

## NALCA

### (NALTYA)

The Naltya language is spoken in the T River Valley area about 50 kilometers east of the Dani language border. The number of speakers is not known. ...

- Voorhoeve 1975b:399.

? [speakers]

Dialects: ?

Villages: ?

- Voorhoeve 1975f:46.

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### (NALCA)

[Map]

Diduwemna -- NALCA

- Eibl-Eibesfeldt 1976:148.

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... hmannongo, hmannonga ... 139° 48'; 4° 23' ...

- Heeschen 1978:7.

[shown as Mek language]

- Heeschen 1992:466 (map).

... Names used in the literature are Kimyal for the language of the Korapun people, named after one of the important clans of the Erok valley, Kimyal; Hmannonga for the language of the Nalca people; Una for the language of the people from Larye or Langda, named after the interrogative pronoun una "what"; Ketengban for the language in the area around Omban and Okbab; Yale (language) for the Kosarek people or the inhabitants of the In Valley. ...

- Heeschen 1998:17.

There are two reasons against mapping language boundaries, firstly the phenomenon of dialect-chaining, ... secondly the smallness of the settled areas.

- Heeschen 1998:18.

The territory of the Eipo, for example, stretches for a maximum of 15 km along the Eipo river, in the east-west direction the farthest distance is 2.5 km. The extent of Kosarek, Nipsan, Tanime and Bime is about the same, Nalca and Larye are slightly larger ... Between the inhabited areas there are immense stretches of uninhabited country ... Language or dialect boundaries would fake a structure that does not exist.

- Heeschen 1998:18.

In addition to that, it happens time and again that speakers of one language settle in another language or dialect area, either because of marriage relations or trading partnerships or because of banishment from their own community or conflicts with their clan members. ... Language and dialect boundaries become

irrelevant in everyday interaction and communication or they are built up consciously, ...  
 - Heeschen 1998:18.

Instead of mapping boundaries I shall present the following diagram. A plus sign (+) means that the speakers still understand each other, so that their languages, according to the definition, must be regarded as dialects. A minus sign (-) signifies that the speakers do not understand each other, so that they are members of different language groups. A question mark means that either the speakers were not sure of their judgement or that I could not verify the relationship of the dialects or languages. Two question-marks signify that it took the speakers several days to get used to the language in order to be able to understand it. The results of the lexicostatistic calculations of 1978 have also been taken into account. ...  
 - Heeschen 1998:18.

[Y = Yale  
 Ni = Nibsán [sic]  
 Ko = Konae  
 Na = Nalca  
 E = Eipo-mek  
 T = Tanime  
 B = Bime  
 Ka = Kamume  
 O = Omban  
 Op = Okbab  
 Kp = Korapun  
 S = Sela  
 U = Una  
 Ki = Kinome]

	Y	Ni	Ko	Na	E	T	B	Ka	O	Op	Kp	S	U	Ki
Y		+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-
Ni	+		+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-
Ko	+	+		+	??	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-
Na	-	-	+		-	-	-	-	-	-	??	?	-	-
E	-	-	??	-		+	??	??	-	-	-	-	+	+
T	-	-	-	-	+		+	+	+	??	-	-	+	+
B	-	-	-	-	??	+		+	+	+	-	-	+	+
Ka	-	-	-	-	??	+	+		+	+	-	-	+	+
O	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+		+	-	-	?	?
Op	-	-	-	-	-	??	+	+	[+]		-	-	+	-
Kp	-	-	-	??	-	-	-	-	-	-		+	-	-
S	?	?	?	?	-	-	-	-	-	-	+		-	-
U	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	?	+	-	-		+
Ki	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	?	-	-	-	+	

In the table above three clearly defined language areas can be made out without much difficulty.

1. The entire East including the Southeast with Kinome; in this area only the relationship between the Okbab [sic] language and the ware language is uncertain. According to the criterion

of mutual understanding they are different languages, according to the criterion of shared basic vocabulary (85%) they are merely dialects. This problem will be treated further below. [i.e., Kinome, Kamume, Omban, ?Okbap]

2. The Northwest from Konae up to the Yalenang. i.e., Konae, Nipsan]

3. The Southwest with Sela and Korapun. [i.e., Sela, Korapun]

- Heeschen 1998:19.

Even today the outer borders of the Mek languages can only be marked correctly in parts. The eastern border is probably formed by the ranges between Kloof and Sobger, between Okbab and Ok Bi and the Juliana mountains. The western borders are the lower Yaholi, the ranges between Kosarek and Yaholi respectively between Obahak and the upper Yaholi. ... In the North and South the borders are lost in the far less densely populated flat land.

...

- Heeschen 1998:21.

... The Eipo speakers claim to be unable to understand the more adjacent Nalca language, but to have no difficulty understanding the Konae language spoken further to the west. In my opinion the reason is that intonation and accentuation in Nalca are quite different. On the whole, it is not the amount of shared vocabulary which decides whether a language or dialect is understood or not, but rather suprasegmental characteristics, different particles connecting clauses and inflexional morphemes of verbs which are pronounced differently, but are etymologically related. This is the case especially for the relation of Eipo and Bime as well as of Eipo and Nalca, because, according to the logic of lexicostatistics, Bime-Eipo-Nalca would have to form one language area. On the other hand, the same factors that prevent understanding here do not set up a barrier between Eipo, Tanime, and Larye. ...

- Heeschen 1998:19.

With some caution a fourth language area can be singled out in addition to the three already mentioned, namely that of the Eipo language. Here one must always bear in mind, firstly, that the demarcation to the west (Nalca) and to the east (Bime) holds good under the assumption of a missing network of communication, of different suprasegmental characteristics, and of different connectives and inflexional morphemes of verbs, but less on account of the criterion of shared cognates, and, secondly, that in the language area of Eipo-Una-Tanime we indeed find a high percentage of shared cognates and a network of communication, but that especially this centre of the Mek language area reveals phonological and grammatical differences making the assumption of language boundaries more likely than that of a dialect area. [i.e., Nalca, Eipomek, Una, Tanime, Bime; + ??Diduemna]

In the western as well as in the eastern Mek area there are relatively large and homogeneous dialect areas, the centre of diversity, however, is situated in the more closely limited area

between Larye, Eipomek, Tanime, and perhaps also Nalca. According to the rules of dialect geography the west and the entire east must be supposed to have been the scene of relatively recent migrations, proceeding from the centre as their starting-point.

- Heeschen 1998:20.

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[Map]

Naltya -- NALCA

- Wurm & Hattori 1981

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(Hmangгона; Naltya; Naltja; Kimyal; Kimjal; Hmonono)  
8,000-10,000

LOC: Eastern Highlands area on north slopes of ranges northeast of Korupun and southeast of Nipsan

- Silzer & Clouse 1991:68.

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Not much is known about the people living in the Ilup, Bo, Tap and Nalcamek valleys. A few villages in the northern part of the West Sela maintain relations with villages in the Nalca (Olsikla) area. ... In the early 1970s, missionaries carried out preliminary linguistic studies of the language spoken in the Nalca area, which was at that time called Hmangгона.

- Godschalk 1993:5.

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**NALCA (HMANGGONA, NALTJE, NALTYA, HMONONO, KIMYAL, KIMJAL)**  
... 8,000 to 10,000 (1987 SIL). Eastern highlands area on north slopes of ranges northeast of Korupun and southeast of Nipsan.  
... Distinct from Korupun (Kimyal). ...

- Grimes 1996.

**NALCA (HMANGGONA, NALTJE, NALTYA, HMONONO, KIMYAL, KIMJAL)**  
... 8,000 to 10,000 (1987 SIL). Eastern highlands area on north slopes of ranges northeast of Korupun and southeast of Nipsan. Linguistic affiliation: Trans-New Guinea, Mek, Western. Distinct from Korupun (Kimyal). ...

- Grimes 2000.

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... Auch nach Norden über das Valentin-Gebirge hinweg zu den Hmangгона-Mek des Nalca-Tales und nach Süden zu den zwischen Brazza und Kolff lebenden halbseßhaften, keine Mek Sprachen sprechenden Gruppen des Tieflandes bestehen nur schwache Verbindungen.

- Laschimke 1997:283.

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#### **DIDUEMNA**

[shown as Mek language]

- Heeschen 1992:466 (map).

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**HMANGGONA**

**Hmanggona** (Naltya; Naltja; Nalca; Kimyal; Kimjal; Hmonomo)

POP: 8,000-10,000

LOC: Eastern Highlands area on north slopes of ranges                   northeast

...

VILLAGE(S):

Olsekla

Hen

Kan

Hok

Luwemna

Obla

Sekona

Bono

Ngeregen

Em

Gugun

Wet

Kono

Korosaklat

Olum

Yalek

Ikmok

Serema

- Silzer & Heikkinen 1984:50.

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**Hmanggona**: 8,000 to 10,000 speakers reported in 1987, in the eastern highlands area, Irija Jaya. Also called Nalca, Naltje, Naltya, Hmonono, Kimyal, or Kimjal. Distinct from Korupun (Kimyal).

- Comrie 1992z:415.

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Eastern highlands area on north slope of ranges northeast of Korupun and southeast of Nipsan. ... Distinct from Korupun (Kimyal). ...

- Grimes 1992:573.

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**(KIMYAL)**

[Map]

Korupun

Nalca

Nipsan

- Mitton 1983:15.

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6,500

LOC: Eastern Highlands area on upper reaches of Erok River southwest of Nalca east of Yali language

DIALECTS: Korupun, 4000 speakers; Sela, 2500 speakers. Sela

has three subs-dialects: 1. Wst and East Sela, 2000 speakers; 2. Hao River Valley, 300 speakers; 3. Weip River Valley (west side), 200 speakers.

- Silzer & Clouse 1991:57.

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**KONAE**

[shown as Mek language]

- Heeschen 1992:466 (map).

Yamek R -- KONAE

- Heeschen 1992:466 (map).

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NALCA	Mek (Heeschen 1978, 1992)
NALCA	10,000 Mek (Wurm & Hattori 1981; Wurm 1982, 1994)
NALCA = HMANGGONA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984, Comrie
NALCA	8-10,000 Mek (Goliath) (Silzer & Laschimke 1997
NALCA VALLEY -- HMANGGONA	Heeschen 1998
NALCA -- "EIPO"	Silzer & Clouse 1991
NALTJA = NALCA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984
NALTJA = HMANGGONA	Wurm & Hattori 1981; Wurm 1982,
NALTYA = NALCA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984, Comrie
NALTYA = HMANGGONA	Wurm 1917fl
NALTJE	Comrie 1992z, Grimes 1992
NALTJE = HMANGGONA	Grimes 1996, 2000
NALTJE = NALCA	
DIDUEMNA	Mek (Heeschen 1992)
HMANGGONA (own name) =	
NALCA	Heeschen 1978
HMANGGONA	8-10,000 Western Mek (Silzer & Silzer & Clouse 1991; Godschalk
HMANGGONA = NALCA	8-10,000 (1987) Mek (Comrie 1992z)
HMANGGONA	Mek (Laschimke 1997)
HMANGGONA	
HMANGONO (own name) =	
NALCA	Heeschen 1978
HMONOMO = NALCA	Silzer & Clouse 1991; Grimes 1996, 2000
HMONONO = HMANGGONA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984, Comrie
KIMJAL = HMANGGONA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984, Comrie
KIMJAL = NALCA	Silzer & Clouse 1991; Grimes 1996, 2000
KIMYAL = HMANGGONA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984, Comrie
KIMYAL	6,500 Mek (Goliath) (Silzer & Silzer & Clouse 1991; Grimes 1996, 2000
KIMYAL = NALCA	Mek (Laschimke 1997)
KIMYAL	Laschimke 1997
KIM-YALI = KIMYAL	Louwerse 1988
KINYAL	
KONAE = NALCA	Mek (Heeschen 1992) [cf S&C]
MOGIBUN/GIRIBUN	Louwerse 1988
T-VALLEY = NALTJE	Voorhoeve 1968, Wurm 1971fl
Bono -- HMANGGONA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984
Diduwemna -- NALCA	Eibl-Eibesfeldt 1976
Em -- HMANGGONA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984

Emdoman -- NALCA	Silzer & Clouse 1991
Gugun -- HMANGGONA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984
Hen -- HMANGGONA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984
Hok -- HMANGGONA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984
Ikmok -- HMANGGONA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984
Yalek -- HMANGGONA	Silzer & Heikkinn 1984
Yamek R -- KONAE	Heeschen 1992
Kan -- HMANGGONA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984
Kono -- HMANGGONA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984
Kono -- NALCA	Silzer & Clouse 1991
Korosaklat -- HMANGGONA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984
Luwemna -- HMANGGONA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984
Nalca -- KIMYAL	Mitton 1983
Nalca -- NALCA	Louwerse 1988, Silzer & Clouse 1991
Nalca -- ? KORAPUN	Heeschen 1992
Naltya -- NALCA	Wurm & Hattori 1981
Ngeregen -- HMANGGONA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984
Nipsan -- KIMYAL	Mitton 1983
Obla -- HMANGGONA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984
Olsekla -- HMANGGONA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984
Olsikla -- NALCA	Godschalk 1993
Olum -- HMANGGONA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984
Sekona -- HMANGGONA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984
Serema -- HMANGGONA	Sizler & Heikkinen 1984
"T" Valley -- NALCA	Voorhoeve 1975
Wet -- HMANGGONA	Silzer & Heikkinen 1984

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