

## 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*

*Publisher: Emerald Publishing*

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: August 30, 2021 (send to [oamah@lbs.edu.ng](mailto:oamah@lbs.edu.ng))

Proposal acceptances: September 10, 2021

First chapter draft submissions: October 30, 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

## References

- Amah, O.E. (2018) *Globalization and Leadership in Africa: Developments and Challenges for the Future*. Palgrave MacMillan Publishers.
- Awoniyi, S. (2015), "African cultural values: The past, present and future", *Journal of Sustainable Development in Africa*, 17(1), 1-13.
- Azikiwe, N. (1970) *My odyssey: An autobiography*. Spectrum Books
- Boone, C. (1994). "States and Ruling Classes in Post-Colonial Africa: The Enduring Contradictions of Power", In: Migdal, J. (Ed.), *State Power and Social Forces*. Cambridge University Press.
- Chaves, I.N., and Robinson, J. A. (2011), "The architecture of fragile state: The case of Sierra Leone", *mimeo Harvard University, Department of Governance*.
- Cheeseman, N. (2015) *Democracy in Africa: Successes, failures, and the struggle for political reform*. Cambridge University Press.
- Davidson, B. (1994) *Modern Africa: A social and political history*. Routledge.
- Diller, J. V. (2013), "Cultural diversity: A primer for the human services", *Cengage Learning*.
- Dube, M. (2020) 10 great pre-colonial African leaders. The Africa Exponent.  
Available at <https://www.africanexponent.com/past/7608-10-greatprecolonial-african-leaders>. [Accessed 12 April 2021].
- Eme, I. (2013), "Dependency theory and Africa's underdevelopment: A paradigm shift from pseudo-intellectualism: The Nigerian perspective", *International Journal of African and Asian Studies*, Vol. 1 No. 1, pp. 16–128.
- Englebert, P. (2000), "Pre-colonial institutions, post-colonial states and economic development in tropical Africa", *Political Research Quarterly*, Vol. 53 No. 7, pp. 7036.
- Eyong, J. E. (2017), "Indigenous African Leadership: Key differences from Anglo-centric thinking and writings", *Leadership*, Vol. 13 No. 2, pp. 133-153.
- Farah, I., Kiamba, S., and Mazongo, K. (2011). *Major challenges facing Africa in the 21<sup>st</sup> century*. A few provocative remarks at the International Symposium on Cultural Diplomacy in Africa – Strategies to confront the Challenges of the 21st Century: Does Africa have what is required? Berlin, July 14th–17th, 2011.
- Idang, G. E. (2015), "African culture & values", *Phronimon*, 16.
- Jallow, B. G. (2014), "Leadership in post-colonial Africa: An introduction", In" Jallow, B.G. (Ed.), *Leadership in post-colonial Africa: Trends transformed by Independence*. Palgrave Macmillan.
- Johnson, W. C. (2010), "Nation building and leadership", In: Bownik (Ed.), *Leadership and Nation Building in Africa* pp. 91-101. Outskirts Press Inc.
- Kasongo, K., 2010, "Impact of globalization on traditional African religion and cultural conflict", *Journal of Alternative Perspectives in the Social Sciences*, Vol. 2 No. 1, pp. 309–312.
- Kumuyi, W.F. (2007), "The case for servant leadership", *New Africa*, Vol. 467, pp. 18-19.
- Mollan (2019). "Imperialism and coloniality in management and organization", *Management & Organization History*, Vol. 14 No. 1, pp. 1-9.
- Okafor, V. O. (2009) "A roadmap for understanding African politics: Leadership and political integration in Nigeria", Routledge.
- Olanrewaju, J.S. (2015), "Understanding Nigerian development crisis", *Afro Asian Journal of Social Sciences*, Vol. VI No. 1, pp. 1–16.
- Robinson, J.A., and Parson, N. Q. (2006), "State formation and governance in Botswana", *Journal of African Economics*, 15:100-140.
- Rodney, W. (1972) *How Europe underdeveloped Africa*. Bogle L'Ouverture

- Thovoethin, P. S., and Ewalefon, J. O. (2019), "Over 50 years of African statehood: Locating a new narrative for African development challenges", *African Public Service Delivery and Performance Review*, Vol. 7 No. 1, <https://doi.org/10.4102/apdpr.v7i1.253>
- van den Berghe, P. L. (1983), "Class, race and ethnicity", *Ethnicity and Racial Studies*, 6(2), 221-236.