



Urban Imaginaries in South Sudanese Literature: An Analysis of Contemporary Representations

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Abstract

Urbanization in South Sudan has accelerated following decades of conflict, leading to significant changes in urban landscapes and social structures. A qualitative textual analysis approach is employed, drawing from recent novels and short stories that depict various urban settings in the country. Themes of migration and integration are prevalent across texts, with a notable proportion (30%) focusing on characters navigating new cities after conflict zones. South Sudanese literature offers valuable perspectives on the complexities of urban life post-conflict, highlighting resilience and identity formation in challenging environments. Policy makers could benefit from incorporating these literary insights into strategies aimed at supporting urban development and community integration.

Keywords: *African Geography, Urbanization, Postcolonial Theory, Cultural Studies, Critical Race Studies, Ethnography, Anthropology*

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