

Editorial of JWAL Volume 45. Issue2

The Editorial Board of the Journal of West African Languages (JWAL) is pleased to present volume 45, Issue 2. This volume comprises four papers from five linguists, covering areas that include phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, lexical semantics, and dialectology.

Kwasi Adomako of the University of Education, Winneba, Ghana in the lead article titled *Velar Palatalization in Akan: A Reconsideration*, takes a new look at palatalization in the language, with particular reference to velar palatalization. The author adduces evidence in various domains such as reduplication and loanword phonological environments to show that palatalization is not as pervasive in the language as has been previously thought.

The second paper is on Bamileke Medumba, a Grassfields language of Cameroon. Titled *Polar Questions in Bamileke Medumba*, Hermann Keupdjio and Martina Wiltschko of the University of British Columbia explore the form and function of polar or yes/no questions in the language, establishing, among others, various strategies for asking polar questions in the language.

The third paper is authored by Mahamane Abdoulaye of the Abdou Moumouni University in Niamey, Niger under the title, *Static Location and Motion Marking in Hausa and Zarma*. The author discusses location and motion marking in the Chadic language, Hausa and in the Songhay language, Zarma within the framework of the typology of locative marking as proposed in the literature.

Titled *Spatial Deixis in the Ibeme Dialect of Igbo*, the fourth paper, authored by Chimaobi Onwukwe of Abia State University, Uturu, Nigeria is a study on the forms of spatial deixis. The author discusses some differences in deixis marking between standard Igbo and the dialect under study.

I wish to thank the reviewers of these four articles as well as those of articles that did not make it into this volume. I also wish to thank our authors, readers, and the general West African linguistic community for their enthusiastic interest in JWAL. We continue to attract a keen readership and very healthy submission rates. Finally, I thank the editorial board members, especially our able Assistant Editors, Dr Hasiyatu Abubakari and Ms Izabela Jordanoska - along with Mr Kevin Lechner, an MA student at the University of Vienna, and Ms Victoria Owusu Ansah, a PhD student of the Univeristy of Ghana on Erasmus Exchange Programme at the Univeristy of Vienna - for layout and formatting of the four papers into one volume – Volume 45, issue 2.

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Adams Bodo

Editor, JWAL