

Names, Succession

Classes

H. Wallace. Kitis file

Succession of chief's name - Kitis

"All these [six names given] had the power to become head chief of the gotsi's. hai'ma and q'a'ksak were the two leading names of this class. When one of the chiefs dies, the councillors or la'ka-xi-g'e't will meet in council and decide as to who shall succeed him among themselves; and the whole tribe has to decide, even those not of noble rank. One of the maternal line nephews of the head chief would be eligible if alive; but never the son, unless formally adopted, and the ceremony it is made known that he will be the next head chief.

The gi'bew e'ksak are those formally eligible, that is the six named above; two first ranking above the others.

If the chief has no nephews or has adopted no children then these gi'bew e'ksak come next in rank for chief. And those who elect select the one most fit. In the case of Mr Wallace his electors are not agreed as to who will succeed him at his death. (Lower class could never be elected).

There were women councillors but had not the same — and authority as the men.... The name of the head women in rank equal to the gi'bew e'ksak (was) tk'we e'ksak. They even may assume a male chief's name, if there is no one to assume it, provided they are relatives (sister or other) of

chief. In such a case they are considered as men, but nevertheless they may not have the same authority in council.



# Classes

H. Wallace

Gitais file

The first division is called:

nobles  
or  
princes

gə'li'wɛ'ɔksək

gəp'ɛwɛ'ɔksək (plural)

ɬkuwɛ'ɔksək (singular)

[ɬku - comes from bright and silvery young salmon commonly called ɬku -]

## II division

lək'ə'kige't refers to the head men or councillors of the chief.

III wɛh'ɛ'ɔ'ɔ'n lowest class of people outside of the slaves. Meaning of term "when these people get cross it takes a long time to make up"