

Notes on Nyinungu, (Unclassified Bantu, Cokwe-Lunda group)

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Nyinungu (better known in the literature as Minungu), is a Bantu language spoken on both sides of the border between Angola and Democratic Republic of the Congo. Socio-historical studies usually link it to the Lunda languages (Bantu L50). Geographically, most Nyinungu speaking communities are surrounded by Cokwe speaking areas. Almost nothing has been written on the Nyinungu language. But in the few notes available, the tendency is to see similarities with Cokwe (Bantu K11) and even Shinji (Bantu H33).

In this paper I use first-hand data from recordings done in Lubumbashi (2008) to present some aspects of phonology (including nominal tonology), morphology and the verbal system of Nyinungu. Those data are also compared with some neighbouring languages to help classifying this language.