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: 2007-8-31

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

Associated Change request number: 2007-199  (completed by Registration Authority)
Tentative assignment of new identifier: zbt  (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:
      Batui
   b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:
      Batui
   c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
      Baha -- this is not a "common" alternate name for the language, but is a name which was used in the early twentieth century, and which is still found on some language atlases. It is a "corrupted" form of the negative term in the language, which is actually articulated as mbaha'.
   d) Reason for preferred name:
      The people themselves call their language Batui.
   e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language:
      Batui -- In their homeland area (perhaps 'enclave' would be a better word), the Batui people live in four different villages (see below). According to 2003 census, these four villages have a TOTAL population of 4279 people. Of this total population, the best estimate that we can give for the number of ethnic Batui is "around 2500", with the understanding that this is a very round figure (2900 is a fairly confident upper limit, we just don't have a confident lower limit)
   f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available: (none)

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](http://www.sil.org/iso639-3/types.asp))

b) Countries where used:

Indonesia

c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:

Sulawesi (region/island); Central Sulawesi Province, Banggai Regency, Batui Subdistrict, in (portions of) the following villages:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>village</th>
<th>degrees / minutes S lat</th>
<th>degrees / minutes E longitude</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balantang</td>
<td>01 16.191</td>
<td>122 33.226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tolando</td>
<td>01 17.017</td>
<td>122 33.242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sisipan</td>
<td>01 17.659</td>
<td>122 32.327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Batui</td>
<td>01 16.667</td>
<td>122 33.351</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Note: Batui is used as both a village name and as the name of the subdistrict where this village is located.)

(Note: here "village" = Indonesian kelurahan)

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:

Austronesian, Malayo-Polynesian, Celebic, Eastern Celebic, Saluan-Banggai, Western, Saluanic

c) Closest language linguistically. For signed language, note influence from other signed or spoken languages:

The closest language linguistically is Saluan (in a separate proposal, I will suggest that the Saluan, Coastal [loe] and Saluan, Kahumamahon [slb] be combined)
Lexicostatistical percentages between Batui and other Saluan-Banggai languages are as follows (based on 200-item Swadesh list):

Batui - Saluan 74%
Batui - Andio 60%
Batui - Bobongko - 54%
Batui - Balantak - 46%
Batui - Banggai - 38%

Based on a consideration of sound change, these languages should be classified as follows:

Saluan-Banggai
   Eastern
       BALANTAK
       BANGGAI
   Western
       ANDIO
   Saluanic
       BATUI
       BOBONGKO
       SALUAN

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 (except for the 500+ item word list which we transcribed and recorded)

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?:
   Batui is not recognized at any governmental level.

c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:
   Saluan speakers consider Batui to be a divergent dialect of Saluan, but Batui speakers strongly feel that they have their own local language which is not Saluan.

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:
   In July 2006, an Indonesian colleague and I visited the town of Batui and were the first to collect data -- consisting of 500+ word list items -- on the language spoken there.
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
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: