

Multilingualism and Language Use Patterns: Students Attitude towards Kiswahili in Garissa Town, Kenya

Alex Umbima Kevogo, Nelly Nzula Kitonga and Stanley K. Adika

Abstract

This study investigated language attitudes of secondary school learners of Somali descent toward Kiswahili and their patterns of language use in various domains in a multilingual context as evidenced in Garissa Town. The target population was secondary school students in public and private schools within Garissa town, Garissa County, Kenya. Field data was collected through questionnaires. A total of 100 respondents were involved in this study. This sample was obtained through simple random sampling technique. This study obtained quantitative data from respondents' responses to guided questionnaires in order to determine their attitude towards Kiswahili. Data was analysed descriptively and by way of tables. The findings reveal that secondary school students within Garissa town have a positive attitude toward Kiswahili. Somali language is mainly spoken at home. English is mainly spoken at school while Kiswahili is used for intercultural and interethnic communication.

Keywords: Patterns of Language Use, Language Attitudes, Multilingualism, Kiswahili

Full text:

http://ir.jooust.ac.ke/bitstream/handle/123456789/2989/Adika_Multilingualism%20and%20language%20use%20patterns.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y