

[Text version of database, created 29/09/2017].

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

Languages included: Aasax [scu-asa].

DATA SOURCES

General.

Ehret 1980 = Ehret, Christopher. 1980. *The Historical Reconstruction of Southern Cushitic Phonology and Vocabulary*. Berlin: Dietrich Reimer Verlag. // *Comparative phonology and etymology of South Cushitic languages. Contains some language data from previously unpublished sources, most importantly J. C. Winter's recordings of Aasax from 1974.*

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.

I.1. General.

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 *ɬ*; (b) affricates: *j* > UTS *ʃ*; (c) laryngeals: *ʕ* > UTS *ʕ*.

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

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1. ALL

Aasax *wataka* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 311, 386.

2. ASHES

Aasax *wura-to* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 279, 387.

3. BARK

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

4. BELLY

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

5. BIG

Aasax =*žira* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 188, 386.

6. BIRD

Aasax *širaʔa* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 226, 386.

7. BITE

Aasax *žalas-* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 193, 388.

8. BLACK

Aasax =*biasa* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 388.

9. BLOOD

Aasax *sa?aka* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 179, 386.

10. BONE

Aasax *far-it* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 150, 386.

11. BREAST

Aasax *liba* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 205. The form for 'female breast' is quoted as *isank* [Ehret 1980: 387].

12. BURN TR.

Aasax *daʔ-* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 345, 388.

13. CLAW (NAIL)

Aasax *seŋ-et* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 387.

14. CLOUD

Aasax *buʃurita* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 387.

15. COLD

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

16. COME

Aasax *dah-* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 164, 388.

17. DIE

Aasax *ga-* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 263, 388.

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, Kiv'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:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 189, 388.

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 *haža-t* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 387. Same word as 'sand' q.v.

23. EAT

Aasax *ʔag-* ~ *ʔag-im-* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 275, 387.

24. EGG

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

25. EYE

Aasax *ila-t* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 291, 387.

26. FAT N.

Aasax *ʔoreʔ-ek* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 386.

27. FEATHER

Aasax *seʔem-uk* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 386. Same word as 'hair' q.v.

28. FIRE

Aasax *yogo-t* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 318, 387.

29. FISH

Aasax *siŋiri* (-1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 386. Borrowed from Maasai (cf. Maasai *o=siŋkĩrr-ĩ* id.).

30. FLY V.

Aasax *ʒiʒit-* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 351, 388. Polysemy: 'to jump / to fly'.

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 *yeʔh* 'foot' in [Maguire 1928: 259].

32. FULL

Aasax *haš-* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 381, 388.

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:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 284, 388. Polysemy: 'good / ripe'.

35. GREEN

Aasax =ǰareta (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 354, 388.

36. HAIR

Aasax seʔem-uk (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 386.

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 *moŋgo* 'hand' in [Maguire 1928: 259].

38. HEAD

Aasax sog-ok (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 350, 387. Quoted as *sogo^k* in [Maguire 1928: 259].

39. HEAR

Aasax has- (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 288, 388. Synonym: *yot-* [ibid.].

40. HEART

Aasax *mon-ok* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 159, 387.

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:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 263, 388. Causative formation from *ga-* 'to die' q.v.

44. KNEE

Aasax *ηulu-et* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 239, 387.

45. KNOW

Aasax *šah-* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 174, 388.

46. LEAF

Aasax *debiya* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 190, 386.

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:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 345, 387.

49. LONG

Aasax *ʒada* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 195.

50. LOUSE

Aasax *ʔita* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 290, 386.

51. MAN

Aasax *hat-uk* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 386. Entirely different word found in [Maguire 1928: 259]: *kinde*.

52. MANY

Aasax =šaʔi (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 229, 386.

53. MEAT

Aasax ʔaga (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 275, 386. A nominal derivative from ʔag- 'to eat' q.v.

54. MOON

Aasax *leh-ek* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 212, 387. Quoted as *leheuk* in [Maguire 1928: 259].

55. MOUNTAIN

Aasax *deʔ-ok* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 359, 387. Same word as 'stone' q.v.

56. MOUTH

Aasax *af-ok* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 281, 387.

57. NAME

Aasax *?im-ok* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 377, 387.

58. NECK

Aasax *mirut* (-1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 387. Borrowed from Maasai (cf. Maasai *e=mirut* id.). C. Ehret also quotes the older form, *isa-t*, from Merker's data [Ehret 1980: 283].

59. NEW

Aasax *=?amba* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 376, 388.

60. NIGHT

Aasax *eramesa* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 270, 387; Maguire 1928: 259.

61. NOSE

Aasax *iriŋa* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 192, 387. Quoted as *etinga* in [Maguire 1928: 259].

62. NOT

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

63. ONE

Aasax *kinde* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 244, 386. Polysemy: 'one / alone'. Quoted as *kindeĩ* in [Maguire 1928: 258].

64. PERSON

Aasax *?idu-k* (1).

References and notes:

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

65. RAIN

Aasax *miž-ok* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 153, 387.

66. RED

Aasax =*huma* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 304, 388. Secondary synonym: =*dili?i* [Ehret 1980: 346].

67. ROAD

Aasax *šimu-t* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 387. Meaning glossed as 'path'.

68. ROOT

Aasax *mogɛŋɛra* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 343, 386.

69. ROUND

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

70. SAND

Aasax *haʒa-t* (1).

References and notes:

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

71. SAY

Aasax *šah-* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 326, 388.

72. SEE

Aasax *?adam-* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 286, 388.

73. SEED

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

74. SIT

Aasax *ʔamim-* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 368, 388. Polysemy: 'to sit / to stay'.

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:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 316, 386.

78. SMOKE

Aasax *toʔusay-ok* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 387. The same word is transcribed as *tuʔusayok* on p. 172 *ibid.*

79. STAND

Aasax *hut-* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 388.

80. STAR

Aasax *?alalaya* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 368, 387.

81. STONE

Aasax *de?-ok* (1).

References and notes:

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

82. SUN

Aasax *?aʒ-it* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 387. The same word is quoted as *?aʒ-et* on p. 284 *ibid.*, along with the presumably related *?aʒota* 'day' and *?aʒa* 'sky' (root *?aʒ-*). Quoted as *aʒit* in [Maguire 1928: 259].

83. SWIM

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

84. TAIL

Aasax *hesa* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 379, 386.

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:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 196, 387.

89. TOOTH

Aasax liga (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 292, 387.

90. TREE

Aasax *kašij* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 235, 386. Polysemy: 'wood / piece of wood / tree'.

91. TWO

Aasax *lam* (1).

References and notes:

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

92. WALK (GO)

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested, except for the imperative form *nde* '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:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 270. Meaning glossed as 'hot'.

94. WATER

Aasax *maʔa* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 156, 387.

95. WE

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

96. WHAT

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

97. WHITE

Aasax =*abaka* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 376, 388.

98. WHO

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

99. WOMAN

Aasax *mayi-to* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 386. Quoted as *maito* in [Maguire 1928: 259].

100. YELLOW

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

101. FAR

Aasax *sarja* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 350.

102. HEAVY

Aasax *daʔara* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 165.

103. NEAR

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

104. SALT

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

105. SHORT

Aasax *ʔumara* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 254.

106. SNAKE

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

107. THIN

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

108. WIND

Aasax *šoʔ-ok* (1).

References and notes:

Aasax: Ehret 1980: 173.

109. WORM

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.

110. YEAR

References and notes:

Aasax: Not attested.