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This bibliography aims at including all descriptive, theoretical, and comparative works focused on languages of Borneo that have appeared since the annotated bibliography of Borneo languages by Cense and Uhlenbeck (1958). It also covers varieties of Malagasy (the language of Madagascar) and the Sama-Bajau languages wherever they occur in insular South East Asia.

An extensive introduction explains the premises of the bibliography. It provides an up to date discussion of the typology of Borneo languages. It clearly explains the criteria for linguistic subgrouping and some of the problems they entail. It also explains the scholarly basis for extending the bibliography to Madagascar and Sama-Bajau languages, namely the particularly close genetic relationship that exists between these languages and the Barito languages in southern Borneo. It gives an overview of the literature on Borneo languages and detailed accounts of the organization of the material and the research methods followed in preparing this work. It also refers to the history of the project, which grew out of a class on Borneo languages (Linguistics Seminar 770) at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. An improved version of _The Ethnologue’s_ inventory of Borneo languages (close to 150 in number) is added.

The bibliography includes theses but excludes unpublished conference papers, Indonesian field reports, and government publications with no author. It also excludes information already published in Cense and Uhlenbeck because duplication is not desirable, and many of the references in this work are only tangential to Bornean linguistics. Finally, it excludes publications concerned with varieties of Chinese and with the languages of recent migrants (such as Tausug and Cocos Keeling Malay in Sabah).

The material is divided into: (1) Bibliographies; (2) Works of a general nature that refer to languages of Borneo and Madagascar but do not focus on them; (3) Works dealing specifically with languages of Borneo and Madagascar and the Sama-Bajau languages. Each entry has three keywords referring to: (1) Type of work (dictionary, pedagogical/descriptive grammar, review, survey, texts etc.); (2) Area represented (Brunei, Kalimantan, Sarawak, Sabah, or simply Borneo); (3) Language in which the work is written (Malay, English, French etc.). Some of the entries have annotations which are identified by authorship.

The bibliography is an indispensable reference tool for the study of the traditional languages of Borneo. It is also a fairly comprehensive and eminently readable introduction to this linguistic area. The annotations are instructive.
and to the point. The authors have clearly surpassed all earlier bibliographies of Borneo languages in comprehensiveness, thoroughness, and method.

As the bracketed mention of Madagascar in the title already suggests, the linguistics of this area is catered for in a less complete way. The Introduction has no information on linguistic variety in Madagascar itself, nor on the literature on this topic. There are some bibliographical omissions, including Beaujard (2012) which deals, among other things, with lexical borrowing, Kikusawa’s publications on North Betsimisaraka (Kikusawa 2006, 2008), Elli’s Bara Malagasy—French dictionary (Elli 2010), the monolingual Malagasy dictionary by Rajaolison (1985), a historical evaluation of the importance of the ‘early Malagasy’ line in the Old Malay inscriptions of South Sumatra by Kullanda (2009), a list of European loanwords by Dez (Dez 1965) and other publications. There is also no reference to the online list of Randriamasinanana at http://folk.uio.no/janengh/gassisk: although not exactly complete itself, this list includes several additional titles that are not in the current volume. These omissions hardly deserve stern criticism because there were in fact many fewer Malagasy bibliographical sources the authors could rely on or benchmark against than in the case of Borneo languages.

A few more critical remarks are in order. One wonders why substantial contributions to the study of Malagasy history such as Mahdi (1988) and Simon (2006) are left without annotations, whereas Dahl (1991) receives a generous one. The latter booklet (on early migrations) is a setback in the study of this history because of its erroneous interpretations of Indonesian ethnology. Finally, it comes as a bit of a surprise to find a PhD thesis (Hoogervorst 2012) among the list of bibliographies.

In one instance, the information about Malagasy language history and early migrations, which is provided in the Introduction and some of the annotating comments, needs to be qualified. Commenting on several of my publications on these matters, Blust refers to the route followed by the early Malagasy migrants as one ‘along the littoral of mainland Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, the Arabian peninsula and the Horn of Africa’ (p. 46; cf. also pp. 3 and 42). That the Indonesian navigation route to East Africa was coastal (rather than trans-oceanic) seems obvious and has been taken for granted by most Indian Ocean scholars. However, I do not explicitly share their viewpoint as I have made clear in Adelaar (1989) and in later publications. In Adelaar

1 This is an extension of an Italian-medium dictionary of Bara Malagasy by the same author (Elli 1983).

2 The reference does occur, but only as part of (what seems to be) a review article in Ahmed-Chamanga (1988).