

Mysore and other names of Islands in the Cenderawasih Bay, Papua, Indonesia

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Abstract: Mysore is the former name for the islands of Supiori and Biak together, but is often incorrectly applied to the island of Mioswar. This publication considers the historical use of the names and identifies a number of taxa ambiguous origin. In addition, alternative names of other islands in the Cenderawasih Bay are presented.

Rangkuman: Mysore merupakan nama dulu untuk kepulauan Supiori dan Biak, tetapi sering digunakan secara kurang tepat untuk pulau Mioswar. Karangan ini menyampaikan penggunaan nama itu secara historis dan mengidentifikasi beberapa taxa dari asal yang kurang jelas. Di samping itu disajikan pelbagai nama dari pulau-pulau yang lain di Teluk Cenderawasih.

Keywords: Biak, Supiori, Mioswar, Numfor, Japen

Introduction

A group of three entomologists surveyed the island of Mioswar in August 2009, believing that Mioswar was one of the islands visited by A. B. Meyer in 1873, and at that time named Mysore. This conviction, based on published accounts in websites, books and articles was found to be incorrect after the author read Kirsch (1877) and visited Museum für Tierkunde Dresden (MTD), in Senckenberg Naturhistorische Sammlungen, Dresden (SNSD), Deutschland, where Meyer's diary was found. In this publication the author would like to rectify a number of topographical mistakes that have been copied from one author to another.

Mysore on websites and in books and articles

1. Peggie, Vane-Wright & van Mastrigt (2009) stated that "*Ideopsis hewitsonii* Kirsch, 1877, apparently described from Mioswar... is only known from... the islands of Biak, Supiori and Mioswar, in the Cenderawasih Bay."
2. On the website Papua-insects.nl the historical account includes the following text: 1873 - The German Adolf Bernhard Meyer, from the Zoology Museum in Dresden, visited Dorey Bay and collected lepidoptera. He also visited Manem (now Mansinam), Mafoor (now Numfor), Mysore (now Mioswar) and Jobi (now Japen or Yapen). He explored the whole "Geelvink" (Cenderawasih) coast.

3. On both websites www.DutchFleet.net and [www.Geschiednis \[sic!\] Nederlands Nieuw Guinea – West-Papua](http://www.Geschiednis[sic!].NederlandsNieuwGuinea-WestPapua) the same mistake is found.
4. In D'Abbrera (1971, 1977) *T. parvipuncta* Joicey & Talbot (= *mysoriensis* Joicey & Talbot) is mentioned from Mioswar, West Irian; *T. nedusia mysoriensis* Staudinger from Mioswar (Mysore) and *T. nedusia biakensis* Joicey & Noakes from Biak; *T. nedusia meforicus* Fruhstorfer (= *roonensis* Fruhstorfer) is reported from Noemfoor (Mefor), Roon I. (p. 167). *Ideopsis hewitsoni* Kirsch is given the range Biak, Mioswar Is. and *Idea d'urvillei nike* Fruhstorfer occurs in north-eastern and south-western West Irian, Mioswar and Jobi Is. (p. 168)
5. In D'Abbrera (1990) *Tellervo assarica mioswara* Ackery is mentioned from Mioswar (p. 166); *T. parvipuncta* Joicey & Talbot (= *mysoriensis* Joicey & Talbot) and *T. parvipuncta separata* Ackery are from Biak, Supiori; *T. nedusia mysoriensis* Staudinger from Mioswar (Mysore), Supiori, and *T. nedusia biakensis* Joicey & Noakes from Biak; *T. nedusia meforicus* Fruhstorfer (= *roonensis* Fruhstorfer) is reported from Noemfoor (Mefor), Roon I. (p. 167). *Ideopsis hewitsoni* Kirsch is given the range Biak, Mioswar Is. and *Idea d'urvillei nike* Fruhstorfer occurs in north-eastern and south-western West Irian, Mioswar and Jobi Is. (p. 168)
6. Ackery (1987) stated the distribution of *Tellervo assarica jobinus* Fruhstorfer as follows:
 "Found on the islands Japen and Kurudu. I believe the holotype of *kordonis* Strand, from 'Mysore', is mis-labelled. It is the only species I have seen that suggests sympatry between *T. assarica* and *parvapuncta*, but seems to conform to the Japen phenotype."
7. Fruhstorfer (1911) mentioned "Insel Mysore in der Geelvinkbai" as a locality for *T. zoilus mysoriensis* Staudinger.
8. Strand (1911) wrote that Fruhstorfer is incorrect in the description of *T. zoilus mysoriensis* Staudinger as far as the forewing concerned. He added the form *kordonis* based on a single female labelled "Mysore, Kordo 1873, A.B. Meyer".
9. Staudinger (1885) mentioned *mysoriensis* as a subspecies ("Form") of *Hamadryas zoilus* Fabricius, based on the specimens brought by Dr. A. B. Meyer from Mysore, Kordo.
10. Joicey & Talbot (1915). On a meeting at November 17th, 1915 Talbot exhibited on behalf of Joicey a number of new butterflies from the Schouten Islands, a. o.: *Ideopsis inucta*, Butler, from Waigeu Island, and its race *hewitsoni* Kirsch from Biak. *Tellervo zoilus* f. *mysoriensis* Staudinger, and *T. assarica* f. *biakensis* subsp. nov. These occur together on Biak and confirm Rothschild's conclusion respecting this genus, that there are two species instead of one as stated by continental lepidopterists.
11. Joicey & Talbot (1915): "... and some were obtained on the adjacent island of Soepiori (Mysore) at Korrido".
12. Grose-Smith (1894) mentioned as members of the subfamily Euploinae *Hamadryas zoilus* Fabricius, *H. assarica* Cramer, and *H. mysorensis* [sic!], species reported by

Staudinger from his visit at Humboldt Bay, Dutch New Guinea, and in the neighbouring islands, placed in Rothschild's museum at Tring. No exact localities were given.

The incorrect use of Mysore as a former name for Mioswar, adopted by Peggie, Vane-Wright & van Mastrigt (2009), website Papua-insects.nl (and other websites) and others, probably derives from D'Abbrera (1970). Ackery (1987) gave an incorrect reason for this incorrect use, saying: "I believe the holotype of *kordonis* Strand, from 'Mysore', is mislabelled". However, Strand's labelling "Mysore, Kordo 1873, A.B. Meyer" is correct. Furthermore localities mentioned in publications before Strand are correct.

Mysore (Biak and Supiori)

On Gotha, Verlag v. Justus Perthes's map (1858) the adjacent islands of Supiori and Biak are named Sowok Meissor. In Stieler's Hand-Atlas (1863) these are named Meissor, and, one year later, the name Mysori Iⁿ was used on a map showing one island. This name was also used on Stieler's map of 1872, showing three islands. Meyer (1875) drew a single island for Supiori and Biak together, named Mysore, including the Padaido islands east of Biak. Guillemard (1886) used the names Koredoo and Biak for Supiori and Biak and the William Schouten islands or Mysory I^s for the island-group. Hagen (1897) applied the names Schouten Insel and Biak to a single island. After 1900, the name Schouten eilanden (Schouten Islands) is commonly used, as are the names Biak and Supiori. However, Biak (the eastern island) is sometimes named Wiak and Supiori (Soepiori) is sometimes called Korido (Kordo, Kurudu), the name of the main village at the south coast. Joicey & Talbot (1915) wrote "The Island of Biak is the largest of the Schouten or Misory Islands which lie outside Geelvink Bay, North New Guinea". In many publications in the 20th century Biak refers not only to the eastern island Biak, but is used for Supiori and Biak together. On Dutch maps –as Bosaltas, 1914– Supiori is mentioned as Soepiori. Joicey & Talbot (1916) mentioned Mysore as name for Soepiori, with the village Korrido.

Since 1963 (when Dutch New Guinea became a part of Indonesia) the names of the former Dutch colony have been variously: Irian Barat, Irian Jaya and Papua. The original Papua Province has subsequently been divided into two provinces Irian Jaya Barat (IJB) in the west (the Bird's Head) and Papua in the east. A few years later, the name Irian Jaya Barat was replaced by Papua Barat (West Papua), a name that is often used for the entire Indonesian part of New Guinea and its surrounding islands especially by non-Indonesians. Biak, Supiori and Numfor together were organized in one *Kabupaten* (district) named Kabupaten Teluk Cenderawasih (District Cenderawasih Bay). In 2003 Supiori became a separate kabupaten besides Biak-Numfor.

Other islands in Cenderawasih Bay

Numfor

Numfor is the current name of the island previously known as Myfory (Stieler, 1858), Suer Mafor (Rothschild, 1910), Mafor (Fruhstorfer, 1910; Rothschild, 1910), Mafoor (Meyer, 1875), Mavor (BMNH) and Noemfoor (in Dutch articles) and Numfoor (The Times, 2002, and others). Concerning records of Pratt's visit to this island in 1914, it is named Mefor by various authors (as Joicey & Noakes, 1915) and websites. A very small island close to the west coast of Numfor is named Manem or Manim (not to be confused with Mansinam, the island in front of the Manokwari coast).

Japen

Japen (in Indonesian Yapen) is a long and narrow island south of Biak. Jobi, the name of village at the north coast, and Serui, the capital at the south coast, have been used as names for the whole island. Andrees (1906) mentioned Jobi (Jappen) and in 1921 Jobi (Japon); by Stieler (1864) used Jobie I.

In the beginning of the Indonesian era Japen and Waropen (a part of the mainland) were united in one *kabupaten* with Serui as capital. After Waropen and Japen became two separate districts, the names Japen and Serui were still often used for the former territory, also for the part of the mainland.

Mioswar

On old maps the names for Mioswar are quite similar: Mioswaar, Meoswaar or Miuswar, sometimes written as Mios Waar or Meos Waar. An exception is Miuswar or Engane used by Guillemard (1886) and Maswaar (The Time, 2002: p. 11). Recently, the district name has been changed again and is now known as Roswar.

Conclusion

Misinterpretation of the actual location of Mysore Island(s) has led to a number of mistakes in using Mioswar Island as a (type) locality. A full review of the literature on the lepidoptera of these islands has not been carried out however it is noted the following taxa are definitely not found on Mioswar island; *Ideopsis hewitsonii* Kirsch, *Idea d'urvillei nike* Fruhstorfer and *Tellervo nedusia mysoriensis* Staudinger. This example demonstrates that it is advisable to refer to original publications and contemporary maps for a proper understanding of data labels and localities, so preventing duplication of incorrect assumptions in new publications.

Manuscript Karte

D. ADOLF BERNHARD MEYERS EXPEDITION NEU-GUINEE IM JAHRE 1873

GEELTIKSBAL

Mein Herr, 1873. Die Expedition des Herrn Dr. Adolf Bernhard Meyer nach Neu-Guinea im Jahre 1873. Die Karte zeigt die von der Expedition entdeckten Gegenden und die von den Eingebornen benutzten Wege. Die Karte ist nach den Aufzeichnungen des Herrn Dr. Meyer entworfen und gezeichnet.

Geel Tiksbal

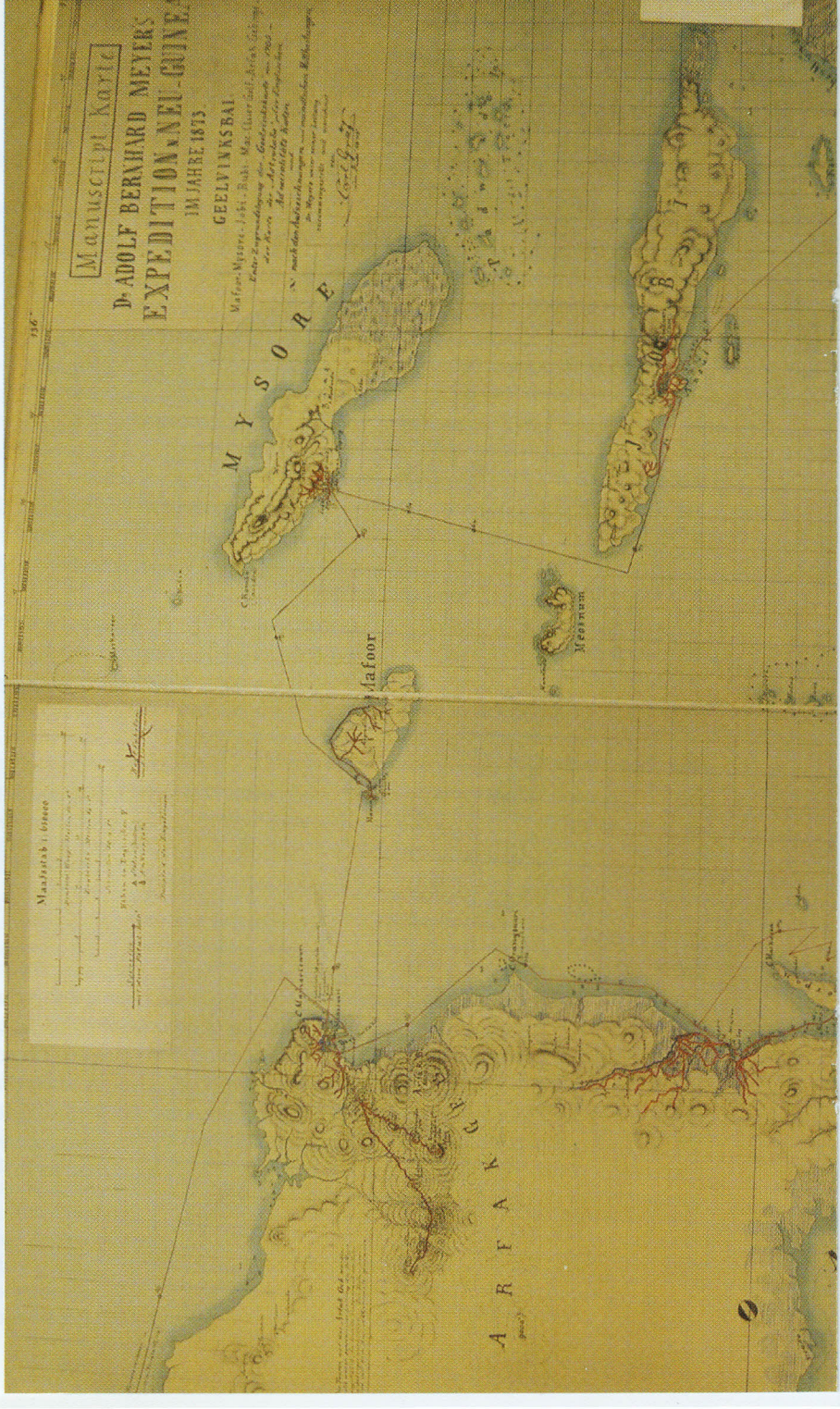
Maassstab 1:100000
1 Zoll = 2 Meilen
1 Meile = 16000 Fuss
1 Fuss = 300 Linien
1 Linie = 100 Punkte
1 Punkt = 100 Punkte

M Y S O R E

Saloor

Messum

A R F A N G





Map 1. Manuscript map of expedition of Dr. A.B. Meyer to Geelvink Bay, New Guinea, in 1873. Source: Meyer (1875)

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