



Libraries and Archives as Custodians of African Intellectual Heritage in Seychelles: A Theoretical Framework

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Abstract

Libraries and archives play a crucial role in preserving African intellectual heritage across various regions, including Seychelles. In Seychelles, these institutions are essential for documenting and safeguarding cultural, historical, and linguistic data. This study employs a conceptual analysis approach, drawing on existing literature and theoretical frameworks from the fields of library science, archival studies, and cultural heritage preservation. This theoretical framework underscores the critical importance of libraries and archives in safeguarding African intellectual heritage within Seychelles. It provides a foundation for future research and policy development aimed at enhancing these institutions' roles as stewards of national culture. Given their pivotal role, it is recommended that government bodies and international organizations support the expansion and enhancement of library and archival services in Seychelles to better serve the preservation and dissemination of African intellectual heritage.

Keywords: *African Studies, Heritage Preservation, Oral Tradition, Archival Theory, Cultural Memory, Digital Humanities, Geographical Information Systems*

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