

UNHAS-SIL Sociolinguistic Survey:
Rampi Area (Kabupaten Luwu)
Thomas V. Laskowske

INTRODUCTION

The survey team made their visit to Rampi 15-24 November 1983. We visited each village presently occupied and took wordlists. In several villages sociolinguistic information was also gathered. We walked the trails from Leboni as far as Tedeboe (see map). We were told that the area from Leboni to Rato is at present abandoned and therefore we did not try to visit it.

The team participants were:

Francis B. Dawson, M.A. - Survey Leader

Donald Barr, M.A.

Eui Jung Kim, M.A.

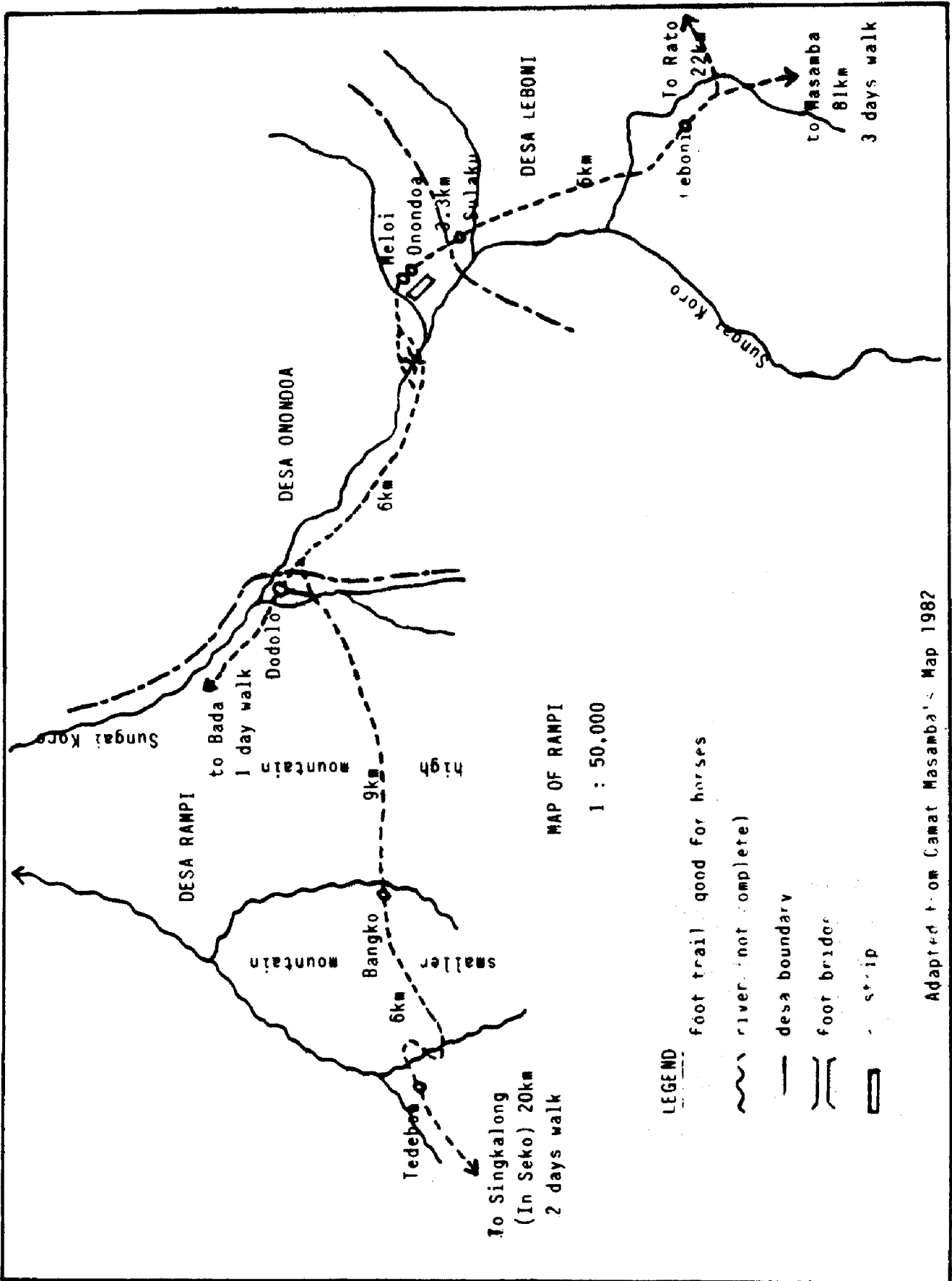
Thomas V. Laskowske, M.S.

Mr. Barr came from Palu, Sulawesi Tengah. The other three participants came from Ujung Pandang.

ITINERARY

- 15 November - Drove from Ujung Pandang to Palopo. Driving time 7 1/2 hours.
- 16 " - Met Bupati Drs Tawakkal and obtained letters to the camats of Masamba and Lembong. Drove 1 hour to Masamba.
- 17 " - Met with Camat H.M. Djunaid of Masamba and obtained letters to the kepala desas. Checked in with the police and visited the P dan K office.
- 18 " - The MAF plane (with Mr. Barr aboard) flew us to Onondoa, Rampi. Stayed that day and night in Onondoa. Started gathering information.
- 19 " - Split into two teams. Mr. Dawson and Mr. Kim (Team I) went north. Stayed overnight in Bangko. Mr. Barr and Mr. Laskowske (Team II) went south. Stayed overnight in Leboni.
- 20 " - Team I went to Tedeboe and spent the night. Team II returned to Onondoa. They also stopped in Sulaku to witness the installation of the new kepala kampung.
- 21 " - Teams I and II met in Dodolo to expedite the survey there.
- 22 " - Teams stayed in Onondoa evaluating the information and talking to more people.
- 23 " - Left Rampi for Masamba via MAF plane. Drove to Makale (3 hours) and overnighted there.
- 24 " - Returned to Ujung Pandang, 7 1/2 hours driving time.

Map of Rampi Area



DESCRIPTION OF DAERAH RAMPI

Geography (see map)

Rampi lies mainly in an upland valley at an altitude of about 1000 meters. The five villages of Leboni, Sulaku, Onondoa, Meloi, and Dodolo are near the main river of Koro, which eventually becomes the Lariang. This valley is about 15 km long.

The villages of Bangko and Tedeboe are separated from Dodolo and the rest of Rampi by a mountain, whose height is perhaps 400 meters above Dodolo. Bangko's elevation is higher than that of the other Rampi villages. Its nearby streams are smaller than the rivers near the other villages. Over another, smaller mountain from Bangko, Tedeboe is located on a tributary of the Koro river, joining the Koro in Central Sulawesi.

The nearest group outside of Rampi is Bada, one day's walk to the north of Dodolo in Central Sulawesi.

To get to Rampi from Masamba requires a 3-day walk, 81 km.

The soil is sandy clay. There is plenty of sand in the rivers. The parent material is granite.

Many parts of the valley which are not cultivated are open grassland rather than jungle.

Government

Three desas comprise Rampi.

Desa Leboni	-	Leboni
		Sulaku
Desa Onondoa	-	Onondoa
		Meloi
Desa Rampi	-	Dodolo
		Bangko
		Tedeboe

The kepala desas are not permanent residents of Rampi. However, the kepala desas were in Rampi to welcome the camat's pending visit.

Each village has hansips, village policemen, and in each case they are young men. Each kepala desa also has a local wakil and/or a tata usaha. All were very helpful.

Recent History

Kahar Muzakkar's forces controlled the Rampi area during the Rebellion. In 1952 and 1953 most of the Rampi people fled to Central Sulawesi. Subsequently the Rampi people lived outside of their homeland for some fourteen years. They are now moving back,

beginning in 1966 after the Indonesian army put down the Rebellion.

We are told that there were 5,000-7,000 people living in Rampi. Now, however, there are under 1,500.

Population of Rampi

<u>Village</u>	<u>Population*</u>	<u>Houses</u> (by our count)
Leboni	100	17
Sulaku	200	29
Onondoa-Meloi	almost 500	60
Dodolo	160	19
Bangko	130-180	23
Tedeboe	220-250	36

*Information gathered from Masamba police and Rampi village leaders

There are 10 villages of Rampi people scattered in Central Sulawesi. It was said that some are happier there and have a good life. Others wish to return, but are still afraid.

Culture

Houses Houses are made from wood and bamboo. Many have sawn lumber as part of the construction. Most roofs are thatched, but some have wood shingles or corrugated iron. Every house and garden has a surrounding fence to keep out the cattle. Houses are on stilts about 1 1/2-2 meters off the ground. A small front room is used for entertaining. A bedroom is on one side and kitchen in the back.

Food The main food is rice, which is stored unthreshed. Rice is threshed and pounded for a few days' supply at a time. Their vegetables are mostly greens, although there are also some corn and cassava in the gardens. Their gardens are quite small. There is an abundance of meat including water buffalo, beef, chicken, deer, wild pig and some fish.

Clothing Some of the older women still wear the traditional two-layered dresses. One old man we saw still wore the traditional head cloth/turban. Otherwise clothing is modern. Men leaving the village often take their bush knives with them strapped around their waists.

Manner People seemed reserved, although they were willing to talk about themselves. Men never greeted women on the street and women seemed quite shy. The people in Bangko and Tedeboe were not as sophisticated as those in the other villages.

Music We observed at least two bamboo flute bands of school children. Many youths in Bangko and Tedeboe played ukeleles. In Tedeboe they performed traditional dances.

Economy

There is plenty of food, so the Rampi people only import sugar, salt and a few specialties. They sell rice and produce in Bada, but only take dried meat or coffee to Masamba, because of the carrying weight. They also buy soap, cloth, and kerosene in Masamba, but don't buy anything in Bada, because the prices are high there.

Traders often come on foot or by horse. Cash income largely comes from selling cattle. They also claimed to have lots of coffee trees, but we did not see enough evidence to affirm whether it is an important part of their economy.

We observed a number of sewing machines. Also, quite a few men seemed to be skilled in carpentry, sawing boards and making furniture. Tools consisted of planes, saws, hammers, and chisels.

Transportation and communication was their biggest felt need for the economy. There are high hopes for a road to be built from Masamba.

There are no stores or markets in Rampi due to its isolation.

Health

People are well-fed and seem pretty healthy. There is no Pus-Kes-Mas in Rampi. Although there is a building for one in Onondoa, no one has been assigned there. A manteri in Sulaku gets medical supplies twice a year, but they are soon used up, and people lack even basic medicines. So, when people do have medical problems, they have a very difficult time.

Eye infections, goiter, emphysema, skin disease, dysentary, malaria, and tuberculosis are known to occur in the area.

Education

There are Sekolah Dasars at Sulaku, Onondoa, and Dodolo, each with 2 teachers. Of the 6 teachers, all but one are from Rampi. Virtually all the children in those villages attend school. A few boys from Leboni walk more than 1 hour to go to school in Sulaku. Also, about 10 make the 3-hour trip to Dodolo from Bangko.

Even though Bangko and Tedeboe have school buildings, there are no paid teachers available. Tedeboe does have a volunteer teacher who holds classes when he can. Those two villages very much want their schools to have regular classes.

The Dutch started schools in 1918 and 1923 in Rampi, so there are many adults who attended Sekolah Dasar and speak Bahasa

Indonesia. Yet, the teacher in Dodolo said that a number of parents are reluctant to buy school supplies for their children or to encourage them to go beyond Sekolah Dasar.

Religion

The area is basically Christian. There is a Gereja Kristen Sulawesi Tengah (GKST) church in every village. There is also a Pentacostal group in Tedeboe meeting in private housing. The Islam population of Rampi centers at Sulaku. Today, half the village of Sulaku is Islam and there are some Muslims living in Onondoa.

Two local pastors expressed a need for written materials to teach their congregations.

Church attendance seemed to vary. Only about 20 attended at Leboni, but more than 100 attended at Tedeboe. Services were held in Bahasa Indonesia, but afterwards announcements were made in Bahasa Rampi.

Language

The people we met, for the most part, spoke to us in Bahasa Indonesia. However, they converse with one another in Bahasa Rampi. There was some evidence in Tedeboe and Bangko that some of the older people did not use Bahasa Indonesia. A study should be made to determine the extent of bilingualism. We project that it would not be as extensive as it appears on the surface, because most of the people we talked with were the better educated leaders in the community. The group as a whole, however, has probably needed to become more fluent in Bahasa Indonesia because of their displacement and necessity of communicating with people in other language groups.

We are told the Rampi people residing outside of the Rampi area have also learned the local languages where they are living. In spite of this, they have retained their mother tongue.

Mutual Intelligibility

Within Rampi itself there is some dialect variation, but we would still consider it one language with mutual intelligibility throughout. Comparing three villages showed cognate counts greater than 90%.

Leboni

96	Dodolo	
91	93	Tedeboe

Z Cognate

Probably because of the mountain barrier between Tedeboe and Dodolo, it appears that the dialects of Bangko and Tedeboe diverge the most from the rest of the villages. Some of the differences:

<u>Indonesian</u>	<u>Leboni</u>	<u>Dodolo</u>	<u>Tedeboe</u>
adik	[hidioʔ]	[tuaŋi]	[hinɛ]
duri	[ʔui]	[ʔui]	[tɔmɛ tohu]

Prestige Dialect

Rampi speakers consider Bangko to be the place of cultural and linguistic origin, an idea supported by local legend. Therefore, it seems wise that the Bangko dialect should have a strong place in any proposed program. The Leboni dialect was referred to as less Rampi because the people there speak "fast and strong".

Integration into Indonesian Society

The people are eager for a road to help their economy and for schools. So, they seem open to outside help and involvement in the larger national society. An airstrip was opened in August/September, 1983.

CONCLUSION

The survey found that the people of Rampi are a single language group. Wordlists show a cognate word count of over 90% similarity among the seven villages visited. A Bada word count (to the north) is only 62% cognate (Salombe, Barr and Barr, 1979). Seko to the west is 38% cognate (Grimes and Grimes, to appear).

A single language program should meet the UNHAS-SIL goals for the area. Visits to the Rampi villages outside of the Rampi area

will be necessary to ascertain the extent of the program we should undertake.

References

Grimes, Charles and Barbara Grimes. Languages of South Sulawesi, to appear.

Salombe, C., Don Barr and Sharon Barr, 1979. Languages of Central Sulawesi, Hasanuddin University, Ujung Pandang.