

## **African American Literature: Discovering Language and Culture**

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### **Abstract**

The highlight of this paper is to focus on the significance of African American Literature, Language and Culture. Language and Culture are understood by the Cultural interaction rather than being misunderstood by the language projections in African American Literature. Language in African American Literature plays a crucial role in influencing the readers, contrary to the weakness of one's Native language. Native language confines social relations to remove limited access to African American literature. English being a global *lingua franca* connects African American Literature slightly to some extent. Language in the cultural context features a new phenomenon in playing a major part in the understanding of African American Literature.

**Keywords:** English language, African American Literature, Language and Culture, Language use.

### **Language of African American Literature**

Language brings about the works and contributions by limiting the main or major parts of culture in African American literature. African\_American\_literature is blooming, rather than being withered in terms of growth. Growth is understood more precisely, rather than being misunderstood by the thoughts and works of African American writers. African American writers highlight the use of English in African American literature by playing down the weakness of one's Native language. Native language hinders by its affiliation, rather than being separated from African American literature, due to the differences in language and culture. It is perceived more precisely, than being missed by English because of its use. English being a global *lingua franca* connects easily, rather than being disconnected of African American Literature, compared to Native languages. Native languages need to be

improvised slightly to some extent due to their lack of expansion. It is in fact the opposite to having any theoretical impact on culture through language as related to African American literature. (ed by Henry Louis Gates Jr 1984: 28)

### **African American Culture Through African American Literature**

African American literature brings out the African American culture rooted deeply among the African Americans through their Language. Language highlights the historical identity of African American culture, by playing down African American literature. Literature makes way for language expressions as a more likely alternative to suppressions, irrespective of culture. Culture is distinctive from one's dissimilar situation compared to heterogeneous perspectives. (Henry Louis Gates Jr 1993: 125)

The contributions of African Americans to the culture of America are highly appreciable, not being undervalued as a part of or definitely different from American culture. Its entity is derived accidentally, having been misjudged from the language use and expressions in African American Literature. African American Literature projects English Language and its impact on Culture as different from Native language because of it being a lingua franca. Language teaching helps to understand rather than being misunderstood African American literature through cultural interactions. (Henry Louis Gates Jr 2014: 3)

### **Theoretical Framework**

African American literature draws upon native languages as a more likely alternative to the upsetting of various literary traditions and cultural practices. It is witnessed in the production on the contrary to the withholding of novels, plays, poems, drama etc. in the literary field that correspond contradictorily to cultural practices in art works, namely, painting, photography, drawing, sculpture, video, film making, architecture, printmaking, design, crafts and others. It helps to perceive steadily than being ignored a cultural identity through language. Language projects accurately the African American culture, irrespective of Native language or one's own language. Language highlights African American culture by bringing out perspectives such as values, beliefs, customs, traditions and so on. Culture has survived by interacting agreeably without being interspersed with foreign cultures. Cultures had blended together over time producing a deep impact upon African American identity,

within the society. It became significant, to some extent being an important part of the African American ancestral culture.

### **Effective Synthesis**

The Culture of African American communities continued to prosper with definite traditions and essential creations in literary and cultural practices. Practices and contributions in various fields such as music, art, and literature became part of the American culture as well as world culture. One can analyze subsequently being synthesised in the works of writers namely Henry Louis Gates Jr, Toni Morrison, Langston Hughes, Martin Luther King Jr, Amiri Baraka, and others. It paved the way for African American culture having a changing effect on many components of current American culture. It was from the eternity of oral traditions, Harlem Renaissance, African American Cultural Movement, Music, Contemporary Culture, and the Arts, namely dance, African American art, literature museums, language, fashion and aesthetics such as attire, hair, body image, religion, Christianity and other religions, irreligious beliefs, life events, cuisine, names, family, African American family structure, politics and social issues and so on.

### **Results and Discussion**

African American literature analysis is done by researching historical aspects, scanning of language and cultural subjects. It is judged consistently in the Native and Non-Native contexts in the formation of various subject matters. It enables productive findings through evaluation in terms of various theories. Theories evolved incompatibly being unfolded out of rural and urban southern areas especially in African American communities and neighbourhoods. It viewed African American practices emerging, consistently residing within the African American culture. African American culture closely resembled those used within European American culture. It became part of the American culture, to a large extent through the dramatic shift that took place in America. It inspired deeper cultural significance for several African American generations. It attracts curiously, different people through African American literature. African American literature is understood more precisely through language depicting the cultural context. Cultural context and change is reasoned justifiably as an upshot of using a language different to one's own Native language. Native language limits to some extent the interaction with the foreign cultures in a social manner,

due to the prevailing differences. It is gathered in African American literature by the use of the English language in comparison to Native language, as it is a lingua franca. It is influenced by other languages making rather than being unmade it over the course of time by development. It is in use in international discourse and the lingua franca in many regions of the world, as well as in various subjects such as law, navigation, science and technology etc. English is one of the most widely used languages in the world. It has undergone gradual changes in the course of interaction with other languages, regions, literatures and others around the world making it easy to communicate with one another.

It is growing healthily from country to country for international communication. It helps to connect hastily than being disconnected people of various communities across the world to know cultures through literature. African American Literature makes way to the perception of African American life and their ancestral culture in America with the use of English language unlike the Native tongue of one's ethnicity.

## **Conclusion**

African American literature deals with discovering language and culture, producing accurately conceding literary critics. Literary critics appreciate the configuration of diverse literature, composed of various genres. It leads to debates bitterly being argued upon aesthetics and cultural theories in literary studies. It makes way to the expressing of initial and important questions about African American literature, culture and language. It tries to search different theories about the connection between African American literature, language and culture. It might have a clear vision through the lenses of the literature. It is seen fairly through literature and language, about cultures having artistic or intellectual values. It differs from ordinary usage from contemporary definitions as it is difficult to agree upon its origins. Origins over the time, define generally confusing literature in terms of cultural understanding through language use, irrespective of English and Native language. It makes way for its subject analysis in terms of development, genre and popularity. It is value judged by considering contrast to ignoring the writings in various forms and subjects such as short fiction and poetry, prose, drama, history, essay, novel, philosophical, historical, journalistic and scientific writings of African American writers. African American literature deals carefully with literature of African Americans written by American writers. American writers

wrote about late history to post-independence by linking broader traditions of literary tradition. It is a unique rather than being universal American characteristic in the production of a tradition. A tradition of a unique, more truly common American style in contemporary American literature in terms of distinctive style, it portrays the beauty of reality. Is it for a futuristic portrait of America, this literature needs being assuredly essential to be unquestionable? American literature written by ethnic minorities especially African Americans marks its rise as a new ethnic literature for academic studies.

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