Revitalising Indigenous Languages

Te Ipukarea – The National Māori Language Institute
Te Whare o Rongomaurikura – The International Centre for Language Revitalisation
Overview

• the creation of digital resources,
• collaboration with Indigenous communities,
• educating and up-skilling future language revitalisation strategists,
• supporting the right to language.
Language shift

‘Languages die because they are no longer spoken. This happens because their speakers die out without passing them on to the next generation. Only rarely is this because of the extinction of an entire society or race. Usually it happens because from generation to generation (it takes only three or four) the speakers shift to another language. Languages do not die natural deaths. They do not fade away without outside influence. Languages are killed by other languages’ (Bell 1991: 67).
‘Ko te reo te mauri o te mana Māori’
- Sir James Hēnare

The language is the lifeforce of mana Māori
The right to language

- UNDRIP Article 8 – the right not to be subjected to forced assimilation
- UNDRIP Article 13 – the right to revitalise, use, develop and transmit to future generations our languages
- UNDRIP Article 14 – the right to provide education in our own languages, and to have access to education in our own languages
- UNDRIP Article 16 – the right to establish our own media in our own languages
Language Revitalisation in the 21st Century
Re-purposing the tools of language domination

From this.... to this!

Te reo Māori was banned in schools for many years and children were punished for speaking their mother tongue.

Immersion Māori language schooling was established to reverse language shift.
Personal Introduction
Tania M. Kaʻai

• Te Kōhanga Reo and The Kōhanga Reo National Trust
• Kura Kaupapa Māori (Māori immersion primary/elementary schools) & Wharekura (Māori immersion secondary/high schools);
• Indigenising the university academy
Language Decline

- 1900 = 90%
- 1960 = 25%
- 1979 = language death possible
- 1984 = <2%
- New Zealand is among the most monolingual countries in the world. It is estimated that 90 to 95 per cent of New Zealanders can not speak any other language apart from English
Te Ipukarea
The National Māori Language Institute

- Established in July 2008
- Biggest collaboration of community and tertiary Māori language providers
- Te Ipukarea promotes excellence in scholarship, teaching and research in the Māori language
- Emphasis on the use of technology for the revitalisation of te reo Māori

http://teipukarea.maori.nz
“The future belongs to those who prepare for it today.”
—Malcolm X
Te Whare o Rongomaurikura
The International Centre for Language Revitalisation

• Established in December 2010
• The Centre is the global arm of Te Ipukarea
• The Centre was established in response to international enquiries about the work being done in Te Ipukarea

http://languagerevive.org
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Creating Digital Resources for Te Reo Māori</th>
<th>Creating Digital Resources for Pacific Languages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Building Capacity – MA Te Reo Māori</td>
<td>Building Capacity – MA Language Revitalisation (MALR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publishing in Te Reo Māori</td>
<td>Publishing in the Field of Language Revitalisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advocating for Te Reo Māori</td>
<td>Advocating for the Right to Language</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Advocating for the Right to Language
He Pātaka Mātauranga brought together key repositories of Māori knowledge and language who were interviewed in the Māori language and recorded. Their interviews are streamed online and are free-to-access.
Tāmata Toiere
www.waiata.maori.nz

- Comprehensive information about *waiata* and *haka* (Māori song and dance).
- Created as a celebration of Māori oral history.
- Free to access - increasing access to *waiata* and *haka*.
Te Whanake – Print Resources

Includes:

- Text books for Te Kākano, Te Pihinga, Te Māhuri & Te Kōhure
- Study Guides
- Teachers Manuals
- Audio CDs
- Dictionary – Te Aka (also online)
Te Whanake Online
www.tewhanake.maori.nz
Māori Dictionary Online

{{Māori Dictionary Online image}}

Found 3 results matching "rifleman"

**tititipounamu**
(personal name) rifleman, Acanthisitta chloris - Aotearoa/New Zealand's smallest bird, distinguished by its rounded wings, a very short stumpy tail and a fine, slightly upturned bill. The male is bright yellow-green above while the female is streaked dark and light brown and both have whitish underparts. Found in native forests and scrub.

He manu i rino wao te tititipounamu, ō, he tino poto ngā hūmaeke. / The rifleman is a small bird that inhabits the forest and it has very short tail feathers. See also tāpahipere, kōrurerere.

**tāpahipare**
(noun) male rifleman, Acanthisitta chloris - Aotearoa/New Zealand's smallest bird, distinguished by its rounded wings, a very short stumpy tail and a fine, slightly upturned bill. The male is bright yellow-green above with whitish underparts. Found in native forests and scrub. See also tititipounamu, kōrurerere.
Welcome to the online Mangaian Dictionary. This online dictionary is aimed at providing quick access for learners and speakers of the language of Mangaia, the southernmost and second largest island of the Cook Islands. Mangaian is an Eastern Polynesian language that is closely related to the languages of the other islands of the southern Cook Islands.

It also has many similarities with the indigenous languages of the northern Cook Islands, Tuamotu, Aotearoa/New Zealand, Hawai‘i, the Marquesas, Tahiti and the Society Islands.

This is a bilingual dictionary with the meanings of each headword given in English. It can be searched for both English and Mangaian words.
REO
Online Language Systems
REO

Online Language Systems

• REO is the Māori term for ‘language’ and ‘voice’.

• REO provides a ‘voice’ for endangered languages

• Based on two central concepts
  – Endangered language learning is a social, community based activity
  – The language learning experience should be customisable for each language
Building Capacity

• MA in Te Reo Māori – offered through video-conferencing
• MA in Te Reo Māori is delivered entirely in the Māori language and assignments and thesis OR exegesis must be written in the Māori language.

• MA in Language Revitalisation – online
• MA in Language Revitalisation is delivered in English
Master of Arts in Language Revitalisation

• To be offered from July 2014

• Will enable community leaders, language activists, teachers, families & researchers to participate ~ all coursework will be conducted via online technologies

• Coursework includes – Ecology of Language Revitalisation, Language Planning and Policy, Educational Agency, Endangered Languages and Language Revitalisation, Research Methods
MA in Language Revitalisation Online

• This Masters degree is one significant way we can help endangered language communities by building the human resource

• Educating future language revitalisation strategists who can then help their own communities
Ngugi Wa Thiong’o said...

Language is a communication system and carrier of culture by virtue of being simultaneously the means and carrier of memory...Language is the clarifying medium of memory or rather the two are intertwined. To starve or kill a language is to starve and kill a people’s memory bank (2009, p.20).