

Tarpen 1984 - From the Nisgha speaker's point of view - Corrections.

2.2. (In this section I insisted too much on the speaker's power to control an event. Instead these postclitics indicate the speaker's evaluation of an event as controllable or not, whether by the speaker or by someone else. This being understood I am not sure what labels to give the two postclitics -giy and -gwa; the chart will have to be changed as well).

2.2.1. The postclitic -giy (minatory ?) : Its use warns others of something which seems about to happen but is preventable by suitable means : 'Be careful, else this might happen'; 'I/you/we wouldn't want this to happen, so I/you/we have to be careful/reasonable'. Used for genuine concern as well as threat :

concern :

T'igwantkw-giy niin	Be careful or you'll fall;
fall you	be careful you don't fall
Niihitgwi-giyhl asayin	Be careful or I might step on your foot (so get out of my way)
Siipkw-giy niiy	I had to be careful not to be sick
sick I	I could have been sick (but I was careful)

threat : 'I wouldn't want this ~~xxx~~ to happen, but it will unless you are "reasonable" '

Grizzly Bear examples :

Adc'o, yaltgwin, jakwdiy-giy niin !	Away, go back, I might kill you
go go back I kill you	if you're not careful (since I am going berserk)
Nimts'axgwi-giy niin ...	It wouldn't take much for me
I snuff in you	to snuff you in ...

In the last example of 2.2.1., the word niin is probably missing in Boas :

Gilo! gilo! Naxmayit-giy niin ahl ts'im wilp	
don't he hears you PREP in house	
	Don't! don't! They/Someone might hear you in the house (so be careful) ... you/we wouldn't want them/someone to hear you...

Note 10 :

Yajiy-giy niin	Be careful or I might strike you (so get out of my way / don't provoke me)
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2.2.2. The postclitic -gwa (commiserative ?) : In the speaker's opinion the event could not have been prevented by any amount of effort; the victim is not responsible, hence is worthy of commiseration. Examples OK.

Note 2 : gives too little credit to Boas and cites him erroneously.

Boas 1911 mentions the following 5 postclitics under various headings :

p. 348 : -ma (= -(i)ma'a) identified as a derivational suffix ("following the stem") : "maybe, perhaps".

p. 349 : "modal suffixes following the pronominal suffixes" (this is a definition of the postclitics) :

-g·ê (= -gi) glossed in examples as "might". In the third example given, confused with ~~gi~~ -gi.

-gat (= -gat) "it is said"

p. 349 : "demonstrative suffixes" :

-g·ê (= -gi) " absence and distance"

-st (= -(i)st) "presence and nearness"