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ANINDILYAKWA PHONOLOGY AND MORPHOLOGY

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A dissertation submitted in fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

Department of Anthropology
University of Sydney
March 1989

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In Memory of

TAPINKUTA YANTARRNGA

who preferred non-Aboriginals to call her

MRS. KATIE HERBERT

wife of Edward Herbert and mother of

Betty, Richard, Jessup, Joseph and Terrence.
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am deeply indebted to the Warnindilyakwa people in the Umbakumba township for the free access they have given me to their language and culture. I am grateful to the elders who offered me clan affiliation and placement in a family as sister to one of the (then) matriarchs. Their wisdom in giving me a personal name, the derivation of which is 'father's sister', allowed me easy access to both male and female members of the community.

Many friendships have been forged in my years of residency at Umbakumba. Tapinkuta (Katie) Yantarrnga with whom I worked almost daily for five years was much more than a language assistant--she became my friend, mentor and linguistic colleague. The other Aborigines who deserve special mention are Katie's two sisters, Tapitakuma (Mariya) and Tapinkanga (Elizabeth) Yantarrnga, Tungmalbudiya (Mabuda) Mamarika, Talinjawayina (Stella) Yantarrnga, Wakaba Bara, Tumerrikiringka (Mary) Wurrrawilya, Arthur Bara, Narijanga (Alec) BaraBara, Mangkwuta (Jack) Wurrrawilya and Phillip Wurrrawilya.

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ABBREVIATIONS & CONVENTIONS

vowel length in data, between subject and object in
derivations, and between literal meanings for stems
+
morpheme boundary
#
precedes the object morpheme
-
precedes the suffix or clitic in gloss
=
extended meaning
[ ]
enclous phonetic transcription, conjunctive feature
specifications in phonological rules, and extra
information in translations
/ / 
encloses deep structure representation
( )
enclous disjunctive feature specifications in phono-
logical rules and deleted segment/s in derivations
( )
enclous optional segment/s
===
rewrites as
------
in charts: obligatory absence
Ø
zero morpheme
ABL
ablative
ACC
accusative
ALL
allative
ALP
alienable possession
ANG
Angurugu communicat
ASSIM
assimilation
ASP
aspect
ASR
adjectiviser
BENE
benefactive
C
consonant
CAUS
causative
consontant de-rounding
CofR
change of referent
COM
comitative case
comp.act
completed action
cont.act
continuing action
CSL
causal, reason
DIMIN
diminisher
dual
DU / du
dual
EM
empty morph
ENG
English language
ETC
et cetera in the Number suffix
exc(1)
exclusive
fem
feminine
FF
flip-flop rule
GDR
gender
GP
Gupapuyng language
HAPL
hapology rule
hfem
human feminine
hmasc
human masculine
INALF
inalienable possession
'nc(1)
inclusive
'H
inchoative
intensifying
KPOSS
possessive case for kinship
LOC
locative case
LPRG
progressive case for location
MA
modern Anindilyakwa
masc
masculine gender
MK
Makassan language
NCL  noun class / nominal prefix nucleus ???
NEV  negated actual aspect
NG   Nunggubuyu language
n-hfem not human feminine
NPIPI non-past imperfective aspect
NPTNS non-past tense
NON-SG / Nsg non-sg non-singular
NSR  nominaliser
NTR  pause-final or word-medial neutralisation
OBJ  object
OUD  dual object
OPL  plural object
ONSg  non-singular object
PIP  past imperfective aspect
PL / Pl plural
POSS possessive case
PRF  perfective aspect
PRIV privative
PROP proprietive
PTNS past tense
PURP purposive case
QM   question clitic
R    rounded
RECP reciprocal
REDUP reduplication
REFL reflexive
SDEL morpheme-final CV deletion
SDU  subject dual
SF   stem formative
SG/ Sg singular
SNSg  non-singular subject
SPL  subject plural
TA   traditional Anindilyakwa
TNS  tense
TPRG progressive case for time
TRI  trial
TRM  terminative
TSR  transitiviser
UK   umlukumba communilict
V    vowel
VBK  vowel backing
VCL  verb class
VFR  vowel fronting
VLW  vowel lowering
VRO  vowel rounding

Numbers refer to the first, second and third persons or the noun class in the prefixes and to the verb class in the suffixes. For Noun Class 3:1, the absence of any overt marking of number indicates plurality in all prefixation except the object prefix in the verb which is always non-singular. For Noun Classes 3:2 to 3:5, the absence indicates singular.

The deep structure high central vowel phoneme /ɪ/ is represented by i in all data except that between phonetic brackets.

The rewrite arrow => between two forms of the same morpheme within the deep structure (enclosed in slash brackets) avoids having to use multiple lines for word derivations.

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GROOTE EYLANDT, NORTHERN TERRITORY

(approx. 800 sq. miles)