

**USMANU DANFODIYO UNIVERSITY, SOKOTO
(POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL)**

**MULTILINGUALISM IN URBAN ILORIN: A STUDY OF
LANGUAGES IN CONTACT**

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DEDICATION

This Dissertation is dedicated to my loving Parent, Alh. MUSA Abdulkadir and Hajia Hafsat Musa Abdulkadir, who always believe that, Education is the best legacy for a child, and who have strongly contributed in laying the foundation that makes it possible for me to build on. More so, to the Memory of my late Grand Parent; Mallam Abdulkadir Ishola Onisagidi and Hajia Fatimata Binta Ishola, my Guardian's late Wives; Hajia Kulu and Hajia Zuwaira Mohammad Ibrahim Gusau. May Allah reward them with Jannatul Fridaus, Ameen

CERTIFICATION

This dissertation by MUSA Ahmed Abdulkadir has met the requirements for the awards of Degree of Master of Arts (Linguistic) of Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto and is approved for his contribution to knowledge.

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ABSTRACT

The dynamism of language contact situation is a global and general phenomenon. Thus, this present study is a pointer to the multilingual nature of urban Ilorin. It analyzed the languages in contact in this urban setting; such as Hausa / Fulfulde, Nupe and Yoruba languages, as well as English and Arabic language. This study posits that languages in contact, as a sociolinguistic phenomenon, have both positive and negative outcome in this urban multilingual community. This study was analyzed from both diachronic and synchronic perspectives. And it was posited that the contact between the foreign and indigenous languages in Ilorin has a positive influence such as bilingualism, multilingualism, code – mixing, code- switching, and borrowing. However, the negative aspects of languages in contact in this community are issue of linguistic suicide and murder, or what is called language and cultural endangerment and extinction.