Summary of Facebook postings by Berkeley Karuk group, January 22-31, 2016

We are continuing this week with ways of talking about the past.

**January 22**

Vina upiip:

pusihich'ávah tu'av pa'akvaat. • The raccoon ate the catfood.

pusihich = cat  
ávah(a) = food  

t- = has done or be in a state  
u- = it  
'av = to eat

pa- = the  
'akvaat = raccoon

**Comment:**

Here we see another way of describing a past event, by putting *ta* at the beginning of the verb.

**January 23** (no post)

**January 24**

Vina upiip:

papúsihich íp tu'ávat. • The cat just ate.

pa- = the  
púsihich = cat  

íp = recent past  

t- = has done or be in a state  
u- = it  
'áv = to eat  
-at = in the past
Comment:

In there earlier examples we have seen the ending -at used on the verb for past tense, and in other examples we have seen ta- used at the beginning of the verb to signal completion of the event. Here Vina uses both of them together and ñp before the verb. So the eating is complete and in the past. She translates that into English as "The cat just ate."

January 25:

Charlie upiip:

teeptshinvárihva hum? • Did you forget?

pee- = ta + i
ta = has done or be in a state
i = you (talking to one person)

(i)pshinvárihva = to forget

hum = question marker

Comment:

This could also be translated "Have you forgotten?"

January 26 (no post)
January 27

Charlie upiip:

tikáriha hum? • Are you ready?

t- = has done or be in a state
i- = you (one person)
kariha = to get ready or to be ready

hum = question marker

Comments:

In the earlier sentences with *ta-*, the English translations were all in the past tense. In this sentence Charlie uses the *ta-* marker of of completed action on the verb *kariha*, but the English translation is in the present tense - *are you ready?* - not past tense - *were you ready?*

This happens with many Karuk verb, not just *káriha*. In his grammar, Bill Bright suggests that *káriha* means "to get ready" and once you have completed getting ready, you are in fact ready!

Another possible translation of Charlie’s sentence would be: *have you gotten ready yet?*

January 28 (no post)

January 29

Charlie upiip:

tée kfúuyshur hum? • Are you tired?

tée = ta- + i-
ta- = has done or be in a state
i- = you (one person)

(i)kfúurshur = get or be tired

hum = question marker
Comment:
From Susan Gehr: Puuhara! Kafih ni'iishti payeem. • No, I’m drinking coffee now.

January 30

Vina upiip:

naa tá ni’ítap. • I learned.

naa = I
tá = has done or be in a state
ni- = I
(f)tap = to know, to learn

January 31

Vina upiip:

ifyáa tu’uum? • What time is it?

ifyáa = how much
t- = has done or be in a state
u- = it
’uum = to arrive

tu’uum

Comments:
A more literal translation of Vina’s question would be: How much has it arrived at?
To answer such a question, replace ifyáa with a number, e.g. yitha tu’uum.
Asking about time and telling the time always involves tu’uum ( = it has arrived). So
this is another case where Karuk ta- is translated with present tense in English:
What time is it? It’s 1 o’clock.