



### Abstract

The general trend in linguistic justice mainly focus on the comparative study between majority and minority languages. Majority languages for example in case of Iran, i.e., Persian (Indo-Iranian) is considered the best communicative tool among Iranian languages for both socio-economic justice and political values. On the other side, minority languages, for example Kurdish (Indo-Iranian) are considered to be an identity marker mainly for ethno-cultural purposes. This study aims at contextualizing Kurdish within the concept of majority and minority and it will identify dual factors regarding communicative and identity features which distinguishes Kurdish from Persian (both in contact for thousands of years). I argue that local languages such as Kurdish, even if they are considered as minority, have instrumental values similar to Persian as the official and majority language of Iran. The data for this study is collected empirically from Iran and it includes elicited and non-elicited interview data from 30 male and female informants equally. The results can be classified in two normative and policy consequences. In terms of normative, the data shows that instrumental features are stronger than multilingual preferences. This entails that communicative superiority of Persian as the majority language with all political injustice in Iran is similar to underestimated and discriminated local languages such as Kurdish. In terms of language policy, the Kurdish language fostered plurality and multilingualism among the Kurds. This plurality developed linguistic awareness among Kurdish individuals which led to a strong resistance against assimilation language policy in Iran.

### Obstacles to Kurdish Language Development That Leads to Linguicide

- Prohibition of the teaching Kurdish to children under 15 Years' Old
- Limiting the use of Kurdish language and cultures in public places
- Mandatory use of the official language instead of Kurdish
- Prohibiting the establishment of Kurdish learning schools
- Prohibition of establishment of Kurdish language supporting institutions
- Lack of education in Kurdish
- Non recognizing the Kurdish as an official language
- Prohibition of registering Kurdish names for natural persons, legal persons or the brands

#### Problems

- Describing the Kurdish language as a regional, local or tribal language
- Soft policies to destruction of Kurdish in Iran, Turkey, Iraq
- The effect of economic, social and political inequality in the linguicide of Kurdish

#### Solutions

- Teaching in Kurdish in schools and universities
- Expansion of thinking in Kurdish
- Publishing books, magazines, journals, presses or medias in Kurdish