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Stellingen

behorende bij het proefschrift

Liko Phonology and Grammar
A Bantu language of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

van

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1. The Liko language shows a remarkable vitality given the limited number of speakers and its geographical location, being partly surrounded by an influential neighbour and partly by a language of another family.
2. Liko shows that a language can have ATR Vowel Harmony with both [+ATR] and [−ATR] dominance.
3. The particle **minó** occurs only when a non-argument is relativized or left-dislocated. Therefore it serves to syntactically distinguish arguments and adjuncts in Liko, a distinction which is difficult to make in many Bantu languages.
4. Liko has a grammatical system that is linked to but separate from the verb and expresses only tense, no aspect nor other related categories.
5. The choice between the associative and the genitive prefix in Liko is conditioned by the function of the modifier: possession is expressed using the invariable genitive prefix **ka**, whereas an associative prefix which agrees with the head noun is used in the case of qualifying and certain quantifying relations.
6. The quality of recorded tone data is related to a language consultant's understanding of the tone system of his native language.
7. The application of diagnostic criteria from the literature that can be used to identify the way focus is expressed in a language (Bearth 2003:130, Watters 2003:252) can also lead to the conclusion that in a language, new information does not receive specific 'focus' marking and that a language does not have a specific position in the clause to mark new information (8.6 in this book).

References: Bearth, T. 2003. Syntax. In D. Nurse and G. Philippson (eds.), *The Bantu Languages*, 121-142. London: Routledge.
Watters, J.R. 2003. Grassfields Bantu. In: In D. Nurse and G. Philippson (eds.), *The Bantu Languages*, 225-56. London: Routledge.

8. Time spent on discourse analysis of a language is efficient when a grammar of the language in question is available.
9. Linguistic research in a hitherto undescribed language ought to include a deliverable that directly benefits the speakers of that language.
10. The increased security risks involved in living with a language group in some countries calls for creative ways of working remotely with language consultants, including the provision of linguistic training and financial compensation.
11. The Gutenberg Project should get more public appraisal and support for providing easy access to older literature in English, French, German and Portuguese in the form of free high-quality e-books.