

# A Grammar of Hinuq

# Mouton Grammar Library

## 63

Editors

Georg Bossong

Bernard Comrie

Matthew Dryer

De Gruyter Mouton

# A Grammar of Hinuq

by

Diana Forker

De Gruyter Mouton

ISBN 978-3-11-030376-6  
e-ISBN 978-3-11-030397-1  
ISSN 0933-7636

*Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data*

A CIP catalog record for this book has been applied for at the Library of Congress.

*Bibliographic information published by the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek*

The Deutsche Nationalbibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie; detailed bibliographic data are available in the Internet at <http://dnb.dnb.de>.

© 2013 Walter de Gruyter GmbH, Berlin/Boston  
Printing: Hubert & Co. GmbH & Co. KG, Göttingen  
© Printed on acid-free paper  
Printed in Germany  
[www.degruyter.com](http://www.degruyter.com)

## Acknowledgements

My work in Daghestan and my life there, as well as the writing of this grammar involved the help of many people and institutions.

First of all, I want to thank my supervisor Bernard Comrie. I am happy that after having supervised my Masters thesis, he provided me with the possibility of continuing my research on Daghestanian languages by proposing that I write a grammar of Hinuq. He generously shared his linguistic knowledge and his profound insight into Daghestanian languages. Over the years, he has become a model for me of how a linguist and teacher should be.

My deepest gratitude goes to the Hinuq people, friends, hosts, and consultants. I especially want to thank Nabi Isaev, without whom it would have been impossible to write this grammar. He is the best informant a linguist could ever have, capable of telling interesting stories, imaginative in inventing sentences and examples, and patiently answering all my questions. I would also like to thank Džavgarat Isaeva for her warm friendship and help during my first trips to Hinuq. I am grateful to Magomed Gussejnov and his family as well as Šaxban Gussejnov and his family, who generously opened their doors to me, making the trips to Monastirski always very beautiful, and helped me as patient consultants. Beži barkalla to you all!

Arsen Abdulaev and his family was a great help in organizing my field trips and providing me with a home in Shamkhal. My friend Diana Šabanova, who first invited me to Daghestan and showed me her beautiful country, supported me during all the years. Rasul Mutalov and his family provided me with assistance and friendship during my last field trips.

I want to thank my colleagues and friends who helped me with the analyses, proofread the thesis, and made countless useful comments and suggestions, in particular Juliette Blevins, Thomas Goldammer, Sven Grawunder, my sister Melanie Forker, Harris Hadjidas, Iren Hartmann, Martin Haspelmath, Zaira Khalilova, Christfried Naumann, Johanna Nichols, Sebastian Nordhoff, Christian Räsack, Brent Reed, Olav Mueller-Reichau, Linus Schlüter, Matthias Urban, Rebecca Voll, and Alena Witzlack-Makarevich. I am also very grateful to Hagen Jung and Claudia Wegener for helping me in my struggle with formatting.

I further profited from discussions concerning individual issues of this research with Balthasar Bickel, Michael Cysouw, Denis Creissels, Misha Daniel, Stefan Keine, Zarina Molochieva, and John Peterson.

This grammar is based on research funded by the Department of Linguistics of the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig. I thank

all my colleagues at the institute for their scientific and technical support and help in organizing field trips, and for discussions and comments. The MPI EVA is probably the best place in the world to carry out a research like this one.

From the very beginning Tristan, Joshua, and Jonathan have been behind my project. I thank them for the joy they have brought to my life.

# Contents

Acknowledgements	v
List of figures	xxvi
List of tables	xxvii
Abbreviations	xxx
<b>1 Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 The Hinuq people . . . . .	1
1.1.1 Hinuq speakers and their village . . . . .	1
1.1.2 The social and ethnological background . . . . .	3
1.1.3 Some notes on the history . . . . .	5
1.2 The Hinuq language . . . . .	7
1.2.1 The status of the Hinuq language . . . . .	7
1.2.2 Genealogical affiliation . . . . .	9
1.2.3 Typological overview of Hinuq . . . . .	10
1.2.4 Language contact . . . . .	12
1.2.5 Influence from Tsez . . . . .	16
1.3 Describing and analyzing Hinuq . . . . .	17
1.3.1 Earlier literature . . . . .	17
1.3.2 This grammar . . . . .	18
1.3.3 Fieldwork . . . . .	19
1.3.4 The corpus . . . . .	21
<b>2 Phonology</b>	<b>23</b>
2.1 Vowels . . . . .	23
2.1.1 Realization . . . . .	23
2.1.2 Diphthongs . . . . .	24
2.1.3 Long vowels . . . . .	25
2.1.4 Pharyngealization . . . . .	26
2.2 Consonants . . . . .	27
2.2.1 Realization . . . . .	27
2.2.2 Distribution of consonants . . . . .	31
2.2.3 Labialization . . . . .	32
2.3 Phonotactics . . . . .	34
2.3.1 Syllable structure and word structure . . . . .	34
2.3.2 Geminates . . . . .	35
2.3.3 Consonant clusters . . . . .	37

2.4	Morphophonology . . . . .	38
2.4.1	Syllable repair mechanisms . . . . .	38
2.4.1.1	Epenthetic vowels . . . . .	38
2.4.1.2	o/zero Alternation . . . . .	40
2.4.1.3	Vowel deletion . . . . .	40
2.4.2	Glide insertion . . . . .	41
2.4.3	Sequences of identical vowels . . . . .	41
2.4.4	Sonorant deletion . . . . .	43
2.4.5	Palatalization . . . . .	44
2.4.6	Ablaut . . . . .	45
2.4.7	Integration of loan words . . . . .	45
2.4.8	Reduplication . . . . .	46
2.5	Word stress . . . . .	49
2.5.1	Stress in roots . . . . .	49
2.5.2	Stress in major parts of speech . . . . .	50
2.5.3	Stress in adjectives . . . . .	52
2.5.4	Stress in loan words . . . . .	53
<b>3</b>	<b>Nouns</b> . . . . .	<b>54</b>
3.1	Introduction . . . . .	54
3.2	Oblique Singular stem formation . . . . .	54
3.2.1	Base stem pattern . . . . .	55
3.2.2	Oblique stem formation . . . . .	55
3.2.3	Alternative stem forms and exceptions . . . . .	62
3.3	Plural . . . . .	63
3.4	Oblique Plural stem formation . . . . .	66
3.5	Case . . . . .	68
3.5.1	Introduction . . . . .	68
3.5.2	Absolutive . . . . .	69
3.5.3	Ergative . . . . .	70
3.5.4	Genitive . . . . .	70
3.5.5	Dative . . . . .	75
3.5.6	Instrumental . . . . .	77
3.5.7	Overview of the spatial cases . . . . .	77
3.5.8	CONT-Essive . . . . .	81
3.5.9	CONT-Lative . . . . .	82
3.5.10	CONT-Ablative . . . . .	83
3.5.11	CONT-Directional . . . . .	83
3.5.12	IN-Essive . . . . .	84
3.5.13	IN-Lative, IN-Ablative, and IN-Directional . . . . .	86

3.5.14	SUB-Essive . . . . .	87
3.5.15	SUB-Lative, SUB-Ablative, and SUB-Directional . . . . .	87
3.5.16	SPR-Essive . . . . .	88
3.5.17	SPR-Lative . . . . .	90
3.5.18	SPR-Ablative . . . . .	91
3.5.19	SPR-Directional . . . . .	92
3.5.20	AT-Essive . . . . .	92
3.5.21	AT-Lative . . . . .	96
3.5.22	AT-Ablative . . . . .	96
3.5.23	AT-Directional . . . . .	97
3.5.24	ALOC-Essive . . . . .	98
3.5.25	ALOC-Lative . . . . .	99
3.5.26	ALOC-Ablative and ALOC-Directional . . . . .	99
3.5.27	ILOC-Essive . . . . .	100
3.5.28	ILOC-Lative . . . . .	101
3.5.29	ILOC-Ablative and ILOC-Directional . . . . .	102
3.5.30	The suffix <i>-yo</i> . . . . .	103
3.5.31	<i>bito</i> . . . . .	103
3.5.32	Non-spatial functions of the spatial cases . . . . .	104
3.6	Nominal derivation . . . . .	105
3.6.1	Abstract nouns with <i>-ti</i> . . . . .	105
3.6.2	Names of groups of people with <i>-be</i> . . . . .	106
3.6.3	Agentive nouns, activities, and tools with <i>-(na)k'u</i> . . . . .	107
3.6.4	Professions with <i>-qan</i> . . . . .	107
3.6.5	Professions and tools with <i>-qu</i> . . . . .	108
3.6.6	Agentive nouns with <i>-r(y)o</i> . . . . .	108
3.6.7	Event nouns with <i>-demu</i> . . . . .	109
3.6.8	Sounds with <i>-ni</i> . . . . .	109
3.6.9	Less productive derivational suffixes . . . . .	110
3.7	Nominal compounding . . . . .	111
<b>4</b>	<b>Gender</b> . . . . .	115
4.1	Introduction . . . . .	115
4.2	Semantic basis for gender assignment . . . . .	116
4.3	Formal criteria for gender assignment . . . . .	123
4.4	Gender assignment to loan words . . . . .	126
<b>5</b>	<b>Pronouns</b> . . . . .	130
5.1	Personal pronouns . . . . .	130
5.2	Demonstrative pronouns . . . . .	132

5.2.1	Pronouns with the roots <i>ha-</i> and <i>hay-</i> . . . . .	134
5.2.2	Pronouns with the roots <i>hiba(ha)-</i> and <i>hiba(ha)y-</i> . . . . .	136
5.2.3	Pronouns with the roots <i>iza(ha)-</i> and <i>iza(ha)y-</i> . . . . .	139
5.2.4	Derived adverbs and adjectives . . . . .	140
5.3	Reflexive pronouns . . . . .	142
5.3.1	Simple reflexive pronouns . . . . .	142
5.3.2	Reduplicated reflexive pronouns . . . . .	144
5.4	Reciprocal pronouns . . . . .	145
5.5	Interrogative pronouns and pro-adverbs . . . . .	146
5.5.1	Introduction . . . . .	146
5.5.2	<i>tu</i> ‘who’ and <i>se</i> ‘what’ . . . . .	147
5.5.3	<i>ni</i> ‘where’ . . . . .	148
5.5.4	<i>nete</i> ‘when’ . . . . .	148
5.5.5	<i>deče</i> ‘how much’ . . . . .	149
5.5.6	<i>somo</i> ‘how many’ and <i>somorax</i> ‘how many times’ . . . . .	149
5.5.7	<i>nišxa</i> ‘which’ . . . . .	150
5.5.8	<i>dessu</i> ‘which’ . . . . .	151
5.5.9	<i>sira</i> ‘why’ and <i>deru</i> ‘how’ . . . . .	151
5.6	Indefinite pronouns . . . . .	152
5.6.1	Introduction . . . . .	152
5.6.2	Ordinary indefinite pronouns . . . . .	152
5.6.3	Negative indefinite pronouns . . . . .	155
5.6.4	Universal indefinite pronouns (universal quantifiers) . . . . .	159
5.6.5	Free choice pronouns . . . . .	160
<b>6</b>	<b>Adjectives</b> . . . . .	<b>163</b>
6.1	Introduction . . . . .	163
6.2	Native adjectives . . . . .	164
6.2.1	Adjectives with the ending <i>-y</i> . . . . .	164
6.2.2	Adjectives with the ending <i>-u</i> . . . . .	166
6.2.3	The adjectives <i>q’w’iya</i> and <i>hesxa</i> ‘other’ . . . . .	169
6.3	Borrowed adjectives . . . . .	170
6.4	Color adjectives . . . . .	172
6.5	Other words that can be used as adjectives . . . . .	172
6.5.1	Adnominal adjectives . . . . .	173
6.5.2	Adverbial adjectives . . . . .	174
6.5.3	Participles . . . . .	175
6.6	Plural formation of adjectives . . . . .	176
6.7	Derivation of adjectives . . . . .	177
6.7.1	Derivation of adjectives from other parts of speech . . . . .	177

6.7.1.1	<i>-damu/-lamu/-ramu/-mu</i> . . . . .	177
6.7.1.2	<i>-t'u</i> . . . . .	178
6.7.1.3	<i>-xu</i> . . . . .	179
6.7.1.4	<i>-lu</i> . . . . .	179
6.7.1.5	<i>demu</i> . . . . .	180
6.7.2	Derivation of adjectives from adjectives . . . . .	181
6.7.2.1	<i>-nnu</i> . . . . .	181
6.7.2.2	<i>-k'a</i> . . . . .	182
6.7.2.3	<i>-diyu/-duk'a</i> . . . . .	183
6.8	Reduplication and compounding . . . . .	184
6.9	Agreement . . . . .	185
6.10	Degrees . . . . .	186
6.11	Word order . . . . .	187
<b>7</b>	<b>Verbal inflection</b> . . . . .	<b>188</b>
7.1	Introduction . . . . .	188
7.2	General remarks on the verbal morphology . . . . .	188
7.2.1	Verbs with and without agreement prefixes . . . . .	188
7.2.2	Conjugation classes of verbs . . . . .	190
7.2.3	Morphological make-up of verbs . . . . .	191
7.2.4	Native underived verbs . . . . .	196
7.3	Lexical verbs in main clauses . . . . .	197
7.4	Simple tenses . . . . .	201
7.4.1	Indefinite Future . . . . .	201
7.4.2	Intentional Future . . . . .	201
7.4.3	General tense . . . . .	205
7.4.4	Simple Present . . . . .	206
7.4.5	Simple Past . . . . .	208
7.5	Periphrastic tenses . . . . .	209
7.5.1	Compound Future . . . . .	209
7.5.2	Compound Present . . . . .	210
7.5.3	Habitual Present . . . . .	213
7.5.4	Resultative Present . . . . .	215
7.5.5	Compound Past . . . . .	216
7.5.6	Habitual Past . . . . .	217
7.5.7	Resultative Past . . . . .	218
7.5.8	Pluperfect . . . . .	219
7.5.9	Compound Resultative Past . . . . .	220
7.5.10	Simple Unwitnessed Past . . . . .	221
7.5.11	Compound Unwitnessed Past . . . . .	223

7.5.12	Habitual Unwitnessed Past . . . . .	223
7.5.13	Resultative Unwitnessed Past . . . . .	224
7.5.14	Pluperfect Unwitnessed . . . . .	225
7.6	Non-indicative moods . . . . .	226
7.6.1	Introduction . . . . .	226
7.6.2	Imperative . . . . .	227
7.6.3	Prohibitive . . . . .	230
7.6.4	Optative . . . . .	230
7.6.5	Irrealis conditional . . . . .	232
7.6.6	Conditional Past and Conditional Unwitnessed Past . . . . .	234
7.6.7	Interrogative . . . . .	235
7.7	Lexical verb forms in dependent clauses . . . . .	236
7.7.1	Introduction . . . . .	236
7.7.2	Converbs . . . . .	236
7.7.2.1	The Posterior converb . . . . .	238
7.7.2.2	The Terminative converb . . . . .	239
7.7.2.3	Simultaneous converbs . . . . .	240
7.7.2.4	The Progressive converb . . . . .	241
7.7.2.5	The Reduplicated Narrative converb . . . . .	242
7.7.2.6	The Simple Anterior converb . . . . .	243
7.7.2.7	The Immediate Anterior converb . . . . .	243
7.7.2.8	The Narrative converb . . . . .	244
7.7.2.9	The Imperfective converb . . . . .	247
7.7.2.10	The Realis Conditional converb . . . . .	248
7.7.2.11	The Concessive converb . . . . .	249
7.7.2.12	The Purposive converb . . . . .	251
7.7.3	Participles used in adverbial clauses . . . . .	252
7.7.3.1	The Local participle . . . . .	252
7.7.3.2	The General participle . . . . .	254
7.7.3.3	The Past participle . . . . .	255
7.7.4	Participles . . . . .	257
7.7.4.1	The Local participle . . . . .	257
7.7.4.2	The General participle . . . . .	258
7.7.4.3	The Past participle . . . . .	259
7.7.4.4	The Habitual participle . . . . .	261
7.7.4.5	The Resultative participle . . . . .	263
7.7.5	Other verbal forms . . . . .	264
7.7.5.1	Infinitive . . . . .	264
7.7.5.2	Masdar . . . . .	266
7.8	The copula . . . . .	268

7.8.1	The copula in independent main clauses . . . . .	269
7.8.1.1	Simple Present . . . . .	269
7.8.1.2	Simple Past . . . . .	269
7.8.1.3	Unwitnessed Past . . . . .	270
7.8.1.4	Resultative Past . . . . .	270
7.8.1.5	General tense . . . . .	271
7.8.1.6	Compound Future . . . . .	272
7.8.2	Non-indicative forms of the copula . . . . .	272
7.8.3	The copula in dependent clauses . . . . .	274
7.8.3.1	The Simultaneous converb . . . . .	275
7.8.3.2	The Terminative converb . . . . .	275
7.8.3.3	The Converb . . . . .	276
7.8.3.4	The Past participle . . . . .	277
7.8.3.5	The Local participle . . . . .	278
7.8.3.6	The Compound Present participle . . . . .	279
7.8.3.7	The Negative participle . . . . .	279
<b>8</b>	<b>Other verbal categories</b> . . . . .	<b>281</b>
8.1	Aspect . . . . .	281
8.1.1	Introduction . . . . .	281
8.1.2	Perfectivity . . . . .	281
8.1.3	Imperfectivity . . . . .	282
8.1.3.1	The compound tenses . . . . .	283
8.1.3.2	The Resultative . . . . .	286
8.1.3.3	The Habitual . . . . .	287
8.1.3.4	<i>-iči-</i> constructions . . . . .	288
8.1.3.5	Aspect in subordinate clauses . . . . .	292
8.2	Modality . . . . .	293
8.2.1	Introduction . . . . .	293
8.2.2	Epistemic modality with the verb <i>-ese-</i> . . . . .	293
8.2.2.1	<i>-ese-</i> as the only verb in the clause . . . . .	294
8.2.2.2	<i>-ese-</i> as auxiliary . . . . .	295
8.2.3	Intentional . . . . .	298
8.2.4	“Still not” modality . . . . .	300
8.2.4.1	“Still not” Present . . . . .	300
8.2.4.2	“Still not” Simple Past . . . . .	301
8.2.4.3	“Still not” Unwitnessed Past . . . . .	301
8.2.4.4	The “Still not” modality in dependent clauses . . . . .	302
8.3	Evidentiality and mirativity . . . . .	302
8.3.1	Introduction . . . . .	302

8.3.2	Evidentiality in the verbal paradigm . . . . .	303
8.3.2.1	Marking of evidentiality on the verb . . . . .	303
8.3.2.2	Semantics of verbal evidentiality . . . . .	303
8.3.2.3	Simple Past and neutral past tenses . . . . .	305
8.3.2.4	Unwitnessed past tenses . . . . .	308
8.3.2.5	Verbal evidentiality in questions . . . . .	311
8.3.3	Evidentiality expressed through the Narrative enclitic . . . . .	313
8.3.3.1	Introduction . . . . .	313
8.3.3.2	Occurrences of the Narrative enclitic . . . . .	314
8.3.3.3	Semantics of the Narrative enclitic . . . . .	316
8.3.4	Hearsay evidentiality with the Quotative enclitic . . . . .	319
8.3.5	Mirativity . . . . .	319
<b>9</b>	<b>Formation of verbs</b> . . . . .	<b>321</b>
9.1	Derivation, vowel alternation, and conversion . . . . .	321
9.1.1	Introduction . . . . .	321
9.1.2	Derivation of verbs from nouns . . . . .	321
9.1.3	Derivation of sound denoting verbs . . . . .	322
9.1.4	Vowel alternation and conversion . . . . .	323
9.2	Valency changing derivations . . . . .	324
9.2.1	Introduction . . . . .	324
9.2.2	Causative verbs with <i>-r</i> . . . . .	324
9.2.2.1	Intransitive base . . . . .	325
9.2.2.2	Transitive base . . . . .	325
9.2.2.3	Ditransitive base . . . . .	326
9.2.2.4	Experiencer verb as base . . . . .	326
9.2.3	Causative verbs with <i>-k'</i> . . . . .	326
9.2.3.1	Introduction . . . . .	326
9.2.3.2	Adjectives as base . . . . .	327
9.2.3.3	Adverbs/postpositions as base . . . . .	327
9.2.3.4	Verbs as base . . . . .	328
9.2.3.5	Unknown base . . . . .	328
9.2.4	Inchoative and potential verbs . . . . .	328
9.2.4.1	Introduction . . . . .	328
9.2.4.2	Adjectives as base . . . . .	329
9.2.4.3	Adverbs/postpositions as base . . . . .	330
9.2.4.4	Verbs as base and unknown base . . . . .	330
9.2.4.5	Potential verbs . . . . .	330
9.2.5	Antipassive verbs . . . . .	331
9.2.6	Combinations of valency changing derivations . . . . .	332

9.3	Compounding and light verb constructions . . . . .	333
9.3.1	Introduction . . . . .	333
9.3.2	Light verb constructions with loans . . . . .	333
9.3.3	Compound verbs with adverbs/postpositions . . . . .	337
9.3.4	Compounds with nouns . . . . .	338
9.3.5	Causative constructions with the verb <i>tok'er-</i> . . . . .	339
9.4	Partial reduplication . . . . .	340
9.5	Repetition . . . . .	340
9.5.1	Repetition in independent main clauses . . . . .	340
9.5.2	Repetition in adverbial clauses . . . . .	343
<b>10</b>	<b>Adverbs</b> . . . . .	<b>346</b>
10.1	Introduction . . . . .	346
10.2	Spatial adverbs . . . . .	346
10.2.1	Spatial adverbs with opaque origin . . . . .	346
10.2.1.1	<i>wili</i> 'in Georgia' . . . . .	346
10.2.1.2	<i>idu</i> '(at) home' . . . . .	347
10.2.1.3	<i>q'idi</i> 'down' . . . . .	347
10.2.1.4	<i>tošid, šidhor(er)</i> 'up' . . . . .	348
10.2.1.5	<i>toho</i> 'there' and <i>toho-noho</i> 'everywhere' . . . . .	348
10.2.1.6	<i>meqi</i> 'far, further, away' . . . . .	349
10.2.1.7	<i>bito(ho)</i> 'away, there' and <i>bito-dino</i> 'here and there' . . . . .	349
10.2.1.8	<i>y<sup>w</sup>at'ma<sup>ter</sup></i> 'face down, prone' . . . . .	349
10.2.2	Spatial adverbs that correspond to postpositions . . . . .	350
10.2.2.1	<i>te<sup>t</sup></i> 'inside' . . . . .	351
10.2.2.2	<i>ge<sup>t</sup></i> 'down, below' . . . . .	351
10.2.2.3	<i>ge<sup>λ</sup></i> 'down', 'below' . . . . .	351
10.2.2.4	<i>λ'ere</i> 'up' . . . . .	352
10.2.2.5	<i>sot'i</i> 'around'; <i>aldoyo</i> 'back'; <i>hezzor</i> 'back' . . . . .	352
10.2.2.6	<i>purho/pure<sup>t</sup></i> 'next' . . . . .	352
10.2.2.7	<i>λ'iyo</i> 'down' . . . . .	352
10.2.2.8	<i>igo</i> 'near' . . . . .	353
10.2.2.9	<i>hezzor</i> 'back' . . . . .	353
10.2.2.10	<i>dandir</i> 'towards' . . . . .	353
10.2.2.11	<i>-oλ<sup>λ</sup>o</i> 'in the middle' . . . . .	353
10.2.2.12	<i>λ'oq'w<sup>ar</sup></i> 'against, towards, in front of' . . . . .	354
10.2.3	Spatial adverbs from nominals . . . . .	354
10.2.3.1	Spatial adverbs based on inflected nouns . . . . .	354
10.2.3.2	Spatial adverbs derived from nouns . . . . .	356

10.2.4	Spatial adverbs derived from verbs . . . . .	357
10.2.5	Spatial adverbs derived from adjectives . . . . .	357
10.2.6	Spatial adverbs based on demonstrative pronouns . . . . .	358
10.2.6.1	Proximate location ‘here’ . . . . .	359
10.2.6.2	Distant location ‘there’ . . . . .	360
10.2.7	Indefinite spatial adverbs . . . . .	361
10.3	Temporal adverbs and other temporal expressions . . . . .	362
10.3.1	Time-of-day adverbs . . . . .	363
10.3.2	Clock . . . . .	363
10.3.3	Days of the week and names for months . . . . .	364
10.3.4	Seasonal adverbs . . . . .	365
10.3.5	Dates . . . . .	365
10.3.6	Time spans . . . . .	366
10.3.7	Deictic temporal adverbs . . . . .	368
10.3.8	Frequency . . . . .	369
10.3.9	Time intervals . . . . .	369
10.4	Manner adverbs . . . . .	370
10.4.1	Various native manner adverbs . . . . .	370
10.4.2	Manner adverbs derived from demonstrative pronouns . . . . .	371
10.4.3	Borrowed manner adverbs . . . . .	372
10.4.4	Quantity and degree adverbs . . . . .	372
10.5	Formation and borrowing of adverbs . . . . .	373
<b>11</b>	<b>Postpositions</b> . . . . .	<b>377</b>
11.1	Introduction . . . . .	377
11.2	Spatial postpositions . . . . .	379
11.2.1	<i>teʔ</i> ‘in(side)’ . . . . .	381
11.2.2	<i>geʔ/geλ</i> ‘under’ . . . . .	382
11.2.3	<i>λ’ere</i> ‘on’ . . . . .	383
11.2.4	<i>sot’i</i> ‘around’ . . . . .	383
11.2.5	<i>purho/pureʔ</i> ‘next to, on the side’ . . . . .	384
11.2.6	<i>igo</i> ‘near’ . . . . .	384
11.2.7	<i>hezzo</i> ‘behind’ . . . . .	385
11.2.8	<i>aldoyo</i> ‘in front of’ . . . . .	386
11.2.9	<i>dandi</i> ‘towards, against’ . . . . .	386
11.2.10	<i>λ’woq’ar</i> ‘in front of, towards’ . . . . .	387
11.2.11	<i>-oλλo</i> ‘in the middle of, between’ . . . . .	388
11.3	Non-spatial postpositions . . . . .	389
11.3.1	<i>aldoyo</i> ‘ago’ . . . . .	389
11.3.2	<i>req’un/req’udin</i> ‘accordingly to’ . . . . .	390

11.3.3	<i>ʔolo</i> ‘because of’ . . . . .	390
11.3.4	<i>sababʔun/sabawʔun</i> ‘because of’ . . . . .	390
11.3.5	<i>q<sup>w</sup>ec’e/q’oc’e</i> ‘with’ . . . . .	391
11.3.6	<i>sadaq/cadaq</i> ‘with’ . . . . .	391
11.4	Expressions that serve as postpositions . . . . .	392
11.4.1	<i>gosme</i> ‘without’ . . . . .	392
11.4.2	<i>xecen</i> ‘except’ . . . . .	393
11.4.3	<i>moča:</i> ‘instead’ . . . . .	393
<b>12</b>	<b>Numerals and other quantifiers</b> . . . . .	394
12.1	Introduction . . . . .	394
12.2	Cardinal numerals . . . . .	394
12.3	Fractions . . . . .	399
12.4	Other numeral expressions . . . . .	400
12.5	Ordinal numerals . . . . .	401
12.6	Collective numerals . . . . .	404
12.7	Multiplicative numerals . . . . .	405
12.8	Distributive numerals . . . . .	406
12.9	Other quantifiers . . . . .	408
12.9.1	The universal quantifiers <i>sadaq</i> and <i>č’ek’k’u</i> ‘all’ . . . . .	408
12.9.2	The universal quantifiers <i>šibaw/šinaw/šinab</i> and <i>žiw-žiw</i> ‘every’ . . . . .	410
12.9.3	The quantifier <i>-oʔʔoku</i> ‘half’ . . . . .	411
<b>13</b>	<b>Minor parts of speech</b> . . . . .	412
13.1	Enclitics . . . . .	412
13.1.1	Enclitics manipulating the information structure . . . . .	413
13.1.1.1	The enclitics = <i>gozo</i> /= <i>gon</i> /= <i>gozon</i> . . . . .	413
13.1.1.2	The Emphatic enclitic = <i>tow</i> . . . . .	419
13.1.1.3	The Emphatic enclitic = <i>čo</i> . . . . .	423
13.1.1.4	The enclitic = <i>ʔe</i> . . . . .	424
13.1.1.5	The Emphatic enclitic = <i>xa</i> . . . . .	425
13.1.1.6	The enclitic expressing doubt = <i>m</i> . . . . .	427
13.1.2	Enclitics with grammatical function . . . . .	428
13.1.2.1	Interrogative enclitics and suffixes . . . . .	428
13.1.2.2	The Equative enclitic = <i>če</i> . . . . .	430
13.1.2.3	The suffix <i>-či</i> . . . . .	431
13.1.2.4	The enclitic = <i>ʔun</i> . . . . .	432
13.1.2.5	The Vocative suffix <i>-yu</i> . . . . .	433
13.1.2.6	The Quotative enclitic = <i>ʔen</i> . . . . .	434

13.1.2.7	The Abstract suffix <i>-ti</i> . . . . .	435
13.1.2.8	The suffix <i>-li</i> . . . . .	438
13.1.2.9	The Attributive suffix <i>-ni</i> . . . . .	439
13.1.2.10	The Purposive suffix <i>-xi</i> . . . . .	440
13.1.3	Multifunctional enclitics . . . . .	441
13.1.3.1	The enclitic = <i>gen</i> . . . . .	441
13.1.3.2	The enclitic/suffix <i>-xa</i> . . . . .	443
13.1.3.3	The Coordinative enclitic = <i>n</i> . . . . .	445
13.2	Particles and conjunctions . . . . .	451
13.2.1	General remarks on particles and conjunctions . . . . .	451
13.2.2	The particle <i>demu</i> . . . . .	451
13.3	Interjections and exclamations . . . . .	452
<b>14</b>	<b>Names for places and people(s)</b> . . . . .	<b>456</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Agreement</b> . . . . .	<b>463</b>
15.1	Introduction . . . . .	463
15.2	Gender and number agreement . . . . .	463
15.2.1	Introduction . . . . .	463
15.2.2	Gender/number agreement in noun phrases . . . . .	463
15.2.3	Gender/number agreement of adverbs, postpositions . . . . .	465
15.2.4	Gender/number agreement of verbs in the clause . . . . .	466
15.2.5	Unspecified agreement . . . . .	468
15.2.6	Agreement resolution in conjoined noun phrases . . . . .	470
15.2.6.1	Human plus human . . . . .	470
15.2.6.2	Non-human plus non-human . . . . .	471
15.2.6.3	Human plus non-human . . . . .	472
15.3	Case agreement . . . . .	473
<b>16</b>	<b>Verb valency, simple clause types, and grammatical roles</b> . . . . .	<b>475</b>
16.1	Introduction . . . . .	475
16.2	Intransitive verbs . . . . .	477
16.3	Extended intransitive verbs . . . . .	478
16.3.1	Extended intransitive verbs with AT-Essive arguments . . . . .	478
16.3.2	Extended intransitive verbs with SPR-Essive arguments . . . . .	479
16.3.3	Extended intransitive verbs with other spatial adjuncts or arguments . . . . .	480
16.3.4	Extended intransitive verbs with Dative arguments . . . . .	481
16.4	Experiencer verbs . . . . .	481
16.5	Canonical transitive verbs . . . . .	483
16.6	Extended transitive verbs . . . . .	484

16.6.1	Standard ditransitive verbs . . . . .	484
16.6.2	Extended transitive verbs with AT-Essive or AT-Lative arguments . . . . .	486
16.6.3	Extended transitive verbs with addressees . . . . .	488
16.6.4	Extended transitive verbs with Dative arguments . . . . .	490
16.6.5	Extended transitive verbs with other spatial adjuncts or arguments . . . . .	490
16.7	Verbs with four arguments . . . . .	491
16.8	Labile verbs . . . . .	492
16.9	Some remarks on grammatical roles in Hinuq . . . . .	495
<b>17</b>	<b>Non-canonical agent constructions</b> . . . . .	<b>498</b>
17.1	Introduction . . . . .	498
17.2	Potential constructions . . . . .	499
17.2.1	Potential constructions with derived verbs . . . . .	499
17.2.2	Potential constructions with simple intransitive verbs . . . . .	501
17.3	Involuntary agent constructions . . . . .	502
17.4	Exterior force . . . . .	504
17.5	Inchoative and causative verb pairs . . . . .	504
17.6	Causative morphology without additional arguments . . . . .	506
17.7	Causative constructions . . . . .	507
17.7.1	Introduction . . . . .	507
17.7.2	Periphrastic causative constructions . . . . .	507
17.7.3	Simple causative constructions by means of derivation, compounding, and serial verbs . . . . .	508
17.7.3.1	The basic verb is intransitive . . . . .	508
17.7.3.2	The basic verb is transitive . . . . .	510
17.7.3.3	The basic verb is an experiencer verb . . . . .	512
17.7.3.4	The basic verb is ditransitive . . . . .	513
17.7.3.5	The basic verb is labile . . . . .	514
17.7.4	Double causative constructions . . . . .	515
17.7.4.1	Double causative constructions derived from intransitive verbs . . . . .	516
17.7.4.2	Double causative constructions derived from transitive verbs . . . . .	516
17.8	Summary of non-canonical agent constructions making use of the AT-Essive . . . . .	518
17.9	The antipassive construction . . . . .	519
17.10	Biabsolutive constructions . . . . .	522
17.10.1	Three types of biabsolutive constructions . . . . .	523

17.10.2 Constraints in the biabsolute construction . . . . .	523
17.10.3 Analyzing the biabsolute construction . . . . .	528
<b>18 Copula clauses</b> . . . . .	<b>530</b>
18.1 Introduction . . . . .	530
18.2 Copula clauses with adjectival and participial predicates . . . . .	530
18.3 Copula clauses with nominal predicates . . . . .	531
18.3.1 The predicate is in the Absolute . . . . .	531
18.3.2 The predicate is in an oblique case . . . . .	532
18.4 Existential copula clauses . . . . .	533
18.5 Locative copula clauses . . . . .	533
18.6 Possessive copula clauses . . . . .	534
18.7 Subjectless copula clauses . . . . .	535
18.8 Copula constructions without a copula . . . . .	535
18.9 Other verbs used in copula-clauses . . . . .	536
<b>19 Coordination</b> . . . . .	<b>539</b>
19.1 Introduction . . . . .	539
19.2 Coordination of words and phrases . . . . .	539
19.2.1 Conjunctive coordination of words and phrases . . . . .	539
19.2.2 Disjunctive coordination of words and phrases . . . . .	541
19.3 Coordination of clauses . . . . .	543
19.3.1 Conjunctive coordination of clauses . . . . .	543
19.3.2 Disjunctive coordination of clauses . . . . .	544
19.3.3 Other conjunctions used in clause coordination . . . . .	546
19.3.4 Coreference in clause coordination . . . . .	547
<b>20 Relative clauses</b> . . . . .	<b>551</b>
20.1 Introduction . . . . .	551
20.2 Relative clauses with a nucleus . . . . .	552
20.2.1 Properties of the nucleus . . . . .	552
20.2.1.1 The nature of the nucleus and possibilities for its realization . . . . .	552
20.2.1.2 Functions of the nucleus . . . . .	553
20.2.1.3 Functions of the nucleus in its clause . . . . .	562
20.2.2 Properties of the relative clause . . . . .	566
20.2.2.1 Formal properties of relative clauses . . . . .	566
20.2.2.2 Semantics of relative clauses . . . . .	566
20.2.2.3 Position of relative clauses . . . . .	567
20.2.2.4 Relative clauses in relation to other nominal modifiers . . . . .	568

20.2.3	Relative clauses built with other participles . . . . .	569
20.3	Relative clauses without a nucleus . . . . .	572
20.4	Infinitival relatives . . . . .	573
<b>21</b>	<b>Adverbial clauses</b>	<b>574</b>
21.1	Introduction . . . . .	574
21.2	Coreference and control . . . . .	574
21.2.1	Coreference and pragmatic connectedness . . . . .	574
21.2.2	Coreference by means of zero arguments . . . . .	576
21.2.3	Coreference and overt arguments . . . . .	577
21.3	Scope properties . . . . .	581
21.3.1	Tense and evidentiality . . . . .	581
21.3.2	The scope of pragmatic operators . . . . .	583
21.3.3	Illocutionary force: Questions and imperatives . . . . .	583
21.4	Word order and extraction . . . . .	585
21.5	The syntactic nature of adverbial clauses . . . . .	588
<b>22</b>	<b>Complement clauses</b>	<b>590</b>
22.1	Introduction . . . . .	590
22.2	Complementation strategies . . . . .	592
22.2.1	Zero strategy . . . . .	592
22.2.2	Infinitive and Purposive converb . . . . .	598
22.2.2.1	Introduction . . . . .	598
22.2.2.2	Liking and fearing verbs . . . . .	599
22.2.2.3	Modal verbs . . . . .	601
22.2.2.4	Propositional attitude and commentative verbs plus two verbs of knowledge . . . . .	603
22.2.2.5	Manipulative verbs . . . . .	605
22.2.2.6	Phasal verbs . . . . .	606
22.2.2.7	Other verbs . . . . .	607
22.2.3	The Abstract suffix . . . . .	608
22.2.3.1	Introduction . . . . .	608
22.2.3.2	Verbs of knowledge and understanding . . . . .	608
22.2.3.3	Perception verbs . . . . .	610
22.2.3.4	A few other verbs . . . . .	611
22.2.4	The Quotative enclitic . . . . .	612
22.2.4.1	Introduction . . . . .	612
22.2.4.2	Verbs of speech . . . . .	613
22.2.4.3	Propositional attitude verbs . . . . .	614

22.2.4.4	Verbs of knowledge and verbs of acquisition of knowledge . . . . .	615
22.2.4.5	Liking and fearing verbs . . . . .	616
22.2.4.6	Achievement verbs . . . . .	616
22.2.4.7	Purpose clauses with the Quotative enclitic . . . . .	617
22.2.5	The Past participle in complement clauses . . . . .	619
22.2.6	The Masdar in complement clauses . . . . .	620
22.2.7	The Narrative converb in complement clauses . . . . .	621
22.2.8	Clause union . . . . .	621
22.3	Agreement in complement clauses . . . . .	626
22.3.1	Introduction . . . . .	626
22.3.2	Long distance agreement . . . . .	628
22.3.2.1	Biclausality of long distance agreement . . . . .	630
22.3.2.2	Pragmatics of long distance agreement . . . . .	634
22.4	Coreference and control . . . . .	639
22.4.1	Introduction . . . . .	639
22.4.2	Obligatory control and non-obligatory coreference . . . . .	639
22.4.3	Which constituents can be controllers? . . . . .	640
22.4.4	Which constituents can be controllees? . . . . .	642
22.4.5	Devices for indicating control . . . . .	644
22.4.6	Obligatory control and Equi-deletion . . . . .	645
22.5	Summary of agreement and case assignment in complements . . . . .	648
22.6	Complement-taking adjectives, adverbs, and nouns . . . . .	649
<b>23</b>	<b>Reported speech</b> . . . . .	<b>652</b>
23.1	Introduction . . . . .	652
23.2	Reported speech by juxtaposition . . . . .	652
23.3	Reported speech with the Quotative enclitic . . . . .	653
23.3.1	Introduction . . . . .	653
23.3.2	Reported speech without a verb of speech . . . . .	655
23.3.3	The use of the Quotative enclitic in combination with a verb of speech . . . . .	655
23.3.4	The use of the Quotative enclitic together with <i>eλin</i> and an additional verb of speech . . . . .	656
23.4	General characteristics of reported speech constructions . . . . .	657
23.5	Syntactic status of the quote . . . . .	659
23.6	Deictic shift with reflexive pronouns . . . . .	660

<b>24 Reflexivization and reciprocalization</b>	665
24.1 Reflexivization	665
24.1.1 Introduction	665
24.1.2 Local reflexivization	666
24.1.2.1 Status of the antecedent	666
24.1.2.2 Status of the reflexive	668
24.1.2.3 Object control of possessors	670
24.1.2.4 Word order and reversal of roles	671
24.1.2.5 Ambiguity with two possible antecedents	674
24.1.2.6 Reflexive pronouns in the local domain	675
24.1.3 The emphatic use of reflexive pronouns	679
24.1.4 Long distance reflexivization	680
24.1.4.1 Logophoric reflexivization	680
24.1.4.2 Long-distance reflexivization in complement clauses	681
24.1.4.3 Long-distance reflexivization in adverbial clauses	684
24.1.4.4 Long-distance reflexivization in relative clauses	686
24.1.4.5 Reflexive pronouns across sentences	688
24.1.5 Reflexivization of first and second persons	689
24.2 Reciprocalization	690
<b>25 Serial verb constructions</b>	697
25.1 Introduction	697
25.2 Types of serial verb constructions	698
25.2.1 The valency frame inherited from the first verb	698
25.2.2 The valency frame inherited from the second verb	699
25.2.3 Two verbs with the same valency frame	699
25.2.4 Serial verb constructions with nonsense verbs	700
25.2.5 Causative serial verb constructions	701
25.3 Syntactic properties of serial verb constructions	702
25.4 Narrative converb clauses and serial verb constructions	706
<b>26 Other minor constructions</b>	708
26.1 Comparative constructions	708
26.1.1 Expressing inequality with the ALOC-Lative	708
26.1.1.1 Standard comparative constructions	708
26.1.1.2 Non-canonical comparative constructions	711
26.1.1.3 Ambiguity resolving in comparison	714

26.1.2	Superlative constructions . . . . .	715
26.1.3	Comparative constructions with other degree adverbs . . . . .	716
26.1.4	The Equative enclitic = <i>če</i> . . . . .	718
26.1.5	The equative adverbial - <i>iži</i> . . . . .	720
26.2	Partitive constructions . . . . .	722
26.3	Substitutive constructions . . . . .	723
26.4	Appositional phrases . . . . .	726
<b>27</b>	<b>Word order</b> . . . . .	<b>730</b>
27.1	Introduction . . . . .	730
27.2	Word order in the noun phrase and in the postpositional phrase . . . . .	730
27.2.1	Scope properties in noun phrases with two modifiers . . . . .	731
27.2.2	Word order in the Genitive phrase . . . . .	732
27.2.3	The position of the relative clause . . . . .	735
27.2.4	Uncommon word orders . . . . .	736
27.3	Word order at the clause level . . . . .	738
27.3.1	Main clauses . . . . .	738
27.3.2	Subordinate clauses . . . . .	740
<b>28</b>	<b>Questions</b> . . . . .	<b>742</b>
28.1	Introduction . . . . .	742
28.2	Polar questions . . . . .	742
28.3	WH-questions . . . . .	747
28.4	Subordinate questions and questions in reported speech . . . . .	752
28.5	Rebuttals and affirmations . . . . .	754
<b>29</b>	<b>Information structure</b> . . . . .	<b>756</b>
29.1	Introduction . . . . .	756
29.2	Word order in declarative main clauses . . . . .	756
29.2.1	Unmarked word orders . . . . .	757
29.2.2	Patient focus . . . . .	757
29.2.3	Topicalizing the patient . . . . .	759
29.2.4	Right dislocation . . . . .	760
29.2.5	Clause-initial position of the verbal complex . . . . .	761
29.2.6	Heavy constituents in clause final position . . . . .	762
29.2.7	Dislocating the auxiliary . . . . .	763
29.2.7.1	Focus and contrastive focus . . . . .	763
29.2.7.2	Dislocated auxiliaries as topicalizing devices . . . . .	765
29.2.8	Sentence-focus structure (thetic sentences) . . . . .	766
29.2.8.1	Event-reporting and impersonal sentences . . . . .	766
29.2.8.2	Presentational and existential sentences . . . . .	766

29.3	The information structure of interrogative clauses . . . . .	767
29.3.1	WH-questions . . . . .	768
29.3.2	Polar questions . . . . .	770
29.3.3	Argument focus in question-answer pairs . . . . .	770
29.4	Other means of manipulating the information structure . . . . .	773
<b>30</b>	<b>A Hinuq text</b>	<b>775</b>
	<b>Appendix</b>	<b>805</b>
31.1	Orthographical conventions . . . . .	805
31.2	Index of affixes and enclitics . . . . .	806
31.2.1	Prefixes . . . . .	806
31.2.2	Suffixes and enclitics (including all allomorphs) . . . . .	807
31.2.3	Derivational suffixes that are not glossed . . . . .	810
	<b>Bibliography</b>	<b>812</b>
	<b>Index</b>	<b>822</b>

## List of figures

1	A map of Daghestan . . . . .	2
2	The minaret of the old mosque in Hinuq . . . . .	4
3	In the village of Hinuq . . . . .	5
4	Houses and barns in Hinuq . . . . .	6
5	A linguistic map of the Caucasus (Korjakov 2006) . . . . .	8
6	My main informant Nabi Isaev . . . . .	20

# List of tables

1	The Hinuq corpus . . . . .	22
2	Vowel inventory . . . . .	23
3	Consonant inventory . . . . .	29
4	Case formation of nouns with vowel-final stems . . . . .	56
5	Oblique stem inflection by means of oblique suffixes . . . . .	56
6	Oblique stem formation with suffixes and modified stems . . . . .	60
7	Case formation of nouns with consonant-final stems . . . . .	61
8	Other types of oblique stem formation . . . . .	61
9	Oblique stem formation by means of stress . . . . .	62
10	Alternative stem forms . . . . .	63
11	Oblique forms . . . . .	66
12	Grammatical cases . . . . .	68
13	Spatial cases . . . . .	78
14	Directional markers on adverbs/postpositions, etc. . . . .	79
15	Agreement prefixes and some demonstrative pronouns . . . . .	115
16	Nouns according to their genders . . . . .	116
17	The most frequent initial segments . . . . .	123
18	The most frequent final segments . . . . .	124
19	Distribution of initial segments in the genders III-V . . . . .	124
20	Distribution of final segments in the genders III-V . . . . .	124
21	Initial and final <i>b</i> , <i>y</i> , and <i>r</i> . . . . .	125
22	Initial and final bilabials and high vowels plus glides . . . . .	125
23	Personal pronouns . . . . .	130
24	Locative personal pronouns . . . . .	132
25	Proximate pronouns with the root <i>ha-</i> . . . . .	134
26	Distal pronouns with the root <i>hay-</i> . . . . .	134
27	Proximate pronouns with the root <i>hiba(ha)-</i> . . . . .	137
28	Distal pronouns with the root <i>hiba(ha)y-</i> . . . . .	137
29	Proximate pronouns with the root <i>iza(ha)-</i> . . . . .	139
30	Distal pronouns with the root <i>iza(ha)y-</i> . . . . .	139
31	Adverbs and adjectives derived from demonstrative pronouns . . . . .	141
32	Simple reflexive pronouns . . . . .	143

33	Reduplicated reflexive pronouns . . . . .	144
34	Reciprocal pronouns . . . . .	145
35	The interrogative pronouns <i>tu</i> ‘who’ and <i>se</i> ‘what’ . . . . .	147
36	Indefinite pronouns . . . . .	153
37	Case paradigms of some indefinite pronouns . . . . .	154
38	Adjectives with the ending <i>-y</i> . . . . .	165
39	Substantivized adjectives with the ending <i>-y</i> . . . . .	166
40	Adjectives ending in <i>-u</i> and <i>-duk’a</i> . . . . .	168
41	Borrowed adjectives . . . . .	172
42	Derived adjectives ending in <i>-nnu</i> . . . . .	182
43	Derived adjectives ending with <i>-k’a</i> . . . . .	183
44	Agreement prefixes . . . . .	189
45	A partial paradigm of verbs with stem-final consonants . . . . .	192
46	A partial paradigm of verbs with stem-final /i/ . . . . .	193
47	A partial paradigm of verbs with stem-final /e/ . . . . .	193
48	A partial paradigm of verbs with stem-final /V:/ . . . . .	194
49	Morphological make-up of verbs . . . . .	195
50	Stem structures of verbs . . . . .	196
51	Simple tense-aspect-mood forms . . . . .	198
52	Formation of periphrastic verb forms in independent clauses . . . . .	199
53	Periphrastic tenses . . . . .	200
54	Non-indicative moods . . . . .	228
55	Verb forms in dependent clauses . . . . .	237
56	Copula forms in independent main clauses . . . . .	269
57	Non-indicative forms of the copula . . . . .	273
58	Copula forms in dependent clauses . . . . .	274
59	Imperfective tense-aspect-mood forms . . . . .	283
60	Evidentiality in the verbal paradigm . . . . .	303
61	Combinations of valency-changing derivation devices . . . . .	332
62	Spatial adverbs with opaque origin . . . . .	347
63	Spatial adverbs based on postpositions (Part 1) . . . . .	350
64	Spatial adverbs based on postpositions (Part 2) . . . . .	351
65	Spatial adverbs derived from nouns . . . . .	355
66	Spatial adverbs expressing proximate location . . . . .	360
67	Spatial adverbs expressing distality . . . . .	361
68	Spatial postpositions (Part 1) . . . . .	379

69	Spatial postpositions (Part 2) . . . . .	379
70	Non-spatial postpositions . . . . .	389
71	Case paradigm of cardinal numerals . . . . .	395
72	Case paradigm of ordinal numerals . . . . .	403
73	Villages and towns . . . . .	457
74	Districts and states . . . . .	459
75	Ethnic groups in Daghestan . . . . .	460
76	Some microtoponyms . . . . .	462
77	Agreement prefixes and some demonstrative pronouns . . . . .	464
78	Grammatical roles . . . . .	476
79	Grammatical roles in Hinuq . . . . .	496
80	Case marking and derivation and non-canonical agents . . . . .	519
81	Complement-taking verbs and their strategies (Part 1) . . . . .	593
82	Complement-taking verbs and their strategies (Part 2) . . . . .	594
83	Complement-taking verbs and their strategies (Part 3) . . . . .	595
84	Agreement and case assignment in complement clauses . . . . .	649
85	Simple and reduplicated reflexive pronouns in the local domain	677
86	Formal and functional characteristics of multi-verb structures .	704
87	Hinuq orthography (Part 1) . . . . .	805
88	Hinuq orthography (Part 2) . . . . .	806

## Abbreviations

For interlinear morpheme-by-morpheme glosses I follow the Leipzig Glossing Rules. They can be found at <http://www.eva.mpg.de/lingua/resources/glossing-rules.php>. Complex glosses consist of at least two simple glosses, divided by a dot, e.g. PTCP.PST ‘Past participle’.

I-V	gender classes	IMANT	Immediate Anterior
ABL1	First Ablative case	IMP	Imperative
ABL2	Second Ablative case	IN	Location ‘in(side)’
ABS	Absolutive case	INDEF	Indefinite
ABST	Abstract suffix	LOC	Locative
ADD	Additive	MOD	Modifying enclitic
ADJ	Adjectivizer	MSD	Masdar
ALOC	‘Animate’ location	NARR	Narrative enclitic
ANT	Anterior converb	NEG	Negation
ANTIP	Antipassive	NHPL	Nonhuman plural
AT	Location ‘at’	OBL	Oblique
ATT	Attributive marker	OPT	Optative
CAUS	Causative	ORD	Ordinal numeral
CONC	Concessive converb	PL	Plural
COND	Conditional converb	POST	Posterior converb
CONT	Location with contact	POT	Potential
CVB	Narrative converb	PROH	Prohibitive
DAT	Dative case	PRS	Present
DIR	Directional case	PRT	Particle
DIST	Distributive	PST	Past
DOUBT	Enclitic signalling doubt	PTCP	Participle
ERG	Ergative case	PURP	Purposive
EMPH	Emphatic enclitic	Q	Interrogative
EQ	Equative enclitic	QUOT	Quotative enclitic
FUT	Definite future	REC	Reciprocal
GEN1	First Genitive	RED	Reduplication
GEN2	Second Genitive	REFL	Reflexive
GT	General tense	REL	Relativizer
HAB	Habitual participle	RES	Resultative participle
HPL	human plural	SG	Singular
ICVB	Imperfective converb	SIM	Simultaneous converb
ILOC	‘Inanimate’ location	SPR	Location ‘on’

SUB	Location ‘under’
TERM	Terminative converb
TOP	Topic
UWPST	Unwitnessed past
VOC	Vocative suffix

Other abbreviations

A	Agent
adj.	Adjective
adv.	Adverb
BC	backward control
EXP	Experiencer
G	Goal
intr.	Intransitive
LA	local agreement
LDA	long distance agreement
lit.	Literally
N	Noun
obl.	Oblique stem
P	Patient
R	Recipient
S	Single argument of an intransitive clause
STIM	Stimulus
T	Theme
tr.	Transitive
V	Verb
SAP	Speech act participant



# Chapter 1

## Introduction

### 1.1. The Hinuq people

#### 1.1.1. Hinuq speakers and their village

Hinuq is one of the smallest Nakh-Daghestanian languages. It is the native language of about 600 people. The great majority of them live in the village of Hinuq in the southwestern part of Daghestan. About 30 households with a total of more than 100 members live in the village of Monastirski in the north of Daghestan near the town of Kizljar, and their number is growing. A few other Hinuq speakers live in Shamkhal near the Daghestanian capital Makhachkala, in Makhachkala, and in various other places in Daghestan. Figure 1 shows a map of Daghestan with the major places where Hinuq speakers live.

The self-designation of the Hinuq people is *Hinuze* or *Hinuzas ahlu* (whereby *ahlu* means ‘folk, people’), and the language is called *Hinuzas mec* (*mec* = ‘language’). The Russian name of the language is *Ginuxskij jazyk*, and the English term is *Hinukh*, *Ginukh*, or *Hinuq*. According to Khalilov & Isakov (2005: 15), the term derives from the Hinuq word *hune* ‘way’. The village name *Hinuq* can then be translated as ‘on the way’, from the word *hune* ‘way’ and the last segment *-q* would be a fossilized spatial case suffix.

The exact number of Hinuq speakers is unknown. Rizaxanova (2006: 8-10) provides some information about the number of Hinuq speakers during the past two centuries:

(1) Year	People	Households
1842		100
1873		31
around 1880	148	26
1886	35	7
1902	272	
1926	150	28
around 1950 <sup>1</sup>	about 200	
1967 <sup>2</sup>	200	
1990	>500	117

<sup>1</sup> This number is estimated by Bokarev (1959: 111).

<sup>2</sup> This number is given by van den Berg (1995: 4).



Figure 1. A map of Daghestan, showing places where Hinuq people live or used to live

The Russian census of 2002 gives 522 as the number of Hinuq speakers.<sup>3</sup> But my informants repeatedly told me that the actual number is probably a little higher, around 600. Ethnically, the Hinuq people are officially considered to be Avars. The Avars are the largest ethnicity in Daghestan.

The village of Hinuq (Russian *Ginux*) is located at an altitude of about 2,000 m. In the south the territory of the village borders with Georgia, in the west with the Tsez village Kidiro, and in the east with Bezhta. In the north it is surrounded by high mountains. The village is located in the Tsunta district (*Cuntinskij rajon*), which is now a border zone with Georgia. Since 2007 individuals who are not residents are not allowed to enter that border zone without a special permission, which makes every trip there a little complicated for outsiders. The permission is issued by the FSB (*Federal'naja služba bezopasnosti Rossijskoj Federacii*, i.e. the Federal Security Service) in Kaspiysk, and it takes at least two months to get the permit for a foreigner.

The village can be reached by car or small buses basically all the year through, but in winter the journey can be dangerous due to avalanches and falling rock caused by heavy rain. The trip from the Daghestanian capital Makhachkala (about 300 km) takes approximately seven hours by car and nine hours by bus. The bus has only recently been established. It connects Hinuq with Makhachkala and runs twice a week. The other settlements of Hinuq people are much more easily accessible, therefore I made the decision not to go to Hinuq when I only had a short time for my fieldtrips.

### 1.1.2. The social and ethnological background

The main occupation of Hinuq people used to be livestock-breeding, mainly sheep and goats, but also cows. Nowadays, many, but far from all inhabitants of the village, have their own animals. From the milk the women make various milk products such as cheese, kefir, sour cream, and butter. Almost everyone has a small garden to grow potatoes and other vegetables like beetroots or carrots and fruits like apples, gooseberries, currants, and cornel cherries. In summer and autumn women go to the forests in order to collect blueberries, raspberries, and mushrooms. Some Hinuq people work in the school, in the local administration in Kidiro, in the hospital in Kidiro, or as policemen to earn a living.

The living conditions in Hinuq are not easy. The winters are long with a lot of snow, the summers are short. Electricity is available, but especially in autumn and winter the supplies are often interrupted. Water is provided by a self-constructed system, but not every household has its own water supply. However,

---

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.perepis2002.ru/>

the living standard is not much lower than in the capital. Although all young people leave the village for some time after school to get a higher education or to do their military service, some of them come back and therefore the village is constantly growing.

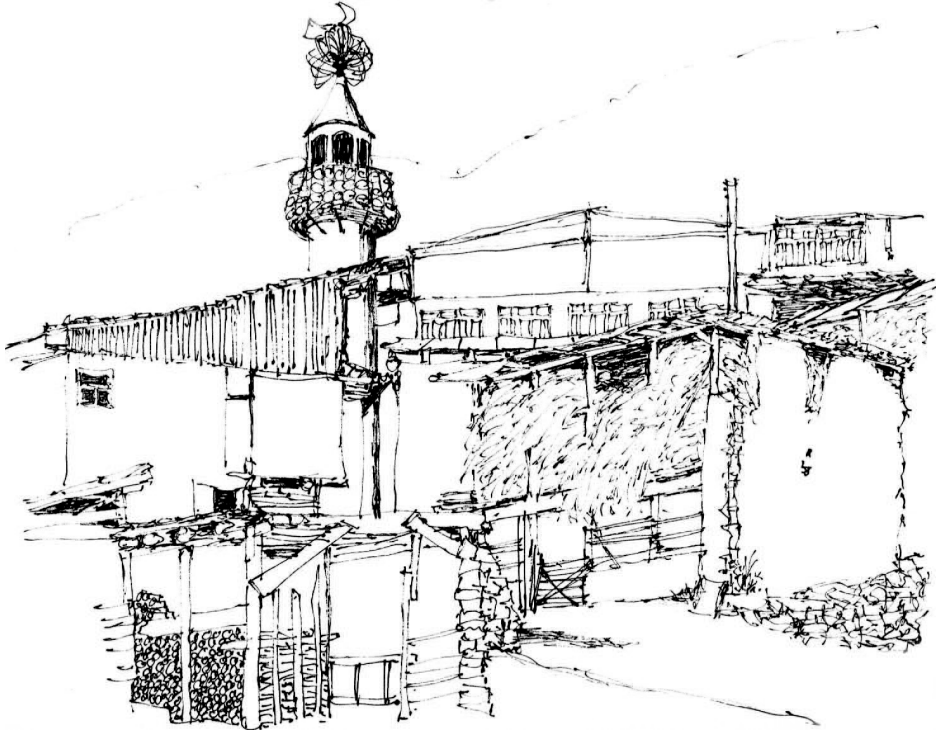


Figure 2. The minaret of the old mosque in Hinuq

The village has a school with eleven grades and about 100 pupils. There is an old mosque still in use. Recently a new mosque was opened. There are three shops where not only food but also small house items, stationery, and clothes are sold. The village also has a house for cultural events where folklore concerts are occasionally organized. People use mobile phones for communication. As of yet internet is not available.

Due to their contact with the Georgians, the Hinuq people were Christians before they converted to Islam around the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Now they are Sunni Muslims.

Hinuq people traditionally favor marriages within the village and/or within the family. Families consist not only of Hinuq speakers but also of Tsez speakers and occasionally Bezhta speakers from the neighboring villages. Women move to the husband's house after the wedding and are expected to learn the language

of the husband. Therefore, many wives of Hinuq men are Tsez speakers, and Hinuq women have moved to Tsez villages.

A detailed description of Hinuq ethnology including information about agriculture, material culture, family and social life and spiritual and religious traditions can be found in a recent book by Rizaxanova (2006).



Figure 3. In the village of Hinuq

### 1.1.3. Some notes on the history

Not much is known about the ancient history of the Hinuq people. According to Rizaxanova (2006: 171), they settled their territory about 2000-2500 years ago. They alternately belonged to the union of Tsez villages called *Dido* and to the Ancuq-Bezhta community called *Antl-Ratl*. They had well-established contacts with Georgians, as well as with their Tsez and Bezhta neighbors. These contacts can be estimated to go back at least to the year zero (Comrie & Khalilov 2009b). During the winter Hinuq men would go to Georgia in order to work and earn money.

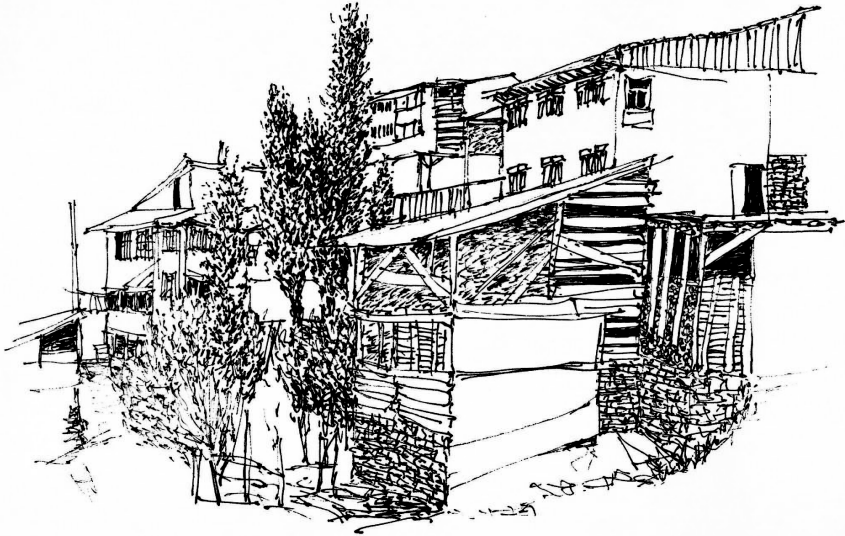


Figure 4. Houses and barns in Hinuq

In 1944 the Chechens were accused of collaborating with the Nazis and were therefore deported to Kazakhstan and other places. At the same time many Daghestanian people were forcibly resettled to Chechnya to the places which the Chechens had to vacate. The Hinuq people had to move to the village of Erseni in Chechnya. Because they did not want to go there, their houses were burned down. On the way to Chechnya, a journey which was undertaken on foot, and in the initial period many people died of malaria and other diseases. In 1957, when the Chechens were rehabilitated and came back to their villages, the Daghestanian people had to move back. The Hinuq people came back to their territory and had to rebuild their village anew.

In the 1960's and 1970's the Soviets pressured the people living in the Caucasus mountains to move to the lowlands, especially from those villages which lacked roads, electricity, and other infrastructure. The various ethnicities were assigned places in the lowlands to build up new settlements, and grants from the government were given to develop those settlements. Thus, beginning in 1986 Hinuq people began moving to the village of Monastirski in the Kizljar district of Daghestan (Figure 1). In that village not only Hinuq, but also Tsez, Dargi, Avar, Russian, Noghay, and other people live together. Every year more and more Hinuq families move the mountains to Monastirski.

## 1.2. The Hinuq language

### 1.2.1. The status of the Hinuq language

Hinuq is an oral language used by Hinuq people within their own community as the basic means of everyday communication. It lacks any dialectal variation. Hinuq does not have an official status in Russia. It is the first language acquired by Hinuq children. Hinuq is not studied at school, nor is it the language of instruction. All school teaching and all higher education is in Russian only. There are no published texts available in Hinuq apart from the texts in the grammars by Bokarev and Imnajšvili (Section 1.3.1) and a few poems written by Nabi Isaev, my main informant, which have been published in the local newspaper *Didojskie vesti* ('Dido news') in 2003 and 2006. The languages of mass media are Russian and partly Avar.

Pre-school Hinuq children speak mostly only Hinuq, at least if both parents are Hinuq speakers themselves and/or they live in the village of Hinuq. If one of the parents is Tsez, especially if the mother is Tsez, then the children most probably also speak Tsez. Furthermore, due to television broadcast in Russian, even pre-school children often have a passive command of Russian.

All Hinuq speakers older than 6 years (i.e. beginning with the school) have some command of Russian since education is exclusively in Russian. Although older speakers might not know it very well, they are all able to communicate in Russian with outsiders. Young Hinuq speakers living in the lowlands often know Russian better than Hinuq.

Avar is taught in school as the so-called *rodnoj jazyk* ('mother tongue'). Thus, all Hinuq speakers except for pre-school children have some knowledge of Avar. Since the phoneme inventories of Hinuq and Avar are rather similar, the knowledge of how to write Avar helps Hinuq speakers to write in their own language. The knowledge level of Avar mostly depends on the age of the speakers: older speakers know Avar better than younger ones because Avar used to be the lingua franca in the areas where Hinuq is located. Younger speakers do not know it very well. They speak Russian outside the community because Russian is more widespread and more important than Avar. However, in the past Avar has had a great impact on Hinuq, especially on the lexicon (Section 1.2.4).

Very old speakers have some command of Georgian since there have been well-established relationships between Georgians and Hinuq people for some centuries (Section 1.1.3). But nowadays the border is completely closed and there is no need to know Georgian anymore.

Other languages known by Hinuq speakers are Tsez as it is spoken in the neighboring village Kidiro and to a lesser extent Bezhta due to extensive relationships between the three Tsezic communities.

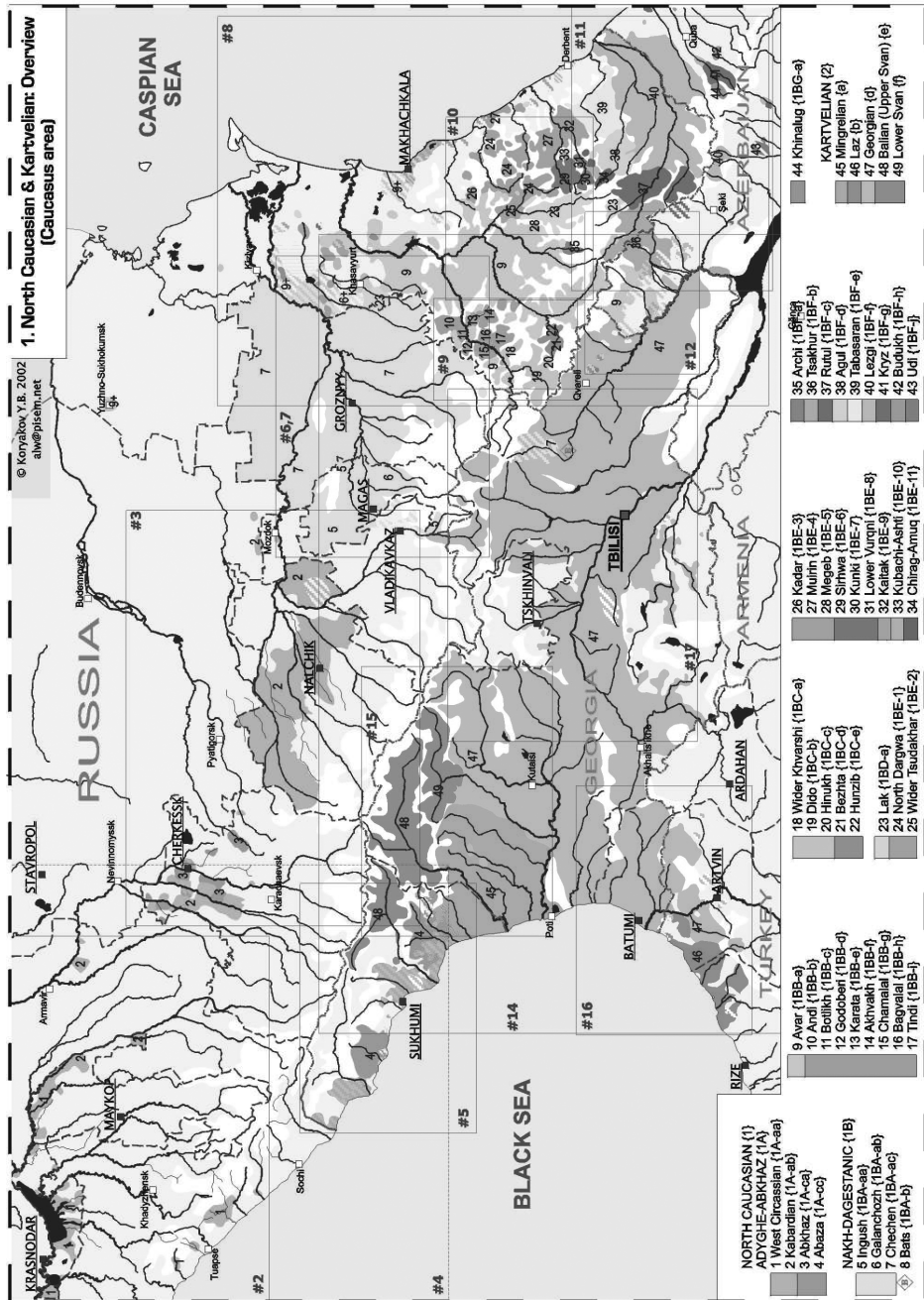


Figure 5. A linguistic map of the Caucasus (Korjakov 2006)

### 1.2.2. Genealogical affiliation

The Caucasus is the place with the greatest linguistic variation in Europe. The autochthonous languages of the Caucasus belong to three families: North-West Caucasian (or Abkhaz-Adyghe), North-East Caucasian (or Nakh-Daghestanian), and South Caucasian (or Kartvelian), with no provable genealogical relationship between them (see Figure 5).

Hinuq belongs to the Tsezic subbranch of the Nakh-Daghestanian (or East Caucasian) language family (2).

#### (2) Nakh-Daghestanian (North-East Caucasian)

Nakh branch

Chechen, Ingush, Tsova-Tush (or Batsbi)

Avar-Andic branch

Avar

Andic subbranch

Andi, Botlikh, Godoberi, Karata, Akhvakh, Bagvalal,  
Tindi, Chamalal

Tsezic branch

East Tsezic subbranch

Bezhta, Hunzib

West Tsezic subbranch

Tsez, **Hinuq**, Khwarshi (incl. Inkhoqwari)

Lak

Dargi branch

Akusha, Urakhi, Mjurego-Gubden, Mugi, Tsudakhar,  
Gapshima-Butri, Kadar, Muira, Mehweb, Sirkhi,  
Amukh, Qunqi, Icari, Chirag, Kaitag, Kubachi, Ashti

Khinalugh

Lezgian branch

Udi, Archi

Nuclear Lezgian subbranch

Lezgian, Agul, Tabasaran, Tsakhur, Rutul, Kryz,  
Budukh

Instead of considering Tsezic as a separate branch of Nakh-Daghestanian, some authors group it together with Avar and the Andic languages to the so-called Avar-Andic-Tsezic branch (cf. Alekseev 1999c, Korjakov 2006: 27). The Tsezic languages can be divided into East Tsezic, consisting of Hunzib and Bezhta, and West Tsezic, consisting of Tsez, Hinuq, and Khwarshi (whereby Khwarshi is divided into Khwarshi proper and Inkhoqwari, two very different dialects that can be considered to form separate languages). The language family tree given in (2) shows the position of Hinuq.

Hinuq's closest neighbor (both genealogically and geographically) is the Tsez dialect as spoken in the village of Kidiro, which is located about 3 km to the west of Hinuq. Alekseev (1999a) and Korjakov (2006: 21), based on glottochronology, estimate the time depth of Proto-Tsezic at 500 BCE and of Proto-West-Tsezic at 300 CE.

### 1.2.3. Typological overview of Hinuq

Hinuq has a medium-size vowel inventory with six vowels. The front rounded vowel /"u/ is only preserved in the speech of older speakers. Pharyngealized vowels occur in a restricted number of native words. As is typical for Nakh-Daghestanian languages, Hinuq has a fairly rich consonant inventory. It distinguishes three types of stops and affricates: voiced, voiceless, and ejective. Ejectives are quite forceful. Therefore, the contrast between pulmonic consonants and ejectives is easily audible. All velar and uvular consonants occur in plain and labialized form. The syllable structure of native Hinuq words is  $CV(:y)(C)$ . Stress is not a particularly important category in Hinuq grammar and is often hard to identify.

The category of gender plays an important role throughout the grammar of Hinuq. Nouns belong to five different genders, whose assignment is only partially based on the semantics. Agreement of various parts of speech (verbs, adjectives, adverbs, demonstrative pronouns) is triggered by a combination of gender and number. It is mostly expressed by prefixes. The majority of vowel-initial verbs, a few adverbs and adjectives, and all demonstrative pronouns show agreement. Verbs and adverbs agree with the Absolutive argument of their clause; adjectives and demonstrative pronouns with the head noun.

Hinuq is a dependent-marking language. The morphology is strongly agglutinative and except for the agreement prefixes only suffixing. Hinuq has ergative case marking. The case system is rather large, consisting of 6 grammatical and 35 spatial cases. The spatial cases combine two dimensions: location and orientation. All nouns, pronouns, numerals, and a few adjectives distinguish a direct vs. an oblique stem. Case suffixes are always added to the oblique stem.

Verbs distinguish a fairly large number of tense, mood/modality, and aspect forms. The tense-aspect-mood forms are partially conflated with an evidentiality system that distinguishes between neutral vs. unwitnessed forms in the past tenses. Hiniq has many non-finite verb forms such as converbs, participles, and nominalized forms. These verb forms usually head subordinate clauses or occur in periphrastic verb forms of independent main clauses. The inventory of simple underived verbs is rather small, but Hiniq has a number of very productive strategies used to increase the inventory of verbs: causative derivation and inchoative derivation, compounding, light verb constructions, and also serial verb constructions.

Hiniq has postpositions governing various cases. Many of the postpositions are also used as adverbs, which makes a distinction of these two parts of speech occasionally difficult. The Hiniq numeral system from 20 to 99 is vigesimal. Hiniq has cardinal, ordinal, collective, multiplicative, and distributive numerals. There are about 20 enclitics that serve various grammatical and/or pragmatic functions.

The basic valency classes of Hiniq are intransitive, extended intransitive, transitive, extended transitive, and experiencer verbs, whereby the experiencer verbs are the only class having the most prominent argument in the Dative case. The valency classes correspond to the simple clause types with many extended intransitive and extended transitive verbs having non-canonical agents or other arguments expressed by spatial cases.

Types of complex sentences are adverbial clauses mostly headed by converbs, relative clauses formed with participles, and complement clauses. Reported speech is expressed by constructions differing from ordinary complement clauses. Some complement clauses headed by verbs showing agreement can display either local agreement with the complement clause as a whole, or long distance agreement with the embedded argument in the Absolutive. Coordination and subordination by means of conjunctions plays a very marginal role in clause combining.

In reflexive and reciprocal constructions with verbs belonging to certain valency classes (experiencer verbs and verbs with non-canonical agents), the role of the most prominent argument as indicated by the case marking can or even must be fulfilled by the reflexive or reciprocal pronoun and not by the controlling noun phrase. In addition, there is extensive long-distance reflexivization in various types of subordinate clauses.

Phrases are head-final. In clauses with transitive verbs the most frequent word order is agent-patient-verb, although main clauses admit all other five logically possible orders. Only subordinate clauses are more restrictive in their word order. Generally, word order is strongly influenced by information structure.

## 1.2.4. Language contact

Hinuq has been in immediate contact with three languages from which it has borrowed many words: Georgian, Avar and Russian. Nowadays, only Avar, and Russian constitute contact languages because the border to Georgia has been closed since the collapse of the Soviet Union. Furthermore, there has been and there still is extensive contact between Hinuq speakers and speakers of two other Tsezic languages, Bezhta and Tsez (Section 1.2.5). When comparing the lexicons of all three languages a striking similarity in the inventory of loan words becomes obvious. Therefore, this section is heavily based on Comrie & Khalilov (2009a, 2009b), who offer a description of language contact in Bezhta and lists of borrowed items. For the phonological adaptations that loans words have undergone in Hinuq see Section 2.4.7.

The contact between Hinuq speakers and Georgians must go back in time a fair distance. For the neighboring Tsezic languages Comrie & Khalilov (2009b) estimate that contact must go back at least to the year zero, and this can also be assumed for Hinuq. A list of examples of Georgian loans in Hinuq is given in (3).

(3) Hinuq	Georgian
<i>k'owzi</i> 'spoon'	< <i>k'ovzi</i>
<i>wazi</i> 'grapevine'	< <i>vazi</i>
<i>simindi/simildi</i> 'maize'	< <i>simindi</i>
<i>otoxi</i> 'room'	< <i>otaxi</i>
<i>ukru</i> 'silver'	< <i>okro</i> ('gold')
<i>tupi</i> 'gun'	< <i>topi</i>
<i>santali</i> 'candle'	< <i>santeli</i>
<i>hayri</i> 'air'	< <i>haeri</i>
<i>mat'i</i> 'goose'	< <i>bat'i</i>
<i>yurdelo</i> 'priest'	< <i>myvdeli</i>
<i>yino</i> 'wine'	< <i>yvino</i>
<i>c'int'a</i> 'sock'	< <i>c'inda</i>
<i>saq'dari</i> 'church'	< <i>saqdari</i>
<i>c'ikay</i> 'mirror, glass'	< <i>č'ika</i>
<i>(inah)zek'u</i> 'mushroom'	< <i>zok'o</i>
<i>ixuraq</i> 'duck'	< <i>ixvi</i>

Avar has been the largest source for loans into Hinuq (though nowadays it is probably outranked by Russian). There has been intense contact for at least a few centuries. Hinuq was part of a larger Avar dominated community with Ancuq as the center and Avar was the lingua franca in that area for a long time

(only in recent times has it been replaced by Russian). Avar loans in Hinuq are readily identifiable and are found throughout the lexicon. There are adverbs and postpositions borrowed from Avar, but the loans are mostly adjectives, nouns, and verbs. In Hinuq, the adjectives from Avar do not show gender agreement anymore (Section 6.3). The verbs have been borrowed either in the Infinitive (whereby they have preserved the infinitival suffix in the Ancuq dialect *-izi/-ezi*, which is distinct from the infinitival suffix *-ize* of the standard language) or in the Masdar, a deverbal noun. In Hinuq, both such verb forms usually occur in light verb constructions together with the Hinuq verbs *-iq-* ‘be, become’ or *-u-* ‘do’ (Section 9.3.2).

(4)	Hinuq	Avar
	<i>bac'adaw</i> ‘clean’	< <i>b-ac'c'ada-w</i>
	<i>baħaray</i> ‘bride’	< <i>baħaray</i>
	<i>bak'arzi</i> ‘collect, gather’	< <i>bak'arzi</i>
	<i>bałgo</i> ‘secretly’	< <i>bałgo</i>
	<i>bercinaw</i> ‘beautiful’	< <i>bercina-w</i>
	<i>berten</i> ‘wedding’	< <i>bertin</i>
	<i>bet'erħan/bet'erhan</i> ‘husband, Lord’	< <i>bet'erhan</i>
	<i>bič'i</i> ‘understanding’	< <i>bič'č'i</i>
	<i>sadaq/cadaq</i> ‘together, with, all’	< <i>cadaq</i>
	<i>č'ago/č'agu</i> ‘alive’	< <i>č'ago</i>
	<i>č'uħi</i> ‘pride’	< <i>č'uħi</i>
	<i>dahaw</i> ‘few, little’	< <i>daha-w</i>
	<i>gamač</i> ‘stone’	< <i>gamač'</i>
	<i>t'ek</i> ‘book’	< <i>teġ</i>
	<i>halmaġ, hudul</i> ‘friend’	< <i>halmaġ, hudul</i>
	<i>hardezi</i> ‘ask, request, beg’	< <i>hardezi</i>
	<i>ħalt'i</i> ‘work’	< <i>ħalt'i</i>
	<i>ħalki</i> ‘repose’	< <i>ħalġi</i>
	<i>kumak</i> ‘help’	< <i>kumak</i>
	<i>kutakalda</i> ‘very, strongly’	< <i>kutakalda</i>
	<i>maduhal</i> ‘neighbor’	< <i>maduhal</i>
	<i>namuštizi</i> ‘be embarrassed, ashamed’	< <i>namuštizi</i>
	<i>req'un</i> ‘in accordance with’	< <i>req'on</i>
	<i>boži</i> ‘belief’	< <i>boži</i>

Neither today nor in the past has there been much direct contact between Hinuq speakers and Russian speakers, but Russian is clearly the language with the heaviest influence on Hinuq at the present stage. A big part of the public life takes place in Russian (e.g. television, newspapers, education, and economy).

The number of loans from Russian is constantly growing since nowadays all new loans, including all internationalisms are borrowed from Russian. An illustrative list is given in (5). The influence from Russian is especially obvious in translations from Russian into Hinuq, which not only contain more Russian words than natural discourse, but also show alternations in the syntax. For instance, the word order in Russian is predominantly agent-verb-patient, but in Hinuq it is agent-patient-verb. Another example is the use of nouns marked for plural after all numbers except for the numeral 1, which is the norm in Russian, but not in Hinuq (in Hinuq normally the singular is used).

Following Comrie & Khalilov (2009b), the year 1900 can be taken as a starting point for the entry of Russian loans directly into Hinuq. However, it seems that at least some loans entered the language earlier, mediated through Georgian.

(5) Hinuq	Russian
<i>balnica</i> ‘hospital’	< <i>bol’nica</i>
<i>banka</i> ‘tin, can’	< <i>banka</i>
<i>čaynik</i> ‘kettle’	< <i>čajnik</i>
<i>peč</i> ‘oven’	< <i>peč</i>
<i>iškola</i> ‘school’	< <i>škola</i>
<i>direktor</i> ‘director’	< <i>direktor</i>
<i>zamag</i> ‘shop assistant’	< <i>zavmag</i>
<i>rayon</i> ‘district’	< <i>rajon</i>
<i>agarod</i> ‘garden’	< <i>ogorod</i>
<i>tok</i> ‘electricity’	< <i>tok</i>
<i>gazet</i> ‘newspaper’	< <i>gazeta</i>
<i>magazin</i> ‘shop’	< <i>magazin</i>
<i>mašina</i> ‘car’	< <i>mašina</i>
<i>kino</i> ‘film’	< <i>kino</i> ‘cinema’
<i>armiya</i> ‘army’	< <i>armija</i>
<i>toxtur</i> ‘doctor’	< <i>doktor</i>
<i>sud</i> ‘court’	< <i>sud</i>
<i>naskibe</i> ‘socks’	< <i>noski</i>
<i>istoli</i> ‘table’	< <i>stol</i>
<i>meleci</i> ‘police’	< <i>milicija</i>

The other three languages that have had a certain impact on the Hinuq vocabulary are Arabic (6), Turkic languages (7), and Persian (8). It is unknown whether there has been any direct contact with speakers of Arabic, Persian, or Turkic languages. Most, if not all words from these languages found in Hinuq can also be found in Avar. Therefore, following Comrie & Khalilov (2009b), I assume Avar to be the intermediary language and the direct origin of the words

in Hinuq. Consequently, throughout this grammar I refer to loans from Arabic, Persian, and Turkic as Avar loans, although Avar was not the original source.

- |     |                                      |                               |
|-----|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (6) | Hinuq                                | Arabic                        |
|     | <i>zaman</i> ‘time’                  | < <i>zaman</i>                |
|     | <i>ħuk(u)mat</i> ‘government, power’ | < <i>ħuku:mat</i>             |
|     | <i>saʔat</i> ‘hour’                  | < <i>sa:ʔat</i> ‘hour, clock’ |
|     | <i>axir</i> ‘end’                    | < ‘ <i>axi:r</i> ‘last’       |
|     | <i>ʔumru</i> ‘life’                  | < <i>ʔumr</i>                 |
|     | <i>naslu</i> ‘generation, offspring’ | < <i>nasl</i>                 |
|     | <i>insan</i> ‘human being’           | < <i>insa:n</i>               |
|     | <i>hawa</i> ‘air’                    | < <i>hawa:ʔ</i>               |
|     | <i>maydan</i> ‘glade, square, field’ | < <i>mayda:n</i>              |
|     | <i>pikru</i> ‘thought, idea’         | < <i>fikr</i>                 |
|     | <i>qʔurban</i> ‘sacrifice’           | < <i>qurba:n</i>              |
|     | <i>miskin(aw)</i> ‘poor’             | < <i>miski:n</i>              |
|     | <i>Allah</i> ‘Allah, God’            | < <i>alla:h</i>               |
|     | <i>din</i> ‘religion’                | < <i>di:n</i>                 |
|     | <i>žamaʔat</i> ‘society, community’  | < <i>žamaʔyat</i>             |
|     | <i>dulan/dunyal</i> ‘world’          | < <i>dunya:</i>               |
|     | <i>šaytʔan</i> ‘devil’               | < <i>šayta:n</i>              |
|     | <i>ilbis</i> ‘devil’                 | < <i>ibli:s</i>               |
|     | <i>ʔelmu/ʔilmu</i> ‘science’         | < <i>ʔilm</i>                 |
|     | <i>ʔilla</i> ‘reason’                | < <i>ʔila:</i>                |
|     | <i>ʔalim</i> ‘scholar’               | < <i>ʔala:m</i>               |
| (7) | Hinuq                                | Turkic                        |
|     | <i>yaray</i> ‘weapon’                | < <i>yarag</i>                |
|     | <i>bazar</i> ‘market’                | < <i>bazar</i>                |
|     | <i>bazargam</i> ‘merchant’           | < <i>bazargan</i>             |
|     | <i>xan</i> ‘king’                    | < <i>xan</i>                  |
|     | <i>gama</i> ‘ship’                   | < <i>gami</i>                 |
|     | <i>kawu</i> ‘gate’                   | < <i>kapu</i>                 |
|     | <i>qarawul</i> ‘guard’               | < <i>qarawul</i>              |
|     | <i>ulka</i> ‘country’                | < <i>ülke</i>                 |
| (8) | Hinuq                                | Persian                       |
|     | <i>šušā</i> ‘bottle’                 | < <i>šišē</i>                 |
|     | <i>šahar</i> ‘town’                  | < <i>šahr</i>                 |
|     | <i>nagaħ</i> ‘if’                    | < <i>na:ga:h</i> ‘suddenly’   |
|     | <i>ʔazal</i> ‘thousand’              | < <i>hazara</i>               |

<i>čakar</i> ‘sugar’	< <i>šakar</i>
<i>zahru</i> ‘poison’	< <i>zahr</i>
<i>daru</i> ‘medicine’	< <i>dāru</i>
<i>tušman</i> ‘enemy’	< <i>dušman</i>
<i>ya</i> ‘or’	< <i>ya</i>
<i>aždaħ</i> ‘dragon’	< <i>ajedha</i>

### 1.2.5. Influence from Tsez

Hinuq’s closest neighbor is Tsez, and the contact between Tsez and Hinuq speakers should not be underestimated. Many Hinuq men marry Tsez women, who then move to the village of Hinuq. These women often do not fully acquire the Hinuq language and sometimes simply continue to speak Tsez, at least at home. Therefore, children who have grown up in a mixed family usually know both Tsez and Hinuq, but occasionally speak more Tsez at home than Hinuq. The influence from Tsez is more obvious in recent phonological changes, but there are also small morphological innovations.

One prominent recent change is the loss of labialization (Section 2.2.3). For example, the words in the left column illustrate three labialized Hinuq words as uttered by the elder generation. In contrast, younger Hinuq speakers pronounce the same words without the labialized consonant at the beginning, whereby the following vowel changes its quality. The words in the second column are also used by Tsez speakers of the neighboring village Kidiro.

(9) Older Hinuq speakers	Younger Hinuq speakers / Tsez speakers	Translation
<i>x<sup>w</sup>in</i>	<i>x<sup>ɸ</sup>on</i> or <i>xun</i>	‘mountain’
<i>k<sup>w</sup>id</i>	<i>kud</i>	‘basket’
<i>k<sup>w</sup>idi</i>	<i>k’udi</i>	‘wine’
<i>q<sup>w</sup>inu</i>	<i>q’unu</i>	‘two-year animal’

However, it is not clear whether the loss of the labialization is really triggered by the influence from Tsez since it is also found with Hinuq words that do not have Tsez cognates that are completely identical with the Hinuq words as pronounced by younger speakers. For instance, *y<sup>w</sup>ero* ‘cow’ is now pronounced as *yore*. The Tsez cognate *yure* means ‘big animal with horns’, the Tsez word for cow being *ziya*.

Another change in the Hinuq phonology is the loss of the front rounded vowel (Section 2.1.1). This vowel is absent from Tsez, so maybe its loss can be attributed to the Tsez influence. Nevertheless, it is also absent from Russian, another language with a huge impact on Hinuq.

Another change probably attributable to Tsez is the change from /i/ to /e/ in some words. For example, older speakers say *-iʔi* ‘similar’, whereas younger speakers pronounce the same word as *-iʔe*, i.e. in the same way as the word occurs in Tsez.

In the morphology I found one clear trait from Tsez. Younger Hinuq speakers use the Tsez distributive suffix *-t'a* instead of the Hinuq ILOC-Essive *-ho*, which can be employed to convey the same meaning (10a, 10b).

- (10) a. *haze-z dahaw simindi-ya-s k'ot'o-t'a toʔʔo*  
 they.OBL-DAT few corn-OBL-GEN I plate-DIST give.ICVB  
*zoq'e-n*  
 be-UWPST  
 ‘A little plate of maize was given to each of them.’ (N)
- b. *ʒiw.ʒiw-li-ʒ hayʔoy hesso-ho geni toʔʔo*  
 every-OBL-DAT he.ERG some-ILOC pear give.PRS  
 ‘He gave each of them some pears.’

### 1.3. Describing and analyzing Hinuq

#### 1.3.1. Earlier literature

Since Hinuq is the smallest Tsezic language and for a long time was considered to be a dialect of Tsez, there is no long and extended tradition of its description and analysis. According to Bokarev (1959: 6), the first collection of 16 Hinuq words was published in 1916 by a Russian scholar named Serʒputovskij.

The first comprehensive description of Hinuq can be found in Bokarev’s book *Cezskie (didojskie) jazyki Dagestana* (‘Tsezic (Didoic) languages of Dagestan’). The monograph was published in 1959, but the material was in fact collected earlier, in 1933 in Hinuq and in 1949 when the Hinuq people lived in Chechnya. The book contains descriptions of the five Tsezic languages, whereby the focus is on the phonology and the morphology. The syntax is practically absent. The articles in *Jazyki Narodov SSSR IV* (‘The languages of the people of the USSR’), published in 1967, represent shortened versions of the grammatical sketches published in 1959 but additionally contained one text for each language.

In the following years mainly Georgian linguists investigated the Tsezic languages, including Hinuq. In 1963 the monograph *Ginuxskij dialect didojskogo jazyka* (‘The Hinuq dialect of the Dido language’) was published by Lomtadze. This book extensively treats the phonology and the morphology and even includes a few pages about the syntax and a number of texts. In the same year Imnajšvili published *Didojskij jazyk s sravnenii s ginuxskim i xvaršiskim jazykami*

(‘The Dido language in comparison with Hinuq and Khwarshi’), a comparative grammar of Tsez treating also Hinuq and Khwarshi.

Beginning from the 1970’s Kibrik and Kodzasov organized many field trips from Moscow State University to Daghestan in order to study Daghestanian languages. Material about Hinuq syntax can be found in *Materialy k tipologii ergativnosti* (‘Materials on the typology of ergativity’) from 1980 and 1981, and alternatively in a newer version of these books by Kibrik (2003), and partially also in Kibrik (1987). Furthermore, Kibrik & Kodzasov (1990) contains descriptions of the phonology and the case formation in many Daghestanian languages, including Hinuq.

In the past 15 years or so the Daghestanian Scientific Centre of the Russian Academy of Science, more precisely the Institute of Language, Literature and Art, has published dictionaries of many smaller, unwritten languages of Daghestan. The Hinuq-Russian dictionary by Khalilov and Isakov appeared in 2005, containing not only more than 7500 entries, but also a grammatical sketch. This sketch basically corresponds to Khalilov (1997), Khalilov & Isakov (1999) and Isakov (2000). It has been translated into English without any major changes and appeared in the third volume of the series ‘The indigenous languages of the Caucasus: The North-East Caucasian languages, Part 1’ (Isakov & Khalilov 2004). The last paper is basically the only description of Hinuq available in English.

### 1.3.2. This grammar

This book covers the most important aspects of Hinuq grammar thereby following the traditional order: phonology (Chapter 2), morphology (Chapters 3–14), syntax (Chapters 15–28), and also information structure (Chapter 29). Furthermore, it contains a long text in Hinuq with morpheme-by-morpheme glosses and an English translation (Chapter 30). The grammar is mostly based on the corpus as it is described in 1.3.4. But those topics that could not be covered comprehensively relying only on corpus analysis have been elicited.

To make the grammar reader-friendly I have tried to be as theory-neutral as possible and do not assume any knowledge of a particular theoretical framework or a particular terminology. I have chosen to capitalize the grammatical labels applied to individual Hinuq categories (e.g. Simple Present, Ergative). This reflects the fact that these categories are language-specific.

The orthography used in this grammar corresponds to the conventional orthography used in many other works on Tsezic languages. A table illustrating this orthography and other orthographies used in previous descriptions of Hinuq is given in Section 31.1 of the Appendix. The linguistic examples provide a morpheme-by-morpheme glossing and an English translation. After the trans-

lation the text from which the example was taken is indicated in parenthesis. If the example was elicited, no text name appears. Furthermore, the following symbols may occur in examples:

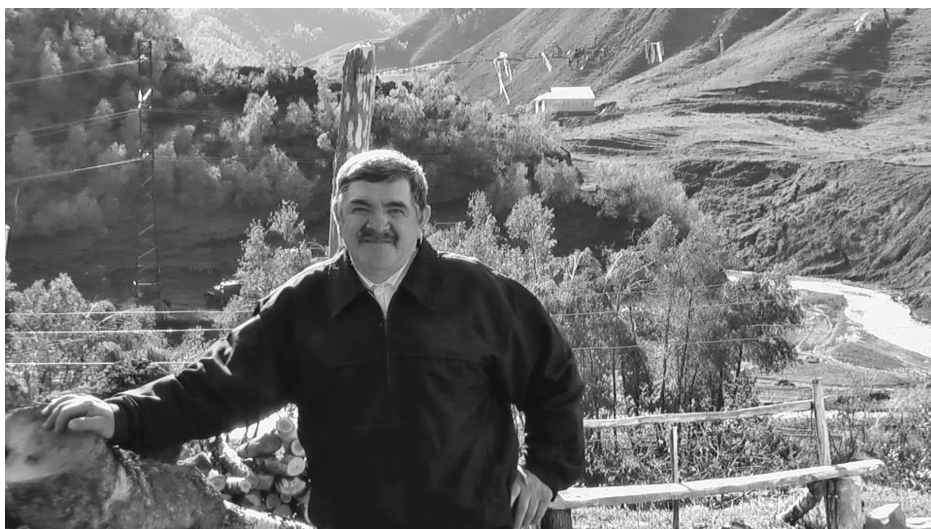
- [ ] Square brackets in Hinuq mostly indicate constituents (e.g. subordinate clauses). In Chapter 29 on information structure, they are used to indicate topic and focus. Occasionally square brackets appear in the first line of examples containing the context of the example sentence.
- { } Curly brackets are used to indicate alternatives.
- ( ) The intended translation of ungrammatical or marginally acceptable examples is given in parentheses.
- \* The asteriks indicates ungrammatical examples.
- ? A question mark indicates marginally acceptable examples.
- “ ” Quotation marks indicate reported speech.

### 1.3.3. Fieldwork

The material used in this grammar was collected during seven field trips to Daghestan between 2006 and 2011. Three of the field trips (in 2006, 2007, and 2009) led me to the village of Hinuq, where I spent about five months in total. Four other shorter trips of about two weeks each I spent mostly in the village of Monastirski, but also in Shamkhal, and in the Daghestanian capital Makhachkala. During the first period of my work (2006-2008), the focus of the field trips was on gathering material of various text genres (folklore, fairy tales and myths, proverbs, songs, oral life histories, procedural texts, and spontaneous conversations). After analyzing the material in Germany, I used the later field trips mainly for elicitation and data checking. In addition to freely narrated texts and elicitation, I used some stimuli: the pear story (Chafe 1980), the frog story (Mayer 1969, Slobin 2004), the topological pictures series (Bowerman & Pederson 2003, Levinson & Meira 2003) the tense-aspect-mood questionnaire by Dahl (1985), and map tasks which I created by myself.

My main informant during all this time was Nabi Isaev, a teacher of Avar in the village of Hinuq. He has not only a very good command of Hinuq, but also of Avar and Russian. He provided me with many Hinuq tales and legends. Since he is not only a teacher but also a writer who has published several books with poems in Avar, he also provided me with poems in Hinuq written by himself. In addition, he sat numerous hours with me answering my questions patiently and thinking of complete sentences for word forms that I presented to him. My second important informant was Magomed Gussejnov, a tax collector in Monastirski. Both informants studied at the Faculty of Philology of the Daghestanian

State University and are now about 60 years old. Furthermore, Magomed Davidov provided me with the most beautiful and very long fairy tales. Ali Isaev, the brother of my main informant Nabi Isaev, told me many anecdotes from his and his ancestors' lives and offered much useful information. Other useful information or texts were provided by Omar Abdulaev, Elmira Aburaxmanova, Nurbika Aburaxmanova, Avakar Aliev, Patimat Alievna, Ajšat Axmedova, Žanat Amarova, Šamsjat Jussupova, Raisat Sultanova, and Idris Zakarjaev. Further informants that narrated the pear story for me or were willing to respond to various other stimuli were Xava Abarkarova, Patimat Davidova, Rajganat Džaxparova, Rukijat Džaxparova, Magomed Gussejnov (the son of my second main informant), Ajšat Gussejnova, Šamil Isaev, Zuxra Isaeva, Magomed Jussupov, Omar Omarov, Šajix Paxrudinov, Elmira Paxrudinova, Madina Paxrudinova, Xavsat Paxrudinova, Sijadat Tagirova, and Patimat Zakarjaeva.



*Figure 6.* My main informant Nabi Isaev

The youngest daughter of Nabi Isaev, Džavgarat Isaeva, offered me not only her friendship, but also helped me transcribe and translate hours and hours of records, which I could never have done by myself. Elmira Paxrudinova, Sakinat Gamidova, and Raxmatbika Zakarjaeva also helped me with transcriptions and translations.

Last but not least my fieldwork would have been impossible without the hospitality of Šajix Paxrudinov and his wife Xanzabika and Idris Zakarjaev and his family with whom I lived in Hinuq, the Gussejnov families in Monastirski, Arsen Abdulaev and his wife Patimat in Shamkhal, Rasul Mutalov and his fam-

ily in Makhachkala, and finally my friend Diana Šabanova and her family in Makhachkala.

#### 1.3.4. The corpus

The structure of the corpus on which this grammar is based is displayed in Table 1. It has mainly been collected by myself. It is made up of 122 texts, whereby the longest text, a fairy tale, consists of about 500 sentences, and the shortest texts, the proverbs, consist of only one sentence each. The youngest speakers were about 12 years old, the oldest speakers about 70 years old. Chapter 30 contains one representative fairy tale from my main informant Nabi Isaev.

The corpus consists of three types of data: (i) natural discourse, (ii) texts produced by means of stimuli, and (iii) elicited data. Under ‘natural discourse’ I subsume texts where the topic is not given by means of any stimuli. These texts can be of different genres: fairy tales, legends, anecdotes, autobiographical narrations and narrations of historical events, procedural texts, proverbs, poems, dialogues, etc. Such texts make up the major part of my corpus, and whereby most of these free narrations were collected by myself. But I have also included 12 texts from the grammars that I checked again with Hinuq speakers. These texts can be found in Lomtadze (1963), Imnajšvili (1963) and Bokarev (1967) and were collected by the authors of the respective grammars in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. All those examples presented in the grammar that contain (N) after the translation originate from natural discourse.

The texts that are based on the use of stimuli are all freely produced by using films (Pear story) or pictures (Frog story, map task, Topological Pictures Series). Examples produced by means of stimuli are marked with (S) after the translation.

Finally, I did many hours of elicitation, sometimes to gather new data or to get first insights into a new topic, but mostly to check my hypotheses after having analyzed a certain topic. During the elicitation sessions I spoke Russian with my informants. For the elicitation, I either had informants translate sentences from Russian, or I constructed Hinuq sentences and checked them, or I presented my informants with Hinuq word forms and asked them to invent Hinuq sentences containing those word forms. Examples coming from elicitation are not marked, i.e. they do not contain (N) or (S) after the translation.

For many, but not for all of the texts in my corpus I have audio recordings. The audio recordings were made with a DAT recorder (2006) and later on with the audio recorder Olympus LS 10. The texts that lack audio data are either from the grammars or they were slowly dictated by the informants so that I was able to type them directly. The texts that come with audio data were first recorded and then transcribed and translated with the help of informants.

*Table 1.* The Hinuq corpus

Genre	# Glossed texts	# Recordings
Natural discourse (ca. 34.700 words)		
Fairy tales, legends, anecdotes	34	23
Autobiographical narrations, history	8	7
Recipes	9	9
Proverbs	16	-
Poems, songs	18	13
Dialogues	3	3
Texts from grammars	12	-
Texts collected by using stimuli (ca. 8.800 words)		
Pear stories	14	14
Frog story	1	1
Map task	1	1
Topological picture series	4	3
Total (ca. 43.500 words)	120	74

The corpus as presented in Table 1 contains about 43.500 words, whereby the texts from natural discourse (including those from the grammars) consist of about 34.700 words, and the texts collected by the use of stimuli consist of about 8.800 words. Elicited data is not part of this corpus.

The texts were first transcribed using the Cyrillic orthography established in the dictionary by Khalilov & Isakov (2005). The same informants that helped me to transcribe the texts also usually provided me with a rough translation into Russian. Then I was able to transcribe the texts again in the orthography used in this grammar and to gloss the texts in Toolbox. For a list of the transcription used in previous works on Hinuq and in this grammar see Appendix 31.1.



In many cases the pronunciation of the vowels /i/, /o/, and /u/ is somewhere between tense and lax. A further complication is that stress is not very prominent in Hinuq and not always clear audible (Section 2.5). The distinction between tense and lax vowels is not phonemic, because there are no words that differ only in this single feature and it seems that at least for some words the pronunciation can vary between tense and lax depending on the speaker, the rate of speech and the context. Therefore, in this grammar both tense and lax variants are always written as *i*, *ü*, *u* and *o* except for phonetic transcriptions of examples appearing in square brackets.

The vowel /ü/ has only been preserved by some older speakers. Younger speakers replace /ü/ with /i/ or very occasionally with /u/. But labialization of the preceding consonant is also possible. Younger speakers do not recognize /ü/ as a phoneme of Hinuq anymore.

(13)	Older speakers	Younger speakers	Translation
	<i>t̥iχ'ü</i>	<i>t̥iχ'i</i>	'finger'
	<i>q'üdü</i>	<i>q'idi</i>	'down'
	<i>b-üγ-ayaz</i>	<i>b-iγ-ayaz</i>	'III-take-PURP'
	<i>kü</i>	<i>ki/k<sup>w</sup>i</i>	'blueberry'

Thus, the following minimal pairs or minimal oppositions can only be found with speakers that are more than 50 years old. Younger speakers only use the pronunciations in the right-hand column, which are in this case ambiguous.

(14)	<i>č'üγü</i>	'smithy'	<i>č'iyu</i>	'shoulder-blade'
	<i>üše</i>	'bull.PL'	<i>iše</i>	'snow'
	<i>üšü</i>	'the first green grass'	<i>?iši</i>	'apple'

### 2.1.2. Diphtongs

In addition to the vowels listed in 2.2.1, Hinuq has six diphthongs [ɔɪ] (written *uy*), [aɪ] (*ay*), [ɔɪ] (*oy*), [ɛɪ] (*ey*), [aʊ] (*aw*) and [ɔʊ] (*ow*). These diphthongs can be analyzed as consisting of two phonemes, a vowel and a semivowel. For the last two diphthongs *aw* and *ow* this is obvious because they are sometimes realized as [av] and [ɔv], with an audible frication. For the first four diphthongs it can be argued that at least some of the words ending with [ɛɪ] have an alternative variant lacking a diphthong and ending simply in [ɛ]. Illustrative examples are:

(15)	<i>q'ay</i>	'thing'	<i>hayti</i>	'there'
	<i>k'oboy</i>	'shirt'	<i>ažey, aže</i>	'tree'
	<i>q'uy-q'uya</i>	'other'	<i>dawla</i>	'wealth'
	<i>hestow hes</i>	'alone'	<i>t'ok'aw</i>	'anymore'

## 2.1.3. Long vowels

All vowels occur long. Long vowels seem to occur only in stressed position. Long vowels can be either an inherent part of the morpheme or the result of a morphophonological process (2.4.3). Inherent long vowels occur in the following cases: (i) in suffixes, (ii) root-finally with a number of verbs, (iii) /i:/ occurs in a number of nouns, pronouns, question words, adjectives, and verbs.

Suffixes that have long vowels are *-li:* and *-do:* for the Antipassive (Section 9.2.5). Examples are *k'ilik'-do:-z* (wash-ANTIP-PURP) and *qaʕe-li:-ž* (shout-ANTIP-PURP).

Hinuq has a number of verb roots that end with a long vowel (16). These verbs differ both phonologically and morphologically from the verbs that end with a short vowel and therefore form their own conjugation class (see Section 7.2.2 for details). Among these verbs stem-final /a:/ is by far the most frequent long vowel. Verbs are the only root morphemes that contain the long vowels /a:/, /e:/, /o:/, and /u:/.

(16)	<i>ga:-ho</i>	‘drink-PRS’	<i>b-a:-ho</i>	‘HPL-yell-PRS’
	<i>b-ihí:-ž</i>	‘HPL-fight-PURP’	<i>b-u:-ho</i>	‘III-do-PRS’
	<i>xede:-z</i>	‘spin-PURP’	<i>b-edo:-ho</i>	‘HPL-work-PRS’

There some minimal pairs or minimal oppositions with these verbs:

(17)	<i>b-ú:-ho</i>	‘III-do-PRS’	<i>b-uh-ó</i>	‘III-die-PRS’
	<i>r-á:-ho</i>	‘NHPL-yell-PRS’	<i>yeme-rá-ho</i>	‘mill-OBL-ILOC’
	<i>b-edó:-s</i>	‘HPL-work-PST’	<i>aldoyo-dó-s</i>	‘before-DIR-ABL1’

A handful of words have [i:] (or [y:]) in their stem. Apart from a few verbs with [i:] (e.g. *-ihí:-* ‘fight’ (16)), these are two interrogative pronouns, a few nouns, and three adjectives. However, except for the pronouns the long [i:] is the result of the sequence of the two phonemes /i/ and /y/ which are phonetically realized as [i:]. Nominal, pronominal, and adjectival roots contain no other long vowels besides [i:]. Note that the vowel length correlates with the stress and the word-final position of the vowel. The three adjectives given in (18) can be stressed on the first vowel instead of the last, in which case the last vowel is short (see (84) below).

(18)	<i>ní:/ nū:</i>	‘where’	<i>iy</i>	‘blood’
	<i>miy/mihi</i>	‘birch’	<i>k<sup>w</sup>iy</i>	‘ram, wether’
	<i>í:</i>	‘whose’	<i>qiy</i>	‘hare’
	<i>-egiy</i>	‘good’	<i>yiy</i>	‘milk’
	<i>gaqiy</i>	‘bad’	<i>-<sup>?</sup>ežiy</i>	‘big, old’

The following minimal pairs and minimal oppositions containing long vs. short vowels are available:

(19)	<i>itni</i>	‘Monday’	<i>ni:</i>	‘where’
	<i>irqi</i>	‘herd, flock’	<i>qiy</i>	‘hare’
	<i>-iti</i>	‘be similar’	<i>ti:</i>	‘whose’
	<i>Ø-iš</i>	‘I-eat.IMP’	<i>i:-š</i>	‘blood-GEN1’
	<i>Ø-iq-iš</i>	‘I-happen-PST’	<i>qi:-š</i>	‘hare-GEN1’
	<i>xan-i-š</i>	‘khan-OBL-GEN1’	<i>ni:-š</i>	‘where-GEN1’

#### 2.1.4. Pharyngealization

Like the other West Tsezic languages Tsez and Khwarshi, Hinuq has a phonetic feature of vowels commonly called “pharyngealization” (or sometimes “epiglottalization”) whereby the root of the tongue is retracted towards the back wall of the pharynx.

In Hinuq, pharyngealization is quite restricted. This means that it is phonemic because it cannot be predicted. But it is optional, and there are no minimal pairs. The only Hinuq example generally cited in the literature is the adjective *-<sup>2</sup>eži* ‘big, old’ (cf. Bokarev (1959: 112), Lomtadze (1963: 23), Imnajšvili (1963: 19), Kibrik & Kodzasov (1990: 330)). Only Khalilov & Isakov (2005) mention in addition a few more words that are also claimed to have pharyngealized vowels: *<sup>2</sup>aši/ʔaši* ‘much, many, often’, *g<sup>2</sup>aqi* ‘bad’, *<sup>2</sup>og* ‘thigh’ and some more. However, most of these words are clearly not pharyngealized in my material. Looking at my own corpus, I found the native Hinuq words given in (20), which show some kind of pharyngealization. Most of these words alternate between /ʔa/ and /<sup>2</sup>a/ at the beginning.

(20)	<i>aši / <sup>2</sup>aši</i>	‘much, often’	<i>ac / <sup>2</sup>ac</i>	‘door’
	<i><sup>2</sup>ač<sup>h</sup>ino</i>	‘nine’	<i>aššu / <sup>2</sup>aššu</i>	‘thick, fat’
	<i>aλ / <sup>2</sup>aλ</i>	‘village’	<i><sup>2</sup>ela!</i>	‘enough’
	<i>-eži / <sup>2</sup>eži</i>	‘big, old’	<i>iši / <sup>2</sup>iši</i>	‘apple’
	<i>-ečču / -<sup>2</sup>ečču</i>	‘fat’		

The alternation depends on the speakers and on the speech tempo, i.e. in fast speech the pharyngealization is almost inaudible or disappears completely. Some speakers do not pharyngealize at all. For instance, as already noted by Lomtadze (1963), pharyngealization in the adjective *-<sup>2</sup>eži* does not occur with all speakers. It is especially clear after the agreement prefix of the first gender *Ø-* [*ʔ<sup>h</sup>εʒi*] and after the agreement prefix of the fifth gender/non-human plural *r-* [*r<sup>h</sup>εʒi*]. Some but not all of my young informants who are less than 20 years

old do not pronounce pharyngealized vowels in the native Hinuq words given in (20), but do pronounce them in Avar loan words (21). There is thus perhaps an ongoing loss of this feature in Hinuq.

Furthermore, it is difficult to differentiate between the pharyngeal (or epiglottal) stop /ʔ/ and pharyngealization as a type of secondary articulation indicated by <sup>ʔ</sup>. For instance, in the examples listed in (20) the vowel sounds like the vowels in loans that are preceded by /ʔ/. Hinuq has many such loans from Avar. A few of them are listed in (21).

(21)	<i>ʔagartɪ</i>	‘relatives’	<i>ʔadat</i>	‘tradition’
	<i>ʔelmu</i>	‘science’	<i>ʔilla</i>	‘reason’
	<i>ʔoloqbe</i>	‘youth’	<i>ʔumru</i>	‘life’
	<i>maʔarul</i>	‘mountainous’	<i>reʔel</i>	‘free time’
	<i>wacʔal</i>	‘male cousin’	<i>q'urʔan</i>	‘Koran’
	<i>daʔba-roʒi</i>	‘discussion’	<i>ɬaraʔ</i>	‘flat’
	<i>mapʔul</i>	‘scoundrel’		

It seems that there is actually no phonetic difference between *ʔV*, mostly found in loan words (21), and <sup>ʔ</sup>*V* in Hinuq native words (20), but in contrast to the native words, pharyngealization in loan words is obligatory and not only found at the beginning of words, but also in the middle of words (*VʔV*, *CʔV*, *VʔC*) and at the end of words. In this grammar, obligatory pharyngealization is indicated by /ʔ/ and optional pharyngealization by <sup>ʔ</sup> before the affected vowel.

There has been some discussion concerning pharyngealization in Hinuq and in other Tsezic languages (cf. Kibrik & Kodzasov (1990), Maddieson et al. (1996), Comrie (2003a), Grawunder et al. (2009)). The precise nature and the historical development of pharyngealization remains a subject of debate. Lomtadze (1963: 23) claims that pharyngealization developed under the influence of the neighboring language Tsez. Imnajšvili (1963: 19) states that pharyngealization and the pharyngeal fricative /ʔ/ developed from the glottal stop. Isakov and Khalilov (2004: 173, 2005: 567) argue that pharyngealization is a feature of the vowels /a/ and /e/.

## 2.2. Consonants

### 2.2.1. Realization

Table 3 presents the consonant inventory of Hinuq. In this table, the three series of stops are, in the given order: voiceless nonejective, voiceless ejective, and voiced. The two series of fricatives are voiceless and voiced. The two series of affricates are voiceless nonejective and voiceless ejective. In every box the first

row represents the phonetic value of each phoneme, while the second row gives the orthographic symbols used in this grammar (see also Section 31.1 in the appendix for the complete orthography).

The nonejective uvular stop usually has a strong fricative component during the release phase of the stop. Thus, phonetically it is rather an affricate [qχ] and therefore categorized by Isakov & Khalilov (2004) as such. However, with some lexemes such as *žiqu* ‘today’ the friction is normally absent. In Table 3 the plain uvular stop is classified together with the ejective uvular stop. /q/ and /qʔ/ are not only distinguished by the stronger friction of /q/ in respect to /qʔ/, but also by the time interval between the release of the stop and the beginning of the next vowel (VOT). This period is longer for /q/ than for /qʔ/.

This distinction is generally found between voiceless pulmonic and ejective stops and has already been observed by Maddieson et al. (1996: 98). The closure duration for voiceless pulmonic stops is usually quite short and is followed by a relatively lengthy period of voiceless noise during the VOT. In other words, voiceless pulmonic stops are slightly aspirated. In contrast, in ejective consonants the VOT is (almost) silent. In addition, pulmonic stops often show a short amount of preaspiration.

The semivowel /w/ is realized as a voiced labiodental fricative [v] in the syllable onset, especially at the beginning of words, and mostly as a labial-velar approximant [w] in the middle of words and in the coda, though sometimes even in the coda it can have a weak friction. Only two inherited Hinuq words (*wili* ‘in Georgia’, *wazra* ‘horsefly’) and some loans begin with /w/, almost exclusively followed by /a/:

(22)	<i>wili</i>	‘in Georgia’	<i>wazra</i>	‘horsefly’
	<i>wazi</i>	‘grapevine’	<i>wasi</i>	‘testament’
	<i>warani</i>	‘camel’	<i>weł</i>	‘thing’

In terms of the final element in native Hinuq morphemes the labial-velar approximant is only found after the vowels /o/ and /a/ in a small number of demonstrative pronouns and in the emphatic enclitic =*tow*. Very occasionally in these words /w/ is pronounced [v] or [w]. Usually the sequence -*aw* or -*ow* at the end of a word leads to the formation of the diphthongs [aʊ] and [ɔʊ] (see Section 2.1.2). In loan words such as the last four words given in (23), /w/ occurs also after /e/, /i/, and /u/.

(23)	<i>haw</i>	‘that, she’	<i>hibaw</i>	‘that’
	<i>izaw</i>	‘that’	<i>hago=tow</i>	‘same’
	<i>bečedaw</i>	‘rich’ (from Avar)		
	<i>behulew</i>	‘possible’ (from Avar)		

Table 3. Consonant inventory

	Bilabial	Dental	Alveolar	Postalveolar	Velar	Uvular	Pharyngeal	Glottal
Stop	[p] [p'] [b] p p' b	[t] [t'] [d] t t' d			[k] [k'] k k' [k <sup>w</sup> ] [k' <sup>w</sup> ] k <sup>w</sup> k' <sup>w</sup>	[q] [q'] q q' [q <sup>w</sup> ] [q' <sup>w</sup> ] q <sup>w</sup> q' <sup>w</sup>	((ʔ)) ʔ	[ʔ] ʔ
Fricative	((f)) f	[s] [z] s z	[ʃ] ʃ	[ʃ] [ʒ] ʃ ʒ		[χ] [χ'] x x' [χ <sup>w</sup> ] [χ' <sup>w</sup> ] x <sup>w</sup> x' <sup>w</sup>	[h] ħ	[h] h
Affricate		[ts] [tʃ] c c'	[tʃ] [tʃ'] tʃ tʃ'	[tʃ] [tʃ'] tʃ tʃ'				
Nasal	[m] m	[n] n						
Liquid		[r] r	[l] l					

Semivowels: [w], written as w, [j], written as y

<i>miskinaw</i>	‘poor’ (from Avar)
<i>žiw-žiw</i>	‘each, every’ (from Avar)

In native Hinuq words /w/ almost never occurs word-internally, with two exceptions: in the word *šeg<sup>w</sup>e-šewre* ‘mare’ and in some inflectional forms of one verb it is inserted to avoid two subsequent vowels (e.g. *-u:-w-a*, the Infinitive of the verb *-u:-* ‘do’, see 2.4.1). However, there are some loans with word-internal /w/, e.g. *hawa* ‘air, sky’, *kawu* ‘gate’, *haywan* ‘animal’, *dawla* ‘wealth’, and the name *Džawharat*. As can be seen in these examples, in loans and names /w/ can be followed by vowels, semivowels and consonants, but never by consonants.

The occurrence of the other semivowel, the palatal approximant /j/, is less restricted. It is found between vowels in word stems, e.g. *iyu* ‘mother’, *haya* ‘mosquito’. It also occurs before and after consonants, e.g. *hayto-* ‘that.OBL’, *hibayru* ‘so’, *qorya:-* ‘boil’, *c’oq’ya:-* ‘stich’, but never between two consonants. It can follow vowels and thus form diphthongs (24). Diphthongs are described in more detail in Section 2.1.2.

(24)	<i>ubbay</i>	‘kiss’	<i>beɣay</i>	‘dagger’
	<i>ižey</i>	‘eye’	<i>k<sup>w</sup>ezeɣ</i>	‘hand’
	<i>coy</i>	‘eagle’	<i>hoboy</i>	‘then, now’
	<i>quy</i>	‘noise’	<i>hayɣuy</i>	‘she.ERG’

It occurs word-initially before a vowel, e.g. *yocu* ‘spittle’, *yez* ‘copper’. In addition, /j/ is often epenthetic when occurring at morpheme boundaries to avoid sequences of vowels, e.g. *-edo:-yo* ‘work-COND’, *-ixi-ya* ‘go-PTCP’ (Section 2.4 for the morphophonological rules).

That both semivowels belong to the consonant inventory of Hinuq can be shown with the help of the coordinative enclitic. If this enclitic is added to vowels, it is =*n*. However, if the preceding phoneme is a consonant, then the allomorph =*no* is used to avoid word-final consonant clusters, e.g. *haw=no* ‘she=and’, *coy=no* ‘eagle=and’, or *ižey=no* ‘eye=and’.

A non-phonemic glottal stop occurs before word-initial vowels (including vowel-initial words in compounds) like *ixu* [ʔixu] ‘river’, *iyu-ubu* [ʔijo-ʔobu] ‘parents’, lit. ‘mother-father’, or *ot’iš* [ʔot’iʃ] ‘he slept’. In accordance with tradition, /ʔ/ is not written in word-initial position. There are a few words that have a phonemic glottal stop between two vowels of the same quality (which is always written). The list given in (25) is exhaustive. There is only one Avar loan word where the glottal stop occurs at the end of a syllable, namely *wabaʔ* ‘cholera’.

(25)	<i>aʔa</i>	‘rhododendron’	<i>maʔa</i>	‘threshold’
	<i>miʔi, müʔü</i>	‘fat, suet’	<i>heʔer-</i>	‘lift up’
	<i>oʔocu</i>	‘chicken’	<i>oʔo</i>	‘no’

Although pharyngeals are not extraordinarily frequent, at least the voiceless fricative /h/ occurs in word-initial, word-medial, and word-final position. In contrast, the pharyngeal stop /ʔ/ is exclusively found in loans (Section 2.1.4).

Though /f/ is not a phoneme of native Hinuq words, it is preserved with recent Russian loans and pronounced as /f/ by speakers of all ages, e.g. *front* ‘front’. In older loan words it has usually been replaced by /p/ (2.4.7).

### 2.2.2. Distribution of consonants

All plain consonants occur in initial, medial, and final position in Hinuq words and loans (26). In (26) loans are indicated with (L). In native Hinuq words the occurrence of the glottal stop ʔ is restricted because it occurs only in initial and intervocalic position (25). Labialized consonants never occur in syllable-final position, and there are no loans with them in syllable-final position (and therefore also not in word-final position). *p*, *pʷ*, *tʷ*, *k*, *q*, *c*, *cʷ*, *č*, *h*, ʔ, ʔ and all labialized consonants are absent in affixes or enclitics. The labialized and the pharyngeal consonants and the glottal stop are already restricted in their occurrences; especially the pharyngeals are quite rare. So this is probably the explanation as to why they do not occur in enclitics and affixes. But I have no explanation as to why all ejectives with the exception of /kʷ/ and /ʁʷ/ are absent from affixes and enclitics.

(26)	C	Initial	Medial	Final
	b	<i>buq</i> ‘sun’	<i>k’oboy</i> ‘shirt’	<i>šub</i> ‘lawn’
	p	<i>pelu</i> ‘wooden tube’	<i>λ’epu</i> ‘lip’	<i>nep</i> ‘fat deposit’
	pʷ	<i>p’ez</i> ‘reed’	<i>p’ap’aru</i> ‘talk active’	<i>gup</i> ‘swelling’
	d	<i>de</i> ‘I, I.ERG’	<i>yʷede</i> ‘day’	<i>ked</i> ‘girl’
	t	<i>teł</i> ‘inside’	<i>tuturu</i> ‘dirty’	<i>qot</i> ‘palm’
	tʷ	<i>t’oq</i> ‘knife’	<i>sot’i</i> ‘around’	<i>at</i> ‘flour’
	g	<i>goł</i> ‘be’	<i>igo</i> ‘near’	<i>og</i> ‘ax’
	gʷ	<i>gʷarži</i> ‘vicious union of bones’	<i>-egʷey</i> ‘small’	
	k	<i>kut’i</i> ‘smoke’	<i>t’eka</i> ‘goat’	<i>šek</i> ‘waterskin’
	kʷ	<i>kʷezey</i> ‘hand’	<i>cem-mekʷa</i> ‘cheese’	
	kʰ	<i>k’i</i> ‘weeping willow’	<i>zok’i</i> ‘cup’	<i>xuk</i> ‘dipper’
	kʷʰ	<i>kʷ’idi</i> ‘wine’	<i>akʷ’e</i> ‘nail’	
	q	<i>qeqe</i> ‘porridge’	<i>aqili</i> ‘woman’	<i>čeq</i> ‘forest’
	qʷ	<i>qʷen</i> ‘farm’	<i>aqʷe</i> ‘urine’	
	qʰ	<i>q’idi</i> ‘down’	<i>λoq’on</i> ‘hat’	<i>muq</i> ‘column’
	qʷʰ	<i>qʷ’ena</i> ‘two.OBL’	<i>aqʷ’e</i> ‘mouse’	

c	<i>ca</i> ‘star’	<i>nuce</i> ‘honey’	<i>ac</i> ‘door’
c’	<i>c’udu</i> ‘red’	<i>boc’e</i> ‘wolf’	<i>moc</i> ‘neck’
č	<i>čiyō</i> ‘salt’	<i>moči</i> ‘field, place’	<i>ič</i> ‘threshing-floor’
č’	<i>č’e</i> ‘fire’	<i>q’ič’i</i> ‘piece’	<i>(h)imič</i> ‘clay’
s	<i>sira</i> ‘why’	<i>nosod</i> ‘at noon’	<i>hes</i> ‘one’
š	<i>šex’u</i> ‘clothing’	<i>qexu</i> ‘wall’	<i>y<sup>w</sup>eriš</i> ‘cow.PL’
z	<i>zek</i> ‘tomorrow’	<i>hozu</i> ‘separately’	<i>guz</i> ‘hill’
ž	<i>žo</i> ‘thing’	<i>uži</i> ‘boy, son’	<i>bež</i> ‘enclosure’
ʃ	<i>ʃu</i> ‘who’	<i>koʃe</i> ‘fast’	<i>geʃ</i> ‘down, under’
ʁ	<i>ʁebu</i> ‘year’	<i>q’oʁu</i> ‘skin’	<i>aʁ</i> ‘village’
ʁ’	<i>ʁ’ere</i> ‘up, on’	<i>puʁ’o</i> ‘sidewards’	<i>beʁ</i> ‘sheep’
y	<i>yeme</i> ‘mill’	<i>yeyē</i> ‘slowly’	<i>muɣ</i> ‘pannier’
y <sup>w</sup>	<i>y<sup>w</sup>e</i> ‘dog’	<i>ey<sup>w</sup>ada</i> ‘sweat’	
x	<i>xu</i> ‘meat’	<i>xexbe</i> ‘child(ren)’	<i>bex</i> ‘grass, hay’
x <sup>w</sup>	<i>x<sup>w</sup>in</i> ‘mountain’	<i>cax<sup>w</sup>a</i> ‘chicken pox’	
ʔ	<i>ʔelmu</i> (L) ‘science’	<i>maʔarul</i> (L) ‘Avar’	<i>nuʔ</i> (L) ‘witness’
ʔ	<i>eli</i> ‘we, our’	<i>maʔa</i> ‘threshold’	<i>wabaʔ</i> (L) ‘cholera’
h	<i>haya</i> ‘mosquito’	<i>koʔlo</i> ‘ball’	<i>q’eʔ</i> ‘bad tobacco’
h	<i>hago</i> ‘he, this’	<i>purho</i> ‘by, at’	<i>muh</i> ‘grain’
m	<i>mecu</i> ‘forearm’	<i>xemu</i> ‘stone’	<i>gom</i> ‘be.NEG’
n	<i>noce</i> ‘louse’	<i>hune</i> ‘way’	<i>t’igan</i> ‘rope, string’
l	<i>lami</i> ‘partition’	<i>gulu</i> ‘horse’	<i>ardel</i> ‘long ago’
r	<i>roži</i> ‘word’	<i>zeru</i> ‘fox’	<i>yemer</i> ‘wheel’
w	<i>waqi</i> ‘walnut’	<i>kawu</i> (L) ‘gate’	<i>hibaw</i> ‘that’
y	<i>yoxu</i> ‘ashes’	<i>boyu</i> ‘bull-calf’	<i>hibay</i> ‘such’

### 2.2.3. Labialization

All velar and uvular consonants occur in plain and labialized form. Labialization is mostly found with syllable-initial consonants, mostly in word-initial position. But there are also a number of examples with word-internal labialization, especially within verbs. Syllable-final (and therefore word-final) labialization is not attested. Usually only one consonant per word is labialized, but there are a handful of words where in careful speech the first and the second consonant are identical and can both be labialized. However, in fast speech usually only one of the consonants is actually labialized, whereas the other consonant is not.

- (27) *g<sup>w</sup>eg<sup>w</sup>e-s* ‘lose-PST’                      *k<sup>w</sup>ek<sup>w</sup>e-s* ‘itch-PST’  
*q<sup>w</sup>aq<sup>w</sup>a* ‘Adam’s apple.IN’                      *q<sup>w</sup>aq<sup>w</sup>adiro* ‘woodpecker’

The labialized consonants can be followed by all vowels except /u/. The occurrence of labialized consonants before /o/ is restricted to Present tense forms of those verbs whose stems end with /\_C<sup>w</sup>e/ (e.g. *λex<sup>w</sup>-o* ‘remain-PRS’), but it is generally very weak in this position.

Some minimal pairs and minimal oppositions for labialized consonants are presented in the following list (28). The relevant consonants are underlined.

(28)	<u>g</u> <sup>w</sup> <i>an</i>	‘rheumatism’	<u>g</u> <i>an</i>	‘drink.UWPST’
	<u>aq</u> <sup>w</sup> <i>e</i>	‘mouse’	- <u>aq</u> <sup>w</sup> <i>e</i>	‘come.GT’
	- <u>ix</u> <sup>w</sup> <i>iš</i>	‘sit.PST’	<u>ix</u> <sup>w</sup> <i>iš</i>	‘river.GEN1’
	<u>hes q</u> <sup>w</sup> <i>en</i>	‘one farm’	<u>hesq</u> <sup>w</sup> <i>en</i>	‘nobody’
	<u>k</u> <sup>w</sup> <i>iligo</i>	‘meeting.point.AT’	<u>k</u> <sup>w</sup> <i>ilikko</i>	‘wash.PRS’
	<u>y</u> <sup>w</sup> <i>eros</i>	‘cow.GEN1’	<u>y</u> <sup>w</sup> <i>ermos</i>	‘fence.GEN1’
	<u>k</u> <sup>w</sup> <i>et’es</i>	‘right’	<u>k</u> <sup>w</sup> <i>et’as</i>	‘buttock.GEN1’

Labialized consonants do not represent clusters but are rather an instance of secondary articulation because they are often replaced by plain consonants, especially by younger speakers. If the transformation occurs with a consonant that precedes /i/, then this vowel usually turns into /ü/. If the transformation occurs before /e/, then this vowel usually becomes /o/. In other words, the vowels shift from front to back. The transformation may even affect preceding vowels, but they change only from /e/ to /o/. A similar change can be observed in the oblique form of the second person singular personal pronoun: the variant used by older speakers is *dew-* (e.g. *dew-de* ‘you.SG.OBL-ALOC’), but younger speakers use *dow-* (e.g. *dow-de*). This change might at least partially be attributed to influence from the neighboring language Tsez (1.2.5).

(29)	Labialized	Non-labialized	Translation
	<i>k<sup>w</sup>ana</i>	<i>kana</i>	‘wood shaving’
	<i>λex<sup>w</sup>-o</i>	<i>λex-o/λox-o</i>	‘remain-PRS’
	<i>x<sup>w</sup>in</i>	<i>xun</i>	‘mountain’
	<i>q<sup>w</sup>ič’a</i>	<i>q’uč’a</i>	‘oat flour’
	<i>k<sup>w</sup>id</i>	<i>kud</i>	‘basket’
	<i>k<sup>w</sup>idi</i>	<i>k’udi</i>	‘wine’
	<i>y<sup>w</sup>inu</i>	<i>yunu</i>	‘hornless’
	<i>q<sup>w</sup>ec’e</i>	<i>q’oc’e</i>	‘together’
	<i>y<sup>w</sup>ere</i>	<i>yore</i>	‘cow’
	<i>y<sup>w</sup>ede</i>	<i>yode</i>	‘day’
	<i>zeq<sup>w</sup>es / zoq<sup>w</sup>es</i>	<i>zoq’es</i>	‘be.PST’

There are two nouns and one numeral that distinguish the Absolutive stem from the oblique stem by means of labialization:

(30) Absolutive stem	Oblique stem	Translation
<i>rek<sup>w</sup>e</i>	<i>rek<sup>w</sup>u<sup>4</sup></i>	‘man’
<i>šeg<sup>w</sup>e</i>	<i>šoge-</i>	‘mare’
<i>q<sup>w</sup>ono</i>	<i>q<sup>w</sup>ena-</i>	‘two’

### 2.3. Phonotactics

#### 2.3.1. Syllable structure and word structure

The syllable structure of native Hinuq words is relatively simple. In stems only syllables of the types *CV*, *CV:*, and *CVC* are permitted. Inflected words can contain syllables of the types *CV:C* and *CVyC*. The syllable template is *CV(:y)(C)*, with optional segments in parenthesis. In (31)-(34) all four syllable types are illustrated. Word-initial glottal stops are not written. The exemplifying syllables are underlined.

(31) CV			
<u><i>žo</i></u>	‘thing’	<u><i>le</i></u>	‘water’
<u><i>bu.še</i></u>	‘house’	<i>ker.ba</i>	‘guest’
<u><i>la.la.ru</i></u>	‘narrow’	<i>bum.bu.li</i>	‘feather’
(32) CV:			
<u><i>i:</i></u>	‘blood’	<i>qe.ba:ho</i>	‘think.PRS
<u><i>qi:</i></u>	‘hare’	<i>edo:ho</i>	‘he works’
(33) CVC			
<u><i>mus</i></u>	‘hair’	<u><i>iš</i></u>	‘bull’
<u><i>mec.xer</i></u>	‘money’	<u><i>žar.ža.li</i></u>	‘chain’
<u><i>coy</i></u>	‘eagle’	<u><i>i.žey</i></u>	‘eye’
<u><i>haw</i></u>	‘she’	<u><i>hes</i></u>	‘one’

There are no native Hinuq root morphemes that contain superheavy syllables. Only loan words contain superheavy syllables with two consonants in the coda (e.g. the Avar loans *baħs* ‘discussion’ and *naps* ‘personality’). However, there can be native Hinuq words with *CV:C* and *CVyC* syllables containing long vowels or diphthongs. These forms are always inflected. Typically the superheavy syllables occur word-finally. But because additional enclitics can be added, a superheavy syllable can also make up the first syllable of a phonological word. Note that the sequence /ji/ in two words in (34) is pronounced as [i:], but the

<sup>4</sup> Note that younger speakers use this form even as the Absolutive stem.

palatalized consonant at the syllable end indicates that the semivowel /j/ is followed by /i/, which triggers the palatalization (Section 2.4.5).

- |      |                 |                   |                          |              |
|------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| (34) | <u>ga:-z</u>    | ‘drink-PURP’      | <u>ʔe.ẓ̌a:-z</u>         | ‘laugh-PURP’ |
|      | <u>hayiš=no</u> | ‘there.ABL I=and’ | <u>y<sup>w</sup>eyiš</u> | ‘dog.GEN I’  |
|      | <u>be.ʔay-d</u> | ‘dagger-INS’      |                          |              |

The restrictions on the syllable structure of monomorphemic words extend to polymorphemic words. Sequences of two consonants in the syllable are generally avoided. Mechanisms that help to prevent clusters at morpheme boundaries are vowel deletion and insertion and the insertion of glides (2.4.1).

Minimal words (i.e. free roots) have the shape *CV*, e.g. *žo* ‘thing’, *ʔe* ‘water’. Minimal bound roots have the shape *V*-. The only examples of this type are the two verbs *-u:-* ‘do, make’ and *-a:-* ‘cry’.

### 2.3.2. Geminates

Geminates occur with all consonants except /pʔ/, /h/, /ʔ/, /ʔʔ/, /cʔ/, and labialized consonants. Again, /h/, /ʔʔ/, /pʔ/, and also /ʔʔ/ in word-medial position are infrequent consonants, which might be the reason why they lack geminates. In addition, native Hinuq morphemes never end with /h/, /ʔʔ/ or /ʔʔ/. Geminates occur in stems only in intervocalic position, mostly in adjectives before the adjectival ending *-u*, but never in affixes or enclitics (35). Additionally, geminates occur at morpheme boundaries (see below).

- |      |                |                     |                 |             |
|------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| (35) | <i>ubbay</i>   | ‘kiss’              | <i>ʔoppu</i>    | ‘low’       |
|      | <i>xoddo</i>   | ‘husband’           | <i>k’ottu</i>   | ‘short’     |
|      | <i>at’t’u</i>  | ‘wet’               | <i>kekku</i>    | ‘light’     |
|      | <i>šuk’k’u</i> | ‘thick, dense’      | <i>aqqa</i>     | ‘thirst’    |
|      | <i>oq’q’u</i>  | ‘hard, difficult’   | <i>qicca</i>    | ‘pillow’    |
|      | <i>b-ečču</i>  | ‘III-fat’           | <i>b-oč’č’u</i> | ‘III-cold’  |
|      | <i>hezzo</i>   | ‘then, after’       | <i>niššu</i>    | ‘narrow’    |
|      | <i>essu</i>    | ‘sibling’           | <i>čoyyu</i>    | ‘hardened’  |
|      | <i>b-oʔʔo</i>  | ‘III-in.the.middle’ | <i>yilla</i>    | ‘stick’     |
|      | <i>axxa</i>    | ‘ear’               | <i>anna</i>     | ‘knee bend’ |
|      | <i>zarra</i>   | ‘destiny’           |                 |             |

There are (almost) no minimal pairs, but some minimal oppositions (36).

- |      |                |        |               |          |
|------|----------------|--------|---------------|----------|
| (36) | <i>ceq’q’u</i> | ‘sour’ | <i>meq’u</i>  | ‘thread’ |
|      | <i>at’t’u</i>  | ‘wet’  | <i>ʔ’at’u</i> | ‘cry’    |

<i>kekku</i>	‘light’	<i>λ’ereku</i>	‘shawl’
<i>b-oλλo</i>	‘III-in.the.middle’	<i>b-oλλo</i>	‘III-fast’
<i>ubbay</i>	‘kiss’	<i>uba</i>	‘quarter’

The realizations of geminates differ considerably among the speakers and according to the speech rate. Therefore the phonological status of the geminates needs a separate examination. A preliminary analysis of the closure duration, VOT, and the total duration of stops and affricates showed that at least the difference in the closure duration between singletons and geminates isolated and inside a phrase is significant. But the exact phonological nature of the geminates needs further research.

In addition to their occurrence in stems, geminates occur at morpheme boundaries in verbal and nominal inflection and with one enclitic. Verbs with a stem-final consonant (conjugation class 1, see Section 7.2.2) exhibit lengthening of that consonant in the Simple Present tense. Ejective consonants transform into plain geminates. Some examples are given below, whereby (37) illustrates plain consonants that become geminates and (38) ejectives that become plain geminates. This process is not found in other verbal forms or in other parts of the Hinuq morphology.

(37)	Imperative	Simple Present	Translation
	<i>cax-o!</i>	<i>caxxo</i>	‘write’
	<i>-ok-o!</i>	<i>-okko</i>	‘peel’
	<i>-os!</i>	<i>-osso</i>	‘fall’
	<i>neλ!</i>	<i>neλλo</i>	‘give’
(38)	Imperative	Simple Present	Translation
	<i>-ik’-o!</i>	<i>-ikkko</i>	‘beat’
	<i>-et’e!</i>	<i>-etto</i>	‘burst’
	<i>got’-o!</i>	<i>otto</i>	‘pour’
	<i>-ac’-o!</i>	<i>-acco</i>	‘eat’
	<i>-ič’-o!</i>	<i>-iččco</i>	‘fill’
	<i>-uλ’!</i>	<i>-uλλo</i>	‘fear’

In nominal inflection there are three possibilities for the occurrence of geminates at morpheme boundaries: (i) before the second genitive suffix *-zo* and before the spatial case suffixes *-qo* ‘AT-Essive’, *-de* ‘ALOC-Essive’, *-ho* ‘ILOC-Essive’, and *-λ’o* ‘SPR-Essive’, (ii) before the oblique stem suffixes *-mo* and *-na*, and (iii) before the Absolutive plural suffix *-be*. This phenomenon is restricted to a few nouns (39). Finally, geminates occur if the topic-marking enclitics =*gozo*, =*gon*, or =*gozon* are added to words that end in /g/, and if the enclitic =*te*, which

expresses surprise, is added to a word ending in /ʎ/. Note that the geminates of /ʎ/, /g/, and /h/ occur only at morpheme boundaries, but never in roots.

(39)	<i>guz-zo</i>	‘elevation-GEN2’	<i>čeq-qo</i>	‘forest-AT’
	<i>ked-de</i>	‘girl-ALOC’	<i>muh-ho</i>	‘grain-ILOC’
	<i>ʎiʎ’-ʎ’o</i>	‘finger.OBL-SPR’	<i>im-mo-qo</i>	‘column-OBL-AT’
	<i>t’en-na-s</i>	‘breast-OBL-GEN1’	<i>ʎeb-be</i>	‘year.OBL-PL’
	<i>hag=gon</i>	‘that=TOP’	<i>teʎ=ʎe</i>	‘inside=really’

### 2.3.3. Consonant clusters

Consonant clusters consisting of two consonants occur only in intervocalic position in Hinuq words. This restriction refers also to glides. Most frequent are clusters involving sonorants, but there are other clusters as well.

Loans may, as an exception, have two successive consonants in final position and more than two consonants in intervocalic position, e.g. *baħs* ‘discussion’, *naps* ‘personality’, *dandč’w ay* ‘meeting’, or the Russian borrowing *xozyaystwo* ‘household’. The same is true for some borrowed place names, e.g. *ʎizlyar* / *Kizlyar* ‘Kizljär’ and *Buynaksk*. But often loan words undergo vowel insertion (2.4.7). The following list illustrates consonant clusters in derived and underived stems.

- plosive plus plosive  
*k’edbo* ‘barren’, *nahaq’da* ‘useless, vain’, *zok’da* ‘cellar storeroom’
- plosive plus affricate  
*akčey* ‘very small, very little’, *maq’ʎu* ‘lightning’, *ʎ’aq’ʎu* ‘immediately’,  
*čokʎu* ‘water with food remains for feeding animals’, *beqči* ‘party’
- fricative plus plosive  
*sast’uri* ‘pillow’, *qešt’u* ‘ice/ski track’, *uxt’uri* ‘grindstone’, *rizq’i* ‘prop-  
erty’, *azq’a* ‘hoarfrost’, *xet’u-bisbilla* (also *xet’u-bismilla*) ‘snail’
- fricative plus fricative  
*ižho/ižyo* ‘avalanche’
- fricative plus affricate  
*axcuʎer* ‘on the back’, *axʎu* ‘phlegm, spittle’, *žaxʎi* ‘jingling’, *-exʎ’e-s*  
‘become.warm-PST’, *t’ošʎu* ‘weeding’
- affricate plus fricative  
*mecxer* ‘money’

- sonorant plus obstruent  
*hayʔuy* ‘she.ERG’, *arxi* ‘ditch’, *ʁerba* ‘guest’, *žaržali* ‘chain’, *gelču* ‘rolling pin’, *alxu* ‘pasture’, *aldoɣo* ‘before, in front, first’, *k’ek’elba* / *k’ek’elbo* ‘tendon’, *bumbuli* ‘feather’, *lampa-q’il* ‘wooden ceiling’, *domp’oli* ‘clumsy fellow’, *k’onk’a* ‘bike’, *k’onc’u* ‘leg’
- obstruent plus sonorant  
*bečnu* ‘knee’, *aʔnu* ‘apron’, *eʁni* ‘winter’, *mihna* ‘bird’, *hoc’na* ‘groin’, *žežmu* ‘tremble’, *k’up’la* ‘ball’, *zabru* ‘watering can’, *k’ep’ri* ‘hit’, *kašit’ri* ‘grass mowing’, *oqru* ‘whole’, *oq’ru* ‘skull’
- sonorant plus sonorant  
*tormuži* ‘green alga’, *aʁ’armu/aʁ’irmu* ‘untilled soil’, *t’emra* ‘stone column’, *derni* ‘noise’, *boyla* ‘thumb’, *lilyo* ‘puddle’, *šeg<sup>w</sup>e-šewre* ‘mare’

## 2.4. Morphophonology

### 2.4.1. Syllable repair mechanisms

#### 2.4.1.1. Epenthetic vowels

In order to break up consonant clusters that would occur in the case formation of nouns, an epenthetic /e/ or /i/ is inserted in two contexts: (i) after nouns with consonant-final stems if they are followed by a case marker consisting only of a single consonant (40) and (ii) after the spatial case suffixes *-ʔ* CONT-Essive and *-ʁ* SUB-Essive, which consist of a single consonant if they are followed by a direction marker (41). In the latter instance only /e/ can occur. In the first instance /e/ is preferred with most nouns, but some speakers allow for both /e/ and /i/ with some nouns (see Section 3.2 on the oblique stem formation of nouns for details). An alternative analysis could treat the inserted vowels in the first context not as epenthetic but just as oblique stem markers. But then such an analysis fails to explain why /e/ and /i/ occur only before case markers consisting of a single consonant, and not before those case markers that have a *CV* structure.

- (40) Nouns with consonant-final stems
- |                        |                   |                   |               |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| <i>čeq-e-s/čeq-i-š</i> | ‘forest-EP-GEN1’  | <i>čeq-zo</i>     | ‘forest-GEN2’ |
| <i>halmay-e-z</i>      | ‘friend-EP-DAT’   | <i>halmay-qo</i>  | ‘friend-AT’   |
| <i>maduhal-e-z/</i>    | ‘neighbor-EP-DAT’ | <i>maduhal-qo</i> | ‘neighbor-AT’ |
| <i>maduhal-i-ž</i>     |                   |                   |               |
- (41) Spatial case formation (Part 1)
- |                   |                     |               |             |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------------|-------------|
| <i>armi-ʔ-e-s</i> | ‘army-CONT-EP-ABL1’ | <i>armi-ʔ</i> | ‘army-CONT’ |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------------|-------------|

*k<sup>w</sup>ezera-λ-e-r* ‘hand.OBL-SUB-EP-LAT’ *k<sup>w</sup>ezera-λ* ‘hand.OBL-SUB’  
*iž-λ-e-s* ‘eye.OBL-SUB-EP-ABL1’ *iž-e-λ* ‘eye.OBL-EP-SUB’

In the second context (i.e. spatial case formation with the suffixes CONT and SUB) the epenthetic vowel is, synchronically speaking, not always needed. Two direction markers have a *CV* structure, the Second Ablative (-*zo*) and the Directional (-*do*). If they are added to the CONT or SUB location markers which have already been attached to oblique stems that end with a vowel, there is no need for syllable repair. Nevertheless, the epenthetic vowel /e/ is inserted after the location marker as can be seen in (42). There might be several explanations for this. One is analogy: since the epenthetic vowel occurs after CONT and SUB when the Lative or the First Ablative follow, by analogy the occurrence of the epenthetic vowel has been generalized in order to cover the whole paradigm of CONT and SUB. Another explanation might be that the location markers have synchronically been added to consonants, in which case the epenthetic vowel is needed. This is still the case sometimes, e.g. *iž-λ-e-s* (eye.OBL-SUB-EP-ABL1). Or Hinuq has a general preference for open syllables over closed syllables, such that *ra.ład.li.łe.do* is preferred over *\*ra.ład.lił.do* because it contains more open syllables.

(42) Spatial case formation (Part 2)

*raładli-ł-e-do* ‘sea.OBL-CONT-EP-DIR’ *raładli-ł* ‘sea.OBL-CONT’  
*uži-ł-e-zo* ‘boy-CONT-EP-ABL2’ *uži-ł* ‘boy-CONT’  
*zoro-λ-e-zo* ‘barn-SUB-EP-ABL2’ *zoro-λ* ‘barn-SUB’

Epenthetic vowels are also found with the derivational suffixes -*ł* for the Potential (43) and -*r* for the Causative verb form (44). After verbs that have a stem-final consonant, an epenthetic /e/ is inserted before both suffixes. For the formation of potential verbs, the insertion of the epenthetic vowel is obligatory, independently of the shape of the following suffix:

(43) Potential verbs

*cax-e-ł-me*, but not *\*cax-ł-me* ‘write-POT-NEG’  
*ese-r-e-ł-me*, but not *\*ese-r-ł-me* ‘say-CAUS-POT-NEG’  
*cax-e-ł-a*, but not *\*cax-ł-a* ‘write-POT-INF’  
*ese-r-e-ł-a*, but not *\*ese-r-ł-a* ‘say-CAUS-POT-INF’

In contrast, in the formation of the simple causative, the derivational suffix can also be added directly to the stem without any intervening vowel if the syllable structure constraints are not violated. This is the case with all following suffixes that begin with a vowel (e.g. Infinitive, Simple Past, or Purposive converb).



## 2.4.2. Glide insertion

Glide insertion represents a regular form of allomorphy. It is found only with verbs. Suffixes beginning with a vowel require the insertion of a glide if they are attached to verbs that have vowel-final stems. Just one verb requires the insertion of *w* for the formation of the Imperative, the Infinitive, and the Purposive converb, but this seems to be phonologically conditioned because the root consists only of *-u:-* ‘do, make’.<sup>5</sup> In contrast, the insertion of *y* is very common with various classes of verbs for a number of verbal forms. Most typical are allomorphs of suffixes for the Conditional converb (*-o*), the Past participle (*-oru*), and the Local participle (*-a*), but also some Present tense forms and the Infinitive of the verb *li:-* ‘wear’ requires the insertion of *y*.<sup>6</sup> In (47) an illustrative list of verb forms is given. The first column shows a verb form that does not require glide insertion, but adds the consonant-initial suffix directly to the verbal stem, and the third column exemplifies glide insertion before a vowel.

(47)	<i>b-u:-ho</i>	‘III-do-PRS’	<i>b-u-wo!</i>	‘III-do-IMP’
	<i>eʎi-š</i>	‘say-PST’	<i>eʎi-yo</i>	‘say-COND’
	<i>b-ike-n</i>	‘III-see-UWPST’	<i>b-ike-ya</i>	‘III-see-PTCP.LOC’
	<i>y-edo:-z</i>	‘II-work-PURP’	<i>y-edo:-yoru</i>	‘II-work-PTCP.PST’
	<i>y-ayi-ʎ’o</i>	‘IV-open-SIM’	<i>y-ayi-yo</i>	‘IV-open-PRS’
	<i>li:-ho</i>	‘dress-PRS’	<i>li-ya</i>	‘dress-INF’

Whether vowel deletion or glide insertion applies in order to avoid subsequent vowels depends on the word itself as well as on the added suffix. However, it is not their phonological features that determine the applied rule, but rather a lexical property. For example, the Simple Present suffix *-o* becomes *-yo* with verbs that have a stem-final *-i*, which means that glide insertion applies. In contrast, in verbs with stem-final *-e* this vowel is deleted before adding *-o*.

## 2.4.3. Sequences of identical vowels

Long vowels can be the result of a sequence of two identical vowels or of a vowel plus a semivowel. This happens when (i) the Ergative suffix or (ii) the IN location suffix is added to nouns.

The Ergative suffix is *-i*. If it is attached to a noun that ends in a vowel or takes an oblique suffix ending in a vowel, the suffix is *-y*. In the case of the vowels /a/, /e/, /o/, and /u/ this leads to diphthongs as in (24). In the case of a final /i/ the

<sup>5</sup> Alternatively one could say that the stem of the verb ‘do, make’ is *-uw-*, not *-u:-*.

<sup>6</sup> An alternative analysis could claim that the stem of the verb ‘wear’ is *liy-*, not *li:-*.

result is a long stressed *-í*, i.e. /i/+j/ → /i:/ Minimal pairs like the following ones occur:

(48)	<i>úži</i>	‘boy’	<i>uži:</i>	‘boy.ERG’
	<i>měši</i>	‘calf’	<i>meši:</i>	‘calf.ERG’
	<i>ʔáli</i>	‘Ali’	<i>ʔáli:</i>	‘Ali.ERG’

The same lengthening happens when not the noun stem itself, but the oblique stem ends in *-i*, as demonstrated in (49). In the second example also sonorant deletion applies (2.4.4).

(49)	<i>Allah-li-y</i> → <i>Allahlí:</i>	‘Allah-OBL-ERG’
	<i>humer-li-y</i> → <i>humelí:</i>	‘face-OBL-ERG’

The inverse sequence /ji/ leads to diphthongs including the preceding vowels. This means that *hayi* ‘there’ is pronounced [hai]. It becomes *hayi-š* when the First Ablative suffix is added, pronounced [haiʃ], not \*[hajiʃ]. Similarly, the First Genitive of *y<sup>w</sup>e* ‘dog’ is *y<sup>w</sup>e-yi-š*, pronounced [ɸ<sup>w</sup>ɛiʃ], not \*[ɸ<sup>w</sup>ɛjiʃ]. In other words, /j/ is not pronounced.

Nouns like *xan* ‘khan’ or *čanaqan* ‘hunter’, whose oblique stem is identical to the base stem, end, in principle, with a short *-i* in the Ergative case because there is no preceding identical vowel; but since this vowel is stressed, and stressed vowels, especially in final position, tend to be longer than unstressed vowels, the last vowel of the nouns presented in (50) has about the same length as the last vowel of the nouns in (49). The vowels in (50) are clearly longer than an unstressed vowel such as in *úži* ‘boy’, but nevertheless shorter than stressed vowels such as in *uži:* (48).

(50)	<i>xan-i</i> → <i>xaní</i>	‘khan-ERG’
	<i>čanaqan-i</i> → <i>čanaqaní</i>	‘hunter-ERG’

In this grammar, cases like (48) and (49) are marked with a long vowel in the glosses to indicate that the forms are morphologically complex (e.g. *uži:* ‘boy.ERG’ in contrast to the Absolutive form *uži*). But in cases like (50), neither length nor stress is indicated because the morphological complexity is obvious, and stress is generally not marked in this grammar.<sup>7</sup>

The form of the IN location marker is lexically determined. It can be either *-ma* or a copy of the immediately preceding vowel (*-a*, *-e*, or *-i*), regardless of whether the preceding vowel belongs to the basic noun stem or to the oblique

<sup>7</sup> The reason for not indicating stress is that stress is not a very prominent category in Hinuq. Its influence on the grammar is very limited (Section 2.5).

marker. It is always stressed, independently of its form. The rule for copy vowels is /V/+/V/ → /V̇:/. But note that in the glosses of this grammar stress is not indicated, and length (apart from the length of root morphemes and suffixes containing long vowels) is only indicated if it expresses morphological complexity, e.g. *iškola*: ‘school-IN’ vs. *iškola* ‘school’.

- |      |  |                  |
|------|--|------------------|
| (51) | <i>iškola</i> + <i>-a</i> → <i>iškola:</i> | ‘school-IN’      |
|      | <i>áλ</i> + <i>-a-a</i> → <i>aλá:</i>      | ‘village-OBL-IN’ |
|      | <i>múži</i> + <i>-i</i> → <i>muži:</i>     | ‘bed-IN’         |
|      | <i>búce</i> + <i>-e</i> → <i>bucé:</i>     | ‘month-IN’       |

All nouns that form the IN-Essive with a copy-vowel form minimal pairs between the First Ablative form, in which the vowel is long, and the First Genitive form, where the vowel is slightly shorter (52).

- |      |                    |                   |                  |                |
|------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|
| (52) | <i>pardala-a-s</i> | ‘veranda-IN-ABL1’ | <i>pardala-s</i> | ‘veranda-GEN1’ |
|      | <i>muži-i-š</i>    | ‘bed-IN-ABL1’     | <i>muži-š</i>    | ‘bed-GEN1’     |
|      | <i>beže-e-s</i>    | ‘house-IN-ABL1’   | <i>beže-s</i>    | ‘house-GEN1’   |

However, the difference in vowel length between the IN-Ablative and the First Genitive is not as big as the difference between, for instance, the Absolute forms of the same nouns (e.g. *iškola*, *muži*) and their IN-Essive forms (e.g. *iškola:*, *muži:*). The reason might be that vowels in closed syllables are generally shorter than vowels in open syllables at the end of words. Hinuq speakers even judge the IN-Ablative and the First Genitive forms in (52) to be identical.

#### 2.4.4. Sonorant deletion

In Hinuq there are four processes of optional sonorant deletion that vary with the informants and the rate of speech. In careful speech sonorant deletion does not occur. The first occurs before the oblique suffix *-mo* and before the fused oblique plus IN-Essive marker *-ma* (53). Two more processes of sonorant deletion are found before the suffix *-no* (Unwitnessed Past) as well as the enclitic =*no* ‘and’ and before the derivational suffix *-nak’u* (54), (55). Finally, sonorant deletion occurs quite regularly with a group of nouns ending with *-r* and having *-li* as the oblique stem marker (56). In the first three contexts the consonant that does not undergo the deletion may be realized somewhat longer, such that the morphophonological process could possibly be better described as a combination of progressive assimilation and an optional shortening of the geminate.

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| (53) | /n/ → /m/-Ø/ _m   |
|      | <i>magazin-ma-s</i> → <i>magazimmas</i> → <i>magazimas</i> ‘shop-IN-ABL1’ |

- rayon-mo-s* → *rayommos* → *rayomos* ‘district-OBL-GEN1’  
*diwan-mo-λ* → *diwammoλ* → *diwamoλ* ‘couch-OBL-SUB’
- (54) /l/ → /n/-Ø/\_n  
*ʔazal=no* → *ʔazanno* → *ʔazano* ‘thousand=and’  
*hil-no* → *hinno* → *hino* ‘bite-UWPST’
- (55) /r/ → Ø/\_n  
*kur-no* → *kunno* → *kuno* ‘throw-UWPST’  
*eser-nak’u* → *esenak’u* ‘beggar’
- (56) /r/ → Ø/\_l  
*bazar-li-λ’o-r* → *bazaliλ’or* ‘market-OBL-SPR-LAT’  
*šahar-li-do* → *šahalido* ‘town-OBL-DIR’  
*mexxer-li-š* → *mexxeliš* ‘silver-OBL-GEN1’

#### 2.4.5. Palatalization

An instance of (almost) obligatory progressive assimilation is the palatalization of the dental fricatives /s/ and /z/ after the high front vowels /i/ and /ü/. The palatalization affects all suffixes beginning with /s/ (i.e. First Genitive, First Ablative, Simple past, Resultative participle) or /z/ (oblique plural suffix for nouns, Dative, Second Genitive, Second Ablative, Purposive converb, oblique Resultative participle).

- (57) /s/, /z/ → [ʃ], [ʒ]/i\_  
*\*ax-i-s* → *ax-i-š* ‘cheese-OBL-GEN1’  
*\*diz* → *diž* ‘I.DAT’  
*\*esni-za-y* → *esni-ža-y* ‘sibling.PL-OBL.PL-ERG’  
*\*y-iλ’i-s* → *y-iλ’i-š* ‘II-go-PST’  
*\*y-ihī:-z* → *y-ihī:-ž* ‘II-fight-PURP’  
*\*cax-li:-za-y* → *cax-li:-ža-y* ‘write-ANTIP-OBL.RES-ERG’

Interestingly, there are occasional counterexamples to the palatalization rule that regard the oblique plural form of nouns that already have a palatalized fricative in the root. In these cases the oblique plural suffix is *-za*, not *-ža*, as would be expected. Note that the exceptions are only the oblique plural forms of these nouns, i.e. oblique singular forms with suffixed case markers undergo palatalization (e.g. the Second Genitive is *uži-žo*, *muži-žo*, *roži-žo*).

- (58) ABS SG                      GEN1 SG                      GEN1 PL                      Translation  
*uži*                                      *uži-š*                                      *uži-za-s*                                      ‘boy’

<i>muži</i>	<i>muži-š</i>	<i>muži-za-s</i>	‘bed’
<i>roži</i>	<i>roži-š</i>	<i>roži-za-s</i>	‘word’

#### 2.4.6. Ablaut

Ablaut is found with three words only. The first vowel /u/ of the base stem turns into /e/ for the oblique stem (59). But nowadays there is a growing tendency to use the base stem for oblique case forms.

(59)	<i>buže</i>	‘house’	<i>beže-s/buže-s</i>	‘house.OBL-GEN1’
	<i>buce</i>	‘month’,	<i>bece-s/buce-s</i>	‘month.OBL-GEN1’,
		‘moon’		‘moon.OBL-GEN1’
	<i>buq</i>	‘sun’	<i>beqe-s/beqa-s/buqe-s</i>	‘sun.OBL-GEN1’

#### 2.4.7. Integration of loan words

Hinuq has plenty of loan words, mainly from Avar and Russian (see Section 1.2.4 for examples). In order to integrate these words into the Hinuq lexicon, some phonemes not found in Hinuq have been replaced, and some vowels have been inserted.

The voiceless labiodental fricative /f/ does not occur in native Hinuq words. Where /f/ occurs in Russian words it is nowadays always pronounced as /f/, e.g. *front* ‘front’. In older loans from Arabic /f/ became /p/: *sapar* (‘journey’, from Arab. *saḡar*) and *Pat’imat* (‘Fatimah’, from Arab. *Faṭīma*).

Another phoneme that does not exist in Hinuq, but in Avar, a language with a large influence on Hinuq, is the voiceless velar fricative [x], written as *x̄*. Hinuq has numerous loan words from Avar, and in these words *x̄* is usually replaced by *k*, as shown in the following examples:

(60)	Avar	Hinuq	Translation
	<i>baybiḡi</i>	<i>baybiki</i>	‘beginning’
	<i>t’eḡ</i>	<i>t’ek</i>	‘book’
	<i>ħalḡi</i>	<i>ħalki</i>	‘relax’
	<i>biḡina-</i>	<i>bikinaw</i>	‘male’
	<i>ḡiḡize</i>	<i>kikzi -u:-</i>	‘maintain, feed’ (animals)

The phonotactic restrictions of Hinuq require, in principle, to eliminate every syllable-initial or syllable-final consonant cluster.<sup>8</sup> Thus, in Hinuq-variants of

<sup>8</sup> Exceptional borrowings from Avar where consonant clusters are preserved are cited in Section 2.3.3.

Russian words, vowels are inserted before, between, or after a consonant cluster (61). But nowadays most Hinuq speakers have a fairly good command of Russian. As a result, the words given below are often uttered by simply using the Russian pronunciation without any inserted vowels.

(61)	<i>škola</i> → <i>iškola</i>	‘school’
	<i>stol</i> → <i>istoli</i>	‘table’
	<i>krowat</i> → <i>karawat</i>	‘bed’
	<i>vlijanie</i> → <i>wiliyani</i>	‘influence’
	<i>šljapa</i> → <i>šilyapa</i>	‘hat’
	<i>metr</i> → <i>metro</i>	‘meter’

In my material there is one example of metathesis: the Russian word *truba* ‘pipe’ has become *turba* in Hinuq.

Another phonological process that loans underwent is ejectives. Ejectives may occur in different positions. In borrowings from Russian only /k/ is ejectives (probably due to Georgian being the intermediate language, see Comrie & Khalilov 2009b). In Arabic loan words, the emphatic dental stop /t<sup>ʕ</sup>/ has been replaced by an ejectives dental stop /tʰ/, and the uvular stop /q/ has become /qʰ/. But this had already happened in Avar, the language through which most or probably all Arabic loan words entered Russian.

(62)	Russ. <i>jaščik</i> → <i>yašik</i> ʰ	‘box’
	Russ. <i>čajnik</i> → <i>čajnik</i> ʰ	‘tea pot’
	Russ. <i>marka</i> → <i>mark</i> ʰa	‘stamp’
	Arab. <i>šaiṭa:n</i> → <i>šayt</i> ʰan	‘devil’
	Arab. <i>waṭan</i> → <i>wat</i> ʰan	‘homeland’
	Arab. <i>qalam</i> → <i>q</i> ʰalam	‘pencil’
	Arab. <i>qura:n</i> → <i>q</i> ʰurʔan	‘Koran’
	Arab. <i>qa:ʕida</i> → <i>q</i> ʰaʔida	‘method, rule’

#### 2.4.8. Reduplication

Hinuq has various processes of full and partial reduplication. The reduplication is always initial, that is, from the beginning of a word. The copy usually precedes the base, although there are some examples where the copy follows the base (for instance in some of the examples where the onset of the first syllable is replaced by /m/). Full reduplication is only attested with adverbs. Partial reduplication is always to the left and can be of several different types: (i) *CV*-base with numbers, (ii) *CVC(V)* with nouns, adverbs, or adjectives, (iii) *CVC(V)* plus replacement

of the initial segment by /m/, and (iv) words with identical rhyme but differing initial segments. Type (iii) and type (iv) can be called “echo-word reduplication”. In this section all types are described in more detail.

Adverbs can be completely reduplicated. The meaning of the reduplicated form is sometimes simply more emphatic, and sometimes it includes a kind of distributivity or repetition (63). Note that the first adverb does not have a bare form, and the first three adverbs are loan words from Avar.

(63) Full reduplication

Reduplicated form	Translation	Bare form	Translation
<i>žiw-žiw</i>	‘each’	-	
<i>dah-dah</i>	‘little by little’	<i>dah</i>	‘few, little’
<i>bat’a-bat’a</i>	‘separately’	<i>bat’a</i>	‘separately’
<i>hozu-hozu</i>	‘separately’	<i>hozu</i>	‘separately’
<i>sot’i-sot’i</i>	‘around’ (repetition)	<i>sot’i</i>	‘around’ (once)
<i>bexa-bexa</i>	‘often’	<i>bexa</i>	‘often’
<i>san-san</i>	‘sometimes’	<i>san</i>	‘once’

There are different forms of partial reduplication. First of all, adjectives that are loans from Avar can have reduplicated emphatic forms where the first two syllables *CVCV* are repeated. At least some of the examples given below are also attested in Avar, e.g. *bat’i-bat’iyaw*, *daha-dahaw*.

(64) Partial reduplication of adjectives

Reduplicated form	Bare form	Translation
<i>bat’i-bat’iyaw</i>	<i>bat’iyaw</i>	‘different, various’
<i>c’ik’a-c’ik’araw</i>	<i>c’ik’araw</i>	‘old, big’
<i>daha-dahaw</i>	<i>dahaw</i>	‘few, little’
<i>xiri-xiriyaw</i>	<i>xiriyaw</i>	‘dear, expensive’

Reduplicated forms of adverbs take initial *CVC* and add the complete base. There does not seem to be a difference in meaning besides perhaps more emphasis associated with the reduplicated form.

(65) Partial reduplication of adverbs

Reduplicated form	Bare form	Translation
<i>hez-hezzo</i>	<i>hezzo</i>	‘then, after’
<i>q’uy-q’uya</i>	<i>q’uya</i>	‘other’
<i>hoz-hozu</i>	<i>hozu</i>	‘separately’
<i>al-aldoyo</i> <sup>9</sup>	<i>aldoyo</i>	‘ahead’

Occasionally there are some reduplicated inflected nouns used as temporal and spatial adjuncts where a copy of initial *CVC(V)* precedes the base. The reduplicated forms express iterativity or plurality, and they have become lexicalized, fulfilling an adverbial function. Note that the base form of the nouns (i.e. *zaman* ‘time’, *moči* ‘place’) cannot be reduplicated.

## (66) Partial reduplication of nouns

Reduplicated form	Translation	Bare form	Translation
<i>zama-zamanaŋ</i>	‘from time to time’	<i>zamaŋ</i>	‘once’
<i>moč-moča:</i>	‘here and there’	<i>moča:</i>	‘in one place’

Partial reduplication of verbs (*CVC* plus base) typically leads to an iterative meaning (67). However, there are two examples of verbs, namely *xet'-xet'-a* and *boλ-boλo b-et'-a*, where the base alone does not have any meaning, and thus the reduplicated form does not express iterativity. It is not the stem alone that is reduplicated because if there is a preceding agreement prefix, then this prefix is also reduplicated. But not all partially reduplicated verbs have agreement prefixes. For the purpose of clarity, the verbs in (67) are given with the *b-* agreement prefix and the Infinitive suffix *-a*.

## (67) Partial reduplication of verbs

Reduplicated form	Bare form	Translation
<i>b-iγ-b-iγ-a</i>	<i>b-iγ-a</i>	‘take’
<i>b-oλ-b-oλex-a</i>	<i>b-oλex-a</i>	‘appear’
<i>xet'-xet'-a</i>	-	‘tickle’
<i>boλ-boλo b-et'-a</i>	-	‘split, crack’

With the numerals 1-10, reduplication is used to derive distributive numerals, as in some other Nakh-Daghestanian languages (cf. Hunzib (van den Berg 1995: 34), Lezgian (Haspelmath 1993a: 235)). Distributive numerals formed by reduplication consist of the copy *CV* followed by the numeral. But there is an alternative way of forming distributive numerals by adding the spatial case suffix *-ho* ‘ILOC-Essive’ (Section 12.8). In addition, both operations (i.e. reduplication and spatial case suffixiation) can be combined:

## (68) Partial reduplication of numerals

Reduplicated form	Bare form	Translation
<i>q'o-q'ono / q'o-q'onoho</i>	<i>q'ono</i>	‘two each, in a twosome’
<i>ŋe-ŋeno / ŋe-ŋenoho</i>	<i>ŋeno</i>	‘five each, in a fivesome’

<sup>9</sup> The copy and the base are both preceded by a glottal stop.

Another kind of reduplication for various parts of speech (adverbs, adjectives, nouns) comprises *CVC(V)* plus the base where the onset of the first syllable is replaced by /m/ (or in the last examples by /t'/). The reduplicated words are more emphatic or more extreme in their semantics, e.g. *koʎe* means 'fast, soon', and *koʎe-moʎe* 'faster, sooner'.

(69)	Reduplicated form	Bare form	Translation
	<i>koʎe-moʎe</i>	<i>koʎe</i>	'fast, soon'
	<i>cada-madaq</i>	<i>cadaq</i>	'together'
	<i>ħali-malica</i>	<i>ħali</i>	'hardly, at last'
	<i>k'ot-mottu</i>	<i>kottu</i>	'short, low'
	<i>ħuč-muč</i>	<i>ħuč</i>	'roast meat'
	<i>roq'e-t'oq'e</i>	<i>roq'e</i>	'dishes'

Finally there are two examples of reduplication where none of the parts represents a word of its own (70). The rhyme of these words is identical, only the initial segments of the two parts differ. Due to the low number of examples, it is impossible to tell what the relation between the initial elements of the compounds might be.

(70)	Reduplicated form	Translation
	<i>t'eʎ-neʎ</i>	'through (and through)'
	<i>ceq-beq-ʎ'o</i> <sup>10</sup>	'everywhere'

## 2.5. Word stress

### 2.5.1. Stress in roots

Stress is not a very prominent category in Hinuq. The stress properties of Hinuq words are very hard to determine. The stress is quite weak such that even native speakers have difficulties or are even unable to figure out the stress in elicitation. Some words seem to have variable stress, e.g. *-égi/-egí:* 'good' or *-<sup>2</sup>éži/-<sup>2</sup>eží:* 'big, old'.

However, one feature of stress assignment in Hinuq seems to hold for most of the words in my material: heavy syllables of the type *CVC* or *CV:* usually attract stress, e.g. *dán.di* 'against', *i.žéy* 'eye', *o.čór.di.yu* 'old'.<sup>11</sup> Nevertheless, there are a few words that behave differently such as for instance *zok.dá* 'bunker'.

In the following sections stress assignment to nouns, pronouns, adverbs, adjectives, and verbs will be looked at in more detail. The various parts of speech

<sup>10</sup> Diachronically, the suffix of this word *-ʎ'o* is probably the SPR-Essive case.

<sup>11</sup> Superheavy syllables of type *CV:C* do not occur in native roots.

are divided into groups according to the number of their syllables. Heavy syllables are underlined to facilitate reading. Due to the general difficulties in determining the stress assignment in Hinuq, the stress properties of enclitics and suffixes are not treated in this grammar and remain open for future research.

### 2.5.2. Stress in major parts of speech

Simple nouns, pronouns, numerals, and postpositions/adverbs can consist of up to four syllables. Dissyllabic nouns, pronouns, and postpositions/adverbs are mostly stressed on the first syllable.

(71)	<i>p'ó.su</i>	‘livestock’	<i>kí.či</i>	‘ring’
	<i>ó.bu</i>	‘father’	<i>é.li</i>	‘we’
	<i>łé.mo</i>	‘stairs, bridge’	<i>mé.se</i>	‘sand’
	<i>xú.xu</i>	‘thunder’	<i>qé.qe</i>	‘cooked cereals’
	<i>dán.di</i>	‘against’	<i>hád.be</i>	‘they’

It is possible though not easy to find examples with the stress on the second (i.e. final) syllable.

(72)	<i>bi.šón</i>	‘hundred’	<i>zok.'dá</i>	‘bunker’
------	---------------	-----------	----------------	----------

Words that end with *-ey*, *-ay*, or *-oy* bear stress on this final syllable because this syllable contains a diphthong that is always stressed.

(73)	<i>k<sup>w</sup>e.zéy</i>	‘hand’	<i>če.čéy</i>	‘oil, butter’
	<i>ho.bóy</i>	‘then, now’	<i>k'o.bóy</i>	‘shirt’
	<i>be.łáy</i>	‘dagger’	<i>c'i.káy</i>	‘mirror’

Trisyllabic nouns can bear the main stress on the first syllable and a secondary stress on the last syllable:

(74)	<i>łó.ko.ná</i>	‘glove, mitten’	<i>búm.bu.lí</i>	‘feather’
	<i>bí.ko.ré</i>	‘snake’	<i>šó.šo.lá</i>	‘rags’

Another possibility for trisyllabic nouns (and adjectives) is to bear stress on the second syllable:

(75)	<i>ba.łá.xu</i>	‘excrement’	<i>i.zí.ro</i>	‘not castrated’
	<i>ne.x<sup>w</sup>ík'.ra</i>	‘oak’	<i>a.qí.li</i>	‘woman’

The third possibility is to stress the final syllable. Note that there is also one demonstrative pronoun in the list in (76).

- (76) *xa.li.cén* ‘scythe’                      *i.na.xú* ‘intestine’  
       *ma.ga.lú* ‘bread’                         *i.za.hág* ‘those’

Nouns with four syllables are quite exceptional. Hinuq has a small number of them, and they all have the main stress on the first syllable and a secondary stress on the third syllable.

- (77) *mí.χ'o.qó.yu* ‘rein’                      *ʔó.mo.kí.lu* ‘camel’  
       *k'é.k'e.bí.ku* ‘bird cherry (tree)’

A number of demonstrative pronouns and adverbs derived from them are always stressed on the second syllable, independently of whether the word has two, three, or four syllables:

- (78) *hi.bád* ‘this’                                *i.záw* ‘that’  
       *hi.báy* ‘such’                                *hi.báy.ru* ‘such’  
       *hi.bá.di* ‘such, that’                      *i.zá.ha.go* ‘that’

Verbs can be divided into four conjugation classes according to their stem-final segment: (i) consonant-final verbs, (ii) verbs with stem-final /i/, (iii) verbs with stem-final /e/, and (iv) verbs with stem-final long vowels (7.2.2). The citation form of verbs in the dictionary by (Khalilov & Isakov 2005) is the Infinitive (plus the agreement prefix *b-* for those verbs that show agreement), but the suffix of the Infinitive attracts the stress, so this form cannot be taken into consideration when studying the stress in the verbal root. However, all verbs can form the General tense, a verb form that is identical to the verbal stem (7.4.3). Therefore, I will describe the stress in verbal roots (i.e. without any derivational suffixes) as it can be found in the General tense. Almost all underived consonant-final verbs have a monosyllabic stem, therefore their stress properties cannot be determined. The majority of verbs belonging to the other three classes are disyllabic. Disyllabic verbs with stem-final /i/ assign stress to the first syllable. In contrast, disyllabic verbs with stem-final /e/ assign stress to the second syllable. The stress of disyllabic verbs with stem-final long vowels (e.g. *ʔeža:-* ‘laugh’, *-edo:-* ‘work’) is unclear, i.e. both the first syllable as well as the second long syllable are equally stressed. A few examples are given in (79).

- (79) *cá.χi* ‘throw’                                *-a.q'é* ‘come’  
       *-á.ši* ‘find’                                    *e.sé* ‘tell’  
       *é.χi* ‘say’                                    *qa.χé* ‘call’  
       *ʔe.ža:* ‘laugh’                               *-e.do:* ‘work’

## 2.5.3. Stress in adjectives

Simple, underived adjectives that are disyllabic bear stress on the first syllable.

- |      |               |        |                |         |
|------|---------------|--------|----------------|---------|
| (80) | <i>ó.ssu</i>  | ‘high’ | <i>c’ú.ddu</i> | ‘red’   |
|      | <i>-é.čču</i> | ‘fat’  | <i>ké.kku</i>  | ‘light’ |

In normal trisyllabic adjectives, stress falls on the second syllable:

- |      |                 |                  |                              |                |
|------|-----------------|------------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| (81) | <i>a.dá.ru</i>  | ‘naked’          | <i>bo.bó.ru</i>              | ‘hot’          |
|      | <i>λo.λó.lu</i> | ‘flaccid, faded’ | <i>-e.g<sup>w</sup>én.nu</i> | ‘young, small’ |
|      | <i>me.qá.yu</i> | ‘bitter’         | <i>ča.yá.yu</i>              | ‘salty’        |

Color and similar terms are also typically trisyllabic with the suffix *-diyu*. They bear stress on the first syllable, i.e. on the root morpheme.

- |      |                  |         |                              |           |
|------|------------------|---------|------------------------------|-----------|
| (82) | <i>ál.di.yu</i>  | ‘white’ | <i>y<sup>w</sup>áč.di.yu</i> | ‘spotted’ |
|      | <i>zér.di.yu</i> | ‘grey’  | <i>íč’.di.yu</i>             | ‘yellow’  |

Other adjectives that have the same suffix *-diyu* consist of four syllables and are stressed on the second syllable, i.e. on the syllable that immediately precedes the suffix, just like with the trisyllabic color terms. And just like with the color terms, the suffix *-diyu* can be replaced by another adjective suffix *-duk’a*, but the stress does not change.

- |      |                     |            |                      |            |
|------|---------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|
| (83) | <i>o.čór.di.yu</i>  | ‘old’      | <i>o.čór.du.k’a</i>  | ‘old’      |
|      | <i>ec’.én.di.yu</i> | ‘new’      | <i>ec’.én.du.k’a</i> | ‘new’      |
|      | <i>gi.hón.di.yu</i> | ‘stubborn’ | <i>gi.hón.du.k’a</i> | ‘stubborn’ |

There are a handful of adjectives that have suffixes other than the ones so far described. The first group consists of three adjectives that have a final /i:/ (when stressed). These three adjectives have no fixed stress position. Either the first syllable can be stressed, as is most typical for words consisting of two syllables, or the second, in which case the final vowel is long:

- |      |                     |        |   |            |
|------|---------------------|--------|---|------------|
| (84) | <i>-é.gi/-e.gíy</i> | ‘good’ | <i>-<sup>?</sup>é.ži/-<sup>?</sup>e.žíy</i> | ‘big, old’ |
|      | <i>gá.qi/ga.qíy</i> | ‘bad’  |   |            |

There is one adjective that ends with *-ey*, a suffix that attracts stress, as was already shown in (73). Consequently, this adjective *-eg<sup>w</sup>éy* ‘young, small’ is stressed on this suffix.

There are many adjectives that have the suffix *-Camu*. They are often derived from nouns or verbs. These adjectives are stressed on the syllable immediately preceding *-mu*.

- |      |                  |             |                  |           |
|------|------------------|-------------|------------------|-----------|
| (85) | <u>ger.dá.mu</u> | ‘grumbling’ | <u>mez.lá.mu</u> | ‘lazy’    |
|      | šo.šo.lá.mu      | ‘ragged’    | ša.kar.yá.mu     | ‘jealous’ |

#### 2.5.4. Stress in loan words

Many loans are stressed on the final syllable.

- |      |                 |                |                  |             |
|------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|-------------|
| (86) | <u>ba.zár</u>   | ‘market’       | <u>hal.máy</u>   | ‘friend’    |
|      | <u>hu.nár</u>   | ‘ability’      | <u>du.ni.yál</u> | ‘world’     |
|      | sa.žát          | ‘hour’         | <u>su.rát</u>    | ‘picture’   |
|      | <u>a.xi.rát</u> | ‘kingdom come’ | <u>wa.si.yát</u> | ‘testament’ |

But there are also some loans that are stressed on the first syllable.

- |      |               |           |               |           |
|------|---------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|
| (87) | <u>dár.si</u> | ‘lesson’  | <u>ám.ru</u>  | ‘command’ |
|      | <u>žil.mu</u> | ‘science’ | <u>žúm.ru</u> | ‘life’    |

Loans from Avar that are native Avar words are mostly stressed in the same way as they are in Avar. Thus, they can bear stress on the first syllable.

- |      |                |          |                  |             |
|------|----------------|----------|------------------|-------------|
| (88) | <u>bó.ži</u>   | ‘belief’ | <u>hál.ki</u>    | ‘repose’    |
|      | <u>hál.t’i</u> | ‘work’   | <u>bér.ten</u>   | ‘wedding’   |
|      | č’ú.hi         | ‘pride’  | <u>báy.bi.ki</u> | ‘beginning’ |

Stress on the second syllable seems to be less common, but it is nevertheless attested.

- |      |               |          |                 |             |
|------|---------------|----------|-----------------|-------------|
| (89) | <u>ga.máč</u> | ‘stone’  | <u>ba.žá.ri</u> | ‘knowledge’ |
|      | <u>hu.dúl</u> | ‘friend’ |                 |             |

Note that in all those words given in (86) to (89), which contain a heavy syllable, the heavy syllable is stressed, i.e. stress is predictable. For those words that do not contain heavy syllables or more than one heavy syllable, stress falls mostly on the first syllable. Loans from Russian are nowadays stressed in the same way as in Russian.

# Chapter 3

## Nouns

### 3.1. Introduction

The nominal morphology of Hinuq is suffixing and overwhelmingly agglutinating. Nouns are inflected for number (singular, plural), grammatical case (Absolute, Ergative, First Genitive, Second Genitive, Dative, Instrumental), and spatial cases. The spatial cases are combinations of the seven location markers (CONT, IN, SUB, SPR, AT, ALOC, ILOC) with five orientation markers (Essive, Lative, First Ablative, Second Ablative, Directional). All cases other than the Absolute are based on a special oblique stem which is idiosyncratic for many nouns. To describe Hinuq nouns we need to distinguish four different stems, although these stems are not always formally distinct: the Base stem (Absolute Singular stem), the Oblique Singular stem, the Absolute Plural stem, and the Oblique Plural stem. Case suffixes follow the oblique stems. For an overview of stem formation in all Tsezic languages see Forker (2010b).

In this chapter the Oblique Singular stem formation is described first (3.2), followed by the Absolute Plural formation (3.3), the Oblique Plural formation (3.4), and the cases with their functions (3.5). Finally, nominal word formation is treated, consisting of derivation (3.6) and compounding (3.7).

### 3.2. Oblique Singular stem formation

The formation of the Oblique Singular stem shows the widest range of variation among the different stem formation processes. The nominal root is identical to the Absolute Singular form of the nouns (i.e. citation form). Other oblique forms of nouns in the singular are formed by applying at least one of the following operations:

1. Base stem formation
  - (a) no change (e.g. *obu* ‘father’, Table 4)
2. Oblique stem formation
  - (a) oblique suffix (e.g. *ahlu* ‘folk’, Table 5)
  - (b) epenthetic vowel (e.g. *iš* ‘bull’, Table 7)