

Areal diffusion in the Chadic-Kanuri contact zone

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Contact linguistics in the Lake Chad region

- **Focus on the linguistic impact of Kanuri on neighbouring languages, e.g.:**
 - on **Chadic languages** such as Bade, Buduma, Malgwa, Ngizim, and on **Shuwa Arabic** and on **Adamawa Fulfulde** (e.g. Awagana 2001; Cyffer 2006; Löhr 1998; Mohammadou 1997; Owens 1998; Schuh 2003, 2011; Ziegelmeyer 2009a, 2009c, 2010, 2014).
- **Kanuri imprint on neighbouring languages is without controversy**
- Becomes **manifest** especially **in the lexicons**, e.g. borrowing of **content words**, and **function words**, and to a lesser degree in the transfer of **derivational morphology**

Contact linguistics in the Lake Chad region

- **Against an exclusively unidirectional line of “Kanuricisation” of Chadic languages**
- **Kanuri itself owes a fair degree of its typological structures to interference with Chadic languages**
- Recognized e.g. by Cyffer (1998): the **Kanuri TAM system departs from a much less elaborate system** still found in Teda-Daza and Beria
- Also recognized by Wolff & Löhr (2005): **changes in the Kanuri TAM system, especially with respect to coding information structure, result from interference by Chadic substratum languages**

Kanuri and its neighbours

- **Historically rather recent invasion of Kanuri speakers** into Lake Chad region
- **Kanuri speakers have been in contact with speakers of Chadic languages**, at the least **since the expansion of the Kanem-Borno empire** into regions west of Lake Chad
- Before its advent in the Lake Chad region **Kanuri** probably was **part of a different linguistic alliance in the East**
- Heine's (1976) typology of African languages points out a **convergence zone of Nilosaharan and Afroasiatic languages** in north-eastern Africa

Kanuri and its neighbours

- By the same token Amha & Dimmendaal (2006) discuss **typological convergence** between **Nilosaharan languages** (Saharan and Nubian) and **Afroasiatic languages** of Ethiopia (Omotic, Cushitic and Semitic)
- As shared typological properties they propose:
 - **converbs**
 - **verb-final syntax**
 - **extensive case marking**
- Today Saharan and Nubian languages **exhibiting this set of typological features do not form a contiguous geographic zone**, however, there is some **paleo-climatic evidence pointing to an ancient contact zone** in north-eastern Africa

Contact in the Lake Chad region

- We can show that **Kanuri and Chadic languages have been in mutual contact**, e.g. Schuh (2003) argues, that **Chadic loanwords** entered Kanuri particularly **in the domains of native flora and fauna**
- On the other hand, there has been strong **impact of Kanuri on the lexicons of several neighbouring languages**, e.g. Bade, Buduma, Malgwa, Ngizim (cf. Schuh 2003, Ziegelmeyer 2009c)
- The phonetic realization **of Kanuri loanwords** in neighbouring languages **suggests that its influence has been particularly strong during the expansion of Kanem-Borno Empire**

Language contact in the Lake Chad region

- Proposed **periods of influence** and **directions of transfer** in the wider Lake Chad region (Ziegelmeyer 2009c):

Chadic	→	Kanuri	early history
Kanuri	→	Chadic	16 th to 19 th century
Kanuri	→	Adamawa Fulfulde	16 th to 19 th century
Fulfulde	→	Chadic (in Adamawa)	19 th and 20 th cent.
Hausa	→	Fulfulde, Kanuri, Chadic	present

Contact-induced changes in the Lake Chad region

- The **results of mutual language contact** in the wider Lake Chad region are evident in **different linguistic domains**, e.g.:
 1. **Borrowing of content words** (cf. Schuh 2003)
 2. **Extensive borrowing of function words**, e.g. coordinators, subordinators, discourse markers (cf. Schuh 2011, Ziegelmeyer 2009a, 2009c, 2009d)
 3. **Transfer of derivational morphology**, e.g. derivation of agentive nouns in Bade (cf. Ziegelmeyer 2014)
 4. **Semantic calquing**, e.g. semantics of the verbs “eating” and “drinking”
 5. **Diffusion of structural features** (cf. Ziegelmeyer 2009c)

Diffusion of structural features

- **Typological features which are thought to be relevant for establishing the convergence zone** at issue will be discussed
- The **methodology** has been to survey the **presence and absence of a certain candidate feature** esp. in Chadic and Saharan languages
- **Strong evidence for the “Chadicisation” of Kanuri** comes from **features which are shared between Kanuri and Chadic languages, but which are absent in the Saharan languages Teda-Daza and Beria**

Summary of features

Feature		H	Ch	K	Knb	T-D	B
1	ATR harmony	-	R	-	+	+	+
2	Exceed comparatives	+	F	+/-		-	-
3	TAM coding information structure	+	R	+	+	-	-
4	Predicative possession: conjunctional	+	F	+		-	-
5	Pluractionals with reduplication	+	F	+		-	-
6	NP conjunction: “with”	+	F	+		-	+/-
7	Vague future	+	R	+		-	-
8	Dichotomy in standard negation	+	F	+		-	-
9	Special prohibitive	+	F	+	-	-	-
10	Non-verbal predication possible	-	F	+		+	-
11	Mixed order of adverbial subordinator	-	R	+	+	-	-
12	Polar question particle	+	F	+		+	-
13	Emphatic reflexives with „head“	+	F	+		-	-

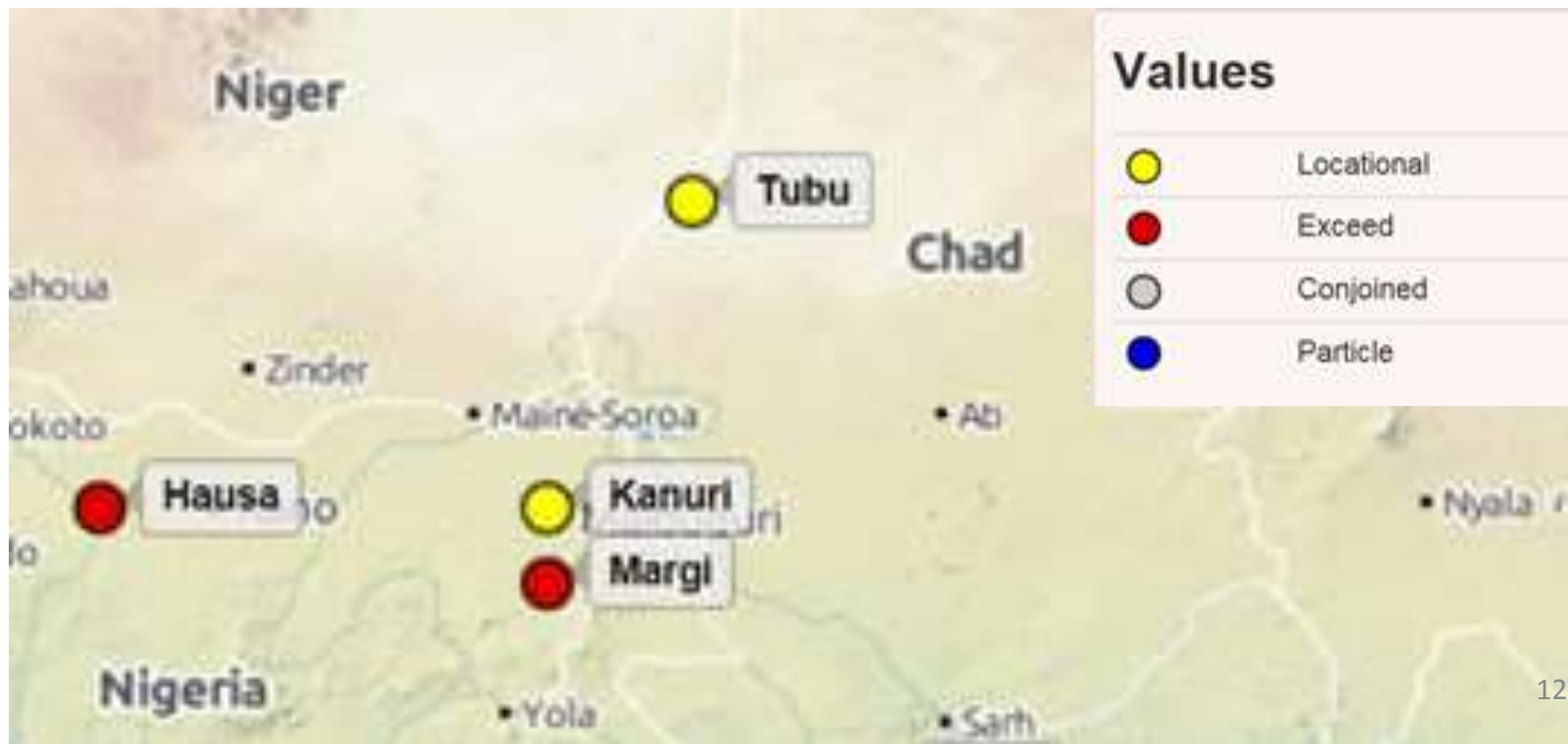
H = Hausa, Ch = Chadic except for Hausa, K = Kanuri, Knb = Kanembu, T-D = Teda-Daza, B = Beria, R = rare, F = frequent

Areal feature 1: Lack of ATR vowel harmony

- According to Jakobi & Crass (2004) **ATR vowel harmony** plays an important role in the morphophonology in **Beria**
- They further state that: “*Le système vocalique du **teda**, esquissé par Mark Ortman (comm.pers., 30.10.2001), est identique à celui du **beria**.*” Jakobi & Crass (2004: 38).
- **Dazaga exhibits vowel harmony** based on the feature [**ATR**], cf. Walters 2015
- **ATR vowel harmony** is also attested in **Kanembu** varieties, e.g. Kanembu of Ngaldoukou (Jouannet 1982: 74), pers. comm. Bondarev & Löhr
- **Kanuri** is the only Saharan language **without ATR vowel harmony**, therefore, **loss through contact with Chadic languages** is a plausible explanation

Areal feature 2: Exceed comparatives

- Stassen (2013a) identifies two types of comparative constructions in African languages, i.e. **exceed comparatives**, e.g. in Hausa and Margi and **locational comparatives**, e.g. in Kanuri and Teda-Daza. Including Beria **locational comparatives seem to be the typical pattern in all Saharan languages**, where a locative postposition or suffix follows the standard NP.



Locational comparatives

Kanuri

Musà Kanò-rò lejîn Musà Ali-rò kurà wò

Musa Kano-DIR go.3SG.IMPf Musa Ali-DIR big COP

Musa is travelling to Kano (Cyffer 1991: 33)

Musa is bigger than Ali (Cyffer 1991: 86)

Teda-Daza

kasúgu du adé-num nta du addé-yo
market LOC wife-POSS2SG 2SG LOC small-if/when

at the market (Lukas 1953: 158)

when your wife is smaller than you (Lukas 1953: 159)

Dazaga: The dative case enclitic can be used for comparative constructions

âi âi = rù kóré
this this=DAT short

this (is) short(er) than this (Walters 2015: 142)

Beria

bègìdìnĩ bìègí-ré áā-rē jî
tree house-ADV2 mouth-ADV2 COP

there is a tree in front of the house (Jakobi & Crass 2004: 162)

àbéjè ànjàménà-rě mìnna-ī
Abeche N'Djamena-ADV2 very.small-COP

Abeche is smaller than N'Djamena (Jakobi & Crass 2004: 162)

Areal feature 2: Exceed comparatives

Hausa Audù yaa fi Muusaa wàayoo
Audu 3M.PF exceed Musa cleverness
Audu is cleverer than Musa (Jaggar 2001: 474)

Margi nàjà gà mǎíadà dé dzègàm/dzègàm̀kùr
3SG NARR surpass.1sg. with tall/tallness
he is taller than I (Hoffmann 1963: 71)

Miya mà ra-tlá ma(a) aa mban-uw
you.PF exceed-her NEG for beauty-NEG
you are not more beautiful than her (Schuh 1998: 315)

Bade Bàlaa kèda Mammàn ii tâgwda
Bala surpass.PF Mamman in money
Bala is richer than Mamman (field notes 2008)

Areal feature 2: Exceed comparatives

Kanuri

Modù	Fatì	nàmkurà-n	kozə̀nà
Modu	Fati	bigness-LOC	surpass.3SG.PF

Modu is bigger than Fati (Cyffer 1991: 142)

Màidùgùri	Kanò	nə̀mcintə̀-n	kozə̀nà
Maiduguri	Kano	distance-LOC	surpass.3SG.PF

Maiduguri is farther than Kano (Cyffer 1991: 142)

Shuwa Arabic

káano	ba'íid	b-ufúut	jós
Kano	far	it-passes	Jos

Kano is farther than Jos (Owens 1993: 195)

Areal feature 3: T/A for information structure

- **Tense/aspect as coding means for information structure** is known from several West African languages, among them **Hausa, Fulfulde** and many others (cf. Frajzyngier 2004).
- This feature is **not restricted to the Chadic-Kanuri contact zone**
- This **phenomenon** typically **concerns focus constructions**, e.g. in **Hausa** there are **two** morphologically different **paradigms for the *perfective* and the *imperfective***
- In addition to their tense/aspect functions **such multiple systems also carry pragmatic functions**
- **Kanuri** converged insofar as it **operates a similar system in the completive aspect**

T/A as coding means for information structure

Hausa

Audù **yaa** tàfi kàasuwaa neutral

Audu 3m.PF go market

Audu went to the market (Newman 2000: 188)

Audù (nee) **ya** tàfi kàasuwaa focus

Audu (FSEM) 3m.FOC_PF go market

It is Audu who went to the market (Newman 2000: 188)

yanàa baayan bishiyàa neutral

3m.IMPF behind tree

he is behind the tree (Newman 2000: 188)

baayan bishiyàa **yakè** focus

behind tree 3m.FOC_IMPF

it's behind the tree he is (Newman 2000: 188)

T/A as coding means for information structure

Kanuri

Musà Kanòrò **lèwonò** neutral

Musa Kano. DIR go.3SG.PAST

Musa went to Kano (Cyffer 2000: 169)

Musà-ma Kanòrò **lèzô** focus

Musa-FOC Kano.DIR go.3SG.NEP

it was Musa, who went to Kano (Cyffer 2000: 169)

Musà sawànzə **curò** neutral

Musa friend-POSS3SG 3SG.see.PAST

Musa saw his friend (Cyffer 2000: 169)

sawà-nzə-ma-gà Musà-yè **surò** focus

friend-POSS3SG-FOC-DO Musa-AG 3SG.see.NEP

it's his friend who Musa saw (Cyffer 2000: 169)

T/A as coding means for information structure

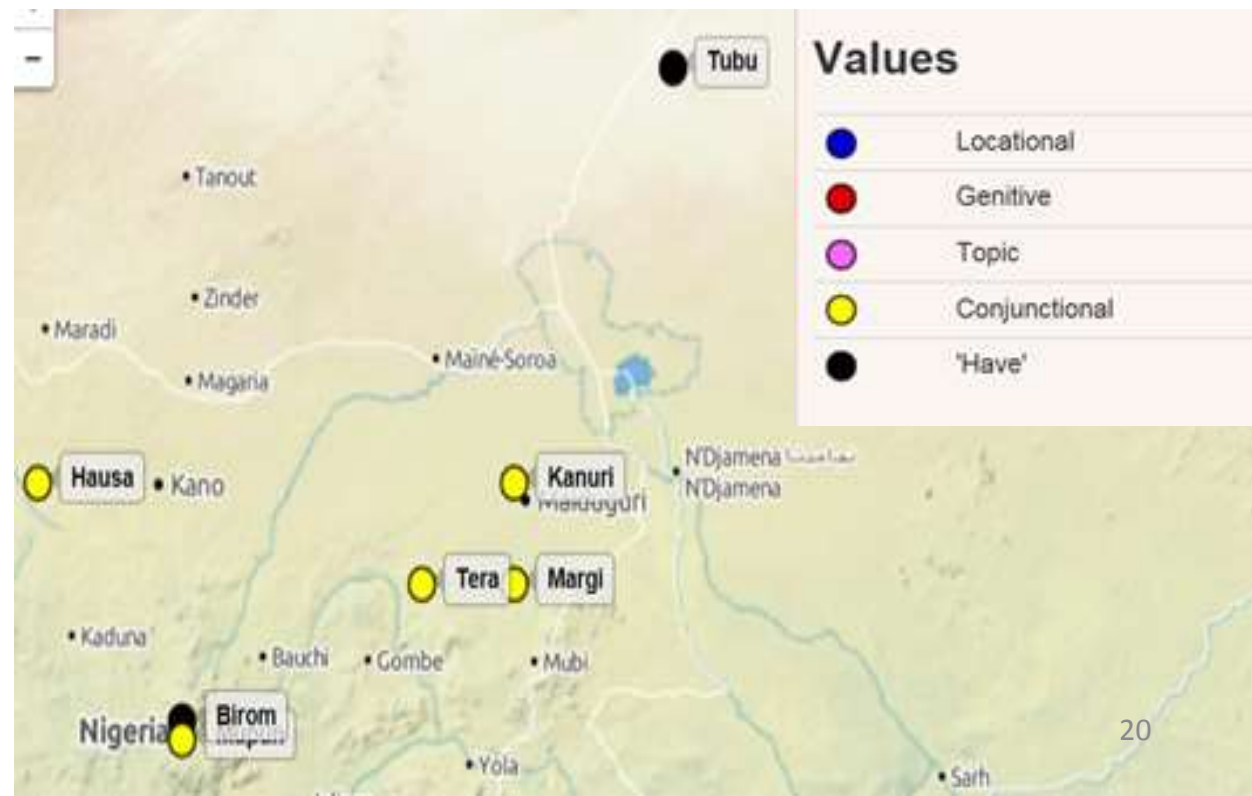
- Note that **neither Beria nor Teda-Daza exhibit a special tense or aspect form which is used with focus constructions**. E.g. in Dazaga focus is indicated by **case markers and/or preverbal position**, (cf. Walters 2015)
- According to Walters (2015: 185): “Other *focus constructions, which do not involve case markers or the preverbal position, are reported in Kanuri* (Wolff & Löhr 2006; Ziegelmeier 2011). **These focus constructions do not appear to have parallels in Dazaga**”.

Use of “Focus”-TAMs in Hausa, Fulfulde and Kanuri

	Kanuri	Hausa	Fulfulde
Imperfective	-	+	+
Perfective	+	+	+
Relative clause	-	+	+
Narrative	-	+	+
Negation	-	-	-

Areal feature 4: Predicative possession = conjunctional

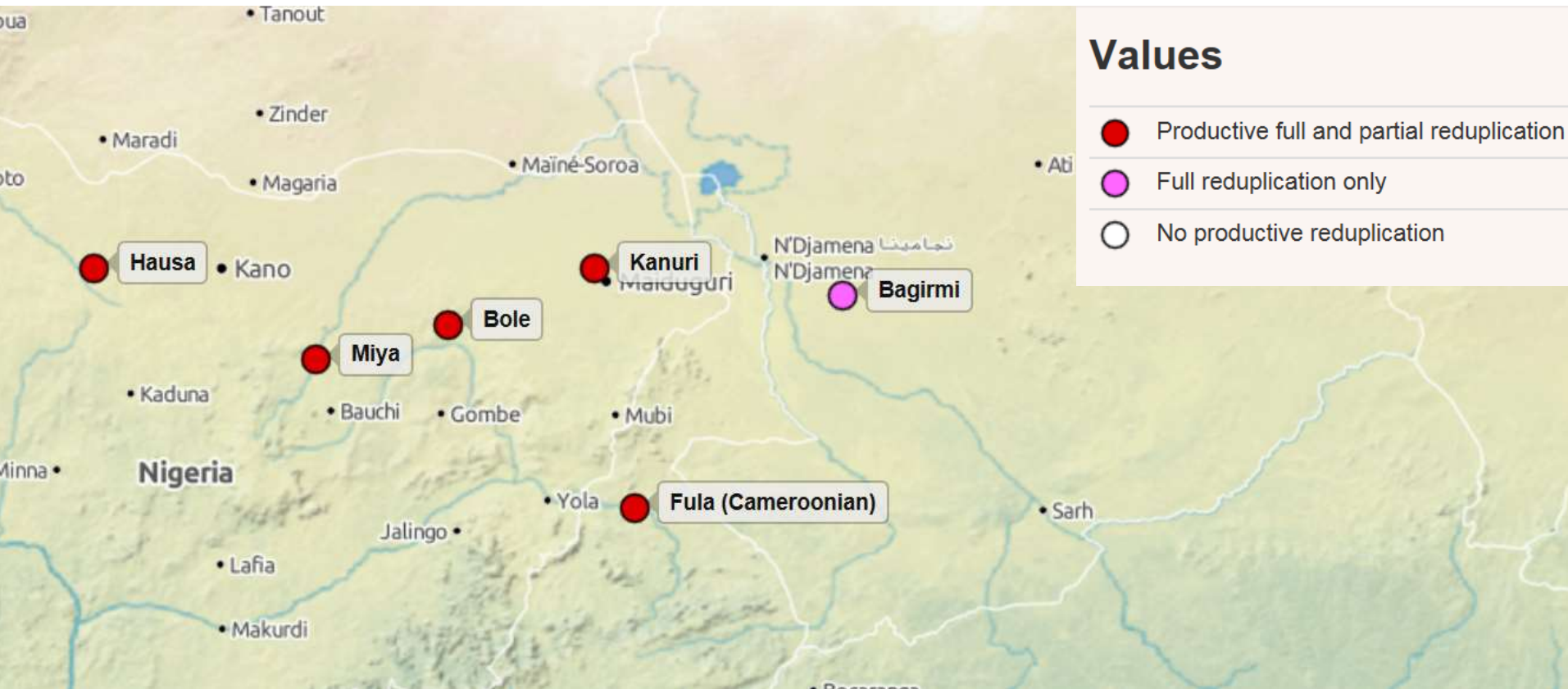
- Stassen (2013b) proposes a typology of predicative possession. Among the strategies he distinguishes between **transitive constructions**, i.e. **Have-Possessive**, where the possessor NP and the possessed NP function as the subject and the direct object of a **'have'-verb**, and syntactically **intransitive constructions** the possessive construction has the basic form of an **existential sentence**.



Areal feature 4: Predicative possession = conjunctive

- It appears that **Beria** and **Teda-Daza** exhibit a **‘have’-verb** (e.g. TD **ta** (2)). “Locative existential predicates are not used to express possession in **Dazaga** ... Rather, like many Nilo-Saharan languages ..., **possession is expressed by a transitive verb meaning ‘have’** “ (Walters 2015: 164)
- In **Kanuri** no verb for ‘have’ exists, instead predicative possession has to be expressed either by a **locational strategy**, or by the prominent option within the **conjunctive possessive**, i.e. by the use of the comitative marker ‘with’ on the possessed NP (often referred in the literature to as the **with-possessive**), e.g.
 - a) nânyîn rediyò mbəji b) kəri adə səmò kùruwù-à
place.my radio EXIST dog this ear long-COM
I have a radio (Cyffer 1991: 39) *this dog has long ears* (Cyffer 1991: 97)
- **Conjunctive possessives are prominent in Chadic languages**, and the with-type is found e.g. in Hausa, Western Bade, Ngizim, Malgwa.

Areal feature 5: Pluractionals with reduplication



Areal feature 5: Pluractionals with reduplication

- according to (Newman 1990: 134) “**pluractional verb formation which is and was an extremely common and productive Chadic feature**”
- E.g. in Hausa and languages of the Bade-Ngizim group pluractionals are **typically formed by reduplication of a root consonant, i.e. pluractional verbs differ from the simple root by addition of a CV(V) syllable.**
- Reduplication is also found in Fulfulde. (Klingenheben 1963: 212) “Die **Reduplikationsstämme haben intensiv-iterative Bedeutung.** Sie können in der Reduplikation der ganzen Wurzel [...] oder in der des letzten Radikals der Wurzel [...] bestehen.”, e.g. **hathad-** “prevent repeatedly” < **had-** “prevent”, **torr-** “molest” > **tor-** “beg”.

Areal feature 5: Pluractionals with reduplication

- According to Khidir (2005) **Beria forms pluractionals by either a different verb base or by addition or change of vowels**, e.g.

tɛn	kui	put	ir	irar	break
ti	bɛ	place, put	kɛdɛ	kɔdɔ	bring
dɔ	tɛ	carry			

- Jakobi & Crass (2004: 84-87) report **suppletive verb roots differing in number of subject, and number of object**. In Teda-Daza, suppletion seems to be related to number of objects only (cf. Lukas 1953: 61, Walters 2015: 115).
- In Teda-Daza **pluractionals are often formed by vowel change** (cf. Lukas 1953), e.g.

dil	dal	dye
lu	la	dig
lus	las	hang up
yit	yet	kill

Areal feature 5: Pluractionals with reduplication

- Although Kanuri has some cognate verbs with Teda-Daza, i.e. pluractional verbs **dal** ,dye', **la** ,dig', they have no pluractional meaning in present-day Kanuri. Instead pluractionals are usually formed by reduplication of the first syllable(s), e.g.:

mangin **ma**mangin I am looking for repeatedly

saladin **sa**saladin they keep on selling

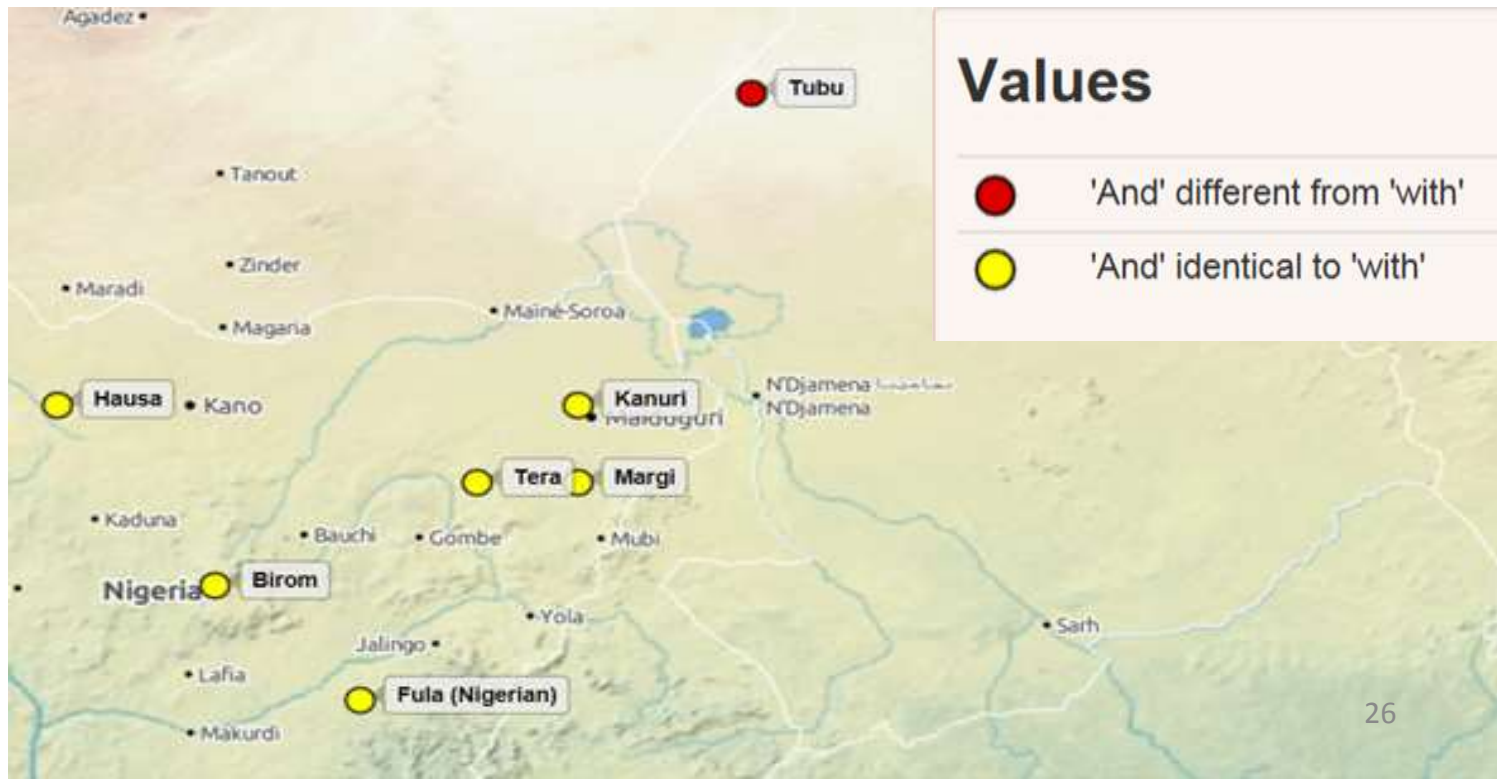
fiwono **fi**fiwono he/she kept on pouring

baksana **ba**baksana they have battered

Areal feature 6: “With” NP conjunction

- “... *most of the languages of Africa in and below the Sahara ... have with-status.*”

Stassen 2013c. For instance, in most **Chadic languages** the **markers for noun phrase conjunction and comitative phrases are the same**, e.g. in Hausa NPs are conjoined with the conjunction **dà** ‘and’ which is identical with the comitative preposition **dà** ‘with’.



Areal feature 6: “With” NP conjunction

- In **Kanuri NPs are conjoined by the correlative use of a suffix -(C)a** which is also employed in **associative/comitative construction**, e.g.

kâm	kamu-à	fê-à	fâr-à
man	woman-COM	cow-COM	horse-COM
<i>a man with his wife</i>		<i>a cow and a horse</i> (Cyffer 1998: 70)	

- According to Lukas (1953) **Teda-Daza uses different strategies** for NP conjunction and comitative constructions, e.g.

dána	du	túrku	ye	molofúr	ye
force	COM	jackal	coo	hyena	coo
<i>with force</i> (Lukas 1953: 159)		<i>the jackal and the hyena</i> (Lukas 1953: 166)			

- In **Beria** the situation seems to be **more complex**. On the one hand the **adverbializer1 -du/-tu/-ru** (which according to Jakobi & Crass (2004: 157) **corresponds in form and function to Kanuri -ro and Teda-Daza -du**) can have interpretations of **NP conjunction as well as comitative construction**. On the other hand Beria also employs a **comitative copula, which cannot be related to NP conjunction**.

Areal feature 7: Existence of “vague future”

- Vague future or potential (future) refers to a **TAM form which expresses a range of attitudes like uncertainty, doubt, indefiniteness, probability, vagueness, etc.** as to the future realization of an action or event.
- The vague future is typically found after conditional clauses, **indicating that something might happen** if the condition is fulfilled.
- Such special TAM forms are found in **Hausa, Fulfulde** (eastern varieties only), **Kanuri** and possibly in **Miya** and **Kwami**.
- The **areal character of this feature** has already been mentioned by Schubert (1971-73), Ziegelmeier (1999) and Cyffer (2000). The following examples illustrate the semantics and functions of this specialized TAM form.

Areal feature 7: Existence of “vague future”

Hausa

bà mâ kaamà bàraawòn ba
NEG 1PL.V_FUT catch thief.DET NEG

we will probably not catch the thief (Newman 2000: 587)

Kanuri

dulìnəm maarantirò yìkkəmiyà kərà-à ... **calò**
children.your school.to give.1SG.DEP_FUT reading-COO ... learn.3PL.V_FUT

if you put your children to school, they'll probably learn reading ... (Cyffer 1991: 149)

Fulfulde (Nigeria)

mi yahay luumo yalla/koo mi fott-**uma** e maako
1SG go.FUT market on.chance 1SG meet-V_FUT with him

I'll go to the market on the chance that I may meet with him (Arnott 1970: 275)

Areal feature 8: Dichotomy in standard negation

- Standard negation can be defined as the basic way a language has for **negating declarative verbal main clauses**.
- By dichotomy in standard negation I simply mean that **negation of the perfective differs from negation of the imperfective** (cf. Ziegelmeyer 2009b)
- The differences typically concern **form and/or position of the negative markers**.
- For instance, in **Hausa** negation of the **imperfective** employs a **clause-initial negative marker *baa***, whereas in negation of all **other indicative TAMs** the finite clause subject-agreement pronoun and the predicate are **surrounded by the discontinuous negative markers *bà(a) ... ba***, e.g.:

Areal feature 8: Dichotomy in standard negation

Hausa

baa tàà sooyà kàazaa
NEG 3F.IMPF fry chicken

she is not frying chicken (Newman 2000: 360)

bà sù daawoo **ba**
NEG 3PL.PF return NEG

they didn't return (Newman 2000: 357)

Kanuri

kərma kulòlàn cìdàjîn-**bâ**
now farm.at work.3SG.-NEG_IMP

now she is not working on the farm (Cyffer 1998: 39)

biskà Musà Kanòrò lèzê-**nyi**
yesterday Musa Kano.to go.3sg.-NEG_COMP

yesterday Musa did not travel to Kano (Cyffer 1998: 40)

Areal feature 8: Dichotomy in standard negation

- Apart from Hausa **dichotomy in standard negation** is also found in some **Chadic languages**, e.g. Western Bade, Miya, Guruntum (cf. examples below).
- According to Walters (2015) in **Dazaga standard negation is expressed by suffixation of -ní or its allomorphs -mí, -dí to the verb**. The same strategy is also used with negative imperatives. It is only in non-verbal clauses that other negation markers are used
- **Beria shows no dichotomy in standard negation**. The *Negative Perfective* and the *Negative Imperfective* take the suffix -ɔ̃ which replaces the suffix -ɪ for the affirmative (Jakobi & Crass 2004: 93).

Areal feature 9: Special negation in the prohibitive

- Special negation of non-indicative mood is **found in many languages of northern Nigeria**. The following criteria have been used for the classification of a special negative:
 1. Negation **markers** of non-indicative mood **are morphologically different** from those engaged in indicative mood and/or,
 2. negation **markers** used in non-indicative mood **take different positions** in the sentence compared to those used in the indicative mood.
- Non-indicative mood is usually labelled as *imperative* and *subjunctive* typically expressing commands, exhortations, obligations, etc. In this case negation results in a *prohibitive*. In both cases negation of non-indicative mood differs from negation of indicative mood.

Areal feature 9: Special negation in the prohibitive

Hausa

tàashi!

get.up.IMP

get up! (2sg.c.)

kadà

kà

PROH

2m.SUB

taashì!

get.up

don't get up! (2m.) (Newman 2000: 262-63)

Kanuri

luy-e!

go.out-IMP.2sg.

go out!

wànde

PROH

luwù-mi!

go.out-NEG_COMP.2SG

don't go out! (Cyffer 1991: 123)

Fulfulde

war(u)!

come.IMP.2SG

come!

taa

PROH

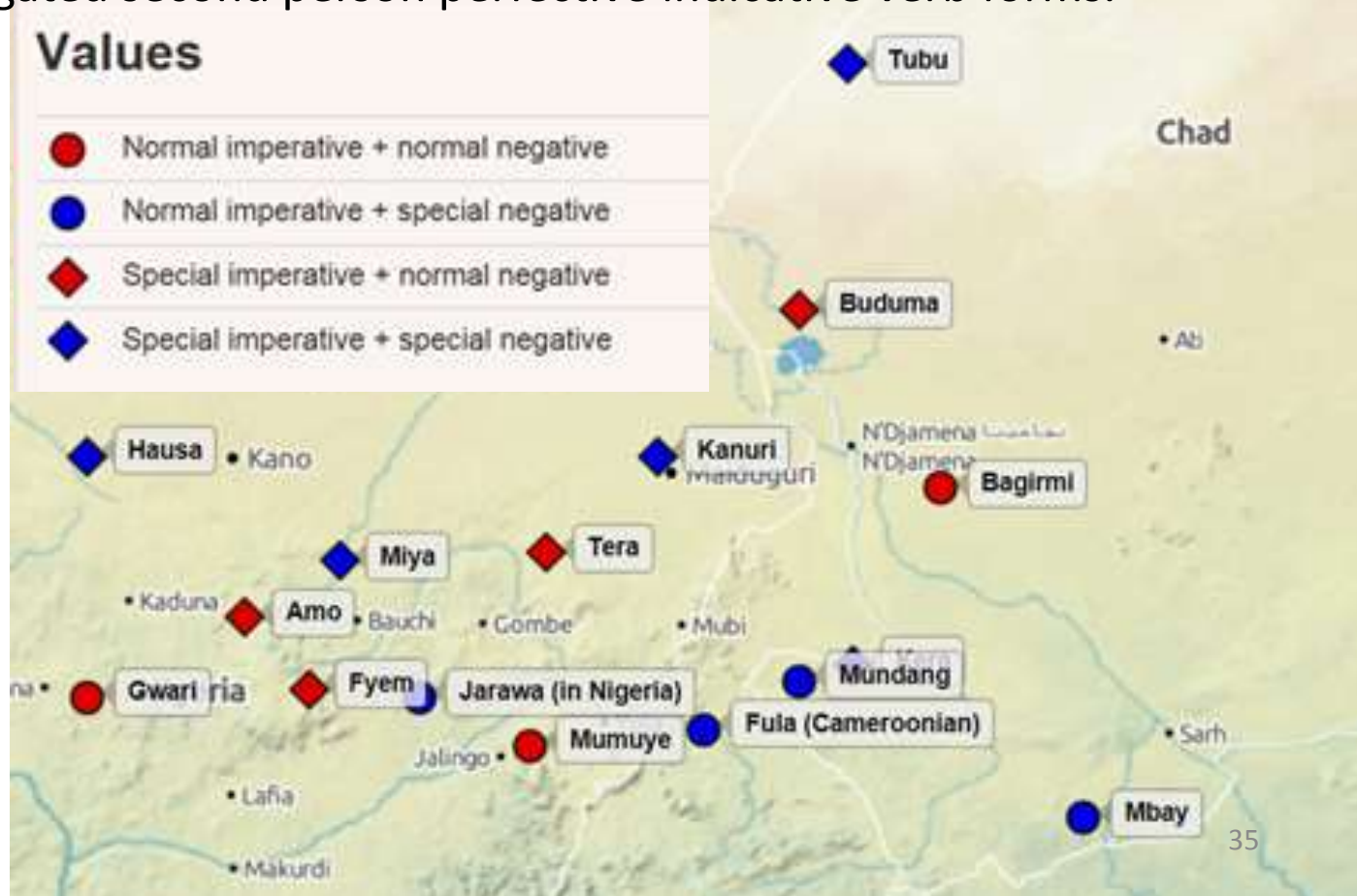
war(u)!

come.IMP.2SG

don't come! (Arnott 1970: 249 and 251)

Areal feature 9: Special negation in the prohibitive

Note that the value “special imperative + special negative” cannot be corroborated for Dazaga. According to Walters (2015: 169) the suffix -ni is used to form “negative imperatives”, in addition to negating indicative clauses. “Negative imperatives” are identical in form to negated second person perfective indicative verb forms.



Areal feature 10: Non-verbal predications and copulas

- “**Non-verbal predications** are commonly encountered in clauses expressing **identification, existence, location, or attribution of qualities ...** Uncontroversial examples of non-verbal predications are those **involving mere juxtaposition of non-verbal words or constituents devoid of any predicative marking** (noun phrases, adposition phrases, adverbs) ...” Creissels et al. (2008:130), e.g. in **Kanuri**

Bintù ferò

Bintu girl

Bintu is a girl

Musà Kanò-làn

Musa Kano-LOC

Musa is in Kano

nyi kurà

2SG big

you are big

- “This **type exists** also, for example, **in equational clauses of some Chadic languages**, [e.g. Bade, Margi G.Z.], but on the whole, it is **not particularly frequent in Africa.**”
Creissels et al (2008: 131).

Areal feature 10: Non-verbal predications and copulas

- Although **this type exists** also in Teda-Daza (cf. Lukas 1953, Stassen 2013d, Walters 2015) it seems to be absent in Beria. **Beria exhibits a set of copulas**, e.g. **copula of identification**, **copula of location**, a **locative-existential copula** with future sense, and a **comitative copula**. Note that Beria copulas show **inflectional values**, e.g. person (except for 3rd persons) and negation.



Areal feature 11:

Order of adverbial subordinator and clause

- As an effect of **mutual borrowing of function words**, in this case **adverbial subordinators**, **Kanuri and some Chadic languages converge with respect to the order of adverbial subordinator and clause**, exhibiting what Dryer (2013a) calls a **mixed type**. The **mixed type cannot be corroborated for Dazaga**: (Walters 2015: 231) “As is typical for SOV languages, subordinating morphemes in Dazaga are postpositional”



Areal feature 12: Polar Questions

- According to Creissels et al. (2008) in African languages, verbal systems including special interrogative forms are not common, while **interrogative particles** are particularly common. Most **Chadic languages**, e.g. Hausa, Bade, Mupun, Tera, **have question particles**. Dryer (2013b) discusses different strategies for forming polar questions; the important features here are **question particles vs. interrogative verb morphology**.



Areal feature 12: Polar Questions

- In Kanuri polar questions take the particle **wa**, e.g.

Alì isənà **wa?** manà gùlzənàdə jirè **wa?**

Ali come.3SG.PF Q talk say.3SG.PF.DET truth Q

did Ali come?

is it the truth what he said?

- In **Beria** polar questions are formed by a **suffix -a**, which attaches to the **finite verb** in final position. **Tone** of the suffix **-a** is **conditioned by the aspect** (low in the imperfective and falling in the perfective), i.e. the **suffix -a combines with inflectional values** of the verb, cf. Jakobi & Crass (2004

Areal feature 12: Polar Questions

- According to Lukas (1953) in Teda-Daza polar questions put the adverb *da* at the end of the sentence, e.g.

gə̀nna	jenə̀m	ma?	(ma < da)
everything	prepare.2SG.PF	Q	
did you prepare everything?			

- In Dazaga (cf. Walters 2015) polar questions are marked by the **clause-final enclitic =r̀à** and its allomorphs. The enclitic **=r̀à** **always occurs clause-finally, cliticizing to the final word whether it is a verb or a word from another grammatical category.** The yes/no question enclitic has an **allomorph [m̀à]** which occurs following a clause final [m].

Areal feature 13: Emphatic reflexives with the noun “head”

- A common feature of Saharan languages is a verbal extension with the morpheme **-t-**. This derivation is used to produce verb forms that lend themselves to translation as **intransitive, passive, reflexive, or reciprocal** verb forms in other languages, e.g. Kanuri **rúkin** “I see” > **túrúkin** “I see myself”.
- Other reflexive expressions seem to be absent in Beria and Teda-Daza, e.g. Walters (2015: 109) writes: *“There are no reflexive pronouns, and derived reflexive verbs are the only means of forming reflexive constructions”*.

Areal feature 13: Emphatic reflexives with the noun “head”

- **Kanuri**, however, also has **emphatic reflexives constructions** which use the noun **kəlâ** “head” (**rô** “life, soul”, or **nósku** “life, soul”) with possessive suffixes, e.g. **wú kəlânyí cída ádə cidáko** “I myself did this work”.
- The **Kanuri construction** with “head” **probably comes from Chadic languages** which frequently use the noun “head” for both, basic, as well as **emphatic reflexives**, e.g. Hausa, Bade, Miya, Malgwa, Margi.
- Cf. Hausa: **taa cùuci kântà** “she harmed herself”; **Hàliimà ita kântà zaa tà zoo** “Halima herself will come”

The Chadic-Kanuri contact zone and the Sudanic belt

- The **structural features** presented together with **borrowing of content and function words, transfer of derivational morphology, and semantic calquing** clearly point out a **convergence zone in the Lake Chad region**, and may corroborate historical findings in the one or other way.
- It has been proposed that **Chadic** (Nilotic, and Narrow Bantu) **does not really belong to the Macro-Sudan belt** (Güldemann 2008), as features are **mostly untypical** for them, **but occur recurrently** in member languages **which border on the area** and which **thus could be viewed as participating in it**.

The Chadic-Kanuri contact zone and the Sudanic belt

Nevertheless, the further we go north towards the wider **Lake Chad region** it becomes obvious that **a different linguistic alliance comes into effect which cannot be brought in line with** neither Güldemann's **Macro-Sudan belt** nor with Clements & Rialland's (2008) **Sudanic belt**.

	Macro-Sudan belt	Sudanic belt	Chadic	Hausa	Kanuri
logophoricity	F		R	-	-
labio-velar stops	F	F	R	-	-
ATR harmony	F	F	R	-	-
S-(AUX)-O-V-X	F		A	-	-
V-O-NEG	F		F	+	-
labial flaps	F	F	R	-	-
absence of P-sounds		F	R	(+)	-
implosives		F	F	+	-
nasal vowels		F	A	-	-
3+ tone levels		F	R	-	-
“lax” question markers		F	?	+	45

The Chadic-Kanuri contact zone and the Sudanic belt

- It becomes apparent that **the linguistic alliance of the wider Lake Chad region cuts into** a wider convergence zone, if we define **the Sudanic belt** or Macro-Sudan belt in its widest sense as a broad sub-Saharan belt from the western end of the continent to the escarpment of the Ethiopian Plateau.
- I would like to put forward the **hypothesis that speakers of Chadic languages spread into a part of the Sudanic belt**, i.e. the wider Lake Chad region, **from the north or northeast** at a rather early point in history.

The Chadic-Kanuri contact zone and the Sudanic belt

- Being in early contact with, or replacing Niger-Congo languages, **Chadic languages probably took over features which are rather untypical for Afroasiatic**, e.g. exceed comparatives, tone.
- **Some Chadic languages on the southern fringes** continued, and still **continue to take over features of neighbouring languages of the Sudanic belt**, e.g. logophoricity in Mupun, ATR harmony in Tangale, labio-velar stops in some languages of the Bole-Tangale group.

The Chadic-Kanuri contact zone and the Sudanic belt

- Much **later**, but latest in the 9th century, **Kanuri speakers came from the east**, and began to play an important role in the Lake Chad region.
- Although **Kanuri also had some impact on neighbouring Chadic languages**, the features presented here show that **Kanuri departs in several respects from other Saharan languages**.
- I hope my presentation helps to expand our understanding of areal phenomena in the Lake Chad region, and how those phenomena can contribute to a better understanding of the diachronic mechanisms in the macro-zone of the Sudanic belt.

Thanks for your attention



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