

**Stratification of lexical borrowing and language contact: Hausa and Kanuri in the sahelo-saharan area**

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Borrowing is the result of direct or indirect language contact. When contact took place in a relatively recent time, there are tools, which permit us to find out about the direction of borrowing. But when language contact took place long time ago, like in the Lake Chad area, it is difficult to work out the situation and the results will be unreliable. Despite plenty of studies about borrowing in the languages of the Lake Chad region, despite of reconstructions of protoforms of the linguistic families (Chadic and Saharan) or phylies (Afro-asiatic and Nilo-Saharan), not all roots can be classified with certainty and therefore are called 'areal roots'. I will try to propose a model of stratification from some common roots of Hausa and Kanuri, which can elucidate a relative history of these words in their respectively Chadic and/or Saharan families.