

Achumawi Database: Summary for October 2020

The current backup can be downloaded (with instructions) from the usual location at <http://zelligharris.org/achumawi-db.html>, and I have updated the webonary site <https://www.webonary.org/odissi/>. Lexicon entries will be enriched with examples in the future. To view examples of roots, prefixes, and suffixes in particular words, open the Lexicon view in the database, right-click the entry, and select **Show Entry in Concordance**.

I don't have a nice set of newly well-defined morphemes to tell about this time. This update is limited to the important but less exciting results of resolving inconsistencies and cleaning up the lexicon. Aside from the extraneous justifications—running a conference, seasonal escalation of family and householder obligations, etc., which pale before what are probably your adversities—the data have just not been as cooperative as in prior months. To suss out one puzzling morpheme I examine its context to see what parts of the meaning of a verb are carried by other morphemes. That works fine when the other morphemes are well understood, and even when I have to chase down occurrences of other morphemes in order to clear them up. This month, some of the environing morphemes have remained just as puzzling as the initial quarry. I have a Problems spreadsheet to which I have now added lists of examples for another handful of morphemes that are still shrouded in fog. These will require longer patience.

The morpheme *tu* “upon” (*aacáátumí* “riding on”) also occurs with a preceding *s* (*aapástumí* “putting [a stone] upon”). This recalls the still unexplained *s* in the “continuative” (*as*)*wáci* (e.g. *sáhuumi* “I run”, *sáhuumaswáci* “I keep running”, *sálaacamci* “I shoot”, *sálaacamwáci* “I keep shooting”).

So much is in turmoil now. I hope always that you are unscathed by fire, earthquake, pandemic, and political mayhem. Stay well, and keep anchored to that which is highest.