

W. M. T. FOR LOAN



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A
COMPARATIVE STUDY
of the
I D E O P H O N E
in
S O T H O
by
S. M. GUMA.

A Thesis submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements
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University of Cape Town

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PREFACE.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

The material used here has been drawn mainly from the literature and dictionaries of the Sotho languages. In addition to this, a certain amount of field-work was done at Langa location, Cape Town, and also on the Cape Flats. The numerous Sotho speakers so encountered, were used not only for obtaining additional ideophones but also for purposes of checking up what had already been collected from books and dictionaries. The Tswana ideophones collected from books were checked with Tswana speakers at Langa location. Among these were Rev. S.M. Matebesi, a young minister of the Methodist Church, recently arrived from Thaba'Nchu; Mr. R. Rametsane, an old man formerly from Serowe, B.P. The Northern Sotho ideophones obtained from books were ~~checked~~ checked with Messrs Phashe and Mphela (Langa) both from Sekhukhumiland, as well as with Mr. Matlejoane from Masemola's - Ga - Masemola, in the Northern Transvaal. The Southern-Sotho English Dictionary by Mabile and Dieterlen as revised and enlarged by Paroz, and Kriel's SESOTHO-ENGLISH DICTIONARY were used a great deal. The same is true of Brown's SECWANA-ENGLISH DICTIONARY.

Prof. Lestrade kindly placed at my disposal a large collection of relevant Southern Sotho material collected by G. Mangosela. A number of ad hoc informants, including fellow-students at Cape Town University as well as inmates of "Basotho House", Athlone, were interviewed from time to time.

I experienced great difficulty in eliciting relevant material or information with most informants. The general tendency was that of using all the fine phrases and idioms of Sotho but the ideophones. Some of the methods used in drawing information were: asking the informant(s) to tell a story with a great deal of action in it. These stories ranged from bull-fights in the veld, boys fighting with sticks, tribal meetings, wars and weddings. It was then and only then that ideophones came in thick and fast, in their natural surroundings.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

I would like, at the very outset, to record my indebtedness to Prof. Doke's classification of the ideophones in his "TEXT-BOOK OF ZULU GRAMMAR", record my indebtedness to all informants who have so willingly helped me through this difficult task.

Further, I would like to express my sincere thanks to Mr. A. C. Jordan, M.A. Lecturer in Bantu Languages, Cape Town University for all the assistance he has given me. Useful discussions, formal and informal, were held with him time and again. His love of the sheer beauty of the ideophone was of great help indeed.

Last but not least, I would like to record and express my heartfelt thanks to Prof. Lestrade, not only for suggesting this topic but also for assisting and guiding me in handling an extremely elusive yet beautiful part of a speech - the ideophone. His deep knowledge of ^{the} Sotho languages, proved to be of great help to me indeed. Without his guidance, this thesis might not have seen the light of day.

To one and all who have helped me in any way whatsoever I say, in that friendly Southern-Sotho - Xhosa expression:

LE KA MOSO!

NANGOMSO!

ABBREVIATIONS.

1. The term Sotho has been used to embrace the three languages of this group - Southern Sotho, Tswana, and Northern Sotho. In a few cases, due to lack of space the term ALL has been used to indicate that the Phenomenon in question applies to all three groups.
2. The following books have been quoted in brackets () as follows:-
Doke: A TEXT-BOOK OF ZULU GRAMMAR - Zulu Grammar
Doke: THE PHONETICS OF THE ZULU LANGUAGE - Zulu Phonetics.
Tucker: THE COMPARATIVE PHONETICS OF THE SUTO-CHUANA GROUP OF BANTU LANGUAGES - Tucker.
Westermann & Ward: PRACTICAL PHONETICS FOR STUDENTS OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES - Westermann & Ward.
3. In the case of languages, the following abbreviations have been used:-
Afr: AFRIKAANS
SS : SOUTHERN SOTHO
TS : TSWANA
NS : NORTHERN SOTHO
NGW: NGWATO
TLH: TLHAPING.

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Chapter 1.

Par.1. Definition:

The "Ideophone" has been defined as " a word, often onomatopoeic, which describes a predicate in respect to manner, colour, sound or action." (Cf. Doke: ZULU GRAMMAR, Par.625). It is because of its descriptive nature that it is, inter alia, classified together with the adverb. The ideophone shares certain characteristics with the adverb on the one hand, and with the interjective, on the other. But it differs from them in certain fundamental respects. Thus it differs from the adverb functionally in that it describes colour, sound, smell, intensity, in addition to manner. (Cf. Lestrade: Lecture Notes). Unlike the adverb, it does not describe time or place. Semantically, it differs from the adverb in that it has an interjectional element which adverbs lack.

Morphologically, it again differs from the adverb in that it shows a complete lack of grammatical formatives which most adverbs have. Its descriptive nature and function, however, help to differentiate it from the interjective.

Par.2. Although both English and Afrikaans do not have words directly corresponding to the ideophone, onomatopoeic forms like - English "Splash!", "Bang!" and Afrikaans "Woerts!", "Pardoemps!" constitute a close analogy to the ideophone. Unusual sounds, length, tone and position of stress, characterise this Part of Speech. These factors will each be examined in turn.

THE PHONETICS OF THE IDEOPHONE.

Par.3.(1) Sotho speech sounds are normally divided into two main groups, - Vowels and Consonants. The Consonants are further ~~xxxx~~ sub-divided into Plain and Click Consonants. Both the Plain and Click consonants may be further sub-divided into Labialised and Unlabialised series depending not only on the point of, but also, on / the manner ...

the manner of articulation. The following main series of consonants are then given:-

Nasals, Laterals, Fricatives, (including both the rolled tongue-tip trill and the uvular Fricative of S. Sotho)
Explosives, and Affricates or Affricatives.

(ii) All these consonants together with the vowels and semi-vowels found in the normal grammatical structure of Sotho also occur in the ideophone. But over and above them, there are other sounds which are only confined to the ideophone and which are not met with elsewhere in Sotho.

(iii) Vowels: Of the eleven vowels found in Sotho, the ideophone has the full range. In addition to these, however, there are:

(a) Pressed Vowels, especially in some N. Sotho monosyllabic ideophones.

Examples: N. Sotho: a-a-a! (Of being very bitter)
S. Sotho: he! (ditto)
N. Sotho: pa! (Of a sudden, unexpected arrival)
N. Sotho: ta! (Of being completely finished)
N. Sotho: te! (Of being submerged in water)
N. Sotho: tli! (ditto)

These are the vowels that Doke calls "Vowels with Epiglottal Friction" (Cf. Doke: ZULU ~~GRAMMAR~~ PHONETICS, Par. 8.).

(b) Nasalised Vowels:

Nasalised vowels occur in the neighbourhood of nasal consonants. The sign (-) above the vowel, has been used to mark these vowels. (Cf Westermann and Ward Chap. viii)

Examples: S. Sotho: hēnē-hēnē (Of muttering under breath)
S. Sotho: hōnō-hōnō (ditto)
S. Sotho: hōmō-hōmō (Of speaking aside, in under tones)

e.g. Ha re ke re re hōmō-hōmō!
(Let us talk aside, privately)

(c) Whispered Vowels:

These are found in a large number of whispered ideophones, monosyllabic and otherwise. They also occur in the whispered syllables of ideophones with varying tones.

Examples: S.Sotho: fa (Of a light drizzle)

Cf. fala (to scrape)

S.Sotho: fi (Of suddenly becoming dark)

Cf. fihla (to arrive)

N.Sotho: swi (Of suddenly becoming dark)

Cf. lefsika (a stone, rock)

Tswana: sebe-sebe (Of whispering)

Cf. sebe (sin)

S.Sotho: soahla (Of a rustling sound)

N.Sotho: swahla (Of a rustling sound)

Tswana: swatlha (ditto)

(d) Vowels with Prolonged Length:

Vowels with prolonged length do not normally occur in the main body of Sotho speech. They are not a distinctive feature thereof. Prolonged length, however, does occur now and again in normal speech. e.g. ho::le written ho-o-o-le (very far) With the ideophone, on the other hand, prolonged vowels occur quite regularly. This length is ~~indicated~~ indicated by means of a colon : in the first instance, and by means of a double colon :: where the vowel is abnormally prolonged.

Examples: S.Sotho, Tswana, N.Sotho: Phu:: (Of a very bad smell)

N.Sotho: ~~khwikwi~~ ; g (Of cattle walking in a straight line.)

S.Sotho: Seuu:: (Of many things scattered all over the place.)

N.Sotho: Tswilaa:: (Of lying prostrate on the ground)

It will be noted that with the disyllabic ideophones, it is the final syllable that has prolonged length where it occurs. In normal speech, final syllables are relatively short.

(e) Then too, some monosyllabic ideophones have a very high a, higher than the "fronter" variety of the normal Sotho-Tswana a noted by Tucker (Cf. Par.53) and which is heard when a is followed either by i or u in the next syllable.

e.g. S.Sotho: Tali (A species of field-mouse)

Tau (Lion)

~~Examples of disyllabic ideophones with high a~~

Examples of Monosyllabic ideophones with high a :-

S.Sotho: Ja! (Of crying very bitterly with a high pitched voice.)

Tla! (ditto)

(iv) Consonants:

(a) Here too, in addition to the normal consonants of Sotho, there are a few consonants that are found only in the ideophone and not in normal speech sounds of Sotho.

For instance, the voiceless Pre-Velar Fricative g (Phon. *), normally found in N.Sotho and not in S.Sotho, occurs in a number of S.Sotho ideophones. (Normally, S.Sotho uses h where Tswana and N.Sotho use g). It is worth noting that this S.Sotho Pre-Velar Fricative found only in ideophones occurs both initially and finally. Further, there are instances where it alternates with the Velar Affricate kʰh

Examples: S.Sotho: gaa: (Of being green) Phon. *aa:

goa: (Of being spotlessly white)

Cf. khaa: (very white) of S.Sotho.

S.Sotho: maga! (Of striking with a stick)

or : makha (ditto)

(verb: magatsa or makhatsa)

(b) In Tswana there is one example with the voiced g glottal fricative (Phon. ɦ) that is normally found in S.Sotho. In this Tswana ideophone it occurs initially. e.g. ɦmmmm (Of the sound made by a cow when milked)

(c) In S.Sotho the voiceless glottal fricative (Phon. h), that is normally found in N.Sotho and also in some Tswana dialects, is found hxxxx occurring almost exclusively in initial positions.

Examples: S.Sotho: hebe-hebe (Of whispering)

hasha (Of sprinkling, scattering a few grains of sugar into porridge, tea, etc.)

(d) Finally, all three languages have a lateral click usually preceded by a nasal. The ideophone in which it occurs is used in all three languages for (L) expressing annoyance, disgust, (Cf. English "tut-tut")

(2) for urging on a horse. In N. Sotho it is further used as a sign of politeness, in which case it is repeated several times.

Examples: S.S, Ts. N.S: Nxe' (Of being annoyed) Phon. *ŋ*

N. Sotho: Nxe, nxe, nxe' - Phon. *ŋ ŋ ŋ*
 (Of asking for pardon, excuse - e.g.
 in removing something from the midst
 of one's elders)

(See: Lestrade: Lecture Notes)

SOUND ATTRIBUTES - LENGTH, STRESS AND TONE.

Par. 4. The three factors - Length, Stress and Tone - are usually referred to as SOUND ATTRIBUTES. We shall here discuss each in turn in so far as it affects the ideophone.

(a) Length.

(i) The classical rule regarding length in Sotho is that "In a normal statement, the penultimate syllable, whether a word in itself or part of a word, is pronounced long" (Tucker Par. 250). He goes on, inter alia, to quote Tswana examples such as:

~~kaaxlaxa~~ kea bɔ:na (I see)

tau e bona mon:na (The lion sees a man)

(ii) With ideophones, however, this rule does not hold. Instead, each syllable is pronounced with short length except in those cases where the vowels have prolonged length. This even distribution of length is ~~found~~ found with most ideophones, disyllabic, trisyllabic and quadrisyllabic. But where there is prolonged length, we find that with the disyllabic ideophones, the first syllable is short and the second long; that with the trisyllabic forms, the first two are short and the third long, and that with the quadrisyllabic ideophones, the first three syllables are of even length, -short - and the last, prolonged.

Examples: S. Sotho: Ha re fi! (It suddenly became dark)

Ts. & N.S: Ga re phuu:: (Puh! what a smell)

Cf. S. Sotho: A re qacha! (He hid himself)

Ba re qheme:: (They scattered in
 different directions)

Examples: Tswana: Ga re thatha! (Things suddenly became clear)

Ditaola tsa re wašaaa!:
(The divining bones fell down with a rattling sound)

N. Sotho: Ba utlwa gwaša gwaša gwaša!
(They heard a rustling sound)

Dikgomo tša re khikhwi:
(The cattle formed a straight line)

Examples of ideophones with prolonged length in the case of trisyllabic and quadrisyllabic forms are:-

S. Sotho: Ho itse nyelele: (It being extremely quiet)

Tswana: Go rile nyalala: (do)

S. Sotho: Ntlo e itse goekelelee: (The house being cool and clean.)

(iii) Apart from such instances then, ideophones normally have short length. A factor worth noting is that the defective verb re (say) that is so commonly used with ideophones, also tends to have short length when it precedes an ideophone.

Cf. S. SOTHO: Ke re lula. (I say that you must sit down)

A re tu! (He kept quiet)

If the first re has full length, then the second one has a shorter length. The length value of the two is not the same. The tone of the second re is also slightly raised.

(iv) It is this characteristic short length of ideophones that apparently accounts for the rapid actions that they so often describe. For instance, ideophones may follow one another in rapid succession with no verb or any other part of speech coming in between. The short length that they have, speeds up the rapidity with which the various actions described takes place.

Examples: N. Sotho: Thu! Tse! (Of quickly knocking over and of quickly dying)

S. Sotho: Qa, Pote! (Of quickly biting and quickly disappearing) Cf. flea

(b) Stress:

(1) In normal speech each distinctive word has only one main stress. This is usually on the penultimate syllable, and the syllable on which it falls normally has / long

long length.

Examples: bǝ:na (see)

xx rǝ:ka (buy)

(ii) Initial main stress, however, is an ~~outstanding~~ ^{the} outstanding feature of ideophones. It is/first syllable that always bears the main stress and, in the case of trisyllabic and quadrisyllabic ideophones, the remaining syllables are are short. The first syllable too, although bearing the main stress, is as short as the others. Briefly stated then, unlike in normal speech, the main stress falls on the first syllable which is short, and the remaining syllables- in the case of trisyllabic and quadrisyllabic forms - are also short. This is true of all primitive, underived ideophones.

(iii) The reverse happens, however, in the case of ideophones derived from verbs. The general rule for deriving ideophones from verbs is that of changing the final vowel of verb stem to i, raising the tone on the first syllable and shifting the position of the main stress from the penultimate to the ultimate ~~xx~~ or the last syllable. This Phenomenon is very clearly illustrated in the disyllabic ideophones ~~xxxxxx~~ derived from disyllabic and vowels verbs.

Examples: Ema (stand) ~~ema~~ emí (Of quickly standing)
 Oma (dry) > omí (Of quickly drying up)
 Bona (see) > boni (Of quickly seeing)

An increase in the number of syllables does not affect this ultimate stress as can be seen from the following examples:

Bonána (see each other) > bonaní (Of quickly seeing each other)

N. Sotho: Gahlána (to meet with) gahlání (Of meeting by surprise)

Ultimate main stress is thus characteristic of ideophones derived from verbs according to the general rule stated above.

(iv) In spite of what has been said in ~~(ii)~~ (ii) above, it should be noted that with the quadrisyllabic ideophones, there is ~~xx~~ a strong tendency to stress the

the last two syllables to the same extent as the first.
Thus one often hears:-

námalála (of being sprawled out on the ground)

pótlolólo (Of falling down quite helpless)

Some speakers, however, emphasise only the first and the penultimate syllable.

e.g. námalála

pótlolólo

There is no variation or difference as ^{far} as the first syllable is concerned. It is always stressed. Neither is there any variation or difference as far as the length of syllables in such ideophones goes. It is always short. From the view point of normal speech, Tucker has made thought-provoking observations in connection with the position of stress " in a normal sentence" (Cf. Tucker Par.252)

(c) TONE OR INTONATION:

(1) What we have to say about tone will inevitably lead us to a discussion of the system of tones employed here in treating the tones of the ideophone. This system of tones is based on the usual " grades of tone value" as Tucker has called them - High level, Mid level and Low level -(Cf. Tucker Par.254). These three we have represented by the symbols H M L respectively. The word level has been left out in each case but only with the understanding that the idea of level is implicit, in other words:

H. stands for High level

M. Mid level

L. Low level

(2) A combination of these symbols, representative of the tones met with in some ideophones, resulted in the following grouping:-

(i) H M L

(ii) HM ML HL

(iii) MH IM LH

The first column (i) has already been dealt with in (1) above. The second column (ii) is analysed as follows:-

HM stands for High level falling to Mid ~~level~~ level
 ML Mid level falling to Low level
 HL High level falling to Low level.

With the third column (iii) the full analysis is:-

MH stands for Mid level rising to High level
 IM Low level rising to Mid level
 LH Low level rising to High level

Column (ii) is thus a falling column i.e. a high tone falling to a low tone and column (iii), a rising column or column of rising tones i.e. a low tone rising to one higher than itself.

(3) This is the basic tonal pattern into which most ideophones can and have been fitted. But in view of the ~~xx~~ unusual tones that some ideophones have, these symbols had to be increased by the introduction of additional symbols. First, H⁺ (very High level) was improvised. Secondly, in view of the fact that the voice may start at a certain ~~pitch~~ pitch or note and ultimately glide down to an unusually low one, the symbol L- was introduced to represent very Low level.

(4) Some ideophones are completely whispered i.e. said under-breath. These were accordingly called "Whispered Ideophones" and their tones indicated by the symbol W.

(5) A combination of these tonal symbols would give rise to numerous theoretical and mathematical possibilities into which, however, we need not go, seeing that they are represented in our ideophones.

(6) Due to the lack of the necessary scientific instruments, we had to depend entirely on the ear for the tones of the different ideophones. We noticed quite early that tone, in ideophones differs with different speakers. Not only that, but also that it differs and varies with the same speaker at different times.

(7) The ideophones below have been classified and grouped according to their tones and number of syllables (Cf. Doke: ZULU GRAMMAR, Par.629). The meanings of the different ~~isng~~ ideophones have been indicated next to them and, where there are verbs derived from such ideophones, they are given. In a few cases, short examples have been given to further clarify the meanings of ~~some~~ such ideophones. It must be pointed out that the meanings of some ideophones are by no means fixed and rigid. Taken in isolation, by itself, it is extremely difficult, if not utterly impossible, to tell offhand what a ~~particular~~ particular ideophone means or indicates. It is only the context in which the particular ideophone is used that can give one a clue as to the meaning. For instance, the S.Sotho ideophone tso! indicates colour - black or very black - , as in O re tso! (He is very black) but there is also: Ke mo rata tso! (I love her very much)

(8) In the case of monosyllabic ideophones the symbols are written close together as in the tables or columns ~~as~~ already given Cf.(2) above) e.g. HM i.e. High falling to Mid. With some monosyllabic ideophones, however, the voice starts off at High, glides down to Mid and suddenly goes ~~up~~ up to High. This combination is represented thus :- H[\]MH with the sign (\) indicating falling. From the disyllabic ideophones onwards, the symbols are separated by a plus sign (+), each symbol representing a syllable e.g. W+W = whispered + whispered i.e. both syllables whispered. Where the syllables of the same ideophone have different tones, different symbols corresponding to and representative of, such tones, have been used e.g.

W+L = Whispered + Low level

MH+MH = Mid rising to High within one and ~~the~~

the same syllable + Mid rising to High also within one and the same syllable.

11.

(N.B. The sign (+) used here does not indicate any tonal variation. It is used only to separate different symbols and symbol-combinations).

Chapter 2.C L A S S I F I C A T I O N of I D E O P H O N E SAccording toTONES AND NUMBER OF SYLLABLES.MONOSYLLABIC IDEOPHONES:

<u>Par.5.</u>	Group 1.	TONE W.
<u>Par.6.</u>	Group 2.	TONE H ⁺
<u>Par.7.</u>	Group 3.	TONE H
<u>Par.8.</u>	Group 4.	TONE H [^] MH
<u>Par.9.</u>	Group 5.	TONE M
<u>Par.10.</u>	Group 6.	TONE M [^] L
<u>Par.11.</u>	Group 7.	TONE L
<u>Par.12.</u>	Group 8.	TONE L [^] L-
<u>Par.13.</u>	Group 9.	TONE L-

Group 1. TONE W.

S.Sotho: chu (Of the sound of a train engine puffing)
(Cf. Noun: Chuchumakhala.)

S.Sotho: fa (Of a slight drizzle, light rain)
(verb: fafatsa)

S.Sotho: fi (Of ~~it~~ suddenly becoming dark)
(verb: fifala)

S.Sotho: fii: (ditto)
(Mabone are fi, fi, fii!)

S.Sotho: fo (Of snuff coming out of snuff-box)
(verb: fofotsa)

N.Sotho: fo (Of refusing completely)
(A gana fo!)

S.Sotho: fu (Of cooking e.g. meat for a very short time)

" fuu: (Of being dead drunk)

Tswana: hi (As for S.S fi above)

hii: (As for S.S. fii above)

S.Sotho: hla (Of things becoming clear-dawning on ~~the~~ one's mind)

" hle (Of trotting, especially a donkey)
(verb: hlehla)

Group 1. TONE W.

- S.Sotho: hloa (Of the sound made by a plant when uprooted)
- N.Sotho: h^oô (Of a big house completely empty)
- Tswana: hu (As for S.S. fu above)
- N.Sotho: huu: (Of ~~perspiration~~ perspiration streaming down)
- S.S., TS. & N.S: mph (Of being completely finished)
- Tswana: na (Of walking on tip-toe)
(verbs: nanara, nanaila)
- S.Sotho: phe (Of being grey in colour)
- Tswana: phi (Of people arriving in big numbers)
(Cf. Noun: Phiphitha)
- Tswana: phu (Of adding a little more meal into a pot)
- S.S. Ts. N.S. phuu:: (Of a very bad smell)
(Pooh! what a smell!)
- S.Sotho: qha (Of the sound of a razor blade cutting through a hard object e.g. a snake
gliding over a blade, its scales rapping
and tapping against the sharp edges of
the blade)
qhi (As for N.S. huu above)
- N.Sotho: ria (Of the rhythmic, rustling sound made by 'Dintepa)
- S.Sotho: sh: (Of indicating silence)
- Tswana : š: (ditto)
- N.Sotho: ššš: (ditto)
šaaa:: (Of the sound of rain falling)
- S.Sotho: she (Of glancing, looking at something)
(verb: sheba?)
shoa (Of sleeping a little, - nap)
shoa: (Of the sound of a blade when shaving)
(verb: shoashoaila)
shoe: (Of the sound of a blade when shaving)
(Cf. Noun: Moshoeshoe)
- Tswana: šu (Of kettle on the boil)
(verb: šuma)
- N.Sotho: swi & swii (As for S.S. fi & fii above)
- S.Sotho: soaa: (Of being scattered all over the place)

' Skirts made of ox-hides.

Groupl. TONE W.

- N.S: tha (Of refusing completely)
- TS: tha (As for S.S. hla above)
(Ga re tha! bosigo ba e-sa)
- S.S. thi (Of people suddenly arriving by numbers)
- (Cf. S.S. thi H, of sneezing')
- TS: thii (Of incessant rain)
- S.S., TS, & N.S: tho (Phon. ^{tho}) (Of water drops falling down periodically)
- S.S: tho (Of being extremely human)
(Motho ea reng tho!)
- S.S: thoe (Of running like a bird)
(verb: thoena)
- N.S: tho (Of doing thoroughly)
- S.S: thu (Of the sound of a motor cycle)
(Cf. Noun: Thuthuthu)
- N.S: thuu:: (Of dust suddenly rising e.g. when sweeping)
- S.S: tje (Of drinking without stopping)
- (Cf. Noun: Motjetje used adverbially e.g. Ho noa jaala motjetje)
- S.S: tlha (Of the swishing sound of an axe cutting through a soft thing e.g. Prickly Pear)
- tse (of trotting quietly like a dog; walking on tip-toe)
- N.S: thse (ditto)
- tse (Of suddenly dying. Cf. S.S. qhasho!)
- thsu (As for S.S. chu above)
- (Cf. Noun: Nthso-nthso-Mathsangane)
- S.S: tso (Of being very dark, black)
- N.S: tswaa: (Of a host drinking a little from a beer pot before giving it to the visitors)
- S.S: tloa: (Of the sound of dry f trees burning)
(verb: tloatloaretsa)
- TS: tlhwa (Of rustling sound)

Group 2. TONE H⁺.

- S.S: jaa (Of crying aloud with a very high voice)
 tjoi (Of whistling, but may also be used for the shrill sound of a whistle)
 tlaa (As for jaa above)

Group 3. TONE H.

- N.S: gwa (Of bulls colliding in combat)
 S.S: hloi (i. Of inhaling snuff through the nose
 ii. Of snatching e.g. a hawk snatching a chicken)
 (verb: hloibil^a)
 S.S: ja (Of clapping) - verb: jabela
 N.S: je (Of the sound of creaking shoes) - usually repeated twice, followed by mosa-ngwana - also said twice.
 S.S: ke (Of the sound made when chopping dry wood with an axe)
 TS: kga (Of hitting with a stick)
 N.S: 'kgi (Of laughing in a shy manner)
 S.S: kha (As for TS. kga above)
 khaa: (Of being spotlessly white)
 S.S,TS,N.S: ko (Of knocking at the door)
 TS: kwa (Of the sound of shoes on cement)
 S.S: koi (Of the sudden appearance of skin rash)
 S.S,N.S: nga (Of being completely blocked)
 e.g. Litsebe tsa hae li thibane nga!
 N.S: Ferrr (Of being blood-red)
 TS: pha (Of an article e.g. pot, cracking sharply)
 (verb: Phanyega)
 S.S, TS, N.S: pii: (Of the sound of a whistle)
 S.S: pje: (Of the sound of a whistle)
 pjoe: (ditto)
 po (Of being very cold e.g. water - Metsi ana a bata po!)
 (or of a motor car hooting)
 N.S: pserrr (As for pii above)
 ptsa (Of ~~looking~~^{looking} a person straight in the face)
 S.S: qa (Of tapping hard object with a finger nail.
~~often~~ often reduplicated here: Qa, qa,qa!)
 (or - of being enthralled by a narrator, looking at him very attentively. Often prolonged in this case) e.g. Qa::

Group 3. TONE H.

- S.S: qaa: (Of a flea biting a person and then vanishing)
- qha (Of being all by yourself)
e.g. Ke mong qha!
- qhoi (Of a sharp made by thorns breaking)
- qe (As for ke above)
- shoi (Of being dead, stone dead)
(verb: shoa)
- shoii: (Of being fast asleep)
- soe (Of being full, full to the brim e.g. water-pot) Cf. Hlubi: zwi!
- te (As for ko above)
- the (Of shifting a little, just an inch)
- thi (Of sneezing) verb: ethimola
- thoi: (Of being straight e.g. road)
- N.S: thwii: (ditto)
- S.S: tjoi (Of the sound of a small whistle)
- S.S, TS: tla (Of clapping, slapping with the hand)
- S.S: to (As for qha above) Cf. N.S. nto (one)
- N.S: too (As for S.S. po above)
(verb: tonya?)
- S.S: tsi i.(Of fainting, ii.Of being full or tight, iii.Of standing not knowing what to do. Exact meaning deduced from context and preceding verb)
- N.S: tsi (Of holding tightly)
- S.S: tsoi i.(Of sound of a creaking door, ii. Of whistling)
- S.S, TS, N.S: tu (Of being completely finished)
tu: (Of being quiet, dead quiet)

(i) A factor worth recording in connection with the ~~above~~ ideophones is this, that rather than drop the voice on the final vowel, the tendency is to retain it at high. This is more so in those that have prolonged length. Here the voice is raised to high (H) on the final vowel e.g.

Pii as if one were saying ~~Pi~~ Pi -i H

thwii as if one were saying thwi -i H

(ii) This phenomenon occurs elsewhere in the grammatical structure of Sotho. For instance, in the ~~formation~~

formation of the Imperative with monosyllabic verbs, either of two things happen; namely : (a) the use of the epenthetic vowel e.g. Sing. ea > e- ea (go)

re > e- re (say)

Plur. ea > e- eang

re > e- reng

Here too, this raising of the voice to H is evident. Compare:

Ke ea hae (I am going home) and

E- ea hae (Go home)

(b) That the final vowel of the monosyllabic verb stem is lengthened and the voice raised to H on the final vowel. This occurs in the singular and plural forms e.g.

Sing. ja > ja: written jaa (eat) H

Plur. ja > ja:ng written jaang - both final a and -ng

H. (Cf. Ke ja nama and Jaa nama.)

This Phenomenon was observed by P.E. Schwellnus for N.S. (See: "hlaalosa-Polelo Grammar ya SeSOTHO se se Bolelwaxo Dileteng tsa Transvaal", p. 53.)

Group 4. TONE H^aMH.

S.S: bja: (Of being spotlessly white - used for ~~white~~ white goats seen at a distance)

^a
gja: (Of being green)

nya (Of being completely finished. Here used with cognate or semi-cognate verbs without re e.g. Li felile nya!

oa (Of clapping)

TS, N.S: wa (ditto \emptyset)

S.S: pa (Of cracking e.g. pot)

TS: pi (Of jumping or falling on something)

N.S: p^asa (Of meeting a person unexpectedly)

S.S: psha (As for bja ~~above~~ above)

shoi (Of every body away from home, place virtually deserted)

toaa (As for bja above, but mainly used for white teeth) e.g. a masoeu toaa!

TS: twaa (As for toaa above)

Group 4. TONE H MH.

TS: thwaa (Of laughing aloud) e.g. Mosadi a re ~~setshago~~
setshago thwaa! verb: thwanya.

S.S, TS: thu (Of colliding against, also of exploding)
verbs: thula and thunya

S.S: tee (Of the sun being very hot)

Group 5. TONE M.

S.S: maa (Of being very white e.g. ~~mik~~ milk)

mee (Of talking too much)

S.S, N.S: ngoo (Of a fountain, river, being g dry)

S.S: pa (Of dry cracked lips)

qoa (As for maa above)

ra (As for ngoo above)

roe (Of a container being completely full e.g.
water-pot full of water)

TS: rwe (As for roe above)

S.S: ru (Of being very clean and pleasing to the eye
e.g. well-polished pair of shoes, or floor)

ta (Of being finished, utterly destroyed) e.g.
Mokhoa ona o ba getile ta!

te (Of the sun having risen long ago, broad day-
light) e.g. Tsatsi le itse te!

TS: thee (Of shifting a little e.g. to avoid an ~~attacking~~
attacking lion)

S.S: toa (Of the sound made when snapping one's fingers)
(verb: toanya)

N.S: tswee (Of being very nice, sweet, salty) e.g.
Tswée, tswee letswai nameng.

TS: waa: (Of the sound of rain falling)

Group 6. TONE M¹L.

N.S: gwa (Of the sun rising)

gwaa:: (Of prolonged cheering, hearty ovation)

S.S: ku (Of the heart beating) verb: kuba

khu (Of falling on knees) verb: khumama?

TS: mke (Of falling from a high place and landing ~~wick~~
with a thud)

S.S: mu (Of striking with a stick) verb: mula
from

noe: (Of disappearing and appearing/under water)
TS: nwé: (ditto)
e.g. nwé! bilo! verb: nwéla

N.S: Píee (Of many cattle entering a mealie-field)

Group 6. TONE M^hL.

- N.S: purrr (Of the sound of milk falling into milk-pail
verb: Purupu^ha.)
- S.S: qi (Of sounding like footsteps) Cf. No^hun:liqi
tee (Of being wet, drenched to the skin)
tsu: (Of diving or falling from a high place)
verb: tsubella.

Group 7. TONE L.

- N.S: duu: (Of a white-headed old person e.g. o re duu:
fsê (Of being surrounded by many dogs.)
- TLH: pa (Of falling down ~~xxx~~ quite helpless)
- S.S: pe (Of being very beautiful)
- N.S: pê (Of being ~~xxx~~ very difficult and intricate)
- TS: pê (Of a river being full)
- S.S: tle (Of surpassing beauty) e.g. bottle bo tle!
tlee (Of the sound made by a cloth when torn)
- N.S: tsê (Of being stone dead) e.g. Thu! tsê!
- S.S: tse (Of cutting slightly with a sharp instrument
e.g. razor blade)

Group 8. TONE L^hL-

- TS: kgo (Of fitting perfectly ~~xx~~ e.g. shoe being ~~xx~~
just the right size)
- S.S: khoe (Of pain disappearing)
ma (Of hitting with a stick)
- S.S, TS: poo (Of heavy thing ~~x~~ falling to the ground)
- S.S: pu (Of falling upon, surrounding in battle)
rii (Of drinking all available ~~xx~~ water)
ti (As for poo above)
- TS: tswê (Of standing erect)
- S.S: tsoe (ditto)

Group 9. TONE L-

- N.S: a - a - a: (Of being very bitter) e.g.
ya baba ya re a-a-a!
- S.S: he (As for a-a-a above)
hoa: (Of the sound of the gushing water^h)
- N.S: pa (Of people arriving unexpectedly))
ta (Of being completely finished)
te (Of being almost submerged in water e.g.
cattle standing in water with their
bellies almost covered)

Group 9. TONE-L-

N.S: tîê (Of holding fast, tightly)

tli (As for te above)

DISYLLABIC IDEOPHONES.

- Par. 14. Group 1. TONE W+W.
Par. 15. Group 2. TONE M+H.
Par. 16. Group 3. TONE MH+MH.
Par. 17. Group 4. TONE M+H.⁺
Par. 18. Group 5. TONE L+W.
Par. 19. Group 6. TONE W+L.
Par. 20. Group 7. TONE L+ML.
Par. 21. Group 8. TONE M+L.
Par. 22. Group 9. TONE L+L.
Par. 23. Group 10. TONE L+L-
Par. 24. Group 11. Tone L+H.

Group 1. TONE W+W.SS: Chap^h (Of the sun just rising)
e.g. Ha tsatsi le-re chapa.

NS: thšahlaa: (Of the rustling sound made by a heavy object falling into dry leaves)

thšathša (Of appearing suddenly)

TS: tšhele (Of disappearing very quickly)

SS: fahla (Of adding a little more meal in a pot)

fai (Of a light drizzle, shower of rain)

famo (Of nostrils opening and closing e.g. horse after running a race) verb: famola.

fanya (Of chewing a soft bone) verb: fanyatsa.

NS: fao (Of doing a thing in a spirited manner e.g. writing angrily)

SS: fethē (Of delivering a sudden blow)

fipha (Of suddenly becoming dark). Cf. Xhosa: fipha!

NS: foofoo: (Of being very hot e.g. steaming coffee)

SS: fokhō (Of many worms appearing at the same time)
verb: fokhoha.NS: fokgo (Of a bull unearthing soil before a fight)
verb: fokgotša.

Group 1. TONE W+W.

S.S:	foqo	(of a sudden appearance) verb: foqoha.
	fotho	(Of uprooting a tree or plant) verb: fothola.
	fukha	(Of falling down in a helpless manner)
	fukhu	(Of the sound made by long clothes trailing on the ground)
	funya	(of adding more meal in the pot) (opposite of <u>fahla</u> above.)
	fuphu	(of a strong wind blowing)
TS:	gwara	(Of running away being chased by somebody e.g. boys chased by a man.
N.S:	gwara	(ditto)
TS, N.S:	gwa ⁴ sa	(Of rustling sound)
TS:	gwata	(Of walking very fast)
	gwele	(Of a cat climbing a tree)
S.S:	hasha	(Of pouring, scattering a small quantity e.g. sugar in porridge) verb: hashatsa.
	hebe	(Of whispering) verb: hebesela.
	hlasi	i. (Of quickly jumping up from sleep) e.g. A re <u>hlasi!</u> borokong. ii. (Of snatching an object e.g. spear) π e.g. A re lerumo hlasi!
	hlatho	(Of the sound made by a person walking through a thicket)
	hlefe	(Of striking with a thud) verb: hlefetsa.
	hleke	(Of crying very x bitterly with the whole body shaking to and fro)
	hlele	(Of the whole face brightening up as a result of smile)
	hloathi	(Of faint, almost indistinct/ ^{foot-} steps)
	hloephe	(Of snivelling) verb: hloephetsa.
	hlotho	(Of snatching away) verb: hlothola.
	hoahla	(As for TS.& N.S. <u>gwa⁴sa</u> above)
	hoaga	(Of pulling up the face as a sign of anger) verb: <u>hoagela</u>
TS:	kgapha	(Of overflowing e.g. water from a water- pot.) verb: kgaphatsa.
S.S:	khapha	(ditto)
	khaqa	(of the door closing tightly)

Group 1. TONE W+W.

- S.S: khara (Of pushing and hustling)
Cf. Ngun: Lekharakhara.
breaking
- khathu (Of ~~breaking~~ off)
- khatsi (Of ~~shining~~ shining very brightly)
- khehle (Of being very dry e.g. mealies ready for harvest)
- khetše (Of tumbling down e.g. losing a step and nearly falling in the dark)
- khoacha (Of a rustling sound)
- khoacho (Of quickly getting up) Cf. S.S: rao!
- khoahla (Of the sound made when walking on dry leaves)
- khoapho (As for khoacho above)
- khoara (Of the sound of a pen writing)
- khoasa (Of rustling noise)
Cf. Ho khoasa litali.
- khoaso (As for khoacho above)
- khoatha (Of walking rather hurriedly)
- N.S: khwikhwi:: (Of cattle being in a straight line)
e.g. when going to the river to drink
- S.S: phatha (Of walking in a clumsy way)
verb: phathatsa.
- N.S: phadi (Of glittering, shining)
- S.S, ~~TS~~: phatsi (ditto) verb: phatsima.
- S.S: pheehe (Of sucking e.g. fruit juice completely)
- phehle (Of food being over-ripe)
- phere (Of a sore, fruit becoming bad, too soft)
verb: phereha.
- S.S, N.S: phetho (Of turning round or rolling over)
verb: phethoha.
- SS: phohlo (Of the sound made when a big pole is pulled out)
- phogo (Of rubbing off dirt from the body)
verb: phogola.
- N.S: phōšōō: (Of the sound made by a stone falling among bushes)
- S.S: phukhu (Of falling; but may also mean kicking or breaking)
- S.S, TS, N.S: phuphu (Of fluttering like wings)
verb: phuphusela.
- S.S: phutho: (Of being completely overcome by love; unable to answer.)
e.g. Ka shoa ka re phutho!

Group 1. TONE W+W.

- N.S: phuthu (Of the sudden rising of the sun)
- TS: phutlha (Of throwing oneself down)
verb: phutlhama.
- N.S: pshahlaa:: (Of scattering divining bones)
- S.S: pshali (Of beating with a whip)
- qacha (Of hiding oneself)
- qephe (Of dripping like blood from a wounded animal)
- qaqo (Of being some distance away from e.g. village)
- qete (Of putting on gently e.g. water-pot on somebody's head)
- qethe (Of putting seperately aside)
- qhafu (Of walking in mud) verb: qhafutsa.
- qharra i (of the sound of a musical instrument - Setolotolo.
ii. (Of the singing of a crow)
- qhau (Of snatching ~~away~~) verb: qhautsa.
- qhebo (Of emerging from the bottom to the top e.g. from donga on to the bank)
- qhefe (Of crushing a soft thing e.g. louse)
verb: qhefetsa.
- qheme:: (Of many people - regiment - scattering in different directions e.g. at sudden appearance of a lion) verb: qhemeha
- qheshe (Of walking clumsily with short steps)
- qoqo (Of the sound of muscles stretched out)
- qhoichi (Of a taut string breaking)
- qhuqhu (Of splashing the water with both legs when swimming)
- qoacha (Of the sound made by thin dry wood when broken)
- qoathi (Of walking very softly)
- qoatla (Of breaking completely)

Variant of this is tloaqa - Metathesis)

- S.S: safo i. (Of being very tall. Cf. Xhosa: ncothu)
ii. (Of catching a thrown object)
verb: safola.
- saku (Of raising a heavy object)
verb: sakunya.

Group 1. TONE W + W.

- TS: sara (Of light rain falling)
 sebe (Of whispering) verb: seba.
- S.S: shata (Of being seated or standing in great numbers)
- N.S: sathê (Of tribal court ~~was~~ being full to ~~capacity~~ capacity)
 shôlô (Of entering abruptly)
- TS: sotlhe (ditto)
- SS: shoahla (Of ruatling sound)
- N.S: swahla (ditto)
- TS: swattha (ditto)
 swai (Of walking very quickly)
- S.S: shoai (Of passing very quickly)
 shoaka (Of being sad, dejected, down-hearted)
 shoakha (Of the sound made by running goats)
 shoaga (Of breaking bread into small pieces e.g. dividing it between two children)
- TS: swato (Of picking out among many)
 verb: swatola.
- S.S: shoathi (Of faintly sounding like footsteps)
 shoko (Of moving or shifting a little)
 shoqo (Of breaking off at once)
 sihla i.(Of throwing down a heavy thing e.g. bag of mealies)
 ii.(Of crying with tears streaming down)
 verb: sihlametsa.
- sipho (Of ~~was~~ plants having come above ground)
 verb: siphoha.
- soahla (As for shoahla above)
- sohle (As for TS. sotlhe above)
- thakhi (Of kicking, usually on the buttocks)
 verb: thakhila.
- thakho (Of jumping up very quickly)
 verb: thakhoha.
- TS: thatha (Of evrything suddenly becoming clear)
- N.S: thao (Of snapping off ~~was~~ with a sharp knife)
- S.S: thefo (Of uprooting) verb: thefola.
 thele (Of mill falling from the grinding stone)
 thehle (Of a woman taking out her breast to suckle her baby)

Group 1. TONE W+W.

- S.S: thiba (Of being very sleepy and nodding one's head now and again) verb: thibasela.
- thoahla (Of the sound of a dry reed when broken)
- N.S: thwahlaa (Of the sound made by a hare shooting out from its hiding place)
- S.S: thoai (Of walking very silently)
- thoakha (Of being ~~very~~ completely broken e.g broken leg) verb: thoakhatsa.
- thoichi (As for qhoichi above)
- thoishi (ditto)
- thoso (Of a sudden appearance) verb: thosoha.
- TS: thošo (ditto)
- S.S: thukhu (Of a big cloud of smoke suddenly ~~appearing~~ appearing)
- thusoa (Of many people or animals scattering in different directions)
- tlaka (Of shivering) verb: ~~th~~ tlakasela.
- tlefe i. (Of stabbing with a knife - sound made by knife going through flesh)
- ii. (Of knocking with a fist on the nose) verb: tlefetsa.
- tjeke (Of the sound made by thrown stick whirling in the air)
- tsaka (Of spitting between the teeth) Cf. Letsaka la mathe - open space between the two front teeth of the upper jaw.
- tšatša (Of an animal quickly coming out of ~~an~~ a hole)
- tšekhe (Of becoming clear after sunrise) Bosiu ba e-sa tšekhe!

Group 2. TONE M+H.

- N.S: feu (Of an article blown off by the wind)
- TS: gau (Of singing coming to a sudden end)
- S.S: geu (Of forming a straight line)
- keu (Of the sound made by axe when chopping dry wood)
- keleu (ditto)
- kou (Of the sound made by a stick when ~~hitting~~ hitting e.g. walf) verb: koula.
- qeu (Of the sound of a big bell)
- qheu (Of rapping open a supposedly closed door)
- sai: (Of many things scattered all over the Place)

Group 2. TONE M+H.

- S.S: seuu:: (Of many things scattered all over the place)
 tou (As for kou above) verb: toula.

Group 3. TONE MH+MH.

- N.S: hutu (Of grinding mealies on a grinding stone)
 kalo (Of stumbling after kicking a stone)
 S.S: kere (Of the noise made by a tin blown by the wind) Cf. Noun: Sekerekere.
 kete (Of night having ended)
 Bosiu ba e-sa kete!
 khere (Of being very dry e.g. linen)
 khiri (Of stopping all of a sudden while ~~running~~ running) verb: khiritsa.
 TS: kgiri (Ditto) verb: kgiritsa.
 kgopho (Of dust suddenly coming up in clouds)
 Cf. Kgophola-mmoko (early spring rains)
 khuru (Of the sudden rise of clouds of dust)
 S.S: koebe (Of walking quickly with short steps)
 koete (Of speaking indistinctly from far away)
 kopø (Of water gushing out a spring)
 verb: kopotsa.
 ngene (Of ringing or tinkling like a small bell)
 TS, S.S: ngoro (Of a spring being dry)
 nyele (Of being extremely quiet)
 N.S: phangka (Of a water-pot being full)
 NGW: phasha (Of splashing water on a person)
 S.S: tsetlo (Of shivering^{down} one's spine)
 N.S: thsere (Of limping like a lame man)
 verb: thserema.
 S.S: tsoete (Of being full to capacity)
 tsuru, or (Of the sound made by water leaking out
 { of or dripping from a bucket)
 tsurru {
 N.S: tswiki (Of the sound made by many bangles when shaken) verb: tswikinya.
 tswilaa:: (Of lying prostrate on the ground)
 yaya: (Of women ~~making~~ emitting sharp cries of joy e.g. when men return victorious from battle)

Group 4. TONE M+H.⁺

- S.S: ahla (Of suddenly opening one's mouth)
verb: ahlama.
- eke (Of a lake tossing its waters to and fro
when agitated)
- etlo (Of things suddenly x becoming clear)
- S.S, N.S: feti (Of passing very quickly) verb: feta.
- S.S: fetla (Of avoiding a blow aimed at one)
- ~~fa~~
file (Of disappearing in zigzags) ~~verb: filela.~~
verb: filela
- TS: gonye (Of withdrawing, shrinking very quickly)
verb: gonyela.
- S.S: finye (As for TS. gonye above) verb: finyela.
- hamo (Of a fine clear, day)
- heli (Of looking back only once when running
and then running on faster)
- hetlo (As for heli above) Cf. verb: hetla.
- hlahi (Of appearing for a second e.g. on a dark
night) verb: hlaha.
- hlana (Of many birds flying up and down.)
- hlere (Of the sound made by Morutlhoane¹ lightly
tapped)
- hloeli (As for hlahi above)
Cf. verb: hloelisa.
- TS: tlhodi (As for S.S. hloeli above)
verb: tlhodisa.
- S.S: hloibi (Of snatching very quickly)
verb: hloibila.
- TS: kamo (Of breaking into two) verb: kamola.
- S.S: kape i. (Of spilling excess amount of water from
a water-pot)
ii. (Of a tall person bending and raising
his head while walking)
- keni (Of entering very quickly)
Cf. verb: kena.
- keto (Of knocking or toppling over)
verb: ketola.
- N.S: ketu (Of slumbering, continuously nodding)
- TS, NGW: kolwe (As for S.S. keni above)
- S.S: khile (Of limping e.g. a lame person)
verb: khiletsa.
- NGW: kgona (Of bending and raising the buttocks)
(verb: kgonama)
- S.S: khoapho (Of an animal quickly withdrawing its tail)
verb: khoaphetsa.

¹ A small leather bag containing stones usually worn by dancers round their ankles.

Group 4. TONE M+H.

- N. S: kgutš^hi (Of resting for just a short time)
 verb: kgutš^ha.
- S. S: ngale (As for keni above)
 nyeli (Of the flash of lightning)
 Noun: Manyeli-nyeli.
 phep^hi (Of effecting a narrow escape)
- S. S, TS: photse (Of shooting out of a house like a
 bullet) verb: SS: photseha.
 TS: photsega.
- S. S: qoili (Of a water bubble bursting)
 sire (Of disappearing from sight e.g.
 hidden by tree) verb: sirela.
 tjoli (Of a mouse disappearing into a
 hole)
 tsike (Of the sound of a flute)
 tšire (as for sire above)
 tšoeli i. (Of appearing and disappearing
 again)
 ii. (of seeing slightly e.g. person
 passing) verb: tšoelima.
 tsoili (Of the chirping of a bird)
 tsora (Of sitting on haunches)
 verb: tsorama.

Group 5. TONE L+W.

- S. S: batha (Of a sudden arrival)
~~h^hh^hl^hxxxx (Of bread breaking in a pot)~~
 behle (Of bread breaking in a pot.)
- TS: botho (Of a cow carefully lying down on one
 side)
 bukgu (Of many worms moving to and fro)
- S. S: hehle (Of tearing to pieces)
 hlephe (Of many things scattered all over the
 place)
 jethe (Of jumping down from high place)
 khahla (Of meeting e.g. a friend unexpectedly)
 verb: khahlana.
- TS: kgathu (Of the sound of a gun)
- S. S: khefu (Of resting for a little while)
 khoephe (Of being startled and then becoming
 angry)

Group 5. TONE L+W.

S. S:	koeche	(Of speaking an indistinct unknown language)
	lepho	(Of the quiet fall of foam e.g from a beer-pot; also used of snow falling)
TS:	natho	(Of breaking bread into small pieces e.g. sharing it among children.)
NGW:	ngatho	(ditto)
S. S:	nyafu	(Of the seizing or treading on something something soft) verb: nyafutsa.
	nyahla	(Of dropping something in disgust) verb: nyahlatsa.
	nyaso	(Of giving one an evil look, looking askance at him or her)
	nyehle	(Of sitting carelessly leaning backward)
	oasa::	(Of the sound of divining bones thrown on the ground)
TS:	waša::	(ditto)
S. S:	phehle	(Of sitting carelessly, legs outstretched, leaning backwards on one's arms)
	qophu	(Of a cow plunging its mouth into water)
	qoto	(Of hopping from one place to another e.g. locust) verb: qotoma.
	qotsu	(Of uprooting a plant) verb: qotsula.
TS, N. S:	rago	(Of quickly jumping up) verb: ragoga.
S. S:	raho	(As for a <u>rago</u> above)
	refo	(Of the simultaneous rising of many people, cattle etc.) verb: rafoha.
	rethe	(Of being extremely soft and smooth) Cf. Noun: Borethe.
TS:	rethe	(Of landing on both legs after jumping from a high place)
S. S:	roakha::	(Of the sound made by many cattle prancing)
	roanya	(Of creaking and squeaking like new shoes)
N. S:	rwanye	(Of crushing bones after eating meat) verb: rwanyetša.
S. S:	ropo	(Of suddenly appearing) verb: ropo! a e.g. <u>Motho, ropo!</u>
	rothe	(Of water falling in drops, also of a clear speech)

Group 5. TONE L+W.

- S.S: rukhu (Of the sound of a dry skin shifted from one place to another)
- TS, N.S, SS: ruthu (Of a dull sound made e.g. by a person falling) verb: ruthana.
- S.S: tšeŋhe (Of jumping over e.g. wire or ant-heap) verb: tšethema.

Group 6. TONE W+L.

- N.S: pheke (Of avoiding a blow)
- TS: phekge (Of hard kick by a horse or mule) verb: phekgenya.
- S.S: phekhe (ditto)
verb: phekhenya.
- phekho (Of turning in the opposite direction, complete right about turn) verb: phekhoha.
- thalo (Of quickly getting away from imminent danger) verb: thaloha.
- N.S: thankgee: (Of unwashed dishes spotted with food remnants)
- thokgê (Of being completely destroyed e.g. plants killed by sun.)
- thuh^hla (Of falling down)

Group 7. TONE L+ML.

- S.S: kamo (Of breaking into two) verb: kamola.
- kana (Of many people, animals dying one after the other)
- ~~khala~~
khalo (Of branching off one's way for a short while; also of going away for a short time)
- khamo (Of breaking off at root-level) verb: khamola.
- khapu (Of wading in water) verb: khaputsa.
- lako (Of jumping over fence) verb: lakoma.
- letso (ditto)
- lore (Of being entirely burnt out, reduced to ashes) e.g. Ho cha lore!
- naka (Of fruitlessly running away from possible danger)
- pate (Of attacking by surprise) verb: patela.
- pesha (Of an animal jumping and raising its tail at the same time)

Group 7. TONE L+ML.

- SS, TS, NS: pote (Of quickly disappearing round the corner) verb: potela.
- S. S: potse (Of landing on both feet after jumping)
- qapi (Of pouring a little milk e.g. just a drop into tea)
- qapo (Of speaking briefly and to the point) verb: qapola.
- qapu (As for khapu above) verb: qaputsa.
- qatu (Of the sound made by soft porridge - lesheleshele - swallowed by a baby fed by hand)
- SS, TS, NS: roto (Of eyes bulging out) verb: rotola.
- S. S: soko (Of walking a little distance e.g. a baby learning to walk)
- TS, SS: time (Of fire going out or a person dying) TS: verb: timela.
- NGW: tšapu (Of an object falling into water) jumping
- S. S: tloja (Of a frog ~~falling~~ jumping into water)
- SS, TS, NS: tlole (Of jumping in, into; on, on to something) verb: tlolela.
- N. S: tompu (As for NGW. tšapu above)
- TS, S. S: tsepa i. (Of a well-fitting dress or suit
ii. (Of standing in an upright position) verb: tsepama.
placing
- S. S: tšetla (Of ~~standing~~ in ~~an~~ a standing position) verb: tšetlalla
- tšipo (As for pesha above)
Cf. Tšipo (Spring-hare)
- tsoape (Of quickly turning round the ~~corner~~ corner) verb: tsoapela.
- TS: tšwape (ditto)
verb: tšwapela.

Group 8. TONE M+L.

- N. S: fong (Of a very bad smell.
- S. S: hloibi (Of snatching away) verb: hloibila.
- koai (Of walking quickly with short steps) verb: koila.
- NS. SS: ~~lam~~ la¹ i (Of springing upon in attack e.g. lion attacking hunter)
- ii. (Of quickly gobbling up food, (of grabbing, snatching.)
SS: nau
verb: nautsa.

Group 8. TONE M+L.

- S. S: pau (Of big ears flapping up and down)
Cf. Lepau (a dog with big ears)
- phai (Of slapping off e.g. hat from the
head) verb: ph₂aila.
- rao (Of quickly jumping up)
verb: raoha.
- tai (Of finishing completely)
- SS. TS. NS: talaa: (Of being very green)
- NGW: t₂êrê (do)
- TS. SS: tleree: (Of being very red, blood red)
- S. S: thau (Of gathering people from all over
the place)
- N. S: thosa (Of sitting down very tired)
- S. S: toai (Of walking slowly as if tired)
Cf. N₀un: Motoaitoai (wanderer)
- N. S: uwêê (Of falling fast asleep)

Group 9. TONE L+L.

- S. S: beke (Of shining; also of the sharp streaks
of lightning)
- TS: betse (Of bolting out like a bullet, running
away) verb: betsega.
- S. S: bito (Of suddenly emerging from water)
verb: bitoha.
- TS: bilo (ditto)
- N. S: bura (Of a toddler falling down)
- buru (Of being sad; but may mean also
appearing suddenly)
- S. S: haro (Of tearing to bits) verb: harola.
- heea (Of a nest of birds landing on a
corn-field)
- heme (Of striking forcefully with a knob
kerrie) verb: hemetsa.
- hene (Of speaking indistinctly)
verb: henetha.
- N. S: hlêphêê:: (Of lying down outstretched)
- S. S: hoala i. (Of groping about in the dark.)
ii. (Of snatching an article from the
ground) verb: hoalatsa.
- hoara (Of many people gathered together)
- hohlo (Of falling into a big hole)
verb: hohlomela.

Group 9. TONE L+L.

- S. S: homo (Of murmuring e.g. two people talking in under-tones)
- hono (ditto)
- horo (Of the intestines coming out e.g. on cutting open a sheep's stomach)
Mala Horo!
- hoto (Of pulling out by force)
verb: ~~hokam~~ hotola.
- jatla (Of scattering clay oxen on the ground)
- joeke (of the sound made by a soft striking rod, cane)
- katla (Of the sound of a pocket-knife being closed)
- kebe (Of bending this way and that, especially while dancing)
verb: kebesela.
- keme (Of chewing quickly while eating)
- TS. SS: kete (Of the sound of a pair of scissors cutting)
- S. S: khai (Of the sound of grain crushed on a mill) verb: khaila.
- N. S: kgwari (Of the sound of a scratching writing-pen) verb: kgwaritša.
- S. S: khohlo (Of the sound made when ~~khohlo~~ coughing) verb: khohlola.
- khokho (Of walking bent e.g. an old person)
verb: khokhoba.
- khuba (Of falling on knees)
- N. S: kgwiti (Of ~~kwiti~~ swallowing heavily e.g. a big bite)
- S. S: koaga (Of a trap closing)
- koata (Of running away from pursuer)
Noun: Lekoatakoata.
- koato (Of snatching, taking away abruptly)
- TS: kwete (Of swallowing without chewing e.g. piece of meat)
- N. S: kwere (Of speaking an unknown language)
- S. S: kobo (Of pecking e.g. like birds)
verb: kobola.
- koebe (Of walking quickly with short steps)
- koete (Of waking up with a start)
verb: koeteha.
- SS. TS: koko (Of pain disappearing for a time)

Group 9. TONE L+L.

- S. S: koqa (Of kneeling or squatting)
- koqo (Of turning round and walking away, usually angrily)
- koro (Of croaking like a frog)
Noun: Mokokotlo < korotla.
- kotjo (Of walking heavily with a swing)
- koto (Of the sound of waggon-wheels)
- kupu (Of the sudden rise of dust)
- kuthu (Of walking a very short distance)
- kutu (Of the sound of articles e.g. furniture being shifted from one place to another.)
- lala (Of plunging into water without any waste of time.)
- leke (Of a cow licking its calf)
- N. S: lepu (Of a slimy substance stretching out)
- S. S: leqe (Of swallowing a slimy thing)
- lobe (Of eating greedily)
- mama (Of clinging on to something)
verb: mamarela.
- mamo (Of striking forcefully with a stick)
verb: mamola
- TS. SS: mana (Of lying flat on the ground)
manama, verb.
- S. S: matlo (Of slapping child on buttocks with open palm) verb: matlotsa.
- SS. TS. NS: meno (Of suddenly turning round)
verb: menoha, menoga.
- S. S: metle (Of delivering a crushing blow)
verb: metletsa
- N. S: mono (Of flowers having faded)
- S. S: 'mubu (Of the sound made when blankets are dusted with a stick)
- mumu (Of hair falling off when cut)
- TS: nano (Of suddenly getting up)
verb: nanoga.
- S. S: noko (Of doves eating ^{corn} ~~XXXX~~)
- nyape (Of drinking very quickly)
verb: nyapetsa.
- nyare (Of peeping in, looking into, usually from a high place)
verb: nyarela.

Group 9. TONE L+L.

- S. S: nyaro (Of being startled e.g. at sight of a lion) verb: nyaroha.
- nyeke (Of many worms moving to and fro)
- nyemo (Of looking at a person in a very spiteful manner) verb: ~~nyemotssa~~ nyemotssa.
- N. S: nyeu (Of the sudden appearance of worms) verb: nyeuma.
- S. S: nyoto (Of sinking especially in sand)
- N. S: wabaa: (Of divining bones falling on the ground.)
- TS: otse (Of slumbering) verb: otsela.
- S. S: patla (Of heavy rainfall)
- N. S: patlaa: (Of lying prostrate on the ground)
- SS. NS: peke (Of glittering at certain intervals)
- S. S: peko (Of kicking a person on the buttocks)
- pere (Of giving up after a long fruitless search)
- SS. TS: petle (Of dropping with a thud e.g. meat falling down) verb: petletsa.
- N. S: peno (Of opening the eye and exposing inside part) verb: penola.
- S. S: peto (As for N. S. peno above) verb: petola.
- phai (Of wandering about, lost) verb: phaila.
- N. S: phakga (Of suddenly waking up from a deep sleep)
- S. S: phakha (Of water bursting, overflowing with a splash) verb: phakhatsa.
- phaqa (Of the sound made when knocking clay)
- TS. SS. NS: phara (Of squatting or sitting flat on the ground) verb: pharama.
- N. S: phêhlêêê: (Of being extremely comfortable)
- S. S: pheqe (Of drinking to the last drop)
- Ts. SS: phere 1. (Of overcooked meat falling apart)
ii. (Of a sore becoming bad)
SS. verb: phereha
TS. pherega.
- S. S: pjatla (Of throwing away pell-mell, also of being broken to pieces)
- N. S: ptšatla (ditto)
- S. S: pjetle (Of the sound of liquid excrement)

Group 9. TONE L+L.

- S. S: poko (Of the sound of the instrument used for scratching skins viz. Phalo<fala)
- pose (Of throwing too much salt in food in pot) verb: posela.
- Cf. N. S: phušu (whispered) (As for pose above)
- S. S: puku (Of the sudden rise of dust)
- TS. S. S: putla (Of falling or sitting very quickly)
- NS. TS. S. S: putu (Of dashing hither and thither in search of something)
- S. S: qabo (Of drinking a little from a beer pot and then passing it)
verb: qabola.
- qata (Of dealing one a quick knock on the head with a stick)
- qato (Of standing at a respectable distance from possible danger)
- goatsi (Of blinking or waking up from sleep)
- goele (Of a lone figure appearing on high place)
- rotlo (Of many people standing up)
- N. S: šidi (Of rubbing off e.g. dirt from the hand or body) verb: šidila
- S. S: shoala (Of becoming dark soon after sunset)
- solo (Of going a short distance e.g. just round the corner and then back home)
- N. S: tabe (Of jumping over e.g. wire)
- tabo (Of hopping from place to place e.g. locust)
- S. S: tako (Of speaking in an agry manner)
verb: takola.
- tatla (Of the sound of meat falling on the ground)
- teala (Of many people sitting quietly on the ground)
- teke (Of not being perturbed at all)
Ha ho re teke! ho eena.
- tekhe (Of the dull sound of a fist landing on the body.)
- tenye (Of a soft pliable cane bending)
- tete (Of sinking in sand or mud)
verb: tetebela.
- tetle (As for tekhe above)
verb: tetletsa.
- tibe

Group 9. TONE L+L.

- S. S: tibe (Of stabbing with a knife or spear)
 tloara (Of sinking in mud)
 tloeke (of a scratching sound e.g. when striking a match)
- N. S: tlotlo (Of ~~ax~~ suddenly jumping up and then sitting down again)
- S. S: toatla (Of breaking a dry stick)
 verb: toatlatsa.
- toko (Of ^awalking with a heavy gait)
- N. S: tomo (Of weeding, also uprooting plants)
 verb: tomola.
- tompaa: (Of falling fast asleep)
 verb: tompala.
- tôpô (Of quickly picking up an object)
- S. S: tɔotlo (As for tekhe above)
 verb: totlotsa.
- tseke (Of the flash of lightning)
 verb: tsekema.
- TS. S. S: tsetle (Of the sound made by cutting with a pair of scissors)
- S. S: tsitla (Of exposing teeth while laughing)
 e.g. tsitlama.
- NGW: tsitla (Of a well-built house)
 e.g. E rile ~~tsitla~~ tsitla!
- S. S: tsitlo (Of becoming frightened)
- tsoatla (Of the sound made when breaking a small dry stick or twig)
- tšoetso (Of having taken a little liquor but not drunk)
- tsoko (Of shaking from side to side e.g. train shaking passengers)
 verb: tsokotsa.
- tuke (Of the flash of lightning)

Group 10. TONE L+L-

- S. S: qiti (Of the deafening noise of a cannon heard in the gun-war 1865 -68)
Ntoa ea Seqiti.
- tjapa (Of lying on stomach face downwards)
 verb: tjapalla.
- tjole (Of disappearing very quickly)
- tjorro (Of the sound made by bowels)
- tlaba (Of walking to and fro like an ostrich agitated)

Group 10. TONE L+L-

- S. S: tlapu (Of holding a soft thing)
verb: tlapunya.
- tlaro (Of a sick animal grazing for a short time, biting twice or once only)
- tlepe i. (Of being extremely annoyed, angered to bursting point)
ii. (Of a big stone falling on a child)
tlepenya.
- tlepo (Of the sound made by a spear cutting through flesh)
verb: tlepola.
- tomo (Of speaking with a very low voice)
- tsunyo (Of pricking e.g. with a pin)

Group 11. TONE L+H.

- S. S: ~~hna~~ hoalo (Of fleeting past a person or house without looking at him/it)
n
- khatsee: (Of a woman/shrieking with a shrill voice)
- khoete (Of a piece of meat bolting out when a person is vomiting)
- Ts: kodu (Of drinking to the last drop)
verb: kodumetsa.
- kopa (Of hare jumping up and down - running)
- S. S: kotsa (Of sitting lightly on one's haunches)
verb: kotsama.
- TS. S. S: kota (As for kotsa above)
verb: kotama.
- N. S: koti (Of disappearing into donga, river, spruit)
- S. S: kutu i. (Of the sound made by gnawing mouse) verb: kututsa
~~TSxxxSxSt~~
- TS. S. S: lebe: (Of sitting expectantly waiting for somebody to turn up)
verb: S. S: lebela
TS: lebelela.
- S. S: mpo i. (Of falling very heavily on the ground.)
ii. (Of cattle drinking all at the same time, in which case the tones are L+L.)
iii. (Of smoking a pipe, in which case it is completely whispered)
- nkhi (Of striking a person with a stick and withdrawing it leisurely)

Group 11. TONE L+H.

- S. S: nqe (Of joining two~~s~~ sticks very tightly)
- nqee: (Of the sound made when one strikes iron)
- nqe (Of the fierce beating of the sun during a period of drought)
- nti (Of piercing, stabbing with a spear forcefully hurled)
- ntle (Of binding very tightly)
- ntsi (Of suddenly coming to a standstill, stopping as if rooted to the ground)
Monosyllabic variant of this is tsi H.
- ntsii:: (Of binding very, very tightly)
Cf. N. S: tsirrr:: with same meaning
- nya (Of disappearing completely)
e.g. A re nya!
- TS: nyame (Of suddenly disappearing e.g. in thick bush) verb: nyamela.
- S. S: nyame (ditto)
verb: nyamela.
- TS: othi (Of sneezing. Often used: Othi! Skolokothi!) verb: othimola.
- NGW: ethi (As for othi above) verb: ethimola.
ethimola.
- N. S: ethi (ditto) verb: ~~ethi~~
- S. S: thi or thia (Same meaning as ethi above)
e.g. Thia! tse mpe tsa matsa/e.
- otsi (Of sleeping for a short time)
- TS: shena i. (Of exposing one's front teeth)
ii. (Of a dog snarling and ~~expose~~
exposing its teeth)
verb: shenama.
- S. S: sitlo (Of staring fixedly at a person)
verb: sitlola.
- tjaro (Of running away, bolting off like a bullet)
- tjoke (Of cattle following a bull in single file, especially when they are going to drink)
- N. S: tswapo (Of an animal suddenly springing out of its hiding place)
- tswari (Of taking, ~~re~~ removing every article ~~in~~
in the ~~house~~ house)
- TS: oši (Of breathing a sigh of relief)
Mokwena a ba a re oši!

TRISYLLABIC IDEOPHONES.Par. 25. Group 1. TONE ML+ML+L.Par. 26. Group 2. TONE L+L+WPar. 27. Group 3. TONE L+L+L.Par. 28. Group 4. TONE W+W+L.Par. 29. Group 5. TONE L+L+WPar. 30. Group 6. TONE WPar. 31. Group 7. TONE MH+MH+MHPar. 32. Group 8. TONE H+H+H.Group 1. TONE ML+ML+L.

S. S: alala (Of water poured out of a basin)

bjabjara (Of a lion crushing bones with its
teeth) verb: bjabjaretsa.fololo (Of many ~~xi~~ calves, sheep, having all
entered the fold)

N. S: fsalala (Of being dark after sunset)

S. S: helele (Of being cold)

hoalala (As for N. S: fsalala above)

hoarara (Of many people gathered together)

hoatata (ditto)

joajoara (As for bjabjara above)
verb: joajoaretsa.keketle (Of the sound of a big key entering
the key-hole)

kelele (Of fleeting past very quickly)

keteleke (Of cutting off with one stroke)
e.g. pruning trees.

khatlaka (Of banging the door violently)

~~kukukuku~~

kubutu (Of turning a dish upside down)

kuthuku (Of pushing forward a little)

lobele (Of gulping down very quickly)

nyakalla (Of rolling aside e.g. carcass of
an animal)N. B. Nyakalala with a restored.

nyeabelle (Of lounging, letting oneself go)

(N. B. ^{be}nye_lelele with e restored)oatata (Of ~~x~~ being scattered in all
directions)

Group 1. TONE ML+ML+L.

S. S. TS: potoko (Of a heavy thing falling down
e.g. a tree)

S. S: potlollo (Of being sad, crest-fallen)

~~N.B.~~ (N.B. potlololo with o restored)

S. S: potloko (Of crushing a fragile object)

pupuru (As for potoko above)

qoelele (Of reaching the top e.g.
emerging from a river on to
bank)

N. S: retolo (Of suddenly turning round)
verb: retologa.

S. S: roatlaka (Of the sound of mealies
crushed underfoot)

N. S: šôšôba (As for SS potlollo above)

S. S: shololo (Of being very tired)

soalala (Of a river being full)

tealala (Of many people sitting down)

thelele (Of slipping away unnoticed)

tjapalla (Of lying flat on the ground)

(N.B. tjapalala with restoration of a)

S. S: tjekete (Of throwing a bundle on the
~~ground~~ shoulders)

tjelele (Of a fish swimming in water)

tsoetleke (Of the sound of a whip)

tsopotlo (Of walking slowly)

tsomuku (Of the shape of a fine ~~stick~~
straight nose)

Group 2. TONE L+L+W.

S. S: bakatha (Of arriving unexpectedly)

N. S: mokgotho (Of every -body coming out of the
house e.g. to see passing ~~of~~
soldiers)

S. S: nyekethe (Of a cow licking a salty spot)

pakatha (As for bakatha above)

qobacha (Of resting for a while)

qokacha (ditto)

qokocho (Of refusing to share with another)

Group 3. TONE L+L+L.

- N. S: kapata (Of a horse galloping)
- S, S: pataka (ditto)
 both forms may be completely whispered
 especially when indicating fast movement.
- shatata (Of many people sitting down)
- shoalala (Of darkness thickening after sun-set)
- shoalaka (Of being completely dark after sunset)

Group 4. TONE W+W+L.

- S, S: hlothoko (Of slumbering very heavily)
- hloepheke (Of snivelling a great deal)
- khoepheke (Of pulling something hurriedly)
- N. S: phuphuru (Of meeting a friend unexpectedly)
- S. S: soahlaka (Of the sound of a huge tree falling)
- TS: šwathhaka (ditto)
- t/hothoko (As for SŠ. hlothoko above)

Group 5. TONE L+L+W.

- S. S: shobatha (Of slumbering a little)
- thokatha (Of hitting a target like a real
 marksman, a good shot)

Group 6. TONE W.

- N. S: phaphara (Of suddenly waking up)
- S. S: phathatha (Of walking clumsily, with big
 flat feet)
- phususu (Of falling noiselessly to the
 ground)
- qaphapha (Of emerging on the other side of
 the river)

~~Group 7. TONE M+M+M,~~

Group 1. TONE ML+ML+ML+L.

- S. S: fe~~f~~enene (Of fighting people suddenly stopping)
- N. S: gêkênê~~nê~~ (Of standing still but on the alert)
- S. S: hlahlalala (Of being full to the brim e.g. basket full of grain)
- hlekelele (Of many articles scattered all over the place i.e. at sixes and sevens)
- kakanana (Of unexpectedly meeting a friend)
- khekhenene (Of suddenly coming to a standstill)
- TS. S. S: kokololo (Of pain sub-siding, decreasing)
Cf. Hlubi: gogololo.
- N. S. S. S: kolokoto (Of turning upside down)
- S. S: kolomoto (Of falling and disappearing into a hole)
- momololo (Of being quiet)
- TS. S. S: namalala (Of lying flat on the ground, dead tired)
- S. S: nyebelele (Of lounging, letting oneself go)
- nyenyelepe (Of disappearing unobserved)
verb: nyenyelepa.
- palakaga (Of falling over and over again)
Cf. ZULU: balakaxa.
- papalala (Of lying flat on the ground)
- pelekeqe (Of the sound of a big piece of meat falling on the ground)
- N. S: phêphê~~nê~~ (Of being clean after scrubbing off dirt)
- S. S: polokoqo (As for palakaga above)
- polopoqo (ditto)
- popololo (Of a swollen place becoming normal again)
- potlololo i. (Of falling down quite helpless)
ii. (Of being sad, crest-fallen)
- putlalala (Of sitting lazily, sprawled out on the ground)
- qekelele (Of an overcast sky becoming clear)
- qhemelele (Of many people - a regiment - disappearing in different directions)
- qhotololo (Of a big black ~~ink~~ object obstructing one's way on a dark night)
- qhothololo (Cf. As for qhotololo above)

Group 1. TONE ML+ML+ML+L.

- S. S: shatalala (Of many people sitting down)
~~shatalala~~
 tetenene (Of sitting down angrily)
 N. S: tšagalaga (Of throwing oneself down, tired)
 S. S: tjapalala (Of lying flat on the ground,
 face downwards.)
 tjekelele (Of throwing on one's shoulder)
 tletlenene (Of being packed like sardines)
 tlobololo (Of landing among strangers)

Group 2. TONE L+L-+L+W.

- TS: galagath_a (Of stumbling and nearly falling)
 S. S: halahahla (Of a sudden arrival)
 halakahla (ditto)
 helehehle (As for TS: galagatha above)
 helekehle (ditto)
 holokohlo (Of falling into a donga)
 kelekethe (Of heavy thing falling to the
 ground) Cf. Hlubi: gilikidi.
 khalakhatha (As for halahahla above)
 N. S: pholokgotho (Of speedy entrance)

Group 3. TONE ML+W+L+L.

- N. S: kg_wathalala i. (Of a witness saying exactly
 what the accused had said
 before)
 ii. (Of tracing the spoor of lost
 stock accurately)
 S. S: lo_othololo (As for kokololo in Group 1.)
 gothololo (Of a big black object ~~obstructing~~
 obstructing one's way on a ~~black~~
 dark night)

Group 4. TONE W+ML+L+L.

- TS: thêbêlêlê (Of coming to sudden standstill,
 baffled and angry) e.g.
 Phiri ya êma thêbêlêlê!
 S. S: themelele (Of many people sitting down)
 thobololo (Of suddenly appearing from nowhere)
 thusoalala (Of many people scattering in many
 directions)

Group 4. TONE W+ML+L+L.

N. S: thupalala (Of a dying person or animal ultimately lying still - dead)

Group 5. TONE W+W+L-+L-.

N. S: phêhlênênê (Of being extremely comfortable)

phêsêlêlê (Of quickly disappearing into a house)

S. S: phohlololo (ditto)

phuhlalala i, (Of falling flat on the ground)

ii. (Of the night having passed and the sun rising) e.g.

Bosiu ba ba ba o ela fatše
phuhlalala!

sheshenene (Of many people standing)

thathalala (Of an erstwhile dry river, or one with little water, suddenly filling up)

thoichalala (Of along straight road)

thoishalala (ditto)

Group 6. TONE MH+MH+H+H.

S. S: Koa-koang-koa. (Of meeting unexpectedly)

ngoengoelele (Of being very quiet)

N. S: phatlaladi (Of the rays of the sun ~~sp~~ spreading out and expelling darkness)

pimpinya (Of running very fast)

S. S: phuru-tšatša (Of bolt^{ing} out of a house)

goekelelee:: (Of a cool, clean, house with everyth^{ing} in its place)

N. S: thenthekgwe (Of kicking pots in the dark)

S. S: tlekelele (Of suddenly coming to a standstill and gazing in amazement)

tlemelele (ditto)

Chapter 3.THE DERIVATION OF IDEOPHONES.Par .39.

Ideophones may be derived from verbs in one of several ways. They are mostly derived from disyllabic verb stems. The most common method is that of changing the final vowel of the verb stem to i, raising the tone on the last syllable and shifting the position of main stress from the Penultimate to the ultimate syllable.

Examples:-
 ama > ami (Of quickly touching)
 ata > ati (Of quickly increasing)
 ema > e:mi (Of quickly standing)
 e:tsa > etsi (Of doing something quickly)
 isa > isi (Of quickly taking something to another person)
 oma > omi (Of quickly pretending to strike)
 o:pa > opi (Of knocking with an object e.g. stone on head)
 utlwa > utlwi (Of hearing very quickly)
 bona > b:oni (Of seeing very quickly)
 kena > keni (Of entering very quickly)

It will be noticed that open vowels like ϵ of k ϵ na and \circ of b \circ na become close as a result of the influence of ϵ exerted by the final i.

Par .40.

The final vowel may be replaced by a vowel other than i.

In all three languages it may be replaced by e, e.g.

N.S: getla > getle (Of sitting down comfortably)

TS : t ima > time (Of dying out e.g. fire)

S,S: utlwa > utlwe (The latter as a variant of the form given above)

In one instance, in TS. (Rolong), the final vowel is changed to \hat{e} (Phon. ϵ), and the resulting ideophone is reduplicated and whispered.

Example: s \hat{e} ba > s \hat{e} b \hat{e} -s \hat{e} b \hat{e} (Phon. s ϵ b ϵ -s ϵ b ϵ)
 Cf. hebe-hebe.

Par. 41.

In SS. in one instance, the final vowel of the verb-stem is replaced by o (Phon. *o*).

Example:- hetla > hetlo (Of suddenly looking round)

In all these cases, the only departure from the general rule above, is that of the final vowel of the verb-stem being replaced by a vowel other than i. With the exception of the Rolong form sêbê-sêbé, where there is a change in tone, both stress and tone remain unaltered.

Par. 42.

The following monosyllabic verb-stems permit of ideophones being derived from them, by changing the final vowel to i and raising the tone on the whole form.

Examples:-

- cha > chi (Of quickly burning)
- hloa > hloi (Of quickly climbing)
- ja > ji (Of quickly eating up)
- kha > khi (Of quickly drawing water (or of giggling))
- noa > noi (Of drinking hurriedly)
- psha > pshi (Of being completely dry)
- shoa > shoi (Of being dead, stone dead)

But N.S: tšwa > e-tšwi (Of going out very quickly)

Par. 43.

The following vowel verbs also permit of ideophones being derived from them according to the general rule.

Examples:

- aha > ahi (Of quickly building)
- epa > epi (Of quickly digging)
- ema > emi (Of quickly standing up)
- oka > oki (of quickly nursing a patient)
- oma > omi (Of quickly drying up)
- otla > otli (Of quickly striking)

Par. 44.

Another method of deriving ideophones from verbs in SS. is that of using the suffix -ieane.

/ the final vowel of

The final vowel of the ~~verb~~ verb-stem drops out before this suffix. Examples:-

aha (build)	>	ah i ieane	(Of feigning to build quickly)
lila (smear)	>	lil i ieane	(.. .. smear)
besa (light a fire)	>	bes i ieane	(.. .. light a fire..)
pheha (cook)	>	phe h ieane	(.. .. cook quickly)
soka (stir)	>	sok i ieane	(.. .. stir .. .)
tšola (ladle out food)	>	tšol i ieane	(.. .. ladle out ..)
lula (sit down)	>	lul i ieane	(.. .. sit down ..)
rapela (pray)	>	rapel i ieane	(.. .. pray ..)
ja (eat)	>	j i ieane	(.. .. eat)
qeta (finish)	>	qet i ieane	(.. .. finish)

Examples in Sentences:

- 'Na, ntlo ahieane! (As for me, I quickly ~~built~~ built a house)
- 'Na, ka re lijo phehieane! (As for me, I quickly cooked food)
- Eena, a re mollo besieane! (As for him/her, she quickly lit a fire)
- Rona, ra re fatše lulieane! (As for us, we quickly sat down)
- Ntsoaki, tšolieane! (Ntsoaki quickly dished out the food)
- Ra re jieane, qetieane! (And we quickly ate and finished)

Par. 45.

These forms are only heard in the language of children. The different actions they refer to do not actually take place, but each action is appropriately dramatised and acted as if it were real. Hence the approximations next to each form above. A similar suffix to this one has been noted by Doke in Zulu (Cf. ZULU GRAMMAR §648). Whether the SS suffix -ieane is a borrowing from Zulu, is a moot point. Syntactically, however, the SS suffix is used differently from that of Zulu as can be seen by comparing ~~these~~ these examples:-

~~6ona 6oniyani yena (They spotted him)~~

- 'Zulu: 6ona 6oniyani yena. (They spotted him)
- wa:6aleka wacasha kodwa 6oniyani mina yena.
(He ran and hid, but I spotted him)

' See: Doke Ibid p. 270

The corresponding SS equivalents of these would be:-

- (a) bona ba mo re bonieane!
 (b) A na a matha a ipata empa 'na ka mo re bonieane!

In meaning too, they seem to differ because as already pointed out, in SS these forms are only heard in the language of children. They mostly refer to imaginary things so characteristic of children.

Par. 46.

In SS trisyllabic ideophones may, in some cases, be derived from disyllabic ones simply by repeating the last syllable of the disyllabic form.

Examples:- hloibi > hloibibi (Of quickly snatching off)

~~hara~~

hoara > hoarara (Of many people sitting down)

shoal^a > shoalala (Of having become quite dark)

teala > tealala (Of many people sitting down)

Par. 47.

The difference between these forms is that of degree rather than of kind. Shoala indicates the period shortly after sunset, while shoalala indicates a stage later of the same period. Similarly hoara and teala indicate a group of people sitting down, while hoarara and tealala indicate many people sitting down.

Par. 48.

Numerous quadrisyllabic ideophones may be derived from disyllabic ideophones. The principle of derivation is as follows:- Take the first syllable of the disyllabic form and to it, suffix the full disyllabic form reduplicated. Thus ^{from} SS. bjara, by taking the initial bj and, to it suffixing the reduplicated form of bjara - bjara-bjara - we derive - bjabjara-bjara (Of a lion crunching bones)

similarly:-

SS. joa < joara+joara-joara > joajoara-joara. (ditte)

All. ki < kiri+kiri-kiri > kikiri-kiri (of pushing and hustling)

strong-adjectival stems:-----

NS:	sêhlêê	<	sehla	(yellow, grey)
SS:	sehle:	<	sehla	(ditto)
TS:	setlhee	<	sêtlha	(ditto)
N S:	šweeu	<	šweu	(white)
TS:	šweuu	<	šweu	(ditto)
SS:	soeu:	<	soeu	(ditto)
TS. SS:	talaa	<	tala	(green)
SS:	tle	<	tle	(beautiful)
SS:	tšo	<	tšo	(black)

It will be seen from the above examples that:

(1) in the case of sêhlêê the final vowel of the original stem has been changed to ê (Phon. ξ) and lengthened in all three languages. (In SS, this extra length is not usually indicated in writing, but it is heard in actual speech.)

(2) In the case of šweeu, šweu, both vowels e and u have been lengthened.

(3) and, finally, that in the case of talaa again the final vowel has been lengthened and that in SS. it is sometimes indicated in writing.

Par. 53.

Examples in sentences:-

TS: Mosese wa gagwê wa re šweuu!
(Her dress is spotlessly white)

N S: Ntlo e re sêhlêê! ke moroko.
(The house is yellow with dregs)

SS: Naha e re talaa! (Cf. NGW: tere (very green))
(The country is green)

SS: Lefifing le letšo le reng ~~kha~~ tšo!
(In darkness that is very dark)

Botle bo tle!

(Beauty which is incomparable, unsurpassed)

(N .B. There are no ideophones derived from weak adjectival stems)

Par. 54.

In SS. there is one ideophone that is identical in form with the class 1 Noun-stem -tho, viz. tho! It is found in the rarely used saying:

Motho ea reng tho! (A real man)

Chapter 4.

DEIDEOPHONIC VERBS:

Par. 55.

For the sake of completion, a brief survey of the mechanisms employed in deriving verbs from ideophones has been undertaken. As the verbs derived from different ideophones have already been indicated next to such ideophones, all that remains to be done now is to indicate how verbs are formed from ideophones.

Par. 56.

Verbs can be derived from ideophones by means of suffix. The suffixes used for this purpose are many and varied; especially is this the case with verbs derived from monosyllabic ideophones. With the exception of a few, each monosyllabic ideophone invariably has its own suffix and, interesting to note, a disyllabic suffix, in most cases.

Par. 57.

Verbs derived from Monosyllabic Ideophones:

- SS: fafatsa (To sprinkle, drizzle) < fa
- TS: hahatsa (" " " ") < ha
- SS: hihala (To become dark) < hi
- SS: fifala (To " " " ") < fi
- TS: nanara (To walk steadily) < na
- nanaila (" " " ") < na
- šuma (To sound as water on the boil) < šu
- ALL: thula (To knock against) < thu
- thunya (To shoot " " " ") < thu
- TS: thwanya (To knock a target) < thwa
- SS: thoena (To run like a bird) < thoe

Par. 58.

A few nouns are also derived from monosyllabic ideophones. Most of these are based on ideophones indicating or imitating sounds of certain objects.

Examples: SS: chuchumakhala (train) < chu
 NS: Nthšo-ntšho-mathšangane < thšu
 (railway train)
 All: thuthuthu (motor-cycle) < thu
 SS: motjetje < tje
 (A deep draught of liquid,
 usually liquor)

This noun, however, is used almost exclusively as an adverbial. e.g. ~~Нохнохнох~~

Ho noa joala motjetje
 (To drink beer without stopping)

Another example SS: Moshoeshe (Personal name) < shoe

Par. 59.Verbs derived from Disyllabic Ideophones:-

The suffixes commonly used here are: -la which gives rise to transitive verbs, -ha, (TS, NS.) -ga, to the intransitive and -tša, to verbs with a causative bias or significance. Apart from these three suffixes, however, there are numerous other suffixes that are used with those ideophones that do not take any of the suffixes mentioned above. Seeing that disyllabic ideophones have already been classified into groups according to their characteristic tones, reference will here be made to those groups in an attempt to show where the different suffixes mostly abound.

Par. 60:

The suffix -la occurs in groups: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11.

Examples:-

SS: famola (To open nostrils repeatedly) < famo
 safola (To catch violently) < safo
 TS: šwatola (To pick out one thing from < šwato-
 many)
 SS: thakhila (To kick very hard) < thakhi
 ALL: toula (To knock very hard) < tou
 SS: thšefola (To uproot) < thefo

Examples(cont inued):

TS: gonyela (To withdraw, shrink) < gonye
 ALL: rotola (To stare with eyes wide open) < roto
 TS: nyamela (To disappear) < nyame
 SS: hotola (To drag, pull by force) < hoto

Par. 61.

The suffix -ha, ga occurs in groups: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 9.

Examples:

TS: biloga (To emerge from under water) < bilo
 betsega (To flee out of a house) < betse
 SS: foqoha (To appear suddenly) < foqo
 TS: photsega (to flee, run away) < photse
 ragoga (To stand up very quickly) < rago
 SS: raoha (ditto) < rao
 refoha (To stand up together) < refo
 siphoha (To sprout, germinate) < siphoh
 thakhoha (To flee) < thakho
 thosoha (To appear suddenly) < thoso

Par. 62.

The suffix -tsa, -tša in groups: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 11.

Examples:

NS: fokgotša (To unearth the soil) < fokgo
 SS: fokhotsa (ditto) < fokho
 hashatsa (To throw, scatter a small quantity) < hasha
 hoalatsa (To grope on, take from the ground) < hoala
 khiletsa (To limp) < khile
 kututsa (To move with a noise e.g. mouse) < kutu
 nautsa (To seize quickly) < nau
 petletsa (To throw down, or away) < petle
 qaputsa (To wade) < qapu
 NS: rwanyetša (To crush bones with teeth) < rwanye

Par. 63.

- Other suffixes used with disyllabic ideophones:-

(1)-fala in group 8. e.g.

SS: talafala (To become green) < talaa

tlerefala (To become red) < tleree

(2)-ela in group 1. (Cf. Applied suffix -ela)

SS: h^oaqela (To frown, become angry with) < hoaga.

Par. 64.

This suffix is identical in form and behaviour with the suffix of the Applied or Applicative ~~xxx~~ verb species -ela. UNLIKE MOST OF THE SUFFIXES used to derive verbs from ideophones, it replaces the final vowel of the ideophone to which it is suffixed. The other suffixes are merely suffixed to the ideophone, the latter retaining its original form. e.g.

peno > penola (To open the eye and expose its inner part)

In significance, however, there is no similarity whatsoever between hoaqela and say, rekela (To buy for, on behalf of) although both have the suffix -ela.

(3) -hela in group 2.

SS: seuhela (To rush for, chase in great numbers) seu

(4) -mela in groups 2, 9.

SS: hehlomela (To fall into a deep hole) < hohlo

laimela (To jump on, in attack) < lai

(5) -metša in group 2.

NS: laimetša (To eat up quickly) < lai

(6) -nya in groups 1, 3, 6, 10.

SS: phekhenya (To kick forcefully) < phekhe

sakunya (To lift, carry a heavy thing) < saku

tlapunya (To crush with a stone) < tlapu-

NS: tswikinya (To rattle, jingle) < tswiki

(7) -sa in group 4.

SS: hloelisa (To observe, look into from above) < Hloeli

- TS: tlohodisa (To observe, look into from above) < tlhodi
 (8) -na in group 5.
- SS: khahlana (To meet with, come across) < khahla
 (9) -lla in groups 7, 10.
- SS: tjapalla (to lie face downwards) < tjapa
 tšetlalla (To stand firmly) < tšetla

Par. 65.

-b a, -bela, -rela, -tha in group 9.

- SS: khokhoba (To walk with a stoop) < khokho
 tetebela (To sink in mud or water) < tete
 mamarela (To cling to, jump on) < mama
 henetha (To mumble, pretending to say something) < hene

Par. 66.Verbs from Trisyllabic and Quadrisyllabic Ideophones:-

There are very few verbs that are derived from these groups of ideophones. The only examples noted here are:

- SS: bjabjaretsa (To chew, break something hard) < bjabjara
 joajoaretsa (ditto) < joajoara
 nyenyelepa (To walk away secretly) < nyenyelepe

Par. 67.CHAPTER 5:USES OF THE IDEOPHONE.

Sotho ideophones are mainly used after the defective verb re (say), whose basic meaning is, in these circumstances, extended to embrace "to do", "to express", "to think". When thus used i.e. followed by an ideophone, the verb re can be conjugated in the different tenses, aspects and moods. Negative forms, however, are extremely rare.

Par. 68.

Examples of re followed by an ideophone in the different moods:-

INFINITIVE: ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX(KXXXXXXXXXX)~~

SS: Ho re tu! (To say tu, i.e. of keeping quiet)

TS, NS: Go re tu! (ditto)

IMPERATIVE: E-re tu ! (Keep quiet!)

INDICATIVE:

Present: SS: O re fu! (He is dead drunk)

Future: O tla re fu! (He will be dead drunk)

Perfect Aspect: Nama e bu^otsoitse phere!
(The meat is over-cooked)

Remote Past: Ba ile b a re batha!
(They arrived suddenly)

Remote Past Continuous: O ne a re fu!
(He was dead drunk)

Present: TS: Basadi ba re ribê, ribê!
(The women are hoeing,
hoeing in unison)

Future: Ba tla re ribê, ribê!
(They will hoe in unison)

Perfect Aspect: Ba didimetse tu!
(They are quiet, very quiet)

Remote Past: Ba na ba re nano!
(they stood up quickly)

Remote Past Continuous: Pula e-ne e re waaa!
(The rain was falling
heavily)

Present: NS: Nama e re a-a-a!
(The meat is very bitter)

Future: Nama e tlo re a-a-a!
(The meat will be very bitter)

Perfect Aspect: Mollo o ile swi!
(The fire has suddenly gone
out)

Remote Past: Lapa le ile la tlala la re šathe
(The homestead was filled to
capacity)

Remote Past Continuous:-

Nama e be e bab^oa e re a-a-a!
(The meat was very bitter)

SUBJUNCTIVE:

Present: SS: Ke batla hore li re khefu!
(I want them to rest for a
while)

TS: Ke batla gore kopêlo e-re gau!
(I want the song - singing -
to come to a sudden end)

NS: Ke nyakô re letšatši le fiše
le re tserrr!
(I want that the sun should
be very hot)

Past: Ra re tu! (And we kept quiet)

Past: NS: Tša re khwikhwi!
 (And they formed a straight line)
 e.g. wattle.

PARTICIPIAL:

Present: SS: Ba nkha ba re phuu!
 (They (are) smelling very badly)

TS: NS: Ba nkgā ba re phuu!
 (They (are) smelling very badly)

Future: A tla kena a re tleree! (SS.)
 (He (is) going to come in covered with
 blood)

TS: A tla-tšēna a re tléréé!
 (As for SS. above)

NS: A tl'• tšēna a re perrr!
 (He (is) going to come in covered with
 blood)

Remote Past: SS: A ile a re nyebelele!
 (He having disappeared unnoticed)

TS: Phiri ya na ya re thêpêlêlê!
 (The hyena having stood, down-
 hearted)

NS: Ntlo e ile ya šala e re hôô!
 (The ~~haxxxx~~ having remained
 house
 completely empty)

Remote Past Continuous: ššixššix

SS: Seliba se ne se chele ngo!
 (The fountain having dried up
 completely)

TS: Maru a ne a re tšobe-tšobe!
 (The clouds having gathered in
 the sky)

NS: Nama e bœ e fedile ta!
 (The meat having been completely
 finished)

POTENTIAL:

SS: A ka re qhasho! (He can die instantly)

TS: A ka rœ šupu! (He can rise instantly)

NS: A ka re tšê! (As for qhasho above)

HABITUAL:

SS: Ke ee ke rœ shoa! ka nako ena.
 (I usually sleep a bit at this time)

TS: Mmutla wa tle o re rago-rago!
 (The hare usually jumps up very quickly)

Par. 69. The only negative form we have come across is in the stereotyped example: SS: Ha-ho re teke! (It does not matter at all). This example has no corresponding positive form.

Par. 70. In all three languages, ideophones may be used in relative constructions.

Examples:

SS: Lefifing le letšo le reng tšo!
(In darkness that is very dark)

TS: Batho ba ba reng šutlha šutlha šutlha! ge ba tsamaya. (People who drag their feet when they walk)

NS: Tsela e e ilego thwii! (A very straight road)
Batho ba ba ilego uwee! le boroko.
(People who are fast asleep)

Par. 71. An object concord may also be incorporated. Its position as usual, is immediately before re.

Examples:

SS: Tau ea mo re nyahla! (The lion dropped him down)
kicked
Ntata'e a mo re pheke! (His father ~~hit~~ him.)

TS: A mo re wa! (He clapped him)

Dintša tsa e-re tsi! (The dogs held it tightly)

NS: Bana ba mo re fsê!
(The children attended to him in great numbers e.g. removing thorns)

A mo re pi! ka lepai. (He covered him with a blanket)

Par. 72.

The Perfect form of re, itse in SS, ile in NS, and ri in TS, may also be used like re i.e. preceding an ideophone. It is usual in such cases to use the impersonal concord of class 17 ho, go, with high tone, before the Perfect form of re in all three languages. The impersonal concord followed by the perfect form of re, and the latter (Perfect Form) by an ideophone, gives rise to idiomatic constructions of exceptional beauty. These constructions often express a state of affairs that was apparently completed,

entered into, in the past but whose effects are still felt in the present. They express or indicate the Perfect Aspect in the Present Tense.

Cf: SS: Ho re tu! (To keep quiet), with

Ho itse tu! (It being quiet)

(N.B. The form ile as perfect of re is commonly used with ideophones, in NS.)

TS, NS: Go k re tu! (To be quiet), with

TS: Go rile tu! (It being quiet)

NS: Go ile tu! (ditto)

SS: Ho itse ngoengoelele! (It being very quiet)

TS: Go rile nyalala! (ditto)

NS: Go ile nngooo! (ditto)

Par. 73. In addition to the above constructions, mention may be made of those cases where ideophones have inchoative verbs immediately preceding them. Such ideophones are used without re or its perfect form. But in import or significance they are similar to the above constructions.

Examples: SS: Siliba se omme ngoro!
(The fountain is as dry as a bone)
(Afr. kurkdreog)

Ke fetile moo tsatsi le chabile te!
(I passed there at broad day light)

Par. 74. In SS. there are ideophones that are almost always used without the introductory re. They are in sentences:-
To! Ke mong to! (I am all alone) (Afr. Ek is vinger alleen.)

qha! Ke mong qha! (ditto)

shoi! O shoele shoi! (He is stone dead)

soe! Ntlo e tletse soe! (The house is full to capacity)

phenhle! Lijo li butsoitse phenhle! (The food is over-cooked, over-ripe)

Where an ideophone follows a cognate verb re or one with which it shows some relationship, it serves to intensify the meaning of such a verb. Hence the form:

O shoele shoi! above.

Par.75. Ideophones may be separated from re by ~~XXXXX~~ some word or words - extensions - which may either be objectiva_l or adverbial in function.

Examples:

- SS: A re ka mose qaphapha!
(He emerged on the other side)
- A re molangoana oa h_oae hlasi!
(He quickly snatched his little stick from the ground)
- NS: Dikgomo tša re ka mašamong piee!
(The cattle entered the fields in great numbers)
- Monna a re kg_oaufsinyane ro_oto!
(A man suddenly appeared close at hand)
- TS: Kwena ya re mo bodibeng thabu!
(The crocodile splashed into the deep)
- A re matlho ro_oto!
(He opened his eyes very widely)

Par.76. Then the ideophone may be followed by an infinitive with a descriptive, explanatory function.e.g.

- SS: A re thakho! ho bal_oeha
(He quickly rose to run away)
- Ba re thusoa! ho baleha.
(They scattered to run away)
- TS: Ga re gwara,gwara,gwara! go ya no_okeng.
(L₁t. There was run very fast to go to the river)
- NS: A re ~~w~~ uwee! go rob_oala
(He fell fast asleep)

Par.77.

Ideophones may also be used with an object concord before re and an instrumental adverbial extension expressing the agentive before the ideophone.e.g.

- SS: A mo re ka molala qhau!
(He caught hold of him by the throat)
- TS: A mo re ka kgôkgôtsh_oô tlwê!
(He caught hold of him by the throat)
- NS: A e re ka mosela tlê!
(He caught hold of it by the tail)

Par.78.

After the verb utloa (hear) ideophones may be used with objectival function while remaining ideophones.
/ examples

Examples:-

SS: Ba utloa soahla, soahla,soahla!
(They heard a rustling noise)

NS: Ba utlwa gwaša, gwaša, gwaša!
(They heard a rustling noise)

OR NS: Ba utlwa gwaši, gwaši, gwaši!
(As for SS. above)

TS: Ba utlwa šutlha, šutlha, šutlha!
(They heard a shuffling, rustling noise)

Ba utlwa rruthe!
(They heard something falling very heavily)

SS: A utloa puru, puru, puru!
(He heard a horse galloping)

Par. 79.

In some cases ideophones are used preceded by a noun only. In such cases the ideophone, in addition to being an ideophone, is the action that it signifies. e.g.

SS: Ntja tchoco! (A dog appeared suddenly)

Motho ropo! (A person suddenly appeared)

TS: Maru meno, meno, meno! (The clouds gathered thick and fast)

NS: Lefsifsi swii! (Darkness covered the earth)

Marole thuu! (Dust suddenly sprang up)

Par. 80.

Ideophones may follow one another in rapid succession. The same ideophone may be repeated several times or different ideophones may be used with no word or words coming in between. They indicate a series of actions occurring with amazing rapidity. e.g.

SS: ku ku ku! (Of the fast beating of the heart)

Hlasi! ropo! siphó!
(Of plants having quickly germinated and appeared above the ground)

NS: Thse thse thse! thse thse thse! gèkèné! tlole!

(Of the suspicious walk of a dog, stopping abruptly with taut muscles and then taking onèmighty leap)

Thu! tsê! (Of knocking down and the victim dying at once)

TS: Bidi! bidi! bidi! Tshete! (of rolling over and over and then jumping down)

TS: Nwê! bilo! (Of a person drowning, appearing and ~~dis~~ disappearing)

Par. 81. It has already been pointed out that an object concord may also be ~~used~~ incorporated (Cf. 71 above). Substantives may also be used in a similar manner with this syntactical difference, that unlike the ~~sk~~ object concord which precedes re, substantives so used succeed or follow re. e.g.

SS: A re meokho sihla sihla sihla!
(He wept very bitterly with tears streaming down)

A re koae hloi hloi hloi!
(He inhaled snuff through his nostrils)

TS: A re matlho roto! (He opened his eyes wide)

NS: Ke le kgopela gore le re pelo thoi!
(I implore you to be patient)

A re mokgolokwane yaya!
(She emitted shrill shouts of joy)

Par. 82.

The verb bona (see) when used with ideophones usually acquires a different meaning viz. "to strike". In such circumstances, it is often followed by an adverbial expressing the agentive and the latter may have ~~extensi~~ extensions of its own. In such cases, bona probably assumes this new meaning because of the meaning of the ideophone with which it is used. e.g.

SS: A e bona ka koto hlohlong fohlo!
(He struck it and crushed its head with a knob-kerrie)

Ka 'mona ka malamumu mpeng 'mubu!
(I forcefully struck him with a kerrie on the tummy)

TS: A e bona ka thobane kga!
(He struck it forcefully with a kerrie)

A e bona ka thobane tha!
(Same as above)

NS: Ya bona lefsika ka hlogô thu!
(It knocked its head against a stone)

Par.83. In rare cases, ideophones may be used preceding the substantival subject. The ideophone thus used comes right at the beginning of the sentence. e.g.

SS: Thinkhoi! Arola oa batho.
(Poor Arola turned sharply round i.e. sharp right about turn)

Chapha! letsatsi lithabeng.
(Suddenly the sun rose from the mountains)

TS: Rrri! dithaga mo mabeleng.
(Numberless finches settled on the corn-field)

Rrru! ditshaga mo mabeleng.
(Numberless finches flew away from the corn-field)

NS: Mokgotho! bana le basadi.
(Every woman and child came out)

Phôôô! lefsika. (The stone fell right into the bush)

Par.84. Ideophones may be used with a cognate verb immediately preceding them. Such a cognate verb may or may not be derived from the ideophone following it. This cognate verb may have an extension of some kind, usually adverbial. But the introductory verb re is not used in such cases. e.g.

SS: Ba qoqa ho fihlela bosiu bo oela fatše puhhlalala!
(They conversed until night had passed completely i.e. till day-break)

A ema hang thetheng-theng!
(He stopped all of a sudden, surprised)

TS: A êma thêbêlêlê (He suddenly came to a standstill)

NS: Mahlo a hwibitše hwibi!
(The eyes being blood red)

A êma gêkênê! (As for thêbêlêlê above)

Par.85. It has been stated earlier (Cf.76 above) that an Infinitive with a descriptive, explanatory function may be used after an ideophone. In some cases, however, a copulative is used after an ideophone. Its function is that of expressing the agentive in the same way as it does after a verb in the Passive Verb Species. e.g.

SS: O ne a re pululu! ke serame.
(He was very grey with frost. i.e. covered with frost)

O ne a re fu! ke joala
(He was dead drunk with beer)

Examples. (continued):-

TS: A tsêna a re tlêrêê! ke madi.
(He came in red with blood)

O nkgâ phuu! ke madi.
(He smells very badly with blood)

NS: Nama e baba a-a-a! ke letswai.
(The meat is very bitter with salt)

Kgôrô ya tlala šathe! ke banna.
(The courtyard became full of men)

CHAPTER VI :

ALTERNATIVE POSSIBLE CLASSIFICATION.Par. 86.

Another method ~~is~~ of classifying ideophones would be that of grouping them according to meaning, as well as the number of syllables. According to this method, ideophones divide themselves into a number of subdivisions, not only according to meaning, but also according to the manner in which the various actions that they describe take place. But as this method of classification has not been followed here, we shall merely indicate some of the sub-divisions referred to above.

Par. 87. IDEOPHONES INDICATING SOUND:(1) Faint Sound:

SS: Lehare la re qha qha qha!
(The razor-blade made a rapping, tapping sound)

NS: Thse thse thse! thse thse thse!
(Of the suspicious run of a dog)

(2) Sharp Sound:

SS: Ba utloa qa qa qa!
(They heard sound of footsteps)

TS: Ba utlwa kwa kwa kwa!
(As for SS above)

NS: Ba utlwa tswiki tswiki tswiki!
(they heard the jingling sound of bangles)

(3) Loud Sound:

SS: Ntlo ea re helehehle-hehle!
(The house fell down with a deafening sound)

TS: sehate sa re potoko!
(The tree fell down with a loud noise)

NS: A re thšahlaaa!
(He fell with a loud sound - down below)

Par. 88. IDEOPHONES INDICATING MOVEMENT:(1) Graceful Movement.

SS: Hlapi ea re chelele chelele chelele!
(The fish went swish, swish, swish.)

NS: Bana ba re phaša phaša phaša!
(The children walk gracefully with bare feet)

(2) Fast Movement:

SS: fata fata fata!
(Of running very fast)

TS: Gwata gwata gwata!
(As for fata! above)

NS: Pimpinya pimpinya pimpinya!
(As for SS. above)

Par. 89. IDEOPHONES INDICATING SMELL:

TS. NS. SS: Phuu

NS: fong or hong

fonono

nyefoo

NS. informant^s say that while these forms all ~~indicate~~ indicate a broad smell, fonono is, in addition, used to describe the smell of rotten fat e.g.

Monkg^o wa makhura o re fonono!
(The smell of the fat is nauseating)

The other forms are used like phuu in the other two languages e.g.

NS: Ga nkg^a ga re phuu! or fong! or hong!
(What a bad smell!)

Par. 90. IDEOPHONES INDICATING COLOUR:

SS.TS: Madi a re tleree! (The blood is red)

NS: Madi a re perrr! (ditto)

Par. 91. In SS. there is a further specialisation of function that is noticeable with "colour ideophones". For instance, the following ideophones all indicate white:

bja

khaa

maa

toaa

qoa

But in usage they are employed to describe different/...

But in actual usage, they are employed to describe different white objects e.g.

Meno a re toaa! (The teeth are pearly white)

Lebese le re maa! (The milk is very white)

Lesela le re khaa! (The cloth is)

Lipoli li re bja! (The goats are)

Lehloa le re qoa! (The snow is very white)

Similarly SS. pululu and phe indicate the colour grey.

But they are employed to describe different grey objects

e.g. Leholimo le re pululu! (The sky is grey or blue)

Bale ba re phe!

(Girls undergoing initiation are grey in colour
i.e. painted grey.)

Par. 92. IDEOPHONES INDICATING POSITION:

(1) Manner of Sitting:

SS: A re kotsa! (He sat on ^{his} haunches)

NS: A re fase kota! A phuphutha diatla.
(He squatted on the ground and politely clapped
his hands)

(2) Manner of Lying Down:

SS: A re tja^hpalla! (He lay face downwards)

TS: A re namalala! (He lay down outstretched, tired)

Par. 93. IDEOPHONES INDICATING SWALLOWING:

SS: A re kwiliti!
(He swallowed it with an audible sound)

TS: A e re kwiti! (He swallowed it with an audible
sound)

NS: A e re kgwidi! (Same as above)

Par. 94. IDEOPHONES INDICATING THE THROBBING OF THE HEART:

SS: Pelo ea re ka-ku-ku! (The heart beat very fast)

NS: Pelo ya re kidi kidi kidi! (same as above)

Par. 95. IDEOPHONES INDICATING TO SNEEZE:

SS: thia

TS: othi

NS: ethi

In SS, more often than not, this ideophone is used followed by an exclamatory remark of some kind, e.g.

Thia! tse mpe tsa matsale!

(Of sneezing, the bad ones of my mother-in-law's)

This exclamatory remark is often heard in the speech of young people. Tse mpe qualifies the unexpressed ~~sub~~ substantival qualificate, lihlare (charms), but seeing that they belong to one's mother-in-law, real, prospective or imaginary, one dare not call them by name. Hence the omission of the substantive lihlare.

Par. 96. Interesting to note too, is the fact that most

ideophones have definite gestures with which they are used. Each ideophone has a specific gesture associated with it. This gesture may be:-

- (1) that of ~~wrinkli~~ wrinkling the face and opening the mouth, in indicating a bitter taste e.g. NS: a-a-a!
- (2) spreading both hands wide apart, in indicating many people scattering in different directions e.g. SS: thusoa!
- (3) wrinkling the face coupled with closing the nose, in indicating a bad smell e.g. phuu!
- (4) raising the hand and pointing, in indicating a straight road e.g. NS: thwii!
- (5) or, if it is a long road, raising the hand and pointing as above, but dropping it on the final syllable e.g. SS: thoi-chalala!
- (6) gracefully swinging the body from side to side in indicating graceful movement e.g. TS: kwa-kwa-kwa!
- (7) swinging the body clumsily in indicating clumsy movement e.g. TS: šutlha-šutlha šutlha!
- (8) putting a finger on the lips in indicating silence e.g. sh!
- (9) brushing the lips with the pointing finger, in indicating that something is completely finished e.g. Mph!
- (10) Suddenly brightening up, as things become clear e.g. TS: thatha!

Par. 97. With the whispered ideophones, the tendency is to

lower the voice in preparation for the ideophone, so/

so that by the time it is uttered, it is uttered completely whispered.

NS: Ba x-utlwa gwaša gwaša gwaša!

Par. 98. The direct opposite happens ~~with~~ in the case of ideophones with high tone. Here, all the preceding words are said with a fairly high tone until the ideophone is reached, at which point, however, the voice suddenly shoots up e.g. SS: A mo re bja! (He struck him)

Par. 99. When an ideophone with high tone appears at the beginning of a sentence, then all the succeeding words are uttered with a corresponding high tonal colouring e.g. SS: Thinkh^hoi! Arola batho.
(Poor Arola turned sharply round)

Par. 100. A striking factor about the Sotho-ideophones is the general lack of correspondence in ^{the} forms of ideophones found in these sister languages. Unlike their vocabulary which is fairly ~~very~~ uniform, their ideophones show very little similarity. The various actions, colours and states indicated by various ideophones, were apparently observed by Sotho speakers but different ideophones were employed to describe them. What is more, it would appear as if one group uses more ideophones than the others. As one Tswana informant put it:

"Basotho ba ga Mošwêšwê ba dirisa bo"tu" ba bantsi go re heta"

(The Basotho of Moshoeshoe use many more "tus" i.e. ideophones, than us)

Par. 101. A few cases of syllabification occur in some ~~ideophones~~ ideophones. When the latent vowel becomes patent, the juxtaposed consonants are separated and the number of syllables increased in that particular ideophone.

Examples: SS: nyebelle > nyebelele (Of lounging)

potlollo > potlololo (Of being sad)

Par. 102. In some cases, there is a regular alternation of consonants. For instance, the SS. Palatal-alveolar

/click

click g, frequently alternates with the TS and NS alveolar explosive t.

Cf. SS: gomu with TS: tomu or tamu (Of a stone falling into water)

gapi .. TS: tapi (Of pouring just a little)

goto .. NS: t^habo (Of hopping like a locust)

Par. 103. The process of transposition or Metathesis is

exemplified in the case of SS: pataka and NS: katapa.

In this connection, mention may be made of the SS.

goatla and tloaga i.e. consonants changing places ~~with~~ within one and the same ideophone, in the same language but with no change in tone or meaning. (The latter forms indicate the sound made by wood when broken).

Par. 104. Finally, some ideophones show similarity in form with

certain verbs and nouns but differ from them in tone

and meaning. In this connection compare:-

<u>ideophone</u>	with	<u>verb/noun.</u>
SS: <u>thele</u> W+W (Of meal falling down)		<u>thele</u> M+L (Udder of cow)
<u>thiba</u> W+W (Of slumbering)		<u>thiba</u> H+M (To stop)
<u>thusoa</u> W+W (Of many people scattering)		<u>thusoa</u> H+M (To be helped)