

Current research into languages of Nusa Tenggara Timur

John Bowden

(Jakarta Field Station, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology)

This talk will provide an introduction to recent work on languages of Indonesian Nusa Tenggara Timur. I will not address linguistic research that has been performed in East Timor.

A useful summary of research on NTT languages up until 1997 can be found in Grimes, Terik, Grimes and Jacob (1997) and my talk will focus on work that has been done since the publication of this booklet. Following my short talk there will also be a talk by Jermy Balukh who will focus on Indonesian-based research being performed in Kupang (Timor) and a further talk by František Kratochvíl that will focus on work being done on the Alor-Pantar languages. This introductory talk will try to cover areas of research not covered by the other two speakers.

The talk will consist of four sections, three of which focus on indigenous languages within particular regions in NTT and a further section discussing research on local Malay.

Timor: Helong (John Bowden), Bunak (Antoinette Schapper), Uab Meto (Gregorius Neonbasu)

Sumba - Sabu: Kambera (Marian Klamer), Sabu (Charles Grimes)

Flores-Lembata: Ke'o (Louise Baird), Rongga (Wayan Arka)

Kupang Malay: 'Middle Indonesia Project' (Joseph Errington and Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology Jakarta Field Station))

In addition, I will provide a few remarks on the work of the UBB-GMIT (*Unit Bahasa dan Budaya -Gereja Masehi Injili di Timor* 'Language and Culture Unit – Protestant Evangelical Church in Timor)

Reference

Grimes, Charles E., Tom Therik, Barbara Dix Grimes and Max Jacob, 1997. *A guide to the people and languages of Nusa Tenggara*. Kupang: Artha Wacana Press.