



Decolonizing African Art History in Kenya: New Methodologies and Perspectives

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Abstract

Decolonizing African art history involves critically examining and reinterpreting historical narratives that have predominantly centred Western perspectives. In Kenya, this process is particularly significant given its rich cultural heritage and complex colonial legacy. The approach will draw from critical theory, postcolonial studies, and ethnographic research methods. Data collection will include interviews with local artists, archival research, and community consultations. The integration of indigenous perspectives is essential for a more comprehensive understanding of African art history, fostering mutual respect and acknowledging the contributions of non-Western cultures. Researchers should prioritise community engagement to ensure that decolonization efforts are culturally sensitive and inclusive. Institutions must also adopt policies that promote diversity in their collections and exhibitions.

Keywords: *Decolonization, African Studies, Postcolonial Theory, Ethnohistory, Oral Tradition, Critical Theory, Heritage Studies*

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