Word Formation in Adamawa Dialect of Fulfulde Language

Mustapha Abubakar
Fulfulde Department
Federal College of Education, Yola
Email: Mustybako@gmail.com

Abstract

The study attempts to explain on Morphological Processes in respect of Adamawa dialect of Fulfulde. It is with these views the research is aim to examine the word formation in Fulfulde Adamawa, the objectives are to identify word formation into Fulfulde Adamawa, classify word formation based on three types: and to find out whether the Fulfulde have infixation, tonal, stress change, clipping, back formation. The origin of Fulɓe and Fulfulde Language, as West Atlantic Language of Niger-Congo chain of family. The geographical location and the dialectal variation were highlighted. Lastly we have observed that Fulfulde language like other languages where word formation is possible, word is formed through various processes like affixation, reduplication, and modification. An example in Affixation: where prefixed is a morph or a morpheme is added to a lexeme at the beginning: Ba+wuro = Bawuro "Name of person and a town" respectively. The methodology and population of the research were also carried out with data collection.

The Origin of Fulɓe

Fula is the Language of Fulani people or as they use to called themselves Fulɓe, Pullo(sg) and Fulɓe (pl). they are now to be found in most countries of west African from Senegal, Gambia and Guinea in Atlantic, through Mali, Upper Volta, Niger and Northern Nigeria, to Chad and Cameroon. Arnott (1970) refers to them as people of "unknown origin". A number of scholars suggested that the Senegambia vallay i.e Futa Toro and Futa Djallon as the primary nucleus of the Fulɓe origin. Delafosse (in Greenberg (1970) considers them as Judeo-Syrians from Cyrenaica who entered Africa about 200 A.D. They are said to be the descendants of Jews from Tripolitania, who are known to have fled into the desert after a great Roman persecution 11 A.D. Arnott (1970) adds they are linked "to people of diverse as the ancient Egyptians, the biblical hut, the Basques and the Dravidians of India". On the contrary, theories linking the Fulɓe to people outside Africa are dismissed by Muhammed (1998) as ridiculously farfetched because of linguistics evidence.

According to Daudu (2005) Fulɓe themselves have their own tradition traces their root to an Arabic called Uqba Bin Nafi, who was an apostle of the prophet (peace be upon Him). He was said to have been sent to a mission in Africa to spread the religion of Islam. Consequently, he married a princess called Bajjo Manngo, whose parents are Negroes. His progeny was said to be the descendant of Fulɓe.

Geographical Location

Fulɓe are by far widely spread people in Africa. They are in most of African countries of West Africa (Arnott, 1970) and in the Sudan, Cameroon and Central African Republic. That Futa Toro played an important role as the center of dispersal of the Fulɓe Islamic Scholars referred to as the elite. This happened around the 11th Century at the time of the fall of the empire of Ghana, which continued up to the 14th century.

Arnott (1970) observes that after centuries of gradual movement, mainly in an easterly direction, with nucleus in the eastern part of Senegal or the Western part of Mali, the Fulɓe

spread widely from Senegal, Gambia, on the Atlantic through Mali, Burkina Faso, and Northern Nigeria to the Chad and Cameroon, while the fringes of the dispersion reached Southern Mauritania, Northern Sierra Leone and Ghana, Benin Republic and even as far east as the Sudan.

The Fulfulde Language

Mukoshy (1991), Fulfulde language constitute very little difficulty, due to the fact that the language is not tonal in any sense of its term and the differences in the dialects are lexical more than phonological, similarly, the language despite it technicality much and has retained its sound system almost intact. However, there are phonological changes at prefix. The changes are limited to influences of some languages causing very minor dialectal differences which do not matter much and they do not affect the mutual intelligibility between or among dialects. There is problem of intonation which can be overcome through a short stretch of time as well as loanwords in different area.

Fulfulde Dialect

The term dialect refers to a regionally or socially distinctive variety of a language identified by particular set of words and grammatical structure. Dialect is a sub- system within a language while language is seen an aggregate of all the dialects within its specific areas Arnott (1970) classifies Fulfulde into six (6) main dialects, namely:
Fuuta Toro- Senegal
Fuuta Jalon- Guinea
Masina- Mali
Sokoto
Central Northern Nigeria and
Adamawa dialect.

Fulfulde Dialect in Nigeria

Daudu (2005), states that dialect spoken in Nigeria are therefore three Sokoto, Central Northern Nigeria, and Adamawa and they are geographically spread. While the Adamawa dialect is largely spoken by the settle Fulɓe of the present Adamawa and Taraba State, the Central Northern Nigeria variety is largely spoken by Nomadic Fulɓe who is spread widely across Northern Nigeria in the following State: Kano, Jigawa Katsina, Yobe Borno, Kaduna, and Bauchi

Adamawa Dialect

This study is based on Adamawa Fulfulde dialect therefore, Adamawa dialect is one of the six major dialect of Fulfulde identified by Arnott, (1970), the dialect is spoken in Adamawa and Taraba States in Nigeria, Cameroon, and Chad and beyond.

Model of Approach

The model of approach adopted for this study of morphological processes in Fulfulde are that of Mathews (1993) and Abubakar (2000). Mathew discusses morphological process, where he identifies their basic process: affixation, reduplication and modification. According to him, affixation could be prefixation, infixation, while reduplication and modification are divided into complete and partial respectively.
Abubakar (2000) agrees with Mathew (1993) on affixation and reduplication, but it differs on modification because he does not specify or categorize modification into complete and

partial, rather he discusses the word formation process as vowel change, neutralization, clipping, back formation.

Population of the Study
The methodology used for this research is a structured interview, where a list of ground word list was at the disposal of each interview for the extraction. Where the researcher selected N.C.E. three (3) students of Fulfulde department in Federal College of Education, Yola. They were thirty-five (35) in class, and only twenty selected for the data collection.

Morphological Process
There are a number of ways in which words are built or created or derived in Fulfulde, morphological process is one of it. Therefore, the three (3) type of morphological processes were observed in Fulfulde, namely affixation, reduplication, and modification.
Badejo (2014) describes the natural order of changes that take place in the formation of word, three major processes have been identified. These are affixation which subsumes any element "attached" to a subsisting frame (usually referred to as a stem): reduplication, which deals with "repeating": while modification involves any "alteration" made in relation to a word.

Affixation
Affixation is a process whereby a morph or a morpheme is added to a lexeme to derive a new word. In Fulfulde language we discovered that affixation is divided into three: namely prefixation, infixation, and suffixation as in Mathew (1993).

Prefixation
It is affixation process where a morph or morpheme is added to a lexeme at the beginning of word to derive another word. The following are the examples;
1. Da+ laynde = dalaynde 'Name of a person'
2. Ba + Wuro = Bawuro 'Name of person'
3. Baa+ Yero = Baayero 'Name of person'
4. Yaa + dikko = Yaadikko 'Mother in law'
5. Dow + Laabi = Dowlaabi 'Name of person'

Infixation
It is affixation process whereby a morph or a morpheme is added to a lexeme at the middle of a word in order to derive another word.
Examples:
1. Laɓake + Labtake
   'hear cut' 'converted to Islam'
2. Balwa + Balwina
   'Turn black' 'make it black'
3. Nama + Namta
   'Grand' 're-grand'
4. Nyamugo + Nyamtugo
   'Eat' 're-eat'
5. Yarugo + Yartugo
   'Drinking' 're-drinking'
6. Faamugo + Faamtugo
   'Understand' 'Understanding'

7. Dura + Durna
   'Rearing'   'rearing to'
8. Yara + Yarna
   'Drinking'   'Drinking to'

Suffixation:

It is affixation process whereby a morph or morpheme is added to a lexeme at the end of the word in order to derive another word. The following are examples:

1.   War + i = Wari
     'Come'   = 'Came'
2.   Hoot + u = Hootu
     'root or stem of go' + u = 'go back'
3.   Yar + tu = Yartu
     'root or stem of Drink + tu = 're-drink'
4.   Haar + i = Haari
     'root or stem of satisfy' + i = 'have satisfy'
5.   Nyaam + an = Nyaaman
     'eat'   an   = 'to eat'
     Dill + i = Dilli
     'root or stem of go' + i = 'gone'

Reduplication

Reduplication is a second type of morphological process. Mathew (1974) opines reduplication as a process whereby shade of meaning is produce by replication of the whole or part of the root. It is also divided into two (2) complete reduplication and partial reduplication.

Complete Reduplication

It is a case in which a segment as part of a lexeme is repeated completely. And examples in Fulfulde where words are formed through the following:

1. Law + Law = Law-law
   'Quick' + 'Quick' = 'Quickly'
2. Jotta + Jotta = Jotta-jotta.
   'Now' + 'Now' = 'Now now'
3. Naane + Naane = Naane-naane
   'Resent' + 'Resent' = 'Off rest'
4. Hoore + Hoore = Hoore-hoore
   'Head' + 'Head' = 'With head'
5. Saare + Saare = Saare-saare
   'House'   'House' = 'House to house'
6. Kennya + Kennya = Kennya-kennya
   'Yesterday' + 'Yesterday' = 'Just yesterday'

Partial Reduplication

It can be defined as a situation whereby only part of the root is repeated or reduplicated. Here in Fulfulde only part of a based or stem are repeated or reduplicated. The examples are as follows:

1. Nyaam + Nyaamtu = Nyaam-nyaamtu

    'Eat'   + 'Re-eat' = 'Re-eat'

2. Yaab   + Yaabtu   = Yaab-yaabtu
   'Step'   + 'Step on' = 'Re-step on'

3. Wal   + Waltu   = Wal-waltu
   'Sleep' + 'Re-sleep = 'to re-sleep'

4. Maar   + maarna   = Maar-maarna
   'Slap'   + 'Slapped' = 'Re-slapped'

Modification

According to Badejo (2014), there are two types of modification: total or complete and partial. Total modification is technically called complete or sharp of a root is modified. Partial modification, on the other hand, involves different type of alteration, in which the link between the pre- and post-operative form is perceptible. Mathew (1974). Present vowel change, total change, stress change, subtraction, clipping and neutralization as an instance of partial modification.

Complete or total Modification

It can be defined as a case in which a shape of a root is modified completely, the following are the examples:

1.   Mbeewa   Ramnde
        'Goat'   'He Goat'

2.   Mbaala   Mborta
        'Sheep'   'Young Adult Sheep'

3.   Mborta   Kaaba
        'Young Adult Sheep' 'Sheep on First Delivery'

4.   Suka   Surba
        'Young Boy'   'Young Girl'

5.   Nagge   Ngaari
        'Cow'   'Bull'

Partial Modification

It is a case in which a shape of a word is modified partially, not completely. On the other hand, involve different types of alteration, in which the link between the Pre and Post-operative forms is perceptible. Mathew (1974) presents vowel change, tonal change, as instances of partial modification.

Stress Change

This is a process whereby changes in stress of a word lead to change in meaning.

1.   Foondu   /Fo:'ndu/   'Bird'
        Foondu   /Fo:ndu/   'Measure'

2.   Fuufu   /'Fu:fu/   'Lung'
        Fuufu   / Fu:'fu/   'Blow'

Neutralization: Is also a Morphological process whereby the opposition between the morph/ morpheme is no longer apparent.

1. Hurgoowo   'Male Doctor'
 2. Hurgoowo   'Female Doctor'
3. Jannginoowo   'Male Teacher'

4. Jannginoowo   'Female Teacher'
5. Nyootoowo   'Male Tailor'
6. Nyootoowo   'Female Tailor'
7. Laanyoowo   'Male Driver'
8. Laanyoowo   'Female Driver'
9. Gambo   'Personal name Male
10 Gambo   'Personal name Female'
11. Ngaawoowo   'Fisherman Male'
12 Ngaawoowo   'Fisherman Female'

Clipping:

Daudu (20050 observes that clipping is one of the ways of creating new words through the abbreviation of a word to one of its parts (Allen in Abubakar 1994)/ it is equally define as a process that shorten a polysyllabic word by deleting one or more syllables. Abubakar (1994); give two variety of clipping exemplified by personal names and lexical items. Example of clipping in personal name including the following.

Full Form   **Clipping Form**   **Meaning**
1. Babayero   Bayero   'Personal Name'
2. Badikko   Badikko   'Personal Name'
3. Baajumɓa   Jumɓa   'Personal Name'
4. Yaapendo   Pendo   'Personal Name'
5. Yaadembo   Dembo   'Personal Name'

The derived forms are achieved the clipping of the syllables. There is also the clipping of phrases, which maintaining the first of the word and the last syllable of the word. Below are the examples:

   Full Form   **Clipping Form**   **Meaning**
1. Jawmuwuro   Jauro   'Chief''
2. Banndiraawo maako   Banndiiko   'His Relation'
3. Minyiraawo maako   Minyiiko   'His Young'
4. Gorko maako   Goriiko   'Her Husband'
5. Minyiraawo muuɗum   Minyum   'One's Younger'

Despite the clipping of the phrase, two essential components of a noun are maintained: the stem and the suffix as the head of the new form.

Back Formation

This is a process that creates a word by removing a real or supposed affix from another word in the language. Daudu (2000), cited examples of the derivation of resurrect from resurrection, enthuse from enthusiasm, donate from donation, peddle from peddler, edit from editor and swindle from swindler. What this means is that the mind forms are the origin of words in the language. Fulfulde has a similar phenomenon in which verbs are derived from nouns. The derivatives have no verbal extension for one assume that the original form is not noun. Let's us consider the following:

   Noun Form   **Derived Form**   **Meaning**
1. Luumo   Luumo-wo   'Market'
2. Njumri   Jum-ta   'Honey'
3. Reedu   Reed-a   'Belly'
4. Faɗo   Faɗ-oo   'Shoe'

The derived forms have both middle active voice tense voice/ voice markers. There meaning is to do the activity of noun read and jumta mean to grow a belly (pregnant) and to get honey respectively.

Onomatopoeia

New words are derived through onomatopoeia. Words created through this process reflect the sounds of the thing so named. Such words name animals and birds. Examples in Fulfulde are:

Sound Made	Derived Word	Meaning
1. Ceekure	Ceekureewal	'Bird'
2. Mbaa	Mbaalu	'Sheep'
3. Cokcok	Cokcowal	'Bird'
4. Mbee	Mbeewa	'Goat'

The sound made is the base of the derived word. The choice of the class of the word is directed by the concept that is to be reflected, the popular classes of bird 'Ngal' as in the aforementioned example. Animal like horse also take 'Ngu' class same as in the examples given. It is worth noting that each language describes sound differently.

Coinage

Daudu (2000) observes the coinage in Fulfulde, new word created through coinage. Otherwise called word manufacture, coinage is necessary in the event of new invention. With this process, it is possible to create new word from names. Word like Watt, Curie, Fehreheit, and boycott were derived from the word individuals (usually the inventors or discoverers) associated with the things to which they refer. Two recent examples in Fulfulde is the naira note bearing of name of Nigerians late Head of State and the Fifty Naira note.

Root Form	Derived Form
1. Murtala	Murtal-wol
2. Yobe	Yoobe-wol

The 'Wol' suffix stands for 'Ngol' class which has the concept of paper i.e a note.

Conclusion

In this research, it is observed that Fulfulde language is like other languages where morphological processes are possible, words are form through various processes like affixation, reduplication and modification. And it was discovered three type of affixation In Fulfulde namely: prefixation, infixation, and suffixation. Also reduplication in Fulfulde has been observed to be of two types complete and partial., while word modification in Fulfulde we have complete and partial, in partial modification we have only vowel change, stress change, neutralization, clipping, back formation, onomatopoeia and coinage.

Based on the research made that Fulfulde language does not have tonal and subtraction change respectively.

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