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The Blues Genre And How It Affected African American Culture

# Introduction

Blue genre traces its roots to the African-American culture chants, works songs, and spirituals. Several of its earliest and well-known artists were African-American. Both jazz and blues music played a significant role in the movement of Civil Rights that hit its peak during the second half of the twentieth century. It has been believed that blue genre is evolved from the recently emancipated slave's field chants in the South as it was considered to be a form of lower art which was not worthy of attention. During the 1920s, several blues were being played all around the United States of America but there were only two strands which deserved the attention. This report describes the effect of blue genre on African American Culture.

# Discussion

Blues tells the story of the difficulty of life and if someone thinks for the moment then he can realize that they take the toughest life realities and then put them into the music in order to come out with some sense of triumph and sense of hope. The influence of African American has been significant in the blues since the start. Blues were developed in the southern part of the United States after the civil war of America. It was influenced by the field hollers, work songs, minstrel-show music, church music, ragtime, and also some famous white music. Blue was largely played by the African American most of them come from the agricultural worker's surroundings.

Black Women like Bessie Smith, Ma Rainey, and Mamie Smith made the first recordings of the blue during the 1920s. Such stage singers were primarily backed by the singing of jazz bands that was generally known as Classic Blues. World Wars and great depressions lead to the Blues geographical dispersal as several Black people left southern America and headed towards the north which results in the adaptation of Blues in the sophisticated urban environment. During the time of slavery, the dancing and music of African American kept their land's cultural memory of their traditions and provenance. By maintaining the several rituals of Africa. The cultural significance of Blue genre exists in the revolutionary African American element that created their own aesthetics. As a result of slavery, African Americans were deprived of cultural means and material due to which Blues can be performed with the help of simple instruments. It represents the oppressed part which the oppressor could not touch so it is considered to be deeply human nature expression (Pedro, 80).

The identity of African Americans was shaped in the environment where language, political and society structure built by the same people who had denied them any dignity or right. Although the moral and aesthetic culture were dictated by the culture of dominant white still black were able to create their own that diverged from the existing order of the society. So, the music of Blues represented the opposing voice which refused to be silenced by segregation and oppression. Politics were not considered to be the main reason for making blues a powerful and inspiring event. It was authentic, raw expressions of feelings anger, pleasure, love, and pain. The blue genre also carried the human essence which tells the Blues social significance which was expressed with simplicity, honesty, and clarity. Musicians of delta blues were wound up in Chicago and then adopted electric and amplification instruments and then started to attract the huge range of urban audience (Washington,100).

# Conclusion

So, it is concluded that Blue genre was the communication principle medium and also the expression of solidarity and community. It was the ability for the continuation to live by the development of music of Rap, Roll, Rock, Soul, and Jazz. The influence of Blues on other genres of music made it possible for it to continue to impact on African American culture.

# Works Cited

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