

LANGUAGE, DIALECT AND RIOTOUS SOUND CHANGE:  
THE CASE OF SA'BAN

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ABSTRACT

Sa'ban (also known as Saban), an obscure and poorly described member of the North Sarawak group of languages, can be shown on lexicostatistical grounds to be a dialect of Kelabit-Lun Dayeh. However, it has undergone extraordinarily rapid and extensive sound changes which have destroyed intelligibility with any of its better-known sister dialects/languages. These changes are surprising for several reasons. First, contrary to universal tendencies, they exhibit a strong pattern of 'erosion from the left' which appears to be at least partly independent of prosody. This canonical feature, as well as the unusual phonetic content of some changes which must have taken place over a very short time, forces us to confront the question whether all sound changes are phonetically motivated. Second, despite many recurrent correspondences with other dialects of Kelabit-Lun Dayeh, these changes exhibit massive irregularity. Finally, sound change has triggered a major restructuring of verb morphology in relation to voice marking. This restructuring has produced not only new patterns of affixation, but also many new problems in relating the members of morphological paradigms to an underlying base of constant shape, and so almost certainly have complicated the task of first language acquisition.

1. **Language and dialect.** The language/dialect distinction has vexed linguists for generations. Under what conditions can we say that two speech communities are dialects of a single language, and when can we say they are

two different languages? Answers to this question have appealed to essentially two types of evidence: 1) intelligibility, and 2) cognate percentage in basic vocabulary. Both types of evidence are problematic, and as will be seen, there is no guarantee that they will agree.

Intelligibility offers a commonsense approach to the language/dialect question: if the speech of two communities is mutually comprehensible the two should be considered dialects of a single language; if not, they should be considered different languages. In many ways this approach is appealing, but in practice it is fraught with complications. First, intelligibility may be non-mutual. The fact that speakers in community A profess to understand speakers in community B is no guarantee that the experience will be reciprocated. Second, intelligibility may be delayed. Americans arriving in Australia to live often have difficulty understanding the local dialect for a period of weeks or months, particularly when dealing with certain semantic domains (hardware, automobiles, etc.). But the differences seem to 'wear off' with exposure, and full intelligibility generally is achieved with no special effort on the part of the new arrival. Finally, in chaining or network situations there may be no meaningful or non-arbitrary way to distinguish dialects from languages. If a chain of dialects ABCDE exists such that mutual intelligibility decreases with distance, A and E may be mutually unintelligible, but so long as intermediate dialect gradations exist it is impossible to draw a language boundary anywhere within the chain. However, if dialects B, C and D should become extinct the result would be two languages. Somewhat ironically, in such a situation dialect death can be said to result in language birth.

Another criterion that has been used to define the language/dialect distinction is percentage of cognate basic vocabulary. Dyen (1965) used the expression 'language limit' to mark the boundary between two communities which speak

dialects of a single language vs. two communities which speak different languages. He suggested that the language limit be set at 70% cognation, a figure which reportedly shows a high degree of correspondence with the limits of mutual intelligibility. Wurm (1971:552), on the other hand, as well as other linguists working in Australia, have suggested 81% as corresponding closely with the limits of mutual intelligibility.

The belief that a lexicostatistically-defined language limit will tend to correlate closely with the limits of mutual intelligibility is based on the tacit assumption that rates of linguistic change are roughly homogeneous throughout a language: if lexical change is rapid it is unlikely that phonological or grammatical change will be slow, and vice versa. Historical linguists have not made much progress in the study of rates of linguistic change, and the assumption of homogeneity in all components of a language is an article of faith more than a well-established product of carefully conducted research.

With upwards of 1,000 languages that represent the linguistic residue of a generally rapid expansion out of Taiwan over island Southeast Asia and the Pacific during the past four or five millenia, the Austronesian language family offers a vast laboratory for the study of language change. Impressionistically it is not difficult to think of languages in which some components appear to be conservative, but others innovative. Atayal of northern Taiwan is quite conservative in preserving the distinctive system of multiple voice marking known in the Austronesian literature as 'focus', but it is lexically and phonologically highly innovative. Trukese of the eastern Caroline islands of Micronesia, on the other hand — like other members of the large Oceanic subgroup — is grammatically quite innovative, and phonologically extremely innovative, although it is lexically rather conservative. Sa'ban,

spoken in the border region of northern Sarawak and Kalimantan, exemplifies a case of extremely rapid sound change which has run far ahead of lexical replacement and given rise to extensive morphosyntactic complications that surely cannot have facilitated the task of first language acquisition. As a general consequence of these changes Sa'ban must be classified on lexical grounds as a dialect of Kelabit, but on grounds of morpheme structure, phonology, morphology or intelligibility it is clearly a distinct language. The principal aim of this paper is to raise these statements from the level of general impressions to that of well-supported claims.

**2. The linguistic position of Sa'ban.** The Austronesian (AN) family as a whole divides into perhaps ten primary branches. Nine of these branches are represented among the 15 surviving languages in Taiwan (Blust 1999). All of the remaining 1,000-1,200 AN languages outside Taiwan belong to the Malayo-Polynesian (MP) subgroup, which in turn divides into Central-Eastern Malayo-Polynesian (the AN languages of eastern Indonesia and the Pacific exclusive of Palauan and Chamorro), and Western Malayo-Polynesian (WMP), a large collection of MP languages in the Philippines and western Indonesia. Although WMP may turn out to be an innovation-defined subgroup, it is best regarded for the present as a collection of heterogeneous MP languages linked by certain exclusively shared features of verb morphology. The most notable of these shared features is the process of homorganic nasal substitution used to form active verbs from unaffixed word bases, as in Malay /pukul/ 'hit' : /me-mukul/ 'to hit' : /di-pukul/ 'be hit'. Nasal substitution and its complementary process nasal accretion, takes various forms in individual languages. Presumably under the influence of a family-wide disyllabic canonical target, a number of languages in Indonesia have come to form active verbs by nasal substitution alone, without an accompanying

CV- prefix, as with Javanese /buntut/ 'tail' : /muntut/ 'to follow'.

Sa'ban (known to younger speakers as Saban) is a member of a linguistic subgroup which includes most of the languages of northern Borneo as far south as the basin of the Baram river in northern Sarawak. Its immediate ties are with the Kelabit-Lun Dayeh dialect complex, which forms part of a larger North Borneo group:<sup>1</sup>

## THE NORTH BORNEO GROUP

1. Sabahan branch: the 30-40 indigenous languages of Sabah, exclusive of recent immigrants from the Philippines such as Ilanun.

2. North Sarawak branch: a collection of perhaps fifteen languages centered in the basin of the Baram river, in the Fourth Division of Sarawak.

2.1. Kelabit-Lun Dayeh: generally divided into two languages: Lun Dayeh ('people of the interior'), also known as Lun Bawang ('people of the country'), spoken in the Fifth Division of Sarawak, bordering Brunei and Sabah, and Kelabit, spoken in many dialect variants around the headwaters of the Baram river and further east into Kalimantan.

2.2. Berawan-Lower Baram: consists of Berawan, a collection of four dialects representing perhaps two languages, and six or seven Lower Baram languages, spoken in the lower course of the Baram river or in coastal settlements such as the town of Miri.

2.3. Kenyah: a collection of several languages and many dialects within them; the basic division appears to be between 'Highland Kenyah' and 'Lowland Kenyah'.

2.4. Bintulu: a single language spoken in the coastal town of Bintulu and neighboring parts of the Fourth Division of Sarawak.

How close is the relationship of Sa'ban to other Kelabit-Lun Dayeh languages? Table 1 reproduces a matrix of lexicostatistical cognate percentages taken from Blust (1984:109), with minor modifications (SAB = Sa'ban, LD = Long Semado dialect of Lun Bawang, BAR = Bario Kelabit, LTT = Tring dialect of Long Terawan).<sup>2</sup>

TABLE 1

Cognate percentages between Sa'ban, Lun Dayeh, Bario Kelabit and Long Terawan Tring (after Blust 1984)

	SAB	LD	BAR
LTT	76	75	81
BAR	83	80	
LD	72		

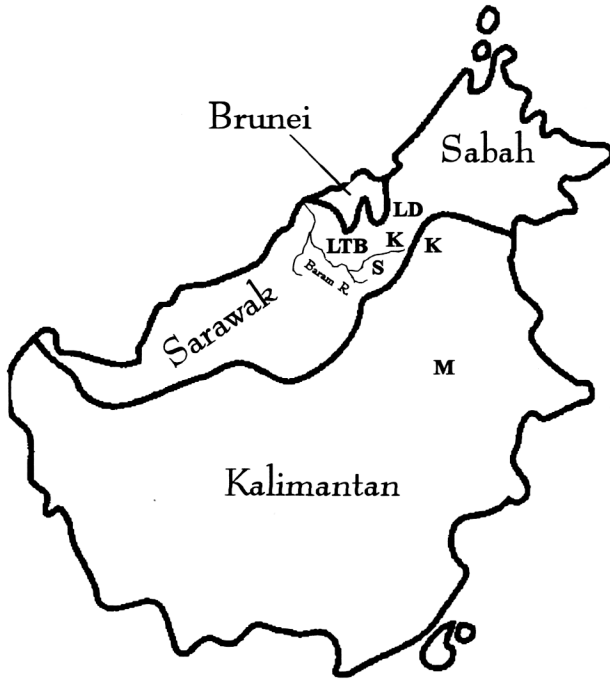
Jollie Uda, the only Sa'ban speaker who I was able to work with, knew Bario Kelabit well, and he materially assisted my task in comparing Sa'ban and Bario by offering the Bario equivalents of many Sa'ban forms. Although it was clear to me that he understood many of the sound correspondences that distinguish the two languages, it is worth noting that Jollie consistently gave *semantic* equivalents regardless of cognation. In this connection it is also worth stressing that I have NOT done cognate searching, but have confined myself to homosemantic cognates in arriving at the figures seen in Table 1. To illustrate, for the Swadesh meaning 'to scratch' I was forced to narrow the sense specifically to 'scratch an itch', since the meaning on the Swadesh list covers several distinct senses, most notably 'to scratch an itch' vs. 'to scratch hard, as a cat'. Sa'ban apparently uses

/lamIt/ 'to scratch' as a general term, but the Bario Kelabit word for 'to scratch an itch' is /ngaro/. Bario also has /nge-rमित/ 'scratch hard, as a cat', which is cognate with the Sa'ban form. Since the test-list meaning is 'scratch an itch' this comparison is discarded.

Despite these controls, over 80% of Sa'ban basic vocabulary turned out to have cognates in Bario Kelabit. In the great majority of cases these are homosemantic cognates, and where they are not, as with BAR /nge-rमित/ 'to scratch hard, as a cat', SAB /lamIt/ 'to scratch (in general)', or BAR /taqeng/ 'mouth', SAB /ta'ang/ 'voice', they were not compared. The cognate percentage of general vocabulary was nearly as high, with figures for Lun Dayeh (Labo Pur 1965) scoring about 10% lower. Although this overwhelmingly common vocabulary was obvious to Jollie Udaу, and presumably to many other Sa'ban speakers, it was not to Kelabit speakers. Kelabit speakers from Bario who readily recognized other Kelabit dialects that differed in various particulars from the standard they knew, considered Sa'ban a 'completely different language'. In sharp contrast the reaction of Sa'ban speakers — at least to judge from Jollie Udaу — was that they were privy to a great secret, as they could readily recognize the multiple points of common origin linking the two systems. To what extent this awareness was a product of exposure to Bario Kelabit — the lingua franca of the Kelabit dialect region — remains unclear.

**3. Proto-Kelabit-Lun Dayeh.** Dialects of Kelabit-Lun Dayeh are spoken in the Kerayan-Kelabit highlands of northern Sarawak and adjacent portions of Indonesian Borneo, at elevations generally in excess of 3,000 feet above sea level (see Map). Like other indigenous ethnic groups of central and western Borneo, the Kelabit-Lun Dayeh live in long-house communities typically numbering 200-300 people. Un-

# BORNEO



## Legend

K	Kelabit
LD	Lun Dayeh
LTB	Long Terawan
	Berawan
M	Modang
S	Sa'ban



like most other interior populations of Borneo many Kelabit groups traditionally practiced wet rice agriculture.

The most fundamental ethnographic and linguistic division among these groups has traditionally separated the Lun Dayeh ('people of the interior'), who reside in the river valleys of Sarawak's Fifth Division bordering Brunei and Sabah, from the Kelabit, who reside in the intermontane valleys of the Kerayan-Kelabit highland somewhat further to the south and east. In addition, there are KLD groups which go by other names, as the Tring and the Sa'ban, whose exact affiliations remain in dispute.

The major dialect of Kelabit is that of Bario, an important settlement by local standards located at an elevation of about 3,000 feet near Mt. Murud, and best known through the colorful descriptions of the English adventurer Tom Harrison (1959). The Bario dialect has high prestige in the Kelabit world, and is known by speakers of most other dialects for some distance around.

Based on the surviving evidence it appears that Proto-Kelabit-Lun Dayeh (PKLD) was spoken about a millennium ago. It is possible that other, more distantly related languages in this group have disappeared, or exist in Kalimantan, but are yet to be described. If so, the time depth for this proto-language may have been greater. There are also some indications that Kelabit-Lun Dayeh and Berawan-Lower Baram shared a common proto-language after the break-up of Proto-North Sarawak.

In examining the historical phonology of Sa'ban the highest language in the AN family tree to which reference will be made is Proto-Malayo-Polynesian (PMP). Like other North Sarawak languages PKLD had a typologically rare series of

true phonemic voiced aspirates (not murmured stops). Table 2 shows the development of consonants, vowels and diphthongs from PMP to PKLD (PMP \*c = voiceless palatal affricate, \*q = pharyngeal stop, \*z = voiced palatal affricate, \*j = palatalized voiced velar stop, \*r = alveolar flap, \*R = alveolar trill, \*e = mid-central vowel; PKLD \*q = glottal stop, \*e = mid-central vowel):

TABLE 2

Development of consonants, vowels and diphthongs from Proto-Malayo-Polynesian to Proto-Kelabit-Lun Dayeh

PMP	PKLD
p	p
t	t
c	h
k	k, -q-
q	-q-, -q
b	b, bh
d	d, dh
z	d, dh
j	d, dh
g	g, gh
s	h, zero
l	l, r
r	r
R	r
w	w
y	y
a	a
e	e
i	i
u	u
-ay	-ay

-aw	-aw
-uy	-uy
-iw	-iw

Table 3 shows the PKLD phoneme inventory which resulted from changes to PMP:

TABLE 3

## The Proto-Kelabit-Lun Dayeh phoneme inventory

## 1. Consonants

p	t	k	q
b	d	g	
bh	dh	gh	
m	n	ŋ	
	s		h
	l		
	r		
w	y		

## 2. Vowels

i	u
	e
	a

## 3. Diphthongs

uy	iw
ay	aw

PMP \*k underwent a conditioned change to -q- in intervocalic position, but \*k elsewhere. There are some exceptions which may point to borrowing. PMP \*q (probably a

pharyngeal stop in PMP) merged with zero in initial position, and between unlike vowels the first of which was high (\*-uqa-, etc.), but otherwise became glottal stop (written \*q in PKLD). The earlier sequences \*IVr, \*IVR, \*rVI or \*RVI assimilated to PKLD \*rVr.

The most remarkable set of changes in PKLD is the split of the original voiced obstruents into a series of plain voiced stops and a series of voiced aspirates which in Bario Kelabit alternate morphophonemically with their plain voiced counterparts in some morphemes. This development is shared with other North Sarawak languages, where the corresponding consonants are implosive stops (as in Bintulu and Lowland Kenyah dialects), or are noteworthy in other ways, as where Kiput shows /s/ corresponding to Bario Kelabit /bh/. Indeed, the history of these voiced aspirates is also shared with the languages of Sabah, although among these languages the effects of the change are clearly preserved only in the Ida'an languages of the Kinabatangan River basin. This series of consonants has been described elsewhere (Blust 1974a, 1974b, 1993), and will receive no further attention here.

Lun Dayeh dialects differ from Kelabit dialects in retaining three of the four PAN focus possibilities, characteristic of 'Philippine-type' languages, and in retaining a productive reflex of the PAN stative prefix \*ma-, as in /me-berat/ 'heavy', /me-budaʔ/ 'white', /me-siaʔ/ 'red', /me-kapal/ 'thick, of materials', or /me-dedcem/ 'dark' (where /e/ = schwa). By contrast, Kelabit has only a two-voice system similar (but not identical) to the active/passive contrast of many other languages, and only fossilized reflexes of the stative prefix. Phonologically, Lun Dayeh differs from Kelabit in two noteworthy respects. First, it retains a contrast between \*a, \*i and \*u in prepenultimate (pretonic) syllables. Second, it retains the sequence \*ti without change. In Kelabit dialects, including Tring, prepenultimate \*a, \*i and \*u have merged

as schwa except in the passive/perfective infix *-/in/-* (which varies between *-/in/-* and *-/en/-*), and \**t* has become */s/* before a high front vowel, a conditioned change which has left a residue in the synchronic phonology, as in Bario Kelabit */tabun/* 'a heap' : */nabun/* 'to heap up' : */s-in-abun/* 'was heaped up'. Like other languages of northern and central Sarawak (Blust 1997), the KLD dialects have also developed a system of verbal ablaut in bases that contain penultimate schwa, as in Bario */telen/* 'swallowing' : */nelen/* 'to swallow' : */silen/* 'was swallowed'.

Apart from a few unexplained */s/* reflexes which are difficult to explain as loans, PMP \**c* and \**s* disappeared both in Kelabit and in Lun Dayeh, but in intervocalic position Sa'ban sometimes retains the latter as *-/h/-*. Similarly, both Kelabit and Lun Dayeh have monophthongized the diphthongs \**-ay* and \**-aw* to *-/e/*, *-/o/* respectively, but Sa'ban reflects them in complex ways which show that monophthongization had not yet occurred in their immediate common ancestor. These changes show that despite its remarkably innovative phonology, with regard to some features Sa'ban is more conservative than either Kelabit or Lun Dayeh.

**4. Sa'ban phonology.** To understand Sa'ban historical phonology we first need to have some idea of its synchronic system. Table 4 shows a tentative analysis of the phonemes of Sa'ban:

TABLE 4  
Phonemes of Sa'ban

1. Consonants

p	t	c	k	'
b	d	j		
m	n		ng	
hm	hn		hng	
	s			h
	l			
	hl			
	r			
	hr			
w	y			

PLUS LENGTH

2. Vowels

i		u
I		U
é		o
ε	e	ɔ
	a	

3. Diphthongs

ie		ue
ée		oe
oy	ey	ew
ay		aw

4. Triphthongs

uey		iew
oey		éew
		oew
aey		aew

Voiceless stops are unaspirated and occur in all positions. /p/ was occasionally heard as a somewhat rounded voiceless bilabial or labiodental fricative (transcribed [f<sup>w</sup>]). Two phonetic details of the voiceless stops are atypical for languages of western Indonesia and the Philippines: 1) whereas /t/ is dental and /d/ and /n/ alveolar in many of the languages of insular Southeast Asia, in Sa'ban both were recorded as alveolar, 2) stops in final position are clearly released, a very unusual feature. /ʔ/ is the glottal stop, /c/ and /j/ are palatal affricates and /r/ is an alveolar flap. Voiced stops do not occur word-finally,

Sa'ban is strikingly different from other languages in insular Southeast Asia in having both initial geminates and voiceless sonorants. In fact, Sa'ban appears to be unique among the world's languages in having geminate consonants *only* in initial position (Thurgood 1993). Consonants that may occur geminated include all stops except /c/, and /ʔ/. It should be stressed that the term 'geminate' is a phonemic cover term for a phonetically variable class of consonants. Tape-recordings made in the field suggest that /ss/ is a preglottalized sibilant, as in /ssuek/ [ʔsuək] 'short-tailed monkey'. Although the difference between geminated and preglottalized voiceless stops probably could be detected without instrumental aid by observation of the movement of the laryngeal muscles, such observations were not made in the field, and the precise phonetic characterization of the long stops remains unclear. The difference between single and geminated liquids appears to be one of length (simple duration for /l/, and contrast between a flap vs. a 3-4 tap trill for /r/). Geminate consonants occur only initially in monosyllables or in disyllables which contain a -VV- sequence of which the second vowel is an 'extrametrical' schwa, as in /bbéng/ 'k.o. wild cat' or /jjuek/ 'tobacco'. This schwa is historically secondary, and is transparent to the normal rule of final stress. Ideally it should be treated as non-phonemic, but if it

is not included in underlying representations there does not seem to be any clear way in which it can be predicted. Finally, sequences of identical nasals present a somewhat more complicated picture. The sequence /nn/ occurs within a morpheme in examples such as /nnu/ 'enemy', but all cases of /mm/ and /ngng/, as well as most cases of /nn/ occur in active verbs where the first nasal can be seen as a prefix, as in /n-naw/ 'to think' (cp. /hnaw/ 'thought'). Since such nasal sequences are separated by a morpheme boundary they must be treated as consonant clusters, not as geminate consonants. Moreover, in all sequences of like nasals, both those which are intra-morphemic and those which are not, the first nasal is syllabic. Since no sequences of like nasals in Sa'ban are tautosyllabic it is doubtful whether true geminate nasals exist in the language.

I recorded the voiceless nasals and liquids only in initial position, although Clayre (1992:212) reports rare examples word-medially. As will be seen, in many cases they alternate morphophonemically with their voiced counterparts.<sup>3</sup>

The most serious transcription problems in Sa'ban are encountered with the vowels, as these sometimes exhibit phonetic qualities which are quite unknown elsewhere in the region. Many North Sarawak languages retain the simple four vowel system of PAN (the vowel triangle plus schwa). Sa'ban has developed a number of novel distinctions, and the exact phonetic values of these innovative vowels are not always clear. Before final dentals /u/ appears to be somewhat centralized, approaching the value of a rounded high central vowel: cp. /lut/ [lɨwt] 'wing' vs. /lewt/ [lɨUt] 'peeling'. Although /I/ is common, /U/ is rare, perhaps appearing only in loans from Malay, as /rasUn/ 'poison'. The mid-front tense vowel /é/ is found in penultimate (unstressed) syllables, but is very rare in final (stressed) syllables, where the diphthong /ée/ is far more common. Other phonetic details that merit some notice are that the vowel which I write as



'open o' appears to be centralized, approaching the value of a rounded mid central vowel. Finally, although /a/ and /e/ clearly contrast in forms such as /pat/ 'bottom' vs. /pet/ 'to throw', the two seem to vary freely before final /h/, where I recorded -/eh/ at some times, but -/ah/ at others.

Sa'ban appears to have four centering diphthongs (with mid-central offglide) and four rising diphthongs. Although PKLD allowed diphthongs only word-finally, in Sa'ban they may occur in any final (stressed) syllable, open or closed. As in many of the coastal languages of Sarawak, there appears to be a particular preference for centering diphthongs /ie/, /ue/, etc. before final /k/ and /ŋg/. In addition, like members of the Lower Baram subgroup of North Sarawak languages, it has a rich system of triphthongs. The phonetic value of /aey/ and /aew/ is all but indistinguishable from [a:y] and [a:w], and is posited here on the basis of pattern symmetry, since there is no unambiguous evidence of length distinctions in the vowels. Gaps are found both in the system of diphthongs (no /éw/), and in the system of triphthongs (no /éey/). Examples of contrast are given in Table 5:

TABLE 5

Evidence of contrast between simple and geminate consonants, voiced and voiceless sonorants, vowels, diphthongs and triphthongs

/peng/ 'paddy dyke'	:	/ppeng/ 'felling of trees'
/tet/ 'back (anat.)'	:	/ttat/ 'to separate, divorce'
/ko'/ 'bracelet'	:	/kkot/ 'prop'
/béeng/ 'hole'	:	/bbéeng/ 'k.o. wild cat'
/dew/ 'grass'	:	/ddeu/ 'seven'
/jeu'/ 'shame'	:	/jjin/ 'plate'
/seu'/ 'to cease'	:	/ssew/ 'gall (bladder)'
/luen/ 'life'	:	/lluen/ 'to roll s.t. up'
/ruel/ 'cluster of fruit'	:	/rruet/ 'to bring down'

/lamIt/ 'to scratch'	:	/hmet/ 'heel'
/nah/ 'that, those'	:	/hnah/ 'that way'
/ngal/ 'plank'	:	/hnga/ 'window'
/lew/ 'head'	:	/hlew/ 'correct'
/roet/ 'vein, vessel'	:	/hrol/ 'egg'
/alit/ 'ear'	:	/anIt/ 'skin'
/anIt/ 'skin'	:	/hmet/ 'heel'
/aré' aré' 'serrated'	:	/pe'/ 'side'
/lepun/ 'smoke'	:	/rasUn/ 'poison'
/ma'on/ 'old (things)'	:	/jInto'on/ 'star'
/pat/ 'bottom'	:	/pet/ 'to throw'
/ajiep/ 'rice sieve'	:	/m-ajéep/ 'to startle'
/kkuet/ 'foot/leg'	:	/ng-koet/ 'to dig'
/aray/ 'to come'	:	/arey/ 'housepost'
/alaw/ 'eight'	:	/blew/ 'feather'
/apuey/ 'fire'	:	/langoey/ 'to swim'
/éloy/ 'sprout, shoot'	:	/langoey/ 'to swim'
/biriew/ 'wind'	:	/bréew/ 'to chase away'
/m-ray/ 'to dry up (stream)'	:	/m-raey/ 'to give'

Stress is normally final, but surface contrasts are found in the sequence /ueC/, as in [lúwək] 'spoon' : [luwək] 'chest (anat.)', or [luwəl] 'intestinal worm' : [súwəl] 'woman'. The question of how these stress differences should be marked is a difficult one. Since stress is normally final it is simplest to leave the default case unmarked. However, in the sequence /ueC/ the schwa is extrametrical, and stress is normally penultimate. This leaves oxytonal /ueC/ as the non-default case which requires some kind of distinctive marking. Since these cases are quite rare, rather than use a diacritic I have decided to mark the stress contrast through a contrast of segmental phonemes /ueC/ (paroxytone) vs. /uweC/ (oxytone), hence /luek/ 'spoon', but /luwek/ 'chest'. Alternatively, if phonological conditions could be found to predict the distribution of extrametrical schwa, the former word could be written /luk/ and the latter /luek/. At present,

this type of analysis cannot be adopted, since /uC/, /ueC/ and /uweC/ appear to contrast.

In sum, the following typological contrasts can be identified as distinguishing Sa'ban from other PKLD dialects:

1. STRESS. In PKLD and all of its known descendants other than Sa'ban stress is penultimate. In Sa'ban, as just noted, it is generally final, but may be marginally phonemic, depending upon the interpretation of extrametrical schwa in the sequences -/ieC/ and -/ueC/.

2. CANONICAL SHAPE. In PKLD and all of its known descendants other than Sa'ban canonical shape is CVCVC, where all of the consonants are optional. In Sa'ban it is much more variable, but unlike other KLD dialects it contains many monosyllabic content morphemes. Some of these are of the shape CVC, as /pat/ 'four', /ɔh/ 'right side', /un/ 'leaf' or /wei/ 'fruit' (with an internal diphthong); others are of the shape CCVC, as /blin/ 'moon', /hmet/ 'heel', /hrol/ 'egg', /ddeu/ 'seven', or /ssuel/ 'woman, wife' (where the last vowel is extrametrical).

3. VOICED ASPIRATES. PKLD had a series of phonemic voices aspirates \*bh, \*dh, \*gh which have been preserved as such in a few of its descendants such as Bario Kelabit. As in some other less innovative KLD dialects, Sa'ban reflects these as simple voiceless obstruents /p/, /s/ and /k/.

4. VOICELESS SONORANTS. PKLD had only voiced sonorants, but Sa'ban has developed /hm/, /hn/, /hng/, /hl/ and /hr/.

5. GEMINATE CONSONANTS. PKLD had no geminates, but these have developed in Sa'ban, where they are found only in initial position: /ppew/ 'sugarcane', /ttay/ 'lower leg', /kkew/ 'node in bamboo', /bbéeng/ 'tiger-cat', /ddeu/ 'seven', /jjuek/ 'tobacco', /ssew/ 'gall, gall bladder'. As noted already, the nasals are more problematic,

and probably should be treated as consonant clusters even when they occur within a morpheme.

6. VOWELS. PKLD had four vowels; Sa'ban has an undetermined number ranging from at least eight to ten or more.

7. TRIPHTHONGS. PKLD had none; Sa'ban has at least seven.

8. MORPHOLOGY. At the heart of its verb morphology PKLD evidently had a reduced Philippine-type three-focus system (Actor Focus, Patient Focus, Benefactive Focus). This is reportedly preserved in Lun Dayeh (Clayre 1991). In all reported Kelabit dialects, however, it has reduced to a two-way active-passive voice system. The morphology of voice marking falls into two patterns: 1) homorganic nasal substitution, as in Bario Kelabit /dalan/ 'path, road' : /nalan/ 'to walk', 2) ablaut, found only in bases of the form CeCVC (where /e/ = schwa), and effectively only for the passive voice: /pepag/ 'slapping, way of slapping' : /mepag/ 'to slap' : /pipag/ 'was slapped'. In Sa'ban phonological change has skewed the relationships of bases to their affixed forms in often surprising ways, as with /alin/ 'path, road' : /m-alan/ 'to walk', /na'/ 'mother (vocative)' : /hnan/ 'his mother', /pako'/ 'a nail' : /mako'/ 'to nail' : /i-ako'/ 'was nailed.'

The languages of northern Sarawak — and Sa'ban in particular — came as something of a shock when I began to record them in the field in 1971. I had been misled by the myth of the 'phonetically simple' western Indonesian language, and apart from the special series of phonemic voiced aspirates in Bario Kelabit and their correspondences in other languages had no reason to expect anything out of the ordinary. In this respect Sa'ban gave me a rude awakening, and for many years I hesitated to publish my data on this

language out of concern over possible transcriptional inaccuracies. Inaccuracies undoubtedly remain, but this no longer strikes me as a sufficient reason to withhold publication, as it is unlikely that a better description will become available anytime soon. The history of Sa'ban is simply too fascinating and theoretically important to allow perfectionism to stand in the way of the dissemination of marginally flawed information.

**5. Sa'ban historical phonology.** Very little has been written on Sa'ban. Among the few papers which have targeted the language for special consideration are two by Beatrice Clayre (Clayre 1972, 1992). Both of these studies recognize that Sa'ban is a member of the Kelabit-Lun Dayeh dialect complex, and note the striking differences between it and other KLD dialects. However, inferences about change are made on a purely synchronic basis, as neither paper makes use of linguistic reconstruction. Clayre (1972) is quite preliminary, and is fully superseded by the second publication. Although Clayre (1992) compares Lun Bawang and Sa'ban to show how the voiceless sonorants and geminates probably arose, this paper has very limited aims. There is no attempt to make the description of change in Sa'ban more exact through the association of reflexes with reconstructed forms, and no overall description is given for either the synchronic or historical phonology of the language (there is not even an attempt to provide a list of the consonant and vowel phonemes). Even more seriously, a number of errors appear both in transcription and in interpretation.

The most critical transcriptional error in Clayre (1992) is the persistent confusion of /a/ and /e/ in Lun Bawang (both written /a/), as in /darak/ for /derak/ 'to tear', /pano/ for /peno/ 'to steal', /nakap/ for /nekap/ 'to seek' (this example may be a typo, since Clayre writes the base form /tekap/), /amung/ for /emung/ 'to collect, gather', and /m-aré/ for

/m-eré/ 'to give'. With rare exceptions, ablaut operates only on verb bases with penultimate schwa (Blust 1997), and the Lun Bawang ablaut paradigms in Clayre (1992:213) are unsystematic if her transcriptions are taken at face value. Moreover, if the Lun Bawang forms are taken as the equivalent of reconstructions in the way that Clayre offers them for comparative purposes, the historical treatment of penultimate vowels in Sa'ban is critically obscured by these errors, since low vowels behave differently from non-low vowels in penultimate position. My own transcriptions for the Lun Bawang dialect of Long Semado show /e/ where Clayre has written /a/ in each of the above forms, and this is further confirmed by Bario Kelabit.<sup>4</sup> Errors of interpretation include Clayre's assumption that the morphology of the Sa'ban Undergoer Focus is invariably cognate with that of Lun Bawang rather than a structural reworking of an earlier pattern (213), her failure to recognize that the correspondence of Lun Bawang /t/ to Kelabit /s/ is the product of a regular conditioned sound change \*t > /s/ before \*i which continues to be synchronically productive in Kelabit (Blust 1974b), and her claim that [l] and [r] are in free variation in Sa'ban (216; as in Tring, they contrast intervocalically, but the contrast is neutralized as /l/ at word margins).

Perhaps the most valuable contribution of Clayre (1992) is its firsthand account of changes in the Sa'ban spoken in Long Banga' as it was recorded in 1967-68, and again in 1991. Not only does the language already have an impressive record of extensive phonological and morphological change, but rapid change appears to be an ongoing process.

5.1. *Preliminary matters.* Kelabit-Lun Dayeh dialects can conveniently be classified into types based on their reflexes of the distinctive voiced aspirates of Proto-Kelabit-Lun Dayeh. Due to operation of convergent changes there is no guarantee that this classification reflects the historical order of splits, although it probably does in some cases:<sup>5</sup>

PROTO-KELABIT-LUN DAYEH : \*bh, \*dh, \*gh

TYPE 1 dialects: /bh/, /dh/, /gh/ (Kelabit: Bario, Long Lellang; Lun Dayeh: Long Semadoh)

TYPE 2 dialects: /p/, /t/, /k/ (Kelabit: Pa' Mada)

TYPE 3 dialects: /p/, /c/, /k/ (Kelabit: Long Terawan Tring; Lun Dayeh: Long Pala)

TYPE 4 dialects: /p/, /s/, /k/ (Kelabit: Pa' Dalih, SA'BAN)

TYPE 5 dialects: /f/, /s/, /k/ (Kelabit: Long Napir, Long Seridan)

5.2. *The classification of theoretically interesting sound changes in Sa'ban.* Sa'ban historical phonology offers such a wealth of detail and so many challenging problems that one could easily become lost and never see the forest amid the chaos of trees. One fundamental issue which will be deferred to the end is the challenge that Sa'ban presents to the Neogrammarian Hypothesis that all sound change is regular. Before facing this issue, however, it will be useful to provide a classification of theoretically interesting sound changes in Sa'ban in those cases where changes are well-attested and puzzling. The order of presentation in the following sections will thus be:

- (1) Change normal, conditions bizarre
- (2) Change bizarre
- (3) Erosion from the left
- (4) Syncope of an unstressed vowel
- (5) Unconditioned phonemic splitting = massive irregularity

5.2.1. *Type 1: Change normal, conditions bizarre.* The vowels of PKLD will be labelled V1, V2 and V3 from the end of the word. V1 is thus the last-syllable vowel, V2 the penult and V3 the prepenultimate vowel. Rarely PKLD had morphemes with more than three syllables, and vowels earlier than V3 will be separately labelled as necessary.

RULE 1: FRONTING OF \*a1. \*a1 was fronted if there was a voiced obstruent anywhere earlier in the word.

Appendix 2 list 209 reflexes of \*a1, with the following distributions: 1. \*a > /a/ : 107, 2. \*a > /ée/ : 27, 3. \*a > /i/ : 24, \*a > /oe/ : 17, 5. \*a > /ae/ : 15, 6. \*a > /ie/ : 9, 7. \*a > /ei/ : 7, 8. \*a > /é/ : 2, 9. \*a > /e/ : 1. Fronting of \*a occurs in 69 cases (types 2,3,6,7,8). Some of the differences in details of fronting can be explained by phonological conditioning, but for others no condition has yet been identified. What is most important is the general opposition of fronted vs. non-fronted reflexes.

There are 69 cases in which PKLD \*a1 is reflected as a front vowel. In 67 of these 69 cases, or 97%, \*a1 follows a voiced obstruent, either as the first or second consonant. The fronting of \*a1 is thus an almost perfect predictor of an earlier voiced obstruent, with two known exceptions: 1) \*liqaw > /lé'éw/ 'clear, of water', 2) \*mikat > /ncéet/ 'difficult; expensive'. In /ncéet/ the rare palatal consonant (reflecting \*-ikV) may have caused vowel fronting. Table 6 provides a sample of the relevant data to illustrate the condition for fronting of \*a. To insure that the sample shows no selection bias I present all recorded reflexes of PKLD \*-an. Other relevant data can be found in Appendix 2 (PIL = parent-in-law, CIL = child-in-law):



TABLE 6

## Sa'ban reflexes of PKLD \*-an

1. *aban > abin 'because'	1. *awan > awan 'spouse'
2. *beladan > beladin 'turtle'	2. *dejan > ngan 'and/with'
3. *bulan > blin 'moon'	3. *kiran > iran 'breadfruit'
4. *buqan > in 'tote basket'	4. *k-um-an > man 'to eat'
5. *daan > rien 'field hut'	5. *lajan > langan 'blowgun dart'
6. *dadan > adin 'old'	6. *mawan > mawan 'visible'
7. *dawan > la'in 'branch'	7. *meman > m-man 'to feed'
8. *dalan > alin 'path, road'	8. *nalan > malan 'to walk'
9. *edhan > sin 'ladder'	9. *pedekan > kkan 'to choke'
10. *iban > ibin 'PIL, CIL'	10. *ratan > laten 'a leak'
11. *idan > din 'when?'	11. *tina-n > hna-n 'his mother'
12. *majan > majien 'papaya'	12. *uan > wan 'to own, possess'
13. *naban > mabin 'elope'	13. *upan > pan 'bait'
14. *ɲadan > adin 'name'	14. *punan > hnoen 'Punan'
15. *udan > din 'rain'	15. *tunan > hnoen 'handle'

There are 78 PKLD forms in which C1 or C2 is a voiced stop. In 64 of these, or 82%, \*a1 fronts. Without further qualification the presence of a voiced stop earlier in the word thus allows us to predict the fronting of \*a1 with better than 80% accuracy. This is a somewhat weaker unilateral correlation than that between fronting and the presence of an earlier voiced obstruent:

vd. stop	— 82% —	fronting
vd. stop	— 97% —	fronting

But a closer look at conditioning and rule ordering shows that we can actually do better than this.

CONSTRAINT 1: Voiceless stops as blocking consonants. If a voiceless stop /p/, /t/ or /k/ intervenes between the voiced stop and \*a1 fronting did not occur: 1) \*baka > /aka/ 'wild pig', 2) \*bata > /atang/ 'log', 3) \*bataq >

/ata/ 'green', 4) \*bekanj > /kang/ 'kind of carrying basket', 5) \*butaq > /toe/ 'sleep in the eye', 6) \*ditaq > /péta/ 'above'; /be-lta/ 'high', 7) \*guta > /toe/ 'to ford, cross a river', 8) \*pedekan > /kkan/ 'to choke on water'. Glottal stop did NOT act as a blocking consonant: \*baqaw > /bi'iew/ 'beads', \*buqan > /in/ 'carrying basket', \*daqan > /la'in/ 'branch.'

**REVISED RULE 1: \*a1 was fronted if there was a voiced obstruent anywhere earlier in the word unless /p/, /t/ or /k/ intervened between the conditioning segment and the target segment.**

At first sight the fronting of \*a1 in Sa'ban appears doubly strange:

1. why did voiced obstruents cause fronting of a low vowel?

2. why did this fronting influence act *at a distance*? (cp. PKLD \*dalan > /alin/ 'path', not \*\*ilin, etc.).

There are six known cases where fronting of \*a1 is expected, but does not take place: 1) \*bejar > /ngal/ 'plank', 2) beraqanj > /bel'ang/ 'molar tooth', 3) \*denak denak > /nak nak/ 'suddenly', 4) \*dejan > /ngan/ 'and/with', 5) \*gerawat > /pelawet/ 'complicated', 6) \*tabat > /tabat/ 'medicine'. Since Pa' Dalih Kelabit also had /ngan/ 'with', it is possible that \*dejan had reduced to a monosyllable prior to the fronting of \*a1, and a similar explanation may apply to /ngal/ 'plank', and /nak nak/ 'suddenly.'

**RULE 2: ROUNDING OF \*a1. \*a1 was rounded in the phoneme sequence \*uCa.**

There are 37 reflexes of the PKLD phoneme sequence \*uCa. Rounding occurs in 18 cases, but does not occur in 19 others:

TABLE 7

## Reflexes of PKLD \*uCa in Sa'ban

1. *butaq > toe 'sleep in eye'	1. *budaq > di' 'white'
2. *guta > toe 'cross a river'	2. *bulan > blin 'moon'
3. *kulat > loet 'mushroom'	3. *buqan > in 'tote basket'
4. *kuyad > yoet 'grey macaque'	4. *buraw > bréew 'chase off'
5. *lukaq > lekoe'/kkoe' 'fall'	5. *buyaw > yiew 'citrus'
6. *muka > ngkoe 'early'	6. *k-um-an > man 'eat'
7. *mulaq > loe' 'many'	7. *lubaj > bbéeng 'hole'
8. *m-uraq > m-roe' 'transfer'	8. *nubaq > bi' 'cooked rice'
9. *pulaŋ > ploeng 'ringworm'	9. *rudap > diep 'sleep'
10. *punan > hnoen 'Punan'	10. *rumaq > ma' 'house'
11. *tulaŋ > hloeng 'bone'	11. *tubaŋ > bléeng 'wild cat'
12. *tunan > hnoen 'handle'	12. *tudaq > ddei' 'how much?'
13. *tunap > hnoep 'winnowed'	13. *udan > din 'rain'
14. *tunaw > hnoew 'hammer'	14. *udaŋ > udéeng 'shrimp'
15. *ŋ-ukat > ng-koet 'dig'	15. *ukab > wap 'opened'
16. *urat > roet 'vein'	16. *upa > pa 'splitting'
17. *urat > roet 'wound'	17. *upan > pan 'bait'
18. *utaq > toe' 'vomit'	18. *upaq > pa' 'yam'
	19. *utap > tap 'shield'

**QUALIFICATION 1:** Fronting bleeds rounding. A comparison of the material in Table 7 with that in Table 6 shows clearly that the Rule 1 (fronting \*a1) occurred first, thus removing \*a1 from participation in the rounding rule. There are seven apparent exceptions: items 6, 10, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 show *neither* fronting nor rounding. But closer inspection shows that the absence of fronting or rounding in these cases is phonologically conditioned.

**CONSTRAINT 2:** Labials as blocking consonants. In all but one of these apparent exceptions C2 is a labial. No form in which C2 is labial appears in col. 1. Hence we can state a subregularity: the rounding of \*a1 in the sequence \*uCa

was blocked if C was labial. The only true exception appears to be \*utap > /tap/ 'shield', for which no explanation can currently be suggested. Hence, the rule of \*a1 rounding can be restated as:

**REVISED RULE 2: After Rule 1 applied \*a1 was rounded if there was a \*u in the preceding syllable and no labial consonant intervened.**

3. **RULE 3: FRONTING OF \*a2 and \*a1. \*a2 and \*a1 were fronted following \*b.**

Penultimate \*a is found in over 200 PKLD etyma with reflexes in Sa'ban. It is fronted to /é/ or, less commonly, to /i/ in 16 known cases. All but one of these follow /b/, which derives from \*b or, less commonly, \*d. The single deviant case of fronting follows /r/ from \*d. In every case where \*a2 is affected fronting also occurs to any following \*a1:

TABLE 8

Reflexes of PKLD \*ba- and \*da- in Sa'ban

1. \*bada > /bidi/ 'sand'
2. \*bahaq > /bihi/ 'wet'
3. \*balaŋ > /béléeng/ 'tiger cat'
4. \*balih > /béley/ 'lie, deceive'
5. \*baliw > /biliew/ 'change state, metamorphose'
6. \*baqaw > /bi'iew/ 'beads'
7. \*baraq > /béré'/ 'to swell'
8. \*barat > /bérét/ 'veranda'
9. \*bareh > /béreh/ 'ember'
10. \*bariw > /biriew/ 'wind'
11. \*baur > /béwel/ 'satiated'
12. \*dadem > /bédem/ 'chills and fever'
13. \*dalem > /bélem/ 'deep'
14. \*daluh > /bélew/ 'quarrel; angry'
15. \*pedalaq > /bélei/ 'fishing net'
16. \*daqet > /ré'et/, /et/ 'bad'

In two known cases a low vowel does not front following \*b: \*bakul > /bakol/ 'kind of basket', \*baŋet > /banget/ 'sea'. At least the latter may be a loan, since the Sa'ban traditionally knew of the sea only by hearsay. In nearly 200 additional cases \*a either remains /a/ or contracts with a following vowel after the loss of \*q.

We might ask whether Rule 1 and Rule 3 are positional variants of a single rule. But the evidence weighs heavily against this interpretation. Consider \*dalan > /alin/ 'path, road', where the initial consonant must have been present at the time Rule 1 applied, but must have disappeared before Rule 3 applied. A number of other etymologies (\*bulan > /blin/ 'moon', \*daŋan > /la'in/ 'branch', \*baraq > /béré/ 'to swell', \*bariw > /biriew/ 'wind', \*bawaŋ > /awéeng/ 'country', \*bataŋ > /atang/ 'log', etc.) also support the following order of changes:

- 1) fronting of \*a1 (Rule 1), 2) rounding of \*a1 (Rule 2),
- 3) (sporadic) loss or change of C1, 4) fronting of \*a2 (Rule 3)

#### SAMPLE DERIVATIONS

*bawaŋ	*dalan	*baraq	
bawéeng	dalin	barée'	Rule 1
awéeng	alin		Loss of C1
		bérée'	Rule 3

Since Rule 2 is a straightforward rule of rounding assimilation there can be no question that it is phonetically motivated. However, Constraint 2, which blocks rounding following a labial consonant, requires some discussion.

It is common to think of labial consonants as associated with roundness, since *labialization is achieved by a superimposed feature of lip rounding*, as in /b<sup>w</sup>/, /p<sup>w</sup>/ or /m<sup>w</sup>/.

Likewise, within the theory of Natural Phonology rounded vowels are described as 'labialized' (Donegan 1985, 1993). But, on the basis of instrumental studies Thurgood and Javkin (1975) have shown that labial stops and nasals are produced with lip spreading, not lip rounding. On purely phonetic grounds we would thus expect a rounded vowel followed by a labial stop or nasal to present a conflict of articulatory gestures. In Sa'ban reflexes of the sequence \*uBa, where B is any labial stop or nasal, rounding is arrested at the point of lip spreading, and fails to reach the following low vowel. It need not be stressed that any such explanation which is based on general phonetic considerations should apply universally, and we would therefore anticipate similar constraints in other languages. This claim remains to be tested in the general arena of linguistic theory. With regard to Austronesian languages it is somewhat difficult to assay, since most cases of low vowel assimilation are regressive, as in Tongan, where \*aCi > /eCi/ and \*aCu > /oCu/. However, historical changes in some Oceanic languages show clearly that the rounding of a vowel may be transferred to a following labial consonant, thus overriding the feature of lip spreading. In many of the Nuclear Micronesian languages POC \*Rumaq 'house' is reflected with a front unrounded vowel in the first syllable, and a labiovelar nasal, as in Trukese /iimw/ 'house', /imwa/ 'house (combining form)'. Similar processes are synchronically active in some of the languages of the Admiralty Islands, as Loniu, where /kaman/ 'men's house' following the general marker of location /lo/ results in a surface form [lokom<sup>w</sup>an] 'in the men's house'. Note that in neither Trukese nor Loniu is the last /a/ rounded, despite the rounding of the preceding consonant. All that appears safe to conclude, then, is that in Sa'ban the articulatory gesture of lip spreading appears to dominate that of lip rounding in constraining the form of Rule 2, whereas in most Oceanic languages the gesture of lip rounding appears to dominate that of lip spreading.<sup>6</sup>

By contrast, Rules 1 and 3 have no immediately obvious phonetic motivation. Graham Thurgood (p.c.) has nonetheless provided a stimulating series of suggestions as to what might lie behind these changes. Before discussing Thurgood's suggestions, however, it will be worthwhile to widen our view of sound change in the languages of Borneo by way of a few general remarks.

As odd and perplexing as Rules 1 and 3 appear to be in Sa'ban, they present an even greater challenge when we discover that a very similar change has taken place in Berawan, a member of the Berawan-Lower Baram division of North Sarawak languages which: 1. shares only about 31 percent of its basic vocabulary with Sa'ban, and 2. is geographically separated from Sa'ban by a distance of at least 100 miles and a number of other Kelabit dialects which do not show the change. Berawan is spoken in four known dialects, Long Terawan (LTB), Batu Belah (BB), Long Teru (LT) and Long Jegan (LJ). All four Berawan dialects have fronted \*a following a voiced stop, a change which apparently took place in Proto-Berawan (PB). Unlike Sa'ban, PB had a single rule of low vowel fronting which apparently affected the *first* low vowel after a voiced stop: cp. PMP \*zalan > LTB /ilan/, Sa'ban /alin/ 'path, road', where both languages show vowel fronting, but not of the same positionally determined vowel, \*bulan > LTB /bulin/, Sa'ban /blin/ 'moon', \*dahun > LTB /dion/, Sa'ban /un/ 'leaf', \*batu > LTB /bittoh/, Sa'ban /ataw/ 'stone', but \*anak > LTB /ana'/, Sa'ban /anak/ 'child', \*taneq > LTB /tana/, Sa'ban /tana'/ 'earth', \*manuk > LTB /mano'/, Sa'ban /manok/ 'bird/chicken'. As in Sa'ban, the fronting of \*a in Berawan took place before various other changes which eliminated the conditioning factor. The most notable of these changes was a bizarre change of intervocalic devoicing, where PMP \*b and \*R (probably a uvular /r/) merged

as /k/, through earlier /g/ (which caused fronting before de-voicing): \*tuba > /tukkIh/ 'fish poison, derris root', \*kaRaw > /kikiw/ 'to scratch'. In addition to changes which eliminated a voiced obstruent after fronting of \*a had already taken place, other changes had to produce voice obstruents before fronting could occur, as with PMP \*Ratus > LTB /gittoh/ 'hundred' (cp. PKLD \*me-ratu, Sa'ban /p-lataw/ 'hundred').

These differences of detail distinguishing the history of vowel fronting in Sa'ban and Berawan, and the fact that no other known KLD dialect shows vowel fronting make it abundantly clear that the change was historically quite independent in the two languages. In addition it should be noted that in Long Jegan Berawan the fronted vowel often does not raise: PMP \*Ratus > LJ /gætɔʔ/ 'hundred', \*Rambut > /gæmauk/ 'root', \*batu > /bættaw/ 'stone', \*bawang > /bæwang/ 'lake', \*dalem > /cælem/ 'deep'.

Finally, Collins (p.c.) points out that PMP \*a is fronted following voiced obstruents in some subdialects of Sambas Malay, spoken near the westernmost tip of Borneo, well over 400 miles distant from either Sa'ban or Berawan, and that \*a is backed and rounded in Kutai Malay, spoken on the coast of East Kalimantan. What can possibly be the explanation for these bizarre changes?

5.2.1.1. *The breathy phonation hypothesis.* Thurgood (1999:134, 179, 190, 197ff, 235) notes that in the Chamic languages of Vietnam and adjacent regions in mainland Southeast Asia voiced obstruents gave rise to a prosodic feature of breathy voice, which carried through the word unless interrupted by an intervening consonant, normally a voiceless stop. The most conspicuous effect of breathy voice apart from the voice timbre itself is its tendency to produce vowel raising. Thurgood credits the initial recognition of this phenomenon to Henderson (1952), and observes



that it is widespread in the phonological history of mainland Southeast Asian languages. Given this pattern of change in mainland Southeast Asia the application of a similar explanation to the Bornean facts would appear to be straightforward: not only would the earlier presence of a phonation type of breathy voice help to account for vowel fronting at a distance in Sa'ban, but even the constraints on spreading of breathy voice are closely matched by Constraint 1, which states that an intervening voiceless stop blocks the raising of vowels despite the presence of an earlier voiced stop. Thurgood is careful to point out that although breathy voice in the Chamic languages evidently arose as a result of contact with Mon-Khmer languages, a hypothesis of earlier breathy voice in Sa'ban or Berawan does not require the somewhat improbable scenario of contact with Mon-Khmer languages in fairly remote interior regions of Borneo (see Map). Rather, breathy voice can arise spontaneously, as it apparently has in Javanese (Fagan 1988, Ladefoged and Maddieson 1996:63ff).<sup>7</sup>

There can be no question that Thurgood's proposal has great intrinsic appeal, as it serves to provide a phonetic motivation for changes which occur under conditions which are otherwise very puzzling. However, in trying to apply this explanation to the data at hand we find that the breathy phonation hypothesis raises perhaps as many questions as it answers. We will deal with these one at a time.

First, breathy phonation tends to raise vowels. Rules 1 and 3 can be seen as raising rules, since \*a is reflected as either /i/ or /é/. But is the essential feature here one of raising or one of fronting? Collins (p.c.) maintains that \*a was backed and rounded following voiced obstruents in Kutai Malay, but the facts in both Sa'ban and Berawan suggest that raising is simply an incidental feature of vowel fronting. If vowel fronting in Sa'ban and Berawan is an inevitable consequence of the phonetic pressures of breathy phonation one

might ask 1) Why is \*e (schwa) impervious to the change, when it could have been raised to a high central vowel?,<sup>8</sup> 2) Why does the height of the raised vowel vary, while fronting remains constant?, 3) Why does Long Jegan Berawan show fronting to a low vowel /æ/ in forms such as PMP \*batu > /bættaw/ 'stone'?, and 4) Why does \*a never raise to a back vowel, even when the first syllable contains \*u, as in PKLD \*bulan > /blin/ 'moon', or \*udaŋ > /udéeng/ 'shrimp'?

With regard to question 2), there clearly is some conditioning in Rule 1 (e.g. \*-an always produces -/in/ or -/ien/, \*-aŋ always produces -/éeng/, and \*-aq always produces -/ei/ or -/ée'/) in the fronting environment), but with regard to Rule 3, vowel height seems to vary capriciously while fronting remains constant, as with PKLD \*baqaw > /bi'iew/ 'beads' or \*bariw > /biriew/ 'wind', but \*bareh > /béreh/ 'hot coal, ember' or \*baur > /béwel/ 'satiated'. With regard to question 3, since Long Jegan Berawan sometimes reflects \*i as /æ/ it is possible that \*a > /æ/ 'stone' passed through an intermediate stage with /i/. If so, however, it is unclear why some reflexes of PMP \*i remain unchanged, as with \*lima > LJ /dimyé/ 'five', \*Ribu > /gikkew/ 'thousand', \*dipen > /jipien/ 'tooth', or \*ñilu > /ñilew/ 'sensation caused by eating something very sour'.

Second, if breathy phonation is a prosodic feature that spreads from left to right it should affect all vowels following a voiced obstruent unless interrupted by a voiceless stop.<sup>9</sup> This appears to be true of Rule 3, but in Sa'ban, Rule 1 paradoxically affects only \*a1. Compare PKLD \*dalan > /alin/ 'path, road', or \*daraŋ > /arée'/ 'blood' where \*a2 is unaffected, or the examples of \*a2 following a voiced obstruent in trisyllables such as PKLD \*beladan > /beladin/ 'fresh-water turtle', \*belatik > /latéek/ 'spring-set arrow trap', \*geramih > /jelamey/ 'rice straw', \*gerawat > /pelawet/ 'complicated', or \*pegamuŋ > /pejamueng/ 'tangled', where a similar immunity prevails (\*pedalaŋ > /bélei'/ 'casting

net', by contrast, is governed by Rule 3). Long Terawan Berawan presents a complementary problem for the breathy phonation hypothesis. Whereas Sa'ban Rule 1 enigmatically skips a vowel which should be subject to the same raising as vowels that follow it, *Long Terawan Berawan* allows fronting at a distance, as with PMP \*bulan > /bulin/ 'moon', but sometimes does not allow it to spread through sonorants, as in PMP \*bana > /bineh/ 'husband', \*bawaŋ > /biwang/ 'lake', or \*zalan > /ilan/ 'path, road'.

Third, in Sa'ban fronting of \*a1 occurs after reflexes of PKLD voiced aspirates, as in \*bebhat > /piet/ 'a share', \*ebhaq > /pei'/ 'water', \*ebhar > /péel/ 'loincloth', \*edhan > /sin/ 'notched log ladder', \*edhaŋ > /séeng/ 'light, brilliance', \*edhaw > /siew/ 'day, sun', \*kedha > /nsi/ (?) 'able to endure pain', \*kelebbhang > /lepéeng/ 'butterfly', \*lidhaq > /lese'i'/ 'to spit', \*tebhaq > /t-el-pe'i'/ 'thorn', or \*tedhak > /séek/ 'pumpkin'. Yet both the phonetics of the Bario Kelabit voiced aspirates and the sound correspondences linking these phonemes to their correspondences in other Kelabit dialects and other North Sarawak languages show clearly that the voiced aspirates had a *voiceless* termination. This is reflected in the Sa'ban reflexes of PKLD \*bh, \*dh, \*gh as /p/, /s/, /k/. It is an unresolved issue as to why voiced stops which had a voiceless termination would have the same fronting effect on following vowels as fully voiced stops, but the facts seem both reasonably clear and difficult to reconcile with a hypothesis of breathy phonation.

Fourth, breathy phonation is an essential part of the phonetic description of many Mon-Khmer languages of mainland Southeast Asia and of some of the Chamic languages which have been in longstanding contact with them. In such a context when a language like Haroi lacks breathy voice but exhibits a pattern of vowel raising effects that are associated with this phonation type, a hypothesis of historically earlier breathy voice is plausible (Thurgood 1999:197ff). But is the

Bornean context similar? During my own fieldwork in 1971 I collected firsthand data on eight KLD dialects, and on over 40 speech communities in central and northern Sarawak generally. None of these had any phonetic feature which could be interpreted as breathy voice. Hudson (1970) provides data on several other Kelabit dialects, and although he does sometimes comment on the phonetics of the material he collected, he never mentions any peculiarity of the phonetics of the voiced stops apart from the voiced aspirates. In fact, *no* language of Borneo has ever been reported as having breathy voice or anything that might reasonably be interpreted as being breathy voice. This leaves the breathy phonation hypothesis for the fronting of \*a in Sa'ban and Berawan in a very awkward position. Should we believe that breathy voice arose in a single dialect of KLD, in Proto-Berawan, and in some subdialects of Sambas Malay, triggered vowel fronting and then invariably disappeared without leaving any other trace?

Finally, if breathy phonation is the correct explanation for the fronting of low vowels in Sa'ban and Berawan, why have similar effects not been observed in Javanese? As Ladefoged and Maddieson (1996) note, slack voice in Javanese is not quite the same thing as breathy voice, although it differs only in quantitative detail, not in fundamental form.

In short, the Breathy Phonation Hypothesis offers tantalizing hints of a possible phonetic basis for the otherwise bizarre conditioning of vowel fronting in Sa'ban and Berawan, but founders on a number of unanswered questions.

5.2.2. *Type 2: Change bizarre.* What is peculiar about Rules 1, 2 and 3 is not the content of the change, but rather the conditions under which the change takes place. Sa'ban has at least one reasonably well-exemplified change, however, which presents a serious challenge to the view that sound change must proceed one feature at a time: PKLD \*g

is reflected as a voiced palatal affricate /j/ before a vowel (any vowel), and as /p/ word-finally. Since the situation is somewhat more complex than this Sa'ban reflexes of PKLD \*g are presented in full in Table 9:

TABLE 9

## Reflexes of PKLD \*g in Sa'ban

*g- > zero :	5
*g- > j :	4
*g- > p :	2
*g- > l :	1
*-g- > j :	7
*-g > p :	8
*-g > k :	1

There are 28 known Sa'ban reflexes of PKLD \*g in a total of 26 different lexical items (\*agag 'rice sieve' and \*gileg 'skittish' each contain two instances of \*g). The best-attested reflexes in addition to loss are \*g > /j/ in eleven examples, four in initial and seven in medial position, and \*g > /p/ in ten examples, all but two in final position. For convenience of reference the reflexes of \*g > /p/ are listed here: \*gerawat > /pelawet/ 'tangled, complicated', \*gileg > /pélep/ 'skittish, easily startled', \*agag > /ajiep/ 'rice sieve', \*areg > /arep/ 'crumbs, rubbish', \*beluqug > /bel'up/ 'wasp', \*eleg > /lep/ 'to stop, as work', \*ileg > /élep/ 'to separate, divorce', \*pepag > /ppap/ 'a slap', \*rurug > /hrop/ 'to fall, pour out'.

It is clear that PKLD \*g was a voiced velar stop. The phonemes /g/ and /j/ differ in at least three classic feature values (back, coronal, delayed release), and the phonemes /g/ and /p/ differ in at least four (voice, high, back, anterior). Whatever feature system is used, it is evident that either change, but particularly the change \*g > /p/ is theoretically unexpected. Since Sa'ban has devoiced all final

stops it is possible that the reflex \*g > /p/ in final position was a two-stage change, \*g > /b/, followed by final devoicing. This at least would have the advantage of relating velars to labials through their acoustic similarity. However, the two instances of \*g > /p/ in initial position weigh against this interpretation, suggesting that \*g simply became /p/ in a single step. Additional support for this view is found in the occasional reflex \*k- > /p/, as in \*kadan > /padéeng/ 'tall', \*kapeh > /papeh/ 'how?', \*me-keluk > /plok/ 'slack, as a rope', \*pe-keneh > /panah/ 'to believe', or \*kereb > /parep/ 'able, capable'. Advocates of the view that such reflexes must be the result of cumulative changes of a phonetically more plausible type must recognize that Sa'ban has not been separated from other KLD dialects for more than perhaps twenty five or thirty generations. Sound change must have proceeded at an extraordinary rapid pace in this language community, but even so it is somewhat difficult to imagine a series of steps involving single-feature changes which could have led from \*g to /p/ in such a short time interval.

Nearly as perplexing but not so well-attested as the preceding change is the recurrent change of dentals to labials in initial position. The change \*d > /b/ is seen in PKLD \*dadem > /bédem/ 'chills and fever', \*dalem > /bélem/ 'deep', and \*me-daluh > /bélew/ 'quarrel; angry.' Although PKLD \*n normally became Sa'ban /l/ in initial position, the PKLD prefixal allomorphs /m/-, /n/- and /ŋ/- all fell together as /m/ in non-assimilatory contexts: \*ŋ-abet > /m-abet/ 'to tie', \*ŋarit > /m-arIt/ 'to write', \*nalan > /m-alan/ 'to walk', \*nari > /m-arey/ 'to measure'. Since this change is attested only with prefixal phonemes it is not clear whether it was phonological or morphological.

5.2.3. *Type 3: Erosion from the left.* The erosion of word endings is so common a change that it has acquired a

name: 'erosion from the right.' Sa'ban shows very little evidence of erosion from the right. The closest approximation to the weakening of final segments is perhaps seen in final devoicing. What is remarkable about Sa'ban (among many other things), however, is the fairly extensive evidence of erosion from the left, manifested primarily through the sporadic loss of initial consonants, but also in the less frequent loss of initial vowels. Examples of the loss of initial consonants include PKLD \*baka > /aka/ 'wild pig', \*bebher > /pel/ 'fan for the fire', \*bibir > /ibiɛl/ 'lip', \*buaq > /wei/ 'fruit' (with resyllabification of prevocalic \*u), \*datuq > /ato/ 'durian', \*diri > /arey/ 'housepost', \*dueh > /weh/ 'two', \*gaiŋ > /ayeng/ 'spinning top', \*getimel > /hmel/ 'bedbug', \*guta > /toe/ 'ford, cross a river', \*kamih > /amay/ 'we, us (excl.)', \*keliq > /léé/ 'to know', \*kilat > /ilat ilat/ 'lightning', \*kulub > /lup/ 'ridgepole cover', \*lalid > /alit/ 'ear', \*lekuq > /ko/ 'bracelet', \*limeh > /émah/ 'five', \*luŋun > /nguen/ 'coffin', \*marih > /aray/ 'to come', \*menebhur > /puel/ 'rice porridge', \*mulaq > /loe/ 'much, many', \*namuk > /muek/ 'sandfly', \*nuper > /èpel/ 'rope', \*pahaqen > /ahan/ 'shoulder pole', \*pidhet > /sset/ 'taut, as a rope', \*pudut > /dduet/ 'way, manner, shape', \*ramut > /muet/ 'fibrous roots', \*reraq > /ra/ 'ant', \*riruh > /éraw/ 'a laugh', \*rudap > /diep/ 'to sleep', \*saget > /ajIt/ 'quickly', \*taruq > /aro/ 'to make', tepu-q > /pu/ 'grandparent (address)', \*tidhuq > /seu/ 'hand', and \*tuked > /kot/ 'prop'. In virtually every case phonemically very similar forms can be found which did not lose the initial consonant: \*bakul > /bakol/ 'basket', \*begheh > /bekeh/ 'deaf mute', \*birar > /béréel/ 'yellow', \*buaya > /boyeh/ 'crocodile', etc. (see Appendix 2). Among the few generalizations that appear to be possible from this data are: 1. that initial \*p and \*t show a strong tendency to be preserved before \*a (17 of 18 cases with \*pa-, 18 of 19 cases with \*ta-), and 2. that initial voiced stops show a strong tendency to drop, particularly if

they are followed by a voiceless stop as the onset of the next syllable.<sup>10</sup>

Table 10 summarizes the evidence for loss of voiced stops in initial position. Zero reflexes = 68/124, or about 55%:

TABLE 10

Reflexes of PKLD initial voiced stops in Sa'ban

*b	> 0 : 41	*d	> 0 : 21	*g	> 0 : 5
	> b : 36	*d	> l : 8	*g	> j : 4
	> m : 1	*d	> b : 3	*g	> p : 2
	>	*d	> r : 2	*g	> l : 1

Examples of the loss of initial vowels are less common, but include \*akep > /kep/ 'river snail', \*amuŋ > /mueng/ 'all', \*m-anud > /m-lut/ 'to flow', \*aqit > /ét/ 'pain', \*aquk > /ok/ 'a ladle', \*idan > /din/ 'when?', \*ideh > /deh/ 'they, them', \*idhuŋ > /sueng/ 'nose', \*iguq > /jeu/ 'shame', \*ikab > /kap/ 'smoke vent', \*imet > /met/ 'to hold', \*ina-q > /na/ 'mother (address)', \*ineh > /nah/ 'that, those', \*inih > /nay/ 'this, these', and \*ikuh > /cew/ 'elbow'. Initial \*e was regularly lost, and initial \*u before a consonant was lost in every form except \*ulih > /éloy/ 'sprout, shoot.' Again, phonemically very similar forms can often be found which did not lose the initial vowel: \*akat > /akat/ 'courage', \*anak > /anak/ 'child', \*iban > /ibin/ 'parent-in-law, child-in-law', \*ulih > /éloy/ 'sprout, shoot', etc. As a general tendency initial \*i tended to become /é/ before the liquids \*l and \*r, although this was not true of \*u.

5.2.4. *Type 4: Syncope of an unstressed vowel.* One likely precondition for erosion from the left in Sa'ban was a shift from the PKLD pattern of penultimate word stress to final stress. What might have triggered this change itself remains obscure, but once it was in place various other changes seem to have followed from it. First among these



was a tendency (it cannot be stated as more than that) for word onsets to be lost — that is, for ‘erosion from the left.’ A similar, but distinct change was the syncope of a non-low vowel in forms of the shape CVCVC. Clayre (1992) has looked at this change in a preliminary way, but because her orthography sometimes confuses /a/ and /e/ she was unable to state conditions for it. Syncope of the penultimate vowel in PKLD disyllables produced the most radical and obvious typological changes in Sa’ban, including: 1) reduction of many disyllables to monosyllables, 2) the creation of initial consonant clusters, 3) the creation of initial geminates, and 4) the creation of voiceless sonorants. Examples of these changes appear in Table 11:

TABLE 11

Syncope non-low penultimate vowels in reflexes of PKLD disyllables

No.	PKLD	Sa’ban	English
1.	*bebhek	ppek	pounded fine
2.	*bedhuk	ssuek	coconut monkey
3.	*belih	bley	purchases
4.	*melih	mley	to buy
5.	*berat	bréet	heavy
6.	*beti	ttay	calf of the leg
7.	*bukuh	kkew	node, joint
8.	*buyur	jjuel	too long (clothes)
9.	*getimel	hmel	bedbug
10.	*k-inih	hnay	this way; now
11.	*me-keluk	plok	slack, as a rope
12.	*lulun	lluen	roll something up
13.	*muka	ngkoe	early
14.	*muned	nnet	correct
15.	*perek	prek	crowded, packed in
16.	*pudut	dduet	way, manner; shape
17.	*ŋerimer	mmel	to wrinkle

18.	*rurug	hrop	to fall; pour out
19.	*rurut	rruet	bring down
20.	*telen	hlen	swallowed
21.	*teneb	hnep	cold
22.	*teŋaq	hnga'	window
23.	*tera	hra	hard, of wood
24.	*timun	hmuen	cucumber
25.	*tubeh	bbeh	Derris elliptica
26.	*tuduq	ddeu'	seven
27.	*tukuj	kkueng	mosquito
28.	*tulaŋ	hloeng	bone
29.	*tumeh	hmah	clothes louse
30.	*tunaw	hnoew	hammer
31.	*turun	hruen	to descend
32.	*tutuq	tto'	to fall, as fruit

In general, when two obstruents came together as a result of vowel syncope a geminate consonant resulted, although in many cases I recorded single consonants in a nearly identical environment (\*bedhek > /sek/ 'nasal mucus', but \*bedhuk > /ssuek/ 'coconut monkey'). If the second consonant was \*l or \*r following a labial or velar stop the cluster remained without further change. Voiceless nasals and liquids arose from voiceless stop + sonorant clusters. Occasional exceptions such as \*rurug > /hrop/ 'to fall; pour out', or \*peŋinud > /hnot/ 'story' are unexplained, although the latter may be due to medial vowel syncope, reduction of the nasal cluster and devoicing of /n/ by /p/.

Some etymologies, such as \*tulaŋ > /hloeng/ 'bone' provide further information on the ordering of changes, since here rounding had to occur before syncope of the penultimate vowel and the development of a centralizing offglide before final velar nasals, and syncope had to occur before the voiceless lateral could arise (from earlier \*tloŋ). In a few cases, as \*begheh > /bekeh/ 'deaf, mute', \*bibir > /ibiel/

'lip', \*bikuŋ > /békong/ 'adze' or \*bulan > /blin/ 'moon', a non-low penultimate vowel did not delete.

By contrast, penultimate \*a generally did not disappear. Nearly all of the apparent exceptions in which penultimate \*a did disappear precede \*q, and so may be conditioned:<sup>11</sup> \*aqay > /ay/ 'frog', \*aqit > /ét/ 'pain', \*aquk > /ok/ 'ladle', \*baquŋ > /ueng/ 'banana', \*daqeh > /eh/ 'chin, jaw', \*daqet > /et/ 'bad', \*daqun > /un/ 'leaf', \*laqal > /al/ 'chicken', \*naqem > /em/ 'no, not', \*raquŋ > /ong/ 'sun hat'. But it would be unlike Sa'ban to have no further complications: not every \*a<sub>2</sub> before \*q was lost. In particular, and again with reference to possible conditions which are surprising both in their specificity and lack of apparent phonetic motivation, penultimate \*a following an initial voiceless stop and preceding \*q is always retained in the material to hand: \*paqen > /pa'en/ 'areca palm and nut', \*paqit > /paqét/ 'bitter', \*paquh > /pa'aw/ 'fern', \*taqeng > /ta'ang/ 'mouth; voice', \*taqiq > /ta'é/ 'feces', \*me-taquut > /ta'eut/ 'afraid'. A similar tendency may be present in \*daqet > /ré'et/ (next to /et/) 'bad', and \*raqit > /la'it/ 'raft', where the final voiceless stop may have contributed to the retention of penultimate \*a even though it preceded PKLD \*q.

Syncope of a non-low penultimate vowel also occurred in trisyllables, producing many medial consonant clusters, both underlying and derived: \*belunuq > /belnu'/ 'small red jackfruit', \*beluqug > /bel'up/ 'wasp, hornet', \*deket > /leket/ 'to stick, adhere', but \*me-deket > /pe-lket/ 'sticking, adhering', \*demulun > /lemluen/ 'slave', \*pe-diŋi > /pe-lngaey/ 'opposite bank', \*me-ditaq > /be-lta'/ 'high', \*genuluh > /jenlew/ 'empty rice head', \*lemek 'fat, grease', but \*me-lemek > /pe-lmek/ 'soft', \*l-em-idik > /lemdiek/ 'to cut underbrush', \*lemulun > /lemluen/ 'person', \*lemuned > /lemnet/ 'middle', \*me-lipi > /pelpay/ 'thin, of materials', \*me-liqaw > /pel'éew/ 'clear, of water', \*lukaq >

/lekoe'/ or /kkoe'/ 'to fall, as a person', but /ng-koe'/ 'let something fall', \*menelen > /menlen/ 'python', \*menipal > /menpal/ 'scorpion', \*menipeh > /benpeh/ 'snake',<sup>12</sup> \*terutuŋ > /teltong/ 'porcupine', etc. Clusters of three consonants are avoided. Thus \*gituqen > /jInto'ɔn/ 'star' does not allow deletion of \*u, since that would produce a -CCC-cluster. Similarly, the irregular transitive or causative form /ng-koe'/ shows a stem allomorph with loss of the initial syllable or degemination of the onset in order to avoid a non-permitted cluster /nglk/ or /ngkk/.

It remains unclear whether syncope of the penultimate vowel in disyllables and the similar change in trisyllables should be considered one or two changes. Vowel deletion in the environment VC-CV has occurred in the history of many other Austronesian languages, and remains in the synchronic phonology of some, as in Tagalog. As with syncope in disyllables, a low vowel generally did not delete in penultimate position in trisyllables, except before \*q: \*beladan > /beladin/ 'freshwater turtle', \*belatik > /latéek/ 'spring-set arrow trap', \*me-dadaŋ > /pe-ladéeng/ 'to warm by a fire', \*geramih > /jelamey/ 'rice straw', \*gerawat > /pelawet/ 'complicated', \*pe-kabiŋ > /pé' abieng/ 'left side', \*lematek > /lematek/ 'jungle leech', \*pedalaq > /bélei'/ 'casting net', \*pegamung > /pejamueng/ 'tangled', \*meratan > /p-latan/ 'leaking, of a roof', \*me-ratu > /p-lataw/ 'hundred', \*t-em-araq > /t-em-ara'/ 'to fell trees', \*temalem > /temalem/ 'spend the night in the forest', \*tejanuh > /lanaw/ 'weave mats', but \*beraqaŋ > /bel'ang/ 'molar', \*beraqaŋ > /bel'uek/ 'toad', \*delaqih > /ley/ 'male', \*meraqen > /pel'en/ 'light weight', \*suŋaŋiq > /song'éeng/ 'incubus', \*tekaqak > /ta'ok/ 'rooster', \*telaqaw > /tel'aw/ 'the muntjac deer', \*temaqud > /tem'ot/ 'Achille's tendon'. The only exceptions to this statement are seen in \*pinahaw > /penhew/ 'needle', and possibly \*pekahaq > /paha'/ 'to change, as a name' and \*seraway > /sawaey/ 'behavior'.

The change seen in \*teŋaŋaq > /tanga'/ 'to gape' probably results from haplology.

5.2.5. *Type 5: Unconditioned phonemic splitting = massive irregularity.* Many examples of irregular, or apparently irregular sound changes in Sa'ban have already been noted. A few additional examples will be given here to try to provide some idea of the magnitude of this problem. Table 12 revisits 'erosion from the left' by comparing PKLD etyma of similar phonemic shapes which have had dissimilar outcomes in Sa'ban:

TABLE 12

Dissimilar Sa'ban outcomes from similar PKLD etyma

PART A

- 1) \*bebhek > /ppek/ 'pounded fine'
- 2) \*berat > /bréet/ 'heavy'
- 3) \*buluh > /blew/ 'body hair; feathers'
- 4) \*dadan > /adin/ 'old'
- 5) \*dalan > /alin/ 'path, road'
- 6) \*daqan > /la'in/ 'branch'
- 7) \*kapal > /apal/ 'thick'
- 8) \*lekuq > /leko'/ 'joint'
- 9) \*lipaŋ > /lipang/ 'empty rice husk'
- 10) \*lulud > /lut/ 'shin'
- 11) \*namuk > /muek/ 'sandfly'
- 12) \*ramit > /lamIt/ 'scratch'
- 13) \*tari > /tarey/ 'measurement'
- 14) \*telen > /hlen/ 'swallowed'
- 15) \*tutuk > /tok/ 'a stroke in pounding'

PART B

- 1) \*bebhen > /pen/ 'cover, lid'
- 2) \*berek > /rek/ 'domesticated pig'
- 3) \*buluq > /leu'/ 'bamboo'
- 4) \*dadaŋ > /ladéeng/ 'heat of a fire'

- 5) \*dalem > /bélem/ 'deep'
- 6) \*daqun > /un/ 'leaf'
- 7) \*kapeh > /papeh/ 'how?'
- 8) \*lekuq > /ko'/ 'bracelet'
- 9) \*lipen > /épen/ 'tooth'
- 10) \*lulun > /lluen/ 'roll up'
- 11) \*nanaq > /lana'/ 'pus'
- 12) \*ramut > /muet/ 'fibrous roots'
- 13) \*taruq > /aro'/ 'to make'
- 14) \*teluh > /lew/ 'three'
- 15) \*tutuq > /tto'/ 'to fall, as fruit'

Finally, Rule 2, which rounds \*a1 in the sequence \*uCa, is roughly paralleled by a change affecting \*e1 in the sequence \*uCe. Unlike Rule 2, however, the rounding of last-syllable schwa produced an unconditioned phonemic split in Sa'ban, as seen in 1) \*anak buleŋ > /anak long/ 'only child', 2) \*tuked > /kət/ 'prop', 3) tuqed > /to'ət/ 'tree stump', or 4) \*uker > /kəl/ 'wide open, of the eyes', but 5) \*muned > /nnet/ correct;, 6) \*uled > /let/ 'maggot, caterpillar', 7) \*duder > /del/ 'freshwater eel', or \*nuper > /épel/ 'rope'.

There are other conditioned changes which are generally regular, as the offgliding of last-syllable \*i or \*u before a final velar nasal, but even here apparent exceptions exist: \*butuŋ > /tueng/ 'corpse', but \*buluq betuŋ > /leu' tong/ 'bamboo variety', \*buduk > /duek/ 'mountain peak', but \*baduk > /madok/ 'jackfruit', \*tukuŋ > /kkueng/ 'mosquito', but \*takuŋ > /takong/ 'pond', etc.

In a nutshell, Sa'ban historical phonology is not only exuberantly innovative and rich with theoretically puzzling types of change, it is also highly irregular. Wang (1969) suggested that sound change in general begins in restricted portions of the lexicon and gradually spreads to other relevant forms. Due to the extraordinary pace of innovation in

Sa'ban many changes have perhaps been cut short by later innovations before they were able to run their full course.

6. **Consequences of sound change on Sa'ban morphology.** PKLD had a moderately rich verbal morphology, and no language could undergo the massive sound change that Sa'ban has experienced without fairly important consequences for the morphological system as well. Although Lun Dayeh reportedly retains a true, if reduced, Philippine-type focus system, Kelabit dialects have only two verbal voices, an active and a general passive. The morphology of the Kelabit voice system is summarized in Table 13:

TABLE 13

Allomorphs of the Kelabit voice-marking affixes

Base form	Active voice	Passive voice
a-	ng-a-	n-a-
e-	ng-e-	i-
i-	ng-i-	n-i-
u-	ng-u-	n-u-
b-	m-	b-in-
d-	n-	s-in-
g-	ng-	g-in-
k-	ng-	k-in-
l-	nge-l	l-in-
m-	zero	m-in-
n-	zero	n-in-
ng-	zero	ng-in-
p-	m-	p-in-
r-	nge-r-	p-in-
s-	n-	s-in-
t-	n-	s-in-

To illustrate: /abuh/ 'ashes' : /ng-abuh/ 'to make dusty or cover with ashes' : /n-abuh/ 'was covered with dust or

ashes', /bulat/ 'open the eyes wide' : /mulat/ 'look at someone or something' : /b-in-ulat/ 'was looked at by someone', /dinger/ 'hearing; way of hearing' : /ninger/ 'to hear, listen to' : /s-in-inger/ 'was heard by someone, was listened to by someone', /kilu/ 'bend or curve (as a road)' : /ngilu/ 'to bend something, as a wire' : /k-in-ilu/ 'was bend by someone; what was bent or curved', /lanit/ 'skinning, peeling off' : /nge-lanit/ 'to skin, to peel' : /l-in-anit/ 'was skinned by someone', /pa'id/ 'anything used to wipe' : /ma'id/ 'to wipe' : /p-in-a'id/ 'was wiped by someone', /rier/ 'to turn, roll over' : /nge-rier/ 'to turn or roll something over' : /r-in-ier/ 'was turned or rolled over by someone', /si'ier/ 'eyesight' : /ni'er/ 'to see' : /s-in-i'er/ 'was seen by someone', /tutuk/ 'stone or wooden pestle' : /nutuk/ 'pound with a pestle' : /s-in-utuk/ 'was pounded by someone with a pestle'.

The two most important points to note about this morphological system are: 1. that the passive voice is obligatorily perfective, and 2. that stems with penultimate /e/ (schwa) show a pattern of verbal ablaut in the passive: /belih/ 'buying' : /melih/ 'to buy' : /bilih/ 'was bought by someone', /deket/ 'sticky' : /neket/ 'stick something to a surface' : /s-in-eket/ 'was stuck to something', /engep/ 'a kiss' : /ng-engep/ 'to kiss' : /ingep/ 'was kissed by someone', /ketep/ 'mark left by a bite' : /ngetep/ 'to bite' : /kitep/ 'was bitten by someone or something', /peman/ 'feeding' : /meman/ 'to feed someone' : /piman/ 'was fed by someone', /rerek/ 'incision made in the throat of a slaughtered animal' : /nge-rerek/ 'to slit the throat, to slaughter' : /rerek/ 'was slaughtered by someone', /tekub/ 'a knock from underneath, as on a longhouse floor by someone outside' : /nekub/ 'to knock from underneath' : /sikub/ 'was knocked from underneath by someone'.



This fairly straightforward system has been fundamentally transformed in Sa'ban as a result of the disruptive consequences of sound change. The following is a preliminary sketch of patterns of base : active : passive relationships:

1) zero alternation between base active and passive voice: /laruet/ 'sewing' : /laruet/ 'to sew' : /laruet/ 'be sewn by someone' : /éék laruet talon/ (I sew clothes) 'I am sewing clothes' : /talon ay aro' éék laruet/ (clothes AY make me sew) 'the clothes were sewn by me'

2) zero alternation between active and passive voice: /bihi/ 'wet' /mihi/ 'make something wet' : /mihi/ 'was made wet by someone', /bréet/ 'heavy' : /mréet/ 'make something heavy' : /mréet/ 'was made heavy by someone'

3) base : m-base (A) : i-base (P) : /abet/ 'tying' : /m-abet/ 'to tie' : /i-abet/ 'was tied by someone' : /éék m-abet kelabo'/ (I ACT-tie mosquito net) 'I am tying up the mosquito net' : /kelabo' ay i-abet éék/ (mosquito net AY PASS-tie me) 'the mosquito net was tied up by me'

Before a base that begins with a liquid /m/- may appear as a nasal or as a copy of the base-initial consonant:

/ruel/ 'lowering' : /m-ruel/ or /r-ruel/ 'to lower' : /i-ruel/ 'was lowered by someone'

4) base : m-base (A) : é-base (P) : /tep/ 'piece of something cut' : /n-tep/ 'to cut' : /étep/ 'was cut by someone' : /yeh n-tep épel ay aro' yeh hmu'/ (he ACT-cut rope AY make him short) 'he cut the rope to make it short' : /épel ay yeh é-tep ay aro' yeh hmu'/ (rope AY him PASS-cut AY make him short) 'the rope was cut by him to make it short'

5) base : C-base (A) : é-base (P) with degemination, cluster reduction or alternation of voiced and voiceless sonorants. In this pattern C = a homorganic nasal before following nasals or obstruents and generally a homorganic liquid

before following liquids (except in /m-la'/). The base is alternatively retained intact in the passive form of stems with initial voiceless sonorants:

/bbeh/ 'fish poison, derris root' : /m-beh/ 'to stun fish with derris root' : /é-beh/ 'were stunned, of fish poisoned with derris root'

/blit/ 'flat' : /m-lit/ 'to flatten' : /i-lit/ 'was flattened by someone'

/plo'/ 'hot' : /l-lo'/ 'to heat' : /é-lo'/ 'was heated by someone'

/ppa'/ 'chewing' : /m-pa'/ 'to chew' : /é-pa'/ 'was chewed by someone'

/ppuet/ 'tracking of game' : /m-puet/ 'to track game' : /i-puet/ 'was tracked by someone'

/sset/ 'taut' : /n-set/ 'to stretch tight' : /é-set/ 'was stretched taut by someone'

/ttuel/ 'broken' : /n-tuel/ 'to break' : /i-tuel/ 'was broken by someone'

/hla'/ 'thrown away' : /m-la'/ 'to throw away' : /é-la'/, /é-hla'/ 'was thrown away by someone'

/hnep/ 'cold' : /n-nep/ 'to cool' : /é-nep/ 'was cooled by someone'

/hlen/ 'swallowed' : /m-len/ 'to swallow' : /é-len/ 'was swallowed by someone'

/hno'/ 'full' : /n-no'/ 'to fill' : /é-no'/, /é-hno'/ 'was filled by someone'

/hrop/ 'poured' : /r-rop/ 'to pour' : /é-rop/ 'was poured by someone'

6) base : mé-base (A) : é-base (P) with degemination, cluster reduction or alternation of voiced and voiceless sonorants.

This is a rare pattern, recorded only in:

/hray/ 'straight' : /mé-ray/ 'to straighten' : /é-ray/  
'was straightened by someone'

7) base : NS-base (A) : i-base (P). In disyllabic bases a base-initial consonant may undergo homorganic nasal substitution in the active voice, as in Bario Kelabit, but the passive form lacks the stem-initial consonant. To account for this pattern we must posit a synchronic rule which drops a base-initial consonant in disyllabic stems before the addition of the passive prefix. This is arguably the same rule which degeminates a base-initial consonant, reduces a base-initial consonant cluster or voices a voiceless sonorant in patterns 4) and 5):

/badiel/ 'gun' : /madiel/ 'shoot with a gun' : /i-adiel/  
'was shot with a gun by someone'

/katem/ 'wood plane' : /ngatem/ 'to plane wood' : /i-  
atem/ 'was planed by someone'

/pasiew/ 'selling' : /masiew/ 'to sell' : /i-asiew/ 'was  
sold by someone'

8) base: taCVC : maCVC (A) : i-base (P). In disyllabic bases which begin with taCVC : maCVC (A) : i-base (P). In disyllabic bases which begin with /ta/- the active voice of the verb begins with /ma/-. Since this alternation can no longer be ascribed to homorganic nasal substitution it raises questions about the shape of the base:

/tabat/ 'medicine' : /mabat/ 'medicate, treat with medicine'  
(Bario: /tabat/ : /nabat/)

/tadem/ 'sharp' : /madem/ 'sharpen' (Bario: /tadem/ : /nadem/)

/tanem/ 'burial' : /manem/ 'bury' (Bario: /tanem/ : /nanem/)

/tarey/ 'measurement' : /marey/ 'to measure' (Bario: /tari/ : /nari/)

9) Irregular vowel alternations within a base. In a few forms the fronting rule for \*a1 has given rise to different forms of the simple and affixed base:

/alin/ 'path, road' : /m-alan/ 'to walk'

10) Reanalysis of the base. In a few forms the base has been reanalyzed due to a phonemic ambiguity, and as a result its passive form differs from that of the simple or affixed bases:

/yop/ 'blowing' : /n-yop/ 'to blow' (ambiguous for /n-yop/ or /n-nyop/) : /é-nyop/ 'was blown by someone or something'

11) Other patterns. In two known bases the active voice is formed by the addition of /lu/-:

/wek/ : 'fence' : /lu-wek/ 'to fence something' : /lu-wek/ 'was fenced by someone'

/wen/ 'above' : /lu-wen/ 'to put on top of something'

Comparison of the pattern of base : active : passive forms in Sa'ban with those in Bario Kelabit shows that the Sa'ban passives are not direct reflexes of PKLD passive-perfectives with \*-in-. Thus Sa'ban /abet/ 'tying' : /m-abet/ 'to tie' : /i-abet/ 'was tied by someone' corresponds structurally to Bario /abet/ : /ng-abet/ : /nabet/, but only the first two forms correspond phonologically. The pattern in Bario which provides the model for this Sa'ban pattern is clearly that seen in bases with a penultimate schwa, as in

/epid/ 'act of braiding' : /ng-epid/ 'to braid' : /ipid/ 'was braided by someone'. In forming its passive constructions Sa'ban thus appears to have generalized an originally restricted ablaut pattern to all verbs regardless of the original penultimate vowel. Forms such as Sa'ban /hlen/ 'swallowed' : /m-len/ 'to swallow', /é-len/ 'was swallowed by someone', next to Bario /telen/ 'swallowing' : /nelen/ 'to swallow', /silen/ 'was swallowed by someone' show further that the Sa'ban passive derives specifically from a generalization of the pattern in PKLD bases of the shape \*eCVC (Note that \*tilen would have yielded the passive form \*\*hlen, identical with the base).

Given the limited data collected and the space available here we can only scratch the surface of Sa'ban historical morphology. The overall impression that the above material leaves, however, is that contemporary Sa'ban morphology contains a far larger number of subpatterns and outright irregularities than is true of other Kelabit dialects, thus presumably complicating the task of language acquisition by placing a greater burden on memorization.

**7. Motivations for change.** As the poet Shelley mused somewhat wistfully in philosophizing about the human propensity to long for permanence 'All that remains is mutability.' Granted that languages, like all things in Nature must inevitably change, why do some languages change so much more rapidly than others? Kelabit dialects vary in interesting ways, mostly in relation to their reflexes of the PKLD voiced aspirates \*bh, \*dh, \*gh. But the extent of change in Sa'ban exceeds that of any other known Kelabit dialect by several orders of magnitude. What could set such an avalanche of linguistic events in motion?

Since purely internal pressures to change should be similar in all dialects of a language we are almost inevitably

drawn to speculate about the possible role of contact influence in triggering the remarkable series of innovations which have taken place in Sa'ban. Thurgood (1999:253ff) has suggested that the role of external factors (i.e. contact) has been seriously underestimated in accounting for language change. For the Chamic languages of mainland Southeast Asia 'it is contact, not the existence of a language-internal disequilibrium, that both sets the changes in motion and determines the direction of change.'

There are, indeed, some indications that Sa'ban may have begun to diverge from other Kelabit dialects as a result of contact with non-KLD languages. The most convincing evidence comes from the pronouns, which differ sharply from those of other KLD dialects, but bear a striking resemblance to those of Kayan-Murik languages. Table 14 gives the personal pronouns of Bario Kelabit, Uma Juman Kayan and Sa'ban for purposes of comparison:

TABLE 14

Personal pronouns of Bario Kelabit,  
Uma Juman Kayan and Sa'ban

	Bario Kelabit	Uma Juman Kayan	Sa'ban
sg.			
1	uih	akuy/ak	éek
2	iko	ika'/im	ceh
3	ieh	hia'/na'	yeh
dual			
1in	kiteh	itu'	tah
1ex	kediweh	kawa'	amew
2	medueh	kau'	kéeh
3	diweh	dahu'	déeh
trial			
1in	teluh	telu'	—
1ex	keteluh	kalu'	mélaw
2	meteluh	kelu'	kalaw
3	deteluh	dehalu'	dalaw

	Bario Kelabit	Uma Juman Kayan	Sa'ban
pl.			
1in	tauh	itam	tam
1ex	kamih	kami'	amay
2	muyuh	ikam	ciem
3	ideh	daha'	deh

The singular pronouns of Kayan belong to either of two sets, labelled Set A and Set B in Blust (1977:40). Set A pronouns occur as the actor of an active verb or as the patient/goal. Set B pronouns occur as the actor of a passive verb; in addition /im/ occurs optionally in positive, and possibly also in negative injunctions. The Sa'ban pronouns appear a priori to derive in part from PKLD and in part from a Kayan dialect, as follows:

1sg. : Sa'ban /éek/ reflects \*ak, thus pointing rather distinctively to a Kayan-Murik source, since all other known Kelabit dialects reflect PKLD \*uih.

2sg. : Sa'ban /ceh/ reflects \*(i)ka, again pointing clearly to a Kayan-Murik source; the expected reflex of PKLD \*ikaw would be \*\*caew. The addition of final glottal stop is historically secondary in Kayan (Blust to appear).

3sg. : Sa'ban /yeh/ appears to be a native form, although we cannot completely rule out the possibility that it is a borrowing of a Kayan form /hia/.

1dl in. : Sa'ban /tah/ appears to be a native form, reflecting PKLD \*kiteh.

1dl ex. : Sa'ban /amew/ is of uncertain provenance.

2dl. : Sa'ban /kéeh/ may reflect \*kua, but this is unclear.

3dl. : Sa'ban /déeh/ may reflect \*dahu, but this is unclear.

1tl in. : Jolly Udau insisted that there was no 1p. trial inclusive pronoun in Sa'ban, but such a gap in an otherwise symmetrical system would be surprising.

1tl ex. : Sa'ban /mélaw/ is of uncertain provenance.

2tl : Sa'ban /kalaw/ reflects \*kalu or \*kelu, thus pointing clearly to a Kayan-Murik source.

3tl : Sa'ban /dalaw/ reflects \*dalu or \*delu, a form which appears to be compatible with Uma Juman /dehalu'/, but not with Bario /deteluh/.

1pl in. : Sa'ban /tam/ reflects \*etam, \*itam or \*utam, and is clearly connected with the Kayan form.

1pl ex. : Sa'ban /amay/ is non-distinctive for a PKLD or Kayan-Murik source.

2pl. : Sa'ban /ciem/ reflects \*ikam, and is clearly connected with the Kayan form.

3pl. : Sa'ban /deh/ appears to be a native form, reflecting PKLD \*ideh.

In short, at least six of the Sa'ban personal pronouns appear to be of Kayan origin: the 1st and 2nd person singulars, the 2nd and 3rd person trials, and the 1st person inclusive and 2nd person plural forms. In addition, the 2nd and 3rd person dual pronouns in Sa'ban may have a Kayan source. Kayan is most closely related to Murik, spoken in interior portions of the basin of the Baram river of northern Sarawak, and to Modang, spoken in East Kalimantan. Kayan dialects are widely distributed throughout central Borneo in the upper portions of the major river basins (Kahayan, Mahakam, Kapuas, etc.), the result of a strong pulse of migration, probably out of Kalimantan, within the past millennium. Although Kayan dialects themselves do not exhibit highly



innovative phonologies, Modang dialects do. Very little reliable information is available on Modang, although Revel-Macdonald (1982) provides a preliminary sketch of some features of the historical phonology.

Unfortunately, Revel-Macdonald does not provide data on the pronouns of Modang, but she does draw attention to: 1. its tendency to monosyllabism, as in PMP \*quzan > /si:n/ 'rain', \*lesuŋ > /səŋg/ 'mortar', or \*buhuk > /wək/ 'head hair', 2. the development of sometimes peculiar and presumably unstable consonant clusters in initial position, as in \*manuk > /mnək/ 'bird', \*punti > /ptæ/ 'banana' or \*tulaŋ > /tluang/ 'bone', and 3. innovative diphthongs. All of these features are reminiscent of changes in Sa'ban, and the fronting of the vowel in \*quzan > /si:n/ 'rain' may even be evidence of an innovation similar in form to Sa'ban Rule 1. The changes in Modang are, of course, not identical to those in Sa'ban, but their general character is highly similar. Moreover, some phonologically altered Modang forms may represent stages through which Sa'ban passed at an earlier time, as with PMP \*tuqelaŋ > Modang /tluang/, Sa'ban /hloeng/ 'bone', where the voiceless lateral of Sa'ban clearly derives from an earlier \*tl- cluster.

These observations certainly suggest that the highly divergent character of Sa'ban among the Kelabit dialects may owe its origin to sound changes initiated through heavy contact with Modang. If this is true, however, it is surprising that very little lexical evidence of contact with a Kayan-Murik language can be identified outside the system of personal pronouns. Moreover, although the phonological evidence suggests contact with Modang, the pronominal evidence suggests borrowing with Kayan.<sup>13</sup> To further complicate the problem of identifying possible contact influences, Sa'ban also shows at least one sound change which points to connections on the opposite side of the island of Borneo from Modang. In an area which appears to center on the

Melanau dialect chain of coastal Sarawak many languages have innovated a rule of vowel breaking in which high vowels are pronounced with a centralizing glide (schwa) before final /k/ and /ng/ (but not before final /g/). This change is found in coastal Sarawak and in lower portions of the Baram and Rejang river systems, but is generally absent from upriver areas. Most notably, it is not known to occur in any other KLD dialect, even though many of these are closer than Sa'ban to the coast of Sarawak. Although one might argue that in Sa'ban a centralizing glide has been innovated in a more general environment, as with PKLD \*apuy > /apuey/ 'fire', or PKLD \*atay > /ataey/ 'death', there is no denying the close similarity of the changes seen in \*amuj > /mueng/ 'all', \*apij > /apéeng/ 'ends of the longhouse', \*apuk > /apuek/ 'dust', or \*betik > /téek/ 'tattoo' to those characteristic of coastal Sarawak (Blust 1988).

What are we to make of these mixed signals? Perhaps Sa'ban has been in contact with several different groups of non-KLD languages. Although the Sa'ban themselves favor a fantastic origin story which derives them from 'a mixture of Malays, Indians and Chinese' who travelled up the basin of the Kapuas river in West Kalimantan to their historical seat, it is probable from its geographical position and its embedding in a network of other KLD dialects that Sa'ban has always been an interior language and that contact with other language groups has taken place in the interior of Borneo. As noted in an earlier publication (Blust 1984), there is some evidence that Sa'ban was in contact with the Tring dialect of Long Terawan — one of a cluster of KLD dialects which also has traditions of long-distance migration. But Tring could not have been the stimulus which started Sa'ban on its wild course of phonological change, and although there is some evidence that Tring was also in contact with a Kayan-Murik language (cf. /kam/ '2pl.'), it shows far less phonological change than Sa'ban.

Finally, although Sa'ban arguably remains a KLD dialect, it might prove worthwhile to know whether Sa'ban itself is dialectally heterogeneous, since this could provide new avenues to understanding at least some aspects of an unusually complex history. To date all information on the language comes from the speech of Long Banga'. Are other Sa'ban communities found in Kalimantan? What is the relationship of Sa'ban to the unknown and moribund Lengilu, which initial reports suggest is another divergent dialect of KLD? (Wurm and Hattori (1981)). Whatever answers we are ultimately able to provide to the many questions that Sa'ban historical phonology raises, it is perhaps more forcefully clear now than before that every language community, even it is 'only a dialect', has its potential contribution to make toward an understanding of the nature and possibilities of linguistic change.

## APPENDIX I

## A lexicostatistical comparison of Sa'ban with three other KLD dialects

[Letters 'A', 'B', etc. indicate membership in same or different cognate sets.]

No.	Tring	Bario	Lun Dayeh	Sa'ban	English Glosses
001.	ticuq A	tidhuq A	tidhuq A	seu' A	hand
002.	kabing A	kabing A	kabing A	abieng A	left side
003.	tuquh A	senuqeh B	tinueh B	oh B	right side
004.	ukut A	kukud A	kukud A	kkuet A	leg
005.	ukut A	kukud A	kukud A	kkuet A	foot
006.	nalan A	nalan A	nalan A	malan A	walk
007.	dalan A	dalan A	dalan A	alin A	path/road
008.	marih A	marih A	emeq B	arey A	come
009.	be-liel A	r-em-ier A	lumi B	liel A	turn
010.	pe-languy A	languy A	languy A	langoey A	swim
011.	mupuq A	mupuq A	mupuq A	m-pu' A	wash
012.	maqit A	maqit A	mid A	n-yo' B	wipe
013.	nyidu L?	maqit A	ngesa B	n-yo' C	rub
014.	luyuq A	kotor L	me-lutak B	kotor L	dirty
015.	apuk A	apuk A	abuh B	apuk A	dust
016.	anit A	anit A	kubil B	anit A	skin

017.	ketet A	keted A	tet A	back
018.	batek A	batek A	atek A	belly
019.	tulang A	tulang A	hloeng A	bone
020.	tenaqlq A	senaqih A	sen'ay A	guts
021.	ate A	ate A	ataey A	liver
022.	ate A	ate buduk A	temduek A	heart
023.	kiliq A	keliq A	lé' A	know
024.	be-pikil L	nge-liruh A	n-naw A	think
025.	taqt A	taqt A	ta'ewt A	fear
026.	daraq A	daraq A	arée' A	blood
027.	uluh A	uluh A	lew A	head
028.	liqel A	riqer A	oeng B	neck
029.	puk A	ebhuk A	puk A	hair
030.	icung	idhung A	sueng A	nose
031.	n-iat A	n-iat A	n-yat A	breathe
032.	nge-lanung A	muen B	m-win B	smell
033.	taqeng A	taqeng A	yong B	mouth
034.	lipen A	lipen A	épen A	tooth
035.	dilaq A	dilaq A	ili' A	tongue
036.	diruh A	riruh A	p-éraw A	laugh
037.	nangih A	nange A	mangay A	cry
038.	ng-utaq A	ng-utaq A	n-toe' A	vomit
039.	nge-licaq A	nge-lidhaq A	lese' A	spit
040.	kuman A	kuman A	man A	eat
041.	nge-lak A	nge-laak A	m-wel B	cook
042.	ng-irup A	m-irup A	m-érop A	drink

043.	ngetep A	ngetep A	ngetep A	m-biet B	bite
044.	n-uqut A	n-uqut A	ng-ut A	m-wet A	suck
045.	lalit A	lalit A	lalid A	alit A	ear
046.	ningel A	ninger A	ninger A	n-nyel A	hear
047.	matah A	mateh A	mateh A	ateh A	eye
048.	niqel A	niqer A	nier A	n-nel A	see
049.	ludap A	rudap A	rudap A	diep A	sleep
050.	selubit A	selubid A	telubid A	bit A	lie down
051.	tudo A	tudo A	tudo A	leku' B	sit
052.	mudul A	mudur A	tuped B	duel A	stand
053.	lemulun A	lemulun A	lemulun A	lemluen A	person
054.	(de)laqih A	delaqih A	deley A	ley A	man
055.	dicul A	dedhur A	dedhur A	ssuel A	woman
056.	anak A	anak A	anak A	anak A	child
057.	awah A	awa-n A	awa-n deley A	awa-n A	husband
058.	awah A	awa-n A	awa-n dedhur A	awa-n A	wife
059.	tinah A	te-sineh A	tina-n A	hna-n A	mother
060.	tamah A	te-tameh A	tama-n A	tama-n A	father
061.	adan A	ngadan A	ngadan A	adin A	name
062.	pe-buriq A	mala B	mala B	maneh C	say
063.	upel A	nuper A	nuper A	épel A	rope
064.	ng-abet A	ng-abet A	ng-abet A	m-abet A	tie
065.	napit A	me-deket B	nerut C	laruet C	sew
066.	unah lep A	kelibung B	pakay L	talon C	clothing
067.	nganuk A	nge-raad B	nglip C	rat B	hunt
068.	madil L	madil L	madil L	madiel L	shoot

069.	nepek A	nebhək A	nebhək A	m-pek A	stiab
070.	mupuk A	mupuq B	meper C	m-pu' B	hit
071.	ke-daluh A	pe-daluh A	peke-daluh A	patay B	fight
072.	ng-ate A	ng-ate A	ng-ate A	m-atay A	kill
073.	m-ate A	m-ate A	m-ate A	m-atay A	die
074.	m-ulun A	m-ulun A	m-ulun A	m-luen A	live
075.	nge-lekem A	ngaro B	ngukut C	lamit D	scratch
076.	nerat A	ngeteb B	ngeteb B	n-tep B	cut
077.	kayuh A	kayuh A	kayuh A	ayew A	stick/wood
078.	ng-epak A	n-epak A	m-epak A	m-pa B	split
079.	tadem A	tadem A	me-tadem A	tadem A	sharp
080.	ngadel A	ngadel A	me-ngadel A	padel A	dull
081.	ngekuel A	kereja L	kerejaq L	kelja L	work
082.	milik A	raut B	me-rot B	n-nyen C	play
083.	be-laguq L	me-nani L	me-nani L	me-nani L	sing
084.	kanyet L?	ngarang A	ng-elay C	m-arang A	dance
085.	baraq A	baraq A	me-baraq A	béree' A	swell
086.	merek A	merek A	medhit B	m-rek A	squeeze
087.	ng-imet A	ng-imet A	ng-imet A	met A	hold
088.	ng-ukat A	n-ukat A	ng-ukat A	ng-koet A	dig
089.	mere A	mere A	mere A	m-ray A	give
090.	ng-inat A	ng-inat A	ng-inat A	m-énat A	pull
091.	menul A	ng-edhuh B	menul A	n-sew B	push
092.	nelaq A	nelaq A	m-itung B	m-pet C	throw
093.	datuq A	tutuq B	mebheh C	tto' B	fall
094.	ukuq A	ukuq A	ukuq A	ku' A	dog

095.	manuk A	manuk A	suit B	manok A	bird
096.	terul A	terur A	terur A	hrol A	egg
097.	buluh A	buluh A	buluh A	blew A	feather
098.	ilat A	elad A	ilat A	lut B	wing
099.	temalut A	temulud A	temulud A	hlut A	to fly
100.	pung A	puung A	pung A	pueng A	animal
101.	uang A	uang A	uang A	wang A	meat
102.	lemek A	lemek A	lemek A	lemek A	fat/grease
103.	iul A	iur A	iur A	yol A	tail
104.	lipah A	selanguy B	menipeh A	benpeh A	snake
105.	lath A	kelatih A	kelatih A	mal B	earthworm
106.	kutuh A	kutuh A	kutuh A	tew A	louse
107.	lawit A	luang B	lawid A	awit A	fish
108.	kayuh A	kayuh A	kayuh A	ayew A	tree
109.	buruk A	buruk A	me-buruk A	bruek A	rotten
110.	daqun A	daqun A	don A	un A	leaf
111.	anit kayuh A	anit kayuh A	anit A	anlt ayew A	bark
112.	lamut A	ramut A	uat B	wat B	root
113.	ilung A	ilung A	ilung A	élong A	seed
114.	bucak A	busak A	busak A	bonge' L	flower
115.	buah A	buah A	buah A	wei' A	fruit
116.	uduh A	uduh A	uduh A	dew A	grass
117.	tanaq A	tanaq A	tanaq A	tana' A	earth
118.	batuh A	batuh A	batuh A	ataw A	stone
119.	bada A	bada A	bada A	bidi A	sand
120.	paq A	ebhaq A	ebhaq A	pei' A	water



121.	murul A	m-anud B	m-lut B	flow
122.	lupung A	lupung A	lapueng A	float
123.	tucuq A	tudhuq A	sei' A	salt
124.	legen A	takung B	takong B	lake
125.	arul A	ebhaq B	pei' B	river
126.	buduk A	buduk A	kut C	mountain
127.	pulung A	pulung A	plueng A	forest
128.	langit A	langit A	langt A	sky
129.	matah co A	matah edho A	(ateh) siew A	sun
130.	tekuqen A	getuqen A	j'into'on A	star
131.	laput A	laput A	lapuet A	cloud
132.	laput A	laput A	lapuet A	fog
133.	udan A	udan A	din A	rain
134.	baréw A	bariw A	biriew A	wind
135.	ng-iup A	ng-iup A	n-nyop A	blow
136.	lauq A	lauq A	p-lo' A	hot
137.	teneb A	teneb A	hnep A	cold
138.	melang A	pering B	prang A	dry
139.	baq A	baaq A	bihi' A	wet
140.	alut L	tepi A	pahat C	smooth
141.	berat A	berat A	bréet A	heavy
142.	apuy A	apuy A	apuey A	fire
143.	nutut A	nutud A	n-tuet A	burn
144.	lepun A	rebhun A	lepun A	smoke
145.	abuh A	abuh A	abew A	ash
146.	m-item A	m-item A	m-étem A	black

147.	budaq A	budaq A	me-budaq A	di' A	white
148.	siaq A	siaq A	me-siaq A	ssa' A	red
149.	biral A	birar A	me-birar A	bérel A	yellow
150.	bataq A	bataq A	me-bataq A	ata' A	green
151.	it A	iqit A	sut B	ciek C	small
152.	layah A	rayeh A	rayeh A	rah A	big
153.	kemuq A	kemuq A	me-kemuq A	hmu' A	short
154.	kadang A	kadang A	me-kadang	adeu' B	long
155.	lipi A	lipi A	me-lipi A	pe-lpay A	thin
156.	kapal A	kapal A	me-kapal A	apal A	thick
157.	it A	iqit A	sut B	ciek C	narrow
158.	layah A	rayeh A	rayeh A	rah A	wide
159.	tupet A	tuped A	rayeh A	rah A	wide
160.	lernal A	siri B	me-siri B	hray B	straight
161.	beruh A	ngered B	me-ngered B	maret B	old
162.	doq A	beruh A	me-beruh A	brew A	new
163.	daqet A	dooq A	doq A	wei' A	good
164.	keneh A	daqet A	dat A	ré't A	bad
165.	didem A	muned B	muned B	hlew C	correct
166.	co A	tulu C	dedhem A	sem A	night
167.	lak A	dedhem A	edho A	siew A	day
168.	idan A	laak A	lak A	lak A	year
169.	atek A	idan A	idan A	din A	when?
170.	lem A	ngi B	dei' C	lem D	at
		lem uang A	ban B	lem A	in

171.	inih A	ng-inih A	ien nih A	way B	here
172.	inah A	ng-ineh A	dei' B	nah A	there
173.	nih A	inih A	inih A	h-nay A	this
174.	nah A	ineh A	idi' B	nah A	that
175.	meru A	muneng B	muneng B	nong B	near
176.	mado A	mado A	mado A	adiew A	far
177.	pah A	ng-apeh A	i akeh A	pah A	where?
178.	uuh A	uuh A	uuh A	éek B	I
179.	ko A	iko A	iko A	ceh B	you
180.	iah A	ieh A	ieh A	yeh A	he/she/it
181.	tauh A	tauh A	tew A	tam B	we (incl.)
	kamih A	kamih A	kay A	may A	we (excl.)
182.	kam A	muyuh B	muyuh B	ciem A	you (pl.)
183.	dah A	ideh A	ideh A	deh A	they
184.	nun A	enun A	enun A	non A	what?
185.	ie A	iuh A	idé B	ay A	who?
186.	iah nah A	beken B	edheh dih C	—	other
187.	mulaq A	ibal B	sebuang C	sewéeng C	some
188.	mulaq A	mulaq A	mulaq A	loe' A	many
189.	sigit A	ibal B	sesit C	ciek D	few
190.	abi A	abi A	amung B	mueng B	all
191.	ngan A	mé B	em C	ngan A	and
192.	ngan A	mé B	dengan L	ngan A	with
193.	geran A	kadiq B	ngedheh kuh C	abin D	because
194.	mun L?	tulu A	kudeng B	kay C	if
195.	kupah A	kapeh A	kudeng apeh A	papeh A	how?

196.	naqem A	na B	em A	no/not
197.	ng-iap A	ng-iap A	m-énam B	to count
198.	cah A	edheh A	seh A	one
199.	duah A	dueh A	weh A	two
200.	teluh A	teluh A	lew A	three

APPENDIX 2

Sa'ban reflexes of Proto-Malayo-Polynesian (PMP) and Proto-Kelabit-Lun Dayeh (PKLD)

[Material is ordered alphabetically by the PKLD base.]

No.	PMP	PKLD	Sa'ban	English
001.		aban	abin	because
002.		abet	abet	tying; rope
		η-abet	m-abet	to tie
003.	abin	η-abin	i-abet	was tied
004.	qabu	abuh	m-abin	to hold in the lap
		m-abuh	abew	ashes
005.		adaq	m-abew	covered with ashes
006.		m-adaq	adei'	shadow; ghost
007.	qajetɲ	adetɲ	m-adei'	to advise, teach
008.	huaji	adi-n	adeng	cold charcoal
009.	agag	agag	arl-n	younger sibling
010.		η-agap	ajiep	rice sieve
011.		akaq	m-ajiep	to startle
012.		akat	aka'	saliva
			akat	courage

013.		akep	kep	river snail
014.	qalad	alad	alıt	wall
015.	alap	alap	alak	to get, fetch
016.	qaleb	aleb	alep	knee
017.	alem	alem	alem	evening, night
018.		alıq	alé	dirt on the skin
019.		m-alıq	le-malı	pregnant
020.		alud	alut	boat
021.		m-alug	malok	to trick
022.	qahelu	aluh	alaw	rice pestle
023.		amun	mueng	all
024.	anak	anak	anak	child
025.		anam	anam	act of picking up
026.	qanit	ŋ-anam	m-anam	to pick up
027.	qañud	anit	anıt	skin
028.		m-anud	m-lut	to flow
029.		p-anel	p-angel	walk arm-in-arm
030.		apet	apet	bush, thicket
031.	hapuk	apın	apeeng	ends of longhouse
032.	hapuy	apuk	apuek	dust
033.		m-apuk	m-apuek	dusty
034.	sakit	apuy	apuey	fire
		aqay	ay	frog
		aqıt	ét	pain

035.	n-aqit	m-a`It	to wait
036.	aquk	ok	a ladle
037.	araq	arang	a dance
	qaraq	m-arang	to dance
038.	araq	aral	nest
039.	areg	arep	crumbs, rubbish
	m-areg	m-arep	full of rubbish
040.	arit	arit	design
	q-arit	m-arIt	to write
041.	arur	arol	channel
042.	asaq	aséeng	gills
043.	ataq	atang	house beams
044.	ataq	ata`	rice grain with husk
045.	atay	ataey	death
	p-atay	p-ataey	to quarrel
046.	m-atay	m-ataey	to die; dead
	qatay	ataey	liver
047.	atay uduk	temduek	heart
048.	ateb	atap	deadfall trap
049.	atur	atol	generation
050.	m-awa	m-awa	disappointed; regret
051.	awa-n	awa-n	spouse
052.	m-ayaq	maya`	to imitate
053.	ayek	ayek-ayek	whispers
	salaR		
	aluR		
	hasaq		
	ataq		
	ataq		
	atay		
	p-atay		
	m-atay		
	qatay		
	qateb		
	qasawa		

054.		ayen ayen	ayien	slowly
055.	badas	bada	bidi	sand
056.	baseq	baduk	madok	jackfruit
057.		bahaq	bihi'	wet
058.		baka	aka	wild pig
059.	bakul	bakul	bakol	basket
060.	balan	balan	béléng	tiger cat
061.	bali	balih	béley	to lie, deceive
062.	baliw	baliw	biliw	to change state
063.		baneh	angah	plate
064.		banet	banget	sea
065.		baqaw	bi'iew	beads
066.		baquq	ueng	banana
067.	baReq	baraq	béré'	to swell
068.		barat	bérét	veranda
069.	baRah	bareh	béreh	hot coal, ember
070.	baRiuh	bariw	biriew	wind
071.	bataŋ	bataŋ	atang	log
072.	bataq	bataq	ata'	green
073.		batek	atek	belly
074.	batu	batuh	ataw	stone
075.	besuR	baur	béwel	satiated
076.	bawan	bawan	aweäng	territory, country



077.		bebhat	piet	a share
		mebhat	m-piet	to share
078.	bekbek	bebhek	ppék	pounded fine
079.	benben	bebhen	pen	cover, lid
080.		bebher	pel	fan for the fire
081.		bedhek	sek	nasal mucus
082.	bediq	bedhiq	sei'	vagina
083.		bedhuk	ssuek	coconut monkey
084.		begheh	bekeh	deaf, mute
085.		bekaŋ	kang	k.o. carrying basket
086.	beken	beken	ng-ken	different
087.		belad	blit	flat, level
088.		beladan	beladin	freshwater turtle
089.	balatik	belatik	lateék	spring-set arrow trap
090.	beli	belih	bley	purchases
		melih	mley	to buy
091.	balunuq	belunuq	belnu'	small red jackfruit
092.		beluqiŋ	ieng	hoe
093.		beluqug	bel'up	wasp, hornet
094.		beŋar	ngal	plank
095.	baŋelih	beŋelih	bongley	tusk of wild boar
096.	beRas	bera	bree	husked rice
097.	baReqaŋ	beraqaŋ	bel'ang	molar tooth
098.		beraquk	bel'uek	toad

099.	beReqat	berat	bréat	heavy
100.	beRek	berek	rek	domesticated pig
101.	baRuan	beruan	belwéeng	Malayan sun bear
102.	baqeRu	beruh	brew	new
103.	bitiqes	beti	ttay	calf of the leg
104.	betik	betik	téek	tattoo in progress
105.	bituka	betueh	bentueh	bowels
106.	betuj	betuj	leu' tong	bamboo sp.
107.	bibiR	bibir	ibiel	lip
108.	bikuŋ	bikuŋ	békong	adze
109.		birar	béréel	yellow
110.	buah	buah	wei'	fruit
111.	buqaya	buayeh	boyeh	crocodile
112.	bubu	bubuh	bew	fish trap
113.		bubhuq	peu'	ventral incision
114.		bubhuq	bong peu'	door
115.		budaq	di'	white
116.	bunduk	buduk	duek	mountain peak
117.	bahu-en	buen	win	odor
		muen	m-win	to smell
118.	buku	bukuh	i-win	was smelled by s.o.
119.	bulan	bulan	kkew	node, joint
			blin	moon

120.	bulen	anak bulen	anak long	only child
121.	bulu	buluh	blew	body hair, feathers
122.	buluq	buluq	leu'	bamboo
123.		buqan	in	carrying basket
124.	buRaw	buraw	bréew	to chase away
125.	buRuk	buruk	bruek	rotten
126.		buruq	bru'	washed off (paint)
127.		burur	bruel	body
128.		butaq mateh	toe' atah	eye mucus
129.		butuq	tueng	corpse
130.	butuq	butuq	tu'	penis
131.		buqaq buyaw	wei' yiew	orange
132.		buyur	ijjel	too long (clothes)
133.		daan	rien	field hut
134.	dadān	dadān	adin	old, long time
135.	dandān	dadān	ladéeng	heat of a fire
136.	dajem	me-dadān	pe-ladéeng	to warm by a fire
137.	zalan	dadem	bédem	chills and fever
	z-um-alan	dalan	alin	path/road
138.	dalem	nalan	m-alan	to walk
139.		dalem	bélem	deep
140.	daqan	me-daluh	bélew	quarrel; angry
		daqan	la'in	branch

141.			daqeh	eh	chin/jaw
142.	daqet		daqet	et/ré'et	bad
143.	dahun		daqun	un	leaf
144.	daRaQ		darAQ	arée'	blood
145.			datuq	ato'	durian
146.	daya		dayeh	pé' ayeh	short way upriver
147.	demdem		dedhem	la' sem	night
148.			dedhen	sen	downward pressure
149.			dedhur	ssuel	woman/female
150.	deket		deket	leket	to stick, adhere
	me-deket		me-deket	pe-lket	sticking, adhering
151.			delaw	liew	freshwater eel
152.			demulun	lemluen	slave
153.			denak denak	nak nak	suddenly
154.			dengan	ngan	and/with
155.			deŋur	ngol	bass (voice)
156.	depa		depeh	lepah	fathom
157.	dilaq		dilaq	ili'	tongue
158.			pe-dinji	pe-Ingae	opposite bank
159.	hadiri		dirih	arey	housepost
160.			pe-ditaq	pé' ta'	above
			me-ditaq	be-lta'	high
161.			diuq	yeu'	take a bath
162.	diRuq		niuq	n-yeu'	bathe someone

163.	d-in- <b>iuq</b>	was bathed
164.	<b>duaq</b> (?)	good
165.	<b>duder</b>	small edible eel
166.	<b>duha</b>	two
167.	<b>zuRuq</b>	honey
168.	<b>bahaq</b>	water
169.	<b>bahaR</b>	loincloth
170.		accusation
171.		to accuse
172.		dyke in paddy
173.		to refuse
174.	<b>buhek</b>	head hair
175.	<b>haRezan</b>	skewer for meat
176.		notched log ladder
177.	<b>qalejaw</b>	light, brilliance
178.		day, sun
179.		one
180.		work
181.		arrival
		pushing
		to push
182.		white egret
183.	<b>qekun</b>	owl
		é-nyeu'
		wei'
		del
		weh
		ru'
		pei'
		péel
		peng
		m-peng
		peng
		m-pew
		puek
		pul
		sin
		séeng
		siew
		seh
		sen
		sieng
		sew
		n-sew
		al kéew
		kong
		d-in- <b>iuq</b>
		<b>duaq</b> (?)
		<b>duder</b>
		<b>duh</b>
		<b>dururq</b>
		<b>ebhaq</b>
		<b>ebhar</b>
		<b>ebheg</b>
		<b>ŋ-ebheŋ</b>
		<b>ebheg</b>
		<b>m-ebhuh</b>
		<b>ebhuk</b>
		<b>ebhul</b>
		<b>edhan</b>
		<b>edhaŋ</b>
		<b>edhaw</b>
		<b>edheh</b>
		<b>edhen</b>
		<b>edhiŋ</b>
		<b>edhuh</b>
		<b>ŋ-edhuh</b>
		<b>laqal ekiw</b>
		<b>ékun</b>
		<b>duha</b>
		<b>zuRuq</b>
		<b>bahaq</b>
		<b>bahaR</b>
		<b>buhek</b>
		<b>haRezan</b>
		<b>qalejaw</b>
		<b>qekun</b>

184.	qelad	elad	lut (?)	wing
185.		eleg	lep	to stop, as work
186.		eluj	long	estuary
187.		emuŋ	mueng	collection
188.	enem	enem	nem	six
189.		enun	non	what?
190.		p-engep	hngep	to kiss e.o.
191.		ŋ-engep	ng-ngep	to kiss s.o.
192.		enji	hngay	that
193.	epat	epat	pat	four
194.		ŋ-epid	lepIt	to braid
195.	qepit	epin	pIn	mat
196.	semput	epit	pIt	forceps
		eput	puet	blowpipe
		ŋ-eput	m-puet	shoot with blowpipe
197.		ŋ-eseb	n-sep	to burn
198.		ŋ-esu	pel-sew	continue; immediate
199.		etun	ton	front
200.		etun	ton	long handle
201.	gasin	gain	ayeng	spinning top
202.		gareŋ	reng reng	to roar
203.	gatel	gatel	jatel	itchy
204.	gemel	gemel	m-mel	to grasp, squeeze

205.	geRami	jenlew	empty rice head
206.		jelamey	rice straw
207.		pelawat	complicated
208.		hmel	bedbug
209.		pélep	skittish
210.	bituqen	jlinto'on	star
211.		lawen (?)	messy, untidy
212.	gulinj	lieng lieng	shake head sideways
213.		toe	to cross a river
214.		yat	breath
		n-yat	to breathe
215.	isaw	yaew	knife
216.		ibin	PIL, CIL
217.	ijan	din	when?
218.	ida	deh	they (plural)
219.	ijunj	sueng	nose
220.	ia	yah	he/she
221.		jeu'	shame
		n-jeu'	ashamed
222.	i-sai	aey	who?
223.		kap	smoke vent
224.		n-céet	expensive; difficult
225.		élep	to separate, divorce

226.		ilek	élek	armpit
227.		m-iluh	mélaw	to eat s.t. poisonous
228.	silu	ilu-n	élon	fingemail
229.		ilug	élong	seed
230.		ilut		rattan cane
231.		ŋ-ilut	m-élot	to whip
232.		imet	met	to hold
	t-ina	ina-q	na'	mother (add.)
233.		t-ina-n	hna-n	his mother
234.		ng-inam	m-énam	to count
235.	i-na	ŋ-inat	m-énat	to pull
	i-na	ineh	nah	that, those
	ini	k-ineh	hnah	that way
236.		inih	nay	this, these
		k-inih	hnay	this way; now
237.		iqik	éék	small
238.		ŋ-iqir	m-i'ir	to sharpen
239.	siku	ikuh	cew	elbow
240.		irat	érat	to emerge, come out
241.	hiRup	irup	érop	drinking
242.		m-irup	mérop	to drink
243.	qitem	iseh	ésah	a file
244.		m-item	métem	black
		iuk iuk	yok yok	little-by-little



245.		iyung	yong	hulling platform
246.	hiup	iup	yop	blowing
247.	ikuR	iyup	n-yop	to blow
248.	siwa	iur	yol	tail
249.		iwaq	éwa'	nine
250.	kazan	pe-kabiŋ	pe' abieng	left side
251.		kadaŋ	padéng	tall
252.	kami	kak kak	kak kak	to cackle (onom.)
253.	k-um-aen	kamih	amay	we, us (excl.)
	k-in-aen	k-um-an	man	to eat
254.	ma-kapal	k-in-an	énan	was eaten
255.		kapal	apal	thick
256.		kapeh	papeh	how?
257.	katem	kataw	ataew	grasshopper
258.	kahiw	katem	katem	wood plane
259.		kayuh	ayew	wood, tree
260.		kebher kebher	pel pel	flapping (wings)
261.		keduit	wiet	ladle, scoop
262.	kezep	kedha	nsi (?)	able to endure pain
263.		kedhép	sep	close the eyes
264.		kekeb	kap	lid, cover
265.		kekelit	lalit (?)	insectivorous bat
266.		kelabet	labet	gibbon
		kelebbhan	lepeeng	butterfly

267.	keliaw	liaiw	wild cow
268.	keliq	lée'	know
269.	me-keluk	plok	slack, as a rope
270.	kemuq	m-lok	to slacken
271.	ken	hmu'	short
272.	pe-keneh	ken	question marker
273.	kenen	panah	to believe
274.	keniw	nen	fodder
275.	kerob	néew	eagle
276.	kereruer	parep	able, capable
277.	keriq	luél	intestinal worm
278.	keruk	rieng	k.o. bell bracelet
279.	keteb	rok-rok	a snore
280.	qeteb	tep	piece made by cutting
281.	keted	n-tep	to cut
282.	qiki	tet	back
283.	kikid	n-cey	to shave
284.	kilat	pé' ket (?)	rice porridge dish
285.	kiluq	ilat ilat	lightning
286.	kiran	kélo'	bent
287.	kiteh	iran	breadfruit
288.	kuir	tah	we (dual incl.)
289.		wél	clouded leopard

288.		kkol	wrist
289.	kudkud	kkuet	foot/leg
290.	kulat	loet	mushroom
291.	kulub	lup	ridgepole cover
292.	kutu	tew	head louse
293.		yoet	grey macaque
294.	lasak	p-lak	cooked, ripe
295.		lak	year
296.		labi	to pass, surpass
297.	labaw	abiew	rat, mouse
298.		abew abew	dusty
299.		alit	ear
300.		lamuet	mixture
301.		langan	blowpipe dart
302.	lanjaw	langaew	horsefly
303.	lanjit	langët	sky
304.		lango'	brother-in-law
305.	lanjuy	langoey	swim
306.		lapuet	cloud
307.		al	chicken
308.	la-laki	ley	male
309.		lataw	oil, oily
310.	lasuq	p-lo'	warm/hot

311.		lawid	awit	fish
312.	layu	layuh	layew	to wither
313.		lekuq	ko'	bracelet
314.	lekuq	lekuq	leko'	joint
315.		lelej	leng	dam of branches
316.	(da)lem	lem	lem	at, in, inside
317.	qali-matek	lematek	lematek	jungle leech
318.	lemek	lemek	lemek	fat, grease
	me-lemek	me-lemek	pe-lemek	soft
319.		l-em-idik	lemdiak	to cut underbrush
320.		lemulun	lemulun	person
321.		lemuned	lemnet	middle
322.	legen	legen	lengen	arm
323.		legu	hngaw	slipped off, shed
324.		lepaq	lepa'	foam, froth
325.	lepaw	lepaw	paew	granary
326.		liang	yang	under, beneath
327.	libut	libut	lebuat	to surround game
328.	ludaq	lidhaq	lesej'	to spit
			esej'	was spit
329.	qalia	lieh	lieh	ginger
330.	lima	limeh	émah	five
331.		linuh	hnaw	thought
		ŋe-linuh	n-naw	to think

332.		lipang	rice husk with grain
333.	lipen	épen	tooth
334.	ma-nipis	pelpay	thin (materials)
335.	lisehaq	lé'ée	nit, louse eggs
336.		pe'éeew	clear (water)
		lé'ew	clear (water)
337.	luban	beeng	hole
338.		lebit	to roll s.t. over
339.		lekoe'/kkoe'	to fall (person)
		ng-koe'	to let s.t. fall
340.	lulud	lut	shin
341.	lulun	l'uen	to roll s.t. up
342.		lun	person
343.	lujun	nguen	coffin
344.	lupuŋ	lapueng/lepueng	to float
		apueng-apueng	floating
345.		wen	above
		luwén	to put on top
346.		maew	yes
347.	ma-buhek	mabuek	drunk
348.	ma-zauq	adiew	far
349.	ma-asiaq	mahl'	to love
350.		majian	papaya
351.		manuk	chicken

352.		maqad	ma`at	to stutter, stammer
353.		maqun	ma`on	old (things)
354.	um-aRi	marih	aray	come
355.		masiw	masiew	to sell
356.	ma-etaq	mataq	mata`	raw
357.	mata	mateh	atah	eye
358.		matuq	mato`	look after (a child)
359.		mawan	mawan	visible
360.		may	maey	to go
361.		mayad	mayat	to dribble out
362.		mayaq	maya`	to follow
363.		mayuq	mayong	to spear
364.		melay	m-laey	cheap; easy
365.		menad	nnat	to climb
366.		menebhur	puel	rice porridge
367.		menelen	menlen/mlen	python
368.		menipal	menpal	scorpion
369.		menipeh	benpeh	snake
370.		mepet	m-pet	to throw
371.	beRay	meray	m-raey	to give
372.		meri	mray	dried up (stream)
373.		metiq	mote`	to kick
374.		muka	ngkoe	early
375.		mulaq	loe`	many

376.	muned	nnet	correct
377.	munej	nŋg	near
378.	munuq	nnu'	enemy
379.	mupun	se-mpuen	grandchild
380.	muraq	m-roè	to transfer
381.	mutuh	n-tew	to ask
382.	nahun	jahun	steam
383.	namuk	muek	fly, sandfly
384.	nanaq	lana'	pus
385.	naqem	em	no, not
386.	natađ	satat	cleared area by house
387.	natađ	latat	to remind
		i-atat	was reminded
388.	nedheh	n-seh	to leave behind
389.	nepipin	m-pIn	to arrange
390.	ne-piaq	nepca'	to sneeze
391.	nerut	larut	to sew
392.	dejeR	n-nel	to hear
		é-nel	to be heard
393.		n-yel	to see
		é-nel	to look
394.	nubaq	bi'	cooked rice
395.	nuk	nok	thing

396.	nuper	épel	rope
397.	nutun	n-tuen	to taste
398.	nutuy	ntuey	stay behind
399.	ɲadan	adin	name
400.	ɲadel	padel	dull, blunt
401.	ɲanət	ng-ngat	pull up a post
402.	ɲapeh	pah	where?
403.	ɲegheŋ	macéeng	to lift
404.	ɲenaq	nna'	to recede (water)
405.	ɲered	maret	old (animates)
406.	ɲi	may	at; to
407.	ɲilaŋ	mélang	to soothe
408.	padek	padek	rice husk
409.	pahad	pahat	even, level
410.	pahaqen	ahan	shoulder pole
411.	mahaqen	m-ahan	carry on shoulder pole
412.	pak pak	pak pak	sound of lapping water
413.	pakel	pakel	decorative leg binding
414.	palad	palit	palm of the hand
415.	palid	palit	carried off by wind
416.	paliq	palé'	to heal
417.	paluh	palaw	sago flour
418.	pana	pana	hot/sweat
	ɲajan		
	ɲazel		
	pasaqan		
	palaj		
	palid		
	panas		



419.	panid	panit	each, every
420.	panjaw	pangaew	bald
421.	paqen	pa'en	areca palm and nut
422.	paqit	pa'et	bitter
423.	paquh	pa'aw	fem
424.	parir	parèl	blowpipe poison
425.	patot	patot	to copulate
426.	pawat	pawat	fruit bat
427.	payaw	payaw	sambhur deer
428.	pedalaq	bélei'	casting net
429.	pedekan	kkan	to choke on water
430.	pedhiq	ssei'	salty
431.	pedhuh	ssew	gall (bladder)
432.	pegamuŋ	pejamueng	tangled
433.	pekahaq	paha'	to change, as a name
434.	pekupat	mpat	turned contrarwise
435.	peliw	pléew	slip from one's grasp
436.	peman	hman	feeding
	meman	m-man	to feed
	piman	é-man	was fed
437.	penaw	hnaew	theft
	menaw	nnaew	to steal
438.	penuq	hno'	full
439.	pejinud	hnót	story, fable

440.	pepag	ppap	a slap
441.	pepaq	ppa'	chewing
442.	peraqit	pel'ét	thunderclap
443.	peregaiq	jarei'	all together
444.	perek	prek	crowded, packed in
445.	merek	m-rek	to squeeze
446.	petad	ttat	to separate
447.	ne-piaq	nepca'	to sneeze
448.	pidhet	ssat	taut, as a rope
	midhet	n-set	taut
449.	piket	pacit	to overtake s.o.
450.	pilat	pelat	scar
451.	p-ilaw	pélaew	dazzling
	piliq	pélé'	choice
452.	miliq	mélé'	to choose
453.	pinahaw	penhew	needle
454.	pued	pwet	navel
455.	puet	pat	bottom
456.	putut	ddut	way, manner; shape
457.	pulaj	ploeng	ringworm
458.	puluj	plueng	forest
459.	puluq	plu'	ten
460.	putut	pluet	sap, latex
461.	Punan	hnoen	Punan

462.	pupud	ppuet	tracking of animals
463.	pupuq	ppu'	washing; drumstick
	mupuq	m-pu'	to hit, wash clothes
464.	p-i-puq	ipu'	was hit, was washed
465.	puqun	pu'uen	base of tree
466.	putul	ttuel	broken
467.	puuŋ	pweng	animal
468.	ŋe-raad	rat	to hunt
469.	rabut	labuet	pluck, uproot
470.	ŋe-ramit	lamit	to scratch
471.	ramut	muet	fibrous roots
472.	ranih	anay	harvest
473.	raqaw	la'aew	cork
474.	me-raqen	pel'en	light (weight)
475.	raqit	la'et	raft
476.	raquŋ	ong	sun hat
477.	pe-raruh	paraw	lost
478.	ratan	latan	a leak
	me-ratan	p-latan	leaking (roof)
479.	me-ratu	p-lataw	hundred
480.	rayeh	rah	big, large
481.	rebhun	lepun	smoke
482.	me-rerak	p-rak	tom
483.	reraq	ra'	ant

484.		ŋe-rerek	m-rek	to strangle
485.	Ribu	me-ribuh	pe-lbew	thousand
486.		riek	liek	a cough
487.		me-riek	pe-lyek	to cough
488.		rier	liel	turn the head
489.		ŋe-rimer	mmel	to wrinkle
490.	niRu	rinuh	énaw	winnowing basket
491.		rirek	érek	strangle
		riruh	éraw	a laugh
		pe-riruh	péraw	to laugh at e.o.
492.		rudap	diep	to sleep
493.		rumaq	ma'	house
494.	Rumaq	rurug	hrop	to fall; pour out
495.		rurut	rruet	bring down
496.	Rusuk	ruuk	(lu)wek	chest
497.	sandaR	sadar	sadéel	to lean on
498.		saget	ajlt	quickly
499.		sakay	sakay	visitor, guest
500.		salaq	sala'	wrong, in error
501.		sebuang	séwéeng	some
502.		seraway	sawaei	behavior
503.		siaq	saa'	red
504.		sinun	hnoeng	happy, successful
505.		siri	hray	straight

506.	sukup	spade
507.	sunəqıŋ	incubus
508.	naban	run off with s.t.
509.	tabat	medicine
510.	tadem	sharp
511.	nadem	to whet, sharpen
512.	tadur	bridge
513.	takaŋ	spread wide (legs)
514.	taked	popliteal space
515.	takep	room of a house
516.	takuŋ	pond
517.	talun	buckskin; clothing
518.	tama-q	father (add.)
519.	taneq	earth
520.	tanem	burial
	nanem	to bury
	taŋi	to cry
521.	naŋi	honeycomb
522.	tapih	to marry
523.	tapuq	to give in marriage
	napuq	mouth; voice
524.	taqen	feces
525.	taqıq	
	tazem	
	taket	
	takep	
	takong	
	talon	
	tama'	
	tana'	
	tanem	
	nanem	
	mangay	
	tapay	
	tapu'	
	mapu'	
	ta'ang	
	ta'e'	

526.	takut	me-taqut	ta'eut	afraid
527.	taRaḡ	t-em-araq	t-em-ara'	to fell trees
528.		tari	tarey	measurement
		nari	marey	to measure
529.		taruḡ	aro'	to make
530.	taRutunḡ	terutunḡ	teltong	porcupine
531.		tebiriḡ	tebirieng	tum at an angle
532.		tebhaḡ	t-el-pe'i'	thorn
533.	tebek	tebhek	ppek	to be pricked
		nebhek	m-pek	to prick, to stab
			e-pek	to be stabbed
534.	tebenḡ	tebhenḡ	ppeng	falling of trees
535.	tebuh	tebhuh	ppew	sugarcane
536.		tedhak	séek	pumpkin
537.		tedhin	i-sin	left behind
538.		teger	teja'el	to shiver
539.	tageRaḡ	tegeranḡ	tejaréeng	ribs
540.		tekap	kkap	to seek, search for
541.		tekaḡok	ta'ok	rooster
542.		tekip	kkIp	girl's sarong
543.		telaḡ	hla'	thrown away
544.		telaḡaw	tel'aw	muntjac deer
545.	telen	telen	hlen	swallowed
		nelen	mIen	to swallow

546.	teletad	teltat	cockspur
547.	teliad	telyat	to slip
548.	teluh	law	three
549.	temaqud	tem'ot	Achille's tendon
550.	temalem	temalem	overnight in forest
551.	temedhur	temsuel	rhinoceros
552.	temenaj	menngan	hornbill
553.	teneb	hnep	cold
554.	tejanuh	lanaw	to weave mats
555.	tejanaq	tanga'	to gape
556.	tejaq	hnga'	window
557.	tejeb	hngep	riverbank
558.	tepu-q	pu'	grandparent (add.)
559.	tera	hra	hard (of wood)
560.	terad	hrat	cut oneself
	nerad	m-rat	cut something
561.	terep	hrep	tree like breadfruit
562.	terur	hrol	egg
563.	tidhuk	suek	beak
564.	tidhul	sul	pointing
565.	tidhuq	seu'	hand
566.	tilubid	bit	to lie down
567.	timun	hmuen	cucumber
568.	tinaqi	sen'ay	guts
	telu		
	t-empu-q		
	teRas		
	teRep		
	qateluR		
	qatimun		
	tinaqi		

569.	tinien	catfish
570.	pe-tinuqeh	right side
571.	tubaq	wild cat
572.	tubeh	derris root
573.	tudaq	how much?
574.	tudug	shoulder
575.	tuduq	seven
576.	tudhuq	salt
577.	tuhug	a box
578.	tuked	prop
579.	tuked	slope of a mountain
580.	tukurj	mosquito
581.	tulanj	bone
582.	tulu	true, correct
583.	tulud	to fly
584.	tumeh	clothes louse
585.	tumid	heel
586.	tunan	short handle
587.	tunap	winnowed
588.	tunaw	hammer
589.	tunuh	roasting, smoking
590.	tupeh	to pound rice
591.	tuqed	tree stump
	teinyen	
	pe' 'oh	
	bbéeng	
	bbeh	
	ddei'	
	ddueng	
	ddeu'	
	seu'	
	tohong	
	kot	
	kot	
	kkueng	
	hloeng	
	hlew	
	hlut	
	hmah	
	hmət	
	hnoen	
	hnoep	
	hnoew	
	hnew	
	ppah	
	to't	



592.		tuqeh	to'oh	hard, durable
593.		tuqen	en/ɔn	to make, to do
594.	tuRun	turun	hruen	to descend
595.		tutud	ttuet	burning
596.	tuktuk	nutud	n-tuet	to burn; to light
597.	tutuŋ	tutuk	tok	a stroke in pounding
598.		tutuŋ	n-tueng	to bum
599.		nutuŋ	tto'	to fall (fruit)
600.		tutuq	wap	yawn
601.		uab	wan	to have, to own
602.		uan	wang	meat/muscle
603.		uaŋ	wang wang	naked
604.		uaŋuan	wa'	repayment
605.		uaq	wal	vine
606.		uar	m-wat	to gossip
607.		m-uat	wat	root
608.	qubi	uat	bey	tapioca
609.		ubi	piel	to overflow
610.	qudaŋ	ubhir	din	rain
611.		udan	déeng	freshwater shrimp
612.		udan	dong	to stay at home
		m-udeŋ	dut	comb
		udud		

613.	udah	dew	grass
614.	udun kayuh	dueng ayew	top part of tree
615.	m-udur	duel	to stand
616.	udhuq	seu'	to cease
617.	uit	wlt	to bring
618.	ukab	wap	opened
619.	η-ukat	ng-koet	to dig
620.	ukep	kkep	sleep in forest
621.	uker	kɔl	wide open (eyes)
622.	ukuq	ku'	dog
623.	uled	let	worm; maggot
624.	ulih	éloy	sprout, shoot
625.	uluh	lew	head
626.	ulun	luen	life
627.	m-ulun	m-luen	living, alive
628.	upa	pa	splitting
629.	η-upa	m-pa	to split
630.	upan	pan	bait
	upaq	pa'	yam
	upih	pay	dream
	m-upih	m-pay	to dream
631.	upun	puen	to run
	hukab		
	qulej		
	suli		
	qulu		
	qulun		
	hepi		

632.		uRat	wet	smoking pipe
		suRat	m-wet	to suck, smoke
		suRat	é-wet	be sucked, smoked
633.	uRat	urat	roet	vein, vessel
634.	suRat	urat	roet	wound
635.		m-urat	m-roet	wounded
636.		urur	ruel	cluster, as of fruit
637.		urur	ruel	lowering of s.t.
638.		usin	sin	money, coin
639.	utag	utap	tap	shield
		utag	toe'	vomit
640.		η-utag	n-toe'	to vomit
641.	qutek	utek	tek	brain
642.		uud	wet	return, go back
643.	walu	uyut	yuet	carrying basket
		waluh	alaw	eight

## APPENDIX 3

## Probable Loanwords

- |     |                            |  |
|-----|----------------------------|--|
| 01. | adat 'customary law'       | (Malay /adat/)                                       |
| 02. | atol 'arrangement'         | (Malay /atur/)                                       |
|     | ng-atol 'arrange'          | (Malay /meng-atur/)                                  |
| 03. | bawang 'onion'             | (Malay /bawang/)                                     |
| 04. | bayar 'to pay'             | (Malay /bayar/)                                      |
| 05. | bel'di 'bucket'            | (Malay /baldi/, /beldi/,<br>from Portuguese)         |
| 06. | bébéek 'duck'              | (Malay /bébék/)                                      |
| 07. | bilUn 'airplane'           | (Malay /bilun/,<br>from English 'balloon')           |
| 08. | bonge' 'cultivated flower' | (Malay /bunga/)                                      |
| 09. | buku 'book'                | (Malay /buku/)                                       |
| 10. | céem 'you' (pl.)           | (Kayak /ikam/)                                       |
| 11. | dapur 'kitchen'            | (Malay /dapur/)                                      |
| 12. | deloyEn 'durian'           | (Malay /durian/)                                     |
| 13. | éek 'I'                    | (Kayan /ak/)   |
| 14. | gaji 'salary'              | (Malay /gaji/)                                       |
| 15. | gaun 'skirt'               | (Kelabit /gaun/, probably<br>from English 'gown')    |
| 16. | geleng 'armlet'            | (Kelabit /geleng/)                                   |
| 17. | gola' 'sugar'              | (Malay /gula/)                                       |
| 18. | guting 'cut the hair'      | (Malay /gunting/ 'scissors')                         |
| 19. | ibUn 'jambu'               | (Kelabit /libuh/)                                    |
| 20. | jam 'watch'                | (Malay /jam/)  |
| 21. | jjin 'plate'               | (Malay /pinggan/,<br>Kelabit /bigan/,<br>from Tamil) |
| 22. | jjuek 'tobacco'            | (cp. Kelabit /siguk/,<br>LD /sigup/)                 |
| 23. | ka'bel 'picture'           | (Malay /gambar/)                                     |
| 24. | kapak 'axe'                | (Malay /kapak/)                                      |
| 25. | kasUt 'shoes'              | (Malay /kasut/)                                      |
| 26. | kawin 'to marry'           | (Malay /kawin/,<br>used by younger<br>speakers)      |
| 27. | kebun 'garden'             | (Malay /kebun/)                                      |
| 28. | kelabo' 'mosquito net'     | (Malay /kelambu/)                                    |

29. kela'bun 'soap' (Malay /sabun/,  
from Portuguese)
30. kelingay 'mirror' (Kayan /kelingi/)
31. kel'ja 'work' (Malay /kerja/)
32. kelobaw 'carabao,  
water buffalo' (Malay /kerbau/)
33. kertas 'paper' (Malay /kertas/)
34. ko'da' 'horse' (Malay /kuda/)
35. korang 'lacking, short of' (Malay /kurang/)
36. kotor 'dirty' (Malay /kotor/)
37. kupi 'coffee' (Malay /kopi/)
38. lapong 'lamp' (Malay /lampu/)
39. lawet 'wire' (Malay /kawat/)
40. madiel 'to shoot  
(with a gun)' (Tamil, through Malay,  
/badil/)
- i-adiel 'to be shot  
(with a gun)' (Tamil, through Malay,  
/me-madil/)
41. masuk 'enter' (Malay /masuk/)
42. méek 'goat' (Kelabit /mék/)
43. meja 'table' (Malay /méja/,  
from Portuguese)
44. mukut 'punch'  
pe-bukut 'punch each other'  
[NOTE: with irregular  
perservation of  
penultimate \*u]  
(Kelabit /mukut/)  
(Kelabit /pe-bukut/)
45. ngajar 'to teach' (Malay /meng-ajar/)
46. ngorang 'lower the price'  
(Malay /kurang/;  
/me-ngurang-i/)
47. nyak 'oil; kerosene' (Malay /minyak/)
48. nyoh 'coconut' (Kayan /ñuh/)
49. otang 'debt'  
ng-otang 'to borrow'  
(Malay /utang/)
50. padi 'riceplant' (Malay /padi/)
51. pako' 'nail' (Malay /paku/)
52. pa'dang 'field' (Malay /padang/)
53. payung 'umbrella' (Malay /payung/)
54. pelanok 'mousedeer' (Malay /pelanduk/)
55. pensil 'pencil' (Malay, from English)
56. pérak 'silver' (Malay /pérak/)
57. poket 'dragnet' (Malay /pukat/)

58. ramaey 'lively, bustling' (Malay /ramai/)  
 nge-ramay 'to entertain'
59. rasun 'poison' (Malay /racun/)  
 [NOTE: /nge-rasun/  
 'to poison', with prefix  
 /nge/ not otherwise  
 attested]  
 (Malay /cangkul/)
60. sakol 'hoe'  
 nyakol 'to hoe, dig with  
 a hoe'
61. sala'/mala' 'wrong' (Kelabit /sala'/mala'/)
62. sape' 'cow' (Malay /sapi/)
63. sekola 'school' (Malay /sekolah/,  
 from English)
64. sekUp 'spade' (Malay /sekop/ 'spade',  
 from Dutch)
65. seluen 'pants, trousers' (Malay /seluar/, from  
 Persian or Arabic through  
 an Indic language)
66. sorat 'letter' (Malay /surat/)
67. tam 'we' (pl. incl.) (Kayan /itam/)
68. tebangan 'scale for weighing' (Malay /timbang-an/)
69. tising 'finger ring' (Malay /cincin/)

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## NOTES

1. Sa'ban data were collected during an eight-month fieldtrip in the Baram District of Sarawak's Fourth Division from April to November, 1971. During this trip 41 speech communities were studied, and the quantity of data obtained for any given language was therefore necessarily limited. For Sa'ban I collected a vocabulary of about 800 words, and perhaps 250 sentences. A serious attempt was made in the time available to obtain an accurate picture of the phoneme system and an outline of the morphology. Eighty-four forms illustrating perceptually difficult contrasts were recorded on tape. All material was collected from Jollie Uda, then a student at Marudi Government Secondary School. Jollie, who was born about 1955 in the longhouse of Long Banga' on a small stream which flows into the extreme upper Baram near the Sarawak-Kalimantan border, truly lived up to his name — he was a constantly cheerful person with a smile that rarely left his face. Wherever he is today, I send him my 'aloha' for teaching me something of his remarkable language.

2. Clayre (1992:209) reports that 'Sa'ban is 75% cognate with Lun Bawang'. However, she gives no basis for this statement, no source for the percentage, and no reference to the table in Blust (1984). Supporting evidence for the percentages cited here is given in Appendix 1, where the Swadesh list meanings were narrowed for better comparability in the following ways: 11. wash = wash clothes, 29. hair

= head hair, 32. smell = sniff, 39. spit = expectorate, 41. cook = general term rather than specific types, 50. lie down = lie down to sleep, 64. tie = tie by knotting rather than binding, 70. hit = hit with a stick = wash clothes, 74. live = be alive, 75. scratch = scratch an itch, 76. cut = cut wood, 77. stick = wood, 78. split = split wood (not bamboo), 79. sharp = sharp blade (not point), 109. rotten = rotten meat (not vegetables), 140. smooth = level, 153/154. short/long = short/long of objects, not time, 155. thin = tenuous, not emaciated, 156. old = old, of people, 172. there = there by the hearer. Figures on which the percentages are based are: LTT:SAB 143/190 = 75.6%, LTT:LD 142/190 = 75.1%, LTT:BAR 154/190 = 81.3%, BAR:SAB 157/189 = 83.1%, BAR:LD 151/190 = 79.8%, LD:SAB 136/189 = 72.4%. The list employed was Hudson's (1967) modification of the Swadesh 200-item test list. Lexical items followed by the same letter are considered cognate if that letter is not (L), and for each cognate pair a "plus" is tallied. (L) marks known or suspected loanwords, mostly from Malay. These are scored as "minus" in comparisons with the other letter values, but are discarded in comparisons with one another so as to avoid distortion that would come about through borrowing from a common source. Thus, in no. 14 the comparison LTT *luyuq*, BAR *kotor* 'dirty' is scored "minus," whereas the comparison BAR, SAB *kotor* is discarded. Duplication or partial duplication of cognate sets presents a number of problems. Where two meanings on the (modified) Swadesh list are treated as a single meaning by all of the languages compared the two are conflated, as with 4. 'leg', and 5. 'foot', or 57. 'husband', and 58. 'wife'. Where the same word base is employed but the meanings are distinct the two are not conflated, as with 6 and 7. Where the two meanings on the Swadesh list are treated as a single meaning by some but not all of the languages compared the two are conflated only for those language pairs which do not make a distinction, as with 120 and 125 for the pairs



BAR:LD, BAR:SAB and LD:SAB. Multiple terms for the same meaning have been included, and where these point to more than one cognate set each set is counted, as with 107, 159 and 181. Finally, the cross-linguistic worthlessness of some items on the Swadesh list is amply illustrated by 187. 'some', where it is evident that the Tring response = 'many', and the Bario response = 'few'.

3. Clayre (1992) implies that Sa'ban also has a phonemic palatal nasal. However, in view of the fact that she recognizes such syllable-initial consonant clusters as /by/, /py/ and /ly/ it is difficult to rule out the interpretation of  $\bar{n}$ ] as a consonant cluster /ny/.

4. Cf. Bario Kelabit /nge-rerak/ 'to tear', /meno/ 'to steal', /nekap/ 'to seek, search for', /ng-emung/ 'to gather', and /meré/ 'to give'. My Lun Bawang material was collected from Baru Langub, born in Long Semado around 1954, and a student at Marudi Government Secondary School in the second half of 1971. Clayre is not alone in confusing /a/ and /e/, especially in penultimate position, as native speakers in writing Kelabit or Lun Dayeh often do the same, apparently based on a misguided missionary tradition (cf. Labo Pur 1965, where he writes e.g. /acheh/ 'one', /apat/ 'four', /anem/ 'six', /babpat/ 'share', or /kali/ 'to know', where I recorded /edheh/, /epat/, /enem/, /bebhat/, /keli'/, etc.).

5. Sources of information on these developments are my own fieldnotes from April-November, 1971, and Hudson (1970).

6. Note, however, that such segments as /pw/ and /mw/ in some Oceanic languages are described as 'velarized' rather than 'labialized', and are said to be produced with lip spreading rather than rounding when not preceding a rounded vowel.

7. Ladefoged and Maddieson (1996:63) characterize the difference between e.g. Javanese /p/ and /b/ as one of 'stiff voice' vs. 'slack voice'. They regard slack voice as involving the same articulatory mechanism as breathy voice, but as differing in degree: 'These stops have a slightly increased glottal aperture beyond that which occurs in modal voice, and a moderate increase in flow. When there is a considerable glottal aperture and a high rate of flow of air while the vocal folds are vibrating, we will say that the sound is pronounced with breathy voice...'

8. With reference to the Chamic languages Thurgood (1999:205) notes that breathy voice 'caused various mid vowels to raise and the low vowels to develop a barred-*ɪ*onglide.' In both Sa'ban and the four Berawan dialects the schwa shows no raising effects when following a voiced obstruent.

9. In describing spreading patterns for breathy phonation in the Chamic languages Thurgood (1999:235ff) observes that breathy voice spreads through sonorants in all of the languages discussed (Western Cham, Phan Rang Cham, Haroi, Tsat), and through \*s and \*h with the possible exception of Haroi (data unclear). Voiceless stops, on the other hand, block the spread of breathy phonation in the first three languages, but not in Tsat. In Sa'ban, vowel fronting following a voiced obstruent is blocked by 1) an intervening voiceless stop, or 2) possibly certain consonant clusters which arose from the syncope of a vowel in the environment VC-CV in original trisyllables, as in PKLD \*beraqaŋ > /bel'ang/ 'molar tooth' (but not \*beruaŋ > /belwéeng/ 'the Malayan honey bear: *Ursus Malayanus*', where /w/ is evidently too vocalic to add substantial weight to the cluster).

10. Juliette Blevins (p.c.) has pointed out that voiced stops are generally shorter than voiceless stops, and 'Under

syllable compression, where short gestures become shorter, the voiced stop gesture is lost in its entirety.'

11. Whether \*q also drops in these forms is a moot point since, like most languages of insular Southeast Asia, Sa'ban does not allow a contrast of glottal stop and zero in initial position.

12. Clayre (p.c.), who has had far greater exposure to Sa'ban than I, believes that /menpal/ is a Kelabit form. She gives Sa'ban /pangyu/ 'scorpion'.

13. The pronouns of Murik, insofar as they are known, differ somewhat from those of Kayan, and are a less likely source of the borrowed pronouns of Sa'ban (Blust 1974c). As noted already, Revel-Macdonald (1982) provides no data on Modang pronouns, and although pronominal data do appear in Ray (1913), only two Modang forms are included: /kui/ '1st sg.' and /kih/ '2nd sg.'.

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