

ABSTRACT

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The Trilogies Of Edward Kamau Brathwaite as Post-colonial Discourse

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This thesis examines the poetry of Edward Kamau Brathwaite from the first volume of his first trilogy to the last volume of his second in the context of its response to colonial discourse as the basis for understanding the poet's contribution to Caribbean literature and thought. In analysing Brathwaite's work, it looks at his development as a poet who is also historian, essayist, scholar and educator; at the complex concept of post-colonial discourse; at a few of the ideas of some of his contemporaries; at his major essays of the period; and finally at the poetry itself. Brathwaite's voice comes through as unique and consistent in its rejection of colonial discourse and his poetry constitutes a significant contribution to the region's response, especially in its effort to decolonize the Caribbean psyche by suggesting valid, autonomous alternatives to colonial ways of perceiving reality.

Keywords: Althea Christiana Kaminjolo; Edward Kamau Brathwaite; post-colonial discourse, Caribbean literature.