



# Afrofuturism in Botswana: A Comparative Lens on African Futures

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**Published:** 12 February 2005 | **Received:** 16 October 2004 | **Accepted:** 04 January 2005

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**DOI:** [10.5281/zenodo.18813918](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18813918)

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## Abstract

African vernacular architecture in Botswana is a rich area of study that reflects both traditional and contemporary influences. Afrofuturism as a concept can offer new insights into how African futures are envisioned, particularly in urban contexts. The study employs a qualitative approach to analyse existing literature, interviews with architects and planners, and case studies from urban Botswana. Comparative analysis is used to identify patterns and divergences between traditional and contemporary approaches. Findings indicate that Afrofuturism themes are predominantly found in architectural designs aimed at sustainability and community integration, reflecting a blend of futuristic aspirations with local cultural values. The study identifies key challenges and opportunities for architects and planners in Botswana as they navigate the intersection of tradition and modernity through Afrofuturistic lenses. Recommendations include fostering dialogue between traditional and contemporary architectural communities, integrating sustainable design principles into urban planning policies, and incorporating local cultural narratives into future-oriented designs.

**Keywords:** *Africanization, Afrofuturism, Pan-Africanism, Critical Theory, Postcolonial Studies, Vernacular Architecture, Futuristic Perspectives*

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