

Negation in Ubangian languages

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In several Ubangian languages negation is described as a fairly complex matter. It appears, however, that the complexity can be reduced to the distinction of negation in main clauses and in subordinate clauses. From a historical point of view it is noteworthy that the Ubangian pattern of a sentence final negation particle has been borrowed into a number of Bantu languages of the group C and H. This interference is most probably a result of the long distance trade on the Ubangi and Congo rivers.