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Why is the Khoi-Khoi language not one of South Africa's official languages?

This research is primarily about how the Khoi-Khoi's Language sounds very similar to the Xhosa language, yet Xhosa speakers does not understand the Khoi-Khoi language. The South African government has not made the Khoi-Khoi language one of the official languages.

South Africa has 11 official languages. Xhosa, Zulu, Sotho, Tsonga, Afrikaans, English, Tsonga, Venda, Sotho, Ndebele.

The Xhosa language is the closest relative of the Khoi-Khoi language. One will notice that the Khoi-Khoi language is not one of the official languages even though it is one of South Africa's oldest languages.

One of the reasons could be that the Khoi-Khoi people were for many years located in Afrikaans speaking areas such as the Southwestern Cape and North Eastern Cape and gravitated towards Afrikaans which is predominantly spoken in the Cape area.

Today young Khoi-Khoi adults and children speak very little of their own language and speak Afrikaans as a primary language.

Samyeli Edward Krune Ngxekengxeke Mqhayi was born in the rural village of Alice in the Eastern Cape of South Africa. He was considered the father of Xhosa literature before independence from Britain and during the Apartheid (segrationist) system government in South Africa.

A former school teacher and journalist, who contributed to three Xhosa language newspapers, reporting particularly about political events that affected Xhosa people and other Black South Africans that the time.

Writing in one of the ethnic languages was considered courageous and an act of defiance at the time, as the government had forced the Afrikaans language upon Black South Africans.

The following is an English translation of the Xhosa poem Ukuthshona ka Mendi (The Sinking of the Mendi)

Yes, this is something that already happened;
We, who knew, we’re not surprised;
We did not approve, it happened for this reason;
If they were forced to go, nothing was going to be right;
So, Sotashe! Things eventually became turnout fine;
The spirit of the Mendi lives on;
For our blood was not spilled in vain.

We begged you not to go;
We did not provide for the journey ahead;
The reward would have not been greater than the stars;
Nor would they have become rich;
For those who also died in Africa and East Germany –
Had you no respect for our King,
Could you not humble yourself before Britain?
When you left your home we spoke to you;
It was also the day we shed heavy tears;
The day when fathers were broken and mothers filled with tears;
You were given the thoughts of your land;
Did we not say that your sacrifice will not be in vain?
What is it really to sacrifice and leave you home?
Why does our country not love us?

We now pay our respects and who look to the heavens;
We say fatherless child and sorrowful wives;
For death is normal, as one of us had to die;
So others could live, with these words I say be still;
It is our nature to uplift each other and sacrifice;
Take this dance of your ancestors, who said “This is not all in vain”

Oh! Greatest of Africa, you who have left us!
This ship could have been saved,
Warrior of strength, greater than Kings;
I will stand with you until the day you rise;
I will hold onto your work as legacy for those to come;
And so it will be!