

**AN ANALYSIS OF THE REVITALISATION OF XITSONGA:  
A DREAM OR REALITY?**

**M.A. (Translation Studies and Linguistics)**

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**AN ANALYSIS OF THE REVITALISATION OF XITSONGA:  
A DREAM OR REALITY?**

By

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*Dissertation submitted in accordance with the requirements for the degree of*

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in

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**SUPERVISOR : PROFESSOR R.N. MADADZHE**

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**DECLARATION**

I MAGEBULA MICHAEL NKHWASHU, declare that **AN ANALYSIS OF THE REVITALISATION OF XITSONGA: A DREAM OR REALITY?** is my own work. All the references have been acknowledged, making use of complete references.

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**M.M. NKHWASHU**  


.....  
**DATE**

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## **DEDICATION**

This work is dedicated to my dearest mother, Evelyn Cheza Khundzula Nkhwashu, for supporting me throughout my studies, my wife, Winnie Selelo; my children Kulani Treasure, Katekani Eugene and Shiamukerisiwa.

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## **ABSTRACT**

This dissertation endeavours to examine the causes of the marginalisation of Xitsonga in South Africa. The study has identified several factors that play a role in the marginalisation of Xitsonga. Some of these factors are inadequate promotion of Xitsonga by State Institutions and the negative attitude that Xitsonga speakers have against their language.

In spite of these unfavourable conditions, the study has shown that several measures can be undertaken in order to strengthen Xitsonga as a language. Some of these measures are that Xitsonga must be offered as a subject at school and at tertiary level. Books and newspapers must be written in Xitsonga, to mention but a few.

Lastly, the study highlights the fact that the existence of Xitsonga will be determined by its speakers. If they are willing to promote and support it there is no doubt that Xitsonga will exist for a long time to come.

