

Bugs & Wish list

Untranslateable text strings that cannot be found in the source code? | Tiki Wiki CMS Groupware :: Development
Untranslateable text strings that cannot be found in the source code?

Status

● Open

Subject

Untranslateable text strings that cannot be found in the source code?

Version

18.x

Category

- Consistency
- Less than 30-minutes fix

Feature

Admin Interface (UI)

Resolution status

New

Submitted by

hman

Lastmod by

hman

Rating

★★★★★ (0) ?

Description

There are text strings that resist being translated. But although they clearly show up on the admin UI, they cannot be found anywhere in the source code? How can that be?

Example: Stop words for unified search index (tiki-admin.php?page=search).

The preset value is



a,an,and,are,as,at,be,but,by,for,if,in,into,is,it,not,of,on,or,s,such,t,that,the,their,then,there,these,t
hey,this,to,was,will,with

But a grep through the entirety of Tiki Wiki sources yields no hit?! These values must be defined somewhere... And stop words, if they are not reserved magic keywords i.e. reserved by PHP or MySQL, would be language dependant and thus in need of localization... IMHO.

Importance

3

Easy to solve?

10 easy

Priority

30

Demonstrate Bug (Tiki 19+)

Please demonstrate your bug on show2.tiki.org

Version: trunk ▼

Demonstrate Bug (older Tiki versions)

Ticket ID

7450

Created

Thursday 30 July, 2020 16:32:40 GMT-0000

by hman

LastModif

Thursday 30 July, 2020 16:38:08 GMT-0000

Comments



hman 30 Jul 20 21:02 GMT-0000

Ah, found it (by chance). On line 292 of /lib/prefs/unified.php:



```
'default' => ["a", "an", "and", "are", "as", "at", "be", "but", "by", "for", "if", "in", "into", "is", "it", "not",  
"of", "on", "or", "s", "such", "t", "that", "the", "their", "then", "there", "these", "they", "this", "to",  
"was", "will", "with"],
```

And none is translated 😞



Jonny Bradley 31 Jul 20 09:20 GMT-0000

Hi hman

Getting the unified search to work in a different language is a complex thing, not just a matter of changing the stop words there are analysers, stemming and the like to consider, plus as you say, without a context would it be wise to translate "the" here?



hman 31 Jul 20 11:57 GMT-0000

Just as wise or unwise as to leave it completely untranslated, which is the status quo...



hman 31 Jul 20 15:19 GMT-0000

Btw., whenever I grep through the entirety of Tiki on the search for a "stubborn string", I can see

mostly hits in the Korean, Japanese and Spanish /lang directory. The other languages, even French, rarely produce a hit. So I suspect, albeit I cannot prove it, that the actual usage of Tikis localization is "rare". Few hits means that users of other languages than Korean, Japanese and Spanish must see most of Tiki in a mix of mostly English with a little local language, if they enable localization at all.

Many years ago, I have worked as a professional translator for a US software company, and according to their "international director", Germany was the biggest market outside the USA... (does the UK even get a localization from Tiki? ;-)



Jonny Bradley 31 Jul 20 16:11 GMT-0000

Somewhere there is a list of which per percentage of which languages have been translated, but i can't find now.

I did find this <https://i18n.tiki.org> and it looks like people have been busy there! I guess the documentation is very out of date, so please do help yourself (and others) by updating anything you find wrong!

We do also have a "proper" English translation, but sadly it's called `en-uk` (rather than the ISO approved `en-GB`) and i have in the past added correct spellings of *colour* and so on.

But on the whole you are correct, we have more languages than translators! (another reason for us to get you up to speed with committing files to tiki 🙏)



hman>Jonny Bradley 31 Jul 20 22:02 GMT-0000

Replied to
Somewhere...

Thanks for the input.

My analysis, when I look at the sorry state of the German translation, which is BY FAR much much much worse than I remembered it to be back on 12.14, is that the problem lies somewhere else.

The process of code generation of Tiki does not include the translators. So whoever contributed to the localization at one point in time NEVER gets notified of new strings on the GUI. Change a string by just one character - and the corresponding translation is immediately lost.

And new strings just pop up somewhere, and only with luck someone takes notice and translates them. And if that happens, the translation fixes go to `custom.php` and are lost with the next major upgrade, while the new text string in English mostly remain in the new code, so with every major release, the quality of ALL translations goes down, because knowledge gets lost. Correct me, if I'm wrong, but to me it seems to be that way.

One of the reasons why I made the feature request to be able to upload all those bits and pieces that users all over the world produce to improve `language.php`, which should be the major source of translation. Here on 18.6 German my `custom.php` now counts 1230 corrections and amendments and with 142 K has reached 1/6 the size of `language.php` and I

still haven't finished the second control panel...

Tiki needs a process that looks over text generation as it happens, and translations do need peer reviews, even (or especially) if users can in the future upload their custom.php.

The process of localization is painstakingly slow. I have to backtrack going through the entire GUI. Look at every function description, click on every checkbox (because new parameters may pop up), try all multiselects, only to discover that two ways to do settings for a function can result in a different set of options. I have to SEE IT ALL, and many times, from where I am at the moment I cannot clear caches, which is necessary after I made adjustments to custom.php and ftp uploaded it. And frequently I have to grep the entirety of Tiki to find a string's source, and sometimes I see things like nonprinting characters or Unicode.

Speaking as an ISTQB tester, errors found need tickets, to both document that an error was found, and who (and how) it got fixed, to prevent them in the future... Ideally tickets should be handled by those who wrote the code in question.

But you devs really need a tool that can make a "quick check" of code quality when it comes to translations. Strings without tra() could be identified automatically, and then affect all translations world-wide.

So, enough for today, been a (very) hot day over here.. Thanks for reading my lengthy remarks.



hman>Jonny Bradley 01 Aug 20 09:21 GMT-0000

Replied to
Somewhere...

I tried i18n.tiki.org, because luci pointed me there before. The main disadvantage is that it is impossible to enter anything for the admin GUI, because you need to be admin on i18n.tiki.org to see it...

If you say that somewhere there ought to be a listing with percentages, this would imply that someone made a definition of what 100% are, and this definition needs to be updated with each and every change of code...



hman>Jonny Bradley 01 Aug 20 09:40 GMT-0000

Replied to
Somewhere...



```
find . -name language.php -ls 270784 924 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 943034 Jun 12 17:42
./ko/language.php 270718 24 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 21830 Jun 12 17:41
./ar/language.php 270710 1 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 74 Jun 12 17:41 ./bg/language.php
270846 1052 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 1074670 Jun 12 17:41 ./ca/language.php 270714 88 -
rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 89137 Jun 12 17:41 ./cn/language.php 270638 144 -rwxrwxrwx 1
```

```

root root 144159 Jun 12 17:42 ./cs/language.php 270834 32 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 32017
Jun 12 17:42 ./cy/language.php 270821 76 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 75714 Jun 12 17:42
./da/language.php 271699 892 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 911623 Jul 27 13:08
./de/language.php 270817 20 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 19675 Jun 12 17:42
./el/language.php 270838 1 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 38 Jun 12 17:42 ./en/language.php
270646 24 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 22960 Jun 12 17:42 ./en-uk/language.php 270695 332 -
rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 339120 Jun 12 17:42 ./es/language.php 270776 160 -rwxrwxrwx 1
root root 161451 Jun 12 17:42 ./fa/language.php 270679 132 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root
135153 Jun 12 17:42 ./fi/language.php 270683 8 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 5427 Jun 12
17:42 ./fj/language.php 270755 772 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 789774 Jun 12 17:42
./fr/language.php 270853 4 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 3388 Jun 12 17:42 ./fy-
NL/language.php 270651 128 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 128970 Jun 12 17:42
./gl/language.php 270772 184 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 184743 Jun 12 17:42
./he/language.php 270659 68 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 69127 Jun 12 17:42
./hr/language.php 270750 220 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 224901 Jun 12 17:42
./hu/language.php 270702 8 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 4938 Jun 12 17:42 ./id/language.php
270829 20 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 18978 Jun 12 17:42 ./is/language.php 270642 68 -
rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 69058 Jun 12 17:42 ./it/language.php 270734 1 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root
root 40 Jun 12 17:42 ./iu/language.php 270792 1 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 165 Jun 12 17:42
./iu-iq/language.php 270667 1 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 165 Jun 12 17:42 ./iu-
ro/language.php 270809 80 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 80233 Jun 12 17:42 ./ja/language.php
270671 1 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 366 Jun 12 17:42 ./lt/language.php 270690 144 -
rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 146324 Jun 12 17:42 ./nds/language.php 270675 140 -rwxrwxrwx 1
root root 140193 Jun 12 17:42 ./nl/language.php 270780 96 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 95830
Jun 12 17:42 ./no/language.php 270726 76 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 75689 Jun 12 17:42
./pl/language.php 270805 132 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 131630 Jun 12 17:42
./pt/language.php 270722 216 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 220594 Jun 12 17:42 ./pt-
br/language.php 270746 1 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 336 Jun 12 17:42 ./rm/language.php
270622 12 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 10359 Jun 12 17:42 ./ro/language.php 270706 232 -
rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 236547 Jun 12 17:42 ./ru/language.php 270766 80 -rwxrwxrwx 1
root root 79652 Jun 12 17:42 ./sb/language.php 270801 4 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 1911 Jun
12 17:42 ./si/language.php 270634 72 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 73661 Jun 12 17:42
./sk/language.php 270663 72 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 73461 Jun 12 17:42 ./sl/language.php
270742 4 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 3797 Jun 12 17:42 ./sq/language.php 270762 80 -
rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 81726 Jun 12 17:42 ./sr-latn/language.php 270797 96 -rwxrwxrwx
1 root root 96709 Jun 12 17:42 ./sv/language.php 270630 1 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 69 Jun
12 17:42 ./th/language.php 270813 4 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 1901 Jun 12 17:42
./tr/language.php 270788 8 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 4499 Jun 12 17:42 ./tv/language.php
270626 64 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 64935 Jun 12 17:42 ./tw/language.php 270687 100 -
rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 101655 Jun 12 17:42 ./uk/language.php 270738 4 -rwxrwxrwx 1
root root 2756 Jun 12 17:42 ./ur/language.php 270655 80 -rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 80525
Jun 12 17:42 ./vi/language.php

```

So guessing by the size, only Korean, Catalan (and not Spanish), German and partly French could be called "translated to some degree". And I guess en-uk, because it will default back to the en-us base. To my astonishment Japanese is not among them, maybe I have -so far- just seen the lucky ones.



hman 07 Aug 20 15:27 GMT-0000

Also unfindable in the source code: The source where the "series" for drawing graphics from spreadsheet gets its text. There are parameters "label", "color" and "style" that seem to be defined nowhere, so they cannot be localized... Also, the function of the parameters x, y0-y4 is a mystery to me. The first three parameters can be found in a very old documentation of graphics, but not those additional params. It can be guessed (!) that x and y0 define the rows/columns that contain the data to be plotted, but what about y1-y4? Are they simply second (third. and so forth) rows of data? A help text would be much needed here...

Attachments

filename	created	hits	comment	version	filetype
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No attachments for this item

The original document is available at
<https://dev.tiki.org/item7450-Untranslateable-text-strings-that-cannot-be-found-in-the-source-code>