Female Resistance Against Patriarchy in Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's Purple Hibiscus

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Abstract:

This study examines female resistance against patriarchy in *Purple Hibiscus*, focusing on how women challenge oppressive structures within the family and society. The work evaluates a patriarchal environment embodied by Eugene Achike, whose authoritarian control subjects his wife and children to physical, emotional, and psychological abuse. The work highlights how patriarchy through the characters of Beatrice and Ifeoma, Adichie presents different forms of female resistance: while Beatrice initially endures oppression in silence, she ultimately takes decisive action to reclaim her agency, whereas Ifeoma openly rejects patriarchal dictates that reduce women to second class citizens. The work submits inter-alia that women must be bold and challenge the status-quo to liberate themselves from patriarchal bondage and stereotypes which dehumanize and objectify womanhood. The study is hinged on the African feminist perspective that advocates for re-evaluation of the place and value of women. The study exposes the damaging effects of patriarchy while highlighting the resilience, courage, and transformative power of women in confronting gender-based oppression. Ultimately, Purple Hibiscus advocates for female empowerment and demonstrates that resistance, whether subtle or overt, serves as a crucial means of challenging patriarchal authority and achieving personal liberation.