Survey Overview

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General Research for the Study and Conservation of Endangered Dialects in Japan
Research Report on the Miyako Dialects of Southern Ryukyuan
August 1, 2012, National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics

2   Survey Overview

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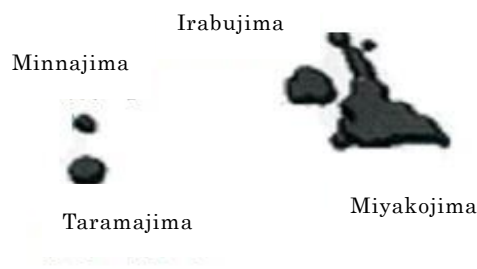## 1   Overview of the Miyako Islands

Located 300 km to the south of Okinawa Island, the Miyako Islands consist of the islands of Miyakojima, Ikemajima, Ōgamijima, Irabujima, Shimojijima, Kurimajima, Taramajima, and Minnajima (see Maps 1 and 2). As of October 1, 2005, the five former municipalities of Hirara City, Irabu Town, Ueno Village, Gusukube Town, and Shimoji Town (the latter four formerly constituting Miyako District) have merged, forming Miyakojima City; Miyakojima, Ikemajima, Ōgamijima, Irabujima, Shimojijima, and Kurimajima therefore presently constitute Miyakojima City, while Taramajima and Minnajima together constitute Tarama Village, Miyako District.

Miyakojima City has a surface area of 204.59 km^2 (Miyakojima: 159.26 km^2; Ikemajima: 2.83 km^2; Ōgamijima 0.24 km^2; Irabujima: 29.08 km^2; Kurimajima: 2.84 km^2) and a population of 55,036 (as of December 2010—Hirara area: 36,138; Gusukube area: 6,780; Shimoji area: 3,065; Ueno area: 3,128; Irabu area: 5,925), and among its main industries are the cultivation of sugar cane, mango, and the like, tourism, and distilling (figures according to *23-Nendoban Tōkei Miyakojima* [*2011 Statistics on Miyakojima*] on the Miyakojima City website).

Tarama Village comprises Taramajima, with a surface area 19.75 km^2 and a population of 1,273, and Minnajima, with a surface area of 2.153 km^2 and a population of 6 (as of June 2012, according to the Tarama Village website).

Map 1. Location of the Miyako Islands.

Map 2. The Miyako Islands.

2   Survey overview

The September 2011 dialect survey was conducted on Miyakojima, Ikemajima, Irabujima, Shimojijima, and Kurimajima, all part of Miyako City. The following is an overview of the survey.

2.1   Survey sites

The fifteen survey sites were Ikema, Karimata, Simajiri, Ōura, Nishihara, Kugai (Hirara area), Yonaha, Uechi, Kurima (Shimoji area), Nobaru, Miyaguni (Ueno area), Uruka, Bora (Gusukube area), Irabu, and Kuninaka (Irabu area) (see Map 3).
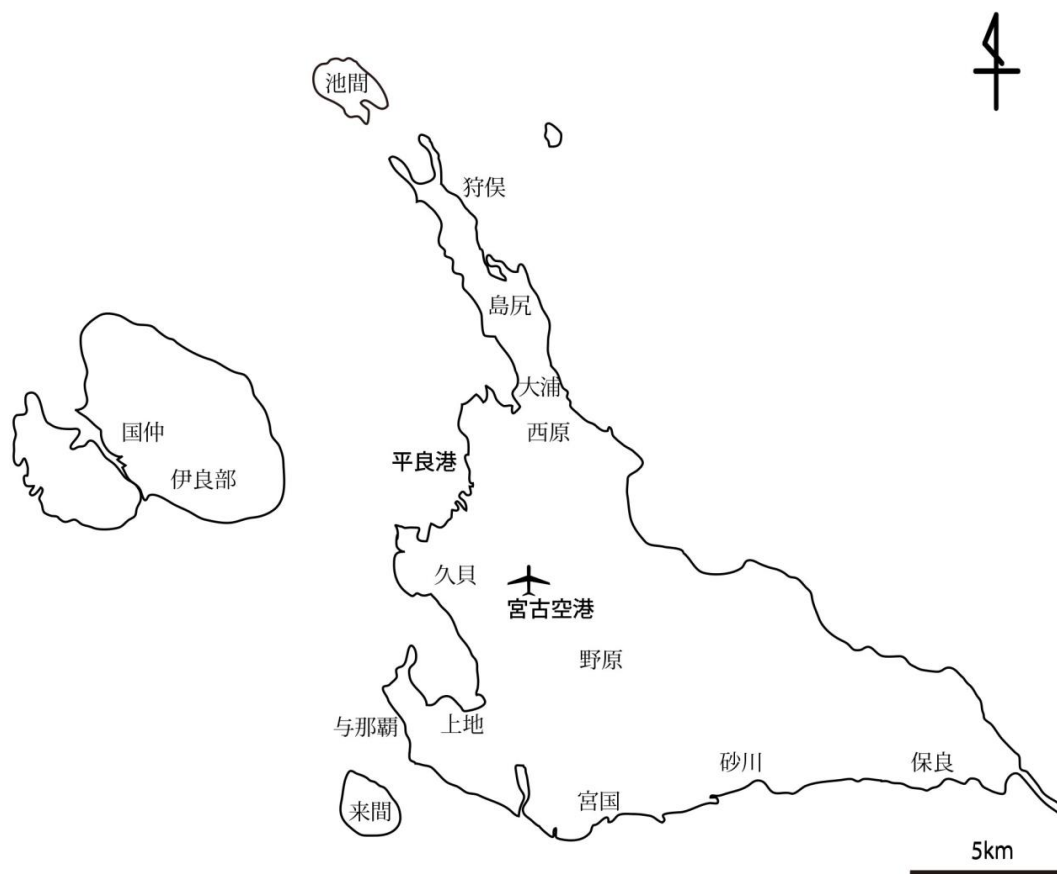
Map 3. Miyako dialect survey sites.

2.2   Schedule, modules, and researchers

The survey was conducted between September 4 and September 7, 2011. Survey sites, modules, and researchers were as follows.

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Miyako dialect survey sites, modules, and researchers

Date/time	Site	Module	Researchers	Speakers
September 4 13:00–	Ikema	Basic vocabulary *a*	Lawrence, Ogino, Hirako, Aoi	Akiko Katsuren
		Basic vocabulary *b*	Nitta, Hirayama, Matsuura, Kawase	Yoshiko Nakahara
		Grammar (first)	Nohara, Nakahara, Davis, Utsumi	Masako Hamakawa
		Grammar (last)	Matayoshi, Yamada, Shirata, Toyama	Teruko Hamamoto
September 5 14:00–	Karimata	Basic vocabulary *a*	Lawrence, Nakazawa	Masaaki Nema
		Basic vocabulary *b*	Nakajima, Takeda	Hide Hanashiro
		Grammar (first)	Nakahara, Matsumoto	Masayuki Uehara
		Grammar (middle)	K. Nakama, Davis, Utsumi	Masaki Karimata
	Ōura	Basic vocabulary *a*	Hayashi, Takemura	Hatsuko Shimoji
		Basic vocabulary *b*	Hirako, Kubozono	Masayuki Ozato
	Uechi	Basic vocabulary *a*	Nitta, Inoue, Kawase	Kiyokatsu Uechi
		Accent	Uwano, Matsuura, Aoi	Shigeo Uechi
		Discourse	Takubo, Ogino, Yamada, Shirata	Tomi Nakahara, Fumi Shimoji
	Nobaru	Basic vocabulary *b*	Nohara, Tokunaga, Matayoshi, Hirayama	Shige Kugai
	Bora	Grammar (last)	Karimata, Kaneda, Yamada, Morooka	Yoshiko Shimoji
	Nishihara	Accent	Igarashi, H. Nakama, Takubo	Kimie Nakahara
September 6 14:00–	Uruka	Basic vocabulary *a*	Karimata, Kibe, Hirayama, Takemura	Toshio Sunagawa
		Grammar (first)	K. Nakama, Inoue, Ogino	Hisao Miyazato
		Grammar (middle)	Nishioka, Utsumi, Davis	Wataru Sunagawa
	Kugai	Basic vocabulary *a*	Lawrence, Nakahara, Kawase, Kubozono	Kinkichi Yonaha
		Grammar (first)	Nohara, Hayashi, H. Nakama, Matsumoto	Yoshihiko Yonaha
	Miyaguni	Grammar (first)	Kaneda, Takeda	Kiku Miyaguni
		Grammar (middle)	Takubo, Nakajima	Hideko Matsuoka
19:30–	Bora	Basic vocabulary *a*	Shirata, Tokunaga, Pellard	Harumi Sunagawa
		Basic vocabulary *b*	Nitta, Hirako, Nakazawa	Meiko Hirara
		Accent	Igarashi, Uwano, Matsuura, Aoi	Hiromori Shimoji
		Grammar (first)	Karimata, Toyama	Tatsuo Sunagawa
		Grammar (middle)	Shimoji, Morooka	Yoshio Hirara

September 7 14:00–	Kurima	Basic vocabulary *a*	Lawrence, Hirako	Kiku Kawamitsu, Chiyo Tamashiro
		Grammar (first)	Karimata, Utsumi, Davis	Ume Sunagawa
		Grammar (middle)	Kaneda, Inoue, Takeda	Haru Sunagawa
	Kuninaka	Basic vocabulary *a*	Nitta, Nakazawa	Genshin Nakasone
		Basic vocabulary *b*	Morooka, Tokunaga	Chiyoko Nakasone
		Grammar (last)	Nakajima	Yoshiko Yoshihama
	Irabu	Basic vocabulary *a*	Pellard, Takemura	Yoshihiro Kawamitsu
		Basic vocabulary *b*	Kibe, H. Nakama, Toyama	Katayuki Shimoji, Gensuke Hirara
	Yonaha	Basic vocabulary *a*	Shirata, Ogawa	Noriyoshi Kochi
		Accent	Igarashi, Uwano, Aoi, Matsuura	Toyosuke Ikemura
		Grammar (first)	Shimoji	Shigeo Yonaha
		Grammar (middle)	Hayashi	Takeichi Kakinohana
19:30–	Shimajiri	Basic vocabulary *a*	Shirata, Pellard	Toyokazu Hentona
		Basic vocabulary *b*	Shimoji, Hayashi	Sadao Ikema

2.3 Survey content and methods

The survey consisted of four modules: 'Basic vocabulary *a*', 'Basic vocabulary *b*', 'Accent', and 'Grammar'. 'Basic vocabulary *a*' and 'Basic vocabulary *b*' comprised basic vocabulary items in frequent daily use, such as items referring to body parts, family members, animals, plants, natural phenomena, time, space, tools, and numbers. The difference between groups *a* and *b* lies in the fact that those in group *a* refer to things common to different languages and dialects, while those in group *b* have specific cultural connotations. 'Basic vocabulary *a*' contained 189 items, while 'Basic vocabulary *b*' contained 149. The method used was that of translation questions, where the researcher utters a Standard Japanese vocabulary item and the speaker replies by uttering the corresponding vocabulary item of their dialect; for example, the researcher asks, 'How do you say (…) in your dialect?' and the speaker replies by translating the vocabulary item to their dialect.

As regards 'Accent', a list was made of 71 two-, three-, and four-mora nouns, which were recorded uttered in isolation as well as inserted into carrier sentences of the type 'There is no (…)', after which they were analyzed. The accent survey data have not been included in this report in their entirety. For an overview, the reader is referred Yosuke Igarashi's chapter, 'The Nominal Accent System of the Yonaha Dialect of the Southern Ryukyuan Language of Miyako: A Preliminary Report'.

Verb conjugation formed the core of the 'Grammar' module, which consisted of sentences designed to elicit the assertive (affirmative), negative, past, *shite*-continuative, and *ari*-continuative forms and the like of 38 verbs, such as those corresponding to Standard Japanese *tobu* 'to fly; to

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jump' and *kogu* 'to row'. This resulted in a total of 190 items. It is impossible, however, to elicit all 190 items in one two-hour session, so they were divided into three subsets, each group thus being tasked with eliciting about a third (around sixty) of the items. In the table above, 'Grammar (first)', 'Grammar (middle)', and 'Grammar (last)' refer to the first, middle, and last subset of grammar items, respectively. Consequently, researchers and speakers differ for each of the subsets at each site. Although it is desirable, if possible, to have a single speaker utter all of the items when dealing with a systematic phenomenon such as verb conjugation, time constraints forced us to use this method. As with 'Basic vocabulary', the elicitation method we used was that of translation questions.

In addition to the above, discourse material was recorded in Uechi. As analysis of this material is still underway, it has not been included in this report.

2.4 Participating researchers

The following 39 researchers participated in the survey. In addition to the leader and two research fellows of this project, the group consisted of fourteen collaborating researchers, nine university or institute staff members who were not collaborating researchers, nine graduate students, and four JSPS PD research fellows.

Nobuko KIBE (NINJAL; project leader), Shinji OGAWA (NINJAL; PD research fellow of this project), Sichao SHENG (NINJAL; research fellow of this project)—continues in alphabetic order; collaborating researchers at the time of the survey are marked with '*'—Hayato AOI (doctoral student at the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies; JSPS research fellow), Chris DAVIS (JSPS PD research fellow at Kyoto University), Yuka HAYASHI (part-time lecturer at Kyoto University), Manami HIRAYAMA (Ritsumeikan University), Tatsuya HIRAKO (doctoral student at Kyoto University; JSPS research fellow), Yosuke IGARASHI (Hiroshima University), Fumiko INOUE (NINJAL), *Akihiro KANEDA (Chiba University), *Shigehisa KARIMATA (University of the Ryukyus), Suguru KAWASE (doctoral student at Kyushu University), Ai KUBOZONO (doctoral student at Kyushu University; JSPS research fellow), *Wayne LAWRENCE (University of Auckland), *Satomi MATAYOSHI (Shigakukan University), *Hirotake MATSUMOTO (Beppu University), Toshio MATSUURA (Hokusei Gakuen University), Daigo MOROOKA (MA student at Hitotsubashi University), *Jo NAKAHARA (part-time lecturer at the University of the Ryukyus), *Yumi NAKAJIMA (Hitotsubashi University), Hiroyuki NAKAMA (adviser at the Public Relations Office of the Kake Educational Institution; former principal of Miyako High School), Keiko NAKAMA (part-time lecturer at the University of the Ryukyus), Kohei NAKAZAWA (MA student at the University of Tokyo), *Satoshi NISHIOKA (Okinawa International

University), *Tetsuo NITTA (Kanazawa University), Yuichi NOHARA (part-time lecturer at the University of the Ryukyus), Chisako OGINO (Oita University), Thomas PELLARD (JSPS PD research fellow at Kyoto University), *Kayoko SHIMOJI (Okinawa International University), Rihito SHIRATA (MA student at Kyoto University), *Koko TAKEDA (project research fellow at NINJAL), Akiko TAKEMURA (PD project research fellow at NINJAL), *Yukinori TAKUBO (Kyoto University), Akiko TOKUNAGA (MA student at Hitotsubashi University), Nana TOYAMA (MA student at the University of the Ryukyus), Atsuko UTSUMI (Meisei University), *Zendo UWANO (invited professor at NINJAL), Masahiro YAMADA (JSPS PD research fellow at Kyoto University).

2.5   Speakers

The details of the speakers are as follows.

Ikema	Ms. Teruko HAMAMOTO (86), Ms. Akiko KATSUREN (83), Ms. Yoshiko NAKAHARA, Ms. Masako HAMAKAWA (90)
Karimata	Mr. Masaki KARIMATA (88), Mr. Masaaki NEMA (78), Ms. Hide HANASHIRO (84), Mr. Masayuki UEHARA (68)
Ōura	Ms. Hatsuko SHIMOJI (87), Mr. Masayuki OZATO (80)
Uechi	Mr. Shigeo UECHI (84), Ms. Tomi NAKAHARA (89), Ms. Fumi SHIMOJI (90), Mr. Kiyokatsu UECHI (79)
Nobaru	Ms. Shige KUGAI (86)
Uruka	Mr. Toshio SUNAGAWA (83), Mr. Wataru SUNAGAWA (75), Mr. Hisao MIYAZATO (84)
Kugai	Mr. Yoshihiko YONAHA (69), Mr. Kinkichi YONAHA (84)
Miyaguni	Ms. Kiku MIYAGUNI, Ms. Hideko MATSUOKA
Bora	Ms. Yoshiko SHIMOJI (82), Mr. Tatsuo SUNAGAWA (55), Mr. Yoshio HIRARA (77), Mr. Hiromori SHIMOJI (61), Ms. Meiko HIRARA (79); Ms. Harumi SUNAGAWA (59) from Aragusuku
Nishihara	Ms. Kimie NAKAHARA (63)
Kurima	Ms. Haru SUNAGAWA (86), Ms. Ume SUNAGAWA (83), Ms. Kiku KAWAMITSU (90), Ms. Chiyo TAMASHIRO (81)
Kuninaka	Ms. Chiyoko NAKASONE (83), Ms. Yoshiko YOSHIHAMA (84), Mr. Genshin NAKASONE (86)
Irabu	Mr. Yoshihiro KAWAMITSU (87), Mr. Katayuki SHIMOJI (69), Mr. Gensuke HIRARA (81)
Yonaha	Mr. Takeichi KAKINOHANA (76), Mr. Noriyoshi KOCHI (75), Mr. Shigeo YONAHA (77), Mr. Toyosuke IKEMURA (75)
Shimajiri	Mr. Toyokazu HENTONA (72), Mr. Sadao IKEMA (73)

I would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the above speakers for taking the time to participate in the survey.