

## Lexical items in the Quechua variety spoken in Puno, Peru



Traditional Andean ship made out of straw  
-lake Titicaca, own photo-

Quechua can be better defined as a linguistic family. Within this family, the variety spoken in the Southern Peruvian region of Puno has its characteristic features, mostly deriving by a continuous contact with the neighbour indigenous linguistic family, Aymara (or Aru)<sup>1</sup>. This contribution (QLIP: Quechua lexical items of Puno) is aimed at describing the lexicon of the Quechua variety used in the Peruvian Titicaca region, coinciding with the Southern part of the Puno department.

One might consider the lexical items one the most evident sign of identity of Puno Quechua. For this reason, one of the table (Table 1) shows the corresponding items in other varieties of the Southern Quechua group (Cuzco Quechua, for now, Ayacucho Quechua in the future). Aymara items are shown too, so that the influence of this language family on Puno Quechua can be appreciated for many of the cases.

Table 2 shows a list of items proceedings by different communities of the region, in order to make the diffusion of this variety evident<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Puno Quechua has 500.000 speakers (100.000 monolinguals), according to Simons, Gary and Charles Fennig, 2018 ([www.ethnologue.com](http://www.ethnologue.com)).

<sup>2</sup> The material in table 2 is obtained through nowadays Facebook conversations.

	Puno Quechua (2001) <sup>3</sup>	English	Cuzco Quechua	Aymara
1	aywiy	<b>to let the animals scatter</b>	ch'eqey	ch'egeña
2	chuwa	<b>dish</b>	p'uku	chuwa
3	chhullunkiya	<b>ice</b>	chullunku	chhullunkhiya
4	ch'amakayky	<b>to get dark</b>	tutayay	ch'amakt'ayaña
5	ch'alaykuy	<b>to add</b>	yapay	<b>-different root-</b>
6	ch'unchula	<b>bowel</b>	ch'unchul	<b>-different root-</b>
7	hallch'akuy	<b>to straighten up</b>	allichay	<b>-different root-</b>
8	hup'a	<b>deaf, silent</b>	upa	<b>-different root-</b>
9	hutk'uy	<b>to pierce, to dig</b>	t'oqoy	<b>-different root-</b>
10	illaku	<b>kind of tuber</b>	ulluku	ulluku, ulluma
11	isañu	<b>kind of sour tuber</b>	añu	isañu, isaña
12	llawq'a	<b>worm</b>	k'uyka	<b>-different root-</b>
13	llip'iqey	<b>to flambe, wave, swing</b>	raphakyay	laphaq'eña
14	mach'axa	<b>snake</b>	mach'aqway	<b>-different root-</b>
15	peqana	<b>fulling mill</b>	maran	peqaña
16	qarawiya	<b>lizard</b>	qaraywa	<b>-different root-</b>
17	qonqor	<b>knee</b>	moqo	qonqora, qonqoru
18	sank'ayu	<b>a. a kind of cactus b. cactus' thorn</b>	k'aklla	
19	sehe	<b>barn</b>	tage	<b>-different root-</b>
20	tiyala	<b>aunt</b>	tiya	tiya
21	tiyula	<b>oncle</b>	tiyu	tiyu
22	uriy	<b>to produce</b>	ruruy	<b>-different root-</b>
23	wahachakuy	<b>to insult</b>	k'amiy	<b>-different root-</b>
24	yaruy	<b>to disarrange</b>	chapuy	yaru- [to mix, to expand]
25	yargoy	<b>to understand</b>	uyariy	<b>-different root-</b>

Table 1

<sup>3</sup> This list is based on Cusihamán, Antonio, 2001 (*Diccionario Quechua Cuzco-Collao*, Cuzco: CBC)

Vito Bongiorno-QLIP-yil2019

	Puno (2018)		Juliaca 2018	Taquile 2018
1	<b>aywiy</b>	to let the animals scatter	...	...
2	<b>chuwa</b>	dish	...	...
3	<b>chhullunkiya</b>	ice		
4	<b>ch'amakayky</b>	to get dark		
5	<b>ch'alaykuy</b>	to add		
6	<b>ch'unchula</b>	bowel		
7	<b>hallch'akuy</b>	to straighten up		
8	<b>hup'a</b>	deaf, silent		
9	<b>hutk'uy</b>	to pierce, to dig		
10	<b>illaku</b>	kind of tuber		
11	<b>isañu</b>	kind of sour tuber		
12	<b>llawq'a</b>	worm		
13	<b>llip'iqey</b>	to flambe, wave, swing		
14	<b>mach'axa</b>	snake		
15	<b>peqana</b>	fulling mill		
16	<b>qarawiya</b>	lizard		
17	<b>qonqor</b>	knee		
18	<b>sank'ayu</b>	a. a kind of cactus b. cactus' thorn		
19	<b>sehe</b>	barn		
20	<b>tiyala</b>	aunt		
21	<b>tiyula</b>	oncle		
22	<b>uriy</b>	to produce		
23	<b>wahachakuy</b>	to insult		
24	<b>yaruy</b>	to disarrange		
25	<b>yarqoy</b>	to understand		

Table 2



Piece of fabric  
-lake Titicaca, own photo-