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## **Exploring the Effects of Cultural Attrition as a Recipe of Lost Human Dignity and Dented Identity the Case of Selected African Cultures**

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**KEYWORDS** Cultural Renaissance. Cultural Resuscitation. Cultural Erosion. Cultural Decadence. Eurocentrism. Westernization. Virginitly Testing. Rites of Passage. Male Circumcision

**ABSTRACT** Painstakingly and unfortunately, Africans have lost most of their cultures they cherished some yester years through a relentless process of cultural attrition, erosion and decadence. This paper, through a review of literature methodology, aims to discuss and debate some pertinent effects of cultural attrition on the value, dignity of Africans as well as their identity. Findings indicate the following manifestations of lost dignity and dented humanity: African perceptions and illusions that things from the west are superior to those from Africa; Africans demeaning and relegating their cultures to take second rate position; tendency for some Africans to view their identity through western world lenses. The paper documents the following appreciable efforts to resuscitate and strengthen African cultures: Resuscitation of the cultural rites of passage of *Bojale* and *Bogwera* in Botswana; and resuscitation and concerted campaign of virginitly testing in South Africa among the Zulu tribe.