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# Pima Bajo Phonetic Notes

The following phonetic signs, which are also probably phonemic were used in the recording:

# Consonants:

occlusive surds: p t k ?

occlusive senants: b d g

fricative surds: s š j

nasals: m n

liquids: r l

semiconsenants: w (y)

# Vowels:

Other signs infrequently used to record phonetic differences are, with their probably phonemic equivalents:

h in initial consonant clusters has, has only: a pre-aspiration.

Vewels: i and u are open. o varies to the medium back o; possibly they constitute a single phoneme. e occurs rarely, and is very open.

A is a medium back vowel, preduced through the closed teeth, and with strong aspiration. In word final position it becomes unvoiced, and thus affects the preceding consonant in various ways. Since this is the case, the number of consonants which may take the final position is reduced greatly. Otherwise, all consonants occur in final position, with the exception of w. Possibly no word may end in a consonant, but all may terminate in a voiced vewel, cluster, or the unvoiced vewel A. All vewels occur medially, and all but a occur finally.

<u>Vowel Clusters</u>: the following vowel clusters in medial position have thus far been observed:

ai, au, ia, io, oa, oi, uo, u), ua, ui, Aa, Ao
the following final clusters have been noted:
au, ia, io, ui, ua, Ai
the following long vowels in medial position have been
observed:

and in final position in one case, ee. Aside from this case, there are no vowel clusteres which contain e. It seems doubtful that vowel length is phonemic, and there is so far no evidence for geminate vowels.

Consonants: all consonants occur initially, medially and, leaving out the consideration of the problem of A terminal which is still unsolved, finally, with the exception of w, which occurs only initially and medially. However, it is most likely that, once the status of A is determined, there will be only three or four consonants in final position, and perhaps none at all. (of. vowels  $\Delta$ ). The stops may be slightly aspirated.  $\underline{b}$  initial and in clusters is occlusive; in other positions it is lenis fricative. a is always sibilant. i initial and before o, u, 1, and a is slightly retroflex. j occurs in initial clusters with the masals only, e.g., hm, hn; in medial position it is strongly aspirated, and varies to the fricative p. w is rare, occuring initially in one word, possibly of Spanish origin, and medially in two other words, of which one may be of foreign origin. y was once recorded, n is medic-palatal before k and q. Consonant Clusters: eccur medially. In some of the cases where initial clusters were recorded, a very much reduced initial vowel in the e - & range was heard; in others it was not heard, but in all the evidence points

to the likelihood that an unvoiced reduced vowel precedes these "initial"

clusters. A few final clusters were recorded, but these are probably

followed by unvoiced  $A_0$ . Medial consonant clusters are separated by syllabic division. ? does not occur in any cluster.

The following "initial" consonant clusters were recorded:

hm, hm, sk, ab, sg, st, at, nb is merely the nasal inception
on initial b occlusive.

The following medial consonant clusters were recorded:

pk, ps pt ps

tk ts tp

kt ks ks kp

? no series

bd

dr dg db an dm de

g no series

sk st sm sd sb sg

šk ap št

j no series

md mn mk ma mt

nb nt mm ni nk ng

rå rg rk

ln ld (Espa)

One triconsonantal cluster was recorded, \_kšt\_ , in kšta "muca".

The following "final" clusters have been noted: kt, kš, st, šk

Accent: the selective accent is well-marked, and generally falls on the first or second syllable of the word. Closed syllables and vowel clusters have a mechanical accent. The accent of vowel clusters may fall on either member, although generally on the first member of the cluster. In polysyllabic words, the last voiced vowel is sometimes accented.

Phrase melody was not adequately enough observed.

The Syllable opens with a consonant and closes with a vowel, vowel civator, or a single consonant. Long vowels were recorded in closed syllables, but it is doubtful that they do so occur.