

# Organised Phonology Data

## Kafe (Kamano) Language [KBQ] Eastern Highlands Province

**Trans New Guinea Phylum** ; *East New Guinea Highlands Stock*; East-Central (Gorokan) Family; Kamano Subfamily

Population census:

Major villages:

Linguistic work done by: Kevin Ford, SIL (see Kamano-Kafe)

Data checked by:

### Phonemic and Orthographic Inventory

a ə ε f γ h i k m <sup>m</sup>p n <sup>nt</sup> <sup>ʉ</sup>kə p r s t u v z ʔ  
 a ä e f g h i k m mp n nt ngk o p r s t u v y '

A Ä E F H I K M N O P S T U V Y

### Consonants

	Bilab	LabDen	Dental	Alveo	Postalv	Retro	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyn	Glottal
Plosive	p		t					k			ʔ
Nasal	m		n								
Trill											
Tap/Flap			r								
Fricative		f v		s				ɣ			h
Lateral Fricative											
Approx											
Lateral Approx											
Ejective Stop											
Implos											

/ɣ/ voiced alveopalatal fricative

/<sup>m</sup>p/ voiceless prenasalized bilabial plosive

/<sup>nt</sup>t/ voiceless prenasalized alveolar plosive

/<sup>ʉ</sup>k/ voiceless prenasalized velar plosive

p pasi 'nettle'  
hapa 'mud'

m mofa 'girl'  
ma'ma 'dog'

<sup>m</sup>p -  
ärimpa 'his guts'

f fangki 'eagle'  
mofärave 'child'

-

v	vähe'	'person'	k	ku	'smoke'
	mäsäve	'grease'		oki	'yesterday'
t	tare	'two'	<sup>h</sup> k	-	
	kuteme'ne	'on the bag'		korangke'	'red'
				-	
<sup>n</sup> t	-		ɣ		
	kento'	'widow'		ägomimpa	'his belly'
	-				
n	nana'	'how much?'	/	-	
	häningke'	'black'		mofa'ämo'	'his, her daughter'
				ku'	'bilum, bag'
				ma'ma'	'dog'
s	sonta	'Sunday'			
	äse'nea	'she planted'			
			h	hengka	'later'
f	tärame	'mother and daughter'		ontähi'nea	'(he) disobeyed'
ʒ	yäga	'animal'			
	hoya	'garden'			

## Vowels

i		u			
	ə				
ɛ		ɔ			
	ɑ				
i	itareme'ne	'on the table'	ɑ	antäfinäfe	'caterpillar'
	kärintifa	'red'		mofa	'girl'
	hoyafi	'in the garden'		käna	'time, heavy'
ɛ	erifutägi'nea	'it snapped'	o	oki	'yesterday'
	meni	'today'		hokongke'	'blue'
	tare	'two'		vuna'no	'did yo go?'
ə	ävo	'writing'	u	umpe'umpe'	'mosquito'
	kangkäri	'head covering'		kuma'	'village'
				ku	'smoke'

## Suprasegmentals (tone, stress, length)

Tone is phonemic. There are three tones; low, high, and extra-high. Examples:

ko' [koʔ] 'rain'      ävi [əví] 'urine'      ävu [əvú] 'joint'

ko' [kòʔ] 'surrounding'      ävi [əví]'seed'      ävu [əvù] 'eye'

Tone also functions at the phrase level, in reinforcing consistency, and it achieves this by means of sandhi based on an opposition of non-predictable tonal subclasses.

## **Syllable Patterns**

### **Conventions: Phonological**

All plosives are unaspirated and tense.

The glottal plosive has restricted distribution. It can only occur syllable-finally, but is regularly found word-medially as well as word-finally. It can alternatively be analyzed as a feature of vowels, then there would be ordinary vowels, vowels with glottal closure and vowels with nasal closure. Note that /ə / cannot occur before a glottal plosive or prenasalized consonant.

The prenasalized plosives are restricted to medial position in underlying words and have arisen as a result of the freezing of one or two standard morphophonemic processes which occur across word+word and word-suffix boundaries. This analysis of prenasals as independent phonemes is supported by the simplicity of the phonotactics which it allows.

### **Conventions: Orthographic**

Native speakers do not need to mark tone.

## **Transcription of a recorded passage**

### **Bibliography**

Ford, Kevin 1994. A phonology of Kafe