



Public History and Memory-Making in Post-Conflict Kenya: An African Perspective

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Abstract

Public history and memory-making are crucial in post-conflict societies as they facilitate healing and social cohesion. In Kenya, the period following the Mau Mau rebellion has been marked by attempts to document and commemorate historical events. The study employs qualitative research methods including interviews with public historians and community members involved in memory projects, as well as an analysis of existing archival materials. Public historians have successfully conducted oral history projects that involve the collection of testimonies from veterans and their families. These projects provide a nuanced understanding of historical events through personal narratives. This research underscores the importance of public history in post-conflict societies, particularly in Kenya, where it serves as an essential tool for memory-making and reconciliation processes. Future studies should focus on evaluating the impact of these projects on societal attitudes towards historical events and on promoting a culture of remembrance. Public History, Memory-Making, Post-Conflict Society, Kenya

Keywords: *Kenyan, Mau Mau, historiography, trauma, reconciliation, ethnohistory, memory studies*

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