



Southern African Governance Shifts: A Comparative Analysis of Traditional Structures and Modern Democracy

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Abstract

Southern Africa has seen a complex interplay between traditional governance structures and the introduction of modern democratic systems. A qualitative comparative approach will be used to examine historical records, contemporary literature, and interviews in various regions of the selected countries. The integration of traditional values into modern governance frameworks presents both challenges and opportunities for effective and inclusive political participation. Policy makers should consider the role of traditional leaders as mediators between communities and governments to enhance democratic processes and reduce conflicts.

Keywords: *Sub-Saharan, Bureaucracy, Ethnography, Decolonization, Indigenous Knowledge Systems, Prerogatives, Hybridity*

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