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CHOL TEXTS ON THE SUPERNATURAL

ARABELLE WHITTAKER
AND
VIOLA WARKENTIN

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Editor's Note

This series of publications began in 1958 to provide an outlet for text material gathered by SIL field workers and to make such material available inexpensively to linguists and other scholars. Soon there was a need to publish analytical and descriptive material as well. Now after a number of volumes of descriptive studies, we offer again text material which we feel will be of interest to linguists, folklorists, and anthropologists. It is our purpose in this series to publish all types of linguistic materials as these become available.

Authors' Preface

The texts included in this volume were collected under the auspices of the Summer Institute of Linguistics during field work among the Chol Indians of Chiapas, Mexico, from 1948-1962. There are two subdialects of Chol. This volume is in the Tumbala Chol dialect.

The earlier texts were dictated by Indian informants. Some of the more recent texts were written by monolingual Indians who learned to read and write in classes conducted by the authors.

The writers express their appreciation to Evelyn (Woodward) Aulie who did the basic analysis of the language, to the Summer Institute of Linguistics which made the field trips possible, to the Mexican government for permission to study the language, to the informants who were willing to share their stories with outsiders, and to Ruby Scott and Janet Turner for help in checking the manuscript.

Because this material is not readily divulged by the tribe, the authors have not indicated the sources of the text at the request of some informants.

Frequently the translation of abi, an expression which indicates that the speaker was not an eye witness of the incident he is relating, has been omitted. Likewise, the translation of jiñach and jini, demonstrative words, has often been omitted. In Chol often both a demonstrative and possessive particle precede a noun. Only one has been translated but marked with numbering of both article and possession.

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