YAWA

(YAVA)

This language is also called Yapanani, or Mora. It is spoken in the northern coastal villages of Ariobu, Rosbori, Artanen, Dore, Tindaret, Kirio, Sambarawai and Yobi; in the interior in Ambaidiru and Mambon, and on, or near, the South coast in Ariepl, Tatui, Abukarei, Aromarea, Sarawandori, Mariadei, Mantembu, Tarau, Kampong Baru, Woru, Turu, Kabuaena, Yapanani-Borai, Konti-Unai, Kainui, Wadapi-Darat (Wadapi II) and Saweru.

As I mentioned before, Serui-Laut speakers are found in Aromarea and Ariepl, and Biak speakers in Sambarawai and Yobi. The town of Serui is a remarkable enclave in this area, for it has a most heterogeneous population which speaks mainly Dutch and Malay. The Yava language is spoken on the outskirts, that is, in Tarau, Kampong-Baru and Woru.


The Yava linguistic area, with more than 4500 speakers, is not homogeneous, and can be divided into a number of dialects. These have rather fluid dividing lines, a common feature in contiguous dialect areas. The dialects of Abaidiru and Mambon, Turu, Tarau, Ariepl, Woru and Kampong-Baru, Mantembu, Mariadei, Kainui and Konti Unai, Wadapi Darat, Saweru, were examined more closely than the others. It was noted that a dialect which has much in common with that of Ambaidiru, is spoken in the northern coastal villages, with the exceptions of Yobi and Sambarawai, where another dialect is spoken, and of Ariobu, whose dialect is different again from the other two. Another distinctive dialect is spoken in Sarawandori, Yapanani-Borai and Kabuaena.

Of the dialects to which special attention was paid, that of Saweru (more than 350 speakers), is the most distinctive, so much so, that there is a temptation to call it a separate language. But it appears that the speakers of the Saweru dialect understand the other dialects reasonably well and that on both sides there is the feeling that they speak the same language. It is preferable, therefore, to call it a divergent dialect. The causes of this divergence are probably the very isolated position of Saweru, as the only Yava speaking village situated on an island, and its close contacts with the Ambai speakers, whose language has clearly influenced the Saweru dialect. If this is indeed so, the Saweru dialect will in the future probably diverge so much from the other Yava dialects, that it will no longer be possible to deny it the status of a separate language.

The very distinctive character of the dialect spoken in a few Mora villages in the interior, in Ambaidiru and Mambon, should also be attributed to their isolation. The dialect of Wadapi-Darat and that of Konti-Unai and Kainui are less distinct; although they show a large number of distinctive characteristics, they have considerable features in common. The dialect of Ariepl
stands somewhat apart from the others. The group of Mariadei, Kampong Baru, Mantembu, Tarau and Turu dialects is fairly homogeneous; the dialects of Kampong-Baru and Woru and that of Turu show most similarities, while that of Mariadei is the most divergent of this group.

The Yava language, locally also known as Yapanani or Mora, is spoken in the middle section of Yapen island; in the west and east it borders on Austronesian languages, which take up the remainder of the island. ... Yava is spoken by more than 4,500 people; there are 15 dialects, some of them spoken in one village only.
- Voorhoeve 1975d:873.

4500 + [speakers]

Dialects: There are fifteen dialects, spoken in the following villages:
1. in Ariobu, Rasbori, Artanen, Dore, Tindaret, Kiriow;
2. in Sambarawai, Yobi;
3. in Ambaidiru, Mombon;
4. in Ariepe;
5. in Tatui, Abukarei, Aromarea;
6. in Sarawandori;
7. in Mariadei;
8. in Mantembu;
9. in Taraum Kampong Baru, Woru;
10. in Tutu;
11. in Kabuaena;
12. in Yapanani-Borai;
13. in Konti-Unai, Kainui;
14. in Wadapi Darat;
15. in Saweru.
- Voorhoeve 1975f:50.

[Map]
Serui -- YAVA
Mambon -- YAVA
Ariobu -- YAVA
Kiriow -- YAVA
Yobi -- YAVA
- Wurm & Hattori 1981

(YAYA)

Yawa (Mantembu; Mora; Yapanani; Turu 2)
POP: +/- 6,000
LOC: Central Yapen island
Relatively little has been written and published about the non-Austronesian language spoken on Yapen Island, which is located in Cenderawasih (formerly Geelvink) Bay, Irian Jaya, Indonesia. Anceaux (1961:8-11), calling the language Yava, ... Voorhoeve (1975:873-876), basing his analysis on Anceaux's unpublished word lists, classified Yava as part of the Geelvink Bay Phylum, with distant relationships to the non-Austronesian languages spoken in the interior of northern Irian Jaya. A few grammatical notes on this language, under the name Mantembu, appears in Cowan 1953. A word list, under the name Turu, was published in Galis 1955. In this paper, the name Yawa will be used to refer to the entire non-Austronesian language group on Yapen. ...

Yawa is spoken by approximately 6000 people living in the central part of Yapen Island. There are Yawa villages on both the north and south coasts of Yapen, and a few villages in the mountainous interior of the island as well. The major Yawa villages on or near the south coast are, from west to east, Ariepi, Tatui, Aromarea, Sarawandori, Mariadei, Mantembu, Anotaurei, Turu, Kabuena, Yapanani, Konti-unai, Kainui, and Wadapi Darat. The Yawa villages on or near the north coast are, from west to east, Ariobu, Rosbori, Artanen, Dore, Tindaret, Kiriow, and Sambarawai. The villages in the mountainous interior which speak Yawa are Ambaidiru and Mambon. The above list does not include several small hamlets of one or two houses, nor does it include villages listed in Anceaux 1961 which have since been absorbed by the growing township of Serui and thus lost their distinctive Yawa character and their use of the Yawa language. Further, the language spoken on the island of Saweru, off the south coast of Yapen, has been omitted from this study. Anceaux (1961) and Voorhoeve (1975) included this language in their discussions of Yawa on the basis of its obvious historical connection to the main Yawa dialects. However, it has diverged so much from the other Yawa dialects and has borrowed so heavily from neighbouring Austronesian languages that it is now unintelligible to Yawa speakers from Yapen proper, and is perceived by them as a totally separate language. As such Saweru was judged to require separate, more complete treatment in a future study.
... In this study 15 groups of Yawa speakers from all parts of the Yawa language area were presented with a list of all major Yawa villages and asked to classify the villages according to which villages spoke exactly the same ... as which other villages. This type of direct questioning did not yield entirely consistent results. ...

The significant data stemming from this survey of native speaker intuitions regarding dialect boundaries came in answer to the question, 'Which villages speak exactly the same as your home village?' There was striking, 100 per cent consistency in informant answers to this question. All informants from the same village gave identical answers to the question. More significantly, all the villages of a given dialect grouping were in unanimous agreement as to the membership of that grouping. ...

These informant intuitions defined five major dialect groupings in the Yawa language area: a central dialect, composed of the villages of Ambaidiru and Mambon in the mountains, Ariobu, Rosbori, and Artanen on the north coast, and Ariepi on the south coast; a northern dialect, composed of the villages of Kontiunai, Yapanani, Wadapi Darat and Kainui, on or near the south coast, and Sambarawai on the north coast; a southern dialect composed of the villages of Turu, Mariadei, Anotaurei, Kabuena, and a few clusters of Yaswa speakers now living in the township of Serui; and a western dialect, composed of the villages of Sarawandori, Aromarea, and Tatui on the south coast, and Mantembu, inland from Serui. With one exception (the position of Ariepi) ..., these dialect groupings were confirmed by the lexical and intelligibility test analyses reported in this study.


Anceaux notes that the single non-Austronesian language on Yapen Island is referred to variously as Yava, Yapanani, and Mora. The latter two names, in fact, refer to the dialects spoken by two large clans located on the south coast (Yapanani) and in the interior (Mora). There is no one name that all the speakers will agree upon for the name of their language, most speakers preferring a name that is suitable only for their particular dialect, since it is the name of their ancestor. Others use an expression meaning 'the land language', referring to the non-Austronesians as a group ('the land people') distinct from the Austronesians ('the sea people'). While there are a number of dialects, it is nonetheless clear that they comprise a single language. ...


The Yawa language is a Papuan language and has been classified as a stock-level isolate in the Geelvink Bay Phylum, a minor phylum restricted to a small section of the north coast of Irian Jaya ... It is spoken by approximately 6000 speakers in
more than two dozen villages throughout central Yapen Island. There are a number of dialects ...

The Yawa people, numbering about 6000, occupy the center of Yapen, a long mountainous island off the north coast of Irian Jaya, Indonesia ... Originally they resided mostly in tiny hamlets in the interior of the island, but at the behest of the government during the Dutch administration in the early decades of this century, they were gathered in villages, most of which are located along either the north coast or the south coast of the island, but with one very large village and one smaller one in the interior. ...

[Map]
Amdairiu
Anotaurei
Ariepi
Ariobu
Aromarea
Artanen
Dore
Kabuena
Kainui
Kiriow
Konti-Unai
Mambon
Mantembu
Mariadei
Rosbori
Sambarawai
Sarawandori
Saweru I
Serui
Tatui
Tindaret
Turu
Wadapi
Yapanani

* Yawa: 6,000 speakers reported in 1987, on central Yapen Island, Cenderawasih Bay. Also called Yapanani, Mora, Turu, Mantembu, Yava, or Iau. Close to Bauzi and east Geelvink Bay languages. Distinct from Iau in the Lakes Plain area.
Central Yapen Island, Yapen Waropen, Yapen Selatan, Timur, Barat, 8 north coast villages, 2 interior villages, 18 south coast villages. ... Dialects: CENTRAL YAWA (MORA), WEST YAWA, SOUTH YAWA, NORTH YAWA, EAST YAWA. Close to Bauzi and East Geelvink Bay languages. District from Iau in Lakes Plain area. ...  

**YAWA (YAPANANI, MORA, TURU, MANTEMBU, YAVA, IAU) ... 6,000 (1987 SIL).** Central Serui Island, Serui Waropen, Serui Selatan, Timur Barat, 8 north coast villages, 2 interior villages, 18 south coast villages. ... Dialects: CENTRAL YAWA (MORA), WEST YAWA, SOUTH YAWA, NORTH YAWA, EAST YAWA. Distinct from Iau in Lakes Plain area. ...  
- Grimes 1996.

**YAWA (YAPANANI, MORA, TURU, MANTEMBU, YAVA, IAU) ... 6,000 (1987 SIL).** Central Serui Island, Serui Waropen, Serui Selatan, Timur Barat, 8 north coast villages, 2 interior villages, 18 south coast villages. Linguistic affiliation: Geelvink Bay, Yawa. Dialects: CENTRAL YAWA (MORA), WEST YAWA, SOUTH YAWA, NORTH YAWA, EAST YAWA. Distinct from Iau in Lakes Plain area. ...  

* ... Yawa ... is the larger language, spoken on mainland Yapen island by approximately / 6,000 people. ... Yawa and Saweru have not been demonstrated to be related to any other languages on mainland New Guinea, ...  

*  

**(Turu of Mora)**

Manembu, Serui-darat, Mariadei, Sarawendori, Aromarea, Tauti, Konti, Abukarei (Samber), Unai, Manarei, Ambeidiru, Ariépi, Tindarei, Pemruari (Ambopei), Ariobu, Wadapi (Binti), Kiriau, Saweru, Dore, Mansa, Artaneng (+ 3300 zielen).  

*  

... Progressing from the west to the east along the south coast of Yapen, we note the following Ambai-speaking villages ...  
Menawi/Borai ..., Wadapi Laut ..., Randawaya I (Warironi) ..., Randawaya II ..., Sumberbaba (Aisumbewawafi) ..., and Dawai ... Of these villages Wadapi Laut also contains Mora speakers (a Non-Austronesian language) and Dawai contains Wabo speakers (an AN language in the two-member Eastern Yapen subgroup). ...  

* * *
YAVA = YAWA

YAWA      6,000 s-level ISO (Wurm 1994)
YAWA      6,000     Jones 1986, 1991, 1997
YAWA      6,000 (1987)  Geelvink Bay (Comrie 19921)

YAWA      6,000 (1987)  Geelvink Bay (Comrie 19921)

Smits & Voorhoeve 1998

IAU = YAWA


JAPANANI = YAVA

Silzer & Heikkinen 1984; Silzer & Jones 1986

JAPEN, MIDDEN

YAPEN, ORIGINAL = ? YAWA

Capell 1954 (cf S&C)

MANTEMBU = MIDDEN-JAPEN

Capell 1953

MANTEMBU = YAVA

Silzer & Heikkinen 1984; Silzer & Jones 1986

MANTEMBU -- d of YAWA

Wurm & Hattori 1981, Wurm 1982

MORA = TURU (2)

Galis 1955-56

MORA = YAVA

Silzer & Heikkinen 1984; Silzer & Jones 1986

MORA = YAWA


MORA = CENTRAL YAWA d of YAWA

Jones 1986

TURU (2) = YAVA

3,300   Galis 1955-56

TURU (2) = YAWA

Wurm & Hattori 1981, Wurm 1982
Silzer & Heikkinen 1984; Jones

TURU -- d of YAWA

Voorhoeve 1975, Wurm & Hattori 1981

TUTU -- d of YAWA

Abukarei -- TURU (2)

Galis 1955-56

Abukarei -- YAWA

Anceaux 1961, Voorhoeve 1975

ABAIDIRU -- d of YAVA

Anceaux 1961, Voorhoeve 1975
Ambaidiru -- YAVA  Anceaux 1961, Voorhoeve 1975
Ambaidiru -- YAWA  Jones 1986, Silzer & Clouse 1991,
Ambeidiru -- TURU (2)  Galis 1955-56
Amdairiu -- YAWA  L.K. Jones 1997
Ambophei = Permuari -- TURU (2)  Galis 1955-56
Anotaurei -- YAWA  Jones 1986, 1997
Ariëpi -- TURU (2)  Galis 1955-56
Ariepi -- YAVA  Anceaux 1961, Voorhoeve 1975
Ariepi -- YAWA  Jones 1986, 1997; Smits & Voorhoeve 1998
ARIOBU et al -- d of YAVA  Voorhoeve 1975
Ariobu -- TURU (2)  Galis 1955-56
Ariobu -- YAWA  Jones 1986, 1997
Aromarea -- TURU (2)  Galis 1955-56
Aromarea -- YAVA  Anceaux 1961, Voorhoeve 1975
Aromarea -- YAWA  Jones 1986, 1997
Artanen -- YAVA  Anceaux 1961, Voorhoeve 1975
Artanen -- YAWA  Jones 1986, 1997
Artaneng -- TURU (2)  Galis 1955-56
Binti = Wadapi -- TURU (2)  Galis 1955-56
Dore -- TURU (2)  Galis 1955-56
Dore -- YAVA  Anceaux 1961, Voorhoeve 1975
Dore -- YAWA  Jones 1986, 1997
Yapanani -- YAWA  Jones 1986, 1997
Yapanani-Borai -- YAVA  Anceaux 1961, Voorhoeve 1975
Kabuaena -- YAVA  Anceaux 1961, Voorhoeve 1975
Kabuena -- YAWA  Jones 1986, 1997
KAINUI -- d of YAVA
Kainui -- YAVA
Kainui -- YAWA
KAMPONG BARU -- d of YAVA
Kampong Baru -- YAVA
Kampong Baru -- YAWA
Kiriau -- TURU (2)
Kiriow -- YAVA
Kiriow -- YAWA
KONTI UNAI -- d of YAVA
Konti -- TURU (2)
Konti-Unai -- YAVA
Konti-Unai -- YAWA
MAMBON -- d of YAVA
Mambon -- YAVA
Mambon -- YAWA
Mansa -- TURU (2)
Mantembu -- TURU (2)
Mantembu -- YAVA
Mantembu -- YAWA
MARIADEI -- d of YAVA
Mariadei -- TURU (2)
Mariadei -- YAVA
Mariadei -- YAWA
Menawi -- YAWA
Permuari -- TURU (2)
Rasbori -- YAVA

Anceaux 1961
Anceaux 1961, Voorhoeve 1975
Jones 1986, 1997
Anceaux 1961
Anceaux 1961
Smits & Voorhoeve 1998
Galis 1955-56
Jones 1986, 1997
Galis 1955-56
Anceaux 1961, Voorhoeve 1975
Jones 1986, 1997; Smits & Voorhoeve 1998
Anceaux 1961, Voorhoeve 1975
Wurm & Hattori 1981
Galis 1955-56
Anceaux 1961, Voorhoeve 1975
Jones 1986, 1997; Smits & Voorhoeve 1998
Galis 1955-56
Anceaux 1961, Voorhoeve 1975
Jones 1986, 1997; Smits & Voorhoeve 1998
Silzer & Clouse 1991
Galis 1955-56
Voorhoeve 1975
Rosbori -- YAVA Anceaux 1961
Rosbori -- YAWA Jones 1986, 1997; Silzer & Clouse

SAMBARAWAI -- d of YAVA Voorhoeve 1975
Sambarawai -- YAVA Anceaux 1961, Voorhoeve 1975
Sambarawai -- YAWA Jones 1986, 1997

Samber = Abukarei -- TURU (2) Galis 1955-56

Sarawandori -- YAVA Anceaux 1961, Voorhoeve 1975
Sarawandori -- YAWA Jones 1986, 1997
Sarawendori -- TURU (2) Galis 1955-56

Serui -- YAVA Wurm & Hattori 1981
Serui -- YAWA L.K. Jones 1997
Soeroei -- YAWA de Clercq & Schmeltz 1893 (cf S&C)

Serui-darat -- TURU (2) Galis 1955-56

TARAUM KAMPONG BARU -- d of YAVA Voorhoeve 1975
Tarau -- YAVA Anceaux 1961
Tarau -- YAWA Smits & Voorhoeve 1998
Taraum Kampong Baru -- YAVA Voorhoeve 1975

TATUI -- d of YAVA Voorhoeve 1975, Wurm & Hattori
Tatui -- TURU (2) Galis 1955-56
Tatui -- YAVA Anceaux 1961, Voorhoeve 1975
Tatui -- YAWA Jones 1986, 1997

Tindarei -- TURU (2) Galis 1955-56
Tindaret -- YAVA Anceaux 1961, Voorhoeve 1975
Tindaret -- YAWA Jones 1986, 1997

Turu -- YAVA Anceaux 1961
Turu -- YAWA Jones 1986, 1997; Smits & Voorhoeve 1998
Tutu -- YAVA Voorhoeve 1975

Unai -- TURU (2) Galis 1955-56

Wadapi -- TURU (2)  
Galis 1955-56

Wadapi Darat (Wadapi II) -- 
YAVA  
Anceaux 1961, Voorhoeve 1975

Wadapi Darat -- YAWA  
Jones 1986, Smits & Voorhoeve 1998

Wadapi -- YAWA  
L.K. Jones 1997

Wadapi Laut -- AMBAI/MORA  
Silzer 1983

WORU -- d of YAVA  
Anceaux 1961

Woru -- YAVA  
Anceaux 1961, Voorhoeve 1975

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