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"Official Language Extrapolation and Home Language Survival in Cameroon"

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The official bilingualism policy of Cameroon adopted at the wake of independence which stipulates that all Cameroonians have to be sufficiently bilingual in French and English, has had varying effects on the Home Languages of the country. These effects which ought normally be catastrophic to a point of endangerment have not reached alarming pitch yet.

This paper studies the relationship of languages in Cameroon, here classified into three groups: Official languages, Home Languages, and Pidgin English and seeks to explain why most African languages, most of which are represented in Cameroon, have not received the trademark "endangered" like some Caribbean counterparts.

What this stand is built on as evidence is the colonisation routes and types, promotion of the bilingualism scheme, the parallel functional requirements of all three language classes, the current pull of the English language, and cultural conservatism. These may not be the ultimate factors but these constitute the solid core of the ancestral linguistic heritage that is still in place.