

Zealeem Leyew (Northern Mao) wird mit 1500 Euro gefördert

Northern Mao is among the least known and endangered languages and dialects of Ethiopia. It is spoken in Benishangul Regional State along the Ethio-Sudan border. According to the 1994 population and housing census, the number of speakers of northern Mao is around 2732. Recent linguistic reports have shown that a considerable number of the Mao people speak either Oromo or Amharic or both. Scholars believe that the underinvestigated state of the varieties of Mao spoken in the extreme western parts of Ethiopia makes it difficult to say exactly where these languages and varieties fit and how their linguistic structure look like. The main objective of this research is to collect extensive lexical data from northern Mao as well as other closely related varieties of the area.