

Request for new language code

Criteria for requesting new language codes.

[ISO 639-2](#) or [ISO 639-1](#)

<http://www.loc.gov/standards/iso639-2/php/iso639-2form.php>

Name(s) of language (English):
(Required)

Moroccan Amazigh, Amazigh, Common Moroccan Amazigh, Standard Moroccan Amazigh, Moroccan Berber

If giving variant names, indicate preferred form first

Name(s) of language (French):

Amazighe marocain, amazighe, amazighe marocain commun, amazighe marocain normalisé, berbère marocain, amazighe standard.

If giving variant names, indicate preferred form first

Reference where found:

The French name is used by Institut royal de la culture amazighe (IRCAM). Amazighe is the name found in the French version of the constitution approved by a referendum on the 1st of July 2011.

<http://lematin.ma/Events/discours-royal/constitution-referendum.pdf> (article 5) and <http://www.sgg.gov.ma/bo5952F.pdf?cle=42> (Official Government Gazette)

The qualificative "marocain"/"Moroccan" is used to make sure it does not refer to a specific Moroccan dialect of Berber [tzm] (Moroccan being broader than the Central Atlas qualificative used for [tzm]) or to the Berber/Amazigh family as a whole [ber] (Moroccan being narrower than the whole family's coverage area).

Name(s) of language (indigenous):

ⵜⴰⴳⴷⵓⴷⴰⵢⵜ ⵜⴰⴷⵣⴰⵢⵔⵉⵜ

If giving variant names, indicate preferred form first

Reference where found: IRCAM

If in non-Roman script and supplying a romanized form, indicate transliteration system used, if possible:

tamazight in English, tamazighte in French

Evidence of sufficient number of documents to establish separate code per ISO 639-2 Annex A A.2.1

(request by one agency with 50 documents or five agencies with a total of 50 among them). This refers to material in the language, not about the language. Please cite name of institution(s) where documents are held and number at each. Example: Library of Congress (65) **(Required)**

At least 105 books and documents written in Moroccan Amazigh [zgh] are found at the IRCAM library (not all published by IRCAM).

Books written in Moroccan Amazigh [zgh] can be found in several libraries :

National library of the Kingdom of Morocco (Rabat)

Library of Mohamed 5 University (Rabat)

Library of Kadi Cadi Ayyad University (Marrakech)

Library of Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University (Saïss-Fes region)

Library of Mohamed first university (Oujda)

Library of Abdelmalek Essaadi University (Tetouan)

Size and variety of literature. A general statement quantifying the literature and its variation. Amplify evidence in the previous item (i.e. show variety of use beyond the request by one agency with 50 documents or 5 agencies with a total of 50 among them). **(Required)**

Of the 105 documents mentioned above, there are:

- * 20 school textbooks,
- * 20 teaching help documents,
- * 30 creations (poetry and fiction)

- * 01 cookbook
- * 07 children books (theatre, rhymes, and tales)
- * 04 lexicons (lexica)
- * 04 short fictions in the Asinag Journal
- * 06 on electronic support (cd-rom and internet site)
- * 10 newsletters
- * 03 translated books

National or regional support. Name of a national or regional language authority supporting this request. **(Required)**

Institut royal de la culture amazighe (IRCAM) whose mission is to standardize Amazigh in Morocco and provide resources for its speakers is a co-submitter of this request (contact: tamazighte@ircam.ma). The IRCAM was founded by a Royal edict; its mission is mentioned in the same edict. See <http://www.ircam.ma/fr/index.php?soc=textes>

Formal or official status. Document any official status that this language may have, legally or otherwise. **(Required)**

Amazigh is an official language of the country, see article 5 of the Constitution which has recently been adopted by a referendum held on the 1st of July 2011.

See the constitution text here:

<http://lematin.ma/Events/discours-royal/constitution-referendum.pdf> (leading paper)

or

<http://www.sgg.gov.ma/bo5952F.pdf?cle=42> (Official Gazette).

Coverage in media about this constitution being adopted and the place of the Amazigh language in Morocco:

* <http://www.lematin.ma/actualite/Journal/Article.asp?idr=110&id=152798>

*

http://www.africatime.com/maroc/nouvelle.asp?no_nouvelle=606910&no_categorie=2

* <http://amazigh.blog.lemonde.fr/2011/06/27/maroc-identite-amazighe-et-constitution/>

* <http://www.bladi.net/amazigh-constitution-reportage.html> (TV report from France 24).

* <http://www.leconomiste.com/article/884440-nouvelle-constitutionbrl-amazighite-fait-son-entree>

<http://www.albayane.press.ma/documents/50-divers/9489-appel-du-pps-et-dacteurs-du-mouvement-amazigh--accueil-positif-de-la-constitution.html>

Use in formal education. Specify where this language is used as a medium for education. **(Required)**

Amazigh is taught in schools. According to recent statistics (2009-2010, Directeur de la Stratégie, de la Statistique et de la Planification) , overall 527,025 pupils (including 248,871 girls) attend Amazigh classes, this is 15% of all Moroccan pupils. 26% of all Moroccan primary schools have Amazigh classes, 4.0% of the Moroccan teachers teach Amazigh.

See scenes of a Amazigh lesson in a primary school:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qcoX_Cgrm2Y (movie from IRCAM).

Amazigh classes only teach the language and the Amazigh culture, no other subject matter such as geography, biology, French, etc.

There are currently 3 universities offering classes in Amazigh studies at the undergraduate and master's levels to a total of 1250 students: 149 at the Faculty of Letters and Human Sciences (FLSH) of Oujda, 400 at the FLSH of Fès, 500 at the FLSH of Agadir, 100 at the FLSH of Rabat and 100 at the FLSH of Tetouan.

Additional information (e.g., estimated number of speakers, official status, where spoken):

Estimates vary as to the **number of speakers**, the estimates below are from the Ethnologue using 1998 figures. The requested code [zgh] refers to all Berber-speaking population of Morocco whose language is now official and taught in schools.

More specifically it refers to Tachelhit (chleuh) [shi] : 3,000,000; Tamazight proper (braber) [tzm] : 3,000,000 and Tarifit (rifain) [rif] 1,500,000 in Morocco, totalling approximately 7,500,000 in Morocco in 1998.

A recent census in 2004 refers to a total of 28.2 % of amazigh speakers of population, with 52 % Tachelhit, 37 % Tamazight and 11% Tarifit

See: http://www.hcp.ma/Recensement-general-de-la-population-et-de-l-habitat-2004_a633.html

Newspapers in Amazigh (in part or completely):

* « le Monde Amazighe »

* « Agraw »

* « Tawiza »

TV broadcasts:

* Channel 8 is in Amazigh, « la huitième », « ⵜⴰⵎⴰⵣⵉⵖⵜ - tamazight »
<http://www.tamazight-tv.ma/> it's the national Tamazight channel (named also TVT). It strives to speak a more standardized Amazigh. TV schedule :
http://www.tamazight-tv.ma/pdf/grille_tamazight.pdf.

* Channel 1 (Aloula) has daily news broadcasts (1:30 PM) in a standardized form of Amazigh.

* Channel 2M, has from 2:02-2:12 PM a daily news show in Amazigh.

* Channel 4 (Arrabia) has reruns of broadcasts from Channel 1 & 8. in Amazigh, late at night.

Radio stations:

* Radio tamazight : <http://www.alidaa-alamazighia.ma/> 16h/24h (oldest station in Amazigh, fair amount of standardized Amazigh).

* Mohamed VI (religious) : <http://www.idaatmohammedassadiss.ma/>

(distinct broadcasts at 5 P.M. in the three Amazigh "dialects/languages" [rif]/[shi]/[tzm].)

* CasaFM, news bulletin in Amazigh (1:45 PM), Anmouggar Show (2PM Monday through Friday)

* RadioPlus Agadir 24h/24

* RadioPlus Marrakech

* RadioPlus Casa

* CapRadio Tanger has detailed news bulletins at 9 AM, 1 PM and 4 PM.

Request addition in (*Note that ISO 639-1 is a subset of ISO 639-2*):

ISO 639-2 only

ISO 639-1 and ISO 639-2

Code suggestions (*Note that there is no guarantee that these codes will be assigned*):

Alpha-3 code: Alpha-2 code:
(ISO 639-2) ZGH (ISO 639-1)

Submitter of request

Name: Patrick Andries

(Required)

E-mail : patrick@hapax.qc.ca

(Required)

Status of submitter in relation to language (e.g., Speaker of language;
Academic/language teacher):

Patrick Andries is one of the authors of the proposal which lead to the encoding in Unicode and ISO 10646 of Tifinagh (the script used in Morocco to write Amazigh). The requester has made numerous trips to Morocco, presented various conferences there and has a close relationship with the co-requester below. The requester is also the author of a book in French on the internationalization of software and the use of Unicode 5.0 (see <http://hapax.qc.ca>).

This request was prepared and is presented in collaboration with the Institut royal de la culture amazighe (tamazighte@ircam.ma), an official Moroccan body responsible for the development of the Amazigh language (common terminology, grammar, linguistic revision of material produced in Amazigh for schools or the media, teacher training, font, keyboard, lexical parser development, etc.).