

Pronunciation Guide

Kaisa-isa niyan,	kah-ee-sah-ee-sah nee-yahn
Kaduwa-duwa niyan	kah-doo-wah-doo-wah nee-yahn
Katelo-telo niyan	kah-təl*-loh-təl-loh nee-yahn
Kapati pinggapatan	kah-pa-tee ping-gah-pah-tahn
Kalima ni tagedteb	kah-lee-mah nee tah-gəd-təb
Kanem i dagedeban	kah-nəm, ee dah-gə-də-bahn
Kapito-pito naga	kah-pee-h-toh-pee-h-toh nah-gah
Kawalo banubugan	kah-wah-loh bah-noo-boo-gahn
Kasiyam kabankaban	kah-see-yahm kah-bahn-kah-bahn
Kasapolo bindasan	kah-sah-poh-loh been-dah-sahn

Onomatopoeic Phrases

dang taka tang tang	dahng tah-kah tahng tahng
digiding ding	dee-gee-dihng dihng
tang tang taka tang	tahng tahng tah-kah tahng
tm taka taka tm tm	tm* tah-kah tah-kah tm tm

*almost no vowel

A few notes about the language

Consonants are never aspirated. The letter R (when available in a dialect) is always rolled. Vowels are generally similar to Italian. In the Maguindanao dialect, however, the letter E is almost always spoken as a schwa, but sounds “deeper” in the voice box than its English counterpart, and is spoken somewhat quickly in between consonants.

(Maguindanaon dialect)	(English translation)
<i>Kaisa-isa niyan</i>	Just one,
<i>Kaduwa-duwa niyan</i>	two,
<i>Katelo-telo niyan</i>	or three of that.
<i>Kapating ginapatan</i>	Four are alternating.
<i>Kalima ni tagedtal</i>	Five: too noisy, it's disturbing.
<i>Kanem i dagedeban</i>	Six: a sound so loud!
<i>Kapito-pito naga</i>	Seven: a dragon...
<i>Kawalo barubugan</i>	Eight: pounds heavily on a puddle.
<i>Kasiyam kabankaban</i>	Nine: a box.
<i>Kasapolo bindasan</i>	Ten: a drawer.