



Uru-Chipayas: Organizing for Linguistic / Cultural Survival

(BOLIVIA) Although declared extinct by linguists, the ancient language of Puquina is spoken by at least 10,000 people in the Desaguadero River valley. Thirty-two families from Uru-Chipaya-Murato, one of the oldest and smallest Andean communities, are organizing for linguistic / cultural survival. In an interview with SAIIC, Lorenzo Inta, a representative of Uru-Chipaya-Murato, described several projects being planned by the community. Among these are a gathering to reunite all the speakers of Puquina, a Native school directed by community members and a linguistic documentation project. He went on to say that they are in need of technical, educational, and financial support and collaboration for these projects.

If you can provide assistance or
would like more information, write to:

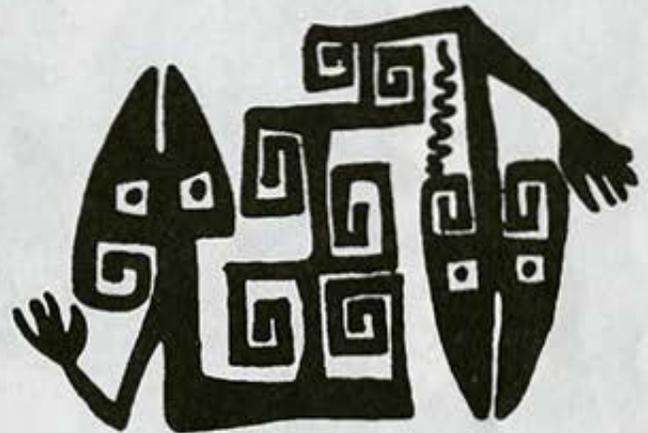
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Traditional Authorities Proclaim Independence

(Bolivia) Oruro is a mining city, known since colonial times for its large silver and tin deposits. Second in importance to the huge deposits of Cerro Rico in Potosi, Oruro has been forgotten since the collapse of tin prices on the international market.

In April 1991, the 5th Council of Traditional Authorities gathered five-hundred *jilaqata* and *cacique* (native authorities of Andean indigenous communities) in Oruro. These representatives met in order to proclaim their intent to fight for the reconstruction of the Quechua-Aymara nation. Many of their communities have never been enslaved by colonists. They maintain that the Bolivian government answers to a centralized, oligarchic structure which is artificially imposed over indigenous structures. In this way, they proclaimed their independence from the Bolivian Government.



Native Radio Broadcasters Face Many Obstacles

(Bolivia) The Independent Association of Aymara Indian Radio Operators (AREAL) began the process to broadcast in the Aymara and Quechua languages in the Oruro and Potosi regions one year ago. Ismael Mamani and Rogelio Pari, both active members of AREAL, informed SAIIC of the barriers they face to broadcast in Native languages. The quest for a license to broadcast has been futile, governmental obstruction is rampant, and competition with non-Indian NGOs for a frequency is very high.

AREAL is searching for technical and financial support in order to continue broadcasting independently. Especially needed is the exchange of related experiences, cassette tapes and tape recorders. If you are able to offer resources, please contact AREAL at:

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