# LESSON 18

## Further Suffixes

### Vocabulary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Garay</th>
<th>Words</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-Baraay</td>
<td>having</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-DHalibaa</td>
<td>without</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-nginda*</td>
<td>wanting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-guwaay (and -giirr)</td>
<td>like</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-galgaa</td>
<td>plural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-gal</td>
<td>plural on birralii, gaayli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-gaali*</td>
<td>dual</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The suffix -nginda is sometimes also used to translate the verb 'like'.

*The suffix -gaali was not included in previous versions of this list. Perhaps an unconscious bias to the common European system of having singular and plural forms, but not duals. Duals are common in Australian languages and very prominent in Gamilaraay pronouns. We know little about other dual forms, nouns and adjectives, for instance, probably because they were not investigated to any extent when GY was being collected. -gaali seems to have an alternative -gaalay, and is found in names such as gulayaali ‘pelican’ (gulay ‘net’) and mangun.gaali ‘goanna’.

Play audio: GGU 18.1.mp3
Grammar

Examples of suffixed nouns.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Noun</th>
<th>having</th>
<th>without</th>
<th>wanting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>buruma</td>
<td>-baraay</td>
<td>-dhalibaa</td>
<td>-nginda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>muru</td>
<td>-baraay</td>
<td>-dhalibaa</td>
<td>-nginda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yarraaman</td>
<td>-baraay</td>
<td>-d(h)alibaa</td>
<td>-nginda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wiyayl</td>
<td>-araay</td>
<td>-d(h)alibaa</td>
<td>-nginda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bandaarr</td>
<td>-araay</td>
<td>-d(h)alibaa</td>
<td>-nginda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gaayli/birralii</td>
<td>-baraay</td>
<td>-dhalibaa</td>
<td>-nginda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dhalay</td>
<td>-baraay</td>
<td>-dhalibaa</td>
<td>-nginda</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For example, buruma-baray = ‘having a dog/dogs’, etc.

Remember, the capital letters in the suffix means that part can change, depending on the word it is attached to. Also, the ‘translation’ given (‘having, without …’) is only an indication of the meaning. The suffix does not correspond precisely with that English word.

For more information on these suffixes see the Dictionary, pp. 273–77, the dictionary entries for the suffixes and Giacon (2017, pp. 81ff). The -Baraay suffix occurs in many Gamilaraay place names: Narrabri, Collarenebri, Boggabri and Yalaroi. There are a number of places called Wii Dhalibaa ‘no fire/firewood’ (Written Weetaliba, and other spellings).

One modification of previous analysis concerns -DHalibaa. The form of this suffix is uncertain, but it is very unusual for dh to occur after word final n, rr or l, so -dalibaa is now the preferred form there.

There are many examples of most of these suffixes in Gayarragi, Winangali – but not of -Baraay since it is Gamilaraay and the tape material is Yuwaalaraay, which uses -Biyaay with the same meaning.
Lesson 18. Further Suffixes

-Baraay ‘having’

This suffix is -baraay except when a word ends in l or rr, when it is araay. It is mostly translated ‘with’ or ‘having’. It is not used to translate ‘with’ if that means ‘instrument’. So, use it for: ‘I walked down the street with a hammer’ (carrying a hammer) but not for ‘I hit the nail with the hammer’. Some examples are:

Words:

Guliirr-araay
partner-having = married

gali-baraay
water-having = wet

Sentences:

Dhawun nhama milimili-baray.
That ground is muddy. = (mud-having)

Mari yananchi bilaarr-araay.
The man walked along with his spear.

Burriin-baraay ngaya warraylanhi.
I stood with my shield.

Yaama nginda water bag-baray?
Have you got a water bag?

Yaama=nda birralii-baray?
Have you(1) got any kids?

Giirr ngaya birralii-baray, bularr.
Yes, I’ve got two kids.
The suffix occurs in the name Gamilaraay. There are similar suffixes in Yuwaalaraay (-Biyaay), Wangaaybuwan (-buwan), Wayilwan (-wan, almost certainly a modified form of -buwan after l), Wiradjuri (possibly -dhurraay), (Pitjantja)-tjana and many other Australian languages. Gamilaraay has many place names which use the -Baraay suffix. Yuwaalaraay does not use the corresponding -Biyaay suffix on place names, but many use -DHuul. The other ‘no-with’ languages also use their ‘having’ suffix on place names. The Wiradjuri suffix, -dhurraay, occurs as -dry and fairly modified as -dra (Cootamundra and Cootamundry creek). Wangaaybuwan and Wayilwan -buwan is found in Gulargambone.

Extension

The suffix is not generally used in phrases like ‘I went with Chris’. The most likely way to translate that is with Locative case:

Chris-ga ngaya yananhi.

A similar meaning can be conveyed by the following, which has a structure that is common in Australian languages but strange to English ears.

Yananhi ngali-Chris.

Chris and I went. (The structure is: We(2) including Chris went.)

The language might have used Chris-barraay, but I suspect that implied something like: ‘I am in charge of/responsible for/senior to Chris’.

-DHalibaa ‘without’

The form of the suffix is described above. It means ‘a lack of something’. Many Aboriginal languages have a similar suffix.

Dhawun nhama milimili-dhalibaa.
That ground hasn’t got any mud.
Lesson 18. Further Suffixes

Yananhi Mari bilaarr-dalibaa.
The man walk along without his spear.

Burriin-dalibaa ngaya warraylanhi.
I stood without my shield.

A: Yaama nginda water bag-barraay?
   Have you got a water bag?
B: Gamilbala, water bag-dhalibaa ngaya.
   No, I’ve got no water bag.

A: Yaama=nda birralii-barraay?
   Have you(1) got any kids?
B: Birralii-dhalibaa=bala ngaya.
   I’ve got no kids.

Yarral-dalibaa ngaya.
I’ve got no money.

At times DHalibaa behaves like a suffix, but at times it is like a separate word.

-nginda ‘wanting, needing’

This suffix is attached to nouns or the future forms of verbs, indicating that the thing or action is wanted.

Guliirr-nginda ngaya.
I want a wife/husband/spouse.

A: Yaamanda yarral-nginda?
   Do you(1) want any money?
B: Giirr ngaya yarralnginda.
   Sure, I want some money.

Galinginda ngaya.
I want some water. / I’m thirsty.

Gamil ngaya yanay-nginda.
I don’t want to go.
Gamil ngaya nginunba ngamili-nginda.
I don’t want to see you.

Some useful phrases:

Minya-nginda=nda?
What do you want? (What-wanting-you?)

Minya-nginda=ndaali?
What do you(2) want?

Minya-nginda=ndaay?
What do you(>2) want?

Extension

At times the suffix has the form ngin or ngindi, as in yuulngin ‘hungry’. The significance of the differences is not fully understood.

-guwaay ‘like’

Most of our information about this suffix comes from the corresponding Yuwaalaraay suffix, -giirr. There is also one Gamilaraay example of -giirr. In future we may learn more by investigating the Wangaaybuwan cognate, -gulaay.

Play audio: GGU 18.7.mp3

This suffix is still used by people in Walgett and Lightning Ridge in phrases like:

She swims fish-giirr.
She swims like a fish.

This the same as the traditional use.

Baranhi nhama bandaarr-giirr.
He hopped like a kangaroo.

Giirr ngaya banagawaanhi dhinawan.giirr.
I ran like an emu.
The remaining examples will use -guwaay.

*yinarr-guwaay*
like a woman

*mari-guwaay*
like a murri

*Giirr nguru dha-y buruma-gu-guwaay.*
He ate like a dog. (greedily)

**Extension**

It actually turns out that -guwaay has different properties from most other suffixes. Details in later courses.

**-galgaa ‘plural’**

In English, plural nouns are almost always different from the singular. **Men/man, dogs/dog**, and so on (with exceptions like ‘sheep’ and ‘fish’). This is not so in Gamilaraay and in most Aboriginal languages. We do not know the Gamilaraay rules well, so the following may be modified after more study of Gamilaraay and other languages.

The plural is often or generally shown on people words.

So *yinarr-galgaa* ‘women’, *giwiirr-galgaa* ‘men’. The plural is -gal for *birralii* ‘child’, so *birralii-gal* ‘children’. (Other languages, including Wangaaybuwan, have a different plural for ‘little things’.)

*Yinarrgalgaa dhaay yananhi.*
The women came here.

*Birraliigal yinarrgu yananhi.*
The children went to the women.

*Mari-galgaa ngaya ngamiy.*
I saw the Murris.
Other suffixes come after the plural suffix.

*Mari-galgaa-gu nganha ngamiy.*
The Murris saw me.

*Yinarrgalgaa-gu dhinggaa dhay.*
The women ate the meat.

*Birraliigal-araay ngaya.*
I’ve got lots of kids.

All nouns, including people nouns, can have plural meaning without suffixing *-galgaa.*

*Yinarr-u dhinggaa dhay.*
The women ate the meat.

**Extension**

Some of the sources also have a dual suffix, *-gaali.* (This is only for your information. You do not need to use this suffix.)

*Yinarr-gaali-dhu dhinggaa dhay.*
The (2) women ate the meat.

As with many other areas, there may be slight changes or additions to this part of Gamilaraay grammar.

**Noun + adjectives**

With the case suffixes studied earlier, if there is a noun and an associated adjective, the suffix is on both, e.g. *man.ga-ga burrul-a* ‘on the big table’. We have not found examples of the suffixes from this lesson in such situations, but for the present follow the same rule as for earlier suffixes.

*Man.garr-nginda ngaya burlunginda.* I need a big bag.
Lesson 18. Further Suffixes

Practice

🎵 Play audio: GGU 18.9.mp3

Conversations

These suffixes are very useful in conversations.

A: Guliirr-araay nginda?
   You married/partnered?
   Yes, I’ve got a partner, Kim. S/he is good.
A: Birralii-baraay nginda?
   You got kids?
B: Birraliidhalibaabala ngaya, birraliingindabala ngaya.
   I’ve got no kids, but I want kids.
A: Yaamanda burumabaraay?
   Do you have a dog/dogs?
B: Gamilbala. Burumadhalibaa ngaya.
   No. I don’t have a dog.
A: Buruma-nginda=nda?
   Do you want a dog/dogs?
   Yes. I want a dog/like dogs.
A: Minyangay-nginda=nda?
   How many do you want?

Use as many words as you can from the previous lessons, including verbs.

Banagay-nginda ngaya.
I need to run.

Gunii, yarraldalibaa ngaya, yarralnginda ngaya, nguugu, schoolgu.
Yarral ngay wuuna.
Mum, I’ve got no money, and I need money for books, for school.
Give me some money.
A: *Minya nhalay?* (hops like a kangaroo)
   What’s this.
B: *Barawaanhi nginda, bandaarr-guwaay.*
   You were hopping like a kangaroo.

Games

If you have cards of say six vocabulary items you can shuffle, give everyone six cards; people ask for cards using formulas like:

*Bandaarraraay nginda? Bandaarrnginda ngaya.*
The first person to get all six wins.

Use normal playing cards, first person to get a full set wins. You may need to use some English and adapt the rules.

*Kingnginda ngaya, guwaaymbarranginda.*
I need a red king.

*Winangala, garay guwaala, yawala.*
Listen, say and read.

**Play audio:** GGU 18.10.mp3

*Burumabaraay nhama yinarr.*
That woman has a dog.

*Giwiirr nhama dbigaraaguwaay barranhi.*
That man flew like a bird.

*Galinginda ngaya.*
I need water.

*Gaaylidhalibaa nhama giwiirr.*
That man has no kids.

*Giirr ngaya yarraldalibaa. Yaamandaay yarralaraay?*
I’ve got no money. Have you(>2) got any money?

*Giirr ngaya yarralaraay. Gamilbala ngaya yarral nginu wuuri!*
I’ve got some money, but I’m not going to give you any money.
**Lesson 18. Further Suffixes**

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**Play audio: GGU 18.11.mp3**

_Galinginda ngaya. Ngaandu ngay gali wuurrri?_  
I am thirsty (water-wanting). Who will give me some water?

_Burumaguguwaay nginda dbay._  
You(1) ate like a dog/greedily.

_Gaayligalaray ngaya._  
I’ve got lots of kids.

_Yaama galibaraay nhama man ga? (galibaraay = wet)_  
Is that table wet?

__Dhaay banagaya, wiyaylaraay._  
Run here with the pen.

_Bundaanhi nhama giwiirr, yarralguwaay._  
That man fell like a stone.

_Gamil garrawalgu yanay guniidhalibaa gaayligal._  
The kids will not go to the shop without their mother.

_Yaama nginaalingunda gaayligalu garay guwaay?_  
Did the kids talk to you(2)?

__Dhulugalgaa dhiyamala!_  
Pick up sticks!