



Islamic Scholarship in West Africa: A Theoretical Framework

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Abstract

Islamic scholarship has a rich history in West Africa, particularly within Mauritius, where it continues to play a significant role in cultural and educational landscapes. The study will employ a qualitative approach, analysing primary sources such as manuscripts, oral histories, and archival materials to trace the historical trajectory of Islamic scholarship. The analysis will also draw upon existing scholarly works in the field. This theoretical framework provides a robust foundation for further empirical studies into Islamic scholarly traditions in Mauritius, offering insights that can inform policy and educational approaches related to cultural heritage preservation. Future research should focus on intergenerational transmission of Islamic knowledge within Mauritian communities, exploring how these scholarly practices continue to evolve over time. Additionally, comparative studies with other African contexts could enrich our understanding of the global impact of Islamic scholarship.

Keywords: *Sub-Saharan, Diaspora, Oral Tradition, Hermeneutics, Ethnography, Postcolonialism, Narratology*

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