



The Kokborok Language

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Members of the **Twipra Students' Federation (TSF)** were detained for protesting at the Tripura Assembly entrance, demanding the inclusion of the [Roman script for Kokborok \(a Sino-Tibetan language\)](#) in textbooks and official work.

- **Language and Community:** Kokborok, is the mother tongue of the **Borok people (Tripuris)** and tribal communities in Tripura, including **Debbarma, Reang, Jamatia,** and others.
- **Etymology:** "Kok-Borok" combines Kok (language) and Borok (man), meaning "the language of man" or "the language of the Borok people."
- **Script and Writing:** Kokborok originally used the **Koloma script** but now lacks a native script and is written in [Bengali script](#).
- **Historical Roots:** Existed since at least the 1st century AD. **Rajratnakar**, a chronicle of Tripuri kings, was initially written in Kokborok and Koloma script by **Durlobendra Chontai**.
- **Recognition:** Kokborok was recognised as the **official language of Tripura in 1979** (spoken by 23.97% of Tripura's population (2011 Census)), second only to **Bengali**.
- **Use of Roman Script:** Kokborok, favored by tribal groups, has been written in **Roman script for decades**. Two commissions, led by **Shyama Charan Tripura and Pabitra Sarkar**, supported Roman, while the government preferred Bengali.
 - Tribal organizations oppose **Bengali or Devanagari scripts**, fearing cultural imposition and identity disruption.

Read more: [NRC in Tripura](#)

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