



Oral Traditions in Southern African Communities: A Scholarly Commentary

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Abstract

Oral traditions play a significant role in the cultural heritage of Southern African communities, serving as essential historical sources for understanding their social structures and values. The analysis is based on existing literature and ethnographic studies focusing on selected Southern African countries, with a particular emphasis on Zulu, Xhosa, and Ndebele cultures. Oral traditions provide invaluable insights into the complex social fabric of Southern African communities, offering a rich tapestry that complements written historical records. Future research could benefit from integrating oral tradition studies with digital platforms to facilitate broader dissemination and preservation efforts.

Keywords: *African geography, Oral literature, Sociolinguistics, Ethnography, Cultural transmission, Historical linguistics, Folklore studies*

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