KHANEDÓN

SIAN ADÁN AMUMÓDA KHANU

The **Ceremonial** language, natively known as **Khanedón**, is a codified pidgin descended from Nedáun, a language produced by the Engine. It is spoken by Hibot II of Wheatdale (*Kheboto II Neresianu*) and thus has many Germanic influences. It is the official language of the Khanate.

PHONOLOGY

Conson.	Labial	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar
Nasal	m	n		
Plosive	p	t	tʃ~tɕ	k
	b	d		g
Fricative	f	s	ʃ~ɕ	χ
Approx.	v	l	j	
Trill		ɾ~r		

Vowels	Front	Back
Close	i	u
Mid	e	o
Open	a	

If sounds are in free variation, the leftmost realization is the phoneme itself.
Stress is phonemic, and it is realized the same way as in Dutch or English: primarily length, secondarily high pitch. By default, stress is on the first syllable, but it shifts to the last historical long vowel or diphthong in a word.

PHONOTACTICS

The syllable structure is (C)(C)V(N). The following rules apply:
- Coda /n/ is mandatory in the final syllable if it is stressed; the coda generally does not occur in unstressed syllables, though it is not prohibited.
- All liquids, nasals and voiceless non-alveolar obstruents may be palatalized. This is analyzed as the cluster /Cj/. Alveolar obstruents that become palatalized are analyzed as /tʃ/ for plosives and as /ʃ/ for fricatives.
- A limited amount of onset clusters are allowed:

	-l	-r	-v	-p	-t	-k	-m
p-	pl	pr					
t-		tr	tv				
k-	kl	kr	kv				
s-	sl		sv	sp	st	sk	sm
f-	fl	fr					

- Vowels may not be placed next to each other under any circumstances. The filler consonant for resolving a possible coining must either be a glide (within a word) or a nasal (morphology and between words).
- Word-initial /s/ has shifted to [ʃ]; clustered /s/ is in free variation with [ʃ].

ORTHOGRAPHY

Ceremonial is written almost exclusively in the Latin alphabet. While a Cyrillic or Mongolian orthography is also admissible, the former generally serves as an intermediary to the latter, which is generally used for decoration and not communication.

Conson.	Labial	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar
Nasal	m	n		
Plosive	p	t	ci	k
	b	d		g
Fricative	f	s	si	kh
Approx.	v	l	y	
Trill		r		

Vowels	Front	Back
Close	i	u
Mid	e	o
Open	a	

An acute accent marks stress. If there is no acute accent in the word, the stress is on the first syllable. ⟨i⟩ indicates that the preceding consonant is palatalized: in such a case, ⟨i⟩ is not pronounced as a full vowel unless it is followed by another consonant. Compare pavo /ˈpavo/, piavo /ˈpjavo/ and piyavo /ˈpijavo/.

If /n/ is inserted intervocalically in a word that is not a noun, verb, adjective or article, the extra ⟨n⟩ is hyphenated: compare *sian apuli* ("the shelter") and *te-n apuli* ("to a shelter").

GRAMMAR

Only nouns and verbs are inflected. The inflection is historically fusional with more modern analytical elements. The word order is SVO and adjectives are placed before the noun; miscellaneous phrases may be placed freely around the predicate.

Ceremonial verbs distinguish between non-past and past tense. The first person plural can be inclusive (speaker's group + interlocutor) or exclusive (speaker's group - interlocutor). The copula involves using a pronoun as a verb, like in *munu* ("I am").

Only the nominative, accusative and genitive cases are marked by suffixes. The nominative is the default case for nouns, used for subjects, the copula head and for referring to nouns on their own; the accusative is the miscellaneous case, used for objects and in non-predicate phrases, in particular when preceded by a preposition. Every other case is conveyed through a combination of an accusative and a preposition. Adjectives do not agree with nouns.

Possessive marking exclusively happens as a pronoun in the genitive: *sia fen munu* literally translates to "the land of mine" and is the only grammatically correct way of saying "my land".

INFLECTION

Verbs	Non-Past	Past
1st sg.	u	ure
2nd sg.	a	are
3rd sg.	i	ire
1st pl.	uda	ube
2nd pl.	ara	abe
3rd pl.	ida	ibe
1st incl.	udo	ubo

Misc. Verbs

Imp.	ami
Inf.	ere
Nonf.	Ø
Ptc.	ígu
Ger.	ámu

- The infinitive is seldom used in Ceremonial, usually only as the infinitive copula "to be". Instead, the non-finite is used for most purposes.
- The passive participle is an adjectivizer and must always be used in conjunction with an auxiliary verb; the gerund is a nominalizer.

Nouns	Sing.	Plur.
Nom.	Ø	o
Acc.	Ø	e
Gen.	u	umu

VOCABULARY

Below is a list of functional vocabulary.

- **sia**: The definite article. Use the same way as in English.
- **cio**: Dependent clause marker and conjunctive pronoun. Use the same way as "that" in English.
- **mun, tan, lin, vun, taya, sin**: Personal pronouns. 1st, 2nd, 3rd person; first half singular, second half plural. *Lin* and *sin* are the default pronouns.
- **ron, ton**: Demonstrative pronouns. In order, "this" and "that".
- **Copula**: (Subject +) inflected pronoun + head (nominative). "Kheboto lini vese." (Hibot is a man.) / "Munu vese." (I am a man.)
- **siu**: Benefactive and malefactive preposition. Translatable as "for".
- **te**: Miscellaneous dative preposition. Translatable as "to".
- **ne**: Locative preposition.

DERIVATION

New a-priori words can be derived through two methods.

The first method is a modern system of compounding and applies to most words: *Fenánta* ("Landlord") consists of *fen* ("land, soil") and *anta* ("leader, ruler"). The last word usually contains the stress, with very few exceptions (*Khanufe*, *Khanu* (gen.) + *fe* or Land of the Khan). This method may drop certain elements of the original words for the sake of brevity, particularly vowels and final nasals (*yavasión*, *yan* + *van* + *sion* or big metal horse).

The second method is the historical umlaut that derives from the case system, used mostly for some country and language names. Words can undergo locative i-mutation, such as *Sieredén* (earlier *Seredáin* from *Seréda*, "Lake Sereda"), or genitive u-mutation, such as *Podón* (earlier *Podáun* from *poda*, "snow"). The umlaut qualities for Ceremonial are shown below.

Nouns	-i (loc.)	-u (gen.)
a-	e	o
e-	i	o
i-, o-, u-	i	u

COMPARATIVE & SUPERLATIVE

The comparative and superlative function as they do in Germanic languages, though with the suffixes **cio-** and **mo-**. Though they can be used on their own, comparative conjunctions use the word *vede*, meaning "from": "ciokhére vede ton" (better from that).

KHANDÓ
ŞAN ADÁ AMÓD KHANU

Contemporary Ceremonial is the spoken dialect of the Great Khan. It is far less regular than the standard language (Classical Ceremonial) and uses a separate Turkish-style orthography.

PHONOLOGY

Conson.	Labial	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar
Nasal	m	n		
Plosive	p	tʰ	tʃ	
	b	t~d		g~ɢ
Fricative	f	s	ʃ	χ
Approx.	v	ɭ	j~ɟ	
Trill		r		

Vowels	**Front**	*Rounded*	**Back**	*Rounded*
Close	i	y	(u)	u
Open	e	ø	a	o

- Contemporary Ceremonial has front-back (allophonic) vowel harmony, with the stressed syllable determining the available set of vowels. /a/ merges with /e/, and /i/ back-harmonizes to /u/ without merging; everything else follows a predictable pattern. Definite articles follow the vowel harmony of the succeeding word, which is not necessarily the noun.
- /k/ merges with /χ/ completely.
- The alveolar plosives shift to an anomalous aspiration distinction, with the unaspirated plosive maintaining a small voicing distinction.
- The lateral approximant becomes devoiced [ɬ] before a voiceless consonant.

PHONOTACTICS
The syllable structure has changed to (C)V(C):
- Unless deliberately preserved (such as in *khan*), the Classical coda /n/ is dropped completely.
- Vowels are allowed to be next to each other in a sentence, though compounds and the definite article still use a vestigial connecting /n/.
- Within words, vowels drop out in meter with the first and stressed syllable, unless such a dropout creates a CCC cluster: *amívo* to *emív*, *adakhamén* to *edkhemé*, *Khanedón* to *Khandó*, but *amoskánta* to *amoskhát*.
- Word-initial clusters get broken by a filler vowel: *freda* to *feréde*.
- Sonorant clusters get metathesized: *yatra* to *yatar*, *apuli* to *alpu* (intermediary *apli*).
- Coda nasals agree in place of articulation with the next consonant: *amisu* to *ansu* (instead of *amsu*).
- Consecutively repeated vowels and liquids get dropped: *rege* to *reg*, hypothetical *aláliga* to *alága* (intermediary *alálga*).

ORTHOGRAPHY

All idiosyncrasies of the original orthography are dropped: everything is generally written as it is said. Characters are made more compact where possible, unless such compactness leads to a wrong reading (*khan* must not become *han*).

Conson.	Labial	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar
Nasal	m	n		
Plosive	p	t	ç	
	b	d		g
Fricative	f	s	ş	kh
Approx.	v	l	y	
Trill		r		

Vowels	Front	*Rounded*	Back	*Rounded*
Close	i	ü		u
Open	e	ö	a	o

GRAMMAR

The copula now uses the infinitive verb *er* instead of an inflected pronoun. It may optionally be preceded by a pronoun regardless: *(mu) erü Kheböt* ("I am Hibot"). In addition, the genitive in a possessive construction now substitutes the definite article: *munu fe* ("my land").

Several miscellaneous verb suffixes can now determine the vowel harmony by shifting the stress to it.

INFLECTION

The inflections are listed with back harmony first.

Verbs	Present	*Front*	Past	*Front*
1st s.	u	ü	ura	üre
2nd s.	a	e	ara	ere
3rd s.	ul	il	ula	ile
1st p.	uda	üde	uba	übe
1st excl.	udo	üdö	ubo	übö
2nd p.	aro	erö	aba	ebe
3rd p.	ulda	ilde	ulba	ilbe

Misc. Verbs	Back	Front
Imp.		emí
Ptc. (Act.)	ugu	igü
Ptc. (Pss.)		ígü
Ger.	amú	

Nouns	Sing.	*Front*	Plur.	*Front*
Nom.		Ø	o	ö
Acc.		Ø	a	e
Gen.	u	ü	um	üm

VOCABULARY

While the vocabulary generally remains the same, homophones are artificially avoided as much as possible. The resolution strategy is to change the word that has become newly homophonous: Classical *idán* ("new") becomes Contemporary *nudá* to avoid merging with *udá* ("after").

The definite article is in vowel harmony with the next word: *şa turo* ("the ash"), *şe sitínigü turo* ("the smoking ash"), *şen ení* ("the end"), *şa khokhor ení* ("the cold end").