

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: 2014-2-21

Name of Primary Requester: Manasseh Wekundah

E-mail address: wekunda at btlkenya dot org

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

Bible Translation & Literacy East Africa

Associated Change request number : 2014-001

(completed by Registration Authority)

Tentative assignment of new identifier : wnl

(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:

West Nyala

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

Lunyala

- c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:

- d) Reason for preferred name:

The name is what is used by linguists to differentiate the East Nyala and West Nyala

- e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use):

The West Nyala refer to themselves as Banyala ba Busia and this is what differentiates them from the East Nyala. The term is also used by the other Oluluyia speakers in order to create the distinction between the two. It is also important to note that Busia is a town and County in the border of Kenya and Uganda - it is the market and administrative Centre for the West Nyala. It is difficult to give a population figure because the 2009 Kenyan Government Population Census gave one figure for both East Nyala and West Nyala under the name Banyala - their population is 273,198

- f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available: [wny]

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
- Ancient language
- Artificially constructed language
- Macrolanguage

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

For individual languages, also complete:

- b) Countries where used:
Kenya
- c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:
Busia County
- 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:
Bantu - it is classified as 'Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, Benue-Congo, Bantoid, Southern, Narrow Bantu, Central, J, Masaba-Luyia (E.32) in JE10 Nyoro-Ganda Group no.JE18 in New Updated Guthrie Online, p. 59.
- c) Closest language linguistically. For a Macrolanguage, list the individual languages (adopted and/or proposed) to be included in its group. For signed language, note influence from other signed or spoken languages:

4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

- a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:
There is a radio broadcast in the language.
- 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?:
It is not taught in schools nor used in any formal or government functions

- c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:
The community has a strong sense of ethnolinguistic identity and the language is used at home, in the market and all the cultural functions - basically used in all the informal domains

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:

This information was given by knowledgeable researchers who are part of the Oluluyia macro language and they are: Dr. Mojola – a Luyia and a linguist who worked as a translation consultant for United Bible Societies. Dr. John Omani - a Scripture Use Specialist with SIL and Rev. Canon Micah Amukobole also a Luyia who was the founding General Secretary for BTL. Mr. Zacky Otido an East Nyala speaker working with SIL AFA.

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

Rachael Kanyoro’s book titled: Unity in Diversity: A linguistic study of the Abaluhya of Western Kenya (1983) p.g. 90/246 and Gideon Were’s article on Western Kenya Historical Texts, East Africa Literature Bureau 1967.

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/iso639-3/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://linguistlist.org/forms/langs/GetListOfAncientLgs.html>

LinguistList. Constructed Languages. <http://linguistlist.org/forms/langs/GetListOfConstructedLgs.html>