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„You were everything, black women, but you”, stereotyped representation of women in Mozambican literature

The aim of this article is to reflect on the way how feminine figures were presented in Mozambican Literature, since its beginnings up to the publication of Paulina Chiziane's first roman in 1994.

The more recent narrative of Paulina Chiziane, *Lília Momplé*, and the poems of Sónia Sultuane and Ana Mafalda Leite changed for good the image of Mozambican women which was spread up to that moment and this image completely changed.

Most of the works we will analyze were written before the Mozambican independence in 1975. These works show two versions of the ancient and stereotyped Mozambican woman image: the first one shows the woman as an exotic, sensual and wild being which is turned into an object of sexual desire for men. The second version shows the woman as a mother (Mother Africa which suffers by the death of her partisan sons), or as a brave partisan.