

nɪ bʊsɔ́du dɜ́ júχhu
Concerning the Body of a Bisedi
(Ebisedian anatomical terms)

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1 Introduction

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.

2 The Body

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

The body is divided into 3 parts:

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

3 The Head and Shoulders

The **kájum**, head and shoulders, include the head, the neck, and the shoulders.

The head is **kajú**; masculine **káju**; feminine **kací**.¹ The neck is **nusú**; masculine **nusú**; feminine **nusuú**. The shoulders are collectively **bughaú**; masculine **púghaú**; feminine **bukhaú**.

3.1 The Head

The head is subdivided into the face, the scalp, and the back.

The scalp, **gøkajú**, masculine **gøkaju**, feminine **gøkací**, covers the top 1/3 of the head, including the forehead, but not including the eyes and eyebrows.

The face, **charúm**, masculine **kárum**, feminine **damúm**, covers the front half of the remaining portion of the head, up to and including the ears. Note that all three genders have different roots.²

The back of the head is **khékajú**, masculine **khékaju**, feminine **khékací**, and covers the back of the head below the **gøkajú**, behind the ears.

3.1.1 The Scalp

The forehead is **grajaú**; masculine **krájau**, feminine **gracaú**. The upper back of the head is **majaú**; masculine **májau**; feminine **macaú**.

¹Note that **kací** has a *long ī*. It can be rather offensive to refer to a woman's head as **kací**, which refers to a small plant with red flowers.

²The feminine of **charúm** used to be **karúm**, but it has been displaced by **damúm**, which derives from **damúl**, “pretty”.

3.1.2 Hair

Hair on the head is collectively **sǎi**; masculine **píszi**; feminine **biszi**.³ Note that **píszi** refers to short hair in general, and may be applied to both males and females; similarly, **biszi** refers to long hair in general.

A single strand of hair is **sú**. 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**, masculine **fátuu**, feminine **fatúú**.
 - (a) The eyes are **zojí**; masculine **zójú**; feminine **zocí**. This noun may be used either singularly to refer to one eye, or collectively to refer to both eyes.
 - (b) The eyebrows are **charzú**; masculine **chárzú**; feminine **charzoi**. Note the derivation from **chárú**, “expressiveness”—the eyebrows are regarded as an added dimension of expressiveness to the eyes.
2. The nose, **ngsí**, masculine **gíst**, feminine **ngsú**.
3. The cheeks, **jumím**, masculine **cúmum**, feminine **jubím**.
4. The mouth, lips, and chin, **tágrum**, masculine **tágrum**, feminine **takrím**.
 - (a) The area between the upper lip and the nose, is **síbruú**; masculine **síbruu**; feminine **sípruú**. The moustache is **bruszi**, and only occurs as a masculine noun.
 - (b) The mouth is **tagruú**, masculine **tágruu**, feminine **takruú**. Note that this word refers to the opening of the mouth, not to the lips.
 - (c) The lower lip and chin is **kríbruú**; masculine **kríbruu**; feminine **mípruú**. The beard is **krúú**, and only occurs as a masculine noun.
 - (d) The lips themselves (the pink part), is **jubruú**, masculine **cúbruu**, feminine **jupruú**.
 - (e) The chin, **butágrú**, masculine **bútagru**, feminine **butakrú**.
5. The ears, **kutámu**, masculine **kútamu**, feminine **kutamí**. Note that this noun may be used both collectively and singularly; thus, **kutámu** could refer to one ear, and also to *both*. A specific number may be used to disambiguate between them: **kutámokei**, “one ear”; **skutámojei**, “two ears” (i. e., both ears).⁴

³Note that epicene, **sǎi**, is inflected like a 2nd declension noun; whereas the masculine and feminine forms are inflected as 1st declension nouns.

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 The Torso

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

1. The part between the shoulders and belly is called the **tanuí**; masculine **ťánuu**; feminine **ťaduí**. This includes the chest and the corresponding back portion of the torso. This roughly corresponds with the thorax, but excluding the shoulders.
2. The belly and waist, including the upper hips, is called the **junuí**; masculine **cúnuu**; feminine **juduí**.
3. The lower hips, including the groin, is called **funuí**; masculine **fúnuu**; feminine **fuduí**. Sometimes, this word is used as euphemism for the genitals.

4.1 The chest

The breasts are **jujuí**. Note that this is a *neuter* noun unlike most of the other terms. It usually refers to a woman's breasts, and is colloquial word for breast milk.

4.2 The belly

...

4.3 The hips

In common parlance, there is only a word for the female hips, **vujáí**, which carries connotations of being curvaceous. Males are regarded to be 'hipless' in this respect.

5 Limbs

There are two kinds of limbs:

1. The arm, **bjí**; masculine **bíju**; feminine **bicí**.
2. The leg, **rjí**; masculine **rjú**; feminine **rćí**.

(In anthropoid creatures with tails, the tail is regarded as part of the **sjúm**, and is referred to as **lju**; masculine **lǰu**; feminine **lćí**.)

5.1 The Arm

The arm can be further subdivided into the 3 parts.

The upper arm is the **kʷtájju**; masculine **kʷtájju**; feminine **kʷtací**. Note the derivation from **kʷtái**, “strength”—the upper arm is regarded as the ‘strong’ part of the arm.

The forearm is the **juťájju**; masculine **juťájju**; feminine **juťací**. Note the derivation from **juťái**, “support”—whereas the upper arm is the ‘strength’, the forearm is the ‘support’.

The hand is the **tagít**; masculine **ťágut**; feminine **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 **zsbujj**; masculine **sʷbjju**; feminine **zsbicí**—the ‘arm-joint’.

5.1.2 The Hand

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

The finger is **tagí**; masculine **ťágut**; feminine **takí**. Note the direct derivation from **ťágut**. 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 **ʷtagoŋeí tagít** “5 fingers in a hand”.

The palm is the **hʷrotágut**; masculine **hʷrotagut**; feminine **hʷrotakít**. The **hʷro-** prefix indicates “holding”, that which holds what is grasped. The **ʷtagí** grasp, but it is the **hʷrotágut** against which the thing is held.

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

5.1.3 Fingers, thumbs, and toes

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: **ʷkʷtagí**; masculine **ʷkʷtagu**; feminine **ʷkʷtakí**. “Grand finger”. An alternative name is **keotagí**, “first finger”.⁵
2. Index finger: **gʷtagí**; masculine **gʷtagu**; **gʷtakí**. The prefix **ga-** is a contraction of **gano**; hence, it is the “manipulating finger”. Also called **jeotagí**, “second 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.

3. Middle finger: **brítagi**; masculine **brítagi**; **brítakí**. The prefix **br-** indicates length; this is the “long finger”. Also called **reotagi**, “third finger”.
4. Ring finger: **píputagi**; masculine **píputagi**; **píputakí**. The prefix **pípu-** is from the noun **pípi**, “neglect”, “sadness”. Hence, “neglected finger”. Also called **deotagi**, “fourth finger”.
5. Little finger: **mívutagi**; masculine **mívutagi**; **mívutakí**. “Small finger”. Sometimes also affectionately called **mitagi**, “dear finger”. Also called **þeotagi**, “fifth finger”.

The 5 toes are named as follows:

1. Big toe: **ķørzgi**; masculine **ķørzgi**; feminine **ķørzki**. “Grand toe”. Also known as **keorzgi**, “first toe”.
2. **brurzgi**; masculine **brurzgi**; feminine **brurzki**. “Long toe”. Also known as **jeorzgi**, “second toe”. Note that the “long toe” is the *second* toe, whereas the “long finger” is the *third* finger (by Ebisedian reckoning).
3. **reorzgi**; masculine **reorzgi**; feminine **reorzki**. “Third toe”. There is no special name for this toe.
4. **deorzgi**; masculine **deorzgi**; feminine **deorzki**. “Fourth toe”. There is no special name for this toe.
5. The little toe: **mívrzgi**; masculine **mívrzgi**; **mívrzki**. “Small toe”. Alternatively, **mírzgi**, “dear toe”. Also known as **þeorzgi**, “fifth toe”.

5.2 The Leg

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

The thigh is the **lŕtaju**; masculine **lŕtaju**; feminine **lŕtací**. It is the thigh which gives the strength to move.

The lower leg is the **juŕarzu**; masculine **juŕarzu**; feminine **juŕarzcí**. The lower leg is regarded as the support of the entire body.

The foot is the **rzgít**; masculine **rzgít**; feminine **rzkít**.

5.2.1 The knee

The knee is **zrzjú**, masculine **sŕrzju**, feminine **zrzzcí**; “leg-joint”. This is a technical term for the knee; the common term is **þuju**, masculine **þúju**, feminine **þucí**. This word is derived from the verb **þóje**, 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 **r3gí**; masculine **r3gu**; feminine **r3kí**.

The middle part of the foot is the **sar3gí**; masculine **sár3gu**; feminine **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 **ngar3gí**; masculine **ngár3gu**; feminine **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.