



Religious Syncretism and Cultural Adaptation Among Nigerian Diasporas: An Ethnographic Survey Study

Chimere Ezeogbuokwu^{1,2}, Nkem Chineduzikwu³, Felix Ogunwale⁴, Ovie Ifeyinfa⁵

¹ Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Calabar

² Covenant University, Ota

³ National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR)

⁴ Department of Advanced Studies, National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR)

⁵ Department of Advanced Studies, Covenant University, Ota

Published: 02 March 2002 | **Received:** 18 December 2001 | **Accepted:** 20 January 2002

Correspondence: cezeogbuokwu@gmail.com

DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18751969](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18751969)

Author notes

Chimere Ezeogbuokwu is affiliated with Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Calabar and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.

Nkem Chineduzikwu is affiliated with National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR) and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.

Felix Ogunwale is affiliated with Department of Advanced Studies, National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR) and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.

Ovie Ifeyinfa is affiliated with Department of Advanced Studies, Covenant University, Ota and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.

Abstract

Religious syncretism refers to the blending of beliefs from different religions within a community, often in response to cultural and social changes. Cultural adaptation among diasporas involves the process by which individuals or groups modify their culture to suit new environments. The study employed a mixed-methods approach using structured interviews and participant observation among Nigerian diaspora communities in the UK. Ethnographic techniques were used to capture nuanced understandings of religious syncretism and cultural adaptation. A significant proportion (45%) of respondents reported engaging in religious syncretic practices, combining elements from Christianity, Islam, and traditional African beliefs. Cultural adaptation manifested through language use, dietary habits, and social norms. Religious syncretism and cultural adaptation appear to be key factors shaping the experiences of Nigerian diasporas living in the UK. These findings contribute to understanding the complex interplay between religion and culture within diaspora communities. Future research should consider longitudinal studies to track changes over time, as well as incorporating more diverse diaspora groups to gain a broader perspective on religious syncretism and cultural adaptation. Religious Syncretism, Cultural Adaptation, Diaspora Communities, Nigeria, UK

Keywords: *Nigerian, Syncretism, CulturalAdaptation, Ethnography, DiasporaStudies, ReligiousBeliefs, Multiculturalism*

ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

This is an abstract-only publication. The complete research paper with full methodology, results, discussion, and references is available upon request.

✉ **REQUEST FULL PAPER**

Email: info@parj.africa

Request your copy of the full paper today!

SUBMIT YOUR RESEARCH

Are you a researcher in Africa? We welcome your submissions!

Join our community of African scholars and share your groundbreaking work.

Submit at: app.parj.africa



Scan to visit app.parj.africa

Open Access Scholarship from PARJ

Empowering African Research | Advancing Global Knowledge