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**A deliberate exclusion of minor languages in the general corpus of a Setswana language**

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**ABSTRACT**

“A case study of Setswana as used by dialectical groups and Radio stations in the RSA”. Setswana is one of the oldest indigenous languages in South Africa. This language has spread its wings to countries like Namibia, Zimbabwe, and Botswana. In South Africa, this language is found in various provinces and it has over 8 dialects in 3 countries.

This language had official status during the apartheid era in the erstwhile Bophuthatswana. There were a Setswana Language Board and later an Academy of Setswana. Be it as it may, structures to standardize the language have been put in place. The exclusion of some dialect in the standard form is a deficiency amongst the users of the language. It has also been observed that a big gap exists between vocabularies of the standard variety and that of the non-standard variety of Setswana (Mareme and Mojela, 2014). I will also argue in this paper indicate with examples taken over a period of 5 years, the improper use of words in Radios.

This paper therefore makes a clear case/argument for the rethinking of the approach to developing vocabulary through the inclusion of vocabulary of the non-standard dialects of Setswana (to standardise and not only to include them) and it will suggest the proper use of the language on radio and use it again to advise the speakers of this language. The radio stations that will be under a spotlight will be Motsweding FM [National Station], Mafikeng FM [Community Station] and NW FM [Regional FM].

**Keywords**

Indigenous languages, dialects, standardization, deficiency, radio.

**Method**

The paper has been conceived from several meetings of language matters over the period of 3 years. The material was gathered from listening to Radio stations with a critical ear to find language inconsistencies. The theory applied is that of Structuralism.

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