ISO 639-3 Registration Authority

Request for New Language Code Element in ISO 639-3

This form is to be used in conjunction with a “Request for Change to ISO 639-3 Language Code” form

Date: 2007-5-7

Name of Primary Requester: Eric Johnson, Sociolinguistics Coordinator, SIL East Asia Group

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Names, affiliations and email addresses of additional supporters of this request:

Associated Change request number : 2007-012 (completed by Registration Authority)

Tentative assignment of new identifier : yzg (completed by Registration Authority)

PLEASE NOTE: This completed form will become part of the public record of this change request and the history of the ISO 639-3 code set. 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:
      Buyang, E’ma

   b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:
      [puo¹¹za:ŋ³²]

   c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
      Buyang, Buyang Zhuang, Eastern Buyang, Buozzaang.

   d) Reason for preferred name:
      The language is been known to linguists as Buyang, and the people are called Buyang by surrounding Zhuang ([pu¹¹ja:ŋ²⁴], 布央), so we maintain the "Buyang”. Speakers of the Langnian Buyang language, which is not mutually intelligible, also call themselves Buozzaang, so we cannot use this name. E’ma is the name by which this language/dialect is known in Chinese linguistic literature, the name is taken from syllables of two of the most important villages speaking this language.

   e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language:
      There are about 600 speakers of E’ma Buyang (1995 population), and they are known to the surrounding Zhuang people as Buyang, but call themselves Buozzaang and have some different festivals and other cultural traits than the surrounding Zhuang.

   f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available: yzg*

Your suggestion will be taken into account, but the Registration Authority will determine the identifier to be proposed. The identifiers is 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

- [x] Living language
- [ ] Nearly extinct/secondary use only (includes languages in revival)
- [ ] Recently extinct language
- [ ] Historical language
- [ ] Ancient language
- [ ] Artificially constructed language
- [ ] Macrolanguage

(Select one. See explanations of these types at http://www.sil.org/iso639-3/types.asp)

b) Countries where used:
   PR China

c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:
   Yunnan Province, Wenshan Zhuang-Miao Autonomous Prefecture, Funing County, Gula District: six villages: E’cun (峨村), Maguan (马贯), Dugan (杜干), Zhelong (者龙), Nada (那达), and Longna (龙纳)

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
- [x] Spoken
- [ ] Attested only in writings

b) Language family, if classified; origin, if artificially constructed:
   Tai-Kadai, Kadai, Yang-Biao, Buyang, Eastern

c) Closest language linguistically. For signed language, note influence from other signed or spoken languages:
   Langnian Buyang (78% lexical similar, yet not intelligible)

4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:
   No
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:
  Spoken in the homes, those 15 to 50 speak the local Zhuang language, and some, especially men, can speak the local Southwest Mandarin dialect

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):
   (see ISO change request form)

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
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: