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Text

Árui háralehai liumsi mí, síthi máka tyam, néen fénu imur.

Yá máhag mavan kwánne máhase ránde ímur síthi yoladhne dáš.

Yá máhag nevakke mí mave mí káfi astrí síthi visát tyamma.

Yá, ”Yáhet máhag waritmí astitrí?,

yáhet máhag nevakke mave mí kám dástrí?,

Máhag nevakke mí háva dáziri, háthaíyo nevakke mí rám wére tyamma,

Máhag Thómmen senei ímucrí vitáa tyam,”

Nées páslam dáš.

Yá, ”Ahét Thómme? Lúsu astí?”

Yá yán yudháyen levm yálen lethe ímur síthi yoladhne dáš.

Levmen áyath Thómme astrí.

Levm wáilám tháa dáziri, yál wáikéhe tháa dáš.

Yá máhag yálen senei síthi vitáa

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Grammar Stuff

Lulyún is normally an SOV language.

Verbs

For our purposes you only need to understand how Lulyún verbs mark person, number, tense, and valency.

A verb consists of a verb stem and one of five auxiliary verbs that carry inflection. The auxiliaries are *astí* (be, exist), *dás* (carry), *ímu* (do), *thá* (make), and *tyam* (be able, identify with). The selection of auxiliary is lexical; each verb stem is married to one or more auxiliaries, and each such pair has a specific meaning.

ASTÍ—BE, EXIST This auxiliary is most often used with verbs of quality or quantity such as *luyun* (be blue) or *hás* (be three). Ethnonyms are also associated with *astí* in most cases.

DÁS—CARRY Dás is associated with transitive or ditransitive verbs that don't alter their patients, like *thuyu* (give) or *kála* (desire).

ÍMU—DO This auxiliary is associated with verbs that create a change in their subject, such as *máka* (fear) or *meyag* (rest, camp). This verb family contains both transitive and intransitive verbs.

THÁ—MAKE Transitive verbs that create a change of state in the object are associated with *thá*. Some common examples are *náfu* (cut, injure) or *lithi* (push away). Verbs of destruction or creation, such as *sénei* (eat) or *galadh* (milk, squeeze), also fall into this family.

TYAM—BE ABLE, IDENTIFY WITH This is the auxiliary used with verbs of profession and knowledge. These are the largest category of polygamous verbs, since most of them can be used with a different auxiliary to indicate practice of the profession.

The inflection patterns for the auxiliaries are somewhat irregular in the simple present. The other aspects and tenses have regular patterns. The following table shows the full simple present paradigm for all five auxiliaries:

Table 2.1: Auxiliaries: The Simple Indicative Present

Aux	1.s	2.s	3.s	1.p	2.p	3.p
Astí	astí	astíya	astrí	asté	astísa	astíh
Dás	dás	dáš	dáš	dáse	dássa	dásah
Ímu	ímu	ímuya	ímur	ímue	imuša	ímuh
Thá	thá	tháh	thár	thái	tháša	tháṇa
Tyam	tyam	tyém	tyamma	tyame	tyamsa	tyameh

In the *anterior* tense, indicating a time prior to the reference time, the stems of the auxiliaries are *azi, dazi, ímuli, tháli, tyalmi*. In the *posterior* tense the stems are *astit, dast, ímutt, athá, tyand*. In these tenses the personal inflections are *1s-0, 2s-a, 3s-ri, 1p-e, 2p-ya, 3p-ih*.

VERBS OF MOVEMENT Lulyún verbs involving travel have a special case frame that's particular and shared with all the verbs of that category. They are associated with the auxiliary *ímu*. These verbs take a NOM argument, the traveler, and up to four additional arguments:

1. ACC Destination
2. GEN Point of departure
3. LOC Route traveled
4. OBL Vehicle

Some verbs such as *rám* (walk) or *fénu* (ride a horse) are able to take location arguments but do not take a vehicle argument.

Pregnant Verbs

A verb can incorporate one or more of its children in the form of a pronominal affix. This is a valency-reducing operation which removes the ACC child of a verb and promotes the DAT or OBL object, if one exists, to the ACC slot. The antecedent of a pronominal affix must be definite, i.e. it must be a particular instance of an object that's known to the participants in the conversation.

The pronominal affix appears directly after the verb stem, before any other suffixes.

There are multiple third-person affixes, the selection of which is semantic.

Table 2.2: Pronouns & Pronominal Affixes

Antecedent		Gender	Constraint	Stem 1	Stem 2	Incorporated
1	**sg**	Red		né	nér-e	-ne-
1	**pl**	Red		hé	ten-e	-he-
1	**pl**	Red	descriptive suffix	—	-kel-e	—
2	**sg/pl**	Red	human, casual	lé	lén-e	-le-
2	**sg**	Red	human, formal	lénu	lénur-e	-liun-
2	**sg**	Red	human, honorific	kél	kél-e	-kel-
2	**sg/pl**	X	non-human	rá	rán-e	-ran-
2	**pl**	Red	human, non-casual	—	gáun-e	-go-
3	**sg**	Red	proximate	yá	thén-e	
3	**sg**	Blue	proximate	renul	renuly-a	
3	**sg**	Green	proximate	kwál	kwánn-a	
3	**sg/pl**	X	medial	ál	ázu-e	
3	**sg/pl**	X	distal	ár	áru-e	
3	**pl**	X	proximate	—	thén-e	

In this table, gender "X" indicates that a pronoun is morphologically red, but words agreeing with it are marked with the gender of its antecedent. Pronouns with no singular forms have no stem 1. Third-person pronominal affixes are more complex than first and second person; see the tables below.

Table 2.3: Red Gender Pronominal Affixes

Affix	Etymology	Used for
-Ahár	Sun	Celestial objects and weather
-Asái	Wind	Lightweight things
-Fen	Tooth	Catlike predatory creatures
-Lam	Hand	Humans
-Sem	Eye	Birdlike predatory creatures
-Seyen	Spirit	Holy things
-Athán	Fire	Other dangerous things
-Mel	Animal	Catchall

Nouns

Noun Inflection

Lulyún nouns inflect for seven cases and two numbers: nominative, accusative, genitive, dative, locative, vocative, and oblique; singular and plural.

RED I Red declension I nouns have two stems. The citation form for these is (NOM.s, NOM.p), showing both stems in context. In the table below, we'll refer to these as stems 1 and 2.

Table 2.4: Red Declension I

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	1-ø	2-e
Acc.	1-en	2-en
Gen.	1-en	2-en
Dat.	1-es	2-i
Loc.	2-e	2-i
Voc.	2-o	2-eso
Obl.	1-o	2-oso

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Lexicon

HOW TO READ An entry in this lexicon is in the following format:

- Stems of the entry — Smallcaps, inflected.
- Word class, inflection class — italicized.
- Nouns only — Referential verb affix.
- Definition(s). Verbs are given with their case frames; NOM case is unmarked.

For nouns, there are two possible stem patterns: two stems (NOM.s, NOM.p) or three stems (NOM.s, NOM.p, ACC.s).

For verbs, the stem patterns are one stem (present tense), two stems (present, anterior), or three stems (present, anterior, posterior).

ÁHET *pn.* —- :: Who

ÁL, ÁZUE *pn. red 3*—- :: Medial deictic pronoun

ÁR, ÁRUE *pn. red 3*—- :: Distal deictic pronoun

ÁYATH *n.* —- :: Name

HÁRATHÁR, HÁRALEHA *n. green 2*—*thar* :: East

KÉHE *n. green 4*—- :: Wing

LÁM *n. green 1*—- :: Hand

LEVM, LEVME *n. red 2*—*seyen* :: Ghost

LIUM, LIUMSE *n. red 2*—*ahár* :: Day

LÚSU *n. blue 4*—- :: Water

MÁHAG, MÁHAZGE *n. red 2*—*mel* :: Lit. "night-dog"; a fox, wolf, or other wild canine

MAV, MAVA *n. green 2 —* :: Town

NEVAH, NEVAKKE *n. green 2 — -* :: Cave

SÍTHI, SÍSTE *n. red 2 — lam* :: Young person

YÁL *n. red 1 — sem* :: Bird

YUDHÁ, YUDHÁYE, YUDHÁYEN *n. red 4 — lam* :: Grandfather

FÉNU *v. — ímu* :: Ride. A travel verb.

KÁFI *v. — astí* :: X Y-OBL - X is located at Y.

KÁM *v. — dás* :: X Y-ACC - X sees Y.

LETHE *v. — ímu* :: Fly. A travel verb.

MÁKA *v. — thá, tyam* :: Fear

1. *X Y-ACC thá* - X is afraid of Y
2. *X tyam* - X is fearful

NÁVA *v. — dás* :: X Y-OBL - X lives in or dwells at Y.

PÁS *v. — dás* :: X Y-DAT yá (clause) - X asks Y, (clause).

RÁM, RÁLLE, RÁNDE *v. — ímu* :: Walk. A travel verb.

SAT *v. — tyam* :: X yá (clause) - X knows (clause).

TÁA *v. — tyam* :: X yá (clause) - X wants (clause).

WÉRE *v. — tyam* :: X is able to

YOLADH *v. — dás* :: X Y-DAT yá (clause) - X says to Y, (clause).

-MI *Verb* :: Inchoative

VI- *Verb* :: Negative

WÁI- *Noun* :: Bad

1. "Lúsu astí?" - A stock phrase, "How are they doing?"
2. mí - Postposition "in"
3. Thómme - A name. Can be used as an astí verb
4. yá - Relativizer
5. yáhet - y/n question marker