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KURUX LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT: THE JOURNEY HAS BEGUN

Language! The easiest way to express any feelings, maintain communication and represent one's identity. Albert Razin, an academic and activist from Russia, said *"If my language disappears tomorrow, I am ready to die today"*. From that statement, we can easily realize that language is connected with our emotions, our daily lifestyle, and our culture. However, the sad story is that every day so many languages are getting in danger of vanishing at any time. SIL Bangladesh, a very well-known organization in the field of linguistics, has been trying to preserve the language and culture of minority language communities living in Bangladesh.

The Kurux, a minority language community, living mainly in the northern part of Bangladesh (mostly in the Rangpur area), had been struggling with their language as they had no established written form for their language. In 2015 for the first time, SIL Bangladesh sat with the Kurux community people to start the process of language development with them. This process experienced the light of hope from 2019 to 2022 through several orthographies and material development workshops. The workshops succeeded in developing orthography and spelling rules for them .

Highlights



Youth Ambassadors Training

Youth Ambassadors Training

30 participants with the Mahali community.

Key Dates

June'22: Adolescent Health Care Animators' Refreshers Training with the Mahali, Oraon, Kol, Koch and the Hajong communities.

June'22: Couples Seminar with the Mahali, Kol, Koch, and the Hajong communities.

June'22: Youth Ambassadors Training with the Kol Community.

June'22: Field visit for Focus Group Discussion.

SIL Bangladesh helps communities achieve their

development goals while retaining their

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In addition, some children's materials for an MLE school which is under development and will be a great initiative to preserve their language through their future generations. In May 2022, SIL Bangladesh arranged a Writers Workshop for them where many young people, along with some middle-aged people, participated. For the first time, the Kurux community got the opportunity to participate in this type of workshop where they learned how to express their thoughts, experiences, and creativity in their own mother tongue (Kurux). During the workshop, participants developed the contents of local stories, poems, songs, historical events, village, culture, cooking recipes, and jokes. At the end of the workshop, it was observed that all the participants were happy. They were happy because they could write their language using the selected script (Bengali). The spelling rules shared with them during the workshop really helped them to write such items in their language in the correct way. SIL Bangladesh, along with the participants from the community, believes that, with this workshop, the journey has started for promoting the preservation of their language and they believe that this journey will give them a strong foundation for the future in regard to language development.

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Local Feeds of May

Kurux Material Editing Workshop



Kurux Material Editing Workshop
with the Kurux community.

Learning Circle Visit



Kurux Learning Circle Visit
with the Kurux community.

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LANGUAGE, EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT.

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