

Organised Phonology Data

Petats Language [PEX] North Solomons Province

Oceanic; *Meso-Melanesian Network*; North West Solomonian Chain

Population census: 2000 (1981)

Major villages:

Linguistic work done by: SIL

Data checked by:

Phonemic and Orthographic Inventory

a a: a^j a^w b e: ε e^w g h i: i k l m n ŋ ø o^w o: ɔ p r s
 a a ai au b,v e e ei g h i i k l m n ng o ou ö o p r s
 A Ai Au B,V E Ei G H I K L M N Ng Ou O P R S

 t tɕ u u: w j
 t j u u w y
 T U W Y

Consonants

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

/w/ voiced labial-velar approximant

/tɕ/ voiceless alveopalatal affricate

p	pil	'to tie on'	m	mes	'another'
	kapu	'to prohibit'		mamur	'behind'
	kop	'to cover'		mulam	'we (excl.)'

b	bil	'swollen spleen'	w	wami	'fire'
	kavu	'to provide for'		pawan	'poor'
	-			-	

t	taran katö hat	'log bridge' 'to watch' 'to tell'	k	kua jika kukurik	'to drink' 'little thing' 'infant'
n	nönö ninö nen	'to visit often' 'tree ant' 'to eat'	g	gua juga -	'1st. sing. verb' 'to despise'
r	raran röron mar	'to tell out' 'long' 'kind , type'	ŋ	ngöngö ningö nang	'to call out often' 'have been called' 'to warm'
s	sil kasö karous	'to creep (vine)' 'head of fish' 'lazy'	h	hulu tuhil nalah	'hair' 'shell horn' 'yesterday'
te	jil jiji haj	'to move fast' 'to respect' 'to sacrifice'	j	yalis baya -	'day after tomorrow' 'poisonous tree'
l	lolon talous wabal	'to fence in' 'to come out' 'big moth fish'			

Vowels

i	u
ø	
ε	ɔ
	ɑ

close front lengthened vowel /i:/
 close back lengthened vowel /u:/
 close-mid front lengthened vowel /e:/
 close-mid back rounded lengthened vowel /o:/
 low back lengthened vowel /ɑ:/
 glides: /e^l ɑ^l ɑ^w /

i	ien hil tasi lio	'here' 'to plait' 'sea' 'neck'	ε	elia tep tosie team	'I' 'to weep' 'nine' 'heavy'
ø	- tom -	'to chew'	ɑ	arahan hasi ba	'large plain land area' 'strong intention' 'and'

ɑ ^j	aisam	'vine'	ɔ	oai	'yes'	
	kaisa	'idol'		tol	'island'	
	sai	'again'		boro	'garbage'	
				poan	'wooden dish'	
i:	-		u:	-		
	hil	'black palm'		tul	'post'	
	sis	'angry'		-		
e ^j	eitah	'fan'	o:	-		
	teis	'to husk coconut'		bōng	'night'	
	emei	'no'		pō	'to cut'	
e:	-		ie	piπien	'late'	
	tep	'to clean out'		oe	goel	'to drift'
	tete	'father'		ue	kukue	'swing'
	sea	'one'		ua	guan	'my'
ɑ:	-		ou	ouhe	'taro top'	
	hasi	'to boil away bitterness'		touh	'king'	
	sala	'to reach out the hand'		kalipou	'sea eel'	
ɑ ^w	ausil	'swamp'				
	haun	'law'				
	jihau	'moon'				
u	ubian	'net'				
	tul	'to sew'				
	wapu	'black palm'				
	wabuap	'cheek'				

/ie/

/oe/

/ue/ /ua/

Suprasegmentals (tone, stress, length)

Syllable Patterns

V	a 'noun article'	a.mop 'widow'		li.o 'neck'
VC			wa.bu.ak 'cheek'	
CV	tou 'time for'	he.ol 'female'	ki.ki.pō 'wood chips'	kai.sa 'idol'
CVC	sep 'to find'	kap.ka.po 'fish scales'		lun.len 'dawn'
CVV		ko.koe.la 'bent'	ku.kue 'swing'	
CVVC	goel 'to drift'			pi.πien 'late'
CCV	ski 'to burn'	spi.ni.pa 'stingray spike'		
CCVC	spak 'to clean fish'			

Conventions: Phonological

/e:/ and /o:/ are pronounced short [e] [o] in open syllables, long [e:] [o:] in closed syllables.

/ɑ:/ is pronounced usually [ɛ: ~ɑ:]

and [æ] before a word final /h/

/b/ is pronounced [β] root medially and occasionally also word or root initially.

/g/ is pronounced [ɣ] word medially, occasionally also word or root initially.

Conventions: Orthographic

/b/ is written word initially and < v > word medially if it is pronounced [v]

Long and short vowels are written similarly; < i > represents both [i:] and [i] etc. The exception is [o:] which is written < ö >. The letter < o > represents [ø] and [ɔ].

In Petats semiwovels are written < w > and < y > while in Halia they are written < u > and < i >.

Transcription of a recorded passage

Bibliography

Allen, Jerry. 1975. 'Petats phonemes and orthography.' *Workpapers in Papua New Guinea Languages* 13.