

**MPIMANYISO WA VUVULAVURI BYA XITSONGA/XICHANGANA XA LE
AFRIKA-DZONGA NA XA LE ZIMBABWE (A GRAMMATICAL COMPARISON
OF XITSONGA/XICHANGANA LANGUAGE VARIETIES OF SOUTH AFRICA AND
ZIMBABWE)**

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ABSTRACT

This study falls under the area of historical-comparative linguistics. It seeks to discuss the differences and similarities between Xitsonga/Xichangana varieties spoken in South Africa and Zimbabwe. Another aim is to find out the extent of these similarities or differences. This dissertation also aims to see if the orthography of Xichangana/Xitsonga spoken in Zimbabwe can be improved and also find out if these two varieties of Xitsonga can be harmonised.

Literature related to this study is reviewed to see how this current study can be improved. The literature to be reviewed includes the classification of European languages looking at academics such as Sir William Jones and others. In the classification of African languages, the work of Greenberg is also put into consideration whereas in the classification of Bantu languages focus is put on academics like Bleek, Guthrie, Doke and others. Other researches which compare languages in the same country or between cross-border languages such as in Europe or Africa are also going to be reviewed.

Comparison is done to show similarities and differences in the areas of phonology, morphology, syntax and semantics. Possible causes of these differences and similarities between Xitsonga/ Xichangana spoken in South Africa and Zimbabwe are discussed in this dissertation. Recommendations to the study are given at the end.