A Small Dictionary of Hamar
with Some Lexical Notes on Banna and Karo*

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Abstract

This report provides a small dictionary with around 1,200 entries of Hamar (including Banna and Karo) in South Ethiopia. Although there are a large number of open issues on the study of Hamar, there are few arguments even on the phonemic inventory, accentuation rules or the morphophonemics which is necessary for the lexicography. The dictionary will be a basis of scholarly debate towards the better documentation, comprehensive description and classification on the Hamar language.

1 Introduction

Hamar is one of the Omotic tribes who live in the Omo Valley, Southwestern Ethiopia close to the border of Sudan and Kenya. According to the Ethnologue\textsuperscript{1} there live 46,500 Hamar people and 27,000 Banna people\textsuperscript{2} in which 38,400 people are monolingual. The Hamar language belongs to the South Omotic. The Omotic is widely considered to be a branch of the Afroasiatic, but the attribution is controversial (Theil 2012).

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\textsuperscript{1}\url{https://www.ethnologue.com/language/amf}

\textsuperscript{2}Ethnologue puts the same language tag on both Hamar and Banna, though Banna is to some extent influenced by Ari.}
The basic vocabulary (about 1,200 entries) shown in this report is a part of the linguistic research during 2006–2014 in Addis Ababa, Arba Minch³, Key Afar⁴, Jinka⁵, Dimeka⁶ and Turmi⁷ (Takahashi 2006, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014)⁸. The entries were mainly selected according to the linguistic questionnaire published by Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa (ILCAA), Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (1979), in which entries are ordered in class A (the most basic 200 words), class B (the next common 300 words), class C (500 words) and class D (1,000). The dictionary covers the class A, B, C and some of D.

2 Explanatory Notes

2.1 Phonemes and Accentuation

Consonant phonemes and their representations in this dictionary are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Labial</th>
<th>Dental</th>
<th>Palatal</th>
<th>Velar</th>
<th>Glottal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stop</td>
<td>p</td>
<td>b</td>
<td>t</td>
<td>d</td>
<td>k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ejective Stop</td>
<td>t'</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>q' [k'~χ]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Affricate</td>
<td>ĉ [tʃ]</td>
<td>ĵ [dʒ]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ejective Affricate</td>
<td>c' [tʃ']</td>
<td>ĉ' [tʃ']</td>
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<tr>
<td>Implosive</td>
<td>ū</td>
<td>ḍ</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ḡ</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nasal</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>ŋ [ŋ]</td>
<td></td>
<td>ŋ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fricative</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>z</td>
<td>š [ʃ]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tap</td>
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<td>Lateral</td>
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<tr>
<td>Approximant</td>
<td>w</td>
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<td></td>
<td>j</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

³Arba Minch was the former capital of the defunct Gamo-Gofa province, and is still the largest town in Gamo-Gofa Zone.
⁴Key Afar is one of the largest Banna villages, about 100km southwest of Arba Minch.
⁵Jinka is the capital of the South Omo Zone of the Southern Nations, Nationalities and People’s Region State.
⁶Dimeka is one of the central villages of Hamar, about 60km south of Jinka.
⁷Turmi is also one of the largest villages of Hamar, about 120km south of Jinka.
⁸I would appreciate my collaborators to advance my understanding and my research on the language and its dialectal variety; Mr. Bazo Morfa (Hamar from Dimeka), Mr. Bodo Kala (Hamar from Turmi), Mr. Mulken Gulelat (Amhara from Turmi), Mr. Shoma Dore (Karo from Dimeka) and Mr. Daniel Banki (Banna from Key Afar)
In addition, a stop /k/ is written as /k\ in some words, because it remains an open question whether /k/ can be an independent phoneme or merely an allophone of /k/. Also /n/ and /ß/ are problematic, since in most of the cases [n] is an allophone of /n/, but there is a few cases in which /ß/ should be considered as a phoneme, such as /donß/ “five” or /nàpàña/ “sword”.

Vowels are classified into short and long\(^9\). Each vowel can convey pitch accent, by which a long vowel (e.g. /eː/) and a sequence of vowels (e.g. /ee/) can be distinguished. Note that /i/ is sometimes centralized to become [ɪ] and even [ə]:

\[
\begin{array}{llllllllllll}
i & i: & u & u: \\
e & e: & o & o: \\
a & a: \\
\end{array}
\]

Pitch accent is indicated by acute accent as /é/. A segment with accent is always high-pitch, while a segment without accent can be both high- and low-pitch. For example, /síja/ “bad” can be pronounced as both High-Low and High-High, but never as Low-High nor Low-Low respectively\(^10\).

2.2 Principles for ordering of lemmata

Entries are arranged principally following the Latin alphabetical order.

a(a:) b b c’ c’ d d e(e:) g g h i(i:) j j k k l m n n o(o:) p q’ r s s t t’ u(u:) w z

\(^9\)This view is different from Lydall (1976: 397–399) in which she classifies vowels into /i, u, e, ð, æ/ (unadvanced tongue root position [-ATR]) and /i, u, e, o, a/ (advanced tongue root position [+ATR]), see also Binyam&Moges (2014: 74). The author, however, does not find any attestations of the ATR-based phonological system for Hamar. As stated in Takahashi (2006: 81–84, in Japanese), for example, a minimal pair /goba/ ‘run’ and /goba/ ‘to decorate’ (Lydall 1976: 399) is actually /goba/ and /gòba/ (Takahashi 2006: 83), so that the [ATR] feature and the vowel quality do not make any roles (or secondary features) on distinction of neither lexicon nor morphemes, rather the vowel length seems to be phonologically functional.

\(^10\)This explanation is definitely inadequate, since one would doubt whether High-High and Low-Low accents could be distinguished in utterances. However, the author found some examples such as /áq’ási/ ‘bee’ (cf. /áq’ášino/ ‘a large amount of bees’) and /áq’ási/ ‘child-goat’ (cf. /áq’ána/ ‘some child-goats’) (Takahashi 2006: 84-85), or /kínka/ (often /kįnká/) ‘together’ and /kįnka/ ‘by him’ (Takahashi 2009: 109). Suffixes and enclitics might help us to clarify the High pitch position, as in Japanese /isú/ ‘chair’ and /ású/ ‘tomorrow’, in which they seem to have the same pitch accents, but in fact they are different when they are followed by the enclitics, /isú=kárá/ ‘from chair’ and /ású=kara/ ‘from tomorrow’. The accent in Hamar needs further investigation.
For convenience of readers, short and long vowels are treated as if they were the ‘same’ vowels in the order of lemmata, though short one is always arranged before the long correspondent. Accent is not considered in the ordering.

2.3 Lemma, Meaning and Derivation

For nominal entries, the representative form is without suffixes. In the example below, the representative form /q’uli/ is followed by the suffixed forms /-(t)a, - (to)no, -na/ in parenthesis. English meanings are shown as “...”, with which some notes and examples are also provided.

q’uli (q’ulta, q’ullo, q’ultono, q’ulla) “goat” e.g. q’ulta “he-goat”, q’ultono “she-goat”

For verbal entries, the representative form is imperative (to a single person) which usually has the suffix /-a/, while its meaning is provided as the English infinitive. Below is an example of the verb /bula/, with two derivational words /bulimi/ and /bulsa/ referring to their base form.

bula 1. “to open (something)” 2. “to untie, to take off one’s clothes” 3. “to go on”
bulimi “open, is opened” cf. bula
bulsa “to led out, to take out” cf. bula

Thus each derivational word has its own entry. Some entries, however, are linked by an arrow as shown below, because they may be synonyms, suppletion forms or unconvinced forms for which it is better to see other entries. An entry below, /gečó/, is proposed to see its synonym entry /gešó/. The entry /gečó/ also has a variant form /gučó/ for which it is not needed to make a new entry.

gečó var. gučó →gešó

2.4 Variants and Borrowing

As stated in the previous section, small variants are included in the entry of a more general form. Otherwise, dialectal variants have their own entries with ‘... lex.’ tags. For example, an entry below, /múq’a/, is often used by Banna people (borrowing from Ari), while Hamar usually use /búla/ for the same meaning.
**múq’a** “egg” *Banna lex.*, *cf.* [bůlā]

There are also borrowing words from Amharic, entries of which are tagged by ‘<Am.’ For example:

**astamáːri** “teacher” <Am. astámari

Transcription of Amharic is in accordance with the method of *Encyclopaedia Aethiopica* (Uhlig et al 2003–2014).

## 3 Conclusion

We still have a large number of issues on the study of Hamar in phonology, morphology, syntax and lexicography. Even the phonemic inventory proposed in this report, which is a different view from the qualitative vowel system by Lydall (1976), has to be reviewed and criticized. This small dictionary aims to be a basis of scholarly debate towards the better documentation, comprehensive description and classification on the Hamar language.

### Summary of Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
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<tr>
<td>adv.</td>
<td>adverb</td>
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<tr>
<td>cf.</td>
<td>compare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lit.</td>
<td>literally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pl.</td>
<td>plural</td>
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<tr>
<td>sg.</td>
<td>singular</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>var.</td>
<td>variant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;Am.</td>
<td>borrowing from Amharic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banna lex.</td>
<td>Banna lexicon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Reference


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11I thank to an anonymous referee to point out that Karo should be an independent, not genetically close to the Hamar-Banna cluster (cf. Binyam&Moges 2014: 72). Here, I would like to follow the previous view of Lydall (1976: 393) which states ‘The Kara speak a dialect of Hamer’ for comparison of vocabulary. However, my view could be improved in the future study.


a

**ab** (aba,ammo,amma) **var.** abi “other, another (in different kind)” *e.g.* aga abâné. “This is a different one.” *cf.* wa:

**abab** (ababno) “flower”

**áča** *Banna lex.* “leaf”

**ača** *Banna lex.* “to hide”

**adama** **var.** adima “hunting”

**ače** “hippopotamus”

**ačdimfa** “to hide”

**aga** (ogoro,iqira) “this, that” *cf.* ka

**aga** “to comment”? *e.g.* kiŋka wo age “Let’s work together”, kiŋka wo agâtíne “We all don’t agree.”

**agili** (agila,aqillo,aqilla) “childish, young”

**aja** “to break, to crash”

**ajzi** (ajno,ajna) “lady’s clothes, dress” made from animal skin

**áka** (ákáno,ákána) **1.** “mother’s elder sister, aunt” **2.** “parents’ mother, grandmother”

**áka** “liver” *cf.* fiulta

**aká** “by you *(sg.)*”

**akalaŋka** “from you *(sg.)*”

**akimi** (akimino,akimina) “doctor” *Am.* hâkim, *cf.* mórrá

**akimin o:nin** “hospital”

**akimin sa o:nin** “private clinic”

**akár** “early”

**akabbara** “to be respected” *Am.* akâbbârâ

**alpa** (alpano,alpna) “knife”

**ambaba** “to read”

**ammana** “to believe, to trust” *Am.* ammâná, *e.g.* hadan ammanátine “I don’t believe you.”

**an** (anno) “hand, arm (from shoulder to finger)”

**anámó** (annámono,annámona) **var.** annámó “friend”

**anamta** **1.** “male friend” **2.** “parents”

**anča** →hanča

**anša** “to go down, to descend”
áŋq’áč’í  Karo lex. “bee” cf. áŋq’ásí
áŋq’ána  Karo lex. “child-goat”
áŋq’asi  (áŋq’anno, áŋq’anna) “child-goat”
áŋq’ásí  (áŋq’ánó, áŋq’áná) “bee” cf. áŋq’áč’í
anta dúmaja  “thumb”
anti  1. “branch”  2. “rest, remain” e.g. aga ántíne. “This is a residue.”  3. “many”
anza  “girl, young (unmarried) woman” cf. ma:
áŋgalla  “day before yesterday” cf. áŋgaski
áŋgamo  1. “present, gift”  2. “goods, baggage”
áŋgas  →áŋgaski
áŋgaski  “day before yesterday” cf. áŋgalla
áŋgaski so:ton  “last night”?
áŋgi  (áŋgino, áŋgina) “boy”
apa  “to do up one’s hair”
apa₁  1. “to see, to meet”  2. “to find, to get”
apa₂  Banna lex. “to dry”
apálá  (apállo, apálá)  1. “clothes”  2. “sheet”
apálán aškée  “tailor”
apí  (apíno, apína), var. apí  1. “eye”  2. “seed”
apí ker  “face”
apo  (apono, apona)  1. “mouth, lip”  2. “language, word”
apsa  “to make someone do one’s hair” cf. apa
apti  Banna lex.? “bird”
arak  “mother’s brother”
aráq’e  “arrack”
arda  1. “to enter, to come in”  2. “to sink”  3. “to become clear”  4. “to concentrate”
arpi  (arpino, arpina)  1. “moon”  2. “month”
arsa₁  “to clothe, to take on one’s clothes”
arsa₂  var. arsisa “to make someone clothe” cf. arsa₁
arsisa  “to make someone enter” cf. arda
arta  var. arsa “to settle” cf. arda?
asi  “tooth”
ásle  Banna lex. “feather (as female garment)”
astamá:ri “teacher” <Am. astämari
a:ša  “to hide”
asín “neighbor”
a:šisa “to make someone hide” cf. a:ša
aška  1. “to make, to create, to build” 2. “to do, to work” 3. “to prepare” e.g. wo aške “Let’s start!”
aškisa “to command” cf. aška
atáfá (atáfáno, atáfána), var. atáfó (atámbo, atámba) “tongue”
áttí (áttínó, áttíná) var. atte “bird”

b
ba?á “to bring”
ba:ba “Dad!”
bágádé  bágádénó, bágádéná “waist, hip, back” cf. karna
bajno “see, lake” cf. bajti
bajti (bajno, bajna, var. banno, banna) “small river, brook” cf. bazi
bá:kúló “oven, stove”
bak “to cook” cf. bakma
bakma “to cook” cf. bak
bak’sa “to make someone cook” cf. baka
bala “to become bold”
bál:ansa “five birr” in Ethiopian currency.
balaša “bread, injera”
banq’i “spear”
banzo “Please!”
bar “by, on the side” e.g. hajbar “on whose side”
barbara (barbarano, barbarana) “green pepper, red pepper”
barigenti var. barigent 1. “drunken” 2. “crazy”
barjo var. bajro “God” e.g. bajro ime. “Thanks!” lit. “May God give!”, barjo hanna ime. “Thank you!”
barjón omín “church”
bárši “young” cf. bórle
baska “to carry away”
baša “to beat, to win” cf. baši
báša (bášáno, bášána) “hen”
baši “fine, excellent, smart”
bazi (bazino, bazina) var. baz “river, lake” a place where water is gathered. cf. bajti
be “and” e.g. manabe ãjiñabe “girls and boys”
bet var. bette “together with” e.g. hajbét “with whom”
biya Karo lex. “to dig, to cultivate”
binna → binno
binno “only” cf. kala biši
bira “before” e.g. birájse “ago, earlier” (adv.)
birántse “in front” (adv.)
bire Banna lex.? “after”
bire ibá:nin “tonight”
birre var. bire “birt” Ethiopian currency.
biši (bišino, bišina) var. buši? 1. “body, skin” 2. “alive” 3. “whole, all” e.g.
aga bišíne. “That’s all.”
bíta “king”
bo: “cliff”
boča “to bark”
bočča “to remember”
bode prohibitive marker. e.g. burq’o q’onta bode. “Don’t break the glass.”
bógo (bógo, bógo) “nail”
bogge boggeno, boggena “old clothes, man’s clothes”
bojda “to ignore”
bona “summer, rainy season”
bóndi var. bawndi “ten” only for money, e.g. bóndi lama “twenty”, bóndi
makkán “thirty”, bóndi ojdí “forty”, bóndi lama be bire kala be “twenty
one” cf. tábí
boq’olo “maize, corn”
borq’oto “chair, headrest”
bósó 1. “dull”? e.g. edí bóso “(a) dull person(s)” 2. “careless” cf. malgimi
bucča “to hurt, to have pain”
buc’ Karo lex.? “many, much” cf. puč’
budo  “back” both place and body, cf. tudfi  
budónite  “at the back” (adv.)  
bula  1. “to open (something)”  2. “to untie, to take off one’s clothes”  3. “to go on”  
bulimi  “open, is opened” cf. bula  
bulsa  “to led out, to take out” cf. bula  
buno  (bunono, bunona) “coffee” <Am. bunna  
bunno šarq’a  “coffee cup”  
búq’o  “knee”  
bura  “to take off”  
burčoq’o  “glass” <Am. barčoqo  
buri  var. biri? “morning”  
burín gala  burín galano “breakfast”  
burq’adafa  “to become sick”  
burq’e  “pain, disease” cf. maq’as  
busi  (bušino, bušina) “beard, moustache”  

6  

6a:  “up, upward”  
6akka  “to withdraw” cf. woša  
6ali  “the outside”  
6alínte  “outside” (adv.) cf. majánte  
6andfa  “food, treat, feast”  
6aq’a  “to fall”  
6oro  Banna lex. “feather (as part of the male garment)”  
6ori  6oro, 6orra? “crazy”?  
6orle  “young” cf. bárši  
6ul  “pool, reservoir, well” cf. tu:la  
6ula  “to jump”  
6úla  6ulano, 6ulana “egg” cf. múq’a  
6ulc’a  Banna lex. “kidney” cf. 6ulta  
6ulta  “liver” cf. āka  

c’  
c’aʔa  Karo lex. “to vomit” cf. t’aʔa
c’aja  *Banna lex.* “to vomit” cf. t’aʔa

c’a:pa  “to read” <Am. māšāf?

c’a:sa  *Karo lex.* “to make someone vomit” cf. c’aʔa

c’eda  “to become dry” cf. wača

c’e:di  “dry”

c’e:ja  var. č’e:ja  *Banna lex.* “black”

c’ija  *Karo lex.* “black” cf. t’ija

c’oc’i  *Banna lex.* “much”

c’á:gi  *Banna lex.* “green”

c’ačći  “expensive”?

c’an  “still, up to”

c’aŋq’al  var. č’aŋkal? “clean”

capi  “wet”

cari 1. “sharp” 2. “knife”

cere  “meal”

có:  “down, downward”

có:ba  *Banna lex.? “to wash”

cóca  “to dislike, to hate”

cóčći  *Karo lex.* “guest” cf. šoši

cóčća  “to become bored”

dá:  “pot”
da₂ 1. “to exist, to be” 2. “to live, to stay” 3. “to belong to, to depend on”
daba “to throw”
dabi (dabino, dabitono, dabina) “animal” e.g. dabitono “she-animal”
da:do “Mom!”
dagadinta “wrath”
dakafa “to become dirty”
dakadajse “in dirty state” (adv.)
da:ki Banna lex. “hungry”? cf. da:q’arda
dalan ukuli “horse” lit. “public donkey”? cf. parda
daldala “bridge” <Am. dolday
dama “to be able to”
dam “already”
daq’ána “a few, a little, slightly”
daq’ardra var. da:q’ardra “to become hungry” e.g. inta da:q’ardridine “I’m hungry.”
dar “on, by, around” e.g. hajdar “at whose place, by whom, towards whom”
darq’i var. da:q’i “hunger” e.g. darq’idi “hungry”
da:sa var. dattidi “heavy” cf. det’a, dec’a
dat’ti (dat’ta, dat’tino, dat’tina) var. da:ta, darte? “sweet, tasty”
dá:ca Banna lex. “sweet, tasty”
deci Banna lex. “dung”
dec’a₁ Karo lex. “heavy”, cf. det’a, dasa
dec’a₂ Banna lex. “to sink”
dec’amo Banna lex. “light”
dec’amo Banna lex. “heavy”
dele 1. “field” 2. “animal cage”
delle “village”
demfi “death”
der var. dera “red” cf. zawi
desima “silly” e.g. jer desímá “silly thing”
desisa “to make someone extinguish” cf. desa
detima “to become light” lit. “not heavy”
det’a “heavy” cf. dasa, dec’a
di:ba var. dimma “to rob, to steal”
di:bi (di:bino, di:bina) “rubber”
dibi (di:binno, di:binda) “ash”
di:bisa “to make someone steal” cf. di:ba
di:c’a Banna lex. “to close” cf. di:t’a
dija “to die”
di:na “to fall, to drop”
di:nisa “to drop something” cf. di:na
di:giṣa →tiggiṣa
di:saba “to butcher”
di:ssa “to make someone close” cf. di:t’a?
disi var. dis “similar, like” e.g. ka: disi “like this”
diti “obstacle, barrier”
di:t’a “to close” cf. gita
di’t’mi “closed”
do:bi dommo “rain”
doŋ “five”
doŋgar (doŋga(ra), doŋga(ro), doŋgarono, doŋgara) var. doŋgari, doŋgor, “elephant” e.g. doŋgarra “he-elephant”, doŋgaróno “she-elephant”
donza (donzano, donzana) “elderly man, old man”
dorba 1. “to spear, to throw” 2. “to write” (rare?) cf. uko
dorbisa “to make someone throw” cf. dorbba
dorq’a 1. “to sit” 2. “to live”
doska Banna lex. “to set, to put”
dotta “to set, to put” cf. woda
dras “until” <Am. drás
dubana “tail”
duka “to hide”
duka “to bury” cf. duq’a
duŋguri “shoe, sandal”
duq’a “to dig, to cultivate”
duq’isa “to make someone dig” cf. duq’a
durpi “fat, stout”
durpa “to become fat”


\textbf{aaba}
1. “to fall down”  
2. “to miss, to lose”

\textbf{a:ča}  
1. “to stand up”  
2. “to fly”  
3. “to wake up”  
4. “to begin”  
5. “to finish”

\textbf{a:ša}  
“to make someone fly” \textit{cf.} \textbf{a:ša}

\textbf{ači}  
“much (in container)” \textit{cf.} \textbf{pči}

\textbf{a:ša}  
1. “to get angry”  
2. “to scold”

\textbf{a:ša}  
1. “to get angry”  
2. “to be scolded” \textit{e.g.} inta kidar \textit{a:ša} \textit{idini}. “I was scolded by him.”

\textbf{a:ša}  
“angry”

\textbf{a:ša}  
“to make someone angry” \textit{cf.} \textbf{a:ša}

\textbf{ača}  
\textit{var.} \textit{dača}  
1. “to tie, to fasten”  
2. “to become cloudy”

\textbf{ača}  
“to make someone fasten” \textit{cf.} \textbf{ača}

\textbf{ači}  
“rope”

\textbf{ača}  
\textit{var.} \textit{delka} “to say, to speak”

\textbf{ača}  
“to make someone say” \textit{cf.} \textbf{ača}

\textbf{ači}  
“news”?  

\textbf{ača}  
“to drop something”

\textbf{ača}  
1. objective marker. \textit{e.g.} haj\textbf{ača} “whom”  
2. creates a pluperfect clause.

\textbf{ača}  
“alone”?  

\textbf{ača}  
1. “to become sure”  
2. “to understand”

\textbf{ača}  
“confidence”

\textbf{ača}  
1. “to awake”  
2. “to pick up”  
3. “to fill up”

\textbf{ača}  
“to sing”

\textbf{ača}  
“to make someone sing” \textit{cf.} \textbf{ača}

\textbf{ača}  
“to become thirsty” \textit{e.g.} inta \textbf{ača} \textit{idini}. “I’m thirsty.”

\textbf{ača}  
“seriously” (\textit{adv.})

\textbf{ača}  
“better”? \textit{e.g.} \textbf{ača} \textit{aška} “to make better, to improve”

\textbf{ača}  
“to know”

\textbf{ača}  
“medicine”

\textbf{ača}  
\textit{aškē} “pharmacist”

\textbf{ača}  
“to introduce”

\textbf{ača}  
“powder”

\textbf{ača}  
“to show, to point out”

49
é:fuca “mountain, hill” cf. gemari
duka ota “hill, slope”

é:fuca

é:fí 1. “skin” 2. “bed (made of skin)”
é:dá (édánó, é:dáná) “kinship, relative” cf. é:dí
e:dí hurq’oda “sick person, patient” cf. é:dí hajimo
e:dí doj kajsá “hundred” lit. “5 person’s” cf. mato
e:dí kala kajsá “twenty” cf. bóndi lama
e:dí kala kajsá apo(r) kala “twenty one” cf. bóndi lama be bire kala be
e:dí kala kajsá apo(r) táfí “thirty” lit. “one person’s plus ten” cf. bóndi makkán
e:dí lama kajsá “forty” cf. bóndi ojdi
e:dí míské “beggar, mendicant”
ejke 1. “father’s elder brother, uncle” 2. “grandparents” 3 “ancestor”
e:la “to call” cf. gisma
én “before, past, old days”
e:nen “interest, concern”
egala Banna lex. “yesterday”
e:pa “to cry, to weep”
é:q’ var. éq’e 1. “raw, fresh” 2. “wet”
erma var. ermáti “tear”
esara Karo lex. “to listen” cf. q’ansa
esarsa Karo lex. “to make someone listen” cf. esara
etáka “by me”
ezini var. ezin “black”
ezini (ezinno, ezinna) “star”

G

gaba 1. “week” 2. “market”
gáda “horizontal”
ga:di “music, song”
gája “monkey”
gala galano “food”
galap “yellow”
galap baji “violet”
ga:li₁ “city, town”
ga:li₂ “party, birthday”
gama “smell”
ganča var. gančafa “to become thin, to become skiny”
gansa₁ “smell” cf. gama
gansa₂ “to smell”
gara “to give up, to leave off”
gari (gara, garrino, garrina, var. garrro, garrra) “big, wide, expensive” cf. gebi
gasa “to make someone bite” cf. ga?a
gasgo “wheat”
gaza “bright”
gebáre gebáreno “wind”
gebáte “hurry, in a hurry”
gebi (gebino, gebiña, var. gembio, gembia) 1. “big, wide, expensive” cf. gari 2.
“many, much, too much” cf. páći
genínta “truth”
gebiña “to nurse, to bring up”
gečča “to grow old” cf. gebi
gečó var. gučó →gešó
geja “to celebrate”
gele var. geli “shoulder” cf. gutumi, kapana
gemari Karo lex. “mountain, hill” cf. duka
genemájs(e) “by accident”
geníma “to have an accident”?
genó “from”?
“Hello! (to elder persons)”, cf. miso, jere 5. “Mr.”
gešóno 1. “old woman” cf. gešo 2. “wife”
getta  1. “to develop”  2. “to celebrate”
gettísá  “to bring up, to breed”  e.g. gettisáti daxde “is bringing up”  cf. getta
geta  → getta
gibáro  (gibárro)  Karo lex.  “wind”
gibée  “stingy”
gi:da  “to tell”  cf. gija
gidi  1. “center, middle”  e.g. gidr “middle”  gidint, “in the middle”  2. “bottom”
giжа  1. “to tell”  2. “to command”  3. “to decide”
gilo  (gilono, gilona)  1. “history, culture”  2. “custom, law, rule”
giло  “principally”  (adv.)
gi:q’hama  “to lie down”
gisinsа  Karo lex.  “to make someone call”  cf. gisma
gisma  Karo lex.  “to call”  cf. e:la
gišа  “to keep, to beware”  e.g. hadan giša “responsible for you”
gita  “to close”  cf. di:t’a
go:ba  “excellent”
go:ba  “to decorate, to clothe”?  
goččišа  “to make someone hurry”  cf. gošа
góbózí  Karo lex.  “hip”  cf. tudfi
góba  “to run”
goč’a  Banna lex.?  “to pull”
gojtil  (gojno, gojna)  “way, road”
golgošo  (golgoño, golgoñá)  “woman”
gombe  “eyebrow”
gon  “really, sure”
goingola  (gongollo, gongolla)  var. gongala “ship”
gošа  1. “to push”  2. “to hurry, to ruch”
gošpa  1. “to be surprised”  2. “to invite”
gubi  Banna lex.?  “back”
guda  1. “mist”  2. “dark”
gudafaka  “to become dark”  lit. “to tie (the sky) with mist”
gudůñyo  gudúmmo, gudúmma “long, tall”
gudůrí  gudúrño “hyena”
gulbet  “power”
gulbeteqa “by force”
gumbaa “to cheat, to deceive”?
guni (guna, gunta, gunno, guntono, gunno) “snake” e.g. gunta “he-snake”,
guntono “she-snake”
gu̱nguló “fork”
gurda (gurdano, gurdana) “village”
gurgur (gurgura, gurgurta, gurgurro, gurgurtono, gurgurra) var. guroguro “crocodile”
e.g. gurgurta “he-crocodile”, gurgurtono “she-crocodile”
gúšo “nail”
gutumi “shoulder” cf. gele, kapano

gibas “malaria”
gin “but” <Am. gən

g

gafa →geja

gɛja 1. “to beat (by stick, wip etc.)” cf. ɡafa, q’ana 2. “to rain”
gepa “to kick”
gija “wip” cf. q’ana

h

ha han “you (sg.)” dependent form, cf. ja
ha: “when”
hada “to give birth”
haba:bar “on your (sg.) side”
há:dar “at your (sg.) place”
hafaa “to be born”
hadafa “to be born”
hafan “you (sg., objective)”
hafde “hippopotamus”
haj “who”
haja “to be, to do”? e.g. hajájs(e) dattíne. “it never occurs.”
hajfa desime “perhaps”
hajno “condition”
hajimi (hajimino, hajimina) “wounded, injured”
hajimo “patient”
ha:li “new”
hama “which” e.g. hamá ha zaga “Which to want?”
hamßa “to dream”
ha:mi “field”
ha:mín kojée (ha:mín kojáno, ha:mín kojána) “farmer” lit. “field plow”
ha:ma1 var. hajma “dream”
ha:ma2 “to dream, to sleep, to close one’s eyes”
ha:ma3 1. “to be, to do” cf. haja 2. “to appoint”
ha:maafa “to dream”
hamó 1. “where” e.g. hamótí ki de “Where is he?”, hamowó ha jeʔe? “Where do you go?” 2. “which” e.g. hamowó ha našá “Which do you like?”
hanča “to laugh, to smile”
hanché →hanté
hančisa “to make someone laugh” cf. hanča
ha:ńka “by you (sg.)”
hanša “to buy”
hanté (hantéa, hanno, hanna) “your (sg.)”
hanti “yourself”
hapá “to dress one’s hair”
ha:pa “to pound, to make powder”? ha:q’a ha:q’ano “tree, wood”
ha:q’a a:pi “fruit, seed”
ha:q’asa “made of wood”
har “what”
harána “why” lit. “for what” e.g. harna hamidi hanna “because” lit. “why? (I) tell you (sg.)”, harna hamidi jenna “because” lit. “why? (I) tell you (pl.)”
harq’isa “to slice”
hasa “your (sg.)”
hasta “wedding”
hatáka “by you (sg.)”
hatta “to tear”
hattajse  “how” e.g. hattajse adisǎ:ba je?e. “How do you go to Addis Ababa?”
hattene “How are you feeling?”
hatte  “how” e.g. hattene “How are you feeling?”
hattisa  “to make someone tear” cf. hatta

i
i (in) “T” dependent form, cf. inta
i:  “belly, stomach”
ibá:nin  “evening” cf. šakina
ibanín gala  “supper, dinner” cf. sortín gala
ifar  “on my side”
ídar  “at my place”
ídán  “me”
f:gal  “greedy” lit. “I-selfish”?
ígíra  →aga
iji  “the inside”
ijínte  “inside” (adv.)
ıkál  var. ekal “by me”
ıkalaŋka  “from me”
ilata  “to become noisy”
imáa  “to give, to hand over” e.g. inta donzanana kidan imidi ne. “I hand him over to the elders (i.e. assured him)”
imal  “I alone, only” e.g. hamal “you only”, jimal “the person mentioned only”, inta imálle “I remained alone”
imba  1. “father” e.g. hámba “your father”, kimba “his father”  2. “father’s younger brother, uncle”  3. “owner”
imbákana  “mother’s brother” both elder and younger? ←*imba kana
imbasá išíme  “my father’s elder brother, uncle”
imśa  “to give, to let me have”
imśisa  “to make someone give” cf. ima
inčé  →inté
índa  1. “mother” e.g. hánđa “your mother”, kínda “his mother”  2. “mother’s younger sister, aunt”
imka  “by me”
inta “I” independent form, cf. i
inté -a, inno, inna “my”
inti “myself”
iq’a “to push”
iq’sa “to make someone push” cf. iq’a
isa “to eat” impolite expression.
ís “my”
ísími (ísímó, ísímína) var. ísim 1. “elder brother” 2. “son of father’s elder brother, cousin”
isín (ísíno) var. ísíni 1. “sorghum” 2. “seed”
izaq’e var. ízaq’ 1. “throat, neck” cf. q’orčí 2. “voice, sound” cf. uspi

j
ja “you (sg.)” independent form, cf. ha
jaja “to walk”
ja:ti (ja:nnó, ja:nná) “sheep”
je jen “you (pl.)” dependent form, cf. jedi
je:ne “to go”
je:bar “on your (pl.) side”
je:da “to show” e.g. gojti jeda “to order” lit. “to show the way”
je:da “to complain”
jejér “at your (pl.) place”
ejí var. jesí “you (pl.)” independent form, cf. je
je:fan “you (pl., objective)”
je:ka “to gather, to collect” cf. puča
je:ka “to be enough”
je:kal “by you (pl.)”
jejela “roof”
jenčé →jenté
jenča “by you (pl.)”
jénne “yes, affirmative”
jenti “yourselves”
jenté (ízaq’(e)a, jenno, jenna) “your (pl.)”
jer  “thing”
jere  “Hello! (to younger persons)” cf. gešó, misó
jersa gojti  “example” lit. “way of thing”
jesa  “your (pl.)”
jesa  “to send” cf. je?e
jeska  “to arrive, to reach”
jeskima  “to become the age of”?
jeskisa  “to make someone arrive” cf. jeska
je:táka  “by you (pl.)”
ji  (jin) “he, she, they (previously referred)” without an independent form.
jiic’a  Banna lex. “to cultivate” cf. duq’a
jiga  “to swim” cf. warra
jí:ga  “to play”
jí:gi  “play, fun”
jí:gisä  “to make someone play” cf. jí:ga
jínché  → jinté
jinté  (jintéa, jinno, jinna) “his, her, their (previously referred)”
jintée  “no, negative”
jinti  “themselves (both men and women, previously referred)”
jí:pi  “eyebrow”
jirda  “trap for birds, net”
jirri  “fast, swift” cf. sá:na
jisa jisa  “various”

Ja:ga  “to sew”
Ja:gsa  “to make someone sew” cf. ja:ga
jaldaba  “son, firstborn”
 jámmárá  “to start” < Am. jámmará, e.g. wo jámmáré “Let’s start!”
 jarma  var. jerma “ginger”
 jibáre  Banna lex. “wind” cf. gebáre
 jogi  “half (usually below the half)”
ka 1. instrumental or accompanimental marker. e.g. hajka “accompanying with whom, by whom” 2. creates a temporal or a conditional clause.

ka (koro, kira) “this, that” cf. aga

kaja 1. “to be defeated, to be destroyed” 2. “to be discontinued, to cease, to come to an end” 3. “to lose”

kajsa “to break, to destroy” cf. kaja

kal agent marker in passive sentence? e.g. hajkal “by whom”

kala 1. “one” 2. “same”

kala bişî 1. “at once” 2. “only” cf. binno

ka:la 1. “to wait” 2. “to look after, to take care of, to treat”

kalañka1 ablative marker. e.g. hajkalañka “from whom” cf. r(a)

kalañka2 “from him (her, them)”

ka:lsa “to make someone wait” cf. ka:la

ka:li “spoon”

kama “to pick up, to select”

kama “to meet, to see”

kani (kana, kanino, kanina) 1. “younger brother” = kana 2. “younger sister” = kanno

káŋka “by him, her, them”

kaŋkala Banna lex.? “skin”

kapa 1. “to stay” 2. “to delay” e.g. inta gaba kala kapajse adisa:ba jeʔíndane.

“I’m going to Addis Ababa a week later.”

kapana kapanno “shoulder” cf. gele, gutumi

ka:piŋkala “in a short time, very soon”

ka:ra1 “fish”

ka:ra2 “to surround”

ká:ra “from here, from this”

karč’a “cheek”

kaš (koš, kiš) “this (which speaker knows)”

karna “waist” position of the belt, cf. bágádé

karsa “to continue”

kata “to comb”

katama “town, city” <Am. kätáma, cf. ga:li

katti “very much”
kat’a  “to shoot”
ked’a  “half”
kelša  “to help, to support”
kena  “to marry”
keri (kerro, kerra) “door”
ketaka  “together”?  
ketáka  “by him (her, them)”
kezini (kezinna) “star”
ki (kin) “he, (sometimes) they” dependent form, cf. kidi
kibar  “on his (her, their) side”
kibir  “respect” <Am. kobar
kibo  “shellfish”
kiča  “to cover”
kidar  “at his (her, their) place”
kidar  “together”
kidi  “he, they” independent form, cf. ki
kidan  “him, her, them (objective)”
kikál  “by him (her, them)”
kiša  “his, her, their”
kisi  “the same” e.g. ina kidál “Give me the same one.”
kina  “today”
kijka  “together”
kira  →ka
kirba  “to dance”
kisa  “his, her, their”
kisi  →kidi
ko (kon) “she, they” dependent form, cf. kodi
kobar  “on her (their) side”
kodar  “at her (their) place”
kodi  “she, they” independent form, cf. ko
kofä “her, them (objective)"
kode “probably, perhaps”
koja₁ “hoe”
koja₂ 1. “to plough” 2. “to weed” e.g. harmen kojátí ki da:de “He is seeding a field.”
koja₃ Banna lex. “to seek”
kojmo “money”
kojasafa “well-cultivated”
koka “by her, them”
kokál “by her (them)”
kokalaŋka →kalajka
kokka “but, but also”
kokkal “besides, and also”
kombisa var. kombsa “to bend”
komma “and, then”
kommal var. konnal “and, or, but, then”
končé →konté
konté -a, konno, konna “her, their”
kopi “poor” cf. q’amfi
koq’a var. koka? “to burn, to bake”
koq’sa “to make someone burn” cf. koq’a
koro →ka
kosa “her, their”
kosi →kodi
ko:táka “by her (them)”
kot₁ var. kot “here”
kot₂ “shirt”
kuba “wall”
kul “also” e.g. kikul “it also”, hakul “you also”
kuli (kúllo, kúlla) “spoon”
kuma “to eat soup”
kumšala “soup”
kumma “to eat”
kunsa “to feed” cf. kumma
kupa  “to push”
kuri  “honey”
kurtemba  *Karo lex.* “to fear” cf. pija
kurtembisa  *Karo lex.* “to make someone fear” cf. kurtemba
kutúbó  (kutúmbó, kutúmba) → kutúmbó
kutúmbó  (kutúmbono, kutúmbona) “fly”
kutto  “island”

lak  “six”
lama  “two”
lauŋkaj  “eight”
laslá:sa  “soft drink” <Am. läslasa
latta  “to touch”
leʔ  *Banna lex.* “year”
leʔe  “year” e.g. leʔe kisa měm hajne. “How old is he?” lit. “How many is his year?”
lejha:májse  “silently” (adv.)
leji  “constant” e.g. lejíde “it continues, constantly”
le:májse  “slowly” (adv.)
le:mi  “slow, slowly”
le:pa  (le:pano, le:pana) “butterfly”
le:pi  “bone”
likká  (likkano, likkana) “small, narrow, cheap”
lo:mi  “lemon” <Am. lomi
lúbo  “shadow”
lujínnete  “different” <Am. lyunát
lúšo  *Banna lex.* “ant”

m

ma:  (ma:no, ma:na) “girl, young woman” cf. anza
maʔasi  (maʔasino, maʔasina) 1. “blood” 2. “blood relative”
mačča  var. maʔa 1. “to end” 2. “to make ready”
majánnte  “outside” (adv.)
máji  “clear”
makkan  “three”
malgimi  “careless” cf. boso
malse  “reply, answer” <Am. māls
maŋka  “to hold, to hug”
maŋga  “to swallow”
maŋgo  var. maŋga “mango”
maq’as  “disease” cf. burq’e
marpi  Banna lex. “needle”
maːsa  “to answer”
maša  “to slaughter”
maːta1  “to become, to feel” e.g. likka likka maːtátí ki dáːde. “It becomes smaller.”, ina astamaːri maːtanna zaga i da zage. “I want to be a teacher.”
maːta2  “to come back, to return”
mato  “hundred” <Am. māto, e.g. bire mato kala “100 birr” cf. éːdī doŋ kajsa
mat’ape  “book” <Am. māshāf
meːki  “buffalo”
meːm  “how many, how much”? e.g. meːm hajne. “How much is it?”, menne.
 “How much?”
mete  (meteno) 1.  “head, forehead” e.g. meten buːčdíː. “Do you have a headache?” 2.  “knowledge” e.g. meté inːe “my knowledge” 3.  “group”
míja  Banna lex. “down”
miska  “to ask, to request”
miso  1. “friend, colleague, assistant” 2. “Hello! (to the same aged)”, cf. geʃo, jere
mísá  (mísáno, míṣána) 1. “elder sister” 2. “father’s elder sister, aunt”
mizaq’a  “right, right side”
mokkora  “to try”? e.g. ina mokkoro i de. “I’ll try.”
móːr  (móːrro, móːrra) “fat, oil”
móːrá  “traditional doctor, magician” cf. akimi
moskotti  “window” <Am. máskot
moši  var. moʃ “chin”
múq’a  “egg” Banna lex., cf. bûla
mura  “gun”
murabaj “brown”
muzi “banana” <Am. muz

1

na 1. directive marker. e.g. hajna “to whom” 2. creates a reasonal or a conditional clause.
na: var. ni: “yesterday” cf. angalla, aŋgaski
na: ibáːnin “last evening”
naʔa →niʔa
naːbi namo var. naːmi “name”
nagája “good, well, fine” e.g. nagájaːu. “How are you?” naːgájane. “Fine.” cf. pajja
náŋgo “ant”
nási (náːsa, naːno, naːna) “child, baby”
náːsa 1. “son” e.g. náːsi inno makkande. “I have three children.” lit. “My child is three.” cf. náːsi
náno “daughter” cf. náːsi
naːsha “to like, to love, to become happy”
náːshimmaːko “love”
náːshisa “to make someone love” cf. naːsha
náda “to arrive”? 
nagáːdé nagáːdénó “mercant” <Am. nagőd
ne enclitic copula (usually affirmative), which follows a predicative word.
niʔa “to come”
niːsa “to send” cf. niʔa
nita var. nitta “to send”
nitisa var. nitta “to make someone send” cf. nita
noːpa “to breathe”
noq’o noq’ono “water”
noq’o ojdfi “hot water”
nu: “fire, light”
nu: háːq’a “firewood”
nuki 1. “nose” 2. “top”
ñápaŋá “knife, sword”

O

očča “to boil” cf. ojda
oḍa → woda?
ogoro → aga
ojdi “four”
ojfa Banna lex. “hot, warm”
ojfa “to become hot, to become warm”
ojfi “hot, warm”
ojís “or” cf. wojjíl
ojsa “to ask”
ojsasa “to make someone ask” cf. ojsa
ojta “to reject, to ignore”
o:ka “to change”
okkan hajtana “three days after tomorrow” cf. saκa
okkonajt → okkan hajtana
o:kíma Banna lex. “to pass”
okónta hajtana “future”
on hajtana “four days after tomorrow” cf. saκa
omi omno, o:mma var. o:no “house”
onísa t’áŋgá “roof”
on sama on hajtana “five days after tomorrow” cf. saκa
or Banna lex.? “here”
órógo var. orgo? “short” in both length and height.
osija “to go away”
osma “hot, warm (in weather)” e.g. ta:ki pëno ósma ósma. “It’s hot now.”
or “to argue”
ossámbar “two days after tomorrow” cf. saκa
óšala “day after tomorrow” cf. saκa
óši “meeting, party”
o:ta (o:to, o:tna) “calf” e.g. o:to “she-calf”, o:tna “calves”
ówma “flower”
páči  “much (in container)” usually quantitative, cf. gefi
pahala  “brave”
pajda  “to count”
pajčfa  “beautiful”
pajdža  “to become well”
pajjačfa  “to become cured” cf. pajja
pajjahama  Banna lex.  “to become cured”
pajla  “every, all”
paka1  “to throw, to hit”
paka2  var. paha? “to consider”
pakkačfa  “to permit”
pakkačfada  “to be permitted” cf. pakkačfa
panaq’  (panaq’o, paaq’a) “frog”
paaq’a  Banna lex.  “frog”
papá(já)  “papaya” <Am. papaja
paranji  “foreigner” <Am. farañj
parda  “horse” cf. dalan ukuli
pasi  Karo lex.  “spit” cf. pati
paša  1.  “to cure, to heal, to fix”  2.  “to become healthy”
pati  “spit” cf. pásí
pëge  “far”
peldfa  “butterfly”
pëta woda  “field” lit.  “lying earth” e.g. pëtana woda inna “my vast field”
pì:  “coward”
pìja  “to fear” cf. kurtemba
pìmba  “to be ashamed” e.g. inta pìmba i da pìmbë “I am ashamed.”
pìmbagara  “to fear (all the time)”
pìmmákó  “fear, doubt”
pìr  “again, also” e.g. pìr gìja. “Tell again / Repeat.”
pò:  “lie, untruth”
po: gume “liar”
pogimba “to tell lies, to cheat”
po: gomo “liar”
polis “police” <Am. polis
po:lo (po:lon, po:lo) “cloud” e.g. po:la “lots of clouds”
po:ra Banna lex. “to sing”
poša Banna lex. “to tear widely”
poto “photo”
puča “unity”
puča “to gather, to collect” cf. jeka
puči “many, much” both countable and uncountable.
pudí Banna lex.? “flower”
puma “to flower”?  
pu:ma (pu:mano) “flower”
putto “thread”

q’a:ba 1. “to think, to feel” 2. “to become sad” e.g. inta ha:dar q’a:bídine “I think of you / I miss you.”
q’a:bi (q’a:bino, q’a:bo, q’a:bina) “thought, feeling” e.g. q’a:bátíne “It’s sudden, suddenly” lit. “doesn’t think”
q’a:bo giya, q’a:bo ima “to advise”
q’a:ja 1. “to become cold” 2. “to become lazy, to get tired” e.g. inta q’a:jídíne. “I’m tired.”
q’a:jaďa “to become too tired”
q’aji (q’aja, q’ajino, q’ajina) 1. “cold” 3. “weak”
q’albi var. q’albi, q’albo “leaf”
q’alsi “python” cf. q’a:ri
q’alši “belt”
q’amobi “poor” cf. kopi
q’a:ma “to hear, to listen”
q’a:mi “ear”
q’ana1 “wip” cf. giya
q’ana2 1. “to beat (by stick, wip, etc.)” cf. gfa 2. “to rain”
q’anisa “to make someone beat” cf. q’ana₂
q’ansa₁ “lesson, lecture”
q’ansa₂ “to listen” cf. esara
q’ante 1. “than” 2. “towards”
q’arsi “python” cf. q’alsi
q’arsa “to start”
q’asa “louse”
q’aski (q’askino, q’askina) “dog”
q’aw var. q’awo “forest, bush”
q’awn kutúfō (q’awn kutúmfō, q’awn kutúmfia) “bush fly”
q’oč’a “to suck”
q’oč’ā Karo lex. “neck” cf. q’orči
q’onc’ā Karo lex. 1. “to snap, to break” cf. q’ont’a
q’onc’isa Karo lex. “to make someone snap” cf. q’onc’ā
q’ole “nothing”
q’ont’ā 1. “to snap, to break” cf. q’onc’ā 2. “to fold”
q’orč’ī 1. “neck, nape” cf. izaq’(e), 2. “voice, sound” cf. uspi
q’órma “without”
q’orsi “breakfast”
q’ot’ā “to scratch”
q’uli (q’ulta, q’ullo, q’ultono, q’ulla) “goat” e.g. q’ulta “he-goat”, q’ultono “she-goat”
q’uli rasti “goat milk”
q’ušumfā “horn”

R

ra var. ra, ablative marker. e.g. omira “from a house”
ra?áte “place”
raq’i var. rakî? 1. “place, garden” 2. “part”
ra:ta “to sleep” cf. wodfa
ra:ti (ranno, ranna) “milk”
ro: (ro:ta, ro:mo, ro:ma) “leg, foot” e.g. ka ro:ta innone “This is my leg.”, ro:msa čor:bar dis ki šede. “He makes a fool of anyone.” lit. “He looks (at anyone) as below the foot.”
róároa “appointment”
roka “through” e.g. q’awroka i gobáde. “I ran through the bush.”
roq’ónti Banna lex.? “stomach”
ro:ro “day, daytime” e.g. ro:ro ab “another time”, ro:ro agaka “at that time”,
rórón gebon “most of the time”
róróró wá:ni “sometimes”
róróró wúl 1. “everyday” 2. “always, often” e.g. ro:ro wul kajma “all the lost
day, forever”
rórórón gala “lunch”
róró sa sorke “toe”

S

sa 1. possessive marker. e.g. hajsa “whose” 2. creates an adjective clause.
sá “far” e.g. sá aga har. “What’s that?”
sa?á “to sweep” cf. saha
sa?áti “time, o’clock” <Am. sâ’áat
sada1 “life”
sada2 “breast”
sada meaning unclear. →sída?
saga1 Banna lex.? “past”
saga2 “to pass, to cross over” e.g. inta gaba kala sagájse adisa:ba je’ídíne. “I
went to Addis Ababa a week ago.”
sagsa “to make someone pass” cf. saga2
saha Banna lex. “to sweep” cf. sa?á
saji “flea”
saka “tomorrow” cf. óšala, ossámbar, okkan hajtana, om hajtana, omsa om
hajtana
sal “nine”
sáisma “penis”
sá:ná:mi “quickly” (adv.)
santímí “cent” Ethiopian currency.
sasasa “to make someone sweep” cf. sa?á
saska “to pass (a night)”
satíne  “box” <Am. sat’n)
segére (segéréno, segéréna) “wild rat” cf. untíni
se:ni (senno, senna) “stone”
se:sa1 “to climb”
se:sa2 1. “to be sorry” 2. “to commit a crime”
se:sa da “to be fair”
sé:so “sin”
sí:da “to cancel”
sig:ra “cigar” <Am. sigara
sí:jáji “strange”
síle “feather”
sílli “dust”
sí:rq’ “slice, piece”? 
sí:ti “hair”
sí:ti a:skée “barber”
sí:ti “night”
sóctín gala (sortín galano) “supper, dinner” cf. ibanin gala
sottísa “to pass a night”
súkár “sugar” <Am. sokwar
súkka “surroundings, neighborhood”
súkkante “around” (adv.)
súq’o (súq’ono, súq’ona) var. súq’o “salt”
surba “sack” e.g. surba šíggla “plastic sack”
sus “near, close to” e.g. sus igíra har. “What’s this?”
susi “custom, tradition”
su:ta “to taste”

Š

ša:já  →:śíja
šá:jí (šá:jíno, šá:jína) “tea, red tea” <Am. šay
šaj:sa “to make someone wash” cf. šaja
šä:ka “infanty” e.g. ná:na šä:kaná “lots of infants”
šakina “evening” cf. ibá:nín
šamáč “gray”
šá:mní “sand”
ša:ni ó:no “toilet”
šana “to buy”
šanša “to sell” cf. šana
šárq’a var. šarka? “calabash, dish, plate, bowl, cup”
šawú “leopard”
šéči “ice” cf. šekíní
šeda “to look, to see”
šedsa “to show” cf. šeda
šekíní “ice” cf. šéči
šera “to fly”
ší: kala “thousand” <Am. ši, e.g. ší:lama “two thousand”
šíída 1. “to remain, to be there” 2. “to sink”
ší:ída “to wash” cf. šíja
ší:dí “generous”
šígglá “plastic”? 
šija “to wash” cf. šíída
šiliñi “shilling” fifty cents in Kenyan currency.
šiq’a “to cut”
šišá “reserved, remained” cf. šíída
šolá: “light (in weight)”
šompo “hung”
šo:ša “to roast”
šoši (šonno, šoñno, šonna, šoñña) “guest” cf. čoxči
šupa Banna lex. “to clothe”
šufá šunno, šunna “grass, weed”
šufá o:no “neighbor”
šulla “to float”
šurta “to wipe”
te var. t 1. “in” e.g. omint “in a house” 2. creates an adverb.
ta “now, today” cf. ta:ki
tábí “ten”
tábí kala “eleven”
tábí lama “twelve”
taha “to seem, to resemble”
taka “to cut” e.g. inta alpa inmonka kidan ta:kídine. “I cut it by my knife.”
ta:ki “now, today” cf. ta
ta:ki čan “still now, up to now”
ta:ki t’e:zi bire “soon after”
talga Banna lex.? “to fear”
tar:iki “story”
tammara “to learn” <Am. tänmarää
tammarsa “to teach” cf. tammara
tampo “snuff, tabacco”
tá:na Banna lex.? “heel”
ta:ngerine “mandarin”
tarbi tarbino “drum” (rare?)
tarpeza “table” <Am. tárápeza
te enclitic copula (negative only), which follows a predicative word.
tesiba (tesimbo, tesimba) var. tetibe “hand-axe”
tifí “deep”
tesi:ba (tesimbo, tesimba) var. tetibe “hand-axe”
ti:da “to receive”
tija 1. “to take away” 2. “to kidnap” e.g. é:dídan raqi jinnondar tijenna “to take someone somewhere”
tí:ma:gará:jje “took away (nothing left)”
timatimo (timimatimo) Karo lex. “tomato” <Am. timatim, cf. tumantumo
tí:ngí:sa tíngí:šano “potato”
tisa “to receive” e.g. inta kokar tísí:đine. “I received it / I married with her.” cf. tija
tofá “seven”
toka  “some, few”
tola  “to wait”
tore  “ash”
tori  “plain, grassland”
tota  “to become full”
tufni  1. “back” cf. budo 2. “hip” cf. gobozi
tudinte  “at the back” (adv.)
tufiba  (tudumbo, tudumba) “late”
tufiba  “to delay” e.g. tudiba sindise i na?ade. “I delayed to come.”
tula  “pool” by digging in mud on the riverbank, cf. ful
	umantumo  →timatimo
tuq’uma  “to hit, to strike”
tura  Banna lex. “up”
turke  “dust”

t’a?a  “to vomit” cf. c’a?a
t’anzi  “zebra”
t’a:pa  “to register”
t’a:pe  “pen”
t’aq’ima  →t’aq’imi
t’aq’imi  var. t’aq’ima “bitter”
t’e:fi  “dry”
t’e:zi  “close to, near”
t’e:zi woda  “in the near future”
t’ija  “black” cf. c’ija, e:zini
t’o:sa  “to fulfil”

-u  suffix attached to a predicative word, to create an interrogative sentence.
uka  1. “to spear, to throw” 2. “to write” (rare?) cf. dorba
ukuli  (ukullo, ukulla) “donkey”
ukuli fula  “bull jumping (initiation rite)”
ukunsa  “to rest, to take a rest”
uláw  “blue”
untíni (untúnno, untúnna) “mouse” cf. segéré
u:ri kansa “to fight”
us “hope”? e.g. jer jisa birader us agejenda “thing which accords with a future hope nicely”
uspi 1. “sound, noise” 2. “explanation”
uta 1. “to go out” 2. “to go up, to climb”
utisa “to drive out”
uttétí “result”
utuma “to work”

W

wa: (wanno, wannano, wanna) “other (of the same kind)” e.g. wansi q’ole “Nothing else.” cf. ab
wá: (wá:na, wá:na) “flesh, meat”
wača “to become dry” cf. c’eda
wada (wadano, wadana) 1. “time” 2. “generation”
wadádar “on time”
wadmá é:dí “worker”
waka “ox”
waki wăngano, waggi “cow”
waki ra:ti “cow’s milk”
wala 1. “to forget, to miss” 2. “to fail”
walre “rabbit”
wá:náwana “different, another”
wa:ni “some” quant.
wáníco Banna lex. “start”
waq’átí (waq’átíno, waq’átína) 1. “butter” 2. “oil”
wa:ra “to swim” cf. jiga, zo:ta
warajse uta “to swim” lit. “to go by swimming”
warkata var. warakata “left, left side”
warsa Banna lex. “song”
wejna “future”
wi “cabbage”

73
wo (won) “we” dependent form, cf. wodi
wobar “on our side”
wobo “false”
woc’ámát Banna lex. “trap”
woča “to scold”
woči “strong”
wočimba “to work hard, to do one’s best”
woda “to set, to put” cf. dotta
wodán koka “nowadays, in these days”
wodar “at our place”
wodímo var. wodómo “rich, abundant”
wodsa “to make someone put” cf. woda
wofa “to sleep” e.g. nagája wofa. “Have a good sleep!”
wofan “us”
wojjíl var. wojjím, wojjín “or” cf. ojís
wójlami (wójlamo, wójlamina) var. wójlam “heart”
wojsa “to stop”
wokañka “from us”
wolsa var. worsa? “to mix, to blend, to make”
wončé →wonté
wonté (wontéa, wonno, wanna) “our”
wonti “ourselves”
woŋka “by us”
worañfa “to become wide”
wor “be wide”
woša “our”
woša “to make someone sleep” cf. wofa
wossana “to decide”
woša 1. “to withdraw” cf. šakka 2. “to become dry” cf. teša
wo:táŋka “by us”
wotí (wotíno, wotína) “face, forehead”
wuča “to drink”
wučisa “to make someone drink” cf. wuča
wúl “all” quant.
wurgūfa  “pig”
wúro  (wúrro, wúrra) var. wúrrre “cat”
wus  meaning unclear.

Z

za?ínti  (za?íntinó, za?íntiná) “oil” < Am. zäyt?
zaga  “to want, to hope, to wish, to need”
zagsa  “to search” cf. zaga
za:ni  “rope”
za:q’a  “pea”
zara  “skin”
zarsi  “public, community”
zaska  “to need”
zawi  Karo lex. “red” cf. der
zele  → dele
zelín é:dí  “family, family member”
zíga  “back (of the body)”
zíja  “honey wine”
zijámákó  “pride”
zili  Banna lex. “rainbow”
zí:ni  (zí:nnó, zí:nná) “mosquito”
zóbo  (zotta, zóbono, zottono, zóbona) “lion” e.g. zotta “he-lion”, zottono “she-lion”
zo:  Banna lex. “red”
zolí  1. “leg (from knee to ankle)”  2. “stem”
zomôi  “blood”
zotta  Karo lex. “to swim” e.g. inta bazin zotta sağıdíne. “I swam and crossed the river.” cf. warra
zotájse  Banna lex. “in hunting” (adv.)