

The Influence of Classical Scholarship on African Literature

Classical scholarship's profound impact on global culture, institutions, and continents extends far beyond ancient Greece and Rome. Scholars such as Hanus, Bolger, Hight, Etman and Kraye (1897; 1971; 2015; 2002; 2000) have emphasized this influence. In addition, substantial attention has been given to the interaction between Greece, Rome, and North Africa by scholars like Beard, Shaw, Miles, Goldsworthy, Roller (2015; 2004; 2011; 2016; 2001) but there remains a significant and overlooked connection between classical scholarship and contemporary African literature. The research presented in this study has significant implications for both the field of African literature and classical scholarship. The study highlights the influence of classical scholarship on African literary works and demonstrates the ways in which African literature engages with classical themes, forms, and sources. This not only enriches the understanding of African literature but also contributes to the broader discourse on literary influence and intertextuality. In addition, the research expands the scope of the field of classical scholarship by examining its influence beyond the traditional focus and areas already explored by scholars. The adaptations of classical texts by African authors demonstrate the global reach and impact of classical scholarship. Overall, the research presented in this study contributes to a more nuanced and comprehensive understanding of the relationship between classical scholarship and African literature and provides a valuable framework for future research in this area.

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