

The word is also trisyllabic in Principense, which has ma'kita.

7) ST 'nami "yam" (Ptg inhamé /i' nãmɐ/))

The cognate stem for "to eat" occurs in various African language groups, e.g. Serer (Adamawa group) nã "to eat". In Gullah there is <nyam> - <yam>, and Lillard (1972a: 118) refers to Krapp's opinion that "present infantile <yum-yum> may be related to this word.". According to Alvarez Nazario (1961), the Gullah word also means "potato", which supports the view that the verb could be the etymon for the noun <yam> "type of edible tuber". The Cape Verde word is 'name. Alvarez Nazario gives examples of the occurrence of cognates in several Creoles.

2.1.3. Extension of Portuguese Meaning

For some ST words, Portuguese has supplied the linguistic form and the African substratum the area of reference. The Portuguese form thus ceases to be associated with its conceptual area and covers in ST the conceptual area which had been covered by an African linguistic form. As an instance, Ptg mão (hand up to the wrist) → ST mõ (covering the African concept hand and arm up to the shoulder). In both Bini (Kwa) and Kongo (Bantu), two languages representing a major substratum influence on ST, "hand" and "arm" are one concept, obɔ in Bini and kooko in Kongo.

There is always a degree of overlap in the criterial attributes which the linguistic form had in Portuguese and those which it has in ST. In the case of mõ, the part of the conceptual area up to the wrist is common to the concept labelled by Portuguese and the African languages.

The Portuguese word braço "arm" is thus not required in ST to cover "wrist to shoulder", a Portuguese concept. It becomes unnecessary for ST to incorporate a linguistic form to cover a concept which has been otherwise labelled, so that this word has not been absorbed into ST, although 'blasu "embrace" exists, derived from Ptg abraço.

Some African languages have one word for the hand and arm up to the elbow, and one for the upper arm, e.g. Tsonga (South-Eastern Bantu) sandãa "hand and arm up to the elbow", goko "hand and upper arm". Various aspects of.

expansion of meaning in lexical borrowing are discussed by Huttar (forthcoming).

Other examples:

- 1) Ptg pé /pɛ/ "foot" → ST ɔ'pɛ "foot and leg to the knee"

In addition to "foot", ST ɔ'pɛ designates "leg", as in such West African languages as Kimbundu (kinama "foot and leg") and Bini (owɛ "foot and leg"). Portuguese perna "leg" has not been incorporated into ST.

- 2) Ptg sogro /'sɔgru/ "father-in-law", sogra /sɔgra/ "mother-in-law" → ST 'sɔglu "father-in-law; son-in-law", 'sɔgla "mother-in-law; daughter-in-law".

With the addition of the Portuguese-derived gender feature, ST 'sɔglu and 'sɔgla cover what in African languages is frequently one concept, as Kongo ko "father-, mother-, son-, daughter-in-law". Ptg genro "son-in-law" and nora "daughter-in-law" have not been incorporated.

- 3) Ptg curto /'kurtu/ "short" → ST 'kutu "short; low"

The Portuguese word for "short" is also used for "low" in ST. Bantu languages generally, as in Kongo, have one word for the concepts "short" and "low". The corresponding Kishikongo stem is -ankufi "short; low".

- 4) Ptg longo /'longu/ "long" → ST 'longo "long; tall"

This extension of meaning parallels the one above. The corresponding Kishikongo stem is -anda or -alambuka "long; tall".

- 5) Ptg cru /kru/ "raw" → ST ku'lu "raw; unripe"

In addition to "raw", ST ku'lu designates "unripe", thus covering the same conceptual area as occurs in African languages such as Kongo, which has mbisu "raw; unripe". Ptg verde "green; unripe" has been absorbed into ST as 'vede to designate the colour green, without association with "unripe".

- 6) Ptg sola /'solə/ "sole" → ST 'sala in 'sala mo "palm of the hand", 'sala ɔ'pe "sole of the foot".

The Portuguese word for "sole" has been absorbed into ST to mean both the palm of the hand and the sole of the foot, as in Kongo (kanda "palm of the hand; sole of the foot") and Bini (atat-abo "palm of the hand", atat-awe "sole of the foot"). Ptg palma "palm (of the hand)" has not been incorporated into ST.

2.1.4. Portuguese Word Replaced by Periphrasis

A Portuguese word may be replaced by a periphrastic construction which has an equivalent in African languages. Thus the Portuguese word tornozelo "ankle" has not been incorporated; instead ST has the periphrastic construction ɔ'so d-ɔ'pe (lit. "bone of the foot"). This construction has an African basis, as exemplified by Kongo ɓisi ya-kuulu (lit. bone of foot)".

Other examples

- 1) Ptg lágrima "tear" replaced by ST 'awa we (lit. "water from the eyes").

Although there are words for "tear" in Kongo, Kishikongo has the circumlocution maza ma mesu (lit. "water from the eyes"). Sango, now a Central African lingua franca, also has an expression meaning "water from the eye" to designate a tear, ngu le (Samarin, 1970:70).

- 2) Ptg chover "to rain" replaced by ST 'suba so'be (lit. the rain rains).

Typically, Bantu languages employ a periphrastic construction consisting of noun+verb to render "to rain", as in Kongo mvula ɓi-bwa "lit. the rain is falling". In the Kwa languages, Bini has amerho "it is raining" (lit. water falls).

2.1.5. Meaning Shifts in the Portuguese Component

It is not frequent for a Portuguese word to acquire a

different meaning in ST. The following, however, are a few examples of Portuguese words which have acquired a different meaning in ST:

<u>'doši</u>	"tasty" (← Ptg doce "sweet")
<u>kutu'ja</u>	"shyness" (← Ptg cortesia "courtesy")
<u>mola'do</u>	"important man" (← Ptg morador "resident")
<u>'umida</u>	"fog" (← Ptg húmida "damp")
<u>'boja</u>	"to emerge; to lift; to raise; to suspend" (← Ptg boiar "to float")
<u>'flimi</u>	"straight" (← Ptg firme "firm")
<u>tló'vada</u>	"storm" (← Ptg trovada "thunder")

2.1.6. Portuguese Archaisms

Some ST words bear a greater phonetic resemblance to forms of Old Portuguese (some surviving dialectally) rather than standard modern Portuguese. Such words are frequently derived from the archaic form, and thus help to locate in time the formation of ST. The following are examples of forms resembling old rather than standard modern Portuguese forms:

	ST	Old Ptg	Standard modern Ptg
<u>pe</u>	"to put"	poer	pôr
<u>kje</u>	"to fall"	queer	cair
<u>ŋa</u>	"one"	ũa	uma
<u>'ome</u>	"man"	home	homem
<u>so'mana</u>	"week"	somana	semana
<u>'kuma</u>	"as"	coma	como
<u>gumi'ta</u>	"to vomit"	gumitar	vomitar
<u>buči'za</u>	"to baptize"	boutizar	baptizar
<u>mi'hō</u>	"better"	milhor	melhor
<u>ka'žō</u>	"occasion"	cajom	ocasião

Frequently the use of an archaic or otherwise more unusual Portuguese form in ST results in non-absorption of a more current standard modern Portuguese item, as in the following examples:

ST		Old or less usual Ptg	Modern Standard Ptg
<u>ma'teja</u>	"pus"	matéria	pus
<u>ku'ji</u>	"to answer"	acudir	responder
<u>mf'ja</u>	"medicine"	mezinha	remédio
<u>'nova</u>	"news"	nova	notícia
<u>flɔ'ga</u>	"to enjoy onself"	folgar	divertir-se
<u>pi'sa</u>	"to push"	pinchar	empurrar
<u>fe'de</u>	"to smell bad"	feder	cheirar mal
<u>da'na</u>	"to rot"	danar	apodrecer
<u>fu'ta</u>	"to steal"	furtar	roubar
<u>'liba</u>	"top, upper part"	riba	cima
<u>zi'bô</u>	"jacket"	gibão	casaco
<u>ka'dele</u>	"hip"	cadeira	anca, quadril
<u>maši'bi</u>	"young man"	mancebinho	jovem, rapaz
<u>'zuda</u>	"enema"	ajuda	clister
<u>'taka</u>	"to fasten"	atacar	abotoar
<u>ka'i</u>	"stingy"	cainho	avarento
<u>'kenta</u>	"to heat"	aqueitar	aquecer
<u>'anta wɔ</u>	"still"	anta hora	ainda
<u>'zuqa</u>	"to throw"	jogar	atirar, lançar
<u>manga'sô</u>	"mockery"	mangação	troça
<u>mo've</u>	"abortion"	mover	aborto; abortar

Some of the Portuguese archaisms which are found in ST occur also in other Portuguese Creoles, revealing the earliness of the formation of these languages. Compare the following archaic forms drawn from the examples given above, with the cognates in other Portuguese-based Creoles. The data for the Creoles outside São Tomé and Príncipe are drawn from the following sources: Annobón (Barrena, 1957), Cape Verde islands (Lopes da Silva, 1957), Guiné (Wilson, 1962), Senegal (Chataigner, 1963), Malacca (Silva Kego), Ceylon, Cochin, Mangalore, Bombay, Singapore, and Macao (Dalgado, 1900).

ST ma'teja "pus" (+ Ptg matéria)
Cape Verde I. < materia > , Guiné < matascrya > .

ST ku'ji "to answer" (+ Ptg acudir)
 Angolar ku'ji, Príncipe ku'di, Annobón ku'zi
 Cape Verde I. kdi "to answer a call", Senegal ku'di
 "to hear".

ST mi'ja "medicine" (+ Ptg mezinha)
 Senegal mi'sipu, Macao <misinha>

ST 'nɔva "news" (+ Ptg novas)
 Cape Verde I. <noba>, Cochin <noves>

ST pī'sa "to push" (+ Ptg pinchar)
 Cape Verde I. <pīxa>, Guiné <pinča>, Mangalore,
 Bombay, Malacca, Macao pī'sa.

ST da'na "to rot; to damage" (+ Ptg danar)
 Senegal dana "to damage", Ceylon da'na "to damage",
 Malacca da'na

ST fu'ta "to steal" (+ Ptg furtar)
 Senegal <furta >

ST 'liba "top, upper part" (+ Ptg riba)
 Angolar 'liba, Senegal 'řiba, Guiné 'řiba, Singapore,
 Macao <ribè>, Mangalore <rib >, Malacca <riba> .

ST maši'bi "young man" (+ Ptg mancebinho)
 Angolar maši'vi, Ceylon mas'vipu

2.2. Recent Changes

The direction of change in ST is towards Portuguese. This process of approximation to Portuguese is most marked in the lexicon. However, these changes are minimal when seen in the context of the whole lexicon of the language, and in no way is there a suggestion of relexification on any large scale.

A feature of many words recently introduced from Portuguese is an incomplete assimilation into the phonological patterns of ST.

2.2.1. Words of African Origin Being Replaced by Portuguese Words

Some words of African origin are being replaced by words of Portuguese origin. Indeed, a few African words are only remembered by older people who heard them in their youth. The following are examples of words of African origin either undergoing replacement or existing next to Portuguese words:

<u>'fana</u>	"to open wide" (being replaced by <u>bi'li</u> ← Ptg abrir)
<u>'qolo</u>	"to look for" (next to <u>pluku'</u> ← Ptg procurar)
<u>klɔ'klɔ</u>	"to scrape" (being replaced by <u>'fašpa</u> ← Ptg raspar)
<u>'kutu</u>	"to thicken (food)" (next to <u>'glosa</u> ← Ptg engrossar)
<u>ɔ'klɔklɔ</u>	"scar" (being replaced by <u>šika'tliži</u> ← Ptg cicatriz)
<u>'tumbu</u>	"dust" (next to <u>'pwela</u> ← Ptg poeira, <u>ɔ'pɔ</u> ← Ptg pó)
<u>u'bwe</u>	"body" (next to <u>'klopo</u> ← Ptg corpo). In the expression "to have a bath", <u>'laba u'bwe</u> is being replaced by <u>'toma 'banu</u> (← Ptg toma banho).
<u>qo</u>	"to complain" (next to <u>'keša</u> ← Ptg queixar-se)
<u>ngwiqu'nu</u>	"to complete ^{finish} " (being replaced by <u>řižmunge</u> ← Ptg rasmungar)
<u>'zamba</u>	"elephant" (next to <u>li'fantî</u> ← Ptg elefante)
<u>u'tu</u>	"mould" (next to <u>bu'lolu</u> ← Ptg bolor)
<u>'dudu (d-awa)</u>	"earthen water pot" (being replaced by <u>'bifo</u> ← Ptg bilhal)

2.2.2. Loss of Periphrastic Constructions

In the process of approximation to Portuguese, a number of periphrastic constructions in ST are being replaced by the single word which denotes the concept in Portuguese, as in the following examples, many of which are kinship terms and other terms related to the family:

'mina di 'mina (m.)
 child of child (me)
 "(my) grandchild"
 > 'netu (+ Ptg neto)

'ɔme (di) 'mana (m.)
 man (of) sister (me)
 "(my) brother-in-law"
 > ku'padu (+ Ptg cunhado)

'mwala 'manu (m.)
 woman brother (me)
 or
sā-'nge 'manu (m.)
 lady-person brother (me)
 "(my) sister-in-law"
ku'pada (+ Ptg cunhada)

'mwala kwe sa di 'kaza kwe
 woman that-he be of marry with-her
 "(his) fiancée"
 > 'noiva (+ Ptg noiva)

'mwala d-e ka'zadu mwe
 woman of-him married die
 "widower"
 > 'vjuvu (+ Ptg viúvo)

kla'sō ku ži'bō
 shorts with jacket
 "suit"
 > 'fatu (Ptg fato)

kwa a ka nda ku 'jelu n-e
 thing UNM KA walk with money in-it
 "wallet"

> kər'teĩrə (+ Ptg carteira)

'panu di 'mala 'flida
 cloth of tie wound
 "bandage"

> ligadura (+ Ptg ligadura)

'panu 'mala ka'besa
 cloth tie head
 "scarf"

> 'lēsu (+ Ptg lenço)

do'tolo 'deci

doctor teeth

"dentist"

> den'tištə (+ Ptg dentista)

These words are borrowed from Portuguese with little change. Thus, for instance, kər'teĩrə "wallet" contains three Portuguese segments which are not part of ST phonology: /ə/, /eĩ/, and /r/.

A few periphrastic constructions, however, still remain, as in the following examples:

'bisu ku ka nda ku 'bēga ni sō
 animal that KA walk with belly on ground
 "reptile"

'awa 'lodo
 water mud
 "lake; lagoon"

kwa lon'dondo
 thing round
 "circle"

ɔ'sɔ d-ɔ'pɛ
 bone of foot/leg
 "ankle"

pe 'd-e ku mē 'd-e or mē 'd-e ku pe 'd-e
 father of-him with mother of-him/ or mother-of-him
 with father of-him

"his parents"

(nqe) di 'sumi
 (person) of jealousy
 "jealous (person)"

(te'rōnu) ku te 'oke
 (land) which has hills
 "hilly, mountainous (land)"

2.2.3. Development of Synonyms

There is evidence that the vocabulary of ST is being enriched by new borrowings from Portuguese of words for which there already exist synonyms in ST. The new words do not replace the old ones, but complement them:

Old 'kupi (archaic 'kopi) "spittle" (+ Ptg cuspir)
 New sa'liva "saliva" (+ Ptg saliva)

Old lozo've "to resolve, to decide" (+ Ptg resolver)
 New disi'di "to decide" (+ Ptg decidir)

Old bwa "good" (+ Ptg boa)
 New aqra'davelu "pleasant" (+ Ptg agradável)

CHAPTER EIGHT

EPILOGUE

1. A SUMMARY OF SALIENT FEATURES
OF SAO TOMENSE AS A CREOLE

In approaching the question of whether São Tomense displays any features which might be regarded as Creole trends, the evidence which emerges from this analysis suggests that many features which appear to be characteristically Creole find their explanation in terms of the substratum. Other features still unexplained in terms of Portuguese and African languages might also be accounted for, on the one hand by means of further research into the substratum, and on the other by more evidence on language universals. As discussed in paragraph 1, Chapter 1, Givón, in a most significant paper (forthcoming), has argued on solid evidence that many Pidgin and Creole traits are attributable not to a common origin, but to the substratum and to universal grammar. The theory of monogenesis has figured prominently in Creole literature over the past two decades, gaining a wide acceptance, even to an ultimate provenance in the ill-documented Sabir. The monogenetic theory has made an important contribution to Creole studies, by establishing and drawing attention to features widespread in Pidgins and Creoles; however, adequate arguments against monogenesis have been long overdue. Of particular interest to the present writer were Givón's explanations of some Creole trends in terms of language universals. A trend which has been adduced in favour of monogenesis has been the occurrence of verb markers in Creoles with different substrata; thus the Portuguese adverb *logo* /'lo:gu/ "later" appears as a future morpheme with the form *lo* or '*lo:gu* in Creoles as distant from each other as, for instance, Cape Verdian, Papiamentu, Malacca, and Macao (Thompson, 1961). A personal communication from Givón (March 4, 1974) provided the following sequence to Givón's evidence for universal grammar in the paper just mentioned:

"As to your *logo* "later" becoming a future tense marker -- sure, it's most plausible. I'm enclosing a paper of mine which deals with the semantic basis for developing tense/aspect markers from verbs.

But adverbs presumably could also be the sources for this. "Later" is really very simple: The structure (semantically) of FUTURE is roughly this: [event didn't take place prior to time of speech], [event is asserted to maybe / possibly take place after / later than time of speech!. The first part is presupposed, the second asserted (under a "possible" modality). So "later", either with absolute diaxis (to time of speech) or with relative diaxis (to the reference time of another action/event) has partly the same structure: i.e. the same presupposition and assertion. Except that when it becomes a future tense it requires absolute diaxis, i.e. reference to time of speech (though in many languages the future tense may be "relativized", i.e. something like "He knew that he would leave later on (both relative to the action-time (or "time axis") of a past-tense event.

However, the explanation of Creole trends in terms of the substratum and the universals of language does not discount the fact that such Creole trends do exist. The following are a few areas where the data for Sao Tomense suggest one might possibly look for such trends:

- a) The occurrence of free fluctuation in the phonology, as well as overlapping phonemes, affecting, in some words, the choice of vowels or consonants, the element of nasality, or the placing of stress. Non-Creole languages do not appear to have this degree of phonological fluctuation within groups. The fluctuation found in the phonology of São Tomense is true fluctuation, and is not socially controlled. Examples are:

Vowels:

<u>mɔ'na</u> ~ <u>mo'na</u>	"to wet"
<u>ku'mɛ</u> ~ <u>ku'me</u>	"to eat"
<u>'gɔlɔ</u> ~ <u>'gɔlo</u>	"to look for"
<u>fo'no</u> ~ <u>fɔ'no</u>	"to scratch; to tear"
<u>fan'tɛ</u> ~ <u>fan'te</u>	"disdain"
<u>'ɔmɛ</u> ~ <u>'ɔme</u>	"man"
<u>bliga'sɔ</u> ~ <u>obliga'sɔ</u>	"obligation"

Consonants:

<u>štli'vi</u> - <u>šli'vi</u>	"to serve"
<u>'põ</u> - <u>'põža</u>	"sponge"
<u>an'põže</u> - <u>ā'člõže</u>	"until today"
<u>nisi'daji</u> - <u>misi'daji</u>	"need"
<u>ska</u> - <u>ška</u>	"present continuous morpheme"
<u>ple'jidu</u> - <u>ple'židu</u>	"lazy"
<u>kuštipa'sõ</u> - <u>koštipa'sõ</u>	"cold" (n.)

The element of nasality:

<u>mu</u> - <u>mū</u>	"1st p.s. object pronoun"
<u>'sada</u> - <u>'sanda</u>	"hoe"
<u>kovi'dadu</u> - <u>kčvi'dadu</u>	"guest"
<u>mu'fada</u> - <u>mū'fada</u>	"pillow"
<u>i'ne</u> - <u>i'nē</u>	"they"

Stress placement

<u>'zanta</u> - <u>zan'ta</u>	"to have dinner"
<u>'lele</u> - <u>le'le</u>	"to accompany"
<u>'nāse</u> - <u>nā'se</u>	"you - pl."
<u>'ale</u> - <u>'ale</u>	"king"

- b) The use of reduplication with various functions, which is pervasive in Creoles with the most different substrata:

<u>'zuga-'zuga</u>	"to palpitate"
<u>'bõbõ-'bõbõ</u>	"around"

The derivation of 'zuga-'zuga from 'zuga (- Ptg jogar) is a derivational process in the lexicon. The processes of derivation by compounding are discussed in paragraph 1, Chapter 5.

- c) The use of lexical items as markers of grammatical categories, a process which is extensive in Creoles. Nouns and verbs are taken out of the lexicon and used with syntactic functions in order to mark grammatical categories like adverb, for example, or in order to provide the conjugation of the verb. Valkhoff (1966: 254) has referred to the use of the verb da "to give" (- Ptg dar) in São Tomense with the meaning of the preposition "to", as in:

e fa da i'nē > e fa d-i'nē
 "he said to them" (lit. he say give them)

Regarding the use of the verb da as the preposition "to", Givón (forthcoming) cites, among other examples, the English preposition "for" (benefactive case) paralleling "to give" in Kwa, and believes that this parallelism is of universal significance. The problem in such instances is, as Givón states further on, whether "it may not have been the specific substratum, but rather the universal substratum, which is responsible for the presence of rule X in the grammar of language A", a problem which he admits is extremely difficult to handle.

Further instances from ST are the verb pa'sa, which may function as an adverb, meaning "too much", as in n-kume pa'sa "I ate too much", and the noun we "eye", which occurs as a locative, as in e sa 'we mū "he is in front of me" (lit. he is in my eyes). The author does not have data for West African languages to discuss the last two examples of lexical items being used with the function of grammatical markers, but in the comparative in Tsonga, a South-Eastern Bantu language, "too much" is ku-ṭlula mpimu, literally "to jump over /surpass/exceed the measure", and "in front" is maṭweni, literally "in the eyes". This would account for the São Tomense forms.

The verb 'bila, as discussed in Chapter 6, paragraph 7.1.2.4, with the original meaning of "to turn", has become part of the conjugation, with such meanings as "to become" and "to do again". This change in the function of the verb meaning "to turn" is found not only in ST and other Creoles, but in languages which are not Creole, suggesting that this is a universal trend in language rather than a specifically Creole trend.

- d) The use of serial verbs to indicate tense and aspect, about which much has been written. The connection between some serial verbs in São Tomense and counterparts in Bantu and Kwa, discussed in paragraph 4, Chapter 6, suggests that the use of serial verbs in Creoles can be better understood once there

are Creole studies linked to a study of the substrata. Thompson (1961) has already referred to the possibility of a Creole universal being provided by a verbal system consisting of a "single, invariable word-base modified by particles." Givón (forthcoming), referred to in paragraph 1, Chapter 1, maintains that the widespread occurrence of serial verbs in Creoles is to be ascribed to both the substratum and the universals of language.

- e) The co-existence of synonymous lexical items from the base and from the substratum, as in:

<u>'klopo</u>	"body" (+ Ptg corpo)
<u>u'bwe</u>	"body" (Afr.)
<u>'keša</u>	"to complain" (+ Ptg queixa)
<u>go</u>	"to complain" (Afr.)
<u>'pedla</u>	"stone" (+ Ptg pedra)
<u>'budu</u>	"stone" (Afr.)

- f) A production process of creating new lexical items from existing lexical items, as in the following periphrasis to designate "toy" :

kwa po 'flobga kwe (po < pa bo)
thing for-you play with-it

This process and further examples appear in paragraph 2.2.2, Chapter 7. Although São Tomense is losing many of these periphrastic constructions, which are being replaced by simple items from Portuguese, some of them still remain.

- g) The loss of inflection. Through the virtual absence of inflection, ST becomes an analytical language, whereas Portuguese and Bantu are synthetic; the typological classification of the Kwa languages is more difficult to ascertain.
- h) The absence of reflexivization. There is no distinction in São Tomense between e fi'li "he cut" and e fi'li "he cut himself". This is at variance with what Jacobs and Rosenbaum (1968 : 34) have found about languages in general :

Virtually all human languages exhibit the phenomenon of reflexivization, although the form of the reflexive varies considerably from language to language. Speculate as to why reflexivization should be so universal a phenomenon.

Reflexivization is also absent in Annobonese (Barrena, 1957 : 38-39), Angolar, and Principense. There are no reflexive pronouns in the following French-based Creoles: Haitian Creole (Sylvain, 1936 : 63), Creole of Martinique (Jourdain, 1956 : 104), and Dominican Creole (Taylor, 1969 : 1034), nor in the Spanish-based Palanquero (Bickerton and Escalante, 1970 : 258). However, Bailey (1966), in her treatment of Jamaican Creole, provides an instance of a Creole language in which reflexivization occurs. This may be due to the fact that Jamaican Creole is very close to English.¹

2.

THE AFRICAN SUBSTRATUM

It has emerged in the course of this study that the substratum of São Tomense is derived from the Western Bantu and Kwa groups. More specifically, Kongo, in the Bantu area, and Bini, in the Kwa area, play a prominent part in the substratum. It was found moreover that, out of the Kongo dialect cluster, Kishikongo, which was spoken in the court of the old kingdom of the Kongo, plays the most important part. Bini is the language of the kingdom of Benin. These facts may be seen in the light of the links which Portugal had with the kingdoms of Benin and the Kongo in the late 15th century and early 16th. The evidence discussed in this analysis shows that the Creole was formed at this early stage, and was not affected in any significant

¹Figueroa (1968 : 5) writes that "in Jamaica what we really have is a continuous unbroken continuum between something that is nearly standard received Southern British speech, to the most creolized of Jamaican speech".

way by the languages spoken by slaves who may have arrived on the island subsequently.

The following is a summary of some of the features derived from the substratum.

2.1. Phonology

a) Palatalization.

In most instances, the consonantal series /t, d, s, z/ are palatalized before /i, ɨ, j/. thus becoming respectively /č, ʃ, š, ž/, as in:

Ptg	tirar /tɨ'rar/	→	ST	<u>či</u> 'la	"to take out"
"	pedir /pɛ'dir/	→	"	pi' <u>ʃi</u>	"to ask"
"	cinco /'sɨnku/	→	"	'š <u>inku</u>	"five"
"	luzir /lu'zɨr/	→	"	lu' <u>ži</u>	"to shine"

Before vocalic segments other than /i, ɨ, j/, /š/ and /ž/ tend to be depalatalized, becoming respectively /s/ and /z/:

Ptg	chamar /sə'mar/	→	ST	' <u>sama</u>	"to call"
"	hoje /'oʒɨ/	→	"	' <u>oʒɛ</u>	"today"

The affricates /č/ and /ʃ/ do not occur in Portuguese.

As discussed in paragraph 4.5, Chapter 4, the origin of this type of palatalization is to be found in Kongo, where: for instance, tina "to cut" is realized phonetically as [t'ɨna]. This process of palatalization is incomplete in São Tomense. In the closely related Creole, Principense, the palatal series [č, š, ž] are allophones of /t, s, z/, occurring before /i, ɨ, j/ and before consonants, in complete complementation. The literature consulted refers to palatalization of the series /t,s,z/ before /i/ in Kongo, but makes no mention of the palatalization of /d/. The palatalization of /d/ found in São Tomense may have been due to analogy with the palatalization of /t/.

b) Vowel harmony.

In São Tomense, vowel harmony is primarily a tendency

for a vowel to cause a vowel in an adjoining syllable to be similar in the properties of frontness, height, etc., as is illustrated by the way in which the following words have been incorporated from Portuguese:

Ptg	serviço /sɛr'visu/	→	ST	<u>š</u> li'visu	"service"
"	descer /dɛš'ser/	→	"	de'se	"to descend"
"	ou ^{tro} /'otr <u>u</u> /	→	"	'otlo	"another"
"	osso /'osu/	→	"	'ɔsɔ	"bone"
"	largo /'largu/	→	"	'lalɔɔ	"wide"
"	cova /'kɔvɛ/	→	"	'kɔbɔ	"hole"
"	redondo /rɛ'dondu/	→	"	lon'dondɔ	"round"

As discussed in paragraph 4.4, Chapter 4, this type of vowel harmony occurs both in Bantu and Kwa, as exemplified by the Ngala (Bantu) emphatic imperatives bete-ke of "to beat", and kolo-ko of "to speak", and by Igbo (Kwa) m siri "I cooked", m sere "I said", m zoro "I hid".

c) Syllable structure.

The African basis of the syllable structure of São Tomense is discussed in paragraph 4.1, Chapter 4. The syllable structure of ST is typically CV, as is characteristic of Bantu and as is found in some Kwa languages, such as Bini. This provides a contrast with Creoles with a different substratum which may have closed syllables, as may be exemplified by the Creole of the Cape Verde islands, which has a substratum which is predominantly West Atlantic. In the following instances of borrowings from Portuguese, Portuguese closed syllables have been made open in ST, but have remained closed in the Creole of Cape Verde; the Cape Verde examples are from Lopes da Silva (1957):

Ptg calcanhar /kal.kə.pɛr/ → ST kla.kə.pɔ̃ ,
Cape Verde I. <kal.kə.pɛr> , "heel"

Ptg barril /bɛ'řil/ → ST ba'lɪlɪ , Cape Verde
I. <ba'řil> "barrel"

Ptg raiz /rɛ'iz/ ST 'lɛ.zi , Cape Verde I. <řa'iz>

Some ST nouns commence with a V syllable; a parallel is found in Bini, where all nouns commence with a V syllable. The following are ST examples:

Ptg	o pó /u pɔ/	→	ST	ɔ'pɔ	"dust"
"	água /'a.gwɛ/	→	ST	'a.wa	"water"
"	ódio /'ɔdju/	→	ST	ɔ'jɔ	"hatred"
"	a fé /ə 'fɛ/	→	ST	a'fɛ	"faith"

d) Lambdacism

Lambdacism, the reduction of the three liquids /r, ʃ, l/ to one, /l/, is a feature of the phonology of São Tomense. This has a basis in such Kongo dialects as Kishikongo, where /l/ is the only liquid which occurs. The following borrowings from Portuguese into São Tomense and into Kishikongo illustrate this point:

Ptg	hora /'ɔrɛ/	→	ST	'ɔla	"when",
			Kishikongo	ɔla	"hour"
Ptg	relógio /ʃɛ'lobʒju/	→	ST	lob'lobzu	,
			Kishikongo	lob'lonʒi	

e) Implosive stops

ST /b/ [ɓ] and /d/ [ɗ] are implosive stops. Although implosive stops occur in the Bantu area, in Duala, the origin of the ST implosive stops is likely to be in the Kwa languages, where implosive stops are a widespread feature.

Bilabial and alveolar implosive stops occur also in Angolar and Principense. Principense has a further implosive stop, /ɣb/, as in i'ɣbe "body"; /ɣb/ occurs in the Kwa languages, but not in Bantu.

2.2. Grammar

a) Ideophones

Ideophones are characteristic of African languages, as discussed in Chapter 5, paragraph 2. They occur in both Bantu and Kwa. In São Tomense, as in African languages, they are characterized by certain phonological features,

such as the repetition of consonants, vowels, or syllables, and tenseness of articulation. The syntax of the ideophone varies in African languages; in São Tomense, ideophones may occur in isolation as a reply to greetings, and may modify nouns, adjectives, verbs, or, in a few instances, may modify a whole sentence. Further, in São Tomense, the ideophone marks the closure of a sentence, although an ideophone clause may be linked to another sentence by conjoining or embedding.

The significance of ideophones has been described by Lanham and by Samarin, who are quoted in paragraph 2.3 of Chapter 6.

b) Compounding of sentences

Instead of employing a conjunction equivalent to "and" for conjoining sentences, as occurs in Portuguese with the conjunction "e" /i/, São Tomense conjoins sentences by apposition, as in:

f-ga ba 'deta f-dumi'ni

I-KA go lie-down I-sleep

"I am going to lie down and sleep."

e še e 'kontla kwa ka lu'ži nge'nenge'ne

he go-out he find thing KA shine ID

"He went out and found an object shining brightly."

The same feature of co-ordination by apposition occurs in Bantu languages, and is exemplified from Kishikongo in Chapter 6, paragraph 4.

c) Emphatic pronoun

The 1st person singular personal pronoun 'ami ~ a'mi is an emphatic pronoun different from the other personal pronouns. Normally, the 1st person singular personal pronoun is the homorganic N- or the morphophonemic vowel /i/, and these may be preceded by .ami for emphasis, as in:

ami n-ga be
 me I-KA go
 "As for me, I am going."

The emphatic pronouns are widespread in the Bantu area. For Kishikongo, they are explained and exemplified by Bentley (1887 : 579). However, while Bantu has a series of emphatic pronouns, only the one for the 1st person singular occurs in São Tomense.

d) Personal pronoun unmarked for person or number.

As discussed in paragraph 5.1.7, in Chapter 6, a personal pronoun a, unmarked for person and number, occurs in São Tomense. It only occurs as subject before verbs, as in:

a na kuvi'da nõ fa
 UNM NEG₁ invite us NEG₂
 "We have not been invited."

'kantu a ka 'bende 'kada 'metlu kwa se-e ?
 how-much UNM KA sell each metre thing DEM-TAG ?
 "At how much is a metre of this being sold?"
 (How much is a metre of this?)

The origin of this pronominal form is in Bini, which also has a pronoun a unmarked for person and number (Melzian, 1937).

e) Respect tag.

As discussed in paragraph 5.2, Chapter 6, a respect tag (RESP) -o, uttered in a plaintive tone, and frequently with length, is often used in São Tomense to indicate deference to the person addressed, as in:

bož 'noči-o
 good night-RESP
 "Good night."

aš'o:-o (< aši o)
 "So and so" (reply to a greeting)

jo? (< e o)
 (response on being called)

na 'bele fo (fo < fa o)
 NEG₁ see-him NEG₂-RESP
 "I did not see him."

Another tag, also with the form -o or -o:, occurs as an emphatic particle in interjections, as in:

ka'kjo-'o
 (exclamation of surprise)

a-ke-o::
 (exclamation of surprise)

bjo-'oi (< bi -o)
 come-TAG
 "Come!"

ve'de-o: ?
 truth-TAG
 "Is that a fact, is that true?"

A similar form to these tags in São Tomense occurs in Bini. Bini o is described by Melzian (1937) as "an emphatic particle, added e.g. to greetings; kojo o hullo! (as reply, or used when at a distance from the addressed)."

f) Disjunctive pronoun in a preposition phrase.

This construction is discussed in paragraph 5.5 of Chapter 6. The occurrence in São Tomense of a disjunctive pronoun in a preposition phrase, with the equivalent of "the house that I am in it" for "the house I am in", is typical of Bantu relative constructions. For lack of Kongo examples, a comparison follows between São Tomense and Zulu (Doke, 1971 : 319-320). Doke treats this construction as "locative relationship" under a heading "the relative of indirect relationship."

São Tomense:

'nãji bo ka ba 'kɔpla 'piši n-e ?
 where you KA go buy fish in-it?
 "Where are you going to buy fish?"

'nãf-e kon'de n-e ?
 where-he hide in-it?
 "Where did he hide?"

'nā'i su bi d-a ?
 where you (formal) come from-it?
 "Where do you come from?"

Zulu:

intaba umuntu a-ala kujona
 house person lives in-it
 "the house in which the person lives"

intaba abajokuja kujo
 mountain they-will-go to-it
 "the mountain to which they will go"

g) Negation

In São Tomense, negation consists of two disjunctive morphemes, one placed before the verb, and the other at the end of the sentence being negated. The form is na ... fa. A discussion of the negation appears at the end of Section 2, Chapter 1. Double negative morphemes occur in Western Bantu, as in Kongo ka ... ko. A negative particle fa is used before the verb in negative sentences in Lolo.

h) Form and semantics of some verb particles

In the surface structure, the form or semantics of some verb particles show an African etymology, as in the use of a Bantu-derived copulative construction, sa ku lit. "to be with" to render the concept "to have". Bentley (1887) writes that "to have" is rendered in Kishikongo by kala je "to be with". This feature is discussed in paragraph 7.1.2.3, in Chapter 6.

Aspectual ka, as discussed in paragraph 7.1.3, Chapter 6, appears to have originated in the Kwa languages. Bini has a form va which is used, for instance, in the future and the conditional, like ST ka.

i) Absence of the passive

The fact that the passive voice does not occur in São Tomense is due to the absence of a passive in most Kwa

languages. Westermann and Bryan (1952 : 93) had written that there is no passive voice in Kwa. Williamson (1969 : 7) states that there is a construction in Ijo corresponding to the English passive. According to Thomas (1910 : 139), Bini has no passive.

2.3. Lexicon

A number of words in the lexicon of São Tomense are of either Bantu or Kwa origin. The percentage of the lexicon which is of African origin is analysed in paragraph 2, Chapter 1. Regarding what percentage of these African-derived words are Bantu or Kwa, satisfactory etyma were found for 96 ST words, 60 indicating a Bantu origin, and 36 a Kwa origin. This suggests that the African substratum of São Tomense is about 62 per cent of Western Bantu origin, and 38 per cent of Kwa origin, Bini predominating over the African lexicon-donor languages for Kwa, and Kongo (predominantly Kishikongo) for the Bantu area. These words are given with their etyma in paragraph 1.1, Chapter 7.

The semantic fields covered by the words of African origin are discussed in paragraph 2, Chapter 7. It was found moreover that Portuguese words in São Tomense display semantic extension following the African semantic model, as in Ptg pé /pɛ/ "foot" → ST ɔ'pɛ "foot and leg", Ptg mão /'mãu/ "hand" → ST mõ "hand and arm". Semantic extension is discussed in paragraph 2.1.3, Chapter 7.

APPENDIX

A NOTE ON ANGULAR

Some observations on Angolar are included in this Appendix, as, due to the conditions of its early development and subsequent isolation, Angolar is likely to present an idea of what the original Creole looked like. Angolar, moreover, has retained a particularly strong African substratum. Although closely related to the other Creoles of the Gulf of Guinea, Angolar was, through historical circumstances, cut off from contact with Portuguese and with the other Creole community soon after the formative stages, and subsequently for about 150 years. The isolation of the Angolares has to some extent persisted until the present day, as during that period of about one and a half centuries the Angolares developed a culture of their own, which they have maintained.

Angolar has been described as a Bantu language by several authors, for instance by Greeff (1882 : 377), who visited São Tomé in 1880. However, a linguistic study of Angolar conducted by the author showed that Angolar is a Creole, closely related to São Tomense, Principense, and Annobonese, being closest to São Tomense. A feature of Angolar, however, is that its lexicon has a much higher Bantu content than that of São Tomense or the other Creoles of the Gulf of Guinea. This greater Bantu lexical component accounts for the lower percentage of lexical overlap between São Tomense and Angolar than between São Tomense and the other two Creoles, as discussed in Chapter 1, paragraph 2.

The nature of Angolar has its explanation in the circumstances of its origin and early development, but there is no historical record describing the advent of the Angolares in São Tomé. However, historical hypotheses regarding their origin will be reassessed here. The Angolares are thought to have been slaves en route from Angola to elsewhere in Africa or to America, and who were shipwrecked off the island, thus acquiring freedom. The Angolares have never since their appearance in historical records been slaves, but have been free, living in their own communities. The date of the shipwreck is thought to have been between 1540 and 1550 (Cunha Matos, 1842 : 12 ; Greeff, 1882 ; Negreiros, 1895 : 293;

Almeida, 1958; Cortesão, 1968 : 40). The shipwreck is thought to have occurred at Sete Pedras, a conglomerate of rocks off the coast, some towering to a great height above the sea, others submerged, and thus posing a decided threat to navigation. However, any explanation for the presence of the Angolares in São Tomé should account for the fact that they speak a Portuguese-based Creole, and that it shares much in common with the three other Creoles spoken on the islands of the Gulf of Guinea. The shipwreck hypothesis leaves this issue unanswered.

From about 1550 to 1693, thus over a period of approximately 143 years, the Angolares made a series of devastating attacks on the island plantations, razing the capital, and leading many of the settlers to leave for Brazil (Cunha Matos, 1842 : 12 ; Nogueiros, 1895 : 60-62, Cortesão, 1968 : 42). It was only after 1693 that the Angolares began to live in harmony with the rest of the population.¹

A point which has been discussed is whether the Angolares had their own womenfolk. If they had intermarried with women speakers of São Tomense, it might be asked whether the children could have learnt the Creole from their mothers; however, the anthropologist Monica Wilson (1969) states that, although children commonly learn the language of their mothers, it appears from her evidence that, when the mothers are slaves, prisoners taken in war or captives, the children learn the father's language.

¹ Mr Artur Marques de Oliveira, the Administrator of São Tomé, kindly furnished the author with the Angolar version of their appearance on the island:

According to the tradition of the Angolares, the first individuals of the Angolar race, or of the Angolar group, came in a canoe from the island of Annobón or from Gabon. The version is current among them that two men and two women arrived, in very remote times, in a canoe, at the beach of Ribeira Peixe, in the southern area of the island, and then went into the forest. Installed in the forest, they led their lives there, and, with time and the increase of their families, they built a village to which they gave the name Puetá (pwe'ta). For food they cultivated wild yams. The village, according to them, was located at the highest part of the river Idó Grande.

According to Cunha Matos (1842 : 30), the Angolares made their final attacks in 1693 in order to kidnap women from the farms closest to the mountain peaks. Negreiros (1895 : 295n) believes that they had their own womenfolk, and states that it is historically correct that the women who were kidnapped were then ransomed by the bush captain Matheus Pires. The linguistic implication of Negreiros's view is that the Angolares did not acquire the Creole by kidnapping local Creole-speaking women; on the basis of the shipwreck hypothesis they could have had their own women, as slave ships carried both men and women. What Negreiros's theory does not explain, however, is how the closely-knit and isolated Angolares could have acquired the Creole through sporadic contact with the rest of the population.

A hypothesis derived from historical data will here be ventured to account not only for the presence of the Angolares on the island, but also for the linguistic similarity between the Creoles spoken in the area. The hypothesis centres round a series of rebellions on the island of São Tomé in the early 16th century. Cunha Matos (1842 : 9) wrote that the first commotion on the island took place in 1517, when slaves on the farms of some people called Lobato mutinied and wrought great destruction. In 1529, a report sent from São Tomé to John III by João Lobato, possibly the same Lobato referred to by Cunha Matos, writes of slaves who ran away from farms at Praia Preta (Black Beach) because of a lack of provisions, fleeing into the bush, into the hills, or to other farms (Brásio, 1952, 1 : 505-518). A letter of 1531 sent from the Casa da Mina in Lisbon to the factors and officials of São Tomé mentions that the Negroes in the bush in São Tomé had become so strong, and practised such violence, that there was a risk of the island being lost (Brásio, 1952, 1 : 548-549). There are also two letters of 1536 written by John III to dom António d'Ataide, count of Castanheira and chancellor of the exchequer. These letters, of the 22nd and 25th October 1536, deal with a Negro rising in São Tomé and the measures the king took to bring it to an end.

The rebellions mentioned here took place 32 to 51 years after the initial attempt to populate the island in 1485,

or 24 to 43 years after the first major settlement in 1493. The runaway slaves would within these periods have been exposed to the formative stages of the Creole which developed in São Tomé. In fleeing, they would therefore have taken with them the Creole spoken by the inhabitants. These slaves could have formed themselves into the communities which came to be known as the Angolares. Originally there was probably only one Creole in the Gulf of Guinea, spoken in São Tomé and taken to Príncipe and Annobón when these were settled; the development of four related but different Creoles may have been the result of their geographic isolation from one another.

The Angolares were not only geographically isolated from the other Creole speakers; they also alienated themselves from the other inhabitants. Even today the Angolares maintain their own culture. Their deliberate isolation in the past presumably prevented them from taking part in the interactions between the other Creole speakers or with the Portuguese-speaking inhabitants, so that Angolar developed along its own lines, without being affected by the development of the other Creoles or by the influence of Portuguese on them. One could hypothesize that Angolar is the closest of the four Creoles to the original Creole which developed, because of the lack of exposure of Angolar to Portuguese or to the other Creoles which developed on the islands.

Turning now to a brief analysis of characteristic features of the language, the alveolar fricatives [s] and [z] of São Tomense are realized as interdental fricatives in Angolar. The interdental fricatives are not used only in some areas of the lexicon, but are part of the core phonology, as in the following examples, among many:

- Ang. 'nsuku ['nəuku] "night" (< Bantu, cf. Kimbundu u-suku)
- " 'fisa ['fiθa] "to close" (< Ptg fechar /fɐ'ʃar/)
- " kusu'madu [kuθu'madu] "accustomed" (< Ptg acostumado /əkustu'madu/)
- " zō [ðō] "John" (< Ptg João /'ʒwəu/)
- " ma'zɔ [ma'ðɔ] "yesterday" (< Bantu, cf. Kimbundu maza)

Ang. ka'za [ka'ða] "to marry" (< Ptg casar /kə'zar/)

The feature of interdental fricatives is neither shared with São Tomense, nor with Principense or Annobonese. Interdental fricatives, although not common in African languages, occur in a few Western Bantu languages, such as Herero, Mbunda, and the Ndingi dialect of Kongo.

An African feature shared in common by São Tomense, Angolar, and Principense is the realization of b and d as implosive stops, phonetically [ɓ] and [ɗ], as in the following examples:

- Ang. ta'ba [ta'ɓa] "to work" (< Ptg trabalhar /trəbə'har/)
- " 'boka ['ɓoka] "mouth" (< Ptg boca /'boka/)
- " piška'do [piška'ɗo] "fisherman" (< Ptg pescador /pəʃkə'dor/)
- " 'dolo ['ɗolo] "pain" (< Ptg dor /dor/)

The implosive stops [ɓ] and [ɗ] occur in a number of Kwa languages and are features of the Kwa section of the substratum which Angolar shares with the other three Creoles. [ɓ] and [ɗ] do however occur in Western Bantu, in Duala (Guthrie, 1970).

The following Angolar sentences show the close resemblance between the grammar of Angolar and that of São Tomense. Notice such features in common with São Tomense as se'la for "must" (5), the tense and aspect markers, and the double negative (3):

- (1) Ang. e ta ka fa kw-am
he is KA talking to-me
"He is talking to me."
- (2) " am te ũa pa'ũ
I have one cat
"I have a cat."
- (3) " e na ka 'taba nge wa
he NEG₁ KA work here NEG₂
"He does not work here."

- (4) Ang. ε'ne li'mō-m sa ta'sodu
they brother-me be sitting
"My brothers are sitting."
- (5) " se'la bo ka ba pa'ja
must you KA go beach
"You must go to the beach."

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