Language Atlas Source

ECAI Digital Language Atlas of the Pacific Area

This digital linguistic and cultural atlas of the Pacific languages is based on the UNESCO supported *Language Atlas of the Pacific Area* (Wurm and Hattori 1981 and 1983). The original is a 47-leaf paper atlas. These map sheets have been pieced together into a seamless vector Geographical Information System (GIS) database spanning Southeast Asia and Oceania. It is available over the Internet for use with ECAI TimeMap software for scholarly purposes.

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Maps from the *Language Atlas of the Pacific Area*, General Editors S. A. Wurm and Shiro Hattori. Canberra: Australian Academy of the Humanities in collaboration with the Japan Academy, Part I 1981 and Part II 1983. Registered scans of the maps from the Language Atlas of the Pacific Area (excluding the maps of Japan) are made available through the Electronic Cultural Atlas Initiative (ECAI) Metadata Clearinghouse as a result of cooperation between Academia Sinica and the ECAI Austronesian Atlas Team led by David Blundell and Lawrence Crissman. The Australian Academy of the Humanities, which owns the copyright to the available maps, has graciously permitted their reproduction and distribution in this digital format, and we are grateful for their support. *Any public use of the maps should acknowledge their source and copyright ownership.*

Access to the Maps and Data

The GIS version of the atlas data was initially viewable using the TimeMap dynamic map browser. The Dataset is registered in the ECAI Clearinghouse as record number 20237(search for pacific). The GIS shape files and scanned images of the 47 map leaves are available at:
For each leaf there is a web page with the jpg image, the map legend, and a GIS world file that enables users to add the image maps to their GIS projects. Demonstration projects using the maps and a poster of the maps pieced together are also linked from the maps page.