41c*. Murinjdimin
Means 'gravnel language' (Walsh)
The second Murinjbaa dialect. (Walsh)

41A*. XXI. DJAMINDJUNGAN FAMILY

The Djamindjungan Family belongs to the northern
prefixing languages and has both classifying and non-classify-
ing dialects. Phonologically the dialects differ a little
though they all have a basic Common Australian structure with
stop-nasal contrast at bilabial, alveolar, alveopalatal and
velar points of articulation, three vowels, CV, CVC, CVCC
syllable patterns and stress tending to occur word initially.

There are probably only three dialects, Djamindjung,
Ngaliwuru and Nungali (see comments on Yilngali below).
Djamindjung and Ngaliwuru are non-classifying.

In recent years members of the New England University
(Hoddinott, Cleverly, Bolt and Kofod) have been working on
these dialects.

41A.1 Djamindjung Originally between N18 (AIAS N18)
Fitzmaurice and Victoria Rivers (WGH)

Djamadjong (?), Djamundon (?), Djanunjun (Robinson),
Djamindjung (AIAS), Dyamindyung (WGH), Jamindjung (?),
Nuringyuwen (?), Tjamindjung (?), Tjaminjun

Cleverly's 1966-67 study has been extended somewhat
in a paper "Pronominalization in Djamindjung" by
Bolt, Cleverly, Hoddinott, (1967). Phonologically
Djamindjung differs from the other dialects in that it
has an interdental stop and only one 'l' phoneme. It
also has other significant differences in grammar and
vocabulary. Both Djamindjung and Ngaliwuru are non-
classifying languages. In 1934-5 Stanner estimated
the tribe to be about 200, mostly on cattle stations
south and west of Victoria River. But it is estimated
that now only about 30 remain, 3 at Port Keats, 3 at
Bulloo River and 5-7 at each of the following: Legune,
Auvergne, Carlton cattle stations, and at Kununurra
and one at Timber Creek. Stanner has done a little work on Djamindjung and Walsh has collected vocabulary, grammar and songs.

41A.2 Yilngali
Below Victoria River to
Buffalo Springs in
Legune area (Hoddinott)

Probably not a separate group. There is a tribal group called Jilngali in the above area but this is possibly a Gadjerong name for the Djamindjung tribe. Hoddinott's Jilngali is substantially the same as Djamindjung. Capell estimated a 52% cognate count with Djamindjung, but Cleverly said Capell's Jilngali was all either Djamindjung or Ngaliwuru. Cleverly also doubted whether it existed as a separate language.

41A.3* Ngaliwuru
Junction of Wickham and Victoria Rivers, N.T. (not as in 'RLS') (WGH)

Ngaliwerra

A typescript 'Elementary Grammar of Ngaliwuru Language of the Northern Territory' by Bolt, Hoddinott, Kofod, 1971, covers basic grammatical material and a 500+ word vocabulary. It is closely related to Djamindjung, being also non-classifying, but unlike Djamindjung, it has both an alveolar and alveopalatal 'l' phoneme. Like Djamindjung it is an ergative language with auxiliary-type verbs like Ngarinjin and Bardi. Tribal members are now found from Fitzroy Station (30 speakers) to the Ord River irrigation scheme at Kununurra - an estimated 200 - 300 speakers. It is spoken widely throughout the area as speakers of Ngarinman (59.5) and Wadaman are also fluent in Ngaliwuru.

'man': dyumbul