



Concise Project Program Report on:

Documentation of Darfur Indigenous Languages.

June – December, 2019.

Under the Patronage of UNESCO's 2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages.

1. Overview

The Project for Documentation of Darfur's Indigenous Languages shall begin in June and end in December 2019. The Center for Darfur Heritage at the University of Nyala will be the hub for preparing audio, video and computer tools and laboratory equipment for recording, processing and dissemination of linguistic outcome of the fieldwork activities.

A team of linguists, technicians and supervisors shall be coordinated in regard to the documentation process while indigenous communities of Darfur shall be informed of the opportunities will be provided by the program and the potential benefits for future participation on cultural events. The Library of the Center is also a supporting facility which provides digital as well as print sources of information for the working team of the project.

2. The Action Plan

The project program shall focus on the following:

1. Investigation and recording of the components of each indigenous language groups.
2. Study of language structure, the way the sounds, grammar and vocabulary of each indigenous language groups have evolved throughout history.
3. Study of the social aspects of each indigenous language groups, the way that language has come to serve a multiplicity of functions in the indigenous society.
4. Investigation of the literary characteristics, the way speakers have evoked the power, range and beauty of the language to express new orders of meaning.
5. Compare systems of nomenclature, lexicon, phonology, and common word relations within other language class families.

6. Analysis of the possible relations of existing languages against their extinct counterparts in Darfur.
7. Seek advices and share ideas for future work concerning better handling of indigenous languages for media, education and government services.

3. Fieldwork

The project phases shall be implemented through the following:

Phases	Recording team	Language Groups
Phase I	6 persons	Masalit – Tama – Daju
Phase II	6 persons	Fur – Zaghawa - Midob
Phase III	6 persons	Mima – Bidyat - Eringa
Phase IV	6 persons	Asongor – Mileri - Singar
Total	24 persons	

4. Transport

There will be four vehicles specified for the transport of the working team to tour indigenous speakers in their villages in Darfur for the purposes of recording. One supervisor at least shall accompany each team for coordination of work between government authorities, local chiefs and the target communities.

Contact and coordination:

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