

**Leading change***Donn nou, nou sans , Give us our chance :  
Mauritians know how to talk well in KreolMorisien , their native  
and mother tongue language but do not know how to write KM  
with a proper orthography. They write the way they want. The  
importance of knowing how to write with a good orthography the  
language you speak and think. Morisienkonnnkozbien  
KreolMorisien, zot lang maternel me zot pa konnekrir KMavekenn  
bon lortograf.Zot ekrirfason zot anvi.Linportansekriravekenn bon  
lortografasalangazdanki to pe koze ek panse la*

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**ABSTRACT:** *My views are of personal opinion only and does not reflect the opinion of anyone else. First of all I am thankful to the AKRM-UOM-MIE-CSU and to my devoted lecturers. My late mother Kritya who worked in both Rodrigues Island and in western regions would be so proud of me today. This paper is about my educational journey how I went from prejudicial views about KM language and changing my opinion then myself going to learn how to write and read the language I speak up to earning certificates and publishing papers on KM. It was a privilege and an honour for me to learn how to write and read KreolMorisien and felt better equipped in my personal life, professional career and ambitions. As usual it was not an easy educational journey but despite numerous obstacles , violence, traitors to their own causes , harassment and intimidations , along my path, I achieved and with the blessing of God , in my rights I aim higher in my professional career. It is also not a politically motivated paper since I do not have any Political ambitions nor any interest to have any sort of relationship with anyone from, related to politics of any side and communities.*

**KEYWORDS:** *KreolMorisien Prejudice Ambitions*

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Kreol Morisien is the native language of Mauritians of the island of Mauritius. Being myself someone from Hindu origin, I hear the voices of others who claim that Bhojpuri is their native language. My test was to ask, when you were in primary in what language did you speak with your friends at school ? In what language do you think in your mind ? In what language do you speak to yourself ? It was KM. I am not here to argue about what is native or their mother tongues but rather to write on my appreciation for the language KM, that is another tool for me in my professional life and work. Bloomfield (1933) argued that the native language is the first language a human being learns to speak. While UNESCO (2003) defined a native language as the language which a person has acquired in early childhood because it is spoken in the family and it can also be the language of the region where the person lives. It is a language used in everyday home life. Skutnabb-Kangas (1981) explained that mother tongue is a multifaceted concept encompassing origin, competence, function, and identification.

### Legalization of Gandia Debate and use of KM debate

There was a debate whether to legalise Marijuana or not, I respect the opinion of others who say they have valid reasons to legalize the use of Marijuana for recreational use but for me (i) as an educator (ii) civil servant (iii) son of a former CID police officer, who also worked in ADSU and Police training school (iv) son of a former rector/principal (v) and I even published on the evil of drug , I maintain my opinion to be against any form of drug and against the legalization of marijuana for recreational use since it would bring more violence from consumers who would be capable of anything to finance their drug addiction, even killing their own parents , as it was reported recently in news, whereby a youth murdered his own mother for money to finance his drug addiction. Same as I respect the opinion of others, they also should respect my opinion.

In the same manner, I respect the opinion of others who are against the use of KreolMorisien or disagree about the orthography but again, same as the Gandia, marijuana debate, they also need to respect my opinion.

Like many, I had some prejudicial views about the use of KM in writing, either on social medias and in official document. After this educational journey whereby I went to learn how to write KM, I changed my one sided view and learn to respect the opinion and work of others.

## **II. LITERATURE**

### **Origin of the word Kreol and some early literature work**

The word 'Kreol' originated from the latin word 'Creare' before the 15th century. Then evolved to 'Crioulo' under the Portuguese at the end of the 15th century during the colonization of Cabo Verde in 1462, then to 'Criollo' under the Spanish in the 16th century within several colonies, then into 'Criolle/Criole' under the French during the 17th century and into 'Créole' during the 18th century within the French colonies and then finally into 'Kreol' in the 20th Century. There are four fundamental factors that created the optimum condition for creolization to occur. (i) colonization by Europeans influencing the language (ii) Slavery (iii) Insular condition from those born in the islands and (iv) the transformation of inhabitation societies into plantation societies whereby the non European population becomes more than the European society. 'Transformasionsosieteabitation an sosieteplantasion (popilasion non-eropeenbizinplinonbre ki popilasioneropeen)'. The arrival of Mahé de La Bourdonnais in Mauritius during the 1735 contributed to the development of the KreolMorisien language since Mahé de La Bourdonnais brought development and accelerated the transformation of inhabitation societies into plantation societies. There are many theories about the birth, origin and evolution of the language KreolMorisien by famous authors such as Robert Hall, Jr. Robert Chaudenson, Philip Baker, Derek Bickerton and SalikokoMufwene. It is documented that the first text in KreolMorisien was "Zistwardepienn bob afrikin", written by François Chrestien in 1822 and the first official text has been the Proclamation of abolition of Slavery. There has been scientific work from Charles Baissac in 1880 and 1888 and translation of Gospels into KM in the 1883-1896 and by the end of the 19th century, the language KreolMorisien had (1) A relatively rich vocabulary 'Enn vokabilerrelativmanris' (2). A relatively fix grammar structure 'Enn striktirgramerrelativman fix' (3). At least one official text 'Omwinenn text ofisiel' (4). A scientific description 'Enn deskripsionsiantifik' (5). Literature work 'Enn literatir' (6). And within the religious Gospels 'Enn prezans dan bann text relizie'. In the 20th century there has been the poem of Leoville L'Homme: 'Zozeph Zan', 1917. On the political scene, the political meetings were done in French and the first major polemic was the claim for the use of KM in municipal council in Port Louis in the years 1922 and the second polemic was for the place of KM in literature and education. Before the years 1960, all political meeting were in French but then little by little Politicians started to use KM in public meetings. In the 1982 there was the change in the MBC act with the introduction of KM and Bhojpuri.

## **III. OBSERVATIONS**

### **Areas of disagreement**

From my observations, the major area of disagreement remains the orthography. Everyone writes the way they want but there is already in place a standardized dictionary and orthography.

## **IV. FINDINGS**

### **Grafi-Larmoni report**

The major turning point had been the Grafi-Larmoni report that proposed a system to harmonize the writing KM that led to a KM dictionary and orthography. The Grafi Larmoni was a harmonized orthographic system for KreolMorisien, and was created to unify and standardize how the language is written (Hookoomsing, 2004). It is the building block of the early orthographies and aims for flexibility, phonemic clarity, and educational usability and led to the first dictionaries and creation of various units and cells of KM. Carpooran (2011) had a key role in the codification of KreolMorisien, culminating in the publication of the KM dictionary, which helped formalize spelling and grammar. There has been several editions at date.

## **V. CONCLUSION**

I had prejudicial views of KM but learn to respect and write the language. Today KM has entered everywhere and hopefully KM will be present in National debates within the National parliament through a proper legislation, particularly on sensible issues of national interest whereby all sides of parliament can express themselves in a language they speak at home and within their mind, within the legal framework. The dictionaries and orthography being relatively recent, even the Police and journalists can learn KM to professionalize their work in writing Statements in KM. *'Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.'* (1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18).

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