A closer examination of the lexical material of Enggano since the 19th century

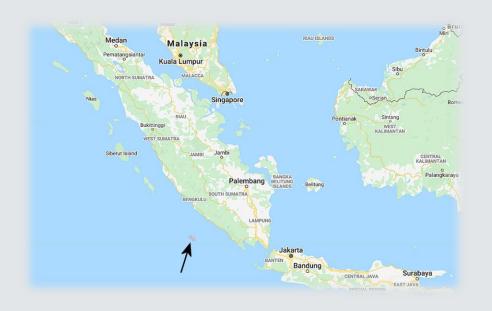
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Enggano: State of the art



- Enggano is an endangered language spoken on Enggano Island, Indonesia
- It has for a long time gained a reputation as an "aberrant" language in the western Indonesian area and in the Austronesian context:
 - Much of its vocabulary cannot be traced back to Proto-Malayo-Polynesian (PMP)
 - displays quite unusual sound changes
 - e.g. PMP *anak > OEngg. e-ara > MEngg. iar 'child'
 - e.g. PMP *taliŋa > OEngg. e-kadiha > MEngg. karih 'ear'
 - e.g. PMP *lima > OEngg. ?adiba~ ?alima > MEngg. arib 'five'

Classification of Enggano

Consonanten zijn b; d = r; f = p; h; k; l; m; ng; n; t; w; s (in enkele woorden); dj (als een variant van d). Oorspronkelijke M.-P. ai als sluiter schijnt e geworden te zijn: abake, dood (uit a-atai). Pepet wordt a; e-atai prijs (M.P. a); e-atai prijs (M.P. a); e-atai prijs (Sunda a); e-atai prijs (M.P. a); e-atai prijs (Sunda a); e-atai prijs (Maleisch a); e-atai prijs (Sunda a); e-atai prijs (Maleisch a); e-atai prijs (Sunda a); e-atai prijs (Maleisch a); e-atai prijs (Maleisch a); e-atai prijs (M.P. a); e

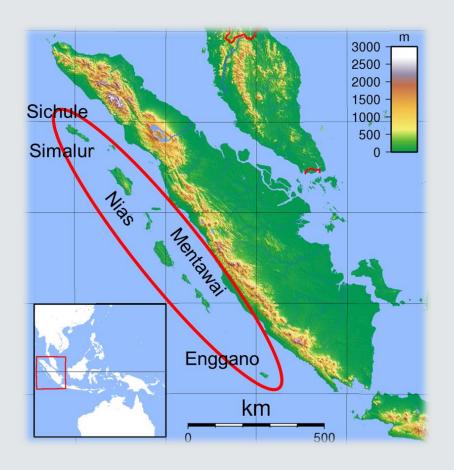
Ng wordt soms h: dohoi, dehoi hooren, kariha oor

(M.-P. talinga).

Kis verdwenen of h geworden: het eerste in è-aa oudere broer; è-ai voet; è-odi (Maleisch kulit) huid; — u mijn (M.-P.-ku); ika wij (M.-P. kita); io pantat (Maleisch ekur, staart); het tweede in è-èhè hoest (Toba engkel lachen, verwant met ongkol hoesten); è-uhu uil (Nias la-muhu, meu, mou); è-huku luis (Maleisch kutu, Nias g.utu); è-hamo vlucht (Nias hombo); kahoh vrees (M.-P. takut).

- The history of the classification of Enggano has taken as many turns as its phonological history (cf. Krauße 2021)
- In the first detailed collection of Enggano vocabulary and texts, Helfrich (1916) did not comment on the genetic affiliation of Enggano
- Lafeber (1922) identified several regular sound correspondences in words and affixes in Enggano and other Malayo-Polynesian (MP) languages, concluding that Enggano is an MP language.
- For Kähler (1942/45), who collected a large amount of Enggano field data in the late 1930s, the MP classification was an established fact, but he considered Enggano "mixed" from Philippine-Sulawesi and Simalur (all MP)
- Kähler's dictionary (1987) contains PMP reconstructions for some Enggano lexemes

Classification of Enggano



- Doubts about the AN status of Enggano were raised by Capell (1982:6), based on typology and lexicon:
 - Enggano is a "remnant of these pre-Indonesian languages, which does indeed have Indonesian loanwords, but which remains non-Austronesian."
- Nothofer (1986) presented a number of sound correspondences between Enggano and other Barrier Islands languages
- Crowley (n.d., p. 57) provides a sketch grammar of Enggano and states that "Enggano syntactic patterns very close to those reconstructed for proto-Austronesian"
- Capell's (1982) doubts were echoed by Blench (2014) without sound arguments
- In spite of the fact that Capell's and Blench's evaluation was based on many flawed assessments about cognacy (or lack thereof), it has been and as of now still is accepted by the editors of *Ethnologue* (but not in Glottolog)

Classification of Enggano

- Recent research has put these doubts to a final rest (Edwards 2015, Smith 2017; 2020, Nothofer 2021; Billings & McDonnell 2022)
- Currently 179 established PMP reconstructions for Enggano (work in progress)
- While the possibility of a non-Austronesian lexical stratum from an unknown source remains, the lexical and morphological core of Enggano is firmly Austronesian
- But how can we explain that Enggano has been viewed as so "aberrant"?
- We take a look at the lexical material since the 19th century.
- Reasons:
 - Obvious mistakes in the wordlists
 - Reinterpretation of the spoken word
 - Taboo vocabulary or semantic shift
- Other reasons not covered by our presentation:
 - Many dialects in the past
 - Substratum of pre-Austronesian?

Evidence for Austronesian

Phonological evidence:

```
PMP * m > MEngg. b
PMP *t > MEngg. k~?
PMP *-V(C)# > > OEngg. -V# > MEngg. -\emptyset
PMP */ > OEngg./MEngg. d/r
PMP *d > OEngg./MEngg. d/r
PMP *\eta > OEngg./MEngg. h
PMP *\Rightarrow > OEngg. \circ > MEngg. \dot{e} /\Rightarrow/
PMP *R > OEngg./MEngg. ∅
PMP *mata 'eye' > OEngg. e-baka > MEngg. (e-)bak_
PMP *Rumaq 'house' > OEngg. e-_uba > MEngg. iub_
PMP *talina 'ear' > OEngg. e-kadiha > MEngg. e-karih_
PMP *dəŋəR > OEngg. ka-doho_-i > MEngg. ki-dehe_
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[based on Lafeber (1922:21-24), Nothofer (1986:99-102, 20), and Edwards (2015:63-69)]

Evidence for Austronesian

Morphological evidence

	РМР	Enggano	Nias	Malay
actor voice (simple)	* <um></um>	bu-/ <ub></ub>	mu-/ <um></um>	-
actor voice (extended)	*maN	baN-	maN-	m ə N-
patient voice (past)	* <in></in>	di-	ni-	-
patient voice (general)	*- ə n	-0	-ö	-an
locative voice (general)	*-an	-a	-a	-an
locative voice (dependent)	*-i	-i	-i	-i
causative	*pa-	ра-	fa-	-
genitive case marker	*nu	u-	N-	-

- Enggano and Nias have retained many PMP functional morphemes, while Malay lacks many of these
- This shows that the label "aberrant" is only partially justified for Enggano

Wordlists for Enggano

Author and year	No. of words
Boewang 1854	21
van Rosenberg 1855	154
van der Straaten & Severijn 1855	201
Walland 1864	250
Francis 1870	91
Oudemans 1879	150
Helfrich & Pieters 1891	1012
Modigliani 1894	537
Helfrich 1916	1100
Stokhof 1987 (by van der Noord 1895)	1436
Capell 1982	61
Kähler 1987	~3500
Nothofer ms. [1986]	~1400
Kasim et al. 1987	211
Yoder 2011	837
Pak Aron elicitation 2019	747

(based on Schmidt 1988:10)

- Boewang 1854: written in Dutch, mostly numerals and village names
- several numerals seem to be wrong

```
In hunne taal tellen de Engano eilanders als volgt:
  1 kahai.
  2 adoea.
  3 akoloe.
  4 ampapa,
  5 aliema,
  6 akie akiena.
  7 aliema adoea,
  8 apa joepa,
 10 apa apa adoea,
100 adoea taka tapoeloe,
200 aliema taka,
300 aliema adoea.
400 tapoeloe taka,
500 tapoeloe taka adoea taka tapoeloe,
600 tapoeloe apat taka tapoeloe,
1000 kahia kadoea doeka adoea taka tapoeloe; daaruit blijkt
dus, dat zij geen goed stelsel van telwoorden bezitten (1).
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- ampapa 'four' contains an unetymological m, which is not attested anywhere else (cf. PAN *Səpat > PMP *əpat)
- akie akiena 'six' is difficult to explain but attested until today, probably 3+3
- aliema adoea 'seven' = 5+2 (but also 300?)
- apa joepa 'eight' = 4 and 4 (< apa ijo apa)
- apa apa adoea 'ten' = 4+4+2
- adoea taka tapoeloe 'hundred' must be wrong: 2 persons (=40) + 10
- tapoeloe is probably a loan from Malay sepuluh 'ten' (Edwards 2015:79)

- van Rosenberg 1855: collected in 1852, written in Dutch, includes many verbs, nouns and numerals
- striking: several reduplicated nouns

	Woordenlÿst.
Staan	Jaramatrego.
Gaan	Edie-édie.
Loopen	Jarapoerpoera.
Zitten	Matrego.
Komen	Tawaweij.
Blijven	Panoekoe.
Geven	Pahè.
Schenken	Pemanabo.
Koopen	/ Pagehlie.
Willen	Popo-ej.
Zien	Pepinej.
Maken	Peparè-e-tjé.
Spreken	Paganan.
Eten	Faginono.
Drjnken	Faginono léwo lèwo.
Koken	Poeroe howi-howi.
Snijden	Poeroe.
Dooden	Patoedje-è.

Water	Léwo léwo.
Vuur	Howi howi.
Meer	Parowa.
Eiland	Kepoc.
Steen	Bakoe bakoe.
Zand	Hawo hawo.
Landschap	Kimakima.
Dorp	Okioki.
Huis	Joewa.
Dak	Oba oba.
Schietgeweer	Aboe.
Sabel	Foeroetakka.
Lans	Poké poké.
lk	O, oeá.
Gij	Barèé.
Hij	Bohej,
Morgen	Mamaniho.
Hemel	* Talakoko ilopo.

- van Rosenberg 1855: collected in 1852, written in Dutch, includes many verbs, nouns and numerals
- striking: several reduplicated nouns

Woordenlijst. Staan Jaramatrego. Gaan Edie-édie. Loopen Jarapoerpoera. Zitten Matrego. Komen Tawaweij. Blijven Panoekoe. Pahè. Geven Pemanabo. Schenken Koopen / Pagehlie. Willen Popo-ej. Pepinej. Zien Peparè-e-tjé. Maken Spreken Paganan. Eten Faginono. Drinken Faginono léwo lèwo. Koken · Poeroe howi-howi. Snijden Poeroe. Dooden Patoedie-è.

- *jaramatrego* 'stand' and *matrego* 'sit' seem to have the same root
- jaramatrego 'stand' and jarapoerpoera 'walk, run' seem to have the same prefix
- Kähler (1987) gives kamã-heku 'sit' (MEngg. hek)
- leaves the prefix unexplained, possibly yára'a- for NEG.IMP, yielding 'don't stand' for 'sit'

lk

Gij

Hij

Morgen

Hemel

• van Rosenberg 1855: collected in 1852, written in Dutch, includes many verbs, nouns and numerals

• striking: several reduplicated nouns

Léwo léwo. Water Howi howi. Vuur Parowa. Меет Eiland Kepoe. Bakoe bakoe. Steen Zand Hawo hawo. Landschap Kimakima. Dorp Okioki. Huis Joewa. Oba oba. Dak Schietgeweer Aboe. Focroetakka. Sabel Poké poké. Lans

O, oeá.

Barèé.

Bohej,

Mamaniho.

Talakoko ilopo.

- bakoe bakoe 'stone' appears to be AN (cf. PMP
 *batu), but later wordlists only show forms of ?ea
- could ?ea be a lexical replacement of pãkũ?
- Kähler (1987) has pãkũ~eãpãkũ 'anchor' and explains that stones were used as anchors by the Enggano people → semantic shift or taboo?
- The etymology of ?ea is not known but Modigliani (1894) gives eèa for 'coral reef' (cf. Malay batu karang)

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- van der Straten & Severijn 1855: collected in 1854, written in Dutch, longest list so far, includes nouns, verbs, numerals, and names
- striking: some reduplicated nouns but different transcription from van Rosenberg

Haar	Oedoc.	Water	Lebo lebo.
Voorhoofd	Koe-oe.	Vuur	Abie abie.
Oogen	Baka.	Rivier	Beloa.
Mond	Ko-a.	Berg	Kakko.
Tand	Nienie.	Eiland	Kefo.
Neus	Pano.	Steen	Pakoe pakoe.
Tong	Dio.	Zeestrand	Peroba.
Hals	Tioeano.	Zand	Lafo beroba.
Borst	Berakidoija.	Zee	Kiema.
Buik	Toeka.	IJzer	E-aauw.
Arm	Poeafa.	Koper	Kelelia.
Voet	Edjaauw.	Boom	Koe pidjoe.
Teen	Akinoijai.	Klapper	Eufo.
Laus	Poké poké.	Nibong	Eifa.

 Comparison of van Rosenberg 1855 & van der Straten & Severijn 1855, based on the words for 'night' (and 'day') and 'earth'

- Bliksem
 Donder
 Foeroemoena.
 Dag
 Ilopo.
 Tikodo ilopo.
 Zon
 Kahaä.
 Maan
 Aarde
 Tehopo.
- Tio. Dag Kolilopo. Nacht Kahao. Zon Mona. Maan Apeloea. Sterren Eiwo. Regen Kioe. Wind Lahoe. Donder Kalikoko. Bliksem Lopo. Aarde

- General root of these expressions is *lopo*, meaning 'earth, soil, environment, country, land, weather'
- 'Night' was probably translated as 'the earth is dark', which would be ka-pōpō e-lopo according to Kähler (1987)
- The first part is missing in the transcription, perhaps only the second part was clearly audible
- tikodo ilopo for 'night' can be interpreted as ki-kodo e-lopo 'the earth swallows'

 Comparison of van Rosenberg 1855 & van der Straten & Severijn 1855, based on the words for 'night' (and 'day') and 'earth'

Bliksem	Akanoe.
Donder	Foerocmoena.
Dag	Ilopo.
Nacht	Tikodo ilopo.
Zon	Kahaä.
Maan	Moena.
Aarde	Tehopo.

• The words moena and mona for 'moon' appear to be AN (cf. PMP *bulan)

 Only attested in these two sources, any later publication has /e-kanoa/ (Kähler 1987: *ẽ-kãnðãĩ* 'moon, month') \rightarrow semantic shift or taboo?

Tio. Dag Kolilopo. Nacht Kahao. Zon Mona. Maan Apeloea. Sterren Eiwo. Regen Kioe. Wind Lahoe. Donder Kalikoko. Bliksem Lopo.

Aarde

• Walland (1864) has both: kanoeah for the "high language" and moena for the "low language"

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- Walland 1864: collected in 1854, written in Dutch, longest list at that time, includes nouns, verbs, numerals, and even sentences
- striking: the only author who makes a difference between "high language" and "low language"

Hoe is uw naam?	ha-nia-moe?
Van waar komt gij!	koeloe-ia-oh?
Kom hier.	adeh-waij dje-éh.
Blijf daar.	kaiama djidjah (ohbea djidjah).
Gaat speedig.	ma-akoe kehedie.
Verwijder u.	kahi-ah.
Ik heb honger.	oewah hiko.
Ik wil eten.	ika manoh.
Ik wil slapen.	ika bahoea.
Ik wil mij baden.	ika baikeh.
Het is warm.	mokhoh kehah.
" "koud.	mokhoh hioh.
Geef mij pisang.	ano-kiaij-ajoh.
Gaat daar zitten.	hèhoe djidjah.
Zijt niet bang.	iada niekie niekie.

Hoog	ge taal.	Lage taal.
De zon.	bakka-kaha.	bakka-moenai.
" maan.	kanoeah.	moena.
" sterren.	peloa.	kenoeaij-noekie (kleine maan)
" zee.	oeweh.	praboh.
" aarde.	loppoh.	
Water.	é-boh.	lebo-leboh.
Steenen.	ééah.	pakoe-pakoe.
Vuur.	apoeah.	obie.
Rivier.	baka-oeweh.	beloea.
Berg.	koh.	pawah.
Bosch.	howdah.	koë-koë.
Wit.	kha-oedaija.	
Zwart.	khah-khoh.	kahèlo-èloh.
Rood.	kanoeaij.	kai-koh-koh.
Groen.	ka-akiema.	•

- Walland 1864: collected in 1854, written in Dutch, longest list at that time, includes nouns, verbs, numerals, and even sentences
- striking: the only author who makes a difference between "high language" and "low language"
- There has never been a register system in Enggano or any other Sumatra language, but it is worth investigating this list
- bakka-kaha 'sun (HL)' literally means 'eye of the day', while bakka-moenai 'sun (LL) is unclear, perhaps 'eye of the moon'?
- opposition of ééah 'stone (HL) and pakoe-pakoe 'stone (LL) as discussed before exists here
- seems to be dialectal variation rather than a register difference, e.g. apoeah 'fire (HL)' and obie 'fire (LL)' are both from PMP *hapuy

Hoog	ge taal.	Lage taal.
De zon.	bakka-kaha.	bakka-moenai.
" maan.	kanoeah.	moena.
" sterren.	peloa.	kenoeaij-noekie (kleine maan).
" zee.	oeweh.	praboh.
" aarde.	loppoh.	
Water.	é-boh.	lebo-leboh.
Steenen.	ééah.	pakoe-pakoe.
Vuur.	apoeah.	obie.
Rivier.	baka-oeweh.	beloea.
Berg.	koh.	pawah.
Bosch.	howdah.	koë-koë.
Wit.	kha-oedaija.	
Zwart.	khah-khoh.	kahèlo-èloh.
Rood.	kanoeaij.	kai-koh-koh.
Groen.	ka-akiema.	•

- Walland 1864: collected in 1854, written in Dutch, longest list at that time, includes nouns, verbs, numerals, and even sentences
- striking: the only author who makes a difference between "high language" and "low language"
- Most HL words are still in use today, while LL are not:

"high"	MEngg	
kanoeah	kanu ' a	'moon'
ééah	ie	'stone'
koh	kėh	'mountain'

Hooge	taal.	Lage taal.
De zon.	bakka-kaha.	bakka-moenai.
" maan.	kanoeah.	moena.
" sterren.	peloa.	kenoeaij-noekie (kleine maan).
" zee.	oeweh.	praboh.
" aarde.	loppoh.	
Water.	é-boh.	lebo-leboh.
Steenen.	ééah.	pakoe-pakoe.
Vuur.	apoeah.	obie.
Rivier.	baka-oeweh.	beloea.
Berg.	koh.	pawah.
- Bosch.	howdah.	koë-koë.
Wit.	kha-oedaija.	
Zwart.	khah-khoh.	kahèlo-èloh.
Rood.	kanoeaij.	kai-koh-koh.
Groen.	ka-akiema.	*

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//I · I //	N 4 🗀
"high"	MEngg

1		
kanoeah	kanua	'moon'
KallOcall	Naliua	1110011

ééah ie 'stone'

koh kėh 'mountain'

"Low" forms:

moena, pawah - not preserved

pakoe-pakoe - potentially with shift of meaning

taal.	Lage taal.
bakka-kaha.	bakka-moenai.
_	moena. kenoeaij–noekie
P	(kleine maan).
oeweh.	praboh.
loppoh.	
é-boh.	lebo-leboh.
ééah.	pakoe-pakoe.
apoeah.	obie.
baka-oeweh.	beloea.
koh.	pawah.
howdah.	koë-koë.
kha-oedaija.	
khah-khoh.	kahèlo-èloh.
kanoeaij.	kai-koh-koh.
ka-akiema.	•
	bakka-kaha. kanoeah. peloa. oeweh. loppoh. é-boh. ééah. apoeah. baka-oeweh. koh. howdah. kha-oedaija. khah-khoh.

• Oudemans 1879: written in Dutch, comparative list including nouns, verbs, numerals and adjectives in Enggano, Nias and Mentawai

100	Enggano.	MENTAWEI.	NIAS.
Hoofd	é oeloe	oté	heugeu
Oor	kaliha	talinga	talinga
Neus	éfano	asak	idong
Mond	ékā	bibo	baba
Oog	ébāka	mata	mata
Kin	ékie	bakĕla	bèmbè
Hoofdhaar	foedoedoe-oeloe	alai	boe-oe
Baard	fororoife	boeloe	gambi
Hals	hoenoe	lolokat	bâgi
Borst	émāha	karoekat	baloedjoesoe
Buik	kiedāi	bācha	daloe
Arm	é afo	para	païo
Hand { rechter-	mieno afo	takip {kétjoe toëk	tangan {gambolo gambéra
Vinger	mieno	siñgoñgai	toeroe
Nagel	ekaso-afo	soelet	tèsâa
Duim	nai-afo	sikeboe	toeroe siaâ
Wijsvinger	ejara-afo	benang seee	
Midd. vinger	éoe-afo	katenga	" wadâloe

H	Zuid		kajâman	
9	Oost		matatjoedoe	
ì	Hongerig	éaba	meladjè	alófó daloe
	Verzadigd	hobelélé	mètèng	aboesoe "
	Ik	oewa	akoe, mangaû	jaôdô
ı	Gij	oh	ekéo	eû, jaôgô
	Hij	kieja	ekéo léo	ja îja
ı	Wij .	ieka	akoe sengabilinga	ja-itanda
7	Gij	oh	ekéo " ?	iaôgô
	Zij	kieja	ekéo léo " ?	ia-ija
ij	1	kahaie	sara .	sara
	2	adoewa	doewa	doewa
	3	akoloe	tèloe	teuloe
	4	afa	epat	ôfa
8	5	alieba	lima	lima
	6	kaikiene	ènèm	eôneû

 Modigliani 1894: collected in 1891, written in and sorted by Italian, comparative list including hundreds of words and expressions in Malay, Nias, Toba Batak, and Enggano; spelling based on Italian

Italiano	Malese	NIAS	Това-Ватассо	Enganese
Abbassare	Turún	Manada	Munduc *	Paúho tópo
Abbastanza	Sampé	Irugi	Siccop *	Ho abacó
Abbastanza (Non)	Tida sampé	Loo irugi	Sowada siccop *	Chèse iabacó
Abitazione grande	Rúma besár	Banúa sebúa	Bagas na balga	Èuba
Accanto	Decát	Ba <i>ng</i> ái	Giala	Panéna
Accesso, piaga	Bárah	Fao sa	Cugang	Baro
Accettare	Trimá	Tema halo	Mandgialo "	Menaá
f Accomodare	Membaíchi	Gama 2	Mangundgiam *	Parie ecáua
Aoqua	Aier	Idáno	Aec	Ebò
A. mare	Aier laót		Aec ni tao * (vera-	

- Capell 1982: "collected on other occasions", written in German with a German orthography
- several entries of the list are wrong because the German meanings are displaced (WW = Wurm & Wilson 1975)

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15. ama 'Vater'; WW: 'ajah; bapa'; hayaq; mama
16. fufuri 'Feuer'; WW: 'apuj; ka'iγ; apuzu
17. hela 'Fliege'; WW: lanav; laleg; -banaw
                                                                       e.g.:
18. h\tilde{u}\tilde{a} 'geben'; WW: bəyaj; samut; halad; kasi; tui; ruke
19. bupe, pe 'gut'; WW: baik; pia; aya(d); beet
                                                                       bupe, pe 'give'
20. kauwa 'Haar'; www: bulu; bu'uk; z/ae/(m)but
                                                                       kauwə 'good'
21. qapo 'Haupt'; WW: 'ulu'; vunu; npatu
                                                                       gapo 'hair'
22. udu, ulu 'hören'; WW: dəηəγ~; liηa; t/um/a-timaNa
23. (ki)dehoi 'heiß'; WW: ga(l)aη; hanət; ləγav; panas; dandaη;
                                                                       udu. ulu 'head'
    La (cs) uq
                                                                       (ki)dehoi 'listen'
24. kaidəhaudə 'Haus'; WW: γumah; balaj; (dd)anav; dindin;
                                                                       kaidəhaudə 'hot'
    kama:li(R)
25. ?ua 'sich'; WW: 'aku'; (1) au
                                                                       → lexeme for 'house' missing
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Possible reasons for language change in the time from 1854 (Boewang) to 1938 (Kähler):

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 (e.g. the sound [f] occurred in the dialects of the southern coast)

Possible reasons for language change in the time from 1854 (Boewang) to 1938 (Kähler):

- Levelling of dialect variation due to resettlement
 (e.g. the sound [f] occurred in the dialects of the southern coast)
- Lexical and structural influence from Malay

Possible reasons for language change in the time from 1854 (Boewang) to 1938 (Kähler):

- Levelling of dialect variation due to resettlement
 (e.g. the sound [f] occurred in the dialects of the southern coast)
- Lexical and structural influence from Malay
- Word taboo
 e.g. Moko-eit'i ('Many-words'), eit'i 'word' → epanau 'speech'

Conclusion

- We are in the fortunate situation of having quite a few and relatively old wordlists for Enggano, which is clearly Austronesian.
- However, it seems that the language has changed drastically not only from the 19th century (Old Enggano) to today (Modern Enggano) but also from PAN to Old Enggano.
- While the morphology has a high retention rate, the retention of AN vocabulary is quite low (Edwards 2015:75-76 calculates 21%).
- While some words in the old wordlists can be identified as being short phrases, many others seem to not have survived.
- We hypothesize that the low retention rate results from an existing taboo in the past when an important person died (cf. Kähler 1975:v).
- In such cases, new words or perhaps words from other dialects were used for old concepts.
 This is reflected in Walland's list with "high language" (used when a taboo was in place → word survived) vs. "low language" (old word before the taboo → word became obsolete)

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Mėk em neah!