

A Phonology of Batanga (Bantu A30); The Bano'ɔ dialect

MA thesis
Language Diversity of Africa, Asia and Native America

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1. Introduction

This thesis will provide a basic phonology and orthography of Bano’o. Bano’o is one of three dialects that are part of Batanga. This group of languages is classified by Guthrie (1983) in group A30. The other dialects of Batanga are Bapuku and Batanga. Bano’o is a Coastal Bantu language, as can be seen in Fig. 1. As the name Coastal Bantu already assumes, Bano’o is spoken along the south-west coast of Cameroon. Mainly in Kribi and surrounding villages like, Lobe, Mula and Bongahеле. Bano’o is to a limited extent also spoken in bigger cities like Douala, Yaoundé and Edea. The language spread there, because mother tongue speakers of Bano’o settled there in the hopes of better job and market opportunities (Kouankem; 2003). Bano’o has approximately six thousand speakers. Almost all of the speakers of Bano’o also speak French.

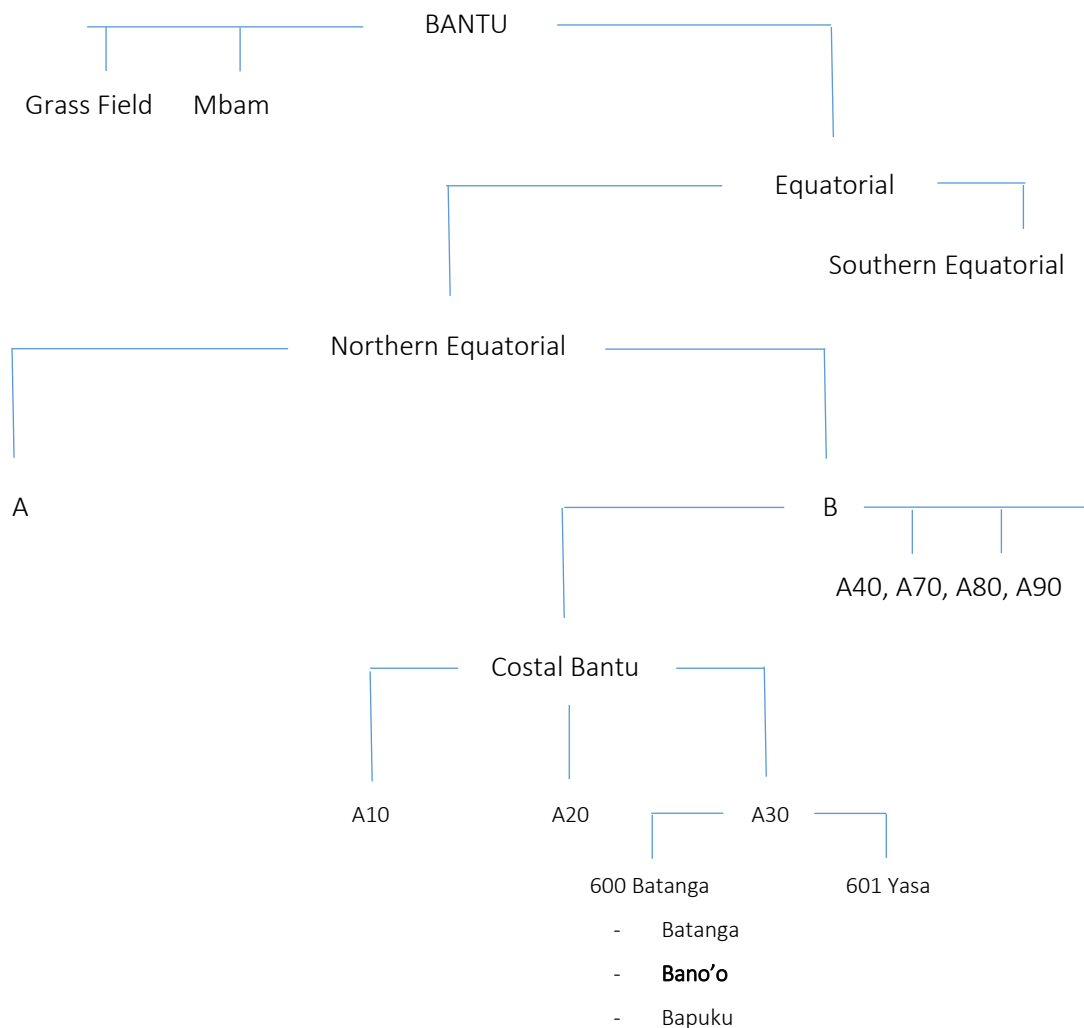


Fig. 1. Classification of Bano’o (Guthrie, 1983; ALCAM. 1983;381)

Previous research on Batanga, and specifically Bano'ó is limited. In 1988 Kouam produced a phonological description of Bano'ó. Years later, Bibi (2001) described the verb morphology of this dialect. Following these works, Kouankem (2003) wrote a paper on the structure of complex sentences in Bano'ó. Siroma (1980) did research on another dialect of Batanga; Bapuku. He made a linguistic sketch of this dialect. The goal of this thesis is to add data and analyses to previous research.

The first section of this thesis describes the process of data collection. Following the data collection, the thesis will present a basic phonology of Bano'ó, with focus on vowels, consonants and tone. Subsequently the thesis will concentrate on syllable and word structure. The last part of the thesis contains a brief orthography of the language.

All the data for this thesis was gathered in collaboration with a group of ten native speakers of Bano'ó, during a workshop. This workshop was held in Kribi, Cameroon, from the 25th of January until the 4th of February 2016. During this workshop 1500 words were collected and the sounds and tone on the words were determined. After the workshop, the data was checked and recorded with the help of other native speakers in a village south of Kribi, called Bongahéle. These native speakers were Pastor MBea, papa San Marco, papa Charles and papa Hartman. The checking and recording of the data collected during the workshop was done in a period of almost seven weeks, from the 6th of February until the 22nd of March.

2. Method

To produce a proper phonological analysis and orthographical description of the language, it was necessary to collect as much words as possible. These words were gathered during a workshop. The workshop was devised by Mrs. Connie Kutsch Lojenga. Mrs. Kutsch Lojenga came up with a method of doing fieldwork through a series of seminars. The first seminar is to gather words to produce a phonology and orthography. Workshops that follow will focus on morphology, sentence structure and syntax. During this workshop participants have to write down as many nouns and verbs as possible. After collecting about 1500 words, the vowels and consonants were investigated. This was done through comparison.

The first workshop was a two week workshop, held the 25th of January until the 4th. During this workshop 1500 words were collected. After the workshop the words, sounds and tone were checked with the help of informants that lived in a village called Bongahale. During and after this process the phonology and orthography were produced.

2.1 Procedure

The duration of the workshop was two weeks. The first three days were spend collecting words. The group was split into three smaller groups. Each of them was given a semantic domain. This was done to make it easier for them to come up with words. Examples of semantic domains are 'family', 'animals' and 'body parts'. They then had to write on small pieces of paper words that came to mind when thinking of a specific semantic domain. Those words needed to be either nouns or verbs. In case of nouns we asked them to write, when applicable, both the singular and the plural form. In case of verbs they were to write the infinitive form of the verb. Tone needed to be written on the words as well, using /' / as high tone and /` / as low tone. An example can be found in Fig.2. Since the language does not have a grammar and spelling yet, the participants wrote down the words the way they are pronounced. They used the Latin alphabet to do so. After three days approximately 1500 words were collected. The fourth day we spend sorting out the words according to root structure; CV, CVCV. After the words were sorted this way, we split these stocks of words in to even smaller groups. They were divided in to CV¹(CV¹) and CV¹CV². This way we could focus on the vowels. We each time took a stock of words, to compare the vowels and determine the correct sound. By sorting the words to CV¹(CV¹) we were able to hear any difference in the vowels, as they were read aloud one by one, after each other. Each time a vowel sounded differently from the other vowel, the word got pulled out. The words that remained were read aloud again, to double check the sound and to make sure the sound is contrastive. The words that got pulled out, were also read aloud again to see if the vowels in the words corresponded in sound. This process got repeated for all the vowels, until it was certain that the vowels were transcribed well. The

phonetic signs for the vowels were written directly on the small pieces of paper where the words were written on. This was done by the linguists. To determine the sounds of the first vowel in CV¹CV², all the CV¹CV² were read after each other. Again, each time a vowel sounded differently from the other vowel, the word got pulled out. The words that remained were read aloud again, to double check the sound and to make sure the sound is contrastive. To determine the sound of the second vowel, the stacks of CV¹CV² were reorganised into CV²CV¹. And again the words were read aloud and sounds that sounded different were removed from the group. The words that remained were read aloud again, to double check the sound and to make sure the sound is contrastive.

This process was repeated for consonants. The consonants were divided into C¹VC¹V and C¹VC²V. The consonants of nouns and verbs were looked at separately. The verb groups were divided into root structure; C¹VC¹, C¹VC¹ + suf and C¹VC¹ + suf + suf. With suf. meaning suffix.

After having determined the sounds of the words, we focused on tone. The participants divided the words in groups according to tone structure. After the words were divided in groups, we followed the same method as with the vowels and consonants. All words with the same tone structure were read aloud. When the tone appeared to be different, the word got pulled out and put in separate groups. These groups were then read aloud again, to check whether or not the tone was the same. This process was repeated until tone was determined for every word. When the participants did not agree on what tone a word had, whistling was used to determine the right tone.

The seven weeks following the workshop were spent entering all the data in the computer. Data that wasn't clear or needed to be checked in any way, was verified with mother tongue speakers in a Bano'o speaking village. During these seven weeks I also started working on the phonology of Bano'o.

All the data collected during the workshop and in the village form the basis for this phonology and orthography.

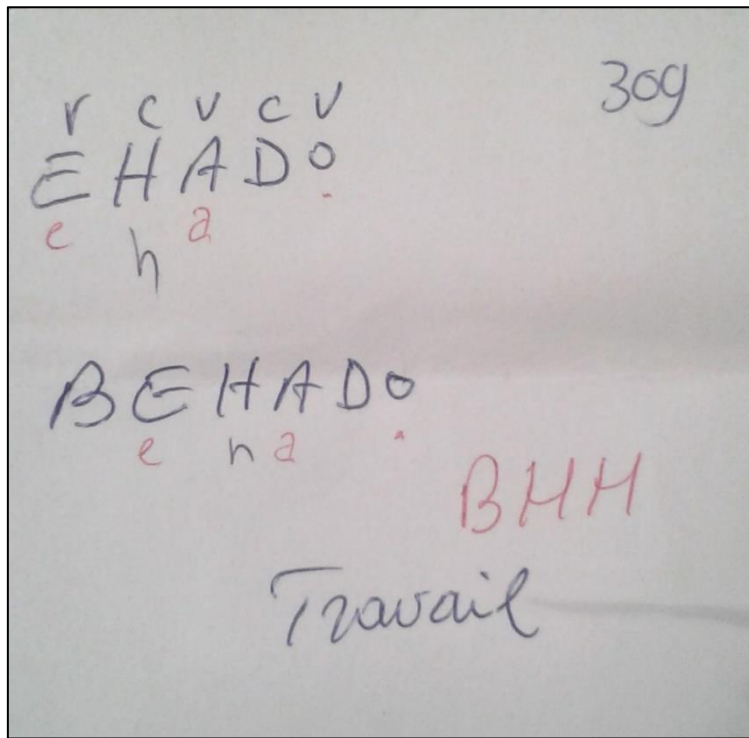


Fig. 2. Example of paper, as used in workshop

2.2 Participants

Ten men participated in the workshop. Their age ranged from approximately thirty to seventy years. In the village (Bonghele) three other informants helped in checking the data. These three informants were all men, aged sixty to eighty.

3. Short basis syllable structure

Bano'o has a very basic syllable structure system. The language has three different syllable structures; V, CV and N̩. The structures are the same for noun and verbs, except that verbs do not have a N̩ syllable. This structure only exists in nouns, and in that case only in word initial position, as a prefix. Syllables in Bano'o are open. Closed syllables do not occur in the language.

Nouns

The structures V and CV occur word initial, word medial and word final in nouns. As said above, the syllabic nasal only occurs only word initial as a prefix in nouns.

Verbs

For this thesis only the infinitive forms of verbs were attested. This means that the verbs always start with a vowel (V) /i-/. Therefore only the syllable structures of verbs in word medial (root initial) and word final position are looked at.

The syllable structures V and CV occur word medial (and also root initial) and word final in verbs. The N̩ does not exist in verbs.

A closer look at the syllable structure can be found in section 7. of this thesis.

4. Vowels

Bano’o has ten vowels, of which five are front vowels and five are back vowels. The front vowels are /i/, /ɪ¹, /e/, /ɛ/ and /a/. The back vowels are /u/, /ʊ/, /o/, /ɔ/ and /ɑ/. In this part of the thesis it will be shown that all ten vowels are contrastive.

4.1 Vowel table

The Bano’o vowels are displayed in the chart below.

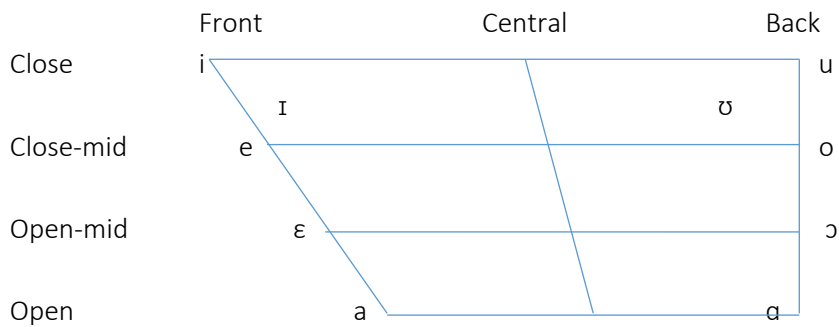


Fig. 3. Vowel chart

4.1.1. Vowels in nouns

All ten vowels appear in V1 and V2 position in nouns.

Front vowels

	V1 position		V2 position	
/i/	ɲ[tìlì	writer	ì[nòní	bird
/ɪ/	sí'ngì	cat	ì[tám'bí	oyster
/e/	ɲ[tétà	dam for fishing	ì[lò'm'bè	saga
/ɛ/	békì	dinner plate	è[péjè	filet
/a/	ɲ[táti	watchman	è[vèlá	untrue accusation

¹ In words /ɪ/ is written as /i/. This is done because tone is marked on the vowels. And a tone-marking on a vowel makes it difficult to make a distinction between /i/ and /ɪ/. The usage of /i/ makes it easier to differentiate the two sounds.

Back vowels

	V1 position		V2 position	
/u/	è[bù má	fruit	dí[prèpú	sheet of paper
/ʊ/	dí[bóbè	spider	ḡ[dímò	ghost
/o/	è[pósí	bottle	ḡ[patò	hook
/ɔ/	è[lógì	choir	bò[vénò	spiritual talent
/a/	bò[hàdò	staircase	è[dúwá	turtledove

4.1.2 Vowels in verbs

All ten vowels appear in the root of verbs.

Front vowels

	RootV	
/i/	ì[díp]à	hit
/ɪ/	ì[nìḡ]à	crush
/e/	ì[jè]à	cry
/ɛ/	ì[jél]è	peel
/a/	ì[bàp]è	carry

Back vowels

	RootV	
/u/	ì[húk]è	maintain
/ʊ/	ì[tól]èdè	move
/o/	ì[kòv]à	benefit
/ɔ/	ì[jót]ò	extract
/a/	ì[kà ^m b]à	tie the hook

4.2 Contrastive vowels/phontactics

Both Kouankem (2003) and Ebobissé (2005) claim that Bano'ò has seven vowels. These seven vowels are /i/, /e/, /ɛ/, /a/, /u/, /o/ and /ɔ/. The data collected during the workshop indicates there are ten vowels instead of seven.

Table 1. gives a rendition of the vowels in V1 and V2 position. All vowels, except for /ɪ/, /ʊ/ and /ɔ/, appear in almost all V¹V² positions in the noun. The numbers under the words are to indicate how many times words with that particular vowel sequence are found in the data.

$\begin{matrix} V^2 \\ \diagdown \\ V^1 \end{matrix}$	i	ɪ	e	ɛ	o	ɔ	a	ɑ	u	ʊ
i	è[límbí tam-tam (14)		ḡ[tiléjì correspondent (2)	dijè sugar (2)	ḡ[bikó wasp (4)	kì'gò throat (1)	bò[hí'gá hatred (4)	dz[í'bà robbery (17)		ḡ[dímò ghost (8)
ɪ	sí'gì cat (2)	ḡ[ɲí'ḡ'gò murmurings (1)						ḡ[ɲí'gà rope (1)		
e	è[lèdì spring chicken (16)		dí[bè'gè alarm (18)	è[péjè net (2)	ḡ[kéò (2)		ì[pèpà green pigeon (5)	bò[péjà avocado (24)	ḡ[bè'dú water-wing (3)	è[héwò praise (1)
ɛ	béki dinner plate (8)		ḡ[bè'mbèò outer edges pirogue (2)	ḡ[gèlé colour of water (24)	mbè'mbò habits (1)	ḡ[vénò gift (7)	dí[jé'gà palaver (1)	è[é'gà disabled (2)	dí[pèpú sheet of paper (6)	
o	ɲòhì (16)	ḡòpì carangue (3)	è[hòpé youth (5)	ì[kólè stiffening of finger (3)	ḡ[bòhò mullets (11)	sòmòni complaint (2)	mà[tówà car (6)	dóbà sun (27)	è[bòdú rottenness (4)	tóhù spoon (7)
ɔ	kóji lash (31)		ḡ[dó'mbè lamb (6)	kóbé lead (16)	jò'gòà southern wind (3)	dí[hòbò bigger leagues of canoes (32)	ì[dò'gà swallow (1)	è[bó'ngà pillow (8)	è[bódù chin (4)	ḡ[nò'gò herb (5)
a	kápi paddle (19)	ì[bájí (2)	ḡdzalé hunger (10)	màlé blessing (6)	ḡ[dábò house (1)		ḡ[ná'gá star (16)	mbà'mbà teens (6)	dí[kàù crab (14)	ḡ[sásò joy (12)
ɑ	sám'bi longline (6)		ì[jábè (4)	ḡ[gò'gè (6)	ḡ[pàtò hook (1)		ì[mámánè miracle (2)	ká'gà guinea fowl (27)	màúlè oil (1)	ḡ[lá'gò lie (10)
u	túdi anger (6)	dí[m'búf mute (1)	è[kulé manioc (6)	tútè attachment file (8)			ì[núná gadfly (4)	kúbà hen (21)	kúmù thumb (26)	ḡ[bú'gò'dzà hurricane (1)
ʊ			jòvè hair (6)		bòtódú ultimatum (1)		mò'dà northern wind (3)	è[kò'dá shoes (3)		kòlò evening (6)

Table 1. V^1V^2 positions in nouns

As said above, the vowels /ɪ/, /ʊ/ and /ɔ/ do not appear in all combinations with the other vowels. The explanation for the limited appearance of /ɪ/ and /ʊ/ is that Bano'o has a ten vowel system, but is going toward an eight (or even seven) vowel system. This phenomenon, described by Stewart (1995), entails

that an eight or seven vowel system is developed out of a ten vowel system. Over time the /ɪ/ and /ʊ/ got lost (Casali, 1995). That the /ɪ/ and /ʊ/ still appear in Bano’o, but less than other vowels, means that Bano’o is in the process of getting an eight vowel system out of a ten vowel system. The /ɪ/ will probably eventually merge completely into /e/ or /i/ and the /ʊ/ into /o/ or /u/.

The /ɔ/ appears as V¹ in combination with all other vowels, except /ɪ/. It’s presence in V² is limited.

The data shows no indication of vowel harmony taking place in Bano’o.

More evidence concerning the contrast of the vowels can be found in the section below. In the following examples pairs of words will be presented, that only differ in the a certain vowel. These words form minimal pairs since they are differentiated solely by a distinction between one or two segments (Odden; 2005). This shows that a particular vowel can change the meaning of a word, proving the vowel to be contrastive. Each vowel will be attested separately.

/i/

/i/ shows contrast with other vowels. Examples of such contrast are;

/i/	/ɪ/	ì[tá ^m bí	ball of foot
		ì[tá ^m bí	oyster
	/e/	ḡ[bílá	race
		m[bèlà	snare
	/ɛ/	è[lí ^m bí	tam tam
		è[lè ^m bè	veranda
	/u/	è[bódí	mumps
		è[bòdú	decay
	/ɔ/	ḡ[tò ^g ḡ	prophet
		ḡ[tò ^g ḡ	tuber

/ɪ/

Although the appearance of /ɪ/ is rare, it is contrastive. This can be seen in the following example;

/ɪ/	/i/	ì[tá ^m bí	oyster
		ì[tá ^m bí	ball of foot

The contrast between /ɪ/ and /e/ can be found in an analogous environment, as can be seen in the example below.

/ɪ/	/e/	dɪ[pò ^h dí	flask
		è[tò ^h dè	disease red anus children

/e/

/e/ shows contrast with other vowels. Examples of such contrast can be found below;

/e/	/i/	ɲ[pèjà	young teenage boy
		ɲ[pìjà	yaws
	/ɛ/	ì[kólè	hem
		ì[kólè	stiffening of fingers
	/u/	ɲ[lémà	heart
		ɲ[lúmá	fork

The contrast between /e/ and /ɪ/ can be found in an analogous environment, as can be seen in the example below.

/e/	/ɪ/	è[tò ^h dè	disease red anus children
		dɪ[pò ^h dí	flask

Both vowels are preceded by a prenasalized alveolar plosive in the above example.

/e/, /i/ and /ɪ/ are all front vowels, and very close in vowel height. To rule out an allophonic variation between the sounds, it is important to prove contrast, by finding the vowels in words that form minimal pairs or where the vowels appear in an analogous environment. This is the case in the examples above. The examples proves that the sounds are indeed contrastive.

/ɛ/

The examples below show that the vowel /ɛ/ is contrastive;

/ɛ/	/i/	é[dédè	termite
		è[dédì	spirit
	/e/	ɲ[dó ^m bé	sheet
		ɲ[dó ^m bè	lamb

/a/	è[kéjì	cudgel
	è[kájí	sheet
/u/	è[lè ^m bè	veranda
	è[lè ^m bú	limp
/o/	ḥ[kéhé	baby
	ḥ[kòhó	sugar
/a/	ḡà ^o gè	compassion
	ḡà ^o gà	heeler

/a/

The following examples show that the vowel /a/ is contrastive;

/a/	/ɛ/	dí[bù ^o gá	calf
		dí[bù ^o gè	swirl
/u/		dí[bù ^o gá	calf
		dí[bú ^o gù	sleeping mat
/ʊ/		dí[hà ^o gà	chronic itch
		dí[hò ^o gá	tooth
/o/		è[pápó	forearm
		è[pòpò	lip
/a/		^m bà ⁿ dʒè	ribs
		^m bà ⁿ dʒè	bamboo

The contrast between the low vowels /a/ and /ɑ/ can also be found in analogous environments, as can be seen in the following examples;

/a/	/ɑ/	ḥná ^o gá	start
		ḡà ^o gà	heeler
		lá ⁿ dʒà	boat
		sà ⁿ dʒà	campaign

In the first example, the first vowel is preceded by a, be it a different, nasal and the second vowel is in both cases preceded by a prenasalized velar plosive. In the second example, the first vowel is preceded by consonants that have the same place of articulation. They are both alveolar sounds. The second vowel is preceded by an alveolar affricate. /a/ and /ɑ/ are both low vowels. To rule out an allophonic variation between the two sounds, it is important to prove contrast, by finding words where the vowels appear in an analogous environment. This is the case in the examples above. These examples prove that the sounds are indeed contrastive.

/u/

The vowel /u/ shows to be contrastive with other vowels, as can be seen in the following examples;

/u/	/i/	è[ɸùmá	fruit from pine tree
		è[ɸìmá	wall
	/e/	ḡ[lúamá	fork
		ḡ[léamá	heart
	/ɛ/	dí[bú ^o gù	sleeping mat
		dí[bù ^o gè	swirl
	/a/	dí[bú ^o gù	sleeping mat
		dí[bù ^o gá	calf
	/o/	dù[bà	stripe
		dóbà	sun
	/ɑ/	è[bùmá	fruit
		è[bámá	set of fishing wire, lead, hook and bracket

The contrast between /u/ and /ʊ/ can be found in an analogous environment, as can be seen in the examples below.

/u/	/ʊ/	kúdù	turtle
		kòlò	evening
		ḡ[gùbú	hippo
		ḡòtò	breast filet

/u/ and /ʊ/ are both high back vowels. In the first example, the first vowel is in both cases preceded by a velar plosive. The second vowel is preceded by a consonant with the same place of articulation; alveolar. In the second example, the first vowel is preceded by a consonant with the same place of articulation; velar. The second vowel is preceded by a consonant with the same manner of articulation; plosive. To rule out an allophonic variation between /u/ and /ʊ/, it is important to prove contrast, by finding words where the vowels appear in an analogous environment. This is the case in the examples above. These examples prove that the sounds are indeed contrastive.

/ʊ/

The appearance of /ʊ/ is scarce, but the vowel does prove to be contrastive. This can be seen in the examples below;

/ʊ/	/a/	dɪ[hò ^o gá	tooth
		dɪ[hà ^o gà	chronic itch
	/ɔ/	ɲ[nò ^o gò	herb
		ɲ[nò ^o gò	back, spine
	/a/	kà ^o gó	flavour
		kà ^o gá	carp (fish)

The contrast between /ʊ/ and /u/ can be found in an analogous environment, as can be seen in the examples below.

/ʊ/	/u/	kòlò	evening
		kúdù	turtle
		ɲòtò	breast filet
		ɲ[gùbú	hippo

/o/

The vowel /o/ shows contrast with other vowels. Examples of such contrast are;

/o/	/ɛ/	ɲ[kòhó	sugar
		ɲ[kéhé	baby
	/u/	dóbà	sun
		dù[bà	stripe

/a/	ḡ[ɡó ^m bò	maggot
	ḡ[ɡá ^m bó	node

/ɔ/	è[bòdú	rottenness
	è[bódù	chin

/o/ and /ɔ/ are both mid back vowels. To rule out an allophonic variation between the two sounds, it is important to prove contrast, by finding words, containing these mid back vowels, that form minimal pairs. This is the case in the examples above. These examples prove that the sounds are indeed contrastive.

/ɔ/

The vowel /ɔ/ shows to be contrastive with other vowels, as can be seen in the following examples;

/ɔ/	/i/	ḡ[tò ^g ḡ	tuber
		ḡ[tò ^g i	prophet

/ɔ/	è[ìbì	carnard
	è[ìlì	sardine

/o/	è[bódù	chin
	è[bòdú	rottenness

/a/	dʒ[ó ^g ḡ	fear
	dʒ[ò ^g á	price

/a/

/a/ shows contrast with other vowels. Examples of such contrast can be found below;

/a/	/ɛ/	è[ùwé	vomit
		è[ùwà	fish trap
/a/		ḡbà ⁿ dʒè	bamboo
		ḡbà ⁿ dʒè	ribs

/u/	è[bámá	set of fishing wire, lead, hook and bracket
	è[bùmá	fruit

/ɔ/	è[bó ⁿ dá	dowry
	è[bó ⁿ dó	tsetse (fly) 268

5. Consonants

Bano'ó has 21 consonants. All consonants appear word initial and word medial. However consonants never appear word final.

5.1 Consonant table

In the following table (Table 2) all the phones found in Bano'ó are presented.

	Bilabial	Labiodental	Dental	Alveolar	Postalveolar	Retroflex	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyngeal	Glottal
Plosive	p		t					k g			
Prenasalized plosive	^m b		ⁿ d					^ŋ g			
Labialized plosive	p ^w b ^w							k ^w g ^w			
Palatalized plosive	p ^j b ^j		t ^j								
Prenasalized, labialized plosive	^m b ^w							^ŋ g ^w			
Implosive	ɓ		ɗ								
Nasal	m		n				ɲ	ŋ			
Labialised nasal	m ^w										
Palatalized nasal	m ^j										
Trill											
Tap or flap											
Fricative		v		s							h
Palatalized fricative		v ^j									
Affricate			dʒ								
Prenasalized affricate			ⁿ dʒ								
Lateral fricative											
Approximant							j	w			
Lateral approximant			l								

Table 2. phones in Bano'ó

In the following table (Table 3) all the contrastive consonants of Bano’o are represented.

	Bilabial	Labiodental	Dental	Alveolar	Postalveolar	Retroflex	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyngeal	Glottal
Plosive	p			t				k g			
Prenasalized plosive	^m b			ⁿ d				^ŋ g			
Implosive	ɓ			ɗ							
Nasal	m			n			ɲ	ŋ			
Trill											
Tap or flap											
Fricative		v		s							h
Affricate				dʒ							
Prenasalized affricate				ⁿ dʒ							
Lateral fricative											
Approximant							j	w			
Lateral approximant				l							

Table 3. Consonants in Bano’o

5.1.1 Consonants in nouns

Plosives

Bano’o has four plosive consonants that are used in nouns; /p/, /t/, /k/ and /g/. All plosives can be placed root initial and root medial, except for /g/. This consonant can only appear root initial. Root medial this sound will always be prenasalized (è[^mbóⁿgá (pillow)). The /b/ and /d/ only appear as prenasalized consonants; /^mb/, /ⁿd/ and /^ŋg/

Consonant	Root initial		Root medial	
/p/	è[péjè	net	è[hòpé	youth/teens
/t/	è[tódè	oyster	è[tóti	breathlessness
/k/	è[kájí	leaf	è[lòkò	pie
/g/	gìjà	fish	X	

Prenasalized plosives

The /^ŋg/ only appears root medial.

Consonant	Root initial		Root medial	
/ ^m b/	è[^m bò ⁿ dà	hind	è[hé ^m bà	leprosy
/ ⁿ d/	è[ⁿ dè ⁿ dé	whale	è[hò ⁿ dì	plantain banana
/ ^ŋ g/	X		è[^ŋ bó ⁿ gá	pillow

Implosives

In nouns the plosives /b/ and /d/ cannot appear as a single consonant. They only appear when prenasalized or labialized. In all other cases they are implosives; /b/ and /d/. The /b/ and /d/ appear at the beginning of a word, after a syllabic nasal and in between vowels. The /b/ and /d/ only appear as prenasalized or labialized consonants.

Consonant	Root initial		Root medial	
/b/	è[bùmá	fruit	dí[bóǔbè	spider
/d/	è[dùbú	grass snake	è[hádú	work

The following examples show an implosive after a syllabic nasal;

ṛ[bédí	sick person
ṛ[dímò	ghost

Nasals

Four nasals appear in nouns; /m/, /n/, /ŋ/ and /ɲ/. All nasals appear root initial and root medial, except for /ŋ/. This consonant only appears root initial.

Consonant	Root initial		Root medial	
/m/	è[mènò	life	è[pìímá	wall
/n/	ì[nòní	bird	è[hèná	kidney
/ŋ/	è[ŋèᵑgè	joy	gìᵑà	ordinary fish
/ɲ/	ṛ[ɲóᵑdʒò	foreskin	X	

Fricatives

Bano'ó has three fricatives in nouns; /v/, /s/ and /h/. All these consonants appear root initial and root medial.

Consonant	Root initial		Root medial	
/v/	è[vélé	desire	è[vónò	quarrel
/s/	ṛ[sòkì	soothsayer	è[pósí	bottle
/h/	è[hòᵑdì	plantain banana	è[táhà	hurdle

Affricate

The language has one affricate that appears in nouns; /dʒ/. This affricate can appear both root initial and root final.

Consonant	Root initial		Root medial	
/dʒ/	ì[dʒàlì	prostitute	ḡ[gùdʒú	maggot

Prenasalized affricate

Consonant	Root initial		Root medial	
/ ⁿ dʒ/	ⁿ dʒò ⁿ dʒì	sperm whale	è[pò ⁿ dʒó	type of black carp (126)

Approximants

There are three approximants in Bano'o nouns; /j/, /w/ and /l/.

Consonant	Root initial		Root medial	
/j/	è[jàbá	palm leaf	è[djò	anchor
/w/	dí[wédí	death	è[dúwá	turtledove
/l/	è[lòkò	pie	è[pòlà	space between the seats on the canoe

Others

The consonants /tʃ/, /r/ and /f/ are extremely rare, and are not considered being consonants of Bano'o. /tʃ/ appears only once in the data. /r/ and /f/ appear respectively three and two times, and in both cases the words in which they appear are borrowed words.

Consonant	Root initial		Root medial	
/tʃ/	ḡ[tʃótʃódó	big black ant		
/r/			óré ⁿ dʒì	orange
/f/	fífbèlì	fibroma	fùfù	couscous

5.1.2 Consonants in verbs

Plosives

Bano'o has four plosives in verbs; /p/, /t/, /k/. The /g/ only appears in verbs prenasalized. There are three prenasalized plosives used in verbs; /^mb/, /ⁿd/ and /^ŋg/.

Consonant	Root initial		Root final	
/p/	ì[pùd]è	to bury	ì[bàp]è	to carry
/t/	ì[tìl]à	to write	ì[ját]à	to attach
/k/	ì[kàn]à	to swear	ì[bók]ò	to twist
/g/	X		X	

Prenasalized plosives

No prenasalized plosive appears root initial.

Consonant	Root initial		Root final	
/ ^m b/	X		ì[lì ^m b]à	to run off
/ ⁿ d/	X		ì[kù ⁿ d]à	to avenge
/ ^ŋ g/	X		ì[jò ^ŋ g]ijè	to recover

Implosives

Like in nouns, the plosives /b/ and /d/ cannot appear as a single consonant in verbs. Unless they are prenasalized or labialized, they appear as implosives; /b/ and /d/.

Consonant	Root initial		Root final	
/b/	ì[bák]è	to make an addition	ì[túb]à	to drill
/d/	ì[díp]à	to hit	ì[pòd]è	to summon

Nasals

Four nasals appear in verbs; /m/, /n/, /ɲ/ and /ŋ/. The nasal /ŋ/ cannot appear root initial and it only appears root final when it prenasalizes the /g/, as in ì[ló^ŋg]ò (to sing).

Consonant	Root initial		Root final	
/m/	ì[mìt]à	to press	ì[kám]à	to erupt
/n/	ì[nà ^ŋ g]à	to go to bed	ì[dùn]à	to grow old(er)
/ɲ/	ì[ɲót]ò	to drink	ì[héɲ]à	to exclaim
/ŋ/	X		X	

Fricatives

Bano'ó has three fricatives that appear in verbs; /v/, /s/ and /h/. All these fricatives can appear root initial and root final.

Consonant	Root initial		Root final	
/v/	ì[vèl]è	to be able	ì[kòv]à	to benefit
/s/	ì[més]à	to measure	ì[sódz]ò	to plead
/h/	ì[hùt]à	to hide	ì[dàh]à	to be sick

Affricate

The language has one affricate that appears in verbs; /dʒ/. This affricate can appear both root initial and root final. Bano’o also has a prenasalized affricate. This consonant only appears root final

Consonant	Root initial		Root final	
/dʒ/	ì[dʒó ^o g]à	to smoke	ì[jòdʒ]ò	to rest

Prenasalized affricate

Consonant	Root initial		Root final	
/ ⁿ dʒ/	X		ì[p ^w á ⁿ dʒ]èdè	to spatter

Approximants

There are three approximants that can be placed both root initial as root final in verbs; /j/, /w/ and /l/.

Consonant	Root initial		Root final	
/j/	ì[jób]ò	to fish	ì[bèj]à	to speak
/w/	ì[wóm]wà	to be punished	ì[véw]à	to give bad advice
/l/	ì[làw]à	to tear a prey	ì[pàl]à	to say/to tell

5.1.3 Prenasalized consonants

The Bantu family is a family containing a lot of prenasalized consonants in its languages (Tak, 2011). Bano’o forms no exception on this.

Bano’o sound inventory contains modified consonants. These modified consonants adjust their constriction-type (Gussenhoven, Jacobs, 2005). Examples of such modified consonants are prenasalized consonants. Bano’o has four prenasalized sounds that occur in nouns and verbs; /^mb/, /ⁿd/, /ⁿdʒ/ and /^og/.

Consonant	Root initial		Root medial	
/ ^m b/	è[^m bò ⁿ dà	hind	è[hé ^m bà	leprosy
/ ⁿ d/	è[ⁿ dè ⁿ dé	whale	è[hò ⁿ dì	plantain banana
/ ⁿ dʒ/	ⁿ dʒò ⁿ dʒì	sperm whale	è[pò ⁿ dʒó	type of black carp
/ ^ŋ g/	dí[^ŋ gúlá	shelter	è[bó ^ŋ gá	pillow

Prenasalised sounds can form monophonemic sound combinations (Castillo, 2013). There are several rules expressing the criteria on monophonemic sound combinations. Examples, as stated by Trubetzkoy (1969; 56-60), are the following;

- 1- The monophonemic sound combinations show a homogenous articulatory movement of an articulatory complex
- 2- The monophonemic sound combinations keep the symmetry of the phonemic inventory
- 3- The monophonemic sound combinations are not distributed over two syllabic domains
- 4- The monophonemic sound combinations are not a combinatory variant of other phonemes.

The first rule applies to Bano'ó. In Bano'ó, where nasals appear before stops and affricates, they form monophonemic sound combinations. The sounds within such a combination always agree in place of articulation and show a homogenous articulatory movement of an articulatory complex. This can be seen in the following examples;

è[hé ^m bà	leprosy	(bilabial)
è[ⁿ dè ⁿ dé	whale	(alveolar)

The second rule also applies to Bano'ó. The prenasalized consonants are distributed like other groups in the phonemic inventory, like plosives.

The third rule applies to Bano'ó. The prenasalized sound is not distributed over two syllable domains, as can be seen in section 7. of this thesis.

The fourth rule is also true for Bano'ó in the sense that all prenasalized sounds are contrastive, as can be seen in section 5.2 of this thesis. The prenasalized sounds are no allophones of other phonemes.

Looking at the above stated rules, we can conclude that the prenasalized sounds in Bano’o form monophonemic sound combinations.

In some rare cases the syllabic nasal that serves as a noun singular prefix, stays attached to the noun in the plural form. It then attaches to the following stop or affricate and changes from syllabic to prenasal. This is the case in the following examples;

ḥdábò	mà ⁿ dábò
ḥbám ^{bá}	bà ^m bám ^{bá}
ḥdzèjá	mà ⁿ dzèjá
ḥdzé ⁿ dzi	mé ⁿ dzé ⁿ dzi

Looking at the above data, one could conclude that the prenasalized sound are actually two phonemes instead of one phoneme. But since the occurrence of these cases are rare in the current data, it is difficult to properly analyse them and formulate a proper conclusion.

5.1.4 Labialized consonants

Other modified consonants are the labialized consonants. Labialization is the result of secondary articulation. With secondary articulation both the tongue and the lips are used to produce a vocalic articulation synchronously with the production of the consonants. During labialization the lips are rounded (Gussenhoven, Jacobs; 2005). The labialized consonants are accompanied by a raised w; /_^w/ Bano’o has five labialized sounds; /p^w/, /b^w/, /k^w/, /g^w/ and /m^w/. All sounds appear both in nouns and in verbs, but do not occur often. The labialized sounds are, following the analysis of prenasalized sounds, underlying two segments, but surface as a single unit.

Consonant	Root initial		Root medial	
/p ^w /	p ^w ètè	potato	ḥ[pép ^w ì	visiter
/b ^w /	ḥ[b ^w ájí	fishing rod	ḥ[jèb ^w ì	protractor
/k ^w /	è[k ^w émí	sheet metal	è[k ^w èk ^w ì	butterfly
/g ^w /	ḥ[g ^w ájé	perdrin	ḥ[tò ^g w ^à	stuffed crab
/m ^w /	m ^w [ásà	hank	ì[wóm ^w à	punishment

5.1.5 Palatalized consonants

Another form of secondary articulation that appears in Bano’o is palatalization. During the production of the consonant the tip of the tongue is raised (Gussenhoven, Jacobs; 2005). The palatalized consonants are accompanied by a raised j; /_ j/. Palatalization only occurs sporadically in Bano’o. /pʲ/ and /tʲ/ appear only in verbs. /mʲ/ and /vʲ/ appear only in nouns. The labialized sounds seem to exist out of two underlying segments, but surfaces as a single unit, following the analysis of prenasalized and labialized consonants.

Consonant	Root initial		Root final	
/pʲ/	ì[pʲóʔpʲ]ò	to suck	ì[pʲóʔpʲ]ò	to suck
/tʲ/	ì[tʲód]à	to jump	X	

Consonant	Root initial		Root medial	
/mʲ/	mʲ[údu]	donkey	X	
/vʲ/	vʲ[áⁿgà]	salt	X	

In some rare cases the palatal that serves as a noun singular prefix, stays attached to the noun in the plural form. It then attaches to the foregoing consonant and palatalizes it. This is the case in the following examples;

j[ómá	bʲ[òmá	yam
j[òwà	bʲ[òwà	dauphin

In this case the /bʲ/ plural prefix is most likely derived from /bi/ and therefore occurs through combining two phonemes. This would form a problem in analysing palatalized consonants as one phoneme. But then again, these cases almost do not occur in the data, and therefore are difficult to be properly analysed.

5.2 Contrastive consonants/phonotactics

Bano’o has 21 contrastive consonants. Four of these consonants are plosives and two implosives. Bano’o has four prenasalized consonants of which three are plosive and one is an affricate. The language has four nasals and three fricatives. One consonant is an affricate, two consonants are approximants and one consonant is a lateral approximant.

The contrast of these consonants will be demonstrated by the minimal pairs displayed in this section. Each consonant will be attested separately.

/p/

The consonant /p/ contrasts with other consonants of Bano’o, as can be seen below;

/p/	/t/	dì[p àpá	fishtail
		dì[p àtá	engagement
	/b/	è[p ùmá	fruit from pine tree
		ì[b ùmà	interior kidneys
	/m/	ì[p ú p á	tree
		è[p ùmá	fruit from pine tree

/t/

The following examples show that /t/ is contrastive;

/t/	/p/	ḥ[p òtá	twisted thread
		ḥ[p ó p á	cue
	/s/	ḥ[k ùtá	worthy
		ḥ[k ú s á	ember

/k/

The consonant /k/ proves to be contrastive, looking at the examples below;

/k/	/d/	bò k èi	rotten luck at fishing
		bò d éi	the action of eating
	/n/	ḥ[k ónì	food from pistaches
		ḥ[n òní	garfish
	/l/	è[l ò k ò	magpie
		è[l ò b ò	carnard
	/j/	è[k ájí	sheet
		è[j ájí	gill

The contrast between /k/ and /g/ is found in an analogous environment. This is shown in the example below;

/k/	/g/	ɲ[kù mú	enclave
		ɲ[gù nú	moray

Both phonemes appear after a syllabic nasal and are followed by a high back vowel, which in turn is followed by a nasal.

/g/

The consonant /g/ appears to be contrastive. This consonant only appears root-initial. The consonant becomes prenasalized in other positions in the word. Contrast can be seen in the example below;

/g/	/d/	ɲ[gù bú	hippo
		ɛ[dù bú	snake

The contrast between /g/ and /p/ can be found in an analogous environment, as is shown in the following example;

/g/	/p/	ɲ[gè bá	wave
		ɲ[pé ^m bá	nose

Both phonemes are preceded by a syllabic nasal and followed by a mid front vowel.

The contrast between /g/ and /ŋ/ can also be found in an analogous environment, as is demonstrated in the examples below;

/g/	/ŋ/	gɪɲà	fish
		ŋɪɲà	gorilla

Both sounds appear word initial and are followed by a high front vowel, which in turn is followed by a palatal consonant.

/^mb/

/^mb/ shows contrast with other consonants. Examples of such contrast can be found below;

/ ^m b/	/ ⁿ g/	ɲ[pé ^m bá	nose
		mè[pè ⁿ gà	manioc
	/b/	ɛ[tò ^m bè	coconut
		ɛ[tò ^b bò	hake

/d/	è[tò ^m bè	tender coconut
	è[tó ^d dè	oyster
/dʒ/	m[bá ^m bá	grandparents
	m[bá ⁿ dʒà	low water
/m/	dí[bó ^m bi	abduction
	dí[bò ^m ì	piece to crush

/ⁿd/

Looking at the examples below, the consonant /ⁿd/ shows to be contrastive;

/ ⁿ d/	/ ^m b/	ɲà ⁿ dó	magnet
		ɲgá ^m bó	node
/d/		ì[tó ⁿ dí	concubine
		ì[tó ^d ù	belly button
/v/		ɲò ⁿ dè	moon
		ɲó ^v è	black bream
/w/		ɲò ⁿ dè	moon
		ɲò ^w è	canoe guide

/^ŋg/

The prenasalized plosive /^ŋg/ appears to be contrastive. The following examples show that /^ŋg/ is contrastive.

/ ^ŋ g/	/b/	dí[hó ^ŋ gò	grease
		dí[hò ^b ò	bigger leagues of the canoes
/ ⁿ dʒ/		ɲ[bà ^ŋ gá	coconut
		^m bá ⁿ dʒà	low water
/ɲ/		ɲ[bà ^ŋ gá	coconut
		ɲ[bá ^ɲ á	type of very small carrangue living by the sea

The contrast between /^hg/ and /^hm b/ can be found in an analogous environment. This is visible in the following example;

/ ^h g/	/ ^h m b/	ɲ[ɓà ^h gá	coconut
		ᵐbá ^h m b́	grandparents

Both noun roots start with a bilabial sound, followed by a low back vowel. The sounds are preceded by this low back vowel, and also followed by the same vowel.

/b/

The implosive /b/ is in contrast with other consonants, as is shown in the examples below;

/b/	/ ^h m b/	è[tɔ̀bɔ̀	hake
		è[tɔ̀ ^h m bɛ̀	coconut
	/p/	ì[bùùmà	interior kidneys
		è[pùùmá	fruit from pine tree
	/ ^h g/	ì[hò̀bò	bigger leagues of the canoes
		dí[hó̀ ^h gò	grease
	/d/	dʒ[ò̀b́í	fishery
		dʒ[ò̀d́í	bitter

/d/

The implosive /d/ is in contrast with other consonants. This is shown by the examples below.

/d/	/ ^h m b/	è[tɔ̀dɛ̀	oyster
		è[tɔ̀ ^h m bɛ̀	tender coconut
	/g/	è[dùùmú	snake
		ɲ[gùùmú	hippo
	/ ^h n d/	è[lè̀d́í	duckling
		é[lè̀ ^h n d́í	small boat

/k/	bò d éi	the action of eating
	bò k èi	rotten luck at fishing
/b/	dʒ[ò d í	bitter
	dʒ[ò b í	fishery

/m/

/m/ is a contrastive consonant. This can be seen in the following examples;

/m/	/p/	è[rù m á	fruit from pine tree
		ì[rú p á	tree

/ ^m b/	dî[bò m ì	piece to crush
	dî[bó ^m b i	abduction 248

/ ⁿ d/	kò m à	grudge
	kò ⁿ d á	chair

/ ⁿ g/	ḡ[ní m à	tuber cooked and pounded
	ḡ[nì ⁿ g à	fishing pigne

/w/	ḡ[bò m á	peak
	ḡ[bò w á	prisoner

/n/

The nasal /n/ is in contrast with other consonants;

/n/	/ ^m b/	è[hè n á	kidney
		è[hé ^m b à	leprosy

/k/	ḡ[nò n í	garfish
	ḡ[kò n í	food from pistaches

/ɲ/	ḡ[bà n à	hole
	ḡ[bá ɲ á	type of very small carrangue living by the sea

/l/	ḥ[nòní	garfish
	ḥ[lòni	paen

The contrast between /n/ and /m/ is found in an analogous environment, as seen in the example below;

/n/	/m/	ḥ[bà̀nà	hole
		ḥ[bòmá	peak

Both sounds are preceded by a syllabic nasal and followed by a back vowel, which in turn is followed by a nasal.

The contrast between /n/ and /ⁿdʒ/ can also be found in an analogous environment, as can be seen in the example below;

/n/	/ ⁿ dʒ/	ḥ[bà̀nà	hole
		ḥbá ⁿ dʒà	low water

Both the consonants are preceded by a low vowel and followed by a low back vowel. The low vowel that precedes the sounds is in turn preceded by a bilabial consonant.

/ɲ/

/ɲ/ proves to be contrastive, when looking at the examples below;

/ɲ/	/ ⁿ g/	ḥ[báɲá	type of very small carrangue living by the sea
		ḥ[bà ⁿ gá	coconut
	/n/	ḥ[báɲá	type of very small carrangue living by the sea
		ḥ[bà̀nà	hole

The contrast between /ɲ/ and /ⁿdʒ/ can be found in an analogous environment, as can be seen in the example below.

/ ⁿ dʒ/	ḥ[báɲá	type of very small carrangue living by the sea
	ḥbá ⁿ dʒà	low water

Both the consonants are preceded by a low vowel and followed by a low back vowel.

/v/

The fricative /v/ proves to be contrastive. This become clear when looking at the following examples;

/v/	/b/	ηό v è	black bream
		ḡ[gò ^m b è	varan (lizard)
	/ ⁿ d/	ηό v è	black bream
		ηò ⁿ d è	moon
	/w/	ηό v è	black bream
		ηò w è	canoe guide

The contrast between /v/ and /s/ is found in an analogous environment;

/v/	/s/	ηό v è	black bream
		ηέ s é	tempered and packaged cassave in banana leaves

The words in which these consonants appear, both start with a velar nasal, followed by a mid vowel. The consonants are followed by a mid front vowel.

/s/

/s/ is a contrastive consonant, as can be seen in the examples below;

/s/	/t/	ḡ[kú s à	ember
		ḡ[kù t à	worthy
	/h/	^m bós s ò	scoop
		^m bò h ó	mullet
	/l/	ηέ s é	tempered and pack- aged cassava in banana leaves
		ḡ[gè l é	color of water

/h/

The fricative /h/ is contrastive, as can be concluded from the following examples;

/h/	/s/	ᵐbòhó	mullet
		ᵐbósò	scoop

The contrast between /h/ and /j/ can be found in an analogous environment. This is visible in the following example;

/j/	ᵐbáhí	maize
	ᵐbájì	joint

Both noun roots start with a bilabial sound, followed by a low back vowel. The sounds are preceded by this low back vowel, and followed by a high front vowel.

/dʒ/

The consonant /dʒ/ appears to be contrastive. This can be seen in the examples below;

/dʒ/	/k/	ᵐsódʒí	kalao
		ᵐsòkì	soothsayer
	/b/	ᵐgùdʒú	maggot
		ᵐgùbú	hippo

The contrast between /dʒ/ and /d/ can be found in an analogous environment, as can be seen in the example below;

/dʒ/	/d/	dʒíbà	robbery
		dóbà	sun

Both consonants appear word initial and are followed by a vowel that is followed by an implosive.

/^hdʒ/

The consonant /^hdʒ/ appears to be contrastive. This is visible in the examples below;

/ ^h dʒ/	/ ^h b/	m ^w [á ^h dʒò	fly swatter
		m ^w [ǎ ^h bò	offering

/ ⁿ d/	ⁿ dʒò ⁿ dʒì	sperm whale
	ⁿ dò ⁿ dì	filth

/ ⁿ g/	m[bá ⁿ dʒà	low water
	ḡ[bà ⁿ gá	coconut

/j/

The sound /j/ is contrastive. The following examples are a clear indication of contrast;

/j/	/k/	è[jàjí	gill
		è[kájí	sheet

Contrast between /j/ and /ɲ/ is found in an analogous environment. The following example shows this contrast.

/j/	/ɲ/	ì[jjádí	birth
		ì[ɲápi	spy

Both consonants are preceded by a high front vowel and followed by a low front vowel. This low front vowel is in both cases followed by a plosive.

/w/

The approximant /w/ is proven to be contrastive by the examples below;

/w/	/k/	ɲò w è	canoe guide
		ḡgò ^m b è	varan (lizard)

/m/	ḡ[bò w á	prisoner
	ḡ[bò m á	peak

/v/	ⁿ gò w è	canoe guide
	ⁿ gó v è	black bream

/l/

/l/ is a contrastive consonant. This can be seen in the following examples;

/l/	/k/	ḡ[lòni	paen
		ḡ[kóni	food from pistaches

/d/	b[ùlú	night
	b[úḑù	donkey
/n/	ḡ[lòni	paen
	ḡ[nòní	garfish
/s/	ḡ[gèlé	color of water
	ḡ[ésé	tempered and packaged cassava in banana leaves

6. Tone

Tone in Bantu languages has in most cases two levels, high (H) and low (L) (Odden, 1995). This is also the case for Bano'ó.

In this section the tone patterns of Bano'ó will be investigated. First the nominal tone is described, followed by verbal tone. The last part of this section describes a phonological process involving tone.

6.1 Nominal tone

Nominal tone can occur in different combinations as can be seen in 6.1.1. Tone on nouns proves to be contrastive.

6.1.1 Tone structures

Prefix - CVCV

In Table 4 the tone on nouns with CVCV structure is represented. The prefix can be both L and H. Almost all combinations of tone are possible in the CVCV structure, apart from HH in combination with a H prefix.

Pfx	CV	CV	Example
L	H	H	è[pósí (bottle)
	H	L	è[ló ^h gì (choir)
	L	H	è[bùmá (fruit)
	L	L	è[k ^w èk ^w ì (butterfly)
H	H	H	-
	H	L	dí[bóbè (spider)
	L	H	é[lè ⁿ dí (small boat)
	L	L	é[dédè (termite)

Table 4. Tone in CVCV word structure (noun)

Prefix - CV

The same goes for the CV structure. The prefix can be both L and H, but the prefix cannot have H tone when the root has H tone on the CV structure. Examples can be found in Table 5.

Pfx	CV	Example
L	H	è[pú (blanket)
	L	dù[bà (ray)
H	H	-
	L	dí[jò (eye)

Table 5. Tone in CV word structure (noun)

Prefix - VCV

In this structure the prefix is a consonant and has no tone. It attaches to the next vowel. All combinations of H and L tone are possible, as can be seen in Table 6.

Pfx	V	CV	Example
C	H	H	j[ánú (scale)
	H	L	b[údù (donkey)
	L	H	b[ùlú (night)
	L	L	j[ò ^o gò (foot)

Table 6. Tone in VCV word structure (noun)

6.1.2 Contrastive tone

Tone in Bano'ó has contrastive function. This can be seen in the following examples;

Only one tone different

è[bójí crazy

è[bòjí frame

è[dúwá turtle-dove

è[dùwá fight

è[ló^ogì choir

è[lò^ogì limb

Two tones different

ká^ogà guinea-fowl

kà^ogá carp (fish)

6.2 Verbal tone

Verbal tone can occur in different combinations. These combinations are represented in 6.2.1. Note that the infinitival verb-prefix always has L tone.

6.2.1 Tone structures

Prefix - CVC - FinalVowel

The most basic tone structure of verbs is a prefix and the root, with a final vowel attached. Combinations where the final vowel is H, are not possible, as can be seen in Table 7.

Pfx	CVC	FV	Example
L	H	H	-
	H	L	ì[jó b]ò (to fish)
	L	H	-
	L	L	ì[bà p]è (to carry)

Table 7. Tone in CVC-FV word structure (verb)

Prefix - CVC - Extension - FinalVowel

When an extra extension is added in the verb, the following tone combinations are possible. Again, H tone on the final vowel does not occur.

Pfx	CVC	Ext	FV	Example
L	H	H	L	ì[bú w]éjà (to fracture)
	H	L	L	ì[pú w]èjà (to crumble)
	L	H	L	ì[mès]á b è (to be measured)
	L	L	L	ì[kò v]ìjè (to benefit)

Table 8. Tone in CVC-EXT-FV word structure (verb)

Prefix - CVC - Extension - ExtensionII - FinalVowel

In this structure not only the final vowel has exclusively L tone, but this is also the case for the second extension. See Table 9. for examples.

Pfx	CVC	ExtI	ExtII	FV	Example
L	H	H	L	L	ì[vól]ímèdè (to request silence)
	H	L	L	L	ì[kám]jèbè (to make burst)
	L	H	L	L	ì[kàk]énèhè (to have a promise)
	L	L	L	L	ì[bàp]jèbè (to make a change)

Table 9. Tone in CVC-EXTI-EXTII-FV word structure (verb)

Another, very rare, tone structure is Prefix - CV – ø. Examples are;

L L ì[vò] to die

L H ì[já] to give birth

L H ì[kó] to fall

Where almost every tone combination is possible for nouns, this is not the case for verbs. As said above, the infinitival verb prefix and the final vowel are always low. The root can be either high or low. When extension are added to the root, the extension following the root can have either high or low tone. But the extension following that extension always has low tone.

6.2.2 Tone shift

Tones can change or move from one place to another (Odden, 1995). This is also the case in Bano’o. In some verbs the tone on the root changes.

One explanation of these changes is tone shift. Odden (1995;455) describes this to be a process by which tone shifts from one underlying position to another.

The H tone of the root shifts to the right when an extension is added in between the root and the final vowel. The H tone of the root is put on the extension. The root now has low tone. In Bano’o the process of tone shift is restricted to shifting only one time.

ì[jád]è to deliver

ì[jàd]ébé to give birth

ì[més]à to measure

ì[mès]édfè to measure

7. Word structure and syllable structure

In this section the word and syllable structure of Bano'ó is investigated. Both the word and syllable structure of nouns and verbs will be demonstrated.

7.1 Noun word

The word structure of nouns can be simply written as;

Pfx - CV
CVCV
VCV

These are the most common structures. Structures of more than two CV do exist, but occur less often.

Examples of such long structures are;

pfx - CVCVCV	è[kàbàlá	horse
- CVCVCVCV	ḡ[kótá ^o kótá	sparrowhawk

In a lot of the words with more than two CV clusters, reduplication has taken place. This can be seen in the example above. Other examples of this reduplication are;

ḡ[vólòvólò	lath
è[ɲò ^o gìɲò ^o gì	tickling

7.1.1 Noun root

The three most common word structures are listed and exemplified below;

P[CV	è[bé - bè[bé	tide
	dí[bá - mà[bá	marriage
P[CVCV	è[bùmá - bè[bùmá	fruit
	ḡ[kùmú - mè[kùmú	enclave
P[VCV	dʒ[ò ^m bè - m[ò ^m bè	door
	j[ómá - bj[ómá)	yam

7.1.2 Syllable structure nouns

Bano’o nouns have the following syllable structures; V, CV and N̩. All syllables are open. Closed syllables do not exist in Bano’o nouns.

V and CV syllables occur in all positions in the root, while the syllabic nasal does not. The N̩ only occurs as a noun prefix.

Note that a syllable can cross a root boundary; **b[ɔ́]lɔ́** (canoe). In this example the noun has a CVC word structure, but two CV syllables, one being word initial and one being word final. The first syllable crosses a root boundary. Therefore we will look at a word as a whole, instead of only at the root, when describing the syllable structure.

The following examples list and exemplify the syllable structures of noun roots.

V- syllable structure

Word initial	òlò	harpoon
Word medial	dí[òbá	sea-devil
Word final	dí[bòà	thights

CV-syllable structure

Word initial	pó ^m bì	fountain
Word medial	è[díjò	anchor
Word final	è[lèdí	duckling

N̩-syllable structure

The syllabic nasal only appears word initial as a noun prefix;

Word initial	ń[kòhó	sugar
Word medial	X	
Word final	X	

7.1.3 Noun class prefixes

The prefixes of the noun structures are represented in Fig. 4. Examples will be given of all the noun prefixes.

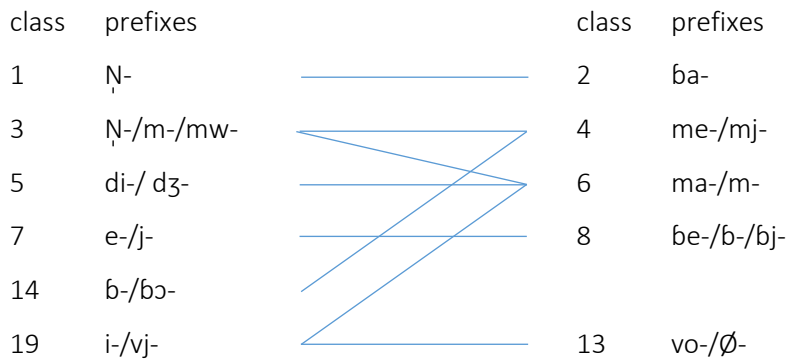


Fig.4. Noun class prefixes

class	prefix	example	
1	ŋ-	ŋ[baʒi]	joint
2	ba-	ba[baʒi]	joints
3	ŋ-/m-/mw-	ŋ[tɔ̃gi]	prophet
		m[ùʒgèà]	fishing zone
		mw[àmbò]	offering
		ŋ[dábò]	house
		m*[éjè]	bait remains
4	me-/mj-	mè[tɔ̃gi]	prophets
		mʲ[ùʒgèà]	fishing zones
		mʲ[àmbò]	offerings
		màⁿ[dábò]	houses
		m[éjè]	bait remains
		mʲ[údù]	donkeys
		mè[dzúwà]	net wigs
5	di-/ dɜ-	dí[bòlù]	neck
		dɜ[lòbí]	fishery

6	ma-/m-	mà[bòlù m[òbí mà[hìjèdè	necks fisheries forgiveness
7	e-/j-	è[bàamá j[émì j[ómá	set of fishing wire,lead, hook and bracket language yam
8	be-/b-/b ^j -	bè[bàamá b[émì bj[òmá	sets of fishing wire,lead, hook and bracket languages yams
13	vo-/v-	vò[dò ^g gà v[óbbò	swallows fishhooks
14	b-/bɔ-	b[údù bò[dzúwà	donkey net wigs
19	i-/vi-	ì[hìjèdè ì[dò ^g gà sing vì[óbbò	forgiveness swallow fishhook

7.2 Verbs

The most common word structure of verbs can be simply written as;

Pfx	-	CVC	-	{ ∅	-	final vowel
				1 extention		ε (caus)
				2 extention}		

The root (CVC) takes on a final vowel /a/ or /ε/. Then up to two extensions can be added to the structure.

Other verb structures are;

Pfx-CV-FV	ì[bó]à	to hear
Pfx-CV-EXT-FV	ì[bé]édè	to call

These structures are a lot less common.

7.2.1 Verb root

The three most common word structures are listed and exemplified below. In these examples the S represents the Extensions. Extensions are suffixes that can be put behind the verb root, and have a derivational function. This derivational function is either to increase or decrease valence, orient action or to mark aspect (Hyman, 2007.)

P[CVC]Fv	ì[mál]à	to draw
	ì[jén]è	to see
P[CVC]SFv	ì[díb]àm-à	to close
	ì[hùl]àb-è	to be build
P[CVC]SSFv	ì[ját]àn-èj-à	to be attached
	ì[ì ^m b]àn-àb-è	to be done away

7.2.2 Syllable structure of verbs

Bano'ó verbs have the following syllable structures; V and CV. All syllables are open. Closed syllables do not exist in Bano'ó verbs.

Both syllable structures occur in all positions in the root. The ñ does not appear in verbs.

Note that a syllable can cross a root boundary; ì[jà**b**]àbè (to lie). In this example the verb has a P[CVC]SFv word structure, but one V syllable and three CV syllables. The second CV syllable crosses a root boundary. Therefore we will look at a word as a whole, instead of only at the root, when describing the syllable structure.

In this thesis only infinitives of verbs will be taken in account. This means that a verb always start with a vowel (V). This thesis only takes a look at the syllable structures of verbs in word initial and word final position.

Example:

ì[díḃ]à to close
ì[dùn]à to grow old

The following examples further list and exemplify the syllable structures of verbs and their possible positions in verb roots;

V-syllable structure

Word medial ì[íḃ]ijè to be running low
 ì[sá]ínà to sign
Word final ì[já]à to stump

CV-syllable structure

Word medial ì ì[já]bè to be born
Word final ì[jàḃ]àḃè to lie

Ḃ-syllable structure

The syllabic nasal does not occur in verbs.

7.2.3 Extensions

A lot of different extensions can be attached to the verb root. All extensions are represented below. The extensions are ordered by the amount of times they appear in the wordlist.

Final vowels:

-a	ì[kàḃ]à	to partake	102
-ε	ì[jé]è	to peel	37

Extentions:

1 Ext	-ed-FV	ì[lóm]èd-è	to send	104
	-ij-FV	ì[kék]ij-è	to raise	64
		ì[jèj]ij-à	to make cry	4
	-ab-FV	ì[mál]àḃ-è	to be drawn	51
	-ej-FV	ì[bàḃ]èj-à	to be added	33
	-an-FV	ì[jàḃ]àn-è	to lie to oneself	27
		ì[lèp]àn-à	to kiss	16

-εβ-FV	ì[jén]èb-è	to be seen	23
-en-FV	ì[hép]èn-è	to help	17
-e-FV	ì[báb]è-à	to hurt yourself	15
-am-FV	ì[pùs]àm-à	to dive in water	13
-il-FV	ì[b'ng]ìl-à	to crawl	4
-eh-FV	ì[pát]èh-à	to cut yourself	3
-em-FV	ì[kèl]èm-è	to hang on	2
-um-FV	ì[pát]ùm-à	to struggle	2
-al-FV	ì[nàm]àl-à	to complain	1
-es-FV	ì[sèk]ès-è	to sift	1
-im-FV	ì[vól]ìm-à	to shut up	1
-in-FV	ì[sá]ín-à	to sign	1
-ij-FV	ì[n'g]ìj-à	to tickle	1
-is-FV	ì[sím]is-à	to regret	1
-ul-FV	ì[húk]ùl-à	to pack	1

2 Ext ext1 ext2 FV

-ij -èb -FV	ì[bàp]ij-èb-è	to make a change	19
-èn -FV	ì[pàl]ij-èn-è	to surprise yourself	10
-ab -FV	ì[jám]ij-àb-è	to be bothered	1
-an -ab -FV	ì[jèj]àn-àb-è	to make cry	9
-ej -FV	ì[ját]àn-èj-à	to be attached	8
-ed -FV	ì[díj]án-èd-è	to be accompanied	4
-e -FV	ì[pàw]àn-è-à	to preach	2
-ed -εβ -FV	ì[kil]èd-èb-è	to be grate	4
-am -ej -FV	ì[jù ^m b]àm-èj-à	to subdue	1
-e -FV	ì[díb]àm-è-à	to close	1
-ed -FV	ì[bà ⁿ d]àm-èd-è	to pay attention	1
-ab -ed -FV	ì[húk]àb-èd-è	to induce vomiting	2
-εβ -ed -FV	ì[jéj]èb-èd-è	to be honored	2
-at -ed -FV	ì[bál]át-èd-è	to tighten	1
-a ^g -an -FV	ì[táb]à ^g -àn-è	to have breakfast	1
-al -an -FV	ì[pàp]àl-àn-è	to struggle	1
-ej -an -FV	ì[jám]èj-àn-è	to bother	1
-en -eh -FV	ì[kàk]én-èh-è	to have a promise	1

-im -ed -FV	ì[vól]ím-èd-è	to request silence	1
-ul -ed -FV	ì[dù ^m b]ùl-èd-è	to feel	1
-um -ed -FV	ì[pàl]ùm-èd-è	to beat the eyelids	1

There is nothing known about the functions of the extensions. It is necessary to further investigate these functions in future research.

8.2.3 Rounding harmony

In certain verb suffixes, the vowel changes as result of rounding harmony. Rounding harmony is a phonological process. In this process a rounded vowel influences a neighbouring vowel to surface as a rounded vowel (Kaun, 2004). This is visible in the following examples. The mid back vowel /ɔ/ triggers rounding. The targets are the closed vowels /a/ and /ɑ/. When these vowels are preceded by an /ɔ/, they become rounded and turn into /ɔ/. This rounding harmony is visible in the following examples;

FV

-à	ì[kàb]à	to partake	102
-ò	ì[jót]ò	to extract	17

EXTI-FV

-ab-FV	ì[mál]àb-è	sto be drawn	51
-ɔb-FV	ì[bók]òb-è	to be twisted	10
-an-FV	ì[lèp]àn-à	to kiss	16
-ɔn-FV	ì[sódz]òn-ò	to confront	2
-am-FV	ì[pùs]àm-à	to dive in water	13
-ɔm-FV	ì[kól]òm-ò	to cower	1
-al-FV	ì[nàm]àl-à	to complain	1
-ɔl-FV	ì[nòp]òl-ò	to peel	3

EXTI-EXTII-FV

-an -ab -FV	ì[jèj]àn-àb-è	to make cry	9
-ɔn -ɔb -FV	ì[sódz]òn-òb-è	to be sued	1

-am -ed -FV	ì[bà ^h d]àm-èd-è	to pay attention	1
-ej -FV	ì[jù ^m b]àm-èj-à	to subdue	1
-om -ed -FV	ì[dó ^g]óm-èd-è	to watch	1
-ej -FV	ì[kó ^l]óm-èj-à	to reduce pain	1

8.3 Deverbal nouns

According to Schadeberg (2003) the formation of deverbal nouns involves two parts, namely:

Schadeberg (2003;79):

- the derivation of a nominal stem from a verbal base by the addition of a word-final suffix.
- the assignment of the derived nominal stem to a nominal class (or gender).

It seems that Bano'o skipped the first step, since all derived nouns in the below stated examples keep at least a part of their verb-final suffixes. The derived nominal stems do get assigned to a nominal class. The derived nominal stem are all assigned to class 6/19.

It is noteworthy that all the verbs and their derived nouns have low tone (except for the first extension of 'to promise'). No examples of base verbs with high tones are found in the collected data.

Verb: ì[dàh]à to be sick
Derived noun: ì[dàà - mà[dàà sickness/illness

Verb: ì[hàm]èdè to believe
Derived noun: ì[hàmèdè - mà[hàmèdè faith

Verb: ì[hàn]èà to command
Derived noun: ì[ànèjà - mà[ànèjà commandment

Verb: ì[kàk]è to promise
 ì[kàk]énèhè to have a promise
Derived noun: ì[kàkénè promise

8. Orthographic decisions and conventions

Using phonetic symbols, doesn't always improve readability. That's why I propose to use simple letters, like /b/ and /d/, to represent their phonological counterparts in written language. Some new symbols are going to be introduced into written language, like /ɲ/ and /ɛ/.

8.1 Consonant decisions

In Table 10 are the orthographic decisions concerning consonants represented. Two new symbols for consonants are introduced into the alphabet; /ɲ/ and /ɲ/. This is done to make a distinction between two sounds that are pronounced separately, or pronounced as one sound.

IPA	Orthographic form	Examples
b	b	è b ùmá -> èbùmá fruit
d	d	é d èdè -> édèdè termitte
dʒ	j	bò d ʒúwà -> bòjúwà wig net
j	y	èjà j í -> èyàví gill
ɲ	N	ḥtò ɲ gì -> ḥtòɲgì prophet ḥbó ɲ ì -> ḥbáyì joint
ɲ	ny	ḥ ɲ ó ɲ ó -> ḥnyónyó hemorrhoid
ɲ	ɲ (word initial) ɲg (word medial)	(ɲ gìngì) ḥì ɲ ì -> ḥìngì fly

Table 10. Orthographic representation consonants

ḥyèbwì	protractor	<i>pronounced separately</i>
(nyèndì) ɲè ^h dì	hunchbacked	<i>pronounced as one sound</i>
ḥgùbù	hippo	<i>pronounced separately</i>
(ngùdì) ɲùdì	strength	<i>pronounced as one sound</i>

8.2 Vowel decisions

In Table 11 are the orthographic decisions concerning vowels represented. Two new symbols for vowels are introduced into the alphabet; /ɛ/ and /ɔ/. The difference between /e/ and /ɛ/, and /o/ and /ɔ/ cannot be indicated with respectively an acute accent and a grave accent. This because these accents are used to indicate tone.

/i/, /e/, /ɛ/, /a/, /u/, /o/ and /ɔ/ will be the vowels that are going to be used in written language.

IPA	Orthographic form	Examples
a/ɑ	a	dīpàpá -> dípàpá fishtail
e	e	ṛ̀bépé -> ò̀bépé porcupine
ɛ	ɛ	(ìyéli) ijéli -> iyéli hare
ɪ	í (word medial) e (word final)	síngì -> síngì cat èpósí -> èpósé bottle
o	o	ṛ̀bòmá -> ò̀bòmá peak
ɔ	ɔ	(̀̀nòní) ̀̀nòní -> ò̀nòní garfish
ʊ	o/ɔ	kòlò -> kòlò evening

Table 11. Orthographic representation vowels

8.3 Lexical tone marking

Bano'ò has two tones, high and low. Both tones will be marked on the tone bearing units. The reason for writing both high and low is that the markers do not only mark tone, but also whether a unit is syllabic or not:

mbépé hedgehog

̀̀bépé porcupine

Without the tone marker indicating that the nasal has tone, and therefor is syllabic, there would be no way of determining the meaning of the word.

This thesis provided a basic phonology of Bano’o, a dialect of Batanga. Bano’o is a Bantu language. The language has ten contrastive vowels. The front vowels are /i/, /ɪ/, /e/, /ɛ/ and /a/. The back vowels are /u/, /ʊ/, /o/, /ɔ/ and /ɑ/. Further research on vowels is needed, since the data proving contrast exists, but is limited. Further research in collaboration with native speakers is needed to either confirm or reject the existence of ten contrastive vowels.

Bano’o has 21 contrastive consonants. The (prenasalized) plosives are /p/, /t/, /k/, /g/, /^mb/, /ⁿd/ and /^ŋg/. The implosives are /b/ and /d/. The nasals are /m/, /n/, /ɲ/, /ŋ/. De fricatives are /v/, /s/ and /h/. The (prenasalized) affricates are /dʒ/ and /ⁿ dʒ/. The approximants are /j/, /w/ and /l/. The question whether or not labialized and palatalized sounds form monophonemic sounds combinations is a difficult one, since the data available contains very little labialized and palatalized consonants. In this thesis the choice is made to analyse these consonants as being one phoneme. But this is debatable and needs to be further analysed in future research.

Bano’o has two tone levels, high (H) and low (L). These tones have a contrastive function. There are instances were tone shifts from one vowel to the next.

The language has word structures in which a prefix is followed by either a CV, CVCV or VCV . These structures are the most common. Structures of more than two CV clusters do exist, but occur less often. The verb word structure is as follows; A prefix precedes the CVC root. The root can be followed by either a final vowel, one extension and a final vowel, or two extensions and a final vowel. In certain verb extensions, the vowel changes as result of rounding harmony.

Bano’o has three different syllable structures; V, CV and N̩. These structures apply for both noun and verbs, with the exception of the N̩ syllable for verbs. This structure only exists in nouns, and in that case only in word initial position, as a prefix. Closed syllables do not occur in the language. All the syllables of Bano’o are open.

Hopefully this thesis will be a proper contribution to already existing data and data analyses. And even more that it may be a reason for other linguists to further investigate Bano’o in the future.

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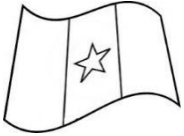


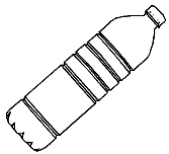



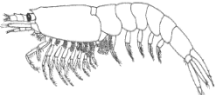

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11. Attachments

11.1 Wordlist

TO FOLLOW

11.2 Alphabet chart

<p>a A</p>  <p>itàmbe (huître)</p>	<p>b B</p>  <p>dìbóbè (araignee)</p>	<p>d D</p>  <p>èdúwá (tourtelles)</p>	<p>e E</p>  <p>mbépe (hérisson)</p>	<p>ε Ε</p>  <p>béki (assiette)</p>
<p>g G</p>  <p>ngúbú (hippopotame)</p>	<p>h H</p>  <p>è[hòⁿdì (banana plantain)</p>	<p>i I</p>  <p>síngì (chat)</p>	<p>j J</p>  <p>jàkási (chameau)</p>	<p>k K</p>  <p>ñkéhé (bébé)</p>
<p>l L</p>  <p>èlèdì (poussin)</p>	<p>m M</p>  <p>méli (bateau)</p>	<p>n N</p>  <p>inòngó (lit)</p>	<p>η Ñ</p>  <p>ñingì (mouche)</p>	<p>ny Ny</p>  <p>nyòngò (drapeau)</p>
<p>o O</p>  <p>bòkóká (coq)</p>	<p>ɔ Ɔ</p>  <p>inòní (oiseau)</p>	<p>p P</p>  <p>èpósé (bouteille)</p>	<p>s S</p>  <p>sósi (église)</p>	<p>t T</p>  <p>màtówà (voiture)</p>
<p>u U</p>  <p>èbùmá (fruit)</p>	<p>v V</p>  <p>ndivá (tortue luth)</p>	<p>w W</p>  <p>ñwá (crevette)</p>	<p>y Y</p>  <p>ìyéli (lièvre)</p>	

A - a

áká (*n*) conteau

B - b

bàbáyì (<i>n</i>) conjoints	bèbwàhákòkó (<i>n</i>) pains de manioc
bàhàmèdì (<i>n</i>) croyants	bèdàngì (<i>n</i>) récipients
bàbémbéni (<i>n</i>) ennemis	bèdèndé (<i>n</i>) baleines
bàdùni (<i>n</i>) vieillards	bèdèdè (<i>n</i>) termites
bàhànèi (<i>n</i>) chefs, responsables	bèdìyò (<i>n</i>) ancres
bàmbámbá (<i>n</i>) grands-parents	bèdòngè (<i>n</i>) tourbillons
bàpépwi (<i>n</i>) visiteurs	bèdùbú (<i>n</i>) couleuvres
bàpèyà (<i>n</i>) jeunes garçons adolescent	bèdúwá (<i>n</i>) tourterelles
bàpóló (<i>n</i>) chefs. roi	bèdùwá (<i>n</i>) luttes
bàtáti (<i>n</i>) veilleurs ou gardien	bèhádó (<i>n</i>) travailles
bàtili (<i>n</i>) écrivains	bèhálá (<i>n</i>) papilles
bàtódú (<i>n</i>) anciens	bèhànjáò (<i>n</i>) espaces
bàyèbwi (<i>n</i>) rapporteurs	bèhémbà (<i>n</i>) lèvres
béá (<i>n</i>) bois	bèhéná (<i>n</i>) exclamations
bèbàbàngwè (<i>n</i>) raies géante	bèhèná (<i>n</i>) reins
bèbámá (<i>n</i>) ensembles de fil à pêche, plomb, hameçon et support	bèhéwò (<i>n</i>) louanges
bèbámbú (<i>n</i>) planches à écraser	bèhèndò (<i>n</i>) marches
bèbánjèá (<i>n</i>) types de bouillon de poisson frais avec peu de jus. fait au citron, piment et sel	bèhéngà (<i>n</i>) infirmes
bèbé (<i>n</i>) marées	bèhéngání (<i>n</i>) commandements
bèbèhùmè (<i>n</i>) pieuvres	bèhéò (<i>n</i>) foies
bèbimbí (<i>n</i>) types d'écorce- épice	bèhíyàngò (<i>n</i>) plantes
bèbòà (<i>n</i>) mortiers	bèhíyè (<i>n</i>) débroussage
bèbódé (<i>n</i>) oreillons	bèhóná (<i>n</i>) mottes de terre
bèbòdú (<i>n</i>) pourritures	bèhòpé (<i>n</i>) jeunes, jeunesses
bèbòhò (<i>n</i>) creux de la pirogue (pl)	bèhòndi (<i>n</i>) bananes plantain
bèbóndá (<i>n</i>) dots	bèhúdúwá (<i>n</i>) houles
bèbóndó (<i>n</i>) mouches tsè-tsè	bèhùkúlúhú (<i>n</i>) hiboux
bèbóndù (<i>n</i>) mentons	bèhùú (<i>n</i>) intestins
bèbóngá (<i>n</i>) oreillers	bèhùwà (<i>n</i>) pièges á poissons
bèbóyí (<i>n</i>) fous	bèhùwé (<i>n</i>) vomissures
bèbòyí (<i>n</i>) châssis (pl)	bèiyà (<i>n</i>) tabous
bèbùmá (<i>n</i>) fruits	bèkàbálá (<i>n</i>) chevaux
bèbwábwángé (<i>n</i>) adolescents	bèkàkàjì (<i>n</i>) compassions
	bèkàlà (<i>n</i>) nattes (pour se coucher)
	bèkáyí (<i>n</i>) feuilles
	bèkéyì (<i>n</i>) gourdins

bèkóká (n) margouillats
bèkókólóó (n) champignons
békómáni (n) condiments
bèkòndá (n) chaussures
bèkónhí (n) sortes d'envoûtement
bèkòhíyà (n) tours
bèkòngíí (n) gosiers
bèkùlé (n) manioc (tubercules) trempé et braisé au feu vif
bèkwákwa (n) calaos
bèkwátá (n) prurits
bèkwèkwè (n) papillons
bèkwémí (n) tôles
bélándáni (n) reptiles
bèlèdi (n) 1. poussins 2. oisillon 3. caneton
bèlèndé (n) barques
bèlèmbè (n) vérandas
bèlèmbú (n) mous
bèlímbí (n) tam-tams
bèlóló (n) sardines, harengs
bèlòkò (n) pies
bèlòlò (n) cagnards
bèlòngí (n) chorales
bèlòngí (n) membres
bèmbé (n) animaux domestiques
bèmbòndà (n) biches
bèmbwémí (n) lions; Panthero Leo
bèmènò (n) vies
bémí (n) langues
bèndóngò (n) formes de les pirogues
bèngélèsi (n) anges
bènyèngè (n) joies
bènyònginyòngí (n) chatouillements
bènyúnúlú (n) types de moustiques minuscule à peine visible à l'œil nu
bèpàhà (n) aloses
bèpàmbàlèdi (n) serrures
bèpàmbò (n) courants marins
bèpàngá (n) panaris
bèpápó (n) avant-bras (pl)
bèpéjè (n) filets
bèpímá (n) murs
bèpòhólò (n) chapeaux

bèpòlà (n) espaces entre deux sièges dans la pirogue
bèpòpò (n) lèvres
bèpòpòlèé (n) poumons
bèpósé (n) bouteilles
bèpòngà (n) couvercles
bèpònjó (n) types de carpe noire
bèpú (n) couvertures
bèpùmá (n) fruits à pin
bèpùpùdù (n) trous, profonds
bèsèkèseni (n) tamis (pl)
bètáhà (n) claies
bètándá (n) 1. poissons; carafons de la famille des orphies avec des mangeoires en forme d'ailes 2. cafard
bètátábà (n) marres d'eau
bètátámú (n) sauces de gombo
bèténgé (n) rejets de cocotiers
bètímà (n) lacs
bètìngìlìngì (n) talons
bètòli (n) souris
bètòbò (n) merus
bètódè (n) huitres
bètòmbè (n) noix de coco tendre (pl)
bètòndè (n) maladies des enfants anus rouge
bètúmbè (n) tous petites
bètúngú (n) furoncles
bèvéé (n) os (pl)
bèvèlá (n) fausses accusations
bèvélé (n) envies
bèvolání (n) armes
bèvónò (n) querelles
bèyàbá (n) palmes
bèyàhò (n) nasses
bèyàhùlà (n) cérémonies, manifestations
bèyàyí (n) branchies
békì (n) assiette
bìàngí (n) poissons-perroquets
bìánú (n) écailles
bìómá (n) tubercules d'ignames
bìóndó (n) tilapias
bìòngò (n) pieds
bìòngòwà (n) alizés maritimes

bìyì (*n*) chenilles
bòàngá (*n*) poitrine
bòbíá (*n*) faire-part
bòdéi (*n*) action de manger
bòhàdò (*n*) escalier
bòhàmbí (*n*) bane de poisson
bòhíngá (*n*) haine
bòhólóngà (*n*) grande nasse
bòjàbè (*n*) karité
bòkèi (*n*) déveine à la pêche
bòkìlì (*n*) accrochage du poisson
bòkóká (*n*) coq
bòlóngi (*n*) 1. logis 2. bâtiment
 construction
bònyòpínyà (*n*) citronnier
bòpéyà avocatier
bòpòpò (*n*) papayer papayer
bòpùpwà (*n*) jetée de l'épervier
bòsá (*n*) safoutier (premier)
bòtódú (*n*) ultimatum

bònénò (*n*) don spirituel
bònjónjò (*n*) chair de prile
bòhópò (*n*) pulpe de noix de palme au
 sucre
bòjúwà (*n*) perruque du filet
bóló (*n*) pirogue
bònítò (*n*) bonite
bòngòmù (*n*) (sauce de) n'dolè
bòngú (*n*) cerveau
bòórénjì (*n*) oranger
búbwè (*n*) manguier
búdù (*n*) âne
búlú (*n*) nuit
búmà (*n*) baobab
bùwá (*n*) jour
bwèndì (*n*) nouvelle
byòó (*n*) pénis (pl)
byòmá (*n*) ignames
byòwà (*n*) dauphins
byúngú (*n*) charognards

D - d

dám̀bà (*n*) marécage
dibá (*n*) mariage
dibàhù (*n*) daba, houe
dibàmbò (*n*) poisson assaisonné de
 piment, sel, citron et séché à la clé
dibámú (*n*) aigre, acide
dibànjà (*n*) foyer
dibembá (*n*) poulailler
dibèngé (*n*) sonnerie, cloche
díbè (*n*) mamelle
dibèè (*n*) épaule
dibìndì (*n*) testicule
dibòà (*n*) cuisse
dibóbè (*n*) araignée
dibómbí (*n*) rapt
dibòmì (*n*) pièce à écraser (en noix de
 coco)
dibòdò (*n*) boue
dibòlù (*n*) cou
dibóngó (*n*) genou

dibúndú (*n*) carpe d'eau douce
dibùngá (*n*) mollet
dibùngè (*n*) remous
dibùngù (*n*) natte à coucher
dibúù (*n*) joue
dihádú (*n*) pomme de la main
dihàkwàù (*n*) peigne
dihándò (*n*) charbon
dihàngà (*n*) gale chronique
dihélú (*n*) barbe
dihéngà (*n*) case à palabres
dihòngá (*n*) dent
dihónà (*n*) chute d'eau
dihòbò (*n*) plus grosse ligue de la pirogue
dihóngò (*n*) graisse
dihúbé (*n*) banana douce
dihúlà (*n*) rassasiement
dikàbò (*n*) (tubercule de macabo)
dikàù (*n*) crabe
dikèò (*n*) mâchoire

dìkúkú (*n*) voile
dìkwàmbà (*n*) cassave de manioc
dìmbúé (*n*) muet
dìndé (*n*) taro
dìngúlá (*n*) abri
dìòbá (*n*) lotte
dìòndì (*n*) poteau
dìpàpá (*n*) queue de poisson
dìpàtá (*n*) accrochage
dìpèpú (*n*) feuille de papier
dìpítò (*n*) plomb
dìpòndé (*n*) flacon
dìpóté (*n*) teigne nuage
dìsì (*n*) soupière

dìsùkùlà (*n*) manioc trempé et pressé. cuit dans la marmite
dìvéngé (*n*) blessure
dìvéhù (*n*) fièvre
dìvìndí (*n*) nuage
dìwédí (*n*) décès, mort
dìyé (*n*) sucré
dìyò (*n*) 1. œil 2. maille 3. foyer
dóbà (*n*) soleil
dòngómánéngò (*n*) droiture
dóí (*n*) parole
dólò (*n*) nuque
dùbà (*n*) raie
dùú (*n*) ventre

E - e

èbàbàngwè (*n*) raie géante
èbàmá (*n*) ensemble de fil à pêche, plomb, hameçon et support
èbámbú (*n*) planche à écraser
èbánjéà (*n*) type de bouillon de poisson frais avec peu de jus, fait au citron, piment et sel
èbé (*n*) marée
èbèhùmè (*n*) pieuvre
èbìmbí (*n*) type d'écorce-épice
èbòà (*n*) mortier
èbódé (*n*) oreillon
èbòdú (*n*) pourriture
èbòhò (*n*) creux de la pirogue
èbóndá (*n*) dot
èbóndó (*n*) mouche tsè-tsè
èbóndù (*n*) menton
èbóndì (*n*) drill, mandrillus leucophalus
èbóngá (*n*) oreiller
èbójí (*n*) fou
èbòjí (*n*) châssis
èbùmá (*n*) fruit
èbwábwángé (*n*) adolescents
èbwàhákòkò (*n*) pain de manioc

èdàngì (*n*) récipient
édèdè (*n*) termite
èdídì (*n*) esprit
èdìyò (*n*) ancre
èdòngè (*n*) tourbillon
èdùbú (*n*) couleuvre
èdúwá (*n*) tourterelle
èdùwá (*n*) lutte
èhádó (*n*) travail
èhálá (*n*) papille
èhànjáò (*n*) espace
èhémbà (*n*) lèpre
èhéná (*n*) exclamation
èhèná (*n*) reins
èhèndò (*n*) marche
èhéngà (*n*) infirme
èhèngání (*n*) commandements
èhéò (*n*) foie
èhéwò (*n*) louange
èhíyángò (*n*) plante
èhóná (*n*) motte de terre
èhòpé (*n*) jeune, jeunesse
èhòndì (*n*) banane plantain
èhúdúwá (*n*) houle

èhùkúlúhú (n) hibou	ènyèngè (n) joie
èhùú (n) intestins	ènyòngìnyòngì (n) chatouillement
èhùwà (n) piège á poissons	ènyúnúlú (n) type de moustique minuscule á peine visible á l'oeil nu
èhùwé (n) vomissures	èpàhà (n) alose
èkàbàlá (n) cheval	èpàmbàlèdì (n) serrure
èkàkajì (n) compassion	èpàmbò (n) courant marin
èkàlà (n) natte (pour se coucher)	èpàngá (n) panaris
èkáyí (n) feuille	èpápó (n) l'avant-bras
èkéyì (n) gourdin	èpéjè (n) filet
èkóká (n) margouillat	èpimá (n) mur
èkókólòó (n) champignon	èpòhólò (n) chapeau
èkólóbéndè (n) corbeau	èpòlà (n) espace entre deux siège dans la pirogue
èkómánì (n) condiment	èpòpò (n) lèvre
èkòndá (n) chaussures	èpòpòlèé (n) poumon
èkónhí (n) sorte d'envoûtement	èpósé (n) bouteille
èkòihà (n) tour	èpòngà (n) couvercle
èkòngílí (n) gosier	èpònjó (n) type de carpe noire
èkulé (n) manioc (tubercule) trempé er braisé au feu vif	èpú (n) couverture
èkwákwá (n) calao	èpùmá (n) fruit à pin
èkwátá (n) prurit	èpùpùdù (n) trou, profond
èkwèkwè (n) papillon	èsèkèsèni (n) tami
èkwémí (n) tôle	ètáhà (n) claie
élandánì (n) reptile	ètándá (n) 1. poisson; carafon de la famille des orphies avec des mangeoires en forme d'ailles 2. cafard
èlèdì (n) 1. poussin 2. oisillon 3. caneton	étátábà (n) marre d'eau
èlèmbè (n) véranda	étátámú (n) sauce de gombo
èlèmbú (n) mou	éténgé (n) rejeton de cocotier
èlèndé (n) barque	étímà (n) lac
èlímí (n) tam-tam	ètìngìlìngì (n) talon
èlóló (n) sardine, hareng	ètòlì (n) souri
èlòkò (n) pie	ètótì (n) essoufflement
èlòlò (n) cagnard	ètòbò (n) meru
èlójgì (n) chorale	ètódè (n) huître
èlòjgì (n) membre	ètòmbè (n) noix de coco tendre
èlùmà (n) pleine lune	ètòndè (n) maladie des enfants anus rouge
èmbòndà (n) biche	ètúmbè (n) tout petit
èmbwémì (n) lion, Panthero Leo	ètúngú (n) furoncle
èmènò (n) vie	èvèé (n) os (pl)
èndèndé (n) baleine	èvèlá (n) fausse accusation
èndóngò (n) forme de la pirogue	
èngéléhé (n) poêle	
éngélèsì (n) ange	

èvélé (n) désir, envi
èvolání (n) arme
èvónvò (n) querelle
èyàbá (n) palme

èyàhò (n) nasse
èyàhùlà (n) cérémonie, manifestation
èyàyí (n) branchie

F - f

fibèli (n) fibrome

fùfù (n) couscous

G - g

gìnyà poisson-courant

H - h

háò (n) fourmi magnan

hóngómánéngò (n) honnêteté

hòlò (n) appât pour les masses

hònó (n) petite fourmi noire

I - i

ikàà (v) recevoir

ibánjìyè (v) faire sécher

ìwómwà (v) être puni

ibàpè (v) porter

ibábèà (v) se blesser

ibàpènè (v) porter la change d'un autre,
aider à porter

ibábèdè (v) blesser

ibàpièbè (v) se faire changer, faire subir
une change

ibàdèà (v) augmenter

ibàpiènè (v) faire changer

ibàdèyà (v) être ajouter

ibàpiyè (v) faire porter, changer

ibàdè (v) ajouter

ibàpiyènè (v) faire porter

ibàdèbè (v) faire ajouter

ibásà (n) agitation en surface du bave de
poisson

ibàhèdè (v) comprendre

ibáyé (n) darte

ibákè (v) faire un rajout

ibéédè (v) faire parler

ibákèbè (v) s'ajouter

ibèhánà (v) parler à, de quelqu'un

ibákèdè (v) se faire un rajout

ibèhànèdè (v) faire parler mutuellement

ibákènè (v) faire un rajout pour

ibèhèdè (v) faire parler

ibálatèdè (v) serrer

ibènjà (v) abattre

ibàndàmèdè (v) faire attention

ibènjèdè (v) faire abattre

ibángè (n) outre

ibényà (v) apprécier

ibángiyè (v) effrayer

ibènyábè (v) se faire apprécier

ibàngiyè (v) avoir de doute

ibánjà (v) dessécher

ibánjèdè (v) faire sécher

ibènyánè (v) s'apprécier
ibétèà (v) s'enorgueillir
ibèyà (v) parler, s'exprimer
ibíédè (v) pousser
ibíngila (v) ramper
ibìnjà (v) examiner
ibìnjàbè (v) être examiner
ibíyà (n) sagesse
ibóà (v) entendre se tortiller
ibóbà (v) tâter
ibóbànè (v) se tâter
ibóédè (v) rassembler
ibóéyà (v) obéir
ibókúbù (n) fontanelle
ibómà (v) aboyer
ibómànè (v) aboyer
ibòmèdè (v) clouer
ibómiyènè (v) s'engueuler
ibòngwà (v) réparer
ibòbèyà (v) attendrir
ibòbiyè (v) ramollir
ibókò (v) tordre
ibókòbè (v) être tordu
ibókònyèyà (v) se tortiller
ibómbà (v) entretenir
ibómbànè (v) s'entretenir
ibómbíyè (v) captiver une jeune fille
ibóngánèyà (v) rencontres
ibóngè (v) déposer
ibóngèbè (v) être poser
ibóngèdè (v) poser
ibóngónèdì (n) cage de stockage de crevettes
ibòngwà (v) arranger
ibónónédé (v) éprouver de perte
ibùkwà (v) croquer à pleine dents
ibùlèdè (v) démolir
ibúmè (v) coucher sur le ventre
ibùmà (n) rein intérieur
ibúmàmà (v) se coucher
ibúmiyè (v) faire coucher
ibúmwà (v) ouvrir

ibúwéyà (v) se fracture
ibwa (v) tuer
ibwàjà (v) faire mépriser
ibwànjà (v) mépris
ibwànjàbè (v) se faire mépriser
ibwànjànà (v) mépriser
ibwèà (v) attraper
ibwèhèdè (v) faire prendre
ibwèyà (v) tenir
ibwèyàbè (v) être tenu, attrapé
ibwèyànè (v) se tenir
idá (v) manger
idá (n) nourriture
idàhà (v) être malade
idàhà (n) maladie
idàhànèdè (v) être malade è plusieurs
idàhiyè (v) rendre malade
idàhiyènè (v) se faire mal mutuellement
idàngò (n) puit
idàngwà (v) marcher
idàngwèdè (v) faire marcher
idèlà (v) refuser
idèlàbè (v) être refuser
idèlànyè (v) faire refuser
idibà (v) fermer
idibàmà (v) se fermer
idibàmèyà (v) fermer
idibànèyà (v) s'enfermer
idibèdè (v) encercler
idibwà (v) ouvrir
idíbwáni (n) clé
idíédè (v) accompagner
idíkiyè (v) brûler
idimà (v) s'immerger
idimèbè (v) se faire noyer
idimiyè (v) faire noyer
idípà (v) frapper
idípàbè (v) avoir été frappé
idípànè (v) action de frapper
idípèhà (v) se faire frapper
idíyànèdè (v) s'accompagner
idòkà (v) cogner

idòkàbè (v) être cogner
idòkèyà (v) se faire cogner
idòmijè (v) achever
idòndiyà (n) petit flotteur à la canne à pêche
idòngà (n) hirondelle
idòngòmàné (v) s'accorder
idòngómèdè (v) guetter
idùbà (v) tremper
idùbàbè (v) tromper par une autre personne, être tremper
idùbàmà (v) plonger dans l'eau
idùbèdè (v) faire tremper
idùmbùlèdè (v) sentir
idùmèdè (v) étouffer
idùmèyà (v) s'étouffer
idùnà (v) vieillir
idùnìyè (v) faire vieillir
idùnìyèbè (v) se faire vieillir
idùtà (v) tirer
idùtàbè (v) être tirer
idùtàné (v) s'être tirer
idùtèà (v) réfléchir
idúwà (v) payer
idúwàbè (v) être payer
idúwánà (v) conduire
idúwànàbè (v) se faire payer
ihálà (v) chamailler
ihàlànà (v) se chamailler
ihàlànàbè (v) se faire engueuler
ihálèà (v) prier
ihàmbàbè (v) se faire préparer
ihàmbàma (v) s'étendre
ihàmbè (v) tendre
ihàmbèbè (v) être tendre par
ihàmbiyè (v) vendre
ihàmèdè (n) foi
ihàmèdè (v) croire
ihànèà (v) commander
ihànèà(n) régner
ihànèyà(n) commandement
ihàpwèdè (v) exagérer

ihénà (v) s'exclamer
ihènà (v) grossir
ihèniyè faire grossir
ihèniyèbè (v) se faire grossir
ihèmà (v) secouer
ihèmè (v) maudire
ihèmèbè (v) être maudit
ihèmènè (v) prendre l'habitude de maudire
ihépènè (v) aider
ihìbà (v) voler
ihìbà (v) descendre
ihìbàbè (v) être voler
ihìbànàbè (v) être victime du voler
ihìbèà (v) se rabaisser
ihìbèdè (v) faire voler
ihìbiyè (v) baisser
ihìbiyèbè (v) faire descendre
ihìndìnà (n) patience
ihìngánèdè (v) se haïr
ihìngèdè (v) haïr
ihìnjá(n) basilic
ihìnyà (v) pisser
ihìnyàbè (v) avoir été pissé
ihìnyèdè (v) faire pisser
ihìyà (v) planter, cultiver
ihìyàbè (v) être planté, être cultivé
ihìyànà (v) aider à planter
ihìyèdè (n) pardons
ihìyèdè (v) faire planté
ihómbèdè (v) faire tailler
ihómbèdèbè (v) être taillé
ihómbiyè (v) fatiguer
ihómbò (v) tailler
ihóbijè (v) assez
ihòngilà (v) grogner, rugir
ihòngònèdè (v) penser
ihòngònèdè (n) pensée
ihúdà (v) gonfler
ihúdiyè (v) faire gonfler
ihúdiyèbè (v) être gonflé
ihùkiyèbè (v) se faire vomir
ihùkà (v) vomir

ihùkàbèdè (v) se faire vomir
ihúkè (v) maintenir
ihùkèdè (v) faire vomir
ihùkiyè (v) faire vomir
ihúkùlà (v) emballer
ihùkwà (v) arracher
ihùlà (v) doter
ihùlàbè (v) être doter
ihúndiyè (v) s'absenter
ihùngà (v) séparer
ihùngàbè (v) se faire séparer
ihùngù (n) moustique
ihúnjà (v) souffler
ihùnjà (v) détacher
ihùnjàbè (v) être détaché
ihùnjànà (v) aider à détacher
ihùnjèà (v) se détacher
ihùnjèdè (v) faire détaché
ihùpà se (v) mouiller
ihùpènè (v) frôler
ihùpiyè (v) faire mouiller
ihùpiyèbè (v) se faire mouiller
ihùpiyènè (v) se mouiller
ihùtà (v) cacher
ihùtàbè (v) se faire cacher
ihùtàrà (v) se cacher
ihùviyè (v) donner raison
ihúwà (v) interroger
ihúwàbèdè (v) être interrogé
ihúwèdè (v) s'informer
ijàbwà (v) traverser
ijàbwèdè (v) faire traverser
ijàli (n) prostitué
ijánjà (v) travailler
ijánjànà (v) travailler avec
ijánjànàbè (v) aider à travailler
ijánjèà (v) servir
ijánjèdè (v) faire travailler
ijánjèyà (v) travailler pour
ijéngèyà (v) s'égarer
ijéngiyè (v) nuire
ijóngà (v) fumer

ijóngèdè (v) faire fumé
ijóngiyè (v) se faire fumé
ijùmbàmèyà (v) subjugué
ijùwè (v) couvrir
ikàbà (v) partager
ikàbàbè (v) recevoir une part
ikàbànè (v) se partager
ikàbèdè (v) gober
ikàbwèdè (n) surgissement du poisson en surface
ikàhàmà (n) baptême
ikàjámà (v) se renverser sur le dos
ikàjè (v) renverser sur le dos
ikàjèdè (v) faire renverser sur le dos
ikàkè (v) promettre
ikàkènè (n) promesse
ikàkènèhè (v) avoir une promesse
ikàmà (v) éclater
ikàmbà (v) nouer l'hameçon
ikàmbàbè (v) se faire nouer
ikàmbàmà (v) être noué
ikàmiyè (v) faire éclater
ikàmiyèbè (v) se faire éclater
ikàmiyènè (v) s'éclater
ikànà (v) jurer
ikàsà (n) pont
ikédéngè (n) lapin
ikéléwèdè (n) avertissement
ikéwèdè (v) remercier
ikéhèyà (v) cascader
ikékè (v) pousser, germer
ikékìyè (v) faire pousser
ikékìyèbè (v) laisser pousser
ikèlèmè (v) s'accrocher
ikènjè (v) se préparer
ikènjè (n) destinée
ikékìyè (v) faire pousser
ikilà (v) 1. accrocher le poisson 2. m'assurer 3. râper
ikilàbè (v) être accroché
ikilèdè (v) 1. faire accrocher 2. se faire m'assurer 3. faire râper

ìkìlèdèbè (v) se faire râper
ìkìlèyà (v) se faire accrocher
ìkóbéyà (n) carpien
ìkódómèà (v) heurter
ìkóhónèà (v) se décrocher du hameçon
ìkókà (v) découper, émietter
ìkókàbè (v) être découpé
ìkókànè (v) se découper
ìkókò (v) chanter (le coq)
ìkólè (n) 1. l'ourlet 2. raidissement de doigts
ìkómà (v) moudre
ìkómàbè (v) être mordu
ìkómànè (v) capable de mordre
ìkómèyà (v) se faire mordre
ìkòvà (v) bénéficiaire
ìkòvìyè (v) faire bénéficiaire
ìkó (v) échouer, tomber
ìkóiyà (v) tousser
ìkóiyè (v) allumer
ìkólómèyà (v) se contracter de douleur
ìkólòmò (v) se recroqueviller
ìkúbwà (v) 1. purger 2. faire la diarrhée
ìkùlà (v) racler, raser
ìkùlàbè (v) se faire raser
ìkùlàbè (v) être raser
ìkùlànnè (v) se raser
ìkùlèdè (v) se faire raser
ìkùmbèà (v) s'échouer
ìkùndà (v) venger
ìkùndàbè (v) être venger
ìkùndànè (v) faire vengeance
ìkwéyè (v) faire tomber
ìkwéyèbè (v) 1. donner tort 2. se faire renverser
ìkwéyènnè (v) 1. faire tort 2. faire tomber
ìlálè (n) pierre à écraser
ìlámàmà (v) se vanter
ìlámè (v) piéger
ìlámèbè (v) être piégé
ìlàngà (v) lire
ìlàngàbè (v) être lu

ìlàngànèyà (v) être lisible
ìlāwà (v) déchirer une proie
ìlāwànnà (v) action de déchirer
ìlāwànnàbè (v) se faire déchirer
ìlèmbà (n) sorcellerie
ìlèmiyè (v) enchanter
ìlèpànà (v) embrasser
ìlékè (v) flotter
ìlékèbèdè (v) se faire flotter
ìlékèdè (v) faire flotter
ìlélé (v) tituber
ìlélèdè (v) faire tituber
ìlélijè (v) se faire tituber
ìlèndè (v) couper en tranche
ìlèndé (n) palmier
ìlèndèbè (v) être tranché
ìlèndèyà (v) se fissurer
ìlèngédè (v) mettre à part
ìlèngèmmè (v) s'écarter
ìlètèdè (v) désorienter
ìlimbà (v) fuir
ìlimbànnà (v) s'en fuir avec
ìlimbànnàbè (v) se faire en fuir
ìlimbiyè (v) faire fuir
ìlimènnè (v) soutenir
ìlìngwà (v) se fâcher
ìlìngwèdè (v) faire fâcher
ìlókà (n) pêche à l'ecopage (pêche au barrage)
ìlómà (v) commissionner
ìlómàbè (v) être commissionné
ìlómànè (v) commissionner
ìlólò (v) se chauffer
ìlólòbè (v) pouvant chauffer
ìlólònnèyà (v) se chauffer
ìlòmbè (n) 1. épopée 2. légende
ìlómèdè (v) envoyer
ìlòngà (v) construire
ìlòngàbè (v) se être construit
ìlòngédè (v) 1. faire construire 2. faire coudre
ìlòngò (v) chanter

ìlónḡò (*n*) fleur
ìlónḡòbè (*v*) chanter pour quelqu'un
ìlónḡòbè (*v*) être cousu
ìlónḡònè (*v*) chanter les cuis pour les autres
ìlòḡḡ (*v*) coudre
ìlúmbèyà (*v*) être hôte de quelqu'un
lùḡḡà (*v*) maigrir
ìlùḡḡiyè (*v*) faire maigrir
ìmákà (*v*) broder
ìmákàbè (*v*) être brodé
ìmákànèyà (*v*) capable d'être brodé
ìmákèdè (*v*) faire broder
ìmálà (*v*) dessiner
ìmálàbè (*v*) être dessiné
ìmámánè (*n*) miracle
ìmèdè (*v*) finir
ìmèdèbè être finir
ìmèdènè faire finir
ìmésà (*v*) mesurer
ìmésábè (*v*) être mesuré
ìmésánè (*v*) se mesurer
ìmésédè (*v*) faire mesurer
ìmità (*v*) presser
ìmitàbè (*v*) être presser
ìmitànè (*v*) se faire presser
ìmwáédè (*v*) arroser
ìnàḡḡà (*v*) se coucher
ìnàḡḡànà (*v*) coucher avec
ìnàḡḡànàbè (*v*) être couché avec
ìnàḡḡànèà (*v*) se coucher avec
ìnàḡḡèdè (*v*) faire coucher
ìnàḡḡèdèbè (*v*) se faire coucher
ìndódóbànè (*v*) allez ça et là
ìḡḡḡà (*v*) écraser
ìḡḡḡàbè (*v*) se faire écraser
ìḡḡḡèdè (*v*) faire écraser
ìḡḡḡ (*n*) jointure
ìḡḡḡmà (*n*) cocotier
ìḡḡḡhí (*n*) clitoris
ìḡḡḡní (*n*) oiseau
ìḡḡḡḡḡjì (*n*) flotteur repère

ìḡḡḡḡḡ (*n*) lit
ìḡḡḡḡḡ (*n*) taon
ìḡḡḡḡḡḡwè (*n*) mâchoire
ìḡḡḡḡḡmà (*v*) mâcher
ìḡḡḡḡḡkà (*v*) chier
ìḡḡḡḡḡkèdè (*v*) se faire chier
ìḡḡḡḡḡkìyè (*v*) faire chier
ìḡḡḡḡḡkwà (*v*) grâter
ìḡḡḡḡḡmàlà (*v*) se lamenter
ìḡḡḡḡḡmìyè (*v*) gâter
ìḡḡḡḡḡḡḡèà (*v*) piétiner
ìḡḡḡḡḡpì (*n*) espion
ìḡḡḡḡḡwà (*v*) déchirer
ìḡḡḡḡḡḡḡà (*v*) écraser
ìḡḡḡḡḡḡḡnèyà (*v*) être écrasable
ìḡḡḡḡḡḡḡèdè (*v*) faire écraser
ìḡḡḡḡḡḡḡènè (*v*) se mouvoir
ìḡḡḡḡḡḡḡyà (*v*) être écrasé
ìḡḡḡḡḡíyà (*v*) nager
ìḡḡḡḡḡḡḡḡyà (*v*) chatouiller
ìḡḡḡḡḡḡnyèà (*v*) s'étirer
ìḡḡḡḡḡḡnyò (*v*) étirer
ìḡḡḡḡḡḡnyòbè (*v*) être étiré
ìḡḡḡḡḡḡpòlò (*v*) éplucher
ìḡḡḡḡḡḡtìjè (*v*) faire boire
ìḡḡḡḡḡḡtìjèbè (*v*) être bût
ìḡḡḡḡḡḡtò (*v*) boire
ìḡḡḡḡḡḡtòbè (*v*) se boire
ìḡḡḡḡḡḡtònèyà (*v*) être buvable
ìḡḡḡḡḡḡḡḡwà (*v*) taquiner
ìpàà (*v*) former
ìpàlà (*v*) 1. dire 2. raconter
ìpàlàbè (*v*) raconter d'un autre
ìpàliyènè (*v*) se surprendre
ìpàlúèdè (*v*) différencier
ìpàlùmèdè (*v*) battre les paupières
ìpámá (*v*) bondir
ìpámíyè (*v*) repousser
ìpámíyènè (*v*) repousser
ìpànà (*n*) brillance
ìpàḡḡḡànà (*v*) faire exprès
ìpàḡḡḡwà (*v*) confesser

ìpànyiyè (v) éclairer	ìpònòbè (v) être emmené
ìpàpàlàè (v) se débattre	ìpòtèdè (v) rendre fou
ìpàpwèdè (v) excepter	ìpùdà (v) creuser
ìpàtá (v) cueillir	ìpùdàmà (v) se faire enterrer
ìpátàbè (v) 1. coupé 2. cueilli	ìpùdè (v) enterrer
ìpátèdè (v) faire cueillir	ìpùdèbè (v) être enterrer
ìpátèhà (v) se couper	ìpùdèdè (v) faire creuser
ìpátèyà (v) 1. expirer 2. se rompre	ìpúmìyè (v) faire sortir
ìpátùmà (v) se débattre	ìpùmbà (v) jeter
ìpàtwà (v) 1. arracher 2. démailler	ìpùmbèà (n) égarement
ìpàwànèà (v) prêcher	ìpùmbèdè (v) perdre
ìpàwànèà (n) prêche	ìpùmbèyà (v) se perdre
ìpéà (v) se souler	ìpùmbwà (v) ressusciter
ìpéiyè (v) faire souler	ìpúmèyà (v) apparaitre
ìpèngàná (v) attaquer	ìpúpá (n) arbre
ìpènhjù (n) doigt	ìpùpwà (n) lancer l'épervier
ìpèpà (v) chasser	ìpùsàmà (v) plonger à l'eau
ìpèpà (n) type de pigeon vert	ìpúwà (v) enlever une petite partie
ìpèpàbè (v) être chasser	ìpúwàbè (v) recevoir un morceau
ìpèpànè (v) se chasser	ìpúwànèyà (v) capable s'émietter
ìpépèdè (v) exciter	ìpúwèyà (v) s'émietter
ìpépwà (v) 1. rendre visite 2. veiller	ìpwánjèdè (v) éclabousser
ìpépwà (n) visiter	ìpyórpò (v) sucer
ìpètá (v) 1. négocier 2. marchander	ìsáiná (v) signer
ìpèwèyà (v) avoir une entorse	ìsàngà (n) sanctification
ìpèè fendre	ìsàngò (n) sainte cène
ìpèèbè (v) être opiner	ìsèkèsè (v) tamiser
ìpèèdè (v) se faire opiner	ìséléngínà (n) portable téléphone
ìpèkè (v) opérer	ìsénjà (v) changer
ìpèpè (v) attiser	ìsénjàbè (v) être remplacé
ìpíí (n) type de moustique de petite taille	ìsénjànè (v) s'échanger
ìpìpwà (v) repousser	ìsénjénjé (n) gecko
ìpìsèà (v) espérer	ìsímisà (v) regretter
ìpìsèdè (v) faire espérer	ìsójèdè (v) faire juger
ìpòtá (v) devenir fou	ìsójèdèbè (v) être juger
ìpò (v) venir	ìsójò (v) plaider, juger
ìpóbòlò (v) s'introduire	ìsójònò (v) confronter
ìpòdè (v) faire venir	ìsójònòbè (v) être poursuivi en justice
ìpòdòlò (v) extraire	ìsómònò (v) porter plainte
ìpókèdè (v) interpellé	ìsòpìjè (v) se réjouir
ìpònèdè (v) arriver	ìsósólèdè (v) supplier
ìpònò (v) 1. emmener 2. apporter	ìsúlijè (v) confirmer

itàbàngànè (v) déjeuner
itàédè (v) guider
itàéyà (v) 1. se plaindre 2. se lamenter
itàmbé (n) huitre
itàmbí (n) plante du pied
itàmwánèà (n) visite
itàndèdè (v) dramatiser
itàniyè (v) rendre propre
itàtiyè (v) unir
itàú (n) fesse
itàyí (n) nouvelle lune
itàédè (n) 1. loi 2. décision 3. décret
itàmbèà (v) cautionner
itàmè (v) se tenir debout
itàmèbè (v) ériger
itàmèdè (v) mettre debout
itàmènè (v) se lever avec
itàkàmà (v) ralentir
itàlà (v) écrire
itàlèà (v) correspondre
itàlèdè (v) faire écrire (une lettre)
itàlèyà (v) écrire une lettre
itàmìyè (v) accomplir
itàndilà (v) glisser
itàngá (n) le nouet
itàngàmà (v) se rattacher
itàngè (v) nouer
itàngèbè (v) être attaché
itàngènè (v) s'attacher
itàtiyè (v) questionner
itàtwà (v) essuyer
itàlèdè (v) déplacer
itàombà (v) passer
itàombiyè (v) faire passer
itàombiyèbè (v) se faire passer
itàombiyènè (v) se croiser
itàombwà (v) grandir
itàomèà (v) enfreindre
itàowà (v) puiser
itàowàbè (v) être puiser
itàowèdè (v) faire puiser
itàódù (n) nombril

itàohi (n) oreille
itàohò (n) sauce
itàóndèdè flatter
itàóndí (n) 1. concubine, maitresse 2. amour
itàóndò (v) aimer
itàóndòmbè (v) être aimé
itàóndònè (v) s'aimer
itàóngínà (v) 1. tomber amoureuse 2. aimer
itàóngò (n) jeune fille
itàótèdè (v) transporter
itàúbà (v) percer
itàúbàbè (v) se faire percer
itàúbánè (v) se percer
itàúbéhà (v) être percé
itàúbwà (v) commencer
itàúdà (v) piler
itàúdèdè (v) faire piler
itàúdèhà (v) être piler
itàúmà (v) filocher
itàúmánè (v) réciproque
itàúmbwànà (v) présider
itàúmbwànàbè (v) se laisser guider
itàúmédè (v) faire filocher par un autre
itàútú (n) fumé
itàùtwà (v) essuyer
itàúwà (v) 1. cracher 2. souffrir
itàúwèdè (v) crever
itàúwiyè (v) faire souffrir
itàúwiyèbè (v) être à l'état de souffrante
itàyódà (v) sauter
itàyódèdè (v) faire sauter
itàvambèà (v) bénir
itàvékiyè (v) faire goûter
itàvékiyèbè (v) se faire goûter
itàvékiyènè (v) se goûter
itàvèlà (v) conseiller
itàvèlàbè (v) être conseillé
itàvèlànnè (v) se conseiller
itàvèlèyà (v) accuser faussement
itàvèwà (v) donner un mauvais conseil
itàvèwàbè (v) être mal conseillé

ìvèwánè (v) se donner des mauvais conseils
ìvèhè (v) se moquer
ìvèèbè (v) être moqué
ìvèènè (v) te moquer
ìvèlè (v) pouvoir
ìvèlèbè (v) être supporter
ìvèlènè (v) se supporter
ìvéngà (v) attendre
ìvéngàbè (v) 1. être attendu 2. se faire attendre
ìvéngànà (v) s'attendre à
ìvéngànàbè (v) s'attendre à quelque chose de
ìvéngànè (v) s'attendre
ìvéngèdè (v) patienter
ìvévè (v) voler
ìvévédè (v) faire voler
ìvévènè (v) voler avec
ìvèvíyè (v) laisser s'envoler
ìvíédè (v) 1. tourner 2. tourner
ìvìndà (n) tombée de la nuit
ìvò mourir
ìvólímà (v) se taire
ìvólímèdè (v) demander silence
ìvónghìjèbè (v) faire balayé
ìvónghò (v) balayer
ìvónghòbè (v) être balayé
ìvòtìyè (v) adoucir
ìwómwà (n) punition
ìwómwèdè (v) punir
ìyá (v) faire accoucher
ìyàbà (v) mentir
ìyàbàbè (v) être mentir
ìyàbànè (v) se mentir
ìyábè (v) naître
ìyábè (n) pareille
ìyábénè (n) inné
ìyádè (v) faire accoucher
ìyádèbè (v) se faire accoucher
ìyádí (n) (v) naissance
ìyáhà (v) sécher (intr)

ìyáihyè (v) sécher (tr)
ìyámà (v) crier
ìyámà (v) 1. cuisiner 2. préparer 3. acheter
ìyámàbè (v) 1. être cuisiné 2. avoir été acheté 3. s'acheter
ìyámànà (v) acheter de quelqu'un
ìyámànèyà (v) possible d'être cuisiné
ìyámèdè (v) être acheté
ìyámèyà (v) bénir
ìyámèyà (v) embêter
ìyámèyànè (v) s'embêter
ìyámìyàbè (v) être embêter
ìyángà (v) frire
ìyángàbè (v) faire frire
ìyángànéyà (v) capable d'être frit
ìyángwèdè (v) éclaircir
ìyànó (n) conte, fable
ìyánywà (v) écailler
ìyátà (v) attacher
ìyátàbè (v) se faire attacher
ìyátànè (v) s'attacher
ìyátànèyà (v) être attaché
ìyàvìyè (v) prolonger
ìyèbà (v) aiguiser
ìyèbèdè (v) faire aiguiser
ìyèbwà (v) 1. raconter 2. transmettre
ìyéhédè (n) levée du jour
ìyèíyè (v) faire pleurer
ìyéngwà (v) couper
ìyèyà (v) pleurer
ìyèyàbè (v) être pleurer
ìyèyànà (v) pleurer avec quelqu'un
ìyèyànàbè (v) se faire pleurer
ìyéyè (v) honorer
ìyèjèà (v) éprouver
ìyélè (v) peler
ìyélèbè (v) être pelé
ìyèlì (n) lièvre
ìyénè (v) voir
ìyénèbè (v) 1. se faire voir 2. être vue
ìyènédè (v) faire voir

iyénènè (v) 1. s'entrevoir 2. se faire voir
iyèngè (v) filtrer
iyèngèbè (v) être filtré
iyèngwè (v) embouteiller
iyéyèbè (v) être adorer, être glorifier, être honore
iyéyèbèdè (v) se faire honore
iyéyènè (v) se glorifier, s'adorer
iyó(n) (v) rivière, fleuve
iyókwa (v) apprendre, étudier
iyòmbwà (v) regarder
iyówánèdì (v) (n) enseignement
iyóbò (v) pêcher
iyóbòbè (v) se faire pêcher
iyóèdè (v) se baigner
iyòjyè (v) se faire reposer

iyòjyèbè (v) être reposé
iyòjò (v) se reposer
iyókólèdè (v) perler l'oreille
iyòmbiyè (v) faire fatiguer
iyòmbiyèbè (v) être fatiguer
iyòmbò (v) se fatiguer
iyóngà (v) s'accoupler
iyòngà (n) salut
iyóngàbè (v) lie accouplé
iyóngànè (v) faire l'amour ensemble
iyòngiyè (v) 1. guérir 2. soigner
iyòtèdè (v) s'extraire
iyótéyà (v) se dégringoler
iyótò (v) extraire
iyòtòbè (v) être extrait
iyówèdè (v) enseigner

J - j

jájápì (n) aisselles
jàkásì (n) chameau
jámjàmbà (n) type de sauce de légume vert
jè[tò] (n) mesure, décret, décision
jè[ngú] (n) sirène
jíbà (n) vol
jòbí (n) pêche

jòdì (n) amer
jómbá (n) poisson, frais, cuit à l'étouffe dans les feuilles de bananier
jòmbè (n) porte
jò[ngá] (n) prix
jó[ngó] (n) peur
jùbù (n) cendre

K - k

káh (n) pangolin
kálátì (n) livre
kàndì (n) pageot rose
kàngà (n) pintade
kàngá (n) carpe
kàngó (n) saveur
kánjá (n) récipient (écope utilisant à la pêche au barrage)
kápí (n) pagaie
kélènkélèn (n) légume gluant
kémà (n) singe
kéngéngé (n) 1. saint 2. propreté

kídíngó (n) touracot
kíkìhì (n) sourcils
kìngó (n) gorge
kísíní (n) cuisine
kóh (n) rat palmiste
kòhò (n) perroquet
kòì (n) cils
kòkónjà (n) noix de coco sèche
kókóté (n) type de petits cafards vivant dans les matelas empaille
kòlò (n) soir
kómà (n) rancune

kòndá (n) chaise, fauteuil
kòbè (n) 1. plomb 2. maitre
kòbòtì (n) armoire
kòhò (n) commisération
kòmbó (n) requin hâ
kótè (n) torsade du fil à pêche
kóyì (n) cil
kúbà (n) poule
kúdù (n) tortue

kúlà (n) jarre
kúmù (n) pouce
kùndàbòkò (n) lourde, sauce à la pulpe de noix de palme
kúndúà (n) vent de l'est
kùngà (n) chaland
kúnyà (n) autorisation
kwèdì (n) obsèques
kwíyà (n) chimpanzé ; Panthoglydte

L - l

làmbí (n) lampe
lànjà (n) chaloupe
létà (n) correspondance

léngébédéngò (n) mis à part
lóbà (n) ciel
lòmò (n) ceinture (poisson)

M - m

màbá (n) mariages
màbàhù (n) dabas, houes
màbàmbò (n) poissons assaisonné de piment, sel, citron et séché à la clé
màbànjà (n) foyers
màbèmbá (n) poulaillers
màbèngé (n) sonneries, cloches
mábè(n) mamelles
màbèè (n) l'épaules
màbéki (n) assiettes
màbìndì (n) testicules
màbíyà (n) sagesses
màbòà (n) cuisses
mábóbè (n) araignées
màbókúbòù (n) fontanelle
màbómbí (n) raptus
màbòmì (n) pièces à écraser (en noix de coco)
màbòdò (n) boue
màbòlù (n) cous
mábòngánèà (n) rencontres
màbòngó (n) genoux
màbúndú (n) carpes d'eau douce

màbùngá (n) mollets
màbùngè (n) remous (pl)
màbúngù (n) nattes à coucher
màbúù (n) joues
màdá(n) nourritures
màdàngò (n) puits
màdàhà (n) maladies
màdíbá (n) eau
màdòbò (n) proue de la pirogue
màhádú (n) pommes de la main
màhàkwàù (n) peignes
màhálèà (n) prière
màhàmèdè (n) fois
màhándò (n) charbons
màhànèya (n) commandements
màhàngà (n) gales Chroniques
màhèlú (n) barbes
màhéngà (n) cases à palabres
màhíná (n) dernière de la pirogue
màhiyèdè (n) pardon
màhòngá (n) dents
màhóngò (n) graisses
màhóvà (n) chutes d'eau

màhòbò (*n*) plus grosses ligues de la pirogues
màhòngòndè (*n*) pensées
màhúbé (*n*) bananes douce
màhúlè (*n*) huile
màhùpà (*n*) rosées
màiyá (*n*) sang
màkàbò (*n*) tubercules de macabo
màkàbwédè (*n*) surgissements du poisson en surface
màkàhàmà (*n*) baptêmes
màkàù (*n*) crabes
màkéléwédè (*n*) avertissements
màkénà (*n*) rhumatismes
màkèò (*n*) mâchoires
màkólè (*n*) 1. l'ourlets 2. raidissements de doigts
màkúkú (*n*) voiles
màkwàmbà (*n*) cassaves de manioc
màlálè (*n*) pierres à écraser
màlámì (*n*) lampes
màlèmbà (*n*) sorcelleries
màlé (*n*) bénédiction
màléndè (*n*) palmiers
màlókà (*n*) pêches à l'ecopage (pêche au barrage)
màlòmbè (*n*) 1. épopées 2. légendés
màlóngò (*n*) fleurs
màmámánè (*n*) miracles
mámápi (*n*) aisselles
mámà (*n*) marécages
màmbèá (*n*) marmites
màmbúé (*n*) muets
màndábò (*n*) maisons
mànìò (*n*) jointures
mànjímà (*n*) cocotiers
mànòngó (*n*) lits
màngúlá (*n*) abris
mànyàngà (*n*) huile de noix de palme (palmiste)
màòbá (*n*) lottes
màòndì (*n*) poteaux

màpàpá (*n*) queues de poisson
màpàtá (*n*) accrochages
màpàwànèà (*n*) prêches
màpèpú (*n*) feuilles de papier
màpítò (*n*) plombs
màpòndé (*n*) flacons
màpóté (*n*) teignes
màsùkùlà (*n*) manioc (pl) trempé et pressé. cuit dans la marmite
màtámbé (*n*) huitres
màtámí (*n*) plantes du pied
màtámwànèà (*n*) visites
màtáú (*n*) fesses
màtéédè (*n*) 1. lois 2. décisions 3. décrets
màtìngá (*n*) nouets
màtóhì (*n*) oreilles
màtówà (*n*) voiture
màtòdù (*n*) nombrils
màtòhò (*n*) sauces
màtòndí (*n*) concubines, maitresses
màvélá (*n*) conseils
màvéngé (*n*) blessures
màvíní (*n*) nuages
màwédí (*n*) décès, morts
màwómwà (*n*) punitions
màyábè (*n*) pareilles
màyádí (*n*) naissances
mbàdì (*n*) tour de plomb de l'épervier
mbáhà (*n*) hutte
mbáhí (*n*) mais
mbáká (*n*) fidélité
mbálò (*n*) lèvres du vagin
mbámbá (*n*) grands-parents
mbàmbà (*n*) serpent
mbànà (*n*) trou, creux
mbàngá (*n*) noix de coco
mbánjà (*n*) étiage
mbànjè (*n*) 1. bambou 2. côtes
mbáyì (*n*) conjoint
mbéá (*n*) marmite
mbèlà (*n*) 1. piège 2. aigle

mbémbé (*n*) pleur
mbèndú (*n*) flotteur
mbèngá (*n*) pigeon
mbènjù (*n*) siège
mbéò (*n*) son de parole
mbépé (*n*) hérisson
mbépé (*n*) porc-épic
mbédí (*n*) malade
mbémbéni (*n*) ennemi
mbèmbèò (*n*) bord extérieur de la pirogue
mbèmbò (*n*) habitude, mœurs
mbikó (*n*) guêpe-maçonne
mbílá (*n*) course
mbimbà (*n*) cadavre
mbímbíòdì (*n*) larmes
mbìngò (*n*) chevron
mbòhó (*n*) mulet
mbòmá (*n*) faite
mbómíyò (*n*) couscous de manioc consistant
mbósò (*n*) écope
mbòwá (*n*) prisonnier
mbóh (*n*) chien
mbòkwè (*n*) rat des chants
mbòlè (*n*) sauce gluante à l'amande fraîche de mangue sauvage
mbólóbótò (*n*) croire
mbólóní (*n*) perdition
mbòmò (*n*) boa, python
mbòndò (*n*) pâte d'aliment
mbòngí (*n*) balai
mbùdì (*n*) antilope
mbúlumbúlú (*n*) poussière
mbúngónjà (*n*) ouragan
mbúnjá (*n*) épervier
mbúwà (*n*) pluie
mbwáyí (*n*) canne à pêche
mèbimbà (*n*) cadavres
mèàngá (*n*) poitrines
mèbáhà (*n*) huttes
mèbálò (*n*) lèvres du vagin

mèbànà (*n*) trous, creux (pl)
mèbàngá (*n*) noix de coco (pl)
mèbéò (*n*) sons de paroles
mèbédí (*n*) malades
mèbèmbèò (*n*) bords extérieurs de la pirogue
mèbílá (*n*) courses
mèbòmá (*n*) faites
mèbómíyò (*n*) couscous de manioc consistant (pl)
mèbòwá (*n*) prisonniers
mèbòndò (*n*) pâtes d'aliment
mèbòngí (*n*) balais
mèbúlumbúlú (*n*) poussières
mèbwáyí (*n*) cannes à pêche
mèdédí (*n*) touches
mèdihì (*n*) pilous
mèdímo (*n*) fantômes
mèdíyà (*n*) pâtes d'amande de mangue sauvage grillée et conservée
médóhédi (*n*) sangsues
médómbè (*n*) agneaux
médómbé (*n*) draps
mèdúkúduhù (*n*) hémorragies nasales
mèhá (*n*) crevettes
mèhàbú (*n*) barracudas
mèhàdò (*n*) escaliers
mèhàmbí (*n*) banes de poisson
mèhàmbì (*n*) paquets de poisson enfilé
mèhàngá (*n*) colliers
mèhàngákò (*n*) fritures
mèhàngì (*n*) gales
mèhèbá (*n*) vagues
mèhèndè (*n*) vagins
mèhébé (*n*) obésités
mèhímà (*n*) tubercules cuit et pilé
mèhíngá (*n*) haines
mèhíngá (*n*) 1. cordes 2. pignes à pêche
mèhíngì (*n*) chat-tigre
mèhíní (*n*) bras (pl)
mèhiyá (*n*) nerfs du front
mèhiyò (*n*) limes

mèhíyò (*n*) douleur
mèhòbò (*n*) peaux
mèhòmbè (*n*) crocodiles
mèhómbò (*n*) asticots
mèhóndó (*n*) 1. types de bâton de manioc à deux parties 2. plants de manioc
mèhòngò (*n*) 1. dos (pl) 2. herbes
mèhónjò (*n*) prépuces
mèhúhú (*n*) sauces d'amande de noix de palme
mèhùjú (*n*) asticots
mèjàbè (*n*) karités
mèjàngà (*n*) mange-mils
mèjúwà (*n*) perruques du filet
mèkákámbò (*n*) sauterelles
mèkàlàngà"jà (*n*) squelettes
mèkéhé (*n*) bébés
mèkìlì (*n*) accrochages du poisson
mèkòhó (*n*) sucres
mèkóká (*n*) coqs
mèkómá (*n*) prisons, prisonniers
mèkónì (*n*) mets de pistache
mèkótánkótá (*n*) éperviers
mèkóhódó (*n*) objets qui porte le fil à pêche
mèkúbwàkò (*n*) diarrhées
mèkúgé (*n*) pavies
mèkúsà (*n*) braises (poisson, viande)
mèkùtà (*n*) notables
mèkwálá (*n*) matches
mèlàngò (*n*) mensonges
mèléma (*n*) cœurs
mèlésì (*n*) riz (pl)
mèlimbò (*n*) désert, désertions
mèlólá (*n*) mambas vert
mèlómí (*n*) vers intestinaux
mèlóngì (*n*) 1. logis (pl) 2. bâtiments constructions
mèlúmá (*n*) fourchettes
mènángá (*n*) étoiles
mèndì (*n*) nouvelles

mènòní (*n*) orphies
mènùmbù (*n*) bouches
mèngòmù (*n*) sauces de n'dolé
mènyèlé (*n*) sables
mènyónyó (*n*) hémorroïdes
mènyòpínyà (*n*) citronniers
mènyùngè (*n*) musaraignes
mènyùwá (*n*) toits
mèórénjì (*n*) orangers
mèpàtò (*n*) crochets
mèpémbá (*n*) nez (pl)
mèpèngà (*n*) manioc (pl)
mèpéyà (*n*) avocatiers
mèpiyà (*n*) pians
mèpópà (*n*) queues
mèpòtá (*n*) torsades du filet
mèpóndó (*n*) chemises
mèpòpó (*n*) papayers
mèpúdúngú (*n*) chambres
mèsá (*n*) sagoutiers (premier)
mèsénjé (*n*) routes
mèsòki (*n*) devins
mèsòmbwèdì (*n*) martin-pêcheur (pl)
mètápwá (*n*) cerceaux de fasciations
mètétà (*n*) barrages pour la pêche
mètilà (*n*) écritures
mètilèyì (*n*) correspondants
mètìngá (*n*) bas de lignes
mètòngwà (*n*) crabes farcis
mètówà (*n*) voitures
mètò (*n*) mesures, décrets, décisions
mètòngì (*n*) prophètes
mètòngò (*n*) tubercules
mètúmbàni (*n*) guides
mèvángó (*n*) abords de la pirogue
mèvé (*n*) bars
mèvèngwà (*n*) revenants
mèvénò (*n*) dons spirituel
mèvólòvólò (*n*) lattes
mèwálà (*n*) asthme
méyè (*n*) restes d'appât
mèhèngè (*n*) cours

méli (*n*) bateau
mémè (*n*) crabes fantômes
ménjénjì (*n*) rayons de soleil
mèngú (*n*) sirènes
mènyínyìngó (*n*) murmures
miàngà (*n*) dérives
miánjò (*n*) chasse-mouches (pl)
miásá (*n*) écheveaux
míndáhó (*n*) médisances
míndé (*n*) taros
miókwà (*n*) bouillons
mióló (*n*) têtes
miólól (*n*) pirogues
miúdù (*n*) ânes
miungà (*n*) toucans
miúngéá (*n*) zones de pêche
miùngùlù (*n*) scarabées
míyò (*n*) 1. yeux 2. mailles 3. foyers
mòbí (*n*) pêches
móhí (*n*) paroles
mókwà (*n*) bouillon
móló (*n*) tête
mómbá (*n*) poissons, frais, cuit à l'étouffe dans les feuilles de bananier
mòmbè (*n*) portes
mòndà (*n*) vent du nord
mólò (*n*) nuques
mòngá (*n*) prix (pl)
móngó (*n*) peurs
m̀pángèì (*n*) ordonnateur
m̀pàtò (*n*) crochet
m̀pémbá (*n*) nez
m̀pèngà (*n*) manioc
m̀pépwi (*n*) visiteur

m̀pèyà (*n*) jeune garçon adolescent
m̀piyà (*n*) pian
mpóló (*n*) chef. roi
m̀pópà (*n*) queue
m̀pòtà (*n*) torsade du filet
m̀póndó (*n*) chemise
m̀púdúngú (*n*) chambre
m̀bà (*n*) raies
m̀hángákò (*n*) friture
m̀ngà (*n*) toucan
m̀ngéá (*n*) zone de pêche
m̀ngùlù (*n*) scarabée
m̀ú (*n*) ventres
m̀vángó (*n*) abord de la pirogue
mvé (*n*) bar
m̀vèlì (*n*) créateur
m̀vèngwà (*n*) revenant
m̀vénò (*n*) dons
m̀vólòvólò (*n*) latte
mwàmbò (*n*) offrande
mwángà (*n*) dérive
mwánjò (*n*) chasse-mouches
mwao (*n*) matin
mwásà (*n*) écheveau
mwéhé (*n*) plein jour
mwèyá (*n*) espèce de rotin
mwéyè (*n*) reste d'appât
mwémwè (*n*) crabe fantôme
mwíndáhó (*n*) médisance
myàmbò (*n*) offrandes
myúbwè (*n*) manguiers
myùlú (*n*) nuits
myùmà (*n*) baobabs

N - n

ndábò (*n*) maison
ndédí (*n*) fil d'attache entre deux éléments (filet, ancre et pirogue)
ndéđí (*n*) touche

ndèndè (*n*) glissant
ndéhéngí (*n*) mouette
ndihì (*n*) pilou
ndímò (*n*) fantôme

ndivá (*n*) tortue luth
ndíyà (*n*) pâte d'amande de mangue sauvage grillée et conservée
ndòlòlò (*n*) alevin
ndómé (*n*) requin
ndómbè (*n*) agneau
ndómbé (*n*) drap
ndòndi (*n*) saleté
ndóngó (*n*) 1. pimeut 2. blennorragie
ndóngwè (*n*) sorte de guêpe
ndúkúdùhù (*n*) hémorragie nasale
ndùnì (*n*) vieillard
ngámbo (*n*) nœud à l'hameçon
ngánjà (*n*) nageoire
ngèbá (*n*) vague
ngèlé (*n*) couleur d'eau
ng hàbú (*n*) barracuda
ng hàmbì (*n*) paquet de poisson enfilé
ng hàngì (*n*) gale
ng híngì (*n*) chat-tigre
ng hómbo (*n*) asticot
ng óndó (*n*) type de bâton de manioc à deux parties
ng húhú (*n*) sauce d'amande de noix de palme
ng hújú (*n*) asticot
ng òhínyà (*n*) crabe tourteau
ng òhódi (*n*) brochet d'eau douce
ng ólókódi (*n*) caméléon
ng ókólòò (*n*) 1. mille pattes 2. carie dentaire
ng òmbè (*n*) varan
ng ùbú (*n*) hippotame; Hippotamus Amphibus
ng ùndá (*n*) vengeance
ng ùnú (*n*) murène
nh ébé (*n*) obésité
nh íngì (*n*) chat tigre
nh nàni (*n*) chef, responsable
nh óndó (*n*) plant de manioc
níná (*n*) poux de tête

njàhá (*n*) sauce à l'amande des mangues sauvages
njàlé (*n*) faim, famine
njàmbé (*n*) dieu
njàngà (*n*) mange-mil
njéhéyá (*n*) vers de terre
njìngó (*n*) goût
njòbú (*n*) civette d'Afrique
njòlímbémbé (*n*) bateau-fantôme
njòngólóngó (*n*) narines
njòh (*n*) sorte de passage eu forme d'auto noir dans la nasse
njòhù (*n*) éléphant d'Afrique
njòngá (*n*) squalé à scie
njòngì (*n*) bile
njònjì (*n*) cachalot
njùké (*n*) peine, souffrance
nkákámbò (*n*) sauterelle
nkàlàngànjà (*n*) squelette
nkéò (*n*) allégresse
nkéhé (*n*) bébé
nkòhó (*n*) sucre
nkómá (*n*) prison, prisonnier
nkónì (*n*) met de pistache
nkótánkótá (*n*) épervier
nkóhódó (*n*) objet qui porte le fil à pêche
nkúgé (*n*) pavie
nkùmú (*n*) enclave
nkúsà (*n*) braise (poisson, viande)
nkùtà (*n*) notable
nkwálá (*n*) matchè
nlángò (*n*) mensonge
nlémà (*n*) cœur
nlési (*n*) riz
nlimbò (*n*) désertion
nlólá (*n*) mamba vert
nlómbí (*n*) ver intestinaux
nlúmá (*n*) fourchette
nnángá (*n*) étoilé
nnápwe (*n*) exagération
ndóhédi (*n*) sangsue

̀̀nhìngà (n) corde
̀̀nhòmbè (n) crocodile
̀̀nòngò (n) herbe
̀̀níma (n) tubercule cuit et pilé
̀̀nìngà(n) pigne à pêche
̀̀níní (n) bras
̀̀niyà (n) nerf du front
̀̀niyò (n) lime
̀̀nòbò (n) peau
̀̀nòngò (n) dos
̀̀nòní (n) orphie
̀̀nùmbù (n) bouche
̀̀nwàngá (n) collier
̀̀nwèndè (n) vagin
̀̀ngónjò (n) prépuce
̀̀nyélé (n) sable
̀̀nyínyìngó (n) murmure
̀̀nyòngò (n) arc-en-ciel
̀̀nyónyò (n) hémorroïde
̀̀nyùngè (n) musaraigne
̀̀nyùwá (n) toit

̀̀sàni (n) paix
̀̀sàsò (n) joie
̀̀sénjé (n) route
̀̀sòkì (n) devin
̀̀sòmbwèdì (n) martin-pêcheur
̀̀tápwá (n) cerceau de fiscation
̀̀táti (n) veilleur ou gardien
̀̀tétà(n) barrage pour la pêche
̀̀tilèyi (n) correspondant
̀̀tili (n) écrivain
̀̀tìngá (n) bas de ligne
̀̀tòndò (n) carange
̀̀tòngwà (n) crabe farci
̀̀tòngì (n) prophète
̀̀tòngò (n) tubercule
̀̀túbàni (n) guide
̀̀wá (n) crevette
̀̀wèngè (n) cour
̀̀yèbwi (n) rapporteur
̀̀yùngì (n) sauveur

N - ñ

̀̀ngà (n) guérisseur
̀̀ngé (n) compassion
̀̀ngé (n) commisération
̀̀lì (n) to terme
̀̀sésé (n) manioc trempé et emballé dans les feuilles de bananier et cuit au feu
̀̀ngì(n) mouche
̀̀iyà (n) gorille
̀̀mbá (n) porc-épic
̀̀pì (n) type de carrangue sans écailles

̀̀tò (n) filet de seine
̀̀ngjá (n) natte (toiture)
̀̀lólól (n) phalanges, os de doigts
̀̀mbá túbè (n) tétrodon
̀̀ndè (n) lune
̀̀vè (n) dorade grise
̀̀wè (n) guide de la pirogue
̀̀dì (n) puissance
̀̀ndù (n) idoles
̀̀wéyà (n) porc à pinceaux

Ny - ny

̀̀yàkà (n) bœuf, vache
̀̀yándà (n) ongles
̀̀yáti (n) buffle d'Afrique

̀̀yèndì (n) bossu
̀̀yèngwè (n) duvet pubère
̀̀yóhí (n) abeille

nyòndò (n) 1. calamar 2. sèche
nyòngò (n) drapeau

nyòpínyà (n) citron

O - o

òlò (n) harpon

Ɔ - ɔ

órénjì (n) orange

P - p

pára (n) salon

pàtà (n) alevin

péh (n) vipère

péngé (n) plaie

petà (n) 1. négoce 2. marchandage

péndì (n) peinture

písò (n) photo

pòè (n) larve, vers blanc

pòlópótò (n) verbiage

póé (n) sourd

póh (n) nouvelle

pòhù (n) aveugle

pókè (n) cuvette

pómbì (n) fontaine, robinet

púpúlémbà (n) type d'orphie, de petite taille

pwètè (n) patate

S - s

sámbì (n) palangre

sànjà (n) pagne

sélépàsì (n) sandales, babouches

séí (n) froid, glacé

sèlè (n) oiseau gendarme

sèsè (n) tubercule (manioc, plantain, macabo)

síví (n) colibri

síngì (n) chat

sísákò (n) citronnelle

sóbìlì (n) pelle

sòmòní (n) plainte

sópì (n) savon

sòkèndá (n) fourmi

sósi (n) église

T - t

tàbà (n) chèvre

táòlò (n) serviette

tàúlì (n) table

téndì (n) moustiquaire

tító (n) animal

tóhó (n) cuiller

tóndà (n) courant d'eau

tòndò (*n*) clou
túbè (*n*) 1. mer 2. océan
túbùlè (*n*) type de petit poisson gris á bouche allongée
túdi (*n*) colère
tútè (*n*) file d'attache eu liane pour lier la nasse

U - u

úvè (*n*) poisson

V - v

váé (<i>n</i>) terre	vòpèpà (<i>n</i>) types de pigeons vert
véhi (<i>n</i>) chaleur du soleil	vòpíí (<i>n</i>) types de moustiques de petite taille
viángà (<i>n</i>) sel	vòpúpá (<i>n</i>) arbres
vòàno (<i>n</i>) contes, fables	vòsénjénjé (<i>n</i>) geckos
vóbángè (<i>n</i>) outres	vòtòngò (<i>n</i>) jeunes filles
vòbáyé (<i>n</i>) dartres	vóbò (<i>n</i>) hameçons
vòbómbò (<i>n</i>) partie intime	vòdíbwáni (<i>n</i>) clés
vòbóngónédì (<i>n</i>) cages de stockages de crevettes	vòjàlì (<i>n</i>) prostitués
vòbùmà (<i>n</i>) reins intérieurs	vómbò (<i>n</i>) chants
vòdòngà (<i>n</i>) hirondelles	vòngòngwè (<i>n</i>) mâchoires
vòhùngù (<i>n</i>) moustiques	vòngónì (<i>n</i>) crochets avec hameçons
vòkàsà (<i>n</i>) ponts	vònòní (<i>n</i>) oiseaux
vòkédéngè (<i>n</i>) lapins	vòyéli (<i>n</i>) lièvres
vòndòndiyà (<i>n</i>) petits flotteurs á la canne á pêche	vòyó (<i>n</i>) rivières, fleuves
vònònhí (<i>n</i>) clitoris (pl)	vióbò (<i>n</i>) hameçon
vònúná (<i>n</i>) taons	viómbò (<i>n</i>) chant
vòpènjù (<i>n</i>) doigts	vióngónì (<i>n</i>) crochet avec hameçon

W - w

wéá (*n*) bois (pl)

Y - y

yàngì (<i>n</i>) poisson-perroquet	yómá (<i>n</i>) (tubercule) d'igname
yánú (<i>n</i>) écaille	yóndó (<i>n</i>) tilapia
yéhè (<i>n</i>) alevin	yòngò (<i>n</i>) pied
yèmbé (<i>n</i>) animal domestique	yòngòà (<i>n</i>) vent du sud
yémì (<i>n</i>) langue	yòngówà (<i>n</i>) alizé maritime

yòó (*n*) pénis
yòv`a (*n*) démangeaison
yòv`e (*n*) cheveux
yòw`a(*n*) dauphin
y`yì (*n*) chenilles
y`ngú (*n*) charognard
y`tì (*n*) souffle

