

Scenes of indigenous, afro-brazilian, african and timorian cultural lives in contemporary times

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Abstract: This special issue brings together articles that present to society elements that compose scenes of indigenous, Afro-Brazilian, African and Timorese cultural lives in contemporary times. The issue is made up of joint texts that bring together a range of themes that allow for a frankly transdisciplinary dialogue on the contemporaneity of peoples of indigenous, Afro-Brazilian, African and Timorese roots. It points to diverse and revealing scenarios in which these peoples deal with most challenges and advances in social, economic, cultural, environmental and educational development. This issue has brought together 24 articles with approaches, trends and methodologies, in addition to historical, epistemological, aesthetic and hermeneutical points, and diverse contexts to discuss the most varied sets of elements that make up the space in Brazil, Africa and East Timor where human beings live, with their identity and memory. The texts articulate academic themes such as literature, philosophy, culture, linguistics, sociology, law; and present practical scenarios that update topics such as human development processes, teacher training, decolonization processes, sexual violence against children, studies of black festive organizations in the Amazon region, basic sanitation in African countries, among others, placing them on the global agenda of contemporary research processes and paths. The articles and poems also articulate contexts and narratives, institutional arrangements and state capacities, practices and strategies associated with the development of human societies and the redefinitions of their behaviour in relation to the environment, food security, climate change, democracy, citizenship, exposing urgent issues such as prejudice, discrimination and intolerance in the face of sociocultural differences; in addition to promoting rethinking about the relationship between diversity and inequality that persist in existing among peoples.

Keywords: Contemporaneity. Cultural diversity. Human development.

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Apresentation

It is with great satisfaction that we are publishing the dossier **Scenes of Indigenous, Afro-Brazilian, African and Timorese cultural lives in contemporary times**, whose edition brings together articles with the most diverse themes to present to society elements that compose the scenes of the cultural lives of peoples from the Americas, African Peoples and Asian Peoples in contemporary times. This issue of **Revista Njinga & Sepé** consolidates its social and academic function, promoting interlocutions of transdisciplinary research on the cultural lives of different peoples. The texts are composed of elements that make possible the approximations of different fields of knowledge such as Politics, Sociology, Education, Environment, Linguistics, Literature, Sanitation, Health and Culture, exposing updated debates on the development of the diverse peoples of the Americas, Africa and from Asia. The dossier offers to readers a diverse set of articles, which bring together researchers from different countries and cultures interested in analyzing the theme from a cultural perspective.

In contemporary times, life has become increasingly complex. The cultural scenes of peoples living in the Americas, Africa and Asia have reflected quite conflicting socio-political struggles and reconfigurations. People are rebuilding their ethnocultural autonomies, their perceptions of gender, sexual orientation, and the value of religious freedom through these actions. They are also redefining their behaviour in relation to the environment, food security, climate change, democracy, citizenship, exposing urgent issues such as prejudice, discrimination and intolerance in the face of sociocultural differences; in addition to promoting rethinking about the relationship between diversity and inequality that persist in existing among peoples.

In this sense, it is relevant to deepen the debate on current global historical processes weaving (re)compositions of scenes of contemporary cultural life. These aspects are laden with meanings and sensitivities, and give rise to interdisciplinary perspectives and enable researchers from different areas of knowledge and from diverse ethnocultural and social backgrounds, to dialogue about scenes of American, specially South American, African and Timorese cultural life in times contemporaries.

The present "Special Dossier 2022" intends to provide a framework of approaches, trends and methodologies, besides historical, epistemological, aesthetic, hermeneutic articulations and related areas, which allows the composition of a transdisciplinary

Itamar R. Paulino, Salome Nyambura, Augusto da S. Junior, Scenes of indigenous, afro-brazilian scenario and helps the reader to apprehend the contemporary universe of the peoples of Americas, Africa and Asia. For that, several articles submitted blindly were evaluated.

In this sense, **24 articles** were approved on the most varied topics of knowledge for **Section I**. We organized the articles in the dossier based on three axes that dialogue with each other. It allows the reader an integrative reading and knowledge connections. In the first axis, articles are presented in the areas of Art, Festivities and Revelries, Literature, Poetics, Linguistics and Semiotics. In the second axis, we have the management of education and training of people. In the third axis, we present society, citizenship and development.

We have the article “**Black scenes the ancestral resonance in the scene and in the staged**” in the first axis in which Carlindo Fausto Antonio presents the use of the black-African cultural system and the diaspora as an African philosophical category centred on ancestry. The author argues that the ancestral system is a mode of cultural production and, above all, of existence as it is combined with the millennial, sophisticated and complex ontological mesh,

In the article written by Edna Maria de Oliveira Ferreira and César Costa Vitorino, entitled “**Revisiting a Quilombo community in Piemonte Norte do Itapicuru: how many is the black pearl of Senhor do Bonfim (BA)?**”, the theme refers to the Afro-descendant communities that are known for their struggles and resistance against deliberate muzzling, in a strongly Eurocentric Brazil. The article presents itself as a space for dialogue with the leaders of the Quilombo community in Piemonte Norte do Itapicuru, proposing public policies against racism and based on the achievement of a truly proud “Black Pearl”.

We also have in this axis the article “**Brazilian Afro-Amazon Festive Scenario: the Revelry of São Benedito in the Silêncio Quilombo Community in Óbidos-Pará**”, by Itamar Rodrigues Paulino and Elian Karine Serrão da Silva, which register a cultural, ritualistic and religious performance that takes place in the Remanescent of Slaved Community [Quilombo] Silêncio, in the city of Óbidos, in the Brazilian state of Pará. The article is an epistemological journey through the narratives of community members about their history in the Amazon, focusing on the Folia de São Benedito, an identity manifestation and memorial of African people in their diaspora in the Lower Amazon region, since the 18th century.

To expand the black theme, Bonete Júlio João Chaha presents “**Clash of civilizations: Confrontation Tradition vs Modernity in Amar sobre um bed de**

Itamar R. Paulino, Salome Nyambura, Augusto da S. Junior, Scenes of indigenous, afro-brazilian **prejudice, by Isabel Ferrão**”, an analysis of the confrontation between tradition and modernity in the literary work 'Love on a bed of prejudice', by Mozambican writer Isabel Ferrão. Chaha looks at the article as a “means” to get to know the world and to serve to build or confirm the history of a people, through different narratives.

We also present in the course of the first axis the **“Reflection on the impact of the poetry of Agostinho Neto: We have to go back and say goodbye to the start time in the construction of an Independent Angola”**, by Eduardo David Ndombele and Lucrécia José dos Santos Paca. The authors propose an elaborate and consistent study on the role of Agostinho Neto's poetry in the fight against colonialism for the construction of an independent Angola, and consequently, of other African countries colonized by the Portuguese people.

Out of the theme of the previous article, the Portuguese question, Elizabeth Mariana Alfredo Capathia Nahia and José Luis Dias composed the article entitled **“Policy of Dissemination and Internationalization of the Portuguese Language – The Case of Mozambique”**, whose objective is to discuss the universalization of the Portuguese language based on a consistent policy of strengthening Portuguese-speaking countries in international organizations. In this case, the article points to the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP) as a key institution for the purpose of promoting the language. It also centres the debate around the importance of Mozambique in the context of the appreciation of the Portuguese language. Mozambique is a multilingual nation that has in the Portuguese language the national link of identity and culture.

In the sense of discussing the Portuguese language, Bonete Júlio João Chaha proposes a discussion on the **“Use of *perca* and *perda* by Portuguese speakers in Mozambique”**, with the aim of understanding the reasons for the use of *perca* in detriment of *perda*, analyzing the conditions of paronyms which are similar in spelling and different in meaning, and maybe it is the reason the speakers find it difficult to distinguish them from one another. The article is the result of research with 9th grade academic level students at the Private School Bons Sonhos, in the city of Beira, Mozambique.

We also present **“Khoisan of Angola: Description and comparative analysis of the vocabulary of the variants (languages) !Khun (Khoisan) of the province of Cunene”**, by José Evaristo Kondja, yet covering the first axis. In this article, the author describes and comparatively analyses the vocabulary of the variants (languages) !Khun (Khoisan), based on the consultation of a group of twelve children and adults, speakers of !Khun, in the province of Cunene (Angola), language of Khoisan family, known for

Itamar R. Paulino, Salome Nyambura, Augusto da S. Junior, Scenes of indigenous, afro-brazilian integrating into their phonological systems (consonants) clicks, such as [ʘ], bilabial; [!] , dental; [ɽ], (post)-alveolar; [ɰ], palato-alveolar; and [l̪], lateral-alveolar. The research took place through a second language spoken by those involved in the research, called Oshikwanyama, belonging to the Bantu neighbors.

We also present **“The influence of the English language on communication and the construction of a Mozambican variety of Portuguese”**, by Maria Helena Carlos Felaune. She took reference from and through words in the English language, in order to understand how semantic and formal neologisms found on advertising posters in the city of Matola, in Mozambique, contribute to the construction of the linguistic variety of Portuguese in this African country.

Another article included in the first axis of the dossier is **“Citshwa variation: comparative analysis of Cihlengwe and Cimhandla”**, by Lucerio Gundane. The author presents a study of linguistic and extra linguistic factors that contribute to linguistic variation and/or change in Citshwa. The study is based on Labov's variationist sociolinguistics and analyses the variations of Citshwa, focusing on Cihlengwe, spoken in the Massinga district, and Cimhandla, spoken in the Vilankulo district of Inhambane, in the southern region of Mozambique, and takes into account a phonetic-phonological, lexical and discursive analysis of the Citshwa Variation.

Yet in the first axis, we present **“Bissau in translation, mishaps and challenges of an ongoing research”**, by André Luiz Ramalho Aguiar. The author of this article investigates the effects caused by translation practices in multilingual, multicultural, multi-ethnic and multi-religious contexts. The article is result of months of research developed in Bissau, capital of Guinea-Bissau, located in West Africa.

The second axis of this Dossier deals with the management of people's education and training. The first article in this axis is entitled **“The role of pedagogical supervision in promoting the performance of higher education trainee students in integrated schools: the case of Escola Secundária X in the City of Montepuez”**, written by Tito Paulo da Costa Leveque and Paulino Albino Machava. The article discusses the role of pedagogical supervision in promoting the performance of higher education trainee students in integrated schools in the City of Montepuez, based on important aspects such as the training curriculum, supervision practice, and the results of the internship in the training of trainees in integrated schools.

In this line of thought and research, José Greia and João Flávio Amisse Uagire authored the article **“The role of Pedagogical Supervision in the development of the**

Itamar R. Paulino, Salome Nyambura, Augusto da S. Junior, Scenes of indigenous, afro-brazilian **pedagogical practices of teachers in higher education in Mozambique: A case study at YX University in the City of Nampula**”, whose focus was centred on the analysis of how pedagogical supervision contributes to the development of teachers' pedagogical practices in higher education, especially in this research-focused university. The article finds that the supervisors at this university come from leadership and trust and other forms, sometimes lacking training to exercise the activity of pedagogical supervision.

We also have in the second axis the article **“Pedagogical Supervision as a tool for professional development: a case study of the Primary School of the 1st and 2nd Grade of Bengo – Chimoio”**, by Amosse Jorge Gelo, José Luis Dias and David José Sebastião Matandire. The authors propose to analyse the impact of pedagogical supervision on professional development, based on a case study concentrated in the Primary School of the 1st and 2nd Grade of Bengo, in Chimoio [Mozambique], carried out in the year 2020.

Another important article is **“Facing sexual violence against Brazilian children and adolescents: reflections on the importance of school participation in the coping network”**, by Nayara Chaves de Lima and Genylton Odilon Rêgo da Rocha. The authors debate the phenomenon of sexual violence against children and adolescents, highlighting the need to promote the consciousness of this form of violence against thousands of children and adolescents to Brazilian state and society. The article presents the impacts that it has on the development of child and adolescent victims, and how the school needs to promote the awareness of sexual violence against children and adolescents, through preventive practices and adequate referral to competent bodies and institutions that integrate the protection network for children and adolescents in Brazil.

We also present the article **“The contribution of the Institute of Professional Training and Labor Studies Alberto Cassimo (IFPELAC) in the creation of self-employment for the development of the District of Lichinga (2015-2018)”**, by Paulo Gervásio Matapa and Joaquim Miranda Maloa. The authors analyse the contribution of the Institute of Professional Training and Labor Studies Alberto Cassimo (IFPELAC) in the Creation of Self-employment for the Development of the District of Lichinga, between the years 2015 and 2018, suggesting the need and urgency of self-employment in the current context of economic crisis through which Mozambique is going through.

That article is joined by another of fundamental importance, entitled **“Practice Pedagogical an important tool for teacher training in Angola”**. In this article, the authors Francisco Sérgio Manuel Mabilia and Nelson Miguel Chimbili describe their

Itamar R. Paulino, Salome Nyambura, Augusto da S. Junior, Scenes of indigenous, afro-brazilian observational studies around the activities developed in the pedagogical practice chair for the training of Portuguese Language teachers, taught in the Portuguese Language Teaching course of EPD 1 of ULAN 2, in Angola.

The last article in the second axis was written by Gregório Bembua Kambundo Tchitutumia and Cristine G. Severo. **“Umbundu in the educational sphere of the province of Benguela (Angola)”**, is the result of a scientific initiation research project, which deals with the ethnic-linguistic appreciation of the national language Umbundu in Angola. The article evaluates the teaching-learning process of this Angolan mother tongue as a first language (L1), in relation to Portuguese as a second language (L2), in southern Angola, in the province of Benguela.

In the third axis of the dossier there is a range of themes related to society, citizenship and development. The first article, **“Implementation of investment projects and collateral established by banks in financing start-ups. Case Banco Nacional de Investimento, 2015-2020”**, by Inácio Ernesto Minzo and Verônica Sibinde Mpanda, is an analyses of the implementation of investment projects through guarantees established by the National Investment Bank in granting financing to startups in Mozambique, and the challenges in implementing these investment projects by eliminating side effects that minimize credit risks.

Another article of equal importance in the development scenario of African countries is that of António Rodrigues Junior and Joaquim Miranda Maloa, entitled **“The Role of the Municipality of Lichinga in the Management of Urban Solid Waste: (Case of the Neighbourhoods of Sanjala and Namacula between 2013 and 2021)”**. The authors propose to understand the role of the Mozambican municipality in the process of solid waste collection and treatment in the neighbourhoods of Sanjala and Namacula, analysing the perceptions of municipal officials and residents about the quality of solid waste collection services.

Paulo Petronilio discusses on this topic of social development and encouraging citizenship in his article **“The garbage will talk, and it's cool': Lélia Gonzalez, the creator of black feminism”**. He intends to think the philosopher, black feminist and activist Lélia Gonzalez, well-known as the “trouble maker” of the black movement and black feminism in Brazil due to her tensioning the hegemonic philosophy and putting it in check by questioning the hetero cis patriarchal discourse that rose under the sign of colonialism. Lélia proposes a discursive battle to subvert language, daring to bring an Afro-

Itamar R. Paulino, Salome Nyambura, Augusto da S. Junior, Scenes of indigenous, afro-brazilian Latin American feminism, decolonizing language and thought, and giving birth, even unconsciously, to a new decolonial turn.

Another very thought-provoking article is entitled **“A philosophical and sociocultural look at some cultural aspects of the Bantu people”**. The article written by Moisés Fernando Manuel presents some basic aspects of Bantu life in order to understand the cultural particularities of this people. The author analyses Bantu morals and their crisis, considering the long process of adaptations, but maintaining their origins and indicating their condition of resilience.

This discussion of cultural particularities of African peoples is accompanied by the article **“The perceptions of legal operators on access to the courts by rural women: the case of Malulo, District of Sanga”**, by Isaura João Francisco Álvaro Lopes and Joaquim Miranda Maloa. The article presents an investigative result on the perceptions of Law operators (Judge, Prosecutor and Official Defenders) about access to the courts by rural women in Malulo, in the District of Sanga, in Mozambique. The article exposes low schooling; misinformation; poverty, cultural factors, among other aspects, as a reason for limiting this access to the courts by rural women.

The last article of the third axis exposes the issue of citizenship, and it is entitled **“The social transformation of urban space and crime in Maputo City: a look at the Magoanine C neighborhood”**. It is written by Francisco Bernardo Bilério and Ramos Cardoso Muanamoha. It addresses the social transformation of space and crime in Maputo City, taking the neighbourhood of Magoanine “C” as a space of analysis, highlighting the social transformation of space in the neighbourhood of Magoanine “C” and constitutes the continuation of changes in Maputo City which is characterized by poor land use and social inequalities.

In **Section II** of the dossier, reserved for interviews, book reviews and translations. The section begins with an interview with retired teacher Mwalimu Gatheca, from a small rural community in Njumbi, located in central Kenya. He is a respected elder in his community and, although retired, is still in full swing. The interview is conducted by Doctor and Professor Nyambura Salome, and is entitled **“Teachers as transforming agents: an interview with retired teacher Mwalimu Gatheca from Vila de Njumbi, Murang'a district. Kenya”**. Then, a review by the Mozambican author Mia Couto is presented, whose book title is “Women in Ashes: The Emperor’s Sands: A Mozambican Trilogy”, published in São Paulo, by the publisher “Companhia das Letras” in 2015.

In **Section III**, dedicated to Poems and Lyrics of popular songs, the dossier is awarded with the following poems: “**Deadlist weapon**”, by the Kenyan Oyamo Richard, “**Levante de Esperança on a 01 de Maio**” by the winner of the Literary Contest of the Portuguese Literature-Language course at the Universidade de Integração Internacional da Lusofonia Afro-Brasileira, Campus dos Malês, student Kinda Rodrigues, “**The rains have stopped!**”, by writer and doctor Nyambura Salome, “**Hino das mudanças**” by Aniela Fabriciana Ribeiro da Silva, winner of the Literary Contest of the Literature-Portuguese Language course at the University of International Integration of Afro-Brazilian Lusofonia, Campus dos Malês, “**Singita Ra nguva**” by Mozambican Pastor Marcos Macamo.

In **Section IV**, dedicated to reports of experiences, photos, recipes for traditional foods, rites and festivities, he presents us with the **Translation of an article of the Brazilian Federal Constitution into the Maxakali indigenous language: limitations and challenges of the translation process into an indigenous language**. The translation is authored by Carlo Sandro Campos and Pedro Rocha and aims to understand the complexity of the translation that imposes cultural and lexical challenges. The text by Yéo N'gana entitled **N'zassa: from a collaborative translation approach to a collective construction** was translated by Digmar Jimenez Agreda and Aurora Sambrano. The text explains that the n'zassa approach seeks to reinforce both the translator's visibility and build a relationship of trust with (trans)readers.

In Morocco, we received a translation by Doctor Nadia Tadlaoui. It is a translation of the book **the woman R'batia**, an interesting work for Moroccan and African culture. The R'batia Woman is a school of life, mother of many generations, which fits with the words of the Egyptian poet Hafed Ibrahim (1872-1932).

In **Section VI**, on the submission of a video with communication in Sign Languages that deal with indigenous peoples, Afro-Brazilian peoples, African peoples and the people of East Timor, we are pleased to present the video by Gladis Achieng with the theme: “**Language Kenyan Sign Language: An Introduction**”. In the video presented in Kenyan Sign Language, Achieng exposes the issue of deafness in Kenya and the limited conditions of access to communication, information and education, as well as the struggle for the inclusion of people with disabilities based on and through Kenyan Sign Language.

Considerations in process

We hope that the outcome of this dossier with the richness of elements it has pushed up has contributed with many discussions through a range of materials resulting from studies and research by people from the most diverse regions of the world, especially from the Americas and Africa. The themes dealt with indigenous peoples, Afro-Brazilian peoples, African peoples and the people of East Timor. Finally, the dossier try to achieve the pleasant purpose of dialoguing, provoking, inquiring and even defining scenes of human cultural life in contemporary times.

How to cite this text (ABNT): PAULINO, Itamar Rodrigues; NYAMBURA, Salome; JUNIOR, Augusto da Silva. Scenes of indigenous, afro-brazilian, african and timorian cultural lives in contemporary times. *Njinga & Sepé: Revista Internacional de Culturas, Línguas Africanas e Brasileiras*. São Francisco do Conde (BA), vol.3, nº1, p.18-27, jan./jun. 2023.

How to cite this text (APA): Paulino, Itamar Rodrigues; Nyambura, Salome; Junior, Augusto da Silva. (jan./jun..2023). Scenes of indigenous, afro-brazilian, african and timorian cultural lives in contemporary times. *Njinga & Sepé: Revista Internacional de Culturas, Línguas Africanas e Brasileiras*. São Francisco do Conde (BA), 3 (1): 18-27.