Critical Lexicography: Exploring the Role of Dictionaries in Language Revitalization

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大学共同利用機関法人人間文化研究機構

国立国語研究所

National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics NINJAL



Overview

Contextualize the creation of dictionaries of non-dominant languages

Introduce and outline Critical Lexicography

Situate this discussion within language revitalization and documentation practices and in emerging work in critical theory and Critical Indigenous Studies

Propose 7 indicators of engagement with Critical Lexicography

The Dictionary: Not Just a Corpus

Dictionaries are not passive, inert or neutral documents

Dictionaries are powerful political texts that effect change, embed values, create ideologies and reinscribe power structures

Past Examples: The Oxford English Dictionary (OED)

In its 1993 supplement, the OED refused to include the sexual meaning of the word *lesbian*, their choice was "motivated by factors other than legality".

DICTIONARIES

Brewer, Charlotte. 2010. Prescriptivism and Descriptivism in the First, Second and Third Editions of the OED. *English Today* 26(2): 24-33.

Thumb inde

Past Examples: The Oxford English Dictionary (OED)

The OED taken a "descriptive attitude to racist and other sorts of offensive vocabulary" (including racist and derogatory terms) because "both publishers and lexicographers had consistently taken the view that, since OED was a descriptive dictionary, it could not suppress or censor historical evidence and it was bound to record 'the facts of the language".

Brewer, Charlotte. 2010. Prescriptivism and Descriptivism in the First, Second and Third Editions of the OED. *English Today* 26(2): 24-33.

Present Examples: "The Power of the Dictionary"

Hey @OxfordWords, why is "rabid feminist" the usage example of "rabid" in your dictionary – maybe change that? pic.twitter.com/3zJnwZ3RLx

— Michael Oman-Reagan (@OmanReagan) January 21, 2016

OED Oxford English Dictionary The definitive record of the English language

1984 A. Oakley *Taking it like Woman* (1985) 11 Perhaps the entire staff of the school were rabid feminists but if so we did not know, and we certainly weren't.

rabid, adj.

Fully revised for OED Third Edition in June 2008.

Earlier versions published in:

- OED First Edition (1903)
- OED Second Edition (1989)

oed.com is a living text, updated every three months. Updates may include:

- further revisions to definitions, pronunciation, etymology, variant spellings, quotations, dating or styling of citations;
- new senses or phrases.



Examples of RABID in a Sentence

a politician with *rabid* supporters

Her husband is a rabid baseball fan.

Examples of RESEARCH in a Sentence

She conducts research into the causes of Alzheimer's disease.

Recent research shows that the disease is caused in part by bad nutrition.

The study is an important piece of research.

He did a lot of research before buying his car.

Examples of SHRILL in a Sentence

the shrill sound of a policeman's whistle

Dictionaries of Non-Dominant Languages

Those engaged in dictionary work with speakers of endangered, Indigenous, historically-marginalized or under-resourced languages need to critically examine the real-world implications and political impact that their lexicographic practices have not only within the physical or virtual pages of a dictionary, but in the language community itself and in increasingly globalized and digital spaces.

WHAT IS THE CRITICAL IN

CRITICAL INDIGENOUS STUDIES?

Dr. Daniel Heath Justice





Criticality 1



"A critical scholarship is meant to help us understand the social systems, historical processes, and ideologies that shape our individual and group experiences, and helps us understand how we got to this historical moment and, just maybe, where we're going. "Critical", then, isn't about negativity or simply challenging ideas in a reactive way, but to insist on the relationship between our intellectual practice and our everyday lives."

Criticality 2



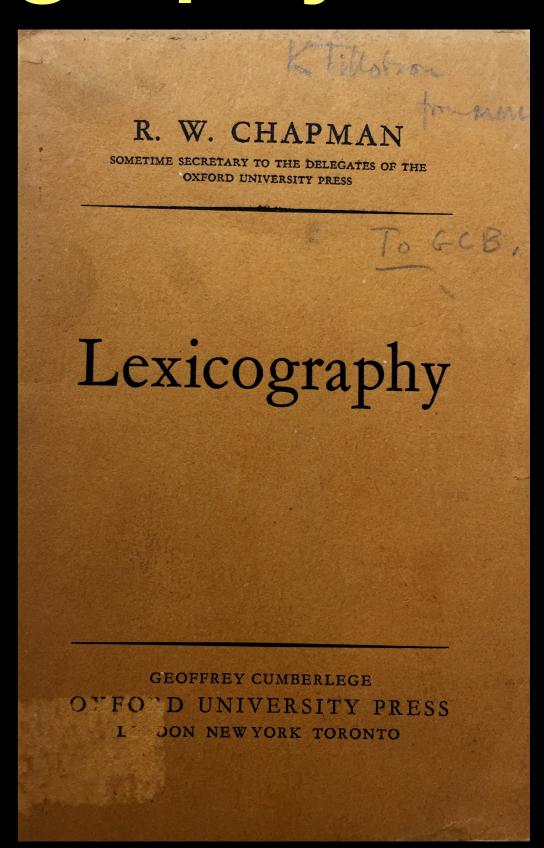
"It's an unwillingness to accept claims based on arbitrary or coercive authority or clichéd received wisdom, but to use all the tools at our disposal to expand possibilities for ethical, thoughtful inquiry. It is a commitment to confronting oppressive and limiting social structures while also imagining possibilities for better ways of co-existing and flourishing in the world. In so doing, however, it necessarily requires us to rigorously question our own perspectives, ways of thinking, and areas of study of pursuit of better, more accountable, and more ethically engaged ways of thinking and doing in the world."

Daniel Heath Justice *The Raven* https://fnis.arts.ubc.ca/media/the-raven/

Critical Lexicography 1

Does not aim to criticize existing lexicographic, linguistic, or documentary practices

Not a dismantling of lexicography or its scientific and analytical practices



Critical Lexicography 2

Edited by

WILLIAM FRAWLEY

KENNETH HILL

PAMELA MUNRO

MAKING dictionaries

Preserving Indigenous Languages of the Americas

Is a form of paradigm shift (or 'reorientation' as we prefer to call it) which seeks to legitimize existing concerns that are present in lexicography with endangered, Indigenous, historically-marginalized or under-resourced languages and well as within Indigenous communities and the academy overall.

Critical Lexicography 3

Works to develop new practices for creating dictionaries of, for and in Indigenous languages that accommodate and reflect the structure of the languages themselves and better address the strategic, political and intellectual goals of the language community. JOHNSON'S
DICTIONARY

OF THE

English Language

IN MINIATURE.

TO WHICH ARE ADDED,

AN ALPHABETICAL ACCOUNT

OF THE

HEATHEN DEITIES;

A LIST of the CITIES, BOROUGHS, and MARKET TOWNS in ENGLAND and WALES;

A COPIOUS CHRONOLOGY;

And a concise Epitome of the most remarkable Events during the French Revolution.

By the Rev. JOSEPH HAMILTON, M. A. Master of the Academy at Hemel Hemsted, Herts.

FIFTH EDITION.

London:

PRINTED BY G. STAFFORD:

And sold by CHAMPANTE and WHITROW, Jewry-street,
Aldgate; M. WATSON; Hermitage; and by all
other Booksellers in Great Britain.

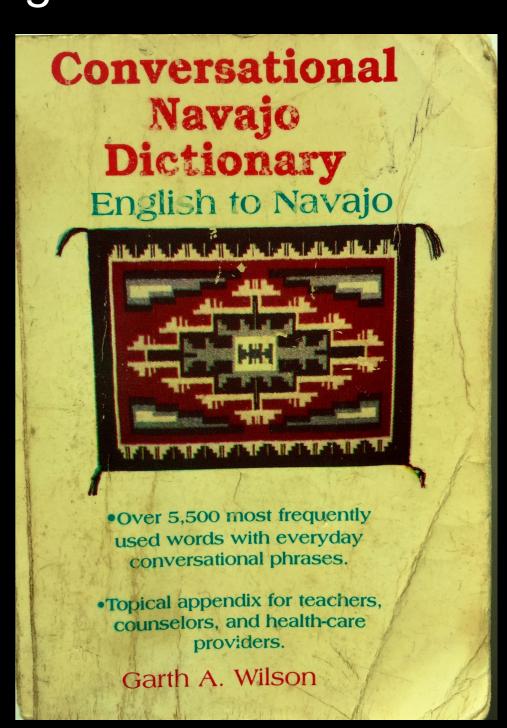
1796.

Indicators of Critical Lexicography

We propose 7 indicators that language stakeholders can use to determine if they are, or should, engage in Critical Lexicography.

7 Indicators

- 1) Centering Partnerships and Honoring Collaboration
- 2) Authorship and Authority
- 3) Corpora Size
- 4) Number of Speakers
- 5) Role of Archives
- 6) Grammar and Structure
- 7) Outputs



1. Centering Partnerships and Honoring Collaboration









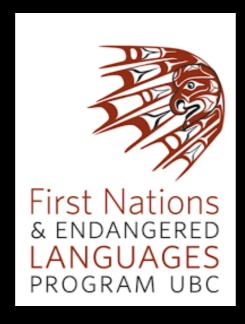
















About the dictionary

Hello! Welcome to the demonstration version of the Online **Híłzaqv** Dictionary. We acknowledge that the data used in this online program has been sourced from Version 2.1 of the Digital Heiltsuk-English Dictionary © 2007 Heiltsuk Cultural Education Centre, which was commissioned by the HCEC and developed by the linguist John Rath and Heiltsuk staff with financial assistance obtained through the Aboriginal Language Initiative (ALI) from the Province of British Columbia's First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Council. The Online Híłzaqv Dictionary is one of the pilot projects of the Heiltsuk Language Mobilization Partnership between the Heiltsuk Cultural Education Centre, the Bella Bella Community School and UBC's First Nations and Endangered Languages Program.

Please feel free to use this on-line dictionary for educational purposes only and be aware that it does not yet incorporate all functionality of its Microsoft Access-based source, Digital Heiltsuk-English Dictionary. Search functionality in particular will be updated in future releases.

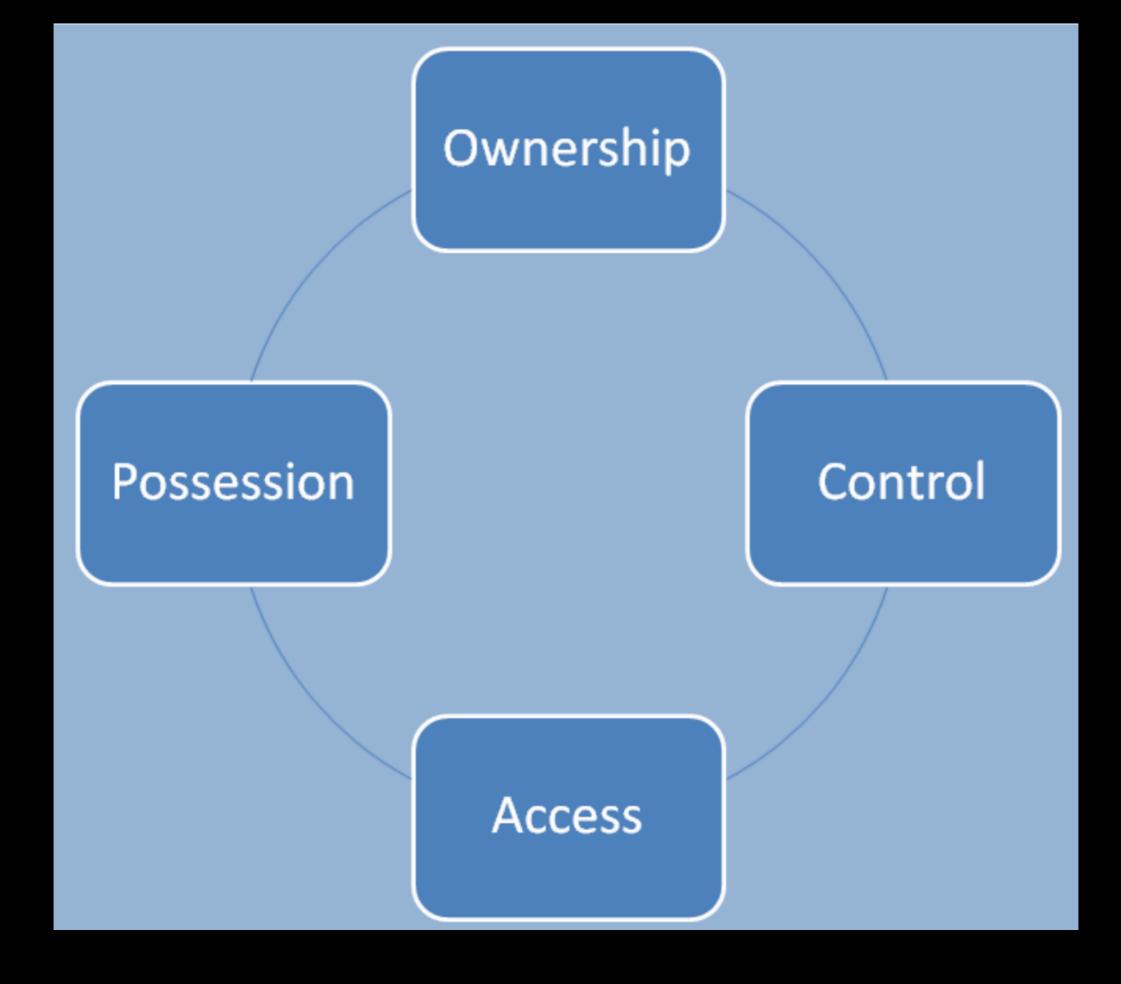
Acknowledgements

Gūpāné yéh dedī website dzehtsīn: Ross River Dena Council yéh, Liard First Nation yéh, Daylu Dena Council yéh, Yukon Education yéh, Liard Aboriginal Women's Society yéh, University of British Columbia yéh. Kédzent'edé dedī website ghah kédzīhdél.

This website was developed in collaboration with our partners: The Ross River Dena Council, Liard First Nation, the Daylu Dena Council, Yukon Education, Liard Aboriginal Women's Society, and the University of British Columbia. We all worked together on this website.

Dedī website Department of Canadian Heritage yéh, Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada yéh, Yukon Education yéh, University of British Columbia yéh, Indigenous and Endangered Languages Program of the University of British Columbia yéh ts'įh dāne gūyédelehī meyégūdíhí yedzenlīne.

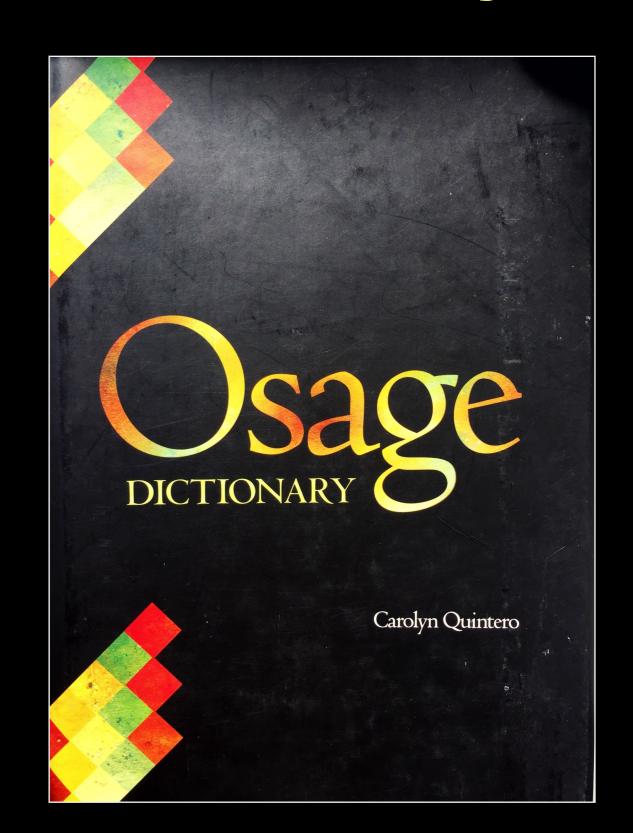
We wish to acknowledge financial support for this project from the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Yukon Education, the University of British Columbia, and the Indigenous and Endangered Languages Program of the University of British Columbia.



2. Authorship and Authority

Acknowledging and (de)centering authority in the dictionary construction process

Authorship is one way to (de)center or (re)center authority



Kaánze Íe Wayáje

An Annotated Dictionary of Kaw (Kanza)

Kaw-English/English-Kaw

Linda A. Cumberland, Ph.D., Editor Robert L. Rankin, Ph.D., Contributing Editor

Contributing Native Speakers

19th century: Pahanli Gaxli, Stephen Stubbs, Waxobe K'in ("Wahobehkee"), Gazan Nange, Alingawaho, Edwin Stanton, Nighuje Yinge, Nikoyublu, Oshe Gonya ("Big Aleck"), Zhohin Manyin, Charles McKassey, and others whose names were not recorded 20th century: Maude McCauley Clark Rowe, Walter Kekahbah, Ralph Pepper, Elmer Clark, Pete Taylor

Contributing Linguists and Ethnographers

19th century: James Owen Dorsey, George P. Morehouse, Addison Stubbs, Lewis Henry Morgan, William Turner, Joseph Bourassa, Francis LaFlesche 20th century: Robert L. Rankin 21st century: Robert L. Rankin, Justin T. McBride, and Linda A. Cumberland

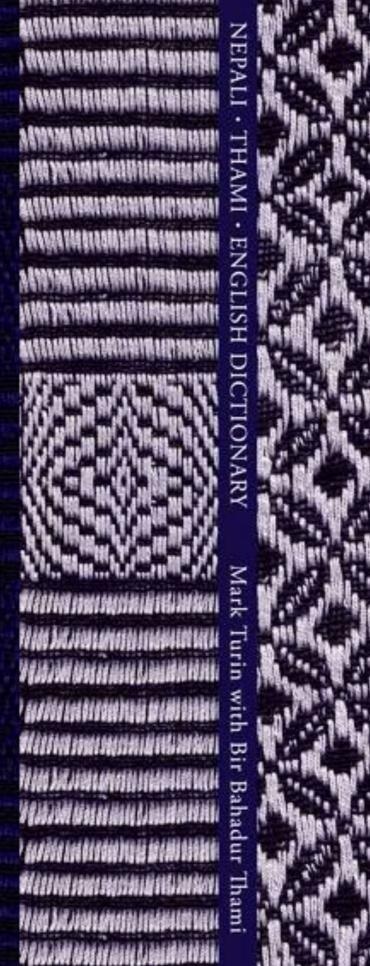
Community Advisory Group

Jimmie Benbrook, Paul Hardy, Curtis Kekahbah, Rima Bellmard Mathews, Kira Mathews

Others participants

Storm Brave; Zever Blackbull; American Indian Studies Research Institute, Indiana University, Raymond J. DeMallie, Ph.D., Director; Travis Myers; Indrek Park, Ph.D.; Pat Warren; Ken Zook, Greg Trihus, and colleagues at SIL International Mark Turin is a linguistic anthropologist who has been working on the Thami language for six years. He received his BA in Social Anthropology from the University of Cambridge, while his doctoral research was conducted in descriptive linguistics through the Himalayan Languages Project at Leiden University. He is currently Director of the Digital Himalaya Project based at Cambridge and Cornell Universities, and he divides his time between the United Kingdom, the United States and Nepal.

Bir Bahadur 'Lile' Thami is from Dolakha district and has been studying and documenting his mother tongue for over five years. He has written articles in Nepali on Thami culture, with a particular focus on death rituals.



Nepali · Thami · English

Dictionary

by Mark Turin with Bir Bahadur Thami

नेपाली-थामी-अङ्ग्रेजी

शब्दकोश

मार्क टुरीन साथमा बिर बहादुर थामी





thl

(Thangmi)

The Tibetan & Himalayan Library



to look angrily at something or someone (English, Turin)

3. Corpora Size

The corpora size for many non-dominant languages is often different than that for major world languages



The Blackfoot Digital Dictionary: a work in progress

Welcome to the Blackfoot Digital Dictionary project. You can find our dictionary at http://dictionary.blackfoot.atlas-ling.ca. Send comments to inge.genee@uleth.ca.

This is very much a work in progress. It changes every day as we continue to make updates, corrections and addition. It is now May 8 2017 and we are getting ready to do some more work on it this summer. The first research assistant who is starting this year is Mahaliah Peddle. Welcome Mahaliah!

Kaáⁿze Íe Wayáje: An Annotated Dictionary of Kaw (Kanza)

hegáxe [he-gá-xe] n scalp, scalp lock ... máⁿze áyastále hegáxe áyastále khe zanín yuzábe ao, hegáxe shke yuzábe ao. ... pieces of metal stuck along his scalplock, and the scalplock itself. CT.20.37b ♦ JOD: The scalp or hair (scalplock) of a man, extending from the boskida ([a point low on the forehead just between the eyes) along the pegázo, or parting of the hair, and down to the tabóska, or back of the neck, according to Big Aleck (Oshe Gónya). The hegáxe is plaited. The corresponding part of a woman's hair is called héyonba tanga (large pigtail, or braid).



myaamiaatawaakani | Myaamia Dictionary







akincikoon- n.inan Number, phone number

akincikooni | Number, phone number
akincikoona | Numbers, phone numbers
wiintamawilo kitakincikoonimi | Tell me your phone number!
ooniini nintakincikoonimi | This is my phone number

<u>aacimwaapii- v.an.intran</u> Talk on the phone, be on the internet

aacimwaapiaani | I talk on the phone, use internet
aacimwaapiaanki | We (excl.) talk on the phone, use internet
aacimwaapiiyankwi | We (incl.) talk on the phone, use internet
aacimwaapiiyani | You talk on the phone, use internet
aacimwaapiiyiikwi | You (pl.) talk on the phone, use internet
aacimwaapiici | He / she talks on the phone, uses internet
aacimwaapiiciki | They talk on the phone, use internet
aacimwaapiilo | You talk on the phone, use internet!
aacimwaapiiko | You (pl.) talk on the phone, use internet!
aacimwaapiitaawi | Let's talk on the phone, use internet!
aacimwaapiihsiiwaani | I am not talking on the phone, am not on the internet

https://www.myaamiadictionary.org/dictionary2015/index.php

4. Number of Speakers

'Speakers' can refer to fluent speakers, semi-speakers, language learners, etc.

The number and availability of speakers determines the amount and type of dictionary projects stakeholders can undertake.



The plan:

The talking dictionary project is developing an Internet resource for the Mi'gmaq/Mi'kmaq language. Each headword is recorded by a minimum of three speakers. Multiple speakers allow one to hear differences and variations in how a word is pronounced. Each recorded word is used in an accompanying phrase. This permits learners the opportunity to develop the difficult skill of distinguishing individual words when they are spoken in a phrase.

Thus far we have posted over 3900 headwords, a majority of these entries include two to three additional forms.

The project was initiated in Listuguj, therefore all entries have Listuguj speakers and Listuguj spellings. In collaboration with Unama'ki, the site now includes a number of recordings from Unama'ki speakers. More will be added as they are recorded. Eventually this site will include the Smith-Francis spellings used there.

Lexemes containing english word 'tree'

1. miti's tree

2. eloqtesmatl

fell (tree) toward push down toward

3. gawatgw spruce tree

4. gegna'latl

decorate trim (Christmas tree)

5. gnugwaqan

marker blaze (on tree)

6. malipqwanjmusi

hazelnut bush hazelnut tree

7. masgwe's young birch tree

8. masgwe'simanaqsi pin cherry tree cherry tree

miti's

Pronunciation guide: mi·diis

- Recording by Diane (Listuguj)
- Recording by Eunice (Listuguj)
- Recording by Joe (Listuguj)

Part of speech: noun animate

Translation: Tree

Meanings:

tree

Example of word used in sentence:

Pas'g Listugujg gmu'j alpuguig tlui'tas'gtetew miti'sg.
 Only in Listuguj will standing wood be called trees.
 Recording by Joe (Listuguj)

Alternate forms:

miti'sg, trees (plural)
miti'sl, a tree (fourth person)



dets'ádle (Ross River dialect)

grey; gris

(same as debāhī in Liard dialect; same as dabēdze in Pelly dialect)

debāhī (Liard dialect)

v. grey; gris

(same as dabēdze in Pelly dialect; same as dets'ādle in Ross River dialect)

dabēdze (Pelly dialect)

adj. grey; gris

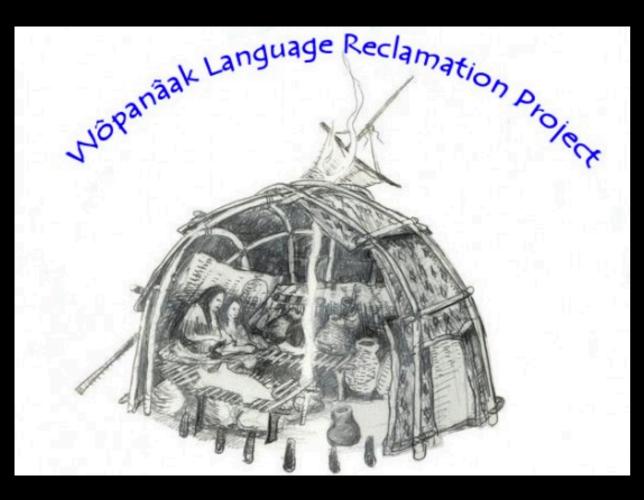
Anthony gōdé' dabēdze désedā. Anthony has a grey jacket on.

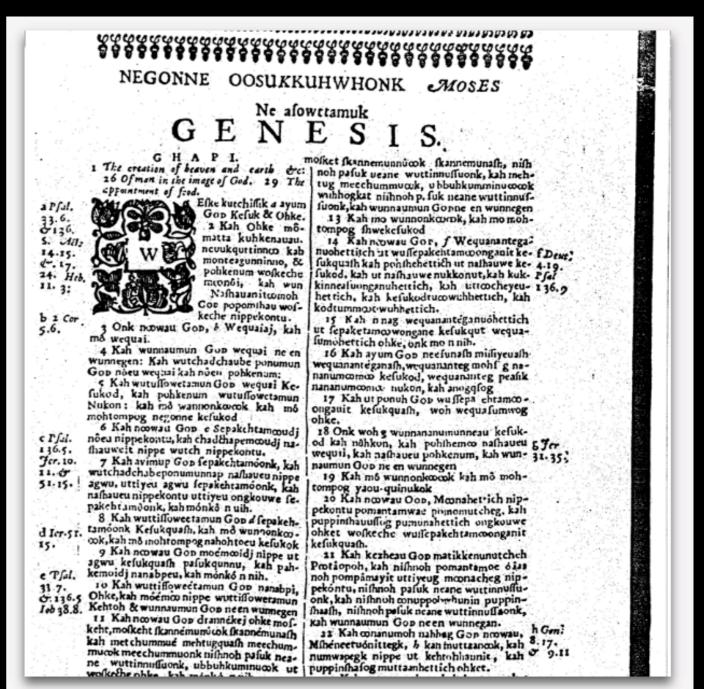
(same as debāhī in Liard dialect; same as dets'ādle in Ross River dialect)

5. Role of Archives

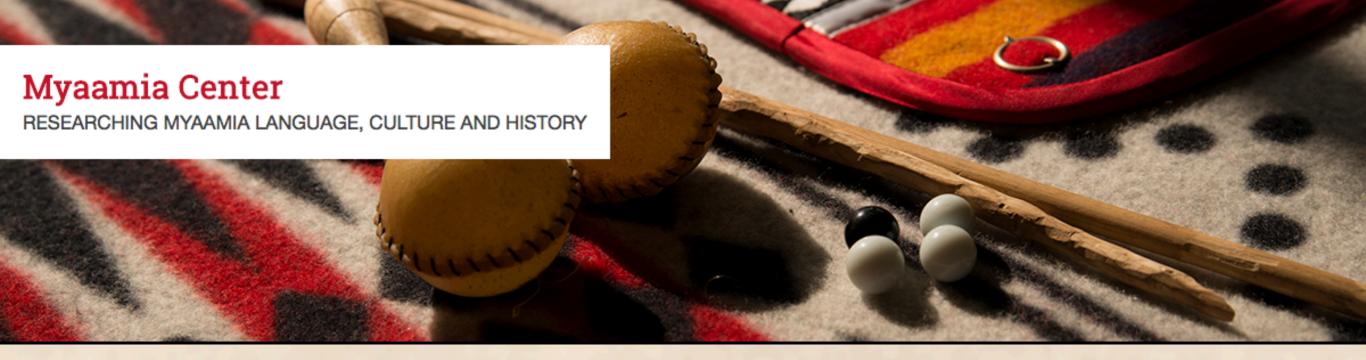
Stakeholders of minority and Indigenous languages increasingly must rely on existing language documentation and archived materials.

Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project





(Above) Page from the bible translated into Wôpanâak by John Eliot in 1663. The existence of this bible and other legal documents written in Wôpanâak has made the reclamation of this once lost language possible.



The Miami-Illinois Digital Archive (MIDA) was created to assemble all known primary language sources into one location in order to facilitate further research and analysis of the Miami-Illinois language. MIDA users are able to search available fields within, and across, manuscripts. A unique feature of MIDA is the ability to recall the exact page where any given entry appears. This feature allows researchers to work with data independent of the original document, but when needed, retrieve the original page for reexamination. Searchable fields will continue to expand with additional data as Miami-Illinois researchers complete their work and newly transcribed manuscripts will be added as their digital surrogates become available.

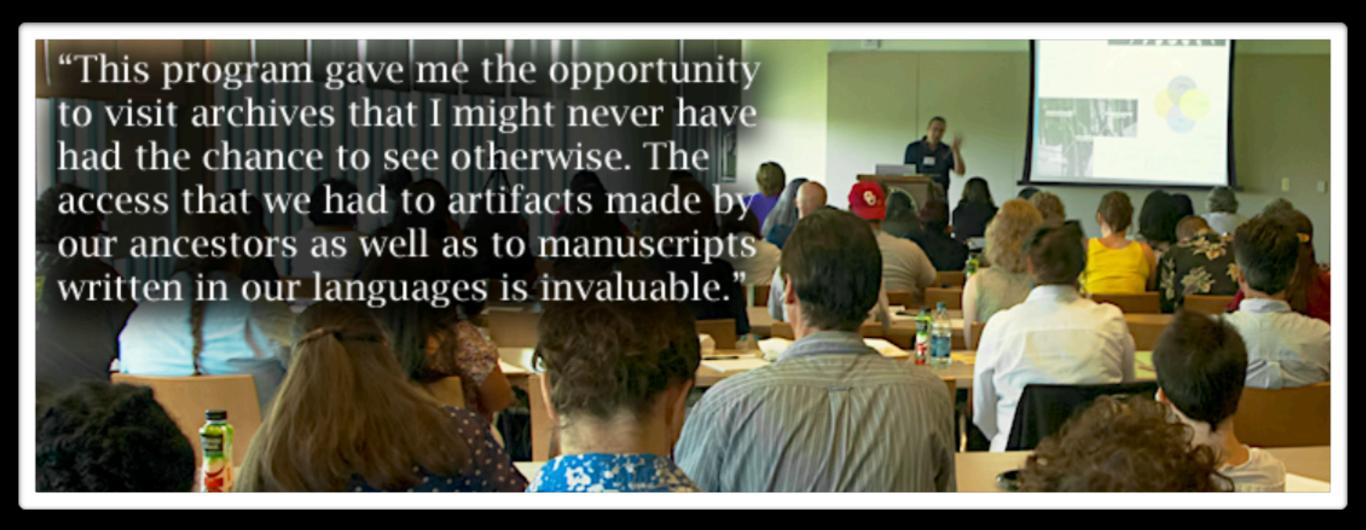
There are currently 49060 entries.

MIAMI-ILLINOIS DIGITAL ARCHIVE

Home About Documents Contact

National Breath of Life Archival Institute for Indigenous Languages

National Breath of Life is a two-week biennial Institute that brings Community Researchers from around North America to Washington D.C. to help them find and utilize their linguistic archival sources from archives located in the D.C. area.



Recovering Voices

Fosters partnerships with **communities** around the world that are key to revitalizing and sustaining languages and knowledge.

Capitalizes on the **collections** and **research** strengths of the Smithsonian Institution to this end.

Seeks to **understand** the decline in linguistic diversity and develop effective responses to it.

Contact us to discuss specific funding or research opportunities.

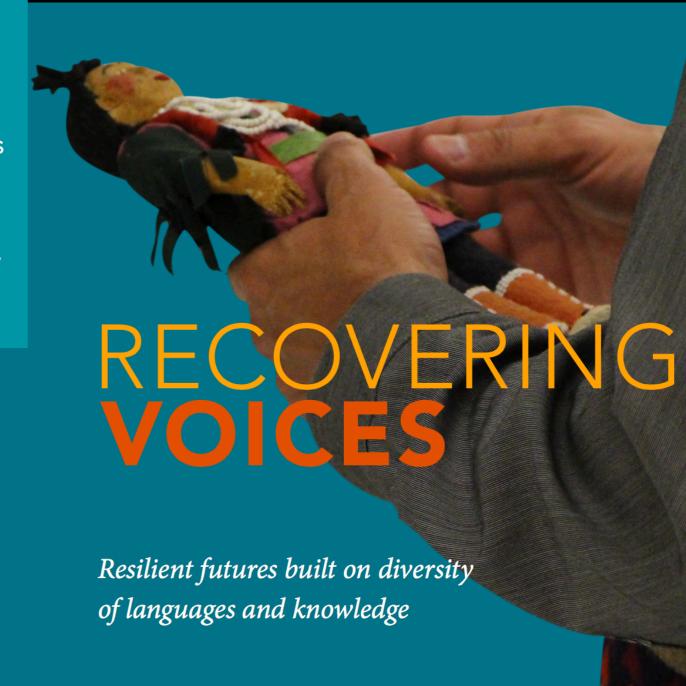
EMAIL: recoveringvoices@si.edu

FACEBOOK: Facebook.com/recoveringvoices

TWITTER: @recovervoices

PHONE: 202.633.5039

www.recoveringvoices.si.edu

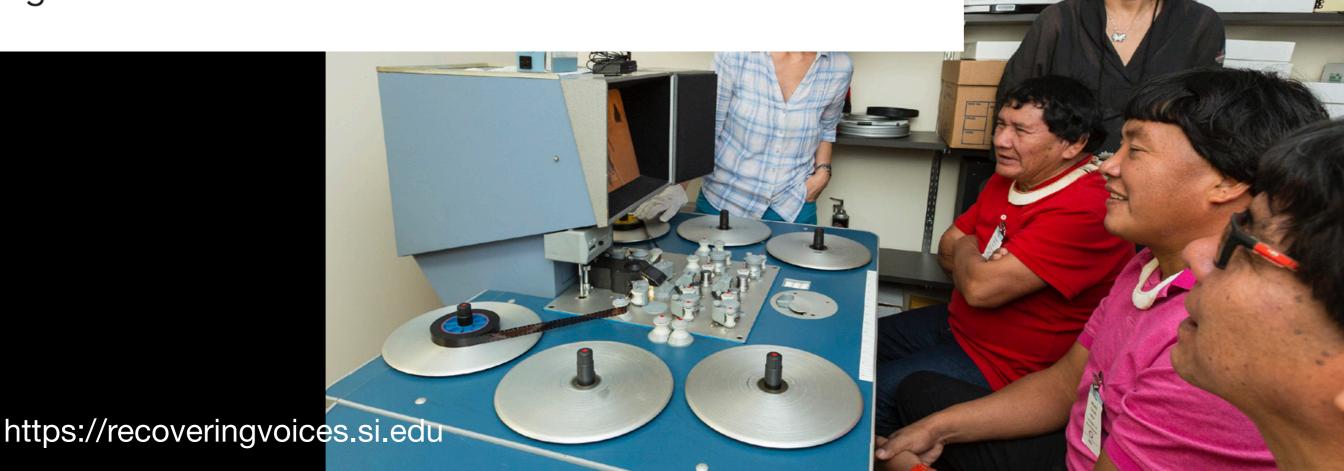


Opening Archives

Archival holdings range from the finest detail of a language to the history of a people.

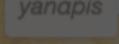
The National Anthropological Archives holds documentation on languages and cultures from six of the world's continents

Recovering Voices connects community researchers with Smithsonian archives both through on-site visits and through digitization of materials.



6. Specificity of Grammar and Structure

The practitioners of early lexicography were primarily speakers of major and European languages, and the field developed to accommodate these types of languages.



6. Specificity of Grammar and Structure

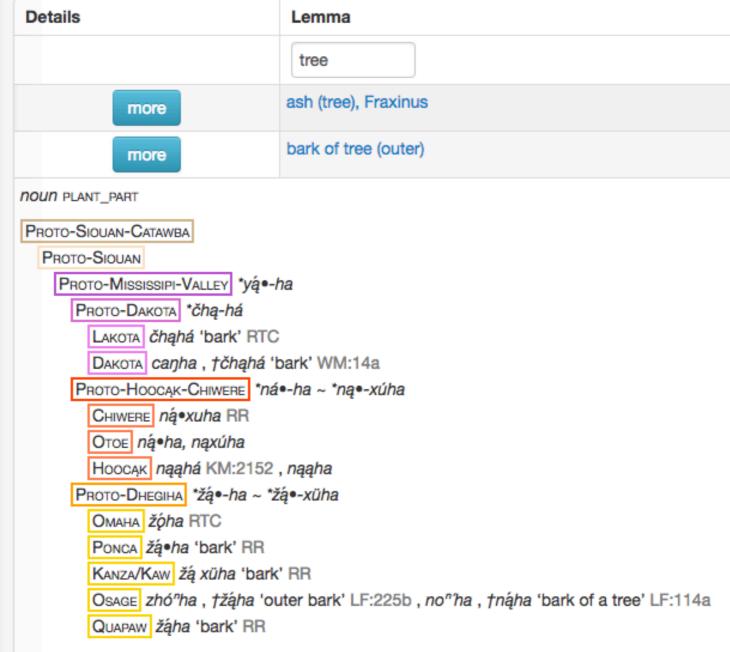
Structures of many Indigenous languages are quite different than those of European languages.

Dictionaries of Indigenous languages must work to accommodate the individual structures and grammar of these languages.



Entries

Showing 1 to 5 of 5 entries (filtered from 1,204 total entries)



General comment

A compound of 'tree, wood' and 'skin', q.v. N.B. Osage doublets for 'wood' žą ~ ną. xuha is a distinct term for 'skin' in several of the language

more	pine tree	
more	tree, bone, leg, stalk, stem, trunk	
more	tree, wood	

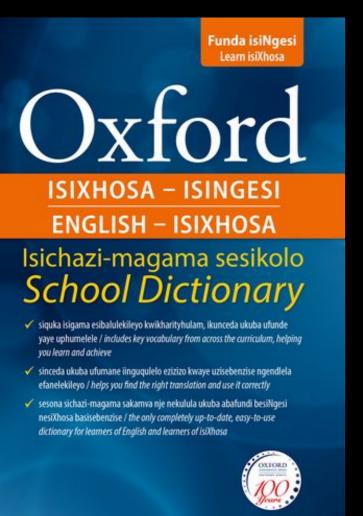
Lexicography Software

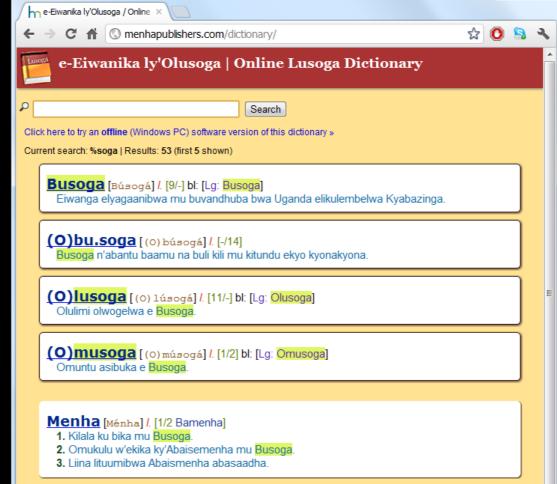
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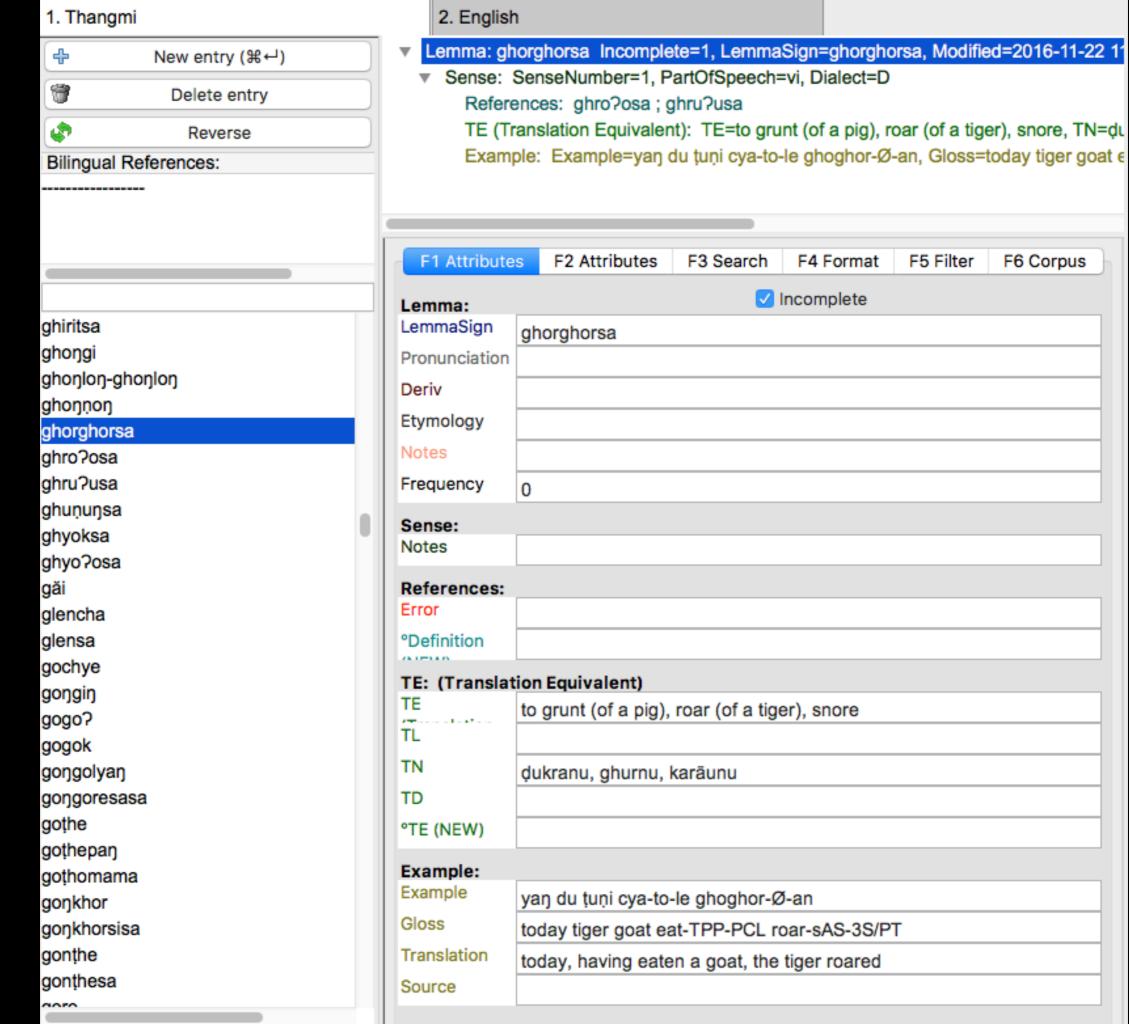
Samburtaab Ng'aleekaab Kaleenchin

KALENJIN DICTIONARY



Kibny'aanko Seroney

MVULE Africa



F6 Corpus



ghorghorsa (vi) ghro?osa; ghru?usa to grunt (of a pig), roar (of a tiger), snore qukranu, ghurnu, karāunu: yan du tuṇi cya-to-le ghoghor-Ø-an today tiger goat eat-TPP-PCL roar-sAS-3S/PT today, having eaten a goat, the tiger roared D

Article has cross-references to >>

[?] ghru?usa (vi) ghorghorsa to roar (of a tiger) bāgh karāunu S

>> Article is cross-referenced from

- ghro?osa (vi) ghorghorsa to grunt (of a pig), snore dukranu, ghurnu S
- [?] ghru?usa (vi) ghorghorsa to roar (of a tiger) bāgh karāunu S

7. Creative Outputs

The print dictionary is now only one output, and not always most flexible or desireable. Increasing reliance on multi-modal products.



ABOU

RANDOM ▼

Select a deck to choose which flash cards you would like to use. Then, select a style of learning between the following options:

Passive

This is the easiest method. It involves seeing the Híłzaqv word and guessing English.

Active

This method is designed to test your spelling of the Híłzaqv word. You are provided with the English, and have to guess the Híłzaqv word.

CLICK HERE TO START!





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How to use the Ojibwe People's Dictionary

Search Tips

Key to Ojibwe Parts of Speech

Key to Regions





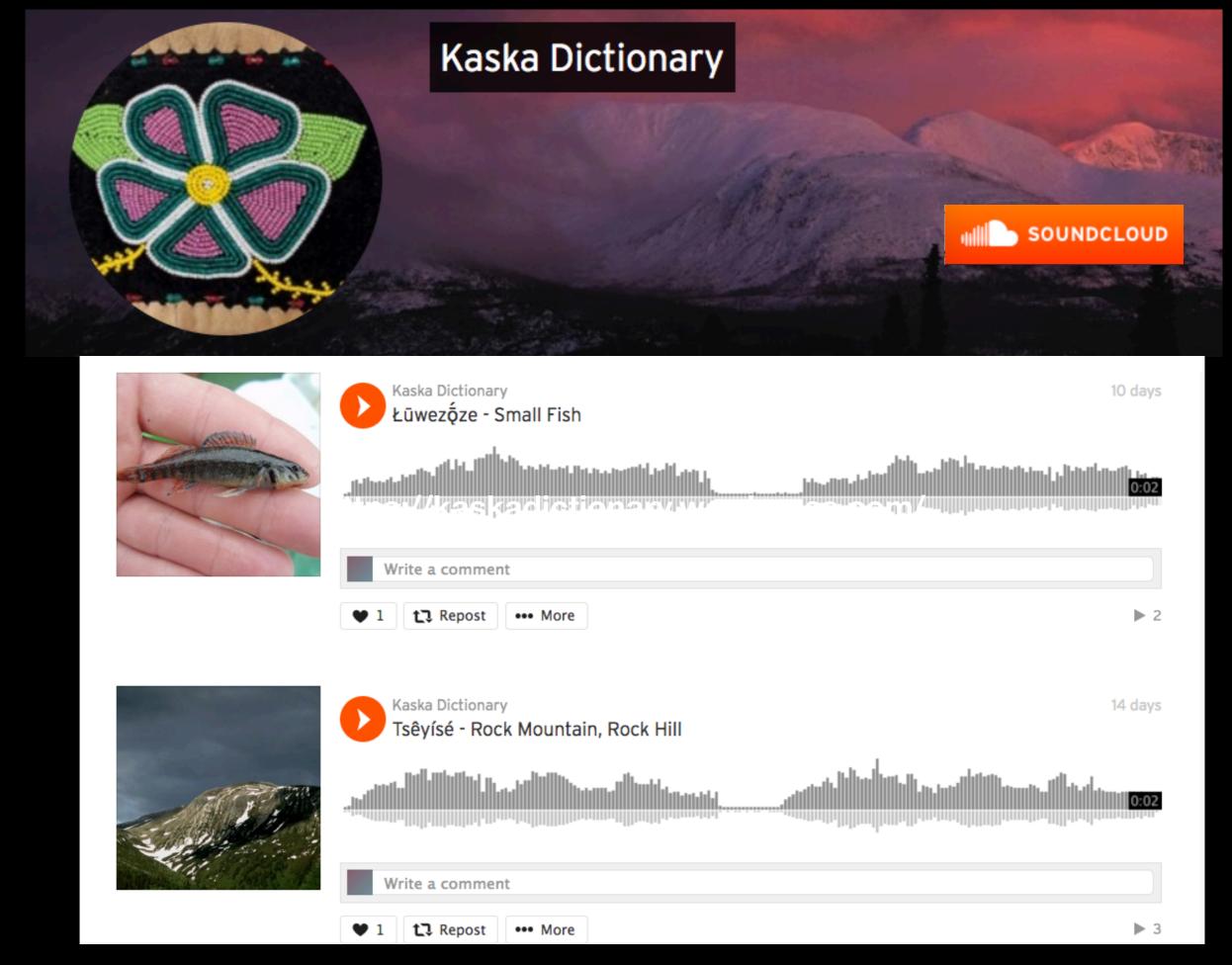


SEARCH



Welcome to the Ojibwe People's Dictionary

The Ojibwe People's Dictionary is a searchable, talking Ojibwe-English dictionary that features the voices of Ojibwe speakers. It is also a gateway into the Ojibwe collections at the Minnesota Historical Society. Along with detailed Ojibwe language entries and voices, you will find beautiful cultural items, photographs, and excerpts from relevant historical documents. Whenever possible, we provide examples of documents in the Ojibwe language.



Conversational Navajo Dictionary

Concluding Thoughts

Critical Lexicography is an ethical and theoretical orientation towards dictionary work with non-dominant languages rather a specific, singular way to 'do' lexicography.

rench Dictionary
BESTSELLING BILINGUAL DICTIONARIES