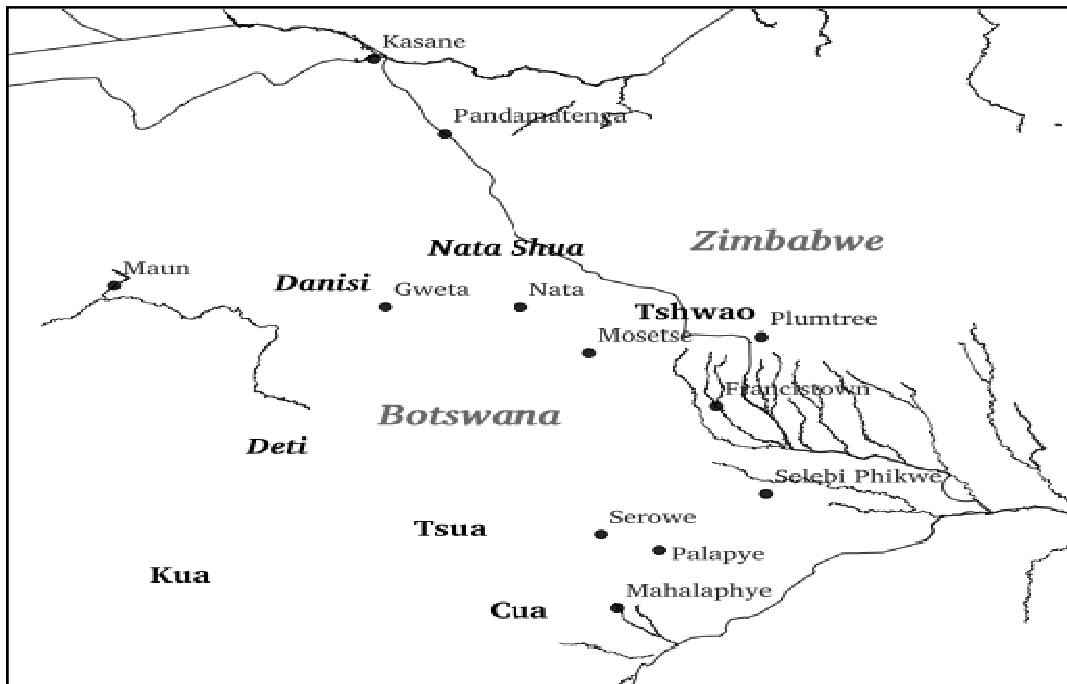


**MPI Khoisan Symposium**  
**(13 – 17 May 2015, Leipzig, Germany)**  
**Kalahari Khoe Eastern**

Andy Chebanne, University of Botswana ([chebanne@mopipi.ub.bw](mailto:chebanne@mopipi.ub.bw); [chebanne@gmail.com](mailto:chebanne@gmail.com))

**Eastern Kalahari Khoe: a historical brief**

**Introduction:** Problems of historical sources; archaeology; oral tradition???. Linguistics; anthropology and ethnology. Documentation will be critical....and if only they could cross reference each other.

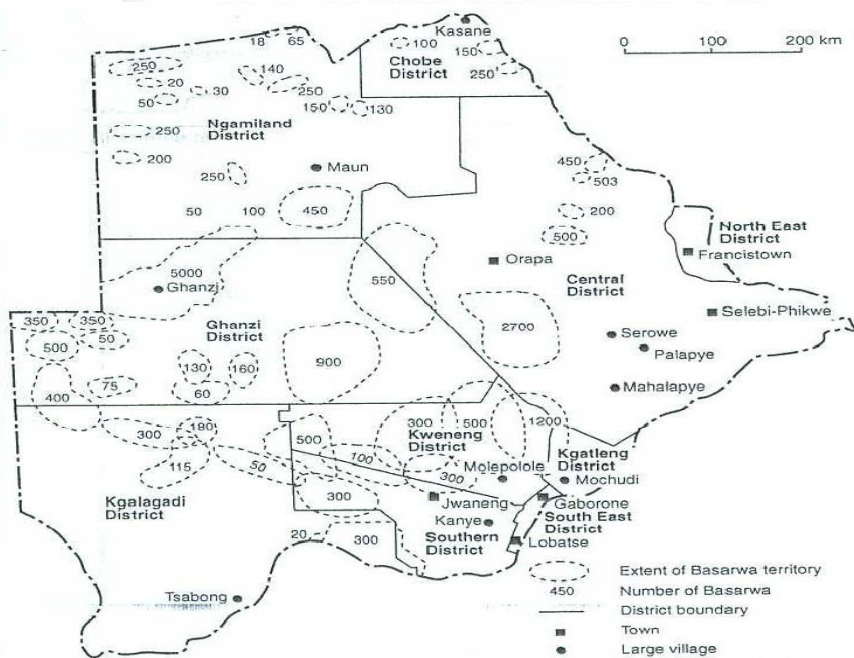


**Map 1:** Present-day distribution of Cua, Kua and and Tsua (Tsoa) in Eastern Botswana

**1. Cua, Kua, and Tsua**

**1.1 Background**

- Where situated: Mainly found in the east and south east of the central Kalahari game reserve in the area known as the western sand veldt of the central district council of Botswana.
- Current distribution: Khwee, Mosolotsane, Western Sand veldt ranches, Leologane, Moralane, Boatlaname, Diphuduhudu, Shorilatholo, Lephephe, and in cattle posts in North-Eastern Kweneng and Western Central Districts.
- Language vitality: Seriously endangered, no longer passed on to young speakers.
- Dialectology: Possibly a dialectal continuum from G!ana (Chebanne, 2014).
- Self-reference: Cua, Kua, and Tsua: Call each other ethnic group “Kua”.
- Contact situations: The Cua and Kua have contacts with Bakgalagadi, Bakwena (Tswana), and Bangwato (Tswana). Tsua and Cua were in contact with Kalanga who use the generic term, “Khwa” for Khoisan.
- State of Documentation: Mostly under-researched and mostly undocumented, some material in Chebanne (2014), Vossen (1997, 1988)) and Snyman (2000), Hasselbring (2000) and her personal notes.
- On-going research by Collins and Chebanne
- Demography: Very much unknown



**Map 2:** Khoisan Locations in Botswana (Source: Silitshena & McLeod (1992))

**Use of “Sesarwa” (Khoe and San) languages by District (significant over 500)** (In, Chebanne & Nyati-Ramahobo, page 400; and modified from Chebanne, 2003 CASAS)

District	District Number	Region	Regional Number	Possible speech community	Remarks & Sub-family <sup>i</sup>
Central	9 540	Boteti	4 491	Shua	EK
		Tutume	3 765	Cire-Cire, Cua	EK
		Serowe Shoshong	1 284	Kua ; Cua; Tsua	EK
Ghanzi	10 678	Ghanzi	10 141	Naro, Jun’hoa	CK; Ju
		CKGR	537	/Gui, Kua, //Gana	CK
Kgalagadi	2 240	South	547	!Xoǀ (Tshasi)	S NK San
		North	1 693	!Xoǀ	S NK San
Kweneng	906	East	107	#Hoa	E NK San
		West	799	#Hoa, /Gui	E NK San, CK
North West	6 341	Ngami East	1 460	Buga	WK
		Ngami West	4 366	Buga, //Ani, Jun’hoa (Kaukau)	WK; Ju
		Chobe	503	Buga	WK
		Delta	12	Buga, //Ani	WK

Some work by Syman (2000) and Vossen(1988) exist that help classify these languages. Socio-linguistic and rural development surveys by Cassidy et al. (2001) and Hasselbring (2001, & 2000).

### 1.2 Genealogical classification

- 1) Köhler (1962, 1963, 1971) and Westphal (1962, 1971) quoted by The Ethnologue identifies a dialect cluster **TSHOA (TSHWA)** (*variant of CUA*, spoken by the Glabake-Ntshori, Khoe-Etshori, Hiechware,). The language belongs to the Eastern Khoe (1995 LBT), (2001 Chebanne, 1977 Voegelin and Voegelin). Nata, Tati, Serule, Moseitse, Mokubilo, Matsitama, Mmashoro, and Mancotai, Southern Africa, Central, Tshu-Khoe, North Central.). **CUA** (*Spoken by the Cuare or Cuara. Also written Tsua*) Belongs to the Southern Eastern Khoe. **KUA**(*spoken to the south and to the West of Serowe and around Shoshong*) Southern Africa, Central, Tshu-Khoe, Northeast.
- 2) Vossen (1997), Guldemanna & Vossen (2000) establish a dialect cluster of Eastern Kalahari Khoe (Kua, Cua, Tsua).

### 1.3 Features

#### 1.3.1 Phonology

**Table 1. Kua / Tsoa / Cua** (modified from Nakagawa 2006)

	bila- bial	dental	alveo- lar	lateral	alveo- palatal	alveo- palatal	palatal	palatal cons.	velar	uvular
voiceless stops	p		t		!	ts	‡	c	k	q
aspirated stops		h	th	h	! h	tsh	‡h	ch	kh	qh
delayed aspiration		'h		'h	!'h		‡'h			
ejective stops		'	t'	'	!''	ts'	‡'	c'	k'	q'
glottalized		ʔ		ʔ	!ʔ		‡ʔ			
voiced stops	b	g	d	g	g!	dz j	g‡	ʃ	g	
affricates		x	tx	x	! x	tsx	‡x		kx	qx
uvular stops		q		q	! q		‡q			
ejected uvulars		q'		q'	! q'		‡q'			
aspirated uvular click		qh		qh	! qh		‡qh			
ejective affricates		x' ( qx')	tx'	x' (  qx')	! x' (! qx')	tsx'	‡x' (‡qx')	cx	kx'	qx'
nasals	m	n	n	n	n!		n‡			
fricatives						s z				x h
lateral			l; r							

When cognates are compared there is generally reduction of clicks and some loss of both alveolar and palatal click series that are observed..

**Table 2 :** Non-click replacements of the palatal click in Eastern Kalahari Khoe (cf. Traill 1986, Traill & Vossen 1997)

1. Retained clicks	2. Changes in shared clicks	3. Click loss without evident phonological triggers
l'huru HM (Kua, Cua, Tsua; Glui) ' [v] to undress' gluu HH (Kua, Cua, Tsua, Glui) ' [v] to build a fire' ‡'heru HH (Kua, Cua, Tsua, Glui); ' [v] to be given a gift (when visited) lam HH (Kua, Cua, Tsua, Glui) ' [n] sun, day' glaa HL (Kua, Cua, Tsua, Glui) ' [n] Silver Tree (Terminalia Sericea)'	g lū HM (Kua, Cua, Glui);  ʔuu HM (Tsua) ' [n] chest' ŋ laro HL (Kua, Cua, Tsua); g an HH (Glui) ' [v] to carry meat on the shoulders'  qhua HL (Kua, Glui); ‡qhua HL (Cua, Tsua) ' [v] to chop the game head to cook it' !qhao HL (Kua, Glui); ŋ‡a°o° LL (Not cog) (Cua); loo LL [v] to run after/chase a hunted animal'	ŋabe MM (Kua); gabe MM (Cua, Tsua); n!abe MM (Glui) ' [n] giraffe' ŋoe HM (Kua); gue HM (Cua, Tsua); n!oe HM ' [n] porcupine' ŋaro HL (Kua); garo HL (Cua, Tsua); n!aro ' [n] chameleon' ŋuu HM (Kua); ‡ʒuu HM (Cua, Tsua); n!uu HM (Glui) ' [n] house, hut' n‡uu HH (Kua, Cua); nūū HH (Tsua); n‡ūū HH ' [v] to sit'

### Palatalization as stimulus of click loss

#hee-#here HH HL (Kua, Cua; Glui); chee HH (Tsua) ‘[v] to drop something powdery on a surface’  
 khuo HH (Kua); khoo HH (deprs) (Cua, Tsua); !hoo HH (Glui) [n] beginning of hot season’  
 khui HM (Kua, (Cua, Tsua HM); !hui HM ‘[v] to pierce and make a hole’  
 #hura HL (Kua, Glui); chura HL (Cua); tshura HL (Tsua) ‘[V] to unroll something’  
 #ʔũ HH (Kua, Glui); #ʔũ HH (Cua); nũ HM (Tsua) ‘v] to eat (beans, etc.)’  
 cum HL (Kua, Cua); tum HL (Cua, Tsua) ‘[v] to eat’

### Irregular palatalization process

#h → ʃ → tsh  
 !h → ʃ → kh  
 #h → ʃ

**Table 3.** Phonetic weakening and loss of clicks (adapted from Traill & Vossen, 1997: 30)

Dental	Alveolar	Lateral	Palatal	
	!		‡	Stage of click conservation
	!		‡	Stage of ! & k neutralization
	↓ k			
	!		‡	Stage of ‡ & c neutralization
	↓ k		↓ c	

### 1.3.2 Morphology

**Table 4:** TAM marking in Cua, Kua and Tsua

	Kua	Cua	Tsua
Progressive/Imperfective	kwa	kwa	kwa
Future	ʔú, kwà, há	ʔú, há	ʔú, há
Near future	kyi (cì)	cì	kwa, (cì)
Tomorrow future	ʔú ʔúūkà	ʔú (ʔúūkà)	(ʔú) ʔúūkà
Future progressive	há kwà	há kwà	há kwà
Distant future	qx'ábā, η#ōā	qx'ábā	qx'ábā
(Near) Past	kè; xá	kè; xá	kè
Recent pass imperfect	kè kyì	kè kyì	kè kyì
Perfect	-a ha -ro ha	-a ha -ro ha	-a ha -ro ha
Past Perfect	ká, kè ká	ká, kè ká	ká, (kè) ká
Yesterday past	chúú	chúú	thúú
Distant past	qx'ó	qx'ó	qx'ó
Distant past perfect	qx'ó kyì	qx'ó kyì	
Anterior	?	ʔaka	?

**Table 5:** Negation morphemes in Cua, Kua, and Tsua

	Kua	Cua	Tsua
Negated IPFV	-tâ~-tã	-tâ	-tâ
Generic	-tham-a ha be	-tham-a ha be	Tham-a ha be

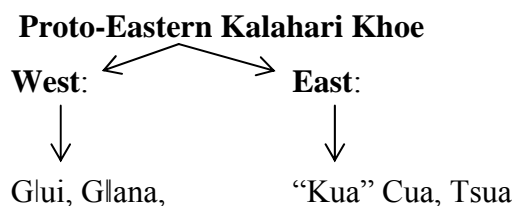
**Table 6:** Personal pronouns of Cua, Kua, and Tsua (cf. Vossen 1997: 247; Chebanne 2014; Chebanne & Collins in press) **of declarative Subject PGN in Kua, Cua and Tsua**

<b>Kua</b>	<b>Cua</b>	<b>Tsua</b>	<b>Gloss</b>
ce	cíé	cíè	I (mix first person singular)
átsèbè	átsábé	ítsábè	we (masc. first person dual)
ítsèbè	ítsábé	ítsábè	We(masc. first pers.dual.exclu)
ásèbe	ásábé	ísábè	we (fem. first person dual)
ísèbè	ísábé	ísábè	We (fem, first pers.dual excl.)
ákhèbè	ákhábé	àkhábè	we (mix.first person dual)
íkhèbè	íkhábé	íkhábè	We(mix.first peson.excl)
álè	àláé	àláè	we (masc. first person pl.)
ílè	ílláé	íllá é	We (masc.first pers.pl.excl)
ásè	àǀféé	ísíè ; ízíè	we (fem. first person pl.)
ísè	íǀféé	ízíè	We (fem.first pers. pl. excl.)
átè	àtáé	ítáè	we (mix.first person pl.)
ítè	ítáé	ítáè	We(mix.first pers.pl.excl)
tséè	tsáé	tsá è	you (masc. second pers.sing.)
séè	sáé	sá è	you (fem. second pers.sing.)
ítsò	ítsóé	ítsóè	you (masc. second pers.dual)
ísò	ísóé	ísóè	you (fem. second pers.dual)
íkho	íkhóé	íkhòè	you (mix second person dual)
ílò	íllóé	íllòè	you (masc. second pers. Pl.)
ídzò	ídzóé	ídzòè	you (fem. second pers. Pl.)
íǀfò	ítóé	ítóè	you (mix second person pl.)
àbè	èbé	èbè	he (masc. third person singular)
àsè	èsé	èsè	she (fem.third person singular)
àtsèrè	ètsèrè	ètsèrè	they (masc. third person dual)
àsèrè	èsèrè	èsèrè	they (fem. third person dual)
àkhòrè	èkhòrè	èkhwèrè	they (mix. third person dual)
àllòè	èllòè	èllòè	they (masc. third person plural)
àdzè	èdzè	èdzè	they (fem. third person plural)
àrè	èrè	èrè	they (mix. third person plural)
è	è	è	it (no marked gender)
èrè	èrè	èrè	they (mix. third person plural)

**Note:** This PGN marking system that is associated with declarative forms is an indication that nouns take female, masculine, mixed and unmarked gender features. PGNs also are associated with inclusivity/and exclusivity distinctions. The morphology is generally V-PGN-V.

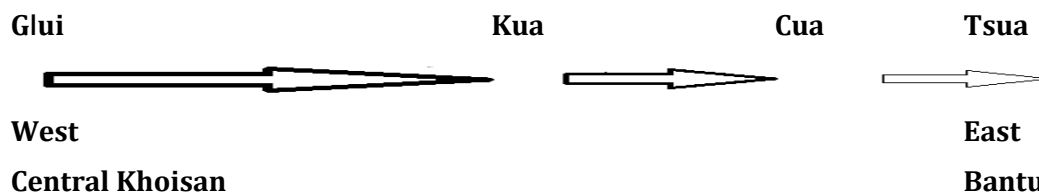
**Syntax:** Canonical word order SOV; focus variations: OSV

### 1.3.3 Classification: Eastern Kalahari Khoe



“Kua” possibly some long time lost Glana. Tsua, Tshwa, Tshwao, possibly a dialectal continuum.

**Conclusion:** Click and feature loss continuum



Click loss is seen as a response by the speakers of certain Khoe varieties to linguistic features (clicks) that are associated with identity as an underclass (Wilmsen and Vossen 1990: 22-23). The reasoning is that clicks are perceived as reinforcing this status because they are regarded as “peculiar” by the economically dominant Bantu-speaking Tswana (Traill & Vossen, 1997: 51).

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