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EYUNIVHESITI YA VENDA

FOR AFRICAN LANGUAGES, ARTS AND CULTURE

MER MATHIHA CENTRE

DYONDZO YA XITSONGA EHANSI KA

EKA

DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS

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NKANELO WA MATIRHISELO YA RIRIMI EPALAMENTE YA LIMPOPO HI

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## ABSTRACT

### SUMMARY OF THE RESEARCH

The research is about the usage of Xitsonga language in the Limpopo Provincial Parliament by the Members of Parliament. Where as some MP's tend to ignore Xitsonga and prefer all the members to use their languages. The Constitution has made it clear that all official languages are equal and should receive equal treatment more especially those who were marginalized by the apartheid government. The research is trying to make a mark on the usage of all official languages in Limpopo Parliament. People should not undermine other languages, the constitution is there to guide us.

### CHAPTER ONE

Chapter one focuses on the reason for doing this research as well as the aim of this research. We have also looked at the two methods to be used in this research, which are the interview and observation methods. Definitions of key concepts which will be used in the research were given in this chapter. We have also looked at other research to our research where we gave our opinions on those topics. We also divided chapters from chapter one to five as well as the summary of chapter one.

### CHAPTER TWO

Chapter two discussed the types of Parliaments, namely, the National and Provincial Parliaments which have their seats in Cape Town in the Western Cape Province. The last type of Parliament discussed is the Provincial Parliament which their seats take place in all the nine provinces. Summary of the chapter was provided.

### CHAPTER THREE

In chapter three we have discussed the language used in the Limpopo Parliament. We also discussed the formation (members) of this Parliament. We have looked at the national and provincial language policies. We have pasted the table to view how languages are used in Limpopo (numbers of people speaking each language). The table was extracted from census document. The summary of chapter three was given.

### CHAPTER 4

Chapter four is where we have information regarding our research. We have visited Limpopo Legislature in Lebowakgomo where the Parliament has its seat. Xitsonga speaking members of Parliament were interviewed and they gave us their opinions on the usage of Xitsonga language in this Parliament. The interview was about which is the most spoken language in Limpopo Parliament, an outcome was that English is the most spoken language followed by Northern Sotho. Xitsonga speaking Members of Parliament were asked how do they feel when their language is no used and why is Xitsonga not spoken in this Parliament. We further asked them what can be done to improve the use of Xitsonga in Limpopo Parliament, why members of Parliament prefers to use English than their own languages. We also looked at the Limpopo language policy on the usage of official languages. Observation was done on the documents of Parliament where we found that they are written in English.