Annotated Swadesh wordlists for the South Cushitic group (Cushitic family).

Languages included: Aasax [scu-asa].

DATA SOURCES

General.


I. Aasax.

Maguire 1928 = Maguire, R. A. J. 1928. "Il-torōbo": Part II. Journal of the Royal African Society 27(107): 249-268. // Very brief notes on Aramanik (= Aasax) with hardly more than a couple dozen words; still important as one of the very few sources on this extinct language.

NOTES

I. Aasax.


Aasax (Aasá) is an extinct South Cushitic language of Tanzania (most of the original speakers have shifted to neighboring Nilotic languages such as Maasai or Nandi). Data sources on Aasax are very scarce: except for a few scattered lexical recordings from the first half of the 20th century, such as Maguire 1928, the only collection of data that includes enough Aasax basic lexicon items to construct a more or less representative Swadesh wordlist (still containing plenty of gaps) are J. C. Winter’s recordings from 1974, partially reproduced in Ehret 1980. Where possible, we supplement Winter’s data
with earlier material from Maguire 1928.

I.2. *Transcription.*

Aasax data in Ehret 1980 generally follows his usual transcription for Cushitic sources, a slightly modified form of IPA. Only some cosmetic amendments are required for conversion to UTS, namely: (a) laterals: *hl* > UTS †; (b) affricates: *j* > UTS ʒ; (c) laryngeals: ʾ > UTS ŋ.

**Database compiled and annotated by:** George Starostin (last update: May 2015).

1. ALL
Aasax *wataka* (1).

References and notes:

2. ASHES
Aasax *wura-to* (1).

References and notes:

3. BARK

References and notes:
Aasax: Not attested.

4. BELLY

References and notes:
Aasax: Not attested.

5. BIG
Aasax =*źira* (1).

References and notes:

6. BIRD
Aasax *śira?a* (1).

References and notes:

7. BITE
Aasax ʒalas- (1).

References and notes:

8. BLACK
Aasax =biasa (1).

References and notes:

9. BLOOD
Aasax saʔaka (1).

References and notes:

10. BONE
Aasax far-it (1).

References and notes:

11. BREAST
Aasax liba (1).

References and notes:

12. BURN TR.
Aasax *da?-* (1).

References and notes:

13. CLAW (NAIL)
Aasax *seŋ-et* (1).

References and notes:

14. CLOUD
Aasax *buʃurita* (1).

References and notes:

15. COLD

References and notes:
Aasax: Not attested.

16. COME
Aasax *dah-* (1).

References and notes:

17. DIE
Aasax *ga-* (1).

References and notes:
18. DOG
Aasax *ki=te* (-1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 386. Borrowed from one of the Chaga languages (cf., from Bantu group E, Kiw’oso *ki=tê* id., etc.).

19. DRINK
Aasax *wa-t-* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 313, 387. According to C. Ehret, the suffix *-t-* marks continuative action.

20. DRY
Aasax *=rakaš* (1).

References and notes:


21. EAR
Aasax *yatara* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 387. Ehret segments the form into *y-at-ara*, where *-at-* = an old feminine marker and *-ara* remains unexplained; all of this somewhat dubious.

22. EARTH
Aasax *haša-t* (1).

References and notes:


23. EAT
Aasax *ʔag-~ʔag-im-* (1).
References and notes:

24. EGG

References and notes:
Aasax: Not attested.

25. EYE
Aasax ila-t (1).

References and notes:

26. FAT N.
Aasax ʔoreʔ-ek (1).

References and notes:

27. FEATHER
Aasax sedem-uk (1).

References and notes:
Aasax: Ehret 1980: 386. Same word as ‘hair’ q.v.

28. FIRE
Aasax yogo-t (1).

References and notes:
29. FISH
Aasax *siŋiri* (-1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 386. Borrowed from Maasai (cf. Maasai *o*-*siŋikir*i* id.).

30. FLY V.
Aasax *jiʔit*- (1).

References and notes:


31. FOOT
Aasax *yeʔe* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 387. Glossed as *leg*, but South Cushitic languages normally do not distinguish between *leg* and *foot*. Quoted as *yeʔ̩* *foot* in [Maguire 1928: 259].

32. FULL
Aasax *haš*- (1).

References and notes:


33. GIVE

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested. [Ehret 1980: 388] quotes the imperative form *ŋe* *give*!, which, in the light of local typological data, may be an entirely independent stem from the regular conjugated word.

34. GOOD
Aasax *ʔila* (1).
References and notes:


**35. GREEN**

*Aasax* =ʒareta* (1).

References and notes:


**36. HAIR**

*Aasax* seʔem-uk* (1).

References and notes:


**37. HAND**

*Aasax* moŋ-ok* (1).

References and notes:

*Aasax*: Ehret 1980: 160, 387. Glossed as 'arm', but South Cushitic languages normally do not distinguish between 'arm' and 'hand'. Quoted as moŋo 'hand' in [Maguire 1928: 259].

**38. HEAD**

*Aasax* sog-ok* (1).

References and notes:


**39. HEAR**

*Aasax* has- * (1).

References and notes:

40. HEART
Aasax mon-ok (1).

References and notes:

41. HORN
Aasax hadon (1).

References and notes:
Aasax: Ehret 1980: 386. Transcribed differently, as hadonk, on p. 256 ibid.

42. I

References and notes:
Aasax: Not attested. H. Fleming ("Asa and Aramanik", Ethnology, VIII, 1969, p. 5) mentions the existence of the possessive stem -wan 'my'. C. Ehret transcribes the same stem as -ana [Ehret 1980: 283]. This is the only piece of data we have on Aasax pronouns.

43. KILL
Aasax ga-s- (1).

References and notes:

44. KNEE
Aasax ηulu-et (1).

References and notes:

45. KNOW
Aasax šalt- (1)
References and notes:


46. LEAF
Aasax debiya (1).

References and notes:


47. LIE
Aasax ʔat- (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 368, 388. The exact meaning ('to lie' or 'to lie down') is unclear.

48. LIVER
Aasax dowo (1).

References and notes:


49. LONG
Aasax ʒada (1).

References and notes:


50. LOUSE
Aasax ʔita (1).

References and notes:

51. MAN
Aasax *hat-uk* (1).

References and notes:


52. MANY
Aasax =šaʔi (1).

References and notes:


53. MEAT
Aasax ʔaga (1).

References and notes:


54. MOON
Aasax leh-ek (1).

References and notes:


55. MOUNTAIN
Aasax deʔ-ok (1).

References and notes:


56. MOUTH
Aasax af-ok (1).

References and notes:
57. NAME
Aasax ʔitim-ok (1).

References and notes:

58. NECK
Aasax mirut (-1).

References and notes:

59. NEW
Aasax ʔamba (1).

References and notes:

60. NIGHT
Aasax eramesa (1).

References and notes:

61. NOSE
Aasax irinya (1).

References and notes:

62. NOT
References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

63. ONE
Aasax kinde (1).

References and notes:


64. PERSON
Aasax ʔidu-k (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 386. The same word is spelled as ʔidok on p. 307 ibid.

65. RAIN
Aasax miʒ-ok (1).

References and notes:


66. RED
Aasax =huma (1).

References and notes:


67. ROAD
Aasax šimu-t (1).

References and notes:

68. ROOT
Aasax mogenera (1).

References and notes:

69. ROUND

References and notes:
Aasax: Not attested.

70. SAND
Aasax haša-t (1).

References and notes:
Aasax: Ehret 1980: 387. Same word as 'earth' q.v.

71. SAY
Aasax šah- (1).

References and notes:

72. SEE
Aasax ?adam- (1).

References and notes:

73. SEED
References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

74. SIT
Aasax ʔamim- (1).

References and notes:


75. SKIN

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

76. SLEEP
Aasax raʔ # (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 388. Dubious, since on p. 219 of the same source the same word is glossed as ‘to stay, to remain’ (polysemy with ‘sleep’ rather than ‘lie’ is highly unlikely).

77. SMALL
Aasax ʔara (1).

References and notes:


78. SMOKE
Aasax toʔusay-ok (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 387. The same word is transcribed as toʔusayok on p. 172 ibid.
79. STAND
Aasax *hut* - (1).

References and notes:

80. STAR
Aasax *ʔatalalaya* (1).

References and notes:

81. STONE
Aasax *deʔ-ok* (1).

References and notes:
Aasax: Ehret 1980: 359, 387. Same word as 'mountain' q.v.

82. SUN
Aasax *ʔaʔ-it* (1).

References and notes:
Aasax: Ehret 1980: 387. The same word is quoted as *ʔaʔ-et* on p. 284 ibid., along with the presumably related *ʔeʔota* ‘day’ and *ʔeʔa* ‘sky’ (root *ʔaʔ*). Quoted as *ʔiʔit* in [Maguire 1928: 259].

83. SWIM

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

84. TAIL
Aasax *hesa* (1).
References and notes:


85. THAT

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

86. THIS

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

87. THOU

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

88. TONGUE

Aasax šeferank (1).

References and notes:


89. TOOTH

Aasax liga (1).

References and notes:


90. TREE
Aasax *kašįŋ* (1).

References and notes:


91. TWO
Aasax *lam* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 208, 386. Quoted as *lam* in [Maguire 1928: 258].

92. WALK (GO)

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested, except for the imperative form *næ*: ‘go!’ [Ehret 1980: 386], which may not necessarily represent the same stem as the required indicative forms.

93. WARM (HOT)
Aasax *hareta* (1).

References and notes:


94. WATER
Aasax *maʔa* (1).

References and notes:


95. WE

References and notes:
Aasax: Not attested.

96. WHAT

References and notes:
Aasax: Not attested.

97. WHITE
Aasax =abaka (1).

References and notes:

98. WHO

References and notes:
Aasax: Not attested.

99. WOMAN
Aasax mayi-to (1).

References and notes:

100. YELLOW

References and notes:
Aasax: Not attested.

101. FAR
Aasax sanja (1).
102. HEAVY
Aasax *daʔara* (1).

103. NEAR

104. SALT

105. SHORT
Aasax *ʔumara* (1).

106. SNAKE

References and notes:


Aasax: Not attested.

Aasax: Not attested.


Aasax: Not attested.
107. THIN

References and notes:
Aasax: Not attested.

108. WIND
Aasax šoʔ-ok (1).

References and notes:

109. WORM

References and notes:
Aasax: Not attested.

110. YEAR

References and notes:
Aasax: Not attested.