

Organised Phonology Data

Sursurunga Language [SGZ] Namatanai – New Ireland Province

Oceanic; *Meso-Melanesian Network*; South New Ireland/North West Solomonian Network

Population census: 5000 (1990)

Major villages: Kudukudu, Porabunbun, Samo, Likas, Nokon, Proronbus, Himau, Tekedan, Uris, Likas, Himaul, Hilalon, Pulpulu, Ruka, Kápsál, Suralil

Linguistic work done by: SIL

Data checked by: Don Hutchisson (April 1992)

Phonemic and Orthographic Inventory

a ə ^mb ⁿd e ^ŋg h i k l m n ŋ ɔ p r s t̚ u w j
 a á b d e g h i k l m n ng o p r s t̚ u w i
 A Á B D E G H I K L M N Ng O P R S T U W I

Consonants

	Bilab	LabDen	Dental	Alveo	Postalv	Retro	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyn	Glottal
Plosive	p	t̚						k			
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

/^mb/voiced prenasalized bilabial plosive

/ⁿd/ oiced prenasalized alveolar plosive

/^ŋg/ voiced prenasalized velar plosive

p	pákpák	'shade'	b	bákrái	'to serve (food)'
	tapam	'top, peak'		tabun	'tail'
	kep	'shell type'		-	
	pipdai	'to fold'		arbor	'to carry'

m	mamam	'your mother'	s	sui	'to collapse'
	támán	'family'		sosopas	'body joint'
	kim	'type of mat'		sus	'milk'
	kámgu	'girl initiate'		pasbat	'to open'
	minmáir	'special clothing'		saksak	'to sing'
w	wán	'seed, pod'	k	kim	'type of mat'
	tawan	'tree sp.'		pakat	'spring water'
	-			suk	'vine, rope'
	lengwenlul	'skull'		saksak	'to sing'
				kihkih	'wind'
l	lui	'to swing around'	g	gim	'we (pl, excl.)'
	mulán	'first'		pagas	'there'
	sál	'road, path'		-	
	kalkoton	'stem'		gokgok	'epilepsy'
t	tui	'to cut'	ŋ	ngin	'to drink'
	mátán	'his eye'		pángáng	'gaping'
	sut	'fat'		sung	'to pray'
	matngan	'kind of'		tángni	'to help'
	tártár	'to chop'		otngai	'to distribute'
d	dur	'dirty'	h	him	'to work'
	mudán	'a little bit'		iohoi	'to mumu it'
	-			suh	'table'
	pipdai	'to fold'		kihkih	'wind'
n	nur	'shrimp'	j	iás	'eel'
	mánán	'to know'		aias	'remove rain'
	ngin	'to drink'		-	
	inngon	'shell'		iohioh	'python'
	tángni	'to help'			
r	ru	'to pull'			
	marán	'many'			
	tártár	'to chop'			
	marngán	'old'			
	bákrá	'to serve (food)'			

Vowels

i		u			
e					
		ɔ			
		ɑ			
i	isu	'fish'	e	elah	'avoid'
	kip	'horizontal beam'		kep	'shell type'
	kipi	'to bring'		keke	'to carry'
	siaroh	'peaceful'		minmáir	'special occ. clothing'
	io	'so'			

ə	árai	'to dry out'	eu	beu	'shark'
	ráp	'thorn'			
	má	'and'	əi	káisang	'my left'
	áir	'bamboo fence'		guái	'to make wet'
u	ubi	'to beat, to hit'	əu	-	
	mul	'again, also'		káláu	'male'
	lu	'to do habitually'			
	guái	'to make wet'	ui	suilik	'Lord'
o	oboi	'to put'	oi	soi	'to spear'
	mol	'greasy feeling'		dokoi	'tu pull down'
	soso	'to exit'			
	soa	'table type'	ai	dai	'to touch'
ɑ	ani	'cat'		otngai	'to distribute'
	kalik	'child'			
	kuka	'put on head'	au	aunges	'to rest, breathe'
	taun	'heavy'		kubau	'tree, wood'
iu	siusiu	'to swim. bathe'			
	sorliu	'			
ei	erei	'that'			

/iu/

/ei/ /eu/

/əi/ /əu/

/ai/ /au/

/oi/

/ui/

Suprasegmentals (tone, stress, length)

Word stress is predictable:

- when all syllables are identical in both CV pattern and phoneme quality, stress tends to be equal in all syllables.

- in all other cases, primary stress occurs on the penultimate syllable.

Syllable Patterns

V	i 'exclamation'	i.nan 'sharp'	si.a.roh 'peaceful'	so.a 'table type'
VV	ai 'where?'	au.nges 'to rest, to breathe'		gu.ái 'to make wet'
VC	in 'here'	ot.ngai 'to distribute'		ta.un 'heavy'
CV	di 'they'	ke.ken 'his leg'	tu.ka.ul 'to nod with sleep'	ki.pi 'to bring'
CVV	dai 'to touch'	kái.sang 'my left'	do.koi 'tu pull down'	
CVC	dik 'type of basket'	min.má.ir 'special clothing'	a.lek.tá.dái 'tu turn upside down'	kih.kih 'wind'

Conventions: Phonological

[i] and [u] are interpreted as /j/ and /w/ when they are nonsyllabic and occur in syllable initial consonant position.

Voiceless vowels are interpreted as /h/. They occur syllable initially, and finally contiguous to a voiced vocoid of the same quality, and always occur in positions which can be filled by consonants.

/p/ /b/ and /m/ are slightly labialized syllable initially.

/p/ and /t/ are unreleased syllable finally, and /k/ word finally.

Prenasalized plosives /^mb ⁿd ^ŋg/ are in free variation with non-prenasalized ones / b d g/ word initially.

Conventions: Orthographic

Prenasalization is never written.

The people prefer to write the /j/ as < i >.

Transcription of a recorded passage

/ soi ŋisən əi təm ŋinim suir ^mbor || ^mbo^mbos ^mbuŋ no a lu ŋinim suir ^mbor mə i kesə ^mbuŋ a loŋrai ioh ^mb
or | mək han suri ŋinim suir ^mbor || namur a monai pəkən^mbuŋ ən kasioh | mə ⁿdik tatki ^mbor uri map || a
lu hanan mə kis pətum mə a ŋinim suir ^mbor || mək lu ŋinim suir ^mbor | mək lu ŋinim suir ^mbor | mək lu
ŋinim suir ^mbor | mək tuan puŋ i ^mbəl || lala pakta talaⁿdeŋ i ^mbəl || namur a lu hanan suri kesi pok
on ku^mbau | ⁿdi utŋi ŋo laklak || mək nem ŋo na sa mə nək roh til a muni suri nək kengen kaleng i ^mbəl
|| io ŋo a səmtur ia muni pokon laklak erei | mək roh ur a ⁿdi ^mbim || a pos sarara i ^mbəl mək mat || a ŋor
er sər /

< Soi ngisán ái tám nginim suir bor. Bosbos bung no a lu nginim suir bor má i kesá bung a longrai ioh bor, mák han suri nginim suir bor. Namur a monai pákánbung án kasioh, má dik tatki bor uri map. A lu hanan má kis pátum má a nginim suir bor. Má k lu nginim suir bor, má k lu nginim suir bor, má k lu nginim suir bor, má k tuan pung i bál. Lala pakta taladeng i bál. Namur a lu hanan suri kesi pokon kubau, di utngi ngo laklak. Má k nem ngo na sa má ná k roh til a muni suri ná k kengen kaleng i bál. Io ngo a sámtur ia muni pokon laklak erei, má k roh ur a di bim. A pos sarara i bál má k mat. A ngorer sár.>

'The name of this story is 'The one who drinks pork broth all the time'. Every day he drinks pork broth. Then one day he hears there is a pig mumu and he goes to drink pork broth. Later he waits for the time when they will take the dirt off the mumu and carry the pig to another place for serving. He goes and sits close by and drinks pork broth. Then he drinks and drinks and drinks the pork broth until his stomach is very full. Very very big is his stomach. Later he goes to a wooded area called 'Laklak'. He likes to climb a tree and jump down so that his stomach will return to being small again. So like that he stands up in the tree at Laklak and then jumps down to the ground. His stomach splits wide open and he dies. That's the story.'

Bibliography

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