



# Syncretism and Cultural Adaptation in African Diasporas: An Analysis of Religious Practices in Kenya 2001

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**Published:** 15 May 2001 | **Received:** 07 March 2001 | **Accepted:** 11 April 2001

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**DOI:** [10.5281/zenodo.18732459](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18732459)

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## Abstract

Syncretism in African religious practices refers to the blending of distinct religious traditions into a new form that incorporates elements from multiple sources. The research employs qualitative methods including interviews with community leaders and archival analysis of historical texts to understand current and past syncretic patterns. Interviews revealed a significant trend towards the integration of indigenous African beliefs with Christianity and Islam, particularly in urban areas where diversity is high. Syncretism facilitates cultural adaptation but also poses challenges such as dilution of traditional practices or conflicts between different religious factions. Policy makers should support initiatives that preserve syncretic elements while encouraging dialogue among various faith communities to foster mutual understanding and respect in diaspora environments.

**Keywords:** *African diaspora, cultural adaptation, syncretism, religious studies, ethnography, hermeneutics, ritual anthropology*

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