Ossetian language interview

White	urs
Girl	chəzg
Earth	zaxx
Table	fəng
Hand	tsong
Mother	mad
Father	fəd
Head	sar
To sing	zaar, zaard
To fall	xaaw, xaawd
To write	fəs, fəst
To see	wən, wənd

(verbs on p.42)

to eat	xar, xord

(examples for systematic creation of passives and causatives on p.48)

(preverbs on p. 49)

(compound verbs on p. 71)

to clean	shəghdag kanən

(how preverbs affect transitivity in compound verbs on p.72)

(still on 72):

Only compound verbs accept the preverb to go before the nominal part:

sh-aart kodtaa   (he lit a fire)

Negation is also a test:

Na aart kanə   (He doesn't start a fire)

Village chermen in north Ossetia

Iron dialect, the northen subdialect

First Ossetian but exposure to Russian since the beginning almost.

He says he's probably natively bilingual but his Russian has an accent while his Ossetian is not. (some remote exposure to Ingush as well because it was a mixed village)

He also has experience with written Ossetian.

Azh də wunən	I see you.
də mə wunəsh	You see me.
Wi mə wune.	He/she sees me.
Max wunəm wi.	We see her.
Azh wunən Adam.	I see Adam.
Azh Adam-ə wun-ən.	I see Adam.
Azh wunən sadar.	I see something.
Azh wunən axərgədəj-**e**.	I see a teacher.
Azh wunən kuz.	I see (a?) dog.
Azh wunən dow.	I see you.
Azh dow wunən.	I see you.
Wudon wunənts maax	They see us.

Azh da fe-tton .   I saw you. Similar to "I have seen you" More common than the next one

Azh da wutton.   I saw you. (the difference between the two is subtle, he says)

Azh fetton farat.

fa**rat** fetton.

Farat fetton

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shuzən	to set fire on sth.
sshuzən (?)	to catch fire
aafshtaw (ra?)ishən	to borrow

raishən is the default word for to get/take

| ambalən | to meet |

kaad kaanən	to respect
fən-ta wunən	to see dreams
shən-ta wunən	to dream (about future, etc.)
sh-waajhal kənən	to freeze sth
zurən	to speak
zhaaghən	to say
anq'al-mə kaashən	to wait
anq'al-dən	suggests likelihood (I think, etc.)
xwonən	to invite
zhən (difficult) mən wudi	It was hard for me.
shayən	to suffer (it's probably more than just suffering)
ka wən	to cry (the second part is the "to be" verb)
qushən	to hear
shəqwdag kanən	to clean
gom kanən	to open
ishən	to lift
wəlama ishən	to lift up
shish	lift up! (imperative)
qoməl	kanən
a-xaliu kanən	to spread out
xaliu kanən	to spread out
azh xaliu kanən ghadur	I spread out beans
ghadur-ta xaliu kanən	The spread out
waazen	to let go
da zəxəl xas	shut up! (lit. "hold your mouth!")
ax kanən	to close
xoshshən	to lie down
zhda xən	to return (intransitive)
zhdaa xən	to return (transitive)
avzhaarən	to choose
lizən	to escape
aaxor kanən	to learn/ to each
tulən	to roll

ba-waazeg wən   to lose consciousness

ba-waazeg kanən   to make someone pass out (he's not sure if it makes any sense)

shtow shaghda gu   the table is clean

shtow ghaghdag i   The table became clean

Dwar bax ketta   The door closed.

Dwar baygom i/ish   The door opened.

Wi sh-i doxtər   He became a doctor

Azh sh-dən doxtər   I became a doctor

Sh-wən   doxtər   to become a doctor

Maasht ishən   to take revenge, but less severe than the next one

Tug ishən   to take revenge (tug is blood)

Azh ay baasha shton   I defeated him(?)

He says the passive is usually made with "sawən", which means "to go"

Azh shaghdag …

Shtow shaghdag-k(g?)ond arsəd.   The table was cleaned.

Don arkanən   to pour water

Mimbala arkanən   you(?) bring my friend

You can't say the water was poured.

Don kond arsədi.   It's the best try you can get for its passive but it actually means "water was made".

Azh **ghomul kotton** ma shivallat-ta aghdawjen.   I raised my children to be polite.

Ma shvellat-ta ghoməl gwand (from "kanən") arsedesh-ta aghdawjen.   My children were raised to be polite.

Azh a-xliu kotton ghadur-ta.   I spread the beans.

Ghadur-ta a-xaliu wushta.   The beans were spread (on their own)

Ghadur-ta xaliu-gwond arse-de shte. The beans were spread (by someone)

The "ar" in the beginning of the verb is making it imperfective(?)

Passives

Dix kanən   to divide

a-lig kanən   to cut

azh dix kanən jiri.   I am cutting the cake

jiri dix-kond arse-di.   The cake was cut.

Jiri dix-kond saw-e.   The cake is being cut.

Fe-rox kotton m'embal.   I forgot my friend.

Fe-rox kotton m'embal-e   I forgot my friend (like in a mall).

Azh na fe-rox kotton m'embal   negative.

M'embal rox-kond arse-di.   My friend was forgotten.

Adding "maney" at the end of the sentence works as "by me", but he says that it's probably not commonly used. Not with the cake sentence either apparently.

M'embal rox-wat ..

Axxwesh kanən.

Ba-sawen, ra-sawən   to enter, to exit

Wi men b'axxwesh kotta.

Azh axxwesh-kond arse-tan.   (passive, but this particular passive sounds awkward)

Ghode kanən   to memorize, to think (ghode means thought)

Usually comes as ba-ghode kanən

Resultatives
w-shetf shtol!   Wipe the table clean! (It doesn't have "clean" in it)

azh(?) shaaxer shton wat tax.   (paint the room blue)

azh fesey aaxer shton.   I almost painted.

Azh zabug-ey xoshton afsheynag

Azh net t'apen korton zagugey afgheynag.

afgheynag ne t'apan-i.   It became flat.

Mamma i(sh) kran dash.   I have a pen.

Mamma wut/wudi/wudish kran dash.

Ellipsis
Simin axor kottaa avzhag ta Rezaa ta na-axor kotta.

Simin is learning the languages, Reza is not.

"ta" is something like a topicalizer.

Simin axer kottaa avzhag-ta, Rezaa ta na.

He's suspicious about "na-kotta". He says you could use that, but he doesn't like it very much. He says it's not terrible. He says I know people say that.

Simin na axor kotta avzhag-ta, Rezaa taa (axor) kotta.

Simin wasn't learning the languages, Reza is. (and the ellipsis is apparently fine. In fact the elided version is even better than the long version)

Azh afshtaw raishton axsaw.   I borrowed money

Azh afshtaw raishton axsaw, simin ta na.

Azh afshtaw raishton axsaw, simin ta na raishta. ☺

Shamaashta dan.

Azh shamaashta dan, simian ta ne shi.   I became angry, but Simin didn't.

*Simin shaaxor kottaa avzhag, felaa alfavitta na kotta.   (NVE ellipsis when the object remainds is bad)

Intended, Simin learned the language, but not the alphabet.

Simin shdagh kotta shtow, felaa ruzeng ta na.

Simin cleaned the table, but not the window.

?Simin shdagh kotta shtow, felaa ruzeng ta ne shkotta.

"I would say people might say that, but I don't think it's grammatically ok" It's about the same level of awkwardness as the one with the alphabet. People will understand but it's not natural.

*Simin shaaxor kottaa avzhag, Adam ta alphabet.

Simin learned the langauges, Adam the alphabet.

Adam shaaxor kotta alfavit avi avzhag ta?

Did Adam learn the alphabet or the languages?

More normal: s-shaaxor kotta Adam alfavit avi avzhag?

Separability

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