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A grammar of Hamar : a South Omotic language of Ethiopia
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Citation

Petrollino, S. (2016, November 10). *A grammar of Hamar : a South Omotic language of Ethiopia. Cushitic and Omotic Studies*. Rüdiger Köppe Verlag, Köln. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/44090>

Version: Not Applicable (or Unknown)

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Title: A grammar of Hamar : a South Omotic language of Ethiopia

Issue Date: 2016-11-10

Stellingen
behorende bij het proefschrift
A grammar of Hamar, a South Omotic language of Ethiopia
door Sara Petrollino

1. Gender in Hamar is not inherent and any noun can be inflected for both masculine and feminine gender, including inanimate nouns.

contra the universal claim in:

Corbett, Greville (1991). *Gender*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Aikhenvald, Alexandra Y. (2003). *Classifiers: A Typology of Noun Categorization Devices*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

2. In Hamar masculine gender has diminutive semantic value and feminine gender has augmentative value; the opposite is true for the other languages of Ethiopia.

3. The values of number in Hamar are singular and paucal, rather than singular and plural.

contra the universal Number Hierarchy in

Croft, William (1990). *Typology and Universals*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

4. Hamar employs non-concatenative morphology in particular for the realization of masculine gender.

5. Iraqw-Swahili code-switching employs a typologically rare light verb construction with the verb 'hit' which does not otherwise exist in Iraqw.

6. The 'exceed' comparative in Juba Arabic is used marginally compared to other Arabic-based pidgins and creoles and Juba Arabic uses the original Arabic construction instead. This is the result of decreolization and progressive convergence with Arabic.

7. In the languages of East African pastoralists, there are metaphoric relations between cattle colour terms and the colours of non-domestic animals, but the direction of the extension is not obvious.

contra

Coote, J. (2012). Marvels of everyday vision. The anthropology of aesthetics and the cattle-keeping Nilotes. In Dudley S. (ed.), *Museum objects: Experiencing the properties of things*. Oxford: Routledge.

Evans-Pritchard E. (1940). *The Nuer*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.

8. The Hamar words for 'mother' *indá* is remarkably enough morphologically complex, meaning literally 'my life'; the word for 'father' likewise is complex, meaning 'my owner'.

9. The proverb *ádímabe doobíbe kálane*, 'delivery is like rain', shows that Hamar find delivery as unpredictable as rain, which reflects the fact that they tend not to quantify time periods.

10. Migration is an intrinsic property of all human beings, making a semantic distinction between 'migrants' and 'expats' nonsensical.