

ABSTRACT

*European missionary education in Africa has always emphasized the supremacy of the European cultural ideals over those of the so-called lesser races particularly in Africa. Thus, they have always provided the European parameters as the basis for adjudging the literary merits of the works of African scholars. Therefore, literary standards set by Graeco-Roman scholars such as Plato, Aristotle, Horace, Longinus, etc. are the **fait accompli** by which all literary works are to be assessed. To this end, a United States of America-based academic, Farook Kperogi, a PhD and Associate Professor, uses Plato's **Republic** as the basis for commenting on the maiden poetry collection of an emerging African writer, Olumide Olaniyan. This paper takes a deconstructionist approach by rejecting the comparison made with Plato's work, and analyzes Olaniyan's work from the postcolonial Afrocentric framework which portrays him as an authentic Afrocentric literary artist.*