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Glossary

It consists words, phrases or terms of Mentawai and Indonesian [indicated by the letter (I)] used in this book.

**Abat** or **paabat** a peace festival
**Abbangan** mango
**Abut kerei** the place in the house where people make a fire for rituals
**Alat toga** bride-price
**Ama** father
**Aman** the father of
**Arat** customs, habits and religious matters
**Arat Islam** Islam
**Arat Katolik** Catholicism
**Arat laggai** or **arat pulaggaijat** norms regulating social cohesion in a village or settlement
**Arat pangureijat** wedding ceremonial
**Arat Protestan** Protestantism
**Arat puaranan** any or all of the world religions
**Arat pubakkanan ka porak samba ka mone**: management of land tenure and landownership
**Arat sabulungan** the term used for the traditional belief system of Mentawai, contrasting with such other terms as *arat Islam*, *arat Protestan*, and *arat Katolik*
**Arat tubu** human behaviour
**Asaat** whetstone

**Bajou** radiation
**Bat oinan** river
**Batik** marking a territory
**Beri** a lot or (otherwise) none
**Beu laggai** large settlement
**Bolaik** friend
**Buak** nephew or niece
**Buluat** offering

**Camat** (I) head of sub-district

**Desa** (I) government village
**Dusun** (I) sub government village or hamlet
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Fakir miskin (I) poor Islamic people

Galai tubu both positive and negative behaviours referring to someone’s skill in producing something that is useful for oneself or for the community

Gobbu leleu story of hilly forest
Gobbu mone story of garden mostly planted by durian trees
Gobbu or tiboi talk or story
Gobbu porak story of land
Gobbu teteu story of ancestor

Ibat pangureijat wedding meal

Kabupaten (I) district
Katubaga inside of house for women’s sleeping room
Kebbu older brother or older sister
Kecamatan (I) governmental sub district
Kepala desa (I) head of government village
Kepala kampung (I) head of traditional village
Kerebau a tie beam supporting the upper construction of a communal house
Ketsat the term may be translated as ‘spirit’

Labbra the ritual during which the headhunters decide where to go and what to expect during the raid
Laibokat veranda at the front of the communal house
Lakkau mango
Lalep a nuclear family and the house where the family lives
Leleggu thunder
Leleu hilly forest
Lia familial specific ritual
Liat uma the name of payment due to headhunting raid, which is a large pig for the lost of a family member
Lulag puiringan shamanic wooden plate
Luluplup a trap for wild animals
Lulut pangurai costs of raising the individual adopted by a kin group

Mane objects surrendered by mother’s relatives acting as sipangurei to the sons of the deceased mother
Manua sky
Mapaddegat many palm trees
Mone garden mostly planted with durian trees
Monen kamaman the garden of mother’s brothers
Monga river mouth
Mulabbra a ritual for headhunting
Muntogat the relationship among descendants of several related kin groups that share the same ancestor and place of origin

Nganga language or dialect
Ngangan simatalu Simatalu dialect

Ombuk bamboo
Onaja swampy area
Otonomi daerah (I) regional autonomy

Paddegat palm tree
Palukkehek mating for animals
Parurukat uma or pauma a relation of friendship among different kin groups in a region
Pasaggangan assault or civil war
Pasilepa or mulepa ritual for completing a headhunting raid
Patura or pasailukat quiz or puzzle
Pepple the payment of a penalty, referring to the machetes used to kill the victim.
Pito spirits staying in graveyards
Porak land
Porak alat toga land for bride-price
Porak katukaila land paid for humiliation
Porak mane land representing the deceased
Porak muntogat inherited land
Porak pukisi land for payment for the threat
Porak punuteteu ancestral land
Porak sangauma land belonging to one kin group or family
Porak segseg logau land for preventing bloodshed
Porak siappo found land
Porak sibatik land marked by cutting trees off at irregular distances
Porak sinaki paid land
Porak sinese found land
Porak sisiau land marked by clearing trees and passing through
Porak suku communal land
Porak tulou land given as payment for misconduct
Porak tulou kisi land for assault
Porak tulou pakaila land for sexual humiliation
Porak uma land belonging to one kin group or family
Pulagaijat hamlet or settlement
Pulaleman the place where nuclear family houses are erected
Pumumuan mythical stories
Punen activity, festivity, ceremony or ritual
Pungungan oral narratives resembling legends, fairytales, and fables that may be hilarious, heroic or educational
Punuteteu founding fathers or ancestors or otherwise grand children
Pusabuat or pujaubaht migration or dispersion
Pusabuat sabeu great expansion
Puturukat dance floor
Puumaijat complex of buildings surrounded by several gardens planted with coconut and sago palms, fruit trees, taros and other edible plants
Ratei graveyard
Reformasi (I) reformation
Rimata a social leader and ritual leader of a kin group
Rourou a bow
Rura season
Rura sabeu great season
Rura siboitok small season
Rusuk a hut where young unmarried people, young married couples or widows may spend their leisure time
Sabulungan traditional belief system of Mentawaians
Saggrir chopping trees
Sakkoko pig
Sangalalep a family
Sanitu ghost of human death
Sapou a house for a nuclear family
Saraina relatives or siblings
Sarauma foreign kin group
Sasareu foreign people
Seeming a price or penalty because of using spears to kill a victim in headhunting raid.
Sesere a special rope that is purposely made to ensnare animals
Sholat (I) Islamic praying five times a day
Siagailaggek herbalist or medicineman
Siappo porak land finder
Siau clearing
Sibakkat porak landowner
Sibakkat pulaggaijat the owner of settlement
Siberi wild boar
Sigep ant
Sikameinan crocodile spirits or river spirits
Sikebbukat elder
Sikebbukat uma elder member of a kin group
Sikokop the eater
Silogui arrows
Simagere soul or an essence for living beings
Simata’ uncooked, raw or immature
Sinappit adopted
Sipangurei someone in charge of organizing a wedding ceremony
Sipasijago porak caretaker of land
Sipatalaga mediator or negotiator in a conflict
Sipeu mango
Sirimanua human being
Siripo best friend
Sitoi newcomer
Sitoi ka laggai newcomer in a village
Sopak a small river
Sukat or bujai blessing
Suksuk flat natural surface
Suku kin group

Tai toi newcomer
Taikabaga chthonic spirits
Taikabagatkoat sea spirits
Taikaleleu forest spirits
Taikapata or taikamanua sky or celestial spirits
Taliku daughter-in-law or son-in-law
Teitei uma neighbour
Teteu grandparents or grandchildren
Teu a shortened form of teteu (grandfather or grandmother). Teu also means ‘poor’ in the sense of losing someone
Tiboi tubu story of oneself
Tinambu small hill
Tippu sasa a ritual to prove a truth by cutting a piece of rattan decorated with leaves and flowers while calling spirits of ancestors to witness the swearing of the truth
Titiboat most types of Mentawai oral tradition
Tuddukat three different sizes of wooden drum
Tulou a set of punishment or fine
Tulou kisi a set of punishment due to threats
Tulou pakaila a set of punishment because of sexual humiliation
Tulou saina fine paid with a pig

Ukkui or kalimeu spirits of the dead
Ulaumanua the supernatural essence that has a powerful light
Ulou snake
Uma communal house
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Uman kateuba a set of three different sizes of drum made out of palm trees
Undang-undang (I) regulation or law
Undang-undang dasar Indonesian constitution
Unou plate made out of jackfruit wood
Urai song
Urai kerei shamanic song
Urai simata or leleiyo ordinary people’s songs
Ute’ a compensation paid with a big pig by a kin group to another kin group’s relative who was murdered during headhunting raid
Curriculum vitae

Juniator Tulius was born on June 24th, 1975 in Muara Siberut, Mentawai – Indonesia. After finishing his junior high school in Muara Siberut in 1990, he continued his education at a senior high school in Padang, the capital city of West Sumatra. After completing senior high school in 1994 he went to seminary in North Sumatra for one year. Later in 1995 he decided to study social anthropology at Andalas University in Padang. In 1999, he was rewarded as a young scientist and environmentalist, in ‘Man and Biosphere (MaB) Certificate’ by UNESCO Jakarta Office and LIPI (Indonesian Institute of Sciences). A year later, he obtained his bachelor in social anthropology in 2000 and awarded as one of the best students at Andalas University. He then worked as field consultant for UNESCO-Jakarta office’s project on Siberut Biosphere Reserve for eighteen months. In 2002 he decided to get a higher education in the Netherlands. In 2003 he obtained his advanced master degree at the Research School of Asian, African and Amerindian studies in the Advanced Master’s programme at Leiden University. His academic adventure was begun by carrying out his PhD project in 2003-2007. After his contract with Leiden University officially ended, he part-timely works at Body View in Katwijk, a private company, selling sport supplements on the Internet. He continued writing his PhD thesis until it was complete in 2012. His academic interests are oral tradition, shamanism, medicinal plants, social impacts of natural disasters and arts like tattoo art of Mentawai and other tribal Mentawai art.