KENYATTA UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND LINGUISTICS

MASTER OF ARTS (ENGLISH AND LINGUISTICS)

A SOCIOLINGUISTIC STUDY OF THE STRUCTURE AND USE OF AN EMERGING SHENG AMONG MATATU CREW IN NAKURU TOWN, KENYA

CHRISTINE ATEMO NYONG’A

C50/CE/ 10435/08

A PROPOSAL SUBMITTED IN THE PARTIAL FULLFILMENT OF THE AWARD OF MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE (LINGUISTICS)

DATE: 30th MAY 2013
DECLARATION

This proposal is my original work and has not been presented for a degree in any other university.

Signature _______________________________ Date ____________________

CHRISTINE ATEMO NYONG’A.

University Supervisors

Signature _______________________________ Date ____________________

DR. KEBEYA

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
AND LINGUISTICS
KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

Signature _______________________________ Date ____________________

DR. KANANA

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
AND LINGUISTICS,
KENYATTA UNIVERSITY
ABSTRACT

This study looks at the morphological restructuring of Swahili words to a new emerging Sheng in Nakuru Town. The study looks at the speech repertoire of matatu crew and their interlocutors and analyzes how in-group and out-group correlate with the new emerging Sheng.

It is difficult to follow a conversation in the emerging Sheng and thus it is against this background that an attempt will be made to unravel the new formations in the emerging Sheng and the changes they undertake morphologically. The study will thus look at the processes involved in changing the words from Swahili to the emerging Sheng.

The theoretical framework for this study will consist of Speech Accommodation Theory as explained by Coupland and Giles (1991) and The Lexical and Word Based Morphological Theories as propounded by Bauer (1983).

Research instruments used for data collection include unstructured interviews, tape recording and observation notes.

The data will be analyzed both qualitatively and quantitatively.