

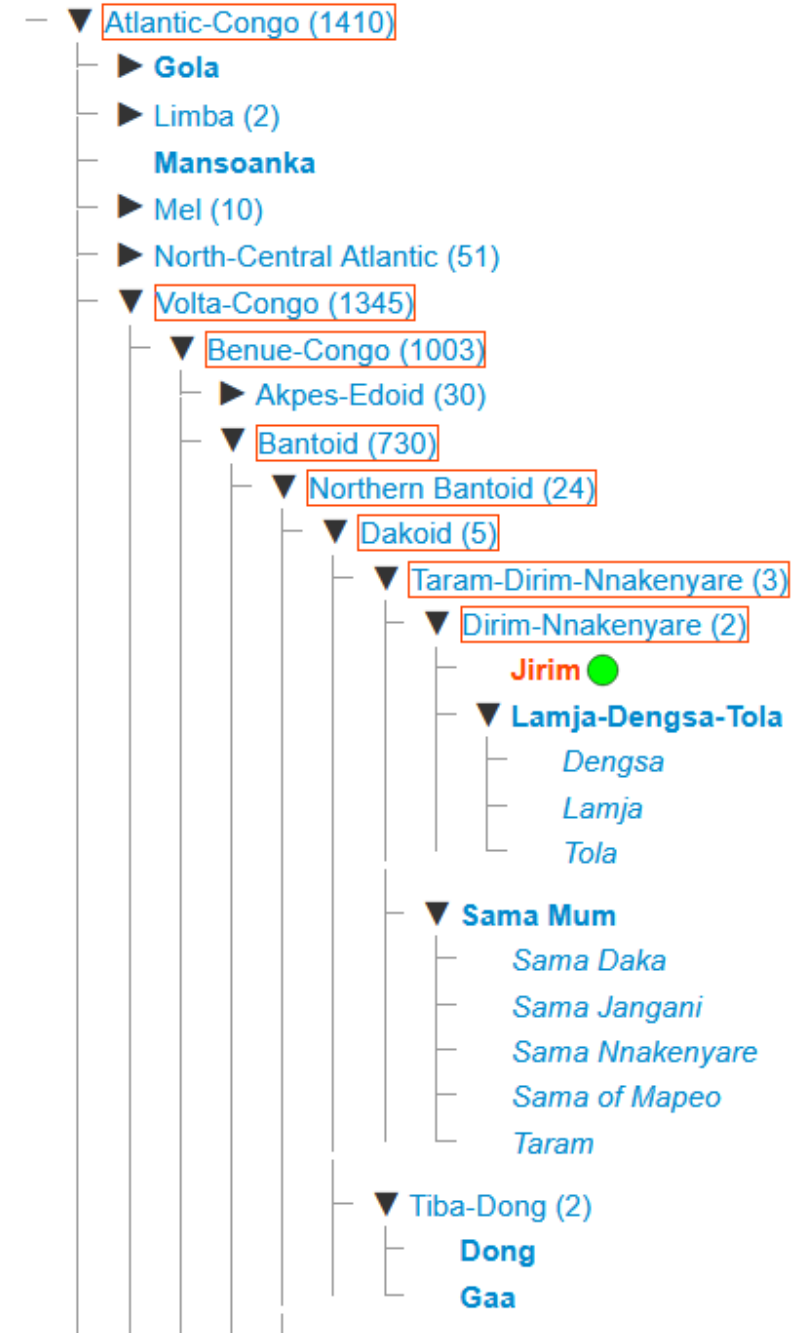


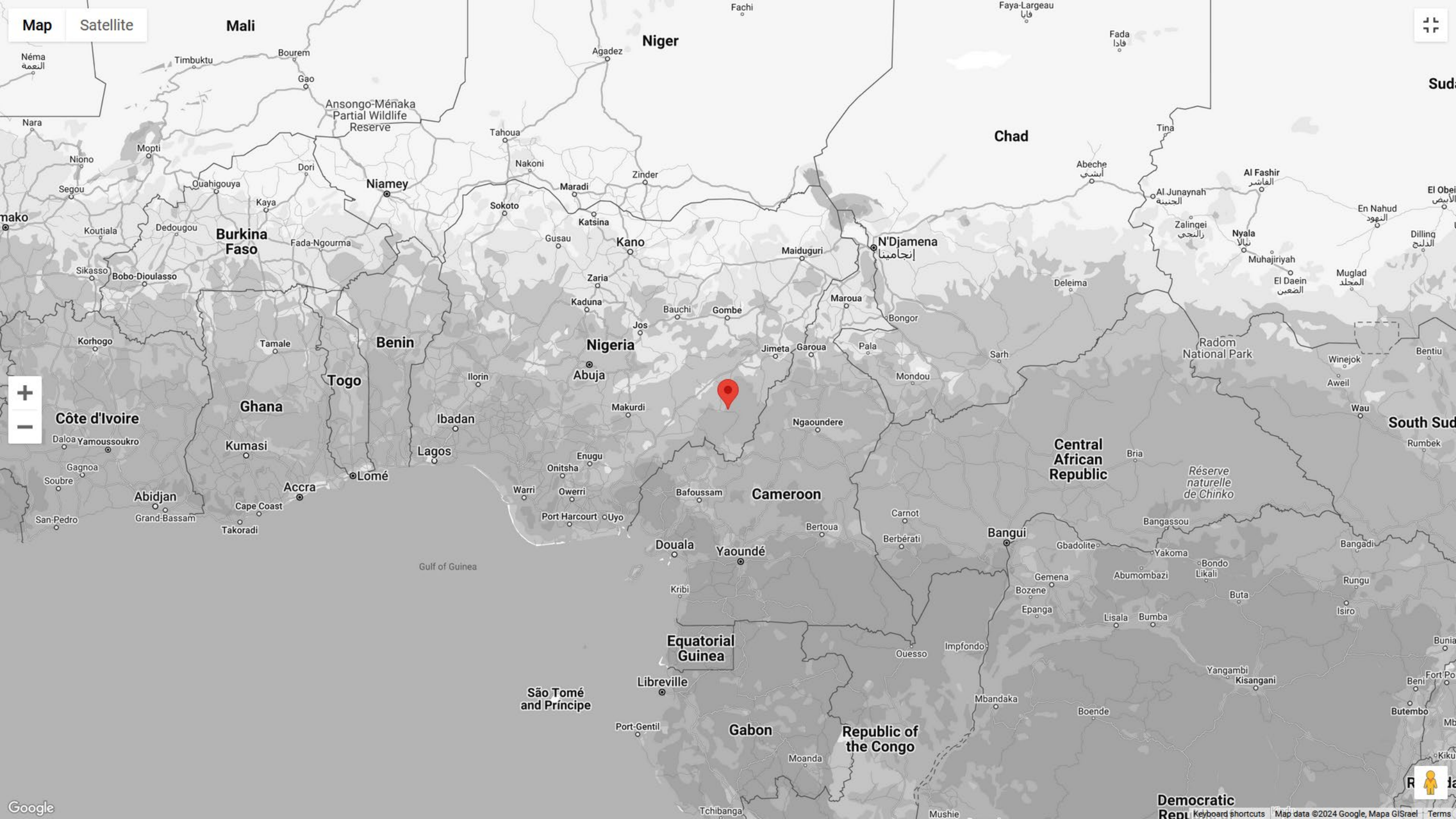
Documentation and Description of the Jirim Language and Traditions

Olga Olina | Afrikalinguistisches Kolloquium | HU Berlin | 02 July 2024

Jirim

- ISO-3 dir | Glottocode [diri1253]
- AES Status: Threatend
- Spoken in Taraba State, central-eastern Nigeria
- Approximately 5,000-10,000 speakers
- Dakoid language of the Atlantic-Congo family





Map Satellite



Migoed 1925 *Through British Cameroons*

- Dirrim of Gamnadarri
- Burial customs
- Wordlist with numerals and 14 lexemes
- Appendix I (p. 273)
- Data for Daka (1) of Adagoro by the Kaigamma, Daka (2) of Su over the hills behind Toongo and Chamba at Toongo

XLIII. DIRRIM (OF GAMNADERRI).

By Mr. K. E. Tulloch.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Nue. | 10. Kum. |
| 2. Ba. | 11. Kumbanue. |
| 3. Tarra. | 12. Kumbaba. |
| 4. Nasa, naha. | 18. Kumbadiffo. |
| 5. Tona. | 19. Kumbanue (?). |
| 6. Tunni. | 20. No nue. |
| 7. Tumba. | 30. No ne ba kum. |
| 8. Diffo. | 50. No ba ba kum. |
| 9. Banue. | 100. No tona. |

Fowl, Kwari. Goat, Bini. Sheep, Tamserri. Bush cow, Naam. Dog, Yang. House, Wissi. Tree, Chim. Water, Yaa. Fire, Yuo. Sun, Su. Moon, Suang. Star, Zohe. Man, Nuyom. Woman, Nuyau.

Meek 1931 *Tribal Studies in Northern Nigeria*

- Dirrim as spoken at Kwagiri
- Locations
- Clans
- Matrilineal clans
- with a matrilineal system of marriage
- Wordlist (p. 411) with 53 items
- Data for Chamba Daka and Taram

Turning now to the mother-right group of Daka, viz. the sub-tribes known as the **Dirrim** and Taram, these are located in the Muri Emirate and in the mandated districts of Tongo and Gashaka. The **Dirrim** are found at Kwagiri, Ganadere, Gati, Garke, Gatijum, Zore, Gangume, Gambô, Duna, Gankushi, Tukurua, and Jamtari. The Taram are found at Jamtari, Kogin Baba, Gumti, and Adagoro. As some of these villages are located in Nigeria and some in the mandated territory,

The **Dirrim** consist of the following clans: the Gbâdarakon, Gazangakon, Shirikon, Nyangakon, Yamkon, Chakon, Chinukon, Jiekon, Zungnakon, Uzhokona, Kwookon, Jangkon, Piekona, Gangkon, Sunkon, Tabakon, and Dungkon.

¹ The Mumuye appear to contain a **Dirrim** element. The **Dirrim** are neighbours of the Kam.

Meek 1931

DIRRIM DIALECT

(As spoken at Kwagiri)

1. Head	tie	tie
2. Hair	tie lunshi	tie lunfi
3. Eye	tuwi	tuwi
Two eyes	tugbara	tugbara
4. Ear	ta	ta
Two ears	ta bara	ta bara
5. Nose	viene	viene
6. One tooth	nyin nuan	njin nuan
Five teeth	nyin toona	njin toona
7. Tongue	hlere	lere
8. Neck	gure	gure
9. Breast (woman's)	nyisa	njisa
10. Heart	cham	tʃam
11. Belly	pu	pu
12. Back	kom or dimma	kom or dimma
13. Arm	wa	wa
14. Hand	wa na	wa na
Two hands	wa na bara	wa na bara
15. Finger	wati	wati
Five fingers	wati toona	wati toona
16. Finger nail	wa nyisha	wa njifa
17. Leg	ding	dɪŋ
18. Knee	ding lung	dɪŋ luŋ
19. Foot	ding na	dɪŋ na
Two feet	ding na bara	dɪŋ na bara

20. Man (person)	nyi	nji
Ten people	nyi kum	nji kum
21. Man (not woman)	lerim	lerim
Two men	lerim bara	lerim bara
22. Woman	nungwo	nuŋwo
Two women	nungwo bara	nuŋwo bara
23. Child	me	me
24. Father	da	da
25. Mother	nya	nja
26. Slave	kasen	kæsen
27. Chief	jang	dʒaŋ
28. Friend	mana	mana
29. Smith	kperi	kperi
30. Doctor	jubjiê	dʒubdʒiê
31. One finger	wati nuan	wati nuan
32. Two fingers	wati bara	wati bara
33. Three fingers	wati tara	wati tara
34. Four fingers	wati nasa	wati nasa
35. Five fingers	wati toona	wati toona
36. Six fingers	wati tini	wati tini
37. Seven fingers	wati tum bara	wati tum bara
38. Eight fingers	wati dupo	wati dupo
39. Nine fingers	wati kpânuan	wati kpânuan
40. Ten fingers	wati kum	wati kum
41. Eleven fingers	wati kum ba nuani	wati kum ba nuani
42. Twelve fingers	wati kum ba bara	wati kum ba bara
42a. Thirteen fingers	wati kum ba tara	wati kum ba tara
43. Twenty fingers	no nuan	no nuan
44. A hundred fingers	chingnoa	tʃɪŋnoa
46. Four hundred fingers	wurum	wurum
47. Sun	sun or shun	sun or ʃun
48. Moon	su or shu barang	su or ʃu barang
Full moon	su barang tava	su barang tava
New Moon	su barang pashi	su barang paʃi
49. Day	su tawari	su tawari
Night	takhara	taxara
Morning	takh shino	tax ʃino
50. Rain	duri	duri
51. Water	wokhi	wɔxi
54. Salt	gum	gum
59. House	wu	wu

Lesage (2018)

- 1 h elicitation
- AdaGram questionnaire
- Adamu Shamaki from Bali LGA
- *First Jirim Dictionary* (2023)

First Jirim Dictionary

Dedicatied to all Jirim

Compiled by Olga Olina
Data collected by Dr. Jakob Lesage
In collaboration with Adamu Shamaki

8 June 2023

B b

bīī *n* goat



bīī

bīrī black

bizàá *n* fly



bizàá

C c

cīngānē *quant* many

cīngē full

cōā *n* bird

1

Field work

- June-July 2023
- 6 weeks in total
- Jalingo, Garba Chede, Gangumi
- Assembled a team
- Ongoing remote collaboration



Transcription and Translation in ELAN

77	gàŋ sũe bísúen séné	donkey meat	Jatau Swavti var. gàŋ t̃júe bíťjúen t̃jéné (king of carrying load meat)
78	wánnē	dog	Jatau Swavti var. náŋē
79	wánnē séné	dog meat	Jatau Swavti var. náŋ t̃jēnē
80	wánnē	dog	Jatau Swavti var. náŋ
81	wánnē séné	dog meat	Jatau Swavti var. náŋ t̃jēnē
82	tó:rē	tail	Jatau Swavti var. tó:rē
83	zĩ: tó:rē	pig's tail	
84	zĩ: tó:rē	pig's tail	
85	sāŋwúr tó:rē	animal's tail	
86	sāŋwúr tó:rē	animal's tail	
87	sāŋwúr tó:rē	tail of animals	
88	nǎ: tó:rē	cow's tail	Jatau Swavti var. nǎ tó:rē
89	bĩŋ tó:rē	goat's tail	Jatau Swavti var. bĩŋ tó:rē
90	nǎ: tó:rē	cow's tail	Jatau Swavti var. nǎ tó:rē
91	bĩŋ tó:rē	goat's tail	Jatau Swavti var. bĩŋ tó:rē
92	gàŋ sũe bísúen tó:rē	donkey's tail	Jatau Swavti var. gàŋ t̃júe bíťjúen tó:rē
93	bìzè	fly	Jatau Swavti var. var bìzè
94	bìzè	fly	Jatau Swavti var. bìzè
95	bìzè:wú:rí	flies	Jatau Swavti var. bìzè:wú:rí
96	bìzè:wú:rí	flies	Jatau Swavti var. bìzè:wú:rí
97	wú:sí	mosquito	Jatau Swavti var. wú:sí

ELAR Collection

JIRIM

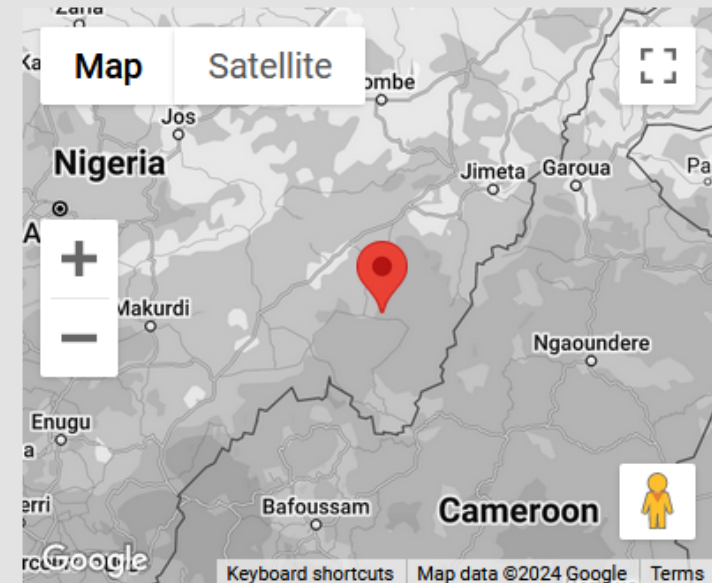
Depositor: Olga Olina

Collection: Jirim Voices: Documentation and Description of Jirim Language and Traditions

This collection aims to capture the linguistic and cultural heritage of the Jirim people. Presently, the collection consists of almost 10 hours of recordings capturing various aspects of Jirim traditional life, such as cooking demonstrations, narrated oral history, and spontaneous conversations about weather and other topics. A substantial part of the collection is devoted to elicitation of wordlists and basic sentences. About half of the recordings have minimal annotation, including translation into English, transcription in IPA, and linguistic comments, all created in close collaboration with native speakers. The materials were recorded during fieldwork in Taraba in June-July 2023.

Access Collection here:

Link: <http://hdl.handle.net/2196/80982f29-62b6-4fa2-9d43-62c0e7b323b3>



ELAR Collection

- 4 hrs naturalistic video recordings

- 5 hrs 30 min elicitations

Based on AdaGram lexical questionnaire (Idiatov 2022)

- 1 h 30 min translated
- 24 min transcribed
- 171 lexical entries in the FLEx data

The screenshot shows a digital archive interface for the collection 'jirim-olina-0769'. At the top, the collection ID is displayed in orange. Below it, a breadcrumb trail reads 'Browse Archive > Endangered Languages Archive > jirim-olina-0769'. On the right, there are navigation icons for 'Sort by Title', a list view icon, a grid view icon, and a search icon. A metadata table is visible, with columns for 'Collection', 'Location', 'Longitude', and 'Actor'. The 'Collection' row shows 'jirim-olina-0769' with a handle and title. The 'Location' row lists 'Continent: Africa', 'Country: Nigeria', and 'Latitude: 78827'. The 'Longitude' row shows '11.1811'. The 'Actor' row lists 'Full Name: Olga Olina' and 'Role: Depositor'. A 'Show more' button is at the end of the table. Below the table is a search bar with the text 'Search within' and a 'FOLDER' button with a magnifying glass icon. On the left, a 'REFINE YOUR SELECTION' sidebar contains filters for 'Language' (English (23), Jirim (23)), 'Person' (Adamu Shamaki Gangsem (2), Jakob Lesage (2), Mary J. Lamba (2), Moses Adamu (16), Obidah Amos (10), and a 'Show 6 more' link), and 'Genre' (Consent (1), Conversation (1), Demonstration). The main content area displays a list of items, each with a thumbnail, a title, and a link to 'O_OpenAccess'. The items include: 'Affixation in Jirim: A spontaneous conversation about agent nouns, plural formation and personal pronouns', 'Animals: Appearance, behaviour, and diet of Agama lizards', 'Chopping firewood in preparation for cooking', 'Cooking ingredients in Jirim cuisine: What we bought at the Rat market', 'Cooking leere and swallow: A traditional Jirim meal', 'Cooking leere and twoweere: Ingredients and recipes', 'Cooking twoweere, a traditional Jirim groundnut and okra soup', and 'Crossing Taraba river in a canoe to reach Gangumi'.



we will be talking about the way
Jirim delicious soups are cooked.

Project Plan



The project aims to comprehensively document the language and its cultural context. An **extensive audio-visual corpus** will be created, capturing various aspects of Jirim community life and language, ranging from daily activities to unique cultural traditions. Three Jirim festivals will be recorded to preserve them for future generations. The project will result in a grammar sketch, a practical orthography, a Jirim-Hausa-English dictionary, and a text collection.

Deliverables



- Field work duration 44 weeks in total (16 + 16 + 12)
- Video recordings 55 hrs (36 hrs naturalistic data, 5 hrs festivals, 14 hrs elicitation)
- Transcriptions 9 hrs in IPA and practical orthography
- Glossings 5 hrs
- FLEx database 1500 lexical entries
- Photographs 300
- Field notes
- + metadata, metadocumentation, collection guide

Grammar Sketch

- Year 1 Legacy recordings Orthography, phonology, tonal system, word order, noun phrase, pronouns, basic TAM
- Year 2 New data Verbal noun, further TAM analysis, relative clauses, serial verb constructions
- Year 3 New data Coordination, subordination, experiencer constructions

Ogodue!



Questions



Orthography



Tones



Literature



Grammar

