

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: 2009-7-1

Name of Primary Requester: Prof. Anvita Abbi

E-mail address: anvitaabbi at gmail dot com

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

Dr. Bidisha Som, Assistant Professor, IIT Guwahati, India /bidishasom at gmail dot com

George Weber, andaman at bluewin dot ch

Associated Change request number : 2009-042

(completed by Registration Authority)

Tentative assignment of new identifier : gac

(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:
Present Great Andamanese
- b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:
Jeru
- c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
Andamanese
- d) Reason for preferred name:
At present the form of the language that is spoken is a mixed variety of three to four languages spoken once in the Island, Jeru being one of them. Check on the website www.andamanese.net
- e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use):
Out of the total population of 55 only seven speakers speak the language
- f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available: PGA

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:
India
- c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:
Andaman and Nicobar
- 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:
Great Andamanese
- 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:
Not known

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:
The language is on the verge of extinction as it is being replaced by Andamanese Hindi. The PGA is used only as a code language in front of outsiders. The seven existing speakers use it occasionally among themselves in day-to-day speech

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:
Have done extensive research on the languages of the Andaman Islands. Please refer to publications referred to in the web site www.andamanese.net

- b) Knowledge through personal communication. Describe:

- c) Knowledge from published sources. Include known dictionaries, grammars, etc. (please give complete bibliographical references):
Anvita Abbi 'The Endangered languages of the Andaman Islands. 2006. Munich. Lincom Europa

Abbi, A., 2006. Vanishing voices: a typological sketch of Great Andamanese. In: Saxena, Anju, Borin, Lars (Eds.), Lesser-known Languages of South Asia. Status and Policies, Case studies and Applications of Information Technology. Mouton de Gruyter, Berlin, New York, pp. 107–123.

- d) Abbi Anvita. "Is Great Andamanese genealogically and typologically distinct from Onge and Jarawa?" doi:10.1016/j.langsci.2008.02.002

- e) Annamalai, E., Gnanasundaram, V., 2001. Andamanese biological challenge for language reversal. In: Fishman, Joshua (Ed.), Can Threatened Languages be Saved? Reversing Language Shift, Revisited. A 21st Century Perspective. Multilingual Matters, Clevedon, pp. 309–322.

Basu, D.N., 1952. A linguistic introduction to the Andamanese. Bulletin of the Department of Anthropology 1–2, 55–70.

Burenhalt, Niclas, 1996. Deep linguistic prehistory with particular reference to Andamanese'. Working Papers, Lund University, Department of Linguistics, Lund, Sweden, vol. 45, pp. 5–24.

Manoharan, S., 1986. Linguistic peculiarities of Andamanese family of languages. Indian Linguistics 47 (1–4), 25–32.

Manoharan, S., 1989. A Descriptive and Comparative Study of the Andamanese Language. Anthropological Survey of India, Calcutta.

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>