Annotated Swadesh wordlists for the Brahui group (Dravidian family).

Languages included: Brahui [bra-bra].

DATA SOURCES

Bray 1934 = Bray, Denys. The Brāhūī Language. Part III. Etymological Vocabulary. Delhi: Manager of publications. // The only representative dictionary of the Brahui language, still the most authoritative source on the lexicon of this language. Bray’s etymological notes are generally reliable for filtering out traces of external (areal) influences, but somewhat obsolete for material of Dravidian origin.

NOTES

I. General.

The only detailed and easily available source on Brahui lexicon is the dictionary by Denys Bray, based on the "standard" dialect of the Kalat district. Subsequent fieldwork has been limited in scale and, for the most part, confirms the accuracy of Bray’s records, although, since the dictionary is essentially monodialectal, it remains unclear just how much dialectal variation actually exists in between Brahui dialects.

In the wordlists, most of the borrowings (around 25% on the 100-wordlist) have been rounded up and annotated, following Bray's own notes; considering that quite a few Brahui words remain without either a Dravidian or an areal etymology, the real percentage might actually be slightly higher.

II. Transliteration.

Bray’s orthography reflects certain conventions typical of the latinized transcription for Indian languages, as well as some of his individual peculiarities. The complete list of symbols transliterated into the UTS standard is as follows:
<table>
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<th>Bray 1934</th>
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**Database compiled by:** G. Starostin (June 2013).
1. ALL
Brahui giř (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui:** Bray 1934: 117. Cf. also γuʈʈ 'all' [Bray 1934: 126]; difference between these two words is not easily detected from the available examples. Cf. also drust 'all', borrowed from Persian [Bray 1934: 101].

2. ASHES
Brahui kaluɾ (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui:** Bray 1934: 155. Cf. also his 'ashes' [Bray 1934: 138] (suggested borrowing from or connection with Baluchi hcs 'rust, dirt', but without any certainty). The difference between the two words is unclear, but kaluɾ is more readily attested in neutral contexts (e.g. "it was burnt to ashes"), whereas his seems to figure mainly in idiomatic expressions.

3. BARK
Brahui ɕoɖiː ~ ɕoɖiːŋk (-1).

References and notes:

**Brahui:** Bray 1934: 88. Polysemy: 'bark of tree / chip'. Of Indo-Aryan origin.

4. BELLY
Brahui piɖ (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui:** Bray 1934: 235. Polysemy: 'belly / stomach'.

5. BIG
Brahui bal-un ~ bʰal-un (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui:** Bray 1934: 63, 72.

6. BIRD
Brahui čuk (1).
References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 89. Marked as 'imitative', but textual examples confirm that this is indeed the default word for 'bird' in Brahui.

7. BITE

Brahui *gaṭ hallīng* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 114. A compound formation from the formally nominal stem *gaṭ* '(a) bite' + the verb *hallīng* 'to seize'. Alternately, cf. also various complex formations with the word *ba*: 'mouth' q.v.: *ba: ṣay-īng* 'to bite' (literally, 'to mouth-seize'), *ba: biṭ-īng* 'to bite at' (literally, 'to mouth-throw'), etc. [Bray 1934: 59].

8. BLACK

Brahui *ma-un* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 204. The suffix -un is a productive adjectival morpheme, but the root ma- is not otherwise attested in Brahui (cf. 'white').

9. BLOOD

Brahui *ditar* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 98.

10. BONE

Brahui *aḍ ~ haḍ* (-1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 50, 126. Borrowed from Baluchi haḍ.

11. BREAST

Brahui *qAvgbar* (-1).

References and notes:

12. BURN TR.
Brahui huš-ŋ ~ uš-ŋ (1).

References and notes:
Brahui: Bray 1934: 142. Meaning glossed as: 'to set fire to, burn, scorch'.

13. CLAW(NAIL)
Brahui ziːl (1).

References and notes:
Brahui: Bray 1934: 312.

14. CLOUD
Brahui źammär (-1).

References and notes:

15. COLD
Brahui pud-eːn (1).

References and notes:

16. COME
Brahui ba-ːn-ŋ (1).

References and notes:
Brahui: Bray 1934: 64. The word has a wide variety of allomorphs: imperative ba - bar-ak, present tense stem bar-eː-, past stem ba-ːss-, negative stem ba-). The basic alternation is between ba- and bar-, reflecting an archaic feature of the Proto-Dravidian form.

17. DIE
Brahui *kah-ing* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui:** Bray 1934: 153. Present stem *kah-ː*; past stem *kas-ː*.

18. DOG
Brahui *kuçak* (-1).

References and notes:

**Brahui:** Bray 1934: 171. Probably borrowed from an Iranian source (Baluchi *kuçak*, etc.). Cf. also *buṭṭe* ‘dog (children’s word)’ [Bray 1934: 80].

19. DRINK
Brahui *kun-ing* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui:** Bray 1934: 173. Polysemy: ‘to eat / to drink / to bite’.

20. DRY
Brahui *baxr-un* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui:** Bray 1934: 66. The root is verbal in origin, cf. *baxr-ing* ‘to become dry’, causative *baxr-if-ing* ‘to make dry, to dry’ [Bray 1934: 65].

21. EAR
Brahui *xaʃ* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui:** Bray 1934: 177.

22. EARTH
Brahui *qayʃr* (-1).

References and notes:
23. EAT
Brahui *kun-ing* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 173. Polysemy: ‘to eat / to drink / to bite’.

24. EGG
Brahui *baida* (-1).

References and notes:


25. EYE
Brahui *xan* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 180. Same root as in ‘to see’ q.v.

26. FAT N.
Brahui *ɕarpi* (-1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 85. Meaning glossed as ‘grease, fat’. Of Persian origin. Cf. also *piːg* ‘fat, grease, espec. goat’s fat used medicinally’ [Bray 1934: 236], of Baluchi or Persian origin.

27. FEATHER
Brahui *parra* (-1).

References and notes:


28. FIRE
Brahui xaxar (1).

References and notes:


29. FISH
Brahui maqqi: (-1).

References and notes:

Brahui: Bray 1934: 197. Borrowed from Indo-Aryan (Sindhi maqqi, etc.).

30. FLY V.
Brahui bxl kann-ing # (1).

References and notes:

Brahui: Bray 1934: 62. Literally = 'to make wing' (bxl is a nominal stem glossed as 'wing; flight'); the meaning of this compound expression is glossed as 'to take wing, fly away', but it is also encountered in a few examples where the meaning is simply 'fly'.

31. FOOT
Brahui nat (1).

References and notes:

Brahui: Bray 1934: 216. No difference between 'foot' and 'leg'. Plural form: na-k (< *nat-k ?). Possibly of Indo-Aryan origin (Bray lists such forms as Sindhi lat 'leg', Oriya lattta, naxta 'kick', etc.), but the evidence is not entirely conclusive.

32. FULL
Brahui pu:ra (-1).

References and notes:

Brahui: Bray 1934: 244. Meaning glossed as 'full, complete'. Borrowed from Indo-Aryan (cf. Sindhi puro, etc.).

33. GIVE
Brahui ti-n-ing (1).

References and notes:
Brahui: Bray 1934: 288. Present stem: *e*- (most likely, suppletive, since the difference in structure is not explainable in terms of regular models). Future stem: *ti*-r. Past stem: *ti*-ss-. Negative present stem: *ti*-f-. Negative past stem: *ti*-l-.

34. GOOD
Brahui ꟝waːn (-1).

References and notes:

Brahui: Bray 1934: 151. Borrowed from Baluchi ꟝waːn. Alternately, cf. also šar 'good, beautiful' [Bray 1934: 273] (the etymology is not quite clear, but initial š- clearly indicates a non-Dravidian origin).

35. GREEN
Brahui xarr-un (1).

References and notes:

Brahui: Bray 1934: 181. Derived from the verbal root xarr- 'to sprout' [ibid.]. Cf. also guunik-i [Bray 1934: 122], derived from guunik 'shrub, whose leaves are used by nomads as a green dye' [ibid.].

36. HAIR
Brahui puṭ (1).

References and notes:

Brahui: Bray 1934: 246. No difference between 'head hair' or 'body hair'. The connection with Baluchi pʰut, mentioned by Bray, is probably accidental (the word has a much better Dravidian etymology). Alternately, cf. pužža 'human hair' [Bray 1934: 247], clearly of non-Dravidian origin, but without any evident areal connections; it is not clear whether this word also pretends to "basic" status or if it is a special stylistic variant.

37. HAND
Brahui duː (1).

References and notes:

Brahui: Bray 1934: 101. No difference between 'hand' and 'arm'.

38. HEAD
Brahui kaṭum (1).

References and notes:

39. HEAR
Brahui bin-ing (1).

References and notes:
Brahui: Bray 1934: 74. Cf. the causative stem: bin-if-ing 'to make to hear'.

40. HEART
Brahui ust ~ hust (1).

References and notes:

41. HORN
Brahui mar (1).

References and notes:
Brahui: Bray 1934: 201.

42. I
Brahui i: (1) / kan- (2).

References and notes:

43. KILL
Brahui kas-f-ing ~ kas-if-ing (1).

References and notes:
Brahui: Bray 1934: 160, 161. Regular causative formation from kah-ing 'to die' q.v. The old word xall-ing is also attested in the meaning 'to kill', but only sporadically; it seems to have been mostly preserved in the meaning 'to hit, strike, fire (a gun), throw (a stone)' [Bray 1934: 179].
44. KNEE
Brahui goːɖ (-1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 118. Presumably borrowed from Indo-Aryan (Sindhi goːɖə, etc.). Another borrowing is zən 'knee' [Bray 1934: 310], from Baluchi; it is not clear which word is the more statistically frequent. Secondary synonym: pun [Bray 1934: 244], seemingly only used in idiomatic expressions, e. g. pun-teːɬ tuːɬ 'to kneel down'.

45. KNOW
Brahui qa-iŋ (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 81. Polysemy: 'to understand / to know'. Past stem: qa-ːis-. Suppletive negative stem: tipp- ~/ titt-.

46. LEAF
Brahui pan (-1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 228. Borrowed from Baluchi pan.

47. LIE
Brahui tamm-iŋ (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 284. Polysemy: 'to fall / to lie down, lie'. Cf.: oː masun tamm-anə "he's lying on his face". Cf. leːʈ-iŋ 'to lie down' [Bray 1934: 193] (borrowed from Baluchi leːʈ-).

48. LIVER
Brahui äßigar (-1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 146. Borrowed from Baluchi wiązar.

49. LONG
Brahui mur-ɣun (1).
References and notes:

**Brahui:** Bray 1934: 211. Most likely related to *murr* 'far' q.v.; *-un* is a productive adjectival suffix, although the status of the velar component *ɣ* is not quite clear (however, it is also encountered in several other adjectives as well, cf. 'new'). Cf. also the causative verb *mur-*/*murf-* 'to make long, extend, stretch', from the same root.

50. LOUSE

Brahui *boɖ* ~ *boɟ* (-1).

References and notes:

**Brahui:** Bray 1934: 76, 77. Meaning glossed as 'louse, vermin'. Of Baluchi origin.

51. MAN

Brahui *are* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui:** Bray 1934: 54. Plural form: *ari-sk*. Meaning glossed as 'male individual, person'. Also attested in the variant *ari-ɣ* (contraction with the productive nominal suffix *-aɣ*).

52. MANY

Brahui *baːz* ~ *bʰaːz* (-1).

References and notes:

**Brahui:** Bray 1934: 68, 72. Of Baluchi origin.

53. MEAT

Brahui *su* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui:** Bray 1934: 266. Meaning glossed as 'flesh, meat'.

54. MOON

Brahui *tuc-be* (1).

References and notes:
Brahui: Bray 1934: 293. The root *tuː* is still used freely in the meaning ‘month’ [ibid.], but the word ‘moon’ is a compound formation with *beː*, possibly the original Dravidian word for ‘white’ (= Tamil *veṭ*, etc.).

55. MOUNTAIN
Brahui *maš* (1).

References and notes:


56. MOUTH
Brahui *baː* (1).

References and notes:


57. NAME
Brahui *pin* (1).

References and notes:

Brahui: Bray 1934: 236.

58. NECK
Brahui *lix* (1).

References and notes:


59. NEW
Brahui *puːs-k-un* (1).

References and notes:

Brahui: Bray 1934: 245. For peculiarities of morphological analysis, see notes on ‘long’.

60. NIGHT
Brahui *nan* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 215.

61. NOSE

Brahui *bənus* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 63. Explained by Bray as a simplification of *ba-must* 'in front of the mouth', but this internal etymology is not ideal.

62. NOT

Brahui *a*- (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 49. Negative infix in the conjugation of the verb.

63. ONE

Brahui *asi* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 56. Adjectival stem; the substantive 'one' is *asi-[Bray 1934: 57]*.

64. PERSON

Brahui *banda* (-1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 64. Also attested as *banda-y* (with the productive nominal suffix -*ay*). Meaning glossed as 'human being, creature, man'. Of Baluchi origin.

65. RAIN

Brahui *pir* (1).

References and notes:

66. RED
Brahui xi:s-un (1).

References and notes:

67. ROAD
Brahui kasar (1).

References and notes:

68. ROOT
Brahui be: x (-1).

References and notes:
Brahui: Bray 1934: 70. Of Persian origin. Meaning glossed as 'root, foundation, basis'. Secondary synonyms: (a) guʒy 'root' [Bray 1934: 121] (also a transparent borrowing, judging by the word form, but the source is unclear); (b) rota ~ rota-k 'root' [Bray 1934: 252], borrowed from Baluchi rota. It is not well understood which of the words is more basic in modern Brahui, but, in any case, all of them are of non-Dravidian origin.

69. ROUND
Brahui gird (-1).

References and notes:

70. SAND
Brahui re:k (-1).

References and notes:
71. SAY
Brahui paːŋ ~ paː-n-ŋ (1).

References and notes:

Brahui: Bray 1934: 226, 229. Imperative: pa. Present stem: pa-. Past stem: pa-re-. The original root is pa- rather than pa-n-.

72. SEE
Brahui xan-ŋ (1).

References and notes:

Brahui: Bray 1934: 180. Polysemy: 'to see / to find / to give birth'. Same root as in 'eye' q.v.

73. SEED
Brahui biʒ (1).

References and notes:


74. SIT
Brahui tuː-ŋ (1).

References and notes:

Brahui: Bray 1934: 294. Denotes both the static ('to be sitting') and the dynamic ('to be standing') meanings. Imperative: tuːɬ. Past stem: tu-c-.

75. SKIN
Brahui sil (1).

References and notes:

Brahui: Bray 1934: 263.

76. SLEEP
Brahui tuy (1).
References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 294. This is formally a nominal stem ('sleeping; dreaming'); the verbal form is complex - *tuɣ kann-ŋg*, literally 'to make sleeping'. Distinct from *xaːɕ-ŋg* 'to lie down, go to sleep' [Bray 1934: 176].

77. SMALL
Brahui *γuθu*: (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 125. Dialectal variant *γuθu* is also attested [Bray 1934: 120]. Additionally, cf. *ɕin-ak* 'small' [Bray 1934: 90], although, judging by the examples, this word is more readily used to denote age ('small' = 'young').

78. SMOKE
Brahui *moːɬ* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Cf. also *duhɔ* 'smoke' [Bray 1934: 102] (borrowed from Baluchi).

79. STAND
Brahui *sal-ŋg* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 256. Denotes both the static ('to be standing') and the dynamic ('to stand up') meanings.

80. STAR
Brahui *istaːr* (-1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 145. Borrowed from Persian.

81. STONE
Brahui *xal* (1).

References and notes:

82. SUN
Brahui de: (1).

References and notes:
Brahui: Bray 1934: 96. Polysemy: 'sun / day / time'.

83. SWIM
Brahui taːr (-1).

References and notes:
Brahui: Bray 1934: 286. This is formally a nominal stem ('swimming'); the verbal form is complex - taːr kann-ŋ, literally 'to make swimming'. Borrowed from Baluchi taːr.

84. TAIL
Brahui liːṭṭɪk (1).

References and notes:
Brahui: Bray 1934: 194. Meaning glossed as 'animal’s tail'. Distinct from the more specific buːṭr 'tail of the fat-tailed sheep' [Bray 1934: 80].

85. THAT
Brahui eː ~ heː: (1) / oː: (2).

References and notes:

86. THIS
Brahui daː: (1).

References and notes:
87. THOU
Brahui niː (1).

References and notes:

88. TONGUE
Brahui duːiː ~ duːiː (1).

References and notes:
Brahui: Bray 1934: 102, 104.

89. TOOTH
Brahui dandaːn (-1).

References and notes:

90. TREE
Brahui draxt (-1).

References and notes:

91. TWO
Brahui iraː (1).

References and notes:
Brahui: Bray 1934: 144. Adjectival form; the substantive form is iraːʈ.

92. WALK (GO)
Brahui hin-iŋ (1) / kaː (2).

References and notes:
**Brahui:** Bray 1934: 137. Infinitive stem. Bray 1934: 137. Suppletive stem of the present tense.

93. WARM (HOT)
Brahui *baːs-un* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui:** Bray 1934: 66. Polysemy: 'hot, warm'. Verbal root: cf. *baːs-ing* 'to be hot, become hot'.

94. WATER
Brahui *diːr* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui:** Bray 1934: 98.

95. WE
Brahui *nan* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui:** Bray 1934: 215.

96. WHAT
Brahui *a-nt ~ ha-nt* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui:** Bray 1934: 53, 131. Used either as substantive or adjective. The basic interrogative root is *a-*, also attested in other interrogatives (e. g. *a-nu*: 'which', etc.).

97. WHITE
Brahui *piː-un ~ piːh-un* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui:** Bray 1934: 236, 240. The suffix *-un* is a productive adjectival morpheme, but the root *piː-* is not otherwise attested in Brahui (cf. 'black').
98. WHO
Brahui de: (1).

References and notes:

Brahui: Bray 1934: 96. Plural (or pluralised) form: de-r [Bray 1934: 97].

99. WOMAN
Brahui paṭṭi: (1).

References and notes:

Brahui: Bray 1934: 233. Meaning glossed as 'female', but in some text examples the word is explicitly opposed to 'man' (= 'male human being'). Additionally, the meaning 'woman' may be expressed by the compound form paṭṭi-band, where the second part is the reduced form of banda 'person' q.v. Bray compares the word alternately with Sindhi paṭʰi: 'woman' and Dravidian peṭṭa 'female'; it is not clear which solution represents the better etymology. Cf. also zaːfa 'woman' [Bray 1934: 309], borrowed from Baluchi / Arabic.

100. YELLOW
Brahui puːš-k-un (1).

References and notes:

Brahui: Bray 1934: 246. For peculiarities of morphological analysis, see notes on 'long'.

101. FAR
Brahui murr (1).

References and notes:

Brahui: Bray 1934: 211.

102. HEAVY
Brahui kub-eːn (1).

References and notes:


103. NEAR
Brahui xuɾk (1).
References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 187. Meaning glossed as 'close at hand, close'.

104. SALT
Brahui *beː* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 68. Cf. also *nimik* 'salt' [Bray 1934: 219] (borrowed from Persian).

105. SHORT
Brahui *gwanɖ* (-1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 122. Meaning glossed as 'short (of objects)'. Borrowed from Baluchi *gwand*. Cf. also *paʈa-k* 'short, stunted' [Bray 1934: 232] (usually said of people, as opposed to 'tall' rather than 'long'); *cuʈu-k* [Bray 1934: 91]; meaning glossed as 'short, espec. of a beard'.

106. SNAKE
Brahui *duːʃa* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 103. Etymology unclear; Bray suggests borrowing either from Baluchi *duʃan* 'sting' or Sanskrit *dūṣa*- 'poison' and also mentions the folk etymology that derives the word from *duː(i)* 'tongue' + *ʃaːŋ* 'to throw', i. e. 'tongue-thrower; biter'.

107. THIN
Brahui *uʃ-k-un* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 303. Meaning glossed as 'slender; narrow', but attested examples show that the word fits the semantic properties of 'thin' (e. g. may be applied to individual hairs, etc.). Alternately, cf. *tana-k* 'thin' [Bray 1934: 285], borrowed from Baluchi and not confirmed by textual examples.

108. WIND
Brahui *tahoː* (1).
References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 282. Secondary synonym: *hava* [Bray 1934: 134], borrowed from Arabic.

109. WORM
Brahui *puː* (1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 248. Polysemy: 'worm / maggot / caterpillar'.

110. YEAR
Brahui *saːl* (-1).

References and notes:

**Brahui**: Bray 1934: 256. Borrowed from Persian.