

Introduction

Saniyo Hiyewe is spoken south of the Sepik River in the East Sepik province of Papua New Guinea. It is a member of the Sepik Hill language family (Dye, Townsend, and Townsend, 1968), which consists of fourteen culturally homogeneous and related languages in the foothills of the Central Range from the Karawari River tributary of the lower middle Sepik to the Leonard Schultze River tributary of the upper middle Sepik. Approximately 1000 people speak the two major dialects of Saniyo Hiyewe, scattered along the banks and foothills of the April, Wogamous and Leonard Schultze drainages. Saniyo is spoken along the lower reaches of the Wogamous River and its tributaries and the upper reaches of the April River. The Hiyewe dialect is spoken along the upper reaches of the Wogamous River and its tributaries.

Workpapers in Papua New Guinea Languages

Volume 31

Five Phonological Studies

**Summer Institute of Linguistics
Ukarumpa, Papua New Guinea**