

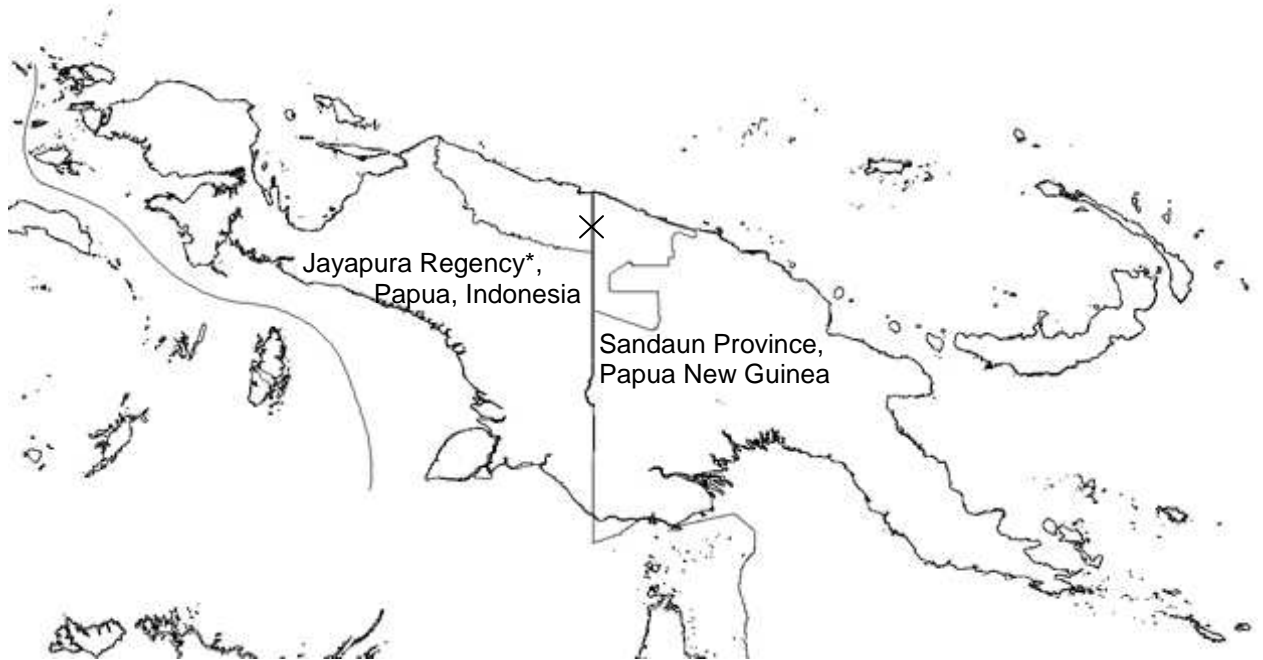
The local cases in Menggwa Dla

— from a Papuan perspective

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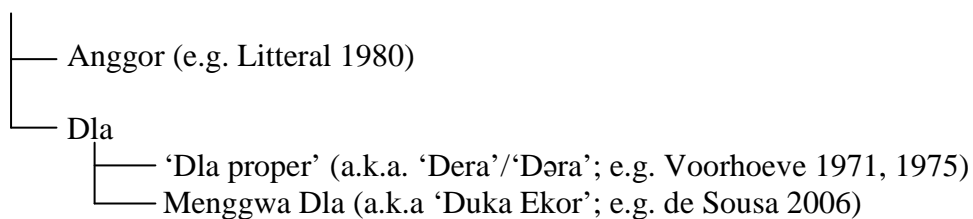
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Location of Dla territory in New Guinea



* has since been dissected into smaller regencies; Dla territory is now in Keerom Regency.

Senagi language family



Case clitics in Menggwa Dla

object case [P,R] =*mbo*

genitive case =*la*

comitative case =*lofo*

propriative case =*mbi*

abessive case =*mboka*

inessive case	= <i>mbe</i>
adessive case	= <i>hi/ =sehi</i>
allative case	= <i>na ~ =nambo</i>
ablative case	= <i>hya</i>
perlative case	= <i>rongo</i>

Perlative =rongo

‘along’/ ‘through’ a path:

1. *yo lohama=rongo pi-aha-hwa.*
 1 ridge=PER go-1SG-PAST
 ‘I went along the ridge.’

“through” with interlocutors

2. *wara yo apa dahoni ane=rongo wa hoho-mba-la-mbo.*
 so 1 daytime now friend=PER well tell-POST-LIG-NOML
 ‘So now in this daytime I will tell you (‘friend’) this story.’

Inessive =mbe, ablative =hya, adessive =hi/=sehi and allative =na(mbo)

	motion from	static location	motion to
exterior	ablative =hya	adessive =hi/=sehi	allative =na(mbo)
interior	←	inessive =mbe	→

Static locations

3. Interior
wuli=mbe
 house=INS
 ‘from inside/ into / in the house’

4. ‘Exterior’
wuli=hi
 house=ADS
 ‘at the exterior of the house’

5. *wuli wami(=hi)*
 house top(=ADS)
 ‘on top of the house’

6. *gwafu=hi*
 village=ADS
 ‘at/in the village’

7. *heli=hi*
 singsing=ADS
 ‘at a traditional ceremony’

8. *tumbaingi=hi*
 worship=ADS
 ‘at Mass’

9. *hwi=mbe*
 water=INS
 ‘inside the pool/ lake/ river’

10. *hwi=hi*
 water=ADS
 ‘on the bank/ shore’

11. *sini=mbe*
sky=INS
'in the sky'
12. [*Kembi=hi numb-aha-hya*] *no.* haus *sik=mbe.*
[Kamberatoro=ADS stand-1SG-PAST:FOC] COP: 3FSG house sick=INS
'I was born in Kamberatoro. In the clinic.'
13. *Mosbi=hi homba-ha-pa-hwa.*
Port.Moresby=ADS see-1SG-N1DU:O-PAST
'I saw the two of them in Port Moresby.'
14. *wanu=na [tebolu=hi/ alu=mbe] no.*
money=TOP [table=ADS/ string.bag=INS] COP:3FSG
'The money is on the table/ inside the string bag.'
15. *akwani=na hwi=mbe num-wa-hi.*
snake=TOP water=INS sit-3FSG-PRES:CONT
'The snake is in the water.'
16. *waplu=mbe hutinya=mbi no.*
bucket=INS sand=PROP COP:3FSG
'There is sand inside the bucket.'
17. *waplu=hi hai koko=mbi no.*
bucket=ADS fire faeces=PROP COP:3FSG
'There is ash next to the bucket.'
18. *hutumu=hi humu-Ø-ya-a-mbo,*
leaf=ADS tie-CR-3SG-3FSG:O-DEP
alu=mbe saku-Ø-ya-a-Ø,
string.bag=INS put.in-CR-3SG-3FSG:O-DEP
'He wrapped them with leaves, and put them inside the string bag, and...'

Motions to/from

19. *wuli=na pi-Ø-ehi-Ø,*
house=ALL go-CR-1DU-DEP
'We went (towards) home, and...'
20. *wuli=mbe Ø-hah-yehi-mbo,*
house=INS CR-go.up-1DU-DEP
'We went inside the house, and...'
21. *wuli=mbe fa-hwa-a Ø-numb-ehi-mbo,*
house=INS leave-1DU-3FSG:O CR-SEQ-1DU-DEP
'We left (from the inside) home, and...'

22. *mamblu=hya hof-ei-mbi.*
 Bambo=ABL come-N1FPL-PRES
 ‘They came from Bambo.’

Temporal locations

23. *rani amamo(=hi) newi aflambli numuŋgwa-wi-hwa.*
 DEM month(=ADS) people many die-3FPL-PAST
 ‘A lot of people died that month.’
24. *miŋgu=hi homba-mba-mbo tumbaŋgi=hi.*
 Sunday=ADS see-POST-NOML Mass=ADS
 ‘I will see you on Sunday at Mass.’
25. *ogas=hi Arso=nambo pi-wi-hwa.*
 August=ADS Arso=ALL go-N1FPL-PAST
 ‘They went to Arso in August.’
26. *saftu=mbe nu-mbo, simbu ye wuli=nambo pi-ehye-hwa.*
 Saturday=INS COP-DEP morning then house=ALL go-1DU-PAST
 ‘It was during Saturday, in the morning we went home.’

Human locations: =hya ABL and =sehi ADS

Non-humans:

	motion from	static location	motion to
exterior	ablative =hya	adessive =hi	allative =na(mbo)
interior	inessive ←————— → =mbe		

Humans:

	motion from	static location	motion to
exterior	ablative =hya	adessive =sehi	(no allative)
interior	(no inessive)		

27. *wihwala=hya amtali sami-aha-mbi.*
 children=ABL flu take-1SG-PRES:STAT
 ‘I have gotten the flu from the children.’
28. Jenny=*na* Tom=*sehi* *fa-hi-a-hwa.*
 Jenny=TOP Tom=ADS leave-N1FPL-3FSG:O-PAST
 ‘Jenny got married with Tom.’ (*lit.* ‘they left Jenny on Tom.’)

(‘Inside someone’:)

29. *ahala fi/ hambala/ sufwa=mbe*
 3SG:GEN body/ stomach/ liver=INS
 ‘Inside his/her/its body/ stomach/ liver’

(Recipients:)

30. Benedict *sista=mbo* *ayamu wuli nafi-Ø-ti-hwa.*
 Benedict *nun=OBJ* chicken house show-3SG-N1FPL:O-PAST
 ‘Benedict showed the nuns the chicken coup.’
31. *wuli=mbe yoambo wanu sa-mba-i-hwa.*
 house=INS *1SG:OBJ* money give-3SG-1SG:O-PAST
 ‘S/he gave me the money inside the house.’

Allative-instrumental =na(mbo)

32. *ra=nambo hwi fri-Ø-mu-mbo,*
 DEM=ALL water get.rid-CR-N1MPL-DEP
 ‘They got rid of the water with that, and...’
33. *palangi=nambo hyela numuli-Ø,*
 machete=ALL skin remove-DEP
 ‘(People) remove the bark (‘tree skin’) with machete, and...’
34. *imbu safo tamako=nambo kikifi nungu-mbo,*
 two half axe=ALL chop SEQ-DEP
 ‘(People) chop (the trunk into) two halves with an axe, and then...’
35. *imbumamo=pa yari=na ser-yehi fa-hwa-a Ø-numb-ehi-mbo,*
 three=only sago=ALL eat-1DU COMPL-1DU-3FSG:O CR-SEQ-1DU-DEP
 ‘After we have eaten only three (birds) with sago...’
36. *pitu=na fungifi-Ø.*
 knife=ALL stab-IMP
 ‘Stab (it) with a knife.’
37. *gwatina twangi fafo=na tutu-ya-i-mbo,*
 again white.people language=ALL ask-3SG-1SG:O-DEP
 ‘S/he asked me again in Tok Pisin, and...’

Topic marker =na

Subject topicalised:

38. [yo]=na [Jane=la wamla] [John]=mbo sa-ningga-wa-hwa
[1]=TOP [Jane=GEN betel.nut] [John]=OBJ give-1SG-3SG:D-PAST
'As for me, I gave Jane's betel nuts to John.'

First object topicalised:

39. [John]=na [yo] [Jane=la wamla] sa-ningga-wa-hwa
[John]=TOP [1] [Jane=GEN betel.nut] give-1SG-3SG:D-PAST
'As for John, I gave Jane's betel nuts to him.'

Second object topicalised:

40. [Jane=la wamla]=na [yo] [John]=mbo sa-ningga-wa-hwa
[Jane=GEN betel.nut]=TOP [1] [John]=OBJ give-1SG-3SG:D-PAST
'As for Jane's betel nuts, I gave them to John.'

Oblique object topicalised:

41. Amanab=*nambo*=na bakwa=*mbi* no.
Amanab=ALL=TOP road=PROP COP:3FSG
'To Amanab there is a road.'
42. hwi=*mbe*=na sa-ya-a Ø-han-u-mbo,
water=INS=TOP take-3SG-3FSG:O CR-go.down-3MSG-DEP
'Into the water, he took them and went back, and...'
43. ye wuli=*mbe*=na galali=*hi* hwama-Ø-i-Ø,
then house=INS=TOP hook=ADS hang.up-CR-3MSG-3FMG:O-DEP
'Then inside the house he hung him at the hook, and...'

Multiple topics:

44. bohoni [amamo=*na*] [sini=*mbe* akani=*mbe*=na] awe.
before [moon=TOP] [sky=INS there=INS=TOP] be.not
'Once upon a time the moon was not there in the sky.'

Copular sentences:

45. [yowala dya]=na Rita no.
[1SG:GEN name]=TOP Rita COP:3FSG
'My name is Rita.'

Chain clause verbs (medial verbs): dependent suffix -Ø ~ -mbo ~ -mbona
(c.f. OBJ =*mbo*, TOP/ALL =*na*)

46. ani a [num-wa-mbi] fla=*mbe* numu-a=*mbe* Ø-ser-u-Ø,
there ah [sit-3FSG-PRES] place=INS sit-place=INS CR-eat-3MSG-DEP
'(The moon) eats at the place where he lives, at his abode,'
ser-u Ø-num-u-la-mbona,
eat-3MSG CR-sit-3MSG-LIG-DEP
'he eats and lives, and'
sunngu amni=*la* afile ai Ø-hof-u-Ø,
later garden=GEN father 3 CR-come-3MSG-DEP
'later the garden's father (i.e. owner) he came, and...'

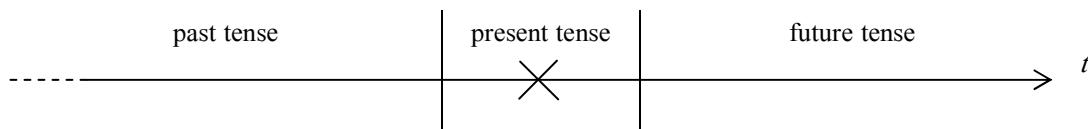
Subordinate verbs: simultaneous -hi (c.f. ADS =hi)

47. *hwafu-ha-nya-hi homba-Ø-i-Ø.*
 talk-1SG-2SG:O-SIM look-N1SG-1SG:O-IMP
 ‘Look at me while I am talking to you.’
48. *numungwa-Ø-hi hihifu-aha-hi.*
 be.dead-3MSG-SIM be.happy-1SG-PRES:CONT
 ‘I am glad that he is dead.’
49. *hambalafe* (< *hambala-afa-hi*), *sihafa afile hwahwa-Ø-hi.*
 be.pregnant -2SG-SIM 2SG:GEN father know-3MSG-PRES:CONT
 ‘Your father knows that you are pregnant.’
50. *ilohe* (< *ilo-ha-a-hi*), *num-aha-hi.*
 work-1SG-3MSG:O-SIM sit-1SG-PRES:CONT
 ‘I work and live (here).’

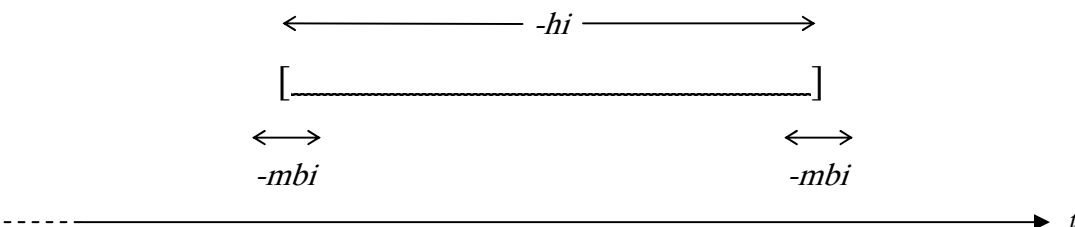
Realis verbal markers on independent verbs

Realis suffixes	Corresponding case clitics
present transitional/ stative <i>-mbi</i>	propietive case = <i>mbi</i>
present continuous <i>-hi</i>	adessive case = <i>hi</i> / = <i>sehi</i>
past <i>-hwa</i>	(no corresponding case clitic)
past with focus <i>-hya</i>	ablative case = <i>hya</i>

Present tense: near-past time + present time + near-future time



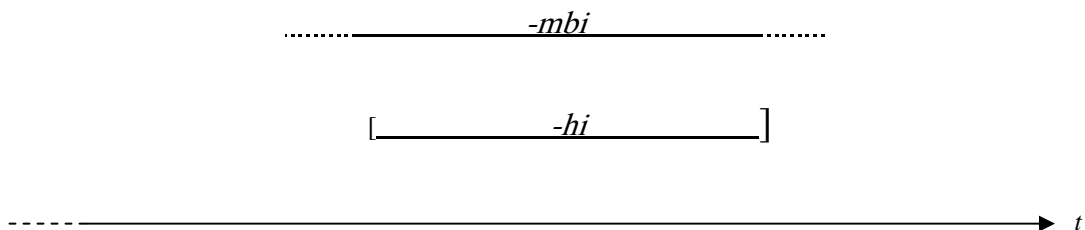
Dynamic: present transitional -mbi and present continuous -hi



51. *pi-aha-mbi.*
 go-1SG-PRES:TRNSN
 ‘I am going (now).’

52. pater pitpit *hof-u-mbi*.
 Father Pitpit come-3MSG-PRES:TRNSN
 ‘Father Pitpit has just arrived/ is arriving very soon.’
53. *kufru-aha-mbi!*
 vomit-1SG-PRES:TRNSN
 ‘I am going to vomit now!’
54. radio news *humbli-aha-mbi*.
 radio news listen-1SG-PRES:TRNSN
 ‘I am going to listen to the radio news now.’
55. *mi=la tirati pa-hya-a-hi*.
 mother=GEN letter write-1SG-3FSG:O-PRES:CONT
 ‘I am writing a letter for mother.’
56. *kapali green river=na pi-Ø-hi*.
 aeroplane Green River=ALL go-3MSG-PRES:CONT
 ‘The aeroplane is going to/ towards Green River.’
 (e.g. seeing the aeroplane still high up in the sky)
57. *afta-mba-mbo hwi=na han-yei-hi*.
 bathe-POST-NOML water=ALL go.down-N1FPL-PRES:CONT
 ‘They are going down to the stream to bathe.’ (e.g. seeing them walking down towards the stream)
58. *dafumbo hiningiafe (< hiningi-afa-hi)*.
 who:OBJ wait-2SG-PRES:CONT
 ‘Who are you waiting for?’ (seeing the addressee seemingly waiting for someone)

‘Non-dynamic’: present stative *-mbi* and present continuous *-hi*



-mbi: inchoation and/or completion point(s) unclear or unknown to speaker:

59. *hufwehambi (< hufwe-aha-mbi)*.
 be.hot-1SG-PRES:STAT
 ‘I feel hot.’ (*hufwa* (*hufwe-*) ‘be hot’ class I)

60. *mi, gihali(=mbo) sufwa-aha-mbi.*
 mother hunger(=OBJ) feel-1SG-PRES:STAT
 ‘Mother, I am hungry.’
61. *hambala(=mbo) kakalu-aha-mbi.*
 stomach(=OBJ) ache-1SG-PRES:STAT
 ‘I have a stomach ache.’
62. *safa sihi-wa-mbi.*
 meat stink-3FSG-PRES:STAT
 ‘The piece of meat stinks.’
63. *hwi hof-wa-mbi.*
 water come-3FSG-PRES:STAT
 ‘It is raining.’
64. *efi-ya-a-mbi.*
 become.dark-3SG-3FSG:O-PRES:STAT
 ‘It is becoming dark (sunset).’
65. *hyela kunang-wa-mbi.*
 cloth be.hung.up:MASS-3FSG-PRES:STAT
 ‘The clothes are hung up (there).’
66. *ihu kia-wa-mbi.*
 mango bear.fruit-3FSG-PRES:STAT
 ‘The mango tree is bearing fruits.’
- mbi*: no conceivable completion point/ permanent state:
67. *Sentani=hi lapanngani bukwa ek-wa-mbi.*
 Sentani=ADS airport big exist-3FSG-PRES:STAT
 ‘There is a big airport in Sentani.’
68. *ye sini=mbe pe-u-mbi rani.*
 then sky=INS be.gone-3MSG-PRES:STAT that
 ‘(The moon) went into the sky and stayed there (ever since).’
- hi*: clear inchoation and/or completion points
69. *aiahafumbo hwahwa-hi-Ø-hi.*
 3SG:OBJ be.acquainted-1SG-3MSG:O-PRES:CONT
 ‘I know him.’
70. *ai numungwa-Ø-hi.*
 3 be.dead-3MSG-PRES:CONT
 ‘He is dead.’
71. *ai hambala-wa-hi.*
 3 be.pregnant-3FSG-PRES:CONT
 ‘She is pregnant.’

72. *hwilahi* (< *hwila=hi*) *yamo-wa-hi*.
 five thumb=ADS be.time-3FSG-PRES:CONT
 ‘The time is five.’
73. *tumbaingi wuli=mbe num-uma-hi*.
 worship house=INS sit-N1MPL-PRES:CONT
 ‘They are sitting inside the church.’

Past -hwa and ‘past with focus’ -hya

74. *tikyewi ap-ehye-hwa*.
 small sleep-1DU-PAST
 ‘We slept a little bit.’
75. *kapali imbu na-Ø-pa-hwa*.
 tree.kangaroos two shoot-3SG-N1DU:O-PAST
 ‘S/he shot two tree kangaroos.’
76. *mi=lofo klo-hya-a-hwa*.
 mother=COM separate-1SG-3FSG:O-PAST
 ‘I parted with my mother.’
77. *hamani tiga puluh ribu sa-ningga-wa-hwa*.
 yesterday three ten thousand give-1SG-3SG:O-PAST
 ‘Yesterday I gave him/ her thirty thousand (rupiah).’
78. a. *nahombo fa-wa-hya?*
 why leave-2SG-PAST
 ‘Why did you leave?’
 b. *bapli kakalu-aha-hya*.
 head ache-1SG-PAST:FOC
 ‘(Because) I had a headache.’
79. a. *nungni numungwa-Ø-hwa?*
 when die-3MSG-PAST
 ‘When did he die?’
 b. *saftu simbu numungwa-Ø-hya*.
 Saturday morning die-3MSG-PAST:FOC
 ‘He died on Saturday morning.’
80. a. *hihiri-mbo homba-i-Ø-hwa?*
 steal-NOML see-N1SG-3MSG:O-PAST
 ‘Did you see him stealing?’
 b. *ini homba-hi-Ø-hwa* [? *homba-hi-Ø-hya*]
 yes see-1SG-3MSG:O-PAST
 ‘Yes, I saw him (stealing).’
 b’.*ini homba-hi-Ø-hya no*.
 yes see-1SG-3MSG:O-PAST:FOC COP:3FSG
 ‘Yes, I did see him (stealing).’

81. Vanimo haus sik=*mbe* *nung-wa-hya*.
 Vanimo house sick=INS stand-3FSG-PAST:FOC
 ‘She was born in Vanimo hospital.’

82. *awe gwa yohwefa ulua hwi numami aya*
 no but 1PL:GEN fat liquid above father
saku-ya-a-hya akani=mbe.
 put-3SG-3FSG:O-PAST:FOC there=INS
 ‘Nothing really, father put our oil up in there.’

-*hwa* is not used in relative clauses:

83. [*hari-wu-a-hya*] *hwan̄gu=mbe=na*
 [enter-N1MSG-3FSG:O-PAST] cave=INS=TOP
*imbumamo hwalfehi Ø-*numb-ei-mbo*,*
 three woman CR-sit-N1FPL-DEP
 ‘In the cave which they entered lived three women, and...’

84. *yani*(*=*mbo*) [*si homba-i-Ø-hya*]=*na*
man(*=*OBJ*) [2 see-N1MSG-3MSG:O-PAST]=TOP
yowala aru nu.
 3SG:GEN dad.bro COP:3MSG
 ‘The man [whom you saw] is my uncle.’

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