



Cultural Diversity and Repositioning in Ettia Meh's Ika and Her Husband



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Abstract :

The quest for belonging; a problematic topic resulting from erroneous views in the post-colonial setting has been a subject of discussion amongst contemporary writers. As is the case with postcolonial literature, the fight to reclaim lost values is an important thematic that defines postcolonial settings. It is at the backdrop of the struggle for redefinition that this paper aims at exploring the noteworthy effect of culture as a salient component for transposition. Bearing in mind the struggle that has long existed, and is still existing, Ettia Meh's Ika and Her Husbands seeks to discredit the flawed notions engraved by the colonizers as a means to heighten the Africans' cultural belief systems. By examining African hegemony, through cultural values, this paper reveals truth about African heritage, contrarily to claims by Europeans that Africans do not have a meaningful culture that gives them voice in a society that is meant to marginalize them. Focusing on the postcolonial theoretical framework, specifically ethnicity that deals with the qualities explicit to a particular community intended to differentiate them, Ettia Meh's Ika and Her Husbands presents the pertinence of cultural beliefs in asserting African identity. As interplay between the past and the present, the significant pattern highlighted in Ika and Her Husbands is visible. Obvious in this discussion is the argument that cultural diversity whatever form it takes, plays an undeniable role in shaping, and building nations that have been negatively influenced by colonialism. From the postcolonial perspective, this paper sets out to demonstrate how the

playwright uses his culture as a measure for redefining the self through those patterns unique to Africans. Our findings undoubtedly prove that Ika and Her Husbands depicts African heritage that serves as weapon to critique the eroding nature of indigenous beliefs defined by the colonial masters, giving an opportunity to redeem lost values.

Keywords:

Post-colonialism, Cultural Diversity, Identity and Repositioning

