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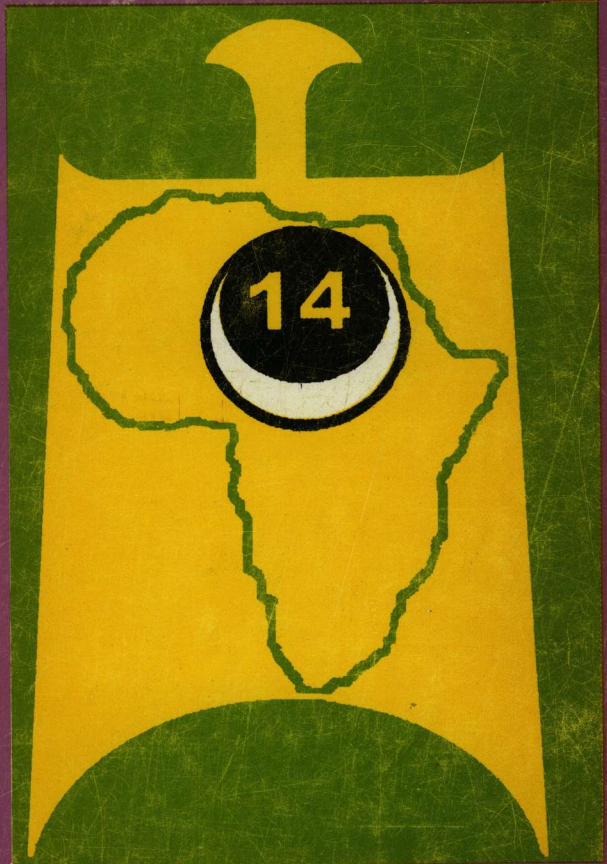
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THE POSITION OF ARABIC LANGUAGE WITH SOME EUROPEAN LANGUAGES; PORTUGUESE, FRENCH AND ENGLISH IN AFRICA

**(A Comparative study and strategies for spreading of
Arabic Language)**

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The Arabic Language is one of the Semitic Languages. It belongs to the Asian-African family; one of African Continent Language families, while the traditional land of Arabic language is the Arabian Peninsula. This Language was not known at the International level before Islam, as the Persian Language, even the Arab tribes did not agree on a particular dialect. But after the advent of Islam (and the holy Qura'n descended with the Arabic Language) it became the language of all, and one of the important languages in the World. Thus, it became the official language of both Arab and non Arab Nations where Islam rules.

The Arabic Language is the sixth International languages in the World and is by that recognized before the French language as follows; the Chinese, India, English, Russian, Spanish, Arabic, French and Portuguese. The main reason for that is the relationship between the Arabic Language and Islam.

As for Africa in particular, the Arabic Language is greatly deep-rooted. Geological Studies point out that African Continent and Asian Continent were a single land

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block before some geological changes happened in the age of the second geology which led to the groove's appearance of Africa. The resulting separation from each other left a narrow square with remained dry land, until the digging of Suez

Canal, after half of the twentieth Century. This confirms that there is a strong link between African and Asian Citizens.

Furthermore the history equally confirms the interrelationship between Arab Nation and African continent, north and East before Islam, based on trade, the navigation and the political circumstances. These account for the movement of Arab Merchants in group to some parts of the East Africa. The Arab Merchants came in more from Arabian Peninsula through Suez Canal to the North and West of Africa, caring various goods such as silk, saddles, swords, cupper, textiles and other materials. The trade relationship started before the seventh century (BC).

The Arabic language spread rapidly with the spread of Islam in Africa among the people and kingdoms, these gave the opportunity for the establishment of Arabic language and Islamic Centers, and the official medium of expression until the colonists came to Africa and imposed themselves completely on the continent, and struggled to change the state of Arabic Culture to their Culture, they forced the people to use their language through Christian Missionaries, who came firstly to the continent to propagate Christianity among of the people, and built Schools and Churches for that purpose.

The condition continued until each country gained independent one after the other. And despite that, the African Countries have taken their Colonist languages as official language, while some accepted them as second Language.

At the moment the Colonists are still in the struggle for the use of their Language as official language in African Continent with organized strategies. For example the United States uses at least five different organizations for the spreading of English Language they are: the Agency for International Development, the United States information services, Peace Group, States administration and the Defenses management. And the British established extremely effective enterprises for the execution of its language spread policy, by establishing of British Council with 200 Millions Pounds starling, B.B.C and other English language teaching Programs on Television and Radio and the various Centers now established in Africa for spreading European Languages, English and French.

The responsibility of spreading of Arabic Language falls on the Arabs and Muslims in the World. Firstly, the Arabs will have to show more commitment and seriousness since the only medium for their Identity is Arabic language; any nation that neglects its Language is neglecting its Identity. Secondly, Muslims all over the World should also see the development and spread of Arabic Language as a challenge, since it is the language of the Qura'n and Islam. And based on divine revelation in the Holy Qura'n, where Allah says **"Indeed, it is We who sent down the message (i.e., the Qura'n, and indeed, will be its guardian"**

(Qura'n 15 chapter 14 , Verse 9). Thus any act of spreading of Arabic Language is an effort towards the spread of Islam. This paper will answer the following Questions:

- 1- What is the relationship between Arabic Language and African Continent?.
- 2- What is the Position of Arabic Language in Africa before the advent of European Colonialists?.
- 3- What is the Position of Arabic Language during Colonization era?.
- 4- What are the European Languages that are competing now with Arabic Language in Africa, and comparison between the spreading of Arabic Language and these Languages?.
- 5- What are the strategies and suggestions to spread Arabic Language in Africa under the umbrella of Globalization?.
- 6- What are the Infrastructures necessary to be put in place for the spread of Arabic Language in Africa?