

Organised Phonology Data

Ömie (Aomie, Omie) Language [AOM] Afore, Kokoda – Oro Province

Trans New Guinea Phylum; Central and Southeastern Stock; Koiarian Family (Baraic Subfamily)

Population census: 800 (1980)

Major villages: Enjoro, Asapa, Ehoro, Godibehi, Savarihambo, Gorabuna, Kero, Gora

Linguistic work done by: SIL

Data checked by: John Austing (September 1992)

Phonemic and Orthographic Inventory

a	b	d	e	æ	g	h	i	dz	k ^h	m	n	o	ə	ɔ	pɸ	r	s	t ^h	u	β	?
a	b	d	e	ɛ	g	h	i	j	k	m	n	o	o	ö	p	r	s	t	u	v	'
A	B	D	E	Ë	G	H	I	J	K	M	N	O	Ö	P	R	S	T	U	V		

Consonants

	Bilab	LabDen	Dental	Alveo	Postalv	Retro	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyn	Glottal
Plosive	b			d				g			?
Nasal	m			n							
Trill											
Tap/Flap				r							
Fricative	β				s						h
Lateral Fricative											
Approx											
Lateral Approx											
Ejective Stop											
Implos											

/pɸ/ voiceless bilabial affricate

/t^h/ voiceless aspirated alveolar plosive

/k^h/ voiceless aspirated velar plosive

/dz/ alveopalatal affricate

pɸ	papa	'uncle'	m	mamo	'mother'
	apo	'father'		gemu	'one'

b	beje	'falls'	β	va'e	'go'
	ibe	'eating'		ive	'big net'

t ^h	tone vitue	'axe' 'end'	dz	jaje daje	'drum' 'skin'
d	dode höde	'valley' 'flame'	k ^h	kobue mököje	'possum' 'Little Red Lorikeet'
n	nune ane	'eye' 'tooth'	g	gohe uge	'remove the covering' 'bird'
r	rabe höre	'what' 'leg'	?	ane u'e	'hit' (initial glottal) 'smoke'
s	sase visue	'light (not heavy)' 'fish'	h	hörrie aho	'Brown-headed Paradise-kingfisher' 'the person'

Vowels

i		u			
e		o			
	ə		ɔ		
	æ		ɑ		
i	ije mamije va'i	'tree' 'give' 'to go'	ia	ia hia'e	'indeed' (short form) 'ear'
e	ese deje bojeme	'breadfruit' 'back' 'give me'	iə	iorove diohe iriodabe	'trip' 'feather' 'bird sp.'
æ	ëne bojëme barë	'rain' 'give to them' 'brother-in-law'	iø	tiöje	'be started'
ə	- irome hu ijo	'construct (a fence)' 'he must eat'	io	io'o	'yes'
u	uje guhe gemu	'banana' 'grease' 'one'	æe	aege rarae	'carry' 'Darter (bird sp.)'
ie	vie'e aririe	'lizard sp.' 'reflection'	œe	œe ugo'œe	'sibling, same sex' 'Scrub Fowl'
iæ	viëre	'here'	œæ	öero ugo'öeni	'sibling, same sex with agent marker' 'for a scrub fowl'
			ui	uiröe	'Black-capped Lory'

o	oje rove na ijo	'door' 'come' 'I must eat'	ua	guahē sanuamije	'Pinon Imperial Pigeon' 'sooth'
ö	öje bu'öje dönö	'plant' 'throw' 'above'	uə	muorove	'fight'
a	aje rabe papa	'white' 'what' 'uncle'	iae	iae aviae	'indeed' 'here' anumoriae
ue	ueje abueje tague	'chop down' 'go down' 'elbow'	iæ	iniaëni	'for a Wattled Brush-Turkey'
uæ	vuëve huë	'enjoy' 'throat / neck'	iœ	viöe	'net trap'
uo	guojaje ujuoritae	'Sulpher-crested Cockatoo' 'Helmeted Friarbird'	uae	guaeve aruae	'bird trap' 'over there'

/ie/ /iæ/ /ia/ /iə/ /io/ /iɔ/

/æ/

/ui/ /ue/ /ua/ /uə/ /uo/ /uæ/

/iae/ /iæ/ /iœ/ /iɔæ/

/uae/ /uaæ/

Suprasegmentals (tone, stress, length)

Contrastive stress occurs on the first and second syllables.

'hije' 'sit' 'guome' 'die' 'rihuve' 'to be sweet'

'hi'je' 'uncle' guo'me' 'Spanish moss' ri'huve' 'carry over the shoulder'

Syllable Patterns

V	ë 'that'	a.ne 'tooth'	
VV	ae 'person'	ae.ge 'carry'	
VVV	iae 'certainly'		
CV	na T'	ja.je 'drum'	i.je 'tree'
CVV	mae 'good'	vae.ne 'domestic pig'	ta.gue 'elbow'
CVVV	viöe 'net'	guae.ve 'trap name'	i.niaë.ni 'for a bird sp.'
			a.viae 'here'

Conventions: Phonological

The mid-central and back vowels /ə/ and /o/ tend to coalesce. That is the major reason for not writing them with separate letters in the alphabet.

All voiced non-aspirated plosives /b d g/ and affricate /dʒ/ can be phonetically voiced or voiceless.

/β/ is phonetically [w] before /o/, /u/ and /ɔ/, [β] initially before /e/, /u/ and medially following /e/ and /ə/. It is [β] or [w] elsewhere.

/s/ is phonetically [s ~ʃ ~ ts ~tʃʰ].

/r/ is phonetically [r ~ l]; [l] is used more often in word-initial position.

For some speakers /h/ and /p/ represent one phoneme.

Conventions: Orthographic

Phonemic stress is not written.

Glottal plosive is not written word initially.

Both central vowel /ə/ and back vowel /o/ are written < o >.

Also all the other letters in the English alphabet are used in the names of people and places.

Transcription of a recorded passage

/ gagəsə ugəhə hesi diəhəhə rəβə baræjæ?eje || nu βəsəre æhi βə?ə əβə goniro bu?ədzæ?edze || hesi nuni b adzəhə kaβuə?edze || hesi iəhə madzəmadzədze gə βiədzədzedze || hesi idzuəhə idzə namoro ga?a?anue be ba?uərimæ?e džiə?iramu || ugəhə bise?ærə džiæ?ærə hesi diəhəhə bogo džaβaəniəhə aβəharuedze || ia e anərəmə ue?aharuedze || hesi diburəhə ägo?o džianəβərəmə βisu βuəgə džiadzəhi æhi hesi diburəhə ga ranə?edze || hirəmə muebedzufə garohe buruhe rue'iramu ro sihə baerəmə βə?ə nugə?ədzadzedze || ae g agərə ju?ebirəmə βə?ə idzə góre gererəmə uβə?əhə dibure teretereβadzedze || æhi uβadzedze ka ka tsiəhə ka ka tsiəhə ka ka tsiəhə || gagəsə džəhə iae barədze /

< Gagoso ugoho hesi diohoho rövo barëjë'eje. Nu vöösöre ëhi va'o övo goniro bu'öjë'eje. Hesi nuni bajoho kavü'eje. Hesi ioho majomajeje gö viojojeje. Hesi ijuoho ijo namoro ga'a'anue be ba'uorimë'e jio'iramu.

Ugoho bise'ëro jië'ëro hesi diohoho bogo javaënioho avoharueje. Iae anoromo ue'aharueje. Hesi diburoho ägo'o jianovoromo visu vuogo jiajëhi ëhi hesi diburoho garano'eje.

Hiromo muebejuvo garohe buruhe rue'iramu ro sihō baeromo va'o nugö'öjajeje. Ae gagoro ju'ebiromo va'o ijo góre gereromo uvë'oho dibure tereterevajeje. Ëhi uvajeje: Ka-ka tsioho ka-ka tsioho ka-ka tsioho. Gagoso jöho iae barëje. >

'As for the Spangled Drongo, its feathers are completely black, from the tip of its beak all the way to its feet. Its eyeballs are red. Its food consists of different insects and butterflies. Its nest you'll see in tree tops.

Since it's a small bird, we do not use its feathers for dances. We do kill and eat it. Its tail is rather long and it is forked like a fish's tail.

It stays and keeps waiting. When it sees an eagle coming, it chases it away. When it sees a person, it flees and, perching on another tree, it shakes its tail while it calls. It calls like this, "Ka-ka tsioho ka-ka tsioho ka-ka tsioho." That's all the story about the Spangled Drongo.'

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