NXOPAXOPO WA DINOTHEXINI NA
KHONOTHEXINI EKA XITSONGA

HI
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NOMBORO YA XICHUDENI: 11585026
DESITHEXINI YO ENGETELA EKA SWILAVEKO SWA
XIKAMBELO

XA
DIGIRI YA MASITASI
EKA DYONDZO YA XITSONGA EHANSI KA
SENTHARA YA M. E. R. MATHIVHA YA TINDZIMI TA AFRIKA,
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ABSTRACT

This study analyzes denotation and connotation. The denotation of a word is a direct specific, original or dictionary meaning of that particular word. In other words denotation is the conceptual meaning of a word. On the other hand connotation is an extended meaning of a word on top of its denotation. It is that part of the meaning of a word which goes beyond its pure linguistic meaning by including all of its associations that can be personal or communal. For that reason, connotation is said to be an implied or associated meaning of a word.

This mini-dissertation will analyze the following Xitsonga Semantic Domain Kingship Words: mufana (boy), nhwanyana (girl), wanuna (man), wansali (woman), mukhalabye (old man) and mukhegula (old woman) to demonstrate the similarities as well as the differences between denotation and connotation.

In conclusion, Leech (1975) maintains that in terms of its denotative meaning a word may be interpreted the same way across languages regardless of their cultural and historical periods. Yet, it may be difficult to arrive at a common interpretation when it comes to the connotative meaning of the same word within and across languages through different periods of times. This is due to the reason that denotation is static whereas connotation is open-ended as it changes through the change of time.