



Music as a Political Expression during Transitions in North African Societies: A Case Study from Seychelles,

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Abstract

This study examines the role of music as a political tool during transition periods in North African societies, with a specific focus on Seychelles. Data collection involved qualitative interviews with musicians, policymakers, and community leaders, along with a content analysis of media coverage and official statements from the Seychelles government during the transition period. Music played a significant role in articulating dissent and support for various political factions. Specifically, one-third of the analysed musical performances contained themes related to social justice and equality. The findings suggest that music can be an effective means of mobilizing public opinion and influencing policy during transitional phases in North African societies. Policy-makers should consider incorporating elements from diverse musical traditions into their public engagement strategies, particularly when addressing issues related to social inequality and political change.

Keywords: *North African, Political Expression, Methodology, Cultural Studies, Postcolonialism, Ethnography, Musicology*

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