Ethnicity, conflicts and peace strategies in African post-colonial theatre: a reading of Femi Osofisan’s Women of owu

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Résumé

Abstract—One of the particularities of the post-colonial African societies is their multi-ethnic dimensions and their pluralistic-religious groupings. This article investigates the extent to which Femi Osofisan in Women of Owu explores ethnic conflicts to envision peace strategies in Nigeria.

Diversities of ethnic and religious identities are contingent upon multiple intersecting factors, ethnic, linguistic, historical, demographic, politico-economic and ideological that, if badly handled, sometimes trouble peace and put into peril years’ efforts of socio-economic development. The present study analyses how Femi Osofisan uses drama to explore ethnic conflicts and envisage perspectives for peaceful settlement and social cohesion. The article studies how Femi Osofisan uses theatrical art to explore the consequences of ethnic conflicts, religiosity and economic disparities as potential sources of conflicts in Africa, to call for their peaceful settlement, and to project his literary message that mediation and dialogue are sustainable peace strategies in African settings.

Key Words: Ethnicity, conflicts, mediation, religion, inter-tribal war, peace strategies, social cohesion

Mots clés: Ethnicté, conflits, médiation, religion, guerres intertribales, stratégies de paix, cohésion sociale

Texte intégral :

PDF (FRANÇAIS (CANADA))

Renvois

@inproceedings{Osofisan2006WomenOO, title={Women of Owu}, author={Femi Osofisan}, year={2006} }. Femi Osofisan. Published 2006. Art. Table of content . . . 1 Editions of this work . . . 1 livres (1) . . . 1 Documents about this work . . . Ethnicity, conflicts and peace strategies in African post-colonial theatre: a reading of Femi Osofisan’s Women of owu. D. Lare. Sociology. 2016. Save. Alert. Research Feed. Women of Owu book. Read 11 reviews from the world's largest community for readers. This is an African retelling of Euripides: an unnervingly topical stor... However, Osofisan's play is also quite political, critiqueing colonialism, the Nigerian civil war/Biafran war, and the war in Iraq. Osofisan takes issue with continuing histories of violence, destruction, and conquest used to feed the greed for power and wealth. Femi Osofisan studied in Ibadan, Dakar and Paris and taught theatre and comparative literature at the University of Ibadan for 34 years, a post from which he recently retired. Os...