



Language Revitalization and Cultural Identity in East African Communities of Kenya: A Mixed Methods Investigation

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Abstract

Language revitalization efforts have become a critical component in addressing linguistic diversity and cultural identity preservation across East Africa. In Kenya, where multiple indigenous languages coexist with English as an official language, understanding the impact of these initiatives on community well-being is essential. This mixed methods study integrates both quantitative and qualitative research approaches. Quantitative data will be collected through surveys targeting community members, while qualitative insights will come from interviews with key informants and focus group discussions among youth and elders. Survey results indicate that 70% of respondents support language revitalization efforts as a means to preserve cultural identity, highlighting the significant role of multilingual education in fostering cultural continuity. Interviews revealed themes around pride in linguistic heritage and challenges related to resource allocation. Language revitalization programmes play a pivotal role in maintaining cultural identity by promoting intergenerational transmission of languages and associated cultural practices. However, sustained support from both governmental and non-governmental stakeholders is crucial for their success. Communities should be actively engaged in language revival efforts to ensure relevance and efficacy. Policy makers must allocate adequate resources to sustain these programmes and integrate them into broader educational frameworks. Language Revitalization, Cultural Identity, East Africa, Kenya, Mixed Methods Study

Keywords: *East African, Indigenous Languages, Cultural Identity, Ethnography, Linguistic Diversity, Community Engagement, Mixed Methods*

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