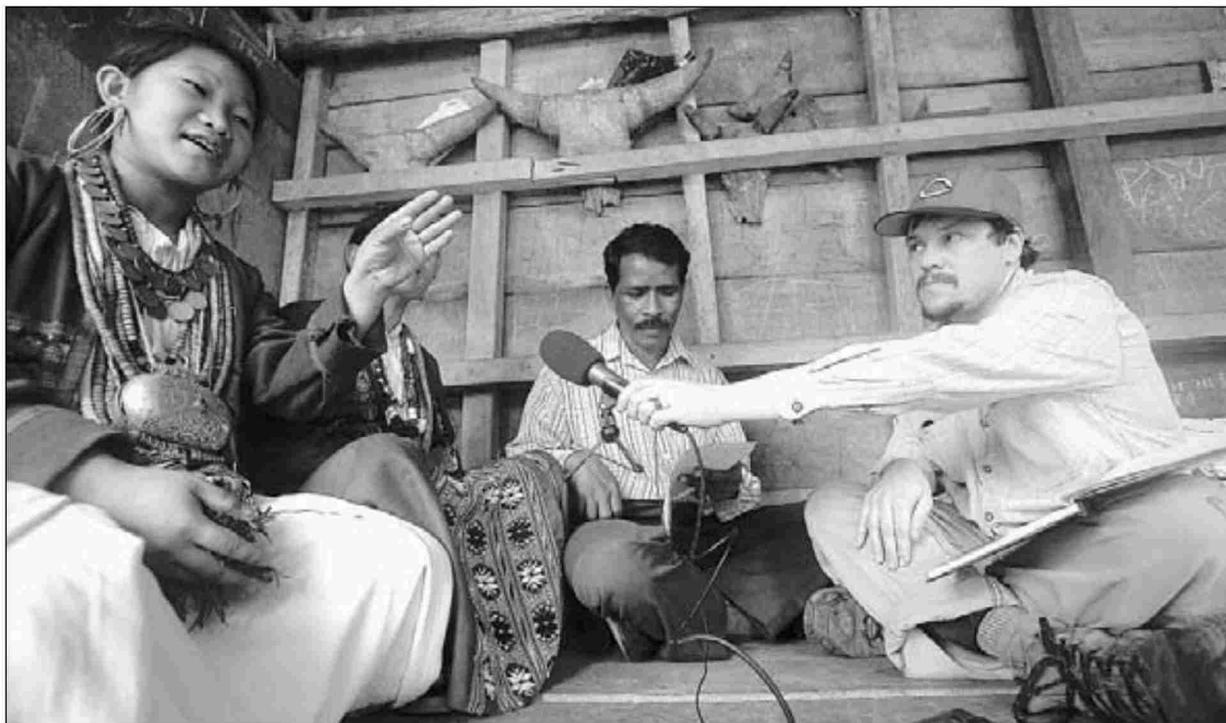


Unique language spoken by few surfaces in India

Koro, a previously unreported language spoken by only 800 to 1,200 people, has been discovered in the remote northeast corner of India. The region is known as hot spot of language diversity, and researchers were documenting some of the unwritten tongues there when they came across the new one. Kachim, far left, a speaker of the rare tongue, was recorded by National Geographic fellow Gregory Anderson. His research team said Koro is unlike any other language in the various branches of the Tibeto-Burman family, a collection of 400 related languages used by peoples across Asia. The expedition is featured in a new National Geographic book, "The Last Speakers," by K. David Harrison.

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