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## DASANECH LANGUAGE – STATE-OF-THE-ART

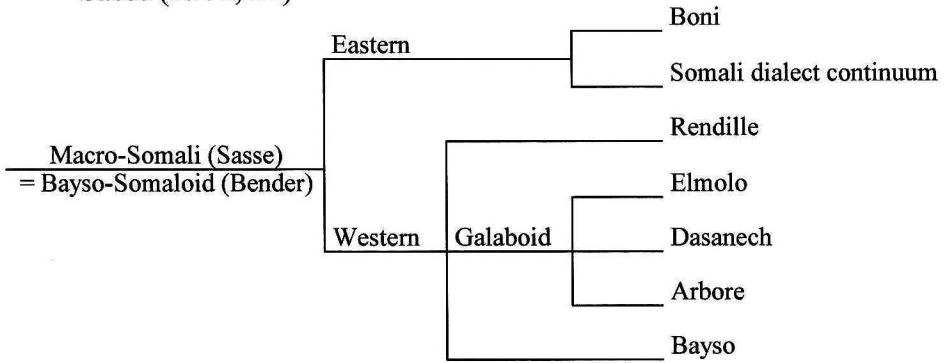
**Mauro Tosco**, *The Dhaasanac Language. Grammar, Texts, Vocabulary of a Cushitic Language of Ethiopia* (Kuschitische Sprachstudien, Band 17), Rüdiger Köppe Verlag, Köln 2001. xiv + 598 pp. + 20 photos. Price € 65.45. ISBN 3-89645-064-6.

The first monograph devoted to Dasanech, earlier known as Galab or Geleba, the East Cushitic language spoken in Southwest Ethiopia and Northwest Kenya. The book consists of the detailed grammar (pp. 1-301), collection of texts (pp. 302-319), key to verbal forms (pp. 320-475), Dasanech-English vocabulary with c. 1.400 lexical units including grammatical information (pp. 476-532), English-Dasanech vocabulary (pp. 533-570), thematic glossaries devoted to plants, and animals (pp. 571-581), color terminology (pp. 582-584), plus 20 photos.

The series *Cushitic Language Studies* founded by Hans-Jürgen Sasse in 1982 tirelessly continues. The present contribution is devoted to the language earlier known as Galab or Geleba, more correctly Dasanech or Dasanech, exactly *dáasannæc*. The author, Mauro Tosco, is one of the most hard-working scholars in Cushitic linguistics. He has already published two books in the same series, on Dahalo (1989) and Tunni (1994), besides numerous articles.

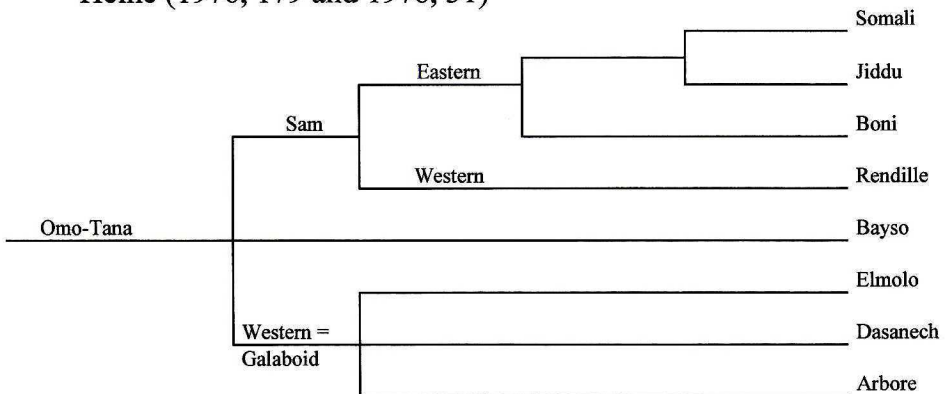
Dasanech is the East Cushitic language spoken in Southwest Ethiopia and Northwest Kenya on the north bank of the Lake Turkana. The last Ethiopian census (1994) gives their number 32.029. In Kenya the last estimation is 2.500 persons in 1980. Tosco judges that their contemporary number lies between 35.000 and 40.000. It was J.H. Greenberg who first determined the East Cushitic affiliation of Dasanech (between Arbore and Konso, see Greenberg 1963, 49). Today our knowledge is naturally better. Let us confront the opinions of various scholars:

Sasse (1975, 19)



In the end of his never published communication (p. 23) Sasse accepts the classification of Heine (see the following scheme), differing especially in position of Rendille.

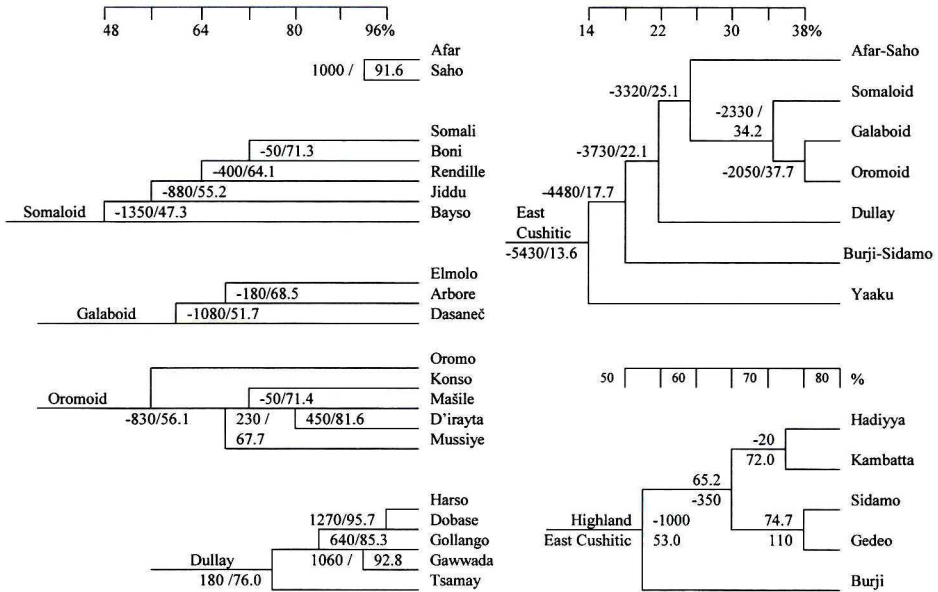
Heine (1976, 179 and 1978, 31)



On the basis of glottochronological analysis (Blažek 1997, 173-74) the following model of disintegration of the Cushitic languages can be proposed. In this model the Galaboid languages stand in a closer position to Oromoid than to Somaloid.

The figures indicate the estimation of the year of disintegration (- = BC) / percentage of the common cognates from the standard 100-word-list.

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The order of shares common with Dasanech is as follows: Arbore 53.3%, Elmolo 50.0%, Oromo 38.9%, Konso 35.8%, Somali 35.8%, Rendille 35.6%, D'irayta 31.2%, Bayso 27.7%, Afar 25.0%, Yaaku 18.0%, Gollango 16.5%, Harso 16.1%, Sidamo 14.6%, Dahalo 11.9%.

After the Introduction (pp. 1-15) the part Phonology (pp. 16-62) follows. The author recognizes 24 consonant phonemes in Dasanech (pp. 16-18):

| voice       | labial   |   |            |          | coronal        |  |          |          |          |   |   |   | velar      |   | glottal  |          |          |          |         |          |
|-------------|----------|---|------------|----------|----------------|--|----------|----------|----------|---|---|---|------------|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|----------|
|             | bilabial |   | labiodent. |          | dento-alveolar |  |          |          | postalv. |   |   |   | palatoalv. |   | palatal  |          | velar    |          | glottal |          |
|             | +        | - | +          | -        | laminal        |  | apical   |          | +        | - | + | - | +          | - | +        | -        | +        | -        | +       | -        |
| Plosives    |          |   |            |          |                |  |          |          |          |   |   |   |            |   |          |          |          |          |         |          |
| - oral      | <b>b</b> |   |            |          |                |  | <b>d</b> | <b>t</b> |          |   |   |   |            |   | <b>j</b> | <b>c</b> | <b>g</b> | <b>k</b> |         | <b>ʔ</b> |
| - implosive | <b>ɓ</b> |   |            |          |                |  |          |          | <b>ɗ</b> |   |   |   |            |   | <b>ɟ</b> |          | <b>ɡ</b> |          |         |          |
| - nasal     | <b>m</b> |   |            |          |                |  | <b>n</b> |          |          |   |   |   |            |   | <b>ɲ</b> |          | <b>ŋ</b> |          |         |          |
| Fricatives  |          |   |            | <b>f</b> | <b>θ</b>       |  |          | <b>s</b> |          |   |   |   | <b>ʃ</b>   |   |          |          |          |          |         |          |
| Trill.      |          |   |            |          |                |  | <b>r</b> |          |          |   |   |   |            |   |          |          |          |          |         |          |
| Approx.     |          |   |            |          |                |  |          |          |          |   |   |   |            |   |          |          |          |          |         |          |
| - central   | <b>w</b> |   |            |          |                |  |          |          |          |   |   |   |            |   |          | <b>y</b> |          |          |         |          |
| - lateral   |          |   |            |          |                |  | <b>l</b> |          |          |   |   |   |            |   |          |          |          |          |         |          |

In Dasanech there are five vowels **i, e, a, o, u**, their long correlates, plus two diphthongs **ie, uo** (pp. 25-26).

In the chapter 3 devoted to the nouns (pp. 63-110) the basic nominal types are determined: CVC, CVVC, CVCV, CVCVC < \*CVCC, etc. In number morphology the category of the singulative plays an important role. There are masculine **-(i)c /-(i)ɲ, -(a)c / -(a)ɲ** and feminine **-(ti)** markers (pp. 75-82). The plural markers are **-u** (frequently with gemination of the final consonant), **-a, -i, -V(V)m (m.) / -sV(V)m (f.), -anu, -ono, -s, -tu** (pp. 83-93). The numerals (pp. 105-110) correspond to their equivalents in other Galaboid languages: 1 - **tákac** (in counting only) / **tikid̥di** (as a modifier), 2 - **naama**, 3 - **seddi**, 4 - **ʔaffur**, 5 - **cen**, 6 - **li**, 7 - **tiyya**, 8 - **siet**, 9 - **saal**, 10 - **tommon**, 100 **kúḍ tikid̥di ~ tikilli**, 1000 - **ši tikid̥di ~ tikilli**. The system of personal pronouns can be concentrated in the table (p. 211):

| <i>person / pronoun</i> | <i>absolute</i> | <i>subject</i>            | <i>object</i> | <i>possessive</i> |
|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 1 sg.                   | yú              | yáa                       | ye            | cú / cu           |
| 2 sg.                   | kúuni           | kúo                       | ko            | kú / ku           |
| 1 pl. incl.             | múuni           | ( <sup>n</sup> é) ké ~ kí |               | kúnnu             |
| 1 pl. excl.             | ɲíni            | ɲaaji                     | ɲí            | kíɲu              |
| 2 pl.                   | ʔitini          | ʔiti                      | ʔitini        | kiccu             |

Some of Dasanech adjectives preserve a common East Cushitic archaism known from Beja too, namely the plurals with the partial reduplication: **búr**, pl. **búubur** „red“, **ḍér**, pl. **ḍeedír** „long, tall“, **ḍát**, pl. **ḍáaḍat** „dark-skinned“. But there is a more general pattern of the adjectival plurals of the type **ráar**, pl. **ráagar** „yellow“, **niní**, pl. **niiginí** „little“, **ʔéḍ**, pl. **ʔéégeḍ** „white“ (p. 207). The chapter 4 is devoted to the verbs (pp. 111-205). The most important verbal categories recognized in the Dasanech verb are those indexing the subject of the sentence on the verb: person (1/2/3), number (sg./pl.), gender (m./f.; only for the 3th sg. subject), inclusion of the addressee (incl./excl.; only for the 1st pl. subject), and those expressing the semantic setting of the sentence: tense (past / non-past, i.e. perfect / imperfect), mood (main / dependent / Imperative ~ Jussive), polarity (positive / negative). The most important verbal forms are concentrated in the Appendix 2 (pp. 320-475), including four verbs preserving the prefixal conjugation (3rd sg. m. impf.: **ʔás** „kills“, **yaalla** „stands“, **yeeḍe** „says“, **yimii** „comes“). In the final chapter 6 the syntax is discussed (pp. 252-301). The illustrative texts are added in the Appendix 1 (pp. 302-319).

For comparative-historical linguistics perhaps the most valuable contribution of Tosco's description of Dasanech consists in lexical data. The Appendix 3 is divided in three parts: 1. Dasanech-English Vocabulary with grammatical comments (pp. 476-532); 2. English-Dasanech Vocabulary (pp. 533-570); 3. Specialized Glossaries (pp. 571-581): Plants, Insects & Invertebrates, Fish, Birds, Reptiles, Wild mammals, Domesticated animals, Geographical terms, Ethnic terms, Ox-names). The final Appendix 4 is interested in the Color terms (pp. 582-584). The References (pp. 585-592) consist of ca. 150 titles. For orientation the Subject index (pp. 593-597) can also serve. In the present volume

of the Cushitic series Tosco & Köppe start with an attractive innovation, namely photos of the people and their environment described in the book.

It is purposive to compare the basic word lists collected by the following authors (with numbers of lexical units in brackets): da Trento 1941 (60), Haberland 1966 (91), Fleming 1965 (102) & 1971 (146), Bender 1971 (97), Sasse 1973, 1974a,b, 1975a,b, 1976a,b, 1979, 1980, 1982, and finally Tosco 2001 (c. 1.400).

| English       | da Trento<br>H Haberland      | Fleming             | Bender  | Sasse  | Tosco                                 | etymology  |
|---------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <i>all</i>    |                               | luule               | luule   | luulli   | lulli                                 | ?Sam *nóòl- (Sm, 194)  |
| <i>ashes</i>  |                               | ek                  | εεge    | ?ege   | ?ége                                  | cf. Arb ?eeg, El éek <i>fire</i> , Ya íkú; Dah ?eega id.   |
| <i>bark</i>   |                               | bor                 | buurte  | boorti   | boort-i<br>bókot-i                    | cf. Du *díl- <i>burn</i><br>?Qwara ber (Flad)<br>?Bo-Baddey g'afóód<br>Bo-Jara g'ofó'ód id.<br>or Kb buku(-ta) id. |
| <i>belly</i>  |                               | gere                | geere   | geere  | geer-e                                | *garí- > Arb geré?,<br>El gere id., So garaḥ<br><i>bastard</i> (MS <sub>s</sub> 4, 11)                             |
| <i>big</i>    | <sup>l</sup> gudogà<br>H gúdo | guddo               | guddo   | guddu  | guddu                                 | *gudd-/*guud- (EC 16)  |
| <i>bird</i>   | <sup>l</sup> urrin<br>H húrum | kimirre             | kímmíde | kimiḍḍi,<br>pl. kimírri<br><i>small bird</i><br><sup>u</sup> urum<br><i>big bird</i> | kimír-ri                              | *kimbir- (EC 13)   |
| <i>bite</i>   |                               | g'inin-             | gInIne  | g'inin-  | g'inin                                | *kaniin- (EC 25)   |
| <i>black</i>  |                               | oḥor                | ḳḥḳr    | ?oḥor  | ?oḥor                                 |  |
| <i>blood</i>  |                               | fás                 | fás     | fás  | fás                                   |  |
| <i>bone</i>   |                               | lefi-te             | lafite  | láf-iti,<br>pl. láff-ù   | láf-u                                 | *laf- (EC 21)  |
| <i>breast</i> |                               | oto =<br>oḍo (1971) | ḳḍo     | ?ḍḍu,<br>pl. ?ḍt-ù   | ?ḍḍu<br>(human)                       | Arb ?edú, Af-Boon<br>edhum (EC <sub>L</sub> 36)<br>Du *ʿadum-<br>Ya edu'   |
|               |                               |                     |         |  | ǰán (animal)                          | Du *g'an-te <i>udder</i>   |
|               |                               | bəl <i>chest</i>    |         |  | bál <i>chest</i>                      | ?HEC *alba <i>face</i>   |
| <i>burn</i>   |                               | ḍunay-              | ḍunay   | ḍuun-ay-   |                                       |  |
|               |                               |                     |         |  | bólob                                 | Rd bolkha<br>Saho bolol- (Re)<br>Be balool id.,<br>cf. So belbel <i>flame</i>                                      |
| <i>claw</i>   |                               | addo                | aḍo     | <sup>n</sup> ad  | <sup>n</sup> ad<br><i>finger nail</i> | *ʿiddi (Sm 99)   |
|               |                               | gəñif               |         | kònòf  | konof                                 | Arb kunúf,   |

|                  |                                     |                                    |                    | <i>hoof, claw</i>    | <i>hoof, finger</i>        | El kúnuf,<br>Rd góffan <i>claw</i>   |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--|
| <i>cloud</i>     |                                     |                                    |                    | derri-c              |                            | *daruur- (EC <sub>III</sub> 91)  |
|                  |                                     | ñado =<br>ñebo!<br>(1971)          |                    |                      |                            |  |
|                  |                                     |                                    | irr = <i>rain</i>  |                      |                            |  |
| <i>cold</i>      |                                     | den                                | den                | deeɲ                 | déeɲ                       | *damh- (EC 25)   |
|                  |                                     |                                    |                    |                      | ʔabbúnab<br><i>be cold</i> | *kab(b)- (EC <sub>B</sub> 112)   |
| <i>come</i>      |                                     | kade!                              |                    | kári!                | káde                       | *káálèè! (Sm 87)   |
|                  |                                     |                                    |                    | yimeðe 3sg.          |                            | *-mtii (EC <sub>B</sub> 105)   |
| <i>die</i>       |                                     | Raim-                              | qaylmi             |                      |                            |  |
|                  |                                     |                                    | kufe               | kuf                  | kúf                        | *kuf- <i>fall</i> (EC 11)  |
|                  |                                     | déd                                |                    |                      |                            |  |
| <i>dog</i>       | <sup>l</sup> cer = <sup>H</sup> čer | čere (1971)                        | cIIrɾ              | cir                  | cér                        | *ker- (EC 13)  |
| <i>drink</i>     | <sup>l</sup> igh = <sup>H</sup> ik- | ik-                                | Ik                 | ʔik                  | ʔik                        | *ʔa/i/ug- (EC 17)  |
| <i>dry</i>       |                                     | gogo                               | gogɔy              | gogu                 | gogu                       | *angeg- (EC <sub>B</sub> 169)  |
| <i>ear</i>       | <sup>H</sup> ñete                   | nete                               | nēete              | neti                 | nee                        | *nabh- (EC 24)   |
| <i>earth</i>     | <sup>l</sup> les                    | les                                |                    | lès                  | lés                        | Or lafa (EC <sub>G</sub> 245)  |
|                  | <sup>H</sup> les                    |                                    |                    | bii                  | bii                        | *biy- (EC <sub>B</sub> 37)   |
|                  |                                     |                                    |                    |                      | <i>land, ground</i>        |  |
|                  |                                     |                                    |                    |                      | <i>soil, ground</i>        |  |
| <i>eat</i>       | <sup>l</sup> cocom                  | kom-                               | q <sup>w</sup> oye | kom                  | kóm                        | *-akam- (EC <sub>B</sub> 122)  |
|                  | <sup>H</sup> kom-                   |                                    |                    |                      |                            |  |
| <i>egg</i>       |                                     | gòngo                              | g'ong'o            | g'òng'ó              | ǰongǰ-o                    | ʔEl ínite (MS <sub>S</sub> 4)  |
| <i>eye</i>       | <sup>H</sup> il                     | il =                               | iil                | ʔil,                 | ʔil                        | *ʔil- (EC <sub>B</sub> 104)  |
|                  |                                     | ʔil (1971)                         |                    | pl. ʔinnù            |                            | *ʔind- (LEC 196)   |
| <i>fat</i> n.    |                                     | giε                                |                    |                      |                            | Arb gehen <i>fat meat</i> ,<br>gehIS- <i>fatten</i> , El<br>gé'ni' da adj. <i>fat</i><br>(MS <sub>S</sub> 4)                     |
|                  |                                     |                                    | b'odo              | buoddi <<br>*buor-ti |                            | So bur, Si bur-o<br>(EC <sub>S</sub> 10)   |
| <i>feather</i>   |                                     |                                    |                    |                      | sálab                      |  |
|                  |                                     |                                    |                    | bàalli               | bal-li                     | *baal- (EC <sub>B</sub> 31)  |
|                  |                                     | zur = <i>hair</i>                  |                    |                      |                            |  |
| <i>fire</i>      | <sup>l</sup> iete                   | giete                              | g'iete             | g'íé-té              | ʔiet,                      |  |
|                  | <sup>H</sup> iyéta                  |                                    |                    |                      | pl. ʔéde                   |  |
| <i>fish</i>      | <sup>l</sup> bèc = <sup>H</sup> běč | beič                               | bεεc               | bée,                 | bée                        | *bahag- (LEC 262)  |
|                  | <sup>H</sup> kāra                   |                                    |                    | coll. bèè-c          |                            | Du *xaar-; SOM:<br>Bn kaara, Hm kara   |
| <i>fly</i> n.    |                                     |                                    | kiiðin             | kíiðiɲ               | kiiðiɲ                     | Arb keddit,<br>El kédit  |
| <i>foot</i>      | <sup>H</sup> kas <i>Bein</i>        | g'as = kəs,<br>k'əs, gəs<br>(1971) | g'əs               | g'ás,<br>pl. g'assu  | ǰás                        | cf. Om: Di kəs <i>bone</i><br>Shako ʔus id. (Fl)<br>or Hozo kešI <i>foot</i><br>cf. Kf batto id.<br>Amh bat <i>calf (of leg)</i> |
|                  |                                     | bedi                               |                    |                      |                            |  |
| <i>(be) full</i> |                                     | koč                                |                    |                      | kóc                        |  |

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|              |   |                  |  |                           |                                   |  |
|--------------|---|------------------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| give         |   | šiš              | šiye   | šii-š                     | šiiš                              | Arb šihis-, El šíise<br>Sam *šii/síicà (Sm<br>95), Ya -ise'ε,<br>cf. EC <sub>HL</sub> 140              |
| go           | <sup>l</sup> šasen<br><sup>H</sup> si-                | si-              | seðe   | se-eme                    | sí                                | Sam *sof'o (Sm 96),<br>Ba se-et- <<br>*sof-at- (OT 76)   |
| good         | <sup>H</sup> mīdap                                    | miðup            | mīðəp  | mīðáb                     | miðáb                             | cf. Om: Kc mode<br>Ky mōde id. (Be)  |
|              |   |                  |  | ɖabaan<br><i>pretty</i>   | ɖabán                             |  |
| grass        | <sup>H</sup> is                                       |                  | iiš  | ʔiiš                      | ʔiiš                              | *ʔawš- (EC 44)   |
| hair         | <sup>H</sup> zūra                                     | zur<br>= feather | zurɣ   | zur                       | óuur                              | ?Arb dōrr feather<br>El dōr-te, pl. dōrr   |
| hand         | <sup>H</sup> gil                                      | gīl              | gil  | gīl                       | gīl                               | Af gili thumb;<br>cf. Om: Zy gīl'a, Ari<br>gilla (EC <sub>1</sub> 52)                                  |
| head         | <sup>H</sup> mē                                       | mε               | mεε  | mé,<br>pl. mètù           | mé,<br>pl. met-u                  | *mañ- (EC 10)  |
| hear         | <sup>H</sup> yāmāl-                                   | -malu            | maale  | maal-                     | máal                              | *maql- (LEC 265)<br>Ba maal- (EC <sub>HL</sub> 127)  |
| heart        |   | woðini           | wəðone   | wòzinni<br>< *wozin-ti    | <sup>H</sup> uoðin-ni             | *wazn- (EC <sub>B</sub> 187)   |
| horn         |   | gas              | gaaso  | gáás                      | gáas                              | *gaas- (EC 33, 44)   |
| I            | <sup>H</sup> yu                                       | yu               | yu   | yú                        | yú                                | Arb yé, El yesé <<br>ECu obj. *yi / *yu<br>(Bl <sub>p</sub> 49-50)                                     |
| kill         | <sup>l</sup> az = <sup>H</sup> ás-                    | -s               | yls  | -es-: yeese<br>3sg., ʔás! | ʔás                               | *-gši (EC <sub>B</sub> 167)  |
| knee         |   | kur              | kurɣ   | kúr,<br>pl. kurr-ám       | kur,<br>pl. kurram                | Arb kuršat id., Rd<br>kursánte knee-cap<br>< *kurs- round<br>(EC <sub>Z</sub> 126-7)                   |
|              |   | duk              |  |                           |                                   |  |
| know         | <sup>l</sup> iàarghe                                  |                  |  |                           |                                   | *ʔarg- see (EC <sub>B</sub> 26)  |
|              |   | onn-             | ək   | ʔok                       | ʔók                               | *ʔog- (EC <sub>B</sub> 154)  |
| leaf         |   |                  |  |                           | ráš                               |  |
|              |   | iš = grass       |  |                           |                                   |  |
|              |   |                  | neete = ear  | neti = ear                | nee = ear                         |  |
| liver        |   | čira             | cira   | círà                      | círa                              | *tir- (EC 11)  |
| (be) long    |   | dir              | dīrɣ   | dir                       | dér                               | *deer- (LEC 109)   |
| louse        |   | izire            | izlɣ   | ʔiðiddi,<br>pl. ʔiðirè    | ʔiðír-ri                          | *ʔingir- (EC <sub>B</sub> 103)   |
| man<br>= vir |   |                  | maaðət <<br>*maa- &<br>*-zat people<br>(EC <sub>Z</sub> 140) | máá                       | mí ~ mu<br>cf. maaðát<br>somebody | cf. *megel (MS 220)<br>< *mV- & *gVl-<br>(see person)  |
|              | <sup>H</sup> māyop vir<br><sup>l</sup> maliab<br>homo | mayep            |  |                           | yáb males                         | El mō-lepá (MS <sub>S</sub> 5)<br>So lab, Rd lábo,<br>Af lab male<br>cf. Om: Sheko ya:b<br>man, person |

|                  |  |                    |                      |   |                                 |  |
|------------------|--|--------------------|----------------------|---|---------------------------------|--|
| many             | <sup>H</sup> burne                                     |                    | burnay               |   | búrnab<br><i>be many</i>        | cf. Sam *buur- <i>big</i><br>(Sm 77)   |
|                  |  | luule = <i>all</i> |                      |   |                                 |  |
| meat             |  | so                 | so                   | sú  | só,<br>pl. sogim                | *soʔ- (EC 50)  |
| moon             | <sup>I</sup> cui<br><sup>H</sup> gúiyó                 | g'ui               | g'wi                 | g'úy  | ǵuí                             |  |
| mountain         |  |                    |                      | gùmiti,<br>pl. gùmù                                 | gummuti<br><i>hill</i>          | Arb gubba <i>top</i> , Or<br>gubba <i>above</i> (EC <sub>L</sub> 33)<br>cf. So gumbur <i>hill</i><br>Om: Ari gemar, Hm<br>gE:mer <i>mountain</i> |
|                  | <sup>H</sup> wār                                       | wər                | warɾ                 |   |                                 | Ts wóro <i>forest</i>  |
|                  | <sup>I</sup> labur<br><sup>H</sup> lābur               |                    |                      |   |                                 |  |
|                  |  |                    |                      |   | siri, pl.<br>sirgam <i>hill</i> | So seeri <i>forest</i> (Re)  |
| mouth            | <sup>H</sup> áf  | afu                | af(o)                | ʔáfú  | ʔaf-u                           | *ʔaf- (EC <sub>B</sub> 23)   |
| name             |  | mε                 | maaya                | mé  | mée                             | *magʔ- (EC <sub>B</sub> 139)   |
| neck             |  | luuti              | luute                | luuti   | lúut-i,<br>pl. lug-u            | *lukm- (EC 21)   |
| new              |  | kana               | kaana                | kaana   | káana                           |  |
| night            |  | čuri               | cuuri                | cúuri   | cuur-i                          | ? < *-kuari-<br>(TLM 401)  |
| nose             |  | sono               | sɔɔno                | sòòno   | sóon-o                          | *san- (EC <sub>B</sub> 169)  |
| one              | <sup>I</sup> tacar<br><sup>H</sup> tákkač &<br>tíkkidə | trgidi             | taqac                | tákac   | takac<br>tikid-ǵi               | Arb takká/tokkó<br>El tóko/taka,<br>Or m./f. tokko/takka,<br>Ko tákka, etc.  |
| person<br>= homo |  |                    |                      | mú  | máa                             | El mó <i>id.</i> ,<br>Arb mó(h) <i>id.</i> , <i>man</i>  |
|                  |  | gal                |                      | gáál <i>men</i>                                     | gáal <i>people</i>              | cf. *megeł- <i>man</i><br>(MS 220)   |
| rain n.          |  | ir = ʔir<br>(1971) | Irɿ                  | ʔir   | ʔir                             | *ʕir- (Sm <sub>1</sub> 200),<br>Arb ʔiri, El iri <i>id.</i>  |
| red              |  | bur                | burr                 | bur   | búr                             | *boʔr- (EC <sub>B</sub> 39)  |
| road             |  | gerič              | g <sup>y</sup> eeric | g <sup>y</sup> íér-ic,<br>pl. g <sup>y</sup> íér-im | ǵieric                          | Arb gor, El gôr  |
| root             |  | yiz                | (h)ið                | <sup>n</sup> ið                                     | <sup>n</sup> ið                 | *hizz- (EC <sub>B</sub> 95)  |
| sand             |  | yuč                | yɔɔc                 | yuoc  |                                 | Rd yoóh  |
| say              |  | y-                 |                      | yeeðe 3sg.<br>ʔát!                                  | ʔát                             | *-ðh- (EC 41)  |
|                  | <sup>I</sup> toconàchi-<br>ror                         |                    |                      |   |                                 |  |
|                  |  |                    | liija                |   |                                 |  |
| see              | <sup>H</sup> ilid-                                     | arg-               | argiye               | arg-  | ʔárik                           | *ʔarg- (EC <sub>B</sub> 26)<br>from *ʔil- <i>eye</i>   |
| seed             |  | fáʔ                |                      |   |                                 |  |
|                  |  |                    | ruba                 |   | ʔár                             | Be ʔáara <i>seed, fruit</i><br>from ʔàar <i>grow</i> (Re),   |



Dasanech language – state-of-the-art

|              |   |           |         |                             |                               |   |
|--------------|---|-----------|---------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| <i>sit</i>   |   | ledik-    | eledi   | dik                         | yédik = live                  | cf. Af fare <i>grow up</i><br>So deg <i>live</i> ,<br>Bo deg- <i>settle down</i><br>Om: Gl dog-, Di dah-,<br>Bn dooy- <i>sit</i> (Bd) |
| <i>skin</i>  |   | ro'odi    |         | lòkòddi,<br>pl. lòkòrù      | r/lokódf                      | ?Ya pl. hréktò'   |
|              |   |           | tuude   |                             |                               |   |
| <i>sleep</i> | <sup>1</sup> raf = <sup>H</sup> raf-      |           |         | raf- <i>spend the night</i> | ráf                           | *raf- (EC 22)   |
|              |   | ḍin-      | ḍine    | ḍiin-ik                     | ḍínaʔ<br><i>lie down</i>      | Af ḍine   |
| <i>small</i> | <sup>1</sup> eninigà<br><sup>H</sup> nini | ninen     | niini   | nini,<br>pl. nigini         | níni,<br>pl. niggini          | El ninina<br>Ya -ni'in  |
| <i>smoke</i> |   | err       | erɿ     | ʔeer                        | ʔéer                          | Arb ʔirǧat, El friat<br>(MS <sub>S</sub> 6); Af ʔeer,<br>Or aara (EC <sub>L</sub> 121)  |
| <i>snake</i> |   |           | carɿ    | cár,<br>pl. cààrà           | cár                           | cf. Arb cǎar <i>leopard</i> ?   |
| <i>stand</i> |   |           | aligɿdi |                             | yáal                          | El al-, Arb ʔEll- <<br>*-aall- (EC <sub>HL</sub> 67)  |
|              |   | dogigildɛ |         |                             |                               |   |
|              |   |           |         | ke-em-                      | ǧéé                           | *kaɿ- <i>get up</i><br>(EC <sub>B</sub> 112)  |
| <i>star</i>  | <sup>1</sup> izinò<br><sup>H</sup> yidəno | yizeno    | izInte  | <sup>H</sup> izintti        | ʔiðín                         | *hizk- / *huzk-<br>(EC 35, 36, 37)  |
| <i>stone</i> |   |           | waarɿ   | wáár                        | wáar                          | = <i>mountain</i>   |
|              |   | dab       |         |                             |                               | Ya tépú<br>?Sam *daddaab-<br><i>rock</i> (Sm <sub>1</sub> 185)  |
| <i>sun</i>   | <sup>1</sup> azo = <sup>H</sup> ádo       | aazo      | aazo    | ʔaaðu                       | ʔáaðu                         | *ʔaz- > El áote, Arb<br>ʔawaté, So ʔadʔeed,<br>Or aduu; Dah ʔaddo   |
| <i>swim</i>  |   |           | aḍaanḍa | ḍaanḍa                      | ḍánu                          | ? *zak- (EC <sub>Z</sub> 140)   |
| <i>tail</i>  |   |           | waas    | wáás                        | wáas                          | Arb was <i>penis</i><br>?So was <i>copulate</i>   |
|              |   |           |         |                             | dúm<br><i>tip of the tail</i> | *ḍub- (EC 16)   |
|              |   | sugo      |         | sugu <i>back</i>            |                               | D'i sukunna <i>lower part of shoulder</i><br>(EC <sub>L</sub> 75); OrW<br>saggoo <i>back of head</i><br>cf. Agaw *sǎg- <i>back</i>    |
| <i>thin</i>  |   |           |         |                             | dádfab<br><i>become thin</i>  | Sam *ḍuuban <i>thin</i><br>(Sm 80)  |
| <i>this</i>  | <sup>H</sup> yē/hē m./f.                  | ello      | ela-    | <sup>H</sup> í(é)-là        |                               | cf. Arb hálo m.   |
| <i>thou</i>  | <sup>H</sup> kuno                         | ku'ni     | kuuni   | kúúni                       | kúun-i                        | Ar ké, El kesé,<br>Ya ʔaáčuk <<br>*ʔa-ki-ku <<br>ECu obj. *ki / *ku<br>(Bl <sub>p</sub> 49-50)  |

|               |   |                                    |                |                          |                     |  |
|---------------|---|------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <i>three</i>  | <sup>1</sup> sedde<br>H sédde                   |                                    | sed(d)e        | seddi                    | sed-di              | *s/šaz(z)ih-<br>(EC <sub>Z</sub> 134, 138)   |
| <i>tongue</i> |   | erre                               | ere            | ʔere                     | ʔere,<br>pl. ʔerbu  | *ʔanrab- (EC 23)   |
| <i>tooth</i>  |   | kačo                               | qaco           | kácinti,<br>pl. kacu     | kác-u               | ʔBe koos (Re)  |
| <i>tree</i>   | <sup>1</sup> gor<br>H g/kwor                    | gor                                | kurɿ           | g'òr,<br>pl. g'ùòrù      | ǵór                 | *kor- (EC 48)<br>Dah koro  |
| <i>two</i>    | <sup>1</sup> naama<br>H nāma                    | nama                               | naama          | nāamà                    | naama               | *lam(m)- (EC 21)<br>cf. Om: She nam,<br>Oyda naam' i (Bd),<br>Sezo nombre (Fl)   |
| <i>warm</i>   |   |                                    |                | kul                      | kulláʔ <i>hot</i>   | Arb kulǵá, El kúla<br>Sam *kúláil<br>(Sm 89; cf. EC <sub>HL</sub> 118)   |
| <i>water</i>  | <sup>1</sup> bie<br>H bíya                      | biye                               | mošoc<br>biyye | bie                      | bie                 | *bik-ee (EC 13)  |
| <i>we</i>     |   |                                    | niina          | niíni                    | niini excl.         | Bu naanu<br>Ya niíni';<br>Dah páni<br>cf. *ʔinno (Sm 87)   |
|               |   |                                    |                | múúni                    | múuni incl.         | AA *muni<br>(Bl <sub>p</sub> 41, 49-50)  |
| <i>wet</i>    |   |                                    | nyuraan        | ɲuru<br><i>wet, weak</i> | ɲuru                | ʔArb ñoor <i>mud</i>   |
| <i>what</i>   |   | mete                               | meyte          | méétè                    | méete               | *maʔ waha <i>what<br/>thing</i> (EC <sub>B</sub> 146)  |
| <i>white</i>  |   | εð                                 | εð             | ʔeð                      | ʔéð,<br>pl. ʔégeð   | *ʔazz- (EC 36)   |
| <i>who</i>    |   | maya                               | maaya          | mááyà                    | máaya               | *maa ʔayy-a<br><i>which man</i> (EC <sub>B</sub> 30)   |
| <i>woman</i>  |   | salle<br>(1971)                    |                |                          |                     | Arb saallé<br>El sáále (MS <sub>S</sub> 7)<br>ʔAf say <i>female</i>  |
|               | <sup>1</sup> minni<br>H minnə<br><i>Ehefrau</i> |                                    |                | minni                    | min-ni              | HEC *mento id.<br>Bu mand-áy<br><i>young woman</i> ;<br>Iraqw amena <i>woman</i><br>(EC <sub>B</sub> 140); maybe<br>from *min- <i>house</i> , cf.<br>So min-ka weyn<br><i>first (= big) wife</i> |
|               | <sup>1</sup> mādədət                            | madetj<br><i>thou f.</i><br>(1971) | maadlōit       |                          |                     | cf. Om: Bs meça,<br>Gi maaççi,<br>Shi maaça id.  |
|               |   | galyiet                            |                |                          |                     | cf. gal men  |
|               |   |                                    |                | dáǵi <i>wifes</i>        | dég-i <i>women</i>  | *dazk-<br>(EC 41 & EC <sub>Z</sub> 139)  |
| <i>ye</i>     |   | itini                              | itini          | ʔitini                   | ʔitini              | *ʔatin- (EC 11)  |
| <i>yellow</i> |   |                                    |                |                          | ráar,<br>pl. ráagar |  |

## Conclusion

Till the present time the only modern description of Dasanech grammar and lexicon was dispersed in ca. 11 studies of Hans-Jürgen Sasse (1973-84). Now thanks to Mauro Tosco we have a chance to use a first-class monograph analyzing the Dasanech language in admirable entirety.

## Abbreviations

AA Afroasiatic, Af Afar (Parker & Hayward 1985), Amh Amharic (Leslau 1976), Arb Arbore (Hayward 1984), Ba Bayso (Hayward 1979a), Bd Bender 1971, Be Beja (Roper 1928), Bl<sub>p</sub> Blažek 1995, Bn Banna (Bender 1971), Bo Boni (Heine 1982), Bor Borana (Stroomer 1995), Bs Basketo (Bender 1971), Bu Burji (Sasse 1982), Cu Cushitic, Dah Dahalo (Tosco), Di Dime (Fleming 1971), Du Dullay (AMS), E East, EC East Cushitic (Sasse 1979), EC<sub>B</sub> East Cushitic (Sasse 1982), EC<sub>G</sub> (Sasse 1974-75), EC<sub>HL</sub> (Haberland & Lamberti 1988), EC<sub>L</sub> (Lamberti 1988), EC<sub>V</sub> (Sasse 1980), EC<sub>Z</sub> East Cushitic (Sasse 1976), El Elmolo (Heine 1980), Fl Fleming 1971, Gi Gidicho (Bender 1971), Gl Galila (Fleming 1971) Go Gollango (AMS), Hd Hadiyya (Hudson 1989), HEC Highland East Cushitic (Hudson 1989), Hm Hamer, Ji Jiddu (Banti & Ibraaw 1996), Kb Kambatta (Hudson 1989), Kc Kachama (Bender 1971), Kf Kafa (Mikael 1989), Ky Koyra (Bender 1971), LEC Lowland East Cushitic (Black 1974), MS Macro-Somali (Ehret & Nuuh Ali 1984), MS<sub>G</sub> Macro-Somali (Sasse 1975), Om Omotic, Or Oromo (see Bor), OrW Oromo of Wellega (Gragg 1982), OT Omo-Tana (Hayward 1979b), Oy Oyda (Bender 1971), Re Reinisch (1890, 1895, 1902), Rd Rendille (Pillinger & Galboran 1999), S South, Si Sidamo (Hudson 1989), Sm Sam (Heine 1978), Shi Shinasha (Bender), Sm<sub>1</sub> Sam (Heine 1981), So Somali (Luling 1987), TLM Teso-Lotuka-Masai (Vossen 1982), Ts Tsamay (Amborn, Minker & Sasse 1980), Zy Zayse.

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