

# **REVITALIZATION OF HAKKA LANGUAGE: INTERVIEW STUDY IN QIONGLIN, TAIWAN**

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## **Abstract**

The Hakka language has been losing its ground year by year. Less people use the language and the social attention to it is declining. Probably because there is a gap between the old generation and the young generation. The old generation people can speak the Hakka language fluently, but the young generation hardly speaking it. For example, Qionglin township in Hsinchu has a large proportion of population are Hakka people. Despite the great amount of Hakka people there, the Hakka language is seldom used in their daily life. The fewer people use the Hakka language, the less likely we could preserve the precious assets of mother tongue left by our distinguished history.

This paper provided an interview study on the revitalize the Hakka language in the family. The qualitative research interviewed six families. The research aimed to understand the use of Hakka in Qionglin Hakka family, whether the mother-tongue education and the policy which the government promotes are effective or not, and the willingness of handing down the Hakka language to their next generation. The findings from the interview provided the useful knowledge of how to revitalize the Hakka language.

In conclusion, I think that there are some effective ways to revitalize the Hakka language. First, it is necessary to create the linguistic context not only at home but also in the public, like the school and transportation station. If people do not have a good linguistic context, they can learn the language well. Second, the mother-tongue course should more than one period at school. The school also need to stipulate that the students should use the Hakka language to talk to each other. Third, the government can release the CD or some interesting video to teach the Hakka language. It can let people learn the Hakka language in a different way. The Hakka language can be revitalized in the future.

Key words: Revitalization of Hakka language, Hakka Language, Hakka, Mother-tongue Education, Language Heritage