
An Elementary Luyoro Grammar

Maddox Henry Edward

Title: An Elementary Lunyoro Grammar

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AN ELEMENTARY LUNYORO
GRAMMAR



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AN ELEMENTARY
LUNYORO GRAMMAR.

BY

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P R E F A C E .

READERS of this book who are familiar with "A Handbook of Luganda," by G. L. Pilkington, B.A., will recognize in the following pages an attempt to follow the style and grammatical principles of that book. The writer has done thus, not only because of the excellence of those principles, but that Luganda students might with the least amount of trouble be able to familiarize themselves with Lunyoro.

As this is the first attempt to reduce to grammatical rules the ancient language of Unyoro, it may be expected that a revised edition will soon become desirable. Corrections and suggestions will, therefore, be most cordially welcomed by the present writer.

H. E. MADDUX.

KABAROLE,
March 7, 1901.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE language herein described as Lunyoro is spoken over a very large stretch of country, but the standard adopted is that of Kabarole, the capital of the kingdom of Toro.

The difference between the language as spoken in Toro and in Unyoro (as far as one may venture to express an opinion) is of no account; and although dialectic differences occur in Lunyankole (Lunyoro as spoken in Ankole, sometimes erroneously called Luima), in Lunyamwenge, in Lunyamboga, etc., it will be found that any accurate translations into the language of Toro will be immediately intelligible to natives of Toro, Ankole, Mboga, and Unyoro up to the Murchison Falls, thus affording an immediate introduction to the natives of the Shuli country. Indeed, to quote a remark made by the late Mr. Pilkington, "I believe that this language, in different dialects, is spoken over a greater area than Luganda."

In Ankole one meets with a different pronunciation, the principal features being the softening of certain consonants (e.g. *g* and *j*), though the spelling may remain the same: and as one goes further south to Ruanda (to judge from report only), it appears that the differences become greater. Yet all the while the principles of grammar remain the same, though considerably different from those of Luganda. As this book is intended for the use of missionaries, the great advantage of careful study and differentiation of dialects