The handle [http://hdl.handle.net/1887/57165](http://hdl.handle.net/1887/57165) holds various files of this Leiden University dissertation.

**Author:** Smits, H.J.
**Title:** A grammar of Lumun : a Kordofanian language of Sudan
**Issue Date:** 2017-09-21
7. Connexive and possessor pronouns

In this chapter I present the connexive and the possessor pronouns. The core function of the connexive is to establish a possessee-possessor relationship between two nouns. I gloss it as ‘of’.

7.1. The connexive

The connexive proclitic (C-ɔ-) consists of the vowel ɔ preceded by a concord. The concord agrees with a preceding (pro)noun (X) that is modified by the connexive construction. The connexive proclitic is attached to a noun (Y) or a prepositional proclitic (PPC) and noun:

\[ X \ C_{c-0} \ (PPC-0) Y \]

Y cannot be a pronoun in this construction. For pronominal possessors there is a different set of forms.

7.1.1. Tone and morpho-phonology

Low tone

The connexive proclitic has a low tone. If preceded by a high or rising tone, it is realized with a high tone, following the rules of Tone Shift and Contour Simplification (see 3.3.1 and 3.3.2):

\[ t̪ʊk \ t̪-pʊl \ (< \ t̪ʊk \ t̪-pʊl < \ t̪ʊk \ t̪- \ pʊl) \ ‘the dog of the person’ \]

When cliticized to a noun that starts with a vowel or with the velar nasal (which is then deleted between vowels), the two adjacent vowels:

- assimilate and shorten: \( ɔ + ɛ > ɛ; ɔ + a > a \)
- shorten: \( ɔ + ɔ > ɔ \)
- form a diphthong: \( ɔ + ɨ > ɔɨ; ɔ + u > ɔu; ɔ + ɪ > ɔɪ; ɔ + ü > ɔʊ; ɔ + ə > ɔə \)
In case of assimilation of two vowels or two adjacent ɔ’s, the resulting vowel is generally realized short, but also allows for a realization with a little length (as is the general rule, stated in chapter 2.2.8). Thus, in the next example, the fusion of the Connexive and the initial vowel (the persona prefix) of ɔkakkâ (Kakka) is generally realized short, but can also have a little length:

\[\text{pälla} \ ɔ-\text{kakkâ} \quad (< \text{pälla} + ɔ- + ɔ\text{kakkâ})\]

\text{cat} \quad \text{c-of.PERS-Kakka}

the cat of Kakka

However, if a high tone is involved, the resulting vowel is realized short and with a high tone, unless in slow or carefully articulated speech. In case of underlying high + low tones, which, on a shortened vowel would be a falling tone on a non-final single mora, this complies with the Contour Simplification Rule. Likewise, in case of underlying low + high tones, which on a shortened vowel would be a rising tone on a non-final single mora, simplification to a high tone is expected, since, as stated in the chapter on Tone, rising tones occur only on word-final (prepausal) morae. Cf.:

\[\text{tōk} \ ɔ-\text{kōkkə} \quad (< \text{tōk} ɔ\text{kōkkə} < \text{tōk} ɔ- ɔ\text{kōkkə})\]

\text{dog} \quad \text{c-of.PERS-Kokku}

the dog of Kokku

\[\text{okul} \ w-\text{ṭṭa} \quad (< \text{okul} w\text{ṭṭa} < \text{okul} w-\text{ṭṭa})\]

\text{child} \quad \text{c-of.who}

whose child (is s/he)? (lit.: the child of whom?)

\[\text{Changed shape of certain nouns after the connexive}\]

Certain nouns occur (or can occur) in a changed phonological shape when preceded by the connexive, e.g., ɔ + \text{okul} > ɔ-\text{okul}:
In these nouns, the non-geminated consonant following the first vowel becomes geminated, while the first vowel and the initial consonant of the noun (if present) are deleted. The tone pattern of the resulting word can be different from what is expected on the basis of the composing parts. A list of these nouns, which can also occur in changed form after the prepositional proclitics ɪ-, ֜n-, ֜t- an ֜t̪-, is provided in chapter 4.4.

7.1.2. Semantics

The connexive expresses a possessor-possessee relationship between two nouns. The first element (X in the formula X ɔ-ɔ Y) is the possessee, the proclitic connexive is attached to the possessor (Y):

\[
\begin{array}{l}
campal \quad c-\mathbb{S}-p\mathbb{L} \quad i-p-\mathbb{S}pari \\
\text{stick(k.o.)} \quad \text{c-of-person} \quad \text{res-c-female}
\end{array}
\]

the campal-stick of the woman

\[
\begin{array}{l}
\text{kərttaŋ} \quad k-\mathbb{S}-kk\mathbb{O} \\
\text{knife} \quad \text{c-of-PERS-Kukku}
\end{array}
\]

the knife of Kukku

The connexive construction can also express other than possessor relationships between nouns. Some examples follow here.

\[
\text{part of whole:}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{l}
tac\mathbb{K} \quad t-\mathbb{S}-par\mathbb{K} \\
\text{legs} \quad \text{c-of-chair}
\end{array}
\]

legs of a chair
made of, consisting of:

\textit{caṭ̪ən̪a c-Ə-ṭ̪ər̪o'ma}

tassel \ c-of-ram

tassel of ram’s hair (lit.: tassel of ram)

\textit{for the purpose of:}

\textit{kurek k-š-t-ora r-tt̪ək nə-ṭampən̪}

hoe \ c-of-NOM-cultivate \ in-farming_field \ on-flat_open_space

hoe for cultivating in a field on the plains (the ground there is less stony than on the slope of the mountain and requires a different type of hoe)

\textit{lai l-ʃ-kəcəkə}

tamarind \ c-of-market

tamarind for the market (i.e. for selling at the market)

\textit{occupations:}

\textit{pol p-ə-ṭər̪ak}

person \ c-of-war

warrior, soldier

\textit{pol p-ə-kəməl}

person \ c-of-hunting_party

hunter

\textit{ownership, association:}

\textit{ol w-ə-ličək}

people \ c-of-goats

the owners of the goats

\textit{place where somebody lives:}

\textit{pol p-ə-kərət̪ət̪əm}

person \ c-of-Khartoum

person from Khartoum
‘child of’ in personal names:

ο-λόττι ι-σ-ματάρι
PERS-Lotti c-of.PERS-Matārī
Lotti (son) of Matārī

In these cases the concord ι- (the general concord of singular nouns with the persona prefix) is not used. Instead, the name without persona prefix is interpreted as containing a noun class prefix, and agreement is with this noun class prefix (ι- in the example above).

Foreign names with an initial sound that is not part of the Lumun inventory of sounds occurring word-initially are not reanalysed as containing a noun class prefix. In such cases the concord η- is used:

ο-ρομία η-αταρίτ ‘Rumia (daughter) of Aṭārīt’
ο-ιόνις η-αλέμιν ‘Younis (son) of Alemin’
έρομία η-ομάρ ‘Jeremiah (son) of Umar’

η- possibly comes from agreement with the noun class prefix η- of a historical noun *ŋʊkʊl ‘child’ (today ʊkʊl ‘child’). A historical noun *ŋʊkʊl is conceivable, since it would give a regular singular-plural pair (*ŋʊkʊl/ŋʊkʊl). Moreover, words for the young of animals also typically come in this class pair (see chapter 4.3.5).

agent of actions expressed by a verbal noun:

τ-κατα τ-δ-πιηνίτ
t-κω C-of-singer
the singing of the singer

undergoer of actions expressed by a verbal noun:

τ-κ τ-αταρό w-αρεκ (< τ-δ + αταρό)
nom-die c-of.things c-some
the dying of some animals

52 The persona prefix δ- is regularly elided before ε, see chapter 4.10.1.
patient of actions expressed by a verbal noun:

$t\-\text{ākkwət} \ t\-\text{ātəpə \ w\-ərək} \ (< \ t\-\text{ā} + \ a\-\text{rəpə})$

NOM-kill  c-of.things  c-some

the killing of some animals

Leaving out the connexive in the example above (with a patient of the action) above gives a result that is still grammatical (see also chapter 4.6.1).

Readings of connexive constructions of the type $X\ C_\text{a-} \text{PREP-} Y$ follow here:

**place where somebody lives:**

$\text{ul} \ w\-\text{ə-nc\-tətək} \ \text{p\-ərə̀} \,$

people  c-of-on-stone  c-of.Lumun_people

the people of Lumun country (lit.: people of on stone of Lumun people)

$(\text{ul} + w\-\text{ə-} + \text{nc-} + \text{tətək} + \text{p\-ə} + \text{ərə̀})$

**occupation:**

$\text{pəl} \ \text{p\-ə-ri-ŋkwəl} \ (< \ pəl + p\-ə- + r\- + kəməl)\,$

person  c-in-hunting_party

person who joins in a hunting party (lit. person of in the hunting party)

$\text{ul} \ w\-\text{ə-ri-}j\text{mən} \,$

people  c-of-in-porcupines

people hunting porcupines (lit.: people of in porcupines)

**for use in a certain environment:**

$\text{kup̪ərəŋ} \ k\-\text{ə-nc\-əri} \,$

bed_plank  c-of-on-water

boat
7.1.3. Attributive and predicative use

Connexive constructions often function attributively but can also be used as predicates. The first example below illustrates attributive use, the second predicative use:

\[ \text{kərɛt } \text{k-ʃ-kkul} \text{ k-ɛ} \]
cloth of-child c-new
the shirt of the child is new

\[ \text{k-kw-ʃká.t } \text{p-ɔ-məkənta} \text{ m-ʃn} \]
3-c-becompl. of-supporting girls c-poss1
she was (one) of my supporting girls
(i.e. girls that support a man during certain initiation rites: they fetch water, prepare food for guests, accompany the man on his visits, sing and dance)

In a predicative construction, a subject clitic can be attached to the connexive:

\[ ⶑ-ʃk \text{ p-ɔ-məkənta } \text{m-ʃn} / \text{k-kw-ʃ-məkənta } \text{m-ʃn} \]
pers-3 of-supporting girls c-poss1 3-c-of-supporting girls c-poss1
she is (one) of my supporting girls

\[ ⶑ-ʃk \text{ p-ɔ-kərətʃəm } / \text{k-kw-ʃ-kərətʃəm} \]
pers-3 of-Khartoum 3-c-of-Khartoum
s/he is from Khartoum

7.1.4. Independent use of a connexive construction

A connexive + noun can be used independently. In the first example, the concord ⋆ in ⋆-təuli agrees with ⋆ərli ‘water’; in the second example, the concord k in k-çe is agrees with kālum ‘pen’.

and his water (i.e. of the cat) had become cold, but hyena’s (water) was still very hot (fr. written story)

your pen is different from Ceccce’s (pen) (lit.: your pen is alone and Ccecc’e’s (pen) is alone)

The following phrase allows for two interpretations. It can refer to the marriage of Kukku and the marriage of Kakka (two different marriages), but also to their marriage to each other, because in case of coordinated “possessors” the connexive is used on both:

the marriage of Kokku and the one of Kakka (the marriage of Kokku and Kakka)

7.2. The absolute connexive

There is also an absolute form of the connexive: C-ɛn. The absolute connexive is homonymous with the demonstrative with anaphoric reference C-ɛn ‘that’. It seems likely that both contain the pronominal base ɛn (for ɛn and C-ɛn ‘that’, see chapter 8). Possibly, the absolute connexive C-ɛn historically derives from the Connexive C-ɔ + ɛn ‘of that’.

The absolute connexive is used in relativized possessor phrases:

\[^{53}\text{\textless \text{á} + \text{ŋɛɾi}}\]
It is also used for pronominal reference to non-humans in possessor role, irrespective of whether they are singular or plural. In such cases it translates as ‘its’ (or ‘their’):

\[
\text{en-ku} \text{t-t-ã̃-kë} \text{t-ã̃-kë} \text{t-æ}\]
\]

where:REL sun come_up:DEPINCOMPL with:ABS

You will find a house where little children are writing (a school). Its door opens to where the sun comes up (the east)

\[
\text{ana} \text{tú} \text{t-ã̃-kò̃nà} \text{ana}
\]

and river C-smell:INCOMPL and

\[
\text{mûcëm} \text{mànà} \text{m-ã̃-kà̃n-}fèkù \text{t-ã̃-kë} \text{t-ã̃-kë} \text{t-æ}\]
\]

and the river will stink and even the Egyptians will not drink its water (Exodus 7:18)

\[
\text{tèpè} \text{appëtìna} \text{n-ã̃-rî} \text{w-æ}\]
\]

eat:IMP groundnuts with-shells C-of:ABS

Eat the groundnuts with their shells!

7.3. Possessor pronouns

There are eight possessor pronouns corresponding to the eight personal pronouns. The possessor pronouns start with a concord that agrees with the noun that they modify. In the list below, the full subject personal pronouns are given between parentheses for comparison. How the 1 and 2 possessor pronouns should tonally be (best) represented is not clear.
7.3.1. Tone

The possessor pronouns are largely tonally regular, but the tonal behaviour of ‘my’ and ‘your (sg)’, as well as of ‘our (of you (sg) and me)’ is not fully compatible with any of the tones. In prepausal position modifying an all-low noun or a noun with a final falling tone, ‘my’ and ‘your (sg)’ can be realized with a rising tone or with a low tone, apparently in free variation, which is compatible with a rising tone. For example: palla pín ‘my cat’ and palla pín ‘my cat’ (palla ‘cat’ is all-low). After a high or rising tone, ‘my’ and ‘your (sg)’ are realized with a falling tone, which could point at a low tone, for example: tôk tôn ‘my dog’ ( tôk ‘dog’ has a rising tone). There are, furthermore, instances of ‘my’ and ‘your (sg)’ that have a high tone in prepausal position, which is not compatible with a low tone, nor with a rising tone, only with a high tone. An example is provided in 7.3.3. The possessor pronoun functions predicatively there. Throughout the book some other examples can be found of prepausal predicative 1 and 2sg possessor pronouns with a high tone, however, cases with low tone are attested as well.

The 12 possessor pronoun is realized with a (final) low tone in prepausal position. In context, however, it receives a high tone from a preceding item on its first mora and brings a high tone to the next item, which points to an underlying L pattern with floating high tone:
Examples of the possessor pronouns preceded by possessee nouns with various tones follow here.

Possessor pronouns preceded by low and falling tones: ṇare ‘work’ and koṭōt ‘lip, side’

1 ṇare ṇ-īn/ŋ-īn ‘my work’ koṭōt k-īn/k-īn ‘my lip’
12 ṇare ṇ-ɔrīt ‘our work’ koṭōt k-ɔrīt ‘our lip’
2 ṇare ṇ-āŋ/p-āŋ ‘your work’ koṭōt k-āŋ/k-āŋ ‘your lip’
3 ṇare ṇ-ōŋ ‘his/her work’ koṭōt k-ōŋ ‘his/her lip’
1A ṇare ṇ-īn ‘our work’ koṭōt k-īn ‘our lip’
12A ṇare ṇ-ɔnṇōn ‘our work’ koṭōt k-ɔnṇōn ‘our lip’
2A ṇare ṇ-ōn ‘your work’ koṭōt k-ōn ‘your lip’
3A ṇare ṇ-ēn ‘their work’ koṭōt k-ēn ‘their lip’

Possessor pronouns preceded by high and rising tones: ṭōk ‘rope’ and ṇārī ‘water’:

1 ṭōk t-īn ‘my rope’ ṇārī ṇ-īn ‘my water’
12 ṭōk t-ɔrīt ‘our rope’ ṇārī ṇ-ɔrīt ‘our water’
2 ṭōk t-āŋ ‘your rope’ ṇārī ṇ-āŋ ‘your water’
3 ṭōk t-ōŋ ‘his/her rope’ ṇārī ṇ-ōŋ ‘his/her water’
1A ṭōk t-īn ‘our rope’ ṇārī ṇ-īn ‘our water’
12A ṭōk t-ɔnṇōn ‘our rope’ ṇārī ṇ-ɔnṇōn ‘our water’
2A ṭōk t-ōn ‘your rope’ ṇārī ṇ-ōn ‘your water’
3A ṭōk t-ēn ‘their rope’ ṇārī ṇ-ēn ‘their water’

Recall that for non-human possessors the absolute connexive c-en is used (see 7.2.), which contrasts tonally with the 3A possessor c-ēn.

ṇare ṇ-en ‘its work’
koṭōt k-ēn ‘its side’
ṭōk t-ēn ‘its rope’
ṇārī ṇ-ēn ‘its water’
7.3.2. Morpho-phonology

Phonological effects at the boundary of noun and possessor are regular. This means that in the examples above with ŋare the concord ŋ of the possessor is deleted, and in the examples with ʈɔ́k final k fully assimilates to the concord t of the possessor. Incidentally, however, the process of assimilation deviates from what is expected. This is the case with the items pán ‘item of the same kind’ and ɔpáŋ ‘sibling’. Compare the first (irregular) example with ɔpáŋ ‘sibling’ with the second (regular) example with parantánąj ‘gourd’. After ɔpáŋ (and pán) the concord p changes to k:

ɔpánkín ‘my sibling’
parantán pín ‘my gourd’  [parandam bìn]

7.3.3. Possessor pronouns as predicates

Like the connexive construction, possessor pronouns can function as predicates. In the example below, the predicative 1SG possessor pronoun in prepausal position is represented with a high tone. It is, however, also possible to realize it with a low tone (without tonal changes in the sentence otherwise).

tów  én-t-í  t-á.ká  t-ín
dog  DEM-C-NEARSP  C-be:INCOMPL  C-POSS1
this dog will be mine

Compare also the following two examples. The last element functions as the predicate:

pɔtæk  p-m  ɛm-p-í
stone  C-POSS1  DEM-C-NEARSP
my country is this one (for example while pointing at a country on a map)

pɔtæk  em-p-í  p-in
stone  DEM-C-NEARSP  C-POSS1
this country is mine
7.3.4. Reference

The personal possessor pronouns refer to humans: speech participants and third persons. With respect to third persons there is no difference between reference to nouns with the persona prefix and common nouns referring to humans. In the following example, kén ‘their’ refers to two human beings denoted by common nouns: őkül ‘child’ and pari pőkkul ‘the wife of the child’. The sentences come from a description of main events in the life of a boy/man.

\[ \text{ő-ttán p-ő-kkol ana ókól} \]
\[ \text{PERS-father c-of-child and child} \]
\[ \text{t-ónine pari p-ő-kkol koman k-én} \]
\[ \text{c-build_for:INCOMPL wife c-of-child rooms c-POS3A} \]

the father of the boy and the boy will build for the boy’s (future) wife their (the boy and his wife’s) house (fr. written description)

Animal characters in stories are referred to by personal possessor pronouns. An example from a story called őooli ana pólka ‘the hyena and the cat’:

\[ \ldots \text{ a-őool} \text{ cccikat lón l-ųŋ} \]
\[ \text{CONJ-hyena hear:DEPPRFV words c-POS3} \]

and the hyena listened to his (the cat’s) words (fr. written story)

7.3.5. Semantics

The personal possessor pronouns typically express possession, including of body parts. Kinship and relational terms are also typically used in combination with a possessor pronoun. For an overview of these terms, see chapter 4, and also Smits (2012). It is recalled here that the terms for father and mother (as well as for maternal uncle) have different forms for (kinship) relations with a first person, a second person and a third person. The terms indicating a kinship relation with a third person, for example őttán ‘(his, her) father’, can be modified by a connexive construction which states the related person:
It is possible to add a plural possessor pronoun to a kinship term that is inherently possessed:

\[ \text{p-č-nennî} \]
\[ \text{PERS-of-Nennî} \]
our(incl) father (i.e. father of me and other people who are not my siblings (typically said about God))

Occasionally the personal possessor pronouns also express other semantic relations, as in the following example:

\[ \text{ámmá} \quad \text{í-kw-śnó} \quad \text{n-ốřé} \quad \text{n-ốŋ} \]
\[ \text{if} \quad \text{2-c-have} \quad \text{fear} \quad \text{C-POSS}3 \]
\[ \text{á-eś} \quad \text{i-ç-ré} \quad \text{c-ş-pírá} \quad \text{é-m-p-ốřé} \]
\[ \text{SUBJ-(2)-go:DEPINCOMPL} \quad \text{in-buttock} \quad \text{c-of-tree} \quad \text{DEM-C-DIST} \]
If you are afraid of him (lit. if you have his fear), you go under that tree over there ("The story of the jackal")

The non-human possessor pronoun often expresses a part-whole relationship, as in the examples above (‘the door of the house’, ‘the water of the river’).

7.3.6. Unexpressed possessors

Possessors of body parts can be unexpressed when they can be easily understood from the context:

\[ \text{m-p-a.įk} \quad \text{p-ślakkọ} \quad \text{tacók} \]
\[ \text{1-c-be:PR} \quad \text{C-wash:INCOMPL} \quad \text{feet} \]
I am washing my feet

\[ \text{ọ́te} \quad \text{okón} \]
\[ \text{make_pull:IMP} \quad \text{hand} \]
stretch out your hand!
A person’s stick is typically an item which is not shared with other people. Therefore there is no problem in identifying its possessor in the next example:

\[
\text{ant-} \text{ökvarik} \text{at} \quad \text{na} \quad \eta-\text{kw-} \text{ónakké} \text{t} \text{é} \quad \text{kúrr} \text{ň}
\]

please try to remember where you have put your stick

It is possible, though not very common, to explicitly mention the possessor of a body part, even though the possessor is perfectly clear:

\[
\text{lön} \quad \text{el-l} \text{-t} \quad \text{a-kollán} \quad \text{k-öká} \text{t} \quad \text{á-k-éret}
\]

these words, the old woman was saying them in her heart (fr. written story)

A construction with ka ‘body’ and a co-referent possessor pronoun is automatically interpreted as a reflexive (see 6.9); when the possessor pronoun is absent, ka more specifically refers to the body. The body in the second example below is the own body. Compare:

\[
\text{a-kw-} \text{štup} \text{at} \quad \text{ká} \quad \text{k-} \text{ň} \quad \text{í-lá} \text{í} \quad \text{í-l-ōrrák} \text{t} \quad
\]

and s/he painted himself/herself with pounded tamarind

\[
\text{a-kw-} \text{štup} \text{at} \quad \text{ká} \quad \text{l-lai} \quad \text{í-l-ōrrák} \text{t}
\]

and s/he, painted his/her, body with pounded tamarind

When the person who does the painting and the owner of the body are not co-referential, the owner is expressed as object of the verb, followed by ka ‘body’. In this construction, there is no possessor pronoun.\(^{54}\)

\(^{54}\) Constructions of this type, which can be called “possessor raising” are described in chapter 14.
a-kw-štop.at-šk ka l-lar ḩ-l-arrakɔ.t
CONJ-3-smear:DEPPRFV-O3 body with-tamarind RES-c-be.pushed:COMPL
and s/he, painted his/her, body with pounded tamarind

7.3.7. Independent possessor pronouns

The possessor pronouns have independent forms. These forms consist of a pronominal base a, realized with a high tone, a concord expressing agreement with the pronominalized possessed noun, and the possessor:

á-C-POSS

The forms below refer, for example, to kálam ‘pen’:

á-k-ɪn á-k-ɪn k-ɔpɔrɔt ‘mine is good’
á-k-aŋ á-k-aŋ k-ɔpɔrɔt ‘yours (SG) is good’
á-k-ʊŋ á-k-ʊŋ k-ɔpɔrɔt ‘his/hers is good’
á-k-ɔrɪt á-k-ɔrɪt k-ɔpɔrɔt ‘ours (of you SG and me) is good’
á-k-ɪn á-k-ɪn k-ɔpɔrɔt ‘ours (EXCL) is good’
á-k-ɔnnɔn á-k-ɔnnɔn k-ɔpɔrɔt ‘ours (INCL) is good’
á-k-ɔn á-k-ɔn k-ɔpɔrɔt ‘yours (PL) is good’
á-k-ɛn á-k-ɛn k-ɔpɔrɔt ‘theirs is good’

In the first example below, the concord of the independent possessor pronoun agrees with kálam ‘pen’. In the next two, the concord ɲ agrees with (earlier mentioned) ɲukul ‘children’.

kálam k-aŋ k-a.ik p-ɔllɛk
pen C-POSS2 C-be:PR C-alone
ana á-k-ɪn k-a.ik p-ɔllɛk
and PROB-C-POSS1 C-be:PR C-alone

your pen is different from mine (lit.: your pen is alone and mine is alone)

ana ɲ-aŋ ɲ-a.ik karen
and PROB-C-POSS2 C-be:PR where

and where are yours?!
á-n-in n-ellâ
PROB-C-POSS1 c-be_absent:INCOMPL
mine are lacking (i.e. I do not have children)

A last example has á-óŋ ( < á-w-óŋ), which agrees with the earlier mentioned apê ‘fish (PL)’ (tonally realized here as ápe55).

á-n-á t-á-k-in-1
PROB-C-POSS1 c-be:PR in-PROB-C-POSS1-Q
are the beans in mine?

However, C-POSS allows for independent use as well:

ant-ókóta tacâk t-ín ana t-áŋ
can:DEPINCOMPL-look:INCOMPL legs C-POSS1 and C-POSS2
please look at my feet and yours (fr. written dialogue)

7.3.8. ‘My home’, ‘our home’, etc.: irregular forms

‘My home’, ‘your home’, etc. are expressed through fixed collocations of the locative noun tuân ‘(at, to) home’ followed by a word that

55 The realization ápe (its own tones are apê) deviates from the tone rules. I have no explanation for this.
contains the prepositional proclitic ʈɔ- ‘(down) at’ and a pronominal possessor, as well as a formative an. an is most likely a remnant of a noun, perhaps of kaṟan ‘place’. Specific forms collocating with tuan are attested for all personal possessors pronoun, except c-ɔrit: ‘our home’ (i.e. of you and me) is just tuan t-ɔrit.

The list with the other possessors follows here, together with alternative expressions using the noun kaṟan ‘place’. The forms with kaṟan ‘place’ are not commonly used.

| tuan t-an-ịn       | ‘my home’          |
| tuan tɔ-kaṟɔn kịn  | ‘the home at my place’ |
| tuan t-an-ʌŋ       | ‘your home’         |
| tuan tɔ-kaṟɔn kaŋ   | ‘the home at your place’ |
| tuan t-an-ɔŋ       | ‘his/her home’      |
| tuan tɔ-kaṟɔn kɔŋ   | ‘the home at his/her place’ |
| tuan t-en-ịn       | ‘our (1A) home’     |
| tuan tɔ-kaṟɔn kịn  | ‘the home at our (1A) place’ |
| tuan t-an-ɔnnɔn     | ‘our (12A) home’    |
| tuan tɔ kaṟɔn k-ɔnnɔn | ‘the home at our (12A) place’ |
| tuan t-an-ɔn       | ‘your (PL) home’    |
| tuan tɔ kaṟɔn k-ɔn  | ‘the home at your place’ |
| tuan t-an-én       | ‘their home’        |
| tuan tɔ-kaṟɔn k-én  | ‘the home at their place’ |

7.3.9. Position in the noun phrase

Attributive possessor pronouns generally precede other modifiers:

*paʈɔk*  p-eteor  p-ɔ-ɔntɔt

*stone*  c-poss1  c-of-long_ago

my country of long ago
CONNEXIVE AND POSSESSOR PRONOUNS

papó p-in ém-p-í í-p-á n-ðkorrc n.tít
thing C-POSS1 DEM-C-NEARSP RES-C-COP 1-ENGRAVE:DEP:INCOMPL from:ABS
tuan t.an-in
home at_place-POSS1

this thing of mine from which I write in my house (refers to the laptop of the speaker, ‘writing from’ refers in this context to the sending of messages, for example through e-mail)

c-ulluk ‘only’ is a modifier that can follow but also precede the possessor pronoun:

ɔ-part ṁl-in p-ulluk á-p-p-ima lón ġl-l-Į
PERS-WIFE C-POSS1 C-only FOC-C-C-KNOW:INCOMPL words DEM-C-NEARSP
only my wife knows these things

ɔ-part p-ulluk p-in a-p-p-ima lón ġl-l-Į
PERS-WIFE C-only C-POSS1 FOC-C-C-KNOW:INCOMPL words DEM-C-NEARSP
only my wife knows these things