

Contents

Acknowledgements — V

1 Introduction — 1

- 1.1 An overview of Baba Malay typology — 3
 - 1.1.1 Overview of sound system — 3
 - 1.1.2 Overview of morphology — 4
 - 1.1.3 Overview of syntax — 6
- 1.2 The speakers behind this grammar — 10
- 1.3 A guide to this grammar — 11
 - 1.3.1 Example sentence features — 12
 - 1.3.2 List of abbreviations used — 13
 - 1.3.3 Transcription conventions — 14
 - 1.3.4 Structure of this grammar — 14

2 Baba Malay and its speakers — 16

- 2.1 What is in a name? — 20
- 2.2 Geographical location — 24
- 2.3 Dialects and ecologies — 25
- 2.4 Speaker numbers — 28
- 2.5 The endangerment of Baba Malay — 29
- 2.6 Community responses to language endangerment — 31

3 Phonetics and phonology — 33

- 3.1 Phoneme inventory — 33
 - 3.1.1 Consonants — 33
 - 3.1.1.1 Minimal and near-minimal pairs of consonants — 33
 - 3.1.1.2 The use of waveforms and spectrograms — 36
 - 3.1.1.3 Bilabials — 37
 - 3.1.1.4 Alveolars — 39
 - 3.1.1.5 Post-alveolars — 43
 - 3.1.1.6 Velars — 45
 - 3.1.1.7 Glottals — 47
 - 3.1.1.8 Glides — 49
 - 3.1.2 Vowels — 50
 - 3.1.2.1 Minimal pairs of vowels — 50
 - 3.1.2.2 Monophthongs — 52
 - 3.1.2.3 Diphthongs — 57
 - 3.1.2.4 Vowel sequences across syllables — 57
- 3.2 Phonotactics — 58
 - 3.2.1 Resyllabification and reduplication — 60

3.3	Phonological rules — 62
3.3.1	Syllable-final velar plosive to glottal stop rule — 65
3.3.2	Deletion of word-initial <i>h</i> rule — 65
3.3.3	Metathesis of <i>a</i> and <i>r</i> rule — 66
3.3.4	Assimilation of <i>V</i> to <i>u</i> before <i>lw</i> rule — 67
3.3.5	Vowel raising to <i>ε</i> and final <i>l, r, s</i> deletion in refined style rules — 67
3.4	Rule ordering — 69
3.4.1	Vowel raising to <i>ε</i> , then deletion of final <i>l, r, s</i> — 69
3.4.2	<i>u</i> assimilation, then vowel raising to <i>ε</i> , followed by deletion of final <i>l, r, s</i> — 69
3.5	Fast speech — 70
3.6	Writing system of this grammar — 71
3.7	Stress and intonation — 73
3.7.1	Word stress and pitch — 74
3.7.2	Tones on Hokkien-derived words — 78
3.7.3	Sentence intonation — 82
3.8	Phonological change — 85
4	Parts of speech — 91
4.1	Nouns — 92
4.1.1	Nominal morphology — 93
4.1.1.1	Derivational noun morphology — 94
4.1.1.2	Nominal compounds — 95
4.1.2	Noun classifiers and partitives — 96
4.1.3	Pronouns — 99
4.1.3.1	Personal pronouns — 99
4.1.3.2	Reflexives — 101
4.1.3.3	Reciprocals — 103
4.1.3.4	Interrogative pronouns — 104
4.2	Verbs — 105
4.2.1	Verbal morphology — 106
4.2.1.1	Derivational verb morphology — 107
4.2.1.2	Non-productive verb morphology — 110
4.2.1.3	Verbal compounds — 114
4.3	Adjectives — 115
4.3.1	Adjectival morphology — 116
4.4	Adverbs — 117
4.4.1	Adverbial morphology — 117
4.4.2	Interrogative adverbs — 119
4.5	Determiners — 120
4.5.1	Person marker — 120
4.5.2	Demonstratives — 121

4.5.3	Numerals — 123
4.5.3.1	Other numerical expressions — 125
4.5.4	Quantifiers — 126
4.6	Prepositions — 127
4.7	Conjunctions — 135
4.8	Discourse elements — 137
4.8.1	Interjections — 137
4.8.2	Particles — 139
5	Syntax — 142
5.1	Noun phrases — 142
5.1.1	Genitive — 144
5.1.2	Noun phrases with determiners — 147
5.1.2.1	Noun phrases with demonstratives — 147
5.1.2.2	Noun phrases with person marker — 150
5.1.2.3	Noun phrases with numerals, noun classifiers and partitives — 150
5.1.2.4	Noun phrases with quantifiers — 153
5.1.3	Noun phrases with adjectival modifiers — 154
5.1.4	Negation of noun phrases — 156
5.1.5	Order of elements in noun phrases — 157
5.2	Verb phrases — 157
5.2.1	Copula constructions — 159
5.2.2	Modality — 160
5.2.3	Passivization — 164
5.2.4	Ditransitive, causative and benefactive constructions — 166
5.2.4.1	Ditransitive constructions — 166
5.2.4.2	Causative and benefactive constructions — 169
5.2.5	Aspect and tense — 170
5.2.5.1	Perfective aspect — 171
5.2.5.2	Recent perfect aspect — 172
5.2.5.3	Experiential perfect aspect — 173
5.2.5.4	Progressive aspect — 173
5.2.5.5	Habitual aspect — 174
5.2.5.6	Tentative aspect — 175
5.2.5.7	Future tense — 175
5.2.6	Serial verb constructions — 177
5.2.7	Verb phrases with adverbial modifiers — 178
5.2.8	Negation of verb phrases — 180
5.2.9	Order of elements in verb phrases — 183
5.3	Adjectival phrases — 183
5.3.1	Comparatives — 185
5.3.2	Comparison of equality — 186

5.3.3	Comparison of similarity —	187
5.3.4	Superlatives —	188
5.3.5	Excessive degree —	188
5.3.6	Adjectival phrases with adverbial modifiers —	190
5.3.7	Order of elements in adjectival phrases —	191
5.4	Adverbial phrases —	191
5.4.1	Temporal adverbial phrases —	192
5.4.2	Location adverbial phrases —	192
5.4.3	Manner adverbial phrases —	193
5.4.4	Order of elements in adverbial phrases —	194
5.5	Summary of word order at the phrase level —	194
5.6	Clauses —	195
5.6.1	Word order at the clause level —	195
5.6.2	Grammatical relations and alignment —	197
5.6.3	Relative clauses —	198
5.6.4	Complement clauses —	201
5.6.5	Direct and indirect speech —	203
5.6.6	Adverbial clauses —	204
5.6.6.1	Temporal adverbial clauses —	205
5.6.6.2	Location adverbial clauses —	206
5.6.6.3	Manner adverbial clauses —	207
5.6.7	Conditional —	208
5.6.8	Conjunctions —	209
5.6.8.1	Coordinating conjunctions —	209
5.6.8.2	Subordinating conjunctions —	211
5.6.9	Topicalization —	214
5.6.10	Questions —	216
5.6.10.1	Content questions —	216
5.6.10.2	Tag questions —	222
5.6.11	Imperatives —	228
6	Differences between Baba Malay Spoken in Singapore and Malacca —	230
6.1	Phonetic and phonological differences —	230
6.1.1	Vowel [ɔ] —	230
6.1.2	[e], [o] versus [aj], [aw] —	232
6.2	Morphological differences —	234
6.2.1	<i>Ke- -an</i> nominalizing circumfix —	234
6.2.2	Other affixes —	236
6.3	Syntactic differences —	238
6.3.1	Noun phrase —	238
6.3.1.1	Demonstrative determiners —	238
6.3.2	Verb phrase —	240

6.3.2.1	Progressive aspect —	240
6.3.2.2	Perfective aspect —	241
6.3.3	Adjectival and adverbial phrases —	242
6.3.3.1	<i>Daripada</i> comparatives —	243
6.3.3.2	<i>Dengan</i> 'with' adverbial phrase —	243
6.3.4	Conjunctions —	244
6.3.4.1	<i>Dan/sama</i> 'and' coordinating conjunction —	245
6.3.4.2	<i>Atau/ka</i> 'or' coordinating conjunction —	245
6.4	Diverging ecologies —	246

7 Appendices — 248

7.1	Word lists —	248
7.1.1	Swadesh 100-word list —	248
7.1.2	Kinship terms —	250
7.1.3	Expressions for day, month and time —	254
7.2	Texts —	257
7.2.1	Cherita Pear sama Baba Peter Wee —	258
7.2.2	Anjing Sama Tulang sama Baba Peter Wee —	282
7.2.3	Bangkuang Besair sama Baba Victor Goh —	292
7.2.4	Chakapan sama Aunty Jane Quek —	304
7.2.5	Ten Pantuns by Baba Albert Ku —	338
7.3	Lexicon and reversal index —	342
7.3.1	Baba Malay- English lexicon —	342
7.3.2	English- Baba Malay reversal index —	358

List of Tables — 375

List of Figures — 377

References — 379

Index — 385