



# Urban Imaginaries in Contemporary African Literature from Uganda: A Mixed-Methods Study

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## Abstract

Urbanization in Uganda has accelerated significantly over recent decades, leading to complex social, economic, and cultural transformations. Contemporary African literature from Uganda offers nuanced insights into these urban imaginaries through diverse narrative techniques. The research employs a combination of qualitative content analysis for textual examination and quantitative reader surveys for understanding reception dynamics among a broad Ugandan audience. Data from both methods will be triangulated to enhance interpretative depth. Narratives often highlight the dichotomy between aspirational visions of urban progress and stark realities faced by marginalized communities, with themes of resilience and alienation emerging prominently across texts analysed. Reader surveys indicate significant engagement with these thematic elements, particularly among youth audiences. This study contributes to our understanding of how literature can serve as a mirror reflecting the multifaceted nature of urban life in Uganda while also acting as an agent for social critique and transformation. Further research could explore cross-cultural comparisons or delve deeper into specific genres, such as poetry or drama, that might offer unique perspectives on Ugandan urban experiences. Ugandan literature, urbanization, mixed-methods study, reader engagement

**Keywords:** *African Geography, Urbanization, Cultural Studies, Ethnography, Qualitative Research, Quantitative Analysis, Mixed Methods*

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