The sound library

Sound documents and collections as means of recovering and protecting endangered languages

[Some ideas based on Argentinean work with aboriginal communities]

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Selk´nam
(Tierra del Fuego)
Mainly exterminated during XIX century. Last speaker (Lola Kiepja, photo) dead 1966. Language conserved in texts and recordings

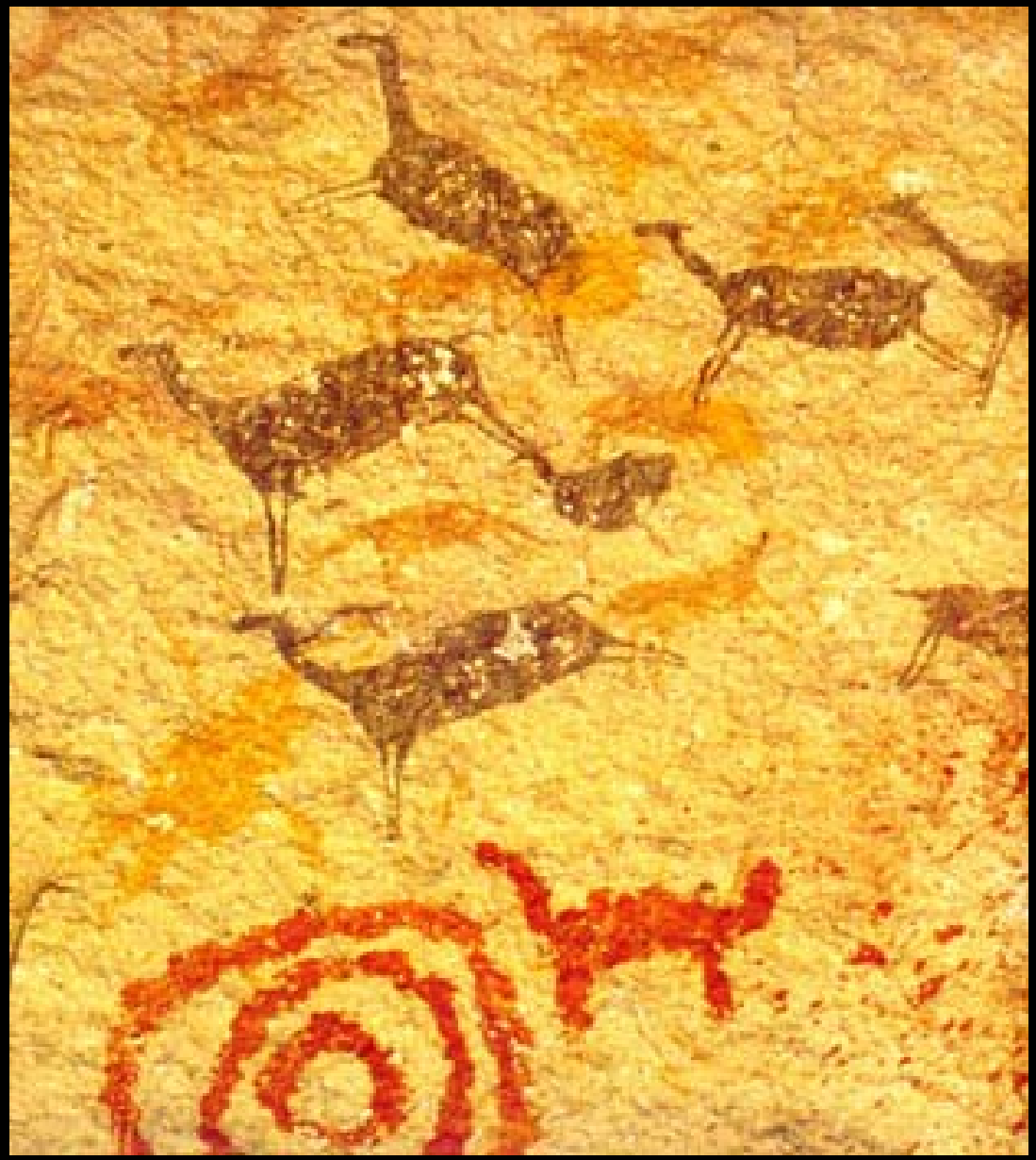
Yámana
(Tierra del Fuego)
Mainly exterminated during XIX century. Last 2 speakers still alive in Chile. Language conserved in texts and recordings

Diaguita / Calchaquí
(NW Argentina)
Completely slaughtered during II Calchaqui War, ended 1666. The only text supposed to codify their widely-spoken language (kakan) was lost during XVII century

Sanavirón

(Córdoba, central Argentina)

Disappeared after Spanish Conquest in XVII century. Just 3 words of their language conserved in texts. Their paintings in caves represent their whole culture and the final moments of their history (spanish warriors in horses)



Comechingón
(Central Argentina)
Disappeared after the Spanish Conquest in XVII Century. Just 7 words of their language conserved in texts.

MAPA DE DISTRIBUCION DE COMUNIDADES ABORIGENES

(Hacia el siglo XVII)

01. Atacamas
02. Omaguacas
03. Diaguitas
04. Lules y vilelas
05. Tonocotés
06. Sanavirones
07. Comechingones
08. Huarpes
09. Chiriwanos y chanés
10. Matacos, chorotes y chulupíes
11. Abipones, mocovíes, tobas y pilagáes
12. Guaraníes
13. Caingang
14. Chanáes, timbúes, corondáes
15. Charrúas
16. Tehuelches gününa-küna
17. Pehuenches
18. Tehuelches centrales
19. Tehuelches aonikenk
20. Onas (selk´nam y haush)
21. Yámanas y alacalufes

MAPA DE DISTRIBUCION DE COMUNIDADES ABORIGENES

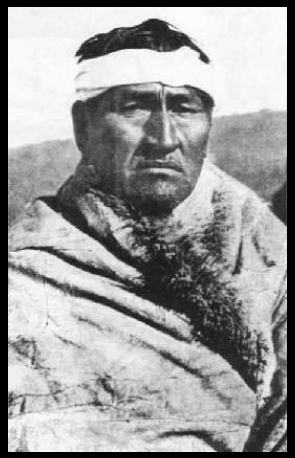
(En la actualidad)

01. Collas
02. Diaguitas
03. Chiriwanos y chanés
04. Matacos, chorotes y chulupíes
05. Mocovíes, tobas y pilagás
06. Guaraníes mbyá
07. Mapuches y ranqueles
08. Tehuelches

Se han señalado áreas de distribución por grupos culturales.
Las comunidades de descendientes mestizos han sido señaladas.

Argentine maps showing the distribution of originary peoples (grouped in cultural areas) during XVII century and the remaining single groups in 2005.

Aonikenk
(Southern Tehuelche)
(Patagonia - Argentina)
Almost disappeared. Highly endangered language, spoken by a few elders, even if it has been recorded, studied and conserved in texts.



Qom, Pit´laxá, Moqoit
(Tobas, Pilagás, Mocovíes)
(NE Argentina)
Around 60.000 people, speaking Guaykurúan highly endangered languages, written and spoken but currently suffering strong cultural pressure and oblivion.

Quechua and Kolla / Aymara
(NW Argentina)
Argentinean Quechua dialect spoken by 7000 mestizo-people in Santiago del Estero province. Aymara southern dialect spoken by around 30.000 persons. Both wirtten and spoken, but suffering oblivion, discrimination and cultural pressure.

Wichi, Yofwaja, Nivaklé
(Matacos, Chorotes, Chulupíes)
(NE Argentina)
Around 100.000 people. Speakers of Matacoan family endangered languages, written and spoken but suffering cultural pressure.

Avá / Mbyá
(Chiriwanos – Chanés, Guaraníes)
(N Argentina)
Around 7000 Mbyá, 3500 Avá and 1500 Chané, from northeastern Misiones province to northwestern Salta province. Speakers of Avá-Ñe´é (Guaraní), official language in Paraguay, but endangered in Argentina.

Mapuche
(Patagonia - Argentina)
Around 90000 Mapuche and 1500 Ranküllche, speaking Mapudungu (Mapuche language). Healthy idiom, written and spoken, but suffering strong cultural pressure and discrimination in Argentina.

Ruins of Quilmes
(NW Argentina)

The Quilmes, last Diaguita-Calchaqui group, was defeated in 1666 by Spanish armies. Those who survived the terrible slaughter were deported to Buenos Aires, where they died of sadness. Today, the city is inhabited just by “cardones”.

Disappeared

Selk´nam – Yamana - Gününa-küna – Pewenche – Huarpe – Querandí
Charrúa – Chaná – Timbú – Sanavirón – Comechingón – Lule – Vilela
Tonocoté – Abipón – Caingang – Diaguita – Omaguaca - Ocloya

Still spoken

Aonikenk – Mapudungu – Kolla – Quechua - Qom´lek – Moqoit - Pit´laxá
Yofwaja – Nivaklé - Avá-Ñe´é – Wichi - Mbyá

Agradesiyki – Aguyje – Juspaxara – Chaltu may
Muchas gracias - Thank you very much

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