

Noun Classes

	Definiteness	Singular	Plural
NC1	DEF	...-wa	...-un
	INDEF	ekzon* / uggwa ...	okkol ...
NC2	DEF	...-an	...-un
	INDEF	ekkan ...	okkol ...

NC1 - Noun Class 1: Animate, inc. humans, animals, plants, and certain objects that are manipulated by humans, such as pen, book, etc.

NC2 - Noun Class 2: Everything else inanimate, and abstract nouns, such as justice, freedom, etc.

*Ekzon is used in the indefinite for humans and counting humans, e.g., *ekzon maštor* "a/one teacher" and *duizon manuš* "two men."

Noun Classes with Examples

	Definiteness	Singular	Plural
NC1	DEF	manušš wa "the man"	manušš un "the men"
		fúll wa "the flower"	fúll un "the flowers"
	INDEF	ekzon manuš "a man"	manuš okkol "men"
		uggwa fúl "a flower"	fúl okkol "flowers"
NC2	DEF	górg an "the house"	górg un "the houses"
	INDEF	ekkan gór "a house"	gór okkol "houses"

The bold letters represent the noun classifier endings. * When suffixes, such as **-an**, **-un** follow nouns, ending in a vowel or **-r**, **-g-** is inserted between the noun stem and the suffix, however, there are few exceptions with loan words, e.g., *tebilgan*, not *tebil**an*** as one would expect.

❗ Note that non-referential nouns, such as time words, are unmarked for definiteness.

Rohingya Noun Cases

Cases	Suffixes (marked by)	Usage
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Rohingya Noun Cases (cont)

Absolutive (ABS)	bare form/u-nmarked	Subject of intransitive clause, Direct Object of transitive clause
Ergative (ERG)	-e	Subject of transitive clause, indicates the agent of action
Genitive (GEN)	-r	Possessor
Dative (DAT)	-re	Object
Ablative (ABL)	-ttu	indicates movement away from, Possessor in a possessive predicate
Locative (LOC)	-t	spatial "in/at," movement toward "to"
Benefactive (BEN)	-lla	Oblique, for, intended for
Instrumental (INST)	-e	indicates "by means of"

Noun Cases with Examples

	Singular	Singular	Plural
Cases	Nouns, ending in vowel	Nouns, ending in consonant	All nouns
ABS	fuwa "child"	šohor "city"	... okkol
ERG	fuwa(y) e	bafe "father"	... okkole
GEN	fuwar	šohor(o) r	... okkol(o) r
DAT	fuwa re	šohor(o) re	... okkol(o) re
ABL	fuwa ttu	šohor(o) ttu	... okkol(o) ttu
LOC	bisanat "in bed"	šohor(o) t	... okkol(o) t
BEN	fuwa lla	šohor(o) lla	... okkol(o) lla
INST	gari(y) e "by car"	-	gari okkole



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Notes on noun inflection

i When the stem ends with a consonant and the suffix starts with a consonant, -o will be inserted. When the stem ends with a vowel and the suffix starts with a vowel, -y is inserted. Examples:

- ▶ šohor + -r → šohor**o**r
- ▶ fuwa + -e → fuwa**y**e

i When the noun stem ends with the glides **ai** and **ou**, the consonants **-y** and **-w** will be inserted between the noun stem and the case marker, respectively. Because of syllable constraint, -o is inserted before the case marker. Examples:

- ▶ báí + r → báí**y**or "brother's"
- ▶ bou + r → bou**w**or "wife's"

Personal Pronouns

Subjective		Objective	
<i>Gloss</i>	<i>Ergative</i>	<i>Gloss</i>	<i>Dative</i>
I	ãi	me	ãre
you*	tui	you*	tore
you**	tūi	you**	tūware
he	hite	him	hitare
she	hiba	her	hibare
we	āra	us	ārare
you	tūwara	you	tūwarare
they	hitara	them	hitarare

*Non-honorific, singular / **Honorific, singular

Personal Pronouns

Possessive		Oblique	
<i>Gloss</i>	<i>Genitive</i>	<i>Gloss</i>	<i>Ablative</i>
my / mine	ār	to/from me	ãttu
your* / yours	tor	to/from you*	tottu
your** / yours	tūwar	to/from you**	tūwattu
his	hitar	to/from him	hitattu
her / hers	hibar	to/from her	hibattu
our / ours	ārar	to/from us	ārattu
your / yours	tūwarar	to/from you	tūwarattu
their / theirs	hitarar	to/from them	hitarattu

*Non-honorific, singular / **Honorific, singular

Personal Pronouns

Oblique object	
<i>Gloss</i>	<i>Benefactive</i>
for me	ãlla
for you*	tolla
for you**	tūwalla
for him	hitalla
for her	hiballa
for us	āralla
for you	tūwaralla
for them	hitaralla

*Non-honorific, singular / **Honorific, singular

Rohingya uses the Benefactive case to express the same idea as what English achieves by preposition "for" or "intended for," e.g., "She made food **for you**."

Example 1

Hibaye	bat	rande.
3SGF-ERG	rice-ABS	cook-PRES.3
she	rice	cook
"She is cooking rice."		

Example 2

Tome	górot	giye.
Tom-ERG	house-LOC	go-PAST.3
Tom (Agent)	to house	went.
"Tom went home."		

Example 3

Hite	ei	kitabwa	kinne.
3SGM-ERG	DEM.PROX	book-NC2.ABS	buy-PAST.3
he	this	book	bought
"He bought this book."			

