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THE GRAMMATICAL HIERARCHY OF ISTHMUS ZAPOTEC

BY

VELMA BERNICE PICKETT

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN DISSERTATION

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PREFACE

This study has been undertaken with a twofold goal in view. The first and primary goal was the analysis and description of the syntactic structure of the Isthmus Zapotec language; the second was experimentation with a modification of the tagmemic model of Kenneth L. Pike.

Data for the work have been gathered during field work under the auspices of the Summer Institute of Linguistics and the Wycliffe Bible Translators, Inc. I am grateful to many Zapotec friends, who have been most gracious in their teaching and patient with their student during my visits to the town of Juchitán, Oaxaca, Mexico, in the winters of 1943–50, 1951–56. In addition to the data gathered personally I have made use of the published texts of Paul Radin.

In the application of the tagmemic model to the data I have appreciated the counsel of Professor Pike regarding the theoretical implications involved. In the course of the analysis I have profited by discussing several problems with May Morrison. To Mrs. John Crawford I am indebted for her sacrifice of time in typing the manuscript.

Finally, I wish to express my appreciation to the University of Michigan for a University Fellowship and a Horace H. Rackham Predoctoral Fellowship, which made my study at the University and the completion of this dissertation possible.

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