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## **Form and meaning in Fulfulde: a morphophonological study of Maasinankoore**

Breedveld, J.O.

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# Form and meaning in Fulfulde

A morphophonological study of Maasinankoore

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by

J.O. Breedveld

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*To Felix and Caroline*





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## Acknowledgements

What could be the use of a book on word formation in Fulfulde to the speakers of that language who live in such a troubled area? Little would be my modesty if I claimed it would be of comfort to those who suffer. Greater is my hope, that this grammar might be a small contribution to the understanding of the language of the people of Maasina, revealing some knowledge on the way in which they encode meanings. Knowledge that can give insight into their culture, which is imperative if we want to fight the unnecessary suffering.

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## List of abbreviations

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| A      | Aadamaawa (is the dialect source of the example)    |
| adj.   | adjective   |
| ALT    | altri-locative (extension)                          |
| Ar.    | Arabic (source language of loan-word)               |
| A-rule | automatic phonological rule                         |
| ASS    | associative (extension)                             |
| ATR    | advanced tongue root (autosegmental feature)        |
| augm.  | augmentative  |
| Bam.   | Bambara (source language of loan-word)              |
| BRU    | brusque (extension)                                 |
| C      | consonant   |
| CAUS   | causative (extension)                               |
| Cd     | concord   |
| cf.    | compare   |
| CIRC   | circumstantial (extension)                          |
| CL     | class marker  |
| COM    | comitative (extension)                              |
| COMPL  | completive (conjugational suffix)                   |
| COP    | copula  |
| CS     | conjugational suffix                                |
| DAT    | dative (extension)                                  |
| DEM    | simple demonstrative                                |
| dim.   | diminutive  |
| e.g.   | for example   |
| etc.   | et cetera, and other similar things                 |
| EVAS   | evasive (extension)                                 |
| EXH    | exhortative (conjugational suffix)                  |
| EXHA   | exhaustive (extension)                              |
| excl.  | exclusive (first person plural pronoun)             |
| EXT    | extension   |
| (F)    | basic series (of initial consonant alternation)     |
| FDEM   | far demonstrative                                   |
| FG     | final glottality                                    |
| fig.   | figuratively  |
| FJ     | Fuuta Jallon (is the dialect source of the example) |
| Fr.    | French (source language of loan-word)               |
| FT     | Fuuta Tooro (is the dialect source of the example)  |
| G      | Gombe (is the dialect source of the example)        |

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| id.            | idem  |
| i.e.           | that is to say, in other words                          |
| IMPpl          | imperative plural (conjugational suffix)                |
| IMPsg          | imperative singular (conjugational suffix)              |
| INCH           | inchoative (extension)                                  |
| incl.          | inclusive (first person plural pronoun)                 |
| INCOMPL        | incompletive (conjugational suffix)                     |
| INDEF          | indefinite (conjugational suffix)                       |
| INF            | infinitive (marker)                                     |
| INT            | intensive (extension)                                   |
| L              | Liptaako (is the dialect source of the example)         |
| lit.           | literally   |
| LOC            | locative marker, or locative copula                     |
| M              | Maasina (is the dialect source of the example)          |
| M              | any morpheme (that can follow the conjugational suffix) |
| M.COMPL        | middle completive (conjugational suffix)                |
| M.EXH          | middle exhortative (conjugational suffix)               |
| M.INCOMPL      | middle incompletive (conjugational suffix)              |
| M.INDEF        | middle indefinite (conjugational suffix)                |
| M.IMPsg        | middle imperative singular (conjugational suffix)       |
| MP             | modal predicate   |
| M.R.COMPL      | middle relative completive (conjugational suffix)       |
| M.R.INCOMPL    | middle relative incompletive (conjugational suffix)     |
| M.SUB          | middle subjunctive (conjugational suffix)               |
| M.VF           | middle verb focus (conjugational suffix)                |
| N              | noun  |
| N              | nasal (consonant)                                       |
| n.d.           | no date   |
| NEG            | negative (conjugational suffix)                         |
| (N)            | prenasalized series (of initial consonant alternation)  |
| <sup>n</sup> C | prenasalized consonant                                  |
| N.COMPL        | negative completive (conjugational suffix)              |
| NDEM           | near demonstrative                                      |
| NE             | Eastern Niger (is the dialect source of the example)    |
| N.INCOMPL      | negative incompletive (conjugational suffix)            |
| N.M.COMPL      | negative middle completive (conjugational suffix)       |
| N.M.INCOMPL    | negative middle incompletive (conjugational suffix)     |
| N.P.COMPL      | negative passive completive (conjugational suffix)      |
| N.P.INCOMPL    | negative passive incompletive (conjugational suffix)    |
| O              | object  |
| OPro           | object pronoun  |
| o.s.           | oneself   |
| (P)            | plosive series (of initial consonant alternation)       |
| PART           | partitive (extension)                                   |
| PAST           | past tense marker                                       |

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| P.COMPL     | passive completive (conjugational suffix)                           |
| P.INCOMPL   | passive incomplete (conjugational suffix)                           |
| pl.         | plural  |
| P.R.INCOMPL | passive relative incomplete (conjugational suffix)                  |
| P.R.COMPL   | passive relative completive (conjugational suffix)                  |
| P-rule      | phonological rule (with some exceptions, sometimes optional)        |
| P.SUB       | passive subjunctive (conjugational suffix)                          |
| P.VF        | passive verb focus (conjugational suffix)                           |
| qp          | question particle   |
| qw          | question word   |
| R.COMPL     | relative completive (conjugational suffix)                          |
| RDEM        | referential demonstrative   |
| REC         | reciprocal (extension)  |
| RES         | resultative (extension)   |
| REV         | reversive (extension)   |
| R.INCOMPL   | relative incomplete (conjugational suffix)                          |
| Rm          | Ringimaaji (is the dialect source of the example)                   |
| S           | subject   |
| SIM         | simulative (extension)  |
| sg.         | singular  |
| s.o.        | someone   |
| Son.        | Soninke, Marka (source language of loan-word)                       |
| SPE         | Sound Patterns of English (the model described in that publication) |
| SPro        | subject pronoun   |
| Srg.        | Sorogo, Bozo (source language of loan-word)                         |
| sth.        | something   |
| SUB         | subjunctive (conjugational suffix)                                  |
| TM          | topic marker  |
| Tsk.        | Tamashek, Touareg (source language of loan-word)                    |
| V           | verb  |
| V           | vowel   |
| VF          | verb focus (conjugational suffix)                                   |
| VR          | verb root   |
| vs.         | versus  |
| VS          | verb stem   |
| WFC         | well-formedness condition   |
| Z           | Zoubko 1980 (is the source of the given example)                    |