

# 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: 2009-4-30

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

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Associated Change request number : 2009-029

(completed by Registration Authority)

Tentative assignment of new identifier : isk

(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:  
Ishkashimi
- b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:  
Ishkashimi
- c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
- d) Reason for preferred name:
- e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use):  
3000
- f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available: isk

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
- |                                     |                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <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:  
Afghanistan, Tajikistan
  
- c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:  
Tajikistan: villages of Sumjin and Ryn, close to the town of Ishkashim; Afghanistan: villages of Xermani, Bahar Bazar, Zargaran, Darwan, Zayad, Qaz Deh, north of the town of Ishkashim (N: 36° 42' 48"; E: 71° 33' 44")
  
- 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:  
Indo-European, Indo-Iranian, Iranian, Eastern, Southeastern, Pamir
  
- 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:  
Sanglechi

### 4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

- a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:  
none
  
- 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:  
In Afghanistan, the older and the middle generations speak Ishkashimi, being nearly fully bilingual with Dari. However, in the younger generation not every child knows Ishkashimi, some know only Dari; the reason is that some parents used Dari with their children to provide them with better changes in school. Only now do the people realize, that this might cause the language to become endangered, which they regret. Still, in about half of the households Ishkashimi is spoken as the primary languages.

In Tajikistan, even though all Ishkashimi are bilingual with Tajik, the language is very vital. This is because the fathers very much insist on their children acquiring Ishkashimi as the first language when they grow up. Ishkashimi is spoken as the first language in the private domain of the home and in the domain of the village community. In Tajikistan the preservation of the language plays a more distinct role in the ethnolinguistic identity than in Afghanistan.

## 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:  
yes, see "Request for Change to ISO 639-3"
  
- 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](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>