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HANDBOOK OF KIMBERLEY LANGUAGES  
Volume 1: General Information  

William McGregor  

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Kimberley Language Resource Centre  

Department of Linguistics  
Research School of Pacific Studies  
THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
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Preface

This work is the first of two projected volumes gathering together information on languages spoken within the Kimberley region of north-west Western Australia. It is arranged by language groups, and provides brief general information on each language — variants of the language name, location and number of speakers, previous and current research, existence of language programmes in schools. Included also are fairly complete listings of written material about and in the languages. The second volume will provide standard word- and phrase-lists for each language.

It is hoped that this Handbook will provide reliable, up-to-date and readily accessible information about Kimberley languages to both Aborigines and those others who, for one reason or another, have contact with speakers of Aboriginal languages in the Kimberley. In particular, teachers and Aborigines wanting to introduce vernacular language programmes into their schools or communities should find the demographic information and the lists of language learning and literacy materials helpful in the design and implementation of programmes appropriate to their particular situations. In addition, indication is given for many languages of the types of language programme possible in the local schools. This handbook also notes any practical orthography currently in use, or recommended for use in the language, and any existing language programmes. Educators are strongly advised to seek advice from others with experience in these matters, such as the Kimberley Language Resource Centre.

This volume is designed for the layman, and does not presuppose any linguistic training. However, it should also be useful to linguists wishing to locate source material on Kimberley languages. It is hoped that the information, and gaps in the information included here will point out areas in need of research and stimulate the development of appropriate research programmes.

The Kimberley Language Resource Centre is seen as representing all of the languages presently spoken by Aboriginal people in the Kimberley. A number of these languages — including for instance Warlpiri, Pintupi, and Murrinh-patha — were traditionally spoken outside of the region. However, with the exception of those languages spoken by just an isolated individual or two, all of these are included in this handbook. Also included are dying or dead languages traditionally spoken in the Kimberley region. Another volume, produced by the Institute of Applied Aboriginal Studies, provides similar information on the remaining languages of Western Australia.
Acknowledgements

The idea of this sourcebook comes from Menning and Nash's *Sourcebook for central Australian languages* (published in 1981 by Institute for Aboriginal Development, Alice Springs), the format of which it follows closely. The layout has been modified slightly in an attempt to make the information more readily accessible, and a few additional headings have been included. Acknowledgement is gratefully made to the IAD for permission to include information from the *Sourcebook for Central Australian languages*.

I would like to thank Peter Austin, Anna Haebich and Joyce Hudson for their valuable comments on the layout of this Handbook and type of information included here, and Michael Walsh for detailed comments on an earlier draft. A number of linguists corrected errors in an earlier draft and/or provided additional information: Edith Bavin, Howard Coate, Ian Green, Komei Hosokawa, Frances Kofod, Bernard Lefort, Toby Metcalfe, Patrick McConvell, Fr. Kevin McKelson, Frances Morphy, David Nash, Fr. Anthony Peile, Alan Rumsey, Chester Street, Nick Thieberger, Tasaku Tsunoda, and Michael Walsh. Their assistance is gratefully acknowledged. Thanks are also due to the many Aborigines in the Kimberley, especially Jack Bohemia, Topsy Chestnut, Mary Charles, Lorna Cox, Josey Farrer, Buru Goonack, Mona Green, Dave Lamey, Tiger Henry, Bill Munroe, Peggy Patrick, Paddy Roe, Archie Singpoo, David Street, Ruby Toobalin, Daisy Utemorrah, Magdalene Williams, and Banjo Wirrunmarra, who provided information on their language, and to Jon Deklerk and Diana MacCallum who provided valuable assistance in seeking out references, and checking the information in an earlier draft. I am also very grateful to Rosemary Butt, formerly of Pacific Linguistics, for her careful copy editing. Needless to say, in an undertaking such as this, errors of fact and interpretation are bound to occur; I alone am responsible for these.

This volume has been prepared under the auspices of the Kimberley Language Resource Centre, on funding from a grant from the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies. The volume has been revised and typeset by the author during the course of his research fellowship in the Linguistics Department, La Trobe University.
Abbreviations

The use of abbreviations has been avoided as far as possible. However, in the interests of economy and space, it has proved necessary to use a few. They are listed below, in alphabetical order.

AIAS
ALAA
ALAS
ANU
BA
B. Mus.
Black & Walsh
Hon s
lAAS
lAD
KLRC
KLS
MA
MF
mimeo
Ms
nd
NT
Oates & Oates
pers.comm.
PhD
PL

Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies (see section 10.5)
Applied Linguistics Association of Australia
Australian Linguistic Society
Australian National University
B.A. (Bachelor of Arts)
Bachelor of Music
ed.
Honours degree
Institute of Applied Aboriginal Studies (see section 10.5)
Institute for Aboriginal Development (see section 10.5)
Kimberley Language Resource Centre (see section 10.5)
M.A. (Master of Arts)
Microfilm held by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies (followed by the microfilm number)
Refers to duplicated but unpublished material
Manuscript held by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies (followed by the manuscript number)
no indication as to date of writing of a manuscript
Northern Territory
personal communication
Ph.D. (Doctor of Philosophy)
Pacific Linguistics, four series (A, B, C, and D) of volumes covering aspects of linguistics in the Pacific region, published at ANU
ABBREVIATIONS

pMs pamphlet manuscript held by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies (followed by the manuscript number)

pp pages (indicates the number of pages in a manuscript)

pts parts

SAL School of Australian Linguistics (see section 10.5)

SIL Summer Institute of Linguistics (see section 10.5)

tr translator

WA Western Australia

The following abbreviations are used only under heading number 2 (Classification of the language):

AIAS The language/tribal number used by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies


Capell The language number as given in A. Capell 1963. Linguistic survey of Australia. Canberra: AIAS.

Reference is normally made to written material, both published and unpublished, by giving the author's name, followed by the year of production, in brackets. For example, Capell (1940) refers to something written or published by Capell which is dated 1940. When there is more than one item by a single author dated the same year, these are distinguished by letters (a, b, c, and so on) following the date. Further details, including the name of the work, place of publication, and so on, can be found under heading 9 (Material available on the language), or in the general bibliography at the end of the handbook. The format for full bibliographical entries takes one of the following forms:

(a) For books, the author's surname is given first, followed by an initial; this is followed by the date of the work, and if necessary, a distinguishing letter (as per above). This is followed by the name of the work, in italic font. Last comes the place of publication, followed by a colon and name of the publisher. This is illustrated in the following example:


The same conventions apply to unpublished theses, except that instead of place and publisher, the type of thesis is indicated (whether PhD, MA, BA, etc.), followed by the institution to which the thesis was submitted.

(b) For articles, the author's surname is given first, followed by an initial; this is followed by the date of the article, and if necessary, a distinguishing letter; following this is the name of the article. If the article appeared in a journal, the title of the journal is given in italics, followed by the volume and issue number, and the page numbers of the article. If the article appeared in a book, the name of the editor is given, followed by his or her initial, the title of the book in italics, place of publication, publisher (as described for
books), followed finally by the page numbers of the article. Examples of these types are, respectively,


Where more than one title by a single author appears in a list, the author's name is given in full in the first instance only. In the following items, a long dash indicates that the author is the same.
Map 1: Traditional locations of the languages
Map 2: Kimberley communities
1. One Arm Point  
2. Djarindjin  
3. Beagle Bay  
4. Meat Work Camp  
5. Mallingbar  
6. Nillir Irbanjun  
7. Morgan Camp  
8. Bidyadanga (La Grange)  
9. Karmulinumga  
10. Mowanjum  
11. Pandanus Park  
12. Looma  
13. Mount Anderson  
14. Ngutuwarta  
15. Warrimbah  
16. Noonkanbah  
17. Djilimbardi  
18. Millijidee  
19. Djugerari  
20. Bayulu  
21. Mulurrja  
22. Kanimpirri  
23. Junjuwa  
24. Kurnangki  
25. Darlyngunaya  
26. Eight Mile Bore  
27. Luma Gorge  
28. Ngumpan  
29. Wangkatjungka  
30. Darngku  
31. Yiyili  
32. Louisa Downs  
33. Munjari  
34. Lamboo Creek  
35. Nguniwirri  
36. Butchilbidi  
37. Billiluna  
38. Balgo  
39. Mulan  
40. Meearu Djarula  
41. Kundat Djaru  
42. Slaty Creek  
43. Lundja  
44. Blueberry Hill  
45. Yardgee  
46. Nicholson Town Campers  
47. David Skeen's Block  
48. Wungu  
49. Yarrunga  
50. Kartang Rija  
51. Jirrngaow  
52. Ngiling Arjaru  
53. Purnulu  
54. Wurrerangini  
55. Balulu-Wah  
56. Warmun  
57. Rugan  
58. Bow River  
59. Mandagala  
60. Woolah  
61. Darngku  
62. Worrworrum Ningguwang  
63. Ribinyung Darwang  
64. Yarduangal  
65. Wijilawarrim  
66. Mirima  
67. Nullywah  
68. Gulgagulganeng  
69. Kumbarumba  
70. Binjin Ningguwang  
71. Dumbral  
72. Marralam Darrigaru  
73. Ngingbingi Ningguwang  
74. Warrayu  
75. Gudaguda  
76. Goodari  
77. Fork Creek  
78. Nulla Nulla  
79. Muliiarka  
80. Oombulgurru  
81. Lynne River  
82. Berkeley River  
83. Ngieldu  
84. King Gorge  
85. Kalumburu  
86. Carson River  
87. Mitchell Plateau  
88. Pantajin  
89. Mount Elizabeth  
90. Gibb River  
91. Kupungarri  
92. Terralintji  
93. Imintji
Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Kimberley languages
1.1.1 Types of languages

Many people think that Aboriginal languages are primitive, that they have no grammar, and at most a few hundred or so words. This belief is quite false. They do have grammars, in many instances very complicated grammars by European standards, and all have many thousands of words. Of course, there are no words for many Western scientific and technological concepts such as 'atom', 'industry', and so on. However, the languages are extremely well developed, compared with English, in other areas such as terms for relatives, and for flora and fauna. Kimberley languages are no exception, and indeed they show many grammatical complexities not found in languages such as English.

The main Kimberley languages are shown in Map 1 (page ix), which gives a rough indication of their traditional locations. Since the arrival of whites, however, groups have been scattered and moved into new areas. In particular, many speakers of languages traditionally located in the desert region of the northern Pilbara have moved north into the Kimberley centres of Fitzroy Crossing, Halls Creek and Broome, where they sometimes outnumber speakers of the local traditional languages. There have also been major movements from the northern Kimberley into the town centres of Derby, Wyndham, Kununurra, and to a lesser extent, Fitzroy Crossing. Thus the present locations of many languages differ considerably from those shown on the map.

The languages are divided into families, or groups of languages that are related to one another. The major families represented in the Kimberley region are called by the names Bunuban, Jarrakan, Nyulnyulan, Worrorrak, and Pama-Nyungan; there are in addition two families which are marginal to the region, Jaminjungan and Murrinhpathan. As yet it is not clear whether (and if so, how) these families are related to one another, and the division is somewhat tentative in detail. The best established family is Pama-Nyungan; languages of this family cover most of Australia. The division of the non-Pama-Nyungan languages into families follows essentially along the lines of Capell's classification in the following article:


Capell's classification is based principally on shared characteristics of the languages, rather than on demonstrated historical relationships among them. In their 1966 paper entitled 'Languages of the world: Indo-Pacific Fascicle 6', O'Grady, Voegelin, and Voegelin take over this classification in all of its essential details. Although they claim that their classification is based on lexicostatistic data (percentages of shared words), there is no evidence that the counts were ever done for all Kimberley
languages (a number lacked adequate word lists). Some of the principal characteristics of the families are mentioned at the beginning of each section in Chapters 2 to 9. For readable introductions to some of the main features of Kimberley languages, see Chapter 4 of:


and the following two items:


Most Kimberley Aborigines over the age of thirty speak, in addition to a traditional language, some non-traditional variety. However, in most cases the traditional languages are no longer being learnt by the children, who speak some form of Kriol or Aboriginal English as their mother tongue. These non-traditional languages resemble English in some respects, particularly in terms of their words, most of which come from English. In other respects, however, they resemble traditional Aboriginal languages to greater or lesser degrees; this is true in particular of the sounds that make up the words, grammar, and the exact meanings of the words.

1.1.2 Language and dialect

Before the arrival of Europeans, probably over thirty "tribal" groups lived in the Kimberley region, and ten or more in neighbouring regions. There were usually some differences in speech from one group to the next. Sometimes the differences were small enough so that people from one group could easily understand the speech of another group. In these cases, linguists usually say that the similar speech varieties are DIALECTS of the same LANGUAGE. For instance, speakers of Big Nyikina and Little Nyikina could talk to one another in their own dialect, and be understood. In these terms there were probably fifteen or so languages in the Kimberley before the advent of the white man.

But people, even linguists, do not always use the terms "language" and "dialect" in this way. Dialects of a single language are often spoken of as if they were distinct languages. This is usually done for political reasons, particularly to stress the social independence and cohesion of the group as against others that speak the same "language", just as people sometimes speak of the Australian "language" and the American "language", which in purely linguistic terms are both dialects of English. It is thus a good idea to talk of the Nyulnyul "language" and the Jabirrjabirr "language", even though from a strictly linguistic point of view they are dialects of one language.

1.1.3 Language and tribal names

There are often a number of different names, or different spellings of the same name, for a language, dialect or tribal group. There are a number of reasons for this rather confusing state of affairs. The variety of different spellings of the same name is sometimes due to mis-hearing of the name: for example, many whites have mis-heard the name Wangkajunga as Wangkajungka, with the ngk sound of donkey in the last
syllable, when in fact it is the *ng* of *string*. More often, however, the variations in spelling are due to different writers using different spelling conventions. For instance, some writers use *g* for the same sound that others write with *k* (there is no difference between these sounds in most Kimberley languages). Thirdly, sometimes there is a short and a long form of the language name, the short form being the one most often heard. This is the case for the language name Gooniyandi, which is often heard pronounced without the final *di*. Fourthly, there may be a different name for the language and the people who speak it, and this has sometimes led to confusion, with the tribal name being used for the name of the language. For instance, Ungarinyin is the name of the language that the Ngarinyin people speak.

Sometimes there are two or more quite different names for the one language. This is usually because one is the name used by the speakers themselves, while the other names are used by their neighbours. For example, Karama is the Jaminjung name for Murrinh-patha. It can also be because there are dialect names as well as, or instead of, names for what linguists would regard as a single language. For instance, Nyinininy properly refers to a dialect of Jaru (a fact recognised by Jaru speakers themselves), but it is sometimes thought to be the name of a separate language.
1.2 Orthographies in use in the Kimberley

The term ORTHOGRAPHY refers to the letters and the spelling system (or the rules of spelling) used in writing a language. There are some general principles that apply to all orthographies (with two or three exceptions) in use in, or recommended for use in Kimberley languages:

* The same sound is always written in the same way.
* Each letter always stands for the same sound. (The Gooniyandi orthography is the only exception.)
* There is no difference in any Kimberley language between \( p \) and \( b \), \( t \) and \( d \), \( j \) and \( ch \), and \( k \) and \( g \). (However, one language included in this book, Murrinh-patha, traditionally of Port Keats (Northern Territory) does distinguish between \( p \) and \( b \), \( t \) and \( d \), \( j \) and \( ch \), and \( k \) and \( g \).) \( p \), \( t \), \( ch \) and \( k \) are referred to the unvoiced stop series, while \( b \), \( d \), \( j \) and \( g \) form the voiced stop series.
* In writing each language only one of each pair of letters \( p \) and \( b \), \( t \) and \( d \), \( j \) and \( ch \), \( k \) and \( g \), is needed.
* Some sounds are written with two letters. However, there are no "silent" letters (such as the \( k \) of knee).
* No traditional language has any of the sounds \( f \), \( h \), \( s \), \( v \), or \( z \). (However, these sounds are found in some non-traditional, post-contact languages.)

Because of the first two principles the spelling of each word is governed by the way it is pronounced; and on the other hand, once the spelling is known, it should be possible to pronounce the word. There are no difficulties such as there are in English where words with the same spelling are sometimes pronounced differently — e.g. read (as in You should read it), and read (as in He has read it) — and words with different spellings may be pronounced the same — e.g. pair and pear.

It is important to remember that in nearly all words in Kimberley languages the first syllable sounds the loudest (linguists say that it is STRESSED), like the first syllable of Kimberley — NOT like the first syllable of Australia, or reserve.

In 1984 Joyce Hudson and Patrick McConvell in their report entitled Keeping language strong: report of the pilot study for Kimberley Language Resource Centre recommended (page 48) that two different orthographies be used in the Kimberley: the South Kimberley orthography and the North Kimberley orthography. This recommendation has not been adopted precisely in all of its details. However, it is useful for the purposes of exposition to divide the orthographies in use in the Kimberley into these two main types. In this section we provide a brief discussion of the two major types, together with some remarks on the main variants.

1.2.1 South Kimberley orthography

The South Kimberley orthography is recommended for all of the languages dealt with in Chapter 8 of this Handbook, with the exception of Kukatja and Warlpiri, which employ minor variants (which are discussed below). Another variant of the system is used for writing the east Kimberley or Jarrakan languages, discussed in Chapter 3. The
following letters and digraphs (pairs of letters) are used in the standard South Kimberley orthography:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consonants</th>
<th>Bilabial</th>
<th>Alveolar</th>
<th>Retroflex</th>
<th>Palatal</th>
<th>Velar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stops</td>
<td>p</td>
<td>t</td>
<td>rt</td>
<td>j</td>
<td>k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nasals</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>rn</td>
<td>ny</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laterals</td>
<td>l</td>
<td>rl</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Flap</td>
<td>rr</td>
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<td>y</td>
<td>w</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glides</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vowels</th>
<th>High front</th>
<th>Low central</th>
<th>High back</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short</td>
<td>i</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>u</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long</td>
<td>ii</td>
<td>aa</td>
<td>uu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The technical terms are given mainly for the benefit of linguists; others may ignore them, or consult the glossary. The following is a rough guide to the pronunciation of the letters (they are listed in alphabetical order):

a as in father, only shorter (NOT as in mate). Sometimes it sounds more like the u sound in but; rarely like the a sound in sat.

aa like the a sound in father. This is a long a sound.

i as in bin, tin (NOT as in side). Sometimes it sounds like the sound underlined in been, only shorter.

ii like the underlined sound in seen. This is a long i sound.

j similar to the j of jam, or to the ch of chill.

k similar to the k of king, or to the g of girl.

l similar to the English l of long (not usually like the l of bull).

ly this sounds a bit like the lli of million, and is almost identical with the Spanish ll of llave 'key'.

m same as in English, e.g. man.

n similar to English n as in never.

ng similar to the ng of sing, but not like the ng of finger; as distinct from English, the ng in Kimberley languages often comes at the beginning of words.

ny similar to ni of onion, and the ny of canyon.

p similar to the p of pin, or to the b of bin, though often more like the p of spin. In some languages the p sound is the more common, while in other languages, the b predominates.

r this letter is normally pronounced like the r of run, even at the end of words (as in many Americans' pronunciation of car).

rl there is no equivalent in English; this sounds like English l, but is pronounced with the tip of the tongue bent further back in the mouth.

rn there is no equivalent in English; this sounds like English n, but is pronounced with the tongue tip bent further back in the mouth.

rr similar to the tt of butter when spoken quickly; this letter is never pronounced like the r of run. Sometimes the rr is "rolled" like the r sound of Scottish English.
INTRODUCTION

rt there is no equivalent sound in English; this sounds like the English t or d, but is pronounced with the tongue tip bent further back in the mouth.

t similar to the t of tin, or the d of din; depending on the language, the t or the d pronunciation predominates.

u as in put (NOT as in mule or but).

uu similar to the oo sound of pool, but longer.

w usually pronounced as the w of west, but sometimes is not pronounced before the vowel u (e.g. wuna 'walkabout' (Wangkajunga) may be pronounced like una).

y usually pronounced like y of yes, but is sometimes not heard before the i-vowel (e.g. the place name Yiyili is often heard as if it started with the vowel sound i).

For further information see the following booklet:


Variants of the South Kimberley orthography

There are three variants of the South Kimberley orthography. They are:

The KUKATJA (Balgo) orthography, in which tj is used for the sound written with j in the other South Kimberley languages.

The KIJA orthography (in use in the Turkey Creek School), which uses the above letters plus the following:

nh for which there is no equivalent sound in English; this sounds to the English speaker just like the n of nothing, but the blade, or front part of the tongue just behind the tip touches the back of the upper teeth.

th to most English speakers this sounds like the ordinary English t or d, but is pronounced more like the English th of thing.

e this sounds very much like the New Zealanders' pronunciation of i in bit.

Linguists refer to sounds like nh and th as lamino-dentals: the blade of the tongue (the part just behind the tip) touches the back of the upper teeth.

Thirdly, the WARLPIRI orthography, in use in bilingual education programmes in Yuendumu (NT), has an extra digraph rd which stands for a flap (like rr) made with the tongue touching the back part of the alveolar ridge.

1.2.2 North Kimberley orthographies

For the North Kimberley languages, which comprise the majority of those listed in this book, there are no well established orthographies. The systems described here are in most cases recommendations only. Four major variants of the North Kimberley orthography may be distinguished. The most noticeable difference from the South Kimberley orthographies in that they use the letters b, d, and g (usually), in preference to p, t and k respectively.
1.2 ORTHOGRAPHIES IN USE IN THE KIMBERLEY

The STANDARD North Kimberley orthography, recommended for languages of the Worrorran family (see chapter 5) and for Bunuba (see section 2.1), uses a selection of the following symbols:

**Consonants**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Bilabial</th>
<th>Alveolar</th>
<th>Retroflex</th>
<th>Dental</th>
<th>Palatal</th>
<th>Velar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stops</td>
<td>b</td>
<td>d</td>
<td>rd</td>
<td>th</td>
<td>j</td>
<td>g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nasals</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>rr</td>
<td>nh</td>
<td>ny</td>
<td>ng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laterals</td>
<td>l</td>
<td>rl</td>
<td>lh</td>
<td>ly</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flap</td>
<td>rr</td>
<td>r</td>
<td>yh</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>w</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glides</td>
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</table>

**Vowels**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>High front</th>
<th>Mid front</th>
<th>Low central</th>
<th>Mid back</th>
<th>High back</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short</td>
<td>i</td>
<td>e</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>u</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long</td>
<td>ii</td>
<td>aa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>uu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Few (if any) languages will need all of these letters. In particular, it seems that only Unggumi and the Bunuban languages need any of the digraphs from the fourth column of consonants (the one headed 'Dental'), and only Unggumi needs yh. And Bunuba does not need e or o.

It has been recommended that the languages of the NYULNYULAN family (see chapter 4) use the following orthography, which will sometimes be referred to as the Dampier Land variant:

**Consonants**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Bilabial</th>
<th>Apical</th>
<th>Retroflex</th>
<th>Palatal</th>
<th>Velar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stops</td>
<td>b</td>
<td>d</td>
<td>rd</td>
<td>j</td>
<td>k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nasals</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>rr</td>
<td>ny</td>
<td>ng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laterals</td>
<td>l</td>
<td>rl</td>
<td>ly</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Flap</td>
<td>rr</td>
<td>r</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>w</td>
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<td>Glides</td>
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</table>

**Vowels**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>High front</th>
<th>Low central</th>
<th>Mid back</th>
<th>High back</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short</td>
<td>i</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>oo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long</td>
<td>ii</td>
<td>aa</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This orthography uses k where the other languages use g. This choice has been made because otherwise the letters ng could stand either for the single sound ng, or for the two sounds, n followed by g.

The Miriwoong system is similar, except that it has some additional letter combinations (digraphs), and uses g rather than k, except when following n, and rt instead of rd.
1 INTRODUCTION

### Consonants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Bilabial</th>
<th>Alveolar</th>
<th>Retroflex</th>
<th>Dental</th>
<th>Palatal</th>
<th>Velar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stops</td>
<td>b</td>
<td>d</td>
<td>r</td>
<td>th</td>
<td>j</td>
<td>g, k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nasals</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>rn</td>
<td>nh</td>
<td>ny</td>
<td>ng</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laterals</td>
<td>l</td>
<td>rl</td>
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<td>ly</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flap</td>
<td>rr</td>
<td>r</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glides</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>w, y</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Vowels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>High front</th>
<th>Low central</th>
<th>High central</th>
<th>High back</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short</td>
<td>i</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>e</td>
<td>oo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long</td>
<td>ii</td>
<td>aa</td>
<td></td>
<td>oo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A more divergent system is used in GOONIYANDI:

### Consonants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Bilabial</th>
<th>Alveolar</th>
<th>Retroflex</th>
<th>Dental</th>
<th>Palatal</th>
<th>Velar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stops</td>
<td>b</td>
<td>d</td>
<td>d</td>
<td>th</td>
<td>j</td>
<td>g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nasals</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>nh</td>
<td>ny</td>
<td>ng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laterals</td>
<td>l</td>
<td>l</td>
<td></td>
<td>lh</td>
<td>ly</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flap</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Glides</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>w, y</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Vowels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>High front</th>
<th>Low central</th>
<th>High back</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short</td>
<td>i</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>oo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long</td>
<td>ii</td>
<td>ar</td>
<td>oo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Here $d$ stands for two sounds, one being ordinary $d$, the other being the sound which is written $rr$ in all other languages. $oo$ is also used in this language, for the sound written $u$ in the Worrorrnan languages and in the South Kimberley orthography. These choices were made in order to make transfer from English literacy easier. (To avoid ambiguity between the single sound $ng$ and the sequence of two sounds $n$ followed by $g$, a dot is placed between the two letters in the latter instance.)

Below we give a rough guide to the pronunciation of each letter:

- **a** as in *father* (NOT as in *mate*). Sometimes it sounds more like the $u$ sound in *but*; rarely like the $a$ sound in *sat*.
- **aa** like the sound written *ar* in *car*. This is a long vowel sound.
- **ar** as for *aa*; this is the Gooniyandi way of spelling the long $a$-vowel.
- **b** similar to the $p$ of *pin*, or to the $b$ of *bin*, though often more like the $p$ of *spin*. In some languages the $p$ sound is the more common, while in other languages, the $b$ predominates.
- **d** similar to the $t$ of *tin*, or the $d$ of *din*; depending on the language, the $t$ or the $d$ pronunciation predominates.
- **d** this is used in Gooniyandi only for the sound written $rd$ in the other languages.
- **g** similar to the $k$ of *king*, or to the $g$ of *girl*. 
1.2 Orthographies in Use in the Kimberley

1. Orthographies in Use in the Kimberley

i as in bin, tin (NOT as in side). Sometimes it sounds like the sound underlined in bean, only shorter.

ii like the English sound usually written ee, as in seen.

e as in pet. in the Worrorran languages, and as in the New Zealand pronunciation of pen in Miriwoong.

j similar to the j of jam, or to the ch of chill.

k as for g; this letter is used in the Nyulnyulan languages and Miriwoong only.

l similar to the English l of long (not usually like the l of bull).

l this letter is used in Gooniyandi only for the sound written rl in the other languages.

lh English has no equivalent sound; lh occurs in one or two languages only, and is not easy to describe in non-technical terms.

ly this sounds a bit like the lli of million, and is almost identical with the Spanish ll of llave 'key'.

m same as in English, e.g. man.

n similar to English n as in never.

ŋ Gooniyandi only uses this letter for the sound written rn in the other languages.

ng similar to the ng of sing, but not like the ng of finger; as distinct from English, the ng in Kimberley languages often comes at the beginning of words.

nh there is no equivalent sound in English; this sounds to the English speaker just like the n of nothing, but the blade, or front part of the tongue just behind the tip touches the back of the upper teeth. This sound occurs in a few languages only.

ny similar to ni of onion, and the ny of canyon.

o as in pot.

oo the Nyulnyulan languages, Gooniyandi and Miriwoong use this double letter for the sound written u in other languages.

ʊʊ in the Nyulnyulan languages this double letter indicates the long u-sound written uu in other languages.

r this letter is normally pronounced like the r of run, even at the end of words (as in many Americans' pronunciation of car).

rd there is no equivalent sound in English; rd sounds like the English t or d, but is pronounced with the tongue tip bent further back in the mouth.

rl there is no equivalent in English; this sounds like English l, but is pronounced with the tip of the tongue bent further back in the mouth.

rn there is no equivalent in English; this sounds like English n, but is pronounced with the tongue tip bent further back in the mouth.

rr similar to the tt of butter when spoken quickly; this letter is never pronounced like the r of run. Sometimes the rr is "rolled" like the r sound of Scottish English.

rt as for rd, in Miriwoong only.

th to most English speakers this sounds like the ordinary English t or d, but is pronounced more like the English th of thing.

u as in put (NOT as in mule or but). It sometimes sounds like the oo sound of pool.

uu like the oo sound of pool; this is a long u-sound.

w usually pronounced as the w of west, but sometimes is not pronounced before the vowel u (e.g. Wunambal may be pronounced like Unambal).

y usually pronounced like y of yes, but is sometimes not heard before the i-vowel (e.g. the place name Yiyili is often heard as if it started with the vowel sound i).
there is nothing like this sound in English, and it occurs in only one or two languages; it is not easy to describe in layman's terms.
1.3 Recommended spellings of the language names

The recommended spellings of the names of the languages spoken in the Kimberley are those listed first in the section headings for the languages. They are also the spellings used in Map 1. For the reader's convenience, they are repeated below in an alphabetical list.

Aboriginal English
Andajin
Bardi
Broome Pearling Lugger Pidgin
Bunuba
Doolboong
Gajirrawoong
Gamberre
Gooniyandi
Gulunggulu
Gurindji
Guwij
Jabirrjabirr
Jaminjung
Jaru
Jawi
Jukun
Juwaliny
Karajarri
Kija
Kriol
Kukatja
Kuluwarrang
Kwini
Malngin
Mangala
Miriwoong
Miwa
Munumburru
Murrinh-patha
Ngardi
Ngarinyin
Ngarinyman
Ngarnawu
Ngumbarl
Nimanburru
Nyangumarta
Nyikina
Nyininy
Nyulnyul
Pidgin English
Pintupi
Umiida
Unggarranggu
Unggumi
Walajangarri
Walgi
Walmajarri
Wangkajunga
Wanyjirra
Warlpiri
Warrwa
Wilawila
Winyjarrumi
Wolyamidi
Worlda(ja)
Worrorra
Wunambal
Yawijibaya
Yawuru
Yiiji
Yulparija

In making these particular recommendations a number of criteria have been taken into account.

The most important is the principle that the spelling of a language name which has been adopted by a literacy programme in that language is to be accepted.

A second criterion is that of acceptance by, or use by a community: where a particular spelling of a language name has been accepted by a community of speakers (in the absence of a literacy programme in the language) that spelling is recommended.

Thirdly, in the absence of a literacy programme, and of known strong community feelings, we fall back on the criterion of spelling in the practical orthography recommended for the language (see previous section). It should be borne in mind that this criterion is weighted below the first and second criteria; in other words, the spelling recommended for a language name need not follow the orthography in use in the language. This is the case for quite a number of languages, including for instance Mangala (Mangarla in the practical South Kimberley orthography), and Yulparija (Yurlparija in the South Kimberley orthography).

In at least one instance, namely Gurindji, the recommended spelling is based principally on the predominant spelling in the anthropological and linguistic literature. If the name of this language were to be written in the practical orthography, it would be spelled Kuurrinyji (Patrick McConvell, pers.comm.). Needless to say, this criterion is the weakest.
1.3 RECOMMENDED SPELLINGS OF THE LANGUAGE NAMES

It must be borne in mind that these recommendations are not definitive. There has not been opportunity to interview speakers of all of the languages, so in some instances the recommended spelling may be the one which suits the practical orthography rather than the one speakers actually prefer.
1.4 Language programmes

Traditional Aboriginal languages in the Kimberley region have suffered rapid decline in the last thirty or so years. Over most of the region there has been a massive shift towards speaking Kriol or Aboriginal English (depending on the area). Many Kimberley Aborigines are concerned about this state of affairs, and have on a number of occasions expressed their desire to keep their languages alive — see for example Hudson & McConvell (1984:37ff), and Thies (1987:119-122) (see references given in (4) below). One of the most obvious ways of going about achieving this aim is to have a language programme in the local school, in which the children are taught to speak, and/or to read and write the language.

However, no single language programme can be recommended for all schools and conditions in the Kimberley region. Each language situation is unique, and the type of programme best suited for a school will depend on the nature of the language situation. It is important to know, for instance, the current state of the language in the community (whether it is strong, weak, or whatever), attitudes towards the language, and so on, if intelligent decisions are to be made.

The type of information given in this handbook on each language should be useful to those planning a language programme, and should be taken into account before any particular type is adopted. However, it should be realised that the information is not always fully reliable, and situations change, sometimes quite rapidly, over time. Furthermore, it is crucial that the community be involved in decision making processes from the beginning, and the types of programme recommended in this handbook for particular languages should not be implemented without full consultation with the community.

We may distinguish four different types of language programme (and here I employ the terms proposed by McConvell (1986) and used by the Kimberley Catholic Education Language Team (1986) — see references below):

(1) **Bilingual education.** This term is used, following the practice of the Northern Territory Department of Education, only for programmes for which the children normally speak a language other than English when they enter school. This language, which may be either a traditional language or Kriol, will be the language that both the children and their parents normally speak among themselves. Such programmes may aim to extend the children's skills in the target language, or teach them to read and write the language; sometimes, however, it is seen principally as a means of facilitating transfer to English. Bilingual programmes would be suitable for only a few traditional languages in the Kimberley region, notably Kukatja at Balgo, where a programme has been running for some years in the local Catholic school, and Jaru, at Ringers Soak, where a programme has only recently been mooted.

(2) **Language maintenance.** This second type of programme is suitable to situations in which the adults of the community speak the traditional language, but the children speak Kriol or some form of Aboriginal English as their first language. The children usually understand the traditional language when they hear it, but cannot speak it, although they might use some words in their everyday speech. In such situations the language, although very much alive, is declining, and needs help to survive; to achieve this is the purpose of a language maintenance programme. Such programmes are suitable to quite
a number of schools in the Kimberley, including for instance Turkey Creek (Kija language), Bayulu (Gooniyandi), and La Grange (Nyangumarta, Yulparija, Juwaliny, although possibly not the other two community languages, Mangala and Karajarri, for which type (3) language renewal programmes may be more appropriate).

(3) Language renewal. A language renewal programme is one which is designed for the situation in which only a few older adults speak the traditional language fluently, and everyone else speaks Kriol or some form of English. In such situations, the parents of the children might know some of the traditional language, but the children neither speak it nor understand it, although they might know a few important words. A renewal programme would aim at teaching only limited control of the target language. This type of programme would be suitable for many schools in the Kimberley, including for example Bardi at One Arm Point and Lombardina, and Yawuru in Broome.

(4) Language awareness. Language awareness programmes are types of social studies programmes, in which the children are taught about the language, or Aboriginal languages in general, rather than, as in types (1), (2) and (3), taught to speak a language. Programmes of this type are suitable for schools in which the pupils come from diverse traditional language backgrounds, have little or no control of their traditional language, and in which the language is not used to any significant extent in the local community. A programme of this type has been developed for use in Nulungu College in Broome.

The following are useful references on the topic of language programmes in the Kimberley:

Those interested in learning something of Aboriginal attitudes towards education, and their views of the educational needs of their children should consult:

(It should be noted that, as the title indicates, this book is concerned mainly with the east Kimberley.)

The following two books are general references on education in the Aboriginal context which provide useful information for the school teacher. (However, it should be remembered that these books deal with Aboriginal cultures of Arnhem Land, and Kimberley cultures may differ in some respects.)

1.5 Guide for the reader
1.5.1 Organisation of the handbook

Information on the languages is given in chapters 2 to 9, which divide the languages according to the family to which they belong, each chapter dealing with a separate family. The classification followed here is basically that given in O'Grady, Voegelin and Voegelin (1966). It should be noted, however, that this classification is tentative, and subject to revision.

The chapters are divided into numbered sections. The first section in each chapter gives a brief note on some of the major characteristics, and interesting properties of the family. A map of the approximate traditional location of the language is also included. The remaining sections deal with the individual languages, each in a separate section. Beyond the fact that the languages belonging to the same group (or subfamily) appear consecutively, the order of languages in these sections is of no significance. For the reader's convenience, each section starts on a new page (for consistency, the same principle has been employed in the present chapter). The table of contents in the front of the book lists each language in order of its subsection number; the page reference of the subsection is also given.

As mentioned above (section 1.1.2), it is often difficult to draw the line between languages and dialects. In general the following policy has been adopted in deciding whether or not to give a new section to a particular term: When there is a separate entry in the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies Tribal Index, a separate section is given, even when it is known that the term refers to a dialect of a language given under a different name; it is hoped that this will facilitate the recovery of relevant information. Elsewhere, when no entry occurs for a particular name in the A.I.A.S. Index, it is given a separate section only when it is fairly certain that it is a distinct language (either politically or linguistically). In some instances, these decisions result in subsections which contain very little, if any, information.

Each section in chapters 2 to 9 is headed with the language name, given in the recommended spelling, following section 1.3. In addition to this, one or more alternative spellings are usually given in the heading. These are usually the more commonly encountered and well established spelling variants from the linguistic and anthropological literature.

Two indexes, a glossary, and a general bibliography are included at the end of the book. The first index lists language names in alphabetical order. Included in this list are the main spellings of the language name that the reader is likely to encounter (less frequent spellings are listed in the individual subsections, as explained below); also listed are the main dialect names. If the reader is unable to find a particular spelling, he/she is advised to look under similar spellings, bearing in mind the comments made immediately above, and in section 1.2. The recommended spellings of language names are capitalised, and the reader is referred to the appropriate subsection and page number. Other spellings, and dialect names are in lower-case, and refer the reader to the recommended spelling of the main language name.

The second index is an alphabetical list of linguists who have done research on Kimberley languages.

The glossary lists all technical linguistic terms used in the handbook, together with a brief explanation of their meaning.
Finally, the general bibliography lists those works which are referred to repeatedly throughout the text.

1.5.2 Information on the languages

This book gives the following sorts of information about the languages of the Kimberley region: their names; alternative spellings of their names; their traditional and present locations; numbers of speakers; their linguistic classification into families; names of linguists who have worked intensively on them; whether or not there is a practical orthography; main materials — published and unpublished — written in and about them; and their use in educational programmes.

The information on each language is given in a standard format, under twelve headings. It is hoped that this will permit greatest ease in locating the information, and ensure maximum cross-language comparability. The remainder of this section discusses the type of information given under each of the headings.

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

The various names of the language, its dialects, and the alternative spellings that have been used are listed here. Following each name is an indication of its source, where this is known, and/or permitted in the case of unpublished sources. This is given either by an abbreviation referring to a publication (see the section 'Abbreviations', pages vi-vii), or the name of the person who has used it. This person’s usage will normally be found in one or more of the references given under heading number 9 below.

2 Classification of the language:

The family, group and subgroup (where known) of each language is given, according to the classifications of

Oates W.J. & L. Oates 1970. *A revised linguistic survey of Australia*. Canberra: AIAS; and


These two classifications are on the whole (but not invariably) the same. However, as mentioned earlier (section 1.1.1), they are subject to revision.

Reference is also made in this section to the main identification codes that have been used for the languages. This information is given under the following three abbreviated sub-headings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AIAS</td>
<td>code used in A.I.A.S. Library catalogue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capell</td>
<td>code used in A. Capell 1963. <em>Linguistic survey of Australia</em>. Canberra: AIAS. (This is the oldest of the classifications.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3 Present number and distribution of speakers:

There are few, if any, reliable estimates of numbers of speakers of the languages. Most figures given are linguists' estimates based on their own observations, rather than on census figures. In some cases the estimates vary considerably; this is in part due to the fact that some estimates are based on reports by speakers and sometimes non-speakers, rather than direct observations, and in part to the difficulties in the term "speaker" (see W. McGregor and N. Thieberger 1986, Handbooks of Australian languages, in *Language in Aboriginal Australia*, No.2:18-28).

Where possible, estimates are given of present numbers of speakers, including all full speakers, whether they speak the language as a first or a second language.

Information on distribution of speakers may generally be regarded as fairly reliable. However, only the major centres in which the languages are spoken are given. In reality, isolated speakers of many languages may be found scattered over wide areas.

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:

A list is given of linguists and other researchers who have worked intensively on the language. Approximate dates and locations of their field work experience are indicated, where known.

5 Practical orthography:

This refers to the letters and spelling system used to write down the language (see section 1.2 above). Indication is given here as to whether there is an established practical orthography presently in use by speakers of the language, or whether one has been developed but is not yet in use.

The following works provide helpful discussions of issues relating to orthography design:


Street, D. & T. Chestnut 1984. We spell it 'Gooniyandi'. In G.R. McKay & B.A. Sommer, eds *Further applications of linguistics to Australian Aboriginal contexts*, 17-18. ALAA Occasional Papers, 8.

6 Word lists:
Reference is made here to wordlists, published and unpublished, mentioned under heading 9. The author's name is given first, followed by the date of the publication or manuscript, which is given in brackets.

7 Textual material:
Reference is made here to written texts available in the language, and mentioned under heading 9. The author's name is given first, followed by the date of the publication or manuscript, which is given in brackets. Included are mainly transcriptions of spoken texts, although some were originally written; not included are written texts intended as literacy material. Also not included here are transcriptions of texts which appear only in field notebooks.

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
Reference is made here to works listed under heading 9 which are either detailed grammars, or provide outline sketch grammars of the language. The author's name is given first, followed by the date of the publication or manuscript, which is given in brackets.

9 Material available on the language:
This section contains a fairly complete listing of published and unpublished material dealing with each language. The list is alphabetical by author's name and date of publication or production. It will be clear from the information given whether or not the material is published. Indication is given of the catalogue number of the manuscript in the A.I.A.S. library, if known. Some items have an Australian National Library (ANL) manuscript number.

Not included are references that merely mention the language providing no grammatical or sociolinguistic information, and references to the people which do not provide any information about the language.

10 Language programme:
An indication is given as to whether there is a language programme in the local school or community. A brief note is made of its nature, for example, whether it is a bilingual education programme, a language maintenance programme, a language revival programme, or a social studies programme which includes a small segment on language (see section 1.4 for discussion of these terms). In some instances an indication is given of the type of programme suitable for a given language is indicated, particularly where a community has expressed interest in a language programme.
11 Language learning material:
Listed here are works, written in English, for those who wish to learn the language. Most of these works are intended for adult learners.

12 Literacy material:
Included here is reference to material for learning to read, as well as works entirely in the language, such as translations and original literature written in the language and intended for use in schools.
Chapter 2

BUNUBAN FAMILY

2.1 Preliminary remarks

The Bunuban family is a small family comprising just the two languages Bunuba and Gooniyandi, which each have around one hundred speakers living mainly in the central Kimberley region. These two languages are fairly closely related, though not mutually intelligible — that is, someone who learnt only one of them would not be able to fully understand what was being said in the other; they are perhaps as similar as Spanish and Italian.

Capell was the first linguist to recognise that Bunuba and Gooniyandi form a distinct group together. He referred to them as Fitzroy Basin "prefixing languages without noun classification" (Capell 1940:244). This means that they have pronoun prefixes in the verb indicating the "subject" and "object" (for example, the underlined part of the Gooniyandi verb form ngabhida 'they ate it', bid, indicates that the "subject" is 'they'), and no genders for nouns. (However, some of the other features Capell mentions — such as the existence of eleven tenses in Bunuba — are false.) It was not until much later, with the surveys of O'Grady, Voegelin & Voegelin (1966), Oates & Oates (1970) and Oates (1973), that this group was recognised as a language FAMILY, and given the name Bunaban (sic). These surveys went further, distinguishing two groups within the families, which they called Bunabic and Gunianic (see for example Oates & Oates 1970:40).

Some additional characteristics of the Bunuban languages are:

1. They both have the lamino-dental (see page 6 above and glossary) stop th (as in Gooniyandi thada 'dog') and nasal nh (as in Bunuba nhaa 'bush honey' and Gooniyandi nhoo 'his, her, its'). In addition Bunuba (but not Gooniyandi) has a lamino-dental lateral lh (as in Bunuba milha 'meat').

2. They are ergative languages — that is, there is a marker (strictly speaking, an enclitic – see the glossary for an explanation), -yingga in Bunuba and -ngga in Gooniyandi, which goes onto the end of a noun which is the "subject" (doer) of a transitive sentence, but not on the "subject" of an intransitive sentence. It means something like 'by' (much as in the English sentence 'Harry was hit by John'). The following Gooniyandi sentence illustrates this:

\[
\text{nganyi -ngga manyi ngabla} \\
\text{I -ergative food I ate it} \\
\text{I ate (vegetable) food.}
\]

Compare this sentence with the next sentence.
In the sentence immediately above the ergative marker is not attached to the pronoun *nganyi* 'I', because the clause is intransitive.

(3) They have a unique system of pronouns which has just two forms in the first person plural (we): one (*ngidi* in Gooniyandi) means 'we two', and 'we more than two excluding you'; and the other (*yardi* in Gooniyandi) means 'we more than two including you'.

Map 3: Traditional locations of the Bunuban languages
2.2 Bunuba / Bunaba

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   - Bonaba (Worms)
   - Boonooba (KLS)
   - Bunaba (Capell, Rumsey, Oates 1973, Oates & Oates, AIAS, Worms)
   - Bunapa
   - Punaba (Kaberry, Tindale)
   - Punapa
   - Punupa (Taylor)

According to Rumsey (pers. comm.), the language name is /bunuba/, but it is often pronounced with a central to low vowel — i.e. [a] or [a] — in the second syllable. (In Halls Creek it is often pronounced with the vowel [i] in the second syllable, that is, as though it were Buniba.) Capell (1940:416) identifies two dialects, an eastern dialect and a western dialect; he claims that they differ mainly in that the eastern dialect has a simpler verbal conjugation than the western dialect.

2 Classification of the language:
   - Bunuban family, Bunubic (Bunabic) group

Identification codes:
   - AIAS: K5
   - Oates 1973: 44
   - Capell: K2

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   - Junjuwa (Fitzroy Crossing), Brooking Springs, Mowanjum (Derby), Halls Creek
   - Rumsey (pers. comm.) — 50 to 100

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   - Howard Coate, mid-1960s, Fitzroy Crossing
   - Alan Rumsey, 1978-1980, Mowanjum, Fitzroy Crossing
   - Charles Rohrbach, 1982, Fitzroy Crossing

According to Oates & Oates (1970:40), Fr. Peile has also recorded some material.

5 Practical orthography:
   - Rumsey uses a practical orthography, which employs the voiced stop series.

6 Word lists:
   - Capell (1940, 1966), Coate (1963), Hudson & Richards et al. (1976)
7 Textual material:
Coate (1963), Rumsey (1982)

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
Coate (1963), Rumsey (1980)

9 Material available on the language:
Capell, A. 1940. The classification of languages in north and north-west Australia. 
       *Oceania* 10:241-272, 404-433.
Coate, H.H. 1963. Bunaba. various paging. typescript. AIAS.
       4pp. AIAS.
       and culture.  Work Papers of SIL-AAB, B1.  Darwin: SIL.
Nekes, H. & E.A. Worms 1953. *Australian languages*.  Micro-Bibliotheca Anthropos,
Rumsey, A. 1978-80. [Bunuba fieldnotes]. manuscript.
       [___] . 1980. A brief tentative description of Bunaba. manuscript.
       social functions. In J. Heath, F. Merlan & A. Rumsey, eds *The languages of kinship*
       University of Sydney.
       [___] . 1957. Australian mythological terms: their etymology and dispersion. 
       *Anthropos* 52:732-768.

10 Language programme:
Oral Bunuba classes were run for the first time in the Fitzroy Crossing School in 1982,
and again in 1985. A language maintenance programme would be suitable.

11 Language learning material:
None

12 Literacy material:
None
2.3 Gooniyandi / Gunian / Kuniyanti

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

- Ginijan (Capell)
- Goonien
- Gooniyandi (Street & Chestnut, Hudson, KLS)
- Gunan
- Gunian (Capell, Oates & Oates, AIAS, Tsunoda)
- Guniani
- Gunijan
- Guniyani (Black & Walsh, Oates 1973)
- Guniyandi (McGregor)
- Gun-yan (Bates)
- Konean (Birdsell)
- Konejandi (Tindale)
- Kunan
- Kunian (Kaberry)
- Kuniyan (Taylor)
- Kuniyanti (McGregor)

Speakers generally feel the form ending in -n to be a shortening, and prefer that the long form (ending in -ndi or -nti, depending on the spelling) be used in written reference to the language. See Street & Chestnut (1984) and McGregor (1984b:1, 58).

2 Classification of the language:

- Bunuban family, Gooniyanic group

Identification codes:

- AIAS: K6
- Oates 1973: 45
- Capell: K11

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:

- Junjuwa and Kurnangki (Fitzroy Crossing), Bayulu, Mulurrja, Looma, Yiyili, Fossil Downs Station, Halls Creek; there are also a few speakers living in Kununurra.
- McGregor (1984) — 100
- Hudson (1984) — 150
- Oates 1973 — 50
- Birdsell (1970) — virtually extinct (p.118)

Birdsell's estimate is based on information provided to him by Walmajarri people, and this presumably explains the low figure (see page 19 above).
4 People who have worked intensively on the language:

Howard Coate, mid-1960s, Fossil Downs station
Carrol Morris, 1979, Fitzroy Crossing
William McGregor, 1980 onwards, Fitzroy Crossing, Bayulu, Yiyili, Mulurrja

5 Practical orthography:

In 1983, with assistance from David Street and Topsy Chestnut, Joyce Hudson developed a practical orthography for use in Yiyili Community School (see Hudson 1984a and b, Street & Chestnut 1984). This orthography was designed for maximum ease of transfer from English to Gooniyandi literacy. Earlier, in 1982, McGregor had developed a phonemic orthography for use in the Yiyili Community School, using the same symbols as Walmajarri, plus th and nh. This system is used in his early publications; more recently he has recommended a compromise phonemic orthography for use in linguistic publications (McGregor 1986d).

6 Word lists:

Capen (1940), Coate (1967), McGregor (1984b), Morris & Street (nd)

7 Textual material:

Coate (nd), McGregor (1984b, 1988b)

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:

Coate (nd), McGregor (1980c, 1984b)

9 Material available on the language:

For a fuller listing see:


Bates, D. nd. Native vocabularies — Halls Creek. manuscript.


Coate, H. 1967. Notes on three dead languages. various paging. typescript. AIAS (Includes vocabulary of Gooniyandi.)

____. nd. [Guniandi texts and grammatical notes.] manuscript.


2.3 GOONIYANDI / GUNIAN / KUNIYANTI

____. 1981b. Ergativity in Kuniyanti. manuscript.
____. 1982a. Kuniyanti field notebooks. manuscript. AIAS Ms 1698.
____. 1982b. Kuniyanti writing. 66pp. manuscript. AIAS Ms 1702.
____. 1986b. Phrasal discontinuity and related matters in Gooniyandi. manuscript.
____. forthcoming b. A functional grammar of Gooniyandi. (To be published by John Benjamins.)
Morris, C. & D. Street nd. Gunian dictionary. typescript.

10 Language programme:
A small language and culture programme was initiated in Fitzroy Crossing School in 1982, but this ceased operation in the same year. The Yiyili Community School started a language and literacy programme in 1983, but this foundered in late 1984 with the loss of the teacher-linguist. In 1985 the Fitzroy Crossing School again started an oral language programme, Gooniyandi being one of the languages taught. The programme ceased operation during 1985, but the school is keen to reintroduce it. A language programme was introduced into the Gogo primary school in 1987, and ran successfully throughout the year. It has continued through 1988.

11 Language learning material:
None

12 Literacy material:
_____ . 1988. Read Gooniyandi. Halls Creek: KLRC.
_____ . in preparation. Gooniyandi sourcebook. Halls Creek: KLRC.
Chapter 3

JARRAKAN FAMILY

3.1 Preliminary remarks

The Jarrakan family — Djeragan in earlier spelling — is a fairly small group of four or five languages (the exact number is not certain), which were traditionally located in a narrow belt extending in a north-east direction from about Fitzroy Crossing in the southern central Kimberley (somewhere near the junction of the Fitzroy River and Margaret River), to Cambridge Gulf, near the Northern Territory border. It should be noted that Tindale's suggestion (Tindale 1974:245) that the term Jarrakan is a corruption of Durack, the name of a well known family of pastoralists in the eastern Kimberley, is in fact quite wrong. The name of the language family derives from the word jarrak, which means 'language', 'talk', or 'speech' in the Jarrakan languages (see Capell 1940:404).

It seems that the languages fall into two groups, Kijic (Gidjic, in O'Grady, Voegelin & Voegelin 1966) and Miriwoongic (Miriwunic, in O'Grady, Voegelin & Voegelin 1966), named after Kija and Miriwoong, the main languages in each subgroup. The Kijic group includes, in addition to Kija, the named varieties Lungga and Kuluwarrang, and possibly the very poorly attested Walgi. The Miriwoongic group consists of Miriwoong and Gajirrawoong, and possibly also Doolboong.

Capell (1940) identified this family, referring to it as the Djerag group of prefixing, dual classifying languages. In other words, these languages have pronoun prefixes in the verb which indicate the "subject" (doer) and "object" (done to), and two noun classes, or, rather, genders. For instance, in the Miriwoong word ngemberridawoon 'they were hitting me', ngem is a prefix indicating that the action was done to me, and berr is a prefix indicating that it was done by more than one person other than the hearer, them. And in Kija, nouns are either masculine or feminine, and can take the endings -ny (following a vowel) or -ji (following a consonant), and -l (following a vowel) or -el (following a consonant) respectively. Furthermore, adjectives must agree in gender with the noun they qualify, and the correct gender of a pronoun must be used when referring to something. There is also a third possibility: the noun or adjective can take a neuter-plural suffix, usually -m for word ending in a vowel, and neuter-plural pronoun agreement, either when there is more than one thing being referred to (particularly if they are human beings or animals), or when an object or substance is being referred to. For example, compare:

*timanany tany jirrawuny*

stallion that (male) one (male)

'that one stallion';
3.1 PRELIMINARY REMARKS

*timanal* tal *jirrawul*
mare that (female) one (female)
'that one mare';

and

*timanam* tam *melakawum*
horses those many
'those many horses'

Note also that the masculine pronoun *nhawun* 'he' would be used to refer to the single stallion in the first of these examples; the feminine *ngal* 'she', to the mare of the second example; and *purru* 'them' to the horses of the third example.

Other properties of the Jarrakan languages include the following: (1) They have the lamino-dental stop (see page 6 above and glossary) *th* (as in Miriwoong *dath* 'cool down') and nasal *nh* (as in Kija *nhawun* 'he'); there seems to be no corresponding phoneme *lh*, although this sound does occur in some Kija idiolects (McConvell, pers.comm.). (2) Verbs are either simple or compound. Simple verbs are inflected for tense and person and number of the "subject" and "object"; compound verbs consist of an uninflected preverb, together with an inflected auxiliary verb. An example of a simple verb is the Miriwoong form *ngember ridawoon* 'they were hitting me', quoted above. And an example of a compound verb is *yangge nilanda-ni* 'I asked him', where *yangge* is a preverb meaning 'ask', *nilanda* is an auxiliary verb meaning 'I put it' and *-ni* means 'to him'. (3) No Jarrakan language is ergative (see glossary for an explanation of the meaning of this term).

Map 4: Traditional locations of the Jarrakan languages
3.2 Kija / Gidja

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Gidja (Berndt, Tsunoda, Tindale, Peile, Capell, Oates)
   Gidya (Worms)
   Giidja (Berndt)
   Gija (Hudson & McConvell)
   Kija (McConvell, McGregor)
   Kidja (Kaberry)
   Kitja (Black, Black & Walsh, Taylor)
   Kisha (Mathews, Bates)
   Loonga
   Lunga (Kaberry)
   Lungga (Black, Oates, Capell, Tindale)
   Lungar (Bates)
   Lungka

Dialect names:
   Baiambal (Kaberry)
   Burnana (Kaberry)

There is considerable disagreement among both Aborigines and white researchers as to the exact meaning of the term "Lungka". Some have suggested that it refers to the old people's variety of the language; Kija to the younger people's variety. Others (e.g. Taylor & Taylor (1971:100)) suggest that Kija and Lungka are different dialects. Other information is that they are exactly the same language. The most likely possibility would seem to be that, as a number of older speakers claim, Lungka is the Jaru name for Kija, and probably means 'naked' (cf. Berndt 1975:123).

Kaberry (1937:92) mentions that the terms Baiambal and Burnana are sometimes used by Bunuba and Jaru people in reference to Kija. However, Kaberry seems to be mistaken here, at least as regards the first term, which must refer to the Bayambarr dialect of Ungarinyin.

2 Classification of the language:
   Jarrakan family, Kijic group

Identification codes:
   AIAS: K20
   Oates 1973: 42.1
   Capell: K10

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Halls Creek to Kununurra
   Taylor & Taylor (1971) — 300
4 People who have worked intensively on the language:

Peter Taylor & Joy Taylor, 1960s and 1970s, mainly at Halls Creek
Ian Kirkby, from 1982, mainly at Turkey Creek
Patrick McConvell, from 1984, mainly at Turkey Creek

5 Practical orthography:

The Kija variant of the South Kimberley orthography was developed by Patrick McConvell, and has been used in the Kija language programme in the Ngalangangpum School (Turkey Creek). Earlier, Taylor had developed a practical orthography which differs only slightly from this.

6 Word lists:

Kaberry (1937), Capell (1940), Bates (nd), Hudson & McConvell (1984), Mathews (1901), Peile (nd), Tsunoda (1975-1979), Taylor (nd f)

7 Textual material:

Berndt (1975), Capell (nd), Taylor (nd c)

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:

Capell (1940), McConvell (1981, 1986b), Taylor (1969a, nd a,b,d,e,), Taylor & Hudson (1976)

9 Material available on the language:

____ . nd. Gidja phrasebook. Transcribed by P. Taylor. various pagination. manuscript.
3.2 KIJA / GIDJA

McGregor, W. 1980. Gunian field notebooks. manuscript. AIAS Ms 1493. (Includes some Kija pronominal forms.)
Peile, A.R. nd. Field notes Warayngari. 182pp. manuscript. AIAS Ms 322.

1969b. Finger talk. 5pp. manuscript.
nd b. [Kitja sentence types.] np. manuscript.
nd c. [Kitja narratives.] various pagination. typescript and manuscript.
nd d. [Some Kitja verb paradigms.] 3pp. manuscript.
nd e. [Kitja preverbs.] np. manuscript.
nd f. [Kitja dictionary.] np. manuscript.
nd g. [Kitja phonology.] np. manuscript.
nd h. Kitja phonemes and allophones. 3pp. typescript.
nd i. Kitja genealogies. np. manuscript.
nd j. Language survey material. np. manuscript.

Tsunoda, T. 1975-1979. [Djaru field notes. Halls Creek, etc.] manuscript. AIAS Ms 1381.

10 Language programme:

A language maintenance programme was initiated in Ngalangangpum School, Turkey Creek, in 1984, employing Patrick McConvell as the linguist; Frances Kofod is currently employed in this position. Small scale programmes in adult literacy were run in previous years, with the assistance of SAL.

A language awareness programme is also being conducted in Nulungu College (Broome), for Kija children.

11 Language learning material:

Taylor, P. nd. [Conversation drills and sentences.] np. typescript and manuscript.

12 Literacy material:

In addition to the following titles, most of which were produced at the Ngalangangpum School in Turkey creek, for use in the Kija language programme, Joyce Hudson is preparing a set of materials for use in the language awareness programme being conducted in Nulungu College.

3.2 KIJA / GIDJA


____ . 1986e. *Sad Willie*. (Translations of books in the series "Kimberley kids" (originals in Kukatja).) Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.


____ nd a. Literacy materials. [Dictionary.] np. manuscript.

____ nd b. [Literacy materials. Dictionary.] np. manuscript.


3.3 Kuluwarrang / Guluwarin

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   - Gooloowarrang (KLS)
   - Gulawurong (SIL)
   - Guluwarin (AIAS, Black, Capell, Oates)
   - Guluwarung (SIL)
   - Kuluwarin (Taylor)

It is not clear whether Kuluwarrang is a distinct language from Kija, a dialect, or just an alternative name for the language — some Miriwoong speakers appear to use this term in preference to the term Kija. Some Turkey Creek people say that Kuluwarrang is the Turkey Creek dialect of Kija, whereas Lungka is the Halls Creek dialect; however, others do not agree (Frances Kofod, pers.comm.). According to Capell (1940:405) and Taylor (see Oates 1975:49), the name is probably derived from kulu 'water' and waring 'two'.

2 Classification of the language:
   - Jarrakan family, Kijic group.

   Identification codes:
   - AIAS: K33
   - Oates 1973: 42.2
   - Capell: K10

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Glasgow, Hocking and Steiner report some speakers in Wyndham.

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   - No one

5 Practical orthography:
   None currently in use; Kija variant of the South Kimberley orthography would be suitable.

6 Word lists:
   - Capell (1940), Summer Institute of Linguistics (1971)

7 Textual material:
   - None

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   Capell (1940:405) contains the only grammatical information.
9 Material available on the language:
Summer Institute of Linguistics. 1971. AIAS word list for N.E. Kimberleys survey: Gulawurong language. AIAS tape A2182. 18pp. manuscript.

10 Language programme:
None

11 Language learning material:
None

12 Literacy material:
None
3.4 Walgi

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Walgi (Oates & Oates, Capell)
   Walki (Oates & Oates, Ray)

   Possible alternative names:
   Chualinma (Ray)
   Cowran a (Ray)

Very little is known about this language, Ray (1897) providing the only source materials. The items given in Ray's wordlist (which was collected by an E. Rigby) clearly demonstrate that this is a dialect of Kija. However, limited discussion with Halls Creek Kija people revealed that they were unable to identify either Walgi or either of the two alternatives (see above) given by Ray. (It was suggested, however, that Walji was the name of an important cave located in Kija country, and that Chualinma might be the Walmajarri dialect Juwaliny (see section 8.10).)

2 Classification of the language:
   Jarrakan family, probably of the Kijic group.

   Identification codes:
   AIAS: K11
   Oates 1973: (not included) (Oates & Oates 1970: 1Kr)
   Capell: K19

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   None known

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   No one; however, apparently an Ernest Rigby collected a short wordlist in the years 1890-1893, in Wyndham (see Ray (1897)).

5 Practical orthography:
   None

6 Word lists:
   Ray (1897)

7 Textual material:
   None

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   None
9 Material available on the language:

10 Language programme:
None

11 Language learning material:
None

12 Literacy material:
None
3.5 Miriwoong / Miriwung

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

   Mariu (Tindale)
   Mariung (Capell)
   Mireau (Nekes & Worms)
   Miriau (Worms)
   Miringg (SIL)
   Miriung (Peile, SIL)
   Miriwing (SIL)
   Miriwoong (KLS)
   Miriwnun (Capell, O'Grady, Oates & Oates, AIAS)
   Miriwung (Black, Kofod, Oates, Cooling)
   Miriwoong (Tindale)
   Mirung (Harrison)

The spelling Miriwoong has been adopted in Kununurra for the proposed Miriwoong Language Resource Centre.

2 Classification of the language:

    Jarrakan family, Miriwoongic (Miriwunic) group

    Identification codes:

    AIAS: K29
    Oates 1973: 43.1
    Capell: K14

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:

    Kununurra and nearby communities
    Kofod (1978) — 20 full speakers (many more part speakers — Kofod, pers.comm)
    Irvine — 80 to 100 speakers
    Milliken — 56 speakers
    Sutton — 350 speakers

It would seem that the most likely figure is in the vicinity of 100 speakers (Kofod and Irvine, pers.comm.); Sutton's estimate cannot be regarded as particularly reliable since it is not based on field investigation.

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:

    Frances Kofod, 1971-1974, Kununurra

5 Practical orthography:

In 1987 the Catholic Education Language Team decided on a variant of the North Kimberley orthography, to be used in Miriwoong materials being produced for the language awareness programme in Nulungu College.
6 Word lists:
    Capell (1940), Cooling (nd a, nd b, nd c), Kofod (nd, 1976a, 1978), Hudson &

7 Textual material:
    Cooling (nd a, nd b, nd c), Kofod (1978)

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
    Kofod (nd, 1978)

9 Material available on the language:
    Capell, A. 1940. The classification of languages in north and north-west Australia. 
    *Oceania* 10:241-272, 404-433.
    Cooling, G. nd a. [Transcript of tape A1730, field tape 2: material collected at Kununurra,
    W.A., from the Miriwung people.] 2,4,4pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 374. (A2;B2).
    ____ . nd b. [Transcript of tape A1730 and A1807, field tape 2: material collected at
    (A2;B2).
    ____ . nd c. [Transcript of tape A1807, field tapes 1, 1a, 1b: material collected at
    Kununurra, W.A., from the Miriwung people.] 17pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 376.
    (A2;B2).
    *Oceania* 8/1:90-103.
    AIAS Ms 1896 (A1;B5)
    ____ . 1976b. Are Australian languages syntactically nominative-ergative or
    nominative-accusative?: Miriwung. In R.M.W. Dixon, ed. *Grammatical categories in
    Australian languages*, 584-586. Canberra: AIAS.
    ____ . 1976c. Simple and compound verbs: conjugation by auxiliaries in Australian
    verbal systems: Miriwung. In R.M.W. Dixon, ed. *Grammatical categories in
    Australian languages*, 646-653. Canberra: AIAS.
    ____ . 1978. The Miriwung language (East Kimberley): a phonological and
    AIAS Ms 107. (A1;B5).
    ____ . nd. [Outline of Miriwung grammar]. typescript and manuscript. In possession
    of Alan Dench, copy given to KLRC.
    Summer Institute of Linguistics. 1971. AIAS word list for N.E. Kimberleys survey:
    Miriwing/Miringg. 18pp. manuscript. AIAS tape A2175.
    *Anthropos* 52:732-768.
10 Language programme:
Saint Joseph's Catholic School in Kununurra held Miriwoong classes in early to mid 1980s. There are plans to begin SAL type literacy classes in Miriwoong for adults literate in English in 1987.
A Miriwoong language awareness course is planned for Nulungu College, and materials are produced using the orthography described above.

11 Language learning material:
None

12 Literacy material:
None
3.6 Gajirrawoong / Gadjerong

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Gadjerawang (AIAS, Black & Walsh)
   Gadjerong (Oates, AIAS, Tindale, Capell, O'Grady)
   Gadyerong (Hoddinott)
   Gajirrawoong (KLS)
   Kadjerawang
   Kadjeroen
   Kadjerong
   Kadpjeroen
   Kajirrawung (McGregor)

2 Classification of the language:
   Jarrakan family, Miriwoongic (Miriwunic) group

Identification codes:
   AIAS: K37.1
   Oates 1973: 43.2
   Capell: K9

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   There are some speakers in Kununurra.

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   Frances Kofod did some recording in the mid 1970s, and later in the mid 1980s, mainly at Kununurra.
   Leone Dunn apparently did some recording in early 1980s in Kununurra.

5 Practical orthography:
   None presently in use; the Miriwoong variant of the North Kimberley orthography would seem to be most appropriate.

6 Word lists:
   Capell (1940)

7 Textual material:
   None published, though Kofod has recorded some.

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   None, but Kofod is in the process of preparing a sketch grammar.
9 Material available on the language:

10 Language programme:
None

11 Language learning material:
None

12 Literacy material:
None
3.7 Doolboong / Tulpung

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   - Doolboong (Kofod)
   - Du:lŋari (Tindale)
   - Duulngari (Tindale)
   - Tulpung (McGregor)
   - Kurramo (Tindale)

Tindale's Duulngari (Du:lŋari) has been taken as a variant name of Doolboong, because: (1) it is spoken in the approximate area Doolboong was apparently spoken; (2) Miriwoong speakers sometimes refer to the language as Doolboongarri (it is possible that Tindale's spelling is based on a mishearing of the latter term); and (3) -ngarri is a pan-Kimberley suffix, which usually carries a meaning like 'with', or 'having', and is sometimes attached to language names (see also Worla, in section 5.13).

2 Classification of the language:

There is no information available on the language, and it is not certain what family it belongs to; it has been tentatively placed in the Jarrakan family because Miriwoong and Gajirrawoong speakers say that it was like Gajirrawoong. However, because of its location, it may well belong to the Worrorran family.

Identification codes:
   - AIAS: (not included)
   - Oates 1973: (not included)
   - Capell: (not included)

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   No speakers remain; apparently the language was traditionally spoken to the north of Wyndham, and to the west of Gajirrawoong country (Kofod, pers.comm.); see also Tindale's map.

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   No one

5 Practical orthography:
   None; none needed.

6 Word lists:
   None

7 Textual material:
   None
8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   None

9 Material available on the language:
   Nothing

10 Language programme:
   None

11 Language learning material:
   None

12 Literacy material:
   None
Chapter 4

NYULNYULAN FAMILY

4.1 Preliminary remarks

This family consists of ten named languages, corresponding to ten named tribal groups, located on the Dampier Land Peninsula and nearby parts of the Kimberley. They are Bardi, Jawi, Nyulnyul, Jabirrjabirr, Nimanburru, Ngumbarl, Jukun, Nyikina, Warrwa and Yawuru. These languages are all quite closely related. However, the exact details of the relationships between them is not perfectly clear: Capell (1966:103) suggests they may be dialects of a single language; the surveys of the 1970s would seem to agree — they do not distinguish groups (see Oates & Oates 1970:43, and Oates 1975:58-61). More recently, Hudson & McConvell (1984:19) have divided the family into two named languages, Bardi — having dialects Jawi, Nyulnyul, Jabirrjabirr, Nimanburru, Ngumbarl, and Jukun — and Nyikina — having dialects Warrwa, and Yawuru. Stokes (1982:8) is in substantial agreement, calling the two languages "Western" and "Eastern" respectively. Stokes, however, tentatively puts Nimanburru in the "Eastern" language, and indicates that there is not enough evidence to classify either Ngumbarl or Jukun.

Capell (1940:244) first identified this group of languages, referring to them as Dampier Land "prefixing languages without noun classification". That is, they have pronoun prefixes in the verb which indicate the person of the "subject" (for example, the underlined part of the Nyulnyul verb ngajirdin 'I am going', nga-, indicates that the "subject" is 'I'), and have no genders for nouns. But unlike the Bunuban languages, the Nyulnyulan languages do not have "object" prefixes: instead they have suffixed (more precisely, encliticised) "object" pronouns; for example, the underlined part of the Bardi verb inimbinangayu 'he hit me' indicates that the "object" is 'me'. Other properties of the languages of this family are as follows: (1) They are ergative — that is, there is a marker called a POSTPOSITION (much like an English preposition except that it comes after a noun rather than before it) which goes onto a noun or pronoun that is the subject of a transitive sentence only, meaning something like 'by' in the English sentence 'Harry was hit by John'. If the sentence is intransitive, the marker is not used. This postposition has a form like -nimi, -in, or -ni, depending on the language. Here is an example from Nyikina:

\begin{verbatim}
yoongoorrookoo -ni kanya yilinyjirrka
water snake -ergative that it ate them
That water snake ate them up.
\end{verbatim}

(2) The first person pronouns are unusual: the word meaning 'you and I' (yay in Nyulnyul) is treated as a singular form, while the word for 'I and another' (yadirr in
Nyulnyul) is dual (=two). (3) Verbs are either simple or compound: simple verbs are inflected with tense and pronoun prefixes, as in the Nyikina example above; compound verbs consist of an preverb which does not change its form (that is, it is invariant). This preverb is always followed by a simple verb, which functions somewhat like an auxiliary verb in English. For example, in Nyikina 'to grab' is expressed by a compound verb: the invariant form rook followed by a form of the simple verb -mi- 'give', as in rook yinmina 'he made a grab'. (For a general discussion of this family, with examples, see Capell 1966:103-106.)

The Nyulnyulan languages, especially Nyulnyul, had been studied more intensively than any other Kimberley languages in the early decades of the century, first by the Trappists (Beagle Bay Mission), later by the Pallottines (also of Beagle Bay Mission), of whom Fathers Nekes and Worms are well known for their linguistic and anthropological work. However, little has been done since, and only for Nyikina and Bardi are there detailed descriptions by modern linguists. Depth study of these languages is urgently required; they are today the least viable of the Kimberley languages, and only Bardi has a significant number of speakers.

Reference

Map 5: Traditional locations of the Nyulnyulan languages
4.2 Bardi / Baad

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

Baad (Porteus)
Bad (Worms)
Bad (Nekes & Worms)
Ba:d (Capell, Douglas, Porteus)
Ba:d (Capell)
Ba:di
Ba:di (Stokes)
Bard (Capell, O'Grady, Peile)
Barda (Bates, Campbell & Bird)
Bardi (ALAS, Black, Kerr, Metcalfe, Oates, Robinson)
Bardi (Metcalf)
Bardi (Metcalf)

There is considerable disagreement among Dampier Land people as to whether Baad ([ba:d]) or Bardi ([ba:di]) is the correct name for the language. According to Metcalfe (pers.comm.), the language name is often pronounced with a final voiceless (or silent) vowel as a dialectal variant among the 'Mainlanders'; this devoicing of final vowels is less common among the former 'Islanders', most whom now live at One Arm Point (cf. Metcalfe 1975:2).

2 Classification of the language:

Nyulnyulan family

Identification codes:
AIAS: K15
Oates 1973: 49.1b
Capell: K1

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:

One Arm Point, Lombardina, Broome, Derby (formerly Sunday Island)
Metcalf — 360 (including children and other semispeakers)
Stokes — approximately 100 full speakers

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:

Frs. Herman Nekes and Ernest Worms, from 1930s to 1950s, mainly at Beagle Bay
Howard Coate, mid 1960s, Sunday Island
Wilfred Douglas, 1950s, Sunday Island
Geoffrey O'Grady, late 1950s
Toby Metcalfe, 1969-1971, Derby and Sunday Island
5 Practical orthography:

A practical orthography for Bardi has been developed at the Lombardina Catholic School, under the guidance of Joyce Hudson. This is the Dampier Land variety of the North Kimberley orthography, described above (page 7). Earlier, in 1979 Metcalfe suggested a practical orthography which differs only in that it uses u and uu, instead of oo and oo, for the short and long high back vowels, respectively.

6 Word lists:


7 Textual material:


8 Grammar or sketch grammar:

Metcalfe (1972, 1975, 1979)

9 Material available on the language:


Douglas, W.H. nd. Nul-nul and Bardi vocabulary, extracted from notes by A. Capell. manuscript. AIAS pMs 2169.


Kerr, N.F. nd. A comparative word-list: Nyigina and neighbouring languages. typescript. AIAS Ms.


____. 1970f. [Transcript of tape A1839a], field tape no.2(1): death, burial and existence after death. 21pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 1226.

____. 1970g. [Transcript of tape A1839a], field tape no.2(1): the "magic" drunkard. 6pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 1229.

____. 1970h. [Transcript of tape A1839b], field tape no.2(2): "that game of guns". 4,6pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 1230.


____. 1975. *Bardi verb morphology (northwestern Australia)*. PL, B-30.


____. nd a. [Transcript of tape A1681, filed tape No.4]: a series of thirteen traditional myths and stories (Bardi). 49pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 1225. (A1;B1).

____. nd b. [Transcript of tape A1910, field tape no.3]: "an account of a return journey by car between Derby and Lombardina". 6pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 1232.

____. nd c. [Transcript of tape A1910, field tape no.3]: "the drowning of Constable McLeay". 9pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 1231.

____. nd d. [Transcript of tape A1910, field tape no.3]: "drunken man dancing with his dog". 7pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 1233.

____. nd e. [Transcript of tape A1910, field tape no.3]: "the heartless murderer and punitive action taken against him". 8pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 1235.

____. nd f. [Transcript of tape A1910, field tape no.3]: "the joking murderer and punitive action taken against him". 6pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 1234.

____. nd g. [Transcript of tape A1910, field tape no.3]: "the killing of the 'Bilikin' brothers". 8pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 1236.

____. nd h. [Transcript of tape A1910, field tape no.3]: "punitive expeditions against the Bardi". 17pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 1237.
4.2 BARDI / BAAD

Nekes, H. 1931-1947. Kimberleys language material: D'aro, N'ol N'ol, etc. 7pts. manuscript. AIAS Ms 35. (A1;B2).


Peile, A.R. nd. Field notes Warayngari. 182pp. manuscript. AIAS Ms 322.


Stokes, B. 1978. Field notes: Nyigina. manuscript. AIAS A3 35. (A3a;B1).


Worms, E.A. 1938a. Foreign words in some Kimberley tribes in North-Western Australia. Oceania 8:458-462.


10 Language programme:
A limited programme is in operation in Lombardina Catholic School, under the
guidance of Joyce Hudson. The community at One Arm Point is keen for the Education
Department to introduce a language programme in the local state school. Earlier, from
1977 to 1982 Bardi classes were conducted in Derby High School, but this ceased due to
lack of finance.

11 Language learning material:
None

12 Literacy material:
None
4.3 Jawi / Djawi

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Djaoi (Worms)
   Djau (Peile)
   Djau (Capell, Oates, O'Grady)
   Djawi (AIAS, Bates, Black, Black & Walsh, Capell, Kerr, Robinson)
   Dyao (Nekes & Worms)
   Dyawi (Stokes)
   Jarrau
   Jaw (Hudson & McConvell)
   Chowie (Bird)
   Ewene
   Ewenyoon
   Ewenyun
   Tohawi
   Towahi

Both pronunciations Jawi and Jaw may be heard on the Dampier Land peninsula, presumably motivated by the same factors as motivate the alternate pronunciations Bardi and Bard (see page 52 above). The last five terms above are reported as language names in Oates & Oates (1970), but nowhere else. Presumably the last two are mishearings of Jawi; the other three are no doubt renditions of the name of Sunday Island, Irrwany (cf. Campbell & Bird 1914/1915).

2 Classification of the language:
   Nyulnyulan family
   Identification codes:
   AIAS: K16
   Oates 1973: 49.1e
   Capell: K4

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   There may be a few (part) speakers in Lombardina, One Arm Point, Beagle Bay Metcalfe — no remaining speakers (last 3 died in 1971), but about a dozen part speakers
   Peile — 4-5 speakers, Sunday Island
   Stokes — less than 10

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   William Bird, early 1900s, Sunday Island
   Howard Coate, mid 1960s, Sunday Island
   Nora Kerr, late 1960s
5 **Practical orthography:**
None is presently in use; the Dampier Land variant of the North Kimberley orthography would be suitable.

6 **Word lists:**
- Bates (nd), Beagle Bay Mission (1890-1930), Bird (1915), Campbell & Bird (1914/15), Capell (1966), Kerr (nd), Nekes (1939), Peile (nd)

7 **Textual material:**
- Metcalfe (nd); according to Oates & Oates (1970), Peile has some recorded textual material, which remains in manuscript form.

8 **Grammar or sketch grammar:**
- Bird (1910), Beagle Bay Mission (1890-1930), Coate (1967)

9 **Material available on the language:**
- Beagle Bay Mission. 1890-1930. [Nyol-Nyol language material.] manuscript. AIAS Ms 1. (Includes some Jawi vocabulary.)
- Kerr, N.F. nd. A comparative word-list: Nyigina and neighbouring languages. 99pp. typescript. AIAS.
- Metcalfe, C.D. nd. [Transcript of tape A1681, filed tape no.4]: a series of thirteen short traditional myths and stories (Bardi). 49pp. typescript. AIAS. (Text of story 3 includes Jawi words in brackets.)
- Nekes, H. 1931-1947. Kimberleys language material: D'aro, N'ol N'ol, etc. 7pts. manuscript. AIAS Ms 35. (A1;B2).
- Peile, A. R. nd. Field notes Warayngari. 182pp. manuscript. AIAS Ms 322.
Stokes, B. 1985. The verb from Noonkanbah to Broome: "alternative-prefixing" verbal systems of the West Kimberley. manuscript.
Worms, E.A. 1938a. Foreign words in some Kimberley tribes in North-Western Australia. *Oceania* 8:458-462.

10 Language programme:
None

11 Language learning material:
None

12 Literacy material:
None
4.4 Nyulnyul/NjulNjul/NyolNyol

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   - Niol-Niol (Bischofs)
   - Niol/Niol
   - Niol niol (Bischofs)
   - Niol Niol (Bischofs)
   - Njol-Njol (Nekes & Worms)
   - Njol Njol (Worms)
   - Njulnjul (Capell, Metcalfe, Robinson, Tindale)
   - Njul-njul
   - Njul-Njul (Oates, Capell, AIAS)
   - Nyolnyol
   - Nyol-Nyol (Nekes, Worms)
   - Nyool-Nyool (Hudson & McConville)
   - Nyool Nyool (Campbell & Bird)
   - Nyoolyool (Bates)
   - Nyulnyul (Black, Black & Walsh, O'Grady)
   - NyulNyul (Oates & Oates)
   - Nyul-Nyul (Kerr)
   - Nyul Nyul (Stokes)
   - Yowera

2 Classification of the language:
   - Nyulnyulan family

Identification codes:
   - AIAS: K13
   - Oates1973: 49.1a
   - Capell: K17

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   - Probably only one remaining full speaker, and a few semi-speakers, who live in Broome and Derby.
   - Stokes — less than 10

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   - Fr. P. Bischofs, early 1900s, Beagle Bay
   - Frs. Herman Nekes and Ernest Worms 1930s to 1950s, Beagle Bay and Broome
   - William McGregor, 1985 onwards, Broome

5 Practical orthography:
   None in general use. However, Torres & Williams (1987) uses the Dampier Land variant of the North Kimberley orthography.
6 Word lists:
Bates (nd), Bischofs (1905-1914b, nd), Capell (1940, 1966), Douglas (nd), Kerr (nd), Lands et al. (1987), Moyle (nd), Nekes (1939), Torres & Williams (1987), Worms (1938a, 1938b, 1942, 1944, 1949, 1957)

7 Textual material:
Capell (1949), Huegel (1938-1971), Nekes & Worms (1953), Worms (1957, 1959)
Stokes recorded two texts in the language in the late 1970s, and McGregor recorded a dozen or so short texts in 1988. None of these are as yet published.

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
B (nd), Bischofs (1905-1914a), Douglas (1950), Nekes (1939), Tachon (1900)

9 Material available on the language:
B. nd. Premiers éléments de la langue Nioll-Niol. 19 pp. typescript. (Only identification given on original is: Fr.B — A.S.G.S. "avec l'aide des Mss. de premiers Missionnaires") AIAS.
Beagle Bay Mission. 1890-1930. [Nyol-Nyol language material.] manuscript. AIAS Ms 1. (Includes some Jawi vocabulary.)
_____ . nd. Nul-nul and Bad vocabulary, extracted from notes by A. Capell. manuscript. AIAS pMs 2169.
Kerr, N.F. nd. A comparative word-list: Nyigina and neighbouring languages. manuscript. AIAS Ms.

Moyle, A.M. nd. Index of Australian Aboriginal song words. 19pp. manuscript. AIAS.

Nekes, H. 1931-1947. Kimberleys language material: D'aro, N'ol N'ol, etc. 7pts. manuscript. AIAS Ms 35. (A1;B2).


Stokes, B. 1985. The verb from Noonkanbah to Broome: "alternative-prefixing" verbal systems of the West Kimberley. manuscript.

Tachon, A. 1890-1900. Niol Niol language material. 5 pts. microfilm. AIAS Ms 1. MF 64. (A1;B2).


Worms, E.A. 1938a. Foreign words in some Kimberley tribes in North-Western Australia. *Oceania* 8:458-462.


____. 1944. Aboriginal place names in Kimberley, Western Australia. *Oceania* 14:284-310.


____. nd. Ave Maria; linguae Njol Njol; tribus primitivae nomadicae Australiensis. 1p. typescript. AIAS.

10 Language programme:

None

11 Language learning material:

None

12 Literacy material:

None
4.5 Jabirrjabirr / Djaber-Djaber

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

- Djaba-Djaba (Nekes)
- Djabara-Djaber (Elkin)
- Djaberadjaber
- Djaberadjabera (Tindale)
- Djaber Djabar (Worms)
- Djaberdjaber (Oates & Oates, Capell, Black, Black & Walsh, Metcalfe)
- Djaber-djaber (Capell)
- Djaber-Djaber (AIAS, Nekes & Worms, Peile)
- Djaber Djaber (Worms)
- Dyaba-Dyaba (Worms)
- Dyaber-Dyaber (Worms)
- Dyabery-Dyaber (sic) (Worms)
- Dyabirdyabir (Kerr)
- Dyabirr Dyabirr (Stokes)
- Jabirr-jabirr (Hudson & McConvell)
- Jabera-Jaber

2 Classification of the language:

- Nyulnyulan family

Identification codes:

- AIAS: K8
- Oates 1973: 49.1c
- Capell: K1

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:

Apparently a handful of speakers remain; there is allegedly one speaker in Broome.
Stokes — less than 5

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:

- Frs. Herman Nekes and Ernest Worms, 1930s to 1950s, Beagle Bay and Broome
- Nora Kerr, late 1960s, Broome

5 Practical orthography:

None currently in use; the Dampier Land variant of the North Kimberley orthography would be suitable.
6 Word lists:
Capell (1966), Kerr (nd), Nekes (1931-47, 1939), Worms (1938a, 1938b, 1957, 1959)
Hosokawa collected a short word-list in 1986.

7 Textual material:
Nekes & Worms (1953)

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
None

9 Material available on the language:
Capell, A. 1966. *A new approach to Australian linguistics.* Oceania Linguistic 
Monographs, 1. Sydney: University of Sydney.
Elkin, A.P. 1933. Totemism in North-Western Australia (the Kimberley division). 
*Oceania* 3:257-296, 435-481; 4:54-64.
Kerr, N.F. nd. A comparative word-list: Nyigina and neighbouring languages. 
manuscript. AIAS.
Nekes, H. 1931-1947. Kimberleys language material: D'aro, N'ol N'ol, etc. 7pts. 
manuscript. AIAS Ms 35. (A1;B2).
___ . 1939. The pronoun in Nyol-Nyol (Nyul-Nyul) and related dialects. In A.P. 
University of Sydney.
Peile, A.R. nd. Field notes Warayngari. 182pp. manuscript. AIAS Ms 322.
Stokes, B. 1978-. Field notes: Nyigina. manuscript. AIAS A3 35. (A3a;B1).
___ . 1985. The verb from Noonkanbah to Broome: "alternative-prefixing" verbal 
systems of the West Kimberley. manuscript.
Worms, E.A. 1938a. Foreign words in some Kimberley tribes in North-Western 
___ . 1938b. Onomatopoeia in some Kimberley tribes of North-West Australia. 
*Oceania* 8:453-457.
___ . 1942. Sense of smell of the Australian Aborigines: a psychological and 
linguistic study of the natives of the Kimberley division. *Oceania* 13:107-130.
___ . 1946. The aboriginal mind at work: semantic notes on Australian languages. 
___ . 1957. Australian mythological terms: their etymology and dispersion. 
*Anthropos* 52:732-768.
___ . 1959. Verbannungslied eines australischen Wildbeuters: ein Beitrag zur Lyrik 
10 Language programme:
    None

11 Language learning material:
    None

12 Literacy material:
    None
4.6 Nimanburru / Nimanburu

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Nimanboorroo (Hudson & McConvell)
   Nimanbor (Worms)
   Nimanboro (Worms)
   Nimanboru
   Nimanbur (Peile, Capell)
   Nimanburr (Stokes)
   Nimanburu (AIAS, Capell, Black, Black & Walsh, Metcalfe, Robinson, Tindale, Worms)
   Nimarnbur (Kerr)
   Nimarnbur (Kerr)
   Numbanbor (Nekes)
   Ninambur (Oates & Oates, O'Grady)
   Ninamburu (AIAS)

2 Classification of the language:
   Nyulnyulan family

Identification codes:
   AIAS: K9
   Oates 1973: 49.1d
   Capell: K1

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Stokes — none known

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   Fr. Anthony Peile (according to Oates & Oates 1970:43)
   Nora Kerr, mid- to late-1960s, Broome.

5 Practical orthography:
   None in use; the Dampier Land variant of the North Kimberley orthography would be suitable.

6 Word lists:
   Capell (1966), Kerr (nd), Nekes (1939), Worms (1944)

7 Textual material:
   None
8 Grammar or sketch grammar:

None

9 Material available on the language:


Kerr, N.F. nd. A comparative word-list: Nyigina and neighbouring languages. manuscript. AIAS.

Nekes, H. 1931-1947. Kimberleys language material: D'aro, N'ol N'ol, etc. 7pts. manuscript. AIAS Ms 35. (A1;B2).


Worms, E.A. 1938a. Foreign words in some Kimberley tribes in North-Western Australia. *Oceania* 8:458-462.


10 Language programme:

None

11 Language learning material:

None

12 Literacy material:

None
4.7 Ngumbarl / Ngormbal

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Ngombal (Tindale)
   Ngormbal (AIAS, Capell, Metcalfe, O'Grady, Peile, Oates & Oates)
   Ngoombal (Bates, Hudson & McConvell)
   Ngumbarl (Black, Black & Walsh, Kerr, Oates)
   Ngumbal (Stokes)
   Ngumbol (Peile)

2 Classification of the language:
   Nyulnyulan family

   Identification codes:
   AIAS: K4
   Oates 1973: 49.1f
   Capell: K1

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Few remaining speakers (Oates & Oates 1970, quoting Peile)
   Stokes — none known

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   Nora Kerr, mid- to late-1960 collected some words, Broome
   Fr. Anthony Peile, according to Oates & Oates 1970

5 Practical orthography:
   None in use; the Dampier Land variant of the North Kimberley orthography would be suitable.

6 Word lists:
   Bates (nd), Kerr (nd)

7 Textual material:
   None

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   None

9 Material available on the language:
4.7 NGUMBARL / NGORMBAL


Kerr, N.F. nd. A comparative word-list: Nyigina and neighbouring languages. manuscript. AIAS Ms 25.


Stokes, B. 1978-. Field notes: Nyigina. manuscript. AIAS A3 35. (A3a;B1).

10 **Language programme:**
   None

11 **Language learning material:**
   None

12 **Literacy material:**
   None
4.8 Jukun / Djugan

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

- Djugan (Oates, Capell, AIAS, Metcalfe, O'Grady)
- Djugkan
- Djugun (Oates & Oates, Black, Black & Walsh, Tindale)
- Djukan (Capell)
- Djurgun (Peile)
- Dyugan (Kerr)
- Dyugun (Stokes)
- Joogan (Bates)
- Jukan (Bates)

Dialect:

Minyirr

2 Classification of the language:

Nyulnyulan family

Identification codes:

AIAS: K2
Oates 1973: 49.1g
Capell: K6

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:

- Capell — none
- Stokes — none
- Peile — none

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:

Fr. P. Bischofs, from about 1900 to 1910, Beagle Bay

5 Practical orthography:

None in use; the Dampier Land variant of the North Kimberley orthography would be suitable.

6 Word lists:

Bates (nd); in 1986 Hosokawa collected approximately 260 words in the Minyirr dialect (Hosokawa 1986).

7 Textual material:

None
8 Grammar or sketch grammar:

None

9 Material available on the language:

Bates, D.M. nd. Native vocabularies — Broome district. typescript. Section 12, 2E: 1c, 1d. ANL-MS365-52/105-130, 52-60.

___ . nd. Native vocabularies — Broome Magisterial District. typescript. Section 12, 2E: 1a.


Hosokawa, K. 1986. Basic wordlist: Jukun. typescript. KLRC.


Stokes, B. 1978-. Field notes: Nyigina. manuscript. AIAS A3 35. (A3a;B1).

10 Language programme:

None

11 Language learning material:

None

12 Literacy material:

None
4.9 Nyikina / Nyigina

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

- Negena (Worms)
- Nekena
- Nigena
- Njigina (AIAS, Capell, Oates, Worms, Robinson)
- Njikena
- Nyegen a (Worms)
- Nygina (Kaberry, Elkin)
- Nyigena (Robinson)
- Nyigina (Black, Black & Walsh, Kerr, Robinson, O'Grady, Stokes, Worms)
- Nyigini
- Nykena

Stokes (1982) identifies two dialects, Big Nyigina and Small Nyigina.

2 Classification of the language:

Nyulnyulan family

Identification codes:

- AIAS: K3
- Oates 1973: 49.3
- Capell: K16

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:

Mostly in Looma and Derby; a few also live in Broome and Fitzroy Crossing.
Stokes — 68

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:

- Arthur Capen, late 1930s, Broome and Derby
- Frs. Herman Nekes & Ernest Worms, 1930s to 1950s, mainly Beagle Bay and Broome
- Nora Kerr, mid to late 1960s, Broome
- Bronwyn Stokes, mid to late 1970, mainly Looma and Broome

5 Practical orthography:

Stokes et al. (1980) use a practical orthography which employs the single letter η instead of the digraph ng, and the voiced stops b, d, and g. More recently, Stokes (1986a,b,c) has used the Dampier Land variant of the Northern Kimberley orthography (see page 7 above).
4.9 NYIKINA / NYIGINA

6 Word lists:
Brandenstein (1965), Capell (1940, 1966), Hudson (1973), Hudson & McConvell (1984), Hudson & Richards et al. (1976), Kerr (nd), King (1979), Moyle (1968), Nekes (1939), Stokes et al. (1980), Worms (1938a, 1938b, 1942, 1944, 1957)

7 Textual material:

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
Capell (1952), Kerr (1968), Stokes (1982); Capell (1940) gives some verb forms.

9 Material available on the language:
___ . nd. Njigina and Warwa vocabulary. 41pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 313.
Dalton, P.R. 1965. Report to the Institute of Aboriginal Studies. 36pp. manuscript. AIAS.
___ . nd. A comparative word-list: Nyigina and neighbouring languages. manuscript. AIAS Ms 25.


Worms, E.A. 1938a. Foreign words in some Kimberley tribes in North-Western Australia. *Oceania* 8:458-462.


____. 1944. Aboriginal place names in Kimberley, Western Australia. *Oceania* 14:284-310.


10 **Language programme:**

None to date, but Looma community wishes to start one.

11 **Language learning material:**

None

12 **Literacy material:**


4.10 Warrwa

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   - Warrwai
   - Warrwi (Bates)
   - Waruwa
   - Warwa (AIAS, Capell, Kerr, O'Grady, Oates, Robinson)
   - Warwa (Capell)
   - Warwai
   - Warwar (Robinson)

Linguistically speaking, Warrwa is possibly a dialect of Nyigina, although it shows a number of differences (Capell 1940:412ff).

2 Classification of the language:
   - Nyulnyulan family

   Identification codes:
   - AIAS: K10
   - Oates 1973: 49.4
   - Capell: K16

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   - Stokes — less than 5

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   - Arthur Capell, early 1940s
   - Nora Kerr mid to late 1960s
   - Bronwyn Stokes, mid to late 1970s, Derby
   - Bernard Rawlins, 1988, Derby

5 Practical orthography:
   None currently in use; the Dampier Land variant of the North Kimberley orthography would be suitable.

6 Word lists:
   - Capell (1940, 1952/1953, nd), Kerr (nd)

7 Textual material:
   None
8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
Capell (1952/1953) contains grammatical notes, and Capell (1940) has some sample verb paradigms.

9 Material available on the language:
———. nd. Njigina and Warwa vocabulary. 41pp. typescript. AIAS.
Kerr, N.F. nd. A comparative word-list: Nyigina and neighbouring languages. typescript. AIAS Ms.
Stokes, B. 1978-. Field notes: Nyigina. manuscript. AIAS A3 35.
———. 1985. The verb from Noonkanbah to Broome: "alternative-prefixing" verbal systems of the West Kimberley. typescript.

10 Language programme:
None

11 Language learning material:
None

12 Literacy material:
None
4.11 Yawuru / Jauor

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Djauor
   Gawor (Capell)
   Jauor (Capell, AIAS, Worms, O'Grady, Oates & Oates)
   Yaoro (Nekes & Worms, Worms)
   Yaoru (Worms)
   Yauor
   Yawoorroo (Hudson & McConvell)
   Yawur
   Yawuru (Oates, Black, Black & Walsh, Hosokawa, Kerr)
   Yowaroo
   Yowera (Bates)

   Yawuru speakers sometimes refer to their language as "Small Yawuru", as distinct from Jukun, which they refer to as "Big Yawuru".

2 Classification of the language:
   Nyulnyulan family
   
   Identification codes:
   AIAS: K1
   Oates 1973: 49.2
   Capell: K12

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Few speakers, Broome region (Oates & Oates)
   Stokes — 5-10 speakers (1978-1979)
   Hosokawa — at least 40 (1986)

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   Bronwyn Stokes, mid-to late-1970s, did some work on the language, in Broome
   Komei Hosokawa began intensive research in 1986, working mainly in Broome

5 Practical orthography:
   Hosokawa uses a slight variant of the Dampier Land orthography, in which u is used instead of oo.

6 Word lists:
7 Textual material:


8 Grammar or sketch grammar:

Capell (1940), Nekes (1939), and Hosokawa (1986b-e and forthcoming) contain some grammatical information; Stokes (nd and 1985) contains information on verbs.

9 Material available on the language:


__ . nd. Dictionaries of northern Australian languages. Typed and arranged by J. Trefry. typescript. AIAS Ms 1399. (Al;B1).


Hosokawa, K. 1986a. [Yawuru word list.] manuscript.


____ . 1986f. Traditional place names in Yawuru country and adjacent areas. typescript.

____ . 1986g. Gooniyandi and Yawuru: some common lexical items (surface resemblances). typescript.

____ . 1986h. [Short word list in Yawuru and neighbouring languages.] typescript.


   ___ . nd. A comparative word-list: Nyigina and neighbouring languages. typescript. AIAS Ms 25.
Stokes, B. 1978-. Field notes: Nyigina. manuscript. AIAS A3 35. (A3a;B1).
   ___ . nd. [Basic materials in Yawuru.] 41pp. typescript. KLRC.
   ___ . 1985. The verb from Noonkanbah to Broome: "alternative-prefixing" verbal systems of the West Kimberley. typescript.
Worms, E.A. 1938a. Foreign words in some Kimberley tribes in North-Western Australia. Oceania 8:458-462.
   ___ . 1944. Aboriginal place names in Kimberley, Western Australia. Oceania 14:284-310.

10 Language programme:
   A social studies type programme has been initiated in Nulungu College, Broome.

11 Language learning material:
   None
12 Literacy material:
Chapter 5

Worrornan family

5.1 Preliminary remarks

The Worrornan family consists of a large number of named languages and dialects, traditionally spoken throughout the entire of the mountainous northern Kimberley region. These twenty or so varieties have been divided into three groups: a western Worrornic (Wororic) group, a central Ngarinyinic (Ungarinyinic) group, and a northern Wunambalnic group (Capell & Coate 1984:1, Oates & Oates 1970:40-42, O'Grady, Voegelin & Voegelin 1966:35). The evidence for this grouping seems to be quite convincing, and is supported by many formal similarities within the groups.

The language and dialect situation is quite complicated (Capell & Coate 1984:1ff), and is in many ways similar to the dialectal situation in the Western Desert (see Miller 1971 and Berndt 1959). Distinguishing languages and dialects is quite problematic. As Capell & Coate (1984:2) put it,

some of these designations [i.e. language and dialect names, WM] are made for convenience of treatment, especially in regard to the northern subdivision, where the variations are slighter than in the other two, and the application of names to the various 'tribes' in the north and east of the NK [Northern Kimberley, WM] area, and the terms used here in some cases a matter of convenience. The people of the Forrest River (FR) area do not seem to have a tribal name at all. They have variously been called Miwa, Yeidji, Gwini, all of which terms have a validity, but none of them is currently accepted by all the people. The terms Walar and Manunggu refer to sections only of the FR tribes and are not primarily linguistic terms even though they do seem to correspond with dialect variations within the north-eastern section. On the other hand, the names ... [of] the central and western [varieties] are used and recognized by the people themselves. One man is definitely Worora, another Wunambal, another a Ngarinjin, and so on. The island communities, of course, are marked off by their natural boundaries, but these on the mainland are not so distinguishable, and it is sometimes difficult, if not impossible at the present day to determine just where the boundaries ran while Aboriginal civilisation was still intact.

This situation, particularly in regard to the northern, Wunambalnic group, is thus quite different to the situation for the Nyulnyulan languages (see chapter 4), where the names used by speakers refer to definite tribal and linguistic units.

Capell (1940) distinguished these languages as Northern Kimberley prefixing languages with "multiple classification of nouns". They are called prefixing because in all of them there are pronominal prefixes to verbs that indicate the "subject" (doer) and also, if transitive, the "object" (done to) — for instance, the Ngarinyin verb nganela 'he
will hold me', *ngan* is a prefix indicating 'he (did it to) me'. Furthermore, in these languages some nouns take prefixes that indicate the owner of the thing. Nouns of this type include some, but not all body-parts. Again in Ngarinyin, *ngiyembularru* means 'my foot', the prefix *ngiye* indicating that the 'owner' is the speaker, whereas *nyembularru* means 'her foot', the prefix *nye* indicating 'hers'.

Capell's "multiple classification of nouns" refers to the fact that in all of these languages nouns belong to one of between four and six classes, depending on the language (Capell & Coate 1984:62). The variety of Wunambal studied by Vaszolyi, for instance, has five, whereas Worrorra has four classes (Love 1934:55). Noun classes are a bit like genders (see section 3.1), except that there are more of them, and they do not necessarily divide animate things according to whether they are male or female — although some noun classification systems, such as the Ngarinyin one, do this, or something very much like this. The class to which a noun belongs is not usually indicated in the form of the noun itself, but in the form of an adjective that modifies it, or of a pronoun referring to the thing. There is usually some semantic principle behind the classification of a noun, although it may not be very obvious to the non-speaker. The above remarks are illustrated by the following Ngarinyin data (see Rumsey 1982:37-41).

This language has five classes, masculine, feminine, b-class (plural), m-class (neuter), and w-class (neuter). Almost all nouns referring to people are either masculine or feminine, according to gender, and plural if there is more than one; however, there are a few inanimates in the masculine or feminine class (e.g. *ngara* 'honey' is feminine and *garngi* 'moon' is masculine). The majority of nouns referring to inanimates belong to one of the neuter classes; the principles behind the placement in one rather than the other class are not clear (Rumsey 1982:37, 39). Class membership of a noun shows up in the form of an adjective or determiner, as illustrated in:

- *yila jirri* because *yila* 'child' refers here to a boy, it is masculine
- *marangi nyindi* *marangi* 'sun' is feminine
- *wiyila birri* *wiyila* 'young men' is plural
- *dambun mindi* *dambun* 'camp' is m-class
- *ngurrul di* *ngurrul* 'tree' is w-class

References:
Map 6: Traditional locations of the Worrorran languages
5.2 Worrorra / Worrora / Worora

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

- Worora (AIAS, Black, Black & Walsh, Capell, Coate, Love, Lucich, Moyle, Oates & Oates, Worms)
- Wo’rora (Love)
- Worrara (Thurkle)
- Worrora (Love)
- Worrorra (Hudson & McConvell)
- Wurara
- Wurora (Oates, Vaszolyi)
- Wurura

Variants of the language name:

- Maialnga
- Yangibaia

2 Classification of the language:

- Worrorran family, Worrorric group

Identification codes:

- AIAS: K17
- Oates 1973: 47.1
- Capell: K20

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:

- Mainly in Mowanjum Community, Derby.
- Vaszolyi — 150-200

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:

- J.R.B. Love, 1920s to 1930s, mainly at Kunmunya
- Arthur Capell, 1930s, Kunmunya
- Howard Coate, since 1930s, mainly at Derby, but also other locations in the Northern Kimberley, including Kunmunya.
- Peter Lucich, 1970s, Mowanjum
- Michael Silverstein, 1975-6, mainly at Mowanjum

5 Practical orthography:

In the 1920s Love developed an orthography for use in his linguistic writings, and for his Bible translations. This was not a strictly phonemic system (for example, it did not distinguish retroflexion (which is phonemically distinctive), but distinguished voicing of stops, and more vowels than necessary). However, the major difficulty with this script was that it used too many diacritics (the majority of which have been omitted from the published texts of his Bible translations). Although Love provided some literacy training to Worrorra speakers in this system, no one is a fully ‘fluent’ user today.
More recently, Coate has used his Ngarinyin orthography in some Worrorra primers, and a slight variant of this system has been proposed (in Anon, nd), which uses y, ee and oo instead of the Ngarinyin j, e and o respectively. Neither of these orthographies appears to have been widely used.

6 Word lists:
Blundell (1976a, 1976b), Capell (1940), Love (1933-39, 193-, nd a, nd b), Thurlke (nd), Worms (1957)

7 Textual material:
Bible (1943a, 1943b), Love (nd a), Lucich (1968, 1969), Mowaljarlai (1982), Moyle (1968), Utemorrah (1975, 1979), Woolagoodja (1975)

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:

9 Material available on the language:
Anon. nd a. Worora spelling. 10pp. typescript.
Anon. nd b. Grammar and vocabulary of the Wororra tribe. 2 volumes. manuscript. AIAS.
Blundell, V.J. 1976a. A dictionary of Ngarinyin terms for material culture, environmental features and related items, with Worora equivalents. [With terms recorded by Petri.] v+40pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 506. (A1;B5).
____ . 1976b. A dictionary of Worora terms for material culture, environmental features and related items, with Ngarinyin equivalents. [With terms recorded by Love.] vi+69pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 507. (A1;B5).
Capell, A. 1939. The languages of the northern Kimberley division, W.A. Mankind 2:169-175.
Capell, A. & A.P. Elkin 1937. The languages of the Kimberley division. Oceania 8:216-245.


---. 1932. [Worora grammar.] 109pp. manuscript. AIAS.

---. 1933-1939. A bird calendar of Kunmunya, 1933: and some odd native notes 1933-1939. lv+183pp. manuscript. AIAS.


---. nd a. [Worora - English vocabulary and four Worora stories with translations.] Various pagings. manuscript. AIAS Ms 17a.

---. nd b. Worora grammar and vocabulary. 2 vols. manuscript. AIAS.


Thurkle, H.E. nd. Vocabulary of the Worrara language. 8pp. typescript.


10 **Language programme:**

None. However, moves have been afoot for some time in Mowanjum Community to start a language programme, and the Derby High School has been approached. A language maintenance or language revival programme would be suitable.

11 **Language learning material:**

None

12 **Literacy material:**

A couple of primers were produced by Howard Coate in the 1960s; however no further details are available concerning these materials.

5.3 Umiida / Umida

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Oomida (Hudson & McConvell)
   Umida (Black, Black & Walsh, Capell & Coate, Oates)
   Umi:da (Coate, Oates & Oates)
   Wumide (Vaszolyi)

2 Classification of the language:
   Worrorran family, Worrorric group

Identification codes:
   AIAS: (not included)
   Oates 1973: 47.4
   Capell: (not included)

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   There is said to be one speaker in Mowanjum.
   Capell & Coate (1984) — virtually extinct
   Vaszolyi (1973) — extinct

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   Coate has recorded a fair amount of information on the language on a part time basis, in Derby, mainly in the 1960s.

5 Practical orthography:
   None; none needed.

6 Word lists:
   Coate (nd a)

7 Textual material:
   Coate (nd b)

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   Coate (nd a) and Capell & Coate (1984) contain some grammatical information.

9 Material available on the language:
   *PL*, C-69.
Umida language: Sam Wulugudja. [Text in Umida (and Unggarrangu?)]. 9pp. typescript.

10 **Language programme:**

None

11 **Language learning material:**

None

12 **Literacy material:**

None
5.4 Unggarrangu

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Oonggarrangoo (Hudson & McConvell)
   Unggarangi (Black, Black & Walsh, Capell & Coate, Oates & Oates)
   Unggaranji (Coate)
   Unggarañi (Coate)

2 Classification of the language:
   Worroran family

   Identification codes:
   AIAS: (not included)
   Oates 1973: 47.5 (Oates & Oates: 20Kr)
   Capell: (not included)

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   There is reportedly at least one speaker in Mowanjum.
   Capell & Coate (1984) — virtually extinct

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   No one

5 Practical orthography:
   None; none needed.

6 Word lists:
   None

7 Textual material:
   Coate (nd)

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   None; Capell & Coate (1984) contains some grammatical information.

9 Material available on the language:
   PL, C-69.
10 Language programme:
    None

11 Language learning material:
    None

12 Literacy material:
    None
5.5 Unggumi

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   - Oonggoomi (Hudson & McConvell)
   - Ungami
   - Unggumi (AIAS, Capell, Capell & Coate, Black, Black & Walsh, Oates & Oates, O'Grady)
   - Ungumi (Capell, Coate)
   - Wongkami
   - Wongkomi (AIAS)
   - Wungami (Robinson)
   - Wunggumi (Oates, Vaszolyi)

2 Classification of the language:
   - Worrorran family, Worrorric group

   Identification codes:
   - AIAS: K14
   - Oates 1973: 47.3
   - Capell: K18

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   - There is one remaining full speaker, and a number of part speakers, living in Derby.
   - McGregor — 1 speaker
   - Rumsey (pers.comm.) — 1 speaker
   - Vaszolyi — extinct

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   - Arthur Capell, late 1930s, Derby region
   - Howard Coate, at various intervals since 1930s, in Derby region
   - Alan Rumsey, 1984, Derby
   - William McGregor, 1985 onwards, Derby

5 Practical orthography:
   - None; none needed.

6 Word lists:
   - Capell (1940, nd), Coate (nd a)

7 Textual material:
   - Capell (1972a), Coate (nd b); Rumsey and McGregor have collected some texts, none of which have been published.
8 Grammar or sketch grammar:

None; Capell & Coate (1984) contains some grammatical information.

9 Material available on the language:

Capell, A. 1939. The languages of the northern Kimberley division, W.A. Mankind 2:169-175.
____. nd. Unggumi vocabulary, parts 1, 2, & 3. 26, 12, 24 pp. typescript.
McGregor, W. 1985. [Field notes on Unggumi.] manuscript.
____. 1987. [Field notes on Unggumi.] manuscript.
Rumsey, A. 1984. [Field notes on Unggumi.] manuscript.

10 Language programme:

None

11 Language learning material:

None

12 Literacy material:

None
5.6 Winjarumi / Windjarumi

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Windjarumi (Black, Black & Walsh, Capell & Coate)
   Winjaroomi (Hudson & McConvell)

2 Classification of the language:
   Worrorran family, Worrorric group

   Identification codes:
   AIAS: (not included)
   Oates 1973: (not included) (Oates & Oates: 21Kr)
   Capell: (not included)

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Presumably extinct.
   Capell & Coate (1984) — 1 speaker

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   No one

5 Practical orthography:
   None; none needed.

6 Word lists:
   None

7 Textual material:
   None

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   None; Capell & Coate (1984) contains some information.

9 Material available on the language:
   PL, C-69.

10 Language programme:
   None

11 Language learning material:
   None
12 Literacy material:
   None
5.7 Yawijibaya / Jawdjibara

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Jaudjibara (Coate)
   Jawdjibaia (Love)
   Jawdjibara (Capell & Coate)
   Yaudjibara (Oates & Oates, Oates)
   Yaudjibaia (Tindale)
   Yawjibara (Hudson & McConvell)

Alternative names:
   Jawadjag (Coate)
   Winjawindjagugu (Coate)

2 Classification of the language:
   Worrorran family, Worrorric group

Identification codes:
   AIAS: (not included)
   Oates 1973: 47.6 (Oates & Oates: 23Kr)
   Capell: (not included)

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Traditionally of the Montgomery Islands; now extinct (the last full speaker
died in early 1987), although there remain some part speakers, and a few
Worrorra people who can understand the language.
   Capell & Coate (1984) — extinct

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   J.R.B. Love did a little work on the language in late 1910s to mid 1920s, at
   Kunmunya.
   Howard Coate has recorded some information on the language at irregular
   intervals over the past twenty or so years, in Derby.
   William McGregor, early 1987, in Derby

5 Practical orthography:
   None; none needed.

6 Word lists:
   Coate (nd), Coate & McGregor (1987)

7 Textual material:
   None published; Coate has recorded and transcribed some lengthy texts.
8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   information.

9 Material available on the language:
   PL, C-69.
   manuscript. AIAS Ms 829. (A1;B1).
McGregor, W. 1987. [Fieldnotes on Yawijibaya.] manuscript.

10 Language programme:
   None

11 Language learning material:
   None

12 Literacy material:
   None
5.8 Ngarinyin / Ungarinyin / Ngarinjin

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

Ngarinjin (AIAS, Black, Black & Walsh, Capell, Coate & Oates, Oates)
Ngarinyin (Hudson & McConvell)
Ungarinyin (Rumsey)
Ungarinjin (O'Grady, Oates & Oates)

Dialects:
Molyamidi
Wol'ja midi
Yamandil

Capell (1963) claims that Ngarinyin is the name given to the western dialect. According to Rumsey (1982:vii), the name of the language is Ungarinyin, Ngarinyin being the name of the people. The shorter form Ngarinyin, however, seems to have gained currency.

Coate & Oates (1970) also identify Munumburu, Wilawila and Kuwij as dialects, while Rumsey suggests that Worla and Walaja are dialects.

2 Classification of the language:
Worrorran family, Ungarinyinic group

Identification codes:
AIAS: K18
Oates 1973: 46.1a
Capell: K15

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
Mainly in Mowanjum community (Rumsey 1982:vii), also Gibb River, and Mt Elizabeth Station (Oates 1975:52).
Oates — 80, 60 at Mt Elizabeth Station, 20 at Gibb River.
Street — 80 speakers elsewhere.
Rumsey (1987) — about 200 speakers

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
Arthur Capell, from early 1930s, Derby and properties from there to Gibb River
Howard Coate, from 1930s to present, mainly at Derby and nearby properties
Alan Rumsey, from mid 1970s, mainly at Derby

5 Practical orthography:
Coate developed an orthography which used the voiced series of stops; the symbol γ for ng; j instead of y; dj, nj and lj where this book uses j, ny, and ly; and dots under the letters to indicate retroflexion. This system has apparently been used by some native speakers of the language. It is also used in Rumsey's early works (e.g. Rumsey 1982). However,
more recently Rumsey has employed a standard North Kimberley orthography (see, for example, Muecke, Rumsey & Wirrunmarra 1985), which dispenses with the diacritics and special letters.

6 Word lists:


7 Textual material:

Capell (1972a), Coate (1966a, 1970), Mowaljarlai (1982)

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:


9 Material available on the language:

Blundell, V.J. 1976a. A dictionary of Ngarinjin terms for material culture, environmental features and related items, with Worora equivalents. [With terms recorded by Petri.] v+40pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 506. (A1;B5).

____. 1976b. A dictionary of Worora terms for material culture, environmental features and related items, with Ngarinjin equivalents. [With terms recorded by Love.] vi+69pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 507. (A1;B5).

Capell, A. 1939. The languages of the Northern Kimberley division, W.A. Mankind 2:169-175.


___ . 194-. [Ngarinjin verbs.] 55pp. manuscript. AIAS (A3a;B1).
Peile, A.R. nd. Field notes Warayngari. 182pp. manuscript. AIAS Ms 322.
Street, C.S. 1972. [Ngarinjin word list.] 11pp. manuscript. AIAS pMs 2384. (A2;B1).
Summer Institute of Linguistics. 1971a. AIAS word list for N.E. Kimberleys survey: Nganau language. AIAS tapes A2183,2184,2186,2187. 18pp. AIAS.

___ . 1971b. AIAS word list for N.E. Kimberleys survey: Ngarinyin language. AIAS tape A2189. AIAS pMs 1805.

___ . 1971c. AIAS word list for N.E. Kimberleys survey: Yeidji language. AIAS tape A2190. 5,2pp. typescript. AIAS.


Vaszolyi, E. 1970. Report [to AIAS] on research work in anthropological linguistics during the period June 1st - September 1st, 1970. 2pp. typescript. AIAS.


10 Language programme:

Mowanjum Community have asked for a community school (1977), but this was refused by the Education Department. They now run language classes in the community in Worrorra, Ngarinyin, and Wunambal. A language maintenance or revival programme would be suitable.

11 Language learning material:

None

12 Literacy material:

5.9 Ngarnawu / Nganaw

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Ngarnawoo (Hudson & McConvell)
   Nganaw (Black & Walsh)
   Nganau (Black)
   Ngana(w)u (Oates)

2 Classification of the language:
   Worrorran family, Ungarinyinic group

   Identification codes:
   AIAS:
   Oates 1973: 46.4
   Capell:

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Not known

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   No one

5 Practical orthography:
   None

6 Word lists:
   SIL (1971)

7 Textual material:
   None

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   None

9 Material available on the language:
   Summer Institute of Linguistics. 1971. AIAS word list for N.E. Kimberleys survey:
   Nganau language. AIAS tapes A2183, 2184, 2186, 2187. 18 pp. AIAS pMs 1804.

10 Language programme:
   None
11 Language learning material:
   None

12 Literacy material:
   None
5.10 Andajin

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Andajin (Hudson & McConvell)
   Andidja (AIAS, Oates & Oates)

2 Classification of the language:
   Worrorran family
   Identification codes:
   AIAS: K23
   Oates 1973: (not included) (Oates & Oates 1970: 3Kr)
   Capell: K8

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Unknown

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   No one

5 Practical orthography:
   None

6 Word lists:
   None known

7 Textual material:
   None

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   None

9 Material available on the language:
   Nothing known

10 Language programme:
   None

11 Language learning material:
   None
12 Literacy material:
None
5.11 Wolyamidi / Woljamidi

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Wolyamidi (Hudson & McConvell, O'Grady, Oates & Oates, Black, Black & Walsh)
   Wolumidi (Capell, Coate)
   Woljamidi (AIAS)
   Woljamidi (AIAS)

2 Classification of the language:
   Worrorran family, Ungarinyinic group

   Identification codes:
   AIAS: K26
   Oates 1973: 46.3b
   Capell: K15

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Not known

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   No one

5 Practical orthography:
   None

6 Word lists:
   Capell (1940); Capell & Coate (1984) contains some kin terms.

7 Textual material:
   Capell (1972)

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   None

9 Material available on the language:
*PL, C-69.*

10 **Language programme:**

None

11 **Language learning material:**

None

12 **Literacy material:**

None
Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

Waladjangari (AIAS, Black, Black & Walsh, Capell & Coate)

It is likely that this is an alternative name for Worla(ja) (see next section), presumably with the addition of the suffix -ngarri, meaning 'with' or 'having'. Here Walajangarri and Worla(ja) are given separate sections because they are treated as different in the AIAS tribal index. (See also section 3.7 on Doolboong vs. Doolboongarri.)

Classification of the language:

Worroron family, Ungarinyin group

Identification codes:

AIAS: K24
Oates 1973: 46.3d
Capell: K15

Present number and distribution of speakers:

Mainly in Wyndham and surrounding stations and communities, including Fork Creek, and Oombulgari. No estimates of numbers of speakers are known.

People who have worked intensively on the language:

No one

Practical orthography:

None

Word lists:

None; Capell & Coate (1984) contains a list of kin terms.

Textual material:

Capell (1972a)

Grammar or sketch grammar:

None

Material available on the language:


5.12 WALAJANGARRI / WALADJANGARI


10 **Language programme:**

None

11 **Language learning material:**

None

12 **Literacy material:**

None
5.13 Worla(ja) / Wula / Ola

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   - Ola (Tindale, Black, Black & Walsh)
   - Wula (AIAS, SIL)
   - Wulu (Oates & Oates)
   - Woorla(ja) (Hudson & McConvell)

It is likely that this is an alternative name for Walajangarri (see previous section), which presumably has the suffix -ngarri meaning 'with' or 'having' attached. Here Worla(ja) and Walajangarri are given separate sections because they are treated as different in the AIAS tribal index. (See also section 3.7 on Doolboong vs. Doolboongarri.)

2 Classification of the language:
   - Worrorran family, Ungarinyinic group

Identification codes:
   - AIAS: K43
   - Oates 1973: (not included) (Oates & Oates 1970: 7Kr)
   - Cape ll: (not included)

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   - Mainly in Wyndham and surrounding stations and communities, including Fork Creek, and Oombulgari. No estimates known of number of speakers.

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   - No one

5 Practical orthography:
   - None

6 Word lists:

7 Textual material:
   - None

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   - None

9 Material available on the language:
10 **Language programme:**
   None

11 **Language learning material:**
   None

12 **Literacy material:**
   None
5.14 Guwij / Guwidj

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Guwidj (AIAS, Capell, Capell & Coate, Coate & Oates, Oates)
   Guidj (Black, Black & Walsh, O'Grady, Oates & Oates)

2 Classification of the language:
   Worrorran family, Ungarinyinic group

   Identification codes:
   AIAS: K19
   Oates 1973: 46.2b
   Capell: K15

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Not known

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   No one

5 Practical orthography:
   None

6 Word lists:
   None; Capell & Coate (1984) contains a list of kin terms.

7 Textual material:
   Capell (1972)

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   None

9 Material available on the language:

10 Language programme:
   None
11 Language learning material:
   None

12 Literacy material:
   None
5.15 Munumburru

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Munumburu (AIAS, Capell, Black, Black & Walsh, Oates & Oates)

2 Classification of the language:
   Worroran family, Ungarinyin group

   Identification codes:
   AIAS: K25
   Oates 1973: 46.2a
   Capell: K15

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Not known

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   No one

5 Practical orthography:
   None

6 Word lists:
   Capell (1940); Capell & Coate (1984) contains a list of kin terms.

7 Textual material:
   None

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   None

9 Material available on the language:

10 Language programme:
   None
11 **Language learning material:**
   None

12 **Literacy material:**
   None
5.16 Wilawila

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Wilawila (Black, Black & Walsh, Capell, Capell & Coate)
   Wila-wila (AIAS)
   Wila-Wila (Oates, Oates & Oates SIL)
   'Wila'Wila (Tindale)

2 Classification of the language:
   Worrorran family, Wunambalic group

   Identification codes:
   AIAS: K35
   Oates 1973: 46.1b
   Capell: K15

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Not known

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   No one

5 Practical orthography:
   None; North Kimberley orthography would be suitable.

6 Word lists:
   SIL (1971)

7 Textual material:
   None

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   None; Capell & Coate (1984) contains some information.

9 Material available on the language:
   Glasgow, D.I., F.M. Hocking & W.L. Steiner nd. Report [to AIAS] on surveys of languages and dialects of the north-east Kimberleys. 9pp. typescript. AIAS.
10 Language programme:
None

11 Language learning material:
None

12 Literacy material:
None
5.17 Wunambal / Wunambul

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

- Wunambal (AIAS, Capell, Love, Oates, Oates & Oates, O'Grady, SIL, Vaszolyi, Worms)
- Unambal (Hernandez, Lommel, Worms)
- Wumnabul
- Wunambullu (Love)
- Wunumabal (Raa & Woenne)
- Woonambal (KLS)
- Wunambul (Mawaljarlai)

It seems likely that the Wenambal on Tindale's tribal map is in fact Wunambal. It may be a mishearing on Tindale's part. Although he gives Wenambal and Wunambal different and geographically widely separated traditional locations, this may be due to the fact that in such a complex dialectal situation, as described in section 5.1, speakers might alternatively claim to speak Wunambal or to use one of the more specific variety names.

2 Classification of the language:

- Worrorran family, Wunambalic group

Identification codes:

- AIAS: K22
- Oates 1973: 48.1
- Capell: K21

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:

Mainly Mowanjum and Kalumburu; some at Wyndham.

Oates (quoting Vaszolyi) — at least 200 speakers, though many are second language speakers.

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:

- Howard Coate, irregularly since 1930s, mainly at Derby
- Eric Vasse (formerly Vaszolyi), since early 1970s, Derby

5 Practical orthography:

None

6 Word lists:

7 Textual material:

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
Capell (1941); Vaszolyi (1976a, 1976b, 1976c) contain grammatical information.

9 Material available on the language:
____ . 1939. The languages of the Northern Kimberley division, W.A. *Mankind* 2:169-175.
Summer Institute of Linguistics. 1971a. AIAS word list for N.E. Kimberleys: Wunambal language. AIAS tapes A2176,2188. 18pp. manuscript. AIAS pMs 1763, 1764.
____ . 1971b. AIAS word list for N.E. Kimberleys survey: Wunambal language. AIAS tapes A2180,2181. 18pp. manuscript. AIAS.
Vaszolyi, E. 1970. Report [to AIAS] on research work in anthropological linguistics during the period June 1st - September 1st, 1970. 2pp. typescript. AIAS.
Language learning programmes have been started in Wunambal on a number of occasions in Mowanjum community, but have usually been of fairly short duration. In a recent programme, begun in 1984, older speakers told stories to the children, and a small amount of literacy was taught. A language maintenance or revival programme would be suitable.

11 Language learning material:
None

12 Literacy material:
None
5.18 Gamberre / Gambre

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   - Gambere (Hudson & McConvell)
   - Gambere (Oates, Vaszolyi, SIL)
   - Gambre (AlAS, Capell, Oates & Oates, O'Grady, Coate, Crawford)
   - Gamgre
   - Guwan
   - Kambera (Hernandez)
   - Kambre (Love)
   - 'Kambure (Tindale)

2 Classification of the language:
   - Worrorran family, Wunambalic group

   Identification codes:
   - AIAS: K39
   - Oates 1973: 48.2
   - Capell: K7

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   - Kalumburu Mission and Wyndham
   - Oates — 6 old people

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   - No one

5 Practical orthography:
   - None

6 Word lists:
   - Capell (1940), Capell & Coate (1984), SIL (1971)

7 Textual material:
   - Crawford (1969)

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   - None; Capell & Coate (1984) contains some information.

9 Material available on the language:


Glasgow, D.I., F.M. Hocking & W.L. Steiner nd. Report [to AIAS] on surveys of languages and dialects of the north-east Kimberleys. 9pp. typescript. AIAS.


10 **Language programme:**

None

11 **Language learning material:**

None

12 **Literacy material:**

None
5.19 Kwini / Kunan / Gunin

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Ginan (Capell & Coate)
   Goonan (Hudson & McConvell)
   Guna
   Gunan (Capell)
   Gunin (Black, Black & Walsh, Oates, SIL, Lucich, Vaszolyi)
   Kunan (Taylor)
   Cuini
   Gwini
   Kuini (Perez)
   Kuwiyini (Taylor)
   Kwini (Love)
   Kwiini (Taylor)
   Kwiyini (Taylor)
   Pela?
   Kalumburu
   Wirngir

According to Oates (1975:57), Kunan is the name of the language or dialect, Kwini being the name of the people. This is not to be confused with Gooniyandi (Gunian), spoken in the Fitzroy Crossing region.

2 Classification of the language:
   Worrorran family, Wunambalic group

   Identification codes:
   AIAS: K36, K41
   Oates 1973: 48.1b
   Capell: K7

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Kalumburu, Wyndham
   Oates & Oates (1970) — at least 50 adults at Kalumburu Mission speak Kwini as their first language

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   Arthur Capell, during the late 1930s

5 Practical orthography:
   None
6 Word lists:
Capell (nd, 1940), Crawford (1982), Gil (1934a,), Peile (nd), SIL (1971)

7 Textual material:
Gil (1934b, 1934c)

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
None; Capell & Coate (1984) contains some grammatical information.

9 Material available on the language:
Capell, A. nd. Gwini-English vocabulary. 32pp. typescript. AIAS.
Gil, T. 1934a. A dictionary of the Pela language, used by the natives of the coastal regions of East Kimberley in W.A. typescript. AIAS MF 87. (A1;B5).
Gil, T. 1934b. A concise catechism of Christian doctrine; written in the "Pela" language. 11pp. typescript. AIAS MF 87. (A1;B5).
Gil, T. 1937c. Translation into Pela of "Short life of our lord". manuscript.
Peile, A.R. nd. Field notes Warayngari. 182pp. manuscript. AIAS Ms 322.

10 Language programme:
None

11 Language learning material:
None

12 Literacy material:
None
5.20 GULUNGGULU

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Gooloonggooloo (Hudson & McConvell)

2 Classification of the language:
   Worrorran family, subgroup unknown, but possibly Wunambalic

   Identification codes:
   AIAS: (not included)
   Oates 73: (not included)
   Capell: (not included)

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Not known for certain; possibly one or two speakers remain. One is said to live
   in Mowanjum (Derby).

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   No one

5 Practical orthography:
   None

6 Word lists:
   None

7 Textual material:
   None

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   None

9 Material available on the language:
   Nothing known

10 Language programme:
   None

11 Language learning material:
   None
12 Literacy material:

None
5.21 Miwa / Bagu

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Miwa (Capell, Black, Oates & Oates, Hudson & McConvell, Love, Lucich, Hernandez, Vaszolyi)
   Miwi (Oates)
   Bagu (Oates & Oates, Black, Oates)
   Bagu (Capell)
   Pela (Oates, Oates & Oates)

According to Vaszolyi, (quoted in Oates) Bagu is a geographical name, denoting the location of the old Roman Catholic Mission, called Pago on the maps.

2 Classification of the language:
   Worrorran family, Wunambalic group

   Identification codes:
   AIAS: K44
   Oates 1973: 48.1c, 48.3a (Oates & Oates 1970: 48.3a)
   Capell: K7

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Oates 1973 — 4 speakers remaining

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   No one

5 Practical orthography:
   None

6 Word lists:
   Capell (1940). According to Oates & Oates (1970), Coate has collected a 2,500 word dictionary, and Lucich has 400-600 words and phrases.

7 Textual material:
   None

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   None
9 Material available on the language:
Glasgow, D.I., F.M. Hocking & W.L. Steiner nd. Report [to AIAS] on surveys of languages and dialects of the north-east Kimberleys. 9pp. typescript. AIAS.

10 Language programme:
None

11 Language learning material:
None

12 Literacy material:
None
5.22 Yiji / Yeidji / Jeidji

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Jeidji (AIAS, Oates & Oates, Oates)
   'Jeidji (Tindale)
   Jeithi
   Yeeji (KLS)
   Yeidji (Black, Black & Walsh, Kaberry)
   Yeithi
   'Ye'dji (SIL)
   Bugay (SIL)
   Forrest River (Capell)

2 Classification of the language:
   Worrorran family; Wunambalic group

   Identification codes:
   AIAS: K32
   Capell: K8

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Wyndham area
   Glasgow et al. — up to 500 speakers (late 1960s)

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   No one

5 Practical orthography:
   None

6 Word lists:
   Kaberry (1937), Summer Institute of Linguistics (1971a, 1971b, 1971c, 1971d)

7 Textual material:
   None

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   None
9 Material available on the language:


Summer Institute of Linguistics. 1971a. AIAS word list for N.E. Kimberleys survey: Bugay language. AIAS tapes A2179, 2182, 2189, 2190, 2191. 18pp. manuscript. AIAS pMs 1798.

____. 1971b. AIAS word list for N.E. Kimberleys survey: Wumbulgari language. AIAS tape A2183. 18pp. manuscript. AIAS pMs 1762.

____. 1971c. AIAS word list for N.E. Kimberleys survey: 'Ye'dji language. AIAS tapes A2177, 2178, 2180. 18pp. manuscript. AIAS pMs 1765.


10 Language programme:

None

11 Language learning material:

None

12 Literacy material:

None
Chapter 6

JAMINJUNGAN FAMILY

6.1 Preliminary remarks

The Jaminjungan (Djamindjungan) family is a small family of languages traditionally located in the Victoria River area of the north-western part of the Northern Territory, near the Western Australian border, and adjacent to the Jarrakan languages of the north-eastern Kimberley. The family consists of four languages; however, subgroups are not distinguished in the early surveys (O'Grady, Voegelin and Voegelin 1966:34). These languages are: Jaminjung, Ngaliwuru, Nungali, and Jilngali. Of these four languages, it seems that only Jaminjung is spoken in the Kimberley region, by a handful of Aborigines living in Kununurra.

Capell (1940) identified these languages as a distinct group, and classified them as Northern Territory prefixing languages without noun classification. Thus there are pronominal prefixes to the verb which indicate the "subject" (doer) and "object" (done to), but no genders for nouns — it seems however that at least one of the languages, namely Nungali, is multiple classifying and distinguishes four classes, although otherwise it is very similar to the three other members of the family (see Hodinott & Kofod 1976:397, and Black & Walsh forthcoming).

The Jaminjungan languages are ergative: that is, there is a suffix, -ni in Jaminjung and Ngaliwuru, which is attached to the "subject" of a transitive sentence (the doer of the deed), but not to the "subject" of an intransitive sentence, and means something like 'by' in the English sentence 'He was hit by the car'. The following Jaminjung example illustrates this:

\[ \text{mayi -ni gujugu -ni ganima nyanying malayi nuwina} \]
\[ \text{man -ergative big -ergative he hit her proper woman his} \]
\[ \text{The big man hit his woman hard.' (from Hodinott & Kofod 1976:400)} \]

Another important feature of these languages is that they distinguish simple and compound verbs, as do the majority of the Kimberley languages discussed in previous chapters. Simple verbs are those which, like \text{ganima} 'he hit her' in the example above, take inflections indicating the person and number of the "subject" and "object" (if transitive). In \text{ganima} 'he hit her', the prefix \text{gan} indicates 'he did to him or her'. Compound verbs consist of an invariant and uninflected preverb, followed by an inflected simple verb, as illustrated in \text{ngabulg wadam} 'he dives, he washes', where \text{ngabulg} means 'dive' or 'wash' and \text{wadam} means 'he falls'.

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6.1 PRELIMINARY REMARKS

Reference:

Map 7: Traditional location of Jaminjung
6.2 Jaminjung / Djamindjung

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Djamadjong
   Djamundon
   Djamindjung (AIAS, Bolt, Black & Walsh, Capell, Cleverly, Hodinott, McConvell)
   Djamindjung (Capell)
   Jaminjang
   Jaminjoong (KLS, Waringarri Aboriginal Corporation)
   Tjamindjung
   Tjaminjun
   Tyamintjuŋ (Walsh)

Alternative names:
   Murinyuwen

Murrinyuwen is the name by which the Murrinh-patha refer to Jaminjung.

2 Classification of the language:
   Jaminjungan family

Identification codes:
   AIAS: N18
   Capell: N18

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Timber Creek (NT), Port Keats (NT) and Kununurra.
   Black & Walsh — up to 30 speakers

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   Arthur Capell, late 1930s
   J. Cleverly, mid 1960s, Kununurra
   Michael Walsh, early 1970s, Port Keats

5 Practical orthography:
   None currently in use. The Miriwoong variant of the North Kimberley orthography is being used, or recommended for use, in Kununurra, by the Waringarri Aboriginal Corporation.

6 Word lists:
   Capell (1940, nd), Cleverly (1968), Chadwick (1979), Leeding (1971)
7 Textual material:
Cleverly (1968)

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
Cleverly (1968)

9 Material available on the language:
Glasgow, D., F.M. Hocking & W.L. Steiner nd. Report [to AIAS] on surveys of languages and dialects of the north-east Kimberleys. 9pp. typescript. AIAS.
Street. 1973b. A report on the survey of languages and dialects at Port Keats, N.T. 8pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 2388. (A2;B1).

10 Language programme:
None
11 Language learning material:
   None

12 Literacy material:
   None
Chapter 7

MURRINH-PATHAN FAMILY

7.1 Preliminary remarks

Alternatively called the Garaman family (Oates & Oates 1970), this is a family consisting of a single language, which falls into two or three dialects. The surveys of the 1960s and 1970s (including Oates & Oates 1970 and O'Grady, Voegelin & Voegelin 1966) list two languages in the family, Garama and Murinh-Patha; however, the former is the Jaminjungan name for Murinh-Patha, and is not a separate language (see next section).

The language was traditionally spoken in the Port Keats region of the Northern Territory, on the eastern side of the Joseph Bonaparte Gulf. However, there are now a number of speakers residing in Kununurra.

One of the most interesting things about this language is that, unlike all of the other languages covered in this book, it distinguishes between voiced and voiceless stop consonants. That is, \( p \) is distinct from \( b \); \( th \) from \( dh \); \( t \) from \( d \); \( rt \) from \( rd \); and \( k \) from \( g \). In all the other languages of the Kimberley, there is no distinction between these sounds: that is, a word could be pronounced with the voiceless \( p \) or the voiced \( b \), and this would not affect the meaning. One illustration of the contrast will suffice: \( marta \) means 'I will catch', whereas \( marda \) means 'abdomen'.

Another unusual feature of the language is its pronouns, of which there are no less than thirty one. These distinguish first person, second person and third person; singular (one), dual (two), paucal (a few) and plural (more than one) numbers. In the first person non-singular there is a distinction between inclusive (i.e. the hearer is included) and exclusive (the hearer is excluded). In addition, there are different forms in the dual and paucal for groups which contain all males vs. groups containing at least one female, and different forms for groups which consist of brothers and sisters (Street 1987:49). Thus for example \( ngankuninha \) means 'we two males excluding you (the hearer)', whereas \( ngankunginja \) means 'we two males including you (the hearer)'.

Murrinh-patha displays a phenomenon similar to the multiple classification of nouns found in the Worrorran languages. It appears that there are ten classifiers, which are independent, free words; these precede the noun which they classify Street (1987:41). However, although they are normally used, the classifiers are in fact optional.

Like the Worrorran family (and other Kimberley families discussed in chapters 2 to 5 above), Murrinh-Patha is a prefixing language. Pronominal prefixes to the verb indicate the person and number of the "subject" and "object" (in a transitive sentence); there are also tense prefixes. For example, the word \( wurdangithuk \) means 'he sent me', and consists of a pronominal prefix \( wurda \) 'he', a tense prefix \( n \), followed by another pronominal prefix \( ngi \) 'me'.
Finally, we mention that the language is ergative: a suffix, usually -te, is added to the "subject" of a transitive (but not of an intransitive) sentence, as shown by the following example:

\[ \text{ninal -te panmat nirrpi} \]
\[ \text{Ninal -ergative he hit him Nirrpi} \]
\[ \text{'Ninal hit Nirrpi.'} \]

Reference:
7.2 Murrinh-patha / Murinbada

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

- Murinbada (AIAS, Capell, Oates & Oates)
- Murinbata (Stanner, Street & Mollinjin, Capell, Wurm)
- Murinjbada (Oates, Walsh)
- Murinypata (Walsh)
- Murinypatha (Walsh)
- Murrinh-patha (Black)

Dialect names:

- Murrinh-gurra
- Murrinh-diminin

The language name means 'good language', from *murrinh* 'language', and *patha* 'good'. The two dialect names, Murrinh-gurra and Murrinh-diminin, which refer to northern and southern dialects, mean respectively 'water language' and 'gravel language'. These terms allude to perceived speech qualities (Michael Walsh pers.comm.).

Alternative names:

- Garama (Capell, AIAS)
- Karaman (Tindale)
- Linygugu
- Mariwuda (name used by Brinen speakers; see Oates 1973:41)

According to Black & Walsh (forthcoming), Garama is the Jaminjungan name for Murrinh-patha; Karaman is most likely a variant spelling of this. Linygugu is the Jaminjungan term for the Murrinh-gurra dialect; this term also means 'water language' in Jaminjung.

2 Classification of the language:

- Murrinh-pathan family

Identification codes:

- AIAS: N3
- Oates 1973: 41a (Oates & Oates 1970: 37.1, and 37.2)
- Capell: N61

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:

- Mainly Port Keats; there are a handful of speakers in Kununurra and the surrounding region.
- Black and Walsh — upwards of 800 speakers in Port Keats
- Milliken — 1000 speakers
- Street — about 1100 speakers
4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   Michael Walsh, since early 1970s, Port Keats
   Chester and Lyn Street, from 1973, Port Keats

5 Practical orthography:
   A practical orthography developed by Street is currently in use. This orthography is like
   the standard North Kimberley orthography, except that it uses \( p, t \) and \( k \), in addition to \( b, d \)
   and \( g \).

6 Word lists:
   Capell (1940), Street (1983, 1987), Street & Mollinjin (1981); according to Oates &
   Oates (1970:21), Stanner had an extensive unpublished vocabulary — however, this
   seems not to be the case, and the vocabulary is in fact quite small (Michael
   Walsh, pers.comm.).

7 Textual material:
   Kulamburut & Walsh (1986), Walsh (1976a). Apparently Stanner had collected
   a number of myths and translations, which remain unpublished (Oates & Oates
   (1970:21), Michael Walsh, pers.comm.).

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   Walsh (1976a)

9 Material available on the language:
   Capell, A. 1940. The classification of languages in north and north-west Australia.
   Oceania 10:241-272, 404-433.
   Kulamburut, H.P. & M.J. Walsh 1986. Strange food. In L. Hercus & P. Sutton, eds This
   is what happened: historical narratives by Aborigines, 47-61. Canberra: AIAS.
   Street, C.S. 1976. Spelling problems with voiced and voiceless stops in Murinbata. Read
   11/4:117-118.
   ____ . 1980a. The relationship of verb affixation and clause structure in Murinbata. In
   C.S. Street et al. Papers in Australian linguistics, 12. PL, A-58:
   ____ . 1982. Toward a Murrinh-patha defined need for repentance. Nelen Yubu 1982,
   12:12-21.
   Darwin: SIL.
   Brandenstein et al. Papers in Australian linguistics, 11, 133-141. PL, A-51


10 Language programme:

Since 1976 there has been a bilingual education programme in Port Keats run by the Northern Territory Department of Education.

11 Language learning material:


12 Literacy material:

A large amount of literacy material has been published by SIL. The following is a brief selection:


*Murrinh Nganki*. (Murrinh-patha Primer series) Darwin: SIL.

Chapter 8

PAMA-NYUNGAN FAMILY

8.1 Preliminary remarks

This family covers the larger part of the continent of Australia, and includes the majority of Australian Aboriginal languages. It is represented in the Kimberley region by almost a score of languages. These were traditionally spoken in the southern and south-eastern fringes of the Kimberley, and adjoining regions of the Pilbara and Northern Territory. From about the turn of this century there has been a movement northwards of the speakers of these languages, into the southern Kimberley centres of Fitzroy Crossing, Halls Creek, La Grange, and even into Broome and Derby. Today these are the strongest languages in the region in terms of numbers of speakers; furthermore, the only languages that are being passed on to children, and that are actively spoken by children, belong to this family.

The Kimberley Pama-Nyungan languages belong to four subgroups, which are named after the word for 'man, person': Marrngu, Ngumpin, Ngarrka and Wati (often called Western Desert subgroup). The Marrngu languages were traditionally spoken in the south-western corner of the Kimberley region, and into the Pilbara; the Ngumpin languages were spoken to the east of the Marrngu subgroup, and extended in an easterly line into the Northern Territory; the Ngarrka and Wati subgroups were located further south, and extended into Central Australia and the Goldfields region of Western Australia.

As distinct from all the other families in the Kimberley, the Pama-Nyungan languages are SUFFIXING, not prefixing. That is, they have no prefixes at all, only suffixes of various sorts, including, in particular, case suffixes to nouns (these indicate the role of the thing in the action), and tense suffixes to verbs (these indicate the time that the action took place). Furthermore, they are all non-classifying (that is, they do not have noun classes).

A brief selection of some typical properties of these languages follows.

(1) Like nearly all Pama-Nyungan languages, those of the Kimberley are ergative languages: they have a special suffix, usually -lu, -ngku or -tu, which is attached to the "subject" of a transitive sentence (the doer of the deed), but not to the "subject" of an intransitive sentence. The following sentence from Wangkajunga illustrates this:

\[
\text{wati} \quad \text{-lu} \quad \text{maparn \ nyangu}
\]

man -ergative sorcerer saw

'The man saw the sorcerer.'

Compare this with the next sentence, which is intransitive, and has no ergative suffix:

\[
\text{wati} \quad \text{yanu}
\]

man went
The man went.

However, in all, or nearly all of these languages, all nouns and pronouns take the ergative suffix in transitive sentences. Thus, 'I saw the sorcerer' would be expressed as follows:

\[ \text{ngayu -lu -rna maparn nyangu} \]
I -ergative -I sorcerer saw

By contrast, in the majority of Pama-Nyungan languages the ergative suffix does not occur on pronouns, only on nouns.

(2) Whereas the non-Pama-Nyungan Kimberley languages have prefixes to the verb which indicate the person and number of the "subject" and "object", in the Pama-Nyungan languages of this region there are instead pronominal enclitics, which fulfil the same function. These are bound pronouns — that is, they cannot occur by themselves as full words, as do ordinary pronouns in languages such as English, but must be attached to the end of other words. In some languages, such as Wangkajunga (as the previous example illustrates), the pronominal enclitics are attached to the end of the first word of the sentence. In other languages, such as Walmajarri and Warlpiri, they are attached to the end of a so called auxiliary, which always comes as the second word of the sentence. Pronominal enclitics are obligatory in most (if not all) of these languages; however, the third person singular pronoun (i.e. 'he', 'she' or 'it') is usually zero, as in the first Wangkajunga example cited in this section.

(3) Like the non-Pama-Nyungan Kimberley languages, and unlike most of their close genetic relatives elsewhere, the Pama-Nyungan languages of the Kimberley region have simple and compound verbs. Simple verbs inflect for tense, aspect and mood. Compound verbs consist of an invariant (unchanging) preverb, followed by an inflecting simple verb. In Wangkajunga, for instance, the verb \[ \text{nya-} \] 'see' is simple, as illustrated in the examples above. However, the verb for 'swim' is compound, consisting of the invariant preverb \[ \text{tupurl} \], which means something like 'immerse in water', followed by the inflecting simple verb \[ \text{ya-} \] 'go'.
Map 9: Traditional locations of the Pama-Nyungan languages
8.2 Karajarri / Garadjari

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

- Karadjeri (Capell)
- Karajarri (KLS, McKelson)
- Karatyarri (Brandenstein)
- Karrajarra
- Garadjari (AIAS, Capell, Worms)
- Garadjeri (Capell)
- Garadyare (Worms)
- Garadyari (Worms)
- GaradyaRi (Kerr)
- Garadyaria (McKelson)
- Garajara (O'Grady)
- Gard'are
- Guradjara

There are three dialects: Najanaja or Murrkurt (Murgud) from the coast; Nawurtu (Naurdu) from the inland; and Nangu (sometimes mistakenly spelled Ngangu) from the middle, between the inland and the coastal dialects. These dialects are named after their respective words for 'this'. Oates (1973) gives a fourth Ngawadu, which is almost certainly a mishearing of Nawurtu. According to speakers, the three dialects differ somewhat in lexicon and also in rate of speaking.

2 Classification of the language:

- Pama Nyungan family; Marrngu subgroup

Identification codes:

- AIAS: A64
- Oates 1973: 57.2
- Capell: A13

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:

- Broome and La Grange
- McKelson (pers.comm.) — 20 to 30 speakers in La Grange

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:

- Arthur Capell, late 1930s, La Grange
- Nora Kerr, 1960s, mainly in Broome
- Gerhardt Laves, 1929 to 1931, La Grange
- Fr. Kevin McKelson, since 1950s, mainly in La Grange
- Fr. Ernest Worms, 1930s, La Grange
5 Practical orthography:

McKelson has recommended the South Kimberley orthography for use in the language programme in La Grange school.

6 Word lists:

Capell (1940), Kerr (nd), McKelson (nd, 1968), O'Grady (1968), Worms (1944)

7 Textual material:

Capell (1949/1950), Catholic Church (nd, 1974), McKelson (1974), Moyle (1968), Nekes & Worms (1953)

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:

Capell (1962), Laves (1931), McKelson (nd a, nd b, 1975)

9 Material available on the language:


____ . 1974. Liturgy and ritual. Our Father, Hail Mary (adapted). Translated by K. McKelson. 7pp. AIAS.


Kerr, N.F. nd. A comparative word list: Nyigina and neighbouring languages. 99pp. typescript. AIAS.


___ . nd b. Learn some Aboriginal; learn some Karajarri. 42pp. typescript. KLRC.


___ . 1983. [Languages spoken at La Grange, Fitzroy Crossing, Broome, Port Hedland areas of Western Australia.] typescript. AlAS Ms 1837.


O'Grady, G.N. 1968. [Language material from Western Australia.] 364pp. manuscript. AlAS Ms 321. (A1;B2).


8.2 KARAJARRI / GARADJARI

Worms, E.A. 1938a. Foreign words in some Kimberley tribes in North-Western Australia. *Oceania* 8:458-462.


___ . 1944. Aboriginal place names in Kimberley, Western Australia. *Oceania* 14:284-310.


10 Language programme:

A language programme has been in operation since 1985 in the La Grange Government School; Karajarri is one of the languages taught in this programme.

11 Language learning material:

McKelson (nd b, 1975, 1983)

12 Literacy material:

Catholic Church (nd, 1974), McKelson (1974)
8.3 Nyangumarta / Njangumarda

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

Nandamurda
Nangamada
Nangamurda (Bates)
Nungoo'murdoo
Naŋamada (O'Grady)
Naŋumada (O'Grady)
Njangamada
Njangamarda (Tindale)
Njangumada (Capell)
Njangumarda (AIAS, Capell)
Njangumarta (Brown)
Njaŋomada (Odermann)
Nyangamada
Nyangumarda (O'Grady)
Nyangumarta (KLS, Black & Walsh)
Nyangumata (O'Grady)
Nyaŋumada (McKelson)

The dialect situation is not perfectly clear, although all authorities agree that there are two dialects. Hoard & O'Grady (1976:51) say that the northern Nyangumarta are called Wanyarli by the southern ones, and that the southern Nyangumarta are called Ngulibardu (Ngurlipartu in the South Kimberley orthography) by the northern ones. However, Brian Geytenbeek (pers.comm.) suggests that there are two dialects, a Coastal Nyangumarta, and an Inland Nyangumarta, and that the Hoard and O'Grady terms may be inaccurate. He suggests that Wanyarli may be a mishearing, and should perhaps be Walirli, which refers to a family grouping around Wallal, and is not strictly a dialect name; he goes on to say that although the term Wanyarli is well known to whites in the area, most Aborigines do not know of it. Geytenbeek also remarks that there is a difficulty with the term Ngurlipartu: some old men who identify themselves by this term speak a variety distinct from the Inland dialect, one which shows more Western Desert influence.

Another opinion is expressed by Tindale, who refers to the northern dialect as Kundal, and to the southern one as Iparuka. Tindale also lists Ngolibardu (i.e. Ngulipartu), but as a separate language, which was taken over by the Iparuka.

2 Classification of the language:

Pama-Nyungan family; Marrngu subgroup

Identification codes:

AIAS: A61
Oates 1973: 57.1a
Capell: A30
3 Present number and distribution of speakers:

In communities between Port Hedland and Broome
Black & Walsh — 700-800 speakers
Oates (1973) — about 700 speakers (early 1970s)

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:

M. Brown, late 1970s, in Strelley
Gwen Bucknall, since 1970s in Strelley
Brian and Helen Geytenbeek, since mid 1970s, in Port Hedland
Fr. Kevin McKelson, since 1950s, in La Grange
Geoffrey O'Grady, 1950s, in Wallal, and Anna Plains
Janet Sharp, 1980s, in Strelley

5 Practical orthography:

Brian and Helen Geytenbeek have developed a practical orthography, identical with the South Kimberley orthography, and the same system is in use at Strelley, developed by Gwen Bucknall.

6 Word lists:

Bates (nd a,b), Capell (1940), Davidson (1928-1932), Geytenbeek & Geytenbeek (1973), McKelson (1968b, nd), Odermann (1958), O'Grady (1959, 1968)

7 Textual material:


8 Grammar or sketch grammar:

McKelson (nd), O'Grady (1964), Sharp (1985); O'Grady (1959) contains some grammatical information.

9 Material available on the language:

Anon. 1956. The Abos have a word for it: a white man set out to learn exactly what they were saying. [G.N. O'Grady learning Nyangumarta.] People 30th May 1956:23-26.
____ . nd b. Native vocabularies – Pilbara Magisterial District. typescript copy of manuscript. Section 12, 2D: 2a, 2b. ANL-MS365-48/25-46.
1966. Interim report (4) [to A.I.A.S.] on field work NW-WA 15.9.65


1968. Field tapes nos. 3-13: contents. 21pp. manuscript. AIAS


Brown, M. 1976. A phonological and grammatical write-up of the language Njangumarta as spoken by the Aboriginal people of Strelley Station, W.A. typescript.


nd. Liturgy and ritual. Our Father, Hail Mary (adapted). 8pp. typescript. AIAS

Davidson, D.S. 1928-1932. Comparative vocabularies of nineteen Western Australian languages. 77pp. typescript. AIAS Ms 1097. (A2;B5).


Geytenbeek, B.B. nd. Tayapiti. manuscript.

1973. Nyangumarda, Nyamal and Nyiyapali word lists. 4 parts. manuscript.


1973. [Nyangumarda, Nyamal and Nyiyapali word lists.] 4 pts. manuscript. AIAS Ms 1173. (A1;B5).


8.3 NYANGUMARTA / NJANGUMARDA


McConvell, P. 1982. Supporting the two way school. In J. Bell, ed. Language planning for Australian Aboriginal languages, 60-76. Alice Springs: IAD.


McKelson, K. nd. Studies in NjaJumada. 239pp. manuscript. AIAS Ms 293. (A;B).


- 1959. Significance of the circumcision boundary in Western Australia. BA thesis, University of Sydney.


- 1967d. [Transcriptions from A.I.A.S. tapes A687a, 793a and b, 794a and 686a in Talandju, Yinggarda, Warrienga, Purduna, Warnman and Nyangumarda. 14(25)pp. manuscript. AIAS

- 1968. [Language material from Western Australia.] 264pp. manuscript. AIAS Ms 321. (A1;B2).


Sharp, J. nd. Spreading in Nyangumarta — a non-linear account. typescript.


10 Language programme:

Strelley Community School has been running a bilingual programme in Nyangumarta and Manyjilyjarra since the 1970s. Since 1985 the La Grange State School has run a language programme which includes Nyangumarta as one of the languages.

11 Language learning material:

McKelson (1977)
12 Literacy material:

Rurla (1977), Sharp (1976)
8.4 Mangala / Mangarla

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

Manala
Mangai
Mangala (AIAS, Capell, McKelson, Oates)
Mangarla (Black & Walsh, KLS)
Maŋala (McKelson, Worms)
Minala
Mungala

Possible dialect names include:

Djuwal i
Jiwali
Koalgurdi
Yalmbau

The recommended spelling, Mangala, is the spelling that has been used in the language programme in La Grange school. However, strictly speaking, it should be written Mangarla in the practical orthography for the language: the l-sound is retroflex (see section 1.2.1).

2 Classification of the language:

Pama-Nyungan family; Marrngu subgroup

Identification codes:

AIAS: A65
Oates 1973: 57.3
Capell: A21

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:

La Grange Mission, Broome
Black & Walsh — up to 20 speakers
Vaszolyi — nearly extinct

Black & Walsh would seem to be the more reliable estimate.

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:

Arthur Capell, late 1930s, La Grange, Broome
Fr. Kevin McKelson, since 1950s, mainly at La Grange

5 Practical orthography:

The South Kimberley orthography is used in the language programme in La Grange school.
6 Word lists:


7 Textual material:


8 Grammar or sketch grammar:


9 Material available on the language:


Catholic Church. 1974. Liturgy and ritual. Our Father, Hail Mary (adapted). 8pp. manuscript. AIAS


Hudson, J. 1973. [Mangarla word list.] 12pp. manuscript. AIAS (A2;B1).


——. 1974a. Catholic Church. Liturgy and ritual. Our Father, Hail Mary (adapted). 7pp. manuscript. AIAS.


——. 1983. [Languages spoken at La Grange, Fitzroy Crossing, Broome, Port Hedland areas of Western Australia.] Part 5, Learn some Aboriginal: learn some Mangala, 40 lessons. typescript. AIAS Ms 1837.


O’Grady, G.N. 1968. [Language material from Western Australia.] 364pp. manuscript. AIAS Ms 321. (A1;B2).

8.4 MANGALA / MANGARLA


Worms, E.A. 1938a. Foreign words in some Kimberley tribes in North-Western Australia. *Oceania* 8:458-462.


____. 1944. Aboriginal place names in Kimberley, Western Australia. *Oceania* 14:284-310.


10 Language programme:

Since 1985 La Grange school has run language programmes in the five traditional languages, including Mangala.

11 Language learning material:

McKelson (1977, 1983)

12 Literacy material:

None
8.5 YULPARIJA / YURLPARIJA / JULBARIDJA

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Julbaridja (Capell, AIAS, O'Grady)
   Julbarida (O'Grady)
   Julbre (Capell, Oates, O'Grady)
   Julbri
   YulapaRitya (Oates)
   Yulbaradja (McKelson)
   Yulbaridja (AIAS)
   Yulbari-dja (Petri)
   Yulbaridya (McKelson)
   Yulbarija (Dixon)
   Yulbri
   Yulparitja (Hansen)
   Yurlparija (KLS)

Oates (1973) distinguishes Julbre from YulapaRitya, claiming that the latter is a dialect close to Walmajarri.

According to Tindale (1974:245) the term Yulparija 'is not tribally limited, and is useless as a distinguishing label'.

2 Classification of the language:
   Pama-Nyungan family, Western Desert subgroup

   Identification codes:
   AIAS: A67
   Oates 1973: 56.2an, 56.2ao
   Capell: A19

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Yulparija is today the dominant language of La Grange, where it is spoken by over 100 persons (McKelson, pers.comm.).
   Thieberger (1987) — over 200

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   Fr. Kevin McKelson, since 1950s, mainly in La Grange and Broome
   Geoffrey O'Grady, 1950s, La Grange

5 Practical orthography:
South Kimberley orthography is in use in the language programme in the La Grange school; this was originally suggested by McKelson.
6 Word lists:

7 Textual material:
Catholic Church (nd), McKelson (1974)

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:

9 Material available on the language:
Burridge, K. nd. A sketch grammar of Yulbaridja. 37+x pp. typescript. (Not for quotation.) KLRC.
Catholic Church. nd. Liturgy and ritual. Our Father, Hail Mary (adapted). 8pp. manuscript.
____. tr. 1974. Catholic Church. Liturgy and ritual. Our Father, Hail Mary (adapted). 7pp. manuscript. AIAS
____. 1983. [Languages spoken at La Grange, Fitzroy Crossing, Broome, Port Hedland areas of Western Australia.] 5pts. typescript. AIAS Ms 1837.
____. 1959. Significance of the circumcision boundary in Western Australia. BA (Hons) thesis, University of Sydney.
____. 1968. [Language material from Western Australia.] 364pp. manuscript. AIAS MS 321. (A1;B2).


10 **Language programme:**

La Grange School has been running a language programme since 1985; Yurlparija is included as one of the languages taught.

11 **Language learning material:**

McKelson (1978, 1983)

12 **Literacy material:**


8.6 Wangkajunga / Wangkatjungka

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Wanggadjunggu (Berndt)
   Wangkajungka
   Wangkatjungka (Hansen)

A number of white people (including people living in Fitzroy Crossing) have misheard the language name as Wangkajungka; this is definitely incorrect. The term 'Wangkajunga' comes from wangka 'talk' and junga 'straight', and means means 'straight/correct speech'. These days at least, it refers to a Western Desert dialect which is quite similar to Yulparija and Kukatja. Some speakers of the latter claim that they speak the former, when in fact it appears that they are responding to the meaning of the term (i.e. they are claiming to speak 'straight', or correctly). This, together with the fact that many earlier surveys (such as Tindale's) do not include this language/dialect/group name, perhaps suggests that the term is a recent innovation as a dialect name.

2 Classification of the language:
   Pama-Nyungan family; Western Desert group

Identification codes:
   AIAS: (Kukatja A68)
   Oates 1973: 56.10a
   Capell: (Kukaja A16)

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Fitzroy Crossing, Christmas Creek (Wangkatjungka Community), Bayulu, by at least 100 full speakers.

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   McGregor, from 1982, at Fitzroy Crossing and Christmas Creek

5 Practical orthography:
   None in regular use. The South Kimberley orthography would be suitable, as would be the Kukatja variant.

6 Word lists:
   Hansen (1984), Angelo (1985)

7 Textual material:
   McGregor has collected and transcribed some, but none is published.
8 Grammar or sketch grammar:

None

9 Material available on the language:

Angelo, M. 1985. Wangkajunga picture dictionary. manuscript. AIAS p11983.
    Darwin: SIL.
Thieberger, N. 1987. Handbook of WA Aboriginal languages (south of the Kimberley

10 Language programme:

A language maintenance programme was begun in the Christmas Creek School in 1987.

11 Language learning material:

None

12 Literacy material:

Angelo, M. 1985. Wangkajunga picture dictionary. manuscript. AIAS p11983.
8.7 Kukatja / Gugadja

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Gogada (Worms)
   Gogodja (Worms)
   Gogoda (Tindale, Oates)
   Gogodja (Peile)
   Gugadja (Capell, Berndt)
   Gugudja (Capell)
   Kokatja (Tindale)
   Kukaja (McGregor)
   Kukatja (Capell, Oates, Peile)

This language has the same name as another language in southern Northern Territory and South Australia, which is closely related to it. According to Peile (pers.comm.) the term "Kukatja" is also applied to Western Luritja (N.T.); Worms (e.g. 1959:306) confuses this Kukatja with the Kukatja now spoken at Balgo.

Possible alternatives:
   Nambulatji (Tindale)
   Maiulatara
   Mulatara

According to Peile (pers.comm.), Nambulatji is a language similar to Warlpiri and Ngardi, while Maiulatara and Mulatara are not Kukatja, but more southerly dialects of the Western Desert language.

2 Classification of the language:
   Pama Nyungan family, Western Desert, Wati subgroup

Identification codes:
   Oates 1973: 56.10a
   AIAS: A68
   Capell: A16

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Most speakers live at Balgo Hills (Mission), but there are also some at Billiluna, Lake Gregory, Christmas Creek, Fitzroy Crossing, Kintore, Yuendumu, and Papunya.
   Milliken (1972) — 183
   Oates (1973) — about 300
   Black (1979) — 300
4 People who have worked intensively on the language:

Father Ernest Worms, 1936-1937, Billiluna and Balgo Hills area.
Father Anthony Peile, from 1972 to present, Balgo Mission
Bernard Lefort, from 1985 to 1986, Balgo Mission

5 Practical orthography:

During 1983 and 1984 the Balgo Community developed and decided on an orthography for Kukatja, with assistance from K. Hansen, H. Nagomara, Fr. A. Peile, and B. Lefort. This is a slight variation from the South Kimberley orthography (see pages 4 to 6 above for a description), and differs slightly from the earlier orthography developed by Peile.

6 Word lists:

Worms (1950), Peile (nd a). Peile is in the process of preparing a detailed dictionary and encyclopaedia.

7 Textual material:

Moyle (1984), Peile (nd c)

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:

Peile (nd b)

9 Material available on the language:

Peile, Anthony R. nd a. [1000 word vocabulary]. manuscript.
nd b. [Phonology and grammar statement, draft form]. manuscript.
nd c. [Transcription of tape A2247a, song texts]. typescript. (Restricted)
1965. [Letter to AIAS.] typescript. AIAS.

1985a. Kukatja botanical terms and concepts. typescript.


Tindale, N.B. 1932. Journal of an expedition to Mt Leibig, Central Australia, to do anthropological research. Aug 1932. 374p. + suppl. notes manuscript. (Kukatja, Jumu, Ngalia, Anmatjera, Pintubi and Aranda. May be Kukatja (S.A.).)

1952-54. Field journal of N.B. Tindale: 18th expedition under the auspices of Board for Anthropological Research, University of Adelaide and University of California at Los Angeles, 1952-54. 1233+340p. typescript., manuscript. (340p. of supplementary data including parallel vocabularies of 30 tribes, 180 words in each)

Western Australia. Chief Secretary’s Department. 1934. Native tribes and boundaries of their districts. (File 384/34) (lists tribes with approximate location.)


10 Language programme:

A bilingual programme is currently being run in the Balgo school. A linguist was employed by Catholic Education in an advisory capacity during 1985 and 1986. Since then the position lapsed for some time, but has recently been filled.

11 Language learning material:

12 Literacy material:

The following is a list of literacy materials produced to November 1985. (No indication was given as to author.)

_Karakurlu kalyu — Salt water._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Wartilpayi — The hunter._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Wiltja — The shelter._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Taputjunku — The race._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Victor marrka murtilya — Victor, the strong boy._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Raymondkura bike — Raymond's bike._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Yirraru Willie — Sad Willie._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Pamarr tjarlu — The mountain._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Ngilypi kamu yirna — The old man and the old woman._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Tjarlu lanyma — The big fight._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Yumpalypa Adam — Lazy Adam._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Kawarlirri — Lost._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Iantu ngalurnu kanu — Ian catches a lizard._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Kurrku — The cave._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Peter Marnmarlyarringu — Peter gets hurt._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Peter Yitjipungkupayi — Peter the bully._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Ngayukutju tjiraly — My lunch._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Ngaatjangkura Ben — Here is Ben._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Latju — The witchetty grub._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Yutjapilaku waraka — The hospital worker._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Piwi — Dunbi the owl._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Lingka kamu kanu — The snake and the lizard._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Marlulura nyangin mayaruku — Kangaroo looks for home._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Nyawultjirriya marlu — Counting kangaroos._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Murtilya kamu puruku — The boy and the frog._ Derby: Kimberley Educational Printing Service.
_Kulila 1, 2, 3, 4._
_Kukatja reader._ [Includes vocabulary and grammar drills, and cassette.]
_Kukatja picture vocabulary._
8.8 Pintupi / Bindubi

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

   Bindubi (Capell, AIAS)
   Bindubu
   Pintupi (Tindale)
   Pintupi (Hansen)
   Loritja
   Luridja (AIAS)
   Luritja (Oates & Oates, AIAS, Hansen)

See Hansen & Hansen (1977) and (1978), and Heffernan (1984a) for the usage of the name Luritja. Apparently it is a name used generally by the Arrernte (Aranda) people of Central Australia for the Western Desert group. It has also been adopted by many different Western Desert groups who have taken up residence on Arrerntic land (Ian Green, pers.comm.). The term does not identify a specific dialect; for instance, Papunya Luritja is not the same dialect as Alice Springs Luritja.

   According to Ian Green (pers.comm.), "Papunya Luritja has developed from Eastern Pintupi, shows influence from Warlpiri and Arrernte, and shares some grammatical/morphological features with the southern Western Desert dialects Yankunytjatjarra and Pitjanytjatjara rather than Pintupi. Eastern Pintupi was spoken in the Kintore-Ilyipi region, and the Pintupi described by Hansen and Hansen was spoken in the area west of Kintore (see Hansen & Hansen 1977:21)." See also Yulparija, Wangkajunga, and Kukatja.

   The Yumu language is said to be closely related to Pintupi and to Kukatja, but there is very little information on it. Alternative spellings are: Jumu (Tindale, O'Grady, Elkin, Fry), Yumi (Roheim), Yumu (Cleland & Johnson, Wurm, AIAS).

2 Classification of the language:

   Pama-Nyungan family, Western Desert group, Wati subgroup

   Identification codes:

   AIAS: C10 (Pintupi), C11 (Yumu)
   Oates 1973: 56.9a (Pintupi), 56.9b (Yumu), 56.9c (Luritja)
   Capell: C7 (Pintupi), C16 (Yumu)

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:

   Some speakers are to be found in the Kimberley region, in Halls Creek and Balgo, but most live in the NT, principally at Papunya and outstations, Haast's Bluff, Mt. Liebig area, Kintore and outstations, Kiwirrkurra; also some at Areyonga, Yuendumu, Docker River, Nyirrpi, Hermannsburg, Glen Helen (particularly Luritja).

   Milliken, 1972 — 613
   Black, 1979 — 800
   Green (pers.comm.), 1986 — about 1,000
4 People who have worked intensively on the language:

   Ken Hansen, since 1960s, Papunya
   John Heffernan, since early 1980s, Papunya
   Ian Green, since 1984, Papunya

5 Practical orthography:

A practical orthography has been established, and used in the Papunya school; it was devised by Hansen and Hansen. This is the same system that is used in Pitjantjatjara and Yankunytjatjara, and similar to the Kukatja variant of the South Kimberley orthography (see page 6), except that underlining is used to indicate retroflexion, instead of an r before the letter.

6 Word lists:

   Hansen & Hansen (1977), Heffernan (1984b)

7 Textual material:

   Heffernan (1984a)

   A Pintupi/Luritja text series is under way, under the supervision of a linguist with the Northern Territory Education Department, Ian Green. The texts will be mainly edited classroom texts, but tapes and transcripts will also be available. The Papunya Literature Production Centre will publish the series.

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:

   Hansen & Hansen (1978), Heffernan (1984a)

9 Material available on the language:

See also:

AIAS Selected reading list, Central and Western Desert: The Aranda, Bidjandjarra, Bindubi, Waljbiri. 17p. mimeo. AIAS. 197?


10 Language programme:

A bilingual education programme has been running for some years in the Papunya school.

11 Language learning material:


12 Literacy material:

Too many to mention here. The Papunya Literature Production Centre has already about 200 publications to its credit. A bilingual newsletter is also produced by the Centre. The following is a short selection of teaching material available.

___ . 1974. Wakantjaku 1-4 [For the purpose of writing]. NT Department of Education.
___ . 1974. Teachers’ guide to Pintupi primers. Sections 1,2. NT Department of Education.
___ . 1985b. Ula kutjarra yankupayi. (The boys who go hunting.) Papunya: Papunya Literature Production Centre.
___ . 1985c. Yara mulyatanku puluka mantjintja. (Stealing cattle.) Papunya: Papunya Literature Production Centre.

There are also many religious materials, including a volume of translations from the Old Testament:

8.9 Walmajarri / Walmadjari

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

Walmadjari (AIAS, Capell, Tindale)
Walmadjeri (Worms)
Walmadyeri (Worms)
Walmaharri (Matthews)
Walmala
Walmatjari (Capell, Hudson)
Walmatjeri (Worms)
Walmatjiri (Douglas)
Walmatjarri (probably Jaru name)
Walmeri
Warmala
Wolmadjeri (Berndt)
Wolmaharry
Wolmatjeri (Kaberry)
Wolmera
Wolmeri (O’Grady, Oates, Elkin)
Wulumari

Dialects:

Western dialect:

Jiwarliny
Juwaliny
Tjiwaling (Tindale)

South-eastern dialect:

Billiluna dialect

2 Classification of the language:

Pama-Nyungan family, Ngumbin subgroup

Identification codes:

AIAS: A66
Oates 1973: 59.7b
Capell: A35

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:

Between 800 and 1000 speakers, in Fitzroy Crossing, Looma, and Eastern Kimberleys. Traditionally from the northern part of the Great Sandy Desert. Hudson (1978) — over a thousand (including second language speakers)

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:

Joyce Hudson and Eirlys Richards, since late 1960s, Fitzroy Crossing.
5 Practical orthography:

Hudson and Richards developed and implemented a practical orthography identical with the South Kimberley orthography (described in section 1.2 above). This has been used in all Walmajarri literacy and language programmes.

6 Word lists:

Hudson (1978)

7 Textual material:


8 Grammar or sketch grammar:


9 Material available on the language:


Fraser, J. & J. Hudson 1975. A comparison and contrasting of the noun phrase of Walmatjari with the noun phrase of Fitzroy Crossing children's Pidgin. manuscript.

Hudson, J. 1970. Walmatjari paragraph types. typescript. SIL.


____ . 1978. The core of Walmatjari grammar. Canberra: AIAS.

____ . 1980. A tentative analysis of illocutionary verbs in Walmatjari. 30p. typescript. ANU.


8.9 WALMAJARRI / WALMATJARI / WALMADJARI


McKelson, K.R. 1983. Language spoken at La Grange, Fitzroy Crossing, Broome, Port Hedland areas of Western Australia. manuscript.


O'Grady, G.N. 1968. Language material from Western Australia. 364pp. manuscript. AIAS Ms 321. (A1;B2).


Peile, A.R. nd. Field notes Warayngari. 182pp. manuscript. AIAS Ms 322.

Richards, E. 1974. Tentative frequency count of clause types in written and oral narrative in Walmatjari. manuscript.


Tsunoda, T. 1975-1979. Djaru field notes. 24 pts. c.2564pp. manuscript. AIAS Ms 1381. (A1;B4)

10 Language programme:
Kulkarriya Community School (Noonkanbah) has run a language programme since 1978. Initially this was an oral programme; with the employment of a teacher linguist in 1980, the programme was extended to include literacy. Fitzroy Crossing State School has on a number of occasions (including 1982 and 1985) initiated a small segment of language learning, usually involving one short period per week for each class. These have not usually lasted for very long. Nulungu College in Broome has been running a language awareness programme in Walmajarri since 1986.

11 Language learning material:

12 Literacy material:
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       . 1973b. Wangkiwanti kutawanti. (Short stories, in Walmajarri.) Darwin: SIL.


Skipper, P. 1973. *Yawatalu piyun tarapinya.* (Thrown by a horse, in Walmajarri.) Darwin: SIL.


___ . 1974b. *Yawartarlu piyirn tarapinya.* (Thrown by a horse, in Walmajarri.) Darwin: SIL.


Summer Institute of Linguistics. nd a. *Jiriki pinanguru.* (The intelligent bird, in Walmajarri.) Darwin: SIL.

___ . nd b. *Kurumpa juujjati.* (Book of songs, in Walmajarri.) Darwin: SIL.


Mangki pajanujuwal. (The chopping monkey, in Walmajarri.) Darwin: Wycliffe Bible Translators.

Nguriji. (The thief, in Walmajarri.) Darwin: Wycliffe Bible Translators.
8.10 Juwaliny / Jiwarliny / Tjiwarliny

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   - Tjiwarliny (Black & Walsh)
   - Jiwarliny (KLS)
   - Tjiwarlin (Oates)

Said to be a dialect of Walmajarri (Hudson 1978:2).

2 Classification of the language:
   - Pama-Nyungan family, Ngumpin subgroup

   Identification codes:
   - AIAS: A66
   - Oates 1973: 59.7a
   - Capell: A35

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   - Mainly La Grange Mission, where there are a fair number of speakers
     (McKelson, pers.comm.)

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   - Fr. McKelson, since 1950s, mainly in La Grange

5 Practical orthography:
   The South Kimberley orthography is in use in the language programme in La Grange School.

6 Word lists:
   - None

7 Textual material:
   - None

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   - McKelson (nd)

9 Material available on the language:
   - McKelson, K. nd Learn some Aboriginal; learn some Juwaliny. typescript.
10 **Language programme:**
Since 1985 La Grange School has run a language programme in the five local languages, including Juwaliny.

11 **Language learning material:**
None

12 **Literacy material:**
None
8.11 JARU / DJARU

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   - Daru (O'Grady)
   - Djaro (Worms)
   - Djaru (Tsunoda, Berndt, Capell, Oates, O'Grady, Kaberry, AIAS)
   - Dyaro (Worms)
   - Dyaru (Kofod)
   - Jarrau (Matthews)
   - Jaruru
   - Tjaru (Douglas, Harrison)
   - Waringarri

Jaru is in a dialect relationship with Nyininy (see section 8.12). Jaru and Nyininy are said to be closely related to Wanyjirra (see section 8.13).

2 Classification of the language:
   Northern Western Desert type, Ngumpin subgroup

   Identification codes:
   - AIAS: K12
   - Oates 1973: 59.3a
   - Capell: K3

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Oates, (1973) — 246 adults (Hudson, June 1973)
   Black (1979) — 250
   Tsunoda (1981) — nearly 200 first language speakers, and possibly over 100 second language speakers (including those with a passive knowledge only)

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   Tsunoda, since mid-1970s, fieldwork based in Halls Creek.

5 Practical orthography:
   None yet established and in frequent use. The South Kimberley orthography would be suitable, and has been trialled to some extent by a speaker working for the Kimberley Language Resource Centre. However, it seems likely that a different system will be used in the language programme in the Ringers Soak Catholic School.

6 Word lists:
   - Hudson (1973a, 1973b), Cooling & Cooling (1968), O'Grady (1959)
7 Textual material:

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:

9 Material available on the language:
(See also under Nyininy and Wanyjirra.)
Capell, A. & A.P. Elkin 1937. The languages of the Kimberley Division. *Oceania* 8:216-245.
Hudson, J. 1973a. Gurindji word list for a two-week survey (probably strongly influenced by Djaru). 12p. typescript. SIL. (AIAS Library has copy)
____. 1973b. Two Djaru word lists. 24p. SIL. (AIAS Library has copy)
O'Grady, G. N. 1957-58. Material on suffixing languages of W.A. manuscript. (AIAS Ms 320)
____. 1959. Significance of the circumcision boundary in Western Australia. BA (Hons.) thesis, University of Sydney.
Tsunoda, T. 1975-1979. Djaru field notes. 24 pts. c.2564pp. manuscript. AIAS Ms 1381. (A1;B4)
Worms, E.A. 1938. Foreign words in some Kimberley tribes in North-Western Australia. *Oceania* 8:458-462.

10 Language programme:
Since early 1987 the Red Hill Community (Halls Creek) and Ringers Soak Community (Gordon Downs) have had language programmes operating in their schools.
11 Language learning material:
   None

12 Literacy material:
   None
8.12 Nyininy / Njininj

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Neening
   Nining (Matthews)
   Njinin (orig. AIAS)
   Njining (Berndt)
   Njininj (AIAS, Tsunoda)
   Nyinin (Wurm, O'Grady, Oates, Jagst)
   Nyininy (Hale, IAD)

   Nyininy is in a dialect relationship to Jaru (section 8.11).

2 Classification of the language:
   Northern Western Desert type, Ngumbin subgroup

   Identification codes:
   AIAS: K7
   Oates 1973: 59.3c
   Capell: K3

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Nicholson, Gordon Downs, Mistake Creek
   Milliken (1972) — 79
   Black (1979) — around 50

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   Tsunoda, since late 1970s has worked intensively on Jaru, and collected
   information on Nyininy.

5 Practical orthography:
   None presently in use. The South Kimberley orthography (or some variant) would
   probably be most suitable.

6 Word lists:
   Hale (1959), Bell (1980b)

7 Textual material:
   None

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   Remarks are contained in Tsunoda (1978) and (1981).
9 Material available on the language:
(See also references under Jaru.)
Tsunoda, T. 1975-1979. [Djaru field notes] 24 pts. c.2564pp. manuscript. AIAS Ms 1381. (A1;B4)
_____ . 1981. The Djaru language of Kimberley, Western Australia. PL, B-78.

10 Language programme:
None

11 Language learning material:
None

12 Literacy material:
None
8.13 Wanyjirra / Wandjira

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

   Wandjira (AIAS, Capell, Oates, Tsunoda, Wurm)
   Wanjira (Wurm)
   Wanjira:
   Wanyjirra (Black & Walsh, KLS, McConvell)
   Mulbera (Kaberry, alternate name)
   Waringari (Oates, alternate name)
   Waiangara (Peile)

Wanjira is grouped with Waringari in Oates (1973). It is, however, doubtful whether Waringari is a language name; more likely it is the pan-eastern Kimberley word *waringarri* which means 'a big group of people'.

According to McConvell (1985:98), Wanyjirra is very similar to Gurindji; indeed, remarks on pages 107 and 108 of his article seem to suggest that Gurindji and Wanyjirra are in a dialectal relationship.

2 Classification of the language:

   Northern Western Desert type, Ngumpin subgroup

   Identification codes:
   AIAS: K21
   Oates 1973: 59.3b
   Capell: K3

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:

   Traditionally, between Upper Baines and Ord Rivers.
   Milliken estimates about 50 speakers in the NT, Inverway, Wave Hill.
   Milliken (1972) — 54
   Black (1979) — about 50

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:

   Tsunoda, late 1970s, collected some information on the language during the course of his intensive investigation of Jaru in Halls Creek.

5 Practical orthography:

   None established. The South Kimberley orthography or some variant would be suitable.

6 Word lists:

   None
7 Textual material:
None

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
None

9 Material available on the language:

10 Language programme:
None

11 Language learning material:
None

12 Literacy material:
None
8.14 Gurindji

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   
   Coorinji (Terry)
   Gurindji (Capell, Hale, McConvell, O'Grady, Oates, Wurm, AIAS)
   Gurindzi
   Gurintji
   Gurinji
   Koorangie (Thomas)
   Kooringoo
   Kurindji
   Kurintji (Peterson)
   Kuurrinyji (in practical orthography, according to McConvell, pers.comm.)

2 Classification of the language:

   Northern Western Desert type, Ngumbin subgroup

   Identification codes:

   AIAS: C20
   Oates 1973: 59.2
   Capell: C14

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:

   Dagaragu (Wattie Creek), Kalakaringi (Wave Hill settlement), Limbunyah, Victoria River Downs, Pigeonhole, Lajamanu (Hooker Creek).
   Milliken (1972) — 277
   Black (1979) — 250
   McConvell (1985b) — cites a figure of approximately 500 Gurindji people, but does not indicate what proportion are speakers.

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:

   Norman and Helen McNair, SIL, Kalkaringi
   Patrick McConvell, since mid-1970s, Victoria River district, mainly at Dagaragu

5 Practical orthography:

   Experimental orthography undergoing final testing at Kalakaringi and Dagaragu.

6 Word lists:

7 Textual material:


8 Grammar or sketch grammar:

Leeding (1971a), McNair (1977, nd)

9 Material available on the language:

___ . 1971. Gurindji word list. 29p. typescript. SIL. (AIAS categorised word list)
Curnow, A. & V.J. Leeding 1971. The Gurindji survey report. 9p. typescript. SIL.
___ . 1971. Notes on the phonology and grammar of Gurindji. manuscript. SIL.
___ . nd. Kurinytyi-English. 35p. xeroxed manuscript. (field notes and wordlist)
Hudson, J. 1973. Gurindji word list for a two-week survey (probably strongly influenced by Djaru). 12p. typescript. SIL. AIAS pMs
University of Sydney. (AIAS) (about 645 words; English-Gurindji alphabetical)
___ . 1972b. List of Gurindji words and meanings. 20p.
___ . 1971b. Word lists: Gurindji or Mudbura. 4p. SIL. (p10708, AIAS)
___ . 1971c. Gurindji and Ngarinman word lists. 15p. typescript. SIL.
___ . 1977. The scope of ‘again’ in English and Gurindji. 28pp. xeroxed typescript.
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8.14 GURINDJI


____ . 1977. Gurindji kinship terms and subsections. 3pp. typescript. SIL.

____ . nd. The core of Gurindji. manuscript.


Parrish, L. 1980. Kuurrinyji word list. 9pp. typescript. IAD. (Based on field notes by P. McConvell.)

Ray, M. 1976. Gurintji/Mutburra word list for a two-week survey. 8p. xeroxed manuscript. SIL.


10 *Language programme:*

None known

11 *Language learning material:*

McNair: experimental.

12 *Literacy material:*

McNair has produced some experimental literacy materials.

Danbayarri, D. & B. Bulngarri, trs 1982. *Juwuwalijalu ngulu kuyaarla pirti nyangani*. (This is how the Jews used to live.) Darwin: Wycliffe Bible Translators.
8.15 Malngin

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Malgin
   Malngin (Capell, O'Grady, Oates, AIAS, Kaberry, Wurm, Black & Walsh)

2 Classification of the language:
   Northern Western Desert type, Ngumbin subgroup

Identification codes:
   AIAS: K30
   Oates 1973: 59.4
   Capell: K13

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   Upper Ord River valley, eastern Kimberleys
   Milliken (1976) — estimated 31 speakers in the NT

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   None.

5 Practical orthography:
   None in use. Some variant of the South Kimberley orthography would probably be suitable.

6 Word lists:
   Capell (1966)

7 Textual material:
   None

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   None

9 Material available on the language:
   ____ . 1966(?). Malngin vocabulary. 22p. typescript. (Malngin-English, about 550 words) AIAS pMs 309.

10 **Language programme:**
   None

11 **Language learning material:**
   None

12 **Literacy material:**
   None
8.16 Ngarinyman / Ngarinman

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

Ngainman
Ngarinman (Capell, Wurm, O'Grady, Oates, AIAS)
Ngarinman (O'Grady)
Ngaringman (Rose)
Waringari (AIAS)

Waringari, which has also been grouped with Wanyjirra, is not a language name — see section 8.13 on Wanyjirra.

2 Classification of the language:

Northern Western Desert type, Ngumbin subgroup

Identification codes:

AIAS: C27 (Waringari, A63)
Oates 1973: 59.5 (Waringari, 59.3b)
Capell: C21 (Waringari, A38)

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:

Victoria River Downs, Yaralin outstation of VRD, Humbert River, eastern Kimberleys
Milliken (1972) — 171
Black (1979) — up to 170

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:

McConvell, since mid-1970s, Victoria River district, mainly at Dagaragu

5 Practical orthography:

None; Gurindji orthography may be suitable.

6 Word lists:

Capell (nd), Leeding (1971a, 1971b), O'Grady (1959)

7 Textual material:

None

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:

Capell (1940), Leeding (1973)
9 Material available on the language:

Breen, J.G. 1972. [Tape recordings of a few songs]
Capell, A. 1940. The classification of languages in north and north-west Australia. 
  Oceania 10:241-272, 404-433.
  nd. Ngarinman vocabulary. 21p. typescript. (about 500 words, Ngarinman-English)
  Talanya 3:37-43.
Leeding, V.J. 1971a. Gurindji and Ngarinman word lists. 15pp. typescript. SIL.
  1971b. Word lists: Mudbura and Ngarinman. 14pp. typescript. SIL. AIAS
  SIL.
O'Grady, G.N. 1959. Significance of the circumcision boundary in Western Australia. 
  BA (Hons) thesis, University of Sydney.

10 Language programme:
    None

11 Language learning material:
    None

12 Literacy material:
    None
8.17 Warlpiri / Walbiri / Waljbiri

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

- Wailbri (Capell, Hansen, Wurm, Reece)
- Wailbry
- Waljbiri (Hale, Capell, AIAS)
- Walpari (Tindale, Mountford, Stanner)
- 'Walpari (O'Grady)
- Walpíri (Hale)
- Walbiri (O'Grady, Hale)
- Warlpiri (Jagst, Hale)
- Nambutj(u) (said to be Pintupi name)

Dialects:

The various names of different types of Warlpiri are not clearly understood (Menning & Nash 1981). There appear to be four divisions, represented in the literature by the following names (note however that there is little consistency across the literature: different works frequently make variant distinctions, and/or employ different names for the same divisions):

1. Ngalia

- Ngalia (Tindale, Capell, Wurm, O'Grady, Oates & Oates, AIAS)
- Ngaliya (Jagst)

Identified by Tindale as a separate group south of Warlpiri. The Yuendumu settlement is in this area, though the Warlpiri spoken at Yuendumu may also represent dialects traditionally spoken further north. This name is quite separate from the name Ngalea applied to a Western Desert language in South Australia.

2. Lajamanu (Hooker Creek)

- Ngardilba (AIAS)
- Ngardilpa (Jagst) ("language of Warnayaka tribe, division of the Warlpiri")
- Wanayaka
- Wanayaga (Wurm, AIAS, O'Grady, Oates & Oates)
- Wanajaga (Capell)
- Waneiga (Capell)
- Warnayaka (Jagst)
- Warrnayaka (Jagst)

Traditionally this Warlpiri was spoken further to the south and south-east of the location of Lajamanu settlement.

3. Warrabri (Ali-Curung)

The Warrabri settlement is outside traditionally Warlpiri country. Warlpiri from the Hanson River area is the major Warlpiri dialect now spoken at Warrabri.
4. Willowra

**Willowra**

Wirliyajarrayi (Nash)

Willowra is located on the Lander River. Lander River Warlpiri is apparently intermediate between the Warlpiri now spoken to its west and north-west (e.g. at Yuendumu, Lajamanu) and to its east (e.g. at Warrabri).

The term Eastern Warlpiri has been applied to the Warlpiri traditionally spoken on the Lander and Hanson Rivers, i.e. to the Warrabri and Willowra dialects. It has been also used to mean the Warlpiri as now spoken at Warrabri. According to Simpson (1985a), the term Wakirti is used by speakers at Kunayungku, Tennant Creek and Ali Curung in referring to their own dialect of Warlpiri. This may be identified with Eastern Warlpiri.

2 Classification of the language:

Central Western Desert type, Ngarrka (Ngarga) subgroup

Identification codes:

AIAS: C15

Oates 1973: 58.2 (Wanayaka, 58.4, Ngalia 58.5))

Capell: C23 (Ngalia, C20)

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:

About 3000 speakers of all ages, including children. Most live in the NT at Yuendumu, Lajamanu (Hooker Creek), Willowra, Warrabri (Ali-Curung), Tennant Creek, Papunya, Alice Springs; a few live in the Kimberley region, in Halls Creek and Balgo.

Milliken (1976) — 2712, 13 Ngalia (Papunya, Yuendumu)

Black (1979) — 1400, or twice that by one estimate

Nash (1980) — at least 2500

Swartz (1985) — 3000

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:

Edith Bavin, 1982 to present, mainly at Yuendumu

Ken Hale, from 1959, Yuendumu

Lothar Jagst, 1969-1976, Lajamanu

Adam Kendon, 1978 to present, mainly Yuendumu

Mary Laughren, 1974 to present, Yuendumu

David Nash, since early 1980s, Yuendumu and Tennant Creek

Timothy Shopen, 1982 to present, mainly at Yuendumu

Jane Simpson, since early 1980s, Yuendumu and Tennant Creek

Stephen Swartz, 1978 to present, Lajamanu

A number of others are involved in literacy work, Bible translation, and theoretical linguistics.
5 Practical orthography:
A practical orthography has been established since 1974. This is a variant of the South Kimberley orthography (see pages 4-6 above).

6 Word lists:

7 Textual material:
Swartz (1982b)

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:

9 Material available on the language:
See also:
AIAS Selected reading list, Central and Western Desert: The Aranda, Bidjandjarra, Bindubi, Waljbiri. 17pp. mimeo. AIAS. 197?


Granites, R. nd. Short essays in Warlpiri linguistics. manuscript. Massachusetts Institute of Technology.


8.17 WARLPRI / WALBIRI / WALJBIRI

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Grammatical categories in Australian languages, 78-105. Canberra: AIAS.

___. 1977. Elementary remarks on Walbiri orthography, phonology and
allomorphy. manuscript. 34pp. Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

___. 1981a. On the position of Walbiri in a typology of the base. Bloomington:
Indiana University Linguistics Club.

___. 1981b. Preliminary remarks on the grammar of part-whole relations in
Warlpiri. In J. Hollyman & A. Pawley, eds Studies in Pacific languages &

Sells, eds NELS 12:86-96.

Books in Warlpiri grammar: in memory of Lothar Jagst, 217-315. Work Papers of
SIL-AAB, A-6. Darwin: SIL.

___. 1983. Warlpiri and the grammar of non-configurational languages. Natural
Language and Linguistic Theory 1:5-47.

Stubbington, eds Problems & solutions: occasional essays in musicology presented to

___. nd a. Walbiri kinship problem. 15pp. mimeo.

___. nd b. Walbiri conjugations. mimeo.

typescript. Australian National University.

Pragmatics 10:559-573.

82p. SIL.

___. 1975. Ngardilpa (Warlpiri) phonology. Papers in Australian linguistics, 8. PL,

Books in Warlpiri grammar: in memory of Lothar Jagst, 1-68. Work Papers of SIL-
AAB, A-6. Darwin: SIL.

Jelinek, E. 1984. Empty categories, case, and configurationality. Natural Language and
Linguistic Theory 2:39-76.

Kendon, A. 1982a. A study of sign language among the Warlpiri at Yuendumu:
summary of progress. typescript.

of the Semiotic Society of America. typescript.

___. 1983a. A study of the sign language in use among the Warlpiri of central
Australia. Final Report to the National Science Foundation. Part I: Background,
description of project, and summary of findings to April 1983. 71pp. Part II: A list of
signs from the sign language in use among the Warlpiri at Yuendumu. lii+348pp.
typescript.


Kuipers, L. 1976-77. (Dutch version of IAD Warlpiri learning material) typescript. Hooker Creek.
Laughren, M. 1977. Pronouns in Warlpiri and the category of number. typescript. NT Department of Education.
___ . 1981a. Number strand — Warlpiri. manuscript. NT Department of Education.
___ . 1981c. Choosing the appropriate word in Warlpiri. typescript.


O'Grady, G.N. 1959. Significance of the circumcision boundary in Western Australia. BA (Hons) thesis, University of Sydney.


___ . 1985a. Wakirti Warlpiri (a short dictionary of Eastern Warlpiri with grammatical notes), draft. typescript.

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Swartz, S. 1977, Warlpiri syntactic cases. draft. SIL.


_____. 1984. Perfectivity vs. imperfectivity in Warlpiri. Paper presented to Top End Linguistic Circle, NT.


_____. 1933. Journal of an anthropological expedition to the Mann and Musgrave Ranges, May-July 1933. manuscript.


Young, E. 1979. Willowra: an overview. 25p. typescript. ANU.

10 Language programme:

Bilingual programs have been running for a number of years at Yuendumu, Willowra, and Lajamanu.
11 Language learning material:
IAD Warlpiri Language Course (booklets, cassette tapes)

12 Literacy material:
A large number of primers, writing books, etc. have been produced at Yuendumu since about 1974. Others have been produced at Willowra (since 1980) and at Lajamanu. There are two Christian scripture booklets produced by Reece (1950s or 1960s), and others produced by SIL (1970s to date). Translation of the gospels is under way; that of Mark is about to be published.
8.18 Ngardi / Ngarti

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   Ngardi (O'Grady, Oates)
   Ngari (Wafer)
   Ngadi (Capell, Berndt)
   Ngati (Hudson)

2 Classification of the language:
   Central Western Desert type, Ngarrka subgroup

   Identification codes:
   AIAS: K7
   Oates 1973: 58.3 (Oates & Oates 1970: 59.3c)
   Capell: K3

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   About 20-30 lived at Balgo Mission in 1980. Some at Gordon Downs, Billiluna,
   Lake Gregory, and a few at Yuendumu and Lajamanu (Hooker Creek).
   Traditionally the language was spoken in the area from Balgo to Gordon Downs.

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   No one

5 Practical orthography:
   Warlpiri orthography is suitable.

6 Word lists:

7 Textual material:
   None

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   None

9 Material available on the language:
   ____ . 1962. Some linguistic types in Australia. Handbook of Australian languages,
   Part II. Oceania Linguistic Monographs, 7. Sydney: University of Sydney.
   (Contains a description of Waljbiri grammar on pages 15-50.)
   McConvell, P. [Ngardi field notes.] manuscript.
Tsunoda, T. [Ngardi field notes.] manuscript.
Wafer, J. 1980. Preliminary observations on Ngari. 8/9/80. 3+4pp. typescript. IAD. (about 170 words)

10 Language programme:
   None

11 Language learning material:
   None

12 Literacy material:
   None
Chapter 9

POST-CONTACT LANGUAGES

9.1 Preliminary remarks

The term "post-contact language" — originally suggested by Nicholas Thieberger — refers to the non-traditional languages now spoken by Aborigines, which have arisen as a result of contact with non-Aboriginal groups. In the Kimberley these include Aboriginal English, Kriol, Pidgin English, and Broome Pearling Lugger Pidgin.

When one group of people comes into significant contact with another group of people, and neither group speaks the other's language, it is likely that a new language will develop to permit communication between the groups. Typically, a pidgin develops first. Pidgins are not really full languages in their own right, but are auxiliary languages which permit limited communication between members of the different groups; members of each group would speak their own language, and would learn the pidgin as a second, restricted tongue. There are two pidgin languages spoken in the Kimberley region: Pidgin English, and Broome Pearling Lugger Pidgin. The first is an English based pidgin — that is, most of its words come from English (although the grammar is in many respects more like that of an Aboriginal language). Pidgin English probably originated in two different sources: one variety was brought in the 1880s by cattlemen from Queensland, the other was brought by pearlers to the port towns of Broome, Derby and Wyndham (Hudson 1983:10). There is still evidence of the different origins of the pidgins in the speech of Aborigines in different parts of the Kimberley. Broome Pearling Lugger Pidgin is a Malay based pidgin, with a large number of English loans. It arose late last century as a common language of communication (lingua franca) between the groups of Aborigines, Chinese, Japanese, and Indonesian divers and deck-hands on the Broome pearling fleets. This language has fallen into disuse since the 1960s.

As the children grow up speaking the pidgin, it may develop into a full language, which is called a creole. Kriol (this name comes from the spelling of "creole" in the standard orthography for the language) is a creole language which developed from Pidgin English, probably in the late 1940s and early 1950s, first in Halls Creek, then later in Fitzroy Crossing (Hudson 1983:13-14). Kriol is a language with its own grammar, meaning system, and sound system; it combines properties of English and Aboriginal languages — although most of the words come from English, the grammar and sound system is more like those of an Aboriginal language: for instance, as in the majority of traditional Australian languages, the pronouns make the distinction between singular (one), dual (two) and plural (more than two), and, in the first person non-singular (i.e. dual or plural), between inclusive ('we, including you') and exclusive ('we, excluding you'). Kriol is not a dialect of English.

The other post-contact language, Aboriginal English, is properly speaking a dialect of English spoken by Aborigines. It is in many ways similar to Standard Australian
English, but there are some important differences. (See Eades (1985), for some differences between south-east Queensland Aboriginal English and Standard Australian English; similar differences are found between Kimberley Aboriginal English and Standard Australian English).

It should be noted carefully that it is not always easy to distinguish between the three English based varieties, Pidgin, Kriol and Aboriginal English. There are properties common to each, and particularly between the first two, which makes it difficult to distinguish between the different varieties.

References:

The following works could be profitably consulted by readers interested in post-contact languages:

Map 10: Locations of the post-contact languages
9.2 Pidgin English

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

- Pidgin
- Pidgin English
- Aboriginal Pidgin English
- Australian Pidgin English

Dialect name:

- Fitzroy Crossing children's pidgin (Fraser, Fraser & Hudson)

Must be distinguished from Pacific Pidgin English, Beach-la-mar, Broken, and Tok Pisin.

2 Classification of the language:

- A pidgin English from northern Australia

Identification codes:

- AIAS: subject catalogue 48/3E1
- Oates 1973: (not included)
- Capell: (not included)

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:

Spoken by the majority of Aborigines over the age of about fifty across most of the Kimberley region. However, in Broome, it seems to be spoken by only the oldest people.

It is likely that there were originally two different pidgins in the Kimberley, one arising in the central region as a result of the contact between Aborigines and pastoralists, the other arising in the coastal region, particularly in Dampier Land, in the contact between Aborigines and pearlers. (Another pidgin, Broome Pearling Lugger Pidgin, also arose in the latter contact situation — see section 9.5.)

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:

- No one

5 Practical orthography:

- None; none needed.

6 Word lists:

- Fraser (1977a), Sandefur & Sandefur (1979b), Wood (1972a, 1972b, 1972c)

7 Textual material:

- None
8 Grammar or sketch grammar:

Hudson (1981) and (1983) contain some grammatical information.

9 Material available on the language:


Brennan, G. 1979. The need for interpreting and translation services for Australian Aboriginals, with special reference to the Northern Territory - a research report. Canberra: Department of Aboriginal Affairs.


Crowley, T. 1975. [Cape York tape transcriptions.] manuscript.


Dutton, T.E. 1965. The informal speech of Palm Island Aboriginal children, north Queensland: a study of the structure of the conversational English of Aboriginal children aged from nine to fourteen years on Palm Island and a comparison of this with similar informants elsewhere. MA thesis, University of Queensland. AIAS MF 73. (A1;B4)


____. 1977b. Some common features in Fitzroy Crossing children's pidgin and Walmatjari. 17pp. manuscript.


Mühlhäusler, P. 1979a. Remarks on the pidgin and creole situation in Australia. draft. 24pp. typescript. AIAS PMs 2999. (A1;B5)


Rigsby, B. 1979. Pidgin-talk to bamaga: Aboriginal English on northern Cape York Peninsula. 24pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 1583. (A1;B5)


Sande fur, J.R. 1973a. Report on the second survey of Roper River creole English. 8pp. manuscript. AIAS p 10886. (A2;B1)


____ . 1973c. Roper River 'pidgin English' creole: a tentative analysis and comparison with English and Australian languages. 51pp. typescript. AIAS p 10884. (A2;B1)

____ . 1974. Roper creole phonology (low level with orthographic considerations). Preliminary draft. 11, 45pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 2769. (A1;B3)


____ . 1976b. Roper creole verbs. Preliminary draft. i+27pp. mimeo. AIAS pMs 2768. (A1;B3)

____ . 1976c. Kriol orthography: preliminary draft. 17pp. mimeo. AIAS pMs 2767. (A1;B3)


____ . 1980a. Kriol — language with a history. manuscript. (Published as Sandefur 1981d) manuscript.

____ . 1980b. Kriol and the question of decreolization. manuscript.


____ . 1981c. Emergence of a new Aboriginal language — Kriol. manuscript. (To appear in Anthropological Forum.)

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1983b. Dynamics of an Australian creole system. 26 pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 3719.


Sandefur, J.R., with M. Gumbuli, D. Daniels & M. Wurramara 1980. Looking for Kriol in Queensland. manuscript. SIL-AAB.


Sandefur, J.R. & J.L. Sandefur 1979a.Pidgin and creole in the Kimberleys, Western Australia. manuscript.


Sharpe, M. 1973. Notes on the 'pidgin English' creole of Roper River. 28 pp. mimeo. AIAS pMs 1643. (A1;B5)


5.1976a. English as she is spoken around here or a quick rundown on Aboriginal English in Alice Springs. 3pp. mimeo. AIAS p8731.
5.1972b. Roper pidgin word list (1). 8pp. holograph. AIAS pMs 2458.

10 Language programme:
None

11 Language learning material:
None
12 Literacy material:
   None
9.3 Kriol / Creole

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:

    Creole
    Kriol (Sandefur, Hudson, Black & Walsh)
    'Pidgin English' creole (Sharpe)

Most young Aborigines of northern Australia speak some form of the post-contact language which is a creolised form of Pidgin English (see section 9.2). There are at least three major dialects:

    Kimberley dialect, centred in the Fitzroy Crossing, Kununurra, and Halls Creek areas;
    Northern Territory dialect, centred around Roper River (Ngukurr), and Bamyili; and
    Cape York dialect, spoken by Aborigines in the northern and north-eastern parts of Cape York Peninsula, and in the Torres Straits Islands.

The Kimberley and Northern Territory dialects have recently come to be referred to as Kriol, which is the spelling of the term Creole in the accepted orthography for the language. Other names for these dialects include:

    Fitzroy Valley Kriol (Hudson)
    Roper River creole English (Sandefur)
    Roper River 'pidgin English' creole (Sandefur)
    Roper creole (San defur)

This designation, however, does not seem to be generally used for the third dialect, which is referred to by the following:

    Cape York Creole (Crowley & Rigsby)
    Torres Strait Creole (Shnukal)

These dialects show a number of differences from one another, both in their grammars, and in their words. It seems that many Kimberley Aborigines regard their variety of Kriol as very different from, if not mutually unintelligible with the Northern Territory dialect, and reject suggestions that they are the same language.

There are also certain differences in the Kimberley dialect from centre to centre, which many speakers are well aware of.

2 Classification of the language:

    An English based creole of northern Australia; distinguished from Aboriginal English.

Identification codes:

    AIAS: subject catalogue 48/3E1
    Oates 1973: (not included)
    Capell: (not included)
3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   From northern Queensland to the Kimberleys, right across northern Australia. At least 15,000 speakers.

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   Terry Crowley, mid to late 1970s, Bamaga (Queensland)
   Shirley Gollagher, since late 1970s, Fitzroy Crossing
   Joyce Hudson, since 1980, Fitzroy Crossing
   Bruce Rigsby, mid to late 1970s, Bamaga (Queensland)
   John and Joy Sandefur, since early 1970s, Ngukurr (Roper River)
   Anna Shnukal, since early 1980s, Torres Strait Islands

5 Practical orthography:
   A standard orthography has been in use since 1976 at Bamyili and Ngukurr (Sandefur 1981b:118). For a detailed description of this system, see Sandefur (1984a). The same system was recommended in 1983 for writing Kimberley Kriol in the Yiyili Community School (see Hudson 1984).

6 Word lists:
   Fraser (1977a), Hudson (1981b), Sandefur & Sandefur (1979b), Sandefur (1984a), Steffensen (1977a), Sharpe (1976a)

7 Textual material:
   Hudson (1983a)

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:

9 Material available on the language:


Brennan, G. 1979. The need for interpreting and translation services for Australian Aboriginals, with special reference to the Northern Territory - a research report. Canberra: Department of Aboriginal Affairs.


Crowley, T. 1975. [Cape York tape transcriptions.] 228pp. typescript. AIAS Ms 1002. (A1;B3)

____. 1976. Langgus bla Kepiok – Cape York Creole. 48pp. mimeo. AIAS pMs 393. (A1;B1)


Dutton, T.E. 1964. Some phonological aspects of Palm Island Aboriginal English: a study of the free conversational speech of four Aboriginal children on Palm Island
Aboriginal Settlement in north Queensland. MA (Qualifying) thesis, University of Queensland. AIAS Ms 1109. (A1;B2)

____ . 1965. The informal speech of Palm Island Aboriginal children, north Queensland: a study of the structure of the conversational English of Aboriginal children aged from nine to fourteen years on Palm Island and a comparison of this with similar informants elsewhere. MA thesis, University of Queensland. AIAS MF 73. (A1;B4)


Dwyer, L.J. 1974. The language of the Aboriginal child. 11 pp. manuscript. AIAS pMs 2837. (A1;B5)


Fraser, J. 1974. A tentative preliminary analysis of the grammar of Fitzroy Crossing children's Pidgin English. manuscript.


Graham R. 1977. A preliminary report on traditional culture learning and Aboriginal pidgin as part of the school's bilingual program at Bamyili, N.T. manuscript.


Gunn, J. 1975. *The little black princess*. Transcriptions into Roper Creole orthography, by M.C. Sharpe. 9pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 1646. (A1;B3)


____. 1977b. Some common features in Fitzroy Crossing children's pidgin and Walmatjari. 17pp. manuscript.


____. 1981b. Fitzroy Valley Kriol word list. manuscript.


Leeding, V.J. 1976. Contrastive semantic units in the teaching of concepts in a bilingual education program. 18pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 3746.


Lemaire, J.E. 1971. The application of some aspects of European law to Aboriginal natives of Central Australia. LL.M. thesis, University of Sydney. AIAS Ms 1110. (A1;B2)


Malcolm, I.G. 1976. Talk (on Aboriginal English). (Given to Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Canberra) 2pp. mimeo. AIAS pMs 2870. (A1;B5)


Muecke, S. 1978. Narrative discourse units in Aboriginal English: preliminary version. 8pp. mimeo. AIAS pMs 2813. (A1;B3)


Mühlhäusler, P. 1979a. Remarks on the pidgin and creole situation in Australia. draft. 24pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 2999. (A1;B5)


Murtagh, E.J. 1979. Creole and English used as languages of instruction with Aboriginal Australians. EdD. dissertation, Stanford University. (Published under the same title by Darwin: NT Department of Education, Darwin.)


Neate, G.J. 1975a. Bilingual education for Australian Aboriginal students. 15pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 2832. (A1;B2)
9.3 KRIOL / CREOLE

_____. 1975b. Difficulties encountered in teaching Australian Aborigines in school systems, and attempts to overcome these difficulties. 25pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 2833. (A1;B2)


Queensland. Education Department. 1973. Education of Queensland Aboriginal and Islander children. 30pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 2882. (A1;B5)

Readdy, C.A. 1961. South Queensland Aboriginal English: a study of the informal conversational speech habits of two Aboriginal communities in the area, with special reference to four male speakers of the 9-12 age group in the closed community of Cherbourg. BA (Hons.) thesis, University of Queensland. AIAS Ms 987. (A1;B5)


Sandefur, J.R. 1973a. Report on the second survey of Roper River creole English. 8pp. manuscript. AIAS p10886. (A2;B1)


_____. 1973c. Roper River 'pidgin English' creole: a tentative analysis and comparison with English and Australian languages. 51pp. typescript. AIAS p10884. (A2;B1)

_____. 1974. Roper creole phonology (low level with orthographic considerations). preliminary draft. 11, 45pp. typescript. AIAS pMs 2769. (A1;B3)

1976b. Roper creole verbs. preliminary draft. i+27pp. mimeo. AIAS pMs 2768. (A1;B3)

1976c. Kriol orthography. preliminary draft. 17pp. mimeo. AIAS pMs 2767. (A1;B3)


1980b. Kriol and the question of decreolization. manuscript.


1983a. The Quileute approach to language revival programs. Aboriginal Child at School 11:3-16.


1983c. Dynamics of an Australian creole system. typescript.


Sandefur, J.R. & J.L. Sandefur 1979a. Pidgin and creole in the Kimberleys, Western Australia. 17pp. manuscript. AIAS p8360.


1979/80. Kriol tape transcriptions. 188pp. typescript. AIAS A3 268. (A3a;B1)
Sharpe, M. 1973. Notes on the 'pidgin English' creole of Roper River. 28pp. mimeo. AIAS pMs 1643. (A1;B5)
____. 1976b. English as she is spoken around here or a quick rundown on Aboriginal English in Alice Springs. 3pp. mimeo. AIAS p8731.
____. 1976/77. Alice Springs Aboriginal English. manuscript.


____. 1980a. The effect of background information on intercultural communication — transcripts of subjects' recall protocols. 40pp. typescript. AlAS pMs 3225. (A1;B3)


Thompson, D.A. 1976. East Cape York tape transcriptions. 8pts. manuscript. AlAS Ms 1332. (A2;B3)

____. 1969/75. Tape transcriptions: Kuuku Ya?u, Umpila, Kaantju, Lockhart creole, Kuuku Yani. 22pts. typescript. AlAS Ms 23. (A1;B3 & A2;B3)

____. 1972. Report (to AlAS) on the linguistic situation at Lockhart River and proposal for the development of a practical communication project. 6pp. typescript. AlAS pMs 1827. (A1;B3)


_____. 1972b. Roper pidgin word list (1). 8pp. processed. AIAS pMs 2458.

_____. 1972c. Roper pidgin word list (2). 9pp. processed. AIAS pMs 2459.


10 Language programme:

Kriol literacy programmes have been running for a number of years in Bamyili and other centres in the NT, but to date only one programme has been implemented in the Kimberley. This is the Kriol literacy programme in Yiyili Community School, which began in 1983, and continues on a part-time basis, with the assistance of an SIL linguist from Halls Creek.

11 Language learning material:


12 Literacy material:

A great amount has been and is being produced at Bamyili and Ngukurr, or by students from there at SAL. See Sandefur (1981b:122-133) "Appendix 2: Complete bibliography of Kriol vernacular publications listed by year of publication", and Sandefur (1984a:118-
for an extensive list. To date, little has been produced in the Kimberley dialect, although material in the NT dialect ought to be comprehensible.

The following is a partial list:


Bamyili Kriol primers. (too numerous to list here) (p7371, p7734-35, p7842-43, p7900-04, p8142-58, are just some held at AIAS.)


___ . 1979d. *Thri biligut.* (The three billy-goats, in Kriol.) Darwin: SIL-AAB.


9.3 KRIOL / CREOLE

—. 1986. *Olgamen en olmen bin go wugubat*. Halls Creek: SIL.


9.4 Aboriginal English

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   - Aboriginal English (Black & Walsh, KLS)
   - Aboriginal non-standard English (Sommer)
   - Black English
   - English
   - Informal English (Dutton)
   - Pidgin
   - Non-standard English (Koch)

Dialects:
Aboriginal English is spoken over almost the whole of Australia, with regional variation. The following dialectal names appear in the literature:
   - Alice Springs Aboriginal English (Sharpe)
   - Kimberley Aboriginal English (Muecke)
   - WAACE (Western Australian Aboriginal Children's English) (Kaldor, Malcolm)

2 Classification of the language:
A variety of English. It is distinguished from Kriol (Creole), although there are different varieties of Aboriginal English and Kriol that are very similar to one another, and thus difficult to separate clearly. See above, section 9.1 and some of the references for discussion of this complex issue.

Identification codes:
   - AIAS: subject catalogue 48/3E1
   - Oates 1973: (not included)
   - Capell: (not included)

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
Spoken throughout Australia, including many parts of the Kimberley region. Many thousands of speakers.

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   - Diana Eades, South East Queensland, since early 1980s
   - Jill Fraser, Bamyili, New South Wales, Queensland
   - Stephen Muecke, Broome, since late 1970s

5 Practical orthography:
Standard English orthography, sometimes with minor variations in spelling of individual words where their pronunciation differs significantly from the standard Australian English pronunciation, is the only one to have gained wide currency. It is
highly unlikely that the Kriol orthography used in Bamyili would be accepted by, or used by, many writers.

6 Word lists:
None

7 Textual material:

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
Koch (1985); Muecke (1982a) also contains some information.

9 Material available on the language:
Allridge, C. 1984. Aboriginal English as a post-pidgin. BA (Hons) thesis, ANU.
Anon. 1984. Some of the ways the natives commenced to use the white man's language when asking for anything in the early sixties. Typescript.
Dwyer, J.L. 1974. The language of the Aboriginal child. manuscript. AIAS pMs 2873.
9.4 ABORIGINAL ENGLISH

Fraser, J. & J. Hudson 1975, A comparison and contrasting of the noun phrase in Walmatjari with the noun phrase of Fitzroy Crossing children's Pidgin. typescript.
Jones, B. 1985. English in a Nyungar kindy. BA (Hons) thesis, University of Western Australia.
Lemaire, J.E. 1971. The application of some aspects of European law to Aboriginal natives of central Australia. LL.M. thesis, University of Sydney. AIAS Ms 1110. (Refers to use of pidgin.)
Muecke, S. 1978. Narrative discourse units in Aboriginal English. typescript. AIAS pMs 2813.


Sharpe, M.C. nd. Alice Springs Aboriginal English tape transcription. AIAS Ms 816.


____. nd. Tape transcriptions, including Lockhart creole. manuscript. AIAS.

10 Language programme:

None

11 Language learning material:

None

12 Literacy material:

9.5 Broome Pearling Lugger Pidgin

1 Names of the language and different spellings that have been used:
   - Broome creole (local name, also Horin)
   - Japanese Pidgin English (Wurm & Hattori)
   - Koepang talk (local name)
   - Malay talk (local name)

Some Broome Aborigines believe Broome Pearling Lugger Pidgin to be Japanese.

2 Classification of the language:
   - Malay based pidgin

Identification codes:
   - AIAS: (not included)
   - Oates 1973: (not included)
   - Capell: (not included)

3 Present number and distribution of speakers:
   - Broome, Lombardina, Beagle Bay, La Grange, One Arm Point, and Derby.
   - Hosokawa — 40 to 50, mostly Aborigines. However, in its heyday, from about 1910 into the 1940s, speakers numbered more than 1500, most of whom were Asians; Aboriginal users were probably always less than 300 (Komei Hosokawa pers.comm.).

4 People who have worked intensively on the language:
   - Komei Hosokawa, since early 1986, working mainly in Broome.

5 Practical orthography:
   - None

6 Word lists:
   - None

7 Textual material:
   - None

8 Grammar or sketch grammar:
   - None, although Hosokawa (1987) provides some grammatical information.
9 Material available on the language:

Dalton, P.R. 1964. Broome, a multiracial community: a study of social and cultural relationships in a town in the West Kimberleys, Western Australia. MA thesis, University of Western Australia.


Hosokawa, K. 1986. Two pidgin talks in Broome, WA. Handout for seminar given to Department of Linguistics, Research School of Pacific Studies, Australian National University, April 1986. 15pp. typescript.


10 Language programme:

None

11 Language learning material:

None

12 Literacy material:

None
Chapter 10

WHERE TO FIND FURTHER INFORMATION

10.1 General introductions to Aboriginal languages

The following is a list of general works on Australian Aboriginal languages which should prove useful to the reader; note that it does not claim to be exhaustive. Some brief remarks on each book is given in brackets, following the information on place and publisher.

Blake, B.J. 1981. *Australian Aboriginal languages*. London: Angus and Robertson. (A short non-technical introduction to Aboriginal languages. This book concentrates on formal aspects of the languages (grammar), and does not give much idea of what is happening to the languages today.)

Blake, B.J. 1987. *Australian Aboriginal grammar*. London: Croom Helm. (Perhaps the best general account of grammatical properties of Australian languages available. Gives information on a wide range of languages, including some non-Pama-Nyungan ones of the Kimberley. Suitable only for readers with some familiarity with linguistic concepts.)

Capell, A. 1966. *A new approach to Australian linguistics*. Oceania Linguistic Monographs, 1. Sydney: University of Sydney. (The first modern introduction to Australian languages; covers sounds, word structure, and suggests a classification of the languages. Out of date as far as approach, but well worth reading.)

Dixon, R.M.W. 1980. *The languages of Australia*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (This is a fairly comprehensive introduction, which is suitable only for well educated readers. It gives some discussion of contemporary and social/cultural issues, in addition to strictly linguistic matters; provides a good introduction to the basic ideas of linguistics. But it does not attempt a survey or classification of all languages, and contains very little information on the non-Pama-Nyungan Kimberley languages.)

Hudson, J. & P. McConvell 1984. *Keeping language strong: report of the pilot study for the Kimberley Language Resource Centre*. Broome: KLRC. (This provides a readily accessible discussion of the language situation in the Kimberleys, concentrating on contemporary issues. Makes recommendations on orthographies, research needs and directions for the KLRC. It comes in two versions, a long and a short version; some of the more technical details being omitted from the short version.)

basic grammatical features of Aboriginal languages. Does not presuppose linguistic training.)

Vaszolyi, E.G. 1976. *Aboriginal Australians speak: an introduction to Australian Aboriginal linguistics.* Perth: Mt Lawley College of Advanced Education. (A very readable little book which discusses contemporary issues and some matters of grammar. Provides first hand information on Kimberley languages.)

Wurm, S.A. 1972. *Languages of Australia and Tasmania.* The Hague: Mouton. (Written mainly for linguists; much is out of date. Does provide, however, some general information on the nature of Kimberley languages/language families.)

Yallop, C. 1981. *Australian Aboriginal languages.* London: Andre Deutsch. (A general introduction, apparently intended as an undergraduate textbook for university students. Includes a classification of the languages, as well as information on grammar and educational applications.)
10.2 Language surveys

The following is a list of works which survey the languages of Australia.

Black, P. 1983. *Aboriginal languages of the Northern Territory*. Batchelor: SAL. (A useful and readable little booklet, which provides contemporary information on the languages of the NT, including the number and location of speakers of the languages, and educational issues.)

Black, P. & M. Walsh forthcoming. *A guide to Australian Aboriginal languages*. Canberra: AIAS. (Provides basic information on the Aboriginal languages of Australia. Languages are classified, and identified by area and basic typological properties (prefixing or suffixing). Currently the most up-to-date survey.)

Capell, A. 1963. *Linguistic survey of Australia*. Canberra: AIAS. (An early classification of the Australian languages, this inevitably contains a number of inaccuracies and mis-classifications. Languages are classified, and given identification numbers, by area, not by linguistic similarities.)

Hudson, J. 1987. *Languages of the Kimberley*. Broome: Jawa Curriculum Support Centre. (A useful survey of the main languages of the Kimberley region, written for the teacher. Includes information on the most suitable type of language programme for each language mentioned, and description of practical orthography (in use, or recommended for use).)

McGregor, W.B. forthcoming. A survey of the languages of the Kimberley region: report from the Kimberley Language Resource Centre. To appear in *Australian Aboriginal Studies* 1988/2. (A brief survey of Kimberley languages which summarises the information contained in this sourcebook.)

Menning, K., compiler & D. Nash, ed. 1981. *Sourcebook for central Australian languages*. Alice Springs: IAD. (This book contains information on the languages of the Centre, as well as on some languages now spoken in the Kimberleys. It is now partly out of date, but a revision is being planned.)


Oates, W.J. & L.F. Oates 1970. *A revised linguistic survey of Australia*. Canberra: AIAS. (This book provides a classification of all Australian languages known to the authors, and provides brief details of what is known about them. It should be noted that this book is sometimes inaccurate.)

O'Grady, G.N. 1959. Significance of the circumcision boundary in Western Australia. University of Sydney: B.A. (Hons.) thesis. (This thesis includes comparative wordlists in a fair number of Kimberley (and other) languages. Also looks at historical/comparative matters.)

O'Grady, G.N., C.F. Voegelin & F.M. Voegelin 1966. *Languages of the world: Indo-Pacific fascicle 6 (=Anthropological Linguistics 8(ii))*. (Classifies all Australian languages into families, on the basis of percentages of shared words. Although there are some inaccuracies, the classification has not yet been significantly improved on (Dixon 1980 notwithstanding).)

handbook, which is organised in the same way as the present volume, provides information on the languages of Western Australia other than the Kimberley region. There is some overlap between the two books, in those languages which are spoken in both the Kimberley and Pilbara regions.)
10.3 Introductions to field methods

Those interested in recording information on Aboriginal languages are advised to consult some or all of the following works, which give an idea of on how to go about fieldwork — how to approach a community, and the types of information to seek.

Barwick, D., M. Mace & T. Stannage 1979. *Handbook for Aboriginal and Islander history*. Canberra: Aboriginal History. (Contains information of general relevance to linguists as well as historians. The linguist would do well to familiarise himself or herself with some of the methods of oral history, in order to collect data which is also meaningful to the people who provide it.)

Healey, A. 1975. *Language learner’s field guide*. Ukarumpa: SIL. (Provides a structured method of entry to fieldwork methods, more suitable for the amateur linguist than Sutton & Walsh (1979). But it is intended mainly for workers in New Guinea, and the wordlists contain items specific to that country.)


Sutton, P.J. & M.J. Walsh 1979. *Revised linguistic fieldwork manual for Australia*. Canberra: AIAS. (Provides background material for linguists starting work on Australian languages. Contains a useful wordlist covering most areas of meaning appropriate to Aboriginal Australia.)

Wurm, S.A. 1967. *Linguistic fieldwork methods in Australia*. Canberra: AIAS. (This is the first fieldwork manual produced especially for Australian languages. It has been superseded by Sutton & Walsh (1979).)
10.4 Maps of Australian languages and tribes

Tindale, N.B. 1975. *Aboriginal tribes of Australia: terrain, environmental controls, distribution, limits and proper names*. Berkeley: University of California Press. (Contains a large scale tribal map in 4 sheets. The map, which is available separately, is reasonably accurate as far as the Kimberley region goes, although the boundaries are not as clear as the map would seem to suggest, and the modern distribution is quite different.)

Wurm, S.A. & S. Hattori, eds 1981. *Language atlas of the Pacific area* part I: *New Guinea area, Oceania, Australia*. Canberra: Australian Academy of the Humanities, in collaboration with the Japan Academy; PL, C-66. Maps 20-23, prepared by M.J. Walsh, cover Australia. (More up to date information on the languages, and spelling of the language names than Tindale 1975. Although expensive, individual maps are readily available in Australia through *Pacific Linguistics*.)
10.5 Organisations concerned with Aboriginal languages

The following organisations may be approached for further information and advice regarding Australian languages.

**AIAS:** Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies, GPO Box 553, Canberra, ACT 2601. (A federal body concerned with promoting research, and archiving and publishing materials in all areas of Aboriginal studies. The AIAS funds research on language, and its archives contain a large number of manuscripts and tapes on Australian languages.)

**ALA:** Aboriginal Languages Association. (An Aboriginal controlled organisation concerned with developing and promoting policies relating to Aboriginal languages. Current information may be obtained from one of the other organisations listed here.)

**IAD:** Institute for Aboriginal Development, PO Box 2531, Alice Springs, NT. (Promotes Aboriginal development in various ways. It offers courses on interpreting and translation and in Aboriginal languages of the centre, and publishes language courses and other material, such as grammars.)

**IAAS:** Institute of Applied Aboriginal Studies, PO Box 66, Mt Lawley, WA 6050. (The Institute is located within the Mt Lawley Campus of the Western Australian College of Advanced Education, and its activities are governed by an Aboriginal Executive Committee. It is concerned with applied research, including preparation of a package of materials on voting, suitable for non-urban Aboriginal people, and a language project with the aim of gathering together information on the languages and language needs of Western Australian Aborigines.)

**KLRC:** Kimberley Language Resource Centre, PMB 11, Halls Creek, WA 6770. (This is an Aboriginal controlled organisation which is concerned with language related issues in the Kimberley, such as language maintenance, translating and interpreting, and documenting dying languages.)

**SAL:** School of Australian Linguistics, Darwin Institute of Technology, Post Office, Batchelor, NT 5791. (The School runs courses in literacy and translation/interpreting for Aboriginal language speakers of NT and north Australia.)

**SIL:** Summer Institute of Linguistics, Post Office, Berrimah, NT. (This is a world-wide organisation concerned primarily with translating the Bible into indigenous languages. It has a number of teams of linguists throughout Australia who are undertaking analysis of Aboriginal languages, and promoting literacy. The SIL publishes two *Working Papers* series devoted to linguistic description, and religious literature in various languages.)

**WAALA:** Western Australian Aboriginal Languages Association, c/o IAAS, P.O. Box 66, Mt. Lawley, W.A. 6050. (This association was established at a conference in Perth in 1986, and has produced a conference report and newsletters about language issues. Its aims are similar to those of the ALA.)
GLOSSARY

This glossary lists the technical terms used throughout this book, and provides brief explanation of the meaning of each.

ADJECTIVE, a word which describes a property or quality of a thing, e.g. black, tall, strong.

ALVEOLAR, a sound which is made with the tip of the tongue in contact with the alveolar ridge, or gum ridge.

AUXILIARY, a verb which does not carry much lexical information (i.e. information about the type of event, action, or process referred to), but carries grammatical information such as the time of the action, and information on the doer. English has auxiliaries too, e.g. have, had, been, and so on.

BACK VOWEL, a vowel sound made with the highest part of the tongue in the back of the mouth; e.g. the vowel sound u in Kimberley languages (which is pronounced much like oo in English).

BILABIAL, a sound made with the two lips in contact; b and m are examples of bilabial sounds.

BILINGUAL EDUCATION, education which is conducted using two languages of instruction — see page 14.

BOUND PRONOUN, a pronoun which cannot occur alone, but which must be attached to another word; e.g. -rni 'I, me' in Wangkajunga must be attached to another word, usually the first word of the sentence — see page 144.

CENTRAL VOWEL, a vowel sound in which the high point of the tongue is in the central region, on the front to back dimension. An example of a central vowel is the i sound in a New Zealander's pronunciation of the word bit.

COMPOUND VERB, a verb which consists of two or more free words.

CONSONANT, a sound in which the flow of air is impeded somewhere in the mouth.

CONJUGATION (VERBAL), the set of all verbs in a language which take the same inflections.

CREOLE, a pidgin variety which has become the mother tongue of its speakers; see section 9.1.

DENTAL, a sound which is made with the tongue against the teeth.

DIALECT, a variety of a language which is spoken by people who usually live in a particular region — see page 2.

DIGRAPH, two letters which together symbolise a single sound; e.g. ng in sing.

DUAL, a form which indicates two.
DUAL CLASSIFYING, a language in which the nouns are divided into two classes or genders, usually masculine and feminine.

ENCLITIC, a form which cannot occur by itself, but must be attached to a word, with which it need not form a significant grammatical unit. An example of an enclitic in English is the 'm in I'm.

ERGATIVE, a case suffix or postposition which is attached to the subject of a transitive sentence, but not to the subject of an intransitive sentence. The ergative marker means something like the by in He was knocked over by a truck. For examples, see pages 23, 31, 49, and 143.

EXCLUSIVE, a form of the first person pronoun which refers to the speaker and one or more other people, excluding the hearer; that is, I plus him, her or them, but not you.

FAMILY, a set containing all languages which are related to one another.

FIRST, a pronoun which refers to the speaker, and possibly others; in English the first person pronouns are I and we.

FLAP, a sound made by the tip of the tongue rapidly hitting some point in the mouth, usually in the region of the gum ridge.

FRONT VOWEL, a vowel sound in which the high point of the tongue is in the front of the mouth; e.g. the e of bed.

GENDER, a class of nouns which consists of either masculine, feminine or neuter things.

GLIDE, a sound during the articulation of which the tongue is in continual movement; examples of glides are w, y, and r (as in rip).

GRAMMAR, the structure of a language, or the study of the structure of a language.

GROUP, a set of languages which descends from a single ancestor language which is itself one of the 'daughter' languages of the ancestral language of a language family.

HIGH VOWEL, a vowel in which the highest point of the tongue is high up in the mouth; for example, the vowel sounds u (as in put) and i (as in bit).

INCLUSIVE, a form of the first person pronoun which refers to the speaker, and one or more hearers. That is, me plus you, me plus you plus another, and so on.

INFLECTION, a specification required on or in all stems in a particular part of speech in order to form a word.

INTRANSITIVE, a sentence or verb which has a subject but not an object. For example, run is an intransitive verb in He is running.

LAMINO-DENTAL, a sound made with the blade of the tongue (the part just behind the tip) touching the teeth.

LANGUAGE AWARENESS, a social studies type programme in which students are taught about the traditional language and culture (see page 15).

LANGUAGE MAINTENANCE, a language programme suitable for conditions in which the students do not speak the target language, but the adults in the community do (see page 14).
LANGUAGE RENEWAL, a type of language programme designed for conditions in which only a few older adults in the community speak the target language, and everyone else speaks another language (normally Kriol or some form of English). See page 15.

LATERAL, an l-sound; more technically, sound in which the air escapes around the sides of the tongue.

LEXICON, the set of all words of a language.

LINGUA FRANCA, a language which is used to facilitate communication between members of two or more groups of people who do not share a common language.

LOW VOWEL, a vowel sound in which the high point of the tongue is low in the mouth; e.g. the vowel a of English bath.

MID VOWEL, a vowel sound made with the highest point of the tongue in between the location of the highest point for high and low vowels; e.g. e as in bed, and o as in pot.

MUTUAL INTELLIGIBILITY, the situation in which two languages or dialects are close enough that a person who speaks only one will be able to understand what is said in the other.

NASAL, an n-sound; that is, sound in which air escapes through the nose.

NEUTER, a gender which is neither masculine or feminine; the neuter gender in English is represented by the pronoun it.

NOUN, a word which refers to things; e.g. boy, girl, dog, sun, earth.

NOUN CLASSIFICATION, the system of noun classes in a given language.

NOUN CLASS, a set of nouns in a language which are grouped together because they share grammatical and semantic properties. For instance, the nouns of a particular class may all occur with a particular form of demonstrative (i.e. a word meaning 'this' or 'that'), different from the form of the demonstrative used with the nouns of another class.

NUMBER, a category of the nouns or pronouns in a language whereby they are distinguished according to the number of things referred to.

OBJECT, the goal or undergoer in a transitive action; for example, orange is the goal in He ate an orange.

ORTHOGRAPHY, the letters and rules of spelling used in writing a language.

PALATAL, a sound in which the tongue touches the hard palate.

PAUCAL, a form which indicates a few (usually in the range of between three and ten).

PERSON (OF A PRONOUN), the category of a pronoun, whether it is first, second, or third person.

PIDGIN, a form of speech which may arise in a contact situation between groups who do not speak each other's language — see page 207.

PLURAL, a form which indicates more than one; or if the language has dual and paucal, more than two and/or a few respectively.
POST CONTACT LANGUAGE, a language which has arisen since the arrival of Europeans in Australia.

POSTPOSITION, like a preposition (e.g. to, in, at, in English) except that it is added to the end of a phrase, or a word in a phrase, instead of at the beginning.

PREFIX, a form which is added to the beginning of a word; e.g. un- in ungrateful.

PREVERB, a word which occurs in a compound verb, and which does not change its form according to who did the action, or when it occurred, etc. It is so called because in most Kimberley languages it comes first in the compound verb; the auxiliary verb normally follows it.

PRIMER, a simple booklet for teaching children writing skills.

PRONOUN, a word which is used instead of a noun to refer to something. Pronouns are words like I, we, you, he, she, and it.

RETROFLEX, a sound in which the tip of the tongue is either straight up, or turned back in the mouth.

SEMANTICS, the study of meaning.

SECOND PERSON, the pronoun which designates the speaker, and optionally one or more others (but not the speaker).

SIMPLE VERB, a verb which consists of a single word, as distinct from a compound verb, which consists of two or more words. In Kimberley languages simple verbs are normally auxiliary verbs which may occur alone, without a preverb.

SINGULAR, a form which refers to a single thing.

SOCIOLINGUISTICS, the study of language in society, in its social context.

STOP, a sound in which the air is blocked somewhere in the mouth, and then released; e.g. t, d, k, g.

STRESS, extra loudness, and/or higher pitch associated with one or more of the syllables of a word. For example, the second syllable is stressed in reserve. In Australian languages, the first syllable of a word is normally stressed.

SUBJECT, the actor or doer of an action. For example, the boy is the subject of 'The boy ate the orange'.

SUBGROUP, a set of languages within a group which descends from a single ancestor language.

SUFFIX, a form which is added to the end of a word; e.g. -ing in singing.

SYLLABLE, a group of sounds which must be pronounced together as a whole; for example, the word regular consists of the syllables re-gu-lar. Syllables in Australian languages normally consist of a consonant followed by a vowel.

TENSE, a form which indicates the time at which an action took place, whether it was before the time of speaking (past), at the time of speaking (present), or after the time of speaking (future).
THIRD, a pronominal form which refers to someone other than the speaker or the hearer. For example, English has the third person pronouns *he*, *she*, *it*, and *they*.

TRANSITIVE, a sentence or verb which has both a subject (i.e. actor or doer) and an object (i.e. goal or undergoer). For instance, the verb *saw* is transitive in *The farmer saw the duckling*.

UNVOICED, a sound which is made without the vocal cords vibrating; e.g. *p*, *t*, *k*.

VELAR, a sound which is made with contact (or near contact) between the back of the tongue and the velum, which is the back part of the mouth.

VERB, a word which refers to events, actions, processes, and so on; examples include *hit*, *run*, *go*, *eat*, *fall*, *think*, *happen*.

VERNACULAR, a variety of a language which is native to a particular region, and usually the mother tongue of the people of the area.

VOICED, a sound in which the vocal cords vibrate; e.g. *b*, *d*, *g*.

VOWEL, a sound in which the air is not impeded during its passage through the mouth. Vowels are distinguished by the location of the highest point of the tongue in the mouth, whether this high point is high, mid or low, or front, central or back.
GENERAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

This bibliography lists works which are referred to repeatedly throughout the handbook; many provide general information on a variety of languages, and so are not referred to in the lists of materials available for each language.

Black, P. 1883. *Aboriginal languages of the Northern Territory*. Batchelor: SAL.
O'Grady, G.N. 1959. Significance of the circumcision boundary in Western Australia. BA (Hons.) thesis, University of Sydney.


LANGUAGE INDEXES

INDEX BY LANGUAGE NAME

This index lists the major spellings of the language names. The names which appear in section headings are given in capitals, together with reference to the relevant section. All other names are given in lower case, with reference to the recommended spelling for that language name, as per section 1.3.

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Djugun

Djurgun

DOOLBOONG

Dyao

Ewenu

Ewenyoon

Ewenyun

Forrest River

Gadjerawang

GADJERONG

Gadyerong

GAJIRRAWOONG

Gambera

Gambere

GAMBERRE

Gambre

GARADJARI

Garadjeri

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