

Kaydka Af Soomaaliga *Somali Corpus*

Hagaha Adeegsiga
User manual

Jama Musse Jama
2016

Ku dhawaad 3 milyan oo erey oo suntan ● 1100 dhigane oo baadhan ● 52 kun oo erey saleed ● Ku dhawaad 6 milion oo erey farcame ● 10 kun oo turjumaadood

Almost 3 million words tagged ● 1100 documents parsed and indexed ● Over 52000 head words ● Almost 6 million inflected forms generated ● Over 10 thousand translation in four languages



RCF Somali Corpus – User Manual

Ver. 1.0 – June 2016

www.somalicorpus.com

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1. Introduction

This User Manual aims to introduce different functionalities of the Redsea Cultural Foundation Somali Corpus management platform and to allow linguists, researchers and other potential users of the corpus to access it easily, search and retrieve data from both the corpus and its auxiliary tables (dictionary, synonyms, etc.).

The RCF Somali Corpus incorporates a “Word Behaviour” (WB) page, a seminal work of corpus-based analysis of a word in Somali discourse. It is based on a powerful querying tool to access the grammatically tagged Somali Corpus to summarize the syntactic context of the searched word; for instance, to show the relationship that the searched word has with other words, which words are mostly associated with the searched word; the frequency of the searched word within specific sub-corpora; the etymology; synonyms and antonyms; spelling variants of the searched word; and finally the definitions from a list of reference dictionaries as well as translations to English, Italian, French and Swedish languages.

This document covers the following major sections:

1. Access to the system, basic search and data retrieval;
2. Major components of the WB view page: definitions, synonyms, etymology, concordance, translations, grammatical behaviour of the word in pre-defined structures and collocations;
3. *SomIsearch* - an intelligent search engine, incorporated in the WB. It can search for words in all their inflected forms. It can also search through translations in English, French, Italian and Swedish, or through synonyms in Somali: for instance, one can search the word *gobannimo*, which means ‘freedom’, and the engine will also search for *xornimo*, which means ‘independence’, a near synonym of *gobannimo*. Finally *SomIsearch* develops an Advanced Query Language for the RCF Somali Corpus (see chapter 5 for more details).
4. Exporting data and printing.

This document is written in English as an integral part to the work Jama Musse Jama, “A Syntactically Annotated Corpus of Somali Literature”, 2016 that was initially written in English.

2. Access to the system, basic search and data retrieval

Access

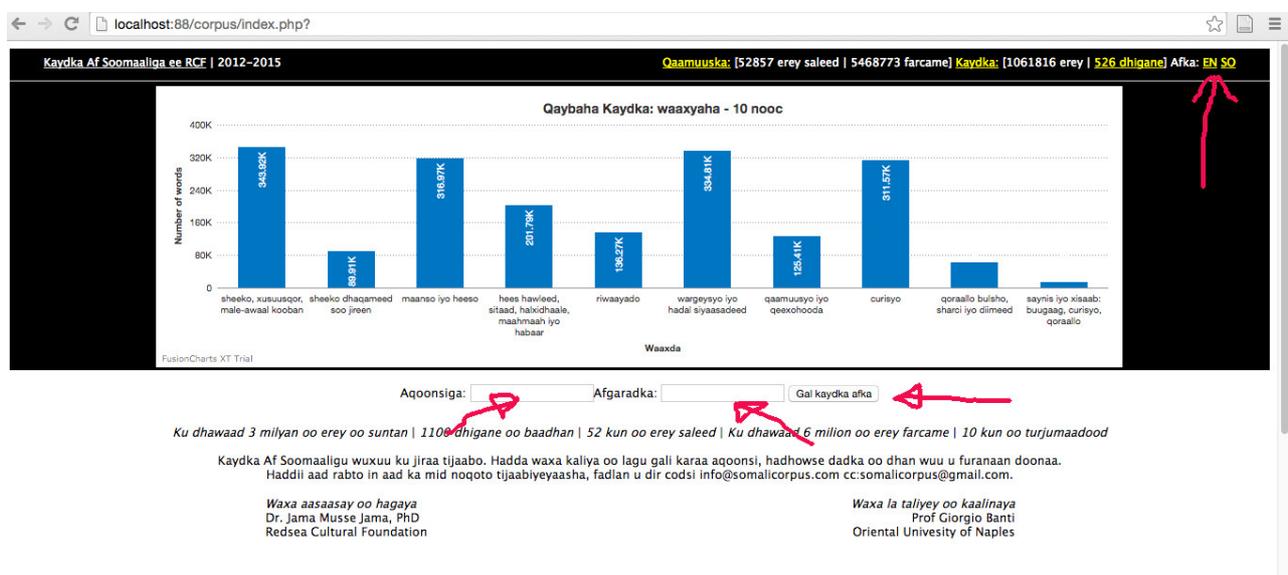
RCF Somali Corpus is a web-based online platform and it needs a valid user id and password in order to access it and to research data. The system administrator, who defines also a specific role for each approved user, provides the user id and the password upon request. If you do not yet have a valid user id and password, please write to info@somalicorpus.com and cc to somalicorpus@gmail.com.

Whether you are connected or not, the system shows you on the top bar of the page some statistics: number of headwords in the dictionary, number of inflected forms automatically generated by the system, number of words tagged in the corpus and number of documents indexed. If you are not connected, at the end of the top bar, you have language options (Somali, English). When you are connected, at the end of the top bar, you see your name, role and the possibility to logout, as shown below.

Qaamuuska: [52857 erey saleed | 5468773 farcame] **Kaydka:** [1061816 erey | 526 dhigane] [Logout: [Jamamusse/Administrator](#)]

Login

Once you have obtained a user id and password, you can connect to the system as indicated in the first page (see the image below). Put your id in the “Aqoonsiga” (login) field and your password in the “Afgaradka” (password) field, then click on the “Gal kaydka” (enter the corpus) button for authentication. This opening page is the only part of the platform available bilingually (Somali and English), the rest of the user interface and its functionalities, when connected, is presented only in Somali.



Browse

Statistics given by the system include the distribution of the dictionary in Parts of Speech; distribution of the corpus in eras; and distribution of the corpus in sub corpora. All these distributions are seen in the form of graphs. Links to *Qaamuuska* (Dictionary), *Kaydka* (Corpus) and *Dhigane* (Documents) are in the top bar. When you click on “*Dhigane* (Documents)”, in particular, you can browse the corpus by author: a list of authors is shown ordered by number of words in the contribution to the corpus by that author. When an author’s name is clicked, then you see the list of titles written by that author, and each link will take you to the analysis of the single document within the corpus: for instance frequency of used words, list of successfully tagged words, list of unrecognized words or spelling errors found in the document, etc.

Search

When you log into the system, you will see the distribution of the dictionary in Parts of Speech. You can perform three types of simple search and the Advanced Query Language search type: First, to search a root word, choose “*Qaamuuska*” (dictionary) at the search drop-down and insert characters in the field “search”. The system will perform a word prediction process while you are typing and, as long as a match is found in headwords, the word prediction system will guide you to the right spelling. You can also put here an inflected form of the word you are looking for, and again, as long as what you are typing matches to a headword in the dictionary, the system will retrieve it and show the headword definition.



The second type of simple search is on the corpus. Choose “*Kaydka*” (corpus) in the search drop-down, and insert the word. The system will not perform a prediction and will search the inserted word in the corpus and not in the dictionary of headwords.

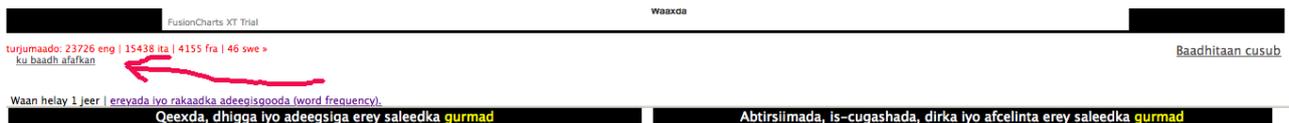
caashaqaygii

Kaydka

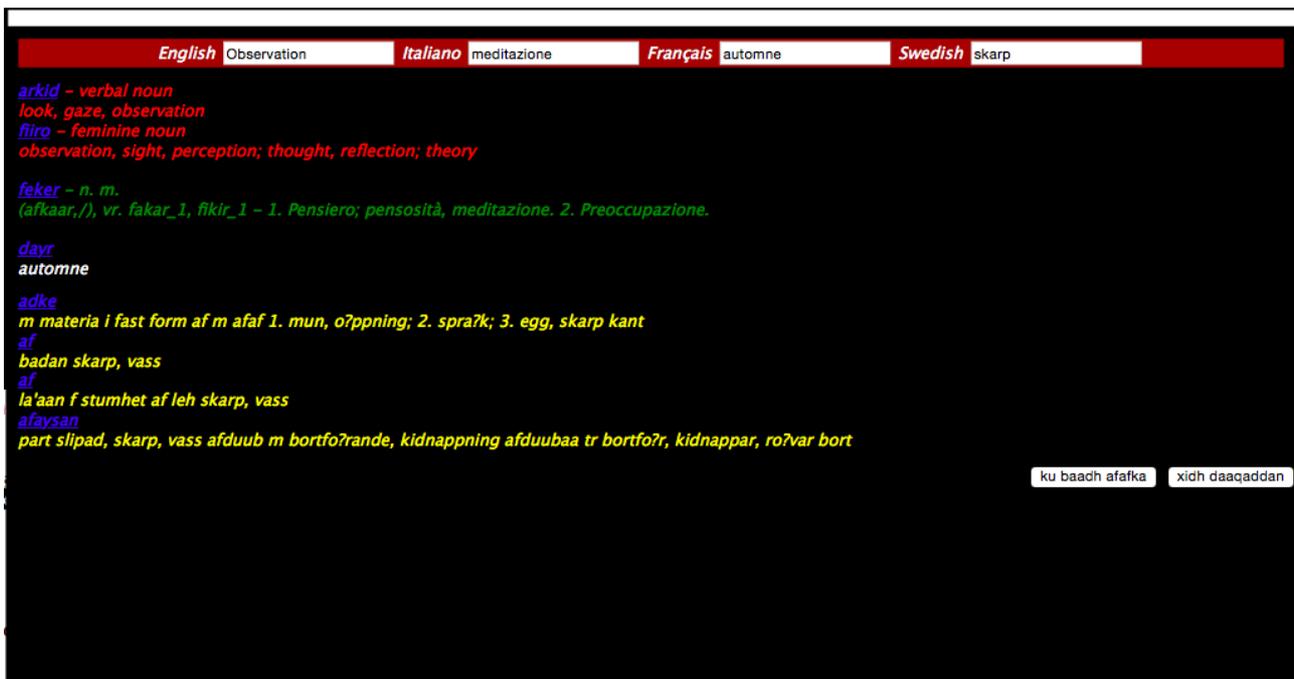
ka baadh qaamuuska

If you are not using the Advanced Query Language (AQL) (see chapter 3), the query system expects one single word search (it can be a headword or its inflected form). Make sure not to have space in the text even if you are looking for a compound word. Similarly the use of wildcards and special characters are not to be used, these are only available within AQL (see chapter 3).

The third type of simple search function is through its translations in different languages (at present English, Italian, French and Swedish are available for some words). To perform this search, follow the link “*ku baadh afafkan*” at the left side of the screen. It will open a new popup window.



Insert one or all your English, Italian, France and Swedish words in the corresponding fields and click “*ku baadh afafka*”.



You do not need the words to have the same meaning as the system will perform separate and parallel searches. The results will be shown in different colours as shown below (red

3. Word Behaviour view structure

As the above screenshot indicates, the Word Behaviour view has 7 major components: Box (1) indicates the number of times the headword is found in the dictionary (meaning also different Parts of Speech); box (2) contains the definitions of the headword as provided in the different dictionaries; box (3) contains the links to the synonyms of the headword; box (4) contains the concordance of the headword (and all its inflected forms); box (5) contains the etymology of the word (if known) and collocations defined through pre-established configurations (for example if the headword is a Noun then we extract the collocation with the conjunction expression “iyo”, etc.(see chapter 4 for pre-configured clusters of rules for each part of speech; box (6) contains all the inflected forms of verbs and defined forms of nouns generated by SomMorph; and box (7) contains the translations of the word in other languages (English, Italian, French and Swedish). Below is a capture screen of each section for the word *caashaq* (love, affection).

Dictionary definitions

Definitions are searched in several monolingual dictionaries and for each entry the Part of Speech is shown. There is also an active link for each PoS entry found in the major dictionary of reference (see Jama Musse Jama, ‘A Syntactically Annotated Corpus of Somali Literature’, 2016 for more details of the dictionaries) that shows you the inflected forms of the selected item.

Waan helay 2 jeer | [ereyada iyo rakaadka adeegisgooda \(word frequency\)](#).

Qeexda, dhigga iyo adeegsiga erey saleedka *caashaq*

erey saleedka: [caashaq](#) (m.l)

1. Id cishqi. Kalgacal qoto dheer oo aadanaha labkiisa iyo dheddigiisa dhex mara; jacayl. 2. Id caashaqid.

(-)

erey saleedka: [caashaq](#) (f.g1)

- (-qay, -qday) 1. Qof mid kale oo cayntiisa ka duwan kalgacal qoto dheer u hayn. 2. Ku c.: markab, baabuur, xoolo iwm meel wejigooda ku aaddin.

(-)

Synonyms

Synonyms are collected automatically from the main dictionary and subsequently some of the entries were edited manually to link synonymous words. There is an active link that brings you to the WB view for the new word.

Ereyada la midka ah erey saleedka *caashaq*

ereyada ay isku midka yihiin erey saleedka: [caashaq](#) (m.l)

[cishqi](#)

Concordance

In this box you can see the searched word and all its inflected forms used in the corpus. The first column contains an active link that indicates the sub corpus in which the instance is found. When clicked the link opens a popup notice that tells you the details of the document this sentence belongs to. The rest of each row shows the searched word (or the inflected form of the headword)

Is-oggolaanshaha: adeegsiga erey saleedka caashaq			
adeegsiga erey saleedka: caashaq (f.g1)			
TIX		Caashaqa	<i>ku xidhay</i>
TIX	<i>Dad bukaanka</i>	caashaqa	
TIX	<i>Inuu yahay bir</i>	caashaqu	
TIX	<i>Qofba dhagarta</i>	caashaqa	
TIX	<i>Dhuuni-kawlka</i>	caashaqa	
TIX	<i>Marna</i>	caashaq	<i>guunoo</i>
TIX	<i>Dookhayga</i>	caashaqa	
TIX		Caashaqu	<i>wadaad ma leh</i>
TIX		Caashaqu	<i>wadaad ma leh</i>
TIX		Caashaqu	<i>wadaad ma leh</i>
TIX	<i>Lurta</i>	caashaq	<i>kululaa</i>
TIX	<i>Anna leebkii</i>	caashaqu	
TIX	<i>Ha shaashaynin</i>	caashaqa	
TIX	<i>Waa hore an</i>	caashaqay	
TIX	<i>Wiilkii aan</i>	caashaqay	
TIX	<i>Waayeelka</i>	caashaqu	

Etymology

Etymology is an area that has received very little attention in the academic research on Somali language. In this box of WB, you will find a small number of Somali words of which we do know the etymology, and all loanwords from other languages (Arabic, Italian, English, French, etc.). An active link indicates the language of origin and the word, and if you click on the language, you will find a list of Somali words loaned from that specific language. For Arabic there are some font issues to sort out.

Abtirsiimada, is-cugashada, dirka iyo afcelinta erey saleedka **caashaq**

Abtirsiimada erey saleedka: [caashaq](#) (m.l)

caashaq waa erey laga soo ergistey Carabi: *cishq*.

Qaab dhaqanka caanka ah ee magaca:

Word behaviour in a pre-defined grammatical structures

Immediately after the etymology box, you have several pre-defined grammatical structures. For each type of Part of Speech, the system checks if there are particular collocations of linguistic interest. For instance if it is a noun, as said earlier, the system

checks the collocation of the noun with the conjunction expression “*iyó*”. Another collocation for nouns of particular interest is with the verb “*leh*” (to have).

In case of the verbs, when looking for verb V, the system checks and displays the collocation of V with “*is*”, and the collocation of V with “*baa*”, “*uu*”, “*ayaa*”, “*uu*”, etc. And finally if the word has defined synonyms, also shown in this box is the concordance of the synonym word in the corpus.

Habdhaqanka <i>caashaq</i> ee <i>is-cugashada IYO</i>.		
TIX	<i>Ciyaalkaan caashaq</i>	<i>iyó</i> wax daran lagama waayee

Ereyga caashaq wuxuu sammi la yahay ereyadan:

TIX	<i>Xaramkii</i>	<i>cishqiga</i>	
TIX		<i>Cishqi</i>	<i>baan mirayoo</i>
TIX		<i>Cishqigeedu</i>	<i>saaqoo</i>
TIX	<i>Haabkooda may gelin</i>	<i>cishqiga</i>	<i>hawsha daba taalle</i>
TIX	<i>Waa laygu eemaray</i>	<i>cishqiga</i>	<i>inan ku ooyaaye</i>
TIX	<i>Rafashada jacaylkiyo</i>	<i>cishqigan</i>	<i>raafka igu jiiday</i>
TIR	<i>Maareeyoo sidee buu</i>	<i>cishqigu</i>	
TIX	<i>Webiyada</i>	<i>cishqiga</i>	
TIR	<i>Ta danbe ee qadhaadhka ah</i>	<i>cishqi</i>	<i>noqdo waa ka in kastoo uu</i>
TIR	<i>Waa taas Maana-Faay ninkii ay</i>	<i>cishqiga</i>	<i>la dheelaysa</i>
TIR	<i>Intuu aad u sii qoslay</i>	<i>cishqi</i>	<i>dilooday wax dabiibtana waayey Hoheey jacaylow</i>
TIR	<i>Saymihii</i>	<i>cishqiga</i>	<i>isla addorose</i>
TIR	<i>Gantaalihii</i>	<i>cishqigaa</i>	<i>is-hardiyey</i>
TIR	<i>Laakiin wadnihiisan gardarrooday ee gabdh</i>	<i>cishqi</i>	<i>ee gacanta u fidi</i>
TIR	<i>Dabadeed wuxu Tabaase u sheegay</i>	<i>cishqigu</i>	<i>saaqay</i>
TIR	<i>Balse wuxu xusayaa in wax</i>	<i>cishqi</i>	<i>dab ku shidaya</i>
WAR	<i>laabano oo ku nasano waayihii</i>	<i>Cishqiga</i>	<i>ee Gaariye iyo waqtigii Dhalin-yaranimo</i>
TIR	<i>labadii lammaane ee abuurka iniinta</i>	<i>cishqiga</i>	<i>biqlinteeda bannaannada u soo guura bahalleeyey</i>

Inflected forms of the word

SomMorph is an application written by the author that develops noun and verb derivatives from head words according to the rules defined in the accessible authoritative sources published from the the time the Somali language was being institutionalized as the national language. One major reference is Annarita Puglielli and Abdalla Omar Mansur, *Qaamuuska Af-soomaaliga* (2012), but also other sources including John Saeed, Giorgio Banti, Martin Orwin and others. These rules define different ways of recognizing derivatives of the headword and generate all inflected forms. In this box you see the generated forms in an active link that, when clicked, will show you the concordance of the

specific inflected form in the corpus (instead of the lemma). If there are combined words of which the searched word is part of the combination, again here you see the list.

Ereyada ka soo farcamay erey saleedka **caashaq**

erey saleedka: [caashaq](#) (m.l)

ereyada ka soo farcamay erey saleedka *caashaq* (m.l) waa [dib u samee]: [caashaga](#) [caashaqii](#) [caashaqee](#) [caashaqeer](#) [caashagaqa](#) [caashagan](#) [caashaqayga](#) [caashagaaga](#) [caashaqiisa](#) [caashaqeeda](#) [caashaqayaga](#) [caashaqooda](#) [caashaqiinna](#) [caashaqeenna](#) [caashaqaygan](#) [caashagaagan](#) [caashaqiisan](#) [caashaqeedan](#) [caashaqayagan](#) [caashaqoodan](#) [caashaqiinnan](#) [caashaqeennan](#) [caashaqaygaa](#) [caashagaagaa](#) [caashaqiisaa](#) [caashaqeeda](#) [caashaqayagaa](#) [caashaqoodaa](#) [caashaqiinnaa](#) [caashaqeennaa](#) [caashaqaygii](#) [caashagaagii](#) [caashaqiisii](#) [caashaqeedii](#) [caashaqayagii](#) [caashaqoodii](#) [caashaqiinnii](#) [caashaqeennii](#) [caashaqaygee](#) [caashagaagee](#) [caashaqiisee](#) [caashaqeedee](#) [caashaqayagee](#) [caashaqoodee](#) [caashaqiinnee](#) [caashaqeennee](#) [caashaqaygeer](#) [caashagaageer](#) [caashaqiiseer](#) [caashaqeedeer](#) [caashaqayageer](#) [caashaqoodeer](#) [caashaqiinneer](#) [caashaqeenneer](#) [caashaqaygay](#) [caashagaagay](#) [caashaqiisay](#) [caashaqeeday](#) [caashaqaygay](#) [caashaqooday](#) [caashaqiinnay](#) [caashaqeennay](#) [caashaqayqu](#) [caashagaagu](#) [caashaqiisu](#) [caashaqeedu](#) [caashaqayagu](#) [caashaqoodu](#) [caashaqiinnu](#) [caashaqeennu](#) [caashaqu](#) [caashaq](#)

erey saleedka: [caashaq](#) (f.g1)

ereyada ka soo farcamay erey saleedka *caashaq* (f.g1) waa [dib u samee]: [caashaq](#) [caashaqay](#) [caashaqday](#) [caashagnay](#) [caashaqeen](#) [caashaqdeen](#) [caashagaqa](#) [caashaqdaa](#) [caashagnaa](#) [caashagaan](#) [caashaqdaan](#) [caashaqo](#) [caashaqdo](#) [caashaga](#) [caashaqno](#) [caashaqayaa](#) [caashaqaysaa](#) [caashaqaysaan](#) [caashaqaynaa](#) [caashaqayaan](#) [caashaqi](#)

Farcanka lammaane erey saleedka *caashaq*

Ma soo helin lammaane ka yimi erey saleedka ([caashaq](#))

Translations

Finally the translation box will show you different translations from different bilingual dictionaries (Somali-Italian, Somali-English, Somali-Swedish). Dictionaries of reference are being revised for the English, however the Italian and French are in good quality, while a request for permission of use of the Swedish-Somali dictionary is being processed. Other languages can be added to the platform.

Turjumaadaha erey saleedka **caashaq**

Talyaani: *caashaq*

n. m. - 1. vr. cishqi. Amore, innamoramento appassionato e profondo. 2. vr. di caashaqid.

v. tr. 1 (-qay, -qday) - 1. Innamorarsi di qn. in maniera appassionata e profonda. 2. Ku c.: far attraccare qs. a qs. (cm. molo, altra imbarcazione, ecc.).

Ingiriisi: *caashaq*

love, be ~ fall in love

love, romance

4. Automatic identification of linguistic structures in the corpus

There are few configurations defined within the platform for specific types of Parts of Speech. The aim is to show how the selected word behaves within the discourse (for instance we have already seen if the selected word is Noun, we want to check the collocation of the N with the word “*iyó*”, so we can figure out all other nouns (N1) where the configuration “N *iyó* N1” matches. These results are shown in the Word Behaviour view. Different configurations apply to different types of Parts of Speech.

Noun behaviour

Nouns have different defined configurations: 1) the collocation with the conjunction “*iyó*” (and) as explained above and 2) the collocation with verb *leh* (to have) as mentioned above; 3) for locational nouns (*ag, dhex, kor, hoos, dul, dhinac*), we enlist the list of verbs immediately following the locational noun.

Example 1: Collocation of the noun *caano* (milk) with “*iyó*” (and).

Habdhaqanka <i>caano</i> ee is-cugashada <i>IYO</i> .			
TIR	<i>neefqabatoobay ama miyirbeelay oo biyo</i>	<i>iyó</i>	<i>caano lagu badbaadiyay</i>
The	<i>Askari Soomali iskuma jirto caano</i>	<i>iyó</i>	<i>biyaa loo kala baxay kacaan iyó</i>
Pro	<i>Caano</i>	<i>iyó</i>	<i>biyo layskuma daro</i>
TIR	<i>iyó Ducada Yeesifka Hawshii Caano</i>	<i>iyó</i>	<i>Caddii Geeddi Socodkii Caleema Saarka Ugaaska</i>
TIR	<i>caadada ahaayd iyó hawlihii Caano</i>	<i>iyó</i>	<i>Caddiinta</i>
TIX	<i>Furuut iyó farshiyo caano</i>	<i>iyó</i>	<i>fuudna lagu qooshye</i>
TIR	<i>Dalkeenna meelo ka mid ah</i>	<i>iyó</i>	<i>hibil iyó subag keli ah wax</i>
TIX	<i>Markaasaad hadhuub caano</i>	<i>iyó</i>	<i>hibilba siisaane</i>
TIR	<i>Markaa ayaa caano</i>	<i>iyó</i>	<i>labanlayd na loo keenay</i>
TIR	<i>Ismaciil – Cad baruur leh</i>	<i>iyó</i>	<i>subag malab camaajir ah</i>
TIR	<i>Maxamed – Cad baruur leh</i>	<i>iyó</i>	<i>subag malab camaajir ah</i>
TIR	<i>Wiilkii kuu sheegaye rag gogoshii</i>	<i>iyó</i>	<i>subag ka buuxi</i>
TIR	<i>soor wax aannu cabno caano</i>	<i>iyó</i>	<i>wax walba</i>
TIX	<i>Intaad caano</i>	<i>iyó</i>	<i>wiil tahaa lala cabsoodaaye</i>
TIR	<i>noo ah cuudka iyó cad</i>	<i>iyó</i>	<i>caano waxa aannu ka calfanno</i>
TIR	<i>nin raalli ku ah cad</i>	<i>iyó</i>	<i>caano geel wallee wax badan qayrkii</i>
TIR	<i>Dadkii la rabay inay isku</i>	<i>iyó</i>	<i>caano wada ahaadaan ul iyó diirkeen</i>

Example 2: Collocation of the noun *ujeeddo* (subject) with verb *leh* (to have)

Habdhaqanka <i>ujeeddo</i> ee is-cugashada <i>LEH</i> .	
<i>2 jeer</i>	<i>duluc [N:ujeeddo] leh</i>
<i>1 mar</i>	<i>qaaf [N:ujeeddo] leh</i>
<i>1 mar</i>	<i>Naxariis [N:ujeeddo] leh</i>

Locational nouns

Banti calls locational nouns (magac goobeeye) those nouns that indicate reference to a place: *ag*, *dhex*, *kor*, *hoos*, *dhinac*, *dul*, *daba*. Whenever these nouns are shown in the WP view, the system locates and displays the collocation of Verbs that immediately follow this locational noun. For example shows the result for the locational noun “ag”:

Example 3: collocation for locational noun “ag”

Kani waa magac goobeeye. Eeg habdhaqanka ag ee falalka raaca.		
TIR	[ag] V:bakhtii	Geedka salkiisaa lagu ag [bakhtii] bakhtiiyey
TIR	[ag] V:bakhti	doqonka ahaaba waa ay ku ag [bakhti] bakhtiiyeen
TIR	[ag] V:bax	yaallayna waxa uu geedaha ka ag [bax] baxay ku xidhxidhay daasado moqorafado ah
TIR	[ag] V:dhac	Habeenkoo bar iyo buro tagtay ag [dhac] dhacayaa isagoo daan–daan ah ama waaba
TIR	[ag] V:dhaqaaq	sheeka macaan Maantoo dhan ka ag [dhaqaaq] dhaqaaqi maysid Waxaan aad uga helaa
TIX	[ag] V:dhaw	Far baan boog ka ag [dhaw] dhaw
TIR	[ag] V:dhici	– Fallaadhi baa soo booday ag [dhici] dhici lahaa oo cidna wax ma
TIR	[ag] V:dhig	falaas hayl leh baa lagu ag [dhig] dhigaa
TIR	[ag] V:dhig	inta dab iyo dhari la ag [dhig] dhigay soortii lagu yidhi karso adaa
TIX	[ag] V:dhig	Xeryo gaallo la isaga ag [dhig] dhigay uma adkeeyaane
TIR	[ag] V:dhig	Miis yar bay soo ag [dhig] dhigtay
TIR	[ag] V:dhig	Ninkii bay soo ag [dhig] dhigtay intii uu uga baahnaa ayuu
TIR	[ag] V:dhig	Beydanna iyadoo daldalmaysa ayeey dharkii ag [dhig] dhigtay ninkii iridka soo xigay ee
TIR	[ag] V:dhow	Kalgacaylka xad dhaafka ah ee ag [dhow] dhow yihiin ayaa malaha dabooshay cabsidii
TIR	[ag] V:dhow	waxna fahmi kara ee ka ag [dhow] dhow hooyada iyo inanteeda Heesaha carruurta
TIR	[ag] V:fadhi	Waxaa laga yaabaa gabadhii galabta ag [fadhi] fadhiday raaxada aan ag fadhigeedaas iyo
TIR	[ag] V:fariiso	Miskiintii tabaalaysnayd albaabkii xirnaa bay ag [fariiso] fariisatay
TIR	[ag] V:fidso	Addimadaas ilqabadka leh ee saakada ag [fidso] fidsatay Maana–Faay Xaaji Muumin oo ku
TIX	[ag] V:hay	Dhulka meesha hodaniyo nimcada igu ag [hay] hayn waaye
TIX	[ag] V:joog	Carmis inaan ag [joog] joogaan gartiyo wali ciqaabtiye
Pro	[ag] V:joogso	Hadal lama ag joogsado ee ag [joogso] joogsadaa
Pro	[ag] V:joog	Baadiyi nin aan lahayn bay ag [joog] joogtaa
TIR	[ag] V:kac	aan ragga uu ka soo ag [kac] kacay ahayni in ay guriga joogto
TIR	[ag] V:kac	Degdeg ayuu Amran uga ag [kac] kacay isaga oo sii leh
TIR	[ag] V:mar	Waxa geedkan ag [mar] mara waddo raf ah

Verb behaviour

Similar to the nouns, also the verbs have pre-defined collocation configurations in place. For example 1) the collocation of the search verb V with the reflexive pronoun “is”, or 2) the collocations with focus markers either with our without pronouns (‘ayaa’, ‘baa’, ‘waxa’, ‘ayuu’, ‘ayay’, ‘buu’, ‘bay’, ‘wuxuu’, ‘waxay’).

Example 4: Collocation of the verb “dhaaf” (leave, omit) with “is”

Habdhaqanka <i>dhaaf ee is-cugashada IS.</i>			
TIX		<i>Iska</i>	<i>dhaaf qabiiloo</i>
TIR		<i>Iska</i>	<i>dhaaf salaaddaas</i>
TIR	<i>Culimadii cusbayd arinkoodu wuxuu bilawgii</i>	<i>Iskaba</i>	<i>dhaaf urur la sameeyo iskaba dhaaf</i>
TIR	<i>Culimadii cusbayd arinkoodu wuxuu bilawgii</i>	<i>iskaba</i>	<i>dhaaf afkaar la faafiyo Xitaa waxaan</i>
TIR	<i>Waxanu ugu necbaa oo aanu</i>	<i>iska</i>	<i>dhaaf jacaylkeeda ama sheekadeeda</i>
TIR	<i>Inta kale</i>	<i>iskaba</i>	<i>dhaaf</i>
TIR	<i>lagu daro Khadiija ma hayo</i>	<i>iskaba</i>	<i>dhaaf toddoba habloodoo</i>
TIR	<i>lagu xamanayo in ay wax</i>	<i>is</i>	<i>dhaaf dhaafin ay samaysay ku xoolaysatay</i>

Example 5: Collocation of verb “kac” (up) with focus makers

Habdhaqanka <i>falayaasha+magacuyaal iyo falka kac</i>			
TIR	<i>u socda dabadeed Warsame ayaa</i>	<i>kacay</i>	<i>oo Deeqa hoos u soo waraystay</i>
TIR	<i>sii daayo waayo dadkii ayaa</i>	<i>kacay</i>	<i>Saraakiishuse waxay u arkayeen in ay</i>
TIR	<i>Liibaan ayaa</i>	<i>kacay</i>	<i>oo dooggii jilicsanaan ee gogosha u</i>
TIR	<i>Dabkii ayaa</i>	<i>kacay</i>	<i>oo xaabadii wada oloshay</i>
TIR	<i>labadii jeegada u jiiifay ayaa</i>	<i>kacay</i>	<i>oo meel toban tallaabo u jirta</i>
Pro	<i>hunguri jecel geela hortiisa ayay</i>	<i>kacdaa</i>	
TIR	<i>dambe oo dhidid qooyey ayuu</i>	<i>kacay</i>	<i>oo waddada Baar Shabeelle tagta cagta</i>
TIR	<i>ama laba ka dib ayuu</i>	<i>kaci</i>	<i>oo uu iska tegi</i>
TIR	<i>Durbaan baa</i>	<i>kacay</i>	<i>oo intuu Khadiija</i>
TIR	<i>Durbaan baa</i>	<i>kacay</i>	<i>oo u dhaqaaqay dhinac uu ka</i>
TIR	<i>Isagoon juuq ku celin buu</i>	<i>kacay</i>	<i>oo intuu meel taandhadii ay ku</i>
TIR	<i>Intaa markuu yidhi waxa</i>	<i>kacay</i>	<i>oo geeraarkii ka jawaabay ninkii la</i>
TIR	<i>Gabayadaa markii la maqlay waxa</i>	<i>kacday</i>	<i>xiisad waxana arrintii soo dhex galay</i>

5. Advanced Query Language

Introduction to Advanced Query Language for RCF Somali Corpus

The RCF Somali Corpus platform has its own advanced query language. Users can by themselves compose complex query strings and search with these strings against the corpus.¹ The valid keywords for the query formulations consist of indicators and placeholders (see below table 1):

Keyword	Function	Type
HORRAAD:	the word I am searching follows immediately [...]	Indicator
DANBEED:	the word I am searching precedes immediately [...]	Indicator
F	the word in this place is a verb	Placeholder
M	the word in this place is a noun	Placeholder
NOOC:XX	the word in this place belongs to XX Part of Speech ²	Placeholder

Table 1: Defined keywords in Advanced Query Language for RCF Somali Corpus.

Example 6: cases of complex Advanced Query Language

Query	Description	Example results
cun HORRAAD:uu	Find all sentences containing any inflected form of the verb <i>cun</i> (eat) preceded by the word <i>uu</i> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> wax cunto ahna ma uu cunin mar kale na waa qof uu cunayba qofku si uu ku noolaado waxa uu cunayaa waa inay ahaataa... wax ku baranayey in uu cunay hilib doofaar maandooriyaha uu cuno oo keliya ayay wehel wadaag... [...]
M DAMBEED:dheh	Find all sentences where the verb <i>dheh</i> (say) is preceded by a noun.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> doobir dheh markaasuu ku yidhi car dheh kute wir dheh afartaa shax dheh maanso [...]
M DAMBEED:NOOC:v.g4	Find all sentences containing a Noun followed by a verb of the 4 th type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ciise oo xaalladiisa fahansan baa qobol uga keeni karaa dad raacsan oo u buuxiya tirada laga doonayo markaasaa dadkii raacsanaa ka cadhoodeen

Table 2: Examples of Advanced Query Language for RCF Somali Corpus.

¹ These queries are heavy for the system to manage, so they are partially allowed to all users. The administrator can grant which user can run different types of queries.

² The abbreviations for the Parts of Speech types are defined in Jama Musse Jama, “A syntactically annotated corpus for Somali literature”, 2016, and are based on the abbreviations used in Annarita Puglielli and Cabdalla Cumar Mansoor, “Qaamuuska Af-soomaaliga”, 2012. They can be also accessed through the “Qaamuuska/Dictionary” link at the top bar of the user interface.

Using wildcard, multi word search and special characters

RCF Somali Corpus supports three wildcard characters: *, ? and %. 1) * matches zero or more words of any part of speech; 2) ? matches exactly one word of any part of speech in that place; and finally 3) % allows to partial search of the single word in the sentence.

The system supports also special characters "" matching exactly the sequence of words within quotes.

Example 7: use of wildcard and special characters in AQL

Query	Description	Example results
NOOC:m.dh*heli*	Find all sentences containing any inflected form of feminine noun, followed by zero or more words followed by the word <i>heli</i> followed by any word.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dawadeeda waan heli lahaa dayaxaba haddaan tago. • Adoon baahi qaba baad heli kartaa booska uu yahay e. • Tirada xarummaha oo kooban darteed marmar waxaad heli kartaa • Labadaas buug ka heli maynno oo keligood meel yaalla. • [...]
M?NOOC:f.g1garee	Find a sentence where a noun is followed an inflected form of 1 st conjugation verb followed by the word "garee"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • u midowdo oo la dhiso oo ummadda diyaar gareeya waajib • dadkii caasi gareeya • [...]
cuna%	Find sentences containing a word starting with <i>cuna</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bahalku waxa uu cunayaa hilib qeedhin • iyagu way cunaan geedaha • [...]
qalin cas	Sentence containing both words <i>cas</i> and <i>qalin</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • qalin madow iyo mid cas buu lahaa • shimbir cas iyo balanbaalis qalin leh ayaan arkay • macallinku qalin cas ayuu haystaa. • [...]
"qalin cas"		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • macallinku qalin cas ayuu haystaa.

Table 3: Examples of Advanced Query Language for RCF Somali Corpus: wildcards.

Note that if at least a AQL keyword (ie. HORRAAD: NOOC: DANBEED:) is found in the query string, or if the searched word is a single word, then the system will perform the search on the structure and the grammar of the sentence. Otherwise (if there are multiple words search with spaces, or special characters %, ""), the query will be done as free text string.