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The Role of Kiswahili in Promoting Intercultural Communication and Strengthening National Ethos Amongst the Co-Cultures of the Rift Valley in Kenya

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7 Abstract

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This study focuses on Kiswahili as an intercultural communication tool that bridges the gap of 8 language barrier in the diverse Rift Valley of Kenya. It aims to investigate the relevance of a 9 cross-cultural language on interrelationships among people from diverse cultural sub-sets in 10 the Rift Valley and to evaluate the role of Kiswahili in enhancing intercultural relations and 11 strengthening national ethos in the region. Quantitative data are collected through 12 questionnaires and analyzed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS). The 13 narrative analytical approach is used to investigate how people live their intercultural 14 experiences when utilizing a common language. Through theory triangulation, the study is 15 supported by the ?Alternation Model? as the applicable model to explain the lived experiences 16 in a cosmopolitan society backed by the respondent's opinion. The study establishes that 17 language difference results in tense intercultural relations among the co-cultures, illustrated by 18 discrimination, intimidation, social exclusion, biased acceptance and stereotyping. 19

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21 Index terms— acculturation, intercultural communication, national ethos, identity, co-cultures.

utilisée pour enquêter sur la manière dont les individus vivent leurs expériences interculturelles lorsqu'elles 22 utilisent une langue commune. A travers la triangulation théorique, l'étude a été sous-tendue par le « modèle 23 alternatif » comme modèle applicable pour expliquer les expériences vécues dans une société cosmopolite soutenue 24 par l'opinion du répondant. L'étude a révélé que la différence de langue conduit à des relations interculturelles 25 26 tendues parmi les co-cultures, dont des exemples sont la discrimination, l'intimidation, l'exclusion sociale, l'acceptation biaisée et les préjugés. Par ailleurs, l'étude a analysé la manière dont une langue transculturelle 27 (kiswahili) limite l'acculturation à travers l'assimilation, la séparation et la marginalisation. Elle s'est focalisée 28 sur la stratégie d'intégration de l'acculturation à travers l'utilisation de la contextualisation du kiswahili dans 29 des milieux formels et informels dans la Vallée du Rift. L'étude conclut en élevant le kiswahili, une langue 30 transculturelle qui unit, fait la fierté, permet la compréhension, aide les personnes à avoir une vision partagée ; 31 une langue qui a une fonction identitaire et qui socialise les populations dans la Vallée du Rift du Kenya. 32

33 1 General Introduction

his first chapter explores the background of the research topic. The chapter states the research problem, provides
research questions, the objectives, and the research hypothesis. The section provides the methodology of the
study, delimitation of the scope and ends by providing the structure of the study.

³⁷ 2 a) Background of the Study

³⁸ Intercultural Communication (I.C.) cannot and should not be undermined for it is pivotal in streamlining national

ethos, together with enhancing the intercultural understanding. Effective intercultural communication occurswhen individuals use a cross-cultural language, which is understood by both parties in the discussion so that the

⁴¹ language becomes a tool for mediation. With the advent of globalization, cross-cultural interaction is not new.

42 It has existed for ages since the world is a global village. People travel to different parts within and outside their

- 43 countries or areas of origin, looking for job opportunities and have to adapt to a new environment, which entails
- 44 learning a new language where necessary ??Persikova, 2004: 224).
- $_{45}$ In articulation, the research focuses on the following tenets: How Kiswahili aids intercultural communication at
- $_{46}$ formal and informal settings; the influence of Kiswahili in maintaining an identity, promoting unity, encouraging
- 47 understanding through human interaction between the dominant and the cocultures; the influence of Kiswahili in
- handling all forms of discrimination, promoting shared vision and formation of positive intercultural relationships;
- 49 Kiswahili as an agent of socialisation and finally how effective intercultural communication using Kiswahili 50 translates into a source of pride among citizens in a cosmopolitan area.

⁵¹ 3 b) Statement of the Problem

Nowadays, a growing number of people are moving across cultural boundaries within the Rift Valley that had previously served as defining parameters of personal and cultural diversity and identity. Such migration causes cultural interaction which necessitates intercultural communication, which in turn dictates the need to have a lingua franca. The lack of an appropriate transborder language of communication always brings misunderstandings that compromise national ethos and drive intercultural conflicts among various diverse cultural

- 57 sub-sets.
- The ethnic friction causes political alignments that invoke potent perennial grievances that galvanise ethnic-oriented support bases, land tenure conflicts exacerbated by ethno-regionalist politics and sentiments.
- ethnic-oriented support bases, land tenure conflicts exacerbated by ethno-regionalist politics and sentiments,
 discrimination in resource distributions, (education bursaries, job opportunities), and language barrier often
- 61 having tragic consequences. The above is part of the leads which informed the study to focus on answering the
- 62 primary question: What role does Kiswahili play in promoting intercultural communication and strengthening
- national ethos amongst the cocultures of the Rift Valley in Kenya?

⁶⁴ 4 c) Research Questions

The general question stated above gives rise to two research questions that the study focuses on. They are: 1. How does the existence of a cross-cultural language affect interrelationship among individuals from different cultural sub-sets in the Rift Valley? 2. How does Kiswahili enhance intercultural relations and national ethos among diverse communities in the region?

69 5 d) Objectives of the Study

This research aims to: 1. Investigate the relevance of a cross-cultural language on interrelationships among people from diverse cultural sub-sets in the Rift Valley. 2. Evaluate the role of Kiswahili in enhancing intercultural

 72 $\,$ relations and strengthening national ethos in the region.

⁷³ 6 e) Research Hypothesis

74 The study hypothesises that: 1. A cross-cultural language affects how people relate in a cosmopolitan region and

⁷⁵ consequently, becomes a unifying factor. 2. Kiswahili helps to define and build pillars of national ethos among ⁷⁶ the co-cultures of the Rift-Valley region in Kenya.

77 7 f) Overview of the Methodology

This survey incorporates the triangulation approach of inquiry that help us to understand the lived experiences,
behaviors, emotions, and meanings that using a cross-culture language (Kiswahili) leverages on intercultural
communication among sub-set cultures within a cosmopolitan area. Both qualitative and quantitative data are
collected from the sample population through questionnaires.

By use of purposive sampling, five people in any administrative position in firms located in the Rift Valley are selected together with 20 other respondents. The 25 respondents meet critical selection criteria (stipulated in chapter three). Also, a random sampling procedure is applied to select other 25 participants to the survey to limit bias. The data is collected through the administration of interviews using structured and semistructured

⁸⁶ questionnaires, and sound recordings.

Data collected is analyzed using a Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) and the narrative analytical approach considering that the emphasis of this research is on how people make sense of their intercultural experiences when utilizing a common language. Narratives are coded using a twofold system in relation to available scholarly theoretical taxonomy. Participants' profiles are also considered to facilitate a thematic analysis of the descriptions, emerging themes, and sub-themes are summarized in tables.

Furthermore, the research underpins four social science theories that are reviewed to predict the chances of acculturation due to diverse interactions in a cosmopolitan environment. They include the Developmental Model of Intercultural Sensitivity (DMIS) propounded by Bennett (1993), the theory of Dimensional Accrual and Dissociation (DAD) propounded by ??ramer (2013: 123-184), the Fourfold Model by ??erry & Annis (1994; ??001: 382-406), and the Alternation Model propounded by LaFramboise et al ??1993).

97 8 g) Delimitation of Scope

This research is limited to four theories: The Developmental Model of Intercultural Sensitivity (DMIS) propounded by Bennett (1993), the theory of Dimensional Accrual and Dissociation (DAD) propounded by ??ramer (2013: 123-184), the Fourfold Model by ??erry & Annis (1994; ??001: 382-406), and the Alternation Model propounded by LaFramboise et al ??1993).

Empirically, the study focuses on studies by Nussbaum (2011), Rattansi (2011) Wise (2010) and ??NESCO

103 (2005). These studies reflect the realia under study. Moreover, the study is geographically delimitated to the Rift

Valley and not any other regions in Kenya since the area reflects a diverse meshwork of multicultural communities. The sample is limited to 50 respondents to represent the entire population, comprising individuals who are above

- ¹⁰⁵ The sample is limited to 50 respondents to represent the entire population, comprising individuals who are above ¹⁰⁶ 18 years and speak Kiswahili as well as any other language, preferably English. Finally, the study is conducted
- 10 resclusively for six months.

¹⁰⁸ 9 h) Structure of the Study

The study is divided into five chapters, the general introduction, literature review, methodology, data presentation and analysis, and conclusion and recommendation.

111 Chapter One provides a background of the research and discusses significant aspects that include; the research 112 problems, research questions, research objectives, research hypotheses, and an overview of the methodology.

113 Chapter two comprises literature review. It presents the conceptual, theoretical frameworks and empirical 114 studies relevant to the study.

Chapter Three is the methodology. The chapter presents the methodological approach to the study, the population, the sample, the design, instruments of data collection, their administration method, and method of data collection, quality criteria, and analysis. Chapter four presents and analyses data for the study.

118 Chapter Five provides a conclusion of the study, unveils study findings, and recommends future research 119 prospects.

To conclude, this chapter reflects the background to the problem of the study, which is the lack of an appropriate transborder language of communication that results in misunderstandings that compromise national ethos and drive intercultural conflicts among the diverse cultural sub-sets. To articulate the research problem, research questions are asked, objectives set and the hypothesis are stated. The chapter also presents an overview of methods and the theories to be used in the study. The forthcoming chapter reviews the literature that is significant to the research.

126 10 Chapter Two

127 II.

128 11 Literature Review

The chapter provides a clear focus on a variety of concepts that relate to the study, the empirical and the theoretical framework of the inquiry.

The argument extends to focus against the intercultural communication tenet of gender interrelations in society. The humanizing impact of facts is significant to be put under practice to counter such controversies. It focuses on the peculiarity of the cultural worldview that exists, acting as an antidote to aspects of exploitation that can cut across ethnicity, heritage, or gender (Bennett, 2013). In multicultural environments, culture should be relatively understood based on the context.

ii. Diversity Diversity as a term is, at times, used synonymously as multicultural to refer to the existence of 136 notable differences in cultures. In application, when a company implements a diversity policy, the law emphasizes 137 how minorities will be involved in the recruitment process to create a multicultural firm. At times, the term 138 inclusion is generally utilized when referring to matters that deal with multiculturality ??Bennett, & Bennett, 139 2004: 147-165). These matters are; stereotypes, prejudice, segregation, and the act of denying individuals equal 140 rights in societies. Occasionally, the term diversity is utilized to mean cultural diversity. Limiting biases relating 141 to diversity calls for the training of members of the community to recognize, respect as well as deal effectively 142 with any forms of cultural differences in society. 143

iii. Cross-culturalism Cross-culturalism is the contact that happens between different cultural groups. It 144 always applies in multinational cooperation where a multicultural workforce results in a cross-cultural relation 145 and connection between the employees. Furthermore, exchange students or expatriate managers living in diverse 146 cultural contexts possess substantial crosscultural intelligence (CQ) ??Berry, & Annis, 1994; ??001: 382-406). 147 However, the cross-cultural contact alone does not validate to contribute to practical intercultural understanding. 148 In some instances, it gives rise to defensiveness or negative stereotypes as opposed to the primary purpose of 149 reducing stereotypes in society and increase the level of tolerance. As an academic discipline, cross-culturalism 150 implies a comparative cultural study, an example of the cross-cultural research of emotional culture like smiling. 151

¹⁵² 12 iv. Interculturalism

153 Interculturalism is the act of supporting crosscultural dialogue to challenge a tendency of selfsegregation within 154 cultures. It goes beyond a mere acceptance of the idea of the existence of many cultures that exist in a society to promoting effective dialogue and cultural interactions among cultures (Remland et al., 2014). Interculturalism is a concept that has arisen to answer criticisms against the existing multiculturalism policies that have failed to bring inclusivity of cultures within a society but have gone further to divide the communities by legitimizing segregated separate societies that are isolating themselves and have highlighted their specificity. Interculturalism bases on recognizing both the differences and similarities that exist between cultures. It addresses the risk of the creation of an absolute relativism in multiculturalism and postmodernity.

¹⁶¹ 13 v. National Ethos

The national ethos refers to the creed that arises from the shared traditions and values through which a nation 162 views and relates the past, the present, and forecasts the future. It is an integrating element that defines the 163 identity of a nation and bonds a state into a coherent social group (Lewin, 2015). The national ethos of a country 164 is derived from an array of shared peculiar traditions, values, and beliefs that constitutes a people's predicted 165 image of the future together with their past experiences (Lewin, 2015). Ethos makes a community to integrate 166 and feel a common shared destiny. It acts as a foundation of a society's unique identity as a peculiar social 167 group. At the community level, the integrative ethos is the moral source of the national informal social controls. 168 It makes people committed to society by driving members of a community into a voluntary social order. The 169 national ethos in a nation is among the pivotal factors that unite people into a more cohesive society (Etzioni, 170 2009 ??ited in Lewin, 2015). 171

172 14 a. Collective memory in the 19 th Century

The application of national ethos dates back to German romanticism in the late 19 th century by introducing 173 174 the term 'Zeitgeist' by the philosopher Johann Gottfried Herder that is translated as 'the spirit of the age. 175 Herder addressed the cultural, political, and ethical climate that states evolve and mature, by the inspiration of Friedrich Hegel's idea of mind and moral fiber (Lewin, 2015). The ideas indicate the presence of a strong 176 association between the ethos and the representations, which is essential to the history of a nation. Features 177 of a community originate from historical stages time when the mental maps of the individual's, norms, ideas, 178 and culture originated. These ideas are propounded by sociologist Maurice Halbwachs, the founder of 'collective 179 memory' (Durkheim, 1912: Halbwachs, 1951). 180

The collective memory represents a group memory that is shared, constructed by individuals within a selective social group, and passed on to the next generation. Halbwachs explains that no person can remember any coherent fashion outside the contexts of the groups they belong to and that memories are not stored either in one's brain or mind. Still, memories are external recollections that are governed by the group. A community's collective memory is a continuous process of uniting the group basing on ideological perceptions guided by common ethics derived from the told history (Durkheim, 1912: Halbwachs, 1951).

¹⁸⁷ 15 b. Collective memory in the 20 th Century

Scholars in the 20 th Century have contributed critical insights to the concept of collective memory predominantly 188 in its national settings. State ideologists manipulate space and time to make the monopoly in the administrative 189 control to look legitimate. Basing on this attitude, the national history is presented through a nonrealistic unity 190 designed through the elite's mindset of historical awareness. Benedict Anderson, when examining the idea of 191 collective memories in the national context, opines that the nation is seen to be an imagined community. The 192 national identity has symbolic as well as a constructed nature. The idea can reach dispersed populations through 193 communicative media (Anderson, 1983 cited by ??aplan, 2007: 225-244). As ??nderson (1983: 133) succinctly 194 195 puts it: "The collective identity of a nation as a unique combination of a public that shares mutual values and beliefs lies in its common narratives, that is -in its constructed collective memory and in the united role that its 196 members believe that fate had destined for them in this world." 197

The above statement represents national ethos since it has the foundations of a collective identity incorporated in the sense of a particular duty that a nation is bound to achieve through stipulated common goals that the unity of the people as an entity is ordained to achieve.

In Kenya, national ethos is stipulated primarily in the national anthem and promoted through narratives that are in the form of national slogans; they include; 'najivunia kuwa Mkenya' translated as I am proud to be a Kenyan, 'mimi Mkenya daima' -I am forever Kenyan, 'Harambee'pulling together and 'Hakuna Matata Kenya' -Kenya is peaceful. These narratives make every Kenyan to have a duty, and a responsibility, to promote the values and beliefs now and in the future as the slogans are passed on from generation to generation.

206 vi. Identity Identity is a domain that is highly debated in social sciences and humanities, making it to be 207 seen as an 'enigma' that is hard to summarize (Fearon, 1999). ??all (1996:598) brands identity as a 'moveable feast' and looks at the modern identities as fragmented, stressing that 'de-centering' individuals from a specific 208 social-cultural setting will result in a loss of the stable sense of self ??Hall, 1996:597). ??all (1994: 392-394) 209 emphasizes identity as an ongoing procedure, indicating that an identity comprises 'becoming' together with 210 'being' linked to the past and the future of a person. An identity can be imposed as stipulated in 'Orientatalism' 211 by Said (1978). This is reflected in the imitation of the Westernized identities by the African countries, which 212 narrows down to the case study of this inquiry. 213

According to Walton & Cohen (2007), social belonging is a human motivation with auspicious outcomes when individuals in society feel social connectedness. Nevertheless, ??right (2015: 391) scrutinizes belonging as a puzzle to denote a place that can be existing despite the lack of a particular site, the diasporic belonging that draws on Yuval-Davis (2011: 367-381), who contends that belonging is a dynamic process with a multi-layer nature.

Noble & Poynting (2010: 490) emphasize movement as the foundation for belonging that happens within the process of migration. The concept of home is multidimensional and it is seen to be a lived relationship or, at times, moves to be tension (Mallett, 2004). Societies should emphasize the need for a sense of belonging and home (Duyvendak, 2011) to emphasize the idea by Ahmed (2000) concerning a home lacking exclusionary borders. Identity can be described in a tridimensional level as below.

²²⁴ 16 a. The tri-dimensionality of Identity

An identity entails different aspects that describe who an individual is; it ranges from the biological sex, 225 demographic makeup, psychological processes to the social positions that are held by individuals (Schwartz, 226 Luyckx, & Vignoles, 2011). It involves searching for a personal meaning by an individual in relation to their 227 place within the social context. Identity is unchanging for the following cases; ethnicity, and biological gender. It is 228 dynamic in religion, nationality, employment, or psychological gender (Oostendorp, & Jones, 2015). The nature 229 associated with identity makes people draw from personal goals, values, relations, roles, aspirations, multiple 230 attachments, and group affiliations in a quest to describe themselves (Adams, 2014). Identity is contextual and 231 personal; however, the environment has an influence to shape and develop it. The three primary dimensions 232 of identity are personal, relational, and social identity. However, little empirical research exists to show the 233 relationships these three dimensions have (Schwartz et al., 2009). 234

235 17 A. Personal Identity

The personal identity puts into consideration an interpersonal concession of a meaningful intelligence of self. It preserves a person's consciousness responsible for their past, present, and future selves. It accounts for people's quest to develop their identity that is situated in social and relational spaces. The personal identity stresses an individual's autonomy, values, personal needs, and aspirations to make them unique (Schwartz et al., 2011). It is a form of ego identity based on the experienced self-coherence and self-continuity that individuals experience in their entire lifespan. It helps to define who the self is (Crocetti et al., 2013).

²⁴² 18 B. Relational Identity

Relational identity refers to the intelligence of coherence and continuity that people derive from their interpersonal relations. Individuals use relationships to define who they are since the relationship defines their roles with meaning in their lives. Identity here is the social implications that individuals share and attribute to themselves through roles in society, such as a parent, medical doctor, or friend. Relational identity entails the relationship between the roles of an individual with other people as a result of the roles. People define themselves as interpersonally within the roles that are negotiated and approved by others (Schwartz et al., 2011).

²⁴⁹ 19 C. Social Identity

Social identity refers to the way individuals manage interpersonal roles within their social groups (Bornman, 2010). Members in social groups share values, beliefs, traditions, norms, attitudes, goals, and rituals that constitute their identity (Schwartz et al., 2011). The shared values, beliefs, and traditions reflect the present, the past, and the future shared identity, which transcends an individual to reflect the national ethos. This is because the shared membership of a group and its salient features that identify one to that group contributes to how people define themselves within a group. The outcome is that individuals cognitively isolate themselves into a group comprising individuals with shared similarities (in-group).

On the contrary, they distinguish themselves from others they consider different (the out-group) through isolation and social categorization.

Implicatively, ethnicities, tribalism, nepotism, and power struggles that compromise national ethos within the Rift Valley roots here. Intercultural communication should negotiate a coherent sense of identity through sociocultural adjustment that accounts for the active participation of people in the society by equipping them with acculturative experiences such as learning a language in this case Kiswahili, intergroup relationships, and interpersonal relations (Brown, 2000).

²⁶⁴ 20 vii. Cosmopolitanism

The concept 'Cosmopolitan' is derived from a Greek term kosmopolitÄ?"s that means 'citizen of the world.' It is utilized to describe vast views that encompass moral together with socio-political worldviews. Cosmopolitanism refers to the idea that people are, could, or should belong to one community. The community may have different views that constitutes it as a whole. The diverse views that make this community include; moral standards, political structures, economic practices, and the cultural forms (Schuett, 2015).

23 I. DEVELOPMENTAL MODEL OF INTERCULTURAL SENSITIVITY (D.M.I.S.)

Within a cosmopolitan society, people from various areas establish relationships that reflect mutual respect 270 despite their different backgrounds in beliefs, politics, ethnicity, or religion. In most instances of cosmopolitanism, 271 the universal society of the world citizens acts as an ideal positive to be cultured; this can be done through learning 272 273 a universal language that acts as a lingua franca across cultures, the essence for Kiswahili in the Rift Valley. 274 However, a few versions may serve as a ground to deny the presence of outstanding obligations to local systems of political organizations leading to aspects like cultural assimilation, which may become a cause of societal 275 conflicts as the differences that encompass diversity should never be ignored in intercultural communication 276 (Schuett, 2015). 277

278 21 viii. Acculturation

Individuals who migrate and settle in a cosmopolitan society face the aspect of acculturation that includes 279 undergoing a process of change, either social, cultural, or psychological (Berry, 2019). The transformation brings 280 a balance in two or more cultures. In contrast, an individual adapts to the existing culture in society. These 281 individuals acquire, adopt, and adjust to the emerging cultural environment. As people try to incorporate 282 themselves in prevalent culture through participation in aspects like traditions, they still attach themselves to 283 their initial traditions and cultural values. The effects of acculturation are evident to both the principal and the 284 co-cultures over a long period. However, in selected instances, physical forces make it happen rapidly. More often, 285 acculturation occurs due to social pressure and the continuous exposure of the cocultures to the dominant host 286 culture. A two-way change occurs during the acculturation process. This situation of new cultural connections 287 is common in cosmopolitan regions like the Rift Valley in Kenya. 288

²⁸⁹ 22 b) Theoretical Review

Four social science theories are reviewed in this study. The models serve the objective of predicting how cultural contact influences the role of a language to determine an identity at different levels of uniqueness. The models are the Developmental Model of Intercultural Sensitivity (D.M.I.S.) propounded by Bennett (1993), the theory of Dimensional Accrual and Dissociation (D.A.D.) propounded by ??ramer (2013: 123-184), the Fourfold Model by ??erry & Annis (1994; ??001: 382-406) and the Alternation Model propounded by LaFramboise et al ??1993).

295 23 i. Developmental Model of Intercultural Sensitivity 296 (D.M.I.S.)

The Developmental Model of Intercultural Sensitivity (D.M.I.S.) propounded by Bennett (1993) is a model that explains how individuals in society experience and tackle cultural differences. The model is crucial as it mirrors the situation in the Rift Valley, a cosmopolitan area. The model is a grounded theory that bases on the observations in varied societal settings such as the corporate world together with the academic setups, to explain how to become a competent intercultural communicator (Bennett, 2018). The theory is grounded on concepts originating from communication theory and constructivist psychology to develop arguments and positions pertinent to the continuum of cultural difference sensitivity.

The model operates on the assumption that "as one's perceptual organization of cultural difference becomes 304 more complex; their experience of culture becomes more sophisticated and the potential for exercising competence 305 in intercultural relations increases" (Bennett, 2018). According to the theory, predictions on the efficacy of 306 intercultural communication can be determined when one recognizes the facts about the experience of cultural 307 differences. In application, educational interventions can be made to enable developments along the continuum. 308 The D.M.I.S. model is multifacetedly extending from ethnocentrism, an ideology whereby some individuals 309 in the Rift Valley overlook their culture as "central to reality" to an idea of ethnorelativism. In this scenario, 310 individuals experience their cultures together with other existing cultures as relative to the context. This position 311 shows how the perception of cultural difference is encountered. The model indicates that developmental motion is 312 permanent and unidirectional. Despite this, there might be retreats arising from an ethnocentric position to the 313 other. More so, some ethnocentric matters may not get solutions as societies opt for ethnorelativism (Bennett, 314 2018). However, each person or group possess a predominant experience about cultural difference, which are 315 described by the process below: a. Denial 316

317 In denial, individuals do not perceive any cultural difference. If perceived, the difference is on broader 318 categorization, such as minorities or foreigners. This aspect results in other co-cultures that tend to suit the 319 categorization, such as the minority culture. At this level, the constructs present for perceiving one's culture are 320 more complex than those for other cultures. In psychological and physical denial and isolation from the cultural difference (Bennett, 2018). Such a group of individuals get disinterested and hostilely dismiss themselves from 321 intercultural communication. Individuals at this level find it difficult to be empathic and cannot recognize the 322 humanity of others who are different from them. They tend to use naïve questions concerning other cultures in 323 a disrespectful manner. The situation may be extreme, whereby power may be applied to exploit others without 324 the sensitivity to how they feel on deprivation. 325

326 24 b. Defense

The defensive mechanism against cultural diversity is the act to look down upon cultural differences using stereotypes. The cultures are seen based on "us" against "them" (Kriegler, 2009: Nasubo & Luvaga, 2020). In reality, the "us" is superior, while the "them" is the inferior (Bennett, 2018). The cultural difference usually threatens individuals at defense. They tend to be critical of other existing cultures and blame cultural differences to be the cause of challenges in society. The power which is always institutionalized is utilized in support of segregation.

³³³ 25 c. Defense Reversal

This is the alternative to defense as it reverses the polarity of "us" vs. "them." It entails adopting a culture that is romanced, while a selected group is subjected to critics. Traditionally, it can be seen as an internalized oppression to the non-dominant group where culture from the dominant group is valued more than that of the non-dominant group. In moments when the dominant group realizes they belong to the oppressor pole, they at times shift positions and take the cause of the latter with extreme zeal (Bennett, 2018).

339 26 d. Minimization

The stage focuses on the universalization of cultures. The minimization of cultural differences happens when elements of an individual's worldview are seen as universal. There is an assumption that people share specific experiences in all cultures and that certain fundamental beliefs and values transcend existing cultural boundaries. Stress on cross-cultural sameness limits defense, thereby making people tolerate cultural differences. Unfortunately, tolerance does not result in the acknowledgment of substantial differences in cultures (Bennett, 2018).

Notably, individuals who shift from the defense to settle in the minimization stage feel they are in an enlightened 346 stage. To them, any discussion of cultural differences is a form of defense. This is due to their initial experience 347 in cultural diversity. The mindset of understanding interculturality basing on similarity makes them overestimate 348 349 the sensitivity to different people. At this level, people from the dominant group underestimate their ethnic and cultural privilege; their assumption of sameness makes them exaggerate equality in opportunities. Furthermore, 350 members from the dominant group may engage themselves in political correctness to stress similarity. This may 351 be done by utilizing a different language in a political rally to deliberately evoke language barriers to the "them" 352 353 category of individuals an example of "madoadoa" a Kiswahili word meaning spots (Kriegler, 2009).

e. Acceptance An intercultural sensitive person should undergo acceptance, which is an experience to accept 354 cultural differences through seeing their culture as one among complex worldviews. At this level, cultural diversity 355 is essential through curiosity, not threat. Taking the difference entails acknowledging other cultures to be having a 356 different organization of real experiences, which concur with their various cultural assumptions (Bennett, 2018). 357 Acceptance is not the literal liking of other cultures or agreeing with them as the cultural variation can be 358 judged negatively; the judgment should be contextually relative. A robust antidote to bigotry recognizes that 359 individuals can be equally complex, but they are different. Acceptance is not only limited to reducing prejudice. 360 361 It encompasses the boundary of similarities and differences to embrace other groups. Concurrently, people from 362 other cultures gain equal and distinct humanity status.

³⁶³ 27 f. Adaptation

Adapting to cultural difference demands the acceptance of the difference through organizing the world differently, giving it a new orientation. A process of cognitive frame-shift can help people to establish a facsimile worldview that systematizes how they perceive events in a manner that corresponds closely to other cultures (Bennett, 2018). The created worldview breeds a counter experience that is appropriate to different cultures. The feeling of appropriateness modifies communication behavior to be authentic and useful in other cultures. The adaptation to intercultural communication in this manner brings about a virtual third culture with peculiar contexts that emerge from the cross-cultural interactions typically evident in a cosmopolitan society.

³⁷¹ 28 g. Integration

Integrating cultural differences is the act of individuals exploring diverse cultural philosophies. At this position, people maintain a complex multicultural identity making them exist in a liminal state that keeps them always ready to be someone different. Such individuals are outsiders to many groups resulting in an ethical ambiguity and the question of identity. This position also pushes individuals to bridge cultural differences and moral commitments. Here, integration is likely to happen among the minority non-dominant groups, those with primary multiculturalism, and among the long-term expatriates (Bennett, 2018). The figure below represents the summary of the model.

ii. The Theory of Dimensional Accrual and Dissociation (D.A.D.)

The model is propounded by Kramer (2013: 123-184) to help intercultural communicators to understand acculturation at a group level. It helps them to examine the nature of both cultures before they get into contact. The theory relies on two fundamental premises, which both infer that the aspect of identity, communication, meaning, and learning depend on variances.

385 30 a. The hermeneutics

It is a method of interpretation that happens mostly in wisdom literature. It is more than the interpretive methods used when the immediate comprehension fails that includes the art to understand and communicate.

388 31 b. The semiotics

The process that utilizes signs to produce meaning. The meaning can be unintentional, an example of a symptom, or intentional, an example of a word uttered to imply a specific purpose. Signs deal with the material cultures served by knowledge transmitted through human biological senses; auditory, visual, tactile, gustatory, and olfactory.

The theory holds that total assimilation might lead to a monoculture, which is void of meaning, personal identity, and communication. Kramer uses concepts from other scholars, notably Gebser (2020), who describes the structures of human realization, and Mumford (2018), a cultural historian, to synthesize matters of cultural differences and expressions.

The theory establishes three communication styles (symbolic, idolic, or signalic) that explain cultural 397 398 differences. These communication styles reflect a weakness in comprehending the dyadic meaning between the symbolic and idolic communication since both reflect a complex sense than the sign. Also, other communication 399 styles are seen as universal in academics (Aggressive, passive, and assertive) that make the styles used by ??ramer 400 (2013: 123-184) to pose a semantical confusion. Despite the critics above, the theory stands out that there is no 401 single communication mode that is inherently superior and that there is no final solution suggested to intercultural 402 conflicts. Instead, Kramer integrates his theory (D.A.D.) to churning cultural theory and cultural fusion theory 403 to understand changes in culture as a result of acculturation in a concept he terms "co-evolution." 404

The idea of co-evolution reflects how cultures evolve due to new contacts, a typical scenario in a cosmopolitan region. ??ramer (2013: 123-184) uses the qualities of out-vectors to address how former and new cultures come into contact. The theory explains that differences are unavoidable through the phrase 'interaction potential' that restricts the variance in acculturation depending on the status of an individual entering the host culture. Furthermore, the theory encapsulates the significance of how accessible a host culture is to the newcomer, the ease of the newcomer to interact and get used to the host, and the outcome of such an interaction. The theory makes coping mechanisms to be simple among the co-cultures in a new cultural context.

iii. The Fourfold Model ??Berry & Annis 1994; The Fourfold theory is a bilinear theory that classifies
acculturation techniques in two dimensions. First, it entails the retention or rejection of the minority or native
culture by an individual-the second-dimension deals with adopting or rejecting the host culture or dominant
group. The two dimensions above bring forth four acculturation strategies.

416 32 a. Assimilation

This occurs when people from the co-cultures adopt the cultural norms of the host culture at the expense of their culture. Governments sometimes coerce it. It is an acculturation strategy that is adopted in a society that promotes a homogenous culture.

420 33 b. Separation

It occurs when people from the co-cultures reject the host culture and prefers to preserve their original culture.
It is always enabled by immigration into ethnic regions.

423 **34** c. Integration

424 This occurs when people from the co-cultures accept the cultural norms of the host culture but still maintains 425 their original culture. Integration results in biculturalism. This culture is usually endorsed in segregationist 426 societies; such societies separate people into ethnic or religious groups, among other social groupings.

There is a correlation between integration as a technique of acculturation by ??erry & Annis (1994 and integration as a process of handling cultural differences by Bennett (1993). A binding factor is that, integration makes people maintain a complex multicultural identity making them exist in a liminal state that keeps them ready to accept the differences and cope with them. This position also pushes individuals to bridge cultural differences within a society.

8

d. Marginalization 35432

It always happens after people from the cocultures reject their culture and from the dominant host. Societies 433 promote the marginalization strategy with the cultural exclusion mode of life. 434

The theory suggests that, in a multiculturalist society, many cultures are appreciated and accepted; therefore, 435 people are urged to adopt the integrationist acculturation approach. The model is orthodoxy for testing 436 acculturation in psychology. It has been utilized to determine acculturation in some different ethnicities in 437 different countries. For instance, it has been used to study ethnic repatriates from the Soviet Union in Germany, 438 Finland, and Israel (Jasinskaja-Lahti, Liebkind, Horenczyk & Schmitz, 2003: 79-97). 439

Moreover, the model was used to guide Berry et al., ??2006) research for the International Comparative Study 440 of the Ethnocultural Youth (ICSEY). The researchers examined the four acculturation alignments, ethnic and 441 national identity, the ethnic and national language aptitude, the use of the national language, the ethnic together 442 with the national peer contacts, and finally, the family relationships in a priori cluster and factor analyses (Vadher, 443 2009). 444

The studies revealed an ethnic orientation made of separation, family obligation, and ethnic identity. The 445 study also revealed another factor namely the national orientation; where the national identity and assimilation 446 score seems similar. The third is the integration orientation that both marginalization integration loads the same 447

factor. Finally, ethnic behaviors present ethnic language aptitude and contact with regional peers loaded onto 448 the same factor positively, contrary to the national language aptitude and the connection with national peers 449

that reflected negatively (Vadher, 2009). 450

462

36 e. Criticism to Berry's Model 451

The theory neatly binds the cultural domains and practices used to determine acculturation in terms of the 452 ones associated with either regional culture or national culture, hence the model is questionable in interpreting 453 daily life experiences. Furthermore, the theory fails to specify the traditions and social activities adopted and 454 maintained by individuals in the cocultures ??Boski, 2008: 142-153). 455

The Fourfold theory by ??erry & Annis (1994; 382-406) treats the four orientations of acculturation as fixed 456 and static, and base on rational options made by individuals, the assertion is unrealistic (Bhatia & Ram, 2009 457 458 ?? 140-149: Weinreich, 2009: 124-139). This also is a concern that is addressed by Teresa LaFramboise et al 459 (1993) by developing the Alternation Model that addresses acculturation experiences among ethnic minorities within a dominant culture. Through alternation, an individual has the freedom to move back and forth between 460 their culture and that of their host depending on the context (LaFromboise et al., 1993). The Alternation Model 461 is ideal in application to the context of a cosmopolitan environment, as discussed forth.

iv. Alternation Model of Second-Culture Acquisition $\mathbf{37}$ 463

The Alternation Model propounded by LaFramboise, Coleman, & Gerton (1993) assumes that individuals can 464 know and understand two diverse cultures. Individuals can alter their behavior and fit in a selected social context. 465 Ogbu & Matute-Bianchi (1986: 89) admit that a person can belong to two cultures and use two diverse languages 466 for diverse purposes by alternating behavior depending on the situation. The Alternation theory assumes that 467 an individual can feel a sense of belonging to two cultures and not compromise their cultural identity. This is a 468 form of biculturalism that allows dual approaches to social behavior appropriate in different societal situations 469 (Ogbu & Matute-Bianchi, 1986). 470

The Alternation theory is an additive theory of acquiring cultures parallel to code-switching theories that 471 472 depend on signaling diverse contextual and social relations through language (Saville-Troike, 1981). This hypothesis challenges the acculturation strategy of assimilation suggested in the Fourfold theory by ??erry & 473 Annis (1994; 382-406) since people who can alternate their behavior to suit two cultures are less anxious as 474 compared to the ones assimilating or going through the acculturation process. 475

The Alternation Model differs from the idea of assimilation and acculturation in two substantial ways. First, 476 the model posits an orthogonal and bicultural relation between a person's original culture and the second culture 477 rather than promoting a linear, unidirectional relationship suggested by assimilation. In essence, the model 478 means that an individual can maintain a positive relationship with both cultures without necessarily choosing 479 between them. 480

Secondly, the Alternation Model ignores the hierarchical relationships between the two cultures. This 481 framework allows individuals in a cosmopolitan environment to attach equal status to both cultures, despite 482 483 whether they value them equally (LaFromboise et al., 1993). Individuals have the freedom to decide the degree 484 to which they will affiliate themselves with their original culture and the second culture. To put the theory into 485 application, LaFromboise et al., (1993) examine the dual characteristics among the Asian Indians to support the 486 assumption above. Although individuals under study depicted a higher proficiency to read and speak English, they all preferred to think using the Indian logic. The majority of them showed a preference for the Indian delicacy 487 and dress code while in India but the American cuisine and dress while in America. This similar behavior occurs 488 among the Pan African students who prefer local foods and attires in Cameroon but swiftly embark on the foods 489 and attires in their respective countries. It is clear evidence of how the Alternation theory is adequate for diverse 490 societies. 491

⁴⁹² 38 a. The significant Strength of the Alternation Model

The Alternation Model focuses on both cognitive and affective procedures that allow individuals in a diverse environment to endure the adverse effects of acculturative stress. The theory also examines the role that individuals have in selecting how to interact with the culture they get in contact with and their original culture (LaFromboise et al., 1993). The model opens the gap of bidirectional effects of cultural connection that researchers should put under study to understand the impacts that individuals from both cultures have on one another.

⁴⁹⁸ **39** c) Empirical Review

In this section, the study applies the available pieces of evidence to contribute to the knowledge that is practical to the study. The evidence helps the researcher to systematically answer the questions of interest and determine whether the facts support the research hypothesis or not.

502 Nussbaum (2011) describes interculturalism to be involving the fact of recognizing human needs that are 503 common across the cultures (areas of correspondence across cultures) and those of dissonance (that establish areas of differences) and critical discourse within cultures. Interculturalists discard the idea of identity politics 504 505 that members of a group are the only ones with an understanding of the perspectives of that group. Nussbaum 506 sees interculturalism as a different aspect from multiculturalism, noting out that many several other humanities scholars prefer interculturalism at the expense of multiculturalism since they associate the latter with identity 507 politics and relativism (Nussbaum, 2011). Rattansi (2011) looks at biculturalism as a more productive way than 508 traditional multiculturalism as it allows different ethnic groups to co-exist. The peaceful co-existence is practical 509 in an atmosphere that promotes civility and inter-ethnic understanding. This idea is applicable in cosmopolitan 510 areas in the case of the Rift Valley in Kenya. The author quotes an example of interculturalist projects in the 511 512 United Kingdom (U.K.) and how they are practical in demonstrating constructive projections for promoting multi-ethnic civility (Rattansi, 2011). The author utilizes research to outline the new interpretation of the global 513 history showing that concepts of tolerance are not supposed to be restricted only to the West. The so-called 514 'unique western cultural success should be termed as a Eurasian achievement. The author offers an elaborate 515 interculturalist perspective of global history that undermines the ideas of a clash of civilizations. 516

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) adopted a Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions in 2005 that promotes interculturality. Notably, in all German Universities, there is a section of intercultural competence in social work programs. It helps students to be able to communicate with others from diverse cultural backgrounds, acquire knowledge of the backgrounds of various cultural groups, understand the existing stereotypes and prejudices that involves certain cultural groups (Ferri, 2005).

523 Wise (2010) discusses identity issues and matters of belonging for the migrants, together with the locals in the Sydney suburb. The analysis is critical as it questions the essence of living with the 'difference' on a quotidian 524 525 level. According to ??all (2002: 458-459), those individuals that inhabit a diasporic identity learn to live and cope with it, thereby speaking from the aspect of the difference. The loss of identity defines the diasporic experience, 526 making migrant identities to be seen beyond ethnicity, be individualized, and dynamic until it cannot be included 527 within the static multiculturalism to focus on the co-existing community that is mutually exclusive. Nussbaum 528 (2011) and Rattansi (2011) fails to acknowledge biculturalism as a stepping stone to multiculturalism, thereby 529 addressing the two concepts as independent entities, biculturalism and multiculturalism are inseparable concepts. 530 Also, it is essential to question the static identity concepts, thereby acknowledge the hybridity of how migrants 531 532 experience and understand the idea of self (Ang, 2009).

⁵³³ 40 d) The Status of Kiswahili in the Rift Valley

Kiswahili is mostly referred to as the first language of the people of Swahili origin who inhabit the East African Coast that stretches from Tanzania, Kenya and Somalia. Its origin dates back to 1711, where the coastal traders from the Arab countries settled at the coastal towns of East Africa. The ancient name of this language is known as the Kingozi, and the earliest document in Kiswahili Language was done in Kilwa. As explained by Nesbitt (2018) the language is predominantly spoken in east African countries. In Kenya, Kiswahili was first used as a lingua franca by the East African coast fishermen and the Oman clove farmers. Reaching the 20th Century, it was widely accepted to play the role of national development.

Among critical factors that led to the development of Kiswahili in Kenya include maritime trade, the cultural complex of the Bantus, which has an affinity to Kiswahili, cultural practices of the Swahili people, activities by the Christian missionaries, mass media, economic and social changes, games and sports, the school system and the national politics among others (Timammy & Oduor, 2016).

The status of Kiswahili in the Rift Valley is examined based on how the language is used in general in areas like written documents before and after independence (Timammy & Oduor, 2016). This section of the research aims at evaluating the status of Kiswahili in the Rift Valley based on parameters like the education system, legal documentation, language policies, challenges, and the successes accorded to the language within the region.

⁵⁴⁹ 41 i. Kiswahili in Policy Documents

This section examines the documentation of Kiswahili in Kenya before and after independence by comparing it with English and other mother tongues within the Rift Valley. It focuses on two periods:

552 42 a. The Colonial Period

The European colonial masters made Kiswahili to be used in the education system as evident from the missionary's 553 activities in Kenya. The language was used to promote education and trade based on the colonial language 554 policy in East Africa. However, according to Timammy & Oduor (2016), the period between 1940 and 1963, 555 556 saw the dwindling fortunes of Kiswahili through the Beecher Report ??1942), which emphasized the teaching of vernacular, at the same time replacing Kiswahili with English a colonial lingua franca. The tactic above is 557 evidence of the divide and rule strategy adopted by the colonialists since they viewed Kiswahili as a unifying 558 factor to all Kenyans in socio-politics. As such, Kiswahili could only remain as a medium of instruction in areas 559 where natives, mainly from the coastal regions of Kenya, spoke it as mother tongue thereby making the Rift Valley 560 to promote other indigenous languages. Fortunately, it was hard to teach vernacular within the Rift Valley due 561 to its diverse nature. By 1957, English was promoted as a medium of instruction by the Nairobi Special Centre, 562 making Kiswahili face a blow as a medium of instruction in every region of the country (Timammy & Oduor, 563 2016). 564

⁵⁶⁵ 43 b. The Post-colonial Period

The discussions which began at the turn of the century about the media of instruction for Africans and the comparative merits of Kiswahili against English continue to the present day. It is, therefore, significant to evaluate

comparative merits of Kiswahili against English continue to the present day. It is, therefore, significant to evaluate
 various steps and commissions set to check on the progress of languages within the country after independence
 (Timammy & Oduor, 2016).

570 44 ii. The Ominde Commission of 1964

The Commission recommended the teaching of Kiswahili as a compulsory lesson in primary school since it would unite citizens. Also, it supported the training of Kiswahili teachers during holiday seasons. Moreover, the

573 Commission saw it necessary to have a Department of Kiswahili at the University College of Nairobi, currently

- 574 (University of Nairobi). It finally saw it essential to use English as a medium of instruction in schools (Timammy
- 575 & Oduor, 2016).

576 iii

577 45 . The Gachathi Report of 1975

It was formed to check on more specific goals suitable for the Kenyan education system. The Commission tried to accord Kiswahili an elevated role in the Kenyan education system. The report gave provisions for Kiswahili to be taught and examined as an optional subject in secondary schools (Timammy & Oduor, 2016).

⁵⁸¹ 46 iv. The Mackay Commission of 1981

Kiswahili was to be an examinable subject taught in both primary and secondary schools in Kenya. It is recommendable as the implementation was evident when the 8-4-4 system of education was established in Kenya in 1985 (Timammy & Oduor, 2016). The Mackay Report, further proposed that Kiswahili be made a compulsory subject at Moi University, Kenya's second university located within the Rift Valley. Unfortunately, this did not happen (Timammy & Oduor, 2016). The majority of universities in Kenya use English as a medium of communication, and Kiswahili a subject to those who pursue it as a course. The above are the past developments that determine the status of Kiswahili in Kenya.

⁵⁸⁹ 47 v. Constitution of Kenya 2010

According to the Kenyan Constitution (2010) Chapter 2 article 7: Official Law Reports of the Republic of Kenya (2010: 22): 1) Kiswahili is the national language of the Republic of Kenya.

2) The official languages of the Republic are Kiswahili and English.

3) The state shalla) Promote and protect the diversity of language of the people of Kenya; and b) Promote the development and use of indigenous languages in Kenya. Here, Kiswahili acquires a higher probability of growing in all regions of the country since the Kenyan Constitution perceives it as; ? An official language ? National language and ? An indigenous language (Kenya, 2013).

The languages of Kenya Bill focus on Kiswahili as an indigenous language together with its dialects. It works out to develop an equal measure of the use of Kiswahili as an official language within every region of the country. The bill enhances learning of Kiswahili since it is a symbol of national unity, a center for cultural literacy, and a means of cohesion (Timammy & Oduor, 2016: National Cohesion Integrated Commission, 2013). Also, the bill proposes a broader use of Kiswahili in trade, education, and media. On the other hand, the Languages of Kenya Policy goog Kiswahili as a communication tool that facilitates access to knowledge and public facilities within

Policy sees Kiswahili as a communication tool that facilitates access to knowledge and public facilities within

Kenya. This is evident in its use within schools and media houses present within every region of the country
 (Timammy & Oduor, 2016).

⁶⁰⁵ 48 vi. Volatility in the Rift Valley

Ethnic discord has been part of a cocktail of grievances that explains the persistence of tensions mostly triggered during election cycles in the Rift Valley of Kenya. Tellingly, deadly conflicts have marred three out of the five elections held in Kenya since the introduction of multi-party democracy in 1992. The Rift Valley is always affected while 'Nakuru' is termed as the hotspot of this ethnic volatility (Kreiegler & Waki Commision, 2009). The Independent Review Committee (IREC) was formed under the Inquiry Commission Act (Cap. 102). It was gazetted under the Kenya Gazette of March 14 th, 2008, with a primary mandate to examine the 2007 elections, which was the most dreaded election in Kenya affecting the Rift Valley with ethnic-oriented conflicts.

⁶¹³ 49 vii. The Kriegler and Waki report of 2007

According to the Kreiegler & Waki Commision (2009), election violence in the Rift Valley covered in the 614 Commission of Inquiry into the Post-Election Violence (CIPEV) was caused by; conflict over land, the desire 615 to move away "foreigners" referenced to the Kikuyu, Luo, Kisii and other non-Kalenjin communities that had 616 established permanent residence within the Rift Valley. These "other" communities were derogatorily referred to 617 as "madoadoa" to mean spots amidst the dominant group. Another reason for ethnic discord is ethnic cleaning 618 that happened in Koibatek, the continuation of a history of ethnic conflicts evident in Molo and ethnic loyalty 619 to certain political camps among others. The commission recommends the creation of a modern code of conduct 620 621 that brings an ethnic balance. Among them is the use of Kiswahili as an intercultural lingua franca in the Rift Valley. 622

In conclusion, this chapter reviews the literature. It explores various concepts that develop the baseline for this study. The chapter explores four theories and applies empirical studies discussed explicitly. Finally, since Kiswahili reinforces national ethos as a national language, the chapter examines its status in policy documents and how it is applied in academics and media to showcase its functionality as a symbol of national unity within the Rift Valley and a cultural linkage for communities living within the region.

⁶²⁸ 50 Chapter Three

629 III.

630 51 Methodology

This chapter focuses on the overall research methodology applicable to this study. It covers the research design, population and sampling, sampling techniques, data collection methods, research instruments and their administration, quality criteria, methods of data analysis, and the ethical considerations to this research.

⁶³⁴ 52 a) Research Design

This survey incorporates a triangulation approach of inquiry to understand the lived experiences, behaviors, 635 emotions, and meanings of using a crossculture language (Kiswahili) for intercultural communication among 636 sub-set cultures within a cosmopolitan area (Flick, 2018). The triangulation design helps to validate data 637 through a careful crossverification of multiple data collection methods and theories on the topic. The approach 638 allows the researcher to combine several research methods while dealing with a single phenomenon, such as 639 literal replication and theoretical replication. The research applies three basic types of triangulation which are: 640 first, data triangulation, where a variety of information sources such as observations and interviews are utilised 641 (Archibald, 2016). Second, is theory triangulation, whereby multiple perspectives are used to interpret outcomes 642 of this study. Third is methodological triangulation, where qualitative and quantitative methods are combined 643 at the time of data collection, data analysis, and reporting. 644

₆₄₅ 53 b) Population and sampling

A diverse population and sample size are used for data collection. The participants belong to one of the following
 categories:

⁶⁴⁸? Individuals who have either lived or worked in a multicultural area under investigation. ? Persons who have ⁶⁴⁹ a perceived multi-lingual personhood/identity. ? Independent movers who have left their original region/country ⁶⁵⁰ following a personal call (personal motivation). ? Individuals who are fluent in English and a transborder ⁶⁵¹ language (Kiswahili). Upon meeting the above selection criteria, the study focuses on twenty (20) immigrant ⁶⁵² populations in the Rift Valley, ten (10) natives representing the dominant culture, fifteen (15) employees working ⁶⁵³ in a multicultural environment, and five (5) individuals from

⁶⁵⁴ 54 c) Sampling Techniques

The study employs a purposive sampling to select twenty-five (25) people who meet critical selection criteria as listed above and are therefore relevant to the research inquiry. These twenty-five (25) people are the twenty (20) immigrants into the Rift Valley and the five (5) executives from private and state firms within the Rift Valley region. Also, a random sampling procedure is applied to select the other twenty-five (25) people to limit bias.

659 55 d) Methods of Data Collection

The data is collected through the interviews using structured questionnaires and semi-structured interviews with

participants. Also, the study depends on personal experiences and in-context observations in data collection.
 Ontologically, the research is approached from a constructivist perspective that accommodates the relevance of
 context.

₆₆₄ 56 e) Research Instruments

Data collection depends on in-depth structured and semi-structured interviews by the use of questionnaires. The questionnaire contains multiplechoice questions, open-ended questions, and attitude scales.

667 57 f) The Administration and Collection of Research Instru-668 ments

To administer the questionnaires, they are handed to respondents personally; in case of limited contact with the respondents, notably the snowballed respondents, they receive the questionnaires by email. The interviews take a format that covers a three-phase interview process; the past, present, and reflections, which capture significant aspects of national ethos. This facilitates a narrative analysis of the data.

More so, sound-recording assists in leveraging the understanding of the language in use in various contexts like the market, church, and social gatherings. Voices are recorded and transcribed to help in the research. Finally, observation is used to understand the lived experiences and realities within the context of the study.

Three sets of questions are submitted at some interval from one another to allow respondents to explore their thoughts iteratively. In agreement with the scope of this research and its hermeneutic nature, participants are encouraged to explore their multicultural experiences from whatever angle they may wish to do so. It helps to showcase multiculturalism, credibility, transferability, dependability, and confirmability that offer guidance to the research.

⁶⁸¹ 58 g) Validity and Reliability Criteria

The study obeys the following facets of quality: the survey uses the Cronbach's alpha in assessing the reliability in a set of the tested items of research (Bonett & Wright, 2015). The aspect of transferability is under consideration since the study offers an in-depth description, which allow readers to apply it when dealing with the role of any language in enhancing intercultural communication. The research is in a position to address the question of context-relevance and is unique.

Moreover, the study is dependable, depicting the quality and offers room for a dependability audit. The study describes aspects of trustworthiness by utilizing authentic data survey techniques and limit the researcher's imaginations to portray the real situation in a cosmopolitan environment that is open to confirmation. This study is very accessible for any conformability audit and backchecks (Mertens, 2014). The investigation is credible since it follows the required data collection criteria, sampling, and data analysis. As such, the study gathers data, analyse the information, and draw reliable conclusions basing on the data outcome.

693 59 h) Data Analysis

The study uses a Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) and the narrative analytical approach, considering that the emphasis of this research is on how people make sense of their intercultural experiences when utilizing a common language. Narratives are coded using a twofold system in relation to available scholarly theoretical taxonomy. Participants' profiles are also considered to facilitate a thematic analysis of the descriptions, emerging themes, and sub-themes summarized in tables (Bujang, Sa'at, & Bakar, 2018).

699 60 i) Ethical Considerations

700 The respondents are given the consent form, which they sign to ascertain their agreement to participate in the 701 study. Also, their confidentiality is ensured since none of their responses is shared with individuals outside the 702 scope of this research. An interview guide is used, which act as a framework for the discussion and ensures consistency while gathering data from respondents. Moreover, a cover letter is sent to all the executives to 703 request participation in the research. All the objectives of the study are highlighted in the letter. Therefore, an 704 appointment is booked for the day when the investigation was to be conducted. The above confirms the ethical 705 considerations were made in this research. The three triangulation techniques aforementioned in the paper are 706 sufficient for the study as they effectively enable the collection of data in the survey (Archibald, 2016). 707

⁷⁰⁸ 61 j) Applicable Theories

The research is underpinned by four social science theories that are reviewed to predict the chances of acculturation due to diverse interactions in a cosmopolitan environment. Having presented the research design, the population and sampling, sampling techniques, data collection methods, research instruments and how they are administered, quality criteria, methods of data analysis, ethical considerations to research, and applicable theories mentioned, the next chapter focuses on data presentation and analysis.

714 62 Chapter Four

715 IV.

716 63 Data Presentation and Analysis

This chapter presents the study's results through data presentation from the questionnaire, observations, and audio transcriptions in relation to the research questions and hypotheses. The data are tabulated, presented, interpreted and analyzed focusing on the valid percentages to answer the research questions.

⁷²⁰ 64 a) Demographic Statistics

The demographic data assists the researcher to generate new dimensions and initiatives to data analysis, they add a qualitative value to the study since they are measurable characteristics that help in achieving the set objectives of research. The section focuses on the personal information of the respondents for the study. It presents their gender, age category, place of birth, duration of their stay within the Rift Valley and their Kiswahili competence. i. Gender Forty-seven (47) respondents answered the question on gender, describing themselves as either male or female. However, it is important to note that individuals who neither identified themselves as 'male' nor 'female' were allowed to categorize themselves under the 'others' option.

Table 4.1 below illustrates the number of respondents who answered the gender question describing themselves as either male, female or other. It indicates the frequency for each gender and the cumulative percentage. The overall turnout level of the study shows that more females responded to the study (54.3%) as compared to males (45.7%).

732 ii

⁷³³ 65 . Age Distribution of Respondents

The table below indicates that most of the respondents (50%) belong to the age bracket 25 -30.

Furthermore, a tie of 21.7% belongs in the age bracket 18 -25 and 30 -35, respectively. These three age brackets comprised the majority of the respondents for the survey as represented in table 4.2 below. iii. Birthplace The question of birthplace aims at establishing the historical backgrounds of the respondents to the study, which in turn reflects on how they identify themselves while in the region. Table 4.3 below illustrates the numeric and percentage distribution of respondents in relation to their place of birth. The majority of the respondents (69.6%) indicated that their parents were born in the Rift Valley of Kenya. The remaining 30.4% were born outside the region. This section provides a summary of the data, it quantitatively describes and summarises features from

 742 $\,$ the information collected from the respondents to inform the results of the research.

⁷⁴³ 66 i. Categorization of Kiswahili

It was significant to understand the rate at which respondents perceive Kiswahili as their first language. This tests the conversant level of Kiswahili that citizens within the Rift Valley of Kenya have. According to the data in the table above, majority of the respondents (67.4%) reported that Kiswahili is their first language. The remaining 32.6% reported a different language other than Kiswahili to be their first language.

⁷⁴⁸ 67 ii. Other Languages that Respondents Speak

Understanding other languages that people within the Rift Valley of Kenya speak helps to determine the dominant culture (s) within the region. Respondents listed other languages that they speak apart from Kiswahili, as indicated in the table below. In Table 4.7 above, majority of the respondents indicated that they also speak Nandi (30.4%), Marakwet (26. 1%), Sabaot (23.9%), Kipsigis (13%), Keiyo (4.3%) and Tugen (2.2%). These are some of the languages that form the Kalenjin language group, which is the dominant culture within the Rift Valley of Kenya.

⁷⁵⁵ 68 iii. The Frequency of Kiswahili Use

Respondents were to give the frequency of Kiswahili speaking to show the rate at which the language is put in practice, which helps to usher the contextualization of Kiswahili in the next section. For the respondents who speak Kiswahili as their first language, a majority of (50%) indicated that they speak it often, and another 39.1%

reported to speak it very often. Only 10.9% reported as rarely speaking the language.

⁷⁶⁰ 69 c) Contextualization of Kiswahili use within the Rift Valley ⁷⁶¹ of Kenya

This section presents data on the context at which Kiswahili is used within the Rift Valley by focusing on the formal and informal contexts.

764 70 i. The Formal use of Kiswahili within the Rift Valley of 765 Kenya

The formal use of Kiswahili entails examining the use of Kiswahili in official contexts. The study focused on the use of Kiswahili in workplaces as well as its use in schools within the Rift Valley of ??enya. In the workplace/school, most of the respondents (67.4%) reported speaking Kiswahili, while 30.4% reported to speak English and the other 2.2% speaking mother tongue, as illustrated in the table below. v. The Use of Kiswahili Among Peers The assessment of the use of Kiswahili among peers focused on how people from various groups that share peculiar characteristics that make them feel equal to each other use the language. The main focus was on people of the same age group and people sharing an equal status in society.

A majority of (73.9%) reported speaking Kiswahili when with friends, compared to the minority15.2% who spoke English. The remaining 4.3% reported speaking mother tongue when with friends. In summary, the results in this section indicate that most of the respondents in the Rift Valley of Kenya use Kiswahili as their main communication language both formally and informally. The formal settings herein include school and workplace. Also, the results indicate that Kiswahili is commonly used for official communication within the Rift Valley of Kenya, more than English, which is also one of Kenya's official language as stipulated in the constitution. The informal settings entail the market places, with friends, and other social gatherings.

780 71 d) Kiswahili and Acculturation Strategies

Responses from the respondents were evaluated based on the outcome that the table below predicts to determine
 a strategy guided by respondents.

783 72 i. The Assimilation Influence of the Dominant Language 784 within the Rift Valley of Kenya

To determine whether people from the cocultures adopt the cultural norms of the host culture at the expense of 785 their culture to develop a homogenous culture, the respondents were asked to give their views on whether it was 786 important for them to speak fluent Kiswahili rather than the dominant mother tongue within the Rift Valley of 787 Kenya and their outcomes recorded in the table below. The majority of the respondents (47.4%) strongly agreed 788 that was important to speak fluent Kiswahili rather than the dominant mother tongue within the Rift Valley of 789 Kenya, 13.2% agreed that it was important. In comparison 23.7% disagreed and 15.8% were neutral on the same. 790 According to Rudmin & Ahmadzadeh (2001), the rejection of both cultures results in 'multiculturalism' rather 791 than 'marginalization.' 792

793 73 ii. The Separation Influence of Kiswahili within the Rift 794 Valley of Kenya

To determine whether the immigration of the people from the co-cultures into the Rift Valley of Kenya can result in the rejection of the host culture, respondents gave their opinions on the importance of speaking fluently the dominant language than Kiswahili within the Rift Valley of Kenya. The majority of the respondents (41.7%) were neutral on a personal level that they need to speak fluent dominant mother tongue than Kiswahili, 30.6% strongly agreed while the remaining 11.1% disagreed.

⁸⁰¹ 74 . The Integration Influence of Kiswahili within the Rift ⁸⁰² Valley of Kenya

Integration occurs when people from the cocultures accept the cultural norms and language of the host culture but still maintain their original culture (language) to bring about biculturalism. Respondents were to give their views on speaking fluent Kiswahili and other ethnic languages within the Rift Valley. The outcome is in Table 4.17 below. Most of the respondents (66.7%) strongly agreed that it was important to be fluent in both Kiswahili and other ethnic languages in the Rift Valley, 23.8% agreed on the same, and 9.5% were neutral.

⁸⁰⁸ 75 iv. Marginalization within the Rift Valley of Kenya

Marginalization happens after people from the co-cultures reject their culture (language) and that from the dominant host. Respondents were asked to react on whether it is not important to speak fluent Kiswahili or any

mother tongue in the Rift Valley of Kenya. The table below illustrates their responses. On the marginalization 811 influence of Kiswahili within the Rift Valley of Kenya, (37.8%) strongly disagreed that it is not important to 812 speak both fluent Kiswahili or any mother tongue, 16.2% disagreed, 18.9% strongly agreed while 16.2% were 813 814 neutral on the same.

76 e) Adverse Social Impacts of Language Barriers 815

The section focuses on the possible negative impacts that language barrier can cause, necessitating the use of a 816 cross-cultural language which is Kiswahili. 817

i. Discrimination 77 818

The language barrier can be a source of social discrimination and other vices in society. The study, therefore, 819 sought to explore how the language barrier affects residents of the Rift Valley, and the results are as shown in the 820 821 table below. Majority of the residents (63%) reported that sometimes they got ignored because of their language 822 inadequacy. Another 30% reported that they never got ignored, while a further 6.5% reported that they get

ignored very often. 823

78 ii. Intimidation 824

Language differences can be an outcome of different forms of intimidation, including threats, abuse, and 825 stereotypes. This was necessary to be tested and the outcomes are represented in table 4.20 below. As the 826 table above indicates, the majority of the respondents (45.7%) reported that they sometimes got bullied because 827 of their linguistic background. Another 41.3% reported that they never get bullied because of their language 828 background, while 13% reported that they very often get bullied because of their different language background. 829

iii. Social Exclusion 79 830

This strand tests incidences of people being denied the acquisition of property and opportunities available within 831 the Rift Valley of Kenya due to language differences. The results are in the table below. A major i ty of 832 (52.2%) respondents reported that they sometimes felt ignored and excluded because of their different language 833 background whereas 34.8% reported that they never have such an experience, 13% reported experiencing the 834 same very often. 835

iv. Biased Acceptance 80 836

Acceptance is an experience to accept cultural differences through seeing diversity from complex worldviews. 837 Acceptance is not the literal liking of other cultures or agreeing with them. Cultural variation can be judged 838 negatively to motivate prejudice resulting from the language difference. Respondents were to give their views of 839 whether they feel a biased acceptance due to their language variations. The outcomes are shown in table 4.22 840 below. Most of the respondents (54.4%) as indicated in the table above reported that they felt accepted in the 841 Rift Valley of Kenya despite their language background, while 28%.3 reported that their language background 842 was sometimes a source of their biased acceptance and 17.4% reported that the feeling was very often. 843

81 v. Name-calling at Formal Institutions 844

Diverse communities are prone to face stereotypic mentalities from individuals who are not ready to accept the 845 difference that exists. The stereotypes can be linked to a difference in language or cultural norms, among other 846 things. Respondents had to give their views on whether they have experienced stereotypes either in formal or 847 informal settings as represented in tables 4. 23 In table 4.23, (50%) of the respondents reported that they never 848 got called names or teased at school or workplace because of their language background. Another 41.3% reported 849 that it often happened, while 8.7% reported very often. 850

vi. Name-calling Outside Formal Institutions 82 851

The respondents (47.8%) also reported that sometimes, they are stereotyped or teased outside the school or 852 workplace because of their language background. In comparison, another 45.7% reported that they never got 853 teased or called names. Also, 6.5% reported that they got teased and called names very often. In summary, the 854 results indicate that language background can sometimes be a major source of social discrimination in both the 855 formal and informal setting. 856

f) Theory Triangulation 83 857

The four theories reviewed in chapter two are tested to determine which one is the most applicable for this study. 858 According to the Developmental Model of Intercultural Sensitivity (DMIS) propounded by Bennett (1993), 859 54.4% of the respondents, as indicated in Table 4.22 reported that they do not feel accepted in the Rift Valley just 860 because of their language background representing the first stage of denial. Also, the highest of 47.8% admitted 861 to having undergone the defense stage of DMIS through experiencing societal stereotypes Table 4.24. However, 862

despite the fact that most of the respondents (66.7%) strongly agreed that it was important to be integrated into the new society Table 4.17, they remained outsiders to the groups since their identity is questioned. This disqualifies the theory, paving the way for the trial of the theory Dimensional Accrual and Dissociation (DAD) by ??ramer (2013: 123-184).

In tables 4.15 and 4.25, the variable of assimilation is tested via the need to speak Kiswahili fluently rather than 867 the mother tongue and adapting to new cultures completely forgetting original cultures, respectively. Therefore, 868 47.4% strongly agreed with assimilation in table 4. 15 In the table above, 22.2% of the respondents strongly 869 agreed that people of the same cultural and language background should adapt to new cultures and not maintain 870 their own, 28.9% somewhat agreed on the same while 26.7% somewhat disagreed, and 22.2% were not sure. 871 However, despite the data above, focusing on assimilation is criticized for resulting in a monoculture that is void 872 of meaning and personal identity. This case is also applicable to the Fourfold theory by John ??erry & Annis 873 (1994; ??001: 382-406) herein disqualifying the two theories. 874 i 875

⁸⁷⁶ 84 . The Alternation Model: A Potential Theory Applicable in ⁸⁷⁷ the Study

The model as espoused by LaFramboise et al (1993) posits that an individual can maintain a positive relationship 878 with both cultures without necessarily choosing between them. It ignores the hierarchical relationships between 879 the two cultures to allow Missing individuals in a cosmopolitan environment to attach equal status to both 880 cultures, despite whether they value them equally. To ascertain the effectiveness of the Alternation Model to this 881 study, two variables are compared; the importance of speaking both Kiswahili and mother tongue Table 4.17 and 882 the need to maintain personal and contact culture Table 4 In the table above, 25.6% of the respondents strongly 883 agreed with cultural alternation. Similarly, most of the respondents (66.7%) strongly agreed, with language 884 alternation (Table 4.17). The model is ideal for the study since it focuses on both cognitive and affective 885 procedures that allow individuals in the Rift Valley of Kenya to endure the adverse effects of acculturative stress. 886 887 Also, it examines the role that individuals in the co-cultures have in selecting how to interact with the culture 888 they get in contact with and their original culture.

⁸⁸⁹ 85 g) Data Analysis and Interpretation

Here, the research questions are answered using the data obtained from the respondents in the Rift Valley of
 Kenya. The analysis is presented in a duo format vis-à-vis to the two research questions.

86 i. Effects of a Cross-Cultural Language on Interrelationship in the Rift Valley

The first research question: How does the existence of a cross-cultural language affect interrelationship among 894 individuals from different cultural sub-sets in the Rift Valley? This is the first research question and to answer it, 895 the interrelationship between people from diverse cultural sub-sets within the Rift Valley of Kenya is compromised, 896 evident from the responses provided by inhabitants within the region. This gap has resulted in effects such as social 897 discrimination, intimidation, exclusion, biased acceptance and name-calling outside informal settings represented 898 by data in tables 4. ??9, 4.20, 4.21, 4.22 and 4.24, respectively. However, it is significant to note that 50% of the 899 respondents reported that they never got to be called names or teased at formal settings (Table 4.23) compared 900 to 41.3% who reported that it happens often, and 8.7% who reported very often. This is a result of intercultural 901 awareness promoted by policies at formal settings within the Rift Valley of Kenya, such as the use of Kiswahili 902 for intercultural communication. Kiswahili plays a significant role in varied social settings to ease intercultural 903 understanding. It bridges a communication gap to the population not fluent in a local language or English 904 within the Rift Valley of Kenya. It is significant to note that, during the informal use of Kiswahili, the phrases 905 that are not grammatically correct are used during everyday intercultural interactions to fulfill the purpose of 906 communication (Mbori & Mulaudzi, 2012). The appropriate response to the familiar Kiswahili phrases among 907 individuals from a vast, diverse Rift Valley allows the feed-forward during conversations. 908

In practice, Kiswahili is used formally and informally within the Rift Valley of Kenya in the following ways: In the workplace/school, most of the respondents (67.4%) reported speaking Kiswahili, while 30.4% reported to speak English, and the other 2.2% mother tongue. Informally, in markets, to ease trade, (87%) of the respondents reported speaking Kiswahili as compared to 8.7% who used English and 4.3% of the respondents who speak mother tongue at the market place (Table 4 In Table 4.28 above, (67.4%) strongly agreed that Kiswahili enhances longterm intercultural relations among diverse communities in the rift valley, 6.5% somewhat agreed on the same. However, 15.2% of the respondents were not sure, while 10.9% somewhat disagreed.

⁹¹⁶ 87 h) The role of Kiswahili in the Rift Valley of Kenya

⁹¹⁷ Majority of the respondents (43.5%) agreed that Kiswahili unites. Another 32.6% perceive Kiswahili as a language ⁹¹⁸ that gives pride. Also, 17.4% admitted that they use Kiswahili to understand each other, 2.2% thought that Kiswahili was important in helping them share the same vision, which translates to the continuation of national ethos. Similarly, 2.2% of respondents describe their identity by using Kiswahili. Finally, 2.2% of respondents use Kiswahili for socialization (table 4.29). The chi-square statistics is 0.0277, whereas the p-value (alpha value) is 0.9988. The data above reflects that the outcomes of the research are independent at a significant alpha level of

greater than 0.05.

To conclude, relevant data collected via the administration of questionnaires are presented and analysed 924 in this chapter. The main objective was to answer the research questions by determining the role Kiswahili 925 plays in promoting intercultural communication and strengthening national ethos amongst the cocultures of 926 the Rift Valley in Kenya. The data focused on the effects of lack of a cross-cultural language and how it 927 affects interrelationship among individuals from different cultural sub-sets in the Rift Valley. Also, the chapter 928 scrutinized how Kiswahili enhances intercultural relations among diverse communities impacting national ethos 929 in the region by underpinning various contexts of Kiswahili use. Furthermore, theory triangulation is performed 930 to establish an appropriate theory that is suitable for this study. 931

The chapter outlines the role of Kiswahili in intercultural communication within diverse intercultural backgrounds of the Rift Valley. The next chapter will synthesize the hypothesis of the study, announce the applicable theory to this research, outline the recommendations and conclude the entire study.

935 88 Chapter Five

936 V.

937 89 General Conclusion

This chapter reviews the general research questions of the study, summarises the findings and verifies the hypothesis. Furthermore, the chapter will provide theoretical implications, the significance of the study, prospects for future research and the limitations of the current study.

⁹⁴¹ 90 a) Summary of the Study

The constant migration of people across cultural boundaries causes cultural interaction, which necessitates intercultural communication; this in turn, dictates the need to have a lingua franca. The lack of an appropriate transborder language of communication always leads to misunderstandings that compromise national ethos and drive intercultural conflicts among various diverse cultural sub-sets. This problem led to the need to examine the role that Kiswahili plays in promoting intercultural communication and strengthening national ethos amongst the co-cultures of the Rift Valley in Kenya.

The research objectives are attained by collecting qualitative and quantitative data via the administration of a questionnaire. In particular, the quantitative data are analyzed scientifically by using SPSS and outcomes presented in tables. Conversely, the qualitative data were analysed through narrative and theory triangulation to inform the outcome of the study.

⁹⁵² 91 b) Attainment of Research Objectives

The research focuses on two objectives. The first objective is to examine the directional influence of a cross-953 cultural language on interrelationships among people from diverse cultural sub-sets in the Rift Valley in Kenya. 954 This objective has been attained, evident from the data collected, 31 of the 47 respondents strongly agreed that 955 Kiswahili is a language that links all the existing cultural sub-sets within the region, garnering a 67.4%. It is 956 important to note that the use of Kiswahili breaks the divide among the dominant and the sub-set cultures within 957 the Rift Valley in Kenya, thereby creating a state of balance that blocks any form of influence from neither side. 958 The second objective of the study is to evaluate the role of Kiswahili in enhancing intercultural relations and 959 building national ethos in the region. This aim has also been achieved through the quantitative data collected. 960 Notably, 31 out of the 47 respondents strongly agree that Kiswahili enhances a long-term intercultural relationship 961 among diverse communities in the Rift Valley of Kenya. The idea above is crosschecked by 67.4% of the total 962 sampled population who perceive Kiswahili as a language that unites people within the Rift Valley of Kenya. 963 This role directly links to the development of national ethos, thereby giving them a common identity that is 964 passed from one generation to the next. 965

⁹⁶⁶ 92 c) Synthesis of the Results

The findings of the research indicated that diversity is appreciated through the utilisation of various languages in 967 968 diverse settings of social interaction within the Rift Valley of Kenya. However, despite 32.6% of the population 969 within the Rift Valley acknowledging that Kiswahili was not their first language, 100% of the population speak the language and accept it as a lingua franca which is used in several pertinent contexts that are implicative to 970 answer the research question under study. These contexts are summarized as follows; in domestic communication, 971 47.8% of the total respondents accepted to use Kiswahili as compared to 6.5% of mother-tongue users and 43.5%972 English speakers. In formal communication that comprises schools and job environments, 67.4% of the total 973 population accepted to communicate in Kiswahili as opposed to 30.4% English speakers and 2.2% mothertongue 974

users. Furthermore, 73.9% of the sample population admitted to use Kiswahili while interacting with friends; this 975 is opposed to 4.3% mother-tongue users, 15.2% English speakers and 6.6% users of other unspecified languages. 976 Also, 87.9% of the sample population agreed to be using Kiswahili while in the market. On the contrary, 4.3% of 977 the population admits using mother tongue and 8.7% use other languages. In the church, 76.5% of the sampled 978 population admitted to be using Kiswahili while 15.7% admitted to be using English, 5.9% of the population 979 used mother tongue and 2% of them used other unspecified languages. Finally, during other social gatherings-980 weddings, sports, burials, and local meetings, 69.6% of the sample population admitted to be using Kiswahili, 981 15.2% used English, 10.9% spoke mother tongue, while 4.3% communicated using other unspecified languages. 982

Another pertinent spectrum is the use of Kiswahili as a unification factor. This role directly links to the development of national ethos since citizens within the Rift Valley of Kenya relate through speaking of Kiswahili; thereby, it gives them a common identity that is passed from one generation to the other. Evident to this, 43.5% of the total sampled population perceived Kiswahili as a language that unites people within the Rift Valley of Kenya as opposed to 17.4% who took the communicative approach and looked at Kiswahili as a language that makes them understand one another, 2.2% who perceived it from the socialization approach and the 2.2% who see Kiswahili as a language that makes people in the Rift Valley to share one culture.

990 93 d) Theory Application

To close the linguistic gap that breeds differences and conflicts within the Rift Valley in Kenya, 80.9% of the total 991 sampled population agreed to learn and use Kiswahili to block linguistic orientations to solve conflicts relating 992 to language differences. The above concurs with a range of 28 respondents (66.7%) who strongly agreed that it 993 was important for them to be fluent in both Kiswahili and mother tongue, which confirms to the Alternation 994 Model propounded by LaFramboise et al. ??1993). As Ogbu & Matute-Bianchi (1986: 89) admit, a person can 995 belong to two cultures and use two diverse languages for diverse purposes by alternating behavior depending on 996 the situation. The Alternation theory assumes that an individual can feel a sense of belonging to two cultures 997 and not compromise their cultural identity. 998

⁹⁹⁹ 94 e) Verification of Research Hypotheses

The study focused on two hypotheses which needed to be verified through data presentation. A chisquare test of independence was performed to examine whether there is a relationship between Kiswahili and national ethos.

The first hypothesis states that a cross-cultural language affects how people relate in a cosmopolitan region-and consequently, becomes a unifying factor. This hypothesis was followed up by the open question, which required respondents to state the role that Kiswahili play in the Rift Valley region of Kenya; 43.5% of the total sampled population perceived Kiswahili as a language that unites people within the Rift Valley of Kenya as opposed to 17.4%, 2.2% and 2.2% who take the communicative approach, socialisation approach and cultural approach respectively. This reflects Kiswahili as a unification language within the Rift Valley of Kenya, thereby interfering with all tensional interrelationships posed by language differences within the region.

The second hypothesis states that Kiswahili helps in defining and building pillars of national ethos among citizens in Rift-Valley in Kenya. This hypothesis has been verified since citizens within the Rift Valley of Kenya relate through speaking Kiswahili; thereby, it gives them a common identity that is passed from one generation to the other reflected by the 2.2% response, source of pride 32.6%, helps them share a common understanding 17.4%, gives them a vision 2.2% and socializes them 2.2%. Cumulatively, 56.6% of the respondents perceived Kiswahili as a language that helps them build the pillars of national ethos.

1015 95 f) Limitations of the Study

This part covers general limitations throughout the study. First, the questionnaire is limited to a few selected contexts which are considered as areas of the possible use of Kiswahili. The contexts are; home, school, working environment, church, market, friends, and other social gatherings (weddings, sports, burials, and local meetings). These settings are not the only salient areas where Kiswahili can be used.

Also, the data collected are limited to only 50 respondents as stipulated by the scope of the research.

¹⁰²¹ 96 g) Challenges Encountered during the Study

1022 The Covid-19 pandemic period, posed a heavy setback by slowing data collection due to the prevention measures 1023 such as limitation of face-to-face meeting.

Also, some respondents did not comply with filling the questionnaire. The research focused on 50 respondents, among them, others did not commit themselves fully to filling the entire questionnaire. This prompted the researcher to opt for data saturation to predict their outcome, which is the source of research errors.

Finally, many companies denied to grant executive interviews thereby slowing the process and lowering the morale of the researcher.

¹⁰²⁹ 97 h) Relevance of the Study

1030 Intercultural communication cannot happen in isolation without the aspect of language. This has led to the 1031 emergence of studies similar to this that look at language as a primary tenet in intercultural communication.

This study is pertinent to the body of knowledge since it opens up other wider perspectives of utilizing a language to promote regional integration, particularly in Africa.

The study helps in policy formation by bodies like the Directorate of National Cohesion and National Values in Kenya.

1036 It is also significant in helping the National Steering Committee (NSC) on Peacebuilding and Conflict 1037 Management to understand an intercultural communication strand in conflict management.

Moreover, this study is significant to help individuals moving into any cosmopolitan region to understand the need to develop a flexible approach to alternate to the new cultural contexts to help them coexist.

Finally, the study serves as an eye-opener to the political goodwill to necessitate the development of policies and activities which enhance national ethos.

¹⁰⁴² 98 i) Recommendations of the Study

The research outcomes attained from the study have prompted the development of the following recommendations: First, cosmopolitan regions, an example of the Rift Valley in Kenya, are characterised by a mosaic richness of differences that have a shared point; it is recommended that diversity be recast but not abandoned.

Moreover, it is recommended that the subcultures should not abandon the values, customs and norms that define national ethos even though they can modify them.

It is recommended that governments should support policies and activities that help every group in the society to maintain their peculiar sub-culture-the policies, institutions and habits which do not interfere with the shared loyalty to the state. Furthermore, it is recommended that African nations should incorporate the commemoration of diversity holidays in their annual calendars to celebrate diversity.

Finally, it is recommended that citizens should be willing to learn Kiswahili, which makes them break the
language barrier and enhance their interrelationships within a region, a nation and across borders. By doing so,
they can easily cope with any bicultural setting.

¹⁰⁵⁵ 99 j) Suggestions for Future Research

This study opens up the gap of intercultural domains that have not been widely explored. Domains such as values and beliefs are not yet widely explored since they are important strands linked to identity discussions.

Also, the Alternation Model examines the role that individuals have in selecting how to interact with the culture they get in contact with and their original culture (LaFromboise et al., 1993). The model opens the gap of bidirectional effects of cultural connection that researchers should put under study to understand the impacts that individuals from both cultures have on one another.

Finally, since the appropriate responses to the familiar Kiswahili phrases among individuals from a vast, diverse
Rift Valley in Kenya only serves the purpose of feed-forward during conversations, there is a need to study the
gap that questions the level of mastery of standard Kiswahili among the majority of the people from the Rift
Valley of Kenya.

To conclude, the Rift Valley comprises over 40 ethnic groups. The region has been rocked regularly by ethnolinguistic tribal upheavals witnessed in 1992, 1997, and 2007 due to the negative attitudes of dominant cultures towards the co-cultures perpetuating a notion of superiority and inferiority complex attributed to ethnicity. The Inferiority complex is resultant of the negative attitude that residents view other subcultures with. This prompted the research to examine the role of Kiswahili in promoting intercultural communication and strengthening national ethos amongst the co-cultures of the Rift Valley in Kenya.

1072 It is encouraging to note that the negative perspective is gradually changing through the use of Kiswahili as 1073 a cross-cultural lingua franca in the region. Diverse language groups actively engage one another in Kiswahili, 1074 therefore, easing trans-border communication.

By using a common language, a community of Kiswahili speakers is created, binding all other language groups together. The binding mechanism should not be mistaken with assimilation; individuals from diverse language groups are free to alternate between their native cultures and the Kiswahili culture. Nevertheless, the fact that diversity still predominates individualistic culture, the various communities are obliged to interact to co-exist through a cross-border call to fulfill the demands in social life.

1080 The use of Kiswahili has necessitated communication within the Rift Valley of Kenya, which is in the form 1081 of official communications, trading activities, inter-denominational services, intercultural ceremonies, sporting 1082 activities and domestic interactions. Documenting Kiswahili as a national language in the Kenyan policy 1083 documents has led it to act as a unifying factor for the users. This is because learning and speaking one language translates into sharing cultural values that are embraced by speakers. Furthermore, the adoption of 1084 the new constitution in 2010 prioritized the use of Kiswahili at the frontline to every native within the boundary 1085 of Kenya. This has set the trend across the country to view Kiswahili as an indigenous language that is a 1086 symbol of national unity, a form of identity, a sense of belonging, and pride. The sense of pride as Kenyans and 1087 Kiswahili speakers has contributed to a positive intercultural relationship of communities within the Rift Valley. 1088

In prediction, Kiswahili will continue to grow because it has become a day-to-day denominator in communicationin almost every social aspect of life within the Rift Valley of Kenya.

1091 100 List of Abbreviations

Developmental Model of Intercultural Sensitivity (DMIS) propounded by Bennett (1993), the theory of Dimensional Accrual and Dissociation (DAD) by Kramer (2013: 123-184), the Fourfold Model by Berry (1994; 2001: 382-406), and the Alternation Model advocated by LaFramboise et al, (1993). Through theory triangulation, the most applicable theory to the study will be determined in the next chapter.

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They

41

Figure 1:

Gender Male	Frequency 21	Percent 44.7	Valid Percent Cumulative 45.7	e Percentage 45.7
Valid				
Female	25	53.2	54.3	54.3
Valid Responses	46	97.9	-	-
Missing System	1	2.1	-	-
Total	47	100.0	100.0	100.0

Figure 2: Table 4 . 1 :

Age Bracket		Freque	ncy Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Per-
					centage
	18-25	10	21.3	21.7	21.7
	25 - 30	23	48.9	50.0	71.7
Valid	30-35	10	21.3	21.7	93.5
	35-40	2	4.3	4.3	97.8
	40-45	1	2.1	2.2	-
Valid Responses		46	97.9	-	-
Missing	System	1	2.1	-	-
Total		47	100.0	100.0	100.0

$\mathbf{42}$

Figure 3: Table 4 . 2 :

43

Place of Birth		Frequenc	y Percent	Valid	Cumulative
				Percent	Percentage
Valid	Rift valley	33	70.2	71.7	71.7
	Other	13	27.7	28.3	-
Valid Responses		46	97.9	-	-
Missing	System	1	2.1	-	-
Total		47	100.0	100.0	100.0

Figure 4: Table 4 . 3:

$\mathbf{44}$

Duration of stay in	RV		Frequer	nc∳ercent Valid Percentage	Cumulat	ive Percentage
	More than	10	35	74.5	76.1	76.1
	years					
Valid	1-5 years		8	17.0	17.4	93.5
	5-10 years		3	6.4	6.5	-
Valid Responses			46	97.9	-	-
Missing	System		1	2.1	-	-
	Total		47	100.0	100.0	100.0
v.						

Figure 5:	Table 4 .	4:
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$\mathbf{45}$

Valid	Yes	32	68.1	69.6	69.6
	No	14	29.8	30.4	-
Valid Responses		46	97.9	-	-
Missing System		1	2.1	-	-
Total		47	100.0	100.0	100.0

Figure 6: Table 4 . 5 :

46

Valid	Yes No	$31\ 15$	66.0 31.9	67.4 32.6	67.4 -
Valid Responses	110	46	97.9	_	-
System		1	2.1	-	-
Total		47	100.0	100.0	100.0

Figure 7: Table 4 . 6 :

$\mathbf{47}$

Valid	Nandi Keiyo Kipsigis Sabaot Marakwet Tugen	$14 \\ 2 \\ 6 \ 11 \\ 12 \\ 1$	$29.8 \\ 4.3 \\ 12.8 \ 23.4 \\ 25.5 \\ 2.1$	$30.4 \\ 4.3 \\ 13.0 \ 23.9 \\ 26.1 \\ 2.2$	30.4 34.8 47.8 71.7 97.8
Valid Response Missing Total	0	$46 \\ 1 \\ 47$	97.9 2.1 100.0	- - 100.0	- - 100.0

Figure 8:	Table	4	•	7	:
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48

Valid	Often Very often Rarely	$23 \\ 18 \\ 5$	48.9 38.3 10.6	50.0 39.1 10.9	50.0 89.1
Valid Responses Missing Total	System	$46 \\ 1 \\ 47$	97.9 2.1 100.0	- - 100.0	- - 100.0

Figure 9: Table 4 . 8 :

49

Kiswahili	31	66.0	67.4	67.4
Valid	Englikah	29.8	30.4	97.8
Mother tongue	1	2.1	2.2	-
Valid Responses	46	97.9	-	-
Missing	System	2.1	-	-
Total	47	100.0	100.0	100.0
ii. The informal use of Kiswahili in the Rift Valley of			English. Only 4.	3% reported speakir
Kenya			tongue in the	
			market place.	
This section examines the use of Kiswahili in a				
relaxed environment and context.				
iii. The Use of Kiswahili in Markets				
A larger majority (87%) reported speaking				
Kiswahili while at the market place, and 8.7% spoke				
i / i				

Figure 10: Table 4 . 9 :

410

	Kiswah40	85.1
Valid	English4	8.5
Mother tongue	2	4.3
Valid Responses	46	97.9
Missing	System1	2.1
Total	47	100.0
iv. The Use of Kiswahili at Home A	ccording to	the table below, (47.8%) of the respondents reported that the

Figure 11: Table 4 . 10:

411

	Kiswahili	22	46.8	47.8	47.8
Valid	English Mother tongue	$20 \ 3$	$42.6 \ 6.4$	43.5 6.5	$91.3 \ 97.8$
	Other	1	2.1	2.2	-
Valid Response	S	46	97.9	-	-
Missing	System	1	2.1	-	-
	Total	47	100.0	100.0	100.0

Figure 12: Table 4 . 11 :

	Kiswahili	34	72.3	73.9	73.9
Valid	English Mother tongue	$7\ 2$	$14.9 \ 4.3$	$15.2 \ 4.4$	$89.1 \ 93.5$
	Other	3	6.4	6.5	-
Valid Responses		46	97.9	-	-
Missing	System	1	2.1	-	-
	Total	47	100.0	100.0	100.0
vi.					

	Kiswahili	32	68.1	69.6	69.6
Valid	English Mother tongue	75	$14.9\ 10.6$	15.2 10.9	84.8 95.7
	Other	2	4.3	4.3	-
	Valid Responses	46	97.9	-	-
Missing	System	1	2.1	-	-
	Total	47	100.0	100.0	100.0

Figure 14: Table 4 . 13:

 $\mathbf{4}$

Strongly agree		18	38.3	47.4	47.4
Valid	Agree	56	$10.6 \ 12.8$	$13.2 \ 15.8$	$60.5 \ 76.3$
	Neutral				
	Disagree	9	19.1	23.7	-
Valid Responses		38	80.9	-	-
Missing	System	9	19.1	-	-
Total		47	100.0	100.0	100.0

Figure 15: Table 4 .

416

Strongly agree		11	23.4	30.6	30.6
Valid	Agree	$6\ 15$	$12.8 \ 31.9$	$16.7 \ 41.7$	47.2 88.9
	Neutral				
	Disagree	4	8.5	11.1	-
Valid Responses		36	76.6	-	-
Missing	System	11	23.4	-	-
Total		47	100.0	100.0	100.0

Figure 16: Table 4 . 16:

417

Strongly agree		28	59.6	66.7	66.7
Valid	Agree	10	21.3	23.8	90.5
	Neutral	4	8.5	9.5	-
Valid Responses		42	89.4	-	-
Missing	System	5	10.6	-	-
Total		47	100.0	100.0	100.0

Figure 17: Table 4 . 17 :

$\mathbf{4}$

		18: Marginalization				
Kiswahili and Marginalization		Frequency	Percent Valid Percent	Cumulativ	ve Percent	
Strongly agree		7	14.9	18.9	18.9	
	Agree	4	8.5	10.8	29.7	
Valid	Neutral	6	12.8	16.2	45.9	
	Disagree	6	12.8	16.2	62.2	
Strongly disagree		14	29.8	37.8	-	
Valid Responses		37	78.7	-	-	
Missing	System	10	21.3	-	-	
Total		47	100.0	100.0	100.0	

Figure 18: Table 4 .

$\mathbf{4}$

			19: Discriminati	on	
Discrimination Frequency Percent Valid	l Percentage	Cumul	ative Percentage		
	Never	14	29.8	30.4	30.4
Valid	Sometimes	29	61.7	63.0	93.5
	Very often	3	6.4	6.5	-
Valid Responses		46	97.9	-	-
Missing System		1	2.1	-	-
	Total	47	100.0	100.0	100.0

Figure 19: Table 4 .

 $\mathbf{4}$

				20: Intimi- dation	
Intimidation Frequency Percent Valid F	ercentage Cu	umulati	ive Percenta		
	Never	19	40.4	41.3	41.3
Valid	Sometimes	21	44.7	45.7	87.0
	Very often	6	12.8	13.0	-
Valid Responses		46	97.9	-	-
Missing System		1	2.1	-	-
	Total	47	100.0	100.0	100.0

Figure 20: Table 4 .

$\mathbf{4}$

21: Exclusion

Figure 21: Table 4 .

422

Biased Acceptance		Frequen	FrequencyPercent Valid Percentage Cumulative Percentage				
	Never	25	53.2	54.3	54.3		
Valid	Sometimes	13	27.7	28.3	82.6		
	Very often	8	17.0	17.4	-		
Valid Responses		46	97.9	-	-		
Missing	System	1	2.1	-	-		
	Total	47	100.0	100.0	100.0		

Figure 22: Table 4 . 22 :

		Table 4.23: Name	e-calling a	t formal settings		
Stereotypes at Formal Settings Frequency Percent Valid Percentage Cumulative Percentage						
	Never	23	48.9	50.0	50.0	
Valid	Sometimes	19	40.4	41.3	91.3	
	Very often	4	8.5	8.7	-	
Valid Responses		46	97.9	-	-	
Missing	System	1	2.1	-	-	
	Total	47	100.0	100.0	100.0	

Figure 23:

$\mathbf{4}$

Never	21	44.7	45.7	45.7
Valid Sometimes	22	46.8	47.8	93.5
Very often	3	6.4	6.5	-
Valid Responses	46	97.9	-	-
System	1	2.1	-	-
Total	47	100.0	100.0	100.0

Figure 24: Table 4 .

$\mathbf{425}$

Test of Assimilation		FrequencyPercent Valid Percentage Cumulative Percentage				
	Strongly agree	10	21.3	22.2	22.2	
Valid	Somewhat agree	$13 \ 12$	27.7 25.5	28.9	51.1	
	Somewhat disagree			26.7	77.8	
	Not sure	10	21.3	22.2	-	
Valid Responses		45	95.7	-	-	
Missing	System	2	4.3	-	-	
	Total	47	100.0	100.0	100.0	

Figure 25: Table 4 . 25 :

426

Strongly agree	10	21.3	25.6	25.6
Somewhat agree Somewhat	9 10	$19.1\ 21.3$	$23.1 \ 25.6$	$48.7\ 74.4$
disagree				
Not sure	10	21.3	25.6	-
ses	39	83.0	-	-
System	8	17.0	-	-
Total	47	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Somewhat agree Somewhat disagree Not sure ses System	Somewhat agreeSomewhat 9 10disagree10Not sure10ses39System8	Somewhat agree Somewhat 9 1019.1 21.3disagree1021.3Not sure1021.3ses3983.0System817.0	Somewhat agree Somewhat 9 1019.1 21.323.1 25.6disagree1021.325.6Not sure1021.325.6ses3983.0-System817.0-

Figure 26: Table 4 . 26 :

427

Responses		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percentage Cumulative Pe	ercentage	
	Not	8	17.0	17.4	17.4	
	sure					
Valid	Somewha	t 2 5	4.3	4.3 10.9	21.7	
	agree		10.6		32.6	
	Some-					
	what					
	disagree					
	Strongly	31	66.0	67.4	-	
	agree					
Valid Responses		46	97.9	-	-	
Missing	System	1	2.1	-	-	
	Total	47	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Majority of the respondents	$(67.4\%) \mathrm{str}$	ongly		ii. Kiswahili Enhancing Intercultural Relations i		
agreed that Kiswahili links t	he existing	cultural su	b-set	Valley of Kenya		
within the rift valley. Another 17.4% were not sure while			The second research question reads: How can			
10.9% somewhat disagreed.			Kiswahili enhance intercultural relations among			
				communities impacting national	ethos in the reg	

Figure 27: Table 4 . 27 :

$\mathbf{4}$

Kiswahili when with friends, compared to 15.2% that speak English and 4.3% who speak their mother tongue when with friends. Moreover, during other social gatherings (weddings, sports, burials, and local meetings), (69.6%) of the respondents reported speaking Kiswahili to facilitate intercultural communication, another 15.2 % spoke English and 10.9% reported to use mother tongue at other social gatherings. Finally, it was

intercultural relation among diverse communities in the Rift Valley of Kenya, represented by the outcomes in

Figure 28: Table 4 .

	Responses	Frequency Percent Vali	d Percentag	e Cumulat	ive Percentage
	Not sure	7	14.9	15.2	15.2
Valid	Somewhat agree Some-	3 5	$6.4\ 10.6$	$6.5 \ 10.9$	21.7
	what disagree				32.6
	Strongly agree	31	66.0	67.4	-
Valid Res	ponses	46	97.9	-	
Missing	System	1	2.1	-	-
	Total	47	100.0	100.0	100.0

 $\mathbf{428}$

Figure 29: Table 4 . 28 :

$\mathbf{429}$

The Role of Kiswahili	Frequency Percent	t Valid P	ercentage	Cumulative Percentage
Unifying factor	20	42.6	43.5	43.5
Agent of pride	15	31.9	32.6	76.1
ValiSource of a shared understanding Source	8 1	$17.0\ 2.1$	17.4	93.5
of a shared vision			2.2	95.7
Identity function	1	2.1	2.2	97.8
Socialisation function	1	2.1	2.2	-
Valid Responses	46	97.9	-	-
Missing System	1	2.1	-	-
Total	47	100.0	100.0	100.0

Figure 30: Table 4 . 29 :

 $\mathbf{4}$

	30: Chi-Square Test					
	Chi-Square Results					
	Frequency	Percent	Valid	Cumulative		
			per-	per-		
			cent	cent		
Kiswahili as an intercultural link 20 ((20.08) [0.00] 43	3(43.64)[0.01]44	(43.64) [0.	00] 44 (43.64) [0.00]		
Kiswahili as a building pillar of na-	26 (25.92) [0	[.00] 57 (56.36) $[0.0]$	[01] 56 (56.3)	$36) \ [0.00] \ 56 \ (56.36) \ [0.00]$		
tional identity						
Column Totals	46	100	100	100		

Figure 31: Table 4 .

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