



Comparative Analysis of Creation Myths in Beninese Cultures

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Abstract

Benin is a culturally rich country in West Africa known for its diverse folklore traditions. Creation myths play a significant role in Beninese culture and are integral to understanding African cosmology and cultural identity. The research employs qualitative methods including content analysis of oral traditions, literature reviews, and interviews with cultural experts to gather data from various sources in Benin. A notable finding is the recurring theme of creation through water among the Yoruba, Fon, and Ewe cultures, reflecting their close relationship with aquatic environments. This thematic convergence highlights a significant aspect of cultural heritage shared across these groups. The study reveals that Beninese creation myths offer invaluable insights into the spiritual beliefs, environmental attitudes, and collective memory of African societies. Further research should explore how modernization impacts the preservation and interpretation of these myths in contemporary Beninese society.

Keywords: *African Geography, Cosmology, Oral Tradition, Ethnography, Mythology, Cultural Studies, Anthropology*

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