

# **BILINGUAL MIXED LANGUAGES**



# INTRODUCTION

- Previously -> bilingual mixture -> two languages involved are maintained -> not a distinct language
- Code-switching
- Today -> bilingual mixture results in a new and autonomous creation -> BILINGUAL MIXED LANGUAGE

# INTRODUCTION

- New mixed languages arise in situations of ongoing or complete language shift, though they do not emerge at the same stage of the shift process -> differences in nature and degree of mixture found in them
- Code-mixing patterns tend to develop in a certain order
  - Simple insertions > more complex insertions > alternations > insertions in the other direction

# CLASSIFICATION ON MIXED LANGUAGES

- BAKKER (1994): two categories according to socio-historical criteria: social settings and circumstances in which they arose
  - Cat. 1: languages created by settled ex-nomadic groups who need a secret language for communication among themselves >>>>> normally lexicon of the original ethnic languages and grammatical system of the “host language”
    - Anglo-Romani, Caló, Callahuaya, Krekonika
  - Cat. 2: languages which arise in mixed households involving men speaking language A, who “invade” the territory of language B and Marry local woomen
    - Michif, Island Carib, Chindo



# CLASSIFICATION ON MIXED LANGUAGES

EXAMPLE	SOCIO-HISTORICAL CHARACTERISTICS	SOCIO-HISTORICAL CHARACTERISTICS
<u>CATEGORY 1</u>		
ANGLO-ROMANI, CALÓ, CALLAHUAYA, MA'A, ETC.	CREATED BY EX-NOMADIC GROUPS WHO NEED A SECRET LANGUAGE	L2 PROVIDES GRAMMAR. L1 PROVIDES LEXICON
<u>CATEGORY 2</u>		
MICHIF, ISLAND CARIB, CHINDO, PETJO, JAVINDO, ILWANA, ETC.	ARISE IN MIXED HOUSEHOLDS WITH IMMIGRANT MEN AND LOCAL WOMEN	GRAMMAR DERIVED FROM MOTHERS' LANGUAGE AND LEXICON FROM FATHER'S

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ALL OF THIS IS VERY DEBATABLE



# EXAMPLE 1: MEDIA LENGUA

- Blend of Quechua grammatical structure and Spanish-derived lexical forms that make up about 90% of the vocabulary.
- Spoken in several small towns or village communities in the central Ecuador highlands.
- In-group language among craftsmen and construction workers, particularly among younger men who work near the capital Quito.
- **RELEVANT GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF MEDIA LENGUA > Salcedo (Cotopaxi) and Pijal (Guayas)**





# EXAMPLE 1: MEDIA LENGUA



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wUyJ\\_Mqh5IU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wUyJ_Mqh5IU)



# EXAMPLE 1: MEDIA LENGUA

- These villages are situation geographically and geographically between the world of the urban centres in the Valley and the India world of the mountain slopes
- Spanish -> Communication with non-Indian world
- Quechua -> Quechua speaking mountain communities
- M.L. -> Everyday interaction between villages



# EXAMPLE 1: MEDIA LENGUA

- The language appears to have come into being between 1920 and 1940
  - Acculturated Indians could not identify completely with either Spanish or Quechua, hence they created Media Lenguas as a mean of expressing their separate group identity.
- Contact between Quechua and Spanish led to mutual lexical borrowing and structural changes
- However, M.L. is neither Quechua with heavy Spanish borrowing, nor Spanish with Quechua substratum
- The language is unintelligible to speakers of either of its source languages



# EXAMPLE 1: MEDIA LENGUA

- (1) a. ML *Unu fabur-ta pidi-nga-bu bini-xu-ni.*  
one favor-ACC ask-NOM-BEN come-PROG-1sg.  
"I come to ask a favor." "I come to ask a favor."
- b. Q *Shuk fabur-ta maña-nga-bu shamu-xu-ni*  
one favor-ACC ask-NOM-BEN come-PROG-1sg
- c. Sp. *Vengo para pedir un favor.*  
I-come for ask-INF a favor.

# EXAMPLE 1: MEDIA LENGUA

- 2) a. ML      *No sabi-ni-chu      Xwan bini-shka-da*  
NEG know-1sg-NEG John come-NOM-ACC  
"I don't know that Juan has come"
- b. Q.      *Mana yacha-ni-chu      Xwan shamu-shka-da.*  
NEG know-1sg-NEG John come-NOM-ACC
- c. Sp.      *No sé      que Juan ha venido.*  
NEG I-know that John has come.



# EXAMPLE 1: MEDIA LENGUA

- M.L. > incorporation of Spanish phonological shapes into a Quechua morphosyntactic frame

SPANISH	QUECHUA	EXAMPLE
E	I	DECIR > DIZI
O	U	PODER > PUDI
IE	I	BIEN > BIN SIETE > SITI

# EXAMPLE 1: MEDIA LENGUA

- M.L. > incorporation of Spanish phonological shapes into a Quechua morphosyntactic frame
- Pronouns

Person	Quechua	Spanish	Media Lengua	English
1 sg	Ñuka	Yo/Me/Mi	Ami	I / Me
2 sg	Kan	Vos (tú)	Bos	You
3 sg	Pay	Él	Ei	He/She
1 pl	Ñukunchi	Nosotros	Nustru	We
2 pl	Kan-guna	Ustedes (vostedes)	Bos-kuna	You
3 pl	Pay-guna	Ellos	Ei-kuna	They



# EXAMPLE 2: MICHIF

- 19th century as a result of contact between French-speaking European men and Indian Women in the Red River area (Winnipeg, Manitoba)
- Colonisation of Canada in the 17th century by the Brits.
  - Trading posts on the Hudson Bay made contact between Europeans and Indians to increase.
  - 1784 North-West Company founded. Employees were French speakers who worked as guides and traders.



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- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HFUGfkRQ4RE>



# EXAMPLE 2: MICHIF

- Michif arose as an expression of the separate identity of the Métis
- Cohabitation between groups of men and women speaking different language have produced similar bilingual mixture that serve as the language of the descendants
  - Examples: Krojos (Javanese mother, Dutch father), Griekwas (Khoekhoes mother, Afrikaans father)
  - The creation of Michif seems to have been brought about especially by the coming together of Métis who traveled west from Manitoba to engage in bison hunting after 1821

# EXAMPLE 2: MICHIF

- Source languages > Métis French and Plains Cree
- From French > 90% of nouns and structure
- From Plains Cree > Verbal system and grammatical categories

e:gwanêgi li: sava:z ki:pa:ʃamwak la vyâd  
they the Indians dried the meat

la vjâd Orêja:l, la vjâdi ʃovrø, tut ki:pa:ʃamwak  
the meat moose, the meat-of deer, all they-dried it.

da: dibc&ca:k ki:a:ʃta:wak mana  
in little-bags they-put-it usually

“These Indians dried the meat. Moose meat, deer meat, they dried it all.  
They used to put it in little bags.”



# CONVERGENCE AND INNOVATION IN MICHIF

- MICHIF > not a blend of French with Cree. Both components have been subject to varying degrees of modification, as we would expect in a language contact situation.
- French (and a few English) verb stems have been incorporated and adapted to Cree verb morphology, while a few French verbs are conjugated as in French
- Michif also employ French nouns or adjectives to create property-denoting stative verbs (/w/) or transitive verbs (/ihke/)

# EXAMPLE 3: MA'A

- USAMBARA MOUNTAINS IN NORTHERN TANZANIA
- GROUPS WHO MIGRATED TO THE REGION SEVERAL HUNDRED YEARS AGO
- ALMOST ALL OF ITS GRAMMAR IS BANTU. HALF OF ITS LEXICON COMES SOUTHERN SUHITIC. THE REST IS DRAWN FROM BANTU LANGUAGES





# EXAMPLE 3: MA'A

- Oral tradition has it that the Mbugu were originally from Lukipya (nowadays in Kenya)
- To escape harassment > Migration to Usambara mountains > Adoption of Pare (language of the area)
- Ma'a minority with the Mbugu > resisted assimilation for longer and developed a mixed language as a sign of their resistance and autonomy.
- Language is incomprehensible by their neighbours.
- <https://apics-online.info/surveys/62>