





THE AUSTROASIATIC FAMILY
 Diffloth 2013

BAHNAR EXPRESSIVES.

Paradigmatic Morphology:

VOWEL GRADES

/ɔ:/, /ɔ̃/ "small" vs. /o:/, /õ/ "big" vs. /u:/, /ü/ "huge, scary"

1. /gəɔ:ŋ-(gəla:ŋ)/ description of small messy heaps.
2. /gəɔ̃:ŋ-(gəla:ŋ)/ description of big messy heaps.
3. /gəu:ŋ-(gəla:ŋ)/ description of huge, confused heaps, inspiring horror.
4. /gɔ:n-təgɔ:n/ descr. of a small man bending under a heavy load.
5. /gɔ:n-təgɔ̃:n/ descr. of a large man -id.-
6. /gu:n-təgu:n/ descr. of a great, impressive-looking man -id.-
7. /ŋɔ̃p/ of a small object suddenly disappearing (in the water, in the bush).
8. /ŋõp/ of a large object -id.-
9. /ŋüp/ of a large, scary object -id.- (in the water, in the bush, in the fog).

/ɛ:/, /ẽ/ "small" vs. /e:/ "big" vs. /i:/, /ĩ/ "huge"

10. /cəɛ:l/ of a small luminous point, distant light, small colourful object.
11. /cəe:l/ of a large illumination, big colourful object.
12. /cəri:l/ of a large illumination.
13. /ŋɛ:l-təŋɛ:l/ of a small point of light, a person brightly dressed
14. /ŋe:l-təŋe:l/ of a big point of light, an important person brightly dressed.
15. /dẽr-tədẽr/ of a small bird gliding.
16. /dĩr-tədĩr/ of a large bird gliding.

(rare) /i:/ "small" vs. /u:/ "big"

17. /gəgi:k-gəga:k/ of small rivulets of water streaming. (= /gəgrɔ:ŋ-gəgra:k/)
18. /gəgu:k-gəga:k/ of large streams of water flowing abundantly. (= /gəgrɔ:ŋ-gəgra:k/)

Concatenative Morphology

MASS PLURAL:

The Base is copied and post-posed

The Quality of the Main Vowel of the Copy is replaced by an invariable /-a-/.

The Vowel-length of the Copy agrees with that of the Base.

19. Base: /*(bə)blük*/ Plural: /*bəblük-bəbläk*/ of bubbling liquid overflowing.
20. Base: /*kəlŭŋ*/ Plural: /*kəlŭŋ-kəlǎŋ*/ of fog and smokes.
21. Base: /*kəlu:ŋ*/ Plural: /*kəlu:ŋ-kəla:ŋ*/ of big piles, confused heaps.
22. Base: /*blə:c*/ Plural: /*blə:c-bla:c*/ of a vast panorama of land and water.
23. Base: /*kəle:w*/ Plural: /*kəle:w-kəla:w*/ of opening eyes big.

COUNTABLE PLURAL:

The Base is copied and post-posed.

The rime of the Copy is replaced by an invariable /-ǎp/

24. Base: /*təböŋ*/ Plural: /*təböŋ-təbǎp*/ of several lovely girls.
25. Base: /*təplo:n*/ Plural: /*təplo:n-təplǎp*/ of several pot-bellied people.
26. Base: /*məme:n*/ Plural: /*məme:n-məmǎp*/ of several people climbing a big tree.
27. Base: /*kəle:w*/ Plural: /*kəle:w-kəlǎp*/ of several big people opening eyes big.

DUAL:

The Base is copied and pre-posed.

The rime of the Copy is replaced by an invariable /-ǎk/

28. Base: /*təböŋ*/ Dual: /*təbǎk-təböŋ*/ of two lovely girls.
29. Base: /*təplo:n*/ Dual: /*təplǎk-təplo:n*/ of two pot-bellied people.
30. Base: /*məme:n*/ Dual: /*məmǎk-məme:n*/ of two people climbing a big tree.
31. Base: /*kəle:w*/ Dual: /*kəlǎk-kəle:w*/ of two big people opening eyes big.