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20 March 2009 CLArion

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CLArion Editor

1. Latest GWOT List.

(Editor's Note: Item courtesy of [REDACTED] are we missing any languages?)

List of GWOT Languages 25 January 2008

Arabic (MSA) + dialects (Algerian, Egyptian, Iraqi, Levantine, Libyan, Mauritanian, Moroccan, Omani, Saudi Gulf, Sudanese, Tunisian, Yemeni)
Azeri
Baluchi
Dari
Kashmiri
Kurdish (Kermanji)
Kurdish (Sorani)
Pashto (Including Waziri Dialect)
Persian Farsi
Philippine Languages (Tagalog, Tausug, Yakan, Maranao, Maguindanao, Sama, Ilocano, Cebuano, Chavacano)
Punjabi (East and West)
Somali
Tajik
Turkish
Uighur
Urdu
Uzbek

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2. CLA Holocaust Films

(Editor's Note: Item courtesy of [REDACTED])

In honor of Holocaust remembrance, this year's spring film festival has a holocaust related theme. Here are the films, languages, venue, and times:

April 22 KORCZAK

Polish [REDACTED] 1100-1300

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April 27 AU REVOIR, LES ENFANTS
 April 30 EUROPA EUROPA

French
 German



1100-1300
 1100-1300

The French and German films are autobiographical. The Polish film is also historically based.



Chairman, CLA Film Committee
 963-1204s

"Leveraging synergy like there's no tomorrow"

(b) (3) - P.L. 86-36

3. Presidential Language Trivia

(U) Which president was the first to campaign in German (as well as in English)?

- A. Benjamin Harrison
- B. Rutherford Hayes
- C. William McKinley
- D. Herbert Hoover
- E. James Garfield

The answer is at the end of the issue

(b) (6)

4. NML April Speaker

(Editor's Note: Some of you know long-time NSAer and [redacted] he will be speaking at the NML. See below:)

"Paper, Rock, Bone and Bronze--An Epigraphic Odyssey" Sunday 19 April 2009, 1400-1600, Dr. [redacted]

Take this odyssey through the learning and experience processes stemming from [redacted] interest in languages and, most particularly, in the development and evolution of writing systems. His journey goes from Latin, Greek and Russian to the Korean alphabet and Chinese characters used in Korean, the development of the Japanese kana syllabaries and to various Runic scripts with a side journey into Ogham along the way. [redacted] has had a life-long interest in the decipherment of unknown scripts, in writing systems, and in the origins and evolutions of scripts. He stumbled into Norse Runic cryptography and pre-Columbian American epigraphy "by accident." This eventually led him into a life-long correspondence with Barry Fell (author of "American B.C.," "Bronze Age America" and editor of the Epigraphic Society Occasional Papers), resulting in him looking into the origins of the Turkic and Hungarian runiform scripts. [redacted] will share some of his experiences and insights while "rambling among the runes" in his presentation.

National Museum of Language
 7100 Baltimore Avenue--Suite 202
 College Park, MD, 20740
www.languagemuseum.org

For reservations, call 301-864-7071 or e-mail

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5. Dying Languages Press Item

(Editor's Note: Item courtesy of [REDACTED])

(b) (6)

"Preserving Languages Is About More Than Words"

Byline: Kari Lydersen

The traditional Irish language is everywhere this time of year, emblazoned on green T-shirts and echoing through pubs. But Irish, often called Gaelic in the United States, is one of thousands of "endangered languages" worldwide. Though it is Ireland's official tongue, there are only about 30,000 fluent speakers left, down from 250,000 when the country was founded in 1922. Irish schools teach the language as a core subject, but outside a few enclaves in western Ireland, it is relatively rare for families to speak it at home. "There's the gap between being able to speak Irish and actually speaking it on a daily basis," said Brian O'Conchubhair, an assistant professor of Irish studies at the University of Notre Dame who grew up learning Irish in school. "It's very hard to find it in the cities; it's like a hidden culture."

Irish is expected to survive at least through this century, but half of the world's almost 7,000 remaining languages may disappear by 2100, experts say. A language is considered extinct when the last person who learned it as his or her primary tongue dies. Last month, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) launched an online atlas of endangered languages, labeling more than 2,400 at risk of extinction. Hot spots where languages are most endangered include Siberia, northern Australia, the North American Pacific Northwest, and parts of the Andes

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*and Amazon, according to the Living Tongues Institute for Endangered Languages, a nonprofit partnering with National Geographic to record and promote disappearing tongues.

Language extinction has been a phenomenon for at least 10,000 years, since the dawn of agriculture.

"In the pre-agricultural state, the norm was to have lots and lots of little

*languages," said Gregory D.S. Anderson, director of the Living Tongues

Institute. "As humans developed with agriculture, larger population groups

*were able to aggregate together, and you got larger languages developing."

*Languages typically die when speakers of a small language group come in contact with a more dominant population. That happened first when hunter-gatherers transitioned to agriculture, then during periods of European colonial expansion, and more recently with global migration and urbanization. The

* spread of English, Spanish and Russian wiped out many small languages.

"As long as people feel embarrassed, restrained or openly criticized for using a particular language, it's only natural for them to want to avoid continuing to do what's causing a negative response, whether it's something overt like having your mouth washed out or more subtle like discrimination," Anderson said.

Russian-language-only policies have virtually extinguished many Siberian

*languages, including Tofa, which lets speakers use a single word to say

"a two-year-old male, un-castrated, rideable reindeer."

In the United States and Australia in past decades, the government forced

*native peoples to abandon their languages through vehicles such as boarding schools that punished youth for speaking a traditional tongue. Many Native

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*American and aboriginal Australian languages never recovered. The United States has lost 115 languages in the past 500 years, by UNESCO's count, 53 of them since the 1950s. Last year, the Alaskan language Eyak disappeared with the death of the last speaker.

Indigenous groups also may abandon localized tongues for a dominant indigenous alternative, such as Quechua in South America. Or they might shift to a pidgin, or hybrid, of various local languages.

*Extinct languages can be revived, especially when they have been recorded.

"But when you skip a generation, it's hard to pick a language back up again," said Douglas Whalen, president of the Endangered Language Fund, which gives grants to language-preservation projects. "You need a community that is really committed and will bring children up from birth in the second language, even if they themselves are not the most fluent speakers."

Michael Blake, an associate professor of philosophy and public policy at the University of Washington, said languages have always changed and disappeared over time, and he argues against the idea that all languages should be preserved.

"When we have indigenous languages in danger because of what we've done to these communities, that's the real reason" behind preservation pushes, he said. "But it's a much more complicated argument. It doesn't mean every language now has the right to be immortal."

Preservation proponents say there are cultural and pragmatic reasons to save dying languages. Many indigenous communities have in their native tongues vast repositories of knowledge about medicinal herbs, information that could provide clues to modern cures. The Kallawaya people in South

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America

have passed on a secret language from father to son for more than 400 years, including the names and uses of medicinal plants. It is now spoken by fewer *than 100 people. Preserving languages is also key to the field of linguistics, which could offer a window into the workings of the brain.

The Living Tongues Institute recruits youth who are not fluent in their traditional tongue to become "language activists," using digital equipment to document their elders' voices and learn the language themselves. This creates a record and builds pride in the language.

Such pride has been key to a modest popular resurgence of the Irish language. Paddy Homan, an Irish musician and social worker who immigrated to Chicago two years ago, thinks the 1990s' "Celtic Tiger" economic boom was a major boost for Irish.

"It used to feel like a sin to speak the Irish language; the English made us feel bad about ourselves, like we were just a nation of alcoholics," said Homan, 34. "Now we feel proud, and speaking Irish is the fashionable thing to do."

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6. Serbian Film Repeat Showing

(Item courtesy of ----- (b) (3) - P.L. 86-36)

Serbian Film
IVKOVA SLAVA ("Ivko's Feast")
[2005; 110 min.; Serbo-Croatian with English sub-titles]
An historical-cultural comedy by Zdravko Sotra, set around 1890 and based on an original novel by the Serbian author Stevan Sremac. Presented in an archaic dialect of Serbo-Croatian known as "torlak," which is noted for its Ottoman-era vocabulary (Turkish, Arabic, Persian), orthography and grammar.

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Current language trends in Bosnia, particularly among Islamic extremists, reflect an increasing return to this language heritage.

DATE: Tuesday, 31 March

TIME: 1305 (approximate)

[REDACTED]

There are English sub-titles and everyone is invited (the room seats 50). People can contact me for more information.

[REDACTED]

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7. Strengthen Our Nation: Discover Languages--FILMS

(U) Strengthen Our Nation: Discover Languages.

(U) March 2009 Language Events.

(U) "Bringing Applied Linguistics to Life" is this month's theme, and for the first time we are showing two films: a digitally-restored 1965 feature-length (shown in two segments) cult film classic in Esperanto starring William Shatner and a documentary, "The Linguists", based on a former Crypto-linguistic Association keynote banquet speaker's experiences and those of his colleagues documenting endangered languages.

(U) Incubus (Part 2)---Part 1 already shown
Friday, 27 March 2008

[REDACTED]

1300-1400

(U) The Wikipedia describes Esperanto as "the most widely spoken constructed international language in the world. Its name comes ... from the pseudonym under which L.L. Zamenhof published the first book detailing it in 1887. The word means "one who hopes" in the language itself and whose goal was to create an easy and flexible language that would serve as a universal second language to foster peace and international understanding".

(U) This black and white, 1965 film in Esperanto with English subtitles, "Evil Has Never Been So Seductive!" stars William Shatner, Milos Milos, Allyson Ames, Ann Atmar, and Elise Hardt. The jacket describes it ... "On a strange island, inhabited by demons and spirits, a man battles the forces of evil. Utterly, bizarre, yet strangely compelling, this artsy film demands to be experienced. Lost for over thirty years, this digitally restored cult classic in Esperanto is now available with remastered sound."

(U) The Linguists
Monday, 30 March 2008

[REDACTED]

1300-1415

(U) One of the linguists featured in this film was Professor K. David Harrison of Swarthmore College, the keynote speaker at the Agency's 2007 Crypto-linguistic Association's annual banquet. The Teachers' Guide to this film explains that "About 7,000 languages are spoken in the world today. However with colonialism and globalization, smaller languages are being abandoned

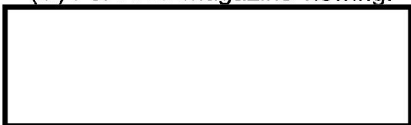
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in favor of major ones, and languages are disappearing at an alarming rate. Some analysts say that a language is lost as often as every two weeks. Today, more than 500 languages are in immediate danger of being lost, including two featured in the film *The Linguists*: Chemehuevi, a Native American language of Arizona, and Chulyin, a language spoken in Siberia. Two others featured, Kallawayá of Bolivia and Sora of India, are less endangered but face challenges. This film shows people ... talking about what language loss means to them, and it highlights efforts by scientists to preserve languages that are in danger of dying". Come learn why this matters, and what can be done about it!

(U) To view this VTC broadcast live from your desktop, as well as to view it there after the event, type "go language" in your web browser and click on "EVENTS."

(U) For Newsmagazine viewing:



(U//~~FOUO~~) Enterprise sites may access the broadcast by contacting the VTC office at 963-4026, e-mailing [redacted] or accessing:

[redacted] and click on "Join VTC." If you do not know your NEWSMAGAZINE Access Code, please call 963-6600 and generate a trouble ticket at least two days prior to broadcast.

(U//~~FOUO~~) POC: Office of the Senior Language Authority, [redacted] 968-8154s,



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(U) FRAGRANCE NOTICE: The Agency is committed to being a model employer. In order to be mindful of those employees whose sensitivity to fragrances may be heightened, we are encouraging participants at Agency-sponsored events to refrain from wearing, or reduce their use of scented products (e.g., perfume, cologne, etc.).

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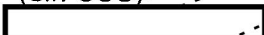
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NSA/CSS Sr. Language Authority Office, Outreach Officer
ADET's [redacted] Culture and Regional Studies, Liaison to Language and Intelligence Analysis Skill Communities



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C. William McKinley
D. Herbert Hoover
ANSWER E. James Garfield (20th President, 1881)

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