

ОСОБЕННОСТИ ИСПОЛЬЗОВАНИЯ ТУКАНСКОГО ЯЗЫКА В СОВРЕМЕННОМ МИРЕ

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Язык Туяка, используемый индейским племенем, обладает уникальными особенностями, включая тональную систему, которая влияет на значение слов, и сложную систему спряжения глаголов, зависящую от множества факторов. В отличие от многих языков, Туяка не имеет падежей, и отношения между словами выражаются через порядок слов и предлоги. Указательные элементы играют важную роль в уточнении значений. Однако язык Туяка находится на грани исчезновения: количество носителей сокращается, и в настоящее время их осталось всего несколько десятков.

Ключевые слова: *Туяка; язык; носители.*

THE PECULIARITIES OF USING THE TOUCAN LANGUAGE IN THE MODERN WORLD

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The Tuyuca language, spoken by an Indian tribe, has unique features, including a tonal system that affects the meaning of words and a complex verb conjugation system that depends on many factors. Unlike many languages, Tuyuca has no cases, and relationships between words are expressed through word order and prepositions. Demonstratives play an important role in clarifying meanings. However, the Tuyuca language is on the verge of extinction: the number of speakers is decreasing, and there are currently only a few dozen left.

Key words: *Tuyuca; language; carriers.*

The Tuyan languages are a large family of indigenous languages in South America. They include languages such as Tanimucca-Retuaras, Piratapuyo, Waimaha, Barasana-Eduria, and many more. According to one of the many classifications (scientists continue to debate), this family contains about 19 languages, each with several dialects. One of the most complex languages in the world, Tuyucca, is spoken by around 1,000 people today and is on the brink of extinction. The language has two main varieties: Pokanga (spoken mainly in Brazil's Amazonas state) and Tuyucca (spoken primarily in Colombia). The Tuyucca people are polyglots, speaking multiple languages, including those of neighboring tribes.

One of the most striking features of Tuyucca is its grammatical genders, with some estimates saying there are as many as 140. This is debated, with some sources stating 50 to 140, but a detailed explanation suggests that while the language technically has three genders, classifiers divide them into about 10 semantic groups, each with its own subcategories. Therefore, the language is often said to have around 140 genders. For example, there are specific classifiers for different shapes (e.g., a rigid claw, flexible clothing, or a flat door), meaning words like "claw," "clothing," and "door" decline differently.

For animate nouns, Tuyucca has three categories: masculine and feminine singular and plural. But for inanimate objects, the classification is so intricate that there's even a classifier for "bark loosely attached to a tree."

Tuyucca also belongs to the group of epistemological languages, meaning every action or event described must be accompanied by a verb ending indicating how the speaker knows about it. For example, the ending -wi means "I know because I saw it," while -hiyi means "I assume." This means you could say something like, "Two monkeys just fought! I know because I saw it and almost got hurt!"

Another unique feature of Tuyucca is that it is polysynthetic, with complex words formed by combining smaller fragments. For example, the word hóabāsiriga means the phrase "I don't know how to write."

The language has 11 consonants and 6 vowels, which are relatively easy to pronounce (unlike the clicking sounds in some African languages). The Tuyucca language uses tonal distinctions, with one high-toned syllable in each word. There are also specific numbers up to 20, with higher numbers often conveyed using fingers or in Spanish.

Tuyucca has two forms of the pronoun "we": inclusive (which means "we, including you") and exclusive (which means "we, but not including you"). This distinction is also found in other languages of the region [1, p. 17].

Culture and History of the Tuyucca People

The Tuyucca people first had unplanned contact with Europeans in the 18th and 19th centuries. Portuguese missionaries began their work in the 1780s, and by 1914, deliberate attempts to convert them to Catholicism began, with Protestant missionaries taking over after World War II. It's estimated that before European contact, there were about 100 million indigenous people in the Americas, including around 5 million in Brazil. Today, there are about 400,000 indigenous people in Brazil, most living in state-protected reserves.

Tuyucca people traditionally engage in manioc cultivation (which they harvest, process, and sell or trade) and fishing. They treat plants with great respect; for instance, from the long, narrow fibers of the arum plant (which grows up to 3 meters tall), they weave baskets and build canoes. The Tuyucca also use the plant's fibers for pressing fruit juices, including from the auriti palm tree. The Tuyucca people don't have class distinctions; everyone has equal rights, and land is shared. The individual ownership of tools for work or hunting is one of the few personal possessions.

Traditionally, women are responsible for cooking, child-rearing, and gathering food, while men hunt, fish, build houses, and fell trees.

There are two key figures in the Tuyucca society: the kasic (tribal chief) and the paje (shaman and healer). The paje conducts spirit rituals, calling on forest spirits and ancestors, and is knowledgeable in medicinal herbs. If herbal remedies fail, the paje turns to spiritual assistance.

Linguistic Features of Tuyucca

The Tuyucca language exhibits several unique features:

1. A tonal system where pitch affects meaning.
2. A complex verb conjugation system, influenced by factors such as person, number, tense, aspect, and modality.

3. No grammatical cases; word relationships are expressed through word order and prepositions.

4. Extensive use of demonstratives to clarify meaning [2, p. 67].

Status of Tuyucca

Tuyucca is an endangered language, with only a few dozen speakers remaining. Without intervention, it faces the risk of extinction in the near future.

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