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Studies in the Syntax of Mixtecan Languages

2

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and
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Contents

Preface .................................................. vii
Abbreviations .......................................... ix

A SYNTACTIC SKETCH OF AYUTLA MIXTEC ............ 1
   Robert A. Hills

A SYNTACTIC SKETCH OF COATZOSPAN MIXTEC ....... 261
   Priscilla C. Small
Preface

The present volume constitutes the second installment of a set for which four volumes are projected. It contains syntactic sketches of two distinct Mixtec languages.

The first language included in this volume is Ayutla Mixtec, a member of the Southern Lowlands grouping, located in the extreme southwestern part of the Mixtec area in the state of Guerrero. It is one of the few Mixtec languages that have retained glottal stop in word-final position.

The second is Coatzospan Mixtec, a member of the Northern Highlands grouping of Mixtec languages. It is located at the extreme northeastern tip of the Mixtec area, virtually surrounded by speakers of Cuicatec (another Mixtecan language) and Mazatec (a language in the Popolocan family of Otomanguean). Coatzospan Mixtec shows a number of differences from the Highland Mixtec dialects that are geographically closest to it, and some of these differences may reflect influence from the neighboring languages.

These sketches follow the same outline and format as those in Volume 1 (Bradley and Hollenbach 1988). They present the structure of Mixtec with minimum attention to theory. Over half of the space in each sketch is devoted to examples, and, at the end, each sketch includes an indigenous version of the tar-baby story as a sample text in the language. Further background information about these sketches can be found in the Preface and Introduction to Volume 1.

BEH
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