Ayali: Is it Time to Say Good-bye to American Indian Languages

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Abstract

This article examines American Indian languages in North, Central and South America to determine how the numbers of native speakers have changed over the course of the last century. Historical research and interviews with American Indian linguists and historians indicate that nearly all American Indian languages in the United States are in danger of becoming extinct within the next forty years. Three languages are examined more closely to develop a better sense of the extent of the language loss: Chickasaw, Shawnee, and Navajo. Probable causal factors contributing to the language loss are also discussed including policies of assimilation and stigmatization, modernization, the increased necessity of English, and destruction of the American Indians native cultural and environmental habitat. The article also includes a survey of methods currently being used in language revitalization efforts and the ensuing stabilization or even increase in speakers that is possible from such efforts. In conclusion, this article discusses the inevitability of further language extinction and the necessity of continued and increased revitalization efforts to prevent additional loss.

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Kimmel ended his monologue by saying, "No parent should ever have to decide whether they can afford to save their child’s life. It just shouldn’t happen. Not here." I’m afraid Kimmel is dead wrong. As the American value-system continues to get gutted, humiliated and mutilated, all one can hope for is a little dose of sanity for Trump, the tormentor. Perhaps the upcoming visit to the Vatican can have a positive impact on him and pivot him toward doing bigger and better things. Can Pope Francis – the man Trump ridiculed during the 2016 campaign – shower his blessings, put him on the path of repentance and plant the seeds of humanity in his heart? Eddy Eddy. Jinnah was absolutely right, a little dose of sanity for Trump, the tormentor. Perhaps the upcoming visit to the Vatican can have a positive impact on him and pivot him toward doing bigger and better things. Can Pope Francis – the man Trump ridiculed during the 2016 campaign – shower his blessings, put him on the path of repentance and plant the seeds of humanity in his heart? Eddy Eddy. Jinnah was absolutely right, it’s a time to say goodbye. It’s a time to say goodbye. 171. 0. English. Nov 13, 2015 23:08. It’s a time to say goodbye. 171. 0. English. Nov 13, 2015 23:08. It’s a time to say goodbye. Tweet. daisyreece. Nov 14, 2015 07:41. It’s a time to say goodbye. It’s time to say goodbye. Thank you for your correction! Ali Jaafar. Arabic. English. In the near future, there are sure to be more American drivers roaming around without even the option to insert a disc and hit play. According to research firm IHS Automotive, 46% of cars sold in the U.S. won’t have CD players by 2021. Those folks, at least at this point in time, may still have large CD collections and removing the outlet they need to access the music they love might alienate them and send them into the welcoming arms of a competitor who hasn’t adopted a streaming-only model. It’s only a matter of time until CD players can only be found in the oldest of used vehicles. It’s just another reminder that the world has moved on and CDs are rapidly becoming a thing of the past. Hugh McIntyre.
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