

Pusat Dokumentasi Melayu  
Cawangan Sabah

**ENGLISH—KADAZAN  
PHRASE BOOK**

**BUUK PIBAASAN  
INGGILIS—KADAZAN**

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B

**BORNEO LITERATURE BUREAU**

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## INTRODUCTION

THIS BOOK, like all guidebooks, is not to be mistaken for a complete language study. It is a utilitarian presentation in the sense that it merely seeks to emphasise the words, phrases and lingual requirements which are likely to confront a visitor to Sabah's Kadazan community. There are aspects of the Kadazan language which did not enter this book because these aspects had no relevance to the purpose of this publication.

The Kadazan language may be viewed in two ways. It may be taken to mean only those dialects spoken by the people in the Penampang and Papar districts. However, it can also be used to mean the dialects spoken in the Ranau, Tambunan and Keningau districts, in addition to the Penampang-Papar dialects already mentioned. The dialects of the five areas have many similarities; and people of one district can understand those of another, even though they may not be fluent in the other's dialect at the outset. Indeed, outside these five areas, there are kindred ethnic groups such as the Muruts, Bajaus, Rungus and Sungeis whose members often understand and speak the Kadazan tongue.

The Kadazan language which has been emphasised and, to a certain extent, popularised by the Government over a number of years takes in the Penampang-Papar dialects. For instance, governmental translations into Kadazan have been made by utilising the dialects of these two districts. Similarly, the Kadazan Section of Radio Malaysia, Sabah, uses largely these same dialects. This book

is presented with the Penampang-Papar dialects as the lingual basis. In spite of this, however, throughout the text, words and phrases (not to mention clauses) used and popular in the other three districts have been included. It is for this reason that the spelling, among other things, has not been exclusively that of the Penampang-Papar areas.

This book will be of interest not only to visitors and tourists but also to Sabah people who have had little contact with the Kadazans of the five districts mentioned above. Non-Kadazans in the urban areas, for example, will find the book handy when they decide to know more about their Kadazan fellowmen. Government officers and representatives of private firms alike will find this book useful when they are on tour or travelling to the villages to do business.

Rather than attempt to project an imperfect Kadazan grammar, this book is designed with the proverb "Practice makes perfect" in mind. The user of this book should first acquaint himself with the Penampang area (only six miles, or fifteen minutes, from Kota Kinabalu). Once he is able to make himself understood in this district, he should be lingually free to proceed to either Papar or Tambunan and, subsequently, to Ranau and Keningau. The user of this book should, of course, at least be conscientious enough to notice, at all times, the way the Kadazans themselves pronounce their words, phrases and sentences. After all, one never learns something unless one is really interested in it.

## BOOS POGUHU

*Okon Ih ko ogonop pasal boos Kadazan oh buuk diti. Nokosuat oh buuk diti do miampai kahansanan do katamba daa do tuhun suvai, ih koikot doid Sabah mantad suvai pogun om koombo do uvang om kinoizonon ngaavi do Kadazan. Suvai ko iti, ahansan po nogi do kotuhung oh buuk diti di tuhun ngaavi do okon ko Kadazan om poingizon doid kakadazan katapi aanangan do miho do boos Kadazan.*

*Kivaa duvo lahan do mongintong boos Kadazan. Miho do booson do Kadazan nopo nga opiboos-boos do mogigizon ngaavi doid uvang Penampang om Papar. Katapi miho po nogi do booson do saavi-avi ih boos do mogigizon ngaavi doid Ranau, Tambunan om Keningau do miinsomok om kivaa piagaan do boos Penampang-Papar. Daasom diho himo uvang do naait, ogumu tuhun mantad iso uvang do kasamo do boos tuhun mantad suvai uvang, sundung po tuu do au ih zioho songkuo oinantas moboos do timpun ih.*

*Ih nopo boos Kadazan do nakahaid do napakai do polinta doid Sabah nga iho no boos Penampang-Papar. Miaga do suat Inggilis podohinon doid Kadazan, tomoimo do iho boos Penampang-Papar oh pinakai do polinta. Ih Pangaan Doung Kadazan do Radio Malaysia, Sabah, po nogi nga boos duvo uvang diho oh pakazon gisom baino. Buuk diti nopo nga sinuat do miampai boos Penampang-Papar oh hinsou, sokiikio. Katapi, sundung po tuu do ingkaa, daasom do buuk diti, tomoimo do nokosuat ih boos*

*om lahan moboos do saasau apakai doid tohu uvang do Ranau, Tambunan om Keningau. Sabap no diti do kikouvang oh boos daasom buuk diti do suusuvai mantad ponong Penampang-Papar oh ijaan om tuni.*

*Do baino tu maamaso mimang mogot om undahiu oh koulaalahon do pogun tokou, om uvang ngaavi doid kinoizonon tagazo do Sabah, ogumu oh tuhun suvai do saasau kodimpot doid kokompungan do tumindapou toomod antau badagang. Ahansan daa do katamba oh buuk diti do tuhun suvai ngaavi diho do sumamo om momuimon do lahan kopolizon om boos Kadazan. Iisai nopo ih aanangan balajal do boos Kadazan om mamakai do buuk diti, patut do tumindapou po doid Penampang, ih osomok kozo mantad Dapi-Api; om songian do olotian isido doid uvang diho om vagu nogi do humombus doid Papar antau Tambunan, Ranau om Keningau. Pointantu no do mositi oining om tomoimo mogkinongou kozo do lahan tuhun Kadazan sondii do moboos om vagu nogi do kotungkus do guno diti buuk pibaasan.*

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ANIMALS, BIRDS, FISHES, SNAKES, INSECTS  
TAZAM, TOMBOHOG, SADA, VUHANUT, AGAS

Wait while I remove these leeches.  
*Indad po, mongidu zou diti himatok.*

There are a lot of mosquitoes here.  
*Ogumu nandui doiti.*

I have been bitten by sandflies (fleas).  
*Nokokot zou do agas (kutu).*

The cockroaches have eaten my shirt.  
*Naakan do gangak oh gaung ku.*

Is that snake (insect, fish, thing) poisonous?  
*Kalasan naku oh vuhanut (agas, sada, balang) diho?*

Was that a boar (pig, deer)?  
*Bakas (vogok, tambang) naku iho dii?*

I hope to shoot a wild pig (monkey, wild cat, bear) with  
my gun.  
*Ahansan zou kabadi do bakas (kaa, tompu, bouvang).*

I shall take my traps when I go out hunting.  
*Oviton ku oh tuvi ku do songian mongoi pagasu.*

Can we eat this bird?  
*Aakan naku oh tombohog diti?*

Can we buy a chicken (duck) anywhere?  
*Nombo kivaa popobohi do manuk (putik)?*

This dog (cat) is hungry.  
*Houson oh tasu (tingau) diti.*

There are too many rats (flies).  
*Oindama ginumu do tikus (togonok).*

**BUILDINGS, HOUSES AND CONTENTS**  
**HAMIN OM KOTOS ID SUANG**

May I sleep on the verandah?  
*Kavasa zou modop doid bantaan?*

Have you a clock (wireless, camera, sewing machine, lamp)?  
*Kavaa jaam (radio, pagambalan, misin ponombi, lampung) nu?*

May I use your kitchen (cooking pots, fire)?  
*Kavasa zou mamakai dopuan (pagansakan, tapui) nu?*

Have you got a pencil and paper?  
*Kivaa pinsil om kalatas nu?*

The roof is leaking.  
*Tuon oh taap diho.*

This floor is not safe.  
*Mimang vunsut oh hinantai diti.*

Could this be fixed to the wall?  
*Miho posokoton iti diho tohig?*

I like your chairs (table, bed, mats).  
*Aanangan zou do tudungon (mija, todopon, tahum) nu.*

Will you play the gongs when there is dancing?  
*Magagung ko do songian kivaa sumazau?*

What office do you work in?  
*Oonu upis do kalajaan nu?*

Can you take me to the police station?  
*Tudukai zou gia do sotisin maamata.*

Is that the post office?  
*Upis suat naku iho?*

Where can I telephone (buy stamps)?  
*Nombo zou koponolipaun (kobohi do sitim)?*

In which shop can I get food?  
*Nombo kadai kivaa takanon?*

## CLOTHES AND PERSONAL BELONGINGS *GAUNG OM KAKAMOT*

I want to buy shoes (handkerchiefs, a shirt, trousers, socks,  
a hat).  
*Momohi zou do kasut (simpulan, banat, souva, stakin, tupi).*

I have lost my watch (money, pen, wallet, keys).  
*Natagakan zou do jaam (usin, pen, poizanan usin, kungsi).*

Where is my towel (soap, razor, luggage)?  
*Nombo pipiid (sabun, bubuga, balang) ku?*

I left my umbrella (sarong, bedding, mosquito net) behind.  
*Au ku novit oh pazung (tapi, toodopon, kulambu) ku.*

My shoelace is broken.  
*Novodtu oh tahi kasut ku.*

Please lend me a safety pin (needle, button, scissors, string,  
cotton).  
*Poohoso zou do piin (dahat, butang, gunting, tahi, kapas).*

I have forgotten my sleeping mat.  
*Nohiivan ku oh tikam ku.*

Can you mend this?  
*Kotoodo ko diti?*