

Language contact, linguistic imperialism and the Yoruba language

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The place of English in Nigeria is indeed an important one. It is the official language of communication, education law and legal proceedings and lingua franca per excellence. Such enviable position has made the language threaten suppressed and dominate indigenous languages in the country. This paper considers the effect of the hegemony of English on the Yoruba language, culture and tradition. It concludes that unless something urgent is done the damage that may yet be done on Yoruba language by English may be incalculable and the loss, irreparable.