



كلية الفنون الجميلة  
قسم الجرافيك

## الرسوم التوضيحية الإفريقية من واقع الحياة القبلية

Illustrations Of The Reality Of Afrian Tribal Life

رسالة ماجستير

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## Master's Thesis summary "Illustrations of the reality of African tribal life"

African art is characterized by its constant creativity through the ages. It is a journey in the prospects of thought and the search for truth in this mysterious and bustling universe. Moreover, it is an expression of the unity of the universe and the links between objects. It demonstrates the appreciation for the land and the tree. Also, it depicts the human fears and aspirations. Finally, it expresses the virtue of work, the national pride and the desire to continue civilization.

The goal of African art was to meet the requirements of the African community, handed down by successive generations. Therefore, it contributed to its intellectual and artistic benefit spontaneously, sincerely and intelligently. This gives it distinct characteristics that made it one of the global arts with its own aesthetic impact. It is appreciated by people who have great sense of civilization.

It is a symbolic art which gives deep meaning. The African artist tries to assume the ancestral spirits, highlight ideas and broadcast them to successive generations. The African artist does not pay attention to the issue of light, shade and descent. His art depends on creativity more than anything else. It builds something that has symbolic relationship and simple expression to the human innate. Moreover, this art is characterized by its

simplicity and abstract. We should not forget that African art has a significant influence on the modern and contemporary arts. We conclude from this that the African people placed in their art supreme ideas. It is considered the only way for us to understand their beliefs and their missionary movements to embrace religions, and how that impacts their art nature. Based on that, the researcher selected the subject to be "Illustrations of the reality of African tribal life". It includes a simplified explanation of religious beliefs of the African tribes, which have been associated with their vision to the universe and the environment around them. It addresses their beliefs with vital forces that were translated into symbols.

The researcher relied on categorizing the research into four chapters.

**First chapter:** The impact of Creed in achieving the symbolic dimension in the African drawings.

**Second chapter:** Study of African symbols and shapes.

**Third chapter:** African illustrations in publications from the reality of tribal life.

**Fourth chapter:** African illustrations in publications from the reality of modern religions.

**First chapter:** The impact of Creed in achieving the symbolic dimension in the African drawings:

This chapter includes a simplified explanation for the religious beliefs of the African tribes. It has been associated with their

vision to the universe, the environment around them and all what is related to their beliefs in vital forces. It was translated to a number of symbols. Therefore, the symbol was used in the African life from the old times since the African artist began to do his sculptures. It is a kind of transformation of partial characteristics to complete qualities which had a significant impact in their art. Based on that, the symbol appeared to be a guide for artistic activity and a mean of connection between the human and the invisible world.

Furthermore, this chapter explains the relationship between African tribes and nature (animal, plant, minerals and things). It clearly appeared in their art of statues, masks and decorative illustrations. Art is a main characteristic for African life which can not be separated from anything else. It is a magical characteristic which expresses freedom and passion.

### **Second chapter: Study of African symbols and shapes:**

This chapter presents a definition of the symbol meaning in a general way and the African symbol in particular. It also illustrates a study for a number of these symbols technically with an explanation for its meaning and its importance to the African who painted it. This African added his own style to reflect his personal idea. It also demonstrates a study for fine, aesthetic and symbolic dimensions in African arts and its impact on contemporary Arts.

Moreover, this chapter presents private models of drawing on caves walls and illustrates its relationship with symbolic trends. It defines the shape in African art, and analyzes it by explaining a number of designs and motifs that contain the human units, elements of birds, and geometric forms with an African distinctive characteristic.

### Third chapter: African illustrations in publications from the reality of tribal life:

This chapter covers a study for African illustrations that appeared in the art publications and was influenced by tribal life. This includes an explanation for some models of the illustrations that accompany the written script. This can be found in books, magazine covers, technical posters or any other printed artworks. It explains the influence of African art nature on the rest of artists to appear in their artworks.

African Arts had a great influence on the contemporary arts. It also influenced many artists in all areas, whether in sculpture, photography, decorative, music, literature or other human arts. Furthermore, the symbols, shapes, themes and African Negro motifs had a major effect on all types of technical publications like book art, advertisements and logos. We can find these as illustrations with a certain script or phrase to demonstrate and clarify the meaning in an impressive way to give more focus.

Moreover, these symbols and motifs played a major role in dazzling many artists and affecting their artworks. Therefore, they used graphics inspired by that.

**Fourth chapter: African illustrations in publications from the reality of modern religions:**

This chapter presents a brief history of the beginning of modern religions (Jewish, Christian and Islamic), and the first missionary stages for them in Africa. It also illustrates the impact of this on African man beliefs, his personality, his ideas, and thus on his artistic nature. This was demonstrated through the appearance of other new symbols and illustrations added to their artistic publications.

The chapter also depicts models of abuses and injustice that African people suffered from because of the political colonization forces for their land. They tried to demonstrate this tragedy through art by illustrations in a number of artistic publications which express the resistance movements of African people. In addition, this chapter explains the situation of the three religions (Judaism, Christianity and Islam) that had spread in Africa. It explains how the old religious heritage stayed alive working to keep the distinctive African character. Religiosity – was and will continue to be – the cornerstone of any social, political or economic system independent of what may come to mind.