

Achumawi Database

Summary of January 2023 work

You can download the current backup from

- <http://zelligharris.org/Achumawi/achumawi-db.html>

I have updated the webonary at

- <https://www.webonary.org/odissi/>

I am still in process of changing each occurrence of *n-* as *Vpfx* to *n* as *Rcc* root. This has to be done for each word because I need to reconsider old glossing decisions, and frequently other parts of the stem need attention. This root, arguably two or three homophonous roots, has a broad range of glosses: ‘come, go, bring, move, change, grow’, and in the left periphery the range can include ‘repeat, severally, intensively, inside’. For example, I’ve used the ‘repetition’ gloss in *hay’ tĩnúúci* ‘remember’ (*hay’* ‘thought, mental process’, ‘do again’: *n-* ‘repeat’ *w* ‘state, condition’, *c* ‘do’, compare *hay’ lúw* ‘let me think!’). However, a ‘move’ or ‘bring’ gloss might suffice. This large set is still somewhat in the fog.

A computer problem has required sending my computer to the Dell repair facility twice. It just returned today, with Windows re-installed, so my next steps are to re-install all applications, including FLEEx. All my data are in Dropbox folders, so work has continued on my old computer with its broken keyboard supplanted by an external keyboard. During this month also I have sent a number of crash reports to FLEEx-errors@sil.org. They use such reports in their ongoing product development. I uncovered some anomalous behavior which they are studying. After I have changed all occurrences of an allomorph of *n-* to occurrences of *n*, a concordance on that allomorph returns zero results (no occurrences) as expected. But when I try to delete the allomorph it says it is being used in Analysis several hundred times. Perhaps when I unmoor an allomorph such as *ni* or *na* from its lexicon entry as *n-* it gets associated with a larger set of occurrences of that string (e.g. *ni* or *na*). SIL engineers are redesigning how they address things in the underlying SQL database. Maybe my examples will help.

The *há’y* seen above appears to occur in these words: *anháyááwá* ‘preoccupied, unresponsive, dumb’; *anháyááwá*, *há’yááwá* ‘porcupine’ (alternative names: *céépi*, *pullééwi*); *hay’ána* ‘skunk’. Both these animals rely on their special defenses to deter potential predators, and go about their business seeming to disregard what humans near them may be doing.

A plain *h* is written in each of these words. The distinction between plain *h* and epiglottal *ḥ* is harder to hear at low pitch, and the ‘thinking’ morpheme may have a plain *h*. There is a natural but unfortunate tendency to recognize a word and write it as before without reconsideration.

Olmsted has the anomalous form *haʔĩnu* ‘pelican’. He may have heard *hay’ tĩnúó* ‘come back to mind!’”. His dictionary marks this as Qosalektawi dialect (*qússi ááliqta* ‘juniper flat’)t, about the farthest from ocean and pelicans, so a struggle to recall such a word could be expected. The regular word is *mammil* ‘pelican’ (Olmsted’s *mamil*) which I have from Fall River (Johnnie Craig). Such an item seems likely to be a loan, ultimately from a coastal language. It’s not in Pitkin’s or Schlichter’s Wintu dictionary, but the Klamath word *koml*, *yaml* ‘pelican’ is partially similar, and may have the same coastal origin.