

### **PLEASE READ THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Users of this material are warned that it may contain terms, descriptions and images which may be culturally sensitive and/or would not now be culturally acceptable. Terms and annotations which reflect the author's attitude or that of the period in which the item was written may be considered inappropriate today.

Users of this material should be aware that, in some Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, use of the names of deceased persons may cause distress, particularly to the relatives of these people.

NATIVE VOCABULARY

Compiled by

Kumandura, f.

of Arnding Water, Border of NorthWest  
Central Australia

A few words by Nganggaraing, boy, from  
N.W. Central. (bulu wongga; bulu =  
local term for snake, also "navel")  
(His words are marked thus : (Ng.))

MAN, his RELATIONSHIPS, etc.

Female speaking

Aunt	Kundili
Baby	Uin
Blackfellow	Bādu
Blackwoman	War bain, warbail
Boy	Ūla
Brother	Kurdanu; youngest - malain
Brother-in-law	Waliyi, marie (kurdana, bogali, in wrong marriages)
Daughter	Undal
Daughter-in-law	Mingari, minggai-i
Father	Mama
Father-in-law	Kasuru, kamurunya
Girl	Ūgara, wanya gumarda
Granddaughter	Kabarli, undal (boggali - mother's father)
Grandfather	Jamu, tjamu (father's father)
Grandson	Boggali, ula
Husband	Maji, kuri
Man	Bādu
Mother	Ngunju (own)
Mother-in-law	Mingari, kundili
Nephew	Kadhana
Niece	Undalnga
Orphan	Jidua, bugula
Sister	Kangguru, kong-garu (oldest sister)
Sister-in-law	Kadhana
Son-in-law	Umari

Man, his Relationships, etc. (continued)

Uncle	Komuru (mother's brother)
White man	Wailbelia (corruption of white fellow)
Widow	Burgujara, wardaji (neighbouring dialect)
Widower	Kalarde, kaldharda
Wife	Majji
Woman	Warbain, warrbain

PARTS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE BODY

Ankle	Dari, darri, karrijul
Arm (left)	Dhambu
Arm (lower)	Yari
Arm (right)	Wagor
Arm (upper)	Yambil

Back	Midi, bulbi darrga
Back-bone	Darrga
Beard	Karndarn
Blood	Ildu, arlgulu
Bone	Darrga
Bowels	Juni
Breast, breasts	Mimi, ibi
Breath, breathe, to	Ngain

Calf of leg	D'alba, dhariba, bulgu (Ng.)
Cheek	Nguril-nguril, ngogo
Chest	Bibbil, ngarrga, murndurndu
Chin	Karndarn
Cry, to	Nyildi
Collar bone	Wilginji
Drink, to	Gabi ngalgurni
Ear	Bina
Eat, to	Ngalgurni, ngalauwurni, ngal
Elbow	Ngünarn, güñarn, nyigu
Eyebrow	Arngiri
Eyelash	Nyimbin, nyimbin
Eye	Guru, kuru, kalga
Excrement	Guna

Parts and Functions of the Body (continued)

Face	Ngala
Fat	Minu
Finger	Mara
Finger mil	Biri
Foot	Jina dambu, jina, jina wagor (right) (left)
Forehead	Ngala ngalya

Generative Organ  
(Female) Nanyi

Hair	Kada-uru, kata-uru . Hair under armpits -
Hand	Mara Ngaguil
Hand (left)	Mara dambu Hair on private -
Hand (right)	Mara wagor Nyani
Head	Kadda katta
Heart	Kurdudu
Heel	Dari, jinna ngogo
Hip bone	Angal
Instep	Darrga, darrga
Law	Anjiri, (Ng.)
Kidney	Munari , Munari (Ng.)
Knee	Murdi
Kneecap	Dharrgain, murdi kala or gala
Leg	Dalba
Lip	Dha nyimi, nyimi (Ng.)
Liver	Komirndi, kamarndi (Ng.)
Lung	Dharrulyu
Menstruation	Ilgu (also blood)

### Parts and Functions of the Body (continued)

Moustache	Kandha, kandja
Mouth	Dha
Muscle	Daju, buldha dhaju
Nape of the neck	Nyundi
Navel	Bulu, nyunjin
Neck	Nyundi, mungi
Nose	Mula,
Nostril	Tala (Ng.)
Palm of the hand	Mara juni (Ng.)
Penis	Kambu, gulu, juga; djulgar = testicles
Perspiration	Wilja wilja
Pregnant	Jäni jara
Palate	Ngalaran
Rib	Kandil, kandul
Rump	Marna, murna, diba
Seeing	Nanganyi
Shoulder	Biri biri, alibi
Sinew	Marrbain
Skeleton	Darrga
Skin	Gulu
Sleep	Angu
Smell, to	Bandini, bungara
Sneeze, to	Nyuljibini
Sole of the foot	Jinna juni
Speak, to	Wongani, wangani
Spit, to	Dalyi, gulburi wirda (Ng)      wirda warning =
Stink, to	Ngurna, bungara, urna      spitting (Ng.)
Stomach	Juni

Parts and Functions of the Body (continued)

Tears	Guru bilgi
Teeth	Kadidi, kardidi
Temple	Ngalgi, Ngalgi (Ng.)
Thigh	Junda, duluburn junda
Throat	Manyeri
Thumb	Ngunjera, marra ngungu
Toe, great	Jinna ngunju
Tongue	Dalin, dhaling ; darda 2nd toenail jinna ngali
Urinate, to	Gumbu, gumbu nyurgaria, gumbowunyi
Umbilical cord	nyidu (?)
Vein	Marrbauin ; vein or muscle, bundur (Ng.)
Walk, to	Yaning
Windpipe	Manyiri mardu, munyi unju
Wink, to	Kuru murdu binyi
Womb	Nanyi, namu, nyanyi
Wrist	Mina minjun
Yawn, to	Dhā-dhā-ding, dha-arding (Ng.)

ANIMALS

Animal (generic)	Kuga
Ant-eater	Dhalbu
Bat	Binjinara
Cat, native	Murrgu, mulgu (?)
Dingo	Ilga, babba
Dingo, puppy	Baba dhabbun
Kangaroo	Waru, malu, gulbera, mamani (father), ngunju (mother)
Kangaroo, red	Bulgana
Kangaroo, young, in pouch	Dhabban
Mouse	Mambuin
Opossum	Bildha, wai'urda, bildha
Opossum, ring tailed	Wibu (waiurda = tail of opossum)
Porcupine	Jilgamurda
Wallaby	Mala, dauarn, karrbijji, walilya

BIRDS

Bird (generic)	Jida
Bird's egg	Ngugurn ngügörn
Bittern	Ngungi
Bustard, wild turkey	Gibera, gibbera
Cockatoo	Koggalala, koggalila
Cockatoo, white, northern variety	Riarn
Crow	Karnnga
Cuckoo	Kurguling, kurrguling
Diver	Dhülia
Duck	Mannan gurra
Duck, Mountain	Birdling gura
Eaglehawk	Waldhal, walja, waldja
Emu	Kallia, kallaia
Flycatcher (Fantail) (Shepherd's Companion) (Wagtail)	Jindirr-jindirr
Hawk, Sparrow	Wanyi wanyi
Magpie	Kurrbarn
Mopoke	Kunguling
Owl	Wirongara, wiringari
Owl (marbled, like mopoke)	Kurrgaling, kurrgurling
Parrot	Badil badil, badl-badl

Birds (continued)

Parrot, Rosella	Bulail bulail
Parrot, Twenty-eight	Gilgilga
Pigeon	Manbila, murnbila
Pigeon, Top knot	Birdinggura ?
Plover	Kallajirr;jirr
Robin	Kyung-gun
Swallow	Kurngilga

REPTILES

Iguana	Burunga, mita, burns
Iguana, long tailed	Kulingura
Iguana, stump tailed	Kalda
	Barking lizard = gurubin
Lizard (generic)	Dhegal, kāmu, kuribin (?)
Lizard, Horned (York Devil)	Mingari
Scorpion	Banji banji
Snake	Kanba, jīdara, mūlaiiongu, dhalgara, gunia, gunenggara (carpet), gunia = wombat snake, mila kalduli (small black spotted), ganba (magic snake)

INSECTS

Ant	Minga
Ant's nest	Minga ngura, minga kardal
Ant (sergeant)	Kaldu
Ant (white)	Kanan
Bardie (grub)	Magu, mogu
Beetle	Mirin, barndangara ("scented" beetle), miring = little black "carrion" beetles.
Blewfly	Umbara
Butterfly	Binda binda
Caterpillar	Warngu, anyi
Centipede	Kalilga
Flea	Jilbu
Fly (generic)	Umbara
March fly	Mila
Louse	Jidu
Mosquito	Guyulgu
Moth	Binda binda, miring
Spider	Rimbu, imbu

THE ELEMENTS, etc.

Afternoon	Mungarrji ?
Boles of trees	Jirgarli
Bush (the wild country)	Ngarna, widu
Cave	Mününgara, münyüngarra
Clay	Munda, murnda
Clay, red	Dürdu
Clay, white	Kunarn, güñarn
Cloud, red	Jindu kamba (sunburnt cloud at sunset)
Cold	Ülbarnil (also south wind)
Cloudy	Ngangarling (rain clouds also)
Country (hilly)	Katu gadu, walba
Country (stony)	Kaju ngarna
Country (swampy)	Bina
Creek	Karu
Crystal (rock)	Mürüll (white stone, also Gibber Plains)
Dark, darkness	Munga,
Daylight	Jindu
Dew	Aru
Dust, duststorm	Munda bülgana
Earth, the	Munda, murnda
Echo	Egalalbs
Evening	Mungariji-mungariji ?
Feather	Womulu (down)
Fire	Waru
Floods	Walldurning
Flowers	Jidarn-jidarn
Frost	Nyin-nga

The Elements, etc. (continued)

Granite	Kadhu murra
Grass	Kurulji
Ground, surface of	Munda
Gum	Minyi (Dau-ū = edible gum)
Gum tree	Bara (sandalwood?)
Heat	Ūnūrn
Mill	Katagada
Hole	Dhauarni
Lake	Bina, dhammuru
Leaf (shrub or tree)	Bargu
Lightning	Kabainmun
Lime, limestone	Wina
Manne	Iduin, wongi, nyumil, womma
Midday	Kailula
Moon	Bira
Moonlight	Bargara, bira bargara
Moon, waning	Ilun, bira bingu
Moon, waxing	Bira
Morning	Jinduin
Muddy	Bilgi, julbir
Mulga	Kurrgu; jilu, bogurda, ilbara (barbi in roots), demarn (barbi); jirir (barbi) = different trees
Paper-bark tree	Kuli, sheoak
Peach, native	Munnara
Plain	Ūndiri
Pleiades	Yugarildha
Pool	Ai-iri (no rivers)

The Elements, etc. (continued)

Mushroom	Mulbu, bulgana mulbu
Rain	Gabin
Rain (heavy)	Gabin bulgana
Rainbow	Djundju, dhundhu
River	Karu (creek)
Road	Yuara, warri
Rockhole	Ai-iri
Root, of tree	Injiri
Rush (a fibre)	Marbuin
Sand	Munda
Sandalwood tree	Bulgara
Sandhill	Tali, biring (sea coast sandhill)
Sandplain	Tali munda
Scrub, the	Dharda, ngarna dharda
Seeds, of plants	Wongurna
Shade	Karngoa
Shrub	Dharda
Sky	Mungai
Spinifex	Gübärü, bilu
Star	Kadana
Sun	Jindu
Sunrise	Jindu uldin
Sunset	Jindu dnarrba
Thorn	Jilga
Thunder storm	Undëri
Today	Kelala nyining
Tomorrow	Munga-arli, munga badudha
Track	Jina, jina kambarin
Tree	Ngarna
Tree, bark of	Ilyidi
Tree, gum of	Dau-u (of mimu tree)

The Elements, etc. (continued)

Vegetable food

Mai-i

Water	Gabi
Water (salt)	Nyurgarada (no good)
Waterhole	Ai-iri
Weather (cold)	Wailga
Weather (hot)	Ururn, kombaring
Weather (wet)	Nanua
Whirlwind	Wombarara, Ünbalara
Wind (East)	Kogarinil
Wind (light)	Umbardu
Wind (North)	Alinyinil
Wind (South)	Ulbarnil, wilbarinil
Wind (strong)	Wanardura
Wind (West)	Wili-inil

Yesterday

Mungardu kalala

GENERAL VOCABULARY

Aduct, to	Mila ngu maning, Mila ngu maning warbail waldhangain, want a wife.
Abscond, to	Nguli aning
Abundance	Bulgá
Accuse, to	Badhabin
Afraid	Imbara
After	Malonga yara
Again	Ara wujabu
Aged	Jilbi, nyür gardi
Alarm	Imbara
Alive	Kanin nyining, kani nyining
Alone, sitting	Kuju nyining
Angry, to be	Badha
Apron (of fringe or string)	Dhandu dhandu, dhaddhurdu, dharrurdu
Battle (fighting)	Bilburning
Before (go)	Kurani yara
Behind (go)	Malonga yara
Chew, to	Ngal
Directly	Ku-arriba
Dreaming	Dhugurr mia
Evil spirit	Korralyi
Fighting	Bilbandau-u, bilburning
Friend, friendly	Walddhadha
Frightened	Imbara, ngulubin, nguluri-ngini
Glass	Guru (also "eye")
Go back, to	Malonga yara

General Vocabulary (continued)

Half-caste	Bilbara
He	Boggurda (also species of mulga)
Here	Inya
I	Ngai'u
Ill (sick)	Biغا
Jealous	Wakla
Lost	Walya-walya-in
My	Ngaiugu
Nothing	Wiadhu
One	Kujurda, kujuwurda
Our	Ngalura
Pinion (wing)	Kalbi
Quick	Walong
She	Balardu
Sit down, to	Nyinain, nyinarn
Sitting	Nyinnarn
Stealing a woman	Mila (also "March fly")
Stranger	Kujaba
Spirits	Koralyi
Taking a woman away	Ngula addingu
There	Balala
Three	Marngur
Two	Kudharra

General Vocabulary (continued)

Us (we)	Ngaluli, ngalai
West	Wilarara
What	Ngagurdu
Where	Thalla
Whistle	Ungun miring, runggun miring
Wooden scoop	Miga
Yes	Gwa, goa
You	Nyuni, nyuri, nyuni
Young	Gumardu
Younger	Mallaing
Your	Nyurain, nyurila
Yours	Nyuriha

SHORT SENTENCES

Afraid, I am not, of you	Ngaiulu mulu yurdu
Afraid, What are you, of?	Nagurda mulu bina
Asleep, He is	Anggun ngarinyi
Bad, That is very	Nyurgarda
Bad, You are	Nyurana nyurgararda
Belly sick	Narba biga
Brother, That is my	Ngaiu kurdana
Bury him	Djuna jura, juna jura
Carry this	Kadi
Come from, Where do you?	Narunyu naldaiyamu
Food, Give me	Mai-i yungu
Food eat	Mai-i ngulgundha
Flies are troublesome	Umbara ngandhain
Going to - I am	Ngaiulu yanain
Gone, He has just	Narau-adi yamu
Her father sent it over to her	Mamana walda dalu yunggala warnamu
He will come directly	Wana ngallai anningyi
I will "show" or "tell" or "see"	Ngadhulu wadhaning
I sit here	Nganala nyinnin
I come from there	Naru nguru
I will have (some) food by and by	Ngaiu ngalgurning wanyuin
I food don't want	Ngaiulu mai-i wandinyin

Short Sentences (continued)

Look out, that dog coming over the hill (might) bite us	Bala uldin babba ngalluli badha
Name, What is your?	Nyurain nganana yini
Redhaired native	Katta biarn
Sit down and wait	Wanyu nyinnain
What are you calling back for?	Ngagūrda warain yaldining
What are you winking at?	Ngagurdu guru murdu binyi
We sit down	Ngallai nyinnarn
Where do they come from?	Nerungu ngaldhi unning
What do you call him?	Nganana balengai
Your "needle" take	Nyuramba "nyila" marra
You are "nothing" talking	Nyura "wiadu" wonggan " "ngala" "
You carry it	Nyura kaddi
You have it now, directly I'll come	Nyuna ngalguria, kura nyalu
You don't want food	Nyunu mai-i winjin
You can (do so)	Nyunili
Your brother is coming	Nyurama kurdana ngalli unning " " ngala gulbin
	Nyunia marria uldin

QUESTIONS

Native names of tribes in district?

Badu, Waldada, Bulu

Native foods in district? How obtained, prepared and named?

Kalgula (roots) roasted in ashes

Dhugarn " " " "

Minyalain - sweet-tasting grass

Ilij murnara ?

Ngarna buli buli - seeds pounded, mixed with a little water and dropped on ashes.

Woggadi do do

Jirgarli - edible roots of buli buli

Iduin - species of manna

Wonggi - sweet manna

Nyumil - bitter manna

Are any instances known of natives boiling their food?

No

Is cannibalism known to exist in district?

Yes

What methods are used in making fire by friction?

Upright and sawing

Woods - kurrgu (acacia, etc.)