


## THE MONTUBIA CULTURE AS A HISTORICAL MEMORY OF ART, CULTURE, IDENTITY, BELIEFS, AND VALUES

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### ABSTRACT

The research aimed to analyze the preservation and transmission of the unique cultural heritage to future generations, thus ensuring the appreciation of their identity, traditions, and ways of life. The methodology visualized were quantitative and qualitative methods, the technique that was used within the process was the survey, the research work was carried out from the descriptive character. For the processing of the information, the SPSS 27 software used in this research process was used, it helped through Cronbach's alpha of alpha resulting in the reliability of the Montubia culture, 950 which evidenced that the visualized instrument was reliable. The most important conclusion of the research is that it was evident that higher education students are interested in learning more about the Montubia culture, accepting that it is their pleasure to participate in these activities, where it allows them to know in more detail the significance of the Montubia culture.

**Keywords:** Practical learning. Troubleshooting. Cultural research methodology. Historical memory.

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## INTRODUCTION<sup>7</sup>

To carry out this research it is necessary to highlight that the Montubia culture plays an important role in society because it represents a significant part of the Ecuadorian identity, because it is a unique fusion of indigenous, Spanish, African influences, thus recalling ancestral roots, so that future generations have more than knowledge, something that identifies them wherever they are, That they have the motivation to know about this Montubia culture but not be ashamed of it and can discover even more of how much they can explore, the objective of this research is to analyze the preservation and transmission of the unique cultural heritage to future generations, thus ensuring the appreciation of their identity, traditions, and ways of life.

Culture is the human construction seen as a social fabric, which develops over time, which encompasses customs, ways of life, knowledge and degree of artistic and industrial development, in an era, social group, etc. (Espinales, 2023, p. 3)

The author argues that culture is a human construction that develops over time, it is constantly being formed and transformed, all cultures express needs, desires, beliefs and values, therefore, they are different in each social group. Likewise, culture is a form of identity, a source of innovation and belonging that allows individuals and communities to thrive in a changing environment, culture is a fabric, that is, it is a network of human interactions and, therefore, it also reflects customs, knowledge and the degree of artistic progress. scientific and industrial.

The Montubia culture is characterized by its traditional music and dances. Montubia music is a mixture of Afro-Ecuadorian and Latin rhythms, which merge to create a unique melody. (Magazine, 2021, p. 16)

According to the author, Montubia music is an important part of traditional culture and has a great influence on the social life of the Montubios. Music is used to express feelings, emotions, share stories and traditions, and as a form of entertainment and celebration. Musical instruments are also an important element of Montubia music, these instruments used include the rondador, the marimba, the bandolín, the quijada and the drum machine, among others. In short, Montubia music is much more than just melodies, it represents the richness and diversity of Ecuador's traditions.

Traditional festivals are a fundamental part of Montubia culture. During these celebrations, rodeo, horse races and bull riding competitions are held, where the montubios demonstrate their skill and bravery. (post, 2020, p. 24)

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<sup>7</sup> Contribution of the Montubia tradition to the socio-cultural, economic, agricultural, agricultural, food, hospitality-tourist development of the Sucre - San Vicente community and the Bolívar canton



Based on the criterion, it is stated that the traditional festivals in the Montubia culture are events of color, music, dance and traditions that reflect the identity and folklore of a peasant community within the coastal region. These celebrations are important times to bring families and friends together, strengthen social cohesion, and celebrate the cultural richness of the area. The traditional festivals of the Montubia culture are more than just festive events; They are profound manifestations of the history, spirituality and joy of a people who seek to preserve and share their cultural roots with pride.

Their main type of art was painting, the murals of the Montubio people that can be seen throughout Manabí are the result of the inspiration of a group of guardians of this ethnic group. In each space in which the ideas of the artists are captured, the daily reality of its inhabitants is portrayed. (Salazar, 2021, p. 8)

Murals are an invaluable resource for cultural preservation, as they offer a visual voice for the experiences and stories of the Montubio peoples. By showing the colorful and challenging daily life, murals help pass on their culture to the future generation and by providing a window into the past of the Montubio peoples, they are a crucial resource to preserve their culture and maintain their legacy. In addition to being a source of inspiration for today's artists, they also help connect visitors with the history and culture of the Montubio peoples.

Historical memory must serve to build the future of Manabí, today, full of laments and complaints, biting accusations of corruption everywhere. (Ramos, 2022, p. 7)

According to the author, historical memory can serve as a reminder of the negative consequences of corruption in the past and motivate society to work on transparency, accountability and justice. Not only does it help us understand our past, but it also provides us with valuable lessons to build a more prosperous and just future. By reflecting on the mistakes of the past and facing the challenges of the present, Manabí and its community can chart a path to a more hopeful future full of opportunities for all.

Memory is an essential part of the social and urban identity of cities, associating itself with objects, processes and places that bring together the meaning and symbolism of the historical experience of citizens in a spatial context. (Paz, 2016, p. 10)

The author mentions that historical memory is, without a doubt, a fundamental component of the social and urban identity of cities through objects, processes and places loaded with meaning and symbolism, the collective memory of a community is reflected in the space it inhabits. These elements not only serve as tangible reminders of the city's history, but also contribute to the construction of a shared narrative that unites its inhabitants around their past, present and future.



## METHODOLOGY

In the study carried out referring to the Montubia culture as a historical memory of art, culture, beliefs and values, in which through the qualitative and quantitative method with the representation of numerical data as well as analyzing the data that were collected with the instrument used, which in this case was the survey.

The population that was studied was the Eloy Alfaro Lay University of Manabí, sucre extension, through a probabilistic sampling, this allowed a random selection of the sample of 80 people, 50 nursing students and 30 law students. SPSS 27 software was used for reliability analysis and question analysis.

## RESULTS

### RELIABILITY STATISTICS

<u>Cronbach's</u>	<u>N of elements</u>
<u>alpha</u>	
<u>,950</u>	<u>4</u>

As evidenced, the reliability is positive, Cronbach's alpha is 0.95, which gives a good level of reliability of the instrument used.

Table 1. Do young people and adolescents have knowledge of the Montubia identity as a history of their identity?

		F	%	PV	PA
Valid	VERY LITTLE	14	17,5	17,5	17,5
	LITTLE	35	43,8	43,8	61,3
	A LOT	31	38,8	38,8	100,0
	Total	80	100,0	100,0	

As evidenced by the fact that 38.8% have stated that young people and adolescents have knowledge of the Montubia identity as a history of their identity, 43.8% maintain that they have a little knowledge about this Montubia identity, although a low level is 17.5% who do not consider that today's young people are full of knowledge about their Montubia identity. This meant that young people have good knowledge of the Montubia identity, which suggests that a significant part of the population is familiar with this history and culture, but it is also considered that a certain part have only a little knowledge, are less informed or less committed to the identity, likewise it is observed that the very few young people lack knowledge about their identity which could have implications in the preservation of Montubia culture in the long term.



Table 2. Does the Montubia culture help to identify artistic, gastronomic and social expression in the family nucleus?

		F	%	PV	PA
Valid	VERY LITTLE	5	6,3	6,3	6,3
	LITTLE	26	32,5	32,5	38,8
	A LOT	49	61,3	61,3	100,0
	Total	80	100,0	100,0	

As evidenced by the fact that 61.3% have stated that the Montubia culture helps the identification of artistic, gastronomic and social expression in the family nucleus, 6.3% maintain the Montubia culture as an identification of expression, although a low level is 32.5 that do not consider both culture and the identification of social expression in the family nucleus. This means that a large significant majority of students consider that Montubia culture plays a relevant role in family life and in expressing themselves towards others, but also a certain number recognize the importance of Montubia culture by valuing and accepting it. It is also observed that a considerable part of the population has a lack of access to the Montubia culture or a loss of connection with family cultural traditions.

Table 3. Would you like to learn more about the Montubia culture?

		F	%	PV	PA
Valid	NOTHING	1	1,3	1,3	1,3
	VERY LITTLE	9	11,3	11,3	12,5
	LITTLE	22	27,5	27,5	40,0
	A LOT	48	60,0	60,0	100,0
	Total	80	100,0	100,0	

As evidenced by the fact that 60.0% have stated that they would like to know more about the Montubia culture, while 27.5% maintain an interest in knowing more about the Montubia culture, along with 11.3% although a very low level of 1.3 that they have no interest in knowing more about the Montubia culture. This means that even the Montubia culture can continue to expand and that many people can get to know about it and how incredible it is. This means that most express a strong interest in Montubia culture and a significant level of curiosity, but also a certain percentage still present students who are open to learning more about the culture. Likewise, only a small percentage has no interest in knowing more about the Montubia culture.



Table 4. Do you participate in murals, parties, celebrations where the Montubia culture is evident?

		F	%	PV	PA
Valid	NOTHING	10	12,5	12,5	12,5
	VERY LITTLE	21	26,3	26,3	38,8
	LITTLE	28	35,0	35,0	73,8
	A LOT	21	26,3	26,3	100,0
	Total	80	100,0	100,0	

As evidenced, 26.3% have stated that they have participated in festivals where the Montubia culture is shown, while 35.0% maintain a participation in celebrations about the Montubia culture, together with 26.0% although a low level of 12.5% that they have participated in a festival about the Montubia culture. This means that a large percentage maintains an interest in participating in activities of the Montubia culture, thus motivating them to know more about the culture and how diverse it can be and how much can be explored of it.

Table 5. Do you agree to receive training regarding the Montubia culture so as not to lose identity?

		F	%	PV	PA
Valid	NO	5	6,3	6,3	6,3
	YES	75	93,8	93,8	100,0
	Total	80	100,0	100,0	

As evidenced by the fact that 93.8% have stated that they consider that they agree to receive information regarding the Montubia culture so as not to lose their identity, however, 6.8% did not agree to receive the information obtained. This means that the vast majority of people are interested in not losing the identity of the Montubia culture, but rather, they want to learn more and obtain more information in order to fill themselves with knowledge and rescue the customs and traditions of this Montubia culture. This means that students agree to receive information about the Montubia culture, indicating a strong interest in and learning about this cultural identity, these students recognize the importance of keeping the culture alive and are willing to learn more about it, but also a considerable percentage are not interested in learning about the Montubia culture leaving aside their interest in their roots.

## DISCUSSION

By analyzing the different works carried out by various authors such as (Silva, 2017, p. 3) (with the theme lo montubio), he has come to the conclusion that it is important to highlight that popular cultural expressions, such as music, dance, and folk art, are not only manifestations of cultural identity, but also forms of cultural resistance to cultural



domination. The expression of the people is fundamental to the identity and cohesion of groups such as the Montubio people, while the elitist culture reflects the power and influence of the ruling classes. These expressions are a celebration of cultural diversity and a reminder of the importance of valuing and preserving the traditions of marginalized groups.

In the work of (Torbay, 2017, p. 1). The theme Montubia culture and its traditions: contribution to rural tourism on the Ecuadorian coast, here we can realize that, in the first place, the Montubia traditions, which range from music and dance to gastronomy and handicrafts, offer visitors a fascinating vision of the daily life and beliefs of this people. Something good about this is that it not only allows us as Montubios to connect with this culture but also to those who wish to know it and can have that direct connection.

Also in the work carried out by (Patricia, 2011, p. 16) (with the theme of the Montubia culture in the teaching-learning process) this article recognizes the importance of the montubios within the socio-political experience and civic and social disposition of the coastal people is fundamental to build a more inclusive society and aware of its diversity, The Montubios, as an integral part of the social fabric of the coastal regions, have historically contributed with their culture. The lack of knowledge has led to their needs and problems being put aside, thus limiting their participation in everything that our Montubia culture can offer. However, it is essential that from the coast and beyond, a commitment is made to value and respect the rich regional diversity, recognizing the historical, social, cultural and ethnic legacy of the Montubios.

## CONCLUSIONS

- Historical memory represents a powerful tool to understand the consequences of corruption in the past, and at the same time it encourages us to seek transparency, accountability and justice in our society. Reflecting on the mistakes of the past provides us with a guide to face current challenges with determination and wisdom, allowing them to build a more hopeful future full of opportunities for all.
- Historical memory is fundamental to building and preserving the cultural identity of a society. A community can better understand its present and orient itself towards a more just and equitable future through reflection and recognition of past events, both positive and negative.
- With its artistic, culinary, agricultural, and social expressions, the Montubia culture is a cultural treasure that enriches Ecuador's diversity, reflecting a history



of resistance, adaptation, and pride in its ancestral heritage.

- Ecuador has as one of its great ethnic groups that of the montubio with which many feel identified or sympathize, in addition, it is very important in the historical cultural field of the country.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Create proposals for educational and cultural initiatives that highlight the importance of historical memory in the fight against corruption and the construction of a fairer society. This could include the can generate a greater commitment to transparency, laying the foundations for a brighter future for all.
- Protect and conserve historical sites, monuments, documents, and objects relevant to the history of the community. This includes initiatives to restore and maintain these heritage elements.

Teach local and national history in an inclusive way in curricula to foster inclusive education, giving importance to the culture to which they belong and teaching from generation to generation. These teachings could be included in school curricula so that the identity that represents us does not disappear.

- To raise awareness among the Ecuadorian population of the origin of their roots, through cultural activities to carry out directed talks, in order to publicize the importance of the Montubia culture, and for the community to know and learn the origin of their ancestors and the culture that is born from there to the present day.





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