

Organised Phonology Data

Kasua Language [KHS] Musula – Southern Highlands & Western Province

Trans New Guinea Phylum; *Central and South New Guinea Stock;* Bosavi Family

Population census: 600-700 (1990 survey)

Major villages: Musula, Fokomaiyu, Ketimaiyu, Welio, Sepese, Ikilimaiyu

Linguistic work done by: SIL

Data checked by: Tommy Logan (July 2003)

Phonemic and Orthographic Inventory

ɑ æ ε f h i k l m n o ɔ p s t u w j
 a a: e f h i k l m n o o: p s t u w y
 A A: E F H I K M N O O: P S T U W Y

Consonants

	Bilab	LabDen	Dental	Alveo	Postalv	Retro	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyn	Glottal
Plosive	p		t					k			
Nasal	m		n								
Trill											
Tap/Flap											
Fricative		f		s							h
Lateral Fricative											
Approx							j				
Lateral Approx											
Ejective Stop											
Implos											

/w/ voiced labial-velar approximant

/l/ alveolar lateral flap

p	pepeta	'blood'	w	weye	'here'
	napolo	'good'		kiwa	'you (pl)'
	hanaposap	'will go'			
m	mi	'nose'	t	tiya:le	'hand'
	homatoa	'smoke'		kolotia	'small'
f	fo:no	'hair'	n	niwa	'we'
	ofola	'hot'		kunu	'thunder'

l	-		h	hano	'water / rain'
	hilila	'heavy'		-	
s	sosolo	'big'	j	yetu	'string bag'
	pese	'teeth'		keyalo	'red'
k	kiapo	'morning'			
	sikape	'later'			

Vowels

i		u			
		o			
ε		ɔ			
æ					
		ɑ			
i	imona	'blue'	ɔ	o:sulu	'quietly'
	siti	'shin'		ko:lu	'how?'
	kiniwani	'fog'		oko:	'sun'
	kuniu	'knee'			
ε	epi	'wing'	ɑ	apule	'therefore'
	keyalo	'red'		senato	'long'
	sape	'fat'		saka	'cousin'
	meapoko	'lip'	ei	kei	'frog'
æ	a:pita:	'animal'		kunei	'moon'
	tiya:le	'hand'	ai	kaiye	'where?'
	sipupa:	'forehead'		penaiya	'light'
u	usu	'egg'	au	hau	'liver'
	kunu	'thunder'			
	musu	'pretty'	oi	oiya	'pain'
	hanua	'great-grandmother'		koiya	'white'
o	opo	'sun'		keyalepoiya	'slick'
	potia	'cold'	ou	kouwa	'ancestor'
	sopolo	'all'		sou	'stump'
	homatoa	'smoke'			

/ɛi/

/ai/

/au/

/oi/

/ou/

Suprasegmentals (tone, stress, length)

With some exceptions, stress in Kasua is anti-penultimate and word initial in two syllable words.

Syllable Patterns

V	i 'tree'	o.po 'sun'	ko.a.ne 'house'	ku.ni.u 'knee'
VV	oi.ya 'pain'			
CV	po breast'	ku.nei 'moon'	ti.ya:le 'hand'	a.se 'sugar cane'
CVV	kei 'frog'	koi.ya 'white'	pe.nai.ya ' ' '	ku.nei 'moon'
CVC				e.pi.lep 'happy'

Conventions: Phonological

The voiceless obstruents /p t k/ generally become voiced following a back vowel: *napolo* [nabo.lo] 'good'.

/p/ is unreleased word final.

/l/ never occurs word initially or finally, and /h/ occurs only word initially.

/s/ is phonetically [ʃ] before /u/.

Nasal vowels exist but are rare. Typically, they occur after /m/ and /n/.

Conventions: Orthographic

/p t k/ are always written < p t k > even when they are pronounced [b d g].

/æ ɔ/ are written < a: o: > since nearby Kaluli and Gogodala use these symbols also.

The semiwovels in syllable peaks are written < w y >.

Transcription of a recorded passage

/

kote | jesu | ho napolo | kewa sæ.le penaija ho:lia ija elake || kote | tomiwa weje ine hetetiwiwiwa napolo
 esa: || kote | sæ.le nini sowamo notoloye tiyapola: || kote | ho napolo | kewa sæ.le ekupu olosani fa:nemi sinise nini
 solo waloma:na: || kote keje sine elæ walopæ kasua weyamowa epapu elakeje elawamowa || k
 eje tiye walomote || kote | kema sela || keketaiya wamoke fopule elæ || matana ema sosolo kinipi || kote
 | ekukemiwa kote kamumapulu use kote epamowa kalawamona epeyamowa || keje ulupasolotije itæpelæ
 ke || keje ho napolo | sine elæ keje walopæ || kote | kewa sæ.le penaija ho:lia iyala || kamo /

< Kote, Yesu, Ho napolo, Kewa sa:le penaiya ho:lia iya elake. Kote, Tomiwa weye ine hetetiwiwiwa napolo
 esa:. Kote, sa:le nini sowamo notoloye tiyapola:. Kote, Ho napolo, Kewa sa:le ekupu olosani fa:nemi sinise nini
 solo waloma:na:. Kote keye sine ela: walopa: Kasua weyamowa epapu elakeye elawamowa. Keye tiye
 walomote. Kote, kema sela. Keketaiya wamoke fopule ela:. Matana ema sosolo kinipi. Kote, ekukemiwa Kote
 kamumapuluse Kote epamowa kalawamona epeyamowa. Keye ulupasolotiye ita:pela:ke. Keye Ho napolo, sine
 ela:. Keye walopa:. Kote, Kewa sa:le penaiya ho:lia iyala. Kamo. >

'God, Jesus, Holy Sprit, You are the same as a strong light. God, Tommy has come here and we thank you.
 Therefore God, help him translate our language. God, Holy Spirit, You come and be with him and show him
 our language. God, You Yourself come down and show him how the Kasua language works. You Yourself take
 it and show it to him. God, I'm speaking to you. May Your blessing cover him. Give him much wisdom. God,
 guard his emotions and keep him from having negative thoughts. You Yourself get rid of and throw away any
 such thoughts. You Holy Spirit, come and be with him. You will show him. God, You are the same as a strong
 light. Amen.'

Bibliography

Logan, Tommy, and Konni Logan. 1992. 'Organized Phonology Data of Kasua.' Manuscript. SIL, Ukarumpa.