

S E C T I O N T E N

LANGUAGES OF CAPE YORK

A. DJIRBALIC-YALANGIC LANGUAGES OF SOUTH-EASTERN CAPE YORK

Five groups are discussed in this section - all originally classified by O'Grady et al as Pama-Maric Subgroups. They are (with the O'Grady classification and 'RLS' number in brackets): Njawigic, Djirbalic (both Yara, 101), Yidinic (Atherton Pama, 102), Yalangic (Eastern Pama, 103) and Lamalamic (Bay Pama, 104). There are obvious phonological and grammatical links between the first four (all located within the Rain Forest area), but the Lamalamic Group has aberrant features which link it with Central and Northern Paman. Its classification is still a matter of conjecture but at present it is considered sufficiently different to be classified as a separate group not a Paman Subgroup. It is included here for convenience because of its geographical position.

Wurm (1970) tentatively also included with the above, the Mbabaramic Group following the Djirbalic Group, but it has been tentatively reassigned to the Southern Pama Subgroup on the preliminary investigations of Sutton.

105*. A. NJAWIGIC GROUP (originally Yara Subgroup)
 (Coastal area round Townsville)

Wurm, Dixon, Sutton consider the Yara Subgroup is not part of the Pama-Maric Group but its languages belong to the Njawigic and Djirbalic Groups.

The Njawigic Group consists of two coastal languages on this classification, though the second one is only tentatively suggested by Wurm and its two dialects by Sutton. The area occupied is around Townsville south to Bowen and north to Herbert River. The languages are *Njawigi* (only 20% common vocabulary with *Djirbal*) and *Wulgurugaba-Yuru-Bindal*.

105.1* Njawigi * South-west of Herbert Y93 (AIAS Y129)
 (101a) River, principally on
 high ranges (AC)

Nawagi (AC, orig. AIAS, O'G, 'RLS'), *Negegi* (T),
Nyawigi (SAW, RMD), *Njawigi* (AIAS)

Dixon has collected salvage amounts (several hundred words). A few partial speakers remain but possibly little more can be obtained from them.

'man' : *djinga* (RMD); *dinga* (T)

105.2a* Wulgurugaba **** Palm & Magnetic Y134 (AIAS Y135)
(100.3d) Islands & for c.20
(43Yr.) miles round Towns-
ville (AC)

Wulgurugaba (AC, PS, AIAS), *Wulgurukaba* (T, SAW, O'G, 'RLS'), *Wulguru* (PS), *Mun-ba-rah* (Gribble),: tribal names speaking different dialects (from PS): *Manbara* (*Manbarra*), *Buluguyban*, *Nhawalgaba* (Townsville tribal name)

Originally listed with Mari languages. Dixon, working mainly on Tindale's list says it shares c. 50% common vocabulary with *Njawigi*. Sutton recorded some in 1970. He mentions six who know something in two dialects. Hence salvageable amounts may still be possible.

'man' : *ilgora* (*Manbara*); *ngunbar* (*Nhawalgaba*) (PS);
il'gu:ra (T)

105.2b* Yuru Mouth of Burdekin River E48 (AIAS E62)
(AC)

Juru (T, O'G, 'RLS', AC, orig. AIAS), *Yuru* (AIAS)

Sutton thinks this dialect probably belongs here. It is presumed extinct.

105.2c* Bindal Burdekin River to Cape E9 (AIAS E61)
Cleveland to Leichhardt
Range (AC)

Bindal (T, O'G, 'RLS'), *Bindel* (AC, orig. AIAS)

Sutton also places this dialect with *Njawigi*. Presumed extinct.