



Urban Dynamics in Contemporary African Literature: A Nigerian Perspective

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Abstract

Urbanization in Nigeria has accelerated significantly over recent decades, transforming traditional rural landscapes into diverse urban environments. Contemporary African literature increasingly reflects these changes through nuanced portrayals of urban dynamics. The analysis will employ a multi-faceted approach, incorporating thematic content analysis with close readings of literary works. Focus will be placed on how authors depict urban landscapes, social structures, cultural shifts, and individual experiences within these environments. Specific themes such as economic disparity, rapid population growth, and the clash between traditional and modern cultures are recurrent in the analysed texts, providing a rich tapestry of urban life in Nigeria. The representation varies significantly across different authors, offering diverse perspectives on urbanization. The study reveals that contemporary Nigerian literature contributes to our understanding of urban dynamics by highlighting both the challenges and potential within these rapidly evolving societies. Future research could benefit from a broader comparative analysis encompassing other African nations with similar patterns of urban development, thus enriching global scholarly discourse on postcolonial urbanization.

Keywords: *African Geography, Urbanization, Postcolonial Theory, Cultural Studies, African Literatures, Migration Studies, Diaspora Literature*

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