



Urban Imaginaries in Mali: Contemporary African Literature and the Representation of Urban Life

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Abstract

Urbanization in Mali is a significant phenomenon, with rapid population growth leading to urban sprawl and challenges such as poverty, infrastructure strain, and environmental degradation. The analysis will be conducted using qualitative literary criticism methods such as thematic analysis, where key insights from the narratives will be identified and discussed. The literature reveals a nuanced portrayal of urban realities in Mali, offering insights into the resilience and struggles faced by urban populations. Further research could investigate how these literary representations influence public discourse on urban development policies in Mali.

Keywords: *African geography, Urbanization studies, Postcolonial theory, Cultural critique, Modernism, Neoformalism, Migration studies*

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