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**Journal of the Linguistic Society of Papua
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and Creoles in Melanesia**

Language and Linguistics in Melanesia (formerly Kivung) is published by the Linguistic Society of Papua New Guinea and the Society on Pidgins and Creoles in Melanesia. It is published twice a year.

Actually, **Language and Linguistics in Melanesia** covers the linguistic situation in Melanesia, where one fourth of the world's languages are spoken, as symbolised by the cover design.

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**Papers from 6ICAL
on Languages from Papua New Guinea**

edited by David M. Snyder and John M. Clifton

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the directional system which involves ten locative words and six directional postclitics, corresponding to six directional (motion) verb roots. Thus, there are sixty possible combinations of locative word plus postclitic.

Howard Sheldon explains the Galela pronominal verb prefixes (which include a 4th person and a hierarchy of animacy) and their clause-level conditioning factors. Intransitive verbs display the same prefixes as those which agree with the subject of transitive verbs; while stative verbs take those prefixes which agree with the object of transitive verbs.

The Blagar language of Dolop (islands close to the north coast of Timor) is the subject of Steinhauer's excellent summary, which concentrates on the 44 demonstrative forms in 9 functionally distinct series, but provides much additional information on the language. The exposition is a model of clarity-with-detail, and includes a good representative text with detailed annotations.

F S Watuseke, an Indonesian linguist, has contributed a neat sketch of the Ternate language (spoken in the North Moluccas), translated with a brief introduction and some supplementary data by CL Voorhoeve. As with all the papers in this volume, the descriptive generalisations are richly illustrated.

Linda Jones' 'Question words in Yawa' (stock level isolate in the Geelvink Bay phylum and spoken on Yapen Island north of Irian Jaya) concentrates on the particular variations that are possible in information

(as opposed to polarity and alternative) questions. Factors affecting these questions include gender and number, syntactic position/topicalisation, time reference (unmarked/past/future), and number and person agreement.

Two papers are devoted to phonological analysis. Brown's 'Quantitative phonology of Mai Brat' (Central Bird's Head family of the West Papuan phylum) is based on a survey of 24,000 words of text. It analyses a language with 8 surface syllable types (including CCV, CCVC, CCCV, and CCCVC) as having just 4 underlying syllables (V, CV, VC, CVC) within the Clements/Keyser 'CV framework'. There are also interesting counts and percentages based on the large text base. Fields describes the phonology of Orya (Tor-Lake Plain stock, and spoken in Irian Jaya), including word-stress and sentence intonations.

The book contains much valuable material and is a credit to the editor, contributors, and the series; it is highly recommended.

Received 6 February 1992

Editor's Page

This is the first thematic issue of *Language and Linguistics in Melanesia*. Five of the articles and two of the squibs in this issue were presented at 6ICAL in Honolulu in May 1991. The articles by Cooper, Ross, Snyder, and Tauberschmidt and Bala, as well as the squibs by Anderson and Lithgow, were presented at the Symposium on the Papuan Tip Cluster, held 24 May, 1991. The article by Erdman was presented separately on the 23rd. Between these articles, I believe we have a complete record of all the papers presented at 6ICAL dealing with languages spoken in Papua New Guinea.

The sixth article, by Lithgow, also deals with languages in the Papuan Tip cluster. The majority of this article is a straightforward presentation of comparative grammatical data for 14 language/dialect groups in the cluster. The theoretical implications of this data is shown by the use made of it in Ross' article in this issue. I trust *LLM* can continue to provide a forum for data-rich articles such as this.

The final squib, by Dutton and Ross, also deals with Austronesian languages. In this case Dutton and Ross investigate the nature of an apparent trade language reportedly used in New Britain at the turn of the century. The only data they have to analyse are five sentences recorded in 1915-16. The squib is fascinating, and once again highlights the importance of recording what we can of the languages of Melanesia.

I would like to express my thanks to David Snyder, who did the lion's share of the work in editing the manuscripts for this issue, as well as the many others referees who evaluated and made recommendations on the various papers. Without all of them, this issue would not have made it to the printers.

This will not be the last thematic issue of *LLM*. Just last month, September 1992, the Third International Conference on Papuan Linguistics was held in Madang, Papua New Guinea. The decision was made at that meeting to publish as many of the papers from that conference as possible in *LLM*. Hopefully, the first installation of those papers will appear next April.

As always, *LLM* remains open for squibs or comments on any of the articles appearing in this or previous issues of *LLM*, as well as for full articles. I trust *LLM* will continue to serve the interests of linguistics in Melanesia.

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The journal focuses on data-oriented articles with theoretical implications. In addition, it is open for reactions or replies to recent papers, squibs (brief notes or observations regarding natural language phenomena), letters to the editors, and book reviews.

All correspondence for the reviews section should be addressed to John Roberts; all other editorial correspondence should be addressed to John Clifton. All manuscripts should be submitted in three copies, and should be typed fully double-spaced in a font not smaller than 12 point (10 characters per inch), single-sided. The title, but not the author's name, should appear on the first page. The author's name should not appear on any following pages in any way that might identify the author as such. The title, author's name, author's affiliation, and full mailing address(es) should appear on a separate sheet of paper. In case there is more than one author, an indication should be made as to the author responsible for proofreading.

Six copies of each article published are provided free of charge.

Forthcoming Articles

Kirikiri and the Western Lake Plains Languages: Selected Phonological Phenomena -
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Grammar as Interaction between (Empty) Automated Structures and Speaker's
(Semantic Clarifications - Volker Heeschen

Language Convergence or Divergence: An Examination of Data from the Apali
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Kewapi Verbal Morphology and Semantics - Apoi Yaraepa

and other papers from the Third International Conference on Papuan Linguistics

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