

**REVIEWER'S REPORT**

**Manuscript No.: JNHST-033**

**Title: THE SOCIOLOGICAL CONSEQUENCES OF DECLINING INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE USE AMONG THE IGALA.**

**Recommendation:**

- Accept as it is .....
- Accept after minor revision.....**
- Accept after major revision .....
- Do not accept (*Reasons below*) .....

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	✓			
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity		✓		
Significance	✓			

**Reviewer Id: JPR-184**

**Reviewer's Comment for Publication.**

The manuscript presents a well-structured and intellectually engaging analysis of the sociological consequences of declining indigenous language use among the Igala people of Kogi State, Nigeria. The topic is highly relevant within contemporary sociological and linguistic discourse, particularly in the context of cultural sustainability, identity preservation, and globalization pressures on indigenous communities.

The study demonstrates strong originality by focusing on the Igala people, a relatively under-researched ethnolinguistic group compared to dominant Nigerian language groups. The use of Fishman's Language Maintenance and Shift Theory provides an appropriate and solid theoretical foundation for examining the relationship between language decline and social transformation.

The methodology, based on an analytical literature review, is adequately justified and systematically presented. The inclusion and exclusion criteria, as well as the use of recent literature (2015–2026), enhance the credibility and currency of the study. The literature review is comprehensive, conceptually grounded, and demonstrates critical engagement with existing scholarship.

The findings and discussions are coherent and logically developed. The manuscript effectively links declining language use to weakening cultural identity, disruption of intergenerational communication, and erosion of traditional value transmission. The use of contextual examples from Igala communities strengthens the sociological relevance of the analysis.

However, some minor revisions are recommended:

**1. Language and Grammar:**

There are minor typographical and grammatical inconsistencies (e.g., spacing issues, occasional sentence structure problems) that should be carefully edited for clarity and readability.

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2. **Methodological Depth:**

While the analytical literature review is appropriate, the paper would benefit from briefly acknowledging its limitations, particularly the absence of primary empirical data.

3. **Referencing Consistency:**

Ensure uniformity in citation style and formatting across all references.

4. **Conclusion Enhancement:**

The conclusion could be slightly strengthened by more explicitly linking findings to broader sociological theory and policy implications.

Overall, the manuscript makes a valuable contribution to the sociology of language, indigenous studies, and African cultural research. With minor revisions, it is suitable for publication.