

Invitation to seminar on Language Revitalisation and Language Rights in a southern Sami and international perspective, Elgá 6th and 7th of February, 2007.

Two seminars on the 6th and 7th of February puts a focus on the situation of minority languages, and especially the southern Sami language. The theme for the first day, which is the Sami People's Day, is language revitalisation. At the seminar, a five-year language revitalisation project conducted by the Saami University College in Kautokeino, together with Engerdal municipality, is presented to the project owner; the Sami Parliament. The theme for the second seminar is the right to education and knowledge for minority languages, where the Sami language situation is put in a wider perspective. The organisers of the seminars are Elgá school and municipality, and the Resource Centre for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples – Gáldu.

Participants are among others researcher Jon Todal, Saami University College, Education Officer Annie Kissack, Bunscoil Gaelgagh, St. Johns, Isle of Man, Dr. Tove Skutnabb Kangas, University of Roskilde, Andrea Bear Nicholas, St. Thomas University, Canada, and Dr.Philos Steinar Pedersen, Norway. Target groups for the seminars are those who have been part of the 5-year project, southern Sami schools, the Sami Parliament and authorities at different levels, students and researchers, Sami centres, and other interested parties. The seminar language on the 7th of February is English. The seminars will be interpreted into Sami, English and Norwegian. It will be possible for the participants to contribute.

We hope you will come to Elgá these two days to get knowledge and contribute with knowledge on language vitalisation and rights. Please find attached program and registration form.

Dearvodaiguin/Best regards

Magne Ove Varsi, director, Gáldu
Elin Fjellheim, Sami Parliament's Language motivation project/Engerdal municipality
Kautokeino/Elgá 16th of December 2006