

# 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: 08-18-2022

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Associated Change request number : 2022-023

(completed by Registration Authority)

Tentative assignment of new identifier : pze

(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:

Pesse

b) Autonym (self-name) for this language: Pesse [pəsə]

c) A native speaker of the language: [bəpəsə]

d) Alternate spelling for language autonym: Pisse or Posse

e) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations: Polci.

Polchi, Palchi (Eberhard, et al. 2022). Palci and Polshi (Wente-Lukas 1985:301). Polsawa (CAPRO 1995: 290). Palsawa. Palshwa. Posi (Schimizu 1978:13). Pəlci (Kraft 1981). Posə (Caron 2005).

f) Reason for preferred name: It was chosen by the people, which include prominent members of the community, as their autonym.

g) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use): 37,000

h) 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 identifier 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:  
Nigeria

- c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:  
45 settlements in Polchi District, Dass LGA, and Toro District in Toro LGA, Bauchi State.

- 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:

According to Decker and Aregbesola, the varieties which were hitherto regarded as a cluster of dialects are in fact distinct languages, albeit some share more linguistic and social similarities. Hence, based on the findings of the survey, the classification of Pesse was highlighted as: West Chadic B.3, Polcic.

- 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.?:

No

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:

According to Decker and Aregbesola, “there is a dominant use of the heritage language among the Pesse. It is used not only in personal domains with family relations and friends but in public ones like cultural festivals and alongside Hausa in churches and schools”. The informal domains include home, farm, amongst other interaction between family relations and friends.

## 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):

Eberhard, David M., Gary F. Simons, and Charles D. Fennig, eds. 2022. *Ethnologue: Languages of the World*, Twenty-fourth edition. Dallas, TX: SIL International. Online version at <http://www.ethnologue.com>.

Wente-Lukas, Renate. 1985. Handbook of Ethnic Units in Nigeria. *Studies on Cultural Studies*, 74, 1-466.

CAPRO Research Office. 1995. *Unmask The Giant (An ethnic survey of Bauchi State)*. Jos. CAPRO Media Services.

Shimizu, Kiyoshi. 1978. The Southern Bauchi Group of Chadic Languages, a Survey report. Berling. Verlag Dietrich Reimer.

Kraft, C, H. 1981. *Chadic Wordlists*, volume 1 (Plateau-Sahel). Berling. Verlag Von Dietrich Reimer. <https://cdstar.shh.mpg.de/bitstreams/EAEA0-866A-E7B6-914D-0/Kraft1981.pdf>. Accessed on 28 April 2021.

Caron, Bernard. 2005. Polci Languages. 3rd Biennial International Colloquium on the Chadic Languages (BICCL 3), Nov 2005, Villejuif, France. [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/280847292\\_Polci\\_Languages](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/280847292_Polci_Languages). Accessed on 3 December 2021.

### 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](mailto: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>