

Extension Phase of the Senior Fellowship for Dr. Saudah Namyalo: The dynamics of language variation: A study of linguistic repertoires of Ruruuli-Lunyara speakers

Initiative: Wissen für morgen – Kooperative Forschungsvorhaben im subsaharischen Afrika (beendet)

Ausschreibung: Postdoctoral Fellowships in the Humanities in Africa

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Laufzeit: 2 Jahre

The present project is an organic extension of the on-going project - A comprehensive bilingual talking Luruuli/Lunyara-English dictionary. Its overarching aim is to investigate the dynamics of language variation in Ruruuli-Lunyara, an underresearched Bantu language of central Uganda. First, the study will provide a comprehensive account of linguistic repertoires of Ruruuli-Lunyara speakers. Specifically, the project will investigate the nature of multilingualism, patterns of language use and the factors that influence language choice among Ruruuli-Lunyara speakers. Second, using the available corpus collected during the on-going project, the present project will investigate aspects of language-internal phonetic and morphosyntactic variation of Ruruuli-Lunyara as conditioned by various demographic factors, as well as by register (specifically, by the distinctions between the emerging written and various oral registers). In addition, the project will undertake several capacity building initiatives among the staff and graduate students of the Department of Linguistics and African Languages of Makerere University staff. They will be offered training in using corpora and corpus-linguistic tools, as well as quantitative methods to study language variation.

Projektbeteiligte

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An exploration of the acoustic space of rhotics and laterals in Ruruuli