

# Organised Phonology Data

## Yaweyuha (Yabiyufa) Language [YBY] Goroka – Eastern Highlands Province

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

Population census: 2000 (1981)

Major villages: Humito, Idelekahu

Linguistic work done by: SIL

Data checked by: Ellis Deibler (September 1992)

### Phonemic and Orthographic Inventory

a b d e g h i dz k l m n o p s t u β w j  
 a b d e g h i j k l m n o p s t u v w y  
 A B D E G H I J K L M N O P S T U V W Y

### Consonants

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

/dz/ voiced alveolar affricate

/w/ voiced labial-velar approximant

p	pibo	'he did'	β	voe	'I mumu it'
	epa	'cane'		uvoha	'bird type'
b	bode	'banana type'	w	wo	'go!'
	eba	'village'		owo	'string bag'
m	meina	'payment'	t	tiyoko	'frog'
	wamo	'dream'		atani	'spear'

d	diyopa menadaya	'grass type' 'his wife'	k	kileko nenako	'come out' 'since'
n	niseko oponi	'I come' 'wallaby'	g	gita ohugo	'guitar' 'green'
s	salopaweda nesa	'snake type' 'thing'	h	hiliko oliha	'bend down' 'flying fox'
dz	jowe mija	'fireman' 'garden'	j	ya apiya	'tree' 'yam type'
l	lowe elamobo	'two' 'not knowing'			

### Vowels

i		u			
e		o			
		a			
i	ila apiya viki	'his leg' 'yam type' 'to mumu'	ai	naiye	'he eats'
e	ela bebe ile	'shell' 'yam type' 'arrow'	ae	wae	'they went'
a	ala epala eba	'his words' 'his mouth' 'village'	ao	yuhao	'plant it!'
u	ula omudala olu	'dog' 'egg' 'girl'	au	auvala	'grease'
o	opa ibola uvo	'sweet potato' 'his knee' 'banana'	ui	oluipa	'children'
ei	meina	'payment'	oi	oina	'greens'
			oe	Apoeto	'a village name'
			ou	poupou	'explosion'

/ei/

/ai/ /ae/ /ao/ /au/

/oi/ /oe/ /ou/

/ui/

## Suprasegmentals (tone, stress, length)

Yaweyuha has two phonemic tones, each syllable carrying one of the tones.

*namá* 'bird'      *nó* 'water'  
*námá* 'louse'      *no* 'you eat!'

## Syllable Patterns

V      *u.la* 'dog'                      *lo.e* 'I say'  
VV      *ai.yo* 'yesterday'  
CV      *lo.we* 'two'                      *u.vo* 'banana'    *a.pi.ya* 'yam sp.'  
CVV      *nai.ye* 'he eats'                      *yu.hao* 'plant it!'                      *o.lui.pa* 'children'

## Conventions: Phonological

/g/ is weakened into lenis [g] or fricative [ɣ] intervocally.

/l/ is retroflexed medially but not always initially.

/t/, /d/, /s/ and /j/ have fronted allophones which occur in free fluctuation with the phonetic norm.

## Conventions: Orthographic

Tone is not written. It has a very low functional load.

## Transcription of a recorded passage

/  
jalako unalako amito hipiligaja joweibo ae || ji makoja boweko unala jaliwekoja anito hipiligaja joweije  
|| jowiki anito maja monikiki jala maja lasi helekoko adaja niseko dzo maja ja jai monalo maja dzee m  
oloikoko ogaleja dze hulikoko ne || sakoja nejoko unala maja moneko moneko lasi helekoko niseko m  
udaibo maja jala maja nejoko alinali heto moloneyoko nenako jala maja upau lekoko dzoku labu etibo  
nesa lekaijoko unala mamoya saloko nama he moloetaije || we ato we unanema nisije lamane || j  
ai monalo toma bowe numunae | bowe numunae loko nemo latanekaho ja hipiligaja anito moneko ud  
oko libo ne /

< Yalako unalako amito Hipiligaya yoweibo ae. Yi makoya Boweko unala Jaliwekoya anito Hipiligaya  
yoweije. Yowiki anito maya monikiki yala maya lasi helekoko adaya niseko jo maya ya yai monalo maya jee  
moloikoko ogaleya je hulikoko ne. Sakoya neyoko unala maya moneko moneko lasi helekoko niseko mudaibo  
maya yala maya neyoko alinali heto moloneyoko nenako yala maya upau lekoko joku labu etibo nesa lekaiyoko  
unalala mamoya saloko nama he moloetaije. We ato we unanema nisiye lamane. Yai monalo toma Bowe  
numunae, Bowe numunae Loko nemo latanekaho ya Hipiligaya anito moneko udoko libo ne. >

'The story of the older brother and younger brother going up to the bush at Hipili. One time Bowe and his  
younger brother Jaliwe went up to the bush at Hilipi. After they went up to the bush and were walking around  
(hunting), the older brother felt cold; so he first came and kindled a fire at the base of a yai-tree and stretched  
out his limbs. After he had sone that, his younger brother, wandering around and around, felt cold; and when he  
came and saw his older brother (there), since (the younger brother) had suddenly come running up, his older  
brother shook in his skin, and almost cooked (himself) in the fire, his younger brother sang a song like this:  
Older brother, you didn't say 'It is my younger brother coming' There at the base of the yai tree is Bowe's house,  
Bowe's house!' On of my ancestors sang this (one time) where he was walking around and sleeping in the bush  
at Hilipi.'

## **Bibliography**

Deibler, Ellis. 1974-1976. Manuscripts. SIL, Ukarumpa.