NOTES ON THE
SOMALI LANGUAGE

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NOTES ON THE SOMALI LANGUAGE

WITH EXAMPLES OF PHRASES AND CONVERSATIONAL SENTENCES

BY

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LIEUT. KING'S AFRICAN RIFLES

London

HENRY FROWDE

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS WAREHOUSE

AMEN CORNER, E.C.

NEW YORK: 91 & 93 FIFTH AVENUE

1903
OXFORD: HORACE HART
PRINTER TO THE UNIVERSITY
PREFACE

This work does not profess to be anything more learned than its title implies. During the present campaign in Somaliland, while raising and training some of the Somali levy companies, I have noted down all the commoner and most useful words and phrases that I found to occur during my interviews with the N.C.O.'s and men both on duty and off. These I have here presented in a continuous form, aiming at the most natural order in which a stranger would be able to pick them up, and at the same time observing what is more or less the ordinary grammatical sequence.

It is hoped that such a collection of conversational phrases and notes may be of use to subsequent travellers, and to civil and military officers in the country.

The excellent Grammar of Frs. Evangeliste
and Cyprien has been of the utmost assistance; in fact, without the benefit of their enormous labours, it would have been impossible for me in so short a time to transcribe the words and phrases as uttered by a Somali.

The greatest difficulty to contend with is the pronunciation; and the Somali jungli is as yet so unaccustomed to Europeans and their modes of speech, and above all finds it so hard to believe that a European would try to talk his language, that, unless the pronunciation is very exact, he will practically refuse to try to understand one. In time, however, the Somalis will become accustomed to our attempts to master their difficult sounds, and in fact in trying to interview strangers I have been able to use my askaris as interpreters.

I had not intended to introduce any grammatical or syntactical paragraphs, but it seemed that the sentences alone were of such little use for building up others with different words, that some grammatical explanation was abso-
lately necessary. I have confined myself, however, to the most concise and general rules, leaving the exceptions for further study.

I have not attempted to introduce any but the Roman characters, though some sounds cannot really be represented by them. The cerebral ķ, referred to by Frs. Evangeliste and Cyprien, is sometimes pronounced as ķ and sometimes like r, though never exactly like either. I have, however, used these letters so as to show in each word which of these two sounds tends to prevail.

Similarly the Arabic letter 'ghain' is very much exaggerated, and these exaggerated guttural aspirates I have tried to distinguish as ch (hardly a guttural), kh (sharp guttural sound), and gh (hard low guttural sound). The long-drawn aspirate seems to be best expressed phonetically by the double letter hh.

The tribes from whom I have picked up these phrases are chiefly the Habr Yunis, and Habr Toljaala from the Burao district. This may
account for the different pronunciation of several words, as compared with what is given in the Grammar mentioned above, especially in the case of the diphthong ai. Where this occurs in the above Grammar I have found the syllable in more than half the cases to be pronounced as a short y, or as ë, or ei.

I have not yet had time to compare the dialects of the Esa and Gadabursi tribes, or of the Dolbohanta or Ogaden, all of which will probably have considerable variations.

There will probably be many errors, as my interpreter speaks but indifferent English. It must be remembered, too, that many apparent irregularities will be due to colloquial contractions. But I can only say that every word and sentence here has been tested successfully by me in actual conversation.

Garrero,  
June 20, 1903.
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PART I.

ACCIDENCE.

I. The Alphabet.

a, pronounced like a in Scotch, 'man.'
ä, pronounced like a in 'cat.'
à, pronounced like a in 'father.'
b
d (in some words combines t, h, r).
e, pronounced like e in 'pen.'
è, pronounced nearly as ai in 'pain.'
f
g, always hard.
gh
h
hh, emphasized aspirate, almost a separate syllable.
i, pronounced as i in 'in.'
ï, pronounced as e in 'eel.'
j
k
kh, hard aspirate.
ch, pronounced as ch in 'loch.'
l
Il, similar to Welsh ły.

m

n

o, pronounced as o in ‘on.’

ò, pronounced as o in ‘own.’

oo, pronounced as o in ‘ðhh.’

r, always rolled (in some words combines d, h, r).

s

t

u, pronounced as u in ‘full.’

ū, pronounced as u in ‘bun.’

ù, pronounced as oo in ‘moon.’

w

y

ai, pronounced as i in ‘mine.’

ei, ey, pronounced as è, almost ëë.

oi

ow, pronounced as ou in ‘mouth.’

2. The Aspirates and Gutturals hh, gh, kh, ch must be learnt by ear, and are very exaggerated deep sounds, difficult to reproduce.

The letters d, r are in some words hardly distinguishable. In the same word the letter sometimes may sound like d, sometimes like r. It appears to be formed by trying to utter a d with the tongue on the roof of the mouth.
The acute accent ' is used to denote the accentuation only; the grave accent ' denotes a long full sound.

3. Interjections.
wárya! waría! war', attracts attention, and commences all conversation.
hoi! hoihoi! a shout to call a man.
-ow! same as last, added to a name.
nabat! Peace, a greeting.
’ss ka warren? How are you?
dèga! colloquial exclamation.
kòd, kòdi, waiye, yes, well? I see, &c.
howransan, all right.
wà run, quite right, certainly.
ha, yes.
maya, no.
docho! be quick!
ghunyar! ayar! steady! slowly!
haiya! expression of encouragement.
wà mahai? what is it?
wà sidé? what’s this? Hullo!
’ss kà eg! look out!
’ss ka dá, never mind.
ya? what?
wayo? why?
4. **Verbal Particles.**

The following particles qualify the meanings of verbs:—

si, before the verb, expresses motion away from the speaker.

so, before the verb, expresses motion towards the speaker.

'ss ka, iss ka, before the verb, is best translated by the exclamation 'there!'

Verbs ending in -si, -i are causative. Verbs ending in -so denote doing something for oneself.

i, me.

u, you, him, it.

In the following lists the 2nd pers. sing. imperative is given. To form the 2nd pers. plur. add a. In verbs ending in -o, -so the plural form ends in -da or -ta (§ 51).

5. **Verbs of Motion.**

imo; pl. yímada (irreg.), come.

kàli, come here.

soorod, come on (hurry).

so raà, come with me (follow).

sö nöcho (nöchda), come back.
só dûrug (dûrka), só dowo (dowàda),
  come near.
so wëreg, come round.
so gal, come in.
so bah (só bâha), come out of there.
tag, go.
soo (sooda), go on.
'ss ka tág, go away.
u raa, si raa, go with him (follow).
nocho, dib u nocho, go back.
si wereg, go round.
gal, go in, enter.
'ss ka bâh, get out of there.
durug, go further off.
fogo (fogàda), go to a distance.
soo, walk.
orod, run.
ful, ride.
bôd, jump.
arar, run away.
bahso, escape.
jóg, wait, stop.
'ss ka jóg, wait there.
jógso (jogsòda), stand still.
dib u jogso, stand back.
sara jóg, stand up.
ka, ka ka, sara ka, get up.
faríso (farísta), sit down.
i kadi, wait (for me).
ú kadi, wait (for him).
jir, be (exist).
jog, be (be present).
oll (irregular verb), be in, be on, lie.
jèso (jesta), turn.
'ss ká rug, turn round.
ghobo (ghobota), get to, reach (a place).

Transitive Verbs.

joji, stop.
kahái, move off, move away (persons).
sò kahái, bring here.
fogèi, move to a distance.
u yéd, call, send for.
ka dón, look for.
dir, send (a man with a message).
u gèi, lead, show the way to.
kèï, arouse.
ràdi, track.
dochàji, hurry.
daf, pass.


la kâli, bring here.
i (ka) ken, put (bring) me (there).
i (u) si, give me (him).
ka ghad, 'ss ka ghad, take away.
so ghad, fetch away (go and get).
so (ku) éli, bring (take) back.
dib, give (hand over).
u gei, take to him.
gur, pick up.
dig, ’ss ka dig, put down.
sar, put on.
shid, put in.
só (’ss ka) behé, take off.
hell, get, find.
haï, have.
haïso (haïsta), have got.
heji, hold.
ghobo (ghobta), take hold.
ghobso (ghobsòda), catch hold.
da, ka da, sí da, ’ss ka sí da, leave, let go.
sid, carry.
kufi, drop (transitive).
kuf, da, fall.
illàl, look after.
tiri, count.
fal, yel, ghobo, do.
somèi, make.
damèi, finish.
dil, strike.
rug, turn round.
ákhalib, turn over.
maròji, twist.
jid, difo (difta), pull.
tùji, press.
goï, gogoï, cut (up).
bùri, burburi, break (up).
lab, lablab, fold (up).
hid, tie.
fur, unfold, open.
wanaji, make tidy.
hagaji ('ss ku hagaji), make straight, correct.
safêi, adêi, clean.
bùhi, fill.
dalòli, make a hole.
dirir, 'ss dirira, fight, fight together.
rèr, load up.
dubka so shid, make the fire.
dubka bachi, put out the fire.
òd, hero òd, make a zareba.
ibi, ibso (ibsōta), sell, buy.
gób, pour away.


arag, see. ghobo, remember.
eg, look. ilò (ilòda), forget.
or, orso (orsoda), smell. ùn, eat.
máchal, hear. ab, abso, drink.
duduni, taste.
DEFINITE ARTICLE

chosol, laugh.
deh (irregular verb), say.
sheg, tell.
hadal, talk.
weidí, ask.
ku òli, answer.
díd, refuse.
bar, teach.
baro (barta), learn.
amín, believe.
hauchó, try.
machal, yel, obey.
áshtako, complain.
aï, curse.
fasahh, allow.
garo (garta), understand.
malèi, think.
iss deh, imagine, mean.
jaal, like.
don, want.
tasho, think about.
ogho (irregular verb), know.
hüb, be sure.
sug, expect, await.
hanòn, hurt (intransitive).
seho, sleep.
ka, awake.
abi, bacho, be afraid.
arán, be angry.
alaål, be sorry.
dulun, ill-treat.
òwin, help.

Article, Pronouns, Substantives.

8. The Article must first be understood, since it is added to the noun, and in many cases alters the whole appearance and sound of the word.

9. The Indefinite Article does not exist, the noun alone being used instead, e.g.

jonia, a bag. 
nin, a man.
Where the indefinite article occurs with an adjective, or alone, it is translated either by repeating the noun, or by mid, e.g.

\textit{mid kāleh i si}, give me another.
\textit{mid wein ka ken}, put a big one there.
\textit{kūrsi kāle h la kāli}, bring another chair.

10. The \textit{Definite Article} is a suffix to the noun, and ends in either, \textit{-a}, \textit{-i}, or \textit{-u}.

\textit{-a} is used if what is spoken of is actually at hand, or in front of the speaker.

\textit{-i}, \textit{-u} are used when vagueness or absence is implied.

The commonest form is \textit{-i}.

11. These suffixes are not used alone, but are linked to the noun by certain consonants, which vary according to gender and to the final letter of the word.

Such linking consonants are:—

\textit{Masculine}.

\textit{-k-}, after any consonants except g, k.
\textit{-g-}, after g, k, i.
\textit{-h-}, after aspirates and vowels except i.

\textit{Feminine}.

\textit{-t-}, after consonants except d.
\textit{-d-}, after d, aspirates and vowels.

(Note—\textit{ld, lt} become sh.)
12. Examples:—
nin, nin-ka, -ki, ku, the man.
busta, busta-ha, -hi, -hu, the blanket.
bíya, biya-ha, -hi, -hu, the water.
nàg, nag-ta, -ti, -tu, the woman.
míyi, miyi-ga, -gi, -gu, the jungle.
mel, mesha, meshi, meshu, the place.
tol, tol-ka, -ki, -ku, the tribe.
sandúch, sanduch-ha, -hi, -hu, the box.
warach, warach-da, -di, -du, the chit.
biyahu (biyu) la kali, bring the water.
biyaha ka ghad, take away the water.
bustahi? what about the blanket?
ninki mé? (§ 33), where is the man?

13. When the *Definite Article* is used independently, it requires one of the two following consonants:—

if masculine, *k*-

if feminine, *t*-, e.g.

ki kaleh mé? where is the other?
ti wèin so glad, fetch the big one.

*Plural:*

kuér kaleh mé? where are the others?

14. The *Demonstrative* is similar to the definite article.
The suffixes are:
- *an*, this.
- *as, å*, that.

These are the same for singular and plural.

The linking consonants are the same as those for the definite article, e.g.
- *dághah-has*, that stone.
- *mis-kan*, this table.
- *nág-tá*, that woman.

To make it more emphatic, the demonstrative is often added to the noun with the definite article, e.g.
- *áchalkakán*, this house here.

Or, the definite article may follow the demonstrative, but without the linking consonant, e.g.
- *nimankána*, these men here.
- *nimankâsi*, those men there.

15. The demonstrative may also be used independently with the consonants *k, t*.

In this use it has plural forms, e.g.
- *kuan, tuan*, these.
- *kuas, tuas*, those.

When this form carries with it any meaning of quantity, the noun *in-ta* is used (§ 30), e.g.
- *inta kaleh*, the rest.
- *intas waiye*, that's all.
intà damèya, finish that.
inta ka bádan la kàli, bring more than that (§ 68).

16. The Possessive Pronoun has forms so similar, and follows so closely the above rules, that it is given here.

The definite article must be added to the possessive, either with or without the linking consonant.

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<td>-à-</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>his</td>
<td>-ís-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>her</td>
<td>-èd</td>
<td>Definite article added without linking consonant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>our</td>
<td>-èn-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>your</td>
<td>-in-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>their</td>
<td>-òd-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>our</td>
<td>-aya-</td>
<td>-ga, -gi, -gu.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Examples:—

banduchèyga, my gun.
abbahàga, thy father.
shuchulkísi, his work.
áchalkèni, our house.
bariskíni, your rice.
sortòda, their food.
LISTS OF SUBSTANTIVES

käs wa këygi (§ 66), that is mine.
wa tadi, it is thine.

magahís? (what is) his name?
magahà? (what is) your name?

17. Personal articles of kit, food, &c.
alabad-di, baggage. mindi-di, knife.
property.
mùda-hi, fork.
gólup-ki, things. fancal-dhi, spoon.
tambúch-hi, tent. cúp-ki, cup.

mis-ki, table-ki, table. gálas-ki, glass.
kùrsi-gi, chair. seën-i, plate.
gógol-shi, bed. charòrad-di, bottle.
baldi-di, bucket. dichsi-gi, cooking-pot.
sirád-ki, lamp. sal-ki, bottom.
sanduch-hi, box. dab-ki, handle.

khùful-ki, padlock. kettli-gi, kettle.
mufta-hi, key. kitab-ki, book.
jòniad-di, bag. ghalim-ki, pen, pencil.
basta-hi, blanket. warach-di, paper.
towel-ki, towel. chad-ki, ink.
dár-ki, clothes. fass-ki, axe.
kòfiad-di, hat. mejorifád-di, shovel.
surwal-ki, breeches. musmar-ki, nail.
kumis-ki, shirt. irbad-ki, pin, needle.
kūba-hi, shoes, boots. dúbba-hi, hammer.
massar-ki, handker-
chief. sofa-hi, file.
fur-ki, cork.
suf-ki, rag, duster.  
sun-ki, strap.  
tar-ki, wire.  
kòra-hi, saddle.  
hákuma-hi, bridle.  
ainan-ki, reins.  
durmad-di, bit.  
rikáb-ki, stirrup.  
bír-ti, iron (and any iron tool, instrument, or part of anything).  
sor-ti, food.  
hílib-ki, meat.  
kíbis-ti, bread.  
bíya-hi, water.  
fùd-ki, soup.  
usboh-di, salt.  
reî-gi, mustard.  
filfil-shi, pepper.  
bur-ki, flour.  
baris-ki, rice.  
sünkur-ki, sugar.  
haïd-di, fat.  
godrad-di, vegetable, fruit.  
ànò-hi, milk.  
burrad-ki, malup-ki, butter.  
ùsbah, usub, fresh.  
dugahh, old.  
hun, bad.  
chahowa-hi, tea.  
bùri-gi, tobacco.  

18. Native Articles.

Camel equipment.

hèrio-di, loading mat (general name).
kibid-di, loading mat (bark).
harar-ki, ous-ki, loading mat (grass).
hádig-gi, rope (general name).
yel-shi, herio rope.
hogàn-ti, neck rope.
surádherad-di, loading rope.
baïd-di, breast rope.
ain-ti, rope for the 'guri.'

Watering.
dòlis-ki, long rope for drawing water.
wadan-ti, skin bucket.
gundil-ki, skin trough.
baïdi-di, European bucket.
han-ti, large conical vessel for carrying water on the march.
ajan-ti, small vessel.
dil-shi, small vessel for milk.
sopra-hi, gurbid-di, skin water-bag.

Living.
gûri-gi, hut (made of herios).
rèr-ki, village.
lamado-di, big skin for 'guri.'

Clothing and equipment.
mâro-di, long white tobe.
gòa-hi, half length tobe.
môwis-ti, coloured waist-cloth.
kûba-hi, sandals.
wâran-ki (dèr, gaban), spear (long, short).
gashan-ti, shield.
ghânso-di, bow.
falad-di, arrow.
gaboyo-di, quiver.
bilôwa-hi, knife.
jedel-ki, whip.
masaula-hi, prayer-mat.
wèso-di, small water-bottle.
tūsbaḥ-hi, rosary.
halāl-ki, two large pieces of amber (charm).
gördas-ki, leather strap for charm.
kâṭum-ki, ring.
fās-ki, precious stone.
farūṣ-ki, blue stone (?) turquoise).
lif-ki, marble (children’s game).
turub-ki, warach-di, cards.
dabin-ti, trap.

19. Physical features.
   miyi-gi, jungle.
   būn-ka, plain.
   ged-ki, dir-ti, tree, bush.
   dūr-ki, grass (long and stiff).
   göeda-hi, grass (pasture).
   būr-ti, mountain.
   ghumbur-ti, hill.
   tul-ki, heap.
   hatach-di, boran-ti, trench.
   göd-ki, hole.
   tug-gi, river-bed.
   wadi-gi, river.
   bahal-ki, animal.
   nin-ki, man.
nàg-ti, woman.
rag-gi, dad-ki, people.
rèr-ki, village.
òd-di, zareba.
dindimúd-di, ant-heap.
amùd-di, earth.
sísa-hi, sígo-di, dust.
derigh-hi, hilin-ki, road.
dagahh-hi, rock, stone.
ràd-ki, track, pug.
er-ki, sky.
chorahh-hi, sun.
dayah-hi, moon.
hedig-gi, star.
darur-ti, cloud.
dabèil-shi, wind.
rob-ki, rain.
unkòd-di, thunder.
hilah-hi, lightning.
hared-di, rain-water.
darab-ki, dew.
dūb-ki, fire.
khikh-hi, smoke.
āchāl-ki, house.
dar-ti, stone building, wall.
bülli, low place where water collects.
bülli harédleḥ, rain-water pool.

hòla-hi, nef-ki, cattle, stock.
geli, camel (general term).
aur-ki, camel (male, loading).
hal-shi, camel (female).
aurti, ràti, the camels.
ari-gi, sheep.
wan-ki, ram.
ri-gi, goat.
faras-ki (genya-di), horse (mare).
dabër-ki, donkey.
bóchol-ki, mule.
ogad-di, wild animals.
libahh-hi, lion.
shabël-ki, leopard.
gududòn-ti, lynx.
harimad-di, cheetah.
dinád-di, cat.
warába-hi, hyena.
eïg-gi, dog.
godir-ki (yir), koodoo (lesser).
beïd-di, oryx.
sig-gi, hartebeest.
grérenûk-gi, Waller's gazelle.
débatag-ti, Clarke's gazelle.
dèro-di, aoul-ki, beira-hi, Plateau gazelle.
sagâro-di, dikdik.
balungo-di, dòl-ki, waterbuck.
maròdi-gi, elephant.
wiyil-ki, rhinoceros.
jèr-ki, hippopotamus.
gerri-gi, giraffe.
dofár-ki, warthog.
dayir-ki, monkey.
fidmer-ti, bat.
jir-ki, wallo-di, rat.
mas-ki, jilbis-ki, abèso-di, abur-ki, sub-
hanyo-di, snake.
gungumad-di, lizard.
shimbir-ti, bird.
beid-di, egg.
gòri-gi, ostrich.
gorgor-ki, vulture.
tuka-hi, crow.
bada-gi, duck.
digarin-ki, guinea-fowl.
abor-ki, ant (white).
ghudanyo-di, ant (black).

galol-shi, megag-gi, large thorn trees.
sarmán-ti, table-top thorn trees.
gob-ki, dool-ki, dafarùr-ki, tall thornless trees
with small red fruit (edible).
derkèn-ti, euphorbia tree.
adád-di, gum tree.
didin-ti, myrrh tree.
ain-ti, ergin-ti, two kinds of snake-like plants with milky poisonous juice.
gásangas-ki, low plant with thick root-stock useful for washing and softening water.
sabka-di, a low asclepiad with green edible fruit, covered with long soft tentacles.
dir-ti, any tree or bush.
lán-ti, branch.
alén-ti, leaf.
ghodah-hi, thorn.
jirid-di, root.
ghorigh-hi, stem, pole, log, wood.
ùbah-hi, flower.
jilif-ki, bark.
maidah-hi, underneath layer of bark used for chewing, and making ropes and herios.

22. Parts of the Body, &c.
míyid-di, corpse. il-shi, eye.
san-ti, skin. san-ki, nose.
hílib-ki, flesh. af-ki, mouth.
ríg-gi, blood. dig-ti, ear.
madah-hi, head. dan-ki, chin.
timir-ti, hair. bushin-ti, lip.
weiji-gi, face. ilig-ki, tooth.
arrab-ki, tongue.             shausho-di, calf.
hunguri-gi, throat.          ancho-di, ankle.
garab-ki, shoulder.         åg-ti, foot.
gaån-ti, arm.               farah-hi, toe.
muruch-hi, biceps.          idib-ki, heel.
husul-ki, elbow.            izza åd, sole.
urur-ki, forearm.           iddi-di, nail.
jolochli-gi, wrist.         gâd-ki, whiskers, beard.
   gaån-ti, hand.             sharub-ti, moustache.
sul-ki, thumb.              dabo-di, tail.
   farah-hi, finger.          dib-ki, tail (goat).
   babao-di, palm.           dilif-ki, tail (sheep).
sakár-ki, chest.            bari-gi, tail fat.
   lab-ti, breast.           gar-ti, horn.
dábar-ki, back.             raf-ki, hoof.
alôl-shi, stomach.          gomod-di, camel’s foot.
   sin-ti, hip.              fol-ki, tusk.
   lug-ti, leg.              laf-ti, bone.
boodo-di, thigh.            indôli-hi, skull.
rug-gi, knee.              

23. Relationships, &c.

ábba-hi, father.             walál-shi, sister.
hoyo-di, mother.             inán-ki, wil-ki, son.
nin-ki, husband, man.        inán-ti, daughter.
nàg-ti, wife, woman.         inán-ki, boy.
walál-ki, brother.           gábad-di, girl.
PLURAL OF SUBSTANTIVES

arur-ti, child.           àkhil-ki, chief.
wadád-ki, odé-gi, old    nin wein, nin ma-
man.                        daha, headman.
habr-ti, old woman.       barbar-ki, young man.
moskhén, poor people.     hhâs-ki, family.

24. Plural Number.

(i) Masculine monosyllables:—
dab-ki, dabáb-ki, handles.
fas-ki, fasás-ki, axes.
dūb-ki, dubúb-ki, fires.
nin-ki, nimán-ki, men.

(ii) Feminine monosyllables:—
hal-shi, halod-di, she-camels.
mel-shi, melod-di, places.
bil-shi, bilod-di, months.
lug-ti, lugod-di, legs.
nàg-ti, nagod-di, women.
exc. lan-ti, lama-hi, branches.

(iii) Nouns ending in a:—
kora-hi, koryal-shi, saddles.
busta-hi, bustyal-shi, blankets.
mufta-hi, muftyal-shi, keys.

(iv) Nouns ending in o:—
asho-di, ashoín-ki, days.
gúdimo-di, gudimoín-ki, gudimos.
sháchado-di, shachadoín-ki, bandoliers.
(v) Other masculine polysyllables:—
tambuch-hi, tambùchhyad-di, tents.
libahh-hi, libahhyad-di, lions.
ghodah-hi, ghodahyad-di, thorns.
kursi-gi, kursyad-di, chairs.
tèbel-ki, tèbelad-di, tables.
sirád-ki, sirádad-di, lamps.
fandal-ki, fandalad-di, spoons.
shabèl-ki, shabèlad-di, leopards.

(vi) Other feminine polysyllables:—
(a) saad-di, saadòd-di, hours.
herio-di, heriodòd-di, herios.
darar-ti, dararòd-di, days.
malin-ti, malmod-di, days.
sanad-di, sanadòd-di, years.
(b) jòniad-di, jòniada-hi, bags.
alén-ti, aléma-hi, leaves.
mèjorifád-di, mèjorifáda-hi, shovels.

(vii) Foreign words:—
sanduch-hi, sánaduch-hi, boxes.
sirkal-ki, sírakil-shi, officers.
askàri-gi, askàrr-ti, soldiers.
nin mahàbis, mahabís-ti, prisoners.
kùrsi-gi, kurási-di, chairs.

Note that except in (i), (ii) and (vi, a) nouns change their gender in the plural.
The plural is not very commonly used, it only
occurs when any emphasis is to be laid on the number. After numerals and other words of quantity the singular is used.

Sometimes in (iii) the masculine article is used; e.g. *bustyalka*.

**ADJECTIVES, ADVERBS, PREPOSITIONS, CONJUNCTIONS.**

25. Adjectives follow the noun they qualify. There are only a few pure adjectives, the remaining adjectival parts of speech being verbal past participles, formed by adding *-an, -san* to the verb root (cf. § 49).

The particle *wa* represents the verb ‘is,’ ‘are,’ e.g.

- *wanáji*, make good.
- *wanáksan*, good.
- *wa wanáksan*, is good.
- *wa nin hun*, he is a bad man.

Besides the particle *wa*, verbs expressing state are formed by conjugating adjectives as verbs, e.g.

- *wanáksana, wa wanáksana*, is good (§ 54).
- *(wa) ásya*, is red (§ 52).
- *(wa) houlyíra*, is easy.

*wa* may be used or not, but usually occurs.

For *Comparison* vide § 68.
Adverbs are formed by the particle si or by ghun, e.g.

si wanáksan, well.
ghunyar, slowly.

26. List of Adjectives.
wein, large.
yar, yír, small.
der, long, tall, deep.
gában, short.
ádág, hard, strong.
báláram, thick.
jílísán, thin, soft, weak.
dúbán, long and thin.
úlus, heavy.
fúdud, light.
wánáksán, good.
rún, right.
hun, bad.
àjis, lazy.
safaisan, adaísan, clean.
uskágleh, dirty.
búha, full.
marán, empty.
affèyan, sharp.
afbélan, blunt.
sáhálán, hóulyír, easy.
kulul, kululán, warm.
ghabóbán, cold.
àd, bright, white.
madò, dark, black, blue.
às, red, brown.
oul, yellow, green.

27. Numerals precede the noun they qualify, and do not require the plural. The definite article is usually attached to the numeral, and not the noun.

Cardinal numbers.
kód, mid, 1.
lába-di, 2.
sàddehh-di, 3.
áfar-ti, 4.
shan-ti, 5.
llèhh-di, 6.
todòba-di, 7.
sidèd-di, 8.
sagál-ki, 9.
toban-ki, 10.
kòbyo toban-ki, 11.
lábyo toban-ki, 12.
sàddehhyo toban-ki, 13.
áfaryo toban-ki, 14.
shányo toban-ki, 15.
llèhhyo toban-ki, 16.
todòbyo toban-ki, 17.
sidèdyo toban-ki, 18.
sagàlyo toban-ki, 19.
labàton-ki, 20.
kòbyo labàton-ki, 21.
soddon-ki, 30.
afárton-ki, 40.
kóuton-ki, 50.
llèhhdon-ki, 60.
todobàton-ki, 70.
sidèton-ki, 80.
sagàshon-ki, 90.
bòchol-ki, 100.
bòchol yo mid, 101.
bochól yo toban, 110.
laba bòchol, 200.
kun, 1000.

Other forms.
labàton midla, 19.
llèhhdon midla, 59.
bòchol midla, 99.
sóddon buha, 30.

28. Ordinal numbers.
kòwad-di, hòre, 1st.
labad-ki, 2nd.
saddehhad-ki, 3rd.
afrad-ki, 4th.
shanad-ki, 5th.
llëhhad-ki, 6th.
todobad-ki, 7th.
sidedad-ki, 8th.
sagalad-ki, 9th.
tobnad-ki, 10th.
kòbyo tobnad-ki, 11th, &c., &c.

29. Other expressions of Number and Quantity.
mid mid, one by one.
toban toban, in tens.
nimba toban, two each.
bòchol yo nin, 101 men.
bad-ki, half.
labyo seddehh, two or three.
badan, many, much.
idin, any.
idna, any one.
waka, anything.
midna, no one.
kéliah, only.
kéli-gi, alone.
walba, every.
kasta, each.
dimán-ti, every one.
gedi-gi, kulli-gi, all.
kaleh, other.
’ss ku míd, ó kaleh, same.
ímisa? how many?
inté? how much?
shò saddehh máha? surely three (§ 59).
wá llèhh, there are six.
àd u tiri, count carefully.
afárton keliah, only forty.
sóddon waiye, just thirty.
wáchaba, nothing.
wahóga, wahyar, a little.
nin keliah, one man only.
idinku keligi soòda, you go on by yourselves (§ 40).
idla, by oneself (without any one).
inta kaleh, the rest.
sanaduchi mel gònia diga, put the boxes in one place.
labadatán wa 'ss ku mid, these two are the same.
imisa ma hárin? how many are left?
ninkan wa kú jira, this man is included.

30. Time and place, &c.
gor-ti, mar-ki, kol-ki, berri-gi, had-di, time.
mel-shi, hal-ki, hag-gi, place.

From these nouns, adverbs, conjunctions, and interrogatives of time and place are derived.

Similar derivative parts of speech are formed from the following nouns:—

in-ti, meaning 'quantity,' 'distance.'
si-di, 'manner.'
aín-ki 'sort.'

31. Adverbs.
gortan, markan, kolkan, now.
gortas, markas, kolkas, then.
marki hòri, kolki hòri, before.
markiambi, kolkiambi, after.
(meshan) hálkan, hággan, here.
(meshas) hálkà(s), hággà(s), there.
sidà, sidas, so.
CONJUNCTIONS

inta, intás, íntan, intatán, so much.
aínkas, like that.
gortatan, haddatan, now at once.
haddaba, now therefore.

wagi hòri, bérri gi hòre, formerly.
gor badan, often.
már kaleh, again.
gor, kol, mar, once.
saddehh gor, three times.
gor doò, soon.
marmar, sometimes.

Other adverbs.
iminka, àminka, now.
dábadéd, afterwards.

docho, \{ at once.
\{ quickly.
wèli, yet.
dòwad, mel doò, near.

32. Conjunctions.
gorta, kolka, marka, when.
mel, where.

inta, \{ until.
\{ as much as.
sida, as.

These conjunctions are combined with the personal pronoun (vide § 38), and are followed by the conditional (cf. § 50).
33. Interrogatives.

gorma? when?
hagge? (meshe?) where?
hadma? at what time?
inté? how far?
inté? how much?
side? how?
imisa gor? how often?
aínma? what sort?
mé? where? (in simple questions, such as: ninki mé? where is the man?).

34. The following nouns are used as adverbs, and form prepositions when combined with the possessive. (Cf. § 16.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adverb</th>
<th>Preposition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>hòri,</td>
<td>hortísi, or ka hòre.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>in front.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>before.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dambi,</td>
<td>dambísi, or ka dambi.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>behind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>after.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dabaded,</td>
<td>dabadísi, after.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>afterwards.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gùdaha,</td>
<td>gudahísi, in.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inside.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dibáddi,</td>
<td>dibadísi.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>outside.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hosta,</td>
<td>hostísi.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>underneath.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dusha,</td>
<td>dushísi, upon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>above.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dèhda,</td>
<td>dehdísi, between.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in the middle.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
35. Other expressions of Time, Place, &c.

saàd-di, hour, clock.
asho-di, darar-ti, malin-ti, day.
bil-shi, month.
sanad-di, gu-gi, year.
kódi, one o'clock.
saddehhda saàd, three o'clock.
ájarta saàd yo bádkì, half-past four.
shan saàdod, five hours.
shanta saad, wahad ka) ten minutes to five.
hòre toban 'minute'
manta, to-day.
shalèto, shalè, yesterday.
dorràd, day before yesterday.
berrí, berríto, to-morrow.
sà dambi, day after to-morrow.
sà kùb, day after the day after to-morrow.
aròr-ti, morning, in the morning.
sà ka, this morning.
duhur-ka, midday.
gelin ka dambi, afternoon.
gelup-ti, evening.
haben-ki, night.
hàlè, halèto, last night.
berrí arorti, to-morrow morning.
shalèto gelûp, yesterday evening.
haben hòre, night before last.
ásho walba, every day.
áshodi hòri, the other day.
berrigì hòre, some time ago.
laba bilod, two months.
laba sanadod, two years.
íminka 'ss ka tag, you may go now.
wèli wa jóga, he is here still.
haggú jira? where is he?
ninki mè? where is the man.
sidi hòre, as before.
mid àïnkas, one like that.
wa sîda, it is so, or, there you are.
wa ràgti, you are late.
bari-gi, east.
galbed-ki, west.
intù jira? how far is he (it)?
intè jirta (§ 54)? how far is she (place)?
mel fog } far away.
wà fògti } far away.
wa agag, wa doôyi, it is quite close.
wèli ma yimi (§ 62)? has he come yet?
gormú yimi? when did he come?
gormád timi? when did you come?
hággead ká timì? where have you come from?
35. The Prepositions,

ka, from,
ku, to,
la, with,

are used to qualify, not the noun, which has no declension, but the verb. They always immediately precede the verb, e.g.

he
Bohotle bu ká yimi, he came from Bohotle.
he
Bohotle yu-gu tégya, he is going to Bohotle.
I
anigu sirkálki la raa, I go along with the officer.
PART II.

SYNTAX.


The order of a Somali sentence is (1) Subject, (2) Object, (3) Verb.

Adverbial clauses, especially expressions of Time, come first.

If the subject of an adverbial or conditional clause is the subject of the principal sentence, it is placed first, i.e. in front of the conjunction.

The verb always requires the simplest form of the personal pronoun to immediately precede it, whether the true subject is expressed or not.

Complicated sentences are entirely avoided, a string of short remarks describing events in their proper order being employed instead.

Any further rules than these must be left here to be gathered from the examples.
38. Simple Form.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subjective</th>
<th>Objective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I  -an</td>
<td>i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thou -ad</td>
<td>u, ku</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>he  -u</td>
<td>u, ku</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>she -ei, -ai</td>
<td>u, ku</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>we  -einiu, -ainu</td>
<td>na</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>you -eidin, -aidin</td>
<td>idin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>they -ei, -ai</td>
<td>u, ku.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the above the subjective cases cannot be used by themselves, but must be attached to the preceding noun, conjunction, interrogative or negative particle.

39. Prefixes.

Unless the subjective cases are attached as described in § 38, they are used with certain prefixes:

- **w-** (e.g. wan, wad, wu), only used when first in the sentence.

- **b-** (e.g. ban, bad, bu). The commonest form.

- **y-** (e.g. yan, yad, yu), used for euphony instead of b.

The objective cases require no prefixes.
40. *Demonstrative.*

With the subjective case of this form, the simple form is required in addition, preceding the verb.

àñigu, àñigá, I.
àdígu, àdígá, thou.
ísagu, isága, he.
íyadu, iyáda, she.
ánñagu, innagu, annága, innága, we.
èdinku, ídinku, edínka, idínka, you.
ìyagu, iyága, they:

41. *Imperative.*

an, 1st person.
ha, 3rd person.

Used with the conditional tense. (For the 2nd person vide § 46.)

42. *Indicative.*

This form is used with certain verbs, such as want, hope, think, say, &c., when it may be translated by 'this is what I,' &c.

wahán, this is what I . . .
wahád, this is what thou . . .
wuhú, this is what he . . .
wehé, this is what she . . .
wehènu, this is what we . . .
wehèdin, this is what you . . .
wehè, this is what they . . .
43. Interrogative.

kùma? tuma? which? (sing.).
kùama? tuama? which? (plur.).

ya? is the subjective case only.

When 'what' is the object of the verb, it is declined similarly to the indicative form.

mahán? what I . . . ?
mahád? what thou . . . ?
muhu? what he . . . ?
mehé? what she . . . ?
mehènu? what we . . . ?
mehèdin? what you . . . ?
mehé? what they . . . ? (cf. § 59).

ya? also is the interjection, what? eh?

44. Examples.

wahán iri, berrito ban tegya, I said, I am going to-morrow.
muhu i shegé? what did he tell me?
wuhu dónya, this is what he wants.
ànigu máha, it is not I.
mahád dónisa? what do you want?
ninki wa joga. ke? The man is here. Who?
nin Dolbohanta. kuma? a Dolbohanta.
Which one?
Conjugation of Verbs.

45. Elisions and Contractions.

(i) In monosyllabic verbs, in the infinitive a becomes e.

(ii) In polysyllabic verbs, where the last syllable is short, the vowel of the last syllable is dropped in conjugating.

(iii) It, ld become sh.

(iv) rd, rg become rt, rk.

(v) rn, ln become rr, ll.

46. The Root. The simplest form of a verb is the 2nd pers. sing. imperative. This is the root from which all tenses are formed.

47. Classes. There are three classes.

I. The root ends in a consonant, or -a, or -ah, e.g.

- dūb, roast.
- sheg, tell.
- tag, go.
- arag, see.
- raa, follow.
- ka, rise.

II. The root ends in -o, e.g.

- jogso, stop.
- soò, go on.
- nocho, go back.
garo, understand.
baro, learn.

III. The root ends in -è, -i, -ei, -ai, e.g.
    shachèi, work.
    somèi, make.
    haï, have.
    ibi, sell.
    si, give.

48. The *Infinitive* is formed—
    in I by adding -i to the root, e.g.
    dūbi, shegi, tegi, arki, keï.
    in II, III, by adding -n to the root, e.g.
    jogson, soòn, nochon, garan, baran, sha-
    chein, sin.

49. The *Participle*, or verbal adjective, is
    formed by adding to the root,
    I. -an.
    III. -san, e.g.
        dūban, roasted.
        adeisan, cleaned.
        kululan, warmed.
        gogoisan, cut up.
        dalolisan, perforated.
50. Moods and Tenses.

There are two Moods, Perfect and Imperfect, e.g.

I say, I said, I have said, are Perfect.
I am saying, I was saying, are Imperfect.

These are distinguished by the form of the tense inflexions.

There are only three pure Tenses—

Present ends in -a.
Past ends in -é.
Conditional ends in -o.

51. Perfect Mood. Tenses are formed by adding the tense terminations directly to the root, except in II, in which class the terminations are -da, -dé, -do.

In the second class where the final o is short it is usually dropped, and the letters altered if necessary according to the rules in § 45, e.g.

wan shega, I tell. wan shége, I told.
gortan shego, when I tell.

soo, go on. wan sooda, I go on.
jogso, wait. wan jogsoda, I wait.
garo, understand. wan garta, I understand.
baro, learn. wan barta, I learn.
yelo, undertake. wan yesha, I undertake.
nocho, go back. wan nochda, I go back.
52. Imperfect Mood.

The tense terminations are preceded by i or y, and added to the infinitive.

(In I the i of the infinitive is dropped.)

(These seem to be the tenses of an imperfect auxiliary verb i, be, conjugated regularly and with the dependent verb in the infinitive preceding it, cf. § 58), e.g.

wan soônya, I am going on.
wăn shachêinya, I am working.
wăn shégya, I am telling.
wăn malênyé, I was thinking.

The i is short in all except those verbs of II where the syllable preceding it is short; e.g.

garānýa,

barânyâ,

ghobônyâ.

53. Table of Moods.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I.</td>
<td>sheg, tell.</td>
<td>shégi.</td>
<td>shéga.</td>
<td>shégya.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II a.</td>
<td>soû, go on.</td>
<td>soôn.</td>
<td>soûda.</td>
<td>soônya.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>baro, learn.</td>
<td>bâran.</td>
<td>barta.</td>
<td>baranýa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III.</td>
<td>shachêi, work.</td>
<td>shachêin.</td>
<td>shachêya.</td>
<td>shachêinya.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
54. The above terminations are for 1st pers. and 3rd pers. sing. masc. The following are the varieties for person:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present</th>
<th>Past</th>
<th>Conditional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sing. 1</td>
<td>-a</td>
<td>-é</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-ta</td>
<td>-té</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-sa</td>
<td>-sé</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 m.</td>
<td>-a</td>
<td>-é</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 f.</td>
<td>-ta</td>
<td>-té</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-sa</td>
<td>-sé</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>plur. 1</td>
<td>-na</td>
<td>-né</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-tan</td>
<td>-tén</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-san</td>
<td>-sén</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 m.</td>
<td>-an</td>
<td>-én</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 f.</td>
<td>-tan</td>
<td>-tén</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-san</td>
<td>-sén</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the 2nd and 3rd fem. pers. sing. and plur., t is used after a consonant, i.e. in the perfect tenses of I and II.

s is used always after i, i.e. in all imperfect tenses, and in perfect tenses of III.

55. The Future is formed by the present perfect of the auxiliary verb don, will.

The auxiliary is often omitted in this tense and the infinitive used alone, e.g.

wan shegi dona \} I will tell.
wan shegi \}
56. Table of Conjugations.

**Imperative.**

(I) an shego, let me tell.
    sheg, tell.

(I) ha machlo, let him hear.
    ha machasho, let her hear.

(III) an shacheino, let us work.
    shacheya, work ye.

(II) ha bartan, let them learn.

**Future.**

\[
\begin{array}{l}
\text{wan tegi dona} \quad \text{I will go, &c.} \\
, \quad \text{donta} \\
, \quad \text{dona} \\
, \quad \text{donta} \\
, \quad \text{donna} \\
, \quad \text{dontan} \\
, \quad \text{donan}
\end{array}
\]

**Perfect.**

Present.

soòda, go on. (II. a.) soònya, am going on.
soòta.
soòda
soòta
garna, understand. (II. b.) baranína, are learning.
gartan
gartan

**Imperfect.**

soònisai
soònyai
soònisai
garna, understand. (II. b.) baranísan
gartan
gartan
Perfect.  
Past.  
tagé, went.  
takté  
tagé  
takté  
arkné, saw.  
arktén  
arkén  

Conditional.  
falo, do.  
fasho  
falo  
fasho  
shachéino, work.  
shachéisan  
shachéyan  

Imperfect.  
(I.) tégyé, was going.  
tégisé  
tégyé  
tégisé  
(I.) machliné, were hearing.  
machlisén  
machlyén  

57. Negative. The negative particle is ma, an, or ha.  
Their use is as follows:—  

Imperative.  
ha, with the infinitive with -in added, e.g.  
hádal, talk.  
ha hádlin, don’t talk.  
(plur.) ha hádlinina, don’t talk.  

Perfect Mood.  

Present tense.  
ma, with the present perfect tense, e.g.  
má joga, he is not here.
Past tense.

ma, with the infinitive with -n added, e.g.
midna maàrkin, I saw no one.

Conditional tense.

an, with the infinitive with -in added, e.g.
hádanad ghóbonin, if you do not do.
hádanu jògin, if he is not here.

58. Imperfect Mood.

Present and Past tenses.

The infinitive is used followed by the tense terminations, which are negatived as explained above (§ 57). (Cf. note in § 52.)

Thus the i again appears as an auxiliary verb, and in this case, in negative form, as a separate word and not combined with the verb itself; e.g.

doni màya, I am not wanting.
garan màya, I do not understand.
tegi maín, I was not going.

The present tense form is conjugated without personal pronouns.

Present tense—

doni maya

,, maisa I do not want, or,
,, maya I shall not want,
,, maisa &c.
,, mayna
,, maisan
,, mayan
In the past tense the negative form for perfect tenses, being the infinitive, with ma and n, is not conjugated either in this or in the perfect tenses.

The negative of the future tense is the same as the negative present imperfect.

*Conditional tense.* In this also the i may be said to be conjugated regularly, but is not treated as a separate word.

Thus the root i makes infinitive in and negative conditional an inin (§ 57), e.g.

hadanad ghoboninin, if you shall not do.

Note.—The negative of wa is maha. (Cf. § 25.)

59. *The Interrogative.*

The interrogative particle is ma, e.g.

ma dónisa? do you want it?
ma jóga? is he here?
ma arkten? did you see?

ma is combined with the personal pronouns, e.g.

maan, mian, maad, miad, miu, miad arkté? did you see?

After interrogative adverbs or pronouns the particle ma is not required.
(For such interrogative parts of speech *vide* §§ 29, 33, 43), e.g.

*ya kaléh jira?* what else is there?

*intè jirta?* how far is it?

The interrogative 'why?' is translated by

*mahan u, mahad u, &c.* (Cf. §§ 43, 64.)

In negative interrogative sentences the *ma* retains the interrogative sense, and *an* is used as the negative particle, e.g.

*mianad donisa?* do you not want?

The particle *sò, shò*, expresses doubt or potentiality, e.g.

*sò àno miad dónisa?* perhaps you want milk? or, don't you want milk?

*shò máha?* is it not?

60. *The Passive.*

(i) This may be expressed as in English by

*wa, is, are, and the participle* (§§ 25, 49), e.g.

*wa adèsan*, it is cleaned.

(ii) The commoner way of expressing the passive is by the use of the particle *la*.

This then has the same meaning as the French *on in on dit, 'it is said.'*

The passive subject is in the objective case and the verb is in the 3rd pers. masc. singular, as if *la* were the subject, e.g.
la kénya, it is being brought; it is coming.

isága ma la sín, he has not been given, or, no one gave him.

ímisa la dónya? how many are wanted?

Note: la u becomes lo.

la ku ,, lagu.

e.g. sirákíshi kaleh biyu lo gèiya, the other officers are being brought their water.

wa lagu dulmya, he is being ill-treated.

61. Auxiliary Verbs.

don, will.

kar, be able, can.

jir, be (used in past tense to form a past habitual tense).

These are conjugated regularly, and take the infinitive, which precedes them; e.g.

wan tégí dona, I will go.

wad tégí kari dónta, you will be able to go.

wu soòn kari màya, he cannot walk.

wan olli jiré, I used to live.

62. Irregular Verbs.
The principal ones are:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>imo, come.</td>
<td>iman.</td>
<td>ìmada.</td>
<td>ìmánya.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deh, say.</td>
<td>oran.</td>
<td>iràda.</td>
<td>oránya.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>oll, live.</td>
<td>olli.</td>
<td>al.</td>
<td>(ollya).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ogho, know.</td>
<td>oghon.</td>
<td>oghda.</td>
<td>oghaha.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In these four verbs the imperfect tenses are conjugated regularly, but in the perfect tenses the specific consonants for the different persons are added to the beginning, instead of to the termination.

The past perfects are also irregular:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{imi}, & \text{ came.} & \text{iri}, & \text{ said} \\
\text{il}, & \text{ lived.} & \text{oghàdè}, & \text{ knew.}
\end{align*}
\]

The conditional of imo is imàdo.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{wan imi}, & \text{ came.} & \text{iràda}, & \text{ say.} \\
\text{wad timi.} & & \text{tiràda.} \\
\text{wu yimi.} & & \text{yiràda.} \\
\text{wènu nimi.} & & \text{niràna.}
\end{align*}
\]

The only other irregular verbs to be mentioned here are the doubtful verbs:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{leh} & \{ & \text{have} & \text{ lahan} & \text{ lehda} & \{ & \text{laha} \\
& & \text{ought} & \text{ lehya} \\
& & \text{should} & \}
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{weh} & \{ & \text{have not} & \text{ lehyan} & \text{ lehda} & \{ & \text{weh} & \\text{weí} \\
& & \text{cannot} & \text{ wazyà} \\
& & \text{-i} & \text{be} & \text{-in} & \{ & \text{-ia, -yaha}.
\end{align*}
\]

(§§ 25, 52, 58.)

63. Examples of Irregular Verbs.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{gormad timi} \text{?} & \text{ when did you come?} \\
\text{ma iman} \text{ (§ 57),} & \text{ not come (all persons).} \\
\text{wa imánya,} & \text{ he is coming.}
\end{align*}
\]
yímada, come ye.
hadènu nimàno, if we come.
gortu yimàdo, when he comes.
wahad tiràda, say this.
muhu yiràda? what does he say?
mahad oran? what are you going to say?
wahan oránya, I am saying.
muhu yiri? what did he say?
markan iràdo, when I say.
miska dushísi yal, it is on the table.
áchalkeiga yalin, they are in my house.
haggead talin? where do you live?
Burao ènu nal, I live in Burao.
haggà ènu nil, I lived over there.
wan oghon, I shall know.
wan òghaha, I know.
wan oghàdé, I knew.
moòfi, moöyi, I don't know.
má tòghan? do you know it?
wáchaba ka ma oghon, he knew nothing of it.
mahad i orou lèhdin? what have you to tell me?
mahad lehda? what have you (to say)?
wahan lehya, I have, &c.
inad takto yad lehda, you have got to go.
inad egto yad lehda, you must have seen.
‘twenty’ deh, say ‘twenty.’
dochso deh, tell him to hurry.
anigà leh, it is mine.
yà leh? whose?
laagti ban ku sín laha, I should give you the pay. (Cf. § 70.)

64. Weh. This is a defective irregular negative verb. It is employed as an auxiliary and consequently takes the infinitive. Its meaning is rather a surprised or unexpected negative, or refusal, or impossibility.

It is especially used after ‘why not?’ ‘why didn’t?’ (cf. § 59), e.g.

mahád u yéli wehdi? why didn’t you do it?
mahád u døni wehda? why don’t you look for it?

mahad i gu shegwei? why didn’t you tell me?
wei, wâhyi, I couldn’t find him.
leh wah, la wah, he is lost.

biyu meshâ bènu ku wehna, we cannot find water at that place.
PART III.
EXAMPLES OF SENTENCES.
(The numbers in brackets refer to notes at the end.)

65. Simple Sentences.
muhu donya? what does he want?
ninka bu donya, wuhu donya ninka, the man wants.
tolmài? golimài? (1) what is your tribe?
hagge tégisa? where are you going?
ma machalísa? do you hear?
ma garanísa? do you understand?
ha, wa máchlya, yes, I hear.
ha, wa garánýa, yes, I understand.
mahád wárrenta? what news do you bring?
waha kaleh má jira? is there anything else?
wáchaba má jira? (2) there is nothing.
u shègé, I have told him.
u yèdé, lo yèdé, I have called him; he is sent for.
mà húbta? are you sure?
wá húba, I am sure.
ka wèidi, ask him.
ha ilòwin, don't forget.
ma ilòwdi? did you forget?
wa ù malènya, (3) I think so.
wa oghánlista, (4) I will find out.
wa ku só tashánsta, (4) I will think about it.
idna màrkten? did you see any one?
ù dúdi, he refused.
ma tégisa? are you going?
ha, berrí wa tégya, yes, I am going to-morrow.
mañád u malènišà? why do you think so?
mañánsomènya ànilgu? what am I to do?
nàs bàti, (5) you are a fool.
mañád oron dónsta? what are you going to say?
anílgà u raàya, I will accompany him.
faráska bangūli dona, I will ride the horse.
alabáda hálkan diga, put the luggage down here.
sanduchas tambuchèiga ku keu, put that box in my tent.
laba saàdod bad ghobonišè inta, you have been two hours doing that.
gélúpta damèya, finish it this evening.
iminkan tagno, (6) let us go now.
iminkad tégi Burao, you are now coming to Burao.
bíya ma kú jìra? is there water there?
intú jìra? how far is it?
ma jira, ma kú jira, there is none.
imisa ka dambēi, how long after?
ma haïsta? (7) have you got it?
wā haïsta, I have got it.
mahad sidên? what did you bring?
wā búka, búksata; I am sick; well.
wā buksánya, I am getting well.
wā bachtýa, (he) I am dying.
ninki wā bahsoté, the man has escaped.
wā bahsónya, (8) he will escape.
wā dínti, he is dead.
wā dínyi, it is ready.
wahás ígu ma wanáksana, that is no good to me.

rikabyáda i gàbi, (9) shorten the stirrups.
faraska kóri, saddle the pony.
B. intê jirta? (10) how far is B.?
D. intê B. jirta? how far is B. from D.?
imisa gèdi u jiran? (11) how many marches?
laba lugódleh gormad ku tegisa? (12) how long would you take on foot?
faráska gormu tégya? how long on a pony?
laba ashoin (dararod) B. innagu geïna, we must get to B. in two days.
dérigha kaleh má jira? is there another road?
eîlke ma ënu márina? (13) what well do we pass?
wa dágahah, wa bur, it is stony, hilly.
tolma halkan tal? what tribe lives here?
bíyaha ma órya? does the water smell?
máya, lèkin wa dudun húnyíhi, no, but it 
tastes bad.
biya éduiku filan ma haísatan? have you 
enough water?
wahyar bèn haïsona, we have a little.
wa ídiuku filányihi, it is quite enough for you.
aurka áchalka dóchso ka dâya, that camel’s 
load will fall off directly.
mahád markihôre igu shegwei? why didn’t 
you tell me before?
mahad igu shégisa? why do you tell me?
ma gór hor u tagé? has he gone long?
ghunyar hadal, wahan weidyo wehé ga èli, 
talk slowly, and answer what I ask.
ànigu tachsir maân lehya, damèian shuchul-
keiga, (14) it is not my fault, I have done 
my work.
wa kan tèbelka saran ka ken, bring that one 
there on the table.
áchli ma lahân, he has no sense.
haggà bochol talâba ka dambèya, follow on 
a hundred yards behind.
haggà ka dûrka, move away in that direction.
sò kala bad, half fill it for me.
58  PARTICLES

wa kala badanyi, it is half full.
adi gu radki don, wah kaleh ha ghobonin,  
yan lagu ar kin, do nothing but look for  
the track, and don't let yourself be seen.  
intad beina wastai, o yad tugta i, you are not  
only a liar, but a thief.

66. List of Common Particles, &c.
wa, (i) is, are;  
(ii) affirmative particle; e.g.  
  wa nin hun, he is a bad man.  
  wa sīda, it is so.  
  wa kuan, here they are.  
  wa saddehh, there are three.  
  wa ímisa? how many are there?  
  wá mahài? what is it?  
  wa wanáksana, it is good.  
  wa haïsta, I have got.  
  wá joga, he is there.

ma, (i) negative particle;  
(ii) interrogative particle; e.g.  
  ma jógā? is he there?  
  má joga, he is not there.

ha, (i) yes;  
(ii) negative imperative particle, 2nd pers.;  
(iii) 3rd pers. pron. imperative; e.g.  
  ha hadlin, don't talk.  
  ha tago, let him go.
an, (i) I;  
(ii) negative particle with conditional tenses  
and with interrogative particle; e.g.  
hadanan jogin, If I was not here.  
mianad dónisa? do you not want?  
ba, (i) distributive;  
(ii) generic; e.g.  
nimba toban u si, give each man ten.  
aurba, the camel.  
u, ku, gu, (i) you, him;  
(ii) to, for; e.g.  
u si, give him.  
B. gormad ku takté? when did you go to B.?  
mahád u fálisa? what are you doing it for?  
ka, (i) from;  
(ii) that way;  
(iii) more . . . than (§ 68);  
(iv) that (pronoun); e.g.  
haggead ka timi? where have you come from?  
ka ghad, take it away.  
iss, 'ss, reflexive, e.g.  
mahad iss tiri? what did you mean?  
'ss ku doàda, close together.  
'/ss ka, there! e.g.  
'/ss ka bahá, get out of that!  
'/ss ka ghád, take it away there!  
'/ss ká tag, go away there!
la, (i) passive particle;  
(ii) with;  
(iii) deprived of; e.g.
ma la sin, I have not been given one.
wa sirkalki la joga, he is with the officer (i.e. servant).
labåton midla, 20 minus 1, 19.
idla, without any one.
  si, (i) that way;  
  (ii) give;  
  (iii) adverbial (§ 25); e.g.
     si jèso, turn that way.
so, this way, e.g.  
     so jèso, turn this way.
     so ghad, fetch.
kāla, apart, e.g.
   kala dürka, move apart, extend.
àd, properly, well, very, e.g.
   àd u tiri, count carefully.
malaha, perhaps.
laan, without, e.g.
   sentéri laan, without a sentry.
o . . . mahai, without, unless, e.g.
o húkum mahai, without an order.
àdigu o héli mahái, unless you find it.
adigu mahai imisa kaléh jiran? how many others are there besides you?
o, and, because.
yo, -na, and (joins substantives).
ama, mise, or.
lèkin, but.
hadi kaleh, or else.

Examples of Compound Sentences.

67. Relative Sentences. (15)
nimankà halkà farístan, u yed, send for the men who are sitting over there.
kítábki miskeigi saran, la kàli, bring me the book lying on my table.
ninki ka dón, ki såka Burao ka yimi, find the man who came from Burao this morning.
ninki íminkan u yèdi, the man I sent for just now.
ninkâni miad àrkté? kan ma ninka ad arkté? is this the man you saw?
askárti o magaòda yan iri, ha yímada, those soldiers whose names I called, come.
wahan shalè ku iri, miadan ghobsan? do you not remember what I said yesterday?
mahad u machli wehda, wehè lagu yiri? (16) why don’t you listen to what you are told?
wahan ku iràda yel, do what I tell you.
sidan ku iri fal, (17) do as I said.
wahan ku weidie wahad ku ēli, answer my question.
nin walba árenka aïnkàsa somèya, tachsir ulus ya ghobsónisa, every man who makes a complaint like that will get heavily punished.
nimankas hujuddi yai somèyen, tachsir delin bai nochoden, those men who committed that crime deserve the punishment of death.
áffar aren bai ku so ashtakòden, lába ash-tako run bai nóchodé, (18) they brought four complaints, only two were found to be true.
óród o ka só tasho, run and think about it.
gor walba ayarsíska hortísi só baha, hadi kaleh wa lehdon tachsírya, always turn out before parade, or else you will be punished.
alòshi honònisa, o soôn kari maya, my belly hurts, I can't walk.
gudimoïnki wa afbèlan, o milla affèyan mahái, òda goin màyan, the gudimos are (so) blunt (that) without being sharpened they cannot cut the wood.
wa adágyihi, o lagu goin kari maya, it is so hard, (and) it cannot be cut.
ha sò nochon, adigu o banduchi héli mahai,
(19) do not come back without finding the rifle.

nimánka la ma tachsíre, iyagu o so ashtaköden, (20) the men were not punished because they brought a complaint.

halká dérta wa wein, there, where the big trees are.

ashtakòdi sirkálki gorti u máchalé, when the officer had listened to the complaint.

nimankàse waha lagu tachsíré, marki ashtakòdi la machalé, o sirkálki iyagi la mel nochodé, markasi húkumki díden, (21) but those men were punished, (because) when their complaint was heard, and the officer had taken their part, still they refused to obey the order.

mahád iss tiri, marka wahad somènísé?
what did you mean by doing that?

B. markad ghobto, wahad ku tiràda sirkalki, (22) when you reach B. tell the officer this.

intan so nòchdo, meshas jogsòda, wait over there until I come back.

biya an àbo i ken, (23) bring me drinking-water.

wan oghaha mel i jiro, I know where it is.
garan maya mel dagahas o kaleh ka dono,  
I don't know where to find stones like that.

wahan faristo i ken, bring me something to sit on.

halki manti dowèda gàdden, gada, go as far as you went the other day.

intad soon karto soo, o yan idina ku arkin, go as far as you can without being seen.

labaton nin o owinan, ban ku so dirya, I will send 20 men to help you.

68. Comparative Sentences.

kas wa ká wanáksana, that is better.

áchalkakan áchalkihôre ka weín, (24) this house is bigger than the former.

áchalkas achal ka wein somèya, make a bigger house than that one.

marka dambe shuchulkà shuchul dàma somèya, in the future do more work than that.

nimâyo, shuchulkihôre shuchul ka bádan ghobten, you men have done more work than before.

Isa wárankayàga waran ka wein yu lehyahi (sîta), the Isa carries a bigger spear than ours.

inta waha ka yira i ken, bring me less than that.
warankas wa fúdud, that is a light spear.

kas wa fudúdyihi, (25) that is very light.

faráska wa wanáksan, wanáksan, wanáksan, that horse is really fine.

kán wa ugug wanáksan, this is best of all.

saddehhdá kas sa wein, (26) that is the biggest of the three.

sa sa wanáksan, it is best.

kas sa \{ houlyíra, that is easiest.

\{ sahalányíhi, gorigha gorigh ka adag wa wàiyí, (27) there is no harder wood to be found than that.

holaha mesha jogan, hola ka wein wèlìgi ma àrkin, the animals at that place are the biggest I have ever seen.

waha badan doni maya, I don’t want so much.

derigha ya hágáksan, this is the \{ best \{ proper road.

kan ma kas gabányíhi? is that shorter than this?

innaga ma idin badna, they are not so many as we.

nínkan waha ma tari weí, hog ma leh wachaba tari mayo, this man is useless, he is not strong enough for anything.

dóliskas eilka ma gàdías is that rope long enough for the well?
66  SENTENCES

inad A. \( \{ \text{ka fogàdo} \) doni maya, I do not want
\( \) dafto 
\( \) you to \( \{ \) go further than A.
\( \) pass

69. Oratio obliqua. (28)
wahan dònya berrí inan tago, I want to go
to-morrow.
wahan dònya inu dochso u so nòchdo, I
want him to come back quickly.
wahan jaàlahai halkan inan jogo, I should
like to stay here.
wahan dònya inad Burao takto, I want you
to go to Burao.
inu fogàdo doni màya, I don't want him to go
far.
ma inad takto miad donisa? do you want to go?
inu jogo mianu dònya? does he not want to
stay?
wahan u malènya, berrí inan tago, I think
I am going to-morrow.
wahan súgya inu yimàdo, I am waiting for
him to come.
inteinu buhin karö, iminka ineinu buhinno
sa sa wanaksan; ineinu mesha biyu
ku wehna, ka yàbia (bachánña), it is
best for us to fill as much as possible now,
(as) I fear we shall find no water at that
place.
málaha wa araré, I expect (perhaps) he has run away.
mahád û malènisa? haggu tagé? where do you think he has gone?
wahan û malènya, Burao bu ku tégi, I think he is going to Burao.
wan û malén maya in ilach dambi daïso, I don’t think there will be more trouble.
inla sidáyo ragi wanaksan, la doni maya, (29) one does not want to let good men go.
àd û garta, wahas wa la húnyihi, o ghainun maha, understand thoroughly that that is very bad and not discipline.
wahad ku tiràda, ’ss ka tága, tell them to go away.
wahad ku tiràda, Olesan ghobo, o dochso u tago, tell him to go to Olesan and hurry up.
nin ú dir, o Ali wahad ku tiràda, só nocho, send a man to tell Ali to come back.
mise ilôdé, ama ku tiri? did you forget to tell him?
mahad u didé u raï? mahad u raï wehdi? why wouldn’t you go with him?
san (sidan) waha irádo, garan maya, I don’t know how to say that.
markas wahan iri, ‘shuchulkina ghobta,’ markas wehé yíraden, ‘ghobon mayna,’
then when I told them to do their work, they said they wouldn't.

70. Conditional Sentences. (30)
haddu jogo haddatan uyed, if he is here now, call him.

hadènu fogàno, wa { umban donna, if we go far, we shall be lost.

hadiad ninki disho, mehè yeli donan? if you kill the man, what will they do?

hadiàidinan { bachanin, so manhãin noch-
den, (31) if you had not been frightened, you would not have returned.

Burao hadian jogo, Garrero ma imadén, if I had been at Burao, I should not have come to Garrero.

iminka Burao hadian jogo, laàgti ban ku sin laha, (32) if I were at Burao now, I should give you the money.

haddu markihore i shego . . ., if you had told me before . . .

machli maya, hadian u malèyo inu bein shego, I should not listen, if I thought he was telling a lie.

laag ku sin maya, adigu jogi mahai, I shall not give you pay, if you do not stay.
haddad jogto, inad egto wad lehda, if you were there, you must have seen.

hadiad shuchulkà, an donya, anad ghobo-nin, shuchulkèyga ku ma wanáksanid, (33) if you do not do your work as I want, you are no good to me.

hukumka machala, amaha humado, amaha sumado, \{\begin{align*} & \text{obey} \\
& \text{listen to} \end{align*}\} the order, whether bad or good.

hadi hukum lagu shego, wáchaba weidininà, (34) if an order is given you, ask no questions.

saddehh asho hadiad ka bádsato, laàg heli màysa, (35) if you are more than three days on the road, you will get no pay.

nin walba wa ku húkumyahái, haddu iss yiràdo, wa lagu dúlmya, inu ku so ashtakòdo, (36) every man is allowed, if he imagines he is being ill-treated, to bring a complaint.

71. Military Terms.

banduch-hi, rifle.
rasás-ti, ammunition.
sháchado-di, bandolier.
sùn-ki, belt, strap.
askàri-gi, soldier.
Mahabis, prisoner.
Illalo-di, spy, scout.
Oll-ki, enemy.
Talaba-di, pace.
Ayarsis-ki, parade.
Shuchul-ki, fatigue, work.
Selid-di, oil.
Suf-ki, rag.
Ration-ki, rations.
Timir-ti, dates.
Baris-ki, rice.
Subukh-hi, ghee.
Hilib-ki, meat.
Fasahh-hi, leave.
Tachsir-ki, punishment, fault.
Ashtako-di, complaint.
Hukum-ki, order.
Aren-ki, case, suit.
Ghainun-ki, discipline.
Tachsir, punish.
Haul-shi, business.
Wadad-ki, the Mullah.

Military Phrases.
Sara jogso, stand up.
'Ss ku hagaji, stand properly.
Ha dakhdachaghin, don't fidget.
Madaha sar 'u tosi, hold your head up.
sakàrka sò behé, throw the chest out.
hádalka ’ss ka dàya, stop that talking.
banduchha wanáji, hold your rifle properly.
hor u só baha, come forward.
dib u jogso, stand back.
soòda ! forward !
mahad u súgisa? what are you waiting for?
talábada hagajía, keep the proper step.
talába, take a pace.
bídehda, mídigta, left, right.
bidehda egta, look to the left.
gànta sida, drop the hand.
so jeso, ’ss ka rúg, turn this way.
adigu waiye; intí kaleh soòda, only you;
the rest go on.
dimántin, the whole.
mar keliah, all at the same time.
’ss leh egta, all together.
‘halt ’ markan iràdo, when I say ‘halt.’
sidi iminka, do that again.
ka war’! wake up!
do bahá, turn out.
nin walba (kasta), every (each) man.
shuchalkàga ghobo, do your work.
guardka wa ghóbónyá, he is doing guard.
kumà leh? whose turn is it?
wa Farah leh, it is Farah’s turn.
húkumki àdu machli, listen to the order.
hukumki wá mahai? what is the order?
dufo, sound (bugle).
ma dufta? shall I sound?
kala durka, extend (separate).
'ss ku doàda, close (close up).
fardaha radi, follow up the horses' tracks.
fardí so kahai, bring the horses here.
ka dá, get off.
nin ba maghán, there is one man absent.

72. The following orders the men in my companies were made to learn by heart.

Hukumki ragi 'guard'-
ki waiye. Orders for men on guard.

1. àd u barta hú-
kumka.
2. ninka 'com-
manding 'ka o idin
fásahi mahai, ha ka
tégina 'guard 'ka.
3. 'dress 'ka yo
sháchado midna ha
'ss ka furrina.
4. marka sentérigi
idin doágo, dochso u
sò bahá, hagga fron-
tína u jesta, o 'slope
arms.'
Orders for the sentry.

1. understand your orders.
2. look to your front.
3. look after all government property.
4. don't talk to anyone.
5. count the prisoners, and don't allow one out without a sentry.
6. In case of fire and alarm, or, if the ‘alarm’ is sounded, turn out the guard.
7. anything unusual report to the commander of the guard.
8. walk about properly, turn to the front, salute all officers, ‘present’ to a major.
9. turn out the
MILITARY PHRASES

ra, saddehda bugle, 'Revellé, Retreat, Tattoo'; sirkalki 'commanding 'ka markeliah; 'Orderly Officer,' ama 'Visiting Rounds' marku idin iràdo; partigi askarti banaduchi sidan.

guard, at Reveillé, Retreat, and Tattoo, to the C. O. once, to the O. O., or Visiting Rounds, whenever he tells you, to all armed parties.
NOTES.

(1) -ti the 2nd sing., t prefixed, of the verb -i, be.
(2) The negative words wachaba and midna require the negative particle as well.
(3) This verb almost always is used with u.
(4) The present imperfect tense has a sense of futurity, intention, or willingness.
(5) bati for bad ti, see (1).
(6) iminkan for iminka an.
(7) haïso, have got.

Present Perfect Tense.

wan haïsta.       wènu haïsona.
wad haïsta.       wèdin haïsatan.
wu haïsta.        wè haïstan.
wè haïsta.

(8) Verbs of this class seem to be very irregular in dropping the o, and in the length of it.
(9) i, for me.
(10) jirta, fem. referring to mesha, the place.
(11) gèdi, one camel's march.
(12) laba lugodle, on both feet; compare also bulli harédle, rain-water bulli; (mel) derkènle, place of euphorbia trees; and anigà leh, it is mine.
(13) ke, an interrogative form of the definite article; cf. interrogative pronoun ke? who?
(14) dameian for an dameiè.
(15) There is no true relative pronoun, it is usually omitted, or represented by the definite article.
(16) Literally, 'what one told you.' wehé is the plural, and is object of yiri.
(17) sidan, sidi an.
(18) so gives the meaning of 'bringing' the complaint; ka would imply 'taking' it.
(19) mahai behaves as an auxiliary verb.
(20) o is thus used meaning 'because.'
(21) la mel nochodé, 'take part with.'
(22) ghobto is conditional tense, as always after such conjunctions, unless the time is a definite past.
(23) = 'bring me water that I may drink.'
(24) The subject of comparison is the subject of the sentence and therefore placed first. Where
the subject of comparison is the object of the sentence, it follows the noun it is compared with.

(25) fududyihi. This form of adjectival verb gives the superlative sense of 'very.'

(26) sa, another form of expressing the superlative, but means 'most.'

(27) waiyi, 'cannot be found.'

(28) When there is any intention or uncertainty implied, in with conditional tense is used. In direct narrative, the original oratio recta is repeated.

(29) Here la is evidently used exactly as any personal pronoun, and attached to the conjunction (cf. § 60).

(30) There is at present some vagueness about the correct forms for the various types of conditional sentence. These examples are therefore very deficient.

(31) maydin for ma aidin.

(32) laha makes a conditional tense, and is used as an auxiliary verb.

(33) an donya, 'which I want.'

hadiad . . . anad, more correctly would be in one word, hadanad.

(34) wachaba weidinina [cf. note (2)].
Here the negative particle ha is omitted, but the verb is put in negative form.

(35) A verb badso, increase.

(36) dulmya for dulunya, n before a vowel usually becomes m.

iss yirado, literally, 'say to oneself.'
ADDENDA

(These additional notes arrived from Somaliland too late to be incorporated in the text.)

§ 5.

dàf, descend, go down.
kor, climb, go up.

§ 6.

alamadi, mark, make a mark on.
bedel, change.
bel, lose.
waràbi, give to drink, water.
dàji, graze, take to graze.
dakh, graze (intrans.).
ingeji, dry (trans.).
maïr, wash (with water).
maïro, be washed.
liss, milk (trans.).
nasi, rest, give rest to.
\textbf{ADDENDA}

\textbf{tab}, touch, meddle with.
\textbf{tōl}, sew.
\textbf{dufo (dufta)}, blow (a whistle, bugle).

\section*{§ 7.}
\textbf{ku nocho}, repeat, say again.

\section*{§ 10.}
The following fine distinction seems to be made between \textbf{i} and \textbf{u}:

\textbf{u} is employed for persons and things well known, and about which there can be no doubt. It would not be used when any epithet qualifies the noun.

\textbf{i} is employed in a perfectly vague and indefinite sense. Thus—

\textbf{sirkalka} would refer to an officer actually present.

\textbf{sirkalki} would refer to any officer whatever, not present.

\textbf{sirkalku} would refer to the man's own immediate officer, or company commander.

\textbf{u} is thus used frequently for common and well-known objects, as,

\textbf{biyahu}, \textbf{chorahhdu}, \textbf{naguhu},

and in the personal pronouns,

\textbf{anigu}, \textbf{adigu}.
§ 17.

barmil-shi, barrel.
kibrid-di, match.
llòhh-hi, wood (box wood).
masaf-ki, funnel.
saman-ki, goods (general term).
shama-hi, candle.

§ 18.

dàsad-di, any tin pot, can.
gudimo-di, native axe, small blade on a forked stick.
hongol-ki, hooked stick, for dragging in branches for the zareba; entrance to an enclosure.

§ 19.

bilad-di, country, land.
daü-gi, road.
bèr-ti, dried-up dung, grass, &c.

§ 21.

ghodah-hi, general name for thorn trees.
damèl-ki, a thorn tree with small hard pods, like French beans, eaten by Somalis.
§ 25.

All simple adjectives observe the following very general rules of inflexion:—

When qualifying a noun with the def. art., add a.

When qualifying a plural noun, reduplicate the first syllable.

Both inflexions take place concurrently, e. g. ninki wanaksana   dagahhanta yaryara. dagahha wanaksana   dagahhan balbalaran. dagahhan yaryar.

§ 26.

baan, bad-tempered.
dab, true.
fian, good, smart, clever.

§ 54.

In § 24 it is noticed that most polysyllabic nouns change their gender in the plural. If the plural form is masc., the masc. form of the verb is used, and vice versa, irrespectively of the natural gender of the noun; e. g. ninki wa imanya, the man is coming. nimanki wa imanyan, the men are coming. askarigi wa wanaksenyihi, the soldier is good.
askarti wa wanaksentahain, the soldiers are good.
nagti wa imanisa, the woman is coming.
naguhu wa imanyan, the women are coming.
dagahha wa hunyihi, the stone is bad.
dagahhanta wa huntehain, the stones are bad.
aurti takten, the camels went.

§ 71.
alan-ki, flag.
bedel, relieve, change.
markhad-di, witness.