

11.2b* Muralidban * West side of Liverpool River, from
mouth to junction with the Mann River.

Muralidban (AC, SAW, O'G, 'RLS', AIAS)

A closely related dialect to *Gunbalang*, classified here by Wurm. It is multiple-classifying.

11.3a* Dangbon / Dalabon ** Bulman Gorge N16 (AIAS N60)
- (11.2; & Wilton River
13b) stretching south
a little beyond
Mainoru Station, &
west to Liverpool
and East Alligator
Rivers (Wood)

Dangbon (AC, APE, Harris, AIAS), *Gundangbon* (O'G, 'RLS'); *Dalabon* (AC, SAW, O'G, 13b 'RLS', Wood, McKay, AIAS); *Ngalakbon* (AC, Wood, McKay), *Ngalgbon* (APE, AIAS), *Ngalabon*, *Njalakpon* (both 'RLS')

Wurm's 1970 classification still lists *Dangbon* and *Dalabon* as separate dialects but both McKay and Wood in recent surveys found that *Ngalgbon* and *Rembarnga* speakers insisted that *Dangbon* is just the *Gunwinjgu* word for *Dalabon*; one informant said it is the same as *Dangbon* but 'rough'. Later information from McKay is that one *Dangbon* informant said the *Dangbon* *Gunwinjgu* name, *Dalabon* was his name for the language; another informant used the two names inter-changeably (for different hearers). It is non-classifying, western dialect, the same as *Buan* its eastern counterpart except for some vocabulary and prefix differences. It appears to be midway between *Gunwinjgu* and *Rembarnga*, showing relationships to the multiple-classifying *Ngalagan*, *Wandarang* and *Ngandi* on the east and south, and to the non-classifying *Rembarnga* to the north. It has six stop-nasal contrasts and glottal the same as *Gunwinjgu* and five vowel phonemes as well as length. Stress tends to be word initial. A feature is the occurrence of consonant plus glottal as in *Rembarnga*. The language is still viable though Wood reports it is beginning to lose viability as the people are now becoming very scattered, though numbers of children still speak the language. Hence there is reasonable urgency for a more complete study while the language retains some degree of vitality. Places where speakers

are found today, with numbers, are as follows:
Bamyili 100-12-; Beswick 25-30; Oenpelli 20(?);
Maningrida area 5 or 6; Katherine 10-15.

'man' : bi: (McKay)

11.3b* Buan ** Headwaters of Phelp, N12 (AIAS N89)
(13a) Rose and Hart Rivers (AC)

Buan (AC, APE, SAW, AIAS), *Boun* (T, O'G, 'RLS'),
Bouin, *Buwan* ('RLS')

See comment above under *Dalabon* which is virtually
the same language. No record of numbers of speakers.
There is need for a study of dialectal differences
between *Dalabon* and *Buan*.

'man' : bi:

[12. b. *Girdimang* Subgroup

Deleted in new classification.

12. Gunbalang

See 11.2a* above.

B. BUANIC GROUP

a. *Bi* Subgroup

Deleted in new classification.

13a. Buan

See 11.3b* above.]

14. B. NGALAGANIC GROUP*

(originally *Bigur* Subgroup)