

# **Sociolinguistic Survey Report on the Ometo Dialect of Ethiopia, Part II**

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SIL International  
2001



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## 1. Introduction

The following is a report on the second round of field work conducted in the administrative region of GamoGofa.\* The cluster of Ometo languages which were treated in this second phase of the survey include *Wolayta, Gofa, Dorze, Oyda, Mesketo, Melo, and Galila*.

### 1.1 Aims of the Second Phase of the Survey

The aims of this survey were the following:

- (a) To select the areas representative for the speech forms called Melo, Oyda, Mesketo, and Galila.
- (b) To collect the basic word lists of Melo, Oyda, Mesketo, and Galila. (Originally it had been planned to include the Bato language as well; but it turned out to be impossible to get to this language area during the rains.)
- (c) To collect morphological and syntactic data of those dialects from which word lists had been collected in the first phase of the survey, particularly: Wolayta, Gofa, and Dorze dialects. (The other Ometo dialects will be treated in the third phase of the survey, mainly because emphasis is given to languages which are not yet known very well. Melo, Mesketo, Oyda, and Galila are the languages which are given priority during this survey.)
- (d) To gather detailed linguistic data about Mesketo and Melo, languages which are not included in the Ometo group of languages.

## 2. Informants, Research Assistants, and Acknowledgments

I would like to thank Mr. Tim Girard for his help during the time we were doing field work. I would also like to thank the following people for their help as informants and research assistants.

### 2.1 Research Assistants

1. Ato Shela Kebede - Mesketo
2. Ato Wodajo Abusha - Oyda

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\*An earlier version of this report appeared as "Ometo Dialect Survey: Second Phase Survey Report", Survey of Little-known Languages of Ethiopia (S.L.L.E.), Linguistic Report 6, April 1993. Addis Ababa: Institute of Ethiopian Studies and Summer Institute of Linguistics.

3. Ato Fetene Zuma - Oyda
4. Ato Amisho Sone - Galila

## **2.2 Informants**

### **2.1.1 Mesketo**

1. Daniel Dejenie
2. Derbe Milze
3. Tigo Bure

### **2.2.2 Oyda**

1. Terfe Nofse
2. Dawit Nelere

### **2.2.3 Melo**

1. Tefera Tsegaye
2. Guluma Kasa

### **2.2.4 Galila**

1. Sisay Tola
2. Zewedie Solomon

## **3. The Field Trip**

March 27, 1993, at 9 a.m. we left Addis. This was the first survey trip with a 4WD car, which allowed us to test the car on the field. At 8 a.m. we arrived at Sawla and stayed there for the night.

March 28, 10 a.m., i.e., the next morning, we started a journey to Mesketo. Unfortunately we were not able to reach Mesketo. Because of the rains, all the paths had turned to mud, and the car was not able to go beyond Irgino (a small village 10 km. from Mesketo). This was disappointing but not surprising on a survey of this kind. Since it was already past sunset, we had no choice but to spend the night near the forests of Irgino. We were very fortunate to meet a certain Ato Elto Melliso, a farmer of Irgino, who provided us with drinking water.

March 29, a.m., i.e., the next morning, we tried again to get closer to Mesketo, but without non-skid chains, this proved to be impossible. We decided to wait until the paths dried up, and during this time I interviewed three Mesketo informants about their language. After three hours, we tried again to drive on the muddy path. This was the third attempt—and it failed again. Since it was impossible to go on this way, we turned to Sawla. After a four hour ride we arrived at Bulki, and we decided to pass the night there.

The same evening at Bulki, I had a chance to meet Oyda and Galila informants and interviewed them for six hours.

March 30 a.m. I found Melo speakers and interviewed them about their language.

March 31 a.m. we returned to Sawla to gather data about the Gofa, Gamo, and Dorze dialects. I had no problems in finding informants of these dialects, and I elicited Gofa, Gamo, and Dorze data the same day. Then we went on to Bodíti, where we tried to find Dawro and Wolayta informants.

April 1, early in the morning, my research assistant, Ato Samuel Meja, introduced me to Dawro and Wolayta informants, and I started to work with them. I completed the interviews at 10:30 a.m., and we started to drive back to Addis, where we arrived at 8:30 p.m. the same evening.

On this survey, priority was given to the least-known languages of the Ometo cluster, as we have mentioned earlier. Melo, Galila, and Oyda certainly are languages about which very little is known; and it is only recently that Mesketo has received attention by linguists.

#### 4. Word Lists

The word lists of these four languages follow.

No	Gloss	Mesketo	Oyda	Melo	Galila
1	hair	k'omma	binana	binnanna	womc'a
2	head	piz'a	?omma	k'ommo	mata
3	forehead	de:ma	sino	si:no	bala
4	ear	waytsi	haye	haye	kami
5	hear	siskine	si?ene	si?eza	?eserse
6	mouth	no:na	do:na	do:na	apa
7	blow	puggire	puggene	puggeza	pugize
8	whistle	puggire	suk'intene	suk'inteza	fuk'unse

No	Gloss	Mesketo	Oyda	Melo	Galila
9	sing	ʔes's'ire	yes's'ene	doŋgeza	yigize
10	dance	keddire	guppene	darbe	gobze
11	drum	kabaro	kambure	yes's'eza	nagarit
12	lip	no:na	meterʃo	do:na (?)	apa
13	tooth	ac'c'e	ac'c'i	ac'c'e	ac'i
14	tongue	ʔirs'insi	ʔilans	ʔirints	adim
15	saliva	watsi	çuc'c'	çuc'c'	pec'im
16	sweat	c'awa	çawa	çawa	erma
17	chin	sintsi	dokko	hafe	kec'a
18	beard	buc'c'a	buc'c'i	s'im	buc'c'i
19	nose	kemma	si:d'e	si:d'e	nuki
20	smell	sid'd'ire	siŋgene	saweza	wumʃe
21	eyebrow		sipins	bugure	yirma
22	eye	ʔa:pe	ʔape	ʔape	api
23	see	bek'k'ire	beʔene	beʔeza	seje
24	weep	yekpire	yekkene	yekkeza	epse
25	tear	aptsi	apits	aputs	erma
26	neck	si:lla	apira	k'od'e	bari
27	shoulder	ka:lʔa	hasfe	hafe	geti
28	breast	ʔamma	amma	d'ants	ami
29	belly	mill	saza	ʔulo	norti
30	navel	ganna	gulʔa	gura	gura
31	guts				
32	back		hafe	zok:o	badza
33	buttocks	sapila	s'aʔe	s'unne	tuti
34	knee	buk'e	bunk'e	bunk'e	buk'a
35	elbow		kirne		buk'a
36	foot	tohoje	toje	toho	duti
37	sandals	çamma	çamma	çamma	çamma
38	thigh	bef:	magits	wodro	geʃi
39	hand	kuf:	kufe	kufe	ani
40	forearm			k'ils'ime	gulbat
41					
42	finger nail	s'uŋguts	s'uŋgats	s'uŋgusa	gilʔa
43	skin	gamma	galba	çala	gupta
44	bone	mek'ets	mek'ets	mek'etsa	lepi
45	hear	bu:da	wuzna	wozana	buda
46	blood	su:ts	suts	sutsa	mak'as
47	live	mayz	tire	tire	turi

No	Gloss	Mesketo	Oyda	Melo	Galila
48	bush				
49	thorn	aŋguts	aŋgats	aŋgutsa	gali
50	tree	mi:ts	mens'a	mitsa	barzap
51	axe	kalta	gande	be:s'e	puda
52	tree bark	waytsi	?aye	s'era	k'ami
53	roof	s'a:p'a	s'ap'o	s'ap'o	çaçi
54	leaf	ji:ta	mins'aye	haytsa	k'ami
55	rope	ga:di	ga:de	wodoro	zani
56	basket	jita	zambile	hotse	?alli
57					
58	seed	kabbi	pudits	zeretsa	masa ?ihil
59	harvest				
60	machete				
61	hoe	fork'a	gofa	kunte	gofa
62	dig	bokkire	bokkene	bokkis	koyse
63	plan	tokkire	tukkene	tokkis	korse
64					
65	maize	kabbi	badla	badala	kabba
66	tobacco	ta:mpa	tambe	tambe	dampa
67	grass	ma:ta	ma:ta	ma:ta	di:ra
68	weed	ma:ta	wo:de	harme	man?a
69	flower	bu:na	pudits	ababa	bona
70	fruit	?a:p	?ape	?ape	api
71	ripe	ka?inne	kas's'ene	ka?eza	?uŋŋe
72	rotten	wak'k'ide	wok'k'ene	wok'k'eza	s'apse
73	meat	?ayf	afo	afo	waha
74	cut	k'as's'ire	gac'c'ene	gac'c'eza	tec'c'e
75	steal	wuk'k'ide	kaystene	kayseza	dibze
76	give	?immine	?iŋgene	yiŋgeza	?umse
77	fat	?indirse	?orde	?orde	pic'im
78	egg	muk'k'e	p'up'ule	p'up'liya	muk'a
79	hide	?ac'c'ide	?ac'c'ene	k'oseza	?ac'c'e
80	hungry	kafittide	nayd'ene	naynteza	dak'arse
81	cook	ka?iside	kas'izene	katseza	?uŋŋe
82	eat	moyne	mu?ida (?)	me:za	?ic'c'e
83	drink	?uŋkide	?uz'ene	?uz'eza	was's'e
84	cup	burçuk'k'o	kubbaye	kubaya	fork'a
85	gourd		bote	baça	?uha
86	laugh	miççide	miççene	miççeza	?ins'e

No	Gloss	Mesketo	Oyda	Melo	Galila
87	vomit	çofkide	çoffene	çoz'eza	çayse
88	cough	k'ufide	k'upene	k'upeza	posise
89	spit	çuttide	çuttene	çutteza	peçimse
90	sneeze		had'iz'ene	hed'i'feza	posise
91	sick	mal?ide	hargintene	harginteza	sek'erse
92	fall	keddide	gol?ene	pokkeza	wac'c'e
93	die	?ayk'k'ide	hayk'ene	?ayk'k'eza	de?ise
94	grave	do:c'c'i	boza	dufo	du:ki
95	fool	da:ʃ	?erosi?as	bozo	çili ?ede
96	one	petten	petto	ketto	walHa
97	two	nam?e	nam?i	nam?i	k'astan
98	three	hayzze	hayzi	hayzzi	makkan
99	four	?oyddi	?oydi	?oyddi	?oydi
100	five	?iffin	ic'c'i	?ic'c'in	donk'
101	six	lehi	izupun	?usuppun	la:
102	seven	tabza	lapun	lappun	tabza
103	eight	lamakay	?ospun	hospun	lamakay
104	nine	sakale	?udupun	?uddupun	ʃakla
105	ten	tap'p'a	tap'u	tap'p'o	tamma
106	twenty	lamtamm	namitamma	latam	bonda
107	hundred	mato	s'eti	s'eti	doŋk'bagondi
108	man	asi	d'irats	d'iratsi	agna
109	think	ti:ride	k'oppene	k'opa	?esse
110	woman	maçç	mac'c'o	mac'c'o	ma:na
111	marry	gelside	mac'c'okene	?ek'k'eza	?inc'e
112	wedding	diggise	sarge	sarge	diggis
113	bear				
114	wife	maçç	mac'c'o	mac'c'o	ma:na
115	father	ba:be	?ade	?abo	babanna
116	say	geyide	ka?ene	geza	gayse
117	mother	?indo	?aye	?ayo	?indenna
118	ask	?oyç:ide	?oyçene	?oyçeza	?oyse
119	child	na?i	lap'ana	na?a dude	mahti
120	brother	?ifi	?ife	?ufe	isimanna
121	walk	yeddide	yed'd'ene	yed'eza	mukse
122	run	wos's'ide	wos's'ene	wos'eza	zøjje
123	rest	fempide	fempene	fempeza	?awsse
124	sister	mi:fo	mifo	mifo	mic'nenna
125	teach	tamarside	tamarsene	tamarseza	tamarse

No	Gloss	Mesketo	Oyda	Melo	Galila
126	chief		asad'e	ʃu:ma	
127	god	θossi	s'ozi	s'osse	sa:bi
128	name	su:ntsi	suns	su:ns	la:mi
129	animal	matebaz	ʃossi	doʔa	wulli
130	fur	ʔisins	isinse	galla	siçi
131	hunter	koyire	kemziyas	wolizes	mangadibabi
132	hunt	çaddire	kemene	bayʔeza	deyse
133	pig	gudinse	gud'uns	gudunso	
134	tail	golisse	ʔonko	goynu	goli
135	bat		kamma landa	kamma kapo	paḥt paḥt
136	louse	çuc'c'e	c'uc'c'i	çuc'c'e	k'asa
137	ant	k'a:çe	zindo	zimando	anka
138	worm	gos'inse	gus'une	gus'iniya	miçila
139	fly	wus's'ile	gus'us'u	gudunse	ʃumla
140	spider	ʃararit	anko	ʃaḅgo	ʃaḅga
141	termite	ʔolatse	ʔolats	ʔollatsa	kuʃa
142a	termite	du:nna	ʔolats	du:nne	kuʃat
142b	hill		kets		ʔehe
143	honeybee	mats	mats	mats	ʔaḅçi
144	beehive	s'apa	wos'	hotse	bezi
145	honey	ʔess	ʃida	ʔess	kuri
146	goat	de:ʃi	de:ʃ	de:ʃ	derti
147	horn	ʔuʃinc'i	kaçe	kaçe	bale
148	cow	mi:ze	ha:r	har	waki
149	donkey	ye:re	hare	hare	ʔukuli
150	hit	bukkide	guddene	ʔad'eza	gupse
151	chicken	ku:ta	makuliya	ʃugula	bac'a
152	bird	kafi	landa	kapo	ʔapitan
153	claw		maçaynne		gupta
154	wing	ka:pa	k'epe	k'epe	ka:pi
155	feather	golissi	balle	ke'pe	siçi
156	fly	gus'ila		guduns'iya	ʃumla
157	nest	ketsi	ketsi	kets	ʔeha
158	snake	ʃoffi	ʃoʃ	ʃoʃ	guni
159	rat	ʔis's'i	ʔec'ere	ʔeçere	ʔuntin
160	kill	wodide	wod'ene	wod'eza	deysse
161	scorpion		ʔaḅgerc'o	ginθe	
162	fish	mola	molo	molo	mola
163	fishnet	manθak'o	gite	wompite	za:ni

No	Gloss	Mesketo	Oyda	Melo	Galila
164	swim	gutide	?ad'ene	had'eza	lekse
165	frog	kobarse	?od'd'e	?ok'ane	paŋk'a
166	thread	kir	kire	kirre	kir
167	sew	sikkide	sikkene	sikkeza	zagze
168	tie	k'ac'c'ide	?eççene	?aççeza	zokse
169	crocodile		yerunsa	?azzo	guni
170	fear	?iççide	jaŋmo	yaŋŋa	p'asi
171	buffalo				
172	monkey	gaya	galc'i	geleŋo	gay:i
173	leopard	ma:hi	worba	ma:le	noθan
174	cat	bo:wa	gaware	gaware	bawwa
175	hyena	godarsi	goc'c'e tolko	godare	wulli
176	dog	kana	kana	kana	aksi
177	hear	siskide	si?ene	si?eza	?eserse
178	bark/tree (N)			s'era	
179	bark (V)	wuyside	wokkene	waseza	pipse
180	come	yeyide	ye?ene	ye?eza	?ade
181	bite	θak'ade	da?ene	d'ek'eza	ga?se
182	banana	muz	mu:ze	mu:ze	muz
183	want	koyinttide	koyyene	koyeza	zigze
184	count	payidide	paygene	paydeza	payje
185	take	?ekkide	?ekkene	?ekkeza	teyye
186	hold	tokkide	tokkene	tokkeza	balse
187	path	goytsi	?oge	?oge	gogi
188	house	ketsi	kara	ketsa	?eha
189	door	kara	purts	bale	pulta
190	sweep	pittide	kis's'ene	pitteza	?aççe
191	enter	gelide	gelene	geleza	?ardede
192	exit	keskide	kezene	kezeza	wutede
193	stool	kulma	?oyde		gongga
194	make	?osside	?antene	?otseza	pikse
195	sit	do?ide	bettene	betteza	doŋse
196	stand	?ek'k'ide	dendene	diŋgeza	?amse
197	salt	mas'ina	soge	mas'ine	sohe
198	pot	?ot	?ota	?oto	daha
199	fire	tama	tama	tama	nuha
200	burn	miççide	?es's'ene	s'uŋinteza	?atarse
201	hot	ho??ire	wo?ene	ho?eza	gola
202	cold	zakkire	toya	mego	gand

No	Gloss	Mesketo	Oyda	Melo	Galila
203	firewood	mitsi	?etsize	mits	?ak'a
204	smoke	çuze	c'uğa	çuya	çuba
205	ashes	buda	pudo	pudo	bindi
206	stick	mitsi	mens'a	harçumme	gupa
207	stone	ʃuc'c'	ʃuc'c'	ʃuc'c'a	seni
208	smooth	li:k'i	mints paza		laḥmiye
209	earth	saz	bi:tta	bi:tta	piça
210	mud	takula	lok'k'a	?urk'a	toḥla
211	clay				daha
212	sand	ʃama	ʃape	k'açe	?arça
213	dust	bul?a	silale	?awwara	?u:li
214	gold	work'e	work'a	work'e	worḥ
215	silver	bir	bira	bira	bira
216	money	bire	bira	mi:ʃe	bira
217	buy	hengide	wongene	wongeza	sense
218	sell	wonjide	bayzene	bayzeza	sentitaye
219	market	gabi	gabe	gabe	gaba
220	mountain	?inda	gere	amba	deni
221	wind	?aygits	mak'o	çarko	zoga
222	cloud	ʃara	d'onne	ʃara	?u:pa
223	rain	?ire	?i:ra	?ira	dobi
224	rainbow	zu:le	zulla	zu:lla	zulla
225	lightning	dada (?)	dada	dada	gugin
226	thunder	dada (?)	elinse	dada	gupse
227	dew	çalka	dayro	s'e:za	?olka
228	river	watsi	gogze hats	hatse	loḥa
229	canoe				
230	bridge	dildi	dildile	dildile	?ac'a
231	water	watsi	hatsi	hatse	loḥa
232	well		?olla	?olla	golit
233					
234	hot (water)	hop'e	ho?o bessi	ho??o	?oyθma
235	lake		?elle zatsi	delle	
236	sky	?apisazi	afa	salo	çila
237	night	kamma	?ugure	?omars	soyti
238	moon	agana	agina	agena	?arpan
239	star	kokob	s'olinse	s'odinto	bez
240	sun	?awa	?awa	?awa	?a:y
241	white	borse	botsi	bots	çamiʃa

No	Gloss	Mesketo	Oyda	Melo	Galila
242	black	kartse	kartsi	karts	çalmi
243	red	zok'otse	zuk'o	zok'o	zemi
244	green	çalla	çililo	z'olole	
245	yellow				
246	brown	worde			
247	knife	maffi	maffa	maffa	massa
248	sharp	açinc'i	?oçeze	?oço	k'ar
249	dull	malk'ine	gac'c'oze	guc'uwaza	tac'ayinda
250	bow				
251	arrow				
252	spear	to:re	tora	to:ra	kac'im
253	throw	z'uğuttide	dogene	d'ogeza	?ak'se
254	shield	gitime	gondoliya	gondalle	gitma
255	war	?ola	?ola	?ola	da:mi
256	fight	?olintide	?olintene	?olinteza	da:mse
257	bad	?i:te	?i:ta	?i:ta	da:li
258	good	kojfe	lo?o	lo??o	?urma
259	wide	fak:e	dalge	dalge	sakma
260	narrow	kun?e	fik'ezi bas	s'ik'a	tokmi
261	straight	likke	lu:le	lulo	wobkayenda
262	crooked	waytse	wo:bo	wobbo	wobi
263	long	barintse	p'argo	adusse	k'almi
264	short	kabintse	ha:ta	k'ants	c'edi
265	big	?ec'c'e	damma	wogga	baka
266	small	gi:lle	d'erats	lapa	tokmi
267	thick	?enderse	?orde	?orde	pic'c'im
268	thin	fawke	le?o	le?o	sazi
269	heavy	?ec'c'e	damma	?orde	baka
270	light	gilla	d'erats	s'ik'k'a	tokmi
271	old	çingafa	orats	çima	gefa
272	new	addis	gal?a	?orots	killa
273	all	woytsi	?obints	?ubba	muda
274	none	abakare	?akoka baya	petti bazino	rir kaya
275	left	hadirsi	?adirs	had:irs	bita
276	right	?u'fac'i	?u'fac'c'	?u'fac'c'	mizi
277	yes	?a:	ye?e	?e:	ye
278	no	baye	baye	hanekka	kaye
279	hard	?ic'c'	mints	mino baz	korc'i
280	soft	gi:lle	lik'o	lik'o baz	lahmiye

No	Gloss	Mesketo	Oyda	Melo	Galila
281	many	wolints	game	daró	bediye
282	few	gi:lle	d'erats	s'ik'	tokmiye
283	up	apa	afa	salo	çaçi
284	down	sa:da	sule	sa?a	sogoyad
285	this	?ada	?anafe	ha:ya	kona
286	that	yitada	send'anaf	seka	?okona
287	who	?ono	?oni	?ono	?ayra
288	whose	?oya	?ode bazi	?aba ?aso	?aytere
289	what	abza	?oko bazi	?e abba	konaytere
290	when	anta	?ayde	?ayde	?anta
291	yesterday	zinabo	?omats	zik'ine	na:ke
292	where	?oydi	?ana bisse	?anne	?abire
293	here	?inde uke	hanne	hanne	kor
294	how	?oytara	wayzi	?a:punu	mem
295	why	abzabo	?okkose	?abiso	?ara kanta
296	clothing	?apila	?apila	?apila	apa
297	wet	za:ke	mela	?irs'a	çapi apla
298	dry	meline	toy	mela	woc' apla
299	dirty	?i:te	?i:te	zik'ize bazi	dak'ula
300	garbage				
301	pour	duk'k'ide	fak'ene	per?eza	k'olise
302	empty	pore	ba:ya	ba:	kayye
303	full	kumse	kunts	kunts	çoçiye
304	bathe	meçintide	meççene	meççeza	si?erse
305	lie	surk'ide	wo?ene	way?eza	gi?ise
306	yawn	surk'ide	?aŋkitene	wod'd'eza	ratse
307	sleep	surk'ide	wo?ene	woy?eza	yes'ise
308	I	tani	tani	tani	?ita
309	you (m)	nena	neni	neni	yena
310	he	iya	ezi	ayo neni	nu
311	we	nuna	nuni	nu?ubbay	wota
312	you (pl)	?inte	?inti	hay mulay	keta
313	they	?inte	?unti	hay hizbay	keta
314	push	sugude	?urk'ene	sugeza	aŋk'se
315	pull	goc'c'ide	dafene	goc'c'eza	basse
316	jump	doŋgide	guppene	doŋgeza	gobze
317	road	goytsi	?oge	?oge	gogi
318	fence	as'irine	gase	?as'ire	gasi
319	gate	geline	gelse porsí	geliza ?oge	

No	Gloss	Mesketo	Oyda	Melo	Galila
320	scratch				
321	and	-ki	-ra	-re	-keke
322	at	-bara	-re	-re	-zen