

La Rochelle,
Newlands,
14. 9. 1935.

Dear Professor Maingard,

Thank you very much for your letter and the return of my fragment. I am very grateful to you for reading it, and writing such a comprehensive answer. It will be a great help to me. I quite understand that you were too busy to answer at once.

I am glad you think it better to put my own spelling first and then the other authors'. This will certainly save many entries. Your idea of putting the letter indicating the author in brackets is very good; I shall certainly adopt it. As to the symbols used by Goke, the only way will be to put them after my own spelling of the word, as I am going to put any other author's spelling. For example:

[kʌm] NI, ɹ'a:n (DK), [kʌm] (L), [gʌm] (V), n. slan

[gu:] NI, ɹ'u: (DK), [gū] (L), [gju] (V), n. night (transl. day by V.)

()

[no:] NI, ɹ'o: (DK), [np'o] (L), [no] (V), n. skin

If the publisher jibs at the cost of the extra symbols, I can only suggest substituting numerals, as ɹ=1, γ=2, η=3, etc. The result would be very incongruous, so I will put in the symbols and hope for the best. Meinhof's and Vedder's /// shall certainly be put in, but only as an alternative spelling to the || click. My aunt, too, used occasionally to write an extra click in taking down !kuɹ; she marked it !!. I did not mention it in my vocabulary, as the use of this sound is not consistent. The same word given by the same informant is sometimes spelt !! and sometimes ||. I notice the same variation in Vedder's work.

You are probably right in making the word, not the root, the unit of

classification, though there are a number of instances of derivatives from a root in Bushman, as the terms derived from the diminutive epwa, epwona son, epwaxai daughter, epwae pwaici grandmother, epwai-|Ai father-in-law, epwaitente mother-in-law, epwa:lu girls, epwanni little pieces, epwuru near by. However it is easy to state with each of these words, that it is probably derived from epwa. I will keep to the word as unit.

As to the order of the letters, I think it is easiest to keep to the usual order of the alphabet a b c d e f, adding the extra vowels to those to which they stand nearest, as a o etc; as a matter of fact these extra vowels seldom if ever begin a word. When I use a vocabulary, I always find it troublesome, when the ordinary order of the alphabet is not followed. The clicks not being in the ordinary alphabet should follow it. In my father's MS dictionary the order is: the alphabet, the gutturals X and Y, and then the clicks, | ! || + o. I think + is in the fourth, not the second place, because there is so little of it, hardly more than of o; perhaps also because it is one of the clicks not common to other languages such as Zulu. I have followed this order in all my indexing, so it will be simplest to keep to it. My only doubt is whether to put X which I spell x and Y, which I spell k' or k'' at the end before the clicks, or include them in their ordinary places in the alphabet. What do you think?

A full list of references and abbreviations will be at the beginning of the book, and the references will be given in detail. Thank you for reminding me of Anders 'Note on a South-Eastern Bushman dialect.' I had read it with pleasure, but had forgotten to enter it, which I will do at once. I must look up the Berliner Missions Berichte about Muras. Thank you for giving me the numbers to refer to.

Do you know if Dr L. Schultze, the author of 'Aus Namaland und Kalahari' is still alive? He gives a few examples of Bushman words, among others two with the o click, but follows it with n, enopahai and enoea, both names of plants. It seems a physical impossibility to pronounce n after o. Can he mean that the following vowels are nasal, or does he mean en? I should like to write and ask him, if he is alive. If these words denoted

ordinary objects, I could find their equivalents in my collection, and judge from the comparison what is meant, but names of plants are difficult to identify..

Thank you again very heartily for your kind help. I shall certainly ask many more questions in the future.

Yours very gratefully,