

The songhoi and fulfulde languages contact in Hombori(MALI)

Sekou Bocoum

Ecole Normale Supérieure de Bamako - Mali

Hombori is a town in Mali where speakers of songhoi (first language), fulfulde and tamasheq (minority languages) live together.

This communication " The songhoi and fulfulde languages contact in Hombori" will primarily deal with the relations between songhoi and fulfulde speakers who mix with each other in families, streets,public places and around wells. It will treat, among other things, the competence and the performance of speakers according to the age and sex, the choice of codes,the bilingual interference and the borrowings from other languages like tamasheq, dogoso, moré and hausa.

Age:

The age is a determining factor of competence and performance of songhoi speakers in fulfulde and vice versa and even sometimes of certain speakers of fulfulde in their mother tongue. The social , cultural and economic reasons of these competence and performance will be mentioned in this part.

Sex:

While most of the women stay at home , it is the men who exchange words specially in mosque, livestock market and elsewhere and with a few women who sell milk,spices and other food products in Hombori market place and in neighbouring villages. This point will deal with the competence and performance of songhoi speakers in fulfulde and vice versa and some domains of their competences and performances.

Choice of codes:

The question here will be to whom, when, under which circumstances the songhoi speaker speaks fulfulde and vice versa? Even if we often see during conversations a fulfulde speaker speak his mother tongue to his songhoi interlocutor (who replies in songhoi).

Bilingual interference

The mixture of codes, calques and linguistic attitudes in both languages; and the acquisition conditions of each language by the speaker of the other language will be treated in this passage.

Borrowings

Finally this part will highlight the borrowings from tamasheq of which every inhabitant of the region knows a few words at least, from moré and hausa with speakers - from mossi country, Niger and Ghana- which whom the inhabitants of the region have had strong commercial exchanges before our countries became independant. Infact, while cola, pearl and other products traders from mossi country and Niger stayed in Hombori for a long time, some livestock traders from Hombori stayed in Ayarou (Niger), .in Kumasi (Ghana) crossing the territory of the mossi country .