

The Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas

\*\*\* SSILA BULLETIN \*\*\*

An Information Service for SSILA Members

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--> --Correspondence should be directed to the Editor-- <--

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227.0 SSILA Business

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\* Annual Meeting reminder  
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Members are reminded that abstracts for the 2005-06 annual winter meeting (Albuquerque, New Mexico, January 5-8) are due at the SSILA office on September 1, 2005. Note that this is a week earlier than in previous years, and is the same deadline as the LSA's. The Call for Papers and other information can be found at the SSILA website (<http://www.ssila.org>).

\* Preregistration for the Annual Meeting  
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SSILA's annual meeting is held jointly with the Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America. There is a single registration fee that covers both meetings (as well as the sessions of other groups meeting jointly with the LSA: the American Dialect Society, the American Name Society, the North American Association for the History of the Language

Sciences, and the Society for Pidgin and Creole Linguistics). This fee is processed by the LSA, and SSILA members who are also LSA members should register directly with the LSA. SSILA members who are not also members of the LSA may preregister for the meeting through the SSILA office. The preregistration fee schedule for the Albuquerque meeting is:

Regular members:	\$100
Retired members:	\$75
Student members:	\$40
Unemployed members:	\$40

SSILA members who wish to preregister through the SSILA office should send a check for the appropriate amount, or VISA/Mastercard details (card number, expiry date, name of card holder, amount to be charged, and authorizing signature) to:

SSILA Annual Meeting Registration  
P.O. Box 555  
Arcata, CA 95518-0555  
USA

SSILA will accept preregistrations until December 5.

Attendees of any membership status may also register at the meeting. The on-site registration fees are higher than the preregistration fees:

General:	\$125
Retired members:	\$85
Students:	\$50
Unemployed members:	\$50

A one-day general registration fee of \$65 will also be available. (Note that credit card payments will \*not\* be accepted for on-site registration.)

\* Hotel bookings  
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The meeting will be held in two (adjacent) hotels, the Hyatt Regency Albuquerque and the Doubletree Hotel. Both hotels have reserved blocks of rooms for attendees. The special LSA/SSILA room rates at both hotels are:

Single/Double/Triple/Quad: \$92

The Hyatt Regency reservation telephone numbers are (505) 842-1234 and (800) 233-1234. The Doubletree Hotel reservation numbers are (505) 247-3344 and (888) 223-4113. Reservations should be made by December 14. To get the special room rates, you must identify yourself as attending the LSA meeting.

\* "Los Arreadores"  
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From Frank Hardy (HardyF@gc.adventist.org) 7 Aug 2005:

Some time ago Jack Forbes suggested that the Mansos Indians, encountered by Oñate in the area of what today would be El Paso and Ciudad Juárez, were Athabaskan speakers. The consensus is that Forbes was wrong, but that leaves open the question of what language this early group actually spoke.

Unfortunately for linguists, the Mansos became completely hispanicized centuries ago. Remnants of the group live today in a little village close to Las Cruces, New Mexico, called Tortugas. When I was growing up I lived within a mile of Tortugas without realizing that there was anything Native American about the people who lived there. It was just a little Hispanic community, so far as I knew.

So how to tell what language the Mansos people spoke when the Spanish explorers first encountered them? There might a clue. In a web publication called ALMARGEN (www.almargen.com.mx) Angel Otero Calderón posted an article in 2004 entitled "Los indios mansos." Here's a paragraph from his article:

Quando Oñate entró en contacto con los aborígenes, las primeras palabras que pronunciaron fue: "Manxo" y "micos", queriendo decir: mansos y amigos. Oñate los llamó arreadores porque para decir "sí", enrollaban la lengua contra el paladar como hacen los españoles para conducir animales y les dicen "arre".

This clue has a lot of potential value, because it helps us identify a number of languages that the Mansos could not possibly have spoken. They could not have spoken any dialect of Apachean, because Apachean has no /r/ of any kind, trilled or flapped. (When Navajos wanted to say "Americano," they substituted an /l/, thus, bilagáana 'white man'.) Among Uto-Aztecan languages, Northern Tepehuan has a trilled /r~/, but the Northern Tepehuan word for "yes" is x@@ [@=schwa]. Among Keresan languages, Acoma has an /r/, mostly in loan words, but the Acoma word for "yes" is háaa. Yuman languages do not appear to have an /r/. Zuni does not. So what's left?

It is not my purpose to try to answer this question, but merely to set it before the readers of the SSILA Bulletin for their consideration. The only language I know of that has a word for "yes" that comes anywhere close to "arre" is Quechua arí. Geographically this does not give us a really great starting point. There must be something closer. I look forward to any insights that readers might provide.

-Frank Hardy  
Westminster, Maryland  
(HardyF@gc.adventist.org)

\* An Oklahoma name  
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From Mary Kelley (mickeymouse@rivnet.net) 3 Aug 2005:

I'm hoping that readers of the SSILA Bulletin may be able to guide me

toward information that will help determine the Native American language of my mother's name.

My mother's first name was "Mittase." The name was given to an earlier generation, a Mittase Holt born 1879 or 1880 at the Wichita Agency near Anadarko in the Indian Territory that would eventually become Oklahoma. Her father, Dr. A. J. Holt was a Baptist missionary to the Indians.

The name translates as "White Child." The name was given to Mittase Holt by the wife of Buffalo Good, a Chief of the Waco. His Comanche name was Cothcho Tchat. Both Buffalo Good and Dr. Holt spoke Comanche, which I understand was a second language of many tribes and the language they used intertribally. Buffalo Good took Dr. Holt's sermons and translated them from Comanche for his people of the Waco tribe.

I have established that the name "Mittase" is not Comanche. The Waco language may be a dialect of the Wichita. Could anyone lead me to a source where I might learn the origin of "Mittase"? I have a granddaughter with this name now, and I am anxious to document the history for her.

Thanking you in advance,

--Mary C. Kelley  
(mickeymouse@rivnet.net)

[We sent Mrs Kelley's query to Dave Rood and Wally Chafe, who replied as follows:

Rood: We don't know very much about any of the Wichita dialects except Wichita proper as spoken in the mid 20th century. However, I can be pretty sure that "Mittase" isn't Wichita, whether Waco or otherwise. There are no "m's" in any of the North Caddoan languages. Modern Wichita for 'white child' would be "niyeeskhaç," which doesn't come close. Caddo has an "m" phoneme, but I'm not sure the Caddo were in Oklahoma by 1880. There were many other tribes pushed together around Anadarko by that time, of course; I wonder if there's any way to know what tribe Buffalo Good's wife was from.

Chafe: The Caddo were in Oklahoma after 1859, but I don't see any way that Mittase (however that was pronounced) could be a Caddo word.]

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227.2 Ethnologue Language Codes Merged with New ISO Code Set  
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From M. Paul Lewis (Editor\_Ethnologue@sil.org) 13 August 2005:

Anyone who has recently visited the Ethnologue site (www.ethnologue.com) will know that the new 15th edition of the Ethnologue has adopted a revised set of 3-letter language codes. The change is described in the "History of the Ethnologue" section of the Overview/Introduction, at:

[http://www.ethnologue.com/ethno\\_docs/introduction.asp#history](http://www.ethnologue.com/ethno_docs/introduction.asp#history)

While SIL has tried to let as many people as possible know about this change, many users are surprised or confused.

Briefly, what has happened is this: The ISO (the International Organization for Standardization, [www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org)) decided a couple of years ago to expand its existing (1998) standard 3-letter codes for the representation of names of languages (ISO 639-2) beyond the 400 or so languages that it had been covering to include all the known languages in the world. SIL was asked if it would be willing to let the ISO use the Ethnologue codes for this purpose. In order to do that, however, and maintain continuity between the ISO 639-2 and the new expanded ISO 639-3, SIL had to agree to change those codes in its set that didn't line up with the existing ISO 639-2 codes. In addition there were some codes reserved in the new standard for "private use," and if SIL had existing codes within that "codespace" it had to agree to change those as well. In the end, SIL had to change about 400 of its approximately 7300 3-letter language codes to accommodate the merger with the ISO codes.

The new SIL/ISO code set, though still a "draft" (it is expected that it will be fully implemented by the ISO in 2006), was introduced in the 15th edition of Ethnologue, which came online a few months ago. SIL has also agreed to serve as the "administrative authority" for the coding of living languages--supervising the addition of new language codes, merging codes, removing codes, etc. LinguistList will provide the equivalent service for extinct and classical languages that Ethnologue does not include in its inventory.

The new SIL/ISO language codes are represented by lower case letters, and Ethnologue has further adopted the convention of placing them between square brackets (e.g. [abc]). The case distinction can be used to customize the Ethnologue URL for a specific language to return a page with information about that language \*either\* from the "old" 14th edition or from the "new" 15th edition. The form of the URL is:

[http://www.ethnologue.com/show\\_language.asp?code=CCC](http://www.ethnologue.com/show_language.asp?code=CCC)

where the CCC can be any 3-letter language code. If the three letters are upper case, the data from the 14th edition will be returned with a "banner" indicating that the data has been superseded by data in the 15th edition and indicating any code change that has been made. However, if the CCC is three lower case letters, the system will take that to be a "new" ISO code and return only the 15th edition data.

Full technical details of the new language coding system, with downloadable code tables and other features, can be found at:

<http://www.ethnologue.com/codes/default.asp>

The editors of Ethnologue recognize that this transition period is going to require all of the code users to make adjustments and update any databases they have created using the previous coding system, but they believe that in the long run the larger community of users will be better served by having an internationally recognized and agreed-upon system for identifying all of the known languages of the world.

--M. Paul Lewis, Ethnologue Editor  
([www.ethnologue.com](http://www.ethnologue.com))

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### 227.3 Upcoming Meetings

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\* VII Coloquio Internacional sobre Otopames (Zinacantepec, Nov. 14-18)

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El Comité Organizador del VII Coloquio Internacional sobre Otopames y El Colegio Mexiquense, A.C., institución sede, convocan a la comunidad académica y a las personas interesadas en la historia y cultura otopames a participar en el VII Coloquio Internacional sobre Otopames en homenaje a Pedro Carrasco Pizana y Rosaura Hernández Rodríguez del 14 al 18 de noviembre de 2005, El Colegio Mexiquense, A.C. ExHacienda Santa Cruz de los Patos, Zinacantepec, Estado de México.

#### Líneas temáticas

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El Valle de Toluca; Época prehispánica y siglo XVI; Estudios arqueológicos e históricos; Transformaciones coloniales; Fuentes e historiografía; Geografía histórica; Los otopames en la historia antigua de Mesoamérica; Organización económica y social; Cosmovisión y religión; Estructuras político-territoriales; Fuentes para la historia otopame; Los grupos otopames en el contexto nacional; Modernidad de la tradición indígena; Transformación de las identidades étnicas; Migración y género; Ética comunitaria y sistemas normativos; Sociedad y religión; Salud y medicina tradicional; Hábitat, economía y sociedad; Lengua y cultura; Producción de bienes culturales; Rescate de la historia otopame y políticas culturales; y Danza, música, literatura y artesanías.

#### Datos solicitados

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- (1) Título de ponencia.
  - (2) Formato de presentación (ponencia oral, cartel, video).
  - (3) Requerimientos (proyector de diapositivas, proyector de acetatos, videoprojector).
  - (4) Datos del autor (apellido paterno, materno y nombre(s); perfil--estudiante, docente, investigador, administrativo u otro; teléfono y fax; correo electrónico).
  - (5) Institución a la que pertenece (nombre de la institución, domicilio y código postal, teléfono y fax).

#### Dirección y fecha de recepción de los datos solicitados

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Interesados favor de elaborar un resumen de la ponencia o trabajo por presentar, de no más de 200 palabras, anexando los datos antes solicitados para elaborar el programa definitivo del Coloquio. Esta información debe ser enviada antes del 30 de agosto de 2005 al correo electrónico:

otopames2005@cmq.edu.mx

Los trabajos recibidos serán revisados por una comisión dictaminadora, dando a conocer los resultados vía correo electrónico o fax. Posteriormente se recibirá el texto íntegro de las ponencias hasta el 30 de septiembre. Al término del evento se extenderá constancia a los participantes.



minutes for questions. While there will be no formal position paper, speakers will be asked to keep in mind a general set of questions which will form the main issues for discussion at the symposium. It is anticipated that a collection of papers from the volume will be published following the symposium.

If you are interested in presenting a paper, please send an article you have written on this general topic, along with a brief biographical statement, by email to

Anne-Marie Hartenstein (anneh@rice.edu)

or

Claire Bower (bowern@rice.edu)

or by snail mail to

Rice University Linguistics Symposium  
Attn: Claire Bower  
Department of Linguistics, MS-23  
PO Box 1892  
Houston, TX, 77251-1892

by 1st October, 2005.

If you wish to be kept up to date on announcements for the workshop, please go to <http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~lingsymp/> and fill out the online web form.

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#### 227.4 E-Mail Address Updates

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The following additions or changes have been made to the SSILA e-mail list since the last Bulletin:

Cowell, Andrew ..... james.cowell@colorado.edu  
Deal, Amy Rose ..... amyrose@linguist.umass.edu  
Greer, Jill D. .... jgreer@mo-net.com  
McClaran, Marlys ..... mmcclara@lausd.k12.ca.us  
McDaniels, Todd ..... toddam@adelphia.net  
Robertson, Dave ..... ddr11@uvic.ca

When your e-mail address changes, please notify us (golla@ssila.org).

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THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF THE INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES OF THE AMERICAS

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