

Yi people

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Yi
Alternative names:
<i>Nuosu</i>
Total population
6.6 million
Regions with significant populations
<u>China</u> : <u>Yunnan</u> , <u>Sichuan</u> , <u>Guizhou</u> , <u>Guangxi</u> ; <u>Vietnam</u> ; <u>Thailand</u>
Languages
<u>Yi</u>
Religions
<u>animism</u>
Related ethnic groups
<u>Naxi</u> , <u>Qiang</u>

The **Yi** people (own name in the Liangshan dialect: ꞨꞨ, official transcription: *Nuosu*, IPA: /nɔ̃ s /; Chinese: 彝族; pinyin: Yìzú; the older name "Lolo" is now considered derogatory in China, though used officially in Vietnam as *Lô Lô* and in Thailand as Lolo) are a modern ethnic group in China, Vietnam, and Thailand. Numbering 6.6 million, they are the seventh largest of the 56 ethnic groups officially recognized by the People's Republic

of [China](#). They live primarily in rural areas of [Sichuan](#), [Yunnan](#), [Guizhou](#), and [Guangxi](#), usually in mountainous regions. There are 3300 Lô Lô peoples (1999 statistics) live in [Hà Giang](#), [Cao Bằng](#) and [Lào Cai](#) provinces in Vietnam.

The Yi speak [Yi](#), a [Tibeto-Burman](#) language closely related to [Burmese](#), and have their own syllabic script.

Contents

- [1 History](#)
- [2 See also](#)
- [3 References](#)
- [4 External](#)

[links](#)

History

Legend has it that the Yi are descended from the ancient Qiang people of Western China, who are also said to be the ancestors of the [Tibetan](#), [Naxi](#) and [Qiang](#) peoples. They migrated from Southeastern [Tibet](#) through Sichuan and into Yunnan Province, where their largest populations can be found today.

They practice a form of [animism](#), led by a shaman priest known as the Bimaw. They still retain a few ancient religious texts written in their unique pictographic script. Their religion also contains many elements of [Daoism](#) and [Buddhism](#).

Many of the Yi in northwestern Yunnan practiced a complicated form of [slavery](#). People were split into the *nuohuo* or Black Yi (nobles) and *qunuo* or White Yi (commoners). White Yi and other ethnic groups were held as slaves, but the higher slaves were allowed to farm their own land, hold their own slaves and eventually buy their freedom.

See also

- [Mojikyo](#)

References

- Cheng Xiamin. *A Survey of the Demographic Problems of the Yi Nationality in the Greater and Lesser Liang Mountains*. *Social Sciences in China*. 3: Autumn 1984, 207-231.
- Dessaint, Alain Y. *Minorities of Southwest China: An Introduction to the Yi (Lolo) and Related Peoples*. (New Haven: HRAF Press, 1980).
- Du Ruofu and Vincent F. Vip. *Ethnic Groups in China*. (Beijing: Science Press, 1993).
- Harrell, Stevan, ed. *Cultural Encounters on China's Ethnic Frontiers. The History of the History of the Yi*. (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1995).
- Harrell, Stevan, ed. *Perspectives on the Yi of Southwest China*. (Berkeley / Los Angeles / London: University of California Press, 2001), [ISBN 0-520-21988-0](#).
- Ma Yin, ed. *China's Minority Nationalities*. (Beijing: Foreign Language Press, 1994).
- Zhang Weiwen and Zeng Qingnan. *In Search of China's Minorities*. (Beijing: New World Press).

External links

- [The Yi ethnic minority \(China.org.cn\)](#)
- [Yi Peoples of China](#)
- [Huge string instruments of the Yi](#)
- [Huge string instruments of the Yi](#)

Ethnic groups in China (as classified by the government of the People's Republic of China)[hide]

Achang • Bai • Blang • Bonan • Buyei • Dai • Daur • De'ang • Derung • Dong • Dongxiang • Evenk • Gaoshan • Gelao • Han • Hani • Hezhen • Hui • Jing • Jingpo • Jino • Kazakh • Kirgiz • Korean • Lahu • Lhoba • Li • Lisu • Manchu • Maonan • Miao • Monba • Mongol • Mulao • Nakhi • Nu • Oroqen • Pumi • Qiang • Russian • Salar • She • Shui • Tajik • Tatar • Tibetan • Tu • Tujia • Uyghur • Uzbek • Va • Xibe • Yao • **Yi** • Yugur • Zhuang • *Undistinguished ethnic groups*

Ethnic groups in Thailand

Akha • Bru • Cham • Chinese • Hmong • Karen • Khmer • Khmu • Kuy • Lahu • Lanna (Northern Thai) • Lao • Lawa • Lisu • **Lolo** (Yi) • Lü (Tai Lü) • Lua • Malay • Mani (Negrito) • Mlabri • Moken • Mon • Nyahkur (Nyah Kur, Chao-bon) • Palaung (De'ang) • **Phai** • Phu Thai • **Phuan** • **Saek** • Shan • **So** • Southern Thai • Tai Dam (Black Tai) • Tai Nüa • Thai • **Urak Lawoi** • Yao/lu Mien

Ethnic groups in Vietnam (sorted by language family)



Viet-Muong: Chut | Muong | Tho | Viet (Kinh)

Tay-Thai: **B•Y** | **Giáy** | Lao | **Lu** | Nung | San

Chay | Tay | Thai

Mon–Khmer: [Ba Na](#) | [Brau](#) | [Bru-Van Kieu](#) | [Cho](#)

[Ro](#) | [Co](#) | [Co Ho](#) | [Co Tu](#) | [Gie Trieng](#)

| [H're](#) | [Khang](#) | [Khmer](#) | [Kho Mu](#) |

[Ma](#) | [Mang](#) | [Mnong](#) | [O Du](#) | [Ro](#)

[Mam](#) | [Ta Oi](#) | [Xinh Mun](#) | [Xo Dang](#) |

[Xtieng](#)

Hmong–Dao: [Dao](#) | [Hmong](#) | [Pa Then](#)

Tai-Kadai: [Gelao](#) | [Lachi](#) | [Laha](#) | [Qabiao](#)

Malayo-Polynesian (Nhóm ngôn ngữ Nam Á): [Ch•m](#) | [Chu-ru](#) | [Ê-ê](#) | [Jarai](#) | [Ra-](#)

[glai](#)

Nhóm Hán: [Hoa](#) | [Ngái](#) | [Sán diu](#)

Tibeto-Burman (Nhóm T•ng): [C•ng](#) | [Hà Nhì](#) | [La H•](#) | [Lô Lô](#) | [Phù](#)

[Lá](#) | [Si La](#)

*This article about an **ethnic group in Asia** is a **stub**. You can **help** Wikipedia by **expanding it**.*



*This **China**-related article is a **stub**. You can **help** Wikipedia by **expanding it**.*

Categories: [Ethnic groups in China](#) | [Ethnic groups in Vietnam](#) | [Cultures in the standard cross cultural sample](#) | [Ethnic group in Asia stubs](#) | [China stubs](#)

This page was last modified 23:29, 2 February 2007. All text is available under the terms of the [GNU Free Documentation License](#). (See [Copyrights](#) for details.)

Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the [Wikimedia Foundation, Inc.](#), a US-registered [501\(c\)\(3\)](#)

tax-deductible nonprofit charity.
