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languages; 4.3 Part III. Cameroon Pidgin English: Expanding functions and increasing users

4.4 Part IV. Linguistic communication: Politeness and social identities

PART I :Indigenous languages: Policy and practice; Functional marginalisation and the future of indigenous languages; 1. Use of indigenous languages during colonialism; 1.1 The German language policy: 1884-1916; 1.2 The French language policy: 1916-1960; 1.3 The British language policy: 1916-1961; 2 Use of indigenous languages after independence; 2.1 Immediate post-independence period (1960-1970); 2.2 Reunification period (1970-1980); 2.3 New Deal period (1980-1990); 2.4 Globalisation period (1990-2012)

3. Standardisation and the need for new official functions

4. Nation, national languages and functions; 5. Languages in radio broadcast: Measuring the extent of marginalisation; Language policy towards indigenous languages; 1. Does Cameroon have a language policy?; 2. Fragmentary language policy in Africa; 3. Decrees and laws about indigenous languages: Stitching together the points; 3. On decrees and laws: Government's new attitude; 4. To speak or not to speak; Constraints to indigenous language empowerment; 1. Indigenous languages are non-prestigious

2. Indigenous languages are not relevant in formal domains

3. Indigenous languages lack economic and/or international promise; 4. Indigenous languages disrupt ethnic equality; 5. Indigenous languages negatively influence the acquisition of English; Crossing the survival line; 1. Empowerment of official languages; 2. Factors that protect indigenous languages from extinction; 2.1 Chronology of acquisition; 2.2 Parallel functions: Languages for communal communication and languages for socio-economic survival; 2.3 Importance of the homeland or village

2.4 Promotion of, and identification with, indigenous cultures, languages and villages

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### Sommario/riassunto

The (dis)empowerment of languages through language policy in multilingual postcolonial communities often shapes speakers' identification with these languages, their attitude towards other languages in the community, and their choices in interpersonal and intergroup communication. Focusing on the dynamics of Cameroon's multilingualism, this book contributes to current debates on the impact of politic language policy on daily language use in sociocultural and interpersonal interactions, multiple identity construction, indigenous language teaching and empowerment, the use of Cameroon Pidgin English

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