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The phonology of Proto-Central Chadic : the reconstruction of the phonology and lexicon of Proto-Central Chadic, and the linguistic history of the Central Chadic languages

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9 Summary of the Phonologies

In this section we will present a brief summary of the phonological characteristics of each of the languages mentioned in the previous four sections, along with the proto-languages of groups and subgroups.

A question mark denotes situations where the characteristic is unknown or uncertain. When describing the number of vowels, ‘two plus one’ refers to two phonemic vowels plus an epenthetic vowel, ‘three+’ refers to three core vowel phonemes, plus one or more marginal vowel phonemes.

Group	Language	Prosodies	Labialized Consonants	Palatalized Consonants	Vowels
Bata	Jimi	Consonant PAL	Velars and Labials		Three, plus long vowels
	Sharwa	Consonant PAL	Velars and Labials		Three
	Gude	Consonant PAL	Velars and Labials		Two, plus long vowels
	Tsuvan	Consonant PAL	Velars and Labials		Three
	Bata, Bachama	Consonant PAL	All?		Three
	Proto-Bata	Consonant PAL	Velars and Labials		Three
Daba	Daba	Vowel PAL and LAB	Velars		Two
	Buwal	Vowel PAL	Velars		Two
	Mbudum	Vowel PAL	Velars		Two
	Mina	Vowel PAL	Velars		Two
	Gavar	None	Velars	Laminals	Four
	Proto-Daba	Vowel PAL	Velars		Two
Mafa	Mafa	Vowel PAL and LAB	Velars		Two
	Cuvok	Vowel PAL	Velars		Two
	Mefe	Vowel PAL and LAB	Velars		Two
	Proto-Mafa	Vowel PAL and LAB (?)	Velars		Two

Group	Language	Prosodies	Labialized Consonants	Palatalized Consonants	Vowels
Tera	Tera	?Vowel PAL and LAB	Velars		?
	Ga'anda	Vowel PAL and LAB	Velars		?
	Proto-Tera	?	?		?
Sukur	Sukur	Mixed PAL	All		Three
Hurza	Mbuko	Vowel PAL and LAB	Velars		Two
	Vame	Vowel PAL	Velars		Two
	Proto-Hurza	Vowel PAL	Velars		Two
Margi	Margi		All	All	Two plus one
	Bura		Velars and Labials	All	Four
	Kilba		Velars and Labials	Laminals and Velars	Two or four
	Proto-Margi	Consonant PAL	Velars and Labials		Three
Mandara	Podoko	Mixed PAL	Velars		Three+
	Matal	Mixed PAL	Velars		Two
	Mandara		Velars	Laminals and Velars	Three
	Malgwa		Velars	Laminals and Velars	Six
	Glavda	Consonant PAL	Velars		Three+
	Dghwede		Velars		Three+
	Proto-Mandara	Mixed PAL	Velars		Three+
Mofu	Ouldeme	Vowel PAL	Velars		Two
	Muyang	Vowel PAL and LAB	Velars		Two
	Moloko	Vowel PAL and LAB	Velars		Two
	Mada	Vowel PAL and LAB	Velars		Two
	Proto-Tokombere	Vowel PAL	Velars		Two
	Zulgo	Vowel PAL and LAB	Velars		Two

Group	Language	Prosodies	Labialized Consonants	Palatalized Consonants	Vowels
	Gemzek	Vowel PAL and LAB	Velars		Two
	Merey	Vowel PAL and LAB	Velars		Two
	Dugwor	Vowel PAL and LAB	Velars		Two
	Proto-Meri	Vowel PAL and LAB	Velars		Two
	Mofu North	Vowel PAL and LAB	Velars		Two
	Mofu-Gudur	Vowel PAL	Velars		Two
	Pre-Mofu	Vowel PAL	Velars		Two
	Proto-Mofu	Vowel PAL	Velars		Two
Maroua	Mbazla	Vowel PAL and LAB	Velars		Two
	Giziga North	Vowel PAL and LAB	Velars		Two
	Giziga South	Vowel PAL and LAB	Velars		Two
	Proto-Maroua	Vowel PAL	Velars		Two
Lamang	Hdi		Velars		Five
	Lamang		Velars		Four
	Proto-Lamang		Velars		Four
Higi	Bana		Velars	All	Three
	Psikye		Velars	Laminals	Three
	Kamwe		All	All	Three
	Nkafa				
	Kamwe Futu		All	All	Three
	Kirya-Konzel		All	Laminals and Velars	Four?
	Proto-Higi		Velars	Laminals	Three
Kotoko Island	Buduma		?		Six
Kotoko North	Mpade		Velars(?)		Four
	Afade				Six
	Malgbe		(Labial-velars)		Six
	Maltam				Six

Group	Language	Prosodies	Labialized Consonants	Palatalized Consonants	Vowels
	Proto-Kotoko North		Velars		Five
Kotoko Centre	Lagwan		Velars		Three
	Mser		Velars		?
	Proto-Kotoko Centre		Velars		Four
Kotoko South	Zina		Velars		Three
	Mazera		Velars		Three
	Proto-Kotoko South		Velars		Three
Musgum	Mbara	Vowel PAL and LAB			Two, plus long vowels
	Muskum	Vowel PAL and LAB			Two, plus long vowels
	Musgu (Mulwi, Munjuk, Vulum)	Vowel PAL and LAB			Two, plus long vowels
	Proto-Musgum	Vowel PAL and LAB			Two
Gidar	Gidar	Vowel PAL and LAB			Two, plus long vowels

Table 110 - Summary of Phonological Characteristics

