“DUPLICATION NEGATION SEMANTICS (DNS)” in Krôbò/Dãngme-Gã Mother Tongue where one plus one is not equal to two, but zero is a term I coined 8 years ago for a phenomenon that had not been described before in Linguistics textbooks. I elaborated this extraordinary principle in The 2010 EPHRAIM AMU MEMORIAL LECTURE I gave at the British Council, Accra, Ghana entitled “Discoveries and New Insights in Tonal Linguistics Facilitate Reading of Mother Tongue: Introducing the Ephraim Amu Principle”.

Noko is something, but nokonoko is nothing in Krôbò/Dãngme-Gã

Noko in Krôbò/Dãngme is somebody, but nokonoko is nobody

Moko in Gã is somebody, but mokomoko is nobody

Gbiko in Gã is one day, but gbikogbiko is never

Dugbloko in Krôbò/Dãngme is one day, but dugblokodugbloko is never

One glosso-palatal click lk means ‘yes’, 2 clicks lk lk mean ‘no’ in my Krôbò/Dãngme tribe

Similarly one ‘ngk’ means ‘yes’, but ‘ngk ngk’ is no.

Study http://bit.ly/bEdcc4 to see colouring for pitch values (red for high pitch, blue for low pitch, and green for Mid pitch)

I am keen to find out how many African tribes (or Ethnic Groups) display this Duplication Negation Semantics. Please email me konotey-ahulu@sicklecell.md with the information. The African sometimes forgot (as I once said in the British Medical Journal 8 February 1975, page 329 in an article entitled Tafracher) that “some expressions in his mother tongue were quite without aesthetic parallel in any other language of mortals”.

Professor Felix Konotey-Ahulu
felix@konoty-ahulu.com www.konotey-ahulu.com