F. WAKA-KABIC GROUP

(South eastern Queensland)

Holmer's extensive field work in south eastern Queensland (1970-73) has aimed at salvaging all vernacular that remains in this area and linking his study to the similar one in which he was previously engaged in northern New South Wales on which his study of Gadhang and Dhanggadi was based. This section has been difficult to re-assess because Holmer's preliminary findings appear to question the present classification. He divides the dialects into two groups, western (comprising Waka-Waka, Wuli-Wuli and Barranggam) and eastern (comprising Goreng-Goreng, Goeng-Goeng, Badjala and Gabi-Gabi). Wurm's 1970 classification has been used as the basis of the present classification as, where there is no new evidence, the old classification has been accepted. But the above changes as suggested by Holmer have been agreed upon, and also the deletion of Geinjan and Jagara (also deleted by SAW), and Wadja and Gangulu (now generally agreed belong to Mari languages).

Waka-Waka phonemes (20) distinguish five linear stopnasal phonemes (retroflexed and alveopalatal, along with the basic three), and *1, *r, *w, *R, and *y, and there are five vowels plus length ('AL').

94.

94-96.

a. Miyan Subgroup

Wurm says this subgroup is characterized by extreme freedom of word order typical of many Australian languages. Non-phonemic gemination of stops and nasals is also a prominent feature.

[94.la Geinjan See 'RLS'

D14 (AIAS D36)

Geinjan (AC, AIAS), Keinjan (O'G, 'RLS')

Deleted from classification by Wurm.]

94.la* Dungidjau

E19 (AIAS E20)

Dungidjau (AC, AIAS, SAW, O'G, 'RLS'), Dungidau (Winterbottam)