

## **Multilingualism in spoken and written language practices: Cases from Northwest China**

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Northwest China constitutes a case of linguistic diversity and multilingualism. The languages spoken in this area belong to the Sinitic, Turkic, Mongolic, and Tibetan families, and Standard Chinese is dominant in the public sphere. As a result, linguistic minorities deal with two or more languages in their daily life in several ways.

This lecture presents data on spoken and written language practices in the region, focusing in particular on Uyghur (spoken in Xinjiang), Amdo Tibetan and Wutun (spoken in the Qinghai-Gansu sprachbund). Looking at phenomena such as code switching and borrowing, as well as linguistic landscapes and social media practices, I discuss the contact situation and the language vitality of the region.