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## Notes

1. Ghent University holds collections of materials from Africa, Oceania, South-east Asia, and the Americas. The larger part of its Oceania collection consists of a donation in the early twentieth century of Melanesian materials by the Berlin Museum für Volkerkunde of their “doubles” from former German New Guinea (Northeast Papua New Guinea, Neu Pommern [New Britain], and Neu Mecklenburg [New Ireland]), collected in the late nineteenth century and formerly part of the Franz Hernalshaus Sammlung (named after the trader who lived in the area and Micronesia between 1875 and 1880), added with several objects of the former Neu Guinea Kompagnie.
2. See, for example, the *Mankind* special issue “Reinventing Traditional Culture: The Politics of *Kastom* in Island Melanesia,” edited by Roger Keesing and Robert Tonkinson 1982.
3. Formerly a ceremonial drink reserved for men, kava is a mild narcotic made of the roots of the kava plant. It is now drunk by almost all men, and in the urban centers and in some locations even women, in communal houses called *nakamal*, after the ceremonial men’s houses of the past.
4. Vanuatu has the highest number of languages per capita in the world. Tryon (1996) lists 113 languages, many of them with only a few speakers left.
5. For most locations, I take over orthographies from the existing literature. For the orthography of all North Ambrymese words, I use Michael Franjeh’s notation. Franjeh conducted the research for his Ph.D. in linguistics in Ranvetlam village at around the same time that I was based in Fona. He is the first linguist to concentrate his research solely on North Ambrym language. The Presbyterian missionary linguist Paton wrote a dictionary of the Lonwolwol language of West Ambrym (published by Australian National University in 1971 [Paton 1971a]), a language similar to North Ambrymese. Mary Patterson, in her published work, follows the orthography as developed by Paton for North Ambrym language.