

However von Brandenstein has demonstrated that structurally they are an 'Intermediate' group, being basically accusative languages like the coastal group, but also having ergative suffixes like Western Desert languages, (AVC with PVC intrusions). Included in this subgroup also is *Janadjina* ('RLS' 10Wr.) and *Ngaala-warngga* (South *Bandjima*), originally classified as a Wati Subgroup dialect.

Phonetically these dialects are similar to the other Ngayarda Subgroup languages, but structurally some North-West dialects such as *Njamal* have undergone loss of apical-laminal contrast in initial position in contrast to the so called Wati Subgroup dialects (Western Desert proper) where consonants of these types still stand in contrast in this position. *Bandjima* retains 6 stop-nasal contrasts.

von Brandenstein has made major study of this subgroup also, particularly of *Bandjima*.

50A.1a* Njamal North boundary, the A29 (AIAS A58)
central reaches of
Oakover River, Marble
Bar, south to Nullagine
area (from von B's map).
On Shaw and Coongan
Rivers (Science of Man)

Gnamo (Clement), *Namal* (Brown), *Nja:mal* (T), *Njamal* (AC, Connelly, von B, AIAS), *Nyamal* (O'G, 'RLS', SAW), *Nyamel* (DB), *Nyamarl* (SAW)

Njamal has 58% cognate over-lap with *Njijabali*, but only 31% with *Yulbaridja* and 25% with *Warnman* (Wati dialects). It also has several structural differences from Wati dialects (see above). von Brandenstein has recorded stories and songs and done a general survey of the main dialect. O'Grady has also worked on this dialect (See 'Proto-Nyagarda Phonology', *Oceanic Linguistics*, 1966). About 100 speakers remain today living mostly at Marble Bar, cattle stations to the north of it and at Port Hedland.

50A.1b* Widagari South of the Oakover River A39 (AIAS A60)
(50.2b)

Widagari (AC, T, SAW, AIAS, Brown), *widugari* (O'G, SAW, 'RLS'), *wirdakarri* (von B), *Weedookarry* (Barlee)

Studied by von Brandenstein and described by him as 'light' *Njamal*, being almost identical with it. Number of speakers unknown.

- 50A.1c* Bundjuwanga Area encompassing headwaters of Turner, Shaw and Coongan Rivers (from von B's map)

Bundjuwanga (AIAS), *Pundju-warngga* (von B), also *Warngga-pundju* (von B)

Studied by von Brandenstein and termed 'heavy' *Njamal*. Number of speakers unknown.

- 50A.2a* Bandjima Area bounded in south by lower reaches of Ashburton River, in west by Rocklea Station, in east by Weediwooli Creek and in north, north of Hammersley Range (von B's map) A3 (AIAS A53)

Bandjima (AC, AIAS), *Pandjima* (T, SAW, O'G, 'RLS', von B).

Subgroups: *Dugar* (N-E), *Milyaranba* (SW) (O'G) Surveyed by von Brandenstein. Speakers today are to be found at Onslow, Roebourne, and cattle stations to the south of the Fortescue River. *Bandjima* speakers once used *Padupadu* respect 'in-law' speech (see under *Jindjibarndi*). *Bandjima* together with *Jindjibarndi* has become the lingua franca of the central Pilbara area, centered at Onslow and Roebourne (von B). There are approximately 100 speakers.

- 50A.2b* North Bandjima* Area north of Wittenoom Station and for some distance across the Fortescue River (from von B's map)

One of the two *Bandjima* dialects.