

See discussions, stats, and author profiles for this publication at: <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/328219699>

9. Intercultural Communication in Sarawak: Language Use of the Chinese-Speaking Communities: Speaking in Many Tongues

Chapter · December 2011

DOI: 10.1515/9789048513383-012

CITATIONS

4

READS

123

1 author:



Su-Hie Ting

University Malaysia Sarawak

25 PUBLICATIONS 90 CITATIONS

SEE PROFILE

Some of the authors of this publication are also working on these related projects:



Constructing the biomedical profile of nasopharyngeal cancer based on biomolecular, demographic and clinico-pathologic information [View project](#)



Project SOTL [View project](#)

Ting, S. H. (2010). Intercultural communication in Sarawak: Language use of the Chinese-language speaking communities. In D. Mukherjee & M. K. David (Eds.). *Speaking in many tongues: Language shifts in Malaysian minority communities and the effects of national language planning* (pp. 151-162). Amsterdam: University of Amsterdam Press. 206 pp. IBSN 978-90-8964-271-4

Chapter 9

Intercultural communication in Sarawak: Language use of the Chinese language speaking communities

Su-Hie Ting

This chapter begins with a description of the sociocultural background of Sarawak, a Malaysian state located on the island of Borneo, before providing the historical and social context of the Chinese-language speaking communities. The second part of the chapter presents empirical research findings on the language used for intercultural communication by the Chinese speech communities in the family, transactional and employment domains. The chapter ends with an outline of the language use of the Chinese speech communities in the legal, mass media and religious domains.

Sociocultural Background of Sarawak

Sarawak is a Malaysian state located on the island of Borneo, flanked by Malaysian Sabah in the northeast and Indonesian Kalimantan in the south. Sarawak has a population of 2.07 million (Department of Statistics Malaysia, 2009). The largest ethnic group in Sarawak is the Iban comprising 29.1% of the Sarawak population, followed by the Chinese (25.9%) and the