

Let's Have A Relay – Anderiva

Keras Saryan

26 January 2026

1 Text

Kutsin kappa gao ia guat kutsin era tua iggha asavani; pae iami Tuserise tsi. Tsini mii kukh usak dzive kukh kanfamaa; pae ughmi Mumbukho tsi. Kumi tumai ia tum-buvani; pae iami Miasa tsi; ia kolokh tsisep ant jighuuvani. Tumai ia pi kolokh puktumakhan an kushe tsia ippere, pi tsiun tsisep pushe dere, kukh ganambo kase ughokh chittashii.

Kappa gao tua iggha ia pu Miasa kumi ao pu kanfot, tunggavani. Usak dzive ukh an olok unga auvokko appanashe, ao ia tunggukhunashii. Kukh olok ao ia pu ngait piktuu attore, isa ukh an olok unga kumi inngu pu kumi kolo andat daasashe, Miasa tolok, picchep mi inngu ia pakhashe, kuppalae tsisep ia beyishe, olok unga an isa ukh uvo uppashe, olok unga kumi appae polo inngu unshin. Miasa unga pin unit, tsisep ia beyinashii.

Usak dzive ukh olok unga ka uvo uppare, unga ka unde, olok unga kaok, unga kolokh tsisep dzivana. Olok unga era tua iggha tua ala dere, Miasa ka tsivusot, tumai ia pin gaima kuvishe, guva mi ife-ife ant puusak, guva mi aun kutsin ngait tuakhun u Miasa kushe polo kase tsia ka ian paddashii.

Miasa kukh gukhat koyiishe, Mumbukho olok unga gaima kumbughore, kushe kase tsia paddashii. Tsia ia usak dzive ukh ambanashe, mii pin Tuserise kaun guk asalumi.

2 Vocabulary

All entries give the headword(s) in bold in the (near-phonetic) romanisation followed by the phonemic transcription and then a part-of-speech label followed by the definition and occasional notes. The following part-of-speech abbreviations are used in entries:

<i>adj.</i>	adjective	<i>ptcl.</i>	particle
<i>adv.</i>	adverb	<i>q.</i>	quantifier
<i>l.v.c.</i>	light verb construction	<i>v.d.</i>	ditransitive verb
<i>n.</i>	noun	<i>v.i.</i>	intransitive verb
<i>post.</i>	postposition	<i>v.t.</i>	(mono)transitive verb

For nouns, the part-of-speech label is followed by the noun class number and the usual classifier(s) (typically sortal rather than mensural) in brackets. Animate count nouns are entered in their singular and plural forms. Verbs are entered thus: bare stem (= non-finite form = deverbal noun), 3I.SG present, 3I.SG preterite, 3I.SG imperfect, 3I.SG future. Subentries are indented below main entries. ~ stands in for a repeated head-word (which may be either romanised or phonemic form).

an /ã/ *post.* 1 • of (indicating possession).
2 • near, close to, by, beside (archaic).

andat /ãdat/ *n.* IV. (-*mi*) 1 • taste, flavour.
2 • smell, odour. 3 • semblance, appearance. 4 • essence, characteristic.

ant /ãt/ *post.* like (similative marker).

amma, ambanuu, ambanashii, ambanamaa, ambananduu /ãbã, ãbadãũũ, ãbadãkii, ãbadãbãã, ãbadãduu/ *v.t.* to kill.

ao /au/ *n.* III. (-*mi*) 1 • fire, flames. 2 • fever.
3 • fervour, ardour, passion.

appa, appuu, -shii, -amaa, -aluu /uppa, uppuu, -kii, -bãã, -duu/ *v.t.* to burn.

at, asuu, asashii, asamaa, asaluu /at, -uu, -akii, -abãã, -aduu/ *v.i.* 1 • to lie, to be horizontal. 2 • to be found. 3 • to be, to exist.

atto, attuu, attushii, attumaa, attoluu /attu, -u, -kii, -bãã, -duu/ *v.t.* to lay, to lie down, to put in a horizontal posture.

auvokko /aubukku/ *n.* IV. (-*kha/-mi*) firewood.

beye, beyii, beyishii, beyimaa, -ruu /bigi, -i, -kii, -bãã, -duu/ *v.i.* to scream, to shout, to skrike, to cry, to howl.

chitta, chittuu, -shii, -maa, -luu /kitta, kittuu, -kii, -bãã, -duu/ *v.t.* 1 • to look for, to seek. 2 • to want to. 3 • to intend to.

daasa, daasuu, -shii, -maa, -luu /daata, daatuu, -kii, -bãã, -duu/ *v.t.* 1 • to touch, to feel (i.e. to purposefully make external contact with sth). 2 • to touch, to feel (i.e. to have particular tactile/haptic experience). 3 • to taste, to try (i.e. to use the tongue in an attempt to sense a flavour). 4 • to taste, to discern a flavour (i.e. to experience a flavour). 5 • to smell, to have a smell of, to sniff (i.e. to actively try and sense an odour). 6 • to smell, to discern an odour (i.e. to experience a smell). 7 • to try, to sample, to test. 8 • to suspect, to be suspicious of.

dere, dzii, derishii, dzimaa, deruu /didi, dii, -kii, diduu/ *v.i.* to eat, to drink, to ingest. ① This verb has various complications throughout its conjugation caused by the use of the reduplicated stem *dere-/deri-* instead of the unreduplicated *dzi-/de-*. This can be found in the 3I.PL present *dzini* instead of expected **ni* as well as the non-finite form *dere* instead of **dzi*. If it were regular, *dzi-* ‘to eat/drink’ would also share the following forms with the negative verb *dzik-*: NEG.1PL.EXCL (also NEG.SS.SEQ) *dzishet*, NEG.2SG/3I.PL *dzishin*, NEG.3I.SG *dzishii*. These likewise use the reduplicated stem for the meaning ‘to eat/drink’; thus: PRET.1PL.EXCL *derishet*, PRET.2SG *de-*

rishin, PRET.3I.SG *derishii*. Indeed, the entire preterite series now mostly uses the reduplicated stem in the modern language, with the short stem being archaic.

dzive, dzimi /dibi, -ĩ/ *n.* I. (-*okh*) 1 • man.
2 • male (especially as a modifier).
3 • husband.

usak ~ *n.* I. (-*okh*) man who grows crops; male arable farmer.

era /ida/ *adj.* 1 • well, in good health, healthy. 2 • good, fine, content.
3 • holy, sacred, divine.

gaima /gaibã/ *n.* IV. (-*mĩ*) mercy, forgiveness.

ganambo, gaghana /gadãbu, gagadã/ *n.* I. (-*ukh*) person, human being.

gao /gau/ *n.* III. (-*tsin*) field, flat area of land devoid of trees.

kappa ~ *n.* III. (-*tsin*) plateau, mesa, tableland.

guat /guat/ *post.* 1 • on, on top of. 2 • at (e.g. of flat expanses).

guk /guk/ *post.* with, together with, along with, accompanying (comitative).

guukhat /guukat/ *n.* I. (-*okh*) human sacrifice.

guva /guba/ *n.* IV. (-*mĩ*) cloud.

ian /ĩã/ *n.* IV. (-*mĩ*) life.

ife-ife /ipi ipi/ *n.* IV. (-*mĩ*) swirling motion, manner or appearance.

iggha /igga/ *n.* III. (-*tsin*) island.

tua ~ *n.* III. (-*tsin*) oasis.

inngu /ĩgũ/ *n.* III. (-*mĩ*) palm tree.

ippe, ippii, ippishii, ippimaa, ipperuu /ippi, -i, -kii, -bãã, -duu/ *v.t.* 1 • to find, to discover. 2 • to learn, to find out.

isa, -n /ita, -ĩ/ *n.* I. (-*okh*) father.

jighuu, ~, -shii, -maa, jikholuu /giguu, ~, -kii, -bãã, gikuduu/ *v.i.* 1 • to look, to seem, to appear to be. 2 • to sound (i.e. to have or produce a certain noise). 3 • to feel (i.e. to have a certain texture, shape etc.). 4 • to feel (i.e. to cause a certain internal sensation). 5 • to taste (i.e. to have a certain flavour). 6 • to smell (i.e. to have a certain odour). 7 • to seem, to appear (of circumstances, events etc.). ⓘ This verb has a number of irregular forms throughout its conjugation. The stem *jikh(u)-* is used in the future tense, in DS markers (SEQ *jikhushe*, SIMUL *jikhok*) and in 3I.PL (*jikhun*) 3II(SG) (*jikhola*) present. The present forms also shows certain irregular forms: 1SG *jighuakh*, 2SG *jingui*, 2PL *jinguima* and 3III(SG) *jighue* (not etymological **jishe*).

ka /ka/ *post.* 1 • to, towards (allative).
2 • to, for (dative).

kao, kauu, kaushii, kaumaa, -luu /kau, -u, -ki, -bãã, -duu/ *v.t.* 1 • to see (i.e. to perceive visually without intention or control). 2 • to possess the sense of sight. 3 • to experience. 4 • to find, to encounter, to come across, to happen across. 5 • to notice. 6 • to witness.

kaun /kãũ/ *n.* IV. (-*mĩ*) peace.

kamp, kanfuu, kanfashii, kanfamaa, kanfaluu /kãp, -uu, -akii, -abãã, -aduu/ *v.i.* 1 • to sit. 2 • to float (on water). 3 • to be (located). 4 • to live, to dwell. 5 • to stay, to lodge. 6 • to be, to occur (of seasons and certain other natural phenomena).

kappa /kappa/ *adj.* 1 • high, elevated.
2 • tall (of objects).

kase /kati/ *n.* IV. (-*mī*) poison, venom, toxin.

~ **ughokh** *l.v.c.* to poison.

kolo /kudu/ *adj.* 1 • dense (e.g. of solids, forest). 2 • thick, viscous (of fluids). 3 • dark, deep, saturated (of colours). 4 • strong, intense, rich, intense (of flavours and smells).

koyii, ~, **-shii**, **-mii**, **-ruu** /kub, -ii, -kii, -bīī, -duu/ *v.t.* to demand, to request, to appeal for, to claim.

kuf, **kuvii**, **kupchii**, **kuvmii**, **kuveruu** /kub, -ii, -kii, -bīī, -iduu/ *v.t.* 1 • to want, to desire. 2 • to yearn for, to long for.

kumbo, **kumbuu**, **kumbushii**, **kumbu-maa**, **-luu** /kūbu, -u, -kii, -bāā, -duu/ *v.t.* 1 • to get, to receive, to acquire, to gain. 2 • to experience, to undergo, to endure, to suffer. 3 • to get, to become (limited to adjectival complements). 4 • to perceive, to sense, to see, to hear, to taste, to smell, to feel, to make out. 5 • to feel sth internally (e.g. pain). 6 • to get to, to have the time or opportunity to do sth. ⓘ This verb is also used as a suppletive passive for *chi/pal* ‘to give’ and in some LVCs using *puu* or *ughokh*. *Kumbo* is used very frequently in AVCs as well as in some LVCs.

kuppal, **-uu**, **-ashii**, **-amaa**, **-aluu** /kup-pad, -uu, -akii, -abāā, -aduu/ *v.i.* to bleed.

Miasa /bīāta/ *n.* III. (-*mī*) [name].

Mumbukho /būbuku/ *n.* I. (-*okh*) [name].

ngait /gāīt/ *adj.* 1 • white. 2 • light, bright.

olok, **olukhun** /uduk, -ū/ *n.* I. (-*okh*) child.

pae /pai/ *n.* IV. (-*vo(l)*) 1 • name. 2 • title. 3 • fame, reputation, renown.

pak, **-huu**, **pacchii**, **paghmaa**, **-haluu** /pak, -uu, -kii, pagbāā, -aduu/ *v.t.* 1 • to hit, to strike, to beat. 2 • to stir, to mix, to whip, to beat (of food preparation).

pal, **padduu**, **paddashii**, **paddamaa**, **paddaluu** /pad, -duu, -dabāā, -daduu/ *v.d.* to give (to a non-speech act participant [non-SAP], i.e. third person). ⓘ Cannot be passivised; instead *kumbo* ‘to get’ must be used. ➤ *chi*.

pi /pi/ *adv.* already, now.

picchep /pikkip/ *n.* IV. (-*mī*) flash of light, e.g. of lightning, whoosh of noise or heat, e.g. of a fire flaring up.

piktuu /piktuu/ *n.* IV. (-*kha*) feather.

pin /pī/ *post.* 1 • from, leaving. 2 • off, from. 3 • because of, due to.

polo *adj.* . *black 2 • dark.

pu /pu/ *post.* at, by, beside, next to, near to.

puktumakhan, **-kha** /puktubākā, -ka/ *n.* III. (-*lokh*) vulture.

pushe /puki/ *n.* II. (-*mī*) 1 • meat, flesh. 2 • flesh (of fruit). 3 • crumb (i.e. soft interior of bread). 4 • bone marrow.

puusa, **puusuu**, **-shii**, **-maa**, **-luu** /puuta, -uu, -kii, -bāā, -duu/ *v.i.* to move.

tol, **toluu**, **tucchii**, **tuvmuu**, **-oluu** /tud, -uu, -kii, -būū, -uduu/ *v.i.* to fly.

tsi /ti/ *ptcl.* clause-final declarative particle often used with non-verbal predication (though not obligatorily) and alongside finite verbs to make a statement more assertive.

tsi- /ti-/ *q.* too much, too many, excessive.

tsia /tia/ *n.* III. (-*she*) flower.

tsini /tidī/ *n.* IV. (-*mī*) place, location, position.

tsisep, tsippikha /titip, tippika/ *n.* III. (-*lokh*) bird.

tsivot, tsivusuu, tsivocchii, tsivovmaa, tsiptoluu /tibus, -uu, -kii, -bãã, tibtu-duu/ *v.i.* to beg, to plead, to implore.

① The participant being appealed to occurs in a postpositional phrase with *ka* 'to'.

tua /tua/ *n.* II. (-*mi*) 1 • water (especially for drinking). 2 • juice. 3 • drink, any other potable liquid.

tuakhun /tuakũ/ *n.* III. (-*tsin*) natural spring.

tumai, -kha /tubãĩ, -ka/ *n.* III. (-*mi*) spirit, ghost, spectre, deity, devil, demon.

tump, tumbuu, tumbushii, tumbumaa, tumboluu /tũb, -uu, -ukii, -ubãã, -uduu/ *v.i.* 1 • to hang. 2 • to perch. 3 • to float (in the air, in the sky or under water). 4 • to afflict (atelic, of diseases). ① The affected participant is placed in a postpositional phrase headed by *guat* 'on'. 5 • to be (see section on postural verbs).

tungga, tungguu, -shii, -maa, -luu /tũga, tũguu, -kii, -bãã, -duu/ *v.t.* 1 • to look at (i.e. to purposefully direct one's gaze towards to perceive visually). 2 • to watch, to look at (i.e. to purposefully perceive visually for an extended period of time). 3 • to read. 4 • to monitor, to observe, to focus one's attention on, to look after. 5 • to examine, to have a look at, to consult, to see. 6 • to consider, to think about. 7 • to

face, to be orientated towards. 8 • to be careful, to be aware of, to mind.

tunggukhun, -uu, -ashii, -amaa, -anduu /tũgukũ, tũgukudũũ, tũgukudãkii, tũgukudãbãã, tũgukudãduu/ *v.i.* 1 • to get big(ger), to increase in size.

Tuserise /tutiditi/ *n.* IV. (-*tsin*) [name].

ughokh, ughuu, uchii, ughmuu, ugholuu /ugug, uguu, ukkii, ugbũũ, uguduu/ *v.t.* 1 • to do, to carry out, to perform an action. 2 • to act as. 3 • to make, to create. ① Used in many LVCs, which often use *kumbo* as the main verb in passive constructions.

un, -ii, -shii, ummii, -induu /ũ, udĩĩ, -kii, -bĩĩ, udĩduu/ *v.i.* to run.

uppa, uppuu, -shii, -maa, -luu /uppa, uppuu, -kii, -bãã, -duu/ *v.t.* 1 • to throw, to launch, to toss, to hurl. 2 • to emit. ① This verb is used very frequently in LVCs.

usak /utak/ *n.* II. (-*va*) 1 • crop (plant cultivated by humans). 2 • any plant (or similar) used for food by humans, e.g. vegetable, fruit, mushroom.

uvo /ubu/ *n.* IV. (-*op/-vo(l)*) 1 • word, phrase, sentence, utterance, statement. 2 • speech, account, story. 3 • opinion, view. 4 • vote. 5 • promise. ① This a particularly context-sensitive word and is used in many LVCs.

~ **uppa** *l.v.c.* to exclaim, to shout, to cry out, to call out.

⚠ The only vocabulary found in the text not listed above are core grammatical items discussed in the grammar section below.

3 Grammar notes¹

3.1 Introduction and overview

Anderiva [ãndɛrɪβa] is a predominantly head-final language spoken by a people living in a hilly humid subtropical forested area. Nouns fall into one of four classes and, though most adnominal modifiers are preposed, definite articles and demonstratives are postposed. Numerals, quantifiers and the indefinite article obligatorily take a suffixal classifier whose form is dependent on the modified or referent noun. Basic constituent order is subject–object–verb. Anderiva exhibits both clause chaining and switch reference in which medial verbs are conjugated only for same or different subject and simultaneity or sequentiality; final verbs are conjugated for person and number, tense–aspect and can be followed by various modal particles.

3.2 Phonology

3.2.1 Phonemic inventory

Anderiva has six consonant phonemes which correspond to roughly thirty-two major surface allophones. These are shown in Table 1 below alongside their romanisations.

	Labial	Coronal	Dorsal
Voiceless	/p/	/t/	/k/
	[p, ɸ]	[t, ts, s]	[k, x, tɕ, ɕ]
	⟨p, f⟩	⟨t, ts, s⟩	⟨k, kh, ch, sh⟩
Voiced	/b/	/d/	/g/
	[b, β, ^m b, m, ɸ, p]	[d, dz, z, ɾ, ɭ, nd , ^{ndz} , n, t]	[g, γ, ^{ng} , ŋ, dz, z, j, ^{ndz} , ɲ, x, k]
	⟨b, v, mb, m, f, p⟩	⟨d, dz, z, r, l, nd, ndz, n, t⟩	⟨g, gh, ngg, ng, j, zh, y, nj, ny, kh, k⟩

Table 1: Consonant phonemes, allophones and romanisation

Surfaces geminates also occur, which I analyse here as sequences of two identical consonants.

Anderiva possesses three contrastive vowel qualities, all of which occur as both oral and nasal. All vowels have reduced allophones with high oral vowels also having mid allophones that surface in various environments and glide realisations that

1 The following glossing abbreviations are used: 1 = first person, 2 = second person, 3 = third person, BEN = benefactive, CAUS = causative, CLF = classifier, DEF = definite, DIST = distal, DS = different subject, DU = dual, EXCL = exclusive, I = noun class I, II = noun class II, III = noun class III, IMPF = imperfect, INCL = inclusive, INDEF = indefinite, IV = noun class IV, MED = medial, NEG = negative, NVIS = non-visible, PL = plural, PRES = present, PRET = preterite, PROX = proximal, SEQ = sequential, SG = singular, SIMUL = simultaneous, SS = same subject, VIS = visible.

optionally occur at fast speech rates or in colloquial styles. The vowel phonemes and allophones are summarised below in Table 2 alongside their romanisations.²

	Front	Back
	/i; ĩ/	/u; ũ/
High	[i, ɪ, ɛ, j; ĩ, ĩ̃] ⟨i(N), e⟩	[u, ʊ, ɔ, w; ũ, ũ̃] ⟨u(N), o⟩
	/a; ă/	
Low	[a, ə; ă, ẵ] ⟨a(N)⟩	

Table 2: Vowel phonemes, allophones and romanisation

Vowels of any underlying quality may freely occur in hiatus but these are restricted to oral–oral or nasal–nasal sequences with potential oral–nasal and nasal–oral sequences realised as nasal–nasal. As with geminate consonants, the analysis here assumes that there are no underlying long vowels and that surface long vowels are derived from sequences of identical vowels.

3.2.2 Prosody

The first syllable in each (content) word takes a stress. The last syllable of each intonational phrase receives extra prominence. Medial intonational phrases typically show a rising (or level) pitch. Final intonational phrases a falling pitch. That is, there is initial word stress but final phrasal stress, with phrasal stress being more prominent. This is stress and not simply intonation because, among other considerations, it has implications for the (non-)application of vowel reduction. Here, initial word stress is treated and transcribed here as primary stress in the absence of final phrasal stress but otherwise as secondary stress, with final phrasal stress construed as primary stress. Because it is fully predictable, stress is not included in phonemic transcriptions.

3.3 Nouns, pronouns and the noun phrase

3.3.1 Noun class

Nouns in Anderiva fall into one of four noun classes:

- I humans, personal names
- II food and drink, some man-made objects, some plants and animals

² In Table 2, ⟨N⟩ represents an underspecified nasal grapheme which is dependent on the surrounding context.

III some plants and animals, various other natural objects, some natural forces or phenomena, some diseases

IV body parts, abstractions, miscellaneous other

Class is a covert morphosyntactic property of nouns. That is, rather than being explicitly marked the noun, it manifests itself in the form of agreement on verbs, coreferent pronouns, definite articles, demonstratives and pronominal possessors.

A given nominal form does not necessarily have a single noun class and the meanings of nouns are often extended by a change in class. For example:

- (1) a. unngu (II) 'tuber' → (III) 'tumour'
- b. tua → (II) '(drinking) water' → (III) 'water (e.g. for washing);, (IV) 'body of water'
- c. chifinu (IV) 'something flattened' → (II) 'pancake, flatbread'

3.3.2 Animacy, humanness and number

Class I nouns are invariably animate, class II and III nouns may be either animate or inanimate and class IV nouns are invariably inanimate. Note that, though animacy largely lines up with real-world semantics, this is not necessarily always the case, e.g. *pukto* 'cadaver' is an animate class I noun.

Animate nouns are the only nouns capable of distinguishing singular and plural as grammatical numbers, both in terms of marking and verb agreement. Plurality is, however, not necessarily marked directly on the noun itself as plurality is marked only the final element of the noun phrase.³ In addition to this, it should be noted that human (class I) and non-human (classes II and III) animate nouns take different plural markers. The human plural is marked by either nasalisation of the final vowel or suffixation of a lexically-determined nasal vowel; this is occasionally represented as a suffix of the form /-Ń/.

- | | | | | | |
|-----|----|--------|---|---------|---------------|
| (2) | a. | tukte | → | tuktsin | 'boy(s)' |
| | b. | nganda | → | ngana | 'woman/women' |
| | c. | olok | → | olukhun | 'child(ren)' |
| | d. | afakh | → | afanga | 'cousin(s)' |

The non-human plural is marked by the suffix /-ka/ -ka, -kha.

- | | | | | | |
|-----|----|---------|---|------------|--------------|
| (3) | a. | tsinje | → | tsinjikha | 'dog(s)' |
| | b. | gue | → | goikha | 'pig(s)' |
| | c. | dzighba | → | dzighbakha | 'lizard(s)' |
| | d. | korep | → | korepka | 'chicken(s)' |

Plurality is never marked directly on nouns in the presence of quantifiers or numerals.

3 That is, irregular cases like plural *kuufuna* and singulative *kuufuukh* notwithstanding.

3.3.3 *Personal pronouns*

Table 3 presents the forms of the core personal pronouns.

	SG	DU	PL
1(EXCL)	ga	—	but
1INCL	—	nyi	jima
2	in	—	imma
3I	ukh	—	unga
3II	ala	—	alakha
3III	ia	—	iakha
3IV	mi	—	—

Table 3: Personal pronouns

Personal pronouns have dedicated forms for the first, second and third persons. The first person possesses separate exclusive and inclusive forms in the plural in addition to which there is a dedicated dual form for the first person inclusive only.⁴ The second person has separate singular and plural forms. The singular is used with singular addressees regardless of the relationship between speaker and addressee and the plural is used only with plural referents and not to mark politeness, respect or similar. Third person pronouns exhibit separate forms for all four noun classes. There are distinct singular and plural forms for all but class IV, which has only a singular form.

3.3.4 *Definite articles*

The third person pronouns (§3.3.3) are used post-nominally as definite articles. These agree in class with the noun they modify and also take on any requisite plural marking, as seen in (4) below.

- (4)
- a. nganda ukh ‘the woman’
 - b. tukte unga ‘the boys’
 - c. jikka ala ‘the machete(s)’
 - d. korep alakha ‘the lizards’
 - e. ikpo ia ‘the stem(s)’
 - f. tsinje iakha ‘the dogs’
 - g. dakha mi ‘the basket(s)’

⁴ This is therefore arguably better analysed as a minimal–augmented system rather than singular–plural system with a lone dual form.

3.3.5 Indefinite articles

As well as definite articles (§3.3.4), Anderiva possesses singular indefinite articles, *ku-*, which are shortened versions of the numeral *kuu-* ‘one’. These precede the noun and take an appropriate classifier (for more on which, see ??). This is illustrated by the examples in (5) below.

- (5)
- | | | |
|----|----------------|--------------|
| a. | kukh dzive | ‘a man’ |
| b. | kuvo jitte | ‘a terrapin’ |
| c. | kolokh dzighba | ‘a lizard’ |
| d. | kuva dakha | ‘a basket’ |
| e. | kukha ikpo | ‘a stem’ |
| f. | kun unngu | ‘a tuber’ |
| g. | kut bero | ‘a morning’ |

The indefinite articles may co-occur with the definite article to express a specific indefinite meaning:

- (6)
- | | | |
|----|----------------|---------------------------------|
| a. | kukh dzive | ‘a man, any man’ |
| b. | kukh dzive ukh | ‘a certain man, a specific man’ |

3.3.6 Quantifiers

Quantifiers come in initial position in the noun phrase by default and obligatorily take a suffixed classifier according to the noun they modify, as exemplified in (7) (for more on classifiers, see §3.3.7).

- (7)
- | | | |
|----|---------------|-------------------|
| a. | guuva dakha | ‘all baskets’ |
| b. | tusun unngu | ‘a lot of tubers’ |
| c. | taptakha ikka | ‘some sticks’ |
| d. | andola tua | ‘enough water’ |
| e. | tsimi mande | ‘too many rocks’ |

The presence of a quantifier precludes the use of overt plural marking on the noun, as can be seen below.

- (8)
- | | | |
|----|------------------|---------------------|
| a. | guuvo umu | ‘all frogs’ |
| b. | tusuukh olok | ‘a lot of children’ |
| c. | taptalokh tsinje | ‘some dogs’ |
| d. | anduvo gue | ‘enough pigs’ |
| e. | teokh dzive | ‘too many men’ |

However, when present, post-nominal definite articles and demonstratives do still inflect for plurality:

- (9) a. guuvo umu ikhe ‘all of these frogs’
 b. tusuukh olok unga ‘a lot of the children’
 c. taptalakh tsinje ikhaima ‘some of those dogs’

3.3.7 *Suffixal classifiers*

There exists in Anderiva a classifier system that is distinct from noun class and is used only with indefinite articles, numerals and quantifiers. These obligatorily take a suffixed classifier according to the modified or referent noun. This is typically a sortal classifier but mass nouns may also be quantified by way of a mensural classifier, though sortal and mensural classifiers have many overlapping forms. A selection of the suffixal classifiers and their forms in the languages are given below:

- (10) a. -okh, -ukh – human beings
 b. -vo, -bo – many animals, livestock, tailless animals or animals with short tails, medium–large round objects
 c. -vo(l), bo(l)⁵ – noises emitted from humans, other animals and musical instruments as well as certain other noises
 d. -va, -ba – hand-held objects (especially tools), handfuls
 e. -lokh, -rokh, -dokh – certain tailed animals but also objects like lengths of rope
 f. -mi – generic objects or concepts
 g. -un – spherical or amorphous things or substances
 h. -tsin – places or locations
 i. -kha, -ka – finger-/stick-like objects
 j. -she, -che – small eye-/seed-like objects, small quantities
 k. -op, -up – things that use the breath
 l. -ot, -ut – times or periods

3.3.8 *Demonstratives*

Demonstratives, which occur after nouns when used adnominally, distinguish three degrees of distance: proximal, in the possession of or within easy reach of either speaker and listener person or otherwise proximal in the discourse; medial, not in the possession of or within easy reach of either speaker and listener person but still within reasonably close range of the senses; and distal, far from both speaker and

5 This has, for the most part, merged with -vo, with the *l*-ful form is now archaic.

listener and not within reasonably close range of the senses. All demonstratives agree in number and gender with their referents. There is also a cross-cutting visibility distinction, with visible being unmarked and non-visible forms taking the prefix *t(u)-*. The non-visible demonstratives are used only when something that one might expect to be able to see is not visible. (Thus abstractions, for example, use the default visible demonstratives.) The forms for demonstratives are shown in Table 4.

		PROX		MED		DIST	
		VIS	NVIS	VIS	NVIS	VIS	NVIS
I	SG	oye	toye	ukkot	tukkot	oyima	toyima
	PL	ngai	tungai	ngakhot	tungakhot	ngaima	tungaima
II	SG	are	tore	akkot	tukkot	arima	torima
	PL	akhe	tukhe	akhot	tukhot	akhaima	tukhaima
III	SG	ii	tue	ikhot	tukhot	ima	toima
	PL	ikhe	tukhe	ikhot	tukhot	ikhaima	tukhaima
IV		mii	tumii	mikhot	tumikhot	mima	tumima

Table 4: Demonstratives

3.3.9 Adnominal possession

Adnominal possession behaves different for pronominal and full nominal possessors. Pronominal possessors are expressed by postposed pronouns which replace the definite article and indicate the class and number of both possessor and possessee as well as the person of the possessor. (Though overt possessive pronouns are often omitted with kinship and body-part terms when relationships are recoverable from context.) The following examples constitute an incomplete list of forms for class IV possessee with possessors of different persons and classes:

- (11) a. gami (1SG) e. alami (3II)
b. immi (2SG) f. iami (3III)
c. ughmi (3I.SG) g. mimi (3IV)
d. ungami (3I.PL)

Adnominal possession with full nominals is expressed by a modifying postpositional phrase headed by *an* ‘of’ with a possessor as the dependent. The postpositional phrase precedes the possessee, e.g. *dzive ukh an jikka ala* ‘the man’s machete’.

3.3.10 *Attributive adjectives and noun–noun couplings*

Adjectives are invariant and precede the noun they modify when used adnominally, as shown with *tunggo* ‘big’ below:

- (12) a. *kukh tunggo dzive* ‘a tall man’
 b. *tunggo dzimi* ‘tall men’
 c. *tunggo bujje ia* ‘the big grub’

Adjectives are very noun-like in Anderiva and, conversely, nouns are able to be used quite easily in adjectival functions, preceding the modified noun:

- (13) a. *munde chifinu* ‘cassava pancake(s)’
 b. *tsinje bu* ‘dog head’
 c. *kase tushet* ‘poison arrow’

These are effectively phrasal noun–noun compounds (which coexist alongside univerbated noun–noun compounds).

3.4 Verbs

3.4.1 *Medial verbs*

Anderiva exhibits clause chaining, which is used plentifully to connect clauses in a similar manner to coordination. The last verb in a clause chain is referred to as the “final verb” and all other verbs are termed “medial verbs”. In Anderiva, medial verbs are marked by fusional suffixes for switch reference (same/different subject) and relative ordering (sequentiality/simultaneity) but take no other verbal inflection (see §3.4.2 for final verbs). This is summarised in Table 5.

	SEQ	SIMUL
SS	-re, -de	-ot, -t
DS	-ashe, -ishe, -ushe	-k

Table 5: Switch-reference and sequencing suffixes

Some short biverbal clause chains are given below, though clause chains in Anderiva may be significantly longer than this.

- (14) a. *Tukte ukh unde, bamushii.*
 boy DEF.I.SG run.SS.SEQ fall.PRET.3I.SG
 ‘The boy ran and then fell.’

- b. Tukte ukh unit, tua dzimaa.
 boy DEF.I.SG run.SS.SIMUL water drink.IMP.F.3I.SG
 'The boy ran while drinking water.'
- c. Tukte ukh unishe, isa ukh beyishii.
 boy DEF.I.SG run.DS.SEQ father DEF.I.SG shout.PRET.3I.SG
 'The boy ran and then his father shouted.'
- d. Tukte ukh unik, isa ukh tunggamaa.
 boy DEF.I.SG run.DS.SIMUL father DEF.I.SG watch.IMP.F.3I.SG
 'The boy ran while his father watched.'

In medial clauses, subjects are always stated with DS, even if just with a pronoun, but not repeated with SS whereas objects are typically repeated, usually as a pronoun, with both SS and DS.

3.4.2 *Final verbs*

In contrast to medial verbs (see §3.4.1), final verbs in Anderiva do not inflect for same/different subject or relative ordering but instead for full person–number agreement with the subject and tense–aspect. Both are marked by suffixation.

There are four core tense–aspects. The “present” and is in fact a general non-past. The preterite describes an action, event or state in the past and presents it as a discrete whole without internal structure (i.e. a past perfective). The imperfect, in contrast, describes an action, event or state in the past but presents it as having internal temporal structure, a drawn-out duration or as being repeated, habitual or ongoing at some point in the past (i.e. a past imperfective). The future is used for explicit future-time reference. The present is unmarked, the preterite is marked by *-shi/-che*, *-she/-che* the imperfective by *-ma/-mi/-mu*, *-van/-ban* and the future by *-lu/-ru*, *-lo/-ro*.

Tense–aspect is suffixed to the verb stem first followed by person–number agreement, though a certain degree of fusion between the suffixes may take place. Table 6 provides a summary of the subject agreement suffixes found on verbs. (Note that there is a small degree of syncretism within verb conjugation paradigms, especially between 3III(SG/PL) and 3II.PL as well as e.g. PRET.3I.SG and PRET.3III(SG). There is also typically syncretism between final PRES.1EXCL.PL and medial SS.SIMUL forms.)

	SG	DU	PL
1(EXCL)	-kh, -k	—	-ot, -t
1INCL	—	-nyi	-yima, -jima
2	-in	—	-imma
3I	-i, -u, -a	—	-n, -an, -in, -un
3II	-la, -ra, -ala	—	-i, -e, -u, -o
3III	-i, -e, -u, -o	—	-i, -e, -u, -o
3IV	-mi	—	—

Table 6: Summary of verbal subject agreement suffixes

Lastly, conjugated final verb forms (typically the present) may be used prenominally as modifiers (effectively relative clauses). For example:

- (15) a. unii tukte ukh
 run.PRES.3I.SG boy DEF.I.SG
 ‘the running boy’
- b. kolokh tolo tsisep
 INDEF.CLF fly.PRES.3III.SG bird
 ‘a flying bird’
- c. benyi dzimi
 shout.PRES.3I.PL men
 ‘shouting men’

3.4.3 Valency-changing operations

Medial and final verbs may take derivational suffixes expressing certain valency-changing operations. For example, the causative *-n, -an, -ana* or benefactive *-gho/-go, -ghu/-gu*. These are both valency-increasing operations: the causative adds a causee to the verb’s argument structure as an object with an agent as a subject and the benefactive adds a beneficiary as a secondary object to the verb’s argument structure. The causative and benefactive are illustrated by the examples in (16) and (17) respectively.

- (16) a. Ufunde ala bamushera.
 flour DEF.II fall.PRET.3II
 ‘The flour fell.’
- b. Dzive ukh ufunde ala bamunashii.
 man DEF.I.SG flour DEF.II fall.CAUS.PRET.3II
 ‘The man dropped the flour.’

- (17) a. Tukte ukh tua ittuu.
boy DEF.I.SG water cook.PRES.3I.SG
'The boy is boiling water.'
- b. Tukte ukh isa ukh tua ittaghuu.
boy DEF.I.SG father DEF.I.SG water cook.BEN.PRES.3I.SG
'The boy is boiling water for his father.'