



Urban Imaginaries in Contemporary African Literature from Niger: A Qualitative Study on the Representation of Urban Life

Mariama Djarro¹, Usmanou Gamgoura²

¹ Abdou Moumouni University, Niamey

² National Institute of Agricultural Research of Niger (INRAN)

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Correspondence: mdjarro@yahoo.com

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Author notes

Mariama Djarro is affiliated with Abdou Moumouni University, Niamey and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.

Usmanou Gamgoura is affiliated with National Institute of Agricultural Research of Niger (INRAN) and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.

Abstract

Urbanization in Niger is rapidly increasing, affecting various aspects of society including literature. This study explores how contemporary African literary works from Niger represent and interpret urban life. This study employs content analysis to examine selected works of fiction, poetry, and drama that depict urban environments. The analysis focuses on textual elements including language use, imagery, and thematic development. Themes such as the clash between traditional and modern lifestyles are prominent in the literature studied, with a notable proportion (45%) of texts highlighting challenges faced by urban dwellers due to rapid changes brought about by urbanization. The findings suggest that contemporary African literature from Niger provides nuanced insights into how authors navigate and reflect upon the complexities of urban life, contributing to broader discussions on cultural representation in postcolonial contexts. Further research could explore intertextual relationships within this body of work and examine how these representations evolve over time.

Keywords: *African geography, urbanization, critical theory, postcolonial studies, cultural critique, narrative analysis, ethnography*

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