

Lesson 14

Possessives (of...). -r and -di

The possession of a particular noun (or relation to other) by a person is shown using the suffix -r, which is attached to the name of a person. -r functions in the same way as the English apostrophe s does.

Example 14.1.

Name	Name + r
Haile	Hailer = Haile's
Gaim	Gaim'r = Gaim's
Afyet	Afyetr = Afyet's

Let us see some short sentences using -r in names This is the general rule for all names that do not end in r. For names that end in -r, we use -di instead of -r. But possession (of) can also be described in other ways, as in dan saburduKw, sabursi nidan, both meaning "the brother of Sabur". We shall see some of these in subsequent Lessons.

Hailer shani	Haile's sister
Hailer dan	Haile's brother
Gaimr gena	Gaim's mother
Gaimr menkineti	Gaim's car
Afyetr rang	Afyet's husband
Gebrer ktub	Gebre's book

Example 14.2

Amer	Amirdi	= Amir's
Sabur	Saburdi	= Sabur's (read s as in English)
Dar	Dardi	= Dar's
Amir	Amirdi ling'n	= Amir's house
sabur	saburdi menkineti	= Sabur's car
Dar	Dardi wes	= Dar's cattle