

Sahaptin language lessons

SAHAPTIN LANGUAGE LESSON YUUPAI SONG WANAQ'IT YUUPAI WALPTAIKASH

This weeks Sahaptin Lessons will be on some of the songs our people use for dancing, and some songs of other activity used for fun songs with children.

Yúupai iwá tauwiptamá walptáikash
Yuupai is a gift song.

Walptáikash chi iwá Waxpushpalmamí.
This is a Paiute song.

Łamałma pataniya Wasq'úpamaman.
It was given by the Klamath people to the Wasco people.

Chikúuk Mliłáma pawalptaiknxa Yúupai.
Now Warm Springs people sing it, too.



This is the last verse of the Yuupai song the words are a little different in each verse pay attention and Happy singing.

YUUPAI

Song 3

Yuu, yuu, yuu pandi

Yuu, yuu, yuu pandi

Yuu, yuu, yuu pandi

Yuu, yuu, yuu pandi

Hiii Yaa! Hiii Yaa! Hiii Yaa!



Language Update

Paiute Language Classes at the Middle School (by Patricia Miller)

I was very happy to be asked to teach Paiute Classes at the Middle School in Madras even if it was only three weeks, it started with one student and ended with three girls that were anxious to learn the language. We worked on the basics: colors, numbers, animals, greeting and some basic everyday language. They also learned two songs that they shared with one of their other classes.

I am scheduled to be back at the Middle School in the Spring for another three weeks. So if you would like to join me and learn some Paiute you are invited. The girls did get permissions slips from their parents and turned them into the school officials and they let me know.

I want to thank "Libby" at the school she was a great help to get the children to wherever they needed to be. She also made sure we had a place to get together for class.

How do you think we are doing?

(by Valerie Aguilar)

Often people are afraid to ask our people how they think they are doing, for the fear of being criticized. As you can imagine, we have fallen victim to criticism. Our elders approve of our material, and we reprint from earlier work done by elders long gone. Some of our critics have helped us tremendously because of their ability to help build our foundation constructively. On the other hand, a few of our critics have been destructive and malicious. While we prefer constructive criticism to destructive we know that we will receive both.

If you believe we have done right by our people by educating them about their own language let us know. If you doubt that we are doing right, let us know what it is we are not doing right. We have the heart to change because we know that like the hand of a loving parent, everyone needs correction.

I think, the linguists, anthropologists, and archaeologists have been collecting stories about our customs and beliefs far too long. There is one problem with this they deal with the deceased or nearly deceased. In order for our people to perpetuate we must start sharing with our own people about the rich, wholesome, and God fearing people we once were.

The Language Program is in desperate need of teachers. We will expand our program by adding another grade level (K-2) to Sahaptin language teachers in the Elementary School. We welcome all people who speak the language to join us in our journey to carry the teachings to another generation. If it is not in your heart to teach, we would greatly benefit from your wisdom in a consultant field. Volunteers have blessed us with their time, if your heart tells you to, we you would like to contribute too.

Who would have thought 20 years ago we would be in danger of losing what we have? Our elders did, which is why we exist today. Let's not let them down. As for us, if God wills us to, we'll keep going. Thank you for another great year, keep learning and keep praying for us. That is all I have to say.

BACKGROUND:

There are several different Yúupai songs. The words don't have any particular meaning. They are Paiute songs which were given by the Klamath people to the Wasco people, long long ago, way back before there were any wars between the tribes. Each song is sung two or three times. Then the song ends, by the singers singing "Hiii Yaa!" three times.



NAPŁKWI YUUPAI WALPTAIKASH NAXSH WASQW'LIK

Today we sing the Yúupai Song as KWSO plays the song; we will sing it three times. This is the first verse of the song.

YUUPAI

Song 1

Yúupai, yúupai, yúupai pai

Yúupai, yúupai, yúupai pai

Yúupai, yúupai, yúupai pai

Yúupai, yúupai, yúupai pai

Hiii Yaa! Hiii Yaa! Hiii Yaa!



MTAALKWI YUUPAI WALPTAIKASH NAPT WASQW'LIK

The second verse of the Yuupai song, is a little different from the first verse, so pay attention to the words.

YUUPAI

Song 2

Yuu, yuu, yuu pani

Yuu, yuu, yuu pani

Yuu, yuu, yuu pani

Yuu, yuu, yuu pani

Hiii Yaa! Hiii Yaa! Hiii Yaa!

That's the second verse, now you can sing along with the children when they come home and sing the songs they are learning in class at school.



The children are learning the Yúupai in the Elementary School, We encourage you to learn the song so that you will sing along with your children and they will show you the dance.

Paxalkwi Yuupai Walptaikash

Some people will tell you, it isn't Yúupai, it is Yúupa, but we learned the song as Yúupai, So that's the way we are teaching the song. All three tribes use the song and dance, so when you do the song and dance with one of the tribes of our reservation, just be nice and do it their way. Practice the song and dance until you learn, and when you go to the longhouse you will be able to participate in the dance. We will sing the song with you once more.

YUUPAI

Song 1

Yúupai, yúupai, yúupai pai

Yúupai, yúupai, yúupai pai

Yúupai, yúupai, yúupai pai

Yúupai, yúupai, yúupai pai

Hiii Yaa! Hiii Yaa! Hiii Yaa!

YUUPAI

Song 2

Yuu, yuu, yuu pani

Yuu, yuu, yuu pani

Yuu, yuu, yuu pani

Yuu, yuu, yuu pani

Hiii Yaa! Hiii Yaa! Hiii Yaa!

YUUPAI

Song 3

Yuu, yuu, yuu pandi

Yuu, yuu, yuu pandi

Yuu, yuu, yuu pandi

Yuu, yuu, yuu pandi

Hiii Yaa! Hiii Yaa! Hiii Yaa!



January 1999

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
		SAHAPTIN				
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		WASCO				
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		SAHAPTIN				
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24		PAIUTE				
31	25	26	27	28	29	30

February 1999

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		SAHAPTIN				
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		WASCO				
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		SAHAPTIN				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		PAIUTE				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						