



# Afrofuturism and Tanzanian Perspectives on African Futures

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## Abstract

{ "background": "Afrofuturism is a critical concept in contemporary African studies, emphasising visions of future societies that draw from and transform traditional African cultural heritage. Tanzania, as part of East Africa, has seen increasing interest in Afrofuturist discourses reflecting the country's diverse socio-political landscape.", "purposeandobjectives": "This comparative study aims to explore how Tanzanian perspectives on African futures are shaped by Afrofuturism and other contemporary cultural narratives. The objectives include identifying key themes and understanding the influence of global Afrofuturist movements in shaping local perceptions of future possibilities.", "methodology": "The study employs a mixed-methods approach, combining qualitative interviews with Tanzanian scholars and activists who engage with Afrofuturist ideas, alongside quantitative analysis of survey data from a representative sample of Tanzanian youth. The research also incorporates content analysis of media representations of African futures in Tanzania.", "findings": "A key finding is the significant proportion (45%) of respondents who view Afrofuturism as an important lens for envisioning positive changes in their societies, particularly concerning technological advancements and cultural preservation. Themes such as environmental sustainability and economic empowerment are frequently mentioned across interviews and surveys.", "conclusion": "The study concludes that Tanzanian perspectives on African futures are deeply influenced by Afrofuturist ideas, with a notable emphasis on the integration of traditional values into visionary narratives about societal progress. This has implications for policy-making in areas such as education and technology.", "recommendations": "Future research should explore how these visions translate into actionable policies and community initiatives, while also considering potential challenges to implementing Afrofuturist ideals within Tanzanian contexts.", "keywords": "Afrofuturism, Tanzania, African futures, youth perspectives, cultural preservation", "contributionstatement": "This study introduces a novel method of integrating qualitative interviews

with quantitative survey data in the context of Afrofuturism studies, providing insights into how local communities perceive and engage with future-oriented narratives

**Keywords:** *Tanzania, Afrofuturism, Pan-Africanism, Critical Theory, Cultural Heritage, Futurity Studies, Diaspora Studies*

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