

## Possessive Prefixes

	<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
First Person	<i>nani-káfi</i> "my coffee"	<i>nanu-káfi</i> "our coffee "
Second Person	<i>mi-káfi</i> "your (singular) coffee "	<i>mikun-káfi</i> "your (plural) coffee "
Third Person	<i>mu-káfi</i> "his or her coffee "	<i>mukun-káfi</i> "their coffee "

To say "Sonny's coffee", you say *Sonny mu-káfi*. Here are some additional examples:

- (1) (a) *Vina mu-ífunih* "Vina's hair" (Sonny Davis, SD-VS-01)
- (b) *Kayla mu-têenva* "Kayla's earrings" (Vina Smith, VS-25)
- (c) *pihnêefich mu-hrôoha* "coyote's wife" (Julia Starritt, WB\_KL-16)
- (d) *pa-nani-ávan mu-krívraam* "my husband's house" (Julia Starritt, WB\_KL-16)
- (e) *pa-mú-taat mú-psiih* "his mother's leg" (or *mu-ápsiih*) (Julia Starritt, WB\_KL-32)

In examples like these, the POSSESSED NOUN ("hair", "earrings", etc.) never has *pa-* "the". A contrasting pair of examples with and without *pa-* is in (3) below.

## Using Possessive Prefixes with *pa-* "the"

	<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
First Person	<i>pa-naní-taat</i> "my mother"	<i>pa-nanú-taat</i> "our mother"
Second Person	<i>pa-mí-taat</i> "your (singular) mother"	<i>pa-mikún-taat</i> "your (plural) mother"
Third Person	<i>pa-mú-taat</i> "his or her mother"	<i>pa-mukún-taat</i> "their mother"

In Karuk, unlike English, it is very common to say "the my X". You can use *pa-* when the existence of X is already known or can be assumed (for example, body parts and family). Examples are in (2) on page 2.

- (2) Examples of possessive prefixes with *pa-* (this is normal)
- (a) *aav pa-mi-'ávaha.*  
Eat your food. (Lucille Albers, LA-03)
- (b) *pa-mú-taat iinâak ú-hyiv.*  
His mother shouted inside. (Lottie Beck, WB\_KL-61)
- (c) *pa-mu-krívraam u-'íipma.*  
He went back to his house. (Daisy Jones, WB\_KL-60)
- (d) *hóoy uum pa-mu-'áhup?*  
Where's his stick? (Vina Smith, VS-08)
- (3) No *pa-* with an expressed possessor ("**Vina's** hair") vs. *pa-* otherwise ("**her** hair")
- (a) *Vina mu-'ifuni uum taahkúnish.*  
Vina's hair is white. (Sonny Davis, SD-VS-01)
- (b) *taahkúnish pa-mu-'ífunih.*  
Her hair is white. (Sonny Davis, SD-VS-01)
- (4) But *pa-* is often omitted in expressing a meaning like "I am an X of yours, he is an X of mine, I am your X". (Linguists use the term "predicational" for the meaning here.)
- (a) *vúra uum mú-fyiiv.*  
She was her friend. (Mamie Offield, WB\_KL-58)
- (b) *vaa mu-'ákah.*  
It's his father. (Vina Smith, VS-01)
- (c) *vaa mú-xuun.*  
That's his acorn soup. (Vina Smith, VS-29)
- (d) *mi-yukúku uum vaa.*  
Those are your shoes. (Vina Smith, VS-25)

## "Lots" and Numerals

To say "I have lots of X" or "I have two/three/four/... X", you usually use *pa-nani-*, but plain *nani-* is sometimes used.

- (5) Examples of *táay* WITH *pa-* (this pattern is more common)
- (a) *táay pa-nani-púsihich.*  
I have lots of cats. (Sonny Davis, SD-VS-01)
- (b) *xás táay pa-mukun-túnviiv.*  
And they had many children. (Mamie Offield, WB\_KL-24)
- (c) *táay pa-mu-chíshiih káru.*  
He had a lot of dogs too. (Vina Smith, VS-22)
- (d) *vúra uum táay pa-nani-'áhup.*  
I had a lot of wood. (Charlie Thom, CT-02)

- (6) Examples of a number word WITH *pa-* (this pattern is more common)
- (a) ***áxak pa-mu-píxuumvar.***  
She has two socks. (Vina Smith, VS-25)
- (b) ***kuyráak pa-mu-'ápsiih.***  
It has three legs. (Vina Smith, VS-34a)
- (c) ***itahanatápasich pa-mukún-paah.***  
They had a whole lot of boats. (Nettie Ruben, WB\_KL-57)
- (7) Example WITHOUT *pa-* (this pattern is less common)
- (a) ***táay vúra mú-'uup.***  
She has lots of stuff. (Vina Smith, VS-27)

## "None"

To say "I don't have X", you can use *pa-nani-* or just *nani-*, with a subtle meaning difference.

- (8) Examples of *púfaat* WITHOUT *pa-*, a common pattern, means "don't have (any) X"
- (a) ***púfaat naní-paah.***  
I don't have a boat. (Julia Starritt, WB\_KL-32)
- (b) ***akráa púfaat mu-'ípih.***  
Eel has no bones. (Mamie Offield, WB\_KL-37)
- (c) ***púfaat mi-káfih.***  
"You haven't had your coffee. (Vina Smith, VS-32)
- (d) ***púfaat naní-shpuk.***  
"I don't have any money. (Vina Smith, VS-29)
- (9) Example of *púfaat* WITH *pa-*, usually means "it's all gone" or "no longer have the X" (with an assumption that X used to exist or you used to have X) and can occur with a word like *tá* or *payêem* to highlight the change (you used to have X, but not now).
- (a) ***púfaat vúra tá pa-mú-'uup.***  
[after gambling:] He didn't have any possessions. (Fritz Hansen, JPH\_KT-06)
- (b) ***tá púfaat pa-mú-thriha.***  
Its flowers are all gone. (Phoebe Maddux, JPH\_TKIC-III.5.A.j.a1')
- (c) ***pa-mú-'iish uum tá púfaat.***  
[a drowned body:] His flesh was gone. (Nettie Ruben, WB\_KL-59)
- (d) ***pa-púsihich uum púfaat pa-mu-'ífuni payêem.***  
The cat doesn't have any hair now (= the cat lost its hair). (Vina Smith, VS-32)