Cette bibliographie thématique est composée d’un ensemble de travaux scientifiques : ouvrages, articles, chapitres de livres, thèses, etc. portant sur la langue et les sociétés africaines. Ces travaux ont été publiés entre 2000 et 2010 et issus des bases de données essentielles et pertinentes des sciences sociales et humaines de la bibliothèque de l’université Laval notamment FRANCIS, sociological abstracts, Ageline, AnthropologyPlus, etc. Pour chaque écrit, nous avons présenté la référence bibliographique, un résumé et les mots-clés.

On s’est intéressé aux travaux qui identifient la place de la langue dans les sociétés africaines. La plupart des travaux référencés ici mettent en évidence les liens entre les sociétés africaines et la langue. Ainsi, on a pu écartier, entre autres, les travaux de linguistes abordant la langue du point de vue lexical, phonétique ou didactique.

En tant que moyen de communication, la langue joue un rôle important dans toutes les sociétés. En ce qui concerne l’Afrique, plusieurs enjeux (politique, économique, culturel, social, etc.) sont associés à la langue. A cet effet, on pourrait évoquer la langue comme un révélateur du social entendu comme un ensemble d’éléments constitutifs des sociétés africaines. Il faut souligner cependant que peu de travaux notamment les recherches démographiques, se sont peu intéressés à la langue dans le contexte africain privilégiant l’ethnie, concept dont les frontières restent difficiles à saisir. Par exemple, on a pu constater qu’aucun écrit de la revue de l’Union pour l’Étude de la Population Africaine (UEPA) n’a défini la langue comme une variable. Ceci témoigne du manque d’intérêt voire de la difficulté des sciences sociales en général et de la démographie en particulier à aborder la langue sans l’associer à l’ethnie.

Abstract

Political parties in Kenya reached a fragile but potentially historic agreement in March 2008 paving the way for an end to the violence that has wracked the country. The Kenyan government and international observers accused some media organizations, particularly local language radio stations, of fanning the violence. Based on a series of 20 semistructured interviews with senior media figures in Kenya, this article analyzes the role of the media in the lead up to and during the recent crisis.

Keywords: East Africa, elections, ethnicity, radio, violence


Abstract

The interest of social sciences towards the interactions between ICT, language & knowledge is not new. However, the intelligibility of an epistemological construction of these interactions within the framework of globalization has not been studied in depth yet. This article tries to tackle this epistemological void by examining specifically the issue of African languages in the process of structuring & spreading global knowledge as well as local knowledges. These two types of knowledge, each in its own way, try to get a new status by filtering into the different knowledge markets. With that aim, they take advantage of the renewal of Western interest towards African consumers of scientific information. Therefore, policies concerning knowledge productivity & circulation are being set up within strategies of epistemological standardization. At the same time, the "linguistic & cultural diversity" fashion, which was supposed to protect local languages & knowledges, could eventually turn them into simple ethnic items. Adapted from the source document.

Keywords: knowledge; epistemology; cultural pluralism; linguistics; markets; productivity

Abstract

This monograph describes the language planning situation in Nigeria, one of the most multilingual countries in Africa. It is divided into four sections. The first section presents the language profile of Nigeria and provides a background of the general language situation in the country. The second section discusses language spread and use. It focuses particularly on language in education and the media. The core section of the monograph investigates language policy and planning, with an emphasis on the mother tongue medium (or first language) policy and the multilingual policy. The fourth discusses language maintenance and language shift in Nigeria with respect to the indigenous languages and English, the exoglossic language. It shows that in spite of the first-language and multilingual policies, English is still dominant in virtually every aspect of life and that concrete policy actions need to be taken not only to begin to break the hegemony of English but also to ensure that indigenous languages have a secure future. The final section also provides some practical insight on ways to begin to resolve some of the problems posed by Nigeria's language policies.

Keywords: language maintenance ; language planning ; language policy ; language shift ; language spread ; language use ; Nigeria


Abstract

The South African social transition was accompanied by widespread media reform. Community radio stations were for the first time, set up to empower communities previously without access to the media. More than a hundred radio stations were licensed, and further provision was made for community television, even if it was nearly a decade later before there was any discernible movement in the area of community television. The paper addresses concerns about media, politics and identity struggles, viewed through the lens of community radio. While there is a wealth of literature analysing the development of various aspects of the South African media over the last decade, few, if any, studies specifically consider the role of
community media. Set up after elections in 1994, expressly to create spaces for the articulation of marginal or "disadvantaged" groups, the community radio sector in South Africa has mushroomed, with nearly a hundred stations currently licensed. This paper will explore the ways in which community radio has facilitated the construction of new identities. Adopting a case-study approach, the paper considers community radio station Bush Radio, discussing how the station interpellates diverse identities through its programming. In the Pink, for example, creates a space for the articulation of various gay identities, while the Children's Radio Education Workshop becomes a mediated space for youth in the new political dispensation to form a generational consciousness. The intersection of class, culture and language at Bush Radio, and on its airwaves, often results in the constant (re)negotiation of identities. Furthermore, the paper also reflects on the religious or community-of-interest community radio stations, and argues that these stations further serve the purpose of identity building. The resultant listener loyalty results in increased sustainability; they serve the purpose of therapy or confession, giving listeners an outlet for frustrations; and finally, religious community radio stations become a virtual church, transcending physical boundaries and resulting in instantaneous religious community building.

Keywords: social change ; social impact assessment ; social responsibility of business ; radio broadcasting policy; radio broadcasting ; public broadcasting ; access to information


Abstract

What social classes profit from the continued use of European languages in Africa? Who loses out? The focus here is not only on the language use in education but also on the language use in the courts and in the political domain. Examples are mostly taken from Tanzania and South Africa where the author conducts two research projects within the area of language and education. Two irreconcilable trends are discussed: the one moving in the direction of globalization, a capitalist market economy, and the strengthening of the former colonial languages; and the other being genuinely concerned with good governance, democracy, poverty alleviation, and social justice, the ingredients of what we would call
positive peace or the absence of structural violence. 47 References. Adapted from the source document.

Keywords: language usage ; social class ; globalization ; Africa ; colonialism ; governance ; South Africa ; Tanzania ; social justice


Abstract

The theme of this book cuts across disciplines. Contributors to this volume are specialized in education and especially classroom research as well as in linguistics, most being transdisciplinary themselves. Around 65 sub-Saharan languages figure in this volume as research objects: as means of instruction, in connection with teacher training, language policy, lexical development, harmonization efforts, information technology, oral literature and deaf communities. The co-existence of these African languages with English, French and Arabic is examined as well. This wide range of languages and subjects builds on recent field work, giving new empirical evidence from 17 countries: Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe, as well as to transnational matters like the harmonization of African transborder languages. As the Editors--a Norwegian social scientist and a Norwegian linguist, both working in Africa---have wanted to give room for African voices, the majority of contributions to this volume come from Africa.

Keywords: african languages ; language planning ; multicultural education ; beginning reading ; sign language ; official languages ; multilingualism ; educational quality ; deafness ; interdisciplinary approach ; comparative analysis ; foreign countries ; sociolinguistics ; language Role ; global approach ; language of instruction ; teacher education ; language teachers ; second language learning ; second languages ; educational policy ; computer mediated communication ; bilingual education ; bilingualism ; islam

Abstract
Although South Africa is committed to a policy of linguistic diversity, the language-in-education policy is still plagued by the racialization of language issues under apartheid and, more recently, by new challenges posed by internal African migration. Drawing on the experience of a school in the Western Cape Province, this paper explores the role of language profiles in a speaker-centered approach to school language policy. Attention is paid to the ways in which the attribution of learners to clear-cut linguistic categories - in this case English and Afrikaans - and their 'monolingualization' within the process of literacy learning are at odds with both their everyday experiences of language and their linguistic aspirations. Using biographic and topological multimodal approaches with 13- to 15-year-old students at the school, it makes a contribution to the growing corpus of research that foregrounds the learner perspective and emphasizes emotional dimensions of literacy and language learning. Adapted from the source document

Keywords: South Africa; language policy; educational policy; multilingualism; English; Afrikaans; African languages


Résumé
La radio aurait été sous-estimée en Afrique de l'Ouest ? Une telle suggestion peut surprendre tant la place de la radio dans les sociétés africaines a été célébrée. L'objet de cet article n'est pas de contredire cette assertion mais plutôt de l'expliciter et d'en renouveler l'argumentation. L'étude des médias en Afrique se caractérise par une occidentalisation des perspectives qui a conduit à des prismes d'analyse, sources de mauvaise appréhension du fait médiatique africain. En renouvelant la notion d'accessibilité, en recentrant l'analyse sur les publics et en intégrant les pratiques médiatiques actuelles, comme les revues de presse en langues nationales africaines, cet article souligne le rôle original de carrefour qu'occupe aujourd'hui la radio.
Résumé

À partir d'un échange opposant l'imam d'un village kabyle au Cheikh Hamani et portant sur la légitimité du recours à la langue berbère dans les prêches religieux, cet article analyse les transformations très importantes qui ont affecté le champ religieux kabyle (et plus largement algérien) avec la fonctionnarisation du statut d'imam, la rénovation des mosquées et le développement du prône du vendredi. Alors que le mouvement berbère est le plus souvent présenté comme un mouvement « laïc » construit autour de revendications culturelles et linguistiques, il apparaît que la société kabyle a connu une période d'arabisation et d'intensification du sentiment religieux. Au regard de ces transformations on peut s'interroger sur l'impact réel et les objectifs des traductions du Coran en berbère.

Mots-clés : Cheikh; Imam; sentiment religieux; arabisation; traduction; coran; revendication culturelle; Afrique du Nord; Algérie; Berbère; utilisation; religion; Arabe; langue; Kabyle

Abstract

This article examines the interweaving between socio-political history, broadcast policy and regulation, and political participation. Although the article primarily discusses the Ugandan situation, it draws conclusions that could be helpful in examining similar situations in Africa and in other parts of the world. The research was conducted in Uganda in three phases over three years (2003-2006) and additional research was conducted between 2007 and 2008. The first phase of the research constituted a socio-historical analysis of Uganda's media and politics. The second phase focused on the language debate in Uganda and the final phase sought to interpret the Ugandan language debate in light of the findings from the socio-
historical analysis. The article is conceived within a critical media studies framework and the methodology is inspired by J.B. Thompson's (1990) depth hermeneutics. The study employed qualitative interviews and an analysis of media, communication and education policy documents and other archival sources to elicit information at various levels on indigenous language broadcasting policy in Uganda. Placing the debate on indigenous language policy in historical context made it possible to critically examine the relationship between language policy and political participation in Uganda. The article concludes that effective future policy and regulation must strike a balance between the priorities of government, media proprietors and audiences. It must also take cognizance of current commercial realities, while being sensitive to the socio-historical factors that determine attitudes towards the use of specific languages in the media.

**Keywords**: african languages; broadcasting; diversity; policy; politics; radio; Uganda


**Abstract**

This study investigated verbal fluency abilities in older English-Afrikaans bilingual speakers in South Africa. Thirty healthy bilingual speakers aged 60-95 (mean age 77) and 6 bilingual speakers with Alzheimer's disease (AD) aged 72-86 (mean age 77) completed 3 1-minute semantic verbal fluency tasks in which they were required to generate items in bilingual mode, English only, and Afrikaans only. Results were analyzed in terms of total correct and semantic clusters. No significant difference was found between monolingual and bilingual performance. Some healthy bilingual participants used code switching as a strategy but with no direct increase in the number of exemplars generated, and there was no relationship between age of acquisition (AOA) of the language, pattern of use, and verbal fluency scores. AD patients scored more poorly than their healthy counterparts and did not make use of bilingual strategies such as code switching. A relationship was found for these patients between AOA, pattern of use, and verbal fluency scores. Results suggest that one can assess verbal fluency in either of a healthy bilingual speaker's 2 languages, but, because of a
discrepancy in verbal fluency between languages, both languages should be assessed in AD patients.

Keywords: older adults; South Africa; outside United States; 60+; young old; old old; Alzheimers disease; language; verbal abilities; assessment; cognition


Résumé

Depuis 1960 une importante communauté mandingue, en provenance d'Afrique de l'Ouest, est installée dans la banlieue parisienne. Pour préserver son identité culturelle, cette communauté fait venir en France les artistes traditionnels, appartenant à un groupe social défini, qui, en Afrique, ont pour rôle d'interpréter les grands genres cérémoniels du patrimoine oral mandingue. En général, ces artistes (jèlí) ont à Paris une double activité: non seulement ils interprètent les genres cérémoniels à destination de la communauté immigrée, mais, profitant de la mode de la musique mandingue, ils donnent aussi des spectacles et enregistrent des CD pour un public plus large et plus international. L'article étudie l'évolution des œuvres interprétées, par comparaison avec les mêmes œuvres exécutées en Afrique, du point de vue de la musique, de la thématique et de la langue dans chacun des deux types de performance.

Mots-clés : Mandingue; tradition orale; chanson; interprétation; identité culturelle; oralité; musique; griot; littérature orale; Europe occidentale; France; Paris; immigration; diaspora; immigration mandingue; littérature orale; griots; genres cérémoniels; musique; néo-oralité


Abstract

Rural–urban migration is a major phenomenon in the developing world. This article is concerned with understanding the ways in which rural–urban migrants have their social
protection needs met following their move to the city. We report results from a survey of rural–urban migrants in four low-income areas in Cape Town, South Africa. We look at the experiences of migrants in terms of finding employment in the urban environment, and the impact of language background and proficiency on migrants' ability to integrate in the labour market, and their access to formal and informal protection and government support. Language proficiency and social networks emerge as important variables in the analysis and will need to be considered in the design of social policies. Specifically, inadequate knowledge of dominant urban languages (English and Afrikaans) limits opportunities for employment and access to public services. Furthermore, reliance on informal, strong-tie social networks facilitates initial migration and settlement, but can delay long-term integration into the urban economy and labour market.

**Keywords**: informal networks; language and labour; rural-urban migration; social protection; South Africa


**Abstract**
This paper provides an analysis of language shift from African languages to English (and Afrikaans) in South Africa, using home language data from the South African population census (1996 and 2001). Although census data have been criticised for their 'essentialist' construction of language, they nevertheless provide sociolinguists with a unique opportunity to analyse language choice and shift across large populations, based on a full head-count rather than statistical sampling. The focus of the discussion is on the metropolitan city of Cape Town (with its three-language profile, Afrikaans, English and isiXhosa). The methodology uses small-area statistics to understand the role of social variables (social class, age and gender) in structuring processes of past and present language shift. The results show that language shift (a) has considerable historical depth in South Africa, (b) shows clear patterns of spatial and social variation and (c) is not limited to the middle classes which linguists have often seen to be at the centre of the process. Adapted from the source document.
Keywords: demography; language shift; South Africa; multilingualism; sociolinguistics; language use; statistical analysis; africans, english; Xhosa


Résumé

L’article développe le point de vue selon lequel l’alternance linguistique correspond à une option du répertoire plurilingue des jeunes urbains scolarisés, au Sénégal. L’analyse d’interactions relevées tant à Dakar qu’à Ziguinchor, met en évidence des modalités différentes du discours mixte, selon les lieux (la capitale, au centre, la ville régionale, à la périphérie) et selon les genres discursifs (discussions de groupes, discours explicatif à deux, parties de jeux à plusieurs). On a constaté que l’alternance linguistique renforce la valeur perlocutoire des échanges argumentatifs insérés dans les discussions. On assiste à Dakar à l’émergence d’une variété mixte wolof-français ; à Ziguinchor, le mélange de langues témoigne à la fois de l’identification plurielle des usagers et du maintien de l’identité ethnique : le discours mixte se caractérise par la présence d’alternances (extra-phrastiques principalement) et d’emprunts au sein d’une langue de base, qui peut elle-même alterner : langue du groupe d’appartenance ou wolof.


Résumé

San ‘â’ est une métropole mêlant des populations issues du Yémen tout entier et d’au-delà. C’est le lieu où l’on peut entendre tous les parlers de l’Arabie du Sud et de la Corne de l’Afrique. La langue que ses habitants ont en commun est l’arabe. Mais ce sont, en fait, des arabes très divers qui s’y trouvent rassemblés. Car les parlers du Yémen diffèrent à tel point entre eux que la compréhension mutuelle n’est nullement assurée a priori. Pour atteindre à une certaine clarté, des solutions existent. Mais, au Yémen, on ne peut guère adopter ni l'habit ni
la langue d'une autre région ; la plupart du temps, on n'y songe même pas. Va-t-on, au Yémen, vers l'apparition d'un dialecte neutre à l'échelle nationale ? Faut-il le chercher dans un san'âni moderne ? Ce parler a une certaine réalité. Mais on ne le voit pas se répandre dans d'autres régions du Yémen. Cependant, à San'â', certains semblent trouver leur compte dans une neutralité san'ânie d'aujourd'hui. La croissance démographique de la ville risque de faire évoluer la situation de manière très rapide. Tout va dépendre de l'attachement aux structures sociales traditionnelles, géographiquement définies. Certains, s'ils en ont les moyens, peuvent vouloir s'en affranchir. Mais, pour le moment, la plupart ne peuvent pas se le permettre.

Mots-clés : langue régionale; langue nationale; dialecte; Arabe; langue; Proche-Orient; Yémen; Sanaa; dentité locale; Linguistique; Attitude


Abstract

Language provides an important means by which humans communicate with one another, and communication plays a pivotal role in the health professions in developing trust and co-operation between the carer and the one being cared for. Little has been written about the importance of language barriers in nursing, although much has been written about the importance of cultural sensitivity in communication in nursing (Bischoff et al., 2003). A qualitative research methodology was implemented to explore and describe the experiences of senior undergraduate nursing students in communicating with isiZulu speaking clients in clinical practice settings. Permission to undertake the study was obtained from the relevant authorities. Data were collected by means of narratives and a focus group discussion and were analysed using Tesch's method of analysis to identify categories. The category 'language of colour' emerged from the descriptions where language was used to illustrate colour or race differences. The category 'translation and interpretation' emerged from the students' direct experiences of having to act as a translator or interpreter. The category 'walls of language' emerged from data that described how language can be used to access a group and the privileges of that group. The language that an individual uses can either include or exclude a person from a group - much like walls can create physical boundaries.
Keywords: cultural awareness; nursing students; ethnic attitudes; Zulu language; Zulu (African people); Africa


Abstract

The writer sets out to situate the proverbs, names, role-expectations, aspirations, and consciousness of the Yorùbá, who constitute the majority of the population in the south western region of Nigeria, with the aim of contributing to the development of a national consciousness. On the basis of a critical exposition of the general nature of Yorùbá proverbs and an exploration of the dialectical relationship between Yorùbá proverbs and names, the writer suggests that this relationship instantiates a descriptivist theory of reference in names in the philosophy of language.

Keywords: Yoruba language/words; proverbs; names; personal/Africa


Résumé

L'étude aborde un domaine de la recherche totalement ignoré mais particulièrement important dans le contexte de la vie juridique. Elle traite, d'une part, des langues de la justice en Afrique noire francophone et de la communication judiciaire déviante qui résulte de l'usage d'une langue officielle et étrangère, et, d'autre part, du recours que peuvent constituer les dispositions en matière de langue et de liberté d'expression des Constitutions africaines. Elle montre que ces textes constituent sinon un cadre réglementaire de l'utilisation des langues africaines au sein de l'instruction ou du procès, du moins les fondements de l'élaboration d'une réglementation. Elle conclue en soulignant le paradoxe de l'utilisation de la langue de la minorité de la population pour inger la majorité de celle-ci.
Mots-clés : langue officielle ; langue nationale ; déviance ; plurilinguisme ; francophonie ; constitution ; liberté d’expression ; organisation judiciaire ; communication ; langage ; justice, Afrique subsaharienne


Résumé

The way in which economic trends such as globalization and cultural trends such as the African Renaissance become economically as well as linguistically influential has repercussions for the quest for new political, cultural, and linguistic identity formations in the New South Africa. Background knowledge about the cultural, linguistic, and political identification processes that speakers are engaged in is a crucial part of the meaningful linguistic interpretation. In this paper, the role of English in national reidentification in South Africa is discussed against the backdrop of these two major sociopolitical trends. Issues relating to the position of African languages are also alluded to. Finally it is argued that creeping global monolingualism can only be countered by large-scale financial investment in large-scale language-policy planning in Africa which may elevate the status of African languages in the different regions.

Keywords : globalization ; South Africa ; language revitalization ; English ; linguistic policy ; language contact ; multilingualism ; sociolinguistics


Abstract

Recently throughout Africa, there has been an increase in mother tongue primary education in minority language communities. There are many reasons for justifying this innovation, one of which is that local cultures are strengthened by mother tongue literacy. This paper examines the link between literacy and culture through the outcomes of a series of drama workshops carried out in a rural school in Eritrea where mother tongue education had been introduced in
2000. By using a Freirian approach, the children were encouraged to identify and discuss the issues of most concern to them. The dramas were performed in front of the community and discussed. This enabled us to identify the choices of language that the children made, the genres that they could already use and their own attitudes to their mother tongue. We were also able to identify more clearly the nature of the link between literacy and culture and suggest possible ways in which this could be further investigated and developed.

**Keywords**: cultural identity; literacy practices; medium of instruction; minority language; Blin; Eritrea


**Abstract**

This paper explores the construction of collective identity by students in an academic learning environment, and shows how such collective identity may hinder or slow down individual learning or what may be referred to as independent learning. To demonstrate this I draw on language as a tool used for the construction of identity, and for showcasing and defending identity. The goal of this paper is to draw the attention of students and educators to the role of non-linguistic variables such as identity in student learning, and particularly in learning in a second language. South Africa today is mounting a series of academic intervention programmes to bridge the skills shortage in the country. If these schemes are to succeed, thorough investigation and understanding of society, and in particular of the target group, will be required. The data presented in this article is extracted from my PhD study, and was collected through one group’s focus group discussions, out of many used in the study. The participants were students of the then University of Natal, now the University of KwaZulu-Natal. The participants in this focus group were Zulu-speaking male students, and the data show that they strongly prefer a collective, rather than an individual identity, and this is indicated in their choice and style of language, and specifically in their choice of pronouns.

**Keywords**: literary excerpts; language and languages; group identity; learning; attention; students; educators
Résumé

L'article se base sur les résultats de recherches sur le terrain et sur les observations recueillies dans 21 pays africains l'Ethiopie inclue. La situation ethnopolitique en Ethiopie est très complexe. L'organisation fédérale du pays avec sa structure de l'Etat est une forme importante d'autodétermination ethnoterritoriale. Au même temps, dans un pays multi-ethnique, où la formation d'un état pour chaque ethnie est presque impossible, l'autonomie ethnoculturelle extraterritoriale revêt une importance énorme en tant qu'expression d'autodétermination. Bien que l'expérience éthiopienne démontre que le système fédéral a contribué d'une façon limitée à l'amélioration de la situation ethnopolitique et à l'élimination de la tension dans les relations interethniques, il y a dans ce contexte des changements positifs et importants: la définition legislative des pouvoirs constitutionnels des états; la formation de groupes locaux d'autonomie; la permission pour les citoyens d'étudier leur langue-mère et l'employer dans l'instruction, etc.

Mots-clés : langue maternelle ; enseignement des langues ; pouvoir local ; constitution ; législation ; conflit interethnique ; ethnoculture ; autonomie ; communaut é ethnique ; autodétermination ; organisation territoriale ; comparaison ; fédéralisme ; Ethiopie ; ethnicité ; facteur politique

Abstract

Research into language policy in Africa has addressed the impact of colonial language policies on efforts to formulate and implement post-colonial language policies aimed at vernacularization, defined as the use of indigenous African languages in higher domains such as education. What seems to have received very little attention to date, however, is the effect of globalization, through the medium of English, on vernacularization not only in Anglophone but also in non-English-speaking countries in the African continent. Focusing on the latter territories, this paper explores this issue from the perspective of recent theoretical developments in the field of language economics, an area of study whose focus is on the theoretical and empirical ways in which linguistic and economic variables influence one another. It argues that the spread of English to these historically non-English-speaking
territories in Africa represents the second challenge to largely symbolic language policies aimed at promoting vernacularization, the first one being other western languages (e.g. French, Portuguese, Spanish). Drawing on language economics, the paper argues that the prospects for the indigenous languages will continue to be bleak, especially in the era of globalization, unless these languages are viewed as a commodity rather than as a token for cultural preservation, and are associated with some of the advantages and material gains that have for decades been the preserve of western languages. Resistance against, and successful case studies of, vernacularization informed by language economics in various parts of the world are presented in support of the proposed argument for the promotion of Africa's indigenous languages in education. Adapted from the source document

**Keywords**: language policy; Africa; globalization; colloquial language; colonialism; indigenous languages use


**Résumé**

Cet article est une étude comparative de la manière dont les politiques linguistiques dans le domaine de l'éducation de deux pays de l'Afrique australe — en l'occurrence le Botswana et le Malawi — ont répondu au besoin de former des citoyens capables de jouer pleinement leur rôle sur la scène internationale. Alors que les écoles privées ont eu tendance à enseigner plusieurs langues internationales, les écoles publiques, par contre, ne l'ont pas fait. Les écoles publiques sont incapables de donner aux apprenants les moyens linguistiques nécessaires dans un monde où il y a d'autres langues de communication internationale que l'anglais. L'article met également en évidence le dilemme auquel on fait face lorsqu'on essaie de réconcilier le local et le global dans le contexte de la politique linguistique dans l'éducation.

**Mots-clés**: sociolinguistique; Malawi; Botswana; education; langue internationale; politique linguistique
Abstract

The peoples of East Africa have a long history of a rich and diverse regional heritage. Perhaps one of the most renowned aspects of this heritage is Kiswahili, the language widely spoken and understood across Eastern Africa. As the numbers of people who are proficient in the language continue to grow year after year, there have been numerous enriching perspectives on the anthropological, historical, literary and sociolinguistic aspects of Kiswahili. In this article, we offer a fresh perspective on how Kiswahili can be tapped as a resource for mobilizing popular support for the East African regional integration process across the five member-states of the current East African Community: Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, and Burundi. Kiswahili should be elevated to the position of a regional broadcasting language for a proposed regional broadcasting network operating under the aegis of the East African Community in Arusha, Tanzania. This is the main argument of the article. The argument is grounded on three main points, namely, media studies indicate that ICT and FM radio stations have become very popular mass media across Africa in the past two decades; radios are ubiquitous media of communication, entertainment and education across East Africa, especially in the rural areas where the vast majority of the people still live; and a regional broadcasting service, using the popular FM mode, can be mooted by the EAC Secretariat in Arusha to promote the programs of the EAC and harness the popular support for its intentions. Kiswahili should be given priority as the chief broadcasting language, as it is a rich symbol of the shared regional heritage. The paper concludes with a proposed framework that offers a basis for further thought and action towards the realization of the foregoing.

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Keywords: regionalism (International organization); radio broadcasting/East Africa; language policy/East Africa; language and languages/political aspects; East african Community

Abstract

In the late 1980s and early 1990s, following the breakup of the Soviet Union and the emergence of the United States as the sole superpower, many developing nations experienced intense pressure, internally and externally, to switch from single-party to multiparty rule. Multiparty administrations were perceived as better alternatives to single-party administrations, which were labeled dictatorial and tyrannical. Multipartyism was believed to provide more freedom of expression, in addition to checks and balances on officials in government; however, as this article will show, it did not always do so, especially when the opposition failed to oust the incumbent government from power. This article provides a historical overview of language use in Kenya before and after independence. It argues that the language policy adopted by Kenyan administrations was aimed at sidelining most people from active participation in making decisions and ordering their own lives. The paper argues that the mere adoption of multiparty democracy did not guarantee freedom of expression, especially where a change in administration did not take place. Even though multipartyism saw an increase in the number of newspapers and radio and TV programs in different languages, the authorities continued to limit freedom of expression, through legislation and the misuse of police forces. The paper concludes with suggestions for ensuring freedom of expression and the empowerment of local languages. Reprinted by permission of the publisher.

Keywords: language policy/Kenya; political parties/Kenya; ethnic relations/Kenya; mass media policy/Kenya


Abstract

South Africa’s political history has led to a marginalizing of all languages except for English and Afrikaans. Many clinicians cannot speak the languages spoken by patients. We attempt to understand the slow progress towards achieving greater access to mental health services on the basis of language. The administrative constraints of an overburdened and bureaucratized health system lead to language and communication playing a relatively small part in clinical
practice. Resistance to learning other languages may relate to the emotional risks involved in this learning. A psychological understanding of the barriers to linguistic change may help us develop further changes.

**Keywords**: institutional change; language; psychiatry; South Africa; Xhosa; South


**Abstract**

Zimbabwe is a multilingual country with a less complex multicultural society than other African nations, but the country's national language policy continues to marginalize indigenous African languages at all levels of the country's education system. The aim of this paper is to argue strongly for the recognition & use of all indigenous African languages spoken in the country in both the private & public spheres. The discussion confirms the assertion that when minority linguistic rights are acknowledged, the full participation of minority groups in all national activities is guaranteed. It is again made very clear in the debate that Zimbabwe inherited from Rhodesia a racially structured system of education in which two parallel systems existed. As a way forward, the paper proposes a language policy framework code-named ITEM (Integrated Trilingual Education Model) that could be adopted to enable the country's citizens to actively participate in national development. Adapted from the source document.

**Keywords**: multilingualism; educational policy; Zimbabwe; indigenous languages; language policy; African languages; race


**Abstract**

This collection of essays provides a sociolinguistic and anthropological analysis of aging in Africa. Individual contributions focus on cultural and linguistic construction of late-life dementia in an urban context; identity management and old-age construction among Xhosa-
speakers in urban South Africa; the life course of an older Namaqualander from the 1920s through the 1990s; the ancestral dimension of elderhood among Sukuma in Tanzania; milk as a source of power in Himbaland, Namibia; social categories and seniority in house-based society; gender, age, and work among the Abaluyia of Kenya; privileged authority of elders and the contested gradations of seniority; contemporary respect relations among Zulu grandmothers and grandchildren; the toilet and dignity, privacy, and care among older adults in Kwahu, Ghana; language and intergenerational discourse in first-time encounters in a South African township; and remembrance of older adults in the South African context.

**Keywords**: older adults; Africa; South Africa; International; outside United state; aging; cross cultural studies; intergenerational relationships; communication; attitudes toward aging; gerontological research; age difference; social attitudes; culture


**Abstract**

The acquisition and development of literacy has been widely studied. However, little attention has been given to deaf people. This has resulted in the high levels of illiteracy and low academic achievements that are persisting among this group of people in most parts of the world. The present article reviews the current language-in-education policy in Lesotho in relation to literacy acquisition and development. It posits that despite the fact that the policy supports mother-tongue education as a positive means towards improving the learners' school achievements, it has, as yet, failed to change the trend whereby deaf learners remain the most discriminated against. The article further argues that denying deaf learners an opportunity to acquire literacy through the Lesotho Sign Language, which is their primary language, contributes to the unsatisfactory state of deaf education in Lesotho. Adapted from the source document

**Keywords**: language Policy; literacy; deafness; Lesotho; language of Instruction; reading acquisition; writing acquisition; native language; sign language

Mattalucci, Claudia, 2009. « Traduire les noms de Dieu Les missionnaires d'Afrique face à la religion haya (Tanzanie) »*, *Archives de sciences sociales des religions*, vol. 147, pp. 105-123.
Résumé

La traduction du nom du dieu des chrétiens dans les langues d'Afrique ne va pas de soi. L'analyse de l'ethnographie de la religion produite par les Missionnaires d'Afrique au Buhaya (nord-ouest tanzanien) montre la mise en œuvre d'une double stratégie de traduction. Ces auteurs reconnurent dans les noms de divinités locales des attributs du dieu chrétien. Ces noms furent tenus comme preuve d'un monothéisme premier effacé par des fausses croyances successivement répandues dans la région. Pour marquer la distance entre le vrai dieu et les ancêtres ou les esprits de la religion kubandwa, les missionnaires ethnographes soulignèrent que le premier était étranger à la possession et aux échanges qui avaient lieu entre les hommes et les autres entités spirituelles. Ces stratégies, pourtant, ne suffirent pas pour rendre les divinités africaines commensurables au dieu chrétien et pour légitimer la traduction du nom de Dieu par un terme indigène.

Mots-clés: langue; Tanzanie; Pères blancs; monothéisme; mythe; christianisme; religion africaine; divinité; Missionnaire; nom de Dieu; traduction; Afrique; traduction; missionnaires d'Afrique; nom de Dieu; Buhaya; Tanzanie; divinité indigène


Abstract

The focus of this paper is the small postcolonial country of the Gambia. As in other parts of postcolonial Africa, English plays a major role in the education system. The paper reports on the conflicts and tensions which are evident when 'vernacular' languages are used in the classroom. Although the study is based on substantial periods of fieldwork in primary school classrooms in the Gambia, the paper focuses on one particular lesson, in an urban primary school, in which the topic was sexual health. Within this lesson the teacher occasionally breaks the 'no vernacular' rule with switches into Mandinka and Wolof. Through an analysis of instances of codeswitching in the lesson, several underlying tensions and conflicts are noted.

Keywords: codeswitching, Mandinka, tensions, The Gambia, vernacular, Wolof

Abstract
In this article, I examine the ideologies surrounding the poetic forms of Giriama text messaging in the town of Malindi, Kenya. I argue that young people use rapid code-switching and a global medialect of condensed, abbreviated English as an iconic index of a modern, mobile, self-fashioning, sexy, and irreverent persona, whereas their use of the local vernacular (Kigiriama) tends to reroot them in the gravitas of social obligations and respect relationships. In text messages, then, English and local African tongues are sometimes treated as foils for each other, suggesting that, rather than merely being mimicked, the English medialect is flavored by distinctly local concerns. Indeed, among many Giriama elders, the poetic patterns of text messaging are construed as a special breed of witchery in which hypermobility and linguistic innovation threaten ethnic coherence and even sanity itself. I suggest, however, that the use of Kigiriama in text messaging may point not to the abandonment of ethnicity but to new ways of being Giriama that are simultaneously local and modern.

Keywords: elders; youth; social meaning; vernacular language; English; use; code; ideology; language; witchcraft; East Africa; Kenya; globalization; text; message; portable telephone; mobile phones; text messaging; globalization; Kenya; Witchcraft; language ideology; code switching


Abstract
This article focuses on ethnic and linguistic minorities and radio broadcasting in South Africa. It examines the country's language, cultural and broadcasting policies and their potential impact on the participation of ethnic minorities in radio broadcasting. In particular, special focus is given to community and public radio. The study is broadly theoretical and exploratory, and examines how such policies influenced institutional changes in broadcasting and the communication rights of ethnic minorities. The critique of policy is done within the broader context of international human rights law which the South African government has ratified. Some of these treaties clearly put an obligation on state parties to support the rights of ethnic and linguistic minorities. These obligations are not only discussed within a rights framework, but also the country's specific social and historical context.
Keywords: apartheid; communication rights; community radio; ethnic and linguistic minorities; public radio; right to communicate (RTC); South Africa


Abstract

According to one of the main streams of current thought in the debate on language promotion, local indigenous African languages should be elevated to become the media of instruction throughout learners' schooling and learning careers. The argument is that these languages should be developed and therefore need to intervene at a level of science, technology, mathematics and commerce or other similar domains. Unless this is done, there are tears and views that these indigenous languages will be viewed as irrelevant in developmental terms and will always be looked at as second-class languages and therefore poor competitors with ex-colonial languages. Reliance on ex-colonial languages as languages of instruction, is viewed as subscribing to a heritage of colonialism, which is not the case, in say, France, Germany, etc. This article considers arguments for and against such a view. For academic reasons and reasons of cost effectiveness, a more pragmatic stance is suggested, namely that mother tongues may not necessarily be adequate for academic relevance. The choice of media, particularly beyond secondary school level, is not dependent on a community's wishes, but is rather dictated by global academic pursuits. The article concludes by taking what is considered to be a balanced view with regard to educational, socio-cultural, identity, national and international considerations.

Keywords: multilingualism; education; South Africa; languages


Abstract

The University of KwaZulu-Natal approved its bilingual language policy in 2006 based on the framework of the National Language Policy for Higher Education of 2002. The guiding
principles of this policy suggest that the university develops the use of isiZulu as a language of instruction and communication, in line with recommendations of the Ministerial Committee report, which investigated the development of indigenous African languages as media of instruction in higher education. The implementation of the bilingual policy began in 2008, under the responsibility of the university’s language board and faculties. Whilst debates on the policy itself are endless, there are foreseen challenges in its implementation. This is a case of ‘acquisition planning’ as in effect acquisition of isiZulu as a second language will be expected from all the university staff and students. The purpose of this article is to discuss some of these challenges and to identify steps towards language policy implementation.

**Keywords**: College of Humanities, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa; Registrar’s Office, St Augustine College of South Africa, Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa


**Abstract**

This article deals with the nicknames of South African soccer players and their teams. The nicknames (izidlaliso/izibongelo in isiZulu) are coined by players, supporters and managers of the teams. The nicknames were collected from the weekly South African newspaper entitled Soccer Laduma. More names came from a series of interviews with soccer fans and soccer presenters working for the South African Broadcasting Corporation in the sports section, sports journalists and public relations officers for the soccer clubs. Some nicknames were collected through interviews with students at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. The focus of this article is the influence of African languages on nicknames in football. This influence reflects the multilingual nature of South Africa as a 'rainbow nation'. Nicknames of soccer players and their teams are derived from various sources, such as the regalia, town where the team originated, reputation of the managers, names of soccer teams, performance of the players as well as the names of wild animals and the team's hope and fighting spirit. The article looks at the derivation and functions of the nicknames of soccer players and their teams and finally concludes that these nicknames are symbols of approval in a multilingual and multicultural country. Adapted from the source document
The article presents information on the communication dynamics and cultural values of Africa. The author sees African communication and cultural values as dynamic and as constantly informed and reshaped by new encounters with competing and complementing ideas of culture and communication. In Africa communication within the family and in the community meant to imbue, to guide, to tend, to ensure, assure and reassure all and sundry that one person's child is only in the womb. Communication also meant to be dynamic, flexible, accommodating, understanding, horizontal and unpresumptuous in the relationships. African communities have inherited European languages through intercourse with African languages, and in turn enriching local languages through borrowings from European languages and/or the Creoles. Young men and women away from their home villages have seen a most appropriate way of keeping in touch un the Internet and cell phone. Most Internet users and cell phone owners in Africa thus tend to serve as points of presence for their communities. There are a rising number of Africans who see a window of opportunity to join the consumer bandwagon around the globe, in these technologies.


The need for adequate functional English literacy and numeracy instruction for the herdsmen in Osun State in Nigeria arose as a result of the persistent clashes between the herdsmen and their neighbours. In all, 48 participants (22 adults and 26 children and youths) took part in the International Reading Association assisted functional literacy project held between April 2007
and June 2009 in Osun State. Two centres were created for the herdsmen in the bush where they had their temporary accommodation. The herdsmen received early morning instruction on the identification of the shapes and the pronunciation of the letters of the alphabet in English, word formation and the pronunciation of simple English words that related to their profession and daily living. There were activities on picture reading, personal hygiene, care of animals, market transactions and courtesies in English. The project led to improved communication and conflict resolution skills for the herdsmen. The project also led to an increased awareness of Western education among the herdsmen in that, before the end of the project, they had been sensitised enough to enrol some of their children in the nearest primary school. Adapted from the source document

**Keywords**: Literacy programs; indigenous populations; Nigeria; english as a second language learning; african language; children; functional literacy; adults


**Abstract**

This paper takes a critical look at information and communication technologies (ICTs) and asserts that the advantages and opportunities which they purportedly offer should not be exaggerated within the context of indigenous populations of Africa, most of which use ICT gadgets and applications that are built into languages alien to them. This scenario is reminiscent of technological determinism which assumes that the target users of ICTs should be able to understand the language in which the technologies are crafted. Unfortunately, the inability of indigenous peoples to adequately comprehend these technologies, as a result of language hindrances, has dramatically eroded the professed socio-economic benefits of ICTs and creates a sore point in the globalisation process, which these technologies drive. Attempted resolution of this colossal deficiency, by a few discerning makers of ICTs, has not succeeded and, in fact, has the potential of complicating the problem. This paper concludes that the solution to the challenge is still feasible within the domain of Afrocomplementarism, which promotes the convergence of indigenous contents and Western technologies. The process should start with local initiatives in developing indigenous languages. By imbuing local and global (such as the Internet) media with indigenous language content, the potential
exists for raising awareness amongst ICT producers and encouraging them to develop technologies to accommodate these languages.

**Keywords**: afrocentricism; afrocomplementarism; English; ICTs; indigenous population; Western


**Abstract**

My main contention in this article is that the nation-state paradigm for policies targeted at effecting development in sub-Saharan Africa is undermined by arbitrary colonial boundaries and porous borders and the challenges of transnationalism as part of the globalization phenomenon in late modernity. The nation-state paradigm is also the framework for guaranteed dominance of English and French, the two main excolonial official languages of sub-Saharan Africa, because the indigenous languages, at least theoretically, operate within ethnic boundaries. I cite evidence of internal migration and displacement across national boundaries to argue that policies which are cotermious with these boundaries motivate people to move. I suggest that the treatment of boundaries as zones of continuity rather than discontinuity will allow for the development of stronger interstate agencies within which framework projects may be better managed. I present evidence of the difficulty in pushing macro-language policy and planning and make a case for micro-language policy and planning not only as a more viable alternative in the region but also one for which success is easier to measure.

**Keywords**: language planning; models; official languages; global approach; foreign countries; public policy; french; english (second language); foreign policy; migration patterns; indigenous populations

Résumé

L'arabe, vecteur de la révélation coranique, s'est imposé et demeure la langue canonique de l'islam, en Afrique orientale. Pendant des siècles, il est resté l'apanage des arabophones acteurs des réseaux commerciaux océaniques et détenteurs du pouvoir politique dans les cités-comptoirs. Alors que le kiswahili s'est constitué, comme langue locale, dans une dynamique d'échanges commerciaux et sociaux avant d'aborder les marges de l'islam, l'arabe est resté très longtemps un marqueur des catégories sociales supérieures. Ce n'est que tardivement qu'une littérature swahili émergera. Les bouleversements intervenus à la fin du XIXe siècle avec le partage colonial et l'action des missions chrétiennes, puis l'intervention de musulmans du sous-continent indien, conduiront à des remises en cause de la prééminence arabe, notamment sur le plan religieux. Paradoxalement, dans une perspective réformiste, l'usage du kiswahili deviendra indispensable, sans pour autant remettre en cause la sacralité de la langue arabe. Enfin il est fait allusion à l'accélération des moyens de communication et aux évolutions politiques récentes quant à leurs effets sur les dynamiques sociolinguistiques.

Mots-clés: siècle 16-20; Afrique Orientale; Océan Indien; réseau commercial; marqueur social; langue; Chrétien; mission; concurrence; expansion; Islam; Swahili; Arabe; linguistique; histoire


Abstract

South Africa is currently occupying a precarious position within a framework of globalization and internationalization where cultural and linguistic pluralism prevail. There is divergence between South Africa's multilingual language policy on the one hand, and its language practices on the other. Although South Africa is in its 16th year of democracy, people are still grappling with issues such as the financial costs of using more than one official language in commerce and industry. It is argued that it is extremely costly to change letterheads and logos of companies in an attempt to align them with the languages of the country, a notion that does not take into cognisance the reality of South Africa as a multilingual country. The idea expressed is that using some of the 11 official languages and sign language in parallel will be
contingent to practicality and expense. The purpose of this article is twofold. First, it seeks to
determine whether a balance can be maintained between the global need to communicate and
the need to preserve local and regional identities and cultures. Secondly, it endeavours to
establish whether it is feasible in South Africa, to maintain the prospects of multilingualism
on the one hand and to simultaneously promote the use of the local indigenous languages on
the other, in an increasingly globalized world. A previous study, which established the
feasibility of using a language of limited diffusion (e.g. Northern Sotho) as a language of
commerce and industry, will be a case in point. The article will further determine the apposite
environment as an enabler for employing Northern Sotho as a language of marketing,
advertising and business. Language practices in the sectors of organic financial growth in
South Africa are also explored. Adapted from the source document

**Keywords**: multilingualism; globalization; Bantu languages; South Africa; cultural
differences; language diversity; language policy; official languages; social factors

Prah, Kwesi Kwaa, 2010. « Multilingualism in Urban Africa: bane or blessing », Journal of

**Abstract**

Noticeably, over the past few decades, the phenomenon of multilingualism in African
languages is making a serious impact on the lives of Africans in particularly the urban areas
of Africa. Thrown together from different corners of their respective countries, as neighbours,
Africans are increasingly learning each others languages, not in a planned, conscientious
manner but as a process of social symbiosis. There is hardly any African urban centre which
today is not experiencing this phenomenon. The process can be described as almost effortless.
Because of the cross-border nature of African languages this type of multilingualism is in
consequence creating regional character to most of these languages. The question is how
useful is this phenomenon? Can it be put to greater service for African countries? Is it a
positive development or does it represent a hindrance to the challenges of development?
These are the issues which are addressed in this paper. Adapted from the source document

**Keywords**: multilingualism; Africa; cities; language contact; orthography; literacy

Samassekou, Adama, 2005. « Langues et développement durable », Liaison énergie
francophonie, no. 68, pp. 76-79.
Résumé

J'ai coutume d'affirmer qu'aucun pays, aucun peuple au monde ne s'est développé en dehors de sa langue et de sa culture. Abordant une problématique aussi fondamentale, il sied, dès l'abord, que nous esquissions une certaine exploration conceptuelle. C'est Mawdo Amadou Hampâté BA qui disait que de tous les éléments qui caractérisent l'individu, du physique au vestimentaire, c'est la langue qui demeure l'élément le plus évident.

Mots-clés : langue africaine; communication; marginalité; information; vie sociale; colonialisme; langue nationale; Afrique; identité; langue; développement durable


Abstract

The evolution of Rwanda’s language policies since 1996 has played and continues to play a critical role in social reconstruction following war and genocide. Rwanda’s new English language policy aims to drop French and install English as the only language of instruction. The policy-makers frame the change as a major factor in the success of social and education reforms aimed at promoting reconciliation and peace and increasing Rwanda’s participation in global economic development. However, in Rwanda, the language one speaks is construed as an indicator of group affiliations and identity. Furthermore, Rwanda has the potential to develop a multilingual educational policy that employs its national language, Kinyarwanda (Ikinyarwanda, Rwanda), to promote mass literacy and a literate, multilingual populace. Rwanda’s situation can serve as a case study for the ongoing roles that language policy plays in the politics of power.

Keywords : Africa, French, Kinyarwanda, language-in-education policy, Rwanda

Résumé

Notre propos montre d'abord que la problématique de l'utilisation des langues nationales dans les systèmes éducatifs a toujours été une préoccupation majeure dans la plupart des pays et particulièrement ceux d’Afrique subsaharienne francophone. Au-delà d'un constat souvent alarmant, il fait ensuite le point sur les différentes innovations pédagogiques, notamment la prise en compte des langues nationales dans l'enseignement du premier degré au Burkina Faso qui semble avoir opté pour un bilinguisme institutionnel. Il montre enfin que les différentes formules alternatives, dans une démarche originelle, visent l'amélioration du système éducatif burkinabé en manque de nouvelles méthodes pédagogiques et didactiques aptes à atteindre les objectifs d'un enseignement qui réponde à la fois aux normes de l'efficacité et de la qualité, tout en s'inscrivant dans le cadre d'une éducation de masse.

Mots-clés : Politique linguistique; Langue d'enseignement; Innovation pédagogique; Bilinguisme; Pays francophones; Langue africaine; Afrique subsaharienne


Abstract

Presented are the quantitative results of a comprehensive survey of the position & role of Italian in 53 African countries. The presentation is preceded by a sketch of the sociolinguistic landscape on the African continent & the Italian colonial legacy in Africa, as well as a brief discussion of previous surveys & studies, some of which are used as references, of Italian in Africa. The survey discusses: (1) the Italian diplomatic presence in African countries: embassies & consulates, (2) the number of Italians living in individual African countries & regions, (3) Italian businesses in Africa, (4) types & sectors of business activity, (5) Italian cultural institutes in Africa, (6) the availability of Italian language courses: the number of students in individual countries, (7) students' motives for studying the Italian language, (8) language courses offered by the societa Dante Alighieri (Dante Alighieri Society); student enrollment & motives, (9) studies of Italian language, literature, & culture offered by African universities, (10) the degrees & diplomas in Italian Studies available at African universities, (10) teachers of Italian in Africa, (11) Italian schools in Africa & their student population, (12) Italian as a second language courses in African primary & secondary education, (13)
certificates in Italian as a second language in Africa, (14) Italian media in Africa, (15) monuments of past Italian presence in the Horn of Africa, & (16) the Italian immigrant community in South Africa.

Keywords: language use; Italian; Africa; sociolinguistic; colonialism; language attitudes; second language; learning


Abstract

This paper studies the challenges involved in the nonliteral use of English in nonnative settings as exemplified and parodied in two Nigerian mass-media comedies, Icheoku and Masquerade. It draws attention, first to the nonstandardness observed in the use of English idiomatic expressions, tropes, maxims, and African proverbs, and second, to the problems involved in comprehending and interpreting the contextual imports of these metaphorical uses by incompetent (but pretentious) users of English in Nigeria and probably other societies in which English is a second language. It underlines the fact that literary use of language in nonnative settings in everyday communication, either among nonnative speakers of English or between native users and nonnative users of English, is often fraught with misunderstanding, difficulty in communication, and dislocation of the structure of figurative expressions, either out of ignorance of the structure and meaning of the expressions, or out of sheer linguistic audacity. Reprinted by permission of the publisher.

Keywords: english language/Nigeria; english language/Idioms; english as a second language; Icheoku (Television program)


Abstract

Numerous scholars and activists have advocated a notion of language rights as a tool by which minority ethnic groups may protect their cultural integrity against the incursions of
hegemonic groups. At the same time, critics have problematized language rights as a dangerous notion that may provoke inter-ethnic competition or worse. This article seeks to contribute to this debate a case study of the ‘rights mediation function’ of the Pan South African Language Board (PanSALB), a central component of South Africa’s uniquely progressive language rights framework. First, it is considered whether PanSALB’s support of ‘group’ language rights gives incentive to potentially divisive ethnic mobilization. Second, the efficacy and equitability of PanSALB’s service delivery is interrogated, as are the responses of the ruling African National Congress (ANC) to ethnolinguistic grievance. This article concludes that PanSALB does not give incentive to ethnic mobilization, but fails to protect language rights, and, as a structure, serves to co-opt civil society and help make ‘docile bodies’ of ordinary citizens.

Keywords: ANC ; conflict ; constitution ; ethnicity ; law


Abstract
The role of African languages in formal and nonformal learning is the subject of increasing local, national and international interests. Cognitive and pedagogical reasons abound for using the language best understood by the learner. However, many nonpedagogical factors related to politics, economics, language attitudes and colonial history are also extremely influential as decisions are made regarding language of instruction. Among the various stakeholders in this issue of language choice for education, an important interest group is the African elite. Members of the elite are able to access resources, marshal arguments that promote their values and ultimately influence the formulation and implementation of policy in ways that the average local community member cannot do. This paper examines the influence of international, national and local contexts upon the perspectives of the African elite where language and education are concerned. It argues that organized, intentional action by concerned members of the African elite can have significant impact on language-and-education choices. Adapted from the source document.

Keywords: Educational policy ; language policy ; african languages ; language attitudes ; language use ; Africa ; social factors

**Résumé**

Cette étude de terrain s'appuie sur la langue et la littérature orale igbo - contes et proverbes en particulier - pour cerner la lecture que ces textes font de l'espace, de son organisation, de sa répartition et de sa gestion. Elle permet de découvrir une conception du monde fortement structurée, et un espace commun centré sur la personne considérée comme membre du groupe, transmis de père en fils et où la coutume garantit à chacun sa place. Cet espace est à la fois polyvalent et compartimenté, étroitement géré et reparti selon les critères de l'âge, du genre et du rang dans la famille. Les contes décrivent le monde habité par les humains, représenté par le village et où la vie se déroule entre cour et marché, comme proche du monde des esprits dont la forêt et l'eau marquent la frontière. Humains et esprits, en déplacement constant, partagent cet espace dont l'homme n'est que l'usufruitier.

**Mots-clés** : cosmogonie; Afrique occidentale; Nigeria; Igbo; Culture; Langue; gestion; organisation de l'espace; Nigeria; Igbo; espace; cosmogonie


**Résumé**

Bien que le somali soit la langue maternelle de plus de 95% de la population de la Somalie, le pays a choisi l'anglais, l'italien et l'arabe pour langues officielles lors de son accession à l'indépendance en 1960. En raison de controverses sur des questions techniques, religieuses et politiques, aucune écriture n'a pu être convenue pour la langue somalienne, que ce soit à l'ère coloniale ou au cours des années parlementaires 1960-1969. Les conséquences de cette absence de décision sont considérables pour la société somalienne. Cependant, à l'arrivée au pouvoir du régime militaire autoritariste au début des années 70, celui-ci a pris une décision définitive quant à l'écriture de la langue. Il a en outre émis un décret qui impose l'utilisation du somali dans les discours politiques et administratifs en République somalienne. Cet acte...
marque le début du rétablissement des droits culturels et linguistiques de la société somalienne. Cet article analyse comment la Somalie, sous un régime sévère et totalitaire, a été en mesure de promouvoir sa langue traditionnelle. Il présente également une vue d'ensemble sur l'organisation et la réalisation des campagnes d'alphabétisation menées dans le pays, ainsi que quelques indications sur la programmation et le cadre théorique qui sous-tend ces campagnes.

Mots-clés: réforme de l'enseignement; alphabétisation; historique; contexte linguistique; politique gouvernementale; langue maternelle; Somalie


Abstract

and the lingua franca in the international business, media, scientific and academic worlds. While some welcome English as a means of communication with the potential of overcoming the global tower of Babel, others argue that minority languages might become threatened by 'language death'. For instrumental purposes, English has become the lingua franca in South African public life. While this means that the use of Afrikaans has been dramatically scaled down to occupy the position of a minority language, the other nine indigenous languages are at an even bigger disadvantage. Probably the greatest barrier in the way of indigenous languages gaining a presence on the Internet remains the problem that has come to be known as the digital divide. Access to the Internet is still marred by severe inequalities.

Keywords: internet; multilingualism; multiculturalism; social sciences


Abstract

This paper is focused on the development of language policy in Ethiopia from the reign of Haile Selassie I (1930-1974) until the present day. After the Federal Constitution was introduced in 1994, Ethiopia has been divided into eleven regions along ethno-linguistic borders. The constitution gave every nation the right to develop its own language and its own
culture, though only Amharic, Tigrigna, Somali, and Afaan Oromo became major regional languages. This situation caused growing ethno-linguistic nationalism, which can be seen especially in the Oromiya region as well as the SNNPR (Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Region). This paper will examine theoretical principles as well as case studies that seem to be important for a comprehensive analysis of language policy in Ethiopia. While the period until 1974 was characterized by a policy of Ethiopianization, the Derg government (1974-1991) introduced a policy of literacy and alphabetization. Several languages were standardized, including Somali, Oromo, Sidama, and Wolayta. In reality, Amharic prevailed as a lingua franca and became the main administrative language.

**Keywords:** minority language; Oromo; literacy; constitution; Amharic; linguistic policy; tongue; Ethiopia; East Africa; Ethiopia; languages; language policy; Amharic; constitution


**Résumé**


**Mots-clés:** Bambara; librairie; Mali; communication; traduction; Islam; traduction; islam; bambara; Mali; librairies