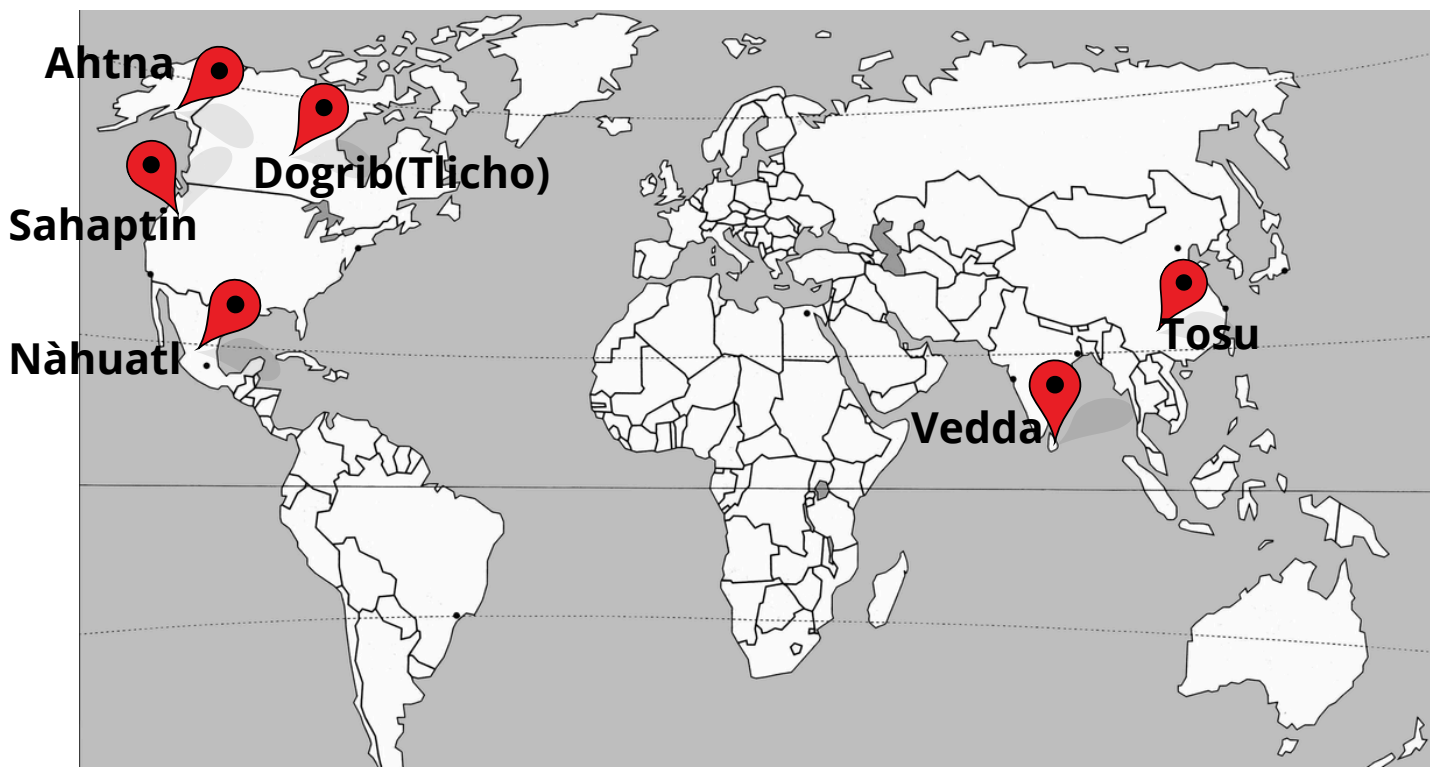


## ENDANGERED LANGUAGES ?



### What is an endangered language ?

Endangered languages are languages whose number of speakers is decreasing to the point of making them disappear. Among the world's approximately 7,000 languages, a large number are disappearing and this phenomenon is accelerating from year to year. In this article we gonna talk about Vedda, Tosu, Nàhuatl, Sahaptin, Athna and Tlicho languages which are part of the many endangered languages in the world.

### Why are they disappearing ?

The disappearance of these endangered languages is justified by many reasons. First, **globalization**, with the world becoming more connected, people are using a smaller set of languages for trade, travel, and communication. This therefore has a destructive effect on small languages which are then used less and less throughout the world. Also **there are not many speakers**, many endangered languages have very few people who speak them.

If there aren't enough people passing the language to the next generation, it can die out.

Thirdly, some endangered languages **don't have support from governments or institutions**.

Without things like schools or books in their language, it's hard for people to keep it alive. The most important reason of the disappearing oh the endangered languages is the **colonization and the assimilation**.

In the past, powerful countries forced their languages and cultures onto others, this led to the suppression of native languages and a loss of cultural identity. The last reason is about **cultural discrimination** : sometimes, people are made to feel like their language and culture are inferior. This discrimination can lead them to stop using their language in public or even at home.

**In short, endangered languages disappear because there aren't enough people speaking them, and there are many pressures to switch to larger and more dominant languages.**

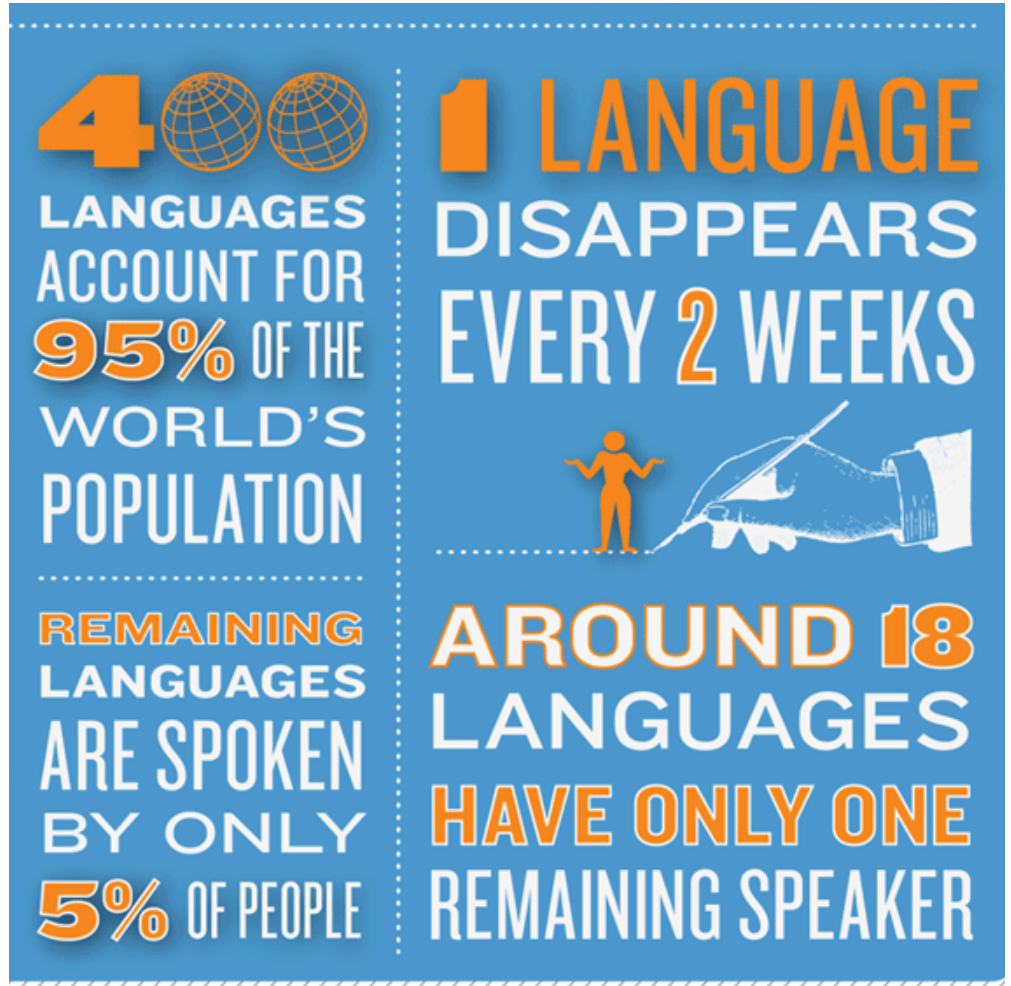


## Why does it represent a problem ?

The disappearing of Vedda, Tosu, Nàhuatl, Sahaptin, Athna and Tlich languages causes some problems such as : the loss of **cultural richness**, each language carries a unique culture and history. When a language disappears, we lose part of this **cultural diversity** and the stories, songs and traditions it transmits. But language is closely tied to our sense of who they are. When a language dissipates, people may feel like they've lost a piece of their **identity** and connection to their **heritage**.

Also, losing a language means losing this **knowledge**, which could be important for things like medicine or environmental conservation. To finish : **The Human Rights**: everyone should have the right to speak their own language and when languages disappear, it can be a sign that these rights aren't being respected.

**To conclude, losing languages means losing pieces of culture, identity, knowledge, and the ability to connect with others.**



## What are the solutions to prevent their extinction ?

Several solutions are possible to save these languages. Like to create **lessons** to encourage people to learn and use endangered languages through classes, workshops, and community events. Another smart way to preserve them is to **using technology**: now thanks to evolution, it's possible to use things like apps, websites, and social media to promote and teach endangered languages to more people. Also it will be a great idea to have the **support from government** : governments can help by passing laws to protect languages, and supporting language education in schools.



Finally, **keeping language in families** is important; to encourage families to speak the endangered language at home helps pass it on to children.

**So, these simpler steps aim to promote the use and preservation of endangered languages, ensuring they continue to be spoken and understood for generations to come !! I hope this article will make you want to help preserve these languages !!!**



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# BREAKING NEWS

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## DISAPPEARING TONGUES : THE ENDANGERED LANGUAGE CRISIS

Nowadays, many languages are disappearing. Most of the time, languages are unknown to most people, only a group of people use them to communicate. Do you know the Sahaptin language, the Vedda language or the Tosi language? Well no, they are unknown to us, probably because there are only 25 people who still speak Sahaptin, 300 people who speak Vedda or 9 people who speak Tosi. But why are there so few people left who speak these languages ? This is what we found out at the conference held at the Lycée Charles Tellier, which presented 9 different languages on the brink of extinction.

Several factors are behind this disappearance, it could be due to a civil war which would lead to the death of thousands of people and therefore to the disappearance of a language spoken by these people. It could also be due to a lack of transmission between the elderly and the children, because if no one teaches the children the languages, they will disappear from generation to generation. Then, sometimes after the colonisation of a country, there is a domination of a language. In Australia, for example, after colonisation by the British in 1788, several native languages disappeared and were replaced by English, which became the dominant language. Colonisation can also lead to the culture of the natives being replaced by that of the colonisers, thus causing the cultural language to disappear. And finally, it could be due simply to the difficulty of learning languages or to discrimination.

The disappearance of languages can have a number of consequences. Firstly, we can lose a precious culture and linguistic heritage. It can also hinder the transmission of unique knowledge and traditions. This would affect the loss of identity of the communities concerned.

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### WHAT SOLUTIONS WERE DISCUSSED AT THE CONFERENCE?

A number of solutions have been put forward, but the ones that come up most often are documentation and education. This would make it possible to retain and pass on knowledge of languages. Online platforms and YouTube videos were also suggested as ways of making learning easier. Promoting language tourism would also enable people from all over the world to discover the richness of their cultures. Protecting the rights of indigenous communities would help to avoid discrimination and preserve indigenous culture. In addition, by organising festivals and events, speakers of these languages could regain a sense of cultural pride. To do this, we need government support, because some of these solutions are difficult to put in place.

