



Afro-Linguistics in Angola: An Exploration of African Language Structures

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Abstract

Afro-Linguistics is a field of study that examines languages within the Afro-Asiatic and Niger-Congo language families, which are predominant in Africa. In Angola, there are over 150 indigenous African languages, many of which have not been systematically studied. This study employs an Afro-Linguistic approach, utilising qualitative research methods including participant observation, document analysis, and semi-structured interviews with native speakers of various African languages in Angola. Data collection was conducted through fieldwork in different regions of the country over a period of six months. A key finding is the diversity within Angolan African languages, particularly in their phonological systems where vowels are pronounced differently across dialects. This variation reflects broader linguistic patterns observed in other African language families. This study contributes to our understanding of Angola's linguistic landscape by providing detailed insights into specific language structures and features not previously documented or comprehensively analysed. Future research could benefit from incorporating quantitative methods alongside qualitative approaches to enhance the robustness of data analysis. Additionally, further exploration of language documentation efforts in Angola would be valuable for comprehensive linguistic studies.

Keywords: *Angolan, Bantu, Ethnography, Triangulation, Linguistic Diversity*

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