

Organised Phonology Data

Erma (Ogea) Language [ERI] Madang – Madang Province

Trans New Guinea Phylum; *Madang-Adelbert Range Subphylum;* Rai Coast Stock; Nuru Family

Population census: 500 (1981)

Major villages: Erima, Balama, Dogia, Garima

Linguistic work done by: SIL

Data checked by:

Phonemic and Orthographic Inventory

a a: ã: e e: i i: o o: u u: ù ù: b d g h tʂ k l
 a aa :aa e ee i ii o oo u uu :u :uub d g h j k l
 A Aa :Aa E Ee I Ii O Oo U Uu :U :Uu B D G H J K L

 m ^mb n ⁿd ŋ ^ŋg ɲ p r s t w j
 m mb n nd ng ngg ny p r s t w y
 M Mb N Nd Ng Ngg Ny P R S T W Y

Consonants

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

/w/ voiced labial-elar approximant

/tʂ / voiced alveopalatal affricate

/ɲ/ voiced alveopalatal nasal

/^mb/ prenasalized bilabial plosive

/ⁿd/ prenasalized alveolar plosive

/^ŋg/ prenasalized velar plosive

a	ajine	'I cook'	o	onowau	'doit!'
	awane	'I leave'		wabone	'so'
	waga	'canoe'		ototo	'cold'
	pai	'man'		hoidu	'having helped'
i:	iima	'hook'	u ¹	uusa	'rotten'
	biibi	'aunt'		tuuna	'eel'
	-			-	
e:	eeme	'I have'	ũ	:uwai	'a bee'
	peeru	'to plant taro'		t:una	'he kicks'
	-			h:u	'hole'
a:	aagotune	'I hear him'	ũ:	:uupai	'tree sp.'
	yaage	'water'			
	-				
	aau	'lime'	o:	oojowau	'you obey!'
				onowau	'do it!'
				no	'he,she'
ã:	-				
	h:aambi	'yam'			
	-				
u	uwa	'no'			
	usut	'done'			
	ngaasu	'hot'			
	yagui	'wind'			

Suprasegmentals (tone, stress, length)

Primary stress occurs on the first syllable of words

Syllable Patterns

V	o.bu 'ground'	ga.i.la 'tree sp.'	hi.lo.u 'good'
CV	ma.ta 'house'	ta.la.pe 'rope for climbing'	ga.u.wa 'type of crayfish'
CVC	mon.bo.na 'he wants to go up'	ni.rod.bo.de 'they want to give'	ba.ga.ram 'taro sp.'
VV	aa.u 'lime'		
CVV	yaa.ge 'water'	du.rii.ya 'fish sp.'	

(CVC - type is comparatively rare occurring only in loan words or as the result of dropping the vowel out))

Conventions: Phonological

/w/ is pronounced [β] occurring medial before /e/ except following /u/. It is pronounced [w] elsewhere.

/a/ has a mid central variant [ə] occurring word finally following /b/.

Conventions: Orthographic

Transcription of a recorded passage

/

ere irima awadu manoboja tate boja || ere irima awadu manoboja || ere nobonob manidu ben nom mata
 laŋa goi poto ureboja japoboja || wa laŋa ere bele mene mene pere lewoboja || usuboja ere gidu moboj
 a || wa baŋa /

< Ere Irima awadu manoboya tate boya. Ere Irima awadu manoboya. Ere Nobonob manidu Ben nom mata langa
 goi poto ureboya yapoboya. Wa langa ere bele mene mene pere lewoboja. Usuboya ere gidu moboya. Wa
 banga. >

Why are we leaving Erima and going up (to Nobonob). We are leaving Erima and going up. Having gone up to
 Nobonob and going to Ben's house, we will sit and look at photos (slides). There we will talk about various
 little things. When we have finished, we will return and come back. That is all.

Bibliography

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