

Lesson 5: Genitive

Genitive

The Genitive is a preposition that is used to denote possession (i.e. when some noun or pronoun belongs to some other noun or pronoun). In Coptic, the Genitive can be denoted by one of the articles `ⲁ` or `ⲓ`, or the preposition `ⲛ`.

Articles `ⲁ` and `ⲓ`

`<possessed noun> ⲁ ⲛ <possessor>` when the possessor noun starts with `ⲁ`.

`<possessed noun> ⲓ ⲛ <possessor>` in all other cases.

Examples:

<code>ⲁ ⲛ ⲁⲓⲛ</code>	the house of the man
<code>ⲓ ⲛ ⲁⲓⲛ</code>	the king of the city
<code>ⲓ ⲛ ⲁⲓⲛ</code>	the fruit of the tree
<code>ⲓ ⲛ ⲁⲓⲛ</code>	the door of the Paradise
<code>ⲓ ⲛ ⲁⲓⲛ</code>	the coming of Christ
<code>ⲓ ⲛ ⲁⲓⲛ</code>	the depth of the riches
<code>ⲓ ⲛ ⲁⲓⲛ</code>	the womb of the Virgin
<code>ⲓ ⲛ ⲁⲓⲛ</code>	the pride of the virgins
<code>ⲓ ⲛ ⲁⲓⲛ</code>	the Theotokia of Thursday

Preposition `ⲛ`

`<possessed noun> ⲛ <possessor>`

The use of `ⲛ` for the possessive can be used in any situation, but is especially used in the following situations:

1. After an indefinite noun (e.g. `ⲓ ⲛ ⲁⲓⲛ`)
2. Nouns with demonstrative prefixes (`ⲓ ⲛ ⲁⲓⲛ`)

3. Nouns with a following modifier (ѡ ѧ ѧ ѧ)

Examples:

↑	a servant (f.) of God
ⲭ ⲅ	this book of my brother
ⲓ ⲙ ⲃ ⲓ ⲅ	the lame son of the man
↑ ↑	I am the God of your fathers
ⲓ	the Logos of the Father
ⲓ ⲙ ⲙ ⲅ	the pride of our race

Pronominal Possessor

<possessed noun> ` =

The pronominal form of the preposition` is` =

1st Person S	My	`
2nd Person M	Your (m.)	`
2nd Person F	Your (f.)	`
3rd Person M	His	` q
3rd Person F	Her	`
1st Person P	Our	`
2nd Person P	Your (p.)	`
3rd Person P	Their	`

Examples:

、	a servant of yours
х ` q	this book of his
ω ` ω `	three sons of hers

Possessive Pronouns

These pronouns are used in place of a possessive noun ("My <noun>")

	English	m. Object	f. Object	p. Object
1st Person S	<i>Mine</i>			
2nd Person M	<i>Yours (m.)</i>			
2nd Person F	<i>Yours (f.)</i>			
3rd Person M	<i>His</i>	ⲓ	ⲓ	ⲓ
3rd Person F	<i>Hers</i>			
1st Person P	<i>Ours</i>			
2nd Person P	<i>Yours (p.)</i>			
3rd Person P	<i>Theirs</i>			

Examples:

ⲧⲗ	Yours is the power
ⲉ ⲓ	Yours is all the earth
ⲱ ⲉ	Yours is the glory forever
ⲗ ⲓ	this ship is his

Exercises

Exercise 1: Translate to Coptic

Translate the following into Coptic:

1.

Exercise 2: Translate to English

Translate the following phrases into English:

1.
2.

Resources

"A Study in Bohairic Coptic" by Nabil Matar; p424

See Moawad Daoud Lesson

See Sameh Younan page in the PDF

ACTS 2990 Introduction to the Coptic Language (Bohairic) with Hany Takla Lesson

Revision #4

Created 30 August 2023 12:28:00 by Morcous Wahba

Updated 16 February 2024 04:31:58 by Morcous Wahba