

ISO 639-3 Registration Authority

Request for New Language Code Element in ISO 639-3

Date: 2006-3-22

Name of Primary Requester: Barb Waugh

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Associated Change request number : 2006-005

(completed by Registration Authority)

Tentative assignment of new identifier : pkr

(completed by Registration Authority)

Do not be concerned about your responses causing the form text spacing or pagination to change. Use Shift-Enter to insert a new line in a form field (where allowed)

1. NAMES and IDENTIFICATION

- a) Preferred name of language for code element denotation:
Attapady Kurumba
- b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:
Kurumba
- c) Alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
Pal Kurumba
- d) Reason for preferred name:
Pal Kurumba is already an alternate name for Kurumba, Alu_xua. Apparently xua and this new language were originally from the same tribe but are now separated geographically and the language has diverged. Attapady is the name of the block in Palakkad District where the group is centered.
- e) Name of ethnic group or description of people who use this language and approximate population of users, if in use today:
spoken by Kurumbar (or Pal Kurumbar) people of Palakkad district, Kerala. Population 1,368 to 1,820 (two different sources citing the 1991 census give different numbers). A socio-economic survey from 96-97 says population 1,620.
- f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available:

Your suggestion will be taken into account, but the Registration Authority will determine the identifier to be proposed. Language identifiers are not intended to be an abbreviation for a name of the language, but to serve as a device to identify a given language uniquely. With thousands of languages, many sets of which have similar names, it is not possible to provide identifiers that resemble a language name in every case.

2. TEMPORAL DESCRIPTION and LOCATION

- a) Is this a ☒ Living language
☐ Nearly extinct/secondary use only (includes languages in revival)
☐ Recently extinct language
☐ Historical language
☐ Ancient language
☐ Artificially constructed language

(Select one. See explanations of these types at <http://www.sil.org/iso639%2D3/types.asp>)

- b) Countries where used:
India
- c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used:
Kerala [Palakkad district - Attapady block]
- d) For an ancient or historical language, give approximate time frame; for a recently extinct language, give the approximate date of the last known user's death

3. MODALITY AND LINGUISTIC AFFILIATION

- a) This language is: ☐ Signed ☒ Spoken ☐ Attested only in writings
- b) Language family, if classified; origin, if artificially constructed:
Dravidian, Southern
- c) Closest language linguistically. For signed language, note influence from other signed or spoken languages:
Muduga (no iso code yet) with 82% lex similarity. There is suspected high intelligibility with Muduga but listing these two as dialects of one language doesn't make any sense ethnically.

4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

- a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:
Literacy Mission of Kerala and Attapady Hill Area Development Society (AHADS) have developed some literacy materials in Kurumba language using Malayalam script
- b) Is this language officially recognized by any level of government? Is it used in any levels of formal education as a language of instruction (for other subjects)? Is it taught in schools?:
no. I don't know the scope of the above mentioned literacy materials

- c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:
used in home, village and religion domains; strong vitality and positive attitude toward mother tongue

5. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

You do not need to repeat sources previously identified in the form, “Request for Change to ISO 639-3 Language Code”

- a) First-hand knowledge. Describe:

- b) Knowledge through personal communication. Describe:

- c) Knowledge from published sources. Include known dictionaries, grammars, etc. (please give complete bibliographical references):

Please return this form to:

ISO 639-3 Registrar
SIL International, Office of Language Information Systems
7500 West Camp Wisdom Road
Dallas, Texas 75236 USA
ISO 639-3/RA web site: <http://www.sil.org/iso639%2D3/default.asp>
Email: iso639-3@sil.org
An email attachment of this completed form is preferred.

Further information:

If your request for a new language code element is supported by the Registration Authority as a formal proposal, you may be contacted separately by researchers working with the Ethnologue or with LinguistList asking you to provide additional information.

Sources of documentation for ISO 639-3 identifiers:

Gordon, Raymond G., Jr. (ed.), 2005. Ethnologue: Languages of the World, Fifteenth edition. Dallas, Tex.: SIL International. Online version: <http://www.ethnologue.com/> .

LinguistList. Ancient and Extinct Languages. <http://cf.linguistlist.org/cfdocs/new-website/LL-WorkingDirs/forms/langs/GetListOfAncientLgs.html>

LinguistList. Constructed Languages. <http://cf.linguistlist.org/cfdocs/new-website/LL-WorkingDirs/forms/langs/GetListOfConstructedLgs.html>