

## Sukur-English lexicon

Note: 1. Sakun forms in square brackets are from Sntenchuk and South's 1995 unpublished study of Sakun phonetics, and represent their readings of words recorded in 1992-93.

a	may	as in 'a Zhigila vay mara' = may God night all+of+us, i.e. protect us
a	past tense marker	past and/or completed; (almost) always at start of phrase
accú a ...	there is something for ...	a formula used when making offerings to ....
ac-na	say, tell, to	accepts infixed pronouns as in <i>ac-ca-na</i> he says
alehu	spinach, kind of	<i>Hausa?</i> ; <i>Amaranthus</i> sp. ?
ayciy	there	of something specified
b(ë)lagaji	well, dug	?Hausa
b(ë)lam [blam]	baboon	
ba	build, to	
ba	with	
bà	cloud	
'bà	name	
'bà	spinach	
'ba mëndëv	patience!	lit: cool?? heart
baavë [mbəvΛ]	return, to	
'ba'ba [βaβa]	call, to	
bablr	Pabir	
badlawā [badlawā]	pot, type of	largest form of beer ( <i>zuwa</i> ) jug
baha ....wa?	how?	
bahëlinga	offering	to deceased parents at Zoku
bajjiga	apron, pubic	short, made of baobab fibre, worn by small girls
bak	two	
bak va ka	two year old	a two year old animal or girl 'two year she'
bak va të	two year old	a two year old animal or boy 'two year he'
Bakyang	clan, name of	
balbalay [balbalaj]	tree, fig, kind of	resinous sap
bama	turn sideways, to	
ban	grinding table	
banëvë	bathe, to	
'basëmay	sing, to	
'batlyak	hot, red or white hot	
bats	harvest	
batùk	grog	sherd temper

'bava	break, to	
bávà	turn around or over, to	
baxələ	tree, desert date	<i>Balanites aegyptiaca</i>
bayi	now	
bəbəghədum	Margi	
bəbəghədum	despondent, "sitting miserably"	whence the word for Margi
bəbələ	proscription, tabu	
'bəgə	put down, place, to	of things, and thus 'Bəgə, the throne room on Patla
'Bəgə	throne room	megalithic, on Patla
bəgə zər	prestation	the carrying of goods from WF house to that of her H
Bəgəda	clan, name of	a Damay clan, ? = <i>bi Gudul</i> children of Gudur
bəgə-ha	pour into, to	of grain, not liquids
bəgə-va [bəgura]	pour out, to	of grain, not liquids
bəgh	soon	
Bəhədum	Margi	or <i>Pa</i>
bəliji	vein	
belim	whirlwind	
'bən	do, to	
'bən dlən	work, to	
bəna	today	
'Bər	initiation	biennial ceremony (August)
'bera-ra	sponsor for initiation, to	accepts pronoun infixes
bərda	<i>Eleusine corocana</i>	
'Berdləng	clan, name of	or is it praisename of clan 'Medu' ?
bərmus	gown, kind of	
'bet' [bət]	ant	?white ant or termite
'bətay	gravel	
'bətay	pebbles	
bətl	clay, daub	
bəz	bad, ugly, spoiled	as in "mə bəzun", it's no good
bəz, bəzan	spoil, to	
'bi	python	
bigi	a long time ago	
bigibigi	a very long time ago	
'biis	laugh, to	or is it 'iis
bikbiki	bird, swallow	<i>H. rustica lucida</i>
bilim	natron	"potash"
biri	herd of domestic animals	
Birima	title holder	a junior "chamberlain"
bisar	goat, castrated	
biska	particle indicating the conditional	see phrase 96:9
biyadaka	sword, kind of	sabre
biz	stone, polishing	for smoothing floors, plaster
bizərajik	dragonfly	
bizum	bird, owl, spotted eagle	<i>Bubo africanus</i>
'boe	beautiful, good	as in mə 'boen, very good

boey boja	boil, to hairstyle	worn by mothers at 'Bër, lines of small tufts
borak	civet cat	white and black, nocturnal, regularly deecates in same spot
borjam	spear, kind of	very long blade, three fingers wide
boshan brakokwa	better, it is funeral entourage	consisting of <i>mugus</i> and their gifts
budë buk bulama	tax council room ward head	from Kanuri ? <i>bulama</i> , older words include <i>fa ka giwa</i> and <i>tlamburum</i>
bulejiy bulra 'bulukw bung bungzëng [bʊŋzɔŋ]	tendon tear off, to lazy, inactive circumcised pot, type of	neckless pot for preserved meat products
buutuk bwota ca caama cakam cakatlaw cam cam cam juhwoy	latrine area group, closely cooperating he emissary chin tree, fig, kind of entry room him entrance room, small	of people, e.g. friends of chief soft white wood, reddish bark entered before the <i>cam</i> proper
cëcawa	rattle, anklet	of <i>Borassus</i> palm fiber with pellets
cër cerak	woman, barren flute, war	also <i>zawar</i> antelope horn, one hole at back
cici'di ciicu cini cir	boil, a tree, kind of tree, mahogany barren woman	infection Hausa <i>arrarrabi</i> <i>Khaya senegalensis</i> also <i>zawar</i> , which may be Margi
cir civi	germinate, to way, path or road	also used metaphorically as in English
cub ir cukuri cúl da da da	daub plaster iron pick father tense marker, future thing	

da bēbēgē	disease, kind of	skins breaks out in pustules
da dlya ir	door	lit. thing close room
da juk'	tradition	lit. thing of patriline
da jukw	custom, tradition	lit. thing patriline
da madlax	semen	lit. thing man
da mbus	ornament, kind of	brass, on baby's hip, to reduce navel hernia
da nassara	medicine, plant	lit. thing european; crushed on wounds, stings like iodine
da pē civi	charm, placed on path	lit. thing on path
da pē ghur	crops, rent	crops on a piece of land, or the rent paid for the piece
daako	potato, sweet	<i>Ipomoea batatas</i>
daako nassara [ðakunasara]		potato
dabala mbēzē	armlet, brass	
dabara	bench, raised, of mud	often with chickens kept underneath
da'bara	bench, daub	in entrance room or <i>sukuruk</i>
dadahornuk	nut, physic	or is it bitter leaf spinach? (a later note)
dadasēla	sorghum, kind of	perhaps the 'original' Sukur race
dadēga	verandah, covered area	over all or part of a courtyard, may be decorated with stones
dadlay [daldai]	belt around basket	
dadu	wall between rooms	on lower, female side of house
dadugum	potter's concave anvil	of wood
da'dum	lip pin	bone, iron or wood
'daf	food, porage (stiff)	the staple food of sorghum and/or pearl millet
'daf munda	buttock	
dagashwi	medicine, smelting	a bush, fruits eaten
dagerak	bird, hammerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>
dagulamaj [dagulamaj]	ankle	
Dala	title holder	door keeper/guard of Xidi house
Dalatē	title holder	representative of the former Kulēsēgēy dynasty
dalenga	ornament, iron 'bell'	worn on <i>makokwoy</i>
dam tendetl	ornament, dance	with iron beads
damara	smallpox	
damara kum	chickenpox	lit. smallpox mouse
Damay	Damay village	
damba	future, in the	adverb
dami'd	caraway	
damoey elakēng	plant, kind of creeper	grown on house roofs, bitter leaf eaten in sauce
dang	drum	general term

dangur'da	slothful person	?Hausa: one who cannot get things finished
dansanda	policeman, Native Authority	Hausa
'dar	hit, to	
dara	from (a place on the flat)	
darà	cap	
dara Dunggum	across at, to, or from Dunggum	i.e. on the flat ?. -ra may also indicate a process of some duration
da'wa	medicine, kind of	ball from bull's stomach, worn against mastitis
day	only	
'day	smith	a male member of the caste
'Day kër'ba	title holder	the smith whose main duty is to bury the chief
daydey [dedi]	placenta	
dazundu	poison to kill someone	probably <i>da dzè ndu</i> = thing kill someone
dë	accompany, to	
dë	cook, to	
dë ku	ceremony, fire	chasing out of evil spirits with fire, etc., part of Zoku
dë'b	clay, black, riverine	
dë'ba	pot, type of	beer vat for fermentation and cooling <i>Cyperus esculentus</i>
dëbër	tiger nut	
dëbul	iron bar, currency bar	
de'dama	open, to	
dë'dama	pull, to	
dedava	remove, take out, to	
dëgël [dəgul]	lizard	general term
dëgëli	girl, unmarried	
deggoey [dugi]	wall, of stone	
dëghul	sand, coarse	granitic Grüs
deghun	sharp	
dëgi kulë	grave superstructure	lit. wall grave
degu	boy, young	before initiation
dëgwam [dug <sup>w</sup> an]	daughters, girls	irreg. plural
dëgwavak	leopard	
dëgwi	initiates, unmarried	irreg. pl. of degu
dëk'	pick, to	as of beans, fruit
dëlang	shaft, wooden, of digging stick	for graves only (?)
dëm	daughter	and, more generally, female
dëmbetl	iron bloom	
'dëm'dëm	heavy	
Dëmsa	clan, name of	
'dën-ma	remember, to	I remember him - <i>më 'dën ca man</i> ; <i>ben-ma</i> alternative form?
dër [jakdir]	bird, bishop	the [jak] is our'yak - bird

detl	dwarf	
dëv	field	also a flat open area
dëv [duv]	flat, open area; plain	also a field
dëvër [ndovr]	hammer, bar, of iron	
dey	thing	
dibitl	join, plastered	between wall and dome or rafters
dikdikë	hedgehog	
dim	burn, to	
ditl	seed of <i>Erythrina</i>	
dlà	until	<i>dla tsiy ya</i> - until he ...
dla [ðla]	speak, tell, to	<i>ca dla Sakun</i> - he speaks Sakun
dla shenjuwu	until a bit later	see you later
dlabë	dream, to	
dlagam	path, tree-lined	usually with <i>Euphorbia</i> and <i>Erythrina</i>
dlala	wall, between rooms	on upper, male side of house
dlam	five	
dlama	happy	
dlán	sister	
dlàn	river, stream	
Dlang	Mafa	and perhaps related groups
dlangël	sideways	
dlangëli	seed of tree, ? <i>Sterculia</i>	<i>tsëngu'</i> tree
dlatsey	unless	
dla-va	mat, zana	lit. until (next) year
dlawa	yesterday	
dlawà	shake hands, to	shake my hand - dzë ngar dlawà or manga dlawà
dlax	difficult	
dlay	year, last	
dlë	cow, general term for cattle	
dlë	cut, to	
dlë hayi	go away!	<i>dlë hayer këra</i> = go away dogs
dlë yam	hippopotamus?	lit. cow+water, described as with cow-like head, hair, and tail like a fish!
dlëda	slaughter, to	applies also to sacrifice - dlëda kmu ngwa= s. to a mountain spirit
dlegaw	forked	
dlëmä	buy, to	
dlëma dlë	stall, bull's	
dlëma gamak	stall, sheep	
dlëma iyukw	stall, goat	
dlëmara	buy, to	
dlëmay	ear	
dlëmtëm	roof extension	over door to keep off rain
dlën	work	

dle-ra dlumbur	despise, look down upon, to tree, hollow	takes pronoun infixes from which people are said to emerge
dluw-ma dlyá dlyà dlyá 'bëtay dlyà 'day dlyá ki'd dlyà mbilim dlyà mbilim [ðlyambilim]	throw, to crab, diviner's furnace, forge firebox divination using stones forge divination using crab furnace	lit. furnace/forge smith-potter lit. divination (with) bowl lit. furnace/forge farmer furnace, iron smelting
dlya mis dlyama [jama] dlyang [ðlam]	bladder close! hill, boulder strewn	
dlyaw dlyaw dlyaw mambegha dlyi	drain hole valley passage, low beat, crush, to	at base of wall  connecting two rooms <i>yim dlyi cini</i> stone for beaking open mahogany seeds and headband worn for twins made of palm frond a hole or usually a largepot built into a daub bench
dlyidlyim	palm, borassus	
dlyikw	coop, chicken	
dlyin dlyiy dlyong do 'daf do dlën	tooth thresh, to pelvis pot, type of pot, type of	large cooking pot for 'daf very large cooking pot, taken to fields
do powa	pot, type of	narrow necked, used for keeping flour used only in this sense lit. building Kapsiki; entered through bedroom
do(wa) ghríy doduwa [dodwa]	inherit a house, to room, grinding	
dogari dow, duw 'dowa	policeman, Native Authority pot inherit, to	<i>dowa ghríy</i> = to inherit a house/family, i.e., levirate
du 'du ir	cook, to plaster, smooth	final coat in room, with <i>lihwa'd</i> bark for mucilage 2108 = du wang wasëk, wasëk shi tükuz
du wang wasëk	two thousand	
du wasëk duguruk dugutsé'd	two hundred basin for ore tassel, short	of daub, in furnace enclosure of twisted baobab or bean fibre, worn as rear apron by young woman
duguvu	hyena	

duguzuwa [duguzwa]	pot, type of	large pot for brewing (cooking) beer
duk	horse	
duk Makka	pony (?)	lit. horse Mecca; horse of a kind that used to be bred in Sukur
dukul	herd of wild animals	
'dumë	eat, to	
dungguz	stool, wooden	for women
Dur	clan, name of	present chiefly dynasty
Duvun	Mabas, Vemgo people	
Duwa	Roumzou (people of)	and more generally Kapsiki with various suffixes to indicate manner
dza	go, to	before marriage
dzaghrë da ir	bride's confinement	
dza-ha	go down, to	
dzahayi	up here	
dzar [zɛr]	apron, pubic	of leather strips
dzar kusar	apron, pubic	wide, of short leather strips, made only by smiths
dzar mashel	apron, pubic	of long leather strips, for married women
dza-ra	go across, to	
Dzarma	title holder	chief's 'herald'
Dzava da Fa	ceremony, a	lit. going to Fa
dzë	sound, to	homonym with to kill
dzë kamvë tiya	month of conception	
dzë, dzëdzë [zizu or dzi]		kill or beat, to
dzëdzë	beat, to	
dzegën	sugarcane	
dzëgey	cross, to	as of legs
dzëghiy	tradition, ceremony	
dzër	awl	for hair dressing, decorating calbashes, etc.
dzoek	enough, to be satisfied	in the sense of, "No thanks"
dzowa	walk, to	
dzu	tree, fig, kind of	house posts sprout, polled to produce lumber
dzú	dance	
dzú huli	dance for coming out of twins	
dzughum	pot, type of	large narrow-necked pot for cooking bull's food
dzuk	serves your right!	opposite of <i>issë</i>
dzuv	tuyere	
ek'	tree, kind of	used for charcoal
elak	bitter	
elalay	ululation	
fa	father	
fa ka dlyá	smelter, master	lit. father of furnace
fa ka dlyà	furnace master	



fa ka ghríy Fa të xidi fë fëgë	household head (male) title holder put down, to decoration	chief's privileged advisor (to be confirmed) in sense of showing off fine things
fëlëgum fën fi'd	elbow rhinoceros yam (bush)	hide used for shields general term for yam and perhaps other root crops incl. <i>Xanthosoma sagittifolia</i> vomiting and 'tightening' of the belly
finedi	sickness, child's	
fiy fow fowa fwa fwa'd fwal fwoy	house, abandoned itching heat liquid, to warm, to four praisename tree	of liquids  of clan general term also means 'wooden' ladder, notched and forked trunk as in 'that's true' specifically a state existing between two men who have slept with the same woman
fwoy mbëdli [fwɔj mbdli]		
gaaga ga'bë	true enmity, social rivalry	
Gadë gadzapa	clan, name of cowrie	and items, e.g. belts, decorated with cowries very sweet, white, can be eaten raw
gallikumbë	sorghum, kind of	
galpi gam gamak gamba gan	rich person copulate, to sheep land, uncultivated; 'bush' affine, female	W of F and kin of F's generation large, for logging <i>a gan ca van jigédla - I showed him the axe</i>
ganafow [ganafu] ganë-va [gændava]	axe blade show, to	Margi; given to suspected witches, kills them if they are witches
gara	ordeal poison	
garax gargajiya garmasha Garu gavay gazhi	platter, wooden tradition marks, tribal praisename, a haft foolish, retarded	multi-purpose Hausa cicatrizations on back of clan Kigi  also used of the deaf

Gädēm	praisename, a	of Dur and allied clans, males only
gëdlum mbëla gëkili [gukili]	calabash, chicken spirit, kind of	for transport of chickens live underground, madden people
gëma gë naw gërum gërum fwoy gërum mbëdli	language, speech, word animal, domesticated potsherd bowl, wooden pot, type of	bowl with very wide everted rim used to cover granary mouth
gëtkuna gëzoek gha'd ghadë ghadlë	pestle, club, of wood midden ground chest fear, to	the dead - ndahay mē gha'd  she is afraid of baboons - <i>më zëda ka ghadlë a balam</i>
ghadlë	sauce, kind of	bean (and meat) sauce prepared for ceremonies
ghalay, ghalayuna ghan(ë)ma [ahanma] ghana ghanay [ɣənaj] ghanzang	formerly begin, to ever tongue plaster, furnace	of clay from Deghul, used for shaft interior
gharamdë	grass, kind of	from stream banks, used for keeping crabs
ghëda ghëlëvuk	duck smelling, pleasant	of fresh meat, scent, new leather, sauce
ghëlim	shelter, field	a small hut built on a farm in the bush
ghëmay ghën [əxun] ghën mëghuwun ghën mëtlyan ghëne ghë nuk [əxunuk] ghër ghër ghëradlay ghëran [ɔran] ghërkë	beard bean, cowpea bean, red bean, white pot before firing, greenware sweet farm snore, to terrace, small dry season staring	W: ghaxën; <i>Vigna unguiculata</i> <i>Vigna unguiculata</i> <i>Vigna unguiculata</i>
ghëy	sorghum	as on farms
Ghonkule ghraghë ghramak	Runkulu enter, to bird, pied crow	because frightened or surprised general term for sorghum (= guineacorn) settlement near Kamale

ghran	threshing floor	
ghranay ku	flame	
ghraraghrariya	violin, Higi type	
ghrë	bury, to	may be variant of <i>rum</i>
ghrëne [əɣunə]	pot, unfired	
ghriy	house, compound	
ghrusgu [huzgu]	tree, <i>Acacia sieberiana</i>	
ghu'd	belly	
ghu'd nas	foot, sole of	
ghu'da	stick, branched	carried by 'Bër initiates
ghuf	eaten by insects	
ghulëshishi	kidney	
ghuli	tassel, rear women's apron	
ghuli tëda [əɣulitada]	tassel, long	of twisted baobab fibre
ghulum	cheek	
Ghumshi	Higi	
Ghumtuva	clan, name of	Habga Ghumtuva clan
ghur	field, plot	of cultivated land
ghur-da	scratch, to	
ghuriya'b	disease, wasting	as a baby whose mother lacks milk
		or <i>mëghuwun</i>
ghuw, ghow	red, reddish	for light bulky loads, e.g.
ghwan	basket, very large	charcoal
		wide, brass, decorated
ghwoma	bracelet, kind of	relates to infertility
ghwuda manda	charm, kind of	raised when celebrating
gikiir mëri'd	post, ceremonial	Hëndlë
girgi, girki	aeroplane	
gís	calabash, fruit of	
gís ìr	shrub, a	from which nyun gabë is made
giwa	ward, quarter of village	
giya	friend, close, my	
goe	wrestling	
goetkuna	mallet, wooden	from branch, carved down to produce cylindrical handle
goey	meet, to	
gogoro	rum, locally distilled	
Gra	Hide of Tur/Tourou	
gratotoy	pot, type of	the upper, larger, bowl used in filtering salt
		for carrying
gudë	head ring	of fiber, used for carrying
gu'dë	ring, head	
gudla	chase out, depose, to	
gudlëng	blind	
gudlëv [gudluv]	forest	
golvë	bush, kind of	stems with curved underground parts make walking sticks

gumɗla [gumɗla]	star, planet	
gun	open, to	open! <i>guna!</i>
gur	room, man's	
gutɓudlë	castor plant	<i>Ricinus communis</i>
gwacakwar [gadzakwar]	basket, chicken	for transporting chickens
gwaram	tree, <i>Acacia sp.</i>	
gwaray	scrotum	
gwat	sign, division	a twofold division of society depending on sex of first child
gwombak	toad	
gyagyak	pot, type of	large bowl, used for watering animals and as potter's turntable
gyanga	stone, upright	natural or artificial
gyeb	hug, embrace, to	
h(ë)rriy	spirit, kind of	associated with a particular place, e.g. a water point
ha	below, from below, down	often as suffix
ha	like (adverb)	
ha Mefir	down at or to Mifir	thus North
ha të ir	space, women's	between women's rooms and lower wall of house
ha tëka	down below	
Habga, Habëga	clan, name of	
ha'd	earth	and 'the Earth'
hala	throughout	as in <i>hala vay</i> throughout the night
hali'd	intestine	perhaps specifically the small intestine
hanu	well done!	also congratulations, thank you
hanyi	some	
hanzay	medicine, plant	<i>Liliaceae</i>
har	old	
harrën	age	<i>madlihë mu harrën</i> men in age, i.e. elders
hausa	Hausa	
hawun	tree, Nigerian ebony	
hayu	this one	
hëlëlum	furnace shield	also këkëlum
hëlim	flake of stone	
Hëndlë	bull ceremony	biennial in dry season (Feb.-Mar.)
herur	farmland	
hëtl	swollen	of live things
hiduk'	grass, speargrass	used in basketry
hilim	flake, of stone	or thin slab
hohulenga	crab, of a different species	
huli	twin	

humay	affine	of opposite sex, same generation
humtë	kin through women	a broader term than <i>manamat</i>
huruk	dome over room	
hurumgë	tree, kind of	fibres used to make bags
hurumyam	pot, type of	water storage pot
hurumzuwa [xurumz <sup>w</sup> a]	pot, type of	beer jug, large
huruw	<i>tree, Euphorbia</i> sp.	<i>E. kamerunica</i>
hutsa	day before yesterday	also 'some days ago'
huwi	run, to	
huwi sëllyi	respect, to	
huwu ... wa?	when?	
huxwi	sorghum, kind of	erect, loose headed, for beer
hwaf [h <sup>w</sup> af]	sheath, leather	
hya	seed of fruit	
idan	fever	
i'ir	look, to	
iiyi	smith-potters	polite term for a group of smith-potters
in	smoke	
indang kulukwaci [ndan]		groundnut
indang mburum	earthpea	<i>Voandzeia subterranea</i>
inza	be, be seated, be established, to	also to remain
ir	room, hut	
ir	room, 'hut'	and more generally a place for something
ir banuvë [rbanvœ]	bathing area	
ir betl	room with daub walls	
ir dë'daf	kitchen	lit. room cook+food?
ir jikjik	room with thatched roof	
ir ku	drying rack	for firewood over a hearth
ir më kili	group in one place	we are living as ... - <i>më inza nyi pë ir më kili</i>
ir vay	bedroom, wife's	
ir yim	room with stone and daub walls	built in alternate courses
ir zër	room, wife's	
ira	look!	
irë iruk	bile	
iruk	gall bladder	
is	eye	
is dlya [is <sup>l</sup> a]	nozzle, bellow's	lit. eye (of) furnace
issë	sorry!	
issuwa	flavouring, a	made with baobab or sorrel seed or <i>dlangeli</i>
iviy	lie down. to	
iviy, evey	sleep, to	in sense of sleeping with
ivun	lying, in lying position	
iyalla	hunt, communal, to	
iyam [ijam]	water, rain	
iygh	hunt, to	

iyiy	labour, to be in	
iyuk'	goat	
jangtom	sword, kind of	short, wide
jannga	pick, long type	
janngar [dʒaŋgar]	louse	
jax	back (body part)	
jax nas [dʒaxnas]	foot, upper part of	lit. back foot
jëwu, ju	small	also juwi, jëhwoy; limited in space, time, <i>nday ju</i> a small person
jidda	ornament, dance	with brass rings
jif	stick, staff, digging stick	
jif kingir	iron staff	
jif yim zër	pestle, wooden	
jiga	sorghum, kind of	early red variety
jigëdla [dʒigɪlda]	axe blade	medium sized, general purpose
jigën	charm, kind of	dug into path
jigër	antelope, kind of	goat sized, skin used for furnace bellows
jigu'd	hump, of cow	
jiha	fall, flow, to	flow in sense of rivers
jiji, ji	grandmother	
jik	roof frame	of basketry, lasts up to 30 years, especially for old women
jik	thorn	
jikwu	grandfather	
jikzungwa	thorny weed	? kram-kram
jilum	pot, type of	small cooking pot
jimëk	porcupine	
jimun	season, first rains	
jingina	pledging of land	?Hausa
jir dlë	bull	
jira	upper (higher) half (of Sukur)	as opposed to lower <i>tëka</i>
Jirduk	title	lit. stallion, male horse
ju ghríy	grass, thatching	
ju ir	thatch	
juk'	patriline	
juwan	elephant	
juwi	fly	homophone with 'fodder'
juwi	fodder	homophone with 'fly'
juwjejuw	little, a small amount, bit	
k(ë)ra	dog	
ka	her (possessive)	
ka	not	
ka	particle	as in 'I want to ....'
ka	she	

kafay [kafaj]	sword (or sickle), kind of	long, curved, shining, also magical, stops rain; from Ful <i>kafahi?</i>
kam	her (accusative)	
Ka-mariya	clan, name of	
Ka-ozha	clan, name of	
kar	refuse, to	
karabi	hide, goat or sheep	not worn, (?) fresh or dried
karmasa	chili pepper	
katsala	person who succeeds	performer of a difficult task
katskats	hot, fevered	but not red hot or boiling
ké	particle	meaning unclear
kë	head	
kë ir	roof	
kë tsëfë	season, early dry	time of harvest, Nov.-Dec.
kë'b	knife	
kë'd	finish, to	also 'It's finished, complete, over'
kë'dëvë	rub on body, to	
këë	see, to	
këfkëf	light, in weight	
këkëluk	needle, thatching	
këkëlum	furnace shield	also hëhëlum
këkëlum	kingfisher, Senegal	<i>Halcyon senegalensis</i>
këlum	crocodile	
këma	face	
Këmavu'd	clan, name of	
kenana	myself	
kenaykay	I myself	and various other forms
kënë	bush, kind of	poisonous fruit, branches used for basket belts
këni	mother's brother/sister's son	
kënu	pit, threshing floor	for grain
kër	steal, to	
këra fwoy	fox	
këra vu	useless person	lit. dog shit
kër'ba	slab, large, of stone	large, outcropping
këri	mat, sleeping	also hung in doors
kërum	knee	
kësuhu	fireplace, hearth	Kapsiki; especially in entrance room, with bench built around it
këya	before	meaning dubious
kí	you (plural nominative)	
kì	light, to, of fires	
kì ku më ir	fire ceremony	lit. light fire in room - part of marriage
ki'd [kɪʔ]	pot, type of	small bowl
ki'd dlyá [kitla]	pot, type of	large bowl used in crab divination

ki'd dlyà [kiʔilja]	pot, type of	bowl made for use as part of bellows
Kigi kil(ë)pu kili	clan, name of tortoise one	person or thing, in answer to question
kiliga	pot, type of	lower, smaller bowl used in filtering
kilkili kilkindzëng	one each, one by one wild beast ( <i>not</i> buffalo)	a dangerous wild animal, form unknown, possibly mythical
kimbak kinduk king kingging	footwear, shoe granary, man's many bell, brass	for sorghum and millet only  worn by initiates late in ceremony
kinkinduk	sty (infection)	also <i>mat këra</i> lit. witch dog, caused by disturbing granary
kir kirif kiyam kiyar kiyuk' [k'ikʷ] koey	bite, to fish you (pl. accus.) you (pl. accus.) court of justice, traditional which, that	as in 'I hear you' as in 'I hit you'  <i>Ndeyi ka penni koey ma kwa</i> - This is the pen which+past you like from French via Kapsiki
kompeter ku ku'dan	potato fire tree, kind of	<i>?Mitragyna inermis</i> , found in wet places, and smelting medicine from it
kudi ku'dumzhani kufsëlëng mam	go!, go on! spoon, calabash honeycomb	the structure rather than the honey <i>Crinifer piscator</i>
kukuluk kula kula Kulësëgëy kuling kullë kum kunay Kurang kuratl kurokudë	bird, grey plantain eater pipe, tobacco tobacco pipe clan, name of socket for femur grave, tomb mouse bat, small Kurang village darkness weed, soft-stemmed	acetabulum  water weed' and smelting medicine from it
kurup kusë kusë	whip, of hide harmattan harmattan, wind and conditions	



kut	socket, of tool	
kutlaf	snakeskin, shed	
kúw, kouw	drunk, to be	
kwa	you (sing., nom.)	
kwa pë kë	sack of waters (organ)	lit. thing?+push+head
Kwabala	clan, name of	
kwadëgulë	necklace, kind of	long, with several strands twisted
kwajuniy	wife, favourite	lit. you small ??
kwam	you (sing. accus)	as in 'I hear you'
kwandalli	sorghum stalk segment	
kwandang	banana	?Hausa, Fulfulde
kwar	dry, to	She dried the leaves - <i>a kwar va ka vwax</i>
kwar	you (sing. accus.)	as in 'I hit you'
kwarpë	sorghum, kind of	white, needs very wet places, used for ' <i>daf</i>
Kwasha	clan, name of	
kwásùbë	tassel	of untwisted baobab root fibres, worn by women behind
kwátá rì [kwateri]	finger	
kwatarzha	flute, of bark	of mahogany bark, now of plastic
kwatëkë	divination, kind of	using arm and ant lion, not a serious kind
kwatsakwatsa	tassel, dance	bead and cowrie tassel, worn over buttocks
kwatya'd	finger	dubious, error likely
kwaya'dya'di	bird, pintailed whydah	
kwazërma	wife, unloved	
Kwazhuwa	clan, name of	
kwiitax	sorghum, kind of	yellow, light coloured glumes, the main crop
kwoceri	snailshell	
kwokur	ring, finger	
kwokusa	divination, kind of	by magicaly (ventriloqually) speaking bird
kwoma	disease, cholera-like symptoms	
kyikën	poor	
kyikun	divination	in phrase <i>ya pë kyikun</i> - someone who has come from divination
kyim	drum, kind of	or <i>tim</i> ; ovaloid, single membrane
la tlyuwi	cutting thin strips of meat	
laba [ðlaβa]	ornament, hooklike	brass, worn by women
lalavë	witch grass	purple flowers
law maray	bull feast, a man's first	
lay	amulet pouch	
laylay	marriage, formal	

lëbët lebut lëbvën	granary cover roof cap, granary, lower part divination	of thatching, open top open, closed with <i>tiitldim</i> in phrase <i>ya më lëbvën</i> - someone who has come from divination
legaw [ligaw] lëkë lëtsë li'dku li'dku ligëduk [ligidik] lihwa'd	stretcher shield lizard, monitor flute, sorghum stalk vibraphone dust bush, kind of	of sorghum stalk W: rigidëk bark gives mucilage for plaster named after the bush covered may also be used for brewing
Lihwa'd limba lindo lingling litak	clan section, name of courtyard, wife's room, storage healthy, well fishing net	small, of grass, fixed in streams
litak lyangë lyung m(ë)na [mna] m(ë)padlë [mpazɛ]	race clear, as of water cobra, spitting liver beer	Hausa ' <i>burukutu</i> ', excludes <i>zuwa</i> (Hausa ' <i>pito</i> ')
ma ma má mà mà ma ... wa?	up, up above, from above us (accus.) give, to like, want, to want, to what?	What is your name? - <i>Ma 'ba ta wa?</i>
ma Duwa	up, at, or to Duwa	when speaking in Sakun, thus South
ma ka ban ma ka dang	grindstone, lower drum, cylindrical	two membranes, large, beaten with curved stick
ma ka dlë ma ka ghríy ma ka takur ma nyi na ma të ir	cow (having calved) wife, first/senior hen perhaps space, men's	direct transl. from Hausa  lit. want/hope we; particle between men's rooms and upper wall of house
ma tëka ma, mama maakën maakën pësëk maaken wasëk maakëpësuk	up above mother three thirty three hundred sorghum, kind of	and so on to 90  lit. 30; grown for its sweet stalk

mabuk mabuk ji'dukw	grass cord grass cord	three strands plaited worn by children of dead man at his funeral
mabuli mabwotak	shrew chameleon, imaginary	it turns into a mouse with big eyes
ma'daf Madafuk madambrishi madla ghuli	seven area in Sukur meat preserve, kind of husband	the 'real', first husband of a woman
madla zër	rival, enemy	lit. man wife; i.e. the man who took my wife
madlakwala madlambar	tree, kind of spirits of the dead	used for charcoal chased out during Zoku ceremony
madlax madlay tul zër	man bride's male escort	who comes on behalf of H to ask for bride
madzuwa	affine, male	male speaking, same generation
mafara [maθar] mafindu magan magow mahëlatanggaw mahira kaka mahoratlya mahu mahulhëlé [mahalhalí] majejiya Makarma Makarma bin ghu'd makokwoy	rainbow sling (weapon) squirrel, ground tree, sausage chameleon spear, barbed sorghum, kind of when ... lizard, agama bead, iron title holder title holder chains, musical	<i>Kigelia africana</i>
makokwoy dlër makwada maladay [maladəj]	iron pellet roof cap tree, kind of	barrel-shaped, short
malma mam mamash [mamaʃ] mambazay [bambaʒaʔ]	stone uprights on grave honey quickly pendant, iron	of iron rings, played with calabash fragment in rattle on top of roof grown along paths, may be <i>Erythrina</i> projecting from superstructure
mambëlum mana [mana] manamat	spirit, ghost relative kin through women	worn as element of pubic apron, on wrist, on belt its curse much feared general term direct kinship, the group within which being a witch may descend
manda ju ir	thatch overhanging a wall	

mandak	tree, fig, kind of	edible lanceolate leaves, small green-yellow fruit
mandën	affine, co-wife	
mandzaf	medicine, plant	<i>Cissus quadrangularis</i>
manggaray	flute, wood, 1 note	
Manggu	clan, name of	a Damay clan
manguratatan	ant, kind of	about 8mm long, black or brown
ma'o'o	skink	
maparam [maparam]	gateway, house, of stone	
mapas	tree, kind of	like <i>Adenia obesum</i> but with pale, greenish flowers or <i>mapishpishya</i>
mapishapisha	flea	
mara	twin, second, name of	
marabuk	dove	
maroori	rice	Fulfulde
mashin	morning, early around sunrise	and thus East
maskwalay	ne'er-do-well	useless person (or domestic animal), wastrel
mat	witch	
mat ku	spark	
matakwa	eagle, kind of	or hawk, brown, a chicken thief
màteni	weakling	specif. child of a mother who got pregnant soon after its birth
matlax'	pumpkin leaves	used for sauce
matlyihë	men, elders	irreg plural of <i>madlax</i>
matsavay	bird, black kite	
máy	hunger	
mày	antelope	horn used to make <i>cerak</i> flute; perhaps <i>Redunca redunca</i>
ma'yawak	calabash plant	
mazaghrar	bat, fruit	
mba	again	Repeat that word - mba dlaha gëma ta
mba gwaram	bull feast, a man's second	lit. repeat acacia
mba huli	twins ceremony	final ceremony following birth of twins
Mbadla	praisename, clan	for women of Bëgëda and other Damay clans
mbadlavay	initiates, male	
mbaldë-ha	repeat, to	? <i>mbadlëha</i>
mbambavë	wander about, to	
mbara	break, to, as of a stick	
mbax	offer falsely, to	to offer something and then not give it
mbay	cassava, manioc	Hausa or Ful
mbë	inside	?from inside
mbëdli	granary in loft	general purpose
mbëghaz	spear	

mbëghaz lëng mbëghaz lëng	divination, using spear spear, kind of	used in divination and oath taking
mbëghaz masheri	spear, kind of	used in war, funerals, see JS1992, 2:21
mbëghaz yayam mbëlakën mbëlakën mbëlakën duvun mbëlakën duvun mbëldëv mbëlëm mbërday mbërëm mbërëm më wu'd mbëritliy [brɔɕɪ]	spear, kind of mumps swelling swelling in groin swelling of calf of leg thank tree, tamarind scorpion thunder lightning sesame	short blade, two fingers wide  includes mumps  <i>m. kwa</i> or <i>m. ki</i> <i>Tamarindus indica</i>
mbërmay Mbësëfwoy mbëza kwanday mbëza mëtlyan mbëza tu'b	affine, daughter-in-law title holder meat preserve meat fat meat preserve, with skin	?thunder and lightning  sacrificer blood pudding lit. fat/grease white that includes (parts of) bull's hide
mbëzë mbëzhetay mbëzhetay dugu vu mbëzhir [mbuʒir]	brass day after tomorrow some time in the future well, water point	traditional well, spring
mbilim mbizhu mbudlëv mbukul mbulari mbuli	non-smith tree, kind of initiate, male heifer, yearling hat, boy's horn, instrument	member of the farmer caste Hausa <i>durmi</i>
mbùr mburum	swollen land, place	of grass coils sewn together cow horn, held vertically four holes of dead things and specifically the land of Sukur, thus 'native'
mbùrzhing	wasp, 2 kinds	black and red, make collective grey, papery nests in trees
mbus mbut mbutë [mbuta] mbuuli mbuzhatay më më	navel smelling, strong tree, baobab flute, two hole tomorrow, day after in present tense marker	whether nice or nasty  acc to ND1992, 2:62  <i>më kili</i> - in a group of one present and uncompleted; at start of phrase
mëbëdufbëduf mëbetl	fontanelle, anterior pumpkin fruit and plant	<i>vuwa</i> (green) and <i>sakun</i> (whitish) varieties
mëbetl dëgul	pumpkin, spiny	

mëcëkum	child, unexpected	specifically, born of a non-menstruating mother
mëciciyu mëdlëba	talent, expertise roof over courtyard	e.g. in dancing, building specif. of central (head's) courtyard
Mëdlëng mëdlyan mëdzëvën mëgats mëghuwun megissa mëgunën mëhërrë	lan, name of closed season, main rains tongs, smith's reddish basket, kind of open knife, for calabashes	        see <i>ghuw</i>  in a state of openness? curved for cleaning calabashes
mëkër mëkuf	thief basketry tray	 made of spear grass, ogival with flat base
mëkuf	cobra	homophone with basketry tray, ? named after shape of cobra's head
melleleyo mëmun mën mënda mburum mëndëv [munduf]	pot, type of talk, to we (incl.) horizon heart	small jug, for offerings    She took out the heart - a 'dedava ka mëndëv mbë
mëpëkë meri'd	vestibule bushcat	thatched extension to a room small (often described as a 'fox')
mëru [maru] mësëvay [safaj] mësuk mëtë mëtlëbëts	pus sleep, to ocher, red under, subordinate to mat, kind of	? be in state of sleep  in hierarchical sense used as stiffener over rafters and under thatch
mëtlëbëts	scum, kind of	forms when boiling mahogany oil; homonym with mat
mëtlyan meya'dakën mëzëmay mëzhik mi'd mí'd Midala Midlyirux miir mijirvi [mdzurvi] milli mimil [mimil] mingërën	white smelling, nasty hay shadow, spirit lazy wind title holder hill, name of oil tanged, e.g., of a hoe grass cord stream black	as snake, wet dog, Higi smith  also <i>zhik</i>  ritual war leader   two strands, twisted

minyukw	dew	
mis	urine	
mishibi, mishibë	cold, flu	
misum	tree, kind of	used for charcoal
mitititl	pole, three forked	for holding pots
mitli	nine	
mitli pësëk	ninety	
mitukh	python, kind of	lives in houses, eats mice
miwa	pardon?	in sense of 'please say again'
miwa?	what?	in sense of 'please say again'
miya [mja]	friend or lad, my	inter male term of address
miya degu	initiation partner	a younger boy
mongurbëtl	beer mash (perhaps also foam)	after first fermentation, also a weak, foolish person
Mpsakali	Gudur	also Mpasakali, Cakiri, Gudur, Gudul
mubwota	mentor at initiation	
mucun	naked	
mudla	joint, of body	
mudlë	joint, of body	
mudledë	bead, iron, tubular	long and thin
mudlëpërpër	butterfly	
mu'du	bean leaves, cooked and dried	
mudusën	dull, blunt	as of a knife
Muduvu	Muduvu settlement	
mudwan	rat, large	
mudzuku	boulder	
mufwan	heated, warm	as of beer
mugapa	turban, bandage	a piece of cloth wound around some thing or body
mugus	affine, son in law	also F in law, M in law
mugwoey	gruel, thick	as beer that has been boiled without adding water
muhuric	tree, hackberry	<i>Celtis integrifolia</i>
mukudëk	vulture	
mukulevin	basalt	
mukulkundung	mist	
mukurak	sorghum, kind of	red, loose head, for 'daf = Margi <i>yerambuli</i>
mukwa	six	
mumbuss	blood	
munda ir	wall footing	
mundernder	medicine, plant	root of a vine, mashed, taken for stomach pain
munggan	paved, set flat	set flat, either horizontally or vertically, thus <i>civi mungan</i> = way paved
munzër'de'dum	earthworm	
mutëboey	stranger, guest	
mutluwiy	pot, type of	used for placenta burial
mutsu	calf of leg	

mu'uf muvë	charm, kind of magically inserted	protects fields <i>dla da muvë</i> remove (take out) thing magically inserted in the body
muzapë'd muzëtë na na(ka)	umbilical cord child of a deceased father particle = comma but?	between clauses in sentence perhaps one of several ways of forming this conjunctive
naf [naf] nagh nas [nas] nas(ma) [nas] Nassara nayi .. wa? Nda ... bëgh	brother until leg ask, to white person which ... ? until	of a past event  Hausa lit. Nazarene  of a future event see phrase 96:98
nda mutsun nda, ndu ndahay ndahay mëtë xidi ndahay pë kë mburum ndal ndanbanga	corpse person people counsellors of chief counsellors of chief rope, thick policeman, auxiliary	pl. ndahay  lit. persons under chief lit. persons on/at head land of baobab fibre, e.g., for cattle Hausa; appointed by police or village head
ndangadlay ndara ndas ndati nday ikyük' [ndaikyük] nday iygh nday tsuf huli	egg find, to stand, to potter's tamper client of a diviner hunter twins advisors	meaning very uncertain  of clay  who instruct new parents of twins
ndaydey ndaydlë nday-va nde'd(e)-va ndëllë	senior, of a person non-relative son of (the house of) cross, go across, to sorghum store	lit. person bull  e.g., a river unroofed room outside house for unthreshed millets, storage
ndey në në nëghma nëk baldawa nga ngabay nga'd	big and, with with, and fill, to pot, type of my hemp curse	large beer jug  <i>Hibiscus cannabinus</i> in form of a prediction of a bad thing
ngadawa ngadla'oy	bird, Abdim's stork okra	Ciconia abdimii <i>H. esculentus</i>



ngalyawu [ga <sup>h</sup> aw]	cutlass	also dance sickle/throwing knife ceremonial
ngarapa ngatl ngë	knife, throwing satisfied, to be for	as in ngë ta vak - for you the day
ngë jax ngëb ngëlay ngëna ... wa? ngër ngërë'd ngga nggi nggu [ngu]	backwards slime, snot, mucilage thirst where? power energy trap cow, small 'muturu' variety drum, tall	how differs from ngër ?  a Kapsiki word made of tree trunk, mainly associated with Damay very large, yellowish, burrowing
ngguditl	cricket, kind of	
nggulum nghwuf ngoeri ngu'dum ngu'dum dabi ngu'dum kut ngulëng ngurabak	throat meat, flyblown, rotten vulva hoe hoe, tanged hoe, socketed harp, three stringed slimy, mucilaginous	<i>dabi</i> is said to be Kanuri  e.g., snot, water mixed with okra also a dead person, death
ngus ngwa [ŋ <sup>w</sup> a] ngwalay	die, to mountain ant, shiny brown	moves in narrow column; eggs small, white and many - see iron, cast named for likeness to the ant
ngwalay ngwu ngwu dlyay ha tëkë ngwu dlyay ma tëkë ngwu ir ngwu tson	iron, cast iron droplets mouth furnace shaft opening furnace chargehole doorway opening for feeding bull	between entrance room and bull stall
ngwuca ni njak' [ndʒaku]	entrance courtyard   tuyere armature	the pottery tube over which the tuyere is formed
njalala njam njika njilang njinjiti nuba num	clear, as of a view dead, the time ago, a short shin tree, <i>Erythrina</i> luck, lucky person snail	irreg. pl. of <i>ngus</i>  Margi ?

nyàlàk	cold	
nyálák	cool	cf. cold
nyax	marks, tribal	cicatrizations on belly and shoulders
nyax	spittle	homonym with tribal marks
nyerga	salt	
nyerga dëbulum [dabrum]		salt cone
nyi	we (excl.)	
nyi	our (excl.)	
nyida	something	
nyiwun	medicine	
nyiwun dlyà	medicine, smelting	lit. medicine furnace
nyiwun gabë	medicine, smelting	against danger arising from gabë - the <i>gis ir</i> plant to obtain cast iron
nyiwun ngwalay	medicine. smelting	
nza	sit, to	
nzavnzavci [nzansavtʃi]	bird, chanting goshawk	<i>Melierax metabates</i>
nzowa	send, to	
nzuga	saliva	in the sense of mouth watering used to make bird lime
owa	fruit of <i>ururum</i>	
'òy	neck	
p(ë)lasar	Ful, Fulbe	
Pa	Margi	pejorative
pa'dak' daway	bird, nightjar	standard wing, <i>Macrodipteryx longipennis</i> and thus west
pakwa	evening around sunset	
pakwa	west, evening	
pam	unfortunately	a "sad" word
panay	millet stalk	
panay vay	bed, woman's	made of millet stalks
paprangay	pot, type of	necked vessel for transport and sale of beer or <i>parang parang</i> i.e. in living memory
para parang	long ago	short, wide blade
parang	in the old days	wood (slab, +/- legs), daub Fulfulde?
parpar	sickle, ceremonial, men's	
pas	bed, man's	
pat	all	
patala	knife, long, man's	
Patla	centre, ceremonial	
patu	cat	Fulfulde
pa'wa	thread, cotton	
pë	at, on	
pëka	collect, to	perhaps same as <i>puka</i>
pëka rë'da	menstruate, to	lit. collect dirty
pëlak	fingernail	
Pëlasar	Fulbe, Fulani	
pëna	barbecue, to	to 'roast'
pëna	roast, to	
për	pay, to	may be same as përa to sell
përa	drop, to	homonym with to sell

përa	sell, to	homonym with to drop
pësar	thigh	
pesha'd	calf, <i>Bos</i>	
pëtla	break up, smash, to	used also metaphorically
pëtla kë	headache	lit. smash into pieces head - ?homonym with Lord
Pëtla kë	Lord	term used by Christians - ?homonym with headache
pëtla kulë	tomb building	day of building superstructure - is <i>pëtla</i> homonym (breaking stones)?
pidoekw	razor	
piniy	ceiling	of adzed planks, removable
pis [piθ or bis]	sun	and thus day
pishili	title holders, privileged	privileged to enter chief's house at any time
piya	daytime, in the	
po, pu	twin, first, name of	
powa [pwa]	flour, millet	dry or mixed with water as thin gruel
puka	collect, to	perhaps same as <i>pëka</i>
purda	fine, to	money, clothes ...
put	lie, to	and deceive by lying
pyang	arrive, to	
-ra	suffix indicating a process of some duration	
ra-ha	get down, to	to be confirmed
ra-ha	go down, to	
rak	boundary wall	
ra-ma	go up, to	
ran dlyà	furnace platform	where ore and charcoal kept and charged
ra-va	go out, to	
ray	bow	
ray	went, to (to have gone)	
rë	dig, harvest by digging, to	
rë'da	dirt, dirty	also in sense of pollution
rë'da	polluted, dirty	
rëgwan	tree, locust bean	
rëma	terrace, large	as of a platform supporting a house
revarri	lion	foreign, ? Wandala
Rëvay	clan, name of	named after jujube tree
rëvay [rɪvəj]	tree, jujube	<i>Zizyphus mauritiaca</i>
rëvay duguvu	tree, jujube	<i>Z. spinachristi</i> , lit. jujube tree
rëvwax	skin, carrying	hyena
ri	arm, hand	for babies
ri	hand	hand and arm
ri dlabay	left (hand)	
ri ghu'd	right (hand)	lit. hand belly

riin	funeral ceremony	held some time after burial
riin	weep, to	hence funeral celebration
riwa'd [riwɛ]	millet, pearl	<i>P. glaucum</i> (= <i>typhoideum</i> , = <i>americanum</i> )
riwa'd këra	millet, diseased	doesn't produce cob, perhaps also weed varieties
ro-jigilda	adze	lit. child (of) ax
rotë	go away, to	
Row(a)nza	title holder	second in command of initiates, a temporary title
rowban	grindstone, upper	
rowda	clansman	lit, child father
rowdëm	kinsperson, junior	of opposite gender, has role in ceremonies
rowmbëdli [rɔmbəði]	granary, small	lit. child granary
Rowxidi	title holder	formerly heir to chief and his deputy, now only 'chief' of initiates
rum [rundux]	bury, to	rundux is probably <i>ru ndu(x)</i> i.e. bury someone
ruts	hearth	
Ruwa	Wula	
ruwatl	sorrel, red or roselle	<i>H. sabdariffa</i>
ruwi	child	freq. abbreviated <i>row-</i> in compound forms
ruwi dang	drum, squeeze	Kalangu type
ruwi 'dowa 'dowa	child, kind of	lit. child eat eat; brought up by later H of mother
ruwi hurumzuwa	pot, type of	beer jug, smaller than <i>hurumzuwa</i>
ruwi madlax	son	lit. child male
ruwi nas	toe	
ruwi'do'da	child of questionable paternity	
saanu	know, I don't	<i>së+n+u</i>
saf	life	
sáf	oath	
sàf	breath of life	
sagwan	tree, <i>Piliostigma</i>	<i>P. thonningii</i>
sak'	grain, poor quality	poorly formed or diseased millet heads
Sakun	Sukur	own name for place, people and language
samë	slowly	
san	dregs	
sarasëk	twenty	
sarasëk duk këmbë	twenty two	
sarasëk tan kumbë	twenty one	
së	drink, to	also to know
së	know, understand, to	also to drink
së	mist	possible confusion with <i>kusë</i>

së'bëk	broom	
së'bëk	grass, stiff	used for brooms, potters' 'combs'
së'bëk	potter's 'comb'	of stiff grass
së'd	clan	
së'd	seed, seed grain	whence clan
sëd yim	ridge, stony	
sëlliy	respect	
sëmay	song, to sing	
sërëk	jealousy	
sëvay	sleep, to	?to drink the night
sha'da [ʃedʔa]	baby, newborn	
Shagwam	clan, name of	
shakw	chicks	
shashá	next year	
shàshà	measles	
shawshawa	sand	
she'dak	shiny smooth	as of snakeskin or a newborn
shelwa	trousers, wide	
shi	with	
shiga nas	pot, type of	tripod cooking pot
shiga tlyuwi	pot, type of	medium cooking pot for (meat) sauce
shik	be more than enough, to	esp. of millet
shilëm	foreskin	
shilla	flute, Higi type	blown from side of mouth
shimii	why?	
shin	nose	
shin dlyà	furnace knob	
shiri	readiness	
shirúk	smelling, rotten	of faeces, dead animal, rotten fruit
shírúk	pole, centre	e.g. in entrance and men's room (also forge?)
shishi	snake	
shishi mbúrmbúr	snake, imaginary	flies at night, eats black ants, killed by placing razor blade in ant hill
shitë	under	see also mëtë
shokanday	gin. local	Engl. shock and die
shuku'd	fruit	general term
shumbut	hair	
shumingirin	monkey, vervet	lit. monkey black
shumuuvun	monkey, patas	lit. monkey red
shun	charcoal powder	
shuwshuwu [ʃuʃuwu]	eyes half closed, with	
shwi	monkey	
sissu	tree, <i>Acacia albida</i>	
sor	penis	
sororam	pot, type of	narrow-necked cooking pot

suba	hyrax	
suku	altar	usually a pot
suku	market	homophone with altar
suku Dowa	Sunday	at Rhoumzou
suku Duwa	Sunday	
suku Gulak	Wednesday	
suku Gulak	Wednesday	
suku Madagali	Friday	
suku Madagali	Friday	
suku Mefir	Tuesday	
suku Mefir	Tuesday	
suku Ruwa	Thursday	
suku Ruwa	Thursday	Ruwa=Wula
suku Sakun	Monday	
suku Sakun	Monday	
suku Wanday	Saturday	
suku Wuro Dole/Wanday		Saturday
sukuruk	room, man's	outside house wall, often old man's
sulum	granary over <i>gur</i>	general purpose
sura	fry, to	to cook meat, egg, groundnuts in pot with or without oil, but no water
swá	ashes	
swaram	grass, kind of	for zana matting
t(i)ya	moon, month (lunar)	
t(u)rë dlum	bull over six years of age	
t(u)wiy	brine, filtered	prepared from ashes of sheep or goat dung, millet, maize stalks
ta	their	
tá	grind, to	
tá	they	
tà	your (sing.)	
ta mis	urinate, to	
ta riin	funeral, first evening	precedes <i>riin</i> proper
taangul	tree, 2 kinds	one assoc <i>gëkili</i> ; one thorny, hard purple fruit used as plugs in wounds
taba	tobacco	
tá'bà [ta?ba?]	bag	of bean fibre or baobab root
taktakum	club, war, wooden	
takur	chicken	hen = <i>maka takur</i>
takur dlë	bird, cattle egret	<i>Ardeola ibis</i>
takur yim	bird, quail	<i>Citurnix sp.</i>
takwosha [takwasa]	bird, francolin	<i>Francolinus sp.</i>
tala	shelf	
talipak	bird, hornbill	grey ( <i>Tockus</i> ) and red-beaked ( <i>T. erythrorynchus</i> )
tam	them	as in I hear them

tamtakulak	bird, bulbul	common garden <i>Pycnotus barbatus</i>
tana .. wa?	how many? how much?	
tapatl [takat]	shoulder	
tappi	calabash	
tas	iron slag	
tasa	bracelet	
tasa kwakor	bracelet, aluminium	
tatata	incisions, medicinal, fine line	on a part of the body affected by aches
tatl [tat]	bone	
tauk' [tauk <sup>w</sup> ]	uselessly, to no purpose	also: intentionally but knowing it to be wrong
të	his	
-të	particle	added to verb root, gives sense of "accustomed to ..."
të dlagam	clan section	of Dur, lit. of treed path
të kyikën	poor person	
te'bax zër	cord, bean fibre	
tëbë ghríy	courtyard, central, of house	
tëdoey	meadow, grassy area	
tëghatëgha	flute, battle	of wood, played to announce battle
tëka	clan section	of Dur, the 'lower' or 'separated' Dur
tëka is	ceremony, a	
tëka(-va)	divide, to	seemingly in a vertical dimension
tëkë vu	defecate, to	
tëkëz	eight	
tëku'd	rub, to	
tëkulkul	circular	
tëkulkul	round	
terara	twist, to	as in ropemaking
teyaprëteya	pot, type of	a smaller <i>duguzuwa</i>
ti'd	point at, to	
tiitldim	roof cap, granary	fits over <i>lebut</i>
tikkë	silent	
tim	drum, kind of	or <i>kyim</i> ; ovaloid, single membrane
timmi	fruit, green plum-like	in loose bunches, reddens as ripens, ca 2 cm long
titlyim	granary cap, stiff grass	covers opening
tiya	month (lunar), moon	
tla (zër)	marry (a wife), to	
tla ghu'd	pregnant	lit. carry belly
tla tla	marriage, informal form of	informally celebrated
Tlagama	title holder	
tla-ma	carry, take, to	
tla-ma	take in marriage	accepts pronoun infixes

tla-ma OR -va Tlamburum	take, carry, pick up, catch, to title holder	also to take a Kigi, the chief's "ear" in upper Sukur
tlan kë	bring for me!	
tlë	leave, to	
tlëf [tʰuf]	armpit	
Tlëgëm	title holder	
Tlëmuzi	title holder	
Tlësuku	title holder	chief's 'chaplain'
tli [tʰi]	root	
tluwiy [tʰʷi]	meat	W:ihjwi
tlya gwaray	testicle	lit. seed scrotum
tlyabër	maize	Zea mays
tlyam	hear, to	
tlyuwivë	muscle	
toey	be tired, to	
toey	who (demonstr.)	
to-jax	cloak, short, of skin	lit. skin back; typically goat, with hair
tom cukuri	iron bloom, horns of	projections rising from bloom body
tom dlë	horn, cow	also instrument, blown transversely
tom may	horn, antelope	also instrument, blown transversely
toma	wait!	
tomatër	tomato	Engl.
toray	caterpillar, kind of	eats crops
towa	loinskin	
toy	one, when counting	
tsa'd	sweep, to	
tsa'd zër	confinement, end of	end of mother's confinement following birth
tsaga	mat structure, ceremonial	built on courtyard roof (mëdlëba) by celebrant of bull feast
tsakalaw	sacrifice, bull	formal slaughter of bull in central courtyard
tsakka	quartz	
tsë	be responsible for, to	
tsëkak	coop, chicken, of basketry	
tsëngu'b	tree, kind of	khaki fruit, black seeds, grey flaky bark, ?? <i>Sterculia</i> <i>setigera</i>
tsër	catch, to	as in hunting, or of a bull
tson	grinding hollow	several types, may be used as altars
tsuf	take care of, to	
tswa	form, to, of pots	
tswa duw	pot, to	



tù	where	as in <i>Dza kwa tù ma</i> - where are you going mother?
tu-	prefix, meaning person	
tu dlyá	diviner	lit. person crab
tu nyiwun	doctor, herbalist	
tu'b	skin	
tu'bungu	lip	
tugiwa	house cluster	often referring to the inhabitants of, i.e., near neighbors
tuharam	murderer	by a variety of means including magic
tuku	your (pl.)	
tul	request, 'beg', to	
tum	catch in water as a group, to	as in <i>Tum kirif</i> , a fishing festival
tumbi	colon	Hausa?; or large intestine made for children
tungsha	basket, small	
tur	tail	
tur bikibiki	spear, kind of	lit. tail swallow; barbs at base of blade
tur këra	grass, kind of	
tuurë	straight ahead	
Tuva	clan, name of	
tux va ka	heifer, yearling	
twom	snuff box of horn	
-u	not	as in <i>saanu</i> , I don't know; always at end of phrase
ufëk [ufuk]	warm	
ururum [urərurum]	plant, parasitic	flowers like honeysuckle, fruit used to make 'bird lime'
uwiy	sauce, soup	
v(ë)retl	argue, to	verbal and/or violent
v(w)anja	garden egg	
va	house, in+house+of	comparable to French 'chez' associated with processes, meaning unclear
va	particle, suffix	
và	arrow	
và	year	
vagwan	grasshopper, kind of	large, pale brown extending into evening
vak	afternoon	grows in wet places
vamay	tree, fig, kind of	small, black-skinned,
vaw	root vegetable	? <i>Plectranthus esculentus</i>
vay	night	in sense of a night's sleep?
vay	slave	
vë'd	body	?homonym with night or perhaps with a low tone
vë'd	night	
vë'dkë	sickness, disease	
vëguz gamba	bushpig	?warthog

vëguz ghríy	pig, domestic	
vël(i)ya	hare	
vëma	tree, shea	
vër	tree, <i>Acacia sp.</i>	used for charcoal
vëra	across, at or to, or from	i.e. across a valley
vëra Kulësëgëy	across at or to Kulësëgëy	i.e. across a valley
vërishin	children	irreg pl. of ruwi
vëtë	divination, using grass straws	as for finding a thief or witch
vëvelik'	mongoose, slender	
vi	rainy season	
vi	season, rainy	
vi'd [vid]	sickle	
vid këra	puppy	
vi'd ri	sickle, dance, women's	
vighum	termite (edible)	
vin	charcoal	
vindzëng	mosquito	
vinuk'	bush, kind of	used for staffs, basket struts
vizu	iron ore	
vizu ku	ash-ore-slag mixture	from base of furnace, see ND5:18
vu	faeces	
vu nas	heel	
vu tetekë	faeces, pile of	
vu'd	blow into something, to	
vu'd pilikw	whistle, to	
vu'd vu	latrine, dug	
vu'd, vwu'd	hole	also in compound forms
vu'de'de	fart	
vur	fight, war	
vus	sweat; very hot weather	as in April
vus-ma	blow at something, to	as at a fire to produce a flame
Vuwa	Kanuri	and other northerners
vwa'd	hairlock	presumably extension of primary meaning
vwa'd	lump, small	e.g. of porage
vwanja	frog	?Margi
vwax	leaf; fibre	
vwax	tassle, short, worn behind	lit. leaves, in fact of untwisted baobab (and perhaps other) fiber
vyeka	tree, kind of	bark, whitish, bleeds red; of ceremonial significance, for charcoal
wá	fruit of <i>ururum</i>	used for making bird lime
wà	wound	
'wà	milk	also breast, but applies to cow's milk
'wa [?'wa]	breast	also milk
wadzi	quiver	
wadzi zal	quiver, with leather fringe	ceremonial

Waga	Waga people	
Wakili	title holder	chief's deputy
wang	ten	
wang duk kumbë	twelve	
wang maakën këmbë	thirteen	and so on to 19
wang tang këmbë	eleven	
wang wasëk	thousand	2018 = du wang wasëk shi tëkuz kumbë
wang wasëk wasëk	ten thousand	9,999 = mitli wang wasëk, mitli wasëk, mitli pësuk, shi mitli kumbë
warakë	some time ago	commonly in the sense of 'early in the morning'
ware'b	sickness, wasting	a wasting away as of a baby denied milk
wasëk	hundred	
wiy [uwij]	who?	only as in 'Zygmunt who?'
wu'd	lightning	?more generally brightly shining
wun [wun]	play, to (as in games)	
wunday ... wa?	who?	
wur	enough!	in the sense of 'That's it!'
Wutsiy	name of person	not the same as Watsë
xe	together with	of people, not sure of other things
xidi	chief	
xidi soji	work group	young men's cooperative work group, usually from a ward
xim	snake, river	cobra-like
Xwatlä	clan, name of	or Hwatlä
xyar	divination. kind of	by 'day using water in calabash to escry murderer and kill by striking image
xyetë	listen to, to	
-y	suffix	specifying a particular person or thing
ya	come, to	
ya ha	come down!	
ya'b	abuse, to	
yak	bird	general term
yak day	bird, sunbird spp.	also includes Lesser wood hoopoe
yak gamak	bird, common sandpiper	<i>Tringa hypoleucos</i>
yak gudlëv	bird, cliff chat, white-crowned	<i>Myrmecocichla</i> <i>cinnamomeiventris</i>
yam	rain, water	
Yama pë Patla	ceremony, a	
yambayamba	beads, loops of, apron of	worn by married women
yaw	come!	
Yawal	ceremony, a	
Yena	clan, name of	

yii-ha	give birth, to	also to produce young, fruit
yim	stone, rock	
yim	stone, rock	
yim 'but	ring of stones	separating daub walls and thatched roof
yim dzë	hammer, stone	
yim tli mbeza	stone for crushing bones	often takes form of bedrock mortar
yim zër	mortar, wooden	
yim zër taba	tobacco, loaf of	
yowmani	bush, kind of	used for basket struts
zabën [zabun]	guineafowl	helmeted, <i>Numida meleagris</i>
Zagwam	clan section	of Kulësëgëy
zagwam	outstanding	after the sorghum variety
zagwam	sorghum, kind of	very tall, yellow, dark glumes, gwon only by chief often coloured red
zal	fringe, leather	
zalaghrwa	bastard; mother of bastard	
zamba	spider(web?)	
zambarkaka	necklace. long	example seen had old pennies on it
zangulo	bird, weaver	
zar	follow, find, to	
zawar	woman, barren	
zawi	armlet, narrow, brass	
zëbur	long, tall,	
zëbur ir	wall of room	
zëd	nice tasting	
zë'da	feel, to	
zëga	tree, black plum	<i>Vitex doniana</i>
zegan	antelope, kind of	gazelle?
zëhër [zihur]	lizard, gekko	
zëka	forget, to	
zëm	sharp (as of knife)	
zën	millet, sprouted	for beer making
zër	woman, wife	
zëra 'do ghríy	ceremony, a	
zëra'day	smith/potter caste, woman of	
zërajik	midwife, old woman	
zërajik	woman, older; midwife	
zëray dë zër	escort of bride, female	
zëray ndey	wife, first/senior	
zëray tul zër	escort of bride, an	woman who comes to 'beg' for the bride
zëv	sacrifice, make offering, to	
zhalliy	veranda	
zhama	tomorrow	
zherara	elephant shrew	ND1:74; has long nose, stinks and eats eggs
zhibi	roulette	potter's tool

zhi'bi [ʒɪʔbi]	string	also potter's roulette, TGR and TPR and/or knotted strip roulette?
zhibi dlyidyim	roulette, twisted strip	
zhibi tebakh	roulette, twisted string	
zhi'da	apron, pubic, of chains	worn by married women
zhifa	goat, billy	
zhigila	sky	also God
Zhigila	God	also sky
zhik	shade, spirit	
zhiri	women	irreg. pl. of zër
zhiwa dlan	bird, black-headed heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>
zhizhi'd	bead, pellet	includes clay pellet decoration on pots
zhonzhona	weed, kind of	common, bushy, used for blue-black dye; ? <i>Indigofera</i> <i>arrecta</i>
zhuwa'd	flywhisk	
Zoghi	clan, name of	or Zwoghoey
zova	weed, to	
zozowa	work party	often hosted, e.g., by man whose field is being weeded of liquids
zu'da-va	pour out, to	
zulúm	bird, ground hornbill	
zulùm	cape, rain	of woven spear grass
zumbulum	foreskin	Hausa
zung	one out of many	
zungwa	donkey	
zuuwa mëdlëba	support, special	removed from courtyard roof by person inheriting house 'pito'
zuwa	beer, brown	a marriage prestation
zuwa futë pë ruts	beer of hearth	a marriage prestation
zuwa nas gëma	beer of asking	of women of Dur and allied clans
Zwadë	praisename, a	teasel/bergamot like heads, favoured by sunbirds
zwa'ek	plant, kind of	
[ʔæfæʔæfækæ]	cool	