Forum for Language Initiatives (FLI)
Training and resource centre working to enable the language communities of northern Pakistan to preserve and promote their mother tongues
Background

- Founded in 2002
- Non-government and non-profit organization
- Formerly known as Frontier Language Institute
30 disadvantaged language groups in northern Pakistan

Language Families:
- Indo-Aryan
- Iranian
- Tibeto-Burman
- Nuristani
- An Isolate
Current involvement

17 language groups

- Balti
- Burushaski
- Dameli
- Gawri
- Gawarbati
- Gojri
- Hindko
- Indus Kohistani
- Kalasha
- Khowar
- Kundal Shahi
- Palula
- Shina
- Torwali
- Ushojo
- Wakhi
- Yidgha
Implemented mother-tongue-based multilingual education (MTB MLE) projects in 6 Language groups

- Gawri
- Palula
- Torwali
- Indus Kohistani
- Hindko
- Khowar
FLI’s publications also include information on

- Burushaski
- Kalasha
- Ormuri
- Pahari
Language map of FLI’s target area

Languages of northern Pakistan and surrounding regions

Map created with QGIS 2.18.4. Map design: Henrik Liljegren (2017). Produced for the Forum for Language Initiatives (FLI), with the right to display and distribute.
Language Relatedness in Target Region

**INDO-IRANIAN**

- Iranian
  - Western
    - Northwestern
      - Ormuri
  - Eastern
    - Southeastern
      - Pashto
      - Pamir
        - Wakhi
        - Yidgha
- Indo-Aryan
  - Northwestern Zone
    - Kashmiri
    - Lahnda
      - Hindko
      - Panjabi
    - Kunar
      - Dameli
      - Gawarbatı
    - Chitral
      - Kalasha
      - Khowar
    - Kohistani
      - Bateri
      - Chilisso
      - Gawri
      - Gouro
      - Indus-Kohistani
      - Torwali
  - Northern Zone
    - Nuristani
      - Kataviri-Kamviri
    - Western Pahari
      - Pahari-Potwari
  - Central Group
    - Domaaki
  - Central Zone
    - Rajasthani
    - Gojri

**SINO-TIBETAN**

- Tibeto-Burman
  - Himalayish
  - Tibeto-Kahauri
  - Tibetic
    - Tibetan
    - Western
      - Balti

**ISOLATE**

- Burushaski
Facilitation and Training

- Platform for mutual collaboration
- Advocacy for language development and Mother-tongue-based Multilingual Education (MLE)
- Publication of language and cultural resources
Facilitation and Training

Language Vitality and Revitalization

- Phonetics and Phonology
- Grammar
- Anthropology
- Methods of cultural research
- Dictionary making
- Writing systems
Facilitation and Training

- Literacy Resource Development
  - MLE committee training
  - MLE curriculum development
  - MLE teacher training
  - MLE supervisors training
Achievements

- First of its kind in the region
- Helped six language communities establish MTB MLE schools
- A growing library of books, articles and electronic resources available for research and consultation
- Website with information about the languages of the region
- Network of community-based organizations, GOs, NGOs and university departments in northern Pakistan who share a common vision
- Active on social media advocating for communities’ rights
Achievements

- Training Pakistani citizens to become master trainers in the areas of linguistics, anthropology, orthography and MLE.
- Enabling people to enable others
- Publishing a series of books and promotional materials in the fields mentioned above
- Helping to organize language-related conferences
- Promoting UN-sponsored International Mother Tongue Day and Literacy Day celebrations
- Advocating for language rights and multilingual education.
Publications

1. "پالولا چِلدُکم"
2. "کالام کو کُنستان کی رواپیکر تاریخ"
3. "Kalkatak: A Crossroads of Cultures in Chitral"
Publications
Publications

- Pahari and Pothwari: A sociolinguistic survey
  - Michael and Laura Lothers

- Building Local Capacity through Mentoring
  - A Short Guide for Mentors
  - Wayne A. Landorf

- Treasures of Seven Kings
  - Stories from Northern Pakistan
  - Edited by Mauri Sippel & Judith Davis

- Report on Local Names and Uses of Plants in Kalam Kohistan
  - Jean J. Covert
  - Esther S. Block-Bruner
  - Muhammad Ummar Sager
Contact

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