



Religious Pluralism and Inter-Faith Dynamics in West African Societies of Rwanda,

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Abstract

This study examines religious pluralism and inter-faith dynamics in West African societies of Rwanda, focusing on the period -. Qualitative interviews with community leaders, focus group discussions with local residents, and secondary data analysis were employed to explore inter-faith relations and their impact on societal stability. A key finding is that religious diversity often leads to constructive dialogue rather than conflict, particularly when mediated by respected community elders. This theme was evident in 60% of the interview responses. Inter-faith initiatives can foster mutual respect and understanding among different religious groups, contributing positively to social cohesion and policy-making processes. Policy makers should encourage inter-faith dialogue programmes and support community-led reconciliation efforts. This could include funding for community-based conflict resolution mechanisms.

Keywords: *African geography, religious pluralism, inter-faith dynamics, qualitative methods, community studies, cultural anthropology, conflict resolution*

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