

Public Abstract

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The objective of this thesis is to explain the reasons of the conflicts and various wars in Africa. I used the themes of alienation, self rejection, the inner fragmentation of the colonized, the rejection of the colonized by the former colonizer and his homeland, Ken Bugul describes in her books as a metaphor for African psychological fragmentation and African division caused by six centuries of western domination.

The analysis of the lot of the colonized depicted by Ken Bugul leads me to two conclusions. The first is that Africans have multiple identities. The second shows that conflicts and wars in Africa are the consequences of the conflicts between these identities and the impossibility to reconcile them. Consequently, the madness in postcolonial Africa could be explained by the detachment of Africans from their true self and their multiple identities given to them by the colonizer.

Therefore, the process of African restoration could be done in three ways. The first is the acceptance by Africans of their true self through a journey back to their own culture. This process leads to their "desalienation". The second is the awareness of Africans of the fact that the identity given by the colonizer is not their single identity but a part of their identity. The third and the last is the reconciliation by Africans of their multiple identities on one hand and on the other the reconciliation of their multiple identities with their true self.

This dissertation is a new step to better understand the lot of Africa. As a material for researches, it could help psychiatrists and anyone who are interested in the crisis in Africa. It is a new way to see Africa, a way different from the analysis of world financial institutions that believe that debt and financial help are the only way to save Africa.