An Overview of Verbal Morphology of Isanzu (Bantu, Tanzania)
Обзор глагольной морфологии языка исанзу (банту, Танзания)

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This study presents the outcomes of a short linguistic fieldwork[1] on a Bantu lect Isanzu (F31B) that is spoken in the north central Tanzania. According to the *Ethnologue* database Isanzu is a threatened language (6b) because of the relatively small number of speakers (26 000) and the low intergenerational transmission. Data collection aimed at basic description of phonetics and morphology. Method used to achieve this goal consists of translational elicitation of the 207-item Swadesh list, H. Batibo's questionnaire on Bantu morphosyntax as well as of recording and transcribing narratives (fairy tales and "Pear story").

The analyses of data show that Isanzu possess typical for Eastern Bantu languages verbal morphology that include the following slots (with encoding morphemes) within verbal phrase:

1) negation [sha/shanga]; 2) subject marker [n, u, o, k, m, a/e, noun class markers]; 3) tense-aspect-mood marker 1 [e 'present', a 'past', ka 'narrative past', o 'future']; 4) extension 1 [(k)i 'reflexive/reciprocal']; 5) object marker [ni, ko, mo, ke, wa, wa, nominal markers]; 6) root; 7) extension 2 [i 'applicative', w 'passive', z 'causative', ag 'durative', ek/ik 'stative']; 8) tense-aspect-mood marker 2 [ire 'perfective']; 9) final vowel [a 'indicative', e 'subjunctive / optative / perfective']. Table 1 provides some examples of Isanzu verbal phrases.

No/Slot	NEG	SM	TAM1	EXT1	OM	ROOT	EXT2	TAM2	FV
1	shanga	u	o	ki		kot			a
	NEG	2SG	FUT	REFL		BE_FULL			IND
	'You will not be full [if you eat me].'								
2		n	e			lem			a
		1SG	PRES			CULTIVATE			IND
	'I cultivate [my field every day]'								
3		n	o		ko	tal			a
		1SG	FUT		OM_2SG	BRING			IND
	'I will bring you [food]'								
4		a	ka	i		gomb	y		a
		3PL	PST	REFL		AGREE	APLL		IND
	'They agreed with [for] each other'								
5	leka		ko		m	bol	ag		a
	DON'T		INF		SM_1SG	KILL	DUR		IND
	'Don't kill me'								
6		ka				bun	ek		a
		CL12				BRAKE	STAT		IND
	'[Guest's finger] is broken'								
7					ni	ndel			e
					OM_1SG	WAIT			OPT
	'You should wait for me'								

Table 1: Examples

We found a few cases of applicative and causative constructions. Further research on these structures is needed on a broader data base.

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