

# Language and Landscape: Hiking and Documenting the Chatino Language of San Juan Quiahije

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## Chatino Languages



Chatino is spoken in the state of Oaxaca, Mexico. These languages belong to the Zapotecan language family within the Otomanguean linguistic stock (Boas, 1913; Kaufman, 2006; Upson and Longacre, 1965). There are three Chatino languages: Zenzontepec, Tataltepec, and Eastern Chatino (Campbell, 2013). Eastern Chatino is spoken in seventeen communities (Cruz, 2011). Of the seventeen villages, there are fifteen varieties. These fifteen varieties are to some degree mutually intelligible (Cruz and Woodbury, 2014).

## About the Project



A few remaining elder speakers of the San Juan Quiahije Chatino language have unique command of specialized words, expressions, and grammatical features that relate to local landscapes and nature specific activities. In a moment marked by rapid decline of indigenous languages, this area of language undergoes swifter deterioration than any other.

## The Team



## Conclusion



This poster displays a methodology that aids in the study of landscape specific language. Documentation and dissemination of collective knowledge alongside use of specialized place-based expressions highlights scholarly-community collaboration in indigenous language revitalization, and outlines my journey on foot with inhabitants of the San Juan Quiahije landscape.