

Some morphosyntactic features of the Tima language

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In my presentation, I would like to discuss some of the morphosyntactic features of Tima, in particular structural properties related to the marking of location and direction towards or away from the deictic centre, a grammatical domain where Tima appears to be particularly rich and complex. The structural means used in this Niger-Congo language spoken in the Nuba Mountains, Sudan, include a locative form for nouns, prepositions and prepositional nouns, special lexemes, as well as an extensive system of verbal markers. Among the thirteen morphological slots for the verb in fact several play a role in the expression of deixis, as I will try to show.