

Preface and acknowledgements

I came to the idea of transcribing, translating and publishing Carl Strehlow's handwritten Aranda, Loritja [Luritja], German and Dieri dictionary manuscript into English during my PhD research. But having started on what I thought was a straightforward task I realised that some of my translations from German to English required the original Aranda and Loritja to German translation to be checked by Aranda and Luritja speakers and so I approached members of the Aranda/Luritja community to work at points where there appeared to be some doubt about the original translation into German.

Without the enthusiastic support of Western Aranda people, the publication of this unique document would not have been possible. I thank the members of the Inkamala, Malbunka, Rontji, Katarinja, Williams, Kenny, Lechleitner, Kantawarra, Ratara, Armstrong, Raggett, Ebarinja, Pareroutja, Impu, Rubuntja, Renkeraka, Wheeler, Ungwanaka, Mack, McCormack, Pepperill, Kentilja, Mokerarintja and Abbott families for their involvement in this project over the years.

Davie Inkamala (1 January 1935 – 11 September 2013) was one of the main contributors to the discussion about my translations of the German glosses into English. He, his wife Trudi Inkamala and his daughters Rhonda and Jennifer Inkamala, who live at Kwale Kwale on the Iwupataka Land Trust in central Australia, have always believed that it is of paramount importance for Aranda and Luritja people to maintain their languages, and to keep their cultures strong, and have dedicated much of their time to doing so.



Figure 1: Davie Inkamala, Trudy Inkamala, Rhonda Inkamala and Anna Kenny at Kwale Kwale, 2013.

Source: Shane Mulcahy.

The research supporting the translation of this dictionary and checking it with Aranda and Luritja speakers has been funded by Australian Research Council Linkage grant (LP110200803) ‘Rescuing Carl Strehlow’s Indigenous cultural heritage legacy: The neglected German tradition of Arandic ethnography’. This grant was a collaborative project between the Central Land Council and the Strehlow Research Centre, both in Alice Springs, and the providers of generous industry partner funding, the University of Western Australia and The Australian National University. The project had several aims. The principal aim was to transcribe, translate and publish the 7,600 word Aranda and Luritja dictionary compiled between 1894 and 1922 by Lutheran missionary Carl Strehlow at Hermannsburg Mission west of Alice Springs. The grant provided a postdoctoral fellowship for me to work on transcribing and translating the 7,600-word dictionary from the original handwritten manuscript, which is in three Aboriginal languages, Aranda, Luritja and Dieri, as well as German, of which only sections have been available in the past. I received careful guidance and advice on dictionary construction from Dr John Henderson of the University of Western Australia, who has also contributed in two chapters of this publication on the linguistic aspects of the dictionary, and also formatted the dictionary. A further chapter on the complexities surrounding the Mission Orthography has been provided by David Moore.

A second objective was to make better known the unpublished seven-volume ethnography on the Aranda by Carl Strehlow that has not been published in English because of the amount of restricted information it contains. This has been achieved by the publication of *The Aranda's Pepa: An Introduction to Carl Strehlow's masterpiece Die Aranda- und Loritja-Stämme in Zentral-Australien (1907–1920)* (Kenny 2013) which discusses the distinctive and interesting findings of Carl Strehlow. Part of this investigation of his ethnography has involved Mr Michael Cawthorn, formerly the director of the Strehlow Research Centre, and Ms Helen Wilmot of the Central Land Council working on T.G.H. Strehlow's genealogical material. The third aim was to bring together scholars to explore the significance of German ethnography in Australia, particularly, but not only, in relation to native title claims. A volume called *German Ethnography in Australia* (2017), edited by Nicolas Peterson and Anna Kenny, has been published, based on a conference held on this theme in June 2015.

The Central Land Council under Director David Ross has been enormously supportive of the project, and without Brian Connelly's day-to-day support, and the help received from him and Helen Wilmot in working through issues of orthography, the project could not have been realised. Thanks go also to Marieke Kijne and Sue Ellison for organising meetings in April 2017 and Hugh Round at the Central Land Council for mapping Carl Strehlow's sites. Michael Cawthorn initiated the involvement of the Strehlow Research Centre, and Adam Macfie, Felicity Green and Graham Shaughnessy continued their support at the Strehlow Research Centre by facilitating access to archival materials, sourcing and dating historical photographs and organising meetings with Aranda people at the Strehlow Research Centre. Thanks to Shane Mulcahy for supplying photographs and manipulations of images and to Roisin Mulcahy for her assistance with the initial transcription. I am also very grateful to Geoff Hunt who meticulously checked the scientific names of flora and fauna, which has allowed an update of some of the Latin names of important plants and animals of central Australia. At the Finke River Mission, thanks are due to Garry Stoll who years ago expressed the need for the dictionary's publication, and Robert Borgas who provided source materials. I thank Anthony Bell and Edward Rontji at the Hermannsburg Office of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet for facilitating meeting with the Wurla Nyinta Local Reference Group; Frau Rosemarie Hänsel of the Stenographic Collection in Dresden and Frau Kathrin Schmiedel of

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Figure 2: Western Aranda people who attended discussions about the dictionary at Hermannsburg on Thursday 6 April 2017.

Back row: Wayne Armstrong, Voight Ratara, Trudy Raggett, Beth Inkamala, Hayley Coulthard and Lewis Campbell. Front row: Noel Pareroultja, Ivy Pareroultja, June Campbell, Anita Ratara, Galvin Raggett, Hubert Pareroultja, Graham Ebatarinja and Mark Inkamala.

Source: Anna Kenny, Alice Springs.

Special thanks go to the Aranda people who attended and discussed the dictionary and accompanying map at the many Hermannsburg and Alice Springs community meetings between 2012 and 2017. Thanks to Baydon Kantjira, Edward Rontji, Conrad Ratara, Nicholas Williams, Lionel Inkamala, Sonya Braybon, Graham Ebatarinja, Patrick Oliver, Mervin Raggett, Renita Kantawarra, Que Kenny, Helen Stuart, Marion Swift, Pastor Markus Wheeler, Betty Wheeler, Craig Ebatarinja, Trudi Inkamala, Rhonda Inkamala, Jennifer Inkamala, Brenda Inkamala, Anita Ratara, Mark Inkamala, Mildred Inkamala, Carl Inkamala, Edward Rontji, Lily Roennfeldt, Kim Malbunka, Mona Kantawarra, Rex Pareroultja, Chistobelle Swan, Auriel Swan, Beth Inkamala, Regina Inkamala, Clara

Inkamala, Noreen Hudson, Lenie Namatjira, Vanessa Inkamala, Kathleen Inkamala, Hetti Meneri, Gloria McCormack, Elfrieda Ungwanaka, Fabian Raggett, Christopher Ungwanaka, August Ebatarinja, Daryl Kantawarra (junior), Henry Impu, Ellis Malbunka, Benice Meneri, Bronwyn Lankin, Tanya Malbunka, Diane Ebatarinja, Mervin Raggatt, Malcolm Kenny, Ada Lechleitner, Mavis Malbunka, Serena Williams, Mark Malbunka, Bronwyn Lankin, Tania Malbunka, Dianne Ebatarinja, Augustine Malbunka, Malcolm Kenny, Jean Mack, June Campbell, Rosa Pareroultja, Trudy Raggett, Ivy Pareroultja, Drusilla Pareroultja, Rosa Mocketarinja, Hubert Pareroultja, Wayne Armstrong, Hayley Coulthard, Noel Pareroultja and Raymond Ebatarinja.

Anna Kenny
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