THE LANGUAGE POLICY OF SOUTH AFRICA: WHAT DO PEOPLE SAY?

by

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I declare that

The Language Policy of South Africa: What do People say? is my own work and that all the sources that I have used or quoted have been indicated and acknowledged by means of complete references.

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SIGNATURE DATE

(MR D E MUTASA)

SUMMARY

The research project takes a hard look into the attitudes or perceptions of speakers of African languages towards the new language policy of South Africa. The question answered in this regard is, 'What do people say?'

The research project explores the extent of radical shift in African consciousness giving impetus to the resurgence of African languages so that they carry philosophical and scientific discourse to unprecedented heights. Maintaining the primordial language policy that is dominated by English and Afrikaans is like putting new wine into old skins. Thus, the research also seeks to establish strategies that could be implemented in order to ensure the revitalisation and rejuvenation of African languages so that all the languages take their rightful place. In other words, the research explores ways of injecting a new kind of consciousness that integrates language and content in schools so as to replace the primordial "telescopic philanthropy" type of approach existing currently in education and other major domains.

KEY TERMS

Attitude to language
Language planning
Language policy
Multilingualism
Mother tongue
Harmonization
Official language
Language development
Minority languages
Terminology

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