

# MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY

21 FEBRUARY 2016

**LANGUAGES OF INSTRUCTION**

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**SOCIAL OUTCOMES**

UNESCO GLOBAL EDUCATION MONITORING REPORT HIGHLIGHTS THE IMPORTANCE OF MOTHER TONGUE EDUCATION FOR QUALITY EDUCATION:

AN ESTIMATED **40%** OF THE GLOBAL POPULATION DO NOT RECEIVE EDUCATION IN A LANGUAGE THEY SPEAK OR UNDERSTAND

THIS CAN HOLD BACK A CHILD'S LEARNING ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE **LIVING IN POVERTY**

**CHILDREN** SHOULD BE TAUGHT IN A LANGUAGE THEY UNDERSTAND

IN MULTI-ETHNIC SOCIETIES, IMPOSING A DOMINANT LANGUAGE IN SCHOOL SYSTEMS HAS FREQUENTLY BEEN A SOURCE OF GRIEVANCE LINKED TO WIDER ISSUES OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL INEQUALITY

ACCORDING TO THE WORLD INEQUALITY DATABASE ON EDUCATION...

W I D E

WWW.EDUCATION-INEQUALITIES.ORG

**ETHIOPIA**

SCHOOLS COMBINE...

...MOTHER TONGUE INSTRUCTION

WITH AMHARIC AND ENGLISH

THIS IMPROVES LEARNING IN SUBJECTS SUCH AS



MATH BIOLOGY CHEMISTRY & PHYSICS

**GUATEMALA**

STUDENTS IN BILINGUAL SCHOOLS HAVE:

HIGHER...

LOWER...

ATTENDANCE

PROMOTION RATES

TEST SCORES IN ALL SUBJECTS INCLUDING SPANISH

REPETITION

DROPOUT RATES

**MALI**

CHILDREN STARTING SCHOOL WITH MOTHER TONGUE INSTRUCTION...



...END UP WITH BETTER MASTERY OF THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE, FRENCH

THEY SCORE 32% HIGHER ON FRENCH TESTS AT THE END OF PRIMARY SCHOOL.

**BURKINA FASO**

CHILDREN FROM BILINGUAL SCHOOLS



SCORE EQUALLY OR HIGHER THAN THOSE WHO ATTEND FRENCH-INSTRUCTION SCHOOLS

LANGUAGE IS THE MOST POWERFUL TOOL WE HAVE TO PRESERVE AND DEVELOP OUR SHARED CULTURE. TEACHING THROUGH MOTHER TONGUES ENCOURAGES LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY MOREOVER, IT PROMOTES TOLERANCE, DIALOGUE AND ULTIMATELY PEACE

AT LEAST **6 YEARS** OF MOTHER-TONGUE INSTRUCTION IS NEEDED TO REDUCE LEARNING GAPS FOR MINORITY LANGUAGE SPEAKERS



EDUCATION POLICIES SHOULD RECOGNISE THE IMPORTANCE OF **MOTHER TONGUE LEARNING**



**LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY...**

CREATES CHALLENGES WITHIN THE EDUCATION SYSTEM, NOTABLY IN AREAS OF TEACHER RECRUITMENT, CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND THE PROVISION OF TEACHING MATERIALS.



LET'S CELEBRATE LIFELONG LEARNING IN OUR OWN LANGUAGES!



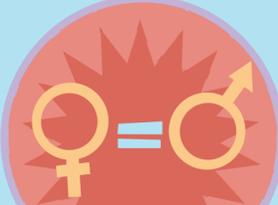
FROM EARLY CHILDHOOD...



...THROUGH LITERACY...



...TO TEACHER EDUCATION...



... TO GENDER EQUALITY.

#MotherLanguageDay