

Fela Kuti vocabulary

- Afrobeat – musical genre created by Fela Kuti combining traditional Yoruba rhythms with jazz, funk, and highlife.
- Amalgamation – the act of combining or uniting separate elements; Britain amalgamated Nigeria's territories in 1914.
- Anti-colonial – opposed to colonialism and the control of one country by another.
- Autonomous – independent and self-governing; Kalakuta Republic declared itself autonomous from Nigeria.
- Call-and-response – musical pattern where a leader's phrase is answered by a chorus, common in African music.
- Colonial – relating to colonialism, when one country controls and exploits another territory.
- Commune – a community where people live together and share resources and responsibilities.
- Creole language – a stable language developed from mixing two or more languages, with its own grammar.
- Defiance – bold resistance or disobedience to authority.
- Democratise – to make something accessible to everyone, not just elites.
- Harassment – aggressive pressure, intimidation, or persistent unwanted attention.
- Hypnotic – producing a trance-like, mesmerising effect.
- Interlocking – fitting together or meshing; used to describe Afrobeat's multiple simultaneous rhythm patterns.
- Lingua franca – a common language used for communication between groups with different native languages.
- Oppression – prolonged cruel or unjust treatment or control.
- Ostinato – a continually repeated musical phrase or rhythm.
- Pidgin English – Nigerian creole blending English vocabulary with indigenous grammatical structures.
- Polyrythmic – featuring multiple contrasting rhythms played simultaneously.
- Post-colonial – occurring in the period after a colony gains independence from colonial rule.
- Satirise – to use humour, irony, or exaggeration to criticise or mock something.