Atakar: a member of the Katab cluster
Atala = Degema
Atam – Efik cover term for Kohumono, Lokà, Legbo
and other languages in the Cross River area
Atam = Nta: see the Bakor cluster
Ate = next
Ațe = Arhe: see the Iybie North–Okpela–Arhe cluster
### 27. Aten
1. B Ten, Etien
2. C sg Atên, pl. Nîtèn
3. Plateau State, Barkin Ladi LGA; Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA
4. 6,710 (1963 Census): est. 40,000 (Kjenstad 1988); est. 40,000 (Blench 2003)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Beromic
6. Literacy programme in progress
7. Mark 1940, New Testament

**Sources:** Kjenstad (1988); Dang (2012); Blench (2016)

**Refs.**
Wordlist: Bouquiaux (1964);
**Grammar:** Hoffmann (n.d.); Bouquiaux (1967)
**Dictionary:** Blench & Dang (2016)

Aticherak = Kacicere: see the Katab cluster
Atissa = Epie–Atissa: see Epie

### 28. Atsam
1. C sg. Tsam, pl. Atsam
2. C Chawai, Chawe, Chawi
3. Kaduna State, Kachia LGA
4. 10,200 (1931 Gunn); 30,000 (1972 Barrett)
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: East Kainji: group A
6. John 1923, Mark and John 1932

**Refs.**
**Ethnographic:** Temple (1922: 86) Meek (1931a: II,145)
Survey: ?

Atsipawa = Sögōmuk
Attaka = next
Attakar = Atakar: see Katab
Atte = Aţe: see the Ivie North–Okpela–Aţe cluster
Atyab = next
Atyap = Katab: see the Katab cluster
Auchi – dialect of Etsako = Yëkhee
auga – dialect of Ukaan
Auna – see Agaushi and Akimba – dialects of Kambari II
alUs = Us: see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zuksun cluster

### 29. Auyokawa [†]
4. Jigawa State, Keffin Hausa LGA, Auyo
5. Chadic: West branch B: Bade group
11. Extinct

**Refs.**
Classification: Schuh (2001)

Avadi – dialect of the Kambari I cluster
Avande = Evant
Avbianwu – dialect of Etsako = Yëkhee

### 30. Aya
1. A Aya
3. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA
4. 2,642 (Ames 1934)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Ninzie [?]

**Sources:** Blench & Kato (2009)

**Refs.**
Wordlist: Blench (2016)
Classification: Gerhardt (2005, 2006)

Azaghvana = Dghwedē
Azbinawa = Tamajeq
Azelle = Jere: see the Jera cluster
Azhiga = Rin
Azora = Zora
aZuksun = Zuksun: see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zuksun cluster

### 31. Baa
1. B nyaa Bâa
1. C raBâa sg, Bâa pl.
2. A Kwa
3. Adamawa State, Numan LGA, Gyakan and Kwa towns, after Munga
4. 1,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Kwa group

**Source(s)** Blench (1987); Kleine-willinghöfer (1992); Møller (2016)
32. **Baan**
   2.A Ban–Ogoi
   2.B Goi, Ogoi
   4. Less than 5,000 (1990)
   5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta-Cross: Ogonoid
   6. Ka-Ban, Kesari

   **Refs.**
   Wordlist: Nakagawa (ref)
   **Overview:** Bond & Anderson (2006)

   Baangi – a dialect of the Kambari I cluster
   Baatonu = Baatọnun

33. **Baatọnum**
   1.A Batonu, Baatọnun
   1.B Bàrgú pl. Barba
   1.C Baatonu, Batonu
   2.B Bariba, Barba, Berba
   2.C Bartomba, Burgu, Borgu, Borgawa, Bogung, Zana, U-zo pl., Ba-zo sg. (from Reshe)
   3. Kwara State; mainly in Benin Republic
   4. 62,634 in Nigeria (1963); 220,000 total (1987 UBS)
   5. Gur: South-Central: Isolate
   7. Monthly newsletter published in Benin Republic
   9.

   **Refs:**
   Classification: Manessy (1993)
   **Dictionary:**
   **Grammar:** Westermann (1922); Welmers (1952); Grossenbacher (1974); Schottman (1983); Dindi (1984); Winkelmann (2007)

   Ba’ban = Abôn
   Babal = Mægø babal – dialect of Margi
   Babir = Bura–Pabir
   Babur = Bura–Pabir
   Bacama – member of the Bata cluster
   Bachama = Bacama: see the Bata cluster
   Bache = Che
   Bacheve – member of the Iceve cluster
   Bachit – dialect of Berom
   Bada – member of the Jar cluster
   Badara = Duguri of Badara – member of the Jar cluster
   Badawa = Bada: Jar cluster
   Badawai – dialect of Kanuri: Kanuri–Kanembu

34. **Bade**
   1.A Bedde
   2.B Gidgid
   3. Borno State, Bade LGA; Jigawa State, Hadejia LGA
   4. 31,933 (1952 W&B) includes Duwai and Ngizim; 100,000 (1973 SIL)
   5. Chadic: West branch B: Bade/Warji major group: Bade group
   6. Western Bade (Magwaram, Maagwaram), Southern Bade (Bade k-Ado), Gashua Bade (Mazgarwa)
   7. Folktales, 1975

   **Refs.**
   **Dictionary:** Dagona (2004); Tarbutu (2004)
   Dialects: Schuh (1972b)

   Bade k-Ado – a dialect of Bade
   Badni = Vodni, part of Mwaghavul
   Bada – member of Jar cluster
   Bagba = Geji
   Baggara – member of the Arabic cluster
   Bagira = 'Bween
   Baguri = Gura: see the Lame cluster
   Bagwama = Kurama; and Ruma
   Bahø = Berom
   Bahuli = Huli: see the Fali cluster
   Bahumono = Kohumono
   Baissa – Fali of Baissa extinct
   Bajama = Gnoore: see Mumuye
   Bajara – unidentified group near Muri (Adelberger)
   Bajingala – Dibo? in Federal Capital Territory, Kwali LGA, North of Dangara
   Baju = next
   Baju = Jju
   Bakarawa – Kebbi State, Yauri LGA; Possibly inter-married Reshe and Kambari: Harris (1939); Bertho (1952); Gunn and Conant (1960)
   Bakele = Kukele

35. **Bakor cluster**
   5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Southern Bantoid: Ekoid Bantu

35.a **Abanyom**
   2.A Abanyom, Abanyum
   2.B Befun, Bofon, Mbofon
   3. Cross River State, Ikom LGA, main village
   Abangkang
   4. 12,500 (1986)

35.b **Efutop**
   1.A Ofutop
   2.A Agbaragba
   3. Cross River State, Ikom LGA
   4. 8,740 (1953), 10,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Southern Bantoid: Ekoid Bantu

Refs.

35.c *Ekajuk
1. A Akajuk
3. Cross River State, Ogoja LGA, Bansara, Nwang, Ntara 1, 2 and 3, and Ebanibim towns
4. more than 10,000 (Crabb 1965); 30,000 (1986 Asinya)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Southern Bantoid: Ekoid Bantu
7. Reading and Writing Book 1967, 3 Primers 1969, various post-primer books, proverbs

Refs.
Wordlist: Crabb (1965)
Phonology: Kleiner & Kleiner (1976)

35.d *Nde–Nsele–Nta cluster
3. Cross River State, Ikom LGA
4. 10,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Southern Bantoid: Ekoid Bantu

Refs.
Phonology: Asinya (1985)

35.e *Nde
2. B Ekamfulo, Mbenkpe, Udom, Mbofon, Befon
4. 4,000 (1953); est 12,000 (Asinya 1987)

Refs.
Phonology: Asinya (1985)

35.f *Nsele
1. A Nselle
4. 1,000 (1953); est. 3,000 (Asinya 1987)

35.g *Nta
1. C Atam, Afunatam
4. est. 4,500 (Asinya 1987)

Refs.
Phonology: Asinya (1985)

35.h *Nkem–Nkum cluster
3. Cross River State, Ogoja LGA
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Southern Bantoid: Ekoid Bantu

35.i *Nkem
1. A Nkim
2. A Ogoja
2. B Ishibori
4. 11,000 (1953); est 18,000 (Asinya 1987)
6. Nkim, Ogoja, Ishibori, Isibiri, Ogboja
8. Ishibori catechism, Catholic hymnbook

Refs
Grammar: Sibomana (1986)

35.j *Nkum
4. 5,700 (1953); est. 16,500 (Asinya 1987)

Refs.
Phonology: Asinya (1985)

35.k *Nnam
2. B Ndem
3. Cross River State, Ikom and Ogoja LGAs
4. 1,230 (1953); est. 3,000 (Asinya 1987)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Southern Bantoid: Ekoid Bantu

Source(s) BCCW

36. Bakpinka
1. C Iyonityo, Iyoniyong
2. A Uwet
2. C Beggungbba
3. Cross River State, Akamkpa LGA
11. Said to be dying out

Source(s)

Wordlist: Sterk (n.d.)

Bakulung = Kulung
Balar = Kir–Balar
Balaabe = Yuken
Balagete = Evant
Balep = member of the Ndoe cluster

37. Bali
1. B Ìbáalí
1. C ‘Bálo, Máýá
3. Taraba State, Numan LGA, at Bali, a single village south of Jalingo
4. 1,000 (SIL)

Refs
Wordlist: Meek (1931)
Ethnographic: Meek (1931)

Bali Holma = Holma
Balleri – a dialect of Dadiya
Baltap = Montol
Bambami – see Agoji
Bambara = next
Bambaro = Mbáru: see the Lame cluster
Bambuka = Kyak
Bambur = Kulung
Bamburo = Mbáru: see the Lame cluster
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Ban = Baan
Banda = Shoo: see the Shoo–Minda–Nye cluster
Bandas = Durr–Baraza: see the Das cluster
Bandawa = Shoo: see the Shoo–Minda–Nye cluster
Bang – a dialect of Nor
Banga – member of the Mboi cluster
Bang, Banganci, Bangawa = Baangi: a member of Kambari I cluster
Bang, Banganci, Bangawa = Gwamhi–Wuri
Bangunji = Bangwinji

38. Bangjinge
1.A Bangunji, Bangunje, Bangwinji
1.C nyii Bánjòŋ
3. Gombe State, Shongom LGA
6. Nabang, Kaloh [orthography based on Nabang]
7. Reading and Writing Book (2007)
10. Hausa, Dadiya, Burak
**Source(s)** Kleinewillinghöfer (1992); Blench (2008)

**Ethnographic:** CAPRO (1995a)

Bánjìnì = Bangwinji
Bánjìnìb = Bangwinji
Banjiram – dialect of Longuda
Bánjùn (nii Bánjùn) = Bangjinge
Bankal = Zhàr: see the Jar cluster
Bankala = Zhàr: see the Jar cluster
Bankalanci = Zhàr: see the Jar cluster
Bankalawa = Zhàr: see the Jar cluster
Bara – dialect of Bole
Bara – member of the Polci cluster
Baranci = Zhàr: see the Jar cluster (not to be confused with Barawa)
Barang = Baram: see the Polci cluster
Bara = Baaŋtònun
Bare = Bwazza: see the Mbiula–Bwazza cluster
Baredawa – Small community in Bauchi Emirate
Temple (1922: 39)
Baresh = Reshe
Bargu = Baatònun
Bari = Nyamnyam
Bariba = Baatònun
Barke = next
Barko = Mburku
Barkul = Mabo–Barkul
Barma = Zul: the Polci cluster
Baron = dialect of Bokkos: see Ron cluster
Bartomba = Baatònun
Barukul = Barkul: Mabo–Barkul
Basa = Kuda–Camo

Basa (Gwandara Basa) = Nimbia: a dialect of Gwandara
Basa – reference name for a cluster of languages tentatively subgrouped as
Basa-Gurara – Basa-Beneu – Basa-Makurdi, Basa-Gumna –
Basa-Kontagora and Basa-Gurmana

39. Basa-Gumna–Basa-Kontagora cluster [†?]
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Western Kainji: Kamuku–Basa group

*Basa-Gumna [†]
2.B Gwadara-Basa, Basa Kuta, Basa-Kaduna
3. Niger State, Chanchaga LGA
4. Only 2 known semi-speakers in 1987. The population known as Basawa speaks only Hausa.
Probably now extinct
**Source(s)** Blench (1987)

*Basa-Kontagora [†]
3. Niger State, Mariga LGA, N.E. of Kontagora
4. less than 10 speakers in 1987. Probably now extinct
**Source(s)** Blench (1987)

40. Basa-Gurara–Basa-Beneu–Basa-Makurdi
5. Benue-Congo: Kainji: Western Kainji: Kamuku–Basa group

40.a*Basa-Gurara
2.A Basa-Kwali
3. Federal Capital Territory, Yaba and Kwali LGAs, along the Gurara river
**Source(s)** Blench (1981)

**Refs.**
Wordlist: Sterk (1977)

40.b*Basa-Beneu
1.A Basa
1.B RuBasa
1.C TuBasa
2.B Abacha, Abatsa
2.C Basa-Komo, Basa-Kwomu (not recommended)
3. Kogi State, Bassa, and Ankpa LGAs, Nasarawa State, Nassarawa LGA
4. 30,000 (1944-50 HDG); 100,000 (1973 SIL)
7. Literature being produced
**Source(s)** Blench (1992)

**Refs.**
**Dictionary:** Blench (n.d.)
**Grammar:** Imoh (20xx)

40.c*Basa-Makurdi
3. Beneu State, Makurdi LGA, several villages on the north bank of the Beneu, northwest of Makurdi
5. No data
Source(s) Blench (1992)

41. Basa-Gurmana
1.B Kɔrɔmba
3. Niger State, border of Rafi and Chanchaga LGAs, Kafin Gurmana
4. more than 2,000 speakers (1987)
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Western Kainji: Kamuku–Basa group
Source(s) Blench (1987)
Wordlist: Blench (2016)

Basa-Kaduna = Basa-Gumna
Basa-Komo = Basa-Benue
Basa Kuta = Basa-Gumna
Basa-Kwomo = Basa-Benue
Basa-Nge = Nupe Tako: see the Nupe cluster
Basan – South–Central dialect of Ijo: Basa cluster
Bassang – member of the Obanliku cluster
Bashanga = Doko–Uyanga
Básáu = Basang: see the Obanliku cluster
Basharawa = Yangam
Bashiri = Yangam
Bashua – dialect of Bokyi
Bass = Basa
Bassan – a South–Central dialect of Ijo: Basa cluster
Basua – dialect of Bokyi
Baswó – dialect of Bokyi
Bat = Bada: see the Jar cluster

42. Bata cluster
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara A: Bata group: Bata cluster

42.a *Bwatye
1.A Gboare, Bwatiye
1.B Kwaa–Bwatiye
1.C Bwaare
2.C Bachama
3. Adamawa State, Numan and Guyuk LGAs, Kaduna State, north east of Kaduna town. Bacama fishermen migrate long distances down the Benue with camps as far as the confluence.
4. 11,250 (1952), 20,000 (1963)
6. Mulyen (Mwulyin), Dong, Opalo, Wa-Duku
7. Orthography (1987)
8. Mark 1915
Source(s) Koops (1971); Blench (1990)

*Amanda–Afi cluster
3. Taraba State, Sardauna LGA, Batu Amanda and Batu Afi villages

*Angwe
3. Taraba State, Sardauna LGA, Batu Angwe village

*Kamino
3. Taraba State, Sardauna LGA, Batu Kamino village
Sources: Koops (1978)

Ref.
Wordlist: Blench (2016)

Ethnographic: Meek (1931b: 398ff)

Batura = Daffo–Butura: see Ron
Bauci = Baushi
Baushi see Min, Wâyâ, Ndaka, Samburu, Rubu,
Hipina (cf. Blench 1987; Regnier 1992)
Baule – dialect of Tula
Bay = Gbaya
Bayak: 4,025 in Bauchi Emirate: Temple (1922: 58)

No further data
Bayino = Abayongo – member of Agwagwune cluster
Bayobiri – member of the Ukpe–Bayobiri cluster
Bayono = Abayongo: see the Agwagwune cluster
Baz = Baatônun
Bazza = Dakwa: see Kamwe
Bebi – member of the Obanliku cluster
Becche = Baceve: see Iceve cluster
Bedde = Bade cluster
Befon = Nde: see the Bakor cluster
Befùn = Bakor
Begbere-Ejar = Tinor-Myamya
Begbue = Bakpinka
Bekulu = Iku

44. Bekwarra
1. A Bekwarra, Bekworra
2. B Yakoro
3. Cross River State, Ogoja LGA
4. 27,500 (1953), 34,000 (1963), 60,000 (1985 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Unclassified: Bendi

**Refs.**

**Grammar:** Stanford (1967)

**Dictionary:** Stanford (n.d.)

Bekworra = Bekwarra
Bele = 'Beele
Bellawa = 'Beele
Belegete = Evant
Bendeghe – member of the Ejagham cluster
Bendi = Bete–Bendi
Bengkpé = Mbe West: see the Mbe cluster
Benin = Ëdo (Binî)
Benkpé – dialect of Mbe West: see the Mbe cluster
Berba = Baatônun
Bere = Bwazza: see the Mbula–Bwazza cluster
Beriberi – dialect of Kanuri, and alternative name

**45. Berom**

1. A Birom, Berum
2. Birom
3. Cross River State, Obudu LGA
4. 202,000 (1990)
5. Benue–Congo: Beromic
7. Folk Stories 1975, Trial primer in 3 parts, Literacy programme in progress; Official Orthography (Kuhn & Dusu 1985).

**Sources:** Dusu (2003)

**Refs.**

**Orthography:** Kuhn & Dusu (1985)

**Grammar:** Wolff (1963), Bouquiaux (1970) [Du]

**Texts:** Bristow (1953); Bouquiaux (1970) [Du]

**Dictionaries:** Bouquiaux (2001), Blench et al (2016)

**Ethnographic:** Davies (1942-9); Baker (1954);
Sassoon (1962, 1964); Bouquiaux (1962, 1971);
Gwom (1992); Jacobs (1995)

Berum = Berom

**46. Bete**

3. Taraba State, Wukari LGA, Bete town
4. Language dying out.
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Bira = Igu: see Ebira
Biri = Igu: see Ebira
Birom = Berom
Bisá = Bisa: member of the Busa cluster
Biseni – member of the Inland Ijo cluster: see Ijo
Bishiri – member of the Obanliku cluster

49. Bishi
1.A Abisi, Bisi
1.B
1.C xx pl. Abishi
2.B Pitti
3. Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA
4. 1,600 (NAT 1950); Live in at least twenty-six villages (Ajaegbu et al. 2013)
5. no data. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Eastern Kainji: group A
6. Riban (Ngmgbang) was formerly listed as a dialect, but is clearly a distinct language

Refs

Bisi = Bishi
Bissaual – dialect of Kpan
Bisu – member of the Obanliku cluster

50. Bitare
2.B Njwande, Yukutare
3. Taraba State; Sardauna LGA, near Baissa; and in Cameroon
4. 3,700 in Cameroon (1987 SIL); 3,000 in Nigeria (1973 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo; Bantoid: Southern Bantoid: Tivoid

Refs.

51. Bo-Rukul
1.A Mabo–Barkul
2.A Mabol, Barukul
2.B Kuler; Kaleri (erroneous)
3. Plateau State, Mangu LGA, Richa district
5. Benue–Congo; Plateau: Southeastern group

Source(s) Blench 1998
Survey:
Wordlist: Nettle (200x); Blench (2016)

Bobar – member of the Jar cluster
Bo Dera = Dera
Bofon = Nde: see the Bakor cluster
Bofon = Bakor

52. Boga
1.A Boka
3. Adamawa State, Gombi LGA

Source(s)
Refs.

Wordlists: Newman (1964 fn.4); Kraft (1981)

Bogana = Binawa
Bogghom = Boghom

53. Boghom
1.A Burom, Burrum, Burma, Borrom, Boghorom, Bogghom, Bohom, Bokiyim
2.C Burumawa
3. Plateau State, Kanam LGA
4. 9,500 (1952 W&B), 50,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Chadic: West branch B: Zaar group: Boghom subgroup
7. Reading & Writing Book (2018)
8. Portions of Scripture from 1955

Source(s)

Refs.
Wordlist: Shimizu (1975)

Boghorom = Boghom
Bogung = Baatonun
Böhê ãëëège = Òëëe
Bohom = Boghom
Boi = Ya: member of the Vaghath cluster
Boje – dialect of Bokyi
Boka = Boga
Boki = Bokyi
Bokiyim = Boghom
Bokkos – dialect of Ron

54. Boko
1.B Boo
1.C Boko
4. 120,000 all populations (2004 est.)
5. Mande: Southeast: Busa cluster
7. 2 trial primers and 1 post–primer 1970, 1972 in Bokobaru; literacy programmes in progress in Bokobaru and Boko in Benin Republic

Refs:
Overview: Jones (1998)

55. Bokobaru
1.C sg. Busa, pl. Busano
2.B Kaama, Zogbme, Zugweya, Zogbeya
2.C Kaima
4. 30–40,000 (est. 2004)
5. Mande: Southeast: Busa cluster
8. Mark, Titus 1970 in Bokobaru, hymnbook 1972,
Overview: Jones (1998)

Bokos = Bokkos: see Ron
Bokwa – dialect of Glavda?

56. Bokyi
1. A Boki
2. B Nki, Okii, Uki
2. C Nfua
3. Cross River State, Ikom, Ogoja and Obudu LGAs; and in Cameroon
4. 43,000 (1963); 50,000 in Nigeria (1987 UBS), 3,700 in Cameroon (SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Bendi [formerly classified with Cross River but this is now not usually accepted]
6. By clans: Abo, Bashua, Boje, East Boki, Irruan, Osokum, Basua/Bashua, Wula: Bàswó, Okündi, Kecwan

Source(s)
Wordlist: Jungraithmayr (1975)
Dictionary: Bruns (1975)
Pedagogic: Tawu-Ásu (1977)

Bolanci = Bole

57. Bole
1. B Bòò Pìkkà, Bopika
1. C Am Pìkkà, Ampika
2. A Fika, Piika
2. B Bolanci
2. C Anika, Bolewa
3. Bauchi State, Dukku, Alkaleri, and Darazo LGAs; Borno State, Fika LGA
4. 32,000 (1952 W&B); est. >100,000 (1990)
5. Chadic: West branch A: Bole–Ngas major group:
   Bole group
6. Bara, Fika (Fiyankayen, Anpika)
7. Pamphlets; Reading and Writing Book (2006)
8. NT extracts (2007)

Source(s) Lukas (1952–3); Schuh p.c.; Newman p.c.;
   Leger (1990); Blench (2007)

Refs.
Survey: Gimba (1990), Ibrisimow & Gimba (1994)

Dictionaries: Gimba & Schuh (2015)
Texts: Lukas (1966)
Ethnographic: Merrick (1905)

Boleri = Dadiya
Bolu – member of the Geji cluster
Boma = Bụmọ: a dialect of Izon: see the Ijo cluster

Bomawa – small clan in Bauchi Emirate: Temple (1922: 69,427)
Bomborawa = Bambaro: see the Lame cluster
Bonny = Ḣanjì: member of the KOIN cluster: see Ìjọ cluster
Bonny = Bonny & Apobo: dialect of Igbo
Boo = Boko: see Busa
Bòò Pìkkà = Bole
Boola = Zumbul: see the Das cluster
Boot = Boto: see the Zari cluster
Bopika = Bole
Borgu = Baatọnun
Boritsu = Yukuken
Borno – dialect of Kanuri and alternative name
Bornu – dialect of Kanuri and alternative name
Boro–Abroro = Abroro: see Nincut
Borrom = Boghom
Botai = dialect of Gbari
Boto – member of the Zari cluster
Boue – dialect of Kana
Bourrah = Bura
Boussa = Busa
Bozo = Sorko (not recommended)
Brass = Nembe–Akaha: see Ìjọ cluster
B Giiwo = Giiwo
BuBure = Bure
Bucepo = Sagamuk
Bucindal = Cinda: see the Cindal-Regi-Rogo-Kuki cluster
Buduma = Yedina
Bugaje = Tamajeq
Bugel = Bujiyel, Gusu: see the Jere cluster
Buhungwɔrɔ = Hungwarye
Bujiel = Bujiyel, Gusu: see the Jere cluster
Buji – member of the Jere cluster
Bujiel = Bujiyel – dialect of Gusu: see the Jere cluster
Bujiel = Bujiyel – dialect of Gusu: see the Jere cluster

58. Bu-Ningkada cluster
1. A Jidda, Ibut
2. B Nakare
3. Nasarawa State, Akwanga LGA
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Ninzic
6. Jida, Abu, Raga (dialect of Abu)

Source(s) Blench (1980, 1999)

58.a Bu

58.b Ningkada

59. Bukwen
3. Taraba State, near Takum
5. Benue–Congo: South Bantoid: Beboid

Source(s) Koops (1971), Blench (1992)

Bukuma = Ogbronuagum
Buli – member of the Polci cluster
60. Bumaji
3. Cross River State, Obudu LGA
5. Benue–Congo: Bendi

Refs.
Wordlist: BCCL

Ḅụmọ – South–Central dialect of Ịzọn: Ịjọ cluster
Bunborawa = Bambaro: see the Lame cluster
Bungnu = Mbongno
Bunu = Ribina: see the Jera cluster
Bunu = dialect of Yoruba
Bununu (Jarawan) = Gingwak: see the Jar cluster
Bura – see Bura–Pabir

61. Bura–Pabir
1.A Bourrah, Burra, Babir, Babur
1.B Mya Bura
1.C Two peoples with one language: the Bura and the Pabir
2.A Kwojeffa, Huve, Huviya
3. Borno State, Biu and Askira–Uba LGAs
4. 72,200 (1952 W&B), 250,000 (1987 UBS)
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara branch A: Bura–Higi major group: Bura group
6. Bura Pela (Hill Bura), Bura Hyil Hawul (Plains Bura)
13. Extensive literacy materials
16. Sign language (Blench 2004)

Source(s) Warren (2005); Blench (2009)

Refs.
Comparative: Newman (1977); Hoffmann (1987); Umar & Bello (2011)
Wordlist: Reutt & Kogan (1973)


62. Burak
1.B yu Buurak pl. yele Buurak
1.C nyuwā Buurak
2.A ‘YeLe
2.C Shongom [name of an LGA]
4. 4,000 (1992 est.)
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa; Bikwin group
6. Tadam is a village speaking a highly distinctive form of the language
7. Reading and Writing Book (2008)
8. Luke ready for printing
Source(s) Kleinewillinghöfer (1992); Blench (2008)

63. Bure
1.B BuBure
1.C Bure
2.B Bure
3. Bauchi State, Darazo LGA
4. A single village southeast of Darazo town
5. Chadic: West branch A: Bole–Ngas major group: Bole group

Source(s) Leger (1992)

Refs.
Overview: Batic (2011, 2013)
Grammar: Batic (2014)

Buregi = Regi: see the Cinda-Regi-Rogo-Kuki cluster
Burgu = Baatọnun
Burkunawa = Mburku
Burma = Boghom
Burom = Boghom
Burọgɔ = Rogo
Burra = Bura: see Bura–Pabir
Burrum = Boghom

64. Buru
2.A Buru
3. Taraba State, Sardauna LGA, east of Baissa: a village near Batu

Source(s) Koops (1971), Blench (1990)

Refs.
Comparative: Houis (1956); Jones (1998)
Grammar: Funke (1915), Prost (1945); Wedekind (1972)


Bumawa = Boghom

65. Busa
1.A Boussa
1.B Bisâ
1.C sg. Busa, pl. Busano
2.B Busagwe, Busanse, Boussonse, Busunci
3. Kwara State; Niger State, Borgu LGA; Kebbi State, Bagudo LGA; also in Benin Republic
4. 11,000 in Nigeria (1952 W&B); 50,000 in Nigeria, 50,000 in Benin (1987 UBS)
5. Chadic: South Bantoid: unclassified

Source(s) Koops (1971), Blench (1990)

Refs.
Comparative: Houis (1956); Jones (1998)
Grammar: Funke (1915), Prost (1945); Wedekind (1972)


Busagwe = Busa
Busano = Busa
### Busanze = Busa
Buseni = Biseni: member of the Ìjọ Inland cluster: Ìjọ cluster
Busagomuk = Sagamuk
Bushama = Shama: Shama–Sambugu cluster
Busi – member of the Obanliku cluster
Bussa = Busa
Buta = Gamo: see the Gamo–Ningi cluster
Bute = Vute
Butu = Gamo: see the Gamo–Ningi cluster
Butura (Daffo–Butura) – member of Ron cluster
Buu = Zaranda: the Geji cluster
Buwane = Diri
Buzu = Tamajeq
Bwagira – dialect of Bana
Bwal = Bwol: see the Pan cluster
Bwazza – member of the Mbula–Bwazza cluster
Bwãrĩ = Rin
Bwol – member of the Pan cluster

### B/Ɓ
Ɓa Ɓiile = Ɓile
Ɓaaraawaa = Ɓarawa
Ɓalo = Bali
Ɓankal = Zhàr: see the Jar cluster
Ɓarawa – a term covering the Das, Geji, Polci, Saya, Zari and Zeem clusters.

### 66. Beele
1.A Bele
1.B Ɓëéle
1.C bôhé áɓéelé sg., Áɓéelé pl.
2.B Bellawa
3. Bauchi State
4. 120 Temple (1922); a few villages
5. Chadic: West branch A: Bole–Ngas major group: Bole group

#### Refs.
Survey: Schuh (1978)

Bele = Ɓeele

### 67. Bena
1.A Ebina, Binna, Gbinna
1.B Ebona
1.C ‘Bona
2.A Lala (not recommended), Purra (general term for northern ‘Bona)
2.B Yungur, Yangur
2.C Yungirba, Yungur
3. Adamawa State, Song and Guyuk LGAs
4. 44,300 (1963) probably including Lala and Roba; less than 100,000 (1990 est.)
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Yungur group
6. ‘Bona is divided into seventeen clans each of which is said to have a distinct speech-form, although these are too close to be properly called dialects

#### Source(s)
Blench 1983/90; Kleinwillinghöfer (1992)

#### Refs.
Ethnographic: Meek (1931)

‘Bona = ‘Bena and also used as an autonym by the Lala, Roba and Voro

### 68. Bile
1.A Bille, Bili, Bilanci
1.B Kun–‘Biilé
1.C ɓa ‘Biilé
3. Adamawa State, Numan LGA, 25km south of Numan, east of the Wukari road.
4. 30,000 (CAPRO, 1992); there are 36 villages reported to be wholly ‘Bile-speaking and another 16 where some ‘Bile is spoken
5. Benue–Congo: Bantu; Jarawan Bantu
6. Kun–‘Biilé is said to be intercomprehensible with Mbula
10. Hausa, Fulfulde, English are widely used second languages
11. ‘Bile is still widely used but code-switching with Hausa is common among the youth
12. Occasional television and radio broadcasts from Yola

#### Source(s)
Blench 1990; Kleinwillinghöfer (1992)

#### Refs.
Comparative: Maddieson and Williamson (1975);
Ethnographic: CAPRO (1992)

‘Boyé (Korom Boye) = Kulere
Ɓiile – South–Eastern dialect of Ìzọn
Ɓuurak = Burak
‘Bwaare (also Kwàa–‘Bwaare) = Bacama: see the Bata cluster

### C.

Cagere = Rin

### 69. Cakfem–Mushere
* Cakfem
1.A Chakfem, Chokfem
3. Plateau State, Mangu LGA
4. 5,000 (SIL)
5. Chadic: West Branch A3
6. Jajura

#### Refs.
Grammar: Shadrach (no date)

* Mushere
1.A Mushere
3. Plateau State, Mangu LGA
4. About thirteen villages
5. Chadic: West Branch A3
6. Mushere is sharply divided into two dialects, plus Kadim spoken in a single village
7. Some literacy work underway
**Source(s)** Agabus (p.c.)

**Refs**
Phonology: Jungraithmayr & Diyakal (2013)
Grammar: Jungraithmayr & Diyakal (2008), Shadrach (no date)

Calabar = Efik
Cala = Ron
Cala–Cala = Lela
Cam–Mwana = Dijim–Bwilim
Camajere = Rin
Cam = member of the Kudu–Camo cluster
Cancara = Kyan Kyar: a dialect of Gwandara
Cansu = Rin

**70. Cara**
1. A Chara, Nfachara, Fakara, Pakara, Fachara, Terea, Teria, Terri, Tariya
3. Plateau State, Bassa LGA
4. 735 (1936 HDG); 5000 (Blench est. 2012). Nine villages
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Beromic

**Source(s):** Blench & Nengel (2012)

**Refs.**
Wordlist: Shimizu (1975c); Blench (2016)

Caundu – dialect of Rin
Cen Berom = Berom

**71. Cen Tuum [†]**
1. B Centúúm
1. C Centúúm
2. C Jalaa, Jalabe, Jaabe –Dijim names
4. A small number of old people among the Dijim formerly spoke this language
5. Language isolate
10. All speakers are fluent in Dijim
11. Moribund or extinct (a search in 2010 failed to find any speakers)

**Source(s)** Kleinewillinghöfer (1992, 2010)

**Refs:**
Wordlist: Kleinewillinghöfer (2001)

Central: see Idoma Central, Idoma; Igbo Central, Igbo; Nupe
Central, Nupe
Ceriya (nya Ceriya) – dialect of Longuda
Cesu = Arum–Cesu
Chaari = Danshe: the Zeem cluster
Chakfem = Cakfem: see Cakfem–Mushere
Challa = Ron
Cham–Mwana = Dijim–Bwilim
Chamba Daka = Samba Daka
Chamba Leko = Samba Leko

Cham–Mwona = Dijim–Bwilim
Chamo – member of the Kudu–Camo cluster
Chara = Cara
Chawai = Atsam
Chawe = Atsam
Chawi = Atsam

**72. Che**
1. A Ce
1. B Kuche
1. C Bache
2. A Rukuba
2. B Sale, Inchazi
3. Plateau State, Bassa LGA
4. 15,600 (1936 HDG); 50,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Ninzie
8. Mark 1924, John 1931

**Source(s)** Wilson (1993); Blench (2005)

**Refs.**

Dictionary: Blench (2016)

Cheke = Guɗe
Chekiri = Iṣẹkiri
Chessu = Arum–Cesu
Chibak = Cibak
Chibbuk = Cibak
Chikide = Cikide: see Guduf
Chilala = Lela
Chip = Miship
Chiwa = next
Choa = Shuwa: see the Arabic cluster
Chobba = Huba
Chokfem = Cakfem: see Cakfem–Mushere
Chokobo = Zora
Chomo = Como–Karim
Chong’e = Kushi
Chori – see Cori

**73. Cibak**
1. A Chibak, Chibuk, Chibbuk, Chibbak, Kyibaku, Kibaku
1. C Cibik, Kikuk
3. Borno State, Damboa LGA, south of Damboa town
4. 20,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Chadic: Bia–Mandara branch A: Bura–Higi major group: Bura group

**Source(s)**

**Refs.**
Wordlist: Kraft (1981)
Comparative: Newman (1977)

**Grammar:** Hoffmann (1955b:118, 1987)

**Ethnographic:** Temple (1922: 568); Neher & Neher (2011)

ciBaangi = Baangi: see the Kambari I cluster
Cibbo = Tsobo
Cicipu = Cipu
74. Cinda-Regi-Rogo-Kuki cluster
2. C Kamuku
3. Niger State, Chanchagga, Rafi and Mariga LGAs
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Western Kainji: Kamuku group
Source(s) Blench (1987); Regnier (1992)
*Cinda
1. A Jinda, Majinda
1. B Tucinda
3. Niger State, Mariga, Rafi, Kusheiki LGAs, Kaduna State, Birnin Gwari LGA
Source(s) Blench 1987); Spencer (2008)
Refs:
Phonology: Mort (2012)
*Regi
1. B Turegi
1. C sg. Buregi pl. Regi
3. Niger State, Mariga, Rafi, Kusheiki LGAs, Kaduna State, Birnin Gwari LGA
Source(s) Blench (1987); Spencer (2008)
*Kuki
1. A Tiyar [town name not a language]
1. B TuKuki
1. C BuKuki pl. Kuki
2. A Kamuku
3. Niger State, Mariga, Rafi, Kusheiki LGAs, Kaduna State, Birnin Gwari LGA
6. Azana, Akubyar
Source(s) Blench (2008)
*Kwagere
3. Niger State, Chanchagga, Rafi and Mariga LGAs
Source(s) Blench (1987); Spencer (2008)
*Rogo
1. B TɔRɔgɔ
2. C Ucanja Kamuku
3. Niger State, Rafi and Kusheiki LGAs, around Ucanja town, 30 km northwest of Kagara.
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Western Kainji: Kamuku–Basa group
Source(s) Blench 1987); Regnier (1992)

75. Cinene

1. A Cinene
1. C Cinene
4. 3200 (Kim 2001)
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara branch A: Mandara/Mafa/Sukur major group: Mandara group
Source(s) Kim (2001)
Refs.
Wordlist: Kraft (1981); Wolff (1974–75: 205; 1974: 23); Kraft (1981);

76. Cipu
1. B Cicipu
1. C Tocipu
2. A Acipa, Achipa, Achipawa, Atsipawa
2. B Tәcәp Tochipo Tә–Sәgәmuk
3. Kebbi State, Sakaba LGA; Niger State, Mariga and Rafi LGA, Kaduna State Birnin Gwari LGA
4. 3,600 (1949 G&C)
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Western Kainji: Kambari cluster
6. Kumbashi, Tikula, Ticihun, Tirsinso, Tidipo, Tizoriyo, Tiddodimo
Source(s) Blench (1987); Regnier (1992); McGill (2015)
Refs.
Ethnographic: Temple (1922); Gunn & Conant (1949)

Cishingini = next
Cishingyini = Cishingini: see the Kambari I cluster
Cip = Miship
Cirimba – dialect of Longuda

77. Ciwogai
1. A Tsagu
2. B Sago, Tsaganci
3. Bauchi State, Ningi and Darazo LGAs
4. 3,000 (1977 Skinner)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch B: Bade/Warji group: Warji group
Refs.
Wordlist: Skinner (1977)

78. Como–Karim
1. A Shomoh, Shomong, Chomo, Shomo
2. A Karim, Kirim
2. B Kiyu, Nuadhu
3. Taraba State, Karim Lamido and Jalingo LGAs

Cileni = Cinene

Cilela = Lela

Cinene = Cinene
79. Cori
1. A Chori
3. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA
4. A single village and associated hamlets
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Hyamic

Source(s) Blench (1990)

Refs.  
Grammar: Dihoff (1976)

Cumbween = Bween: see the Fali cluster

D.

Da Holmaci = Holma: see the Nzanyi–Holma cluster

80. Daba
1. B Daba
3. Adamawa State, Mubi LGA. Between Mubi and Bahuli
4. A single village, less than 1,000. Mostly in Cameroun
5. Central Chadic: West Central group: Daba group

Dadia = Dadiya
Dadira = Dadiya

81. Dadiya
1. A Nda Dia, Dadia
1. B Bwg Daddiya pl. Daddiyap
1. C Nyiyó Daddiya
4. 3,986 (1961), 20,000 (1992 est.).
5. Central Chadic: West Central group: Daba group

Source(s) Kleinewillinghöfer (1992); Blench (2008)

Refs.  
Grammars: Jungraithmayr (1968/69)

Daffa = Daffo–Butura – dialect of Ron
Daffo–Butura – dialect of Ron
Dagara – dialect of Kanuri: Kanuri–Kanembu
Daja – member of Akpes cluster
Daka = Samba Daka
Daka = Dirim
Dakarkari = Lela
Dakarkari = Lela
Dakwa – dialect of Kamwe
Dala: see Dulumi
Dalong = Pai
Dama = Bete–Bendi
Dama = Nama: see the Mbembe (Tigong) cluster

82. Damakawa (†)
1. A Damakawa
2. C Tidama’un (Cicipu name)
3. Kebbi State, Sakaba LGA, villages of Inguwar Kilo and Marandu
4. 500-1000 ethnic population, but language now has only a few rememberers
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Western Kainji: Kambari cluster. N.B. the dubious reliability of some of the data and the possibility of Cicipu loans makes the classification of Damakawa slightly uncertain.
10. Speakers have now switched to cLela as their mother tongue
11. Damakawa is moribund and only remains as isolated words and phrases remembered by a few individuals


83. Damlanci
1. A Damlawa
1. B Damlanci
3. Bauchi State, Alkaleri LGA, Maccido village
4. 500-1000 ethnic population, but language now spoken by those over 50. Not moribund however
5. Benue–Congo: Bantu: Jarawan

Source: Blench (2019)

Dampar – member of the Kororofa cluster
Damti = Gomme: see the Koma cluster
Dämül – see the Jar cluster
Dandawa = Dendi
Danshe – member of the Zeem cluster
Dàŋ Shóó = Shoo: see the Shoo–Minda–Nye cluster
Daroro = Kacieere: see the Katab cluster

84. Das cluster
2. C Barawa
3. Bauchi State, Toro and Dass LGAs
4. 8,830 (LA 1971)
5. Chadic: West branch B: Zaar group

Refs.  
Ethnographic: CAPRO (1995a)

*Lukshi
1. B Dokshi
4. 1,130 (LA 1971)

*Durr–Baraza
1. B Bandas
3. Bauchi State, Das LGA, Durr and Baraza villages
4. 4,700 (LA 1971); 30-40,000 (Caron 2005)

*Zumbul
1. A Boodlo
2. C Zumbulawa, Dumbulawa
3. Bauchi State, Das LGA, Zumbul town
4. See Wandi

Refs. Temple (1922)

*Wandi
1. A Wangday
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Sources and references include Caron (2002), Newman (1977), and others.
3. Borno State, Gwoza LGA
4. 19,000 (1963), 7,900 (TR 1970), 30,000 (1980 UBS)
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara A: Mandara group
Source(s) Kosack (2015)
Refs.
Survey: Wolff (1971a)
Phonology: Frick (1978)
Ethnographic: Kosack (1996)

Dia (Nda Dia) = Dadiya

92. Dibo
1.B Dibo
1.C Dibo
2.B Shitako, Zitako, Zhitako
2.C Ganagawa, Ganagana
3. Niger State, Lapai LGA; Federal Capital Territory;
Nasarawa State, Nassarawa LGA
4 18,200 (1931 DF); estimate more than 100,000
(1990) – an unknown number of Dibo living among
the Gbari no longer speak their own language.
Source(s) Blench (1990)

Diir = Dir: see the Polci cluster

93. Dijim–Bwilim
3. Gombe State, Balanga LGA, Adamawa State,
Lamurde LGA
4. 7,545 (1968). ca. 20 villages
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Waja group
7. Orthography based on Dijim lect. Reading &
Writing Book (2006)
Source(s) Kleinevellinghöfer (1991)
Refs. Jungraithmayr (1968/9)
*Dijim
1.B Dijim
1.C sg Nîi Dìjî pl. Dìjîm
2.A Cham, Cam, Kindiyo,
4. Cham 3,257.
7.
*Bwilim
1.B Bwilîm
1.C sg Nîi Bwilî pl. Bwilîm
2.A Mwana, Mwona [Hausa name], Fitilai [village
name]
4. 4,282

Diko – dialect of Gbagyi
Dim = Adim: see the Agwagwune cluster
Dimmuk = Doemak: see the Pan cluster
Dindiga = Bendeghe: see the Ejagham cluster
Dingai = Lala
Dingi = Dungu
Dir – member of the Polci cluster

94. Diri
1.A Diriya, Dirya
1.B Sago, Tsagu
2.B Diryanci
2.C Buwane, Diryawa
3. Bauchi State, Ningi and Darazo LGAs
4. 3,750 (LA 1971)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch B: Bade/Warji group:
Warji group
Refs.
Wordlist: Skinner (1977)

95. Dirim
1.C Daka
3. Taraba State, Bali LGA, Garba Chede area: note
former map location erroneous
4. 9,000 (CAPRO, 1992)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Northern Bantoid: Dakoid
6. Doubts persist as to whether this language is really
separate from Samba Daka (q.v.)
Refs.
Ethnographic: Meek (1931), CAPRO (1992)

Diriya = Diri
Dirya = Diri
Diryanci = Diri
Djerma = Zarma
Djiri = Rop
Djo = Ịjọ
dlage = next
Dlîge – dialect of Lamang Central: see the Lamang
cluster
Doemak – member of the Pan cluster
Doka – dialect of Miship
Doka cf. Idon-Doka-Makyali

96. Doko–Uyanga
1.B Dọsanga
1.C Basanga
2.A Iko
3. Cross River State, Akamkpa LGA
4. Several towns
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Upper
Cross: East–West group
Refs.
Overview: Cook (1969, 1976), Simmons (1976)

Dokshi = Lushi: see the Zeem cluster
Dolli – dialect of Kwaami
Doma – dialect of Alago
97. Dong
3. Taraba State, Zing and Mayo Belwa LGAs. At least six villages
4. ca. 20,000
5. Benue–Congo: Dakoid
Source(s) Blench (1993)
Refs.
Overview: Shimizu (1979: 18,65)
Ethnographic: CAPRO (1992:87-89)

Donga – dialect of Kpan
Donga – dialect of Jukun of Takum
Doobe = Ndera: see the Koma cluster
Dookà – see Guruntu–Mbaaru
Doome = Ndera: see the Koma cluster
Dòòrî – see the Jar cluster
Dorofi – dialect of Nor
Doșanga = Doko–Uyanga
Dosó = Mingang Doso
Dosò = Mingang Doso
Dot – member of the Das cluster
Ds’aràwa = Jar cluster
d’sèkirì = Isèkirì
du – dialect of Berom
Duguranci – see Jar cluster-Duguri
Dugurawa – see Jar cluster-Duguri
Duguri, Duguranci, Dugurawa – name of several dialects in the Jar cluster
Dugusa = Tunzu
Duka = Hun
Dukanci = Hun
Duku (Wa Duku) – dialect of Bacama: see the Bata cluster
Dukuri = Duguri: the Jar cluster

98. Dulbu
3. Bauchi State, Bauchi LGA
4. 80 (LA 1971)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantu: Jarawan Lábí group
Refs.
Overview: Shimizu (1983)

Dulumi – Population 1000, (Mundu and Dala):
Gospel Recordings (1971, 1974)
Dumawa – Small community Bauchi State: Bauchi LGA: Dumi village: Temple (1922: 100); Campbell and Hoskinson fieldnotes (1969)
Dumbulawa = Zumbul; see Das cluster; possibly dialect of Zhar: Jar cluster
Dungerawa = Duguri: see the Jar cluster
Dungu = Dungu

99. Dungu
1.A Dungi, Dingi, Dwungi, Dunjawa
3. Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA
4. 310 (NAT 1949)
5. no data. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Eastern Kainji: Northern Jos group: Kauru subgroup

Dunjawa = Dungu
Durr–Baraza – member of the Das cluster
Durop = Korop
Dutse (Jarawan Dutse) = Izere
Duurum = Geruma
Duway = Dugai
Dwati = Dot: see the Das cluster
Dwingi = Dungu
Dyarma = next
Dyermey = Zarma

100. Dza
1.A Dza, Ja
1.B nnwa’ Dzâ
1.C Éédzá, idzá
2.A Jenjo, Janjo, Jen,
3. Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA and Adamawa State, Numan LGA. Along the Benue River.
4. 6,100 (1952). N.B. Figures for Dza may include other Jen groups such as Joole and Tha (q.v.)
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Jen group
Source(s) Blench 1987); Kleinewillinghöfer (1992)

Dzar – member of the Hyam cluster
Dzorju (Margi Dzorju) – dialect of Margi

101. Dzodinka
2.A Adiri, Adere
3. Taraba State, Sardauna LGA; also in Cameroon: a single village on the border
8. Mark, 1923, John 1932
Refs.
Survey: Dieu & Renaud (1983)

Dzuuba = next
Dzuuba – dialect of Zaladva: see the Lamang cluster
Dzuwo – an unclassified Wurkum group of Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA

102. Duway
1.A Duway
1.C Èyi
2.B Eastern Bade
3. Borno State, Bade LGA
5. Chadic: West Branch B: Bade/Warji major group: Bade group
Source(s) Overview: Schuh (2007)
East – see: East Boki, Bokyi; East Gwari, Gbagyi; East Ogbah, Ogbah; Mbe East, Mbe
Eastern – see: Hausa (Kano, Katagum, Hadejiya areas); Eastern Olodima, Izon; Eastern Tarakiri, Izon; Mbube Eastern, Utugwang; Ijọ Eastern
Ebuna = Bena
Ebe = Asu
Ebeteng = Ehom: see the Akpet–Ehom cluster
Ebina = Bena

103. Ebira cluster
1. A Igbirra, Igbira, Egbira, Egbara
3. Kwara State, Okene, Okehi, and Kogi LGAs; Nasarawa State, Nassarawa LGA; Edo State, Akoko–Edo LGA
4. 154,500 (1952 P.Bruns), 500,000 (1980 UBS); about 1M (1989 Adive)
5. Benue–Congo: Nupoid: Ebira cluster
*Okene
3. Kwara State, Okene, Okehi, and Kogi LGAs
7. Reading and Writing Book 1972, Pre–primer 1973
3 Primers 1972–3, 3
post–Primers 1974; Official Orthography 1985
Refs.
Wordlist: Johnson & Christaller (1886); Byng-Hall (1908)
Grammar: Scholz (1976); Adive (1989)
Pedagogic: Coomber (1866); Scholz & Scholz (1972); Ladefoged (1964)
*Etuno
1. A tọnọ
2. C Igarra
3. Edo State, Akoko–Edo LGA, Igarra town
Refs.
Wordlist: Ladefoged (1964)
*Koto
2. C Igu (Egu, Ika, Bira, Birị, Panda
3. Nasarawa State, Nassarawa LGA, Toto and Umaisha towns, Kogi State, Bassa LGA
Refs.
Wordlist: Sterk (1977)
Edbo = next
Ebo – member of the Lala cluster
Eboh = Aboh: see the Ụkwuanị–Aboh–Ndọnj cluster
Eboze = Buji: see the Jere cluster
Ebü = dialect of Igala

104. Ebugu
1. B Ebugu
1. C Ebugu
2. A Oron
3. Akwa Ibom State, Mbo and Oron LGAs
4. more than 5,000 (1988)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Lower Cross:
Refs.
Overview: Connell (1991)
Effiat = Efai
Effium = Ufìom: see the Orìng cluster
Effurum = Ìvbię
Effurun = Ìvbię
Efifa – Yoruba dialect
Efiom = Ufìom: see the Orìng cluster

107. Efik
2. A Calabar
3. Cross River State, Calabar municipality, Odukpani and Akamkpa LGAs; and in Cameroon
4. 26,300 (1950 F&J), 10,000 in Cameroon; 360,000 first language speakers; spoken as a second language by 1.3 million (UN 1960), 3.5 million (1986 UBS) diminishing
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Lower Cross: Central group
7. Literary language; Official Orthography
8. Scripture portions from 1850, Complete Bible 1868, 1952, 1985, Catechism 1956

Source(s)
Refs.
Comparative: Norris (1841); Wilson (1849); Connell (1991)
Phonology: Cook (1985)
Dictionaries: Goldie (1862), Adams (1952/3 3rd ed. 1988);
Grammar: Goldie (1857); Una (1900); Welmers (1968); Mensah (2008);

Efutóp = Bakor
Ẹ̀gbá – dialect of Yoruba
Ẹgbado = Yoruba
Ẹgbé = dialect of Mbe West: see the Mbe cluster
Ẹgbẹ – dialect of Mbe West: see Mbe
Ẹgbetana – dialect of Ikwere
Egbema – dialect of Igbo
Egbema – dialect of Izòn: ọ̀ọ̀ clusters
go Egbira = Ebira
Egbura = Ebira
Egede = Igbede
Egedde = Igbede
Ẹgẹnẹ = Engenni

108. Eggon
1. A Egon
1.B onumu Egon
1.C Mo Egon
2. B Mada Eggon, Hill Mada
3. Nasarawa State, Akwanga, Nassarawa–Eggon and Lafia LGAs
4. 52,000 (Welmers 1971)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Eggonic
6. 25 dialects are locally recognised although the status of these is unclear
7. 2 readers
Source(s): Blench (1992)
Refs.
Comparative: Gerhardt (1983)
Grammar: Sibomana (1985); Salami & Taiwo (2012)
Dictionary: Blench (2016)

Eghom = Okom: see Mbembe
Egnih = East Ogbah: a dialect of Ogbah
Egon = Eggon
Egu = Igu: see Ebira

Egun = Gbe
Ehom – member of the Akpet–Ehom cluster

109. Ehuẹun
2. A Ẹkpenni, Ẹkpimi, Ẹpiimi
3. Ondo State, Akoko South LGA
4. 5,766 (1963)

Ejagam = Ejagham: see the Ejagham cluster

110. Ejagham cluster
2. C Ekoì (Efik name)
3. Cross River State, Akamkpa, Ikım, Odukpani and Calabar LGAs, and in Cameroon
4. 80,000 total: 45,000 in Nigeria, 35,000 in Cameroon (1982 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Southern Bantoid: Ekoid Bantu
6. 5 dialects in Nigeria, 4 in Cameroon
Refs.

Ethnographic: Mansfeld (1908)

*Benedge
1.A Bindege, Bindiga, Dindiga
2.B Mbuma
3. Cross River State, Ikım LGA

*Etung North
2. A Icuatai
3. Cross River State, Ikım LGA
4. 13,900 (1963)
8. Stories of Abraham 1969

Refs.
Grammar: Edmondson & Edmondson (1977)

*Etung South
3. Cross River State, Akamkpa LGAs
4. 4,200 (1963)

*Ejagham
2.B Ekwe, Ejagam, Akamkpa
3. Cross River State, Akamkpa LGA and in Cameroon

Ekin
2. A Qua, Kwa, Aqua
2. B Aka
3. Cross River State, Odukpani and Calabar LGAs
4. 900 active adult males (1944–45): bilingual in Efik (Cook 1969b)

Refs.
Overview: Cook (1969b)
Ethnographic: Forde and Jones (1950)
111. Ekhwa
1. A [Iku]–Gora–Ankwa
2. B ékhwá
3. Kaduna State, Kachia LGA
4. Towns; Gora, Ankwa
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Northern group
6. [Iku status uncertain], Gora, Ankwa
Source: Maikarfi (2007); Hon et al (2011)
Refs
Wordlists: Blench (2009)

112. Eki
1. B Eki
3. Cross River State
4. 5000 plus (1988)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Lower Cross: (no data) – dialect of Efik?
Refs.
Overview: Connell (1991)

113. Ekit
1. A Ekit, Eket
3. Akwa Ibom State, Eket and Uquo Ibeno LGAs
4. 22,000 (1952 W&B); estimated 200,000 (1989)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Lower Cross: Central group
Refs.
Overview: Connell (1991)

Èkìtì – dialect of Yoruba
Ekoi = Ejagham
Ekokoma = Mbmbe
Ekparabong – member of the Ndoe cluster
Ekpari = Yace
Ekpetiana – a north central dialect of Izon: Ijo cluster
Ekpenmi – name used for both Ehuẹun and Ukue

114. Èkpeye
2. B Ekpeye, Ekpabya (by Abua), Ekkpahia, Ekpaffia
3. Rivers State, Ahoada LGA
4. 20,000 (1953); 50,000 (1969 Clark)
6. According to clan names: Ako, Upata, Ubye, Igbuduya
7. Rivers Readers Project, Dictionary of Proper Names, Reading and Writing book
8. Four gospels 1908–10
   *Emai
8. Hymnbook c. 1989
Refs.
Dictionary: Blench (2016)
Pedagogic: Clark (1971a)
Ethnographic: Ikpe (1972); Picton (1988)

Ekpimi = Ehuẹun
Ekumuru – Kohumono
Ekuri = Nkukoli
Ekwe = Ejagham
Elele – dialect of Ikwere

115. Eleme
3. Rivers State, Gokana–Tai–Eleme LGA
4. 55,000 (1987 UBS)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Ogoni: West group
Refs
Survey: Wolff (1964)

116. Eloyi
2. B Afo, Epe, Aho, Afu, Afao
3. Nasarawa State, Nassarawa and Awe LGAs; Benue State, Otukpo LGA
4. 20,000 (Mackay 1964); 25,000 (SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau or Volta-Niger: Idomoid
6. Mbeci (=Mbekyi, Mbejĩ, Mbamu)
7. Primer
8. Hymnbook
Sources: Kato (2006)
Refs.
Survey: Temple (1922); Armstrong (1979);
Wordlists: Rolphs (1867/8 & 1871/72); Mackay (1964); Armstrong (1955)
Ethnographic: Tschudi (1956); Armstrong (1955)

Elu – dialect of Isoko

117. Emai–Iuleha–Ora cluster
2. B Kunibum
2. C Ivbiosakon
3. Edo State, Owan, LGA
4. estimated 100,000 plus (1987 Schaefer)
5. Benue–Congo: Edoid: North Central Edoid
6. Ivhimion. NB Spurious languages Ihievbe and Uokha are listed in the Ethnologue (2009)
8. Four gospels 1908–10
   *Emai
4. estimated 20–25,000 (1987 Schaefer)
Refs.
Orthography: Schaefer (1987)
*Iuleha
1.C Aoma
4. estimated 50,000 (1987 Schaefer)
*Ora
4. estimated 30,000 (1987 Schaefer)

118. Ẹmehu
1.A Ẹmehu
3. Cross River State, Obudu LGA; and in Cameroon
4. No proof of permanent communities in Nigeria
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Southern Bantoid: Tivoid

Emehu – dialect of Isoko

119. Èmählh
2.A Somorika (Semolika)
3. Edo State, Akoko–Edo LGA
4. 249 in Semolina town (Temple 1922)
5. Benue–Congo: Edoid: North–Western Edoid: Southern

Emor = Lemoro
Emo – dialect of Ikwere
Emu – dialect of Ukwuanj; see Ukwuanj–Aboh–Ndonj
Èmughan – dialect of Abuan
Eneme = Nama: see the Mbembe (Tigong) cluster
Enzehe – member of the Kadara cluster

120. Enngenni
1.A Ngene, Èngene
1.B Èngene
3. Rivers State, Yenagoa and Ahoada LGAs
4. 10,000 (1963); 20,000 (1980 UBS)
5. Benue–Congo: Edoid: Delta–Edoid
6. two clans Epie and Atiṣa in at least three towns:
    Agudiama, Akẹnfai, Yẹneguẹ
7. Primer. Rivers Readers Project, Reader 1, Reading
    and Writing book

Source(s)
Wordlist: Thomas and Williamson (1967);
Refs.
Grammar: Thomas (1978)

121. English
4. An official language widely used in media and as a
    first language by an increasing proportion of Nigerian
    urban populations.
5. Indo–European: Germanic
10. Main second language of all urban populations,
    except in Hausa cities of the far north
12. Main language of television, radio and
    newspapers

Refs
Dictionaries: Blench (2016); Igboanusi (200x)

Enhwe – dialect of Isoko
Eni – see the Oko–Eni–Ọsanyen cluster

122. Enweg
1.B Enweg
1.C Enweg
2.A Oron (incorrectly)
3. Akwa Ibom State, Mbo LGA
4. estimated 50,000 plus (1988)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Lower
    Cross

Revs.
Overview: Connell (1991)

Enweg – dialect of Isoko
Enyong – dialect of Ibibio
Epe = Eloyi

123. Epie
2.B Epie–Atissa, Epie–Atiṣa
3. Rivers State, Yenagoa LGA
4. 12,000 (SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Edoid: Delta–Edoid
6. two clans Epie and Atiṣa in at least three towns:
    Agudiama, Akẹnfai, Yẹneguẹ
7. Primer. Rivers Readers Project, Reader 1, Reading
    and Writing book

Revs.
Wordlist: Thomas and Williamson (1967);
Refs.
Overview: Elugbe (1989)

124. Èrıwu
1.A Erohwa, Erakwa, Arokwa
3. Bendel State, Isoko LGA
5. Benue–Congo: Edoid: Southwestern Edoid

Revs.
Overview: Elugbe (1989)

125. Esan
1.A Ishan
1.B Awain
3. Bendel State, Agbazilo, Okpebho, Owan and
    Etsako LGAs
4 183,000 (1952); 500,000 estimated in 1963: Okojie
    & Ejele (1987)
5. Benue–Congo: Edoid: North Central Edoid
6. Many dialects
    Catholic catechism c. 1930

Revs.
Esuku – member of Akpes cluster
Etche = Echie: see Igbo

126. Etebi
1.B Etebi
2.A Oron (incorrectly); Ekit (incorrectly)
3. Akwa Ibom State, Uquo Ibeno LGA
4. estimate 15,000 (1989)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Lower
Cross: Central

Refs.
Overview: Connell (1991)

Ethun = Hun
Etien = Aten
Etkeye = Kentu: see Kpan

127. Etkywan
1.A Icen, Ichen, Ichten
1.B Kentu, Kyâtô, Kyanton, Nyidu
3. Taraba State, Takum and Sardauna LGAs
4. 6,330 in Donga district (1952 W&B); more than
7,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Benue: Jukunoid: Central Jukunoid:
Kpan–Icen group
Source(s) Blench 1991)

Etono I – member of the Ubaghara cluster
Etono II – member of the Agwagwune cluster

128. Etsako
1.B Yèkhe: not all speakers of the language
recognise this as the name of the language.
2.A Etsako
2.B Iynec, Afenmai, Kukuruku (not recommended)
3. Edo State, Etsako, Agbako and Okpembho LGAs
4. 73,500 (1952), 150,000 (UBS 1987)
5. Benue–Congo: Edoid: North–Central Edoid
6. Auchi, Uzairue, South Ivbie, Udapa–Uwano,
(Weppe–Wano), Avbianwu (Fugar, Avbiele,
Ivbiadaobi
in progress (UBS 1989)

Refs.
Overview: Elugbe (1989)
Grammar: Elimelech (1976)
Sociolinguistics: Ezejideaku & Louis (2011)

129. Etulo
1.A Utur, Eturo
2.C Turumawa
3. Benue State, Gboko LGA, Taraba State, Wukari,
LGA

4. 2,900 (1952 RGA); more than 10,000 (Shain, p.c.
1988)
5. Benue–Congo: Idomoid: group b
7. Etulo/English diglot of Etulo customs

Refs.
Wordlist: Armstrong (1964)

Evrieb = Uvbì
Evhrô = Uvbì
Ewumbonga = Ofombonga: see Mbembe
Eyagi = Yoruba
Eyè – dialect of Òkpamheri
Eza = Èzaa
Ezei = Erei: see the Agwagwune cluster
Ezekwe = Uzekwe
Èzaa – a member of the Izi–Èzaa–Ikwo–Mgbò cluster
Èzelle = Úeere
Èzyn = next
Èzyn = Êzôn
Èzopong = Osopong: see Mbembe
Èzza = Èzaa: see the Izi–Èzaa–Ikwo–Mgbò cluster
Èkakumo = Ukaan
Èshìginai – a dialect group of the Kambari I cluster
Èvjì = Êdumù
Fa’awa = Pa’a
Fachara = Cara
Fadan Wate = Ninzam
Fadawa – dialect of Kanuri: Kanuri–Kanembu
Faishang – dialect of Ìzere
Faka = next
Fakai = next
Fakanci = Kag: see the Kag–Èr–Èjìr–Èkàr–Èkùr–Èr–
Ès–Èziksun cluster
Fakara = Cara
Fakara = next
Fakkanci = Kag: see the Kag–Èr–Èjìr–Èkàr–Èkùr–Èr–
Ès–Èziksun cluster
Fali – Bana (in error)
Fali of Baissa – nearly extinct
Fali of Fali Plateau – unknown classification 5–6
speakers only remaining (per K. van Wyk (1984))
131. Fali cluster
2.A Fali of Mubi, Fali of Muchella
2.C Vimtim, Yimtim
3. Adamawa State, Mubi LGA
4. Four principal villages. Estimate more than 20,000 (1990)
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara sub–branch A: Bata group
Source(s) Blench (1992)
*Vin
1.B Uroovin
1.C Uvin
2.A Vimtim
3. Vimtim town, north of Mubi
*Huli
1.A Bahuli
1.B Urahuli
1.C Huli, Hul
3. Bahuli town, northeast of Mubi
*Madzar
1.B Ura Madzar
1.C Madzar
2.A Muchella
3. Muchella town, northeast of Mubi
*Bween
1.B Uramɓween
1.C Cumɓween
2.A Bagira
3. Bagira town, northeast of Mubi
132. Fam
1.B Fam
1.C Fam
2.C Kɔŋa, Konga
3. Taraba State, Bali LGA, 17km east of Kungana
4. less than 1,000 (1984); <500 (2016)
5. Bantoid: Northern Bantoid: Mambiloid: Fam
Source(s) Blench (1984)
Refs
Wordlist: Blench (2011); Tope (2016)
Fan – dialect of Berom
Fantuan = Kafancan: see the Katab cluster
Faran = Firan
Fedare – next
Federe – dialect of Izere
Feserek = Izere
Fem = Fyam
Fer – see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zuksun cluster
Fezere = Izere

133. Firan
1.A Faran, Forom
1.B Firàn
1.C yes Firàn sg. yes Bèfìràn pl.
2.A Kwakwi
3. Plateau State, Barakin Ladi LGA, at Kwakwi station, south of Jos
4. less than 1500 (1991)
Source(s); Blench (2004)
Refs.
Overview: Shimizu (1975); Regnier (1991)
Wordlist: Blench (2016)
Fire = Tsobo
Fit = Surubu
Fitilai = Bwilim: Dijim–Bwilim
Fiyankayen = Fika: a dialect of Bole
Fizere = Izere
Fobur – dialect of Izere
Foni = Pa’a
Forom = Firan
Foron with Fan–Foron–Heikpang – dialect group of Berom
Ftour = Xedi
FuCaka = Pa’a
FuCiki = Pa’a
Fugar = Avianwu: see Etsakọ = Yẹkhee
Fula = next
Fulani = next
Fulɓe = Fulfulde

134. Fulfulde
1.B Fulfulde
1.C Pullo pl. Fulɓe
2.B Fillanci, Filatanci, Fula
2.C Fulani, Filani, Rumada
3. Scattered throughout the country; also in other countries of West-Central Africa
4. 3,000,000 (1952)
5. Atlantic–Congo: Atlantic: Northern Branch: Senegal group
6. Main dialects in Nigeria: Central: Kano–Katsina–Bauchi–Borno; East: Adamawa; West: Sokoto
7. Newspaper; Official Orthography
Refs.

Wordlists: Seetzen (1811)


135. Fungwa
1.B Tufungwa
1.C Afungwa
2.A Ura, Ula
3. Niger State, Rafi LGA, at Gulbe, Gabi Tukurbe, Urenciki, Renge and Utana
4. 900 (1949 H.D. Gunn)
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Western Kainji: Kamuku–Bas group
Source(s) Blench (1987)

Fursum – dialect of Izere
Furupaga – a south–western dialect of Izon: Ijo cluster
Funtu (Koro Funtu of Minna) = Jijili
Futu – dialect of Kamwe

136. Fyandigeri
1.B Fyandigere
1.C sg. laa Fyandigeri, pl. Fyandigeri
2.C Gerawa, Gere, Gera
3. Bauchi State, Bauchi and Darazo LGAs
4. 13,300 (LA 1971); at least 30 villages. N.B. many Gera villages no longer speak the language. 2018 survey suggested there are only four villages where the language is being transmitted to children
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Bol–Nga major group: Bol group

Fyandigere = Gera

137. Fyer
1.A Fier
3. Plateau State, Mangu LGA

4. 1,500 (1970); 10,000 (Blench 1999)
5. Chadic: West branch A: Ron group
Source(s) Blench & Seibert (1999) Refs.


138. Gaa
2.A Tiba, Tabaya
3. Adamawa State: Ganye LGA: Tiba Plateau;
4. <5000 (1987 Blench)
5. Benue–Congo: North Bantoid: Dakoid
Source(s) Blench (1987);
Grammar: Boyd (1999); Djouonzo (2005)

Ga–tiyal = Tiyal: see Cinda-Regi-Rogo-Kuki cluster

139. Ga’anda cluster
1.C Kaɓәn
2.B Mokar [name of the place where the rolling pot stopped]
3. Adamawa State, Gombi LGA
4. 7,600 (1952); 10,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Chadic: Biu Mandara branch A: Tera group:
136a. Ga’anda
1.B Tlәka’andata pl. Ka’andәca
4. Six villages
136b. Kaɓәn
1.A Gabin
1.B Tlәkaɓәndә pl. Kaɓәnca
4. Twelve villages
136c. Fәrtata
1.B Tlәfәrtata pl. Fәrtaca
4. Five villages
Source(s)
Refs.

Grammar: R.M. Newman (1971a,b)

140. Boga
1.A Boka
3. Adamawa State, Gombi LGA
4. 5 villages
5. Chadic: Biu Mandara branch A: Tera group:
Source(s)
Refs.

Gabin = Ga’anda
Gabu – dialect of Igede

141. Gade
1.A Gede
1.B Gade
1.C Gade
3. Federal Capital Territory; Nasarawa State, Nasarawa LGA
4. 60,000 (Sterk 1977);
5. Benue–Congo: Nupoid
Refs.
142. Galambu
1.A Galembi, Galambe
1.B Galambu
1.C Galambu
3. Bauchi State, Bauchi LGA, at least 15 villages
4. 8505 (Temple 1922); 2020 (Meek 1925); 1000
(SIL)
5. Chadic: West branch A: Bole–Ngas major group:
Bole group
Refs.
Wordlist: Gowers (1907); Schuh (1978)

143. Gamo–Ningi cluster
3. Bauchi State, Ningi LGA
4. 15,000 but most speak Hausa.
group: Gamo–Ningi cluster
Source(s) Maddieson (1988)
*Gamo
1.B ti-Gamo
1.C dòò-Gamo pl. à-ndi-Gamo
2.B Butancii
2.C Buta, Butawa, Butu
4. There are some thirty-two settlements of Gamo, but
of these only Kurmi still spoke the language in 1974
(Shimizu 1982).
Refs.
*Ningi
Refs
Wordlist: BCCW

Gana – member of the Mboi cluster
Ganawa = Gana: see the Lere cluster
Ganagana = next
Ganagawa = Dibo
Ganang – dialect of Izere
Ganawuri = Aten
Gar – dialect of Bada: see Jar cluster
Gar (Duguri of Gar) – see the Jar cluster
Gar – see Guruntum–Mbaaru
Garaka = Bada: see the Jar cluster
Garbabi – dialect of Jibu: see the Jukun cluster
Garoua – dialect (outside Nigeria) of Bata
Gasi – dialect of Dera
Gashish – dialect of Berom
Gaticep = Sagamuk
Gau – language extinct Bauchi State: Toro LGA: Gau
village: Temple (1922: 116,428); Shimizu (1982: 123)
Gauawa = Gau
Gava – dialect of Guduf
Gayam – dialect of Jibu: see the Jukun cluster
Gaygari – dialect of Gbargi Yamma
Gayi = Bisu: see the Obanliku cluster
Gayi – dialect of Kpan
Gbargi = Gbargi

144. Gbagyi
1.C Ibagyi, Gbagyi
2.A East Gwari, Gwari Matai
2.B Gwari
3. Niger State, Rafi, Chanchaga, Shiroro and Suleiya
LGAs; Federal Capital Territory; Kaduna State,
Kachia LGA; Nasarawa State, Keffi and Nasarawa
LGAs
4. 200,000 (1952 G&C) including Gbari; 250,000
(1985 UBS)
5. Benue–Congo: Nupoid: Gwari
6. A spread of lects not clearly defined but the
variation represented here by town names: Vwezhi,
Ngenge (Genge, Gyange), or Tawari, Kuta, Louome,
Kaduna
7. Some literature produced
8. Kuta: Scripture portions from 1912, New
Testament 1956, Pilgrim’s Progress (s.d.), 16 Old
Testament stories 1956, new translation in progress
9.
Refs.
Overview: James (1990)
Dictionary: Edgar (1909);
Grammars: Edgar (1909), Hyman & Magaji (1970),
Rosendall (1998)

145. Gbagyi Nkwa
1.B Gbagyi
1.C Gbagyi
3. Niger State, Rafi LGA
4. more than 50,000 (1989 est.)
**146. Gbari**
2. A Gwari Yamma, West Gwari
3. Niger State, Chanchaga, Suleija, Agaie and Lapai LGAs; Federal Capital Territory; Kaduna State, Kachia LGA; Nasarawa State, Nassarawa LGA
4. 200,000 (1952 G&C) including Gbagenyi
5. Benue–Congo: Nupoid: Gwari
6. A spread of lects listed in the previous edition according to town names: Botai, Jeju, Konge, Kwange (Agbawi, Wake, Wi Wahe, or Kwali, Paiko, Izom, Gayegi, Yamma (Gwari Gamma). Speakers attest a division of lects based on river locations: Shigokpna, Zubakpna, Abokpna, Sumwakpna
7. 8. John in Paiko 1926, Mark in Gayegi 1925
**Source(s)** Blench (1979-99); Rosendall & Rosendall (1999)
**Refs.**
Survey: James (1990);
**Dictionary:** Blench & Doma (1992)
**Grammar:** Low (1908); Edgar (1909); Hyman & Magaji (1970); Rosendall (1998)
**Ethnographic:** Na’ibi & Hassan (1965)

Gbari Yamma = Gbari

**147. Gbaya**
1. A Baya
2. B Gbaya
3. Taraba State, Bali LGA, near confluence of Benue and Taraba Rivers; but mainly in Cameroon and Central African Republic
4. 200 (LA 1965)
5. Niger-Congo: Gbaya
7. 
8. Bible 1923, Scripture portions from 1886, Catechism 1885
**Source(s)** Blench & Doma (1992)
**Refs.**
**Dictionary:** Blanchard & Noss (1982)
**Historical:** Burnham (1982)

**148. Gbe cluster**
2. A Aja
3. Lagos State, Badagry LGA; and mainly in the Republics of Benin and Togo
4. Volta–Congo: Kwa: Left Bank
5. Volta–Congo: Kwa: Left Bank
6. Alada
7. Bible 1923, Scripture portions from 1886, Catechism 1885

**149. Gbatsu**
2. A Katanza
3. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA. About six villages east of the road north of Akwanga
4. 5000 (2008 est.)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Ninzic: Mada cluster
**Source:** Blench & Kato (2008)
**Wordlist:** Blench (2016)

Gbh = Ninzo
Gbinna = Bena

**150. Gbiri–Niragu cluster**
3. Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA
4. 5,000 (1952 W&B)
**Gbiri**
1. B Igbiri, Agari, Aghiri
2. A Gura, Gure, Guri
7. Literacy programme under way
**Sources:** Wenger (2014)
**Refs.**
**Wordlist:** BCCW

*Niragu* 1. B Anirago, Aniragu
2. A Kafugu, Kagu, Kahugu, Kapugu

**Refs.**
**Wordlist:** BCCW

Gbo = Legbo
Gboare = Bacama: the Bata cluster
Gbuhwe = Guduf: see Guduf–Gava
Gbwa = Guduf: see Guduf–Gava
Gede = Gade
151. Geji cluster

2.A Kayauri, Kiayorawa
2.C Barawa
3. Bauchi State, Toro LGA
5. Chadic: West branch B: Zaar group

Refs.
Survey: Campbell and Hoskison (1969)

Ethnographic: Gunn (1953);

*Magang
1.A Bolu, Buli
1.B Mẹ̈gàŋ
4. 1,250 (LA 1971), ‘a few hundred’ (Caron 2005)

*Pyaalu
1.A Pelu, Belu
1.B Pyààlù

Refs:
Grammar: Caron (2013)

*Geji
1.B Gyaazә
2.A Bagba
2.C Gezawa, Gaejawa
3. Toro, Bauchi LGAs, Bauchi State
7. Reading and Writing Book (2006)
8. NT extracts (2007)

Refs.
Grammar: Caron (2009a, 2013)

*Buu
1.A Zaranda
1.B Bùù
4. 750 (LA 1971), ‘a few hundred’ (Caron 2002)

Refs.
Grammar: Caron (2008)

Ethnographic: Gunn (1953)

Geli – dialect of Bana
Gimbe = Gọmnọme: see the Koma cluster
Gingwak – member of the Jar cluster

152. Geruma

1.A Gerema, Germa
1.B Gerum (Duurum dialect); Gyeermu (Sum dial.)
1.C Gerum (Duurum dialect); sg. na Gyeermu, pl. Gyeermu (Sum dial.)
3. Bauchi State, Toro and Darazo LGAs. At least 10 villages
4. 4,700 (LA 1971)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Bole–Ngas major group: Bole group
6. Sum, Duurum, possibly Gamsawa/Gamshi (Temple)

Refs.
Wordlist: Schuh (1978);

Ethnographic: Temple (1922)

Gëza = Geji
Gëlәvdә = Glavda
Gë́mà Sákwún = Sakun
Gëna – member of the Mboi cluster
Gëvoko = Gvoko
Gëhboko – dialect of Glavda?
Gëhona = Pidlimdi: see the Tera cluster

153. Ghotuọ

2.A Otwa, Otuọ
3. Edo State, Owan and Akoko–Edo LGAs
4. 9,000 (1952)
5. Benue–Congo: Edoid: North–Central Edoid

Refs.
Grammar: Elugbe (1985)

Ethnographic: Thomas (1910);

Ghudavan = next
Ghudaven = next
Ghumbagha – member of the Lamang cluster

154. Giwo

1.A Kirifi
1.B Bu Giwo
1.C sg. Ba Giwo, pl. Ma Giwo
3. Bauchi State, Alkaleri, Bauchi and Darazo LGAs, 24 villages
4. 3,620 (1922 Temple); 14,000 (SIL)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Bole–Ngas major group: Bole group

Refs.
Survey: Schuh (1978)

Gili – dialect of Bana
Gimbe = Gômọ́nome: see the Koma cluster
Gingwak – member of the Jar cluster
Atlas of Nigerian Languages Edition IV. 2019

155. Glavda
1. A Galavda, Glanda, Gelebda, Galavda
2. C Wakura
3. Borno State, Gwoza LGA; also in Cameroon
4. 20,000 (1963); 2,800 in Cameroon (1982 SIL)
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara sub–branch A: Mandara–Mafa–Sukur major group: Mandara group
6. Ngoshe (Ngweshe)

Refs.
Grammar: Rapp (1966); Buba & Owens (2007); Nghagyiyia (2011);
Dictionary: Rapp and Benzing (1968)

Gnoore – dialect of Mumuye
Goba = Ngwaba
Gobirawa – dialect of Hausa

156. Goemai
2. B Ankwa, Ankwe
3. Nasarawa State, Shendam, Awe and Lafia LGAs
4. 13,507 in Shendam (1934 Ames); 80,000 (1973 SIL)

Refs.
Dictionary: Sirlinger (1937)

157. Goji
1. B Fo Goji
1.C Nya Goji pl. Memme Goji
2. B Chong’e
2.A Kushe, Kushi
3. Gombe State, Shongom LGA
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Bole–Ngas major group: Bole–Tangale group
7. Reading and Writing Book (2006)
8. NT extracts (2007)
Sources: Blench (2007)

Goi = Baan

158. Gokana
3. Rivers State, Gokana–Tai–Eleme LGA
4. 54,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Ogoni: Kegboid
8. Catholic catechism, Hymnbook

Refs.
Wordlist: Brosnahan (1964, 1967); Vopnu (1991)

Golawa – 230 in Bauchi Emirate: Temple (1922:
116,428)
Gombe – dialect of Fulfulde
Gombi = Ngwaba
Gong = Kagoma
Gomla = next
Gomu = Mọ
Gongla = Gnoore – dialect of Mumuye
Gora = Iku–Gora–Ankwa
Goram = Gworam: see the Pan cluster
Gori = Ọkọ: see Ọkọ–Eni–Ọsanyẹn
Goudé = Gude
Gù = Gbe
Guba = next
Gubawa = next
Gubu = Shiki
Gubuwala = Shiki
Gude = Gude
Gudi – dialect of Nungu
Gudo = Gudu

159. Gudu
1. A Gutu, Gudo
3. Adamawa State, Song LGA, 120 km. west of Song.
Approximately 5 villages.
4. 1,200 (LA 1971)
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara sub–branch A: Bata group

Source(s)
Refs.
Ethnographic: Meek (1931: 1.124)

160. Guduf–Cikide cluster
2. C Afkabiye (Lamang)
4. 21,300 (1963)
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara sub–branch A:
Mandara/Mafa/Sukur major group: Mandara group
*Guduf
1.C Kadupaxa
2.C Buxe, Gbuwhe, Lataghwa (Lamang), Lipedeka
(Lamang). Also applied to Dghwede.
6. Guduf, Cikide (Chikide)
8. 47 hymns and psalms 1966

Source(s)
Refs.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Grama:</strong></th>
<th>Kim (2001)</th>
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<td><em>Gava</em></td>
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<td>1.A Gawa</td>
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<td>1.C Kadupaxa</td>
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<td>2.C Linggava, Ney Laxaya, Yaghwatadaxa, Yawotataxa, Yawotatcha, Yaxmare, Wakura</td>
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<td><strong>Source(s)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Refs.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Grama:</strong></td>
<td>Büchner (1964); Scheytt (1966/1967); Tchikoua (2006)</td>
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<td><em>Cikide</em></td>
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<td>1.A Cikide</td>
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<td>1.C Cikide</td>
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<td><strong>Refs.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Gudupe = Guduf</strong></td>
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<td><strong>161. Gude</strong></td>
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<td>1.A Gude, Goudé</td>
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<td>2.A Mubi</td>
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<td>2.B Cheke, Tcheke, Mapuda, Shede, Tchade, Mapodi, Mudaye, Mocigim, Motchekin</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Adamawa State, Mubi LGA; Borno State, Askirâ–Uba LGA; and in Cameroon</td>
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<td>4. 28,000 (1952), est. 20,000 in Cameroon</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Chadic: Biau–Mandara sub–branch A: Bata group</td>
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<td>7. 3 Primers 1974, Folk tales 1973, literacy programme in progress,</td>
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<td>8. Mark 1974, Bible translation in progress</td>
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<td><strong>Source(s)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Refs.</strong></td>
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<td>Survey: Dieu &amp; Renaud (1983); Brye (2009)</td>
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<td><strong>Grama:</strong></td>
<td>Hoskison (1975, 1983)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gulak – dialect of Margi Central</td>
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<td>Gumar – unknown affiliation: referred to by Kraft</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gun – dialect of Gbe</td>
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<td>Gunganici = Reshe</td>
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<td>Gungawa = Reshe</td>
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<td><strong>162. Gupa–Abawa</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Niger State, Lapai LGA around Gupa and Edzu villages</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. estimated more than 10,000 Gupa and 5,000 Abawa (1989)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Benue–Congo: Nupoid: Nupe</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Gupa, Abawa</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Source(s)</strong> Blench (1989)</td>
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<td><strong>Gura – member of the Lame cluster</strong></td>
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<td>Gura = next</td>
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<td>Gürđuŋ = Guruntum–Mbaaru</td>
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<td>Gure = next</td>
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<td>Guri = Gbiri–Niragu</td>
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<td>Gurka = Yiwom</td>
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<td><strong>163. Gurmana</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Niger State, Shiroro LGA. Gurmana town and nearby hamlets</td>
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<td>4. estimated more than 3,000 (1989)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Western Kainji: Eastern group</td>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>Source(s)</strong> Blench (1989)</td>
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<td>Gurrum – dialect of Ribina: see the Jera cluster</td>
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<td><strong>164. Guruntum–Mbaaru</strong></td>
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<td>1.A Gurutum</td>
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<td>1.B Gürduŋ</td>
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<td>3. Bauchi State, Bauchi and Alkaleri LGAs</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. 10,000 (1988 Jaggar)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Chadic: West sub–branch B: Zaar group: Guruntum subgroup</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. By settlements Dookâ, Gâr, Gayâr, Kâràkara, Kuu, and Mbaaru</td>
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<td><strong>Refs.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Grama:</strong></td>
<td>Jaggar (1988); Haruna (2003)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gurutum = Guruntum–Mbaaru</td>
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<td>Gusu – member of the Jera cluster</td>
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<td>Gussum = Gusu: see the Jera cluster</td>
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<td>Gut = Gudu</td>
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<td><strong>165. Guus</strong></td>
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<td>2.B ‘Barawa</td>
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<td>2.C Sayanci</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. 50,000 (1971 Schneeberg); 50,000 (1973 SIL)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Chadic: West branch B: Zaar group</td>
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<td><strong>Refs.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grama:</strong></td>
<td>Schneeberg (1971, 1974)</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Guus</em></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1.B mur guüs (one person); Gûüs (people)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.C vil kà gûüs (mouth of Guus)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2.A Sigidi, Sugudi, Sigidi, Segiddi</td>
<td></td>
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<td>4. 775 (1950 HDG). 17 villages (Caron 2002)</td>
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<td><strong>Source(s)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Refs.</strong></td>
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<td>Survey: Dieu &amp; Renaud (1983); Brye (2009)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Guvja – a dialect of Kanuri: Kanuri–Kanembu</strong></td>
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<td>Guyak – dialect of Longuda</td>
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<td>Guyuwa (nya Guyuwa) – dialect of Longuda</td>
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<td>Guzubo – dialect of Tsobo</td>
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<td><strong>166. Gvoko</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1.A Gavoko</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.A Ngoshe Ndaghang, Ngweshe Ndhang, Nggwshe</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.C Ngoshe Sama</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Borno State, Gwoza LGA; Adamawa State, Michika LGA</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. 2,500 (1963); 4,300 (1973 SIL); estimated more than 20,000 (1990)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Chadic: Biau–Mandara sub–branch A: Mandara/Mafa/Sukur major group: Mandara group</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### 167. Gwa
3. Bauchi State, Toro LGA
4. Less than 1,000 (LA 1971)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantu: Jarawan
Rfs.
Survey: Shimizu (1983a)

Gwak = Gingwak: see the Jar cluster
Gwali = Gbari and Gbagyi
Gwamfi = Gwamhi–Wuri

Gwandaba – dialect of Longuda
Gwandara–Basa = Nimbia: a dialect of Gwandara

### 168. Gwandara
1.B Gwàndara
3. Niger State, Suleija LGA; Federal Capital Territory; Nasarawa State, Nassarawa, Keffi, Lafia and Akwanga LGAs; Kaduna State, Kachia LGA
4. 12,000 (1952); 30,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Hausa group
6. Central: Gwandara Karashi, Western: Gwandara Koro, Southern: Kyan Kyar, Eastern: Toni; Gwandara Gitata, Nimbia (Gwandara–Basa)

Source(s)

Ref(s).
Wordlists: Matsushita (1974a);
Grammar: Matsushita (1972, 1973);
Texts: Matsushita (1974b)
Ethnographic: Na’Ibi and Hassan (1969)

Gwanje – Dialect of Wandala similar to Malgwa:
Westermann and Bryan (1952)
Gwanto = next
Gwantu – member of the Numana–Nunku–Gwantu–Numbu cluster

### 169. Gwara
1.B iGwara
1.C ṢaGwara sg. aGwara pl.
2.C Gora
3. Kaduna State, Kagar, Jaba LGAs
4. Five villages [2012]
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Koro; Idun cluster
10. Hausa, Ṣura, Nyanqwa
11. According to adults, Hausa is taking over among younger people, although the extent of this is hard to gauge.

Sources: Duhnya (2012)
Wordlist: Blench (2009)

Gwàrá – dialect of Margi
Gwari = Gbari – Gbagyi
Gwari Gamma = Gbari
Gwari Matai = Gbagyi
Gwari Yamma = Gbari
Gwom = next
Gwomo = next
Gwomu = Mọ
Gwong = Kagoma
Gworam – member of the Pan cluster
Gworam = Roba
Gwózá Wakane = next
Gwozo – dialect of Zalada: see the Lamang cluster
Gwozum – Adamawa State: Michika LGA: people of the Gwoza hills including Lamang, Mafa etc.: Temple (1922)
Gwune = Agwagwune
Gyääzi = Geji: see the Geji cluster
Gyang–yang – part of the Jar: Temple (1922: 170)
Gyange = Ngenge: dialect of Gbagyi
Gyeermu = Geruma
Gyell – a dialect of Berom

### 170. Gyem
1.A Gema
3. Bauchi State, Toro LGA, Lame district
4. 2000 (est. 2015)

Source(s)
Ref(s).

### 171. Gyong
1.A Agoma, Kagoma
1.B Gyong
1.C Gong
2.B Gwong, Gyong
3. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA
4. 6,250 (1934 HDG)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Western group: Gyongic

Source(s) Blench 1981
Ref(s).

Haanda – member of the Mboi cluster
Habe (Lao Habe) = Laka
Habe = Hausa
Hadejiya – dialect or subgroup of Hausa
Hainare = next
Hainari – dialect of Nor
Ham = Hyam
Handa – member of the Mboi cluster
172. Hasha
1.A Iyashi, Yashi
3. Nasarawa State, Akwanga LGA
4. 400 (SIL); 3000 (Blench est. 1999)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Alumic
Source: Blench (1999)
Refs
Wordlist: Blench (2016)

Hátè – dialect of Ninzo

173. Hausa
1.A Haussa, Haoussa
1.B Háusá
1.C sg. m. Bàháushèe sg. f. Bàháushìyáa pl. Háusàawáa plus names by areas or towns e.g. Adarawa, Agalawa, Arewa
2.B Abakwariga, Mgbakpa, Habe, Kado
3. Spoken as a first language in large areas of Sokoto, Zamfara, Kano, Katsina, Jigawa, Gombe and in the Republic of Niger; also spoken as a regional language in extensive areas where it is not spoken as a first language, e.g. in the Middle Belt of Nigeria, in northern Ghana and in Benin Republic
4. 5,700,000 (1952); 20 million (UBS 1984); 25 million first and second language speakers including some 3.5 million speakers in other countries (1973 SIL)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Hausa group
7. Large amount of literature in circulation and being produced; Official Orthography
15. Text-messaging now common, but vowel-length and hooked letters omitted
16. Indigenous Hausa sign language (Schmaling 2001). Ongoing dictionary of Hausa Sign Language, several volumes published
17. Two indigenous scripts of 20th century origin.
Refs.
Wordlists: Staudinger (1889)
Comparative: Krause (1884); Lippert (1906); Vycichl (1934, 1966); Cohen (1934/1937); Pilszczikowa (1958, 1960); Olderoogge (1953, 1960); Rössler (1969); Parsons (1970); Zima (1982); Schuh (1982, 2006); Mukarovsky (1988); Bross (1996); Panke (1999); Jagger (2001); Kossmann (2005)

Dictionaries: Schön (1876); Robinson (1899–1900); Taylor (1927); Abraham (1946, 1962); Olderoogge (1954); Skinner (1959, 1966); Laptukhin (1987); Matsushita (1991); Ma Newman (1990).
Grammars: Schön (1843); Schön (1862); Robinson (1897a); Westermann (1911); Migeod (1914); Vycichl (1932); Hodge (1947); Abraham (1959b); Smirnova (1960, 1982, 1985); Parsons (1960a,b, 1981); Osnsitkaia (1961, 1962, 1963); Scheglov (1970); Lobben (1991); Wolff (1993); Newman (2000); Abdoulaye (1992); Jagger (2001)
Script: Taylor (1929); Piłaszewicz (2000)
Texts: Richardson (1853); Schön (1857); Schön (1877, 1885); Prietze (1907); Abraham (1959a)
Pedagogic: Schön (1848); Seidel (1906, 1907); Mischlich 1902, 1911; Parsons (1915); Miller (1922); Weydting (1942); Brauner & Ashiwaju (1965); Zima (1973); Kraft & Kraft (1973); Kraft & Kirk-Greene (1973); Pawlak (1998)
Ethnoscience: Vischer (1936); Pawlak (1991); Zima (1997)
Pseudoscience: Stopa (1968)


Ethnographic: Temple (1922: 4); Smith (1965); Matsushita (1980)

Hawl (Bura Hyil Hawul) – dialect of Bura–Pabir
Heikpang – with Fan–Foron–Heikpang – a dialect group of Berom
Haba = Huba
Hǎdkàlà – dialect of Ghumbagha: see the Lamang cluster

174. Hdi
1.A Hidé, Hide, Xide, Xedi
1.B Xadi
2.A Gra, Tur, Turu, Tourow, Fownload
3. Borno State, Gwoza LGA; Adamawa State, Michika LGA; and in Cameroon
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara sub–branch A: Mandara Group
7. Large amount of literature in circulation and being produced; Official Orthography
15. Text-messaging now common, but vowel-length and hooked letters omitted
16. Indigenous Hausa sign language (Schmaling 2001). Ongoing dictionary of Hausa Sign Language, several volumes published
17. Two indigenous scripts of 20th century origin.
Refs.
Wordlists: Staudinger (1889)
Comparative: Krause (1884); Lippert (1906); Vycichl (1934, 1966); Cohen (1934/1937); Pilszczikowa (1958, 1960); Olderoogge (1953, 1960); Rössler (1969); Parsons (1970); Zima (1982); Schuh (1982, 2006); Mukarovsky (1988); Bross (1996); Panke (1999); Jagger (2001); Kossmann (2005)

Dictionaries: Schön (1876); Robinson (1899–1900); Taylor (1927); Abraham (1946, 1962); Olderoogge (1954); Skinner (1959, 1966); Laptukhin (1987); Matsushita (1991); Ma Newman (1990).
Grammars: Schön (1843); Schön (1862); Robinson (1897a); Westermann (1911); Migeod (1914); Vycichl (1932); Hodge (1947); Abraham (1959b); Smirnova (1960, 1982, 1985); Parsons (1960a,b, 1981); Osnsitkaia (1961, 1962, 1963); Scheglov (1970); Lobben (1991); Wolff (1993); Newman (2000); Abdoulaye (1992); Jagger (2001)
Script: Taylor (1929); Piłaszewicz (2000)
Texts: Richardson (1853); Schön (1857); Schön (1877, 1885); Prietze (1907); Abraham (1959a)
Pedagogic: Schön (1848); Seidel (1906, 1907); Mischlich 1902, 1911; Parsons (1915); Miller (1922); Weydting (1942); Brauner & Ashiwaju (1965); Zima (1973); Kraft & Kraft (1973); Kraft & Kirk-Greene (1973); Pawlak (1998)
Ethnoscience: Vischer (1936); Pawlak (1991); Zima (1997)
Pseudoscience: Stopa (1968)


Ethnographic: Temple (1922: 4); Smith (1965); Matsushita (1980)
175. Hipina
1.A Supana
1.B Tihipina
1.C Vihipina pl. Ahipina
3. Niger State, Rafi LGA, Supana town
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: West: Baushi cluster

Source(s) Blench (2010)

Hoai Petel = Tita

176. Holma
1.A Holma
1.B Da Holmaci
1.C Bali Holma
3. Adamawa State. Spoken north of Sorau on the Cameroon border
4. 4 speakers (Blench, 1987). The language has almost vanished and been replaced by Fulfulde
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara sub–branch A: Bata group
Source(s) Blench (1987)

Refs.
Ethnographic: Meek (1931a)

Hona = Hwana
Hoode – dialect of Nzanyi

177. Horom
1.B Barom
1.C Barom
2.B Kaleri (erroneous)
3. Plateau State, Mangu LGA. One village and one hamlet
4. 500 (1973 SIL); 1000 (Blench 1998)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Southeastern group
Source(s) Blench 1998); LDF (2012)

Refs
Wordlist: Blench (2016)
Comparative: Nettle (1998)

Hoss – dialect of Berom

178. Huba
1.A Haba
1.B Huba
1.C Huba
2.A Chobba Kilba
3. Adamawa State, Hong, Maiha, Mubi and Gombi LGAs
4. 32,000 (1952); 100,000 (1980 UBS)
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara sub–branch A: Bura–Higi major group: Bura group
6. Luwa

7. Literacy programme in progress
8. Bible translation in progress, Mark 1976
Source(s) Blench (1992)

Refs
Grammars: Schuh (1983); Mu’azu (2003, 2009)
Texts: Sharndama (2008)
Dialects: Mu’azu (2009)

Hude = Dghweɗe
Hul = next
Huli – member of the Fali cluster
Hum = Ham

179. Hun–Saare
1.A Ethun
1.B tHun, sSaare
1.C Hunne
2.A Duka
2.B Dukanci
3. Kebbi State, Sakaba LGA; Niger State, Rijau LGA
4. 19,700 (1949 Gunn and Conant); 30,000 (1980 UBS)
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Western Kainji: Northern group
6. Western (sSaare) (around Dukku), Eastern (tHun) (around Rijau), Tungan Bunu
7. Primers 1–3 1976, Proverbs (s.d.)
Source(s); Heath (2005)

Refs.
Grammar: Bendor–Samuel, Cressman and Skitch 1973);
Dictionary: unpublished draft (Heath p.c.)
180. Ḥungwɔ̀ry
1. B Cshungwɔ̀ry, Tɕhungwɔ̀ry [tɕhunɡwɔ̀rẙ̞]  
2. C Ngwoo, Ngwe, Ungwe, Inqwe, Nkwew, Ugbwai, Ungwai, Hungworo
3. Niger State, Rafi, Kushikeyi LGA, around Kagara and Maikujei towns  
4. 1000 (1949 HDG), 5000 (2007 est.)  
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Western Kainji: Kamuku–Basa group  
6. Dialects: Bitbit (Kwabitu), Lәklәk (Karaku), Jinjin (Makangara), Wǔswǔs (Karaiya), Ṭәmbәrjә (Tambere)  
7. Alphabet booklet (2004); Simple sentences (2007); Calendar (2008)  
9. Hausa is principal second language
10. Language maintenance good in 2007

**Source(s)**
Blench (1987);
Phonology: Davey (2007)
Temple (1922: 206);

Hunnr = Hun
Huve = next
Huviya = Bura

181. Hwana
1. A Hona, Hwona
2. Adamawa State, Gombi LGA, Guyuk and thirty other villages
3. 6,604 (1952 W&B); 20,000 (1973 SIL), estimate more than 20,000 (Blench 1987)  
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara sub–branch A: Tera group

**Source(s)**
Blench (1987);
Wordlist: Kraft (1981);

Hwaso = Kpan
Hwaye = Kpan
Ḥwona = Hwana
Hyabe = Kakanda

182. Hyam cluster
1. A Ham, Hum
2. Kaduna State, Kachia and Jama’a LGAs
4. 43,000
5. Kwak (=Nkwak) appears as a Hyamic language in Ethnologue (2009) and some earlier versions of this document, but it is now known to be spurious and simply a Hyam town name
7. Matthew, Mark 1923, Acts (n.d.)
8. Scripture portions 1870, prayer and hymnbook 1954, Mark (1985)

**Ref s**
Wordlist: Köler (1848); Latham (1848)
Dictionaries: Johnson (1903); Blench (2016)

Ibara = Nupe Tako: see the Nupe cluster
Ibaram – member of Akpes cluster
Ibeno = Ibinọ
Ibeto – dialect area Kambari I

183. Ibaa
1. A Ubãa (Igbo form), Bonny (anglicized), Obani (Cust 1883)
2. A Okuloma, Okolọba (indigenous name of Bonny town)
3. Rivers State, Bonny LGA; Bonny town and 35 towns and villages. Some old people at Obobo are also said to speak it, but this has not been confirmed.
4. 60,000 (1987, UBS)

**Source(s)**
Blench (2012)

Refs
Grammars: Jockers (1982)

I.  
Ibaa – dialect of Ikwere
Ibáali = Bali
Ibagyi = Gbagyi
Ibáji – dialect of Igala
Ibanọ = Agọi

184. Ibibio
1. A Ibibyo
3. Akwa–Ibom State, Ikono, Itu, Uyo, Etinan, Ekpe–Atai, Uruan, Nsit–Ubium, Onna, Mkpat Enin and Abasi LGAs
4. 800,000 (1952) (may include Efik); 283,000 (1945 F&J); 2 million (1973 census); estimated 2.5 million (Ibibio proper 1990)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Lower Cross: Central group

**Source(s)**
Blench (2012)

Refs
Grammars: Jockers (1982)

Hyil (Bura Hyil Hawul) – dialect of Bura–Pabir

I.  
Ibaa – dialect of Ikwere
Ibáali = Bali
Ibagyi = Gbagyi
Ibáji – dialect of Igala
Ibanọ = Agọi

183. Ibaa
1. A Ubãa (Igbo form), Bonny (anglicized), Obani (Cust 1883)
2. A Okuloma, Okolọba (indigenous name of Bonny town)
3. Rivers State, Bonny LGA; Bonny town and 35 towns and villages. Some old people at Obobo are also said to speak it, but this has not been confirmed.
4. 60,000 (1987, UBS)

**Source(s)**
Blench (2012)

Refs
Grammars: Jockers (1982)

Hyil (Bura Hyil Hawul) – dialect of Bura–Pabir

I.  
Ibaa – dialect of Ikwere
Ibáali = Bali
Ibagyi = Gbagyi
Ibáji – dialect of Igala
Ibanọ = Agọi

184. Ibibio
1. A Ibibyo
3. Akwa–Ibom State, Ikono, Itu, Uyo, Etinan, Ekpe–Atai, Uruan, Nsit–Ubium, Onna, Mkpat Enin and Abasi LGAs
4. 800,000 (1952) (may include Efik); 283,000 (1945 F&J); 2 million (1973 census); estimated 2.5 million (Ibibio proper 1990)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Lower Cross: Central group

**Source(s)**
Blench (2012)

Refs
Grammars: Jockers (1982)

Hyil (Bura Hyil Hawul) – dialect of Bura–Pabir

I.  
Ibaa – dialect of Ikwere
Ibáali = Bali
Ibagyi = Gbagyi
Ibáji – dialect of Igala
Ibanọ = Agọi
7. Efik decreasingly used as the literary language.
   Primers (1987) Official Orthography
8. Bible translation in progress

Refs.
Overview: Connell (1991)
Wordlist: Oldendorp (1777)
Grammars: Boys (1979); Kaufmann (1968), Essien (1990); Urúa (1990)
Dictionary: Kaufmann (1985)
Ethnographic: Forde & Jones (1950)

Ibibyo = Ibibio
Ibibyo = Ibibio
Ibie (South) – dialect of Etsako = Yẹkhee
Ibie North = Ivbie North: see the Ivbie North–Okpela–Arhe cluster
Ibiede – dialect of Isoko

185. Ibinọ
1. A Ibuno, Ibeno
3. Akwa–Ibom State, Uquo–Ibeno LGA
4. 10,000 (Faraselas 1989)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Lower Cross: West group

Refs.
Overview: Westermann and Bryan (1952); Connell (1991)

Ibo = Igbo
Ibot Obolo – dialect of Obolo
Ibukwo = Kpan
Ibuno = Ibinọ
Ibunu = Ribina: see the Jera cluster

186. Ibuoro
1. B Ibuoro
3. Akwa Ibom State, Itu and Ikono LGAs
4. 5,000 plus (1988)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Lower Cross: Central group

Refs.
Overview: Connell (1991)

Ibut = Jida–Abu
Ibo = Igbo
Icín – dialect of Izere
Icen = Etkywan

187. Iceve cluster
2. B Banagere, Iyon, Utse, Utser, Utseu
3. Cross River State, Obudu LGA and in adjacent Cameroon
4. 5,000 in Nigeria, 7,000 in Cameroon (1990 est.)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Southern Bantoid: Tivoid

Source(s) Regnier (1990)

*187.a Ceve
1. B Icheve, Bacheve, Bacheve, Becheve,
1. C Bacheve
2. C Ochebe, Ocheve (names of founding ancestor)
3. Cross River State, Obudu LGA and mainly in adjacent Cameroon

Source(s)
Refs
Grammar: Cox (2014)

*187.b Maci
1. A Matchi
1. B Maci
2. A Kwaya, Olit, Olití
3. Cross River State, Obudu LGA

Ichen = Etkywan
Ichén – dialect of Izere
Icheve = Baceve: member of the Iceve cluster
Icuatai = Etung North: see the Ejagham cluster
Idáh – dialect of Igala

188. Idere
1. B Idere
3. Akwa Ibom State, Itu LGA
4. more than 5,000 (1988)
5. no data. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Lower Cross

Refs.
Overview: Connell (1991)

Idesa = Ọkpẹ–Idesa–Akuku
Idjo = Ịjọ
Ido = Udo
Idoani = Iyayu

189. Idoma cluster
3. Benue State, Otukpo and Okpokwu LGAs;
   Nassarawa State, Nassarawa and Awe LGAs
5. Benue–Congo: Idomoid

Refs.
Grammars: Abraham (1967)
Ethnographic: Armstrong (1955, 1964)

*189.a Agatu
2. A Idoma North
3. Benue State, Otukpo LGA; Nasarawa State, Nassarawa and Awe LGAs
4. 56,000 (1952 RGA); 70,000 (1987 UBS)
6. Agatu, Ochekwu
7. Primer 1, Reader 1

Source(s)
189.b Idoma Central
2.A Oturkpo, Otukpo
2.B Akpoto
3. Benue State, Otokpo and Okpokwu LGAs
4. 66,000 (1952 RGA)
7. Primer; Official Orthography
Scripture portions from 1927, Methodist catechism,
Methodist hymnbook

Refs.
Grammar: Abraham (1951)

189.c Idoma West
3. Benue State, Okpokwu LGA
4. 60,000 (1952 RGA)

*Idon = Ajiya
*Idong = Ajiyi
*Idso = Ijo
*Idu = Idun
Idua = Ijue
Idum = Mbe West: see the Mbe cluster

190. Idun
1.B Idú
2.A Dụya [‘language of home’]
2.B Adong
2.C Jaba Lungu, Ungu, Jaba Gengere [‘Jaba of the
slopes’]
3. Kaduna State, Jema’a, Jaba LGAs; Nasarawa State,
Karu LGA
4. 1,500 (NAT 1949). Twenty-one villages [2008]
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Koro: Nyankpa-Idun
cluster
7. Active literacy programme
8. Scripture portions; New Testament in progress

Sources: Blench (2008); Duhnya (2011)

Orthography:
Iduwini – a south–western dialect of Ịzọn: Ịjọ cluster
Idzà = Dza
Idzo = Ijo
Ifaki – a dialect of Yoruba
Ifè – dialect of Igala
Ife – dialect of Yoruba
Ifira – a dialect of Yoruba
Ifunubwa = Mbembe
Igabo = Isoko

191. Igala
2.C Igaru
3. Benue State, Ankpa, Dekina, Idah and Bassa
LGAs; Edo State, Oshimili LGA; Anambra State,
Anambra LGA
4. 295,000 (1952), 800,000 (1987 UBS)
5. East Benue–Congo: Yoruboid
6. Ankpa and Ogùgù in Ankpa LGA; Ìfè in Ankpa
and Dekina LGAs; Anyìgbù in Dekina LGA; ‘Idáh
and Ibájì in Idah and Anambra(?) LGAs; and Èbú in
Oshimili LGA
7. Grammar (out of print), Primers 1 – 6, 2 readers,
literacy programme in progress; Official Orthography
1935/1948/1966, Scripture portions from 1924, New
Testament concordance, 8 Sunday School Teachers’
Manuals, 12 Bible Correspondence courses,
hymnbook, other Christian books, tracts and booklets

Refs.
Overview: Akinkugbe (1976)
Grammar: Philpot (1935); Silverstein (1973);
Akinkugbe (1978); Musa (1987)

Bibliography: Amali (1990)
Pedagogic: Coomber (1867)

Igara = Igala
Igara = Etuno: a member of the Ebira cluster
Igashi – member of Akoko cluster
Igbeku (Yala Igbeeku) – dialect of Yala Ogoja
Igbena – dialect of Yoruba
Igbide – dialect of Isoko
Igbira = Ebira
Igbiri = Gura: see Gure–Kahugu
Igbirra = Ebira

192. Igbo
1.A Ibo, Iɓo, Ebo
2.C Unege
3. Anambra State; Imo State; Abia State; Rivers State,
Etche, Bonny and Ahoada LGAs; Edo State,
Oshimili, Aniocha, Ika and Nsukka LGAs
4. 5,500,000 (1952); over 8 million (Emenanjo); est.
12 million (1987 UBS)
5. Benue–Congo: Igboid
6. A large number of dialects, e.g. Afikpo, Anicha,
Oka (Awka), Bonny–Opobo, Mbaíne
(Mbaise), Ngwa, Nsụka (Nsukka), Oguta, Ohuóhú
Onicha (Onitsha), Olu (Olu), Owere (Owerri,
Unwana, etc., varying in mutual intelligibility. (A few
outlying dialects are listed separately, see below). In:
the development of a common form, a name used in
some earlier literature was Isuama. It is a directional
name rather than a true dialect. It was replaced by
Union Igbo, an artificial form based on four dialects.
This gave way to Central Igbo, based chiefly on a
simplification of the dialects of the Owerri and
Unuahia areas. Standard Igbo is today accepted for
written Igbo, replacing the earlier Central Igbo. The
following belong to the same language cluster as
Igbo, but are listed separately in the index: Ụkwuanị–Aboh–Ndọnị; Ịka; Ogbah and Ikwere; Izi–Ezaa–Ikwo–Mgbọ. Echie and Egbeama, though regarded as languages of Rivers State, are outlying Igbo dialects and are not listed separately.

7. A large amount of old and current literature, including novels, poetry and drama. In: Echie and Egbeama, under the Rivers Readers Project, a Reading and Writing book and Reader 1 exist in each dialect; Grammars and dictionaries; newspaper and cultural magazines; Official Othography

8. Isuama dialect: Scripture portions 1860–66
Bonny dialect: Scripture portions 1892–1900
Unwana dialect: Scripture portions 1899–1907

Refs

Phonology: Ladejogbo et al. (1976)
Dialects: Ikkekonwu (1985)
Historical: Fulford (2002)

Ethnographic: Thomas (1913), Uchendu (1965), Ottenberg (1968), Henderson (1972)

Igbo Imaban = Legbo
Igbuduya − dialect of Ekpeye
Igedde = Igede

193. Igede
1. A Igedde, Egede, Egedde
2. Benue State, Oju, Otukpo and Okpokwu LGAs
3. Cross River State, Ogoja LGA
4. 70,000 (1952 RGA), 120,000 (1982 UBS)
5. Benue–Congo: Idomoid
6. Three dialects: Òjù (Central), Ìtòò (Ito), Ìwọ̀kọ́wù (Worku); also Gabu (Ogoja LGA)

Source(s)
Refs.

Igu − dialect of Ebira
Igumale = Idoma South

194. Iguta
1.C Anaguta
2.A Naraguta
3. Plateau State, Bassa LGA
4. 2,580 (HDG); 3,000 (1973 SIL)

Source(s)
Refs.

Igwaale = Idoma South
Igwé – member of the Sarsaru–Enwan–Igwé cluster
Igwuruta − dialect of Ikwere
iGyang – dialect of Tarok
Ihiebe – listed in Ethnologue (2009) as a distinct
North-Central Edoid language, but simply a section of
Emai-Iuleha-Ora
Ihima = Hima: see Ebira
Ijaw = Ìjọ
Ijebu − dialect of Yoruba
Ijeshà = next
Ijéṣà − dialect of Yoruba
Ijegbu − dialect of Yace
Ijigbam = Idoma South
Ijọ Àkpọ̀ − a dialect of Yoruba
Ijọ = next
Ijọ = Ìṣọ́n

195. Ìjọ
1. A Djo, Idjo, Idso, Idzo, Ijaw, Ijoh, Jos, Udzo, Udso, Ujo
2. Rivers State; Delta State, Bomadi, Burutu, and Warri LGAs; Ondo State,
3. Estimated total number of Ìjọ speakers is 2,000,000 (1990).
4. Atlantic–Congo: Volta–Congo: Ìjoid
5. Ìjọ is a common name for a language cluster comprising two subgroups:

East: consisting of KOIN (Kalabari–Okrika–Ibaan–Nkoro), and Njema–Akaha; and
West: consisting of Inland Ìjọ (Oruma, Ọkọdita, and Bisenini and Ìṣọ́n.

There is partial intelligibility between the groups in each main branch and also between Njema–Akaha and the southern dialects of Ìṣọ́n.

Refs.
Overview: Jenewari (1989)
1. A Ijo, Ijo, Ijaw, (these forms are used both in a general sense to refer to the whole language cluster and more specifically to refer to Izọn; Ijọ (Freemann 1976), Ezọn (Onduku 1960), Ijọ (Tarebigha 1956 – Primer), Izọn (Book of Common Prayer, 1954), Izọn, Ezọn (Agbegha 1961), other forms attested in various dialects are Eż’on, Ujọ

1.B According to dialect: Eżọn (Kumbowei; Ezọn (Mein); Ijọ (Iduwini, Oporoza); Ijo (Egbema); Izọ (Buọm, Apọj, Basan, East Olodiama, Iduwini; Izọn (Oporoma, East Tarakiri, Ogboin, Tungbo, Ekpetaiama, Ikibiri, Kolokuma, Gbanrai, Kabowei, West Tarakiri; Izọn (Oiyakiri, Ogbọ Ijọ, Mein); Uọjọ or Uọzọ (Ogulagha, Egbema, West Fụrụpagha);

3. Rivers and Bayelsa State, Yenagoa, and Sagbama LGAs; Delta State, Burutu, Warri and Bomadi LGAs; Ondo State, Ikale and Ilae Ese–Odo LGAs
4. estimated 1,000,000 (Williamson 1989)
5. Niger-Congo: Ijoid
6. A large number of generally mutually intelligible dialects named after the ibe or ‘clan’ (except that town names are used when a town speaks differently from the rest of the clan), and grouped as follows:

I. Central:
   a. South–Central: subdivided into
      (i) South–East: Buọm (Boma), (Eastern) Tarakiri, and Oporoma in Yenagọa LGA; Oiakiri (Oiyakiri in Sagbama LGA
      (ii) South–West: (Eastern) Olodiama, Basan (Bassan), Koluama, and Apọj in Yenagọa LGA

   b. North–Central: subdivided into
      (i) North–East: Kolokuma with Opokuma, Ekpetaiama and Gbanrai in Yenagọa LGA
      (ii) North–West: Ikibiri, Ogboin, and Tungbo (?) in Yenagọa LGA; (Western) Tarakiri, Kabowel (Kabou, Kabo, Patani, Kumbobel (Kumbo), Seimbiri, Operem (Operemor), in Sagbama LGA; Mein in Bomadi LGA; Tuomo and Oboñebe (?), in Burutu LGA

   II. Western Delta:
      Iduwini in Sagbama and Burutu LGAs, (Oporoza) Gbanranmatu and Ogbọ Ijọ in Warri LGA, Ogulagha in Burutu LGA, Egbema in Warri and Ovia LGAs, (Western) Olodiama, (Western) Fụrụpagha and Arogbo.


Kabowel: Gospels 1924
 Mein: Catholic Prayer Book 1967, Catholic Catechism 1959;

Refs.
Historical: Williamson (1966, 1970)
Comparative: Lee & Williamson (1990),
Dictionaries: Williamson and Timitimi (1983)
[Colokuma], Abegha (2007) [Mein],
Texts: Freemann & Williamson (1967), Williamson (1975, 1979),
Pedagogic: Taylor (1862)

Ijumú – dialect of Yoruba
Ika = Igu: see Ebira
Ikà = Ukaan

196. Ika
1.A Iká
2.A Agbor
3. Delta State, Ika and Orhionmwon LGAs
5. Benue–Congo: Igboid
6. ‘The dialect spoken around Agbor, the administrative and commercial headquarters, appears to be developing into a standard form. Further east and south from this centre, the similarity between Ika and Igbo gets closer.’ (Report of the Committee on Languages of Midwestern State: 12)
7. 4 primers, proverbs 1959

Refs
Dictionaries: Zappa & Nwaokobia (1907)

Ikalẹ – a dialect of Yoruba
Ikàn = next
Ikàn = next
Ikani = Ukaan
Ikarem = next
Ikaramu = next
Ikeram = Ikorom: a member of Akpes cluster
Ikiran = Eye: see Ọkpamheri
Ikibiri – a north–western dialect of Izọn: see Ijọ cluster
Iko = Doko–Uyanga
Iko – dialect of Agoi
197. Iko
1. B Iko
2. A Obolo (incorrectly included within Obolo)
3. Akwa Ibom State, Ikot Abasi LGA
4. Three villages: 5,000+ (1988)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Lower Cross

**Refs.**

**Overview:** Connell (1991)

Ikolu = Ikulu
Ikom (Yala Ikom) – dialect of Yala
Ikôm – member of the Olulumọ–Ikôm cluster
Ikorom – member of the Akpes cluster
Ikpan – dialect of Anaang
Ikpan = Kpan

198. Ikpeshi
3. Bendel State, Etsako LGA
4. 1,826 (Bradbury 1957)
5. Benue–Congo: Edoid: North Central Edoid

Ikpeshi = Ipesi: a dialect of Yoruba

199. Ikryo
1. B sg. à-kró pl. ā-kró
1. C ìkryó
2. B West Kuturmi
3. Kaduna State, Kachia LGA
4. Two villages
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Northwestern group

Ikuru – see the Iku–Gora–Ankwa cluster
Ikümóro = Kohumono
Ikümtale = Mbe West: see the Mbe cluster
Ikümürü = Kohumono Ikun – member of the Ubaghara cluster

200. Ikwere
1. A Ikwere
1. C Ìwhnuruò
2. B Akpọ–Mgbu–Tolu, Òbio, Ògbakiri, Òmuanwa, Òmudioga, Òmua, Ònu, Òhia
3. Rivers State, Ikwerre, Port Harcourt and Obio–Akpor LGAs
4. 54,600 (1940 F&J); possibly 200,000 (SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Igboi
7. Rivers State, Yenagoa and Brass LGAs
8. Community consisting of five sections

**Refs.**

*Phonology:* Clements & Osu (2005)
*Grammars:* Clark (1971), Osu (1995a,b, 2000), Williamson (2003),

Sociolinguistics: Ijemere (2006)
Azunda (1987);
Brown (1989);

Ikwere = Ikwere
Ikwo – member of the Izi–Ézaa–Ikwọ–Mgbọ cluster
Ila – dialect of Yoruba
Ilaje = Ilaje
Ilaje – dialect of Yoruba
Ileme = Uneme

201. Ilue
1. A Idua
1. B Ilue
3. Akwa Ibom State, Oron LGA
4. 5,000 (1988); diminishing
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Lower Cross

**Refs.** Connell (1991)

Imaban (Igbo Imaban) = Legbo
Imiv – dialect of Isoko
Închà – dialect of Ninza
Inchazi = Rukuba
Inedua – dialect of Engenni
Ineme = Uneme
Inwọ = Hungwọ
Inide = Nindo: see the Kanufi–Kaningkon–Nindo cluster

202. Inland Ijo
3. Rivers State, Yenagoa and Brass LGAs
5. Atlantic–Congo: Ijoid: Ijo Inland cluster

*Biseni
1. A Buseni
1. B Biseni
1. C Biseni
2. B Amegi
3. Rivers State, Yenagoa LGA, Akpejọ, Egbebi, Kalama,Tejn and Tụbụrụ towns

*Oruma
1. B Tugbeni
1. C Tugbeni Kaamà
3. Rivers State, Brass LGA
4. A single town surrounded by Central Delta languages

Iyima = Lenyima
Ipesi – a dialect of Yoruba
Ipo – dialect of Ikwere
Irhobo = Iṣekiri
Iri – dialect of Isoko
Irigwe = Rigwe
Irri – dialect of Isoko
Iruan – dialect of Bokyi
Isan = Esan
Isanga = Gusu: see the Jera cluster
Isangele = Usakade

203. Iṣẹkiri
1. A Itsekiri, Ishekiri, Shekiri, Chekiri, Jekiri, Izekiri, Tshekeri, Dsekiri
2. B Iwere, Irhobo, Warri
2. C Iselema–Otu (Ịjọ name for Warri/Itsekiri people), Selemo
3. Delta State, Warri, Bomadi and Ethiope LGAs
4. 33,000 (1952); over 100,000 (1963 Omamor); 500,000 (1987 UBS)

Refs.
Phonology: Omamor (1979)
Ethnographic: Lloyd, (1957)

Iselema–Otu = Iṣekiri
Ishan = Esan
Ishe – dialect of Ukaan
Išɛ̀ = Ukaan
Ishekiri = Iṣekiri
Ishibori = Nkem: see the Bakor cluster
Ishua = Uhami
Isiokpo – dialect of Ikwere

204. Isoko
2. B Igabo, Sobo (see also under Urhobo)
2. C Biotu (not recommended)
3. Delta State, Isoko and Ndokwa LGAs
4. At least 74,000 (1952 REB); 300,000 (1980 UBS)
5. Benue–Congo: Edoid: South–Western Edoid
6. West Central: Ozoro (Ọzọrọ), Ofagbe, Emede, Owe (Owhe), Emede: Standard: Aviara; Western: Iyede, Imiv, Enhwe (Enwè), Ume, Iwire (Igbide); East Central: Olomoro, Iyede–ami, Unogboko, Iteliege, Uti, Iyọwo, Ibiede, Oyede; Standard: Uzere; West Central: Iri (Irì, Ole (Oleh)
7. Readers 1954–58, Adult Education pamphlets; Official Orthography
8. NT and Psalms 1970, hymnbook 1930, Scripture portions from 1920, Complete Bible 1977

Refs.

205. Ito
1. B Ito
3. Akwa Ibom State, Akamkpa LGA
4. 5,000 plus (1988)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Lower Cross: (no data)

Source(s) Connell (1991)

206. Itu Mbon Uzo
1. A Itu Mbuozo
1. B Itu Mbon Uzo
3. Akwa Ibom State, Ikono LGA
4. 5,000 plus (1988)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Lower Cross: Central

Source(s) Connell (1991)

Ito Mbuozo = Itu Mbon Uzo
Iuleha – member of the Emai–Iuleha–Ora cluster

207. Ivbie North–Okpela–Arhẹ cluster
3. Edo State, Etsako and Akoko–Ẹdo LGAs
4. 14,500 (1952); possibly 20,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Edoid: North–Central Edoid

Refs.
*Ivbie North
*Okpela
1. A Okpella, Ukpilla
*Arhẹ
1. A Ate, Ate, Atte
Refs:
Elugbe (1989)

Ivbiosakon = Emai–Iuleha–Ora, Ghotuo, Ihiebe?
Ivhiadaobi – dialect of Etsako = Yekehe
Ivhimion – dialect of Emai–Iuleha–Ora
Iwire = Iṣekiri
Iwhnuruñhma = Ikwere
Iwire – dialect of Isoko
Iyace = Yace
## Iyala = Yala
Iyani – member of Akpes cluster
Iyashi = Yashi

### 208. Iyayu
2.C Idoani
3. Ondo State, one quarter of Idoani town
4. 9,979 (1963)
5. Benue–Congo: Edoid: North–Western Edoid: Osse

Iyede – dialect of Isoko
Iyede–ami – dialect of Isoko
Iyẹkhee = Etsakọ = Yẹkhee

### 209. Iyive
1.A Uive
1.B Yiive
1.C Ndir
2.B Asumbo (Cover term used in Cameroon)
3. Benue State, Kwande LGA, near Turan; and in Cameroon (several villages in Manyu Département)
4. 2,000
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Southern Bantoid: Tivoid

### 210. Izere cluster
1.A Izarek, Zarek
1.C Afizere: other spellings – Fizere, Feserek, Afizarek, Afusare, Fezere
2.B Jarawa
2.C Jarawan Dutse
3. Bauchi State, Toro LGA; Plateau State, Jos LGA; and in Bah disappoint & Bahr
4. 22,000 (LA 1971); 30,000 (1977 Voegelin & Voegelin)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Central

### 211. Izii–Ězaa–Ikwo–Mgbo cluster
1.A Forom
3. Plateau State, Barkin Ladi LGA at Forom and Gashish villages
4. less than 4,000 (1991)
*Ichên
8. New Testament translation under way
*Faishang
*Ganang
Source: Blench (2006)

### Ethnographic: Nyam (1988)
*Northeastern
3. Bauchi State, Toro LGA; Plateau State, Jos LGA;
6. Federe=Federe, Zendi, Fursum, Jarawan Kogi
*Southern
1.A Forom
3. Plateau State, Barkin Ladi LGA at Forom and Gashish villages
4. less than 4,000 (1991)
*Ichên
8. New Testament translation under way
*Faishang
*Ganang
Source: Blench (2006)

### Fobur
1.A Fobor
2.C Northwestern Jarawa
3. Bauchi State, Toro LGA; Plateau State, Jos LGA;
4. less than 15,000 (1991)
6. Fobur, Shere, Jos Zarazon
8. Mark’s gospel 1940

### Dictionaries: Blench & Kaze (2016)

### Ethnographic: Shimizu (1975); Regnier (1991)
*Northeastern
3. Anambra State, Abakaliki and Ishielu LGAs;
Benue State, Okpokwu LGA
4. 84,000 (1940 F&J); 200,000 (1973 SIL)
9. Extended wordlist (199x)

### Refs.
Survey: Shimizu (1975); Regnier (1991)
Ethnographic: Bristow (1953)
*Northeastern
3. Anambra State, Ezza and Ishielu LGAs; Abia State, Ohaozara LGA;
Benue State, Okpokwu LGA
4. 93,800 (1940 F&J); 180,000 (1973 SIL)

### Refs.
Survey: Shimizu (1975); Regnier (1991)
Ethnographic: Bristow (1953)

### Refs.
Survey: Shimizu (1975); Regnier (1991)
Ethnographic: Bristow (1953)

### Refs.
Survey: Shimizu (1975); Regnier (1991)
Ethnographic: Bristow (1953)

### Refs.
Survey: Shimizu (1975); Regnier (1991)
Ethnographic: Bristow (1953)

### Refs.
Survey: Shimizu (1975); Regnier (1991)
Ethnographic: Bristow (1953)
iZini – a dialect of Tarok
Izọ = Izọn: Ijọ cluster
Izom – dialect of Gbari
Izọn – member of the Ijọ cluster
Izzi = Izi: see the Izi–Ẹzaa–Ikwo–Mgbo cluster
Ja (Tsure Ja) = Reshe
Ja = Dza
Jaabe = Cen Tuum
Jaaku = Lábir
Jaalingo – dialect of South–Western Mumuye
Jaba = Hyam
Jajaru = Kajuru: see Kadara
Jakanci = next
Jaku = Lábir
Jal = Aten
Jalaa = Cen Tuum
Jalabɛ = Cen Tuum
Jalalum – dialect of Karekare
212. Jan Awei
1.B Jan Awei
3. Gombe State, West of Muri mountains, North of the Benue (precise location unknown)
4. 12 ? (1997)
5. Benue–Congo: Central Jukunoid
Source(s) Storch (p.c.)

Jangani (Samba Janganĩ – a dialect of Samba Daka
Jama = Samba Daka

213. Janji
1.A Jenji
1.B Tijanjí
1.C Ajanji
2.C Anafejanzi
3. Plateau State, Bassa LGA
4. 360 (NAT 1950)
5. Benue–Congo: Central Jukunoid
Source(s) Shimizu (1975) 14; (1980) 253

Janjo = Dza

214. Jar
1.A Dṣ’arawa (Koelle 1854), Jarawa
2.B Jar, Jarawan Kogi, Jarawan Kasa, Jaracin Kogi/Kasa
3. Plateau, Bauchi and Adamawa States
5. Benue–Congo: Bantu: Jarawan
Refs. Maddieson and Williamson (1975); Shimizu (1983) – Shimizu treats Kantana as co-ordinate language. Also he refers to Zungur (possibly Gwak or Badà), Ndangshi, Dòòrì, Mùùn, Dämül. It is not clear how these relate to the languages below.

*Zhar
1.B Zhar
2.A Bankal, Bankal, Bankala
2.B Bankalanci, Baranci
2.C Bankalawa
3. Dass town and northward to Bauchi town, west of the Gongola River, in Dass, Bauchi, and Toro LGAs, Bauchi State
4. 20,000 (LA 1971)
6. Dumbulawa (Sutumi village) may speak a dialect of Bankal
7. Reading and Writing Book (2006)
8. NT extracts (2007)

Refs
Ethnographic: CAPRO (1995a)
*Ligri
3. Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA
4. 800 speakers (Ayuba est. 2008).
*Kantana
3. Plateau State, Kanam LGA
11. The language is rapidly yielding to Hausa; it is still used by middle-aged speakers but young speakers no longer make active use of it.
*Bar (?)
3. Bauchi State, precise location unknown. May not exist as survey in 2007 failed to find such a language
*Gwak
1.A Gingwak
2.B Jaranci
2.C Jarawan Bununu, Jaracin Kasa
3. Dass town and southward to Tafawa Balewa, west of the Gongola River, in Dass and Tafawa Balewa LGAs, Bauchi State
4. 19,000 (LA 1971)
*Doori
1.B Dõõri
2.B Duguranci
2.C Dugurawa
3. Bauchi State, Alkaleri, Tafawa Balewa LGA; Plateau State, Kanam LGA
6. Previous sources (e.g. Maddieson & Williamson 1975) divided Duguri into a number of regional dialects. There appears to be no basis for these distinctions and all Doori essentially speak intercomprehensible lects
11. The language is gradually yielding to Hausa; it is still used by middle-aged speakers but young speakers no longer make active use of it.
*Mbat
1.A Mbada, Bat, Bada, Badà
2.B Jar, Jarawan Kogi, Garaka
2.A Kanna
2.C Badawa, Mbada
3. North-central part of Kanam LGA, Plateau State, centered at Gagdi-Gum
4. 10,000 (SIL)
*Mbat-Galamkya
1.A Mbada, Bat, Bada, Badà
2.B Jar, Jarawan Kogi, Garaka
2.A Kanna
2.C Badawa, Mbada
3. North-western Kanam LGA, southwest of Mbat, including Gyangyang 2 and Gidgid
4. 10,000 (SIL)
10. Hausa, Fulfulde

Source(s): Blench (2007);

Refs.
Survey: Rueck et al 2009)
Comparative: Shimizu (1983)

Ethnographic: Temple (1922: 217); CAPRO (1995a)

215. Jara
1.A Jera
3. Borno State, Biu LGA; Bauchi State, Ako LGA
4. 4,000 (SIL)
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara sub–branch A: Tera group

Jaracin Kasa = Jar cluster
Jaracin Kogi – see the Jar cluster
Jaranci = Gingwak: see the Jar cluster
Jarawa – a Hausa name used to refer to many
language groups: Izere, Ribina, Lame cluster, Barawa
(Das, Geji, Polci, Saya, Zari and Zeem clusters) and
the languages of the Jarawan Bantu group including:
the Jarawa cluster, Mbârû, Gûra, Rûhû, Gubi, Dulbu,
Lâtîr, Kulung, and Gwa
Jarawan Bununu = Gingwak
Jarawan Dutse = Izere
Jarawan Kogi = Bâtâ: see the Jar cluster
Jarawan Kogi – a dialect of Izere
Jareng = Gnoore – dialect of North–Eastern Mumuye
Jasikit = Nteng – possible dialect of Kwagallak: see
the Pan cluster
Jeba = Hyam
Jega – dialect of Panseng
Jeere = Jera
Jekri = Işękiri
Jelaselam = next
Jelaselum – dialect of Karekare
Jun = Dza
Jeng – dialect of Mumuye
Jeng = next
Jenge = Nzanyi
Jengre = Jere: the Jere cluster
Jenji = Janji
Jenjo = Dza
Jenuwa – dialect of Kuteb
Jepal = next
Jepel = Jipal: see the Pan cluster
Jera = Jara or the Jere cluster

216. Jere
1.A Jera, Jeere
3. Plateau State, Bassa LGA; Bauchi State, Toro LGA
4. 23,000 (1972 SIL)
group: group c


*Boze

*Gusu
1.A Gussum
1.B i–Sango
1.C sg. o–Sango, pl. a–Sango
2.B Anibau, Anosangobari
3. Plateau State, Bassa LGA; Bauchi State, Toro LGA
4. 2,350 (1936 HDG)

Source(s) IL/NBTT wordlist
*Jere
1.B Ezelle
1.C Anazele, Azelle
2.A Jengre
3. Plateau State, Bassa LGA; Kaduna State, Saminaka
LGA
4. 4,500 (1936 HDG)

Source(s) IL/NBTT wordlist
*Ibunu-Lɔrɔ
1.B ibunu
1.C ÒnuLɔrɔ, (Anorubuna, Narabuna)
2.A Rebina, Ribina, Rubunu
3. Bauchi State, Toro LGA
4. 2,000 (LA 1971)

Source(s)

Refs:
Grammar: Shimizu (1968)
1.B iLɔrɔ
1.C ỌnọLɔrɔ pl. AnọLɔrɔ
3. Bauchi State, Toro LGA
4. 1500 (Blench 2003) in four villages

Source(s) Blench & Nengel (2003)

*Panawa
1.B iPanawa
1.C unuPanawa pl. anuPanawa
2.A Bujiyel
3. Bauchi State, Toro LGA
villages

Source(s) Blench & Nengel (2003)

Refs
Ethnographic: CAPRO (1995a)

Jeriyawa = Ribina: see the Jere cluster
Jeriyawa = Jereawa ‘North of Bauchi Emirate’ perhaps also at Ako in Gombe, population 1,470:
Temple (1922: 171): never reported again
Jetko – dialect of Kanuri
Jessi – see Shoo–Minda–Nye cluster
Jezhu – dialect of Gbari
Jibu – member of the Jukun cluster
Jibyal = Jipal: see the Pan cluster
Jidda – see Bu-Ningkada
Jiir – see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Us–Zuksun cluster

217. Jijili
1.B Tanjijili
1.C Ujjijili pl. aJijili
2.C Koro Funtu of Kafin Koro, Koro of Shakoyi
3. Niger State, Chanchaga and Suleija LGAs, north the road from Minna to Suleja around Kafin Koro
4. About eight settlements and probably some 8000 speakers (1999)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Southern: Jilji group
Source(s) Blench (1980, 1999)
Refs
Wordlist: Blench (2016)

218. Jilbe
1.C Jilbe
3. Borno State, a single village on the Nigeria Cameroun border, south of Dikwa
4. ? 100 speakers (Tourneux p.c. 1999)
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara B: Mandage group
Source(s) Tourneux (1997)

Jilbu = Zizilivakan

219. Jili
1.A Megili, Migili (orthographic form)
1.B Lijili
1.C Jijili (singular), Mijili (plural)
2.B Koro of Lafia
3. Plateau State, Lafia and Awe LGAs
4. 50,000 (1985 UBS)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Southern group: Jilic
7. Reading and Writing book 1975, Folk Tales 1976
Refs:
Phonology: Stofberg (1978a)
Grammar: Stofberg (1978b)
Dictionary: Blench (2016)
Orthography: Dogo (2017)

Jilvu (Fali of Jilvu) = Zizilivakan
Jimbin = Zumbun

220. Jimi
3. Bauchi State, Darazo LGA
4. 250 (LA 1971); 400 (1973 SIL)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch B: Zaar group

Jimo = Zumu: see the Bata cluster
Jinda = Cinda: see the Cinda-Regi-Rogo-Kuki cluster
Jinleri = Shoo–Minda–Nye
Jipal – member of the Pan cluster
Jirai – dialect of Bata
Jiriya = Ziriya

221. Jiru
1.A Zhiru
2.B Atak, Wiyap, Kir
3. Taraba State, Kaim Lamido LGA

Jiwafa = Jiwapa – Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA, Kono village: Temple (1922: 62,576); Gunn (1956: 60)

222. Jju
1.B Kajju
1.C Baju, Bajju
2.B Kaje, Kajji, Kache
3. Kaduna State, Kachia and Jema’a LGAs
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Central
Source(s)
Refs
Pedagogic: Mindat (2015)

Johode = Dghweɗe
Jompre (not recommended) = Kuteb

223. Joole
1.B éɛɛjìì
1.C nwá éɛɛjìì
3. Taraba State, Kaim Lamido LGA and Adamawa State, Numan LGA. Along the Benue River.
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Jen group
Source(s) Kleinewillinghöfer (1995)
224. Jorto
3. Plateau State, Shendam LGA, at Dokan Kasuwa
4. 4,876 (1934 Ames)
NB. There is some doubt this language really exists. No data has ever been circulated.

Jos = Ịjọ
Jos–Zarazon – dialect of Izere
Ju (Ju Norrh = Nor

225. Ju
3. Bauchi State, Bauchi LGA
4. 150 (LA 1971)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch B: Zaar group: Guruntum subgroup

Jukun – commonly used for both the Jukun and Kororofa clusters

226. Jukun cluster
1.A Njuku
2.A Njikun
3. Taraba State, Wukari, Takum, Bali and Sardauna LGAs; Nasarawa State, Awe, Shendam, Langtang and Lafia LGAs; Benue State, Makurdi LGA; and in Furu-Awa subdivision, Cameroon
4. 35,000 (1971 Welmers); 1700 in Cameroun (1976)
5. Benue–Congo: Benue: Jukunoid: Central Jukunoid:

Refs.
Overviews: Shimizu (1980); Breton (1993)
Grammar: Storch 1997);
Wordlist: Fraser (1908); Dayrell (1908)

*Jukun–Mbembe–Wurbo group
**Jibu
3. Taraba State, Gashaka LGA
4. 25,000 (1987 SIL)
6. Gayam, Garbabi
Source(s) Priest (p.c.)

Refs
Phonology: Van Dyken (1974)
Grammars: Bradley (1971),
**Takum-Donga
2.B Jibu
3. Taraba State, Takum, Sardauna and Bali LGAs
4. Second language speakers only 40,000 (1979 UBS)
6. Takum, Donga
7a. Donga: Primer 1915

Refs:
Wordlists: Dayrell (1908), Fraser (1908)
*Wase Tofa
3. Plateau State, Shendam and Langtang LGAs

Jukun of Wukari – see: Wapan, a dialect of Kororofa
Jukun of Wurkum – former map no 181 (area uncertain): Gospel portions 1927, 1950
Jumu = Ijumú: a dialect of Yoruba
Ju–Norrh = Nor
Kaama = Kaima: Busa cluster
Kaama = Oruma
Kaam (Tugbeni Kaaam) = Oruma

227. Kaan
2.A Libo
3. Adamawa State, Guyuk LGA
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Yungur group

Ka–Ban – dialect of Baan
Kaban = Kadim–Kaban: see Cakfem–Mushere
Kabari – dialect of Kanem: Kanuri–Kanembu
Kabila = Lubila
Kahire = Lubila
Kabo = Kabu: see Ijo: the Ijo cluster
Kabou = Kabu: see Ijo: the Ijo cluster
Kabri – dialect of Nor
Kabu – North–Western dialect of Ijo: Ijo cluster
Kacececeereere – dialect of Fulfulde
Kache = Jju
Kacicere – member of the Katab cluster

228. Kadara cluster
Language cluster: Eda-Edra-Enezhe

*Eda
1.A Adara
1.B Ánda pl. Áda
1.C Ėdà
2.A Kadarra
3. Kaduna State, Kachia LGA; Niger State, Paikoro LGA
4. 22,000 (NAT 1949); 40,000 (1972 Barrett). Towns; Adunu, Amale, Dakalo, Ishau, Kurmin Iya, Kateri, Bishini, Doka (Kaduna road)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Northern group
7. Reading and Writing Book (2006); Counting and Numbering (2006)
8. NT extracts (2006)
12. Request programme, Zuma FM Radio
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source(s)</th>
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<td>Maikarfi (2011)</td>
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**Edra**
- 1.B Àndara pl. Àdara
- 1.C Ëdrà
- 2.A Kadara
- 3. Kaduna State, Kachia, Kajuru LGAs
- 4. Towns; Maru, Kufana, Rimau, Kasuwan Magani & Iri
- 5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Northern group

**Enezhe**
- 1.B Àndara pl. Àdara
- 1.C Ëdrà
- 2.A Kadara
- 3. Kaduna State, Kachia, Kajuru LGAs
- 4. Towns; Maru, Kufana, Rimau, Kasuwan Magani & Iri
- 5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Northern group

**Kadun = Vaghat**

**Kaduna – dialect of Gbagyi**

**Kado = Hausa**

**Kafanchan = Kafanci – member of the Katab cluster**

**Kafarati – dialect of Kwaami**

**Kafugu = Gbiri–Nirago**

**229. Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–[Us]–Zuksun cluster**

2.A The name ut-Main has been adopted by various member of this cluster as a cover term for these languages, but whether it will be widely adopted remains to be seen.

2.B Fakanci, Fakkanci

3. Kebbi State, Zuru and Wasagu LGAs, north of Mahuta but south of the Kag river

**Kaga – dialect of Kanuri: Kanuri–Kanembu**

**Kagama – dialect of Kanuri: Kanuri–Kanembu**

**Kagarko = Ashe–Begbere**

**Kagne = Kag: see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zuksun cluster**

**Kagoro – member of the Katab cluster**

**Kagu = Gbiri–Nirago**

**Kahugu = Gbiri–Nirago**

**Kaiama – member of the Busa cluster**

**Kaibi = Kaivi**

**Kaibre = Lubila**
230. Kaivi
1. A Kaibi
3. Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA
4. 650 (NAT 1949)
5. no data. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Eastern Kainji:
Kauru subgroup

Kaivorawa = Geji: see the Geji cluster
Kajë = Jju
Kajëj = Jju
Kajuru – dialect of Kadara
Kaka = Yamba
Kakaba = Mbongno

231. Kakanda cluster
1. A Akanda
2. B Hyabe, Adyaktye
3. Kwara State, Kogi LGA; Niger state, Agaie and
Lapai LGAs; communities along the Niger centered on Budä
4. 4,500 (1931); 20,000 (1989 Blench)
5. Benue–Congo: Nupoid: Nupe group

Source(s) Blench 1986/1989

Refs
Phonology: Oyebade (1988)

*Kakanda–Budon
*Kakanda–Gbanmi/Sokun

Kakihum – dialect area of Kambari I
Kakumo – dialect of Zaar: see the Guus-Zaar cluster
Kalan – member of KOIN: see Ijọ cluster

232. Kalabanj
1. B Kalabanj
1. C Kalabanj
2. A New Calabar
3. Rivers State, Degema and Asari–Toru LGAs; 3
major towns and 24 villages
4. 200,000 (1987, UBS)
5. Benue–Congo: Ijoid: KOIN (Kalabanj–Okrika–
Ijani–Nkoro)

Source(s) Blench (2007)

Refs.

Wordlist: Lovelace (n.d.); Blench (2007)

Grammar: Lovelace (1992);

*Baangi
1. A Baangi
1. B ciBaangi
1. C sg. vuBaangi, pl. aBaangi
2. B Bangawa (Hausa)
3. Niger State, Magama LGA

Ref.

*Baangi
1. A Baangi
1. B ciBaangi
1. C sg. vuBaangi, pl. aBaangi
2. B Bangawa (Hausa)
3. Niger State, Magama LGA
4. estimate more than 5,000 (1989)

Source(s) Blench 1989)

*Kalungo – dialect of Tangale

233. Kam
1. C Nyimwom
3. Taraba State, Bali LGA. Mayo Kam and Kamijim
villages only
4. 583 (1922 Temple); estimate more than 1000
(1987)
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Kam group

Source(s) Blench (1987)

234. Kamantan
1. A Kamantan = Kamantan
1. C Angan
3. Kaduna State, Kachia LGA
4. 3,600 (NAT 1949) 10,000 (1972 Barrett)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Western group: Gyongic

Kamantan = Kamantan
Kamantan = Kamantan

235. Kambari I cluster
1. A Kamberi
3. Niger State, Magama and Mariga LGAs; Kebbi
State, Zuru and Yauri LGAs; Niger State, Borgu LGA
4. with Kambari II: 67,000 (1952 W&B); 100,000
(1973 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Western Kainji: Kambari

Source(s) Blench (2008)

Refs.

Wordlist: Lovelace (n.d.); Blench (2007)

Grammar: Lovelace (1992);

*Baangi
1. A Baangi
1. B ciBaangi
1. C sg. vuBaangi, pl. aBaangi
2. B Bangawa (Hausa)
3. Niger State, Magama LGA
4. estimate more than 5,000 (1989)

Source(s) Blench 1989)

*Kalungo – dialect of Tangale
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<td><strong>3. Niger State, Magama LGA</strong></td>
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<td>12. Gospel of Mark on cassette</td>
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<td><strong>Refs</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dictionary:</strong> Stark et al. (2004)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kamberi = Kambari</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kamberi = Kanuri</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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| **236. Kambari II cluster** |
| 1.A Kamberi |
| 3. Niger State, Magama LGA; Kebbi State, Zuru and Yauri LGAs; Kwara State, Borgu LGA |
| 4. with Kambari I: 67,000 (1952 W&B); 100,000 (1973 SIL) |
| 5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Western Kainji: Kambari group |
| **Refs.** |
| *Agaushi* |
| 1.B Cishingini |
| 2.A Auna |
| 3. Niger State, Magama LGA; Kebbi State, Yauri LGA |
| 7. No language development |
| **Akimba** |
| 1.B Tsikimba |
| 1.C Akimba |
| 2.A Auna, Wara |
| 3. Niger State, Rijau, Magama LGA; Kebbi State, Yauri LGA |
| 12. Gospel of Mark on cassette |
| **Refs** |
| Dictionary; Stark et al. (2004) |

| **237. Kami** |
| 3. Niger State, Lapai LGA, Ebo town & 11 villages |
| 4. more than 5000 (Blench 1989 est.) |
| 5. Benue–Congo: Nupoid: Nupe |

| **238. Kamwe** |
| 1.B Vәcәmwe |
| 2.C Higi, Hiji, Kapsiki |
| 3. Adamawa State, Michika LGA and into Cameroon |
| 4. 64,000 (1952); 180,000 (1973 SIL) est. 23,000 in Cameroon |
| 5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara sub–branch A: Bura–Higi major group: Higi group |
| 6. Nkafa, Dakwa (Bazza), Sọna, Wula, Futu, Tili Pte, Kapsiki (Ptsәkɛ) in Cameroon |
| **Source(s)** |
| Refs. |
| Phonology: Mohrlang (1972) |
| Grammar: Smith (1969) |
| --- | --- |
| 2. A Ogoni (ethnic and political term includes Gokana) | Refs. |
| 4. 76,713 (1926 Talbot); 90,000 (SIL) | Overview: Wolff (1964) |
| Refs: | Ethnographic: Seetzen (1810) |
| **Overview:** Wolff (1964) | *Kanuri* |
| **Grammar:** Ikoro (1994, 1996) | 3. Borno State, LGAs on the edge of Lake Chad; and in the Republics of Niger, Cameroun and Chad. |
| **Kanakuru = Dera** | 6. Sugurti, Kuburi (Kabari, Kuvuri) |
| **Kanam – member of the Jar cluster** | Refs. |
| **Kanembu = Kanuri–Kanembu** | Kapsiki – dialect of Kamwe |
| **Kaningkwom = Kaningkon** | Kapugu = Gure–Kahugu |
| **Kaninkon = Kaningkon** | 241. Kanya |
| **Kaninkwom = Kaningkon** | 3. Taraba State, Takum LGA, at Kapya |
| **Kanna = Bada: see the Jar cluster** | 5. Benue–Congo: Benue: Jukunoid: Yukuben–Kutep |
| **Kano – E. dialect of Hausa** | Refs. Koops (1973); Shimizu (1980a) |
| **Kano – dialect of Fulfulde** | Karaikarai = Karekare |
| **Kantana – dialect of Bada: see the Jar cluster** | Kâràkara – see Guruntum–Mbaaru |
| **Kantana = Mama** | Karashi – dialect of Gwandara |

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3. Borno State, Nguru, Geidam, Kukawa, Damaturu, Kaga, Konduga, Maiduguri, Monguno, Fune, Gujba, Ngala, Bama, Fika and Gwoza LGAs; Jigawa State, Hadejia LGA; and in the Republics of Niger, Cameroon and Chad. Diaspora communities occur in Sudan and Eritrea.</td>
<td>1. A Korekere, Kerekere, Karaikarai, Kerikeri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. 1,300,000 (1952); 3,500,000 (1987 UBS)</td>
<td>3. Bauchi State, Gamawa and Misau LGAs, Yobe State, Fika LGA</td>
</tr>
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<td><em>Kanuri</em></td>
<td>5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Bole–Ngas major group: Bole group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. A Kanouri</td>
<td>6. Western Jalalum, northern Pakaro and eastern Ngwajum</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.B Kâñûrû</td>
<td>8. Some tracts in dialect of Jelaselum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.C Kàñûrû</td>
<td>Source(s); Adive (n.d.)</td>
</tr>
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<td>2.A Borno, Bornu</td>
<td>Refs Wordlist: Maxine Schuh (n.d.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.C Beriberi, Kamberi; also Kanembu (a separate ethnic group speaking Kanuri)</td>
<td>Dictionaries: Gambo et al. (2004)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. 3,000,000 in Nigeria, 100,000 in Chad, 56,500 in Cameroon; isolated populations in Sudan and Eritrea</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
243. Karfa
1. A Kerifa
4. 800 (SIL 1973)
3. Nasarawa State, Akwanga LGA
5. Chadic: West sub-branch A: Ron group

Karim = Como–Karim

244. Kariya
1. A Kauyawa, Keriya
1. B Vinahә
1. C Wiha
2. C Lipkawa (see also Mburku)
3. Bauchi State, Darazo LGA. At Kariya Wuro, 30 S.E. of Ningi.
4. 2,200 (LA 1971); 3,000 (1977 Skinner)
5. Chadic: West sub-branch B: Bade–Warji major group: Warji group
6. Two dialects

Source(s) Blench (1986)

Refs.
Overview: Skinner (1977)

K сделает следующим

Kelah = K: see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zuksun cluster
Kelawa = Kar: see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zuksun cluster
Kem–Khana = dialect of Kana
Kenga = Kyenga
Kenkera = Kyan Kyar a dialect of Gwandara
Kente = dialect of Kpan
Kentin – dialect of Kuteb
Kentu – extinct dialect of Etkywan
Kere = Ziriya
Kerekere = Karekare
Keriwa = Karwa
Kerikeri = Kar: see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zuksun cluster
Keriya = Kariya
Kesari = dialect of Baan
Ketuen = Mbe
Kétu = dialect of Yoruba
Kdupaxa = Gava and Guduf: Guduf–Gava
Kajju = JJu
Kalela = Lela
Kerekore = Karekare
Karine = Kar: see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zuksun cluster
Khana = Kana

245. Kholok
2. A Kode, Koode, Kwoode, Widala, Pia, Wurkum, Pitiko
3. Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA, near Didango
4. 2,500 (1977 Voegelin & Voegelin)
5. Chadic: West sub-branch A: Bole–Ngas major group: Bole group

Source(s) Leger (1992)

Refs.
Sociolinguistics: Leger (2000)

Ki-balolo = Vono
Ki-bibo = Berom
Ki-bun = Berom
Ki-buo = Berom
Ki-bolo = Vono
Ki-byen = Berom
Ki-kuk = Cibak
Ki-la = Somyev
Ki-lb = Huba
Ki-linc = Kar: see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zuksun cluster
Kindo = Dijim: Dijim–Bwilim
Kiningu = Nu
Kinuka = Nu
Kinuku = Nu
246. Kiọng
2.B Akoiyang, Ìkàyọ̀n, Okoyong, Okonyong
3. Cross River State, Odukpani and Akamkpa LGAs
4. Spoken only by old people, younger generation speak Efik
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Upper
Cross group
Refs:
Wordlists: Amess (1917),

247. Kir–Balar
3. Bauchi State, Bauchi LGA
4. 360 (LA 1971) (Kir only)
5. No data. Chadic: West sub–branch B: Zaar group:
Boghom subgroup
*Kir
*Balar
2.C. Larbawa
4. 50 CAPRO (1995a)
Refs
Ethnographic: CAPRO (1995a)
Kir = Jiru
Kirawa – member of the Wandala cluster
Kirdi Mora = Mura: see the Wandala cluster
Kirfi = Giwo
Kiria (Fali of Kiria) – dialect of Kamwe
Kirifi = Giwo
Kirika = Nkoro: member of KOIN: see Ijo cluster
Kirika (Opu Kirika) = Nkoro

248. Kirikje
1.B
1.C
2.A Okrika
3. Rivers State, Okrika LGA
4. Okrika town
7. Rivers
Refs
Wordlist: Orupabo & Williamson (1980)
Grammars:
Ethnographic: Williamson (1962)
Kirikje – member of KOIN: see Ijo cluster
Kirikjir = Rop
Kirim = Como–Karim

249. Kirya–Konzol
2.C Fali
3. Adamawa State, Michika LGA.
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara sub–branch A: Bura–Higi
major group: Higi group
Source(s) Blench & Ndemsai (2007)
Refs:
Wordlist: Kraft (1981)
Ethnographic: Meek (1931)
Grammar: Blench & Ndemsai (2009)
*Kirya
1.B mya Kákirya
1.C ndá Kákiriyà pl. Kákiryà
2.C Fali of Kiriya
4. 7,000 est. 2007. Kirya 13 villages
*Konzol
1.B mya Kònzol
1.C ndá Kònzàl pl. Kònzàl
2.C Fali of Mijilu
4. 9000 est. 2007. Konzol 15 villages

250. Koenoem
1.A Kanam
3. Plateau State, Shendam LGA
4. 1,898 (1934 Ames); 3,000 (SIL)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Bole–Ngas major
group: A3
Sources: Blench (2016)
Refs
Wordlist: Blench (2016)
Grammars: Oparemi (2011)

251. Kofa – also Kota: Adamawa State, Song LGA,
    north of Belel road; a Chadic language of the Bura
group; linguistic status not certain but locally said to
    be a separate language
Source(s) Blench (1987)
Refs. Hoffmann (1971)

Kogi (Jarawan Kogi is a name used for several
language groups in the northwest of Plateau State,
    south of Bauchi State and adjacent areas of Taraba
State). see Badà; Jar cluster; a dialect group of Izere is
    also called Jarawan Kogi
252. Kohumono
1.B KoHumono
1.C BaHumono, sg. Òhúmónò
2.A Ediba (under Ekurĩ (Thomas)
2.B Ekumuru, Ìkúmúrú, Ìkúmóró (Igbo name); Àtàm (Efid name)
3. Cross River State, Obubra LGA
4. 11,870 (1952)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Upper
Cross group: Central: North–South
Refs.
Wordlist: Cook (1969)
Grammar: Sterk (1976)

*KOIN (Kalaba–Orkika–Ịba–Nkoro) [see under individual languages]
3. Rivers State, Asari–Toru, Degema, Bonny, Okrika, and Port Harcourt LGAs
6. A cluster consisting of the closely related dialects Kalaba, Kịrịkẹ (Okrika) and Ịba and the isolated lect Nkoro

Kokura (Bura Kokura) – member of Tera Cluster
Kola – dialect of Longuda

253. Kolo cluster
2.A Ọgba, Ogbinya
3. Rivers State, Brass LGA
4. 100,000 (1987 UBS)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Central Delta
7. Rivers Readers Project Reader 1 (1971), Reading and Writing Book
8. First draft of New Testament complete
*Kolo
1.A Agholo
7. Primer 1950
Source(s)
Grammar: Isukul (n.d.)
*Oloibirii
7. Rivers Readers Project
Refs.
Grammar: Williamson (1972)
*Anyama
5. no data

Kolokuma – dialect of Izon: Ijo cluster
Koluama – dialect of Izon: Ijo cluster

254. Koma cluster
1.A Kuna, Koma (A Fulfulde cover term for the languages below; ALCAM treats them as separate though closely related languages)
3. Adamawa State, Ganye and Fufore LGAs, and the Alantika Mountains; also in Cameroon
4. 3,000 (1982 SIL); majority in Cameroon
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Vere Group
6. The correspondences between the Cameroonian and Nigerian names are uncertain
*Gomme
1.A Gomme
1.B Damti, Koma Kampana, Panbe
*Gomnome
1.A Gomnome
1.B Mbeya, Gimbe, Koma Kadam, Laame, Youtubo
*Ndera
2.B Vomni, Doome, Doobe
Source(s) Blench fieldnotes
Refs.
Ethnographic: Eboeime & Ekper (1988)

Koma Kadam = Gomnome: see the Koma cluster
Koma Kampana = Gomme: see the Koma cluster
Koma Ndera = Ndera: see the Koma cluster
Kowana – Tangale, Kwaami
Komo – dialect of Panseng
Komo = Basa–Kwomo: see the Basa cluster
Kona – member of Kororofo cluster
Kongo – dialect of Gbanyi

255. Kono
1.A Konu, Kwono
3. Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA
4. 1,550 (NAT 1949)
5. no data. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Eastern Kainji: Northern Jos group: Kauru subgroup
Refs.
Grammar: Babatunde (2011)

Kontagora (Basa Kontagora) – member of Basa cluster
Konu = Kono
Koode = Kholok
Kopti = Zari: see the Zari cluster
Koring = the Oring cluster
Koro – name used for a number of different ethnic and language groups in Kaduna State, Kachia LGA;
Nasarawa State, Keffi LGA; Niger State, Suleija and Chanchaga LGAs and in Federal Capital Territory.
See Tinor–Myamya,
Koro Ache – Begbere: see Begbere–Ejar
Koro Afiki = Koro Ija
Koro Agwe = Begbere–Ejar
Koro Ala = Ashe
Koro Funtu of Kafin Koro = Jijili
Koro Funtu of Koma = Kora
Koro Funtu of Kora = Kora
Koro Funtu of Yeskwa – thought to be Gwandara or Gbanyi speakers
Koro Ganagana = Dibo
Koro Gwandara of Wuse – dialect of Gwandara
Koro Huntu = Koro Funtu above
256. Koro Ija
4. One village
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Jili group
Source(s) Blench (1992, 1999)
Refs
Grammars: Obatoye (2011)

Koro of Lafia = Migili
Koro Makama – term for the Kagarko Koro: Ashe, the
Tinor-Myamya cluster
Koro Miamia = Ejar: see the Tinor-Myamya cluster
Koro Myamya = Ejar: see the Tinor-Myamya cluster
Koro Nulu = Koro Ija
Koro N’ja = Koro Ija
Koro Panda – a dialect of Nyankpa
Koro Phonare – speak Gbari
Koro Phoware of Abuja – speak Gbari?
Koro of Shakoyi = Jijili
Koro Waje – term used by the Koro Lafia to refer to
other Koro groups
Koro Zane – a general term for the Koro

257. Koro Zuba
4. One village
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Jili group
Source(s) Blench (1992)

Korom Boye = Kulere
Koron – see Koro

258. Körop
1.B Durop, Kurop
2.A Körop
2.C Ododop
3. Cross River State, Odukpani and Akamkpa LGAs;
and in Cameroon
4. 12,500 total (1982 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Upper
Cross group
Refs
Grammar: Kastelein (1994)

259. Kororofo cluster
2.A Jukun
4. more than 62,000 (SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Benue: Jukunoid: Central Jukunoid:
Jukun–Mbembe–Wurbo
Refs.
Comparative: Shimizu (1980)

*Abinsi
1.C Wapan
2.A River Jukun
3. Taraba State, Wukari LGA, at Sufa and Kwantan
Sufa; Benue State, Makurdi LGA, at Abinsi

*Wapan
1.B Wapan
2.A Wukari and Abinsi
3. Taraba State, Wukari LGA; Nasarawa State, Awe,
Shendam, Lafia and Langtang LGAs (precise areas
uncertain)
4. 60,000 (1973 SIL)
7. Primer 1915, primers 1–3 (recent), literacy
programme in progress
8. Bible translation in progress, Scripture portions
since 1914
Refs

*Hone
2.A Kona
3. Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA; Plateau State,
Wase LGA. Villages north and west of Jalingo
4. 2,000 (1977 Voegelin & Voegelin)
8. Mark 1927
Source(s)
Sociolinguistics: Dinslage & Storch 1996

*Dampar
3. Taraba State, Wukari LGA, at Dampar
Source(s) Blench (1984)

Kota = Kofa
Kotokori = Panda and Igu – dialects of Ebira
Kotopo (Also Potopo, Potopore, Pataporĩ North
Volta–Congo:
Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Leko group Formerly
Adamawa State, Ganye LGA; now all are in
Cameroon since the creation of Gashaka Reserve in
1974:
Koyam – dialect of Kanuri

260. Kpan
1.A Kpanten, Ikpan, Akpanzhi, Kpanzon, Abakan
2.B Kpwate, Hwayne, Hwaso, Nyatso, Nyonyo, Yorda,
Ibukwo
3. Taraba State, Wukari, Takum and Sardaunda LGAs
5. Benue–Congo: Benue: Jukunoid: Central Jukunoid:
Kpan–Icen group
6. Western and Eastern groups:
Western: 1 Kumbo–Takum Group: Kumbo
(Tkpanzon), Takum; 2 Donga (Akpanzhĩ; 3 Bissaula
(extinct) Eastern: Apa (per Kilham), Kente, Eregba
(per Koelle)
Refs.
Wordlist: Koelle (1854);

Kpanten = Kpan
Kpanzon = Kpan
261. Kpasam
1. A Passam, Kpasham
2. B Nyisam
3. Adamawa State, Numan LGA, 1 village only, South of Jalingo

Refs
Wordlist: Meek (1931)

Kpasham = Kpasam
Kpashan = Kafancan: see the Katab cluster
Kpomi – an extinct Grasslands language probably spoken by a Cameroon immigrant. Reported only by Meek ms.
Kporo = Nama: see the Mbembe Tigong cluster
Kpugbong – dialect group of South–Western Mumuye: Mumuye
Kpwee = Kpan
Kwwee – an unclassified blacksmith’s language near Mapeo. Blench 1983
Kuba = Kubi

262. Kubi
1. A Kuba
3. Bauchi State, Darazo LGA, 40 km. N.E. of Bauchi town
4. 1,090 (1922 Temple); 500 (1973 SIL)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Bole–Ngas major group: Bole group

Refs.
Wordlist: Gowers (1907);
Grammar: Schuh (1978)

Kuburi – dialect of Kanembu: Kanuri–Kanembu
Kuche = Rukuba
Kuda = Kudu: see the Kudu–Camo cluster

263. Kudu–Camo cluster
3. Bauchi State, Ningi LGA
4. Language moribund, perhaps extinct
6. 4 dialects in north, 3 in south, Ugbala, Mtezi and Mtezi–Iteeji in Anambra State, Abakaliki LGA
7. Primer in 5 parts, post–primer books drafted.

Refs.

Kuku see Cinda-Regi-Rogo-Kuki cluster
Kukulunj (Kükülunj) = Kulung
Kukum = Fer: see the Kagi–Jer–Kar–Koor–Ro–Us–Zuksun cluster
Kukuruku (not recommended) = Etsako = Yekhee

264. Kugama-Gengle
1. A Kugamma, Gengle
2. A Wegam
2. B Wegele
3. Adamawa State, Fufere LGA
4. Small
5. no data. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Mumuye–Yendang group: Yendang subgroup

Kugamma = Kugama-Gengle

265. Kugbo
3. Rivers State, Brass LGA
4. 2,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Central Delta group

Source(s)
Wordlist: Wolff (1969)

Kugong – dialect of Mumuye

266. Kukele
1. A Ukele, Ukelle
1. B Kukele
1. C Bakele
3. Cross River State, Ogoja LGA; Anambra State, Abakaliki LGA; Benue State, Okpokwu and Oju LGAs; and in Cameroon
4. 31,700 (1953); 40,000 (1980 UBS)
6. 4 dialects in north, 3 in south, Ugbala, Mtezi and Mtezi–Iteeji in Anambra State, Abakaliki LGA
7. Primer in 5 parts, post–primer books drafted.

Literacy programme in progress

Refs.
Comparative: Sterk (n.d.)

Kuki see Cinda-Regi-Rogo-Kuki cluster
Kukulunj (Kükülunj) = Kulung
Kukum = Fer: see the Kagi–Jer–Kar–Koor–Ro–Us–Zuksun cluster
Kukuruku (not recommended) = Etsako = Yekhee

267. Kulere
1. B Akande (Kamwai, Äkändi (Tof), Kande (Richa)
2. A Tof, Richa, Kamwai
2. B Korom Boye
3. Plateau State, Bokkos LGA
4. 6500 (1925 Meek); 4933 (1943 Ames); 8000 (1973 SIL)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Ron Group
6. Tof, Richa, Kamwai: the latter includes Marahai (Marhai)

Source(s) Seibert (2001)

Refs.
268. Kulu
1. A Ikolu, Ikulu
1. B Ankulu
1. C Bekulu
3. Kaduna State, Kachia LGA
4. 6,000 (NAT 1949)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Northwestern
Source(s) Shimizu (n.d.); Moser (n.d.)
Wordlists: Blench (2016)

269. Kulung
1. B Kükülüŋ
1. C Bákülűŋ
2. A Bambur, Wurkum
3. Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA, at Balasa, Bambur and Kirim; Wukari LGA, at Gada Mayo
4. 15,000 (SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantu: Jarawan Bantu
7. Primer 1924
8. Scripture portions from 1926 to 1950, Prayers and hymns 1926
10. Hausa is the main second language
11. Kulung is currently being passed to the next generation and being learned by neighbouring peoples in contact with the Kulung.
13. In: a survey in 2007, the very oldest generation included some who could read and write Kulung quite fluently, dating from the McBride era. However, this skill has not been passed on the present generation.
Source(s) Adelberger (2008)

270. Kulung (Chadic)
1. B Kulung [NB speakers consider themselves Kulung i.e. Jarawan Bantu, although their language is Chadic and related to Piya]
2. A Wurkum
3. Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA
4. 2000
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Bole–Ngas major group: Bole group
Source(s) Blench (2019)

271. Kumba
2. A Sate, Yofo
3. Adamawa State, Mayo Belwa LGA
Kumbo – dialect of Kpan
Kumbo = Kumbowei – dialect of Izoŋ: Ijo cluster
Kumbowei – dialect of Izoŋ: Ijo cluster
Kumbo–Takum – a dialect group of Kpan
Kunabe – dialect of Kuteb
Kun–Bille = Bile
Kunibum = Emai–Juleha–Ora
Kunini = Nye: member of Shoo–Minda–Nye
Kunshenu – see the Piya–Kwonci

272. Kupa
3. Kwara State, Kogi LGA, around Abugi (52 villages)
5. Benue–Congo: Nupoid: Nupe group
Source(s) Blench (1987)
Kupto = Kutto

273. Kurama
1. B Tikurumi
1. C Akurumi
2. B Bagwama (also refers to Ruma)
3. Kaduna State, Saminaka and Ikara LGAs; Kano State, Tudun Wada LGA
4. 11,300 (NAT 1949)
8. Scripture project in progress
Sources: Harley (2016)

274. Kuteb
1. A Kutev, Kutep
2. A Ati (Administrative name in Cameroun)
2. B Mbarike, Zumper (Jompre) (not recommended)
3. Taraba State, Takum LGA and in Cameroon, Furu Awa subdivision
4. 15,592 (1952 W&B); 30,000 (1986 UBS); 1400 in Cameroun (1976)
Kuta – dialect of Gbagyi

Kuma = Koma
Kumap = Amo
Kumap = Koma
Kup ⁵⁰ = Kutto
Kuri – dialect of Yedina
Kuru (Gyell–Kuru–Vwang) – dialect of Berom
Kuseki – dialect of Yandang
Kushe = Goji
Kushi = Goji
Kushi = Baushi
Kuta – dialect of Gbagyi

Ref
Kup ⁵⁰ = Kutto

Source(s) Rueck et al. (2007)
Comparative: Maddieson and Williamson (1975); Blench (2016)
Dictionary: Blench et al. (2016)
Ethnographic:

275. Kurum (Chadic)
1. B Kurum
2. A Wurkum
3. Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA
4. 2000
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Bole–Ngas major group: Bole group
Source(s) Blench (2019)

276. Kushe
3. Taraba State, Kachia LGA
4. 6,000 (NAT 1949)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Northwestern
Source(s) Shimizu (n.d.); Moser (n.d.)
Wordlists: Blench (2016)

277. Kushe
3. Taraba State, Kachia LGA
4. 6,000 (NAT 1949)
5. Benue–Congo: Northwestern
Source(s) Shimizu (n.d.); Moser (n.d.)
Wordlists: Blench (2016)
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6. Lissam, Fikyu, Jenitu, Kunabe, Kento: Fikyu has sub-dialects
7. Literacy programme in progress, dictionary in preparation, primers, folktales

Source(s): Koops (2016)

Refs.
Grammar: Koops (2007)
Ethnographic: Pfeffer (1929)

Kutep = Kuteb
Kutev = Kuteb

275. Kutto
1.A Kupto
1.B Kutó
1.C Kūtó
3. Bauchi State, Bajiga LGA, Yobe State, Gujba LGA
4. Two villages. 3000 (1990 est.)
5. Chadic: West sub-branch A: Bole–Ngas major group: Bole group

Source(s)

Refs.
Grammar: Leger (1990)
Ethnographic: Adelberger (2014)

Kụtụle = Tula
Kuturmi = Obiro, Ikryo
Kuukú – see Gurumun–Mbaaru
Kuvoko = the Lamang cluster
Kuvuri – dialect of Kanem: Kanuri–Kanem
Kuzamani = Shuwa–Zamani
Kwa = Baa
Kwa = Ekin: see the Ejaghah cluster
Kwaa Bwaare = Bacama: see the Bata cluster
Kwaa–Bwaare = Bacama: see the Bata cluster
Kwa’alan = Kwagallak: see the Pan cluster

276. Kwammi
1.A Kwami, Kwom
1.B Kwáamí
1.C Kwáamí
2.A Komawa
3. Bauchi State, Kwami LGA
4. 10,000 (1990)
5. Chadic: West sub-branch A: Bole–Ngas major group: Bole–Tangale group
6. Kafarati, Dolli

Source(s)

Refs.

Grammar: Leger (1994)
Ethnographic: Temple (1922); Adelberger (2014)

Kwabzak = Tal
Kwagallak – member of the Pan cluster
Kwaji – dialect of Mumuye
Kwakwi = Firan:
Kwal = Irigwe
Kwale = Ùkwuani: see the Ùkwuani–Abóh–Ndóni cluster
Kwali – dialect of Gbari
Kwälla = Kwagallak: see the Pan cluster
Kwami = Kwammi
Kwan = Irigwe
Kwange – dialect of Gbari
Kwanka = Vaghát cluster
Kwemp = Kópti: see the Zari; Zari cluster
Kwarra = Mámá
Kwasu – dialect of Ninzam
Kwato = Panda and Igu, dialects of Ebira
Kwayam = Köyam: see Kanuri
Kwaña Maya – Member of Katung Barebari clan.
Abraham (1962)
Kwojeffá = Bura
Kwoll = Irigwe
Kwolla = Kwagallak: see the Pan cluster
Kwom = Kwaami
Kwomo (Basa Kwomu) – Basa–Benue
Kwónci – Piya
Kwong = Doemak
Kwono = Kono
Kwoode = Widala
Kwóorkó – see Ajanci
Kwotto – Panda and Igu, dialects of Ebira
Kwény – member of the Hyam cluster

277. Kyak
1.B Kyãk
1.C Kyãk
2.A Bambuka
3. Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA, Bambuka
4. 10,000 (SIL)
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Bikwin group

Kyan Kyar – dialect of Gwandara
Kyá tô = Etyawan
Kyanton = Etyawan
278. Kyenga
1.B Kyangganya
1.C Kyanggani pl. Kyanggana
2.A Kenga, Tyenga
3. Niger State, Borgu LGA, north of Illo; also in
Benin and Niger Republics
4. five villages on Nigeria side which speak the
language; 7,591 (1925 Meek); 10,000 including
Shanga (1973 SIL)
5. Niger–Congo: Mande: Southeast Mande
Source(s)
Blench (1987)
Refs.
Wordlist: Bertho (1951)
Ethnographic: Nicholson (1927)

Kyentu = Kentu: see Icen
Kyibaku = Cibak

L.

Iaag Fyandigere = Gera
Laamang = Lamang
Laame = Gọmnọme: see the Koma cluster

279. Labir
1.A Lábìr
2.A Jaku, Jaaku
2.B Jakanci
3. Bauchi State, south of the Bauchi-Gombe Road,
from the Gongola River at Kanyallo, in Bauchi
LGA, to Gar in Alkaleri LGA
4. Spoken in around ten villages, perhaps 5000
speakers (2019 est.)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantu: Jarawan
11. Thriving
Source(s) Blench (2019)
Refs.
Overview: Shimizu (1983)
Survey: Rueck et al. (2009)

Lafia (Koro of Lafia) = Migili
Laka – group of Kamuku, west of Zaria, now
speaking only Hausa.

280. Laka
2.A Lau, Lao Habe
3. Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA, at Lau; Yola
LGA; and mainly in Cameroon
4. 460 (1952); 500 (1973 SIL)
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Mbum group

Laka – used both for the the Lala cluster and as a
cover term for Bena, Roba and other groups in
Adamawa State, Guyuk, Gombi and Song LGAs, not
all of which are clearly defined, e.g. Shere, Tenna:
Temple (1922)

281. Lala cluster
1.C ‘Bana
3. Adamawa State, Guyuk, Song and Gombi LGAs
4. 30,000 (SIL); 44,300 with ‘Bana (1963)
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Yungur group
*Yang
1.A Yan
2.B Lalla
Refs. Temple (1922: 255)
*Roba
2.A Gworam
*Ebode
1.A Ebode

Lalawa = Lela
Lalla = Yang: see the Lala cluster

282. Lamang cluster
1.C Ɓәna
3. Adamawa State, Guyuk, Song and Gombi LGAs

*Yang
1.A Yan
2.B Lalla
Refs. Temple (1922: 255)
*Roba
2.A Gworam
*Ebode
1.A Ebode

283. Lame cluster
3. Bauchi State, Toro LGA, Lame district
4. 2,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantu: Jarawan
Refs. Shimizu (1983)
Ruhu
1. A Rufu, Rùhû
2. C Rufawa
4. There were said to be no speakers remaining in 1987
Source(s) Blench (1987)

Mbaru
1. A Mbárù, Bambaro, Bambaro, Bambara, Bombaro, Bomborô, Bambaro
2. C Bomborawa, Bunborawa
4. 3500-4500 (CAPRO 1995a). Tulu town, Toro LGA, Bauchi State

Gura
1. B Tu–Gura
1. C sg. Ba–Gura, pl. Mo–Gura
2. B Agari, Agbiri

284. Lamja–Deŋsa–Tola cluster
1. C Lamjavu, Deŋsavu, Tolavu
3. Taraba State, Mayo Belwa LGAs
4. There are 13 villages of Lamja and Deŋsa. The central town of the Lamja is Ganglamja. The Deŋsa live south of the Lamja.
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Northern Bantoid: Dakoid
6. These dialects are intercomprehensible with each other. They may not be sufficiently distinct from the Samba Daka cluster (q.v.) to form a separate head-entry.
Source(s) Blench 1987

Refs.
Ethnographic: CAPRO (1995a)
*Gura
1. B Tu–Gura
1. C sg. Ba–Gura, pl. Mo–Gura
2. B Agari, Agbiri

285. Lam–Nsọ
1. A Lam–Nsaw, Lam–Nsọ
1. B Lam–Nsọ'
1. C Nsọ, Nsaw
3. Taraba State, Sarduana LGA, at Gembu and nearby towns; Takum LGA at Manya; mainly spoken in Cameroon
4. 125,000 in Cameroon (1987 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Southern Bantoid: Grasslands Bantu
7. Literacy programme in Cameroon

Refs:
Phonology: Anderson (2015)
Grammar: Grebe (1975, 1976); Ndzenyuy (1997); Mbiydzenyuy (1999)
Dictionary: Grebe et al. (2016)

Lao Habe = Laka
Lardang = Larr: offset of Mernyang: Pan cluster
Lare – dialect of Kanuri: Kanuri–Kanembu
Laro = Shen
Larr – see Mernyang: Pan cluster
Laru = Shen
Laruwa = Shen
Lataghwa = Guduf: Guduf–Gava
Lau = Laka
Laxaya (Ney Laxaya) = Gava: Guduf–Gava
lee Maghdi = Maghdi
LeeMak = Mak
Leekọ = Samba Leko

286. Leelâu
1. A Lelo
2. A Munga
4. One village and an associated hamlet
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Bikwin group
Source(s) Kleinewillinghöfer (1992)

Refs.
Ethnographic: CAPRO (1992)

Legbo
1. A Gbo
1. B Legbo
1. C Agbo
2. A Itigidi
2. B Igbo Imaban
3. Cross River State, Obubra LGA; Abia State, Afikpo LGA
4 18,500 (1963); 30,000 (1973 SIL)

Refs:
Grammar: Spreda & Spreda (1966); Bendor-Samuel & Spreda (1969); Hyman et al. (2002); Paster (2003); Hyman & Udoh (2006); Udoh (2007); Hyman (2009)

Legeri – member of the Vaghat cluster
Leko = Samba Leko
Lela = Lelna

288. cLela
1. B cLela (Clela, C–Lela), Lela
2. B Chilala Dakarci
2. C Lalawa, Dakarkari, Dakkarkari, Kalla–Kalla, Cala–Cala
3. Kebbi State, Zuru, Sakaba and Wasagu LGAs; Niger State, Rijau LGA. Around Zuru town
4. 47,000 (1949 G&C); 69,000 (1971 Welmers)
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Western Kainji: Northwestern
6. Zuru, Ribah
7. Reader, 1934, Primer, 1974
Source(s) Blench 1990; Regnier (1992);
Refs.
Ethnographic: Harris (1938);

Lelo = Leelçu

289. Lemoro
1.A Limorro
1.B Emoro
1.C Anemoro
2.A Anowuru
3. Plateau State, Bassa LGA; Bauchi State, Toro LGA
4. 2,950 (1936 HDG)
Refs
Wordlist: Shimizu (1979)

290. Lenyima
1.C Anyima
2.C Inyima
3. Cross River State, Obubra LGA

Lere – dialect of Kanuri: Kanuri–Kanembu

291. Lere cluster [†]
3. Bauchi State, Toro LGA
4. 765 (NAT 1949); 1,000 (1973 SIL); languages extinct
*Si
  1.C Rishuwa
  2.A Kuru
  2.B Kuzamani
*Gana [†]
4. Extinct
*Takaya [†]
2.B Taura
4. Extinct
Refs.
Wordlists: Gowers (1907); Shimizu (1982)

292. Leyigha
1.C Ayiga, Yigha
2.B Asiga
3. Cross River State, Obubra LGA
4. 3,150 (1953)
Refs
Comparative: Blench (2016)

Laghva = Zaladva: see the Lamang cluster
Libo=Kaan
Libyan Arabic – see Arabic cluster
Ligili = Migili
Ligri – member of the Jar cluster
Lijili = Migili
Lila = member of the Jar cluster

293. Limbum
1.B Limbum
1.C Wimbum
3. Taraba State, Sardauna LGA, Mambila uplands, mainly in Cameroon
4. few in Nigeria; 73,000 in Cameroon (1982 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Southern Bantoid: Grasslands Bantu
7. Literacy programme in Cameroon
8. Bible translation programme in Cameroon
Refs:
Phonology: Fiore (1987)

Limorro = Lemoro
Lindiri = Nungu
Likpawa = Mburku and Kariya
Lingga = Gava: Guduf–Gava
Lipedeke = Guduf: Guduf–Gava
Lisháù = Shau

Lissa – Taraba State, Takum LGA, around Bariki: Benue–Congo: Benue: Jukunoid: Yukuben–Kutep: possibly the same as Lissam
Source(s) Blench 1986) citing: P. Gray

Lissam – dialect of Kuteb

294. Lokaa
1.A Loka, Lokö
1.C Yaka, Yaka, Yakurr, Yakö
2.A Ugep
3. Cross River State, Obubra LGA
4. 38,200 (1953); 100,000 (1973 SIL)
6. Ugep, Nkam
Source(s)
Loko = Lokọ
Lokọ = Lokọ
Lokukoli = Nkukoli
Longo – in old Eastern Nigeria. Winston (1964–5)

295. Longuda
1.A Languda, Nunguda, Nungura, Nunguraba
1.B nyà núngúrá Guyuk, Nungurama Nyuar
1.C Núngúráyábá Guyuk, Núngùrábà Jessu, Lóngúrábá Kola
3. Adamawa State, Guyuk LGA; Gombe State, Balanga LGA
4. 13,700 (1952: Numan Division); 32,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Longuda group
6. Nya Guyuwa (Guyuk plains), Nya Ceriya (Banjiram=Cirimba/Gerembe hill), Nya Tariya (Kola=Taraba), Nya Dele (Jesu=Delebe), Nya Gwanda (Nyuar=Gwandaba)
7. Literacy programme in progress, Primer 1975 Folktales 1975
Source(s) Kleinewillinghöfer (1992)
Lóngúrábá = Longuda

296. Loo
1.B Shụ́ŋó
1.C Shú ̣ŋó – North, Shú ̣ŋó – South
4. 8,000 (1992 est.)
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Bikwin group
Source(s) Kleinewillinghöfer (1992)
Refs. Lopa = Rop, Tsupamini
Lopawa = Rop
Loro = Ribina: see the Jera cluster
Lotsu–Piri = Tsobo
Louome – dialect of Gbagyi

297. Lubila
1.C Kabila
2.B Ojor, Kabila, Kaibre, Kabire
3. Cross River State, Akamkpa LGA, at Ojo Nkomba, and Ojo Akangba
Refs Comparative: Blench (2016)

Lovi – dialect of Nzanyi
Lughva = Lәghva; a dialect of Zaladva: see the Lamang cluster
Lukshi = Lushi: see the Zeem cluster
Lukshi – member of the Das cluster
Lundur = Langas: see the Polci cluster
Lungu = Idun
Lupa = Rop
Luri = member of the Polci cluster
Lusa – dialect of Zaar: see the Guus-Zaar cluster
Lushi – member of the Zeem cluster
Luwa – dialect of Huba
Lyase, Lyase–ne = Gwamhi–Wuri

M.

298. Ma
1.B Ma sg. nụbá Ma pl.
1.C nyii Ma
2.A Kamo, Kamu
3. Gombe State, Kaltungo and Akko LGAs
4. 3000 (SIL)
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Waja group
7. Reading and Writing Book (2006)
8. NT extracts (2007)
Source(s) Kleinewillinghöfer (1991); Blench (2007)
Ma Giwo = Giwo
Maagwaram – west dialect of Bade

299. Maaka
1.A Magha, Maga, Maha
3. Yobe State, Gujba LGA. Gulani and Bara towns and associated hamlets. NE of Dadin Kowa Reservoir.
4. More than 4,000 (1990)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Bole–Ngas major group: Bole group
6. Two dialects; Maaka (at Gulani) and Maha (at Vara)
Source(s) Blench (1990);
Maás = Mangas
Mabas – see Vemgo–Mabas
Maci – member of the Iceve cluster
300. Mada
1. C Moda
2. B Yidda
3. Nasarawa State, Akwanga, Kokona and Keffi LGAs; Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA
4. 25,628 (1922 Temple); 15,145 (1934 Ames); 30,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Ninzic
7. Literacy work in progress

Ref.s.
Phonology: Price (1989)


Mada Eggon = Eggon
Madaka = Ndәkә
Madzarin – member of the Fali cluster

301. Mafa
1. A Mofa
2. C Matakan (not recommended)
3. Borno State, Gwoza LGA; mainly in Cameroon
4. 2,000 (1963), 136,000 in Cameroon (1982 SIL)
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara sub–branch A: Mandara/Mafa/Sukur major group: Mafa group: South
6. Mafa (Mofa) in Nigeria. Cameroon dialects divided into West, Central and Eastern.

Sources: Kosack (2000)

Ref.s.
Overview: Rossing (1978); Dieu and Renaud (1983);
Grammar: Eichenberger & Eichenberger (1978)
Ethnographic: Lavergne (1944, 1949); Hinderling (1969); Martin (1970); Müller-Kosack (2001)

Maga = Maaka
Magara – dialect of Nzanyi
Mamga = Maaka

302. Maghdi
1. B Mághdì
1. C Mághdì sg., lee Mághdì pl.
2. B Widala also applies to Kholok
3. Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA. A section of the Widala
4. less than 2,000 (1992)
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Bikwin group

Source(s) Kleinewillinghöfer (1992)

Magongo = Ọsayẹn: member of the Ọkọ–Eni–Ọsayẹn cluster
Magu = Mvaŋọ

303. Mak
1. B Mak
1. C LeeMak
2. A Panya, Panyam (From Poonya, the name of a founding hero) Zoo
3. Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA. 15 km. north of Karim Lamido town.
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Bikwin group
6. Panya, Zo

Source(s) Blench (1987); Kleinewillinghöfer (1992)

Makama (Koro–Makama) = Ashe, the Tinor-Myamya cluster
Makundi (Basa–Makurdī – see the Basa cluster

304. Mala
1. B Rumaya, Rumaiya
1. C Amala
3. Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA
4. 1,800 (NAT 1948)
5. no data. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Eastern Kainji: Northern Jos group: Kauru subgroup

Source(s) Blench (1986)

Malabu – dialect of Bata
Malen = Shagawu
Malgwa = Malgwa – member of the Wandala cluster
Malé – member of the Wandala cluster
Mama = Marhai

305. Mama
2. B Kwarra, Kantana
3. Nasarawa State, Akwanga LGA
4. 7,891 (1922 Temple); 6,155 (1934 Ames); 20,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantu: Jarawan

Source(s)

Mambere = Mambila: see Nor
Mambil = Nor
Mambilla = Nor
Mandara = Wandala
Mangi = dialect of Mumuye
Manga = dialect of Kanuri
Mangar = dialect of Daffo–Butura: see the Ron cluster

306. Mambila
1. B Ju Nori
1. C Nor
2. A Mambila, Mambil, Mambere
   4 18,000 (1952); 60,000 (1973 SIL); 10,000 in Cameroon
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Northern Bantoid: Mambiloid: Mambila
6. Almost every village has a separate dialect forming a dialect chain. Dialect centres are: Bang, Dorofi, Gembu, Hainari, Kabri, Mayo Ndaga, Mbamnga, Tamien, Warvar. At least four dialects in Cameroon.
Source(s) Blench 1983–1999); Connell (1994-1999)
Refs:
Phonology: Connell (2007)

307. Mangas
1.A Maás
3. Bauchi State, Bauchi LGA
4 180 (LA 1971)
5. no data. Chadic: West sub–branch B: Zaar group: Boghom subgroup
Mangu – dialect of Mwaghavul
Mao – dialect of Kanuri: Kanuri–Kanembu

308. Map
1.A Amon, Among
1.B Timap
1.C Kumap pl. Amap
2.B Ba
3. Plateau State, Bassa LGA; Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA
4. 3,550 (NAT 1950)
7. Three reading and writing books
11. Vigorous (Jirgi 2016)
Sources: Jirgi (2016)
Refs.
Grammar: Di Luzio (1972/3); Anderson (1980)

Manpan – part of Mwaghavul cluster
Mapeo – dialect of Samba Daka
Mapodi = Gude
Mapuda = Guđe
Marhai = a Kamwai dialect of Kulere
Marawa = Sholio: see the Katab cluster

309. Margi
1.A Marghi, Margyi
1.B Márgi
1.C Márgi
2. Borno State, Askira–Uba and Damboa LGAs; Adamawa State, Madagali, Mubi and Michika LGAs
3. For Margi, Margi South and Putai: 135,000 (1955); 200,000 (1987 UBS)
4. Chadic: Biu–Mandara sub–branch A: Bura–Higi major group: Bura group
5. Central: Margi babal = ‘Margi of the Plain’ around Lasa,
   Margi Dzŋọ = ‘Margi near the Hill’ around Gwàr; Mālgwí (Mulgwe, Molgheu); Wàrgà (Urga);
   South Margi is counted as a separate language and
   is more closely related to Huba
7. Pre–primer, primer in 3 parts, 1941
Refs.
Wordlist: Reutt & Kogan (1973); Kraft (1981)
Grammar: Hoffmann (1963); Wolff (1974–75);
Williams (1976); Tranel (1992-94)
Margi babal – dialect of Margi
Margi Dzŋọ – dialect of Margi
Margi Putai = Putai

310. Margi South
2.C Margi ti ntәm
3. Borno State, Askira–Uba LGA; Adamawa State, Mubi and Michika LGAs
4. For Margi, Margi South and Putai: 135,000 (1955)
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara sub–branch A: Bura–Higi major group: Bura group
6. Wamdui, Hildi
Margi of Minthla = Putai
Margi ti ntәm = Margi South
Margi West = Putai
Marhai = Marahai: a Kamwai dialect of Kulere
Maroa = Sholio: see the Katab cluster
Maruwa = Sholio: see the Katab cluster
Marwa = Sholio: see the Katab cluster

311. Mashi
3. Taraba State, near Takum
4. One village
5. Benue–Congo: South Bantoid: Beboid
Source(s) Koops (1971)
Matakam = Mafa
Matchi = Maci: see Iceeve cluster
Mavar = Mober: a dialect of Kanuri: see Kanuri–Kanembu

1 Hoffmann (1963) relates the language of Margi South to Huba rather than to Margi.
Máyá = Bali
Maya (Kwaya Maya) = Koyam – a dialect of Kanuri
Mayo Ndaga – a dialect of Nor
Mazgarwa = Bade
Mbaarù = Guruntum–Mbaaru
Mbadawa = Bada: see the Jar cluster
Mbamnga – a dialect of Nor
Mbamu – dialect of Eloyi
Mbaram = Baram: see the Polci cluster
Mbarike = Kuteb
Mbarmi = Zul: see the Polci cluster
Mbaru (Mbárù) = Guruntum–Mbaaru
Mbat = Bada: see the Jar cluster

312. Mbe
1.B Mbe
1.C Mbè
2.B Ketuen, Mbube (Western)
3. Cross River State, Ogoja LGA
4. 9,874 (1963); 14,300 (1973 SIL); 20-30,000 (2008 est.). Seven villages (Bansan, Benkpe, Egbe, Ikumtak, Idibi, Idum, Odajie)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Southern Bantoid: Ekoid-Mbe group
6. Idum, Ikumtale, Odaje
7. Orthography 1983;
Source(s) Paul Schroeder (2008)
Refs.
Grammar: Bamgboṣe (1966a,b; 1967)

Mbe Afal = Obe cluster
Mbeci – dialect of Eloyi
Mbem = Yamba

313. Membbe
2.B Okam, Oderiga, Wakande, Ifunubwa, Ekokoma, Ofunobwan (per Thomas)
3. Cross River State, Obubra and Ikom LGAs;
Anamba State, Abakaliki LGA
4. 35,600 (1953); 100,000 (1982 UBS)
Source(s) Koops (1990)
*Ashuku
1.A Ashaku
1.C Ákàtsàkpọ, Ákúcwọpú
2.B Kitsipki
*Nama
1.A Dama, Namu
1.B Kporo
2.B Nzare ‘I say so’; Eneeme

314. Mbembe Tigong cluster
1.C Noale
2.A Tigong, Tigun, Tugun, Tukun, Tigum
2.B Akonto, Nzare
3. Taraba State, Sardauna LGA; mainly in Cameroon
4. 2,900 in Nigeria (1973 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Southern Bantoid: Ekoid-Mbe group

315. Mboi cluster
1.A Mboire, Mboyi
3. Adamawa State, Song LGA
4. 3,200 (1973 SIL)
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Yungur group
*Gana
1.A Gona
2.A Mboire, Mboyi
3. Adamawa State, Song LGA, northwest of Song. Livo village and associated hamlets
4. 1,800 (LA 1971)
Source(s)
*Bang
3. Adamawa State, Song LGA, west of Loko. Banga village and associated hamlets
*Haanda
1.A Handa
3. Adamawa State, Song LGA, west of Loko. Handa village and associated hamlets
4. 1,370 (LA 1971)

Mboire = Mboi: see Mboi
Mbol = Bwol: the Pan cluster
Mbon = Itu Mbon Uzo

316. Mbọŋọ
1. A Bungnu
2. A Kamkam
3. Taraba State, Sardauna LGA, Kakara town
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Northern Bantoid: Mambiloid

Sources: Connell (1995);

Mboyi = Mboi: see the Mboi cluster
Mbube Eastern = Obe cluster
Mbube Western = the Mbe

317. Mбула cluster
3. Adamawa State, Numan, Shelleng and Song LGAs
4. 7,900 (1952); 25,000 (1972 Barrett); 23,447 (1977)
Blench: not clear as to whether for Mbula or both Mbula and Bwazza.
5. Benue–Congo: Bantu: Jarawan

Source(s) Blench (2008); Survey: Rueck et al 2009)

*Mbula
12. Radio broadcasts in Mbula
*Tambo
12. Radio and television broadcasts in Tambo *Bwazza

1. B Bwà Bwàzà pl. åbwàzà
1. C Bwàzà
2. A Bare, Bere [name of a town]
3. Adamawa State, Demsa, Numan, Shelleng and Song LGAs. Twenty-six villages.
6. No dialects
7. Reading and Writing Bwazza (2007)
8. Luke Gospel ready for printing, other scripture portions in draft
12. Jesus film

Mbuma = Bendeghe: see the Ejagham cluster
Mbirkanci = Mburku

318. Mбуρκu
1. A Barko, Barke
1. B Va Mvaran
2. B Mburkanci
2. C Burkunawa, Lipkawa (see also Kariya)
3. Bauchi State, Darazo LGA
4. 210 (1949–50); 4,000 (1977 Skinner)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch B: Warji group

Refs.
Comparative: Skinner (1977)

Mbute = Vute
Mbutere = Vute
Mbuozu (Itu Mbuozu) = Itu Mbon Uzo
Meeka – dialect of Mumuye
Megili = Mijili
Megong = Eggon
Mein – a north–western dialect of Ižon: Ijo cluster
Mendong–Mufons – Bauchi Province: Temple (1922)
Mernyang – member of the Pan cluster
Mesaka = Içeve
Mada = Mada
Mangang = Bolu: see the Geji cluster
Malgwa = Malgwa: a member of the Wandala cluster
M’algwi – dialect of Margi
Mongang (nyai Mangang) = Mingang Doso
Mgbakpa = Hausa
Mgbo – member of the Izi–Ezaa–Ikwo–Mgbo cluster
Mgbu = Akpo–Mgbu–Tolu – dialects of Ikwere
Mi (Vane Mi) = Miya
Miamia = Ejar: see the Tinor-Myanya cluster
Miango = Iriigwe
Migili = Mijili
Mijilu (Fali of Mijilu) – dialect of Kamwe
Mikiet – offset of Mernyang: see the Pan cluster
Minda = Shoo–Minda–Nye

319. Mingang Doso
1. A Munga
1. B nyai Mangàn
1. C Mingang Doso
2. A Doso
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Jen group

Source(s) Kleinewillinghöfer (1992)

*Mini = Abureni
Minna – South dialect of Kadara
Minna (Koro Funtu of Minna) = Ujjijili
Mirriam = Mernyang: see the Pan cluster

320. Miship
1. A Ship, Chip, Cip
3. Plateau State, Mangu and Shendam LGAs
4. 10,127 (Ames 1934), 6,000 (SIL)
5. Chadic: West A3
6. Longmara, Jiɓaam

Refs.
Wordlist: Jungraithmayr (1965)
Grammar: Mu’azu & Katwal (2010)

321. Miya
1. A Muya
1. C Vane Mi
2. C Miyawa
3. Bauchi State, Darazo LGA, Ganjuwa district. Miya town and associated hamlets
4. 5,200 (LA 1971)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch B: Warji group
7. Reading and Writing Book (2006)
8. NT extracts (2007)

Refs.
Comparative: Skinner (1977);
Dictionary: Schuh (n.d.)
Text: Townsend (1976)

Miyamiya = Ejar: see the Tinor-Myamya cluster
Miyango – a dialect of Irigwe
Miyawa = Miya

322. Min
1.B Tiimin
1.C Vʷinyi Min pl. Ayi Min
2.A Bauchi Guda, Kukoki (name of largest town)
3. Niger State, Rafi LGA, twenty-seven villages in eight chiefships
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: West: Baushi cluster

Source(s) Blench (2010)

Mo Egon = Eggon
Mo Gura = Gura: see Lame cluster
Mobber = Mober – a dialect of Kanuri
Merber – a dialect of Kanuri
Mocigin – a dialect of Guɗe
Mofa = Mafa
Mokar = Ga’anda
Molgheu – dialect of Margi

323. Mom Jango
1.B Mom Jango
2.A Vere (see also Momĩ, Were, Verre, Kobo (in Cameroon)
3. Adamawa State, Fufure LGA
4. 20,000 total (including Momĩ, 4,000 in Cameroon (1982 SIL)
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Vere group

Source(s) Blench (1987)

324. Momi
1.B Ziri
2.A Vere (this also includes Mom Jango, q.v.), Were, Verre, Kobo (in Cameroon)
3. Adamawa State, Yola and Fufure LGAs; and in Cameroon
4. 20,000 total (including Momĩ, 4,000 in Cameroon (1982 SIL)
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Vere group

Source(s) Blench (1986/7)

325. Mɔɔ
1.B ŋwaa Mɔ́ɔ̀
1.C yáá Mɔ̀ɔ̀
2.A Gwomo, Gwom, Gwomu, Gomu
3. Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Bikwin group

Source(s) Kleinewillinghöfer (1992)

Mora = Mura: see Wandala
Moroa = Sholio: see the Katab cluster
Morwa = Sholio: see the Katab cluster
Motchekin – a dialect of Guɗe
Movar – dialect of Kanuri: Kanuri–Kanembu
Muezi – a dialect of Kukele
Mtezi–Iteji – dialect of Kukele
Mubako = Mumbake
Mubi = Guɗe
Mubi (Fali of Mubĩ = Mucella (Fali of Mucella) – Fali cluster
Mucella (Fali of Mucella) – Fali cluster
Mudaye – a dialect of Guɗe
Mufons = Mendong–Mufons
Mulgwe – dialect of Margi
Mulyen – dialect of Bacama: see the Bata cluster

326. Mukta
1.A Mukta
3. Adamawa State
4. Mukta village

Source(s): Blench and Ndemsai (2007);

Refs:
Survey: Rueck et al. (2011)

Mumbake = Nyong

327. Mumuye cluster
3. Taraba State, Jalingo, Zing, Yorro and Mayo Belwa LGAs
4. 103,000 (1952); 400,000 (1980 UBS)
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Mumuye–Yendang group:
Mumuye subgroup
*North–Eastern Mumuye
1.A Zing group
3. Taraba State, Zing, Yorro and Mayo Belwa LGAs
6. Bajama (Gnoore) and Jeng, Zing (Zinna, Zeng) and Mang, Kwaji and Meeka, Yaa, also Yakoko (according to Meek)
7. Primer in Zinna before 1925, folk tales 1974
8. In: Zinna: Mark 1938, hymnbook before 1925
*South–Western Mumuye
3. Taraba State, Jalingo LGA
6. Monkin group: Kugong, Shaari, Sagbee; Kpugbong group: Kasaa, Yɔrɔ, Lankoviri (Lankaviri, Saawa, Nyaaja, and Jaalingo
7. Primer in 2 parts 1974 in Lankoviri
8. New Testament translation in progress
Source(s): Danu jama Gambo (p.c.)

Refs.
Comparative: Shimizu (1979)
Ethnographic: Meek (1931, I:446–531);

328. Mundat
3. Plateau State, Mangu LGA
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Ron group

Mundu: see Dulumi
Munga = Leelou
Munga = Mingang Doso
Munshi (not recommended) = Tiv
Mupun = Mwaghavul
Mura – a dialect of Wandala
Mushere = Cakfem–Mushere
Mutidi – a dialect of Nzanyi
Múin – see Jar cluster
Muya = Miya
Mvàn = Mvanip

329. Mvanip
1. C Mvanɔ
2. A Magu
3. Taraba State, Sardauna LGA. A single quarter of Zongo Ajiya town in the northwest of the Mambila Plateau.
4. 100 (Blench 1999)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Northern Bantoid:
Mambiloid: Mambila
Source: Blench & Connell (1999)
Refs:
Wordlist: Meek (1931)

Mvɔran (Vɔ Mvɔvran) = Mburku
nwa’ Dza = Dza

330. Mwaghavul cluster
*Mwaghavul
1. A Mwahavul
2. B Sura
2. C Sura
3. Plateau State, Barkin Ladi and Mangu LGAs
4. 20,000 (1952 W&B); 40,000 (1973 SIL); current informal estimates suggest around 200,000 speakers
7. Primers 1912, 1915, 1950s

Source(s) Jacob Bess, Raymond Dawum (2019)
Ref(s)
Orthography: Nyang et al. (2nd ed. 2019)
Grammar: Blench & Dawum (2019)
Historical: Dahip (2011)

*Mupun
1. A Mapan
Source(s) Blench (2012)
Ref(s)
Grammar: Frajzyngier (1993)

*Takas
1. A Toos
Source(s) Blench (2012)

Nama = see the Mbembe Tigong cluster
Namu = Nama: see the Mbembe Tigong cluster
Narabuna = Ribina: see the Jera cluster
Naraguta = Iguta
Nda Dia = Dadiya
Nda Zora = Izora
Ndaga = Mayo Ndaga: see Nor
Ndaghan = Ngoshe Ndhang: see Gvoko
Ndangshi – see Jar cluster
Ndara = Wandala cluster
Nde – a member of the Bakor cluster
Ndele – dialect of Ikwere
Ndem = Nnam: see Bakor
Ndera = Koma Ndera: see Koma
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>332. Ndәkә</th>
<th>335. Ndun-Nyeng-Shakara cluster</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.A Madaka</td>
<td>2A. Ahwai [recently adopted name for the three languages]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.B Tundәkә</td>
<td>*Ndun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.C Vundәkә pl. Andәka</td>
<td>1A. Nandu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: West: Baushi cluster</td>
<td>*Nyeng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Shena may be a dialect</td>
<td>1.B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Source(s)</strong> Blench (2010)</td>
<td>1.C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.A Ningon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10. Hausa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Shakara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.B iShákárá</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.C sg. kūShákárá pl. úShákárá</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.B Tari</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Kaduna State, a line of villages 7 km. due west of Mayir on the Fadan Karshe-Wamba road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Shakara 3000 (Blench est. 2003)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. Benue-Congo: Plateau: Ndunic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10. Hausa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Source(s)</strong> Blench (2003)</td>
<td><strong>Refs</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wordlist:</strong> Crabb (1965)</td>
<td><strong>Wordlists:</strong> Blench (2016)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Refs</strong></td>
<td><strong>Survey:</strong> xx</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>333. Ndoe cluster</th>
<th>*<em>333. a <em>Ekparabong</em></em></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3. Cross River State, Ikom LGA</td>
<td>1.A Akparabong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. 3,000 (1953)</td>
<td>3. Akparabong Town, Bendeghe Affi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ref</strong></td>
<td><strong>Wordlist:</strong> Dayrell (1911); Byström (1954)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
<th>333. b *Balep</th>
<th>333. b *Balep</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.B Ndoola</td>
<td>4. 400 (Blench 1999)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.A Njoyamɛ (in Cameroon)</td>
<td><strong>Source:</strong> Blench &amp; Connell (1999)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Taraba State, Sardauna and Gashaka LGAs; and in Cameroon (1 village only)</td>
<td>337. *Nembe–Akaha cluster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. 1169 (1952 W&amp;B); 10,000 total, 1,300 in Cameroon (1982 SIL); estimated more than 15,000 (1999)</td>
<td>2.A Brass–Ijọ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. At least 2 dialects</td>
<td>4. 71,500 (1977 Voegelin and Voegelin)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Source(s) Blench &amp; Connell (1990, 1999)</strong></td>
<td>*Nembe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Refs.</strong></td>
<td>1.A Nimbi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Survey:</strong> Dieu &amp; Renaud (1983)</td>
<td>1.C Nembe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ndoro = Ndoola</th>
<th>**2.A Brass, Nempe, Itebu (Cust 1883); (Nembe) Brass (Tepowa 1904); Nembe–Brass (Book of Common Prayer, 1957); Ijo (Nembe) (Bible, 1956); Brass–Nembe–Ijaw (Rowlands, 1960); Nembe–Ijo (Alagoa, 1967). Brass is the older term giving way to Nembe, the speakers’ own name.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Rivers State, Brass LGA, Nembe, Okpoma and Tswana (Brass) towns and nearby villages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. 66,600 (1963)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
338. Ngambo

1. Gamo
2. Borno State, Fika LGA; Bauchi State, Darazo LGA, Darazo district and Dukku LGA, Nafada district
3. 17,800 (1952 W&B)
4. Chadic: West sub-branch A: Bole-Ngas major group: Bole group

References

- Grammar: Schuh (2005); Ibriszimow (2006); Grubic & Zimmermann (2011)
- Wordlists: Schuh (1975)

339. Ngas

1. A Nngas Ngas
2. B Kerang
3. Plateau State, Pankshin, Kanam and Langtang LGAs
4. 55,250 (1952 W&B)
5. Chadic: West A: 3
6. Hill and Plain
7. Reading and Writing book; Folktales (2) 1969; Trial Primer 1975
9. Hausa

References

- Phonology: Burquest (1971)
- Grammar: Ormsby (1913, 1913, 1914, 1914); Foulkes (1915); Burquest (1973); Jungraithmayr et al. (2016)
- Texts: Jungraithmayr (1964)
- References: Schuh (1981)
- Wordlists: Schuh (1975)

340. Ngwahyi

1. A Ngwaxi, Ngwoli
2. Borno State, Askira-Uba LGA
3. Damaturu LGA
4. 39,200 includes Bade and Duwai (1952 W&B); 25,000 Schuh (1972)
5. Chadic: West Branch B: Bade/Warji major group: Bade group
6. Hausa
7. Vigorous

References

- Wordlist: Kraft (1981)
- Ngweshe = Gvoko
- Ngwoli – a dialect of Nzanyi
- Ngizim – a dialect of Kanuri

341. Ngizim

1. A Ngezzim
2. Borno State, Damaturu LGA
3. Damaturu LGA
4. 39,200 includes Bade and Duwai (1952 W&B); 25,000 Schuh (1972)
5. Chadic: West Branch B: Bade/Warji major group: Bade group
6. Hausa

References

- Overview: Schuh (1981)
- Wordlists: Schuh (1975)

342. Nggmgbang

1. A Ribam
2. B
3. Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA
4. few villages (Ajaegbu et al. 2013)
5. no data. Benue-Congo: Kainji: Eastern Kainji: group A
6. Formerly listed as a dialect of Bishi, but is clearly a distinct language

References

- Ngo – dialect of Obolo
- Ngegho Ndaghang = Gvoko
Ngoshe Ndhang = Gvoko
Ngoshe Sama = Gvoko
Ngoshe – dialect of Glavda
Ngwa – dialect of Igbo

343. Ngwaba
2.C Gombi, Goba
3. Adamawa State, Gombi LGA, at Fachi and Gudumiya
4. less than 1000
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara sub–branch A: Bata group
Source(s) Blench (1987)

Ngwajum – dialect of Karekare
Ngwaxi = Ngghwayyi
Ngwәnci = Nwanci: see Kambari II
Ngwe = Hungwәryә
Ngweshe = Ngoshi: see Glavda
Ngweshe Ndaghhan = Gvoko
Ngweshe Ndhang = Gvoko
Ngwohi = Ngghwayyi
Ngwoi = Hungwәryә
Nidem = Nindem: see the Kanufi–Kaningkon–Nindem cluster
Nife = Nupe

344. Nigbo [†]
4. near Agameti on the Fadan Karshi-Wamba road.
5. Eastern Benue-Congo: Plateau: Alumic: probably close to Akpondu (q.v.)
10. Hausa
Sources: Kato (2003)
nii Bànjùŋ = Bangwinji
nii Dijì = Dijim: Dijim–Bwilim
Nimaltọ = Nyimatli: see the Tera cluster
Nimana = Numana: see the Numana–Nunku–Gbantu–Numba cluster
Nimbia = Gwandara–Bara: – dialect of Gwandara

345. Nincut
2.B Aboro
3. Kaduna State, ?? LGA. ca. 7 km. north of Fadan Karshe
4. 8 villages (5000 ? Blench 2003 est.)
10. Hausa
11. Threatened by switch to Hausa
Sources: Kato (2003)

Nindam = Nindem: see Ninkyop–Nindem cluster
Nindem – member of the Ninkyop–Nindem cluster
Ningawa = Ningi
Ningi – member of the Buta–Ningi cluster

346. Ninkyop–Nindem cluster
3. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Ninzic
10. Hausa
*Ninkyop
1.A Kaningkwom, Kaninkon
1.C Ninkyop, Ninkyob
4. 2,291 (1934)
7. Reading and Writing Books
Sources: Kadima (2001)
Refs
Wordlist: Blench (2016)
Phonology: Harley (2012)
Grammars: Abdulkadir (2011)
*Nindem
1.A Inidem, Nindam, Nidem

347. Ningye
1.B Ningye
1.C Ningye
1.A Ningeshe
4. <5000 (Blench 2003)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Ninzic
10. Hausa
Source(s) Blench (2003)
Refs
Wordlist: Blench (2016)

348. Ninka
2.A Sanga
3. Kaduna State, Sanga LGA
4. <5000
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Ninzic
10. Hausa
Source(s) Blench (2005)
Refs
Wordlist: Blench (2016)
349. Ninzo
1. A Ninzam, Ninzom
2. B Gbhu
3. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA; Nasarawa State, Akwanga LGA
4. 6,999 (1934 Ames); 35,000 (1973 SIL) 50,000 (Blench 2003)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Ninzic
6. Ámàr Ràndá, Ámàr Tìtá, Ancha (Ínchà), Kwásù (Ákízà), Sàmbè, Fadan Wate (Hátè)
7. Reading and Writing Book (199x)
8. New Testament
Source(s) Blench (2001);
Refs
Wordlist: Blench (2016)
Pedagogic: Enene (2001)

Niragu = Gbiri–Niragu
Niten = Aten
Njai = Nzanyi
Njanyi = Nzanyi
Njei = Nzanyi
Njɔyame = Ndoola
Njuku = Jukun
Njwande = Bitare
Nkafà – dialect of Kamwe
Nkari – dialect of Ibibio. Probably a separate language: but no firm data (Bruce Connell)
Nkm–Nkm – member of the Bakor cluster
Nki = Bokyi
Nkìm = Nkem
Nkìm – dialect of Mbe East: see the Mbe cluster

350. Nko
2. A Agyaga
3. Nasarawa State, Akwanga West LGA. Single village about 15 km southwest of Nunku, which is 20 km north of Akwanga
4. 1000 (2008 est.)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Ninzic: Mada cluster
Source: Blench & Kato (2008)
Wordlist: Blench (2016)

Nkokolle = Nkukoli

351. Nkọrọ
1. A Nkoro
1. B Kirika (autonym c.f. Opu Kirika for Kịrịkẹ)
3. Rivers State, Bonny LGA; Opu–Nkọrọ town and 11 villages
4. 20,000 (1963)
8. Part of the Book of Common Prayer (ms)
Refs.
Comparative: Harry (1989)

Nkum – dialect of Yala
Nkum – member of Bakor cluster
Nkum Akpambe – dialect of Yala
Nkwọi = Hungwọryọ
Nnakanyere (Samba Nnakanyere) – dialect of Samba Daka
Nnam – member of the Bakor cluster
Nnerigwe = Irigwẹ
Nngas = Ngas
nnwa’ Dzà = Dza
Noale = Mbembe Tigong cluster
Nokwu (Idoma Nokwu) = Alago
Nor–Khana – dialect of Kana
North (Arewa) = Hausa
North (Etung North) – a dialect of Ejagham
North (Idoma North) – a dialect of Idoma
North (Ivbie North) – see the Ivbie North–Okpela–Arhe cluster
North (Lamang North) = Zaladva: see the Lamang cluster
North–East Duguri: see the Jar cluster
North–Eastern Mumuye: see the Mumuye cluster
Nori (Ju Nori) = Mambila
Nsaw = Lam–Nsọ’
Nsele – member of the Nde–Nsele–Nta cluster: see Bakor
Nsit – dialect of Ibibio
Nsọ = Lam–Nsọ’
Nsụka = Nsukka – dialect of Igbo
Nsukka – dialect of Igbo
Nta – member of the Nde–Nsele–Nta cluster: see Bakor
Nteng (Jasikit) – 600: related to Kwagallak: see the Pan cluster: Gospel Recordings (1971)

353. Nu
1B Tinu
1C Binu pl. Anu
2. A Kimugu, Kinuka, Kinuku
3. Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA
4. 460 (NAT 1949); 500 (1973 SIL); 3000 (est. 2016).
About seven villages
5. Benue–Congo: Eastern Kainji: Northern Jos group: Kauru subgroup

Nkpam – dialect of Lokọọ
11. Vigorous
**Source:** Blench (2016)

**Refs:**
Wordlist: Blench (2016)

Nụbà Ma = Kamo
Nuadhu = Como–Karim

354. Numbu–Gbantu-Nunku–(Numana)–cluster
2. A Sanga [mistakenly applied to this cluster, but see entry under Ninka]
3. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA; Nasarawa State, Akwanga LGA
4. 11,000 (1922 Temple); 3,818 (1934 Ames); 15,000 (SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Ninzic

10. Hausa
*Numbu*
3. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA; Nasarawa State, Akwanga LGA
4. The main settlements of the Numbu are àzà Wúùn, Ambẹntɔ̀k, Anepwa, Akoshey, Amkpong, Gbancûn, Amfɔɔr and Adaŋgaŋ. There are likely to be several thousand speakers.

**Refs**
Wordlist: Blench (2016)

*Gbantu*
1. A Gwanto
3. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA; Nasarawa State, Akwanga LGA

*Nunku*
3. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA; Nasarawa State, Akwanga LGA
4.

6. Nunku has three sub-dialects, Nunku [spoken in Nunku and Ungwar Mallami], Nunkucu [in Nunkucu and Anku] and the speech of Nicok [Ungwar Jatau] and Ungwan Makama villages

**Refs**
Wordlist: Blench (2016)

*Numana*
1. A Nimana
3. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA; Nasarawa State, Akwanga LGA

4.

**Refs**
Wordlist: Blench (2016)

Numbu: part of the Numana–Nunku–Gwantu–Numbu cluster

Nungwar = Mada
Nunguda = Longuda
Nungura = Longuda
Nünűrű̀bà = Longuda
Nungurama = Longuda
Nünűrű̀yábà Nungura: see Longuda

Nunku – member of the Numana–Nunku–Gwantu–Numbu cluster

355. Nupe–Nupe Tako cluster
3. Niger State, Lavun, Mariga, Gbako, Agaie, and Lapai LGAs; Kwara State, Edu and Kogi LGAs; Federal Capital Territory; Kogi State, Bassa LGA. 4. 360,000 (1952); 1,000,000 (1987 UBS) may include closely related languages
5. Benue–Congo: Nupoid
6. Nupe (Central) has become the accepted literary form.

*Nupe (Central)*
1. A Nife, Nyffe, Anupe
1.B Nupe
1.C Nupe
2.A Nupe Central
2.B Ampeyi, Anupecwayi, Anuperi, Tappah, Takpa, Tappa, Nupenci, Nupencizi
2.C Anufawa, Nyffe
3. Niger State, Mariga, Gbako, Agaie, and Lapai LGAs; Kwara State, Edu and Kogi LGAs. Small but well established Nupe communities in Ibi (Taraba State) & Nasarawa State. Nupe was still spoken in Brazil at the end of the nineteenth century and Nupe was recorded in Cuba as Lucumu Tacua
4. 283,000 (1931 DF); estimated 1,000,000 (2000)
7. Primer 1905. Literacy program, Official orthography

**Refs:**
Comparative: Westermann (1927); Blench (1986, 1989a,b)

**Dictionary:** Banfield (1914, 1916)


Pedagogic: Crowther (1860); Baker (2005)

Sociolinguistics: Blench (1982); Jacob (1999);

**Ethnographic:** Nadel (1942); Blench (1984); Man et al (2003);

*Nupe Tako*
2.B Ibara
2.C Basa Nge
3. Kogi State, Bassa LGA, Kwara State
4. 19,100 (1931 DF)

**Source(s)** Blench (1992)

Nupenci = Nupe
Nupencizi = Nupe
Nwanci – dialect of Kambari II
nwi Nyé = Nye: member of the Shoo–Minda–Nye cluster
nwi Shóó = Shoo: member of the Shoo–Minda–Nye cluster
nya Ceriya = Longuda
nya Dele = Longuda
nya Gwanda = Longuda
nya Núngúrá = Longuda
nya Tariya = Longuda
Nyaa Báà = Baa
Nyaaja – dialect of Mumuye

356. Nyam
1.C Nyambolo
3. Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA, at Andami village
4. A single village
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Bole–Ngas major group: Bole–Tangale group

Source(s) Blench (1983, 1986); Leger (1990);

Refs
Grammar: Andreas et al. (2009); Andreas (2012)

Nyambolo = Nyam
Nyamzax = Langas: see the Polci cluster
nyan Wịyáù = Waja
Nyandang = Yandang
Nyanga nya Ba = Ba
Nyango = Irigwe

357. Nyankpa
1.B Nnakpka pl. Anaŋkpa
1.C Nyankpa
2.A Yasgua, Yeskwa
2.B Sarogbon [a greeting]
3. Nasarawa State, Kauru LGA; Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA
4. 13,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Koro:
6. Mbhwande=Ambofa [Bade dialect], Ambo Tem [Panda, Tattara, Buzi]. Tattara is said to be the ‘standard’ form of Yeskwa.
7. Reading and writing books
8. Bible translation in progress,
12. Radio broadcasts in Nasarawa State

Source(s) Kato (2003); Blench (2008, 2009)

Nyatso = Kpan
Nye – member of the Shoo–Minda–Nye cluster
Nyemathi = Nyimatli: see the Tera cluster
Nyffe = Nupe Central
nyi Tsó = Tsobo
Nyidu = Etkywan

358. Nyifon
2.C. Iordaa
3. Buruku LGA, Benue State
4. 1000 (CAPRO n.d. but probably 1990s)
5. No data. Said to be Jukunoid

Refs
Ethnographic: (CAPRO n.d.)

Nyikobe = Yukuben
Nyikuben = Yukuben
Nyimati – member of the Tera cluster
Nyimwom = Kam
Nyisam = Kpasam
nyiyo Dadiya = dadiya
Nyongnepa = Nyong

359. Nyong
1.A Nyọŋ
1.B Nyọŋ Nyanga
2.A Mumbake, Mubako
3. Adamawa State, Mayo Belwa LGA, West of Mayo Belwa town, Bingkola and five other villages
4. 10,000 (SIL)
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Leko group

Source(s) Blench (1987)

Refs
Wordlist: Meek (1931)

Nyonyo = Kpan
Nyọŋ Nyanga = Nyong
Nyọŋ npea = Nyong
Nyọŋ gvena = Nyong
Nyuar – dialect of Longuda
Nzangi = Nzanyi

360. Nzanyi
1.A Njanyi, Njai, Njei, Zany, Nzangi, Zani, Njeny, Jeng, Ngjen, Njeng,
1.B Wur Nzanyi
2.A Jenge, Jeng, Mzangyim, Kobochi, Kobotshi
4. 14,000 in Nigeria (1952), 9,000 in Cameroon.
5. Chadic: Bui–Mandara sub–branch A: Bata group
6. Paka, Rogede (Rigudee), Nggwoli, Hoode, Maiha, Magara, Dede, Mutidi; and Lovi in Cameroun

Source(s) Blench (1987, 1992)

Refs
Grammar: Benson (2014)

Nzare = Nama: see Mbembe Tigong
ŋwaa Mọ̀ò = Moo
ŋwai Mängàn = Mingang Doso
Ijwanci = Nwanci: a dialect of Kambari II
Oba – a dialect of Yoruba
Obani = Ihañi: member of KOIN: see Ijo cluster

361. Obanliku cluster
1.A Abanliku
3. Cross River State, Obudu LGA
4. 19,800 (1963); estimated 65,000 (Faraclas 1989)
5. BENÜE–Congo: Unclassified: Bendi
*Basang
1.A Básáu
*Bebi
Source(s)
*Bishiri
*Bisu
2.B Gayi
*Busi

362. Obe cluster
2.A Mbube Eastern (a geographical name); Ogberia
2.B Mbe Afal (by the Mbe)
5. BENÜE–Congo: Unclassified: Bendi
Refs. Otronyi et al 2009)
*Mbénéne
3. Cross River State, Obudu LGA
*Utwigwang
1.A Otugwang
3. Cross River State, Obudu LGA
*Okworogung
1.A Okorogung
3. Cross River State, Obudu LGA
*Ukwortung
1.A Okorotung, Okworotung
3. Cross River State, Obudu LGA

Obiaruku – dialect of Ìkwuanị: see Ìkwuanị–Aboh–Ndọnj
Obini = Abini: see the Agwagwune cluster
Ọbọ – dialect of Ikwere

363. Obiro
1.B sg. óbìrò pl. óbirò
1.C òbìrò
2.B West Kuturmi
3. Kaduna State, Kachia LGA
4. Antara village
5. BENÜE–Congo: Plateau: Northwestern group
Refs
Survey: Yoder et al. (2011)

Obolo = Iko (incorrectly)

364. Obolo
1.C Òbólò
2.A Andoni
3. Rivers State, Bonny LGA: western dialects; Akwa–Ibom State, Ikot–Abasi and Eket LGAs: eastern dialects
4. 22,400 (1944 F&J); 90,000 (1983 Aaron); 100,000 (Faraclas 1989)
5. BENÜE–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Lower Cross: West
6. From West to East: Ataba, Unyeada, Ngo, Okoroete, Ibot Obolo
Refs.

Oboso – dialect of Obe
Ọboțebe – dialect of Ìzọn: Ijo cluster
Obubra (Yala Obubra) – dialect of Yala

365. Obulom
1.A Abuloma
3. Rivers state, Okrika LGA, Abuloma town
5. BENÜE–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Central Delta

Ọbụsù – a dialect of Mbe East: see the Mbe cluster
Ochekwu – dialect of Idoma North
Ochekku = Ochewa: see the Iheje cluster

366. Ochichị
1.B Ochichị
1.C Ochichị
3. Rivers State, Etche LGA, towns of Ikwerengwo and Umuebulu
4. A few, language is moribund and speakers have switched to Echie
5. BENÜE–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Central Delta (closest relative is probably Obulom)
10. Echie
11. Moribund
Source(s) Williamson (2003)

Òdàjè – a dialect of Mbe West: see Mbe
Oderiga = Mbembe
Odim = Adim: see Agwagwune
Ododop = Kọrọp

367. Oqual
1.B Øqual
1.C Øqual
2.C Saka
3. Rivers State, Ahoada LGA
4. 8,400 (1963); 15,000 (1980 UBS)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Central Delta
6. Arughaunya, Adibom

Source(s)

Refs
Wordlist: Gardner (1975)

Grammar: Comson (1987); Madumere (2006); Kari (2007, 2009);

Odut – Listed in previous sources as a distinct Upper Cross language in Cross River State, Odukpani LGA. (F&J 1940) report 700 speakers but Barnwell (p.c.) found just 20 speakers in the 1970s living in a quarter of one town. The Odut are Mbembe speakers and there is no separate language.
Ofagbe – dialect of Isoko
Oferikpe – dialect of Mbembe
Ofonokpan – dialect of Mbembe
Omotomba – dialect of Mbembe
Ofunobwan = Mbembe
Ogutop = Bakor
Ogba = Ogbah

368. Ogbah
1. A Ogbah
3. Rivers State, Ahoada LGA
4. 22,750 (1940 F&J)
5. Benue–Congo: Igboid
6. Egnih (East Ogbah), South Ogbah, West Ogbah

Refs

Ogbakiri – dialect of Ikwere
Ogbe Ijo – South–Western dialect of Izon: Ijo cluster
Ogberia – dialect of Obe
Ogbia – see the Kolo cluster
Ogbinya – see the Kolo cluster

369. Ogbogolo
3. Rivers State, Ahoada LGA
4. One town only
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Central Delta

Source(s)

Ogboin – a north–western dialect of Izon: Ijo cluster

370. Ogbronuagum
2. A Bukuma
2. B Agum
3. Rivers State, Degema LGA
4. One town only, north of Buguma
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Central Delta

Refs
Grammar: Kari (2000)

Oge – member of the Akoko cluster
Ogoi = Baan
Ogoja = Nkem
Ogoni – group name for Kana, Gokana and Eleme, but sometimes used only for Kana, or Kana and Gokana. The term Kegboid has been proposed as an alternative.
Ogori – Oko: see the Oko–Eni–Osayen cluster
Ogu – dialect of Engenni
Ogugu – dialect of Igala
Ogulagha – a Western Delta dialect of Izon: Ijo cluster
Oguta – dialect of Igbo
Ohana – sub–dialect of Mbembe
Ojulu – dialect of Igbo
Ojakiri = next
Oiyakiri – a South–Central dialect of Izon: Ijo cluster
Qiramhi – dialect of Okpamheri
Ojirim – a dialect of Mbe East: see the Mbe cluster
Ojo – member of Akoko cluster
Ojor = Lubila
Ojù – dialect of Igede
Oká – dialect of Yoruba
Okam = Mbembe
Oke–Agbe – see the Arigidi cluster, Afa, Oge and Eshe
Okene – dialect of Ebira
Okii = Bokyi
Okirika = Kirike: member of KOIN: see Ijo cluster

371. Oko–Eni–Osayen cluster
3. Kwara State, Okene LGA
5. Benue–Congo: Oko–Eni–Osayen cluster

Refs. Elugbe (1980)

*Oko
1. A Uku, Oko
2. A Ogori (town name), Gori
4. 4,000 (1970??)

Refs
Wordlist: Jungraithmayr (1973)
Sociolinguistics: Adegbija (1993)

*Eni
4. 3,000 (1970??)

*Osayen
1. A Osanyin, Osayen
2.A Magongo (town name)
4. 3,000 (1970??)

372. Ọkọbo
3. Akwa–Ibom State, Okobo LGA
4. 11,200 (1945 F&J); 50,000
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Lower Cross:

Refs.
Comparative: Connell (1991)

Ọkọdị – member of the Inland Ịjọ cluster: see Ịjọ
Okolọba = Ịṣan: member of KOIN: see Ịjọ cluster
Ọkọm – dialect of Mbembe
Okonyong = Kiông
Okordia = Akịta: see Inland Ịjọ: Ịjọ cluster
Okoroete – dialect of Obolo
Okorogbana – dialect of Mbembe
Okorogung – member of the Obe cluster
Okoyong = Kiông
Ọkpamẹ (Yala Ọkpamẹ) – dialect of Yala Ogoja

373. Ọkpamheri
1.A Opameri
1.C Aduge (appears to be a town name)
3. Edo State, Akoko–Edo LGA, Kwara State, Oyi LGA
4 18,136 (1957 Bradbury); 30,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Edoid: North–Western Edoid: Southern
6. Ọkpamheri means ‘we are one’: Okulosho
(Okurousho), Western Okpamheri, Emhalhe (Emarle, Somorika, Semolika). Subdialects of Okulosho:
Ojirami (Eekunu), Dagbala (Dangbala), Oja (Oza), Makeke (Uuma), Oma. Subdialects of Western
Olpamheri: Ekpe, Bekuma, Lankpese (Lampese, Lankpeshi), Imoga (Imorga, Uma), Eko (Ekon, Ekor), Eye (spoken at Ikiran); Ikaran-Oke (Ikeram-Oke), Ebunn-Oke, Ikaran-Ele (Ikeran-Ele), Ebunn-Ugbo, Ikpesa, Igbo-Ola-Sale (Ugboshi-Sale), Aiyegunle (Oshi), Igbo-Ola-Oke (Ugboshi-Oke), Onumo (Onunu), Ogugu, Ogbe-Sale, Ogbe-Oke.

Refs.
Grammar: Oyebiyi (1986); Abiodun (1983); Ogunwale (1985)

374. Ọkpẹ
1.A Ukpẹ
3. Delta State, Okpe LGA
4. 8,722 (1957 Bradbury)
5. Benue–Congo: Edoid: South–Western Edoid
7. Reader 1967

Refs
Phonology: Hoffmann (1973); Pulleyblank (1986); Omamor (1988)

375. Ọkpẹ–Idesa–Akuku
3. Edo State, Akoko–Edo LGA
5. Benue–Congo: Edoid: North–Western Edoid: Southern
6. Ọkpẹ, Idesa, Akuku

Ökpełà = next Ökpella – member of the Ivbie North–Ökpella–Arhẹ cluster
Ọkpọọma (Yala Ökpọọma) – dialect of Yala Ogoja
Ökpotọ – member of the Orie cluster
Ökrika = Kiřike: a member of the KOIN cluster: see Ịjọ
Ọkuloma = Ịṣan: member of KOIN: see Ịjọ cluster
Ọkulọsho – dialect of Ọkpamheri
Ökundi – dialect of Bokyi
Ọkuni = Olulọmo: see Olulọmo–Ikọm
Ọkurosho = Olulọsho: see Ọkpamheri
Ọkwọrọgung – member of the Obe cluster
Ọkwọrọtung – member of the Obe cluster
Ọlọ = Ole – dialect of Isoko
Ole – dialect of Isoko
Olit = Macy: see Iceve cluster
Oliti = Macy: see Iceve cluster
Olodiama – dialect of Izọn: Ịjọ cluster
Oloibiri – member of the Kolo cluster

376. Ọlọma
3. Edo State, Akoko–Edo LGA
4. 353 (1957 Bradbury)
5. Benue–Congo: Edoid: North–Western Edoid: Southern

Refs.
Grammar: Elugbe and Schubert (1976)

Olomoro – dialect of Isoko
Ọlọ – a dialect of Igbo

377. Olulọmo–Ikọm cluster
2.A Òkùnì
3. Cross River State, Ikom LGA
4. 9,250 (1953)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Upper Cross: Central:
East–West

Refs.
Comparative: Blench (2016)
*Olulọmo
1.A Òlùlùmọ
4. 1,730 (1953); 5,000 (Faraclas 1989)
*Ikọm
4. 7,520 (1953); 25,000 (Faraclas 1989)

Ọmahγawana – dialect of Ikwere
Ọmerelu – dialect of Ikwere
Ọmuanwenu – dialect of Ikwere
Ọmudioga – dialect of Ikwere
Ọmugwana – dialect of Ikwere
Ọndo – dialect of Yoruba
Ọnịcha = next
Onitsha – dialect of Igbo
Onumu Egon = Eggon
Onyen – sub–dialect of Mbembe
Oohum = Yukuben
Opalo – dialect of Bacama: v the Bata cluster
Opameri = Okpamheri
Operemọ – a North–West Central dialect of Ịzọn: Ijọ cluster
Operemor = Operemọ
Opokuma – a clan speaking Kolokuma: see Ịzọn: Ijọ cluster
Oporoma – a South–East Central dialect of Ịzọn: Ijọ cluster
Oporoza – a Western Delta dialect of Ịzọn: Ijọ cluster
Ora – member of the Emai–Iuleha–Ora cluster
Ora – a dialect of Yoruba (Ajowa town)

378. Oring cluster
1.A Orri
1.B Koring
3. Benue State, Okpokwu LGA; Anambra State, Ishielu LGA
4. at least 25,000 (1952 RGA); 75,000 (Faraclas 1989)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Upper
Cross: Central: North–South

Refs
*Ufia
2.A Utonkon
3. Benue State, Okpokwu LGA
4. 12,300 (1952 RGA)
*Ufiom
1.A Effium
3. Benue State, Okpokwu LGA; Anambra State, Ishielu LGA
4. 3,000 (1952 RGA)
*Okpoto
3. Anambra State, Ishielu LGA
4. 6,350 (1952 RGA)

Orlu – dialect of Igbo
Oro = Ṙọ

379. Ṙọ
1.A Oron
1.B Ṙọ (Oro)
1.C Ṙọ (Oro)
3. Akwa–Ibom State, Oron LGA
4. 319,000 (1963 per Kuperus)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Lower
Cross:

Refs.
Comparative: Connell (1991)
Grammar: Simmons (1956, 1965); Kuperus (1978)

Orri = Oring cluster
Orum = Adim: see the Agwagwune cluster
Oruma – member of the Ịjọ Inland cluster: see Ịjọ
Osanga = Gusu: see Jere cluster
Osanyin = next
Osayen – member of the Ọkọ–Eni–Osayen cluster
Osholio = Sholio: see the Katab cluster
Oshùn = Ṙoshùn: a dialect of Yoruba
Osisi = Yumu: see the Kambari I cluster
Osokum – dialect of Bokyi
Osopong – dialect of Mbembe

380. Ṙọsọ
3. Edo State, Akoko–Edo LGA
4. 6,532 (1957 Bradbury)

Refs:
Comparative: Elugbe (1989)

Otabha – dialect of Abua
Otanga = Otank

381. Otank
1.A Utanga, Otanga
3. Cross River State, Obudu LGA; Benue State, Kwande LGA
4. 2,000 (1953 Bohannan); 2,500 (SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Southern Bantoid: Tivoid

Refs.
Survey: Rueck et al (2011)

Otabha – dialect of Abua
Otugwang = Utugwang: see the Obe cluster
Otọ = Ghotọ
Otukpo = Idoma Central
Otwa = Ghotuo
Ouled Suliman – member of the Arabic cluster
Ovande = Evant
Oviede = Edo (Binî)
Ovioba = Edo (Binî)
Owe – dialect of Yoruba
Owe – dialect of Isoko
Owere = next
Owerri – dialect of Igbo
Owhe = Owe: a dialect of Isoko
Owo – dialect of Yoruba
Owon Afà = Afa: see the Arigidi cluster
Oyede – dialect of Isoko
Oyin – member of the Akoko cluster
Ọyọ – dialect of Yoruba
Ozoro = next
Ozorọ – dialect of Isoko
Orogọ = Rogo
Ọshùn – a dialect of Yoruba
382. Pa’a
1. A Paha, Afa
2. B FuCaka
3. C sg. FuCiki, pl. Foni
4. B Pa’anci
5. C Fa’awa, Afa
6. Bauchi State, Ningi and Darazo LGAs
7. 8,500 (LA 1971); 20,000 (Skinner, 1977)
8. Chadic: West sub-branch B: Bade–Warji major group: Warji group

**Refs.**

**Grammar:** Jungraithmayr (1965/1966); Skinner (1977, 1979)

**Texts:** Skinner (1974)

**Ethnographic:** Temple (1922):

Pabir = Bura–Pabir
Paha = Pa’a
Paiem = Fyam
Paiiko – dialect of Gbari
Paka – dialect of Nzanyi: the Nzanyi cluster
Pakara = Cara
Pakaro – dialect of Karekare
Pala = Pa’a
Palci = next
Palsawa = Polci: see the Polci cluster

383. Pan cluster
1. C Kofyar
3. Plateau State, Shendam, Mangu and Lafia LGAs
4. 72,946 (1963)
5. Chadic: West sub-branch A: Bole–Ngas major group: A3

**Refs.**

Survey: Hon et al. (2014)

*Mernyang
1. A Mirriam
3. Plateau State, Shendam LGA
4. 16,739 (1963)
6. Larr/Lardang and Mikiet are said to be ‘offsets’ of Mernyang

**Refs.**

Temple (1922)

**Grammar:** Dotun (2011)

*Doemak
1. A Dәmak, Dimmuk
1. C Kofyar
2. A Kwong
3. Plateau State, Shendam LGA

**Refs.**

Wordlist: Netting (1967)

**Ethnographic:** Netting (1968)

*Tèŋ
1. A Teng
3. Plateau State, Qa’an Pan LGA

384. Pangseŋ
3. Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA
6. Pangseŋ, Komo, Jega

**Refs.**

Wordlist: Shimuzu (1979)

Pangu = Rin
Pani = Pana
Panseng = Pangseŋ
Panya = next
Panyam = Mak
Passam = Kpasham
Patani = Kabu: see Ìzọn: Ìjọ cluster
Patapori = Kotopo

Source(s)

*Kwagallak
1. A Kwa’alang
2. B Kwalla, Kwolla
3. Plateau State, Shendam LGA
4. 25,403 (1963)
6. Nteng (Jasikit)? no data

*Shindai
3. Plateau State, Qa’an Pan LGA, Namu District

no data

Panawa = Bujiyel: see the Jere cluster
Panbe = Gomme: see the Koma cluster
Panda – dialect of Ebira

*Patapori = Kotopo
385. Pe
1.A Pai
2.B Dalong
3. Plateau State, Pankshin LGA, in seven villages
4. 2,511 (1934 Ames); 2,000 (1973 SIL); 5000 (1996)
5. Benue–Congo: Tarokoid
Source(s) Blench 1996)
Refs
Wordlist: Blench (2016)

Peere = Kotopo
Péerò = Pero
Pela (Bura Pela) – dialect of Bura–Pabir
Pelu = Bolu: see the Geji cluster
Pem = Fyam
Pena = Pere
Pere = Kotopo

386. Pere
1.B Perema
1.C sg. Pena, pl. Pereba
2.A Wom (town name)
3. Adamawa State, Fufure LGA
4. Spoken in ten villages around Yadim: less than 4,000
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Leko group
Source(s) Blench 1985/7)
Refs
Wordlist: Blench (2000)
Pereba = next
Perema = Pere

387. Pero
1.A Walo
1.B Péerò
1.C sg. Péerò, pl. Pipéro
2.A Filiya [town name]
3. Gombe State, Shongom LGA, around Filiya. Three main villages; Gwandum, Gundale and Filiya.
4. 6,664 (1925 Meek); 20,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Bole–Ngas major group: Bole group
6. Dialects associated with three major settlements
7. Primer 1–4 (1931); Reading & Writing Book (2006)
8. Scripture portions & other literature 1936–40; Scripture portions in progress
Refs.
Dictionary: Frajzyngier (1985) includes a complete bibliography of publications in Pero.

Peski – dialect of Bana
Petel (Hoai Petel) = Tita
Polci = Polci

Phelá – dialect of Gbe
Pia = Kholok
Pia = Piya: member of Piya–Kwonci cluster
Piapun = Pyapung
Pidlimi – member of the Tera cluster

388. Pidgin
1A. Pijin
3. Spoken as a trade language widely throughout the southern states and in Sabon Garis of the northern states, also spoken as a first language by some people
5. Largely English vocabulary superimposed on West African–local grammatical structures
7. Used in newspaper columns, radio, and television.
8. Various Scripture portions, Catechism 1957
11. Vigorous
Refs
Grammar: Agheyisi (1971); Obilade (1976);
Sociolinguistics: Oloruntoba (1992); Deuber (2005);

Piika = next
Pikkà = Bole
Pipéro = Pero
Pipero = Pero
Pire = next
Piri = Tsobo
Piti = Bishi
Pitiko – see Piya–Kwonci cluster and Kholok
Pitti = Bishi

389. Piya–Kwonci cluster
1.A Pia
2.A Wurkum, Pitiko
3. Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA, near Didango
4. 2,500 (1977 Voegelin & Voegelin)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Bole–Ngas major group: Bole group
*Piya
1.A Pia
2.A Wurkum
Source(s)
*Kwonci
4. More than 4000 (1990)
6. Kunshenu
Source(s) Blench (1983, 1986); Leger (1990)

390. Polci cluster
2.C ‘Barawa, Palsawa
3. Bauchi State, Bauchi and Toro LGAs
4. 6,150 or more (1971)
5. Chadic: West branch B: Zaar group
*Zul
1.B Bi Zule
1.C Nya Zule pl. Man Zule
2.B Mbarmi, Barma
2.C Zulawa
3. Bauchi State, Bauchi and Toro LGAs
6. Zul is mutually comprehensible with Mbaram (next)
7. Reading & Writing Book (2006); Blench (2012)
Source(s): Davies (2011)

Refs
Wordlist: Cosper (1999)
Grammar: Blench (2014)
*Mbaram
1.A Barang, Mbaram
3. Bauchi State, Bauchi LGA
4. 250 CAPRO (1995a). One settlement only

Ethnographic: CAPRO (1995a)

*Dir
1.A Diir
4. ‘a few hundred’ (Caron 2005)
*Buli
1.A Balà
4. 600 (LA 1971), 4000 (CAPRO 1995a), ‘a few hundred’ (Caron 2005)

Ethnographic: CAPRO (1995a)

*Langas
1.B Nyamzax
2.A Lundur
4. 200 (LA 1971), ‘a few hundred’ (Caron 2005)
*Luri
1. Lûr
3. Bauchi State, Bauchi LGA
4. 30 (1973 SIL), 2 (Caron 2002)
5. Chadic: West; South Bauchi
10. Hausa, Langas
11. Moribund, probably extinct (2016). Nearly all the ethnic Luri have switched to speaking Hausa
Ref: Overview: Caron (2004)
*Polci
1.A Poso, Polshi, Pålci, Polci
4. 2,950 (LA 1971); 70,000 (Caron 2005)
Polshi = Polci
Pongo = Rin
Posà = Polci
Pte (Tili Pte) – dialect of Kamwe
Ptsakr = Kapsiki: see Kamwe
Puku = Kag: see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zuksun cluster
Purra = Bena

391. Putai
2.B Margi West
2.C Margi Putai = ‘West Margi’, Margi of Minthla
3. Borno State, Damboa LGA
4. Language dying out, but ethnic population large
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara sub-branch A: Bura–Higi major group: Bura group
Source(s)
Putukwam = the Obe cluster

392. Pyam
1.A Fyem, Pyem, Páiem, Fem, Pem
3. Plateau State, Jos, Barkin Ladi and Mangu LGAs
4. 7,700 (1952 W&B); 14,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Southeastern
11. Endangered
13. Android dictionary (Fleesin 2018)
Source(s) Blench (2004)
Refs: Fleesin (2018)
Orthography: PLDBTC (2018)
Pyapun = Pyapung

393. Pyapung
1A. Piapun, Pyapun
3. Plateau State, Shendam LGA
4. 5,167 [including ‘few hundred Tal speakers’ (Ames 1934); 10,000 (RMB est. 2016)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Bole–Ngas major
group: A3 : Talic
Sources: Blench (2016)
Refs
Wordlist: Blench (2016)
Pyem = Fyam

Q.
Qua = Ekin: see the Ejagham cluster

R.
Ra Báà = Baa
Raga – sub dialect of Abu: see the Jidda–Abu cluster
Randa (Amar Randa) – dialect of Ninzam

394. Rang
3. Taraba State, Zing LGA
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Mumuye–Yendang
group: Mumuye subgroup
Refs.
Overview: Shimizu (1979)
Rebina = Ribina: see the Jera cluster
Regi: see the Cinda-Regi-Rogo-Kuki cluster
Rendre = Nungu

395. Reshe
1.A Tsure Ja
1.B Tsoreshe
1.C BaReshe
2.B Gunganci
2.C Gungawa, Yaurawa
3. Kebbi State, Yauri LGA; Niger State, Borgu LGA
4. 15,000 (1931 G&C); 30,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Western Kainji; Lake
6. Birimi (South), Bɔmamadu (Northwest), Bapalame (Northeast). Harris (1930:321) claims a ‘secret dialect’ called Tsudalupe which = Bɔmamadu.
7. Seven readers prior to 1967;
8. Gospel of Mark; Life of Christ. Bible translation in progress
Source(s); Agamalafiya (2008)
Refs.
Grammar: Harris (1946)
Ethnographic: Harris (1930)

Rianga – 95 in Bauchi Emirate: Temple (1922: 339,430)
Ribah – dialect of Lela
Ribam = Ngmgbang
Riban = Ngmgbang
Ribaw – dialect of Bata
Ribina – member of the Jera cluster

396. Rigwe
1.A Arege, Iregwe
1.B ríg-é, Rigwe
1.C yirig*é pl. yirig*é
2.A Miango, Nyango, Kwal, Kwoll, Kwan
3. Bassa local government, Plateau State and Kauru local government, Kaduna State
4. 13,500 (HDG); 40,000 (1985 UBS)
6. Northern (Kwan), Southern (Miango)
7. Reading and Writing Iregwe (2006)
9. Complete grammar in progress (Blench & Gya)
10. Hausa
11. Not currently endangered
12. Some radio broadcasts in Plateau State; orthography used for texting and on Facebook
Source(s): Gya (2016)

Ref(s):
Grammars: Gya (2016)

Rim – dialect of Berom

397. Rin
1.A NB, despite the indigenous name, forms of Pangu are preferred by the community for publications purposes
1.B Tarî, Tarin
1.C sg. Bûrî, pl. Arî
2.A Arringeu, Pongu, Pongo, Pangu
3. Niger State, Rafi LGA, near Tegina
4. 3,675 (1949 HDG); >20,000 (1988)
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Western Kainji: Shiroro group
6. Awọọ is sometimes classed as a dialect of Rin, but there is every reason to think it is a distinct but vanishing language spoken by one Rin clan.
7. Reading and writing books.
8. Scripture portions
13. Literacy programme in progress since 2004
Source(s) Blench (1981, 1988); MacDonell (2012)
Refs.
Survey: Dettweiler (1992);

Rindiri = Rindre

398. Rindre
1.A Rendre, Rindiri, Lindiri
2.A Wamba, Nungu
3. Nasarawa State, Akwanga LGA
4. 10,000 (1972 Welmers); 25,000 (SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Ninzic
6. Rindre, Gudi
10. Hausa
Source(s) Kato (2008)

Rishuwa = Si: see the Lere cluster
Riyom = Rim: see Berom
Rigudec – a dialect of Nzanyi
Robe – member of Lala cluster
Ro Bambami = Agoi
Rogede – dialect of Nzanyi
Roma listed by Rowlands (1962); now speak Lela
Ron – Run, also used of Ron, Sha and Kulere as a group

399. Rop
1.A Lupa, Lopa
1.B Kirikjir
1.C Djiri
2.C Lopawa
3. Niger State, Borgu LGA, Kebbi State, Yauri LGA. At least six villages on the east shore of the Lake plus two others on the western shore.
4. 960 (NAT 1950); 5,000 (1992 est.)
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Western Kainji: Lake group
Source(s) Blench (1992); Blench & McGill (2011)

Refs
Wordlist: Blench & McGill (2011)

Ropp – dialect of Berom
RuBasa = Basa–Benue

400. Rubu
3. Niger State, Rafi LGA, Rubu town
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: West: Baushi cluster
Source(s) Gimba (2010); McGill (2012)

Rufawa = Šuhû: see the Lame cluster
Rufu = Šuhû: see the Lame cluster
Šuhû: see the Lame cluster
Rukuba = Che

401. Ruma
1.A Rurama
1.B Turuma
1.C Arumaruma
2.B Bagwama (also refers to Kurama)
3. Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA
4. 2,200 (NAT 1948)
Source(s) Blench (1981–2)

Rumada – name for settled former Fulɓe slaves, some speak Fulfulde, some Hausa
Rumadawa – name for settled former Fulɓe slaves, some speak Fulfulde, some Hausa
Rumaiya = Mala
Rumaya = Mala
Rumuji – dialect of Ikwere

402. Run cluster
1.A Ron
1.B Run
2.C Challâ, Cala, Chala, Challawa
3. Plateau State, Bokkos LGA
4. 13,120 (1934 Ames); 60,000 (1985 UBS)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Ron group
6. Bokkos and Daffo–Butura are more closely related than Sha
8. Bible translation in progress
Source(s)

Refs.
Comparative: Rabin (1982);
Ethnographic: Mohr (1960)

*S* Run Bokkos
1.B Lis ma Run
2.A Bokos
2.C Challâ, Cala
6. Bokkos, Baron
7. Primer 1 (1986)

Refs:

* Run Daffo–Butura
1.A Ron
1.B Alis I Run
2.A Batura
2.C Challâ
6. Daffa, Butura
7. Primer 1 (1986)

Refs:
* Manguna
3. Plateau State, Mangu LGA
* Mangar
3. Plateau State, Mangu LGA
* Sha
3. Plateau State, Mangu LGA
4. 500 (SIL); about 1,000 (1970 Jungraithmayr)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Ron group

Rurama = Ruma

S.

Saare – member of Hun–Saare cluster
Saawa – dialect of Mumuye
Sade – Sade, Bauchi State: Darazo LGA Ballard (1971)
Sagbee – dialect of Mumuye
Sago = Diriya
Saik – member of Hyam cluster
Saka = Ogünal

403. Sakun
1.B Sakun, Gemasakun
1.C Gómâ Sákün
2.A Sugur
2.B Adikummu Sukur
3. Adamawa State, Madgali LGA
4. 5,000 (1952); 10,000 (1973 SIL). Seven villages
Source(s) Blench (1991);

Refs.
Grammar: Thomas (2014)
Sociolinguistics: Thomas (2012)
Ethnographic: Sterner (1998)

Şâkwün (Gómâ Sâkwün) = Sakun
Sale = Rukuba
Salka – member of the Kambari I cluster
Sama = Samba Leko or Samba Daka
Sama (Ngoshe Sama) = Gvoko
Samabu = Samba Daka
Samang = Shamang
Samba = Samba Leko or Samba Daka

### 404. Samba Daka cluster

1. A Chamba–Daka, Samba, Chamba, Tchamba, Tsamba, Jama, Daka
1. B Sama Mum
1. C Samabu
3. Taraba State, Ganye, Jalingo, Bali, Zing, and Mayo Belwa LGAs
4. 66,000 (1952); 60,000 (1982 SIL); more than 100,000 (1990)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Northern Bantoid: Dakoid
6. These dialects may form a dialect or language cluster together with Lamja & Taram (q.v.). It is not clear whether Dirim is another dialect or just a name for the Samba Daka.
8. Samba Daka: Mark 1933, OT Stories 1937

**Source(s)**
Blench (1987);
Classification: Boyd (1994, 1996-7)

**Grammar:** Boyd (2004)

**Dictionary:** Boyd & Sa’ad (2010)

*Samba Daka
*Samba Jangani
*Samba Nnakenyare
*Samba of Mapeo

Samba Leeko = Samba Leko

### 405. Samba Leko

1. A Chamba Leko, Samba Leeko
1. B Sama
1. C Samba
2. B Leko, Suntai
3. Taraba State, Ganye, Fufure, Wukari & Takum LGAs; mainly in Cameroon
4. 42,000 total (1972 SIL); 50,000 (1971 Welmers)

**Source(s)**
Gimba (2010)

### 406. Sambe

1. B Sambe
1. C Sambe
4. 2 (2005)
5. Benue-Congo: Plateau: Alumic
10. Ninzo
11. Moribund; some rememberers existed in 2005 but probably now extinct (2016)

**Source:** Blench & Kato (2005)

**Refs**

**Overview:** Blench (2015)

Sambuga – member of Shama–Sambuga cluster

### 407. Samburu

3. Niger State, Rafi LGA, Samburu town

5. no data

**Source(s)**
Gimba (2010)

Sanga = Numana–Nunku–Gwantu–Numbu cluster

### 408. Sanga

1. B Ajma Asanga
1. C Asanga
3. Bauchi State, Toro LGA, Lame district
4. 1,700 (NAT 1950); 5,000 (1973 SIL)

**Source(s)**

**Refs.**

**Comparative:** Elugbe (1989)

Sate = Kumba
Savi – dialect of Gbe
Saya = Zaar: the Guus-Zaar cluster
Sayanci = Zaar: Guus-Zaar cluster
Sayirr – Offset of Tarok or Zaar in the Guus-Zaar cluster? Temple (1922)
Schoa = Shuwa: member of the Arabic cluster Segiddi = Sigidi: see the Guus-Zaar cluster
Seimbiri – a north–western dialect of Ịzọn: Ịjọ cluster
Seiyara = Zaar: see the Guus-Zaar cluster
Selemo = Iṣekiri
Semolika = Ẹmhalhẹ
410. Shagawu
1. A Shagau
2. B Nafunfia, Maleni
3. Plateau State, Mangu LGA
4. 20,000 (SIL)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Ron group

Shaini = Sheni
Shakoyi (Koro of Shakoyĩ = Ujijili)

411. Shall–Zwall cluster
3. Bauchi State, Dass LGA
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Beromic
*Shall
*Zwall

Source(s) Usman (ined.)

Ref:
Wordlist: Blench (2016)

412. Shama–Sambuga cluster
1. B Tushama
1. C sg. Bushama, pl. Ushama
2. C Kamuku
3. Niger State, Rafi LGA;
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Western Kainji: Kamuku–Basa group

Source(s) Blench (1987); Regnier (1992)
*Shama
1. B Tushama
3. Niger State, Rafi LGA, Ushama [=Kawo] town. 15 km northwest of Kagara

Source(s) Blench (1987)
*Sambuga (†)
3. Niger State, Rafi LGA, Sambuga town. 10 km northwest of Kagara

Source(s) Regnier (1992)

413. Shamang
1. A Samban
1. B Shamang
1. C Samang
3. Kaduna State, Kachia and Jama’a LGAs
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Hyamic

Source(s) Blench (1981)

414. Shang
1. A Kushampa
1. B u-ʃaŋ pl. aʃaŋ
1. C jaŋ
3. Kaduna State, Kachia and Jama’a LGAs. The Shang live in two settlements, Kushampa A and B. Kushampa A is on the road between Kurmin Jibrin and Kubacha on the Jere road.
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Hyamic

Source(s) Blench (2009)

Ref:
Wordlist: Blench (2016)

415. Shanga
1. A Shonga
3. Kebbi State, Bagudo and Yauri LGAs
4. 10,000 including Kyenga (1973 SIL): language dying out
5. Niger–Congo: Mande: Southeast Mande

Source(s) Ross (n.d.)

Shani = Dera
Shani = Sheni

416. Shau
1. A Sho
1. B Lìsháù
3. Bauchi State, Toro LGA, villages of Shau and Mana
4. Almost extinct

Ref:

Ethnographic: Temple (1922);
Shaushau = Berom
Shede = Gude
Shekiri = Išekiri
Shellem – dialect of Dera

417. Shen
1. A Laro, Laru
2. C Laruwa
3. Niger State, Borgu LGA
4. 1,000 (1992 est.)
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Western Kainji: Kainji Lake group

Source(s) Blench (1992); Blench & McGill (2011)

Ref:
Wordlist: Blench (2016)

418. Shen–Ziriya–Kere cluster
*Sheni
1. A Shani, Shaini
1. B tiSeni
1. One person is named Seni, people are Seni
3. Kaduna State, Lere LGA. Two settlements, Sheni (N10° 22.6, E 8° 45.9) and Gurjiya (N10° 21.5, E 8° 45.2)
4. 6 fluent speakers remaining out of ethnic community of ca. 1500 (Blench 2003)

Source(s) Meek (ined.) Blench (2003)

*Kere [†]
3. Kaduna State, Lere LGA. Kere
4. extinct (Blench 2003)

Source(s) Blench (2003)

*Ziriya [†]
1. A Jiriya
3. Bauchi State: Toro LGA: Ziriya (N10° 22.6, E 8° 50)
4. extinct (ethnic community ca. 2000)
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Eastern Kainji: Northern Jos group c

Source(s) Blench (2003)


Shere – dialect of Izere
Shere – Lala
Shigokpna – dialect of Gbari

419. Shiki
2. A Gubi, Guba
2. C Gubawa
3. Bauchi State, Bauchi LGA
4. 300 (LA 1971)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantu: Jarawan

Refs.
Comparative: Shimizu (1982)

Shiffinagh = Tamajeq
Shingini = Cishingyini: see Kambari I
Ship = Miship
Shirawa – extinct Chadic language in the Katagum region

420. Shira [††]
1. A Shirawa
4. Shira town, Jigawa State, Keffin Hausa LGA; extinct
5. Chadic: West branch B: Bade group

Refs.
Classification: Broß (1996); Schuh (2001)

Shitako = Dibo
Sho = Shau
Sholio – member of the Katab cluster
Shomo = next
Shomoh = next
Shomong = Como–Karim

Shonga = Shanga
Shongom – dialect of Tangale

421. Shoo–Minda–Nye cluster
3. Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA
4. 10,000 (SIL)
6. May be related to Jessi spoken between Lau and Lankoviri

Source(s) Leger (1990); Kleinewillinghöfer (1992)


*Shoo
1. A Shóó
1. B dàŋ Shóó
1. C Nwii Shóó
2. C Banda, Bandawa

*Minda,
2. A Jinleri
*Nye
1. A Nyé
1. B Nyé
1. C Nwi Nyé
2. C Kunini

Shooa = Shuwa: member of the Arabic cluster
Shosho = Berom
Shua = next
Shuge = Shuwa: member of the Arabic cluster
Shűŋọ = Loo
Shuwa – member of the Arabic cluster

422. Shuwa–Zamani
3. Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA

Source(s) Blench (1986)

Si: see the Lere cluster
Sigidi = next
Sigidi – member of the Guus-Zaar cluster
Sine = Berom

423. Siri
1. B Siri
2. B Siryanci
3. Bauchi State, Darazo and Ningi LGAs
4. 2,000 (LA 1971); 3,000 (1977 Skinner)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch B: Bade–Warji major group: Warji group

Source(s) Blench (1986)

Siyanci = Siri
Skrubu = Srubu
Sobo = Isoko and Urhobo
Somorika = Ẹmhalhẹ
### 424. Somyɛv
2.A Kila, Zuzun
3. Taraba State, Sardauna LGA, (Blacksmiths’ dialect). Kila Yang village, 10 km. west of Mayo Ndaga. Also formerly spoken in Cameroun
4. 4 speakers (2006)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Northern Bantoid: Mambiloid: Mambila

**Source(s)**: Blench (1990); Connell (1996, 2006)

**Refs.** Meek (1931)

Songo = Burak
Sôougé = Shuwa: member of the Arabic cluster

### 425. Sorko [†]
2.A Bozo (not recommended)
2.B Sarkanci
2.C Sarkawa
3. Niger, Kwara & Kebbi States; fishermen on Lake Kainji
4. Most Sorko now speak only Hausa. Mainly in Mali
5. Niger–Congo: Mande: Central Mande

**Source(s)** Blench (1980)

**Refs**
Survey: Blecke & Blecke (1997)

**Grammar**: Lauschitzky (2007)

**Ethnographic**: Ligers (1964-1969)

South (Etung South): see the Ejagham cluster
South (Idoma South): see the Idoma cluster
South Ibyie = Etsako = Yẹkhee
South Khana – a dialect of Khana
South (Kariyorga South): see the Kariyorga cluster
South – see Margi South
South Ogbah – a dialect of Ogbah
South –West Duguri: see the Jar cluster
South–Western Mumuye: see the Mumuye cluster
Southern Zaria – a dialect area of Fulfulde
Srubu = Vori
Ssaare = Saare: member of Hun–Saare cluster
Standard: see Igbo; and Òṣọ̀n: Òjọ cluster
Subkulu a subgroup of Bena: Westermann and Bryan (1952)
Sudanese Arabic = Baggarar: member of the Arabic cluster
Sugudi = Sigidi: see the Guus-Zaar cluster
Sugur = Sakun
Sugurti – dialect of Kanem: Kanuri–Kanembu
Suliman (Uled Suliman) – member of the Arabic cluster
Sum – a dialect of Geruma
Sumbakina – dialect of Gbari
Suntai = Samba Leko
Supana = Hipina

### 426. Sur
1.A Suru, Tapshin
2.A Myet
3. Bauchi State, Dass LGA
4. Tapshin, Myet villages
5. Benue–Congo: Tarokoid

**Sources**: Blench (2004)

**Refs**
Wordlist: Blench (2016)

Sura = Mwaghavul
Suru = Tapshin
Surubu = Vori
Swabou – dialect of Tsobo
Tai = Tẹćę
Takas – dialect of Mwaghvul
Takat = Atakar: see the Katab cluster
Takaya – member of the Lere cluster
Tako (Nupe Tako) – see the Nupe–Nupe Tako cluster
Takpa = Nupe Central
Takum = Jukun of Takum and Donga
Takum – dialect of Kpan

### 427. Tal
1.B Amtul [=Hampul]
2.A Kwabzak
3. Plateau State, Pankshin LGA
4. 9,210 (1934 Ames); 10,000 (1973 SIL); 26,000 (2014 estimate). Live in 52 settlements
6. Six dialects recognised, although all are mutually intercomprehensible

**Source(s)** Bulkaam (2019)

**Dictionary**: Bulkaam & Blench (2018)

**Ethnographic**: Baklit (2014)

### 428. Tala
3. Bauchi State, Bauchi LGA, Zungur district
5. Chadic: West sub–branch B: Zaar group: Guruntum subgroup

### 429. Tamajeq
1.B Tamajeq; Tifinagh, Shifinagh script
1.C sg. Targi pl. Tuareg (Twareg)
2.C Buzu, Bugaje, Azbinawa
3. In: northern towns; mainly in the Republics of Niger, Algeria and Mali
4. Probably no settled rural populations in Nigeria;
360,000 total (Glover 1987)
5. Afrosiatic: Berber: Tuareg
7. A literary language with its own script.
8. Scripture translation in progress; portions 1986
430. Tambas
1. A Tembis
3. Plateau State, Mangu LGA
4. 3,000 (SIL)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Ron group

Tambo = Mbula–Bwazza
Tambu = Mbula–Bwazza
Tamién – a dialect of Nor

431. Tangale
1. A Tangle
1. B Táŋlɛ̀
2. A Billiri
3. Gombe State, Kaltungo, Alkaleri and Akko LGAs
4. 36,000 (1952 W&B); 100,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch A: Bole–Ngas major group: Bole–Tangale group
6. Ture, Kaltungo, Shongom, Billiri
9. Dictionary

Source(s)
Refs.
Classification: Takács (2000); Jungraithmayr (2014)
Phonology: Kidda-Awak (1993)
Grammar: Jungraithmayr (1956, 1971, 1995a,b); Kenstowicz (1985)
Dictionary: Jungraithmayr (1991)
Texts: Tadi (2013)
Historical: Harnischfeger (2002)
Ethnographic: Temple (1922: 347, 235, 430); Mohr (1960)

Tangle = Tangale
Tanijjili = Ujijili
Táŋlɛ̀ = Tangale
Tapa = Nupe Central
Tappah = Nupe Central
Taraba – dialect of Longuda
Tarakiri – two dialects of Êzon: Êjo cluster
Taram – dialect of Samba Daka
Targi = Tamajeq
Tari = Shakara, part of Nandu–Ningon-Shakara
Tariya = Cara
Tariya (nya Tariya) – dialect of Longuda

432. Tarok
1. B iTarok
2. B Appa, Yergam, Yergum
3. Plateau State, Langtang, Wase LGAs,
4. 68,000 (1971 Welmers); 140,000 (1985 UBS)
5. Benue–Congo: Benue: Tarokoid
6. iTarok (Plain Tarok), iZini (Hill Tarok), Solyar, iTarok Oga aSa, iGyang
7. Primer 1915, Primers and readers in 3 volumes (1988), literacy work in progress:

Source(s) Longtau, Blench (2012)

Refs.
Dictionary: Longtau & Blench (in prep.)
Texts: Bali (1985, 1987); Longtau (1997); Sibomana (1981/82c)
Sociolinguistic: Mamfa (1998)
Ethnographic: Fitzpatrick (1910/11); Banfa (1982); Smith & Smith (1990); Longtau (1991, 2007a, 2010); Famwang (1999); Anonymous (2000);
Taura = Takaya: see the Lere cluster
Tawari – dialect of Gbagyi
Tchade = Gude
Tchamba = Samba Daka
Tcheke = Gude

433. Teda
1. A Tubu, Kecherda, Daza
2. B iTeda
4. A few villages. Less than 2000 in Nigeria
5. Nilo–Saharan: Saharan
6. Teda has many dialects –Kecherda is spoken in Nigeria

Source(s)
Refs.
Overview: Chonai (1998); Cyffer (2000)
Phonology: Bougnol (1975)
Grammar: Jourdan (1935); Lukas (1953); Le Cœur & LeCoeur (1956); Abdoulaye (1985); Amani (1986); Alidou (1988); Wolff & Alidou (1989); Wolff (1991, 1992, 2011); Allanga (2013); Walters (2016)

Ethnographic: Walters & Hagar (2005)

434. Tẹẹ
1. A Tai
1. B Tẹ̀è
1. C Tẹ̀è
3. Rivers State, Tẹ̀è Local Government Area (TALGA)
4. 313,000 (2006)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Ogoni: West group

Source(s) Williamson (p.c.)

Refs.
Teel = Tel

435. Tel
1. A Teel, Tehl
2. A Baltap, Montoil, Montol
3. Plateau State, Shendam LGA
4. 13,386 (1934 Ames); 20,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Chadic: West sub-branch A: Bole–Ngas major group: A3

Refs.
Wordlist: Jungraithmayr (1965)

Temageri – dialect of Kanuri: Kanuri–Kanembu
Tembis = Tamba

436. Teme
1. A Temme
3. Adamawa State, Mayo Belwa and Fufure LGAs
5. no data. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Mumuye–Yendang group: Yendang subgroup

Temme = Teme
Ten = Aten
Tenna – Lala

437. Tep
3. Taraba State. Mambila Plateau
4. A single village and associated hamlets. <4000
5. Benue-Congo: North Bantoid: Mambiloid

Source: Connell (1998)
Ref(s):
Comparative: Blench (1993)

438. Tera cluster
3. Borno State, Biu LGA; Gombi State, Gombi LGA, Kwami district, Ako LGA, Yamaltu and Ako districts, Dukku LGA, Funakaye district
4. 46,000 (SIL); 50,000 (Newman 1970)
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara sub-branch A: Tera group

Refs.
*Nyimatli
1. A Yamaltu, Nimalto, Nyemathi
3. Gombe State, Ako, Gombe, Kwami, Funakai, Yamaltu LGAs; Borno State, Bayo LGA
6. Wuyo–Balbiya-Wade; Deba-Zambuk-Hina-Kalshingi-Kwadon [orthography based on this cluster]
Refs
Wordlist: Newman (1964); Mu’azu & Magaji (2014)
Phonology: Tench (2007)
*Pidlimdi
2. B Hinna, Hina, Ghana

3. Borno State, Biu LGA
Source(s) S. Lukas wordlist
*Bura Kokura
3. Borno State, Biu LGA

Terea = Cara
Teria = Cara
Terri = Cara

439. Teshena [†]
1. A Teshenawa
4. Teshena town, Jigawa State, Keffin Hausa LGA; extinct
5. Chadic: West branch B: Bade group

Refs
Temple (1922: 32 check)
Classification: Broß (1996); Schuh (2001)

Tәcәp = Sagamuk
Tә̃rә̃ = Rin
Tә̃sәgәmuk = Sagamuk
tFere = Fer: see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zusun cluster
Tghuade = Dghwedè

440. Tha
3. Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA and Adamawa State, Numan LGA. Joole Manga Didi village
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Bikwin-Jen group

Source(s)
Kleinewillinghöfer (1995); Nlabephee (2017)

Thәr – Adamawa State: Gombi LGA: north of Ga’anda; Tentatively Chadic: Biu Mandara branch A: Tera group. Said not to be the same as Ga’anda.
Blench (1987)
Thluufu – dialect of Bana
Tfere = Fer: see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zusun cluster

441. Tinɔr-Myamya cluster
1. A The peoples falling under the name Tinɔr-Myamya have no common name for themselves but refer to individual villages when speaking, apply noun-class prefixes to the stem. Hence the great multiplicity of names, none of which are authoritative. The name Begbere comes from

Tinɔr-Myamya
Bàgbwee, a Myamya village and Ejar from Ìzar (see 2.A). There has been a recent proposal to adopt the name DAWN for Koro as a whole.

2.A Begbere-Ejar. The Tinɔr-Myamya share a common ethnonym with the Ashe (q.v.) which is Uzar pl. Bazar for the people and Ìzar for the language. This name is the origin of the term Ejar.

2.C Koro Agwe, Agwere, Koro Makama

3. Kaduna State, Kagarko LGA
4. 35,000 including Ashe (1972 Barrett)
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Koro

10. Ashe, Hyam and Gbagyi are nearby languages often spoken by the Tinɔr. Hausa and English are known as languages of wider communication.

**Source(s)** Blench (1982, 2009);

**Refs:**

*Tinor*
1.A Waci
1.B iTinɔr
1.C uTinɔr pl. baTinɔr

2.C Waci [widely adopted name], Ala, Koron Ala, Koro Makama
4. Seven villages south and west of Kubacha. Uca, Uner, Usam, Marka, Pankoré, Útúr, Gêséberẽ

13. Preliminary work on an alphabet has begun

*Myamya*
2.C Koro Myamya = Miamia = Miyamiya
4. Three villages north and west of Kubacha. Úshɛ̀, Bāgàr [includes Kûràtǎm, Úcɛr and Bɔ̀dṹ] and Bāgbwee.

Tita – Taraba State, Jalingo LGA, at Hoai Petel: Benue–Congo: Benue: Jukunoid: Central Jukunoid: Wurbo. Meek m.s. (wordlist). The language can be identified as Jukunoid from Meek’s data, but I have been unable to identify the place or the people subsequently.

**442. Tiv**
1.A Tiv, Tivi
2.C Munshi (not recommended)
3. Benue State, Makurdi, Gwer, Gboko Kwande, Vandeikya and Katnsina Ala LGAs; Nasarawa State, Lafia LGA; Taraba State, Wukari, Takum, Bali LGA; and in Cameroon
4. 800,000 (1952); 1,500,000 (1980 UBS)
8. Scripture portions from 1916, New Testament 1942, Bible 1964, hymnbook, catechism, commentaries on parts of the Bible, other Christian literature
11. Vigorous

**Refs:**
Wordlists: Dayrell (1908)

**Dictionaries:** Malherbe (1934), Abraham (1940, 1968 [1940]), Terpstra (1968)

**Grammar:** Judd (1916, 1917); Abraham (1933); McCawley (1970); Jockers (1991); Voeltz (2005)

**Ethnographic:** Abraham (1940)

Tivi = Tiv
Tiya = Ya: see the Vaghat cluster
Tiyal = next
Tiyar = see the Cinda-Regi-Rogo-Kuki cluster
tjiir = Jiir: see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zuksun cluster
tKar = Kar: see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zuksun cluster
tKag = Kag: see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zuksun cluster
tmaKoor = Koor: see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zuksun cluster
Tochipo = Sagamuk
Tof = Kulere

tGanči – Hausa
Tohgwede = Dghwede
Tola – dialect of Samba Daka
Tolu: Akpo–Mgbu–Tolu – dialect of Ikwere: Igbo
Toni – dialect of Gwandara
Tourou = Xedi

**443. Toro**
1.C Tɔrɔ
2.A Turkwam
3. Nasarawa State, Akwanga LGA
4. 6,000 (1973 SIL). 2000 (Blench 1999). The Toro people live in one large village, Turkwam, some two km. southeast of Kanja on the Wamba-Fadan Karshi road
5. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Alumic

**Source:** Blench (1999)

**Refs**
Wordlist: Blench (2016)

Traude = Dghwede
Traude = Dghwede
tRor = Ror: see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zuksun cluster
Tsabe – dialect of Yoruba
Tsaganci = next
Tsagu = Ciwogai
Tsamba = Samba Daka
Tshekeri = Iṣẹkiri
Tsɨgaɗi – dialect of Kambari I
Tsɨkimba – dialect of Kambari II
Tsɨvaɗi – dialect of Kambari II
Tsɨwәnci – dialect of Kambari II

**444. Tsobo**
445. Tsupamini

1. A Lopa
2. B Lopanic
3. Nger State, Borgu LGA, Kebbi State, Yauri LGA.
   At least six villages on the east shore of the Lake plus two others on the west shore.
4. 960 (NAT 1950); 5,000 (1992 est.). Global estimate with Rop
6. Izere, Ibunu, Hausa
7. Threatened by switch to Hausa

Source(s)

Tuomọ – a North–West dialect of Ịzọn: Ịjọ cluster

446. Tula

1. A Ture
2. B yii Ki
3. Naba Kitule pl. Kitule
4. 19,209 (1952 W&B); 12,204 (1961–2 Jungraithmayr); 19,000 (1973 SIL). ca. 50 villages
   ?100,000 est.
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Waja group
6. Baule, Wangke [used for literacy development], Yiri
7. Reading and Writing Books (I, II) (1991, 2001); Folk Stories (2007);

Source(s)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Turuma</td>
<td>= Ruma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turumawa</td>
<td>= Etulo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tUs = Us</td>
<td>see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zuksun cluster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tushama</td>
<td>= Shama: Shama–Samburga cluster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tusundura</td>
<td>= Sundura</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tutumi</td>
<td>= Tumi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twareg</td>
<td>= Tamajeq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyab</td>
<td>= next</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**449. Tyap cluster**

1. A Kataf
2. Kaduna State, Kachia, Saminaka and Jema’a LGA
3. Tafawa–Bar浅–Juma cluster
4. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Central

*Tyap*
1. A Atyp, Tyab
2. B Tyap
3. C Atyp, Atyp, Katap
4. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA
5. estimate more than 130,000 (1990)
7. Bible Translation in Progress

*Gworok*
1. B Agwolok, Agwot, Gworog
2. A Agolok, Kagoro
3. Aguro
4. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA
5. 9,300 (NAT 1949)

**Ref**
Grammars: Adwiraah & Hagen (1983)
Dictionaries: Didam (1999)
Ethnographic: Tremearne (1912)

*Atakar*
1. A Atakat, Attaka, Attakar, Takat
2. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA
3. 5,000 (1950 HDG)
4. no data

*Sholio*
1. C Asholio, Asolio, Osholio, Aholio
2. B Marwa, Morwa, Moroa, Marawa, Maroa
3. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA
4. 5,700 (NAT 1949)
5. no data

*Kaciceere*
1. A Aticherak
2. B Daroro
3. Kaduna State, Kachia and Jema’a LGA
4. 700 (NAT 1949)
5. no data

*Kafancan*
1. A Fantuan, Kafanchan, Kpashan

**450. Ubahara cluster**

1. A Atyp, Tyab
2. Kaduna State, Kachia, Saminaka and Jema’a LGA
3. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Central

*Tyeng*
1. A Tyeng, Tyjen, Tunya
2. B Tyang, Tyeng, Tunya
3. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA
4. 9,700 (1934 HDG)
5. no data

*Biakpan*
1. A Biakpan
2. Kaduna State, Kachia and Jema’a LGA
3. 9,300 (NAT 1949)
5. Ikun

*Oun*
1. Oun
2. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA
3. 5,700 (NAT 1949)
4. no data

*Kafancan*
1. A Fantuan, Kafanchan, Kpashan

**451. Ubang**

1. B Ùbâŋ
2. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA
3. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Central

*Ubang*
1. B Ùbâŋ
2. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA
3. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Central

*Oun*
1. Oun
2. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA
3. 5,700 (NAT 1949)
4. no data

*Kaciceere*
1. A Aticherak
2. B Daroro
3. Kaduna State, Kachia and Jema’a LGA
4. 700 (NAT 1949)
5. no data

**452. Uda**

1. B Uda
2. Akwa Ibom State, Mbo LGA
3. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Central

*Uda*
1. B Uda
2. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA
3. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Central

*Oun*
1. Oun
2. Kaduna State, Jema’a LGA
3. 5,700 (NAT 1949)
4. no data

**Ref**
Comparative: Connell (1991)
Atlas of Nigerian Languages Edition IV. 2019

Udzo = Igbo
Ufe = Yoruba
Ufia – member of the Oring cluster
Ufim – member of the Oring cluster

453. Ugarә
2. B Binangeli, Messaka
3. Cassetta & Cassetta (1994) say ‘Probably 75–80% of Ugarә speakers live on the Cameroon side of the border, in the Akwaya subdivision of Cameroon’s Southwest Province. The Ugarә speakers who live in Nigeria are primarily in the Benue and Taraba States. There is also a large settlement of Ugarә speakers in the New Town Berumbe district of Kumba in Cameroon’s Southwest Province.’
4. 5000 (1994 est.)

Refs:
Grammar: Cassetta & Cassetta (1994a,b,c)

Ugbala – dialect of Kukele
Ugbem – member of the Ubaghara cluster
Ugee = Ugbe
Ugep = Lokәа

454. Uhami
2. B Isua
3. Ondo State, Akoko–South and Owo LGAs
4. 5,498 (1963)

Uhungwɔrɔ = Hungwɔrɔ
Uive = Iyive
Ujagbo – Bendel State, Agbazko LGA; dialect of Esan? Bradbury (1957)
Ujo = Igbo
Ujo = Ijo: Ijo cluster
Ukәа = Ukaan

455. Ukaan
1. A Ikәn, Ikani, Ikaan
1. B Ukәа, Ika
2. A Anyaran
2. B Aika (Acronym of town names but not widely accepted)
3. Ondo State, Akoko North LGA, towns of Kakumo–Aworo (Kakumo–Keji, Auga and Ise; Edo State, Akoko Edo LGA, towns of Kakumo–Akoko and Anyaran
5. Benue–Congo: Ukaan
6. Ishә, Ekakumo, Auga
Source: Salffner (2005)

Refs.

Ukanafun – dialect of Anaang
Ukele = Kukele
Ukelle = Kukele
Uki = Bokyi
Ukpe – see the Ukpe–Bayobiri cluster
Ukpe = Ukue

456. Ukpe–Bayobiri cluster
3. Cross River State, Obudu and Ikom LGAs
4. 12,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Unclassified: Bendi
*Ukpe
*Bayobiri

457. Ukpet–Ehom cluster
1. A Akpet–Ehom
3. Cross River State, Akamkpa LGA
*Ukpet
1. B Akpet
*Ehom
1. B Ubeteng
1. C Ebeteng

Ukpe = Okpe
Ukpilla = Okpela: member of the Ivbie North– Okpela–Arhe cluster
Uku = Qәә: see the Qәә–Eni–Qәәyen cluster

458. Ukue
2. A Ukpe, Ẹkpenmi
3. Ondo State, Akoko South LGA
4. 5,702 (1963)

Refs
Sociolinguistics: Oyebade & Agoyi (2004); Mordi & Opone (2009)

Ukwali = Ụkwuanị: see Ụkwuanị–Aboh–Ndәnị

459. Ukwa
3. Cross River State, Akampka LGA
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Lower Cross
Source(s) Connell (1991)

Ukwani = Ụkwuanị: see the Ụkwuanị–Aboh–Ndәnị cluster
Ukwese – Live among the Tiv

460. Ụkwuanị–Aboh–Ndәnị cluster
3. Delta State, Ndokwa LGA; Rivers State, Ahoada LGA
4. 150,000 (SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Igbooid: Ụkwuanị
*Ụkwuanị
1. A Ukwani, Ukwali, Kwale
2. Delta State, Ndokwa LGA
3. Delta State, Oshimili LGA
4. 25 villages
5. Benue–Congo: Defoid: unclassified Yoruboid language

461. Ulukwumi
1. A Ulukwumi
2. Delta State, Aniocha and Oshimili LGAs
3. Delta State, Ndokwa LGA
4. less than 10,000
5. Benue–Congo: Defoid: unclassified Yoruboid language

6. Utaaba, Emu, Abbi, Obiaruku
7. 1 Primer
*Aboh
1. A Eboh
3. Delta State, Ndokwa LGA
*Ndọnị
3. Rivers State, Ahouda LGA

8. Scripture portions 1895

462. Umon
1. C Amon
3. Cross River State, Akamkpa LGA
4. 25 villages
8. Scripture portions 1895

9. Umuahia – dialect of Igbo
Unege – Igbo

463. Uneme
1. A Uleme, Ileme, Ineme
3. Edo State, Etsako, Abazil and Akoko–Edo LGAs. The Uneme are a casted blacksmith group and live scattered among other language groups.
4. 6,000 (1952).
7. 1 primer

10. Umu – member of the Akoko cluster
Uro – member of the Akoko cluster
Uroovin = Vin: member of Fali cluster

464. Urhobo
1. A Sobo (not recommended) (See also Isoko)
2. C Biotu (See also Isoko)
3. Delta State, Ethiope and Ughelli LGAs
4. at least 173,000 (1952 REB); 340,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Edoid: South–Western Edoid
6. Several dialects, Agbarho accepted as standard.
Okpe and Uvbię, often regarded as dialects of Urhobo, are treated as distinct languages (q.v.) on purely linguistic grounds

465. Usaghade
1. A Usakade(t)
1. B Usaghade
2. A Isangele
3. Cross River State, Odukpani LGA; mainly in Cameroon, Isangele sub–division
4. estimate 10,000 (1990) although mostly in Cameroon
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Lower Cross

Source(s) Connell (1990)

Refs
Comparative: Kelly (1968)
Grammars: Welmers (1969); Blanc (1986); Aziza (1997); Iweh (1983)
Ethnographic: Hubbard (1951)
466. Uvbìẹ
1. A Uvwie, Evrie, Uvhria, Effurum, Effurun, Evhro (not recommended)
3. Delta State, Ethiope LGA
4. 6,000 (1952)
5. Benue–Congo: Edoid: South–Western Edoid

Uvbìẹ = Uvbìẹ
Uvbin = Vin: member of Fali cluster
Uvwie = Uvbìẹ
Uwepa–Uwnano – dialect of Etsako = Yèkhee
Uwet = Bakpinka
Uwọòkwù – dialect of Igodo

467. Uwu
1. A Ayere
3. Kwara State, Oyi LGA, Kabba District
5. Benue–Congo: Uwu–Ahan

Source(s) Choon (p.c.)

Uyanga = Doko–Uyanga
Uzairue – dialect of Etsako = Yèkhee

468. Uzekwe
1. A Ezekwe
3. Cross River State, Ogoja LGA
4. 5,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Cross River: Delta–Cross: Upper
Cross: Central: North–South

Uzere – dialect of Isoko
Uzo = Itu–Mbon–Uzo
Uzo = Baatonun
Uzo = Èzon: Èjọ cluster

469. Vaghat–Ya–Bijim–Legeri cluster
3. Plateau State, Mangu LGA; Bauchi State, Tafawa Balewa LGA
5. Benue–Congo: Uwu–Ahan

Source(s) Kwang

1. B Kwang
2. B Ti Vaghat
3. C sgy. Vaghat, pl. aVaghat
2. A Kadun, Kwanka
3. Plateau State, Mangu LGA; Bauchi State, Tafawa Balewa LGA

469. *Ya
1. B Tiya
1. C sgy. Ya, pl. a-Ya
2. A Boi
3. Bauchi State, Tafawa Balewa LGA. 10 villages 20 km. South of Tafawa Balewa
4. less than 5,000 (1990)

Source(s) Kwang

1. B Tiya
1. C sgy. Ya, pl. a-Ya
2. A Boi
3. Bauchi State, Tafawa Balewa LGA. 10 villages 20 km. South of Tafawa Balewa
4. less than 5,000 (1990)

Source(s) Kwang

Ethnographic: CAPRO (1995a)
469. *Bijim
3. Bauchi State, Tafawa Balewa LGA

470. Vemgo–Mabas

*Vemgo
3. Borno State, Gwoza LGA; Adamawa State, Michika LGA; and in Cameroon

Refs. Wolff (1971,1974); Dieu & Renaud (1983)

*Mabas
3. Adamawa State, Michika LGA. 10 km. S.E. of Madagali
4. A single village on the Nigeria/Cameroon frontier

471. Vono
1. B Kivɔnɔ
1. C Avɔnɔ
2. B Kibolo, Kiwollo, Kiballo
3. Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA

Source(s) Blench (1986)

472. Vori
1. B TiVori
1. C PiVori pl. AVori
2. B Fiti
2. A Srubu, Skrubu, Surubu, Zurubu
3. Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA
4. 1,950 (NAT 1948)

Source(s) Blench (2016)
473. Voro
1. A Vorɔ
1. B Ebɔna, Ebina
1. C Ben
2. A Woro
2. B Yungur
3. Adamawa State, Song and Guyuk LGAs, South of the Dumne road. Waltande and associated hamlets.
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Yungur group

Source(s) Blench (1987); Kleinwithstandinger (1992)

Voute = Vute
vuBaangi = Baangi: see the Kambari I cluster

474. Vute
1. A Bute, Mbute, Wute, Voute
1. C Mbutere
3. Taraba State, Sardauna LGA; northeast Mambila Plateau, but mainly in Cameroon
4. 1,000 or less in Nigeria; 30,000 in Cameroon (1985 EELC)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Northern Bantoid: Mambiloid
6. At least 6 dialects

Source(s)
Refs.
Grammars: Hofmeister (1918–1919); Guarisma (1978); Thwing (1987);
Historical: Seige (2002);

Vwong (Gyellant-Kuru-Vwong) – dialect group of Berom
Vwezhi – dialect of Gbagyi
Wa–Duku – a dialect of Bacama: see the Bata cluster
Wa–Gwamhi = next
Wa–Wuri = Gwamhi–Wuri
Wa’a = Dghwede
Wa Bambara = Agoi
Wadi – dialect of Bata
Waga – dialect of Gbumbagha: see the Lamang cluster
Wagga = Waja
Wagga = Waga: dialect of Gbumbagha: see the Lamang cluster
WaGoi = Agoi
Waha = Waga: see Lamang cluster, Lamang Central
Wahe – dialect of Gbari
Waja = Wijaa

475. Waka
3. Adamawa State, Fufure, Mayo Belwa LGAs
5. no data. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Mumuye–Yendang group: Yendang subgroup

Wakandbe = Mbembe
Wakane (Gwoza Wakane) – a dialect of Lamang
North: see the Lamang cluster
Wake = Kwange: refers to Gbari and Gbagyi

Wakirikẹ = Kikẹ: member of KOIN: see Ijo cluster
Wakura – cover term for several languages in the Michika LGA of Borno State. See Lamang, Glavda, Guduf
Walo = Peru
Wamba = Nungu
Wamdiu – dialect of Margi South

476. Wandala cluster
1. A Mandara, Ndarera
4. 19,300 in Nigeria (1970); 23,500 in Cameroon (1982 SIL)
8. Mark in Cameroon dialect 1967

*Wandala
1. C Wanda
2. A Mandara
4. Used as a vehicular language in this locality of Nigeria and Cameroon

*Mura
1. C Mura
2. A Mora, Kirdi Mora
3. Uncertain if this member of the cluster is spoken in Nigeria
4. An archaic form of Wandala spoken by non–Islamized populations

*Malga
1. C Malga
2. C Malgo, Gamargu, Gamergu
3. Borno State, Damboa, Gwoza and Konduga LGAs
4. 10,000 (TR 1970)
6. Gwanje
9.

Source(s)
Refs.
Overview: Dieu & Renaud (1983)
Wordlists: Klaproth (1826); Koenig (1839); Eguchi (1969)
Grammars: Eguchi (1969); Lohr (2002); Frajzyngier (2012)

Wandi – member of the Das cluster
Wangday = Wandi: see Das cluster
Wange – dialect of Tula
Wapan = Abinsi, Wapan: see Kororofo cluster
Wara = Akimba: see Kambari II cluster
477. Warji
1.B Sarzakwai, Sirzakwai
2.B Sar
2.C Sarawa
3. Bauchi State, Darazo LGA, Ganjuwa district, and Ningi LGA, Warji district; Jigawa State, Birnin Kudu LGA
4. 28,000 (LA 1971); 50,000 (Skinner, 1977)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch B: Bade–Warji major group: Warji group
6. Gala (?)

Refs.
Wordlist: Jungraithmayr (1967); Blench (n.d.)
Comparative: Skinner (1977);

Warri = Išekiri
Warwar – a dialect of Nor
Wase = Jukun of Wase: see the Jukun cluster
wasFer = Fer: see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zusun cluster
Wate (Fadan Wate) – dialect of Ninzam
Wau – see Jiir, Kar, Koor, Ror, Us and Zusun; in the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zusun cluster
Wawa – dialect of Busa
Wayam = Wãyã

478. Wãyã
1.A Wayam
1.B Tũwãyã
1.C Vũwãyã pl. Ãwãyã
3. Niger State, Rafi and Shiroro LGAs, Wayam town
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: West: Baushi cluster

Source(s) Blench (2001), McGill (2010)
Refs.
Temple (1922: 341, 518, 523); Gunn and Conant (1960: 63)

Wedu – Less than 1000 scattered among the Ngas;
Related to Tal. Gospel Recordings (1971)
Wegam = Kugama
Wegele = Gengle
Wêrê – dialect of Gbe
Weppa–Wano = Uwepa–Uwano: see Etsakô = Ye’khee
Were = Mom Jango
Were = Momi
West Gwari = Gbari
West Ogbah – a dialect of Ogbah
West (Idoma West) – a dialect of Idoma
West (Margi West) – a dialect of Putai
West (Mbe West) – a dialect of Mbe
Western Hausa – a dialect of Hausa
Western Olodiama – a dialect of Iżon: Ijo cluster
Western Okpamheri – a dialect of Okpamheri
Western Tarakiri – a dialect of Iżon: Ijo cluster
Western (Mbube Western) – a dialect of Mbe
Wi = Kwange: a dialect of Gbari
Widala = Kholok
Wiọ = Kariya

479. Wiyaa
1.A Wagga
1.B Nyan Wiyãù
1.C Wiyãà
2.A Waja
3. Gombe State, Balanga and Kaltungo LGAs, Waja district. Taraba State, Bali LGA.
4. 19,700 (1952 W&B); 50,000 (1992 est.)
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Waja group
6. Plain and Hills
7. Primer 1924; Reading and Writing Book (2006); Counting & Numbering (2006)

Source(s) Blench (1990, 2007)
Refs.
Comparative: Kleinewillinghöfer (1996a, c)
Phonology: Kleinewillinghöfer (1991)
Text: Kleinewillinghöfer (2014)
Ethnographic: Woodhouse (1923/1924);
Kleinewillinghöfer (1996b)
Kleinewillinghöfer (1989, 1990a,b)

Wiyãà = Waja
Wiyãù (nyan Wiyãù) = Waja
Wiyap = Jiiru
Woga = Waga: dialect of Ghumbagha: Lamang cluster
Wom = Pere
wooKag = Kag: see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zusun cluster
Worku – dialect of Igede
Woro = Voro
Worom = Berom
Wudufu – Bauchi State, Darazo LGA, related to Zumbun. Nitecki (1972); Gunn (1953). Probably Mburku

480. Wuri–Gwamhyã–Mba
1.A Gwamfi
2.B Banganci
2.C Lyase–ne Dãknu Bangawa for Gwamhi
3. Kebbi State, Wasagu LGA; Gwamhi around Danko town and Wuri around Maga town
4. Two peoples with one language
5. Benue–Congo: Kainji: Western Kainji: Northern Group

Source(s) Regnier (1992); Blench & McGill (2011)
Refs.
Wordlist: Rowlands (1962)
Wula – dialect of Kamwe
Wúlã – dialect of Bokyi
Wukari = Jukun of Wukari: see the Kororofo cluster
Wur Nzanyi = Nzanyi
Wurbo – a dialect of Central Jukun?
Wúrgà – dialect of Margi
Wurkum – see Jukun of Wurkum
Wurkum – ‘hill people’ a cover term used for the peoples of the Wurkum area, Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA. The term Wurkum is applied to the following groups Kyak, Banda, Kulung, Kwonci, Maghdi, Kholok, Mingang, Pero, Piya and Nyam. Several of these groups remain to be investigated.
Wutana = 1075 in Bauchi Emirate. Temple (1922: 367,431). No further information
Wute = Vute
Xәdkala = Hә́ɗkàlà: dialect of Ghumbagha: see the Lamang cluster
Xādi = Xedi
Ya – member of Vaghat cluster
Yaa – dialect of Mumuye
Yáá Mọ̀ò = Mọ̀
Yaat – member of Hyam cluster
481. Yace
1.A Yache, Yatye, Iyace
1.C Ekpari?
3. Cross River State, Ogoja LGA
4. 6,600 (1937 RGA); 10,000 (1982 UBS)
5. Benue–Congo: Idomoid
6. Alifokpa, Ijiegu
8. Gospel of Mark in print, 1980
Refs.
Wordlist: Armstrong (1979)
Yache = Yace
Yagba – dialect of Yoruba
Yaghwatadaxa = Guduf
Yaka = Lokọ
Yaka = Lokọ
Yakọ = Lokọ
Yakoko – a dialect of North–Eastern Mumuye: see the Mumuye cluster
Yakoro = Bekwarra
Yakurr = Lokọ
482. Yala
1.C Iyala
4. 25,650 (1952); 50,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Idomoid: Idoma
482.a*Yala Ikom
1.A Nkum
3. Cross River State, Ikom LGA
Refs. Armstrong (1968)
482.b *Yala Obubra
2.A Nkum Akpanbe
3. Cross River State, Obubra LGA
482.c *Yala Ogoja
3. Cross River State, Ogoja LGA
6. Yala Ọkpọ́ma (Central Yala) spoken in all hamlets comprising Ọkpọ́ma village; Yala Igbeeku spoken between Igbeeku Riko and Olokọ; Yala Ọkpọ́me, spoken in Ọkpọ́me, Yẹhẹ and Ebo.
8. Bible translation in progress, Mark 1975,
Refs.
Yamaltu = Nyimatli: see the Tera cluster
483. Yamba
1.C Yamba
2.B Mbm
2.C Kaka (not recommended)
3. Taraba State, Sardauna, Gashaka LGAs, Antere and other border villages; mainly spoken in Cameroon
4. few in Nigeria; 25,000 in Cameroon (1982 SIL)
5. Benue–Congo: Bantoid: Southern Bantoid: Grassfields; Mbam-Nkam; Nkambe cluster
Source(s) Blench (1990)
Refs.
Phonology: Scruggs (1980)
Grammar: Nzenge (2001)
Yamma (Gwari Gamma) = Gbari
Yan = Yang: see the Lala cluster
Yandang = Yendang
Yang – member of the Lala cluster
484. Yangkam
1.C Yanjkan
2.A Bashiri
2.C Basharawa
3. Plateau State, Langtang and Wase LGAs, Bashar town
4. [20,000 (1977 Voegelin and Voegelin)], N.B. All published population figures refer to the ethnic population. However, these groups now speak only Hausa. The likely number of speakers in 1996 was less than 400, all over 40 years of age.
5. Benue–Congo: Benue: Tarokoid
Source: Blench (1996)
Refs. Temple (1922: 503); Shimizu (1980a:1)
Yangur = Bena
Yasgua = Yeskwa
Yatye = Yace
Yaurawa = Reshe
Yauri – dialect of Reshe
Yawotatacha = next
Yawotataxa = next
Yaxmare = Gava: Guduf–Gava cluster
485. Yebu
1.B Yěbù
1.C Niín Yěbù
2.A Awok
3. Gombe State, Kaltungo LGA: 10 km northeast of Kaltungo
4. 2,035 (1962);
7. Reading and Writing Book (2007);
Source(s) Kleinewillinghöfer (1991); Blench (2008)
Refs. Jungraithmayr (1968); Kleinewillinghöfer (1998)

486. Yedina
1.A Yídә́nà
2.C Buduma
3. Borno State, islands of Lake Chad and mostly in Chad
4. 20,000 in Chad; 25,000 total (1987 SIL)
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara branch B: Yedina group
6. Yedina, Kuri (not in Nigeria)
Source(s) Survey: Talbot (1911)
Grammars: Gaudiche (1938), Lukas (1939), Awagana (2001)

487. Yékhee
1.B Yékhee: not all speakers of the language recognise this as the name of the language.
2.A Etsakọ: the language is not the only language listed as being spoken in Etsako LGA.
2.B Iyékhee, Afenmai, Kukuruku (not recommended)
3. Edo State, Etsako, Agbako and Okpebho LGAs
4. 73,500 (1952), 150,000 (UBS 1987)
5. Benue–Congo: Edoid: North–Central Edoid
6. Auchi, Uzairue, South Ivbie, Uwepa–Uwano, (Weppa–Wano), Avbianwu (Fugar), Avbiele, Ibidiadaobi
Overviews: Ezejideaku & Louis (2011)
Grammars: Strub (1915/16); Elimelech (1976);
Yele = Burak
Yendam = Yandang

488. Yendang
1.A Yendam, Yandang, Yundum, Nyandang
3. Adamawa State, Numan, Mayo Belwa, and Karim Lamido LGAs
4. 8,100 (1952); 10,000 (1973 SIL)
Source(s) Kato (2009); Boyd (p.c.)

489. Yoruba
1.A Yorouba, Yariba (Cust)
1.B Yorùbá
1.C Yorùbá
2.A Aku, Akusa, Eyagi, Nago
3. Most of Kwara, Lagos, Osun, Oyo, Ogun and Ondo States; western LGAs in Kogi State; and into Benin Republic and Togo. Yoruba is spoken as a ritual language in Cuba and Brazil
4. 5,100,000 (1952), 15,000,000 (UBS 1984)
5. Volta-Niger; Yoruboid; West
6. Many dialects: Afo, Akono, Amusigbo, Awori, Aworo, Bunu, Êgba, Egbado, Ékiti, Gbedde, Igboroma, Ika, Ife, Ifrì, Igbena, Ijebu, Ijesha (Ijọsha), Ijo Akpo, Ijumu, Ikale, Ìlajè, Òba, Ondo, Òra, Owe, Òwọ, Òyọ, Ìfẹ, Yagba. A partial and preliminary subgrouping is: Central, including Ìfẹ, Ijesha, Ekiti; North West, including Òṣùn, Ógbà, Òshùn; Okun, including Yagba, Gbédé, Òjúmá; South West, including Tsábìc and Kétu (both spoken in Benin and adjacent border areas of Kwara and Ogun States); South East, including Ondo, Òwọ, Ijebu, Ìkále, Ìlàjè and Ijú–Apóì
7. Much literature for over 100 years; Official Orthography
Sources: Blench (2017)

Refs.
Wordlists: Wilson (1849); Pott (1854); Rohlf's (1872); Person (1956); Fodor (1980)
Comparative: Olmsted (1953); Adetugbo (1967); Akinkugbe (1976); Capo (1989)
Dictionaries: Crowther (1852); Bowen (1858); Abraham (1958); Delano (1969); Laptukhin (1987);
Grammars: Church Missionary Society (1914); Crowther et al 1937; Jakovleva (1963); Oyelaran (1971); Awobuluyi (1978); Folarin (1987); Adewole (1995); Przedziecki (2005); Ajiboye (2006)
Sociolinguistics: Salami (1987)
Pedagogic: Ashiwaju (1968); Rowlands (1969); Schleicher (2008)
Ethnographic: Avezac (1845)

490. Yoti
I.A Yoti
3. Adamawa State, Numan LGA
5. Adamawa–Ubangi: Adamawa: Mumuye–Yendang subgroup
Source: Kato (2009)

Youtubó = Gómnmọme: see the Koma cluster

491. Yukuben
1.A Nyikuben, Nyikobe, Ayikiben, Yikuben
1.B Gerkanci, Gurka
2.B Uhum, Uuhum
2.C Uhum-Gigi in Cameroun
3. Taraba State, Takum LGA; and in Furu-Awa subdivision, Camerooun
4. 10,000 (1971 Welmers); 1,000 in Cameroun (1976)
Source: Renninson (2005)

Refs.
Overview: Shimizu (1980); Koops (1990); Breton (1993)

492. Ywom
1.A Yiworm
2.B Gerkanci, Gurka
2.C Gerkawa
3. Plateau State, Shendam and Langtang LGAs
4. 2,520 (Ames 1934); 8,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Chadic: West: Branch A3
7. Reading and Writing Books (2011, 2018)
Source(s) Ruth Pam (p.c.)
Refs.
Orthography: YLDBTC (2018)
Grammar: Jungrraithmayr (1965a); Kazeem (2011)
Ethnomusicology: Jungrraithmayr (1963)

Yukutare = Bitare

493. Zaar
1.A Za‘r, Zar
1.B Vik Zaar, Vigzar,
1.C Zaar pl. Zàrsë
2.B Sáyánci
2.C Básáyê pl. Sáyá:wá, Saya, Seiyara [Saya terms are now considered derogatory]
4. 50,000 (1971 Schneeberg); 50,000 (1973 SIL)
5. Chadic: West branch B: Zaar group
6. Kal, Gambar Leere, Lusa
8. NT extracts (2007)
Source(s)
Refs:
Vocabulary: Shimizu (1975)

Zabarma = next
Zabermawa = Zarma
Zaghvana = Dghweɗe
Zaksì – member of the Zari cluster
Zaladeva = next
Zaladva – member of the Lamang cluster
Zamani = Shuwa–Zamani
Zamfarawa – Western dialect of Hausa
Zana = Baatônun

494. Zangwal
3. Bauchi State, Bauchi LGA
5. no data. Chadic: West sub–branch B: Bade–Warji major group: Zaar group: Guruntum sub–group

Zany = Nzanyi: the Nzanyi cluster
Zar = next
Zar = Zaar: see Guus-Zaar cluster
Zaranda – member of the Geji cluster
Zarazon (Jos Zarazon) – dialect of Izere
Zarbarma = Zarma
Zarek = Izere
495. Zari cluster
2.C Barawa
3. Bauchi State, Toro and Tafawa Balewa LGAs; Plateau State, Jos LGA
5. Chadic: West branch B: Zaar group
*Zakshi
1.A Zakso
2. 2,950 (1950 HDG)
*Boto
1.A Boot
2.C Bibot
4. 1,000 (1950 HDG)
*Zari
2.A Kopti, Kwam

Zaria – dialect of Fulfulde

496. Zarma
1.A Zerma, Dyerma, Dyarma, Djerma
2.A Songhai
2.C Zabarma, Zarbarma, Zabermawa
3. Kebbi State, Argungu, Birnin Kebbi and Bunza LGAs; Niger State, villages between Mokwa and Kontagora; also in Republics of Benin, Burkina Faso and Niger
4. 12,400 (1931 W&B); 50,000 in Nigeria (1973 SIL), 1,495,000 in Niger (1986)
5. Nilo-Saharan: Songhai
9. Dictionaries:

Refs
Wordlist: Williamson (1967)

Dictionaries: Bernard & White-Kaba (1994)

Zauranchi – Hausa

497. Zeem-Caari-Danshe-Dyarim cluster
2.C Barawa
3. Bauchi State, Toro LGA
5. Chadic: West branch B: Zaar group
*Zeem [†]
4. Extinct (Caron 2005)
*Tule [†]
2.C Tulai
4. Extinct (Caron 2005)

Danshe
4. Extinct (Caron 2005)

1.B Chaari
4. ‘a few hundred’ speakers (Caron 2005)
*Dyarim
1.B one person Män Dyarim, people Dyarim
1.C Ndyarim Tö
2.A Kaiwari

3. Their main settlement is about 7 km. south of Toro town in Toro LGA (N10˚ 02, E 9˚ 04).
4. ca. 2000 ethnic Dyarim with a fraction speaking the language well, i.e. ca. 100. (Blench 2005 est.)
10. Hausa, Fulfulde, Izere, Tunzu, Loro
11. Threatened by switch to Hausa
Source(s) Blench (2003, 2005)
Refs

*?Lushi
1.A Lukshi
1.B Dokshi

Zendi dialect of Izere
Zeng = Zing – dialect of Mumuye
Zerma = Zarma
Zaladvo = Zaladvra: see Lamang cluster
Zhar – member of the Jar cluster

498. Zhire
2.B Kenyi
3. Kaduna State, Kachia and Jama’a LGAs
5. no data. Benue–Congo: Plateau: Hyamic
Sources: Blench (1982)

Zhuru = Jiru
Zhitako = Dibo
Zilivә = Zizilivakan
Zing – dialect of Mumuye
Zinna = Zing – dialect of North–Eastern Mumuye: Mumuye cluster
Ziri = Momi
Zitako = Dibo

499. Zizilivakan
1.B Zilivә
1.C ÀmZírív
2.A Fali of Jilbu
3. Adamawa State, Mubi LGA, Jilbu town; and in Cameroon
4. ‘a few hundred’ in Cameroon
5. Chadic: Biu–Mandara sub-branch A: Bata group
Source(s) Wade (1990)

Refs.
Survey: Dieu & Renaud (1983)

Zlogba – Dialect of west side of Mandara.
Westermann and Bryan (1952)
Zo = Mak
Zodi = Dot: see the Das cluster
Zogbeya = Kaima: see Busa cluster
Zolgbe = Kaima: see Busa cluster
Zomo – Less than 1000 south of the Cip language area. No trace of such a population in modern times.
Zoo = Mak
500. Zora
1. B izora
2. C uzora pl. azora
3. C Cikobu, Chokobo
4. Plateau State, Bassa LGA
5. 425 (1936 HDG), 19 speakers (March 2016); ten settlements close to N10° 21.7, E 8° 50.6. About 3-4000 ethnic Zora.
7. Hausa is the second language of the whole community and the first language of most of the population
8. Highly endangered; not actively spoken by the younger generation
Source(s) Blench (2003, 2016)

Refs
Wordlist: Blench (2015)

Zubakpna = dialect of Gbari

501. Zubazuba
1. B Gamazuba
3. Igwama, Mariga LGA, Niger State
Source(s) McGill (2012)

Zugweya = Kaima: see Busa cluster
Zul = member of the Polci cluster
Zulawa = Zul – member of the Polci cluster
Zumbul – member of the Das cluster

502. Zumbun
1. A Jimbin
2. B Zumbun
3. Bauchi State, Darazo LGA
4. 1,500 (LA 1971)
5. Chadic: West sub–branch B: Warji group
6. Wudufu (possible dialect)
Refs
Comparative: Skinner (1977)

Zumper (not recommended) = Kuteb
Zumu = dialect of Bata: see the Bata cluster
Zungur = Gingwak, Badà: see the Jar cluster
Zuru = dialect of Lela
Zusu (Wipsi–ni Zusu) = Zucksun: see the Kag–Fer–Jiir–Kar–Koor–Ror–Us–Zucksun cluster
Zurubu = Vori
Zwall = member of the Shall–Zwall cluster
Zyemawa – only known from Temple (1922: 395,431) 240 in Bauchi Emirate. Perhaps Gyem?
The languages of Nigeria by language family

**NIGER-CONGO**

**MANDE**

Central Mande  
Sorko [?]  
Southeast Mande  
  a. Busa cluster  
    Bisä  
    Bokobaru  
    Boko  
  b.  
    Kyenga  
    Shanga

**ATLANTIC**

Fulfulde

**IJOID**

a. Defaka  
b. Ijo  
  i. Inland Ijo  
    Biseni  
    Akita  
    Oruma  
  ii. Izon  
    a. West  
    b. Central (North-East, North-West, South-West, South-East)  
  iii. Nembe-Akaha  
    Nembe  
    Akaha  
  iv. KOIN  
    a. KAKIBA  
      Kalabarị  
      Kiřkê  
      Ḣanị  
    b. Nkoŋo

**GUR**

Baatọnum

**ADAMAWA-UBANGI**

ADAMAWA  
  a. Waja group  
    i. Wiyaa [=Wiyaa]  
      Tula  
      Awak  
    d. Yungur group  
      i. Lala cluster (Yang, Roba, Ẹbode)  
      Voro  
      Ọba  
      ?Shaama  
    ii. Mboi cluster  
      Gana  
      Banga  
      Haanda  
    iii. Kaan  
  e. Kwa group  
    Baa  
  f. Jen group  
    Dza  
    Mingang Doso  
    Joole  
    Tha  
    Kanawa?  
  g. Mbum group  
    Laka  
  h. Mumuye-Yendang group  
    i. Mumuye  
      Mumuye (North East and South West)  
      Raŋ  
      Pangṣeng  
    ii. Yendang group  
      a. Maya (=Bali)  
      Kpasham  
    b.  
      Waka  
      Yendang  
      Yoti  
    c. Teme
d. Kugama-Gengle
   Kumba

i. Vere-Duru
   Vere
   Momi
   Mom Jango
   Koma cluster
   Gomme
   Gomnome
   Ndera

j. Leko group
   Samba Leko
   Pere
   Nyong

k. Kam

UBANGI

Gbaya

KWA

Gbe cluster (Alada-Asento-Gun-Phela-Weme)

VOLTA-NIGER

Yoruboid
   West
   a. Yoruba
      i. Central Ede (Ifẹ, Ijesha, Ekiti etc.)
      ii. Okun (Yagba, Gbẹdẹ, Ijumu etc.)
      iii. South West Ede (Tṣabẹ, Ketu, Ana etc.)
      iv. North West Ede (Ọyọ, Egba, Ọsun etc.)
      v. South East Ede (Ikale, Ilaje, Ijo-Akpo)
   b. Owo
   c. Ulukwumi

East
   Igalá
   Southeast
   Išẹkiri

Akpes cluster
   Akpes, Ashe, Daja, Efifa, Esuku, Gedegede,
   Ibaram, Ikorom, Iyani

Akokoid
   Arigidi cluster
      (incl. Arigidi, Afa, Erusu, Ese, Igasi, Oge,
      Ojọ, Oyin, Udo, Uro)

Ahan-Ayere

Edoid

a. Delta Edoid
   Epie-Atiṣa
   Egunẹ
   Degema

b. Southwestern
   Uvbẹ
   Urhobo
   Okpẹ
   Isoko
   Èrụwa

c. North-Central
   i. Edo
      Esan
   Emai-Iuleha-Ora
   ii. Ghotuọ
      Umeme
      Etsako/Yẹkhee
      Ivbie North-Okpela-Arhee
      Ososo
      Sasaru-Enwan-Igwẹ
      Ikpeshi

d. Northwestern
   i. Southern
      Okpẹ-Idesa-Akuku
      Okpamheri
      Oọlọma
      Emhalhe
   ii. Osse Group
      Uhami
      iyayu
      Ukue
      Ehuẹun

Igboi
   a. Igbo
      Izi-Ezaa-Ikwo-Mgbo
      Ika
      Ukwuanj-Aboh-Ndọnị
      Ogbah
      Ikwere
   b. Èkpẹye

Nupoid
   a. Ebira cluster
      Okene-Ètunọ
      Kerto
   b. Gade
   c. Gbari
      Gbagyi
      Gbagyi Nkwa
Gbari
d. Nupe group
i. Asu
ii. Kupa
iii. Kakanda (Budon, Gbanmi-Sokun)
iv. Dibo
Kami
Gupa-Abawa
v. Nupe cluster
Nupe Central
Nupe Tako

Ọkoid cluster
Okọ
Eni
Ọsayẹn

Idomoid
a. Yace
Akpa
b. Igede
Etulo
c. Idoma cluster
Agatu
Alago
Idoma Central
Idoma West
Idoma South
d. Yala (Ikọm, Obubra, Ogoja)

EAST BENEU CONGO

IKAAAN
Auga
Ishe
Ikaan
Ikakọmo

KAINJI
a. Reshe
b. Lake
Shen [=Laru]
Rop [=Lopa]
Tsupamini
c. Kambari
i. Kambari 1 cluster
Ashingini
Agadi
Avadi
Baangi
Yumu
ii. Kambari 2 cluster
Agausi
Akimba
Nwanci
iii. Cipu
e. Basa
Rubasa (Basa-Benue)
Basa-Gurara
Basa-Makurdi
Basa-Kontagora
Basa-Gumna (†)
Kọmba (Basa-Gurmana)
f. Kamuku cluster
Hungwọryọ
Cinda-Regi-Rogo-Kuki
Sagomuk
Zubazuba
Rubaruba
Shyabe
Makici
Shama-Sambuga(†)
g. Baushi
Fungwa
Rin
Baushi
Min
Wāyā
Ndọkọ
Sambaru
Rubu
Hipina
Gurmana
h. Northwestern group
i. cLele
ii. Hun-Saare
iii. Kag cluster (= ut-Main)
Kag
Fer
Jiir
Kar
Koor
Ror
Us
Zuksun
iv. Gwamhi-Wuri
v. Damakawa (†) (?)
i. East Kainji
i.
Bishi
Ngmgbang
Tsam
Map

iii. Northern Jos group
   a. Ningi cluster
      Kudu-Camo (almost extinct)
      Gamo-Ningi (Butu-Ningi†)
   b. Lame cluster
      Gyem
      Shau (almost extinct)
   c. Lere cluster
      Si-Gana (almost extinct)
   d. North-central cluster
      Izora
      Lemoro
      Sanga
   e. Kauru
      Gbiri-Niragu
      Vori
      Kurama
      Mala-Ruma
      Bin
      Kono
      Kaivi
      Vono
      Tumi
      Nu
      Dungu
   f. Ziriya (†), Kere (†)
   g. Janji
      Boze-Lore-Panawa-Gusu-Jere-Ibunu (Jere cluster)
      Iguta
      Tunzu (=Duguza)

PLATEAU

a. Northwestern
   a. Kuturmi
      Obiro
      Ikryo
   b. Kulu
   c. Kadara
      Èda-Edra-Enezhe
      Idon-Doka-Makyali
      Ankwa-Ejiya [=Iku-Gora-Ankwe]

b. Koro
   a. Koro cluster
      Zar [=Ashe]
      Tinɔr [=Waci-Myama]

b. Nyankpa-Idû cluster
   Nyankpa-Barde [=Yeskwa]
   Idû
   Gwara

c. Hyamic-Gyongic
   a. Hyamic
      Shamang
      Cori
      Hyam cluster (incl. Kwyeny, Yaat, Sait, Dzar, Hyam of Nok)
      Zhire
      Shang
      Kurmin Dangana
   b. Gyongic
      Gyong (=Kagoma)
      Kamantam

d. Ninzic
   Ninzo
   Ce
   Bu-Nïnkada
   Mada-Nkɔ-Gbɔtsu
   Numana-Nunku-Gbantu-Numbu-Ninka
   Ningye
   Anib
   Ninkyop-Nindem
   Ayu?

e. Beromic
   i. Berom
      Berom
      Cara
   ii. Iten
   iii. Shall-Zwall

f. Central
   i. Rigwe
   ii. Izeric
      northwest Izere
      northeast Izere
      Ìcèn
      Ganàng
      Firàn
   iii. Tyapic
      Jju
      Tyap cluster
      Tyap
      Gworok
      Atakar
      Kacicere
      Sholyo
      Kafancan

g. Ndunic
   Ndun
   Nyeng
   Shakara [=Tari]
### h. Alumic

1. Toro  
   Alumu-Tosu  
   Akpoudou (†)  
2. Hasha  
   Sambe (†)  

### i. Southwest

1. Fyem  
2. Bo-Rukul  

### j. Southeastern

1. Fyem  
2. Horom  
3. Bo-Rukul  

### k. Eggonic-Jilic

1. Jilic  
   Jili  
   Jijili  
2. Eggonic  
   Eggon  
   Ake  
   Nangu  

### l. Tarokoid

1. Tarok  
   Yankam [=Bashar]  
   Pe [=Pai]  
   Sur  
   Vaghat-Ya-Bijim-Legeri  

### m. Eloyi

1. Eloyi  

### JUKUNOID

#### a. Yukuben-Kutep

1. Yukuben  
2. Shibong  
3. Bete  
4. Lufu  
5. Kuteb  
6. Kapya  
7. Lissa?  

#### b. Central Jukunoid

1. Kpan-Etkywan  
   Kpan (Western: Kumbo-Takum, Donga; and Eastern: Apa, Kente, Eregba)  
   Etkywan  
2. Jukum-Mbembe-Wurbo  
   a. Mbembe Tigong cluster  
      Ashuku  
      Nama  
   b. Jukum cluster  
      Jibu  
      Takum and Donga  
      Wase  
   c. Kororofa cluster  
      Abinsi  

#### Akum

### CROSS RIVER

### Delta-Cross

#### Central Delta group

1. Abua  
2. Oqual  

#### b. Kugbo  
2. Mini  
2. Kolo cluster (incl. Kolo, Oloibiri, and Anyama)  
   Ogboŋuagum  
   Obulom  
   Ochiq  
   Gobogolo  

### Ogoni

#### a. Eleme  
2. Teq  
3. Ban  

#### b. Kana  
2. Gokana  

### Lower Cross

#### a. Central  
2. Anaang  
3. Efai  
4. Efik  
5. Ekit  
6. Etebi  
7. Ibibio  
8. Ibuoro  
9. Itu Mon Uzo  
10. Nkari  
11. Ukwa  

#### b. Periphery  
2. Ebuhgu
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enwang</th>
<th>Uda</th>
<th>Ibinọ</th>
<th>Iko</th>
<th>Ilue</th>
<th>Obolo</th>
<th>Oọkọbọ</th>
<th>Ọrọ</th>
<th>Usakade (in Cameroon)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Upper Cross**

a. North-South
- Oring cluster (incl. Ufia, Ufio, and Okpoto)
- Kukele
- Uzekwe
- Ubaghara cluster (incl. Biakpan, Ikun, Etono, Ugbem, and Utuma)
- Kohumono
- Agwagwune cluster (also incl. Erei, Abini, Adim, Abayongo, and Etono II)
- Umon

b. East-West
- Olulo-Ikọm
- Lokọa
- Nkukoli
- Lubila
- Mbembe
- Legbo
- Leyigha
- Lenyima
- Ukpet-Ehom
- Agọji
- Doko-Uyanga
- Bakpinka (nearly extinct)
- Kiọŋg (nearly extinct)
- Kọrọp

**BANTOID**

**NORTHERN**

**MAMBILOID**

a. Mambila
- Nor cluster
- Mvaŋo
- Mbọŋgọna
- Somyev

b. Ndoola (Ndoro)
- Fam

c. Vute

d. Tep

**DAKOID**

a. Samba cluster
- Samba Daka
- Samba Jangani
- Samba of Mapeo
- Samba Nnakenyare
- Samba Tola
- Dirim
b. Gaa (=Tiba)
c. Dong

**SOUTHERN BANTOID**

a. Tivoid
- Tiv
- Abon
- Batu cluster (Amanda-Afi, Angwe, Kamino)
- Bitare
- Evant
- Iceve-Maci
- Iyive
- Otank
- Ugare

b. Buru
- Buru

c. Ekoid-Mbe
- Ndoe cluster (incl. Ekparabong and Balep)
- Ejagham cluster (also incl. Bendeghe, Northern Etung, Southern Etung, Ekin)
- Bakor cluster (incl. Nde-Nsele-Nta, Abanyom, Efutop, Nkem-Nkum, Nnam, Ekajuk)
- Mbe

d. Grassfields Bantu
- Dzodinka
- Lam Nso
- Limbum
- Yamba

e. Behoid
- Bukwen
- Mashi
- Naki

f. Bendi
i. Bendi
- Bekwarra
ii. Bete-Bendi
Obanliku cluster (incl. Basang, Bebi, Bishiri, Bisu, and Busi)
Ukpe-Bayobiri
Ubang
Alege
Afrike-Irungene cluster
Obe cluster (incl. Obe, Mgbenege, Utugwang, Okworogung, and Okworotung)
Bumaji
Bokyi

g. Jarawan Bantu
  Bile
  Damlanci
  Mbula-Bwazza
  Mama
  Lame cluster (incl. Ruhu, Mbaru and Gura)
  Labir
  Shiki
  Kulung
  Jar cluster (incl. Zhar, Ligri, Kanam, Bobar, Gwak, Doori)
  Dulbu
  Gwa

Unclassified Benue-Congo languages:
Fali (in Baissa area; virtually extinct)
Kaura

II. NILO-SAHARAN

SONGhai
  Zarma
  Dendi

SAHARAN
  Kanuri-Kanembu-Manga
  Teda

III. AFROASIATIC

SEMITIC
Arabic cluster
  Shuwa
  Uled Suliman
  Baggara

BERBER
  Tamachek

CHADIC
WEST
Sub-branch A
Hausa group
  Hausa
  Gwandara
Bole-Ngas major group
Bole group
  a.
    i. Karekare
    ii.
      Gera
      Geruma
      Deno
      Bure
      Kubi
      Giwoo
      Galambu
      Daza
  iii.
    Bole
    Ngamo
    Maaka
    Beele
  b.
    i. Kwaami
      Pero
      Piya-Kwonci
      Maghdi
      Kholok
      Nyam
      Kushi
      Kutto
      Tangale
    ii. Dera
A3 group
North
  Ngas-Balnaŋ
  Mwaghavul-Takas-Mupun
  Cakfem-Mushere
  Miship (incl. Doka)
  Pan [=Kofyar] cluster (incl. Mernyang, Doemak, Kwagallak, Bwol, Gworam, Jipal)
South
  Goemaic
  Goemai
  Chakato
Ron group
South Ron cluster
Bokkos
Daffo-Butura
Sha
Kulere
Karfa
Shagawu
Mundat?
North
Fyer
Tambas

Sub-branch B

Bade/Warji major group

Bade group
Bade
Ɗuwai
Ngizim

Warji group
Diri
Pa’a
Sirzakwai (=Warji
Kariya
Mbisku
Miya
Zumbun
Siri
Ciwogai

Zaar group

a. Barawa cluster
Geji cluster
Magang [=Bolu]
Geji
Pyala [=Pelu]
Buu [=Zaranda]

Polci cluster
Zul
Baram
Dir
Buli
Langas
Luri (†)

b. Guruntum sub-group
Zangwal
Tala
Ju
Guruntum-Mbaaru

c. Boghom sub-group
Boghom
Kir-Balar
Mangas

d. Jimi?

BIU-MANDARA

Sub-branch A

Tera group

a. Tera (incl. Nyimatli, and Pidlimdi, Bura Kokura)
Jara
b. Hwana
c. Ga’anda
Boga
Ngwaba

Bura/Higi major group

Bura group

a. Bura-Pabir
Cibak
Putai
Nggwahyi
b.
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Huba
Margi
Margi South

Higi group
Kamwe
Kirya-Konzol
Mukta-Hya

Mandara/Mafa/Sukur major group

Mandara group
a. Wandala cluster
   (incl. Wandala, Mura, Malgwa)
   Glavda
   Guduf
   Gava
   Cinene
   Cikide
   Dghwede
   Gvoko
b. Lamang cluster (incl. Zaladva, Ghumbagha, Ghudavan)
   Vemgo-Mabas
   Xedi

Mafa group
Mafa

Sukur group
Sakun

Daba group
Daba

Bata group
a. i. Bata cluster
   Bata
   Bacama
   ii. Gude
       Zizilivokon
   Fali cluster (incl. Vin, Huli, Madzarin, Bween)
   iii. Nzanyi
b. Gudu

Sub-branch B
Kotoko group
   Afađe
   Jilbe

Yedina group
Yedina

Unclassified Chadic language

Kofa

Pidgins

Pidgin (including Nigerian English, English based)

Official Language

English

Language Isolate

Jalaa (=Cuŋ Tuum)

Further unclassified languages

Dzuwo
Kpwee
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1 Somewhat eccentrically, the volume accidentally omitted the section on the largest ethnic group in Plateau State, the Berom. This was subsequently published as a separate section without a binding.