

## YELMEK

Slechts bij gebrek aan beter gebruiken we de naam Jélmèk; het is de naam van een der groepjes die de taal spreken, welke we hier behandelen; dat groepje woont te Jélwàjab, gelegen op het vasteland van Nieuw-Guinea aan de Wanam-rivier, welke uitmondt in de Prinses-Marianne-Straat; onze zegslui waren van Jélwàjab. Met dialectische verschillen vinden we dezelfde taal ook bij de groepjes Nnggarùm en Jabége, het eerste in de dorpen Woboju en Dudaling, het tweede te Bibikém. Die drie groepjes samen hebben een zielen aantal van ongeveer 350. ...

- Drabbe 1950:549.

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### (JÉLMÈK)

In the region beyond the Digul and the Mbian on the river Wanam a little village Jèlwajab is found. The people living in it call themselves Jélmèk. Drabbe gives this name to the language he studied there. With some dialectal variations the same language is spoken in the villages Woboju, Dudaling and Bibikém. The number of native speakers amounts to 350 souls.

- Boelaars 1950:25.

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[map showing JILMEK settlements]

Ilwajab  
Taraneke  
Ndao  
Wolobem  
Depunek  
Waneol  
Wanam

- Nevermann 1952.

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... Verder Westelijk vinden we niet erg ver van de kust twee nauw met elkaar verwante talen, nl. Jélmek en Makléw, de eerste gesproken door een 350 mensen en de tweede door ongeveer 120. ...

- Drabbe 1955:13.

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### (Jelmek)

Jelwajab, Woboju, Dudaling, Bibikem, Galum (?) (+ 350 zielen).

- Galis 1955-56:176.

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[Map: cf W&H]

YELMEK:  
Bibikem  
Ilwajab

- Verhage 1957a Ts:Map.

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**YELMEK (ILMEK)**

Ilwayab

- Simmons et al 1967.

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... Van Baal, referring to a comment of Father ver Schueren [sic], mistakenly takes these languages to be dialects of Jaqai (1966:14-15); that comment would be appropriate for Oser, a Jaqai pocket on the south bank of the Digul, but is wrong for these languages, ...

- Bromley 1973:21.

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Yelmek is spoken in two slightly different dialects. In 1950, the language was spoken by about 350 people, ...

- Voorhoeve 1975b:362.

+ 350 [speakers]

Dialects: There are two dialects, spoken in the following villages:

1. (Northern dialect): in Yelwayab;
2. (Southern dialect): in Bibikem, Galum, Woboyu.

- Voorhoeve 1975f:23.

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**Yelmek** (Jabsch; Jab; Jelmik; Jelmek)

POP: +/- 400

LOC: South coast area on east side of Marianne Strait between

...

VILLAGE(S):

Yelmayab

Bibikem

Galum

Woboyu

- Silzer & Heikkinen 1984:81.

(Jabsch; Jab; Jelmik; Jelmek)

400

LOC: South coast area on east side of Marianne Strait between Frederik Hendrik Island and Mainland

- Silzer & Clouse 1991:87.

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**Yelmek:** 400 speakers reported in 1978, in the south coast area between Frederik Hendrik Island and the mainland, Irian Jaya, Indonesia. Also called Jab or Jabsch.

- Comrie 1992rr:173.

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South coast area on east side of Marianne Strait between Frederik Hendrik Island and mainland. ... Closest to Maklew. ...  
- Grimes 1992:585.

**YELMEK (JELMEK, JAB, JABSCH)** ... 400 (1978 SIL). South coast area on east side of Marianne Strait between Frederik Hendrik Island and mainland. ... Closest to Maklew. ...  
- Grimes 1996.

**YELMEK (JELMEK, JAB, JABSCH)** ... 400 (1978 SIL). South coast area on east side of Marianne Strait between Kolopom (Frederik Hendrik) Island and mainland. Linguistic affiliation: Trans-New Guinea, Trans-Fly-Bulaka River, Bulaka River. Closest to Maklew.  
- Grimes 2000.

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**[YAB]**

[Map  
JAB ANIM:  
Ilwajab  
Moloe  
Bibikem  
Wobojoe  
Doedali  
Galoem

- Baal 1941:ff. p. 190.

Least of all are we informed on the western neighbours of the Marind, whose territory borders on the hinterland of Okaba. They are the Yab of Galum and Bibikem, occupying the area between Str. Marianne and the lower Buraka river; the Makléw of Wekbuti, who have the Mawékr\_ valley as their territory; and the Yelmek of Yodom and Ilwayab, who are recent settlers in the area, originating from Yar, the big island in the Digul estuary where they were attacked by the Marind-anim from Wamal, who, in 1917, almost succeeded in wiping them out. According to Verschueren, who submitted these details, the / Yelmek speak a dialect of the Jaqai language. It is interesting to note that they settled in the vicinity of the Makléw; Drabbe informs us that the Yelmek and Makléw languages are closely related and we might conclude therefore that the Makléw as well as the Yelmek originate from the Jaqai in the Mappi region. Unfortunately, the information is contradictory, as Drabbe adds that the Yelmek and Makléw languages have no affinity with Marind, whereas he conclusively demonstrated that Marind and Jaqai are cognate languages. The information is all the more confusing because Drabbe does not mention the Yab, and Boldingh states that, according to information supplied to him by Drabbe, the Makléw, the Yelmek and the people of Galum and Bibikem speak a common language. Boelaars, on his language-map locating the Yelmek in the

territory of the Yab, apparently holds the same view. Gooszen, one of the earliest explorers, also reported that the Makléw and Galum people speak a common language, adding, however, a new element of confusion by recording that the Makléw and Galum together defeated the Yab-anim, who subsequently withdrew to the Wamal river-basin, i.e. to the Bibikem region. As Nevermann, too, stresses the affinity between the dialects of the three groups, we may take it for granted that they speak a common language. ...

Recent data giving numbers for each of these tribes are lacking. The three together made up 520 people in 1938; 120 of these may have been Makléw-anim and some 250 Yab-anim. ... It is a fair guess that they are closely related to the Jaqai and the Auyu, the peoples north of the lower Digul river, although an exception has possibly to be made for the / Yab-anim, ...

- van Baal 1966:14-16.

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#### **YAB-ANIM**

Bibikem

Galum

Wobeyu

- Simmons et al 1967.

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#### **(YABA-ANIM)**

[map]

Burwah

Waweh

Woyu

Yahowo

- Wirz 1928:Map.

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#### **(JABGA)**

Unter dem Namen Jabga wird eine Anzahl von kleineren Gruppen zusammengefaßt, die im Süden Niederländisch-Neuguineas das Gebiet zwischen der Prinzeß-Marianne-Straße (Muli) und dem Bulaka-Flusse bewohnen. Von der Südküste sind sie durch die westliche Gruppe der Marind-anim (Imas) und vom Unterlaufe des Digulflusses durch kleinere Stämme getrennt, die unter den Namen Jas und Oser zusammengefaßt werden. Diese Gruppen der Jabga sind die eigentlichen Jábga, die Galúm, die Yilmek, die Mópoko, die Gónek, die Makléuga und die Dibga.

- Nevermann 1952:49.

[map showing JABGA settlements]

Julijuli

Maweol

Bugamo

Wonga

Jeloba  
Bibikem  
Imbake  
- Nevermann 1952.

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ILMEK = JILMEK	Salzner 1960
ILMEK = YELMEK	Simmons et al 1967
JÉLMÈK	<b>Drabbe 1950</b>
JÉLMÈK (own name)	350 Boelaars 1950 (Drabbe)
JELMEK	350 Galis 1955-56
JELMEK	<b>Galis 1960</b>
JÉLMÈK = YELMEK	Silzer & Clouse 1991
JELMEK = YELMEK	Wurm 1971fl; Silzer & Heikkinen
JELMIK = YELMEK	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984, Silzer &
JILMEK	<b>Nevermann 1952, Salzner 1960</b>
YELMEK	<b>Capell 1962 (Boelaars, Galis),</b>
YELMEK -- d of JAQAI	van Baal 1966 (Verschueren)
YELMEK	350 Wurm 1971
YELMEK -- NOT d of JAQAI	Bromley 1973
YELMEK	350 Yelmek-Maklew (Wurm &
YELMEK	350 Yelmek-Maklew (Wurm 1982)
YELMEK	400 Yelmek-Maklew (Bulaka R)
	(Silzer & Heikkinen 1984,
	Silzer & Clouse 1991,
YELMEK	400 (1978) Comrie 1992ee
YELMEK	400 Bulaka River (Grimes
JAB	<b>Salzner 1960</b>
JAB = YELMEK	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984; Silzer &
JABGA	Nevermann 1952
JABSCH = YELMEK	Voorhoeve 1975; Wurm & Hattori
YAB	van Baal 1966
JAB ANIM	<b>Baal 1941</b>
YAB-ANIM	<b>Simmons et al 1967</b>
YAB-ANIM = YELMEK	van Baal 1966
YABA-ANIM = YELMEK	Wirz 1928 (cf S&C)
BIBIKÉM -- d of JAB	Salzner 1960
Bibikem -- JAB ANIM	Baal 1941
Bibikém -- JÉLMÈK	Drabbe 1950, Boelaars 1950
Bibikem -- JABGA	Nevermann 1952
Bibikem -- JELMEK	Galis 1955-56
Bibikem -- YELMEK	Verhage 1957 Ts (cf W&H)
Bibikem -- YAB	van Baal 1966
Bibikem -- YELMEK	Voorhoeve 1975, Silzer & Heikkinen
	1984, Silzer & Clouse 1991,
	Boelaars 1995 (cf S&C), Boelaars
	1995 [Verhage] (cf S&C)
Bibikem -- YAB-ANIM	Simmons et al 1967
Bugamo -- JABGA	Nevermann 1952
Burwah -- JABA-ANIM (YELMEK)	Wirz 1928 (cf S&C)

Depunek -- JILMEK	Nevermann 1952
DIB -- d of JAB	Salzner 1960
Dibga -- JABGA	Nevermann 1952
Doedali -- JAB ANIM	Baal 1941
Dudaling -- JÉLMÈK	Drabbe 1950, Boelaars 1950
Dudaling -- JELMEK	Galis 1955-56
GALUM -- d of JAB	Salzner 1960
NGGARUM -- d of JÉLMÈK	Drabbe 1950
Galoem -- JAB ANIM	Baal 1941
Galúm -- JABGA	Nevermann 1952
Galum -- JELMEK ??	Galis 1955-56
Galum -- YAB	van Baal 1966
Galum -- YELMEK	Voorhoeve 1975, Silzer & Heikkinen 1984
Galum -- YAB-ANIM	Simmons et al 1967
Gónek -- JABGA	Nevermann 1952
Ilwajab -- JAB ANIM	Baal 1941
Ilwajab -- JILMEK	Nevermann 1952
Ilwajab -- YELMEK	Verhage 1957 Ts (cf W&H)
Ilwajab -- YELMEK	Boelaars 1995 [Verhage] (cf S&C)
Ilwayab -- YELMEK	van Baal 1966, Simmons et al 1967, Boelaars 1995 (cf S&C)
Jèlwajab -- JÉLMÈK	Boelaars 1950
Jelwajab -- JELMEK	Galis 1955-56
Yelmayab -- YELMEK	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984
Yelwayab -- YELMEK	Voorhoeve 1975
Imbake -- JABGA	Nevermann 1952
JABÉGE -- d of JÉLMÈK	Drabbe 1950
Jábga -- JABGA	Nevermann 1952
Yahowo -- JABA-ANIM (YELMEK)	Wirz 1928 (cf S&C)
Jeloba -- JABGA	Nevermann 1952
Yilmek -- JABGA	Nevermann 1952
Yodom -- YELMEK	van Baal 1966, Boelaars 1995 (cf
Julijuli -- JABGA	Nevermann 1952

Makléu -- MAKLEW	Boelaars 1950
Makléuga -- JABGA	Nevermann 1952
Maweol -- JABGA	Nevermann 1952
Moloe -- JAB ANIM	Baal 1941
Molu -- YELMEK	Boelaars 1995 (cf S&C)
Mópoko -- JABGA	Nevermann 1952
Ndao -- JILMEK	Nevermann 1952
Taraneko -- JILMEK	Nevermann 1952
Wanam -- JILMEK	Nevermann 1952
Waneol -- JILMEK	Nevermann 1952
Wap -- YELMEK	Boelaars 1995 (cf S&C)
Waweh -- JABA-ANIM (YELMEK)	Wirz 1928 (cf S&C)
Wobeyu -- YAB-ANIM	Simmons et al 1967
Wobojoe -- JAB ANIM	Baal 1941
Woboju -- JÉLMÈK	Drabbe 1950, Boelaars 1950
Woboju -- JELMEK	Galis 1955-56
Woboyu -- YELMEK	van Baal 1966, Voorhoeve 1975,
Woyu -- JABA-ANIM (YELMEK)	Wirz 1928 (cf S&C)
Wolobem -- JILMEK	Nevermann 1952
Wonga -- JABGA	Nevermann 1952

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