

Abstract

The thesis deals with the current situation of minority languages in Peru, focusing on language shift as a sociolinguistic phenomenon, which is seen as a transition from the use of one language to another language. The first part conceives the topic from a broader perspective and points out certain weaknesses in the subject. Some Peruvian minority languages, ie the native languages of the Amazon region, have not been adequately documented, individual languages have not been given sufficient attention by linguists, and therefore we encounter inconsistent terminology, classifications and varying estimates of the number of the languages. Many of the languages are in danger of extinction because they are replaced in everyday use by Spanish. The thesis analyzes the individual extralinguistic and other factors that have contributed to accelerating the language shift, and on the basis of empiric data obtained during field research in 2013, describes the progress of the shift in selected communities in the languages Bora and Huitoto murui. The third part introduces the sociolinguistic profile of the settlements Pucaurquillo and Ancon Colonia, which were the center of the research. The main part of the thesis analyzes the topic "behaviour towards language", focused on the intergenerational transmission of indigenous languages Bora nad Huitoto murui. The disruption of the intimate transmission to younger generations proves the endangerment of the languages. In connection with this issue we consider the influence of mixed couples, migration and education, and furthermore, the attitude of the speakers towards the language is emphasised.