

The role of language in socio-economic development cannot be overemphasised. We contend that it is possible for Malawi to align education with national unity and socio-economic development and still mandate language use. It is a means to achieving set aspirations or inducing cooperation, to use Aristotle's term, "adherence of the minds" (Aristotle 1954). However, the mere presence of a language does not entail facilitation of the primary purpose of language which is communication. In the case of Malawi, these aspirations could be national unity or identity of a nation, socioeconomic interaction and education. In fact, language use facilitates socio-economic development, unity and attainment of education. These set goals in this case, would be education, national unity and/or identity, and socio-economic development. When one is communicating, one has objectives to be accomplished or aspirations to be realised.