of the approximately twelve hundred Indian languages of the Americas, certain linguistic relationships have been defined by a series of scholars who have specialized in this field over the past years.

In addition many dialects either still exist or have long existed in the many branches of related tribes. The source, however, seems to be the Nadene speaking people, who are believed to have migrated to Alaska or more from Asia, possibly three thousand years ago. From this origin have come four major branches of language, one of which is the Athabaskan. language

This **Athabaskan** in turn, has many off shoots; one of which is Navaho.

These Athabaskan speaking people migrated long ago to the Pacific costal area and thence over a period of hundreds of years, to other parts of this country.

Some scholars believe that there is a relationship between the ancient language of the Nadene and the Chinese-Tibetan languages, though this relationship is probable, it still needs much more research. with the Navaho language, having undergone many charges and modifications as time has passed, its roots lie deep in antiquity. This is no "primitive" form of expression, but a highly complex form of communication, differing greatly from the English and other European languages. Navaho has many more phonetic sounds than English. It is a language full of movement and of subtle meaning: a language contain many verbs whose prefixes and suffixes may denote an entie action; the pitch of the voice whether raised or lowered may change the entire meaning. difficult language for English speaking people to learn, and many of the phonetic sounds are most difficult for us to produce. Yet there are many who have accomplished this feat. Mr. Robert Young, Assistant director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Gallup, is highly preficient in this language. He has traveled in Alaska and British Columbia where there are other Athabaskan speaking people and with

whom he had no difficulty in conversing, has written an extensive aritcle in The Navaho Year Book, (1961) which should be of great in terest to the who seek further knowledge of the Athabascan Tougue.