

Exploring Morphological Variations in Sinhala Songs with Embedded English Lyrics

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This study explores the bilingual language adaptations in Sri Lankan song lyrics, focusing on their morphological processes and creative strategies. In the sociolinguistic landscape of Sri Lanka, where Sinhala and English coexist, bilingual song lyrics provide a rich ground for examining the interplay between language and culture. The current study utilised a qualitative approach. Thirty bilingual song lyrics were analyzed using thematic analysis under morphological processes such as nominalization, code-switching, nativization, and reduplication. These processes highlight the linguistic creativity of lyricists and reflect broader cultural dynamics. The findings illustrate that these linguistic adaptations are not merely artistic choices but also significant cultural expressions, negotiating and articulating bilingual and bicultural identities. Ultimately, this study underscores the evolving nature of language in a multilingual society and its impact on the cultural significance of music, demonstrating the close relationship between the composer's intentions and the audience's reception.

Keywords: *bilingualism, nominalization, code-switching, nativization, and reduplication*