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DISTRIBUTION OF CLASS
DIVISIONS

DISTRIBUTION OF CLASS DIVISIONS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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CLASS DIVISIONS, HOW DISTRIBUTED

S.W. Primary Divisions,

Manitchmat and Wordungmat,

Paternal descent

District

Native name

Esperance

Kabbeekail

East and Northeast

Thomas River district

Baalitchinya and Moonyinittup

Kundip (S.E.)

Kowajungup

Ravensthorpe (S.)

Killeedup

Doubtful Island

Waddelungup

Bremer Bay

Banjelungup (mixed descent)

Bremer Bay

Kent district

Kolleeding

Palinup River

Kangalillup

Roe district

Dalyabup

Kent district

Maajetup

Mungup

Mungaring

Jerramungup district

Mungalainyup

Kolleding

Meerdaminup

Jacup

Aekup

Between Kent and Kojonup dists. Korrlup

Two People Bay

Yoolberup and Yoolingurup

Albany

Jinjaanuk

Kendenup

Kirndinup

Mt. Barker

Yocerup and Bwokkenbup

Broome Hill district

Boornowerrup

Katanhing

Ketanning

Denmark

Beekbeejup

Tenterden

Pootenup

Koojonup district

Kaangurup

Ngainyading

Lake Muir district

Burraburup

Yeeraminup

Jayes

Ngowijjerup

Kokonerup

Kokenerup

Two classes, paternal descent ² (cont.)

Bridgetown district	Kaljingillup
Bridgetown townsite	Meere jilyup
Between Katanning and Bridgetown	Yowungain, Yowungup
Frenchman's Peak, Esperance	Meerungup, Mandoboornup
Blackwood district	Mirningerup
Collie district	Kalgoorain
	Warrgup, Moordagarrup river
Northam (S.E. of)	Wēbeding
Beverley	Wērrjegan, Wērajuggin
Deep River	Baalingbup
Wagin	Wējing
Wagin district	Karrginying, Karrkainying
Collie district	Konding
Katanning district (25 m. from K.)	Dalyabup
Katanning (S.E. of)	Kwerlungup
Arthur River district	Wēnering, Wēnerding
Wagin Hill	Kurndining
Wagin (N.W. of)	Bōrilyaggain (mixed descent)
Narrogin (North of)	Nyombilin
Blackwood district	Yooerlup
Williams district	Wannēring
Hastings (?)	Boornoording
Wandering	Kobbaing
Williams district	Yoordooming
York	Balladong (mixed descent)
Greenhills district	Woorginnee goombar

The two classes with their marriages and descent are as follows :-

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Offspring</u>
Manitchmat	Wordungmat	Manitchmat
Wordungmat	Manitchmat	Wordungmat

Subdivisions of the Two Primary Divisions

(Tondarup, Didarruk, Ballarruk, Nagarnook)

Maternal Descent

Meckering	Mekkering
Goomalling (North of)	Goomalung
Victoria Plains district	Jilngarree (mixed)
Dongara	Dhoongara (Wattandee is attached to the divisional names in this district)
Berkshire Valley	Wilganmaia
" " (east of)	Jeelberding
" "	The word "Dart-maia" is attached to the class names Tondarup, etc. in this district.
Marah	Mardangoora (The word Batteega is attached to the divisional names here.)
Dandarragan	Dandaaraga
Dandarragan (near)	Bindoong
Gingin	Jinjinja
Pool at New Norcia	Booreej, Booreejin
Guildford	Bēbo, Koondelup, etc.
York	Balladong (partly)
Beverley	Werrjegan (partly)
Northam (near)	Moogain (partly)
Pinjarra	Jeerjingan
Bunbury	Boologup, etc.
Busselton	Yoonderup
Augusta River	
Mandura	Jeerjingup
Minninup	Wilbinyup
Mt. John	Kangalup, Wilyamup
Cranbrook	(partly)
Bremer Bay	"
Wagin (N.W.)	Borilyaggin (partly)
Mt. Stirling (near)	Yerrupan "
Beverley district	Yanjiding "
Kellerberrin district	Kammeenee "

The Four Subdivisions with their marriage laws, etc., are :-

<u>Male</u>			<u>Female</u>		<u>Offspring</u>
Manitch- mat	Tondarup { Didarruk	Wordung- mat	{ Ballarruk Nagarnook	Wordung- mat	{ Ballarruk Nagarnook
Wordung- mat	{ Ballarruk Nagarnook	Manitch- mat	{ Tondarup Didarruk	Manitch- mat	{ Tondarup Didarruk

Tribes with Totemic divisions only

Ngamminwuk, dwerdawuk, Weeloowuk, etc.
(fruit) (dog) (curlew)

Balladonia	Drollinya
Balladonia, N. of	Kaandinya
Balladonia, E. of	Yoorilyinna
E. of Fraser Range district	Koolēroonya or Koolēra woonya
Mt. Ragged	Boorgainya
Israelite Bay district	Doombuling
<u>Weeloowuk, n., Woobawuk (porcupine) f., Weeloowuk children</u>	<u>Woorallinya or Corallinya</u>
Fraser Range	

Jeeukwuk (wild cherry), weeloowuk, etc.

Balbinia	Balbeenya
Phillips River district	Gorragurran
Mt. Ragged district	Booreealba

Ngamminwuk, geejawuk, etc.

Balladonia district	Boondee garrbinya
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Wgoorrawuk or Ngoorrabarl (black opossum), jeeukwuk, etc.

Thomas River district	Baalitchinya, Moonyinitup (mixed)
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The above marriages may be within or outside the totem class of the mother or father.

<u>Male</u>	<u>; Female</u>	<u>Offspring</u>
Dwerdawuk (dog totem people)	Dwerdawuk	Dwerdawuk
Weeloowuk (curlew totem people)	Woobawuk (porcupine totem people)	Weeloowuk
Jeeukwuk (wild cherry)	Weeloowuk	Jeeukwuk or Weeloowuk
Ngamminwuk (wild fruit or "husband stock")	Geejawuk (spear)	Ngamminwuk or Geejawuk

Tribes with two classes named from two species of kingfisher, Beerungoo - the larger species of kingfisher which builds its nest in trees - Joouk or Jooue - the ground kingfisher or tunnel bird.

Norseman

E. of Ravensthorpe

Dwerdaburnup

Dundas district (between Norseman and Esperance)

Hill near Dundas

Warrinburnel

Widgeemooltha

Wajjeemoola (mixed with E. Goldfields classes)

Southern Cross and Mt. Jackson dist. Karratjibbin or Karreejeebin

Burracoppo

Booringoop

Jilyabin

Jilyaabee

Lake near Jilyabin

Jilaaging, Goorrba, Gwērin

40 miles N.E. of Kellerberrin

Kammeenee (mixed with S.W. names, Tonuarup, Ballarruk)

Doolakine district

Woggaling

S.E. of Kellerberrin

Ya-jaaling

N. of Southern Cross

Malyoorning

Near Southern Cross

Koogurdin

Coolgardie

Koorrgōrdee (mixed with E. goldfields divisions)

Classes and descent of these :-

Male

Female

Offspring

Beerungoomat

Beerungoomat

Jooamat

Jooamat (or Joowuk)

Jooamat

Beerungoomat

Mixed with Eastern Goldfields classes :-

Beerungoomat (Boorong)

Beerungoomat (Kaimera)

Jooamat (Tharrooro)

Jooamat (Tharrooro)

Jooamat (Banaka, Eebarrga)

Beerungoomat (Boorongoo)

Beerungoomat (Kaimera)

Beerungoomat (Boorongoo)

Jooamat (Eebarga)

Jooamat (Eebarrga)

Jooamat (Tharrooro)

Beerungoomat (Kaimera)

The entry into the Southern or S.W. divisions has only occurred since the arrival of the whites and the settlement of the S. and S.W. where however the Southern and S.W. people were "adopted" into the Beerungoomat and Jooamat divisions. Manitchmat (Tondarup, etc.) entered the Beerungoomat, and Wordungmat (Ballarruk, etc.) entered the Jooamat divisions. The wives (if any) of those adopted men would either have their classes changed or they themselves would be exchanged for a wife from amongst the new people.

Northern coastal Group with four classes and Paternal descent

(Boorong-Banaka, Kaimera-Paljeri.)

McDonald Ranges, Glenelg River	Maialnga people
Near McDonald Ranges	Kooree
Sunday Island	Tchowee people
Swan Point	Barda people
Beagle Bay	Beerungu
Broome	Jirr'ngin'ngan
Willie Creek	Weerraginmarree
Derby	Waiungarree people
Fitzroy River	Warreengarree people (partly)
La Grange Bay, part of	Karrajarra ?

The marriages and descent of these are as under :-

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Offspring</u>
Boorong	Banaka	Kaimera
Banaka	Boorong	Paljeri
Kaimera	Paljeri	Boorong
Paljeri	Kaimera	Banaka

At Fitzroy, as will be seen from a pedigree submitted, the classes are mixed with Hall's Creek, and other (probable) Class subdivisions obtaining in the interior.

A Banaka man from Fitzroy may steal and marry a Ngaggara (Banaka) woman from far Eastward, as after (about) 150 miles have been traversed, tribal relationship is apparently ended.

The Fitzroy pedigree is as follows :-

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Offspring</u>
Boorongoo	Ngambeen (Banaka stolen from east.)	Kaimera
Kaimera	Tchamboordoo ("nephew" to Boorongoo)	Boorongoo
Kaimera	Tcharrooroo (Paljeri ? stolen from S.E.)	Boorongoo
Kaimera	Paljeri	Boorong
Paljeri	Kaimera	Banaka
Kaimera	Boorgooloo (married in Murchison dist.)	Boorong

The Hall's Creek subdivisions are as under :-

Boorong

Jowalyoo (male)
or Jowalyee
Ngowajarree (female)
or Ngowajil

Kaimera

Joongara (male)
Nganjelee (female)

Banaka

Tchaggara (male)
Ngaggara (female)

Paljeri

Tchangala
Ngangala

The marriages are :-

Male

Jowalyee

Tchaggara

Joongara

Tchangala or
Jangala

Female

Ngaggara

Ngowajil or
Ngowajarree

Ngangala

Nganjelee

Offspring

Joongara (boys) (Kaimera)
Nganjelee (girls)

Jooroo (boys)
Nyoweroo (girls) (Paljeri)

Jowalyee (boys)
Ngowajil (girls) (Boorong)

Jambeean or Tchambeean
(boys)
Ngambeean (girls) (Banaka)

How far north, south and east these numerous subdivisions extend is not at present ascertained. That they intrude upon the northern coastal classes is seen in the Fitzroy pedigrees. So far as investigation has permitted, the Northern coastal marriage laws are adhered to, but possibly as the northern classes are changed on their journey southward, so also may the Hall's Creek Divisions be altered.

From some point near the Ophthalmia Ranges, (probably further north) down towards Peak Hill and parts of the Murchison, the northern (coastal) classes undergo changes in marriage laws, and, in one instance, in nomenclature.

The marriages and descent are as under :-

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Offspring</u>
Kaimera	Boorong	Boorgooloo (Banaka)
Boorong	Kaimera	Paljeri
Paljeri	Boorgooloo	Boorong
Boorgooloo	Paljeri	Kaimera

It will be noticed that Kaimera and Boorong, who are "fathers and sons for ever" in the northern (coastal) classes, become the marrying pair in the districts hereunder mentioned, Boorong and Banaka, who are the marrying pair on the coast becoming the offspring of each other in this district.

Similarly with Paljeri and Boorgooloo (Banaka), Paljeri and Banaka are the offspring of each other, "fathers and sons" in the Northern coastal classes, but become the marrying pair in the Peak Hill district with an entire change in the nomenclature of one of them (Banaka - Boorgooloo). The term Boorgooloo probably begins where the change in the marriage laws is made. Majjeree, a Fitzroy Banaka, became a Boorgooloo "south of Fitzroy", and stated that the name Boorgooloo was to be found 200 miles south of Wyndham. No clue can be discovered at present as to the reason for such a complete change in the marrying divisions. Each tribe thinks that its own division is correct and all others are wrong, and the old people when questioned maintain that the present divisions had always obtained amongst them.

The distribution of the above classes occurs in the following places :-

Peak Hill district	Yallamurra, E. of Mt. Deverall
Near Mt. Labouchere	Nyingarree
N.E. of Peak Hill, Thaduna dist.	Warngun
Robinson Ranges, Mt. Fraser Ck.	Kajjeemarra
West of Peak Hill near Mt. Maitland	Beenyerree (Kaimera - Burgulu Paljeri - Burangu)

Between Mt. Maitland and Abbots	Meenga, Jillawarra
Abbots	Yooraboordoo
8 miles from Meekatharra	Goonmarra, Jalleemai
Milly Milly Station	Thowl
Murēree Station, Murchison	Yooldhurra and Murēree
Lake Way	Yarnder
East of Day Dawn	Dhoodhoogoodarra
Lindsay Gordon Lagoon	Jooril
Tuckanarra	Boolyoolyoo
N.W. of Yalgoo	Weelarra
North of Pindar	Thalleeun
Between Munbinia and Yoweragabbee	Woordeemurda
Yandanoga and Arrino	Yandanōga (mixed with Ngurdee- maia, Baadeemaia, etc.)

Tharrooroo, an Eastern Goldfields class name, takes the place of Paljeri in one or two districts, the class divisions remaining as above:-

	(Kaimera = Boorong, Tharrooroo - Burgulu)
East of Lennonville	Warramba
Duketon	
North of Lawlers	Goondhoonoo
Leonora	
Gwalia	
Near Cosmo Newberry Hills	Dērin or Terin
Burtville	Kooran' (mixed)
Pendinnie	Leenje, Bindinnee
Menzies	Yoolalla
North of Lake Ballard	Goonardoo

Threading in and out amongst the above named classes, a further change takes place west of Peak Hill. The class names are similar but the marriages are again mixed as under :-

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Offspring</u>
Kaimera	Boorgooloo	Boorong
Boorgooloo	Kaimera	Paljeri
Paljeri	Boorong	Boorgooloo
Boorong	Paljeri	Kaimera

In these divisions, Kaimera and Boorgooloo become the marrying pair, whereas in the Peak Hill districts (previously mentioned) they are "fathers and sons for ever". Paljeri and Boorong also become marrying pairs, although they are "fathers and sons for ever" in the adjoining districts and are "mothers and daughters" for ever in the Northern (coastal) divisions, Kaimera and Boorgooloo (Banaka) being also "mothers and daughters for ever" in the Northern coastal districts.

The places where these divisions obtain are as follows :-

Head of Wooramel River	Jeeramunda
North of Mt. Murchison	Moogooloo
Between Roderick River and Mt. Murchison	Mardungun
Between Mt. Nicolay and Mt. Luke	Talleerain
Murgoo Station	Marrgoo
Weld Range	Dhooarreebarloo
Meega Station Sanford River (Meega)	Koordeerdee (N.E. of Weld Range)
Meekatharra	Meekathurda
Nannine	
South of Mt. Russell	Ngowadhangoo
Burnacoora	Burnakoora
South of Barr-Smith Range	Weenjeengoo
Boolardee	Kallakoojarra
South of Gabbamintha	Yaagoongoo
Day Dawn	Beenamarra
Lennonville	Wabbar
Koodardee	Koodardee
Gabbion Station	Gabbion

Wagga Wagga Station

Yoodoo kailyoo

Yalgoo

Minjo

South of Namowtharra

Barlamaldannoo

North of Mt. Kenneth

Bootarnoo

Mt. Magnet

Kurdaaroo

Paynesville

Kaggala

West of Sandstone

Galdhalain

South of Nunugarra

Beergoonoo, Binyiling

In the Eastern Goldfields districts, Eebarrga (Banaka) and Tharrooroo (Paljeri) take the place of Boorgooloo and Paljeri, otherwise the marriages are arranged as in the Peak Hill district :-

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Offspring</u>
Kaimera	Boorong	Eebarrga
Boorong	Kaimera	Tharrooroo
Eebarrga	Tharrooroo	Kaimera
Tharrooroo	Eebarrga	Boorong

(Wajjeree stated that Tharrooroo went far north, towards the Fitzroy.)

In the districts where these classes obtain, Kaimera and Eebarrga are fathers and sons for ever, and Boorong and Tharrooroo are fathers and sons for ever. Boorong and Eebarrga are mothers and daughters for ever, and Kaimera and Tharrooroo mothers and daughters for ever.

The places where these divisions are found are as follows :-

Lake Yeo district, N.E. of Laverton

Laverton
E. of Laverton
Ida H.

Yanneewerree

Burtville

Kooran! (mixed)

Kookynie

Kookainee

Goongarree

Kanowna

near Broad Arrow

Wongai

Ularring

Yoolyarin

Lake Giles district

Kalgoorlie

Coolgardie

Korrgördee (mixed - Beerungoo-
mat, etc.)

Widjeemooltha

Wajjeemoola " " "

Eebarrga appears to begin somewhere about the De Grey as the name had been given by a De Grey native for the district adjoining his own territory (Karreearra). Wajjeree, the Fitzroy native before mentioned, also stated that Eebarrga went "far north".

Bounded by the coastal divisions on the north, the Peak Hill and Lower Murchison classes on the East, and the four subdivisions (with maternal descent) on the south, several little tribes were located in the Northampton, Geraldton and Dongara districts, many of whose members were adopted into the boundary divisions at some time or other, and were circumcised or otherwise according to the laws obtaining in their adopted tribes. At Lynton and Northampton (Wanarranongoo) they were called Nanda or Nandatharra.

In the Geraldton district (Yoombo) they were Nunnagurdee or Nunnawurdee.

At Mallewa (Moolawa) they were Wajjeree.

North of Weelhamby Lake (Nunnakain) they were Baadeemaia.

Below Minjar at Moononooka they were Aggardee.

South of Weelhamby (Jilngarree) only mixed and wrong class marriages were found, no special name given.)

At Dongara (Dhoongara) they were Wattandee or Opee, but they also had the four subdivisions of the Southwest.

At Yandanoga and Arrino, Ngurdeemaia and Baadeemaia, mixed with Peak Hill class divisions.

At Karnamah (Karnamaa) they were Dhowarngoo.

At Marah (Mardangoora) they were Batteega, mixed with the four S.W. subdivisions.

At Ninghan (Ningan) they were Batteega, but also entered Southwestern subdivisions.

At Bowes, Yoonoo, Allanooba, South of Northampton, they were Wajjarree, Ngaagooja and Nunnagurdee.

At Beeroo (near 40 Acres, Murchison) they were Thaawera.

At Crowther (Yoombo) they were Nunnagurdee, mixed with the S.W. classes.

At Upper Irwin (Eebenowa) they were Ngurdeemaia, mixed with the Southern class divisions.

At Oakabella, Thoarakarra, Yandee and Thoordoo, they were Nandatharra and Nunnawurdee.

In the Irwin district (Yarragoodherra), Nunnagurdee, Baadeemaia and Ngurdeemaia mix.

At Weelagullee (12 miles W. of Northampton) they were strictly Nanda.

At Taamalee (Edelsland), Nanda and Mulgarua joined, but Nanda were the original people.

At Illimbirree (Eelimbirdee) they were Weelanyoo m. Weelanyoo f. Weelanyoo children.

At Mingenew they were Baadeemaia.

Very meagre information regarding those tribes could be ascertained during the limited time allowed for investigation. It appears that they intermarried freely with their Southern neighbours. Jurien Bay was supposed to be the Northern boundary of the Southwestern people, but their "road" evidently went further north along the coast towards Geraldton and along this line the "beedawong" came and went, for a coast beedawong keeps along his own road and does not go far inland.

The various local names of these tribelets, as they might be called, were evidently applied from some local dialectic term.

Nanda - what (Nanda koolee = what name)

Nunnagurdee may be derived from nunna, ngunna or nganna = what.

Baadeemaia may either come from baadee = no, or baadoo = blood.

Aggardee from kakkar = eastern; The initial syllable being dropped, kakkardee = aggardee.

Wattandee - "sea people".

Opee. Dongara term for "skin"

Dhowarngoo - the soft "dh" taking the place of the Southern d, t, or th (dower - name of a southern native)

Batteega - from battee = no (local word).

Ngaagooja - probably another local dialectic word, with the lengthened sound of a as in the Dandaaraga dialect.

Thaawera - thaa = mouth, werra = no good.

Ngurdeemaia = ngurdee = down, below (south), maia = voice or speech

Weelanyoc - weeloo = west, or weela = north (southern term).
(consonants are frequently inserted for the sake of euphony.)

Dark Nunnagurdee or Ngurdeemaia are generally said to be "going into Ballarruk" from their dark colour. All natives who have knowledge of the Ballarruk division speak of it as darker than the Tondarup.

When a Nunnagurdee or Nanda man was adopted into the tribes north of him (Boorong, Banaka, Kaimera, Paljeri), the older men of his adopted tribe generally classified him perhaps from physique or colour, and he accepted their dictum as to the new class he entered. In the same manner he entered into the Southern divisions.

In one pedigree of a Weelanyoo man and woman at Illim-birree there were five children, the first, second and fifth of which were Nunnagurdee, the third was Ngurdeemaia, the fourth Weelanyoo. This change in the children's class was due to their having been taken away from their mothers and adopted into the various families. Two boys and one girl were Nunnagurdee, the remaining two girls being Weelanyoo and Ngurdeemaia respectively.

These little tribes did not circumcise, but they mingled with the circumcised tribes eastward of them at the Wanna wa ceremony and at the great gatherings for barter and exchange. If during these ceremonies a young western boy picked up or looked at a bullroarer he was seized by the owners and operated on. If he decorated himself with ornaments or markings worn by circumcised men only, he had to undergo the rite, and from that time onward he became virtually a member of the tribe whose people circumcised him.

If a Wattandee man wanted to marry an Aggardee woman, he first underwent circumcision. He then became an Aggardee, his children were also Aggardee. A Nanda of Weelagullee was adopted into the tribes east of Moononooka, was circumcised and was given a wife from the circumcised tribe, his father-in-law later on giving him two more daughters to wife. I have seen three "own" sisters belonging to one man.

At Yandanoga the Peak Hill marriage classes were found mixed with the Baadeemaia, etc.