

# An Account of Clitics in Shabaki with Reference to Wackernagel's Law

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## Abstract

In this paper the behavior of clitics in Shabaki, a northwestern Indo-Iranian language spoken in Nineveh plains in Iraq, is discussed in detail with respect to forms and distributions and much more interestingly with respect to sensitivity to Wackernagel's Law. The paper also addresses clitic doubling, clustering and climbing which may be considered the peculiar defining features of Shabaki. They could be added to nouns, pronouns, verbs, prepositions and other clitics. Shabaki is a language with multiple cliticization and is surprisingly complicated with respect to this phenomenon. It has an intricate system of clitics which include subject pronominal clitics, object pronominal clitics (dative and accusative), possessive pronominal clitics, demonstrative pronoun clitics, ezafe clitics, diminutive clitics, additive clitics, aspectual clitics, tense clitics, copular clitics and negative clitics.

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*Index terms*— shabaki, clitics, wackernagel's law, clustering, doubling, climbing.

## 1 Introduction a) Clitics

The study of clitics has its origins in the tradition of Greek grammarians. This long tradition of the linguistic interest in clitics implies that the phenomenon has been studied from a number of philological and theoretical angles. The term is used to refer to items which have no accent and which cause a secondary accent to be laid on the last syllable of the word which they follow (Zwicky, 1994). It is generally agreed in the literature that we can characterize clitics as follows: a) Clitics have syntactically-determined distributions.

They differ from affixes in that they may attach to words of many different classes, including words like prepositions or adverbs that do not usually take affixes. b) They are small lexical elements that cannot form an independent prosodic domain. They never bear stress lexically, and for reasons of prosody they always form an accentual unit with the preceding or the following word. They may phonologically attach to a host which may be a word or a phrase. c) They fit together into larger units and form "clitic clusters" with multiple clitics in different functions. d) They typically (tense/aspect/mood/polarity), or certain pragmatic functions (question, information status).code nominal features (person/number/ case), auxiliaries or verbal features.

Author: University of Kufa, Iraq. e-mail: ahjsultan@gmail.com e) They may collapse distinctions made in non-clitic forms. As is well known, for instance, Italian 1st and 2nd person clitics collapse accusative/ dative/reflexive together; they are distinguished in 3rd person (but 3rd person dative collapses gender and 3rd person reflexive collapses gender and number contrasts) (Grimshaw, 1997). f) The word they attach to is termed the "clitic host". A clitic that precedes its host is proclitic while one that follows is enclitic. There is also a mesoclitic which appears between the stem of the host and other affixes. The endoclititic splits apart the root and is inserted between the two pieces. 1 It is a common point in linguistics that it is difficult to classify clitics and it is even more difficult to draw a demarcation line between clitics and affixes. According to Zwicky and Pullum (1983) and Zwicky (1985), it is a matter of debate whether such a line exists at all. Clitics themselves form a heterogeneous group. However, clitics can be classified into three different classes: Simple clitics are phonologically reduced allomorph of full lexical items, e.g. 'll in English. Special clitics are weak or atonic forms attached to hosts, not

## 3 II. PRONOMINAL CLITICS IN SHABAKI: THEIR MORPHO-SYNTACTIC PROPERTIES

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44 phonologically reduced and often formally different from strong forms, e.g. Italian object clitics. Bound word  
45 clitics are independent phonological words (not atonic) with no non-clitic counterparts, e.g. Serbo-Croatian *li* (cf  
46 Napoli, 1996).

47 Clitics are one the most debated topics in syntax in general and they are very interesting phenomenon in  
48 Shabaki due to periphrastic nature of the lexical category in this language. The goal of this paper is threefold,  
49 namely to explore the different types, distribution and properties of clitics in Shabaki, secondly to investigate the  
50 various clitics-related phenomena, such as climbing, doubling and clustering and thirdly to test its sensitivity to  
51 Wackernagel's law. Wackernagel (1892) formulated a phonological principle specifically for Proto-Indo-European  
52 languages whereby clitics tend to occupy the second position in the clause. The syntactic distribution of clitics in  
53 this special clausal position is called Wackernagel position ??Wackernagel, 1892) -second position in the clause,  
54 defined as after first word or first syntactic constituent. The element in first position, hosting the enclitic, could  
55 be a word or a phrasal constituent. Wackernagel position can apply to any kind of clitic. This paper is organized  
56 as follows. In section 1.2., we present a brief description of Shabaki. Section 2 discusses the pronominal clitics  
57 in Shabaki. Section 3 securitizes the possessive pronominal clitics, 'hin' constructions and ezafe construction.  
58 Section 4 discusses the demonstrative clitics. Section 5 deals with complementizer clitics. Expletive (existential)  
59 clitics are discussed in section 6. A detailed scrutiny of diminutive clitics and conjunctive clitics is offered in  
60 section 7 and 8 respectively. Tense, aspect and negation are discussed in section 9. Section 10 discusses some  
61 clitic-related phenomena such as clustering in 10.1. and climbing in 10.2. In section 11, finally, we reflect upon  
62 the theoretical implications of the present investigation, particularly in terms of Wackernagel's law.

### 2 b) Background to Shabaki

64 The term Shabaki refers to both the people and the language of the Shabaki minority. It is an Indo-European  
65 language of the Indo-Iranian branch spoken mainly in the eastern region of Mosul province in Iraq. In western  
66 research, Shabaki is mostly described as a Zaza-Goran dialect of northwestern Kurdish language. The Median  
67 branch of modern Iranian northwest includes Zaza-Dimli, Gorani, Gaspian dialects, south Tati, Hawramani (or  
68 Horami) and Shabaki (cf Izady 1992). Along the same line, Shabaki people are claimed to be the shabankara  
69 (or shawankara) Kurds of Fars district in Iran. 2 The constituent order is syntactically SOV; i.e. predominantly  
70 verb-final like most of its Indo-Iranian sisters. However, it does not adhere to a strict word order and sentence  
71 components may occur in various positions in the clause, depending on focusing and topicality. Like Turkish,  
72 Japanese or Finnish, Shabaki is an agglutinating language (with some fusion) where morphemes have single  
73 semantic meanings and are simply connected linearly (*yâna.gal.mân*: house.s.our: our houses). If the subject  
74 is an NP, it is cross referenced on V1. If it is a pronoun, then it is expressed on V1. Subsequent verbs are  
75 usually marked with the same pronominal vowel clitics. For these and other reasons, Shabaki can be said to  
76 have a complex morphology. Another feature of this language is the presence of complex predicates, such as light  
77 verb constructions, onomatopoeic light verbs and serial verb constructions which are very productive (Sultan,  
78 2010(Sultan, & 2011)).

## 3 II. Pronominal Clitics in Shabaki: Their Morpho-Syntactic Properties

81 Let us first present the clitic paradigm in Shabaki in table (1) below. The table above shows that Shabaki  
82 pronominal clitics appear in 36 member paradigm. It is important to note that all forms of personal pronouns  
83 are subject to cliticization. They are only derived for person and number. Dative strong pronouns differ from  
84 accusative strong pronouns only by the addition of the preposition 'ba' (to). When clitics are used, the preposition  
85 becomes 'bana'. Clitics seem to retain their case marking and dative and accusative clitics have different weak  
86 forms. They invariably appear in strong forms post-verbally in mono-transitive canonical sentences. The choice  
87 of full versus clitic pronoun is presumably driven by discourse considerations. The weak nominative, dative and  
88 genitive clitics seem to be in line with Wackernagel law as it will be seen later.

89 (1) a. *kitâb-am dâ ba Ali*.

90 Book.ACC-1SG.POSS give.PST to Ali.DAT 4 I gave Ali the book.

91 (1) b. *Kitâb-am dâ ba-na-?*. Book.ACC-1SG.POSS give.PST to-towards-3 SG.DAT I gave him the book.

92 It is interesting to note that the mesoclitic 'na' appears between the preposition 'ba' and the nominal indirect  
93 object clitic 'na-?'. No reason except the phonological one is behind its occurrence because it does  
94 not have any specific meaning. In both (1a) and 1(b), the dative object appears in a prepositional phrase.

95 In table (1) above the strong first, second and third person singular, the accusative, dative and genitive clitics  
96 in sentences containing heavy verbs are syncretic because they all have the same form (-i). The weak nominative  
97 and genitive clitics in light verb constructions are also syncretic (-m), (-mân), (-at), (-tân), (-a?) and (?an) in  
98 first, second and third person singular and plural respectively. The strong nominative and genitive clitics in  
99 heavy verb sentences are only syncretic in third person singular. In second and third person plural in heavy verb  
100 sentences, the weak dative and genitive are syncretic. Pronominal clitics are placed after the first constituent in  
101 a clause or in a Wackernagel position.

102 So far, it has been clear that subject clitics agree in number with the subject of the clause except for the first  
103 and second person singular forms. In nontransitive canonical sentences (SV), clitics occur in second positions and

are attached to the leftmost element of a constituent phrase (verb phrase) whether the strong pronoun is present (2a-7a) or absent (2b-7b). The subjects in (2a-7a) are pronouns and the subjects are also expressed clitically on verbs. Subjects in (2b-7b) are only clitically expressed on the verbs. Therefore, it seems safe and sound to claim that these clitics obey the Wackernagel's law. See table ???. In Shabaki the OSV word order is considered canonical in monotransitive sentences as in ???8.a & b). It is conspicuous that the subject pronominal clitic cliticizes post-nominally to the object (whether the object be a noun or a pronoun). However, it does not lose its status as a clitic when the object is pronominalized, and never becomes a free-standing pronoun. Enclitics are obligatory whenever the verb is in first position in Shabaki as shown in (9a & b). Shabaki clitics never appear in initial position in such clauses. For example, the typical ordering of the clitic and verb (as in 9a & b) systematically switches to prevent the clitic from appearing clause-initially. There is of course an important interaction between enclisis and the Wackernagel law. As shown in (9) above, Shabaki clitics always appear to the right of the verb when the verb is clause initial, and can generally be claimed that Shabaki shows enclisis when the verb is clause-initial. The traditional explanation for this is that enclitic elements by definition require a host to the left, so naturally when they would otherwise appear clause initially, they must switch positions so that a left host is available. However, given that Shabaki clitics have been widely assumed to be both proclitic and enclitic and therefore dependent on both the verb and object for positioning, explaining the unexpected switch to enclisis for verb-initial contexts and the shift to encliticize to accusative object pro(noun) for object-initial contexts. I schematize the occurrence of clitic pronouns in Shabaki as follows:(10) a. V [+finite] + Enclitic Object b. Object + Enclitic V [finite]

Clitic placement in Shabaki as shown in the structures (10 a & b) above depends on the constituent immediately preceding the finite verb: X in (b). X is an object in the accusative case. The clitic can occur in enclisis to the verb in (10 a) when the object follows the verb. In (10 b) when X is sentence-initial, the clitic leaves the verb and attaches to the right of the host, i.e. it remains an enclisis. In Shabaki, clitics can not be placed in sentence-initial position as it is assumed above. When there is no element preceding the verb in sentence-initial position, the clitic has to occur post-verbally.

In Shabaki, the verb agrees with the subject or the object in number and person in all tenses and aspects. In (11a), for example, the verb 'kat' (fell) takes the morphological default form. In (11b) the post-verbal pronominal clitic form agrees with the nominative subject in number and person. This is true with light verbs (as in 12a & b) where the agreement in person and number is attached per-verbally to the preverbal element, be a noun or adjective. Ali and Ahmad talked.

Clitic doubling is a process whereby a clitic and a non-clitic referring to the same argument are allowed to co-occur in one clause (Halpern 1998: 107-8). Pronominal clitics cliticized to verbs, for instance, may co-occur in clauses with nominal phrases co-referential with them. In Shabaki, doubling involves exclusively subjects and there are no doubling 'object' clitics. Strong subject pronouns and their coreferential clitics co-occur within the same clauses. Interestingly, the glide 'y' with either '-i-' or '-e-' are inserted between the verb and the pronominal subject clitic. Consider the following examples in (13a & b):

(13) a. Am amâ-yi-m. 1SG come.PST.1SG. I came.

(13) b. Atu amâ-ye-t. 2SG come.PST.2SG You came.

Meso-clitics can also be detected in Shabaki as in (14a) below. The first subject clitic '-m-' is preceded by simple past clitic '-a-' and followed by the third person object clitic. This is a treble clitic sequence. In present progressive, accusative clitics are prepronominal clitics first position for topicality. The clitic and the non-clitic referring to the same argument cooccur in one clause as (14). ( ???4) a. Am (an) pek-â-m-a?. (Aman = I am who, it is me who ...) (-m-is a meso-clitic) 1SG beat.PST.1SG.3SG. I beat him. (14) b. Am(an) ma-peki-?. 1SG PROG-beat.PRES-3SG. I am beating him.

Serial verb construction (SVC) is a sequence of two or more verbs which act as a single but complex predicate. A sequence of verbs qualifies as an SVC if there is no marker of syntactic dependency between the components. In Shabaki, clitics tend to attach to both components of the serial verb constructions as in (15). ( ???5) Çam-at okar bitit-a.

## 4 Eye-GEN-2SG open-IMP see-IMP-2SG. Open your eyes and understand.

As for transitive verbs, the preverbal subject clitic agrees with the subject in SOV word order (as in 16a & b). Here, the verb reverts to the default unmarked form and carries agreement with nominative and not with accusative noun. In SVO, the verb agrees both in person and number with the subject (as in 17a & b). ( ???6) a. Ali dâr-a? bar-i. (SOV) Ali-NOM-3SG tree-3SG-NOM cut-PST Ali cut the tree. Numerous studies have recognized that cliticization of pronouns has both syntactic and phonological dimensions. The general rule for cliticization in Shabaki is that clitics attach to the end of the first word of the clause or phrase which they are syntactically constituents of, regardless of the syntactic category of that word whether a noun or a verb. Therefore, they seem to obey the Wackernagel law. In the examples above, the third person singular and plural clitics are attached to a noun (as in 16a) and to a verb (as in 17b).

In examples ???8 & 9) above and (16 and 17) below, Shabaki language seems to have retained Wackernagel-type object clitics which Iranian had originally Middle Persian/Parthian (cf. Boyce 1964; Brunner 1977). Shabaki does

## 9 B) HIN CONSTRUCTION

165 not lose them, but has them affixed on the verb in different word orders. The word order in (???) is possible  
166 because the verb carries the accusative marker 'i' of the direct object.

167 In the shabaki di-transitive sentences in (1 repeated below in 18), the direct object must appear pre-verbal  
168 while the indirect object occur post-verbal whether they consist of full NPs or clitics. When the subjects of these  
169 sentences are full pronouns or full NPs, they must appear clause-initial and the object appears second-position  
170 and the co-referential subject clitics always appear at the end of object, be it a full NP or a clitic. In ditransitive  
171 sentences, the word order is (OSV-PP). The dative object is always a prepositional object.

172 (18) a. kitâb-am dâ ba Ali. Book.ACC-1SG.POSS give.PST to Ali.DAT I gave Ali the book.

173 (18) b. Kitâb-am dâ ba-na-?. Book.ACC-1SG.POSS give.PST to-?-3SG.DAT I gave him the book.

174 It is important at this juncture to mention that present tense nominal sentences obey the canonical word order  
175 Complement VS. The verb To BE in Shabaki seems to have been morphologically shortened and therefore it  
176 appears as 'a' at the end of the sentence. In Shabaki, copular verbs are particles always required after the  
177 predicates that have first, second and third person subjects. They are fully grammaticalized for tense, negation  
178 and person. Examples (19)(20)(21)(22) in the table above contain present and future copular clitics which always  
179 appear clause-final when the subject is null. The copular clitic is context-sensitive. It is 'na' when it is added  
180 to a vowel-final complement. It is only 'a' when added to a consonant-final complement. When the vowel is  
181 short front 'i', the copular clitic becomes 'yâ' with the glide 'y-'. When the subject is animate, the subject  
182 pronominal clitic appear after the copular clitic. In the negative form, the negative clitic 'na' is inserted between  
183 the complement and the copular clitic which is 'â' with glide 'w' separating them.

184 The affirmative and negative copular verb clitic in simple past is the inchoative 'bi'. The pronominal subject  
185 clitic is cross-referential on copular inchoative 'bi'. The negative clitic is inserted between the complement and  
186 the inchoative 'bi'. Consider the following examples:

187 (23) a. Çarma-bi-m. White-1SG-BE.PST I was white.

188 (23) b. Çarma-na-bi-m. White-1SG-NEG-BE.PST I was not white.

189 To express the progressive aspect, the vowel 'o-' is added to the end of the complement and then the copular  
190 clitic is added. The negative clitic is inserted between the vowel 'o-' and the copular clitic. See the example in  
191 (24). Heart-wide-NEG-BE.PRES.PROG He was not getting generous.

192 (26) a. Hâli-yo-ma-bo. Empty-BE.PRES.PROG He was getting empty.

## 5 III.

## 6 Possessive Clitics

195 The notion of possession in Shabaki can be expressed in three ways: the possessive clitical pronoun, hin  
196 construction and ezafe construction. The following subsections will discuss in much detail these three ways.

## 7 a) Possessive pronominal clitics

197 The use of a clitic pronoun to express the possessor is shown in table (4) below. The genitive clitics are stated  
198 in table (1). The possessive pronouns in shabaki are always enclitics. They are attached to the end of the word.  
199 If there are adjectives or plural markers, the possessive clitic is always rightmost item.

## 8 Table 4 : Paradigm Possessive Pronouns in Shabaki

202 Singular possessive pronouns are preceded by 'a-' when they are attached to consonant-final nouns. When they  
203 are attached to vowel-final nouns, 'a-' does not appear. It is worth to note that the plural morpheme precedes  
204 the possessive pronominal clitics. It seems clear that in Shabaki the main difference between singular and plural  
205 possessive pronouns is that 'ân' is a clitic that can be seen as a pluralizing marker of pronouns. A simple  
206 comparison between singular and plural possessive pronouns reveals that the pluralizing item 'ân' is simply  
207 added to the singular forms to constitute the plural form.

## 9 b) Hin construction

208 The second way to convey possession in Shabaki is accomplished via using 'hin' construction. The origins of  
209 'hin' in Shabaki can be traced back to the Old Persian relative/demonstrative hya/tya. Darmesteter (1883) and  
210 Meillet (1931) point out that hya (tya-) is not a simple linker, but that it further has a demonstrative value. Hya  
211 (tya-) becomes -i/-y in Middle Iranian (Partian) and progressively loses its demonstrative value to end up as a  
212 simple linker and became specialized as a device for nominal attribution. In Shabaki, the grammaticalization of  
213 this linker has not proceeded in the same way and at the same rate of other Iranian languages. This resulted in a  
214 complex picture for the different uses of the Ezafe. It is hard to pinpoint when exactly this development process  
215 occurred. The most appropriate scenario for the grammaticalization of this linker in Shabaki is the following:(27)  
216 hya/ tya- hin-i hin -i  
217

218 By looking at examples in (28) in comparison to those in section 3.3., we can deduce that 'hin' is optional  
219 and it is undergoing the process of grammaticalization. In Shabaki, the use of 'hin' at present is considered  
220 more formal and emphatic than ezafe. More emphatic still is when 'hin' and 'I' of ezafe are linked. 'Yâna' in  
221 (28a) is definite even though it does not receive any defining particle. In indefinite form, it becomes 'yân-e'. The

222 enclitic attaching to 'trombel' in (28b) is the definite article and the indefinite counterpart is 'trombel-e'. The  
223 second '-I' attached to 'Jassim' in ?? The possessive pronouns can occur in hinconstruction which is comparable  
224 to of-genitive in English as in (30). In Shabaki, when the possessive pronoun is added to the nominal source, the  
225 result is a reflexive pronoun as in (38). This construction is a type of ezafe in Iranian languages. Interestingly, a  
226 possessive pronominal clitic may stick to 'hin' to express objective case. More interestingly, ezafe -i is added to  
227 the composite construction.

## 228 10 c) Ezafe construction

229 In general, there three types of ezafe in Shabaki. Ezafe often behaves strangely. The possessive pronoun is '-i'  
230 which can be a trait of Old Iranian. Consider the examples in (45). 5 (32) a. Trombel-i Jassim-i. Car-DEF  
231 Jassim-EZF Jassim's car (32) b. Trombel-aka Jassim-i. (-aka denotes diminutive sense) Car-DIM Jassim-EZF  
232 Jassim's (little) car Interestingly, -i also functions as a definite article and '-e' functions as indefinite article in  
233 Shabaki. Shabaki neither distinguishes between masculine and feminine nor between animate and inanimate.  
234 Nouns after numbers are not pluralized. Therefore, ezafe construction functions comparatively simpler. There  
235 are two basic patterns: N-ezafe Adj and N-ezafe N. In case of the N-ezafe N construction, the relationship is  
236 usually one of Possessee and Possessor or kinship. Definiteness is marked by the vowel -i vowel. Interestingly,  
237 the definite marker and the Ezafe are incompatible in Shabaki, i.e. you cannot have both at the same time. The  
238 element '-i' can be considered a genitive marker. It can also be added to 'hin' as in 'hini'.

239 The solid evidence we have for the claim that '-i' can function as ezafe in Shabaki is that it is never used in  
240 isolation. Ezafe is a linking clitic phonologically realized as /i/ after a consonant and /yi/ after a vowel. It appears  
241 after noun phrases. Phonologically it forms a unit with the preceding element. In possessive constructions, ezafe  
242 is affixed to the possessor. Interestingly, ezafe clitic is added to diminutive noun. It is always the last item in  
243 the noun phrase. Also, complex ezafe construction is possible. It may link three nouns together as in (34).

244 (33) a. Qaç-i kursi-la-i. Leg-DEF chair-DIM-EXF The leg of the chair.

245 (33) b. Tok-i sây-aka-I. Skin-DEF apple-DIM-EXF The skin of the apple.

246 (34) Qâp-i trombel-i Jassim-i. Door-DEF car-DEF Jassim-EXF The door of Jassim's car.

## 247 11 IV.

## 248 12 Demonstrative Pronoun Clitics

249 In this section, we provide a brief description of the properties of Shabaki demonstrative pronoun clitics that  
250 will be relevant to the discussion in this paper. Overall, the Shabaki demonstrative pronoun clitics show very  
251 unfamiliar syntactic properties. The three properties of the Shabaki demonstrative clitic paradigm that are  
252 unique, and relevant for our purposes here, are sketched below. The first notable property concerns the proximity  
253 and remoteness of the object. In most cases, there is a four-degree gradation among proximity and interesting  
254 property of the Shabaki demonstrative pronoun clitics, be they singular or plural, is that they have diminutive  
255 forms. The third, and most importantly, notable property of the Shabaki demonstrative clitics is the fact that  
256 they have a slight complex constructions such as doubling, trebling or even severalfold. Shabaki demonstrative  
257 clitics are doubled by comparative clitics, trebled by superlative clitics, and severalfolded by ezafe clitics or  
258 diminutive clitics as shown in the table (5) below.

## 259 13 Table 5 : Demonstrative pronominal paradigm in Shabaki

## 260 Table 6 : Strong and weak demonstrative clitics in

261 In addition to the noun and adjective demonstrative pronouns, there is a series of adverbial demonstratives  
262 meaning 'this place (i-ndâ = here)', 'that place (u-ndâ = there)', 'this time (i-stâ = now)', 'that time (u-stâ =  
263 then)', this way (i-tar = in this way), 'that way (utar = in that way)', (ç-i-do), (ç-u-ndo), (ç-i-ndâ), (ç-undâ),  
264 etc. in (35) in contradistinction to the specifier '-i' is used to convey the meaning of that specific place. (35) a.  
265 Arn-a gul-i sari u-n-dâ-i. Put-2SG rose-DEF on that-place-DEF Put the rose on there.

266 (35) b. Sari u-n-dâ-i arn-a gul-i. On that-place-DEF put-2SG rose-DEF Put the rose on there.

267 (36) a. Arn-a gul-i u-n-dâ. Put-2SG rose-DEF that-place Put the rose there. (36) b. U-n-dâ arn-a gul-i.  
268 That-place put-2SG rose-DEF Put the rose there.

269 Shabaki demonstrates some unique constructions such as combining full demonstrative pronouns with clitic  
270 personal pronouns when the former is the direct object in accusative case and the latter is the subject of the  
271 sentence in the nominative case. Nonetheless, the clitic form of the demonstratives alone renders the construction  
272 ungrammatical. Likewise, these pronouns with the same forms can be used with plural nominals as (39) because  
273 they are not sensitive to the pluralization of the nouns they define.

274 (39) a. I-trombel-gal These-cars These cars (39) b. U-trombel-gal Those-cars Those cars V.

## 275 14 Complementizer Clitics

276 Complementizers are known to have evolved from other grammatical words such as demonstrative pronouns,  
277 conjunctions, adpositions or case-markers, or from lexical words such as nouns and verbs. Complementizers in

278 Shabaki are introduced with the clitic 'ki' (which or that or who). In the list in (40), the complementizing clitic  
 279 'ki' follows nouns, full noun phrases, quantifiers and adverbs. 'Ki' gains its specific meaning from its co-text  
 280 and, therefore, it may indicate a variety of meaning such as near and far in time and place, this or that person,  
 281 thing, quality and manner, and few, little, a lot and much in number and quantity. A glance over the list of  
 282 complementizers in (40) reveals that they have emerged through grammaticalization. (40) a. Time *Istâ-ki*: this  
 283 time when (used in present and future time sentences) *Ustâ-ki*: that time when (used in past time sentences)  
 284 *Asâ-ki*: during, while (refers to the synchrony of two actions) *Hatâ-ki*: until the time when (refers to the end-point  
 285 of an action) *Çani-ki*: at the moment when (refers to the commencement-point of an action) *Waxti-ki*: when,  
 286 during (denotes all above complementizers) (40) b. Place *Indâ-ki*: this place where *Undâ-ki*: that place where  
 287 (40) c. Person, thing *Harke-ki* (anybody who) *Ina-ki*: this which, this who *Una-ki*: that which, that who (40) d.  
 288 Manner and quality *I-tar-ki*: this manner that, this way that *U-tar-ki*: that manner that, that way that (40) e.  
 289 Quantity *Êqa-ki*: to the degree that, to the number that, to the amount that VI.

## 290 15 Expletive Clitics (Existential

### 291 Construction)

292 The expletive subjects in shabaki existential sentences do not have the same lexical form across tenses. They  
 293 also vary with the polarity of the sentences. This complicated state can be ascribed to the fact that the expletive  
 294 subject clitic is homophonous with the possessive verb 'hand' (to have) on the one hand and homophonous with  
 295 the verb 'be' (to be) on the other hand. In past tense, the possessive clitics, expletive clitics and copular clitics  
 296 lump together to formulate the entire expletive clitical subject. What is salient about the future is that the  
 297 inchoative construction is used to express the existential sentences. The pivot in existential sentences in shabaki  
 298 may be inverted to sentence-initial position. The negative clitic 'ni-' or 'na-' procliticize the expletive clitics.  
 299 The tenor of examples the table (7) below is that expletive subjects are in fact a cluster of two or more clitics.  
 300 Inchoative verbs describe a change of state (the process of beginning or becoming). The striking difference among  
 301 the items used to express expletion can not be a matter of mere chance. The present form stands at stark contrast  
 302 to past and future. This issue leads us straight into the question why does this variety occur? Most strange, the  
 303 affix '-o' is a productive inchoative clitic usually added to nouns and adjectives or sometimes adverbs. *Ma-b-o*  
 304 consists of three elements: future-denoting clitic 'ma-', copular '-b-' and the inchoative clitic '-o'. In (41b), the  
 305 glide '-y-' is inserted to ease pronunciation. In (42b), the combination of negation and the verb 'to be' is rather  
 306 conspicuous without the interference of any glide.

## 307 16 VII.

## 308 17 Diminutivization

309 The commonest word-formative device among nouns is the creation of a diminutive (a form which indicates  
 310 smallness) from a base noun. The striking feature of this morphological phenomenon in Shabaki is that it never  
 311 occurs without either the definite (-a) or indefinite article (-e). Included in the table (8) are diminutive clitics.

## 312 18 Table 8 : Diminutive clitics in Shabaki

313 The referents of demonstrative pronouns can be diminutivized 'ina-la' (this little) and 'una-la' (that little). 'al'  
 314 is encliticized to singular possessive pronouns referring both to items near and far. There are two wordlevel  
 315 diminutive clitics in Shabaki: (-a) k and -l. when -k attaches to consonant-final words the intervening vowel -a is  
 316 inserted between the word and the clitic, then the definite or indefinite clitics are added. It is important to note  
 317 that -a is a specific article defines the noun it attaches to. The (in) definite clitics are always the outermost ones.  
 318

319 Related to diminutive are degradation clitics in Shabaki. It is usually common in Shabaki to add the enclitic  
 320 '-o' (that) to any proper noun to degrade his or her person. If the noun ends in a vowel, the enclitic replaces  
 321 the final vowel and forms a prosodic word. If the noun ends in any consonant, it encliticizes to that consonant  
 322 and forms a prosodic word. (44a) conveys a polite or neutral meaning whereas (44b) carries a degrading tone or  
 323 belittling of the person concerned. Surprisingly, the diminutive clitic '-la' can be added to this degradation clitic  
 324 '-o' as in (44c). The first striking property of the conjunctive clitic 'u' (and) in Shabaki is its rather unusual  
 325 distribution. It always appears after the first word in the sequence of conjoined items, i.e. in second position  
 326 within a phrase. Note that its distribution does not rely on the word class of the preceding word, to which it is  
 327 attached: in (45a) it attaches to a noun, in (45b) to an adjective or adverb, and in (45c) it attaches to a verb.  
 328 The evidence for the bound status of this element comes from prosodic phonology. Here, the host word 'kura'  
 329 and the particle -u form a unit with respect to stress assignment. In Shabaki, stress is placed on the penultimate  
 330 syllable of a word if it is heavy; otherwise it is placed on the antepenultimate syllable. Therefore, 'kura' would  
 331 be stressed on the antepenultimate 'kura'. If this word happens to be followed by the unstressed particle -u,  
 332 however, stress is assigned to the syllable immediately preceding -u yielding *kura-w*. Note that this rule of stress  
 333 assignment does not make reference to the weight of the syllable preceding -u. Even if this syllable happens to be  
 334 light, it will receive stress in this case. This behavior in stress assignment justifies the postulation of a domain in  
 335 prosodic phonology which encompasses both the host word and the clitic particle in a clitic group (cf. Nespor &  
 Vogel 1986, Jacobs 1997 ?? Anderson 1992: 202). This constellation of properties can best be captured by saying

336 that elements like the Shabaki -u "are words from the syntactic point of view but are phonologically dependent  
337 \*?+ upon a neighboring word" (Zwicky 1994: 572).

338 The phonological bonding of this clitic is a purely phonological matter and relies in this case on processes of  
339 syllabification. This positioning affects the stress pattern of the first conjoined item. The enclitic 'u' provides  
340 an example for a rule which is dependent on speech rate. Here, this element assimilates to the beginning of the  
341 following item in fast speech (cf Kaisse 1985: 25ff, Borg & Azzopardi-Alexander 1997: 137). Given the fact that  
342 Wackernagel's law forbids clitics to appear in initial position due to their phonological status, the conjunctive  
343 marker 'u' (and) always encliticizes to the end of the first word and not at the beginning of the second word.

## 344 19 IX.

## 345 20 Tense, Aspect and Negation

346 Let us now deal with the clitic forms and distributions of tense, aspect and negation one by one, and discuss  
347 their specific properties and interactions. We will start with tense. Tense in Shabaki is sometimes expressed  
348 by certain proclitics which occur before the verb. In intensive simple present tense and simple future sentences,  
349 the copula verbs have 'â' and 'na' proclitics for affirmative and 'wâ' preceded by the negation marker 'na' (not)  
350 for negative. Shabaki signals negative polarity inflectionally among other strategies. The glide 'w' is inserted to  
351 ease the transmission from 'a' of 'na' into tense marker 'a'. If the complement ends in a consonant sound, the  
352 present tense clitic appears as 'â' but appears as 'na' if it end in vowel. These two clitics are in complementary  
353 distribution. Past tense is expressed by the proclitics '-bi'. Speakers of Shabaki usually have difficulties assigning  
354 a precise meaning to -o in this position other than indicating tense. However, it attaches to a phonological host,  
355 forming a stress unit with it. Past progressive is expressed by a cluster of proclitics: '-o-' expressing change-  
356 of-state. The negation marker 'na-' precedes the progressive marker 'ma-'. Progressive past is achieved via 'a-'  
357 Negation clitic in Shabaki has the same status as the imperfect clitic (ma-) discussed above, since it is positioned  
358 before the main verb and cannot occur in isolation. It is stressless and the vowel is omitted before verbs which  
359 begin with a vowel. It is sometimes embedded into clitic clusters when the verb is preceded by imperfective  
360 aspect proclitic. Negation clitic never serves as a host for other clitics. In (46a) the copula verb is itself a clitic  
361 whereas in (46b) the copular verb is a host and the negative marker procliticizes to it.

362 (46) a. Qarmaz-â. Red-BE.PRES.3SG It is red.

363 (46) b. Qarmaz na-wâ. Red NEG-BE.PRES.3SG It is not red.

364 To sum up, the negation proclitic in Shabaki is 'na'. It always precedes the verb and can occur in clusters  
365 with other clitics, such as tense and aspect clitics. It seems that 'na' in Shabaki is a clitic both phonologically  
366 and grammatically. It is unstressed. It does not occur in isolation and is always attached to the verbal host.  
367 It is inserted between tense and aspect clitics. The negative marker 'na' loses its clitical status and becomes a  
368 full lexical word when it is used to answer to a yes-no question. -w- is an epenthetic glide between the negative  
369 enclitic and the copula verb -a'. A glottal stop is attached to the end of the word in this case.

370 Shabaki has a two-class pronominal system (strong -clitic pronouns) that is attested with morphologically  
371 distinct forms and has a different distribution. The form of the (in) definite article in Shabaki is weak and needs  
372 a host word and forms one prosodic constituent. Clitic doubling, clustering and climbing may be considered  
373 defining features of Shabaki. Clitic doubling demonstrated the slightest degree of grammaticalization and the  
374 highest degree of pragmatic significance. All subject pronouns need to be doubled by coreferential clitics usually  
375 attached postverbally. This doubling is obligatory.

376 Contrary to full pronouns, clitics are syntactically deficient in that they cannot be modified, co-ordinated or  
377 contrastively stressed. Furthermore, they can occur neither in isolation nor in the same positions as full pronouns  
378 or NPs. With respect to their referential properties, they differ from full pronouns insofar as they can refer to  
379 non-human entities, while full pronouns cannot.

380 In Shabaki the subject and object of a sentence occur in pre-verbal position (Shabaki is a OSV language), but  
381 they may attach themselves as clitic pronouns to the end of the verb and form a one-word sentence. Like some  
382 European languages, clitics in Shabaki never occur in a sentence initial position even when word order changes  
383 from SOV (as in 53a) to VSO (as in 53b), to SVO (as in 53c) or to VSO concantative sentence where the subject  
384 and object are encliticized to the verb (as in 53d). In Shabaki nominals, it is noteworthy to observe that clitics  
385 sometimes allow to densely pack several morphosyntactic details into just a small amount of text. Shabaki object  
386 pronoun clitics are enclitic to finite verbs and remains enclitic to non-finite forms. Shabaki shows relics of ezafe  
387 clitics which are recorded from the middle Persian. These forms were gradually used less and less, and then  
388 substituted for by other simplified forms. Although Shabaki is SOV, some verbs may appear in sentence-initial  
389 positions. In these cases, proclitics are disallowed as in (53a).

390 It is observed that Shabaki tends to have its focused components in clause-initial position.

391 (54) a. Am-na? tit. 1SG-3SG see.PST He saw me.

392 Finally, we can conclude that clitics in Shabaki have various distributions. They can attach to nominal, verbs,  
393 prepositions, pronouns and other clitics. This may be the rationale behind the numberless word order possibilities  
394 in Shabaki which arise out of the complex, dynamic interaction of clitics and basic clause elements. This state  
395 conveys an impression of vividness and some complication to learners of this language.

396 This paper demonstrated that Wackernagel's law is highly operative in Shabaki. The Shabaki clitics are

397 principally phrasal in character and obey the Wackernagel law. In Shabaki, there is a change in clitic placement  
 398 that is neither connected to the clitics' phrasal character nor to their obedience to the Wackernagel's law, but  
 399 that it is the parameter determining the relative order between verb and clitic that has changed its value in the  
 400 development from middle Persian to present day Shabaki.

401 Like Slavic languages, Shabaki seems to exhibit a few cases a tension between two tendencies. On the one  
 402 hand, it tends to obey Wackernagel's Law and on the other hand it tends to follow the word to which they most  
 403 closely relate. Personal pronominal clitics, if they are not in second position, they are almost always after the  
 404 verb ??Gribble 1988, 194-195).

405 **21 Notes**

406 1. Endoclitics defy the Lexical Integrity Hypothesis but evidence from the Udi, Pashto and Degema languages  
 407 suggest that they do exist. 2. For more about the origin of Shabak in western research, the reader is referred to  
 408 Vinogradov (1974), Leezenberg (1997), Mackenzie (1961Mackenzie ( , 1966)), Izady (1992), and Bates & Rassam  
 409 (2000). 3. Â â as in apple; A a as in about; Çç as in church; ? ? as in shoe; ? ? as in vision; X x as in Loch (in  
 410 Scottish). The voiceless uvular fricative in English, ? ?, corresponds a voiced uvular fricative in Shabaki.

411 The voiced and the voiceless pharyngeal fricatives replace a andh in some Shabaki words respectively. The  
 last two sounds are not part of Shabaki phonology.<sup>1</sup>



Figure 1: Table 2 :

412

		Nominative Clitics		Accusative Clitics		Dative Clitics		Genitive Clitics	
		Strong	Weak	Strong	Weak	Strong	Weak	Strong	Weak
<b>1<sup>st</sup> SG</b>	HV	Am, aman	-ne	Amn-i	Amn-	Amn-i	-m	Amn-i	-am
	LV		-m					-m	
<b>1<sup>st</sup> PL</b>	HV	Ema	-yme	Ema-i	Ema-	Ema-i	-mân	Ema-i	-mân
	LV		-mân					-mân	
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> SG</b>	HV	Atu	-yit	At-i	Ati-	At-i	-t	At-i	-at
	LV		-at					-at	
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> PL</b>	HV	Şama	-yitân	Şama-i	Şama	Şama-i	-tân	Şama-i	-tân
	LV		-tân					-tân	
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> SG</b>	HV	Aw	-aş	Aw-i	Aw-	Aw-i	-ş	Aw-i	-aş
	LV		-aş					-aş	
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> PL</b>	HV	Awşân	-ye	Awşân-i	Awşân-	Awşân-i	-şân	Awşân-i	-şân
	LV		-şân					-şân	

9

Figure 2: ( 9 )

	Strong	Examples	Clitic	Examples
1 <sup>st</sup> SG	Am(an)	(2) a. Am(an) mor-i. 1SG eat.PRES-1SG I eat.	-i	(2) b. Mor-i. eat.PRES-1SG I eat.
1 <sup>st</sup> PL	Ema	(3) a. Ema mor-me. 1PL eat.PRES-1PL We eat.	-me	(3) b. Mor-me. eat.PRES-1PL We eat.
2 <sup>nd</sup> SG	Atu	(4) a. Atu mor-i. 2SG eat.PRES-2SG You eat.	-i	(4) b. Mor-i. eat.PRES-2SG You eat.
2 <sup>nd</sup> PL	Şama	(5) a. Şama mor-e. 2PL eat.PRES-2PL You eat.	-e	(5) b. Mor-e. eat.PRES-2PL You eat.
3 <sup>rd</sup> SG	Aw	(6) a. Aw mor-o. 3SG eat.PRES-3SG S/he eats.	-o	(6) b. Mor-o. eat.PRES-3SG S/he eats.
3 <sup>rd</sup> PL	Awşân	(7) a. Awşân mor-â. 3PL eat.PRES-3PL They eat.	-â	(7) b. Mor-â. eat.PRES-3PL They eat.

11

Figure 3: ( 11 )

	Positive	Negative
<b>Present and future</b>	(19) a. Trombel çarma-na. Car white-3SG-BE.PRES The car is white.	(19) b. Trombel çarma-na-wâ. Car white-3SG-NEG-BE.PRES The car is not white.
	(20) a. Rangin-â. Colorful-3SG-BE.PRES It is colorful.	(20) b. Rangin-na-wâ. Colorful-3SG-NEG-BE.PRES It is not colorful.
	(21) a. Ali-yâ. Ali-BE.PRES. It is Ali.	(21) b. Ali-na-wâ. Ali-NEG-BE.PRES. It is not Ali.
	(22) a. Mânda-n-me. Tired-BE.PRES-1PL We are tired.	(22) b. Mânda-na-wâ-n-me TiredBE.PRES-NEG-1PL We are not tired.

16

Figure 4: ( 16 )

24

	SG	Examples	PL	Examples
1 <sup>st</sup>	-(a)m	Horda-m (my food), trombel-gal-am (my cars)	-mân	Horda-mân (our food), trombel-gal-mân (our cars)
2 <sup>nd</sup>	-(a)t	Horda-t (your foot) Trombel-gal-at (your cars)	-tân	Horda-tân (your foot) Trombel-gal-tân (your cars)
3 <sup>rd</sup>	-(a)ş	Horda-ş (his/her foot) Trombel-gal-aş (his/ her cars)	-şân	Horda-şân (thier foot) Trombel-gal-şân (their cars)

Figure 5: ( 24 )

30

	Nearermost	Nearest	Nearer	Near	Far	Further	Furthest	Furthermost
Singular	ilayintariğısti	ilayintar	ilayin	Ina (this) Â ina (this near)	Una (that) Â una (that far)	ulayin	Ulayintar	ulayintariğısti
Singular Diminutive		ilayintaraka	ilayinaka	Inala	Unala	ulayinaka	ulayintaraka	
Plural				Inagal (these) Â ina-gal (these near)	Unagal (those) Â una-gal (those far)			
Plural Diminutive				Inagalja	unagalja			

Figure 6: ( 30 )

	Singular		Plural	
	Strong non-clitic	Weak clitic	Strong non-clitic	Weak clitic
Near	Ina (this)	i-	Ina-gal (these)	i-
Far	Una (that)	u-	Una-gal (those)	u-

Figure 7: (

	Positive	Negative
<b>Present</b>	(41) a. Hand-â duwa gul-e sari dâr-i. There-BE.PRES two roses on tree.DEF There are two roses on the tree.	(41) b. Ni-yâ wana gul-e sari dâr-i. NEG-there-BE.PRES any rose on tree.DEF There is not any rose on the tree.
<b>Past</b>	(42) a. Ha-bi duwa gul-e sari dâr-i. There-BE.PST two roses on tree.DEF There were two roses on the tree.	(42) b. Na-bi wana gul-e sari dâr-i. NEG-there-BE.PST any rose on tree.DEF There was not any rose on the tree.
<b>Future</b>	(43) a. Ma-bo duwa gul-e sar-i dâr-i. There-BE.FUT two roses on tree.DEF There will be two roses on the tree.	(43) b. Na-ma-bo wana gul-e sar-i dâr-i. NEG-there-BE.FUT any rose on tree.DEF There will not be any rose on the tree.

Figure 8: (

1

Figure 9: Table 1 :

3

Figure 10: Table 3 :

- 
- (28) a. Yâna hin Jassim-i.  
 House belongs to Jassim.  
 Jassim's house
- (28) b. Trombel-i hin Jassim-i.  
 Car-EZF belongs to Jassim-Ezafe  
 Jassim's car
- (28) c. Trombel-i hin he-?.  
 Car-EZF belongs to him-self  
 His own car  
 16
- (28) d. Trombel-i hin he?-â.  
 Car-EZF belongs to him-self-BE-PRST  
 It is his (own) car.
- (28) e. Trombel hin-I he-a?-â.  
 Car belonging-Ezafe REF-3SG-PRES  
 It is his (own) car.  
 It is worth remarking, however, that examples in  
 (29) sound somewhat weird and 'hin' is an integral part  
 of the sentence and it is obligatory.
- (29) a. Hin-a?  
 Belongs to his  
 His (own car)
- (29) b. Hin-a?-â.  
 Belonging-POSS.3SG-PRES.1SG  
 It is his.

Figure 11:



413 In extensive sentences, the negative proclitic 'na' also precedes the main verb. When the sentence is VS, the  
414 proclitic is verb-initial and breaches the Wackernagel law.

415 (47) a. Am-â. Come-PST-3SG He came.

416 (47) b. Na-m-â. NEG-come-PST-3SG He did not come.

417 The perfective enclitic 'na', which seems an independent item from tense, aspect or epistemic modality, takes  
418 on an evidential meaning insofar as it expresses indirect knowledge about an event: speaker has not witnessed the  
419 event but has acquired information about it from indirect sources by inference, hearsay, etc. It marks speaker's  
420 evaluation of the information. The verb ending with 'na' denotes an uncertain or probable action or event.

421 (47) c. Am-â-na. Come-3SG-PERF. He has come.

422 In (47c) above, 'am-â-na' is a present perfect sentence in Shabaki. The perfective clitic 'na' expresses an  
423 indirect evidentiality interpretation which allows both a report and an inference reading.

## 424 .1 X.

### 425 .2 Clitics-Related Phenomena a) Clitic clustering

426 In Shabaki, a sequence of a proclitic and an enclitic forms a phonological word. Various types of clitic-clitic  
427 combinations occur in Shabaki. In (48), it seems impossible for accusative third person object and third person  
428 dative object to cluster together.

429 (48) Dâ-m-a? ba-na-? Give.PST-1SG-3SG.ACC to-2SG.DAT I gave it to him.

430 The reciprocal pronoun 'ef-tar' (each other) is a phonological word which consists of only proclitic and enclitic  
431 without a host. Neither constituent can stand on its own. This clitical sequence can be preceded by a set of  
432 prepositions which are fused into the sequence. 'A' in the prepositions 'ba' (with), 'ça' (from) and 'na' (towards)  
433 is dropped out when pro-cliticized to the reciprocal pronoun 'eftar'. Consider the list in (49). The most interesting  
434 point about reciprocal pronouns in Shabaki is that they can be followed by personal pronouns as in (49). In  
435 (52a), the subject clitics '-i' and '?-ne' anaphorically refer to pronominal clitic subject '?-am'. In (52b), the clitic  
436 '?-a?' cataphorically refers to the full noun '?Ali'.

437 (52) a. Am alâ-t amâ-ne kâ ?â-t kar-i. 1SG to.2SG come.PST.1SG see.2SG do.INF.1SG (LV) I come to see  
438 you.

### 439 .3 Conclusions

440 Clitics are challenging for many theories of grammar because they straddle morphology and syntax. In most  
441 theories, cliticization is considered a phrasal phenomenon: clitics are affix-like expressions that attach to whole  
442 phrases. Constituency-based grammars in particular struggle with the exact constituent structure of such  
443 expressions. Clitics are grammatical words, but lack features of a phonological word. This paper has shown  
444 that Shabaki has an intricate system of clitics which includes subject pronominal clitics, object pronominal  
445 clitics (dative and accusative), possessive pronominal clitics, demonstrative clitics, ezafe clitics, diminutive clitics,  
446 aspectual clitics, tense clitics, connective clitics, copular clitics and negative clitics. In general, Shabaki has both  
447 simple clitics and special clitics. Shabaki pronominal clitics are special clitics. Shabaki has proclitics, enclitics  
448 and mesoclitics. All clitics cliticize obligatorily. They never bear stress.

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