

2. PHONEMES

There are twenty-two segmental phonemes in Lotud: eighteen consonants /p t k ʔ b d g s h dʒ m n ŋ l r w y/ and four vowels /i u a ɔ/. Stress is noncontrastive.

	Bilabial	Alveolar	Palato- alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
Vl. plosive	p	t			k	ʔ
Vd. plosive	b	d			g	
Fricative		s				h
Affricate			dʒ			
Nasal	m	n		ɲ	ŋ	
Lateral		l				
Flap		r				
Semivowel	w			y		

	Front	Central	Back
High	i		u
Non-High		a	ɔ

¹This study is based on what we call the main dialect of Lotud. We lived in two kampungs, Ro'un and Darnat, during 1985-87, and also studied with two people from Kampung Tutu. We have observed that people in these rather widely separated kampungs speak essentially the same dialect.

The voiceless palato-alveolar affricate [tʃ], occurs only in unassimilated borrowings from Bahasa Malaysia, such as [pər'tʃuma] 'free' and [tʃukup] 'enough'. In assimilated borrowings [tʃ] is replaced by /s/, as in /sɔritaʔ/ 'story'. Semivowels /w/ and /y/ are the nonsyllabic counterparts of the vowels /u/ and /i/.

The symbols /i/, /a/, /u/ and /ɔ/ represent the phonetic norms of these phonemes.

2.1 Description of phonemes

2.1.1 Consonants

/p/	[pʰ]	voiceless unreleased bilabial plosive; occurs word-finally: /sisip/	[ˈsisipʰ]	'sand flea'
	[p]	voiceless bilabial plosive; occurs elsewhere: /papak/	[ˈpapak]	'stake in ground'
/t/	[tʰ]	voiceless unreleased interdental plosive; occurs word-finally. (Not all ideolects are observed to have the interdental [tʰ].) /puyut/	[ˈpuyutʰ]	'area under house'
	[t]	voiceless alveolar plosive; occurs elsewhere: /tutubit/	[tuˈtubit]	'castenet of priestess'
/k/	[k]	voiceless velar plosive: /kadayan/ /sakot/ /ibok/	[kəˈdayən] [ˈsakot] [ˈʔibok]	'person' 'grass' 'come!'
/ʔ/	[ʔ]	glottal plosive; in affixed forms, the word-initial [ʔ] is deleted following the final consonant of a prefix, but it is retained following the final vowel of a prefix: /ilɔʔ/ /waʔig/ /aki/ /maŋaki/	[ʔilɔʔ] [ˈwaʔig] [ˈʔaki] [məˈŋaki]	'that' 'water' 'grandfather' 'to call someone grandfather'
/b/	[b]	voiced bilabial plosive: /badi/ /gɔnɔb/	[ˈbadi] [ˈgɔnɔb]	'market' 'skirt'
/d/	[d]	voiced alveolar plosive: /daŋɔl/ /lusad/	[ˈdaŋɔl] [ˈlusad]	'bush knife' 'sit!'
/g/	[g]	voiced velar plosive: /gakɔd/ /waʔig/	[ˈgakɔd] [ˈwaʔig]	'foot' 'water'

/s/	[s]	voiceless alveolar central fricative: /sibər/ [ˈsibər] ‘dike in ricfield’ /ɔgis/ [ˈʔɔgis] ‘sand’
/h/	[h]	voiceless glottal fricative; not contrastive word-finally: /həpəd/ [ˈhəpəd] ‘ten’ /idə/ [ˈʔidəh] ‘they’
/dʒ/	[dʒ]	voiced palato-alveolar affricate; occurs syllable-initially: /dʒun/ [dʒun] ‘you (singular)’
/m/	[m]	voiced bilabial nasal: /mansak/ [ˈmansak] ‘banana’ /məgihum/ [məgiˈhum] ‘to look for’
/n/	[n]	voiced alveolar nasal: /natanan/ [ˌnatəˈnan] ‘all’
/ɲ/	[ɲ]	voiced palatal nasal; occurs syllable-initially: /ɲamiʔ/ [ˈɲamiʔ] ‘our (exclusive)’
/ŋ/	[ŋ]	voiced velar nasal: /ŋaran/ [ˈŋaran] ‘name’ /kaban/ [ˈkabanŋ] ‘mouth’
/l/	[l]	voiced alveolar lateral: /linsəw/ [ˈlinsəw] ‘seed’ /badil/ [ˈbadil] ‘cannon’
/r/	[r]	voiced alveolar flap; occurs syllable-initially /ruhaŋ/ [ˈruhaŋ] ‘friend’
	[r̥]	voiced alveolar trill; occurs syllable-finally; (We have observed variety in the amount of trill in different idelects, and with some speakers, /r/ may be trilled syllable-initially and syllable-finally.) /sigar/ [ˈsigar] ‘part of priestess’s headdress’
/w/	[w]	voiced rounded labiovelar semivowel: /wəgək/ [ˈwəgək] ‘pig’ /ragiw/ [ˈragiw] ‘thorn’
/y/	[y]	voiced unrounded palatal semivowel: /puyut/ [ˈpuyut̚] ‘area under house’ /paray/ [ˈparay] ‘rice in the field’

2.1.2 Vowels

/i/	[i]	semi-high front unrounded vowel; occurs before syllable-final /ŋ/ and alternates with [i] in unstressed VC and CVC syllables: /iŋgaran/ [ˈiŋgərəˈnan] ‘called’ /sisip/ [ˈsisip] ~ [ˈsisip] ‘sand flea’
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	/damit/	['damit̚] ~ ['dami̯t̚]	'type of rice'
[i]	high front unrounded vowel; occurs elsewhere:		
	/idə/	['ʔidəh]	'they'
	/inəwit/	['ʔinəwi̯t̚]	'have carried'
	/di/	[di]	(particle)
/u/	[u]	semi-high back rounded vowel; occurs before syllable-final /t/, /d/, and /n/, except after /a/ and /ɔ/:	
	/uput/	['ʔuput̚]	'rice measuring can'
	/nəkəsɪŋud/	[nəkə'sɪŋud]	'to have smelled'
	/jun/	[dʒun]	'you (singular)'
[o]	mid back rounded vowel; occurs before /ŋ/, following /k/ and /y/. If the vowel preceding a /k/ is also /u/, it too is realized as [o].		
	/ukun/	['ʔokun]	'grandkinsman'
	/biyun/	['biyun]	'cat'
	/binukul/	[,bino'kol]	'bride price payment'
[u]	high back rounded vowel; occurs elsewhere:		
	/uwaʔ/	['ʔuwaʔ]	'fruit'
	/haun/	[haun]	'fog, mist'
	/təud/	[təud]	'spring (of water)'
/a/	[ə]	mid central unrounded vowel; occurs in unstressed syllables of words with three or more syllables:	
	/mamanaw/	[,mamə'naw]	'to walk, go'
	/antadan/	[,ʔantə'dan]	'honey bee'
[a]	low central unrounded vowel; occurs elsewhere:		
	/apat/	['ʔapat̚]	'four'
/ɔ/	[o]	mid back rounded vowel; occurs before word-final /w/ and in word roots following a /y/ which is preceded by /a/ or /ɔ/:	
[ə]	mid central unrounded vowel; occurs in unstressed syllables of words with two or more syllables; also occurs following /d/ in open syllables, and before glottal plosive, or following /l/ in all environments except before velar consonants and semivowels:		
	/ɔsəmək/	[,ʔəsə'mək]	'near'
	/idə/	['ʔidəh]	'they'
	/hiləʔ/	['hiləʔ]	'there'
	/də/	[də]	'(particle)'
[ɔ]	lower-mid back rounded vowel; occurs elsewhere:		
	/səɔp/	['səɔp]	'night'
	/ləŋɔn/	['ləŋɔn]	'arm'
	/məmələkɔŋ/	[,məmə'ləkɔŋ]	'transplant rice seedlings'
	~ /məmələŋkɔŋ/	~ [,məmə'ləŋkɔŋ]	

PHONOLOGICAL DESCRIPTIONS
of
SABAH LANGUAGES

Studies from ten languages:

Bonggi
Ida'an
Kadazan/Dusun
Kalabuan
Kimaragang
Labuk-Kinabatangan Kadazan
Lotud
Tagal
Tatana'
Tombonuwo

Edited by

Michael E. Boutin and Inka Pekkanen

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