



Indigenous Legal Knowledge Systems within Cameroonian Jurisprudence: An Analytical Framework

Beatrice Efuka^{1,2}, Samuel Ngassam^{1,2}

¹ Institute of Medical Research and Study of Medicinal Plants (IMPM)

² University of Douala

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Correspondence: befuka@hotmail.com

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Author notes

Beatrice Efuka is affiliated with Institute of Medical Research and Study of Medicinal Plants (IMPM) and focuses on Law research in Africa.

Samuel Ngassam is affiliated with University of Douala and focuses on Law research in Africa.

Abstract

Indigenous legal knowledge systems have gained increasing attention in African jurisdictions as a means to enhance legal inclusivity and relevance. The study employs a qualitative approach to explore case studies from Cameroon's judicial system, focusing on how indigenous knowledge systems are incorporated into legal decision-making processes. Indigenous knowledge systems significantly influence court decisions by providing culturally relevant solutions that address local social issues effectively, demonstrating their practical utility in the Cameroonian legal context. The integration of indigenous legal knowledge within Cameroon's jurisprudence is pivotal for enhancing the effectiveness and acceptance of legal practices among diverse communities. Policy recommendations are proposed to promote a more inclusive judicial system that values and integrates indigenous legal systems, fostering mutual respect between traditional and formal legal frameworks.

Keywords: *Africanization of Law, Legal Pluralism, Indigenization of Jurisprudence, Critical Race Theory, Legal Anthropology, Postcolonial Legal Studies, Decolonizing Knowledge Systems*

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