



Cultural Heritage Digital Preservation Framework in West Africa: An Analytical Theoretical Approach

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Abstract

Cultural heritage sites in West Africa, particularly Nigeria, face significant threats such as natural disasters, urbanization, and climate change, necessitating innovative digital preservation strategies. No empirical research is conducted as this is a theoretical framework paper. Instead, an analytical approach will be employed to review existing literature and propose new methodologies for cultural heritage preservation in the digital age. The proposed theoretical framework provides a robust structure for addressing the challenges faced by cultural heritage sites in West Africa, particularly Nigeria, through a blend of traditional values and modern technologies. Stakeholders should prioritise community engagement as part of their digital preservation efforts to ensure that local cultures are preserved alongside physical structures. Additionally, investment in sustainable infrastructure is crucial for long-term success.

Keywords: *Sub-Saharan, GIS, ethnography, digitalization, heritage studies, sustainability, community engagement*

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