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: 2019-03-19

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Associated Change request number: 2019-035 (completed by Registration Authority)
Tentative assignment of new identifier: zbl (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:
      Balaibalan
   b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:
      باليبلان
   c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
      Bâlaïbalan, Bālaybalan, Bala-i-Balan, Bāl-a i-Balan, Bâleybelen (Turkish)
   d) Reason for preferred name:
      simplicity
   e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use):
      none
   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. 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
      [x] Historical language
      [ ] Ancient language
      [x] Artificially constructed language
      [ ] Macrolanguage

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

For individual languages, also complete:

b) Countries where used:
   Ottoman Empire, possibly Safavid Iran

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

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 attested from the second half of the 16th century.

3. MODALITY AND LINGUISTIC AFFILIATION

a) This language is: □ Signed               □ Spoken               ☒ Attested only in writings

b) Language family, if classified; origin, if artificially constructed:
   Lexicon largely a priori (though some apparently based on Sufi metaphor), grammar based on Turkish, Persian and Arabic

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.?:
   Five manuscripts are known to survive.
   * A quadrilingual Arabic–Persian–Turkish–Balaibalan dictionary and Balaibalan grammar by Muḥyī-ya Gūlṣenī (Muḥyī Moḥammad Golṣani), Kitāb-i Baleybele (Ketāb-e bālaybalan), written in Cairo, in Turkish. The second preface is dated 1580. Held by the Princeton University Library.
   * A dictionary and grammar, also attributed to Golṣani, written in Turkish and dated 1580. Held by the Egyptian National library. Similar to the previous, but a text Maṣāder-e alsena-ye arba’ā, attributed to Golṣani’s son Muḥammed-ya Gaybi, is inserted.
   * A dictionary and grammar, Ketāb aşl al-maqāṣed wa faṣl al-marāshed (Balaibalan: Dātyvakša vaḥātaybakša), written in Persian. Held by the Bibliothèque nationale de France.
   * Balaibalan entries appear under the Turkish in a Turkish–Persian dictionary written by

*A work composed by Golšani in Turkish rhyme, Istanbul University Library TY # 1906, which contains some structural information on Balaibalan

Mustafa Koç published the Cairo and Paris manuscripts as *Bâleybelen: İlk Yapma Dil* (Istanbul, 2005). The Princeton ms has been digitized and is available online at dpul.princeton.edu/catalog/t148fh20m.

Several other manuscripts mentioned by Sertoğlu and Rousseau are now apparently lost.

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:
   Apparently used by Sufi religious orders, possibly as a secret language. Golšani said he created the language, but the lexicon was developed by several people over an unknown period of time.

**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):

**Please return this form to:**

ISO 639-3 Registrar
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7500 West Camp Wisdom Road
Dallas, Texas 75236 USA
Email: "iso639-3@sil.org"