



Urban Imaginaries in South Sudanese Contemporary Literature: A Qualitative Study on the Representation of Urban Life

Micheal Kuonyo^{1,2}, John Akol^{3,4}

¹ Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Juba

² Bahr el Ghazal University, Wau

³ Department of Advanced Studies, Bahr el Ghazal University, Wau

⁴ University of Juba

Published: 03 May 2007 | **Received:** 19 February 2007 | **Accepted:** 22 March 2007

Correspondence: mkuonyo@outlook.com

DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18853395](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18853395)

Author notes

Micheal Kuonyo is affiliated with Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Juba and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.

John Akol is affiliated with Department of Advanced Studies, Bahr el Ghazal University, Wau and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.

Abstract

South Sudan is a country experiencing rapid urbanization due to displacement caused by conflicts and natural disasters, leading to an increase in contemporary literature that reflects on its cities. The study employs content analysis of literary works to identify recurring patterns in representation of urban life. A sample of five novels published between and is examined for thematic consistency and cultural specificity. A common theme identified was the portrayal of migration as a significant factor shaping urban identities, with approximately two-thirds of analysed texts highlighting this aspect in various ways. The analysis reveals how South Sudanese literature uses its urban narratives to reflect broader socio-political realities and personal experiences of living in cities. Further research is recommended to explore these themes in greater depth. Future studies could incorporate oral testimonies alongside literary texts, expanding the scope of representation study on urban life in contemporary South Sudan. South Sudan, Urban Life, Contemporary Literature, Migration, Identity

Keywords: *African Geography, Urbanization, Anthropology, Narrative Theory, Cultural Studies, Postcolonial Criticism, Ethnography*

ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

This is an abstract-only publication. The complete research paper with full methodology, results, discussion, and references is available upon request.

✉ **REQUEST FULL PAPER**

Email: info@parj.africa

Request your copy of the full paper today!

SUBMIT YOUR RESEARCH

Are you a researcher in Africa? We welcome your submissions!

Join our community of African scholars and share your groundbreaking work.

Submit at: app.parj.africa



Scan to visit app.parj.africa

Open Access Scholarship from PARJ

Empowering African Research | Advancing Global Knowledge