

ISO 639-3 Registration Authority

Request for New Language Code Element in ISO 639-3

Date: 2006-3-22

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Associated Change request number : 2006-006

(completed by Registration Authority)

Tentative assignment of new identifier : ymr

(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:
Malasar

- b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:

- c) Alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
Malayar

- d) Reason for preferred name:
The people use both names - Malasar is Tamil and Malayar is Malayalam. Since the majority live in Tamil Nadu we recommend using Malasar

- e) Name of ethnic group or description of people who use this language and approximate population of users, if in use today:
spoken by Mahcarivan Malasar or Nattu Malasar of Tamil Nadu and Kerala. pop 8,460 (1991 census)

- 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:
Tamil nadu [Coimbatore district - Pollachi Taluk]; Kerala [Palakkad district - Chittoor and Palakkad taluks]
- 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:
Similar to Eravallan (77-86%), Irula (58-83%), and Mala Malasar (68-75%) tribal languages.
Of major languages, most similar to Tamil 68-74%

4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

- a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:
none
- 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
- 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

