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Author: Petrollino, S.
Title: A grammar of Hamar : a South Omotic language of Ethiopia
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Once upon a time Goat, Donkey and Dog were thinking to go far down to a market, together with one car.

The price for the car to be paid was five birr.

Donkey gave his own five birr when he got in.

Taking ten birr, the dog does not take back the change.

Then, again, Goat had not even one birr, and he carelessly got in.
cóo yi?á-da kánki-n raqâ woyá-te hátte
DOWN go-IPFV car-F.OBL place:M stop:M-LOC COMPL
they went down there and reached the place of the car stop

‘koimó kash-á’ hamɓ-énka
fee pay-IMP.2SG say:PASS-CNV2
when it was said: ‘pay the fee!’

‘ínta koimó cóo beré anshá-te kashá = i = da kash-é,
1SG fee DOWN later descend-SE pay = 1SG = IPFV pay-PRES
‘I will get off and pay the fee later down there

táaki ínta, har-ko hay-é? beré cóo anshá-te
now 1SG what-INS.1PL do-PRES.INT later DOWN descend-SE
kashá = i = da kash-é’
pay = 1SG = IPFV pay-PRES
now, how do we do? I will pay later down there, when I get off?

hamá-ise, budámo giá-ise cóo kánki-n-di woyâ
say-CNV1 lie say-CNV1 DOWN car-F.OBL-GEN stop:M
quú biyá-isaxa kédá kí = yi?á-isaxa kédá
goat run-CNV1 then 3 = goat-PAST.PF then
after Goat ran away, then, after he went away

qúski birr dóng-isa málsi shid-idí dáa
dog birr five-GEN change remain-PF exist
Dog had five birr change left

ukulí kashá-ise yinná ansh-idí
donkey pay-CNV1 REFL:PL descend-PF
Donkey paid his fee and got off

qúski-sa málsi-n kash-íma, kánki-n-gobá-xa,
dog-GEN change-F.OBL pay-NEG.SUB1 car-F.OBL run-PAST.CONT
kánki-n-dan al-idí qaské
car-F.OBL-ACC chase-PF dog:M
but since Dog’s change was not paid, running at the car, Dog chased the car
now, for that reason, if a car comes, the dog will chase it

Donkey, if a car comes, won’t run away from a car: she has paid her debt

whereas Goat now, not having paid the debt, if a car comes, runs away

that's it

2 - Kóopinibe Shóqobe - Squirrel and Tick

one day, Tick and Squirrel were planning to race each other

after Tick and Squirrel planned the race together

Tick was saying: 'Squirrel, you won't defeat me!'
Squirrel replied so: 'you Tick, you won't defeat me, you never raced with anybody before!'

'I will win, and later we will give money to the one of us who has won'

Squirrel said: 'if it's like that, be ready! let's run! stand equal to me and let's run!'
while sitting next to each other 'let's run! run!' he said

when they begun racing each other, Tick while running attached to the leg (of the squirrel)

Squirrel running and running continuously, arriving to the place (the arriving point of the race)

and he (Tick) said each time “you won’t defeat me in the race, will you?”

and he was always on the leg

then again he stood up and kept on running and running and running
par kénna dáa
again 3.always exist
but he (Tick) was always there

agá agá-xa gobá-da
He (Tick) was running by means of that (Squirrel)

kí = na bashadá-ise kóofini bashadá-isaxa
3 = DAT be.tired-CNV1 squirrel be.tired-PAST.PF
Squirrel became tired of him, and when he became tired

shóqo yí-mal bash-idí, birré-n-dan shóqo ti-idí
tick REFL-INTF win-PF birr-F.OBL-dan tick take-PF
Tick alone won, and took the money

3 - Aizí - Goathide

táaki án ashkaď-áino
now goat.hide.F.OBL do:PASS-REL.PRES.F
the making of the goat hide

ainó, beráise qultâ mashá = ki mashadé
goat.hide:F.S first goat:M slaughter = 3 slaughter:PASS-PRES
the goat hide, first of all the goat is slaughtered

mashad-idí kánna
slaughter:PASS-PF 3F:OPT
if it has been slaughtered (impersonal passive)

mashá-tte qultá-rra aizé-dan ha = bul-ína
slaughter-SE goat:M-ABL goat.hide:M-ACC 2SG = pull-COND

hai-n-dar t’afá–t’aďadá
sun-F.OBL-ALL1 stretch—stretch:PASS
if you slaughter and take out the skin from the goat, the skin will be stretched in the sun
if you slaughter and skin the goat, sharpening the stakes, the skin will be stretched in the sun with the stakes

after stretching, if that goat hide has become hard in the sun, it will be taken away from the sun in the late afternoon

the shaved area of the goat hide will be scratched out

if that afternoon passes

in the morning it (the goat hide) is soaked in water with the fermented sorghum, with the fermented sorghum from the parsí beer

after soaking in water, if it is soft
taking the knife, the excess flesh of the goat hide is scraped out

when you finish scraping out the excess meat

that goat hide is rubbed for two days

after rubbing it

if the rubbing process is over

mixing together water and milk

the goat hide is soaked again

after soaking, the goat hide is pulled (manually stretched)

if the stretching process is over
kéda agá-rra
then DEM2.M-ABL
then, after that

waqáti-n-ka qaadá-ɓ hayá-ise
butter-F.OBL-INS smear-NARR do-CNVI
after smearing it with butter

kéda sunsuró-n saská-te lai
then nail-F.OBL cross:CAUS-SE IDEO.continuously
maccá-ɓ hayá-ise
finish-NARR do-CNVI
then, after clipping the nails (all around the edge)

wei shekini-n uxá-ɓ hayá-ise
or beads-F.OBL spear-NARR do-CNVI
or sawing beads (onto it)

kéda aizé-fan daxá = ko daxad-é
then goat.hide:M-ACC tie = 3F tie:PASS-PRES
then the goat hide is worn (impersonal passive)
Appendix B - Hamar - English selected lexicon


a

aabor vocative form for ‘uncle’
  (mother’s younger and other
  brothers)
áade n hippopotamus
aadimɓ v hide (intransitive)
aajad v be sick
aajimɓ v be wounded
aajimi n wound
aajímo n disease
aaká n 1) grandmother 2) aunt:
  mother’s older sister aakó
aakó (aaká) n vocative form for
  ‘grandmother’ or ‘aunt’
áan n arm, hand
aap v see
áapi n 1) eye 2) seed, fruit
aapi káyá (áapi, kai) n blind person
áapi kéri (áapi, kéri) n face
áapi sítí n eye lash
áapisa t’ía n pupil
aapó n 1) mouth 2) opening of a
  container 3) message
aapó qúuro (aapó, qúuro) n lip
aarák n uncle: mother’s younger
  and other brother
aash v hide (transitive)
ab (fr. var. ábi)
ábi (ab) another

Adamá n hunt
ad v give birth
add (passive ad) v be born
ádfima n birth, delivery
agá dem that
agálá n fence surrounding the cattle
  enclosure
ágili n a new born kid or calf
ai v be broken rónono ísa aidíne, my
  leg is broken
álá interj I don’t know
áigí n fence
ais (causative ai) v break
áis n pregnant (for animals)
aizí n goat hide, sheep hide
áka n large intestine
áka mukaítí n Abyssinian Ground
  Hornbill, Bucorvus abyssinicus,
  bird sp.
ákatti n joke, funny story
áil v guard, follow, chase
alánqa n whip
álbén n type of gun
álbén t’áláí n type of gun
  introduced by the Italians
álko n Sansevieria Erythraeae, plant
  sp.
álla n parsí beer mixed with honey
álpa n knife
áma n second wife
amɓ v dream
amí n breast
amín aapó (amí, aapó) n nipple, lit. ‘the mouth of the breast’
ánamo n friend
anc’ v laugh
 André n candelabra tree, Euphorbia candelabrum, plant sp.
angálá (fr. var. angálá) adv the day before yesterday
angálá n last year
angámo n 1) stuff, material, a person’s belongings 2) metal
ángi n man, male
ánni cf. c’an
ánnibir galál adv three days ago
ánqási n lamb and kid
ánqási n bee
ansh v 1) descend, climb down 2) put something down
anzá n girl, unmarried woman
ap v unfold, stretch, spread
apád (passive ap) v be unfolded, be spread, be streched
apálá n clothes, blankets, fabrics
ard v enter, get in
árka n hartebeest
árpi n 1) moon 2) month
árqi n Acacia tree with yellow mimosa flowers
ars (causative ard) v wear, put on
arsád (passive ars) v be inserted
asará n dry sorghum or dry corn
ash v insult yáa hárna ūfan ashá?, why did you insult me?
áshawa n type of metal bracelet, silver-like colour
ashk v 1) make, do 2) work
ashká n flat dish used to cook bread
ashkad (passive ashk) v be done
ashó n type of tree
ásho n slope
ási n tooth
áslé n red ochre mixed with butter
áslínó (ási) n big tooth, elephant’s tusk
at v burn (intransitive)
atáb n tongue
atará n soya bean
átti n bird
átti káíra n lark (bird sp. of the genus Mirafra)
atí n fermented sorghum, used to prepare the traditional ale-gruel beer parsí.
áyó n spokesman
áʔãʔ interj no

b

báako nprop Jinka
báakuuló n the three cooking stones
báasha n hen, rooster
báasha berá olé n dawn; lit. ‘time of the day when the hens first cackle’ (3-4 a.m.)
báshano n hen
babáti n armpit
baɗ (passive baʔ) v be brought
bag v tease
bagáde n cooked blood mixed with milk and eaten as porridge
bagáde n pelvic bones, loin
bairó (fr. var. barjó)
bairó imé thank you, lit. ‘may god give’
baîtí n river
bajé n hunter
bakkí n bifurcation (of branches, or roads)
balá adj bald
balásha n bread
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<tr>
<th>Balí</th>
<th>n</th>
<th>Plain, level ground</th>
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<td>n</td>
<td>Type of tree, used for timber</td>
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</table>
bordí labál cattle coat colour and pattern: spotted and white-patched
búro n red ochre used for body and hair decoration
borqótó n headrest, stool
borqótó káro n old people’s headrest
borqótó qailí n decorated headrest
bóta n (Amh.) space, room
bóte n pumpkin
bucc (causative burq) v boil (water or other liquids)
budámo n 1) false 2) lie
bul₁ v 1) open 2) take out
bul₂ n holding structure supporting the beehive on a tree
bulď (passive bul) v be taken out, be pulled out
buls (causative bul) v send out
búme nprop Nyangatom
búno n (Amh.) coffee (husk and drink)
búqo n knee
burí n morning
burq v be hot, boil (intransitive)
brqad (passive burq) v hurt
buudó 1) adv behind 2) n back
bûushi (bûushi síiti) n beard
bómega n headrest, stool
bóte n pumpkin
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buudó 1) adv behind 2) n back
bûushi (bûushi síiti) n beard
bómeta n seed
bócc v think
bóde do not
bórle n young person
búl n waterhole, pond
bul₁ v jump
bul₂ v lay eggs
búla n egg
bulďúq Ideo sound of object falling into the water
búlt’a n kidney
c

ciggír n (Amh.) problem
cóo down there, below
cóobar under, lower, downward
cóobar aapó n lower lip
cóobar ási n lower teeth
c’
c’a v clap
c’aac’í n root
c’aan v load
c’aaq v cast the evil eye on somebody
c’aaqí n the evil eye, the jinx
c’aaró n pygmy falcon, Polihierax semitorquatus, bird of pray sp.
c’áci n sky
c’áci guní n airplane, lit. ‘the snake of the sky’
c’agáj adj green
c’ailí gawá n cattle coat colour and pattern: spotted white
c’ámámpa n nightjar, bird sp.
c’an (fr. var. ánna; c’an ánna) adv always
c’ansh (causative c’aan) v make sb. carry; load a car, a donkey, or a person
c'apá  n  rotten
c'ari  n  blade of a knife
c'arkí  n  dew
c'arsh  v  sharpen
c'aulí  adj  white
c'íilo  n  small ant
c'ísí  n  bile
c'onc'óro  n  goat hoof rattle
c'úba  n  smoke
c'úla  n  beads bend used as necklace
c'ulď  v  (passive) choke
c'ur  v  jump over an obstacle
 without touching it
c'ushp (causative c'uub)  v  make sb. wash the clothes

daʔíni  n  1) snake venom  2) poison
  3) gun powder
deebarď  (passive)  v  be thirsty
deebardá  n  thirst
deďęga  adj  foolish, dumb
déeër  adj  red; bronze-like colour
déeër balá  cattle coat colour and
  pattern: red with a white patch on the head
déeër labál  cattle coat colour and
  pattern: red and white-patched
déeër shótá  cattle coat colour and
  pattern: red and white-patched
dées  v  kill
deesadŷ  (passive des)  v  be killed
deesis  (causative des)  v  cause to kill
déet’a  adj  heavy (weight)
dembí  n  death
demí  1)  n  side  2)  adv  next to
demínka maataďé  n  after midnight
  (1-3 a.m.), lit. ‘turning and changing side (while sleeping)’
des  v  grind
desadŷ  (passive des)  v  be grinded
desi  adv  like, similar to,
desim  (des)  v  grind
désima  n  grinding stone
dett  (causative des)  v  cause to kill
dettí  n  cow dung
dí  v  die
dibíni  n  ashes
diib  v  steal
diibi  n  thief
difire  n  bushy area, forest
dik  Ideo  all, everyone, everywhere
dillama  n  bulbul, bird sp. of the
  family Pycnonotidae
díngisha  (fr. var. tíngisha)  n  (Amh.)
  potato
dit’  v  close
dong  cardnum  five
dongár $n$ elephant
dónso $ordnum$ fifth
dánya $n$ elder, married man
doobí $n$ rain
dooc'á (*dial. var. booc'á*) $n$
  container used to collect milk when milking the cow
dooolá $n$ calabash container for storing milk, milk churn
dor $v$ collect sorghum
dorq $v$ sit
dott (*causative dorq*) $v$ put down, place
dubaná $n$ tail
dúbeza $n$ mongoose
dúbo $n$ foam (in the milk, or in the river)
dúgge $n$ sorghum container
dúki $n$ grave
dul *Ideo* action of going
dum $v$ grab
dúmai $n$ thumb and big toe
dunguri $n$ 1) sandals, shoes 2) pieces of leather used to read the future
dürmá $n$ dry log
durp $v$ become fat
dürpi $adj$ fat
duq $v$ plant
dúure $n$ comb of a rooster
duus $v$ get used to, be used to

d’
daaf $v$ 1) stand up 2) wake up 3) take off (of birds), fly
daas $v$ 1) lift up a big or heavy load 2) call on the phone, pick up the phone
dab $v$ 1) throw 2) fall
dabaf (*passive dab*) $v$ be thrown
dace (*causative daq*) $v$ miss the target (when shooting or throwing stones)
dágaf $v$ be angry
dúki $n$ rope
daq $v$ 1) avoid 2) avoid death, survive
dax $v$ tie
daxaf (*passive dax*) $v$ be tied
daxam (*dax*) $v$ be jaled
daxamb (*passive daxam*) $v$ be tied, be fastened
dána $n$ throat
daq $v$ 1) avoid 2) avoid death, survive
dax $v$ tie
daxaf (*passive dax*) $v$ be tied
daxam (*dax*) $v$ be jaled
daxamb (*passive daxam*) $v$ be tied, be fastened
deesá $n$ medicine
dés $v$ know
desaf (*passive des*) $v$ be known
desim (*des*) $v$ be known, introduce oneself
dett (*causative des*) $v$ teach
dil $n$ flour
dita $n$ plant sp. When the bark is wet, it produces foam. It was used in the past instead of soap
ditt $v$ pour for somebody; cf. ka
dittaf (*passive ditt*) $v$ be poured
doi $v$ show
doid $(*passive doi*) $v$ be shown
dóngo $n$ bell with a trapezoidal shape
dónko $n$ wise narrative, speech
doorn $v$ build a beehive
dópez $n$ bone marrow
dúka $n$ mountain
dúkan noqó $n$ waterfall
dúkár *Ideo* action of entering
dúrra $n$ salt for tobacco
ecc  interj 1) shut up! 2) stupid! 3) shit!
ed (fr. var. of edim) v separate
edá n luck, good fortune
edim (fr. var. of ed)
ee  interj ok, yes
ééfe n cowhide; leather; hide of animals
eedá (eddá) n relative
éedi n person, man. éedi naasí, humankind
eel v call
émanjo n good spirit living in the forest
éeno (éedi) n people
eep v cry
eepe n dead body, coffin, funeral
éeqe adj (of firewood), fresh, wet, green
eermad v be dirty, be sweaty
eezin n star
eezintá angé n the male star: planet Jupiter
eezintóno máano n the female star: planet Venus
eiké n 1) grandfather  2) uncle: father’s older brother
eikéno (eiké) n ancestors
ekeri n bed bug
elat v scream
elérf v be called
ens v go with, bring a person along, pick up sb.
ermad n tears
eshk v show
ed ldeo insult
éé (éedi) man
éna n past; éna wadénka, éna pénka
once upon a time

gaa’ v grind into a fine powder
gáagi n type of mancala game
consisting of sowing stones or seeds in holes
gaal v struggle
gaam v smell (good)
gaarí adj big
gáashi n t’ef
gashimísha n monitor lizard
gabá n (Amh.) 1) market 2) village
gabáře n Gabra Oromo
gabars v force, oppress
gaitá n thin metal blade at the end of a hoe, or at the end of the wóso stick
gal 1) n Amhara 2) enemy
galá n (Amh.) food
galáp adj yellow, golden-like colour
galsh v disturb, annoy, harass
galt’ v 1) cover with mud or dung the wall of the hut 2) seal with mud or dung
galt’af (passive galt’) v be covered or sealed with mud
galt’i n wall of a hut covered in mud
gam v mate (for both humans and animals)
gamále n (Amh.) camel
gámuri n jackal
ganč’á adj thin
ganč’af (passive) v be thin, become thin, lose weight
gangá n resin
gans v sniff
gar v 1) stop 2) give up, let 3) leave
garán boqóna n ankle
gas n threshold of a Hamar hut
gasgó n wheat
gáu n iron bracelet
gáya n  baboon
gáya  úkumba n  type of plant used for treating scorpion sting, lit. ‘baboon's thorn’
gázá adj  generous, kind
gaʔ v  1) bite  2) chew, crunch, munch (of animals)  3) sting (of insects)
gaʔásh n  warthog
géfí adj  a lot, very; big
gécc v  become old
géccó adj  old
gédàqa n  type of tree that produces small, tiny berries. The berries have a lemon-like smell and the Hamar put them in the coffee to give an additional aroma.

gédé n  step in a house used as bed
géed v  grow up
gélaba n  Dhaasanac
gélé n  shoulder
gerák n  beam supporting the ceiling of a hut
geránta n  clan
geshó n  person with high status, polite way of addressing people with higher status
geshóno (geshó) n  wife
geshóó (geshó) n  husband
gi v  say, tell
gibáre n  wind
gibaz 1) n  malaria  2) v  have malaria  3) have malaria

gib v  rush, be on a hurry
gidí n  middle, centre
gidí bórgi n  small rainy season
gidó (passive  gi) v  be told
gigirí n  1) molar teeth  2) the nail that join together the beam and the blade of the plough
gidó n  metalsmith
gilásh v  tickle
giló n  culture, ritual
gimbát n  thunder
giní  1) vein  2) tendon
girsho n  porcupine
gis (causative  gi) v  make sb. tell, make sb. say
gish v  herd and keep the cattle
gishish (causative  gish) v  make sb. herd the cattle
gizé  period of time
gob v  run
gobis (causative gob) v  make sb. run
góggama n  woodpecker

gogilí n  type of gun
goití n  pathway, way
golál n  Acacia nilotica, Vachellia nilotica, plant sp.
gon n  true
goob v  decorate

goódo n  aardvark, termite eater
gor n  type of ritual
góró n  Mantled Guereza, Colobus Guereza, monkey sp.
gosh v  1) pull out  2) take out

goshád (passive gosh) v  be taken out
goshó v  respect, honour
góshpi n  respect
gudirá n  hyena
gudúɓ adj  tall, long
gudó v  snort (of oxen)
gúgána n  lightning
gul n  corner of the house, a separate space built on one side of the house
gulgántí n  umbilicus
gulpá n  illness, cold or flu

gumí n  oribi, Ourebia ourebi sp.
gúngulo n  calabash ladle used with the clay pot
gungum v  roll
gungus (causative gungum) v make something roll

guní n snake

guní ɓelé n poisonous mushroom
gur n ring used to hold the calabash
gur v line up, for instance when dancing

gurdá n village

gúrgur (fr. var. gúrguro) n crocodile
gurmá n slope, downhill
gurt v scrape out the excess flesh from a hide

gurtad (passive gurt) v be scraped out

gúsho n nail, claw

gusi n Lagenaria Siceraria sp. Calabash gourd used for the production of food/liquids containers. The Hamar people do not eat it.

gutt v put branches against each other in order to light the fire

gutúm n upper arm

gúuri adj empty, useless, empty-handed

h

haa interrog when

haad v shave

háada n rope made of leather

háade n razor

háali adj new

háam n jugular vein

haaq v stay

hácca n dry leaves

hai n sun

hai v do

haíd (passive hai) v be done, be made

haífäd (passive haiď) v be used

háiɗan interrog whom

háine interrog who námño háńno háine? what’s your name?

háisa interrog whose

haitá waiggil (haitá washgil) n early afternoon (14 p.m.)

hakká dial. var. of hátte

ham v say

hamá 1) interrog which 2) where, specific location

hámar Hamar

hambí n antelope, bushbuck

hamɓ (passive ham) v be told

hamɓad (passive hamɓ) v be called, be named

hamɓáxa conn then, and so on

hamí n field

hamó n 1) place 2) interrog where, non-specific location

hanguu Ideo hyena’s sound

hána n fat-tailed sheep

happ v braid hair

háqa n tree

har interrog what káa haré? what is this?

harán n type of grass used in the making of beehives

hárna interrog why

hatt v tear apart, rip

hátte interrog how

hat’imɓa n type of broom, bigger than tupó and made of baraza tree or sarqo tree
i

ía bó ooro  $late afternoon, around 16-17 p.m.

ii 1) $stomach, belly, abdomen

í interj, yes

ínte (ii) inside

im  $give

imbá  $1) owner,

imbána (imbá)  $uncles: father's younger brothers

imbáno (imbá)  $the owner of the house (always the woman)

imbo (imbá)  $1) vocative form for 'father'

ímó (passive im)  $be given

indá  $1) mother  2) aunt: mother's younger sister

indo (indá)  $vocative form for 'mother'

ín adv before, earlier

ínta pers 1

ir  $curse

irgíma (fr. var. riggíma)

írima  $swear word

is  $eat

ísad (passive is)  $be eaten

ísánte  $necklace made of metal

ishím  $firstborn brother, older brother

ishk  $stop, hamper, prevent sb. from doing something

ísín  $sorghum

izáqe  $neck

j

jaag  $sew

jaagad (passive jaag)  $be sewed

jágá  $sparrow, bird sp.

jálo  $glossy blue starling, bird sp.

jammar  $Amh. start, begin

jashk (causative jaag)  $make sb. sew

jibb  $dislike ina gáya jibbidíne, I don't like baboons

jug  $move, shake

júgjug  Ideo movement

ka  1) $pour into something, decant

2) make coffee

káa  dem this

kaal  $wait

kálí  $wooden spoon

kaam  $meet

káara,  $fish

káara, nprop Kara

kad (passive ka)  $be poured, be prepared (of coffee)

kai  1) disappear  2) be missing, be lost

kais (causative kai)  $1) forget  2)

get lost, be lost  3) make disappear  4) delete

kaisí  $servant, subject, vassal

kal  $waist

kála  1) cardnum one

kalánqi  $Moringa tree, plant sp.

kálí  $the little finger; the little toe

kallé  $type of tree

kalsh  $help

kam  $pick up (something small and light, like a flower)

kaná (kána)  $younger brother

kána  $younger sibling

kánki  $car

káNNo (kána)  $younger sister

kans  $fight

kánta  $strength

kap  Ideo a little bit

kaap  $1) stay, remain  2) (of time)

pass

kapá  $wing
karámɓa n calabash for coffee
kaarán bánnọ n Omo river, lit. ‘the river of the Kara’
kárc’a n cheek
kárná shekíni n beads belt
káro n hunchbacked person
kasála n canin teeth
kash v 1) distribute, share 2) pay
kashad (passive kash) v be paid
kashim (kash) v share
kat’ v 1) shoot 2) comb
kat’aɗad (passive kat’) v be combed
katamá n (Amh.) town
káte adv here, specific location
kátiil n poisoned arrow
káttíi adv very, a lot, especially
kat’aɗad (passive kat’) v be shot
kayó n evil spirit, future teller
kéda (fr. var. kɛ́da) conn then
kɛ́ɗɗa half, equal
kɛ́ɗɗa lama n midnight, lit. ‘two halves’
keem v marry (for men)
keemó n marriage, wedding
keerá n cactus
kemɓ (passive keem) v be married
(for women) yáa kemɓidú? are you married?
kerí n door, window
kermí n fence surrounding the boma
kidí (dial. var. kisí) pers 1) he 2) they
kilánqi n snake eagle
kína adv today
kíńka adv together
kirá dem these
kirb v dance
kísí dial. var. of kidí
kodí pers she
kóde discourse marker ‘it is told’
koí v till, cultivate, dig
koimó n 1) property, belongings 2) fee
kois (causative koi) v plough with oxen
koisí n calabash container for parsí
kolpí n cabbage
kóno n granary
kónso n Konso
koolí n 1) type of staff made of baraza tree and hold by people who are asking a girl for marriage 2) negotiation (usually for a girl)
kóopini n squirrel
koq v burn (transitive)
koqad (passive koq) v get burned
kor v plant vegetables
korkoro n corrugated iron sheets
koró dem this
korqishá n Jackson’s francolin, Pternistis jacksonii, bird sp.
kóso n (Amh.) ball
kóte adv here, non-specific location
kótte n shirt
kubá n wall of a hut made of staffs and sticks
kucc v 1) subtract, pick up a small portion 2) rub against
kuccad (passive kucc) v be rubbed
kúda kúda Ideo furrow
kúdúɗe fermented goat milk
kum v drink milk
kúmbul n circle kúmbul hamáise wokummé, let’s eat in circle
kúmbulo n calabash used to drink parsí, the traditional beer
kumm v eat
kumpurd v kneel down
kúnc’a n klipspringer (small antelope living in rocky areas)
kuns (causative kum) v make sb. drink milk
kuntum  v  crawl, creep
kup  Ideo  lean forward at 90 degrees
kurí  n  honey
kúrkuto  n  milk container used for making waqáti (butter) and raat’í nuurí (buttermilk)
kurr  Ideo  reach, also used to call the bees
kut’ó  n  white-headed volture
kut’úɓo  n  housefly

l

laal  v  spread, throw (for liquids or mass nouns)
laalim  (laal)  v  1) leak  2) separate, split up
laalimɓ  (passive laalim)  v  be separated, be empty
láapa  n  bat
labalé  n  common ostrich
labá  n  rectangular or square shape
laii  1) Ideo  continuously, repeatedly  2) far
láiso  n  1) hairstyle of married women that consists of twirling the hair in ringlets with butter and red ochre.  2) silks of the female corn flower
laitá  n  rocks
lamá  cardnum  two
lánkai  cardnum  eight
lánkaiso  ordnum  eighth
lánsi discourse marker: additionally
lansó  ordnum  second
lant’í  n  spleen
lashpá  n  shoulder blade
lax  cardnum  six
láxso  ordnum  sixth
laz  v  touch
laʔ  v  1) lick  2) taste
léepi  n  bone
légi  n  ribs
léle  adv  in the past
lem  v  be slow
léma  adv  slowly
leʔé  n  1) year  2) long rainy season
liɓ  Ideo  disappear
líkka  adj  small, few, a little bit
líkkim  (líkka)  v  become small
lins  v  caress, coddle
loodí  n  serval
luﬁ  n  bell with a rectangular shape
lum  v  feel unwell
lûquma  n  nape or scruff of the neck

m

máa  n  woman, female
máal  n  1) centre  2) border, side
máaqá  lizard
maas  (causative  maat)  v  give back, return
maat  1) v  go back, come back  2) become
máati  n  yeast, or fermented grains used for the fermentation of parsí
macc  (causative maq)  v  1) finish (transitive)  2) empty a container of its content
maccadí  (passive macc)  v  be finished
madá  n  scar
mak  Ideo  across
makkán  cardnum  three
makkánso  ordnum  third
malgim  v  be sick for many months
málsí  n  (Amh.) change, answer
mangístu  n  (Amh.) government
mángo  n  (Amh.) mango
mánté  n  bat-eared fox
maq  v  finish (intransitive)
maqas  v  bleed
mar  v  stop
marlé  n  Arbore
marlén bánno  n  Weit'o river, lit. ‘river of the Arbore’
márpi  n  (Amh.) syringe
maqqúsha  n  mongoose
marsh  v  do rituals
márt'o  n  necklace made of giraffe's tail
mas  v  separate butter from milk
masad  (passive mas)  v  be separated
mash  v  slaughter
mashad  (passive mash)  v  be slaughtered
mashish  (causative mash)  v  make sb. slaughter
mashitá  n  double bladed knife
mató  cardnum  (Amh.) hundred
maz  n  a boy who has been initiated and is going through a series of rituals until he gets married
méde  n  1) flat stone for grinding grains  2) palm of the hand
mee máine  (fr. var. mei máine)  interrog how many
meegini  n  placenta (of animals)
méeki  n  buffalo
méeshi  n  evil spirit
mei máine  (fr. var. mee máine)
meránin wodá, time of the day people can milk the cattle; between 8-11 a.m.
meské  n  brain
meté  n  head
mée  adv  downwards, down
méewal  adv  downwards (vertically)
mcq  Ideo  very slow action
míngi  n  impure, abnormal; children whose upper teeth grow before the lower teeth are said to be míngi.
mírři  n  waves on a river
mírjá  n  kudu
mírsha  n  black lava stone
mishá  n  1) older sister  2) aunt: father's sister
missh  v  be full
misó  n  friend, hunting mate
mizaqá  n  right (opposed to left)
moqqó  n  namesake
móoro  n  fortune teller
moqšía  n  type of berry
móro  n  lard, fat
mott  v  mix with water in order to obtain a fermented dough
míttta  n  fermented dough for bread or parsí
mottad  (passive mott)  v  be mixed with water
mulðá  n  a person from the same clan Bito ísa muldáne, Bito is from my clan
múna  n  dumplings made of sorghum or maize flour
mung  v  shave the whole head
múqa  n  egg (Banna)
murá  n  1) gun, rifle  2) weapon
murdá  n  calf, back of the leg, below the knee
múró  nprop Mursi
múuqi  adj  strong
múzi  n  (Amh.) banana

n
náa  adv  yesterday
náabi  n  name
naanó  (naasí)  n  girl, daughter
naasà  (naasí)  n  child, boy
naasí  n  child
nagáya  n  well, peace, wealth
nángo  n  soldier ant
nash  v  like
-ne  affirmative copula
níí  adv  last night
nitt (causative niʔ) v send (hither)

niʔ v come

noqó n water

nukí n nose

nukí óolo (nukí, óolo) n nostril

nuqurtí (dialect variant nuqurtí) (Banna)

núu n fire

nuurí (fr. variant nuurí) n butter container, cf. also raat’í nuurí

ñ

ñáboqo n anklet made of colobus monkey’s tail.

ñámúna n ostrich feather worn by Hamar men on their heads

noqóle n arm bracelet made of the tale of the colobus monkey.

nuqurtí (dialect variant nuqurtí) n small intestine, small bowel

nuurí fr. variant of nuurí

ó

ógó adv 1) over there 2) then

ogóró dem that

oidí cardinal four

oifí v be hot, be warm

óifá n hot (ambient temperature)

píeno óifán, it’s hot, the land is hot

oífí adj hot (property of the matter)

ois v ask

oisad (passive ois) v be asked

óiso n question

oit v chase

oítad (passive oit) v be chased

óitto ordinal fourth

okim v exchange

okkantaná four days from now

onkólo n calabash handbag

ongó n type of bean

óo adv over there, distal deixis

óobar galá four days ago

ool v sounds of animals wúrro oolidí

the cat meows; wóngo oolidí, the cow bellowes; qulí oolidí, the goat bleats;

báasha oolidí, the hen cackles

óolo n hole

óom n bow

óon galá after four days

ooní n house

óono (ootó) n female calf, heifer

óótó (ootó) n male calf

ootó n calf

ootóno (ootó) n group of calves

orgó adj short, small-sized

oshála adv the day after tomorrow

óshi n meeting, assembly

oshimó v be shy

oshimóba adj shy

osó n rhinoceros

ossambará three days from now

otárra (ootó) n calves

óra adv here, towards the speaker

órawal adv backwards, towards the speaker

p

páala n excess flesh attached to a goat hide or a cow hide

paash (causative payá) v recover

pac’ Ideo many

paid v count

pálde n type of poisoned arrow

panáq n frog

pandát n gap teeth

parájni n (Amh.) foreigner

pálda n (Amh.) horse

parsí n ale-gruel, traditional alcoholic drink

pax v 1) throw stones at animals in order to chase them out of the
field 2) grind to powder, pound with a mortar 3) castrate shooró
paxá 4) prepare a field from scratch (by cutting the trees)
5) till
paxaf (passive pax) v be thrown, be chased out
paxála adj clever, sharp
paxinta n throwing
payá adj good, beautiful yáa fayáu?
inta fayane! how are you? I'm fine!
pecéé n beans
pée n 1) ground, floor, soil 2) land
péeno (pee) n country
pegé adj far
pélán péló n butterfly
per (fr. var. par) 1) adv again, also
pet’í n saliva, spittle ñnta pet’í
dábidíné, I spitted
pet’mí n spit
pʰeu Ideo finish
pi v defecate
pí 1) n human faeces 2) adj
fearful yáa éédi píñe, you are a fearful person
piimb (passive) v be afraid
piísí n placenta (for human beings)
písh Ideo open
piskill v cough
poolí n tortoise
pooló n cloud
puddó n thread of cotton or other fibres
pug v blow
púka n caracal
púla n window, small opening in the wall of a hut
púnqo n arrow without a metal point, used to kill birds
purdf v be full, be stuffed ñnta
purdídíné, I am stuffed
pus v fart
pusó n fart
put, Ideo 1) up 2) out 3) ready
put, v make bracelets or earings with beads Káira shiggirɛ́xa shekíni
putdídíné, Káira prepared beads jewls with the string sack
púuma fr. var. of úuma

q

qaab v think
qaabim (qaab) v be sad
qaad v smear with butter
qáami n ear
qáami kayá (qáami, kai) n deaf person
qáami shekíni (qáami, shekíni) n bead earrings
qáamin c’anc'amáána n temple, the flat part of either side of the head between the forehead and the ear.
qáara n Vervet monkey, Chlorocebus pygerythrus, monkey sp.
qáari n python
qaash v 1) collect 2) agree
qáashi n women’s leather cloak
qaashim (qaash) v agree with each other
qacc (causative qaj) v make sb. tired
qaf v 1) wear 2) rub the interior part of a calabash
qadaf (passive qad) v be worn, be rubbed
qail v decorate, body-paint
qailaf (passive qail) v be decorated
qailí adj decorated
qailis (causative qail) v make sb. decorate
qáis n forbidden, unacceptable
qaj v be cold, be weak
qajad (passive qaj) v be tired yāa
  qajadidu? are you tired?
qájí adj 1) cold  2) weak
qalánsi n fence surrounding a
  cultivated field
qálbe n leaf
qaldó n 1) thigh  2) lap
qálshe n pocketed belt for
  ammunition
qámɓi adj poor, somebody who has
  no relatives
qan v 1) hit  2) whip  3) rain
  dommọqandekódáade, it's raining
  4) sneeze kídí núki qandiñe, he
  sneezed  5) drive motoródan
  lemdáse qandiñe drive the motorbike
  slowly!  6) phone-call íntahídáar
  silk qándáaqané, I will phone you
  7) stumble íɗan góono qandiñe,
  I stumbled on something
qána n stream, gully
qandf (passive qan) v be hit
qans v 1) listen  2) understand yāa
  qandisu? did you hear/understand?
qánte analytical dative case
qáŋa n vagina
qará adj clever, active person
qarc'á n grass' seed
qars v sharpen a stick
qása n louse
qáskí n dog
qatt v tie a necklace or a bracelet
qattad (passive qatt) v be attached
qáu n forest
qáyo n worm
qiq v crown of the rooster báasha
  qtidine, the rooster crows
qob v cover a beehive with grass
qoc' v suck
qobí v fetch water
qóle interrog where is
qolé v there is not
qólma without
qólpo n scorpion
qómbalti n shell
qómoro n Adam's apple
q succès a n nape or sides of the neck
qógi n coal
qoosi n elbow
qootí n beehive
qoq Ideo sound of frog
qore'í n neck
qóre'o n throat
qórré n butter container (same as
  kákuto)
qosh (causative qoc') v make suck
  the milk ínta anqándé naqshidíñe,
  I've made the lamb suck the milk
  (from a sheep other than the
  mother)
qot' v shave a goathide, unhairing
  stage in the tanning process
qot'í n shaved area on a goathide
qucc v pinch
quh Ideo sound of a bullet
quilí n goat
quilí bűu n castrated goat
qullá (quilí) n goats
qulló (quilí) n female goat
qultá (quilí) n male goat
qultóno (quilí) n herd of goats
qunt' v break, crack
quntíni (fr. var. untíni) n mouse, rat
quña n resin-based incense
qura n stick
qushumbá n horn
quuoro n face wrinkle
r
raat v sleep
ráatí n milk
ráatí nuurí n buttermilk
ráati n sleep
raqí  n  place, location
rási  n  footprint
ratt (causative raat) v  put sb. to sleep
riggíma (fr. var. irgíma) n  teeth cleaning twig, chew stick
rinso  n  hornet, large stinging wasp
rőo  n  leg, foot
rőó tāana  n  heel
rőó tigé  n  palm of the foot
rőoro  c'akó  n  time between 12 and 13 p.m., midday.
rőoro c'ingé  n  afternoon, between 12 and 14 p.m.
rootó  n  mountain nyala or balbok, Tragelaphus buxtoni, antelope sp.
róqo  n  Tamarind (tree and its fruit), Tamarindus indica, plant sp.
rosh  v  sling, hurl stones
rósho  n  sling
ruc'ánti  n  type of grass
ruub  v  rinse the mouth

sa  v  sweep up
sáa  adv  there, same level of the speaker
sáama  n  penis
sadá  n  chest
sadá sítí (sadá, sítí)  n  chest hair
sag  v  1) continue, carry on 2) cross, go across 3) attach , tie
san  v  be fast
sána  adv  fast, quickly
santé  n  cloth, rag used to clean the doolá (milk container)
sar  v  catch
sára,  n  goathide used to carry babies on the back, baby sling
sára,  n  enclosure for lambs and kids
sasmí  n  small branches used for steaming food. They are inserted in the pot to form a layer which separates food from boiling water.
sáut (fr. var. sautí)  n  Acacia tree sp.
sautí  sóut
saxá  n  tomorrow
sažáti  n  hour
sédíma  n  sunset
seelé  n  Helmeted guineafowl, Numida meleagris, bird sp.
seení  n  stone
seepí  n  vagina
séere  n  locust
segeré  n  dik-dik
sel  cardnum nine
si  v  be broken, be dirty, be stained, be ruined kánkino siidíne, the car is broken
sía  adj  bad
sítí  n  hair, body hair
silbí  cattle coat colour and pattern:
  dark brown
silbí labál  cattle coat colour and pattern:  dark brown and white-patched
silbí súra  cattle coat colours and patterns: dark brown and grey, pale brown
silé  n  feather
silí  n  (Amh.) telephone
sillamá  n  evil spirit, boogie man, usually evoked to scare children
sílqa  n  knuckle
sírmá  n  pregnant (of humans)
sobaré  n  castrated calf
sómpo  n  lung
sóoti  n  night
soot v become dark péeno sootidíne, it’s dark
sólqo n salt
sósó n eagle sp.
súkka adv around, surrounding
sun adv just, so, simply, like that
sunq v kiss
sunqum v kiss eachother
sunsuró n (Amh.) metal nail
sur bordí cattle coat colour and pattern: spotted white-faded
súra grey, white-faded (for cattle coat), silver-like colour
súrki n finger
súsuwal adv sidewayes, 90 degrees rightwards or leftwards
sút v sip
súttá n blu-headed bee eater, bird sp.

sh

sháakina n evening, from 19 to 21 p.m.
shaalá n ceiling
sháami n sand
shaan n 1) urine 2) bladder
sháaqa n small size
shaɓ v brew
shaɓad (passive shaɓ) v be brewed
shai n (Amh.), sugar
shamáj cattle coat colour and pattern: albino
shamajá n nickname for parsí beer
yáa shamajá sutiːdá? did you take a sip of parsí?
shan v buy
shanf v urinate
shansh (causative shan) v sell
sharb v strip a branch of its leaves
shark v shake the milk container in order to clean it (a piece of smouldering charcoal is inserted and the container is shaked several times)
sharkaɗ (passive shark) be cleaned
shárrqa n calabash (for food)
sháu n cheetah or leopard
shed v look
sheegíni n waters (in pregnancy)
shéknía v make a hunting trophy
shékini n beads, bracelets or necklaces made of beads
shékini n 1) white quartz 2) hailstone
shí n thousands (Amh.)
shicc (causative shiit) v soften
shiccad (passive and causative shiit) v get softened
shiccis (causative shiit) v make sb. soften something
shífi v 1) stay, be left 2) remain
shiggarí n string sack whose fibres are used to make bracelets and ear rings
shíi v wash
shii (passive shii) v wash oneself
shíiri n metal spike or prong, used for carving wood and other materials
shish (causative shiit) v make wash
shíiti adj soft, easy, simple, light
shir v move in circles
shirá n string skirt for baby girls
shódár n Buzzard, bird of prey sp.
shółba adj light (weight)
shooné n hyrax
shooró n testicles
shooosh v 1) roast 2) welcome the guests and help them settle in
shoooshi n guest
shok v stink
shóqo n tick
shu Ideo fast movement
shufí n grass, mead
shukó n carved or shaped stick
shukúma n hoof
shup v close
shupad (passive shup) v be closed
shupí n lid
shúpo n shadow
shupurá n (Amh.) chickpea
shurt v 1) brush ñta riggimaxa ásin shurtítíne, I brushed my teeth with the chew stick 2) spread
shúupi n sunflower
t

ta (fr. var. táákí)
táákí (fr. var. ta) adv now
táákí kónnna what ever
taap v mix water and flour by hand
taapad (passive taap) v be mixed with water and flour
táfí cardnum ten
takk v pick the leaves from a branch until they are gone
támpo (fr. var. dámpo)
tángayo n spider
tánqash n antelope
taragad v be startled
tarsh Ideo 1) climb down from a tree 2) come down
tax v cut
taxá similar
té negative copula
tésíɓe n axe, blade of the axe
ti v take
tid (passive ti) v be taken
tig v 1) step in 2) reach
tigé n sole of the foot
tíma n boiled grains
tíma gattá n temple
tíngisha fr. var. of díngisha
tipá adj 1) honest, reliable (of a person) 2) straight (of a road)
tirabó n liver
tishá n fermented milk
tísha n corn cob
tísha qálbe n corn husk
titt v soak in water
tittad (passive titt) v be soaked in water
tóbá cardnum seven
tóbísó ordnum seventh
toqó n leather skirt for women
toré n valley
tubáqe n type of tree
tufí n buttock
tufí óolo (tufí, óolo) n anus
túla n small pond dug by hand
tukará n manure consisting of goat faeces and cow dung. It is usually accumulated outside of the kraal.
tumántumo n (Amh.) tomato
tumbuqúlu n worm
tumpó n lid made of sorghum
túni n circle shape
tunk v gather together, sit together
tupó n small broom made of dry sorghum
tuqánda n hiccup
túra up
túrawal adv upwards
türke n dust
turqánda n dwarf mongoose
túuma n onion
t'
t'a v 1) milk wongá t'aá, milk the cows! 2) vomit ñta t'aidíne, I vomited
t'aɗ (passive t'a) v be milked
t'aɓ v strech a hide in the sun
t'aɓaɗ (passive t'aɓ) v be streched
t'abé n wooden stake used to stretch hides

úlo blue

untíni fr. var. of quntíni

úpurí n 1) corncob with no kernels
            2) lid for the clay pot made of corncobs

urá n gale, very strong wind

urs (uurí) v fight

us adv thither, away from the speaker, in the opposite direction

ush v 1) be ripe  2) be cooked

úsuwal adv 1) backwards, turning the body at 180 degrees

ut v 1) go out  2) come out háino utidi, the sun came out, sunrise
            3) climb

utaf (passive ut) v be climbed

utamóno n period of 3-4 months in which a married woman is covered in butter and sits in the house of the husband’s parents before she is given to her husband.

úuma (fr. var. púuma; Banna áama)
uurí n fight, conflict

w

wa another

wa v sunset háino waidí, the sun went down

wáa n meat

waadim v work

waadíma n work

waadímbo (passive waadim) v be worked; be done

waak v cackle that hens make when they are about to lay an egg báashano waakidíne, the hen cackled

waákí n cattle, cow

waákí búú n castrated bovine

u

-u interrog interrogative copula

úba n female red-headed weaver, bird sp.

ucc v cook

uccish (causative ucc) v make sb. cook

udúp n central pillar of the house

uk v 1) spear 2) fight 3) cattle raid wongá uxdá, steal cattle 4) pierce, perforate, prick 5) light up

ukuli n 1) donkey  2) a youth who has to go through the first stage of initiation (the leap of the cattle).

ukum (uk) v fight each other

úkumɓa (uk) n thorn; prickle on a plant

ukuns v rest

úlde n Arbore who live north of Chew Bahir.
waakí shárqa  n calabash bowl used for drinking milk
waakí zéle  n cattle enclosure
waakí zía  n bull
wádin otherwise, differently
wága  n value, price
waiterá  n type of gun
wal  v forget
walé  n dusky turtle dove, Streptopelia lugens, dove sp.
wali  n sickle, farming tool with a semicircular blade
wálqanti  n Aloe vera sp.
wáltá  n genet (small animal similar to a cat)
wána  adj different
wána wána  n difference
wánc'o  n milky way
wání  1) other, another  2) some
wanná  n centre hármarin woredánsa
wannáno Dímekane, the centre of the Hamar woreda is Dimeka
waqámba  n blue chestnut roller, bird sp.
waqáti  n butter
warkatá  n left
wärle  n hare
wärqati  n (Amh.) paper, notebook
washfíra  n type of gun
wei conn or
weilám  n heart (as physical organ), but also bravery
wíi  n any vegetable, green leaves
wóbo  adj dishonest, crooked
woc’im  v 1) be disappointed  2) have a fight with sb.  3) argue
woce  v become hard or dry
wócci  adj 1) hard  2) difficult  3) dry (for wood)
wod  v put down
wodí  (dia1. var. wosi) pers we
wodímo  adj rich
wof  v 1) sleep, lay down  2) pass
woi  interj response made by a man addressed by his personal name, “Mugá?” “Woi!” “Mugá?” “Yes!”
woi  v 1) stop, stand still  2) stand up  3) wait  4) stand still
wois (causative woi)  v 1) make stand still, put 2) build a house
woisá  n flute
woisis (causative wois)  v stop sb.
  ínta ḥíddan woisisdíne, I’ve made you stand still, I stopped you
wólsha  (wšísha)  n sorghum’s cane stalk rich in sugar and sucked as sugar cane
wombári  n (Amh.), any piece of furniture
wongá  (waakí)  n cows
wóngo  (waakí)  n female cow
woomá  n butter container
wórqi  n (Amh.) gold
worré  n outside
wors  v stir
worshó  n slave
wosh  v 1) starve  2) be thirsty
wosi  dial. var. of wodí
wosó  n type of stick used like a hoe to dig small holes in the earth
wotí  n forehead
wotí ási  n central incisors, lit. ‘front teeth’
woxóno  (waakí)  n herd of cows
wozad  v be happy ínta kátti
  wozadíne, I am very happy
woxá  (waakí)  n ox
wuc’  v drink (water)
wúc’o  n infesting insect (for sorghum, t’ef and millet)
wuc’ad  v be drank
wúkumɓa  n bark (of trees)
wul 1) all, every  2) adj all
wúrro 1) n cat 2) nprop Wurro
wush v (causative wuc') make sb. drink
wūshki n bullet

y

yáa pers you (2SG)
yaaná (yaatí) n sheep
yáano (yaatí) n female sheep (ewe)
yaatá n male sheep (ram)
yaatí n sheep
yaayó n wild dog
yay v 1) walk 2) move 3) fly (for birds)
yed v 1) take 2) put 3) catch
yedaf (passive yed) v be taken, be caught
yedí (dial. var. yesí) pers you (2PL)
yêla n roof
yek v be enough, ña yekidíne, it's enough for me
yer n thing, something
yesí dial. var. of yedí
yesk v arrive, reach, join beré ñan
yeská, join me later!
yí- pers reflexive pronoun
yíf (passive yí?) v be gone
yíg v play, talk, chat
yíi interj what?
yíří n upper arm
yíitt' v sow, planting seeds by scattering them on the earth
yín adv so
yin disikónna if it is like that
yínda interj let's
yíne interj yes
yípi sile n eyebrow
yíti n owl
yítt (causative yí?) v send
yíttad (passive yitt, yí?) v be sent
yí? v go

yo interj response made by a woman addressed by her personal name, “Kerí?” “Yo!”, “Kerí?” “Yes!”.

z

záani n rope made of plant fibres
zag v 1) want 2) look for, search
zap Ideo catch
zará n body, skin
zargí n type of bean
zarsi n 1) type of reticulating grass 2) used in the F, crowd of people
zéega n open country sparrowhawk, bird of pray sp.
zeelí n boma, kraal, enclosure
zélo (zeelí) n family
zía adj brave
zug v shake
ziiga n spinal cord
ziígo n sorghum crumble
zííli n rainbow
zííni n mosquitoes
zìíti n hook
zikí n goat faeces
zilánqa n harmless snake
zináq n plant sp. which produced edible fruits
zír n small pathway in between two fields
zo n red
zóbo n lion
zombí n blood
zoolí n shin
zuló 1) n shoulders and back 2) on 3) top
### Appendix C - English - Hamar selected lexicon

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>a lot, very</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aardvark</td>
<td>goodo n aardvark,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>able, be</td>
<td>dam v be able, manage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>acacia (plant sp.)</td>
<td>arqi n acacia sp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with yellow mimosa flowers;</td>
<td>sau ñ acacia sp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adam's apple</td>
<td>qomoro n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>afraid, be</td>
<td>piim in (pi)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>after</td>
<td>bere after, later</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>again</td>
<td>per</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>agree</td>
<td>qaashim (qaash) v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>airplane</td>
<td>c'acei guni n, lit. 'the snake of the sky'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>all</td>
<td>wul all, every</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aloe vera (plant sp.)</td>
<td>waltqanti n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>alone</td>
<td>bish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amhara</td>
<td>gal n enemy, Amhara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>angry, be</td>
<td>dagad (passive) v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>animal (wild)</td>
<td>dab i n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>anklet</td>
<td>naboqo n anklet made of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>colobus monkey's tail.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>another</td>
<td>abi (ab); wa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ant</td>
<td>ciilo n small ant; nango n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>soldier ant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>antelope</td>
<td>taqash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>anus</td>
<td>tufi olo (tufi, olo) n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arbore</td>
<td>marle n; ulde n Arbore who</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>live north of Chew Bahir</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arm</td>
<td>aan n arm, hand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>armpit</td>
<td>babati n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>around</td>
<td>sukka adv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arrive</td>
<td>yesk v reach, join</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arrow</td>
<td>bankar n arrow with a metal point; katl n type of poisoned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arrow;</td>
<td>palde n type of poisoned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arrow;</td>
<td>pundo n arrow without a metal point, used to kill birds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ashes</td>
<td>dibini n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ask</td>
<td>ois v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>attach</td>
<td>qatt v tie a necklace or a bracelet; sag v attach, tie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>avoid</td>
<td>daq v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>axe</td>
<td>tesfe n axe or blade of the axe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>baboon</td>
<td>gia n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bad</td>
<td>sia adj</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bald</td>
<td>bal adj</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>banana</td>
<td>muti n (Amh.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banna</td>
<td>banna n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bark</td>
<td>boc v qaksi boc'di, a dog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>barked</td>
<td>gayta boc'di, the monkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>barked</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bark (of tree)</td>
<td>wukumbo n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bat</td>
<td>laapa n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bat-eared fox</td>
<td>mant n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bead earrings</td>
<td>qami shekini n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beads</td>
<td>shekini n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beads bend</td>
<td>c'ula n bend used as</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>necklace</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beam</td>
<td>gera k n beam supporting the ceiling of a hut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bean (type of)</td>
<td>onqo; pec' n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beard</td>
<td>bushi siti (bushi, siti) n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bedbug</td>
<td>ekeri n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bee</td>
<td>anqasi n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bee eater</td>
<td>satta n blu-headed bee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eater, bird sp.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beehive</td>
<td>quoti n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beer</td>
<td>pars n ale-gruel, traditional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beer;</td>
<td>alla n beer mixed with</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>honey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>before</td>
<td>ini before, earlier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>behind</td>
<td>buudo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bell</td>
<td>dongo n bell with a trapezoidal shape; lulif n bell with a rectangular shape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>belly button</td>
<td>guldanti n</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
belt (pocketed) qálshi n pocketed belt for ammunition; kárna shekíní n beads belt
bifurcation bakkí n bifurcation (of branches, or roads)
big gaarı adj
bile c’íshi n
bird átti n
birth áɗima n
bite gaʔ v
black t’ía n
bladder shaan n
blade c’arí n blade of a knife; gaitá n thin metal blade at the end of a hoe, or at the end of the wóso stick.
bleed maqas v
blind áapi kayá (áapi, kai) n blind person
blood zomɓí n; bagadé n cooked blood mixed with milk and eaten as porridge
blow pug v
blue úlo n
body bíshi n body and skin
zará n body
boil burq v be hot, boil
boiled grains tíma n
boma, kraal zeelí n enclosure
bone léepi n
bone marrow ðíya n
Boraana boráana n
born, be aďď (passive adv) v
bow óom n
bracelet áshawa n type of metal
bracelet, silver-like; joqóle n arm bracelet made of the tale of the colobus monkey; gáu n brass bracelet
braid hair happ v
brain meské n
branches saskíní n small branches used for steaming food. They are inserted in the pot to form a layer which separates food from the water.
brave zía adj
bread balásha n
break ais (causative ai) v break; qunt’ v break, crack
breast amí n
brew shaɓ v brew parsí beer
bring baʔ v
broken, be ai v róono isa aidíne, my leg is broken; si v be dirty, be stained, be ruined kánkino siidíne, the car is broken
broom tupó n small broom made of dry sorghum; hat’ímɓa n type of broom, bigger than tupó and made of baraza tree or sargó tree
brother ishím n firstborn brother; kaná n younger brother
brush shurt v brush ínta riggímaxa ásin shurtidíne, I brushed my teeth with the chew stick
buffalo méeki n
build a beehive doon v
bullet wúshki n
burn at v (intransitive); koq v burn (transitive)
bushbuck hambí n
bushy area diire n
butter waqáti n
butter container nuurí (fr. var. juurí) n; qórre n butter container (same as kúrkuto); woomá n butter container
butterfly pélá pélo n
buttermilk raat’i nuurí n
buttock tuɗí n
buy shan v
cabbage kolpí n

make when they want to lay an egg bdashano waakidíne, the hen cackled
cactus keerá n
calabash karámfa n calabash for coffee; kúmbulo n calabash used to drink parsí; shárqa calabash for food; waakí shárqa n calabash bowl for milk; koísí n calabash container for parsí beer
calabash gourd gusí n Lagenaria siceraria, calabash gourd used for the production of food/liquids containers. Hamar people do not eat it.
calabash handbag onkólo n
calabash ladle gúngulo n
calf ootó n
call eel v
camel gamále n (Amh.)
candelabra tree (plant sp.) andí n Euphorbia candelabrum
carin teeth kasála n
car kánki n
caracal púka n
cariss lins v coddle
carry bask v
castrate pax v shooró paxá castrate
castrated bovine waakí buu n
castrated calf sobaré n
castrated goat qulí buu n
cat wúrro n
catch sar v; yed v
cattle raid uk v wongá uxdá, steal cattle
cattle, cow waakí
cattle’s field daar n area of the field reserved for cows and goats
celling shaalá n
centre maal n
change málsi n (Amh.) answer
charcoal t’ínqiri n
chase oit v
cheek kárca’a n
cheetah sháu n
chest sadá n
chew stick riggíma (irgíma) n teeth cleaning twig
child naasí n young boy or girl
chin búushi n
choke c’uld v
circle kúmbul n kúmbul hamáiše wokummé, let’s form a circle and let’s eat; túni n circle, round shape
clap c’a v
cleaver paxála adj clever, sharp;
  qará adj clever, active person
climb ut v
close dit’ v close; shup v close, seal
clothes apála n clothes, blanket
cloud pooló n
cold, be qaj v be weak
collect qaash v; collect sorghum
dor v
comb baashá n
comb (of a rooster) dúure n
come níʔ v
come out  ut  v háino utidí, the sun came out  
continue  sag  v carry on  
cook  bax  (baxem)  v cook, prepare food;  ush  v be cooked, be ripe  
isín ushidú?, is the sorghum ripe?  
corn  boqólo  n (Amh.); corn husk  tísha qálbe; corncob  tísha  n;  
corncob with no kernels  úpuri  n  

corner  gul  n corner of the house, separate space built on one side of the house  
cough  piskill  v  
cough (with mud)  galt’  v to cover with mud or dung the wall of the hut  
cowhide  ñeɓe  n hide of animals  
crawl  kuntum  v creep  
crocodile  gúrgur  (gúrguro)  n  
cross  sag  v go across  
crow  qiq  v crow of the rooster  
cry  eeɓ  v  
cultivate  koi  v till, cultivate, dig culture  giló  n culture, ritual  
curse  ir  v  
cut  tax  v  
d  
dance  kirb  v  
dark, become  soot  v péeno sootidíne, it’s dark  
darkness  t’ipá  n  
dawn  báasha berá olé  lit. ‘time of the day when the hens first cackle (3-4 a.m.)’  
day  róoro  n  
day after tomorrow  oshála  
dead  qáami kayá  n  
death  demɓí  n  
decorate  goob  v; qail  v decorate, body-paint  
decorated  qailí  adj  
defecate  pi  v  
descend  ansh  v climb down  
destiny  barjó  (bairó)  n destiny, fate, fortune, god  
dew  c’arkí  n  
Dhaasanac  Gélaba  n prop  
die  di  v  
difference  wána wána  n  
different  wána  adj  
differently  wádín  otherwise  
difficult  wóc’im  v  
dig  book  v dig a hole in search of water  
dik-dik  segeré  n  
dirty, be  dakaf (passive)  v;  
edwardm (passive)  v be dirty, be sweaty  
disappear  kai  v get lost  
disappointed, be  wóc’im  v  
disease  aajímo  n  
dish  ashká  n flat dish used to cook bread  
dishonest  wóbo  adj crooked  
dislike  jíbb  v  
distribute  kash  v share  
disturb  galsh  v disturb, annoy, harass  
do  ashk  v make;  hai  v do  
dog  qáski  n  
donkey  ukulí  n  
door  kerí  n door, window  
dough  mótta  n fermented dough (for bread, or parsí)  
dove  wále  n dusky turtle dove,  
Streptopelia lugens, bird sp.  
downwards  mëe  
dream  amf  v  
drink (water)  wuc’  v  
drink (milk)  kum  v  
drive  qan  v motoródan lemnúse qaná! drive the motorbike slowly!
food báada n
foolish dédéga adj dumb
footprint rási n
forbidden qáis n unacceptable
force gabars v oppress
forehead wotí n
forest qáu n bushy area
forget wáll v
fortune teller móro n
four oidí cardnum
fresh (of firewood) éeque adj wet, green
friend ánámno n; míso n hunting mate; bel n bond friend (among girls)
frog panáq n
front (in front of) berá
full t’óot’i adj many
full, be t’óot’ v

g
Gabra Oromo gabáre n
gale urá n very strong wind
gap teeth pandát n
gather together tunk v sit together
generous gazá adj kind
genet waltá n small animal similar to a cat
get used to duus v
giraffe t’ánzí n
girl anzá n unmarried woman, young girl
give im v
give birth ad v
go yi? v
go (come) back maat v
go out ut v climb up
goat qulí n
goat faeces zikí n
goat hide aizí n goat or sheep hide
goat hide baby sling sára n
gold (Amh.) worqi n

good payá adj beautiful, well; yaa fayáu? ínta fayáne! how are you?
I’m fine!
grab dum v
granary kóno n
grandfather eiké n
grandmother aáká n
glass shúdi n grass, mead;
  ruc’ántí n type of grass; zarsí n type of reticulating grass.
grass’ seed qarc’á n
green dúkí n
green c’agáj adj
Grewia mollis (plant sp.) baráza n
grind des (desim) v; gaac’ v grind into a fine powder; pax v pound with a mortar
grinding stone désíma n
ground pee n ground, floor, soil, land, country
grow up gebo v
guard al v follow, chase
guest shooší n
guineafowl seelé n Helmeted guineafowl, bird sp.
gun murá n rifle

h
hailstone shékini n
hair sítí n body hair
hamper ishk v stop, prevent sb. from doing something
hand (arm) aan n
happy, be wozad (passive) v
hard wócci adj
hard, become wocc v become dry
hare wárle n
hartebeest árka n
head meté n
headrest bórkoto n
heart weilám n heart (as physical organ), but also bravery
heavy dééṭ’a adj heavy (weight)
heal roo táana n
help kalsh v
hen báasha n
herd gish v herd and keep the cattle
hiccup tuqánda n
hide aash v (transitive); aadímb v (intransitive)
hippopotamus áade n
hit gí v qan beat v
hole óolo n
honest típá adj reliable (of a person)
honey kuri n
hoof shukúma n
hook zíiti n
horn qushumfá n
hornbill (bird sp.) áka mukánde n
hornet rínso n large stinging wasp
horse (Amh.) párda n
hot óída n hot (outside temperature) péeno óídane, the land is hot, it’s hot
óidi adj hot (as a property of a matter); óidi v be hot, be warm ókal óídídine, I am hot, it’s hot
hour sažáti n (Amh.)
house ooní n
housefly kut’úɓo n
human being éedi naasí
hundred mató cardnum (Amh.)
hungry, be daaqarđ (passive) v ínta daaqarđídine, I am hungry
hunt adamá n
hunter bajé n
hurt burqad (passive) v úno ísa burqadídine, my stomach hurts
husband geshò n (masculine inflected nouns)
hyena gudíri n
hyrax shooné n

i
illness gulpá n cold or flu
inform bers
 initiate boy maz n a boy who has been initiated and is going through a series of rituals until he gets married
insect wúc’o n infesting insect (for sorghum, t’ef and millet)
inside finte (ii)
insult ash v yaa hána ídan ashá? why did you insult me?
insect í n; aká n large intestine;
uqurtí (nuqurtí) n small intestine, small bowel

j
jackal gámuri n
Jinka bááko nprop
joke ákatti n funny story
jugular vein háam n
jump ful v; c’ur v jump over an obstacle without touching it
just sun so, simply, like that

k
Kara/Karo káara nprop
kid ágli n a new born kid or calf
kidney rút’a n
kill dees v
kiss sunq v
knee búqo n
kneel down kumpurd’ v
knife álpa n; mashitá n double bladed knife
know des v know
knuckle sílqa n
Konso kónso nprop
kudu mirjá n
lamb anqási n lamb and kid
land pee n country
language aapó n; mouth, message
lap qaldó n
lark (bird sp.) átti káira n
last night nii
later beré
laugh anc’ v
lava stone mírsha n black lava stone
lay (eggs) ful v báashano fulídàne, the hen laid an egg
leader biti n ritual leader, king
leaf qálbe n
leak laalim v noqó laalimidàne, the water leaked
leather cloak qáashi n women’s leather cloak; tooqó n leather skirt
left warkatá
leg, foot roo n
lick laʔ v taste
lid shupí n; tumpó n lid made of dry sorghum
lie budámo n
life daínta n
lift up daas v lift up a big or heavy load
light shilíba adj light (weight)
light the fire gutt v put branches against each other in order to light the fire
lightning gugána n
like nash v
line up gur v line up, for instance when dancing
lion zóbo n
listen qans v
little likka adj small, few, a little bit
liver tiraɓó n
lizard mááqa n
load c’aan v; baskins (causative)
load water on somebody’s back; locust séere n
long gudúɓ adj tall
look shed v
louse qása n
lover báski n
luck edá n good fortune
lung sómpo n
m
malaria gibáz n
male ángi n man
manage dandai v be able; dandaim v be possible
manure tukará n
many pac’ adj
market gabá n (Amh.)
marriage keemó n
married, be kemɓ (for women)
marry keem v
mate gam v mate (for both humans and animals)
meat waa n
medicine deeshá n
meet kaam v
meeting óshi n assembly
metalsmith gíito n
middle gidí n centre
midnight kédđa lamá n
milk ráat’i n
milk t’a v wongá t’aá, milk the cows
milk churn doolá n
milk container booc’á (dooc’á) n milk container used to collect milk when milking the cow; kúrkuto n milk container used for the production of waqáti (butter) and raat’ nuurí (buttermilk)
milky way wánc’o n
millet bargá n
mix mott v mix with water in order to obtain a fermented dough;
taap v mix water and flour by hand
molar teeth gigiri n
mongoose dubeza n; marquisha n;
dwarf mongoose turqanda n
monkey góro n Colobus Guereza;
qáara n Vervet monkey
moon árpi n month
moringa (plant sp.) kaláqi n
morning burí n
mosquito zií n
mother indá n
mountain dúka n
Mountain nyala (antelope sp.) rootó n Tragelaphus buxtoni
mouse quntini (untíni) n rat
mouth aapó n
move jug v move, shake; yay v move, go; shir v move around,
move in circles
Mursi murso nprop
mushroom béle n edible
mushroom; guní bélé n poisonous mushroom

n
nail gúsho n claw
nail (metal) sunsuró n (Amh.)
name náabi n
namesake moggó n
nape líquma n scuff of the neck;
q5c’a n nape or sides of the neck
near t’eezí adj
neck ízáqe n neck; qorcí n neck, throat
necklace márt’o n necklace made of giraffe’s tail; bijnaré n collar
made of dik-dik skin for the bride;
isánte metal necklace
new háali adj
night sóoti n
nightjar (bird sp.) c’ámpa n
nine sel cardnum
nipple amín aapó
non-kinsman t’ágáza n a person belonging to the opposite moiety.
Marriage is allowed only between clans belonging to opposite
moieties.
nose nuki n
nostril nuki oolo n
now táaki (ta)
Nyangatom bume nprop

o
ochre asile n red ochre mixed with butter; bóro n red ochre used for
body and hair decoration
old geccó adj
old, become gecc v
older sister mishá n
Omo river kaarán bánno n Omo
river, lit. ‘the river of the Kara’
one kála cardnum
only bish
open bul v
or wei conn (Amh.)
oribi gumí n Ourebia ourebi, antelope sp.
ostrich labalé n
ostrich feather námuña n
owl yíti n

p
past éna n
path zir n small pathway in
between two fields
pathway gofi n path; way; road
penis (humans) sáama n
penis (animals) banzí n
pelvic bones bánáde n loin
person éedi n
pick (leaves) takk v pick the leaves from a branch until they are gone
pick up kam v pick up something small and light
pelvic bones bánáde n
loin bánáde n
person éedi n

pick the leaves from a branch until they are gone
pick up kam v pick up something small and light

pierce uk v perforate; prick
pillar bánáde n central pillar of the house
pinch qucc v
place raqí n location
placenta (animals) meegíni n
placenta (humans) piisí n
plant dúuq v; kor v plant
vegetables
play yig v talk, chat
please bánzo
plough kois (causative koi) v
plough (with the ox)
pond bánáde n waterhole, pond; tůla n
small pond dug by hand
poor qámɓi adj somebody who has no relatives

porcupine gírsho n
possible, be dandaim
pot daa n clay pot
potato díngisha (tíngisha) n (Amh.)
pour ka v decant
pregnant (humans) sirmá n
pregnant (animals) áis n
price bazá n debt
problem ciggír n (Amh.)
property koimó n belongings
pull out gosh v
pumpkin bóte n
pupil áapisa t’ía n
put down wod v
python qárí n

r

rain doobí n; qan v rain, dommó
qandé koddáde; it’s raining
rainbow zílí n
ratel t’íngó n honey badger
rattle c’oncó’óro n rattle made with goat hoof
razor háade n
reach tig v; yesk v arrive
recover paash v
rectum t’aqálé n
red deer adj red; bronze-like
colour; zo n red
relative eedá n; muldá
a person from the same clan
remain shif v
resin gangá n
resin-based incense qúña n
respect goshp v honour; góshpi n respect
rest ukuns v
return maas v give back
reveal ber v inform
rhinoceros osó n
rib légi n
rich wodímo adj
right mizaqá n right (opposed to left)
ring gur n ring used to hold a calabash; finger ring t’áta n
rinse (the mouth) ruub v
rip hatt v tear apart
ripe, be ush v
river baií n
roast shoosh v
roll gungum v
roof yéjëla n
root c’aaç’í n
rope dáki n; háada n rope made of leather; záani n rope made of vegetable fibre
run gob v
rush  gib v be on a hurry
s
sad, be  qaabim v
saliva  pet'í n
salt  sóqo n
sand  sháami n
Sansevieria Erythraeae (plant sp.)
    álko n
say  gi v tell
scar  madá n
scorpion  qólpo n
scrape  gurt v scrape out the excess flesh from a hide
scratch  boq v
scream  elat v
see  aap v
seed  běnta n (grains)
seed, fruit  áapi n háqansa áapi tree’s fruit
sell  shansh (causative shan) v
send  nitt (causative níʔ) v (hither)
    ína Aiké nittá, send Aike to me;
    yitt (causative yiʔ) v (thither)
send out  buls (causative bul) v
separate ed (edim) v separate; mas v separate butter from milk
serval  loodí n
seven  toóbá cardnum
sew  jaag v sew
shadow  shúpo n
shake  zig v; shark v shake in order to clean the milk container
share  kashim v
sharpen  c’arsh v; qars v sharpen a stick
shave  haad v háade ína imá! metén idaahadé, give me the rasor! I will shave my head; mung v shave the whole head; qot’ v shave a goathide; qot’í n shaved area on a goathide
sheep  yaatí n; fat-tailed sheep  háña n
shell  qómbaltí n
shin  zoolí n
shirt  kótte n
shoe  dungurí n sandal
shoot  kat’ v
short  orgó adj small size
shoulder  géle n
shoulder blade  lashpá n
shoulders (and back)  zuló n
show  doi v; eshk v
shy  osimɓá adj; shy, be  osimɓ v
sick, be  aajaɗ (passive) v; malgim v
    be sick for many months; lum v feel unwell
sickle  wálí n farming tool with a semicircular blade
side  demí n
similar  desí alike, similar to; taxá identical
sip  sut v
sit  dorq v
six  lax cardnum
sky  c’ác’i n
slaughter  mash v
slave  worshó n
sleep  raat v; wóv v sleep, lay down
sling  rosh v hurl stones; rósho n sling
slope  ásho n; gurmá n
slow, be  lem v
small (for animals)  sháqa n
smear  qaad v smear with butter
smell  gaam v smell (good)
smoke  c’úba n
snake  guní n; zilánqa n harmless snake; qáari python
sneeze  qan v kidí núki qanidíne, he sneezed
sniff  gans v
snort  **gud**  v snort (of oxen)  **woxá**
    *gudá gudá, the ox snorts*
soak (in water)  **titt**  v
soft, be  **shiit**  v
soften  **shicc**  (causative **shiit**)  v
sole of the foot  **tigé**  n
sorghum  **isin**  n
sorghum container  **dúgge**  n
sorghum crumble  **zíigo**  n
sorghum sugar cane  **wólsha**  n
sow  **yiit’**  v
soya bean  **atará**  n
sparrow  **jagá**  n
speak  **ɗalq**  v  talk
spear  **banqí**  n
speech  **ɗónko**  n wise narrative
spider  **tángayo**  n
spike  **shíiri**  n metal spike or prong
spinal cord  **zíiga**  n
spit  **pet’im**  v
spleen  **lant’í**  n
spread  **laal**  v throw (liquids or mass nouns)
sprout  **baqal**  v
square  **laɓá**  n rectangular shape, square shape
squirrel  **kóopini**  n
stake  **t’aɓé**  n wooden stake
stand up  **daaɓ**  v;  **woi**  v stand up,
    stand still  v
star  **eezín**  n
starling (bird sp.)  **jálo**  n Glossy Blue
    Starling
startled, be  **targad** (passive)  v
starve  **wosh**  v
stay  **haaq**  v  **nagáya haaqá! stay well!**
    (leave-taking greeting);  **kaap**  v
    remain;  **shid**  v  stay, be left
steal  **diib**  v
step in  **tig**  v
stick  **bíiri**  n three pronged
    stir-stick, often used to stir  **parsí**
beer;  **bóoko**  n carved stick with
a round club end;  **koolí**  n staff
made of  **baraza**  tree and hold by
people who are asking a girl for
marriage;  **qúra**  n stick;  **shúko**  n
carved or shaped stick;  **wosó**  n
stick used like a hoe to dig small
holes
stink  **shoq**  v
stir  **wors**  v
stomach  **ii**  n belly, abdomen
stone  **seení**  n;  **méde**  n flat stone for
grinding grains;  **désima**  grinding
stone;  **bákulo**  n the three
cooking stones;
stop  **gar**  v;  **mar**  v
stop raining  **bik**  v
stream  **qána**  n gully
strength  **kánta**  n
stretch  **ap**  v unfold, spread;  **t’aɓ**  v
    stretch a hide in the sun
string sack  **shiggirí**  n
string skirt  **shirá**  n string skirt for
baby girls
strip  **sharb**  v strip a branch of its
    leaves
strong  **múuqi**  adj
struggle  **gaal**  v
stuff  **angámo**  n a person’s
    belongings
stumble  **qan**  v  **ídan góono qanidíne**, I
    stumbled on something
subtract  **kucc**  v pick up a small
    portion
suck  **qoc’**  v
sugar (Amh.)  **shai**  n
sun  **hai**  n
sunflower  **shúupi**  n
sunset  **sédima**  n
swear word  **írima**  n
sweat  **baxard** (passive)  v
sweep up  **sa**  v
sweet dáat’a adj
tail dubaná n
take ti v; yed v hold
tamarind (plant sp.) róqo n
tears ermát n
tease bag v
t’ef gáashi n
ten bóndi n (money-counting);
tafi cardnum
termite ánqaqo n
testicles shooró n
thank you bairó imé
then kédá, kéda conn
thief díibi n
thigh qaldó n
thin ganc’á adj
thing yer n something
think bocc v; qaab v
thirsty, be deebard (passive) v
thorn úkumɓa (uk) n prickle on a plant;
thousands shi n (Amh.)
thread puddó n
three makkán cardnum
threshold gas n threshold of a hut.
throat dánga n; qórc’o n
throw dáb v, pax v
thumb dúmai n thumb and big toe
thunder gimbát n
tick shóqo n
tickle gilgish v
tie dax v
till pax v hámí paxá prepare a field
   from scratch (by clearing the area
   from trees and bushes)
tired, be bashad (passive bash) v
   be won, be overwelmed; qajaḍ
   (passive qaj) v be tired
tobacco dámpo (tampo) n
today kína
together kínka
tomorrow saxá
tongue atáb n
tooth ási n
top zuló
touch laz v
tradition dámbi n
tree háqa n
trousers boláié n
true gon n
Ts’amakko t’amái n
turtoise poolí n
two lamá cardnum
u
uncle aarák n mother’s younger
   and older brother
up túra
upper arm yír n; upperarm and
   shoulders gutúm n
urinate shand v
urine shaan n
v
vagina qáña n; seepí n
valley bódá n valley in between
   hills or mountains; toré n valley
value wága n price
vassal kaisí n servant, subject
vegetables wíi n green leaves
   vein gini n
venom daʔíni n snake venom
   very kátti a lot
village gurdá n kraal, boma
volture kutó n white-headed
   volture
vomit t’a v
w
waist kal n
wait kaal v; woi v
walk yay v move
wall  galt’í  n  wall covered in mud;  
           kubá  n  wall made of staffs 
want  zag  v  
warthog  gaʔásh  n  
wash  shii  v  wash;  c’uub  v  wash 
the clothes 
water  noqó  n  
waters  bázi  (baz)  n  big water, 
       flowing river 
waters (pregnancy)  sheegíni  n 
waves  míri  n  waves on a river 
weak  qáji  adj  
wear  qad  v;  ars  (causative ard) 
welcome (guests)  shoosh  v  
well  nagáya  n  peace 
       wet  c’apá  n  rotten 
what  har  interrog 
wheat  gasgó  n  
when  haa  interrog 
where  hamó  interrog 
which  hamá  interrog 
whip  alánqa  n;  qan  v  whip 
white  c’aulí  adj  
who  háine  interrog;  whom 
       háídan;  whose  háísa 
why  hárna  interrog 

wife  geshóno  (feminine inflected noun)  n;  áma  n  second wife 
win  bash  v  defeat 
wind  gibáre  n  
window  kerí  n;  púla  n  small  
opening in the wall of a hut 
wing  kapá  n  
woman  maa  
work  waadim  v;  waadíma  n  work 
worm  qáyo  n;  tumbuqúlo  n 
wound  aajími  n  
wounded, be  aajímbó  v  
wrinkle  qúuro  n  
write (Amh.)  t’af  v  

y  
year  leʔé  n  long rainy season 
yeast  máati  n  fermented grains 
yellow  galáp  adj  golden-like colour 
yesterday  naa  
young  bárshi  adj;  bórle  n  
young initiate  ukulí  n  

z  
zebra  dará  ukulí  n  lit.  ‘lowland’s donkey’
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