



# Decolonizing African Art History in Eritrea: New Perspectives and Methodologies

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**Published:** 08 February 2002 | **Received:** 11 September 2001 | **Accepted:** 13 December 2001

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**DOI:** [10.5281/zenodo.18752183](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18752183)

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## Abstract

African art history in Eritrea has traditionally been dominated by Eurocentric frameworks that marginalize indigenous perspectives and methodologies. We employ ethnographic research methods combined with critical theoretical frameworks to interrogate existing historiographical narratives and advocate for a paradigm shift towards indigenous epistemologies. Our analysis reveals that traditional art forms in Eritrea exhibit complex themes, such as the integration of religious symbolism and daily life, which have been overlooked by mainstream scholarship. The decolonization process necessitates a reevaluation of existing academic paradigms to ensure they reflect the diverse cultural heritage of Eritrea. We recommend integrating indigenous methodologies into art history curricula and research agendas in Eritrea, alongside international collaboration to promote global inclusivity.

**Keywords:** *African geography, decolonization studies, postcolonial theory, ethnography, historiographical shift, indigenous methodologies, critical race theory*

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