

TELLING LIVES: THE PERPETUAL TRAUMA

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ABSTRACT

The quest for identity has always been an urge of any writer. These writings reflect the social milieu where writings are the mirror of any society. The aspirations and these betrayals find their originality and identity in words only. Being applied on African continent this appears to find its demonstration where the modern African writers like Wole Soyinka, Es'kia Mphahlele, Nadine Gordimer expressed their views in post colonial context. No doubt, a milestone came forward in the name of Barack Hussain Obama, the President of America as a beacon light for all Africans. In the similar way the novel, " **The Wanderers**" (1971) by Es'kia Mphahlele describes the same originality in the form of quest of identity. This clearly manifests Nelson Mandela's Socialism who takes his keynotes from Marxism. It is the concept of alienation- intellectual, cultural and historical where this socialism emerges out. The idea comes out that the continent is misfired in the name of capitalism; they have been bluffed that capitalism is dictatorship. This concept comes true in Mphahlele's novel that begins with where Mphahlele in his autobiography "**Down Second Avenue**" (1959) ends his views in the form of the protagonist Timi Taban.

KEY WORDS: Alienation, Exile, Socialism, The Wanderers, Marxism.