

## “Family background and Language use questionnaire”

Name: .....

Your child’s name: .....

Date: .....

This questionnaire consists of five sections to get an impression of the family background and language use of Iranian migrants and their children in New Zealand. Some of your background information will be used to match your children to monolinguals in Iran.

### Section 1: Family background

- 1) Parent’s age: mother ..... father .....
- 2) How many children do you have? .....
- 3) How old are they? .....
- 4) How old is your child who is regarded as a subject in this study? .....
- 5) Where was she/he born? Country ..... city.....
- 6) How old was she/he when you moved to New Zealand? .....
- 7) What is the highest level of education you have completed?  
    Mother .....  
    Father .....
- 8) When did you move to New Zealand? .....
- 9) Why did you move to New Zealand?  
    1) Studies ..... 2) immigration ..... 3) Work..... 4) other.....
- 10) Apart from New Zealand, have you ever lived in a country other than Iran?  
    - No  
    - Yes in: country ..... for ..... years
- 11) What is your current profession?

Mother .....

Father .....

12) Have you and your child ever been back to Iran since leaving for New Zealand?

- Never
- Seldom
- Sometimes
- Regularly, every other year
- Regularly, once a year

13) When have you and your child been to Iran for the last time? .....

14) If you have indicated that you have been back to Iran, could you please indicate what the reason or reasons for such a visit were (you may tick more than one box here)?

- Because of urgent family matters (such as a wedding or a funeral)
- To visit without a particular reason
- For another reason .....

15) Do your parents (the subject's grandparents) come and visit you in New Zealand? How often?

- Yes (.....Never .....Seldom .....Sometimes ..... Regularly)
- No
- They live in New Zealand.

## **Section 2: Language background**

16) What language(s) did you speak while you lived in Iran?

- Persian.....
- Persian & other (Azerbaijani, Kurdish, Lurish, Gilaki, Mazandarani, ...) .....

17) What language(s) did your child speak while you lived in Iran?

- Persian.....
- Persian & other (Azerbaijani, Kurdish, Lurish, Gilaki, Mazandarani, ...) .....

18) What language(s) did you acquire before coming to New Zealand?

- Persian .....
- Persian & other .....

19) What language(s) did your child acquire before coming to New Zealand?

- Persian .....
- Persian & other .....

20) Did your child attend any English classes before coming to New Zealand? (this has to be in an educational environment, like a school or some similar institution):

- No
- yes, less than 3 months
- yes, less than 6 months
- yes, less than 1 year
- yes, more than 1 year

21) Is your child learning any other languages at present? Yes ..... (.....) No .....

22) Has your child ever attended Persian classes while living in New Zealand?

- yes, in (year): .....for the period of: .....months,.....hours a week
- no

23) In general, how would you rate your English language proficiency before you moved to New Zealand?

.....None    ..... very little    ..... little    .... Enough    .... good    ..... very good

24) In general, how would you rate your English language proficiency at present?

.....None    ..... very little    ..... little    .... Enough    .... good    ..... very good

25) In general, how would you rate your child's English language proficiency before you moved to New Zealand?

.....None    ..... very little    ..... little    .... Enough    .... good    ..... very good

26) In general, how would you rate your child's English language proficiency now?

.....None    ..... very little    ..... little    .... Enough    .... good    ..... very good

27) In general, how would you rate your child's Persian language proficiency before you moved to New Zealand?

.....None    ..... very little    ..... little    .... Enough    .... good    ..... very good

28) In general, how would you rate your child's Persian language proficiency at present?

.....None    ..... very little    ..... little    .... Enough    .... good    ..... very good

### **Section 3: Family language use**

29) How often do you speak Persian?

.....very rarely    .....rarely    ..... occasionally    .....frequently    ..... always

30) How often do you speak Persian with your child/ children?

.....very rarely    .....rarely    ..... occasionally    .....frequently    ..... always

31) What language or languages do you mostly use when talking to your spouse?

- only English
- both Persian and English, but mostly English
- both Persian and English, without preference
- both Persian and English, but mostly Persian
- only Persian
- other

32) What language or languages does your spouse mostly use when talking to you?

- only English
- both Persian and English, but mostly English
- both Persian and English, without preference
- both Persian and English, but mostly Persian
- only Persian
- other

33) What language or languages do you mostly use when talking to your children?

- only English
- both Persian and English, but mostly English
- both Persian and English, without preference
- both Persian and English, but mostly Persian
- only Persian

- other

34) In general, do you have more Persian- or English-speaking friends in New Zealand?

- only English-speaking friends
- both, but more English-speaking friends
- as many Persian- as English-speaking friends
- both, but more Persian-speaking friends
- only Persian-speaking friends

35) How did you (and your child) meet most of these people?

- at home
- through a Persian club or organization
- through mutual friends
- through work or the children's school
- through another way, namely: .....

36) Are you in frequent contact with relatives and friends in Iran?

.....very rarely    .....rarely    ..... occasionally    .....frequently    ..... always

37) How do you keep in touch with those relatives and friends in Iran?

Skype- telephone - Facebook - e-mail - another way, namely: .....

38) What language or languages do you mostly use to keep in touch with relatives and friends in Iran?

- only English
- both Persian and English, but mostly English
- both Persian and English, without preference
- both Persian and English, but mostly Persian
- only Persian
- other .....

39) Do you ever intend to move back to Iran?

- Yes .....    - Not clear .....    - No .....

40) Do you feel more comfortable speaking Persian or English?

- English .....    - Persian .....    - no preference .....

**Section 4: Children’s language use and Language choice**

41) How often does your child speak Persian?

.....very rarely    .....rarely    ..... occasionally    .....frequently    ..... always

42) Does your child know how to read and write in Persian?

- Yes .....    - no .....

43) Does your child can read and write in Penglish (writing Persian words using the Latin alphabets)?

- Yes .....    - no .....

44) If she/he can read and write in Persian, how often does your child read books in Persian?

.....very rarely    .....rarely    ..... occasionally    .....frequently    ..... always

What kind of books does she/he read? .....

45) If she/he can read and write in Persian, how often does your child write anything in Persian?

.....very rarely    .....rarely    ..... occasionally    .....frequently    ..... always

46) If she/he can read and write in Penglish, how often does your child read and write?

.....very rarely    .....rarely    ..... occasionally    .....frequently    ..... always

47) If she/he can read and write in Persian, how would you rate her/his literacy in Persian?

..... very little    ..... little    ..... enough    ..... good    ..... very good

48) Does your child listen to Persian songs?

.....very rarely    .....rarely    ..... occasionally    .....frequently    ..... always

49) Does your child watch Persian animations or films?

.....very rarely    .....rarely    ..... occasionally    .....frequently    ..... always

50) If you have indicated that your child never listens to Persian songs, that she/he doesn’t watch Persian animations or films, could you indicate why you think that is?

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51) What language or languages do your children mostly use when talking to you?

- only English
- both Persian and English, but mostly English
- both Persian and English, without preference

- both Persian and English, but mostly Persian

- only Persian

- other

52) Does your child feel more comfortable speaking Persian or English?

- English .....

- Persian .....

- no preference .....

53) Could you please indicate in which language your child speaks to these people and in the domains provided? You may simply tick the box.

	Always in Persian	In Persian more often than English	In Persian and English almost equally	In English more often than in Persian	Always in English	Not applicable
To Father						
To Mother						
To Siblings						
To Friends at School						
To Iranian Peers						
To Iranian Adults						
To Pets						
At School						
In shops						
Sending Texts						
Emails & Facebook						
Skype						

**Section 5: Parents' attitude**

54) Do you consider it important to maintain your child's Persian?

- unimportant
- relatively unimportant
- not very important
- important
- very important

55) Do you encourage your children to speak Persian?

- no, never
- yes, occasionally
- yes, often

56) Do you encourage your children to read and write in Persian?

- no, never
- yes, occasionally
- yes, often

57) Did /do you ever correct your children's Persian?

.....never    .....very rarely    .....sometimes    .....regularly    .....very often

58) If your children do not speak or understand Persian, do you regret that?

.....not at all    .....not much    ..... no opinion    .....a bit    .....very much    .....no answer

59) Do you think your child's Persian language proficiency has changed since you moved to New Zealand?

- yes, I think it has become worse
- no
- yes, I think it has become better

60) Do you see your child as bilingual? In other words, do you think she/he is as proficient in Persian as in English?

- she/he is more proficient in English
- both
- she/he is more proficient in Persian



\* Is there anything you would like to add? This can be anything from language-related comments to remarks about the questionnaire or research itself.

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**“Thank you so much for your cooperation”**