

School Prayer
by Rena Mendez

Prayer 1, School Prayer	
Rena Mendez wrote this prayer for the Mescalero Apache Schools.	
Apache Language and English Translation	Pronunciations, Analyses, and Notes
<p>Ha'ii'á-shí "from the east"</p> <p>Nanee'dii'á-shí "from the south"</p> <p>Shá'ii'á-shí "from the west"</p> <p>Náhaakus-shí "from the north"</p>	<p>[ha.'ii.'á.shí]</p> <p>[na.nee'.dii.'á.shí]</p> <p>[shá.'ii.'á.shí]</p> <p>[ná.haa.kus.shí]</p> <p>ha'ii'á-shí "from the east" means literally, "from where the sun rises"</p> <p>nanee'dii'á-shí "from the south" means literally "from where sun goes sideways"</p> <p>shá'ii'á-shí "from the west" means literally, "from where the sun sets"</p> <p>náhaakus-shí "from the north" means literally, "from where it turns around" (referring to a stick-like object; namely, the line of stars in the Big Dipper)</p>
<p>God-ō shitaa'-ō, Jesus-ō, shilà-ō "God my Father, Jesus my Brother" (when spoken by a woman or girl)</p> <p>(or)</p> <p>God-ō shitaa'ō Jesus-ō, shik'is-ō "God my Father, Jesus my Brother" (when spoken by a man or boy)</p>	<p>[gad.ō shi.taa'.ō, Je.sus.ō shi.là.ō</p> <p>(or)</p> <p>[God.ō shi.taa'.ō, Je.sus.ō shi.k'is.ō]</p> <p>Bik'egu'indá-ō "Creator" (noun)</p> <p>-ō "the person, the person who" (an enclitic that can change a verb into a noun) (definite or relative enclitic)</p> <p>shitaa'-ō "my father" (noun)</p>

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	<p>shi- "my" (1st person possessive pronoun prefix)</p> <p>-taa' "father" (noun stem)</p> <p>shik'is "my same-gender sibling, my same-gender cousin" (stem)</p> <p>-k'is "same-gender sibling, same-gender cousin" (noun stem)</p> <p>shilà "my different-gender sibling, my different-gender cousin" (noun)</p> <p>-là "different-gender sibling, different-gender cousin" (noun stem)</p>
<p>Neeãlââ-dá nádiis'dzá'-í ba'íãnsì.</p> <p>"That I got up this morning, I am glad about it."</p>	<p>[nee'ãdââ.dá ná.dii's.dzá.'í ba.'í.ãn.sì]</p> <p>Note: The long vowel [ee] is "creaky" during the last half of its pronunciation prior to [ã]. We mark such creakiness by inserting a glottal stop ['] following the vowel and prior to [ã].</p> <p>Note: The long vowel [ii] is "creaky" during the last half of its pronunciation prior to [s]. We mark such creakiness by inserting a glottal stop ['] following the vowel and prior to [s].</p> <p>neeãlââ' "early in the morning"</p> <p>-dá "when, while (subordinate enclitic)"</p> <p>nádiis'dzá "I got up", I arose" (1st person, perfective mode, intransitive verb)</p> <p>-í (or) -í' "the, the one that" (definite, topic, or relative enclitic) (This enclitic can change a verb into a noun.)</p>

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	<p>ba'íǎ̀nsì "I am grateful about him/her/it" (1st person singular, imperfective mode, intransitive verb)</p>
<p>'Úshta'-ee' náánánsdzá-'í dá'ákuu' shindádén'í.</p> <p>"Having come to school again, please watch over me."</p>	<p>['úsh.ta.'ee' náá.náns.dzá.'í dá.'á.kuu' shin.dá.dén.'í]</p> <p>Note: [náns] has falling tone; [á] is high tone and [n] is low tone.</p> <p>Note: [dén] has falling tone; [é] is high tone and [n] is low tone.</p> <p>'úshta'-ee' "at school"</p> <p>'úshta "I read, count, study, go to school" (1st person singular, imperfective mode, transitive verb)</p> <p>-'ee' "at a specific place where, there at a specific place" (postposition enclitic)</p> <p>náánánsdzá "I came again" (1st person singular, perfective mode, intransitive verb)</p> <p>dá'ákuu' "grateful, thankful, glad" (particle)</p> <p>shindádén'í "you watch all around me" (2nd person singular, imperfective mode, intransitive verb)</p> <p>Note: In English people might say, "You watch over me."</p>
<p>Hnzhû' naatséskees-gu 'áshíõsì.</p> <p>"Keep me thinking in a good way."</p>	<p>[hn.zhû' naa.tsés.kee's.gu 'á.shíõ.sì]</p> <p>Note: The long vowel [ee] is "creaky" during the last half of its pronunciation prior to [s]. We mark</p>

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	<p>such creakiness by inserting a glottal stop ['] following the vowel and prior to [s].</p> <p>hnzhû' "in a good way"</p> <p>hnzhû "he/she/it is good" (3rd person, imperfective mode, neuter, intransitive verb)</p> <p>Note: People also pronounce hnzhû-gu as [hn.zhûù] or [hn.zhû'].</p> <p>-gu "while, when, toward, instead" (subordinate enclitic)</p> <p>naatséskees "I am thinking" (1st person singular, imperfective mode, intransitive verb)</p> <p>'áshíōsi "you keep me like that", "you cause me to be so" (2nd person singular, imperfective mode, neuter, transitive verb)</p> <p>shi- "me" (1st person pronoun object prefix)</p>
<p>Ndé'ishchì'-gu 'iyésts'à shíí dík'e-i béguush'aa'.</p> <p>"Let me listen in a respectful way and learn everything."</p>	<p>[n.dé.'ish.chì'.gu 'i.yés.ts'à shíí dí.k'eí bé.guu'sh.'aa'</p> <p>Note: The long vowel [uu] is "creaky" during the last half of its pronunciation prior to [sh]. We mark creakiness by inserting a glottal stop ['] following the vowel and prior to [sh].</p> <p>ndé'ishchì' "I respect, I am respectful" (1st person, imperfective mode, transitive verb)</p> <p>'iyésts'à "I listen" (1st person singular, imperfective mode, transitive verb)</p>

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	<p>shíí "and" (particle)</p> <p>dík'e-í "everything"</p> <p>dík'e "everything" (particle)</p> <p>-í (or) -'í "the, the one that" (definite, topic, or relative enclitic) (This enclitic can change a verb into a noun.)</p> <p>béguush'aa' "I learn about him/her/it" (1st person singular, imperfective mode, intransitive verb)</p>
<p>Shizaa'-í béguush'aa'-í bee shíōch'ìì'.</p> <p>"Help me learn my language."</p>	<p>[shí.zaa.'í bé.guu'sh.'aa.'í bee shíō.ch'ìì']</p> <p>Note: The long vowel [uu] is "creaky" during the last half of its pronunciation prior to [sh]. We mark creakiness by inserting a glottal stop ['] following the vowel and prior to [sh].</p> <p>shizaa' "my language" (noun)</p> <p>shi- "my" (1st person possessive pronoun prefix)</p> <p>-zaa' "language, words" (noun stem)</p> <p>bee "with him/her/it, by means of him/her/it" (postposition)</p> <p>bi- (b-) "him/her/it" (3rd person pronoun object prefix)</p> <p>-ee "with, by means of" (postposition stem)</p> <p>Note: When bi- is added to -ee, the -i- is dropped.</p> <p>shíōch'ìì' "you help me" (2nd person singular, imperfective mode, transitive verb)</p>
<p>'Ixéhe, Bik'egu'indáō.</p> <p>"Thank you, Creator."</p>	<p>['i.xé.he bi.k'e.gu.'in.dáō]</p>

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	'ixéhe "thank you" (particle or interjection) Note: Some people say 'ihéhe ['i.hé.he]. Bik'egu'indá-õ "Creator" (noun)