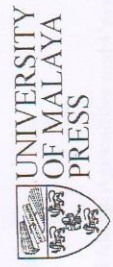


THE MAHMERI
LANGUAGE
AN INTRODUCTION

Edited by: **Asmah Haji Omar**



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Naming Tools for Fishing, Agriculture and Carpentry in Mah Meri

Ainun Rozana Mohd Zaid

Introduction

Traditionally, the Mah Meri people are involved in jobs that associate them with nature like carpentering, fishing and farming. This is obvious as their settlement is both situated near the jungle and sea. Some older Mah Meri men become fishermen as a way to earn a living while others find work in the field. When they are not at sea, they keep themselves busy with repairing their fishing vehicles, working in the field or doing some carpentering job around the house. Fishing is an old traditional way of life which has been with the community for a very long time. The Mah Meri men are more involved with this way of life than with farming and carpentering.

The Malay culture and language have undoubtedly influenced the way the Mah Meri people name some tools that are used in fishing, agriculture and carpentering activities. (See Chapter 18 in this volume as a comparison).

This chapter provides an analysis of data for lexical items involving different tools from the fishing, agriculture and carpentry activities in the everyday life of the Mah Meri. Analysis of nouns for the above activities and other related nouns are presented under the sub-sections of fishing, agriculture and carpentry.

Method of Description

Nouns are described by Asmah (1980) as a subcategory of nominals which functions as the subject and object of the sentence. The examples of nouns in this chapter are illustrated in three different categories, namely nouns that are