

# 2019 PERU WORKSHOP - FINAL REPORT

March 30, 2019



Our open-air classroom



Yine author: Daniel



Shipibo: Eli, Ketty, Percy



Ashéninka: Juana

I arrived home March 28, but as we disassembled the tables and stored the chairs from this year's textbook workshop, I reflected upon the gains I should report to you, who have so kindly and generously carried us financially and in your prayers:

1. Grade One readers are re-checked, corrected, and print-ready in six languages: Asháninka, Ashéninka, Awajún, Matsigenka, Shipibo, and Yine. This wasn't a job I had expected to do, but requests from school districts made it necessary. It required most of our attention for two weeks.
2. The Grade Two primers are nearly done in five languages. Although I had expected them to be print-ready, an unusual siege of medical and work emergencies sapped our authors' time and attention. My heart sank as I saw us falling behind, but with lives and full-time jobs at stake, it was impossible to demand more. My friends are remarkable in their ability to perform amazing acts of brinksmanship and come up with the product at the last moment, so I continued to hope. However, at the very end a virus destroyed one book (thankfully, I had a backup copy), and the other teams just couldn't make the deadline. I am promised, however, that they will continue to work and will send me their manuscripts for checking. In the next months, we expect to have print-ready copies.
3. While we waited for the authors to finalize their Grade Two lessons, the two layout men and I edited **three** Spanish-as-a-second-language textbooks. These books are much needed but have been waiting for four years; so I am very glad that with one last read-through they should be print-ready.
4. I was able to see to a lot of cleanup around the office: rain gutters and ditches, landscaping, a four-drawer file cabinet for valuables, a door and repairs for the storage room, obsolete papers burned.... Things are looking more professional now.
5. More intangibly, but not less important, was the opportunity to help ARIAP administrators plan and to encourage them in the work. Laws are now more favorable; also they have developed solid contacts in school districts. Please pray that as the men contact the authorities, the Grade One books will be published and distributed. I am holding out for local funding as more permanent.

Also please pray for the teams still finishing up. Yine author Daniel and his wife Raquel still grieve the death of their gifted son Clever. The Shipibo team are full-time classroom teachers, who must carve out time after school to work on their book. Juana, the only Ashéninka with an M.A., has just been diagnosed with cancer. Her children have been sick, and her mother is suffering from a serious lung disorder. With bills piled high, Juana is very stretched. Ask God to make a way for her.

Over and over the ARIAP administrators expressed their gratitude to you for making this workshop possible. Given the obstacles they face, you can understand why your support is so needed and so encouraging. Because of your investment, the children of Amazonia are going to learn to read in the languages they understand best. Some books are being test taught now. We all thank you!

*- Pat*