

LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (LAN)

(Speak your language, or lose your language)

LIST OF NIGERIAN LANGUAGES SPOKEN BY LESS THAN 5,000 PEOPLE

S/No	Language	State	Text	Population	Source/Date
1.	Abanyom	Cross River State, Ikom LGA.	D.O	3,850	1953 Census
2.	Aduge	Kwara State, Oyun LGA.	C & B	1,904	-
3.	Agoi	Cross River State, Which LGA.	D.O	3,650	1953 Census
4.	Ake (Akye) (Aike)	Nassarawa State, Lafia LGA.	C & B	354	Meek (1925)
5.	Ambo	Taraba State, Sardauna LGA.	C & B	A Single Village East of Bassa	-
6.	Amo (Amon, Among)	Plateau State, Bassa LGA; Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA.	C & B	3,550	1950 NAT
7.	Aten	Plateau State, Jos Div, Jal District; Kaduna State, Jema'a LGA, Moroa LGA.	D.O	4,000	No Date HDG
8.	Awak (Awok)	Gombe, Kaltungo LGA, 10 Km North of Kaltungo.	C & B	2,035	1962 Census
9.	Ayu (Aya)	Kaduna State Jema'a LGA.	C & B	2,642	Ames 1934)
10.	Baa (Nyaa Baa)	Adamawa State, Lamura LGA, Gyakan and Kwa Towns after Munga.	C & B	1,000	1973 SIL
11.	Baan (Bann-Ogoi)	Rivers State, Gokona-Tai-Elemo LGA, Bac-Ogoni Plus Villages.	C & B	Less than 5,000	1990 Census
12.	Bakpinka (Iyongiyong)	Cross River State, Akamkpa LGA.	C & B	Said to be Dying out	-
13.	Bali (Biaali)	Adamawa State, Demsa LGA, at Bali A Single Village South of Jalingo.	C & B	1,000	SIL

14.	Basa Gumna	Niger State, Chanchaga LGA.	C & B	Two Known Speakers	1987 Blench Field N/B
15.	Basa-Kontago	Niger State, Mairiga LGA, N.E of Kontagora.	C & B	More than 10 Speakers	1997 Blench Field Notes
16.	Basa-Gurmana	Niger State, Boarder of Rafi & Chanchaga LGAs, Kafin Gurmana .	C & B	More than 2,000	Blench Field Notes 1987
17.	Baushi	Niger State, Minna LGA, Kata and Tegina Districts .	D.O	2,650	1949 HDG
18.	Baya	Taraba State, Mambilla LGA, Gashaka LGA but mainly in Cameroon.	D.O.	200	1965 LA
19.	Beele	Bauchi State,	C & B	A Few Villages	1992 Temple
20.	Bete	Taraba State, Wukari LGA, Bete Town.	C & B	Language dying out	-
21.	Bile	Adamawa State, Demsu LGA, 25 Km South of Numan, East of Wukari Road.	C & B	1,000	SIL
22.	Bina	Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA .	C & B	200 2,000	1949 NAT 1973 SIL
23.	Bitare	Taraba State, Sardauna LGA, Near Baissa, and in Cameroon.	C & B	700 in Cameroon 3,000 in NIG	1987 SIL 1973 SIL
24.	Burak	Gombe State, Kaltungo LGA, Burak Town.	C & B	4,000	1992 Estimate
25.	Bure	Bauchi State, Darazo LGA.	C & B	A Single Village. South- East of Darazo Town..	1992 Leger
26.	Caktem-Mu-Shere	Plateau State, Mangu.	C & B	5,000	SIL
27.	Cara	Plateau State, Bassa LGA.	C & B	735	1936 HDG

28.	Cen Tuum	Plateau State, Balanga LGA, Cham Town.	C & B	A Small no. of Old People among the Digim	1992 Kleine- Willing Hooper
29.	Chokobi	Plateau State, Jos LGA, Jere District.	D.O	425	1936 HDG
30.	Ciwogai	Bauchi State, Ningi and Darazo LGAs.	C & B	3,000	1977 Slinner
31.	Cori	Kaduna State, Jema'a LGA.	C & B	A Single Village Associated Hamlets	1990 Blench
32.	Dara	Adamawa State, Mubi and Bahuli LGAs.	C & B	Less than 1,000	-
33.	Daza	Bauchi State, Darazo LGA.	C & B	A Few Villages	1978 Schum
34.	Defaka	Rivers State, Bonny LGA, Ward of Nkoro Town and Iwoma Nkoro	C & B	Less than 1,000	Williamson 1988 SIL
35.	Dendi	Kebbi State, Argungu and Bagudo LGAs, mostly in Benin Republic and Niger.	C & B	839	1975 Meek
36.	Diri	Bauchi State, Ningi and Darazo LGAs.	C & B	3,750	1971 LA
37.	Duguzo	Bauchi State, Toro LGA.	C & B	500	1971 LA
38.	Dulbu	Bauchi State, Bauchi LGA.	C & B	80	1971 LA
39.	Dungu	Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA.	C & B	310	1949 NAT
40.	Emhalhe	Edo State, Akoko Edo LGA.	C & B	249	1922 Temple
41.	Etulo	Benue State, Gboko LGA, Taraba State, Wukari LGA.	C & B	2,900	1982 RGA

42.	Fam	Taraba State, Bali LGA, 17Km East of Kungana.	C & B	Less than 1,000	1984 Blench Field Notes
43.	Firan	Plateau State, Barkin Ladi LGA, at Kwakwi Station South of Jos.	C & B	Less than 1,000	1991 Regnier
44.	Fungwa	Niger State, Rafi LGA at Gulbe, Gabi Turkurbe, Urenciki, Renge and Utana.	C & B	900	1949 HDG
45.	Fyer	Plateau State, Mangu LGA.	C & B	1,500	1970
46.	Gbaya	Taraba State, Bali LGA, near Confluence of Benue and Taraba Rivers, but mainly in Cameroon & Central African Republic.	C & B	200	1965 LA
47.	Geruma	Bauchi State, Toro and Darazo LGAs.	C & B	4,700	1971 LA
48.	Gubi	Bauchi State, Bauchi LGA, Zungur District.	D.O	300	1971 LA
49.	Gudu	Adamawa State, Song LGA, 12Km West of Song.	C & B	1,200	1971 LA
50.	Gurmana	Niger State, Shiroro LGA, Gurmana Town and Nearby Hamlets.	C & B	More than 3,000	1989
51.	Gvoko	Borno State, Gwoza LGA, Adamawa State, Michika LGA.	C & B	2,500 4,300	1973 SIL
52.	Gwa	Bauchi State, Toro LGA.	C & B	Less than 1,000	1971 LA

53.	Gwamhiwuri	Kebbi State, Easugu LGA, Gwamhi around Danko Town and Wuri around Waga Town	C & B	Two People without LG	1992 Regnier
54.	Gyem	Bauchi State, Toro LGA, Lame LGA.	C & B	100	1971 LA
55.	Holma	Adamawa State, Spoken North of Sorau on the Cameroon Border	C & B	4 Speakers	1987 Blench
56.	Horom	Plateau State, Mangu LGA.	C & B	500	1973 SIL
57.	Hungworo	Niger State, Rafi LGA, around Kagara and Maikujeri Towns.	C & B	1,000	1949 HDG
58.	Idon	Kaduna State, Jema'a LGA.	C & B	Small	-
59.	Idun	Kaduna State, Jema'a LGA.	C & B	1,500	1949 NAT
60.	Iyive	Benue State, Kwande LGA, Near Turan and in Cameroon.	C & B	2,000	Gray Wordlist
61.	Izora	Plateau State, Bassa LGA.	C & B	425	1936 HDG
62.	Janji	Plateau State, Jos LGA, Rukuba District.	D.O	360	1950 NAT
63.	Jara	Borno State, Biu LGA, Gombe State, Akko LGA.	C & B	4,000	SIL
64.	Jimbin	Bauchi State, Bauchi LGA, Ganjuwa District.	D.O	1,500	1971 LA
65.	Jimi	Bauchi State, Darazo LGA.	C & B	50 400	1974 LA 1973 SIL

66.	Jorto	Plateau State, Shendam LGA, at Dokan Kasuwa.	C & B	4,876	1934 AMES
67.	Ju	Bauchi State, Bauchi LGA.	C & B	150	1971 LA
68.	Kaivi	Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA.	C & B	650	1949 NAT
69.	Kam	Taraba State, Bali LGA, Mayokam and Kamijim Villages only.	C & B	583 More than 1,000	1987
70.	Kamantam	Kaduna State, Kachia LGA, Zango Katab District.	D.O	3,600	1949 NAT
71.	Kamkam	Taraba State, Mambilla LGA, Kamkam Town and in Cameroon.	D.O	800	W & B
72.	Kamo	Gombe State, Gombe LGA, Kaltungo and West Tangale District.	D.O	3,000	
73.	Karfa	Nassarawa State, Akwanga LGA.	C & B	800	SIL
74.	Kariya	Bauchi State, Darazo LGA, at Wuro, 30 South- East of Ningi.	C & B	2,200 3,000	1971 LA 1977 Skimer
75.	Kholok	Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA, Near Didango.	C & B	2,500	1977 Voegelin & Voegelin
76.	Kiballo	Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA, Kaura District.	D.O	335	1949 NAT
77.	Kinuku	Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA.	C & B	460 500	1949 NAT 1973 SIL
78.	Kiong	Cross River State, Odukpani and Akamkpa LGAs.	C & B	Spoken only by Old People	

79.	Kir-Balar	Bauchi State, Bauchi LGA.	C & B	360	1971 LA (Kir only)
80.	Kitimi	Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA, Kaura District.	D.O	635	1949 NAT
81.	Koenoem	Plateau State, Shendam LGA.	C & B	1,898 3,000	1934 AMES SIL
82.	Koma Cluster	Adamawa State, Ganye and Fufore LGAs, to the Alantika Mountains, also in Cameroon.	C & B	3,000	1982 SIL
83.	Kono	Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA.	C & B	1,550	1949 NAT
84.	Kubi	Bauchi State, Darazo LGA, 40Km, North East of Bauchi Town.	C & B	1,090 500	1922 Femple 1973 SIL
85.	Kudu-Camo Cluster	Bauchi State, Ningi LGA.	C & B	Languages almost dead. No longer in current use.	
86.	Kugama	Adamawa State, Mayo Belwa LGA.	C & B	Small	
87.	Kugbo	Bayelsa State, Brass LGA.	D.O	2,000	1973 SIL
88.	Kutin	Adamawa State, Adamawa LGA, Binyeri District.	D.O	400	
89.	Kutto	Gombe State, Bajoga LGA, Yobe State, Gujba LGA.	C & B	Less than 3,000	1990 Leger
90.	Kuturmi	Kaduna State, Kachia LGA.	C & B	2,950	1949 NAT
91.	Kuzamani	Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA, Kaura District.	D.O	765	1949 NAT
92.	Laka	Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA, at Lan, Yola LGA, and mainly in Cameroon	C & B	460 500	1952 1973 SIL

93.	Lame Cluster	Bauchi State, Toro LGA, Lame LGA.	C & B	2,000	1973 SIL
94.	Laru	Niger State, Borgu LGA.	C & B	1,300 1,000	1950 NAT 1973 SIL
95.	Leclau	Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA, 15 Km East of Karim C & B Lamido Town.	C & B	One Village and Associate Hamlets	
96.	Lemoro	Plateau State, Bassa LGA, Bauchi State, Toro LGA.	C & B	2,950	1936 HDG
97.	Lere Cluster	Bauchi State, Toro LGA.	C & B	765 1,000	1949 NAT 1973 SIL
98.	Leyigha	Cross River State, Obubra LGA.	C & B	3,150	1953
99.	Lopa	Taraba State, Sardauna LGA, Mambilla Uplands, Mainly in Cameroon	C & B	Few in Nigeria	
100.	Lopa	Niger State, Borgu LGA, Kebbi State, Yauri LGA.	C & B	960	1950 NAT
101.	Lotsu-Piri	Adamawa State, Lamurde LGA, Suwa LGA.	D.O	2,000	1952 Censu
102.	Lungu	Kaduna State, Jema'a LGA, Kwoi District.	D.O	1,500	1949 NAT
103.	Luri	Bauchi State, Bauchi LGA.	C & B	30	1973 SIL
104.	Maaka	Yobe State, Guba LGA, Bara Town and Associated Hamlets.	C & B	More than 4,000	1990
105.	Maghdi	Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA, A Section of the Widala.	C & B	Less than 2,000	1992

106.	Mala	Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA.	C & B	1,800	1948 NAT
107.	Mangas	Bauchi State, Bauchi LGA.	C & B	180	1973 LA
108.	Matakam	Borno State, Central Gwoza District, Primarily in Cameroon.	D.O	2,000	1963 Census
109.	Mboi-Cluster	Adamawa State, Song LGA.	C & B	3,200	1973 SIL
110.	Mbongno	Taraba State, Sardauna LGA, Kakara Town.	C & B	800 1,300	1952 W & B 1982 SIL
111.	Mburku	Bauchi State, Darazo LGA.	C & B	210 4,000	1947-50 1977 Skinner
112.	Mini	Bayelsa State, Brassa LGA.	C & B	3 Villages	
113.	Nandu-Tari	Kaduna State, Jema'a LGA.	C & B	4,000	1973 SIL
114.	Naraguta	Plateau State, Jos LGA, Gwong District.	D.O	2,580	HDG
115.	Ndoc-Cluster	Cross River State, Ikom LGA.	C & B	3,000	1953 Census
116.	Nggwahyi	Borno State, Askira Uba LGA.	C & B	One Village	
117.	Ngoshe Ndhang	Borno State, Central Gwoza LGA, Adamawa State, Mubi LGA, Madagalj LGA.	D.O	2,500	1963 Census
118.	Ngwaba	Adamawa State, Gombi LGA, at Fachi and Gudumiya	C & B	Less than 1,000	
119.	Ngwoi	Niger State, Minna Division, Tegina and Kwangoma LGA.	D.O	1,000	1949 HDG

120.	Nnam	Cross River State, Ikom and Ogoja LGAs.	D,O	1,230	1953 Census
121.	Nyam	Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA, at Andami Village.	C & B	A Single Village	
122.	Odut	Cross River State, Odukpani LGA.	C & B	700	1940 F & J
123.	Ogbogolo	Rivers State, Ahoada LGA.	C & B	One Town only	
124.	Oloma	Edo State, Akoko LGA.	C & B	353	1957 Bradury
125.	Otank	Cross River State, Obudu LGA, Benue State, Kwande LGA.	C & B	2,000 2,500	1953 Bohannan 1973 SIL
126.	Pai	Plateau State, Pankshin LGA, Dalong Town.	C & B	2,511 2,000	1934 AMES 1973 SIL
127.	Pere	Adamawa State, Fufore LGA.	C & B	Less than 4,000	
128.	Piti	Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA.	C & B	1,600	1950 NAT
129.	Piya-Kwonci-Cluster	Taraba State, Karim Lamido LGA, Near Didango.	C & B	2,500	1977 Voegelin & Voegelin
130.	Pongu	Niger State, Minna LGA, Tegina LGA.	D,O	3,675	1949 HDG
131.	Putai	Borno State, Damboa LGA.	C & B	Dying out	
132.	Pyapun	Plateau State, Shendam LGA.	C & B	4,635	
133.	Rumaya	Kaduna State, Saminaka Division, Kaura LGA.	D,O	1,800	1948 NAT
134.	Rurama (Ruma)	Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA.	C & B	2,200	1948 NAT

135.	Sabaru-Ewan-Igwe	Edo State, Akoko-Edo LGA.	C & B	3,775	1952 Census
136.	Sagamuk	Kebbi State, Sakaba LGA, Niger State, Mairiga and Kafi LGA, Kaduna State, Birnin Gwari LGA.	C & B	3,600	1949 G & C
137.	Shau	Bauchi State, Toro LGA, Village of Shau and Mana.	C & B	Almost extinct	
138.	Sheni	Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA.	C & B	Almost extinct	
139.	Shiki	Bauchi State, Bauchi LGA.	C & B	300	1971 LA
140.	Siri	Bauchi State, Darazo and Ningi LGAs.	C & B	2,000 3,000	1971 LA 1977 Skinner
141.	Somyewe	Taraba State, Sardauna LGA.	C & B	Less than 100	
142.	Sorko	Niger, Kwara and Kebbi States.	C & B	Almost extinct	
143.	Surubu	Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA.	C & B	1,950	1948 NAT
144.	Tambas	Plateau State, Mangu LGA.	C & B	3,000	SIL
145.	Tapshin	Bauchi State, Dass LGA.	C & B	One Village	
146.	Teda	Borno State, North Eastern LGAs.	C & B	Less than 2,000	
147.	Tsobo	Gombe State, Kaltungo LGA, Adamawa State, Lamurde LGA.	C & B	2,000	1952 Census
148.	Tumi	Kaduna State, Saminaka LGA.	C & B	635	1949 NAT
149.	Ura	Niger State, Minna Division, Kwongoma LGA.	D.O	900	1949 HDG

150.	Yashi'	Nassarawa State, Akwanga LGA.	C & B	400	SIL
151.	Ziriya	Bauchi State, Toro LGA, Kere and Ziriya.	C & B	Virtually extinct	
152.	Zumbun	Bauchi State, Darazo LGA.	C & B	1,500	1971 LA

REFERENCE

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

NAT	-	Native Authority Tribal Census
LA	-	Local Authority Records
W & B	-	Quoted by Westermann and Bryan, 1952
F & J	-	Quoted by Daryll Forde and G.I Jones, 1950
RGA	-	Quoted by Robert G. Armstrong, 1955
HDG	-	Quoted by H.D. Gunn, 1953/56
G & C	-	Quoted by Harold D. Gunn and F.B. Conant, 1960
C & B	-	Collected from Crozier and Bjench
DO	-	Collected from Debe Osaji
SIL	-	Summer Institute of Linguistics