



# Theatre and Performance as Social Commentary in West Africa: A Theoretical Framework

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## Abstract

Theatre and performance have long served as powerful vehicles for social commentary in West Africa, particularly within Egypt's diverse cultural landscape. The analysis will draw upon existing literature on Egyptian theatre history, critical discourse analyses of contemporary performances, and ethnographic studies conducted within Egypt's cultural institutions. This theoretical framework provides a comprehensive overview that can guide future studies aimed at understanding and evaluating the role of theatre and performance as social commentators in Egypt. Future researchers should explore how digital platforms are influencing the use of theatre for social commentary, and what adaptations may be necessary to maintain relevance in an ever-evolving landscape.

**Keywords:** *African Studies, Ethnography, Performance Studies, Cultural Anthropology, Ritual Theory, Postcolonial Criticism, Oral Tradition*

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