

Ethnologue: Languages of Chad

Twenty-sixth edition data

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List of Abbreviations

A	Agent in constituent word order
ACHPR	African Charter on Human Peoples' Rights (1987)
<i>alt.</i>	alternate name for
<i>alt. dial.</i>	alternate dialect name for
AOV	Agent-Object-Verb
C	Consonant in canonical syllable patterns
<i>Class</i>	Language classification
CPPDCE	Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005)
CSICH	Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003)
<i>dial.</i>	primary dialect name for
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966)
IMB	International Mission Board
km	kilometer(s)
L1 / L2	first language / second (or other additional) language
<i>Lg Dev</i>	Language development
<i>Lg Use</i>	Language use
m	meter(s)
P	Patient in constituent word order
PARADISEC	Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources In Endangered Cultures
<i>pej.</i>	pejorative
pl.	plural
S	Subject in constituent word order
sg.	singular
SIL	SIL International
SOV	Subject-Object-Verb
SVO	Subject-Verb-Object
<i>Type</i>	Typological information
UBS	United Bible Societies
UNCRPD	United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2006)
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization
V	Vowel in canonical syllable patterns
WFD	World Federation of the Deaf

How to Use This Digest

This *Ethnologue* country digest provides an extract of the information about the language situation in Chad that is published in the 26th edition of *Ethnologue: Languages of the World* (see <http://www.ethnologue.com>), including some ways of presenting the information that are not available in the online version. The digest begins with a “Country Overview” (page 6) and “Statistical Summaries” (page 8) of languages and number of speakers by language size, by language status, and by language family.

The “Alphabetical Listing of Languages” (page 11) provides detailed information on the 133 languages listed in the *Ethnologue* for the country of Chad. This includes languages that are indigenous to the country, languages that have developed well-established multigenerational speaker communities after immigrating in the past, and languages that have a significant presence in the country but are not established (that is, not being transmitted to the next generation within the country). A complete language entry has the following form and content:

Primary language name [ISO 639-3 code] (Alternate names). Autonym. *Users*: Country user population. Population stability comment. Population remarks. Monolingual population. Ethnic population. *Location*: Location. *Status*: EGIDS level. Special cases. Language function in country. *Class*: Linguistic classification. Macrolanguage membership. *Dialects*: Dialect names. Intelligibility and dialect relations. Lexical similarity. *Type*: Linguistic typology information. *Lg Use*: Remarks on use of the language. Domains of use. User age range. Language attitudes. Bilingualism remarks. Use as second language. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rates. Literacy remarks. Use in education. Publications and use in media. Revitalization efforts. Language development agencies. *DLS*: Digital support. *Writing*: Scripts used. *Other*: Non-indigenous. General remarks. Religion. *Map*: Map page. *Worldwide*: Total population in all countries. Other countries where used.

See <http://www.ethnologue.com/methodology/#languagePages> for a full description of these information elements. If the autonym contains the “?” character, this indicates a complex non-Roman character that the PDF-creating software we are using is not able to render. We regret the inconvenience.

The “Language Maps” (page 40) show the locations of the listed languages. If the location of a language is given on a map, the *Map* element of the language entry indicates the page number of the map. If the language is identified on a map by name, but that name differs from the primary name in the language entry, the name on the map is given in parentheses. If the language is represented on the map by an index number, rather than by its name, the index number is given following the page number (with a colon as separator).

Many ways of finding languages are provided. “Languages by Population” (page 43) lists the languages in order of their first-language speaker populations. “Languages by Status” (page 50) lists the languages by their level of development or endangerment as measured on EGIDS, the Expanded Graded Intergenerational Disruption Scale (Lewis and Simons 2010). “Languages by

Region” (page 61) lists the top-level administrative subdivisions of Chad and the languages located within each. “Languages by Family” (page 65) lists the languages by their linguistic classifications. “Language Code Index” (page 71) gives an alphabetical listing of all the three-letter codes from ISO 639-3 that are used in this digest to uniquely identify languages. “Language Name Index” (page 73) lists every name that appears in the language listings as a primary or alternate name of a language or dialect. A total of 687 unique names are associated with the 133 languages described in this digest.

Finally, a listing of all the published sources cited within this digest is found in “Bibliography” (page 89). The published sources are cited using standard in-text citations enclosed in parentheses, consisting of the author’s or editor’s surname followed by the year of publication. Unpublished sources including personal communications and unpublished reports are also acknowledged when specific statements or facts are attributed to them. They are identified using in-text citations enclosed in parentheses in which the year of the communication is given first, followed by the source’s first initial and surname. In such a case, there is no corresponding entry in the bibliography.

This digest is designed for use in both digital and print formats. The cross-references are thus rendered as page numbers that are hyperlinks. When using the document in printed form, simply turn to the referenced page by number. When using it in digital form, click on the blue text to jump to the cross-referenced location.

If you believe any of the information about a language in this digest is in error or if you are able to supply missing information, please send your proposed change to the editor using one of the means given below. Provide as much information as possible about the source of your information. Full bibliographic details of published sources are especially helpful.

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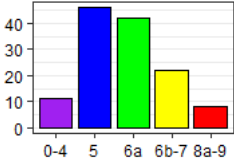
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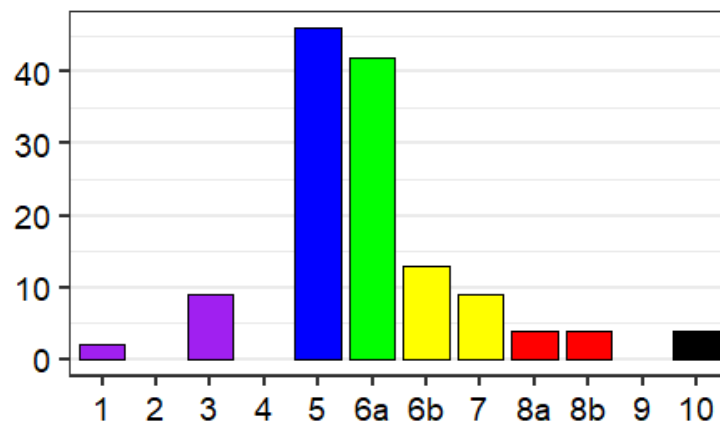
Country Overview

Name of country	Chad												
Population	16,426,000 (2020 World Bank)												
Principal languages	French, Standard Arabic												
Literacy rate	22% (2016 UNESCO)												
Deaf population	7,000												
International conventions	ACHPR (1986), CPPDCE (2008), CSICH (2008), ICCPR (1995), UNCRPD (2019)												
General references	Barreteau and Newman 1978, Bender 2000, Bendor-Samuel and Hartell 1989, Boyeldieu 1977, Caprile 1977, Doornbos and Bender 1983, Jungraithmayr 1981, LeRouvreur 1989												
Language counts	<p>The number of established languages listed for Chad is 133. Of these, 129 are living and 4 are extinct. Of the living languages, 123 are indigenous and 6 are non-indigenous. Furthermore, 11 are institutional, 46 are developing, 42 are vigorous, 22 are in trouble, and 8 are dying.</p>  <table border="1"> <caption>Language Vitality Data for Chad</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Vitality Category</th> <th>Count</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0-4</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>45</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6a</td> <td>42</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6b-7</td> <td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8a-9</td> <td>8</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Vitality Category	Count	0-4	12	5	45	6a	42	6b-7	22	8a-9	8
Vitality Category	Count												
0-4	12												
5	45												
6a	42												
6b-7	22												
8a-9	8												

See the next page for an explanation of the summary categories for language vitality used in the above counts and graph.

Language Status Profile

The following histogram gives a graphic profile of the established languages in Chad with respect to their status of language development versus language endangerment. This includes all of the languages appearing in the “Alphabetical Listing of Languages” (page 11) that report an EGIDS level after *Status*; macrolanguages and unestablished languages are not included in the profile. The horizontal axis plots the estimated level of development or endangerment as measured on the EGIDS scale (Lewis and Simons 2010). The height of each bar indicates the number of languages that are estimated to be at the given level. Consult “Languages by Status” (page 50) in order to see the specific languages for each level.



The color coding of the bars in the histogram above matches the color scheme used in the summary profile graph on the preceding page. In this scheme, the EGIDS levels are grouped as follows:

- Purple = Institutional (EGIDS 0–4) — The language has been developed to the point that it is used and sustained by institutions beyond the home and community.
- Blue = Developing (EGIDS 5) — The language is in vigorous use, with literature in a standardized form being used by some though this is not yet widespread or sustainable.
- Green = Vigorous (EGIDS 6a) — The language is in vigorous use among all generations and remains unstandardized.
- Yellow = In trouble (EGIDS 6b–7) — Intergenerational transmission is in the process of being broken, but the child-bearing generation can still use the language so it is possible that revitalization efforts could restore transmission of the language in the home.
- Red = Dying (EGIDS 8a–9) — The only fluent users (if any) are older than child-bearing age, so it is too late to restore natural intergenerational transmission through the home; a mechanism outside the home would need to be developed.
- Black = Extinct (EGIDS 10) — The language is no longer used and no one retains a sense of ethnic identity associated with the language.

Statistical Summaries

The “Alphabetical Listing of Languages” (page 11) provides a detailed listing of all the languages of Chad. This section steps back from the detail to offer a summary view of the language situation in the country. Specifically, it offers three numerical tabulations of the living established languages of Chad and their users: by language size, by language status, and by language family.

Summary by language size

Table 1 summarizes the distribution of living established languages in Chad by number of L1 speakers. The *Population range* column categorizes the sizes of the languages by order of magnitude (in terms of the number of digits in the population of first-language speakers). Consult “Languages by Population” (page 43) for a listing of the specific languages in each range category.

The *Count* column gives the number of living established languages within the specified population range. The *Percent* column gives the share of the count for that population range as a percentage of the total number of languages given at the bottom of the Count column. The *Cumulative* column gives the cumulative sum of the percentage of languages going from top to bottom in the column.

The *Total* column gives the total L1 population of all the languages in the given range category. The second *Percent* column gives the percentage of the total country population as estimated at the bottom of the Total column. Note that if the table has a row for Unknown, representing languages for which the *Ethnologue* does not have a population estimate, the calculation of population percentage is not able to take those languages into account. The final *Cumulative* column gives the cumulative sums of the population percentages going from top to bottom in the column.

Table 1: Distribution of languages by number of first-language speakers

Population range	Living languages			Number of speakers		
	Count	Percent	Cumulative	Total	Percent	Cumulative
1,000,000 to 9,999,999	2	1.6	1.6%	2,960,000	28.90677	28.90677%
100,000 to 999,999	18	14.0	15.5%	5,420,000	52.93064	81.83741%
10,000 to 99,999	52	40.3	55.8%	1,727,100	16.86651	98.70392%
1,000 to 9,999	37	28.7	84.5%	130,380	1.27327	99.97719%
100 to 999	5	3.9	88.4%	2,220	0.02168	99.99887%
10 to 99	4	3.1	91.5%	116	0.00113	100.00000%
Unknown	11	8.5	100.0%			
<i>Totals</i>	129	100.0		10,239,816	100.00000	

Summary by language status

Table 2 summarizes the distribution of living established languages in Chad by their status in terms of language development or language endangerment. The *EGIDS* column categorizes the languages by their level on the EGIDS scale. Consult “Languages by Status” (page 50) for a listing of the specific languages that have been assigned to each level. Note that the EGIDS level reported here is for the status of the language in Chad. Languages that are also used in other countries may be assigned to a different EGIDS level in those countries.

The next six columns are as in Table 1. In addition, the *Mean* column gives the average L1 population of all the languages with the given EGIDS level and the *Median* column gives the median L1 population for the languages at that level, that is, half of the languages at that level have a higher population and half have a lower population. If there are any languages with an unknown population, these are ignored in the calculation of the mean and the median.

Table 2: Distribution of languages by vitality status

EGIDS	Living languages			Number of speakers				
	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>Median</i>
1	2	1.6	1.6%	18,000	0.1758	0.1758%	9,000	18,000
3	9	7.0	8.5%	5,280,800	51.5712	51.7470%	586,756	574,000
5	46	35.7	44.2%	4,027,970	39.3364	91.0834%	87,565	40,000
6a	42	32.6	76.7%	868,000	8.4767	99.5601%	20,667	10,300
6b	13	10.1	86.8%	24,290	0.2372	99.7973%	1,868	1,740
7	9	7.0	93.8%	10,910	0.1065	99.9038%	1,212	1,860
8a	4	3.1	96.9%	9,760	0.0953	99.9992%	2,440	635
8b	4	3.1	100.0%	86	0.0008	100.0000%	22	36
<i>Totals</i>	129	100.0		10,239,816	100.0000			

Summary by language family

The genealogical classifications given in the language entries of the “Alphabetical Listing of Languages” (page 11) name 8 different top-level groups. Table 3 summarizes the distribution of living established languages and their L1 populations within these families. The columns are as for table 2, with the exception that *Cumulative* is excluded since there is no inherent ordering of the families.

Table 3: Distribution of languages by language family

Language family	Living languages		Number of speakers			
	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>Median</i>
Afro-Asiatic	55	42.6	3,403,920	33.2	61,889	12,000
Creole	1	0.8	Unknown			
Indo-European	1	0.8	18,000	0.2	18,000	18,000
Language isolate	1	0.8	750	0.0	750	750
Niger-Congo	24	18.6	966,726	9.4	40,280	3,500
Nilo-Saharan	45	34.9	5,769,420	56.3	128,209	40,550
Sign language	1	0.8	80,000	0.8	80,000	80,000
Unclassified	1	0.8	1,000	0.0	1,000	1,000
<i>Totals</i>	129	100.0	10,239,816	100.0		

Alphabetical Listing of Languages

Amdang [amj] (Andang, Andangti, Biltine, Mima, Mime, Mimi, Mututu, Simi Amdangtii).

Users: 41,100 (2000). Population lower in Wadi Fira (home region) than in Batha and Ouaddaï regions. *Location:* Batha region: Batha Est department, Haraze Djombo Kibit and Oum Hadjer subprefectures; Ouaddaï region; Wadi Fira region: Biltine department, Biltine subprefecture, Mimi Goz and Mimi Hadjer cantons. *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous). *Class:* Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Fur. *Lg Use:* Vigorous. Positive attitudes. Most also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu] (Sommer 1992). *Lg Dev:* Attitudes towards education and literacy in French and Arabic positive. *DLS:* Emerging (0.01). *Writing:* Unwritten. *Other:* Muslim. *Map:* 41:7.

Arabic, Chadian Spoken [shu] (Arabe Choa, Baggara Arabic, Chad Arabic, Chadian Arabic, Chowa, L'arabe du Tchad, Shua, Shua Arabic, Shuwa, Shuwa Arabic, Suwa, Western Sudanic Arabic). *Users:* 1,640,000 in Chad (2019), increasing. *Location:* Widespread, center and south. *Status:* 3 (Wider communication). Derived from a variety of Arabic used in Sudan; used by 11 groups as a primary language. Became a language of wider communication at the start of the 20th century under French colonial period. Used in trade, religion, literature, music, and folklore. *Class:* Afro-Asiatic, Semitic, Central, South, Arabic. A member of macrolanguage Arabic [ara] (Saudi Arabia). *Dialects:* Dialects depend on whether their speakers are sedentary or nomads, rural or urban, and on migration routes. A pidginized variety, commonly called, Bongor Arabic, is spoken as L2 by many in the Mayo-Kebbi and other parts of south Chad. *Lg Use:* Positive attitudes. Used as L2 by Amdang [amj], Assangori [sjg], Bagirmi [bmi], Barein [bva], Berakou [bxv], Besme [bes], Bidiyo [bid], Bolgo [bvo], Bon Gula [glc], Boor [bvf], Bua [bub], Buduma [bdm], Buso [bso], Dangeléat [daa], Dar Daju Daju [djc], Dar Sila Daju [dau], Dazaga [dzc], Fania [fni], Gula [glu], Gula Iro [glj], Jaya [jyy], Kanembu [kbl], Kenga [kyq], Kibet [kie], Koke [kou], Kulfa [kxj], Lagwan [kot], Maba [mde], Mabire [muj], Mararit [mgb], Marfa [mvu], Masalit [mls], Maslam [msv], Masmaje [mes], Massalat [mdg], Mawa [mcw], Mbara [mpk], Migaama [mmy], Mogum [mou], Mser [kqx], Mubi [mub], Mukulu [moz], Naba [mne], Runga [rou], Saba [saa], Sinyar [sys], Sokoro [sok], Tama [tma], Tamki [tax], Tedaga [tuq], Toram [trj], Tunia [tug], Zaghawa [zag], Zan Gula [zna], Zerenkel [zrn]. *Lg Dev:* Taught as subject in primary schools. Dictionary. Grammar. Bible: 2021. *DLS:* Emerging (0.12). *Writing:* Arabic script, Naskh variant. Latin script. *Other:* Shuwa Arabic is the name used in other countries for the dialect near Lake Chad. Muslim. *Maps:* 41:5, 42:5. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 2,062,550 (as L1: 1,992,550; as L2: 70,000). Also indigenous in: Cameroon (Shuwa Arabic), Niger (Shuwa Arabic), Nigeria (Shuwa Arabic). Also established in: Sudan (Western Sudanic Arabic). Unestablished in: Central African Republic (Shuwa Arabic), United States.

Arabic, Standard [arb]. *Users:* 615,000 in Chad (2014 SIL), all users. *Status:* 1 (National).

Statutory national language (1996, Constitution, Article 9). *Class:* Afro-Asiatic, Semitic, Central, South, Arabic. *Type:* VSO; prepositions; noun head initial; gender (masculine/feminine); dual number; definite and indefinite affixes; case-marking (3 cases); verb affixes

mark number, gender of subject; aspect; 28 consonant and 6 vowel phonemes; non-tonal; stress on first syllable; trilateral roots, few affixes. *Lg Dev*: Taught in a few primary and secondary schools. Fully developed. Bible: 1645–2008. *Writing*: Arabic script, Naskh variant, primary usage. Braille script. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 273,989,700. Global EGIDS level: 0 (International). Indigenous in: Saudi Arabia. Also established in 30 other countries and unestablished in 1 more.

Assangori [sjg] (Asong, Assoungor, Asungore, Azanguri, Bognak-Asungorong, Goran, Madungore, Soungor, Sungor). *Users*: 23,500 (1993 census). *Location*: Ouaddaï region: Assoungouha department, northwest of Adré. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Core, Eastern Sudanic, Northern (k languages), Tama, Tama-Sungor. *Dialects*: Sungor, Walad Dulla. Girga and Walad Dulla are ethnic groups which may or may not speak different dialects. Madungore may be a dialect of Tama [tma]. *Lexical similarity*: 62%–73% with Tama [tma]. *Lg Use*: Vigorous. Most also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu], although at low proficiency level. *Lg Dev*: Grammar. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Unwritten. *Other*: Muslim. *Map*: 41:11.

Bagirmi [bmi] (Baghirmi, Bagrimma, Baguirme, Baguirmi, Lis, Lisi, Mbarma, Tar Bagrimma, Tar Barma). Autonym: Barma. *Users*: 44,800 in Chad (1993 census). *Location*: Chari-Baguirmi region: Massenya subprefecture, Massenya area, Bousso subprefecture, Bousso area; Mayo-Kebbi Est and Moyen-Chari regions. West of Massenya and along Chari river between Guélendeng and N'Djamena (Bangri dialect); Chari river from Bousso to Guélendeng (Dam dialect); Massenya (Gol dialect); east of Massenya (Kibar dialect). *Status*: 3 (Wider communication). Originated in 1522 in the region southeast of Lake Chad. Used in slave trade in 17th century. Used in commerce, craft, and export. *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Bagirmi. *Dialects*: Gol, Kibar, Bangri, Dam. Many dialects. *Lg Use*: The language of the ancient Bagirmi kingdom. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Used as L2 by Boor [bvf], Gadang [gdk], Kwang [kvi], Laal [gdm], Miltu [mlj], Sarua [swy]. *Lg Dev*: Almost no use in written form. Dictionary. Grammar. Bible portions: 2017. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Relatively small language used vehicularly in a limited area. Muslim. *Map*: 42:35. *Worldwide*: Unestablished in: Nigeria.

Barein [bva] (Baraïn). Autonym: Barayin. *Users*: 4,100 (1993 census). *Location*: Guéra region: Bahr Signaka department, Melfi subprefecture, west (Jalkia dialect), south, southwest (Komi dialect), and east of Melfi (Sakaya dialect). *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, B, B.3. *Dialects*: Jalkia (Jalkiya, Jalkiyan), Guilia (Giliya), Sakaya (Dagne, Jalking, Jelkin), Komi (Komiya). *Lexical similarity*: 92% between the Jalkia dialect and the Guilia dialect, 70% between the Sakaya dialect and both Jalkia and Guilia. *Lg Use*: Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 20%–60%. Preschool literacy classes. Taught as subject in some primary schools. Grammar. Texts. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Muslim. *Map*: 42:59.

Bedjond [bjv] (Bediondo, Bediondo Mbai, Bedjondo, Bédjonde, Mbay Bediondo, Mbay

Bejondo). Autonym: Bedjond, Nangnda. *Users*: 36,000 (Caprile and Fedry 1969). *Location*: Logone Oriental region: east central; Mandoul region: Mandoul Occidental department, Bediondo area. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Sara, Sara Proper. *Dialects*: Bedjond, Bébote, Yom. *Lg Use*: Positive attitudes. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 5%. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. NT: 2011. *DLS*: Emerging (0.06). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: A distinct language from Sar [mwm] or Ngambay [sba]. *Map*: 42:108.

Berakou [bxv] (Babalia, Bubalia). *Users*: No known L1 speakers. Last known speakers survived into the late 1990s (1995 D. Djarangar). *Location*: Chari-Baguirmi region: Bokoro and N'Djamena subprefectures. *Status*: 10 (Extinct). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Bagirmi. *Dialects*: Bolo Djarma, Mondogossou, Manawadji, Yiryu. *Lg Use*: Shifted to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01).

Besme [bes] ('Unar, Beseme, Besemme, Bodor, Hounar, Huner). *Users*: 1,230 (1993 census). *Location*: Tandjilé region: Kélo and Lai subprefectures, Besmé, Bodor, and 3 other villages along Logone river northwest of Lai. *Status*: 6a (Vigorous). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Adamawa, Mbum-Day, Kim. *Dialects*: None known. Lexical similarity: 51% with Kim [kia]. *Lg Use*: Used by all. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Also use Nancere [mnc]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Unwritten. *Other*: Christian, traditional religion. *Map*: 42:93.

Bidiyo [bid] ('Bidio, 'Bidiyo, Bidio, Bidiyo-Waana, Bidyo). Autonym: Bidiya. *Users*: 14,000 (Jungrathmayr 1981). *Location*: Guéra region: Guéra department, Mongo subprefecture, south of Mongo and west of Abou Telfane. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, B, B.1, 1. *Dialects*: Garawgino (Kafila), Jekkino (Kofilo), Bigawguno (Toukoul), Nalguno (Niergui), 'Oboyguno (Zerli). The first 2 dialects listed are eastern, the others western. Dambiya is probably a Bidiyo dialect instead of a Migaama [mmy] dialect. *Lg Use*: Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 30%–60%. Preschool literacy classes. Taught as subject in some primary schools. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. *DLS*: Emerging (0.04). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Muslim. *Map*: 42:51.

Birgit [btf] (Bergit, Berguid, Birgid). *Users*: 10,400 (2000). *Location*: Salamat region: Aboudéïa and Barh-Azoum departments; Sila region: Djourf al Ahmar department, centered in Abgué; south Batha region. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, B, B.1, 2. *Dialects*: Abgue, Eastern Birgit, Duguri, Agrab. *Lg Use*: Strong in its central village Abgué, decreasing in Agrab and Tilegeye (Eastern Birgit). Probably strong in Duguri due to geographical isolation. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Unwritten. *Other*: All sources since Greenberg list it as a separate language from other Dangla languages. Different from Birked [brk] (Birgit) of Sudan, a Nilo-Saharan language. *Map*: 42:52.

Bolgo [bvo] (Bolgo nii, Bólqòní). *Users*: 1,800 (1993 census). *Location*: Guéra region: Bahr Signaka department, Melfi subprefecture, southeast of Melfi. *Status*: 5 (Developing). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Adamawa, Mbum-

Day, Bua. *Dialects*: Bolgo Dugag (Small Bolgo), Bolgo Kubar (Big Bolgo). Lexical similarity: 68% with the 2 dialects and with Bolgo Dugag and a form of Koke [kou] spoken in Daguéla. *Lg Use*: Vigorous. Used by all. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 15%. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Traditional religion, Muslim. *Map*: 42:61.

Bon Gula [glc] (Bon, Bon Goula, Bun, Gula Guera, Poun, Taataal). Autonym: Êêni. *Users*: 1,200 (1997 SIL). *Location*: Guéra region: Bahr Signaka department, Melfi subprefecture, Bon and Ibir villages; Salamat region: west border area. *Status*: 6a (Vigorous). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Adamawa, Mbum-Day, Bua. *Dialects*: None known. Lexical similarity: 46% with Zan Gula [zna]. *Lg Use*: Vigorous. Used by all. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.04). *Writing*: Latin script, in development. *Other*: Traditional religion, Muslim. *Map*: 42:63.

Boor [bvf] (Bwara, Damraw). *Users*: 100 (1999 SIL). Ethnic population: 110 (2013 J. Roberts). *Location*: Moyen-Chari region: Barh Kôh department, Sarh subprefecture, Dumraw (Bwara) village on Chari river north bank. *Status*: 6a (Vigorous). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, A, A.1, 2. *Dialects*: None known. Lexical similarity: 36% with Miltu [mlj] (most similar). *Lg Use*: Used by all. Used by children in the village. All also use Bagirmi [bmi]. All also use Bua [bub]. All also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. All also use Laal [gdm]. Many also use Niellim [nie]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Other*: Muslim. *Map*: 42:72.

Bua [bub] ('Ba, Boa, Boua, Bwa). *Users*: 7,710 (1993 census). *Location*: Guéra region: Barh Signaka department, Melfi subprefecture; Moyen-Chari region: Barh Kôh department, Sarh subprefecture, Korbol area and northeast. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Adamawa, Mbum-Day, Bua. *Dialects*: Distinct from Niellim [nie], Fania [fni], Tunia [tug], and Day [dai]. Mana, or Kobe may be an alternate name or dialect. *Lg Use*: Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Used as L2 by Boor [bvf]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Unwritten. *Other*: Different from Bua [bww] (Bwa) of Democratic Republic of the Congo, which is Benue-Congo. Traditional religion, Muslim. *Map*: 42:70.

Buduma [bdm] (Boudouma, Yedima, Yedina, Yidana, Yidena). Autonym: Yedənamɪ. *Users*: 51,600 in Chad (1993 census). *Location*: Hadjer-Lamis region: Lake Chad islands and north shore; Lac region: Mamdi department, Bol subprefecture. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, Biu-Mandara, B, B.1, Buduma. *Dialects*: Southern Buduma, Northern Buduma. 90% inherent intelligibility between dialects. *Lg Use*: Vigorous. Most domains. Most also use Kanembu [kbl], especially those living near Bol. Many also use Yerwa Kanuri [knc]. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 3%–5%. Literacy rate in L2: Below 5%. Grammar. Bible portions: 2014. *DLS*: Emerging (0.04). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Muslim, traditional religion. *Maps*: 41:4, 42:4. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 54,800. Also indigenous in: Cameroon, Nigeria (Yedina).

Buso [bso] (Bouso, Busso, Dam de Bouso). *Users*: 40 (Welmers 1971a). *Location*: Chari-Baguirmi region: Loug Chari département, Bouso subprefecture. *Status*: 8b (Nearly extinct).

Class: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, A, A.1. *Dialects:* None known. Not in the Bua group, but Chadic (Boyeldieu 1977). *Lg Use:* Shifted to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *DLS:* Emerging (0.01).

Chadian Sign Language [cds]. *Users:* 80,000 (2021). Estimated 48,000–96,000 deaf signers, assuming 0.3%–0.6% of overall population. Reported 2,800 deaf signers out of 7,000 total deaf (2008 WFD). *Location:* Scattered. Moundou, N’Djamena, and Sarh. *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous). *Class:* Sign language, Deaf community sign language. *Dialects:* None known. Reportedly similar to Nigerian Sign Language. Influences from American Sign Language [ase]. Some signs are traditional. *Lg Use:* 11 deaf schools (2008 WFD). *Lg Dev:* Agency: Church and Christian Mission for Deaf Persons in Chad. *DLS:* Emerging (0.01). *Other:* Few interpreters (2008 WFD). Muslim, Christian.

Dagba [dgk]. *Users:* 10,000 in Chad (2007 S. Hossack). *Location:* Moyen-Chari region: Grande Sido department, Maro and Sido subprefectures, Ngokorio, Ntilo, and Sido villages, Jardin quartier in Sarh. *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous). *Class:* Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Sara, Sara Proper. *Lg Dev:* NT: 2018. *Writing:* Latin script, used in Chad. *Other:* Non-indigenous. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 44,000. Indigenous in: Central African Republic.

Daju, Dar Daju [djc] (Dadjo, Dadju, Dajo, Dajou, Daju, Daju Mongo, Daju Oum Hadjer, Saaronge). Autonym: Dajinge. *Users:* 60,000 (2020 A. Aviles). *Location:* Batha region: south border; Guéra region: Guéra department, Mongo subprefecture, Eref and Mongo area. *Status:* 5* (Developing). *Class:* Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Core, Eastern Sudanic, Southern (n languages), Daju, Western Daju. *Dialects:* Bardangal, Eref, Gadjira. Not inherently intelligible with Dar Sila Daju [dau]. Lexical similarity: 64% with Dar Sila Daju [dau]. *Lg Use:* Many also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu], including all adult males. Used as L2 by Kujarge [vkj], Sinyar [sys], Zerenkel [zrn]. *Lg Dev:* Literacy rate in L1: 30%–50%. Preschool literacy classes. Taught as subject in some primary schools. Grammar. Bible portions: 2008–2021. *DLS:* Emerging (0.04). *Writing:* Latin script. *Other:* Muslim. *Map:* 42:46.

Daju, Dar Sila [dau] (Bokorike, Bokoruge, Dadjo, Dajou, Daju, Dar Sila, Shila, Sila, Sula). *Users:* 63,100 in Chad (2000). *Location:* Salamat region: Barh Azoum department, camps of internally displaced people; Sila region: Goz-Beïda area and east to Sudan border. *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous). *Class:* Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Core, Eastern Sudanic, Southern (n languages), Daju, Western Daju. *Dialects:* None known. Not inherently intelligible with Dar Daju Daju [djc]. Lexical similarity: 74% with Daju [daj] of Darfur (Nyala and Lagowa), 60% with Shatt [shj], 57% with Logorik [liu]. *Lg Use:* Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *DLS:* Emerging (0.01). *Writing:* Unwritten. *Other:* Muslim. *Map:* 41:20. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 70,100. Also indigenous in: Sudan.

Dangaléat [daa] (Danal, Dangal, Dangla). Autonym: Danjla. *Users:* 60,000 (2005 SIL), increasing. 45,000 in Dangaléat Canton. *Location:* Possibly Batha region; Guéra region: Guéra department, Bang-bang subprefecture. Barlo, Koubo Adougoul area (Central dialect); Korlongo area (Eastern dialect); Korbo area (Western dialect). *Status:* 5* (Developing). *Class:*

Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, B, B.1, 1. *Dialects*: West Dangaléat (Karbo, Korbo), East Dangaléat, Central Dangaléat. Intelligibility between east and west dialects is low, but central dialect well understood. *Lg Use*: Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Used as L2 by Zerenkel [zrn]. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 50%–60%. Literacy rate in L2: Below 5%. Preschool literacy classes. Taught as subject in some primary schools. Literature. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. NT: 2012. *DLS*: Emerging (0.09). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Muslim, Christian. *Map*: 42:49.

Day [dai] (Dai). *Users*: 49,900 (1993 census). *Location*: Mandoul region: Barh Sara department, Moïssala; Moyen-Chari region: Barh Kôh department, Sarh. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Adamawa, Mbum-Day, Day. *Dialects*: Bouna, Bangoul, Ngalo, Takawa-Béngoro. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 5%–6%. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. NT: 1989–1999. *DLS*: Emerging (0.04). *Writing*: Latin script. *Map*: 42:109.

Dazaga [dazg] (Dasa, Daza, Dazza, Gorane, Teda-Daza, Tubu). Autonym: Dazaga. *Users*: 606,000 in Chad (2019). *Location*: Barh el Gazel, Batha, Borkou, Ennedi-Ouest, Hadjer-Lamis, Kanem, Lac, Wadi Fira regions. *Status*: 3 (Wider communication). Native to Chad and Niger. Powerful confederation of nomadic peoples from 11th century–19th century. Used in trade and verbal communication. Also language of pastoralists. *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Saharan, Western, Tebu. *Dialects*: Reportedly similar to Tedaga [tuq]. The Azzaga dialect, the speech of the Azza, a caste division, is different from Dazaga. Its relation to Dazaga and speech of the Azza among the Teda is not known. *Lg Use*: Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Used as L2 by Tedaga [tuq]. *Lg Dev*: Literature. Newspapers. Radio. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. Bible portions: 2006. *DLS*: Emerging (0.04). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Muslim. *Maps*: 41:2, 42:2. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 699,200. Also indigenous in: Niger.

Disa [dsi]. *Users*: 2,370 (2000). *Location*: Guéra region: Barh Signaka department, Chinguil subprefecture. *Status*: 6b* (Threatened). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Bagirmi. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Other*: Related to Gula [glu] (Sara Gula) of Chad. *Map*: 42:68.

Fania [fni] (Fagnia, Fana, Fanian, Fanya, Fanyan, Kobe, Mana). *Users*: 1,100 (1997 SIL). *Location*: Guéra region: Barh Signaka department, Melfi subprefecture, west of Lake Iro; north of Sarh, Mouraye area, Karo, Malakonjo, Rim, Sengué, and Sisi villages. *Status*: 6a (Vigorous). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Adamawa, Mbum-Day, Bua. *Dialects*: Northern Fania, Southern Fania. Distinct from Bua [bub]. Lexical similarity: 79% between dialects. *Lg Use*: Vigorous. Used by all. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Used as L2 by Koke [kou]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Other*: Traditional religion, Muslim. *Map*: 42:69.

Fongoro [fgr] (Gele, Kole). *Users*: A few elderly speakers (Dimmendaal and Voeltz 2007). Ethnic population: 1,000 (Dimmendaal and Voeltz 2007). *Location*: Sila region: Dar Fongoro area along Sudan border. *Status*: 8b (Nearly extinct). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi. *Lg Use*: Older adult speakers may

remain living in isolated places. No remaining speakers in Sudan. Shifted to Fur [fvr]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Other*: The tse-tse fly is a problem in the area. *Map*: 41:22.

French [fra] (Français). Autonym: français. *Users*: 2,268,000 in Chad, all users. L1 users: 18,000 in Chad (2022 Joshua Project), based on ethnicity. L2 users: 2,250,000 (Marcoux et al 2022). *Status*: 1 (National). Statutory national language (1996, Constitution, Article 9). *Class*: Indo-European, Italic, Romance, Italo-Western, Western, Gallo-Iberian, Gallo-Romance, Gallo-Rhaetian, Oil, French. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; noun head final for common adjectives, numbers, possessives, but most attributive adjectives come after the noun; gender (masculine/feminine); definite and indefinite articles; verb affixes mark person, number; passives; tense; comparatives; 20 consonant and 14 vowel phonemes; non-tonal; syllable-timed stress. *Lg Dev*: Taught in all primary and secondary schools. Taught in all tertiary schools. Fully developed. *Bible*: 1530–2000. *Writing*: Braille script. Duployan shorthand. Latin script, primary usage. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 309,804,220 (as L1: 80,770,190; as L2: 229,034,030). Global EGIDS level: 0 (International). Indigenous in: Andorra, Belgium, France, Luxembourg, Monaco, Switzerland. Also established in 95 other countries and unestablished in 24 more.

Fulfulde, Adamawa [fub] (Adamawa Fulani, Biira, Boulbe, Domona, Dzemay, Eastern Fulani, Foulfoulde, Ful, Fula Fulbe, Fulfulde, Nagapelta, Palata, Paldena, Paldida, Pelta Hay, Peul, Peulh, Pladina, Pule, Pullo, Sanyo, Taareyo, Zaakosa, Zemay). *Users*: 271,000 in Chad (2019). *Location*: Mayo-Kebbi Ouest region: Lac Léré department. *Status*: 5* (Dispersed). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Atlantic, Northern, Senegambian, Fula-Wolof, Fula, Eastern. *Dialects*: Maroua, Garoua, Ngaoundéré, Kambariire, Nomadic Fulfulde, Bilkire Fulani (Bilkiri). *Type*: SVO (Maroua dialect sometimes uses VSO); prepositions; noun head initial; gender (human/non-human); no articles; passives (middle, active, passive); comparatives; 26 consonant and 10 vowel phonemes; non-tonal; long vowels are stressed. *Lg Dev*: Literature. Newspapers. Radio. Videos. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. *Bible*: 1983–2017. *Writing*: Arabic script, Naskh variant, called Ajami. Latin script. *Other*: Traditional religion, Muslim. *Map*: 42:81. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 5,673,600 (as L1: 2,993,600; as L2: 2,680,000). Global EGIDS level: 3 (Wider communication). Also indigenous in: Cameroon, Nigeria. Also established in: South Sudan, Sudan. Unestablished in: United States.

Fulfulde, Bagirmi [fui] (Baghirmi Peul, Bagirmi Fula). *Users*: 24,000 in Chad. *Location*: Chari-Baguirmi region: Baguirmi department, Massenya subprefecture; Hadjer-Lamis region: Dababa department, Bokoro subprefecture, between Bokoro and Massenya. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Atlantic, Northern, Senegambian, Fula-Wolof, Fula, Eastern. A member of macrolanguage Fulah [ful] (Senegal). *Dialects*: None known. May be similar to Bororo Fulfulde [fuv]; a nomadic group of Mbororo. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Unwritten. *Other*: Spoken by people of Wodaabe lineage; also in northern Niger, northern Cameroon, Central African Republic. Nomadic. Different from Bagirmi [bmi], which is Nilo-Saharan. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 180,000. Also established in: Central African Republic.

- Fulfulde, Nigerian** [fuv] (Fulbe, Fulfulde, Peul). *Location*: Chari-Baguirmi region: Baguirmi department, Massenya subprefecture; Hadjer-Lamis region: Dagana department, Massakory subprefecture; Kanem region: Kanem department, Rig-Rig subprefecture; possibly Lac region; Mayo-Kebbi Ouest region: Léré and Pala area. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Atlantic, Northern, Senegambian, Fula-Wolof, Fula, East Central. *Dialects*: Kano-Katsina, Bororro (Ako, Bororo, Mbororo, Nomadic Fulfulde). *Lg Dev*: Literature. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. NT: 2007–2010. *Writing*: Arabic script, Naskh variant, used since 2011. Latin script, used since 2003. *Other*: Non-indigenous. Muslim. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 16,585,000. Global EGIDS level: 3 (Wider communication). Indigenous in: Nigeria. Also established in: Cameroon (Mbororo Fulfulde).
- Fur** [fvr] (For, Four, Kondjara, Konjara). Autonym: Poor’iŋ Belé’ŋ. *Users*: 1,800 in Chad. *Location*: Sila region. *Status*: 5 (Developing). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Fur. *Type*: SOV. *Lg Use*: Used by all. Used as L2 by Fongoro [fgr], Kujarge [vkj], Sinyar [sys]. *Lg Dev*: Orthography developed and literacy materials in use. Literature. Radio. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Several small groups. Muslim. *Map*: 41:23. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 750,000. Also indigenous in: Sudan. Unestablished in: Egypt.
- Gabri** [gab] (Gabere, Gaberi, Gabri Darbé-Dormon, Gabri Maja, Ngabre, Southern Gabri). Autonym: Maja. *Users*: 34,400 (2000). *Location*: Tandjilé region: Tandjilé Est department, Lai subprefecture, Darbé and Dormon villages area northwest of Lai. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, A, A.2, 2. *Dialects*: Darbé, Dormon. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 3%–5%. Bible portions: 2017. *DLS*: Emerging (0.04). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Dormo and Chiri are Gabri villages, erroneously listed as languages in some sources. Traditional religion, Christian. *Map*: 42:105.
- Gadang** [gdk]. *Users*: 2,500 (1997 SIL). *Location*: Chari-Baguirmi region: Loug Chari department, Bouso subprefecture, between Mogo and Mbarlé; Somrai area. *Status*: 7 (Shifting). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, A, A.1, 2. *Dialects*: None known. Related to Sarua [swy] and Miltu [mlj]. Lexical similarity: 35% with Soumraye [sor]. *Lg Use*: Shifting to Bagirmi [bmi]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Map*: 42:74.
- Gidar** [gid] (Gidder, Guidar, Kada, “Baynawa” pej.). Autonym: ma Kada. *Users*: 11,700 in Chad (1993 census). *Location*: Mayo-Kebbi Ouest region: Lac Léré department, northwest of Léré. At least 25 villages. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, Biu-Mandara, C. *Lg Dev*: Grammar. NT: 1986. *Writing*: Latin script. *Map*: 42:82. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 65,700. Also indigenous in: Cameroon.
- Gor** [gqr] (Bodo). *Users*: 159,000 (2019). *Location*: Logone Oriental region: La Pendé department, Bodo center area; Mandoul region. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Baguirmi, Sara-Baguirmi, Sara, Sara Proper. *Dialects*: Bodo, Yamod. Reportedly similar to Bedjond [bjv], with high intelligibility. *Lg Use*: There is a Gor Language Committee. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 10%. Primer, literacy classes. NT: 2014. *DLS*: Emerging (0.11). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: A clear

understanding of separate identity from Mango [mge] and Bedjond [bvj]. Christian, traditional religion. *Map*: 42:113.

Goundo [goy]. *Users*: 30 (1998). *Location*: Tandjilé region: Kélo and Lai subprefectures, Goundo-Bengli, Goundo-Nangom, and Goundo-Yila villages. *Status*: 8a (Moribund). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Adamawa, Mbum-Day, Kim. *Dialects*: None known. Lexical similarity: 60% with Besmé [bes], 51% with Kim [kia]. *Lg Use*: Older adults only. Shifted to Kabalai [kvf]. Also use Nancere [mnc]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Unwritten. *Map*: 42:91.

Gula [glu] (Bayo, Goula, Sara Goula, Sara Gula). *Users*: 10,300 (2000). *Location*: Moyen-Chari region: Lac Iro department, Alako and Boum-Kebir subprefectures, southwest of Lake Iro; Guéra region: border area. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Bagirmi. *Dialects*: Kofoy, Malé, Moufa, Souka, Toussa. Probably related to Disa [dsi]. *Lg Use*: Vigorous. Positive attitudes. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Also use Sara Kaba Naa [kwv]. Used as L2 by Gula Iro [glj]. *Lg Dev*: Grammar. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Other*: Different from Gula Iro [glj] of Chad, which is Adamawa, and from Gula [kcm] of Central African Republic and Sudan. *Map*: 42:65.

Gula Iro [glj] (Goula Iro, Goula d'Iro, Kulaal, Moriiil). *Users*: 3,500 (1991 SIL). 2,000 Pongaal, 730 Tiaala, 200 Tiitaal, 350 Patool, 170 Korintal. *Location*: Guéra region; Moyen-Chari region: Lac Iro department; Salamat region: Barh Azoum department, Lake Iro, Boum Kabir area. Cheou (Korintal dialect); Boum Kabir, Boum Saher, Karou, Madjok, and Teonen (Pongaal dialect); Badi and Foundouk (Patool dialect); Bouni, Kore, and Masidjanga, (Tiaala dialect); west Salamat region (Tiitaal dialect). *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Adamawa, Mbum-Day, Bua. *Dialects*: Pongaal (Ponaal), Tiaala, Tiitaal, Patool, Korintal. Not intelligible of Bon Gula [glc] and Zan Gula [zna]. *Lg Use*: A few also use Gula [glu]. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Lg Dev*: Texts. *DLS*: Emerging (0.04). *Other*: Different from Gula [glu] of Chad and Sudan, which is Nilo-Saharan, and from Gula [kcm] of Central African Republic. Traditional religion, Christian. *Map*: 42:64.

Gulay [gvl] (Goulai, Goulaye, Goulei, Gouley, Gulai, Gulei). Autonym: Guley. *Users*: 163,000 (1993 census). 23,500 Pen in 26 villages (1995 D. Djarangar). *Location*: Logone Oriental (1 canton), Mandoul (6 cantons), Tandjilé (1 canton) regions, between Doba, Koumra, and Lai. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Sara, Sara Proper. *Dialects*: Gulay, Pen (Peni). *Lg Use*: Also use Sar [mwm]. *Lg Dev*: Literature. Grammar. NT: 2004. *DLS*: Emerging (0.11). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: The Pen do not like to be called Gulay. *Map*: 42:103.

Hausa [hau]. Autonym: Hausa. *Users*: 398,000 in Chad, all users. L1 users: 100,000 in Chad (Gunnemark and Kenrick 1985). L2 users: 298,000 (2019 Joshua Project). *Location*: Widespread in the south. *Status*: 3 (Wider communication). Widespread use as L2 in northern Chad. *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, West, A, A.1. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; noun head final,

but numbers follow noun; gender (masculine/feminine); 33 consonants, 10 vowels, 2 diphthongs; tonal (2 tones: high, low). *Lg Dev*: Literature. Radio. TV. Dictionary. Grammar. Bible: 1932–2015. *Writing*: Arabic script, Naskh variant, called Ajami. Braille script. Latin script, used since 1880, primary usage. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 78,520,580 (as L1: 51,744,560; as L2: 26,776,020). Global EGIDS level: 2 (Provincial). Indigenous in: Niger, Nigeria. Also established in: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Sudan. Unestablished in: Algeria, Canada, Central African Republic, Congo, Gabon, Gambia, Togo, United Kingdom.

Herdé [hed] (He’dé, Ka’do Herdé, Zime, Zime of Pala, “Kado” *pej.*). Autonym: Zime Pala. *Users*: 40,000 (1999 SIL). *Location*: Mayo-Kebbi Est region; Mayo-Kebbi Ouest region: Mayo-Dallah and Lac Léré departments, Pala and Lamé area. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, Masa. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 12%. Taught as subject in some primary schools. Literature. Dictionary. NT: 1980. *DLS*: Emerging (0.04). *Writing*: Latin script. *Map*: 42:86.

Horo [hor] (Hor). *Users*: No known L1 speakers. Probably became extinct in the early 20th century. *Location*: Moyen-Chari region. *Status*: 10 (Extinct). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Sara, Sara Proper. *Lg Use*: Shifted to Ngam [nmc], the Kle dialect. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01).

Jaya [jyy] (Yaya). *Users*: 2,200 (1993 census). *Location*: Guéra region: Guéra department, Bitkine subprefecture. *Status*: 7 (Shifting). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Bagirmi. *Dialects*: None known. Lexical similarity: 44% with Naba [mne]. *Lg Use*: Shifting to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Map*: 42:42.

Jonkor Bourmataguil [jeu] (Djongor Bourmataguil, Dougne, Karakir). *Users*: 1,500 (1993 SIL). *Location*: Guéra region border area; Salamat region: Aboudeia department, west of Abou Deia; centered in Ader-Ader. *Status*: 6b (Threatened). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, B, B.1, 1. *Dialects*: Dougne, Musunye. Relationship with other Dangla languages needs investigation, especially Toram [trj] and Mogum [mou]. *Lg Use*: A large number have shifted to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Some young people, all adults. Used by children in 2 villages. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Other*: The name, Jegu has been applied to this language, but Jegu is a dialect of Mogum [mou]. *Map*: 42:54.

Kaba [ksp] (Kaba de Baibokoum, Kaba de Goré, Kaba de Paoua, Kabba, Western Kaba). Autonym: Kabba. *Users*: 70,000 in Chad (1993 census). *Location*: Logone Oriental region: La Nya Pendé department, Goré subprefecture, Goré area and southeast. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Sara, Sara Proper. *Lg Dev*: Literature. Dictionary. Grammar. NT: 2020. *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Different from Kaba Deme [kwg], Sara Kaba Nàà [kwv], Kulfa [kxj], or Laka [lap]. *Map*: 42:114. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 147,000. Also indigenous in: Central African Republic (Kabba), Nigeria (Laka).

Kaba Démé, Sara [kwg] (Kaba 'Dem, Kaba Demi, Kaba Démé, Sara Kaba Dem, Tà Sàra).

Autonym: Sara Kaba Dem, Dem. *Users*: 40,000 in Chad (1993 UBS). *Location*: Guéra region; Moyen-Chari region: Barh Kôh and Lac Iro departments, Banda, Bobé, Hélibongo, Kemata, and Moussafoyo villages along Chari river. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Sara, Sara Proper, Sara Kaba. *Dialects*: Sime, Mara, Kuruwer (Kuwaré), Boho. *Lg Use*: Vigorous. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 12%. Taught as subject in some primary schools. Literature. Dictionary. Texts. NT: 1999. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Latin script, used in Chad. *Other*: Different from Kaba [ksp], Kulfa [kxj], Sara Kaba Nàà [kwv], or Laka [lap]. *Map*: 42:101. *Worldwide*: Also established in: Central African Republic.

Kaba Naa, Sara [kwv] (Dana, Kaba Na, Kaba Naa, Kaba Nar, Na, Sara Kaba). Autonym: Naa, Sara Kaba Naa. *Users*: 35,000 in Chad (1993 UBS). 5,560 in Bale village, 4,940 in Koskabo, 4,550 in Kyabé. *Location*: Moyen-Chari region: Lac Iro department, centered in Kyabé. Kyabé subprefecture, Dindjebo and Dindjekono villages (Dunje dialect). *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Sara, Sara Proper, Sara Kaba. *Dialects*: Dunje (Dendje, Denje, Dindje, Dinje, Dounje, Sara Dunjo), Na, Mbanga (Banga), Tie (Tiye). Sara Kaba Nàà may be the same as Sara Kaba [sbz] of Central African Republic. *Lg Use*: Vigorous. Used as L2 by Gula [glu], Kulfa [kxj]. *Lg Dev*: Dictionary. NT: 1988. *DLS*: Emerging (0.04). *Writing*: Latin script, used in Chad. *Other*: Different from Kaba [ksp], Kaba Deme [kwg], Kulfa [kxj], or Laka [lap]. *Map*: 42:66. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 39,000. Also established in: Central African Republic.

Kabalai [kvf] (Gablai, Kaba-Lai, Kabalay, Kabalaye, Keb-Kaye, Lai, Lay). *Users*: 17,900 (1993 census). *Location*: Tandjilé region: Lai subprefecture, Lai and south on Logone river east bank. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, A, A.2, 2. *Dialects*: None known. May be intelligible with Nancere [nnc]. *Lg Use*: Used as L2 by Goundo [goy]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Unwritten. *Other*: Erroneously called Sara or Kaba of Lai. *Map*: 42:94.

Kajakse [ckq] (Kadjakse, Kajeske, Kawa Tadimini, Kujarke, Mini). *Users*: 10,000 (Bender 1983a). *Location*: Sila region: Djourf-Al-Ahmar department, south and southeast of Am Dam. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, B, B.1, 2. *Dialects*: None known. Partially intelligible with Masmaje [mes] and Mubi [mub]. *Lg Use*: Strongest in Kajakse canton. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Unwritten. *Map*: 41:17.

Kanembu [kbl] (Kaidi-Kanembu, Kanambu, Kanembou). Autonym: Kanembu. *Users*: 845,000 in Chad (2019). *Location*: Barh el Gazel region; Hadjer-Lamis region: Dagana department, Massakory subprefecture; Lac and Kanem regions. *Status*: 3 (Wider communication). Originated in northeast of Lake Chad as a trading Empire from 9th century–19th century. By the end of the 14th century the Kanembu people were forced to move to Bornu on the western edge of Lake Chad where Kanem and Bornu states merged. Was used in North African trading routes and in education of slaves serving in noble homes. *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Saharan,

Western, Kanuri. *Dialects*: Kanembu, Kanuri, Karkawu, Mando, Nguri. There is a gradual differentiation between dialects of Kanembu and Kanuri [knc]. *Lg Use*: Vigorous. Many businessmen in N'Djamena are Kanembu. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Used as L2 by Buduma [bdm]. *Lg Dev*: Written use very marginal. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Ethnic groups: Badé (Badde 2,646), Baribu, Chiroa, Diabu, Galabu, Kadjidi (5,638), Kankena, Kanku, Kenguina (1,944), Koubri (Koubouri 2,817), Maguirmi (1,825), Nguiguim (7,233). Muslim. *Maps*: 41:3, 42:3. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 879,800. Unestablished in: Niger.

Kanuri, Yerwa [knc] (Aga, Bornouan, Bornouans, Bornu, Central Kanuri, Kanouri, Kanoury, Kanuri, Kole, Kolere, Sirata, “Baribari” *pej.*, “Beriberi” *pej.*). Autonym: Kanuri, Yerwa Kanuri. *Users*: 191,000 in Chad (2019). 34,500 in Chari-Baguirmi and 23,300 in N'Djamena. *Location*: Chari-Baguirmi, Hadjer-Lamis, Mayo-Kebbi Est regions. *Status*: 5* (Dispersed). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Saharan, Western, Kanuri. *Dialects*: Dagara, Kaga (Kagama), Sugurti, Lare, Kwayam, Njesko, Kabari (Kuvuri), Ngazar, Guvja, Mao, Temageri, Fadawa. *Type*: SOV. *Lg Use*: Used as L2 by Buduma [bdm], Mser [kqx]. *Lg Dev*: Radio. TV. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. NT: 1997. *Writing*: Arabic script, Naskh variant. Latin script, used since 1949. *Other*: Muslim. *Map*: 42:30. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 8,951,500 (as L1: 8,451,500; as L2: 500,000). Global EGIDS level: 3 (Wider communication). Also indigenous in: Cameroon, Niger, Nigeria. Also established in: Sudan (Bornu). Unestablished in: Eritrea (Kanuri).

Karang [kzr] (Eastern Mbum, Karaŋ, Kareng, Laka, Lakka, Lakka Mbum, Mbum Bakal, Nzak karaŋ, Nzák Kàráng). Autonym: Karaŋ, Nzak karaŋ. *Users*: 1,000 in Chad (1995 SIL). *Location*: Logone Oriental region: Monts de Lam department, Baibokoum subprefecture, Lawtiko I, Lawtiko II, Loumbogo, Sarkaluki, and 2 Sakpu villages northwest of Baibokoum. *Status*: 6b* (Threatened). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Adamawa, Mbum-Day, Mbum, Eastern Mbum, Karang. *Dialects*: Karang, Sakpu, Ngomi, Mbere. *Lg Dev*: Literature. Dictionary. Texts. NT: 2020. *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Different from Laka [lap] of Central African Republic and Chad, and from Laka [ksp] of Nigeria. Traditional religion. *Map*: 42:116. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 18,000. Also indigenous in: Cameroon.

Karanga [kth] (Karango, Kurunga). *Users*: 10,000 (1999 SIL). 4,700 Karanga and 1,420 Bakha. *Location*: Batha region; Ouaddaï region: Ouara department; Sila region: Djourf-Al-Ahmar department, Am Dam area to Abéché. Sila region: Djourf-Al-Ahmar department, southwest of Am Dam (Bakha dialect); northeast of Am Dam (Karanga and Koniéré dialects); Ouaddaï region: Ouara department, south of Abéché and north of Karanga dialect area (Kashmere dialect). *Status*: 6b* (Threatened). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Maban. *Dialects*: Karanga (Kurunga), Kashmere (Kachmere), Bakha (Bakhat, Baxa, Faala, Fala), Koniéré (Kognere, Konyare, Mooyo, Moyo). Lexical similarity: 73% with Maba [mde], 94% between Karanga and Kashmere dialects. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Other*: The 4 dialects are distinct ethnic groups. Muslim. *Map*: 41:16.

Kendeje [klf] (Kedendje, Kendeye, Kindeje, Yaali). *Users*: 1,860 (2000). *Location*: Ouaddaï

region: Assoungha and Ouara departments, rural Abéché and Adré subprefectures, northwest of Hadjer Hadid. *Status*: 7 (Shifting). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Maban, Kendeje. *Dialects*: Yaali, Faranga. Lexical similarity: 89% between dialects with little contact between them. *Lg Use*: Many shifting to Maba [mde]. Many shifting to Masalit [mls]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Unwritten. *Other*: Muslim. *Map*: 41:13.

Kenga [kyq] (Cenge, Kenge). Autonym: Taar Ceṅṅ. *Users*: 40,000 (1997 SIL). *Location*: Guéra region: Guéra department, Bitkine subprefecture, Bitkine area, 52 villages, including Bolongo and Bokiyo. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Bagirmi. *Dialects*: Cenge (Tar Cenge), Banama (Tar Banama), Bidjir, Banala (Tar Banala), Bolong (Tar Bolongo). Lexical similarity: 62% with Jaya [jyy], 81%–93% with the Bolong (Tar Bolongo) dialect. *Type*: SVO. *Lg Use*: Less than ten Bolong dialect speakers used Kenga as L1 in 2002. Positive attitudes. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Also use French [fra]. Used as L2 by Mawa [mcw], Tamki [tax]. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 1%–5%. Literacy rate in L2: Men: 15% or below in French [fra], 1% in Arabic [arb]; women: below 1%. Roman Catholic songbook and prayer book. Taught as subject in some primary schools. Dictionary. Grammar. NT: 2012. *DLS*: Emerging (0.09). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Some consider Bidjir a distinct language. Muslim, traditional religion. *Map*: 42:40.

Kera [ker] (Kere). Autonym: Keera. *Users*: 44,500 in Chad (1993 census). *Location*: Mayo-Kebbi Est region: Mont d'Illi department, near Lake Tikem south of Fianga. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, A, A.3. *Dialects*: None known. Lexical similarity: 42% with Kwang [kvi]. *Type*: SVO. *Lg Use*: Also use French [fra]. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 12%. Literacy rate in L2: 10%–15%. Taught as subject in some primary schools. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. NT: 2005. *DLS*: Emerging (0.09). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Confused with neighboring Tupuri [tui] in some publications. *Map*: 42:79. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 50,500. Also indigenous in: Cameroon.

Kibet [kie] (Kaben, Kabentang, Kibeet, Kibeit). *Users*: 18,500 (Bender 1983a). *Location*: Salamat region: Barh-Azoum department; northeast of Am Timan and southwest of Goz Beïda; Sila region. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Maban, Runga-Kibet. *Dialects*: Dagal (Daggal), Murru (Mourro, Muro), Kibet. Reportedly similar to Runga [rou]. Not a dialect of Tama [tma] as reported in some sources. *Lg Use*: Positive attitudes. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Unwritten. *Other*: The area is flooded 6 months each year. Muslim. *Maps*: 41:18, 42:18.

Kim [kia] (Masa). Autonym: Garab. *Users*: 15,400 (1993 census). *Location*: Mayo-Kebbi Est region: Mayo Boneye department, Djouman, Éré, Kim, and Kolobo villages; Tandjilé region. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Adamawa, Mbum-Day, Kim. *Dialects*: Garap (Éré), Gerep (Djouman, Jumam), Kolop (Kilop, Kolobo), Kosop (Kim, Kwasap). Dialects listed may be closely related languages. Formerly classified as Chadic. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 10%–15%. Bible: 2014. *DLS*: Emerging (0.09). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Incorrectly called Masa. *Map*: 42:77.

- Kimré** [kqp] (Gabri-Kimré). Autonym: Gawra. *Users*: 20,000 (2007 A. Oumounabidji). *Location*: Tandjilé region: Tandjile Est department, east of Lai. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, A, A.2, 1. *Dialects*: Kimruwa (Kim-Ruwa, Kimré), Buruwa (Bordo, Borewa). Popular glossonym: Gabri, but it is not intelligible of Gabri [gab]. *Lg Use*: Vigorous. Positive attitudes. Most also use French [fra]. Used as L2 by Mulgi [mvh]. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: Below 5%. Prefer literacy in Kimre to French or Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. NT: 2007. *DLS*: Emerging (0.09). *Writing*: Latin script. *Map*: 42:104.
- Koke** [kou] (Khoke, Koké). *Users*: 600 (1993 census). *Location*: Guéra region: Barh Signaka department, Melfi subprefecture, southeast of Melfi, Daguéla, Djourab, and Sengué village areas. *Status*: 7 (Shifting). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Adamawa, Mbum-Day, Bua. *Dialects*: None known. Lexical similarity: 60% with Bolgo Dugag [bvo]. *Lg Use*: Most shifting to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Most shifting to Fania [fni]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Map*: 42:60.
- Kujarge** [vkj]. *Users*: 1,000 (Bender 1983b). *Location*: Sila region: Dar Fongoro, Jebel Mirra area, 7 villages; scattered in Fur and Sinyar in Sudanese villages along Azum and Wadi Salih rivers. *Status*: 7 (Shifting). *Class*: Unclassified. *Lg Use*: Many shifting to Dar Daju Daju [dj]. Many shifting to Fur [fvr]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Other*: A few groups. *Map*: 41:19.
- Kulfa** [kxj] (Kulfe, Kurmi, Kurumi, “Kaba So” pej.). *Users*: 7,110 (1993 census). 4,000 Koulfu, 2,200 Kouroumi, 910 Bara (1993 census). *Location*: Moyen-Chari region: Kyabé subprefecture, centered in Alako and Kirimikoro southwest of Lake Iro; some in Guéra region. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Sara, Sara Proper, Sara Kaba. *Dialects*: Bara, Kulfa (Koulfu), Kurumi (Kouroumi). Lexical similarity: 80% with Sara Kaba Naa [kwv]. *Lg Use*: Vigorous. Positive attitudes. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Also use Sara Kaba Naa [kwv]. Prefer Sara Kaba Naa [kwv] to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu] as L2. *Lg Dev*: Dictionary. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Unwritten. *Other*: Different from Kaba [ksp], Laka [lap], Sara Kaba Deme [kwg], or Sara Kaba Naa [kwv]. They do not perceive themselves as Sara Kaba. *Map*: 42:67.
- Kuo** [xuo] (Ko, Koh). Autonym: Kúo. *Users*: 12,300 in Chad (2011 SIL). *Location*: Logone Oriental region: Monts de Lam department, Baibokoum subprefecture. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Adamawa, Mbum-Day, Mbum, Eastern Mbum, Koh. *Dialects*: None known. Reportedly similar to Karang [kzr] and Nzakambay [nzy]. *Lg Use*: Also use French [fra]. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 15%. Literacy rate in L2: Below 5%. Taught as subject in some primary schools. NT: 2013. *DLS*: Emerging (0.04). *Writing*: Latin script. *Map*: 42:117. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 20,250. Also indigenous in: Cameroon.
- Kwang** [kvi] (Kouang, Kuang, Kwong). *Users*: 16,800 (1993 census). 10,000 or more Kwang, 2,000 Mobou, 250 Aloa. *Location*: Chari-Baguirmi and Mayo-Kebbi Est regions; Tandjilé region: Tandjilé Est department; north of Lai, east of Bongor, southwest of Bousso. Mobou (Mobou dialect); Mogo (Aloa dialect). *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic,

East, A, A.3. *Dialects*: Kwang, Mobou (Mobu), Ngam (Gam, Modgel), Tchagin (Tchakin), Aloa, Kawalké, Gaya, Mindéra. Includes Midigil village, sometimes erroneously listed as ‘Modgel’ (Medegel) in some sources. Lexical similarity: 42% with Kera [ker]. *Lg Use*: Also use Bagirmi [bmi], especially the Muslim Aloa, with full bilingualism. Also use Sar [mwm], especially the Ngam, as L2. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Other*: Ngam dialect is different from Ngam [nmc] of Chad and Central African Republic in the Sara group of Nilo-Saharan. Traditional religion, Muslim. *Map*: 42:75.

Laal [gdm] (Gori). *Users*: 750 (2000). Damtar village had its own dialect called Laabe with 3 speakers left in 1977. *Location*: Moyen-Chari region: Barh Kôh department, Gori (center), Damtar, and Mailao villages between Dik and Korbol. *Status*: 7 (Shifting). *Class*: Language isolate. *Dialects*: Laal, Laabe. *Lg Use*: Shifting to Bagirmi [bmi]. Used as L2 by Boor [bvf]. *Lg Dev*: Grammar. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Other*: Some lexical relationship to the Bua group, but Boyeldieu (1977) says it should not be classified with Bua. Probably Adamawa, some sources say Chadic. *Map*: 42:71.

Lagwan [kot] (Kotoko-Logone, Lagouane, Lagwane, Logone). Autonym: Lagwan. *Location*: Chari-Baguirmi region: south N’Djamena, Logone-Gana area along Logone river. *Status*: 6b* (Threatened). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, Biu-Mandara, B, B.1, Kotoko Proper, South. *Dialects*: Logone-Birni, Logone-Gana (Kotoko-Gana). *Lg Use*: Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Lg Dev*: Literature. Radio. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Part of Kotoko ethnic and linguistic group. Kotoko total: 22,717 (1993 census): Afade [aal], Mser [kqx], Malgbe [mxf], Maslam [msv], Mpade [mpi], and Jilbe [jie] (in Nigeria). Muslim. *Map*: 42:29. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 15,000. Also indigenous in: Cameroon.

Laka [lap] (Kabba Laka, Laga, Làgà). *Users*: 55,100 in Chad (1993 census). *Location*: Logone Occidental region; Logone Oriental region: La Nya Pendé department, Goré subprefecture, Monts de Lam department, Baïbokoum subprefecture; 310 villages. Goré subprefecture, Ngadjibian, Békan, and Timbéri cantons (Mang dialect), Bessao and Pandzangué cantons south of Moundou (Bémour dialect), Ngamadja-Dodang II and Bessao-Oudoumian area (Maïngao dialect), Andoum and Pandzangué cantons, Pan area (Goula dialect), Oudoumian (Paï dialect). *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Sara, Sara Proper. *Dialects*: Mang, Bémour, Maïngao, Goula, Paï. Some consider it a dialect of Ngambay [sba]. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 12%. Taught as subject in some primary schools. NT: 1960. *DLS*: Emerging (0.06). *Writing*: Latin script, used in Chad. *Other*: Different from Laka [ksp] of Nigeria, which is Adamawa-Ubangi, and from Kaba [ksp] of Central African Republic and Chad. *Map*: 42:115. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 57,150. Also indigenous in: Central African Republic.

Lele [lln]. Autonym: Lele. *Users*: 26,000 (1991 UBS). *Location*: Tandjilé region: Tandjilé Ouest department, south of Kélo. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, A, A.2, 1. *Lg Use*: Vigorous. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 8%. Taught as subject in some primary schools. Dictionary. Grammar. NT: 1991. *DLS*: Emerging (0.09). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*:

Different from Lele [lel] of Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Lela dialect of Kasem [xsm] of Ghana and Burkina Faso. *Map*: 42:89.

Luto [ndy] (Rito-Lutos). Autonym: Luto, Lutos. *Users*: 1,980 in Chad (1993 census). *Location*: Mandoul region; Moyen-Chari region: Grande Sido department, on Central African Republic border. *Status*: 6b* (Threatened). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Sara, Vale. *Dialect*: Ruto (Louto, Luto, Rito, Routo). *Lg Dev*: NT: 2015. *Writing*: Latin script. *Map*: 42:111 (as Lutos). *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 18,980. Global EGIDS level: 6a (Vigorous). Also indigenous in: Central African Republic.

Maba [mde] (Aulad Djema, Awlad Djema, Bargo, Bergo, Borgho, Borgu, Kana Mabang, Mabaa, Mabak, Mabang, Ouaddai, Ouaddaien, Uled Djemma, Wadai, Waddayen). Autonym: Bura Mabang. *Users*: 542,000 in Chad (2019), decreasing. Very few monolinguals. *Location*: Batha region; Ouaddaï region: Djourf-al-Ahmar and Ouara departments; Sila region; Wadi Fira region: Biltine department, Biltine subprefecture; most of Ouara department and villages south of Biltine. *Status*: 3 (Wider communication). Originated in the mountainous Wadai region of eastern Chad in the 1800s and across its border with Sudan and Central African Republic. Mainly used within the farming community. *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Maban, Maba. *Dialects*: Maba, Kabartu, Kodroy, Kondongo. Lexical similarity: 73% with Karanga [kth], 63% with Marfa [mvu], 42% with Masalit [mls]. *Type*: SOV. *Lg Use*: All domains in the village; home only in the towns. All ages in the villages; mostly adults in towns. Mixed attitudes. The language is generally valued less than Arabic. Many also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Used as L2 by Kendeje [klf], Surbakhil [sbj]. *Lg Dev*: Low motivation. Radio. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. *DLS*: Emerging (0.09). *Writing*: Arabic script, Naskh variant. Latin script. *Other*: Muslim. *Map*: 41:6. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 567,000. Unestablished in: Sudan (Sulaihah).

Mabire [muj]. *Users*: No known L1 speakers. Last fluent speaker may have survived into the early 2010s. *Location*: Guéra region: Bidiyo canton, Mongo-Rural subprefecture, Oulek village. *Status*: 10 (Extinct). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, B, B.1, 1. *Dialects*: Reportedly similar to Tounkoul dialect of Bidiyo [bid]. Lexical similarity: 37%–52% with Jegu dialect of Mogum [mou]. *Lg Use*: All shifted to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Unwritten.

Majera [xmj] (Da'a, Mazera, Mida'a, Midah). *Location*: Chari-Baguirmi region; Mayo-Kebbi Est region: Mayo Lemie department, Dogwea village on Logone river east bank. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, Biu-Mandara, B, B.1, Jina. *Dialects*: Majera (Mazra), Kajire-'dulo, Hwalem (Holom). *Lg Use*: Vigorous. *Other*: Included in what the Mandage call Mida'a and Da'a. *Map*: 42:31. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 500. Also indigenous in: Cameroon.

Malgbe [mxf] (Goulfei, Goulfey, Gulfei, Kotoko-Gulfei, Malbe, Malgwe, Ngwalkwe, Sanbalbe). *Location*: Hadjer-Lamis region: N'Djamena subprefecture, Douguia, Malalie, Oulio (Walia) and other villages on Chari river. *Status*: 6b* (Threatened). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, Biu-

Mandara, B, B.1, Kotoko Proper, North. *Dialects*: Goulfey, Walia, Mara, Douguia. *Writing*: Latin script, developed in 1999, experimental usage. *Other*: Related to other Kotoko ethnic and linguistic groups: Afade [aal], Lagwan [kot], Maslam [msv], Mpade [mpi], Mser [kqx], and Jilbe [jie] (of Nigeria). *Map*: 42:26. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 6,000. Also indigenous in: Cameroon.

Mambai [mcs] (Mambay, Mamgbay, Mamgbei, Manbai, Mangbai, Mangbaï de Biparé, Mangbei, Momboi, Mongbay). Autonym: dâg tî màmbày. *Users*: 2,000 in Chad (2002 SIL). *Location*: Mayo-Kebbi Ouest region: Lac Léré department, Cameroon border west of Léré. *Status*: 6a (Vigorous). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Adamawa, Mbum-Day, Mbum, Northern, Tupuri-Mambai. *Lg Use*: Used by all. Also use Mundang [mua]. *Lg Dev*: Literature. Dictionary. Bible portions: 2011–2014. *Writing*: Latin script. *Map*: 42:83. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 17,000. Also indigenous in: Cameroon.

Mango [mge] (Doba, Mbay Doba, Mongo). Autonym: Mangɔ. *Users*: 96,000 (2019). *Location*: Logone Oriental region: La Pendé department, Bodo subprefecture; Mandoul and Tandjilé regions. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Sara, Sara Proper. *Dialects*: None known. Reportedly similar to Bedjond [bjv] and Gor [gqr], with high inherent intelligibility. *Lg Use*: Positive attitudes. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 10%–12%. Primer, literacy classes. Taught as subject in some primary schools. Dictionary. NT: 2019. Agency: Mango Language Committee. *DLS*: Emerging (0.06). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Christian, traditional religion. *Map*: 42:107.

Mararit [mgb] (Abiri, Abiyi, Ebiri, Mararet, Merarit). *Users*: 42,400 (1993 census). 15,400 Mararit, 27,000 Abou Charib. *Location*: Ouaddaï region: Assoungha department, Mabrone subprefecture, Mararit; Wadi Fira region: Biltine department, Am Zoer subprefecture, Abou Charib. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Core, Eastern Sudanic, Northern (k languages), Tama, Mararit. *Dialects*: Mararit, Abou Charib (Abu Sharib, Abu Sharin). Limited intelligibility between the Abou Charib and Mararit dialects. Very difficult intelligibility of Tama [tma]. Not intelligible of Sungor [sjg]. Lexical similarity: 62% with Tama [tma], 75% between the Abou Charib and Mararit dialects. *Lg Use*: Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Other*: The Abou Charib live north of the Mararit and trace their ancestry to them. Muslim. *Map*: 41:10.

Marba [mpg] (Azumeina). Autonym: Marba. *Users*: 271,000 (2019). *Location*: Mayo-Kebbi Est region: Kabbia department, north of Kélo (Léo dialect); Tandjilé region: Tandjilé Ouest department (Marba and Kolon dialects). *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, Masa. *Dialects*: Marba (Banana, Bananna, Maraba), Kolon (Kolong, Kulung), Léo (Leou, Lew), Monogoy. *Lg Use*: Used as L2 by Marfa [mvu]. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 6%. Literacy classes. Dictionary. Grammar. Bible: 1999. *DLS*: Emerging (0.09). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Different from Marfa [mvu] (Marba) of Chad, which is Maban. *Map*: 42:92.

Marfa [mvu] (Marba). *Users*: 5,000 (1999 SIL). *Location*: Ouaddaï region: Ouara department,

south of Abéché. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Maban, Maba. *Dialects*: Not a dialect of Masalit [m_{ls}]. Lexical similarity: 63% with Maba [m_{de}], 69% with Karanga [k_{th}], 45% with Masalit [m_{ls}]. *Lg Use*: Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Also use Marba [m_{pg}]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Other*: Different from Marba [m_{pg}], which is Chadic. *Map*: 41:14.

Masalit [m_{ls}] (Kaana Masala, Kana Masaraka, Kanaa Masarak, Kanaa Masaraka, Masale, Masara, Masarak, Masaraka, Massalit, Massolit). Autonym: Kanaa Masarak, Masarak. *Users*: 112,000 in Chad (2019), increasing. *Location*: Ouaddaï region: Assoungha department, Adré area; Sila region. Ouaddaï region (Western Masalit dialect). *Status*: 5 (Developing). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Maban, Masalit. *Dialects*: Northern Masalit, Western Masalit, Southern Masalit, Masaltang. *Type*: SOV; verbal affixation marks person, tense-aspect, subject number, negation, interrogation, participle, causative, verbal number, voice, and mood; vowels: 10 (-ATR: 5 and +ATR: 5). *Lg Use*: Vigorous. Home, market, traditional jurisdiction. Used by all. Positive attitudes, but Arabic often seen as superior. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Used as L2 by Kendeje [k_{lf}], Sinyar [s_{ys}], Surbakhhal [s_{bj}], Tama [t_{ma}]. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L2: Below 5%. Increasing use of L1 literacy among Masalit in refugee camps in Chad, but no L1 literacy use in their home country of Sudan (2020 SIL). Taught as subject in primary schools in some refugee schools. Literature. Radio. Grammar. Texts. *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Masalit speakers in the Sila region are refugees. Muslim. *Map*: 41:12. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 462,000. Also indigenous in: Sudan.

Masana [m_{cn}] (Masa, Massa, “Banana” *pej.*). Autonym: Massana. *Users*: 239,000 in Chad (2019). *Location*: Mayo-Kebbi Est region: Mayo-Boneye department, Bongor subprefecture, along Logone river; small group in Chari-Baguirmi region. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, Masa. *Dialects*: Yagwa (Yagoua), Bongor, Wina (Viri), Walia (Walya), Domo, Gizay (Gisey, Guissey), Bugudum (Budugum), Gumay (Goumaye), Ham. All dialects understand Yagoua dialect well; Gizay and Yagoua dialects are 80% mutually intelligible. Lexical similarity: 97% between the Budugum dialect and the most similar other dialect. *Lg Use*: Positive attitudes. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 8%. Taught as subject in primary schools. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. Bible: 2003. *DLS*: Emerging (0.07). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Traditional religion, Christian. *Map*: 42:33. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 342,000. Also indigenous in: Cameroon.

Maslam [m_{sv}] (Kotoko-Maltam, Maltam). *Location*: Ville de N’Djamena region: Haraze Al Biar department, Mani subprefecture along Chari river. Miskini and Blabli villages (Maslam dialect); Farcha-Milezi and Ngara-Mandju villages (Sao dialect). *Status*: 7 (Shifting). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, Biu-Mandara, B, B.1, Kotoko Proper, North. *Dialects*: Maslam (Maltam), Sao (Sahu). *Lg Use*: Shifting to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Writing*: Latin script, developed in 1997, experimental usage. *Other*: In the Kotoko ethnic and linguistic group. Kotoko total: 22,717 (1993 census). *Map*: 42:27. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 250. Also indigenous in: Cameroon.

Masmaje [m_{es}] (Masmadje, Mesmedje). *Users*: Ethnic population: 45,000 (2019 IMB). *Location*:

Batha region: Batha Est department, Oum Hadjer subprefecture, southwest of Oum Hadjer. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, B, B.1, 2. *Lg Use*: Most also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu], especially for literacy and education. *Lg Dev*: 3 primary schools in 87 villages in Masmedie Canton. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Unwritten. *Map*: 42:44.

Massalat [mdg]. *Users*: 10 (1991 R. Blench). Ethnic population: 29,800 (1993 census). *Location*: Batha region: Batha Est department, Oum Hadjer subprefecture; Sila region: Djourf-Al-Ahmar department, Am Dam subprefecture. *Status*: 8b (Nearly extinct). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Maban, Masalit. *Lg Use*: Shifted to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Other*: Originally separated from the Masalit [mls] along the Sudan border and moved west. Muslim.

Mawa [mcw] (Mahoua, Mahwa). Autonym: Maaw. *Users*: 6,560 (2000). *Location*: Guéra region: Guéra department, Bitkine subprefecture, Mahoua village area. *Status*: 6a (Vigorous). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, B, B.1, 1. *Dialects*: Gura (Gurara), Reupan (Roffono). Gura (village of Gurara) and Reupan (village of Roffono) have been called dialects but their speech is very similar to that of Mahoua. Lexical similarity: 8% with Ubi [ubi]. *Type*: SVO; noun head initial; gender. *Lg Use*: All domains. Used by all. Most also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Some also use Kenga [kyq]. *Lg Dev*: Adult literacy ongoing in a few villages. Bible portions: 2022. *DLS*: Emerging (0.04). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Muslim. *Map*: 42:38.

Mbara [mpk] (G'kelendeg, G'kelendeng, Guelengdeng, Massa de Guelengdeng). *Users*: 1,000 (Tourneux et al 1986). *Location*: Chari-Baguirmi region: Baguirmi department, Massenya subprefecture; Mayo-Kebbi Est region: Mayo-Boneye department, Bongor subprefecture; Mayo-Lémié department along Chari river, Guélangdeng area. *Status*: 8a (Moribund). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, Biu-Mandara, B, B.2. *Lg Use*: Shifted to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Lg Dev*: Grammar. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Map*: 42:34.

Mbay [myb] (Mbai, Mbay Moissala, Mbaye, Moissala Mbai, Sara Mbai). Autonym: Mbaï. *Users*: 80,000 in Chad (1990 J. Keegan). *Location*: Mandoul region: Barh Sara department, Moissala area. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Sara, Sara Proper. *Dialects*: Bédjou, Kan (Mbay-Kan), Ngoka (Mbang), Bédégué, Mougo, Bbate. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 4%. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. Bible: 1980. *DLS*: Emerging (0.09). *Writing*: Latin script, used in Chad. *Other*: Traditional religion, Christian. *Map*: 42:112. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 88,300. Also indigenous in: Central African Republic. Unestablished in: Nigeria.

Mesme [zim] (Djime, Djiwe, Zime, Zime of Kélo). *Users*: 20,100 (1993 census). *Location*: Tandjilé region: Tandjilé Ouest department, between Kélo and Pala. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, Masa. *Dialects*: Bero, Zamre. Related to Pévé [lme], Ngeté [nmn], and Herdé [hed]. *Lg Dev*: NT: 1995. *DLS*: Emerging (0.04). *Writing*: Latin script. *Map*: 42:88.

Migaama [mmy] (Migama, “Dionkor” pej., “Djonkor” pej., “Djonkor Abou Telfane” pej., “Dyongor” pej., “Jongor” pej., “Jonkor” pej.). Autonym: Migaama. *Users*: 20,000 (2000 W. Chesley). 2,000 monolinguals. Ethnic population: 23,000 (1991 census). *Location*: Guéra

region: Guéra department, Mongo subprefecture, Abou Telfane canton, Abu Telfan area. Baro (Migaama dialect); Fityari (Doga dialect); Game and Julkulkili (Gamiya dialect); Mala (Dambiya dialect). *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, B, B.1, 1. *Dialects*: Migaama, Doga, Gamiya, Dambiya (Ndambiya). *Lg Use*: Vigorous. All domains except to Arabs in market, French to teachers in school. Oral use in administration, some in church, commerce. Positive attitudes. Most also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [[shu](#)], men with high proficiency, women with low proficiency. Some also use French [[fra](#)]. Also use Standard Arabic [[arb](#)], which is taught in school. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 50%–60%. Preschool literacy classes. Taught as subject in some primary schools. Dictionary. NT: 2021. *DLS*: Emerging (0.06). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Muslim. *Map*: 42:47.

Miltu [mlj] (Miltou). *Users*: 270 (1993 census). *Location*: Chari-Baguirmi region: Loug Chari department, Bousso subprefecture, Miltou town area; Moyen-Chari region. *Status*: 8a (Moribund). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, A, A.1, 2. *Dialects*: None known. Lexical similarity: 28% with Soumraye [[sor](#)], 27% with Sarua [[swy](#)], Gadang [[gdk](#)], and Ndam [[ndm](#)], 36% with Boor [[bvf](#)]. *Lg Use*: Shifted to Bagirmi [[bmi](#)]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Map*: 42:73.

Mogum [mou] (Mogoum). Autonym: Mogume. *Users*: 7,000 (1997 SIL). *Location*: Guéra region: Barh Signaka department, Melfi subprefecture; Guéra department, Bitkine and Mongo subprefectures. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, B, B.1, 1. *Dialects*: Jegu, Kofa (Koffa), Mogum Délé, Mogum Diguimi, Mogum Urmi. Dialect subgroup. Mogum Diguimi may not be a separate dialect. Lexical similarity: more than 96% among dialects. *Lg Use*: Chadian Spoken Arabic [[shu](#)] used in cross-linguistic situations. Home, between native speakers in the village. Positive attitudes. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [[shu](#)]. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 15%–20%. Preschool literacy classes. Taught as subject in some primary schools. Literature. Texts. *DLS*: Emerging (0.04). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Muslim. *Map*: 42:56.

Morom [bdo] (Bernde, Tar Murba). *Users*: 4,500 (2002 SIL). *Location*: Guéra region: Guéra department, Bitkine subprefecture; Hadjer-Lamis region: Dababa department, Bokoro and Gama subprefectures. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Bagirmi. *Dialects*: Bayo, Morbo, Morom. Bolong may be a dialect of Kenga [[kyq](#)]. Lexical similarity: 59% with Bagirmi [[bmi](#)], 53%–72% with Kenga, 54%–73% with Jaya [[jyy](#)], 55%–70% with Naba [[mne](#)], 55%–70% with the Bilala dialect of Naba. *Lg Use*: The Bolong now use Kenga [[kyq](#)] as their mother tongue. Tar Bolong is moribund with less than 10 speakers in 2002. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Unwritten. *Map*: 42:41.

Mpade [mpi] (Kotoko-Makari, Makari). *Location*: Hadjer-Lamis region: Haraze Al Biar department, Mani subprefecture, south of Lake Chad; N'Djamena town; Mani area on Logone river, north of N'Djamena. *Status*: 6b* (Threatened). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, Biu-Mandara, B, B.1, Kotoko Proper, North. *Dialects*: Makari, Bodo, Woulki, Digam. *Lg Dev*: Literature. Grammar. Texts. *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Mandage is used by the Kotoko (total population: 22,717, 1993 census) to refer to either the northern group of Kotoko languages

(Mpade, Afade [aal], Maslam [msv], Malgbe [mxf]) or the Kotoko group as a whole (including Mser [kqx] and Lagwan [kot] as well). *Map*: 42:25. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 16,000. Also indigenous in: Cameroon. Unestablished in: Nigeria.

Mser [kqx] (Klesem, Kotoko-Kuseri, Kousseri, Kuseri). *Location*: Chari-Baguirmi and Ville de N'Djamena regions; to Cameroon border. *Status*: 7 (Shifting). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, Biu-Mandara, B, B.1, Kotoko Proper, South. *Dialects*: Mser (Kousseri, Msir), Kalo (Kalakafra), Gawi, Houlouf, Kabe. *Lg Use*: The people of Klesem village no longer speak Mser. Most shifting to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Most shifting to Yerwa Kanuri [knc]. *Writing*: Latin script, developed in 1999, experimental usage. *Other*: Mandage is used by the Kotoko (total population: 22,717, 1993 census) to refer to either the northern group of Kotoko languages (Mpade [mpi], Afade [aal], Maslam [msv], Malgbe [mxf]) or the Kotoko group as a whole (including Mser and Lagwan [kot] as well). Muslim. *Map*: 42:28. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 500. Also indigenous in: Cameroon.

Mubi [mub] (Moubi). *Users*: 35,300 (1993 census). *Location*: Batha region: widespread; Guéra region: Guéra department, Mangalmé subprefecture, 135 villages in Mangalmé area. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, B, B.1, 2. *Dialects*: None known. Lexical similarity: 71% with Zirenkel [zrn], 35% with Dungaléat [daa]. *Lg Use*: Home, market. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Lg Dev*: Texts. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Unwritten. *Other*: Different from Gude [gde] of Cameroon and Nigeria. Muslim. *Map*: 42:45.

Mukulu [moz] (Diongor Guera, Djonkor Guera, Dyongor Guera, Guerguiko, Jonkor-Gera, Mokoulou, Mokulu). Autonym: Gergiko. *Users*: 12,000 (1990 SIL). *Location*: Guéra region: Guéra department, Bitkine subprefecture, Djarkatché, Doli, Gougué, Morgué, Moukoulou, and Séguine villages below Guera massif. *Status*: 5 (Developing). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, B, B.2. *Dialects*: Mokilko, Seginki, Doliki, Moriko, Mezimko, Gugiko. *Lg Use*: All domains. Used by all. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu], but with low proficiency. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 50%–60%. Literacy rate in L2: Below 5%. Preschool literacy classes. Taught as subject in some primary schools. Literature. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. NT: 2019. *DLS*: Emerging (0.06). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Gergiko and Gergagi (pl.) are umbrella terms of recent creation to include all villages and dialects of this language, since Mukulu (or Mokilko), which is always used in the literature, properly designates only the principal village and its speech. Traditional religion. *Map*: 42:39.

Mulgi [mvh] (Mire). *Users*: 5,000 (2011 SIL). *Location*: Tandjilé region: Tandjilé Est department, Lai subprefecture. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, A, A.1, 1. *Dialects*: None known. Lexical similarity: 65% with Ndam [ndm], 32% with Kimré [kqp]. *Lg Use*: Also use Kimré [kqp]. Also use Ndam [ndm]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.04). *Other*: Traditional religion, Christian. *Map*: 42:96.

Mundang [mua] (Moundan, Moundang, Nda). Autonym: záá múndàŋ. *Users*: 351,000 in Chad (2019). *Location*: Mayo-Kebbi Est region: Mont d'Illi department, Léré area, Fianga; Mayo-Kebbi Ouest region: Lac Léré and Mayo-Dallah departments, Léré and Pala. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi,

Adamawa, Mbum-Day, Mbum, Northern, Tupuri-Mambai. *Dialects*: Kabi (Kieziere), Zasing (Torrock-Kaélé, Yasing). A subdialect of Kabi is Kieziere, of Zasing is Torrock-Kaélé. Lexical similarity: 10% with Mambai [mcs]. *Lg Use*: Used as L2 by Mambai [mcs]. *Lg Dev*: Taught as subject in some primary schools. Grammar. Bible: 1983. *DLS*: Ascending (0.27). *Writing*: Latin script. *Map*: 42:84. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 395,700. Also indigenous in: Cameroon.

Musey [mse] (Bananna, Bananna Ho Ho, Mosi, Moussei, Moussei, Musei, Mussoi, Mussoy). Autonym: Museyna. *Users*: 383,000 in Chad (2019). *Location*: Mayo-Kebbi Est region: Kabbia and Mont d'Illi departments, Fianga, Gounou Gaya; Mayo-Kebbi Ouest region: small border enclave; Tandjilé region: Tandjilé Ouest department, Kélo. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, Masa. *Dialects*: Bongor-Jodo-Tagal-Berem-Gunu, Pe-Holom-Gamé, Jaraw-Domo. Some intelligibility of Masana [mcn]. Marba [mpg] (Azumeina) is reportedly most similar linguistically. All dialects mutually intelligible. Dialect names are village names. Pe dialect is in Cameroon. *Lg Use*: Kera [ker] and other nearby groups are bilingual in Musey. Also use French [fra]. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 8%–10%. Bible: 2002. *DLS*: Emerging (0.06). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Traditional religion. *Map*: 42:78. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 433,000. Also indigenous in: Cameroon.

Musgu [mug] (Mouloui, Mousgou, Mousgoum, Mousgoun, Mulwi, Munjuk, Musgum, Musuk). Autonym: Mulwi. *Users*: 24,400 in Chad (1993 census). *Location*: Chari-Baguirmi region: small area, Chari river east bank; Mayo-Kebbi Est region: Mayo-Boneye department, Bongor subprefecture; Ville de N'Djamena: between Chari and Logone rivers. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, Biu-Mandara, B, B.2. *Dialects*: Mpus (Mousgoum de Pouss, Musgum-Pouss, Pouss, Pus), Beege (Jafga), Vulum (Mulwi-Mogroum, Vlum), Muzuk (Guirvidig, Mousgoum de Guirvidig, Mousgoum de Guirvidik). *Lg Use*: Used as L2 by Muskum [mje]. *Lg Dev*: Grammar. Bible: 2016. *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Distinct from Muskum [mje] in Mouskoun village. *Map*: 42:32. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 164,400. Also indigenous in: Cameroon.

Muskum [mje] (Muzgum). *Users*: No known L1 speakers. The last speaker survived into the late 1970s. *Location*: Mayo-Kebbi Est region: Mayo-Boneye and Mayo-Lemie departments, Bongor subprefecture. *Status*: 10 (Extinct). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, Biu-Mandara, B, B.2. *Dialects*: None known. Lexical similarity: 40% with Musgu [mug]. *Lg Use*: Shifted to Musgu [mug]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01).

Naba [mne]. *Users*: 510,000 (2019). *Location*: Barh el Gazel region: southeast; Batha region: Batha Est department, Ati subprefecture, Batha Ouest department, Oum Hadjer subprefecture; Lake Fitri area east to Ati (Bilala dialect); Bokoro subprefecture, Moïto to Bokoro, and Ati to Oum Hadjer (Kuka dialect); southwest of Ati (Medogo dialect). *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Bagirmi. *Dialects*: Bilala (Bilaala, Boulala, Bulala, Ma, Mage), Kuka (Kouka, Lisi), Medogo (Modogo, Mud). Related but not inherently intelligible of Berakou [bxv] or Kenga [kyq]. Lexical similarity: between Bilala, Kuka, and Medogo dialects is 99%. *Lg Use*: Some

also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [[shu](#)], especially the Kuka ethnic group, who live near Oum Hadjer. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 15%. Grammar. *DLS*: Emerging (0.06). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Bilala, Kuka, and Medogo are 3 ethnic groups who share a common culture and speak essentially the same language. Muslim. *Map*: 42:43.

Nancere [nnc] (Nanchere, Nancere, Nangtchere, Nanjeri, Nantcere). Autonym: Nangjere. *Users*: 144,000 (2019), increasing. *Location*: Tandjilé region: Tandjilé Ouest department, Béré, Delban, and Kélo subprefectures. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, A, A.2, 1. *Dialects*: Mire, Bolo, Kwale, Nancere du Centre. *Lg Use*: Vigorous. Positive attitudes. Also use French [[fra](#)]. Used as L2 by Besme [[bes](#)], Goundo [[goy](#)]. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 11%. Literacy rate in L2: 7%. Bilingual schools (Nancere, French) have been created in Delban and Béré, lack of personnel. Bible: 1986. *DLS*: Emerging (0.04). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Traditional religion, Christian. *Map*: 42:90.

Ndam [ndm] (Dam, Ndam). *Users*: 6,500 (1990 census). *Location*: South Chari-Baguirmi, north Mandoul, and northwest Moyen-Chari regions; Tandjilé region: Tandjilé Est department, Lai subprefecture, northeast of Lai, and southeast of Bousso d’Béré. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, A, A.1, 1. *Dialects*: Ndam-Ndam (Southern Ndam), Ndam Dik (Northern Ndam). Lexical similarity: 47% with Soumraye [[sor](#)]. *Lg Use*: Used as L2 by Mulgi [[mvh](#)]. *Lg Dev*: Bible portions: 2001. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Distinct from Dam of Buso [[bso](#)]. Traditional religion, Christian, Muslim. *Map*: 42:97.

Ngam [nmc] (Ngahm, Ngama, Ngamh, Ngàm, Sarngam). *Users*: 43,700 in Chad (1993 census). *Location*: Mandoul region: Barh Sara department, Dembo subprefecture, Maro area; Moyen-Chari region: Grande Sido department, Maro. Nara in Djéké canton (Kle dialect); Djéké canton (Kon Ngam dialect); Barh Kôh department, Maro canton and Moussafoyo subprefecture (Ngam Tel dialect); Maro, Moyo, and Danamadji (Ngam Tira dialect). *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Sara, Sara Proper. *Dialects*: Ngam Tel, Ngam Tira, Kon Ngam, Kle, Ngam Gir Bor. *Lg Use*: Also use Sar [[mwm](#)], particularly the Sara Madjingay dialect. Used as L2 by Horo [[hor](#)]. *Lg Dev*: NT: 1999. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Latin script, used in Chad. *Other*: The Horo (Hor) reportedly no longer use their language but speak the Kle dialect of Ngam. *Map*: 42:110. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 61,400. Also indigenous in: Central African Republic.

Ngambay [sba] (Gamba, Gambaye, Gamblai, Ngambai, Sara Ngambai, Sara-Ngambay). Autonym: Ngambay. *Users*: 1,320,000 in Chad (2013 J. Leclerc). *Location*: Logone Occidental region; Logone Oriental region: Lanya department, Bébedjia; La Nya Pendé department, Goré subprefecture; Mayo-Kebbi Ouest region: Mayo-Dallah department; Mayo-Kebbi Est and Tandjilé regions; centered in Moundou area. *Status*: 3 (Wider communication). Spoken widely in Chad and some in Cameroon. In the 17th century used as slave trade language and in agriculture. *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Sara, Sara Proper. *Dialects*: Lara, Benoye, Murum (Mouroum), Kere, Bemar (Daba de Goré). Some consider Laka [[lap](#)] to be a dialect of

Ngambay. *Lg Use*: Largest language of the Sara-Bagirmi group. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 15%. Taught in some primary schools in early grades only. Grammar. Texts. Bible: 1993. *DLS*: Ascending (0.23). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Traditional religion, Christian, Muslim. *Map*: 42:106. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 1,377,000. Also indigenous in: Cameroon.

Ngete [nnn] (Ka'do Ngueté, Nge'dé, Nguetté, Ngueté, Zime). *Users*: 10,000 (1991 UBS). *Location*: Mayo-Kebbi Ouest region: Mayo-Dallah department, Ngeté village area east of Pala; south Mayo-Kebbi Est region. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, Masa. *Dialects*: None known. Linguistic and sociolinguistic differences with Pévé [lme] and Herdé [hed]. Used by outsiders to refer to this and related languages: Herdé, Pévé, Mesmé [zim]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Latin script, used since 1991, limited usage. *Map*: 42:87.

Niellim [nie] (Lua, Lwaà, Mjillem, Nielim, Nyilem). *Users*: 5,160 (1993 census). 1,000 in Sarh city; 400 in Niou dialect. *Location*: Moyen-Chari region: Barh Kôh department, Niellim town area, Chari river southwest bank. Niou on the northeast bank (Niou dialect). *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Adamawa, Mbum-Day, Bua. *Dialects*: Niellim, Tchini (Cini, Cuni), Niou. *Lg Use*: Tchini dialect is extinct. Used as L2 by Boor [bvf], Tunia [tug]. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 5%. Grammar. Bible portions: 2014. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Traditional religion. *Map*: 42:99.

Noy [noy] (Loo). *Users*: 36 (1993 census). *Status*: 8b (Nearly extinct). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Adamawa, Mbum-Day, Bua. *Lg Use*: Shifted to Sar [mwm] (Boyd 1989). *DLS*: Emerging (0.01).

Nzakambay [nzy] (Mboum, Mbum, Mbum Nzakambay, Njakambai, Nzak Mbai, Nzaka Mbay, Nzakmbay). Autonym: Nzakambay. *Users*: 18,500 in Chad (2000). *Location*: Logone Oriental region: Monts de Lam department, Baïbokoum subprefecture on Cameroon border near Baïbokoum. Monts de Lam area (Zoli dialect). *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Adamawa, Mbum-Day, Mbum, Eastern Mbum, Karang. *Dialects*: Nzakambay, Zoli. Reportedly similar to Karang [kzr] and Kuo [xuo]. *Lg Dev*: NT: 1968–1994. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Different from Mbay [myb], which is Nilo-Saharan, and from Mbum [mdd] of Cameroon. Traditional religion. *Map*: 42:118. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 31,500. Also indigenous in: Cameroon.

Pana [pnz] (Pani). *Users*: 1,000 in Chad (1999 SIL). *Location*: Logone Oriental region: Diahoke and Giriwon villages (Gonge dialect); Makele village (Pana dialect). *Status*: 6a (Vigorous). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Adamawa, Mbum-Day, Mbum, Eastern Mbum, Karang. *Dialects*: Pana, Gonge. *Lg Use*: Used by all. *Lg Dev*: Bible portions: 1953. *Writing*: Latin script. *Map*: 42:119. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 85,980. Global EGIDS level: 5 (Developing). Also indigenous in: Cameroon, Central African Republic. Unestablished in: Nigeria.

- Pévé** [lme] (Lamé, Peve, Zime, “Ka’do” *pej.*, “Ka’do Pevé” *pej.*, “Kado” *pej.*). *Users*: 30,000 in Chad (1999 SIL). *Location*: Mayo-Kebbi Ouest region: Lamé is center. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, Masa. *Dialects*: Lamé, Doe (Doué), Dari. Related to Herdé [hed] and Ngeté [nnn] with differences in phonology, grammar, and ethnic attitudes. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 10%. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. NT: 1986. *DLS*: Emerging (0.06). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Different from Lame [bma] of Nigeria. *Map*: 42:85. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 35,720. Also indigenous in: Cameroon.
- Runga** [rou] (Aiki, Ayki, Aykindang, Rounga, Roungo). *Users*: 21,500 in Chad (1993 census), decreasing. *Location*: Ouaddaï region; Salamat region: Haraze-Manguéigne department; Sila region. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Maban, Runga-Kibet. *Dialects*: None known. Reportedly similar to Kibet [kie]. *Lg Use*: Neutral attitudes. Many also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu], especially men (Boyd 1989). *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Unwritten. *Other*: Ethnonyms: Aiki, Ayki. The area is flooded for 6 months each year. Traditional religion, Muslim. *Map*: 41:24. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 43,000. Also indigenous in: Central African Republic.
- Saba** [saa] (Jelkung, Saba Sorki). Autonym: Sabboŋ. *Users*: 1,340 (2000). *Location*: Guéra region: Bahr Signaka department, Melfi subprefecture, northeast of Melfi. *Status*: 6b (Threatened). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, B, B.3. *Lg Use*: Children speak the language, (but not all). Some young people, all adults. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu], but with low proficiency (Boyd 1989). Used as L2 by Tamki [tax]. *Lg Dev*: Preschool literacy classes. Taught as subject in some primary schools. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Muslim, traditional religion. *Map*: 42:57.
- Sango** [sag] (Sangho). Autonym: Sango. *Location*: Widespread in southern Chad. *Status*: 3 (Wider communication). *Class*: Creole, Ngbandi based. *Type*: SVO. *Lg Use*: Derived from Ngbandi [ngb], with decreasing usage in Chad. *Lg Dev*: Radio. TV. Dictionary. Grammar. Bible: 1992–2012. *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 5,217,000 (as L1: 617,000; as L2: 4,600,000). Indigenous in: Central African Republic. Also established in: Democratic Republic of the Congo. Unestablished in: Congo.
- Sar** [mwm] (Sara, Sara Madjingay, Sàṙ). Autonym: tà Sàṙ. *Users*: 183,000 (1993 census). 74,700 Madjingay (1964), 16,300 No (1964), 32,000 Nar (1977). *Location*: Mandoul and Moyen-Chari regions: Balimba, Bédaya, Bessada, Djoli, Koumogo, Koumra, Matékaga, and Sarh cantons. *Status*: 3 (Wider communication). Language of wider communication since French colonial time around 1870. Used in agriculture, communication, radio network, and religion. *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sara-Bagirmi, Sara, Sara Proper. *Dialects*: Majingai (Madja Ngai, Madjingay, Madjingaye, Majinngay, Majngany, Sara Madjingaye, Sara Majngany), Nar, No. *Lg Use*: Used as L2 by Gulay [gvl], Kwang [kvi], Ngam [nmc], Noy [noy], Tumak [tmc], Tunia [tug]. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 10%. Taught as subject in primary schools. Dictionary. Bible: 2011. *DLS*: Ascending (0.14). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: The principal language of Sarh. Traditional religion, Christian, Muslim. *Map*: 42:102.

Sarua [swy] (Saroua, Sarwa). *Users*: 2,000 (1997 SIL). *Location*: Chari-Baguirmi region: Loug Chari department, Bousso subprefecture, between Bousso and Miltou along Chari river. *Status*: 7 (Shifting). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, A, A.1, 2. *Dialects*: None known. Lexical similarity: 42% with Gadang [gdk], 39% with Soumraye [sor], 27% with Miltu [mlj]. *Lg Use*: Most shifting to Bagirmi [bmi]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Other*: Different from Sharwa [swq] in Cameroon. Traditional religion, Christian. *Map*: 42:36.

Sinyar [sys] (Shamyā, Shamyān, Shemya, Sinya, Symiarta, Taar Shamyān, Zimirra). *Users*: 12,300 (2000). *Location*: Ouaddaï region; Sila region: near confluence of Azum, Kaja, and Salih rivers. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sinyar. *Lg Use*: Vigorous. Most also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Most also use Fur [fvr]. Also use Dar Daju Daju [djc]. Also use Masalit [mls]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Other*: They are culturally Fur. Little education. Geographically cut off from languages of the Bongo-Bagirmi group. Possibly no remaining speakers in Sudan (2001). Muslim. *Map*: 41:21.

Sokoro [sok]. Autonym: Soḵoroḵ. *Users*: 5,000 (1994 SIL). *Location*: Guéra region: Bahr Signaka department, Melfi subprefecture, Badanga to Gogmi; Hadjer-Lamis region: southeast. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, B, B.3. *Dialects*: Sokoro, Bedanga. Lexical similarity: 55% with Tamki [tax]. *Lg Use*: Most also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu], especially men (Boyd 1989). *Lg Dev*: 2002 literacy classes. Bible portions: 2001–2022. *DLS*: Emerging (0.09). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: A Djebren area group called, Tunjur of Melfi, may have spoken a now extinct Sokoro dialect; now reportedly mainly speak Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Muslim. *Map*: 42:37.

Soumraye [sor] (Chibne, Chibné, Shibne, Sibine, Somrai, Somray, Somre, Somrei, Soumrai, Soumray, Sounrai, Sumrai). *Users*: 7,410 (1993 census). *Location*: Tandjilé region: Tandjilé Est department, Lai subprefecture northeast of Lai, Domogou is center. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, A, A.1, 1. *Dialects*: None known. Not intelligible of any other language. Lexical similarity: 47% with Ndam [ndm], 39% with Sarua [swy], 35% with Gadang [gdk], 33% with Tumak [tmc], 28% with Miltu [mlj]. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rate in L1: 4%. Taught as subject in some primary schools. Bible portions: 1999–2020. *DLS*: Emerging (0.09). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Traditional religion, Christian, Muslim. *Map*: 42:95.

Surbakhal [sbj] (Sourbakhal). *Users*: 7,890 (2000). *Location*: Ouaddaï region: Assoungba department, Adré subprefecture, between Alacha and Hadjer Hadid. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Satellites, Maban, Surbakhal. *Dialects*: None known. Lexical similarity: 74% with Masalit [mls]. *Lg Use*: Also use Maba [mde]. Also use Masalit [mls]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Unwritten. *Other*: Muslim. *Map*: 41:15.

Tama [tma] (Miisiirii, Tamok, Tamongobo, Tamot). *Users*: 62,900 in Chad (1993 census). *Location*: Wadi Fira region: Dar Tama department, Guéréda area; some in Ouaddaï region. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Satellite-Core, Core, Eastern Sudanic, Northern (k languages), Tama, Tama-Sungor. *Dialects*: Tama, Orra, Haura, Girga. Lexical similarity:

62%–73% with Assangori [sjg]. *Lg Use*: Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Also use Masalit [mls]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Unwritten. *Other*: Muslim. *Map*: 41:9. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 289,900. Also indigenous in: Sudan.

Tamki [tax] (Temki). *Users*: 500 (1999 SIL). *Location*: Guéra region: Bahr Signaka department, Melfi subprefecture, Tamki village. *Status*: 6b (Threatened). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, B, B.3. *Dialects*: None known. Not inherently intelligible of Sokoro [sok]. *Lexical similarity*: 62% with Saba [saa], 55% with Sokoro [sok], 32% with Mawa [mcw]. *Lg Use*: Some of all ages. Positive attitudes. They consider themselves ethnically Sokoro, but their attitudes are not more positive toward Sokoro [sok] than toward other neighboring languages. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Also use Kenga [kyq]. Also use Saba [saa]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Other*: Traditional religion. *Map*: 42:58.

Tedaga [tuq] (Tebou, Tebu, Teda, Teda-Daza, Tibbu, Toda, Todaga, Todga, Toubou, Tubu, Tuda). *Autonym*: Tudaga. *Users*: 28,500 in Chad (1993 census). *Location*: Borkou, Ennedi-Ouest, and Kanem regions; Tibesti region: Bardai area; all in far north desert. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Nilo-Saharan, Saharan, Western, Tebu. *Lg Use*: Most also use Dazaga [dzg], at low level of proficiency. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Lg Dev*: Texts. *DLS*: Emerging (0.02). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Many separate groups. Seminomadic. Muslim. *Map*: 41:1. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 59,590. Also indigenous in: Libya, Niger. Also established in: Nigeria.

Tobanga [tng] (Gabri, Gabri-Nord, Gabri-North, Northern Gabri). *Users*: 30,000 (1999 SIL). *Location*: Mayo-Kebbi Est region: west; Tandjilé region: Tandjilé Est department, Deressia subprefecture. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, A, A.2, 2. *Dialects*: Mande, Tobanga (Deressia). *Lg Dev*: NT: 1978. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Distinct from Gabri [gab] (Southern Gabri). Traditional religion, Christian. *Map*: 42:76.

Toram [trj] (Torom, Torum). *Users*: 8,460 (2000). *Location*: Salamat region: Aboudeïa department, in and west of Ter. *Status*: 8a (Moribund). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, B, B.1, 2. *Lg Use*: Shifted to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Other*: Muslim. *Map*: 42:53.

Tumak [tmc] (Bèg dè tèmàgèèn, Dije, Sara Toumak, Toumak, Tumac, Tumag, Tummok). *Users*: 25,200 (1993 census). *Location*: Mandoul region: Mandoul Oriental department, Gouindi subprefecture; northwest Moyen-Chari and east Tandjilé regions. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, A, A.1, 1. *Dialects*: Tumak, Motun (Mawer, Mod, Moden, Modin, Mot, Motin). *Lexical similarity*: 71% with Motun dialect, 33% with Soumraye [sor]. *Lg Use*: Some also use Sar [mwm], especially speakers of Motun dialect. *Lg Dev*: Dictionary. NT: 1988. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Erroneously called Sara Toumak. *Map*: 42:98.

Tunia [tug] (Tounia, Tun, Tunya). *Users*: 2,260 (1993 census). *Location*: Moyen-Chari region: Barh Kôh department, Sarh and 3 small villages north. *Status*: 6b* (Threatened). *Class*: Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Adamawa, Mbum-Day, Bua.

Dialects: Tunya, Perim. Not intelligible of other Bua languages. *Lg Use:* Perim dialect is extinct. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Also use French [fra]. Also use Niellim [nie]. Also use Sar [mwm]. *Lg Dev:* Grammar. *DLS:* Emerging (0.04). *Other:* Traditional religion, Christian. *Map:* 42:100.

Tupuri [tui] (Ndore, Toubouri, Toupouri, Tuburi). Autonym: jääk Tüpürü. *Users:* 191,000 in Chad (2019). *Location:* Mayo-Kebbi Est region: Mont d'Illi department, Fianga area. *Status:* 5* (Developing). *Class:* Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Adamawa, Mbum-Day, Mbum, Northern, Tupuri-Mambai. *Dialects:* Bang-Ling, Bang-Were, Faale-Piyew, Podokge. *Lg Dev:* Literacy rate in L1: 3%. Newspapers. Radio. Videos. Dictionary. Grammar. Bible: 2005. *Writing:* Latin script. *Map:* 42:80. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 321,000. Also indigenous in: Cameroon.

Ubi [ubi] (Oubi). Autonym: Ubu. *Users:* 1,100 (1995 SIL). *Location:* Guéra region: Guéra department, Mongo subprefecture, Oubi village area. *Status:* 6b (Threatened). *Class:* Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, B, B.1, 1. *Dialects:* None known. Lexical similarity: 48% with Mawa [mcw] (most similar). *Lg Use:* Some young people, all adults. *Lg Dev:* Literacy rate in L1: 15%–20%. Preschool literacy classes. Taught as subject in some primary schools. *DLS:* Emerging (0.04). *Writing:* Latin script. *Map:* 42:50.

Zaghawa [zag] (Beri, Beri-Aa, Beria, Berri, Kebadi, Kuyuk, Merida, Soghaua, Zagaoua, Zagawa, Zauge, Zeggaoua, Zeghawa, Zorhaua). Autonym: Beria. *Users:* 159,000 in Chad (2019). *Location:* Ennedi-Est and Ennedi-Ouest regions; Wadi Fira region: Kobé department, Iriba, Matadjana, and Tiné Djararaba subprefectures. *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous). *Class:* Nilo-Saharan, Saharan, Eastern. *Dialects:* Tuer-Gala (Anna, Awe, Baele, Beria, Terawia), Kobe-Kapka, Dirong-Guruf, Tuba (Bideyat). *Lg Use:* Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Lg Dev:* Literature. Dictionary. Grammar. *Writing:* Beria (Erfe) script. Latin script. *Other:* Muslim. *Map:* 41:8. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 348,400. Also indigenous in: Sudan. Unestablished in: Libya.

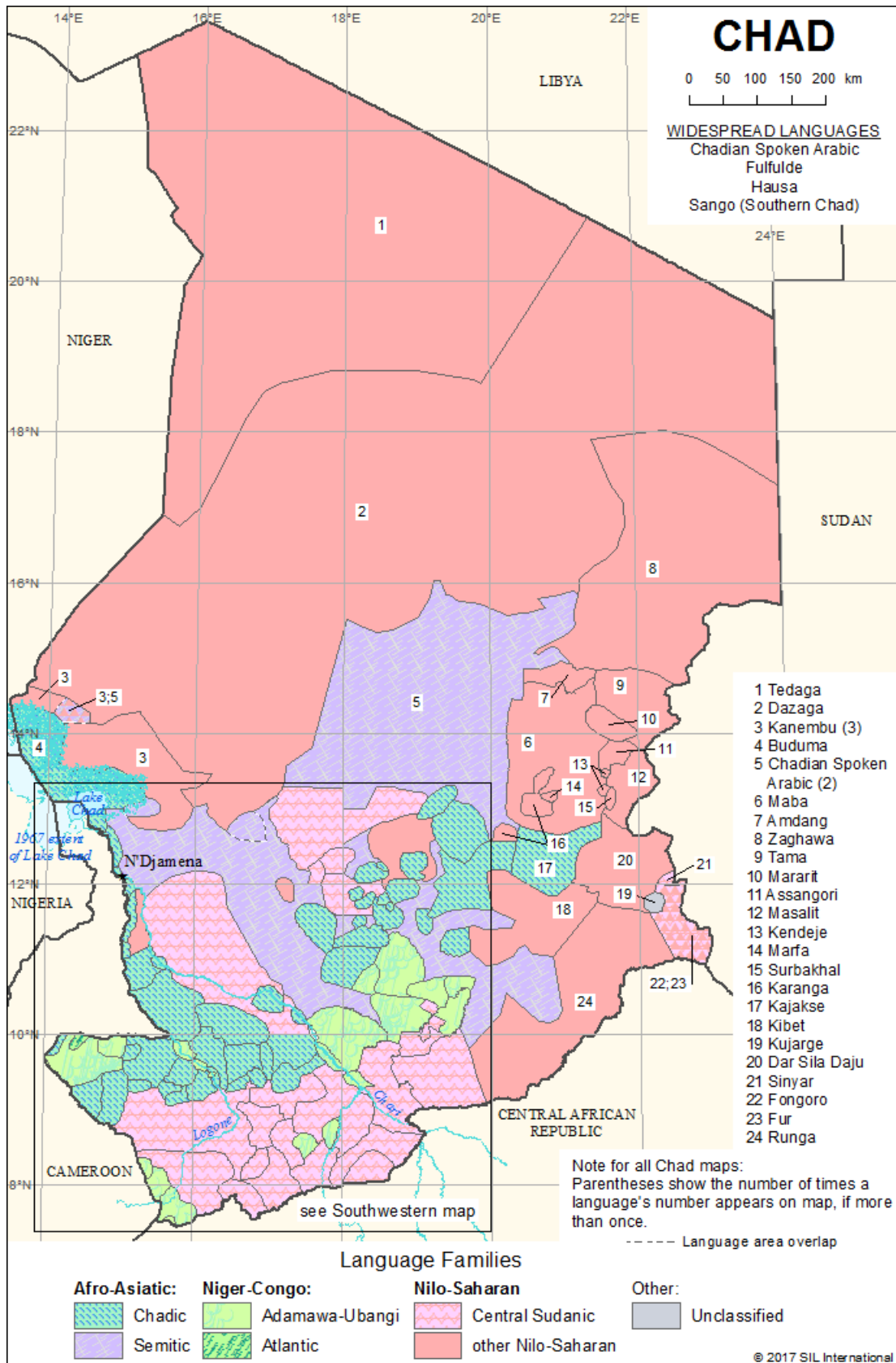
Zan Gula [zna] (Goula, Gula Guera, Morii, Morre). Autonym: More. *Users:* 5,000 (2003 SIL). *Location:* Guéra region: Bahr Signaka department, Melfi subprefecture, Chinguil; Moyen-Chari region: northwest of Lake Iro. *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous). *Class:* Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Adamawa, Mbum-Day, Bua. *Dialects:* Zan, Chinguil. Lexical similarity: 46% with Bon Gula [glc]. *Lg Use:* Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Lg Dev:* Literacy rate in L1: 10%–15%. Preschool literacy classes. Taught as subject in some primary schools. *DLS:* Emerging (0.04). *Writing:* Latin script. *Other:* Traditional religion, Muslim. *Map:* 42:62.

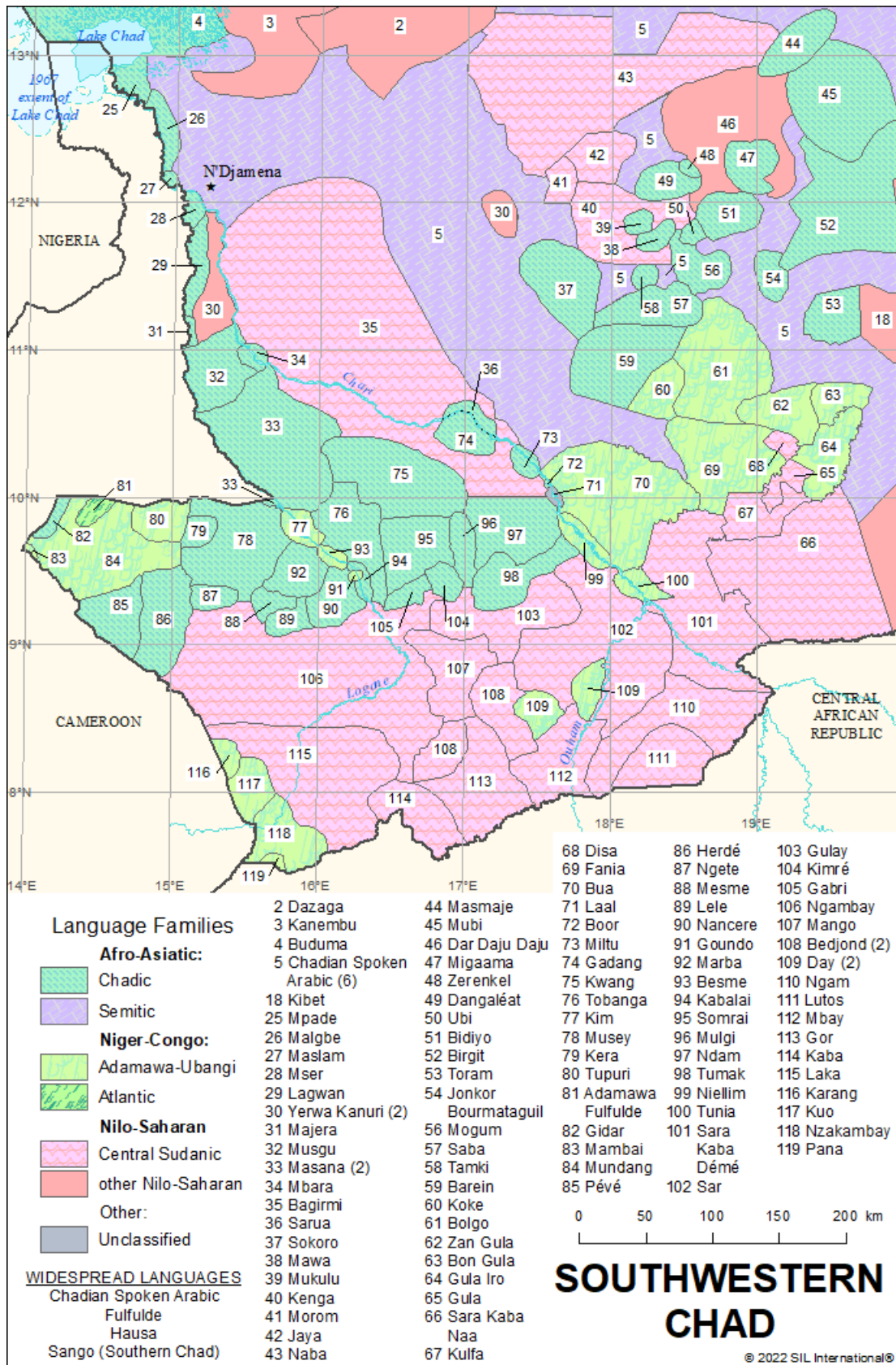
Zerenkel [zrn] (Zirenkel). *Users:* 2,240 (1993 census). *Location:* Guéra region: Mongo subprefecture, Canton Dadjo I, Dambiro, Nickel, and Sirbodom villages. *Status:* 6b (Threatened). *Class:* Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, East, B, B.1, 2. *Dialects:* None known. Lexical similarity: 71% with Mubi [mub], 34%–36% with Dangaléat [daa] (East, Central, and Western). *Lg Use:* Children speak (but not all). Some young people, all adults. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Also use Dangaléat [daa]. Also use Dar Daju Daju [djic]. *Lg*

Dev: Literacy rate in L1: 15%–20%. Preschool literacy classes. Taught as subject in some primary schools. *DLS:* Emerging (0.04). *Writing:* Latin script. *Map:* [42](#):48.

Language Maps

Chad	41
Southwestern Chad	42





Languages by Population

In this section the languages of Chad are listed in order of their population of first-language speakers within the country, from highest to lowest. The entries report just the population and status elements.

1,000,000 to 9,999,999

Arabic, Chadian Spoken [[shu](#)] *Users:* 1,640,000 in Chad (2019), increasing. *Status:* 3 (Wider communication). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 2,062,550 (as L1: 1,992,550; as L2: 70,000).

Ngambay [[sba](#)] *Users:* 1,320,000 in Chad (2013 J. Leclerc). *Status:* 3 (Wider communication). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 1,377,000.

100,000 to 999,999

Kanembu [[kbl](#)] *Users:* 845,000 in Chad (2019). *Status:* 3 (Wider communication). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 879,800.

Dazaga [[dzg](#)] *Users:* 606,000 in Chad (2019). *Status:* 3 (Wider communication). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 699,200.

Maba [[mde](#)] *Users:* 542,000 in Chad (2019), decreasing. Very few monolinguals. *Status:* 3 (Wider communication). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 567,000.

Naba [[mne](#)] *Users:* 510,000 (2019). *Status:* 5* (Developing).

Musey [[mse](#)] *Users:* 383,000 in Chad (2019). *Status:* 5* (Developing). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 433,000.

Mundang [[mua](#)] *Users:* 351,000 in Chad (2019). *Status:* 5* (Developing). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 395,700.

Fulfulde, Adamawa [[fub](#)] *Users:* 271,000 in Chad (2019). *Status:* 5* (Dispersed). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 5,673,600 (as L1: 2,993,600; as L2: 2,680,000).

Marba [[mpg](#)] *Users:* 271,000 (2019). *Status:* 5* (Developing).

Masana [[mcn](#)] *Users:* 239,000 in Chad (2019). *Status:* 5* (Developing). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 342,000.

Kanuri, Yerwa [[knc](#)] *Users:* 191,000 in Chad (2019). 34,500 in Chari-Baguirmi and 23,300 in N'Djamena. *Status:* 5* (Dispersed). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 8,951,500 (as L1: 8,451,500; as L2: 500,000).

Tupuri [[tui](#)] *Users:* 191,000 in Chad (2019). *Status:* 5* (Developing). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 321,000.

Sar [mwm] *Users:* 183,000 (1993 census). 74,700 Madingay (1964), 16,300 No (1964), 32,000 Nar (1977). *Status:* 3 (Wider communication).

Gulay [gvl] *Users:* 163,000 (1993 census). 23,500 Pen in 26 villages (1995 D. Djarangar). *Status:* 5* (Developing).

Gor [gqr] *Users:* 159,000 (2019). *Status:* 5* (Developing).

Zaghawa [zag] *Users:* 159,000 in Chad (2019). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 348,400.

Nancere [nnc] *Users:* 144,000 (2019), increasing. *Status:* 5* (Developing).

Masalit [mls] *Users:* 112,000 in Chad (2019), increasing. *Status:* 5 (Developing). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 462,000.

Hausa [hau] *Users:* 100,000 in Chad (Gunnemark and Kenrick 1985). 398,000 in Chad, all users. L2 users: 298,000 (2019 Joshua Project). *Status:* 3 (Wider communication). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 78,520,580 (as L1: 51,744,560; as L2: 26,776,020).

10,000 to 99,999

Mango [mge] *Users:* 96,000 (2019). *Status:* 5* (Developing).

Chadian Sign Language [cbs] *Users:* 80,000 (2021). Estimated 48,000–96,000 deaf signers, assuming 0.3%–0.6% of overall population. Reported 2,800 deaf signers out of 7,000 total deaf (2008 WFD). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous).

Mbay [myb] *Users:* 80,000 in Chad (1990 J. Keegan). *Status:* 5* (Developing). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 88,300.

Kaba [ksp] *Users:* 70,000 in Chad (1993 census). *Status:* 5* (Developing). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 147,000.

Daju, Dar Sila [dau] *Users:* 63,100 in Chad (2000). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 70,100.

Tama [tma] *Users:* 62,900 in Chad (1993 census). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 289,900.

Daju, Dar Daju [djc] *Users:* 60,000 (2020 A. Aviles). *Status:* 5* (Developing).

Dangaléat [daa] *Users:* 60,000 (2005 SIL), increasing. 45,000 in Dangaléat Canton. *Status:* 5* (Developing).

Laka [lap] *Users:* 55,100 in Chad (1993 census). *Status:* 5* (Developing). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 57,150.

Buduma [bdm] *Users:* 51,600 in Chad (1993 census). *Status:* 5* (Developing). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 54,800.

Day [dai] *Users:* 49,900 (1993 census). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous).

- Bagirmi** [[bmi](#)] *Users*: 44,800 in Chad (1993 census). *Status*: 3 (Wider communication).
- Kera** [[ker](#)] *Users*: 44,500 in Chad (1993 census). *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 50,500.
- Ngam** [[nmc](#)] *Users*: 43,700 in Chad (1993 census). *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 61,400.
- Mararit** [[mgb](#)] *Users*: 42,400 (1993 census). 15,400 Mararit, 27,000 Abou Charib. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous).
- Amdang** [[amj](#)] *Users*: 41,100 (2000). Population lower in Wadi Fira (home region) than in Batha and Ouaddaï regions. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous).
- Herdé** [[hed](#)] *Users*: 40,000 (1999 SIL). *Status*: 5* (Developing).
- Kaba Démé, Sara** [[kwg](#)] *Users*: 40,000 in Chad (1993 UBS). *Status*: 5* (Developing).
- Kenga** [[kyq](#)] *Users*: 40,000 (1997 SIL). *Status*: 5* (Developing).
- Bedjond** [[bjv](#)] *Users*: 36,000 (Caprile and Fedry 1969). *Status*: 5* (Developing).
- Mubi** [[mub](#)] *Users*: 35,300 (1993 census). *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous).
- Kaba Naa, Sara** [[kwv](#)] *Users*: 35,000 in Chad (1993 UBS). 5,560 in Bale village, 4,940 in Koskabo, 4,550 in Kyabé. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 39,000.
- Gabri** [[gab](#)] *Users*: 34,400 (2000). *Status*: 5* (Developing).
- Pévé** [[lme](#)] *Users*: 30,000 in Chad (1999 SIL). *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 35,720.
- Tobanga** [[tng](#)] *Users*: 30,000 (1999 SIL). *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous).
- Tedaga** [[tuq](#)] *Users*: 28,500 in Chad (1993 census). *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 59,590.
- Lele** [[lln](#)] *Users*: 26,000 (1991 UBS). *Status*: 5* (Developing).
- Tumak** [[tmc](#)] *Users*: 25,200 (1993 census). *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous).
- Musgu** [[mug](#)] *Users*: 24,400 in Chad (1993 census). *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 164,400.
- Fulfulde, Bagirmi** [[fui](#)] *Users*: 24,000 in Chad. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 180,000.
- Assangori** [[sjg](#)] *Users*: 23,500 (1993 census). *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous).
- Runga** [[rou](#)] *Users*: 21,500 in Chad (1993 census), decreasing. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 43,000.
- Mesme** [[zim](#)] *Users*: 20,100 (1993 census). *Status*: 5* (Developing).

Kimré [kqp] *Users:* 20,000 (2007 A. Oumounabidji). *Status:* 5* (Developing).

Migaama [mmy] *Users:* 20,000 (2000 W. Chesley). 2,000 monolinguals. Ethnic population: 23,000 (1991 census). *Status:* 5* (Developing).

Kibet [kie] *Users:* 18,500 (Bender 1983a). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous).

Nzakambay [nzy] *Users:* 18,500 in Chad (2000). *Status:* 5* (Developing). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 31,500.

French [fra] *Users:* 18,000 in Chad (2022 Joshua Project), based on ethnicity. 2,268,000 in Chad, all users. L2 users: 2,250,000 (Marcoux et al 2022). *Status:* 1 (National). Statutory national language (1996, Constitution, Article 9). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 309,804,220 (as L1: 80,770,190; as L2: 229,034,030).

Kabalai [kvf] *Users:* 17,900 (1993 census). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous).

Kwang [kvi] *Users:* 16,800 (1993 census). 10,000 or more Kwang, 2,000 Mobou, 250 Aloa. *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous).

Kim [kia] *Users:* 15,400 (1993 census). *Status:* 5* (Developing).

Bidiyo [bid] *Users:* 14,000 (Jungraithmayr 1981). *Status:* 5* (Developing).

Kuo [xuo] *Users:* 12,300 in Chad (2011 SIL). *Status:* 5* (Developing). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 20,250.

Sinyar [sys] *Users:* 12,300 (2000). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous).

Mukulu [moz] *Users:* 12,000 (1990 SIL). *Status:* 5 (Developing).

Gidar [gid] *Users:* 11,700 in Chad (1993 census). *Status:* 5* (Developing). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 65,700.

Birgit [btf] *Users:* 10,400 (2000). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous).

Gula [glu] *Users:* 10,300 (2000). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous).

Dagba [dgb] *Users:* 10,000 in Chad (2007 S. Hossack). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 44,000.

Kajakse [ckq] *Users:* 10,000 (Bender 1983a). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous).

Karanga [kth] *Users:* 10,000 (1999 SIL). 4,700 Karanga and 1,420 Bakha. *Status:* 6b* (Threatened).

Ngete [nnn] *Users:* 10,000 (1991 UBS). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous).

1,000 to 9,999

Toram [trj] *Users:* 8,460 (2000). *Status:* 8a (Moribund).

Surbakhal [sbj] *Users:* 7,890 (2000). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous).

- Bua** [bub] *Users:* 7,710 (1993 census). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous).
- Soumraye** [sor] *Users:* 7,410 (1993 census). *Status:* 5* (Developing).
- Kulfa** [kxj] *Users:* 7,110 (1993 census). 4,000 Koulfra, 2,200 Kouroumi, 910 Bara (1993 census). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous).
- Mogum** [mou] *Users:* 7,000 (1997 SIL). *Status:* 5* (Developing).
- Mawa** [mcw] *Users:* 6,560 (2000). *Status:* 6a (Vigorous).
- Ndam** [ndm] *Users:* 6,500 (1990 census). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous).
- Niellim** [nie] *Users:* 5,160 (1993 census). 1,000 in Sarh city; 400 in Niou dialect. *Status:* 5* (Developing).
- Marfa** [mvu] *Users:* 5,000 (1999 SIL). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous).
- Mulgi** [mvh] *Users:* 5,000 (2011 SIL). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous).
- Sokoro** [sok] *Users:* 5,000 (1994 SIL). *Status:* 5* (Developing).
- Zan Gula** [zna] *Users:* 5,000 (2003 SIL). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous).
- Morom** [bdo] *Users:* 4,500 (2002 SIL). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous).
- Barein** [bva] *Users:* 4,100 (1993 census). *Status:* 5* (Developing).
- Gula Iro** [glj] *Users:* 3,500 (1991 SIL). 2,000 Pongaal, 730 Tiaala, 200 Tiitaal, 350 Patool, 170 Korintal. *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous).
- Gadang** [gdk] *Users:* 2,500 (1997 SIL). *Status:* 7 (Shifting).
- Disa** [dsi] *Users:* 2,370 (2000). *Status:* 6b* (Threatened).
- Tunia** [tug] *Users:* 2,260 (1993 census). *Status:* 6b* (Threatened).
- Zerenkel** [zrn] *Users:* 2,240 (1993 census). *Status:* 6b (Threatened).
- Jaya** [jyy] *Users:* 2,200 (1993 census). *Status:* 7 (Shifting).
- Mambai** [mcs] *Users:* 2,000 in Chad (2002 SIL). *Status:* 6a (Vigorous). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 17,000.
- Sarua** [swy] *Users:* 2,000 (1997 SIL). *Status:* 7 (Shifting).
- Luto** [ndy] *Users:* 1,980 in Chad (1993 census). *Status:* 6b* (Threatened). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 18,980.
- Kendeje** [klf] *Users:* 1,860 (2000). *Status:* 7 (Shifting).
- Bolgo** [bvo] *Users:* 1,800 (1993 census). *Status:* 5 (Developing).
- Fur** [fvr] *Users:* 1,800 in Chad. *Status:* 5 (Developing). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 750,000.
- Jonkor Bourmataguil** [jeu] *Users:* 1,500 (1993 SIL). *Status:* 6b (Threatened).

Saba [saa] *Users:* 1,340 (2000). *Status:* 6b (Threatened).

Besme [bes] *Users:* 1,230 (1993 census). *Status:* 6a (Vigorous).

Bon Gula [glc] *Users:* 1,200 (1997 SIL). *Status:* 6a (Vigorous).

Fania [fni] *Users:* 1,100 (1997 SIL). *Status:* 6a (Vigorous).

Ubi [ubi] *Users:* 1,100 (1995 SIL). *Status:* 6b (Threatened).

Karang [kzr] *Users:* 1,000 in Chad (1995 SIL). *Status:* 6b* (Threatened). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 18,000.

Kujarge [vkj] *Users:* 1,000 (Bender 1983b). *Status:* 7 (Shifting).

Mbara [mpk] *Users:* 1,000 (Tourneux et al 1986). *Status:* 8a (Moribund).

Pana [pnz] *Users:* 1,000 in Chad (1999 SIL). *Status:* 6a (Vigorous). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 85,980.

100 to 999

Laal [gdm] *Users:* 750 (2000). Damtar village had its own dialect called Laabe with 3 speakers left in 1977. *Status:* 7 (Shifting).

Koke [kou] *Users:* 600 (1993 census). *Status:* 7 (Shifting).

Tamki [tax] *Users:* 500 (1999 SIL). *Status:* 6b (Threatened).

Miltu [mlj] *Users:* 270 (1993 census). *Status:* 8a (Moribund).

Boor [bvf] *Users:* 100 (1999 SIL). Ethnic population: 110 (2013 J. Roberts). *Status:* 6a (Vigorous).

10 to 99

Buso [bso] *Users:* 40 (Welmers 1971a). *Status:* 8b (Nearly extinct).

Noy [noy] *Users:* 36 (1993 census). *Status:* 8b (Nearly extinct).

Goundo [goy] *Users:* 30 (1998). *Status:* 8a (Moribund).

Massalat [mdg] *Users:* 10 (1991 R. Blench). Ethnic population: 29,800 (1993 census). *Status:* 8b (Nearly extinct).

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Berakou [bxv] *Users:* No known L1 speakers. Last known speakers survived into the late 1990s (1995 D. Djarangar). *Status:* 10 (Extinct).

Horo [hor] *Users:* No known L1 speakers. Probably became extinct in the early 20th century. *Status:* 10 (Extinct).

Mabire [muʝ] *Users:* No known L1 speakers. Last fluent speaker may have survived into the early 2010s. *Status:* 10 (Extinct).

Muskum [mje] *Users:* No known L1 speakers. The last speaker survived into the late 1970s. *Status:* 10 (Extinct).

Unknown

Fongoro [fɔr] *Users:* A few elderly speakers (Dimmendaal and Voeltz 2007). Ethnic population: 1,000 (Dimmendaal and Voeltz 2007). *Status:* 8b (Nearly extinct).

Arabic, Standard [arb] *Users:* 615,000 in Chad (2014 SIL), all users. *Status:* 1 (National). Statutory national language (1996, Constitution, Article 9). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 273,989,700.

Fulfulde, Nigerian [fuv] *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 16,585,000.

Lagwan [kot] *Status:* 6b* (Threatened). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 15,000.

Majera [xmj] *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 500.

Malgbe [mxf] *Status:* 6b* (Threatened). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 6,000.

Maslam [msv] *Status:* 7 (Shifting). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 250.

Masmaje [mes] *Users:* Ethnic population: 45,000 (2019 IMB). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous).

Mpade [mpi] *Status:* 6b* (Threatened). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 16,000.

Mser [kqx] *Status:* 7 (Shifting). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 500.

Sango [sag] *Status:* 3 (Wider communication). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 5,217,000 (as L1: 617,000; as L2: 4,600,000).

Languages by Status

In this section the languages of Chad are listed in order of their status within the country as represented by their level on the EGIDs scale (Lewis and Simons 2010). The language entries are reduced to just the information elements that are relevant to assessing the EGIDS level: population, status, language use, language development, and writing.

1 (National)

Arabic, Standard [[arb](#)] *Users:* 615,000 in Chad (2014 SIL), all users. *Status:* Statutory national language (1996, Constitution, Article 9). *Writing:* Arabic script, Naskh variant, primary usage. Braille script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 273,989,700.

French [[fra](#)] *Users:* 2,268,000 in Chad, all users. L1 users: 18,000 in Chad (2022 Joshua Project), based on ethnicity. L2 users: 2,250,000 (Marcoux et al 2022). *Status:* Statutory national language (1996, Constitution, Article 9). *Writing:* Braille script. Duployan shorthand. Latin script, primary usage. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 309,804,220 (as L1: 80,770,190; as L2: 229,034,030).

3 (Wider communication)

Arabic, Chadian Spoken [[shu](#)] *Users:* 1,640,000 in Chad (2019), increasing. *Status:* Derived from a variety of Arabic used in Sudan; used by 11 groups as a primary language. Became a language of wider communication at the start of the 20th century under French colonial period. Used in trade, religion, literature, music, and folklore. *Lg Use:* Positive attitudes. Used as L2 by Amdang [[amj](#)], Assangori [[sjg](#)], Bagirmi [[bmi](#)], Barein [[bva](#)], Berakou [[bxv](#)], Besme [[bes](#)], Bidiyo [[bid](#)], Bolgo [[bvo](#)], Bon Gula [[glc](#)], Boor [[bvf](#)], Bua [[bub](#)], Buduma [[bdm](#)], Buso [[bso](#)], Dangaléat [[daa](#)], Dar Daju Daju [[djc](#)], Dar Sila Daju [[dau](#)], Dazaga [[dzc](#)], Fania [[fni](#)], Gula [[glu](#)], Gula Iro [[glj](#)], Jaya [[jyy](#)], Kanembu [[kbl](#)], Kenga [[kyq](#)], Kibet [[kie](#)], Koke [[kou](#)], Kulfa [[kxj](#)], Lagwan [[kot](#)], Maba [[mde](#)], Mabire [[mu](#)], Mararit [[mgb](#)], Marfa [[mvu](#)], Masalit [[mls](#)], Maslam [[msv](#)], Masmaje [[mes](#)], Massalat [[mdg](#)], Mawa [[mcw](#)], Mbara [[mpk](#)], Migaama [[mmy](#)], Mogum [[mou](#)], Mser [[kqx](#)], Mubi [[mub](#)], Mukulu [[moz](#)], Naba [[mne](#)], Runga [[rou](#)], Saba [[saa](#)], Sinyar [[sys](#)], Sokoro [[sok](#)], Tama [[tma](#)], Tamki [[tax](#)], Tedaga [[tuq](#)], Toram [[trj](#)], Tunia [[tug](#)], Zaghawa [[zag](#)], Zan Gula [[zna](#)], Zerenkel [[zrn](#)]. *Lg Dev:* Dictionary. Grammar. Bible: 2021. *Writing:* Arabic script, Naskh variant. Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 2,062,550 (as L1: 1,992,550; as L2: 70,000).

Bagirmi [[bmi](#)] *Users:* 44,800 in Chad (1993 census). *Status:* Originated in 1522 in the region southeast of Lake Chad. Used in slave trade in 17th century. Used in commerce, craft, and export. *Lg Use:* The language of the ancient Bagirmi kingdom. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [[shu](#)]. Used as L2 by Boor [[bvf](#)], Gadang [[gdk](#)], Kwang [[kvi](#)], Laal [[gdm](#)], Miltu [[mlj](#)], Sarua [[swy](#)]. *Lg Dev:* Dictionary. Grammar. Bible portions: 2017. *Writing:* Latin script.

- Dazaga** [dzg] *Users:* 606,000 in Chad (2019). *Status:* Native to Chad and Niger. Powerful confederation of nomadic peoples from 11th century–19th century. Used in trade and verbal communication. Also language of pastoralists. *Lg Use:* Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Used as L2 by Tedaga [tuq]. *Lg Dev:* Literature. Newspapers. Radio. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. Bible portions: 2006. *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 699,200.
- Hausa** [hau] *Users:* 398,000 in Chad, all users. L1 users: 100,000 in Chad (Gunnemark and Kenrick 1985). L2 users: 298,000 (2019 Joshua Project). *Status:* Widespread use as L2 in northern Chad. *Writing:* Arabic script, Naskh variant, called Ajami. Braille script. Latin script, used since 1880, primary usage. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 78,520,580 (as L1: 51,744,560; as L2: 26,776,020).
- Kanembu** [kbl] *Users:* 845,000 in Chad (2019). *Status:* Originated in northeast of Lake Chad as a trading Empire from 9th century–19th century. By the end of the 14th century the Kanembu people were forced to move to Bornu on the western edge of Lake Chad where Kanem and Bornu states merged. Was used in North African trading routes and in education of slaves serving in noble homes. *Lg Use:* Vigorous. Many businessmen in N'Djamena are Kanembu. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Used as L2 by Buduma [bdm]. *Lg Dev:* Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 879,800.
- Maba** [mde] *Users:* 542,000 in Chad (2019), decreasing. Very few monolinguals. *Status:* Originated in the mountainous Wadai region of eastern Chad in the 1800s and across its border with Sudan and Central African Republic. Mainly used within the farming community. *Lg Use:* All domains in the village; home only in the towns. All ages in the villages; mostly adults in towns. Mixed attitudes. The language is generally valued less than Arabic. Many also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Used as L2 by Kendeje [klf], Surbakhhal [sbj]. *Lg Dev:* Radio. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. *Writing:* Arabic script, Naskh variant. Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 567,000.
- Ngambay** [sba] *Users:* 1,320,000 in Chad (2013 J. Leclerc). *Status:* Spoken widely in Chad and some in Cameroon. In the 17th century used as slave trade language and in agriculture. *Lg Use:* Largest language of the Sara-Bagirmi group. *Lg Dev:* Grammar. Texts. Bible: 1993. *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 1,377,000.
- Sango** [sag] *Lg Use:* Derived from Ngbandi [ngb], with decreasing usage in Chad. *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 5,217,000 (as L1: 617,000; as L2: 4,600,000).
- Sar** [mwm] *Users:* 183,000 (1993 census). 74,700 Madjingay (1964), 16,300 No (1964), 32,000 Nar (1977). *Status:* Language of wider communication since French colonial time around 1870. Used in agriculture, communication, radio network, and religion. *Lg Use:* Used as L2 by Gulay [gvl], Kwang [kvi], Ngam [nmc], Noy [noy], Tumak [tmc], Tunia [tug]. *Lg Dev:* Dictionary. Bible: 2011. *Writing:* Latin script.

5 (Developing)

Barein [bva] *Users:* 4,100 (1993 census). *Lg Use:* Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Lg Dev:* Grammar. Texts. *Writing:* Latin script.

Bedjond [bjv] *Users:* 36,000 (Caprile and Fedry 1969). *Lg Use:* Positive attitudes. *Lg Dev:* Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. NT: 2011. *Writing:* Latin script.

Bidiyo [bid] *Users:* 14,000 (Jungraithmayr 1981). *Lg Use:* Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Lg Dev:* Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. *Writing:* Latin script.

Bolgo [bvo] *Users:* 1,800 (1993 census). *Lg Use:* Vigorous. Used by all. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Writing:* Latin script.

Buduma [bdm] *Users:* 51,600 in Chad (1993 census). *Lg Use:* Vigorous. Most domains. Most also use Kanembu [kbl], especially those living near Bol. Many also use Yerwa Kanuri [knc]. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Lg Dev:* Grammar. Bible portions: 2014. *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 54,800.

Daju, Dar Daju [dj] *Users:* 60,000 (2020 A. Aviles). *Lg Use:* Many also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu], including all adult males. Used as L2 by Kujarge [vkj], Sinyar [sys], Zerenkel [zrn]. *Lg Dev:* Grammar. Bible portions: 2008–2021. *Writing:* Latin script.

Dangaléat [daa] *Users:* 60,000 (2005 SIL), increasing. 45,000 in Dangaléat Canton. *Lg Use:* Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Used as L2 by Zerenkel [zrn]. *Lg Dev:* Literature. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. NT: 2012. *Writing:* Latin script.

Fur [fvr] *Users:* 1,800 in Chad. *Lg Use:* Used by all. Used as L2 by Fongoro [fgr], Kujarge [vkj], Sinyar [sys]. *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 750,000.

Gabri [gab] *Users:* 34,400 (2000). *Lg Dev:* Bible portions: 2017. *Writing:* Latin script.

Gidar [gid] *Users:* 11,700 in Chad (1993 census). *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 65,700.

Gor [gqr] *Users:* 159,000 (2019). *Lg Use:* There is a Gor Language Committee. *Lg Dev:* NT: 2014. *Writing:* Latin script.

Gulay [gvl] *Users:* 163,000 (1993 census). 23,500 Pen in 26 villages (1995 D. Djarangar). *Lg Use:* Also use Sar [mwm]. *Lg Dev:* Literature. Grammar. NT: 2004. *Writing:* Latin script.

Herdé [hed] *Users:* 40,000 (1999 SIL). *Lg Dev:* Literature. Dictionary. NT: 1980. *Writing:* Latin script.

Kaba [ksp] *Users:* 70,000 in Chad (1993 census). *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 147,000.

Kaba Démé, Sara [kwg] *Users:* 40,000 in Chad (1993 UBS). *Lg Use:* Vigorous. *Lg Dev:* Literature. Dictionary. Texts. NT: 1999. *Writing:* Latin script, used in Chad.

Kaba Naa, Sara [kwv] *Users:* 35,000 in Chad (1993 UBS). 5,560 in Bale village, 4,940 in

Koskabo, 4,550 in Kyabé. *Lg Use*: Vigorous. Used as L2 by Gula [glu], Kulfa [kxj]. *Lg Dev*: Dictionary. NT: 1988. *Writing*: Latin script, used in Chad. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 39,000.

Kenga [kyq] *Users*: 40,000 (1997 SIL). *Lg Use*: Less than ten Bolong dialect speakers used Kenga as L1 in 2002. Positive attitudes. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Also use French [fra]. Used as L2 by Mawa [mcw], Tamki [tax]. *Lg Dev*: Dictionary. Grammar. NT: 2012. *Writing*: Latin script.

Kera [ker] *Users*: 44,500 in Chad (1993 census). *Lg Use*: Also use French [fra]. *Lg Dev*: Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. NT: 2005. *Writing*: Latin script. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 50,500.

Kim [kia] *Users*: 15,400 (1993 census). *Lg Dev*: Bible: 2014. *Writing*: Latin script.

Kimré [kqp] *Users*: 20,000 (2007 A. Oumounabidji). *Lg Use*: Vigorous. Positive attitudes. Most also use French [fra]. Used as L2 by Mulgi [mvh]. *Lg Dev*: NT: 2007. *Writing*: Latin script.

Kuo [xuo] *Users*: 12,300 in Chad (2011 SIL). *Lg Use*: Also use French [fra]. *Lg Dev*: NT: 2013. *Writing*: Latin script. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 20,250.

Laka [lap] *Users*: 55,100 in Chad (1993 census). *Lg Dev*: NT: 1960. *Writing*: Latin script, used in Chad. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 57,150.

Lele [lln] *Users*: 26,000 (1991 UBS). *Lg Use*: Vigorous. *Lg Dev*: Dictionary. Grammar. NT: 1991. *Writing*: Latin script.

Mango [mge] *Users*: 96,000 (2019). *Lg Use*: Positive attitudes. *Lg Dev*: Dictionary. NT: 2019. *Writing*: Latin script.

Marba [mpg] *Users*: 271,000 (2019). *Lg Use*: Used as L2 by Marfa [mvu]. *Lg Dev*: Dictionary. Grammar. Bible: 1999. *Writing*: Latin script.

Masalit [mlls] *Users*: 112,000 in Chad (2019), increasing. *Lg Use*: Vigorous. Home, market, traditional jurisdiction. Used by all. Positive attitudes, but Arabic often seen as superior. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Used as L2 by Kendeje [klf], Sinyar [sys], Surbakhil [sbj], Tama [tma]. *Writing*: Latin script. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 462,000.

Masana [mcn] *Users*: 239,000 in Chad (2019). *Lg Use*: Positive attitudes. *Lg Dev*: Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. Bible: 2003. *Writing*: Latin script. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 342,000.

Mbay [myb] *Users*: 80,000 in Chad (1990 J. Keegan). *Lg Dev*: Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. Bible: 1980. *Writing*: Latin script, used in Chad. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 88,300.

Mesme [zim] *Users*: 20,100 (1993 census). *Lg Dev*: NT: 1995. *Writing*: Latin script.

Migaama [mmy] *Users*: 20,000 (2000 W. Chesley). 2,000 monolinguals. Ethnic population: 23,000 (1991 census). *Lg Use*: Vigorous. All domains except to Arabs in market, French to teachers in school. Oral use in administration, some in church, commerce. Positive attitudes.

Most also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu], men with high proficiency, women with low proficiency. Some also use French [fra]. Also use Standard Arabic [arb], which is taught in school. *Lg Dev*: Dictionary. NT: 2021. *Writing*: Latin script.

Mogum [mou] *Users*: 7,000 (1997 SIL). *Lg Use*: Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu] used in cross-linguistic situations. Home, between native speakers in the village. Positive attitudes. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Lg Dev*: Literature. Texts. *Writing*: Latin script.

Mukulu [moz] *Users*: 12,000 (1990 SIL). *Lg Use*: All domains. Used by all. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu], but with low proficiency. *Lg Dev*: Literature. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. NT: 2019. *Writing*: Latin script.

Mundang [mua] *Users*: 351,000 in Chad (2019). *Lg Use*: Used as L2 by Mambai [mcs]. *Lg Dev*: Grammar. Bible: 1983. *Writing*: Latin script. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 395,700.

Musey [mse] *Users*: 383,000 in Chad (2019). *Lg Use*: Kera [ker] and other nearby groups are bilingual in Musey. Also use French [fra]. *Lg Dev*: Bible: 2002. *Writing*: Latin script. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 433,000.

Musgu [mug] *Users*: 24,400 in Chad (1993 census). *Lg Use*: Used as L2 by Muskum [mje]. *Writing*: Latin script. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 164,400.

Naba [mne] *Users*: 510,000 (2019). *Lg Use*: Some also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu], especially the Kuka ethnic group, who live near Oum Hadjer. *Lg Dev*: Grammar. *Writing*: Latin script.

Nancere [nnc] *Users*: 144,000 (2019), increasing. *Lg Use*: Vigorous. Positive attitudes. Also use French [fra]. Used as L2 by Besme [bes], Goundo [goy]. *Lg Dev*: Bible: 1986. *Writing*: Latin script.

Ngam [nmc] *Users*: 43,700 in Chad (1993 census). *Lg Use*: Also use Sar [mwm], particularly the Sara Madjingay dialect. Used as L2 by Horo [hor]. *Lg Dev*: NT: 1999. *Writing*: Latin script, used in Chad. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 61,400.

Niellim [nie] *Users*: 5,160 (1993 census). 1,000 in Sarh city; 400 in Niou dialect. *Lg Use*: Tchini dialect is extinct. Used as L2 by Boor [bvf], Tunia [tug]. *Lg Dev*: Grammar. Bible portions: 2014. *Writing*: Latin script.

Nzakambay [nzy] *Users*: 18,500 in Chad (2000). *Lg Dev*: NT: 1968–1994. *Writing*: Latin script. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 31,500.

Pévé [lme] *Users*: 30,000 in Chad (1999 SIL). *Lg Dev*: Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. NT: 1986. *Writing*: Latin script. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 35,720.

Sokoro [sok] *Users*: 5,000 (1994 SIL). *Lg Use*: Most also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu], especially men (Boyd 1989). *Lg Dev*: Bible portions: 2001–2022. *Writing*: Latin script.

Soumraye [sor] *Users*: 7,410 (1993 census). *Lg Dev*: Bible portions: 1999–2020. *Writing*: Latin script.

Tupuri [tui] *Users:* 191,000 in Chad (2019). *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 321,000.

5 (Dispersed)

Fulfulde, Adamawa [fub] *Users:* 271,000 in Chad (2019). *Writing:* Arabic script, Naskh variant, called Ajami. Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 5,673,600 (as L1: 2,993,600; as L2: 2,680,000).

Kanuri, Yerwa [knc] *Users:* 191,000 in Chad (2019). 34,500 in Chari-Baguirmi and 23,300 in N'Djamena. *Lg Use:* Used as L2 by Buduma [bdm], Mser [kqx]. *Writing:* Arabic script, Naskh variant. Latin script, used since 1949. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 8,951,500 (as L1: 8,451,500; as L2: 500,000).

6a (Vigorous)

Amdang [amj] *Users:* 41,100 (2000). Population lower in Wadi Fira (home region) than in Batha and Ouaddaï regions. *Lg Use:* Vigorous. Positive attitudes. Most also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu] (Sommer 1992). *Writing:* Unwritten.

Assangori [sjg] *Users:* 23,500 (1993 census). *Lg Use:* Vigorous. Most also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu], although at low proficiency level. *Lg Dev:* Grammar. *Writing:* Unwritten.

Besme [bes] *Users:* 1,230 (1993 census). *Lg Use:* Used by all. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Also use Nancere [nnc]. *Writing:* Unwritten.

Birgit [btf] *Users:* 10,400 (2000). *Lg Use:* Strong in its central village Abgué, decreasing in Agrab and Tilegeye (Eastern Birgit). Probably strong in Duguri due to geographical isolation. *Writing:* Unwritten.

Bon Gula [glc] *Users:* 1,200 (1997 SIL). *Lg Use:* Vigorous. Used by all. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Writing:* Latin script, in development.

Boor [bvf] *Users:* 100 (1999 SIL). Ethnic population: 110 (2013 J. Roberts). *Lg Use:* Used by all. Used by children in the village. All also use Bagirmi [bmi]. All also use Bua [bub]. All also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. All also use Laal [gdm]. Many also use Niellim [nie].

Bua [bub] *Users:* 7,710 (1993 census). *Lg Use:* Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Used as L2 by Boor [bvf]. *Writing:* Unwritten.

Chadian Sign Language [cds] *Users:* 80,000 (2021). Estimated 48,000–96,000 deaf signers, assuming 0.3%–0.6% of overall population. Reported 2,800 deaf signers out of 7,000 total deaf (2008 WFD). *Lg Use:* 11 deaf schools (2008 WFD).

Dagba [dgk] *Users:* 10,000 in Chad (2007 S. Hossack). *Writing:* Latin script, used in Chad. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 44,000.

Daju, Dar Sila [dau] *Users:* 63,100 in Chad (2000). *Lg Use:* Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic

[shu]. *Writing*: Unwritten. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 70,100.

Day [dai] *Users*: 49,900 (1993 census). *Lg Dev*: Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. NT: 1989–1999.
Writing: Latin script.

Fania [fni] *Users*: 1,100 (1997 SIL). *Lg Use*: Vigorous. Used by all. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Used as L2 by Koke [kou].

Fulfulde, Bagirmi [fui] *Users*: 24,000 in Chad. *Writing*: Unwritten. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 180,000.

Fulfulde, Nigerian [fuv] *Writing*: Arabic script, Naskh variant, used since 2011. Latin script, used since 2003. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 16,585,000.

Gula [glu] *Users*: 10,300 (2000). *Lg Use*: Vigorous. Positive attitudes. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Also use Sara Kaba Naa [kwv]. Used as L2 by Gula Iro [glj]. *Lg Dev*: Grammar.

Gula Iro [glj] *Users*: 3,500 (1991 SIL). 2,000 Pongaal, 730 Tiaala, 200 Tiitaal, 350 Patool, 170 Korintal. *Lg Use*: A few also use Gula [glu]. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Lg Dev*: Texts.

Kabalai [kvf] *Users*: 17,900 (1993 census). *Lg Use*: Used as L2 by Goundo [goy]. *Writing*: Unwritten.

Kajakse [ckq] *Users*: 10,000 (Bender 1983a). *Lg Use*: Strongest in Kajakse canton. *Writing*: Unwritten.

Kibet [kie] *Users*: 18,500 (Bender 1983a). *Lg Use*: Positive attitudes. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Writing*: Unwritten.

Kulfa [kxj] *Users*: 7,110 (1993 census). 4,000 Koulfra, 2,200 Kouroumi, 910 Bara (1993 census). *Lg Use*: Vigorous. Positive attitudes. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Also use Sara Kaba Naa [kwv]. Prefer Sara Kaba Naa [kwv] to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu] as L2. *Lg Dev*: Dictionary. *Writing*: Unwritten.

Kwang [kvi] *Users*: 16,800 (1993 census). 10,000 or more Kwang, 2,000 Mobou, 250 Aloa. *Lg Use*: Also use Bagirmi [bmi], especially the Muslim Aloa, with full bilingualism. Also use Sar [mwm], especially the Ngam, as L2.

Majera [xmj] *Lg Use*: Vigorous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 500.

Mambai [mcs] *Users*: 2,000 in Chad (2002 SIL). *Lg Use*: Used by all. Also use Mundang [mua]. *Writing*: Latin script. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 17,000.

Mararit [mgb] *Users*: 42,400 (1993 census). 15,400 Mararit, 27,000 Abou Charib. *Lg Use*: Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu].

Marfa [mvu] *Users*: 5,000 (1999 SIL). *Lg Use*: Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Also use Marba [mpg].

Masmaje [mes] *Users*: Ethnic population: 45,000 (2019 IMB). *Lg Use*: Most also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu], especially for literacy and education. *Writing*: Unwritten.

Mawa [[mcw](#)] *Users:* 6,560 (2000). *Lg Use:* All domains. Used by all. Most also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [[shu](#)]. Some also use Kenga [[kyq](#)]. *Lg Dev:* Bible portions: 2022. *Writing:* Latin script.

Morom [[bdo](#)] *Users:* 4,500 (2002 SIL). *Lg Use:* The Bolong now use Kenga [[kyq](#)] as their mother tongue. Tar Bolong is moribund with less than 10 speakers in 2002. *Writing:* Unwritten.

Mubi [[mub](#)] *Users:* 35,300 (1993 census). *Lg Use:* Home, market. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [[shu](#)]. *Lg Dev:* Texts. *Writing:* Unwritten.

Mulgi [[mvh](#)] *Users:* 5,000 (2011 SIL). *Lg Use:* Also use Kimré [[kqp](#)]. Also use Ndam [[ndm](#)].

Ndam [[ndm](#)] *Users:* 6,500 (1990 census). *Lg Use:* Used as L2 by Mulgi [[mvh](#)]. *Lg Dev:* Bible portions: 2001. *Writing:* Latin script.

Ngete [[nmm](#)] *Users:* 10,000 (1991 UBS). *Writing:* Latin script, used since 1991, limited usage.

Pana [[pnz](#)] *Users:* 1,000 in Chad (1999 SIL). *Lg Use:* Used by all. *Writing:* Latin script.
Worldwide: Total users in all countries: 85,980.

Runga [[rou](#)] *Users:* 21,500 in Chad (1993 census), decreasing. *Lg Use:* Neutral attitudes. Many also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [[shu](#)], especially men (Boyd 1989). *Writing:* Unwritten.
Worldwide: Total users in all countries: 43,000.

Sinyar [[sys](#)] *Users:* 12,300 (2000). *Lg Use:* Vigorous. Most also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [[shu](#)]. Most also use Fur [[fvr](#)]. Also use Dar Daju Daju [[djc](#)]. Also use Masalit [[mls](#)].

Surbakhal [[sbj](#)] *Users:* 7,890 (2000). *Lg Use:* Also use Maba [[mde](#)]. Also use Masalit [[mls](#)].
Writing: Unwritten.

Tama [[tma](#)] *Users:* 62,900 in Chad (1993 census). *Lg Use:* Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [[shu](#)]. Also use Masalit [[mls](#)]. *Writing:* Unwritten. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 289,900.

Tedaga [[tuq](#)] *Users:* 28,500 in Chad (1993 census). *Lg Use:* Most also use Dazaga [[dzg](#)], at low level of proficiency. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [[shu](#)]. *Lg Dev:* Texts. *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 59,590.

Tobanga [[tng](#)] *Users:* 30,000 (1999 SIL). *Lg Dev:* NT: 1978. *Writing:* Latin script.

Tumak [[tmc](#)] *Users:* 25,200 (1993 census). *Lg Use:* Some also use Sar [[mwm](#)], especially speakers of Motun dialect. *Lg Dev:* Dictionary. NT: 1988. *Writing:* Latin script.

Zaghawa [[zag](#)] *Users:* 159,000 in Chad (2019). *Lg Use:* Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [[shu](#)].
Writing: Beria (Erfe) script. Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 348,400.

Zan Gula [[zna](#)] *Users:* 5,000 (2003 SIL). *Lg Use:* Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [[shu](#)].
Writing: Latin script.

6b (Threatened)

Disa [[dsi](#)] *Users*: 2,370 (2000).

Jonkor Bourmataguil [[jeu](#)] *Users*: 1,500 (1993 SIL). *Lg Use*: A large number have shifted to Chadian Spoken Arabic [[shu](#)]. Some young people, all adults. Used by children in 2 villages.

Karang [[kzr](#)] *Users*: 1,000 in Chad (1995 SIL). *Writing*: Latin script. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 18,000.

Karanga [[kth](#)] *Users*: 10,000 (1999 SIL). 4,700 Karanga and 1,420 Bakha.

Lagwan [[kot](#)] *Lg Use*: Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [[shu](#)]. *Writing*: Latin script. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 15,000.

Luto [[ndy](#)] *Users*: 1,980 in Chad (1993 census). *Writing*: Latin script. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 18,980.

Malgbe [[mxf](#)] *Writing*: Latin script, developed in 1999, experimental usage. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 6,000.

Mpade [[mpi](#)] *Writing*: Latin script. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 16,000.

Saba [[saa](#)] *Users*: 1,340 (2000). *Lg Use*: Children speak the language, (but not all). Some young people, all adults. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [[shu](#)], but with low proficiency (Boyd 1989). Used as L2 by Tamki [[tax](#)]. *Writing*: Latin script.

Tamki [[tax](#)] *Users*: 500 (1999 SIL). *Lg Use*: Some of all ages. Positive attitudes. They consider themselves ethnically Sokoro, but their attitudes are not more positive toward Sokoro [[sok](#)] than toward other neighboring languages. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [[shu](#)]. Also use Kenga [[kyq](#)]. Also use Saba [[saa](#)].

Tunia [[tug](#)] *Users*: 2,260 (1993 census). *Lg Use*: Perim dialect is extinct. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [[shu](#)]. Also use French [[fra](#)]. Also use Niellim [[nie](#)]. Also use Sar [[mwm](#)]. *Lg Dev*: Grammar.

Ubi [[ubi](#)] *Users*: 1,100 (1995 SIL). *Lg Use*: Some young people, all adults. *Writing*: Latin script.

Zerenkel [[zrn](#)] *Users*: 2,240 (1993 census). *Lg Use*: Children speak (but not all). Some young people, all adults. Also use Chadian Spoken Arabic [[shu](#)]. Also use Dangaléat [[daa](#)]. Also use Dar Daju Daju [[djc](#)]. *Writing*: Latin script.

7 (Shifting)

Gadang [[gdk](#)] *Users*: 2,500 (1997 SIL). *Lg Use*: Shifting to Bagirmi [[bmi](#)].

Jaya [[jyy](#)] *Users*: 2,200 (1993 census). *Lg Use*: Shifting to Chadian Spoken Arabic [[shu](#)].

Kendeje [[klf](#)] *Users*: 1,860 (2000). *Lg Use*: Many shifting to Maba [[mde](#)]. Many shifting to Masalit [[mls](#)]. *Writing*: Unwritten.

Koke [kou] *Users*: 600 (1993 census). *Lg Use*: Most shifting to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Most shifting to Fania [fni].

Kujarge [vkj] *Users*: 1,000 (Bender 1983b). *Lg Use*: Many shifting to Dar Daju Daju [djc]. Many shifting to Fur [fvr].

Laal [gdm] *Users*: 750 (2000). Damtar village had its own dialect called Laabe with 3 speakers left in 1977. *Lg Use*: Shifting to Bagirmi [bmi]. Used as L2 by Boor [bvf]. *Lg Dev*: Grammar.

Maslam [msv] *Lg Use*: Shifting to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Writing*: Latin script, developed in 1997, experimental usage. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 250.

Mser [kqx] *Lg Use*: The people of Klesem village no longer speak Mser. Most shifting to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. Most shifting to Yerwa Kanuri [knc]. *Writing*: Latin script, developed in 1999, experimental usage. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 500.

Sarua [swy] *Users*: 2,000 (1997 SIL). *Lg Use*: Most shifting to Bagirmi [bmi].

8a (Moribund)

Goundo [goy] *Users*: 30 (1998). *Lg Use*: Older adults only. Shifted to Kabalai [kvf]. Also use Nancere [nnc]. *Writing*: Unwritten.

Mbara [mpk] *Users*: 1,000 (Tourneux et al 1986). *Lg Use*: Shifted to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Lg Dev*: Grammar.

Miltu [mlj] *Users*: 270 (1993 census). *Lg Use*: Shifted to Bagirmi [bmi].

Toram [trj] *Users*: 8,460 (2000). *Lg Use*: Shifted to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu].

8b (Nearly extinct)

Buso [bso] *Users*: 40 (Welmers 1971a). *Lg Use*: Shifted to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu].

Fongoro [fgr] *Users*: A few elderly speakers (Dimmendaal and Voeltz 2007). Ethnic population: 1,000 (Dimmendaal and Voeltz 2007). *Lg Use*: Older adult speakers may remain living in isolated places. No remaining speakers in Sudan. Shifted to Fur [fvr].

Massalat [mdg] *Users*: 10 (1991 R. Blench). Ethnic population: 29,800 (1993 census). *Lg Use*: Shifted to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu].

Noy [noy] *Users*: 36 (1993 census). *Lg Use*: Shifted to Sar [mwm] (Boyd 1989).

10 (Extinct)

Berakou [bxv] *Users*: No known L1 speakers. Last known speakers survived into the late 1990s (1995 D. Djarangar). *Lg Use*: Shifted to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu].

Horo [hor] *Users*: No known L1 speakers. Probably became extinct in the early 20th century. *Lg Use*: Shifted to Ngam [nmc], the Kle dialect.

Mabire [mu] *Users:* No known L1 speakers. Last fluent speaker may have survived into the early 2010s. *Lg Use:* All shifted to Chadian Spoken Arabic [shu]. *Writing:* Unwritten.

Muskum [mje] *Users:* No known L1 speakers. The last speaker survived into the late 1970s. *Lg Use:* Shifted to Musgu [mug].

Languages by Region

This index gives an alphabetical listing of the top-level administrative subdivisions within Chad. Under the name of each region is a list of the language communities that are located within its area.

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This index gives an alphabetical listing of the linguistic classifications used for the established languages of Chad. The entries in this index represent the full path in the linguistic family tree from the highest level grouping down to the lowest. All the languages listed in the same entry are members of the same lowest-level subgroup. The referenced page contains the main entry that describes the language.

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Language Code Index

This index gives an alphabetical listing of all 133 three-letter codes that are used in this work to uniquely identify languages. The referenced page contains the main entry that describes the language. All codes listed are part of the ISO 639-3 standard; see <http://www.sil.org/iso639-3/>.

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mub	Mubi, 31	trj	Toram, 37
mug	Musgu, 32	tug	Tunia, 37
muj	Mabire, 26	tui	Tupuri, 38
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This index lists every name that appears in the language listings as a primary or alternate name of a language or dialect. The following abbreviations are used in the index entries: *alt.* ‘alternate name for’; *alt. dial.* ‘alternate name for a dialect of’; *dial.* ‘primary name for a dialect of’; *pej. alt.* ‘pejorative alternate name for’; and *pej. alt. dial.* ‘pejorative alternate name for a dialect of’. Each index entry resolves to the primary name for the language with which the indexed name is associated, followed by square brackets containing the unique three-letter language code from ISO 639-3. The referenced page contains the main entry that describes the language. If the language appears on a map, the entry for the primary name also lists page numbers for the maps on which the language occurs.

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