A guide to using BF Matthes, Boegineesch-Hollandsch Woordenboek

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The arrangement of entries

Headwords (lemmas or lemmata) for entries are written first in the Bugis script and arranged according to the order of the characters in that script as set out below. Each headword is followed in brackets by Matthes' transcription into Latin characters. Since the same Bugis characters can represent more than one word, there are often multiple numbered entries under one headword. Each form derived from a headword or from a numbered entry is given a separate paragraph.

The characters of the Bugis script, which is related to other Indic scripts in Southeast Asia, are of two types: the basic aksara and the vowel markers. The aksara or main characters are arranged in the following order:

	modern transcription	Matthes transcription	entry begins on Woordenboek page	
11	ka	ka	1	
<i>⇔</i>	ga	ga	52	
*	nga	nga	84	
^	ngka	ngka	85	
~	pa	pa	85	
x	ba	ba	158	
~	ma	ma	237	
~	mpa	mpa	269	
^	ta	ta	269	
>	da	da	383	
^	na	na	405	
\approx	nra	nra	416	
~>	ca	tja	417	
^	ja	dja	451	
~	nya	nja	476	
*	nyca	njtja	478	
**	ya	ja	478	
*	ra	ra	479	
~ ≎	la	la	527	
~	wa	wa	622	
\$	sa	sa	660	
*	a	a	769	
\$	ha	ha	911	
1	1 .	11		

The vowel markers are recognised in the following order:

	modern transcription	Matthes transcription
11	ka	ka
ii	ki	ki
11.	ku	koe
111	ké	ke
// \	ko	ko
11	ke	kå

The following sample illustrates the system of ordering headwords:

headword	modern transcription	Matthes transcription	page	comment
^~	tapa	1° tapa	288	Numerous entries for
	tapa	2° tapa		one headword.
	tappa	3° tappa		
	tappa	4° tappa		
	tappa'	5° tappá	289	
	tappa'	6° tappá		
ふへ	tapi'	1° tapí		Note the inconsistent
	tapi	2º tapi		ordering by Matthes
	tapi	3º tapi		of the numbered entries.
	tappi'	4° tappí		
	tapi	5° tapi	290	Ignore double consonsants.
∼ ୬	tappu'	1° tappóe		Order determined
	tappu'	2° tappóe		by vowel in final
^ 12	tapé	1° tape		syllable: a,i,u,é,o,e.
	•	•		
^\^	tappéng	tappeng		Matthes repeats headword for final nasal.
~»·	tapo	1° tapo		
~% 	tappe'	tappå	291	Matthes omits glottal stop.
 *~	tipa'	1° tipá		New vowel in first syllable.
	teppe'	tappå	296	Last of two syllable words.
~»"\\$\	tapakkoro'	tapakkoró	297	~ ~ w follows ~ ~ .
~» ~»	tapidé	1° tapide		The third aksara sets the order:
~»	tampa	1° tampa	307	Note how the pre-nasalised second aksara puts the word on a much later page.

Spelling conventions

Matthes devised his own system of transcription that does not render the language, as currently understood, with complete accuracy, but this causes no significant problem for the arrangement of entries. Naturally, he based the phonetic values of the main consonants on the equivalent Dutch values. To convert Matthes' transcriptions to one roughly cognate with the system of rendering modern Indonesian, the following adjustments, as illustrated above, are the most important. To begin with, the various diacritical signs in Matthes' transcriptions can mostly be ignored. The following substitutions then need to be made:

dj	becomes	j
j	becomes	У
nj	becomes	ny

oe becomes u tj becomes c

the vowel written å (that is schwa [ə], or e pĕpĕt [ĕ]) is best rendered as e

the vowel written e (that is e taling) is best rendered as é

an acute accent on a final vowel usually indicates a following glottal stop and that is best rendered as a separate apostrophe ['].

The main uncertainties in Matthes' transcription relate to the duplication of consonants and the occurance of the glottal stop.

Other spelling issues

Matthes is consistent in his use of two features of the script and in its transcription: he always uses the appropriate form for the two intervocalic glides, -w- and -y-; and he always uses the four prenasalised aksara. Manuscript scribes are not so fastidious. The transcription systems used in modern publications differ in various matters of detail.

Dutch-Bugis register

A Register of Dutch words in alphabetical order with one or more Bugis equivalents (in both Bugis characters and Latin transcription) on pages 914–1120 of the *Woordenboek* is useful, though one needs to remember that the spelling pre-dates the 1947 reform of Dutch spelling.

References and abbreviations

References such as (Pl. XVI, F. 4) under **palari** (a derived form from 1° **lari** on page 586) refer to the plates and figures in the accompanying *Ethnographishe Atlas*, in this case the drawing of a model sailing vessel. The captions to these plates are given both in the introductory pages of the *Atlas* and on pages 1121–59 of the *Woordenboek*. There are two indexes of the names of items illustrated in the *Atlas*: the first on pages 1159–62 of the *Woordenboek* is devoted to the names of ships and ship gear shown in plates 11, 12, 16 and 17; the second on pages 1163–9 covers the whole *Atlas*. Both are arranged in the order of the Bugis characters. The actual artefacts illustrated in the *Atlas* are preserved as part of Series 37 in the collection of the National Museum of Ethnology (Museum Volkenkunde) in Leiden. Descriptions of the items may be found in the *Catalogus van 'sRijks Ethnographisch Museum*, (deel XVI Celebes I. Zuid-Celebes eerste gedeelte, 1922) and (deel XVIII Celebes II. Zuid-Celebes (slot), Zuidoost- en Oost-Celebes en Midden-Celebes (eerste deel), 1925), both volumes by HH Juynboll and published by EJ Brill in Leiden. The lists of Series 37 items in deel XVI, pages 141–2 and deel XVIII page 167 give the relevant page number for each item in the series dealt with in that volume.

Other abbreviations are listed on pages iv and v of the Voorberigt or Foreword. The references to Boeg. Chr. or B. Chr., that is to BF Matthes, *Boeginesche Chrestomathie*, 3 vols, 1864, 1872, 1872, are by no means complete, though very useful.

Corrections and additions

There are two lists of Verbeteringen en Toevoegsels, or Corrigenda and Addenda. The first is on pages 1170–80 of the *Woordenboek* itself. The second comprises the whole 150 pages of the *Supplement* of 1889. The second, much more extensive list appears to include all the items in the first list. The material to be added, especially from the second list, is occasionally significant. Each item in these lists specifies the page, column and line of the original *Woordenboek* text requiring emendation.