



# Oral Traditions in Southern African Communities of Ethiopia: A Survey Research

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## Abstract

Oral traditions play a significant role in the cultural heritage of Southern African communities across Ethiopia, reflecting their history and identity. A survey research method was employed, utilising structured interviews and focus groups in multiple Southern African communities of Ethiopia. Participants were selected based on their knowledge of local oral traditions. Interviews revealed a strong emphasis on storytelling as a means to preserve cultural heritage, with approximately two-thirds of respondents reporting that oral traditions are crucial for maintaining community identity and historical knowledge. Oral traditions in these communities not only document history but also serve as a living archive of cultural practices. Further research should explore the impact of modern media on traditional storytelling practices within these communities.

**Keywords:** *African Geography, Oral Traditions, Ethnography, Oral History, Folklore Studies, Anthropology, Survey Methodology*

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