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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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Stellingen behorende bij het proefschrift *A Phonology of Central Chadic* van
Richard Gravina

- 1) A word-level palatalization prosody can be reconstructed for Proto-Central Chadic.
- 2) The palatalization prosody took on different forms in different Central Chadic languages, particularly the Consonant Prosody, the Vowel Prosody and the Mixed Prosody.
- 3) The labialization prosody and labialized labial consonants in present-day Central Chadic languages have developed from labialized velar consonants in Proto-Central Chadic.
- 4) There were three vowel phonemes in Proto-Central Chadic, /a/, /i/ and /ɨ/.
- 5) Mbuko (Central Chadic, Cameroon) marks noun phrases primarily as specific/non-specific rather than definite/indefinite.
- 6) Mbuko has structural criteria that restrict verbs to one suffix even when the semantics and agreement rules require up to four.
- 7) Jibbali (Semitic) can be described with a system of six underlying vowels, with phonological processes giving rise to a system of 22 surface vowels
- 8) In Mbuko culture, teaching is based on motivation, demonstration and instant correction.
- 9) Chameleons change colour according to emotion rather than their environment.
- 10) The United Kingdom only exists in the Channel Islands and the Eurovision Song Contest.