THE SOCIO-RECREATIONAL AND DISPUTES RESOLUTION VALUES OF NATIVE ALCOHOLIC BEERS IN CHIKOMBA DISTRICT, ZIMBABWE

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ABSTRACT

Since time immemorial, African societies have had conflicts at various levels and of varying magnitudes. However, these communities brewed traditional alcoholic drinks including native beers which have served the purposes of pastime drinks and recreational values supposedly to overcome challenges and to restore soured relations. This paper seeks to analyse the role of traditional beer as a peacemaking facility within the Zezuru people of Chikomba district in Zimbabwe. This analysis is coming against the backdrop of a long held belief that beer is primarily meant to intoxicate and to suppress stress and anger. The paper concludes that the utility of native alcoholic brews for peaceful settlement of internal conflicts among the Zezuru people of Chikomba district in Zimbabwe deserves further exploration and encouragement.

Keywords: Zimbabwe, Peacemaking, Zezuru People, Conflict Management.