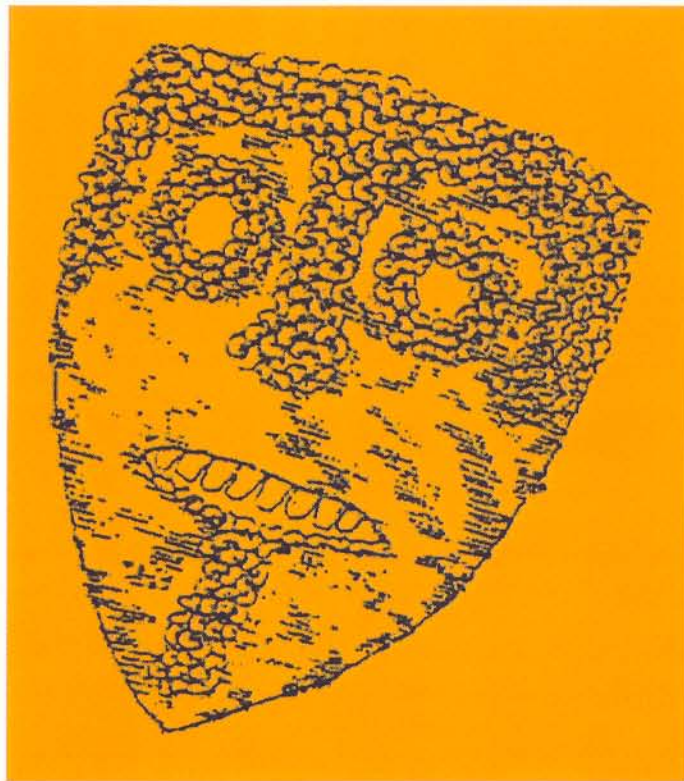


A Grammatical Sketch of the
Lusaamia Verb

Robert Botne

with
Hannington Ochwada
Michael Marlo



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Preface and Acknowledgments

This sketch grew out of work begun in a field methods course taught at Indiana University in 2001. The language consultant for that course was a Ph.D. student in history, Hannington Ochwada. Because of his deep interest in his language, Hannington continued to work with the project after the course had ended in May 2002.

Ideally, one would like to have multiple consultants contributing to the data and analysis. However, even with a single consultant, we felt that the project was worth pursuing because so little work has been published on Lusaamia. Hannington Ochwada is a middle-aged male from the town of Busia near the Kenya-Uganda border. Although he left home to attend boarding school, he visited his home frequently where he spoke in Lusaamia with parents, family, and friends. During the course of the project, he returned to his home area to conduct fieldwork for his dissertation, conducting much of his research in Lusaamia.

Contributing significantly to the project, particularly in the area of phonology, was Michael Marlo, a student at Indiana University before moving on to a Ph.D. program at the University of Michigan. Much of the data on reduplication, especially, comes from his work and interest. Other graduate students from the field methods course also provided insight and data, whom we thank for their efforts: Vicki Anderson, Richard File, Steve Grimes, and Rose Vondrasek. Michael and Rose collected and provided the initial analyses of two of the texts included in the sketch.

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