

Endangered Languages

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Kalmuk

Kalmyk

- *Names:* Kalmyk, Kalmuk, Kalmuck, Kalmack, Qalmag, Kalmystskii, Jazyk...
- *Language Family:* Oirat (Mongolia)

Territory: Kalmykia





- *Other languages:* Russian
- *Number of speakers:* 80,500 in Russian (2010).
Population total all countries: 360,500.

<http://www.ethnologue.com/17/language/xal/>

- *Status:* 91% speak it as L1. A few children learn the language. Tibetan is religious language. Also use Russian
- *Writing:* Cyrillic script, adopted in 1924, used in Russia and Mongolia. Mongolian script . Todo style, used in China.
- *Structure:*

А а	Ә ә	Б б	В в	Г г	Һ һ	Д д	Е е	Ё ё	Ж ж
a	ə	бә	вә	гә	ha	дә	e	ё	жә
a	ä/ə	b	w	g	h/ġ	d	e, je-	ë/jo	ž/zh
[a]	[æ]	[b]	[w]	[g]	[ħ~ɣ]	[d]	[ɛ, jɛ]	[ɔ, jɔ]	[ʒ]
Ж ж	З з	И и	Й й	К к	Л л	М м	Н н	Ң ң	О о
жә	зә	и	ахр и	кә	эл	эм	эн	аң	о
ǰ/ʃ	z	i	j	k	l	m	n	ñ/ŋ/ng	o
[ɟʃ]	[z]	[i]	[j]	[k]	[l]	[m]	[n]	[ŋ]	[ɔ]
Ө ө	П п	Р р	С с	Т т	У у	Ү ү	Ф ф	Х х	Ц ц
ө	пә	эр	эс	тә	у	ү	эф	ха	цә
ö	p	r	s	t	u	ü	f	x/kh/ħ	c/ts
[œ]	[p]	[r]	[s]	[t]	[u]	[y]	[f]	[x]	[ts]
Ч ч	Ш ш	Щ щ	Ъ ъ	Ы ы	Ь ь	Э э	Ю ю	Я я	
че	ша	ща	үзгин	ы	жөөлн	э	ю	я	
č/ch	š/sh	šč	нерәдлһн	y	темдг	é-/e-	ju-	ja-	
[tʃ]	[ʃ]	[ʃtʃ]	”	[ɨ]	’ [ʲ]	[ɛ]	[ju]	[ja]	

Letter combinations

аа	әә	ии	ий	һһ	өө	уу	үү
aa	ää/өө	ii	ij	n’/ŋ	öö	uu	üü
[a:]	[æ:]	[i:]	[i:]	[n]	[œ:]	[u:]	[y:]

- *Variation*: The Kalmyk-Oirat Clear Script is written in vertical columns running from top to bottom and left to right. Each letter has a different shape depending where it appears in a word, and special letters are used for combinations

[illegible]

- *Grammar and dictionaries:* (Sources)
- *History language:* Its decline as a living language began after the Kalmyk people were deported en masse from their homeland in December 1943, as punishment for limited Kalmyk collaboration with the Nazis. In 1957, the Soviet government reinstated the Kalmyk Autonomous Oblast and later reestablished the Autonomous Republic of Kalmykia. The Kalmyk people were permitted to return to the Republic in 1957, 14 years after exile. The Russian language, however, was made the official language of the Republic, and Sovietization was imposed on the Kalmyk people, leading to drastic cuts in Kalmyk language education. During Perestroika the language was made official and revival started.

- *Education*: Kalmyk State University
(<http://www.kalmsu.ru/>)
- *Why endangered?* Russia, wars...
- *Intergenerational Language Transmission*: 4 (First language)
- *Proportion of speakers*: 3 (A majority)
- *Domains and use*: 3 (Many functions)
- *New Domains*: 3 (Few domains)
- *Written Materials*: 5 (Used in University)
- *Official attitudes*: 4 (Use Prestigious)
- *Community members attitude*: 4 (Most members support)

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