

# 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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Names, affiliations and email addresses of additional supporters of this request: Julius Dabet, SIL Survey supervisor, Julius\_dabet at sil dot org

Associated Change request number : 2022-030 (completed by Registration Authority)

Tentative assignment of new identifier : zem (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:

Zeem

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

Zeem

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

Zaimawa (group identity by the Hausa) and Zaimanci (the name of the language by the Hausa).

Decker and Araokanimi, 2022.

d) Reason for preferred name:

The name was reported by the people as their group’s autonym and language name

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

1500 Ethnic population but no current active speakers of the language.

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 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:

The Zeem are located in two villages (Zayam and Gin-Gin) in Jama'a District, Toro LGA, Bauchi State. Zayam 10.146402 latitude, 9.282596 longitude. Gin-Gin 10.18525003 latitude, 9.264105018 longitude.

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

No information.

### 3. MODALITY AND LINGUISTIC AFFILIATION

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

b) Language family, if classified; origin, if artificially constructed:

Eberhard et al. (2022) classified the language alongside its dialects as Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, West, B, B.3, Zaar proper.

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.?:

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?:

c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:  
EGIDS level is 9.

## 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. <http://www.ethnologue.com>.

### 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>