



Music as a Political Expression during Transitions in North Africa and Sierra Leone,

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Abstract

The study explores how music served as a form of political expression during transitional periods in North African countries and Sierra Leone. An interdisciplinary comparative study using qualitative data analysis from interviews, archival documents, and ethnographic fieldwork conducted across multiple sites in North Africa and Sierra Leone. Music played a significant role in mobilizing communities during transitional phases, with themes of resistance, unity, and national identity emerging as recurring motifs. The study reveals that music functioned not only as an expressive medium but also as a catalyst for social cohesion and political engagement. Policy makers should recognise the potential of music in fostering inclusive narratives during transitions to promote social harmony and democratic development. Music, Political Expression, Transitions, North Africa, Sierra Leone

Keywords: *North African, Sierra Leonean, Pan-Africanism, Ethnomusicology, Postcolonial Studies, Cultural Politics, Oral History*

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