

nɪ busɛ́du dɜ́ júchuu
Concerning the Body of a Bisedi
(Ebisedian anatomical terms)

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1 Introduction

This document enumerates the anatomical terms used in Ebisédian to refer to parts of the body. Most anatomical terms in Ebisedian are inflected for gender, as appropriate to the person being described. The epicene is used when referring to a part of the body in general, without reference to either gender.

For conciseness, we employ the following abbreviations:

masc. masculine
fem. feminine
epi. epicene

2 The Body

The body of the Ebisedi is called the **júchuu**. The male body is **cúchuu**; the female body is **juchuú**.

2.1 Main Parts

The body is divided into 3 main parts:

1. The top part of the body, from the head to the shoulders, is termed the **kájum**, *masc.* **kájum**; *fem.* **kacím**.
2. The torso, excluding the arms and shoulders, is **chújum**. *Masc.* **chújum**; *fem.* **chucím**.
3. The limbs (arms and legs) are collectively referred to as **síjum**; *masc.* **síjum**; *fem.* **sicím**. Note that **síjum** is a *collective singular* that refers to all the limbs on the body. Individual limbs have their own names.

2.2 Left and Right

Body parts that come in pairs, such as the eyes, eyebrows, arms, and legs, can be individually named by suffixing **cu-** for the left member, or **ro-** for the right member. For example, the arm is **bují**, so the left arm is **cubují** and the right arm is **robují**.

3 The Head and Shoulders

The **kájum**, head and shoulders, include the head, the neck, and the shoulders. The *masc.* is **kájum**; *fem.* is **kacím**.

3.1 The Head

The head is **kají**; masc. **káju**; fem. **kací**.¹ The head is subdivided into the face, the scalp, and the back.

The scalp, **gøkají**, masc. **gókaju**, fem. **gøkací**, covers the top $\frac{1}{3}$ of the head, including the forehead, but not including the eyes and eyebrows.

The face, **charím**, masc. **kárum**, fem. **damím**, covers the front half of the remaining portion of the head, up to and including the ears. Note that all three genders have different root words.²

The back of the head is **khékají**, masc. **khékaju**, fem. **khekací**, and covers the back of the head below the **gøkají**, behind the ears.

3.1.1 The Scalp

The forehead is **graját**; masc. **krájau**, fem. **gracái**. The upper back of the head is **maját**; masc. **májau**; fem. **macái**.

3.1.2 Hair

Hair on the head is collectively **sáí**; masc. **píszi**; fem. **bisí**.³ Note that **píszi** refers to short hair in general, and may be applied to both males and females; similarly, **bisí** refers to long hair in general.

A single strand of hair is **sí**. Note that this is a neuter noun, unlike the other anatomical terms.

3.1.3 The Face

The face consists of:

1. The upper part of the face, including the eyes and eyebrows: **fatuí**, masc. **fátu**, fem. **fatúí**.
 - (a) The eyes are **zójí**; masc. **zóju**; fem. **zocí**. This noun may be used either singularly to refer to one eye, or collectively to refer to both eyes. The left eye is **cuzojí**; masc. **cuzóju**, fem. **cuzocí**. The right eye is **rozójí**; masc. **rozóju**, fem. **rozocí**.
 - (b) The eyebrows are **charzží**; masc. **chárzzi**; fem. **charzžoí**. Note the derivation from **chárt**, “expressiveness”—the eyebrows are regarded as an added dimension of expressiveness to the eyes. The left eyebrow is **cucharzží**; masc. **cuchárzzi**, fem. **cucharzžoí**. The right eyebrow is **rocharzží**; masc. **rochárzzi**, fem. **rocharzžoí**.

¹Note that **kací** has a *long* \bar{a} . It can be rather offensive to refer to a woman’s head as **kací** (with a short \bar{a}), which refers to a small plant with red flowers.

²The fem. of **charím** used to be **karím**, but it has been displaced by **damím**, which derives from **damúl**, “pretty”.

³Note that epl., **sáí**, is inflected like a 2nd declension noun; whereas the masc. and fem. forms are inflected as 1st declension nouns.

2. The nose, **ngısı́**, masc. **gı́sı**, fem. **ngısuı́**.
3. The cheeks, **jumım**, masc. **cúmum**, fem. **jubım**. The left cheek is referred to as **cujumım**; masc. **cucúmum**, fem. **cujubım**. The right cheek is **rojumım**; masc. **rocúmum**, fem. **rojubım**.
4. The mouth, lips, and chin, **tágrım**, masc. **tágrım**, fem. **takrım**.
 - (a) The area between the upper lip and the nose, is **sbruı́**; masc. **sıbrıu**; fem. **sıprıuı́**. The moustache is **brıszı́**, and only occurs as a masc. noun.
 - (b) The mouth is **tagrıı́**; masc. **tágrıu**, fem. **takrıı́**. Note that this word refers to the opening of the mouth, not to the lips.
 - (c) The lower lip and chin is **krıbrıuı́**; masc. **krıbrıu**; fem. **mıprıuı́**. The beard is **krıı́**, and only occurs as a masc. noun.
 - (d) The lips themselves (the pink part), is **jubrıuı́**, masc. **cıbrıu**, fem. **jıprıuı́**.
 - (e) The chin, **butágrı**, masc. **bıtágrı**, fem. **butakrı́**.
5. The ears, **kutámı**, masc. **kıtámı**, fem. **kutamı́**. Note that this noun may be used both collectively and singularly; thus, **kutámı** could refer to one ear, and also to *both*. A specific number may be used to disambiguate between them: **kutámokeı**, “one ear”; **ıkutámıojeı**, “two ears” (i. e., both ears).⁴ One may also refer specifically to the left ear: **cukutámı**, masc. **cukıtámı**, fem. **cukutamı́**; or to the right ear: **rokutámı**, masc. **rokıtámı**, fem. **rokutamı́**.

3.2 The Neck

The neck is **nusı́**; masc. **nısı**; fem. **nısuı́**.

3.3 The Shoulders

The shoulders are collectively **bughaı́**; masc. **púghaı**; fem. **bukhaı́**. The left shoulder is **cubughaı́**, masc. **cupúghaı**, fem. **cubukhaı́**; the right shoulder is **robughaı́**, masc. **ropúghaı**, fem. **robukhaı́**;

4 The Torso

The **chújım**, torso, is also divided into 3 parts, as described below. Note that the shoulders are *not* regarded as part of the **chújım**.

⁴Note that this is not the typical behaviour of collective nouns; plurals of ordinary collective nouns usually refer to multiple *sets* of the referent, not to multiple individual referents.

4.1 The chest

The part between the shoulders and belly is called the **ĥanuú**; masc. **ĥánuu**; fem. **ĥaduú**. This includes the chest and the corresponding back portion of the torso. This roughly corresponds with the thorax, but excluding the shoulders.

A man's chest (not including the back) is **tájĭ** (masc. only).

A woman's breasts are **jujuú**. This singular term is used collectively, though sometimes the plural **ǰujuú** is also used. Note that this is a *neuter* noun unlike most of the other terms. It is also a colloquial word for breast milk. The left breast is **cujujuú**; the right breast is **rojujuú**.

4.2 The belly

The belly and waist, including the upper hips and the small of the back, is called the **junuú**; masc. **cúnuu**; fem. **juduú**.

A woman's belly is **gumír**, which also refers to the womb. This word is usually only used to refer to a pregnant woman's belly, and is never used on a man.

4.3 The hips

The lower hips, including the groin, is called **funuú**; masc. **fúnuu**; fem. **fuduú**. Sometimes, this word is used as euphemism for the genitals.

In common parlance, **vujǰá** is used for a woman's hips, which carries connotations of being curvaceous.

In medical terminology, the epicene word **jǰā** is used to refer to the pelvis or pelvic area of the torso. However, this word is not used in casual conversations.

5 Limbs

There are two kinds of limbs:

1. The arm, **bĭjĭ**; masc. **bĭju**; fem. **bĭcí**. The left arm is **cubĭjĭ**, masc. **cubĭju**, fem. **cubĭcí**. The right arm is **robĭjĭ**, masc. **robĭju**, fem. **robĭcí**.
2. The leg, **rǰjĭ**; masc. **rǰju**; fem. **rǰcí**. The left leg is **curǰjĭ**, masc. **curǰju**, fem. **curǰcí**. The right leg is **rorǰjĭ**, masc. **rorǰju**, fem. **rorǰcí**.

In anthropoid creatures with tails, the tail is regarded as part of the **sjĭm** (limbs), and is referred to as **lĭju**; masc. **lĭju**; fem. **lĭcí**.

5.1 The Arms

Each arm can be further subdivided into the 3 parts.

The upper arm is the **kǰtájĭ**; masc. **kǰtájĭ**; fem. **kǰtácĭ**. Note the derivation from **kǰtáí**, “strength”—the upper arm is regarded as the ‘strong’ part of the arm.

The forearm is the **juṭáju**; masc. **juṭaju**; fem. **juṭací**. Note the derivation from **juṭáú**, “support”—whereas the upper arm is the ‘strength’, the forearm is the ‘support’.

The hand is the **tagít**; masc. **ṭágut**; fem. **takít**. The hand encompasses the 5 fingers, the palm and the wrist.

5.1.1 The Forearm

The elbow is considered part of the forearm, whilst the wrist is considered part of the hand.

The elbow is **zɓbují**; masc. **sɓbju**; fem. **zɓbucí**—the ‘arm-joint’.

5.1.2 The Hand

The hand consist of the 5 fingers, the palm, and the wrist.

The finger is **tagí**; masc. **ṭágu**; fem. **takí**. Note the direct derivation from **ṭágut**. Historically, ‘hand’ and ‘fingers’ were referred to with the same word. Note that **tagí** refers to an individual finger; there are 5 fingers on the hand, hence **ɓtagoṗeí tagít** “5 fingers in a hand”.

The palm is the **hɓrotágut**; masc. **hɓrotagut**; fem. **hɓrotakít**. The **hɓro**-prefix indicates “holding”, that which holds what is grasped. The **ɓtagí** grasp, but it is the **hɓrotágut** against which the thing is held.

The wrist is the **ganotágut**; masc. **gánotagut**; fem. **ganotakít**. The **gano**-prefix indicates “maneuvering”—the wrist is that which gives maneuvering flexibility to the hand.

5.1.3 Fingers and thumbs

The Ebisedi regard fingers and thumbs as the same. Hence, fingers are numbered starting from the *thumb* as the ‘first’ finger. There are also special names for each finger, as follows:

1. Thumb: **ḱoṭagí**; masc. **ḱoṭagu**; fem. **ḱoṭakí**. “Grand finger”. An alternative name is **keotagí**, “first finger”.⁵
2. Index finger: **gṭagí**; masc. **gṭagu**; **gṭakí**. The prefix **gṭ-** is a contraction of **gano**; hence, it is the “manipulating finger”. Also called **jeotagí**, “second finger”.
3. Middle finger: **britagí**; masc. **brítagu**; **brítakí**. The prefix **bru-** indicates length; this is the “long finger”. Also called **reotagí**, “third finger”.
4. Ring finger: **píputagí**; masc. **píputagu**; **píputakí**. The prefix **pípu-** is from the noun **pípí**, “neglect”, “sadness”. Hence, “neglected finger”. Also called **deotagí**, “fourth finger”.

⁵Note that the Ebisedian numbering of fingers start with the *thumb* as the ‘first’ finger; one should take care not to confuse this with the English numbering of fingers.

5. Little finger: **mivitagí**; masc. **mívitagv**; **mivitakí**. “Small finger”. Sometimes also affectionately called **mutagí**, “dear finger”. Also called **peotagí**, “fifth finger”.

5.2 The Legs

Each leg is subdivided into the thigh, the lower leg, and the foot.

The thigh is the **l3tájv**; masc. **l3tájv**; fem. **l3tací**. It is the thigh which gives the strength to move.

The lower leg is the **jútar3ju**; masc. **jútar3ju**; fem. **jútar3cí**. The lower leg is regarded as the support of the entire body.

The foot is the **r3gít**; masc. **r3gít**; fem. **r3kít**.

5.2.1 The knee

The knee is **z3r3jít**, masc. **s3r3ju**, fem. **z3r3cí**; “leg-joint”. This is a technical term for the knee; the common term is **pujít**, masc. **púju**, fem. **pucí**. This word is derived from the verb **póje**, to strike with the knee.

5.2.2 The foot

The foot consists of the toes, the middle part of the foot, and the heel.

The toe is the **r3gít**; masc. **r3gít**; fem. **r3kít**.

The middle part of the foot is the **sar3gít**; masc. **sár3gv**; fem. **sar3kí**. The **sa-** prefix indicates “balance”; the middle part of the foot is regarded as that which gives balance to the foot, and indirectly, to the whole body.

The heel is the **ngar3gít**; masc. **ngár3gv**; fem. **ngar3kí**. The **nga-** prefix, which indicates enmity, comes from an archaic practice of crushing a defeated foe with one’s heel as a symbol of humiliation.

5.2.3 The toes

The 5 toes are named as follows:

1. Big toe: **k3r3gít**; masc. **k3r3gv**, fem. **k3r3kí**. “Grand toe”. Also known as **keor3gít**, “first toe”.
2. **brur3gít**; masc. **brúr3gv**; fem. **brur3kí**. “Long toe”. Also known as **jeor3gít**, “second toe”. Note that the “long toe” is the *second* toe, whereas the “long finger” is the *third* finger (by Ebisedian reckoning).
3. **reor3gít**; masc. **reor3gv**; fem. **reor3kí**. “Third toe”. There is no special name for this toe.
4. **deor3gít**; masc. **deor3gv**; fem. **deor3kí**. “Fourth toe”. There is no special name for this toe.
5. The little toe: **mivur3gít**; masc. **mívur3gv**; **mivur3kí**. “Small toe”. Alternatively, **mír3gít**, “dear toe”. Also known as **peor3gít**, “fifth toe”.