

Melanau and Indonesian:

A comparative grammatical study

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Abstract

This thesis describes and compares the grammars of the Melanau language of Sarawak and Indonesian with regard to their phonology, morphophonemics, morphology, independent clauses, and relative clauses. The main purpose of the comparison is to use what is known about Indonesian to help highlight gaps in our knowledge of Melanau, so that they may be addressed by further research. In addition, it is hoped that this study may provide a basis for designing material for helping Melanau speakers to master their national language, Malay, which is very similar to the Indonesian used for comparison.

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