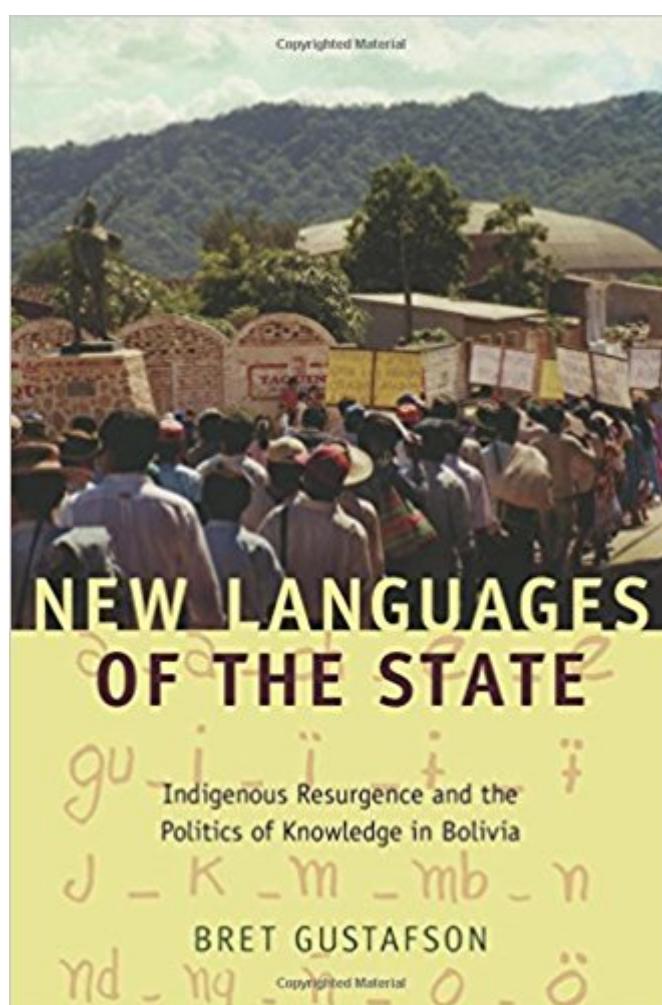


The book was found

# New Languages Of The State: Indigenous Resurgence And The Politics Of Knowledge In Bolivia (Narrating Native Histories)



## Synopsis

During the mid-1990s, a bilingual intercultural education initiative was launched to promote the introduction of indigenous languages alongside Spanish in public elementary schools in Bolivia's indigenous regions. Bret Gustafson spent fourteen years studying and working in southeastern Bolivia with the Guarani, who were at the vanguard of the movement for bilingual education. Drawing on his collaborative work with indigenous organizations and bilingual-education activists as well as more traditional ethnographic research, Gustafson traces two decades of indigenous resurgence and education politics in Bolivia, from the 1980s through the election of Evo Morales in 2005. Bilingual education was a component of education reform linked to foreign-aid development mandates, and foreign aid workers figure in *New Languages of the State*, as do teachers and their unions, transnational intellectual networks, and assertive indigenous political and intellectual movements across the Andes. Gustafson shows that bilingual education is an issue that extends far beyond the classroom. Public schools are at the center of a broader battle over territory, power, and knowledge as indigenous movements across Latin America actively defend their languages and knowledge systems. In attempting to decolonize nation-states, the indigenous movements are challenging deep-rooted colonial racism and neoliberal reforms intended to mold public education to serve the market. Meanwhile, market reformers nominally embrace cultural pluralism while implementing political and economic policies that exacerbate inequality. Juxtaposing Guarani life, language, and activism with intimate portraits of reform politics among academics, bureaucrats, and others in and beyond La Paz, Gustafson illuminates the issues, strategic dilemmas, and imperfect alliances behind bilingual intercultural education.

## Book Information

Series: Narrating Native Histories

Paperback: 352 pages

Publisher: Duke University Press Books (July 10, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0822345463

ISBN-13: 978-0822345466

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.9 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: Be the first to review this item

Best Sellers Rank: #553,501 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #30 in Books > History >

Americas > South America > Bolivia #582 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History > Latin America #1369 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Specific Demographics > Native American Studies

## Customer Reviews

In *New Languages of the State*, Gustafson provides the vivid narrative of EIB from the colonizers' destruction and violence, which is justified and legitimated by the colonizers, through the Guaraní challenge and resistance to the official lies. Students of bilingual education everywhere will benefit from reading this account because everywhere, bilingual education is about challenging and resisting the hegemony of colonizers and their languages. • - Sheila M. Shannon, *Latin American Politics and Society*

Bret Gustafson has written a subtle and illuminating ethnography of the interactions and intersections of grassroots and official projects of interculturalism in Bolivia. . . . A core success of the book stems from Gustafson's ability to push against unidirectional analytic or critical positions without leaving readers stranded on islands of particularism or mired in irreducible complexity. • - Andrew Orta, *Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology*

*New Languages of the State* is an excellent and engaging piece of scholarly work, based on long-term ethnographic and historical research in three diverse areas of enquiry, which the author articulates into a complex study of the state, education reform, and indigenous movements. It should appeal to scholars interested in these themes in Latin America and in other regions of the world. • - Maria L. Lagos, *American Ethnologist*

Gustafson's nuanced and dynamic portrait of reform provides a wealth of information and insight for followers of indigenous education and politics. Hopefully, his narrative about this oft-neglected corner of the globe will find an audience not only among fellow anthropologists but among educational activists and policy-makers as well. • - Aurolyn Luykx, *Anthropos*

Gustafson has written a magisterial book on Indigenous politics in Bolivia that should be required reading for all graduate students interested in Indigenous politics, decolonization, and political ethnography. • - Jos  Antonio Lucero, *A Contracorriente*

While arguably the best ethnography of Guaraní country produced in recent years, Gustafson's book is also situated at the intersections of state-building and social movements; it will therefore be of broad interest to scholars in anthropology, political science, sociology, and beyond. . . . This book is clearly a major contribution to our understanding of contemporary Bolivia, indigenous movements, and the politics of indigenous education. . . . With a keen understanding of the contentious nature of Bolivian society, Gustafson has provided a complex and compelling portrait of new forms of struggle, belonging, and hope. As news of violent

conflicts in Bolivia continues to surface, the need for such a message could scarcely be more urgent.â•• - MarÃ- a Elena GarcÃ- , *Current Anthropology*â œA beautifully crafted, magnificently expansive, and inspiring work of engaged historical ethnography! Bret Gustafson traces Boliviaâ™s heralded experiment in bilingual education by planting it deep in the subsoil of GuaranÃ- culture and politics and by projecting it against the larger canvass of neoliberal reformism in the 1990s. In plotting the choreography of state, NGO, and grassroots struggles over indigenous knowledge and schooling, Gustafson opens up new horizons on Boliviaâ™s vibrant GuaranÃ- movement and its radicalizing agendas in the early 2000s. This is, quite simply, the work of a seasoned anthropologist and gifted writer.â••â••

â•• Brooke Larson, author of *Trials of Nation Making. Liberalism, Race, and Ethnicity in the Andes, 1810-1910*â œMuch anticipated by anthropologists of Latin America, *New Languages of the State* is an entirely new contribution to the ethnography of the Andes, and it speaks to much broader issues about development banks, globalization, indigenous movements, and more. Bret Gustafson makes sense of transnational processes, bureaucratic logics, and ideological formations by moving between diverse locales in Bolivia, from the most remote locations in Chaco, to the upscale professional offices of La Paz, and then on to international meetings in Thailand and the United States.â••â••

â•• Julia Paley, author of *Marketing Democracy: Power and Social Movements in Post-Dictatorship Chile*â œ*New Languages of the State* is an excellent and engaging piece of scholarly work, based on long-term ethnographic and historical research in three diverse areas of enquiry, which the author articulates into a complex study of the state, education reform, and indigenous movements. It should appeal to scholars interested in these themes in Latin America and in other regions of the world.â•• (Maria L. Lagos, *American Ethnologist*)â œBret Gustafson has written a subtle and illuminating ethnography of the interactions and intersections of grassroots and official projects of interculturalism in Bolivia. . . . A core success of the book stems from Gustafsonâ™s ability to push against unidirectional analytic or critical positions without leaving readers stranded on islands of particularism or mired in irreducible complexity.â•• (Andrew Orta *Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology*)â œGustafson has written a magisterial book on Indigenous politics in Bolivia that should be required reading for all graduate students interested in Indigenous politics, decolonization, and political ethnography.â•• (JosÃ© Antonio Lucero A Contracorriente)â œGustafsonâ™s nuanced and dynamic portrait of reform provides a wealth of information and insight for followers of indigenous education and politics. Hopefully, his narrative about this oft-neglected corner of the globe will find an audience not only among fellow anthropologists but among educational activists and policy-makers as well.â•• (Aurolyn Luykx *Anthropos*)â œIn *New Languages of the State*, Gustafson provides the vivid narrative of EIB from

the colonizers's destruction and violence, which is justified and legitimated by the colonizers, through the Guaraní- challenge and resistance to the official lies. Students of bilingual education everywhere will benefit from reading this account because everywhere, bilingual education is about challenging and resisting the hegemony of colonizers and their languages. • (Sheila M. Shannon Latin American Politics and Society) • While arguably the best ethnography of Guaraní country produced in recent years, Gustafson's book is also situated at the intersections of state-building and social movements; it will therefore be of broad interest to scholars in anthropology, political science, sociology, and beyond. . . . This book is clearly a major contribution to our understanding of contemporary Bolivia, indigenous movements, and the politics of indigenous education. . . . With a keen understanding of the contentious nature of Bolivian society, Gustafson has provided a complex and compelling portrait of new forms of struggle, belonging, and hope. As news of violent conflicts in Bolivia continues to surface, the need for such a message could scarcely be more urgent. • (María Elena García- Current Anthropology)

"A beautifully crafted, magnificently expansive, and inspiring work of engaged historical ethnography! Bret Gustafson traces Bolivia's heralded experiment in bilingual education by planting it deep in the subsoil of Guaraní culture and politics and by projecting it against the larger canvas of neoliberal reformism in the 1990s. In plotting the choreography of state, NGO, and grassroots struggles over indigenous knowledge and schooling, Gustafson opens up new horizons on Bolivia's vibrant Guaraní movement and its radicalizing agendas in the early 2000s. This is, quite simply, the work of a seasoned anthropologist and gifted writer."--Brooke Larson, author of *Trials of Nation Making: Liberalism, Race, and Ethnicity in the Andes, 1810-1910* "Much anticipated by anthropologists of Latin America, *New Languages of the State* is an entirely new contribution to the ethnography of the Andes, and it speaks to much broader issues about development banks, globalization, indigenous movements, and more. Bret Gustafson makes sense of transnational processes, bureaucratic logics, and ideological formations by moving between diverse locales in Bolivia, from the most remote locations in Chaco, to the upscale professional offices of La Paz, and then on to international meetings in Thailand and the United States."--Julia Paley, author of *Marketing Democracy: Power and Social Movements in Post-Dictatorship Chile*

[Download to continue reading...](#)

*New Languages of the State: Indigenous Resurgence and the Politics of Knowledge in Bolivia* (Narrating Native Histories) *Bolivia: Bolivia Travel Guide for Your Perfect Bolivian Adventure!*: Written by Local Bolivian Travel Expert (Travel to Bolivia, Travel Bolivia, Bolivia Travel) Earth

Politics: Religion, Decolonization, and Bolivia's Indigenous Intellectuals (Narrating Native Histories) Hawaiian Blood: Colonialism and the Politics of Sovereignty and Indigeneity (Narrating Native Histories) Mobilizing Bolivia's Displaced: Indigenous Politics and the Struggle over Land (First Peoples: New Directions in Indigenous Studies (University of North Carolina Press Paperback)) Intimate Indigeneities: Race, Sex, and History in the Small Spaces of Andean Life (Narrating Native Histories) The Floridas: The Sunshine State \* The Alligator State \* The Everglade State \* The Orange State \* The Flower State \* The Peninsula State \* The Gulf State Resurgence: The Rise of Resurgence Book I Rhythms of the Pachakuti: Indigenous Uprising and State Power in Bolivia (New Ecologies for the Twenty-First Century) Queer Indigenous Studies: Critical Interventions in Theory, Politics, and Literature (First Peoples: New Directions in Indigenous Studies) Science, Colonialism, and Indigenous Peoples: The Cultural Politics of Law and Knowledge The Transit of Empire: Indigenous Critiques of Colonialism (First Peoples: New Directions Indigenous) Our New Husbands Are Here: Households, Gender, and Politics in a West African State from the Slave Trade to Colonial Rule (New African Histories) Muslim Women and Islamic Resurgence: Religion, Education and Identity Politics in Bahrain (Library of Modern Middle East Studies) Organising Knowledge: Taxonomies, Knowledge and Organisational Effectiveness (Chandos Knowledge Management) Plebeian Power: Collective Action and Indigenous, Working-Class and Popular Identities in Bolivia (Historical Materialism Book) A Revolution for Our Rights: Indigenous Struggles for Land and Justice in Bolivia, 1880-1952 Native America: A Concise Guide To Native American History - Native Americans, Indian American, Slavery & Colonization (Crazy Horse, Custer, Slavery, American Archaeology, Genocide, Aztec Book 1) Bolivia, 5th: Tread Your Own Path (Footprint Bolivia Handbook) Bolivia: Bolivia Travel Guide for Your Perfect Bolivian Adventure!: Written by Local Bolivian Travel Expert

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)