

A Few Notes in English

This second volume of the Manggarai dictionary, the Indonesia - Manggarai volume, is only a register of the first volume, the Manggarai - Indonesia one. Thus it may happen that a not uncommon Indonesian word is lacking among the entries, or poorly supplied with translations, merely because the term was not, or almost not, used in that volume. The fact is that we rarely made an attempt to combine or to integrate the meanings given under different synonyms. They will need to be examined individually by the peruser. In order to ascertain the proper use and the more precise meaning of a certain word, it will prove very useful to consult the Manggarai - Indonesia volume.

Though a register only, yet it is a fairly elaborated one. Rare and 'difficult' words are (also) placed in a list under a generic term. These lists would probably be of help for linguists and specializing researchers in other sciences. A student of folk-plays will find an easy starting point in the entry „main”, and a collector of orchids in „anggrik”. One has just to know the pertinent Indonesian term. We refer to the following more important ones: bunji !, burung, djerat, djiwa, ikan, ilmu, kebun, main !, nikah, obat, pesta, roh, semut, serangga, seru, tabung, tari, ukur, ular, ulat. Under the entry „tumbuh” are mentioned numerous subdivisions of the vegetable kingdom.

In this connection we wish to draw attention to our attempt of giving a simple list of kinship terms in a lexicographical way. The device is based on the (internationally) accepted English abbreviations. If corrected and adjusted to the respective cultural pattern, it might help also other lexicographers to a solution of procuring materials so much desired by linguists and sociologists.

Except for a few plant names and the loan-words about which we spoke in volume I, p. XIV, no new words were inserted. There has been a more elaborate indication of some dialect areas (Ko,R,Ra) in which a particular word is used. The map has been slightly corrected. We use this opportunity to include a list of printing mistakes and other errors that slipped into the Manggarai - Indonesia volume, at the rear of this book.

We wish to inform those interested in Manggarai culture and linguistics of our intention to compose a richly variegated chrestomathy with notes and translations. May circumstances allow this rounding off!