



Universiteit
Leiden
The Netherlands

A Grammar of Awjila Berber (Libya) : based on Umberto Paradisi's material

Putten, M. van

Citation

Putten, M. van. (2013, October 1). *A Grammar of Awjila Berber (Libya) : based on Umberto Paradisi's material*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/21848>

Version: Corrected Publisher's Version

License: [Licence agreement concerning inclusion of doctoral thesis in the Institutional Repository of the University of Leiden](#)

Downloaded from: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/21848>

Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

Cover Page



Universiteit Leiden



The handle <http://hdl.handle.net/1887/21848> holds various files of this Leiden University dissertation.

Author: Putten, Marijn van

Title: A grammar of Awjila Berber (Libya) : based on Umberto Paradisi's material

Issue Date: 2013-10-01

Chapter 5

Adjective

The adjectives, which can have various forms, correspond to stative verbs of the type *cċc*. This distribution suggests that adjectives can be made into stative verbs by means of applying the scheme of the *cċc* formation to the root. Due to the sparsity of our data, we cannot be certain whether this is truly a regular de-adjectival derivation, or whether this only seems to be the case due to a lack of data.

m.sg.	m.pl.	f.sg.	f.pl.	stat.v.	
gzil	gzilən	təgzilt	təgzilin	gəzzəl	‘short, low’
yzif	<i>n.a.</i>	təyzift	<i>n.a.</i>	γəzzəf	‘long, high’
mlil	mlilən	təmlilt	təmlilin	məlləl	‘white’
štəf	štəfən	təštəft	təštəfin	šəttəf	‘black’
zwəy	zwəyən	tzwəyt	tzwəyin	zəwwəy	‘red’
azuwàr	zuwàrən	tazuwàrt	tzuwarìn	zəwwər	‘large’
aləqqùq	<i>n.a.</i>	tələqqùqt	<i>n.a.</i>	ləqqəq	‘thin’
aməqqəràn	məqqrànən	taməqqərànt	tməqqranìn	məqqər	‘big’
aməškùn	məškùnən	taməškùnt	tməškúnin	məššək	‘small’

The m.pl. *məqqrànən* ‘big’ has an unexpected variant *məqqràrən*.¹ A variant of the f.sg. of the same adjective is found in text XV as *tməqqərànt* instead of *taməqqərànt*.

One Arabic adjective takes the adjectival endings: m.pl. *kəddimən*, which comes from Ar. *qadīm* ‘old’. The correspondence Awjila *k* to Ar. *q* and Awjila *dd* to Ar. *d* is unexpected.

As is the case in other Berber languages, the adjective is morphologically identical to the noun, and should be considered a sub-class of the noun that can be used appositionally after another noun to qualify it (see Galand 2010: 145). There are, however, no examples of adjectives being used independently in the corpus.

An example of an adjective that has lexicalized as a regular noun is the masculine plural noun *aməzzìn* ‘sons’, which is the suppletive plural of *lwi* ‘(my) son’. *aməzzìn* is not used adjectivally in the corpus, but is transparently related to the common Berber root *mZY* ‘to be small’. The adjectival meaning and the specialized nominal usage are

¹This cannot be a printing error as these variants are specifically cited in Paradisi as follows: <moqqrànən (moqqrâren)>

