A Reference Grammar Of Classical Wanjea
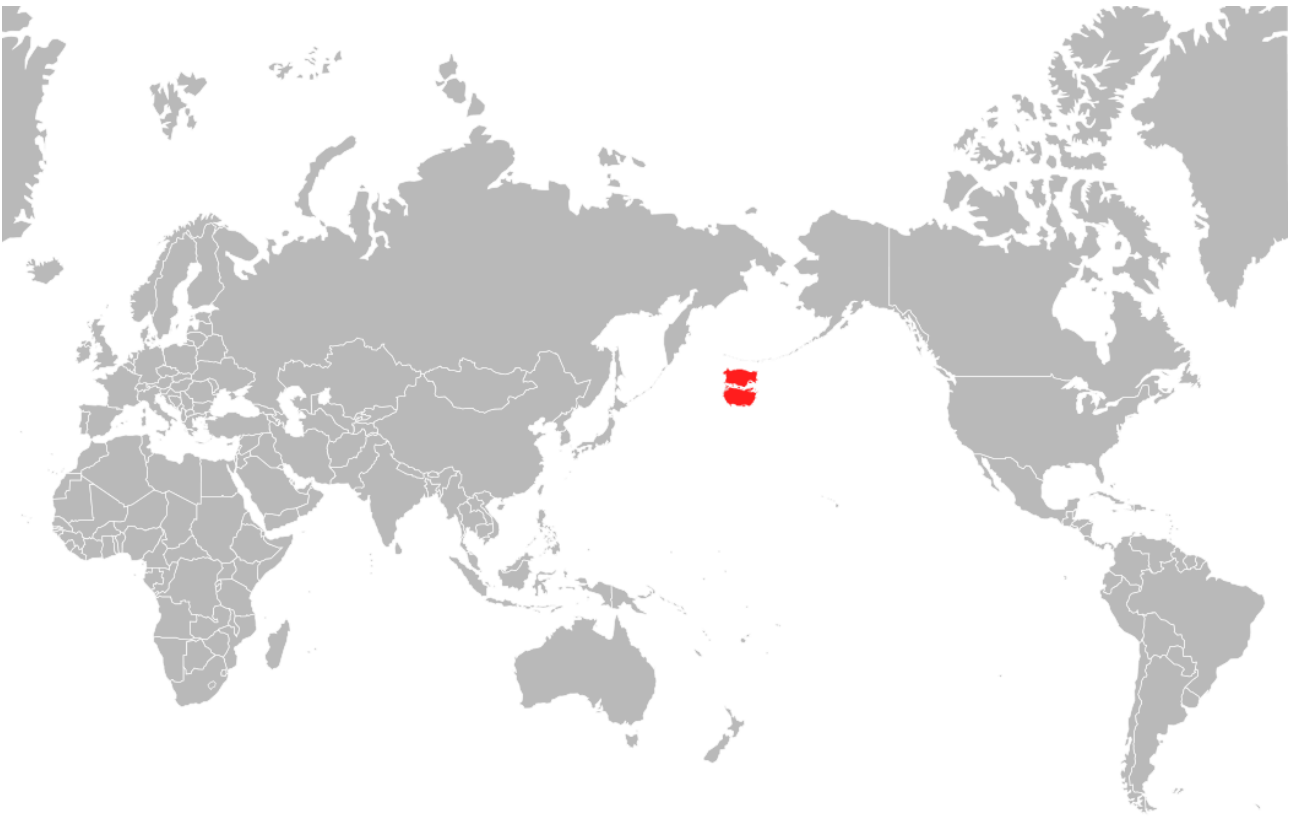
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Preface

Classical Wanjea is a constructed language (conlang). I created it for personal amusement and edification. It is intended as an artistic and intellectual exercise. Classical Wanjea is not related to any existing language and all linguistic, cultural, historical and geographical information given here, is purely fictional.

This grammar is a work in progress and far from complete. Please note that all information given here can still be subject to change.

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1. Introduction

1.1. Overview

Classical Wanjea was spoken from approximately 1150 to 1500 AD on the small continent Edere in the north pacific ocean. Some of the most important religious texts and works of literature in Edere were written in Classical Wanjea. Typographically, the language is fusional, split ergative and uses SOV word order. Classical Wanjea is the only descendant of Proto-Wanjea that we have written account of. Whether the so-called "Northern Accent" that was spoken at the same time can be considered a seperate language is still a topic of debate. Classical Wanjea has borrowed many religious, scientific and philosophical terms from Adelare which is not related to Wanjea and is the only other language that was used in Edere that we have written account of. At the time Classical Wanjea was spoken, Adelare seems to have been extinct and was only used as a written language for religious and scientific literature. Possibly under the influence of Adelare, the written form of Classical Wanjea was heavily regularized and standardized. With the spread of literacy, this literary language successively became the spoken standard language on the whole continent. Remarkably, many place names and personal names in Edere as well as the name of the language itself come from a language that is probably not related to either Wanjea or Adelare, but its origin and history are unknown. In modern Edere, Classical Wanjea is still understood and taught in school. Although the grammar of Modern Wanjea has significantly changed, the orthography was widely preserved.

1.2. The corpus

The largest part of the corpus consists of religious and administrative texts. Translations from Adelare make up another huge part. The longest single text in Classical Wanjea that was preserved is an epic poem about the national hero Hadrea. This poem is widely known in Edere and often regarded as the most important piece of Classical Wanjean Literature. Several grammars of Classical Wanjea have been written during the classical period. These texts provide insight into contemporary phonology and grammatical theory. The most important text for the reconstruction of classical phonology is a text by an unknown author aubout the "Northern Dialect". This text also enabled the reconstruction of Proto-Wanjea of which only a few fragmantory inscriptions survived.

1.3. The people

First evidence of human settlements in Edere date back to the 5th century BC. Most historians agree that there were at least two seperate immigration waves during the prehistorical period. Early settlers subsisted on hunting and fishing as well as imported and domestic crops and domesticated animals. Some artifacts from the first century AD show geometrical ornamentation and pictographic symbols. It is not clear whether these are a form of proto-writing or rather part of religious praxis. At the beginning of the ninth century we find signs of a first short cultural peak with the formation of urban centres. Some inscriptions written in a scrip which seems to be a predecessor of the alphabet that was used for Classical Wanjea have been found from this period. Most researchers agree that these inscriptions represent a form of Proto-Wanjea. Religion and mythology played an important role in the lives of the speakers of Classical Wanjea. This can be seen by the amount of religious literature that was created. The religious cult of Edere can not be clearly defined as either polytheistic or monotheistic as worship concentrates on a single creator deity while the other gods that represent the four natural elements mostly play a role in mythological history. The country was divided into the spheres of influence of a few major city states. The political system combined aristocratic and democratic features. The people of Edere regarded themselves as an ethnically homogenous people and isolated themselves from external influences with military force.

1.4. Conventions used in this book

All glosses that are provided within this book follow the Leipzig Glossing Rules. A gloss usually consists of three parts: The Wanjean text in boldface, the interlinear gloss with lexical morphemes in italics and grammatical morphemes in small caps and the English translation in quotes. Example:

Ywe-ne liro-note eke-n-e-r.
man-NOM.SG.AN.DEF *tree*-ACC.SG.INAN.DEF *see*-STA-IND-3SG
"the man sees the tree."

1.5. List of abbrevitations

1	first person	PSP	prospective
2	second person	PTCP	participle
3	third person	Q	interrogative / Question marker
ABL	ablative	RECP	reciprocal
ABS	absolutive	REFL	reflexive
ACC	accusative	REL	relative
AN	animate	SBJV	subjunctive
ANTIP	antipassive	SG	singular
CAUS	causative	STA	stative
CMPV	comparative	SUP	supine
COMP	complementizer	SUPL	superlative
COND	conditional		
DAT	dative		
DEF	definite		
DEM	demonstrative		
ERG	ergative		
EXCL	exclusive		
FIN	final		
GEN	genitive		
GER	gerund		
HAB	habitual		
IMP	imperative		
INAN	inanimate		
INCL	inclusive		
IND	indicative		
INDF	indefinite		
INF	infinitive		
LOC	locative		
NEG	negative		
NOM	nominative		
OPT	optative		
PFV	perfective		
PL	plural		
POSS	possessive		
PROG	progressive		

2. Phonology

Bold letters represent the romanization that is used in this document.

2.1. Phoneme inventory

2.1.1. Consonants

	Bilabial	Labio-dental	Alveolar	Palato-alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
Nasal	m **m**		n **n**				
Plosive	p **p** b **b**		t **t** d **d**			k **k** ɡ **g**	
Affricate				t͡ʃ **c** d͡ʒ **z**			
Fricative		f **f**	s **s**	ʃ **x**			h **h**
Approximant					j **j**		
Tap			ɾ **r**				
Lateral approximant			l **l**				

Co-articulated: /w **w**/

Note: Some publications use /t͡ʃ **tsh** d͡ʒ **dzh** ʃ **sh**/

2.1.2. Vowels

	Front	Near front	Central	Back
Close	i **i** y **y**			u **u**
Close mid		e **e**		o **o**
Open			a **a**	

2.1.3. Diphthongs

Ending in -/ɪ/: /eɪ **ai** ɛɪ **ei**/
Ending in -/ʊ/: /eʊ **au** ɔʊ **ou**/

2.2. Phonotactics

(C)(R)V(R)(C)

C: plosive, affricative or fricative
R: nasal, approximant, tap, lateral or /w/
V: vowel or diphthong

2.3. Stress

Stress is not phonemic and always falls on the second to last syllable

yw-en
[ˈyːwɛn]
man-NOM.SG.AN
"a man"

yw-ene
[ɤˈweːnɛ]
man-NOM.SG.AN.DEF
"the man"

2.4. Allophony

Vowels are lengthened in stressed open syllables:

etene-n
[ɛˈteːnɛn]
father-NOM.SG.AN
"father"

but:

etene-n-ma
[ɛtɛˈnɛnmɶ]
father-NOM.SG.AN-POSS.1PL
"our father"

unstressed vowels and vowels in closed syllables are pronounced centralized:

stressed and open	unstressed or closed
aː	ɐ
eː	ɛ
iː	ɪ
oː	ɔ
uː	ʊ
yː	ʏ

/h/ is pronounced [x] before consonants:

hreri-t
[ˈxɾeːɾɪt]
wrath-NOM.SG.INAN
"wrath"

Fricatives are voiced between vowels:

xafaine-m
[ʃeˈveɪnɛm]
explain-INF
"to explain"

pojo-su
[pɔˈjoːzʊ]
hole-LOC.SG.INAN
"in a hole"

axu
[ˈaːʒʊ]
all
"all"

3. Derivational morphology

-et- augmentative: **enum** "to go" > **enetum** "to go forth"
ma-/man- negative: **cirhit** "ability" > **macirhit** "inability"
lo-/lon- antessive: **gordit** "day" > **logordit** "yesterday"
en-/ene- allative: **kjorem** "to hold" > **enkjorem** "to grab"
je-/jen- instrumental: **nehem** "to touch" > **jenehem** "to touch with sth."
o-/on- sublative: **nysot** "sun" > **onysot** "sunset"
-ok- comparative: **fenot** "note" > **fenokim** "to be noteworthy"
xa-/xat- dissolutive: **fainem** "to lay" > **xafainem** "lay apart; explain"
mai-/main- novative: **pumot** "bread" > **maipumot** "new bread"
ga-/gar- reversive: **belem** "to give" > **gabelem** "to give back"
na-/nan- illative: **lorum** "to come" > **nalorum** "to come in"

3.1. Noun derivations

-e- animates: **calen** "woman"
-ene- kinship terms, animates: **etenen** "father"
-i- abstracts, inanimates: **ilit** "time"
-o- concretes, inanimates: **dalot** "town"
-a- animals, animates: **nardan** "sheep"
-u- deverbal nouns, inanimates: **ailut** "song"
-age- patient, animates: **tonagen** "pupil"
-ako- result, inanimates: **mymakot** "painting"

3.2. Verbal derivations

-e- transitive: **najem** "to say"
-u- intransitive: **najum** "to speak"
-alu- manner: **clehalum** "to be brutal"
-awe- ability: **haicawem** "to be able to poison"
-a- captative: **nardam** "to shear a sheep"
-i- adjectival: **hreisim** "to be gray"
-ane- andative: **cusanem** "to heal"
-o- venitive: **cusom** "to make sick"
-ire- frequentative: **ekirem** "to look around"
reduplication – inchoative: **nanajum** "to begin to speak"

3.3. Adverbal derivations

All deverbal adverbs end in **-u**

-u: **helu** "once"

4. Morphology

4.1. Nouns

In Classical Wanjea, nouns inflect for animacy, number, definiteness and case.

4.1.1. Animacy

Nouns can be either animate or inanimate, and are inflected differently.

ywe-n
man-NOM.SG.AN
"a man"

kuro-t
stone-NOM.SG.INAN
"a stone"

4.1.2. Number

There are two numbers: singular and plural.

ywe-n
man-NOM.SG.AN
"a man"

ywe-r
man-NOM.PL.AN
ywer "men"

4.1.3. Definiteness

Whether the noun is definite or indfinite is marked in the case ending. When a person or object is first introduced in a text, it is usually indefinite. If a noun refers to a person or object that has been mentioned earlier in the text, It is usually definite. A person or object is also definite when it is highlighted in a group. The definite case endings also function similar to a demonstrative determiner. The definite endings are also often used for emphasis, in proverbs and also traditionally in grammar examples.

ywe-n
man-NOM.SG.AN
"a man"

ywe-ne
man-NOM.SG.AN.DEF
"the man / this (specific) man"

4.1.4. Case

Classical Wanjea has 7 cases.

4.1.4.1 Absolutive/Nominative

This case is used for

a) the subject of an intransitive verb.
b) the subject of a transitive verb with imperfective or prospective aspect.
c) the direct object of a transitive verb with perfective aspect.

Ywe-ne idu-n-e-r.
man-NOM.SG.AN.DEF *run*-STA-IND-3SG
"The man runs."

Ywe-ne liro-note eke-n-e-r.
man-NOM.SG.AN.DEF *tree*-ACC.SG.INAN.DEF *see*-STA-IND-3SG
"The man sees the tree."

Ywe-sete liro-te eke-r-e-r.
man-ERG.SG.AN.DEF *tree*-ABS.SG.INAN.DEF *see*-PFV-IND-3SG
"The man has seen the tree."

Loanwords from Adelare do not take an ending in the nominative singular indefinite.

Aderim   **Aderimo-su**
*Edere.*NOM.SG.INAN   *Edere*-LOC.SG.INAN
"Edere"   "in Edere"

4.1.4.2. Accusative

This case is used for objects of a transitive verb with an imperfective or prospective aspect.

Ywe-ne liro-note eke-n-e-r.
man-NOM.SG.AN.DEF *tree*-ACC.SG.INAN.DEF *see*-STA-IND-3SG
"The man sees the tree."

4.1.4.3. Ergative

This case is used for subjects of a transitive verb with a perfective aspect.

Ywe-sete liro-te eke-r-e-r.
man-ERG.SG.AN.DEF *tree*-ABS.SG.INAN.DEF *see*-PFV-IND-3SG
"The man has seen the tree."

4.1.4.4. Genitive

The genitive case encodes following meanings:

a) possession
b) composition
c) origin
d) reference
e) description

caxe-ne ywe-rite
dog-NOM.SG.AN.DEF *man*-GEN.SG.AN.DEF
"the dog of the man / the man's dog"

prono-te kuro-ri
statue-NOM.SG.INAN.DEF *stone*-GEN.SG.INAN
"the statue (made) of stone"

ywe-n aderimo-ri
man-NOM.SG.AN *Edere*-GEN.SG.INAN
"a man of / from Edere"

dalo-t aderimo-ri
town-NOM.SG.INAN *Edere*-GEN.SG.INAN
"a town of / in Edere"

ywe-n xohi-ri
man-NOM.SG.AN *strength*-GEN.SG.INAN
"a man of strenght / a strong man"

4.1.4.5. Dative

The dative marks the indirect object.

Ywe-ne cuwo-no caxe-mote bele-m-e-r.
man-<small>NOM.SG.AN.DEF</small> *bone*-<small>ACC.SG.INAN</small> *dog*-<small>DAT.SG.AN.DEF</small> *give*-<small>PROG-IND</small>-3<small>SG</small>
"The man gives the dog a bone."

4.1.4.6. Locative

The locative indicates a location.

Caxe-ne liro-sute agu-n-e-r.
dog-<small>NOM.SG.AN.DEF</small> *tree*-<small>LOC.SG.INAN.DEF</small> *stand*-<small>STA-IND</small>-3<small>SG</small>
"The dog stands at the tree."

4.1.4.7. Ablative

The ablative marks motion away from something. It also has a causative meaning.

Caxe-ne liro-rote loru-m-e-r.
dog-<small>NOM.SG.AN.DEF</small> *tree*-<small>ABL.SG.INAN.DEF</small> *come*-<small>PROG-IND</small>-3<small>SG</small>
"The dog comes from the tree."

Ywe-ne caxe-rote tamu-n-e-r.
man-<small>NOM.SG.AN.DEF</small> *dog*-<small>ABL.SG.AN.DEF</small> *fear*-<small>STA-IND</small>-3<small>SG</small>
"The man fears the dog."

4.1.5. Possessive suffixes

Possession can be marked by clitics. These suffixes are always used with the indefinite form of a noun.

Caxe-no-na kype-t-e-n.
dog-ACC.SG.AN-POSS.1SG *like*-HAB-IND-1SG
"I like my dog."

1SG	**-(e)na**
2SG	**-(e)ta**
3SG	**-(e)ra**
1PL	**-(e)ma**
2PL INCL	**-(e)tai**
2PL EXCL	**-(e)tei**
3PL	**-(e)rai**

4.1.6. Tables

DEF	AN SG	AN PL	INAN SG	INAN PL
NOM/ABS	**-ne**	**-re**	**-te**	**-tai**
ERG	**-sete**	**-sai**	**-sete**	**-sai**
ACC	**-note**	**-nai**	**-note**	**-nai**
GEN	**-rite**	**-rjai**	**-rite**	**-rjai**
DAT	**-mote**	**-monai**	**-mote**	**-monai**
LOC	**-sute**	**-sai**	**-sute**	**-sai**
ABL	**-rote**	**-ronai**	**-rote**	**-ronai**

INDF	AN SG	AN PL	INAN SG	INAN PL
NOM/ABS	**-n**	**-r**	**-t**	**-ta**
ERG	**-s**	**-se**	**-s**	**-se**
ACC	**-no**	**-na**	**-no**	**-na**
GEN	**-ri**	**-rje**	**-ri**	**-rje**
DAT	**-mo**	**-mone**	**-mo**	**-mone**
LOC	**-su**	**-si**	**-su**	**-si**
ABL	**-ro**	**-rone**	**-ro**	**-rone**

4.2. Verbs

In Classical Wanjea, verbs conjugate for person, number, aspect, mood and voice. There are verbs that function as adjectives.

4.2.1. Person and number

There is an inclusive and exclusive first person plural.

Talo-sute idu-w-e-ti.
hill-LOC.SG.INAN.DEF *run*-PSP-IND-1PL.INCL
"We will run to the hill (me and you)."

Talo-sute idu-w-e-te.
hill-LOC.SG.INAN.DEF *run*-PSP-IND-1PL.EXCL
"We will run to the hill (you don't)."

4.2.2. Aspect

The verbs are rather marked for aspect than tense, although some aspects can imply a certain tense in a context.

4.2.2.1. Perfective

The perfective is used to describe a situation viewed as a simple whole.

Talo-sute idu-r-e-n.
hill-LOC.SG.INAN.DEF *run*-PFV-IND-1SG
"I have run to the hill."

4.2.2.2. Prospective

The prospective describes an event that occures subsequent to a given reference time.

Talo-sute idu-w-e-n.
hill-LOC.SG.INAN.DEF *run*-PSP-IND-1SG
"I will run to the hill."

4.2.2.3. Progressive

The progressive expresses the dynamic quality of actions that are in progress.

Talo-sute idu-m-e-n.
hill-LOC.SG.INAN.DEF *run*-PROG-IND-1SG
"I am running to the hill."

4.2.2.4. Stative

The stative expresses a situation that is described as ongoing but not evolving.

Talo-sute agu-n-e-n.
hill-LOC.SG.INAN.DEF *stand*-STA-IND-1SG
"I stand on the hill."

4.2.2.5. Habitual

The habitual aspect describes an action as occuring habitual.

Caxe-rone tamu-t-e-r.
dog-ABL.PL.AN *fea*r-HAB-IND-3SG
"He is afraid of dogs."

4.2.3. Mood

There are three moods marked on the verb.

4.2.3.1. Indicative

The indicative is used for factual statements and positive beliefs.

Liro-te oji-n-e-r.
tree-NOM.SG.INAN.DEF *be.huge*-STA-IND-3SG
"This tree is huge."

4.2.3.2. Subjunctive

The subjunctive mood is used to express various states of unreality such as emotion, possibility, judgement, opinion, necessity and action that has not yet occured. The subjunctive mood is required in most subordinate clauses. Using the subjunctive mode is also regarded as more formal and polite.

(Tamu-n-e-n ka) caxe-ne nan rese-w-u-r.
fear-STA-IND-1SG COMP *dog*-NOM-SG-AN-DEF 1SG.ACC *bite*-PSP-SBJV-3SG
"I am afraid that the dog will bite me."

Caxe-note nehe-w-e-n te tar kjore-n-u-t.
dog-ACC.SG.AN.DEF *touch*-PSP-IND-1SG COND 3SG.INAN.ACC *hold.tight*-STA-SBJV-2SG
"I will touch the dog if you hold it tight."

Bele-w-u-t caxe-no-ta kjore wa sordi-n-u-r.
give-PSP-SBJV-2SG *dog*-ACC.SG.AN-POSS.2SG *hold.tight*.IMP CAUS *be.dangerous*-STA-SBJV-3SG
"Please hold your dog tight because it is dangerous."

(Medu-n-e-n ka) caxe-n-ta taru to nan idu-t-u-r.
think-STA-IND-1SG *dog*-NOM.SG.AN-POSS.2SG *fast* CMPV 1SG.ACC *run*-HAB-SBJV-3SG
"I think that your dog runs faster than me."

Talo-sute naimu se dalo-note eke-w-u-t.
hill-LOC.SG.INAN.DEF *climb*.IMP FIN *town*-ACC.SG.INAN.DEF *see*-PSP-SBJV-2SG
"Climb on the hill to see the town."

Liro-no zite-w-u-n (durei).
tree-ACC.SG.AN *plant*-PSP-SBJV-1SG someday
"Someday I will plant a tree."

4.2.3.3. Optative

The optative indicates a wish or hope.

Nauju-w-o-re ha.
hope-PSP-OPT-3PL NEG
"I hope it will not rain."

4.2.3.4. Negative

The negative expresses a negated action.

Aderimo-su dirgi-r-i-n.
Edere-LOC.SG.INAN *be.born*-PFV-NEG-1SG
"I was not born in Edere."

The Negative can also be expressed by the adverb **ha**. It is often used to emphasize the negation.

Ha aderimo-su dirgi-r-e-n.
NEG *Edere*-LOC.SG.INAN *be.born*-PFV-IND-1SG
"I was not born in Edere."

4.2.3.5. Imperative

The imperative is formed from the stem in singular and plural.

Liro-sute naimu.
tree-LOC.SG.INAN.DEF *climb*.IMP
"Climb on the tree!"

4.2.4. Voice

Classical Wanjea has an antipassive voice that can be used in ergative-absolutive alignements. The object of an antipassive verb is omitted.

Antipassive: **-bi-**

Gwale-sete aile-r-e-bi-r logordu.
artist-ERG.SG.AN.DEF *sing*-PFV-IND-ANTIP-3SG *yesterday*
"The artist sang yesterday."

4.2.5. Tables

	PFV	PSP	PROG	STA	HAB
IND	**-re-**	**-we-**	**-me-**	**-ne-**	**-te-**
SUBJ	**-ru-**	**-wu-**	**-mu-**	**-nu-**	**-tu-**
OPT	**-ro-**	**-wo-**	**-mo-**	**-no-**	**-to-**
NEG	**-ri-**	**-wi-**	**-mi-**	**-ni-**	**-ti-**

1SG	**-n**
2SG	**-t**
3SG	**-r**
1PL	**-m**
2PL ICL	**-ti**
2PL EXC	**-te**
3PL	**-re**

4.2.6 Defective verbs

Some Classical Wanjean words use a perfective aspect with a stative meaning.

Dalo-te ekete-r-e-n.
town-ABS.SG.INAN.DEF *know*-PFV-IND-1SG
"I know this town."

4.3. Pronouns

4.3.1. Personal pronouns

	ABS/ACC	DAT	LOC	ABL	REFL
1SG	**nan**	**mon**	**sun**	**ron**	**ana**
2SG	**nat**	**mot**	**sut**	**rot**	**ata**
3SG AN / INAN	**nar / tar**	**mor / dzhor**	**sur / kur**	**ror / hor**	**ara**
1PL	**nam**	**mom**	**sum**	**rom**	**ama**
2PL ICL	**nit**	**mit**	**sit**	**rit**	**iti**
2PL EXC	**net**	**met**	**set**	**ret**	**ete**
3PL	**ner**	**mer**	**ser**	**rer**	**ere**

Caxe-n-ta taru to nan idu-t-e-r.
dog-NOM.SG.AN-POSS.2SG *fast* CMPV 1SG.ACC *run*-HAB-IND-3SG
"Your dog runs faster than me"

4.3.2. Relative pronouns

	AN SG	AN PL	INAN SG	INAN PL
NOM/ABS	**nan**	**nar**	**nat**	**nata**
ERG	**nas**	**nase**	**nas**	**nase**
ACC	**nano**	**nana**	**nano**	**nana**
GEN	**nari**	**narje**	**nari**	**narje**
DAT	**namo**	**namone**	**namo**	**namone**
LOC	**nasu**	**nasi**	**nasu**	**nasi**
ABL	**naro**	**narone**	**naro**	**narone**

Dalo-te ny na-t hlese-r-e-n.
town-NOM.SG.INAN.DEF *there* REL-ABS.SG.INAN *search*-PFV-IND-1SG
"There is the town that I was looking for"

4.3.3. Demonstrative pronouns

	AN SG	AN PL	INAN SG	INAN PL
NOM/ABS	**san**	**sar**	**sat**	**sata**
ERG	**sas**	**sase**	**sas**	**sase**
ACC	**sano**	**sana**	**sano**	**sana**
GEN	**sari**	**sarje**	**sari**	**sarje**
DAT	**samo**	**samone**	**samo**	**samone**
LOC	**sasu**	**sasi**	**sasu**	**sasi**
ABL	**saro**	**sarone**	**saro**	**sarone**

Sa-no mot bele-w-i-n.
DEM-ACC.SG.INAN 2SG.DAT *give*-PSP-NEG-1SG
"I won't give you that."

4.3.4. Indefinite pronouns

	AN SG	AN PL	INAN SG	INAN PL
NOM/ABS	anen	aner	anit	anita
ERG	anes	anese	anis	anise
ACC	aneno	anena	anino	anina
GEN	aneri	anerje	aniri	anirje
DAT	anemo	anemone	animo	animone
LOC	anesu	anesi	anisu	anisi
ABL	anero	anerone	aniro	anirone

Huldi-note onyso-rite twole-t-i-t te ani-ta sa-ri ekete-r-u-t.
beauty-ACC.SG.INAN.DEF *sunset*-GEN.SG.INAN.DEF *lessen*-HAB.NEG.2SG COND INDF-ABS.PL.INAN DEM-GEN.SG.INAN *know*-PFV-SBJV-2SG
"You do not lessen the beauty of the sunset when you know some things of it."

4.3.5. Interrogative pronouns

	AN SG	AN PL	INAN SG	INAN PL
NOM/ABS	kanen	kaner	kanit	kanita
ERG	kanes	kanese	kanis	kanise
ACC	kaneno	kanena	kanino	kanina
GEN	kaneri	kanerje	kaniri	kanirje
DAT	kanemo	kanemone	kanimo	kanimone
LOC	kanesu	kanesi	kanisu	kanisi
ABL	kanero	kanerone	kaniro	kanirone

kane-n eke-r-e-t?
Q-ABS.SG.AN *see*-PFV-IND-2SG
"who did you see?"

4.3.6. Reciprocal pronoun

nesana each other

4.3.7. Quantifiers

nama "each"   **anu** "some"   **leju** "much, many"

ashu "all, every"   **kanu** "any, wichever"

amun "no"   **nesu** "another"

5. Syntax

Classical Wanjea uses a default SOV word order.

Ywe-ne liro-note eke-n-e-r.
man-NOM.SG.AN.DEF *tree*-ACC.SG.INAN.DEF *see*-STA-IND-3SG
"The man sees the tree."

OSV order is used for passive voice or emphasis.

liro-note Ywe-ne eke-n-e-r.
tree-ACC.SG.INAN.DEF *man*-NOM.SG.AN.DEF *see*-STA-IND-3SG
"The tree is seen by the man / It is the tree that the man sees"

5.1. Copula

Classical Wanjea does not have a copula verb.

Aderim nasho-t.
Edere.NOM.SG.INAN *country*-NOM.SG.INAN
"Edere is a country"

5.2. Nonfinite verbs

5.2.1. Participles

5.2.1.1. Adverbial participle

The adverbal participle is formed with the suffix **-inu**.

Tuni-t ek-inu sa-t na-no cin one-w-u-n ekekete-r-e-n.
plan-ABS.SG.INAN *see*-PTCP DEM-ABS.SG.INAN REL-ACC.SG.INAN *must do*-PSP-SBJV-1SG *begin.to.know*-PFV-IND-1SG
"Having seen the plan, I began to know what I would have to do."

5.2.1.2. Gerundive participle

The gerundive participle is formed with the suffix **-amu-** and declined like an inanimate indefinite noun.

Tuni-no ek-amu-t meji-r-u-r.
plan-ACC.SG.INAN *see*-GER-ABS.SG.INAN *be.important*-PFV-SBJV-3SG
"Seeing the plan was important."

5.2.2. Infinitive

The infinitive is formed with the suffix **-m**.

Talo-su enu-m mot naje-r-e-n.
hill-LOC.SG.INAN *go*-INF 2SG.DAT *say*-PFV-IND-1SG
"I told you to go to the hill."

5.2.3. Supine

The supine is formed with the suffix **-lam** and has a final meaning.

Hore-lam loru-r-e-r.
fight-SUP *come*-PFV-IND.3SG
"He came to fight."

5.2.4. Coverbs

5.2.4.1. Cin

Cin is used like the English words "must; have to".

Sa-t na-no cin one-w-u-n ekekete-r-e-n.
DEM-ABS.SG.INAN REL-ACC.SG.INAN *must do*-PSP-SBJV-1SG *begin.to.know*-PFV-IND-1SG
"I began to know what I would have to do."

5.2.4.2. Dei

Dei is used like the English words "can, is possible to".

Talo-nai dei eke-n-u-ta?
hill-ACC.PL.INAN.DEF *can see*-STA-SBJV-2SG.Q
"Can you see the hills?"

5.2.4.3. Dan

Dan is used like the English words "be allowed to, may".

Dan naloru-w-u-nta?
may come.in-PSP-SBJV-1SG.Q
"May I come in?"

5.2.4.4. Zar

Zar is used like the English word "shall, should".

Dalo-sute zar enu-w-u-t.
town-LOC.SG.INAN.DEF *should go*-PSP-SBJV-2SG
"You should go to this town."

5.4. Conjunctions

5.4.1. Coordinating conjunctions

5.4.1.1. Ne

Ne is used like the English words "and; or".

Caxe-na ne xuse-na kype-t-e-n.
dog-ACC.PL.AN *and cat*-ACC.PL.AN *like*-HAB-IND-1SG
"I like dogs and cats."

5.4.1.2. Ma

Ma is used like the English word "but".

Caxe-na kype-t-e-n ma xuse-na ha.
dog-ACC.PL.AN *like*-HAB-IND-1SG *but cat*-ACC.PL.AN NEG
"I like dogs but not cats."

5.4.2. Coordinating conjunctions

5.4.2.1. Kalu

Kalu is used like the English words "as...as".

Laju kalu dei minu-m-e-r.
much as can carry-PROG-IND-3SG
"He carries as much as he can."

5.4.2.2. Rou

Rou is used like the English words "the more...the more".

Rou laju motu-m-u-t rou laju eketu-r-u-t.
the.more much learn-PROG-SBJV-2SG *the.more much know*-PFV-SBJV-2SG
"The more you learn the more you know."

5.4.3. Subordinating conjunctions

Subordinating conjunctions connect subordinate clauses with the main clause. In such subordinate clauses the subjunctive mood is required.

5.4.3.1. Ka

The conjunction **ka** introduces a complement clause.

Tamu-n-e-n ka caxe-ne nan rese-w-u-r.
fear-STA-IND-1SG COMP *dog*-NOM-SG-AN-DEF 1SG.ACC *bite*-PSP-SBJV-3SG
"I am afraid that the dog will bite me."

5.4.3.2. Se

The conjunction **se** introduces a final clause.

Myro-t uno-na na-ta ma-paigawi-n-e-re dirge-t-e-r se ate-na rere-t-u-r.
paradise-NOM.AG.INAN *thing*-ACC.PL.INAN REL-NOM.PL.INAN NEG-*be.countable*-STA-IND-3PL *give.birth*-HAB-IND-3SG FIN *human*-ACC.PL.AN *feed*-HAB-SBJV-3SG
"Heaven brings forth innumerable things to nurture man."

5.4.3.3. Ca

The conjunction **ca** introduces a temporal clause.

Imu sa-no taje-t-e-n ca sito-ro loru-t-u-n.
exactly DEM-ACC.SG.AN *look.like*-HAB-IND-1SG TEMP *shower*-ABL.SG.IAN *come*-HAB-SBJV-1SG
"I look exactly like this when I get out of the shower."

5.4.3.4. Te

The conjunction **te** introduces a conditional clause.

Caxe-note nehe-w-e-n te tar kjore-n-u-t.
dog-ACC.SG.AN.DEF *touch*-PSP-IND-1SG COND 3SG.INAN.ACC *hold.tight*-STA-SBJV-2SG
"I will touch the dog if you hold it tight."

5.4.3.5. Wa

The conjunction wa introduces a causal clause.

Bele-w-u-t caxe-no-ta kjore wa sordi-n-u-r.
give-PSP-SBJV-2SG *dog*-ACC.SG.AN-POSS.2SG *hold.tight*.IMP CAUS *be.dangerous*-STA-SBJV-3SG
"Please hold your dog tight because it is dangerous."

5.5. Adverbs

There is a closed class of adverbs that is not derived from verbal roots.

nu "as"

aru "also"

kora "so"

5.5.1. Comparison

5.5.1.1. Comparative

The comparative is formed with **to** + Accusative.

To nat oji-n-e-n. / Oji-n-e-n to nat.
CMPV 2SG.ACC *be.tall*-STA-IND-1SG / *be.tall*-STA-IND-1SG CMPV 2SG.ACC
"I am taller than you."

5.5.1.2. Superlative

The superlative is formed with **kun**.

Kun oji-n-e-n.
SUPL *be.tall*-STA-IND-1SG
"I am the tallest."

5.5.2. Place and time adverbs

durei "someday"

madur "never"

ny "there"

5.6. Questions

Yes/no – questions are formed by adding an interrogative suffix to the verb

1SG	-n > -nta
2SG	-t > -ta
3SG	-r > -rta
1PL	-m > -nta
2PL ICL	-ti > -tja
2PL EXC	-te > -teja
3PL	-re > -reta

Talo-nai dei eke-n-u-ta?
hill-ACC.PL.INAN.DEF *can see*-STA-SBJV-2SG.Q
"Can you see the hills?"

5.7. Impersonal verb

Impersonal verbs take a 3rd person plural ending

Nauju-n-e-re.
rain-STA-IND-3PL
"It rains."

5.8. Measure words

There are many different measure words in Classical Wanjea:

omfot relot "a cup of water"

dumot gifot "a bundle of wood"

5.9. Serial verb construction

Serial verb constructions are used to express that two actions occur simultaniously.

Loru-r-e-n eku-r-e-n.
come-PFV-IND-1SG *see*-PFV-IND-1SG
"I came and saw."

5.10. Conjunctive adverb

harja "contrarily"

embu "finally"

ena "then"

6. Semantic fields

6.1. Numerals

Classical Wanjea uses a counting system with the bases 5 and 20.

no "one"	**tano** "six"	**kitano** "eleven"	**nirtano** "sixteen"
ki "two"	**taki** "seven"	**kitaki** "twelve"	**nirtaki** "seventeen"
nir "three"	**tanir** "eight"	**kitanir** "thirteen"	**nirtanir** "eighteen"
men "four"	**tamen** "nine"	**kitamen** "fourteen"	**nirtamen** "nineteen"
ta "five"	**kita** "ten"	**nirta** "fifteen"	**xin** "twenty"

xino "twenty-one"	**xintano** "twenty-six"	**xinkitano** "thirty-one"	**xinirtano** "thirty-six"
xinki "twenty-two"	**xintaki** "twenty-seven"	**xinkitaki** "thirty-two"	**xinirtaki** "thirty-seven"
xinir "twenty-three"	**xintanir** "twenty-eight"	**xinkitanir** "thirty-three"	**xinirtanir** "thirty-eight"
xinmen "twenty-four"	**xintamen** "twenty-nine"	**xinkitamen** "thirty-four"	**xinirtamen** "thirty-nine"
xinta "twenty-five"	**xinkita** "thirty"	**xinirta** "thirty-five"	**kixi** "fourty"

6.2. Time

In Classical Wanjea the day was divided into 16 hours (**ilita**) which were further divided into quarters (**menita**):

Menita ki ilirje nir. "It is the second quarter of the third hour."

6.3. Weekdays

In Classical Wanjea the week had 5 day, which were named after the 5 deities of Edere:

sarenit

esirit

awenit

masuwit

aderit

6.4. Seasons

zitit "spring"

gaujit "summer"

aikit "fall"

lefit "winter"

6.5. Names and titles

In Classical Wanjea, names consisted of three parts: A given name, a patronym and the region of origin:

Hadrar Handari Werdori "Hadrar, son of Handar from Werdot"

Common names in Classical Wanjea include:

male names	female names
Atar	**Aili**
Bejar	**Dirgi**
Demar	**Gordi**

A person was usually called by their given name with a honorific prefix **Os-**. Especially honorable persons were addressed with the honorific **Oras**.

7. Writing system

Ancient Wanjea was written with an alphabetic script:

b g c n m x u l p o j t i k r a w z f h e d s y