

East Central Khoisan 100-wordlists

Compiled by George Starostin

The Swadesh wordlists for eight East Central Khoisan languages. The main data source is Vossen 1997, except for Hietshware where the source is Dornan 1917. See the ECK etymological database for details on bibliography, transcription, and cognation issues.

NB: most of the wordlists are incomplete and the selection of etyma is occasionally questionable, since no detailed dictionaries of the languages as such are available (Vossen 1997 is essentially a short etymological dictionary). Considering that the languages are quite closely related, the incompleteness may seriously impact the classification results. Nevertheless, the genealogical tree more or less matches Vossen's original classification. The only issue is with Tsixa, for which serious evidence exists that it may actually be a West rather than East Central Khoisan idiom; whether the current lexicostatistical placing of it is correct can only be determined by future research on the language.

Word	all
Hietshware	ihe

Word	ashes
Xaise	ʒóá
Deti	dù
Tsixa	dyúà
Danisi	dyúà
Cara	ʒòà
Kua	ʒóá
Tsua	ʒùá
Hietshware	ʒoaa

Word	ashes
Danisi	thàú

Word	bark
Xaise	gádà
Deti	gádá

Tsixa	ʔú
Danisi	kxú
Cara	ʔú
Kua	ʔú
Tsua	gàdá
Hietshware	žoree

Word	bark
Tsixa	gàdá
Danisi	gádá
Kua	gádà

Word	belly
lXaise	l à
Deti	l â
Tsixa	l â
Danisi	l ă
Cara	l ă
Kua	l à
Tsua	l â
Hietshware	l kaa, l khaa

Word	big
Deti	kái

Word	bird
lXaise	ʒédà
Deti	ʒàdà
Tsixa	ʒídá
Danisi	ʒádá
Cara	ʒàdà
Kua	ʒédá
Tsua	ʒédà
Hietshware	zera

Word	bite
lXaise	pá
Deti	pá
Tsixa	pá
Danisi	pá
Cara	pá
Kua	pá
Tsua	pá
Hietshware	pha

Word	black
lXaise	nǝ́ú
Deti	yǘ
Tsixa	ǎ́ú
Danisi	ndú
Cara	yú
Kua	ǝ́ú
Tsua	dú
Hietshware	ǝ́unye

Word	blood
lXaise	lǎ́à
Deti	lǎ́à
Tsixa	lǎ́à
Danisi	lǎ́à
Cara	lǎ́à
Hietshware	thaka

Word	bone
lXaise	lǎ́á
Deti	lǎ́á
Tsixa	lǎ́á
Danisi	lǎ́á

Cara	l ʔóá
Kua	l ʔòá
Tsua	l ʔóà
Hietshware	n gwa

Word	breast
l Xaise	ǔ
Tsixa	ǔ
Danisi	ǔ
Cara	ǔ
Kua	ǔ
Tsua	ǔ
Hietshware	l huu

Word	burn tr.
l Xaise	dáó
Deti	dàò
Tsixa	dáó
Danisi	dàò
Cara	dàò
Kua	dáó
Tsua	dáò
Hietshware	dhau

Word	claw(nail)
l Xaise	hâ
Deti	ódó
Tsixa	à
Danisi	à
Cara	â
Kua	ódò
Hietshware	l gara

Word	claw(nail)
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Danisi	ádó
Cara	ódò
Word	cloud
Hietshware	‡kom
Word	cold
Hietshware	haii
Word	come
Xaise	hǎ
Deti	hâ
Tsixa	hâ
Danisi	hǎ
Cara	hǎ
Kua	hâ
Tsua	hâ
Hietshware	ya
Word	die
Xaise	ʔó
Deti	ʔó
Tsixa	ʔó
Danisi	ʔó
Cara	ʔó
Kua	ʔǒ
Tsua	ʔǒ
Hietshware	oo
Word	dog
Xaise	ʔábà
Deti	ʔábá
Tsixa	ʔábá
Danisi	ʔábá

Cara	ʔábà
Kua	ʔábà
Tsua	ʔábà
Hietshware	aba

Word	drink
Xaise	kʔâ
Deti	kʔâ
Tsixa	kʔâ
Danisi	kxâ
Cara	kʔâ
Kua	kʔâ
Tsua	kʔâ
Hietshware	ʔkhaa

Word	dry
Deti	xǒ
Tsixa	xó
Danisi	xó
Kua	ʔô
Tsua	ʔô
Hietshware	ko

Word	ear
Xaise	ćé
Deti	ćé
Tsixa	ʔé
Danisi	ćé
Cara	ćé
Kua	kyê
Tsua	kyê
Hietshware	čee

Word	earth
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lXaise	xóm
Deti	xòm
Tsixa	xóm
Danisi	xóm
Cara	xóm
Kua	xóm
Tsua	xóm
Hietshware	hom

Word	eat
lXaise	ʔyǔ
Deti	ʔyǔ
Tsixa	ʔǔ
Danisi	ʔyǔ
Cara	ʔyǔ
Kua	ʔyǔ
Tsua	ʔyǔ
Hietshware	nyoo

Word	egg
Deti	ʔyùbì
Tsixa	ʔùbí
Cara	ʔyibí
Kua	ʔíbí
Tsua	ʔíbí
Hietshware	ibi

Word	eye
lXaise	ćái
Deti	ćxàí
Danisi	ćxáí
Cara	ćxáí
Kua	ćxàí
Tsua	ćxàí

Hietsware	tšaii
Word	fat n.
lXaise	ǁnúì
Deti	ǁúì
Tsixa	ǁúì
Danisi	ǁúì
Cara	ǁúì
Kua	ǁúì
Tsua	ǁúí
Word	feather
Hietsware	l go
Word	fire
Tsixa	lʔě
Danisi	lʔě
Cara	lʔě
Kua	lʔé
Tsua	lʔé
Hietsware	lee
Word	fish
lXaise	ʔáú
Deti	ʔáú
Tsixa	ǁʔáù
Danisi	ʔáù
Cara	ʔáú
Hietsware	thapi (< Bantu)
Word	fly v.
lXaise	tòé
Cara	tòé
Kua	túè

Tsua	túè
Word	foot
Xaise	ʒî
Deti	ʒî
Tsixa	ʒî
Danisi	ʒî
Cara	ʒí
Kua	kádì
Tsua	kádè
Hietshware	karee

Word	full
Xaise	lʔóè
Deti	lʔóé
Tsixa	lʔóè
Danisi	lkxóé
Cara	lʔóé
Kua	lʔóè
Tsua	lʔóé
Hietshware	lkweha

Word	good
Xaise	kâî
Deti	kâî
Tsixa	kâî
Danisi	kâî
Cara	káí
Kua	kâî
Tsua	kâî
Hietshware	kaie

Word	good
Xaise	tʔúî

Deti	tʔúí
Tsixa	tʔúì
Danisi	tʔúì
Kua	tʔúì
Tsua	tʔúì
Hietshware	twenye

Word	green
Hietshware	barathi

Word	hair
lXaise	lʔû
Deti	lʔû
Tsixa	lʔù
Danisi	lʔû
Cara	lʔú
Kua	lʔû
Tsua	lʔû
Hietshware	l hoo

Word	hand
lXaise	càú
Deti	càú
Tsixa	càú
Danisi	chàú
Cara	chàú
Kua	càú
Tsua	càú
Hietshware	tsau

Word	head
lXaise	mâ
Deti	má
Tsixa	ʔú

Danisi	mà
Cara	má
Kua	mâ
Hietsaware	hma
Word	hear
Deti	kóm
Tsixa	kúm
Danisi	kúm
Cara	kóm
Kua	kúm
Tsua	cóm
Hietsaware	tšom
Word	heart
lXaise	ćóó
Deti	ćàó
Tsixa	ǰáó
Danisi	ćáó
Cara	ćáó
Kua	kyó
Tsua	kyô
Hietsaware	tšoo
Word	horn
lXaise	ǰnâ
Deti	ǰnâ
Tsixa	ǰnâ
Danisi	ǰnâ
Cara	ǰnâ
Kua	ǰnâ
Tsua	ǰnâ
Hietsaware	ŋǰgaa

Word	I
Xaise	tá
Deti	tá
Tsixa	tí
Danisi	tá
Cara	tá
Kua	kyé
Tsua	kyé
Hietshware	tši

Word	kill
Xaise	ʔǔ
Tsixa	ʔǔ
Danisi	kxǔ
Cara	ʔǔ
Kua	ʔú
Tsua	ʔú
Hietshware	goo

Word	knee
Xaise	(kú)kúdù
Deti	òé
Tsixa	úé
Danisi	óé
Cara	óé
Kua	ùì
Tsua	óé
Hietshware	kukuru

Word	knee
Cara	(kú)kúdù

Word	know
Xaise	ʔá

Deti	ʔǎ
Tsixa	ʔǎ
Danisi	ʔǎ
Cara	ʔá
Kua	ʔá
Tsua	ʔá
Hietshware	an

Word	leaf
lXaise	l̀anà
Deti	l̀ǎ
Tsixa	l̀aná
Danisi	l̀aná
Cara	l̀aná
Hietshware	l̀gana

Word	lie
lXaise	l̀óé
Deti	l̀òé
Tsixa	l̀óé
Danisi	l̀óé
Cara	l̀óé
Kua	l̀óé
Tsua	l̀úé
Hietshware	l̀koe

Word	liver
lXaise	kʔí
Deti	kʔǎí
Tsixa	kʔáí
Danisi	kxáí
Cara	kʔǎí
Kua	cʔǐ
Tsua	cʔǐ

Hietsware	če
Word	long
Deti	káo
Tsixa	káo
Danisi	káo
Cara	káo
Kua	!áo
Tsua	!áo
Word	louse
Xaise	kʔúni
Deti	kʔúni
Tsixa	kʔúni
Cara	kʔúni
Kua	kʔúni
Tsua	kʔúni
Hietsware	gam
Word	man
Xaise	kʔáo
Deti	kʔáo
Tsixa	kʔáo
Danisi	kxáo
Cara	kʔáo
Kua	kʔáo
Tsua	kʔáo
Hietsware	kau čo
Word	many
Hietsware	cao
Word	meat
Xaise	kʔǒ

Deti	kʔǒ
Tsixa	kʔó
Danisi	kxǒ
Cara	kʔò
Kua	kʔó
Tsua	kʔó
Hietshware	koho

Word	moon
!Xaise	ǁnóé
Deti	ǁóé
Tsixa	ǁóé
Danisi	ǁóé
Cara	ǁóé
Kua	ǁóé
Tsua	ǁúé
Hietshware	!gwee

Word	mountain
Deti	!ʔúí
Cara	!ʔúì
Hietshware	!goa

Word	mouth
!Xaise	kʔám
Deti	kʔám
Tsixa	kʔám
Cara	kʔám
Kua	kʔám
Tsua	kʔám
Hietshware	ʔkam

Word	name
!Xaise	!ʔón

Deti	lʔún
Tsixa	lʔòn
Danisi	lʔxún
Cara	lʔón
Kua	lʔún
Tsua	lʔún
Hietshware	lʔun

Word	neck
lXaise	kʔàò
Deti	kʔáó
Cara	kʔáó
Kua	kʔáó
Hietshware	dhom

Word	new
Deti	kʔóá
Tsixa	kʔóà
Cara	kʔóá
Tsua	ǎáò
Hietshware	!kao

Word	night
Tsixa	thǔ
Danisi	thǔ
Cara	thǔ
Hietshware	khaie ka

Word	nose
lXaise	ćùì
Deti	ćúí
Tsixa	ǰùì
Danisi	ćùì
Cara	ćúí

Kua	ćùì
Tsua	ćùì
Hietshware	tšui

Word	not
Xaise	tà
Deti	tà
Tsixa	tã
Danisi	tàmà
Cara	tà
Kua	tà
Tsua	tà

Word	one
Xaise	lúí
Deti	lúí
Tsixa	lúí
Danisi	lúí
Cara	lúí
Kua	lúí
Tsua	lúí
Hietshware	kwie

Word	person
Xaise	khóé
Deti	khóé
Tsixa	khòé
Danisi	khóé
Cara	khóé
Kua	khòé
Tsua	chòé
Hietshware	tšwa

Word	rain
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lXaise	tú
Deti	tǔ
Tsixa	tú
Danisi	tú
Cara	tú
Kua	tú
Tsua	tú
Hietshware	tu
Word	red
lXaise	lòá
Deti	lǒá
Danisi	lòá
Cara	lòá
Hietshware	lgeye
Word	road
lXaise	dáó
Deti	dáó
Tsixa	dào
Danisi	dào
Cara	dáó
Kua	dáó
Tsua	dáó
Hietshware	dhau
Word	root
Hietshware	papasi
Word	sand
lXaise	xóm
Deti	xòm
Tsixa	xóm
Danisi	xóm

Cara	xóm
Kua	xóm
Tsua	xóm
Hietshware	hom

Word	say
Cara	mí
Hietshware	me

Word	see
Xaise	mû
Deti	mû
Tsixa	mû
Danisi	mû
Cara	mû
Kua	mû
Tsua	mû
Hietshware	moo

Word	seed
Xaise	códó
Deti	xúdí
Danisi	xúdí
Cara	xúdí
Kua	xúdí
Tsua	xúdí
Hietshware	khuri

Word	sit
Xaise	nú
Deti	nú
Tsixa	nú
Danisi	nú
Cara	nú

Kua	ńú
Tsua	ńǔ
Hietshware	nyo

Word	skin
Xaise	khò
Deti	khò
Tsixa	khǒ
Danisi	khǒ
Cara	khò
Kua	khǒ
Tsua	khǒ
Hietshware	tšo

Word	sleep
Danisi	ʔùm
Hietshware	gom

Word	small
Deti	ʔádé
Danisi	ʔádé
Cara	ʔádé
Kua	ʔádé
Tsua	ʔádé
Hietshware	kare

Word	smoke
Xaise	cʔání
Deti	cʔání
Tsixa	cʔínì
Danisi	cʔínì
Cara	cʔání
Kua	cʔínì
Tsua	cʔínì

Hietsaware tsene

Word stand

Deti tě

Tsixa tê

Danisi té

Cara tè

Kua té

Tsua tè

Hietsaware the

Word star

|Xaise |xání

Deti |xání

Tsixa |xání

Danisi |xání

Cara |xínì

Kua |xání

Tsua |xáinì

Hietsaware †khaine

Word stone

Deti |ʔúí

Tsixa ǁóá

Danisi ǁóá

Cara |ʔúì

Kua ǁóà

Tsua qárò

Hietsaware ǁgwa

Word sun

|Xaise |ám

Tsixa |ám

Danisi |ám

Cara	lám
Kua	lám
Tsua	lám
Hietshware	l kam

Word	swim
lXaise	bàrà
Deti	bàrá
Tsixa	bàrá
Danisi	bàrá
Cara	bàrá
Hietshware	!kha

Word	tail
lXaise	caó
Deti	caó
Tsixa	caó
Danisi	caó
Cara	caó
Kua	caó
Tsua	caó
Hietshware	tsau

Word	that
Deti	hǔ
Tsixa	mé
Danisi	ǔ
Cara	ǔ
Kua	u
Tsua	ǔ
Hietshware	ho-ra

Word	this
Deti	hí

Tsixa	ĩné
Danisi	ĩ
Cara	ĩ
Kua	ĩ
Tsua	ĩ
Hietshware	e

Word	this
Kua	ĩní
Tsua	ĩní

Word	thou
Xaise	ćá
Deti	ćá
Tsixa	ćá
Danisi	ćá
Cara	ćá
Kua	ćá
Tsua	ćá
Hietshware	tša

Word	tongue
Xaise	dám
Deti	dám
Tsixa	dám
Danisi	dám
Cara	dám
Kua	dám
Tsua	dám
Hietshware	dham

Word	tooth
Xaise	ú
Deti	ű

Tsixa	ú
Danisi	ú
Cara	ú
Kua	û
Tsua	ú
Hietshware	goo

Word	tree
Xaise	yì
Deti	yì
Tsixa	yì
Danisi	yì
Cara	yì
Kua	yî
Tsua	yǐ
Hietshware	hii

Word	two
Xaise	lám
Deti	lám
Tsixa	lám
Danisi	lám
Cara	lám
Kua	lám
Tsua	lám
Hietshware	lkame

Word	walk (go)
Xaise	kû
Deti	kû
Tsixa	kû
Danisi	kû
Cara	kû
Kua	kû

Tsua	kû
Hietsaware	kho
Word	warm
Hietsaware	čobehe
Word	water
Xaise	chă
Deti	chă
Tsixa	chă
Danisi	chă
Cara	chă
Kua	chă
Tsua	chă
Hietsaware	tsaa
Word	we
Xaise	-m
Deti	-m
Tsixa	-m
Danisi	-m
Cara	-m
Kua	-be
Tsua	-be
Word	we
Xaise	-e
Deti	-e
Tsixa	-e
Danisi	-e
Cara	-e
Kua	-e
Tsua	-e
Hietsaware	tse

Word	what
Deti	dú
Tsixa	né
Danisi	ndú
Cara	ndú
Kua	ná
Hietshware	nate

Word	white
Kua	!ʔǔ
Tsua	!ʔú
Hietshware	hwehe

Word	who
Deti	má
Tsixa	má
Danisi	má
Cara	má
Kua	má
Hietshware	nare

Word	who
Cara	ná
Kua	nă

Word	woman
!Xaise	ae-
Deti	ae-
Tsixa	a-
Danisi	ae-
Cara	a-
Kua	ae-
Tsua	ae-

Hietsaware ||gae

Word far

|Xaise ηγû

Deti ηú

Tsixa ηγû

Danisi ηγû

Kua ηγû

Tsua gú

Hietsaware guno

Word heavy

|Xaise kóm

Deti kóm

Tsixa kúm

Danisi kúm

Cara kóm

Kua kóm

Tsua kúm

Word near

|Xaise |û

Deti |û

Tsixa |û

Danisi |û

Cara |û

Kua |û

Tsua |û

Hietsaware |ku

Word salt

|Xaise dèbè

Deti dóbè

Danisi dóbé

Cara	dóbè
Kua	dèbé
Tsua	dèbé
Hietshware	debee

Word	short
Xaise	òm
Deti	óm
Tsixa	óm
Danisi	òm
Cara	òm
Kua	óm
Tsua	úm

Word	snake
Xaise	ʔàó
Deti	ʔàó
Danisi	ʔàó
Cara	ʔàó
Kua	ʔáó
Tsua	ʔáó
Hietshware	gauo

Word	wind
Xaise	ʔyá
Deti	ʔyǎ
Tsixa	ʔǎ
Danisi	ʔyá
Cara	ʔyá
Kua	ʔyâ
Tsua	ʔyâ
Hietshware	nyaa

Word	year
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lXaise	kúdí
Deti	kúdí
Tsixa	kúdí
Danisi	kúdí
Cara	kúdí
Kua	kúdí
Tsua	cúdí
Hietshware	tšuri