Northern Andean Spanish: Cajabamba and Pallasca

Responsible researcher: Luis Andrade Ciudad Research assistants: Roger Gonzalo Segura Funded by: Research vice-rector's Office

Department of Humanities- Linguistics and Literature Section

Three years ago, we have been conducting interviews and gathering data to study Northern Andean Spanish of Peru. We are focused on a region where Spanish had as substrate language called *Culle* or *Culli*, different indigenous language of *Quechua*, *Aymara* and *Mochica*. This region, which is shown on the map, runs from the Cajamarca valley in the north to the Pallasca province in Ancash, in the south.

The field research points are districts of Cabana and Tauca, Áncash (2011); Cajabamba and Lluchubamba, Cajamarca (2010); and Agallpampa, Otuzco (2009), marked in red on the map. People were interviewed about various aspects of their lives, and the lexicon of agriculture and traditional weaving was compiled. Moreover, we reviewed ecclesial and regional archives searching more information about the history of this Spanish in 2011.

We were interested in researching how similar Spanish of this region is compared to Spanish described by the literature as «Andean Spanish». Throughout the research, we noticed that this variety was described by specialists mainly from southern samples, influenced by Quechua and Aymara. In this case, in which we have other indigenous substrate, some differences were foreseeable to find.

Thus, we noticed that while the Northern speech saves similarities with peer Southern, this must be understood in its own logic. The conclusions achieved are as follows: (1) that Spanish of substratum Cullen is a variety of Andean Spanish which should be distinguished from the Southern speech and (2) that looking at the Andean Spanish as a uniform and homogeneous block, as it can be seen from the specialized bibliography, obscures the linguistic facts.

Names of the waist loom* in an extinct Andean language

One of the most interesting results within the projects of year 2011 was finding the almost complete nomenclature of the traditional waist loom elements for *Culle* or *Culli* substrate, in the hamlet of Chuquique (Tauca, Pallasca, Áncash). Previously, we found that the names of timbers and parts that make up this loom combined Quechua terms with Culli and Spanish words in Otuzco and Cajabamba. In Tauca, Culli terms and some Spanish words are only used.

This result supports the idea of Quechua and Culle were in long and intense contact in the region that we have been studying, even after the imposition of Spanish as a new language of power in the mid-16th century. Said bilingualism would not have been as strong in the territory of the province of Pallasca, but considering the collected data on textile nomenclature in the Tauca hamlet of Chuquique.

^{*}a typical indigenous loom which is used by women for weaving