

Tonology of Bangime nouns

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This study introduces the language Bangerime, or Bangime, an outlier Dogon language spoken in Mali, into the literature through an examination of tonal processes associated with the noun phrase. The purpose of this study is to a) determine the underlying tonal representations on nouns in Bangime, and b) offer evidence proving the existence of the phenomenon known as 'tone polarity'. It is proposed that tone polarity is the cause of root-stem tonal alternations in the plural form. The affects of a floating tone which follows certain noun roots are examined in combination with other tonal processes in the noun phrase, including possessives, compounds, and modifiers. The language exhibits rare processes such as right to left tone mapping and contour tones on monomoraic syllables. This in turn leads to the discussion of marked processes not found among the Dogon languages to which Bangime is thought to be genetically related.