

Dicionário livre santome/português — Livlu-nglandji santome/putugêji.
By Gabriel Antunes de Araujo and Tjerk Hagemeijer. São Paulo: Editora Hedra. 2013. Pp. 176. Paperback. [To order, visit <http://diclivre.com.br/santome/> or www.hedra.com.br]

Reviewed by Alan N. Baxter (Universidade Federal da Bahia, Brazil)

The *Livlu-nglandji santome-putugêji* is a hallmark bilingual dictionary of Santome, the Portuguese-lexified creole of São Tomé, and Portuguese, the official language of the Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe. The dictionary contains an impressive 8,500 entries, far beyond previous lexicons of Santome such as those of Fontes (2007) and Major/Ministério da Educação e Cultura (2004). The entries are drawn from extensive written and oral corpora, the latter being mainly from Hagemeijer's interdisciplinary project on the origin and development of the creole societies of the Gulf of Guinea (<http://www.gulfofguineacreoles.com/>). The integrity of all entries was ratified by a team of native speakers of Santome, including linguists.

The introduction (*Apresentação* — with unnumbered pages) provides basic information about the language and sketches the structure of the dictionary. Here the ALUSTP (i.e., the unified alphabet of the languages of São Tomé and Príncipe)¹ is introduced, the phonology of the creole is outlined, and reference is made to the treatment of variation: all variants have entries, but one variant is considered primary, as judged by the team of Santome consultants. The section provides a useful table of alphabet-phoneme correspondences. Although tone has been shown to exist in the three indigenous creoles of São Tomé and Príncipe — Ling'le, Ngola and Santome (Ferraz 1979; Maurer 1995, 2009), this feature is evidently not significant for the phonemic-orthographic representation of Santome, and is not mentioned. Finally, the section summarizes the sources of the dictionary entries, and includes a bibliography of references key to the dictionary project.

The Santome entries present the head word in ALUSTP (see the sample page for letter “A” in this review, page 459). These are then followed by its IPA phonetic representation, their grammatical classification and, in the case of function words, occasional additional exemplification. Entries do not include etymological

1. The ALUSTP was prepared by a team of linguistics and native speakers, comprising João Pontífice (Coordinator), Beatriz Afonso, Caustrino Alcântara, Tjerk Hagemeijer, and Philippe Maurer. The alphabet was requested by the Ministério de Educação e Cultura in 2009, by Minister Jorge Lopes Bom Jesus, for subsequent ratification.

A



a [a] (*pron.*) 1. Pronome anafórico de terceira pessoa de plural. A xê. *Sáram.* 2. Pronome indefinido singular ou plural. A ka fla. *Diz-se. Dizem.* 3. Pronome utilizado em frases imperativas referentes à primeira ou segunda pessoa do plural. A bomu fla santome! *Vamos falar santome!* A xa saku! *Encham os sacos!*
 a [a] (*v.*) Há. A tela ku ka tê vintxi kóló koblo. *Há terras com vinte espécies de cobras.*
 aba [ˈaba] (*n.*) 1. Aba. 2. Tronco de árvore.
 ababa ê [abaˈbaˈe] (*adv.*) 1. Exatamente. 2. Precisamente. 3. Tal e qual.
 aba-d'ope [ˈaba dɔˈpe] (*n.*) Pezão.
 abensa [aˈbɛsa] (*n.*) Cumprimento respeitoso.
 abli [aˈbli] (*n.*) Abril.
 ablidaji [aˈblidazɨ] (*n.*) 1. Habilidade. 2. Subterfúgio. 3. Truque.
 ablunusu [abluˈnusu] (*interj.*) Abrenúncio!
 abube [aˈbube] (*n.*) 1. Analfabeto. 2. Ignorante.
 abutu [ˈabutu] (*n.*) 1. Hábito. 2. Mortalha. 3. Traje do falecido. 4. Vestes sacerdotais.
 abuzu [aˈbuzu] (*n.*) Atrevestimento.
 adêwa-kongô [aˈdewa ˈkɔŋo] (*n.*) Adeus para sempre.
 adêzu [aˈdezu] (*n.*) Adeus.
 afe [aˈfe] (*n.*) Fé.
 Aflika [ˈaflika] (*top.*) África.
 aflikanu [aflɨˈkanu] (*n.*) Africano.
 aflison [aflɨˈsɔ] (*n.*) Aflição.
 aglasa [aˈglasas] (*n.*) 1. Nome. 2. Simpatia.
 agola [aˈgola] (*adv.*) 1. E agora. 2. Então. 3. Nesse caso.
 agola [aˈgɔla] (*conj.*) 1. Contudo. 2. Ora. 3. Porém.
 agô-matu [aˈgo ˈmatu] (*n.*) Anileiro. *Indigofera tinctoria.*
 agôxtó [aˈgoʃto] (*n.*) Agosto.
 agwêdê [agweˈde] (*n.*) 1. Adivinha. 2. *Agwêdê.* Fórmula de introdução de uma adivinha utilizada pelo emissor, ao que o receptor responde *alê.*
 ai [aˈi] (*adv.*) Cá.
 aja vida ku saôdji [ˈaja ˈvida ku saˈodʒi] (*expr.*) Haja vida com saúde!
 aji [ˈaʒi] (*n.*) Ás.
 akaka [akaˈka] (*interj.*) 1. Atenção! 2. Caramba! 3. Cuidado!
 akansa [aˈkɛsa] (*n.*) Feijão-de-praia. *Canavalia maritima.*
 akêlê [aˈkele] (*n.*) 1. Rã. 2. Sapo.
 akondô [aˈkɔdo] (*adj.*) 1. Exibicionista. 2. Vaidoso.
 ala [aˈla] (*adv.*) 1. Acolá. 2. Lá.

alada [ˈalada] (*n.*) 1. Peixe arco-íris. *Elegatis bipinnulata.* 2. *Alada.* Dança típica.
 alamanda [alaˈmɛda] (*n.*) 1. Alamanda-de-flor-grande. *Orelia grandiflora.* 2. Orelha-de-onça. *Orelia grandiflora.*
 alami [aˈlami] (*n.*) Arame.
 atan [aˈlɛ] (*n.*) Aranha.
 alê [aˈle] (*adv.*) Pronto! Fórmula de resposta utilizada pelo receptor à introdução de uma adivinha.
 alê [aˈle] (*n.*) 1. Lei. 2. Rei.
 alégria [aleˈgria] (*n.*) Alegria.
 alêdunha [alɛˈduna] (*n.*) Doninha. *Mustela nivalis.*
 alfabaka [alfaˈbaka] (*n.*) Alfavaca. *Peperomia pellucida.*
 alfasi [alˈfasi] (*n.*) Alfaca.
 aliadu [aliˈadu] (*n.*) Aliado.
 aliba [ˈaliba] (*n.*) 1. Capim. 2. Erva. 3. Grama. 4. Relva.
 aliba-bloboza [ˈaliba blaˈboza] (*n.*) Aloés. Cf. *blabozza.*
 aliba-guya [ˈaliba ˈguya] (*n.*) 1. Carrapicho-de-agulha. *Bidens pilosa.* 2. Folha-agulha. *Ludwigia erecta.*
 aliba-kasô [ˈaliba kaˈso] (*n.*) 1. Capim-de-burro.
Eleusine indica. 2. Capim-vassoura. *Eleusine indica.* 3. Erva-cão. *Eleusine indica.*
 aliba-manswenswe [ˈaliba mɛswɛˈswe] (*n.*) Sorgo. *Sorghum bicolor.*
 alika [ˈalika] (*n.*) 1. Arca. 2. Baú.
 alima [ˈalima] (*n.*) 1. Alma. 2. Espírito. 3. Fantasma.
 alimandaji [alimɛˈdadʒi] (*n.*) 1. *Alimandaji.* Dança comumente executada no fim das empreitadas, sobretudo nas roças. 2. Coletivo constituído por vinte a trinta membros que, anticamente, se atarefavam na colheita do café, cacau e nos demais serviços agrícolas. 3. Irmandade.
 alimanze [alimɛˈze] (*n.*) Armazém. Cf. *alumanze.*
 alima-plêdidu [ˈalima pleˈdidu] (*n.*) Alma penada.
 alkase [alkaˈse] (*n.*) Acácia. *Cassia spectabilis.*
 almidi [alˈmidi] (*n.*) Almude. Cf. *almudi.*
 almilantxi [almiˈlɛtʃi] (*n.*) 1. Almirante. 2. Figurante do sokope.
 almudi [alˈmudi] (*n.*) Almude. Medida para líquidos.
 aloko [abˈkɔ] (*n.*) Alcool.
 alugudon [aluguˈdɔ] (*n.*) Algodão.
 aluku [ˈaluku] (*n.*) 1. Arco. 2. Arco-íris.
 alumanze [alumuˈze] (*n.*) Armazém.
 alumayu [aluˈmaju] (*n.*) Armário.
 alumidu [aluˈmidu] (*n.*) 1. Alumínio. 2. Recipiente de alumínio.

Sample page from *Dicionário livre santome/português — Livlu-nglandji santome/putugêji*

information (for example, for items not derived from Portuguese), a task understandably far beyond the possibilities of this initial dictionary (but see Ferraz 1979, and Rougé 2004).

The grammatical classification is quite basic in some respects. For example, verbs are not sub-categorized. The dictionary does, however, identify typical sets

of word classes, particles, and ideophones. The distinction between verbal and nominal prepositions is also made. Notable too is the extensive scientific classification of flora and fauna of São Tomé, and the inclusion of both Brazilian and European Portuguese equivalents where certain semantic nuances are worth noting. Naturally, in any dictionary, gaps are evident, and one obvious instance concerns musical instruments. For example *bimba* is defined as a 'traditional musical instrument' (*instrumento musical tradicional*), and *ngipa* is defined likewise. Neither of these items can be tracked from the Portuguese-Santome section. Nevertheless, the fact that these words are listed is useful, demonstrating an indirect function of dictionaries: the identification of a lexical area requiring research.

The listing of variants is always a special challenge for dictionary compilers, and the inclusion here of such variants is laudable. However, the format used could have been more instructive. Although variants are listed separately, they are only referenced unilaterally, from the principal entry. The entry for the non-principal variant does not remit to the principal variant. For example, the principal entry *dlêtu* 'direct, law', contains a reference to the variant *glêtu*. However, if one looks up *glêtu* independently of *dlêtu*, there is no cross-reference to the principal entry. Of course, greater referencing would imply a larger dictionary.

A further issue concerns Portuguese-Santome entries involving the same words. Thus, Portuguese *direito* 'direct, law' lists the Santome equivalents as "1. Dlêtu. 2. Glêtu. 3. Odji", which gives the impression that *dlêtu* and *glêtu* have different meanings, rather than being variants of the same word. Item 3, *odji*, does have a different meaning. The significance of the numbering is not explained in the introduction.

In another instance, a variant is not separately listed. The item *kulumanu*, a variant of *kalumanu* 'human flesh', only comes to light in the entry *fede kulumanu* 'smell like decomposing human flesh'. Furthermore, both *fede kalumanu* and *fede kulumana* have full separate listings identical in definition, which could have been dealt with by a single principal entry.

Variationists who are familiar with Portuguese and Portuguese lexically-based creoles will take issue with the comments regarding "unpredictable variation" between [d₃] and [ʒ], as in *djêlu* and *jêlu* 'money', between [mb] and [m], as in *mbon* and *bon* 'well (adv.)', and or between [ng] and [g], as in *ngandu* and *gandu*. The second variant in each pair suggests influence from the phonology and/or phonotactics of modern European Portuguese. There are many entries in the dictionary that involve variation of this type, which are suggestive of topics for research into the effects of ongoing contact between Santome and Portuguese.

As regards overall format, the size of the dictionary is a curiosity. Indeed, *livlunlandi*, literally 'big book', is somewhat of a contradiction, as the dictionary is very condensed, almost a pocket book. It measures 12.5cm width, by 17cm page length,

and its entries are presented in two columns per page: 75 pages for the Santome-Portuguese entries and 71 pages of the Portuguese-Santome section. Perhaps portability (potential use in schools in São Tomé?), or mere financial considerations, may be responsible for this format, but the print size (about 6pt) makes for rather difficult reading.

On the positive side, proof reading of the text has been excellent, as there are very few errors (one of which occurs on the first page of the introduction (*Apresentação*), and another at the very end of the dictionary, in the Portuguese-Santome section). Here we find that the final three pages are suddenly unnumbered and the second last page presents, after the entry for *xícara* 'cup', the definition of a musical instrument which is not listed under the Santome word *xikla* 'cup'.

For readers keen on obtaining a glimpse of the dictionary, an electronic spin-off of the project is available on-line at <http://diclivre.com.br/santome/>. This version may also prove useful in educational contexts in São Tomé, as well as to the wider São Tomé community. Of course, one would hope to see a bilingual electronic version available eventually.

In spite of its some 63,000 speakers, Santome must be considered an endangered language as, even in rural settings, the number of younger speakers is in decline, and the language is not actively supported by official policy. Rather, it seems to be viewed as a cultural artifact only. These facts underline the importance of this dictionary. As a contribution to linguistic documentation, the *Livlu-nglandi* is definitely a winner: it is the most complete and most accurate lexicon of Santome to date, fundamental for future research on Santome. One can only hope that the *Livlu-nglandi* might have an impact on educational policy in São Tomé, as well as on the status of its creole.

Accepted: 10/18/13

References

- Ferraz, Luiz Ivens. 1979. *The Creole of São Tomé*. Johannesburg: University of Witwatersrand Press.
- Fontes, Carlos. 2007. *Estudo do léxico do são-tomense com dicionário*. Master's Thesis, Universidade de Coimbra.
- Major, Ayres Veríssimo/Ministério da Educação e Cultura. 2004. *Dicionário lexical Santome-Português*. São Tomé: Dória Design.
- Maurer, Philippe. 1995. *L'angolar – Un créole afro-portugais parlé à São Tomé*. Hamburg: Helmut Buske Verlag.

- Maurer, Philippe. 2009. *Principense (Lung'le) – Grammar, Texts, and Vocabulary of the Afro-Portuguese Creole of the Island of Príncipe, Gulf of Guinea*. London: Battlebridge.
- Rougé, Jean-Louis. 2004. *Dictionnaire étymologique des créoles portugais d'Afrique*. Paris: Karthala.

Author's address

Alan Baxter
R. Rodrigues Lima, 9
Ed. Aníbal Oliveira, apto 208
Largo da Vitória, Vitória – SALVADOR – BAHIA
CEP 40.080-002
Brazil
alannbaxter@gmail.com