

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: 2020-8-31

Name of Primary Requester: Agnes Conrad

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

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Associated Change request number : 2020-043

(completed by Registration Authority)

Tentative assignment of new identifier : emq

(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:
Eastern Minyag
- b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:
Munya
- c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
Shimian Minyag; Shimian Munya; Shimian Muya
- d) Reason for preferred name:
The speaking area of this language encompasses the eastern region of the greater Minyag area. Eastern Minyag is commonly believed by both speakers and linguists to be related to Western Minyag, or Darmdo Minyag. It makes sense to refer to it with a geographical identifier rather than a place name identifier indicating the county where the majority of speakers are located (as Shimian would do) because the greater cultural, historical speaking area runs across county borders and there are a few Eastern Minyag speaking villages located outside of Shimian County.
- e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use):
The speakers of Eastern Minyag are officially classified as belonging to the Tibetan minority. There have been no systematic attempts to determine the number of exact speakers, but the Primary Requester believes the number to be somewhere around or slightly under 2000 on the basis of her fieldwork and consultations with native speakers.
- f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available: evm

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
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Living language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Nearly extinct/secondary use only (includes languages in revival) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Recently extinct language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Historical language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Ancient language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Artificially constructed language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 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:
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:
Shimian County, Sichuan Province, China
Jiulong County, Sichuan Province, China
- 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:
Qiangic
- 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:
Western Minyag

4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

- a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:
Oral corpus of folkstories, songs, and daily conversations pending upload to ELAR (<https://elar.soas.ac.uk/Collection/MPI1175054>).

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:

Eastern Minyag speakers consider themselves as belonging to the greater Minyag speaking area encompassing Western Minyag (mvm); most local oral historians trace the Eastern Minyag speakers' ancestry to the Western Minyag speaking area. While Eastern Minyag speakers are technically classified as belonging to the Tibetan minority, their language is mutually unintelligible with major Tibetan dialects. This situation leads some young people to the unfortunate conclusion that Eastern Minyag speakers speak "adulterated Tibetan" and there is not much support for Eastern Minyag language initiatives within the greater Tibetan speaking community. Furthermore, Western Minyag speakers are Buddhists, while Eastern Minyag speakers are followers of Bön, creating a measurable religio-cultural divide between the two speaking populations. At present, Eastern Minyag's use is strictly limited to village and family life, with a marked decrease in daily fluency and usage among the youngest generation.

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
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>