

ENGLISH - WASEMBO VOCABULARY

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The Wasembo language is spoken in five villages of the Markham Headwaters Census Division, Kaiapit Sub-province, Morobe Province. These villages are Gusap (pop. 48), Hinggia (101), Yankowan (135), Rampa (101), and Maraboi (91). The order in which the villages are named represents the order of the villages eastward from the Gusap aerodrome. The village of Gusap is about four hours' walk from the aerodrome and is located at 3,000 feet altitude. Each of the other villages represents a walk of an half-hour to one hour from the previous village.

The vocabulary given here were recorded on 31 October, 1973. McElhanon provided a list of vocabulary in the Kâte language which is commonly used by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea in its church and school programmes. For these Kâte vocabulary Sogum provided what he regarded as the Wasembo equivalents. The resulting list of vocabulary is regarded as having a high degree of accuracy. In the notation primary stress is indicated by the acute accent (´) and secondary stress by the grave accent (`). Primary stress is accompanied by the highest tone of the word. The symbol r represents an alveolar flap. This research was supported by the Papua New Guinea Research Fund of the Summer Institute of Linguistics.

The Wasembo language has been tentatively identified as an aberrant language of the Pihom Stock (Madang and Adelbert Range Sub-phylum in the Trans-New Guinea Phylum) located about 80 - 120 miles to the northwest in the Madang Province. Similarities also exist, however, with languages of the Rai Coast Stock of the same sub-phylum which are located thirty miles to the northeast. Any more definite statement will have to await further study.

<u>English</u>	<u>Wasembo</u>
<u>A</u>	
adze	k ^h arána
all	k ^h ūha
animal	bó
anus	hipá-
to appear	háih -
to approach	hénehe hé-
arm	omá-/óma-
arm pit	húngumugi-
ashes	itéme
to await someone	hína-

<u>B</u>	
back	pók ^h onà-
bad	mása
bamboo	nšhe/ék ^h e
banana	námbehe
bandicoot	itépa
belly	rége-
to bend down	k ^h ók ^h o-
betelnut	háfue
between	émekàra
big	píte/pitégo
bird	mónu
bird of paradise (lesser?)	yóhoma
to bite	ák ^h a-
black	nínira
blood	wák ^h up ^h è-
blossom	awéhe
to blow	húk ^h o-
blue	kingáye
blunt	kíma

<u>English</u>	<u>Wasembo</u>
bone	óna-
borer	hépera
boundary	p ^h ék ^h e
breadfruit	puk ^h áne
breast	ómu-
brother(elder)	ná-
brother(younger)	ók-
to build	yáe-
to bundle s.th.	bórop ^h è-
to burn	ró-
to bury it	bók ^h uà-

<u>C</u>	
cabbage	nangóra
calf	mihihe-
cassowary	námbingi
to carry on back	búhe-
to carry on neck	báre hé-
to carry on pole	náhuš-
centipede	háwirayo/káki
charcoal	húp ^h i
cheek	k ^h ók ^h orà-
chest	gébanè-
chicken	wáipo
childless	mísiku
chin	mágagè-
cliff	hágua
cloud	gobóre
club	hík ^h o
club house	k ^h áaro
cold	úmbugùra
to come	yó-

C (cont.)

to cook	ók ^h é-
corn	yámbuŋ garía
to count	ámok ^h à
to cry	áip ^h o-
to cut	hoká-

D

dam	gúnu
to be damp	búk ^h e hé-
to dance	ek ^h á-
dark	yangáapu
to dawn	ánga-
day before yesterday	akáaka
death adder	mónsiri/mónsil/ yanímu
to descend	ek ^h á-
to die	umé-
to dig	yáe-
dog	éha
door	k ^h ámiha
drum	wáŋgu
to dry	k ^h óhe-/kúngungè-
dust	máha
dust (on the ground)	kákumu

E

eagle	p ^h úŋgi
ear	εpóo-
earthquake	míhie
earthworm	hónongàri
to eat	iré-/í-(?)
at the edge	óma

egg	goráane
elbow	óma gómi
enemy	k ^h úp ^h e
to be enough	épa-
in the evening	hindáora
eye	éme-

F

faeces	hípa
to fall over	órorà
famine	ók ^h o
fat	hósi-
father	ipó-
finger	óma múŋge
finger nail	óma kékera-
to be finished	péwo-
fire	yóho/yóho/uráho
firefly	hongáhi
fireplace	úteme
firewood heap	k ^h ók ^h ore
to flare up	ómo-
flash (of lightning)	yapók ^h i
to flee	úrawò-
flesh	mihí-
floor	wámбора
fly (insect)	mámangàri
flying fox	múge/gábo
forest	gúa
friend	náe-
frog	húmuràe
fruit	númu-
to be full	mahó/hóne yó-

<u>G</u>				
garden	wó	knot (tree)	kúmi	
ginger	wáne	to know	epá-	
to go	wé-/wó-	<u>L</u>		
good	humáya	ladder	k ^h inánnga	
grass	ámuku	lake	gúnu	
grass (kunai)	hónoi	language	mógo/móko	
green	énamòra	to laugh	mákwo-/mákwo-	
ground (red)	máha	leaf	eméha	
ground (black)	nínira	leech	mírihi	
guard	hinamu	left	k ^h óri	
<u>H</u>		leg	guní-	
hair	káam-	to be light (in weight)	híp ^h up ^h u hé-	
head	píra-	to light a fire	ók ^h ok ^h à-	
to be here	k ^h á-	loincloth	warak ^h òi	
here	nó	long	gúngiwa	
to hiccup	k ^h ána name-	to be lost	árawò	
to hold	ó-/é-	louse	húmunge	
hornbill	waháwe/hahánnga/ wánguhára	<u>M</u>		
house	báha(e)/páhe	to make (of men)	yáe-	
house (temporary)	wángaha	to make (of woman)	hé-	
<u>I</u>		man	hámunge	
to couse someone to itch	úk ^h o-	mango	p ^h íp ^h uàya	
<u>J</u>		to meet together	hárae wò	
jew's harp	éya	molars	mák ^h io k ^h úku	
to jump, hop away	k ^h úhuyà-	moon	k ^h óombo	
<u>K</u>		in the morning	ímuhu yókomu	
knee	gábirá-	mother	imé-	
knife	p ^h ái	mountain	góno/kóno	
		mouth	móre	

N

name	.íbe
nape of neck	púmugà
navel	p ^h imúu-
neck	k ^h umó-
nettle	éya
new	pái
night	háringòni
no	náhoi
nose	k ^h ók ^h o-
not (in verbal constructions)	pé

O

old	k ^h íri
one	hárabòhe
to be open	áhe-
orphan	néngu

P

pandanus (red)	woíte bóngae
pandanus (yellow)	wamúgo
to pant	héhe k ^h ók ^h ehe-
part	p ^h íhe
pig	íhe
pigeon	néngi/ hík ^h ík ^h íri
to plant (yams)	yáe-
plenty	amíe
to plug a hole	k ^h ék ^h a-
post	amáge
to pull (bow)	hiná-
to pull	húngo-
to push	épere hé-
python	k ^h áruu

Q

to quake 3-

R

rain	hépe/sóno
rainbow	haráimo
rat	bóroi
raw	móra
red	bóngae
red ochre	ógo mánge
reward	kéme
right	hímbi
road	ímisi
roof (of pandanus leaves)	báreke
root	árigòí
round	munjúni
to put in a row	ému hára á-
to rub	hóro-

S

salt	k ^h ák ^h í
to say	gáo
to scratch it	ák ^h íri k ^h á-
seat	ánagè
seed	úmburine
to seize (with tongs)	nápapà
to send him	mák ^h a péke
to sew it	p ^h íp ^h íri yá
shadow	k ^h ók ^h ope
shoots of cane	k ^h ímbu nenáe
to shoot	rúma-
short	k ^h ómou
shoulder	up ^h í-

S (cont.)

<i>shoulder blade</i>	múnai gári
	bóori
<i>to shout</i>	gáowò-
<i>sister</i>	múk ^h unò-
<i>skin</i>	ápuk ^h à-
<i>skirt</i>	áok ^h o
<i>sky</i>	hángum
<i>to slant</i>	húkiki ná-
<i>to sleep</i>	isé-
<i>small</i>	ópo mása/béne
<i>smoke</i>	múa
<i>to smoke it</i>	k ^h ék ^h i hé-
<i>to be smooth</i>	k ^h éere hé-
<i>snake</i>	hóe
<i>soft</i>	ámbirou
<i>some</i>	gé
<i>song</i>	ák ^h e
<i>sorcery</i>	ípe
<i>to spear it</i>	sáwaripè-
<i>spittle</i>	mák ^h ipu-
<i>sprout</i>	hingine
<i>to stab</i>	pé-
<i>to stand</i>	yák ^h a-
<i>star</i>	hóngahi
<i>stick (digging)</i>	giha
<i>to stir</i>	héhie-/héhe-
<i>stomach</i>	ápanèo
<i>stone</i>	púhi
<i>straight</i>	hinae
<i>string bag</i>	gói/gúi
<i>strong</i>	bangiri
<i>to suck</i> (sugarcane)	hámunğò-

<i>sugarcane</i>	wáha
<i>sun</i>	humía
<i>support (yam)</i>	rámbo
<i>to support it</i>	hámagà-
<i>to sweep</i>	húro-
<i>sweet</i>	náhe
<i>sweet potato</i>	búrumu
<i>to swim</i>	múku-/ k ^h ámangũngu-

T

<i>tail</i>	gúne
<i>taro</i>	ópo
<i>to tear</i>	húk ^h o-
<i>tendon</i>	ánguàne-
<i>that</i>	káwega
<i>this</i>	káeno
<i>three</i>	opóno
<i>to throw</i>	nóke-/nóke-
<i>thumb</i>	óma mé-
<i>to thunder</i>	hángungu
<i>to tie</i>	óko-
<i>tobacco</i>	múa
<i>tomorrow</i>	nóimi
<i>tongue</i>	móremè-
<i>tooth</i>	mák ^h i-
<i>trap</i>	góhu
<i>tree</i>	úmo
<i>tree kangaroo</i>	káwi
<i>to turn it</i>	yámukère pà-
<i>to turn it around</i>	émane yó-
<i>two</i>	obóogi/ápogi

<u>U</u>		<u>Y</u>	
<i>upwards</i>	yáimu	<i>yam</i>	gároho
<i>urine</i>	k ^h ik ^h ʒ-	<i>mami (Tok Pisin)</i>	
		<i>yam</i>	héki
<u>V</u>		<i>yellow (ripe)</i>	háimbu
<i>varanus</i>	hopáne	<i>yellow / orange</i>	k ^h ániri
<i>village</i>	néngé	<i>yesterday</i>	képu
<i>to vomit</i>	p ^h áuka-		
<u>W</u>			
<i>waist</i>	k ^h ák ^h a-		
<i>wallaby</i>	k ^h áp ^h oro		
<i>warm</i>	úk ^h o/k ^h íwi		
<i>to wash</i>	gúk ^h a-		
<i>water</i>	sóno		
<i>water jug</i>	humék ^h e		
<i>wet</i>	sónok ^h òk ^h o/búk ^h u		
<i>what</i>	íno		
<i>where</i>	ínokéku		
<i>whiskers</i>	búbugi		
<i>white</i>	ák ^h aràro		
<i>who</i>	nígu		
<i>why</i>	ínage		
<i>wild</i>	gúa		
<i>wind</i>	ahói		
<i>wing</i>	upí-		
<i>woman</i>	háik ^h u		
<i>work</i>	wó		
<i>to wrap s.th.</i>	mak ^h ára-		