

Organised Phonology Data

Buhutu (Bohutu, Yaleba) Language [BXH] Siasiada – Milne Bay Province

Oceanic; *Papuan Tip Cluster*; Nuclear Papuan Tip; Suau Network

Population census: 1600 (estimate from 1980)

Major villages: Ataʔata, Gelemalaia, Hoʔowalaʔi, Ipouli, Siasiada, Mila, Sinalili, Bolowai, Leileiyafa

Outlying locations = Oyamamania: Sagaʔafo, Libalei

Linguistic work done by: 1940's surveyed by A. Capell, 1968 surveys by A. Pawley; Russ Cooper, later work by SIL, Catholic Mission,

Data checked by:

Phonemic and Orthographic Inventory

a e i o u b b^w d f f^v g g^w h h^w k k^w l m m^w n p p^w
 a e i o u b bw d f fw g gw h hw k kw l m mw n p pw
 A E I O U B Bw D F FwG Gw H Hw K Kw L M MwN P Pw

 s t w j ʔ ʔ^w
 s t w y ʔ ʔ^w
 S T W Y

Consonants

	Bilab	LabDen	Dental	Alveo	Postalv	Retro	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyn	Glottal
Plosive	p b		t d					k g			ʔ
Nasal	m		n								
Trill											
Tap/Flap											
Fricative		f		s							h
Lateral Fricative											
Approx							j				
Lateral Approx			l								
Ejective Stop											
Implos											

/w/ voiced labial-velar approximant

/p^w/ voiceless labialized bilabial plosive

/b^w/ voiced labialized bilabial plosive

/f^w/ voiceless labialized labiodental fricative

/m^w/ labialized bilabial nasal

/k^w/ voiceless labialized velar plosive

/g^w/ voiced labialized velar plosive

/h^w/ labialized glottal fricative

/ʔ^w/ labialized glottal plosive

p	Pauli	'mangrove'	n	nali	'bite'
	wopu	'wharf, bridge'		wana	'song, sing'
	pampeʔo	'ladder, steps'		waihin	'woman'
				gonna	'its plain'
				anban	'to feed'
p ^w	pwalu	'a pair, couple'			
	tapwai	'to be broken'	s	sai	'who'
	kampwai	'to break'		hesa	'another'
				simsim	'watermelon'
b	biʔa	'cup'			
	bobon	'tomorrow'	l	liba	'word'
	anban	'to be feeding'		salai	'pig'
				anlui	'to swing'
b ^w	bwaha	'pumpkin'		losi	'to pick fruit'
	gigibwali	'hot'			
			k	kalahe	'eat, food'
m	mabena	'wing'		kikiʔina	'little ones'
	tamagu	'my father'		kankun	'greens sp.' (loan)
	bem	'bean'			
	pampeʔo	'step, ladder'	k ^w	kwade	'be happy'
				kwanokwano	'mud'
m ^w	mwahafu	'full'		kankwabu	'tree sp.'
	gumwati	'plant sp.'			
f	fati	'four'	g	gabu	'garden'
	lofo	'to fly'		gege	'runaway pig'
				nomgu	'my breast'
f ^w	fwaufwauna	'new'	g ^w	gwama	'boy'
	fwalufwalu	'edible tree frog'		angwali	'to spear game'
w	waga	'canoe, boat'	ʔ	ʔe	'we'
	wowoli	'waves'		beʔu	'to fall down'
	wawahin	'women'		anʔan	'food'
	wawewe	'spread out'			
t	tuma	'seeds'	ʔ ^w	ʔwau	'wet'
	tatau	'men'		wapuʔwapu	'tree sp.'
	tantan	'to be crying'		niʔwai	'angleworm'
d	dafu	'raft'	h	heti	'shield'
	adidili	'be strong'		hosa	'to rub'
	dimdim	'foreigner'		anhudi	'to fast'

h ^w	hwaifu	'tree sp.'	j	yau	I'
	liuliuwa	'be laughing'		yayagu	'my aunt'
				yosiyosi	'tame animals'
				yufi	'blow with mouth'

Vowels

i		u			
e		o			
		a			
i	in	'he'	eu	seuseuli	'left side'
	i?ipa	'nighttime'		kapeu	'butterfly'
	bida	'dirty'		tine?eu	'young woman'
	tifi	'loincloth'			
	huli?u	'coconut bottle'	oi	oiliba	'to discuss'
				soiyen	'distribute'
e	ena	'when'		iloloi	'carry with pole'
	ena	'his, her'		yo?oi	'to search'
	beda	'betelnut'			
	kule	'squeal'	oe	boe	'white egret'
	ne?i	'there'		poe	'to surface'
u	umi	'you (pl)'	ou	ou?ouli	'plenty'
	lusa	'gun'		kouna	'green coconut'
	pulu	'pool'		youyou	'kind of annelid'
	tu?e	'walking stick'		pou	'swell up'
o	oyagi	'tree'	ai	aihea	'play'
	ofi?ofina	'finished'		waihin	'woman'
	dom	'swallow'		mwaina	'fish'
	hato	'thatch'		daidai	'plant sp.'
	ilo?iloloi	'carry'			
			ae	sae	'go up'
a	asa?asaha	'in vain'	ao	laoma	'come'
	bada	'big man'			
	mala	'light'	au	kauma	'palm'
	la?i	'big'		bau?ana	'mango type'
iu	kiukiu	'little'		alotau	'bay'
	diuidiu	'bat sp.'			
ei	oyagi seina	'prop root'			
	dahei	'carry it'			
	pei	'throw'			
eo	Seoseo	'island name'			
	weoweo	'bird sp.'			

/ei/ /eo/ /eu/
 /ai/ /ae/ /ao/ /au/
 /oi/ /oe/ /ou/

Suprasegmentals (tone, stress, length)

1) "Heavy" syllables are stressed wherever they occur because they are derived underlyingly from two syllables. A "heavy syllable" is one which contains either a (C)VV combination or a (C)VC combination.

's 'bem 'beans' 'ss's-s 'ka.ti.'no.-na 'egg'
 'ss 'na.li 'to bite' 'ss'ss's-s 'fa.li.-'fa.li.'hu.-na 'new'
 'ss'ss 'na.wa.'la.hi 'mon'

2) The final syllable is never stressed unless it is heavy.

's'ss'ss 'lau.-'ta.fo.-'ta.fo 'to run' 's's-s 'lam.-'lam.-na 'its roots'
 's'ss 'tau.-'mo.ho 'man' 'ss's 'ma.li.'bon 'flying fox'

3) Except where a heavy syllable throws the pattern off, stress is normally on every odd syllable, starting with the first and working to the right. If anywhere, the stronger stress tends to be on the last accented syllable.

Syllable Patterns

V	e 'I' e.na 'when'	bu.i.na 'it's turning'	bu.i 'to turn'	
CV	ma 'here!'	bi.li 'wall'	ba.gi.li 'grass sp.'	gwai.na 'feathers'
CVV	pei 'throw'	gai.mu.mu 'advice'	fa.mai.sa 'pay for'	sa.lai 'pig'
CVC	bon 'yesterday'	kam.pwai 'to break'	fu.yan.na 'that time'	ga.bo.tum 'deep sea'

For the CVC patterns, it should be pointed out that the only final consonants permitted in Buhutu are nasals.

Conventions: Phonological

/l/ is pronounced as either [l] or [r] (flap or tap).

/w/ is usually pronounced as [w], but sometimes as [v], rarely as [β].

Meanings are not distinguished by these pronunciation differences.

The labialized consonants /b^w f^w g^w h^w k^w m^w p^w t^w/ occur only before the vowel /a/.

Conventions: Orthographic

Glottal plosive is not written in word initial position except in a few words with a heavy information load such as /ʔe/ 'we (excl)' which contrasts with /e/ 'I', or in words like *wau* 'wet' which Buhutu speakers reject if pronounced like Suau *wau* 'now'. When written by hand the glottal plosive symbol <ʔ> is now being taught; however, for typed material the apostrophe <'> is still sometimes used.

Transcription of a recorded passage

/gaimumu libana ||

ʔumi tatasigu laugaibu hola haʔasi || bena ʔami laoma | paisowa ʔai saguhimai || laugaibu hige anijona
 || ʔami laulaugaibu e | ʔami fujoma || ʔami gulijam haba somo ʔami ʔan || ʔama gabu ganana mahu

doʔina hola || ʔau laoma be ʔau saguhigu| be ta ganabuluhi || doʔata salai sa luhulau | mate sa ʔanʔofiʔi ||
 na hinaga fafaʔonaluma ja hejaja || hige laulau loholohona || mate haba sa libajeda | ite wa
 waja te ʔedi luma e higeʔe || sa laoma be ʔeda luma sa famohafudi te || logena | tabu ʔau faʔona luma ||
 doʔata mate haba ʔami wawewawewe | ibe ge ʔau paipaisowa || paisowa ʔami fakaudi || gaimu
 mu bena ʔami sibaidi || tabu ʔai gaimumu na ʔau dagodago || mate ibe ge ʔau sibasiba || haba ʔami
 laulau e ʔaisomo sa ʔaumiu | e sa talaimiu /

Gaimumu Libana.

Umi tatasigu laugaibu hola haʔasi. Bena ami laoma, paisowa ai saguhimai. Laugaibu hige aniyona. Ami laulaugaibu, e ami fuyoma. Ami gulyam haba somo ami an? Ama gabu ganana mahudoʔina hola. Au laoma be au saguhigu, be ta ganabuluhi. Doʔata salai sa luhulau, mate sa anʔofiʔi. Na hinaga fafaʔona luma ya heyaya. Hige laulau loholohona. Mate haba sa libaeda: "Ite wawaya te edi luma, e higeʔe? Sa laoma be eda luma sa famohafudi te?" Logena, tabu au faʔona luma. Doʔata mate haba ami wawewawewe, ibe ge au paipaisowa. "Paisowa" ami fakaudi. Gaimumu bena ami sibaidi. Tabu ai gaimumu na au dagodago. Mate ibe ge au sibasiba. Haba ami laulau e aisomo sa aumiu, e sa talaimiu?

A word of warning.

'My little brothers why just bum around, desist! You should come to help us with the work. Bumming around yields no fruit. You just keep on bumming around, then you come back. You get hungry, then what will you eat? Our garden fence is still not done. You guys come help me so we can close it off. If village pigs get in, they will eat it all up. House-hopping is also a bad thing. It's not a good practice. Folk will say to us, "These kids here. Do they have homes, or not? They come and fill up our houses, like this." Enough. Don't go house-hopping. If you spread yourselves around like that, then you don't work. 'Work' is something you don't comprehend. You should take knowledge of advice. You shouldn't run off when we advise you. You'll not know anything like that. Will you go? Or will they tie you up and beat you?'

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