

Muyang Provisional Lexicon

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INTRODUCTION

Location and population

The Muyang language is spoken in the arrondissement of Tokombéré, department of Mayo-Sava, in the Far North Province of Cameroon. The original home of the speakers was the isolated massif (or inselberg) lying to the west of the main road from Maroua to Mora, to the north-east of Tokombéré. The bulk of the Muyang population came down from the mountain in 1963 as a result of government policy, to join existing settlements at the foot of the mountain to the north, east and south. Administratively there are two Muyang cantons, Palbara to the north of the mountain and Mouyengué to the south. Mandara communities separate the Muyang from their montagnard neighbours to the south (Moloko and Mbuko) and to the north - Ouldeme (also known as Wuzlam) and the Pelasla group (now officially known as Vame), while to the west the Mada have colonised the plain to the base of the Muyang massif.

Since 1963 there has been a slow population drift eastwards as over-cultivation has led to impoverishment of the soil at the mountain foot: thus the hill to the north-west of the inselberg, known as Mogbu, has now been colonised by Mada people. Many Muyang communities, mixed with Mandara, Fulani and other groups, are found along the mayo Mangavé, with outlying groups extending towards Maroua. There is a sizeable emigrant community in the region of Garoua. There is a very small residual population on the plateau of the inselberg.

The total Muyang population has been estimated at between 8,000 (Wedekind) and 15,000 (Ethnologue): the Muyang are one of the larger montagnard groups in this area.

Classification

Muyang is classified by the Atlas Linguistique du Cameroun as Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, Centre-West, Wandala-Mafa, Mafa, South, with the code number 152, and by the Ethnologue as Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, Biu-Mandara, A, A5.

Within its sub-group Muyang has been grouped into a further sub-division containing Wuzlam (Ouldeme), Muyang, Mada and Moloko.

The present research

The present research was undertaken by the writer, in conjunction with Djeved François and Aviwaï Philippe, while living in the village of Guduba (canton of Palbara), in the years 1998-2003. This document is a product of continuing research, and some of the conclusions offered here may be subject to modification.

A - a

- a**₁ [à] *prep.* at (introduces a periposition).
naŋ a zalaka vu he is at the mayo **naŋ a Meme** he is at Meàmeà
- a**₂ [ā] *vinfl.* separation and perfective aspect marker.
- a**₃ *cnj.* oh.
- abahu** [ábàh^wú] *n.* carp.
- aban** [àbàn] *n.* name given to a child following twins.
- abi** [ábí] *qmrk.* confirmation tag. **zal nakəŋ ara ndu abi?** that man didn't come, did he? **abi kipi naŋ ewena?** you saw what happened (to the other person) yesterday, didn't you? *See:* **abiyu**.
- abiyu** [ábijú] *qmrk.* not so? **abiyu acər akaba naŋ?** it's good, isn't it? *See:* **abi**.
- abolo** [àbòlò] *n.* woman's couvresexe (made of bark of aèéma).
- abra** [àbrá] *n.* armed robbery. **ndam abra tabzlay mis a divi bu** bandits kill folk on the road
- abəlum** [àbəlóm] *n.* leftovers, yam. **ambaya abəlum** he took the leftovers
- acuhul** [àtsúh^wól] *n.* flea.
- adak** [àdàk] *n.* thorn.
- aday** [àdáj] *n.* stick. **aday ga avər** thunder
- adəskəla** [àdəskəlā] *mod.* seven. **mis adəskəla t̄ara** seven people came
- adiko** [àdík^wò] *n.* headscarf.
- aduk** [àdūk^w] *n.* wooden hammer, club. **eziłigi məvayam ana duk** he throws a hammer at the rabbit
- adaba** [àdàbà] *cnj.* because. *From:* Mandara.
- adəkəl** [àdəkəl] *n.* small termite hill, small termite.
- adəma** [àdəmá] *n.* tree (sp.).
- aduh** [àdúx] *n.* mouse-track. **wur afiki elewe ana akfum ka aduh** the child puts the mousetrap on the mouse track
- afa** [àfā] *prep.* at the house of. **akoro afa (ga) bay** he goes to the chief
- afəfal** [àfəfāl] *n.* cockroach.
- agar** [àgàr] *n.* hartebeest, kudu.
- agəval** [àgəvəl] *n.* bush (sp.).
- agur** [àgùr] *mod.* a little while. **agur agur àdi ahər ana azay gani.** in a little while he found the dung *See:* **gur**.
- agwadu** [àg^wādū] *n.* small measuring dish. *See:* **darama**. *From:* Fulfulde 'šgoda'.
- agwayaŋ** [àg^wājāŋ] *n.* weaver (bird).
- agwazl** [àg^wàz] *n.* cockerel.
- aha** [àhá] *intj.* no.
- ahalay** [àxálāj] *mod.* here.
- ahar**₁ [àxár] *n.* arm, hand, handle. **ahar mis** flesh from someone's hand used to cause illness **t̄wi ahəl ahar** the work is almost finished
- ahər**₂ [àxàr] *n.* head, top. **ahər ga muk** another wife of your father **t̄wi ahəl ahər** the work gives cause for thought **aku azlərəv ka ahər ga ahay dəkəf** the fire bursts out of the roof of the house
- ahay** [àxàj] *n.* house. **ahay ga andra** peanut leaves used as fodder
- ahəmam** [àxmām] *mod.* how?
- ahəmbuzavla** [àxəmbüzàvlà] *n.* grass snake. *See:* **əngumzavla**.
- ahkado** [àxkádō] *cnj.* that. **adəm ahkado akoro a gosko vu** he says he's going to the market
- ahkay** [àxkáj] *mod.* thus. **adəm ahkay** that's what he says **nak kara ahkay, do ni nu nakoro** you come or else I'll go to you **ahkəkay ahkəkay hi** like this
- ahmamam** [àxmāmām] *mod.* how?
- ahoghoŋ** [àxòxò; àxòŋxòŋ] *n.* edible shield bug.
- ahulus** [àxólòs] *n.* partridge, francolin.
- ahuluzluzl** [àx^wòlòzòz] *n.* green edible shield bug.
- ahur** [àh^wūr] *n.* bean.
- ahuzl** [àx^wùz] *n.* cave.
- ahwar** [àxwàr] *n.* tree (sp.).
- ahwis** [àh^wí] *n.* tree (sp.).
- ajar** [àdzàr] *n.* kind of bird (bulbul?).
- akaba** [àkábá] *prep.* with (more than one person).
- akada** [àkādá] *prep.* like.
- akal**₁ [àkāl] *n.* theft, secretly. **Pytelia melba. zal akal** thief **egi akal** he steals **adəm ma akal akal** he speaks secretly **wal akal** melba finch

akal₂ [àkál] *cnj.* describes an event that would, other things being equal, normally have taken place. **akal naŋ agray tawi, ama amtaɓkaba ɗal-ɗal** he wanted to work, but he is too tired **akal aɗem ni** what he was going to say **kara do ti, akal kàca naŋ a** if you came early you would have found him *See: amal.*

akawuŋ [àkàwūŋ] *n.* overseer. **akawuŋ ga sləzi** cotton overseer *From: Fulfulde 'akaawu'.*

akay [àkàj] *mod.* over there. **tabazi fiki gayan ana naŋ tegi akay** they cut the sorghum for him with it over there

akfum [àkfüm] *n.* mouse. *See: maraba, gavjagar, gomso, mətəɓ, ehəli, maftakad, maŋgoya, mehərsek, mugzubi, majako, wur emid, zeŋ-zeŋ.*

akram [àkrām] *n.* baobab.

aksonggo [àk^wsɔŋgò] *n.* hated. **wal hini aksonggo ga zal gani** the wife is hated by her husband

aku [àk^wu] *n.* fire.

akur [àk^wur] *n.* stone: quarter of a hectare.

akwal [àk^wal] *n.* white hair.

akwas [àk^was] *n.* fat.

akwayakwaya [àk^wáják^wájá; àk^wáják^wájá] *n.* egret.

ala [álá] *cnj.* if. **ala ahay dəsani do ni, akal àmbəda ana avəɗ na** if the house wasn't solid the rain would have demolished it *See: amal, akal, anja.*

alakalak [àlakālāk] *n.* tree (sp.).

alay [áláj] *mod.* last year. **zal ya alay ni** the man (we saw) last year **alay ni nahəŋ** the year before last

albasara [àlbàsàrà] *n.* onion. *From: Mandara?*

aləfu [àlfú] *n.* uncountable. **siŋgo ya ti tagray divi ana naŋ ni agray aləfu** the money for working the road is uncountable

aləka [àləká] *n.* bow.

aləŋ [àləŋ] *n.* back, behind. **mazlahko acuhwaləŋ ana wur** the lion chases the child **balari aləŋ bi** there is no obligation attached **təlu** they are behind me *See: dəbəl.*

aləwaz [àləwàz] *n.* tree (sp.).

alga [àlgà] *n.* crowd.

alonggo [àlɔŋg^wo] *n.* basket.

alu [àlū] *n.* pus.

aluguv [àlúgùv] *n.* baboon.

aluwani [àlúwàní] *id.* wrapping. **gabaga lar aluwani** the shroud is well-wrapped

ama [àmá] *cnj.* but. **akal naŋ agray tawi, ama amtaɓkaba ɗaldal** he wanted to work, but he is too tired *See: eslini, ay. From: Fulfulde.*

amal₁ [āmāl] *n.* oil, fuel.

amal₂ [ámàl] *cnj.* if. **ti amal siŋgo afəŋ ni àkál ara** if he had the money he would come **amal ambrəŋ naŋ ti, si asləka ahalay a** if he abandons it he must leave here **amal ambrəŋ naŋ** he wanted to leave it *See: anja.*

amala [ámàlá] *mod.* perhaps. **ay dəgiya hini ti amala wur ga məŋ geli** this one looks like our brother

aməɗ [āməɗ] *n.* air, wind, cold.

amətar [āmətár] *n.* winged termite.

amu [àmú] *n.* honey, bee.

ambadani [àmbàdàní] *mod.* last time. **ambadani wur àra** the child came last time **zal nahəŋ àra ambadana** someone came last time **ambadana ku wur àra** the child came last time

ambatak [àmbàtàk] *mod.* however. **ambatak [do] naŋ azəbiyu** however it was he who brought it *See: ca; deni; aŋgakani.*

ambəl [àmbəl] *n.* skin.

ambələk [àmbələk] *n.* wound, sore, rheumatism, feeling. **zal ambələk leper ambələk verzi** pain in joints **aɓələfəŋ ka ambələk goro do** I don't like it

ambulumbu [àmbúlúmbō] *mod.* nine.

ana₁ [ànà] *prep.* with (instrument). **esey aslu ana miŋgi** he cuts the meat with a knife

ana₂ [ānā] *prep.* for (a person). **asi aslu ana zləba gayan** he cuts the meat for his friend

ananaw [ànánāw] *mod.* when? **kwa ananaw nakoro a Marua** I will go to Maroua at any time **zlam hi ni amələbu ananaw-ananaw** this thing will exist for ever

anduf [àndūf] *mod.* sticky. **məkandəɓ birdlime məndəɓani** sticky

andərzlak [àndərɓàk] *n.* vegetable (sp.).

andorondoro [ándòróndòró] *n.* house millet.
See: gondari.

andra [ándrà] *n.* peanut. **andra mǎbal mis** scorpion

angakani [àngàkàni] *mod.* however.
angakani ke eri ga makombro however it was before the eyes of the monitor *See: ambatak.*

angal [àngāl] *cnj.* if. **angal ti nekweli tatwaw?** might I leave and go into the bush? **mbrəŋ naŋ nimi angal ti, aslaka tatwaw?** let him alone, he can't go anywhere

angar [àngár] *cnj.* even. **təwi ya Pol agray ni, angar àtam ga tay naŋ naŋ ni keti.** Paul's work was even more than theirs

anguca [àngʷatʃà] *n.* kind of boëboëo (q.v.).

angumzavla [àngʷòmzàvlà] *n.* grass snake.
See: ahəmbuzavla.

angwaz [àngʷāz] *n.* fear. **angwaz awurfəŋ naŋ ka mazlahko** he is afraid of the lion

anja [ándzá] *cnj.* if. **anja kəsəra miŋi akal a kam, amal kəhəlbīyu goro ciliŋ do.** if you knew how to steal, you'd bring home more than cola nuts *See: amal.*

anjala [āndàlà] *n.* length of straw. **mək a kəŋguled ana anjala** then you decorate it with a length of straw

anjay [ándzə tī] *cnj.* if. **anjay àra ti, akal nìpi naŋ a** if he came I would have seen him *See: njay.*

aplođo [àplòđò] *n.* follire.

ara [ārā] *n.* iron, metal.

araba [áràbá] *n.* duck. *From: ?*

araŋa [àràŋà] *n.* something unknown. **araŋ gayəŋ abi** he has nothing **araŋ abu ara** something (bad) is happening **azubiya araŋa** he has brought something frightening **nabu azəbīyu araŋa** he is bringing sthg frightening **bi kəŋgətum jik kru ga araŋa** perhaps you will get about two thousand

arav [áràv] *n.* tree (sp.).

ardəŋ [árdəŋ] *n.* handle of a basket. **adəvu hay a alongo vu tata ka ardəŋ** he fills the basket with millet up to the handle

arda [árdá] *n.* dirt.

arəd [árəd] *n.* tongue, bud. **arəd sla** plant (sp.)
arəd ga yam leading wave of water

arəd sla *nepd.* plant (sp.).

arəh [ārəx] *n.* hunger (for meat), desire. **arəh awur nu** I want to eat some meat **arəh ga yam àdiva** he wants to drink **arəh ga sawadəy àduva** I feel like travelling

arəŋ [ārəŋ] *n.* empty house.

argudu [àrgʷùdù] *n.* dust. *See: ŋgirdiŋ.*

argwa [àrgʷà] *n.* manure.

arkut [àrkʷùt] *n.* shroud.

armazlaḅ [àrmāḷḷàḅ] *n.* general word for termites.

arməwur [àrmūwūr] *n.* illness (curse?). **mis ga arməwur** a sick person

asak [àsák] *n.* leg, foot. **sak cə** twice

asara [àsará] *n.* white (man). **amal mərə ndo ti, leli ka asar** if we don't leave, we will lose out **asara azum nu** I am losing out

asək [àsók] *n.* string, tree from whose bark it is made.

asiyaway [àsijāwāj] *n.* plant (sp.).

asus [àsús] *n.* hedgehog.

asyaway [àsijāwāj] *n.* plant (sp.).

aslat [àḷàt] *n.* bone.

aslər [àḷər] *n.* tooth. **zlam ga aslər** weapons

aslu [àḷū] *n.* flesh, meat. **ana aslu ga vu geli** in our own strength

ata [àtā] *prep.* with (one person). **takworo a gosko vu ata wur ga məŋani** he is going to the market with his brother **hay ye ti kuskumbīyu ni ata ye ti nak kuwus ni aw** the millet you grow (is better than) the millet you buy

ata ba [àtā bā] *nepd.* my parents.

atəgam [àtəgām] *n.* horse fly.

atəkwa [àtəkʷá] *n.* okra. *Hibiscus esculentus.*

atənátəna [átənátəná] *n.* tomatoe. *From: ?*

atəruz [àtəruz] *n.* tree (sp.), nosebleed.

avak [àvāk] *n.* millet stack.

avana [àvànà] *n.* bone marrow.

avar [ávàr] *n.* lower grinding stone.

avasay [àvàsāj] *n.* tick.

avəla [àvlà] *mod.* high, fore. **azay akur avəla** he picks up a stone **muyəŋ (y') avəla** the western Muyang **ndavəla** the upper Muyang **asak ya avəla** the foreleg **agavəla** *mod.* up, above, west. **akoro gwar agavəla** he goes up, westwards

avər [àvèr] *n.* rain.

avwul [àvwül] *n.* bedbug.

- aw** [àw; wàw] *qmrk.* question marker. **ara waw** did he come?
awak [àwāk] *n.* goat. **eri awak ga way awak ga way** it is somewhat dark
awasl [àwásl] *n.* spear. **akad wur ga mawaya ana awasl** he kills the gaming piece with his third piece
awəra [àwərà] *n.* pot.
awi [àwī] *qmrk.* yes? here!
awu [àwū] *n.* 1) headpad. 2) handle-hole.
awu-awu [àwúawú] *mod.* beforehand, normally. **ambatak awu-awu ti...** now normally...
awulawa [àwùlàwà] *n.* someone who is beloved because he is obedient. **wur hini awulawa ga bəḡani** this child is the favourite of his father
awura [àwūrā] *n.* bush (sp.).
ay [àj] *cnj.* but, then. **akal makoro eli, ay kùcuhwum ndo** we wanted to go to the fields, but you didn't want to **ay ti, azlapuk nahkay ti, naḡ eley?** but where was he when he spoke to you like that?
aya [àjá] *excl.* yes. **zal nakəḡ adəm naḡ**

- abu ara. aya?** the man says he will come. oh yes? **zal slewja abu ara. aya?** the gendarme is coming. oh yes? **aya ti kagray ahmamam** so what are you going to do now? **aya kwa** yes, all right
azagat [àzàgāt] *n.* bean leaves. *See:* **əḡḡəc ahur.**
azana [àzānā] *n.* cloth. **azana gayəḡ abi** he has no clothes
azay [àzàj] *n.* excrement. **azay ga fat** heat (of the sun) **aziaba azay slimi ga zlam ana mis a** he reminds people of the affair
azaywur-azaywur [àzàjūràzàjūr; àzàjwūr àzàjwūr] *mod.* yellow. **azana hini azaywur-azaywur** this cloth is yellow *See:* **wur.**
azega [àzəgà] *n.* tree.
azək [àzək] *n.* smoke.
azonggo [àzòḡḡ^wo] *n.* donkey.
azlalahkər [àḷàláxkər] *mod.* eight.
azlaw [àḷāw] *n.* hedge of thorns.

B - b

- ba**₁ *prep.* out of. **ahəraya a zalaka ba** he comes out of the mayo
ba₂ [bā] *neg.* (subjunctive negative marker). **āra ba** let him not come
ba₃ [bà] *mod.* only. **ba agroro təwi gayəḡ** he just carries on working **ba àndava** it's all over **dagwa naḡ ni ba evi cicek** this man just carried on playing the flute
baba₁ [bàbā] *n.* mode of address from child to father. **asəkum ga ba** he buys it permanently
baba jəḡri hippopotamus. *See:* **bibijungur.**
baba gəḡakani leopard.
baba₂ *vcpd.* pour (water) out. *See:* **bay.**
babaw [bàbāw] *id.* snatching violently. **zal akal əḡəjəl siḡgo babaw a gosko bu** the thief snatches the money in the market
babrus [bàbrūs] *mod.* friable, porous. *See:* **brusay.**
bac [bàts] *id.* putting down. **nafəkad bac** I put down *See:* **dəc.**
baca-baca [bàtsàbàtsà] *n.* hair on the breast of an animal. *See:* **bocur-bocur.**
bacama [bàtsàmà] *n.* tweezers. **arad adak ana bacama** he pulls out a thorn with tweezers
bada-bada [bādābādā] *mod.* shaking. **təwi eli azagat ana wur ti, adadəy ahar bada-bada** when they give bean-leaf sauce to the child, he shakes his head *See:* **zugudum.**
badəḡḡaf [bādəḡḡáf; bāndáf] *id.* going out.
baday [ábādāj] *v.* flatter, trick. **kwa amal məbadani ga seteni arəkiya ka leli a nəḡgo ti...** even if Satan comes to trick us... *From:* Mandara.
badisəli [bādísəlí] *mod.* simply, only. **ahur badisəli do** it is not just beans *See:* **ciliḡ.** *From:* Mandara.
badroḡ [bādrō] *n.* tarred road. *From:* French 'goudron'.
bafangar [bàfāḡḡār] *n.* kind of hairy caterpillar.

bafəŋ [ábàfəŋ] *vcpd.* begin. *See:* bay.
bafkuɗ [bàfkuɗ] *id.* gently. **agray bafkuɗ, adi ahàr ana aslu ga vu do.** it's numb, and doesn't touch the flesh
baftokolum [bàftəkʷəlòm] *mod.* hairy.
bagwat [bàgwát] *id.* siezing, snatching.
bagzloluɓluɓ [bàgʒòlúɓlúɓ] *mod.* wide. **slimberi ga akram bagzloluɓluɓ** baobab leaves are wide
bah [ábàx] *v.* move to avoid. **abah a silik bu** he does 'the movement' in the war *See:* bahay.
bahay [bàjāj] *n.* an avoiding movement. **azlam vu ana bahay** he avoids the blow by moving *See:* bah.
bajagamay [ábàdʒàgàmāj] *v.* walk on all fours. *See:* bəlgamay.
bakaba [ábàkábā] *vcpd.* open. **awak abakaba ahay a** the goat is coming out of the pen **abakaba bətəŋ ge endəwi a** he unbuttons his shirt *See:* bay.
bakabu *vcpd.* dress, close. *See:* bay.
bakəŋa [bàkəŋā] *n.* next year. **si a bakəŋa** see you next year
bakina [bàkínà] *mod.* now, just now. *From:* Mandara.
bakru [bàkrú] *n.* peanut stick. *From:* ?
bal [ábāl] *v.* quieten [a child]. **məŋ gə wur abal wur gayəŋ** the mother calms her child
balari [bālári] *mod.* obligatorily. **nəpəluk balari siŋgo ge kiye goro ni, do ti ahəmam?** I'll have to pay you my month's wages. *From:* ?
balawlaw [bālāwlāw] *n.* tree, tree (sp.).
bamta [bàmtà] *n.* morning star.
bamba [bàmbà] *id.* slamming noise.
bambəlaŋ [bāmbləŋ] *id.* falling. **tasa kuta bambəlaŋ tasa gə virzegenā.** it changed into a brand new plate of gold
baŋgul [bàŋgúl] *id.* being carried right away. **aməɗ əzəkia ahay a baŋgul** the wind has carried the house right away
baŋguz₁ [bāŋgʷúz] *n.* handle.
baŋguz₂ [bāŋgʷúz] *n.* papaya.
baŋgway [bàŋgwəj] *n.* the pinna of the ear. **baŋgway slimi** pinna of the ear **zay nu ka baŋgway slimi** I must go with you
barama [bàrámà] *n.* road. *From:* Mandara.
baramusa [bàrámúsà] *n.* chief's gandra.

See: mugudi ga bay. *From:* Mandara.

baray [ábàrāj] *v.* wash.
baray [bàrāj] *n.* washing, baptism.
barbaray [bārbārāj] *n.* peace, liberty. **anjəhad barbaray** he has nothing to bother him **zamani ga barbaray** the period of democracy
bariki [bárikì] *n.* office. *From:* Mandara, French 'bureau'.
barko [bàrkʷò] *n.* blanket.
baru [bàrú] *n.* small-pox.
barva [bárvà] *n.* slap. **zal cakala asi barva ana zal akal** the trader slaps the thief *From:* Mandara.
baskadi [bàskàdì] *mod.* independently, disorganised. **mis tanjəhad baskadi huya** people lived freely
baskur [bàskʷər] *n.* bicycle. *See:* titera. *From:* Fulfulde, English 'bicycle'.
basl [ábàʃ] *v.* crush into pieces. **wal abasl hay ana bəza mickər** the woman crushes the millet for the chicks *See:* hi, həmbasl.
baslasl [bàʃàʃ] *id.* pouring. **avər atəɗ baslasl baslasl** it is pouring with rain **aboro yam ka had baslasl** he pours out the water on the ground
batakam [bàtəkàm] *id.* going out. **tahəraya e mite va batakam ahkay ti** as soon as they went out... *See:* pətki, badəŋgaf.
batat [bàtət] *mod.* wide and leading into an open space. **edŋ ahər batat** the bird flies off **barama batata (botota)** a wide road
botota [bòtòtə] *mod.* wide and leading into a covered space. **mahay botota** a wide door
batutu [bàtútú] *mod.* kind of locust. **eyew batutu** kind of locust
bay₁ [bāj] *n.* chief, owner, chiefdom, person, lord. **azum bay** he becomes chief **bay ga vu** owner
bay₂ [ábàj] *v.* 1) put (plur obj), clear out, clear sth of vegetation. **hay abay ahàr** the millet is sprouting **makoro mabay ahàr a gosko bu** we will find each other at the market **zal hini abay ahər** this man is a fetishist **ecihi abay adak** the porcupine throws away the thorns **abay məŋgəhaf** he trims the tree **abahay (abay ahay)** he celebrates the new year **abay eri** he comes out from the other side *See:* fay. 2) give (plur obj). *See:* vay.

- baba** [ábábā] *vcpd.* pour (water) out. **ababa yam a hijid ba** he pours water from the cup **aboro yam ka had** he pours water on the ground **abəviyu yam a mandaray vu** he pours water into the jar
- bafəŋ** [ábáfəŋ] *vcpd.* begin. **andra abafəŋ** the peanuts are beginning to produce fruit **abafəŋvu ke tawi** he starts work
- bakaba** [ábákábā] *vcpd.* open. **awak abakaba ahay a** the goat is coming out of the pen **abakaba bətəŋ ge endəwi a** he unbuttons his shirt
- bakabu** [ábákābū] *vcpd.* dress, close. **abakabu azana** he dresses himself **abakabu pakama** he closes his mouth
- bakabu ahār** [tábákābū àhār] *vcpd.* meet. **tabakabu ahār** the meet each other
- bəki** [ábəkī] *vcpd.* pour, write, dress. **mazlahko abəkiyu ka wur** the lion chases the child **aku abəki ka wur** the child has a fever
- biviyu** [ábivijú] *vcpd.* put in, go as far as. **abiviyu akur ana zalaka** he blocks the mayo with stones **abiviyu ana vi naŋ naŋ ni** up to the end of this year
- bay gomdozo** [bājəg^wōmdōzò] *nepd.* red-headed lizard.
- baybay** [bājbjāj] *n.* name given to a twin.
- baz** [ábàz] *v.* harvest (millet). **mis tabaz hay** folk harvest millet
- bazl** [ábàz] *v.* kill (pl. object). **mis tabazl awəwak** folk kill goats
- bazla-bazla** [bàzàbàzà] *n.* carelessness, violence. **kágray bazla-bazla e divi bu ba** don't act carelessly on the road
- bazlamac** [bāzāmāts] *id.* brushing by. **asi ahar ana mis bazlamac** he missed his blow
- bazlamacay** *v.* brush by, froeler.
- beba** [béb'æ] *n.* sowing stick. **mis tadəbay beba ŋgrum ŋgrum.** they looked wildly for their planting sticks
- bebem cə** [bèbè̄m] *mod.* deus. **nday bebem cə** there are two of them
- bedey** [ébdèdēj] *v.* mix. **wal ebedey ahur ana viti** the woman mixes beans with ash **tebedevu** they unite together
- beftey** [ébfèftēj] *v.* light (fire). **tebeftey aku** they light a fire
- behcelem** [béxtfèlém] *id.* turning sthg over. **aməf èzligikia ahay a behcelem** the wind snatched off the roof and turned it over
- beleri** [bàlári] *mod.* expresses an absolute necessity beyond the control of the person on whom it falls. **beleri kara** you must come **beleri nəsəkum baskur** I must buy a bicycle *See: balari.*
- belim** [bèlīm] *n.* tombstone.
- belər** [bèl'ɾ] *id.* running in. **eyəŋ belər a evid gayəŋ vu àsləka** the squirrel ran into his hole *See: deler.*
- benjenjira** [bèndzèndzīrā] *mod.* aligned.
- berəŋges** [bèrəŋgē] *n.* short straw.
- bes** [ébé̄s] *v.* wipe out. **ndam akal tebes mələŋ ga asak** the thieves wipe out their footprints
- besekey** [ébé̄ʃkēj] *v.* demolish, level. **ebesekey ahay** he demolishes the house **ebesekey dala ge eyək** he levels the field of couch grass
- beteta** [bètēt'æ] *neg.* not at all. **a ambrəŋ mis do beteta.** he just doesn't leave people alone
- bəbolumay** [ábəbòlòmāj] *v.* roll. **wur abəbolumay akur** the child rolls the stone
- bəbuk** [bəbók] *nepd.* your father.
- bəc** [bōts] *mod.* describes a brief look. **etime àzay eri bəc ti** the spider glanced at him
- bəɖak** [bəɖāk] *mod.* as far as, unguarded. **kafəkada awak gayak a bəɖak ti... nakoro bəɖak ka həma** I am going as far as the foot of the mountain **nakoro ka həma bəɖak** I am going as far as the foot of the mountain
- bəɖari** [bəɖāri] *n.* banditry. *From: Mandara.*
- bəɖ-bəɖ** [bəɖbəɖ] *mod.* white.
- bəɖum** [bəɖòm] *id.* pushing.
- bəgəna** [bəgənā] *mod.* dawning. **mələŋ asləbiya bəgəna ti, gembre...** as soon as it got light, he said "Good morning"...
- bəgət** [bəgət] *n.* diaphragm.
- bəgrəvəv** [bəgrəvrəv] *mod.* wide (of ears or leaves). **slimi ga məvayam bəgrəvrəv** the hare's ears are wide
- bəhad** [ábəxād] *v.* place, lay (many). **mabəhadani** having been put down, action of putting down **ndam abra tabəhadī eri ana mis** the bandits are watching for people *See: fəkad; bay, had.*

bəki [ábəki] *vcpd.* pour, write, dress, put on.
See: bay, ki.

bəlad [ábəlad] *v.* push, roll along ground.
abəlad ahar he escapes **abəladfəŋ ahar kə mis a** he escaped from grasp of someone

bəlah [bəlah] *mod.* on the ground. **fəkad bəlah** put it on the ground **naŋ bəlah** it is on the ground

bələma [bələmà] *n.* quarter chief. *From: Mandara.*

bəlaŋ [bəlaŋ] *mod.* one. **wal ehi humbo malavar bəlaŋ** the woman grinds one lot of flour *See: biliŋ.*

bəlgadaŋ [bəlɡadāŋ] *n.* windstorm before rain.

bəlgamay [ábəlgāmāj] *v.* walk on all fours. **wur abəlgamay** the child is walking on all fours *See: krubohay.*

bəluvər [bəlúvər] *n.* married woman who has returned to her father.

bəŋ [bəŋ] *n.* father. **buk** your father

bər₁ [ábər] *v.* drill a hole by turning a bit. **abər evid ge cicek** he drills out the hole in the flute

bər₂ [bər] *mod.* of taking a wife: from the father's house with his consent. **tazay wal bər** they take the woman from her father's door

bəracaca [bərətsātsā] *mod.* many-holed. **yam aŋgəz bəracaca** the water flows (out from) everywhere **məlaŋ hi ni evid bəracaca** there are many holes in this place **ahay hi ni mahay bəracaca** this house has many entrances

bərbər [bərbər] *n.* maize.

bərgajaway [bərgadzàwàj] *n.* scabies.

bərgaslalək [bərgàlālək] *id.* pushing. **ba bərgaslalək ndəbaŋ nahəŋ andəbaŋafəŋ huya** as they pushed one got stuck

bərni [bərni] *n.* town. *From: Mandara.*

bəs [ábəs] *v.* stop, lessen. **pakama abəs** the matter is serious **abəs pakama** he stops the conversation **bay abəs seria ga zal akal** the chief does not judge the thief fairly

bəs-bəs *mod.* badly. **agraj tuwi bəs-bəs** he works badly

bəstolum [bəstəlùm] *id.* (come out) of hiding, (break) cover. **məvayam ahəraya**

bəstolum the hare comes out of hiding

bətal [bətāl] *id.* siezing. **laf aday huya bətal bətal zat azləbaba.** he snatched the stick and thrashed him

bətaŋ [bətāŋ] *id.* digging, bumping. **əji asak bətaŋ** he buns his foot

bətək [bətək] *n.* soft bone at base of sternum.

bətum [bətùm] *id.* pouring. **tijeba asak ana wal medewel na a mahay ba bətum.** he bumped into the old woman in the doorway

bəz [ábəz] *v.* sharpen, rub. **abəz zlab** he sharpens the axe

bəza [bəzà] *npl.* children. **bəza goro / ga bəza** (exclamation) well! *See: wur.*

bəzlaç [bəzāts] *id.* wounding. **tata bəzlaç ambələk àni a bəŋani ni** his father was wounded *See: pəslacay.*

bi₁ [bí] *cnj.* perhaps, supposing. **bi mirkwi tara kana** perhaps the strangers are coming today **kwa tiwi nu nipi ndo, bi ka ma kwa** since I was born I haven't seen one, perhaps I will one day

bi₂ [bi] *neg.* non-existent. **abi kay bi** there are not many of them

bibijungur [bíbidzòŋgʷùr] *n.* hippopotamus. *nepd.*

bici-bici [bitʃibitʃi] *n.* eyelash.

bickwi [bitʃkʷi] *id.* getting up, sprouting. **hay afət bickwi** the millet is sprouting

bide [bidē] *id.* falling. **ahəroro avəla adiyu a yam ni vu bide ahkay ti** he jumped up and fell in the water

bikri [bíkri] *n.* strong wine from the first distilling.

bilegeni [bilégèni] *mod.* also. *See: biliŋ.*

biligut [bilìgʷt; bilʷgʷit] *id.* coming out or up, of something heavy. **biligut tazaya pilis na a dəksla ni ba ti...** when they't taken the horse out of the stable... **mbeli ecik biligut** the elephant gets up

bilin [bìlin] *mod.* one. **mək asay dəf day-day mbeḡ-mbeḡ bilin** then she took one portion of millet boule... *See: bəlaŋ.*

binjinjira [bìndzìmdzìrǎ] *mod.* aligned. **mis binjinjira ka barama, tahəcay bay** people are lining the road waiting for the chief

bir [bìr] *mod.* ever, time. **kàra a həma va bir aw?** have you ever been to the mountain **i, nòra bir/sak biliŋ** yes, I

have been there once **bir bir ehimeya**
many times

birewrew [bìrēwṛēw] *n.* straw hat.

birtitik [bìrtítík] *n.* purse.

bistey [ébiʃtēj] *v.* disturb. **màbua andava ti, kara kəbistakabaya tay a ti ahəmam?** we're hidden, why are you troubling them?

bistir [bìʃtír] *id.* untying.

bitek [bìtēk] *mod.* completely. **àzləb̄kaba dagwa na bitek bitek e gili a** he gave the man a good thrashing in the fields

biviya [ábivìjù] *vcpd.* put in, go as far as. *See:* bay.

biygət [bì:gət] *id.* fleeing. **aki ke huwa zla biygət biygət** she ran away

biz [bìz] *id.* passing through. **nahaŋ ni biz ezligaya hijid na ti...** when he passed the calabash through his rear...

biz-biz [bìzbiʒ] *n.* old roofing straw (on a house).

biziŋ [bìzìm] *n.* kid. **wur biziŋ** kid **biziŋ-biziŋ** kids **sak biziŋ** grass (sp.)

bizuh [bìzùx^w] *n.* bird (sp.).

bizliwir [bìʒìwìr] *id.* climbing. **haf ni bizliwir àcəlkiva seteni ke pilis na.** the drug made the horse mad

bocur-bocur [bòtsùrbòtsùr] *n.* mane. *See:* pacur-pacur.

bodbođu [bòdbòdʒ] *n.* plant (sp.).

bogum [bògùm] *n.* large hoe. **awəs vədaŋ ana bogum** he cultivates the field with a large hoe

boho [bòhò] *n.* sack. *See:* mbolo. *From:* Fulfulde 'buhu'.

bokboko [bòkbòko] *n.* state of millet not long before it produces heads. **hay a bokboku** the millet is ready to produce heads *See:* dəŋgu ewedik, mazi, təmbul.

bongur [bòŋg^wùr] *n.* star.

bototur [bòtòtùr] *n.* dung.

bram [bràm] *id.* missing. **nazay ahalay bram abi, nazay ahalay bram abi.** she couldn't get hold of (the flour).

brəŋgəz [brəŋgəz] *n.* natural terrace wall.

aradaya kəzir a brəŋgəz ba he pulls grass out of the terrace wall

brət [brət] *mod.* crushed. **aku àzumaba ahay a brət** the fire burnt up the house **nədi ahər brətəta** I found it totally ground up

brum [bròm] *n.* potter's kiln, hearth for wine.

brusay [ábrüsāj] *v.* crumble. **akur abrusay** the stone is crumbling *See:* babrus.

bu *prep.* location without motion. **nu a həma bu** I am at the mountain *See:* vu.

bu [ābù] *v.* be ; be there ; exist.

bubulumzay [bùbəlòmzàj] *nepd.* dung beetle.

bubur [bùbùr] *n.* tilled field. *See:* maya.

budur [bùdùr] *id.* spreading like smoke. **acəhorò had' avəla budur** he stirs up the dust

buk₁ [bùk] *id.* give sthg that is not separated. **avi bərbər ana mis buk** he gives the head of corn to someone **ediy bərbər ana mis buk buk...** he shares out the ears of corn ...

buk₂ [bùk^w] *id.* uprooting. **arad kwizir buk** he pulls up the grass

bulgwada [bùlg^wàdà] *n.* wild cat (sp.).

burjuma [bùrdzùmā] *mod.* stooping. **naŋ burjuma** he is bent over

burkukwa [bùrk^wùk^wā] *id.* watching. **baba gəɖakani burkukwa abəhadi eri ana kəra** the leopard is about to pounce on the dog

burzum [bùrzùm] *n.* hole where pot-clay or building clay is extracted.

buskum [bùsk^wòm] *n.* chin.

butuk [bùtùk^w] *id.* take something from a hole suddenly. **aslay wur ga mawaya butuk** he takes the mawaya piece suddenly

buci [bòtʃi] *n.* mat. **mis afəkad buci ga vədaŋ** someone buys the field for a year *See:* hətav. *From:* Mandara.

B - 6

ba₁ [bà] *conj.* meanwhile, but. **mota àra, ba**

naŋ àsləka the car came, but meanwhile he had gone

ba₂ [bá] *intj.* (expresses disappointment). **ba baba Anuway** oh - father Anuway!
baç [ábáts] *v.* sprinkle water out of bowl using hand.
bah [ábáx] *v.* prick. **doktar abah bəza ana lipri** the nurse injects the children **tabah ahay** they tie on the roof
bahalam [bàxàlàlām] *mod. flat.* **afəkad akur bahalam** he puts down a flat stone
bahalamlam [bàxàlàmlām] *mod. akur bahalamlamani* a flat stone
bak₁ [ábák] *v.* leave (uncultivated). **abak vədaŋ** he leaves uncultivated a part of the field in the middle **abakivu vədaŋ ana wur** he reserves a part of the field for his son
bak₂ [bāk] *mod. at some distance.* **ara enji bak nahəma, aŋga keti** he went a certain distance and then came back again **ara enji bak a gosko vu ti...** at a certain moment while he was in the market
bak-bak [bākɓāk] *mod. very hot. See: wir-wir, juk-juk.*
bal₁ [ábál] *v.* shoot, sting, bud. **zal macama abal miyek (ana kamnjagad)** the hunter shoots la gazelle (with an arrow) **tabal kamnjagad** they shoot (but miss) **məŋgazlam abal (ahar)** the tree grows branches
bal₂ [bāl] *mod. few, a little.* **təzumia vad a kay bal** they spent a few days there **ara azlədaba ahay ge lekwel bal** he is going to sweep the schoolroom a bit **ewi wur biliŋ naŋ gəɗakani bal** if she produces one child, she is a little bit adult **nu nəbu bala** I'm just about OK **nu nəbu bal bal** I'm just about OK
bala-bala [bàlàbàlà] *id. rolling on the ground (in pain).* **awak amət bala-bala** the goat is dying, rolling on the ground
balamak [bàlàmək] *mod. large.* **akfum ni tigi gəɗakani keti balamak** the mice are getting big
balamaka *mod. plural objects lying abandoned on the ground.* **akur balamaka a divi bu** the stone is in plain view on the road **aboro akur balamak ka had** he throws the stones on the ground
baŋ-baŋ [bāŋbāŋ] *mod. hard.*
bar-bar [bārɓār] *mod. thick (cloth).*
ber-ber *dimin. small and thick.*
bavum [bàvùm] *id. lighting. See: havup.*

baw [bāw] *id. breaking.* **ahar ga mənduz baw ahubaya** the branch is breaking
bazlay [ábàzāj] *v.* sow before the rains (in dry soil). **mis tabazlay hay** they sow millet before the rains
be-be [bɛɛʔbɛɛʔ] *id. well-placed.* **mis tanjəhad be-be** people are sitting comfortably
bebilek [bɛɛbilɛk] *mod. bitter. See: bilek-bilek.*
bebrisl [bɛɛbrɪʔ] *id. breaking.* **ənji bak e divi bu bebrisl àdəgakaba** on the road, she broke in two
belim [bɛɛlɪm] *n. clod.*
berer [bɛɛrɛr] *mod mod. full to the brim.* **yam berera a didu bu** the jar is brim-full of water **yam berer berer a mandaray bu** all the jars are full of water
besey [ɛbɛɛj] *v.* be patient, be able, pardon, be well. **Melefit ebesez zlam** God is patient **kebesey magray tawi** you are able to work **ebesez magudarani afəŋ ki mis a** he forgives people's sins **besuma** be patient! **ebes do** he is ill
besefəŋ [ɛbɛɛfɛfəŋ] *vcpd. pardon.* **ebesezəŋ magudarani ke mis a** he pardons peoples' sins
bey [ɛbɛj] *v.* produce. **məŋgəhaf ebey ahar** the tree branches *See: bi.*
beze-beze [bɛzɛbɛzɛ] *n. illness.* **wal hini ewi wur do beze-beze anivu** this woman is sterile, she has a gynaecological illness
bəcay [ábətsāj] *v.* excuse self. **abəci ana bəŋani** he makes excuses to his father
bəlah [bɛləh] *mod mod. lying.* **adi ahər ana aday bəlah zla** he found a stick lying on the ground **afəkad aday bəlah ka had** he puts the stick on the grounds
bəlar [bɛlər] *id. putting something long on the ground.* **afəkad ezewed bəlar** he puts the cord down well
biler [bɛlɛr] *dimin.*
— *id. putting.* **bilera tàdəgava akaba ga tay na.** they were on the road with their own ones
bəlay [ábələj] *v.* be good, be beautiful.
bələz [bɛləz] *mod. idle.*
bəra [bɛrā; bɛrəbɛrə] *id. hitting.* **aday ni àni ana dagwa ni bəra bəra** the stick thrashed the man
bərgada [bɛrgàdà] *id. falling.* **boho ga hay adəgaya a mota ba bərgada** the sacks

of millet fall from the truck

fərslay [áfə̀rɬáj] *v.* hurt, of an object which puts pressure on the skin. **azana aki ka slalah bi, afərslay jamangay** there is no cover on the bed, it hurts your sides **akur afərslay nu a selewer bu** the sand in my trousers hurts

fəruv [fə̀rʊv] *n.* heart (emotional). **azum fəruv** he gets annoyed **pakama awuri fəruv** the matter annoys him

fərzlay [áfə̀rɬáj] *v.* faint, become unconscious. **wur adaya a məngəhaf ba, afərzla** the child fell from the tree and is unconscious. *See: səbirbir.*

fəslay [áfə̀sɬáj] *v.* cough. **wur afəslaj** the child coughs **embesli afəslay mis** the cold makes folk cough

fəz [fə̀z] *id.* hitting. **cepa nəvuk a aday ka meteliŋ a fəz** if not, I'll smack your bottom

fəzlay [áfə̀sɬáj] *v.* belch. **wur afəzlay** the child belches **zum afəzlay mis** the wine makes folk belch

fi [éfi] *v.* divide, split. **divi efi** the road divides *See: fey.*

fifrisl [fífriɬ] *id.* break. **ənji fak e divi bu fifrisl adəgakaba** on the road, she broke in two

fic [fīts] *id mod.* close-packed. **ahay ga bay fic ficeni hi ni ti...** this large compound of the chief... **brit fica mabəhadani** close-packed bricks

fih [fiɬ] *id.* full. **aməf əsliva a asak ga baskur va fih** the bicycle tyre is full of air *See: fis.*

fileh [filəx] *mod.* none at all. **zal ni amənjaki nahəma, fileh mətədani afəŋ bi** he looked, but nothing was broken

filek-filek [filəkfilək] *mod.* bitter. *See: febilek.*

filira [filirā] *mod.* lined up.

filvi [filvi] *n.* jujube.

fir [fir] *mod.* far away. **zal akal anjəhad e gili fir** the thief lives far away in the bush *See: cak.*

firic [firitʃ] *mod.* many. **bəza dahalay firic a mənduz bu sendə tədəgiki ana seri** all the girls in the tree burst out laughing

firketu [firkətý] *id.* breaking. **məŋ ga mənduz ni firketu mək məhubkiyana** then the tree broke

fisey [éfiɬej] *v.* sneeze. **wal efisey** the woman sneezes **cekremek efisey wal** the chili makes the woman sneeze

fiyem [fijəm] *n.* firewood.

fiyiya [fijja] *mod.* many and everywhere.

bolol [bələl] *mod.* abandoned. **agəjəni wal gatayani bolol ciliŋ akaba medewel a magam** there were only their wives and the old folk at home

bolosur [bələsür] *mod.* a single object lying abandoned on the ground. **cicek bolosura a divi bu** the flute is abandoned on the road **ezligoro cicek bolosur** he throws the flute on to the ground

bra [brā] *id.* falling, galloping. **bra adəgiya ka Embuzey a** the branch fell on Embuzey *See: fri.*

brak-brak [brākbrāk] *mod.* young. **angwiyu a midiseni vu keti brak-brak.** she got fat again **anguya a dahalay va brak-brak** she got younger

fri [fri] *id.* falling. **adəf fri** he falls **abi eri fri** he looks at him wide-eyed *See: bra.*

bu [áfú] *v.* hide, avoid. **bəza təbu** the children are hiding **bəza təbufəŋ ka bəŋ gatay a** the children are hiding from their father

buɬu [bʊɬʊ] *id.* grinding. **wal ehi humbo buɬu** the woman grinds the flour

burcum [būrtsúm] *n mod.* the sulks. **wal agray burcum** the woman is sulking **wal burcum** the woman is sulking

buwwa [bʊwːā] *id.* flowing. **kacəhvīyu yam ti, angəzaya buwwa, afəlay do** if you pour in water and it runs everywhere, that's not good

fwalul [fwəlʊl] *id.* numerous in the open air. **guvur bwalula a dala vu** the granaries are in the open air

C - c

- ca** [tsà] *mod.* however. **àra ca** he came, however **wur gayak ca ti agruk hini aw?** it is however your child who does this to you **nìpi naŋ a ðeni ca** nevertheless I saw him *See: ðeni.*
- caḅ** [átsáḅ] *v.* place roofing sticks on a house. **acab ahay [ana kri]** he roofs the house
- caçəla** [tsàtsəlá] *n.* kind of calabash.
- caḏ** [átsáḏ] *v.* 1) castrate. **nacəḏ vugul** I castrate the he-goat 2) sacrifice. **mis acəḏ bəŋani** someone celebrates the funeral feast of his father
- caḏay** [átsəḏáj] *v.* shine. **məlaŋ acəḏay** it is daylight **acəḏ daŋ aw/acəḏ day aw?** did you have a good night?
- caf** [tsáf] *id.* piercing. **àni zìŋ-zìŋ caf a ahər vu** he pecked her on the head
- cafa** [tsàfà] *mod.* of someone who has been ill: able to get up and do light work. **nu nəbu cafa** I am getting better **nu nəbu caf caf** I am getting better
- cah** [átsáx] *v.* draw out (water, powder etc.). **acah yam a mandaray vu** he draws water in(to) a jar
- cahay** [átsàxáj] *v.* learn. **wur acahay masawəḏani** the child is learning to walk
- cak** [tsāk] *mod.* at a distance. **ecik cak a dala bu aməŋjaləŋ ana mis** he kept his distance to look at the people *See: ðir.*
- caka** [tsāká] *n.* loom, honeycomb.
- cakab** [tsākáḅ] *id.* moving.
- cakala** [tsākàlá] *n.* price.
- cakalay** [átsākàláj] *v.* gather, pick up one by one; sort, do business. **wur ga məŋ goro acakalay** my brother is in trade **acakalay ðiyem** he gathers firewood **təcakalavu** they meet together
- cakay** [átsākáj] *v.* taste, try. **wal acakay eli** the woman tastes the sauce
- caksləŋgəḏ** [tsàkʃləŋgəḏ] *mod.* semicircular. **ceksləŋgəḏ** [tʃəkʃləŋgəḏ] *dimin.* crescent.
- cakum** [tsàkʷòm] *n.* plaie qui ne se gueàrit pas.
- cakwasl** [tsàkʷáʃ] *n.* broken stalks.
- cakway** [átsàkʷáj] *v.* undress. **cakw àcakwakaba ahar ga agwazl gayəŋ na** he took off his cock's head **wur acakway endəwi cakw** the child undresses **wur acakaba endəwi a** the child undresses **cakw** [tsəkʷ] *id.* undressing. **wur acakway endəwi cakw** the child undresses
- cakwaya** [tsàkʷəjā] *n.* rattle used for funerals.
- cal** [átsāl] *v.* count, pick, peck. **acal siŋgo** he counts the money **mickər acal bəza** the hen pecks her chicks **mickər acal eysli** the hen pecks open her eggs **wur ni ba acaləŋ : teguni ara ti akada ata meni timey** the child just kept saying that those people were like such-and-such
- calki** [átsáلكي] *vcpd.* accuse. **acalki nu ka akal** he accuses me of theft
- calahay** [átsàlaháj] *v.* skulk. **wur acalahəfəŋ ka bəŋana** the child hides from his father as he walks
- cam** [tsām] *id.* taking up many long things. **ahəl aday cam** he takes some sticks *See: kaw.*
- cam-cam** [tsàmʃtsàm] *id.* trembling. *See: gəḏi-gəḏi.*
- caŋgaləŋ** [tsàŋgàləŋ] *id.* leaving a space: in the air, empty (container). **azay mandaray caŋgaləŋ** he takes the jar with nothing in it **gavəŋ ezefteba ahər a caŋgal** the cobra rears its head
- ceŋgeleŋ** *dimin.* empty and small.
- ceŋgoləŋ** *augm.* empty and big.
- caŋgorəŋraŋ** [tsàŋgʷòrəŋrāŋ] *mod.* hard. **ambəl caŋgorəŋraŋ** the skin is hard **ambəl caŋgorəŋraŋani** a hard skin *See: ceŋguraŋraŋ.*
- caŋgorum** [tsàŋgʷóròm] *n.* small axe.
- capa** [tsàpā] *mod.* in a moment. **capa ti, nasləka** in a moment I'm going
- cepa** [tʃəpə; tʃəpəpə] *dimin.* in a moment. **cepa ti, nasləka** in a moment I'm going
- capay** [átsàpāj] *v.* jump from one place to another. **virì acapay məŋgəhaf** the monkey jumps from one tree to another **təcapay a haḏ məlaŋ ga asak ga zal akal** they put thorns in the footprints of a thief **virì cap capap ka həma** the monkeys are on top of the mountain
- capazlam** [tsàpàʃàm] *mod.* **mickər acəlkiyu ka ḏaf capazlam** the chicken jumps anyhow on the millet boule
- capazlamzlam** [tsàpàʃàmʃàm] *mod.* over-long.
- capcapap** [tsàpàpāp] *mod.* covered. **makala day ègia capcapap ahkay** so the doughnuts were covered with dust

cara [tsàrà] *prep.* all round.

carakaf [tsàràkàf] *id.* landing. **nakəkay wur ga mefeit suwwa carakaf ahərkiaya.** so the child of God descended on him

casl [cāʃ] *id.* grasping. **awəlki ma ga boho casl** he ties up the end of the sack **agəs mis casl** he grabs someone

caslay [átsàláj] *v.* cut up. **acaslay aslu** he cuts up the meat **mota acaslaki yam ke mis** the car splashes the people **zleḡgili acaslakaba mis a** the polio incapacitates folk

caw [tsāw] *id.* taking up something in quantity without choosing. **aday ahur caw** he takes up the beans *See: kaw, cam.*

cay [átsáj] *v.* take up in order to possess (normally something in the bush). **aciyu hucum a ahuzl vu** he catches the rock badger in the cave **aciyu seri a huɖ vu** he checks his laughter **aciyukabiyu ma ana akfum a evid vu** he catches the mouse coming out of its hole **acay fifij** she cuts the stalks (in the field) **acay azlaw** he makes a hedge

cafəḡ *vcpd.* catch, forbid. **acafəḡ gandasak ka məḡ gani** he finds the pumpkin still on its plant **acafəḡiyu hijid ka məḡ gani e gili** he finds the calabash still on the plant in the field **acafəḡa wur ka sewiya** he forbids the child to play

ceci [tʃɛˈtʃi] *n.* louse.

ceciha [tʃɛtʃixā] *n.* pity. **nəsikaba ceciha ana baba** my father pities me **məḡani ni ègia ceciha, esliliḡkaba esliki va do** his mother was pitiful, she couldn't cope any more

cecwek [tʃɛtʃwɛk] *mod.* acid.

ceded [tʃɛdɛd] *id.* running. **məvayam nakəḡ adiki ana huwa ceded ceded nahəma...** the hare started to run...

cedek-cedek [tʃɛdɛktʃɛdɛk] *mod.* dull of taste. **eli hini cedek-cedek** this sauce is dull **azum eli cedek-cedekeni** he is eating a dull sauce

cedey [ɛtʃɛdɛj] *v.* look after, clean up (person). **wal ecede vu** the woman dresses well **wal ecedey wur** the woman looks after the child well

cefey [ɛtʃɛfɛj] *v.* speak too much without reflection. **ecfey pakama** he is indiscreet

cef-cef [tʃɛftʃɛf] *n.* indiscretion. **cef-cef ga wal hi ni asabay** this woman is too indiscreet

cicef [tʃɛtʃɛf] *mod.* indiscreet. **hini wal cicef** this woman is indiscreet *See: cicirefa.*

cehimbizl [tʃɛxɪmbɪʒ] *n.* part of the cheek below the ear. **asi kutpu ka cehimbizl** he punches him on the cheek

cek₁ [ɛtʃɛk] *v.* divide, share out. **ecek zum** he shares out the wine

cek₂ [tʃɛk] *mod.* midnight. **capapa, huɖ ya vad cekeni ègia nahəma...** a bit later, it was midnight...

cekena [tʃɛkɛnə] *n.* sorcerer, sorcery. **wal ge cekena ga mam?** what kind of woman? *See: matak, jəbəd.*

cekesl [tʃɛkɛʃ] *n.* linking wall.

cekezliḡa [tʃɛkɛʒɪḡā] *mod.* impatient, pensive. **ahər gayəḡ cekezliḡa aki ka mota** he can only think of a car **ajalaki ahər cekezliḡa ka gosko** he can only think about the market

cekizleri [tʃɛkɪʒɛri] *n.* obstinacy. **cekizleri ti ba kəgra cekizleri a bal ti...** if you're a little stubborn **wur cekizlereni** a stubborn child *See: jey-jey.*

cekremek [tʃɛkrɛmɛk] *n.* pepper.

cekulet-cekuleti [tʃɛkˈulɛttʃɛkˈulɛti] *mod.* dark blue.

cekw [tʃɛkˈw] *prep.* jusqu'aè. **ke dəḡ-dəḡ ni jiliba cekw ezi cekw avəla** all along the bank, upstream and down

celeber [tʃɛlɛbɛr] *mod.* describes a proud and self-sufficient action, as of a young person. **wur dahalay ecikaba celebr** the girl gets up livelily **asawadəy celebr celebr celebr** she walks boldly

celel [tʃɛlɛl] *mod id.* surrounding. **mis teveliḡ ahay celel** the people surround the house *See: tekesl.*

celuh [tʃɛlɪx] *id.* fleeing. **acuhway celuh** he runs away

cemen [tʃɛmɛn] *mod.* anyway. **cemen(a) ma** anyhow **cemen nakoro** anyway, I'll go *From: Mandara.*

ceḡḡel [tʃɛḡḡɛl] *n.* lamp.

cesl [tsɛʃ] *id.* catching. **cesl əgəsa** she grabbed it

cəf-cəf [tsəɖtsəɖ] *id.* well [sharpened]. **əbəkaba miḡḡic gayəḡ a cəf-cəf** he

has sharpened his knife well

cəha [tsəxā] *mod.* hot (taste). **cekremek cəha** pepper is hot

cəhab [tsəxāb] *id.* putting down. **məka cəhab wal nakəḡ abiyu dəf ni.** then the woman put down the millet boule

cək [tsək; tsək tsək] *id.* pecking. **mickər anday hay cək cək** the hen pecks at the millet

cəkad [tsəkād; tsəkādtsəkād] *mod.* carefully. **asawadəy cəkad-cəkad** he walks carefully **zal akal aslkafəḡ ke mis a cəkad** the thief left them without their knowing

ciked [tʃikēd; tʃikēdtʃikēd] *dimin.* surreptitiously, carefully. **wur agədfəḡ ka mən-ana ciked** the child leaves its mother without her knowing **nəsawadəy ciked ciked** I walk cautiously, with small steps

cəkward [tsək^wād] *id.* getting up. **mazlahko cəkward ecikliḡ gudu gudu** the lion got up and ran after him

cəl [átsəl] *v.* climb, go up. **acəl həma** he climbs the mountain **gwar ka mələḡ ga fat acələyani** towards the east

cəlki [átsəlki] *vcpd.* tread on. **sla acəlki ka wur** the cow tramples the child

cəlkivu [átsəlkívù] *vcpd.* mount, torment. **bay acəlkivu ke pilis** the chief mounts his horse **seteni acəlkivu ka wur** the child becomes mad

cəlləḡ *vcpd.* **acəlləḡ ma ana mis** he speaks ill of someone

cəlakway [átsəlak^wāj] *v.* remove. **acəlakway ambəl ge gwenderi** he takes the skin off the drum

cəlakw [tsəlák^w] *id.* taking off. **agur agur ti azakaba ahar ga agwazl gayəḡ na cəlakw.** from time to time he took off his cock's head

cələdfəd [tsələdfəd] *id.* coming out. **ciy ahənday ti akaba dindəy həya cələdfəd** the excrement came out with the intestines

cəlki [átsəlki] *vcpd.* tread on. *See: cəl.*

cəlkivu [átsəlkívù] *vcpd.* mount, torment. **bay acəlkivu ke pilis** the chief mounts his horse **seteni acəlkivu ka wur** the child becomes mad *See: cəl.*

cəməh [tsəməx] *n.* friable rock.

cənjalaḡ *See: tənjalaḡ.*

cəpak [tsəpək] *mod.* as soon as. **nahaḡ ni suwwa əra cəpak həya ti...** as soon as the other came...

cəpay [átsəpāj] *v.* join, gather to join. **mək nahaḡ ni təcəpakabu...** then they gathered together...

cər [átsər] *v.* taste good. **daf acər** the millet tastes good **estena acər eli** salt makes the sauce tasty **pakama hini acər va do** this idea isn't a good one any more

cərap [tsəràp] *mod.* long. **ezigoro ezewed cərap ka had** he throws the string onto the ground **gavaḡ ədəkiya ka wur a cərap a mənḡəhaf ba** the snake fell from the tree onto the child **ezewed cərapa ka had** the string is on the ground

cərslay [átsərlāj] *v.* have large grains. **hay acərsli wur** the millet produces large grains

cəzla [tsəzà] *mod.* used of something that has succeeded with difficulty. **amal kagala wur cəzla hini nak cəzla aw, wur goro?** is it finally you, my child?

cəzlaḡ [tsəzàḡ] *mod.* aside. **mbatvu cəzlaḡ** turn aside

ci [étʃi] *v.* hear, feel, understand. **eci ma** he understands the matter **eciki ma ana mis** he understands people (and accepts what they say) **ci ni?** not so?

ciḡ-ciḡ [tʃitʃitʃiḡ] *mod.* in small pieces, small and numerous. **bəza ciḡ-ciḡeni** small children *See: presise, hilisise.*

ciḡir [étʃitʃiḡir] *v.* add to something when the container is already full. **eciḡir hay** he adds millet beyond the mark **eciḡirki hay ka alongo** he adds millet to the basket-full

cicegrik [tʃitʃiḡrik] *n.* plover.

cicek [tʃitʃiḡək] *n.* flute.

cicelə [tʃitʃiḡəl] *n.* top of millet stalk.

cicirefa [tʃitʃiḡirəfə] *mod.* unable to keep a secret. **hi ni wal cicirefa** this woman is indiscreet *See: cefey.*

ciḡ [tʃitʃiḡ] *mod.* two. **ana ahar ciḡ** willingly **nday ciḡ cəwa** there are only two of them *See: cə.*

cidək [tʃitʃidək^w] *mod.* engrossed. **makombro cidək aləḡ, aculaḡəy bəza gana** the monitor was occupied in peeling the seeds **makombro hi ni cidəkwe** this monitor is crouching

cidukwey [étʃy̌d̥y̌k^{wēj}] *v.* crouch.

ciduk *mod.* squatting. **naŋ cicedukwa** he is squatting *See: kirikey.*

cif [tʃif] *mod.* near. **cifa ga Mora** near Mora **mis tandehadkavu cifa cifa** the people live close together **avər atəd cif do** it won't rain soon

cihiḅ [tʃixiḅ] *id.* serving. **wal abəhad ɗaf cihiḅ** the woman serves out the meal

cik [étʃik] *v.* stop, get up. **ecik e divi bu** he stops on the road **ecik mis** he stops someone

cikkaba *vcpd.* stand up.

cilera [tʃilērā; tʃilēwlēw] *mod.* weak. **eli cilera** a plain-tasting sauce

ciliŋ [tʃilɪŋ] *mod.* only. **kisliku ka nu ciliŋ cuḏo?** can you only beat me?

cima [tsímà] *n.* envoy. *From: Mandara.*

cir [tʃir] *mod.* full. **hay cir ɗagəla, hə əŋ abəki wur ga ara ni tuz tuz ka hay ni** the calabash was full of millet, and he put the piece of iron openly on top

cira [tʃirā] *mod.* straight. **mimiz gani cira cirip aki ka dahalay ga bay** the blood poured out on the snake

cirip [tʃirɪp] *id.* falling. **mimiz gani cira cirip aki ka dahalay ga bay** the blood poured out onto the snake

cisl [tʃiɫ] *mod.* to the brim. **yam cisl a mandaray bu** the jar is full of water

cislip [tʃiɫɪp] *id.* raining. **avər cislip aki, mək èmeta aku na** it started to rain and put the fire out

civaŋgola [tsívàŋg^wòlà] *n.* illness which causes inflammation of the cheek.

ciy [tʃi:] *mod.* flowing. **ciy ahənday ti akaba ɗindey huya cələɗəɗ.** the excrement came out with the intestines **azay ahəraya ciya** the diarrhoea is flowing out

ciyaḅa [tsijjàḅā] *mod.* tall. **wur ciyaḅa** a long-limbed child

ciyäv-ciyäv [tʃijy̌v̥tʃiy̌v̥] *mod.* greasy, watery.

ciävani *mod.* **asi aslu ciävani** he serves fat meat

cizlim [tʃiɫɪm] *id.* falling. **mazlaragani edrem ni cizlim àduya a yam va** then the horn fell into the water

cizliv [tʃiɫɪv] *id.* action of falling splash into water. **adiyu a yam vu cizliv** he falls in

the water *See: pasla.*

cod [tsɔɗ] *id.* taking out. **akoro azababiya pakama gayəŋ na cod a ɗəndaləḅ ni ba ti** he took his muzzle out of the mud

cogukwa [tsògùk^{wā}] *mod.* anxious.

colul [tsòlùl] *mod.* empty, abandoned.

combulmbul [tsòmbùlmbùl] *mod.* many and carrying things. **mis takoro a gosko vu combulmbul** many folk go to market carrying things

coruk [tsòrùk^w] *id.* removing, placing. **mək kəzəkia ka zlam na coruk** then you take it out of the pot

cucu [tsùtsù] *n.* sharpening iron, file.

cu-cu [tsùtsù] *id.* many. **mindəwid cu-cu lef lef lef zavəla zəŋger, haɗ zəŋger** the ants separated out the sesame and the soil

cucul [tsùtsùl] *n.* twig.

cuday [tsùɗāj] *n.* wickedness. **matak cudayani** a wicked sorcerer

cuḏo [tsùḏò] *mod.* if necessary. **nakoro cuḏo** I'm going (if it's necessary) **naŋ gani cuḏo way?** it was indeed him, if not, who? **amal kaway ni, anara cuḏo** if you want, I'll come (if you don't, I won't) **mara magray (day) cuḏo** we'll do that as well **ay kay nəŋgu kacakaya day cuḏo ahəmam** but you must try first **kay wal goro ni away nu cuḏo...** my wife must really love me...

cuduhwa [tsùḏùx^{wā}] *mod.* quietly. **wur èpia mbeli ti, àsləka cuduhwa huya** when the child saw the elephant, he left without saying a word

cuhu [tsùxù] *n.* shelf. **zal gani ahkay ti: - kay bəhadɪyu naŋ eslini a huhu vu** her husband said 'Put it there on the shelf'

cuhwak [tsùhwāk] *mod.* medium. **agwazl cuhwakani** a medium-sized cock *See: dac.*

cuhway₁ [átsx^{wáj}] *v.* run.

cuhway₂ [átsùh^{wáj}] *v.* accept. **akal makoro eli, ay kucuhwum ndo** we wanted to go to the fields, but you didn't want to

cuk *mod.* packed together. **mis ya haslani tabakabiyu ahay cuk** people used to pack their houses together

cukup [átsùkùp] *v.* foam. **saponi acukup** the soap becomes foamy

cukwad [tsùk^{wād}] *id.* getting up.

culad *mod.* quickly. **təzumaba daf a culad** they finished their millet boule quickly
tagray culad they play quickly *See:* **daysa**.

culadāy [átsülādāj] *v.* peel. **makombro cūdūk aləŋ, aculadāy bəza gana** the monitor was occupied in peeling the seeds

culum [tsülüm] *n.* undeclared idea. **zal hini, culum akadāya a vu ba** the man has ideas that he won't talk about

cunggoraŋraŋ *mod.* stiff. *See:* **caŋgoraŋraŋ**.

cupur [cùpùr] *id.* crested. **afakabu jako cupur** he puts on his hat like a cock's comb

cur *id.* lined up. **elifiŋ adak cur** he lines up thorns (round something)

curay [tsùràj] *n.* calcedra, kind of tree.

curbay [átsùrbāj] *v.* separate by floating. **wal acurbay hay** the woman sorts the millet

cuwa [tsūwā] *id.* sweating. **təhəŋgri eri ba tagəjah vu endif cuwa** they pulled again until they started to sweat

cuwak-cuwak [tsūwāk-tsūwāk] *mod.* acid (taste).

cəwek-cəwek *dimin.* more acid. *See:* **ham-ham**.

cū₁ *mod.* two. **agəskabu ana ahár cū₁** he accepts gladly

cū₂ *mod.* a little. **adi ka ma ga ahar cū₂ cū₂** he gives him a little each time

cū₃ [tʃý] *mod.* perhaps. **təwi abu kani aw? - cū₃, nəsar do.** is there any work today? - perhaps, I don't know

cūf [étʃýf] *v.* suck.

cūkír [tʃýkír] *n.* kind of small bird.

cəlekey [étʃýlèkèj] *v.* roll round. **ecəlekey aday ana ezewed** he winds the string round the stick

cəlud [tʃýlýd] *id.* finishing. **təzumaba makala na dək cəlud** they ate up all the doughnuts

cəlud [tʃýlýd] *id.* completely. **təzumaba daf a cəlud** they have eaten up all their boule

cər [tʃýr] *id.* uninating.

cəruərər *id.* flowing.

cərdey [étʃýrdèj] *v.* wring out. **ecərdey azana** he wrings out the clothes

cəsl [tʃýʃ] *mod id.* closely. **ezligi hay cəsl cəsl** he sows the millet close together

D - d

da [dà] *n.* my friend. *See:* **wura**. *From:* Mandara.

dabadaba [dàbàdàbā] *n.* scythe.

dabakay [ádàbàkāj] *v.* reconcile (3rd parties).

dabari [dàbàrì] *n.* plan. *From:* Fulfulde 'dabare'.

dabi [dābìj] *n.* large axe, pickaxe.

dabilam [dàbìlām] *n.* plant (sp.).

dabacay [ádàbàtsāj] *v.* grind for the first time. **adabacay humbo** she grinds the flour for the first time

dabay [dàbāj] *n.* act of rolling on the ground. **əji dabay** he rolls on the ground

dac [dàts] *mod.* medium. *See:* **daz; waz; cuhwak; dəbar**.

dacac [dàtsàts] *mod.* aligned. **wur afət aslər dacac** the child is growing teeth **aslər dacaca a ma bu** the teeth are well-aligned in his mouth **aslər ga wur məfət**

dacac may the child's teeth all come out

decec *dimin.* small and aligned.

dacal [dàtsàl] *id.* jumping. **Jerevu dacal cal ana ŋgurukuk ni.** Jerevu jumped up with his hernia

dacul [dàtsùlcùl] *id.* clinging. **ahəra avəla ana ŋgurukuk daculcul** he jumped up with his hernia *See:* **danjul**.

daduk [dàdùk^w] *id.* sufficiently seasoned. **asəkiyū akwas ke eli daduk** he puts enough fat in the sauce *See:* **dedək**.

dadal [dàdàl] *mod.* naked.

dedel *dimin.* small and naked. *See:* **mendezezi**.

daday₁ [ádàdāj] *v.* move (intr), protect oneself, do divination. **had adadāy** the earth quakes **kadadəkabu** you protect yourself **tədadəkabu** they do divination **mis tədadāyfəŋ ka armuwur** the people seek the cause of the illness **adadaba meteliŋ a do** he does not move

- adadiyaba meteliŋ a do** he can't move it
- daday**₂ [dàdāj] *n.* noise, divination.
- dafəŋa** [ádàfəŋ] *vcpd.* diminish, thin out. *See:* day.
- daga** [dāgā] *n.* lees of wine. *See:* esif.
- dagalay** [ádàgàlāj] *v.* attach. **dagal dagal kudi ga wur ni akaba wandaŋ ni** he grabbed the boy's penis with his shorts
- dagəla** [dāgə̀lā] *n.* large bowl.
- dagudambur** [dāgudāmbūr] *mod.* very short, not small.
- degudembur** *dimin.* very short, and small.
- dagwa** [dāg^wà] *n.* young man, youth. **wur dagwa** young man **dagwa acər** being young is good
- dagwacahar** [dāg^watsàxār] *nepd.* upper arm.
- dagwala** [dāg^wālā] *n.* remains of millet eaten by caterpillars, used for making helmets.
- dagwaza** [dāg^wàzà] *n.* hair on upper leg of an animal. **dagwazmavay** kind of grass
- dagwzla** [dāg^wz̄lā] *id.* an unspecified amount. **adaya hay a dagwzla a dagəla va** he takes a certain amount of millet in the bowl
- dah** [ádàx] *v.* split. **adah guruguluk** he splits a log **adahkaba asak a** he spreads his legs
- dahalay** [dāhàlāj] *n.* girl. **dahalay ga bay** non-poisonous barred snake
- dakwadkwad** [dāk^wād^wād] *n.* red-billed hornbill.
- dakwaya** [dāk^wājā] *n.* freedom. **nədi ahər ana aslu ka dakwaya** I got the meat for nothing *See:* wasak, ngurukuk.
- dala** [dālā] *n.* earth, yard, settlement area. **dala ga bəz dagwa** the young people's area
- dalahar** [dālāxār] *nepd.* part of head used for carrying.
- dalahay** [dālāxāj] *nepd.* shelter attached to a house.
- dalaka** [dālākā] *n.* area in front of a house. **bəz tagray sewia a dalaka bu** the children are playing near the house
- dalar-dalar** [dālārdālār] *mod.* very thick. *See:* bar-bar.
- dal-dal** [dāldāl] *mod.* much, too much.
- daliya** [dālījā] *n.* suffering.
- damam** [dāmám] *pro.* for what? **kāmbavu gayak naŋ ni mam ahkay mam**
- damam?** what kind of behaviour is that? *See:* mam.
- daməlaŋ** [dāmə̀lāŋ] *nepd.* (charm).
- damko** [dām^wò] *n.* rubber. *From:* Fulfulde 'dañko'.
- damkoluk** [dām^wólók^w] *n.* log, tree trunk.
- daŋkali** [dāŋkālī] *n.* sweet potatoe. *From:* Fulfulde 'dañkali'.
- dandaɓ** [dāndāɓ] *n.* green millet stalk (not yet dried out). **wur akad gavaŋ ana dandaɓ** the child kills the snake with a green millet stalk
- dandara** [dāndārā] *mod.* damp.
- dandas** [dāndās] *n mod mod.* heap of refuse, messy. **aboro cakwasl ka dandas** he throws the stalks on the rubbish heap **aboro bilvi ka haɗ dandas** he pours the jujubes all over the ground **ahur dandasa ka haɗ** the beans are all over the place
- danday** [dāndāj] *n.* trying out different solutions. **avər abi, mis tagray danday** it is not raining, folk are trying sacrifices **wur gani ebes do, agray danday** his child is ill, he is trying out medicines and sacrifices
- dandərndər** [dāndərndər] *id.* lined up. **slewja kru mahar cə akaba keɗemeseri dandərndər** twelve gendarmes in a line with their guns
- daŋgay** [dāŋgāj] *n.* prison. *From:* Mandara.
- daŋgur** [dāŋgùr] *id.* climbing. **tahəraya daŋgur təcəlkivu zla** so they climbed up
- danjul** [dāndzùl] *id.* getting up. *See:* daculcul.
- dap** [dāp] *id.* trampling, truly. **dap məcəlkiyani ka embuzey.** he trod on Embuzey **mmawa dap nahəma, ru kəzubiya hi.** If it's true, mother, bring me it
- dar** [ádār] *v.* strike violently. **adar mələŋ manjəhadani** he nails a chair together **adar wal a ahay vu ana mazlak** he "nails" his wife to the house with a vine **adar ahar ana wur** he curses the child (by striking the ground) **adar haɗ ana tomani** he pierces the ground with his karal-sower
- daraba** *vcpd.* finish. **adaraba ahay a** he has finished his house
- darakas** [dārākàs] *id.* fluttering. **kabah ana naŋ darakas darakas** you make a

fluttering movement with it

darama [dārāmá] *n.* measuring plate.

daraw [dáràw] *n.* large plate. *From:* Mandara.

dardarar [dàrdàràr] *mod.* painless, numb.

ambələk egi dardarar the wound is so great that it doesn't hurt any more

daskolaŋ [dàskʷòlàŋ] *id.* tumbling. **wal**

adafəŋ ka mənŋəhaf a daskolaŋ the woman tumbled out of the tree

dasl₁ [ádàt] *v.* hit; castrate. **mək tadaslkiyu**

ka zlam. then you hit it against a pot

dasl₂ [dāf] *mod.* short (a person). **mis daslani**

someone who is court and well-built

desl [dēf] *dimin.* short and thin. **mis**

desleni someone who is short and thin
See: **tasl**.

datu-datu [dātudātú] *id.* violently. **aməf**

akəzlay datu-datu the wind blows violently

dava [dāvà] *n.* steps. **eli suwa ana mədi**

dava he digs the well with steps

davanuh [dāvànùx] *n.* tree (sp.).

davar-davar [dāvàrdàvār] *id.* well-seated

(on whole posterior). **anjəhadki kə dəgu**

davar-davar he sits down well on the stool

davay [ádàvəj] *v.* light. **adavay aku** he

lights his way by fire **adavay esena** he

lights the match **adavay tesilem** he lights the torch

davaya *vcpd.* make fire. **nədavaya seŋ a** I light the matches

davgulgul [dāvqʷùlgʷùl] *n.* round stone for hammering.

davjogur [dàdzògùr] *mod.* abnormally hairy.

dawali [dàwàlì] *n.* friend. *From:* Mandara.

daway [dàwáj] *id.* grasping something that is

upright and pulling it towards one. **mis**

agəs hay daway, ehebeya someone grabs the millet to break it *See:* **rəp**.

dawra [dàwrá] *n.* shroud. *From:* Mandara?

day₁ [ádàj] *v.* take, fall. **aday wal** he is getting

married **aday asak** he is starting to walk

daba *vcpd.* **adaba ahar a afa ga zal maharam a** he consults a fetishist

dafəŋ [ádàfəŋ] *vcpd.* diminish, thin out.

adafəŋ hay a he diminishes or thins out the

millet **tədafəŋ madafəŋana** they reduce

by removing **wal adafəŋ ka mənŋəhaf**

a the woman falls out of the tree **aday gayəŋ adafəŋa** he drops his stick

dəkiba [ádəkíbā] *vcpd.* choose. **adəkiba**

məva gayəŋ a he chooses his fiancée

ədəkiba awak a he has chosen a goat

(from among the rest)

dəkiviyu *vcpd.* add. **adəkiviyu** he adds to

something in...

dəkiyaya *vcpd.* fall out of. **akur adəkिया**

ka wur (a) a mənŋəhaf ba the stone

falls out of the tree onto the child

di *v.* start to. **adi ana huwa** he starts to run

di ahàr [ádì àhàr] *vcpd.* come upon

someone who is not moving. **adi ahàr**

ana mis he finds the folk **tamal ti mədi**

ahàr a ana waketa naŋa if we find

that paper... **tamal məmənjar kam,**

mədi ahàr do waw? if we look, won't

we find it?

diki *vcpd.* start. **adiki ana huwa** he starts

to run

divu *vcpd.* **arəh ga yam ədiva** he wants

to drink

diyu *vcpd.* fall in.

doro *vcpd.* fall to the ground.

day₂ [dàj] *mod.* first, for now. **ra day nimi**

come here first **ra dey ti nakoro** come

first so that I can leave **ra day ti nəhuk**

ma come here, I want to speak to you **esli**

day that is enough for the moment **enjiya**

ahalaŋ daŋ kwa ti adi ana tuway it

was when he arrived here that he started to

weep

daya [dàjá] *cnj.* also. **nu day(a) nakoro** I

am going too

day-day [dàjdáj] *mod.* enough. **azum dəf**

day-day he eats enough [only]

dey-dey *mod.* only. **azum dəf dey-dey** he

eats a little which is enough for him

dey-dey gani agray vi kru mahar

adəskəla he is only about 17 years old

From: Fulfulde 'deydey' "exactly".

daysa [dàjsà] *n.* slowness. **təzum dəf ana**

daysa they eat slowly **tagray daysa**

they play slowly *See:* **culad**.

daz [dāz] *mod.* medium. **sla dazani** a

medium-sized cow *See:* **dac**.

debek-debek [dēbēkdēbēk] *mod.* green.

slimberi hini debek-debek this leaf is

green **awak ahəpəd slimberi**

debek-debekeni the goat is eating green

leaves **vedəŋ məwəsani debeka** a newly

cultivated field

dedi [dèdì] *n.* grandmother.

dedük [dèdükʷ] *id.* grasping. **kəgəs**

- mindigir gayak ti lala dedəkduka**
you take good hold of your hoe *See*:
daduk.
- defcedekey** [édɛftʃɛdɛkɛj] [ɛdɛftʃɛdɛkɛ] *v.*
limp. **zal hini edefcedekey** this man
limps
- delemlem** [dɛlɛmlɛm] *n.* shell.
- deleŋgez** [dɛlɛŋgɛz] *mod.* large on top.
ahəraya ahkay ti wur mənduz
leb-leb sera deleŋgez. he found the
small flat tree on top
- deler** [dɛlɛr] *id.* entering. *See*: **belər**.
- deliq** [dɛlɛq] *n.* knot, finger-bone. **abi deliq**
bilq, amal adaya he avoided falling by
a whisker *See*: **tindelq**.
- delulu** [dɛlɛly] *n.* wail.
- demedey** [édɛmɛdɛj] *v.* wag. **kəra**
edemedey hutul the dog wags its tail
- deŋ-deŋ** [dɛŋdɛŋ] *mod.* many. **mis**
təcakalava deŋ-deŋ people gathered
together in large numbers
- dendeɓa** [dɛndɛɓa] *mod.* green. **slimberi**
dendeɓa green leaves
- deŋgwel-deŋgwel** [dɛŋgʷɛldɛŋgʷɛl] *n.*
back of knee. *See*: **kidimilmil**.
- der** [dɛr] *id.* well-blocked. **erik evid ga**
akfum der he stops up the mousehole
well
- desl** [édɛl] *v.* hit gently. **kəsi aday,**
kedeslumvu you hit him, you caress each
other...
- dew-dew** [dɛwdɛw] *n.* drum shaped like an
hourglass with skin at top only.
- dey** [ɛdɛj] *v.* share, separate. **mis tedevu** the
people move away one by one **azana hini**
edevu ata goro ni this cloth is different
from mine **edero awak a kəsa vu** he
shares out the goats in the village
- dezdeziz** [dɛzdɛziz] *mod.* large. **asi daf**
dezdeziz he cuts the millet boule in large
portions **daf deziza** a large lump of millet
boule *See*: **dozdozuz**.
- dezizi** [dɛziziz] *n.* red millet. *See*: **madaga**.
- dəbar** [dɛbɛr] *mod.* medium. **awak dəbarani**
a medium-sized goat *See*: **dac**.
- dəbala** [dɛbɛlɛ] *n.* name given to a twin.
- dəbu** [dɛbɛ] *mod.* a thousand.
- dəbəl** [dɛbɛl] *n.* back, surface. *See*: **aləŋ**.
- dəbum** [dɛbɛm] *id.* falling to the ground. **fərut**
əhəliaba ahar a guvur wu dəbum
adəya ka haɗ a he took his hand off the
granary and it fell to the ground
- dəc** [dɛts] *id.* covering, putting down. **wur ni**
dəc aki ahar the child put his hands on...
See: **bac**.
- dədaray** [dɛdɛrɛj] *n.* pubis.
- dədugu** [dɛdɛgɛ] *n.* prison.
- dədughaf** [dɛdɛgʷxɛf] *n*cpd. tree stump.
See: **haf**.
- dəɗ** [ádɛɗ] *v.* fall. **adəɗ** he falls
- dəɗəm** [dɛɗɛm] *id.* sound of falling. **adaya a**
məŋgəhaf ba dəɗəm he fell from the
tree
- dəɗəma** [dɛɗɛmɛ] *mod.* dark.
- dəɗum** [dɛɗɛm] *n.* kitchen. **ma dəɗum** the
area in front of the kitchen
- dəg** *v*root.
- dəgoro** [ádɛgʷɛrɔ] *v*cpd. pour out (intrs) ;
go. **hay adəgoro a haɗ** the millet pours
out ont the ground **tədəgava e divi va**
the got under way
- dəgaki** *v*cpd. fall on. **avər adəgaki** it is
starting to rain **waketa adəgaki ka**
tabəl a the paper fell off the table
tədəgiki ana zlahay they start to shout
- dəgaya** *v*cpd. fall out. **koskosay adəgaya**
hail is falling
- dəga**₁ [dɛgɛ] *mod.* from, since. **nara dəga**
eweni I came yesterday **dəga afa gani**
disl ka məlaŋ ga azəga ni from his
house to the tree *From*: Fulfulde.
- dəga**₂ [dɛgɛ] *n.* nursery. *From*: Mandara.
- dəgar** [dɛgɛr] *mod.* uprightly. **afət edrem**
dəgar he grows a horn
- dəgargara** [dɛgɛrgɛrɛ] *mod* mod. upright,
unmoving. **naŋ dəgargara** it is standing
afkaɗ wur dəgargar he stands the child
up
- diger** *dimin.* upright and small.
- dəgəl**₁ [dɛgɛl] *n.* sugary stalk of millet, sugar
cane.
- dəgəl**₂ [dɛgɛl] *n.* barren. **armuwur avay**
dəgel the illness causes sterility **hini wal**
dəgəl this woman is barren **awak hini**
dəgəlani this goat is sterile
- dəgəz** [ádɛgɛz] *v.* gallop.
- dəgəzl**₁ [ádɛgɛz] *v.* become deaf. **məŋani**
ədəgəzla his mother has become deaf
- dəgəzl**₂ [dɛgɛz] *n.* millet heads. **təwəl dəgəzl**
a vədaŋ bu they tie the millet in the field
- dəgiya** [dɛgɛjɛ] *intj.* I say, look out! **koro ba**
dəgiya look out, don't go! **a dəgiya, mis**

- takaɸ va** (I'm telling you that) there was a fight *From:* Mandara.
- dəglarlar** [dəglarl̩ar] *mod.* thick. *See:* dəs-dəs.
- dəgu** [dəg^wu] *n.* stool.
- dəgus** [dəg^wús] *n.* root, stump.
- dəhak** [dəxək] *id.* putting on. *See:* hərək.
- dək** [dək] *id.* burying. **eli siŋgo a haf vu dək** he buries all the money in the ground
- dək-dək** [dəkdək] *mod.* strong. **àzum ɸaf a, huɸ gayay ɛgia dək-dək** he has eaten his fill (his belly is strong) **mis dək-dəkani** a strong man
- dəkəɸ** [dəkəɸ] *id.* going up. **aku azlərəv ka ahər ga ahay dəkəɸ** the fire bursts out of the roof of the house
- dəkiba** [ádəkíba] *vcpd.* choose. *See:* day.
- dəkla** [dəkl̩a] *nepd.* pen.
- dəl** [ádəl] *v.* dry out (trs. and intrs.). **yam adəl** the water dries up **adəl mandaray** she fires the pot
- dəlbəsəy** [ádəlbəsəj] *v.* stir up (muddy water). **slasla tədəlbəsəy yam** the cattle are muddying the water *See:* həlvəɸay.
- dələz₁** [dələz] *id.* the action of crying. **wur amətəbkaba, adiki a tuway dələz** the child is tired, he starts crying
- dələz₂** [dələz] *id.* the action of piling up. **mis taŋgakabu akur dələz** the people pile up the stones
- dəluk** [dəlúk^w] *id.* en masse. *See:* veluk.
- dəluv** [dəlöv] *n.* large area of water that does not dry up: lake, sea.
- dəmdəma** [dəmdəma] *n.* machete. *From:* Mandara.
- dəmbu** [dəmbù] *n.* furrow.
- dənaslay** [ádənàfaj] *v.* crush. **mbeli adənaslay hay e divi bu** the elephant crushes the millet in passing
- dəŋ** [dəŋ] *mod.* in a pile. **abəhaɸ andra dəŋ** he puts peanuts in a pile **andra dəŋa ka kizi** the peanuts are piled on the secco
- dəŋ-dəŋ** [dəŋdəŋ] *n.* riverbank.
- dəndalaɸ** [dəndaləɸ] *n.* mud occurring naturally.
- dəŋgəɸay** [ádəŋgəɸaj] *v.* lean against something (intr.). **dəŋgəɸ àra àra àdəŋgəɸi ana akram ni** she came and leant against the baobab
- dəŋgər** [dəŋgər] *id.* beating. **hajəŋ də ti,**
- àzaya timi a, adi aday dəŋgər dəŋgər** early the next mornint he took his drum and beat it
- dəŋgu** [dəŋg^wu] *n.* neck, voice, tune.
- dəŋgum** [dəŋgòm] *id.* big. **àro àzumbiya amu gayay a, tukslum kay dəŋgum.** she brought a big gourd of honey
- dər** [dər] *id.* tying up in a huge bundle. **awəlbíyu kocopo dər** he brings home a huge bundle of straw
- dəra** [dərá] *n.* crippled. **armuwur avi dərə** this illness paralyses **zal dərə** a cripple **naŋ dərani** he is crippled
- dərak** [dəràk] *id.* putting. **afəkəɸ hijid dərak** he puts down the calabash *See:* dəslap.
- dərap** [dəràp] *id.* trampling. **tahəbavu keti dərəp dərəp, tədəlbəsakabu yam ni.** they danced in the water to stir it up
- dərcəc** [dərtsəts] *mod.* lined up. **amənjoro tay ti akaba slako dərəcəa** he saw them lined up with their shields
- dərdəy** [ádərdəj] *v.* eat sthg not in sauce ; eat in pieces. **wal adərdəy ɸaf ana abahu** the woman eats millet boule with fish **bəza tədərdəy ɸaf ana estena** the children eat millet boule dipping it in salt
- dərluk** [dərlúk^w] *id.* burning up. **azana ahər dərluk** the cloth burns up
- dəŋgudus** [dəŋg^wudūs] *mod.* short and twisted. **dəŋgudus dəŋgudusani ya ta maɸaŋwani gərliliyani** those which are terribly twisted
- dərslay** [ádərfaj] *v.* rub (the body).
- dərzlay** [ádərfaj] *v.* shut in, block in. **mis taderzlay zalaka** people block the watercourse
- dəs-dəs** [dəsdəs] *mod.* thick (e.g. plank). *See:* dəglarlar.
- dəskəla** [dəskəla] *n.* index finger, April. **àji aslər ka dəskəla** he bit his index finger **agraj təwi ke kiye ga dəskəla** he works in April *See:* adəskəla.
- dəsuk** [dəsük^w] *mod.* without grinding. **abuvíyu ahur dəsuk** he cooks beans without grinding them
- dəsla** [dəfaj] *id.* showing. **arəɸ dəsla a ma bu** his tongue is showing in his mouth *See:* disa.
- dəslap** [dəfap] *id.* putting down. **afəkəɸ hay akaba boho dəslap** he puts down the sack of millet *See:* dərak; dəgar; dəwir.

dəsluf [dəʃluf] *id.* manner of mixing flour with water. **Məva gatay ni àra ènjia ana humbo na nahəma, dəsluf àjərvikaba ana tay a.** When their sweetheart came with the flour, she mixed it for them.

dəvəd [dəvəd] *n.* iron recovered from ore by burning the ore in a fire.

dəvay [ədʋəj] *v.* become red. **hay advay** the millet is reddening

dəvoro [ədʋəvoro] *vcpd.* drop. **kəcak tara tədəviviya ti** when someone threw it to him

dəz [dəz] *n.* the period of a year.

dəzlay [ədʋəzəj] *v.* lament. **adəzl ahàr** he laments

dəzlər [dəzɬər] *id.* lighting. **embuzey dəzlər aku.** Embuzey burst into flame.

di₁ [édì] *v.* make, do, cook in a pot; sing. **edi limis** he sings

di₂ [ádì] *v.* start to. **adi ana huwa** he starts to run **adiki ana huwa** he starts to run *See: day.*

di₃ [dì] *mod.* that fits. **endəwi hini goro di** this shirt fits me **endəwi hini goro di gapa** this shirt is at least big enough for me **magaray akfum di di** they were old enough to hunt mice

di ahàr [ádì ahàr] *vcpd.* come upon someone who is not moving. *See: day.*

dic [dɪtʃ] *id.* filling. **dic anivu ana wur ga mənəni** he filled it for his brother

didì [dìdì] *n.* maternal uncle.

didilij [dìdìlɪj] *mod.* black. **endəwi didilij** the shirt is black **endəwi didilijeni a** black shirt

dilija *mod.* somewhat black. *See: hihirik.*

didifir [dìdìfɪr] *id.* burning. **aku didifir ahay ga bay** the fire took hold of the chief's house

diginiknik [dìgìniknik] *mod.* very small, worn down. **cib-cib diginiknik ahkay, nahəj ni dek ŋgurukuk** tiny, and the rest is a hernia.

digus [dìgʷɨʃ] *mod.* seated. **anjəhad digus** he sits down **tanjəhad digusgus** they sit down **aməjoro ti mazlahko manjəhadani digusa** he saw a lion sitting

dih [dix] *mod.* many.

dik [dɪk] *id.* scratching. **ejì ehəd dik** he

scratches *See: vizlik.*

diksi [dɪkʃɪ] *n.* shadow, soul.

dilibija [dìlɪbɪjā] *mod.* many, aligned.

dim [dɪm] stamping. **asawaday dim dim** he walks stamping

dimbid [dɪmbɪd] *mod.* wholly. **azay boho ga hay dimbid** he takes all of the sack of millet

dinare [dɪnārè] *n.* diamond (cards). *See: kubi, sinik, subata. From: ?*

dini [dɪnɪ] *n.* 1) sub-clan. **ndam ga dini goro** the people in my branch of the clan 2) small field behind a house. **hay ge dini** house millet *See: sagwanak; pireb; andorondoro.*

dij [dɪj] *mod.* a hundred.

dindar [dɪndār] *n.* gold. *From: Fulfulde 'diinar'?*

dindey [dɪndèj] *n.* intestines.

dingif [dɪŋgɪf] *id.* surprising. **acəki nu ka akal dingif** he surprised me while I was stealing

dingulis [dɪŋgʷlɪʃ] *id.* falling. **ka fat ya ta amal akur dingulis adəki ka ahàr a kam** when the pebble falls on the head...

dingwil [dɪŋgʷɪl] *id.* falling right down. **azəgad məŋgəhaf dingwil** he is cutting the tree right down

dingzey [édɪŋgʷzèj] *v.* doze.

diribiba [dɪrɪbɪbæ] *mod.* numerous.

dirif [dɪrɪf] *id.* pricking. **adək eji wur dirif** the thorn pricks the child

dirifey [édɪrɪfèj] *v.* prick.

dirleŋgi [dɪrlɛŋgɪ] *n.* hyena.

dirmis [dɪrmɪʃ] *id.* describes the falling of something large or important. **məŋgəhaf adəd dirmis** the tree falls (entirely)

disa [dɪʃā] *mod.* almost covered. **wur ahar disa a yam bu** the child is neck-deep in the water **mis abakabu endəwi disa a wuməri vu** someone dresses up well for the festival

dis-dis [dɪʃdɪʃ] *mod.* adjective describing short mouth parts of an edible shield bug, or insult. **dis-dis ka ma** short-mouthed

disl [dɪʃ] *mod.* as far as, straight. **nəra afa gayak a disl** I went straight to your house

diva [dɪvā] *mod.* numerous. **mis diva ka mələŋ ga kadvu** there are many folk where they are fighting **mis**

- macakalavani diva** the meeting is a big one
- divi** [divì] *n.* path.
- diya** [díjà] *n.* business. **diya goro do** it's none of my business *From:* Mandara.
- diyakw-diyakw** [díjàk^wdíjàk^w] *mod.* vigorously. **zal dagwa asawaday diyakw-diyakw** the young man walks energetically
- diyəŋ** [dijəŋ] *n.* gum, palate.
- diyu** *vepd.* fall in. *See:* **day**.
- diz** [diz] *mod.* crowded and standing. **mis ticik diz** the people stand grouped together **nədi ahàr ana mis diza** I found them all standing together *See:* **hirip**.
- dizli** [díjì] *n.* pot with bottom broken.
- dizliv** [dìjìv] *mod.* much, ample. *See:* **gwəŋgwir**.
- do** *neg.* imperfective negative marker. **agraɣ təwi do** he is not working
do ti *neg disc.* if not. **si nawayay hini kwa do ti naway do** I want this one or I want nothing
- doktar** [dòktár] *n.* hospital, doctor. *From:* English/French 'doctor'/'docteur'.
- dolum** [dòlòm] *n.* big axe. **òro zla azakaba dolum zlabà gəfakana mək eji eji** she took a huge axe and dug with it
- donggur** [dòŋgùr] *id.* climbing. **aculiyu a həma vu donggur** he climbs the mountain
- dotur** [dòtùr] *id.* coming down. **anday ahàr a həma ba dotur** he comes down the mountain *See:* **sokotur**.
- dozdozuz** [dòzdòzùz] *mod.* big (and on the ground). **ezigoro defewe dozdozuz a haɗ** he throws the remains of the boule on the ground **nədi ahàr ana ɗaf dozuz a ka haɗ** I found a lump of millet boule on the ground *See:* **duz-duz**; **dezdeziz**; **dozgoruk**.
- dozgoruk** [dòzg^wòrùk^w] *mod.* big (and abandoned on the ground). **wur ezligoro ɗaf ka haɗ dozgoruk** the child throws a lump of millet boule on the ground **nədi ahàr ana ɗaf dozgorukwa ka haɗ** I found a lump of millet boule on the ground *See:* **dozdozuz**.
- drak** [dràk] *id.* putting down. **afəkaɗ tasa drak ka haɗ** he puts the plate on the ground
- drəsaw** [drəsàw] *mod.* rough, dirty. *See:* **hərsak**.
- drəsl** [drəʃ] *id.* strongly. **tata təgəs naŋ drəsl ègia zal akal a həya** then they grabbed him for a thief
- driŋ** [drìŋ] *mod.* far, distant.
- droŋ** [drõ] *n.* oil drum. *From:* English 'drum'.
- druŋ** [drũŋ] *id.* cutting in the middle, in two. **èkelkia məŋgəhaf a druŋ** he cut the tree in two
- druŋgwazla** [drũŋg^wəʒà] *n.* ankle.
- drus** [drūs] *id.* falling.
- ducay** [áduɕáj] *v.* massage. **aduc asak ana yam aku akaba slimberi** he massages the foot with hot water and leaves
- dud-dud** [dóduɕ] *n.* motor cycle.
- duf-duf** [düfdüf] *mod.* slightly dry/damp. **biyem mideni duf-duf** the wood is a little damp
- dugumiya** [dügùmijā] *mod.* many. **mis dugumiya a gosko bu** there are many people at the market
- dugzey** [dÿgʒej] *n.* latrine.
- duhwak** [dòh^wàk] *mod.* in pieces. **asi ɗaf ana wur duhwak** he carves a piece of millet boule for the child **məlaŋ ga asak duhwakhwak** huge footprints in crumbly soil *See:* **təpak**.
- duk** [dök^w] *mod.* right up to the end. **nebiyu ma ga vədaŋ duk ka ekwi** I am cultivating right up to the edge of the field **nagraɣ təwi duk ana mədərdər** I work right up to the end of the dry season **azum ɗaf duk ana kisim gəyaŋ** he eats millet boule up to the end of his life *See:* **dukway**.
- dukway** [áduɕ^wáj] *v.* reach the end. **evid adukway** the hole does not go on *See:* **duk**.
- dulama** [dúlàmà] *n.* lie. *From:* Mandara.
- dul-dul** [dùldùl] *id.* rising. **azək azəbay dul-dul** the smoke rises
- dumara** [dòmārā] *n.* anvil.
- dumuɗ** [dùmùɗ] *mod.* soft.
- duniya** [dùnijà] *n.* the world. **ègia duniya azum nu** life has done for me *From:* Mandara.
- dup** [dòp] *id.* pounding. **mək ahəraya dup dup məzləbani** then she started pounding
- durlukluk** [dùrlùklùk] *mod.* thick.

madangwani durluk-durlukani ni twisted ones *See: durzlumzlum.*

durzlum₁ [dòrʒòm] *n.* hard earth.

durzlum₂ [dòrʒòm] *mod.* thick. *See: durlukluk.*

duwa [dòwà] *n.* debt. **avi sinjo ka duwa ga andra** he gives money in return for peanuts

duwuz [dòwúz] *id.* cutting.

duz-duz [dòz-dóz] *n.* stump of millet. *See: dozduzuz.*

dũ [d'ỹ] *mod.* early in the morning. **miledũ** morning **gidũweni** early

dũl-dũl [d'ỹldỹl] *id.* raising much (smoke, dust). **azæk azəbay dũl-dũl** the smoke rises thickly **slasla tazəbay argudu dũl-dũl** the cattle raise much dust

dũlik [d'ỹlik] *mod.* mid-morning. **fat dũlik** about 9-10 a.m.

dũwir [d'ỹwir] *id.* putting down. **afəkad mandaray dũwir** he puts down the jar **asækum zum mandaray dũwir** he buys a whole jar of wine **wur àdi ana məsufani dũwir** the child sighed *See: dərak; dəslap.*

dũzi [d'ũzi] *n.* wine flask. **ahkay do ni təfiyu kur a dũzi vu kəmət** otherwise they'll put you in the pot and you'll die

dwa [d'wā] *id.* tying. **əwəla dwa ke mən ga zlam a** he tied it to a tree

D - d

dā [dā] *id.* fixing. **eheliŋki eri ka awak dā dā** he glances fixedly at the goats *See: wulak.*

dackwayuk [dātsk^wājùk^w] *id.* sleeping (or dying) and not speaking or moving any more. **adiyu e dũwir vu dackwayuk** he falls asleep (& doesn't speak any more) *See: duc.*

dadal *mod.* naked.

dedel [dɛdɛl] *moddim.* naked. **wur àsləkabiya a zalaka ba dedel** the child came back from the mayo naked **àra àdi ahar ana wur gayəŋ dedeldela** he came and found his child naked **wur dedeldela** the child is naked

daf [dáf] *n-mass.* ball of millet couscous, staple food. **təvi daf takola mahkər** they give him three balls of millet **humbo agray daf cə** the flour is enough to make couscous twice **ahar ga daf** the right hand

dafakad [dáfákád] *n.* onomatopoeic name given to the hoopoe. *Upupa epops.*

dafay [áfáfāj] *v.* declare, show. **dafiki** show it to him

dagarak [dágàràk] *n.* elevation, summit.

daguk [dāgùk^wā] *mod mod.* silent, dead. **wur ezligoro mickər daguk** the child throws the dead chicken **wal dagukwa e zəhweri bu** the woman is in the shade saying nothing **mis dagukguk** the folk

say nothing

dagwalay [ádāg^wəlāj] *v.* lean over to look at. **adagwaloro a mənəghaf ni vu** she leans over to look into the tree

dak [dāk] *id.* suddenly and away from the agent. **nafəkaduk dak** I place (the piece) for you quickly

dakw *id.* suddenly and towards the agent. **zal akal àzafua mbolo goro a dakw** the thief snatched my bag suddenly

damam [dāmàm] *mod.* falling. *See: gambraŋ.*

danca [dāntsà] *cnj.* however. **nàra danca** however, I came

dəŋəŋ [dāŋəŋ] *mod.* flat, belly-up.

dəŋəŋ *dimin.* flat and small. *See: tazlazl.*

dəŋdəŋəŋ [dāŋdəŋəŋ] *id.* lying down. **àra àndəhadkaba zla dəŋdəŋəŋ ahar ahalay ahalay** she lay down with her arms stretched out

dəŋgway [ádāŋg^wāj] *v.* bend, twist. **madangwani** crooked, hooked

dər [dār] *id.* on top. **wal nakəŋ dər afəkibiyu ka biyem gayəŋ ni** the woman put it on her firewood *See: mbeh.*

daskalak [dāskàlāk] *mod.* somewhat hard.

dəskelek *dimin.* quite hard, and small. *See: tukulaŋlaŋ.*

dasl [dāł] *id.* cutting. **ekelifəŋ vədaŋ ana wur a dasl** he separates a part of the field

for the child **ekelifəŋ vədaŋ ana bəza ɗasl ɗasl** he divides the field for the children *See: ɗəɗasl.*

ɗaslkolay [ɗaʔkʷɔləj] *ad.* hard and useless. **nizligoro aslat ɗaslkolay** I throw the bone on to the ground **nəfiyu akur ɗaslkolay a ahay vu** I put the stone inside

ɗaslkolaylaya [ɗaʔkʷɔləjlājā] *mod.* hard, useless, uneatable. **aslat hini ɗaslkolaylaya** this bone is hard **vədaŋ ɗaslkolaylaya** the field is no good any more

ɗaw [ɗāw] *id.* sitting. **eyəŋ ɗaw anjəhaf a məngehaf bu zlam gayəŋ** the squirrel sat minding his own business in the tree

ɗawal [ɗāwəl] *id.* passing. **anikia pakama zla ɗawal ɗawal ti** they passed it over his mouth (to burn it)

ɗay-ɗay [ɗājɗāj] *mod.* ever, never. **àra ɗay-ɗay ndo** he has never come

ɗefewe [ɗéfewé?] *n-mass.* leftovers.

ɗegelekey [édègèlèkèj] *v.* settle, clear. **yam ɗegelekey ahər** the water clarifies

ɗek₁ [édèk] *v.* draw out a little. **wal ɗek yam a zalaka bu** the woman draws water in he mayo *See: cah.*

ɗek₂ [dèk] *mod.* all.

ɗek-ɗek [dèkdèk] *mod.* although. **zal hini àsəra wur hi na ɗek-ɗek** although this man knows this child

ɗeni [dèni] *cnj.* so, however. **àra ni naŋ ɗeni aw?** so it was he who came? **àra ɗeni, ama àsləka** however he came, but left **nìpi naŋ a ɗeni ca** nevertheless I saw him **ga naŋ ni kwa ɗeni do** it's not for that reason *See: ca.*

ɗeŋgerey [édèŋgèrèj] *v.* balance (on head). **wal ɗeŋgerey mandaray** the woman balances the jar (on her head) **zal waray ɗeŋgerey hucum** the hunter aims at the rock badger

ɗeŋgwezey [édèŋgʷɛzèj] *v.* lean. **mandaray ɗeŋgwezey ka ahər** the jar is leaning over on her head

ɗer [dèr] *id.* putting on. **suwwa ara, ara azay ɗer eliyu ka ahər ga akur** he came and buried it on top of a rock

ɗesley [édèfèj] *v.* cut up small, ache (joints).

ɗewa [dèwā] *id.* being on. **naŋ abu a mənduz gayəŋ ni bu, ɗewa apəs zlam gayəŋ e mite gayəŋ bu** he is in

his tree, resting minding his own business in his yard

ɗezi [édèz] *v.* build or stack in courses (stone, brick, wood). **ɗezi ahay** he builds a house (in stone)

ɗəbay [ádəbāj] *v.* look for, follow.

ɗəɗasl [ɗəɗaʔ] *id.* cutting up. **ekelkaba təndal a ɗəɗasl** he cuts the wood (in two) *See: ɗasl.*

ɗəɗolum [dəɗɔlòm] *ad.* cut off. **ambəluk àbikia ahər ana mis a ɗəɗolum** someone has lost his finger due to leprosy

ɗəgəzi [ádəgəz] *v.* think. **adəgəziki ahər aki ka wakita gayəŋ** he thinks about his notebook

ɗək [ádək] *v.* grow, grow up. **məɗəkani tall àɗəka** he has grown up **yam adək məngehəhaf** the water makes the tree grow

ɗəm [ádəm] *v.* say. **adəm ma** he speaks

ɗəma [dəmā] *mod.* just now. **kara ɗəma hi mba waw?** have you just come? **nara ɗəma mba** I have just come

ɗəmək [ádəmək] *v.* sew.

ɗəŋgwalay [dəŋgʷalāj] *id.* falling. **adəd ana ɗuwir ɗəŋgwalay** he falls over because he is sleepy

ɗəpay [ádəpāj] *v.* start to rot or to stink. **aslu adəpay** the meat becomes tasteless **azana midinəni adəpay** the damp cloth is stinking

ɗəs [ádəs] *v.* be heavy. **məɗəsani heavy akur adəs** the stone looks heavy **akur àɗəs** the stone is heavy (by experience) **akur àɗəsa** the stone was heavy (to carry) **yam adəs sluzi** the water makes the cotton heavy

ɗəvl [ádəvəl] *v.* swell. **ambələk adəvəl** the wound swells

ɗəzl [dəz] *id.* in the open air (single object). **guvur ɗəzla a dala bu** the granary is in the open air

ɗi [édí] *v.* be wet: of a plant, have soft new leaves. **ahur ɗi** the beans are soaking **məngehəhaf ɗi (slimberi ndahaŋ)** the tree is shooting again **mideni** fresh, wet

ɗiŋ [édíŋ] *vcaus.*

— *vcaus.* soak. **wal ɗiŋ ahur** the woman soaks the beans

ɗiliŋ [édíliŋ] *vcpd.* be digested. **humbo ɗiliŋ ana tay nahəma...** when they started to digest the flour...

ɗiferuŋ [ɗiferɔŋ] *id.* rolling. **meyda nakəŋ**

- dideruŋ dideruŋ** the millet flour rolled away
- dɪdʌ** [dɪdʏ] *n.* large water jar.
- dɪfi** [dɪfi] *n.* heart; the organ that pumps blood round the body. **mazlahko ahəpəd dɪfi ga awak** the lion is eating the goat's heart
hi ni azana ge dɪfi ga baba this is the garment that my father likes a lot
- dɪfir** [dɪfir] *id.* way of setting fire. **aji aku dɪfir ana madajadaj** he sets fire to a pile of thorns
- dɪgɪzl** [dɪgɪʒ] *n.* back, rear. **wal afəkad wur ke dɪgɪzl** the woman puts the child down at the back
- dɪk** [dɪk] *mod.* calm. **aməd awəl dɪk** the wind drops **məlaŋ dɪk dɪk** the air is very quiet
mis təlakabu dɪk dɪk the people are quiet
- dɪkey** [édikēj] *v.* suffocate, catch, sieze.
- dɪki-dɪki** [dɪkídiki] *id.* (not) at all. **naway do dɪki-dɪki** I don't want it at all
- dɪliŋ** [édliŋ] *vcpd.* be digested. *See:* **dɪ**.
- dɪŋ** [édŋ] *vcaus.* soak. *See:* **dɪ**.
- dɪŋ-dɪŋ** [dɪŋdɪŋ] *id.* well-built. **akaba gudu dɪŋ-dɪŋ** well shut in with a wall
- dɪŋgɪla** [dɪŋgɪlà] *n.* lifespan. **ha amət ana dɪŋgɪla gayəŋ.** until the destined end of his days.
- dɪsey** [édɪsēj] *v.* fatten, become fat. **midiseni fat**
- dɪsl** [édɪʃ] *v.* hatch. **mickər edisl bəza** the chicken makes the chicks hatch **bəza mickər tidisl** the chicks hatch **aslu edislivu ka aku** the meat simmers on the fire **tidislvu** they multiply
- dɪvic** [édɪvɪʃ] *v.* drink the final part of a liquid which has been mixed with something powdery. **edivic yam ga humbo** he drinks the water that is left in the flour
- dɪzi** [édɪzi] *v.* be night, burn. **məlaŋ edizi** it is night **wal edizi haf** the woman burns the medicine (to breathe in in the smoke) *See:* **zəbay**.
- dɔcucavu** [ádɔtsùtsávū] *vcpd.* roll self up. *See:* **dɔc**.
- dɔc₁** [ádɔts] *v.* filter, squeeze out. **aduc zum ana mətus** she squeezes out the wine with a filter *See:* **ŋgaz**.
- dɔc₂** [dɔts] *mod.* sleeping (or dying) lying down and curled up, not speaking or moving any more. **məvayam amət dɔc ka gəvay**
ga akur the hare dies next to the stone
- dɔcɔcuc** [dɔtsdɔtsùts] *id.* rolled or folded up. **wur ezligoro asus dɔcɔcuc ka had** the child throws the hedgehog on the ground
- dɔc** *dimin.* folded and small. *See:* **dackwayuk; dɔcucavu**.
- dɔguluk** [dɔg^wlɔk^w] *mod.* round. **afəkad akur dɔguluk** he puts down a round stone **akur dɔgulukwa** a round stone
- dɔguv** [dɔg^wùv] *n.* termite mound, soldier termite.
- dɔgwac** [ádɔg^wáts] *v.* look for carefully in order to take.
- dɔk-dɔk** [dɔk^wdɔk^w] *id.* being blocked. **andaj daf dɔk-dɔk** he can't swallow the millet boule
- dɔklum** [dɔklòm] *mod.* round and entire, uncut [fruit].
- dɔkur** [dɔk^wùr] *n.* spindle whorl.
- dɔma** [dɔmā] *mod.* afterwards. **day ara azlah dɔma zla wo wo** it was after that that he cried out loudly
- dɔŋ-dɔŋ** [dɔŋdɔŋ] *mod.* only. **nakoro dɔŋ-dɔŋ ka andra** I am only going for peanuts **andra àzəbiyu nu dɔŋ-dɔŋ** it is the question of peanuts that has brought me here **dɔŋ-dɔŋani kàra ni, ka andra waw?** was it just for the peanuts that you came?
- dɔwa** [dúwà] *n.* breast, milk.
- dɔk** [édɔk^w] *v.* stretch out, point at, reach up. **eduk ahar** he points **edukki ahar ke mis** he points at someone **edukliŋ ana maggoro** he reaches up to the mango
- dɔl** [édɔl] *v.* think too many, consider excessive. **gayəŋ hini edəl** he thinks it's too many
- dɔlki** *vcpd.* **edəlki ke mis** he thinks there are too many people
- dɔwik-dɔwik** [dɔwik^wdɔwik^w] *mod.* quiet. **dɔwik-dɔwik, tàdəgoro e gili nahəma..** there was no-one around, they'd all gone to the fields...
- dɔwil** [dɔwɪl] *mod.* narrow, small-doored. **evir dɔwil** a room with a small door
- dɔwir** [dɔwɪr] *n.* sleep. **enji dɔwir** he is asleep
- dwi** [dwi] *id.* crying out. **mis tazlah dwi** the people cry out

E - e

- ebeji** [ɛ̀bɛ̀dʒì] *n.* the last harvest. **ebeji ga atakwa anduɓ ɗal ɗal** the last harvest of gombo is very sticky
- ebirsli** [ɛ̀bìrɕì] *n.* bead (necklace).
- ebeleher** [ɛ̀bɛ̀lɛ̀hɛ̀r] *n.* beetle (sp).
- eble** [ɛ̀bɛ̀lɛ̀] *n.* fruit of "šršv", given as fodder for animals.
- ecihi** [ɛ̀tɕìxì] *n.* porcupine.
- edeɗ** [ɛ̀dɛ̀ŋ] *n.* the oldest. **wal adabay edeɗ ga wur** the woman is looking for her oldest child
- edigri** [ɛ̀dìgrì] *n.* sand flea, ant lion. *See:* **matabruv**.
- edrem** [ɛ̀drém] *n.* tusk, horn.
- edewa** [ɛ̀dɛ̀wɛ̀] *n.* 1) kind of game. 2) red wood. 3) cartridge.
- edfidɗ** [ɛ̀dɕìdɗ] *mod.* really.
- edɗ** [ɛ̀dɗ] *n.* bird (general word).
- egembezi** [ɛ̀gɛ̀mbɛ̀ʒì] *n.* striped polecat.
- egezi** [ɛ̀gɛ̀zì] *mod.* downhill, east. **fat azlervaya gwar egezi a** the sun rises in the east **kam prɛstaj egezi ga hama mickar** the protestant quartier is below Chicken Hill to the east *See:* **ezi**.
- egizli** [ɛ̀gìʒì] *n.* technique. **tawi ge egizli** technical work **zal egizli** a technician
- ehi** [ɛ̀hì] *cnj.* here is.
- ehimey** [ɛ̀hìmɛ̀j] *mod.* how many?
- ehud** [ɛ̀hʷìd] *n.* nail, claw, hoof.
- ehuli** [ɛ̀hʷlì] *n.* mouse (sp.), plant (sp.).
- ehuni** [ɛ̀hʷnì] *n.* wild dogtooth.
- eharlinj** [ɛ̀hʷɾlɗ] *n.* kidney.
- ejep** [ɛ̀dʒɛ̀p] *n.* miracle. *From:* Mandara 'nadzipu'?
- ejim** [ɛ̀dʒìm] *n.* kind of thorn tree.
- ekwi** [ɛ̀kʷì] *n.* boundary. **eliyu akur ga ekwi a vadaj vu** he sets up boundary stones in the field
- elewa** [ɛ̀lɛ̀wɛ̀] *n.* funnel-shaped mousetrap made of open millet stem lattice.
- eley** [ɛ̀lɛ̀j] *mod.* where?
eleyey do [ɛ̀lɛ̀lɛ̀j dɔ̀] *mod.* everywhere.
- eli**₁ [ɛ̀lì] *n.* sauce.
- eli**₂ [ɛ̀lì] *cpd.* in the bush. *See:* **gili**.
- elibisl** [ɛ̀lìfìɕ] *n.* daub, clay; mixture of earth and water for building a house, making pottery etc.
- elifi** [ɛ̀lìfì] *n.* handle of a hoe or of an axe. **ezidey elifi ge mindigir** he shapes the handle of his hoe *See:* **guma**.
- elimeni** [ɛ̀lìmɛ̀nì] *n.* riches, belongings. *From:* Mandara.
- elmeseri** [ɛ̀mɛ̀ʃɛ̀rì] *n.* paper. *From:* Mandara.
- elpendiɗ** [ɛ̀lpɛ̀ndìŋ] *n.* strip of cloth for putting round head or neck, or for attaching a hat.
- elɔ** [ɛ̀lɔ] *intj.* yes. **e e elɔ** yes *See:* **iy**.
- emid** [ɛ̀mìd] *n.* beard, whiskers. **wur emid** kind of mouse
- eminemine** [ɛ̀mìnɛ̀mìnɛ̀] *n.* kind of small termite.
- emtehi** [ɛ̀mtɛ̀hì] *mod.* like this. **akara sarta emtehi** you'll come at a certain time **aslu aslu emtehi** he cuts me some meat like this **mis emtehi** people like this *See:* **emteni, hi**.
- emteni** [ɛ̀mtɛ̀nì; ɛ̀mtɛ̀nɛ̀] *mod.* like that. **kacəhuwaya emteni ka mam?** why do you draw me a lot like that? **mam naɗ ni aɓəlay emteni ni mam?** what's that nice thing? **acukkibiya ma emtena ni** you have a mouth like that *See:* **emtehi, ni**.
- embekembek** [ɛ̀mbɛ̀kɛ̀mbɛ̀k] *n.* bat.
- embeni** [ɛ̀mbɛ̀nì] *cnj.* better. **tamal aməvu siggo ti, embeni mɔvu hay** if he wants to give me money, he'd better give me millet *See:* **hojo**.
- embesli** [ɛ̀mbɛ̀ʃì] *n.* cold, mucus. **bəza embesli** (name of a spirit)
- embicekrəɗ** [ɛ̀mbìtɕɛ̀krɔ̀] *n.* grass (sp.).
- embidek-mbidek** [ɛ̀mbìdɛ̀kmbìdɛ̀k] *n.* intestinal worm.
- embileziz** [ɛ̀mbìlɛ̀zìz] *n.* kind of red bean used as gaming piece.
- embiyek** [ɛ̀mbìjɛ̀k] *n.* tree (sp.).
- embizey** [ɛ̀mbìzɛ̀j] *n.* grass (sp). *See:* **membizey**.
- embuzey** [ɛ̀mbýzɛ̀j] *n.* insect.
- enekwiɗ** [ɛ̀nɛ̀kwìŋ] *mod.* just now. **kwa enekwiɗ zilim ɛ̀ndivikaba kur a ni** just now when the stork insulted you
- endelesmasay** [ɛ̀ndɛ̀lɛ̀ʃmàsɛ̀j] *ncpd.*

millipede.

enderendera [ɛ̀ndɛ̀rɛ̀ndɛ̀rɛ̀] *n.* tree (sp.).

endeynde [ɛ̀ndɛ̀jɛ̀ndɛ̀] *n.* carpenter bee.

endif [ɛ̀ndɛ̀f] *n.* sweat, heat.

endisl [ɛ̀ndɛ̀sɛ̀] *n.* brain.

endawi [ɛ̀ndɛ̀wɛ̀] *n.* shirt. *From: ?*

ɛ̀nggirzliɲ [ɛ̀nggɛ̀rɛ̀zɛ̀liɲ] *n.* beetle (sp.).

ɛ̀nggɛ̀c [ɛ̀nggɛ̀wɛ̀tɛ̀] *n.* hair on body, fur, feathers.

ɛ̀nggɛ̀c ahur bean leaves (fodder) *See: azagat.*

ɛ̀nji [ɛ̀ndzɛ̀] *mod.* first. **ɛ̀njenjeni** firstly **ɛ̀nggɛ̀t**

ɛ̀nji he has taken first place *See: nji.*

ɛ̀njɛ̀nɛ̀jɛ̀ [ɛ̀ndzɛ̀jɛ̀ndzɛ̀jɛ̀] *n.* mosquito.

ere [ɛ̀rɛ̀] *n.* thing, recipient for flour. **ere ma gani** its lid **ere ye ti nipi ni** what I saw **ere geni maɛ̀gravaba** may it happen **ere geni ya nɛ̀wɛ̀s vɛ̀daɲ ti, hojo nɛ̀cakalay** instead of farming, it's better if I go into business

ergi [ɛ̀rgɛ̀] *n.* distilled wine.

eri₁ [ɛ̀rɛ̀] *n.* eye, face. **ɛ̀rbiliɲ** one-eyed **naɲ eri** he is awake, alive **zal eri** a miser **vi eri geni goro ni ana naɲ** give him my share **eri vu eri vu** face to face **wal egi eri ana mis** the woman pleases people

eri₂ [ɛ̀rɛ̀] *mod.* alive.

erma [ɛ̀rmɛ̀] *n.* lid. *See: ere, ma.*

ermid [ɛ̀rmɛ̀d] *nepd.* direction of the wind. **mis taji aku ana madaɲadaɲ ka ermid** they burn the pile of thorns following the direction of the wind

ermiz [ɛ̀rmɛ̀z] *n.* artery (primarily in the neck).

esembel [ɛ̀sɛ̀mbɛ̀l] *n.* red ant.

eseni [ɛ̀sɛ̀nɛ̀] *n.* match. *From: ?* (market word).

esif [ɛ̀sɛ̀f] *n.* remains. **yem esif** second-class wine *See: daga.*

estena [ɛ̀stɛ̀nɛ̀] *n.* salt. **mazlak estena** vine which gives pleasant speech

eslib [ɛ̀sɛ̀lɛ̀b] *n.* saliva, curse. **nɛ̀daday a had bu, eslib goro agɛ̀s kur.** I'm moving under the ground, my curse will catch you.

eslif [ɛ̀sɛ̀lɛ̀f] *n.* disagreement between two persons one of whom has revealed what the other wanted concealed. **pakama hini avay eslif** this subject causes misunderstanding

eslini [ɛ̀sɛ̀lɛ̀nɛ̀] *dem.* there.

etibiz [ɛ̀tɛ̀bɛ̀z] *n.* wild fruit (sp.).

etime [ɛ̀tɛ̀mɛ̀] *n.* spider.

etiɲ-etiɲ [ɛ̀tɛ̀iɲɛ̀tɛ̀iɲ] *n.* tree (sp.).

etiti [ɛ̀tɛ̀tɛ̀tɛ̀] *n.* tick (sp.).

etuwetu [ɛ̀tɛ̀wɛ̀tɛ̀tɛ̀] *n.* hawk.

evenɲgir [ɛ̀vɛ̀nɛ̀gɛ̀r] *n.* ovary.

evenji [ɛ̀vɛ̀ndzɛ̀] *n.* of witches, a membrane emerging involuntarily from vagina of the witch which shows her desire to eat children. **zal evenji** someone who asks too much **wal ezligikiya evenji ka bɛ̀za** the woman throws her desire at the children

evid [ɛ̀vɛ̀d] *n.* hole.

evidi [ɛ̀vɛ̀dɛ̀] *n.* slave.

evir₁ [ɛ̀vɛ̀r] *n.* room. **evir ga wal** woman ès room

evir₂ [ɛ̀vɛ̀r] *excl.* look out! **evir!** look out!

ewedik [ɛ̀wɛ̀dɛ̀k] *n.* cricket. **kra ewedik** house cricket **asak ga ewedik** plant (sp.) **hay a daɲgu ewedik** the millet has put out its last leaf

eweni [ɛ̀wɛ̀nɛ̀] *mod.* yesterday. **awan' nahaj** the day before yesterday *See: keweni.*

ewi [ɛ̀wɛ̀] *n.* tree (sp.).

eyɛɲ [ɛ̀jɛ̀nɛ̀] *n.* squirrel.

eyew [ɛ̀jɛ̀w] *n.* grasshopper.

eysli [ɛ̀ɛ̀sɛ̀lɛ̀] *n.* egg.

eyɛ [ɛ̀jɛ̀w] *n.* doubt. **adɛ̀m ge kuli hini ti kuhɛ̀lumfu eyɛ a ta?** e said "Do you want to entice me?" **tagray / tiji eyɛ aki ka zlam** they doubt an issue **mis tiji eyɛ** the people doubt

eyɛk [ɛ̀jɛ̀k^w] *n.* small groundnut.

ezekw [ɛ̀zɛ̀k^w] *n.* sympathies. **agri ezekw ana mis** he gives his sympathies to the people

ezewed [ɛ̀zɛ̀wɛ̀d] *n.* rope, hectare. **ezewed ahay** kind of snake

ezi [ɛ̀zɛ̀] *mod.* low, hind. **muyaj ye ezi** the eastern Muyang **ndam meɲgwezi** the lower Muyang **asak ye ezi** the hind leg *See: egezi.*

eziliɲ [ɛ̀zɛ̀liɲ] *n.* flute made of a stem.

ezingwi [ɛ̀zɛ̀iɲg^wi] *n.* walking stick.

ezir [ɛ̀zɛ̀r] *n.* enemy.

ezɛwi [ɛ̀zɛ̀wɛ̀] *n.* fly, dummy opponent in a game. **mis tagray mawaya nday ata ezɛwi** someone is playing 'mšwšyš' with a dummy opponent

ezlelik [ɛ̀zɛ̀lɛ̀lik] *n.* snail, mollusc.

ezlezli [ɛ̀zɛ̀lɛ̀zɛ̀lɛ̀] *n.* hoopoe (?).

ezligwemi [éʒìg^wèmi] *n.* camel.

F - f

fabada [fábàdá] *mod.* nothing. **agri jegeligelik gwar hi, fabada wur ni adəm ma do** she tickles him here, but the child says nothing

fabra [fábrà] *n.* padlock. *From:* Fulfulde.

fad [fād] *mod.* four.

fagak [fagàk] *mod.* everywhere. **yam fagak-fagak a dala bu** water is running on the ground everywhere

falam [fálàm] *id.* tasting oily. **wur àcaka aslu falam ti, àngga keti** when the child tasted the fat meat, he came again

falam-falam *mod.* oily. **aslu falam-falam** the meat is greasy

felem *dimin.* tasting a little oily. *See:* watak.

faŋ [fáŋ] *mod.* yet, surely, actually. **agray tūwi faŋ do** he isn't working yet **agray tūwi faŋ ndo** he hasn't done the work yet **nakəŋ nabu ara faŋ** he will certainly come

far₁ [áfār] *v.* scratch, cause to itch. **wur afar ambələk** the child scratches his wound

far₂ [fār] *id.* running. **wur ni far afəkad huwa** the child started to run

fordawa [fárdáwà] *n.* large mat. *From:* Mandara.

fasa-fasa [fasàfasà] *mod.* multitudinous. **mis fasa-fasa** a big crowd

fat [fāt] *n.* sun.

fay [áfáj] *v.* put (single object). **nafay wur ka ma** I put the child in front (while moving) **afi ahar ana tūwi** he is interested in the work

faya [áfájā] *vcpd.* take out of, appear. **afaya** he takes out of **zal maharam afaya yam ga kisim** the fetishist calls the soul of a dead person

fəki *vcpd.* put on. **wur mara afəki zlam** a twin gives wealth **afəki ahàr ka pakama hini** he is considering this matter **zlam afiki ana zal hini dal dal** this man is always gaining something

fiyu *vcpd.* put into. **afiyu** he puts in

fafəŋ *vcpd.* **afafəŋ ahar ka ma hini** this matter occurs to him *See:* fəkad; bay.

fayaw [fájàw] *id.* making a rustling noise. **aməd adadəy fayaw** the wind whistles **zal akal adadəy huŋgway fayaw** the thief makes a rustling noise between the millet stalks

fedey [éfèdēj] *v.* roll up. **wur efedey bæci** the child rolls up **wal efedey aslu** the woman wraps up the meat *See:* turmaslay.

fedfedi [fèdfèdī] *n.* wall-top. **afiyu siŋgo ka fədfedi** he puts his money on the wall-top

fegfegwi [fèkfèg^wi] *n.* insect (sp.). **dindey fegfegwi** sticky sweet substance on millet leaves

fehe [fèxē] *id.* flying off. *See:* vəzza.

feketey [éfèkètēj] *v.* beckon, signal to come.

felih-felih [fèlìxfèlìx] *mod.* big and everywhere.

fəŋtivir [fèŋtìvìr] all right, all. **amal naŋ agru, fəŋtivir** if it was he who did it for me, it's OK **wal matak fəŋtivir** all those who are sorceresses

ferek-ferek [fèrèkfèrèk] *mod.* entirely. **naway do ferek-ferek** I don't want it at all **əsiaba ferek-ferek** he drank it all up *See:* ferera.

ferera [fèrèrā] *mod.* entirely. *See:* ferek-ferek.

ferey move. *See:* terey.

ferki [éfèrkì] *vcpd.* add to. **mək keferkiviyu ere gani naŋ ni** then you add that thing *From:* Mandara.

ferra [fèrā] *mod.* recovered from an illness or difficulty. **zal hini naŋ ferra kani** this man feels better today

feterih [fètèrìxfètèrìx] *id.* dragging and coming out. **gavaŋ agəjah huđ ka had feterih feterih** the (huge) cobra crawls on its belly **mis azlərvkiya ka lela ana huđ a feterih** someone came up to us with a huge belly *See:* fitih.

fewe [fè'wæʔ] *mod.* huge. **aŋgakabu akur fewe** he makes a huge pile of stones

fəkad [áfəkād] *v.* put down (one object). *See:* bəhad; fay, had.

fəlak [fəlāk] *id.* leaving. **tara teviykkaba dek dek ti, fəlak tafəkad** when they

had burnt him all over, they let him to
fələko [fələk^wo] *n.* any hole in the wall of a house.

fəlu *mod.*

filə [fil̩y] *dimin.* small (entrance). *See:* **ləwit**.

fəmat [fəmət] *n.* ointment. *From:* French ‘pommade’.

fəŋ [afəŋ] *dir.* close.

fəratay *v.* risk. **əfərətə ga madana** he almost fell

fərut [fərut] *id.* falling. **fərut ahəliya ba ahar a guvur wu dəbum ada kə hađ** a he let the granary fall to the ground
From: Mandara?

fət [áfət] *v.* grow (of plants). **hay afət** the millet is sprouting **afət hay** he makes the millet grow **efitiŋ hay** he makes the millet sprout

fəciđ [éfɥiđ] *v.* cut the heads off (harvested millet). **eficiđ hay** he cuts the millet heads

fifiŋ [fifiŋ] *n.* millet stalk.

fik [fik] *id.* pushing. **wur abi ahar fik ana məndala gayəŋ** the child pushes his playmate *See:* **heme**.

fiki [fiŋki] *n.* field for winter sorgho. *See:* **karal**. *From:* Mandara.

fikitey [éfkit̩ej] *v.* cause to cough continually. **embesli efkiti nu** the cold makes me cough

fiktə [fikt̩y] *id.* running. **naŋ nakəŋ fiktə aki ka huwa keti** she started to run again

fikwey [éfik^wej] *v.* whistle.

fil [éfɥil] *v.* cut round something. **efil təndal** he cuts round the wood

filir [filir] *id.* following. **nahkəkay, mək**

zləba gani nakəŋ filir then his friend started to follow him

fis [fiʃ] *id.* full. **mis tisliva a ahay va fis** the house is full of people *See:* **bih**.

fitih [fitix] *id.* pulling out. **zal akal əgəjahaya siŋgo ga zal nahəŋ e zlembi ba fitih** the thief pulled the money out of another man’s pocket *See:* **feterih**.

fitiŋ [éfitiŋ] *vcaus.* cause to germinate. *See:* **fət**.

fiya [fiyə] *id.* laughing. **seri nday ata wal gani fiya fiya seri zlam gatay** they laugh together with their wives

fiyeŋa [fij̩eŋə] *mod.* turned upwards. **kəra azoro hindir fiyeŋa** the dog has a turned-up nose

fiyiya [fiɥij̩ə] *id.* coming out of a sheath. **ənjəha miŋgiə a fiyiya** he drew his knife from its sheath **mis tacuhway fiyiya** people run away

fotut [fötüt] *mod.* empty. *See:* **goŋuŋ**.

fu [fũ] *id.* falling. **tadəgabiya kwa agavəla fu kəbri ka hađ** they fell right down to the ground

fuday [áfüdāj] *v.* begin. *From:* Fulfulde.

fuywa [fuywə] *mod.* trace of something spread over the surface of something. **məndəbəl amənjavu fəŋwa** a wide wound is visible **divi ga gavaŋ fuywa** the track of the snake is wide

fəwa [f̩ywə] *id.* en masse. **zlam gatay a fəwa**. all quietly

G - g

ga [gā] *ASS.* association marker: for, of, belonging to.

gani *ASS+THEM.* belonging to the matter in hand. *See:* **ni**.

gabaga [gəbəgə] *n.* strip of cloth used for binding round the eyes of a corpse while it is kept in the house, and after for attaching the shroud to the head: belt of machinery.

gabəlahar [gəbləhə] *mod.* exhausted. **bay ahay adəd gabəlahar** the householder falls exhausted **naŋ gabəlahara** he is exhausted

gadagar [gədəgər] *n.* helmet.

gadalaw [gədəlāw] *n.* something round, steering wheel.

gadray [gədrəj] *n.* caterpillar, name of clan.

gagak [gəgək] *mod.* some time. **ərə ga məlavad a gagak** he came some time in the night **anugur gagak ti nakoro** I will go at some time or other

gajəŋay [əgədzəŋəj] *v.* stoop, lean.

gal [əgəl] *v.* bring up, feed. **agal sla a dəksla bu** he rears a cow in the enclosure

mis tagalvu ahmam? how do the people feed themselves?

gala-gala [gàlāgālā] *n.* centre : middle. **ènji a gala-gala ge heri bu, àmbəkibiya ma** when he came to the middle of the forest, he turned round

galipa [gàlìpà] *mod.* rich. *From:* Mandara.

galiyoŋ [gàlìŋ] *n.* caterpillar tractor. **ahəlbīyu galiyoŋ mota ga bay ni** he brought the chief's tractors *From:* ? (market word).

galma [gàlmà] *n.* horizontal wooden beam in constructing a shelter.

gambrəŋ [gàmbrəŋ] *mod.* falling. *See:* **gəŋguraŋ**.

gandasak [gàndāsák] *n.* squash, pumpkin.

gaŋgay [gəŋgāj; gəŋgājā] *mod mod.* leaning. **məŋgəhaf adədvaya e divi va gaŋgay** the tree is (in the process of) leaning over the road **məŋgəhaf gaŋgaya e divi bu** the tree is hanging over the road **fat gaŋgay** (kind of snake) *See:* **sebera**.

gap [gàp] *id.* sitting. **kap korawal gap aki.** they put the chair on top

gapa [gàpā] *mod.* at least. **endəwi hini goro di gapa** this shirt is at least big enough for me **nazay azana hini gapa** I'll take this cloth, at least

garay [ágàráj] *v.* drive out, chase away, divorce, drive (car). **mazlahko agaray wur** the lion chases the child **agaray baskur** he pedals the bike

garafəŋ *vcpd.* prevent. **agarafəŋ bəza ga madəbay slasla** he stops the children following the cattle

gargara [gārārā] *n.* enclosure.

garlaki [gàrlàki] *n.* strong man, bandit. *From:* Mandara.

garlakəki *npl.* bandits.

gasl [ágàł] *v.* break up small, sharpen. **wur agasl aslat** the child breaks the bone (to get out the marrow) **wal agasl avar** the woman pecks the surface of the grindstone

gav [ágàv] *v.* shake cloth to remove water, etc. **tagav azana** they shake out the clothes

gavacay [ágàvətsāj] *v.* shake, fan. **mis gavacay diksi**

gavac *id.* **agarakaba ana ahar a gavac** he chases them away, waving his hand **agaray endif gavac gavac** he fans himself

gevecey *dimin.* shake a little.

gavaŋ [gàvəŋ] *n.* cobra.

gavjagar [gàvdzāgār] *n.* long-tailed mouse. **hutul gavjagar** bush (sp.)

gawrakəŋ [gàwrəkəŋ] *mod.* helpless. **nu gawrakəŋ, nəsar eri ya nagray ni do** I am helpless, I don't know what to do

gaz [ágàz] *v.* shake grass to remove earth from roots, or (of a dog) shake an animal to kill it. **tagaz kuzir** the shake out the grass **kəra agaz zlam a ma bu** the dog shakes something in its mouth **agaz ahar** he shakes his head

gazlamba [gàʒləmbà] *n.* dirt, dirty. **wal agray gazlamba** the woman is dirty **wal gazlamba** a dirty woman

gec-gec [gètʃgètʃ] *id.* drizzling. **avər atəd gec-gec** it is drizzling **fat sirim asəki, avər gec-gec huya.** the sky grew dark, it started to drizzle

gedebe [gədēbē] *n.* weakness.

gegirdi [gégirdi] *id.* meeting. **mis tabakabu ahər gegirdi** people meet each other

gejewi [gədʒēwí] *n.* doubt, bet. **tagray gejewi aki ka zlam** they doubt an issue *From:* Mandara.

gejiŋ [gədʒiŋ] *n.* entrance hut of a compound, where formerly the householder slept.

gela [gələ] *mod.* just, simply. **ahi kəkadki nu ni ka hay gayak hini gela waw?** he said "Is it only because of your millet that you are hitting me?"

gemslelik [gēmłelik] *n.* lizard (general word).

gemzek [gēmzək] *n.* red clay.

gembre [gəmbřě] *intj.* morning greeting.

geni [gèni] *n.* neem tree. *From:* Fulfulde 'geene'.

gendiḅ [gèndiḅ] *n.* trap. **akay gendiḅ a zalaka bu** he sets a trap at the mayo

gezəleke [gèʒỳlèkè] *n.* Namaqua dove (long-tailed dove). *Oena capensis*.

gəbat [ágəbət] *v.* cook without vegetables. **agəbat eli** she cooks the sauce without vegetables *See:* **kuḅ**.

gədaɟ [ágədaɟ] *v.* drop leaves. **məŋgəhaf agəday** the tree is losing its leaves

gədamay [gədámáj] *n.* name given by a man or woman to a brother or sister in law, save that the term is not used by a woman to a woman.

gədavu [ágdàvū] *vcpd.* be spoilt. **endəwi agədavu** the shirt is wearing out

- mickwir agədavu** the chicken falls badly (divination) *See: gudar.*
- gədəbəsla** [gədəbət̪ā] *mod.* unwell. **vu goro gədəbəsla kani** I don't feel well today **məlan gədəbəsla** it is dull (cloudy)
- gədəŋ** [gədəŋ] *n.* grill, net, enclosure. **abəhadi gədəŋ ana javar** he stretches a net for guinea fowl **pilis ni ahəraya adəkiviya ka ga bay a gədəŋ vu.** the horse went into the chief's enclosure
- gədərbaslaw** [gədərbət̪āw] *id.* falling. **gavan adafəŋa ka məŋgəhaf a gədərbaslaw** the snake falls (exhausted) from the tree
- gədf** [ágədf] *v.* escape, come off. **zal danŋay agədf** a prisoner escapes **zlaba agədf** the axehead comes off the handle
- gədfak** [gədəfak] *mod.* numerous, big, important: more than normal, excessive. **mis ahalay gədfak** there are too many people here **akur təbu gədfak** there are too many stones **mecehwid asabaj gədfak** there are too many caterpillars **elmeni asagakivu gədfak gədfak** wealth increases more and more **naŋ gədfakani** he is big **mis gədfakani** an important man, an elder **akur hini gədfakani** this stone is the biggest
- gəjah** [ágədzəx] *v.* drag.
- gəjak** [gədəzək] *mod.* carrying.
- gəjar** [gədəzər] *n.* left (hand). **məzligi ana gəjar** he should throw it with the left hand **ahar (ga) gəjar** the left hand **zal gəjar** a left-handed man **zal hini gəjarani** tis man is left-handed
- gəjay** [ágədzəj] *v.* tighten.
- gəjazl** [ágədzək̚] *v.* be forgotten (requires compliment šhšər). **əgəjazl ku ahər a** I have forgotten it
- gəjək** [gədəzək] *n.* wall. **nədəŋgədi ana gəjək ga ahay** I am leaning against the wall of the house
- gəjəl** [ágədzəl] *v.* take for oneself, want to be first. **aku azum ahay, mis təgəjəl zlam** the hose is burning, but they are getting stuff out **mis təgəjəl wal ka yam** they are arguing about wives at the well **way agəjəli zlam ana ma gayan** everyone is after something to eat
- gəjəni** [ágdzən̪i] *vcpd.* remain, be left over. **agəjəni goro** my turn (my part) is to come **məgjəni gani** what is left *See:*
- jəgəni.**
- gək** [gək; gəkqək] *id.* indicates the action of digging. **atəhad mis gək ana miŋgic** he knives people **mədrəs tatəhad had gək-gək** the pigs dig up the earth
- gələway** [ágləwəj] *v.* place horizontally. **agələwaki təndal ka ləli** he lays the posts on the hangar
- gələw** *id.* **afəkəf təndal gələw e divi bu** he places a log across the road
- gənaw** [gənəw] *n.* animal. **zlam ga gənaw** domestic animals
- gənda** [gəndə] *n.* banditry, bandit, a lazy person. **əgia gənda** he has become a bandit
- gər** [ágər] *v.* tremble. **wur agər** the child is trembling **aməf agər mis** the cold makes folk tremble
- gərdan** [gərdən̪dāŋ] *mod.* blocking. **wal medewel ni naŋ a mahay bu gərdanəŋa.** the old woman was barring the door
- gərgər** [gərgəri] *mod.* different, differently. **hini kəsa hini hini kəsa hini ti gərgər dek do waw** they settled in different villages **mazlapaki ka zlam gərgərani** we spoke of different things *From: Mandara.*
- gərlili** [gərlili] *mod.* fat. **kamənjaki ti ya ta gərliliani...** when you see the big ones...
- gəru** [gr̪u] *n.* any precious metal.
- gərubuɓa** [gərub̪uɓa] *mod mod.* damp. **endif agəskaba naŋ a gərubuɓa** he is a little sweaty **wur gərubuɓa** the child is on the verge of tears
- gəs** [ágəs] *v.* take, hold, arrest, catch. **agəs zlaba** he holds the axe **təgəs zal akal** they catch the thief
- gəski** *vcpd.* be suitable. **agəski makoro** we ought to go **endəwi agəski ka mis** this dress is suitable for people
- gəskabu** *vcpd.* accept. **tamal ti kəgəskabu kam akal masləka, do ti ahəmam?** if you accept, we'll go.
- gəsl** [ágət̪] *v.* swell. **asak agəsl** his foot is swelling **ambələk agəsl asak** the wound is making his foot swell
- gəvay** [gəvəj] *n.* side. **ka gəvay ga...** beside...
- gəzan** [gəzən̪] *n.* forge, workplace of a smith. **zal gəzan** smith
- gəzdalah** [gəzdələx] *mod.* wearing a garment over one shoulder. **wal awəlka bu azana**

- gəzɔdalah** the woman ties her pagne over one shoulder *See: gəjak.*
- gəzəbal** [gəzəbəl] *id.* dying. **mickər àmətfəŋa ka wur a ahar ba gəzəbal** the chicken died in the arms of the child
- gəzəŋ** [gəzəŋ] *n.* spring, water-hole. **wəwal tagray gəzəŋ ga yam a zalaka vu** the women make a water-hole in the mayo
- gi** [égì] *v.* become, growl, buzz. **egi gəɖakani** he is growing up **zlam hini egi eri ana mis** people like this **amu tigi a gulgul bu** the bees are buzzing in their hole **egifiŋ ka wal** he makes an engagement
- gidi** [gìdì] *id.* running. **gidi gidi, kwanji kwanji azay kwac adoro e heri vu** he ran off, defecating, into the forest
- gidi-gidi** [gìdìgìdì] *n.* between a person's legs. **zum a gidi-gidi bu** the wine is between his feet
- gidim** [gìdìm] *mod.* for everyone. **hay hini ge mis gidim** the millet is for everybody **hay ge mis gidimeni** everyone ès millet
- gigirdi** [gìgìrdì] *id.* meeting suddenly. **ahuriyu ti gigirdi tabakabu ahàr ata dirleŋgi** they suddenly met with the hyena
- gili** [gìlì] *n.* cultivated bush. **a huɖ ge gili vu vedəŋ avu** there are fields in the cultivated bush *See: eli.*
- gilik** [gìlìk] *id.* swallowing a small amount. **anday yam gilik** he swallows a little water
- gir** [gìr] [égì gir] *mod.* difficult. **naŋ egi gir (egir)** it is difficult
- gir-gir** [gìrgìr] *id.* pursuing. **krim-krim mis huwa aləŋ gir-gir** they quickly ran after him
- girpelim** [gìrpèlìm] *mod.* wide. **asəkum bafta girpelim** he buys a wide cloth **bafta girpelima** a wide cloth
- givi** [gìvì] *n.* game.
- givir** [gìvìr] *n.* liver.
- giyawì** [gìjāwì] *n.* woman's (iron) lip ornament in the form of a nail.
- gizira** [gìzìrā] *mod.* far away.
- gizlek** [égìzèk] *v.* ache (head).
- glaway** [áglāwāj] *v.* place on top. **aglawakiyu biyem ka dalahay** he puts the wood on the hangar
- gobura** [gʷɔbūrā] *mod.* fat. **kudumu miseni midesenì gobura goburani ni do** you don't give me the nice fat people
- gododuk** [gʷɔdɔdɔkʷ] *n.* naturally-occurring hollow in the ground.
- goguduk** [gʷɔgʷɔdɔkʷ] *id.* escaping. **nak eslini, nak kəvu goguduk goguduk.** there you are in there, trying to get out
- goguz** [gʷɔgʷɔz] *id.* carrying many.
- gojuŋay** [áɡʷɔdzəŋāj] *v.* walk with a stoop. **gojuŋ gojuŋ** *id.*
- gomdolo** [gʷɔmdɔlò] *n.* large lizard, kind of fish. *See: gomdulbu.*
- gomdozo** [gʷɔmdɔzò] *n.* orange-headed male lizard. *See: bay gomdozo.*
- gomdulbu** [gʷɔmdɔlɔbù] *n.* skink, kind of lizard.
- gomso** [gʷɔmsò] *n.* mouse (sp.).
- goŋ-goŋ** [gʷɔŋgʷɔŋ] *n.* box, tin can. *From: ?*
- goŋuŋ** [gʷɔŋuŋā] *mod.* empty. **ambrəŋ guvur goŋuŋ** he leaves the granary empty **ahay goŋuŋa** the house is empty
- gondazay** *id.* way of being wounded. **enjiki leli gondazay** he was wounded when he found us
- gondərko** [gʷɔndərkʷù; gʷɔndərkʷò] *n.* unfermented wine. **tagray gondərko** the make unfermented wine
- gondari** [gʷɔndàrì] *n.* house millet. *See: andorondoro.*
- goŋguraŋ** [gòŋgùràŋ] *mod.* falling. **geŋgureŋ** *dimin.* falling and small. *See: jamam; gambraŋ.*
- gora-gora** [gʷɔràgʷɔrà] *n.* ram.
- goro**₁ [gʷɔrò] *n.* kola nut. *From: Fulfulde 'gooro'.*
- goro**₂ [gòrò] *pro.* my, belonging to me.
- gorum-gorum** [gʷɔròmɡʷɔròm] *mod.* bald. **ahàr miziŋeni gorum-gorumani** a bald one
- gosay** [áɡʷàsāj] *v.* lie, say what is untrue. **agosay mis** he is a liar
- gosko** [gʷɔskʷó] *n.* market. *From: Mandara.*
- govogo** [gʷɔvògʷɔ] *n.* Senegal Coucal. *Centropus senegalensis.*
- goyafò** [gʷɔjáfò] *n.* guava. *From: ?*
- gozogul** [gʷɔzògʷɔl] *n.* name of a clan. **ma gozogul** proverb
- Gozlagozla** [gʷɔzàgʷɔzà] *npr.* Gwazlagwazla, the Muyang canton south of the mountain.
- gray** [ágrāj] *v.* act, do, make.

graba *vcpd.* clean, trick, scare. **a kagraba nu a, do ti ahəmam?** ‘‘You’re cheating me!’’

gruh [grùx] *id.* swallowing. **anday ti gruh lala do waw** she swallowed it up

gubdu [gùbɸù] *n.* vegetable. *Ceratotheca sesamoides*. *From:* Fulfulde ‘gubuə’.

gudar [ágʷdàr] *v.* spoil. **nu ti nici slimi do ðiki-ðiki, nagudar zlam dal-dal.** I’m not responsible, I do a lot of things wrong. **atəfəki ma gudar ani ke leli** they are going to put us in the wrong *See:* **gədavu**.

gudel [gʷúðèl] *n.* third of a six-yard pagne. *From:* Mandara.

gudər [gʷùdər] *n.* final son. **gudər ga ahar** little finger

gudu [gʷùdù] *n.* wall joining two houses.

guduɸ [ágùdùɸ] *v.* creep (plant).

gudu-gudu [gəðdùgəðdù] *id.* running, fighting. **mazlahko cəkwaɸ ecikliŋ gudu-gudu** the lion got up to chase him

guduk-guduk *n.* kind of pigeon.

gudum [gùdòm] *id.* covering. **ahəmbakabu azana gudum** he covers himself with a cloth

guduŋ-guduŋ [gʷùdùŋgʷùdùŋ] *mod.* wide. **evid guduŋ-guduŋ** the hole is wide **evid guduŋ-guduŋani** a wide hole **tili evid guduŋ-guduŋ** they dig the hole widely

gugum [gʷùgʷùm] *n.* chest. **ay goro ni hojo amasləka ana gugum a** it’s better if mine goes home on his chest

gum *id.* **agəs naŋ gum** he grabs him round the chest

gugusirsir [gùgùsɪrɪr] *mod.* big. **gugusirsira gəðakani dahalay** a great big girl

guk [gʷùkʷ] *id.* gripping. *See:* **kək**.

gukwa [gùkʷā] *mod.* fat. **zal hini gukwa lala** this man is nice an fat **mis gukwani** a fat person

gulaŋ [gʷùlāŋ] *n.* roofless stone hut for storing millet during the harvest. **təbiyu hay a gulaŋ vu** they put the millet in the ‘‘Šulšə’’

gulay₁ [ágùlaj] *v.* lessen. **do ti bi nak kugulaya cə weley ti ni...** perhaps you are tired **agulaba cakala** he lowers the (fixed) price **agulaŋ endəwi a** he reduces the quantity of shirts

guloro [ágùlörō] *vcpd.* make smaller.

aguloro siŋgo ga hay he is lowering the price of millet **siŋgo ga hay aguloro ga məlavazaŋ** the price of millet goes down at harvest time

gulay₂ [gʷùlāj] *n.* victory.

gulaz [gʷùlāz] *id.* throwing. **ezigiviyu miŋgiə ahər ni gulaz** he threw the razorblade into his hair

gulgul [gʷùlgʷùl] *n.* crack (in tree).

guloro [ágùlörō] *vcpd.* make smaller, weaken. *See:* **gulay**.

gulum [gʷùlòm] *n.* quiver.

gum [gùm] *id.* grasping, embracing. **agəskabu tay gum gum** he embraces them

guma [gùmá] *n.* handle. *See:* **elifi**.

gup [ágʷùp] *v.* boil (intr). **yam agup a kəzla bu** the water is boiling in the pot **aku agup yam** the fire is making the water boil

gur [ágʷùr] *v.* rule, measure. **bay agur mis** the chief rules the people **fat əgurva day-day** the sun has risen enough **agur agur ti** from time to time **məgurvani** commandment

gurfəŋ [ágùrfəŋ] *vcpd.* compare by placing side by side. **agurfəŋ ndam didilineni ka ndam asara** he is comparing white people with black **agurfəŋ tindeliŋ ka ahar** he measures the knots on the stalk with his arm

gurkabu *vcpd.* compare. **agurkabu təndal** he compares the beams

gurcay [ágʷùrtsāj] *v.* drink by sucking, slurp.

gurday [ágʷùrdāj] *v.* have a dislocation. **agurda ahar a** he has dislocated his arm

gurguluk [gʷùrgʷùlúkʷ] *n.* large log.

gus-gus [gùsgùs] *id.* moving. **adaday hutul gus-gus akaba kərpasla ti** he moved his tail along with his wings

guvur [gʷùvùr] *n.* granary, hippopotamus. **ma guvur** entry of ganary

guzumbul [gʷùzùmbùl] *n.* umbilical cord.

guzurra [gʷùzùrā] *id.* flowing.

guzlatay [ágùlātāj] *v.* widen. **gavaŋ aguzlatakaba pakama** the cobra opens its mouth wide

guzlubuc [gùlžùbùts] *n.* foam. **wur adəda, guzlubuc krup krup ka ma** the child fell over, he is foaming at the mouth

gũcey [égʷùtɸej] *v.* sprinkle with the hand. **eguci yam ana maslapa** he dampens

the cord *See: pizey.*

gudi [gỳdì] *n.* bush (sp.). **gudi Maya gəḏakani sə ara ahuriyu** she went into the big thorn bushes

gudi-gudi [gỳḏìgỳḏì] *id.* trembling. **aməḏ awur naḡ, agray gudi-gudi** he is shaking with cold *See: cam-cam.*

guji [gỳḏjì] *n.* knee, politeness, complaint. **mis tabəhadki guji ka zal akal** the people complain [to the chief] against the thief *From: Mandara.*

gule [gỳḏḗ] *mod.* badly [divination chicken]. **mickur adəḏ gule** the chicken fell badly (in divination)

guliz-guliz [gỳḏlìzgỳḏlìz] *mod.* bright red. *See: ndize.*

gur-gur [gỳḏrgỳḏr] *n.* dry calcedra fruit used as a tobacco pouch.

guzetit [gỳḏzètìt] *mod.* very long. **guzetit guzetitèni zəbalani ni** very long ones

guzingwir [gỳḏlìzgỳḏr] *n.* plant (sp.), used for string.

guzit [gỳḏlìzìt] *mod.* too little, small, a little. **vu yam guzit nisi** give me a little water to drink **avu yam guzit ahkay** he only gave me a little water **nday guzit** they are few **agray tawi guzit** he works a little **naḡ abu guzit guzit** he is getting slowly better **naḡ guziteni** he is small **akur guziteni** a small stone

guzled [égḡḏzèḏ] *v.* spread out.

guzleh [égḡḏzèḏx] *v.* tear without tearing apart. **eguzleh azana** he tears the cloth

gwalan [gḡḏālān] *n.* jerrycan. *From: English 'gallon'?*

gwali gwali [gḡḏālìgḡḏālì] *mod.* by groups. **mis teydey zlam gwali gwali** they share out the things to each group

gwandazay [gḡḏāndāzàj] *id.* covered in blood. **Dəbəla ahəraya ti, ecikbiyu akaba mimiz ni gwandazay nahkəkay** so Dəbéla came out and got up just as he was, covered in blood

gwar [gḡḏār] *prep.* towards.

gwasay deceive. *See: gosay.*

gwasl-gwasl [gḡḏāḡḡḏāḡ] *mod.* speckled, spotted.

gwesl-gwesl *dimin.* with small speckles. *See: ngwalak-ngwalak.*

gwayan [gḡḏājān] *n.* weaver bird. *See: agwayan.*

gwaygwaya [gḡḏājḡḏājá] *n.* traditional hockey. **mis tagray gwaygwaya** they play hockey **aday ga gwaygwaya** hockey stick **wur ga gwaygwaya** hockey ball *See: kulaya.*

gwazla [gḡḏāzà] *n.* wild onion. **mis tiskiba yam ku gwazla** people drink essence of wild onion

gwazlongutay [ágḡḏāzḡḏḡḏāj] *v.* widen the bottom of a hole. *See: sluh.*

gwejeley [égḡḏzèlèj] *v.* scatter, waste. **tegwejeley musuḏ gani** the scatter its stomach **egwejeley səḡḡo gəḏak** he wastes too much money

gwelele [gḡḏèlèlé] *n.* aluminium. *From: ?*

gwelendir [gḡḏèndirə] *mod.* long. **wur ezligoro ezewəḏ gwelendir ka had** the chile throws a long string on the ground **nipi gavan gwelendir a divi bu** I can see a long cobra on the road **wal ekelkaba ezewəḏ gwelendirndirani na** the woman cuts up the long rope **gwelendirndir asak ni!** you have big feet!

gwelgweli [gḡḏèlgḡḏèli] *n.* plant, caterpillar (sp.).

gwendele [gḡḏèndèlè] *n.* Bruce's green pigeon. *Treron waalia.*

gwenderi [gḡḏèndèré] *n.* cylindrical drum with goat -skin at both ends. *See: timi.*

gweḡḡwir [gḡḏḡḡḡr] *mod.* much (liquid). *See: dizliv.*

gwezgwezi [gḡḏzḡḏzèzì] *n.* encouragement, support. **məḡ ga wur afəki gwezgwezi** the mother encourages her child

gwezgweziz [gḡḏzḡḏzèzìz] *mod id.* big. **wur akad akfum gwezgweziz** the child has killed a large mouse **ḡḡḡḡkaba pakama gwezgweziz afa ga bay a** he has got himself into big trouble with the chief

H - h

- h** *vroot.*
- hi** [áxí] *vcpd.* say to. **ahi ma (ana mis)** he speaks (to people) **àra àhivoro ana mis** he has gone to warn people
- ha** [xá] *mod.* until. **ha ara ara** until he has come *From:* Fulfulde.
- ha₂** [xā] *excl.* but. **tāhi : Ha, wal ge dirleŋgi...** they said “Hey, hyena’s wife...”
- habaga** [xàbàgà] *n.* continuous rain or drizzle.
- habagarak** [xàbàgàràkrāk] *mod.* flat. **afəkad akur habagarak** he puts down a flat stone
- hebegerek** *dimin.* in small flat pieces. *See:* **kitiŋ, baalam.**
- habab** [xàbàb] *mod.* open.
- hebeb** *dimin.* open and small. *See:* **harar.**
- hac** [xāts] *id.* well-tied. **wal awəl adiko hac** the woman ties on her scarf well
- hec** *dimin.*
- hacakalam** [xàtsàkàlām] *mod.* curved. **adaŋgway biyem hacakalam** he bends the wood **biyem hacakalama** bent wood
- hacakalamay** *v.* twist.
- hecekelem** *dimin.* curved and narrow.
- hecekelemey** *vdim.* twist something small.
- hocokolum** *augm.* twisted and big. **naŋ hocokolum hocokolum** he is curled up (in pain)
- hocokolumay** *vaugm.* twist.
- hadagarak** [xàdàgàràk] *n.* potsherd.
- hadagər** [xàdàgər] *n.* bushbuck.
- hadam** [xàdām] *n.* tax. **bəlama acakalay hadam ga kəsa gayəŋ** the quarter chief collects the tax for his quarter
- had** [xād] *n.* earth. **zlam ya had** reptiles
- haf** [xāf] *n.* medicine. **məŋgəhaf (məŋ ga haf)** tree **wur haf** plant (sp.)
- hagak** [xàgàk] *mod.* open.
- hegek** *dimin.* open and small.
- hahiya** [xàxijà] *n.* creeper (sp.).
- hajəŋ** [xàdzəŋ] *mod.* tomorrow, next day.
- hak** [xāk] *id.* seating something well. **afəvu jako hak a ahər vu** he puts his hat on **təbəvu jako hak hak** they seat their hats
- firmly
- hala** [xālá] *n.* prostitution, adultery. *From:* Mandara ‘hala’ (“bad attitude”).
- halaf₁** [xálàf] *n.* sauce bowl.
- halaf₂** [xāláf] *n.* bark.
- halagar** [xélègér] *mod.* clever, ready, impatient.
- heleger** *dimin.* clever.
- halakas** [xàlākàskàsā] *mod.* sad. **ənjəhadə halakaskasa adaba awak gayəŋ èjia** he is sad because his goat is lost **halakaskas eri ni!** your face is all screwed up!
- helekes** *dimin.* small and thoughtful.
- ham** [âxām] *v.* yawn. **naham** I yawn
- hamac** [xàmàts] *id.* grabbing the legs. **wur ahəlfəŋa asak ka məndala gayəŋ a hamac** the child trips his friend by grabbing his legs *See:* **slaw, vrut.**
- hamacay** *v.* snatch. **ahamacay asak ge mis** he grabs someone's leg
- hamcabal** [xàmtsàbàl] *id.* attached. **hamcabal ambatvu aləŋ aləŋ** it turned behind, tucked in tight
- ham-ham** [xām xām] *mod.* slightly acid (taste). *See:* **cuwak-cuwak.**
- handagadam** [xàndàgàdām] *mod.* curved. **aday handagadama** a bent stick **adaŋgway aday handagadam** he bends the stick
- hendegedem** [xèndègèdèm] *dimin.* curved and small.
- hanjay** [áxàndzāj] *v.* gnaw, eat. **ahanjay maŋgoro** he eats a mango
- hanj** *id.* **wur aji aslər ana maŋgoro hanj** the child bites the mango
- hanja-hanja** *mod.* rough, eaten away. **akur hanja-hanja** a rough stone
- henje-henje** *dimin.* rough and small. *See:* **njaga-njaga, njərat.**
- har** [áxàr] *v.* winnow. **ahar hay** she winnows the millet
- harar** [xàràr] *mod.* open.
- herer** *dimin.* open and small. *See:* **habab.**
- has** [xās] *n.* red colouring (earth).
- hasa-hasa** [xàsàxàsà] *mod.* with a fine rough surface.

- hese-hesa** *dimin. See: hanja-hanja.*
- has-has** [xāsxās] *id.* flowering. **ahur akaba vay-vay dek has-has** the beans were in flower
- hasl** [xaʃ] *mod.* ancient, former. **hasl-hasl** formerly **ya haslani** in ancient times, former(ly)
- hataka** [xàtàkā] *n.* debt with interest. **akəlay hataka** he takes out a loan
- hatalak** [xàtàlàk] *n.* bush. **ahəraya keti bra afəkad hatalak keti.** he put in another kind of bush
- havup** [xàvùp] *id.* falling, lighting. *See: bavum.*
- hawasl** [xàwàʃ] *mod.* empty-handed, having nothing. **əŋgaya e gili a hawasl** he came back from the fields empty-handed
- hay** [xāj] *n-mass.* millet. **hay humbo** millet for seed *See: madaga; ŋgadawa; dini; bokboko.*
- haya-haya** [xájáxàjà] *n.* disorder, noise. **haya-haya abu ka məlaŋ ga zum** there is a lot of noise where they are drinking
- hayəŋ** [xàjəŋ] *mod.* for now. **nahəŋ ti taŋgahaba hayəŋ** meanwhile they hid it
- hazla-hazla** [xàʒàxàʒà] *n.* carelessness. *See: hola-hola.*
- hazlay** [xàʒàj] *n.* epidermis.
- heb** [éhéβ] *vcaus.* break (trs). **ehəβ biyem** he breaks the wood **ehəβ kəsa** he destroys the quarter (causing folk to leave) *See: huβ.*
- hedenyew** [xédènjèw] *nepd.* the way to do something. **neserkaba hedenyaw ga zlam hina do** I don't exactly know how to do that
- hek** [xək] *id.* placing.
- hek-hek** [hèkhèk] *id.* demolishing. **avər embed ahay hek-hek** the rain demolishes the house
- heleftekir** [xélèftèkír; xétèlèftèkír] *n.* piece of calabasse for cutting couscous.
- heli** [xèlì] *n.* place where one has influence or profit. **a heli goro bu** in my sphere of interest
- heliŋ** [éhèlīŋ] *vcpd.* look to see what is there. **eheliŋ eri a gosko vu** he looks around the market
- heme** [hēmæ] *id.* pushing. **wur abi ahar heme ana məndala gəyaŋ** the child pushes his playmate *See: fik.*
- hercihew** [xértʃixèw] *n.* sneeze.
- heri** [xèrì] *n.* forest, bush.
- hesey** [éhèʃej] *v.* build, crumple. **mis tehesey brəŋgəz** the folk build terraces **zal terəŋgiz ehese y meleher** the bad man frowns **meheseni** in narrow layers
- heteleftekir** [xétèlèftèkír] *n.* piece of calabasse for cutting couscous.
- həbak** [xəbək] *n.* goatskin, cloth for carrying children.
- həba** [həbā] *id.* hitting. **asi aday həba a ahər vu** he hits him on the head
- həbal** [həbāl] *n.* building in the centre of a traditional compound, composed of several granaries and with a place for sacrifice below.
- həbavu** [áxəbàvū] *vcpd.* amount to. **mis tahəbavu zlam** there are five of them *See: həbay.*
- həbay** [áxəbāj] *v.* dance.
- həbaki** dance on, oppress. **ahəbaki ka ma ge kolobo ni** he dances on the mouth of the bottle **Muyiyəŋ akaba Wuzlum ta həbaki ka Madəfa** The Muyaŋ and the Ouldeme gang up against the Mada
- həbay** *n.* dance, danse. **mək eslini àra èndeveriŋaba həbay na dek...** when he had finished dancing...
- həbək** [həbək] *n.* tightly-woven woman's bag or purse.
- həbəŋ** [xəbəŋ] *n.* hollow, bed. **mək bac amu gəyaŋ ni a həbəŋ gani vu.** then she left the honey in its place
- həcay** [áhtsáj] *v.* not be enough, lack. **aməhəci ana leli** it won't be enough for us
- həca** [áxtsá] *vpfve.* be insufficient. **ezewed əhəca a zəbal a** the string is too short **yam əhəca ga magray elibisl a** there is not enough water to make mud
- hədəgərdaf** [xədəgərdáf] *n.* couscous stick.
- hədak** [áxədək] *v.* move away (intr.) ; move away an object held in the hand. **nu nahədak** I'm off **ahədakfəŋ ka aku a** he moves away from by the fire
- hədakbiyu** *vcpd.* approach. **ahədak(va)biyu ka aku** he comes near the fire
- hədəgəc** [xədəgəts] *n.* hiccough.
- hə-əŋ** [həʔəŋ] *intj.* [grunt].
- həhər** [áxəxər] *v.* skin. *See: hər.*

həl [áxól] *v.* pick up [pl. object]; stop (rain).
məhəlvani marriage **ahəl akur** he picks up stones **avər ahəl** it stops raining **wal ahəlfəŋ ahər a** the woman does her hair

həlas [áhólás] *v.* scowl, be on the point of tears. **wur ahəlasa / ahəlaskaba** the child is on the verge of tears

həlatata [xələtātā] *mod.* soggy, very soft.
hiletete *dimin.* very soft and small. *See:* **mbileb-mbileb**.

hələw [áxóláw] *v.* conceive, couple, tangle.
kəra ahələw the bitch becomes pregnant
kəra tahələwvu the dogs couple **ezewef tahələwvu** the strings get tangled

həlbatak [xələbātāk] *mod.* breaking.
hilbetek *dimin.* small and broken.

həlkamay [xələkámáj] *n.* jaw.

həlvəday [áxələvədəj] *v.* stir up. *See:* **dəlbəsay**.

həma [xəmà] *n.* mountain. **ma həma** mother tongue

həmas [áhómás] *v.* tie together.
həmas [xəmàs] *n.* hard secco straw.

həmbahad [áxəmbāhād] *vcpd.* overturn.
baru ahəmbəhad mis the smallpox is ravaging the people *See:* **mbay, had**.

həmbasl [áhəmbát] *v.* crush. **wal ahəmbasl ahər ga gavan** the woman crushes the cobra's head *See:* **mbac**.

həmbay [áxəmbāj] *v.* turn, open. **andra ahəmbay ahay** the peanuts are sprouting out of the ground **kəzia wandəŋ gayəŋ a akaba sərviyet ahəmbakabu** you take him his shorts and towel so he can cover himself *See:* **mbay**.

həmbakabu [áxəmbākābū] *vcpd.* cover oneself. **ahəmbakabu azana** he covers himself with the cloth

həmbavu [áxəmbāvù] *vcpd.* cover one's head. **ahəmbavu hijid a ahar vu** he covers his head with a calabash

həŋkali [həŋkālì] *n.* thought, attitude, care, gentleness. **agraj təwi ana həŋkali** he works gently **həŋkali ga bəza Muyəŋ egir** the attitude of the Muyang is difficult *From:* Mandara.

həndal [áhəndāl] *v.* crack. **ahay ahəndal** the house is cracking

həndalala [xəndəlālā] *mod.* circular.
hindelila *dimin.* round and small. **ahay hindelela** a round house

hundolola *augm.* round and large.

həndar-həndar [həndərhəndər] *mod.* in the middle.

hinder-hinder [hindərhində] *dimin.* exactly in the middle. **məŋgəhaf afət hinder-hinder e divi bu** the tree is growing right in the middle of the road

həndasay [áxəndāsāj] *v.* blunten.

hənday₁ [áhəndāj] *v.* leave a mark with something on the surface of an object. **ahəndi hilimis ana wal ka huđ** he puts charcoal on the woman's belly

hənday₂ [ájəndāj] *v.* resound. **gwənder ahənday** the drum resounds **ambəl ga awak ahənday gwənderi** the goatskin drum resounds (better than other kinds)

həndər [áxəndər] *v.* line up side by side. **ahəndər fifiŋ** he makes a screen of millet stalks **ahəndər bəza ga mawayə** he lines up the pieces in the 'mawayə' game

həŋgalay [áxəŋgālāj] *v.* beg. **bəza tahəŋgalay siŋgo** the children beg for money **bəza tahəŋgalay ma ga məndala gatay** the children tease/accuse their friends

həŋgaray [áhəŋgārāj] *v.* pass on. **ahəŋgaray ma** he passes on a message *See:* **ŋgaray**.

həŋgaraba [áxəŋgārābā] *vcpd.* translate. **ahəŋgaraba waketa ga Melefit ana muyəŋ a** he translates the Bible into Muyang

həŋgaraya *vcpd.* repeat. **tahəŋgaraya ni ba dəŋgu ge mis** the repeat other others' opinions

həŋgarfəŋ [áxəŋgārɸəŋ] *v.* reply. **ahəŋgarfəŋ ka zlapay** he replies to the speech

həŋgarkaba [áxəŋgārɸābā] *vcpd.* resolve, explain. **mis tahəŋgarkaba ma ga tay a** the folk resolve their problem **wur ahəŋgarkaba ma tata** the child can explain himself **mis tahəŋgarkaba siŋgo ga sla** the people give back the money for the cow (to each)

həŋgarvu *v.* send back the thing onto another. **ahəŋgarvu zlam** he takes revenge **ahəŋgarivu zlam ana mis** he takes revenge on people **ahəŋgarvu ahar a məbərux vu** he stoops (with age) **ahəŋgarvu ahər ga mōroni a gosko vu** he regrets having gone to the market **mahəŋgarvani** returned

həŋgay [áxəŋgāj] *v.* love.

- həŋgi ahār** *vcpd.* protect. **agəski zal day kəhəŋgi ahār kala wur gūziteni** normally you cuddle your husband like a baby
- həŋgri** [áxəŋgri] *vcpd.* give back, repeat. **ahəŋgri zlam ana mis** he returns the thing to the people **ahəŋgri eri** he starts again, repeats
- həŋjasla** [xəndzátā] *mod.* lumpy.
- hinjesle** *dimin.* See: **həŋjaya, həyis.**
- həŋjaya** [xəndzājijā] *id.* showing hard lumps like teeth. **kəra ahəlki ma həŋjaya** the dog opens its mouth wide (showing its teeth) **barama hini akur həŋjaya ahkay** this road is stony **humbo həŋjaya** the flour is lumpy **aslər həŋjajay a dala bu** they show their teeth
- hinjeje** *dimin.* See: **həyis.**
- həpəf** [áxpəf] *v.* eat (meat). **ahəpəfkaba aslər** he gnashes his teeth
- hər₁** [áhər] *v.* jump, fly, go. **edij ahər a hud melefít bu** the bird flies off into the sky **hər manjay gayak** let it [a curse] go onto you
- həraya** *vcpd.* come out.
- huriyu** *vcpd.* come in.
- herkiaya** *vcpd.* flow out onto. **yam ahərkiya ka zalaka** the river has overflowed **bik ahərkiaya ka wakita va do** the pen doesn't write any more
- hər₂** [áhər] *v.* burn (intrans.). **andra ahər** the peanuts are burning
- hirij** *vcaus.* burn (trans.). **ehirij andra** he burns the peanuts
- hər₃** [áhər] *v.* skin. **ahər awak** he skins the goat
- həraḅ** [xəràḅ] *mod.* salty.
- hireḅ** *dimin.* salty and small. See: **ndekek-ndekek.**
- hərcəyhərec** [xərtsəxə̀rə̀ts] *n.* name of the month towards the end of the rainy season (normally September). **madaga andəh ke kiye ga hərcəyhərec** the red millet ripens in September
- hərday** [áxərdāj] *v.* remove, scrape. **ahərday hijid** he cleans out the seeds from the calabash
- hərək** [xə̀rək] *id.* putting on. **nəfuvu jako hərək** I put my hat on well See: **dəhak.**
- hər-hər** [xə̀rxə̀r] *n.* plant (sp.).
- hərsək** [xə̀rsək] *mod.* rough, dirty.
- hirsek** *dimin.* dirty and small. See: **drəsaw.**
- hərtay** [áhərtāj] *v.* stir. **ahərtay dəf ana hədəgərdəf** she stirs the millet boule with a stirring-stick
- hərzi-hərzi** [xə̀rzī-xə̀rzī] *id.* opening. **əhəlka ma hərzi-hərzi** she opened her mouth wide
- hətav** [xətāv] *n.* mat.
- hətay** [áxtāj] *v.* watch over, herd, wait for, guard. **Melefít ahətay mis** God watches over people See: **jugur.**
- hətək** [xətək] *n.* basket.
- həyis** [xə̀jīs; xə̀jīsā] *id.* revealing hard lumps. **zal maharam ni məmətani aslər həyisa** the fetishiest died with his mouth open **ahəlkiya aslər a həyisa** he opens his mouth, showing his teeth
- hiyis** [xijís] *dimin.* with prominent small lumps. See: **həŋjaya.**
- həzlav** [xə̀zə̀v] *mod.* sighing, panting. **asuf həzlav** he sighs
- hizlev hizlev** [xihzə̀v-xihzə̀v] *dimin.* of breathing; with difficulty. **wal asuf hizlev hizlev** the woman breathes with difficulty See: **dəwir.**
- həzləvəf** [xə̀zə̀vəf] *id.* disturbing. **mənjəgəni gani nahəj ni, təcəlvu həzləvəf həzləvəf.** they trampled in (the water) that was left
- hi₁** [éhi] *v.* crush, grind. See: **ngələf.**
- hi₂** [áhi] *v.* say to.
- hi₃** [hi] *dem.* here. **naḅ hi** here it is **nahkay hi** like this
- hi hi** [hihij] *mod.* while. **agray təwi azlapay hi hi** he speaks while he is working
- hibek** [xihbək; xihbək-xihbək] *mod.* breathing difficultly, comatose. **mis adi ana məsufani hibək** someone has started to breathe (again) **wur hibek-hibek** the child is comatose
- hicey** [éxihfəj] *v.* smooth, level. **kihcey kihcey** you smooth it See: **mihci.**
- hici** [xihfi] *n.* calabash. **əcahbiyu yam a daraw vu gəfakani a hici vu** she drew water in a huge calabash See: **hijid.**
- hid-hid** [hidhid] *mod.* large, of trees. **azəga ga govogo abu gəfakani e mite bu hid-hid** there was a huge fruit tree in coucal's concession
- hihirik** [xihirik] *mod.* black. **azana hini hihirik** this cloth is black **mis hihiriki**

- human being *See: didiliŋ.*
- hijid** [xɪdʒɪd] *n.* calabash. *Lagenaria vulgaris.*
See: hici.
- hijiyem** [xɪdʒɪjém] *nepd.* drinking calabash.
See: hijid, yam.
- hilfi** [xɪlfi] *n.* seed, semen. **tehebi hilfi ela** they stopped us progressing
azakababiyu hilfi ga hay he brings the millet seed first
- hilimis** [xɪlmɪs] *n.* charcoal.
- hilis** [hɪlɪs] *id.* [stones] in quantity. **bəz təhəlbiyu akur hilis agam** the children bring home large numbers of stones
- hilisise** [hɪlɪsɪsɪsɛ] *mod.* in uncountably small pieces. *See: ciɓ-ciɓ, presise.*
- hini** [xɪnɪ] *mod.* this. *See: hi, nini, tegəni.*
- hindekika** [xɪndəkikā] *mod.* numerous. *See: hircica.*
- hindi** [éxɪndi] *vcpd.* ask for, ask. **ehindi ɗaf** he asks for (food) **tihindi kur** they are asking for you **ehindi mis** he asks for people **ehindii zlam ana mis** he asks for something for the people
hindifiŋ vcpd. ask (someone) for something. **ehindifiŋ zlam ki mis a** he asks folk to give him something **ehindifiŋ pakama ki mis a** he asks people something
- hindigiley** [éhɪndɪgɪlɛj] *v.* make round.
hindigil mod. round.
- hundugul** *augm.* large and round.
- hindir** [xɪndɪr] *n.* nose. **hindir mindigir** worn-down hoe, swallow (bird) **armuwur ehebi hindir ana mis** the sickness finishes off people
- hingir** [éxɪŋgɪr] *v.* reject. **wur ehingir ɗaf** the child doesn't want the boule
- hinjib** [hɪndʒɪb] *id.* kneeling (for a woman). **wal avi yam ana zal ana mirdim hinjib** the wife gives the water to her husband kneeling
- hir** *vroot.*
hirvu [éhɪrvu] *vcpd.*
— *v.* mingle, quarrel. **wuwal tahirvu ka yam** the women mingle at the well
hirkabu vcpd. **ehirkabu mis** he sows discord among people
- hircica** [xɪrtʃɪtʃā] *mod.* numerous. *See: hindekika, dərɛɛ.*
- hirgika** [xɪrgɪkæ] *id.* covering. **afakabu birewrew hirgika** he puts on a large hat
ara ana birewrew a hirgigigi he's

- coming with a huge hat on
- hirim** [xɪrɪm] *id.* collapsing. **ahay ambəɗ hirim** the house is collapsing
hirim hirim plur. collapsing in several events. **embed ahay hirim hirim** he totally demolishes the house(s)
- hiriŋ** [éxɪrɪŋ] *vcaus.* cause to burn. *See: hər.*
- hirip** [xɪrɪp] *mod.* crowded and sitting. **tənjəhad hirip** they sit down **nday hiripa** they are sitting **tənzəhad hiripa** they sit down and wait *See: diz.*
- hirpetik** [xɪrpɛtik] *mod.* crowded. **mis tənjəhad hirpetik** the people sit down grouped together **nədi ahər ana mis manjəhadani hirpetika** I found the people sitting gathered together *See: hirip.*
- hirziz** [hɪrʒɪz] *mod.* dark, shaded, causing fear. **avər azəbiyu maklabasl hirziz** the rain brings clouds **avər asakabaya hirziza** it is threatening rain **akur hirziza** a big stone that causes fear
- hiti** [éhtɪ] *v.* conquer, beat, beat. **eihiti tay** he beats them **ehiti mis kay** he beats many people **ehiti naŋ ana pakama** he persuades him
- hiz** [éhɪz] *v.* scrape clean. **wal ehiz wurzla** the woman scrapes clean the pot **ehizfiŋ ɗəndalaɓ ka kimaka** he scrapes the mud off from his shoe
- hodogoruk** [xɔdɔgʷɔrɔkʷ] *n.* a hollow.
hodogoruk [xɔdɔgʷɔrɔkʷ] *mod.* hollow. **kasaba mələŋ a nahkay a hodogorukwa** you make a hollow somewhere *See: hadagarak.*
- hohwar** [xʷɔxʷarxʷar] *mod.* many and still on the plant. **naŋ abu zlam gayəŋ hohwarhwar, adadəy hohwarhwarhwar** there he was with it firmly attached, no matter how he moved
- hojo** [hʷɔdɔxɔ] *cnj.* better. **kanjəhad ti, hojo kagraj təwi** it is better to work than be idle *See: embeni.*
- hola-hola** [xʷɔlaxʷɔlɔ] *n.* carelessness. **hini zal hola-hola** this is a careless man **təwi ga hola-hola ahərəya do** violent work does not succeed **ahəliyu zlam a mota vu ana hola-hola** he loads the car violently *See: hazla-hazla.*
- holəŋ** [hʷɔlɔŋ] *n.* the part of the harvest left in the field. **bəza tadəbay holəŋ e gili** the children are gleaning in the fields
holəŋəy [áxʷɔlɔŋəj] *v.* glean. **aholəŋəy**

andra he gleans peanuts
holuggur [h^wɔ́lɔ́ŋg^wɔ́r] *n.* shell.
homo [x^wɔ́mɔ́] *n.* pot for drawing water.
hombra [x^wɔ́mbrà; x^wɔ́mbràràʔā] *mod.* thin.
hombra tãdi ahàr ana makombro aculadáy ahur the found the monitor, who was thin and eating beans
makombro hombrara'a the monitor is thin
horhoray [x^wɔ́rxɔ́ráj] *n.* okra seeds. **wur azum eli horhoraj** the child eats the okra-seed sauce
hub [áxóɔ́] *v.* break (intrans.). **mandaray ahub** the jar is breaking
heb *vcaus.* break (trans).
hubuc [x^wúɔ́úts] *n.* plant (sp.).
hucum [x^wútsóm] *n.* hyrax. **aslər hucum** earring
hudum [x^wúðòm] *n.* ladle, spoon.
hud [x^wúð] *n.* belly.
hudkum [x^wúðk^wóm] *n.* large stone.
huduk-huduk [x^wúðk^wx^wúðk^w] *mod.* warm.
məlaŋ hini huduk-huduk this place is quite warm *See: huz-huz; lubuk-lubuk.*
hulaŋ-hulaŋ [h^wúɔ́lãŋh^wúɔ́lãŋ] *id.* taking off something that is in pieces. **ahəlaya akur a hulaŋ-hulaŋ a hað ba** he clears the stones from the ground
hulbuz [x^wúɔ́lbüz] *id.* hollow-eyed. **viru amənjalaŋ ana mis hulbuz** the monkey looks at folk with sunken eyes
huluɔ́ [x^wúɔ́lɔ́] *mod.* well-cooked. **naŋ ni ðek huluɔ́ ènjia** it all arrived well-cooked
huluŋ [x^wúɔ́lɔ́ŋ] *mod.* almost full.
hulus [h^wúɔ́lɔ́s] *id.* the action of seriously wounding. **asi ambələk hulus a ahàr va** he hurts him badly on the head
humukway [áx^wúðm^wúk^wáj] *v.* grasp.
ahumukway ahar he closes his hand
agəs siŋgo a ahar vu humuk he grasps the money **ahumuki ahar ana mis** he gives something to people
humbo [x^wúðmbō] *n-mass.* flour. **humbo avu kay** there is a lot of flour
humbo-humbo *mod.* ripe, with powdery interior (fruit). **wur ga zlam agray humbo-humbo** the fruit is ripe
hundugulay [áx^wúðndög^wúɔ́láj] *v.* make round.
hindigiley *vdim.* make round and small.
hundugul [x^wúðndög^wúɔ́l] *mod.* round.
hijid hundugul(a) the calabash is

(completely) round **hijid**
hundugul(a) a round calabash
hindigil *dimin.* round and small.
hundugur [x^wúðndög^wɔ́r] *n.* bush.
hundum [x^wúðndòm] *mod.* overnight.
andəhadvu hundum it sits there overnight
huggo [x^wúðŋg^wō] *n.* armpit.
hugway [x^wúðŋg^wáj] *n.* the space between millet plants. **aslay kəzir a huggway bu** he pulls up grass between the millet
hunjasl [h^wúðndzàʔ] *id.* briskly. **tadəgaki ka ðaf hunjasl** they rush upon the millet boule
hunjavuv [x^wúðndzəv^wɔ́v] *mod.* upright.
hunjur [x^wúðndzúr] *id.* walking, making some kind of noise. **echihi asawadáy hunjur hunjur hunjur** the porcupine walks along
hurday [áh^wúrdáj] *v.* mix. **wur ahurday ðaf** the child mixes the millet boule *See: hurdufa; səfar; jərvay.*
hurdufa [x^wúrdúðfā] *mod.* broken up.
hirdifa *dimin.* completely cultivated. *See: hurday.*
hurguk [h^wúrg^wúðk^w] *mod.* moulting. **andra ambubiyu hað hurguk** the peanuts split the earth as they grow **ambəl hurgukwa** the skin is moulting
hirgik *dimin.* carrying something big on the head. **azakabu akur hirgik ka ahàr** he carried a big stone on his head
hurkway [áh^wúrk^wáj] *v.* start roofing. **ahurkway ahay ana kocopo/ana fifiŋ** he has made a start on roofing his house with straw/stalks *See: vad.*
hurmasay [áx^wúðrmàsáj] *v.* crumple, fold. **asus ahurmasay asak** the hedgehog folds its legs
hursay [áx^wúðrsáj] *v.* crumble. **akur ahursay** the stone crumbles **mis ahursay akur** someone crumbles the stone
hurus-hurus *mod.* friable (rock, bone).
hurslay [áh^wúrláj] *v.* rub.
huruc [x^wúðrúts] *id.* crunching.
hurufa [x^wúðrúfā] *mod.* somewhat warm.
huruk [h^wúðr^wúðk^w] *id.* putting. **afəki dizli ka mickər huruk** he puts the potsherd over the chicken
huruv-huruv [x^wúðrúv^wx^wúðrúv] *mod.* loose (earth, sand).

husl-husl [x^wʊɫx^wʊɫ] *n.* base of millet leaves.
huta [x^wʊtā] *n.* leather, string.
hutul [x^wʊtʊl] *n.* tail.
huv-huv [x^wʊvx^wʊv] *n.* lung.
huwa₁ [h^wà] *n.* run, chase. **adikiya ana huwa** he starts running
huwa₂ [h^wà] *n.* algae.
huyus [h^wijūs] *id.* lighting. **nak kəvi huyus huya** you just hit him to make a fire
huza [xʊzā] somewhat warm. **yam hini huza** this water is a little warm
huz-huz [xʊzxʊz] *mod.* warm. **yam hini huz-huz** this water is warm *See: hufuk-hufuk.*
huzlakuk [x^wʊɫək^wʊk^w] *mod.* equipped.
huzlbiyem [x^wʊɫbɪjɛm] *nepd.* hollow under a woodpile. *See: ahuzl, biyem.*
huzluv [x^wʊɫʊv] *n.* 1) (pile of) millet stalks. *See: avak.* 2) upper millet stalk.
hər [hɣr] *id.* ringing.
huya [h^wijā] *mod.* only, consequently, directly. **nak kəvi huyus huya** you just hit him with the millet stalk **akada gayak ni hwek-hweka huya** exactly like yours **kəsu hini huya aw** are you only giving me that much? **amal ti bay ya ti əzəgada maslaŋ nahaŋ a ti, tislɪŋikivu huya...** so if one throws the other, they kill him for them **ahi ana**

bəbəmbeli : aya ra huya he said to the elephant “Come on then”

həyʊm [x^wʏjʏm] *id.* scaring. **miŋɡic əhəl nu həyʊm** the knife gave me a fright
hwacuray [x^wʌtsʊrəj] *id.* attached. **kudɪ gayaŋ hwacuray** with his penis in place
hwak-hwak [x^wākx^wāk] *n.* Abyssinian roller. *Coriacas abyssinica.*
hwak-hwak hwak-hwak *mod.* blue.
hwal [âh^wāl] *v.* rub, crumple. **wur ahwal eyək** the child rubs the groundnuts **ahwal wakita** he crumples the paper *See: vərəday.*
hwas [áx^wás] *v.* break something up into smaller pieces. **ahwas ahay ga andra** he crushes the peanut stalks
hwasl [áh^wát] *v.* rub (eyes). **wur ahwasl eri** the child rubs his eyes
hwazla-hwazla [x^wʌɫsax^wʌɫsà] *mod.* noise. **adaday kartuŋ ni hwazla-hwazla** he makes a noise shaking the cardboard
hwek [h^wɛk] *mod.* exactly like. **endəwi hini hwek goro ni** this shirt is exactly like mine **akada gayak ni hwek-hweka huya** exactly like yours *See: jek.*
hweslisl [x^wɛɪɪ] *mod.* fearful, ashamed.

I - i

iy [i] *cnj.* yes.

J - j

ja [dzá] *n.* share. **zuwaya ja goro a** give me my share
jab [dzàb] *id.* leaving. **dirlɛŋgi ni tara takoro zla jab jab.** so the heynas left.
jabaslay [ádzaβàɫáj] *v.* spill, wrap. **ajabaslay ezewed, awul awak ana naŋ** he redoubles the rope to tie the goat **yam abaslay** the water spills
jafkalak [dzàfkàlæk] *mod.* abandoned.
jagway [ádzaŋwāj] *v.* join, hire out provisionally (contract may be terminated by return of hire fee). **ajagway pakama** he is looking for a quarrel **ajagway**

vədaŋ he hires out his field **ajagwawu** it comes to pass

jajakw [dzàdzàk^w] *mod.* suddenly. **təmənjaki ti ndam slewja jajakw** suddenly they saw the gendarmes

jak [dzàk] *id.* with the palm of the hand against something. **avi ahar ana jarakay jak** he puts his hand on his hip

jek *dimin.* small, with the palm against something.

jak jak [dzàk dzàk] *id.* placing hands palm down. **abi ahar ana jarakay jak jak** he puts his hands on his hips **ajakvoro**

- ana eziŋwi** he walks along leaning on a stick
- jaka-jaka** [dzəkādžəkā] *mod.* one by one. **eyeŋ àbikaba ana wal gana jaka-jaka ka haɗ a** squirrel poured it out on the ground for his wife again and again
- jako** [dzək^wó] *n.* hat (cloth).
- jakw** [dzək^w] *mod.* for a moment. **nəhuriyu jakw a gosko vu** I'm going to the market for a minute *See: zuk.*
- jalaŋ** [dzālāŋ] *n.* fin, leg (locust, cock).
- jalay** [ádžālāj] *v.* think. **ajal(ay) təwi gani ya haslani** he thinks of the work he did before **ajal ahàr** he thinks **ajalaki ahàr ka vədaŋ** he is thinking of his fields
- jam** [ádžàm] *v.* collect shares of something from people. **tajam siŋgo ga yam** they are collecting the well money **tajam hay ga pəra** the collect millet for the sacrifice
- jamam** [dzàmàm] *mod.* falling. **jamjamam təziaya** they gave them out to him
- jemim** *dimin.* falling entirely, and small. *See: goŋguraŋ.*
- jaməŋgay** [dzàməŋgəj] *n.* rib, side (body). **mbolo ka jaməŋgay** side-bag
- jaŋ-jaŋ** [dzəŋdzəŋ] *n.* hard part, hard place. **aləm ahay ka jaŋ-jaŋ** he builds his house on solid ground **jaŋ-jaŋ ga ɗaf** the hard outer part (crust) of millet boule
- jaŋgwarŋgwar** [dzəŋg^warŋg^war] *n.* head of millet after threshing.
- jar** [dzār] *mod.* holding. **wur ahəl fifiŋ jar a ahar vu** the child holds some stalks in his hand
- jarakay** [dzàràkāj] *n.* hip.
- jaray** [dzàràj] *n.* locust.
- jaslayani** [dzàłájàni] *mod.* fresh. **aslu jaslayani** fresh meat
- jav** [ádžàv] *v.* plant. **ajav hay** he plants out the millet **ajav geni** he plants a neem tree
- javar** [dzàvār] *n.* guinea fowl.
- javraham** *mod.* piled up and somewhat large.
- jevrehim** [dzèvrèxìmə] *dimin.* pile up and wrapped. **aslu ni zla jevrehim jevrehim** there was the meat in piles *See: ziriha.*
- jay** [ádžàj] *v.* take hold, bite. **wur ajay aslər** the child bites **wur aji aslər ana mis** the child bites people **wur aji aku ana mis** the child takes fire to throw at people
- jazlani** [ádžàžàni] *vcpd.* remain. *See: gəjəni, njəgəni.*
- jebesley** [édžèbèłèj] *v.* knot. **wur ejebesley ezewed** the child ties a knot in the string *See: jabaslay.*
- jegeligelik** [dzégèlìgèlìk] *n.* tickle.
- jegiliŋ** [dzégìlìŋ] *n.* division of a granary. **mis asəvu jegiliŋ a guvur vu** someone divides the granary
- jehey** [édžèhèj] *v.* gather. **kejehekabu, kejehekabu, àgra kay èkəla ti...** you gather it together, and when you have a lot of dry ones... *From: Mandara.*
- jek** [dzèkdzəkā] *mod.* exactly. **àðəm : yawa hini ti jek-jeka akada goro ni huya zla** he said "Yes, that's certainly just like mine." **endəwi hini jek goro ni** this shirt is exactly like mine *See: hwek.*
- jekukwa** [dzèkùk^wá] *mod.* standing, upright. **ahàr kay hi a jekwjekweni, kəðəm seteni** with a lot bristly hair, you'd say she was mad
- jeliŋ** [dzèlìŋ] *n.* person with second sight.
- jembey** [dzèmbèj] *n.* cloth. **zal ni mək mazaya jembey a lar avi ana ahàr ni** the man took a cloth and put it round his head
- jeŋgey** [édžèŋgèj] *v.* read, learn to read, teach to read. *From: Fulfulde.*
- jer** [dzèr] *mod.* lowering.
- jerevu** [dzèrèvù] *n.* animal?
- jerna** [dzèrná] *n.* garden. *From: ?*
- jevedey** [édžèvèðèj] *v.* harm. **ègia duniya azum nu, tambavakuvu tijevedey naŋ ti...** the world turned against me, they turned on him and harmed him...
- jevi** [dzèví] *mod.* even. **jevi aməd azəgad nu e divi bu** the wind was even going to blow me over on the road
- jey-jey** [dzèjdžèj] *n.* obstinacy. **tagray jey-jey** they are stubborn **zal jey-jey(eni)** a stubborn man *See: cekizleri.*
- jəbəd** [dzəbəd] *n.* sorcerer, sorcery. *See: matak, cekena.*
- jəbu** [dzəbū] *n.* grass.
- jəgəy** [ádžgəj] *v.* guard, pasture, wait. **tajəgəy sla** they pasture the cattle **tajəgəki mis ga armuwur** they watch over a sick person

- jəgəni** [ádʒəgəni] *vcpd.* be left. **ajegeni/agəjəni naŋ bəlaŋ** he is left by himself *See: gəjəni; jəgay.*
- jəhərək** [dzəxə̀rək] *mod.* thick. **jəhərəkkrək** *modint.* clearly thick.
- jək** [dzək] *id.* putting upright. **afəkad akur jək** he plants the stone upright
- jək-jək₁** [dzəkdzək] *id.* happy. **nahkəkay amərvu ti jək-jək** he was happy
- jək-jək₂** [dzəkdzək] *id.* burning.
- jəŋ-jəŋ** [dzəŋdzəŋ] *id.* on the edge. **ndam ga bay nakəŋ jəŋ-jəŋ təhuriyu...** the chief's people were on the edge and went in...
- jənjadasl** [dzəndzədəsɫ] *n.* liquid animal excrement.
- jənjəna** [dzəndzəná] *n.* bed.
- jəra** [dzərá] *n.* mortar.
- jərak** [dzə̀rək] *id.* two-legged. **dəgu hini asak jərak cə** this stool has two legs
- jərakokwa** [dzə̀rəkʷəkʷá] *mod.* upright and stiff.
- jərdəy** [ádʒərdəj] *v.* twist (a cord), move an object without picking it up. **ajərdəy ezewed** he twists the string **jərad əslə** grass (sp.)
- jərgwaslagwasla** [dzərgʷə̀lāgʷə̀lā] *mod.* lumpy. **hijid magwanəgwanə jərgwaslagwasla** the calabash is wrinkly
- jərlək** [dzə̀rlək] *id.* describes the manner of walking of someone who is deformed.
- jərsləsə** [dzə̀rɫə̀sə] *mod.* in grains. **jirslisə** *dimin.* in very small grains.
- jərvəy** [ádʒərvəj] *v.* mix (flour) with a lot of water. **wur dahalay ajərvəy humbo ga sukuluk** the girl mixes flour for the helpers *See: səfar; hurdəy.*
- jərzlay** [ázə̀rɫə̀j] *v.* carry many. **ajərzlabiyu biyem e gili cə cə** he brings back sticks of firewood from the bush two at a time
- jəzl** [dzə̀ɫ] *id.* joining. **jejezl** *id.* joining two objects.
- ji₁** [é:dʒi] *v.* get lost, disappear, die. **montur goro èjia** I have lost my watch **bəza ga zal hini təmetfəŋ a, èjia bəruv** this man has lost his children, he has gone off somewhere **nijiki ke divi a** I have lost my way **ejeba a wur ba** he isn't getting any children **ejero a arəŋ vu** he is running off somewhere **ejiki ka tay** he gets away from them
- ji₂** [édʒi] *v.* break (ground); do; get hot. **əji dabəy** he rolls on the ground **əji zlabay** he shows off **əji** it is getting hot
- ji₃** [dʒi] *mod.* as well. **cəhubiya yam a ji** bring me some water as well *See: ju.*
- jiba** [dʒibà] *n.* clan.
- jider** [dʒidēr] *mod.* full. **amu ni mərəhani jidəra jidəra, tisi** the jars were full of honey, and they drank
- jidim-jidim** [dʒidimdzidim] *mod.* dark green.
- jidu-jidu** [dʒidydʒidy] *id.* resounding, beating. **ana gwenderi ge virzegena ni jidu-jidu** with the tin drum resounding
- jiger** [dʒigèr] *n.* Achilles' tendon.
- jigudesley** [édʒigʸdèfèj] *v.* limp. **wur hini ejigudesley** this child limps
- jijehud** [dʒidʒèhʷid] *n.* elbow.
- jijekudkuda** [dʒidʒèkʷɪdkʷɪdæ] *mod.* very long.
- jijij** [dʒidʒij] *n.* mortar.
- jijə** [dʒidʒū] *n.* small metal bell. *See: mekuleliŋ.*
- jik₁** [dzik] *mod.* upright, childless. **ecik jik** he keeps standing **naŋ jika** he is standing **èwia walana ni kay jik təvuk** if she has a girl, they'll give her to you
- jik₂** [dzik] *n.* 1000fr. **təhuriyu təzaya sulay a elmeseri jik kru** they took out a ten thousand franc note *From: Mandara.*
- jikeŋ** [dʒikèŋ] *intr.* for what purpose? **kara kamam jikeŋ mam?** why have you come? **kamam jikəŋ mam?** to what end?
- jiki** [édʒiki] *vcpd.* hem. *See: ji.*
- jilib** [dʒilɪb] *mod.* in a line. **eyew tanjəhadfəŋ ka məŋgəhaf jilib** the grasshoppers are lining themselves up on the tree **ka dəŋ-dəŋ ni jiliba cekw ezi cekw avəla** lined up on the riverbank upstream and down
- jimjima** [dʒimdzimā] *mod.* many, and upright or high up. **slasla edrem jimjima takoro ka yam** the cattle, horns up, go to the water **biyem jimjima ka ahər** the bits of wood are on his head
- jiŋ** [édʒiŋ] *vcaus.* lose, destroy. **wur ejiŋ mindigir** the child loses the hoe *See: ji.*
- jirey** [édʒirèj] *v.* teach a lesson. **ləwir ejirey mis** people learn from the famine **pakama ga bəŋ ga bəza ejirey tay** the

words of their father teaches the children a lesson **nijerefəŋva ka pakama** I avoid the problem

jiringezley [édzĩŋgèʒēj] *v.* pile up. **wal ejiringezlej tasa a ahay bu** the woman piles up the plates in the house

jiriri [dzĩrĩrĩ] *n.* truth. *From:* Mandara.

jir-jir [dzĩrdzĩr] *n.* the backbone of any animal, fishbone.

jirkək [dzĩrkʷȳkʷ] *id.* raising, pricking up. **ezeftaba slimi a jirkək** he pricks up his ears

jogobay [ádzògʷòbāj] *v.* soak.

jaraw [dzàràw] *n.* anklet.

ju [dzù] *mod.* as well. **cəhubiya yam a ju** bring me some water as well *See:* **ji**.

jubay [ádzòbāj] *v.* extend. **təjubay kizi** they heighten a secco partiton

juday [ádzòdāj] *v.* tie strongly. **təjuday zal seteni ana ezewed / təjudi ezewed ana zal seteni** they tie up the madman strongly with cord

juful [dzùfùl] *id.* throwing on the ground. **eziigoro kocopo juful** he throws the [bundled] straw on the ground

jugru-jugru [dzùgrúdzùgrú] *mod.* square, rectangular. **ahay jugru-jugru** a square house

jugur [ádzògʷùr] *v.* amass, keep carefully. **nəjugur sifa goro** I don't take risks *See:* **hətay**.

juguv [dzùgùv] *n.* bush (sp.).

juh [ádzòxʷ] *v.* use sparingly, keep for. **ajuh hay ana bəza** he keeps the millet for the children

juk [ádzòkʷ] *v.* push down. **ajuk hay a boho bu** he pushes down the millet in the sac

juk juk [dzòkʷ dzòkʷ] *mod.* pushing down. **abiyu waketa a mbolo vu juk juk** he pushes the paper into the bag

jum-jum [dzùmdzùm] *n.* cayman.

jur [ádzòr] *v.* choose from among. **ajur təndal** he chooses a beam

juruk [dzùrùkʷ] *n.* fishing basket.

juruv [dzùrùv] *n.* waterfall.

juwwa [dzù:wā] *id.* (of rain) pouring continuously. **avər atəd juwwa** it is pouring **avər juwwani hini ti, kasləka akaba naŋ a waw?** are you going home when it's raining hard like this?

jugri [dzùgrĩ] *n.* rubbish heap, pile of sacred earth used for swearing. **ambadəy ana jugri** he swears with the oath-earth

jugwer [dzùgʷēr] *n.* lameness. **hini zal jugwer** thei man is lame

juk-juk [dzùkʷdzùkʷ] *mod.* very hot. *See:* **wir-wir, bak-bak**.

jəzl [dzùʒ] *id.* appearing. **eslini mək əhərkiə ka zal na jəzl** then she appeared to the man

K - k

ka₁ [kā] *prep.* on. **andəhad ka həma** he sleeps on the mountain **naŋ ka slalah** he is on the bed **gandasak ka naŋ ni** a pumpkin of that time *See:* **kigeni**.

kà₂ [kà] *prep.* beside. **andəhad ka həma** he is sleeping at the foot of the mountain **naŋ ka zakaka** he is beside the mayo

-kabu [kābū] *ext-vb.* for oneself, on oneself, together. **takabu** they are together

kabcalah [kàbtsàlāx] *id.* falling. **taboro wus ga awak ni zla kabcalah kabcalah kabcalah** they threw down the thighs of the goats

kabəla [kābəlā] *id.* placing. **təzəbiya bəci bay bay a, kabəla táfəkada táfəkada**

zla do waw they brought the mats from the chefferie and put them all down

kaca-kaca [kàtsàkàtsà] *id.* trying to snatch. **kaca-kaca akal azəgad həya nahəma...** when he wanted to throw it down...

kacakar [kàtsàkàr] *n.* sword. *See:* **maslalam**.

kacawal [kàtsàwàl] *mod.* hanging + long. **afiyu azana kacawal avəla** he puts the cloth up lightly **asay aslu ni kacawala ahkay ti** he was cutting thin strips of meat **azana kacawala a ga avəla** the light cloth is up there

kecewel *dimin.* hanging and small.

kadu [kàdò] *prep.* in exchange for ; the most ... **azay jako kadu endəwi** he takes a hat

in exchange for a shirt **kadu gəɖakani**
the biggest **wur kadu gəziteni** the
smallest child

kaf [ákád] *v.* kill (sing. object). **akaf sla** he
kills the cow **takadvu** they fight

kada-kada [kādākādā] *mod.* that prevents.
asay mazlak kada-kada he cuts the
vine that prevents **agri ahar ana mis**
kada-kada he stops the people by a sign

kadalaŋ [kādālāŋ] *mod mod.* divided.
kərkadalaŋ əkəlkaba yam na he split
the water to the bottom

kadvu [kadvū] *n.* fight. *See:* **kaf**.

kaf [kāf] *id.* hitting. **zilim eslini mək məsi**
ziŋ-ziŋ a dalahar vu kaf then stork
gave him a peck on the head

kafani [káfāni] *n.* improvement in health.
nəŋgəta kafana I feel better

kaf-kaf [kāfkāf] *mod.* large and light. **boho**
ga hay hini kaf-kaf this bag of millet is
light

kef-kef [kēfkēf] *dimin.*

— *mod.* small and light. **hijid hini**
kef-kef this calabash is light

kahay [ákāhāj] *v.* lose one's way. **àra**
àkahuya agam a she came home via a
devious route **wur àkahafəŋ ka**
məŋana the child has lost the way to his
mother **nakahaki ke divi a** I am losing
my way

kakəla [kəkə̀lā] *dem.* which. **nəvi siŋgo**
kakəla gani ya nakadi awak ni I am
giving him money instead of killing him a
goat **kakəla ga masagani** the one who
is the biggest

kala [kālā] *mod.* like. *From:* Mandara.

kal-kal [kālkal] *mod.* right, equal, level.

kam [kām] *disc.* topic marker. **naŋ ni kam**
nisliki do as for that, I can't do it *From:*
Fulfulde.

kamam [kāmām] *mod.* why? *See:* **kà, mam.**

kam-kam [kām kām] *n.* pardon.

kamnjagad [kāmndzàgád] *n.* arrow.

kani [kāni] *mod.* today.

kaŋ-kaŋ [kəŋkəŋ] *mod.* hard.

keŋ-keŋ *dimin.* hard, dry and small.

koŋ-koŋ *augm.* solid and covering. **ambəl**
egi koŋ-koŋ the skin has hardened
ambəl koŋ-koŋani a dry skin

kaŋgaya [kəŋgàjā] *mod.* for ever. **ma ga**
Melefit anjəhad kaŋgaya the word of

God endures for ever

karal [kàrāl] *n.* field for winter sorgho. *From:*
Fulfulde.

karəŋga [kàrəŋgà] *n.* money, work. **akoro**
ka karəŋga e verzi vu he is going to
look for work among the Mandara

karawa [kàrāwá] *n.* evening. **melakarawa**
evening

kasaway [ákàsawāj] *v.* run slowly.

kasembet [kàʃembèt] *n.* moustache. *From:*
Mandara.

kaslawad [kátawád] *n.* mature millet leaf
which no longer cuts. *See:* **makslawal.**

kat [ákát] *v.* sieve. **wal akat humbo** the
woman sifts the flour

kata [kàtà] *n.* sieve. *From:* Fulfulde 'kata'.

katabaw [kàtābāw] *mod.* hanging. **hud**
atədifəŋ ana wal a katabaw, ewi
wudak the woman's belly is hanging,
she's about to give birth

ketefew *dimin.* hanging and small.

katakap [kàtākáp] *mod.* all. **avəday mis**
katakap he is inviting everybody *See:*
dek.

katakrah [kàtākɾàx] *mod.* with all one's
strength. **bəza taməmjay awak**
katakrah the children try their hardest to
find the goat

katal [kàtāl] *id.* coming out. **kəra àchuwa**
dal-dal, arəd ahəraya katal the dog
has run a lot, its tongue is hanging out **eri**
məwurani ɛzligeya eri ana wur a
katal conjunctivitis hurts the child's eye
too much

katalaw [kàtālāw] *mod id.* hooked. **atəliviyu**
ezewed ana wur a dəŋgu vu katalaw
he puts the string on the neck of the child

katəlaŋ [kàtəlāŋ] *n.* one-testicled. **zal**
katəlaŋ a one-testicled man

kaw *id.* taking up something long. **azay aday**
kaw a ahar vu he snatches up the stick
See: **caw.**

kakaw [kàkāv] *id.* catching. **etuwetu**
azay mickər kakaw the hawk snatches
the hen

kawal-kawal [kāvālkāvāl] *n.* Standard-
wing nightjar, given mystic significance.
Macrodipteryx longipennis. *See:* **wal.**

kawsaŋ [kāwsāŋ] *n.* catapult.

kay₁ [ákáj] *v.* cover, stretch, weigh. **akay**
kəmbazl he sets a trap **akay sləzi** he

kəcəwur [kəcəwūrūr] *mod.* thin.
makombro àhəraya a mənğəhaf ba kəcəwur a thin monitor came down from the tree **kəcəwurwur meteleŋ ni kwa deni** with thin buttocks **makombro kəcəwurwura** the monitor is thin

kədfəc [kədfəts] *id.* putting. **azay davgulgul kədfəc aniviyu a ma vu** he took a stone and put it in his mouth

kədfək [kədfək] *id.* forgetting. **wur èjikia ka mənəana kədfək** the mother has lost her child *See: təkədfək.*

kəfahaha [kəfəxəxā] *mod.* somewhat pale.
kifeheha *dimin.* somewhat pale and small.
See: kusah-kusah.

kəkaray [əkəkəraj] *v.* cackle.

kəla₁ [kələ] *mod.* every, all. **kəla vad** every day

kəla₂ [kələ] *n.* place. **a kəla gani vu** in place of.. *From: Mandara.*

kəlap [kəlap] *id.* kicking. **təni asak ana mən ga wur kəlap** they kick the child's mother

kəlay [əkələj] *v.* borrow. **akəlay siŋgo** he borrows money **akəli siŋgo ana mis** he lends money to people

kələr loudly. *See: tələr.*

kəm [kəm] *id.* falling. **àhəraya avər ga hay kəm madana** then the sowing rain fell

kəmbazl [kəmbəz] *n.* trap.

kəp [kəp] *id.* closing. **kwa fenitir kwa mahay dek təzləkabu kəp kəp** they close all the windows and doors tightly

kəra [kəra] *n.* dog.

kərap [kərap] *mod.* empty. **asak ga baskur kərapa** the bicycle tyre is completely deflated *See: kurup.*

kərdəy [əkərdəj] *v.* tighten a cord that is stretched between two objects.

kərədf [kərədf] *mod.* all. **yaw ègia kərədf leli Muyaŋ ti agur leli ti ni** so it was he who ruled all us Muyaŋ *From: Mandara.*

kərəzl [kərəz] *id.* entering. **nəhkay wur ni kərəzl a ahay ni vu** so the child became part of the family

kərkəfaw [kərkəfaw] *n.* monkey (small).

kərkata [kərkətā] *n.* mantis.

kərkəra [kərkəra] *mod.* sneakily. **àra àhəraya àdəboro tay kərkəra kərkəra** so he followed them secretly *See: kəra.*

kərlaway [əkərləwāj] *v.* walk or cultivate superficially.

kərlawa [kərləwā] *mod.* superficially, simply. **asawadəy kərlawa** he walks around close by **awəski had a kərlawa** he lightly takes the soil off something

kərpasla [kərpəfā] *n.* wing.

kərtət [kərtət] *mod.* covering.

kərzləŋ-kərzləŋ [kərzləŋkərzləŋ] *mod.* shining. **ahkay kamənjaki məbəlay gatayani ti kərzləŋ-kərzləŋ** they look beautiful and shiny

kəsə₁ [kəsə] *n.* village, country.

kəsə₂ [kəsə] *mod.* not seeing well. **èsi zum a, eri kəsə ahkay** he is drunk, he can't see properly

kəsah [kəsəx] *mod.* everywhere. **ndam waray tedevu kəsah e gili** the hunters spread out in the bush

kəslah-kəslah [kəsləhkəsləh] *mod.* only just. **zal akal atam kəslah-kəslah** the thief only just escaped

kəslay [əkəsləj; əkəsləj] *v.* take (dog) hunting. **akəslay kəra** he takes a dog hunting **akəslay waray** he hunts (with a dog)

kətap [kətap] *id.* throwing.

kitep [kītəp] *dimin.* throwing in small pieces. **àsaya key hi kitep, èzligikiyaya ka takolay a** he cut him a little piece and threw it on his thigh

kətaway [əkətwəj] *v.* pierce, prick. **adak akətaway wur** the thorn pricks the child

kət-kət [kətkət] *mod.* having a sheen. **azana hini ahəl eri kət-kət ahkay** this cloth is bright

kəzla [kəzə] *n.* couscous pot.

kəzlay [əkəzəj] *v.* blow, run, move swiftly. **aməf akəzlay** the wind blows **pilis akəzlay** the horse gallops **takəzlay waray** they go hunting

-ki [əki] *vinfl.* about, on. **təzlapaki ka andra** they are talking about peanuts **had aki ka slalah** there is earth on the bed **avu siŋgo akivu ka hay** he gives me money as well as millet **afəkivu (afəkəf aki vu) awak ka sla** he adds a goat to the cow **laf azaya sla huya mbəŋ akia ahər a huya** he took the cow and cut its throat *See: ka.*

kibicey [ékibit[ə]j] *v.* blink or signal with eyes. **naŋ ekibici eri kibic ti, akfum**

- tadəgoro huya** when he shut his eyes, the mice fell down
- kibic** *id.* **kibic ani eri ana bəza ni** he glanced at the children *See:* **feketey**.
- kibitey** [ékìb̄tēj] *v.* die down. **aku ekibitey** the fire dies down
- kicek** [kīt̄[ēk] *mod.* squeezing. **ahuriyu e kidīŋ ga ahay vu kicek** he squeezes between the houses
- kicikil-kicikil** [kīt̄[īk̄ik̄it̄[īk̄il] *mod.* complete. **ere ya zlam ga ahar gayəŋ dek kicikil-kicikil** he had a complete hunting outfit
- kid̄** [ék̄id̄] *v.* trim branches from. **wal ekid̄ biyem** the woman trims the branches off the wood
- kidemeseri** [k̄id̄m̄és̄ēri] *n.* gun. *From:* Mandara ‘kara masara’.
- kidembeya** [k̄id̄emb̄ēj̄] *n.* aubergine.
- kid̄milmil** [k̄id̄milm̄il] *n.* back of knee. *See:* **dəŋgwel-dəŋgwel**.
- kidīŋ** [k̄id̄iŋ] *n.* middle. **e kidīŋ bu** in the middle (**wur**) **ye kidīŋ** middle child
- kigeni** [k̄iŋ̄j̄ēn̄i] *mod.* perfectly. **agraj t̄awi kigeni** he is working the way he should **agraj t̄awi ka goro ni** he is working the way I want **agraj t̄awi ka gayəŋ ni** he is working the way he wants *See:* **ka, gani**.
- kilebesi** [k̄il̄éb̄é[̄r̄] *n.* very white millet. *See:* **walagana**.
- kilek** [k̄il̄èk] *intj.* “My friend”, appellation used only in folk tales. *See:* **kilera**.
- kileŋ**₁ [k̄il̄ēŋ] *n.* clairvoyance. **zal kileŋ adafay zal matak** a clairvoyant identifies the sorcerer
- kileŋ**₂ [k̄il̄ēŋ] *mod.* also. **naŋ day ara kileŋ** he came as well *See:* **kekileŋa**.
- kileŋ**₃ [k̄il̄ēŋ] *id.* wholly. **ezligiyu ezewed kileŋ a suwa vu** he throws the rope into the well *See:* **sikileŋa**.
- kilera** [k̄il̄èr̄à] *intj.* “My friend”, appellation used in folk tales. **ahi ana govogo : kələra** he said to the coucal “my friend....” *See:* **kilek**.
- kilever** [k̄il̄èv̄ēr̄] *n.* pullover. *From:* English ‘pullover’.
- kilew-kilew** [k̄il̄èwk̄il̄èw] *n.* side of the part of the body between the hips and the ribs. **ezligi naŋ ka kilew-kilew** he stones him in the waist
- kilif** [k̄il̄if] *n.* fish.
- kiliw-kiliw** [k̄il̄ỳk̄il̄ỳ] *mod.* aimlessly (walk).
- kimaka** [k̄im̄àk̄à] *n.* shoe. *From:* Mandara.
- kircic** [k̄àrt̄[̄it̄] *mod.* spread, wide. **makəlabasl anzivu ana fat kircic** the clouds are hiding the sun **kahəmbahadaba ambəl na lala kircic ka had a** you spread out the skin on the ground well **kizi kircica a mahay bu** a wide secco screen at the door **kizi ya a mahay bu ni kircica** the secco at the door is wide
- kirdehey** [ék̄ird̄ēh̄ēj̄] *v.* move using knees. **ekirdehey (mirdim)** he moves along on his knees
- kirew-kirew** [k̄ir̄èwk̄ir̄èw] *n.* Temminck’s courser (?). *Cursorius temminckii*.
- kirikey** [ék̄irk̄ēj̄] [ék̄irik̄é] *v.* squat down. *See:* **cidəkwey**.
- kirim-kirim** [k̄ir̄im̄k̄ir̄im̄] *mod.* quickly. **agraj t̄awi kirim-kirim** he works quickly **t̄awi hini kirim-kirimeni** this work is quick
- kisey** [ék̄i[̄ēj̄] *v.* loose (a dog).
- kisfit** [k̄i[̄fit] *n.* chaff.
- kisik** [k̄i[̄īk] *mod.* entirely. **mickər t̄izeba kisik** the hens all died
- kisim** [k̄i[̄im] *n.* death, corpse.
kisim mezid̄eni a dream. **kisim ezideki ka wur** the child is dreaming
- kisiŋ** [ék̄i[̄iŋ] *vcaus.* wish death. **ekisiŋ mis** he wants people to die *See:* **zeveriŋ**.
- kitiŋ** [k̄it̄iŋ] *mod.* large and flat. **afəki kizi ka ahay kitiŋ** he puts a wide secco on the house **aləŋ ga haf kitiŋtiŋa** the bark is wide and flat *See:* **habagarakrak**.
- kitipil** [k̄it̄ip̄il] *id.* putting. **kitipil anivu ana zal nakəŋ** she gave it to her husband
- kivey** [ék̄iv̄ēj̄] *v.* snort with disgust at a bad smell. **mazlahko èpi mis a, ekivey hindir** the lion saw the people and snorted with disgust
- kivu** [āk̄iv̄ù] *ext-vb.* added. **afəkad javar akivu ke mickər** he adds the guinea-fowl to the hens **akivu zamama ti, asləka** a little later, he leaves *See:* **-ki**.
- kiyaw** [k̄ij̄aw] *id.* way of walking with large steps or quickly. **asawad̄ay kiyaw kiyaw** he takes large steps
- kiye** [k̄ij̄è] *n.* moon, month. **kiye zal zal** crescent moon **kiye wal wal** full moon **ke**

- eri ge kiye** by moonlight **kiye mara** January **ka zlam ka mara** February **kiye muku** March **dəskəla** April **kiye andra** May **kiye madav aku** June **kokur ga bay Maya** July **tamtam** August **hərcəyhərəc** September **kiye ga bəza mağulağ** October **kiye sla** **Gezlewi** November **kiye sla ndavəla** December
- kiyiza** [kijiz:ā] *mod.* gummed. **eri kiyiza** a gummed eye
- kizi** [kizi] *n.* secco mat.
- kocopo** [kʷɔtsɔpɔ] *n.* straw (for roofing).
- kocoruh** [kʷɔtsɔrux] *id.* walking quickly. **yaw kocoruh kocoruh əsləka ədoro aɡam** she came quickly home
- kodahay** [əkʷɔdaxaj] *v.* boil (trs).
- koksah** [kʷɔksax] *mod.* impossible. **kisliki macuhwani koksah** you can't run at all
- koktiŋ** [kʷɔktij] *id.* much. **nahkay fra afəkad dəluv koktiŋ** he made a large lake between them
- kokur** [kʷɔkür] *n.* bull.
- kokurbana** [kʷɔkʷürmbānā] *n.* baobab. *Adansonia digitata.*
- koles** [kʷɔləj] *id.* describes a rapid entrance. **ahuriyu a ahay vu koles** he goes into the house suddenly
- kolobo** [kʷɔləbɔ; kʷɔləmbɔ] *n.* bottle. **mək zal maharam aziaya kolobo a** then the fetishist took out a bottle for him
- koloko** [kʷɔləkʷɔ] *n.* hip.
- kolta** [kʷɔltā] *n.* tar. *From:* English 'coal tar'.
- koskosay** [kʷɔskʷɔsaj] *n.* quartz. **koskosay ga avər** hailstone
- kotara** [kʷɔtārā] *n.* origin. **nəsər kotara ga ma hini do** I don't know the origin of this matter
- kotomu** [kʷɔtɔmú] *n.* wooden bowl. **acahaba yam na a kotomu va** he drew water with a wooden bowl
- krah** [əkɔrax] *v.* weed for the first time. **akrah vədağ** he weeds the field for the first time
- krapay** [əkɔrəpaj] *v.* make a horizontal surface of mud. **akrapay ahər ga guvur** he is making a smooth floor at the top of the granary *See:* **tapay.**
- krecey** [ékɔrətʃej] *v.* scrape clean, finish up. **wal ekrecey wurzla ga zum** the woman cleans the wine pot **tekreciki ambələk ana mis** they clean people's wounds
- krəŋ** [krəŋ] *n.* toad.
- kri** [kɔrɪ] *n.* stick used for roofing.
- krid** [kɔrɪd] *mod.* all. **akaba hijiyem dek krid krid əheʃkaba** he even broke all the calabashes
- kru** [krū] *mod.* ten.
- krubohay** [əkɔrübəhāj] *v.* crawl. *See:* **bəlgamay.**
- kruk** [krök] *n.* helmet. **təzalay kruk mala gadagar** they call it 'kruk', or rather helmet *See:* **gadagar.**
- krukoduk** [krökʷódükʷ] *n.* pigeon.
- kubi** [kʷúbɪ] *n.* heart (cards). *See:* **dinare, sinik, subata.** *From:* ?
- kuʃ** [əkúʃ] *v.* cook a sauce without protein. **akuʃ eli** she cooks simple sauce *See:* **gəbat.**
- kucak** *mod.* few and rather large. **kucek** [kʷɔtʃək] *dimin.* few in comparison to others.
- kuda** [kʷúdā] *n.* 1) pancreas. **kuda ga awak** goat's pancreas 2) prayer, suffering, orphan. **andav kuda pray esli kuda ana wur** she takes care to bring up the child 3) cloth cut from father's shroud worn at waist or head of son. **wur kuda** orphan **maslakuda** childless
- kudatay** [əkʷúdətaj] *v.* mix, knead. **akudatay dəf ga mbazla** she kneads the millet boule to make white wine with it
- kud-kud** [kʷúdʷkʷúd] *mod.* soft. **had hini kud-kud** this earth is soft *See:* **kudufa.**
- kudufa** [kʷúdʷfā] *mod.* kind, tolerant. **wur anjəhad kudufa** the child is obedient **azlapay ana kudufani** he speaks gently *See:* **kud-kud.**
- kudupay** [əkʷúdʷpaj] *v.* be pitted, wrinkled or dented. **ahər akudupay** his head is dented
- kuduz** [kʷúdʷuz] *mod.* fat.
- kuh** [kùx] *id.* hitting. **tini aday ana govogo kuh kuh kuh** they gave coucal a good beating
- kula** [kʷúlā] *prep.* giving pleasure to. **təwi gayağ ye ti agray ni kula nu vu** I like the work he's doing
- kulat-kulat** [kʷúlātʷkʷúlāt] *mod.* pale. **kulet-kulet** *dimin.* pale and small. *See:* **kusuh-kusuh.**
- kulaya** [kʷúlājā] *n.* hockey. **təbu atəhuriyu ka məlağ ga kulaya magrani** they are

- going out to the hockey field *See: gwaygwaya.*
- kulfud** [kʷʊlʃʊd] *id.* soft. **andəhadki ke sləzi kulfud** he lies down on the (soft) cotton
- kuloro** [ákùlörō] *vcpd.* refuse. **akuloro təwi ga zləba gayəŋ do** he doesn't refuse to work for his friend
- kuluk** [kʷʊlʊkʷ] *n.* pipe for smoking.
- kulum** [kʷʊlʊm] *n.* hollowed-out wood.
- kulumbatay** [ákʷʊlʊmbətāj] *v.* bend, crumple. **akulumbatay ara ga mandaya** he bends the iron of the roofing needle **mota akulumbatavu** the car is crumpled
- kulur** [kʷʊlʊr] *n.* soot.
- kumbutay** [ákʷʊmbùtāj] *v.* feel. **akumbutay sləzi** he feels the cotton
- kumbut-kumbut** [kʷʊmbùtkʷʊmbùt] *mod.* soft.
- kumbit-kumbit** [kʷʊmbìtkʷʊmbìt] *dimin.* soft and small.
- kumbuz** [kʷʊmbüz] *n.* bellows.
- kur** [kūr] *pro.* you singular (object form).
- kurəfay** [ákùrəfāj] *v.* tear open (with a knife), cut a path. **akurəfay awak ana miŋgie** he tears open the goat with a knife **akurəfay heri** he cuts a path through the forest
- kurəf** [kùrəf] *id.* by cutting a path through something. **keley gwar ahalay kurəf** cut through here
- kurəŋ-kurəŋ** [kùrəŋkùrəŋ] *id.* knocking. **mək a əsi ahar ana mahay kurəŋ-kurəŋ** then he knocked on the door
- kurbuhay** [ákùrbùxʷəj] *v.* crawl with the knees on the ground.
- kurəfay**₁ [ákʷʊrdəj] *v.* gather (maize).
- kurəfay**₂ [kùrdəj] *n.* nut.
- kuri** [kʷʊrì] *id.* throwing, scattering.
- kurndak-kurndak** [kʷʊrndākʷʊrndāk] *n.* larynx.
- kurnjahay** [ákùrndzəhāj] *v.* graze. **fiyem akurnjahay wal** the wood grazes the woman
- kursay** [ákùrsāj] *v.* gather, pick up.
- kurus** *id.* picking up. **ahəlabə andra ka had a kurus** he is picking up the peanuts form the ground
- kursi**₁ [kʷʊrʃi] *n.* chair.
- kursi**₂ [kʷʊrʃi] *n.* cucumber.
- kurslay** [ákʷʊrʃāj] *v.* gnaw. **akurslay aslat** he is gnawing a bone
- kurumbo** [kʷʊrùmbò] *n.* crocodile.
- kurup** [kùrùp] *mod.* empty. **aməf asləkaba a baskur ba kurup** the bicycle tyre is going down **asak ga baskur kurupa** the bicycle tyre is empty **asak ga baskur kurup kurup a gosko bu** there are deflated bicycle wheels in the market *See: kərap.*
- kurzlum** [kʷʊrʃùm] *n.* millet stalks woven for roofing. **avi kurzlum ana ahay** he is putting woven millet stalks on the roof
- kusfuruma** [kùsʃùrùmā] *mod.* somewhat dry. **azana əsifa kusfuruma** the cloth is a little dry
- kusi** [kʷʊsì] *n.* dry dust fog.
- kus-kus** [kùskùs] *n.* flower of a cereal.
- kusuḅ-kusuḅ** [kʷʊsùḅkʷʊsùḅ] *mod.* unswept.
- kusuf** [kʷʊsùf] *id.* searching among undergrowth. *See: kusuf.*
- kusuh-kusuh** [kʷʊsùxkʷʊsùx] *mod.* somewhat pale (less than kulšt-kulšt). *See: kulat-kulat, kəfahaha.*
- kuslup**₁ [ákùlùp] *v.* buckle inwards. **hijid akuslup** the calabash bends **medewel tukuslup təwur** old people have sunken cheeks
- kuslup**₂ [kʷʊlùp] *n.* dust of chaff.
- kutkur** [kʷʊtkʷʊr] *n.* crop (bird). **kutkur ge eri** eye-socket
- kutpu** [kʷʊtʃù] *n.* blow of the fist. **asi kutpu ana mis** he hits someone with his fist
- kutrum** [kʷʊtrùm] *n.* anything made of glass. **kutrum ge eri** glasses *From: Mandara?*
- kutukway** [ákʷʊtùkʷəj] *v.* hollow out something soft. **akutukway dəf** he makes a hollow in the millet boule
- kutuk** [kʷʊtùkʷ] *id.* putting into something hollow. **nəhkay zal ni kutuk afəvabiyu a mbolo vu** so the man put it in his pocket **azay wur kutuk** she holds the child in her arms
- kuyuk** [kʷʊjùkʷ] *id.* grabbing something hidden.
- kə** [kʷ] *mod.* going round. **zal akal eveliŋ ahay kə, asləkə** the thief goes round the house and leaves **akoro kə gwar kəlahay** he goes round behind the house

- kawey** [ékÿwēj] *v.* go round. **ekawey molaŋ** he goes round the place
- kuc** [k^wÿtʃ] *id.* drying out. **sluzi ekuli kuc** the cotton is drying out
- kudî** [k^wÿdî] *n.* penis.
- kudîŋ** [k^wÿdîŋ] *n.* urine.
- kuk** [k^wÿk^w] *id.* gripping. *See:* **guk**.
- kukuf** [kókÿf] *mod.* weak. **ègia medewel gayay a èsliã mãmætana zlam gayay a, kukufkufa day ti mæk àmæt** she got older till the end of her life, weakening until she died.
- kukufkuf** [kókÿfkÿf] *mod.* weak. **dabari aki diki-diki àvia medewel a kukuf kukuf.** she was helpless, having grown old
- kuli**₁ [ék^wÿlí] *v.* dry (intransitive). **mæk kafakaf, ekuli** then you put it down to dry *See:* **sutay**.
- kuli**₂ [kÿlí] *pro.* you pl. (object form).
- kuliŋ** [ék^wÿlíŋ] *vcaus.* cause to dry. **mekuleni** dried, dry *See:* **kuli**.
- kulir** [kÿlí] *id.* flowing. **mimiz gani kulir** the blood flowed out
- kul-kul** [kÿlíkÿlí] *id.* (grasping) firmly. **agəs aday kul-kul** he grasps the stick firmly **kəgəs mam kul-kuleni naŋ ni mam?** what are you grasping firmly like that?
- kurcuk-kurcuk** [k^wÿrtʃÿk^wÿrtʃÿk^w] *mod.* with difficulty. **zal medewel asawaday kurcuk-kurcuk** the old man walks feebly *See:* **gojuŋay**.
- kure-kure** [kÿrəkÿrək] *id.* walking. **tahəraya bəz nday ni tacuhway ana azoŋgo ni kure-kure** the other boys ran with the donkeys
- kurzley** [ékürʒēj] *v.* fall, of an object whose end is badly placed and slips. **təndal ekurzley** the beam falls **mota ekurzleki ka barama** the car falls off the edge of the road
- kuseh** [k^wÿʃɛx] *n.* ill-will. **agri kuseh ana zal akal** he wishes something bad for the thief
- kusuf** [k^wÿʃɪf] *id.* searching. **adəbay bilvi kusuf kusuf** she looks for the jujube berries *See:* **kusuf**.
- kuslid** [ék^wÿʃɪd] *v.* peel. **zal medewel ekslid huzluv** the old man peels the millet stems
- kuta** [k^wÿtæ] *mod.* brand new. **tasa kuta bambəlaŋ tasa gə virzegenã.** the plate became a brand-new golden one *From:*

Mandara?

- kuv-kuv** [kɯvkɯv] *id.* walking (of donkey). **kuv-kuv kuv-kuv akaba aslu ni** (donkeys) laden with meat
- kuzir** [k^wÿzír] *n.* grass.
- kuzir-kuzir** *mod.* green.
- kuzl** [k^wÿʒ] *id.* landing. **suwwa kuzl ka ma dədum gayay huya** she went straight to her kitchen door
- kwa**₁ [k^wā] *conj.* except, until, if, one must, indeed, whoever, whatever. **kara kwa** you must come **hajəŋ kwa** until tomorrow **kwa təwi nu nipi ndo, bi kama kwa** since I was born I haven't seen one, perhaps I will one day **si agravu kwa, do ti arakaboro do** it has to happen, if not it won't work **kwa way** no matter who **kwa way enjifiŋ ka mazlak ni** everyone touches the vines **kwa ananaw nakoro a Marwa** I will go to Maroua at some time
- kwa**₂ [k^wá; k^wú] *mod.* since. **kwa təwi nu nipi ndo, bi kama kwa** since I was born I haven't seen one, perhaps I will one day **kwa eweni nəjalay ahər ga avər** I have been thinking about rain since yesterday - **si hajəŋ day ti anara - aya kwa** "I'll come tomorrow" - "Fine"
- kwaca-kwaca** [k^wātsək^wātsə] *mod.* quickly. **kwaca-kwaca bəz dahalay nakəŋ təhəliyu tay a divi vu** the girls rushed to accompany them on the road
- kwacay** [ák^wātsāj] *v.* cut up, tear apart. **wur àkwacakaba ahay ge ediŋ a** the child has torn apart the nest
- kwac** [kwāts] *id.* immediately, in large pieces, leaving. **adi ana huwa kwac** he runs away at once **asi aslu kwac** he cuts him off a big chunk of meat **namənjoro kwac a Mora** I can see as far as Mora
- kwecy** [ék^wÿtʃɛj] *v.*
— *vdim.* divide or give out in small pieces. **kwecu** give me a piece **nakwecekaba waketa** I tear up the paper in pieces
- kwec** [k^wÿtʃ; k^wÿtʃ] *id.* in small pieces. **ngiyac ngiyac asikaba ana eyəŋ a kwec kwec** cutting small pieces for squirrel as he ate **asi aslu kwec** he cuts him a little bit of meat
- kwadaka** [k^wādkā] *mod.* shining white and numerous. **bongur (t)amənjavu kwadaka** the stars appear very bright
- kwahay** [ák^wāxāj] *v.* tear off [a branch].

- akwahaya slimbera kwāh** he tears off the leaves
- kwah** [k^wāx] *id.* tearing off. **kwah akwahafəŋ wus gana bəlaŋ** he tore off one leg *See: pakway.*
- kwalac** [kwāláts] *id.* fleeing. **ara abi ahar ana gudu kwalac aki ke huwa** he pushed against the wall to escape
- kwana** [k^wánà] *n.* corner. **kiji kwana** you turn off *From: English 'corner'.*
- kwaŋa** [k^wəŋā] *mod.* anyhow. **kwaŋa ahkay mam jikeŋ mam** any old how
- kwanji** [k^wəndzǐ] *id.* defecating. **gidi gidi, kwanji kwanji azay kwac adoro e heri vu** he ran off into the forest, defecating as he went
- kwarar** [k^wəràr] *id.* dragging. **wur agəjah ezewed kwarar** the child pulls on the rope
- kwerer** *dimin.* dragging something small.
- kwas** [ák^wás] *v.* dig up (harvest) food plants. **mis takwas andra** the folk dig up their peanuts **əkwaskia andra** he has dug up all his peanuts
- kwasay** [ák^wàsāj] *v.* fold back, roll up. **akwasay ahar ge endəwi** he rolls up his shirtsleeves
- kwayaya** [k^wəjājā] *mod.* all over. **əmənjaki ti humbo ni kwayaya ka pakama** he saw that there was flour all over his mouth
- kway-kway** [k^wəjək^wəj] *mod.* already. **mis tinjia kway-kway** they have arrived already
- kwazlaka** [k^wəzākā] *mod.* white. *See: tezleka; tala.*
- kwece-kweca** [k^wētjək^wētjā] *n.* kind of tree that is sometimes parasitic.
- kwedeni** [k^wədēni] *mod.* even. **a ahay bu,**

- aməf awur kwedeni** it is even cold in the house
- kwedkwedi** [k^wəd^wədī] *n.* woven rattle used in dancing.
- kwelemeri** [k^wəlémèri] *n.* giraffe. *Giraffa camelopardalis.*
- kwelen-kwelen** [k^wəlēŋk^wəlēŋ] *mod.* without a cloud. **məlaŋ kwelen-kwelen** the sky is clear
- kwelid** [k^wəlìd] *n.* small potsherd.
- kwenjer** [k^wəndzēr] *n.* fishhook.
- kwerehe** [k^wərēxə] *id.* leaving. **wal ni tādəgaki ka azoŋgo a ti, kwerehe kwerehe kwerehe** the women came down from their donkeys and went in
- kwesey** [ék^wɛj] *v.* drizzle. **avər ekwesey** it is drizzling
- kwes-kwes** *id.* drizzling.
- kwetekureh** [k^wətəkūrēx] *mod.* totally. **əndeveriŋaba vadaŋ a kwetekureh** he has totally finished the field
- kwetir** [k^wétir] *id.* call for a dog. **zal waray azalay kəra gayəŋ kwetir kwetir** the hunter calls his dog
- kwir** [k^wir] *id.* a tearing that causes fear. **əbərəv atu kwir** I feel fear in my heart
- kwit** [ék^wit] *v.* become blistered. **mekwiteni** slightly burnt
- kwita** [k^witā; k^witjæ] *mod.* brand new. **asəkum moto gayəŋ mūweni kwita ahkəkay** he's bought himself a brand new car *From: ?*

L - l

- l-** *vroot.* be. **ahər adəm ahay ni dek m̄ala m̄əpaslani ŋwaslasla lala** the houses must be well roofed with tin
- labara** [lābārā] *n.* danger, news. **məzikaba labara gani ana bay** we announce the bad news to the chief
- lab** [áláb] *v.* stutter. **alab ma** he stutters *See: zləbər.*
- labasaŋa** [lābəsəŋā] *mod.* taking no initiatives. **zal masəfa afəkad vu gayəŋ labasaŋ** the lazy man does nothing **anjəhad labasaŋa** he does nothing **zal labasaŋani** an inactive man
- labay** [álābāj] *v.* stutter. **alabay pakama** he stutters
- ladi** [ládì] *n.* Sunday. *From: ?*
- lada** [ládā] *n.* custom. *From: Mandara.*
- ladad** [lādād] *id.* climbing. **dahalay bay ladad acəlkioro ka Jerevu ka ŋgurkuk** the snake jumped onto Jerevu's

hernia

laf [láf] *id.* taking quickly. **azay zlam laf** he takes it quickly

lef [lɛf] *dimin.* taking. **mindawid cu-cu lef lef lef zavəla zəŋger, haɗ zəŋger** the ants sorted out the sesame from the soil

lak *vroot.*

lakkabu [álakkābū] *vcpd.* be silent.

lakkaba be quiet **lakumkaba** be quiet **mazlara ambələk ni əlakikaba bal** the pain from his wound is dying down now

lakani [lákāni] *mod.* useless. **ay bay hini ti araŋ lakani cuɗo wahay** but this chief is useless

lala₁ [lálá] *n.* nest.

lala₂ [lələ] *mod.* well.

lamisi [lāmīsī] *n.* Thursday. *From:* ?

lamba [lāmbá] *n.* business. **lamba goro do** it's not my problem *From:* Mandara.

lar [lār] *id.* wrapping. **gabaga lar aluwani** the shroud is well-wrapped **awəl gabaga lara ani ahār** he ties the cloth round his head

laraba [lāràbà] *n.* Wednesday. *From:* ?

larɗa [lárdà] *n.* world, country. *From:* Mandara.

law [lāw] *id.* placing something up high. **afiyu aday ka mejeŋgel law** he puts the stick up on his shoulder

lawadɗay [álàwàɗɗáj] *v.* surround, dress elaborately. **bay alawadɗavu** the chief dresses richly **alawadɗivu ezewed ana təndal / alawadɗay təndal ana ezewed** he winds the cord round the post

laway [álawāj] *v.* lay across. **nalaway asak** I cross my legs

law *id.* crossing. **bay alawakabu asak ləlaw (law law)** the chief crosses his legs

laya [lájá] *n.* amulet, gris-gris.

le [lé] *mod.* up to now. *From:* Mandara.

lebɪb [lɛbɪɛbɪb] *id.* getting on. **aki ka azoŋgo leɓleɓɪb tādəboro tay** they jumped on their donkeys and followed them

leɓ-leɓ [lɛbɪɛb] *id.* lying, very young. **àra àdi ahār naŋ mandəhadani leɓ-leɓ** he came and found him lying down nicely **àhəraya ahkay ti wur mənduz leɓ-leɓ sera deleŋgez.** there was a thin young tree sitting on top

leh [lɛh] *id.* drawing. **ani leh leh keŋgələd** it

draws it on and you decorate it

leki [lèkì] *n.* sugar cane. *From:* Fulfulde 'reke'.

lekuləm [lèk^wɣlɣm] *pro.* you (pl.). **gekuləm** your (pl.)

lekw [lèk^w] *id.* extinguishing. **èmetiŋfiŋ aku a lekw, fat ni ègia liŋ-liŋ** he put out the fire, the sun grew cold

leley [élèlɛj] *v.* think.

leli [lèli] *pro.* we. **geli** our

lembiz [lɛmbɪz] *id.* carrying. **wal azay wur a ahār vu lembiz** the woman is carrying the child in her arms

lepey [élɛpɛj] *v.* fold something that is flat.

ler [lér] *mod.* an hour. *From:* French 'l'heure'.

lewer [lèwɛr] *id.* climb to the top of something. **àhuriyu àcəl məŋ ge haf nahəŋ lewer** he climbed right up another tree *See:* **lur**.

ləbay [álbàj] *v.* look for, follow. **wur aləbay məŋani** the child is looking for its mother **wur aləboro məŋani** the child is following its mother

ləbuk-ləbuk [lɛbɔk^wlɛbɔk^w] *mod.* warm, of a liquid. **yam hini ləbuk-ləbuk** this water is warm

ləfa [lɛfá] *mod.* lukwarm, referring to a liquid that has been boiled. **yam aku ləfa** the boiled water has cooled

ləgay [álgəj] *v.* criticise, forbid. **bəŋ ga wur aləgɪfəŋ ka akal** the father tells his child not to steal

ləgər [lɛgɛr] *n.* nape of neck.

ləhay [lɛháj] *n* *cpd.* area behind the house. **bəza tagray sewiya ka ləhay** the children are playing behind the house

ləli [lɛli] *n.* platform not attached to a house for storage of agricultural produce.

ləm [áləm] *v.* make, using a plastic or pliable material. **aləm ahay (ana elibisl)** he builds the house (out of mud)

ləmad [lɛmàd] *n mod.* passing close by something without entering it. **tàra təvi ləmad ana dəluv ni** they passed by the side of the sea **patu ahuriyu ləmad ka mahay** the cat passes by the door *See:* **kurad**.

ləp [lɛp; lɛplɛp] *id.* hitting. **nu aday ga ləp ləp, do ti ahəmam?** I am a hitting stick, actually

ləpay *v.* hit.

ləvəŋ [lɛvɛŋ] *n.* darkness. **madwaŋ asawadɗay a ləvəŋ bu** the rat walks in

the dark

lævokukwa [lævāk^wək^wá] *mod.* purple-brown.
azana lævokukwa a purple cloth

læwud [lùwùd] *mod.*

læwud-læwud [lùwùd^wlùwùd^w] *mod.* supple.

li [éí] *v.* dig deeply. **tili mis mämätani** they bury the dead person **eliu mæggəhaf e evid vu** he plants a tree in the hole *See: təhad.*

ligwi [élg^wí] *v.* poison. **miligweni** abscess

limis [límì] *n.* song. **edi limis** he sings

limbe [límbe] *n.* namesake.

lijeni [línjèní] *mod.* a certain. **wur lijeni** a certain child

liŋ-liŋ [línjín] *mod.* cold, damp. **mələŋ hini liŋ-liŋ, krəŋ təpəsvu** this place is cool, the toads stay there **krəŋ təfəbay mələŋ liŋ-liŋeni** the toads are looking for a cool place

lipri [lípri] *n.* needle.

litini [lìtini] *n.* Monday; the area in front of the chefferie of Palbara where a Monday market is held. *From: ?*

loba [lóbá] *n.* luck. *From: Mandara.*

lohdo [lòxdò] *n.* space behind a compound. **bəz tagray sewia ka lohdo** the children play behind the compound

lotut [lòtùt] *mod.* in huge numbers. **təmbak**

təhuriyu a dəksla vu lotut the sheep go into the pen in huge numbers

lu [lū] *mod.* provided that. **ádi ahàr a ana mis a lu, ba avi zlam** no matter who he meets, they give him something **nak kâra kəzubiya zlam goro na lu** provided you bring me my thing

luɓuk-luɓuk [lūbūk^wlūbūk^w] *mod.* warm. **yam hini luɓuk-luɓuk** this water is warm *See: huz-huz.*

lur [lür] *id.* climbing. **zal ni lur acəliyu** he climbed up

lurra [lürā] *id.* directly. *See: suwwa.*

luwət *mod.* with a hole.

læwit [lÿwīt] *dimin.* with a small hole. **asi mahay ana guvur læwit** he cuts a small entry into the granary *See: filu.*

læwa [lÿwā] *mod.* in good accord. **pakama geli abu orakaboro læwa dək ka ahar biliŋ** we all agree well together **ma gatay arakaboro læwa** they agree with each other well **mis tanjəhad læwa** people are well

læwir [lÿwir] *n.* hunger.

læwit [lÿwīt] *n.* hearth.

M - m

ma [mà] *n.* mouth, entrance, language, matter, word, front, face. **ka ma ka ma** in front ; forward **a ma zəbal** at a distance **nahaŋ ni kihicaba ti kəzikiya ma huya** then you shape it and give it its final form

ma gani [mágáni] *cnj.* that's why, that's the reason. **ma gani tādəm bəza gayak tələbu ni mam** that's why they say you have to have children

mabəl [mábəl] *n.* plant (sp.).

mababra [mābábrà] *n.* bush (sp.).

mabəlagondur [mābəlág^wəndür] *n.* bush (sp.).

macahpak [mātsəxpák] *n.* millet heads infected by “mépšk”. **bəza təzləb macahpak** the children thresh the “mštsšhpšk”

macakalavani [mātsəkàláváni] *vnom.* meeting. *See: cakalay.*

macama [mātsəmà] *n.* specialist hunter. **ndam macama təbuki muwur ka kamnjagad** hunters put poison on their arrows

macarak [mātsārāk] *n.* cracked pot.

machaka [mātsxàkà] *n.* forked branch made for handling thorns. **zal ahəl adak ana machaka** the man gathers the thorns with a forked stick

madaba [mādābā] *n.* floor of a granary.

madaga [mādàgà] *n.* red millet. *See: dezizi; maŋgaday; kilebesi.*

madagazlam [mādàgàžām] *n.* kind of game.

madahkabana [mādàxkábànā] *vnom.* split. *See: dah.*

madakway [mādāk^wáj] *mod.* widowed. **wal madakway** a widow

madanɗan [mādāɗɗān] *n.* a heap of thorns.
madara₁ [mādārà] *n.* iron bracelet.
madara₂ [mādārā] *n.* accidental fire.
madasko [madask^wo] *n.* human body hair.
zal madasko a hairy man
madawadaw [mādāwādāw] *n.* crumbs of friable rock.
madurlan [mādùrlān] *n.* someone who lives among those of another clan.
madwan [mādwan] *n.* rat.
mada [mādā] *npr.* Mada.
madafadaf [mādáfādáf] *n.* dirty millet which remains after the first winnowing.
wal ahar madafadaf the woman winnows the second millet
madawak [mādāwāk] *n.* rotten meat. **aslu egi madawak a** the meat is rotten
madazay [mādāzāj] *n.* blood of a dead person, or from a bruise. **mimiz egi madazay** the blood becomes bad
mafəra [māfrā] *n.* kind of thorn tree.
maftakad [māftākád] *n.* mouse (sp.).
maftakodum [māftāk^wɗdūm] *n.* pupa of a butterfly.
maftakum [māftāk^wūm] *n.* toothlessness.
maftatur [māftàtùr] *n.* window.
mafuy [māfūj] *n.* exit hole made by an animal. **mafuy ga tulay** the hole of a termite hill
magala [māgàlá] *n.* frame of the entrance to a granary, made of clay.
magalar [māgálár] *n.* bush (sp.).
magam [māgām] *n.* home.
magdaw [māgdāw] *n.* back of knee.
magdombur [māg^wdōmbùr] *n.* gecko.
magədavani [māgdāvānī] *vnom.* spoilt.
wur eguzleh endəwi magədavani the child tears an old shirt *See: gudar.*
magəjabay [māgdzàbāj] *n.* white millet that grows on the mountain.
magəjazlani *vnom.* remain. *See: gəjəni.*
magojagoja [māg^wɗdzàg^wɗdzá] *n.* neck of the stomach.
maguda [māg^wùdā] *n.* state of a woman who gives birth. **wal maguda** a woman who has just given birth **agri maguda ana wal** he gives special food to the woman while she gives birth
magwanagwana [māg^wànāg^wànà] *n.*

knobbed calebasse. **hijid**
magwanagwan jərgwaslagwasla the calabash is wrinkly
magwaya [māg^wājá] *n.* branch of the jujube tree.
magwaygway [māg^wājg^wāj] *n.* worry. **mis egi magwaygway** the person is worried
magwejegweje [māg^wɛdʒɛg^wɛdʒɛ] *n.* soup.
mahar [māhār] *n.* surplus, plus (numeral link).
kru mahar zlam fifteen **mahar gani** what is left over
maharam [māxārām] *n.* what a fetishist does. **zal maharam** a fetishist
mahay [māhāj] *nepd.* doorway. *See: ma, ahay.*
mahəmani [māxəmánī] *mod.* dangerous.
...ya ta adəm nara ana araja mahəmana ...who comes with something dangerous
mahiyaw [māxijāw] *n.* accident. **kisim ga mahiyaw** accidental death *See: məngədo.*
mahkər [māhkər] *mod.* three.
maholasa [māx^wɗlāsà] *n.* uncultivated space in a field.
maholay [māxwōlāj] *n.* new compound.
mahtav [māxtāv] *n.* kind of baobab.
mahulalaj [māx^wɗlālāj] *n.* chameleon.
ahar mahulalaj grass (sp.)
mahulazayzay [māh^wɗlāzājzāj] *nepd.* salamander.
majagwani [mādzāg^wánī] *vnom.* joint. *See: jagway.*
majajəga [mādzādzəgà] *n.* slope. **kəra acay hadagər ka majajəga** the dog catches the antelope on the mountain slope
majako [mādzāk^wo] *n.* bushy-tailed mouse.
majərasla [mādzərəsłà] *n.* barbed spear.
makac [mākāts] *n.* tongs, scissors.
makafa [mākāfā] *n.* plaster made of bark and sticks. **abəki makafa ka ahar məhubani** he puts plaster on the broken arm
makala [mākālā] *n.* doughnut. *From: Fulfulde.*
makandaɓ [mākāndáɓ] *n.* birdlime, glue, resin.
makaram [mākārām] *n.* accusation. **bay ahay akay makaram a ahay bu** the head of the household accuses the family

maklabasl [mākḷābáʃ] *n.* cloud.
makombro [māk^wómbɾò] *n.* monitor lizard.
makorah [māk^wòrāx] *n.* plant whose leaves are used as a treatment for ringworm.
makoya [māk^wòjà] *n.* deafness, dumbness, innocence. **zal makoya** a deaf-mute
makslawal [mākḷāwál] *n.* young millet leaf which can cut. **a mǎḡgəlǎḡ vɔdaḡ vu, maslawal esliḡ mis** during the second cultivation the millet leaves hurt people *See: kaslawad.*
makwal [māk^wāl] *n.* drought, rainbow. **titəwi makwal** they bemoan the drought **avər afəkadki makwal** the rain makes a rainbow
makwarikwar [māk^wàrik^wàr] *n.* knot.
makyawar [mākjàwàr] *n.* kind of long-tailed lizard.
mala [màlà] *cnj.* or rather. **nak kara mala nu nakoro** you come or else I'll go to you *From: Fulfulde.*
malavar [màlávār] *n.* quantity of flour sufficient for one grinding. **wal ehi humbo malavar bələḡ** the woman grinds one lot of flour
malawad [màlāwád] *n.* whip.
malfada [màlfāda] *n.* lie.
malum [málòm] *n.* catechist, healer. *From: Mandara.*
mam [mám] *pro.* what?
mambəlaslasl [māmbə̀lā́ʃʃ] *n.* bog: dirty, damp place.
mana-mana [mànàmànà] *id.* flames moving.
mandabandaba [mándàbándàbá] *n.* scum which rises to the surface of wine during the first day of preparation, given to children to drink. *See: mazladuwa.*
mandala [māndālā] *n.* hole between two rocks.
mandalaz [māndālāz] *n.* circumcised penis. **naḡ abu ana mandalaz** he has been circumcised **zal mandalaz** a circumcised man
mandaray [māndārāj] *n.* water jar.
mandava [māndāvà] *n.* scar.
mandaya [māndājà] *n.* large iron or wooden needle used for attaching roofing straw. **tədi mandaya ana ahay** they tie on the roof
mandaza [māndàzà] *n.* rust. **məvəɖ aɕəl**

mandaza the sickle is rusting *See: vi.*
mandəlaw [māndə́lāw] *n.* bean pod that has not yet dried.
mandrasa [māndrāsà] *n.* harvest greeting. **təgri 'mandrasa' ana zal mabaz hay** they greet someone who is harvesting millet *See: ndras.*
mandurlay [māndǔrláj] *n.* kind of centipede.
mangaday [māḡgādāj] *n.* white millet.
mangasvani [māḡgásvānī] *vnom.* meeting. *See: ḡgas.*
mangayaw [māḡgājāw] *n.* last fruit. **mangayaw ga gandasak** the last fruit of pumpkin **mangayaw ga wur** last-born child
mangoləḡgola [māḡḡ^wə́lāḡḡ^wə́lā] *n.* blow on the head administered with the knuckles. **adi mangoləḡgola ana wur** he knocks the child on the head
mangovəla [māḡḡ^wə́və́lā] *nepd.* upper part of body.
mangoya [māḡḡ^wə́jà] *n.* mouse (sp.).
manja [māndzà] *cnj.* whether. **manja naḡ wur manja naḡ zal akoro a gosko vu** whether he is a child or man, he goes to the market
manjabara [māndzàbàrà] *n.* something poorly ground. **adabacay manjabara** she grinds the millet coarsely
manjadak [māndzàdāk] *n.* nasty dirty mud. **manjadak agray nu** I don't want to walk in this mud
manjawanjawa [māndzàwándzàwá] *n.* dragon-fly.
maprakazawi [māprákázawī] *n.* ringworm.
mara [mārā] *n.* twin.
maraba [màràbà] *n.* mouse (sp).
mara-mara [màràrà] *n.* acknowledging a bad action. **akur mara-mara** pebble used for gaining pardon **edḡḡ mara-mara** heron (**hay**) **mara-mara** house millet
marava [màràvə] *n.* regret. **Melefit əhəḡḡarva marava ga magraya mis a** God regretted having made mankind
maraway [mārāwāj] *n.* Black kite. *Milvus migrans.*
marbayam [màrbājām] *n.* maggot.
marduk [márdúk^w] *n.* flour from groundnuts.
masafa [màsàfà] *n.* bush (sp.).

masahar [māsáhàr] *n*. *nepd.* head-shaving ritual that takes place two or three days after a family death. *See:* **ahàr**.

masak [màsàk] *mod.* useless. **masak marana** there was no point in coming **masak mam** that's what I said **hini zlam masakani** this is useless **agray tawi masakani** he is working to no purpose

masakal [māsàkāl] *n.* untidiness, untidy. **wal agray masakal** the woman is untidy **wal masakal** an untidy woman

masaṅsaṅ [māsàṅsàṅ] *n.* nail.

masari [māsàrì] *n.* mediator, mediation. *See:* **midibi**.

masay [māsàj] *n.* name given to a twin.

masəfa [māsəfà] *mod.* lazy. **zal masəfa away tawi do** the lazy man does not want to work

maskanday [màskàndàj] *n.* side. **tarad awasl gwar a maskanday** they take out the spear the other side

masurasur [māsúrāsúr] *n.* descent. **wur adəf ka masurasur** the child falls where the path goes down

maslakuda [màlāk^wúdà] *n.* childlessness. **maslakuda agray naṅ** he suffers from childlessness **hini zal maslakuda** this man is childless

maslalam [màlálám] *n.* sword. *See:* **kacakar**.

maslam [màlám] *n.* secco straw.

maslaṅa [màlàngà] *n.* someone; nobody. **maslaṅa ka ahàr ga həma** there is someone on the mountain **maslaṅa abi** there is no-one there **nipi maslaṅa ka ahàr ga həma** I saw someone on top of the mountain **nipi maslaṅa** I can see someone **maslaṅa ya àra ni àza** the person who came took it

maslapa [màlápà] *n.* string made from millet stalks.

maslay [ámàláj] *v.* join. **amaslay ezewed** he joins the ropes **mis tamaslavu cə cə takoro ka wuməri** folk pair up to go to the feast **ezewed ga wal tamaslavu a suwa vu** the women's ropes are tangled in the well

maslka [màl̀kà] *n.* accomplice, companion.

maslpara [màl̀pàrà] *n.* wide rope or belt made of skin. *See:* **para-para**.

matak [māták] *n.* sorcery, sorcerer. **hud ewi matak** anyone can give birth to a sorcerer **zal matak agray matak** the sorcerer does sorcery

matakavay [mātákávaj] *n.* vegetable (sp.). *Cassia mimosoides*.

matakwar [mātāk^war] *n.* hump.

mataraka [mátārāká] *n.* hammer.

mataskwalay [mātāsk^waláj] *n.* plant (wild mitúwiz).

mava [māvà] *n.* cereal or beans cooked without grinding. **wur mava** a bastard **mava goro** my cereal **ahàr mava ga hay** the upper part of a millet head

mavay [māvāj] *n.* leopard.

mavdah [māvəđàx] *n.* chest.

mavəjaṅ [māvədzàṅ] *n.* crab.

mawa [māwā] *n.* name given by a woman to the wife of her brother, or to the sister of her husband.

mawaya [māwàjà] *n.* a game. **tagray mawaya** they play the game of mšwšyš

maya [májā] *n.* untilled field. *See:* **bubur**.

mayawyaw [májàwjàw] *n.* kind of plant with prickly fruits. **mayawyaw ga avər** hail (that stings)

mazah [māzāx] *n.* roof or rock from which one collects rainwater. **yam ga mazah** rainwater

mazandar [màzàndàr] *n.* wooden crosspiece laid across two forked sticks in a bed or a woodpile.

mazata [mázatá] *n.* porch. **agraki mazata ka mahay** he makes a porch for the door

mazavani [māzáváni] *vnom.* likeness. **mazavani agwas mis** the likeness tricks folk **mazavu gani, nakoro a gosko vu** for example, I go to the market *See:* **zay**.

mazgway [māzg^wáj] *n.* girl's cache-sexe. **wal mazgway** first wife

mazmay [māzmáj] *n.* follere, plant of which mituwiz is the fruit. *Hibiscus sabdariffa*.

mazladuwa [māḷàdúwà] *n.* sweet scum that rises to the surface of wine during the second day of preparation, given to children to drink. *See:* **mandabandaba**.

mazlahko [màḷàxk^wò] *n.* lion.

mazlak [māḷàk] *n.* climbing plant like a creeping cactus. *Cissus quadrangularis*.

mazlakway [màḷàk^wáj] *n.* meat left to rot in

- order to make a sauce. **wal edi eli mazlakway** the woman cooks a sauce from rotten meat
- mazlalamba** [māʒālāmbā] *n.* fork in road.
mazlalamba kəra plant (sp.)
- mazlambah** [māʒāmbáx] *n.* bush (sp.).
- mazlambal** [māʒāmbàl] *n.* wooden shelf made in the corner between two walls. **wal afiyu misek ka mazlambal** the woman puts the pot on the shelf
- mazlara** [maʒara] *mod.* now. **mazlara gani** now **mazlara naslaka** I'm going now
From: Mandara.
- mazlaway** [māʒāwáj] *n.* distant place. **zal matak agray ahay ka mazlaway** the sorcerer builds his house far from the others
- mazlawla** [māʒāwlà] *n.* field belonging to women and children (as opposed to the householder), worked during free time. **bəza təwəs mazlawla gatay** the children cultivate their part of the field
- mazlærtək** [māʒǎrtək] *n.* grass (sp.).
- mebekebek** [mēbəkēbək] *n.* bat; bush [sp.].
- mebirebire** [mēbírēbírē] *n.* kind of creeper.
- meceгим** [mētʃēgim] *n.* frog: symbolically, a boy (as opposed to a girl). **aya potoduk potoduk nahəma, māmbatiya meceгим a bilegeni** but all these girls (toads), they need to be boys (frogs) as well
- mecehuf** [mētʃéhʷid] *n.* caterpillar.
- mecewi** [mētʃéwī] *n.* bush (sp.).
- medala** [mēdālā] *n.* courage. **agraj medala** he is courageous **zal medala** a courageous man
- medəbelu** [mēdēbélʷ] *n.* grass (sp.), decorative string.
- medewel** [mēdēwəl] *n.* old. **daliya avay medewel** suffering ages one
- medikwedik** [mēdýkʷədýkʷ] *n.* forked post in house.
- medim** [mēdim] *n.* male relation on father's side whose daughter one can marry.
- medefelek** [mēdēfēlék] *n.* rolling. **beza tiji medefelek** the children roll on the ground
See: **mivdiŋgil**.
- medəgwi** [mēdēgʷi] *n.* kind of millet.
- meftekid** [mēftəkíd] *n.* natural hole in the ear-lobe. **zal hini meftekid afəŋ** this man has a natural hole in his earlobe
- mefititer** [mēftitēr] *n.* ant.
- mezlelu** [mēgʒəlʷ] *n.* kind of millipede.
- meherik** [mēxērík] *n.* curly hair.
- mehid** [mēxíd] *n.* curved knife used in traditional surgery.
- mehimbəslis** [mēhimbēfít] *n.* dense cobweb used to cover the sound hole of a harp to produce resonance.
- mehmbili** [mēhmbíli] *n.* grass (sp.).
- mehitsli** [mēxtítli] *n.* tree (sp.).
- mehərsek** [mēhʷɣʃék] *n.* mouse (sp.). **elmeni ti, hutul ga mehərsek** wealth does not last
- mejeŋgel** [mēdʒēŋgəl] *n.* shoulders.
- mejirejir** [mēdʒírēdʒír] *modplr.* having the same mother but different fathers. **bəza mejirejir** children with the same mother and different fathers
- mekeji** [mēkēdʒi] *n.* heir. **wur hini mekeji ga bəŋani** this child is the heir of his father
- mekekri** [mēkékri] *n.* thorn-bush. **diki kwalac kwalac, mekekri day aslakaba ndruc** he ran wildly without dodging the thorn-bushes
- mekeleh** [mēkēlélh] *n.* falcon.
- mekesə** [mēkəkəʃ] *n.* rabies, madness. **zal mekesə** a madman
- meketiketik** [mēkētíkētík] *n.* kind of flying insect.
- mekilekil** [mēkílèkíl] *n.* tuning peg for a harp.
- meklewiz** [mēklèwīʒ] *n.* mongoose.
- meksi** [mēkʃi] *n.* uncultivated bush.
- meksim** [mēksīm] *n.* epidemic. **meksim ara a kəsa va** an epidemic breaks out in the village
- mekuleliŋ** [mēkʷɣlélɪŋ] *n.* small bell. *See:* **jijə**.
- mekweya** [mēkʷējá] *n.* firstborn.
- melefit** [mēlèfit] *n.* God, sky, festival. **hud melefit** the sky **zum melefit** festival
- meleher** [mélèhèr] *n.* forehead. *See:* **ahər**.
- melemcek** [mélèmtʃék] *n.* toadstool.
- meleŋgir** [mēlèŋgír] *n.* built-up terrace wall. **dala meleŋgir** cultivated terrace
- membizey** [mēmbìʒēj] *n.* grass (sp.).
- meni**₁ [mēní] *pro.* so-and-so. **bay adəm meni mára** the chief says that so-and-so should come

meni₂ [mèni] *intj.* filler to cover thinking time in speech. **hini wur ge meni... ga bay** this is the er, chief's son

meneni [mènéni] *mod.* such-and-such. **bi daksła meneni mendefeni** perhaps the enclosure is, um, broken

mendelezeni [mèndēlézèni] *mod.* naked. **naŋ mendelezeni** he is naked *See: dadal.*

menderewiz [mèndērēwíz] *n.* sorceress' pigeon.

mendilebiŋeni [mèndilēbīŋèni] *mod.* newborn.

mendulik [mèndýlik] *n.* only child of a woman. **wal ewi mendulik** the woman only had one child

meŋgleviŋ [mèŋglèviŋ; mèŋglèviŋviŋ] *n.* wasp.

meŋgleviŋviŋ [mèŋglèviŋviŋ] *n.* wasp.

meŋgwezi [mèŋg^wèzi] *nepd.* lower part of the body.

menjebi [mèndzèbi] *n.* marsh. **vədaŋ (ga) menjeb(i) agray hay do** a marshy field does not produce millet

menjebnjeb *n.* fear thqt produces sweat. **mavay abivu menjebnjeb ana mis** people are scared of a leopard

mereki [mèrèki] *n.* music.

mereriŋ [mèrèriŋ] *n.* kind of tree that grows on the mountain.

mesedi [mèsédi] *n.* church. *From: ?*

mesefi [mèšèfi] *n.* blessing, increase. **mazlak mesefi** kind of vine *See: sefey.*

meseksek [mèšèkšèk] *n.* measles.

mesilem [mèšilèm] *n.* plant (sp.).

met [émét] *vcaus.* cause to die. **emetiŋ aku / emet aku** he puts out the fire *See: mət.*

meteliŋ [mètèliŋ] *n.* buttocks.

metepis [mètèpiš] *n.* small stomach of a goat. **metepis ga sluzi** the bonus for the cotton

meteplis [mètèpliš] *n.* gizzard.

meteplekis [mètèplèkiš] *n.* gizzard.

metewek [mètēwèk] *n.* plant (sp.).

metuwek [mètýwèk] *n.* (pain felt after) being pinched or scratched with the fingernails. **abi metuwek ana wur** he pinches the child **eji metuwek ana bəza** he scratches the children with his nails

mevdindel [mèvdindél] *n.* stubbed toe, wounded toe. **mevdindel afəŋ** he has stubbed his toe

mewerik [mèwèrik] *n.* bird (sp. = indigo finch?).

mewesi [mèwèšī] *n.* thorn bush (sp.).

meyda [mèjdàè] *n.* cereal. **àdəm dumuwaya meyda** he said 'Give me the millet'

meydekw [mèjdèk^w] *n.* viper.

meykeyek [mèjkèjèk] *n.* foot (of animal).

mezehezeh [mèzèxèzèx] *n.* bile.

mezeleŋ [mèzèlēŋ] *n.* end of a branch. **viri anjəhad ka mezeleŋ** the monkey sits down on the end of the branch

mezimezim [mèzìmèzìm] *n.* navel.

mezir [mèzìr] *n.* potentially harmful water-spirit, often in the form of a frog.

mezlelim [mèzèlìm] *n.* kind of wind instrument often made from a horn.

mezlilewa [mèzìwèlè] *n.* wood placed transversely to support a shelf in a granary. **mezlilewa ga mahay** the lintel of a door

məbəl [məbəl] *n.* developing branch.

məbərɯv [məbərɯv] *n.* chest, heart. *See: ma, bərɯv.*

məbɔlo [məbɔlɔ] *n.* fish (sp.).

məcay [ámətsáj] *v.* rumble, knock. **avər aməcay day** it is thundering **aməcay ahər ana mahay** he knocks his head on the doorway

məcər [mətsər] *vnom.* taste. **məcər ge eli hini asabay** this sauce tastes very good *See: cər.*

mədəgəzlani [mədəgəzłani] *vnom.* deaf-mute. *See: dəgəzl.*

mədəkdək [mədəkdək] *n.* heel.

mədərdər [mədərɔr] *n.* start of rainy season.

mədrəs [mədrəs] *n.* pig.

mədək [mədək] *mod.* swallowing. **gavəŋ anday mickər mədək** the snake swallows the chicken whole *See: mərəh; slərəh.*

mədɔ [mədɔ] *n.* 1) snake (sp). 2) string of a harp.

məgərjeh [məgərjèx] *n.* convalescence. **əŋgaba a məgərjeh ba** he is recovering **zal məgərjeh** a convalescent

məgzləwur [məgzləwúr] *n.* sling. **abazl edīŋ ana məgzləwur** he kills birds with a sling

məh [áməx] *v.* eat something powdery. **wur aməh humbo** the child is eating flour

məhasl [məxāʃ] *n*cpd. story. *See: ma, hasl.*

məhər [məxə̀r] *n.* hair.

məhubuc [məxùbùts] *n.* fallow. **asəkum vedaŋ a məhubuc vu** he buys the fallow field **vedaŋ hini məhubuc** this field is fallow

məjəbəŋ [mədzəbəŋ] *n.* bur.

məjugur [mədzùgùr] *n.* giving an animal to someone else to bring up with the object of sharing out the young. **avi məjugur ga awak ana mis** he gives a goat to someone to share out the kids

məjuv [mùdzùv] *n.* eagle.

mək [mək] *conj.* after that, then. **wur etəwi, mək məŋani avi duwa** the child cries, then his mother gives him the breast

məkubkuḅ [məkùḅkùḅ] *n.* excessive fat around the waist. **muzək agray məkubkuḅ** the he-goat is getting too fat

məla [məlá] *n.* rotten peanuts. **wal ahəŋgal məla afa ga ahər gani** the wife asks her co-wife for rotten peanuts

mələfat [məláfət] *n*cpd. day. *See: mələŋ, fat.*

mələkarawa [məlákarāwá] *n.* afternoon, evening: the period from about 1 p.m. until midnight, particularly the time of the evening meal around sunset. **mələkarawa təzuma zlam ka ahər a** after they ate in the evening *See: mələŋ, karawa.*

mələŋ [məláŋ] *n.* place, world, time.

mələvad [məlávəd] *n*cpd. night. *See: mələŋ, vad.*

mələvazaŋ [məlávāzāŋ] *n.* time when the crops are ripe. **kakoro eli galavazaŋ** you go to the fields when things are ripe *See: mələŋ.*

mələy [áməláj] *v.* help. **amələy mis e təwi bu** he helps folk in their work **aməlaki mis ke təwi** he helps folks to work *From: Mandara.*

məlfru [məlfɹú] *n.* bitter plant.

məmbazlay [məmbàʒáj] *n.* funeral sacrifice. **tabazl awak ga məmbazlay** they kill the funeral goats

məŋ [məŋ] *n.* mother. **wur gə məŋani** child of same mother, brother/sister **muk** your mother **məŋgəhaf (məŋ ga haf)** tree

məndala [məndálá] *n.* someone of about the same age. **bəza məndala** children of the

same age

məndəbəl [məndəbəl] *n.* weal, mark of a stick or whip.

məndək₁ [məndək] *n.* support. **awulivu mendek ana ahay** he ties in the roof-support *See: nduko.*

məndək₂ [məndək] *mod.* undeserved. **təzləbaba wur a məndək e divi ba** they gave the child an undeserved beating on the road

məndub [məndùḅ] *n.* kind of bat.

mənduz [məndùz] *n.* kind of fruit-bearing tree. **bəza dahalay biric a mənduz bu sendə tədəgiki ana seri** all the girls in the tree burst out laughing

məŋgəḁo [məŋgəḁo] *n.* chance, accident. **eji naŋ ana məŋgəḁo** it hurt him by accident *See: mahiyaw.*

məŋgəḁo [məŋgəḁo] *mod.* by chance. **nədi ahər a məŋgəḁo** I found it by chance

məŋgəhaf [məŋgəxəf] *n*cpd. tree.

məŋguva [məŋgùvə] *n.* crowd. **əḁəm ma hini a məŋguva bu ŋgim** he said this openly among all the people

məŋjah [áməndzəx] *v.* sort. **aməŋjah sləzi** he picks out the seeds of cotton

məŋjar [áməndzə̀r] *v.* examine, look for.

məŋjay [áməndzə̀j] *v.* look for, look at, see.

məŋjaki [ámənjəkí] *v*cpd. look at (closely). **aməŋjaki ka wakita** he looks at the paper

məŋjiyu [áməndzìjù; áməndzìjù] *v*cpd. visit, see into. **wal aməŋjiyu ata bəŋani** the woman is visiting her parents

məŋjəḁ [məndzəḁ] *conj.* instead of, before. **wur esi yam məŋjəḁ məzum ḁaf** instead of eating first, the child drinks **awəs ambəl məŋjəḁ miwi wur** he tans the skin before the child is born

məpəf [məpəf] *n.* caterpillar.

məpək [məpək] *n.* disease of millet which blackens the grain. **məpək agəs hay** the millet has ‘mépšk’

məprəkprək [məprəkprək] *n.* kind of vine used in sorcery to attack thieves. **cepa təfuki məprəkprək ka asak takad kur** they put down vines on your footprints to kill you **təfiki məprəkprək ana zal akal ka asak** the put the vine on the footprints of a thief

mər [ámər] *v.* be happy. **məmərvani** happy

mis təmər the people are happy **siggo amər mis** the money makes the folk happy **temərivu** they are happy with that

mərəh [mərəx] *mod.* swallowing. **gavaŋ anday mickər mərəh** the snake swallows the chicken whole *See: mədək.*

məro [mərũ] *n.* dew.

mərzla [mərʒà] *n.* rotten beans. **agraj mərzla ana mazlak** she uses vine to rot down the beans

məsako [məsək^wə] *n.* sorghum. *From: ?*

məsək [məsək] *conj.* then. **məsək mazay nahəŋ meɖeni zla** then we take another that is soaked *See: mək.*

məsuk [məsək^w] *id.* smiling. **eyey məsuk** he smiles

məsyon [məsjɔ̃] *n.* Christianity, church. *From: French 'mission'.*

məslər [məsɫər] *n.* messenger.

məsli [məsli] *id.* smiling. **wur èpi məŋana abu ara, adiki ana seriya məsli** the child has seen its mother approaching and smiles **ahəlki ma məsli** he smiles

mət [ámət] *v.* die. **bay amət** the chief is dying **məmətani** dead

mətəb₁ [mətəb] *n.* mouse (sp.).

mətəb₂ [ámətəb] *v.* tire oneself. **ata mbeli nday ata bibijungur tægəjahvu tægəjahvu, tàmətəbka** the elephant and the hippo pulled and pulled each other until they were tired

mətəbruv [mətəbruv] *n.* ant lion. *See: edigri.*

mətək [mətək] *n-mass. pap.* **wal edi mətək gərgər cə** the woman makes two kinds of pap **wal edi mətək cə** the woman makes pap twice

mət-mət [mətmət] *mod.* shining. **təhəl eri ahkay mət-mət** they shine very brightly

mətus [mūt^wús] *n.* straw wine filter.

mətuwur [mətũwũr] *n.* female escort of a bride. **wur dahalay abay duwa mətuwur** the girl is old enough to escort a bride

məva [məvə] *n.* fiancée(e), spouse. **məva goro** my fiancée

məvayam [məvəjám] *n.* hare.

məvəɖ [məvəɖ] *n.* sickle.

məzəgdala [məzəgdala] *n.* edge of a terrace. **wur àdaya ka məzəgdala** the child has fallen from the terrace

məzlbru [məʒbərũ] *n.* bush (sp.).

mibəftel [mibəftél] *n.* cloth for covering woman's buttocks.

mickər [mɪtʃk^wɪr] *n.* hen. **mis askumoro vədaŋ ga mickər** someone sells a field for a year

midala [midàlà] *n.* youth, young man. **a midala, ra kəhərukia awak goro na ti** young man, come and cut up my goat

midibi [midibi] *n.* intermediary, mediation. **agraj midibi ga wal** he acts as intermediary in the marriage *See: masari.*

midigw [midig^w] *mod.* old (object). **midigw pəra** ancestors

midirgwishelik [midirg^wɪʃɛlik] *n.* scale.

midiseni [midɪʃɛni] *vnom.* fat. *See: disey.*

migidi-migidi [mɪgdɪmɪgdɪ] *n.* the fact of having existed for a long time. **zlam hini abu a migidi-migidi zlam gayəŋ** this thing thing has existed for generations

mihci [mɪxtʃi] *n.* potsherd. **yawa mazlara gani kazay mihci mezideni...** right then, your take your trimmed potsherd...

mikilfedə [mɪkɪlfɛdɛ] *n.* luck vine. **mazlak mikilfedə** the creeper that brings luck

miksəwid [mɪksəwɪd] *n.* snake (general word). **miksəwid avər** earthworm *See: sebera, aŋgumzavla, gavaŋ, təzəŋ, dahalay ga bay, ezewed ahay, meydek, məɖo, tindeliŋ, fat gaŋgay.*

miledə [mɪlɛdɛ] *nepd.* morning. *See: məlaŋ, də.*

milevi [mɪlɛvɪ] *nepd.* rainy season.

mili [mɪli] *n.* ring, bracelet.

miligweni [mɪliŋ^wɛni] *vnom.* boil. *See: ligwi.*

milmili [mɪlmɪli] *n.* dry season.

mimili [mɪmɪli] *n.* vein, shame. **fəku mimili** pay me some respect

mimiz [mɪmɪz] *n.* blood, flower (sp.). **àbəlafəŋ ke mimiz ga vu gayəŋ a** he was very pleased with it

mindigir [mɪndɪgɪr] *n.* hoe. **hindir mindigir** worn-down hoe, swallow (bird)

mindihidik [mɪndɪxɪdɪk] *n.* smooth stone. **esidek guvur ana mindihidik** he smoothes the granary with a smooth stone

mindiviŋ [mɪndɪvɪŋ] *n.* grave, cemetery.

mindəwid [mɪndɛwɪd] *n.* small ant.

miŋgic [mɪŋgɪtʃ] *n.* knife.

minjəhwiyiŋ [mɪndʒɪx^wɪjɪŋ] *n.* paste of

rotten follere used in sauces. **edeli mijəhwiyiŋ** she makes the sauce with follere paste

mirdih [mírdíx] *id.* entering.

mirdim [mírdím] *n.* knee. **mis tabəhadki mirdim ka zal akal** the people complain (to the chief) against the thief

mire [míræ] *n.* mother-in-law. **mirə** my wife's mother **miɾeŋ** their mother-in-law

mirit-mirit [mírítmírít] *mod.* shining. **mirit-mirit əwikaba wur gayəŋ a, abu endegidfəŋa.** she had given birth to her foal all shiny, and was licking it.

mirkwi [mírk^wí] *n.* guest, stranger, journey. **agray mirkwi** he is travelling

mirwid [mírwid] *n.* bush whose bark is used in cooking dog meat.

mis [míʃ] *n.* person. **mis hihiriken** a human being

misek [míʃék] *n.* sauce pot.

misit [míʃít] *id.* lying. **andəhad misit** he is lying down

misiyək [míʃíjýk^w] *n.* unripened fruit. **bəza tahəpəd misiyək ga andra** the children are eating peanuts that are not fully ripe

mit [mít] *mod.* all. **əhəpədkiə aslu na mit ka sla na** he ate up all the meat that was on the cow *From: Mandara?*

mite [mítʰéʔ] *n.* area in front of a house. **e mite bu** outside

mitəwiz [mítəwiz] *n.* plant and seed.

mivdiŋgil [mívdíŋgíl] *n.* rolling on the ground in grief or in play. **bəza tiji mivdiŋgil** the children roll on the ground *See: medefelek.*

miwizidwizid [míwýzídúwýzíd] *n.* firefly.

miyek [míjèk] *n.* gazelle.

mizeni [mízéni] *vnom.* rotten. **nipi daf mizeni ka had** I can see some rotten boule on the ground *See: zi.*

mizi [mízí] *n.* smell. **mizi ga akfum məmətani abəlay do** the smell of the dead mouse is unpleasant **mizi ga azasa acə** the perfume smells good *See: zi.*

mizlilim [mízílim] *n.* forked stick set in the ground to support the frame of a bed or of a woodpile.

mizlirgendə [mízírgéndə] *n.* thorn creeper.

mma [mímə] *n.* mother (form of address).

mmawa [mí:əwá] *n.* my mother. **a mmawa naŋ ədoro ka yam** my mother

has gone for water

mogoro [mōŋg^wōrō] *n.* mango. *From: ?*

mota [mótà] *n.* car. *From: English 'motor'.*

muduguzl [mūdūg^wūʒ] *mod.* without handles (pot). *See: dəgəzl?*

mudukduk [mūdūk^wdūk^w] *n.* fist. **adi mudukduk** he punches him

mufdi [múfdì] *intj.* damn! *From: ?*

mugbugbu [mūg^wbūg^wbū] *n.* plant (sp.).

mugudi [mūg^wdí] *n.* man's robe (gandora).

mugudunḡudunḡ [mūg^wūdūŋḡ^wūdūŋḡ] *n.* mist.

mugumu [mūg^wūmú] *n.* wildcat, owl.

muguzindil [mūg^wzūmdíl] *n.* part of intestines.

muguzuguzu [mūgūzūgūzū] *n.* night blindness. **muguzuguzu agray wur** the child can't see at night

mugzubi [mūgzūbì] *n.* kind of long-tailed mouse.

mugzurbu [mūgzūr^wbū] *n.* stringy cobweb.

muhunjuv [mūx^wūndzūv] *n.* foamy rubbish left in a watercouse when the water has gone.

muhurushurus [mūx^wūrúsx^wūrús] *n.* eyebrow.

muku [mūk^wū] *mod.* six.

mukuḡkuḡ [mūkūḡkūḡ] *n.* watery fat of an overweight animal. **aslu ya ta abu akada mukuḡkubani** the meat that is very fat

mukurzluk-kurzluk

[mók^wūrʒúk^wk^wūrʒúk^w] *n.* larynx, goitre.

mumulu [mūmūlū] *n.* groundnut that has been ground.

mugguva [mūŋgūvə] *n.* crowd, assembly. **aŋgəwəz awur naŋ ga mədəm ma a mugguva bu** he is afraid of speaking in a crowd

murday [ámūr^wdáj] *v.* twist the neck.

muro [mūrō] *n.* 1) foolishness. **daf goro mironi tək dek naŋ əsəra.** she knows if my millet boule is badly cooked 2) much. **məŋgəhaf ewi kay muro muro do** the tree does not produce a great amount **takadvu ti day zəbal do, day afəŋ avu kay muro muro bi...** they fought; they were not very long nor very fat

musoko [mùsòk^wò] *n.* sorgho. *From:* Mandara.

musuɓ [mùsùɓ] *n.* the stomach with its contents.

mutupu [mùtùpù] *mod.* win at ‘mšwšyš’ without the enemy gaining a single piece.
àzia mutupu ana mis a mawaya ba he has won a game of mawaya by one point

muvdum [mùvðùm] *n.* aardvark.

muwul [mùwùl] *n.* kind of plant with pink flowers.

muwur [mùwùr] *n.* venom, poison. **ndam macama tɓuki muwur ka kamnjagaɗ** hunters put poison on their arrows

muyay [mùjáj] *n.* Muyang (place name). **ba**

àhəca bay ca, bay biliŋ a Muyay there isn't room for two chiefs in Muyaŋ, only one **a həma Muyaŋ geli bu ni ti...** on our Muyaŋ mountain... **bay Muyaŋ ya haslani enjenjeni leli məsar ni ti...** the first Muyaŋ chief that we know of...

muzək [müzək] *n.* he-goat (castrated).

müter [müter] *n.* clothes hanger made of forked wood.

məweni [mýwèni] *vnom.* new. *See:* **wi**.

məzi [múzì] *n.* pointed spear. **hay a məzi** the millet is in the blade

Mb - mb

mba [mbà] *mod.* not yet. **àra mba** he hasn't come yet

mbaɓ [ámɓàɓ] *v.* crush. **wal ambaɓ ahàr ga gavaŋ** the woman crushes the cobra's head *See:* **mbac**.

mbac [ámɓàts] *v.* crush an object so that its hard elements are broken. **wal mbac ahàr ga gavaŋ** the woman crushes the cobra's head *See:* **ŋgəladɗ; hi**.

mbaɗay [ámɓàɗáj] *v.* swear.

mbaɗay [mbàɗáj] *n.* oath. **bay avi mbaɗay ana zal matak** the chief makes the sorcerer swear

mbakala [mbàkàlà] *n.* bag.

mbamba [mbāmbà] *n.* vulture.

mbana-mbana [mbànámbàná] *n.* anything made of glass. **mbana-mbana ge eri** glasses

mbar mbar [mbàr mbàr] *id.* trembling. **zal akal èpia zal slewja, agər mbar mbar** the thief has seen the gendarme and is trembling

mbat [ámɓàt] *v.* turn. **ambat akur** he turns the stone (without moving it from its place) **ambatvu** he turns round **mara mambatkivu** we pour it on

mbay₁ [ámɓàj] *v.* exchange, ransom, moult, turn. **gavaŋ ambay** the cobra is moulting **gavaŋ ambay vu gavaŋ** the cobra is moulting **ambay hay** he exchanges his

millet **gavaŋ ambakaba** the cobra is moulting **ambavu dirleŋgi** he changes into a hyena **təmbəki ma** they go back ; they turn round

mbay₂ [mbàj] *n.* cassava. *From:* ?

mbay₃ [mbāj] *id.* crossing. **naŋ azay makombro mbay ti mək atuloro həya** she takes the monitor and throws it **awasl azlərəvaba a mis ba mbay** the spear pierces right though someone

mbazla [mbàžà] *n.* white wine.

mbeɓe [mbèɓè] *n.* sowing stick. *From:* Mandara.

mbeɓ-mbeɓ [mbèɓmbéɓ] *n.* piece. **azay ɗaf ni mbeɓ-mbeɓ bəlaŋ** she takes one portion of millet boule

mbedɗ [émbedɗ] *vcaus.* demolish a built object. **embedɗ ahay** he demolishes the house **embedɗ kəsa** he blocks the development of the village *See:* **mbəɗ**.

mbederi [mbèɗèrì] *n.* talking about other people's business without their consent. **zal mbederi** a man who tells tales

mbeh [mbèx] *mod.* low. **palahar ga ahay hini mbeh** the side of this house is low **hini mbeh, hini ɗar** uneven

mbeli [mbèli] *n.* elephant. *Loxodonta africana*.

mbezlekey [émbezžəkèj] *v.* take, steal. **bəz tembezlekey andra** the children filch some peanuts

mbezliŋ [émbeḷḷiŋ] *vcaus.* arrange objects so that they alternate or contrast. **wal embezliŋ bæza** the women produces a child of different sex each time

mbəḍ [ámbeḍ] *v.* collapse. **ahay ambəḍ** the house collapses

mbəḍucay [ámbeḍucāj] *v.* press, squeeze.

mbidicey *vdim.*

mbəl [ámbeḷ] *v.* sprout again, survive, break wind. **hay ambəl** the millet sprouts again **anəmbəl evi ni aw?** am I going to survive this year? **ambəl azay** he breaks wind

mbələḅ [mbələḅ] *mod.* somewhat soft.

mbileḅ [mbilēḅ mbilēḅ] *dimin.* soft, softer than ‘tukulšnlšn’ but harder than ‘hélštštš’.

mbembileḅ *mod.* quality of pastes (couscous, clay, etc.). *See:* **həlatata, tukulaŋaŋ.**

mbəlasl *v.* divide. *See:* **pəlasl.**

mbələk-mbələk [mbələkmbələk] *mod.* everywhere and in quantity. **avər àtəḍa ḍal ḍal, yam mbələk-mbələk a vəḍaŋ bu** it has rained heavily; there is water all over the field *See:* **zlələk-zlələk.**

mbəlgotuk [mbəlgʷòtùk] *id.* falling on the ground with water. **aboro eli mbəlgotuk** he pours the sauce on the ground

mbəlwuḍwuḍ [mbəlwùḍwùḍ] *mod.* bad, ugly; of the eyes. **ere gani hini mbəlwuḍwuḍ eri ni zla ti...** this thing with ugly eyes... **makombro mbəlwuḍwuḍa** the monitor is ugly

mbəŋ [mbəŋ; mbəmbəŋ] *id.* cutting. **mbəmbəŋ àkelkaba sla na** he cut up the cow

mbər-mbər [mbərmbər] *n.* small roller made of rafia leaves for decorating pottery.

mbərna [mbərna] *n.* unfertile area.

mbərzlay [ámbeḷḷāj] *v.* (of the eye) have something wrong. **eri ambərzlay** he has something wrong with his eye

mbərzlaki *vcpd.* cause discomfort owing to quantity. **eri ambərzlaki ana mis ka azana** the people don’t see the cloth clearly because there are too many

mbəzl-mbəzl [mbəḷḷmbəḷ] *mod.* tear-filled, shining.

mbi [émbi] *v.* be on someone’s side. **embi gayak** he is on your side **sla èmbiva e divi va ana wur a** the cow has blocked the child’s way **embiliŋ** he follows (him)

mis timbikabu people take turns **mis tagray təwi ke mbi ke mbi** people take turns to work *See:* **mbay.**

mbidsec [émbidéʃ] *v.* press. *See:* **mbəḍucay.**

mbih [mbìx] *mod.* in quantity. **tədubiyu haf ciliŋ mbih** they only gave me numerous pills

mbiki₁ [mbikì] *n.* fox.

mbiki₂ [émbiki] *vcpd.* be first. **embiki ka ndam gəslər** he is the first to seize a weapon **naŋ embiki ka bay** he is next in line to the chief **wur embikivu ka bəŋani** the child helps his father (in a fight) *See:* **mbi.**

mbilgetik [mbilgètik] *mod.* much. **slasla tuhuriyu a vəḍaŋ vu mbilgetik** many cows are going into the field

mbiliŋ₁ [émbilìŋ] *vcaus.* save, heal.

mbiliŋ₂ [émbilìŋ] *vcaus.* follow. **wur embiliŋ ana bəŋani** the child follows his father *See:* **mbi.**

mbiŋ-mbiŋ [mbiŋmbiŋ] *n.* hard stalk at base of fruits. **mbiŋ-mbiŋ ga atəkwa** stalk of okra

mbirfiŋ [émbirfìŋ] *vcpd.* conceal, hide the truth. **zal mafada embirfiŋ pakama** the liar doesn’t tell the truth *See:* **mbrəŋ.**

mbirtita [mbirtitā] *mod.* fat, enormous. **mbeli anjəhad mbirtita** the elephant is enormous

mbirzledey [émbirzèḍēj] *v.* give a black look at someone. **embirzledey zal ezir gayəŋ** he looks at his enemy maliciously

mbirzlid [mbirzìd] *mod.* very small, tiny. **asi ḍaf ana wur mbirzlid** he cuts a small portion of boule for the child **ḍaf hini mbirzlid ahkay** this portion of boule is small **ḍaf mbirzlideni** a small portion of boule **asi makala ana bæza mbirzlidzlid** he cuts tiny bits of doughnut for the children

mbiyit [mbijit] *mod.* quickly. **kəra adiki ana huwa mbiyit** the dog runs quickly **nawayay ti ya kədiki mbiyitani ti...** I want you to run very quickly...

mbizlimey [émbiʃimēj] *v.* seek something by turning things over. **embizlimey hijid a wurzla bu, adəbay ḍaf** he turns over the calabashes in the pot looking for the boule

mbolo [mbəḷō] *n.* bag.

mbrakma [mbràkmà] *n.* illness which

produces mouth ulcers. **mbrakma agəs wur** the child is suffering from ulcers *See: ma.*

mbrəŋ [ámbrəŋ] *v.* stop, leave, let, abandon. **a ambrəŋ mis do beteta** he doesn't leave people alone **ambərbu endəwi gayəŋ** he leaves his shirt somewhere **ambərbu nəŋ e divi bu** he leaves him on the road **təmbriwu təwi a ahar vu** they give him a job to do **ambərfəŋ magudar ge mis** he forgives people their faults

mbuc [mbùts] *mod.* watchful.

mbul [mbūl] *mod.* shining, pretty. **mbul, abəki yam ka wur dahalay keti ferekferek** (the shoes) were finer than the girl's

mbur [mbùr] *mod.* along the ground. **zal akal agəjahaya awak a dəksla ba mbur** the thief drags the goat out of the pen along the ground **gavəŋ agəjah huɸ ka huɸ mbur mbur** the cobra drags its belly along the ground

mburlumburlum [mbórlùmbórlòm] *n.* throat (windpipe).

mburucay [ámbürtsāj] *v.* 1) hurt oneself by knocking into something. **wur amburucay pakama** the child has hurt his mouth 2) corrupt, misuse. **zal akal amburucay pakama** the thief does not tell the truth **zal hini àmburucakaba siggo ge mis ya ta tàjam na** this man has taken the money that people collected

mbuway [ámbüwāj] *v.* cover; roof with tin; cover with cement. **ambuway ahay** he roofs his house with tin *See: paslay.*

mbuzi [mbÿzĩ] *n.* wristband. **wal awəlivu mbuzi ana wur gayəŋ** the woman ties a wristband onto her child

N - n

n [ānĩ] *vroot.* give rapidly. **wal mək ani ɸaf ana zal gani** then the woman gave millet boule to her husband **ani aday ana wur** he hit the child with a stick

niviyu [ānívijú] *vcpd.* be under something. **aku aniviyu ana misek** the fire is under the pot **avuwul anifəŋ ke slimi** the bug is clinging to his ear

na [nā] *cnj.* probably, possibly, hardly. **na Melefit nəŋgo ambərfua, abi?** God will pardon me, won't he? **na Melefit ambərfua, na?** God must pardon me, mustn't he? **naŋ naŋ ni ɸek kam na tagray kam ŋgam ga maɸəlani do, ŋgam ti mahətay ahàr.** they don't really make all that to look nice, they make it to protect the head

nac [nāts] *id.* licking. **ani arəɸ nac nac endigid** she licks it

nec [nētʃ] *dimin.* tasting. **wur acakay estena nec** the child tastes the salt with a lick

nahaŋ [nàxāŋ] *n.* another. **səvdi nahaŋ** Saturday after next

nahəma [nāxmā] *disc.* intensive topicalisation marker. **nakoro eli hi nahəma, kadboro nu** I am going to the fields, you

must follow me **nakoro a kəsa vu hi nahəma, kajəgaki ahay** I am going to the village, you look after the house *See: ni.*

nahkay [nāxkáj] *cnj.* so.

nahkəkay [nāxkəkáj] *cnj.* so.

nahkaya *cnj.* like this.

nak [nək] *pro.* you (s). **gayak** your (s.)

nakəŋ [nəkəŋ] *disc.* discourse reference marker. **naŋ nakəŋ** it's him

naŋ [nəŋ] *pro.* he, she, it, him, her. **gayəŋ** his, her

naŋgay [nəŋgāj] *intr.* why not. **kəhəŋgrifəŋ naŋgay?** why didn't you reply?

nec [nētʃ] *mod.* all, without leaving even one. **armuwur ezinaba awak a nec** the illness has killed off all the goats *From: French 'net'?*

nehi [nèxi] *dem.* here it is. *See: neni, netegi.*

nek [énék] *v.* press, trample. **enek huɸ** he tramples the earth

neni [nèni] *mod.* that which is close. **neni** there it is *See: nehi, netegi.*

new-new [nēwnēw] *mod.* sweet. **haf new-neweni** kind of plant

nəŋgu [nəŋgù] *mod.* even. **leli nəŋgu**

makoro even we are going **leli nəngu ni ti makoro** even we are going as well
nəwasl [ánówáf] *v.* 1) burn. **aku anəwasl wur** the fire burns the child 2) stick. **wur anəwasl kimaka** the child sticks the shoe
ni [nī] *disc.* thematic and definite marker. **hini goro ni** this one is mine **nawayay akur nini** I want this stone *See: hi, tegi.*
nih [nīx] *id.* going on. **ba akoro ciliṅ nih nih** he just keeps going
nihhi [nīxī] *mod.* now, here. *See: ni, hi.*
nimi [nīmī] *mod.* first. **ra nimi** come here first (I want to speak to you) **ra day nəhuk ma goro hi nimi.** come here a minute, I

want to speak to you *See: day.*

nini [nīnī] *mod.* that (near). *See: hini, teguni.*
nu [nū] *pro.* 1st singular, I.
nuf [nūf] *mod.* tasteless. **eli nufani** a tasteless sauce **eli hini nuf ahkay** this sauce is tasteless
nus [nūs] *id.* giving without saying anything. **avi daf ana wur nus** she gives the millet boule to the child without saying

Nd - nd

ndabala [ndábàlà] *n.* kick. **kwa way do ahuriyu a yam ni vu adi ndabala** everyone jumps into the water, kicking it up
ndabay [ándàbāj] *v.* stick, weld. **afa ga bay mandaḅ ara** at the welder's
ndaca [ndàtsà] *n.* criticism. **abi ndaca ana mis** he criticises people
ndacay [ándàtsāj] *v.* grip by pinching.
ndecey *dimin.* pinch gently. **zal hini endecey zlam** this man is miserly
ndac *id.* way of being squeezed. **afafəṅ kizi ka ahay ndac** he puts the secco next to the wall
ndec [ndētʃ] *dimin.* closing, falling, lightly. **afəṅ eri ndec ana daf** she puts the cover on the boule **azləkləṅ mahay ndec ana mickər gayəṅ** he shuts the door on his chicken **agəs azana ndec** he takes the cloth lightly **evid zlam avu eslini ti kəwəliyiyo məfo ni dek ndec ndec** there are five holes in it, and you attach the strings lightly
ndaf [ndáf] *id.* killing. **akad kəra ndaf** he kills the dog (with a stick)
ndef *dimin.* killing with (small) blows.
ndahay [ndáxāṅ] *mod.* others. *See: nahay.*
ndahàr *vcpd.* descend. *See: nday.*
ndahwayay [ndáx^wájáj] *id.* uncovering self. **fat azəkia ndahwayay** the sun becomes visible **avər ahəlkia ndahwayay** the rain is stopping
ndakabu [ndākābū] *n.* yellow millet.

ndakar [ndākār] *n.* sterility. **eysli egi ndakar** the egg does not hatch **zal ndakar** a sterile man **zal ndakarani** a sterile man
ndakwaduk [ndāk^wādūk^w] *mod.* very short, but a little thick.
ndekweduk *dimin.* very short. *See: pətəkum.*
ndalak-ndalak [ndālākndālāk] *mod.* the ideal salty taste of potash. **eli ndalak-ndalak** the sauce is salty **wur esi yam ndalak-ndalakani** the child is drinking salty water
ndelek-ndelek [ndēlēkndēlēk] *dimin.* a taste that does not come up to the ideal standard of potash. **wəri ndelek-ndelek** the potash is salty **estena ndelek-ndelek** the salt tastes too strong **zal eri ndelek-ndelek** an excessively miserly man
ndalay [ándàlāj] *v.* drip.
ndeley [éndèlēj] *vdim.* fall in tiny drops.
ndam [ndàm] *n.* people.
ndamam *proINTR.* who (plural)?
ndamaṅa [ndámáṅà] *pro.* unknown people. **ndamaṅa tàra ga azəga geli na ti** some people came for our fruit
ndasay [ándàsāj] *v.* fill up. **evid andasay** the hole is filling up
ndesvu [éndēʃvù] *vcpd.* fill in. **mis tendesvu suwa** the folk fill in the well
ndeskiyu *vcpd.* **tindeskiyu had ke kisim** the fill in the hole over the dead person
ndes-ndes *id.* filling in.

ndav [ándāv] *v.* finish (intr.). **hay andav** the millet is coming to an end *See: ndende.*

ndav kuda [ándāv k^wúdā] *vcpd.* pray.

ndawaslay [ándāsàfāj] *v.* move the mouth after having swallowed something good. **wur andawaslay ma** the child moves his mouth

ndaway [ándāwāj] *v.* suspect. **wal andaway wur ga mənani ga akal ga atəkwa gayan** the woman suspects her sister of stealing her gombo

nday₁ [ándāj] *v.* swallow, lower. **anday haf** he swallows the medicine **mis andakabu ma** he puts up with it **andəki ma ka yam** he lowers his mouth to the water

ndahār [ándāhār] *vcpd.* descend. **andahār a həma ba** he comes down from the mountain **andaahār eli** he runs into the bush (going downhill)

ndikabu [ándikābū] *vcpd.* believe in, obey. **andikabu ana bənani** he obeys his father **andikaba waketa Melefit a** he believed in the word of God

nday₂ [ndāj] *pro.* they. **ndey hi** here they are

ndaya [ndāj:ā] *mod.* quite light. **məlan ndaya** it is quite bright out *See: nday-nday.*

nday-nday [ndājndāj] *mod.* well-lit.

ndebey [éndèbēj] *v.* fall in drops. **asak gayak ahkay endebyu a had do** your feet don't touch the ground *See: ndabay.*

ndef [éndèf] *vcaus.* pierce. **endef cicek** he makes a hole in the flute *See: ndəf.*

ndeke-ndeke [ndékéndèk'è?] *n.* chest.

ndekwe [ndèk^wè?] *mod.* fixedly.

ndekwi [ndèk^wī] *mod.* hairless. **zal ndekwi** a hairless man

ndeleverzi [ndèlèvèrzi] *n.* Fire-finch. *Lagonosticta senegala.* *See: verzi.*

ndel-ndel [ndèlndèl] *mod.* high, steep.

ndemtedik [ndèmtèdik] *n.* small gecko.

ndenda [èndèndæ] *vpfve.* be finished (childish usage). **makala èndenda** the doughnuts are finished *See: ndav.*

nderewiz [ndèrèwiz] *n.* cicada. **nderewiz etəwi ka sarta ga azay a fat** the cicadas sing when it is hot

ndeva [ndèvæ] *mod.* straight. *See: suwwa.*

ndeveriŋ [éndèvəriŋ] *vcaus.* cause to finish. **mickur adəf asak ga gəjar**

endeveriŋ the chicken fell with its left leg on top *See: ndav.*

ndəf [ándəf] *v.* become pierced. **guvur andəf** the granary is getting a hole in it *See: ndəf.*

ndəh [ándəx] *v.* ripen. **hay andəh** the millet is ripening **fat andəh hay** the sun ripens the millet

ndəhad [ándəxād] *v.* sleep, lie. *See: nday, had.*

ndəkulum [ndəkùlòm] *mod.* bald. **ara zla ndəkulum ndəkulum** she walks along, bald...

ndələba [ndələbā] *mod.* straight (and big). **azay divi ga magam gayan ndələba** he goes straight home

ndiləba [ndiləbā] *dimin.* straight (and small). *See: ndiləbey.*

ndələd [ndələd] *id.* the action of jumping suddenly; (in traditional hockey) losing. **mecegim ahər ndələd** the frog jumps **ahər adəm ti àgri ndələd ana tay ba** they mustn't lose

ndələk [ndələk] *mod.* unknown. **mis asləkabiya a arəŋ ba ndələk** someone or other comes from elsewhere **mis ndələkani** a stranger

ndələbay [ándələbaj] *v.* skin an animal using hot water. **ara àndələbakia gayan gayan na.** she took the skin off her own...

ndələb [ndələb] *id.* shaving. **ahəraya ndələb akiya ahər kə mənani na.**

ndəŋ [ndəŋ] *mod.* full, touching. **mis tislivu a ahay vu ndəŋ** the people are filling the house

ndiŋ *dimin.* trop serreà. **awəl awak ndiŋ ndiŋ** he ties the goat tightly **ezewəd ndiŋ ndiŋeni** a tight string

ndəŋay [ándəŋāj] *v.* be stuck, jam. **makombro andəŋay ahər a tulay vu** the monitor jams his head onto the termite hill **mis tədəŋa ga madəbay awak a** the folk looked for the goat in vain

ndəŋ *id.* blocking.

ndər [ndər] *id.* putting-down. **mək tata nu nərə bilegeni ana makala goro na ndər ndər** then I went as well with the doughnuts on my head

ndərəkəkay [ándərəkəkāj] *v.* produce fruit (of millet). **hay andərəkəkay nahəma...** when the millet started to show seeds...

ndərkəkək [ndərkəkəkā] *mod.* staring fixedly,

through fear or embarrassment.

ndəroɔf [ndəɔrɔɔf] *n.* sticky bark used for sauces, glue. **suwwa àdoro ka ndəroɔf gayəŋ** she went off to look for wild ‘okra’

ndic [nditʃ] *mod.* overturned. **kaħəmbaħadaba, kaħəmbadaba, kaħəmbaħadkiyu kulum ni a huɔ a huɔ ndic ni ti kara kəfəkiaya ambəl na** you turn the hollowed-out wood over on its belly and then you put on the skin
See: ndic-ndic.

ndic-ndic *id.* well laid out. **wal abiyu zlam a burzum vu ndic-ndic** the woman arranges her pottery in the firing pit well

ndid [ndid] *mod.* none. **masləŋ ndid abi a magam bi** there is no-one at home

ndigid [éndigìd] *v.* lick. **endigid ana arəɔ nac nac** she was licking it

ndikabu [ándikābū] *vcpd.* believe in, obey.
See: nday.

ndilbɛbɛni [ndilbɛbɛni] *mod.* newborn. **wur ndilbɛbɛni** a newborn child **ndilbɛbɛni ya ka aħar ti** the youngest

ndilebɛy [éndilɛbɛj] *v.* straighten. **endilebɛy ara** he straightens the iron

ndilibiŋa [ndilibiŋā] *mod.* in a line.

ndiŋ [ndiŋ] *id.* full. **ndiŋ avu yam, akoro ana naŋ a fiki vu** she filled it with water and went with it to the field *See: ndəŋ.*

ndiŋ-ndiŋ [ndiŋndiŋ] *n.* hooked sword, dagger.

ndindeliŋ [ndindɛliŋ] *mod.* solid. **akur ndindeliŋ** the stone is hard **akur ndindeliŋeni** a hard stone

ndirbɛsley [éndirbɛtɛj] *v.* boil down. **aħur endirbɛsley e eli bu** the beans dissolve in the sauce **endirbɛsley aħur** he boils down the beans

ndisliŋ [énditɛliŋ] *vcaus.* cool (trs.). **endisliŋ yam** he cools the water **yam endisliŋvu** the water is cooling *See: sifey.*

ndivi [éndivì] *v.* insult. **endivi mis** he insults people

ndivey [ndivɛj] *n.* insult. **apalafəŋ ndivey ka mis a** he hurls insults at people

ndivik-ndivik [ndivikndivik] *mod.* filthy. **akaba hijid hini arɔa ndivik-ndivikani ni ti...** this calabash is filthy...

ndize [ndizʒæ] *mod.* red.

nduza *augm.* large and red.

ndo [ndō] *neg.* perfective negative marker. **àra ndo** he has not come

ndondo [ndōndò] *n.* childishness, young. **kalapay akada ga wur ndondo ni** you are speaking like a child **ndondo agray kur aw?** are you a child?

ndrasa [ndràsā] *mod.* much (wealth). **elmeni ndrasa** much riches **əŋgəta elmeni ndras ndras** he has acquired much riches **zal hini zlam a aħay gani bu ndras ndras** this man’s house is full of riches **àdi aħar ana zlam goro ndrasa a aħay bu** he found me already rich (I’m rich no thanks to him)

ndruc [ndrùts] *id.* crossing, separating. **diki kwalac kwalac mekekri day asləkaba ndruc** he ran wildly without dodging the thorn bushes

ndub [ándùb] *v.* make sticky. **nəndub eli ana atəkwa** I make the sauce sticky with gombo **eli andub** the sauce is sticky **məndubani** sticky

nduc [ndùts] *id.* snatching. **nduc tətədfəŋ ambəl a** they snatched the skin from him

ndud [ándùd] *v.* pull, stretch. **wur andud dāmku** the child stretches the rubber **andud aħar** he straightens the (dislocated) arm

nduguc [ándùg^wùts] *v.* gnaw.

nduk [ndük^w] *mod.* up to. **avi nduk ana həma** it leads up to the mountain foot **abiviyu ma ga vadaŋ nduk ana ekwi** he cultivates right up to the edge of the field

nduko [ndük^wò] *n.* wooden crosspiece used to hold in place the upper ends of the roofing sticks of a house. **mis awəlivu nduko ana aħay macabani** someone ties a cross into the roofing of a house *See: məndək.*

nduraɔ [ndùràɔ] *n.* kind of bush.

ndurlay [ndùrláj] *n.* kind of flute used by the Baka and Mbuko.

ndurzum [ndùrzùm] *n.* maggot found in dead fish. **kilif hini njurzum avu** there are maggots in this fish

ndurzlay [ándùrláj] *v.* be/become bald. **mundurzlayi** bald

nduva [ndùvà] *n.* large male monkey.

nduwul [ndùwúl] *n.* bar of iron. **nduwul ga aħar** forearm

nduza [ndùzā] *mod. red. See: ndize.*
nduzuk [ndúzùk^w] *mod. big and red. See: ngəra.*
ndək [ndÿk^w] *mod. cheaply. tusəkumoro*

zlam ndək they sell it cheaply

ŋg - ng

ngga [áŋgā] *v. return (towards the speaker).*
àŋgaba he came back to life **aŋgaya a mən ga haf ba** he comes down from the tree **aŋgəki gwar ka ahar ga daf** he turns to the right **aŋgələŋ vedəŋ** he weeds his field for the second time **aŋgwivoro a ahar vu** it comes back to him **aŋgiyaya a ahàr ba** it comes to him, he remembers it
ngac [ŋgāts] *id. [wine] in quantity. edi zum ngac* he makes plenty of wine
ngad [áŋgàd] *v. go back.*
ngadawa [ŋgàdāwà] *n. yellow millet. See: ndakabu; ngazamngazam; magəjabay.*
ngaf [ŋgāf] *id. butting. sla azlal mis ngaf* the cow butts someone **mota azlal mənngəhaf ngaf** the car hits the tree
ngah [áŋgàx] *v. keep, put away, hide. aŋgah hay a guvur bu* he hides his millet in the granary
ngalabu [táŋgàlàbū] *vcpd. be reconciled. mis taŋgalabu* they make it up **bay aŋgalabakabu mis** the chief reconciles the people
ngalabu n. ngalabu abu they are reconciled
ngalabay [áŋgàlàbāj] *v. loosen. mənngalabani* loose
ngam [ŋgām] *cnj. because. From: Fulfulde.*
ngam-ngam [ŋgāmŋgām] *n. trap. From: ?*
ngan [ŋgāŋ] *mod. apart. zal eri anjəhad ngan* the miser lives away for the others **fat ngana** the weather is hot *See: njan.*
ngarama [ŋgàràmə] *n. Pied crow. Corvus albus.*
ngaray [áŋgàràj] *v. take back, give back. aŋgaraj zlam gayan* he takes back his property **aŋgari zlam gayan** he give him back his property *See: hənngaray.*
ngaraba [áŋgàràbā] *vcpd. save, bring back to life.*
ngarvu [áŋgàrvù] *vcpd. take vengeance, be*

bent with age.

ngas [áŋgàs] *v. pile up. aŋgas had* he piles up the soil **məŋgaskabani** heaped
ngasa [ŋgàsà] *n. violence.*
ngaw [ŋgāw] *id. beating. ngaw ngaw tagaraləŋbiyu ana tay* they forced her to follow them by hitting her
ngay [ŋgāj] *cnj. that. ngay ti nan ara, nəsar do* I do not know if he will come **ngay a nan ara, nəsar do** I did not know that he was coming
ngaz [áŋgàz] *v. filter, draw. aŋgaz wəri* she filters the potash *See: duc.*
ngazam-ngazam [ŋgàzámŋgàzám] *n. yellow millet.*
ngazlay [áŋgàzəj] *v. show in order to gain an end. aŋgazli ahar mis ana bəza* she shows the 'shšr mis' to the children **matak aŋgazlivu ana mis** the sorcerer appears to the people
ngec [ŋgətʃ] *id. breaking, hiding. təhuruyu mis məbuwani ngec ngec* they hid themselves *See: ngac, ngecey.*
ngecey [éŋgètʃej] *v. reduce, make smaller. engecey ahay* he makes his house smaller **engecekabu ahay** he puts the houses closer together
ngegic [ŋgègìtʃ] *mod. forcibly. slasla təhuriyu a vədan vu ngegic* the cattle break into the field *See: ngrum.*
ngelef-engelef [ŋgələfŋgələf] *mod. quite dry. kafəkadiya ana fat a, fat ekəlɪŋaba lala ngelef-engelef* when you've put it out in the sun, it dries it out
ngesis [ŋgēsɪʃ] *n. coarse ash.*
ngesl-ngesl [ŋgétŋgèt] *n. seed-case of cotton that has not ripened properly. ngesl-ngesl ge sləzi adəs do* cotton buds don't weigh much *See: misiyuk, sikwey.*
ngewi [ŋgèwɪ] *n. kind of long-tailed lizard.*
ngə [ŋgə] *cnj. would that. ngə zumubiyu pəlat verzi verzi goro na* bring me my Mandara spear **ngə zaya** give me! *See:*

za, ngay.

ngəɖfay [áŋgəɖfáj] *v.* clear the ground.

anngəɖfay fiki he prepares the ground for karal *From: Mandara.*

ngəɖpa [ŋgəɖpà] *n.* suffering. *From: Mandara.*

ngəhad [áŋgəhád] *v.* tell. **anngəhad məhasl** he tells a story

ngəki [áŋgəkí] *vcpd.* turn (intr). **məngəkiyani** turning

ngəlad [áŋgələd] *v.* crush to paste. **wal anngələd andra** the woman crushes the peanuts **mota àngələda naŋ a** the car crushed him to death *See: hi; mbac.*

ngələk₁ [ŋgələk] *n.* large bird occurring in folk tales, probably the Black crowned crane. *Balerarica pavonina.*

ngələk₂ [ŋgələk] *id.* shouting.

ngəra [ŋgərə] *mod.* big and red. *See: nduzuk.*

ngərafay [áŋgərəfáj] *v.* break (e.g. wood) so that the broken-off part falls to the ground. **virí anngərafay hay** the monkey breaks the millet **həb ngəraf** break it completely *See: ngurufay.*

ngəray [áŋgərəj] *v.* be in difficulty. *From: Mandara.*

ngər-ngər [ŋgərŋgər] *n.* kind of beetle with red and black stripes.

ngərvay [ŋgərváj] *n.* kind of broad-leaved tree that grows on rocks.

ngərzəka [ŋgərzəkā] *mod.* pinky-brown. **azana ngərzəka** a red cloth

ngərzlay [áŋgərfáj] *v.* tie together. **anngərzlakabu təndal** he ties together the posts

ngət [áŋgət] *v.* find. **anngət hay** he gets some millet

ngəz [áŋgəz] *v.* flow. **yam anngəz a zalaka bu** the water is flowing in the mayo **wiyan anngəz yam** the sand lets water flow

ngəza [ŋgəzā] *mod.* red-brown. **azana ngəza** the cloth is reddish

ngəzl [áŋgəz] *v.* move house. **mis təngəzl** the folk move house **zalaka anngəzl mis** the mayo forces the folk to move

ngəzl *id.* at a distance. **mis tələm ahay ngəzl ngəzl** they build their houses far apart

ngəzlay [áŋgəzáj] *v.* stick, support. **wur kuda anngəzli ahàr ana məngəhaf** the orphan leans his head against the tree

ngəzl *id.* **avi weleher ana ahar gayan ngəzl** he puts his finger against his head

ngəzl-ngəzl [ŋgəzŋgəz] *id.* way of placing the hand against something. **asi daf ngəzl-ngəzl** he cuts out large lumps of boule

ngidéc [éŋgidét] [éŋgidét{æ}] *v.* squeeze. **bəza təngidécvu ka slalah** the children are squashed in the bed **sla anngidécfiŋiyu mis ka ahay** the cow squeezes someone against the house

ngidifŋ [éŋgidifŋ] *vcpd.* keep the embers of a fire for re-use. **wal anngidifŋ aku** the woman keeps the embers *See: ngad.*

ngilis [ŋgìlì] *id.* [millet boule] in quantity. **edi daf ngilis** he makes boule in quantity

ngim [ŋgim] *mod.* in front of people.

ngirdida [ŋgirdidæ] *mod.* fine. *See: ngriɖ.*

ngirdifŋ [ŋgirdifŋ] *n.* fine soil, wet or dry. *See: ngriɖ; argudu.*

ngiyac [ŋgiyàts] *id.* crunching. **ngiyac ngiyac asikaba ana eyen a kwec kwec** as he ate, he cut small pieces for the squirrel

ngiyæ [ŋgijw] *mod.* at a distance. **asivu ana mbeli ngiyæ** he gives the elephant a wide berth

ngizlic [ŋgizit] *id.* taking. **wal ni àhəraya huya ngizlic eyək gayan huya** the woman took her groundnuts

ngoro [áŋg^wɔrō] *vcpd.* leave again, grow again (coppice). **anngoro** he leaves again **nəngwiyu a tawi vu** I start work again **mis anngwiahad ana bay** the person bows before the chief *See: nga.*

ngərəh [ŋgrəx] *n.* kind of wild onion with a large leaf.

ngriɖ [ŋgrid] *id.* crushing, crushed. **èhəbkaba tasa goro na ngriɖ ngriɖ akaba makala ni** he smashed my plate that the doughnuts were on **èhikaba hay a ngriɖ ngriɖ** he has ground the millet finely

ngri-ngri [ŋgrìŋgrì] *mod.* widely, disordered, all over the place. **adahkaba asak a ngri-ngri** he spreads his legs wide

ngrufay [áŋgrufáj] *v.* twist. **zleŋgili ànggrufakaba naŋ a** hi is paralysed with polio

ngruf *id.* with force. **ndam abra təhuriyu a ahay vu ngruf** the bandits entered the house forcibly **zleŋgili ànggrufakaba naŋ a** hi is paralysed with

polio

ngrum [ŋgròm] *mod.* hard. **mis tadəbay beba ngrum ngrum.** people were madly looking for their sowing sticks

ngucay [áŋgùtsāj] *v.* ill-treat. **ngucay mis** he ill-treats people

nguc [ŋgùts] *n id.* something bad. **agri nguc ana mis** he ill-treats people **asi aday ana wur nguc** he beats the child

ngudaslay [áŋgùdʔāj] *v.* cook by boiling (intrs). **daf ngudaslay** la boule se cuit

ngud-ngud [ŋgùdŋgùd] *n.* slowness. **wal hini agray ngud-ngud dal-dal** this woman is very slow **zal ngud-ngud** a slow man

nguf [ŋgùf] *mod.* quickly. **ara ezliri kam nguf ahkay kwa do kam, asər do.** it starts quickly, so she doesn't know when

nguguc [ŋgùgùts] *id.* entering forcibly. **ndam akal tìpia slasla, nday ngugucaya galavad a** the thieves saw the cattle and broke in at night **tehuriyu nguguc** they go in forcibly *See: ngucay.*

nguh [ŋgùx; ŋgəŋgùx] *id.* bursting. **Embuzey ngənguh atəzkaba** Embúzey burst

nguk [ŋgùk^w] *n.* sacrifice for driving away caterpillars, made by the Gadray clan. **tagray nguk** they are doing the caterpillar sacrifice

ngulay [áŋgùlāj] *v.* roar, groan.

ngulum [ŋgùlòm] *mod.* better. **ga məcəhiya yam ana leli a digepa ti ngulum do waw?** at least it's better for drawing our water, isn't it?

ngulusa [ŋgùlùsā] *mod.* having the shape of a heap of coals. **azay ga aku ngulusa a ləwit bu** there is a heap of embers on the hearth **ebeftey aku ngulus** he lights the fire

ngum [ŋgùm] *id.* on the ground. **wal ezligoro biyem ngum** the woman throws down the wood

ngumna [ŋgùmnà] *n.* the government. *From: Mandara.*

ngunguh [ŋgùŋgùx] *id.* bursting completely. **ngunguh atəzkaba** she burst right open

ngurak [ŋgùràk] *mod.* wide open.

ngurufay [áŋgùrùfāj] *v.* bend (wood) so that the interior breaks and the bark remains intact. **həb nguruf** bend it *See: ngərafay.*

ngurukuk [ŋgùrùk^wùk^w] *n.* swelling of the

testicles. **ngurukuk àzafəga ahay ke kədi a** the hernia has taken over the testicles (one should not want too much of what someone else brings) **nədi ahər ana aslu ka ngurukuk** I got some meat for nothing

ngusfur [ŋgùsfür] *mod.* badly done.

nguled [éŋgùlèd] *v.* adorn. **nguled ahay** he decorates the house

nguledede [ŋgùlèdèdè] *mod.* multicoloured, striped. **endəwi nguledede** the shirt is striped **endəwi ngulededeni** a striped shirt *See: ngwac-ngwac.*

ngwac-ngwac [ŋgùʔtsŋgùʔts] *mod.* speckled, patterned.

ngwec-ngwec [ŋgùʔtŋgùʔt] *dimin.* with small speckles. *See: nguledede.*

ngwalak-ngwalak [ŋgùʔlākŋgùʔlāk] *mod.* with wide bands of colour. **avər asakabaya ngwalak-ngwalak** the rain produced clouds with large areas of different colours **azana ngwalak-ngwalakani (ngwəngwalakani)** a multi-coloured pagn *See: gwasl-gwasl.*

ngwalalaŋ [ŋgùʔlālāŋ] *n.* the state of being unshelled. **adi ngwalalaŋ ga andra ana bəza** he give the unshelled peanuts to the children **andra ngwalalaŋani** unshelled peanuts

ngwaslasl [ŋgùʔlāʔlā] *mod.* well-built. **ahər adəm ahay ni məlumvaba ngwaslasla.** the houses must be well-built

ngweslesl *dimin.* neatly built.

ngwazl-ngwazl [ŋgùʔlāŋgùʔlāŋ] *id.* the sound of something cooking.

ngwihad [áŋgùʔiāhād] *vcpd.* obey, bend the knee before someone. *See: nga.*

ngwid [ŋgùʔid] *id.* putting fire to something quickly. **bəza təbəki aku ka andra ngwid** the children burn the peanuts

ngwir [ŋgùʔir] *id.* bumping. **aməcay ahər a mahay ngwir** he knocks his head on the door

ngwizla [ŋgùʔiʔlā] *mod.* fixedly. **wur aməŋjaləŋ ana mis ngwizla** the child looks at folk fixedly

Nj - nj

- nja** [ndzá] *n.* state. **nja ga vɔ́ɔ́y ya kani gagɔ́ɔ́akani ti...** the kind of help you get nowadays... *See:* **njay**.
- njad** [njǎd] *id.* uprooting.
njed [ndzɛ́d] *dimin.* uprooting. **nawayay ti kukoro karadubiyu njed** I want you to go and uproot it for me
- njaga-njaga** [ndzàgàndzàgà] *mod.* rough.
njege-njege *dimin.* rough and small. *See:* **hanja-hanja, njerat**.
- njah** [ándzàx] *v.* pull out. **anjah fifiŋ ge ləli** he pulls the stalk out of the hangar *See:* **gəjah**.
- njaləŋ-njaləŋ** [ndzālāŋndzālāŋ] *mod.* healthy, strong. **mis njaləŋ-njaləŋani** healthy people **ndam ga kəsa təbu njaləŋ-njaləŋ** the people of the village are healthy
- njaŋ** *mod.* at a distance. **azay asak njaŋ njaŋ** he walks with big steps
njeŋ [ndzɛ̀ŋndzɛ̀ŋ] *dimin.* lightly. **nəhkay əbivu ahar ana guvur ge govogo ni njeŋ njeŋ** he put his fingertips lightly on coucal ès granary *See:* **ŋgaŋ**.
- njaŋay** [ándzàŋāj] *v.* support.
njaŋ *id.* supporting. **wur anjaŋi asak ana mənəni njaŋ** the child pushes his foot against his mother **mis avi təndal njaŋ ana ahay** someone supports the house with a post
- njarawa** [ndzàràwà] *n.* loosely-woven bag made from bark of 'šsék' tree. **ahəl andra ana njarawa** he carries the peanuts in a sack
- njatata** [ndzàtātā] *mod.* toothed. **kəra aslər njatata a ma bu** the dog has lots of teeth
- njay** [ándzàj] *v.* seem, be. **njay goro** you should be on my side **divi anjay ahəmam** how is the road? **anjay akada həma** it seems like a mountain **mbeli anjivu ana mota e divi vu** the elephant blocks the car's way
njafəŋ [ándzàfəŋ] *vcpd.* stick to, be beside.
- njazl** [ndzàɫ; ndzàɫndzàɫ] *mod.* at a distance and big. **mazlahko əhəlkaba eri njazl njazl** the lion opened his wide, bright eyes
njezl *dimin.* at a distance and small. *See:* **njaŋ**.
- njebib** [ndzɛ̀bɪb] *id.* climbing. **amal njebib aləŋ eri vu ana bəŋ gatayani ni** the oil went up into the face of their father
- njehwelek** [ndzɛ̀xˠɛ̀lɛ̀k] *n.* genet, civet.
- njekesley** [éndzɛ̀kɛ̀tɛ̀j] *v.* eat without appetite.
wur enjekesley daf the child toys with his food
- njemdi** [ndzɛ̀mɔ̀di] *n.* 1) the time. 2) wire. *From:* Fulfulde 'njamde'.
- njeya** [ndzɛ̀jā] *mod.* clean. **ahar gayəŋ njeya** his hands are clean **abarakaba ahar gayəŋ njeya** he washes his hands cleanly
- njəda** [ndzə̀dā] *n.* strength, courage.
- njəgatay** [ándzə̀gətāj] *v.*
njigetey [éndzɪ̀gɛ̀tɛ̀j] *vdim.* comb with fingers. **enjigetey emid** he combs his beard with his fingers *See:* **njiketey**.
- njəgəni** [ándzə̀gəni] *vcpd.* remain. *See:* **jəgəni, gəjəni, jazlani**.
- njəh** [ándzə̀x] *v.* be astute. **zal hini anjəh** this is a clever man **ləwir anjəh mis** hunger makes folk astute **mis tənjəhki ka zlam gatay** the people are getting good at doing their thing **mis mənjəhani** a clever man
- njəhad** [ándzə̀xād] *v.* dwell, sit. *See:* **njay, had**.
- njəkəl** [ndzə̀kəl] *mod.* (placing clay) without pressure (so that the builder can work with it); (sitting) disrespectfully. **anjəhadki ka dəgu njəkəl** he sits on the stool anyhow **asəki elibis njəkəl ka guvur** he puts the clay on the granary loosely
- njəki** [ándzə̀ki] *vcpd.* sit on, begin. **anjəki ki təwi** he begins work **anjəki ka baray** he starts his bath *See:* **njay**.
- njələta** [ndzəlātā] *mod.* clean, clear, bright.
edɪŋ / məsuf njələtani the Holy Spirit
njileta *dimin.* clean and small.
- njənjəda** [ndzə̀ndzədā] *mod.* strong. **hini zal njənjəda** this is a strong man
- njərat** [ndzə̀rət] *mod.* **agri adak ana mələŋ njərat** he makes marks on the ground with thorns
- njəratata** [ndzə̀rətātā] *mod.* sharp and pointed (like a lion's teeth). **mavay əhəlkaba aslər a njəratata** the leopard

opened its sharp teeth **hudum njəratatani** a fork *See: njaga-njaga, hanja-hanja.*

njəvazl [ndzəvāʒ] *id.* putting down at a little distance. **nafəkad wur ga mawaya njəvazl** I place the 'mšwšyš' gaming-piece a little way away

nji *v.* arrive, normally in past - have arrived. **ənjiyu a Marua ana njemdi azlalahkər** I arrived at Maroua at 8 o'clock (coming from here) **ənjiya a Marua ana njemdi azlalahkər** I arrived at Maroua at 8 o'clock (coming from beyond) **ənjuya** he arrived there (beyond us) *See: nji dəwir.*

njifiŋ [éndzɪfɪŋ] *vcpd.* touch.

nji dəwir [éndzɪ] *vcpd.* sleep. **enji dəwir** he is sleeping *See: nji.*

njibsley [éndzɪbɛj] *v.* be impatient.

njidəy [éndzɪdɛj] *v.* groan, grunt, strain.

njihirim [ndzɪxɪrɪm] *id.* getting up alive.

njiketey [éndzɪkɛtɛj] *v.* comb with the fingers. **enjiketey emid** he combs out his beard *See: njəgatay.*

njinji [ndzɪndzɪ] *n.* showing something to people without giving them any. **wur agra njinji ga makala ana mendala gayan** the child tricks his friends with a doughnut

njirwey [éndzɪrɔwɛj] *v.* prevent something running from the nose by sniffing. **wur enjirwey embisli** the child is sniffing

njiyək [ndzɪjɪk^w] *n.* sucking, kissing. **agri njiyək ana wur** she encourages (or kisses) the child

njozluzla [ndzɔʒɪzɪ] *mod.* something that is built or established temporarily. **anjəhad njozluzla** he is established temporarily

njuguv [ndzɔg^wʊv] *n.* bush (sp.).

njugwat [njɔg^wát] *id.* grabbing. **kəra azafəŋa aslu ka wur a njugwat** the dog snatches the meat from the child

njuh-njuh [ndzɔxndzɔx] *mod.* grinding. **kəhuriyu kəjərviya humbo na, njuh-njuh kihia ti...** so when you've mixed the flour, when you've ground it...

njuk [ndzɔk^w; ndzɔk^wndzɔk^w] *id.* (grass left uncultivated in a field). **ambərnu vədaŋ njuk** he leaves a part of the field uncultivated **ambərnu kəzir njuk njuk a vədaŋ bu** he leaves a lot of grass in his field

njul [ndzɔl] *id.* tying.

njuwa [ndzɔwā] *id.* crying and numerous. **ahar təwi, bəza titəwi njuwa a magam** at working time, many children cry at home

nju [ndzɔ] *id.* snatching. **dirlengi azay awak nju** the hyena grabs the goat **avər agəjah zalaka nju nju** the rain makes watercourses everywhere (carrying off things)

njuɔd-njuɔd [ndzɔdndzɔd] *mod.* pointed. **masaŋsaŋ njuɔd-njuɔd** the nail is pointed

njukwey [éndzɪkwɛj] *v.* narrow or tighten the mouth of something. **enjukwey ma ga boho** he tightens the mouth of the bag

njuk *id.* narrowing.

nju-nju₁ [ndzɔndzɔ] *mod.* thin. **zal hini nju-nju** this man is thin

nju-nju₂ [ndzɔndzɔ] *id.* rubbing. **kəgri nju-nju** you rub it

P - p

pab [ápáb] *v.* spread out. **apab azana ka had** he spreads out the cloth on the ground **mək kəhuriyu kapab məlaŋ mandəhadani a ahay bu** then you go and sort out the bed inside **apab kuk ahar** he protects you

pac [ápáts] *v.* weed.

pacur-pacur [pátsɔrpátsɔr] *n.* mane, hair on neck and back of an animal. *See: bacur-bacur.*

padada [pādādā] *mod.* cleared, swept. **mekelvabana padada kal-kal** cut off at ground level *See: sedida.*

pah [pāx] *id.* (hitting) lightly. **asi aday ana mis pah** he hits him lightly

peh *dimin.* very lightly.

pakama [pākāmā] *n.* mouth, speech.

pakway [ápāk^wāj] *v.* tear open. **elifi apakway** the hoe-handle is splitting open

aməf àpakwəya geni a the wind has split the branch of the neem tree *See: kwahay.*

pakw *id. təzləkləŋa pakw ahkay ti...* when they had forced it open...

palahar [pələhár] *n. part.*

palam [pələm] *cnj. because, but. palam do ti* because if not **nàro a gosko vu ndo palam do ti, akal nəsəkumbiya endəwi a** I didn't get your shirt because I wasn't at the market **nòra a gosko va, nəsəkumbiyu zlam ndo palam, do ni akal nəduk** I did go to the market but I didn't buy anything, otherwise I'd give it to you **təwi gani abəlay, tagudar palam** the thing itself is good, but (it doesn't work) because people spoil it

palawar [pələwàrwàrà] *mod. floating. ezligoro hijid palawar ka ahàr ga yam* he throws the calabash so that it floats on the water **hijid palawarwara ka ahàr ga yam** the calabash is floating on the water

palay [ápələj] *v. pick (up) one by one.*

papa [pəpə] *id. cutting up into shares. esey daf a papa* she cuts up the boule

papəra [pəpərà] *n. sacrifice. mis tagray papəra ga wur* folk do a sacrifice for the child

para [pərà] *n. side. ru ka para gayak* go to your side

parak-parak [pəràkpəràk] *mod. clear. paraka* *mod. clear. dala paraka* the yard is clean

para-para [pəràpərà] *n. cord, belt. See: maslpara.*

paraw₁ [pəràw] *n. unruliness. bəza tagray paraw* the children are unruly *See: prəm-prem.*

paraw₂ [pəràw] *mod. superficially. tagrakia sewiya parawa ka bəruv məzumana* they are enjoying themselves in spite of their mutual hatred **təzlapakia ka pakama hina paraw-paraw** the are speaking superficially about this matter

pasamay [ápəsəmāj] *v. caress.*

pasay [ápəsāj] *v. comb. apasay ahar* he combs his hair *See: peyey.*

pasi [pəsī] *n. iron. From: French 'repasser'.*

pasl [pəf] *mod. on purpose.*

pasla [pəfà] *id. splashing. yam ahərki ka zalaka pasla* the water splashes over the

edge of the mayo *See: eizliv.*

paslay₁ [pəfəj] *n. piece of broken calabash. aŋgaskabu bəz akur ana paslay* he piles up the gravel with a broken calabash

paslay₂ [ápəfəj] *v. 1) shell (peanuts), make a clapping sound. 2) clap. apaslay ahar* he applauds 3) roof (with tin). **apaslay ahar** he roofs the house (with tin) *From: Mandara.*

pat [pət] *id. cutting the throat. nisliŋ awak pat* I cut the goat's throat

patpatay [pətpətəj] *n. butterfly.*

patu [pətū] *n. cat.*

paw [pəw] *id. bang. naŋ àdəm zal akal ni, àdi kidemeseri paw* he thought it was the thief, and fired his gun

paway [ápəwəj] *v. spit into pieces, separate. apaway awak* he cuts up the goat **apaway wal** he entices the woman to leave her husband/fianceə

pay [pəj] *id. appearing totally.*

payda [pəjdə] *n. strength, usefulness. siŋgo hini àgri payda ndo* this money didn't do him any good *From: Mandara.*

pecicih [pətʃitʃix] *mod. lying face down. andəhad pecicih* he lies down on his belly

pecuk [pətʃyʃk] *id. walking slowly like a laden donkey. azoŋgo asawadəy pecuk-pecuk* the donkey walks difficultly **Takwaca ara, akoro ana azoŋgo gayəŋ ni pecuk pecuk.** Takwaca left slowly with his donkey.

pel [épəl] *v. unwind. wur epelfiŋ ezewed ka təndal a* the child unwinds the string from the post

perepera [pəpəpərà] *n. shoulders.*

perewel [pəpəwəl] *n. wooden door. From: Fulfulde 'pareewal'.*

pes [épéʃ] *v. cut up into small pieces. epeski daf na ti...* he cut off the millet boule...

pes [pəʃ] *id. hitting. pes àsi ana wur ni a ahàr vu mimiz* he hit the child on the head so he bled

petey [épètəj] *v. peel.*

petit [pətīt] *id. running. ahəŋgri eri ana huwa keti petit petit ahəraya avələ* he starts running again, and jumps up

peyey [épèjəj] *v. comb. See: pasay. From: French 'peigner'.*

Pəbar [pəbàr] *npr. Palbara, the northern*

Muyang canton.

pəcay [ápətsāj] *v.* remove. **hini tapəcakia ahay katay a** some take off the roofs of their houses

pəcuk [pətsük^w] *id.* giving birth. **a wal nakəŋ àdi ana wur nakəŋ mūweni pəcuk ahkay ti...** when the woman gave birth to this new child...

pəda [pədfā] *id.* hitting. **mək àni ndabala ana yam ni pəda** then he struck the water

pədzəl [pədzəl] *id.* falling on the back. **dirleŋgi pədzəl àza mədəfani aləŋ aləŋ** the hyena fell on his back

pədku [pədkù] *id.* running. **wu àdikia ana huwa zla pədku pədku** he started to run

pəduc-pəduc [pəduːspəduːts] *mod.* very sweet.

piduc-piduc *dimin.* very sweet indeed. *See:* new-new.

pəl [ápəl] *v.* pay. **apəl siŋgo ga hay** he pays the millet money

pələd [pləd] *n.* flat rock.

pələsl [ápəlál] *v.* split (grains or seeds). **apələsl andra** he splits the peanuts *See:* mbələsl.

pələt [plət] *n.* broad-headed spear. **kìwi wur dahalay a ti, kìwia pələt a** if you give birth to a girl, you give birth to strife (because she will marry and be against you)

pələta [pələtā] *npr.* Fulani. **mək tata wur nakəŋ àzoro nu afa wal Pələta nahəŋ.** then that boy took me to a Fulani woman.

pələŋgaf [pələŋgāf] *n.* panel of flat wood the size of a slate.

pələwur [pələwūr] *id.* on impulse. **wur adiki ana huwa pələwur** the child runs off on impulse **pələwur asləka adoro eli** she ran off into the bush

pəlkət [pəlkət] *id.* running away.

pələk [ápəlók^w] *v.* walk with difficulty.

pələk-pələk *mod.* with difficulty. *See:* pistuh-pistuh.

pəl-pəl [pəlpəl] *mod.* oily. **kamənjaki ti amal ti pəl-pəl** you could see that there was lots of oil

pəra [prà] *n.* sacrifice, god, spirit. **zal masla pəra** someone who shares a sacrifice

pərac [prāts] *n.* chip of wood. **wal medewel ebeftey aku ana pərac** the old woman

lights the fire with a chip of wood

pərgək [pərgək] *id.* looking at suddenly. **edīŋ àdi ana zlahay, mis àmənzero a məŋgəhaf vu pərgək** the bird called, and someone glanced at the tree

pərləzl [pərləz] *id.* running away. **kamənjaki ti pərləzl acuhwafuk a.** you'll see that he runs away from you

pəs [ápəs] *v.* rest, chat. **apəs a kəsa bu** he stays in the quarter **sewia apəs mis** the games kept the people there

pəsak [pəsāk] *id.* letting go, dropping. **ambrəŋ edīŋ pəsak** he lets the bird go

pəslacay [ápəslātsāj] *v.* cut, wound.

pəslac [pəslāts] *id.* wounding. **asi ambələk ana mis pəslac** he wounds someone *See:* bəzlac.

pətak [pətāk] *id.* suddenly. **zal akal ahəraya a məbuani ba pətak** the thief comes suddenly out of hiding

pətəkum [pətək^wum] *mod.* very short, but wide. *See:* ndakwudak.

pətki [pətki] *id.* coming out or off suddenly. **ahərki pətki nahəma...** when he came off... *See:* batakam.

pəzlam [pəzām] *id.* walking clumsily. **zal mici slimi do asawadəy pəzlam pəzlam** the stubborn man walks carelessly

pəzl-pəzl [pəzlpəz] *id.* shining. **ahəl eri pəzl-pəzl** it is shining

pi [épi] *v.* see, look at, get better. **nipi mis I** can see someone **ambələk epi** the wound is getting better

pikabu *vcpd.* close. **epikabu eri** he closes his eyes

picəh [éptjéx] *v.* untie. **epicəh azoŋgo** he unties the donkey

pidək [épidék] *v.* wake (trs.). **epidėkvu** he wakes up

pili [píli] *n.* wicker food cover.

pilid [pílid] *mod.* wholly. **təhəlabə zlam a ahay ni ba pilid** they took everything out of the house

pilis [píliʃ] *n.* horse. **təzia mawaya ana mis ana pilis a** they win a game of 'mšwšyš' with an unavoidable trap

piŋ [piŋ] *mod.* quickly, early. **ra piŋ** come quickly **grum piŋ piŋ** do it quickly **piŋa ti takad sla** earlier they killed cows **naŋ àra piŋa** he came early

pircək [pírtʃy̯k^w] *mod.* too short. **pircək**

- pirecuk, amal adaya** he almost fell
- pireb** [pírɛ̀b] *n.* house millet. *See:* **mara-mara.**
- pirviv** [pírɔ̀v] *id.* coming out. **aku ahəraya a ahəraya ni ba pirviv akad zal ni** the fire shot out from her hand and killed the man
- pisey** [épɪ̀sɛ̀j] *v.* forgive, bless. **təsləpa nahəma, tipisaba zla** when they had eaten they gave a blessing
- pis-pis** [pɪ̀pɪ̀] *n.* crumbs.
- pistuh-pistuh** [pɪ̀stɔ̀xɔ̀pɪ̀stɔ̀x] *mod.* with difficulty. *See:* **pelok.**
- pisl** [pɪ̀l] *mod.* full. **adəvu hay pisl a tasa vu** he puts in the millet up to the rim of the bowl **hay tasa pisl** a full bowl of millet
- pislidik** [pɪ̀lɪ̀dɪ̀k] *mod.* very small and flat.
- piya** [pɪ̀jɑ̀] *id.* spurting out. **yam ahəraya piya a had ba** the water spurts out of the ground
- piyera** [pɪ̀jɛ̀rɛ̀] *mod.* full to the brim. *From:* Mandara.
- piyic-piyic** [pɪ̀jɪ̀tɪ̀pɪ̀jɪ̀t] *mod.* very cold. *See:* **liŋ-liŋ.**
- piyit** [pɪ̀jɪ̀t] *id.* quick. **adikibiyu ana huwa kay kay piyit piyit** he ran as quickly as he could
- pizey** [épɪ̀zɛ̀j] *v.* sprinkle with the mouth. **epizi yam ana maslapa** he sprinkles water with a string *See:* **gucej.**
- pokway** [ápɔ̀kʷáj] *v.* break off (wood) at the join. **elifi apokway** the (hoe) handle is broken **mis tapokway elifi** they break the hoe handle
- potoduk** [pɔ̀tɔ̀dɔ̀kʷ] *id.* describes the jumping of a toad, and symbolically refers to giving birth to a girl. **aya potoduk potoduk nahəma, māmbatiya mecejim a bilegeni** but all these girls (toads), they need to be boys (frogs) as well
- pozuzā** [pɔ̀zɔ̀zɑ̀] *mod.* (of the sun) almost set;

looking round a corner. **fat pozuzā** the moment of sunset **amənjzaya a mahay ba pozuzā** he looks round the corner into the house

- pras** [pràs] *mod.* in different directions. **pras tədəgiki ana huwa** they ran away in all directions *See:* **presise.**
- preka** [prɛ̀kɑ̀] *id.* opening wide. **kəhəlkiaba eri a preka** you open your eyes wide *See:* **parak-parak.**
- presise** [prɛ̀sɪ̀sɪ̀] *mod.* in tiny pieces. *See:* **cɪb-cɪb, hilisise; pras.**
- prəm-prəm** [prəmprəm] *n.* unruliness. **nək wur kəgray prəm-prəm ba** if you are a child you should not be unruly *See:* **paraw.**
- prəŋgo** [prəŋgɔ̀] *n.* rudeness, irresponsibility. **wur agray prəŋgo dal dal ti, abəlay do** when a child is very rude, it's bad **prəŋgo agray naŋ** he is irresponsible
- prəzl-prəzl** [prɛ̀zɪ̀prɛ̀zɪ̀] *mod.* shining. **kacəhkiā amal a daw, mirit-mirit, prəzl-prəzl...** you'd say it was covered in shiny oil...
- prok** [prɔ̀kʷ] *id.* bang. **azay hadagər ni asi a məlaŋ prok** she took the buck and threw it down
- puɔ̀c-puɔ̀c** [pɔ̀dɔ̀tsɔ̀dɔ̀ts] *mod.* sweet. **pilis ni acəkay nahəma : əŋ əŋ puɔ̀c-puɔ̀c** the mare tasted it, "Yes, that's very sweet".
- purcay** [ápɔ̀rtsáj] *v.* cut up. **təpurcəkiyiu akwas** they cut off the fat
- puruc** [pɔ̀rɔ̀ts; pɔ̀rɔ̀tsɔ̀rɔ̀ts] *id.* cutting. **ka mbazla bədbədani zla puruc puruc ti...** cutting it up on top of the white wine...

R - r

- ra** [árā] *vcpd.* come. **lekələm kara kəmətum** you are going to die **tərkiva** they came to join him **tərkiva katay a** they came to join them **arukivoro ka mis a gosko vu** he is going to meet the people at the market **asləkakibiya ka sla, arkiā ka muzək a** they use he-goats
- now, not cows **ərifəŋaya** that suited him
- rac** [rāts] *id.* cutting. **wur ekelki ahəraya a rac ana məvəd a** the child cuts his hand with a sickle
- rad** [árád] *v.* snatch, uproot. **arad vədaŋ** he pulls up weeds from among millet **aradfəŋ kamnjagad ki mis a** he pulls

out the arrow from someone

razləzla [rəʒəʒə] *mod.* dusk. **fat razləzla** the sun is setting **azana razləzla** the cloth is dark

retit [rètít] *mod.* huge. **akur hini retita** this is a huge stone **mindəwid azay dəf retititit** the ant is carrying a huge lump of millet couscous (that is too big for it)

rəf [rəf] *mod.* a little. **ahəlbəiyu kay rəf ara ana nəŋ a.** he brings a little with him

rəh [rəx] *v.* fill up, eat one's fill. **dəf arəh mis** the boule fills the folk up **bəz tərəh** the children fill themselves up **nəreha** I am full up **nərəh dīdu ana yam** I fill the jar with water

rəŋ [rəŋ] *id.* taking. **rəŋ əzi edrem ni ana wal ni** she took the horn to the women *See: laf.*

rəp [rəp] *id.* grabbing. **agəs mis rəp** he grabs someone *See: daway.*

rəslay [rəsləj] *v.* coagulate.

rifey [rífəj] *v.* be blocked. **evidf ga akfum ərifə tatu-tatu** the mousehole is totally blocked

rik [rík] *v.* stop up. **wur erik evid ga akfum** the child stops up the mousehole

rimidey [rímídəj] *v.* disappear, diminish. **fat asabay, hay ya ta tēzligi ni dek ərimida** it is too hot; all the millet they

sowed has disappeared

rizey [rízəj] *v.* pain in urination, bilharzia. **kudŋ erizey** pain in urination **kudŋ erizi ana wur** the child has bilharzia

rizley [rízəj] *v.* harden. **erizley mava** he is making the beans go hard **mava ga ahur ərizleva** the beans have hardened

ru [rú] *vcpd.* go.

rubay [rúbəj] *v.* make wet.

ruc [rúts] *id.* blocking up. **afiviyu slimberi ana evid ruc** he blocks the holes with leaves

ruk [rúk] *mod.* all day.

ruma [rùmā] *mod.* for a moment. **zal hini əpəsa ruma** this man has been here some time *See: zamama.*

rumukway [rùmükwəj] *v.* dissolve. **sukur arumukway a yam bu** the sugar dissolves in the water **yam arumukway estena** water dissolves salt **mis arumukway sukur a yam bu** someone dissolves the sugar in the water **aver arumukway had** the rain dissolves the soil

S - s

sa [sá] *n.* greeting. **agrukbiya sa** he greets you

saba *vcpd.* hit/cut out. *See: say.*

sabay [səbəj] *v.* become too much. **ara asabay** that will be too much **asabay** it is too much **nəgra asabay** I've done too much

sad [səd] *mod.* innocently. **nday ata zləba gani təpəs ahər gayəŋ sad** he talks quietly with his friend

sagay [səgəj] *v.* increase. **asagay zlam** he gets more things **hay asagay** the millet increases **kakəla ga masagani** the biggest

sagdala [səgdələ] *n.* plain.

sagwanak [səgwənək] *n.* house millet.

saha [səhə] *n.* hour, time. *From: Mandara.*

sahar [səhər] *n.* box, cashbox.

sak₁ [sək] *v.* sieve. **asak ahur** she sieves out the beans

sak₂ [sək] *n.* time. **agray sak mahkər** up to three times *See: asak.*

sakadī [səkādī] *mod.* slippery. **kəbiki yam suh asləkəkia sakadī** when you pour on the water, it becomes slippery

sakbizij [səkbizij] *n.* kind of grass.

sakdədum [səkədəm] *n.* room. **ahəndər sakdədum ahəndər sakdədum kru mahar cə** he builds rooms in a line, twelve of them *See: dədum.*

salalay [sələləj] *n.* cry of joy. **mis tagray salalay ka mələŋ ga wal** people cry for joy at the wedding

salam [sələm] *n.* female genitals.

sandu [səndū] *n.* trial of strength. **bəza**

- tagray sandu a zalaka bu** the children are fighting in the mayo
- sapapa** [sàpàpā] *mod.* half-closed.
- sepipe** [ʃèpìpḗ] *dimin.* half-closed.
abakabu eri sepipe he half-closes his eyes *See: titic.*
- sara** [sàrà] *mod.* thin and straight. **ekeley aday sara a ahar vu** he cuts a thin straight stick in his hand
- sere** [ʃèrḗ] *dimin.* thin, straight and small.
- sarta** [sártà] *n.* season.
- sarva** [sàrvà] *n.* digging stick. *See: silik.*
- sat** [sāt] *id.* slippery. **midiseni kacahki yam aslakakia sat** it was fat, water slid off it
- satat** [sàtāt] *mod.* anyhow. **asawaday satat** he wanders about
- satata** [sàtātā] *mod.* flat (with defined boundaries). **avar satata** the grindstone is flat
- setit** *dimin.* far away, or small and in disorder.
- savdalaŋlaŋ** [sàvdàlāŋlāŋ] *id.* falling. **naŋ ekibici eri kibic ti, akfum tadəgoro huya, savdalaŋlaŋ** he shut his eyes and the mice fell to the ground pell-mell.
- sawaday** [ásàwàdāj] *v.* walk.
- sawaday** [sàwàdāj] *n.* journey. **zal sawaday a traveller akwo a sawaday vu** he is going on a journey
- suwad** [sùwàd] *n.* walk. **zal suwad a walker akoro ka suwad** he goes for a walk
- sawalay** [ásàwālāj] *v.* fry.
- sawaŋ** [sàwáj] *cnj.* rather, on the contrary. **kara afa goro a sawaŋ** on the contrary, you come to me
- sawari** [sàwáři] *n.* advice. **grum sawari e kidiŋ gekuli bu** settle it between yourselves! *From: Fulfulde.*
- sawayak** [sàwájàk] *n.* white-billed buffalo weaver, or starling (?).
- say** [ásáj] *v.* hit, cover, cut. **asay aday** he hits **asay malawad** he whips **təsay ahàr ga kisim** they finish the funeral
- saba** *vcpd.* hit/cut downwards.
- si** [ásí] *vcpd.* hit, hole. **kudiŋ asukaba** I want to urinate **asi aday ana mis** he hits someone **asi daf / asi aslu ana wur** he cuts/gives out couscous, meat **asi ana tay bi** they don't like that **wur asivu ana mbeli ahar kay** the child gives the elephant a wide berth **zal hini asivu ana mis** this man talks about people behind their backs
- sayafəŋ** *vcpd.* tempt. **dagwa nahaŋ ni adəm naŋ asayafəŋ ka zəba gayəŋ a** one wanted to tempt his friend
- sebera** [ʃébērā] *n.* kind of snake, probably a green mamba. *See: fat gaŋgay.*
- sedey** [éʃèdēj] *v.* witness. **nu dəgiya ti nisedakia ka Yesu Almasihu a.** as for me, I have given testimony for Jesus Christ. *See: sedi.*
- sedi** [ʃèdí] *n.* witness. *From: Mandara.*
- sedifa** [ʃèdìfā] *mod.* cleared, swept. *See: padafa.*
- sefey** [éʃèfēj] *v.* swell, be constipated.
- sefir-sefir** [ʃèfirʃèfir] *mod.* many, much (grass or plants). **kəzir sefir-sefir a ahay bu** there is a lot of grass in the compound
- segək** [ʃègə̀k^w] *id.* dry. **hay mekaleni segək segək** the millet is quite dry
- sehi** [ʃèhì] *n.* tea. *From: Mandara.*
- sekedey** [éʃèkèdēj] *v.* level, flatten. **esekedey had** he levels the earth
- seki** [ʃèkì] *n.* mockery. **abi seki ana mis** he mocks people
- sekmisek** [ʃèkmiʃèk] *n.* stone footing of granary. *See: asak.*
- sekuli** [ʃèkŷlí] *intj.* greeting to more than one person. *See: sa, kuli.*
- sekw** [ʃèk^w] *mod.* whole. **agraj gosko sekw** he spends a whole week **agraj kiye sekw** he spends a whole month
- selehey** [éʃèlèhēj] *v.* sneak. **eselehabiyu molaŋ zla seleh seleh** she snuck back
- selelim** [ʃèlèlìm] *n.* wild bean.
- selemender** [ʃèlèmèndēr] *n.* high-heeled shoe. *From: ?*
- seŋ** [ʃèŋ] *mod.* directly (word used to open a story). **naŋ abu ziliŋ ziliŋa nahəma, seŋ òro a ahay vu...** he was waiting impatiently, and went straight into the house **seŋ! ndam ndahaŋ...** Story! There were these people...
- seŋ-seŋ** [ʃèŋʃèŋ] *mod.* as far as. **nakoro seŋ-seŋ ka Mangave / a Mangave** I'm going right to Mangave
- sendu** [ʃèndy] *id.* laughing. **bəza dahalay biric a mənduz bu sendu tədəgiki ana seri** all the girls in the tree burst out laughing

serey [ésèrēj] *v.* trickle. **amal eserevaya a kolobo va** the oil trickles out of the bottle
seri [ʃəri] *n.* laughter.
seriya [ʃərijā] *n.* judgement, law. *From:* Mandara.
serura [ʃerŷræ] *mod.* narrow. *See:* **sara, slirkucukcuk.**
sesidek [ʃɛʃidɛk] *mod.* smooth. *See:* **sidek.**
sesiha [ʃɛʃixæ] *mod.* entirely. *See:* **sikleŋa, sukuluma.**
sesuli [ʃɛʃylí] *n.* stirring stick; plant (sp.).
seteni [ʃɛtɛní] *n.* madness, satan. **zal seteni** a madman *From:* Mandara.
setey [ɛʃɛtɛj] *v.* comb.
setit [sɛtít] *moddim.* flat, large and with out limits. **ásakaba vɔdaŋ a set setit** he carved himself out a very large area of fields **mis àndəhada ahàr a setit** he has gone we don't know where *See:* **satat.**
sewiya [ʃéwɪjā] *n.* game, play.
sewlew [ʃéwɫéw] *mod.* thin. **məŋgleviŋ sewlew** wasp that builds a narrow nest
sew-sew [ʃéwʃéw] *id.* rising.
sey [ɛʃɛj] *vcaus.* cut with knife; cause to be hit. **esey daf** he distributes the boule **esi daf / eisi aslu ana bəza** he divides the boule/meat among the children *See:* **say.**
səbəl [ásəbəl] become erect, become narrower. *v.* **kudi asəbəl** the penis has an erection **evid asəbəl** the hole gets narrower as it goes down
sədaga [sədāgá] *n.* something given freely, gift, offering, tithe. **agraŋ sədaga** he makes an offering
səfar [ásfār] *v.* mix flour with a little water. **asəfar humbo ga makala** she mixes the flour to make cakes **tasəfar ahar ga wur** they celebrate the child's first birthday *See:* **jərvay; hurday.**
səh [səx] *id.* jumping or throwing. **wur ahər səh** the child jumps
səhat-səhat [səxàtsəxàt] *id.* anointing. **agraki amal ka ahar səhat-səhat** he puts oil on his arm well
sək [ásək] *v.* increase. **hay gayəŋ asək** his millet is going to increase **zlam gayəŋ àsək** his things increase all the time **zlam gayəŋ àseka** his things increased **təfki məsəkani ki mis** they bless a person **mazlak asək hay** the vine makes the millet increase

səkad [áskād] *v.* cut (millet boule) and throw to the ground to the ancestors. **baba asəkad daf ga pəra** the father sacrifices the sacrificial boule
səkət [səkət] *id.* brushing over. **agri ahər ana takolay səkət** he brushes his hand over his thigh
siket *dimin.* brushing over and small.
səkəl [səkəl] *n.* spirit of a clan or family. **tagray səkəl** they make sacrifice to their clan spirit
səkum [ásək^wum] *v.* buy, pay.
səkumoro *vcpd.* sell. **tamal ti kàmənjaki ti kələma zlam gayak a kay nahəma, kusəkumoro bal** if you see that you have made a lot of pots, you sell some
səkwal [səkwal] *mod.* dying. **məŋgəhaf amət səkwal** the plant is dying **məŋgəhaf səkwalkwala** the plant is dead
səlak [səlāk] *id.* stealing in. **ara ahurkiviyu ka bay ahay səlak akal akal.** he steals in secretly to join the householder
səli [səlɪ] *mod.* no longer. **təzafəŋ ahər a səli** they don't think about it any more
səməd [ásəmád] *v.* spin an object round. **mis tasəməd pəra** the people are making a sacrifice **mickər asəməd ma** the chicken wipes its beak
səməŋ [səməŋ] *n.* needle for sowing calabashes.
səŋgaf [səŋgàf] *id.* pouring. **ba abukwaya zlam ahkay səŋgaf səŋgaf huya** he just keeps giving you things *See:* **səraf.**
səŋgwal [səŋg^wal] *mod.* straight, upright. **mis ecik səŋgwal** someone stands upright
səpi [səpɪ] *mod.* long.
sər [ásər] *v.* get to know. **amal acəhay ti, asər** if he learns, he will know **àsər akal** he knows how to steal **akal àsər naŋ a** he usually steals
sərvu [ásərvū] *vcpd.* get used to. **asərvu ana təwi** he gets used to work **àsərvu ana naŋ a** he is accustomed to that
səraf [səràf] *id.* pouring. **hay adəgaya səraf səraf** millet kept pouring out *See:* **səŋgaf.**
sərdalaŋ [sərdàlāŋ] *id.* coming out, of something long. **adak ahəraya a vu ga wur ba sərdalaŋ** a long thorn is sticking out of the child's body
sirdeliŋ *dimin.*

sərət [sərət] *id.* covering. **laf akaba ahar ga agwazl gayəŋ na, sərət akabu ti...** he took his cock's head and put it on...

səsəd [səsəd] *n.* kind of grass used for secco screens or string.

səsəl [səsəl] *n.* ladder; larged forked log used for climbing to the mouth of a granary.

səsəbət [səsəbət] *n.* pith of millet stalk.

səsəndəy [səsəndəy] *n.* 1) cemtipe. 2) sieve for beans.

səsoruh [səsörūx] *n.* slide, sliding. **bəza tagray səsoruh** the children are sliding

sətək [sətək] *n.* the same.

sətuk [sətök^w] *id.* entering completely. **ahuriyu sətuk a guvur vu** he goes right in to the granary

səvdi [səvdì] *n.* Saturday; the market at Mayo Plata that is held on a Saturday. *From:* Mandara.

si₁ [éʃi] *v.* drink. **wur esi embesli** the child is sniffing **eseba yam a hijid ba** he drinks up all the water in the bowl

si₂ [sí] *prep.* except, until, must. **si kara** you must come **si hajəŋ** until tomorrow **kələŋani tambat ahər a, tədum si azlalahkər azlalahkər** after they changed their minds, they said only at 8000 each *From:* Fulfulde.

sidek [éʃidék] *v.* smooth.

sidek-sidek *mod.* smooth. **akur sidek-sidekeni** a smooth stone

sifa [ʃifā] *id.* flowing. **endif aŋgəzfəŋa sifa** his sweat pours down

sifa [sifā] *n.* life. *From:* Mandara?

sifey [éʃifej] *v.* lose heat (of an object). **èsifa day day bal ti kəzəkia** when it dries out a bit, you take it off *See:* **ndisliŋ**.

sigə [ʃigà] *n.* infertile field.

sih-sih [ʃix-ʃix] *id.* swelling. **dəŋgu goro məgəslani sih-sih** my neck is swollen

sikleŋa [ʃiklənə] *mod.* whole. **avi wus ga awak sikleŋa** he give him a whole goat leg **edi awak ana mis sikleŋa sikleŋa** he shares out the goats one each **edislvu apəs day day agray ler sikileŋa nahəma...** it cooks for at least an hour... *See:* **sesiha; sekw; kileŋ**.

siktih [ʃiktix] *id.* pouring out, crumbling. **andra adəgaya ka ləli a siktih** the peanuts are falling off the hangar **ahay ambəd siktih** the house is crumbling

away

sikwey [éʃik^wej] *v.* wither. **andra esikwey** the peanuts are withering **fat esikwey wur ga məŋgəhaf** the sun is drying out the fruit

sil [ʃil] *mod.* upright. **ecik sil** he is standing upright

sileh [éʃiléx] *v.* make shrill. **embesli esileh dəŋgo** his cold makes his voice shrill

silek [ʃilək] *mod.* silently. *From:* Fulfulde 'cilek'.

sileweri [ʃiləwəri] *n.* trousers. *From:* ?

silik₁ [ʃilik] *n.* war.

silik₂ [ʃilik] *n.* stick for digging graves. *See:* **sarva**.

silim [ʃilim] *id.* covering. **wal ahəmbakabu azana silim a ahər bu** the woman is covering her head with a cloth **fat silim** the sun is covered by clouds

siləŋ-siləŋ [ʃiləŋʃiləŋ] *mod.* very hard. **akur siləŋ-siləŋeni / akur sisiləŋeni** a hard stone *See:* **baŋ-baŋ**.

simit [ʃimítəni] *mod.* at all. **naway kur do simit** I don't like you at all **zlam abi simiteni** the thing isn't there at all

sinekw [ʃinək^w] *n.* a curse that afflicts a boy who touches his sister's possessions while she is having a period, requiring a propitiatory sacrifice. **wur zalani azay sinekw afa ga wur dada** the boy catches 'sinekw' from his sister

sinik [ʃiník] *n.* club (cards). *See:* **dinare, kubi, subata**. *From:* ?

siŋkapa [ʃiŋkápá] *n.* rice. *From:* Mandara.

sinder [ʃindēr] *n.* shin, leg.

siŋgo [ʃiŋg^wò] *n.* money. *From:* ?

sipet [éʃpét] *v.* attract. **esipet wur ana aslu** he attracts the child with some meat

sirebebe [ʃirəbəbə?] *mod.* narrow. **slimberi sirebebeni** thin leaves

sireh-sireh [ʃirəxʃirəx] *mod.* slippery.

sirif [ʃirif] *id.* pouring something powdery into something. **wal abiyu humbo sirif a kəzla vu** the woman puts the flour in the pot

sirimey [éʃiriməj] *v.* partly close. **esirimey eri** he slightly closes his eyes

sirim [ʃirim] *id.* clouding. **fat sirim asəki, avər gec-gec huya**. the sky clouded over and it began to rain

sisel [ʃiʃel] *n.* manacles, stocks. **bay awəl mis**

- ana sisel** the chief ties up folk with manacles
- sisi** [ʃiʃi] *n.* a five-franc piece (the smallest coin). **ahuriyu asəkumbiyu sla gayəŋ, sisi** he bought himself a cow for five francs
- sokotur** [səkʷət̪ur] *id.* coming down. **andəhər a həma ba sokotur** he comes down the mountain *See: dotur.*
- sokumba** [səkũmbá] *mod.* how much less. **naŋ tekeđi àra ndo ti, sokumba nu waw?** even he has not come, how much less should I? **alay ni ga humbo ye ti tábəhad̪ ni tekeđi kəgəsbiya ti, sokumba hini hi aw?** last year you recorded the flour rite, so this time it's no problem.
- solla** [sɔl:ã] *id.* tipping the head back to swallow. **mədrəs aza ma avəla solla** the pig tips its head back
- solo** [sɔlɔ] *n.* jealousy.
- subata** [sũbátà] *n.* spade (cards). *See: dinare, kubi, sinik.* *From: ?*
- suduk-suduk** [sũdũkʷsũdũkʷ] *mod.* smooth. **kamənjaki ti suduk-suduk ahəl eri ahkay kət-kət** it looked very smooth, attractive and shiny
- suf** [âsũf] *v.* breathe. **asuf** he breathes
məsuf [mũsũf] *n.* breath.
- sufa** [sũfã] *mod.* flowing continually. **yam aŋgəz sufa** the water flows all the time
- suforur** [sũfɔrũrã] *mod.* upright or tousled.
- suh** [sũx] *id.* pouring. **kəbiki yam suh asləkakia sakad̪i** when you pour water on it, it comes off smoothly
- suksuk** [sũkʷsũkʷ] *n.* waist beads.
- sukuluk** [sũkʷũlũkʷ] *n.* work for one's father -in-law.
- sukulum** [sũkʷũlũm] *mod.* whole. **ahur sukuluma** whole beans **abəkiviya ahur ke eli sukulumlum** he puts the beans into the sauce whole *See: sikleŋa, sesiha, tefewa.*
- sulay**₁ [sũlãj] *n.* money.
- sulay**₂ [sũlãj] *n.* shoe. *From: French 'soulier'.*
- suluk** [sũlũkʷ] *n.* broom, plant.
- sulum** [sũlũm] *n.* well-being; good, true. **ga sulum** given freely **vu goro sulumani do** I do not feel well
- sulur** [sũlũr] *id.* going down. **andəhad̪ ahər sulur** he goes down *See: sur.*
- sum**₁ [âsũm] *v.* ripen, hiss. **ahur asum** the beans ripen **gavəŋ asum** the snake hisses
- sum**₂ [sũm] *n.* liquid insecticide. *From: ?*
- sur** [sũr] *id.* going down. **anday ahar sur** he goes down **tənday ahar sur sur** they go down *See: sulur.*
- surum** [sũrũm] *mod.* not at all. **naway pakama hini do surum** I don't like this idea at all
- sut** [sũt] *id.* (drink) quickly and completely. **nisiaba sut** I have drunk it all (quickly) **nisiaba eri sut** I have quickly blocked the square (in a game) **nu sutaba** I must drink!
- sutay** [ásũtãj] *v.* dry in the wind. **biyem asutay** the wood is drying out **aməđ asutay biyem** *See: kuli.*
- sutuk** [sũtũkʷ] *id.* going in.
- suwa** [sũwã] *n.* well, water-hole, pump.
- suway** [sũwãj] *n.* the tamarind tree, or its fruit. *Tamarindus indica.*
- suwət** [sũwát] *id.* disappearing.
- suwwa** [sũ:wã] *mod.* directly. **divi akoro a kəsa vu suwwa** the road leads directly to the village *See: lurra; ndeva.*
- sũ** [éʃĩw] *v.* ask pardon, make idle. **esũ maramara** he asks pardon **əŋ bay, nak day dəgiya ara esũ bəza ci ni** chief, that will discourage the children
- sũbirbir** [ʃĩbĩrbĩr] *n.* 1) medical crisis, normally heart attack. **bay əzum bəruv a đal-đal, amət ana sũbirbir** the chief was so angry he died of a heart attack 2) unconsciousness, fainting fit. **wur əpia mbeli a, əđəd ana sũbirbir** the child saw the elephant and fell in a faint *See: bərzlay.*
- sũh** [ʃĩx] *id.* putting in, going in. **makombro sũh anivoro hutul e hindir vu** the monitor put his tail up (someone's) nose
- sũk** [éʃĩkʷ] *v.* watch secretly. *See: yebakay.*
- sulek** [ʃĩlék] *id.* going down. **krəŋ nakəŋ sulek andiyu ahər a yam vu** so the toad went down into the water
- sũsi** [ʃĩʃĩ] *intj.* thanks. **a nu nəbu, sũsi ga tay** I'm fine, thank them
- sũweh** [éʃwéx] *v.* train. **mesũwehvu** habit, adultery
- sũwi** [ʃĩwĩ] *n.* laziness. **cepa əsikaba sũwi a, tara tasləkafəŋ kəla hi ti** they are tired, they're going to leave us

Sl - sl

- sla** [ʃà] *n.* cow. **məhər sla** long hair
- slaḅ-slaḅ** [ʃàḅʃàḅ] *id.* trembling. **nəger slaḅ-slaḅ, nìpi matak a** I'm all trembling - I've seen a sorcerer **nìpi tay a nahəma, vu goro àdiya mægərani slaḅ-slaḅ.** When I saw them, I started to tremble **naṅ abu agray təwi akaba naṅ slaḅ-slaḅ ahkay** he is working more or less
- slacay** [áʃàtsāj] *v.* sweep, clear. **aməḏ aslacakiya haḏ ka vəḏaṅ a** the wind has blown away the topsoil from the field **aslacaba yam a ahay ba** she removes the water from the house **aslacay endif** he wipes his sweat
- slac** [ʃàts] *id.* sound of something striking, or of something totally blown away. **aməḏ asləḏki haḏ a slac** the wind is blowing away all the soil **asi wur ana gəzək slac** he throws the child against the wall
- sladafay** [áʃàḏāj] *v.* shine.
- slafay** [áʃàfāj] *v.* wish. **mis təslafay kisim ga zal matak** people wish the sorcerer would die
- slahuh** [ʃàxòx^{wā}] *mod.* lying anyhow. **àra àndəhaḏ a ahay bu slahuh** he came into the house and flopped down **nəḏi ahər slahuhwa a ahay bu** I found him flopped down in the house
- slakay** [áʃàkāj] *v.* attach, fold. **slak aslakiyu kuḏi gayəṅ a gidi-gidi vu** he tucked his penis between his thighs **wal təslakay abolo** the women tie the bark
- slak** *id.*
- slako** [ʃàk^{wó}] *n.* shield.
- slala** [ʃàlà] *n.* kind, village. **awayay slala ga azana weley** what kind of cloth does he want? **yaw hini slala geli, ma gekuli kal-kal ti...** well-established, with your village in unity...
- slalah** [ʃàlāx] *n.* plank bed. **slalah ga yam** boat, kind of insect
- slamalay** [áʃàmələj] *v.* repair, prepare, put in order, look after.
- slam-slam** [ʃàmələm] *mod.* not tasting strong. **sehi hini slam-slam ahkay** this coffee doesn't taste of much
- slem-slem** *dimin.* very weak-tasting.
- slap** [ʃàp] *id.* hooking. **ehi àfafəṅiyu naṅ slap, huriyu kəheḅueya tesl tesl** she hung it there on the tree: go and break it up for me
- slaray** [áʃàrāj] *v.* slip.
- slerey** *vdim.* slip.
- slaslay** [áʃàfāj] *v.* calculate, think. **aslaslay ahər** he is thinking *From:* Mandara.
- slasluṅsluṅ** [ʃàʃòṅʃòṅ] *id.* walking like a cock. **adəḅay tay ana naṅ slasluṅsluṅ slasluṅsluṅ** he followed them with it (his cock)
- slaw** [ʃàw] *id.* grasping. **adafəṅ asak ka awak a slaw** he seizes the goat by the leg *See:* vrut, hamac.
- slay** [áʃáj] *v.* cut with a sickle. **aslay kəzir** I cut the grass **mələṅ aslay** it is light (very early in the morning) **mələṅ asləki ka tay** they spent a day/a year **aslay wur ga mawaya** he takes a piece in 'mšwšyš' (game)
- sledid** [ʃəḏid] *mod.* lying down, knocking over.
- slehed** [éʃəhēḏ] *v.* create. **pakama muweni èslehedva** they have made a new law
- sleketirwey** [ʃékéfirwéj] *id.* slipping. **wal ni àḏəḏa àndava sleketirwey** the woman slipped and fell *See:* sler.
- slekri** [ʃékri] *n.* aluminium foil. **abəki slekri ke cicek gayəṅ** he covers his flute with foil
- slel** [éʃəl] *v.* blow the nose. **eslel embesli** he blows his nose
- slelim** [ʃəlīm] *n.* flute in the shape of a pipe.
- slep-slep** [ʃəpʃəp] *mod.* not particularly thick.
- sler** [ʃər] *id.* sliding. **səmu àza kur a àndava sler** you slipped on the cement *See:* slaray.
- sleslelivid** [ʃəʃəlívíd] *n.* kind of plant producing bitter tubers.
- sleslidik** [ʃəʃidík] *n.* bad smell.
- slewja** [ʃéwdzà] *n.* soldier. **yaw kəhəl nəḅuk slewja** here are some soldiers for you *From:* Mandara, English 'soldier'.
- sləḏ** [áʃəḏ] *v.* clean, sweep. **asləḏ ahay** he sweeps the house **gosko asləḏ mis** everyone is going to market
- sləh** [ʃəx] *id.* swallowing. **sləh ànday akaba**

hijid gani he swallowed it up together with the bowl

sləka [áɫká] *v.* return, leave a place.

slələh [áɫɫáɫx] *v.* tie strongly. **mis tasələh mædrəs ti tislɪŋ** the people tie up the pig so as to cut its throat

sləpəy [áɫəpāj] *v.* eat (liquid) with the hand.

sləpat [áɫpát] *v.* flatten.

slipet [éɫpét] *vdim.* flatten.

slepatata *mod.* flat.

slipetete [ɫɪpètɛtʰɛʔ] *moddim.* flat and thin.

slər [áɫɔr] *v.* send. **aslər wakita** he sends a letter

slərəd [ɫɔrād] *id.* hiding. **afiyu siŋgo slərəd a mbolo vu** he hides the money in a sack

slired *dimin.* hiding something small, hiding neatly.

slərəh [ɫɔrəx] *id.* swallowing whole. *See: mæfək.*

slərwaɫ-slərwaɫ [ɫɔrwāɫɫɔrwāɫ] *mod.* sticky. **zal ni atəkar ti slərwaɫ-slərwaɫ yam ga ndəroɫ ni** the husband noticed something sticky

slərway [áɫɔrwāj] *v.* smooth, level. **aslərway ahay ana elibisl** he renders the house with clay *See: mbuway, tapay, sidfek.*

sləslambar [ɫɔɫəmbār] *id.* attacking. **təsləkakaba nday ata makombro nakəŋ a sləslambar** she started to fight with the monitor

sli₁ [éɫi] *v.* suffice.

sliki *vcpd.* be capable. **nahkay mbeli mágəjah bibijungur day esliki do** so the elephant could not pull the hippo

sli₂ [ɫi] *id.* stretching. **damko anduɫvu sli** rubber stretches

slidɪk-slidɪk [ɫɪdɪkɫɪdɪk] *mod.* stinking. **kilif mideni ezi slidɪk-slidɪk** the wet fish stinks

slidɪ [ɫɪdɪ^w] *n.* grass from which mats are woven.

slikuwey [éɫkɪwɛj] *v.* sob. **wur ètəwa, nədi ahər eslikuwey** the child has been crying - I found him sobbing

sliku *id.* sobbing.

slilik [ɫɪɫɪk] *n.* private washing-place in a compound. **evid slilik** drain in compound

slilikid [ɫɪɫɪkɪd] *n.* part of the jaw that joins to the skull. **ahələkaba ma ti ke slilikid** he opens his mouth wide

slimi [ɫɪmɪ] *n.* ear, name. **slimi ga dagwa gani Hamza** the young man's name was Hamza **ba eyeŋ abi slimi ana tay a məŋgehəf bu** the squirrel just listened to them in the tree **nu ti nici slimi do diki-diki** as for me, I am totally stubborn

slimberi [ɫɪmbéri] *n.* leaf.

slɪŋ [éɫɪŋ] *vcaus.* cause to be cut. **esliŋ mickər** he cuts the throat of the chicken *See: slay.*

sliri [ɫɪrɪ] *n.* root.

slirkəcəkək [ɫɪrk^wɪtʰjɪk^wtʰjɪk^w] *mod.* small. *See: serəra.*

sluh [áɫúx] *v.* widen a hole in something. **asluh evid ge tindu** he widens the hole in the harp *See: gwazlongutaj.*

sluh-sluh [ɫúxɫúx] *n.* husk of millet stalk.

slur [ɫɔr] *id.* putting. **slur slur məgriyani a salam vu** she put it into her vagina

sluwul [ɫúwùl] *n.* mould. **azana acəl sluwul** the cloth goes mouldy

slucey [éɫɪtʰɛj] *v.* make (a space) smaller.

sluzi [ɫýzɪ] *n.* cotton.

T - t

tabalay [átàbàlāj] *v.* sift or shake out, using a bowl. **wal atabalay hay** the woman sifts the millet

taɫ [átád] *v.* filter. **ataɫ zum** he filters the wine *See: ŋgaz; ðuc.*

tafcakoruk [táftəkək^wɔrək^w] *id.* throwing something light down. **nizligoro kece-kece tafcakoruk** I throw the bits of

cloth down

tah [tāx] *id.* putting to the mouth. **afafəŋ hijid ka ma tah** he puts the calabash to his mouth

tahəbum [tāxɔbùm] *n.* drinking trough (a broken jar, or carved in a stone).

takalak [təkàlāk] *n.* female offspring.

takivu [təkívù] *prep.* plus, with. **asəkumbiyu**

endəwi takivu wandəŋ he buys a shirt and some shorts

takola [tāk^wɔ̀lə] *n.* lump, portion (of food or of daub). **azay takola ga daf** he takes a ball of millet **təvi daf takola mähkər** they give him three balls of millet **agraj elibisl takola cə** he makes two lumps of daub

takolay [tāk^wɔ̀ləj] *n.* thigh.

takoray [átāk^wɔ̀rāj] *v.* shape building clay. **atakoray elibisl** he builds up the clay

takosay [átāk^wɔ̀sāj] *v.* crumple. **matakwasani** wrinkled

takoslay [átāk^wɔ̀ləj] *v.* search for hopefully.

takum [tākōm] *imp.* plural imperative of ‘moroni’ ‘go’. **ahi : takum masləka** he said “Come on, let’s go”.

takumum [tāk^wōmōm] *imp.* plural inclusive imperative of ‘moroni’. **ay takumum, kama təvi gani àgrava sətək aw?** Let’s go: anyway, is the work finished? *See: ru.*

tala [tālā] *mod.* very white. **məhər gayəŋ akwal tala** his hair is very white **əŋgəc ga awak tala** the fur of the goat is very white *See: tazlaka; kwazlaka.*

talabasl [tələbàʃ] *mod.* very little (fluid). **yam anjəhad talabasl a vədaŋ bu** there are puddles of water in the field **yam anjəgəni talabasl ahkay** the water has almost dried up

telebesl *dimin.* in a tiny amount.

talaga [tələgā] *n.* poverty. **zal talaga** a poor man

talaki [tələkì] *n.* Tuesday. *From: ?*

tali-tali [tələtəlì] *id.* wandering. **asawadaj e gili gayəŋ tali-tali zlam gayəŋ** he was wandering in his fields minding his own business

talkama [tələkāmá] *n.* angle, corner. *From: Mandara.*

tam [átám] *v.* escape, exceed, surpass. **nətam mota nahəŋ ni** I overtake the other car **gatay atam geli** theirs is better than ours **natamfəŋ ka mazlahko a** I escape from the lion **átamvabiya e divi va keti** he went on his way again (to come here)

tamahaj [átámähāj] *v.* take over, think, believe. **nətamahaj ara ara** I think he'll come **nətamahaj àra ndo** I don't think he came **atamahaj zlam ga mis** he takes other peoples' share

tamaha *n.* pride. **zal tamaha** a proud man

tam-tam [təmtəm] *n.* name of the month August. **ana kiye ga tam-tam zlam èwia, ama àndəh ndo** in the month of tamtam fruit is there but not ripe

tambakar [təmbākār] *n.* straw hat, basket with foot.

taŋ [tāŋ] *id.* hitting. **ahkay ti gudu-gudu taŋ** so they came out violently

taŋ-taŋ [tāŋtāŋ] *id.* well tied. **nəwəl kocopo taŋ-taŋ** I tie the straw up well

tandal [təndəl] *id.* hooked up. **afiyu azana avəla tandal** he hangs up his clothes high

tanji [təndzì] *id.* throwing down something carried on the head. **wal ezligoro biyem tanji e mite vu** the woman throws the wood down from her head in the yard

tap [təp] *id.* putting down so that the object sticks to the surface. **ahəndafəŋ eli ka daf tap tap** she serves the sauce on the boule

tapə [təpá] *n.* tobacco. *From: French ‘tabac’.*

tapay [átəpāj] *v.* daub (mud) on a vertical surface. *See: krapay; sləwəy.*

tapdəkam [təpdəkām] *n.* hoof.

tapəŋ [təpəŋ] *id.* climbing, getting up.

təptəpərwəŋji [təptəpərwəndzì] *id.* (announces a riddle).

tar [tār] *mod.* layer. **tar gəru, tar virzegena** it was partly gold, partly silver

tasa [təsà] *n.* plate. *From: French ‘tasse’.*

tasay [átəsāj] *v.* hit with a tool. **atasay mindigir** he sharpens his hoe **atasay hay** he de-husks the millet

taskəŋ [təskəŋ] *mod.* much. **ahur èwia àndava taskəŋ a** the beans had already produces a big crop

taskay [átəskāj] *v.* plan. **kajala ahər a ti, mək kataskay zlam məzum gayak** you think, then you sort out your meal *From: Fulfulde ‘taska’.*

tasl₁ [təʃ] *mod mod.* short. **wur adək tasl tasl** the child is short **bəz tədək tasl tasl** many children are short **selewer taslani** short trousers

tesl [təʃ] *dimin.* short and thin. **cakwasl tesleni** a short straw

tasl₂ [təʃ] *id.* snapping noise. **eheḃ fifiŋ tasl** he breaks the stalk

tesl [təʃ] *iddim.* breaking. **tesl ni ga meteliŋ nahəŋ ni** that’s for the other

buttock!

taslkalak [tâtkâlâk] *mod.* flat and hard. **tili yam, tâdi ahâr ana akur taslkalaka** while digging the well they found a flat stone

teslkelek *dimin.* flat, hard and small.

tata₁ [tâtâ] *mod.* it is possible. **nagray tata** I can do it

tata₂ [tâtâ] *cnj.* next, then. **târa, mæk tata tâsalka** they came, and then they went

taturbu [tâtûrbû] *n.* hot ashes. **wur eviyek andra ana taturbu** the child roasts the peanuts with ashes *See: viti.*

taturkud [tâtûrk^wúdf] *n.* whirlwind, stone used for smoothing pottery.

tatu-tatu [tâtûtâtû] *mod.* smooth, without useless holes. **ahay tatu-tatu** the house is well-built, without holes **âzlakava ahay gayañ a tatu-tatu** he has shut is house up without a crack **ahuzl ègia tatu-tatu** the cave is tightly blocked up

tetu-tetu *dimin.* smooth and small.

tay₁ [átâj] *v.* divide in two equal parts. **natay hijid** I split the calabash in two **aday ga aver atukaba bæruf a** the thunder tore my heart **azæk atæki ke eri a** the smoke left his eyes

tay₂ [tâj] *pro.* them (3ps obj). **gatay** their

taya [tâjà] *n.* tyre. *From: English 'tyre'.*

tazlaka [tâžâkâ] *mod.* very white.

tezleka *dimin.* very white. *See: tala.*

tazlazl [tâžâž] *mod.* flat (large area), lying on the back. **afækad hijid tazazl** he puts down the (empty) calabash **dala gwaygwaya tazlazla** the hockey field is flat

tezlezl [têžêž] *dimin.* flat (small area), flat and small. **dala mickær tezlezla** the divining floor is flat

tezlizl [têžlêž] *dimin.* full. **jam tezlizla a zalaka bu** the watercourse is full to the brim *See: dañañ.*

te₁ [tê] *mod.* quiet. **akal nêdêm, mæk tâlêgu, nu te** I wanted to speak but they objected so I shut up

te-te [têjtê] *mod.* without saying a word. **lakaba te-te** be quiet **nday te-te a magam** they are quiet at home **nañ abu zlam gayañ te-te** he is there without saying a word

te₂ [tê] *dem.* indicates different actions performed by different people. **hini**

takwatçay te, hini tembed te... some tear, some demolish...

ted [étéd] *vcaus.* break apart, pick, cut (cause to fall). **wur eted wur ga haf** the child picks the fruit **awak eted ezewed** the goat breaks the string **eted ezewed** he cuts the rope *See: tæd.*

tedekdek [têdêkdêk] *mod.* in the middle. **dek dekeni ènjûya a huð gili va tedekdek wudak nahøma...** when he almost reached to the middle of the bush **huð mælavad tedekdek** midnight

tedida [têdídæ] *mod.* at the same level. **abøhad zlam tedida** he puts things on the same level

tedtedi [têdtêdí] *n.* metal charm bracelet used for healing. **mis aføvu tedtedi a ahar vu** the person wears the charm on his hand

tef [têf] *id.* following. **wur adøbay mæñani tef a meteliñ bu** the child is following close behind its mother

tefewa [têfêwæ] *mod.* wholly. *See: sikleña, sesiha, sukuluma.*

tegi [têgí] *dem.* over there. **nañ tegi** he is over there

teguni [têg^wúni] *pro.* that [far]. *See: hini, nini.*

tehimbuz [têhîmbÿž] *n.* wild fruit (sp.).

tekdezik [têkdêžik] *mod.* big. **wur àgøsbija ejew a tekdezik** the child has caught a big locust **eyew tekdezikziken** a fat locust

tekedí [têkêdí] *mod.* even. **bay tekedí àra ka wumæri eweni a** even the chief came to the feast yesterday

tekesl [têkêł] *mod.* round. **Muyiyañ teveliñ hæma tekesl** the Muyang live all round the mountain *See: celel.*

teksim [têkšim] *id.* starting to rain. **avær adøgaki teksim** it is starting to rain

telegwa [têlég^wã] *n.* African grey hornbill. *Tockus nasutus.*

teleñgeda [têlêñgêdã] *mod.* medium. **ahâr adøm nêdi ahâr a ana wur mænduz mæfætayana, bilegeni teleñgeda ga mæpøsvu goro a, do ti ahømam?** I need a little tree to grow, big enough to rest under.

telin [têlin] *n.* waterhole, pond.

telme [têlmé?] *n.* half. *From: Mandara.*

tendel [têndél] *id.* ringing sound.

teŋgil [tɛŋgɪl] *n.* tree-trunk.

tenjel [tɛndzɛl] *n.* mousetrap. *From:* ?

tenjəwa [tɛndzɛwā] *mod.* loudly. **bəza tədəgiki ana zlahay tenjəwa** the children start shouting loudly **zlahay ahənday tenjəwa** the shouting resounds loudly *See:* **tələr**.

tera [tɛrā] *mod.* different. **naŋ tera akaba ndahaŋ** he is different from the others **tere-tera** differently

terengiz [tɛrɛŋgɪz] *n.* violence, quarrel.

terewa [tɛrɛwā] *mod.* straight. **wur acuhwakioro ka məŋani terewa** the child runs straight to its mother

terey [ɛtɛrɛj] *v.* move (on the buttocks). **zal dra eterey meteliŋ** the cripple moves along on his buttocks *See:* **ferey**.

tesilem [tɛsɪlɛm] *n.* electric torch. **wur ga tesilem** battery *From:* ? (market word).

tetək [tɛtɛk^w] *n.* penis (childish expression).

tetu-tetu [tɛtɛtɛtɛ] *mod.* smooth, slippery. *See:* **tirwizl-tirwizl**.

tewer [tɛwɛr] *mod.* alone.

tey [tɛj] *cnj.* since. **mis teyey, huɖ àrəha tey** the people laugh as they have eaten well

tez [ɛtɛz] *vcaus.* cause to burst. **etez musub ga awak** he bursts the goat's stomach *See:* **təz**.

tezleka [tɛzɛkā] *mod.* very white. *See:* **kwazlaka**.

tezltezluzl [tɛzɛtɛzɛzɛ] *mod.* without leaving any. **zal akal èndeveriŋaba mickər ga wal hina tezltezluzl** the thief has taken all this woman's hens

təba [tɛbā] *n.* palm tree, raffia.

təɖ *v.* break [intr], fall [rain]. **ezewɛɖ atəɖ** the rope is breaking **ezewɛɖ atəɖa** the string broke **avər atəɖ** it is raining *See:* **ted**.

təɖay [átəɖāj] *v.* roast. *From:* Mandara.

təɖək [tɛɖɛk] *id.* going in. **adak eji wur təɖək a asak vu** the thorn goes into the child's foot

təɖəzl [tɛɖɛzɪ] *id.* falling.

tidizl [tɪdɪzɪ] *dimin.* running together. **ahəraya mis e gili atəzbiyu tidizl** they all came back from the fields at a run

təh [átəx] *v.* defecate. **atəx azay** he defecates **təh** [təx] *id.* one's fill. **azum ɖaf təh** he eats his full

təhad [átxád] *v.* split or tear the earth or another object along the surface. **katəhadvu nahay keti** you start making another (pot) *See:* **tay, had**.

tək [tók] *intr.* (expresses doubt). **hini naŋ tək?** is it really that? **hini mickər tək, mickər do aw?** is this a chicken or not?

təkar [átəkār] *v.* try. **atəkar mazay zlam** he tries to carry something

təkɖa-təkɖa [təkɖətəkɖa] *id.* walking on horseback. **tata Takwaca nakəŋ ti ni təkɖa-təkɖa àsləka** as for Takwaca, he went home at a gallop **nday ka ma zla təkɖa-təkɖa** they are in front on their horses

təkəɖək [təkəɖək] *id.* forgetting. *See:* **kəɖək**.

təkəzl-təkəzl [təkəzɪtəkəzɪ] *mod.* nice and fat. **awak midiseni təkəzl-təkəzl** a nice fat goat **awak təkəzl-təkəzłani** a fat goat **tikizl-tikizl** *dimin.* nice and fat, but small. *See:* **wut-wut**.

təkulumay [átək^wɔləməj] *v.* make round. **mətukulumani** round, not split (calabash) *See:* **tiklirey**.

təkus [átk^wɔs] *v.* bud, start to flower.

təkwal [tək^wāl] *n.* molar tooth.

təl [átɛl] *v.* place towards. **atəl asak kay kay** he takes a large step **atəl ahar** he is a thief, he is indisciplined **atliyu ahar a halaf vu** he puts his hand in the bowl **atəlikabiyu ahar ana bay** he holds out his hand to the chief **bəza tətəl akur** the children are throwing stones **atəliviyu sləzi ana lipri** he threads the needle

təlfəŋ *vcpd.* stir. **atəlfəŋ zum** she stir the wine

tələɖ [tələɖ] *id.* jumping. **təzaya, dirleŋgi tələɖ a məŋ ga arav gəɖakani vu** when they grabbed at him the hyena leapt into a big tree

tələr [tələr] *mod.* loudly. **wur adiki a zlahay tələr** the child starts to shout loudly *See:* **tenjəwa**.

təlmər [təlmər] *mod.* bad. **akaba eŋguc gani akaba hutul gani ni təlmər** (sauce) with the fur and tails and all

təmad [átəmad] *v.* wipe. **natəmadkaba humbo ka pakama** I must wipe the flour from my mouth

təmbak [təmbāk] *n.* sheep.

təmbul [təmbúl] *n.* state of millet which is

ready to produce a head. **hay a tembul** the millet is ready to produce a head *See: bokboku ; muzi.*

təndal [təndəl] *n.* heavy timber.

təngəm [təŋgəm; təŋgəm təŋgəm] *id.* jumping, falling. **nəhkəkay hadagər àdiki ana huwa təngəm təngəm** so the buck started to run

tənjalaŋ [təndzələŋ] *mod.* oval or rectangular. **wal ahəlfəŋ ahər a tənjalaŋ** the woman dresses her hair in an oval **ahər gayəŋ tənjalaŋa** he head is oval **hijid tənjalaŋani** an oval calabasse

tinjeleŋ *dimin.* oval and small.

təpa [təpā] *id.* putting mouth onto. **təpa àndəkiyu ma ka yam** she puts her mouth to the water

təpak [təpāk; təpāk] *mod.* small of surface. **hini məlaŋ ga asak gə pilis goro ni təpak təpak** these are the little prints of my horse going on.

tipek *dimin.* very small. *See: duhwak.*

təpasl [təpāl] *id.* sticking. **eyew anjəhadfəŋ ka məŋgəhaf təpasl** the grasshopper clings to the tree

tipesl *dimin.* sticking, keeping. **əŋgəta singo a, afiyu tipesl** if he gets any money he looks after it well

tipesley *v.* **etipesley siŋgo** he looks after his money

təpay [átəpāj] *v.* plant. *From: Fulfulde.*

tər [tər] *id.* throwing down.

tərakok [təràk^wək^w] *id.* wide and side by side. **tirekwek** [tìrək^wək^w] *dimin.* small and wide open. *See: tura.*

təraslasl [təràləl] *id.* burning.

tireslesl *dimin.* burning and somewhat small.

tərdəsəy [átərdəsāj] *v.* wrinkle. **zal medewel atərdəsəy meleher** the old man's forehead is wrinkled

tərdəs tərdəs *id.* **zal hini èdisa, dəŋgu tərdəs tərdəs** this man has grown fat, there are rolls on his neck

tərmi [tərmí] *n.* pagné six yards long sold in markets. *From: Mandara?*

tətaluk [tətālūk^w] *n.* bird (woodpecker).

tətoluk [tətólūk^w] *n.* bean husks.

təwur [təwūr] *n.* chatter, discussion, cheeky language. **mis tagray təwur** the people are talking a lot **tijiki təwur ka zlam** they discuss the matter

təz [átəz] *v.* burst, separate. **guvur atəz** the granary is bursting *See: tez.*

təzəŋ [təzəŋ] *n.* boa.

ti [tí] *disc.* topic marker. **yaw majal ahər gayəŋ àsləka adoro a dala vu ti, wal ndahaŋ təbu tesipet naŋ** if his thoughts wander from home, there are other women to tempt him

ta *disc.* perfective topic marker.

tideha [tìdɛxə] *mod.* somewhat bitter. **kidembeya tideha** the aubergine is bitter

tidemme [tìdɛm:ə] *mod.* without disagreements. **mis tanjəhad tidemme** the people are happy together

tidep-tidəp [tìdɛptìdɛp] *mod.* well-placed.

tidi [tìdì] *mod.* good. **təgəsa zal akal a tidi** it is good that they caught the thief **àməta tidi** it's a good thing he died

tidik-tidik [tìdìktìdìk] *mod.* dark black.

tifel [étífɛl] *v.* scrape out (sauce) from a pot with the finger. **etifel halaf** he scrapes the sauce out of the bowl

tifey [étífɛj] *v.* spit. **etifey esliḅ** he spits

tifu *inj.* blessing by spitting upon. **adem tifu azuwar goro** he says "Spit my blade" (formula of blessing) **tifu wur goro, Melefit mèvuk sifa** bless you, my child, may God give you life

tifi [tìfì] *n.* bundle. **tifi ga fifiŋ** a bundle of millet stalks

tif-tif [tìfìtìf] *mod.* dense. **zal hini midiseni tif-tif** this man is nice and fat **məŋ gə haf hini tif-tif ahkay** this is a nice shady tree **kusi àdaya tif-tif** the fog is thick

tetif *mod.* **mələvad ègia tetif** it is a dark night

tetiftifa *mod.* **kusi àdaya tetiftifa** the fog is thick

tigi [tìgì] *conj.* save that. **tigi àra ndo kwa do ti, nara nihi** If only he had come, I'd tell him

tikcil [tìktɕìl] *id.* sound of struck of iron. **àviya aday ana ara cudò tikcil tikecil** he started to hit the iron

tikdey [étìkdɛj] *v.* level by cutting. **kotomu mətikdəkabani lala** a well-smoothed wooden plate

tiklirey [étìklirej] *v.* make round. **etiklirey dəf** he makes round balls of millet boule

tiklir *id.* **tədia meyda, tìhi, tàsəfari tiklir** they gave him millet, ground and mixed it

for him *See: təkulumay.*

tikslid [tikʰlɪd] *n.* knife made from millet stalk.

mis tislɪŋ mickur ana tikslid they cut chickens' throats with a stalk knife

tikwesl [étkʷét] *v.* curse.

tiley [étlɪlɛj] *v.* remove (hoe or axe) from its handle. **etiley mindigir** he takes his hoe blade off its handle

tim [tɪm] *id.* drawing (a liquid). **tim təcahaya, yam naŋ ni tip àcaha ti, amu huya.** they drew water, and the water they drew became honey

timed [tɪméd] *mod.* wholly. **timed èjia a huf gili ba** she disappeared into the forest

timey₁ [étimɛj] *v.* eat without sauce. **wur etimey daf** the child eats millet boule without sauce

timey₂ [tɪmɛj] *intr.* confirmation tag. **nak timey** it's you, isn't it? / you as well? **nak do timey** it's not you, is it?

timi [tɪmɪ] *n.* large drum with ox-skin used for funerals or messages. *See: gwenderi.*

tiŋ [tɪŋ] *mod.* in any case. **anoro a Marua tiŋ** I must get to Maroua

tindeliŋ [tɪndɛlɪŋ] *n.* part of a millet stalk between two knots ; kind of snake. *See: deliŋ.*

tindu [tɪndɪw] *n.* traditional five-stringed harp.

tip [tɪp] *id.* sowing. **tàra tɛzligaviya ahur Mafaki na dek tip** they sowed all the Kanuri beans

tipek [tɪpɛk] *mod.* small. **asi bafta tipek** he cuts him a little cloth

tir₁ [tɪr] *mod.* coiled. **afəkad ezewed tir ka had** he puts down the cord coiled on the ground **ezewed tira ka had** the cord is coiled on the ground

tir₂ [tɪr] *id.* urinating. **tir ewiskibiyu kudɪŋ ka bay ni** he urinated on the chief

tirjemel [tɪrdzɛmél] *n.* interpreter, secretary.

tirlek-tirlek [tɪrlɛktɪrlɛk] *id.* coiling. **gavaŋ efedevu tirlek-tirlek** the snake coils itself

tirlekavu *vcpd.* roll self up. *See: fedey.*

tirwizl-tirwizl [tɪrwɪʒtɪrwɪʒ] *mod.* smooth, slippery. **akur hini tirwizl-tirwizl** this stone is smooth **akur tirwizl-tirwizleni** a smooth stone

tetirwizl *mod.* slippery. *See: tetu-tetu.*

titera [tɪtɛrà] *n.* spindle, bicycle.

titic [tɪtɪtɪ] *id.* tight. **bakaba eri a titic ti,**

təfukabiyu close your eyes tight, and they'll put it in your mouth

tiv [tɪv] *id.* putting down. **afəkad zum dazi tiv** he puts down a jug of wine *See: dawir.*

tivek [tɪvɛk] *n.* wydah bird (?).

tiwizid [tɪwɪzɪd] *n.* rock bunting (??).

tiyi-tiyi [tɪjɪtɪjɪ] *n.* Red-cheeked ordon-bleu (bird). *Uraeginthus bengalus.*

tiyuk [tɪjɔkʷ] *id.* putting in the mouth. **mək tata laf àzaba tiyuk àndavu** she took it, put it into her mouth and swallowed it

tiz [tɪz] *id.* kicking. **avi asak tiz** he kicks him

tok [tɔkʷ; tɔtɔkʷ] *id.* opening. *See: tura.*

tokdombur [tɔkʷdɔmbɔr] *n.* small pot placed beneath a filter ('zlemješúr') to catch potash. *See: zlemjegur.*

toli [tɔli] *id.* turning. **ambati aləŋ toli ana mis** he turns his back on people

toskoruk [tɔskʷɔrɔkʷ] *mod.* folded one or several times and left. **ezligoro ezewed toskoruk** he throws down a coiled rope

traḅ [átráḅ] *v.* punish. **bay atraḅ mis** the chief is punishing people

truŋ₁ [trɔŋ] *n.* base of spine.

truŋ₂ [trɔŋ] *id.* running. **mək hadagər nakəŋ àdiki ana huwa truŋ truŋ** then the buck started to run, jumping along

truzləzla [trɔʒɔʒɔ] *id.* anyhow. **esekia daf ka avar a truzləzla** she puts the boule all over the grindstone

tuc [tɔts] *id.* on the stomach. **andəhad tuc a huf a huf** he lies flat on his stomach

tuk [átɔkʷ] *v.* shake something hard. **atuk hijid** he shakes the calabash **atuk ahar** he claps his hands

tukslum [tɔkʷslɔm] *n.* kind of calabash used as a drinking flask.

tukuləŋ [tɔkʷɔlɔŋ] *mod.* somewhat soft.

təkələŋləŋ *dimin.* soft, small and neat. *See: mbileḅ-mbileḅ, həlatata.*

tukwar [tɔkʷār] *id.* throwing self. **nahkay wal nakəŋ adəkiyu tukwar ka wur gani** so the woman threw herself on her child

tulay [tɔlɔj] *n.* termite castle, termites that build it (foraging termites).

tulək [tɔlɔk] *n.* child's charm.

tuma [tɔmà] *n.* wild cotton.

tumbukwa [tùmbùk^{wā}] *mod.* describes a silent person, one who does not habitually reply.

tumbulumay [át^wùmbùlùmāj] *v.* make round, cover round. **kusi atumbulumay hama** the fog covers the mountain **mutumbulumani** round, not split (calabash)

tup [tūp] *id.* quietly. **andəhad tup a ahay bu** he lies down quietly indoors **naŋ tupa mandəhadani a ahay bu** he is quietly lying indoors

tup-tup [tūptūp] *id.* covering. **kusi agəs məŋgəhaf tup tup** the dust covers the tree

tura [tùrà] *id.* wide. **ahəlkaba eri a tura** he opens his eyes wide *See: tarakok, tok, tuwuŋ.*

turmaslay [átùrməfāj] *v.* fold back, roll up. **wur aturmaslay asak** the child squats down *See: fedey.*

tus [tūs] *id.* noise of hitting something hollow. **asi akur a ahər vu tus** he hits him on the head with a stone *See: tusay.*

tusa [tūsā] *mod.* separate. **naŋ tusa akaba ndahaŋ** hi is different from the others

tusay [átùsāj] *v.* smoke (trs.), break. **atusay aslu** he cooks the meat **atusay akur, guruguluk** he breaks the stone, the stump

tutay [átùtāj] *v.* fade (cloth), lose colour due to washing.

tuwad [átùwád] *v.* cross. **atuwad zalaka** he crosses he mayo

tuway [tùwàj] *n.* mourning, weeping, cry.

tuwud [tùwúđ] *id.* throwing. **tuwud**

atəlibiyu ana bay he threw it to the chief.

tuwuŋ [tùwúŋ] *id.* opening. **tuwuŋ təzləki tasa zla do waw?** they uncovered the plate *See: tura, tok.*

tuwzləŋ [tùwzəŋ] *mod.* like tubers. **gandasak afafəŋ tuwzləŋ** the pumpkin begins to produce fruit

tatuwzləŋ *n.* tuber. **bodbođu afəki tatuwzləŋ** the 'boëboëu' starts producing tubers

tuz [tùz] *mod.* in the open, without protection. **wal afəkadi wur ana bəŋani tuz** the woman leaves the child with its father just like that **ambərbu wur tuz e mite bu** she abandons the child outside

tudəy [étÿdēj] *v.* wrap round. **etudəy ahər ana elpendiŋ** he wraps a scarf round his head

tuley [étÿlēj] *v.* swing, spin. **etuley aday** he swings the stick

təwi₁ [tÿwì] *n.* work. **kagray təwi gayak ana naŋ həya àndava** you use them for your work, that's all

təwi₂ [étÿwí] *v.* weep, cry. **wur etəwliŋ ana məŋani** the child moans at his mother (to get help, or accuse her)

twasl [twāł] *id.* placing something that sticks. **avi makandaŋ ana mandaray twasl** he sticks the glue to the jar

V - v

va [và] *mod.* more (only in negative phrases). **va do** no more **èslia kaway va do ti, məsək kəkoro kà has** when it's enough and don't want any more, you go for your red earth

vacay [ávàtsāj] *v.* treat, cure by blowing.

vad [vād] *n.* the period of a day. **a vad nahaŋ...** one day... **kəla vad** every day **hud ya vad** the middle of the night **vad bebem cə ti...** for two days...

məlavad *n.* night.

vah [ávàx] *v.* taste hot. **cekremek avah ma**

dal dal pepper tastes very hot

valahay [ávàlāxāj] *v.* growl, tell off.

vala-vala [vələvələ] *n.* torch made of a bundle of twigs. **aday aku ana valavala** he gets fire with a bundle of twigs

valawak [vələwāk] *n.* bark of the calcedra tree.

valay [ávàlāj] *v.* be quick to use [object] as weapon. **avalay akur** he's quick to attack with a stone

vaŋ [vəŋ] *intj.* yes. **nihiti ti hu vaŋ nakada**

kur a zla Now say yes or I'll kill you
vaṅay v. kick (intransitive). **wur avaṅay asak** the child is kicking
vaṅ [vəŋ] *id.* kicking. **avay asak vaṅ vaṅ** he keeps kicking
vatay [ávàtāj] v. blow.
vay [ávàj] v. give. **avay zlam** he gives things
wur ga məṅani ni àvi ana pilis gayay, esi esi hes brother gave it to the horse, and it drank
vifəṅ [ávifəŋ] *vcpd.* exchange. **avifəṅ singgo ka sla** he gives him money for his cow
vayay [ávàjāj] v. grumble (intr.). **avayay aki ka mis** he grumbles about someone
vay-vay [vəjvəj] *n.* flower.
velewa [vèlèwà] *n.* bull raised for sacrifice.
velij [évèlɪŋ] *vcaus.* surround, go round.
verzi [vèrzi] *n.* Mandara, muslim.
vetew-vetew [vètèwvètèw] *n.* plant (sp.).
vədaṅ [vədàŋ] *n.* cultivated field.
vəð [ávəð] v. 1) roof, forge. **avəð ahay** he roofs the house *See: hurkway.* 2) taste too strong. **estena avəð** the salt will taste too strong **estena àvəð** it is too salty **cekremek àvəða** the chili was hot
vəðay [ávəðāj] v. invite to help. **ay kamam kara kuvəðum ata makombro?** why did you invite the monitors?
vəðay [vəðāj] *n.* help. **nja ga vəðay ya kani gagəðakani ti** the kind of help you get today
vəgət [vəgət] *n.* beeswax.
vəlah [ávələx] v. vomit.
vəluk [vəlúk^w] *id.* en masse. *See: dəluk.*
vərəðay [ávərəðāj] v. rub. **wal avərəðay mazmay** the woman rubs the follere leaves
vərəð *id.* *See: hwal.*
vərəṅgəzl [vərəŋgəz] *mod.* in large lump(s). **təsikabiyu aslu ni məkuḅkuḅ gani kay vərəṅgəzl** they cut him a huge fat lump of meat
vəruzuzə [vərəzüzə] *mod.* rising, setting. **fat azlervaya/adiyu vəruzuzə** the sun is rising/setting
vərzlay [ávərəzāj] v. grind into large lumps. **wal avərzlay ahur** the woman grinds the beans
vərzl *id.* **wal edi eli ahur vərzl** the woman is cooking sauce with ground beans

vəzza₁ [vəzə] *id.* sparking. **aku ahər vəzza** the fire sends up sparks
vəzza₂ [vəzə] *id.* flying off. *See: fehe.*
vəzl [vəz; vəz-vəz] *mod.* in big bits. **təsukabiyu vəzl vəzl ti capa kərəha...** they are giving you big pieces so that you can fill yourself up quickly
vī₁ [évi] v. beat, delay, spend a year. **evi ciciek** he plays the flute **evi dəz a daliya bu** he is having a bad year **mirkwi evi a kəsa bu** the stranger spends a year in the village **zum evifəṅ naṅ ke təwi a** the wine stops him working **mis tivivu** the people are prevented (from doing something)
vī₂ [vi] *n.* year. *See: vi.*
vī₃ [vi] *n.* rust. **məvəð acəl vi** the sickle is rusting *See: mandaza.*
vickey [évít[ēj] v. make a shelter for [a house]. **miviceni** shelter **evickey ahay** he makes a shelter of secco
villa [vil:æ] *mod.* big, enormous. **akur amənjavu villa** the stone looks big **naṅ akaba zlam ka ahər villa** he has something huge on his head *See: mbirtita.*
vir [vir] *mod.* truly, OK. **zal hini ara va do vir** this man won't come any more, truly
vir₁ [vir] *n.* patras monkey. *Erythrocebus patas.*
virizley [évirižēj] v. pick a seed or fruit that is not yet ripe. **bəza tivirzlefiṅa bəza ka andra** the children pick the undeveloped peanuts **mis evirizlifina meteliṅa ana wur a** someone scratches the child's buttock (to punish it)
virizl *id.*
vir-vir [virvir] *mod.* crowded. **mis vir-vir a gosko vu** the people are piled up in the market
virvireni [virvreni] *mod.* barely, exhausted. **esliki va do virvireni** he cannot do any more **ənija virvireni** he almost arrived **ambərbiyu naṅ virvireni** he almost leaves him behind *See: vir-vir.*
virzegena [virzēgənā] *n.* tin.
virzezey [virzēzēj] *n.* anus.
virzlij [virzliŋ] *id.* falling, having been cut off. **virzlij əzlikkaba ahər a** she cut her own head off
vitey [évitéj] v. blow. **evitafəṅ hað a vit vit** she blew the dust off it

viti [vìti] *n.* ashes (powdery and cold). *See:* **taturbu**.

viyamay [vǐjàmāj] *n.* moustache.

viyek [évijèk] *v.* roast, burn (meat). **eviyek aslu** he roasts the meat

viyey [évijēj] *v.* be giddy, be drunk, be troubled. **ahàr eviyu** I am giddy

viz [vìz] *id.* throwing. **wal medewel ni viz àkaba** the old woman threw it down

viza [vìzā] *mod.* very small. **ahay ga zal hini viza ahkay** this man's house is very small

vizlik [vìʒìk] *id.* scratching with the fingernails. **eji ehuf vizlik** he scratches

vizlikey *v.* scratch with the nails. **evizlikey mis ana ehuf** *See:* **dik**.

vræk-vræk [vrækvræk] *mod.* bad-smelling.

vrut [vrüt] *id.* grabbing. **zal akal ahəlfəŋ siŋgo ka wal nahəŋ a a gosko ba vrut** the thief snatched a woman's money in the market *See:* **slaw**.

vu [vù] *n.* body, reflexive or reciprocal marker on a verb. **bay ga vu** owner **takadvu** they fight one another

vu [vu] *prep.* prepositional or verbal extension; location always within a hollow, not in the open. **nakoro a zalaka vu** I am going to the mayo *See:* **bu**.

vugul [vùg^wùl] *n.* he-goat.

vulavula [vùlávólà] *n.* ferrule.

vurzuz [vùrzùz] *ad.* rising, setting.

W - w

- wacay** [áwàtsāj] *v.* make quick. **nawacay mis** I hurry the folk **mota awacay mis a sawaday vu** a car makes people's journey much quicker **nawacay vu** I am in a hurry
- wacawaci** [wàtsàwàtsì] *mod mod.* fast. **agray tawi wacawaci** he works quickly **zal wacawaci** a quick man **mis mawacavani** a quick person
- weceweci** [wètʃewètʃi] *dimin.* fast.
- wadəga** [wàdəgà] *n.* state of an adult man who has never married, or whose wife is divorced or dead. **wadəga ewuseri ahàr ana zal hini** this man is bothered by his bachelorhood **zal wadəga edi daf** the bachelor cooks
- waha** [wàxā] *mod.* a little light. **mba gūzit day, molaḡ m̄sləbiya waha day** wait a bit first, until it gets light
- weha** *dimin.*
- wahay**₁ [áwàxāj] *v.* get wider. **awu ge mindigir awahay** the handle-hole of the hoe is getting bigger
- wahay**₂ [wàháj] *inj.* but. **bəza ga baba takoro : wahay ahur geli ni ti...** the children went - "Oh, our beans..."
- waka** [wākā] *prep.* before (temp). **waka nara ti, kàgra tawi a** you will do this before I come
- wakita** [wākítā] *n.* paper, letter, book. *From:* Mandara?
- wal** [wàl] *n.* woman who has born children, wife.
- wəwal** [wówāl] *npl.* women.
- walagana** [wálágànà] *n.* white millet.
- walda** [wáldā] *n.* cattle pen. *From:* Fulfulde.
- walwala** [wālwalà] *n.* kind of bird.
- wandaḡ** [wàndáḡ] *n.* shorts.
- waray**₁ [áwàrày] *v.* be abandoned. **wur awaray a divi ba** the child is left alone on the road
- waray**₂ [wārāj] *n.* hunted animal, game; hunt. **awak egi waray** the goat becomes hunted **bəza tagray waray** the children are hunting
- waru** [wārū] *pro.* for me. **ru waru a gosko vu** go to the market for me
- war-war** [wārwar] *id.* being very hot. **aku afəḡ ka yam war-war** the water is very hot
- wasak** [wāsák] *n.* mouse nest, for nothing. **akfum abəhad bəza ka wasak** the mouse puts her young in the nest **nədi ahàr ana aslu ka wasak** I got the meat for nothing
- wasla-wasla** [wāḷawāḷa] *n.* the blood of a murdered person that seeks revenge.
- watak** [wátàk] *mod.* oily-tasting.
- wetek** *dimin.* *See:* **falam.**
- watu** [wàtú] *cnj.* that's to say. *From:* Fulfulde; foulfuldeà.
- way** [wáj] *pro.* who?
- waya** [wājā] *inj.* good afternoon.
- wayay** [áwàjāj] *v.* love, want, need. **a mawayay ḡgirweḡey - kəwayum way? - mawayay ḡgirweḡey** "We want Ngirweēey!" "Whom do you want?" "We want Ngirweēey!" **amal kàwaya ma goro a eḡiḡ a nahəma, kəḡəm nak ti kawayay nu ti, masləka** If you like what I say, and if you love me, let's go.
- waz** [wāz] *mod.* medium. **azay akur waz a ahar vu** he takes a medium-sized stone in his hand **akur wazani** a medium-sized stone *See:* **dac.**
- wazakay** [áwàzàkāj] *v.* turn over; separate. **awazakay eyew a kuzir bu** he looks for the grasshopper in the grass **awazakay kocopo** he searches in the roofing straw *See:* **wuraday.**
- waza-waza** [wázāwázā] *n.* blight that attacks millet stalks.
- waziri** [wàzírì] *n.* deputy. *From:* Mandara.
- wazlay** [áwàḡāj] *v.* grow larger. **andra awazlay** the peanuts are growing
- wazlayani** [wāḡájàni] *mod.* new, never used [calabash]. **hijid wazlayani** a new calabash
- weleher** [wèlèxér] *nepd.* finger. *See:* **ahar.**
- welesek** [wèlèʃék] *nepd.* toe. *See:* **asak.**
- weley** [wèlèj] *pro intr.* which, whatever. **kəḡəḡ jiba ge eli weley kani ni weley?** what kind of sauce have you got

- hold of today? **zama ni zlam ge gili weley ènjia ni, ba nu mähuriyu makadvu ata naḡ huya** soon whatever kind of wild animal arrived, she wanted to fight with it
- wenjek-wenjek** [wéndʒèkwéndʒèk] *n.* pinworm.
- wereked** [wérèkéd] *id.* separating. **ndam akal ticia zlahay a ti, tedevu wereked** when the thieves heard the shout, they scattered
- werera** [wèrèrā] *mod.* full. **yam werera a wurzla bu** the jar is full of water **yam werer werer a wurzla bu** the jars are full of water
- wezlewezla** [wèʒèwèʒè] *n.* wrist.
- wəh** [áwəx] *v.* thread (beads). **awəh ebirsli** he threads the beads
- wəl** [áwél] *v.* tie, reply. **məwəlani** tied **awəl awak** he ties the goat **wur awəli ana bəḡani** the child replies to his father **aməd awəl dik** the wind drops **kuwəlumku ma kwa enekwiḡ ahalay ti ka mam?** why did you tell lies about me just now?
- wələk** [wələk] *id.* appearing. **tàra tàhəraya e mite va ahkay ti wələk ti...** as soon as they went out into the yard...
- wər** [áwər] *v.* hurt. **məwərani** evil, hurtful **ambələk awər** the wound hurts **asak awər nu** my foot hurts **naḡ awərvu do** it's easy **ewreri** red velvet mite
- wəs** [áwəs] *v.* to scrape the surface, cultivate, shave. **awəs vədaḡ** he cultivates the field **awəs ahar** he shaves his head **awəs ambəl** he tans the skin
- wəzlaray** [áwəʒàrāj] *v.* spread out the ends of something. **awuzlaray fifiḡ** he spreads the stems *See: wuraday.*
- wi** [éwí] *v.* give birth to, bear, produce. **ba ewi bilegeni ewi bəza** she just keeps producing children **huđ ewiki ka mis** someone's belly is swelling
- wikiya** [wìkijá] *nepd.* puppy.
- wiliḡ** [wìlḡ] *n.* threshing floor.
- wir** [wìr] *id.* untying. **epiceh awak wir** he unties the goat
- wir-wir**₁ [wìrwìr] *n.* deceptiveness. **wir-wir ga zal hini asabay** this man is very deceptive
- wir-wir**₂ [wìrwìr] *mod.* very hot. *See: bak-bak, jək-jək.*
- wis**₁ [éwí] *v.* urinate. **ewis kədiḡ** he urinates
- wis**₂ [wì] *mod.* (insult). **wis!** (said on leaving someone to express contempt) **fat wis** about midday
- wisiḡ** [éwʃiḡ] *vcaus.* cause to ferment.
- wisirey** [éwʃirèj] *v.* simmer; trouble, spin (of head). **ahər ewisirey** (my) head is spinning
- wiyah** [wijax] *n.* gesture of sympathy. **agray wiyah ka mələḡ ga tuway** he offers his sympathies at the place of the funeral **wiyah, ndam goro, wiyah** my sympathies, my folk!
- wiyaḡ** [wìjāḡ] *n-mass.* sand. **wiyaḡ abu kay** there is a lot of sand
- wiya-wiya** [wìjāwìjā] *id.* having fun. **nahkay wiya-wiya tagray sewiya ga tay** they are having fun
- wiyed** [éwíjéd] *v.* de-husk. **ewiyed andra** he peels the peanuts
- wizi** [wìzì] *n.* gift of food. **nakwo ke wizi** I am going to ask for food
- wizik-wizik** [wìzìkwìzìk] *mod.* very dirty.
- wu** [wú] *id.* falling. **fərut àhəliaba ahar a guvur wu dəbum àda ka hađ a** he took his hand off the granary and it fell to the ground
- wudəra** [wúdərá] *n.* need. **nakoro ka wudəra** I'm going to see to my need (with the fetishist) *From: Mandara.*
- wudak** [wúđak] *mod.* almost, scarcely. **ènjia wudak** he has almost arrived **nàra nəhuriyu wudak a ti** before I arrived **wudaka ti eyeḡ àdiyu a ahay vu...** scarcely had the squirrel gone into the house...
- wudəy** [áwúđāj] *v.* increase. **awak gayəḡ awudəy** his goat produces more
- wudəh** [wúđəx] *n.* weevil, insect that damages millet in the granary.
- wuh** [wùxā] *id.* pouring. **bəza tambatoro yam ka hađ wuh wuh** the children pour water on the ground **tambatoro yam ka hađ wuha** they pour water on the ground continually
- wulak** [wùlāk] *id.* looking. **eheliḡ eri wulak wulak** he glances *See: da.*
- wuluf** [wùlùf] *n.* blindness.
- wulvuv** [wùlvùv] *n.* bamboo.
- wul-wul** [wùlwùl] *id.* coming.
- wuməri** [wúmri] *n.* feast. *From: Mandara.*

wur [wùr] *n.* child, offspring, fruit.
bəza *npl.* children.
wura [wùrá] *n.* term used to address someone whose name is not known.
wuradáy [áwùràdáj] *v.* make a path by pushing aside, remove that which is in the way. **awuradáy mis** he mingles with the crowd **awuradáy heri** he makes his way through the forest **awuradaki ngesis a...** he removes the ash on... *See: wəzlaray, wazakay.*
wurum [wùrúm] *n.* daughter's child.
wurzla [wùrʒà] *n.* large jar. **wurzla ga dədum** large storage jar **wurzla aku** smaller jar for preparing wine *See: yih.*
wus [wùs] *n.* thigh. **kwah akwahafəŋ wus gana bəlaŋ** he tore off a leg from (the cow) **zal wus** brother who gets a thigh from the sacrifice **wus ga hay** branch of a millet head
wusay [áwùsáj] *v.* ferment (intrans.).
wuse [ùsē] *intj.* good-day. **wuse hadagər, sa anastək** "Greetings, buck." "Greetings to you" *From: Mandara.*

wusl [áwùʃ] *v.* be forbidden, bringing a curse. **pakama hini ara awusl** this subject will be forbidden **zlam hini tinjifəŋ du əwusl** they don't touch this, it is forbidden **akur hini əwùslī ana mis** this stone is unlucky **wusli ana naŋ** put a curse him!
wut-wut [wùt-wùt] *mod.* nice and fat. *See: təkəzl-təkəzl.*
wuzlum [wùʒùm] *npr.* Ouldeme.
wuli [éwýlí] *v.* become oily. **andra ewuli** the peanuts get oily
wurđid [wùrđid] *id.* unrolling, coming loose. **asus epelvu wurđid** the hedgehog unrolls itself
wuri [wùrri] *n.* potash, condiment made from the filtered ashes of goat dung.
wusij [éwýʃij] *vcaus.* cause to ferment, trouble. **zal malfada ewusij mis** the liar troubles folk

Y - y

ya [já] *REL.* who, which. **mis ja azləb hay ni** the one who is beating the millet **zal ja alay ni** the man (we saw) last year
yaga [jágà] *n.* name given by a woman to the wife of her brother, or to the sister of her husband.
yakubay [ájàk^wùbáj] *v.* move the mouth without eating.
yam [jàm] *n-mass.* water, colour, interest. **jam abu kay** there is a lot of water **apel duwa ana yam** he repays the debt with interest **nuvuk yam** I trick you, I set a trap for you
yamatəkwa [jàmātk^wá] *n.* stalk of gombo (plant). *See: atəkwa.*
yəŋ-yəŋ [jāŋjāŋ] *mod.* very pointed, and rather thick.
yəŋ-yəŋ [jēŋjēŋ] *dimin.* very pointed.
yaw [jàw] *cnj.* OK. *From: Fulfulde.*
yebakay [ájbàkāj] *v.* stalk. **ayebakay məvayam** he stalks the hare
yebak yebak [jèbàkjèbàk] *id.* stalking.
yibek yibek *dimin.* stalk, taking small steps. *See: suk.*
yekad [jèkād] *mod.* in private. **wal medewel ni ahəraya azalay naŋ yekad** the old woman called him to speak to her in private
yey [èjēj] *v.* laugh.
yeyki *vcpd.* succeed with. **neyeyki ka haf goro ye ti nisi ni** the medicine that I drank worked
yih [jix] *n.* large pot. **wur azaya dəf e yih ba** the child takes the couscous out of the jar *See: wurzla.*
yucey [éjýʃjēj] *v.* reduce, make smaller. **eyucey mahay ga guvur** he makes the entry to the granary smaller

Z - z

- za** [zā] *cnj.* would that. **a za n̄ziyu kur a divi vu bilegeni do ti ah̄mam?** I'd like to go with you on the road as well. *See: nḡə.*
- zagapam** [zàgàpàm] *mod.* sticking out, and rather thick. *See: zegepiŋ.*
- zagodo** [zàgʷədū] *mod.* intensification of the idea of attractiveness. **end̄wi hi ni ab̄alay zagodo** this shirt is very pretty
- zagum** [zāgùm] *n.* petal. **ahur M̄faki abu ab̄eki slakum** the beans started to flower
- zaka** [zákà] *n.* gift, tithe. *From: Fulfulde* 'zakka'.
- zakotar** [zákʷótàr] *n.* leech.
- zakw** [zàkʷ] *mod.* deliberately. **aha wur ga mmawa goro, ke eweni ti nagray zakw aw?** Oh my brother, have I usually done it deliberately?
- zakwarkwar** [zàkʷàrkʷàr] *n.* wild melon.
- zal** [zàl] *n.* man, husband, male. **zalani** male
- zawal** [zāwāl] *npl.* men, husbands.
- zalaka** [zàlàkà] *n.* mayo (watercourse).
- zalay** [ázàláj] *v.* call, invite. **azalakabu mis** he summons the people
- zama** [zāmā] *cnj.* a moment. **zama ti makombro nak̄əŋ ènjia** a bit later the monitor arrived
- zamama** [zāmāmā] *n.* an instant of time. **zamama kwa day ti akara** you will come in an instant *See: ruma.*
- zamani** [zāmānī] *n.* time. **zamani hini ti kad̄vu abi vabi** in our time there is no more war
- zat** [zàt] *mod.* full, fully. **hay tasa zat** a bowl full of millet **laf aday h̄ya b̄etal b̄etal zat àzl̄əbaba** he snatched the stick and thrashed him
- zet** *dimin.* full and small. *See: zet.*
- zav̄əla** [zāv̄əlà] *n.* sesame. *Sesamum indicum.*
- zay** [ázàj] *v.* take, carry. **azay mick̄ər gayəŋ** he takes his chicken **azay hijid̄ gayəŋ** he takes his chicken **azi eri ana mis** it pleases people **azaf̄əŋ ahar a ka pakama** he doesn't think about this matter any more **azəgad̄ mis** he pushes people over **az̄eki ah̄ar ka pakama** he doesn't consider this matter any more
- azəkiba azana ka ndahaŋ a** he chooses one pagne from among others **mazavu gani** for example
- zoro** *vcpd.* accompany. **azoro tay e divi vu** he accompanies them on the road
- zeftey** [ézèftēj] *v.* lift up. **ezeft̄ey t̄əndal** he lifts up the log
- zegepiŋ** [zègèp̄iŋ] *moddim.* sticking out. **meleher zegepiŋpiŋa** a prominent forehead *See: zagapam.*
- zeleh-zeleh** [zèl̄ɛx̄zèl̄ɛx̄] *mod.* striped vertically. *See: nḡuledede.*
- zeŋ-zeŋ** [zèŋzèŋ] *n.* mouse (sp.).
- zeŋgerey** [ézèŋgèr̄ej] *v.* pile up. **tizeŋgerey wiyaŋ e mite bu** they pile up sand in the yard
- zeŋger** [zèŋgèr̄] *id.* full, piled. **mind̄wid̄ cu-cu lef lef lef lef zav̄əla zeŋger, had̄ zeŋger** the ants thoroughly separated the sesame and the soil into piles **hay zeŋger a tasa vu** the bowl is full of millet
- zet** [zēt] *id.* stretched. **àndudaba asak a zet** he has stretched out his leg
- zeteta** [zètèt̄ə] *mod.* with legs stretched out. **wal manj̄əhadani zeteta** a woman with her legs stretched out *See: zat.*
- zeveriŋ** [ézèv̄er̄iŋ] *vcaus.* wish evil. **ezeveriŋ mis** he wants people to die **ezeveriŋ kisim** he wishes well to a dead person (playing joyful music at a burial) *See: zi.*
- zezi** [zèz̄i] *n.* timber crosspiece.
- zəbal** [zəbàl] *mod.* long. **m̄əŋgəhaf ad̄ək zəbal** the tree gets tall **aday zəbalani** a long stick
- zəbay** [ázbàj] *v.* smoke (intrans.), make smoke. **azək azəbay** smoke rises **aku azəbay azək** the fire is smoking **azəbi azək ana slasla** he smokes the flies off the cattle **azəbay haf** he breaths in the medicinal smoke *See: d̄izi.*
- zəbər** [zəbər̄] *n.* fertile field. **bay ya amal asay ḡuzit n̄əŋgu m̄əmbavu zəbər** even the person who takes a little, let him be fertile
- zəbər̄ra** [zəbər̄r̄ā] *mod.* (speak) gently. **ahi ma ana bay zəbər̄ra** he speaks respectfully to the chief
- zəbət** [zəbət̄] *mod.* carefully. **nagray t̄wi**

zəbət zəbət I am working carefully
məndiyu ahār zəbətə we go down carefully
mis zəbətəni a quiet person
adəm ana zəbətəni he speaks quietly
zəbətə gayəŋ ni aḅəlay his quietness is a good thing

zəgɑd [ázgɑd] *v.* push over, cut down. **zəgɑda bři** let me knock him over!

zələk [ázələk] *v.* grow thinner. **məzəlkanı** thin

zərdəy [ázərdəj] *v.* speak angrily of another to oneself. **azərdi ma ana mis** he moans about people **azərdaluk ma** he is moaning about you

zəva [zəvɑ] *n.* fishing net.

zəyzi [zəjzi] *mod.* without salt. **edi eli zəyzi** he cooks a sauce without salt

zi [ézı] *v.* rot, stink, give off a smell (good or bad). **mizenı** rotten, stinking **kəra eziyu aslu** the dog smells the meat (and looks for it) **kilif ezifiŋ ka kəra** the dog smells the fish/ smells of fish **mizikiba ka sla leli cəwenı** we both lost the chance of getting some meat

zibi [ézıbi] *v.* give dowry for (a woman), give by stages. **ezibi wal** he is paying a dowry for a wife **armuwur ezibi mis** the illness progresses in people slowly

zib-zib [zıbzıb] *mod.* heavy.

zidey [ézıdēj] *v.* cut, carve. **ezidey elifi ge mindigir** he shapes the handle of his hoe **kisim mezidəni** a dream
zideki vcpd. appear in a dream to. **kisim ezideki ka wur** the son is dreaming **mavay ezideki kisim ka wur** the son is dreaming of a leopard

zik-zik [zıkzık] *n.* abandoned termite mound.

zileŋ₁ [zılēŋ] *mod.* deep, hollow.

zileŋ₂ [zılēŋ] *mod.* pointed.

zilim [zılım] *n.* stork.

ziliŋa [zılıŋɑ] *mod.* impatiently. **naŋ abu ziliŋ ziliŋa nahəma...** the hyena was waiting impatiently...

zimidəy [ézımidēj] *v.* finish, disappear. **ezimidəy ahay** he finishes off the house **ezimidiyu a kəsa vu** he disappears into the houses

zimbel [zımbəl] *n.* threshing stick.

ziŋ [ézıŋ] *vcaus.* cause to rot. **armuwur eziŋaba awak a nec** the illness has killed off all the goats *See: zi.*

ziŋ-ziŋ₁ [zıŋzıŋ] *n.* beak. **ani ziŋ-ziŋ caŋ a**

ahār vu he pecked him on the head

ziŋ-ziŋ₂ [zıŋzıŋ] *mod.* dark. **mələvad** **ziŋ-ziŋ** the night is dark **mələŋ hini ziŋa** this place is somewhat dark

zirey [ézırej] *v.* be jealous of.

ziriha [zırıxə] *mod.* loosely piled. *See: jevrehima.*

zirliŋ [zırliŋ] *n.* spine (of leaf).

zirwi [zırwè] *n.* ostrich.

zirwi [zırwı] *n.* shame, respect, benefit. *From: Mandara.*

ziya [zıjɑ] *mod.* long. **ahuk : ziya ma gayakani** he said that you have a long mouth

zizelek [zızelek] *n.* swing. **bəza tagray zizelek** the children play at swinging

zizu [ézızu] *v.* smell.

zogonuk [zəgönük^w] *ad.* pensive, lowering. **afəkɑd ahār zogonuk** he lowers his head **mək naŋ nakəŋ ənjəhadə zlam gayəŋ zla zogonuknukwa** then she sat down alone and thought

zegənik *dimin.* pensive, low and small.

zotalah [zötələx] *n.* under the bed. **kəra andəhad a zotalah bu** the dog lies down under the bed *See: slalah.*

zotot [zötöt] *mod.* (insult), long (-mouthed).

zu [zù] *n.* kind of large mongoose.

zugudum [zúgüdüm] *mod.* nod to signify acceptance or negative surprise. **Tehı ana wur : Kaway makala waw? Adaday ahār zugudum.** They say to the child “Do you want a doughnut?” He nods. *See: bada-bada.*

zuh [zùx] *n.* hip.

zuk [zük^w] *mod.* for a moment. **nuhuriyu zuk a gosko vu** I’m going to the market for a moment *See: jakw.*

zulo [zülö] *n.* thorn tree (sp.).

zum₁ [ázüm] *v.* eat something soft (e.g. couscous). **azum daf** he eats boule **ahur azum** the beans are being eaten up by pests **azum bay** he takes over the chieftdom

zum₂ [züm] *n.* wine. **zum əkadə** he is drunk

zuŋ-zuŋ [zünzün] *n.* long calabash used for holding seeds during sowing.

zundul [zündül] *mod.* oval. **hıjıd əwia zundul** the calabash has produced an oval fruit **akur hini zundul ahkay** this stone

is oval **akur zundula** an entirely oval stone **akur aki ka ahay zundula** there is an entirely oval stone on top of the house **avi akur zundulani ana mis** he gives an entirely oval stone to people **hijid zundulndul** the calabash is oval

zudey [ézɔ̀dɛj] *vd.* see little. **eri ezudi ana mis** the person does not see clearly *See: zawid-zawid.*

zuhweri [ʒɔ̀xwɛ́rɪ] *n.* shade, shadow.

zuhwi [ʒɔ̀hʷɪ] *n.* buttocks. **zakaka elifij zuhwi ka akur a** the mayo digs up the stones

zuri [ʒɔ̀rɪ] *mod.*

zuria [ʒɔ̀rɪjā] *mod.* long and swinging.

zawid [ʒɔ̀wɪdʒɔ̀wɪd] *id.* not seeing each other much. **nipi mis zawid** I glimpse the people **eri zawid-zawid do** long time no see *See: zudey.*

zu-zu [ʒɔ̀zɔ̀] *mod.* dawn. **wal ahəraya məlaŋ zu-zu, akoro ka yam** the woman comes out at dawn to fetch water

Zl - zl

zla [ʒà] *cnj.* then. **àra ɛnjia ti, wəwal nakəŋ zla, təhi...** when she arrived, the women said to her... **àhəraya àdi ahàr ana meni ana aday. àdi ahàr ana aday bəlahə zla.** he found a ... stick. so he found this stick on the ground...

zlabə [ʒàbā] *n.* axe.

zlabu [ʒàbù] *NEG.* signifies that the speaker cannot vouch for the veracity of what he recounts. **ay nəsar zlabu bəza goro** I don't rightly know, my children **kwa mədum mam ti, nu nara zlabə** whatever they say, I wasn't there

zlacay [áʒàtsāj] *v.* shout. **azlacaki ka bəza** he tells off the children

zlada [ʒàdā] *n.* hardship. *From: Mandara.*

zlah₁ [áʒàx] *v.* shout, cry out. **azlah** he shouts **zlahay** [ʒàhāj] *n.* crying out. **zlahay ahəndabiyu a kəsa bu** cries can be heard in the vicinity

zlah₂ [ʒàx] *mod.* scarcely. **bi kara kəzləb zlah bi muko bi zlam** you'll only thresh about six, or five. *See: pəlok-pəlok.*

zлакay [áʒàkāj] *v.* help. **azлакay mis** he helps people **azлакafəŋ mis ka vedəŋ məwəsani** he helps folk till their fields **azлакafəŋ(iyu) nu ka vedəŋ məwəsani** he helps me till my field

zlal [áʒàl] *v.* strike. **goragora azlal mis** the ram butts people

zlam₁ [ʒām] *n.* things in general. **zlaŋa?** (**zlam gayəŋ aw?**) true or not?

zlam cakala [ʒàmtsàkàlā] *nepd.* door made of stalks.

zlam₂ [áʒàm] *v.* have results for. **haf azlam**

mis the medicine makes people better **haf gayəŋ ni əzlam nu a** his medicine worked for me

zlamvu *vcpd.* escape. **nazlamivu ana awas!** I avoid the spear **azlamvu** he escapes

zlam₃ [ʒàm] *mod.* five. **ahar gayəŋ zlam zlam** with empty hands

zlaŋgaca [ʒàŋgàtsà] *n.* tobacco basket. **asəkum tapa zlaŋgaca cə** he buys two baskets of tobacco

zlapay [áʒàpāj] *v.* speak. **zlapum e kidifj gekəli bu** settle it between yourselves!

zlapay [ʒàpāj] *n.* word, speech.

zlav [áʒàv] *v.* empty (water), knock down (fruit). **azlav bilvi** he knocks down the berries **azlavki yam a** he empties out the water

zlawar [ʒāwār] *n.* of animals (rarely of humans): the state of being too disturbed to behave normally. **awak egi zlawar** the goat is panicking **wur avi zlawar ana awak** the child panics the goat

zlayay [áʒàjāj] *v.* like, of a person's attitude to the actions of others. **kəro afa gani ndo ti, nəzlay do** if you don't go to him, I won't like it.

zlazləwəf [ʒàʒəwəf] *id.* walking with huge steps.

zledey [éʒèdɛj] *v.* shave the edges of the hair to give a level border. **wal ezledey ahàr** the woman levels off the edges of her hair

zledif [ʒèdɪf] *mod.* big. **zledifid takadvu** huge, they fought each other

zledik [ʒèdɪk] *n.* pass, valley, gap.

zlelaw [ʒələw] *mod.* horizontal. **afəkad biyem zlelaw** he puts the wood horizontally **biyem zlelaw** the wood is horizontal

zlemjegur [ʒɛmdʒɛg^wɣr] *n.* small pierced pot for filtering potasse. *See:* **tokdombur**.

zlembi [ʒɛmbi] *n.* pocket. *From:* Mandara.

zleṅgili [ʒɛŋgɪli] *n.* any illness that produces paralysis or deformation, such as poliomyelitis: sacrifice for inflicting or curing such an illness. **zleṅgili àgəs naṅ a** he has polio

zley [ʒɛj] *id.* cutting. **akaba ahàr gani ekelkia zley zley** she cut the head right off

zle-zle [ʒɛʒɛ] *id.* creeping. **do ni naṅ aguduṅ zle-zle do abi** otherwise that doesn't creep much

zleba [ʒəbà] *n.* friend, friendship. **zleba goro** my friend **ègia zleba ga tay àṅgoro ka ma** so their friendship carried on

zlebac [áʒəbàts] *v.* shake off the dirt from something. **azlebac azagat** he shakes the bean leaves

zlebay [áʒəbāj] *v.* praise, honour.

zleḅ [áʒəḅ] *v.* pound, beat. **azleḅ hay** he threshes the millet

zleḅər [áʒəḅər] *v.* stutter. **azleḅər ma** he stutters **pakama azleḅəri ana mis** people stutter *See:* **laḅ**.

zleḅ [ʒəts] *id.* putting. **wus ga awak aki zleḅ zleḅ** with haunches of goat-meat on top

zleḅəc [áʒəḅəts] *v.* frighten. **zlahay azleḅəc mis** the cry scares people

zleḅ [áʒəḅ] *v.* open. **azleḅ ahay** he opens the house

zlekkaba *vcpd.* open. **azlekkaba ahay a** he opens up the house

zlekvu *vcpd.* close from the outside. **azlekvu ahay** he closes the house **ahàr məzlekvabana** he has had some education

zlekvaya *vcpd.* close from the inside.

zlekkiya *vcpd.* open a horizontal lid. **azlekkiya hindir ga mota** he opens the bonnet of the car

zlekkiyu *vcpd.* close a horizontal lid. **azlekkiyu hindir ga mota** he closes the bonnet

zlel [áʒəl] *v.* steal from. **azlel mis** he steals from folk

zlelək-zlelək₁ [ʒələkʒələk] *n.* collarbone.

zlelək-zlelək₂ [ʒələkʒələk] *mod.* scattered on the ground in all directions. **aməf àgra, hay zlelək-zlelək a vəday bu** it has been windy; the millet is flattened all over the field *See:* **mbələk-mbələk**.

zlema [ʒəmá] *n.* Friday, the market at Meme that his held on Friday. *From:* ?

zlembuc [ʒəmbüc] *id.* falling. **afəkad fifiṅ zlembuc** he lets the millet stalks fall

zlerəc [ʒərəts] *mod.* sideways. **aməf avi adak a gugum vu zlerəc** the wind strikes him in the side with a pile of thorns **wur andəhad zlerəca** the child lies down (across something)

zlerət [ʒərət] *id.* putting down. **aki aslu ni katay zlerət zlerət** she loaded them up with meat

zlerəv [áʒərəv] *v.* appear, go through, pierce. **adak azlerəv a asak bu** the thorn goes through his foot **mota azlerəvaya** the car appears

zlerganjaknjak [ʒərgəndzəkndzək] *id.* soaked. **avər àzleḅ naṅ a zlerganjaknjak a** he was soaked by the rain

zlerway [áʒərwāj] *v.* snore.

zlezlada [ʒəʒəda] *mod.* difficult. **magray təwi hini zlezlada** it is hard to do this work *See:* **zlada**.

zli [éʒi] *v.* save. **Yezu èzlia lela** Jesus has saved us **mis tèzlia awaka a suwa ba** they saved the goat from the well

zligi [éʒigì] *v.* sow, throw, kill. **ezgligi hay** he sows millet **ezgligi mis ana akur** he stones people

zliṅ [ʒiṅ] *mod.* a significant look. **tədi eri zliṅ** they looked at him askance **eri zliṅa zliṅa aləṅ ana azongo ni huya** looking back at the donkeys

zliṅ-zliṅ [ʒiṅʒiṅ] *n.* valley, passage. **zliṅ-zliṅ ga hindir** bridge of nose

zliṛ [ʒiṛ] *mod.* a lot (of fluids). **wal acəhabiyu yam zliṛ** the woman brings a lot of water

zliṛi [əʒiṛi] *v.* begin. **aver ezliṛi** it is starting to rain **mis ezliṛi ana təwi** someone starts working **yam ezliṛi ana məṅgəzani** the water starts to flow

zliv-zliv [ʒivʒiv] *id.* cloudy. **ahəraya pilis ni piyit adiki ana huwa zla, argudu zliv-zliv** so the horse started to gallop, and

zluray

clouds of dust rose up.

zluray [áʎòràj] *v.* carve a gully. **yam azluray mələŋ** the water is carving its own course

zlur-zlur [ʎòrʎòr] *n.* gully, erosion, cliff.

zluruc [ʎòrùts] *id.* passing. **àra àsafəŋ divi ga tay ndahaŋ na zluruc** he pushed violently in front of them

zluv-zluv [ʎóvʎòv] *n.* swimming. **agray**

złudɛy

zluv-zluv he swims

złudɛy [éʎyɔɔɛj] *v.* be seen unclearly. **zal matak ezłudɛ eri ana mis** the sorcerer cannot be seen clearly **eri ezłudɛ ana wur** the child does not see clearly *See: zudɛy.*

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