

DISCOURSES ON THE INFLUENCE OF PROTESTANT RELIGIOUS GROUPS ON INDIGENOUS WOLAITTA CULTURE

Abesha Shirko Lambebo

Lecturer, Department of History and Heritage Management
College of Social Sciences and Humanities, Wolaita Sodo University
P.O. Box: 138, Wolaita Sodo

ETHIOPIA

ABSTRACT

This research is intended to analyze protestant religious groups' influence on Wolaitta culture and its effects on the practice of indigenous culture. Wolaitta (region) have its own unique and indigenous culture since time immemorial. Wolaitta culture includes both material and non-material cultural practices. In order to investigate the influence of protestant religion on wolaitta culture, this study used oral and written sources. Primary sources of data are intensively used to validate the reliability of the information to reach on conclusion. Secondary sources were also used to support the study scientifically. From the data collected from primary and secondary sources, the distorted areas of religion and cultural practices are depicted under data collection and analysis. The study clearly indicated that Wolaitta-protestant religion followers consider that the practice of Wolaitta culture and traditional practices as wrong. Consequently such belief of Wolaitta-protestant groups discouraged the practice of indigenous culture in the community. based on the conclusion of this study Wolaitta-protestant groups are expected not to distort culture, and they must preserve their culture for the generation.

Keywords: Indigenous, Influence, Wolaitta-Protestant Groups, Wolaitta Culture.