THE FORMS AND MEANINGS OF A'INGAE DERIVED NOUNS

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1 OVERVIEW I describe and analyze the phonological form and historical trajectory of nominal derivatives in A'ingae (ISO 639-3: con), an underdocumented Amazonian isolate (Dąbkowski, 2021). Some words historically derived with otherwise preglottalized nominalizers have no glottalization today. I propose that these "exceptions" are reflexes of originally glottalized words, which underwent semantic shift and lost glottalization due to contamination from the plain (i.e. non-glottalized) majority. SIGNIFICANCE: The paper documents a rare case where non-productive morphological patterns are the innovation, not retention. All the data were collected by the author.

2 BACKGROUND A'ingae syllable structure is (C)V(V)(ʔ), with contrastive coda glottalization (1a-b). Most simplex nouns do not have /ʔ/ (2), but some do (3). -ʔCV suffixes (1d,f)[1] often contrast minimally with -CV suffixes (1c,e).

(1) CONTRASTIVE GLOTTALIZATION (Dąbkowski, 2023)

a.	b.	c.	d.	e.	f.
chandi	*chaʔndi*	*tsa =ma*	*tsa =ʔma*	*seʔje =pa*	*seje -ʔpa*
be clear	be cold	ANA =ACC	ANA =FRST	cure =SS	cure -N

(2) PLAIN NOUNS

a.	b.	c.	d.	e.
pindu	*kuse*	*tsunsina*	*chanange*	*anjampa*
hawk	night	ear	lowland paca	blood

(3) GLOTTALIZED NOUNS

a.	b.	c.	d.	e.
theʔthu	*umaʔndu*	*bansaʔmu*	*anaeʔma*	*kukiuʔchu*
tooth	macaw	balsam	hammock	mountain cocoa

3 DESCRIPTION A'ingae has a large set of nominalizers, which productively derive nouns from both verbs (4a-b,5) and other nouns (4c-d,6). Many (5-6), though not all (4), nominalizers, are preglottalized. Furthermore, there are some apparent derivatives whose meaning is not compositional. A subset of them lacks glottalization, even if the nominalizer is preglottalized in its compositional uses. E.g., subject nouns derived with *-ʔsɨ* SN always show glottalization (7). However, the same morpheme also appears in non-subject-nouns as either *-ʔsɨ* (8a-b) or *-sɨ* (8c-e).

(4) PLAIN NOMINALIZERS ON VERBAL ROOTS AND ON NOMINAL ROOTS

a.	b.	c.	d.
athe -mbi	*kati -khɨ*	*mapha -inte*	*tava -jiun*
see -NIN	throw -BND	wash -PRD	cotton -LRG
"blind"	"trash can"	"washing season"	"silk-cotton tree"

(5) GLOTTALIZED NOMINALIZERS ON VERBAL ROOTS

a.	b.	c.	d.
shejechu -ʔpa	*panza -ʔsɨ*	*akhɨi -ʔkhu*	*akhepa -ʔsi*
fry -N	hunt -SN	lever -ANG	forget -BRS
"fried foods"	"hunter"	"lever"	"forgetting plant"

(6) GLOTTALIZED NOMINALIZERS ON NOMINAL ROOTS

a.	b.	c.	d.
tsandie -ʔthi	*tsampi -ʔki*	*khake -ʔchu*	*umandu -ʔki*
man -PLC	forest -PATH	leaf -RND	macaw -DRN
"men's place"	"forest trail"	"leaf bundle"	"macaw day"

(7) SEMANTICALLY TRANSPARENT PRODUCTIVE DERIVATIVES WITH *-ʔsɨ* SN

a.	b.	c.	d.	e.
panza -ʔsɨ	*atesian -ʔsɨ*	*pɨshe -ʔsɨ*	*injan -ʔsɨ*	*bɨthu -ʔsɨ*
hunt -SN	teach -SN	marry.woman -SN	want -SN	run -SN
"hunter"	"teacher"	"woman-marrier"	"wanter"	"runner"

(8) SEMANTICALLY OPAQUE LEXICALLY STORED ITEMS WITH *-(ʔ)sɨ* SN

a.	b.	c.	d.	e.
anaen -ʔsɨ	*akhɨi -ʔsɨ*	*pɨshe -sɨ*	*injan -sɨ*	*fae -sɨ*
make.sleep -SN	row -SN	marry.woman -SN	want -SN	one -SN
"be sleepy"	"stroke"	"woman"	"cautious"	"other"

The "round" nominalizer *-ʔchu* RND is often (though not always) used for fruit/small/round objects. Productive derivatives with various context-dependent interpretations show *-ʔchu* (9). Lexicalized derivatives show either *-ʔchu* (10a-b) or *-chu* (10c-e). MAIN GENERALIZATION: Semantically transparent nouns derived with ʔ-initial nominalizers always have glottalization (7,9). Opaque nouns (historically) derived with the same suffixes are either plain or glottalized (8,10).

(9) SEMANTICALLY TRANSPARENT PRODUCTIVE DERIVATIVES WITH *-ʔCHU* RND

a. *khaya -ʔchu*	b. *naen -ʔchu*	c. *bɨthu -ʔchu*	d. *kini -ʔchu*	e. *ansange -ʔchu*
swim -RND	river -RND	run -RND	tree -RND	be shy -RND
i. "raft"	i. "river fruit"	i. "round footprint"	i. "cane"	i. "shame"
ii. "floating animal/ object"	ii."river water cupped in leaves"	ii. "fruit for running"	ii. "(rotten) tree trunk"	ii. "bullying"
				iii. "fruit that makes shy"

(10) SEMANTICALLY OPAQUE LEXICALLY STORED ITEMS WITH *-(ʔ)CHU* RND

a. *dɨsɨ -ʔchu*	b. *tsɨtha -ʔchu*	c. *teta -chu*	d. *bumbu -chu*	e. *añunu -chu*
conceive -RND	bone -RND	flower -RND	pambil -RND	siren -RND
"egg"	"knee" (not just any "small/ round bone")	"fruit" (not just any "small/ round flower")	"pambil fruit"	"handicraft beads"

4 ANALYSIS I propose that the oft-preglottalized nominalizers were originally glottalized in all words. Some derivatives underwent a semantic shift, becoming reanalyzed as monomorphemic. Most simplex nouns do not have glottalization, which leads to contamination of the newly non-compositional nouns, making some of them conform with the non-glottalized majority. This contamination is further aided by phonetically ambiguous contexts where glottals are neutralized: In rapid speech, glottal stops can be realized as creaky voice, entirely dropped, and additionally obscured by general phrase-final creakiness (Repetti-Ludlow et al., 2019). E.g., according to the proposal, *añunuchu* "handicraft beads" (10e) started as **añunuʔchu* (lit. "siren fruit") and was realized, among others, as **[añunuchu̯]*, **[añunuchu]*, and **[añunu̯ʔchu̯]*, which led to hypo-/hypercorrection: */añunuchu/*. CAPTURED FACTS: The loss of glottalization is attributed to lexically specific contamination, so it's unpredictable. Productive derivatives synchronically contain the preglottalized nominalizer, so they never lose glottalization.

5 REJECTED ALTERNATIVE The opposite trajectory, where glottalization in derivatives is innovative (i.e.**-sɨ, *-chu, ... > -ʔsɨ, -ʔchu, ...*), is untenable. There is no phonetic motivation for ʔ-insertion, or evidence that (many) simplex nouns were ever glottalized. As such, innovative glottalization cannot be due to contamination. Furthermore, nominalizer preglottalization is contrastive (4 vs. 5-6), so the ʔ-insertion would have to be unpredictable.

6 DISCUSSION Morphological exceptions are usually vestiges of previously productive patterns. I demonstrate that the A'ingae exceptionally plain derivatives do not conform to this generalization, as they are innovative—once reanalyzed as morphologically simple, they arise from a pressure to conform to the more general pattern, which is that simple nouns lack glottal stops.

Dąbkowski, M. (2021). "A'ingae (Ecuador and Colombia) – Language snapshot." In: *Language Documentation and Description* 20, pp. 1–12. DOI: 10.25894/ldd28. Dąbkowski, M. (2023). "Two grammars of A'ingae glottalization: A case for Cophonologies by Phase." In: *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 42.2, pp. 437–491. ISSN: 1573-0859. DOI: 10.1007/s11049-023-09574-5. Repetti-Ludlow, C. et al. (2019). "A'ingae (Cofán)." In: *Journal of the International Phonetic Association: Illustrations of the IPA*, pp. 1–14. DOI: 10.1017/S0025100319000082.

1 The following glossing abbreviations have been used: ACC = accusative, ANA = anaphora, ANG = angular, BND = bounded, BRS = bristly, DRN = diurnal, FRST = frustrative, LRG = large, N = nominalizer, NIN = negative individual nominalizer, PATH = path, PLC = place, PRD = periodic, RND = round, SN = subject nominalizer, SS = same subject.