



Preserving Digital Threads in Zimbabwean Contexts: Strategies and Challenges

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Abstract

Digital cultural heritage preservation in Zimbabwean contexts faces unique challenges due to resource limitations such as inadequate infrastructure and funding. A qualitative approach was employed, involving interviews with community leaders, cultural heritage specialists, and technology experts in Zimbabwe. A thematic analysis of collected data provided insights into preservation strategies and their feasibility. Interviews revealed a strong desire among communities to preserve traditional textile designs but highlighted the significant challenges including limited access to digital resources and technical expertise. The study concluded that collaborative efforts between local communities, cultural institutions, and technology providers are essential for successful preservation. Innovative use of low-cost technologies emerged as a key solution. Recommendations include establishing community-based digital archives, training programmes in traditional textile techniques, and public-private partnerships to secure funding and resources. Digital Cultural Heritage, Zimbabwe, Preservation Strategies, Community Involvement

Keywords: *Zimbabwe, Digital Threads, Preservation Studies, Heritage Conservation, Resource Mobilization, Quantitative Methods, Qualitative Research*

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