

Jiban Saulawa

Native Hausa AI Language Specialist | Speech Evaluation, Annotation, Localization & Conversational AI QA

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<https://www.linkedin.com/in/jiban-s-2b1558b4> • Portfolio: <https://hausa.logicgrid.ai> •

GitHub: <https://github.com/LogicGridAI/hausa-ai-portfolio>

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Native Hausa language specialist and AI practitioner with professional experience creating, reviewing, translating, annotating, and organizing Hausa-language data for machine-translation research.

Previously supported development of an electronic Hausa corpus at CACI International, including document collection, translation, metadata classification, script-encoding review, entity tagging, corpus processing, and secure delivery of research data.

Currently develops and evaluates Hausa conversational experiences within an AI-powered WhatsApp platform, reviewing output for natural phrasing, grammatical accuracy, gender and contextual correctness, terminology consistency, code-switching, cultural appropriateness, and conversational usability.

Brings more than 10 years of Linux and systems-engineering experience alongside hands-on AI application development, providing both native-language judgment and an understanding of how linguistic data quality affects AI systems.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Hausa Language & Localization: Native Hausa • Hausa-English translation •

Conversational Hausa • Localization • Cultural interpretation • Grammar review •

Terminology review • Natural-language quality assessment

AI Data & Evaluation: AI output evaluation • Data annotation • Corpus development •

Translation review • Entity tagging • Metadata classification • Error categorization •

Annotation consistency • Human-in-the-loop QA

Speech & Audio: Hausa transcription review • Speech-data evaluation • Pronunciation

assessment • Accent awareness • Prosody and conversational naturalness • Audio-quality review

Technical: Python • Linux • Docker • Kubernetes • PostgreSQL • Redis • AI/LLM

applications • Git • Microsoft Excel • APIs • Secure data handling

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Hausa Language Interpreter / Reviewer

CACI International Inc. and Subsidiaries — Maryland

January 2009 – December 2010

Supported development of an **Electronic Hausa Corpus for machine-translation research**, processing Hausa-language materials for use in language technology and research.

- Collected Hausa-language documents from diverse online sources, including news, blogs, product information, and other document genres.
 - Evaluated source materials for inclusion in the Hausa research corpus.
 - Recorded structured metadata including file name, source, page count, genre, formality, document type, text-generation method, and script encoding.
 - Reviewed correct handling and encoding of Hausa-specific characters.
 - Processed Hausa documents through multiple stages including preservation of source material, image creation, translation, linguistic processing, and entity tagging.
 - Translated Hausa-language documents into English while preserving contextual meaning and source intent.
 - Classified linguistic material according to genre, formality, document format, and other corpus requirements.
 - Applied independent judgment when handling ambiguous language, inconsistent source material, and classification decisions.
 - Maintained detailed research inventories and annotation records using Microsoft Excel.
 - Prepared completed datasets for secure delivery using password protection and encryption.
 - Contributed Hausa linguistic data specifically intended for **machine-translation and language-research applications**.
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Founder / AI Systems Developer & Hausa Language Reviewer

LogicGrid AI, LLC / LogicGrid Infrastructure LTD

2025–Present

Develop AI-assisted software and conversational systems with a focus on Nigerian and multilingual users.

Hausa Conversational AI Evaluation — LogicGrid WhatsApp Platform

- Evaluate and correct Hausa-language conversational output for naturalness, grammar, contextual accuracy, cultural appropriateness, and usability.
- Identify literal translations that are technically understandable but unnatural to native Hausa speakers and replace them with more idiomatic conversational language.
- Review conversational prompts for gender errors, relationship-context errors, terminology inconsistencies, and unnecessary English/Hausa code-switching.
- Make independent localization decisions where several translations may be technically valid but differ in fluency, social context, or native-speaker acceptability.
- Evaluate Hausa terminology for complex family relationships including parents, spouses, children, grandchildren, gender, and life-status concepts.
- Establish consistent Hausa terminology across application workflows and regression-test corrected language to prevent previously resolved errors from recurring.
- Distinguish semantically different conversational actions such as **uncertainty** versus **skipping/answering later**, preserving both language meaning and underlying application state.
- Serve as the native-speaker quality reviewer for Hausa conversational UX while working directly with AI-assisted development tools.

Representative Hausa Evaluation Work

- Replaced overly literal Hausa user-interface translations with more natural conversational wording.
- Corrected gender-dependent relationship terminology such as **ɗan / ɗiyar**.
- Corrected gender-sensitive family and bereavement phrasing.

- Identified grammatically understandable phrases that nevertheless sounded unnatural in real Hausa conversation.
 - Reviewed AI-generated language for contextual meaning rather than relying solely on word-for-word translation.
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SELECTED AI & LANGUAGE PROJECTS

Worlds Apart Comedy

Creator — Multilingual Dialogue & Cultural Localization

AI-assisted animated comedy project built around Nigerian and Western cultural contexts.

- Develop culturally grounded dialogue involving Hausa, Yoruba, and Igbo characters and cultural settings.
- Coordinate multilingual and cultural review while preserving humor, tone, intent, and character voice.
- Adapt idioms, jokes, family interactions, and culturally dependent expressions where literal translation would lose the intended meaning.
- Review AI-generated dialogue for conversational naturalness, cultural authenticity, and continuity.
- Maintain human approval over final creative and localization decisions.

Note: *The series is primarily in English. Hausa localization is reviewed directly by me as a native speaker; Yoruba and Igbo content is reviewed with native-speaker collaborators.*

SafeRelay

<https://saferelay.ai>

Creator / AI Workflow & Data Protection Platform

- Develop security controls for protecting sensitive information during AI and developer workflows.
- Work with structured text processing, local data-protection rules, AI interactions, policy evaluation, and quality-control logic.

- Apply auditability, privacy, secure data handling, and fail-closed principles to AI-assisted workflows.
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TECHNICAL BACKGROUND

More than 10 years of professional experience in Linux systems engineering and infrastructure, including:

Linux • RHEL/CentOS • Docker • Kubernetes • Python • Bash • Microservices • PostgreSQL • Redis • APIs • Security • AI/LLM Infrastructure

This background enables effective collaboration with engineers, researchers, annotation teams, and AI product teams working with production language and speech systems.

CERTIFICATION

- Red Hat Certified Engineer
 - Red Hat Certified System Administrator
 - CompTIA IT Operations Specialist
 - CompTIA Secure Infrastructure Specialist
 - CompTIA Secure Cloud Professional
 - CompTIA Cloud+
 - CompTIA Security+
 - CompTIA A+
 - Cisco Certified Network Administrator
 - Linux Essentials Certified (LPI)
 - AWS Cloud Practitioner
 - Information Security Basics Training by TEEX and Dept of Homeland Security (DHS)
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LANGUAGES

Hausa: Native — professional language evaluation, translation, localization, and conversational review

English: Professional proficiency

PORTFOLIO

Available portfolio materials include:

- Hausa conversational-AI evaluation case studies
- Original AI output vs. native-speaker corrected Hausa
- Annotation rationales and error classifications
- Hausa speech and transcription evaluation
- Hausa-English localization examples
- Multilingual cultural-localization examples
- AI-assisted language-quality workflows