



**BIBLE
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INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE FACT SHEET



Ngaanyatjarra

General Language Information

The Ngaanyatjarra language is spoken by 1,200 people in the Warburton Ranges in Western Australia.

There is no 'f', 'h', 's', 'v', 'x' or 'z' sounds in the Ngaanyatjarra language however there are 3 't' sounds (symbolised by 't', 'tj' and 'rt') there are 2 'r' sounds (symbolised by 'r' and 'rr') and 4 'n' sounds (symbolised 'n', 'rn', 'ny' and 'ng'). Often one Ngaanyatjarra word may have several different meanings in English for example 'wangka' can mean 'alive' or 'awake' or even 'uncooked', and 'mirri' can mean 'unconscious' or 'dead'. Conversely a single English word or term may have different meanings in Ngaanyatjarra, for example the term 'to choke' in English can mean 'lirrintanka' which refers to choking another person while 'ngakalku' refers to choking on something caught in the throat.

The Ngaanyatjarra language only have four words for numbers, these are; kutja 'one'; kutjarra 'two'; marnkurra 'three' or 'a few' and pirni 'many'. Larger numbers are made by combining the smaller numbers, eg kutjarra-marnkurra ('five').

Useful Links....

Some of the information contained in this Fact sheet is from the following websites:

A Glass Into Another World: A Glimpse of the Culture of the Ngaanyatjarra People. Institute for Aboriginal Development, Alice Springs, NT 1990 (www.aija.org.au)



Below is John 3:16 in Ngaanyatjarra;

"Tjiinyamarntu Mama Kuurrnga-tjanampa purklanya ngarlurringu yarnangu pirniku. Palunyalu witurnunku Katja kurrunkurlu. Nyangka- yayi pirnilu palunyanya mularr- kuliranytjalu mirringkutjamaalpa wanka tirtu nyinama."



Aerial view of Papulankutja (Blackstone Range)

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SCRIPTURE RESOURCES AVAILABLE

Print

- Part of the Ngaanyatjara Bible was published for the first time in 1976, with the complete New Testament first published in 1991. **Mama Kuurru Wanka Marlangkatjanya** (the Ngaanyatjara Shorter Bible) published by the Bible Society was dedicated in Warburton, WA on Pentecost Sunday 2008 (*pictured below*). The translation team co-ordinators Amee Glass and Dorothy Hackett had worked faithfully on the translation for more than 40 years.

BIBLE STATISTICS

Shorter Bible with:

- ✓ Complete NT (diglot edition)
- ◇ OT Sections (22 Books 12%)

- Tjiitjanya Mirringkulalpi Wankarringkula Pakarnu**, *Jesus Died and Roase Again*—a 46 page Colouring/Activity Book telling the Easter Story using selections of Scripture from the four gospels.



Mama Kuurru Wanka

Marlangkatjanya



Audio

There are various audio recordings available through the **Global Recordings Network** (<http://globalrecordings.net/en/country/AS>)

Video

There are currently no Audio-Visual resources for this language

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

Remote & Indigenous Ministry Support (RIMS)

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Phone: (08) 8 8292 4888

Email: translation@biblesociety.org.au

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