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## **A grammar of Makonde (Chinnima, Tanzania)**

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**A GRAMMAR OF MAKONDE  
(Chinnima, Tanzania)**

PROEFSCHRIFT

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To **Conny van den Oever**

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Front cover: **nsufi** (kapok tree) in Mtwara near the crossing to Msangamkuu (photo: Peter Kraal)

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## CONTENTS

Acknowledgements.....	ix
Abbreviations .....	x
Map 1: Makonde dialects in Tanzania and in Mozambique... ..	xi
Map 2: The Makonde-speaking area in Mtwara Region, Tanzania... ..	xii
1. Introduction .....	1
1.1 The Makonde people: demography and geography .....	1
1.2 The Makonde language: classification and dialectal variation.....	2
1.3 Field work.....	7
1.4 About this grammar: background, previous studies and theory .....	9
2. Consonants, vowels and syllable structure.....	16
2.1 List of consonants .....	16
2.2 The syllabic nasal, prenasalized consonants and the voiceless nasal .....	18
2.3 Palatalization, depalatalization and labio-velarization.....	20
2.4 List of vowels.....	23
2.5 Vowel harmony, imbrication and vowel anticipation.....	23
2.6 Vowel dissimilation and final vowel raising.....	25
2.7 Vowel coalescence, glide insertion and liaison.....	26
2.8 Surface syllable structure .....	30
2.9 Penultimate lengthening and penultimate shortening .....	32
3. Prosody.....	33
3.1 Introduction to Makonde tone.....	33
3.2 Prosodic domains.....	37
3.3 Surface tones.....	39
3.4 Underlying tones and the lexicon.....	40
3.4.1 Tonal profiles for stems .....	43
3.4.2 Prefix-H tone.....	49
3.4.3 Meeussen's Rule .....	50
3.5 Post-lexical processes with one-word p-phrases .....	52
3.5.1 Penultimate lengthening .....	53
3.5.2 Complex final syllable and retraction of final H tone .....	55
3.5.3 H tone bridge.....	58
3.5.4 Prefix-H tone shift.....	59
3.5.5 Coalescence, resyllabification and OC-H tone retraction.....	63
3.5.6 H tone doubling, final H deletion and Structure simplification .....	66
3.5.7 Default L tone insertion.....	70
3.5.8 Tone assimilation .....	73

3.5.9	Penultimate shortening .....	74
3.6	Post-lexical processes with i-phrases and utterances .....	76
3.6.1	The intonational H tone and utterance-final register lowering .....	76
3.6.2	Two other instances of utterance-final register lowering .....	78
3.7	Contour tones .....	80
4.	The noun .....	82
4.1	Nominal prefixes .....	82
4.2	Locative nouns .....	94
4.3	Genders .....	97
4.4	Nominal tone: tone groups and tone patterns .....	99
4.4.1	Nouns with four-syllable stems, trisyllabic stems and disyllabic C-initial stems .....	101
4.4.2	Nouns with disyllabic V-initial stems and minisyllabic stems .....	103
4.4.3	Distribution of nouns over tone groups .....	106
4.4.4	Nouns with an outer NPx .....	107
4.5	Nominal derivation .....	116
4.5.1	Augmentatives and reduplication .....	116
4.5.2	Agent nouns, instrument nouns and manner nouns .....	120
4.6	Adjectives .....	122
4.7	Numerals .....	124
4.8	Other nominal forms .....	126
5.	Pronominal forms and invariables .....	129
5.1	Pronominal prefixes .....	129
5.2	Substitutes .....	130
5.3	Demonstratives .....	132
5.4	Nominal possessives .....	140
5.5	Pronominal possessives .....	143
5.6	Other pronominal forms .....	147
5.7	Invariables .....	154
6.	The verb .....	159
6.1	The structure of verb forms .....	159
6.2	Concords .....	160
6.2.1	The concord ° <b>mu-</b> .....	161
6.2.2	The 1SG concord .....	163
6.2.3	Subject concords of the participants as copulas .....	165
6.3	The verb stem .....	168
6.3.1	Minisyllabic stems .....	168
6.3.2	Causative stems and Passive stems .....	172
6.3.3	Applicative stems and Perfective stems .....	177
6.3.4	Separative stems and neuter/impositive stems .....	180
6.3.5	Reciprocal stems and forms with the Pre-Final <b>-ang-</b> .....	181
6.3.6	Reduplicated stems .....	183
6.3.7	The macrostem .....	185

6.4	Verbs ‘to be’ and ‘to say’ .....	186
7.	Tenses.....	189
7.1	The tense system.....	189
7.1.1	Affirmative tenses and negation .....	190
7.1.2	Relative tenses and negation .....	194
7.1.3	The Finals.....	196
7.1.4	The Perfective Final .....	197
7.1.5	The tense markers in Formative positions.....	201
7.1.6	The Pre-Final tense marker <b>-ang-</b> .....	204
7.1.7	The final syllable before objects and adjuncts .....	206
7.2	The verbal tone system .....	206
7.2.1	Verbal forms with four-syllable stems, trisyllabic stems and disyllabic stems .....	209
7.2.2	Verbal forms with V-initial disyllabic stems and minisyllabic stems .....	213
7.2.3	The subject concord .....	216
7.2.4	The object concord.....	225
7.2.5	The tense markers .....	229
7.3	The conjoint/disjoint system.....	231
7.3.1	A brief history .....	231
7.3.2	Conjoint, disjoint and conjoint-disjoint tenses .....	233
7.4	Complex tenses .....	237
7.5	Compound tenses .....	247
8.	Phrasal tonology .....	251
8.1	P-phrases consisting of more than one word.....	251
8.2	The Noun Phrase and p-phrases.....	252
8.2.1	Conjoint, disjoint and conjoint-disjoint specifiers.....	252
8.2.2	Post-lexical processes with nominal p-phrases consisting of two words.....	257
	• Noun-Specifier Tone Rule 1 .....	
	• H Tone Bridge .....	
	• Noun-Specifier Tone Rule 2 .....	
	• Tone Assimilation.....	
	• Px-H Tone Retraction .....	
	• Regressive H Tone Dissimilation .....	
	• Structure Simplification .....	
8.2.3	Post-lexical processes with longer nominal p-phrases .....	
8.3	The Verb Phrase and p-phrases .....	261
8.3.1	Types of verbal forms .....	264
8.3.2	Post-lexical processes with verbal p-phrases consisting of two words.....	270
	• H Tone Bridge .....	
	• Px-H Tone Shift.....	

• Regressive H Tone Assimilation.....	
• Tone Assimilation.....	
8.3.3 The level of application of post-lexical processes.....	274
8.3.4 The syntactic status of the verb-headed p-phrase .....	277
8.3.5 Post-lexical processes with longer verbal p-phrases .....	281
8.4 NP + VP and p-phrases.....	285
8.5 Post-lexical rules with i-phrases and U's .....	285
Appendix A: Tense paradigms.....	287
Introduction .....	287
A.1 Conjoint tenses.....	290
A.2 Conjoint-Disjoint tenses.....	291
A.3 Disjoint tenses.....	296
Appendix B: Texts.....	317
Introduction .....	317
B.1 The Makonde people .....	320
B.2 Story of reclaiming the monkey .....	323
B.3 Preparation of cassava porridge with cassava vegetable.....	327
B.4 Preparation of Likulambila .....	329
B.5 Ten proverbs with short explanations .....	330
B.6 Twelve riddles with short explanations.....	334
B.7 Eleven songs .....	339
Appendix C: Vocabulary .....	344
Introduction .....	344
C.1 Chinnima – English.....	346
C.2 English – Chinnima index.....	396
C.3 Comparative wordlist of five Makonde dialects .....	431
Bibliographical References.....	433

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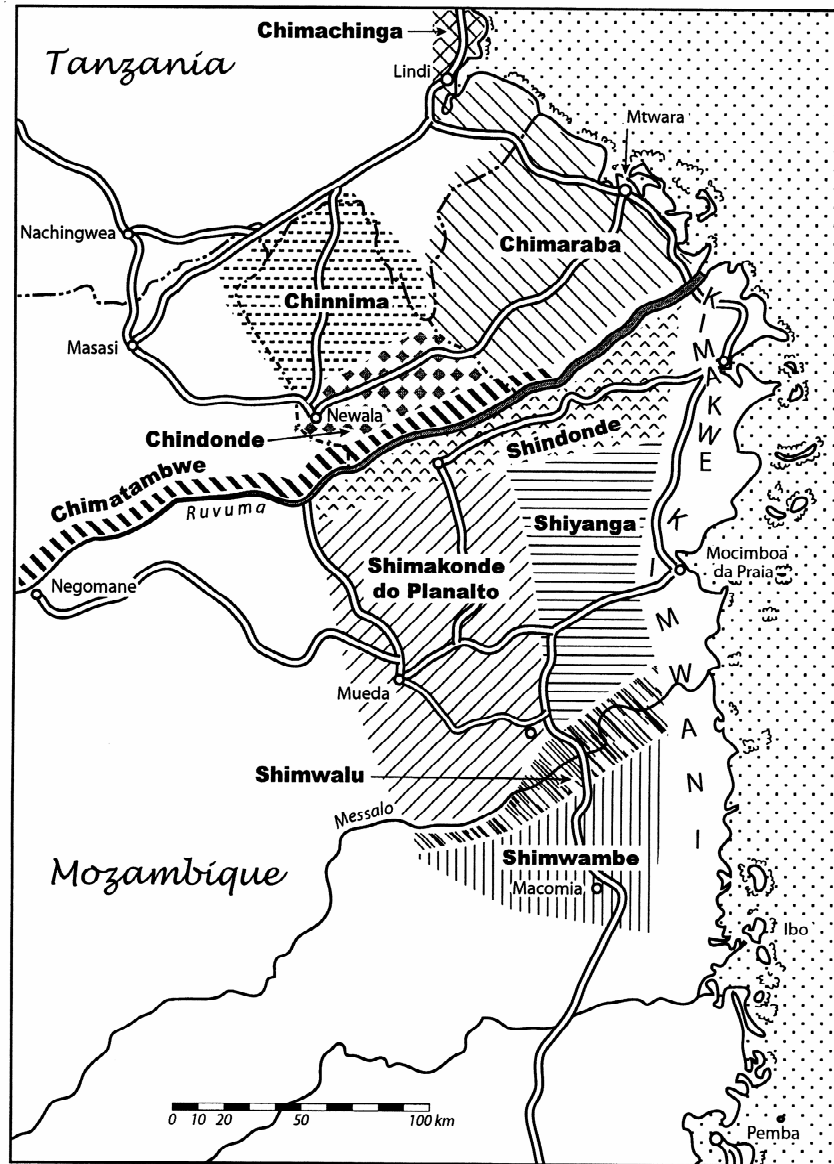
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## ABBREVIATIONS

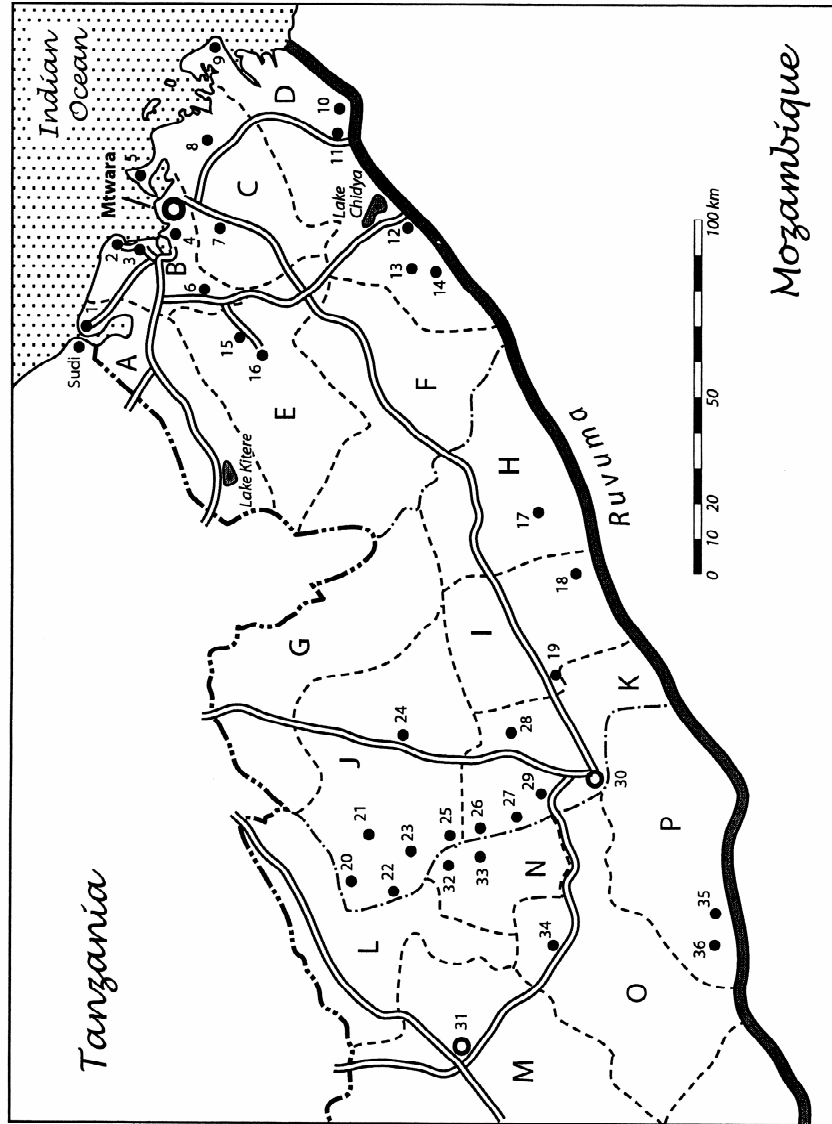
-	morpheme boundary; clitic boundary	NSTR	noun-specifier tone rule
◦	underlying representation	OC	object concord
<	derived from	P	pronominal form
>	derives to	PHTS, PS	prefix-H tone shift
1, 2, 3, ...	noun class numbers	p-phrase	phonological phrase
1SG	1st person singular	PUL	penultimate lengthening
1PL	1st person plural	PUS	penultimate shortening
2SG	2nd person singular	Px-H	H tone on prefix
2PL	2nd person plural	PPx	pronominal prefix
A	adjective	R	rising tone; retraction of final H tone
C	consonant; coalescence	RHTD	regressive H tone dissimilation
cf.	compare	S	stem
cjt	conjoint	S1	first mora of the stem
cl.	noun class	S2	second mora of the stem
DI	default L tone insertion	SF	final mora of the stem
djt	disjoint	SC	subject concord
e.g.	for example	s.o.	someone
F	falling tone; Final; final H tone deletion	sp.	species
H	H tone	SS, S	structure simplification
H:	level H tones	sth.	something
HTA	H tone assignment	TA	tone assimilation
HTB, TB	H tone bridge	TBU	tone bearing unit
HTD, TD	H tone doubling	TG	tone group
I	invariable word	TM	tense/aspect/mood marker
i-phrase	intonational phrase	TP	tone pattern
itr.	intransitive	tr.	transitive
L	L tone	U	utterance
L:	level L tones	UFRL	utterance-final register lowering
MR	Meeussen's rule	V	verb; vowel
MS	macro-stem	VB	verbal base
m'	bilab. nasal with H tone	VC/GF	vowel coalescence/ glide formation
'm	bilab. nasal with L tone	VI	vowel incorporation
'n	alveol. nasal with L tone	VP	verb phrase
N	noun		
NP	noun phrase		
NPx	nominal prefix		

Map 1: Makonde dialects in Tanzania and in Mozambique



Situation in Mozambique based on Mpalume and Mandumbwe (1991:25).

Map 2: The Makonde-speaking area in Mtwara Region, Tanzania, including a selected list of towns and villages



**Masasi District:****L** Chikundi Division**M** Lisekese Division

31 Masasi

**N** Lulindi Division

32 Majembe

33 Malatu

**O** Chiungutwa Division

34 Mpeta

**P** Mchauru Division

35 Lichehe

36 Mgwagule

**Newala District:****G** Liteho Division**H** Namikupa Division

17 Kwanyama

**I** Mahuta Division

18 Namahonga

19 Mahuta

**J** Kitangari Division

20 Nkudumba

21 Chilangala

22 Luchemo

23 Mnyambe

24 Kitangari

25 Mkalenda

**K** Newala Division

26 Nakahako

27 Mkoma

28 Minjale

29 Nambunga

30 Newala

**Mtwara District:****A** Mpapura Division

1 Mgao

**B** Mayanga Division

2 Mkungu

3 Naumbu

4 Mikindani

5 Msangamkuu

6 Likonde

**C** Mtawanya Division

7 Naliendele

8 Kiyano

**D** Kitaya Division

9 Msimbati

10 Kitanguli

11 Maharunga

12 Kitaya

13 Mkomo

14 Mchanje

**E** Dihimba Division

15 Dihimba

16 Miuta

**F** Nanyamba Division

