



Religious Pluralism and Inter-Faith Dynamics in West Africa: A Kenyan Perspective

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Abstract

Religious pluralism is a significant aspect of cultural diversity in West Africa, with Kenya being an integral part of this region. Understanding inter-faith dynamics and religious coexistence is crucial for fostering social cohesion and sustainable development. The research employs qualitative methods, including interviews with religious leaders and community members, and document analysis. Data collection was conducted through structured interviews aiming for a diverse sample that reflects the diversity of religions present in Kenya. A key finding is the significant role played by traditional healers who bridge different faith communities, facilitating dialogue and mutual respect across various religious groups in urban settings such as Nairobi. The study underscores the importance of inter-faith engagement led by respected community figures like traditional healers in promoting harmony among diverse religious populations. Policy makers should encourage more inclusive spaces for dialogue between different faith communities, recognising the pivotal role played by traditional healers and other local leaders in fostering understanding and cooperation.

Keywords: *Geographic, Pluralism, Inter-Faith, Cultural Studies, Ethnography, Community Relations, Diaspora Studies*

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