

Bangladesh

Some endangered languages

(information from Ethnologue, UNESCO)

* = definitely endangered; ** severely endangered

Bishnupriya Manipuri Creole

Vulnerable; 115,000 sp in all countries.

Alternate names: Bishnupuriya; Bisna Puriya; Bishnupria Manipuri

Spoken in: Assam (Cachar, Hailakandi, Karimganj), Manipur, Tripura

***Chak** [ckh] 5,500 in Bangladesh (2002). UNESCO severely endangered. 20,000 speakers in Myanmar, total in all countries = 25,000. Arakan Blue Mountains, Baishari, Bandarban, south Naikhongchari area, Bishar Chokpra. Alternate names: Sak, Tsak. Classification: Sino-Tibetan, Tibeto-Burman, Jinghpo-Konyak-Bodo, Jinghpo-Luish, Luish

Chin, Asho

[csh] 2,340 in Bangladesh (1991 census), 10,000 in Myanmar. Bandarban, Chittagong, and Rangamati districts. Alternate names: Khyang, Khyeng, Qin, Sho, Shoa. Classification: Sino-Tibetan, Tibeto-Burman, Kuki-Chin-Naga, Kuki-Chin, Southern, Sho

***Chin, Bawm** (aka Chin). UNESCO “definitely endangered”, 14,000 in all countries.

[bgr] 13,500 in Bangladesh (1991 census). Chittagong Hills. Alternate names: Bawm, Bawn, Bawng, Bom. Classification: Sino-Tibetan, Tibeto-Burman, Kuki-Chin-Naga, Kuki-Chin, Central

Chin, Falam 100,000 in Myanmar, 21,000 in India.

[cfm] Alternate names: Falam, Fallam, Halam, Hallam Chin. Dialects: Chorei, Zanniat. Classification: Sino-Tibetan, Tibeto-Burman, Kuki-Chin-Naga, Kuki-Chin, Northern

Chin, Haka

[cnh] 1,260 in Bangladesh (2000), 100,000 in Myanmar, 30,000 in India. Alternate names: Baungshe, Haka, Lai. Dialects: Klangklang (Thlantlang), Zokhua, Shonshe. Classification: Sino-Tibetan, Tibeto-Burman, Kuki-Chin-Naga, Kuki-Chin, Central

Chin, Khumi

[cnk] 2,090 in Bangladesh, 60,000 in Myanmar. Bandarban District, Thanchi, Ruma, and Rowanchari subdistricts. Alternate names: Kami, Khami, Khumi, Khuni, Khweymi, Kumi. Dialects: Khimi, Yindi (Yindu), Khami. Classification: Sino-Tibetan, Tibeto-Burman, Kuki-Chin-Naga, Kuki-Chin, Southern, Khumi
More information.

Hajong

[haj] 8,000 in Bangladesh (2005), 60,000 in India where its use is “vigorous”. Dhaka Division, Rangpur District east to Sunamganj District. Alternate names: Hajang. Classification: Indo-European, Indo-Iranian, Indo-Aryan, Eastern zone, Bengali-Assamese

***Khasi**

[kha] Very few speakers. 865,000 in India (1997). Alternate names: Cossyah, Kahasi, Khasie, Khasiyas, Khassee, Khuchia, Kyi. Classification: Austro-Asiatic, Mon-Khmer, Northern Mon-Khmer, Khasian

Koch

[kdq] 6,000 in Bangladesh (2006 SIL), 30,000 in India (2007), and SIL reports numbers increasing. Alternate names: Koc, Kocch, Koce, Kochboli, Konch. Dialects: Tintekiya, Chapra. Classification: Sino-Tibetan, Tibeto-Burman, Jingpho-Konyak-Bodo, Konyak-Bodo-Garo, Bodo-Garo, Koch

****Koda**

[cdz] 1,300 in Bangladesh (2005). Population total all countries: 1,600. Rajshahi Division, Puthia and Mundumala areas. Also in India. Dialects: Lexical similarity: 49%–55% with Santali [sat]; 61%–67% with Mundari [unr], 57%–60% with Kol [biw]; wordlist contained 19% Bengali [ben] words. Classification: Austro-Asiatic, Munda, North Munda, Kherwari, Mundari

Kok Borok.

[trp] 5,000 in Bangladesh. Vulnerable; 695,000 speakers total. Alternate names: Debbarma, Tipura, Tripura, Tripuri. Classification: Sino-Tibetan, Tibeto-Burman, Jingpho-Konyak-Bodo, Konyak-Bodo-Garo, Bodo-Garo, Bodo (aka Kok, Borok, Tripuri).

Kurux (Bangladesh) (aka Kurukh; Oraon): UNESCO vulnerable; 65,000. [Over 2 million speakers in India, so only the Bangladeshi variety seems to be vulnerable.]

Marma

[rmz] 150,000 in Bangladesh (2007), 16,500 in India (2007). Population total all countries: 166,500. Rangamati, Bandarban, and Khagrachari districts. Also in India. Alternate names: “Mogh”. Dialects: Related to Rakhine [rki]. Classification: Sino-Tibetan, Tibeto-Burman, Lolo-Burmese, Burmish, Southern

****Megam**

[mef] 6,870 (2000). Netrokona District, Kalmakanda Subdistrict. Alternate names: Migam, Negam. Dialects: Lexical similarity: 7%–9% with Abeng [grt], 60% with Lynggam [lyg]. Classification: Sino-Tibetan, Tibeto-Burman, Jingpho-Konyak-Bodo, Konyak-Bodo-Garo, Bodo-Garo, Garo

Mizo

[lus] 250 in Bangladesh (1991 census), 529,000 in India. Rangamati, Sajek. Alternate names: Hualngo, Lei, Lusai, Lushai, Lushei, Sailau, Whelngo. Dialects: Ralte, Dulien, Ngente, Mizo, Le. Classification: Sino-Tibetan, Tibeto-Burman, Kuki-Chin-Naga, Kuki-Chin, Central

***Mru**

[mro] 30,000 in Bangladesh (2007). Population total all countries: 51,230. Bandarban District. Also in India, Myanmar. Alternate names: Maru, Mrung, Murung. Dialects: Lexical similarity: 13% with Mro Chin [emr]. Classification: Sino-Tibetan, Tibeto-Burman, Mru
More information.

Mundari

[unr] 2,500 in Bangladesh (2005 Caritas). Ethnic population: 5,000. 1,550,000 in India. Rajshahi Division, Dinajpur and Naogaon districts; Sylhet Division, various tea estates. Alternate names: Colh, Horo, Mandari, Mondari, Munari, Munda. Dialects: Hasada', Latar, Naguri, Kera'. Classification: Austro-Asiatic, Munda, North Munda, Kherwari, Mundari

****Pangkhua**

[pkh] 2,500 in Bangladesh (2007). Population total all countries: 2,730. Rangamati District. Also in India, Myanmar. Alternate names: Pangkhu, Pankho, Panko, Pankhu. Classification: Sino-Tibetan, Tibeto-Burman, Kuki-Chin-Naga, Kuki-Chin, Central

***Pnar**

[pbv] 4,000 in Bangladesh (2002), 84,000 in India (1991). Northeast along India border; Sylhet Division, Sylhet District, near Jaflong, Tamabil, Jaintiapur, and north of Raipur; Moulavi Bazar District, near Fenchuganj, Madhabkunda, Barlekha, Goalbari, Fultala, Alinagar, Islampur, Khajori, Rashidpur, Satgoan, and Kamalganj. Classification: Austro-Asiatic, Mon-Khmer, Northern Mon-Khmer, Khasian

Rakhine

[rki] 35,000 in Bangladesh (2007). 730,000 in Myanmar (2001) Cox's Bazaar, Patuakhali, and Barguna districts. Alternate names: Rakhain, Rakkhaine, Mogh. Dialects: Rakhine, Sitwe. Classification: Sino-Tibetan, Tibeto-Burman, Lolo-Burmese, Burmish, Southern
More information.

****Riang**

[ria] 500 in Bangladesh (2007). 5,400 in India (2007). Rangamati District. Alternate names: Kau Bru, Reang. Classification: Sino-Tibetan, Tibeto-Burman, Jingpho-Konyak-Bodo, Konyak-Bodo-Garo, Bodo-Garo, Bodo

Sadri, Oraon

[sdr] 166,000 (2000). Throughout Rajshahi Division; Sylhet Division, Moulvibazar and Habiganj districts; Khulna Division, Jhenaidah District (Jhenaidah Subdistrict, Moheshpur Subdistrict), Kushtia District (Mirpur Subdistrict), Magura District (Magura Subdistrict). Dialects: Borail Sadri, Nurpur Sadri, Uchai Sadri, Mokkan Tila Sadri. Dialects may need separate literature.

Inherent intelligibility of 7 Sadri varieties on Borail ranges from 70%–93%; of 8 varieties on Nurpur from 78%–94%. Lexical similarity: of 14 Sadri varieties with the Borail Sadri dialect ranges from 88%–97%. Classification: Indo-European, Indo-Iranian, Indo-Aryan, Eastern zone, Bihari

***Sauria Paharia**

[mjt] 7,000 in Bangladesh (2007). 110,000 in India (2000). Alternate names: Malto, Paharia. Classification: Dravidian, Northern

Tangchangya

[tnv] 21,600 (1991 census). Chittagong Hills. Alternate names: Tanchangya. Dialects: 90% intelligibility of Chakma [ccp]. Lexical similarity: 58%–67% with Chakma. Classification: Indo-European, Indo-Iranian, Indo-Aryan, Eastern zone, Bengali-Assamese

Tippera

[tpe] 85,000. Chittagong Hills, Khagrachari District, Chittagong District, Fatikchari Subdistrict. Alternate names: Kok Borok, Tipperah, Tippurah, Tipra, Tipura, Triperah, Tripura. Dialects: Naitong, Dendak, Gabing, Khali, Phatung, Tongpai, Anok, Kewa, Kema, Aslong. 36 dialects. Lexical similarity: 56%–85% between dialects, 61%–74% with Kok Borok [trp], 53%–65% with Riang [ria], 37%–59% with Usoi Tripura [usi]. Classification: Sino-Tibetan, Tibeto-Burman, Jingpho-Konyak-Bodo, Konyak-Bodo-Garo, Bodo-Garo, Bodo

***Usoi**

[usi] 22,400. Bandarban District. Alternate names: Kau Brung, Tippera, Tripura, Unshoi, Unsuiy, Ushoi. Dialects: Lexical similarity: 88% between Panji and Joloi dialects, 59%–67% with Riang [ria], 47%–58% with Kok Borok [trp], 37%–59% with Tippera [tpe]. Classification: Sino-Tibetan, Tibeto-Burman, Jingpho-Konyak-Bodo, Konyak-Bodo-Garo, Bodo-Garo, Bodo

***War-Jaintia**

[aml] 16,000 in Bangladesh (2003 SIL). In all countries, 28,000. 25% monolingual. Population total all countries: 28,000. Northeast along India border; Sylhet Division, Sylhet District, near Jaflong, Tamabil, Jaintiapur, and north of Raipur; Moulavi Bazar District, near Fenchuganj, Madhabkunda, Barlekha, Goalbari, Fultala, Alinagar, Islampur, Khajori, Rashidpur, Satgoan and Kamalganj. Also in India. Dialects: War-Jaintia, War-Khasi. Not intelligible with Lyngngam [kha], Khasi War [aml] or Jowai, partially intelligible with Synteng [pbv], Standard Khasi [kha] 55% (acquired); sufficient to understand complex and abstract discourse with War-Jaintia in India. Lexical similarity: 86%–92% between dialects in Bangladesh; 83%–89% between War-Jaintia in India and Bangladesh; India variety 41%–45% with Pnar [pbv] (from scant data); 27%–35% with standard Khasi [kha]; 24%–28% with War dialect of Khasi. Classification: Austro-Asiatic, Mon-Khmer, Northern Mon-Khmer, Khasian
More information.

****Sak** (Bangladesh) (aka Chak): Severely endangered. 5,500 sp in Bangladesh (2002), 20,000 speakers in Myanmar, total in all countries = 25,000.

ISO 639-3: ckh. Region : Rakhine (Arakan) Blue Mountains. Classification Sino-Tibetan, Tibeto-Burman, Jinghpo-Konyak-Bodo, Jinghpo-Luish, Luish.

Language use: Most Chak living near Bandarban also use Marma [rmz].

Language development : Literacy rate in L2: 25% Bengali.