



An Insight into Linguistic Landscapes of Warsaw and London: Remarks on Linguistic Tendencies and Social Relations

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Linguistic Landscape (LL) is an important element of urban space and a rich source of information about various phenomena which occur in the cities. This paper presents that written language displayed on signs in the streets of urban agglomerations can reflect linguistic tendencies and social relations. Hence, the form and content of signs should be taken into consideration in the discussions about multilingualism, language contact or linguistic diversity. This presentation will start from the explanation of the meaning and function of Linguistic Landscape. Further, it will focus on the linguistic aspect of LL. It will examine how the influence of English language on the Polish language is reflected in Warsaw's urban space and what is the quality of the messages written in English. Attention will then be drawn to the social aspect of LL. It will be indicated that through Linguistic Landscape ethnic and linguistic minorities can mark their presence and status in a particular territory, as it is in the case of London's China Town or the area of Bangla Town. The present paper refers to the PhD research project conducted in the two European capital cities, Warsaw and London. Over 1000 signs, both from official and private spheres, have been collected in the main streets of the two cities and then analysed.;

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