

Influences of Culture, Multilingualism and Ethnicity on Using English in Pakistani Universities

Authors : Humaira Irfan Khan

Abstract : The paper discusses that Pakistan is a multilingual, multicultural, and multiethnic society. The findings from quantitative and qualitative data collected in two public universities look at the importance of English language and the role and status of national and regional languages in the country. The evidence implies that postgraduate students having diverse linguistic, cultural, ethnic, socio-economic, and educational backgrounds display negative attitudes towards the use of English language for academic and interactive functions in universities. It is also discovered that language anxiety of postgraduate students is an outcome of their language learning difficulties. It is suggested that considering the academic needs of students, universities should introduce a language proficiency course to enable them to use English with confidence.

Keywords : Multilingualism, Ethnicity, Cultural Diversity, Importance of English, National language, Regional languages, Language Anxiety

Conference Title : ICLFLHE 2015 : International Conference on Language Futures: Languages in Higher Education

Conference Location : Istanbul, Türkiye

Conference Dates : January 26-27, 2015