

Definites and indefinites in Kono, a preliminary analysis.

F. K. Erhard Voeltz & Souanan Doré
 Bonn Conakry

Κόνό (Kòṅṅòwó, Kono, Konnoh, etc.) {Mandeô Niger-Congo} [Guinea, Liberia]
 <??100.000> (Doré 1995, Voeltz MS, Voeltz & Doré MS)

BACKGROUND

| | | | | |
|------|------|--------|------|--------|
| m | n | ɲ | ŋ | |
| b, p | | | k, g | kp, gb |
| ɓ | | | | |
| | f, v | s, z/ʒ | ʎ | |
| | | r | | |
| | | l | | |
| w, ɥ | | y | | h |

INITIAL CONSONANT MUTATION

| | | | | | |
|----|---|----------|--------------------|--------|-------------------|
| 01 | a | ē pó | <i>your trace</i> | póŋ | <i>kill!</i> |
| | b | `bò | <i>his trace</i> | `bòŋ | <i>kill him!</i> |
| | c | mó | <i>my trace</i> | móŋ | <i>kill me!</i> |
| 02 | a | ē téréŋ | <i>your aunt</i> | tólú | <i>call!</i> |
| | b | `dèréŋ | <i>his aunt</i> | `dòlú | <i>call him!</i> |
| | c | néréŋ | <i>my aunt</i> | nólù | <i>call me!</i> |
| 03 | a | ē kéŋèkó | <i>your rib</i> | kílíŋ | <i>roll!</i> |
| | b | `gèŋékó | <i>his rib</i> | `gìlíŋ | <i>roll him!</i> |
| | c | ŋéŋèkó | <i>my rib</i> | ŋílíŋ | <i>roll me!</i> |
| 04 | a | ē kpéré | <i>your beard</i> | kpé | <i>chase!</i> |
| | b | `gbèré | <i>his beard</i> | `gbè | <i>chase him!</i> |
| | c | ŋméré | <i>my beard</i> | ŋmé | <i>chase me!</i> |
| 05 | a | ē kwánà | <i>your throat</i> | kwíré | <i>swear!</i> |
| | b | `gwàná | <i>his throat</i> | `gwìré | <i>swear it!</i> |
| | c | ŋwáná | <i>my throat</i> | ŋwíré | <i>swear me!</i> |
| 06 | a | ē híí | <i>your chest</i> | héyè | <i>take!</i> |
| | b | `zìì | <i>his chest</i> | `zèyè | <i>take him!</i> |
| | c | ɲíí | <i>my chest</i> | ɲéyè | <i>take me!</i> |

| | | | | | |
|----|---|----------|-------------------------|-------|-----------------------|
| 07 | a | ē ɸáŋā | <i>your strength</i> | ɸéŋ | <i>prickle!</i> |
| | b | `vāŋā | <i>his strength</i> | `véŋ | <i>prickle him!</i> |
| | c | ŋvāŋā | <i>my strength</i> | ŋvéŋ | <i>prickle me!</i> |
| 08 | a | ē ɸàráŋ | <i>your friend</i> | ɸó | <i>pierce!</i> |
| | b | `màráŋ | <i>his friend</i> | `mò | <i>pierce him!</i> |
| | c | mmàráŋ | <i>my friend</i> | mmó | <i>pierce me!</i> |
| 09 | a | ē lɛé | <i>your country</i> | lōóŋ | <i>hide!</i> |
| | b | `nèé | <i>his country</i> | `nòóŋ | <i>hide him!</i> |
| | c | nnéé | <i>my country</i> | nnóóŋ | <i>hide me!</i> |
| 10 | a | ē yè | <i>your arm</i> | yára | <i>pull!</i> |
| | b | `ŋè | <i>his arm</i> | `ŋàrá | <i>pull him!</i> |
| | c | ŋŋé | <i>my arm</i> | ŋŋára | <i>pull me!</i> |
| 11 | a | ē wóó | <i>your ear</i> | wá | <i>wash yourself!</i> |
| | b | `ŋwòó | <i>his ear</i> | `ŋwǎ | <i>wash him!</i> |
| | c | ŋŋwóó | <i>my ear</i> | ŋŋwá | <i>wash me!</i> |
| 12 | a | māāŋ | <i>your nephew</i> | málá | <i>dance!</i> |
| | b | `màáŋ | <i>his nephew</i> | `màlá | <i>that he dance!</i> |
| | c | mmááŋ | <i>my nephew</i> | mmálá | <i>that I dance!</i> |
| 13 | a | ē nāmòlò | <i>your grandfather</i> | nééŋ | <i>show!</i> |
| | b | `nāmòlò | <i>his grandfather</i> | `nèéŋ | <i>show him!</i> |
| | c | nnāmòlò | <i>my grandfather</i> | nnééŋ | <i>show me!</i> |
| 14 | a | ē ɸíŋ | <i>your tooth</i> | ɸíŋ | <i>bite!</i> |
| | b | `ɸíŋ | <i>his tooth</i> | `ɸíŋ | <i>bite him!</i> |
| | c | ɸɸíŋ | <i>my tooth</i> | ɸɸíŋ | <i>bite me!</i> |
| 15 | a | ē ŋūmū | <i>your knee</i> | ŋūmó | <i>steal!</i> |
| | b | `ŋùmú | <i>his knee</i> | `ŋùmó | <i>steal it!</i> |
| | c | ŋŋúmú | <i>my knee</i> | ŋŋúmó | <i>steal me!</i> |

PERMUTATION SERIES/GRADES:

| | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|
| a | m | n | ɸ | ŋ |
| b | `m | `n | `ɸ | `ŋ |
| c | mm | nn | ɸɸ | ŋŋ |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|----|-------|---|----|---|----|---|-------|----|-----|
| a | p | ɸ | ɸ [ɸ] | t | l | h | y | k | w | kp | kw |
| b | b | m | v | d | n | z | ɸ | g | ŋ(w) | gb | gw |
| c | m | mm | nv | n | nn | ɸ | ɸɸ | ŋ | ŋŋ(w) | ŋm | ŋgw |

| | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|------|-------|
| a | b | d | z | g | gb |
| b | `b | `d | `z | `g | `gb |
| c | [mb] | [nd] | [nz] | [ŋg] | [ŋgb] |

Definites and indefinites in Kono.

SINGULAR/PLURAL:INDEFINITES/DEFINITES

| | INDEFINITES | | | DEFINITES | | |
|----|-------------|-------------|-------------------------|-----------|--------------|---------------------------|
| | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 |
| 16 | b | bōó | <i>a manioc</i> | b | bòó | <i>the manioc</i> |
| | b | bōóᅇᅇà | <i>manioc</i> s | b | bòóᅇᅇà | <i>the manioc</i> s |
| 17 | b | bālāà | <i>a sheep</i> | m | mālāà | <i>the sheep</i> |
| | b | bālāàᅇᅇā | <i>sheep</i> | m | mālāàᅇᅇā | <i>the sheep</i> |
| 18 | ᅇ | ᅇāàdé | <i>a pangolin</i> | m | māàdé | <i>the pangolin</i> |
| | ᅇ | ᅇāàᅇᅇᅇᅇà | <i>pangolin</i> s | m | māàᅇᅇᅇᅇà | <i>the pangolin</i> s |
| 19 | d | dōró | <i>an antelope</i> | `d | dòró | <i>the antelope</i> |
| | d | dōróᅇᅇà | <i>antelope</i> s | `d | `dòróᅇᅇà | <i>the antelope</i> s |
| 20 | g | ᅇéᅇé | <i>a civet</i> | `g | `ᅇéᅇé | <i>the civet</i> |
| | g | ᅇéᅇᅇᅇᅇà | <i>civet</i> s | `g | `ᅇéᅇᅇᅇᅇà | <i>the civet</i> s |
| 21 | gb | ᅇbíᅇé | <i>a tree frog</i> | `gb | `ᅇbíᅇᅇ | <i>the tree frog</i> |
| | gb | ᅇbíᅇᅇᅇᅇᅇà | <i>tree frog</i> s | `gb | `ᅇbíᅇᅇᅇᅇᅇà | <i>the tree frog</i> s |
| 22 | gw | ᅇwáᅇᅇᅇᅇᅇᅇ | <i>a toad</i> | `gw | `ᅇwáᅇᅇᅇᅇᅇᅇ | <i>the toad</i> |
| | gw | ᅇwáᅇᅇᅇᅇᅇᅇᅇà | <i>toad</i> s | `gw | `ᅇwáᅇᅇᅇᅇᅇᅇᅇà | <i>the toad</i> s |
| 23 | h | hōó | <i>a hare</i> | z | `zōó | <i>the hare</i> |
| | h | hōóᅇᅇā | <i>hares</i> | z | `zōóᅇᅇā | <i>the hares</i> |
| 24 | ᅇ | ᅇálí | <i>a caiman</i> | v | vàlí | <i>the caiman</i> |
| | ᅇ | ᅇálíᅇᅇà | <i>caiman</i> s | v | vàlíᅇᅇà | <i>the caiman</i> s |
| 25 | k | kēᅇᅇ | <i>a carp</i> | g | ᅇᅇᅇᅇ | <i>the carp</i> |
| | k | kēᅇᅇᅇᅇà | <i>carp</i> s | | ᅇᅇᅇᅇᅇà | <i>the carp</i> s |
| 26 | kp | kpāāᅇᅇ | <i>a sparrow-hawk</i> | gb | ᅇbāāᅇᅇ | <i>the sparrow-hawk</i> |
| | kp | kpāāᅇᅇᅇà | <i>sparrow-hawk</i> s | gb | ᅇbāāᅇᅇᅇà | <i>the sparrow-hawk</i> s |
| 27 | kw | kwālā | <i>a monkey</i> | gw | ᅇwàlá | <i>the monkey</i> |
| | kw | kwàláᅇᅇà | <i>monkey</i> s | gw | ᅇwàláᅇᅇà | <i>the monkey</i> s |
| 28 | l | lēᅇᅇ | <i>a bat</i> | n | nèᅇᅇ | <i>the bat</i> |
| | l | lèᅇᅇᅇᅇᅇà | <i>bats</i> | n | nèᅇᅇᅇᅇᅇà | <i>the bats</i> |
| 29 | m | māāmùn | <i>a nephew</i> | m | māāmùn | <i>the nephew</i> |
| | m | māāmālá | <i>nephew</i> s | m | māāmālá | <i>the nephew</i> s |
| 30 | n | nīᅇᅇ | <i>a head of cattle</i> | n | nìᅇᅇ | <i>the head of cattle</i> |
| | n | nīᅇᅇᅇᅇᅇà | <i>cattle</i> | n | nìᅇᅇᅇᅇᅇà | <i>the cattle</i> |
| 31 | ᅇ | ᅇóó | <i>a bird</i> | ᅇ | ᅇòò | <i>the bird</i> |
| | ᅇ | ᅇóóᅇᅇà | <i>bird</i> s | ᅇ | ᅇòòᅇᅇà | <i>the bird</i> s |

| | | INDEFINITES | | DEFINITES | |
|----|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|--|----|
| 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 |
| 32 | p pā̀an
p pā̀anǵá | <i>a monitor</i>
<i>monitors</i> | b bā̀an
b bā̀anǵá | <i>the monitor</i>
<i>the monitors</i> | |
| 33 | t tḗlí
t tḗlíǵá | <i>a hedgehog</i>
<i>hedgehogs</i> | d dḗlí
d dḗlíǵá | <i>the hedgehog</i>
<i>the hedgehogs</i> | |
| 34 | w wé́bé
w wé́béǵá | <i>a flying squirrel</i>
<i>flying squirrels</i> | ŋw ŋwè́bè
ŋɥ ŋwè́bèǵá | <i>the flying squirrel</i>
<i>the flying squirrel</i> | |
| 35 | y yà́hé́ré
y yà́hé́réǵá | <i>a hippopotamus</i>
<i>hippopotami</i> | ɲ ɲà́hé́ré
ɲ ɲà́hé́réǵá | <i>the hippopotamus</i>
<i>the hippopotami</i> | |
| 36 | ɲ yḗé
ɲ ɲḗéǵá | <i>a fish</i>
<i>fish</i> | ɲ ɲè́é
ɲ ɲè́éǵá | <i>the fish</i>
<i>the fish</i> | |
| 37 | z zà́lónǵ
z zà́lónǵá | <i>a grasshopper</i>
<i>grasshoppers</i> | z zà́lónǵ
z `zà́lónǵá | <i>the grasshopper</i>
<i>the grasshoppers</i> | |

SOME COMPOUNDS:

| | Masculin | | Féminin | |
|----|--|--|--|--|
| 38 | hī́yō-hī́nè
hī́yō-hī́nèǵá
`zī́yō-hī́nè
`zī́yō-hī́nèǵá | <i>a male animal</i>
<i>male animals</i>
<i>the male animal</i>
<i>the male animals</i> | hī́yō-hā
hī́yō-hāǵá
`zī́yō-hā
`zī́yō-hāǵá | <i>a female animal</i>
<i>female animals</i>
<i>the female animal</i>
<i>the female animals</i> |
| 39 | wú́rù-hínè
wú́rù-hínèǵá
`nwú́rù-hínè
`nwú́rù-hínèǵá | <i>a male tree</i>
<i>male trees</i>
<i>the male tree</i>
<i>the male trees</i> | wú́rù-hā
wú́rù-hāǵá
`nwú́rù-hā
`nwú́rù-hāǵá | <i>a female tree</i>
<i>female trees</i>
<i>the female tree</i>
<i>the female trees</i> |
| 40 | ní́ǵē-hínè
nί́ǵē-hínèǵá
`nί́ǵē-hínè
`nί́ǵē-hínèǵá | <i>a bull</i>
<i>bulls</i>
<i>the bull</i>
<i>the bulls</i> | nί́ǵē-hā
nί́ǵē-hāǵá
`nί́ǵē-hā
`nί́ǵē-hāǵá | <i>a cow</i>
<i>cows</i>
<i>the cow</i>
<i>the cows</i> |
| 41 | yí́rē-híné
yí́rē-hínéǵá
ɲì́rē-híné
ɲì́rē-hínéǵá | <i>a dog</i>
<i>dogs</i>
<i>the dog</i>
<i>the dogs</i> | yí́rē-hā
yí́rē-hāǵá
ɲì́rē-hā
ɲì́rē-hāǵá | <i>a bitch</i>
<i>bitches</i>
<i>the bitch</i>
<i>the bitches</i> |

NOUN PHRASE/NOUN MODIFIERS

ADJECTIVES: {N ADJ}

| | | | |
|----|------------|---------|---------------------------|
| 42 | kpéyēléŋ | nèè | <i>a black chair</i> |
| | kpéyēléŋā | nèè | <i>black chairs</i> |
| | `gbèyēléŋ | nèè | <i>the black chair</i> |
| | `gbèyēléŋā | nèè | <i>the black chairs</i> |
| 43 | pérè | kwélēyà | <i>a white house</i> |
| | pérèŋā | kwélēyà | <i>white houses</i> |
| | `bérè | kwélēyà | <i>the white house</i> |
| | `bérèŋā | kwélēyà | <i>the white houses</i> |
| 44 | péré | hāŋáŋā | <i>a straight road</i> |
| | péréŋā | hāŋáŋā | <i>straight roads</i> |
| | `béré | hāŋáŋā | <i>the straight road</i> |
| | `béréŋā | hāŋáŋā | <i>the straight roads</i> |

NUMERALS: {N NUM}

| | NOUN | NUMERAL | |
|----|---------|---------|-----------------------------|
| 45 | lókòro | tònó | <i>one child</i> |
| | `nókòro | tònó | <i>the one child</i> |
| | | dònò | <i>the one among ...</i> |
| 46 | koló | ɥérè | <i>two works</i> |
| | goló | ɥèrè | <i>the two works</i> |
| | | vèrè | <i>the two among ...</i> |
| 47 | lógyò | haba | <i>three weeks</i> |
| | nògyó | haba | <i>the three weeks</i> |
| | | zàba | <i>the three among ...</i> |
| 48 | pérè | naáj | <i>four houses</i> |
| | béré | naáj | <i>the four houses</i> |
| | | nàáj | <i>the four among ..</i> |
| 49 | taá | lólú | <i>five villages</i> |
| | dàá | lólú | <i>the five villages</i> |
| | | nólú | <i>the five among ...</i> |
| 50 | kibéŋ | mèna | <i>six rafters</i> |
| | gìbéŋ | mèna | <i>the six rafters</i> |
| | | mèna | <i>the six among them</i> |
| 51 | tùyulé | mèɥéré | <i>seven colanuts</i> |
| | dùyulé | mèɥéré | <i>the seven colanuts</i> |
| | | mèɥéré | <i>the seven among them</i> |

| | | | |
|----|------|--------|-----------------------------|
| 52 | nú | méhàba | <i>eight people</i> |
| | nù | méhàba | <i>the eight people</i> |
| | | mèhaba | <i>the eight among them</i> |
| 53 | kúnò | mènán | <i>nine years</i> |
| | gùnò | mènán | <i>the nine years</i> |
| | | mènán | <i>the nine among them</i> |
| 54 | bara | pó | <i>ten drums</i> |
| | bàrà | pó | <i>the ten drums</i> |
| | | bò | <i>the ten among them</i> |

ADJECTIVES & NUMERALS: {N Adj NUM}

| | | | |
|----|-----|--------------------|------------------------------|
| 55 | hóó | tèè (tònó) | <i>one black horse</i> |
| | zòó | tèè (tònó) | <i>the one black horse</i> |
| 56 | hóó | kwéleyà uéré | <i>two white horses</i> |
| | zòó | kwéleyà uéré | <i>the two white horses</i> |
| 57 | hóó | kpèyakpèya haba | <i>three big horses</i> |
| | zòó | kpèyakpèya haba | <i>the three big horses</i> |
| 58 | hóó | peléyàn nàán | <i>four small horses</i> |
| | zòó | peléyàn nàán | <i>the four small horses</i> |
| 59 | hóó | peléyàn-tíkpe lólu | <i>five tiny horses</i> |
| | zòó | peléyàn-tíkpe lólu | <i>the five tiny horses</i> |

QUANTIFIERS: {N QUAN}

| | NOUN | QUANTIFIER | |
|----|---------|------------|-----------------------------|
| 60 | háà | tánà | <i>some traps</i> |
| | màà | tánà | <i>the some traps</i> |
| | | dánà | <i>some among ...</i> |
| 61 | kpúyùlu | kòròwá | <i>few granaries</i> |
| | gbùyùlu | kòròwá | <i>the few granaries</i> |
| | | gòrowá | <i>few among ...</i> |
| 62 | yànó | kpulú | <i>many thorns</i> |
| | nànó | kpulú | <i>the many thorns</i> |
| | | gbulù | <i>many among ...</i> |
| 63 | téé | tamáà | <i>numerous chicken</i> |
| | dèé | tamáà | <i>the numerous chicken</i> |
| | | dámáà | <i>numerous among ...</i> |
| 64 | heyé | henè | <i>all clothes</i> |
| | zèyé | henè | <i>all the clothes</i> |
| | | zènè | <i>all among ...</i> |

Definites and indefinites in Kono.

DEMONSTRATIVES: {N DEM}

| | SINGULAR | | | PLURAL | | |
|----|----------|--------|---------------------------------|----------|--------|----------------------------------|
| | NOUN | DEM | | NOUN | DEM | |
| 65 | ḅā | kī | <i>the afore-mentioned rice</i> | ḅāṅā | kī | <i>the afore-mentioned rices</i> |
| | háṽīnè | kī | <i>the afore-mentioned soap</i> | háṽīnèṅā | kī | <i>the afore-mentioned soaps</i> |
| 66 | ḅēyí | yākī | <i>this pig here</i> | ḅēyíṅā | yākī | <i>these pigs here</i> |
| | ńírē | yākī | <i>this dog here</i> | ńírēṅā | yākī | <i>these dogs here</i> |
| | kpè | yākī | <i>this corn here</i> | kpèṅā | yākī | <i>this corn here</i> |
| 67 | ńēé | yīkī | <i>the other cotton</i> | ńēéṅā | yīkī | <i>the other cottons</i> |
| 68 | lāṅ | ńīyākī | <i>the other buffalo there</i> | lāṅā | yīyākī | <i>the other buffalos there</i> |
| 69 | ḅḅḅ | yāmèṅī | <i>that squirrel there</i> | ḅḅḅṅā | yāmèṅī | <i>those squirrels there</i> |

POSSESSIVES

ALIENABLE POSSESSIVES: {[_{NP} [_{NP} *nomen rectum* _{NP}] SC + [wó] + [_N *nomen regens* _N] _{NP}] }

| | NP | PC | POSS | N | | |
|----|---------------|----------|------|---------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 70 | 1st pers. sg. | ń | wó | kḅlḅ | <i>my shoe</i> | |
| | | ń | wó | kḅlḅṅā | <i>my shoes</i> | |
| 71 | 2nd pers. sg | ē | wó | hāyā | <i>your mat</i> | |
| | | ē | wó | hāyāṅā | <i>your mats</i> | |
| 72 | 3rd pers. sg. | ` | ṅwḅ | kpēléṅ | <i>his door</i> | |
| | | ` | ṅwḅ | kpēléṅā | <i>his doors</i> | |
| 73 | | `dḅkpā | ` | ṅwḅ | tì | <i>Tokpa's field</i> |
| | | `dḅkpā | ` | ṅwḅ | tìṅā | <i>Tokpa's fields</i> |
| 74 | 1st pers. pl. | gù | wó | pérè | <i>our house</i> | |
| | | gù | wó | pérèṅā | <i>our houses</i> | |
| 75 | 2nd pers. pl. | ká | wḅ | kpóṅ | <i>your group</i> | |
| | | ká | wḅ | kpóṅā | <i>your groups</i> | |
| 76 | 3rd pers. pl. | dī | wó | lḅḅ | <i>their wine</i> | |
| | | dī | wó | lḅḅṅā | <i>their wines</i> | |
| 77 | | `dḅkpānī | dī | wó | tì | <i>Tokpa and his friends's field</i> |
| | | `dḅkpānī | dī | wó | tìṅā | <i>Tokpa and his friends's fields</i> |

INALIENABLE POSSESSIVES: [NP [NP *nomen rectum* NP] SC + [POSS] + [N *nomen regens*N] NP]

| | NP | PC | POSS | N | |
|----|---------------|----|------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| 78 | 1st pers. sg. | ń | | ngbēlèéń | <i>my leg</i> |
| | | ń | | ngbēlèéńā | <i>my legs</i> |
| | 2nd pers. sg. | ē | | kpēlèéń | <i>your leg</i> |
| | | ē | | kpēlèéńā | <i>your legs</i> |
| 79 | 3rd pers. sg. | ` | | gbēlēéń | <i>his leg</i> |
| | | ` | | gbēlēéńā | <i>his legs</i> |
| 80 | héré | ` | | nīń | <i>an elephant's tooth, ivory</i> |
| | `zéré | ` | | nīń | <i>the elephant's tooth, ivory</i> |
| 81 | 1st pers. pl. | gū | | tèréń | <i>our aunt</i> |
| | | gū | | tèréńī | <i>our aunts</i> |
| 82 | 2nd pers. pl. | kā | | kānā | <i>your uncle</i> |
| | | kā | | kānāńī | <i>your uncles</i> |
| 83 | 3rd pers. pl. | dī | | léyè | <i>their younger brother</i> |
| | | dī | | léyèńī | <i>their younger brothers</i> |
| 84 | héréńā | ` | | nīńā | <i>elephants' teeth</i> |
| | *héré | ` | | nīńā | <i>ōō</i> |
| 85 | `zéréńā | ` | | nīńā | <i>the elephants' teeth</i> |
| | *`zéré | ` | | nīńā | <i>ōō</i> |

THE NOUN PHRASE: {(POSS) N (ADJ) (NUM) (DEM) (QUAN)}

| | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|-----------|-----|-------|
| 86 | ka | wó | pérè | kpéya-kpéya | haɓa | ki | da | keréń |
| | you | POSS | house | big | three | mentioned | are | burnt |
| | <i>your three big houses are burnt</i> | | | | | | | |
| 87 | pérè | kpéya-kpéya | haɓa | yaki | da | keréń | | |
| | house | big | three | these here | are | burnt | | |
| | <i>these three big houses are burnt</i> | | | | | | | |

SYNTAX: SIMPLE SENTENCE TYPOLOGY: S (Aux) (O) V (DAT)

INTRANSITIVE SENTENCES: S (AUX) V

| | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|----------|----|-------------|
| 88 | Ø | héré | ā | lōgbéń |
| | [-DEF] | elephant | he | disappeared |
| | <i>An elephant has disappeared.</i> | | | |

Definites and indefinites in Kono.

- 89 ˘ zérē ā lōgbéŋ
 [+DEF] elephant he disappeared
 The elephant has disappeared.
- 90 Ø hérē kī ā lōgbéŋ
 [-DEF] elephant DEM he disappeared
 The elephant has disappeared.
- 91 Ø hérē-ŋā dā lōgbéŋ
 [-DEF] elephant-s they disappeared
 Elephants have disappeared.
- 92 ˘ zérē-ŋā dā lōgbéŋ
 [+DEF] elephant-s they disappeared
 The elephants have disappeared.
- 93 Ø hérē-ŋā kī dā lōgbéŋ
 [-DEF] elephant-s DEM they disappeared
 The elephants have disappeared.

NEGATIVES:

- 94 Ø héré ho ló-ni-gbéŋ¹
 [-DEF] elephant DEM NEG
 An elephant has not disappeared
- 95 ˘ zére ho ló-ni-gbéŋ
 [+DEF] elephant DEM NEG
 The elephant has not disappeared
- 96 Ø héré ki ho ló-ni-gbéŋ
 [-DEF] elephant DEM NEG
 The elephant has not disappeared
- 97 Ø héré-ŋa di ho ló-ni-gbéŋ
 [-DEF] elephant-s DEM they NEG
 Elephants have not disappeared.
- 98 ˘ zére-ŋa di ho ni ló-gbéŋ
 [+DEF] elephant-s DEM they NEG NEG2
 The elephants have not disappeared.
- 99 Ø héré-ŋa ki di ho ni ló-gbéŋ
 [-DEF] elephant-s DEM they NEG NEG2
 The elephants have not disappeared.

TRANSITIVE SENTENCES (S (AUX) O V)

- 100 ē nā Ø hérē kōníŋ
 thou PRES [-DEF] elephant look for
 you are looking for an elephant

¹ This form consists of three parts: {ló-ni-gbéŋ}, with the NEG2 inserted in the middle.

- 101 ē nā ˘ zérē kōnín̄
 thou PRES [+DEF] elephant look for
you are looking for the elephant
- 102 ē nā Ø hérē kī ˘ gōnín̄
 thou PRES [-DEF] elephant DEM [+DEF] look for
you are looking for the elephant
- 103 ē nā Ø hérē-ŋā kōnín̄
 thou PRES [-DEF] elephant-s look for
you are looking for elephants
- 104 ē nā ˘ zérē-ŋā kōnín̄
 thou PRES [+DEF] elephant-s look for
you are looking for the elephants
- 105 ē nā Ø hérē-ŋā kī ðì kōnín̄
 thou PRES [-DEF] elephant-s DEM [+DEF] look for
you are looking for the elephants

TRANSITIVE NEGATIVES

- 106 e ho na Ø hérē kónín̄
 thou NEG PRES [-DEF] elephant look for
You are not looking an elephant.
- 107 e ho na ˘ zéré kónín̄
 thou NEG PRES [+DEF] elephant look for
You are not looking for the elephant.
- 108 e ho na Ø hérē ki ˘ gónín̄
 thou NEG PRES [-DEF] elephant DEM it look for
You are not looking for the elephant.
- 109 e ho na Ø hérē-ŋa kónín̄
 thou NEG PRES [-DEF] elephant-s look for
You are not looking for elephants.
- 110 e ho na ˘ zére-ŋa kónín̄
 thou NEG PRES [+DEF] elephant-s look for
You are not looking for the elephants.
- 111 e ho na Ø hérē-ŋa ki ðì kónín̄
 thou NEG PRES [-DEF] elephant-s DEM them look for
You are not looking for the elephants.

DITRANSITIVE SENTENCES: S (AUX) O V DAT

- 112 ē nā gīí t̄ȳȳk̄ēnín̄ Ø hérē p̄ō
 thou PRES banana give [-DEF] elephant to
You give an elephant a banana.

Definites and indefinites in Kono.

- 113 ē nā gīí tɛ̀ɣ̃ɛ̀yɛ̀kɛ̀níñ ˘ zérē p̃ō
 thou PRES banana give [+DEF] elephant to
You give the elephant a banana.
- 114 ē nā gīí tɛ̀ɣ̃ɛ̀yɛ̀kɛ̀níñ Ø hérē kī ˘ b̃ō
 thou PRES banana give [-DEF] elephant DEM [+DEF] to
You give the elephant a banana.
- 115 ē nā gīínā tɛ̀ɣ̃ɛ̀yɛ̀kɛ̀níñ Ø hérē-ŋā p̃ō
 thou PRES bananas give [-DEF] elephant-s to
You give elephants bananas.
- 116 ē nā gīínā tɛ̀ɣ̃ɛ̀yɛ̀kɛ̀níñ ˘ zérē-ŋā p̃ō
 thou PRES bananas give [+DEF] elephant-s to
You give the elephants bananas.
- 117 ē nā gīínā tɛ̀ɣ̃ɛ̀yɛ̀kɛ̀níñ Ø hérē-ŋā kī ˘ b̃ō
 thou PRES bananas give [-DEF] elephant-s DEM [+DEF] to
You give the elephants bananas.

DITRANSITIVE NEGATIVES:

- 118 e ho na gīí tɛ̀ɣ̃ɛ̀yɛ̀kɛ̀níñ Ø hére p̃ó
 thou NEG PRES bananas give [-DEF] elephant to
You don't give an elephant bananas.
- 119 e ho na gīí tɛ̀ɣ̃ɛ̀yɛ̀kɛ̀níñ ˘ zére p̃ó
 thou NEG PRES bananas give [+DEF] elephant to
You don't give the elephant bananas.
- 120 e ho na gīí tɛ̀ɣ̃ɛ̀yɛ̀kɛ̀níñ Ø hére ki ˘ b̃ó
 thou NEG PRES bananas give [-DEF] elephant DEM it to
You don't give the elephant bananas.
- 121 e ho na gīí tɛ̀ɣ̃ɛ̀yɛ̀kɛ̀níñ Ø hére-ŋa p̃ó
 thou NEG PRES bananas give [-DEF] elephant-s to
You don't give elephants bananas.
- 122 e ho na gīí tɛ̀ɣ̃ɛ̀yɛ̀kɛ̀níñ ˘ zére-ŋa p̃ó
 thou NEG PRES bananas give [+DEF] elephant-s to
You don't give the elephants bananas.
- 123 e ho na gīí tɛ̀ɣ̃ɛ̀yɛ̀kɛ̀níñ Ø hére-ŋa ki di p̃ó
 thou NEG PRES bananas give [-DEF] elephant-s DEM them to
You don't give the elephants bananas.

RELATIVES

RELATIVE OF SUBJECT:

- 124 Ø hérē ya Ø lógbéŋi
 [-DEF] elephant REL SC disappeared
an elephants which has disappeared ...

125 ` zére-ŋa ya Ø lógbéŋi
 [+DEF] elephant REL SC disappeared
the elephant which has disappeared ...

126 Ø hére-ŋa ya Ø lógbéŋi
 [-DEF] elephant-s REL SC disappeared
elephants which have disappeared ...

127 ` zére-ŋa ya Ø lógbéŋi
 [+DEF] elephant-s REL SC disappeared
the elephants which have disappeared ...

RELATIVE OF DIRECT OBJECT:

128:

Ø hére ya e na ` góníŋi a péné a pa
 [-DEF] elephant REL thou PRES it look for it return it come
An elephant your are looking for has come back.

129:

` zére ya e na ` góníŋi a péné a pa
 [+DEF] elephant REL thou PRES it look for it return it come
The elephant your are looking for has come back.

130:

Ø hére-ŋa ya e na di kóníŋi da péné da pa
 [-DEF] elephant-s REL thou PRES them look for them return they come
Elephants your are looking for have come back.

131:

` zére-ŋa ya e na di kóníŋi da péné da pa
 [+DEF] elephant-s REL thou PRES them look for them return they come
The elephants your are looking for have come back.

RELATIVE OF DATIVE:

132:

Ø hére ya e na gí tẹyeyekeníŋ a bó-ki a lógbéŋ
 [-DEF] elephant REL thou PRES bananas give him to-DEM he disappeared
An elephant which you give bananas has disappered.

133:

` zére ya e na gí tẹyeyekeníŋ a bó-ki a lógbéŋ
 [+DEF] elephant REL thou PRES bananas give him to-DEM he disappeared
The elephant which you give bananas has disappered.

134:

Ø hére-ŋa ya e na gí tẹyeyekeníŋ di pó-ki da lógbéŋ
 [-DEF] elephant-s REL thou PRES bananas give them to-DEM they disappeared
Elephants which you give bananas have disappered.

135:

` zére-ŋa ya e na gí tẹyeyekeníŋ di pó-ki da lógbéŋ
 [+DEF] elephant-s REL thou PRES bananas give them to-DEM they disappeared
The elephants which you give bananas have disappered.

Definites and indefinites in Kono.

PRESENTATIVES :

NEGATIVE PRESENTATIVE:

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|--------|--------------------------------|-----|----|--------|------------------------------------|----|-----|------|----|
| 136 | Ø | hére | ka | ḡ | Ø | hére | ho | na | ḡ | |
| | [-DEF] | elephant | TAM | be | [-DEF] | elephant | SC | NEG | PRES | be |
| | | <i>there is an elephant</i> | | | | <i>there is no elephant</i> | | | | |
| 137 | ` | zére | ka | ḡ | ` | zére | ho | na | ḡ | |
| | [+DEF] | elephant | TAM | be | [+DEF] | elephant | SC | NEG | PRES | be |
| | | <i>there is the elephant</i> | | | | <i>there is not the elephant</i> | | | | |
| 138 | Ø | hére-ŋa | ka | ḡ | Ø | hére-ŋa | di | ho | na | ḡ |
| | [-DEF] | elephant-s | TAM | be | [-DEF] | elephant-s | SC | NEG | PRES | be |
| | | <i>there are elephants</i> | | | | <i>there are no elephants</i> | | | | |
| 139 | ` | zére-ŋa | ka | ḡ | ` | zére-ŋa | di | ho | na | ḡ |
| | [+DEF] | elephant-s | TAM | be | [+DEF] | elephant-s | SC | NEG | PRES | be |
| | | <i>there are the elephants</i> | | | | <i>there are not the elephants</i> | | | | |

NAMES:

| | | | | |
|-----|----------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 140 | `māt5 | Mato | `māt5lānḡwān | the names Mato |
| | `náà | Láà | `nāá1ānḡwān | the names Láà |
| | `māámèn | Maamen | `māámè1ānḡwān | the names Maamen |
| | `gòbū | Gobu | `gòbū1ānḡwān | the names Gobu |
| | `dáàwò | Táàwo | `dáàwò1ānḡwān | the names Táàwo |
| | `jèpū | Yepu | `jèpū1ānḡwān | the names Yepu |
| | `nómè | Lome | `nómè1ānḡwān | the names Lome |
| 141 | `dòkpā | <i>Tokpa</i> | `dòkpāni | <i>Tokpa and others</i> |
| | `dākpānā | <i>Dakpana</i> | `dākpānāni | <i>Dakpana and others</i> |
| | `ŋwālāŋḡ | <i>Walango</i> | `ŋwālāŋḡni | <i>Walango and others</i> |
| | `bāyāmā | <i>Bagama</i> | `bāyāmāni | <i>Bagama and others</i> |
| | `jākpéŋ | <i>Yakpén</i> | `jākpéni | <i>Yakpén and others</i> |
| | `mōnyàqā | <i>Monéyawa</i> | `mōnyàqāni | <i>Monéyawa and others</i> |
| 142 | hūwānān | | the father of Huwa | tòkpā Tokpa |
| | | | some Huwanan | |
| | zūwānān | | Huwanan | dòkpā a certain Tokpa |
| | hūwānān | gādēlōŋ | Huwanan son of Gade | |
| | *zūwānān | gādēlōŋ | | |

Some References

Casthelain, J. 1952.

La langue guéréz, grammaire, dictionnaire. Dakar, IFAN.
302 p. (*Mémoires de l'Institut Français d'Afrique Noire No. 20.I*)

Doré, Souanan, 1995.

L'alternance consonantique initiale en kono. Conakry, Université Gamal Abdel Nasser. iii, 62 p. [Mémoire de Diplôme de Fin d'Études Supérieures]

Eberl-Elber, Ralph, 1937.

Der konsonantische Anlautwechsel am Hauptwort in der Sprachengruppe Gbande-Loma-Mende. *Mitteilungen des Seminars für Orientalische Sprachen* 40:128-143.

Givón, Talmy 1978.

Definiteness and referentiality. In: Joseph Harold Greenberg, Charles A. Ferguson & Edith A. Moravcsik (eds.) *Universals of human language. Volume 4: Syntax.* Stanford, Stanford University Press, pp. 291-330.

Hintze, Fritz, 1948.

Zum konsonantischen Anlautwechsel in einigen westafrikanischen Sprachen. *Zeitschrift für Phonetik und allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft* 2:164-182, 322-35.

Holas, B. 1953.

Remarques sur la valeur sociologique du nom dans les sociétés traditionnelles de l'Ouest Africain. *Journal de la Société des Africanistes* 23:77-86.

Lassort, P. 1952 b.

Grammaire guéréz. Dakar, IFAN. pp. 303-423 (*Mémoires de l'Institut Français d'Afrique Noire No. 20.II*)

Manessy, Gabriel, 1964 a.

L'alternance consonantique initiale en manya, kpelle, loma, bandi et mende. *Journal of African Languages* 3:162-178.

Manessy, Gabriel, 1964 b.

Détermination et prédication en kpelle. *Bulletin de la Société de Linguistique de Paris* 59:119-129.

Manessy, Gabriel, 1964 c.

Remarques sur la formation du pluriel en bandi, loma, mende et kpelle. *Bulletin de l'Institut Français d'Afrique Noire* 26:119-126.

Meeussen, A. E. 1965.

A note on permutation in Kpelle-Mende. *African Language Studies* 6:112-116.

Welmers, William Everett, 1950.

New light on consonant change in Kpelle *Zeitschrift für Phonetik und allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft* 4:105-118.

Welmers, William Everett, 1962.

The phonology of Kpelle. *Journal of African Languages* 1:69-93.

Welmers, William Everett, 1964.

The syntax of emphasis in Kpelle. *Journal of West African Languages* 1:13-26.

Welmers, William Everett, 1969.

The morphology of Kpelle nominals. *Journal of African Languages* 8:73-101.

Westermann, Diedrich, 1924.

Die Kpelle-Sprache in Liberia, grammatische Einführung, Texte und Wörterbuch. Berlin, D. Reimer.
278 p. (*Zeitschrift für Eingeborenen-Sprachen, Beiheft 6*).