Western Australia

Bunuba

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TITLE: Research Report Bibliographies
Introduction

The Tribunal’s Research Unit prepares bibliographies as a ready reference for anyone wanting to locate readily available, published material about Indigenous Australian people within a particular region or locality. The bibliographies are produced for general library use from reports prepared by the Tribunal for parties to native title mediations. The bibliographies are not exhaustive reference lists about any particular Indigenous group, nor is the published material necessarily an accurate or insightful report of Indigenous society. The Research Unit may update bibliographies from time to time, usually because a new research report has been reproduced for parties to mediation.

It should be noted that the contents and production of these reports are governed by time and resource constraints. They are often prepared in four to eight weeks by a single research officer with some input from a research assistant and Tribunal librarian. Generally most of the references sought for these reports are available only from the AIATSIS library, which in turn has limited resources available to supply material. Therefore care is taken to request only that material which appears relevant to the scope of a particular report.

Disclaimer: The bibliographies are a list of materials that have been used by the Research Unit of the Tribunal to provide background information for native title mediations. The Tribunal forms no view on the accuracy, completeness, or relevance of the reference material cited in these bibliographies. Most of this material is held at libraries and is available to the public. The Tribunal library may be able to assist in locating items.

Bunuba Report

The Bunuba report was prepared by research staff of the National Native Title Tribunal to assist in the mediation of the Bunuba people’s native title application (WC99/019). The application covers an area of land in the central Kimberley in the region of Fitzroy Crossing, Leopold and Fairfield Stations and the eastern King Leopold Ranges. It was based on publicly and readily available information relevant to the traditional location of the Bunuba people.

Research Method

The research material used for this report was based largely on a search of the AIATSIS online catalogue, Mura, supplemented by relevant references found in Tindale’s 1940 and 1974 texts and Horton’s 1994 map and encyclopaedia. A search was also done of the HERA (Heritage Australia) on-line catalogue and the Environment Australia Library Catalogue for the key word Bunuba and Fitroy Crossing. Recent language works from the Kimberley Languange Resource Centre were also added to the list of references.

Additional references were also found in the following bibliographies:

Bibliography

- Clement, C. 1996, *A guide to Printed Sources for the history of the Kimberley Region of Western Australia*, University of Western Australia, Centre For Western Australian History.

Additional general references were used:

- Davis, 1993, *Australia’s Extant and Imputed Traditional Aboriginal Territories*;
- Davidson, 1938, *A Preliminary Register of Australian Tribes and Hordes*;
- O’Grady, Wurm and Hale, 1966, *Aboriginal Languages of Australia: A Preliminary Classification*; and

The search of *Mura* catalogue of print collection material for the key word Bunuba displayed 74 titles. The following filtering process was applied. Sound tapes and film sources are difficult to process given time and resource constraints and they were omitted. Material on microfilm was omitted for the same reason. Foreign language material was also omitted. Also filtered from the list were repetitions of the same material, such as different editions of the same work.

Further filtering took place on examination of the expanded details from the Mura catalogue. Of the final list of print references sought, some have restricted access status and/or were not available on loan from AIATSIS or they were able to be viewed but not quoted or copied and they were also omitted.

**Bibliography**


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Tindale, N.B. 1940, ‘Distribution of Australian aboriginal tribes: a field survey’, *Royal Society of South Australia*, vol. 64, no. 1.

