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: 2011-8-30

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Associated Change request number : 2011-155 (completed by Registration Authority)
Tentative assignment of new identifier : tzl (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:
      bTsanlha rGyalrong
   b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:
      kəruska, tsañhhaska
   c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
      Eastern rGyalrong, Southern rGyalrong
   d) Reason for preferred name:
      bTsanlha distinguishes this language from Situ.
   e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language:
      rGyalrong, 40-50,000
   f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available: bts

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
      ☒ Living language
      ☐ Nearly extinct/secondary use only (includes languages in revival)
      ☐ Recently extinct language
      ☐ Historical language

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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:
P. R. China

Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:
bTsan-lha can be divided into Chu-chen bTsan-lha and Southern bTsan-lha.
Chu-chen is spoken in the following locations.
• Jinchuan County: Kalajiao 卡拉脚 (WT), Sawajiao 撒瓦脚 (WT), Sha’er 沙耳 (WT Gsal), Hexi 河西 (WT), Hedong 河东 (WT), Dupong 独松 (WT), Anning 安宁 (WT An-nying), Ma’erbang 马尔邦 (WT), Kajiao 卡脚 (WT), Cengda 曾达 (WT) and Ma’nai 马奈 (WT) Townships and within and surrounding Jinchuan Town itself. The mountain ridge that divides Jinchuan into east and west
serves as a boundary between bTsan-lha rGyalrong and Lavrung.
• Danba County, Ganzi: Badi 巴低 (WT Brag-steng) Township.

Southern bTsan-lha is spoken in the following locations.
• Xiaojin County 小金县 (WT bTsan-lha), Aba: Lianghe 两河, Mupo 木坡, Fubian 抚边, Bajiao 八角, Jiesi 结斯, Wori 沃日, Shuangbo 双柏, Rilong 日隆, Ri’er 日尔, Dawei 达维, Laoying 老营, Chongde 崇德, Xinqiao 新桥, Xinge 新格, Zhailong 宅垄, Wodi 窝底, and Hanniu 汗牛 Townships and in Xiaojin Town.
• Danba County, Ganzi: Taipingqiao 太平桥 (WT The-phan-ch’o), Yuezha 岳扎, and Banshanmen 半扇门 Townships and in Danba Town 但把县城.
• Baoxing County 宝兴县, Ya’an Municipality 雅安市: Yaoji Tibetan Autonomous Township 硕碳藏族自治乡.
• Li County southeast of Jiabi. Gatehouse (2011) calls these lects “Southeastern Situ.” Jì’ergou and Putou are rGyalrong speaking while Ganbao, Shangmeng, Xiameng and Xuecheng Townships and Lixian Town all have rGyalrong speakers and Qiang speakers although the majority of Ganbao, Shangmeng and Xiameng is rGyalrong speaking. Xuecheng is the boarder, east of which are Qiang speaking populations (Gatehouse 2011).
• Wenchuan County 汶川县 (WT Wun-khron) of Aba is reported to have rGyalrong speakers in the following Townships: Caopo 草坡 (WT Tsho’o-pho), Wolong 卧龙 (WT O-lung), Sanjiang 三江 (WT San-cang), Gengda 耿达 (WT Kun-ta) and Mianhu 绵虎 (WT Man-kri) (Prins 1997:3). However it has been reported that Tibetans in Caopo now only speak Chinese, and those who were interviewed in Caopo were unaware of any surviving rGyalrong speakers in the County (Gatehouse, pc). Because of intense contact with Chinese over the last hundred or more years, it seems that rGyalrong has died out in Wenchuan County, except perhaps among the elderly. However, further research is needed to confirm this.

c) 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:
   Sino-Tibetan, Tibeto-Burman, rGyalrongic

c) Closest language linguistically. For signed language, note influence from other signed or spoken languages:
   1. Zbu rGyalrong
   2. Japhug rGyalrong
   3. Tshobdun rGyalrong
   4. Situ rGyalrong

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:
   Identify themselves as Tibetan (藏族), but qualify that they are rGyalrong Tibetans.
   bTsanlha is used in the home and among the children as they play with one another (especially in the townships and villages).
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:
I, SIL researcher Jesse Gates, have conducted first hand research into this language from 2007-2011. I have collected and analyzed data and I am writing my MA thesis on the synchronic and diachronic relationships of this and related languages entitled rGyalrongic dialectology: integrating synchronic and diachronic perspectives (Gates, forthcoming).

b) Knowledge through personal communication. Describe:
I have had personal communication via emails, phone conversations and face-to-face conversations with Hiroyuki Suzuki, Guillaume Jacques, Mariella Prins, Sun Hongkai and Jackson Sun.

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:


LinguistList. Constructed Languages. [http://linguistlist.org/forms/langs/GetListOfConstructedLgs.html](http://linguistlist.org/forms/langs/GetListOfConstructedLgs.html)