

# Eastern Kalahari Khoe: Shua

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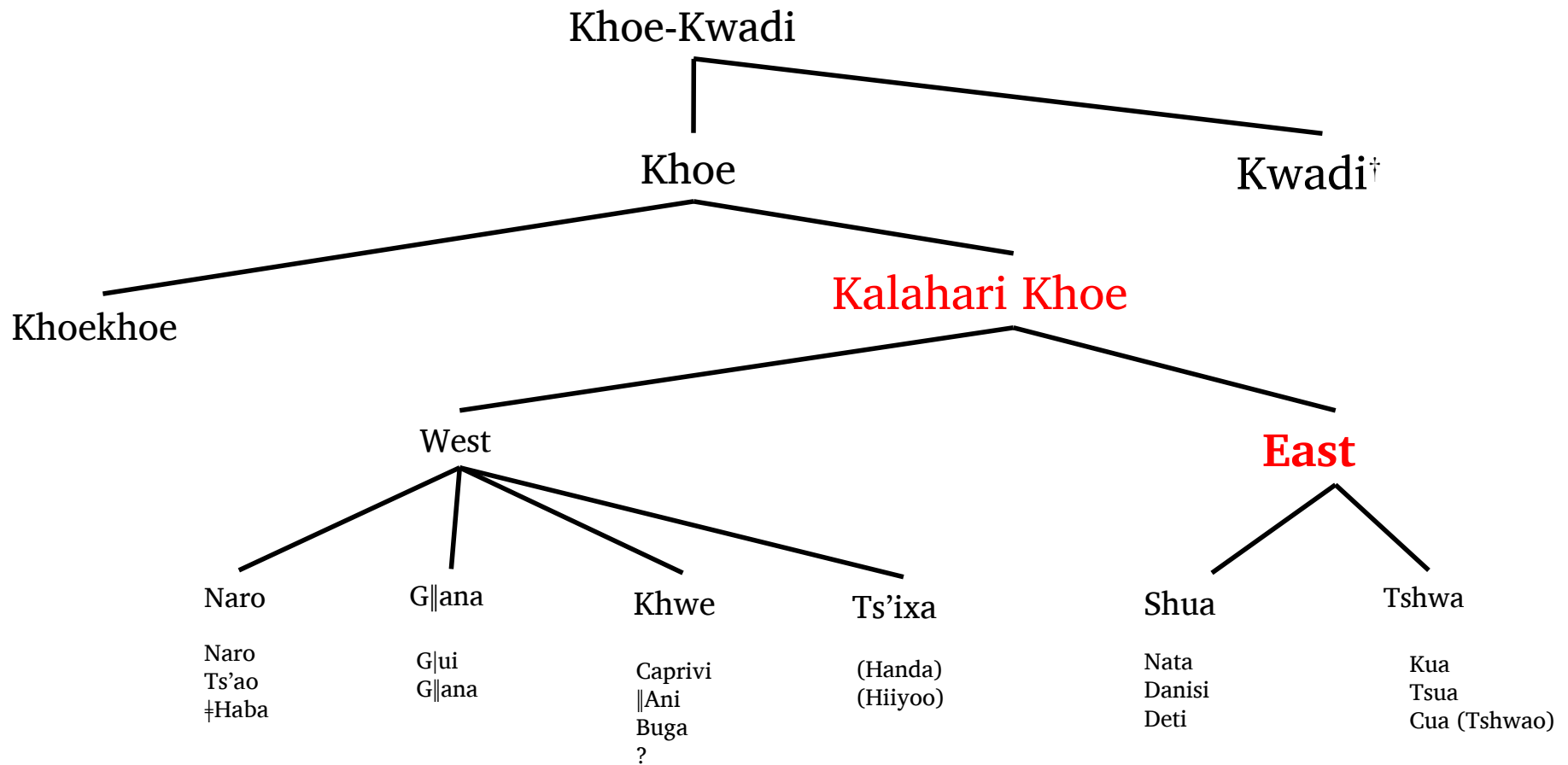
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# Eastern Kalahari Khoe





cf. Vossen (1997), Güldemann & Vossen (2000), Güldemann (2014)

# Shua

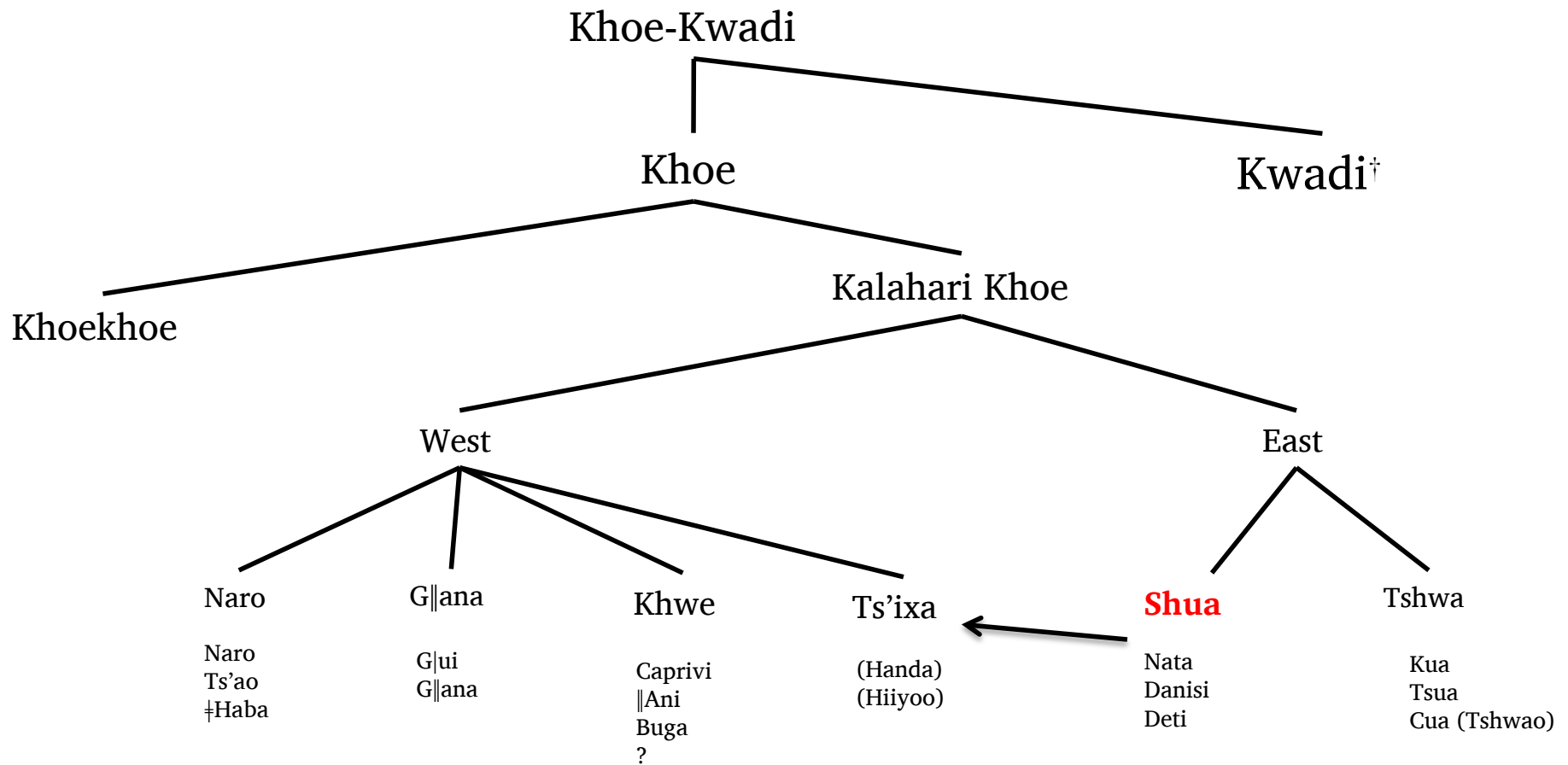
- formerly in eastern Chobe National Park as well as Makgadikgadi and Nxai Pan National Park in northeast and east-central Botswana, along the Botletle and Nata Rivers
- present-day distribution: Gweta, Nata, Pandamatenga, Rakops, individual families on cattle posts as far west as Maun
- “Kuakhoe” as frequent term of self-reference (!!!note that one dialect of Tshwa is often referred to as “Kua”!!!)
- longstanding history of contact with cattle-herding Kalanga speakers
- seriously endangered, no young speakers

# Dialects and Documentation

- dialect situation unclear, author's own fieldwork suggests differentiation between a western (Danisi) and an eastern variety (Nata Shua); a third variety, Deti, is substantially different from the other two, but is commonly treated as part of the cluster; further varieties identified by Köhler, Westphal and Vossen are either extinct or denote ethnic subgroupings, rather than linguistic entities
- mostly undocumented, some material in Vossen (1997, 2013) and Westphal's (n.d.) field notes; Danisi and Deti materials in field notes of Fehn (2011-2013) and McGregor & Fehn (2013);
- ongoing work of William B. McGregor on Nata Shua (see, e.g., McGregor 2014a-b); ethnographical work by Cashdan (1986a-b)

# Classification History

- Köhler (1962, 1963, 1971) identifies a dialect cluster Shua, consisting of eleven dialects (1971: *Shuakhoe*, //?Aye, *Danisa*, *Tshumakhoe*, //Koreekhoe, /Xaise, *Tçaiti*, *Hura*, *Deti*, *Ts'ixakhoe*, *Borekhoe*)
- Westphal (1971) calls the same cluster Tshu-Khwe northern-central and lists 10 dialects (*G//oro*, *N//oo*, *fua*, //?aiye, *Danisi(-n)*, *Tshuma*, //oree, /haise, *Tfidi*, *Mahura*); he treats *Deti* as independent linguistic variety and groups *Ts'ixa* (referred to as *Handa*) with the Khwe cluster
- Vossen (1997) establishes a dialect cluster Shua within Kalahari Khoe East and lists *Cara*, *Danisi*, /Xaise, *Deti* and *Ts'ixa* as individual dialects
- reconsideration of status of *Ts'ixa* (Fehn 2014)



cf. Vossen (1997), Güldemann & Vossen (2000), Güldemann (2014)

# Some Features

- alveolar and palatal clicks dropped or replaced by non-click consonants (i.e., less click sounds than most other Kalahari Khoe languages)
- suffixes mark nominal gender on personal names, and sporadically on [+animate] nouns to distinguish biological sex. Nominal gender marking is neither obligatory (like in Naro or Khoekhoe), nor does it serve the function of specific articles (like in Khwe and Ts'ixa)
- Deti, like the ||Ani dialect of Khwe, indexes a subset of its direct objects on the verb
- Although some word order variation is possible (W.B. McGregor, p.c.), Shua adheres rather strictly to a SOV word order pattern



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