

Preliminary

# Rebunyan

## Cont-Head his

Rebunyan was a very old man when he came to my Kalatump  
 Camp in 1948. He was the last member of the Two Peoples  
<sup>Albany</sup> Doubtful Bay station. ~~The area~~ <sup>the area</sup> was  
 were visited by the white people they had  
 ever seen. They had come to visit their own country & people  
 from Kuramup, the home of the dead beyond the Western  
 Sea. They stayed with their living home & the  
 living men believe they were truly the spirits of their own  
 dead Rebunyan ~~had~~ had not been born there but during  
 all his receptive childhood he heard from the elders the  
 story of the Kuramup. <sup>He saw them performing the Kuramup dance there</sup> Their father saw many  
 likenesses in the ganya (spirits of the dead) & their white  
 colour was Kuramup colour. Their old belief <sup>in the</sup> ~~that~~  
 legend of their Kuramup Kiri was confirmed - they believe  
 that the dead ~~man~~ who reaches Kuramup through  
 the sea that lies between them & reaches the shore from  
 all its old dead Kiri on the shore waiting & ~~that~~ they  
 had food & had a Kiri & he ate & slept after his long journey  
 through the sea & while he slept his dark skin was  
 peeled off & then he wakes he was white like all Kuramup  
 natives. The white skin was confirmation to them all & <sup>that</sup>  
 when the white gave them a Paraga of Marmis as full  
 ones with life & drum they knew they were all really  
 their own Kiri coming back to show them the Kuramup  
 Kiring (dance). The white received their friends  
 & neither white nor dark showed the slightest doubt.

Rebunyan's reference to the Kuramup



Rebinyan - whose father & others collected with <sup>me</sup> ~~me~~

1861.

Rebinyan was one of my Sick, Old, & Deafest group  
near Katakump in 1866-7. A very strong man in  
the group, some doubtless lived in the area.

Rebinyan told me of the visit of spirits of his  
people's dead etc.



of fear. They had come & gone during the stay of the  
 Swedish, & from the first moment a friendly contact  
 was made, the Dutch soon pursued their ordinary tasks  
 and ~~allowed~~ to go & allowed the natives to make any  
 move without fear. The natives watched them daily  
 & were on guard when they approached. At length the  
 natives also came without their spears. When the  
 white men went to discover these their weapons  
 in the hands of white or natives, & each day the quiet  
 friendliness increased on both sides. There was no  
 curiosity & mistrust on the natives' camp grounds,  
 & each had shown as well before the other. That the  
 natives came daily & moved quietly watching & seeing  
 resemblance between Kuramung, Janga & their own  
 relatives.

Flinders desired to give them a Parasol - carried the  
 friendliness to ~~express~~ on their part. Tebenyau  
 had seen his grandfather's father & ~~grandfather~~  
 noted the ornaments of their bodies & long memory  
 of the ~~the~~ market was faithfully remembered. I could  
 not quite believe but when the red & white (columns  
 (their own principal ornaments) were shown  
 in the red cross & white cross bars. At the movement of  
 the market. Quickly learned & imitated they knew all  
 certain that they were witnesses to Kuramung's dance. The  
 old man stood at each end of the dance & imitated every  
 movement with their bows (clubs & the one  
 might fail to remember another could

It from the day of the Kuramung's stay came to  
 an end. They had caught the full importance of



The language same & to the end of the last man  
 Debnyan the belief was kept alive. I could not cross  
 this & I saw Debnyan I will get you some widge  
 & that stuff pipeles, & you will show me the Karamung  
 atormunt. I gave him the widge & pipeles, & he  
 at once covered his ears with widge & then this was  
 done he took the pipeles, & made the bread  
 white cross bands to his body. That was my  
 I wanted more. I gave him my stick & I saw show  
 me how the Karamung men move it. Bayonet  
 exercise was as good as true & as true in  
 movement as it would be today in Germany & I  
 wrote down the three things, together with the  
 beliefs they held of the visit of the great Englishman  
 who greeted them in

The Debnyan died shortly after & he buried him  
 at Katamung near that his face & face  
 was plain

The Karamung Kening was by far  
 been a continued wide travelling since  
 like the Wangpung & others that took a  
 quarter of a century to travel from the  
 whole continent.



There were the  
dark summer nights  
contending