
ebelurun n.an. pelican. Ref: d2.083.04 See: manu 'bird'. Variant: ebelurunke, ebelurungare (Younger speakers use 'ng'). Sg: ebelurunke.

Pl: ebelurnare.

ebnomatruma n. ancestors, descendant. Ref: d2.091.14 Ebnomatrumakw rmadtye, ode lea kmwesan bo. All of my ancestors have died, I am left all alone. Ref: d2.091.15 Ara ebnomatruman. Our ancestors. See: ebu 'master'; matruma 'ancestors'.

H - h

hatw n. 1) rock. Ref: d1.031.14 Kal hatkwe ma katya askwe. I grabbed a rock and threw it at the dog. Sg: hatkwe. Pl: hature. 2) magic artifact, talisman, charm. This is not restricted to just stones, can be gotten from all animals (kidney stones). Some people get pearls. Syn: sok. Is: hatukkwe.

3) baking form. Ref: d4.107.16 Hatw raskyer ti ke. The baking form. A fired, earthen baking form used to make skyerker. Often today, this is replaced by a cast iron griddle, much like a waffle iron, that is in the shape of four hearts.

-haw vt. 1) pound. Ref: d1.105.07 Tawai ma kimakwet, desike bonyo tal ma thaw. We dry it until it is almost dry, then we take it and pound it. Ref: d2.093.06 Mal askwe ma mhaww alyakw ti neske. Get the pestle so you can pound the rice in the mortar. Syn: -tutu. See: asw 'pestle'; nesw 'mortar'. Prdm: 3. Is: khwaw. 2) to stick, poke, prick. Ref: d2.113.13 Mseak! Kali kbat desike kamnasane ribun, mana khyaw o. Look out! That lemon tree has a lot of thorns and they'll prick you. Ref: d4.043.09 Knwaik nam mahaw lwawkkwe. I pulled out whatever stuck in my foot. Ref: d4.109.02 Maskye hyawa yaw. The fish stuck me. This includes any prick whether from sharp fish spines or fins, or plant thorns. See: kamnasnn 'thorn'; hanar 'thorn'.


-he tel vi. smart. Lit: 'to know language'. Ref: n1.099.11 Sitke hye telke yobak klakh ke ma nya i. The cat is clever at looking for mice to eat. Ref: d3.022.00 Ibai kleti so mane rahetelke ma rabilak i ti a Tnebarne. They went to the west and they became smart, smarter than us here in Tanimbar. See: tel 'language'; hehe tun 'etiquette'; hehe tel 'knowledge'. Prdm: 3. Is: khwe tel.

hesy, n. bridewealth, dowry. Ref: n1.111.08 Mmwa ma tba ti siel waimw heskye. Come on and we'll go pay your brother's bridewealth. This was explained as: "Hal perkawinan bicara adat.". See: hesi 'price'; dolan 'treasure'; iliary 'antiques'.


-het vt. chop. Ref: d2.031.02 Ana mhuet laranke o mtubal. If you chop the ground (with your machete), it will become dull. Ref: d1.021.06 Mal turike ma khwet akwe. Give me the machete so I can chop wood. Ref: n3.027.21 Simatare ode lwaawtare itde khyeta ity. They chop at one another with their arms and legs. This is a chopping or hacking motion usually done with a machete. It is not a very controlled cut. Syn: -sin 'split'; Syn: -dew 'chop on end'. See: hetetra 'beater (in weaving)'. Variant: -hety (Occasional form.). Prdm: 3. Is: khwet.

The summary of "cutting" motions for Selaru:

-akrina: split in two lengthwise
-boras: cut s.t. in small pieces with a knife
-dew: chop s.t. into smaller pieces while standing it on end
-het: chop or hack with a machete
-kety: slice open and clean an animal
-lary: slice (like chiles, etc.)
-lilit: shave or carve
-mair: to adze wood
-simat: pop out or cut out coconut meat
-sin: chop in two; split
-tasy: knack with the point of a machete
-tef: slice with one motion
-tetak: notch
-tetal: chop up
-tusy: slice, carve or cut something small

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