

CHAPTER ONE

1- 1 Introduction

The African culture is varied and manifold , consisting of mixture of tribes and ethnic groups that each have their own unique characteristics. The rich and diverse African culture varies not only from one country to another but within each country throughout Africa the people speak a variety of language and practice numerous religions . Africa is full and rich of cultures and it has deep roots for long times and centuries .

This culture was expressed through many different arts forms such as music ,proverbs , dance , art , using mask , storytelling , folklores ,folk tales and traditional drama and traditional wrestling . African people have a music and poetry , it's very important because it play a functional role in African society its often used in different African cultures to ward off evil spirit and to pay respects to good spirits ,the dead and ancestors and the most significance in African music is the African drum because it express the mood of the people and evokes emotion .The Africans also use masks which represent a spirit possesses the dancer as they wear the masks .

Africans were very famous of using storytelling and folk tales as social and cultural activity of sharing stories as means of entertainment, education , cultural preservation and instilling moral values . Also this stories of ghosts, myths , storytelling and folk tales represent the African oral literature and reflect group cultural identity . every different ethnic groups in Africa have different rituals stories which creates a sense of belonging to cultural group and African people have strong social relations and democratic ruling system , the person will be a leader or

finding himself in a top of his tribe according to his abilities and skills to lead his tribe . All that was before the western colonial come Africa a and changed every- thing . all this will done according to African local culture and values because it embody and represent the African cultural life , identity and African value but all this values and cultures fall into a parts and melted by western colonial culture to replace in place of African culture .

European aim to westernize the African culture and break it down and change the shape of African life , that through invasion this culture and it values to become from pass and bring new modern culture , even to be African culture part and belong to western culture . The European colonizer claimed that they brought light to dark continent , also to enlightens and educate the African people , through building churches and schools , but in reality there are a hidden aims beyond that , they want change the African identity and take the natural sources , in addition to that European thought African as primitive , uncultured , and no differentiation between them and animals . This collision of culture occurs at the individual and social level and the cultural misunderstanding cuts both ways : the views of European to African as underdeveloped and heathens , and the African also look to European missionaries as foolish . the European colonizer used many ways to break down the African culture and social relations , easily let the local societies embraced and followed the new culture .

This study takes *Things Fall Apart* and *Arrow of God* as basic reference to describe the impact of western colonial culture on African local culture . How they affected by this culture , why resisted and accepted this new culture . *Things Fall Apart* and *Arrow of God* as resistant novels to

colonial culture for African writer , Chinua Achebe , who writes this novels according to his cultural background about African culture and values and want show out this culture to white man , that African have a history of cultures and values but the European destroyed . also in the same time respond to Conrad about what he says about African people .

1-2. Statement of the problem

This study tries to show the impact of western colonial culture on African local culture and how this culture affected and melted . The researcher also try to figure out the social and cultural factors which used by the colonizer to impose their culture on colonized culture .why they used the religion and education through building churches and schools as weapons and masks to deceive the African, in order to take what they have and destroying their culture . and what are the motives of the European beyond that . in this study also the researcher want to clear out the clash of cultures between western culture and African culture in addition to that , researcher try to discover to what extent African resistance helps in settling out the genuinely of their culture and how this confronted and received by white men .

1-3 Objectives of the study

1- The study aims to find out the factors which led to extinction and melting the African culture.

2- The study also aim to introduce the context of comparison between Things Fall Apart and Arrow of God as resistant novels for African writer .

3- This study will depict and describe the image of African culture in pre and post colonialism and how it was in two era .

1-4 The significance of the study

1- The study is important because it try to describe the African culture and the new shape to the modernized culture, which becomes semi westernized .

2- And also try to clear out the problems which were confronted the threat of culture in the critical period during the first emerge of European colonial .

1-5 Question of the study

1 - How far Things Fall Apart and Arrow of God played an important role in defending and protecting the African culture from threat of European culture?

2 – What are the causes and motives that led to the disintegration of African society and collapsing their culture ?

1- 6 Hypotheses of the study

1 - Things fall apart and Arrow of God played an important role in defending and protecting the African culture from threat of European culture.

2 - There are many causes and motives that led to the disintegration of African society and collapsing of their culture .

1_ 7 Methodology of the study

This study is qualitative research that employs the descriptive analytic method , in order to describe the impact of western colonial culture on African local culture , how it affected , westernized and lost it identity and values.

1 _ 8 Limitation of the study

The scope of the study is limited according to the time and domain of the study which will take place at Sudan university , linguistics college from 2016 _ 2018 to investigate the problem according to the data collected later .

CAPTER TWO

Theoretical frame work and previous studies

This chapter consist of two parts, theoretical framework and previous studies, and the main purpose of this is investigates and describe the impact of western colonial culture on African local culture .

2-1 colonial literature in 20 century

Literature of twentieth century refer to world literature produced during the twentieth century (1901 to 2000) the main period are captured in the bipartite division , modernist literature and postmodernist literature . postcolonial literature is the literature of countries that were colonized , mainly by European countries . postcolonial literature of ten addresses the problems and consequences of the decolonization of a country , especially questions relating to the political and cultural independence of formerly subjugated people , and themes such as racialism and colonialism .

postcolonial literary theory reexamines colonial literature , especially concentrating upon the social discourse , between the colonizer and the colonized . also postcolonial literature is writing which has been affected by the imperial process from the moment of colonization to the present day . attempts to counteract their resulting alienation from their surrounding by restoring a connection between indigenous people and places through description , narration and dramatization .

during the colonization , the indigenous cultures of those countries subjected to foreign rule were often sidelined , suppressed , and openly denigrated in favor of elevating the social and cultural preferences and

conventions of the colonizers . colonizers often depicted their colonial subjects as existing outside of history , in unchanging , timeless , societies , unable to progress or develop without their intervention and assistance . in this way , they justified their actions , including violence against those who resisted colonial rule Revising history to tell things from the perspective of those colonized is thus a major preoccupation of postcolonial writings . was according to Bill Aschroft , Gareth .

Characteristics of colonial literature :

David Coodin says , the twentieth century was like no time period before it , the changes took distinct shape in the literature of the twentieth century . modernism a movement that was a radical break from nineteenth century Victorianism , led to postmodernism ,20 century gave a voice to marginalized people who previously got little recognition for their literary contributions . the twentieth century is distinguished as the century of urbanism . Novelists used urban environment as backdrops for stories they told . literature tended to be structured in linear , chronological order . the postcolonial literary movement was born with writers such as Chinua Achebe wrote stories on behalf of subjugated people who had experienced colonization by western powers .

2-2 African literature

African literature consists of a body of work in different languages and varies genres ,ranging from oral literature to literature written in colonial language , (English , French). Oral literature including stories , dramas , riddles , histories , myths and proverbs additionally serve to remind whole communities of their ancestors heroic deeds , their past and present and the precedents for their customs and traditions . in addition to songs

and other expressions , is frequently employed to educate and entertain children . African became literate in their own languages , they often reacted against colonial repressions in their writing .All were writing in European languages and often they shared the same themes : the clash between indigenous and colonial cultures , condemnation of European subjugation , pride in African past and hope for continent independent future . written by See R . Fnnegan .

According to Harold Scheub , African literature , the body of traditional oral and written literatures in afro – Asiatic and African languages together with works written by Africans in European languages . traditional written literature , which is limited to smaller geographic area than is oral literature . the relationship between oral literature and written traditions and in particular between oral and modern written literature is one of great complexity and not matter of simple evolution . modern African literature were born in the educational systems imposed by colonialism ,with models drawn from Europe rather than existing African traditions .

1- Pre-colonial African literature :

people towards their neighbors and attitudes to each other it was hostile , tolerant , warlike and aggressive or friendly and neighborly . Historical , economical moral and social issues of all types together with aesthetic appreciation and other cultural values were embodied in a peoples folklore of which literature formed major part .

Oral literature as in indigenous literature projected the societies image and gave a clear picture of the African world by treating events which were familiar to their members . the literature also

corporates past events that In the pre- colonial African societies , oral literature was the only form of literature , it was valued as one of the major means by which these societies educated , instructed and socialized their younger members . from it many genres , youths learnt to assess the feelings of their were hidden in proverbs , riddles , tales , taboos and superstitions , legends and myths . proverbs , being part of oral literature , were used in conversation , in story , telling . children and young people learnt how to use proverbs and how to interpret their meaning through observing how adults applied them in their daily conversation . some proverbs were common and were constantly in use , while others were only used on special occasions . Dance of all types also form a viable part of oral literature through it children learnt about their tradition . folk stories also popular with children and youths , and played an important role in the pre-colonial society . apart from fulfilling the normal artists creativity , the stories usually had morals to m oral literature . much of the ethical teaching children received came from folk-tales . children learned by listening to myths , legends folk- tales , proverbs , riddles m, folksongs , rhythms and other aspect of oral literature . in the deep well of folk lore , were found moral messages , histories , wisdom and philosophy and mental development . stories and dances and all that formed part of entertainment in traditional societies took place mostly in the evening after supper . the influence of oral literature on contemporary written literature has become more apparent in recent years and a member of Africans writers have made use of this tradition in various ways .

Achebe one of the outstanding African novelist , has used many of his people proverbs in his novels such as Things Fall Apart and Arrow of god and no longer at Ease .

2- Post- colonial African literature :

With liberation and increased literacy since most African nations gained their independence in the 1950s and 1960s , African literature has grown dramatically in quantity and in recognition , with numerous African work appearing in western academic curricula and on ((best of lists compiled at the end of the 19 century .

African writers in this period wrote both in western languages and in traditional African languages such as Hausa . Ali A. mazrui mentioned seven conflicts as themes : the clash between Africa past and present , between tradition and modernity , between indigenous and foreign , between individualism and community , between socialism and capitalism , between development and self – reliance , and between Africanism and humanity . other themes in this period include social problems such as corruption , the economic disparities in newly independent countries , and the rights and roles of women . all it was during postcolonial period .

2 – 3 : Nigerian literature

Nigerian literature , which is written by Nigerians , for Nigerians and addresses Nigerian issues . it written in English , Igbo , urhobo , Yoruba , Hausa and other languages of the country . the languages used by authors in Nigerian are based in part on geography . north Nigerian written literature can be divided into 4 main periods , the first is the 14 kingdoms (10th – 19th century) , and the second is the Sokoto period (19th – 20th century) the 3rd is the colonial period

(20th century), and the 4 is post -independence period (20th century to present). From the changing face of Nigerian literature .

A - The famous Nigerian writers :

- 1- Chinua Achebe : He is the father of African literature , Nigerian novelist acclaimed for his unsentimental depictions of the social and psyche logical disorientation accompanying the imposition of western customs and values upon traditional African society .
- 2- Aluko , T. M . Nigerian writer whose short stories and novels deal with social change and the clash of cultures in modern African
- 3- Amadi , Elechi : Nigerian novelist and playwright best known for works that explore traditional life and the role of the supernatural in rural Nigerian .
- 4- Emecheta , Buci : igbo writer whose novels deal largely with the difficult and unequal role of women in both immigrant and African societies and explore the tension between tradition and modernity .
- 5- Henshaw, James Ene : Nigerian playwrights who simple and popular plays treating various aspects of African culture and tradition have been widely read and acted in Nigeria .
- 6- Nzekwu , onuora : nigervmam teacher and writer and edibor who explored the intimal corfliets mberent in the relationship of educated lgho to traditional lgho culture .
- 7- Ogunde , Hubert : Nigerian playwright , actor , theatre manager and musician .

8- Okri –Ben : He is Nigerian novelist , short story writer and poet who used magic realism to convey the social and the political chaos in the country of his birth .

-Chinua Achebe has two novels , described the Nigerian literature , especially Igbo people culture , Things Fall Apart and Arrow of God

B- Arrow of God Theme :

Nigeria in 1920s was controlled by British colonial authorities and many of the Igbo people did abandon their traditional beliefs for Christianity . Arrow of god describes the downfall of traditional leader at the hands of colonialism . the central conflicts of the novel revolve around the struggle between continuity and change , such as Ezealu refusing to serve white man or between the traditional villagers and Ezeulu son who studies Christianity . Arrow of god explores how Igbo spirituality and religious life dies an ignominious death when confronted by Christianity . Christianity is backed by white man s military and political power .

- Men and masculinity in Arrow of god theme :

Manhood in Igbo life is marked by stages of life , marriage , fatherhood , gaining titles , becoming an elder . man accrues respect , and power as he moves through the stages of life . in arrow of god , respect and reputation are highly valued in both Igbo and British culture . the careers of colonial officials are built on their reputations , as are the careers of men in Igbo culture . in both cultures , titled men and elders have more power than young men or men who lack titles .also arrow of

god there describe the clash of civilizations between the Igbo and the British bringing colonialism and their Christian religion to west Africa is reenacted in the novel through the perspective of Ezeulu , the chief priest of ULU in umuaro , a god who had originated from the need to fight the slave traders of neighboring Abame . A land dispute between the Okperi people and the umuaro that results in a brief war is forcibly stopped by the British district commissioner , Captain Winterbottom , and sets the stages for further British intrusion into umuaro .

C- Things Fall Apart theme :

The clash of cultures is the main theme in Things Fall Apart . This collision of cultures occurs at the individual and social levels , and the cultural misunderstanding cuts both ways : just as the uncompromising Reverend Smith views Africans as heathens , the Igbo initially criticized the Christians and the missionaries as foolish .

The clash of culture is the issue of how much the flexibility or rigidity of the characters contribute to their destiny . Because of Okonkwo's inflexible nature he seems destined for self-destruction , even before the arrival of the European colonizers . The arrival of a new culture only hastens Okonkwo's tragic fate . Okonkwo resists the new political and religious orders because he feels that they are not manly and that he himself will not be manly if he consents to join or even tolerate them . Okonkwo's resistance of cultural change is due to his fear of losing social status . The villagers in general are caught between resisting and embracing change and they face the dilemma of trying to determine how best to adapt to reality of change . The villagers

are excited about the new opportunities and techniques that the missionaries brought .

2-4 The culture :

According to Edward Tylor culture is that complex whole which includes knowledge , belief , art law , moral , custom , and any other capabilities acquired by man as a member of society . it is a patterned way of life shared by a group of people . Dare saw culture as the pattern of behavior and thinking that people living in a social group learn , create and share . it is also as maker of language , identity , nationhood and economy . people culture is their life , living and dying . He sums up culture as the index of growth and development and its index of civilization also . culture is control tradition , custom, beliefs , morals and values of society . it is the art , religion , philosophy , patterns of behavior and thinking , created and acquired by people living in social group . He maintains that culture is the life , living and dying of a people – their utterances , their looks , their food , their shelter , their birth and their burial , their marriage and health ; everything that makes up living and dying . Also culture is a system of shared beliefs , values , customs , behaviors and artifacts that the members of society use to cope with their world and with one another and that are transmitted from generation to generation through learning .

According to (Webster New World Encyclopedia) culture is the way of life of a particular society or group , including patterns of thought , beliefs , behavior customs , traditions , rituals , dress and language , art , music and literature . there are two types of culture : material and non- material culture .

Material culture refers to the physical objects , resources , and spaces that people use to define their culture . These include homes , neighborhoods ,cities , schools , churches , temples , mosques , offices , factories and plants , tools , means of production , goods , products and stores . non-material culture refer to the nonphysical ideas that people have about their culture , including beliefs , values , rules , norms , morals , language , organizations , and institutions . non-material cultural concept of religion consists of a set of ideas and beliefs about God , worship and moral .

2 – 5 cultural identity :

Cultural identity is the identity or feeling of belonging to a group .

It is part of a person self – conception and self- perception and is related to nationality , ethnicity , religion , social class , generation , locality or any kind of social group that its own distinct culture . in this way , cultural identity is both characteristic of the individual but also of the culturally identical group of members sharing the same cultural identity . cultural identity is similar to and overlaps with identity politics . According to jean s . piney , cultural identity is characterized by a clear , confident acceptance of oneself and an internalization of one's cultural identity . people often allow the acceptance of their future choices such as how to raise children , how to deal with stereotypes and any discrimination , and approach negatives perceptions . this usually leads to an increase in self – confidence and positive psychological adjustment .

2-6 Cultural diversity

Stated in Unesco according to the universal declaration on cultural diversity . the cultural diversity is the quality of diverse or different cultures , as opposed to monoculture , the global monoculture , or a homogenization of cultures , akin to cultural decay . the phrase cultural diversity can also refer to having different cultures respect each other differences . the phrase cultural diversity is also sometimes used to mean the variety of human societies or cultures in a specific region , or in the world as a whole . globalization is often said to have a negative effect on the worlds cultural diversity . there are many separate societies that emerged around the globe differed markedly from each other , and many of these differences persist to this day . As well as the more obvious cultural differences that exist between people , such as language , dress and traditions . there are also significant variations in the way societies organize themselves , in their shared conception of morality and in the ways they interact with their environment .

2-7 African Culture and values

Having looked at the concept and meaning of culture and having established the place of values in culture we want to bring this down to the African context . A culture is an embodiment of different values with all of them closely related to each other . that is why one can meaningfully talk about social , moral , religious , political , aesthetic and even economic values of a culture .

Davidson B said that African cultural values includes sense of community life , sense of good human relations , sense of the sacredness of life , sense of hospitality , sense of the sacred and of religion .

2-8 Social values

Gabriel E. Idang describes that social values can simply be seen as those beliefs and practices that are practiced by any particular society . the society has a way of dictating the beliefs and practices that are performed either routinely by its members or performed whenever the occasion demands . Hence , we have festivals , games , sports and dances that are peculiar to different societies . these activities are carried out by the society because they are seen to be necessary . some social values , especially in African society , cannot exactly be separated from religious , moral , political values .

2-9 Moral Values

African culture is embedded in strong moral considerations . it has a system of various beliefs and customs which every individual ought to keep in order to live long and avoid bringing curses on them and others . Adultery , stealing and other forms of immoral behavior are strongly discouraged and whenever a suspected offender denies a charge brought against him , he would be taken to a soothsayer or made to take an oath for proof of innocence . African proverbs and wise sayings have a rich repository of wisdom . According to Mbiti , are therefore a major source of African wisdom and a valuable part of African heritage . African culture has a moral code that forbids doing harm to a relative , a kinsman , an in – law , a foreigner and stranger .

2-10 Religious Values

Religious in African societies seems to be the fulcrum around which every activity revolves . African traditional religion , wherever it is

practiced , has some defining characteristics . African traditional religion also has the belief that good and bad spirits do exist and that these spirits are what make communication with the supreme being possible .

Above all , it hold a moral sense of justice , truth , the knowledge of the existence of God and evil . African religious values seem to permeate every facet of the life of the African and the African believes that any things can imbued with spiritual significance . the worship of different deities on different days goes on to show that the African people hold their religious values in high steam .

2 – 11 Political values

The African society definitely has political institutions with heads of such institutions as respected individuals . the most significant thing about the traditional society is that the political hierarchy begins with the family . each family has a family head , each village has a village head . from these , we have clan head and above the clan head , is the paramount ruler .

African societies had their council of chiefs , advisers , cult groups . it was believed that disloyalty to a leader was disloyalty to God and the position of leadership was either hereditary or by congest . as Ekpo Cult . Antia says (2005) .

2 – 12 Economic values

According to Gabriel E . Idang . economic values of the traditional African society are marked by cooperation . the traditional economy , which is mainly based on farming and fishing was cooperative in nature . in Ibibio land , for instance , friends and relatives would come and assist

in doing farm work not because they will be paid but so that if it happens that they need such assistance in the near future , they will be sure to find it . children were seen to provide the main labor force . that is why a man took pride in to having many of them , especially males .

2 – 13 civilization and culture

What is civilization ? what is the culture ? According to Dare Arowolo , when people think of culture , they often tend to do so in very simple and more monolithic way . culture is not only about dancing , it is not limited only to music , it is not about costume alone , it is beyond pattern of social celebration , rituals pertaining to birth and marriage , cuisine or sport . Beyond that and this is important , culture is about people's total way of life , the way people live , eat , worship , produce , create and recreate . it is the totality of a set of bequeathed ideas , belief system , values and norms , which constitute the common bases of generally agreed social action . culture can also be conceived of the as the collectivity of human activities and general principles that tend to guides ideas of a group of people with shared traditions which are passed on , instilled to generation and reinvigorated by members of the group .

- Civilization is conceptual term . it is a totality of people's history , way of life , their expectations , their frustration , their desire and aspirations . it is a term used to describe a particular level of improvement on the development continuum . civilization tends to dwell on a particular lifestyle and a peculiar way of life but cultures is perceived as holistically inclusive comprising the way of life and people philosophy of life , the ideas they share and general attitude including creativity and production pattern .civilization can be

distinguished from others cultures by their high level of social complexity and organization . and by their diverse economic and cultural activities , also be used in normative way to indicate cultural superiority of one group of country over another .

2 -14 cultural change in African and the problems of adjustment :

Ogburn states that , change means a significant alteration or marked departure from that which existed before . invention , discovery and diffusion are some of the ways by which a culture can change or grow . the culture base or the cultural elements , objects , traits and knowledge available in all sections of the pre – 1600 African society were limited in types and variation . culture can change and grow through discovery and diffusion . Another process of African people is the process of cultural diffusion (the spread of culture traits from one society into another through cultural contact .) .

2 – 2 previous studies

2 – 2 -1 Rahul Singh Sundram , (2014) , This study had done entitled , (clash culture in Things Fall Apart) .

In his describing to cultural clash is a conflict arising from the interaction of the people with different culture values . when two people of a different cultural or background meet and not understand each other than the conflicts arises each other . every single culture has its own traditions , habits , religions , languages

and many other common features . crucial condition of peaceful coexistence between various cultures is a mutual respect and willingness to accept the differences .

The purpose of this paper is to identify the cultural clashes in postcolonial African and demonstrate its reflection in Achebe's *Things Fall Apart* . the main objective of writing this novel is to acquaint the outside world about Ibo culture tradition as well as to make his own people realize that their tradition culture contained much that was valuable which must be integrated with the new culture that was coming into existence under the powerful impact of the western complex culture . He says that culture conflict rose from misunderstanding between two different cultures . the white men considered themselves that they superior than black people . And they thought that it is our supreme duty to enlighten black people who believe on superstition . The white people have a notion that African people have no history and they want to make their own history of civilization .

Achebe should became teacher and guide of the people and should use the novel as vehicle to disseminate ideas and beliefs among the people . and the social function of his novel should be different from the European concept of idea . when the African changed their culture , they forgot their traditions and values . they were following way and habits of white people which ultimately became the cause of their destruction . so the main theme of the novel is culture clash .

When white men came to Nigeria the misunderstanding and culture conflict rose between two groups . Achebe wrote novel to highlight

the social and religious and cultural life of Nigeria . also wants to convey the African people the value of their customs and traditions . the value of African culture and tradition are more rich and vivid than white people so they should preserve it . especially Igbo society culture , before the white missionaries invasion on their land . He portrays the customs , habits , ritual , cultural and social life of the Igbo people .

2 – 2- 2 Dare Arowolo , Adekunle Ajasin

University , Akungba Akoko , the title of the study is (the effects of western civilization and culture on Africa) .

The significant fact about African cultural history is the convergence upon the indigenous tradition of the two external influences – the Arab – Islamic and the European Christian .

The effects of western civilization and culture on Africa are in several phases . the aim of this paper to bring out three of these phases :

Political effect , economic effect and social effect . By and large , the scope of this paper shall be confined to those concepts that drive western civilization : neoliberalism , liberals democracy , globalization , individualism family values colonialism and liberal democracy will be put under political effect , neoliberalism under economic effect and missionary to be under social effect .

1- Political effect :

The colonial factor was essential to the understanding of the process of westernization in Africa itself .

The political effect includes :

-Distortions of natural boundaries without due recourse to antecedent institutions and cultures .

- the western civilization submerged and dismantled indigenous institutions and , in its place , a foreign rule was established .

- liberal democracy : the question is : what is the effect of embracing western democracy on Africa ?

A lot of people will say it is the right way to go as it creates opportunities to participate in affairs , that liberal democracy promotes development .

2- Economic effect :

-A major effect of European colonialism was the progressive integration of Africa into the world capitalist system , within which Africa functioned primarily as a source of raw materials for western industrial production .

- there was imposition of taxation , which forced Africans into wage labor .

- colonial economy also caused agriculture to be diverted toward the production of primary products and cash crops .

- there was sudden shift in production mode from production of food crops to cash crops , a situation that caused hunger and starvation in Africa . Africa began to produce more of what she needs less and produce less of what she needs most .

- this required a total reorganization of African economic life , beginning with the introduction of the cash crop and inexorable alteration of economic pattern .

3- social effect :

- Family social relations : Extended family giving way to nuclear family . traditional African family values breaking down very

rapidly . social security in our community has given way , there is no more respect for age , no more respect for values that we held sacrosanct in Africa .

- Individualism : we now have children of single parents a phenomenon that is identifiable with America .
- Corruption : western civilization has promoted corruption in Africa , leaders in Africa now look up to Europe and America as safe havens for looted funds .
- Sexuality : the conception of sexuality has changed completely , the desire to be like westerners by our children has suddenly made them promiscuous , doing things that were never did before . Africa now suffer from level of mental enslavement , cultural imperialism , the need for decolonization of the mind .
- Language : proficiency in our language is declining in Africa because we are compelled to embrace western culture and civilization as western language , western language has created a dichotomy between an elite and mass of our people who still can -not do business with foreign language is a vehicle of culture.
- Christianity : the impact of Christianity has to be considered , for this has been of westernization in Africa . western education ,involving literacy and the mastery of a European language , because the condition for entry into the modern sector .
- The cultural alteration provoked by the pressures of colonial rule and missionary in all spheres of life are pervasive enough to qualify as the signs of a new cultural coup in Africa . the impact of western civilization on Africa has occasioned a discontinuity in forms of life throughout the continent . This has

led to a cultural dualism that often presents itself as a real dilemma in concrete and real life situations .

2 -2 –3 Akungba – Akoko , Okoduwa (2008) , Adekunle Ajasin university , the title of this study is (colonial influence on African cultural values .)

It is doubtless that colonialism stimulated positive and negative changes in Africa . colonial rule was an imposition that unleashed deadly blow on African culture with the immediate consequence of the introduction of such values as rugged individualism , corruption , capitalism and oppression . colonial rule disrupted the traditional machinery of moral homogeneity and practice . the method of moral inculcation was vitiated , which resulted in the abandonment of traditional norms and values through a systematic depersonalization of the African and paganism of its value .

According to okoduwa (2008) colonial rulers promoted their economic and religious values . this is evident in economic exploitation and socio – religious verification that characterized the colonial period . African life was heavily influenced by religion . Almost every aspect of life was seen and interpreted in the supernatural . the belief that the ancestors played prominent roles in the maintenance of morality in the community hardly die , even today . it is true that colonialism altered the belief and values of the Africans significantly , just as its structure was almost completely eroded . the argument oscillates between a return to the glorious pre – colonial past as

the minimum requirement for moral rearmament and a total break with the past .

This paper clarifies these positions and posits that even though it is not practically possible to have a total return to the past , there are certain cultural values that consistently define the African personality , history and belief that cannot be jettisoned without consequences . throughout history men have followed the religious faith of their own culture ,and the majority has accepted their own faith as the only embodiment of truth , in every religion there have been wise men holding the candle of the light by which wisdom can be seen .

**2-2-4 : school work helper , (2015) . under title
:(Things Fall Apart cultural changes after
African colonialism)**

African culture in the mid of – 1900s was very unique and different from any other country . African natives were very secluded and therefore had a chance to develop their own culture . it all changed when the Europeans began colonizing Africa . They built churches , schools , and converted many African to Christianity . the African could not fight the Europeans because their culture was altered greatly . Religion in Africa was a major aspect of their culture , traditional African Gods were for war and bravery .

The Europeans saw African religion as underdeveloped and dull . the Africans worshiped superhuman forces such as rain and sun but the Christians worshiped only one God . Education was something brand new to Africans because when the

Europeans arrived the first thing did was building schools and churches . The schools were built to educate the Africans but it was mainly Europeans who attended them . Education was required for the Europeans but not the Africans . man Umuofians were outraged by the new schools because they taught of Europeans culture and values . in African culture , Christian schools greatly altered ways of thinking . Africans politics were altered greatly by the Europeans .

2 – 2 – 5 Coetzee , P.H and Roux , A. P. J (1998) . Nagaland central university , the study entitled (cultural content in Things Fall Apart and Arrow of God) .

African cultures differ significantly from western cultures . Because the culture of different Africans groups differ from one to another . African culture is positive and productive in itself . it promises meaning , purpose , pride , enjoyment or emotion in the daily lives of the African people under colonial rule or threatened with western cultural imperialism .

Achebe is an Ibo one of the largest tribes occupying south – central Nigeria. The Ibo culture is rich in all forms of expression in which there is an explicit or implicit comparison of one thing to another . chief among these forms is the proverb . other forms of Ilu include parables , myths , stories and metaphor . which are ideological reminding the people about their culture and the struggle of their ancestors in securing their land . through the use of these proverbs and sayings , Achebe not only added local color to his writing but also brought out

the rich culture and tradition of the native who lives are replete with these practices and belief which are part of their everyday lives and itself their culture .

Arrow of God published in 1964 . explores the intersections of Ibo tradition and European Christianity . set in the village of Umuaro at the start of the twentieth century . the novel tells the story of Ezeulu a chief priest of Ulu . shocked by the power of British intervention in the area , he order his son to learn the foreigners secret . Desire for excessive power is the main theme of the novel it is this desire which is the major flaw in Ezeulu character that leads to his downfall . His refusal to accept the pleading of his clan and the insistence on having his own decision implemented even when he knew it was not right one made him lost even God's favor . Arrow of God displays the simple and the traditional life of the Ibo right from their household chores to their religious rituals and their strong tradition – bound society which witnessed a slow disintegration under the grip of the colonial power .

In Arrow of God Achebe presents the core of Ibo culture through proverbs , metaphors and sayings . in the novel Ezeulu is the high priest of Ulu . He is an embodiment of his deity . he consider himself as arrow in the bow of his God .

- Chinua Achebe in Things Fall Apart , his most acclaimed novel , has significant themes like love , compassion , colonialism , honor and individualism . in treating these themes , Achebe employs variety of devices such as proverbs , folktales , rituals and the juxtaposition of characters and episodes to provide a double view of the Ibo society of Umuofia and the central

character Okonkwo . The protagonist of Things Fall Apart is not Okonkwo but Umuofia and the same can be said of Ezeulu in Arrow of God , whose main character is Umuaro . They are like the lizards in Achebe's proverbs : if it loses its tail , soon grows another . Okonkwo and Ezeulu are tails of the lizards , Umuaro and Umuofia . Achebe makes use of metaphors as slippery as a fish to enhance the description of Okonkwo character who is a self- made man with pride , arrogant , head- strong and self- confident . Okonkwo was judged according to his personal worth not compared to his father . Achebe uses proverbs to bring out the native's belief in superstition and the normal cycle of life . in Things Fall Apart and Arrow of God are filled with examples of rituals and tradition , festivals like the week of peace and the feast of the new yam ; the worship of ancestral elders sometimes personified by tribal elders called the Egwugwu and usually by the Agbala .Achebe also makes use of the art of storytelling to teach people as well as to unravel the plot of the story .

2 – 2 – 6 John O. Jordan , (2013) , entitled (culture conflict and social change in Achebe's Arrow of God).

A dominant concern in the fiction of contemporary sub-Saharan African has been and continues to be that of culture conflict – its effects upon the individual and its repercussions for society as a whole . a struggle between the claims of tradition and the forces of modernization , resulting in some form of social change , can usually be identified as the central issue in the

modern African novels . the impact of colonialism and the collapse the old order , education and the return to infighting and corruption of modern politics , the search for identity by an individual torn between two worlds , these have been the principal themes dealt with in African fiction .

Chinua Achebe probably black Africa's best known writer and by now accepted as a major figure of modern literature . Achebe has explored the problems of culture conflict and the social change in the context of both traditional and modern Africa . Two of his novels Things Fall Apart and Arrow of God concern the coming of the white man and the disintegration of traditional Ibo village life .

2 – 2 – 7 G . D . Killam . London , Heinemann , 1973 . the title is (impact of colonialism on the native African cultural heritage in Things Fall Apart and Arrow of God)

The cultural conflicts as witnessed and recorded in two of Achebe's novels , Things Fall Apart and Arrow of God in the advent of British colonialism and Christianity in Nigeria and the decline of the native cultural values and heritage in the post – colonial society of Achebe . Chinua Achebe is the doyen of modern African writing in in English , is a socially conscious writer and has assumed the role of a teacher to re-educate and regenerate his society . to restore to Africa its pride and dignity and the glory of the past .

Achebe is able to cast light on his society's past and assist his society to better understand their present and future . for him

history is a continuum . Chinua portrays the human dimension of history by showing how important historical changes affected everyday life . the effect of socio-cultural and political changes upon people who react immediately and violently to them without understanding the causes . colonialism and colonial transactions and their effects on the culture have captured the creative attention of Achebe . He explores the political , social , cultural and human dimensions of the post-colonial situations and portrays resultant dislocations African people faced .

Things Fall Apart is description to Ibo land between 1850 and 1900 . the novel records the crippling impact of colonialism on African life . Achebe narrates the dignity , pride and communal solidarity of the Ibo . He draws attention to the cultural glory of Umuofia and recreate the past of Africa in terms of its myths , rituals , beliefs , superstitions , religion , customs and traditions .

Things Fall Apart beautifully depicts the socio – cultural of pre-colonial Africa which came into oblivion when Africa was culturally disrupted by colonial forces . with that all cultural values , traditional institutions and social ties in Ibo society were rendered insignificant . The novel structure is based on the historical cycle of the rise and fall of civilization . Christianity was indeed the harbinger of colonialism in Africa . Achebe focuses the wider social conflict between two different ways of life . the impact of new religion was indeed tragic ; it affected the most fundamental and cohesive factors in the traditional system . the new religion has shattered and undermined all the traditional beliefs , superstition and customs , and the new

forces are choking to death the old society that Okonkwo has so firmly loved . the death of the old religion is confirmed by such happenings as the building of the church in the evils forest , bring up of twins and the cutting off long hair by the missionaries without mishap . for the first time doubts spark off among the natives about their religion and they begin to realize that a strong streak of anarchy is present in their culture itself . the conflict between Okonkwo and the clan arises because Okonkwo remains true to the deals which gave him heroic stature while the clan changes its loyalty . Okonkwo is not resistant to change at all –he is only against a change which is not operated by his society but one that has been cruelly imposed on them . Umuofia culture collapses because of the lack of living separateness . A culture can retain its identity only if it is flexible enough to take in change and assimilated from other cultures .

Achebe novel Arrow of God , explores at greater depth and insight than Things Fall Apart in the qualities of Igbo life , the myths and tradition of Umuaro and how the forces of colonialism too powerful to resist , disturb and destroy the whole way of Igbo life .

The cracks in Things Fall Apart grow into chasm in Arrow of God . thematically the novel takes up exactly where things fall apart has left . the cultural contact and cultural conflict emerge as the major thematic strand in Arrow of God . the society of Umuaro portrayed here is more or less the same as that of Umuofia in Things Fall Apart except for the fact that the white man is now accepted as a painful but unavoidable fact of life

and the disruption brought into the close – knit Igbo world has become deeper and the white man colonizer has gained greater strength and force . The tribe's submission to the political domination of the British and their reconciliation to the values of an alien culture are accompanied by intense psychological stress as exemplified in the novel . colonialism was not only just physical conquest of land , but more importantly , the conquest and occupation of minds , selves and culture . it was denial of all cultures , history and values system outside the colonizer frame . the most important area of domination was the mental universe of the colonized , the control through culture of how people perceived themselves .

Achebe in *Arrow of God* attempts to show the native culture in shambles due to intrusion of an alien western culture . Achebe is simply not interested in the description of the daily round of social and religious life . but he is interested in showing how the forces of colonialism promote change and the power and influence of the white man shape the destinies of the Umuaro villagers . the British colonial officials try to subjugate and control Igbo land by trying to introduce the colonial policy of indirect rule . this colonial policy is employed by Achebe in the novel to highlight the theme of cultural clash between Europe and Africa . *Things Fall Apart* and *Arrow of God* poignantly respond to the traumatic effects and upheavals generated by the clash of two conflicting cultures and the social changes that Africa has been subjected to because of the insidious and vicious colonial rule and disintegration that set in African society .

CHAPTER THREE

(analysis from a critical point of view)

In this chapter the researcher will answer the questions which presented in chapter one , through critical analysis to *Things Fall Apart* and *Arrow of God* which depicts out the richness and values of African culture and traditions and how it affected by colonial power and invasion . And the culture of Igbo society in both novels as comparing study .

3-1 Introduction :

The African continent and its people were living in peace for long times , they have own languages and control on their internal affairs by themselves and organize their needs according to their traditional laws . through all that centuries before colonial period , without need to anybody to civilize them or borrow new religion to African life .

The African people have strong social traditional system were based on clans and tribes , because it depend on respect and loyalty to tribe , so this system differ than the system of the empires , because they as family and the rules of family will apply in clan . but when colonizers came to Africa changed up down every- thing according to their motivations and desire as African were waiting the colonizers in order to educate , literate , and enlighten them since god creates the earth .

Chinua Achebe as a famous African writer and novelist called the father of modern African literature . Achebe through his novels want restore and reclaim African glory , pride and above all that African dignity and identity which lost during the period of colonialism . Chinua Achebe plays the role of defender through reflecting the values , culture and

history of Igbo society in pre – post colonial period and how Igbo life was before , when Igbo society were living together and support each other . They have own traditional reference to order and organize their whole life . such as religious beliefs , traditional rituals , myths and proverbs .

(“ I would be quiet satisfied if my novels(especially the ones I set in the past) did no more than teach my readers that their past with all its imperfections was not one long night of savagery from which the first Europeans acting on God’s behalf delivered them “.)

Achebe attempted to present an authentic interpretation of the African culture and tradition because he felt that the story we had to tell could not be told for us by any- one else no matter how gifted or well intentioned . Achebe trying to courage the African writers to write about African continent and its people to reflect what was hidden by colonization as reality and heritages . Chinua Achebe novels Things Fall Apart and Arrow of God plays a great role in defending about his African culture and resists to colonial culture which congest African culture . Achebe confirmed that African had different cultures within each ethnic groups ,through what he writes in his novels Things Fall Apart and Arrow of God reflects of the richness of African culture , when he used the proverbs in his writings in order to show out the complexity of African culture and how it was very old and varied .

Africans had oral literature more than any other continent such as myths ,folktales ,and masks they as means of entertainment and education to their children in order to literate them and transform this traditions and cultures from generation to generation .Achebe writes Things Fall Apart and Arrow of God in English language which contain the proverbs and complexity of Igbo society culture as message want convey to colonial

power . So his novels as weapons to protect African cultures and values . these novels are taught around the world in different language to convey the voice of marginalized people in Africa . Chinua Achebe two novels Things Fall Apart and Arrow of God : both talk deeply about Igbo society and their culture as representative to African people in their tradition .

3-2 Things Fall Apart analysis

Things Fall Apart was written as reply to Europeans who have misinterpreted , misrepresented and denigrated the blacks as a mindless people . Achebe reflects the strength of his people's past , that African not were living in darkness but the colonizers put the knife in their society and split it apart .

So Things Fall Apart is a vision of what life was like in Ibo land before and how it was now . Achebe shows out the dignity , pride and solidarity of the Ibo and the cultural glory of Umuofia through presenting and depict out the power of Igbo society and their cultural values , its myths , rituals , religious beliefs , superstitious , customs and traditions which was shaping the philosophy of life and consciousness of Igbo society without glorifying the past . how it was before colonial came to Umuofia and how the life was as in strong conditions and power . and how that things which hold Igbo society together and cooperated disrupted and fall in to apart and Igbo society became less power and magic as Okonkwo says

(“ *the white man put the knife in the things that hold us together to cut it* “.)

as European have magic power to their incursion among them without fighting and general rejection . firstly they destroyed Igbo society

mentally because they became as follower to colonizers and destroyed them ideologically : in what they believe in their religious beliefs . The white men confirmed to them it just a myths and they obeyed and worship the false god not real God.

(“ The missionaries had come to Umuofia . They had built Their church there , won a handful of converts and were already sending evangelists to the surrounding towns and villages “ .)

The colonizers followed the flexible policy which opposite to rigidity of Igbo society traditions and customs. In order to divide the Igbo society through pulling the marginalized people and twins to side of white men . colonizers built schools to reduce from significance of the traditional African education such as folktales and oral literature .Chinua Achebe gives us a picture of African people represented in Okonkwo as a strong powerful leader in Umuofia who has many wives and title and fame in Umuofia and beyond , began as wrestler and warrior .

(“ Okonkwo was well known throughout the nine villages and even beyond .His fame rested on social personal achievements . as a young man of eighteen he had brought honor to his village by throwing Amalinze the cat . Amalinze was the greatest wrestler who for seven years was unbeaten from Umuofia to Mbaino In the end Okonkwo threw the cat “).

Okonkwo character embody the African personality through his rigidity and as a man of action and the tribe depend on him in affairs of war . But before he achieve his dreams and goal , Okonkwo begins to fall down gradually with the coming of the white man his power going to less and reduce because the missionaries made his power , title and traditions less

significance . When his son Nwoye becomes Christian let him lives in inner destroying . Nwoye has negative attitude towards the rigid customs of his own society and embraces the new religion that stands for universal love and brotherhood . Nwoye becomes the first convert to Christianity .

3-3 Arrow of God analysis :

Achebe novel shows his people where and how they lost their identity he can also assist in reclaiming it . “ I am an Igbo writer “ I must see what it is to be black and this means being sufficiently intelligent to know how the world is moving and how the black people fare in the world . this is what it means to be black or an African the same ; what does Africa mean to world ? when you see an African what does it mean to a white man ? . Achebe is committed to helping create a national African culture through African literature and his novels “ The worst thing that can happen to any people is the loss of their dignity and self- respect . As writer duty is to help them regain it by showing them in human terms what happened to them , why they lost it . there is saying in Ibo that a man who can't tell where the rain began to beat him cannot know where he dried his body . The writer can tell the people where the rain began to beat them “ .

Aow of God does not differentiate than Things Fall Apart it just go deeper and full of religious rituals complexes . the traditions , customs and culture of Igbo society in Arrow of God it's the same as it taken typically from Igbo people in Things Fall Apart .

In Arrow of God Achebe used proverbs which contain very complex sentences to impose the Igbo society culture and language , and how the white man changes the shapes of Igbo society life and their destiny . even

the title of the novel was taken from Igbo proverbs . Arrow of God it mean the person who represent the will of God . it religious novel because it focus more on religious beliefs and depict out the role of religion in Igbo people life , how Igbo society life were full of faith , believes , myths , superstitious and legends . so Igbo people their life go through these traditions and religious rituals , as part of their daily life . Achebe in this novel presents and reflects the struggle for power and authority between the African and the missionaries and within the Igbo clan .

The main personality in this novel which story revolve around him is A chief priest , Ezeulu who consider as messenger and Arrow in the bow of his god and responsible for safeguarding the traditions and the rituals of the people in Umuaro . Ezeulu watches each month for new moon . He eats a sacred yam and beats the Ogene to mark the beginning of each new month . only the chief priest can name the day for the feast of the new yam . but with coming of the white man witnessed the downfall of traditional leader at hand of colonial power and the characteristics of the individual's belonging to the homogenous society that is trapped in the rapid spread of Christianity among Igbo people . The missionaries disintegrated the Igbo society by provoking hostility among them through lucrative trades, education , law , order and the taste of power .

The issues of identity in Arrow of God are mirrored with the clash between tribal beliefs and colonial administration and struggle between continuity and changes during the 1920s . Arrow of God refer to the role of Ezeulu plays in this novel . as the chief priest of the deity ULU and Ezeulu is ulu messenger . so as he ulu messenger plays an important role and part of Umuaro cultural and religious life .in the role as God Arrow ,

Ezeulu is able to punish the village of umuaro by withholding the announcement of the feast of the new yam , without that announcement the people cannot harvest their new crops and leading to widespread famine .

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(“ you all know our customs , Ezeulu says : I only call a new festival when there is only one yam left from the last .Today I have three yams and so I know that the time has not come “ .)

When Ezeulu prevents the announcement of the feast of new yam let to end the worship of his God ulu . people flock to the Christian churches for help and protection . The chief priest Ezeulu sent his son to study with white men in order to be his eyes among white men that arises the conflict between him and his people goes deep , in the same time the colonizers exploited his son to kill python , the holly snake to crash the chief Ezeulu and his people . that let umuaro to be far away from Ezeulu God (ulu) . when they imprisoned him the announcement of the new feast of yam stopped .

3_ 4 Internal and External motives and causes beyond Igbo society downfall through Arrow of God and Things Fall Apart :

1 – Things Fall Apart internal and external conflicts :

The Igbo society culture has internal problems which ultimately caused the downfall of the Igbo tribe . these problems includes a poor social system , leadership , superstitious beliefs and the lack of suitable decision making . These few problems are essential .one of the flaws inside the Ibo

culture that eventually leads to their downfall of social system . the weaker people join the church as a way to gain acceptance. The Osu or outcasts who lived in the Ibo culture want to feel accepted and as a result they followed the Christians .

(“ The two outcasts shared off their hair , and soon they were the strongest adherents of the new faith “ .)

these two outcasts people never have the feeling of being a part of the clan . the church welcomes them and found respect in the new religion and became part of the Christians people and protected them from Igbo society . The Osu when they were living among Igbo society cannot cut their hair , marry or receive a title in the clan . They are “ cast out like lepers “ . But the white men accepted them in their church and treating them like human beings .

The Igbo society stands divided and disunited ; a ripe opportunity for the Christian missionaries .on one side are the defenders of traditional Ibo values _ Okonkwo and the other important men of the clan ; and on the other side are social misfits who feel vaguely dissatisfied with Ibo society _ Nwoye and others such as the outcasts or Osu . The main protagonist of this novel is Okonkwo , who caught in an internal struggle that affects his entire life . He is fighting with all his might against the possibility of becoming like his father . Okonkwo intended to show every- one in the village that he was not like his father . He had a difficult time controlling it and it caused him great conflict with the relationships in his life

Okonkwo his killing to Ikemefuna the close friend to his son nwoye makes inner conflict with his son and becomes in his eyes as a killer and enemy . also broke the week of peace through beating his wife :

(“ You are not stranger in Umuofia Your wife was at fault , but even if you came into your obi and found her lover on top of her , you would still have committed a greater evil to beat her . The evil you have done can ruin the whole clan . The earth goddess whom you have insulted may refuse to give us her increase , and we shall perish “)

But when Okonkwo kills a clan member during the funeral of the oldest man of his tribe changes every- thing for worth and the clan must punish Okonkwo : they burn his huts obi and his animals after exiling him for seven years . This is something Okonkwo never pictured happening , he was so focused on being a leader of his clan . addition to that his son Nwoye has also left the family and has joined the missionaries . the missionaries have a came with the goal of gaining as many converts as possible .the white man seem to be the source of this external problem that challenges Okonkwo power . since Nwoye leaves this father who does not approve of the Christians , it shows that Okonkwo no longer has control over his children or family , in addition to losing his title and the power he held in his father land , the white man taking away his power by stealing his children too . the white men followed the soft and flexible policy in order to gain the native people to their side and persuade the African people that their religious beliefs , traditions and customs are useless and aimless .

(” Does the white man understand ur customs about land ?

How can he when he does not even speak cur tongue ?

But he says that our customs are bad , and our own brothers who have taken up his religion also say that our customs are bad . How do you think we can fight when our own brothers have turned against us ? the

white man is very clever . He came quietly and peaceably with his religion . we were a mused at his foolishness and allowed him to stay “.)

With the coming of the missionaries , Okonkwo begins to fall apart externally .Okonkwo first one crashed with the white man because they stole what he dream about and toke his son from him in front of his eyes . Okonkwo knew that his tribe lost it power to stand against the white men power . so that leads Okonkwo to take individual decision to face the missionaries , because umuofia does not stand with him when Okonkwo kills the messenger of white man .

2 – Arrow of God internal and external conflicts :

In Arrow of God appeared many conflicts and competitions these conflicts part of it among Igbo society in Umuaro , such as competition and struggle between two chiefs priests each one try to disbar the other from his way to be the only chief priest in Umuaro . and other part of conflicts were caused by external power to control on Umuaro and other villages through imposing new law and modernized ruling system , to let Igbo people live under the umbrella of colonial power . The competitions between two chiefs priests in Umuaro Ezeulu and Nwaka specially when Nwaka calls for war with neighboring village Okperi and Ezeulu refused this war because it against the will of ULU God . Also this conflict goes deep and grows when Ezeulu sends one of his sons , Oduche to missionaries in order to be his eyes among white men and learn the white man’s wisdom .

“ The world is changing , I do not like it . But I want one of my sons to join these people and be my eyes there . If there nothing in it you will come back . If there is something there you will bring home my share .

The world is like a mask dancing . if you want to see it well you do not stand in one place . my spirit tell me that those who do not befriend the white man ; “ Today will be saying had we known tomorrow “ .)

But the white man exploits Oduche to kill the python a holly snake as clever act from the white man to kill a python through the son of powerful man and chief priest in Umuaro , who consider as messenger and Arrow of God Ulu . that increased the conflict and division among Umuaro people . This act brings him into conflict with his friend first , Akuebue . Because he is operating outside the collective solidarity of people who share common customs and beliefs .

(“ But if you sent your son to join strangers in desecrating the land you will be alone . you may go and mark it on the wall to remind you I said so “ .)

Ezeulu his household is divided ; his sons no longer show the traditional respect due to a father and his wives are at loggerheads with one another . Oduche has becomes the source of division as well as Nwafa . Ezeulu fails to unifying the people of Umuaro and Okperi . He has lost all support ; the people sided with Nwaka who harangue of Ezeulu’s speech meets with their approval . so Nwaka becomes the voice of the tribe since the chief priest’s words no longer carry any weight . Nwaka had totally destroyed Ezeulu’s speech and all six villages stood behind Nwaka . He is personal enemy , a man of high standing in the community and a friend of Ezidmili , the chief priest of Edemili . the oldest deity whose conflict with Ulu is chronic . This religious conflict intensifies the conflict within the traditional society itself . it is a really struggle for authority within the Igbo clan , between those two chiefs priests ; Ezeulu represent the Ulu God and Ezidmili represent the Edemili God who hides behind Nwaka

the most powerful and wealthiest man .The chief priest of Ulu was himself embroiled in his acute affair and sided with the white man in favor of Okperi . Ezeulu becomes isolated and refused any advice or assistance . even his friend Akuebue's advice village elders trying to persuade him to put the interests of the clan first . in order to remind him of his responsibility as ; chief priest as Anichebe Udeoze .

(“ We know that such a thing has never been done before but never before has the white man taken the chief priest a way . these are not the times we used to know and we must meet them as they come or he rolled in the dust . I want you to look around this room and tell me what you see . Do you think there is another Umuaro outside this hut now ? no , you are Umuaro said Ezeuiu . yes we are Umuaro . Therefore listen to what I am going to say . Umuaro now asking you to go and eat those remaining yams today and name the day of harvest . Do you hear me well ? I said go and eat those yams today not tomorrow and if Ulu says we have committed an abomination let it be on the heads of the ten of us here . you will be free because we have set you to it , and the person who sets a child to catch a shrew should also find him water to wash the odor from his hand .we shall find you the water . Umuaro have I spoken well ? . You have said everything . we shall take the punishment . leaders of Umuaro do not say that , I am treating your words with contempt ; it is not my to do so . But you cannot say : do what is not done and we will take the blame . I am the chief priest of Ulu and what I have told you is his wish not mine , But this is not my doing . The God sometimes used us as a whip “).

Ezeulu prevents to announce the festival of new yam as punishment to Umuaro people for their standing against him and his God Ulu . that let

Umuaro society go far from Ezeulu God and goes to Christian missionaries because they promised Igbo people to reap their crops and the Christian God will protect Umuaro people

3 – 5 culture of Igbo society in Things Fall Apart :

The novel depicts the life of Okonkwo , a leader and local wrestling champion in Umufio one of a fictional group of nine villages in Nigeria inhabited by the Igbo people . it focuses on his family and personal history and the customs of Igbo society and the influence of British colonialism and Christian missionaries on the Igbo community during the late nineteenth century . through Achebe used of language ,it is apparent how unique the Igbo culture is . By using traditional Igbo words , folktales and songs into English sentences , Achebe shows out that African was full and rich of cultures :

(“ African people did not hear of culture for the first time from Europeans ; that their societies were not mindless but frequently had a philosophy of great depth and value and beauty that they had poetry , and above all had dignity . it is this dignity that many African all but lost during the colonial period and it is this that they must now regain “.)

Achebe is noted for his inclusion of proverbs from Igbo oral culture into his writing “The lizard that jumped from the high roko tree to the ground said he would praise himself if no one else did “. Okonkwo explains his capacity for hard work before Nwakibie ,his sons , and neighbors . The feast of the new yam is an occasion of joy through -out umuofia to convey thanks to Ani , the earth God . every year the Igbo people celebrate the event before the harvest commence . in the Igbo society a

man is known for his own achievement and activeness .a man who fails to progress beyond the junior title is a man without status in the eyes of his people and such a man called an(agbala) mean a woman . Because of the great value placed on masculinity .

Igbo society wives main duty is to serve their husband . women value is directly tied to their ability to produce children and the value of man is measured by the number of yams and wives he has . The powerful clan of umuofia never goes to war unless its case was accepted by oracle of hill and the cave . religion has been the integral part of the Igbo society as they believe in a supreme God . In Things Fall Apart ; the masks , the earth ,the legends and rituals were very significant in history of Igbo society culture .

According to Baldwin : religion looms large in the life of primitive man , the use of mask to draw the spirit of the god into the body of the person . a great crime in the Igbo culture is to unmask or show disrespect to the immortality of an egwugwu , which represents an ancestral spirit . at the end of the novel Christian convert unmasks and kills one of his own ancestral spirit . they also believe in “ Chi “ a man personal God . Igbo society was much enriched but when the colonizers came ; their land , their society and cultural values commenced falling apart and the old way of life gets disrupted .

3 – 6 Igbo society culture and traditions through Arrow of God :

In this novel two cultures confronted their differences . Achebe portrays the disrupting effect an externally imposed power system (the colonizers) has an internally imposed power system (African tradition and custom)

conflict within the Igbo society coupled with repercussion from external invasion in disaster for the Igbo society which disintegrates from within and reorients itself to Christianity . this reorientation of western values and beliefs , but also to the eventual loss of the Igbo cultural identity . in this novel , Ezeulu the main character is the chief priest of ulu a created by the people almost a century before when the six villages of umuaro united with stand the Aban slave raiders Ezeulu is responsible for safeguarding the traditions and the rituals of the people. For example , Ezeulu watches each month for the moon . He eats a sacred yam and beats to mark the beginning of each new month . only the chief priest can name the day for the feast of the new yam . Ezeulu consider himself merely a watchman .

African people did not hear of culture from the first time from European ; that their societies were not mindless but frequently had a philosophy of great depth and value and beauty that they had poetry , and above all that they had dignity but lost during the colonial period . The dignity of Igbo people in Arrow of God is projected with the religious influence of the domestic forces and their nature effect and manner . The individual life of Igbo people was controlled the spiritual forces . the relationship between a man and his Chi (personal God) foster the communication with ancestors . it regulates the traditional norms among the people to get control over the evil . The rituals and festivals generate the social identity and unify them at the time of the crisis . “ Great ulu who kills and saves , I implore you to cleans my household of all defilement if I have spoken with my mouth or seen it with my eyes or if I have heard with my ears “ . The identity of Igbo clan reflects through the celebration of the festivals which gives the firm sacred dimension and the ritual reinforcement to unify them in the community . in addition to this central festival Igbo

people , the prayers are performed to all the minor deities in the six villages . Achebe says “ it was the only assembly in umuaro which a man might look to his right and find his neighbor and look to his left and see the God standing there “. The social structure of the Igbo people is based on the religion and the leadership . but the confused leadership in umuaro constitutes the issues of social identity in the clan on the issues of land ownership with okperi . the different attitudes of Nwaka and Ezeulu the chief priests of the deities Idemili and ulu respectively makes the fertile ground for the missionaries to eradicate the religious beliefs of the Igbo people .

the cultural identity of the Igbo clan was disrupted by the interventions of the missionaries . the social identity of pre-colonial and colonial Igbo people is reflected through the conflicts between continuity and change in the social patterns . the resistance of Igbo to colonial power through their culture , customs and traditional patterns is the manifestation of the problematic relationship of two powers . so this identity is filtered through the belongingness and the different social layers of the customs . the dispute on the land ownership between umuaro and okperi reveals an internal crisis of the social and political knots of the tribe .

- Masculine identity : the patriarchal igbo clan is represented in Arrow of God by holding the right to make the law , control the economy , declare the fight wars and follow the social norms through customs . masculine identity in Igbo clan has two facets ; one is social order that to be maintained with the norms of the community and the other is to regulate the religious beliefs by performing the rituals to their deities . .

- Religious identity : the religion of any society regulates order and cultural patterns as the cohesive force to bound people together with certain values of traditional aspects . the rituals and ceremonies activate the reciprocal relations between the people as a bond of the religious identity . Igbo religion was downfall by the missionaries through the power of Christianity .
- Disruption of Nigerian identity : the struggle of the Igbo people in Nigeria , in pre- colonial and colonial period marked the disruption of their unified identity by the power of Christianity . Ezeulu in Igbo society tries to preserve the identity of the Igbo people , but his limited power did not help him to resist the colonial impact .

CHAPTER FOUR

Conclusion , recommendations and suggestions for further studies

4 – 1 Conclusion

This chapter is the last chapter in this study . The researcher will present recommendations and suggestions for further studies as summarization for this study .The research questions were full answered and supported with quotations from Things Fall Apart and Arrow of God in chapter three and the hypotheses of the study were proved too and supported with evidences . There are two questions and two hypotheses in this research . The first question is : How far Things Fall Apart and Arrow of God played an important role in defending and protecting the African culture from threat European culture ?

Chinua Achebe writes this two novels as African novels to reflect African values and culture for Africans and non-Africans readers as international novels . So these novels represent African literature ; oral literature and written literature .

The second question is : What are the causes and motives that leads to the disintegration of African society and the collapsing of their culture ?

Also this question was answered and full supported with quotations from two novels . the researcher presents the factors which leads to downfall of African society and their culture .

The study takes Igbo society in Things Fall Apart and Arrow of God as examples and represented to African society as a whole . the researcher

displays and show out how Igbo society disrupted internally and externally . also the researcher presents the internal factors which beyond Igbo society downfall from inside and through it opened opportunity to downfall externally as a result of Igbo society weakness , devisions and lack of controlling decisions making let the white men impose their power and culture through modernized tools and ways .

The study confirmed that there is affecting and melting to African culture through the cultural and intellectual western invasion which leads to downfall of African culture .

4 -2 Recommendations

The researcher recommends the following :-

- 1- Africans should cherish their African culture and identity and prevent their reproduction and melting as free – standing culture .
- 2- Africans novelists and writers must play the role of reformers and guiders to address the socials and cultural issues resulting from colonialism and intelletcual cultural invasion of the African continent .
- 3- Africans writers must use oral African literature and proverbs in their writings .
- 4- African local languages should be spoken at local and international level and teach as standard language such as Enlish and French language .

4 -3 Suggestions for further studies

The researcher suggests the following topics :-

- 1- The impact of western colonial policy on Igbo society .

- 2- The impact of English language as colonial language on native Africans languages .
- 3- Comparing study between oral African traditional literature and the westernized modern African literature .

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