

Call for Chapters

Resolving the African Leadership Challenge: Insight from History

Editor: Okechukwu Ethelbert Amah.

Lagos Business School, Pan-Atlantic University

Email: oamah@lbs.edu.ng

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The underdevelopment of Africa is attributed to the persistent failures of leadership and has been appraised by many researchers across the various eras in the African political setting (Jallow, 2014; Johnson, 2010; Kumuyi, 2007). Many of these discussants have recommended a way forward in resolving the leadership crisis. What is worrisome, however, is that knowing and discussing these challenges across the entire life spectrum of the continent has not yielded expected outcomes but has rather resulted in continual deterioration. One seeming accomplishment is the evolution of long-serving leaders who eventually exit office leaving their countries divided and in economic woes. The fact that Africa is the world's least developed continent is undebatable, what has not been well articulated is the origin of the challenge, as well as the factors responsible for it (Thovoethin and Ewalefon, 2019). The history of Africa has traversed various eras ranging from the primitive, slavery, pre-colonialism, colonialism and the controversial neo-colonialism (Olanrewaju, 2015).

Incidentally, certain books have discussed governance in each of these eras (Boone, 1994; Cheeseman, 2015; Davidson, 1994; Dube, 2020; Englebert, 2000; Farah, Kiamba, & Mazongo, 2011; Jallow, 2014; Johnson, 2010; Kosongo, 2010; Okafor, 2009; Rodney, 1974; Thovoethin and Ewalefon, 2019). These books highlighted the effectiveness (and otherwise) of governance in these eras. Some of them analyzed the causes of the African leadership challenge in the postcolonial era and advocated specific leadership behaviors as a remedy (Amah, 2018; Azikiwe, 1970; Eme, 2013; Kumuyi, 2007).

This book, however, aims to address four definite areas not covered by existing books. Firstly, several of the prevailing books concentrated on specific regions in Africa; this book will however cover the entire continent. This is necessary since scholars have discovered that despite the homogeneous nature of certain cultural values in Africa there are still some differences which must be recognized (Awoniyi, 2015; Diller, 2013; Idang, 2015; van den Berghe, 1983). Secondly, this book will utilize information from the various eras to identify the origin of Africa's leadership challenge. For example, Robinson and Parson (2006), and Chaves and Robinson (2011) stated that since the people saw the postcolonial governance of Botswana as a continuation of the effective and popular precolonial governance, this led to the success experienced, while in Sierra Leone where such continuity was absent development was not as much. This means that comparing leadership style and success across eras will point to where dislocation occurred in

the development of Africa. Thirdly, this book will identify lessons that can point to possible resolution of the leadership challenge; and lastly, using the first three objectives, this book will craft a possible leadership behavioral change to achieve effectiveness. The book will add to the finding by Eyong (2017) to the effect that there are differences in the way leadership is enacted in some parts of West and Central African and in the Anglo-Saxon writing. In accomplishing these, chapter proposals are solicited from various experts in politics, management, and leadership across the three eras of Africa's history. The chapters should build on research and literature in the various regions as recommended by Mollan (2019). In exploring leadership behaviors and actions across the entire spectrum of Africa's history, this book is structured into four parts that address leadership success and challenge in the different eras. The book chapters must borrow information from the fields of politics and sociology and use such information to model leadership behaviors across Africa's history.

Tentative table of contents (*You can submit proposal outside the listed items if you think such will address the aim of the book*):

SECTIONS:

Chapter 1: Introduction/Prologue

Part 1: Leadership Structures and Effectiveness in the Primitive and Precolonial Period

Chapter 2: South Africa Region

Chapter 3: East & Central Africa Region

Chapter 4: West Africa Region

Chapter 5: North Africa Region

Part 2: Leadership Structures and effectiveness in Colonial Period

Chapter 6: South Africa Region

Chapter 7: East & Central Africa Region

Chapter 8: West Africa Region

Chapter 9: North Africa Region

Part 3: Leadership Structures and effectiveness in Postcolonial Period

Chapter 10: South Africa Region

Chapter 11: East & Central Africa Region

Chapter 12: West Africa Region

Chapter 13: North Africa Region

Part 4: Epilogue

NEXT STEPS:

Kindly submit a 100-word abstract for consideration (Include a 100-word bio) by **August 30, 2021**

Expected Structure of the Chapters

- 250-word Abstract
- 3-5 key words
- Introduction
- Main BODY (which must include evaluation of the leadership in the era under consideration and reasons for success or failure)
- Recommendations/Conclusion
- References
- 250-word bios

Timeline for the Chapter Proposal

Deadline for chapter proposals: September 25, 2021 ([send to oamah@lbs.edu.ng](mailto:oamah@lbs.edu.ng))

Proposal acceptances: September 30, 2021

First chapter draft submissions: November 10, 2021

Preliminary comments: November 15, 2021

Full chapter submissions: January 10, 2022 (the expected full chapter length is between 5,500- 6300 words).

Peer review process (each contributor will review 2 proposed chapters): January 10- February 2, 2022

Action on reviewers' comments and final chapter submissions: February 25, 2022

Full chapter acceptances: March 1, 2022

Manuscript to publishers: March 15, 2022

Planned publishing date: July, 2022

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