



Language Revitalization and Cultural Identity in East Africa: A Togolese Perspective

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Abstract

Language revitalization efforts are crucial in maintaining cultural identity and preserving linguistic diversity, particularly in East Africa where multiple languages coexist within a single country. The analysis draws from academic literature, interviews with linguists, anthropologists, and community leaders to understand the challenges and successes of language revitalization projects in Togo. A key finding is that language revitalization programmes often face significant resistance from younger generations who prefer more widely spoken languages like French or English, highlighting a need for innovative approaches to engagement. The review underscores the importance of involving local communities and integrating traditional cultural practices into language education programmes to enhance retention and revival efforts. Recommendations include fostering intergenerational dialogue, incorporating indigenous knowledge systems into curricula, and utilising media as a tool for promoting language use in daily life.

Keywords: *Sub-Saharan, ethnolect, revitalization, sociolinguistics, intergenerational □ □ , creolization, multilingualism*

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