

The expression of qualification in Samba-Duru

Classification of Samba Duru

Niger Congo

Adamwa Gur

Central Adamawa

Samba Duru






Vere Gəmme

Doyayo

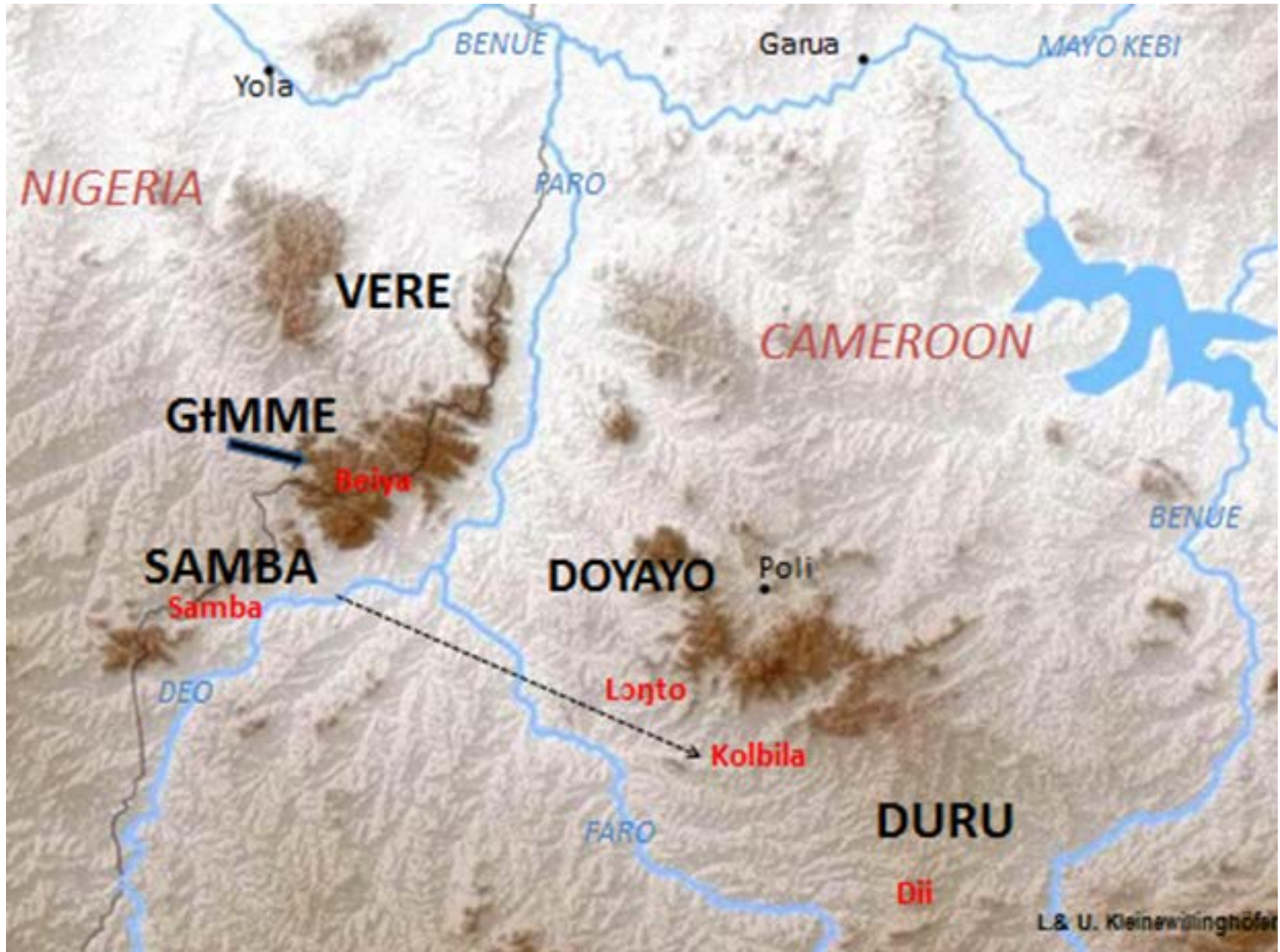
Duru

Samba

Sample languages of the survey

<u>LANGUAGE</u>		<u>BRANCH</u>
• Kolbila		Samba
• Samba Leeko		Samba
• Dii		Duru
• Lonṅto		Duru
• Beiya		Gemme

The expression of qualification in Samba-Duru



Assumption

In Samba-Duru qualification is expressed by nouns, verbs and adjectives in addition with other parts of speeches as ideophones or complexe structures composed of more than one part of speech.

Questions

- How is qualification expressed?
- Which structures are used to express qualification?
- Which parts of speeches are involved?
- Do the languages have a closed class of adjectives?
- Are there criteria to differentiate between secondary (derived) and primary (underived) adjectives?

The languages without full noun class systems

Kolbila

Summary

- Kolbila is in an advanced state of the loss of the noun class system.
- Qualities are expressed by verbs, nouns and complex constructions.
- Quality nouns or verbs are used attributively and as predicative.
- No overt closed adjective class.
- No primary adjectives.

Samba Leeko

Summary (based on Fabre 2004)

- Qualities are expressed by adjectives, quality nouns and quality verbs. We assume that more complex structures exist in Samba Leeko as well, when more data is examined.
- Quality nouns and verbs are used as predicates or attributively.
- There is a closed class of adjectives.
- There is a group of primary adjectives.
- Quality nouns and adjectives are mainly derived from verbs.

Dii

Summary (based on Altebockwinkel 2014)

- Qualities are expressed by quality nouns, quality verbs, adjectives and complex structures.
- Quality nouns: Syntactic structure doesn't differ from N+ N structures with a noun as modifier. Adjectives do differ in use as a predicate and an attribute as the use of the copula is facultative. Quality verbs are used like adjectives, they differ morphologically.
- There is a closed class of adjectives.
- There is a small class of primary adjectives and a larger class of secondary adjectives derived from verbs.

The languages with noun class systems

Lɔŋtɔ

Summary

- Lɔŋtɔ uses quality verbs, quality nouns and adjectives to express qualification.
- Some adjectives or quality nouns are derived from quality verbs.
- There is a closed class of adjectives.
- There is a class of secondary adjectives which are not concordant with the head noun.

Beiya

N+N associative constructions :

- One noun qualifies the other.
- The concord suffixes agreeing with the head noun are also suffixed to the modifying noun in N + N associative constructions.
- The modifying noun follows the head noun.
- Beiya distinguishes morphologically qualifying and possessive association (Kleinewillinghöfer 2011).

(1a) gbóó-**k** raag-**ék**

domestic animal ('meat/animal of the house'
(see *raa-k* 'house, compound')

(1b) ye-**n** raag-**ən**

domestic animals ('things of the house')

Beiya

(2) sin-i raag-a

land-lady (woman of the house)

(cp. *sini raak* 'house of the woman' [POSS])

(-i and -a are both variants of the class suffix
of the noun class containing most [animate] nouns.

(3) máá-m Polí-mè

Water from Poli, Poli-water

Beiya

Adjectives showing agreement:

The concord markers of the noun class of the respective head noun are suffixed to a large number of the adjectives.

(4) s̄in-ī sáks-ī
 woman-CL beautiful-CL

The beautiful woman. /It's a beautiful woman.

(5a) raa-k a-k yòò bĩ yēēbó-k tènḡá.
 house-CL DET-CL COP ANT red-CL always:Q

Has this house always been red?

(6b) éò gbò? yòò bĩ vúr-gē
 no in the past COP ANT white-CL

No it has been white in the past.

The expression of qualification in Samba-Duru

Beiya

Adjectives are of different types:

Secondary adjectives:

Verb	Adjective	Noun
vùr-ná (to be/become white)	vúr-i, vúr-bə, vúl-lə, vúr-gə, vún-nə, vúd-sè, vúd-tə	vúr-i, vúr-bə
kókté-ná (to dry / be dry)	kókt-ér, kók-sè , kókték, ..	
rōōná (to be/become good)	roon-í, roon-ép, roon-zə, roon-ér, ...	roon-én (goodness)

Beiya

Primary adjectives:

Adjective	Noun
wítik-í, wítikép, wítikél, wítikér; wítikés,...	
pəə-i, pəə-p, pəə-k, ...	pəə-n (something pee-nsə new) (Newness, innovation)

Beiya

Non-concordant adjectives:

Adjective		Verb	
l̥aŋ-təl, pl. l̥aŋ-tép	(thin, meager)	l̥aŋ-ná	to lose weight
gōm-təl, pl. gōm-tép	(sick, ill)	gom-ná	to suffer of sth.
y̥ibəl, pl. y̥ibii	(full, filled)	y̥i-nā	to fill

Beiya

- (5) lām-ī s̄n-ī ʔān l̄n̄ yòò gōmt̄l
blacksmith-CL woman-CL to be thin COP sick
The blacksmith's wife is thin, she is sick.

- (6) nàg-i sóbr-í l̄n̄t̄l
cattle-CL female-CL meager
The cow is meager *or* the meager cow.

- (7) nàg-əp sóbr-ép l̄n̄t̄-ép
cattle-CL:PL female-CL:PL meager-PL
The cows are meager *or* the meager cows.

Beiya

(8) nàg-i sóbr-í yòò lántél
 cattle-CL female-CL COP meager
 The cow is meager.

(9) nàg-əp sóbr-ép ?á yòò lánt-ép
 cattle-CL:PL female-CL:PL to be COP meager-PL
 The cows are meager.

Beiya

Summary

- Quality is expressed mainly with quality verbs, quality nouns and adjectives.
- A number of adjectives and quality nouns are derived from quality verbs.
- There are a number of underived adjectives which aren't concordant with the head noun.
- There is a closed class of adjectives containing primary (underived) and secondary (derived) adjectives. The latter are generally derived from verbs.
- Adjectives are of three types

Conclusion

- In our sample languages quality concepts are expressed by more than one part of speech.
- Apart from the two noun class languages the other three languages of our sample possess only a small (or none like Kolbila) class of primary adjectives.
- No validation if it's always a closed class.
- The two noun class languages of our sample have adjectives which are marked morphologically.
- There must be an adjective class in Samba Duru which members are mainly derived from quality verbs.