

NXOPAXOPO WA MAVITO YO DUVULELA YA VATSONGA VA LE ZIMBABWE

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## ABSTRACT

This dissertation entitled *A Semantic Analysis of Nicknames Among the Vatsonga of Zimbabwe* is an incisive evaluation of nicknames and naming patterns across the broad socio-cultural and religio-political paradigms of the people in question. It deals with various approaches that inspire the evolution, sustenance and the resultant appreciation of collected nicknames in their social context. The research is divided into six chapters as follows:

### Chapter One

This chapter gives the introduction, definition of concepts, research method and design, sampling techniques, theoretical frame work as well as literature review.

### Chapter Two

This chapter highlights the origin of the name giving enterprise, as well as a reflection upon the various categories of names and nicknames. It also shows various individual or group entities that are responsible for nicknaming.

### Chapter Three

This chapter gives a nickname-by-nickname depth of analysis, highlighting various angles from which nicknames are given. Their (nicknames) influence on human behaviour and societal reformation is also pointed out; more so on nicknames that readily and clearly spell out the envisioned message.

### Chapter Four

This chapter gives the importance of nicknames from a social perspective. Thus, the research gives the overall significance of nicknames in society without necessarily

particularizing on given nicknames.

## Chapter Five

This is the final chapter and it gives the conclusion to the study. In this chapter, all the research findings are summarized and recommendations for further research were made.