

Lesson 4: Near Demonstrative Articles

Near Demonstrative Articles

Demonstratives refer to the English "this" and "that." The demonstrative "this" is called the near demonstrative since it refers to objects that are nearby (e.g. "this book") whereas "that" is called the far demonstrative since it refers to objects that are far away (e.g. "that book").

In Coptic, the near demonstratives can be denoted as an article attached to the noun, or as a pronoun.

Masculine (this)	Feminine (this)	Plural (these)
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When using the near demonstrative as an article, it describes the attached noun. You will notice that the first letter of the near demonstrative article is based on the gender and number of the object and are identical to the first letter of the definite (and possessive) articles:

- for a masculine object
- for a feminine object
- for a plural object

The rest of the article is always -.

Examples

	this man	ⲁ ⲙⲁⲛ	this woman	ⲁ ⲙⲁⲛⲉ	these boys
	this brother	ⲁ ⲙⲁⲛⲉ	this censer	ⲁ ⲙⲁⲛⲉ	these hands
ⲁ	this son	ⲁ ⲙⲁⲛ	this daughter	ⲁ ⲙⲁⲛⲉ	these women
	this king		this queen	ⲁ ⲙⲁⲛⲉ	these fathers
	this priest	ⲁ ⲙⲁⲛ	this church	ⲁ ⲙⲁⲛ	these brothers

Compare your results with the adaptation here: <https://hymnologist.com/hymn/view/64>

Resources

- Page 46 of Sameh Younan PDF
- Page 143 of Nabil Mattar
- Lesson 3 of Moawad Daoud
- ACTS 2990 Introduction to the Coptic Language (Bohairic) with Hany Takla Lesson 2b

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