A.D. de V. Cluver. *A Dictionary of Language Planning Terms*, 1st edition, 1st impression 1993, ix + 77 pp. ISBN 0 86981 804 X. Pretoria: University of South Africa. Price R30,78.

The language planning days in South Africa are far from over. Although the Interim Constitution includes a new language policy for South Africa, each of the nine provinces and each of their many cities and towns still have to develop their own language policies within the framework of the Constitution. Changes in the official or governmental language policies impact on the language policies of educational institutions, the mass media, large private companies and other organisations. If the language policy in the next constitution differs from the present policy, the whole process of developing language policies may start all over again.

In the light of this changing situation a concise dictionary of 164 language planning terms with many references to important sources fulfils a need at the right moment in time. This dictionary provides a very handy introduction to basic concepts, terminology and sources on language planning. As an introduction to the field and as a source of reference, this book is highly recommended to anybody who is interested in or involved in the development of new language policies.

The author does not attempt to include every term, every book and every article on language planning. A separate bibliography of about 500 pages is due to appear soon and an expanded version of the dictionary is planned to follow thereafter.

Each entry consists of an English term followed by its Afrikaans equivalent. In the context of multilingualism the author also included an Afrikaans-English glossary. A few of the Afrikaans terms are new creations and may not be acceptable to all members of the Afrikaans community. The first paragraph of the entry is the author's core definition. For important terms (such as language planning) the entry includes a short discussion of how various workers in the field have contributed to the development of the meaning of the term. Related terms are indicated by 'See also' cross-references. Terms that are defined in other entries are indicated in italic print. Each entry concludes with a bibliography of some sources in which more information can be found. The bibliography at the end of the dictionary covers eleven pages.

The layout of the dictionary is user-friendly: every page is divided into two columns; each entry is clearly divided from the next by printing the term which is used as heading in bold; italics are used for the 'See also's' and references to other terms; and the bibliography at the end of each entry refers to specific pages in other sources.

A welcome and outstanding feature of the dictionary is the frequent reference to language planning and language situations in South Africa and elsewhere in Africa. This makes the dictionary more user-friendly to South African readers and even more applicable to the South African situation.

It is unfortunate that the author does not give more attention to the sub-discipline of (Comparative) Language Law. Politicians and legislators on language matters are very interested in the international acceptability and meaning of language terms as used in constitutions, international legal instruments and in publications of international organisations such as UNESCO. Some examples of sources that could have been examined are:

Blaustein, A.P. and G.H. Flanz. (Eds.). 1990. *Constitutions of the World.* New York: Oceana Publications.

Blaustein, A.P. and Dana Blaustein Epstein. 1986. *Resolving language conflicts: a study of the world's constitutions.* Washington, DC: U.S.English.

Capotorti, F. 1979. *Study on the rights of persons belonging to ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities.* New York: United Nations.

To formulate definitions for so many terms opens the way for a host of comments and criticisms. The author is well aware of this possibility and warns the reader that in many cases the definitions which he offers are only a departure point, not final definitions of the meaning of the terms. Using the author's dictionary departure point, issues such as the following might be worth further examination in the enlarged edition:

Under *bilingual education* it is possible to include the use of two languages in the same lesson or in the same class by the same teacher and the concept: gradual transition from one language to another over a certain period of time.

Under the term *assimilation* the reader should probably have been referred to *linguistic assimilation* and not to *planned language*.

Many authors make a sharp theoretical distinction between *borrowing* and *codeswitching* but in multilingual speech acts it is often very difficult to make such a distinction. Maybe *borrowing* and *codeswitching* should be distinguished as two points on a continuum of *language contact* (or language mixing).

To distinguish a *dialect* from a *regional variety* on the basis of smaller — larger and clearly — less clearly defined geographical areas is questionable. The main feature of a regional variety is its geographical distribution and not its relation to a national language or another language. The main feature of a dialect is that it is related to other dialects, and not its geographical distribution. A regional variety may be a dialect.

Under the term *language variety* the reader is referred to the term *variety*, but this last term is not included in the dictionary.

Under *international language* the reader could have been referred to one or more sources and the term 'Language of Wider Communication (LWC)' should have been included in the discussion (see *language choice* where this term is used).

The definition of *language* is based on the concept *speech community* and the definition of *speech community* is based on the concept *language*. This is a cyclic argument.

The statement on p. 20 that *language choice* 'should precede the formulation of a *language policy*' is in conflict with the definition of *language policy* (p. 35): 'Official decisions on the status of various languages spoken in heterogeneous communities — e.g. which language(s) will be [chosen as] the national or official language(s) ...'

The author defines an *official language* as a 'language used by an international organization or government for specific purposes as part of its official language policy.' However, Capotorti accepts the 'traditional' definition as formulated in a UNESCO publication of 1953: 'A language used in the business of government — legislative, executive and judicial'. Blaustein and Blaustein Epstein also use the traditional definition but add the following clause: 'and in the performance of the various functions of the state'. This reviewer's personal definition of an official language attempts to cover legal aspects and differences in scope as exemplified in various constitutions: A language which government authorities on some or all governmental levels *must* use in carrying out some or all of their functions and in which a citizen *has the right* to deal with these authorities.

It is clear from these examples that the reader should not use this dictionary as a collection of final definitions. To do this is to go beyond the stated intention of the author: 'The main objective of the dictionary is to help the reader to get some idea of the terminology in the field of language planning and to offer some introduction to a few sources on this topic'.

Apparently there are no other dictionaries on language planning. To find information on specific terms is often time consuming. This new dictionary introduces the reader to many crucial topics in language planning and sociolinguistics in a matter of minutes. It should find a place on the bookshelf of all language planners, sociolinguists and others interested in this field of language study.

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