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The Importance Of Sculptural Artistic Designs On Royal And Chiefdom Architectures: A Case Study Of Olubadan Royal Enclaves Of Nigeria.

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ABSTRACT

Sculptures within and outside architectural structures of any king among the Yoruba race in the South-western parts of Nigeria is synonymous to the kind of divine authority vested on the kings through the oracles and the cultural norms of the land. Various aspects of palaces in the land has received scholarly attentions especially the spaces adjudged to be sacred to the paramount rulers in Yoruba kingdom but adequate study and detail exposition has not been given to sculptural images to decipher their meaning in the palaces of some paramount rulers in the Yoruba Kingdom. This study reveals the sculptures that deals with the origin of the land as “Eba Odan” beside the jungle which eventually turned out as the coined name of the city “Ibadan”, the details and analyses of various sculpture outside the palace establishing the prowess of their founding fathers who delivered them from impending wars from their neighbouring towns and villages were discussed. Some of the sculptures discussed in this write-up are Balogun Oderinlo, Balogun Alesinloye, Aare Latoosa, and various sculptural murals within and outside the palace of Olubadan. This fieldwork identified various sculptural details within and outside the palace of Olubadan, some has inclination with their religious concepts while some deals with the historical values and cultural heritage of the land which transformed into tourist heritage of the ancient cities.

Keywords: Sculptural, Artistic, Design, Chiefdom, Architecture, Olubadan, Royal enclaves.

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