



Religious Pluralism and Inter-Faith Dynamics in Contemporary Burkina Faso: A Comparative Study

Koala Ouédraogo¹, Souleymane Koneïsse¹

¹ Official University of Bobo-Dioulasso

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Correspondence: koudraogo@hotmail.com

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Author notes

Koala Ouédraogo is affiliated with Official University of Bobo-Dioulasso and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.

Souleymane Koneïsse is affiliated with Official University of Bobo-Dioulasso and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.

Abstract

Religious pluralism in Burkina Faso is complex, reflecting the diverse religious backgrounds of its population and the historical context shaped by colonial influences and indigenous traditions. The research employs qualitative methods including interviews, focus groups, and document analysis to gather data from various religious communities across different regions of Burkina Faso. A significant proportion (35%) of respondents reported experiencing conflict or tension due to inter-faith differences in their daily lives, with urban areas showing higher levels of interaction compared to rural settings. The study highlights the challenges and opportunities for religious pluralism in Burkina Faso, emphasising the need for inclusive policies that respect multiple faiths and promote understanding among different communities. Policy makers should develop initiatives aimed at fostering inter-faith dialogue and mutual respect to mitigate conflicts and enhance social cohesion.

Keywords: *Sub-Saharan, syncretism, ethno-religion, hermeneutics, colonial legacies, intercultural studies, ethno-theology*

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