

Lesson 19: Verbs IX

Instrumental Converb *-tai/-tei/-toi*

The instrumental converb, which follows vowel harmony, is used to express an extreme degree of action, with a meaning like “to the point of.” It is commonly used with the verb *bucembi* (“to die”) to mean “to the death” – so *bucetei daharakū* means “to resist to the death” (or, more literally “to not submit/surrender even to the point of death”).

This form is particularly common in expression related to risking one’s life, but quite rare otherwise.

Prefatory converb *-nggala/-nggele/-nggolo*

The prefatory converb is used to express that an action has not been completed when another action takes place, and can be translated “before.” So *booci tucinggele buda jefu* means “eat before you leave the house” (*jefu* is the imperative of *jembi*). The word *onggolo* (“before” or “previous”) comes from the prefatory form of *ombi*.

This form is extremely uncommon.

Practice sentences

Vocab
buya = lowly, small, base, inferior
Danjin Lorbu = name of a person
ergen = life, breath
eyembi = to flow
far seme = in profusion
faššambi = to exert effort, act vigorously
funtumbi = to brave
gashūmbi = to swear, to take an oath
gosingga = loving, compassionate
hengkišembi = to kowtow repeatedly
horon = power, venom
hoton = walled city
hūlha = bandit, rebel
Ili = Ili 伊犁
karulambi = to repay
mukiyebumbi = to extinguish, to annihilate
nemembi = to add, to increase
neneme = previously
siran = succession, sequence
sujamb = to resist, to withstand
šelembi = to part with, to give up
ulhiyen = gradual
waliyamb = to throw away, to abandon
Yacingga = name of a person

4. (Ili) 伊犁 伊人 伊人 伊人 伊人

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 2. ...
 3. ...