

UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND, JOHANNESBURG



**ESSAI D'ANALYSE STYLISTIQUE DE *LES SOLEILS DES INDEPENDANCES*
D'AHMADOU KOUROUMA**

PAR JEAN KAPOMA

A thesis submitted to the Faculty of Arts

**University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, in fulfilment of the degree of Master of
Arts (Dissertation)**

Johannesburg, June 2010

Dédicace

A la mémoire de Beatrice Mpande Kapoma

Remerciements

Mes plus vifs remerciements à Madame Véronique Tadjó pour son encadrement scientifique et ses conseils afin de produire un travail bien fait.

Aussi, à ma famille et à mes amis qui m'ont soutenu et encouragé lors de la rédaction de cette dissertation, permettez-moi de vous manifester ma gratitude.

Jean Kapoma

Declaration

I declare that this dissertation is my own unaided work. It is submitted to the Faculty of Humanities, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, for the degree of Masters of Arts (Dissertation). It has not been submitted for any other degree, or for examination in any other university.

Jean Kapoma

4th, June 2010

ABSTRACT

This essay of stylistic analysis focuses on Ahmadou Kourouma's novel, The Suns of Independence. The research project discusses the way Kourouma uses the French language in a distinctive and unusual form to convey his message. In the novel, Kourouma describes the post-colonial period, emphasising the dark side of African regimes established after the independence era in the early 60s.

After their political independence from their former European masters, most Africans hoped to enjoy democracy, peace and prosperity. But instead of shared prosperity for all people, most post-colonial African states brought misery to their people through mismanagement and intimidation underpinned by a one-party system. This social dissatisfaction has been African writers' interest and focus. Although a common focus in their works, each writer expressed his/her anxiety in his/her way, according to his/her experience and/or personality.

This is true for The Suns of Independence in which Kourouma portrays the same social dissatisfaction using French in an unorthodox or an 'extraordinary' style. The novel is marked by innovations, both at a lexical and syntactic level. These innovations, particularly the use of "taboo" words raise questions about their relevance for the author as well as for his readers. It is this aspect of language that I intend to explore in this study.

My interest in this novel is due to the fact that despite having been published in 1970, this novel is still relevant and a focus of interest for researchers. The novel is timeless and gives an impression of being a realistic portrayal of what is going on the African continent. Thus, it might be a memento of the African post-colonial period under the leadership of dictatorial governments characterised by a single political party system which Kourouma experienced in late 1960s in his country, Côte d'Ivoire. In addition, it may be argued that Kourouma's narration is an appeal, and a shocking one at that, which compels Africans to address the tribulations of the post-independence regimes.

TABLE DES MATIERES

	PAGE
Dédicace	II
Remerciements	III
Déclaration	IV
Abstract	V
Table des matières	VI
0. Introduction	1
0. 1. Présentation d’Ahmadou Kourouma	2
0.2. Quintessence de Les soleils des indépendances	6
0.3. Etude critique sur la langue d’Ahmadou Kourouma	8
CH.I. Exploration et analyse des figures de style	16
1. Préliminaires	16
2. La métaphore	19
3. La métonymie	26
4. La personnification	31
5. La subjectification	36
6. L’animalisation des êtres humains	37
7. La comparaison	44
CH.II. Analyse et interprétation des chants et des proverbes	49

1. Préliminaires	49
2. Exploration et analyse des chants de Les soleils des indépendances	51
A. Analyse de la première chanson	51
B. Analyse de la deuxième chanson	52
C. Analyse de la troisième chanson	53
3. Analyse des quelques proverbes dans Les soleils des indépendances	54
Préliminaires	54
1. Explication de quelques proverbes au contenu moral	56
2. Explication des proverbes de la sagesse traditionnelle	58
3. Explication des proverbes de la vie en famille dans le village	60
CH.III. Interprétation de récurrentes ponctuations	62
Préliminaires	62
1. Les points de suspension	62
2. Le point d'interrogation	66
3. Les guillemets	69
4. Les parenthèses	70
5. Le point d'exclamation	71
6. L'inversion	72
7. Les répétitions	74
CHIV. Etude de l'ordre et de la focalisation	79
Préliminaires	79
1. De l'ordre	79

Analepses	81
Prolepses	86
2. De la voix narrative	87
Narrateur homodiégétique	90
Narrateur hétérodiégétique	91
3. De la durée	92
La pause narrative	93
L'ellipse	95
Conclusion : Interprétation du sens de l'œuvre	97
Bibliographie	107