



Call for papers International Conference on "Tamazight Linguistic Map in Algeria"

*Organised by the High Commission of Tamazight (HCA)
jointly with the African University Ahmed Draia (Adrar)
and the African Academy of Languages (ACALAN), Bamako.*

Adrar, 21 - 22 - 23 november 2020

Problem :

Language is an essential component to the identity of people, which makes debate about it extremely sensitive, and its implications have an important impact on the public opinion and affect it positively and negatively. This justifies assigning the language issue to the specialists in linguistics, phonology, ethno linguistics, etc. to keep it away from the ideological conflicts that hinder its promotion and development. The linguistic co-existence between the Berber varieties on the one hand, and between these varieties and Arabic on the other represents one of the aspects of harmony that has characterized the nation for centuries. However, it is important to mention that during the period from independence in 1962 to the nineteen nineties, Berber was excluded from all official spaces. Algeria is a multilingual country with two mother tongues; Tamazight and its thirteen varieties and Arabic.

This diversity and linguistic pluralism calls for preservation because it represents a treasure that requires being valued. Moreover, it should not be left to itself facing neglect and abandonment which makes of it threatened of extinction in various regions in the country. This oral cultural heritage is in danger of

disappearance unless it is documented in its original form by institutional mechanisms and scientific methods.

It is, thus, necessary to promote a linguistic policy based on the socio-anthropological reality characterized by Arabic -Tamazight bilingualism, and that constitutes a sound and valid argument for establishing a rupture with the prevailing ideological perspective inherited from the colonial era.

History confirms that the co-existence of Tamazight alongside Arabic for centuries has evolved into a form of fusion between these two components of the national identity, and that they have never been a source of societal clash and disintegration preventing communication and threatening the identity and security of Algerians.

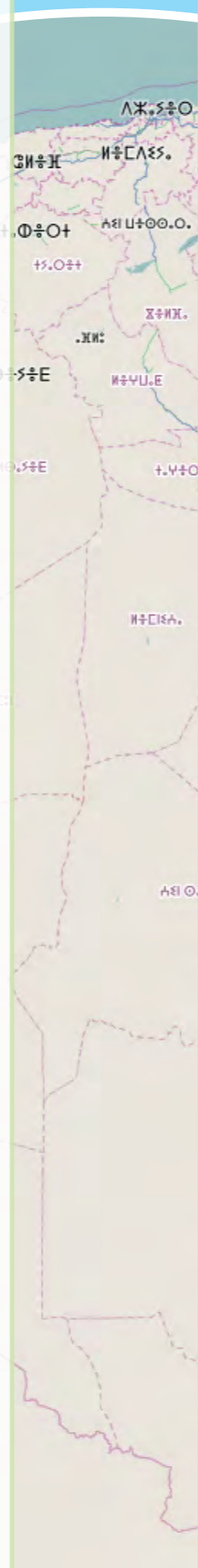
The aim of the High Commission of Tamazight is to study the varieties of Tamazight which are essentially based on the same grammatical structures (syntax) which constitute the backbone of the language, convergent phonological systems and a wide common vocabulary. Each of these varieties must be dealt with in its natural geographical context, considering that they are the roots of an inclusive language –still under construction. The most important factors that contribute to its formation are: the mass-media, the school and the literary and artistic productions. The history of the development of languages in the world reminds us that the language varieties of limited use were the basis for developed standardized languages which carry knowledge and science.

Many countries have experienced pluralism; in Belgium for instance, French, Dutch and German stand for official languages. Switzerland is another example where German, French, Italian and Romanian co-exist. These successful models are not limited to developed countries but they are also found in some developing countries. In Nigeria for instance, three main local languages live side by side (Igbo, Yoruba and Hausa) together with English, which was adopted as an official language to preserve the national linguistic unity of the country after its independence.

The issue of establishing a Tamazight linguistic map in Algeria is a crucial step to initiate a necessary and all-inclusive plan reflecting the official status of Tamazight on the field; this map constitutes the foundation for launching any language policy based on scientific bases that can be realized on the ground. In fact, the efforts, which have been made by the Algerian authorities to promoting Tamazight and all its varieties, are to a large extent satisfying, particularly in matter of legislation and legislative texts; yet, they are still waiting for the linguistic scholars and researchers to accompany them. These combined efforts will certainly raise Tamazight to the position it deserves after removing the administrative obstacles and providing enough material and financial support for its restructuring and use by society. Besides, a smart assessment of what has been achieved on the ground, such as published academic works, literary and artistic production must be done.

Achieving a precise linguistic map of Tamazight through involving all active specialists in the field contributes to setting forward a viable strategy to promote and upgrade Tamazight in Algeria in particular and in the Maghreb and Africa, in general.

Starting from this standpoint, the High Commission of Tamazight (HCA) included in its annual program of activities for 2020, the initiative of organizing a scientific conference on



“The Amazigh Linguistic Map in Algeria” jointly with the African University Ahmed Draia in Adrar and the African Academy of Languages (ACALAN) in Bamako.

Finally, it is significant to mention that the aspects of linguistic co-existence in Algeria are deeply rooted in its history as Algeria witnessed diverse successive civilizations which enriched the national identity, and enhanced the quality of openness away from all seclusion and stubbornness.

The Conference Axes :

- 1 - The Tamazight linguistic map in North Africa between the united common past and the divided and fragmented present due to the reality of political borders.
- 2 - The linguistic map in Algeria: inventory, statistics and identification of the existing Tamazight varieties within the national strategy to ensure the promotion, development and enrichment of its authentic cultural diversity.
- 3 - The linguistic Tamazight Atlas in Algeria.
- 4 - Models of successful language policies in the world.
- 5 - Linguistic policy in Algeria through legislation and legislative texts and the efforts of the authorities to promote the linguistic components of the Algerian identity.
- 6 - Reality and prospects of linguistic diversity in Algeria in academic research.
- 7 - Cognitive approaches to the Tamazight varieties in Algeria.
- 8 - Dialectal classification of the Tamazight varieties in Algeria.
- 9 - Dialectal description of the Tamazight speeches (isoglosses - demarcating isoglosses – heteroglosses)
- 10 - Dialectal compatibility and interference between the Tamazight varieties in Algeria
- 11 - Linguistic variation in the Tamazight varieties (morphology – speech variations – semantics – syntax – phonology – prosody – etc.).

General Organization of the Conference :

Honorary Presidents of the Conference :

- 1 - Mr. Si Hachemi Assad, General Secretary of the High Commission of Tamazight (HCA)
- 2 - Pr. Djerfour Nouredine, Rector of the University Ahmed Draia, Adrar

Scientific Committee :

- 1 - Dr. Rebhi Allaoua, Institute of Language and Amazigh Culture, University Abderrahmane Mira, Bejaia, member at ALACAN
- 2 - Dr Boudjemaa Aziri, Director of Education and Research at the HCA
- 3 - Pr. Bouhania Bachir, University Ahmed Draia, Adrar
- 4 - Remdane Touati, Doctor of Berber linguistics of the University of Aix-Marseille, France.
- 5 - Dr. Abbou Tahar, University Ahmed Draia, Adrar
- 6 - Dr. Benkhaled Abdelkrim, University Ahmed Draia, Adrar

Languages of the Conference :

Arabic, Tamazight, French and English

Modalities of participation in the conference :

Accepted papers for publication will be published through ENAG

Proposal submission deadline : 8 September 2020.

Notification of acceptance is expected on : 02 October 2020

Submission of accepted papers for conference : 02 November 2020

Conference dates : 21-23 November 2020

Venue of the Conference : University Ahmed Draia, Adrar

Accommodation:

Accommodation, food, and transportation within the city of Adrar are at the charge of the University of Adrar Ahmed Draia

Air-plane tickets:

Only invited Professors Emeritus can benefit from Air-plane tickets provided by the conference organizers. All other participants are at the charge of their own institutions.

Participation fees :

Participation to the conference is free of any fees.

Instructions for submissions of proposals:

- 1 - Participants should send the whole paper by the proposal submission deadline after notification of acceptance. (Word format, Times New Roman, 12); the title of the paper between 5 to 10 words.
- 2 - A 200 word abstract with 05 keywords.
- 3 - A brief biography bearing the participant's contacts, scientific position and the main published works related to the theme of the conference.

Participation sheet :

All proposals must be sent to the following e-mail adresse :
colloque@hcamazighite.dz

First Name : _____ : اللقب
Last Name : _____ : الاسم
Academic status : _____ : الوظيفة أو الرتبة
University/ institution : _____ : اسم الجامعة أو مؤسسة البحث
Phone / Fax : _____ : الهاتف و الفاكس
Mobile : _____ : الهاتف النقال
E-mail : _____ : العنوان الالكتروني

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