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Postal Addresses: Hon. Secretary, Treasurer Editor and Review Editor,
and Office of the Society, Dept of Anthropology
Dept of Māori Studies

The University of Auckland,
Private Bag 92019, Auckland, New Zealand

email: jps@auckland.ac.nz

www address: <http://www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/ant/jps/polsoc.html>

THE JOURNAL OF THE POLYNESIAN SOCIETY

Volume 115

MARCH 2006

Number 1

Editor
JUDITH HUNTSMAN

Review Editor
MARK BUSSE

Editorial Assistants
CLAUDIA GROSS
DOROTHY BROWN

Published quarterly
by the
Polynesian Society (Inc.), Auckland, New Zealand

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Published in New Zealand by the Polynesian Society (Inc.)

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Inquiries should be made to:

Hon. Secretary
The Polynesian Society
c/- Māori Studies
The University of Auckland
Private Bag 92019, Auckland

ISSN 0032-4000

Indexed in CURRENT CONTENTS, Behavioural, Social
and Managerial Sciences, in INDEX TO NEW ZEALAND
PERIODICALS, and in ANTHROPOLOGICAL INDEX.

AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

as her patient and thorough commentaries, her good humour, tactful criticism and painstaking overall supervision helped him complete his studies and launch his career as an anthropologist. Jane Goodale, who was in the same graduate program with Chowning, recounts her bond with Chowning through the decades as they became researchers and scholars, teachers and travel companions in and out of the field, and long term friends. James Urry concludes the section and the text with a story of how Ann's "jandals" rather than her photograph bedeck the anthropology halls at Victoria University of Wellington.

A volume of essays, even when they fit together nicely in terms of topic or theoretical approach, is always difficult to review. This text fits together as each contributor weaves into a network of scholarly relationships to Ann. The editors are to be highly commended for the fine job of organising the presentation of chapters which contributes to the flow of ideas and issues. As a West New Britain researcher, I too have benefited from Ann's publications and her thoughtful commentary and critiques of my work. As I read through these chapters, I gained renewed respect for Chowning's ability not only to read in all the areas represented, but also for her ability to research and publish in those disciplines. Her polymath contributions to the discipline of anthropology and the anthropology of Papua New Guinea are an inspiration to us all. Besides being of interest to all scholars of Melanesia, this book would make a great addition to senior courses in Melanesian ethnography. Highly recommended.

LYNCH, John (ed.): *Issues in Austronesian Historical Phonology*. Pacific Linguistics 550. Canberra: Pacific Linguistics, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, The Australian National University, 2003. vii + 227 pp., bib., figs, maps, tables. Price: Australia A\$59.40 (inc. GST), Overseas A\$54.00 (paper).

PAUL DE LACY
Rutgers University

The organisers of the 9th International Conference on Austronesian Linguistics and the 5th International Conference on Oceanic Linguistics (both held in 2002) decided against publishing a large volume of proceedings. The conference papers will instead appear as separate thematic books. This one is the first and contains ten papers on diachronic change in Austronesian phonologies. It is sometimes hard to justify to one's library the expense of a large book of conference proceedings when only a few chapters are of interest. Publishing specialised volumes solves this problem, so I thank the conference organisers for doing so and hope that they have started a trend.

Four chapters focus on proto-phonemes and their reflexes. One of John Wolff's contributions proposes a reconstruction of Proto Austronesian (PAN) phonemes; the other discusses the reflexes of PAN phonemes in Fijian. Richard McGinn's paper deals with the reflexes of Proto Malayo-Polynesian *a in the Rejang and Land Dayak groups, and Uri Tadmor's chapter proposes an account of the source and progression of changes in Proto Malayic word-final *a in Western Austronesian.

Three papers focus on classification into language families. All happen to discuss Sulawesi languages. One of David Mead's papers builds on work by René van den Berg in arguing for a Celebic group that contains almost all the languages of central, eastern and southeastern Sulawesi; he adduces additional support for the group and identifies several sub-groups. Mead's other chapter argues that the Saluan and Banggai languages form a group. René van den Berg builds on work by Mark Donohue about the members of the Muna-Buton group, but differs in advocating Tukang Besi's inclusion.

Three papers use historical evidence to analyse synchronic phonologies. Robert Blust proposes that some words in Selau have no underlying vowels. He argues that any other analysis would require an impossible set of diachronic changes. Hans Schmidt proposes a series of diachronic changes to account for the famous Rotuman "phase" alternations, discussed below. John Lynch proposes palatalised proto-forms of labial consonants in the Loyalties subgroup of New Caledonia to account for synchronic distributions of front vowels.

Space limitations prevent me from commenting on more than a couple of chapters in detail. My choice here is rather arbitrary as all of the articles provided food for thought.

Wolff's first article "The sounds of Proto Austronesian" is essentially a summary of an ongoing research enterprise to reconstruct the phonology of PAN. Apart from its value for PAN scholarship, the article succinctly lays out significant methodological considerations in historical reconstruction. For whatever reason, comparative evidence alone seems to ensure that the older the reconstructed language, the greater the number of phonemes. To counteract this tendency, Wolff advocates strictly adhering to criteria for positing a proto-phoneme (all irregular forms, strictly defined, must be ascribed to borrowings or analogy), justifying every sound change as phonologically or phonetically motivated, recognising the role of restrictions imposed by the languages' phonological systems (e.g., the prosodic restrictions that forced Austronesian roots to be disyllabic), and allowing for free and register-conditioned allomorphic variation. Wolff's short article (13 pages) is a pleasure to read and could be profitably discussed in a class on diachronic methodology.

Hans Schmidt's paper on Rotuman raises some interesting issues. Famously, most Rotuman words have two forms: a "complete phase" with usually penultimate stress (e.g., [hóla] 'spread out') and an "incomplete phase" with final stress ([hoál]). Schmidt adds new data and does a thorough job in interpreting and reconciling the many descriptions. Every analysis has proposed a large number of processes, including metathesis, deletion, glide formation and vowel harmony. Schmidt proposes six rules that describe successive diachronic changes. The proposals prompted me to think about the influence of theoretical frameworks on understanding diachronic change. Chomsky and Halle's (1968) *The Sound Pattern of English* placed emphasis on processes rather than outcomes. In contrast, constraint-based frameworks like Prince and Smolensky's (1993) *Optimality Theory* emphasise the target of change. In Rotuman, all of the changes either provide the motivation for or are the consequence of stressing the final vowel: metatheses like [hóla]~[ho.ál] serves to make the final syllable heavy, so attracting stress away from the penult, as does the deletion in [ráko]~[rák], and coalescence in [tóle]~[tóél]. The glide alternation in [tíro]~[tjór] is a way to avoid an onsetless syllable (*[ti.ór]) when possible. Is a diachronic change the addition of a

process or the imposition of a target? SPE conditions one to think in terms of processes and so consider diachronic change to be the successive accumulation of processes. In contrast, target-oriented theories see the key diachronic change in Rotuman as imposition of the target of final stress. To reach this target, several different processes would have had to develop simultaneously; there would therefore be no intermediate stage of the language in which only some processes applied to only partially meet the target. In short, Schmidt's paper and many of the others illustrate the sometimes subtle influences of phonological theories on understanding diachronic change.

This book will be valuable to anyone interested in diachronic change and synchronic phonologies in Austronesian languages. The empirical coverage of the book is wide, ranging from Western Austronesian to Polynesian languages. Phonologists who are not specialists in this language family will also find the book worthwhile to consult, given the recent upsurge in interest in diachronic perspectives on synchronic explanations.

I conclude with an appeal. While some of the articles in this book use the International Phonetic Alphabet, a great deal of work on this language family does not. Non-standard symbols have created confusion for both descriptive and theoretical linguists (Schmidt gives excellent examples for Rotuman). Consistent use of the IPA would open up much of this valuable work to the broader linguistic community.

MOORE, Clive: *Happy Isles in Crisis: The Historical Causes for a Failing State in Solomon Islands, 1998-2004*. Canberra: The Asia Pacific Press at the Australian National University, 2004. xi + 265 pp., bib., index, maps, tables. Price: A\$35.00, US\$30.00 (paper).

SARAH KROSE
University of Auckland

Drawing his title from the 1965 book by pre-Second World War administrator Dick Horton, historian Clive Moore considers the history behind the recent Guadalcanal crisis in the Solomon Islands, which plunged the country's two most populated islands into violence and political upheaval. He argues that while attempts to heal the rift had implications for other regions of the country, the conflict centred on tensions between Guadalcanal and Malaita, and was not the nationwide catastrophe described by international media. While the start of the crisis is commonly marked with the political coup that removed Prime Minister Bartholomew Ulufa'alu from power in 2000, Moore describes the tensions as having much earlier origins, being derived from a flawed political system and longstanding conflicts between different factions of the population.

The book opens with the government coup in 2000 before drawing back to the gradual colonial and post-colonial politico-economic unravelling that began with the country's declaration as a British Protectorate in 1893 and extended to the formal end of the conflict, as signalled by the intervention in 2003 of the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI). While minor mention is given to the pre-colonial history of the Solomons, Moore's analysis suggests that the roots of the conflict are confined

to the colonial period. He attributes particular significance to events of the 1940s and 1950s, as many Malaitans working for the U.S. Army around Honiara lingered in the area long after the war, laying the groundwork for future animosity.

Moore argues that the clash between the two factions did not arise from ethnic tension so much as from longstanding resentment over land ownership. He notes that British interest in developing a low-risk plantation economy confined most of the development to the Western Solomons and Guadalcanal, even resulting in the national capital being changed from Tulagi to Honiara after the war. The development of industry in Guadalcanal (away from heavily populated Malaita) spurred the migration of settlers at the heart of the conflict. The resulting spatial and economic overcrowding in Guadalcanal fuelled competing systems of land claims between the two groups—one based on rights of inheritance, the other on a modern system of land purchase. Nonetheless, Moore suggests that it was a respect for Guale land rights that caused Malaitan settlers to depart Honiara as quietly as they did, and that it was only the persisting insults by the Guale militants and the government's failure to compensate the refugees for their eviction from their legally-obtained lands that led to the subsequent formation of the Malaitan Eagle Force.

Moore pays particular attention to the political period between the early 1970s, when the nation was in its early development, and the late 1990s, which marked the outbreak of conflict. Indeed, the clarity with which he systematically analyses the strategies of the key political actors is one of the book's strengths. Outlining the successive governments since Independence (very few of which served their full four-year terms), Moore paints an image of political degeneration leading up to the conflict, drawing on the fact that a small handful of political leaders tried to govern a country based on a Westminster-style government heavily at odds with indigenous laws of *kastom* and land ownership. Apart from their failure to respond to the conflict, the government became caught up in the elaborate system of traditional compensation, in the end failing to provide adequate recompense to Guale people for the use of Honiara or to migrant Malaitans for being forced to flee.

In consecutive chapters devoted to an examination of the Guale Isatabu Freedom Movement (IFM) and the retaliatory Malaitan Eagle Force (MEF), Moore argues neither existed as a coherent unit. Rather, many internal divisions and factions seized opportunities in the chaos to raise their own profiles through violence and looting. This provided significant impediments to the peace process when the core members of the two sides met. Militants on both sides were also treated inconsistently, appearing at times as a threat to national security, and at other times (in the case of the MEF) almost as an extension of the military arm of the government. The failure of militants on both sides to relinquish high-powered rifles to the police after peace negotiations in 2001 triggered a realisation of the larger legacy of criminal activity from the crisis.

The wider issues of inadequate international intervention are also addressed here, with Australia being criticised for withdrawing much of its financial support during this time (an action which Moore attributes as owing largely to dissatisfaction over the Solomon Islands government's handling of environmental issues including excessive logging), and for failing to supply the Solomon Islands police with riot gear to protect them from the militants.