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State-of-the-art in the documentation of the Papuan languages of Timor, Alor, Pantar, and Kisar

A bibliography

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ABSTRACT

The Timor-Alor-Pantar (TAP) language family has a special place in South-East Asian linguistics; its members make up the western extreme of the Papuan language sphere. Along with an exhaustive bibliography of works on the TAP languages, this paper presents a state-of-the-art review of the ongoing documentation of the TAP language family in terms of both linguistic description and (pre-)historical reconstruction. The paper concludes with a consideration of the prospects for future studies of the TAP languages.

KEYWORDS

Documentation, Papuan languages, Timor, Alor, Pantar, Kisar.

1 INTRODUCTION¹

At the eastern end of the Minor Sundic Island chain, there is a small Papuan language family known as the Timor-Alor-Pantar (TAP) family (Map 1). TAP

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