NubiaFEST 2020 Old Nubian Crash Course
Day 3 – Quantification, Predication, Person

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Table of Contents

Quantification

Predication

Person

Thank You!
Quantifiers

- Predicative quantifiers, taking a predicate with -ⲧ: ⲟⲩⲉⲗⲧⲣ̄ ‘any’
- Nominal quantifiers, governing genitive -ⲧ: ⲅⲟⲩⲣⲧⲁⲗ ‘each, every’
- Adjectival quantifiers: ⲏⲓⲧ ‘a, some’; ⲏⲧⲧⲣⲟ ‘entire, whole’; Ⲫⲏ ‘another’; ⲟⲩⲉ ‘all’
- Independent quantifiers: ⲟⲩⲥⲓ-ⲣⲟγ ‘everyone’; Ⲝⲟⲩⲧ-ⲣⲟγ ‘some’; ⲏⲓⲧ ‘anyone, someone’; Ⲟⲧⲥⲫ ‘all’
Quantifiers

(1) таука мѩѩννο ‘in all time’
(2) ογκογν δογρταλ ‘each day’
(3) εικογ ερκανε ‘another kingdom’
(4) κοκςοι όγαττολα ‘in the entire world’
(5) ωοειγογλ ‘some people’
Predicative Quantifiers

Predicative Quantifiers can also mark an entire relative clause. They follow the relative clause.

(6) L 107.7–9 ⲉⲗⲱ [ⲉⲓ]ⲁⲥⲁⲛⲁ ⲁⲓ̈ⲕⲆ ⲇⲉⲛⳝⲓⲥⲛⲁ̄ ⲙϣ̣̄ϣ[ⲁ]ⲛⲕⲆ⳹
ⲕⲉⲗⲱⲕⲁ ⲧⲉⲕⲕⲁ ⲧⲓⳝⳝⲉⲥⲓⲕ̣[ⲁ⳹
el-lō  ei-as-s-an-a  ai-ka
now-LOC know-TR-PST2-3PL-PRED 1SG-ACC
den-j-is-in-a  miššan-ka kellō-ka tek-ka
give>1-PLACT-PST2-2/3SG-PRED all-ACC  all-ACC 3PL-ACC
tij-j-es-i-ka
give>2/3-PLACT-PFV.PST2-1SG-ACC

‘Now they know that everything you gave me I gave all to them.’
(Jn 17:7–8)

N.B. the embedded verb will look like a main verb!
Universal Quantifiers

Universal quantifiers (‘all,’ ‘every’) can move to the beginning of the sentence, leaving the relative clause behind, while receiving the emphasis marker -ⲙⲛ:

(7) P.QI 1 4.i.12–14 ⲧⲑⲣⲁⲛ ⲏⲩⲧⲛⲐⲛ{'ⲧ}ⲡⲓ ⲧⲓⲃⲓⲣⲝⲱⲩ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ Ⲉⲡⲧⲉⲩⲛ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ ⲉⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲟ ⲁⲧⲓ Ⲓⲧ ⲇⲧ Ⲅⲟⲧⲉ Ⲅⲧⲕⲉⲱⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧⲧ waktu. (Jn 11:26)
Table of Contents

Quantification

Predication

Person

Thank You!
Verbal Predicates

Verbal predicates in a main clause are marked with predicate marker -ⲧⲅ, which functions as the main distinctive feature between main clauses and subordinate clauses:

(8) ἀπογγλὸν πεςνᾶ·

\[
\text{apogg-il-∅-lon \; pes-in-a} \\
\text{boatsman-DET-NOM-TOP \; speak-PRS.2/3SG-PRED}
\]

'The boatsman speaks.'

(9) ἀπογγλὸν πεςνῆ·

\[
\text{apogg-il-∅-lon \; pes-in} \\
\text{boatsman-DET-NOM-TOP \; speak-PRS.2/3SG}
\]

'While the boatsman speaks, …'
Nominal Predicates

Nominal predicates are marked with a predicate marker -ⲧ, but in a subordinate clause they feature an auxiliary:

(10) apogg-il-∅-lon ⲇⲧⲧⲧ ⲟⲅⲗⲟⲛ ⲟⲅⳝⲁⲗⲟ ⲟ̄ⲅⳝⲁⲗⲟ·

\[
\begin{align*}
apogg-il-∅-lon & \quad ogj-a-lo \\
\text{boatsman-DET-NOM-TOP} & \quad \text{man-PRED-FOC}
\end{align*}
\]

‘The boatsman is a man.’

Distributivity of Predicate Marker

The predicate marker is the only distributive morpheme in Old Nubian:

(12) ⲁⲡⲁⲗⲓⲧ-∅-ⲛ Ⲟⲉⲧ-∅-ⲛ Ⲁⲟⲫ ⲇⲕⲟⲩ̄·
    apogg-il-∅-lon    oulgr-a    pes-in-a
    boatsman-DET-NOM-TOP hear-PRED speak-PRS.2/3SG-PRED

‘The boatsman listens and speaks.’

(13) ⲁⲡⲁⲗⲓthren Ⲥⲫⲇⲓⲙⲓⲛⲡ Ⲟⲅⲟⲩ·
    apogg-il-∅-lon    khristianos-a    ogj-a-lo
    boatsman-DET-NOM-TOP Christian-PRED man-PRED-FOC

‘The boatsman is a Christian man.’
Converbs

A converb is a verb without person or tense marking, but with a predicate marker. Its interpretation always depends on the tense/person/aspect of the main verb.

(14) ἀπογγίλλων οὐλγρα πεςνᾶ·

apogg-il-∅-lon oulgr-a pes-in-a
boatsman-DET-NOM-TOP hear-PRED speak-PRS.2/3SG-PRED

‘The boatsman listens and speaks.’
Converbs

In storytelling, converbs are used to convey a sequence of actions:

(15) ⲧⲁⲣⲟⲛ ⲁⲗⲐⲛ ⲧⲗⲟⲛ ⲙⲁⲣⲓⲁⲛ ⲉⲓⲅⲟⲛ ⲙⲁⲣⲓⲁ ⲉⲓⲅⲟⲛ ⲑⲟⲩⲇⲁⲗⲆ

\[\text{tar-Ø-on } \eta\text{-en } \text{till-ik } \text{ounn-ol}\]
\[\text{3SG-NOM-TOP see-PFV.PRS.2/3SG God-ACC bear-PST1}\]

\[\text{maria-n } \text{eigon-gille goudal-a } \text{ki-a } \text{ouou-a}\]
\[\text{Mary-GEN icon-ALL run-PRED come-PRED shout-PRED}\]

\[\text{pes-s-n-a}\]
\[\text{speak-PST2-2/3SG-PRED}\]

‘When he saw it, he ran to the image of Mary Theotokos and shouted.’
Converbs

(16) Μ 12.13–16 εἰςσοῦ μνησεῖον ἦν εὕττης γογλό ὁ πόρος κιά ωακκα κῆμα` ὅοκρεςα.

ηιςσου μενα-∅-eion man eitt-in ηογ-λο
holy Menas-NOM-TOP DEM.DIST woman-GEN house-LOC
cορ-α κι-α ςακ-κα κιμμ-α
go-PRED come-PRED door-ACC hit-PRED
cοοκ-ιr-ς-n-α
call-TR-PST2-2/3SG-PRED

‘Saint Menas went to the house of that woman, knocked on the door, and called her.’
Applicatives

There are two special converb construction with the donative verbs ∆ἐς ‘to give to me/us’ and τ瘆 ‘to give to someone else’. Together with a converb, they create an applicative construction.

(17) ἀπογγάλλον γοκκα εἰτκα γούφα τῦνα·
    apogg-il-∅-lon   ηok-ka   eit-ka   gouñ-a
    boatsman-DET-NOM-TOP house-ACC woman-ACC build-PRED
tin-n-a
give>2/3-PRS.2/3SG-PRED
‘The boatsman builds a house for the woman.’

(18) ἀπογγάλλον γοκκα (ἀικα) γούφα ∆εῆνα·
    apogg-il-∅-lon   ηok-ka   ai-ka   gouñ-a
    boatsman-DET-NOM-TOP house-ACC 1SG-ACC build-PRED
den-n-a
give>1-PRS.2/3SG-PRED
‘The boatsman builds a house for me.’
Table of Contents

Quantification

Predication

Person

Thank You!
### Personal Pronouns and Clitics

There are several ways to mark person in a clause: independent personal pronouns, possessor prefixes, and subject clitics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Long pronoun</th>
<th>Short pronoun</th>
<th>Kinship poss.</th>
<th>Subject clitic</th>
<th>Subject clitic (IMP)</th>
<th>‘Old’ Subject clitic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1SG</td>
<td>αἰει, αἰογ</td>
<td>αἰ</td>
<td>α-</td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2SG</td>
<td>εἰπ, εἰογ</td>
<td>εἲρ</td>
<td>1-</td>
<td>-N</td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>-H/₁</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3SG</td>
<td>ταπ, ταπογ</td>
<td>ταρ</td>
<td>τα(ρ)-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1PL.INCL</td>
<td>επ, επογ (?)</td>
<td>επ</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-OY</td>
<td>-ΔM</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1PL.EXCL</td>
<td>ογει, ογογ</td>
<td>ογ</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-OY</td>
<td>-ΔM</td>
<td>-Κε</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2PL</td>
<td>ογρι, ογρογ</td>
<td>ογρ</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-OY</td>
<td>-(Δ)N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3PL</td>
<td>τεπ, τεπογ</td>
<td>τεπ</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-ΔN</td>
<td>-(Δ)N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Subject Clitics

Subject clitics developed from independent pronouns and got incorporated into the verbal complex. This is a common process throughout Nilo-Saharan languages:

1SG -ι < ι
2/3SG -θ, cf. Midob 2SG pronoun ūn, 3SG pronoun òon
1/2PL -ογ < ογ(π)
3PL -αθ, cf. Midob 3PL pronoun ànngá
Subject Clitics

Old Nubian is a **pro-drop** language, which means that the subject does not need to be expressed explicitly by a noun phrase. Subject clitics appear when there is a **subject gap**, either because the subject has been dropped or because it has been topicalized:

(19) ⲁⲡⲟⲅⲅⲗ̄ⲗⲟⲛ ⲡⲉⲥⲛⲁ̄·

`apogg-il-∅-lon`  **GAP pes-in-a**
`boatsman-DET-NOM-TOP`  `speak-PRS.2/3SG-PRED`

‘The boatsman speaks.’

(20) pherē·

**GAP pes-in-a**
`speak-PRS.2/3SG-PRED`

‘He/she/it speaks.’

Imperatives always have a subject clitic.
Subject Clitics

When the subject is overt, person is usually not marked on the verb:

\[(21) \quad \text{ⲁⲡⲟⲅⲗ̄ ⲡⲉⲥⲣⲁ̄·} \]

\[
\text{apogg-}il-\emptyset \quad \text{pes-ir-a}
\]

boatsman-DET-NOM speak-PRS-PRED

‘The boatsman speaks.’
‘Old’ Subject Clitics

Remnants of an older person marking system, only survives for second singular and plural persons. This shows that Northern East Sudanic languages went through successive cycles of pronoun incorporation:

(22)  a. Appeals: ṭeqtrg‑q-ke ‘Beloved!’
    b. Questions: ḏgyi‑i/-ke ‘Are you (sg/pl) great?’
    c. Affirmatives: ḏn‑la/ke ‘You (sg/pl) are.’
    d. Jussives: ḏnk‑mh/ke ‘May you (sg/pl) remember!’
    e. Vetitives: ḏnkta‑mh/ke ‘Don’t (sg/pl) remember!’
‘Old’ Subject Clitics

(23) P.QI 1 7.i.7–9 ⲉⲛ ⲧⲣⲓⲧⲗⲱ· ⲉⳟⳟⲁⲉⲓⲅⲟⲩⲉⲕⲉ· ⲉⲕⲔⲇⲕⲣⲓⲧⲉ ⲑⲛⲛⲁⲥⲱ· ⲧⲁⲙⲉⲗ ⲡⲉⲥⲟⲕⲕⲟⲛ ⲑⲝⲛⲧⲁⲛⲕⲉ· ⲉⲓⳝⲉⳝⳝⲁⲛⲛⲧⲁⲛⲕⲉ·

\[\text{ein} \quad \text{trit}-\text{lō} \quad \text{en̄ηae-goue}-\text{ke}\]
\(\text{DEM.PROX manner-LOC brother.PL.PRED-PL.PRED-2PL}\)
\(\text{eikkidd-ri-ka} \quad \text{eijejj-ann-a-sō} \quad \text{tame-lo}\)
\(\text{prophesy-PL-ACC} \quad \text{zealous-IMP.2/3PL-PRED-COMM} \quad \text{tongue-LOC}\)
\(\text{pes-ok-k-on} \quad \text{tijjan-ta-nke}\)
\(\text{speak-PST1-ACC-TOP} \quad \text{forbid-NEG-JUS.PL}\)

‘Thus, brothers, be zealous in prophesies, and do not forbid the one who has spoken in tongues!’ (1 Cor 14:39)
Long Personal Pronouns

Long personal pronouns are used for:

(24)  a. Emphasis
      b. Address
      c. Qualification
      d. Basis for locative and dative
      e. Basis for long genitive
Long Personal Pronouns

Emphasis (clitic doubling):

(25) K 26.10–12 ἢνα εἰροῦ τῆλιο γοεία{ν} δαυειναϊ:/

   mn-a   eirou-∅   till-ilō   goeian
what-PRED 2SG-NOM God-LOC than
dauei-n-a-i
great-PRS.2/3SG-PRED-2SG

‘Are you greater than God?’
Long Personal Pronouns

Address (questions, commands, direct appeals):

(26) P.QI 1 4.i.2–3 γόδα εἰρι εὖνο δογαρ[α] ἐνκαν αν εἰςᾶλ διμέαραλο·

\[\eta\delta\-a \quad \epsilon\iri\-∅ \quad \epsilon\in\-n\o \quad \text{dou-ar-a}\]

\[\text{lord-PRED 2SG-NOM DEM.PROX-LOC exist-PST1-PRED}\]

\[\epsilon\nu\-ka\-n \quad \text{an} \quad \epsilon\nu\nu\alpha\-∅\]

\[\text{be-SUBORD-2/3SG 1SG.GEN brother-NOM}\]

\[\di\-me\-d\-r\-a\-lo\]

\[\text{die-NEG-INTEN-PRS-PRED-FOC}\]

‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.’ (Jn 11:21)
Long Personal Pronouns

With qualifiers:

(27) P.QI 2 24.13–14 eiroγ ƙollọ ƙenna enkaiō ƙoça enkaiō ƙadara

κρεν ƙαγκιλό:

eiroγ ƙoll-∅-lo ƙenna en-ƙa-i-o

2SG alone-NOM-FOC good-PRED be-SUBORD-1SG-LOC

eko-ƙa-i-o ƙad-d-r-a

bad-PRED be-SUBORD-1SG-LOC see-INTEN-PRS-PRED

ƙr-ƙeƞ ƙauk-ilọ

come-PFV.PRS.2/3SG time-LOC

‘You alone, whether I am good or bad, will see when you come.’
Short Personal Pronouns

Short personal pronouns are used for:

(28)  
   a. Topicalized subject
   b. Focus-marked subject
   c. Subject of nominal predicate
   d. Basis for other cases than locative, dative, and long genitive
Short Personal Pronouns

Topicalized subjects:

\[(29) \quad L\ 107.12-13\ \text{ai-∅-on}\ \text{ten}\ \text{jouri-a-lo}\ \text{sen-n-e}\]
\[\text{1SG-NOM-TOP}\ \text{3PL.GEN}\ \text{cause-DAT-FOC}\ \text{ask-PRS-1SG.PRED}\]

‘I ask about them.’ (Jn 17:9)
Short Personal Pronouns

Focus-marked subjects:

(30) P.Attiri 2.ii.2–3 ταλλο σκδεσρρα κοξογρνκκολκα

*tal-∅-lo* *(i)sik-des-ir-r-a*

3SG-NOM-FOC conquer-free-TR-PRS-PRED

*ko-e-ourk-kol-ka*

have-NMLZ-hungry-ADV-ACC

‘He overcomes the power-hungry.’
Short Personal Pronouns

Subject of a nominal predicate:

(31) P.QI 1 2.i.1–2 тед ουαλογα οκκide[p]αγογεν ονονκανεγογλο

*ted*  *oualou-a*  *okkider-a-goue-m*

3PL altogether(?)-PRED unjust.NMLZ-PRED-PL.PRED-AFF

*nonon-kane-gou-lō*

vain-NMLZ-PL-LOC

‘They are altogether unjust from vanities.’ (Ps 61:10)
Kinship Possessors

Possessive prefixes that are obligatory on kinship terms in many Nubian languages. Only attested on ρο/πα(π) ‘father’: ḫ-ρο ‘my father’; e1-ρο ‘your father’; τα-πα(π) ‘his father’.
Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quantification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Predication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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