

# Preliminary report on the Kyanga and Shanga, by Dr Ross McCallum Jones, July 2010 KYANGA (TYE)

## 1.0 Name

Many names have been used for this ethnic group including Kyanga, Kyenga, Tyenga, Tienga and Changa. Kyanga is the name they call themselves and also the name (plural Kyangawa) that the Hausa, the dominant language group of the area, call them, so this would seem to be the most suitable name. The transcription Tienga/Tyenga/Tchenga is used in francophone countries, so the Dendi also call them Tyenga. The Busa and Bokobaru also call them Kyanga, while in Boko this has weakened to Kēa. The Yoruba pronounce their name Changa.

## 2.0 Language

Classification: Niger-Congo, Mande, Eastern, Busa

There are almost certainly more than 200,000 ethnic Kyanga living in Nigeria, Niger and Benin, but most have assimilated to other languages on all sides. North of the Niger River in Kebbi State, Nigeria, around 110,000 Kyanga have assimilated to Hausa. To the west in Niger Republic 70,000 have assimilated to Zarma. To the west in Benin Republic 15,000 have assimilated to Dendi. In four Busa villages south of Illo 3000 have assimilated to Busa. Further south another 2000 have assimilated to Boko. West of Illo only 7,000 Kyanga still speak their language in four Nigerian villages and one village in Benin

The Kyanga north of the Niger River in Niger Republic now all speak Zarma and Hausa, shifting to Hausa in Nigeria. Those living in Boko villages now speak Boko, and the Kyanga who make up half the population of four Busa speaking villages south of Illo all speak Busa. In the Kyanga speaking villages Kyanga is still spoken in the home, but boys in the street can be heard speaking in Hausa. The vocabulary is limited and words like “elephant” and “trousers” are often only known by Hausa loanwords and the verb “to pray” is from Dendi.

The main Kyanga speaking villages in Nigeria are Kasati, Tondi, Tungan Bage and Sarafu. There is one village in Benin Republic called Tungan Noma. There are also two hamlets with less than 100 Kyanga speakers each, Tungan Sarakifawa near Tungan Bage and Samba near the Busa speaking town of Gilanzana.

100 km to the east in Shanga local government area there are about 20,000 Shanga people of whom about 7,000 still speak the language. They have closely related to the Kyanga with 78% lexical similarity, and 70% with the Busa group, the latter being much higher than previously thought.

The geographical coordinates for Illo, Bagudo LGA, Kebbi State, Nigeria are 11° 33' 0" North, 3° 42' 0" East

### **Details on the distribution of the Kyanga.**

#### **Those who speak Kyanga            Approx. 7000**

Only 4,800 speakers exist in 5 locations in Bagudo LGA, Kebbi state, Nigeria & in one location in Benin Republic. These villages are 95 to 99% Kyanga.

Kasati (including Binji and Tungan Maigirbi)	1700
Tungan Bage (including Tungan Yāma)	1500
Tondi	800
Sarhu (including Tungan Sarikinfawa)	800
Samba	100
Tungun Noma in Benin	1800

Kasati is said to have the purest form of Kyanga. Tondi people can't speak long without using Hausa or Zarma words. Tungan Noma and Sarfu are more influenced by Hausa and Dendi. As an example of the ethnic mixing that can occur in this area, an informant in Tungan Bage speaks Kyanga, Hausa and Zarma fluently and also knows a little English. His mother is Zarma, but speaks only Kyanga, while his father is Busa and speaks Kyanga and Hausa.

#### **Map of Kyanga speaking villages**

Control click on the following web address, then click "my maps".

<http://maps.google.com.au/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&hl=en&msa=0&ll=11.56278,3.652611&spn=0.221994,0.357056&t=h&z=12>

#### **One hundred Kyanga villages**

Recorded here are the names of nearly one hundred towns and villages where the Kyanga live. There are bound to be others. Population figures are all estimates as Nigeria does not ask questions about ethnicity in a census. Local Government Area (LGA) figures are from the 2006 census.

#### **Kyanga population estimates:**

The ethnic Kyanga population is estimated at 216,500, scattered over three countries and two states in Nigeria as follows:

## Kebbi State

Bunza LGA	3 villages, Bunza 10%, Zogirma 5%, Raha, 5%	500
Suru LGA	3 villages, Dallingari 10%, Giro 3%, Tinifai 15%	250
Maiyama LGA	1 village, Mangadi 25	150
Birnin Kebbi		500
Bagudo LGA		20,000
Dandi LGA		110,000
Niger state	2 Boko villages, Pisa, Konkwesso (5%)	100
Benin Republic		15,000
Niger Republic		<u>70,000</u>
Total:		216,500

**Bagudo LGA** 2006 Pop. 238,014 (27 villages) Kyanga 20,000

The Kyanga live in the Illo district south of the Niger River in the following towns and villages. Most of them speak Hausa as their primary language. Others have assimilated to Busa, Boko or Zarma and Dendi. They live in the following localities:

The section of Illo called Kirkasa

About 5000 Kyanga live east of Illo:

Geshuru (Gɛsɔɾɔ 99% Kyanga, pop. 2000, a few people over 70 can speak Kyanga. 300 people died in a measles epidemic between 1962-64 and the village moved from Tungan Jatau, closer to Illo, to the present site, because they feared the old place and even their own language.

Gatawani (800), Kanshiba 90% and Sabongari.

South of Illo: Dogondaji, Kangiwa 50%

About 2000 live in Boko villages:

Samia (200), Bakinrua (400), 50% Kabaka, a hamlet near Tsamia, Sainji (35%), Kokani (200), Zubaa, Ilɔɔni, Litɛnswa, Kakadu (Gbɛnɛna), Zatɛɔna. These Kyanga all speak Boko as their primary language apart from 6 Kyanga speakers at Bakinrua where the chief is also Kyanga.

About 3000 ethnic Kyanga live in Busa villages, but now speak only Busa.

Sambe, Gilanzana, Bani, Kali are 50% ethnic Kyanga.

About 2000 ethnic Kyanga live west of Illo at a town called Lollo (50%).

Another 4,800 Kyanga speakers live in 5 villages west of Illo as detailed above.

**Dandi LGA** Pop. (2006 census) 146,211 Estimated 75% Kyanga = 110,000

Hausa is their first language, with Zarma becoming stronger in the west. The following percentages for 36 villages are estimated Kyanga populations according to some local leaders.

Kamba 60%	Kyangakwai 99%	Kwakkwaba 99%
Fana 87%	Buma 80%	Fingila 98%
Geza 60%	Tungan Bana 98%	Maidaji 95%
Nibo 70%	Tungan Je	Tungan Muza 70%
Tungan Rafi 78%	Tungan Innami 98%	Tungan Kokoni 90%
Tungan Sule 98%	Tungan Noma 98%	Tungun Robo 80%
Tungan Noma Mado 98%	Tungan Zagi 70%	Fagen Mata 98%
Gamana 80%	Shiko 70%	Onah 80%
Cidakai 80%	Gorun Barmu 89%	Gorun Yamma 80%
Dorun Mallam 70%	Sabon Gari 70%	Wayekai 98%
Dore Kaina 50%	Tsika 50%	Danbauri 50%
Dogongaji 50%	Godabe 80%	Diggi 85%

Hausa speaking Kaba people migrated to Dandi LGA and compete for leadership. Some villages have Kaba chiefs because they cooperated with the colonialists when the then pagan Kyanga resisted them.

**Benin Republic** Estimated Kyanga population: Kyanga 15,000

There are at least 19 villages with a majority Kyanga population and a combined population of about 15,000. Dendi, which is closely related to Zarma is their first language, followed by Hausa.

Tungun Noma	Kassa	Galú	Galú Teegi
Mookasa	Kubɛeri (Banitɛ)	Kwara Teegi	Sɔmba Kwara
Kantoro	Tolozugu	Boifo	Koki
Genɛgaabi	Karimama	(Sarfu	Sarakifawa)

The last two villages may be in Nigeria, but according to my positioning in Google maps, they are in Benin. The following three small Kyanga villages (no Kyanga speakers) are further south towards the the Boko town of Lougou

Tungan Goge	Balalanga	Tungan Karnai
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Many Dendi in the Karimama/Malanville/Guéné area may have been originally Kyanga.

**Niger Republic (13)** Mallam Idrissa estimates Kyanga population as 70,000.

Garçon Loïc (1998 pp. 143-5) claims that 1% Niger's 9 million population in 1998 was Tienga, that is 90,000 people. They speak Dendi and live in the Gaya region. Further research is needed to clarify this number.

There are at least 13 villages with significant Kyanga populations. Their first language is Hausa and their second language is Zarma.

Bana	Gatswani	Gisawa	Tunuga
Yelou	Tungun Shanga	Gaya	Bengou
Sabon Birni	Malgoni	Rungan Gyade	Gwandani
Dole Faransi			

Maps of south-west Niger Republic include villages such as Tyenga and Tyenga Simiti and Tyenga Koara, and a nearby village in Burkina Faso called Tyanga. Their connection with Kyanga needs to be researched.

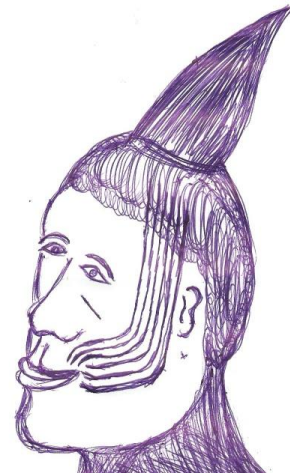
### 3.0 Sociolinguistics

It has already been mentioned that the majority of Kyanga have already assimilated to Hausa and to a lesser extent Zarma, Dendi, Busa and Boko. Nearly everyone in the Kyanga speaking villages speak Hausa & Dendi/Zarma, even old people. They don't speak for long without using Hausa or Zarma words. There are new Zarma settlements in the area. A principal cause of language loss is intermarriage with Hausa women, because their children no longer learn Kyanga in the home.

There are four clans of Kyanga: Shiba, Mishira, Kosoro and Saaki. They all speak the same language, but their body markings, especially facial scars, differ according to clan.



**SAAKI**



**SHIBA**

**KOSORO****MISIRA**

They have seven parallel scars on the right of the face and six on the left, beginning diagonally from the crown of the head to the top of the ears, then vertically down to the bottom of the ears, and then diagonally forward, converging towards the mouth. The Mishira may have chicken foot markings on the body and are also called Baragu Kyanga (Borgu Kyanga). Kosoro (Kɔsɔrɔ) have a V scar between the eyebrows and on the outside of the eyes. Saaki have 3 vertical lines /// anywhere on the body in addition to normal markings.

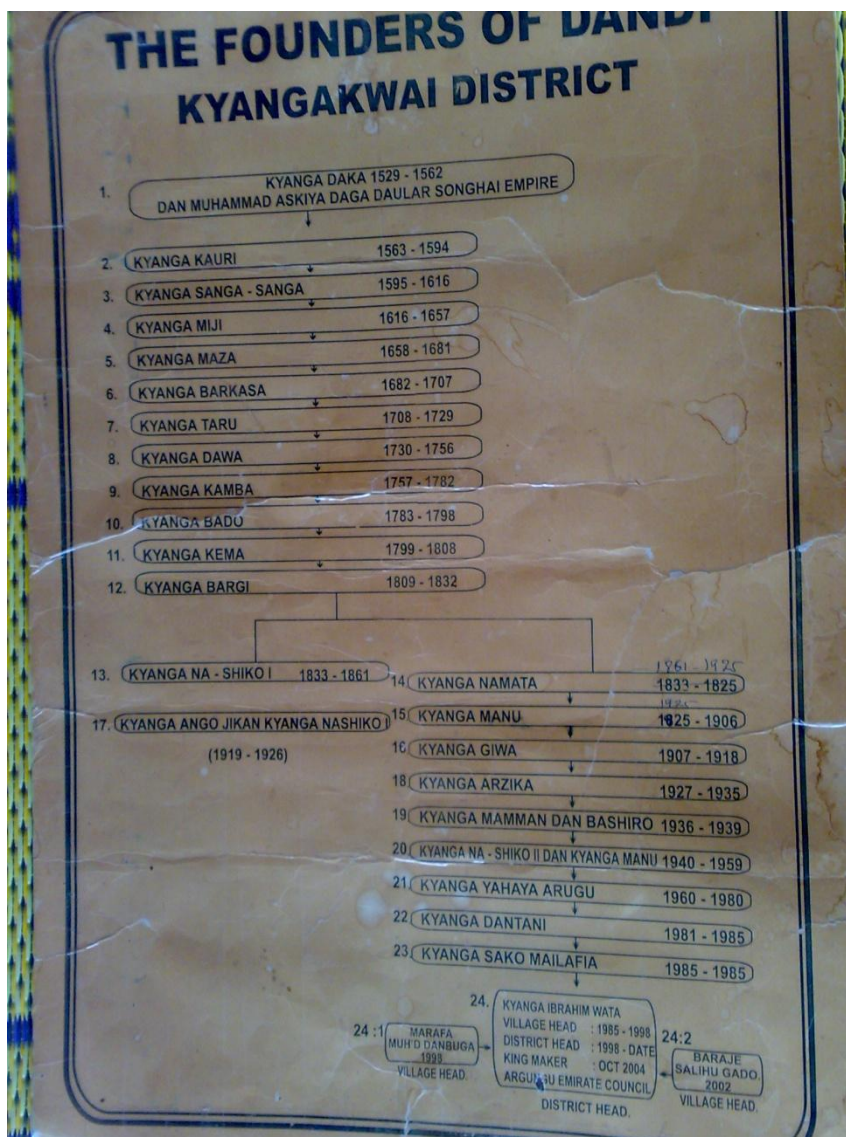
#### **4.0 History**

The Shiba are reported to have come from Badr in Saudi Arabia and call their chief Bede. The other 3 groups are said to come from Misira (Egypt). Thus they share in the Kisira legend that is so strong among the Boko/Busa people of Borgu and other groups in Nigeria. According to this legend some ancestors fled from Mohammed and Islam in the Middle East and eventually settled in Borgu, intermarrying with the local inhabitants (Boko). It may be true that some people came from the Middle East and intermarried with Mande people, but it is not feasible to think of a West African Mande tribe like the Kyanga as having originated from there. Linguistically all languages related to Kyanga and the Boko/Busa group are to the West of them

The Kyanga regard Mali Beri, a Zarma, as an ancestor.

According to Olivier Walther in "Affaires de patron, villes et commerce transfrontalier au Sahel" New York 2008, the genealogy of the Kyanga chiefs of Kyangakwai is well

documented and kept up to date by the court of the District Head, Kyanga Inrahim Wata. Here is a photo of that document.



### The Kyanga and the salt trade

“Salt of the desert sun” by Paul R Lovejoy, African Studies series No. 46, 2003, gives some interesting details of Kyanga involvement in the salt trade. I quote page 170: “Most of the Dallol Fogha, Dallol Bosso, and the numerous salines of the river valleys north-east of the Niger River were incorporated into the Sokoto Caliphate in the nineteenth century. ... The proprietors of the tunga came from the Tienga population in the lower Dallol Fogha. ... The Tienga, the oldest inhabitants of valley, claim to have come from Tiengakouey.” Page 174: “Information on the distribution of salt in Dallol Fogha also suggests that proprietors took a significant proportion of output. In 1909, Marsaud found that the Tienga owners in

southern Dallol Fogha took a third.” Page 217-8: “As for the western trade, Baikie learned in 1862 that Dallol Fogha salt ‘supplies the whole caravan road to Gonja.’ Kebbi merchants, among others, took salt to Nupe, Ilorin and the middle Volta basin in exchange for kola. ... In the nineteenth century, however, the kola traders from Kano, Katsina and elsewhere were the main exporters of Dallol Fogha salt. In 1905 Loffler found that Tounouga and Gaya were major markets in this exchange; caravans brought textiles and leather goods from the east to exchange for salt. ... Other traders from the west and south also came to the Dallols, particularly the Wangara merchants of the various Bariba towns (Nikki, Bussa, Kiama). ... People came as far away as Yoruba country and Nupe, as well as Borgu.” Page 221: “The only other saline for which there is early information is Dallol Fogha, where radio-carbon dates indicate the presence of a salt industry in c. 1600. The close association between Dallol Fogha and Kebbi confirms this dating, and the tradition that salt production was first produced by the Tienga suggests that production may have begun even earlier, probably during the period of Songay ascendancy in the sixteenth century or earlier still.”

The following details are to be checked with known history: Ouna, Sagare, Abonna and Yemgbere migrated after the battle of Haibara. They crossed the Red Sea and settled in Mali. Ancestors of Kyanga were Mali Beri, born Zabar Kani and Sogara, born Kyanga Manu. Both are Saki clan. Dura is the ancestor of Shiba. He went to Maiduguri and met an ancestor of the Busawa and migrated to Borgu. Yemgbere is the ancestor of Misra who migrated to Kumbo, now Malanville. Abonna is ancestor of Kosoro who stayed with Sogara in Mali. From Mali they spread to present day Niger, Benin and Nigeria in places called Soko, Kano, Mungadi, Dakingari, Bunza, Heme, Illo, Tondi, Kasaci, Lolo, Bani Sambe, Tsamiya, Bakin Ruwa etc in Nigeria. In Niger: Tunuga, Bana, Yallu, Malgoru, Sobon Birni, Sokonki Birni, Gaya etc. In Benin: Kandi, Parakou, Malanville, Kwara Legi, Garui etc. Kyanga were the first to inhabit these places.)

The following information is from Ali Mohammed, Tondi, June 2010.

About 200 years ago there was a war between Tondi and Madikali over a period of time. The Tondi leader was Gaya Bage, the Madikali leader Sule Madikali. Madikali attacked and plundered Kasati and took some captives as slaves. Then Gaya Bage, the leader of Tondi, attacked them at a place called Komba. Gaya Bage defeated Madikali. Another defeat took place at Kodorko. Sule lost his soldiers and his younger brother Kpakpako who was killed by Noma Gowa of Tondi. 3 years later Kasati with their leader Bede went to a mountain to worship their traditional god Tungo. Sule attacked and killed Bede and cut off his head and took it to Madikali. They lost the battle because they had left their weapons at the bottom of the mountain. Gaya Bage then invited people of old Kasati to move to Tondi which they did for 5 years. 5 months later there was a 3rd conflict in a place called Taka Tsoke between Madikali and Tondi. Noma Gowa shot Sule in the arm



with an arrow and he fled to Lolo for 2 weeks. Gaya Bage prepared to burn Lolo and Sule fled back to Madikali.

Around 1925-34 a European explorer by the name of Mai Wodon Karfe passed through Tondi, Illo and on to Birnin Kebbi.

Fall of Tondi.

About 1940-41 there was a chieftancy problem between the grandfather of Haruna Alaji Tsaka and the grandfather of Abubakr Dukiya. They were brothers and refused to agree when the junior brother, the grandfather of Haruna succeeded. The grandfather of Abubakr got traditional medicine and tied it on a monkey which crossed the town of Tondi and made it fall. The people deserted to Sarahu, Kasa, Tungan Noma and Tungan Bage and Tungan Goge. All those villages began as a result of the crossing of that monkey.

It is generally believed that the Kyanga preceded the Boko in northern Borgu. Mallam Idris claims that Kyanga came from Mali and have a royal ancestor in the person of Askia Mohammed of Songhai empire. Kasati people say they came from Misira (Egypt) or Badr in Saudi Arabia, but this is of course not possible. No African tribes have originated in the Middle East. What was the relationship between the Kyanga and the Songai empire?

## 5.0 Culture

All Kyanga have substantial facial markings, 6 long scars on left and 7 on right from top of head to mouth with a change of direction at top and bottom of ears. The number of parallel scars may vary from 5 to 10. Some children are still receiving scars. The Zarma tribe have similar markings, as do the Shanga, who are closely related to the Kyanga.

There are several clans: Shiba are mainly at Kasati, Saaki have 3 vertical parallel scars on body as well as the above marks. Kosoro (Kɔsɔrɔ) have downward pointing chicken foot scar (3 points, sometimes 2) on lower forehead between eyes and on outside edges of eyes, Misiri have the same, but upward pointing. These are Barigu Kyanga. A diagonal scar under eye is called "bule". Male circumcision is practised, but not female.

Hunting has always been an important in their culture. Wrestling has also been an important cultural practise, done with spiked bracelets. Most young men still wrestle after millet harvest and on holidays but no longer with bracelets. Some youth still die from broken necks after being violently thrown to the ground. Beer drinking was a common pastime in the old culture before Islam.

## 6.0 Religion

Most Kyanga became Muslims during the past 70 years ago (as did the Boko/Busa people). Animism is the traditional religion and animal sacrifice, divination, black magic, demon possession and beer drinking were common in the last generation.

## 7.0 Phonology

As with other Mande languages of Nigeria and Benin there are 7 oral vowels, 5 of which have a nasalised form:

### Vowels

i	e	ɛ	a	ɔ	o	u
ĩ		ẽ	ã	õ		ũ/Ŋ

### Consonants

	Labial	Alevolar	Velar	Glottal
Plosives	b	d	g	gb
	p	t/c	k	kp
Fricatives		f/h	s/š	‘
	v	z/ž/j		
Nasals	m	n/ŋ		
Fluids	w	l/r	y/ñ	
<b>Syllabic nasal</b>	ṁ/	ṅ/	ŋ	

1. Utterance final /ũ/ is generally pronounced as (ṁ).
2. The glottal stop is a regular Kyanga consonant, but it is not written word initially in the orthography. Medially it is represented by the apostrophe.
3. Medial (d, t, l/r) are flapped. With the (l/r) opposition, only (l) occurs initially and (r) occurs intervocally, but morphemes that begin with (l) will maintain (l) intervocally and will be reduplicated with (l). Some loanwords have (l) intervocally, which is maintained. At least one loanword begins with (r). Clitic postposition which are suffixed are realised as (ru, ra). So both (l/r) are regarded as phonemes and written in the orthography.
4. /l,n/ are allophones of the same phoneme, but both are written to conform with the phonology of other languages. Their distribution is mutually exclusive as in the Boko/Busa languages, with /l/ being followed by oral vowels, while /n/ is followed by nasal vowels, although the nasalisation is not as strong as after other consonants.
5. All plosives and the liquids/y,w/ are prenasalised to varying degrees when followed by nasal vowels, depending on the consonant and the speaker. /y/ is completely prenasalised and is always realised as /ñ/ before nasal vowels, but is written in the orthography as (y) with a nasal vowel following. Prenasalisation of /w/ is heard with some speakers. /b, p, gb, kp/ are rather strongly postnasalised, while /d, t, g, k/ can be strongly nasalised by some speakers. This pre and post nasalisation is not shown in the phonetic representation of words in the dictionary nor in the orthography.
6. /s, z/ are consistently palatalised before the front vowels /i, e, ɛ/ z > ž s > š

As this is a consistent variation caused by the environment, it does not need to be shown in the orthography. The word for “take”, pronounced (shí) can be written simply as (sí) and the word for “road” (žéré) can be written simply as (zéré). A further transition of (ž) to (j) occurs, but is not consistent. Words generally pronounced with (j) will be written with (j), otherwise (z). There are some exceptional /ša/ words which need to be written in the orthography as /sh/.

7. In a similar way there is a transition from t > c before the front vowels /i, e, ε/. Again this is not consistent, so the dictionary has chosen the letter which is most commonly used.

8. Kyanga syllables are all open, although some consist of a syllabic nasal.

9. Consonant clusters are restricted to the following nasal plus plosive combinations /nd, nt, nc, ng, nk, nkp) plus /ky, kw/. The word for “blind man” /vìà/ may sound like (vyà) and “rabbit” /hūí/ like (hwí), but these isolated cases are interpreted as being bisyllabic.

10. Most Boko/Busa words with /p/ have changed to /f/ in Kasati, and to /h/ in other Kyanga villages.

11. The syllabic nasal (Ń) is always homorganic with the following consonant. It is written as /m/ before /p, b/, and as /n/ before all other consonants. In the phonetic representations in the dictionary the velar syllabic nasal is written as /ŋ/.

### Hausarisation

Hausa conjunctions like /ama/ “but”, and /sai/ “then, until, only” are borrowed, plus quite a few nouns. The Hausa negation marker /ba/ has also been assimilated.

Palatisation and reticence to use /p/ can also be attributed to Hausa usage.

### Tone

There are three lexical tones in Boko, High, Mid and Low. Every syllable in the Kyanga language has a tone, but the tones are not always written in the orthography. An acute accent is written on the first vowel or syllabic nasal of words that are exclusively high or begin with two high tones. Mid tones are not shown. A grave accent is written on the first vowel or syllabic nasal of words that are exclusively low tone, or begin with two low tones. In comparison with Boko/Busa many words have lost their tone. Polysyllabic nouns tend to be all mid tone. There are 3 level tones - high (H), mid (M) and (L). No tone spreading of pronoun to verb (as in Boko) was detected.

### Alphabet

Tones	˘ ˙
Vowels	a, ã, e, ε, ě, i, ĩ, ɔ, õ, o, u, ũ
Consonants	b, d, f, g, gb, h, k, kp, l, m, n, p, r, s, sh, t, v, w, y, z, ’
Syllabic nasal	m, n

Only pronouns and suffixes may begin with a vowel. All other words begin with a consonant. However initial glottal stop is not shown in the orthography. Medially it is represented by an apostrophe.

### Nasalisation

Nasalisation is indicated by the presence of a tilde ( ã ) over the vowel and with tones as ( á, à ). It is not written after nasal consonants because in this position the nasalisation is weak and there is no contrast between nasal and oral vowels. With long vowels and vowel clusters nasalisation is indicated by writing the tilde on the first vowel. The affect of nasalisation will continue through the following adjacent vowels, except 'o' and 'e' which are never nasalised.

### 8.0 Broad characteristics of Kyanga grammar

- Basic word order is Subject, Object, Verb.
- Aspect/tense/auxiliary markers follow the subject.
- There is no case system or noun classes.
- There is no dual or gender system.
- There is no genuine passive. It is expressed by using indefinite subject pronouns.
- There are seven oral and five nasal vowels.
- Syllables are open, but may close with a syllabic nasal.
- All grammatical categories have a three way lexical tone contrast: H, M & L.
- Morphologically economic, most words being mono-morphemic
- There is a productive pattern of nominal compounding.
- Genitive precedes governing noun.
- Adjective follows noun and precedes other modifiers.
- Most adpositions are postpositions.
- Adverbs follows the predicate.
- Mood markers are sentence final.
- There is pervasive logophoricity.

### 9.0 Personal pronouns

	1s	2s	3s	3sLog	3sInan.	1p	2p	3p	3pLog.
Object	ma	n	ì	a	a	wo	a	à	
Possessive	ma	n	ì	a	a	wo	a	à	nnɔ
Contrastive	mani	nni	ìni	ani		wonina	anina	ànina	

Log. = Logophoric pronoun which is coreferent with the subject of the sentence.

- Ex. Ì yà a dazɔ. 'He went with his mother.'  
 Ì kè mà yaazɔ. 'He told me to go with him.'

**Subject pronouns**

	1s	2s	3s	3sLog.	1p	2p	3p	3Indef(Log)
Past	ma	n	(i)	a	wa	a	à	wò
Stative	má	ń	ì	a	wó	á	à	wò
Subjunctive	mà	̀	ina	ana	wò	à	ana	wòna
Future	má	ń	ì	a	wó	á	à	wò
Present	mai	mbi	ii/bi	ai	wai	ai	ài	wài
Probability	mana	nna	(i)na	ana	wona	ana	ana	wòna
Habitual	máta	náta	(i)ta	ata	wóta	áta	àta	wòta
Habitual Neg.	mabata	nibata	(i)bata	abata	wobata	abata	àbata	wòbata
Past Neg.	maci	nci	(i)ci	aci	woci	aci	àci	wòci

Continuous Affix *gũ* to all but Past and Present pronouns.

Pronouns in brackets are omitted directly after a Noun Phrase

Relative pronoun: *ka*

**10.0 Tenses/Aspect markers**

Past	L on verb root
Future	H on pronoun, /à/ on verb
Future neg.	/ba/ on pronoun and verb. Pronoun after NP
Present	/bi/ after NP (contracts to i after most pronouns), /à/ on verb
Present neg.	/babi/ on pronoun and /ba/ after verb
Stative	H on 1p & 2p pronouns. Pronoun after NP. L on 3p verb.
Habitual	H and /tá/ on 1p & 2p pronouns, /tà/ on 3p pronouns
Subjunctive/Imperative	L on 1p & 2p pronouns, /na/ on 3p pronouns
Subjunctive cont.	/gũ/ on pronoun
Unaccomplished	/ci/ on pronouns and /ba/ after verb. L on verb root.
Habitual Neg aspect	/batà/ on pronouns/ and /ba/ after verb
Conditional	/nà/ on pronoun and /à/ on verb (= if/when)
Probability	/nà/ after pronoun/NP (might/should)

**11.0 Verb construction**

There are many compound verbs with a generic noun object.

Ex. *dīkε* “work”      *ni’i* “bear child”      *kusūkpetε* “kneel”

Participle form -na      Ex. *dīkena* “working”

Actor form -nadi with L on verb root      Ex. *dīkenadi* “worker”

The tone on verb roots changes in the Past and Unaccomplished tenses, the first syllable becoming Low. If the lexical tone on the first syllable of a polysyllabic verb root is already Low, then the second syllable becomes Low. In the orthography verbs in Past tense are distinguished by a grave accent over the first vowel.

Ex.              *má kèà* 'I will do it.'              *ma kè* 'I did it.'

In Present and Future tenses the verb is suffixed by -à. If the final vowel is a front vowel /i,e,ε/ the pronunciation of the following consonants will be palatalised /t, d, k, g, kp, gb, c, j, ' , s, z/ with illision of the front vowel.

Ex. kε + à = kyà                      sí + à = shà

To avoid confusion the verb should be written normally even though it is pronounced differently.

### Postpositions

There are 6 clitic postpositions that are suffixed to object pronouns and Noun Phrases.

ji	“near”	ma	“on/to”	ni	“to/for”
ru	“in”	ra	“over/more than”	zɔ	“with”

Other postpositions are nominal. Ex. cucɛlu “under”, mùsú “above”

### 12.0 Compound nouns

Following are common suffixes used to make compound nouns in Boko. Not all the possible compounds are shown in the dictionary. Words with these affixes are listed under the initial root. The phonetic representation of words with these affixes is not always shown.

-na (nà)	participle	bona “exit”	zākɛna “marriage”
-bɔ (bò)	instrument	yāhibɔ “microphone”	
-ci	black	guci “darkness”	lahoci “deep forest”
-ke	state	nɔɔkε “beauty”	sarake “equality”
-gu	place	wēmigu “drinking place”	dīikenagu “work place”
-hu	white	sēhu “leopard”	ēnehu “house rat”
-nadi	actor	dīikenadi “worker”	kwacinadi “householder”
-tē	red/brown	obitē “patas monkey”	zōtē “catfish”

### 13.0 Counting

In counting the following numbers, they will take the nominal final vowel length, but after a count noun they are pronounced short.

1 du	6 sósdu	11 koriawérédu	16 koriawérésósdu
2 hia	7 sósɥia	12 koriawéréɥia	17 koriawérésósɥia
3 'à	8 sósɥà	13 koriawéré'à	18 koriawérésósɥà
4 sí	9 sósí	14 koriawérésósí	19 koriawérésósí
5 sósɥu	10 kori	15 koriawérésósɥu	20 keedu
25 keròsósɥu	30 keròkòri	40 keehia	50 keehia akòrižò
60 kee'à	80 keesí	100 keesósɥu	

#### 14.0 Format of the Kyanga dictionary

Kyanga words are followed by the phonetic representation in square brackets, including all tones. Then follows the grammatical category, for which the abbreviations used are listed below. The meaning in English is sometimes followed by an example sentence in Kyanga and its translation into English. The Etymology (Etym:), Synonyms (Syn:), variant forms (Variant:) and literal meanings (Lit:) of some idioms may also be added.

#### Abbreviations of Grammatical Categories

<i>adj.</i>	adjective	<i>part.</i>	particle
<i>adv.</i>	adverb	<i>pl.</i>	plural
<i>conj.</i>	conjunction	<i>pp.</i>	postposition
<i>cn.</i>	count noun	<i>pr.</i>	pronoun
<i>interj.</i>	interjection	<i>iv.</i>	intransitive verb
<i>lpr.</i>	logophoric pronoun	<i>n.</i>	noun
<i>num.</i>	number	<i>sg.</i>	Singular
<i>tv.</i>	transitive verb		

## SHANGA (SHO)

### 1.0 Language

Classification: Niger-Congo, Mande, Eastern, Eastern, Busa

Shifting to Hausa. Not intelligible with the Boko/Busa language speakers.

Lexical similarity: 70% with Kyenga, 40% (50-60%?) with the Busa group.

Kyanga and Shanga can understand each other a little when they first meet, and communicate freely after some months.

### 2.0 Population and distribution

The Shanga live in Kebbi State in north-western Nigeria. Most of them are in Shanga Local Government Area (LGA), with some in the east of Bagudo LGA.

Shanga town is located at 11°11'44" north of the equator and 4°34'2" east

MAP <http://www.worldplaces.net/nga/40/shanga/>

The present Shanga population is about 20,000 of whom 7-8,000 speak Shanga.

### Non-Shanga speaking Shanga population

The main Shanga towns are Shanga (40% Shanga), the administrative centre of Shanga LGA, with a 2006 population of 7470, and Dugu Tsofo (70% Shanga) which is reported to be about 10,000. Their combined Shanga population is about 10,000. An old woman at Dugu Tsofo came there from Sakaci 60 years ago to get married. At that time many could still speak Shanga, but now she is one of 6 who can speak Shanga at Dugu Tsofo, all over 70. There are also 2000 non-Shanga speakers at Kawara, Gante Fadama, Gurwo and Lafogu, close to or in Bagudo LGA, west of Shanga LGA.

**The main Shanga speaking population** are 50 km to the south of Shanga and about 20 km north west of Yauri and within a kilometre of the Niger River, 3 villages on the north and one on the south.

Villages that speak Shanga:

Sakaci 95%	3000
Sawa 95%	2500
Tsamia 95% (South of Niger)	750
Lopo 95%	750
Tsamia (nr Dugu Tsofo)	100
Dugu Tsofo (70%)	7
Shanga (40%)	2
Bakin Turu (near Gwalango)	few



## Map of Shanga speaking villages

Control click on the following web address, then click “my maps”.

<http://maps.google.com.au/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&hl=en&msa=0&ll=11.56278,3.652611&spn=0.221994,0.357056&t=h&z=12>

In the main Shanga speaking villages all ages still speak Shanga and the informants were quicker than the Kyanga speakers in the Illo area at providing illicit vocabulary quickly. The Shanga speakers intermarry with Shanga and Reshe.

## Statistics elicited from an agricultural worker for the towns and villages in Shanga LGA:

The 2006 population of Shanga LGA was 127,142.

### Towns:

Shanga (**40% Shanga**, 20% Hausa, 20% Dukka)

Gebe (70% Reshe, 15% Kambari, 15% Hausa)

Atuwo (70% Dukka, 30% Hausa & Fulani)

Gironmasa (80% Dukka)

Shabanda (95% Reshe, 5% Hausa)

Dugu Tsofo (**70% Shanga**)

Yarbeshe (96% Hausa)

Takware (70% Kambari, 30% Hausa)

### Villages:

Sakace (**98% Shanga**)

Dugu Raha (70% Reshe, 30% Hausa)

Kibya (Dukka)

Kubai (65% Dukka, 35% Hausa)

Kestu (50% Dukka, 40% Hausa, 10% Fulani)

Tungan Giwa (95% Hausa)

Bella Uwa (Hausa & Dukka)

Saragu (65% Reshe, 25% Hausa)

Batarataya (58% Reshe, 42% Hausa)

Zaria (Fulani Koko LGA?)

Gwalango (Reshe)

Dala (Reshe)

Tungan Kwakute (Reshe)

Saminaka (80% Dukka)

Besse (mixed)

Waiwayi (Hausa)

Sangara (85% Dukka, 15% Hausa)

Keri (60% Dukka)

Ganwo (95% Dukka)

Zugun Tani

Enugu (60% Reshe, 25% Hausa)

Gwalanga (Dukka, Hausa)

Bakin Turu (Dukka, Hausa)

Bakin Turu (Reshe, **Shanga**)

Bagarua (Reshe)

Wasata (Reshe)

NB The Reshe are also called Gungawa (island people) and include some Lopa, Laru and Soroko.

An agricultural worker's estimated ethnic percentages for Shanga LGA:

Hausa	40%	Reshe	10%
Fulani	20%	Dukka	10%
Shanga	15%	Kambari	5%

**The road from Tundi Gada (near Yauri) to Shanga** has many villages that are not far apart and which indicate that there are many villages in Shanga LGA that are not included in the list above. These villages are in order as follows:

Tondi Gada (Reshe)	Dakingari (Hausa)	Toro (Reshe, Kambari)
Tungan Bori (Hausa)	<b>Lopo (Shanga)</b>	<b>Sakace (Shanga)</b>
<b>Sawa(shi) (Shanga)</b>	Kundu (Reshe)	Dala (Reshe)
Dala Mairua (Hausa)	Hondirgi (Hausa)	Tunga Maji (Hausa)
Tungan Kwakute (Hausa)	Nasarawa (Hausa)	Sante (Hausa)
<b>Dugu Tsofo (Shanga, Hausa)</b>	Dugu Raha (Hausa)	<b>Shanga (Shanga)</b>

Sakace is about 50 km south of Shanga.

### 3.0 History

The Shanga are an offshoot of the Kyanga people, with whom they comprised a part of the Songhai Empire from the thirteenth to sixteenth centuries. Moroccan invasions in the sixteenth century, however, forced the Kyanga to relocate towards Borgu. Some Kyanga migrated towards Yauri after the Emir of Gwandu sacked Kaoje and they remain there to the present-day on both sides of the Niger River. Many still have the distinctive facial marking.

### 4.0 Culture

The livelihood of the Shanga is based primarily upon agriculture, with fishing and trading being of secondary importance. Millet, guinea corn, and along the rivers, onions and a variety of vegetables are grown.

While some Shanga marriages are arranged at birth, most Shanga have considerable freedom of choice when deciding upon a marriage partner. Selection often takes place during the inter-village wrestling matches, which are extremely important to the Shanga. A boy will begin wrestling when he reaches puberty and will continue until his first marriage.

Traditional animist, most Shanga have converted to Islam in the past 70 years. There are no known Shanga Christians.

**5.0 Phonology**

The phonology is similar to Kyanga, except for the following:

1. /p, r/ only in loanwords, /r/ has elided, while /p/ has weakened to /h/
2. There are few examples of /f, v/, but then the data is not extensive.
3. There is palatalisation of /s/ before /i, e, ε/, but this does not occur with /z/ as it does in Kyanga.
4. /t & z/ are pronounced as /c & j/ respectively before front vowels, but as in Kyanga, the transition is not complete.

**6.0 Grammar**

Basic pronoun set:	1	2	3	3Logophoric	3Indef
Singular:	ma	mi	ì	a	
Plural:	wa	a	‘à		wà

The 3p Object pronoun is preceded by a glottal stop for clarification.

The 1p and 3sIndefinite pronouns are /wa, wa/, while in Kyanga they are /wo, wo/.

The aspect/tense system has not been studied in depth, but is similar to Kyanga. Some verbs are followed by a negative marker /da/, while Kyanga has /ba/.

**7.0 Lexical comparison of the six East Mande languages**

Following are the percentages of identical and cognate words between the different Mande languages of Nigeria and Benin, based on a 100 word list.

<u>Cognate words</u>						
	<b>Boko</b>	<b>Busa</b>	<b>Bokobaru</b>	<b>Illo Busa</b>	<b>Kyanga</b>	<b>Shanga</b>
<b>Boko</b>		85%	86%	86%	72%	71%
<b>Busa</b>	42%		91%	89%	75%	72%
<b>Bokobaru</b>	39%	50%		86%	70%	68%
<b>Illo Busa</b>	55%	50%	43%		74%	70%
<b>Kyanga</b>	20%	22%	22%	22%		78%
<b>Shanga</b>	19%	16%	17%	18%	32%	

Virtually identical words

