



## Phasal Negation in Zande

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Standard negation in Zande is bipartite, the first negator **nga**, probably derived from the homophonous copula, directly following the verb, the second, **te**, identical with the negator of Lingala, being in clause-final position (1). In subordinate clauses and commands, the second negator is **ya** (2).

- (1) *Ani a-kpi nga nyamu ko te...*  
 1p.1 III-covet NEG1 love 3m NEG2  
 We do not like him ...

- (2) *Mo di parapluie tipa ka mu a-ziro nga ya.*  
 2s.1 take umbrella in.order SUB 2s.1 III-get.wet NEG1 NEG2  
 Take an umbrella so that you won't get wet.

Eliciting examples of phasal negation of the **not yet** and **no longer** type causes problems just like eliciting examples of the **already** and the **still** type. And in texts there are no really clear examples. Many examples may also be understood in a non-phasal reading and speakers are reluctant to give equivalents of single short clauses. In most examples phasal notion is evident only from context.

**Already** is indicated by *ta* (< *taa* 'stretch, extend') (3) or *ima* (< *ima* 'dwell, remain') (4) preceding the verb. Note that *ta* which also has the notion **finally** (5) (cf. van der Auwera 1993: 618ff) functions quite generally as a marker of similitude. The specific notion reveals from context. While *ta* is found with all verbs, including those describing states and change of states, *ima* is found with only with action verbs.

- (3) *rago ki ta gira...*  
 place SEQ yet shine  
 when it was already morning ...

- (4) *bakure-mi nga Ngbia ima fu a-ge fe-re.*  
 blood.brother-1s.1 cop Ngbia already give pl-termite for-me  
 'My friend Ngbia as given me termites.'

- (5) *Gbara ki fu a-fu kindii, si ki ta wi,*  
 yam SEQ stew III-stew continually INAN.1 SEQ yet cooked  
 When the yam had boiled and was cooked



**Not yet** is likewise indicated by *ta*, now in combination with the negators *nga* and *te* (6, 7)

- (6) *ko a-ta ye nga te*  
 3m III- come NEG NEG  
 He has not yet come

- (7) *Gomoro na-manga re kindi, mbiko mi ta ri nga he te.*  
 hunger II-make 1s.2 continually because 1s.1 eat NEG thing neg  
 I am still hungry, because I have not eaten yet.

When opposed to **not yet**, **already** is always expressed by *ima*, not by *ta* (8).

- (8) *Petro ima ndu na gara ue ku dumo waraga yo,*  
 go year two DIR house learning there  
 Peter has been (going) to school now for two years

*ono ku ta ino nga ka ke pai te*  
 but 3m know NEG SUB write thing NEG  
 but he does not yet know, how to write

**No longer** is indicated by the adverb *berewe*, which also has the notion 'again'. It follows the predicate but precedes the negator in clause final position.

- (9) *Ka Petro ngbisi nga gu bus re berewe te.*  
 SUB P meet.PERF NEG DEF.D bus DEM again NEG  
 Peter will not catch the bus.

- (10) *Wa mi a- na a-gude bisue boti sa,*  
 like 1s.1 III- PL-child five on.top one  
 be

When I had six children

*mi a-ida nga ka batika berewe te.*  
 1s.1 III- NEG SUB beget again NEG  
 want

I did not want to have more children.

**Still** is likewise indicated by the adverb *kindi(i)* (11, 12) the basic notion of which is 'longtime, continually'. In combination with action verbs and in complex structures containing several verbs, it is expressed by *ta* (13.)



- (11) *Gomoro na-manga re kindi ...*  
hunger II-make 1s.2 longtime  
I am still hungry ...
- (12) *rago na-bira kindii*  
place II-black continually  
it is still dark
- (13) *ta mbira-ha mi ga a-ga*  
drink-INAN.2 1s.1 go.home III-go.home  
I went home [e.g. driven out of a bar] while still drinking