



Informal Sector Dynamics in Ethiopian Urban Arts and Humanities Landscape,

Zeritu Girma¹, Getachew Yimer^{2,3}, Mulu Wondimu^{4,5}

¹ Bahir Dar University

² Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Addis Ababa Science and Technology University (AASTU)

³ Department of Advanced Studies, Jimma University

⁴ Addis Ababa Science and Technology University (AASTU)

⁵ Jimma University

Published: 01 February 2004 | **Received:** 27 October 2003 | **Accepted:** 15 January 2004

Correspondence: zgirma@gmail.com

DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18795868](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18795868)

Author notes

Zeritu Girma is affiliated with Bahir Dar University and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.

Getachew Yimer is affiliated with Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Addis Ababa Science and Technology University (AASTU) and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.

Mulu Wondimu is affiliated with Addis Ababa Science and Technology University (AASTU) and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.

Abstract

Informal sector dynamics are increasingly recognised as crucial in urban areas of Africa, particularly in Ethiopia where traditional arts and humanities sectors coexist with modern economic activities. Qualitative research methods were employed, including semi-structured interviews and observations in selected urban areas, supplemented by secondary data analysis from government reports and academic journals. A notable theme emerged regarding the resilience of traditional arts practices despite economic pressures, with approximately 60% of artisans maintaining their businesses over a decade due to local demand and community support. The study highlights the importance of fostering policies that recognise and support informal sector dynamics within urban arts and humanities sectors, particularly in Ethiopia's diverse cultural context. Policy recommendations include encouraging government investments in infrastructure for artisans, promoting education on traditional arts techniques, and supporting market access to enhance sustainability.

Keywords: *Africanization, Diaspora Studies, Ethnography, Informal Economy, Postcolonial Theory, Urban Anthropology, Vernacular Arts*

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