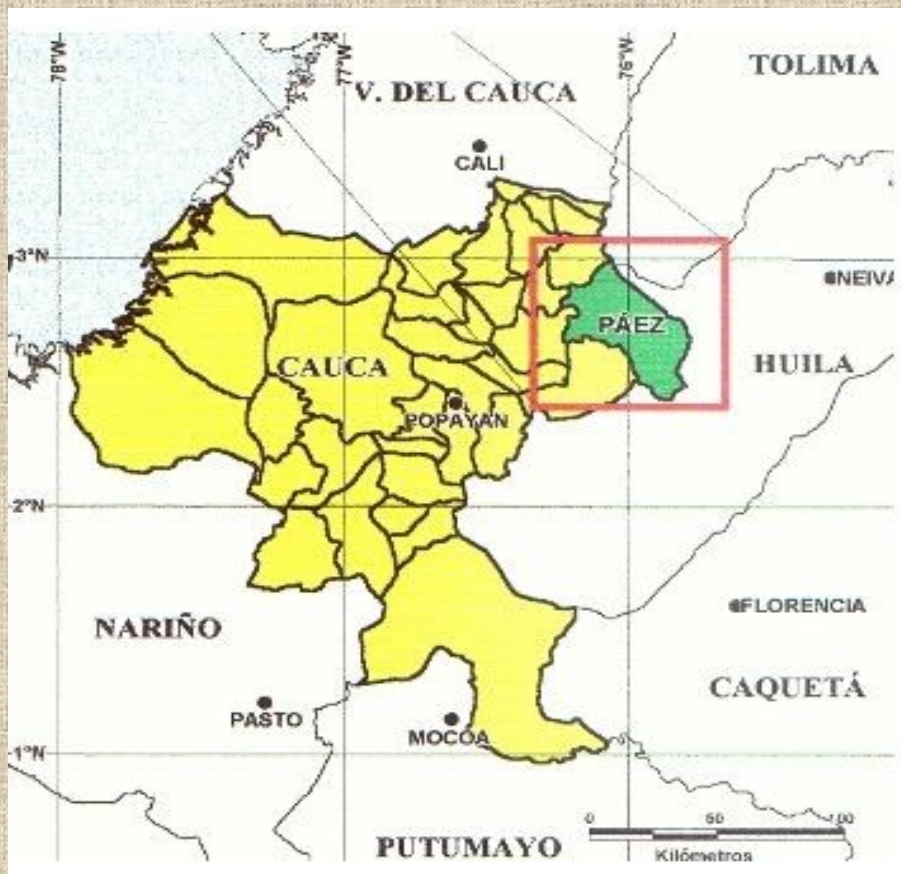


## A short note on Páez (nasa yuwe)

A language spoken in Cauca, south-east of Valle de Cauca, east of Huila and south-east of Tolima.



Paez	
Nasa Yuwe	
<b>Hablado en</b>	 Colombia
<b>Región</b>	Cauca, sureste del Valle, oeste del Huila y suroeste del Tolima.
<b>Hablantes</b>	77.400 (2000) <sup>1</sup> 100.000 (2005) <sup>2</sup> 75.000 (2008) <sup>3</sup>
<b>Puesto</b>	No en los 100 mayores  ( <i>Ethnologue</i> , 2013)
<b>Familia</b>	Aislada
Estatus oficial	
<b>Oficial en</b>	En Colombia tiene reconocimiento como lengua oficial en el territorio Nasa <sup>4</sup>
<b>Regulado por</b>	Consejo Regional Indígena del Cauca





PANAMA

Cuicacos  
Koreguajes  
Curripacos  
Macaguanes  
Tat

VEN

OCEANO PACIFICO

ECUADOR

COMUNIDADES ANTIGUAS

Embera - Catio

Metilones

Macaguanes

Weunana

Quimbayas

Sugamuxy

Guahibos

Hunza

Muiscas

Sálivas

Tolimas

Bacatá

San Agustín

Piapocos

Calimas

Paéces

Ingas

Cubeos

Tumacos

Guambianos

Guayaberos

Sirundoy

Camsás

Koreguajes

Uitotos

Tuyucas

Makunas

Sionas

Andoques

Yaguas



The language is originally called **Nasa Yuwe** “Language of the Nasa”

It is an isolated language and its classification is unclear. Most probably it belongs into a Macro-Chibcha family (with a possible relationship to Barbacoan languages like Awa, Namtrik, Cayapa and others).

Nasa Yuwe is an agglutinative language (synthetic language). The order of sentence is **Subject- Object- Verb**

**Verbs** can be inflected by adding suffixes of tenses and modes. In the second person, there is a feminine and masculine form.

**Pronouns:** The first and second person sg. are different for feminine and masculine genders. The third person is neutral.

Verb *pa`ya* “to call”- present tense

<b>1<sup>st</sup> sg.</b>	<i>pa`yatj</i>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> sg.</b>	<i>pa`yang</i> ( <i>masc.</i> ) <i>pa`yai`cue</i> ( <i>fem.</i> )
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> sg.</b>	<i>pa`yac</i>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> pl.</b>	<i>pa`ya`tja`w</i>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> pl.</b>	<i>pa`yai`cue</i>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> pl.</b>	<i>pa`ya`ty</i>

Personal pronouns:

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<b>1<sup>st</sup> sg. masc.</b>	<i>andy</i>
<b>fem.</b>	<i>u`cue</i>

<b>2<sup>nd</sup> sg. masc.</b>	<i>indy</i>
<b>fem.</b>	<i>i`cue</i>

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> sg.</b>	<i>tyäa</i>
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<b>1<sup>st</sup> pl.</b>	<i>cue`sh</i>
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<b>2<sup>nd</sup> pl.</b>	<i>i`cue`sh</i>
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<b>3<sup>rd</sup> pl.</b>	<i>tyäawe`sh</i>
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The **nouns** have declinations- there is **nominative, accusative, dative, ablative, locative and instrumental.**

These are formed with suffixes.

There is no lexical difference between singular and plural.

Plural is marked by adding a suffix ***we`sh***. (used only for people and animals and expresses a group of subjects):

*U`y* “woman”

*Naa u`ya`wala zhichcue`*

“This woman is very beautiful” (sg.)

*U`ya` tawtyi umu`* “The women weave chumbes” (pl.)

*U`ywesha` tjengnaty ũsu`* “the women (a group) are looking.  
(col. pl.)



## **Nominative**

*Jimba` tangute`c wete.* “The horse fell down white returning.”

## **Accusative**

In singular: **`s**, after a consonant: **a`s**

In plural: **ty**, after a consonant: **tyi**

*Mama` luucha`s pa` ya`c.* “Mother called the child.” *luuch-*  
“child”.

*Caapiyaj sa` luuchtyi pa`cuena ũsa.* “The teacher is looking for the children.”

## **Adjectives**

Adjectives always follow the noun:

*Yat wala* “a big house”

To say “**thank you**” to somebody, a word ***wech*** is used in the sentence:

*Wech pu`ching* “Thank you for helping me.”

Some additional materials:

<http://talkingdictionary.swarthmore.edu/paez/?lang=es>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F0njgdJkhmE&t=269s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XEGfbFAqFOE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dYrqAHLvL6Y>