Dying Words Endangered Languages And What They Have To Tell Us

Endangered Languages in the 21st CenturyEndangered LanguagesEndangered Languages and Languages in DangerLanguage Diversity EndangeredLanguage Endangerment is an Important IssueWhen Languages DieThe Cambridge Handbook of Endangered LanguagesVital VoicesLanguage Endangerment Is an Important IssueEndangered LanguagesEndangered LanguagesEndangered Languages and New TechnologiesEndangered Languages and EducationEncyclopedia of the World's Endangered LanguagesEndangered LanguagesCataloguing the World's Endangered LanguagesHistorical Linguistics and Endangered LanguagesStudies in Endangered LanguagesEndangered Languages Eda Derhemi Lenore A. Grenoble Luna Filipovi␣ Matthias Brenzinger Corinna Colette Vellnagel K David Harrison Peter K. Austin R. Elangaiyan Corinna Colette Vellnagel Peter K. Austin Peter K. Austin Mari C. Jones Foundation for Endangered Languages. Conference Christopher Moseley Kenneth Locke Hale Lyle Campbell Patience Epps Matsumura, K. Sarah G. Thomason

endangered languages in the 21st century provides research on endangered languages in the contemporary world the challenges still to be faced the work still to be done and the methods and practices that have come to characterize efforts to revive and maintain disadvantaged indigenous languages around the world with contributions from scholars across the field the book brings fresh data and insights to this imperative but still relatively young field of linguistics while the studies acknowledge the threat of losing languages in an

unprecedented way they focus on cases that show resilience and explore paths to sustainable progress the articles are also intended as a celebration of the 25 years work of the foundation for endangered languages and as a parting gift to fel s founder and quarter century chair nick ostler this book will be informative for researchers instructors and specialists in the field of endangered languages the book can also be useful for university graduate or undergraduate students and language activists the open access version of this book available at taylorfrancis com has been made available under a creative commons attribution non commercial no derivatives 4 0 license

this book provides an overview of the issues surrounding language loss it brings together work by theoretical linguists field linguists and non linguist members of minority communities to provide an integrated view of how language is lost from sociological and economic as well as from linguistic perspectives the contributions to the volume fall into four categories the chapters by dorian and grenoble and whaley provide an overview of language endangerment grinevald england jacobs and nora and richard dauenhauer describe the situation confronting threatened languages from both a linguistic and sociological perspective the understudied issue of what beyond a linguistic system can be lost as a language ceases to be spoken is addressed by mithun hale jocks and woodbury in the last section kapanga myers scotton and vakhtin consider the linguistic processes which underlie language attrition

this peer reviewed collection brings together the latest research on language endangerment and language rights it creates a vibrant interdisciplinary platform for the discussion of the most pertinent and urgent topics central to vitality and equality of languages in today s globalised world the novelty of the volume lies in the multifaceted view on the variety of dangers that languages face today such as extinction through dwindling speaker populations and lack of adequate preservation policies or inequality in different social contexts e g access to justice education and research resources there are examples of both loss and survival and discussion of multiple factors that condition these two different outcomes we pose and answer difficult questions such as whether forced interventions in preventing loss are always warranted or indeed viable the emerging shared perspective is that of hope to inspire action towards improving the position of different languages and their speakers through research of this kind

this book presents a comprehensive overview of endangered languages with a global coverage it features such well known specialists as michael krauss willem f h adelaar denny moore colette grinevald akira yamamoto roger blench bruce connell tapani salminen olga kazakevich aleksandr kibrik jonathan owens david bradley george van driem nicholas evans stephen a wurm darrell tryon and matthias brenzinger the contributions are unique in analysing the present extent and the various kinds of language endangerment by applying shared general indicators for the assessment of language endangerment apart from presenting the specific situations of language endangerment at the sub continental level the volume discusses major issues that bear universally on language endangerment the actual

study of endangered languages is carefully examined for example against the ethics and pragmatics of fieldwork practical aspects of community involvement in language documentation are discussed such as the setting up of local archives and the training of local linguists numerous case studies illustrate different language shift environments with specific replacing factors such as colonial and religious conquests migrations and governmental language education the book is of interest to students and scholars of linguistics with particularfocus on endangered languages and their documentation typology and sociolinguistics as well as to anthropologists and language activists

essay from the year 2011 in the subject speech science linguistics grade excellent the university of surrey language english abstract tarn palkö enim ab uo tundö only a handful of people are still able to understand these livonian words viitso 1990 reasons why languages such as livonian are becoming extinct are manifold and the estimated 7000 languages which are being spoken around the world colls 2009 p 1 are expected to rapidly shrink in the upcoming decades it is obvious that language extinction and language death have reached an exceptional level in recent years and that the forecast for a striking percentage of the world s dying languages is very high hale et al 1992 an untold number of languages has already died and the disappearance of languages continues wurm 1991 p 1 constantly one reason for this loss is the fact that more and more people switch to one of the dominant languages especially english and deterding 2004 p 27 in consequence miss out on transmitting their endangered indigenous language to their descendents crystal 2000 the problem of language death has only been discovered in the late 1980 s and it is assumed that within this century 50 of the currently spoken languages will become extinct and that another 40 will be endangered so that their extinction is no longer ne avoidable but only if this trend continues krauss 1992 although this estimation might sound very pessimistic it is obvious that a drastic reduction of language diversity is on its way in these premises thoughts about how to countervail the reduction of diversity have come up within the last couple of years hale et al 1992 bobaljik et al 1996 grenoble and whaley 1998 with one possibility being to respond to the dying of languages by extensively documenting endangered languages before they actually become extinct considering the extent and the speed in which languages die out the task to document is particularly imperative

harrison s book is the first to focus on the essential question of what is lost when a language dies what forms of knowledge are embedded in a language s structure and vocabulary and how harmful is it to humanity that such knowledge is lost forever spanning the globe from siberia to north america to the himalayas and using fascinating anecdotes and portraits of some of these languages last remaining speakers harrison looks at the forms of knowledge that are dying out his book is a testimony to the remarkable span of human knowledge and ingenuity and will fascinate linguists anthropologists and general readers

it is generally agreed that about 7 000 languages are spoken across the world today and at least half may no longer be spoken by the end of this century this state of the art handbook examines the reasons behind this dramatic loss of linguistic diversity why it matters and what can be done to document and support endangered languages the volume is relevant not only to researchers in language endangerment language shift and language death but to anyone interested in the languages and cultures of the world it is accessible both to specialists and non specialists researchers will find cutting edge contributions from acknowledged experts in their fields while students activists and other interested readers will find a wealth of readable yet thorough and up to date information

proceedings of the 10th fel conference held at central institite for indian languages mysore india in 2006 a collection of papers on multilingualism in relation to language endangerment with sections on endangerment contact effects religion and documentation literacy relations with linguistic majorities development andcommunity language support

essay from the year 2011 in the subject speech science linguistics grade excellent the university of surrey language english abstract tarn palk enim ab uo tund only a handful of people are still able to understand these livonian words viitso 1990 reasons why languages such as livonian are becoming extinct are manifold and the estimated 7000 languages which are being spoken around the world colls 2009 p 1 are expected to rapidly shrink in the upcoming decades it is obvious that language extinction and language death have reached an exceptional level in recent years and that the forecast for a striking percentage of the world s dying languages is very high hale et al 1992 an untold number of languages has already died and the disappearance of languages continues wurm 1991 p 1 constantly one reason for this loss is the fact that more and more people switch to one of the dominant languages especially english and deterding 2004 p 27 in consequence miss out on transmitting their endangered indigenous language to their descendents crystal 2000 the problem of language death has only been discovered in the late 1980 s and it is assumed that within this century 50 of the currently spoken languages will become extinct and that another 40 will be endangered so that their extinction is no longer ne avoidable but only if this trend continues krauss 1992 although this estimation might sound very pessimistic it is obvious that a drastic reduction of language diversity is on its way in these premises thoughts about how to countervail the reduction of diversity have come up within the last couple of years hale et al 1992 bobaljik et al 1996 grenoble and whaley 1998 with one possibility being to respond to the dying of languages by extensively documenting endangered languages before they actually become extinct considering the extent and the speed in which languages die out the task to document is particularly i

minority languages are abandoned as people switch to larger languages and governments promote linguistic unity this volume examines beliefs about endangered languages among speakers and linguists which have important implications for preserving endangered

languages as well as for language policy at local national and international levels

at least half of the seven thousand or so languages spoken today are in danger of disappearing during the 21st century although languages have always come and gone the current rate of language extinction is unprecedented a loss which not only affects individual communities but also diminishes the world s linguistic heritage this crisis has stimulated a variety of responses from linguists sociolinguists have been concerned with the study of language revitalisation how the tendency to shift away from minority languages can be reversed while general linguists have paid more attention to the structural aspects of language endangerment how languages change as they fall into disuse in recent years linguists have been particularly concerned with language documentation the activity of recording annotating translating and archiving audiovisual materials of languages before they are lost in addition all linguists working on endangered languages face the ethical question of how much effort they should devote to non academic activities in support of the communities with whom they work the study of language endangerment has only really become a concern of mainstream linguistics in the past twenty years and this four volume collection is the first of its kind bringing together research on language endangerment from leading scholars theoretical and practical responses by linguists have led to the emergence of the linguistic sub fields of language documentation and language revitalisation and most of the publications within them date from just the last ten years there has however been a veritable flood of books and articles during this time and an enormous flowering of interest both within academia and in the wider community as well twenty years ago an extensive collection on this topic could not have been put together a general introduction by the editors gives an overview of the history of research on endangered languages and the main issues faced by scholars of language endangerment today while specific volume introductions detail the research context for the individual articles endangered languages is an essential one stop work of reference and will be appreciated by researchers and students of language endangerment and related disciplines

this book discusses how new technologies have the potential to revolutionise the documentation analysis and revitalisation of endangered languages for the linguist and indigenous community alike it addresses the challenges that come with these new resources and debates how their application may be advanced

the theme of the third annual foundation for endangered languages fel conference was endangered languages and education focusing on how education can be used to promote resist and reverse the decline of a language the conference papers are broken into several sections covering the topic from a variety of aspects and perspectives finding a policy looks at the more general issues of how to proceed when the old link between the language and the traditional culture seems to be fraying the question is considered in three north and

south american contexts among north dakota american indians the amish community and mayans in guatemala as well as for the saami in norway and the irish under british rule looking at learners switches the focus to the pupils in the education process surveying attitudes and assessing acquired proficiency in brittany and new zealand where there is a single minority language and a single metropolitan language in working with non written languages the special problems of making a bridge between oral and written language education comes to the fore ways and means examines practical measures that can be taken to get teaching and learning organized the examples of maori in new zealand and khoisan in namibia are examined the role of standard dialects is considered using the case of the disruption of language transmission among basque dialects in spain finally impacts and future prospects examines the overall impact that education programs seem to be having in preserving endangered languages kft

the concern for the fast disappearing language stocks of the world has arisen particularly in the past decade as a result of the impact of globalization this book appears as an answer to a felt need to catalogue and describe those languages making up the vast majority of the world s six thousand or more distinct tongues which are in danger of disappearing within the next few decades endangerment is a complex issue and the reasons why so many of the world s smaller less empowered languages are not being passed on to future generations today are discussed in the book s introduction the introduction is followed by regional sections each authored by a notable specialist combining to provide a comprehensive listing of every language which by the criteria of endangerment set out in the introduction is likely to disappear within the next few decades these languages make up ninety per cent of the world s remaining language stocks each regional section comprises an introduction that deals with problems of language preservation peculiar to the area surveys of known extinct languages and problems of classification the introduction is followed by a list of all known languages within the region endangered or not arranged by genetic affiliation with endangered and extinct languages marked this listing is followed by entries in alphabetical order covering each language listed as endangered useful maps are provided to pinpoint the more complex clusters of smaller languages in every region of the world the encyclopedia therefore provides in a single resource expert analysis of the current language policy situation in every multilingual country and on every continent detailed descriptions of little known languages from all over the world and clear alphabetical entries region by region of all the world s languages currently thought to be in danger of extinction the encyclopedia of the world s endangered languages will be a necessary addition to all academic linguistics collections and will be a useful resource for a range of readers with an interest in development studies cultural heritage and international affairs

essays from the linguistic society of america symposium endangered languages and their preservation january 1991 includes essay by ken hale language endangerment and the human value of linguistic diversity in which he discusses phonology and lexicon of damin and lardil on mornington island

cataloguing the world s endangered languages brings together the results of the extensive and influential catalogue of endangered languages elcat project based on the findings from the most extensive endangered languages research project this is the most comprehensive source of accurate information on endangered languages the book presents the academic and scientific findings that underpin the online catalogue located at endangeredlanguages com making it an essential companion to the website for academics and researchers working in this area while the online catalogue displays much data from the elcat project this volume develops and emphasizes aspects of the research behind the data and includes topics of great interest in the field not previously covered in a single volume cataloguing the world s endangered languages is an important volume of particular interest to academics and researchers working with endangered languages

this collection showcases the contributions of the study of endangered and understudied languages to historical linguistic analysis and the broader relevance of diachronic approaches toward developing better informed approaches to language documentation and description the volume brings together perspectives from both established and up and coming scholars and represents a globally and linguistically diverse range of languages the collected papers demonstrate the ways in which endangered languages can challenge existing models of language change based on more commonly studied languages and can generate innovative insights into linguistic phenomena such as pathways of grammaticalization forms and dynamics of contact driven change and the diachronic relationship between lexical and grammatical categories in so doing the book highlights the idea that processes and outcomes of language change long held to be universally relevant may be more sensitive to cultural and typological variability than previously assumed taken as a whole this collection brings together perspectives from language documentation and historical linguistics to point the way forward for richer understandings of both language change and documentary descriptive approaches making this key reading for scholars in these fields

an introduction to language endangerment what is it how and why does it happen why should we care

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