

SAHAPTIN INDIAN LANGUAGE I
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Fa96

L-4 KINSHIP TERMS

Native Americans languages are rich in the expression of relationship. Men and women often use entirely different words for the same degree of relationship. These words cannot be interchanged. The children of a family apply the word "father" (tuta) to the real father (pshit) and are "children" (miyanashma) are addressed as (t i ta) by them. In a like manner, the children address their biological "mother"(pcha) as (i l a) and are called (isha) "my child" by them. The brothers of one's father are (pimx) "uncle" and addressed as (maxa) and the brothers of one's mother are "uncle" (pitx) and are addressed as (kaka) by the children.. The sisters of one's father are (pishish) "aunt" and is addressed as (shisha). Sisters of one's mother are (paxax) "aunt" and are addressed as (xaxa).

Particular attention is paid to paternal and maternal side of the family, as shown when a child or member of the family addresses the Elders in the family. On the paternal side the (pshit) "father" of your father is (pusha) and is addressed as (pusha). Father's mother (pcha) is (ala) "grandmother", and is addressed as (ala) "paternal grandmother". Mother's (pcha) mother is (kala) and is addressed as (kala) "maternal grandmother". Mother's (pshit) is (tila) and is addressed as (tila) "maternal grandfather".

VOCABULARY:

Wanik-	name/ to name	kukut	work
p'itxanuk	mountain	wana	river
nusux	salmon	tkwata	eat
ttawax	to plant/ to grow	nan	suffix Object marker
shapa	to cause	inmi	my

SENTENCE TRANSLATION:

Inmi pshit ikukut-sha p'itxanuk-pa ts'aa wana-yaw. I-shapa-ttawax-sha
nusux-nan tkwata-tay.

Key to kin relationship abbreviations used:

<i>Mo</i> =mother	<i>Mn</i> =man	<i>Mat</i> =maternal
<i>Fa</i> =father	<i>Wo</i> =woman	<i>Pat</i> =paternal
<i>Br</i> =brother	<i>Ol</i> =older	
<i>Si</i> =sister	<i>Yo</i> =younger	
<i>So</i> =son	<i>Hu</i> =husband	
<i>Da</i> =daughter	<i>Wi</i> =wife	
<i>Ch</i> =child	<i>Pa</i> =parent	

Examples: *MnBrCh*=man's brother's child
WoBroSo=woman's brother's son
MnYoBr=man's younger brother

When a child is talking about his immediate family members, he will say:

<i>Na-ilas iwaniksha Maali.</i>	"My mom's name is Mary"
<i>Natutas iwaniksha Taam.</i>	"My dad's name is Tom"
<i>Na-mixas iwa kaatnam.</i>	"My (pat)uncle is tall"
<i>Na-kakas iwa k'puul.</i>	"My (mat). uncle is short"
<i>Na-pisas iwa wiyatpa.</i>	"My (mat) aunt is far away"
<i>Na-xaxas iwa shix kuki-la.</i>	"My (pat) aunt is a good cook"
<i>Na-pusas nmi tutanik awa plash.</i>	"My (pat) grandfather's hair is white."
<i>Na-alas iwa wapshash-yi.</i>	"My (pat) grandmother has braids."
<i>Na-tilas ishapa-wayxti-xa kaa.</i>	"My(mat) grandfather drives a car"
<i>Na-kalas iwasha-xa k'usi-pa.</i>	"My (mat) grandmother rides a horse."
<i>Na-yayas iskuuli-sha.</i>	"My(Ol) brother is going to school."
<i>Na-nanas ishp'awi-xa.</i>	"My (Ol) sister plays ball."