

ORTHOGRAPHY



All Wari' words, apart from proper names, are written in italics. The orthography used in this book is based on the phonetic transcription system for Wari' developed by the New Tribes Missions (NTM), the only difference being that I use the letter *k* instead of *c* to represent the phoneme /k/. The approximate values of the sounds are as follows.

VOWELS

- a* – like *a* in cat
- e* – like *e* in echo
- i* – like *ee* in seen
- o* – varying between *o* in cot, or *oo* in soon
- u* – like *u* in French *fumer*

CONSONANTS

- k* – like *c* in cat
- h* – like *h* in hat
- j* – varying between *j* in just, or *y* in you
- m* – varying between *m* in mat, or *b* in bat, with light prenasalization
- n* – varying between *n* in not, or *d* in dot, with light prenasalization
- p* – like *p* in pot
- r* – like *r* in Portuguese *parado* (flap)
- t* – like *t* in time
- w* – like *w* in wonder
- x* – varying between *ch* in chat, or *sh* in shine

The symbol ' indicates a glottal stop. Since I find it very difficult to discern this sound, I have retained the notation only in those words where I am sure I have been able to identify the sound clearly.