



## Competitive Scramble is an Evil Ingenuity: Proceedings from the International Conference on the Biography and Songs of Alhaji Abubakar Kassu Zurmi in Heroic Poetry

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### IMPACT OF CLOUD TECHNOLOGIES IN PRESERVING, SHARING, AND DISTRIBUTING BIOGRAPHIES AND INDIGENOUS SONGS IN LIBRARIES AN ANALYSIS OF ALHAJI ABUBAKAR KASSU ZURMI

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#### Abstract

This study explores the Impact of cloud technologies in preserving, sharing, and disseminating biographies and indigenous songs, focusing on the contributions of Alhaji Abubakar Kassu Zurmi. Scalable and easily available platforms are provided by cloud computing for the storage and international sharing of cultural assets. Indigenous music and biography, however, pose particular difficulties, such as problems with digital divide and cultural authenticity. This investigation looks at how cloud technologies can help close these gaps by enabling access from anywhere in the world while preserving cultural authenticity. Cloud-based platforms have the ability to empower indigenous artists and communities, guaranteeing that their cultural heritage is conserved and honoured globally. Using both theoretical and real-world examples, the study illustrates the advantages and difficulties of utilizing cloud technologies for cultural distribution and preservation.

**Keywords:** Cloud Computing, Indigenous Music, Biographies, Cultural Preservation, Digital Distribution.

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#### Background

Cloud technologies have changed the way that indigenous music and biographies are shared, saved, and disseminated, ushering in a new era for libraries and cultural organizations. In order to ensure the endurance and accessibility of distinctive cultural expressions, particularly those that are in danger of disappearing because of physical degradation or generational shifts, digitization and cloud-based administration of cultural heritage assets have become essential. University library is a hub for learning and research within a university, giving access to a wide range of resources, including books, journals, and digital materials, to enable students, faculty, and staff. Foyet, and Child, (2024) assert that University libraries are essential to the preservation and dissemination of biographies and indigenous music because they gather, arrange, and protect these cultural resources in print and digital media. University libraries through the use of technology, they digitize and preserve oral histories, songs, and biographical records, making them available through digital repositories, online public access catalogues, and special collections. They also work with indigenous communities to guarantee cultural etiquette and ethical documentation. Jacklin, Pitawanakwat, Blind, Ketcher, Jones, Piraino, and Bretzlaff, (2024).

University libraries through the digitization of audio and physical assets and their safe storage on scalable cloud platforms, university libraries use cloud technologies to preserve and disseminate biographies and indigenous melodies. This gives users all over the world remote, on-demand access and permits the long-term preservation (Naik, 2024). Yabang, Manning, Mate, Endacott, and Cameron, (2025) affirmed that to promote academic research and community participation, for instance, UBC's Xwi7xwa Library is creating collections of Indigenous music, including recordings and associated information, while resolving issues with obtaining digital streaming formats and guaranteeing cultural sensitivity. Therefore, university libraries are important centers for research and education, offering a wide range of resources such as indigenous melodies and biographies, which are crucial cultural elements. Through the use of cloud technologies, these libraries digitize and safely store biographical information, songs, and oral histories on scalable platforms, allowing for remote, on-demand access and long-term preservation around the globe. This strategy is demonstrated, for example, by UBC's Xwi7xwa Library, which develops digital collections of Indigenous music to tackle issues with digital streaming and cultural sensitivity while promoting scholarly inquiry and community involvement.

Cloud technologies simply means storing and accessing data and software over the internet rather than on your local computer or physical server, (Jamsa, 2022). Cloud technologies are internet-based platforms that allow users to access and utilize computing resources remotely, enhancing efficiency, collaboration, and accessibility in both personal and organizational contexts (Pandey, Kumar, Saini, and Mishra, 2023). According to López, (2021) Cloud technologies have the potential to revolutionize the way we preserve cultural heritage and promote cultural identity. From digital storage to virtual reality experiences, it offers new and innovative ways to protect and share important cultural artifacts and objects. Therefore, Cloud technologies have significantly reshaped the preservation, sharing, and distribution of **indigenous music** and **biographies**, providing a platform for safeguarding cultural heritage in ways that were previously unthinkable.

Biographies are an account of someone's life written by someone else. Angeloch (2021) assert that a biography is a detailed description or account of a person's life. It

covers more than just basic facts like birth, education, work, relationships, and death it also portrays a person's experiences, motivations, and impact on the world. Biographies play a crucial role in education, historical understanding, and personal development such as Learning from Others' Experience, Historical Insight, Inspiration and Motivation, Educational Value and Most importantly for Cultural and Societal Impact (Li, Liu, and Hu, 2023). Biographies offer insights into the historical and cultural contexts in which individuals lived and worked. Hence to ensure that cultural artifacts are available for research, education, and public engagement, it is necessary to digitize analog recordings of biographies. Most importantly for artists like Alhaji Abubakar Kassu Zurmi, whose hunter-inspired songs and performances in Northern Nigeria ran the risk of being lost to time. Cloud-based systems preserve his oral traditions while expanding their reach beyond local festivals to audiences around the world. Hence Abubakar Zurmi Kassu's indigenous songs are living archives of language, history, and communal values in addition to being a storehouse of cultural identity and ancestry information, it is imperative that they be preserved and shared. By preserving and sharing his songs, we help to ensure that his people's knowledge, folklore, and distinctive artistic expressions are passed down to future generations, promoting community pride and continuity. Furthermore, making this music available through contemporary channels stimulates young people in the area as well as viewers around the world, proving that indigenous heritage is a dynamic, changing force rather than a holdover from the past.

### **Recommendation**

1. **Community-Led Digitization:** To guarantee contextual integrity and ethical stewardship, include Indigenous stakeholders in the construction of cloud archives, such as Zurmi's descendants or cultural guardians.
2. **Dynamic Multimedia Preservation:** Capture crowd interactions and tonal nuances that are essential to songs like Zurmi's by storing audiovisual recordings of performances (not just words) using cloud-based techniques.
3. **Implement blockchain or encryption technology** as part of enhanced security protocols to prevent appropriation of sensitive cultural data in accordance with Indigenous information sovereignty principles.
4. **Initiatives for Digital Literacy:** Collaborate with governmental and non-governmental organizations to establish infrastructure and training in underprivileged regions, guaranteeing that communities that profit from Zurmi's legacy may access and contribute to cloud repositories.
5. **Sustainable Funding Models:** Promote public-private collaborations to use pay-as-you-go cloud services to reduce the cost of cloud storage for libraries conserving underrepresented cultural works.

### **Conclusion**

Cloud technology plays two roles, as demonstrated by the instance of Kassu Zurmi, a Northern Nigerian musician whose songs with hunter influences and cultural contributions are in danger of disappearing. As demonstrated by websites like the African Music Library, digitizing his work can stop physical deterioration and democratize access to his legacy. Along with facilitating interdisciplinary collaboration, cloud platforms enable Indigenous communities and libraries to co-curate digital archives while upholding intellectual property rights. However, as Zurmi's songs were

originally popular in public spaces, converting oral histories into static digital representations runs the risk of removing their performative context. Equal access is also threatened by cybersecurity flaws and the digital divide, especially for underprivileged populations in places like Northern Nigeria.

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