



HYBRIDIZATION, SOCIAL-DARWINISM, AND INSECURITY IN NIGERIA: A STUDY OF SELECTED PLAYS BY SOYINKA, OSOFISAN, AND UMUKO

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Theatre and Film Studies

Abstract

This work highlights the need to identify the causes of, and tackle the overbearing violence that engulfs Nigeria as a result of socio-political and ethno-religious crises. It is an analytical study of the extent in which hybridity and the Social-Darwinist ideology has led to a collapse of law and order in most parts of Nigerian society. Tracing the Nigeria problem from the colonial era, drama as a mirror reflecting the image of a society is employed in this study to exemplify how the theories of Social-Darwinism and anarchism are connected and have enhanced the chaotic state of Nigeria. While several plays are used to buttress the polemics of this work, Wole Soyinka's *Death and the King's Horseman*, Femi Osofisan's *Aringindin* and the *Nightwatchmen*, and Eni Jologho Umuko's *The Scent of Crude Oil* provide the major dramatic paradigms for analysis. Soyinka's *Death and the King's Horseman* exemplifies the colonial challenges and the origin of hybridity which has led to the denigration of the traditional system and culture of the Nigerian society by both the Western world and Nigerians. Osofisan's *Aringindin* and the *Nightwatchmen* evidences the final suppression of the traditional system and culture through the use of fire arms by the Nigerian politicians and military. The third play of study is Umuko's *The Scent of Crude Oil*. It highlights the challenges the communities face with the spread of small arms among the youths and the consequences of lack respect for African traditional belief system. The play also goes a step further to suggest possible means of peaceful resolutions through dialogue. This work finally, recommends practical measures which could be used to quell the escalating violence in our communities and create a better and fairer Nigerian state built on equity and sense of belonging.

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This study examined the relationship between state of education and insecurity in Nigeria. It delved into the contributory factors of insecurity in Nigeria. The survey research design was adopted for the study. One hundred and fifteen (115) respondents were randomly selected across the six geo-political zones in the country. Respondents were randomly selected across the six geo-political zones in the country. The selection was done through the distribution of the research instrument, questionnaire, titled. Respondents' views on the correlation between the education and insecurity in Nigeria were presented with weighted mean to each item on Table 4. The highest weighted mean to the items was 3.49 while the lowest weighted mean was 2.14. Insecurity in Nigeria is a significant reason why the growth and development of the country are affected. Even though the country is blessed, getting a lasting solution to this problem is still a major concern to the government and its citizens. Image: pixabay.com (modified by author) Source: Original. The country is blessed with lots of precious natural resources. Nigeria also has some of the best brains in the world. The unfortunate thing is that even though Nigeria is referred to as the giant of Africa, the country does not live up to its identity. What are the causes of insecurity in Niger...
ABSTRACT: This paper aims to study the insecurity in Nigeria which... Introduction Nigeria a country in the western part of Africa, a country that is

blessed both in human and material resources has of recent been plagued with...show more content... 2. Long history of ethno-religious and politically motivated violence is another cause of poverty as observed by Aigbokan, (2000). 3. Lack of stringent and regulatory and monitoring system. While several plays are used to buttress the polemics of this work, Wole Soyinka's *Death and the King's Horseman*, Femi Osofisan's *Aringindin and the Nightwatchmen*, and Eni Jologho Umuko's *The Scent of Crude Oil* provide the major dramatic paradigms for analysis. Soyinka's *Death and the King's Horseman* exemplifies the colonial challenges and the origin of hybridity which has led to the denigration of the traditional system and culture of the Nigerian society by both the Western world and Nigerians. Osofisan's *Aringindin and the Nightwatchmen* evidences the final suppression of the traditional sys... The third play of study is Umuko's *The Scent of Crude Oil*. Social Darwinism is a term scholars use to describe the practice of misapplying the biological evolutionary language of Charles Darwin to politics, the economy, and society. Many Social Darwinists embraced laissez-faire capitalism and racism. They believed that government should not interfere in the "survival of the fittest" by helping the poor, and promoted the idea that some races are biologically superior to others. The ideas of Social Darwinism pervaded many aspects of American society in the Gilded Age, including policies that affected immigration, imperialism, and public health. Charles