

ABSTRACT

This study investigates the possibilities of incorporating African languages in skills development and training in South Africa as part of functional multilingualism. This investigation is done in relation to the Skills Development Act (Act No.97 of 1998) promulgated by the South African government, through parliament in order to address skills shortage among workers in South Africa the majority of whom are black whose education and training needs can be more effectively addressed through mother-tongue instruction than through English or Afrikaans. A literature review of global trends in skills-development initiatives and strategies indicates that the use of indigenous languages in skills development ensures success in skills transference and also enhances language development and language promotion. Empirical research was done in the mining and minerals industry at Beatrix Gold Mine, Free State.

DECLARATION

I declare that

THE ROLE OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING (SKILLS DEVELOPMENT) IN SOUTH AFRICA 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

SIGNATURE

(MR N MUTSILA)

DATE

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The most gratitude is to my family, especially to my wife Rose Botshe Mutsila for her patience, her understanding and her encouragement.

DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to all those South Africans who are committed to the transference of skills to fellow compatriots.

“If someone is going down the wrong road, he doesn't need motivation to speed him up. What he needs is education to turn him around.”

Jim Rohn

”Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can”.

John Wesley

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