



Afrofuturism as a Lens to Explore African Futures in Namibia

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Abstract

Afrofuturism is a contemporary cultural movement that explores African identity through science fiction and other speculative forms of expression. In Namibia, this field has yet to be systematically studied. The research employed participant observation, semi-structured interviews, and archival analysis within the context of existing Afrofuturist projects and events. Data were analysed using thematic coding to identify recurring themes related to future visions and cultural preservation. Participants frequently mentioned the importance of maintaining cultural heritage in a rapidly changing environment, with one participant emphasising the need for preserving traditional crafts as a means of connecting past and present. Afrofuturism emerges as a potent tool for fostering resilience within diasporic communities by providing a framework to reconcile tradition with modernity. Future research should explore how these ideas might be applied more broadly across different African contexts. Further studies could integrate Afrofuturist expressions from various mediums (e.g., visual arts, literature) and examine their impact on broader societal dialogues about the future of Africa. Afrofuturism, Namibia, diaspora, cultural preservation, speculative narratives

Keywords: *African diaspora, Afrofuturism, cultural studies, speculative fiction, Namibia, postcolonial theory, ethnography*

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