

Organised Phonology Data

Olo Language [ONG] Lumi – Sandaun Province

Torricelli Phylum; *Wapei-Palei Stock*; Wapei Family

Population census: 12.000 (1981)

Major villages:

Linguistic work done by: Donald and Aileen McGregor (CMML), Donald Laycock (ANU), SIL

Data checked by: Bill Staley (1994)

Phonemic and Orthographic Inventory

ɑ ɛ f i ɾ k l m n ʰk o p r s t u u̯ w j
 a e f i i k l m n ng o p r s t u u,o w y
 A E F I I K L M N O P R S T U U W Y

Consonants

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

/w/ voiced labial-velar approximant

/ʰk/ prenasalized velar plosive

p	pau	'base of a tree'		f	fiu	'white'
	topo	'skin'			ifau	'wild fig'
	-				uf	'village'
	eple	'children'			alufro	'carry'
	plen	'side, other side'			flam	'central rib of sago leaf'
m	ma	'desire'		w	weli	'fire'
	ema	'mother'			alowi	'cut'
	awim	'tree type'			-	
	umputa	'wipe'				

t	tifer eti - twopou	'ant' 'hand' 'straight'	l	lus nalu lalol altu	'eye pl.' 'pick' 'head' 'remove'
n	ni ane fiyen antu	'fish' 'lift up hand' 'a long way' 'run'	k	kera koikili - kraref	'little finger' 'plant spec.' 'banana'
s	senge asupo pos	'pig' 'apply fire' 'be quiet'	^h k	- senge - anglulu	 'pig' 'to vomit'
r	riki oru tor irpei -	'banana' 'man's sister' 'lime' 'to speak'	j	ye iyeye -	'you' 'go around'

Vowels

i		u			
ɪ		ʊ			
ɛ		ɔ			
		ɑ			
i	ifau filfil weli malio	'wild fig' 'movement' 'fire' 'mix it!'	ʊ	uf yuf kupu	'pandanas soup' 'wind' 'elbow'
ɪ	iltei tifer -	'speech' 'ant'	ɔ	onom tor rapo lupatoiki	'heart' 'lime' 'split open' 'look for me'
ɛ	eti senge ye	'hand' 'pig' 'you'	ei	eipuku keiyeiki kaltei	'pull us' 'get me' 'wash something'
ɑ	alele pam otopa	'wipe off' 'sore' 'blow'	ɑi	mailu oungai	'water crab' 'fill up'
u	uf yulum lulu	'village' 'round object' 'chin'	ɑu	nausi inau	'measure' 'dislike'
			ɔu	outi alwonou	'cry' 'put together;

/ei/

/ɑi/ /ɑu/

/ou/

Suprasegmentals (tone, stress, length)

The first syllable is usually stressed.

Syllable Patterns

V	e 'you go'	o.nom 'heart'	e.ni.e.ne 'imitate her'	e.ni.o 'imitate him'
VV	ai 'slit drum'	ei.pi 'pull'		
VC	em 'mother'	el.tei 'put'		
VVC		aut.lo.wi 'cut two masc.'		
CV	ye 'you (sg)'	wa.si 'give'	i.ro.nom 'to not know'	ku.lu 'tree sp.'
CVV	wau 'grandmother'	wai.ki 'give me!'	ei.lu.wou.ku 'cut us'	i.fau 'wild fig'
CVC	tor 'lime'	wan.ku 'land grab'	a.luf.ro 'carry'	ti.fer 'ant'
CVVC		toung.ko 'back'		
CCV		kwa.to.wo 'I give him'		
CCVC	plen 'there'			
CCVV	frou 'quickly'	Twai.te 'village name'		

Conventions: Phonological

All the plosives /p t k/ can be voiced, especially preceeding the lateral /l/ or following the nasals /m n ŋ/.

Conventions: Orthographic

The vowels /i/ and /ɪ/ are both written < i >, and /u/ /ʊ/ are both written < u >. In some cases /ɪ/ is written < e > and /ʊ/ < o > in order to avoid confusions in meaning: *laisipe* [laisipɛ] 'he sent them' *laisepe* [laisipɛ] 'he recieved them'; *kusape* [kusapɛ] 'I left them', *kosape* [kusapɛ] 'show them' .

The prenasalized velar plosive [^ŋk ^ŋg] is written as < ng >, since the sound [ŋ] only occurs before velar plosive.

Transcription of a recorded passage

(this is a written text)

< Ki kire Thomas, ku meilo musa uf, le ku me metei Lumi. Le wem ku me fale Lumi mulpuo lepe, ti kire nimoure re mete wuru pepe, ku minki me mifei winem liti mifei onom posio Ma ili. Le ku meletei piti le ma wauku wem teingi, le le ma wauku singe piti meptalo il pele ma posisiepe mete enke. Leye lo ku nou me winem meteieye. >

I and Thomas, we got up and left the village and we went and slept in Lumi. And this night when we went and arrived at Lumi, I with many women and men here, we went inside going sitting in the house of sitting thinking of God. And we asked Him that He would give us a good time, and He would give us the strength to teach His words and they would go to men's hearts. And then we again went to the house and slept.

Bibliography

Staley, William. 1982-1990. Manuscripts. SIL, Ukarumpa.