

#### 4.4.1. Austronesian languages: Madang Province

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##### 4.4.1.0. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

The Madang Province is located at the central north coast of the New Guinea mainland. The aim of this paper is to briefly describe the Austronesian languages within this province. Sixteen Austronesian languages are found within the Madang Province, all of them near coastal areas except Ham which is located inland, east of the Gogol River, and Mari (Hop) situated in the Upper Ramu Valley next to the border of the Morobe Province. Mari (Hop), which links with the Azera language family in the Markham Valley (Morobe Province), will be excluded from the remainder of this study. For the history of research of the same area see 4.2.3. in this volume.

In 4.4.1.1., a tentative classification into families and sub-families is given. The classification is entirely based on the author's work periods from January 1967 to March 1968 and from January 1971 to November 1973, while working on a linguistic survey of the Madang Province. His method of collecting vocabulary has been described in Z'graggen 1971b. The division into languages and dialects is based on the informants' opinion and on a partial inspection of the material. This paper was prepared shortly after the author's last fieldwork period and at that time it had not yet been possible to compare systematically all of the approximately 300 items collected and count their common vocabulary by a computer. However, sixty words were compared by the inspection method, and the tentative series of cognates tabulated. From this, the tentative classification presented in 4.4.1.1. emerged. In 4.4.1.2. and 4.4.1.3., the free pronouns and a comparative wordlist of nineteen items are given and their phonetic differences briefly discussed. A cognate series will be marked by a number, variations with similar phonetic shape will be marked by a letter following the

numbers. The nineteen-item wordlist was selected because of its comparability with other sources. The items will be compared with G. Grace's *Proto-Oceanic Finder List* (Grace 1969) and, where it is of interest, also with O. Dempwolff's *Proto-Austronesian forms* (Dempwolff 1925-26).

The following abbreviations have been used in this study:

- POC Proto-Oceanic from Grace 1969
- D Dempwolff
- x unexplained elements
- R residue
- # overlap into the neighbouring province

#### 4.4.1.1. TENTATIVE CLASSIFICATION

##### 4.4.1.1.1. THE MESEMAN LANGUAGES

The Meseman languages (Manam-Sepa-Medebur) are located in the westernmost section of the Madang Province and link with the Austronesian language groups in the Sepik Province (Laycock 1973) (see also Laycock's contribution in 4.4.8.). This group migrated from west to east and in this migration occupied Manam Island. Two groups split up, probably because of internal trouble: the Sepa-Manam went to the area of the Bogia Station and the Medebur further east to near Ulingan Harbour. Informants insisted on there being a difference among these three languages which is also supported by some differences in their vocabulary.

##### 4.4.1.1.2. THE SIASSI FAMILY

The Austronesian languages in the central and eastern part of the Madang Province are part of the Siassi language family which extends into the Morobe Province (see Hooley's contribution in 4.4.4. in this volume). Hooley (1971) links only Gedaged with this group. This group migrated from east to west, settled down in some coastal areas in the Saidor District and on the islands around Madang town, occupied Bagabag Island and the southern half of Karkar Island and got as far as Megiar-Serang. The Ham group was pushed away from the sea and settled inland east of the Gogol River.

For the Madang Province area, three subgroups can be distinguished: the Belan, Astrolaban and Vitiazan Sub-Families.

##### 4.4.1.1.2.1. The Belan Sub-Family

consists of the Gedaged, Bilbil, Takia, Megiar, Matukar and Ham languages. The division into languages is based on the informants' opinion, but is also supported by some

differences in their vocabulary and structure (see also Dempwolff 1925-26:1) Gedaged, for instance, is characterised by the voiceless [j]. Informants also distinguished four dialects within Gedaged: Kranket, Siar, Riwo and Sek. At the same time, Belan appears to constitute a communalect chain and all its members retain close social ties.

**4.4.1.1.2.2. The Astrolaban Sub-Family** - named after Astrolabe Bay - with Mindiri, Biliau and Wab as its members, is of a rather heterogeneous nature and has only very tentatively been grouped as a sub-family. Ham is geographically and socially isolated from the remainder of the Austronesian speaking area, but there are some lexical grounds for grouping it with the Astrolaban Sub-Family. Biliau is also referred to as Swit or Sengam ('what') and Wab as Som ('what'). Villages speaking Mindiri, Biliau and Wab are all in near-coastal areas in the Saidor District.

**4.4.1.1.2.3. The Vitiazan Sub-Family** - named after Vitiaz Strait between Umboi Island and the New Guinea mainland - extends east of the Nankina River into the Morobe Province (Hooley 1971). Arop is spoken on Long Island and in parts of the Mur and Sel villages on the mainland. Roindji is spoken in Roindji (population 83) in the Morobe Province and Gali (population 113) in the Madang Province.

#### 4.4.1.1.3. NOTE ON STRUCTURE

In the Meseman, Belan and Astrolaban languages the object is preposed to the verb, whereas in the Vitiazan languages in the Madang Province the object is postposed to the verb.

#### 4.4.1.1.4. LANGUAGE LIST

The languages, with the numbers of speakers, can be listed as follows:

Meseman	6,647	X8	Matukar	219
X1 Manam	5,950	X9	Ham	1,495
X2 Sepa	268	Astrolaban Sub-Family		857
X3 Medebur	429	X10	Mindiri	93
Siassi Family <sup>+</sup>		X11	Biliau	622
Belan Sub-Family		X12	Wab	142
X4 Gedaged	2,764	†Vitiazan Sub-Family		
X5 Bilbil	700	X13	Arop	966
X6 Takia	10,962	X14	Malalamai	341
X7 Megiar	859	X15	Roindji	196

<sup>+</sup>For language groups extending into the Morobe Province, no reliable population figures could be obtained.

## 4.4.1.2. THE FREE PERSONAL PRONOUNS

## 4.4.1.2.1. TABLE A: PRONOUNS

Language	<i>I</i>	<i>thou</i>	<i>he</i>	<i>we</i> excl.	<i>we</i> incl.	<i>ye</i>	<i>they</i>	
Manam	ŋau	la	kaiko	lb	ŋai 2	keka R	kita la	kam la di lb
Sepa	ŋa	lb	ki:ko	lb	ai 2	ka:mi	la	kamu la ndia lx
Medebur	ŋa	lb	kai	lb	an i R	kam	la ki lb	kom la adi lc
Gedaged	ŋa	lb	o	2b	i lb	am	lc id	lc aŋ 2b i: ld
Bilbil	ŋa	lb	o	2b	i lb	am	lc id	lc aŋ 2b i: ld
Takia	ŋai	lc	oŋ	2a	iŋ lx	maŋ	lb id	lc aŋ 2b iŋ 2
Megiar	ŋai	lc	oŋ	2b	i lb	ŋa:m	lb id	lc aŋ 2b di lb
Matukar	ŋau	ld	oŋ	2b	i lb	ŋam	lb id	lc aŋ 2b di lb
Ham	aya	lx	ð:	2b	i: lb	ama	lc ada	lx aŋ 2b iði lc
Mindiri	ŋa	lb	kuo	la	n i R	kamin	lx ninde	lx kaŋ 2a ndi lb
Biliau	nam	lx	wun	R	i:n lx	mam	R id	lc a:n 2c in 2
Wab	ne	lb	ɔ	2b	i lb	me	ld εr	lc a 2d iðε lc
Arop	au	la	oŋ	2a	ya la	am	lc id	ld aŋ 2b di lb
Malalamai	you	R	yu	R	i: lb	yei	R ita	ld yam R itizi la
Roindji	ŋa	lb	oŋ	2a	i lb	am	lc aro	ld aŋ 2b di lb
POC (Grace)	*au		*koe		*ia	*kami		*kamu *sida
PAN (Dempwolff)	*aku				*i ja			*tida
						*kinta		
						*kita		

## 4.4.1.2.2. COMMENTS ON THE PRONOUNS

Pronoun	Series	Cognate	Comments
1. <i>I</i>	Grace	*au	
	Dempwolff	*aku	
	la	au	
	lb	ŋau	ŋ- added
	lc	ŋa	-u → Ø
		ŋai	-u → -i
		nam	
	lx	ne	
	R	aya	
		you	
2. <i>thou</i>	Grace	*koe	
	la	kuo	
	lb	kaiko	reduplication
		kiko	
		kai	
	2a	oŋ	
	2b	ð	-ŋ → Ø
		o	
	R	wun	
		yu	
3. <i>he</i>	Grace	*ia	
	Dempwolff	*ija	
	la	ya	
	lb	i	-a → Ø
	lx	in	
		in	
		ni	
	2	ŋai	
		ai	
	R	ani	
4. <i>we excl.</i>	Grace	*kami	
	la	kami	
		kam	
	lb	ŋam	k- → ŋ-, i- → Ø
		maŋ	ŋ- ≠ -m
	lc	am	
		ama	
	lx	kamin	
	R	keka	
		yei	

Pronoun	Series	Cognate	Comments
5. <i>we</i> incl.	Grace	*kinta	
	Dempwolff	*kita	
	la	kita	
	lb	ki	-ta → Ø
	lc	id	k- → Ø, -t → -d, -a → Ø
	ld	ita	k- → Ø
		iðə	-t- → -d-
	lx	ada	
		aro	
		ninde	
6. <i>ye</i>	Grace	*kamu	
	la	kamu	
		kam	-u → Ø
	2a	kəŋ	
	2b	aŋ	k- → Ø
	2c	an	k- → Ø, -ŋ → -n
	2d	a	only -a retained
7. <i>they</i>	.R	yam	
	Grace	*sida	
	Dempwolff	*tida	
	la	itizi	
	lb	di	s- → d-, -da → Ø
	lc	iðə	s- → Ø
	ld	i-	only -i- retained
	lx	ndia	
	2	iŋ	
		in	

## 4.4.1.3. A COMPARATIVE WORDLIST

## 4.4.1.3.1. TABLE B: MADANG AUSTRONESIAN WORDLIST

Language	1. man	2. woman	3. head	4. ear	5. eye	6. nose	7. tongue	8. arm	9. bone
Manam	tamoata	la	aine	lc	sema	R	kungi	2b	mata la
Sepa	tamoto	la	waine	lc	kapora	R	taliŋa	la	ma:t la
Medebur	tomat	lc	weidik	R	kotoŋa	lx	tiliŋa	la	mata la
Gedaged	tamol	lb	pain	lb	gate	la	taliŋa	la	mala lb
Bilbil	tomol	lb	pain	lb	gate	la	tiniŋa	la	mala lb
Takia	tamol	lb	pain	lb	gurma	lx	kukudo	2a	mala lb
Meglar	tamot	lc	pain	lb	kimelou	R	kododo	2a	ŋudu
Matukar	tamat	lc	pain	lb	garma	lx	kudude	2a	mata la
Ham	tamo	ld	kayau	R	muduro	R	wedere	R	nido
Mindiri	koi	R	pen	la	kusa	la	tolŋa	lb	uyu
Biliau	tamol	lb	pen	la	təbana	2	talŋa	la	mulo lx
Wab	tamol	lb	pain	lb	tabɔn	2	talŋe	lb	uyu
Arop	tamoto	la	garup	R	kuto	la	mala lb	mal lb	bal
Malalamai	ŋelo	R	liwa	R	dawa	2	taliŋa	la	uyo
Roindji	limu	lx	pain	lb	duga	lx	teleŋa	la	ku
POC	*tanŋmata (tamole)	*pine	*qulu	*taliŋa	*mata	*isu(ŋ)	*me(a)	*lima	*tu(dr)(i) *(t)ulan D

TABLE 8 (cont'd)

Language	10. bird	11. banana	12. tree	13. fire	14. moon	15. sun	16. sleep, lie down	17. die	18. give	19. eat
Manam	maŋ	lb	udi	lb	kai la	ewa la	kalea 2c	amari 2	eno la	mate la
Sepa	manu	la	undu	lb	kai la	ewa la	kalewa 2c	ŋamali 2	eno la	mate la
Medebur	nəpa	R	ud	lb	ka lb	yo lx	lam 2b	uyem R	əŋ lb	mat lb
Gedaged	ma	lc	fud	lc	ya ld	ya lb	fulei la	ad lc	en lb	mat lb
Bilbil	daruk	R	hundi	la	ai lc	ya lb	hulew la	ad lc	ən lb	mat lb
Takia	anakanak	R	fud	lc	ai lc	yai lc	kalam 2a	ad lc	ən lo	mat lb
Megiar	karu	R	fud	lc	ai lc	yai lc	kalam 2a	abəŋ R	ən lb	mat lb
Matukar	mam	lx	fud	lc	ai lc	yau lb	kalam 2a	sa:bi R	ən lb	ma:t lb
Ham	nina	R	udi	lb	ai lc	ya lb	ogon R	ga lb	ən lb	la:pə R
Mindiri	ma	lc	funda	la	ka ld	ya lb	file la	kanda la	kien lc	mat lb
Biliau	man	lb	aniŋ 2	ai	lc	yau lb	tabud 3	aad R	ən lb	mat lb
Wab	man	lb	aniŋ 2	ai	lc	yab lb	dabui 3	lu:n R	ain lx	met lb
Arop	man	lb	pur	ld	kai la	ei lx	taudu 3	ke lb	kien lc	mat lb
Malalamai	man	lb	pundi	la	yei lx	yap lb	ayon R	wa:zo R	geno lc	mate la
Roindji	maŋ	lb	saula	R	kai la	yap lb	ambok R	kazab R	kina lc	mati la
POC	*manu(k)	*puti	*kai	*api	*pulan	*qanso	*eno	*mate	--	*kani

## 4.4.1.3.2. COMMENTS ON THE COMPARATIVE WORDLIST

Word	Series	Cognate	Comments
1. <i>man</i>	Grace	*tagmata (tamole)	-ŋm- → -m-
		ta tamota	-a- → -o-
	lb	tamota	
		tamol	-ta → lØ (or tamole)
	lc	tamot	-a → Ø
		tamo	-ta → Ø
	lx	limu	
	R	koi	
		ŋelo	
2. <i>woman</i>	Grace	*pine	
		pən	-i- → -e-, -e → Ø
	lb	pain	-i- → -ai, -e → Ø
		waine	p- → w or Ø, -i- → -ai-
	lc	aine	
		weidik	
	R	garup	
		liwa	
3. <i>head</i>	Grace	*qulu	
		gate	q- → g-, -l- → -t-, change
	la	kuto	of vowels
		kotona	
	lx	duga	
		gurma	
	2	tabon	
		dawa	-n → Ø
4. <i>ear</i>	Grace	*talinga	
		talinga	
	la	tinila	-l- → -ŋ-
		talga	-i- ≠ Ø
	lb	kukudo	
		kunji	-k- → -ŋ-, -do → Ø
	R	wedere	

Word	Series	Cognate	Comments
5. <i>eye</i>	Grace	*mata	
	la	mata	
		mat	-a + Ø
	lb	mala	-t- + -l- or -r-
		mara	
	lx	mulo	change of vowels
6. <i>nose</i>	Grace	*isu(ŋ)	
	la	izu	-s- + -z-
		uyu	-s- + -y-, i- + u-
	lb	ŋudu	-s- + -d-, ŋ- or n- added
		nudu	
	lc	wi	
	lx	kadu	
		lu	
	R	mogarunga	
		ŋgaŋa	
		kamu	
7. <i>tongue</i>	Grace	*(a)me(a)	
	1	meme	m- added
		me	
		ama	
	2	bale	
		bal	
	2x	mole	vowels differ
8. <i>arm</i>	Grace	*lima	
	la	lima	
	lb	nima	l- + n- or d- or ŋ-
		dima	
		ŋama	
	lc	ima	remnants
		ma	
		im	
	lx	tuwo	
		dəbu	

Word	Series	Cognate	Comments
9. <i>bone</i>	Grace	*tu(dr)(i)	
	Dempwolff	*(t)ulaŋ	
	la	tua	-l- → Ø
		tuatua	reduplication
	lb	tutu	-l- → -t-
		tatu	
		tura	
	lx	dog	
		tuŋatu	
		tuw	
	R	tapo	
		pakon	
10. <i>bird</i>	Grace	*manu(k)	
	la	manu	
	lb	man	-nu → -n or -ŋ
		maŋ	
	lc	ma	-nu → Ø
	R	nepa	
		daruk	
		anakanak	
		karu	
		nina	
11. <i>banana</i>	Grace	*puti	
	la	hundi	p- → h- or f- or p-,
		funda	-t- → -nd-
		pundi	
	lb	udi	p- → Ø, -t- → -d- or -nd-
		undu	
		ud	
	lc	fud	p- → f-, -ti → -d
	ld	pur	-ti → rØ
	2	anŋ	
	R	saula	
12. <i>tree</i>	Grace	*kai	
	la	kai	
	lb	ka	-i → Ø
	lc	ai	k- → Ø
	ld	ya	k- → Ø, metathesis
	lx	yei	

Word	Series	Cognate	Comments
13. <i>fire</i>	Grace	*api	
	la	εwa	-p- → -w-
	lb	yə	y- added, -p- → -u- or -p-,
		yau	-i → Ø
		yap	
	lc	yai	y- added, -p- → Ø
	lx	yo	
		e i	
14. <i>moon</i>	Grace	*pulan	
	la	file	p- → f- or h-, -n → Ø or
		fulei	-i or -w
		hulew	
	2a	kalam	
	2b	lam	ka- → Ø
	2c	kalewa	-m → wa or -a
		kalea	
	3	tabud	
		tabu	-d → Ø
	3x	taudu	
	R	ogon	
		ayon	
		ambok	
15. <i>sun</i>	Grace	*qansu	
	la	kanda	q- → k-, -ns- → -nd-
	lb	ad	remnants
		ka	
	lx	kasab	
	2	ŋamali	
		amari	
	R	uyem	
		aban	
		sabi	
		luŋ	
		wa:zo	

Word	Series	Cognate	Comments
16. <i>sleep, lie down</i>	Grace	*əno	
	la	əno	
	lb	ən	-n- → -ŋ, o → Ø
		əŋ	additional kε- element
	lc	kien	
		kina	
		gəno	
	lx	aɪn	
17. <i>die</i>	Grace	*mate	-e → Ø
	la	mate	
	lb	mat	
	R	la:pɛ	
18. <i>give</i>	--		
	la	pən	
		wan	p- → w-
	lb	ən	p- → Ø
	2	kap	
19. <i>eat</i>	Grace	*kani	-ni- → nØ
	la	kani	
		kaŋ	
	lb	an i	k- → Ø
	lc	aŋ	k- → Ø, -ni → Ø
	R	ɔ	

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