

Social Organisation Within Language Groups

 Social Structure Within Language

The social organisation within a language group was very complex.

Many people have tried to document these clan and family relationships in many ways. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission describes these relationships in the following way. The language groups were composed of several clans. Each clan, through religious law was responsible for a certain area of land. It was through clan membership that individuals gained their special links with the land. All the people in a clan belonged to the same descent groups (either patrilineal or matrilineal).