



Historical Foundations of Contemporary Governance Challenges in Gambia

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Abstract

This study explores the historical roots of contemporary governance challenges in Gambia within the broader context of African studies. A qualitative approach was employed, utilising archival research and secondary data sources to trace the evolution of governance structures and policies from colonial times to contemporary times in Gambia. The analysis reveals a significant historical influence of British colonial rule on current governance models, particularly in legal frameworks and administrative systems. This has resulted in a complex interplay between traditional local governance practices and modern bureaucratic structures. This study underscores the importance of understanding the historical context to comprehend contemporary governance challenges in Gambia and suggests that integrating indigenous knowledge into policy-making could enhance effectiveness. Recommendations include incorporating traditional legal systems into current legal frameworks and fostering a more inclusive approach to governance, which involves both local leaders and national authorities.

Keywords: *Sub-Saharan, Africanist, CulturalStudies, PoliticalEconomy, QualitativeResearch*

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