

# Afranaph Consultant Information and Consent Form

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Thank you for agreeing to help us build a cross-linguistic database on the typology of anaphoric relations in the non-colonial languages of Africa. Before you proceed to help us by answering our questionnaires, however, you must fill out this form or we are not allowed to use your data (as a condition of our funding). Once you have filled this form out once, you do not have to fill it out again for subsequent participation, but if you choose to amend your information, you can do so at any time by informing us of a change.

Our research goal, supported by the National Science Foundation (USA), is to collect rich, relevant, quality information about each subject language included in the database to facilitate the work of those involved in linguistic research both into the nature and understanding of understudied languages, as well as into the nature of crosslinguistic variation. Providing researchers with rich and accurate descriptions and informed analysis is a lofty goal that cannot be attained without the participation of talented contributors. We will be relying not only on your knowledge of the subject language, but also on your skills as a linguist. In many cases we simply ask you to translate certain sentences into the subject language and evaluate the acceptability of the results. But in many other instances we will also ask you to identify other examples or grammatical constructions that may be relevant and we are especially interested in your opinion about what sorts of details or nuances of interpretation we should be paying attention to. In many cases, for those languages on which we choose to do follow up research, our consultants will become not only sophisticated informants, but collaborators in the research that we make available to the public at our web site.

You may remain anonymous if you wish, but we hope that you will agree to be identified so that we can acknowledge your contribution on our web site, <http://www.africananaphora.rutgers.edu/>. If you do not wish to be anonymous, you must check the appropriate box in section 1.3 below and you must answer the consent question in Part 2 of this document. Once you have filled it out parts 1 and 2 and signed in part 2, please send a fax or a hard copy to:

Afranaph Project  
Department of Linguistics (Rutgers)  
18 Seminary Place  
New Brunswick, NJ 08903 USA

If you have any questions about how to fill out the form, you can contact us by email at [safir@ruccs.rutgers.edu](mailto:safir@ruccs.rutgers.edu).

## Part 1

**1.1 Language:** In this section you are asked to identify your language or dialect (the subject language) and the information we ask of you will help make this identification more precise. We will fill in the Ethnologue code if you do not know it.

1. Name of the language:
2. Ethnologue code (if you know it):
3. Dialect and/or area:

4. What is the information you are providing based on? We assume all our participants are relying on their own judgments, but if you answer (b) in addition to (a), please explain with an attached note.

(a) My own judgements ( )

(b) Judgements by one or more consultants ( )

**1.2 Identify yourself:** In order to make full use of the information you provide, some information about your linguistic background is necessary. If you wish, your name and contact information will be excluded from the public version of this database. However, if you are a fellow linguist we encourage you to make this information available; this will make it possible to properly acknowledge your role in creating this database, and will also (if you wish) allow other linguists interested in this language to contact you.

Please provide the following information about yourself (the person completing the survey).

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2a. Your address:

2b. E-mail address, if you have one:

3. Do you want the database to reveal your name and contact information?

(You still must fill out a consent form in part 2, however you answer this question.)

( ) I am willing to be identified

( ) I wish to remain anonymous

4. Your level of training in linguistics (circle accordingly).

( ) Post Ph. D.

( ) Ph.D or M.A. student

( ) Undergraduate linguistics

( ) some courses

( ) linguistics major

( ) Training in related discipline

( ) philology

( ) language pedagogy

( ) other (please specify)

( ) related discipline (please specify)

( ) no linguistic training

5. If you are a linguist, please indicate the extent of your exposure to the following subfields. Also specify the broad school (e.g., GB or LFG syntax) if appropriate. Your background might be relevant to your choice of terminology in morphological and syntactic descriptions, etc.

Scale: little or none / some / intimately familiar.

- (a) Syntax:
- (b) Typological linguistics:
- (c) Formal semantics:
- (d) Pragmatics or discourse analysis:
- (e) Other relevant subfield:

#### 6. Your language biography

- a. What language(s) did your parents speak at home?
- b. What language(s) do/did your parents speak natively?
- c. What language (languages) did you receive school instruction in?
- d. How old were you when you learned the subject language?
- e. Do you speak an identifiable subdialect of this language? What is it called?
- f. Do you speak other dialects of the same language? Which ones?

**1.3 Additional Consultants:** If you are relying on the intuitions of additional language consultants (secondary informants), please collect the same information about those you consult, if that is possible. Your secondary informants will be anonymous participants (with all of their personal information confidential) unless they also complete a consent form and choose to be identified.

**1.4 References:** If it is convenient for you to do so, please inform us of any descriptive grammar or other references that you believe would be useful for us to know about which would assist us in putting the anaphora data in the context of a broader understanding of the grammar of your language. If you have a bibliography of work of this kind that you can inform us of or make available to us, that would be enormously helpful.

#### **Part II – Consent**

In order for us to use your questionnaire at all, we must have from you a signed copy of this *consent form*. This form insures (a) that you have had the opportunity to evaluate any risk or disadvantage to you in choosing to participate in this study, and (b) that you have made an informed decision on whether or not you want your role in our project to be publically known. If you choose to remain an anonymous participant (by checking the appropriate box in answer to 1.2 question (3) on this form), all of the personal information you report to us will remain confidential.

## Consent Form

This form is designed to insure that all participants in the *Afranaph Project*, supported by the National Science Foundation (USA), are informed of the level of risk they face if they consent to participate.

The project will not expose any participant to danger different from that encountered in daily life. The survey questions only concern the degree to which sentences in the informant's native language are or are not acceptable. None of the questions involved in the project concern any aspect of the personal lives, or the political, social or religious beliefs of participants. The data we collect will be publically reported and participants will be thanked by name unless they choose to remain anonymous. Participants may choose to remain anonymous for the purposes of publication by checking the box provided for question 1.2 (3) on this form.

If you choose to participate in the Afranaph Project under these conditions please sign below and print your name underneath.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

This form was prepared by Ken Safir, Principal Investigator.