

## **ORAL HISTORY AND ITS ADOPTION IN THE STUDY OF CREATIVE ARTS**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This paper attempts to discuss the relevance of oral history, its validation to African traditional religion – taboos, poems, praise songs and drama. It highlighted the strength of oral history as a means of collecting data or information for a research work, although there are a lot of disadvantages. However, the present day historians and many researchers make use of this method. Some oral historians believe that most documented papers or written academic works are embodiments of oral interviews from interviewees, which are also prone to interpolations. As such all sources of collecting information for any project or research work takes its route from oral history or tradition. The paper also discussed oral history as it is projected, preserved and promoted for conceptual visual artworks made concrete for everybody to see, criticize, appreciate and discuss these visual creative elements for national development. It is therefore necessary to encourage and inform our literary and visual artists to look into their cultural environment and use their socio-cultural experiences to innovate, create artworks and drama that can stand the test of time for posterity.

**Keywords:** Oral history, validation, taboos, traditional Ifa religion, narratives, adaptation.