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(PRESENCIAL): ANCESTRALIDADE E RESISTÊNCIA: OS SABERES DAS
MULHERES NEGRAS E INDÍGENAS NO BRASIL

**RECLAIMING ERASED HISTORIES: CULTURAL RESISTANCE AND
MEMORY IN CHIMAMANDA NGOZI ADICHIE'S "THE HEADSTRONG
HISTORIAN"**

Abosedede Florence Faniyi (florenceabosedede198893@gmail.com)

Genivaldo Rodrigues Sobrinho (genivaldosobrinho@unemat.br)

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie is a Nigerian writer, feminist and a public intellectual born on September 15, 1977, in Enugu, Nigeria. She studied at the University of Nigeria, then moved to the US, where she attended Eastern connecticut State University, John Hopkins University Creative Writing and Yale University African Studies. This study examines "The headstrong historian", from the collection of short stories *The thing around your neck*, with the objective of exploring how colonial power restructures cultural identity and historical memory within an Igbo community. Overall, "The Headstrong Historian" shows that while colonialism may distort identity and silence cultural memory, future generations can revive what was lost. Through storytelling and education, Adichie argues that history can be reclaimed, and that doing so is essential for cultural survival. This study is conducted as a qualitative literary analysis, the research employs a close reading of the narrative alongside postcolonial theoretical frameworks, drawing chiefly on the works of Homi Bhabha (1994), Hall Stuart (1990), Paul Ricoeur (2004) and Maurice Halbwachs (1992). These theories illuminate the processes of cultural erasure, linguistic

domination, and the struggle for self-representation under colonial rule. The analysis focuses on three generational trajectories – Nwamgba’s resistance to colonial intrusion, Michael’s assimilation through missionary education, and Grace’s reclamation of suppressed histories. By tracing these generational shifts, the study argues that the text ultimately proposes historical recovery and cultural remembrance as acts of resistance. Despite all odds, Grace gave hope to Nwamgba’s resistance to the colonial domination through her writing. The anticipated result is a deeper understanding of how Post-colonial Nigerian literature can challenge colonial narratives, restore marginalized voices, and assert the validity of indigenous epistemologies in reconstructing the past.

Palavras-chave: colonialism; cultural erasure; resistance; postcolonialism; cultural reclamation; memory.