10. Notes on verb forms

I. Verb groups

The forms of most verbs (Group 1 verbs) can be correctly predicted by using the
1. stem + ra/re/ro for the imperfective verbal noun (and other forms using that stem)
2. stem + ha/he/ho for the perfective verbal noun

There is a smaller group of 185 verbs (Group 2) that form these participles differently:
1. stem + ra/re/ro for the imperfective
2. stem + ka/ke/ko for the perfective

Verbs in this group very often have meanings that carry a sense of physical movement; all are marked as
such in both Norman and Hu dictionaries; some common examples include:
jurambi (juraka) – to set out
dosimbi (dosika) – to enter
eberembi (ebereke) – to weaken
tucimbi (tucike) – to leave, depart
wasimbi (wasika) – to go down
wesimbi (wesike) – to go up
okdombi (okdoko) – to greet, welcome
miošorombi (miošoroko) – to become bent

There is another group of fifteen verbs (Group 3) that use yet another form, often to distinguish
themselves from homonyms:
1. stem + n(d)ara/n(d)ere/n(d)oro for the imperfective verbal noun
2. stem + ngka/ngke/ngko for the perfective verbal noun
3. stem + mpi for the perfective converb*

These verbs are the following:
bambi – to be lazy
bombi – to bore, to pierce
cambi – to pitch (a tent)
fumbi* – to become numb (vs. fumbi, to wipe off)
guwembi* – to chirp, clang, make a noise (vs. guwembi, to forgive)
jembi* – to bear, to tolerate (vs. jembi, to eat)
jombi* – to recall (vs. jombi, to cut with a knife)
jumbi* – to clench the teeth
juwambi* – to open the mouth
sambi* – to stretch, to be distant (vs. sambi, to know)
sumbi* – to freeze (vs. sumbi, to take off, remove)
šambi* – to dry, to drain (vs. šambi, to look at)
šumbi* – to know thoroughly
wembī* – to melt
yumbi* – to prefer; to soak in

There is a final group of highly irregular verbs (Group 4):
bimbi, ombi, jembi, jimbi

The proper forms for these verbs must simply be memorized.
II. irregular imperative forms
   1. seek bai- baisu
   2. take gai- gaidu
   3. be bi- bisu
   4. become o- oso
   5. eat je- jefu
   6. come ji- jio
   7. bring gaji- gaju
   8. to send, deliver benji or benju

III. Negation
Manchu only has two negative verbal forms, both contractions of either the imperfect or the perfect participle and the particle akū.

Negative endings formed from the imperfect participle stem form (i.e., that used before ra/re/ro) + rakū:
   a. ainu jiderakū – Why don't you come?
   b. tere bithe be hūlarakū – I am not reading that book
   c. ainaha seme inde gisurerakū – No matter what, I won’t tell him.

Negative endings formed from the perfect participle (i.e., the form ending in ha/he/ho) + (a)kū:
   d. uttu ofi uce be neihekū – Therefore [he] did not open the door.
   e. amba cooha sikse jihekū – The great army did not come yesterday.

Negation of complex participial forms: In the case of complex participial forms the first component takes the negative particle:
   f. alahakū bihe - had not reported
   g. genehekū bihe – had not gone
   h. onggohokū bihe - had not forgotten

Negation of converbs: Converbs are negated with the help of the auxiliary verbs bimbi, ombi, or sembi
   i. si generakū bici – if you don't go
   j. mimbe warakū bicibe – even if he were not to kill me
   k. generakū oci, uthai generakū seme hendu – if you are not intending to go, then say that [you] will not go.
   l. ararakū oki sembi – I don't want to write

Negation of imperative: this is formed using the particle ume, “do not” + imperfective verbal noun
   m. ume gisurerere – do not talk
   n. ume wara – do not kill
   o. ume songgoro – do not cry
   p. Sun Guwang Sy i jergi urse be. si wesihken i ume necire. – Do not in the slightest provoke Sun Guangsi and those people.

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