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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this text is to introduce the Oromo language, spoken in parts of Ethiopia and Kenya, to Peace Corps volunteers. The Oromo language (also referred to as Galla) used in the text is based on the standard language spoken in the western and southwestern provinces of Wollega, Illubabor, and Kaffa. However, with dialectal differences taken into account, these materials can be used to teach the Oromo language in any area. The materials have been presented in such a way that the teacher and the students can arrange them in lessons to suite their particular needs and learning styles. The text includes a pronunciation key, 20 units on different topics, and a unit of situational conversations. Grammatical information and a list of common verbs are appended. (NCR)

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# LANGUAGE MATERIALS

## OROMO

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**ALEM TRAINING CENTRE**

FL013557

OROMO FOR BEGINNERS

Prepared by

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Awassa, Summer 1975

Alem Training Centre

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## P R E F A C E

These Oromo language teaching materials were prepared for use during the series of two-week in-service language workshops for Peace Corps Volunteers held at Awassa in the summer of 1975.

They have been re-written with improvements made possible by insights gained during the actual language workshops.

There is a plan to expand these language materials.

Whoever uses these Oromo language materials should bear in mind that they take as standard the language spoken in the Western and South Western provinces of Wollega, Illubabor and Kaffa. The aim and scope of the undertaking was such that it was impractical to point out all the minute differences with other Oromo speaking areas such as Shoa, Harar, Arussi and Bale.

With the slight differences taken into account these materials can be used to teach Oromo language for any area.

The materials have been arranged in such a way that the teacher and the student (s) can arrange them in lessons to suit their particular speed of learning.

(ii)

### KEY TO PRONUNCIATION

Oromo is a hamitic language, which means that it cannot be transcribed in the Latin alphabet without difficulty. The following is a very approximative attempt to give the prospective reader a key to pronunciation.

#### 1. The Vowels:

Oromo has seven vowel sounds as does Amharic.

ɛ as in : the (thɛ), shirt (shɛrt)

u as in: fool (ful)

i as in: he (hi), she (shi)

a as in: bad, add, mad

e as in: hate (het), aid (ed)

ə as in: education (edukashən)

o as in : or, more (mor)

#### 2. a) Consonants:-

(i) c as in church (cərç)

(ii) c is an explosive c. eg. Cati, Camma

(iii) Ḍ is 'd' pronounced while in-haling

(iv) K is an explosive k. eg. Kursi, Kalami

(v) P is an explosive p. e.g.: PapPasi, PeTros

(iii)

- (vi) T is an explosive t. = e.g.: - TuTTo, KurTi
- (vii) S is a sibilant s. E.g. gəSSi, menəSSəri, Somi
- (viii) ñ is like the Spanish ñ. e.g. - dañna, amarañna
- (ix) g is hard as in: god  
j is pronounced as in: John

b) (i) Where a sound is stressed the letter is doubled:-

e.g.:- collect

(ii) Sounds which may be made or dropped are indicated by brackets.

e.g. .(w)ogga may be pronounced "wogga" or "ogga"

OROMINNA LESSON PLAN  
=====

**I GREETINGS:-**

Kalati

**A. General:-**

a) ashām!

b) ashām!

a) attam jirta? (How are you?)

b) gari galata waKa (yyo),  
attam jirta?

a) gari galata waKa(yyo).

waKa  
or  
waKayyo } = God  
or  
rabbi }

naga  
or  
gari } = well  
or  
fayya }

**N.B.:-** 1. For plural and respect forms, "ashām" will change to "ashama" and "attam jirta?" to "attam jirtu?".

2. naga = gari = fayya

3. waKa = waKayyo = rabbi

**B. In the morning:-**

Kalati

a) ashām!

b) ashām!

a) attam bulte? (Good morning)

b) naga galata waKayyo, attam bulte?

a) naga galata waKayyo.

Kalati = words  
mellεmameja = exercise

**N.B.-** For plural and respect forms, "attam bulte?" will change to "attam bultani?".



C. In the day time:-

- a) asham!
- b) asham!
- e) attam olte? (Good afternoon)
- b) fayya galata rabbi, attam olte?
- a) fayya galata rabbi.

N.B.:- For plural and respect forms, "attam olte?" will change to "attam oltani?".

D. At the time of departure:-

1. General: garitti!/nagatti!/fayyatti! (Bye!)
2. Morning: nagatti oli! (Good day!)
3. Afternoon: garitti buli! (Good night!)

N.B.:- For plural and respect forms, "oli" will change to "ola" and "buli" to "bula".

II PRONOUNS:

- an = I
- at = you
- əsin = you (respect form)
- ənni = he
- əshe = she
- nuy = we
- əsin = you (plural)
- əsan = they

Kalati

- ənnu? = who?
- mali? = what?
- habəsha = Ethiopian
- sidama = Amhara
- omo = Oromo
- Tigre = Tigre
- hakimi = doctor
- tamari/bara = student
- astamari/barsisa = teacher
- gabare/Kottu = farmer
- Safi = secretary
- shuferi = driver
- dañña = judge
- Waggade = merchant  
(she/Janice is an American.)
- tiksitu = shepherd
- wattaddara = soldier
- mo = or
- Da = is

melləməməja:-

Examples:

1. Q. at ənnu? (who are you?)  
A. an Tola Da. (I am Tola\*)
2. Q. Janice mali? (What is Janice?)  
A. əshen/Janice Americani Da. (she/Janice is an American.)  
Q: Rick mali?  
A: Rick Americani Da.  
Q: Ato Səbhat mali?  
A: Ato Səbhat habəsha Da.  
Q: əsan hakimi Da mo Kottu Da?  
A: əsan hakimi Da.

\*Tola is the name of a person

III PARTS OF THE BODY:-

rifensa = hair

mata = head

(h)adda = forehead

fula = face

gurra = ear

ija = eye

fuñnan = nose

afan = mouth

areda = beard

hiDi = lip

ilkan = tooth

arraba = tongue

morma = neck

KonKo = throat

gatetti = shoulder

Koma = chest

dugda = back

(h)arka = hand

milla = foot

gara = stomach

Kuba (h)arka = finger

Kuba milla = toe

$\left. \begin{array}{l} \bar{D}anna \\ \text{or} \\ \bar{D}aKna \end{array} \right\} = \text{body}$

Kalati

kan eñnu? = whose?

kun = this

sun = that

$\bar{D}a = \text{it } \underline{\underline{is}}$

Mitti = it is not

eye = yes

lakki = no

IV POSSESSIVE ENDINGS:-

Kalati

ərsasi = pencil

koti = coat

an - ərsasi - ko (my pencil)

shəmizi/kitta = shirt

at - " - ke (your pencil)

surre = trousers

asin - " - kessan (your pencil (polite form))

Camma/kəp'e = shoe

ənni - " - sa (his pencil)

mutanta = underpant

əshe - " - she (her " )

kanatera = undershirt

əsan - " - sani (his " (polite form))

shurraba = sweater

nuy - " - keñna (our pencil)

shurrabi milla = stockings

əsin - " - kessan (your " (plural))

Kamisi = dress

əsan - " - sani (their pencil)

wust labsi = lady's underwear

sa-ati = watch

manaşsiri = eye glass

barmeTa = hat

fakke/mido = comb

mastawati/ilali = mirror

shanTa = suit case

miq = goods/belongings

borsa = purse/wallet

maharraba = handkerchief

mana = house

dalla = fence

gibbi = compound

sire = bed

farashi = mattress

ansola = bedsheet

borati = pillow

zanab'ləbsi = raincoat

kobborta = over coat

uffata

or } = clothing

wayya

bərd'ləbsi = blanket

məlləməməja:-

Examples:-

1. Q. Kun mal? (What is this?)

A. sun mataketi (That is your head).

2. Q. kun rifensakoti? (Is this my hair?)

A. lakki, sun rifensake miti. Fulaketi.

(No, it is not your hair. It is your face.)

Q. Sun shurrabisheti?

A. Eyye, sun shurrabisheti

Q. Kobbortan sun kan eñnuti?

A. kobbortan sun kan Tolesati\*

Q. Siren kun kan eñnuti?

A. Siren kun kan Calati\*

N.B.:- Plurals are formed by adding "ota" to the singulars.

e.g. koti - kotota, mido - midota, bara - barota

\*Tolesa & Cala are names of persons.

V NUMERALS:-

Kalati

takko = 1	digdama = 20	meKa? = how much or = how many
lama = 2	soddoma = 30	arsasi = pencil
sadi = 3	afurtama = 40	dabtari = note book
afur = 4	shantama = 50	m&Shafa = book
shan = 5	jatama = 60	skripto = ball point
ja-a = 6	torbatama = 70	gati = price
torba = 7	saddettama = 80	santimi = cents
saddet = 8	sagaltama = 90	sumuni = 25 cents coin
sagal = 9	Dibba = 100	birri = dollar
kuDan = 10	kuma = 1000	damoza = salary

N.B.:-

1. Numeral combinations between 10 and 100 are made by:

a) dropping the "n" sound of "KuDan" for all tens. eg. 13=

kuDa sadi; 19= kuDa sagal; etc..

b) changing the last "a" sound to "i" for all nos. from 21 to 99.

eg:- 35 = soddomi shan

53 = shantami sadi

97 = sagaltami torba

2. Numerals like 200, 3000, etc. are told by how many hundreds or thousands they are.

eg:- 200 = Dibba lama; 3000 = kuma sadi

3. Numeral combinations above 100 are made by adding "...f" (which stands for "and") between the hundreds or thousands digit and the tens or units digit.

eg:- 305 = D̄ibba sadif shan

325 = D̄ibba sadif digdami shan

mellemamaja:-

Examples:-

1. Q. damoznike meKa? (How much is your salary?)  
A. damozniko birri D̄ibba shan. (My salary is \$500)
2. Q. gatin sa-atike meKa? (What is the price of your watch?)  
A. gatin sa-atiko birri D̄ibba<sub>f</sub> afurtama (The price of my watch is \$140)
- Q. Kun meKa? (25)  
A. sun digdami shan.
- Q. gatin ərsasi shani meKa?  
A. gatin ərsasi shani sumuni D̄a.
- Q. gatin koPeke meKa?  
A. gatin koPeko birri soddomi shan.

VI CONJUGATION OF THE VERB: "barbaccu" (ie. "to want"):-

	<u>"I want"</u>	<u>"I do not want"</u>
an	nan barbada	in barbadu
at	hin barbadda	in barbaddu
ə sin	hin barbaddu	in barbaddanu
ə nni	hin barbada	in barbadu

(cont'd)

VI Con....

əshen	hin barbaddi	in barbaddu
əsan	hin barbada	in barbadanu
nuy	hin barbada	in barbadnu
əsin	hin barbaddu	in barbaddanu
əsan	hin barbada	in barbadanu

VII DIFFERENT KINDS OF FOOD:-

- dabbo = loaf of bread
- buddena = injera
- waTi/itto = wOT
- anKaKu/buPPa = egg
- fon = meat
- KurTummi = fish
- hola = sheep
- sa-a = cow
- retti = goat
- sanga = ox
- əndaKKo = chicken
- CuKKo = CuKKo
- KiTTA = KiTTa
- aKayi = Kolo
- mullu = nəfro

Kalati

- mal? = What?
- yom? = when?
- naccu = to eat
- Kursi = breakfast
- məsa = lunch
- ərbata = dinner
- ...f = ..and
- DeDi = raw
- affelli = cooked/boiled
- waddi = cooked/roast
- uma }  
or }  
huma } = nothing  
or }  
homa }

Certain Combinations:-

- waTi əndaKKo = chicken sauce
- Tibsi hola = roast lamb
- anKaKu affelli = boiled egg
- Tibsi KurTummi = fried fish
- Tibsi anKaKu = fried egg
- fon DeDi = raw meat
- fon waddi = roast meat

**VIII DIFFERENT THINGS TO BE PUNK:-**

bəshan = water

buna = coffee

shayi = tea

annan = milk

daDi = Tea

farso = Tella

araKe = liquor

**Kalati**

ganama = morning

guyya = day-time

ga' 'a = evening

alkan = night

ganna = winter

bona = summer

Dugu = to drink

O-a = hot

Kabbana-a/Korra = cold

duwwa = { empty  
or  
only

**mallemaaja:-**

**Examples:-**

1. Q. ərbata mal naccu barbadda?

(What do you want to eat for your dinner?)

A. waTi əndaKKo naccu barbada

(I want to eat chicken sauce.)

Q. ganama ganama mal Dugu barbaddi?

(What does she want to drink every morning?)

A. ganama ganama annan O-a Dugu barbaddi

(She wants to drink hot milk every morning)

Q. at fon DeDi naccu barbadda?

A. lakki, an fon DeDi naccu inbarbadu

Q. farso Dugu hin barbadda?

A. eyye, farso Dugu nan barbada

Q. Tom guyya guyya mal Dugu barbada?

A. Tom guyya guyya bira Kabbana-a Dugu barbada

Q. Obbo Səbhat galgala galgala daDi Dugu hin barbadu?

A. lakki, Obbo Səbhat galgala galgala daDi Dugu in-

barbadanu.



**IX IMPERATIVES**

**INFINITIVE**

<u>MorF</u>	respect or <u>plural</u>				
kottu	kotta	=	come	Dufu	<u>Kalati</u> as= here
demi	dema	=	go	demu	acci= there
ka-i	Ka-a	=	get up	ka-u	kana= this
ta-i	ta-a	=	sit down	ta-u	sana= that
Cisi	Cisa	=	lie down/sleep	Cisu	malo= please(request)
rafi	rafa	=	" " "	rafu	bsa=light
bani	bana	=	open	banu	balbala= door
Cufi	Cufa	=	shut	Cufu	maskoti = window
naDDu	naDDa	=	eat	naccu	radioni = radio
Dugi	Duga	=	drink	Dugu	Tarmusi = bottle
DiKaDDu	DiKaDDa	=	wash(body)	DiKaccu	wambari = chair
miCCi	miCCa	=	wash (articles)	miCCu	TaraPpeza = table
DiKi	DiKa	=	" "	DiKu	ala hunduma = always
bsi	bsa	=	put on(light)	bsu	yero " "
Damsi	Damsa	=	put off(light)	Damsu	ugga " "
uffaDDu	uffaDDa	=	put on (clothes)	uffaccu	al tokko tokko = some- times
basi	basa	=	take off( " )	basu	yero tokko tokko =some- times
gessi	gessa	=	take (to a place)	gessu	ugga tokko to*ko =some- times
kenni	kenna	=	give	kennu	
biti	bita	=	buy	bitu	
gurguri	gurgura	=	sell	gurguru	
kasi	kasa	=	lift	kasu	
afi	afa	=	fix (a bed)	afu	
Taragi	Taraga	=	sweep	Taragu	

IX Con.....

<u>MF</u>	resp. <u>Arad</u>		<u>Infinitive</u>
fidi	fida	= bring	fidu
KulKullessi	KulKullessa	= clean	KulKullessu
O-isi	O-isa	= heat	O-isu
Kabbanessi	Kabbanessa	= cool	Kabbanessu

mEllamamaja:-

Examples:-

1. ala hunduma arkake DiKaFu  
(wash your hands always)
2. ganama ganama fulakessan DiKaPa.  
(wash your face every mornng (resp.))
3. Wambari sana as fidi.  
(Bring that chair over here.)
4. Malo radiokana acci gessa.  
(please take this radio over there (resp.))

X. DAYS OF THE WEEK:-

		<u>Kalati</u>
dafino/witata -	Monday	harr-a = today
faCasa/ballo -	Tuesday	bor = tomorrow
robi -	Wednesday	eftan = day after tomorrow
amisa -	Thursday	
jimata	Friday	Malessa = yesterday
ayyan dura/sabata dura -	Saturday	Dengadda = day before yesterday
ayyan gudda/gudda/sanbata gudda -	Sunday	mali? = what?

X. Con.....

mellemeja:-

1. Q. harr-a mal? (What is today?)  
A. harr-a kamissa (Da). (Today is Thursday)
2. Q. Kalessa-O? (And how about yesterday?)  
A. Kalessa robi ture. (Yesterday was Wednesday).

Q. bor mal?

A. bor jimata (Da)

Q. Dengadda-O?

A. Dengadda faCasa ture.

Q. guyya lama dura mal ture?

A. guyya lama dura faCasa ture

Q. Kani lama bodde mal ta-a?

A. Kani lama bodde sambata dura ta-a.

XI. MONTHS OF THE YEAR:-

<u>Oromāna</u>	<u>Amharic</u>	<u>Gregorian</u>	<u>Kalati</u>
fulbana/yaro	Masharam	Sept. 11-Oct. 10	ama = now
Kore	Takamt	Oct - Nov.	sila = a short while ago
mudde	hadar	Nov.-Dec.	ji-a - month
furma	tahsas	Dec.-Jan	(w)ogga = year
Camsa	Tar	Jan. -Feb.	bara = year
Korke	YEkkatit	Feb.-March	barana = this year
			bara darbe= last year

XI. Con.....

<u>Oromānna</u>	<u>Amharic</u>	<u>Gregorian</u>	<u>Kalati</u>
boru	maggabit	March - April	bara Dufu = next year
wɛTɛbɛjji	miazia	April-May	ganna(i) = winter
adolessa	ganbot	May - June	arfasa/afrasa = autumn
agɛyya	sene	June - July	bora = Summer
CuluKKe	hamle	July-Aug.	borra = spring
Cɛlɛggu	nɛhase	Aug. -Sept	ifa = light
Kamme	Pagume(n)	Sept 6-10 (11)	dukkana = darkness

mellɛmamɛja

- Q. ji-a ama mal?
- A. ji-a ama yaro Da .
- Q. ji-a darbe mal?
- A. ji-a darbe Kamme Da .
- Q. ji-a Dufu mal?
- A. ji-a Dufu Kore Da .
- Q. ganni yom?
- A. ganni agɛyya, CuluKKeɛ Cɛlɛggu kessa.

- tota = flood
- jallɛssi = irrigation
- Kotisa = farm
- laga/boshan = river
- galana = big river
- hora = lake
- DokKe = mud
- Cirracca = sand
- biyyo = soil
- lafa = earth
- Cabbi = hail
- hurri = fog
- dumessa = cloud
- fiTensa = dew
- yom? = when?
- kessa = in

**XII. Telling Time:-**

sa-ati = hour

d̄KiKa = minute

rubi = a quarter (¼)

walakka = a half

hirr-u/hir̄Du = less (...to)

....f = and (+)

or

= less (-)

**Kalati**

amma = now

sila = a short while ago

dura = before

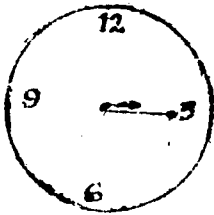
bodde = after

̄Da = is

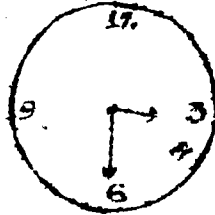
ture = was

ta-a = will be

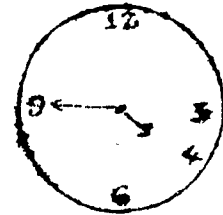
**Combinations:-**



amma sa-ati sagalif  
rubi ̄Da.

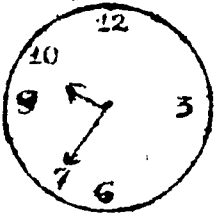


amma sa-ati sagalif  
walakkāDa



amma sa-ati kūDanif  
rubi hirr-u ̄Da.

**malleman̄ja:-**



Q. amma sa-ati meKa?

A. amma sa-ati afurif d̄KiKa digdami shan hirr-u ̄Da.

Q. d̄KiKa kūDan bodde sa-ati meKa ta-a?

A. " " " " afurif rubi hirr-u  
ta-a.

Q. d̄KiKa digdama dura sa-ati meKa ture?

A. " " " " sadif rubi ture.

**XIII CONJUGATION OF THE VERB = "Kabaccu" (i.e. "to have")**

	<u>"I have"</u> ↓	<u>"I do not have"</u> ↓
an	nan Kab-a	in Kab-u
at	hin Kab-dda	in Kab-ddu
əsin	hin Kab-ddu	in Kab-ddanu
ənni	hin Kab-a	in Kab-u
əshen	hin Kab-ddi	in Kab-ddu
əsan	hin Kab-u	in Kab-anu
nuy	hin Kab-na	in Kab-nu
əsin	hin Kab-ddu	in Kab-ddanu
əsan	hin Kab-u	in Kab-anu

**N.B.:-** 1. Both the present and future tenses follow this pattern.

2. The prefixes "nan" or "hin" can be used or dropped out depending upon the type of question.

e.g.:- a) Q. at ərsasi hin Kabda? (Do you have a pencil?)

A. eyye, anərsasi nan Kaba ( Yes, I have a pencil)

b) Q. əshen mal Kabddi? (What does she have?)

A. əshen skriptota sadi Kabddi (She has three ballpoints)

i.e The mentioned prefixes will be used in answering questions which have the prefixes as indicated in Example 2(a)

But, usually these prefixes are dropped out and replaced by nouns as indicated in Example 2(b).

XIV. COMMON DOMESTIC & WILD ANIMALS:-

sa-a = cow	ramro = worm	boyye = pig
sanga = ox	s(ha)arariti = spider	bosonu = deer
jabbi = calf	(a) tāsisa = fly	kurupPe = antelope
hola = sheep	kannisa = bee	wenni = colobus monkey
retti = goat	sinbira/sinbirro = bird	Kalame = ape
farda = horse	bulala/guge = dove	warabessa = hyena
gange = mule	bujale = jigger	ungo = fox
gala = camel	gonda = ant	tiger or cheetah
harre = donkey	(a) rirma = white ant	Kerrensa or leopard
sare = dog		
adurre = cat		lenCa = lion
antuṭa = rat		arba = elephant
bofa = snake		
gararra = chameleon		

mellemamaja

Kalati

- Q. at AmericaḌa adurre Kabda?  
 A. eyye, an America Ḍa adurre Koba.  
 Q. Sare-O?  
 A. lakki, sare in Kabu  
 Q. fop sare ḅaccu barbadda?  
 A. lakki, fon sare ḅaccu inbarbadu  
 Q. annan gala Ḍugu barbadda?  
 A. eyye, annan gala Ḍugun barbada.  
 Q. Kenya Ḍa mal mal ilalu barbadda?  
 A. Kenya Ḍa len Caf arba ilalun barbada

- Ḍa = from  
 ilalu = to see  
 bitu = to buy  
 gurguru = to sell  
 Kabaccu = to have  
 barbaccu = to want  
 ḅaccu = to eat  
 Ḍugu = to drink

**XV. FAMILY RELATIONSHIP:-**

**Kalati**

Ḍira = man

dubarti = woman

durba = girl

jarsa = old man

jarti = old woman

dargaggesa = youngster

Ḍirsa/abba mana = husband

niti/haḌa mana = wife

muCa = child

ajolle = children

abba = father

haḌa = mother

obbolessa = brother

obboletti = sister

angafa = elder

KuTisu = younger

adada = aunt

wasila = uncle

akko/akakayyu = grand parent

hoji = work or profession

hojjaceu = to work

jiraccu = to live

du-u = to die

maKa = name

duwwa = only/empty

yom ? = when?

essa? = where?

malin? = by what?

malif? = why?

eñnu (h) ojin? = with whom?

meKa? = how much or

how many

fuḌu/fuccu = to marry (M)

herumu = to get married (f)

**mellamameja:** (A short dialogue)

**Henry:-** obbolessa KabḌa? (Do you have a brother?)

**Abdisa:-** eyye, Kaba. (Yes, I do.)

H. meKa? (How many?)

A. tokko duwwa (only one)

H. maKansa eñnu? (What is his name?)

A. maKansa Mardasa Ḍa. (His name is Mardasa)



H. hojin sa mal? (What is his profession?)

A. barsisa Da. (He is a teacher)

H. angafa mo Kufisuketi? (Is he your older or younger brother?)

A. angafa koti. ( He is my older brother.)

H. (w) oggansa meKa? (How old is he?)

A. (w) oggansa digdami shan ( He is 25 yrs.old.)

H. niti Kaba? ( Does he have a wife?)

A. eyyo Kaba. (Yes, he does.)

H. əjolle-o? (And how about children?)

A. əjolles Kaba. ( He has children too)

H. akkonke jirumo duaniru ? ( Is your grand parent alive or dead?)

A. duaniru. (He/she is dead. (respect form))

XVI. CONJUGATION OF THE VERB: "beku" (i.e. to know)

	"I know"	"I do not know"
an	nan bek-a	in bek-u
at	hin bek-tta	in bek-t
əsin	hin bek-ttu	in bek-ttanu
ənni	" bek-a	in bek-u
əshen	" bek-tti	in bek-ttu
əsan	" bek-u	in bek-anu
nuy	" bek-na	" " -nu
əsin	" " -ttu	" " -ttanu
əsan	" " -u	" " -anu

N.B.:- All regular verbs follow this pattern. (for present and future)

malla mamaja

Example:-

Q. at afan Oromo beкта? (Do you know the Oromo language?)

A. eyye, afan Oromo Tino Tino beкта. (Yes, I know very little Oromo language).

Q. afan china beкта?

A. lakki, afan china inbeku.

Q. Rick makina ofu beкта?

A. eyye, Rick makina ofu beкта.

Q. at-o?

A. an inbeku.

Q. farda gulufu beкта?

A. eyye, farda gulufu beкта.

Q. Janice wafi hab sha hojeccu bekti?

A. eyye, Janice wafi hab sha hojeccu bekti?

Q. Obbo Sabhat bashan daku beкта?

A. lakki, Obbo Sabhat bashan daku inbekanu.

Q. Kurtumi Kabu-O?

A. Kurtumi Kabu inbekanu.

Q. Saban kwasi milla taPaccu hin bekti?

A. lakki, Saban kwasi milla taPaccu inbektu.

Kalati

afan = mouth or  
language (figurative)

ofu = to drive

beku = to know

gulufu = to gallop

hojeccu = work or  
prepare

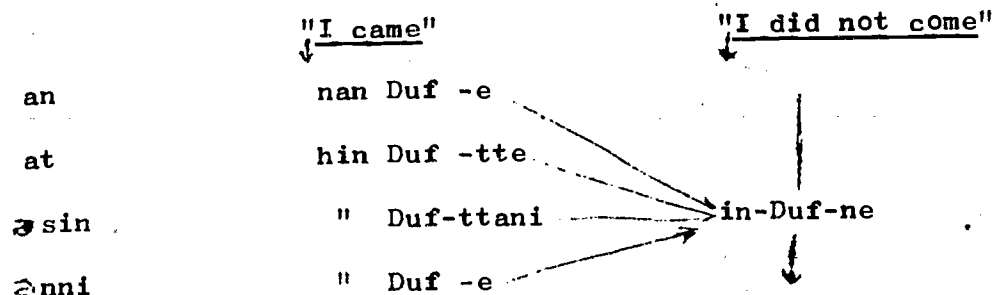
Kabu = to catch

taPaccu = to play

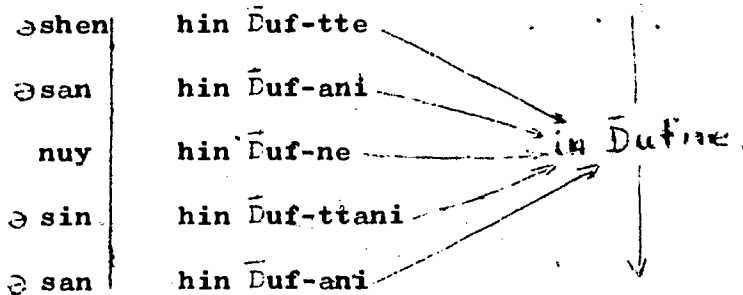
daku = to swim or  
to grind

kwasi = ball

XVII CONJUGATION OF THE VERB: "Duf-e" (i.e. ....came)



XVII. Con.....



- N.B.:-
1. All regular verbs follow this pattern (for past)
  2. The past negative for all pronouns is the same

XIX. DIFFERENT MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION:-

aroplani = aeroplane

makina = car

atobusi = bus

markaba = ship

bidiru = boat

gari = gari (cart)

gango = mule

farda = horse

milla = foot

Kalati

Dufu = to come

beku = to know

ofu = to drive

demu = to go

malin? = by what?

yom ? = when?

ennu hojin? = with whom?

...Dan = by (means of transportation)

.....Da = from

abalota ɛɛlam gwadi = PCVs

Combinations:-

1. aroplani Dan Dufe. ( I came by airplane)
2. gango Dan Dufte. ( You came by mule)
3. millan Dufani ( He came on foot (resp. form))

malla: mama:ja:-

Q. Eshen America Da you Dufte?

A. " " " (†)gga Takko dura Dufte.

Q. ennu hojin?

A. abalota salam gwadi hojin .

Q. malin?

A. aroplani Dan

Q. m<sup>a</sup>kina Kabddi?

A. lakki, in Kabdu .

Q. aroplani ; ofu bekti?

A. lakki, aroplani ofu inbektu.

XX. COMMON ADJUECTIVES:-

gudda = big/large

Tinna(ɔ) = small/little

Ɔera = tall

Ɔababa = short

furda = fat

Kallo = thin

ulfata= heavy  
or  
respected person

salPa = light (wt.)

balla = wide

ƆiPPo = narrow

sirbitu = singer

duda = deaf

kaƆattu = beggar

gowwa = fool

maratu = a mad person

Ɔukubsata = a sick person

Ɔyyessa = poor

baƆaƆa/soressa = rich

goga = dry

jiƆa = wet

muCuCa = slippery

gaƆe = bad

Turu/bayessa = good

XX. Con.....

adamsitu = hunter

ulfa = pregnant

nafa = lame

KurCi = leper

balla = cross eyed

jama = blind

bareda = handsome

bareddu = beautiful

fokkisa = ugly ( M)

fokkistu = ugly (F)

KulKullu = clean

gutu = full

hirr-u = not full

mīna-a = sweet

hāoftu = bitter

rakasa = cheap

mi-a = expensive

XXI. COMMON COLOURS:=

adi = white

gurracca = black

dima = red

magarsu = green

bora = yellow

magala = brown

dalacca = grey

Kalati

Kalami = colour

Or  
ink

ababo = flower

marga = grass

bala = leaf

(y)okin = or

mal fakkata? = What does  
it look like?

malla mamaja:-

Q. Tom DeraDa mo gababa Da?

A. Tom gababa Da.

Q. Denis furda Damo Kallō Da?

A. Denis furda Da.

Q. ababon mal fakkata?

A. ababon dima (y)okin <sup>hara</sup> Āa.

Q. Kalamın margaf bala mali?

A. Kalamın " <sup>belte</sup> magarsu Āa.

N.B. Eventhough both "mo" and "(y)okin" mean "or", the former is used for questions and the latter for statements.

XXII. PREPOSITIONS:-

Oli = up

gadi = down

bira/bukke = by the side of

--rra/arra/gubba = on

jala = underneath

kessa = inside

-- Āan = by

-- Āa = from/at

ala/bakke = outside

fulle/fuldura = opposite

duba = over there

dudduba/bodde = at the back

(h)ojin = with

gajjalla = beneath

gararra = over

mirga = right

bita = left

gara  
or } = towards  
kara }

Kalati

garami? = which side?

maltu? = what is?

Āio = near

fago = far

jira = there is (M)

jirti = there is (F)

essa? = where?

mana = home/house

mana hakimi = hospital

mellamamaja

Q. mannishe essa?

A. mannishe mana banki bukke Da.

Q. mannike Dio Da mo fago Da?

A. manniko Dio Da.

Q. mana posta fulle maltu jira?

A. mana posta fulle mana silki jira.

Q. mam tamari mam Koricarra garami?

A. mam Tamari mam Koricarra gara mirgati

Kalati

mana Koricca = clinic/

pharmacy

mamaposta = post office

mana silki = telecommunication

mam tamari = school

mana banki = bank

(mam) hotela = hotel

biro = office

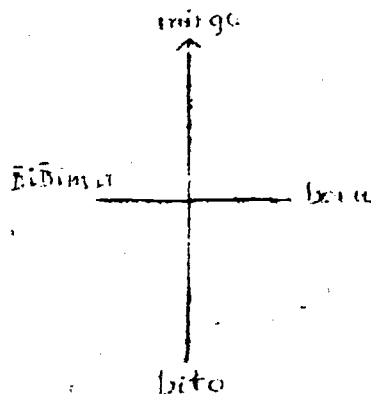
XXII. DIRECTIONS:-

mirgo = north

boru = East

DiDimma = West

bito = South



Combinations

gara bita = towards the left

gara mirga = towards the right

Kalati

garami? = which way?

ji-a = noon

adu = sun

(h)urji = star

gabbata waKayyo = rainbow

bari(adj.)

bari-u(infinitive) → down

Di-u = getting darker

bulu = to spend the night

mellamamaja

Examples:

1. Q. adun essan bati? (Where does the sun rise?)

A. adun borun bati. (The sun rises in the east)

2. Q. essan liTTi? (Where does it set?)

A. DiDiman liTTi. (It sets in the West)

Q. Kenyan Ethioparra garami?

Kalati

A. Kenyan Ethioparra gara bitoti,

Olu = to spent the day

Q. American Ethioparra garami?

turu = to wait

A. " " gara EiDimati.

ba-u = to rise (sun)  
or  
to come out

liTu = to set (sun)  
or  
to enter

N.B.:- The sun and the moon are considered Feminine. That is why we used "litti" and "bati" in the examples above instead of "lifa" and "ba-a" which would be used for Masculine.

XXIV "COMMON ARTICLES IN THE MARKET:-

shunkurtti = onion

sakani = dish

Kullabbi = garlic

ele = injirra baking pan (made of clay)

mimmiTa = red pepper

disti = cooking pot (made of clay)

ashabo/sogidda = salt

jabana = a clay jug for boiling coffee

buna = coffee

shini = cup

atari/ato = pea

burCuKko. = glass (for drinking liquids with)

shumbura = chick peas

manKorKorya = kettle

boKKollo = corn

wanCa = a horn cup or bigger container

lomi = lemon

Kabe = goard

musi = banana

\*adu/billa = knife

rafu = cabbage

shukka = fork

dinnicca = potato

fallana/manka = spoon



burtukana = orange

DaDa = butter

badu = cheese

itittu = yoghurt

Kalati

gati = price

Duga = real

Dugansa  
or  
Dugatin } = its real

malla mamaJa:-

Example:-

Q. KaKun meKa meKa? ( How do you sell eggs?)

A. sumunitti sadi. (Three for a quarter)

Q. gatin andaKKo kana meKa?

A. birri lama.

Q. Dugansa meKa?

A. birrif santimi tarbatami shan.

Q. gatin buna-O?

A. kilon tokko birri lamaf walakka Da.

A SIMPLE DIALOGUE:-

Galana: asham!

PCV : asham!

G. gari jirta?

P. gari Da.

G. maKanke ennu?

P. maKanko Henry Da.

G. w)agganke meKa?

Kalati

maKa = name

biyya = country

wojin/hojin = with

beku = to know

baru = to learn

jabaccu = to get stronger

or courageous

P. (w)ogganko digdami afur.

G. biyyike essa?

P. America  $\bar{D}a$ .

G. biyyakati malin  $\bar{D}ufte$ ?

P. awroplani  $\bar{D}anin \bar{D}ufe$ .

G. yom  $\bar{D}ufte$ ?

P. (w)ogga takko duran  $\bar{D}ufe$ .

G. ennu hojin  $\bar{D}ufte$ ?

P. Andyfa hojin.

G. America yom debite demta?

P. (w)ogga takko bodden dema.

G. afan Cromo beka?

P. Tinno Tinnon beka.

G. jaba $\bar{D}Du$  bari.

P. ata-u.

G. garitti oli!

P. garitti!

tole/ata-u = let it be  
or  
= all right

jaba $\bar{D}Du$  = have the  
courage or  
= work harder

Andy  $\bar{f}a$  = Andy and  
others  
debi-u = to return  
or  
to go back

XXV. STATES OF BEING:

A. Being Hungry (bela-u):-

	<u>"I am hungry"</u>	<u>"I am not hungry"</u>
	↓	↓
an	nan bel-a-e	inbelofne
at	hin " -of-tte	"
sin	" " -of-tani	"
nni	" " -a-e	"
shen	" " -of-tte	"
san	" " -a-ani	"
nuy	" " -of-ne	"
sin	" " -of-ttani	"
san	" " -a-ani	"

mellimameja

- Q. at hin belofte?  
 A. eyye, nan bela-e?  
 Q. malif?  
 A. Kursiko in nanne  
 Q. shen hin belofte?  
 A. eyye, hin belofte.  
 Q. malif?  
 A. orbatashe innanne  
 Q. amma nattetti?  
 A. eyye, nattetti  
 Q. ennu (h)ojin natte?  
 A. KOPPa (she) natte

Kalati

- bela-u = to be hungry  
 Kufu = to be full  
 naccu = to eat  
 malif? = why?  
 kOPPa/kOPPa = alone

B. Being Thirsty (Deboccu):-

	<u>"I am thirsty"</u> ↓	<u>"I am not thirsty"</u> ↓
an	nan Debo-ĀĀDe	inDebonne
at	hin " -tte	"
asin	" " -ttani.	"
anni	" " -te	"
ashen	" " - tte	"
san	" " -tani	"
nuy	" " - nne	"
asin	" " -ttani	"
san	" " -tani	"

malɩmamaja:-

<u>Henry:</u>	FiTe, attam olte?	<u>Kalati</u>
<u>FiTe:</u>	gari, attam olte?	Ādugu = to drink
H.	gari.	woyya = better
F.	mal tate?	Caɩa = greater
H.	nan DeboĀĀDe	kam? = which?
F.	mal woyyare?	mal? = what?
H.	wa Ādugun barbada,	wa = something
F.	essa?	---re = so/then
H.	mana bunati.	dafi = be quick
F.	mal Ādugu barbadda?	suta jeĀi = be slow
H.	fanta (y)okin bira.	
F.	ata-u, dafi demi	
H.	garitti !	

C. Being Tired ( daD̄Dabu/daT̄Tabu):-

	<u>"I am tired"</u> ↓	<u>"I am not tired"</u> ↓
an	nan daD̄Dab-e	indaD̄Dabne
at	hin " -dde	"
asin	" " -ddani	"
anni	" " -e	"
ashen	" " -dde	"
asan	" " -ani	"
nuy	" " -ne	"
asin	" " -ddani	"
asan	" " -ani	"

malifmama

Q. asin Cisu barbaddu?

A. eyye, Cisun barbada

Q. malif?

A. kalessa bayyen taPaD̄De. amma nan daD̄Dabe.

Q. mal taPattani?

A. kuwasi milla

Q. ennu hojin?

A. Djolle bayye hojin

Kalati

taPaccu = to play

daD̄Dabu  
or - } to be tired  
daT̄Tabu

kuwasi = ball

Cisu -  
Or } = to sleep  
rafu }

D. Being Sick (Dukkubsaccu):-

an	na	Dukkuba	na	inDukkubu
at	si	"	si	"
Ḑsin.	Ḑsin	"	Ḑsin	"
Ḑnni	Ḑsa	"	Ḑsa	"
Ḑshen	Ḑshe	"	Ḑshe	"
Ḑsan	Ḑsan	"	Ḑsan	"
nuy	nu	"	nu	"
Ḑsin	Ḑsin	"	Ḑsin	"
Ḑsan	Ḑsan	"	Ḑsan	"

mḐll:mamḐja

Q. mal tatani?

A. na Dukkuba.

Q. malke?

A. gara ko.

Q. gara CininnaḐa?

A. eyye.

Q. Koricca inKabdu?

A. Kaba.

Q. liKimsika

A. ata-u.

Kalati

mata bowwu = headache

gara Cininna = stomach ache

Koricca = medicine

liKimsu = to swallow

Ḑugu = to drink

fuḐaccu = to take

Dukkubsaccu = to be sick

fayyu = to recover

woyya-u = to feel better

E. To be caught by or to catch something: e.g. - cold:-

an	na Kabe	na inKabe
at	si "	si "
asin	asin "	asin "
anni	asa "	asa "
ashen	ashe	ashe "
asan	asan "	asan "
nuy	nu "	nu "
asin	asin "	asin "
asan	asan "	asan "

malla mamaja:

Q. mal tatani?

A. utallen naKabe .

Q. Koricca inKabdanu?

A. Kaba.

Q. liKimsa ka .

A. tole.

Q. galgala galgala sa-ati meKatti irribni

sin Kaba?

A. sa-ati shanitti .

Q. sa-ati meKatti raftu?

A. sa-ati ja-atti.

Kalati

irriba = sleep(n)

mugati = "

utallo = common cold

mata bowwu/bowwu = headache

gara kasa = diarrhea

soda = fear

kolfa = laughter

ari = anger

gammaccu = happiness

gadda = sorrow

bo-icca = weeping

tole = O.K.

rafu = to sleep

Cisu = to sleep

ka-u = to get up

Situational Conversations

1: At the Market

<u>PCV:</u>		<u>Kalati</u>
<u>Debela:</u> ashame!		gati = price
P. lomin meKa meKa?		KurTi = real
P. shan shan.		ho-a = take it. (resp. form)
P. torba torba ingurgurtu?		gunguru = to sell
P. inta-u.		gadi = below
P. ja-a ja-0?		fidi = bring (M or F)
P. atau fida.		fida = bring (respect)
P. gatin sahani sana meKa?		
P. birri sadif walakka.		
P. Kurtinsa-0?		
P. Kurtinsa birri sadi.		
P. birri lama inta-u?		
P. birri lamaf walakka gaditti ingurguru.		
P. atau - fidi.		
P. ho-a		

Situational Conversation

2. In a bar

<u>PCV:</u>		<u>Kalati</u>
<u>Woyyessa:</u> abet!		abet! = yes!
P. mal maltu jira?		dura = first
P. natamo Dugati?		bodde = later



P. dura n̄atan barbada	n̄ata = food
W. hundumtu jira.	Dugati = drink
P. Tibsi hola nafidi.	hundumta = everything
W. buddenan mo dabbo D̄an?	attam? = how?
P. dabboD̄an.	walitti = altogether
W. ata-u.	hoD̄a = take it
P. bira tokkos nafidi	likkiD̄a = it is right
W. āshi.	
P. gatin meKa?	
W. \$1.90 .	
P. attam?	
W. gatin Tibsi \$1.25, gatin birrammo \$0.65.	
walitti \$1.90 .	
P. likkiD̄a. hoD̄u.	
garitti !	

Situational Conversation

3.a) Hiring A House:-

PCV: attam Olte?

Person A gari, attam Oltani?

P. gari D̄a. manni kirayi essa jira, bekta?

A. mana akkami barbaddu?

P. mana bayessa kan kifli sadi, mana finCani,

walitti bañño kan Kabun barbada.

A. manni bayessa takko acci jira?

P. malo natt agarsisi.

A. atta-u.

A. man kan krayi feDaccu barbanna.

Person B. bayessaka!

Kalati

P. kirayinsa meKa?

attani/akkami = what type

B. \$125

kirayi fuDaccu = to hire (ilalu)

P. mal bayye miaDa.

anat/natti = to me

B. miw miti. bayye rakasa.

jira = there is

P. Kurtinsa meKa?

bayessa = good

B. dura ilalu woyya.

gaDe = bad

P. atta-u inlalla.

manafinCani = latrine

manni fin Canitif banno bayye KulKullu miti.

B. KulKullu Da.

weTbeti = kitchen

P. KurTin Kirayi meKa?

banno = bath room

agarsisu = to show

B. \$100 atta-u.

Kalati

P. esa gaditti in ta-u?

mi-a = expensive

B. inta-u.

rakasa = cheap

P. attau-ga.

ilalu = to see

B. yom etti galtu?

wayya = is better

Situational Conversation 3 (cont'd)

P. torban tokko bodde.

Kalati

B. bayessa ga.

inwayyu = is not better

A&P jeDa garitti ola!

KulKullu = clean

B. garitti ola!

gadi = below

gudda = big

b) Taking a hotel room:-

balla = wide

PCV asham obbolessa!

DiPpo = narrow

Guddina: ashama!

albergo = hotel room

P. albergon jira?

tole = O.K.

G. eyye jira

atti = to it (into it)

P. kan meKa?

G. kan \$3, \$5 f \$7

P. kan \$7 mal mal Kaba

G. k aflinsa balla Da. mama finCanif banno Kaba.

bannon bashan O-a Kaba

P. kan \$5 banno O-a inKabu?

G. bannon sa KabanaaDa.

P. attau. kan \$7 kifli bayessa takko nakenni

G. tole.

Situational Conversation

4.a) Hiring A maid:-

Kalati

<u>Raggatu:</u>	ashama!	hojjeccu = to work
<u>PCV:</u>	asham!	barbaccu = to want
R.	garadi barbaddu?	danda-u = to know or to be able to do
P.	eyye nan barbada. mal mal hojjeccu dandessa?	garddi = maid servant lamanu = both
R.	nata aynata hunduma hojjeccu nan danda-a.	aynata = kind (variety) hunda/hunduma = all
P.	kan faranji mo kan habesha?	wayya = clothes micCa = to wash
R.	lamanu-	tokkosu = to iron
P.	wayya micCuf tokkosu-o?	KulKullessu = to clean damoza = salary
R.	nan danda-a	assabu = to think
P.	mana KulKullessu-o?	kaffalu = to pay himu = to tell
R.	hunduma nandanda-a.	male' =nji!
P.	me ilallaga. damoznike meKa?	tawaji = guarantor
R.	sin assaba nakenna.	kennu = to give dabalu = to add
P.	atti nathimi male?	ga-a = enough
R.	\$40	inga-n = not enough
P.	amaf \$20n sikenna. hojike ilale mmo sindabala.	
R.	attau-ga.	
P.	tawaji kab'a?	
R.	Kaba.	
P.	boru fidi kottu.	
R.	tole. garitti ola!	
P.	garitti!	

Situational Conversation 4 (cont'd)

b) Giving Work Instructions:-

PCV: Raggatu!

Raggatu: abet!

P. namni nabarbade jira?

R. Esan takko sila Dufani turani.

Kalati

P. habeshamo faranji Da?

ogga = when

R. faranji Da.

Dumma = purpose

P. Dira mo dubarti Da?

or

aim

R. Dira

kessumma = guest

P. maKansani-C?

summa = soap

R. anatti in fenne.

P. shi mal jeDani?

R. uma injenne.

P. fulduraƒ ogga namni Dufu waraKata kennifiti

maKaf Dimmakesan Safa jeDin.

R. tole-

P. galgalammo kessumman lama hinDufu. orbata bayessa

nuhojeDdu. manas KulKullessi. maskotis faragi.

barimmo wayyako hunduma miCCi. shi?

R. samunan inga-u.

P. an biten fida.

R. tole.

Situational Conversation

5. a) Taxi!

Kalati

PCV. Taxi!

Tabya = station

abba Taxi: abet!

sena } = get in (resp.)  
lifa }

P. Tabya otobusi demta?

T. birri tokko.

shanta = suit case

P. santimi shantama nan kaffala.

dudduba = at the back

T. ata-u sena/lifa.

ka-a = put it (resp.)

shanta dudduba ka-a.

singalateffaDDa = I thank  
you (M&F)

b) At the Bus Station

P.. singalateffaDDA!

nagan gal= reach safely (wish)

T. nagan gala!

kuli = porter

P. amen!

ga-u = to reach

P. kuli!, kuli!

asi = from here

k. abet!

ammam? = how much?

P. shanta kana otobusi Bunno Bedellen\*

fagaccu = to be far

na ga-i.

Diaccu = to approach

k. tole.

ga-u = to reach

P. meKa sikaffalu?

giddu = in between

k. sumari

katama = town

P. ata-u.

balagari = village

kafk hageri = administrative  
region or province

awrajja = district

warada = sub district

wanna katama = capital city

\*N.B. Bunno Bedelle is the name of a town in the administrative region of Illubabor

c) On the bus

- PCV: ashama obbolessa!
- Dabala: ashama!
- P. essa demtu?
- D. Aggaro\*n dema.
- P. Bunno Bedelle bektu?
- D. eyye beka.
- P. asi ammam fagata?
- D. kilometri 480 .
- P. Otobusin sa-ati meKatti ga-a?
- D. sa-ati kuDa tokkof kuDa lama giddutti ga-a.
- P. kataman Bedelle gudda mo Tinno Da?
- D. bayye gudda miti .
- P. beshan bwanbwaf korrenti Kaba?
- D. eyye, Kaba .
- P. nama/saba meKa Kaba?
- . nama/saba kuma shan cala Kaba.
- P. mana tamari meKa Kaba?
- D. katama kessa mana tamari mangistti saditu jira.
- P. wanna katama? Illubabor kami?
- D. Mattu Da .
- P. Bedellerra amam fagata?
- D. kilometri 120 .

Kalati (cont'd)

- bayye = much or very
- bwanbwa = pipe
- korrenti = electricity
- cala = exceeds
- jiraccu = to live/exist
- nama/Saba = people
- kan = of
- mangistti = government
- kami? = which?
- rra = from
- ga-a.
- Da = from
- gara = towards
- indanda-ama = it is possible
- indanda-amu = it is not possible
- garu = but
- malifi = because
- kara = road
- marre<sup>t</sup> = of course!
- turu = to wait or
- to stay
- ba-u = to get on
- bu-u = to get off = (yes, hicle)

N.B. \* Aggaro is the name of a town in the administrative region of Kaffa.

P. Bedelle Da gara N&K mte\* demu indanda-ama?

D. millan yokin gango Dan indanda - ama. garu-makina Dan indanda+amu. malifi' karan makina injiru.

P. N&K mten Bedellerra amman fagata?

D. kilometri 105.

P. Dio Da da?

D. marre!

Bedelle '(w)ogga meKa turtu?

P. (w) ogga lama.

D. mal hojjetu?

P. nah barsisa.

D. bayye bayessa.

P. amma essa genne?

D. Waliso\* genne. amma bune Kursi nanna

P. ata-u.

\*N&K mte is the name of the capital of the administrative region of Wollega.

\*Waliso is the name of a town in Shoa (114 kms. south<sup>west</sup> of Addis Ababa).

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GRAMMATICAL APPENDIX

A. Preposition: for + Objective Pronouns

eg:- "fidu" = "to bring"

na fide = he brought it for me

si " = " " " " you

sini " = " " " " you (respect form)

osa " = " " " " him

ashef " = " " " " her

osani " = " " " " him (respect form)

nu " = " " " " us

osini " = " " " " you (plural)

jara " = " " " " them

B. verb "to be"

The verb "to be" for all pronouns is denoted by "Da" (is) and its negative by "miti" (not).

eg.- an barsis Da (I am a teacher)

anni wattaddara miti (He is not a soldier).

II

C. a) Conjugation of Regular Verbs

(Affirmative)

	Present & Future	Past	Present Perfect	Past Perfect	Imperative.
an	nan dem-a	nan dem-e	dem-e-ra	dem-en-tur-e	
at	hin " -tta	hin dem-tte	dem-te-tta	dem-te-ture-tte	dem-i
asin	" " -ttu	" " -ttani	" -tani-ttu	" -tani" -turi	" -a
anni	" " -a	" " -e	" -e-ra	" -te- " -e	
ashe	" " -tti	" " -tte	" -te-tti	" -te- " -te	
asan	" " -u	" " -ani	" -ani-ru	" -ani = " -ani	
nuy	" " -na	" " -ne	" -ne pra	" -ne- " -rre	
asin	" " -ttu	" " -ttani	" -tani-ttu	" -tani- " -tani	" -a
asan	" " -u	" " -ani	" -ani-ru	" -ani- " -ani	

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III

C. b) Conjugation of Regular Verbs

(Negative)

	Present & Perfect	Past & Present Perfect	Past Perfect	Imperative
an	in-dem-u	in-dem-ne	dem-e-in turre	
at	" " -ttu	" " "	" -te " "	in-dem-ini
asin	" " -ttanu	" " "	" -tani " "	" " -inā
anni	" " - u	" " "	" - e " "	
ashe	" " -ttu	" " "	" -te " "	
asan	" " -anu	" " "	" -ani " "	
ay	" " - nu	" " "	" - ne " "	
asin9	" " - ttanu	" " "	" - tani " "	" " -ina
asan	" " -anu	" " "	" - ani " "	

IV

D. List of Common Verbs

Type One

adamsu = to hunt

argu = to see

ajjesu = to kill

agarsisu = to show

aramu = to weed

aru = to be angry

arrabsu = to scold

affelu = to cook (by boiling)

afufu = to blow

bitu = to buy

bulu = to spend the night

banu = to open

basu = to take out

beku = to know

ba-u = to go out

haru = to learn/know

barsisu = to teach

bobessu = to set on fire

buKKisu = to pluck/pull out

biKilu = to grow

dabalu = to add/increase

demu = to go

darbu = to pass

du-u = to die

elmu = to milk

ergu = to send

absu = to light

faCasu = to sow (seed)

garafu = to whip

gaddu = to feel sorry

gorssu = to advise

geddaru = to change

gargaru = to help

galu = to enter

gessu = to take (to a place)

gargar basu = to separate

gaggesu = to see off

guddisu = to bring up

gutu = to fill

gatu = to throw/lose

gulufu = to gallop

gargalccu = to turn upside down

hamu = to cut grass or crop

himu = to tell

hatu = to steal

haru = to sweep

horsisu = to rare (animals)

ilalu = to see

jarjaru = to be in a hurry

kaffalu = to pay

kennu = to give

kolfu = to laugh

kasu = to lift

ka-u = to get up

əyyomu = to be poor	Cisu = to sleep
əyyu = to yell	Cufu = to shut
əjajju = to stand	Calu = to exceed
koru = to fall down	Cininu = to bite
kutu = to cut	Cabsu = to break
liKimsu = to swallow	Ditu = to kick
murū = to cut	Doksu = to hide
olu = to spend the day	Do-u = to burst
ofu = to drive	Dumu = to be finished
rafu = to sleep	Kalu = to slaughter
rukutu = to hit/strike	KarKarū = to help
soromu = to be rich	Kufa-u = to cough
sirbu = to sing	Kotu = to plough
turu = to wait	Karu = to sharpen
(h)umu = to create	Korru = to be cold
utalu = to jump	KoPPessu = to prepare
wamu = to call	Safu = to write
waranu = to stab	Taru = to strive

N.B.= These verbs are conjugated as shown in the preceding pages, i.e pages II and III.

Type Two

argaccu = to get	sodaccu = to fear
aṭinfaccu = to sneeze	taṭPaccu = to play
baKaccu = to run away	tuffaccu = to condescend
baccu = to carry	uffaccu = to wear
dimaccu = to become red	ulfaccu = to be heavy/respected
dubbaccu = to talk	yabbaccu = to mount
ṣṣarranfaccu = to forget	yadaccu = to remember
fuḍaccu = to take	Ḍabaccu = to stand
fakkaccu = to resemble	Ḍamoccu = to feel cold
gafaccu = to ask	Ḍeboccu = to feel thirsty
gubaccu = to be burnt	Ḍiaccu = to approach
guddaccu = to grow up	Ḍalaccu = to be born
(h)amummaccu = to yawn	Ḍaggeffaccu = to listen
hojeccu = to work	ḌiKaccu = to wash (body)
huKKaccu = to become skinny	Ḍungaccu = to kiss
jiraccu = to live/be present	Ḍukkubsaccu = to be sick
jallaccu = to love	Kallaccu = to become thinner
kaḌaccu = to beg	naccu = to eat
liKefaccu = to borrow	
rakkaccu = to be in trouble	

N.B.:- The conjugation of these verbs ending with the "...ccu"

sound differs from that of Type One in that, in this case,

the root-verb ends with: "ḌḌa" for 1st person (masculine)

"...ta" for 3rd person (masculine)

"...tu" for 3rd person plural & respect forms

Besides, the imperative form for 'you' (singular) will end with "...ḌḌu" sound.

What we mean by the root-verb is the infinitive without the last "...ccu" sound.)

Type Three

*jaju = to order	jalKabu = to start
badu = to be lost/spoiled	katabu = to write
daDabu / or daTTabu } = to be tired	sassabu = collect/harvest
egu = to await	Cabu = to be broken
fidu = to bring	CalKabu = to start
figu = to run	Dabu = to plant
gammadu = to be happy	Kabu = to catch
gogu = to be dry	Kadadu = to cover
gubu = to burn	

N.B.:- The conjugation of these verbs which end with "b", "g" and "j" sounds varies from that of Type One in that the suffix "t" sound (wherever it appears) is replaced by the "d" sound. Exceptions: gaddu, ergu, \*jajju all of which belong to Type One.

Type Four

gurracca-u = to become darker	bala-u = to be hungry
hasa-u = to talk	leyya-u = to feel ashamed
laka-u = to count	macca-u = to be intoxicated
mia-u = to be sweet/expensive	Tura-u = to become dirty

N.B.:- The conjugation of these verbs which end with the "...a-u" sound differs from that of Type One in that, in this case, the sound "...of..." is included in between the root-verb and the suffix for the pronouns: "at", "sin", "she" and "ny" only.

e.g.     an    nan bel-a  
          at    hin bel-of-tte  
          sin   "    bel-of-tani  
          she   "    "    "-tte  
          ny    "    "    "-ne



Generally speaking,

- 1) Most of Oromiḥna verbs belong to Type One.
- 2) There are some other verbs with different characteristics and conjugation patterns, but they are rare.
- 3) Since three consonants cannot come together (in a row) with no vowel in between them, we have to add an "...i" sound in between the root verb and the suffix while conjugating this type of verbs.

an	nan	adams	-a
at	hin	adams	-i-ta
sin	hin	adams	-i-tu
nni	"	"	-a
shen	"	"	-i-ti
san	"	"	-u
nuy	"	"	-i-na
sin	"	"	-i-tu
san	"	"	-u

Besides, we do not stress the first sound of the suffix wherever we have added the "...i..." sound.