MANDEGUSU (EDDYSTONE ISLAND)

1. The small island called Eddystone lies south of that named Ronongo, and is the farthest west of the islands of the New Georgian Archipelago. It "is nearly cut in two by the deep bay of Narovo." "The northern parts consist of hills with easy slopes, the southern is very steep, rising to 1100 feet at Matendini and 1025 feet at Patukio. It is flanked on its eastern side by the island of Simbo."

"The native name of Eddystone is Mandegusu, which means 'The Four Villages.' These four villages or districts are: Narovo round the bay, Ove on the south-west coast, Simbo on the little island flanking the main one, and Karivara on the eastern slopes of Matendini. To the white men and the natives of Roviana and Nduke the whole island is known as Simbo, after the third named district[1]."

2. A vocabulary of the language of "Eddystone Island" was published by Cheyne so long ago as 1852[2], and was quoted in full by Gabelentz[3]. A vocabulary of Simbo was published by Ribbe in 1903[4]. This is less correct than Cheyne's and contains Roviana words which differ from Eddystone.

A Simbo vocabulary (three hundred and three words) by Mr T. W. Edge-Partington in 1906 is among the Woodford MSS.

3. In 1908 a systematic study of the Eddystone islanders was made by Mr A. M. Hocart and the late Dr W. H. R. Rivers. The relationship names were published by the latter[5], and many Mandegusu words appear in Mr Hocart's account of the "Cult of the Dead" and "Witchcraft[6]." Mr Hocart also compiled a vocabulary containing nearly 1600 Mandegusu words, and has very kindly allowed me to use this for the comparative notes in this book.

[1] A. M. Hocart, "The Cult of the Dead in Eddystone of the Solomons," *Jour. Roy. Anthrop. Inst.* LII. 1922, pp. 73–76.

[2] A. Cheyne, *A description of islands in the Western Pacific Ocean*, London, 1852, pp. 187–189.

[3] *MSpr.* 1873, pp. 174–176.

[4] Ribbe, pp. 187–194.

[5] Rivers, MS. I. p. 252.

[6] *Jour. Roy. Anthrop. Inst.* LII. 1922 and LV. 1925.

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4. FINALS. There are some cases in which the final consonant of an IN word has been retained by means of a supporting vowel.

a: *iγa*, *iγana*, IN *ikan*, fish; *vuna*, root, thick end, IN *puhun*.

e: *papene*, plank, IN *papan*.

i: *γuliti*, IN *kulit*, skin; *γani*, IN *kan*, to eat.

The *i* of the transitive verb appears to replace another vowel in the intransitive: *vaγuni*, to awake (with pronom. suff.), *vaγunu*, to awake (intrans.), IN *bangun*.

Cf. also *matatu*, *matatuni*, to fear.

u: *toruru*, IN *tĕlur*, egg; *manugu*, IN *manuk*, bird.

There is an appearance of an added vowel in words where the IN ended in a diphthong: *pi-e*, OJ *wway*, Jav. *we*, water; *te-a*, dung, IN *tay*.

5. VOWELS. These are generally retained except that the IN ĕ becomes o.

a: *tama*, IN *ama*, father; *taki*, fishing line, IN *tali*, cord.

i: *iγana*, IN *ikan*, fish; *γita*, IN *kita*, we.

u: *puku*, IN *buku*, knot; *γumi*, OJ *kumis*, hair of beard.

ĕ > o: *wonoma*, IN *ĕnĕm*, six.

DIPHTHONGS. aw > o: *γaso*, IN *kasaw*, rafter; *ayo*, IN *kaw*, thou.

ay > e: *pei*, OJ *wway*, Jav. *we*, water; *te-a*, IN *tay*, dung; cf. Finals.

6. CONSONANTS. y is lost: *γau*, IN *kayu*, tree.

w is lost: *k-alu* (*ka* = numeral prefix), IN *walu*, eight; *sia*, IN *siwa*, nine; *vua*, IN *buwah*, fruit.

In the word for 'water,' *pie*, p seems to represent the OJ. w.

7. r_1 > s: *isu*, IN *ir*$_1$*un*, nose.

In some cases r appears to have become *d*: *mudi*, OJ *wuri*, Jav. *buri*, behind.

r_2 is retained: *ruma*, Mal. *rumah*, house.

l is retained: *lima*, IN *lima*, hand, five; *taliŋa*, OJ *taliŋa*, ear; *ulo*, an eel-like fish, Jav. *ulĕr*, worm; *layo*, OJ *laku*, to go.

8. k is rarely retained: *kavu*, ashes, Day. *kawo*, Mal. *abu*.

k > γ: *γuγu*, finger, toe, IN *kuku*, claw; *γeliγeli*, to root up potatoes, IN *kali*, to dig.

In some words k is lost: *ma-tatu*, *ma-ta-utu*, IN *takut*, to fear; *suni*, IN *suk*, to pierce; *uliti*, also *ɣuliti*, IN *kulit*, skin.

In n*ari* the canarium nut, *n* represents k in Mal. *kanare*.

g > *ɣ*: *ɣaroɣaro*, itch, to scratch, IN *garuk*.

ṅ is retained: *mana*, mouth, OJ *maṅaṅ*, gaping; *talina*, OJ *taliṅa*, ear.

ṅ > l in *livo*, IN *ṅipĕn*, tooth; and *ɣ* in *vaɣunu*, wake, M. *baṅun*, to get up, wake.

9. t is retained: *tia*, Ambon *tia*, belly; *vitu*, IN *pitu*, seven; *votu*, to go out, appear, Jav. *wĕtu*, come to light, Mk. *batu*, appear; *mata*, IN *mata*, eye.

d > r: *rae*, Mal. *dahi*, OJ *rahi*, forehead; *ka-ru*, Mal. *dua*, Bulu *rua*, two.

In *nonori*, to hear, Mal. *dĕnar*, OJ *rĕnö*, r has become n.

n is retained: *nusa*, Jav. *nusa*, island; *tina*, IN *ina*, mother; *manuɣu*, bird, animal, IN *manuk*.

10. j > s: *sao*, Mal. *jauh*, far.

11. p > v in many words: *va*, IN *pa* causative prefix; *sava*, Tond. *sapa*, Mal. *apa*, what; *vudi*, Bulu *punti*, banana; *vitu*, IN *pitu*, seven.

In some cases p is represented by *b*: b*e*be, Mak. *pipipipi*, butterfly; b*o*to, Mongondou *putod*, navel.

b > v in many words: *uvi*, M. *ubi*, yam; *vunovuno*, bunch (of nuts), Mal. *buṅkus*, bundle; *vua*, IN *buwah*, fruit; *vona* (*wanu*), house, IN *banua*, land; *vuru*, IN *bulu*, hair.

In some cases b > p: *patu*, IN *batu*, stone; *putu*, Barringtonia, Mal. Jav. *butun*; *puku*, IN *buku*, knot; *paele*, IN *balai*, house.

In b*atu*, head, Jav. *batuk*, forehead, b > *b*.

m is retained: *mea*, tongue. Ambon *mea*; *mimi*, urine, Tag. *mihi* v.; *ruma*, Mal. *rumah*, house; *mai*, hither, come, Mak. *mae*, Mal. *mari*; *tama*, IN *ama*, father.

In the pronouns *ɣai*, we, *ɣau*, you, the medial m is lost, IN *kami*, *kamu*.

12. s is retained: *susu*, IN *susu*, breast; *sulu*, to burn, OJ *suluh*, torch; *sage*, Bulu *sake*, up.

h is lost: *uvi*, OJ *huwi*, yam; *rae*, Mal. *dahi*, forehead.

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