



Afro-Linguistics in São Tomé and Príncipe: An Overview of African Language Structures

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Abstract

{ "background": "African linguistics has emerged as a critical field of study within the Arts & Humanities, focusing on the diverse and complex structures of African languages. The archipelago of São Tomé and Príncipe serves as an ideal case study for examining these linguistic features due to its unique linguistic landscape influenced by historical migrations.", "purposeandobjectives": "The purpose is to provide a comprehensive overview of the linguistic structures found in Afro-Linguistics within São Tomé and Príncipe, highlighting the diversity and complexity of language use across different communities. Objectives include identifying key grammatical features, phonological patterns, and sociolinguistic contexts.", "methodology": "A mixed-method approach was employed, combining qualitative interviews with quantitative surveys to gather data on linguistic practices from various socio-cultural backgrounds in São Tomé and Príncipe. Data analysis focused on thematic categorization of language use across different domains such as religion, education, and media.", "findings": "The findings reveal a significant variation in the structure of African languages within São Tomé and Príncipe, with some communities exhibiting distinct phonological features not commonly found elsewhere in Africa. For instance, one community's language includes a rare glottal stop that is absent in other regions studied.", "conclusion": "This study underscores the importance of local contexts in understanding African languages, particularly those spoken in São Tomé and Príncipe. The insights gained can contribute to broader Afro-Linguistics research by providing specific examples from a unique geographical setting.", "recommendations": "Future research should explore how these linguistic features intersect with socio-political factors shaping language use in São Tomé and Príncipe, potentially offering new perspectives on the dynamics of language diversity and change.", "keywords": "Afro-Linguistics, São Tomé and Príncipe, Language Structures, Mixed-Methods Approach", "contributionstatement": "This study introduces a novel mixed-methods approach to Afro-Linguistics research in São Tomé and

Keywords: *São Tomé, Príncipe, Geographic, Afro-Asiatic, Niger-Congo, Typology, Diachrony*

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