

Ndé Bizaa' Prayer
by **Caroline Blake**

Ndé Bizaa' Prayer	
Caroline Blake wrote this prayer for Ndé Bizaa' , The Mescalero Apache Tribe Language Program.	
Apache Language and English Translation	Pronunciations, Analyses, and Notes
<p>Bik'egu'indáõ, na'iaėdan'dzi. "Creator, we are happy about you."</p>	<p>[bi.k'e.gu.'in.dáõ na.'i.ã.dan'.dzi]</p> <p>Note: Note: [n'] is a low tone glottalized nasal consonant. It sounds "creaky" and ends abruptly.</p> <p>Bik'egu'indá-õ "Creator" (noun) -õ "the person, the person who" (an enclitic that can change a verb into a noun) (definite or relative enclitic) na'iaėdan'dzi "we^{>2} are grateful about you", "we^{>2} are glad for you" (1st person plural, imperfective mode, intransitive verb)</p>
<p>Hnzhû-gu nahindádaaden'î. "In a good way, watch over us²."</p>	<p>[hn.zhû.gu na.hin.dá.daa.dén.'î]</p> <p>Note: The initial [hn] is a syllabic nasal consonant. People also pronounce this consonant as [n]. Note: The syllable [dén] has falling tone; [é] is high tone and [n] is low tone.</p> <p>hnzhû-gu "in a good way" (adverb phrase) hnzhû "he/she/it is good" (3rd person, imperfective mode, neuter, intransitive verb) Note: People also pronounce hnzhû-gu as [hn.zhûù] or [hn.zhû']. -gu "while, when, toward, instead" (subordinate enclitic)</p>

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	<p>nahindáadaadén'í "you watch all around us²" (2nd person singular, imperfective mode, intransitive verb)</p> <p>Note: In English, people might say, "Watch over us²."</p>
<p>Naiǰúǰli. "Be with us²."</p>	<p>[naiǰúǰ.li]</p> <p>naiǰúǰli "(The Creator) is with us²"</p> <p>Note: Here are some additional forms of this word. People only use these words to about The Creator. A person could use these words when talking to or about a sick person.</p> <p>shiǰúǰli "(The Creator) is with me", "(Creator) be with me" (1st person singular)</p> <p>niǰúǰli "(The Creator) is with you", "(Creator) be with you" (2nd person singular)</p> <p>biǰúǰli "(The Creator) is with him/her", "(Creator) be with him/her"</p> <p>guǰúǰli "(The Creator) is with him/her", "(Creator) be with him/her" (3a person)</p> <p>naiǰúǰli "(The Creator) is with us²", "(Creator) be with us²", "(The Creator) is with you²", "(Creator) be with you²", (1st and 2nd person dual)</p> <p>guiǰúǰli "(The Creator) is with them²", "(Creator) be with them²"</p>
<p>Nahizaa'-í shíí nahi'át'e-'í biǰhnǰziǰgu nahá 'ǰǰsi.</p>	<p>[na.hi.zaa.'í shíí na.hi.'á.t'e.'í biǰhnǰdziǰgu na.há 'ǰǰ.si]</p>

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<p>"Our language and our ways, keep them strong for us²."</p>	<p>Note: In hnāłziā [hn] is a syllabic nasal consonant. People also pronounce this consonant as [n]. The first syllable of this word does not have a vowel.</p> <p>nahizaa'-í "our² language, your² language" (noun) nahi- (or) nai- "our², your²" (1st person dual possessive pronoun prefix [and] 2nd person dual possessive pronoun prefix) -zaa' "language, words" (noun stem) -í (or) -'í "the, the one that" (definite, topic, or relative enclitic) (This enclitic can change a verb into a noun.) shíí ... biā"and ... with him/her/it" shíí "and" (particle) biā"with him/her/it", "accompanying him/her/it" (postposition) bi- "him/her/it" (3rd person pronoun object prefix) -ā"with, accompanying" (postposition stem) Note: People use the combination shíí ... biāsimilarly to the way English speakers use the conjunction "and." nahi'át'e-'í "our ways", "our customs" (noun) nahi- (or) nai- "our², your²" (1st person dual possessive pronoun prefix [and] 2nd person dual possessive pronoun prefix)</p>

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	<p>-í (or) -'í "the, the one that" (definite, topic, or relative enclitic) (This enclitic can change a verb into a noun.)</p> <p>Note: Here are some additional forms of "ways" or "customs":</p> <p>shi'át'e'í "my ways" (1st person singular) (noun) ni'át'e'í "your ways" (2nd person singular) (noun) bi'át'e'í "his/her/its ways" (noun) gu'át'e'í "his/her ways" (3^a person) (noun) nai'át'e'í "our² ways, your² ways" (1st and 2nd person dual) daanai'át'e'í "our^{>2} ways, your^{>2} ways" (1st and 2nd person plural) (1st and 2nd person dual) gúi'át'e'í "their² ways" (dual) (noun) daagúi'át'e'í "their^{>2} ways" (plural) (noun)</p> <p>hnãdziã-gu "him/her/it being strong" hnãdziã "he/she/it is strong" (3rd person, imperfective mode, neuter, intransitive verb) -gu "while, when, toward, instead" (subordinate enclitic) nahá 'áõsi "you keep it like that for us²" "you cause it to be so for us²" nahá "for us², for you²" (postposition) nahi- (or) nai- "our², your²" (1st and 2nd person dual possessive pronoun prefix)</p>

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	<p>-á "for, for the benefit of" (postposition stem)</p> <p>Note: When nahi- is added to a postposition that begins with a vowel, such as -á, the -i- is dropped.</p> <p>'áõsi "you make it so", "you cause it to be so" (2nd person, imperfective mode, neuter, transitive verb)</p> <p>Note: Here are three additional examples using 'áõsi:</p> <p>'áshíõsi "you keep me like that", "you cause me to be so" (2nd person singular, imperfective mode, neuter, transitive verb)</p> <p>bá 'áõsi "you keep it like that for him/her", "you cause it to be so for him/her/it"</p> <p>nzhú-gu bá 'áõsi "you keep it in a good way for him/her", "you cause it to be good for him/her/it"</p> <p>Note: A person could say nzhú-gu bá 'áõsi about things that someone left when traveling.</p>
<p>'Ixéhe. "Thank you."</p>	<p>['i.xé.he]</p> <p>'ixéhe "thank you" (particle or interjection)</p> <p>Note: Some people say 'ihéhe ['i.hé.he].</p>