



**BIBLE
SOCIETY**

Live light

INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE FACT SHEET



Eastern Arrernte

General Language Information:

Eastern Arrernte (pronounced UH-rrahn-da, the double 'r's mean the sound is rolled) is spoken by approximately 2,000 people living in Santa Teresa and around Alice Springs (pictured below) in the Northern Territory. Making it the one of the largest spoken indigenous languages .

Eastern Arrernte is taught in primary schools throughout Alice Springs under the Arrernte in Schools (AIS) program and as an optional subject in high schools. It is used on local media and in local government in Alice Springs. As many as 25% of the Alice Springs population speak Arrernte as a first language.

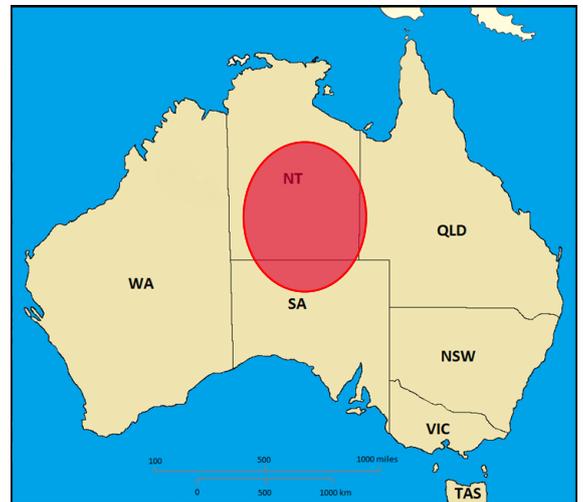
Identifying as a speaker of a particular language is very important to the Eastern Arrernte people because it is a way of expressing membership in a particular family or group. Therefore the differences between dialects, though appearing small to outsiders, are significant to the speakers. The language varies throughout this area and there are many dialects, including Eastern & Central Arrernte dialects.

"To the Arrernte, their language is more than just a way of speaking. It goes to the core of who they are; their cultural identity, their belief systems and their social order. Rather than speaking it, they are it." (www.wayoutback.com.au)

Useful Links....

Some of the information contained in this Indigenous Language Sheet is from:

"Have you ever wondered why Arrernte is spelt the way it is?" Article by Myfany Turpin, August 2004 from the clc.org.au Central Land Council website.



Here is the beginning of The Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:2) in Eastern Arrernte

"Akngeyaye,

Unte-arle arratye akngerre anthurre aneme, arrpenhe ingkirrenyeke anthurrenge akngerre ulkere.

Anwernenhe akaltyele-anthaye Ngenhenhe utyernemele tnaketyeke arratye anthurre. Anwerne Ngenhe apayuthneme Unte apetyetyeke anwerneke-werne Unte anwerneke akngerre anthurre anetyeke arne ingkirrekeke-arlke re."



Above: Alice Springs

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SCRIPTURE RESOURCES AVAILABLE

Print

- Translation of the New Testament is close to completion. There is currently '**Ayey Ngkarte-Akerte**' (**Eastern Arrernte MiniBible**) with selections from the Old Testament and Luke, Ephesians, Philippians, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus. The Cover design (*pictured right*) was designed by Agnes Palmer, an Arrernte woman, and includes a cross made up of four people sharing a meal as well as the images of a light (candle) and the Bible.

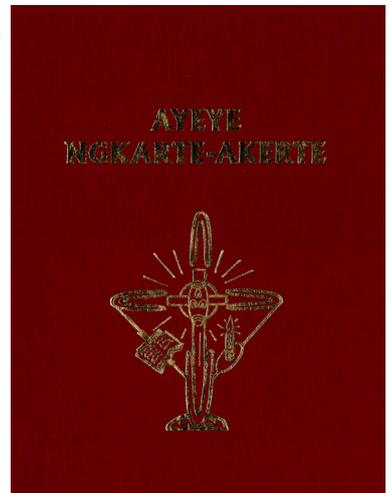
BIBLE STATISTICS

MiniBible with:

- ◇ NT (1 Gospel Luke + 7 other books)
- ◇ OT Selections

Audio

There are several recordings available from Global Recording Network (<http://globalrecordings.net/en/country/AS>) including 'Beginning with God' and 'Jesus-Teacher & Healer'.



Video

There are currently no Audio-Visual Resources available for this specific language.



Left: Uniting Church in Alice Springs

For further information about this resource or to order copies please contact:

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