



Public History and Memory-Making in Post-Conflict Niger: An African Perspective on Oral Traditions and Performance Arts

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Abstract

Post-conflict Niger faces challenges in reconstructing public history through oral traditions and performance arts. Qualitative interviews, focus group discussions, and archival research were conducted with local artists and community leaders. The arts highlight specific themes related to peace, justice, and collective identity, with a notable emphasis on storytelling across generations (over two-thirds of participants mentioned this theme). Oral traditions in Niger provide vital platforms for public history and memory-making, fostering community cohesion despite conflict. Policy makers should support the preservation and promotion of these arts as tools for social healing and collective remembrance.

Keywords: *African Geography, Oral Traditions, Performance Arts, Post-Conflict Studies, Memory-Making, Cultural Heritage, Community Histories*

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