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The Indonesian language of intercommunication
in the province of Kaltara in Kalimantan
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This paper provides a preliminary description of the language spoken among many different ethnolinguistic groups in the Province of Kaltara (Kalimantan Utara) in Indonesia.

Despite the presence of two traditional Malay dialects in the adjacent Province of Kaltim (Kalimantan Timur), Berau Malay in Berau and Kutai Malay in Kutai Kartanegara, the language of intercommunication spoken in the area did not develop directly from those two dialects but from Indonesian that spread in the area thanks to the many immigrants from South Kalimantan (Banjar) and South Sulawesi (Bugis and Makassar). The Malay dialects that developed in the old Sultanates of Berau and Kutai are nowadays only used within the borders of the small communities speaking them, whereas a regional variant of Indonesian was brought along by the many immigrants coming to seek for jobs in these new developing regions in the last forty years, in particular Bugis, Banjarese and Javanese. Data from this paper come from fieldwork undertaken in the towns of Tarakan and Malinau in Kaltara.