

# (North-)Eastern Neo-Aramaic Copulas and Their Clauses

by Dorothea Molin, University of Cambridge

## course assignments

### 1. Morphology

Review the copula paradigms in the J. Sanandaj and J. Duhok dialects. In the case of J. Duhok, the PowerPoint gives the *basic* (non-deictic) copula paradigm. The deictic copula is *wele* (3MS; glossed 'DEIX' below). J. Sanandaj only has *one* copula paradigm.

- How does their morphology differ?
- Comment on the morphology of the paradigms (e.g. inflectionalisation, relation to verbal PNG morphemes and personal pronouns)

### 2. Syntax

Analyse the following copula clauses in terms of predicate type, semantics (and pragmatics; see PowerPoint presentation). How do these functional features map onto clause structure (word order and/or copula type)? In other words, can the dialect formally distinguish between different types of communication? Note that the copula form can be shortened compared to the forms on the paradigm on the Powerpoint.

#### J. Duhok

'ana **wən** rəš gare.  
I am on roof

**wele** mbašole  
DEIX.is boiling

'o beša dide=**le**  
this house his=is

**wele** 'axxa!  
DEIX.is here

#### J. Sanandaj

reša gare=**na**  
on roof=am 'I'm on the roof.'

bašole=**le**  
boiling=is '(Look,) it is boiling.'

'ay bela do=**le**  
this house his=is 'This house is his.'

laxa=**y!**  
here=is '(Look,) he is here!'

3ms.	-ye
3fs.	-ya
3pl.	-yen
2ms.	-yet
2fs.	-yat
2pl.	-yetun
1ms.	-yena
1fs.	-yan
1pl.	-yex

<b>3MS</b>	(=)ile	=le
<b>3FS</b>	(=)ila	=la
<b>3CP</b>	(=)ilu	=lu
<b>2MS</b>	wət	=iwət
<b>2MS</b>	wat	=iwat
<b>2CP</b>	wetun	
<b>1MS</b>	wən	=iwən
<b>1FS</b>	wan	=iwan
<b>1CP</b>	wax	