

AFRICA AND THE DARK SIDE OF THE MOON IN THE 21ST CENTURY

An Advanced Research Saga & A Deemed Thesis

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Abstract

Africa was infamous as the Dark Continent centuries ago. There is no truth in this statement. European sea-explorers gave Africa a bad image of the darkest place on the Earth in their own words as they found no easy way or stayput safety on the land owing to the fear of mosquito threat or malarial fever inside Africa causing untimely deaths to inside travellers, intellectual explorers and powerful bodied spying non-African Christians!

Reality is different. Africa wasn't at all such a dark place on the Earth. The word of mouth damaged the image of Africa, that too, by the distant coming sea-explorer foreigners.

It is all like saying now-a-days in the 21st century that there is the dark side of the Moon and China is the only Country that has successfully soft-landed its rover there for the first time in the history and evolution of human beings turned science and technology chaps. Again, the reality is no such thing as the Dark Side of the Moon in the field of astronomy or space industry but an evidentiary phrase mistakenly used by ordinary people for far side of the Moon. No dark side of the Moon since equal amount of sunlight falls on each side during the lunar day.

My research upholds the image and values of Africa on the brighter side geographically and as the one and only one geostrategic ally to the Big Powers despite geopolitical victimization at the hands of armed non-dark complexioned invader-hunter-team usurpers arrived from Europe. This research contains the proof of the pudding –“One can never see Africa whole until one gets out of it!”

It is not within the scope of this piece of research saga, however, to broaden and present the knowledge on China in the 21st Century as it is with its tremendous accomplishments at home and abroad except limiting myself to bring into use, focus and convenience as a student-researcher to popularize superficially the dark side of the Moon (where Chinese rover soft-landed successfully) for namesake alongside the dark [sic] Continental Africa's imminent claim to the 21st Century to have to be designated in favor of Africa as the Africa's Century forever which is the essence as a matter of research-priority to me.

Keywords: Africa, Dark, Image, Lunar, Moon, Reality, Sunlight, Technology, 21st Century.



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1. Introduction

“According to Ali Mazrui (1933-2014) and his study on the African history, there are three causative factors for European exploration of the African continent” (Saitip, 2014). The three factors are stated to be the following.

- Need for gathering scientific knowledge with information vital about the unknown Dark Continent of Africa back in time with mysteries distant from Europe.
- European ethno centrism or racism's white-complexion-roots deeply entrenched in Western Christianity.
- The desires of European patriots in claiming their country's grandeurs overwhelmingly by contributing the distant lands of Africa.

Those three led to the colonial administrators' social scientific theories of Assimilation and/or Association, Direct and / or Indirect Rule policies so far as the colonial Africa was concerned with.

All of the three factors above are not mutually exclusive but inter-related homogeneously with built-in intersectional common ground for the then sufficiently early imperialism's superior thinking owing to propelled psychological conditional complex's pre-potential 'exponential horn'. The latter is the actually protruding African stuff of the so-called 'Horn of Africa' existing inseparable from the born largest continent in Nature attributed with what is called 'the peculiar origin of the Horn' as may be seen hereunder.

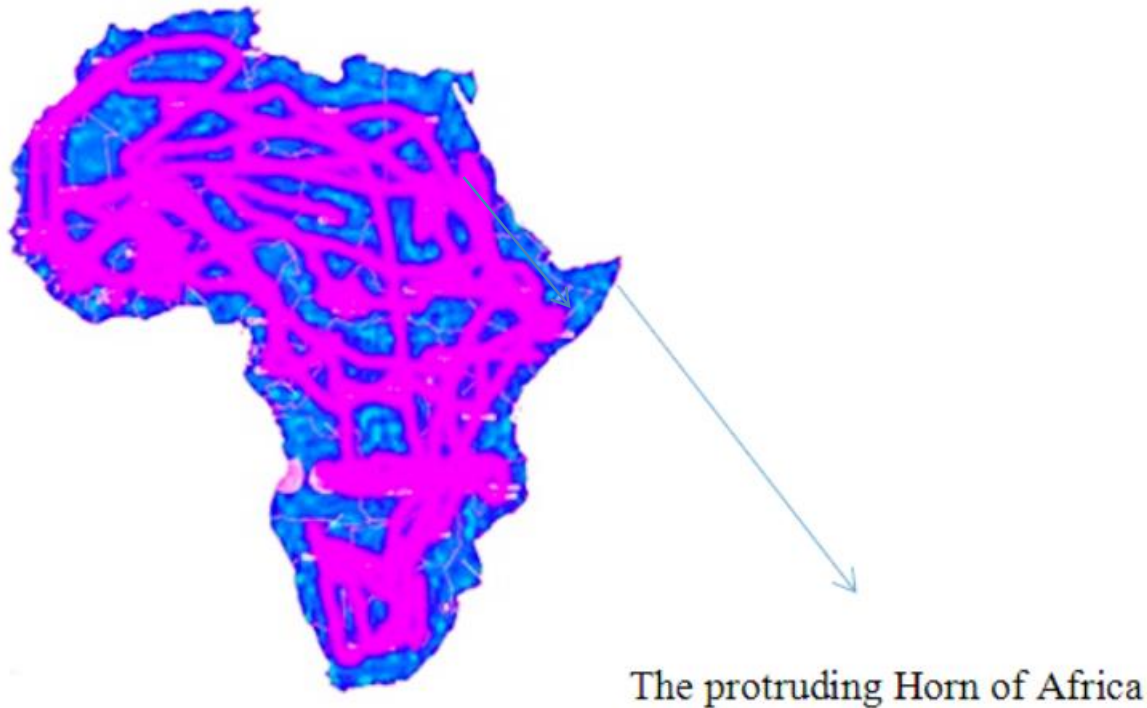
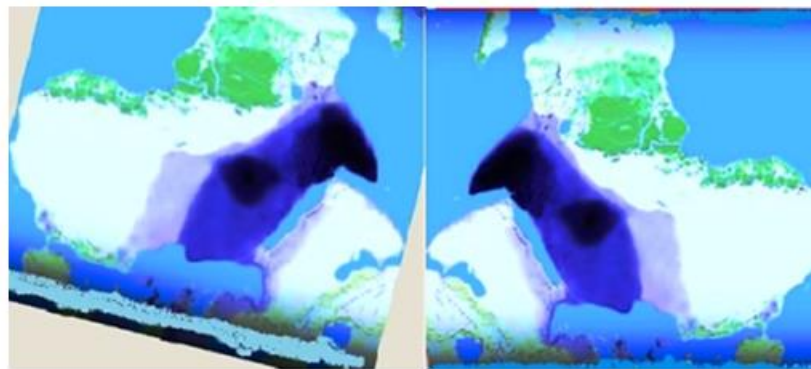
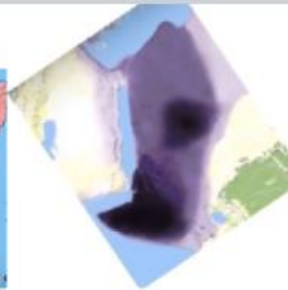
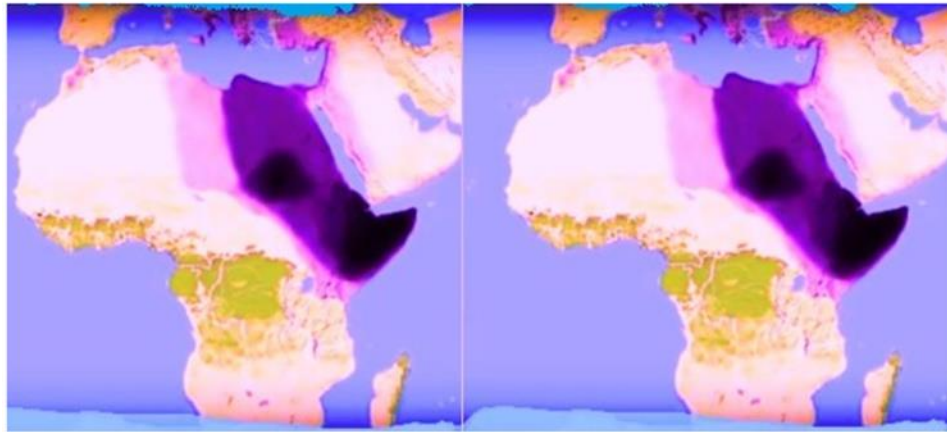


fig. The Horn of Africa protrudes into the Arabian Sea

That's the precise reason for the christian missionaries and the colonial authorities joining hands and hearts together in a chain forging a very close unique working relationship amongst themselves in pursuit of the development, progress and succession of the colonial legacies. This is meant to say that the white men's superiority unconditionally met with in all and every African corner, matter and material, a very visible acceptance predominantly making colonialization achieve its success. The intellectual white men did not even tolerate their own broadmindedness's hidden assimilation advantages to the natives of places in Horn of Africa in general and Africa as a whole in particular. As Osei (1968) reported that " much of what the white men have written about Africa bears no realistic relationship to the favorable conditions obtaining in Africa before the advent of the whites" (my snippets collection - 2018@ Knowledge Resources Centre, University of Mumbai, Western India) .

The Peculiar Origin of the Horn African



The Peculiar Origin of the Horn African

fig. Horn of Africa's abaxial viewgraph of ancient telescopic explorers

2. Characterization

Africa claims the 21st century after its name as the African century. True to its name and claim, Africa has been in the global limelight with its cooperative performance at the United Nations (UN). The African representatives like the African Development Bank, African Economic Research Consortium, Global Coalition for Africa, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, and World Bank have catalyzed the Africa's prospects for economic and social development in the 21st century.

And also, Africa's moment into Africa's century took birth placing Africa on the track-path to claiming the 21st century with social awareness of the idea of Africa's rise invited by economic development, domestic and foreign investment in the continent. In fact, it is the Africans who nicknamed the World as 'Global Village' with globalization & information & communications technologies offering enormous opportunities for Africa to leapfrog stages of development.

Hence, Africa's claim, '21st century : Africa's century' , has become definitive aided by the conscious development partners obliterating vicious cycle of underdevelopment, conflict, and untold human suffering featured in the 20th century. Behind this, there is thorough participation, greater accountability and development discourses between African people, leaders and action-plans across intersection of society, economy and technology.

It is my pre-planned advanced research approach and saga toward verification and compilation of the African century claims with the help of numerous reference works traced out by me and on their consolidation , the entire thing in its present state & form & format of this working Paper has indeed, accrued to itself the apparent-status of a Deemed Thesis.

3. Elaboration

The 21st (twenty-first) century is the current century of the Anno Domini era or Common Era, in accordance with the Gregorian calendar. It began on January 1, 2001, and will end on December 31, 2100.

The continent, Africa matters globally among researchers, academic scholars and students associated with Africa Area Studies. Known as the 'Rising Continent', it reflects Africa's positive moment prima facie into 21st century with democratic, social, economic and technological improvement. At the same time, Africa rising does mean that Africa has no dismal scenario in the 21st century's days as the 'rising continent'. It is practical to understand that three people coming from different walks of social life watching the same event are likely to come up with different opinions of that event. Depending on the spectacles each one of them is wearing in viewing the event, they would each have a different view of the event. Each person's view-point or point of reference is his/her conceptual mindset. It so similarly and exactly happens given the freedom of mind and speech of which the population is the ultimate source and constitutes the resourceful potential of a continental democracy like Africa where Africans inhabit complete with such freedoms.

Africa is the largest place on earth that it is possible, most of the time, to overlook. But, such an outlook is eternally not a wishful mindset. The practical and simple reason is in Africa's arithmetical information, which renders Africa materially relevant. According to the United Nations (UN), Africa's population will triple between 2000 and 2050 from 800 million to 2.4 billion. It will then double to 4.2 billion between 2050 and 2100. The African population has already reached almost 1.3 billion people, more than double the population of the European Union with 512 million people, at the end 2017. The same is going to matter for debates and especially, among academic scholars about the future of Africa in the 21st century, demographically for Africa is expanding at a rate unmatched by any other continent just like its large endowments of natural resources, a global attraction.

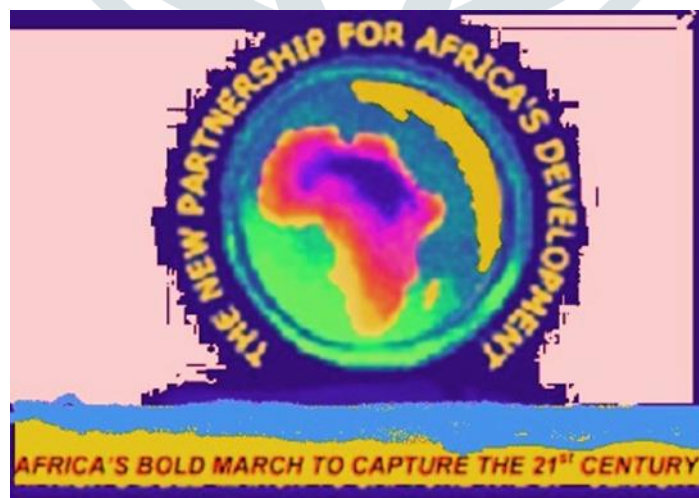


fig. Africa's 21st century Aspiration

At the end of the 21st century, two out of every five people on earth will be African. Those of us who are not African had better get used to that idea from now onwards. The 21st century as the African century reflects belief or optimism that it will bring peace and prosperity not only to Africa but also through Africa to all, wherever one might be. In

other words, by the end of the century, about 40 per cent of all humans (and nearly half of all children) will be African, heralding one of the fastest and most radical demographic changes in world history.

African integration into the global economy and urbanization is up to the point where Africa cannot be colonized as it was in the bygone past. In fact, it is the Africans who nicknamed the World as global Village with closer links to global trade and finance, better public and private sector economic management, improved communications, technological breakthroughs, advancements in social welfare, humanities, general and specialized skills education and scientific approach to life style. There is widespread consensus within Africa that intensified efforts are required to increase growth by fostering private investment through more open markets and trade and by ensuring a more secure environment all over the continent. Productivity has risen across the continent with rising potential on individual hands in savable incomes from greater use of human capital. Hence the African century is also variously inculcated by the inspiration as the Hopeful Continent of Africa and the Rising Continent of Africa.



fig. South African President, Ramaphosa claims 21st century-Africa's

This positive view of Africa is due to the rising African economies attracting the World. From 2016, growth was much faster in Ethiopia, Ghana and the Democratic Republic of Congo and the African countries like Seychelles, Botswana, Mauritius, Gabon, South Africa, Gambia and Ghana all had more mobile subscriptions per inhabitant better than the European Union's average of 1231 mobile subscriptions per thousand inhabitants, for example. The internet, cable cafes and cyber-plazas have become available in Africa promoting emotional intelligence and emotional investment by African men and women. In 2014, African civil space programme spending was about \$185-million compared to the global \$42.4-billion. The largest African spenders were Nigeria (\$66-million), Algeria (\$45-million), South Africa (\$31-million), and Angola (\$26-million). As globally known, Sub-Saharan Africa has six of

the world's 10 fastest-growing economies. In respect of Africa's Natural Resources, passage from a curse in pre-decades of Independence to a blessing in the post-decades improved continental economic status

| World's ten fastest-growing economies* | | | | | | |
|--|------------|------------------------|------------|---------------|----------|----------|
| Annual average GDP growth, % | | | | | | |
| 2001-2010 [†] | | 2011-2015 [‡] | | Country | 2018 (%) | 2019 (%) |
| Angola | 11.1 | China | 9.5 | Ethiopia | 7.5 | 8.5 |
| China | 10.5 | India | 8.2 | Côte d'Ivoire | 7.4 | 7 |
| Myanmar | 10.3 | Ethiopia | 8.1 | Rwanda | 7.2 | 7.8 |
| Nigeria | 8.9 | Mozambique | 7.7 | Senegal | 7 | 6.7 |
| Ethiopia | 8.4 | Tanzania | 7.2 | Ghana | 6.5 | 7.6 |
| Kazakhstan | 8.2 | Vietnam | 7.2 | Benin | 6 | 6.3 |
| Chad | 7.9 | Congo | 7.0 | Kenya | 6 | 6.1 |
| Mozambique | 7.9 | Ghana | 7.0 | Uganda | 5.9 | 6.1 |
| Cambodia | 7.7 | Zambia | 6.9 | Burkina Faso | 5.9 | 6 |
| Rwanda | 7.6 | Nigeria | 6.8 | Guinea | 5.8 | 5.9 |
| | | | | Tanzania | 5.8 | 6.6 |

Sources: *The Economist*; IMF

fig. African economies growing on the road to betterment

Chart. Africa growing-IMF: <<https://qz.com/africa/1522126/african-economies-to-watch-in-2019>>

Thus, Africa's moment into Africa's century took birth placing Africa on the track-path to claiming the 21st century with social awareness of the idea of Africa's rise invited by economic development, domestic and foreign investment in the continent. Behind this, there is thorough participation, greater accountability and development discourses between African people, leaders and action-plans across intersection of society, economy and technology. Globalization and information and communications technologies offered enormous opportunities for Africa to leapfrog stages of development. The African representatives like the African Development Bank, African Economic Research Consortium, Global Coalition for Africa, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, and World Bank have catalyzed the prospects for economic and social development in the 21st century. Africa's claim on the 21st century has defeated complex and provocative objections and became definitive aided by these conscious development partners obliterating vicious cycle of underdevelopment, conflict, and untold human suffering featured in the 20th century.

4. The Flashback

Gone are the days of fateful destiny in the nature of pre-colonial, colonial, post-colonial, first world war, second world war, pre-cold-war, cold war, non-alignment post-cold-war, bi-polar, multi-polar and uni-polar times of the World's and Africa's transformational phases into the stories of History Chapters for partial and impartial Historians to variously interpret in light of evidences or in their absence through their authored and co-authored writings. African independence and uplift on a worldwide dimension have been the well known truths. It is no exaggeration to say that Africans are regenerated in America and on the African Continent or wherever they may be but certainly is a 100% contradiction opposing the laymen's popular and non-academic perception "Why are Africa and African people at the bottom of the world order, when they gave the world its first civilization, created the first religion, science and all of the high technology now in use". Therefore, all of the African peoples are no more functioning at the mercy of whites all over the World even in the odd sense of somewhat racially partial thinkers on the Globe. Those familiar with the Harold Cruse's Crisis of the Negro Intellectual will harbor no surprise that at this moment in our history An African Answer as the key to global productivity is being presented at this moment not by a well-

known astrologer or soothsayer but by millions , billions and trillions of new breed of African thinkers with special exposure to and involvement with the ripe and flourishing Continent of African States numbering as the 54 active populous units as well as the gargantuan corporate structures that populate America and the West . In the current 21st century, the African States're-emergence on the world stage holds the key to a more benign enhancement of corporate and political life the world over. Africa's world leadership is guaranteed by the Sciences which have proven facts beyond rectification such as the following ones.

Fact One: Dr. Elso S. Barghoorn , a Harvard University's Paleontologist ,discovered microscopic one-celled microfossils that are 4.6 billion years old embedded in rocks in South Africa . This discovery pushes back the age of the oldest known evidence of life by 100 million years .

Fact Two: Anthropologist Timothy White at the University of California at Berkeley has completed an analysis of skeletal remains of four million-year-old fossils that were found on the banks of an African river. These fossils predate by a million years the famous three million-year-old "Lucy "skeleton found in Ethiopia in 1974.

Fact Three: Allan Wilson, a professor of biochemistry at the University of California at Berkeley, has discovered in his DNA research that all of today's humans descended from one woman who lived in Africa from 140,000-280,000 years ago. This was based on the estimated rate of mutation of DNA in human cells. Wilson's conclusion bolsters the contention that Africa is the sole nursery foe ancestors of modern Homo sapiens.

Fact Four: A recent Study called a New Study says that Neanderthals or the archaic humans (Africans) were compassionate beings as per the University of York in the United Kingdom challenging our notions that they were brutish compared to modern humans.

Fact Five: The Journal of World Archaeology in its Research favorably argues that not helping others out of self-interest is their (refer to Fact Four above) attribute. A Senior Lecturer, Mr. Penny at the University of York confirms that they knew psychologies like feelings, love, suffering, efforts and non-expectations of reciprocity beforehand.

Fact Six: The worldly African and European participants had travelled great distances, spoke multiple languages, absorbed various forms of structural and directly-transacted violence's results and together negotiated the complex roles of rescuer and refugee.

Fact Seven: Most of the historians know practically nothing about the Africans prior to their enslavement. Scholars in large numbers have not shown keen interest to study the African scientifically in the direction of human family and early civilization just like that of the primitive Greeks or early Romans.

Fact Eight: In Art & Architecture, Africans had advanced far beyond the primitive stage even with the limited evidence available with the Archaeologists for sure as made available. The everlasting Architecture still exists, though in ruins in Africa.

Fact Nine: The modern Area Studier's Research gave weight and confidence that the African population asserting that they were indeed an integral part of the human family of practical men & women.

5. *Review of Literature*

My focus is on examining the academic work of earlier times for an insight into the advanced research saga. Literature review is the art of looking into available studies on Africa to build a platform for investigative purposes, interests and inspiration.

A . Grinker, R.R. and Steiner, C.B. (Ed) (1997). Perspectives on Africa.

"Africa - at one level, refers to an actual geological unity (the second largest continent after Asia) but at another level it refers to much more -the term "continent" implied something that holds or retains since Africa has been a powerful and fundamental force in world history long before the rise of European civilizations".

Leopold Sedar Senghor (1948) stresses that “the indigenous wisdom of African peoples and argues that beneath the superficial cultural idiosyncrasies that distinguish one society from another, Africans are united by a profound commonality which is expressed in their democratic social structures, their religions, their work practices, their arts and in the rhythm of African life itself”.

Terence Ranger (1983) maintains that “the 1870s 1880s and 1890s were the time of the European rush into Africa and were the time of a great flowering of European invented tradition –ecclesiastical, educational, military, republican and monarchical. In Africa, therefore, the whole apparatus of invented school and professional and regimental traditions became much more starkly a matter of command and control than it was within Europe itself. Deployed in Africa, however, the new traditions took on a peculiar character, distinguishing them from both their European and Asian Imperial forms. All this is part of the history of European ideas but it is so also very much part of the history of modern Africa.”

B. Saxena, S.C. (2001). Africa Beyond 2000

The future of Africa in the 21st century is a hotly debated issue: Africa and the Democratic Tradition, Africa and Political Stability, Good Governance and Development as Africa’s Majors among academic scholars including economists, political scientists and sociologists all over the world (Dr. S.C. Saxena,2001).

C. Robertson, C. (2012). The Fastest Billion: The Story behind Africa's Economic Revolution

Africa will rule the 21st Century and has economic, social and political development given the geo-economic structure of the world and poised to grow along at a faster pace, due to its advantages in possessing vast natural resources, huge tracts of cultivable land and a population structure in which productive youth will outnumber the elderly or the very young.

D. Cheru, F. (2008). Africa's Development in the 21st Century: Reshaping the Research Agenda

As Africa enters the 21st century, it faces mounting challenges as well as new opportunities. Unlike in the 1980s and the 1990s, however, the conditions for Africa’s sustained growth and development are more favorable today than ever before. As a result of economic reforms the overall growth has been in excess of 4.5 percent annually since the mid-1990s. There is greater consensus among Africans now than at any previous time on what needs to be done to accelerate growth, reduce poverty and promote sustainable development. The positive response of Africa’s international partners enhances the prospects for sustaining the progress. Africa is also benefiting from a commodity boom and increased investment in infrastructure and the extractive industry sector.

F. Zuma, J. (2015). The Rise of Africa in the Twenty-First Century

It is a fillip in discussing the rise of Africa, Jacob Zuma being the President of South Africa himself writes as the head of the government that much has been said about the rise of Africa in the twenty-first century and as home to seven of the 10 fastest growing economies in the world, the continent has in the past few years received a slew of attention from investors, commentators, developers and philosophers alike.

G. Lust, E.M. and Ndegwa, S.N (2012). Governing Africa's Changing Societies: Dynamics of Reform

What is the cumulative impact of the immense social, economic, and political changes that Africa has undergone in recent decades? What opportunities do those changes present to improve the lives of the continent s citizens? Countering the prevailing mood of pessimism in the face of disappointed expectations, the authors of Governing Africa’s Changing Societies demonstrate the significance of even incomplete reforms in the areas of competitive elections and democratization, gender relations, property rights, the public sector, and privatization, among others. In the aggregate, their work reveals how seemingly small or sluggish changes are accumulating to fundamentally, and positively, transform Africa s governance environment.

H. Tim, K. (2013). **Business, Politics, and the State in Africa Challenging the Orthodoxies on Growth and Transformation.**

In recent years Africa appears to have turned a corner economically. It is posting increased growth rates and is no longer the world's slowest growing region. This book goes behind the headlines to examine the conditions necessary not just for growth in Africa but for a wider business and economic transformation.

6. *Advanced Research & Research Methodology*

Research in a layman's language is search for knowledge. For the educated, Research is a scientific and systematic effort to search for information. Chiefly, it is an art of scientific enquiry or investigation. The term Research is made up of two words.

[Research = Re + Search]> ['Re' means again and again]> ['Search 'means to find out something]

The term Research is used to collect information about a particular subject. It forms means to finding out what one does not already have on record. Hence Research records certain things or gathered evidences. It promotes movement from the known to the unknown with a learning bent of mind in letter and spirit. So, Research becomes an organized learning for own benefit of store of knowledge. This is information hitherto unknown or a fact one doesn't have. Hence, Research or Research Activity or Research Productivity. For example, this Study about '21 Century: Africa's Century'.

In the words of Professor Clifford Woody of the Michigan University (Kunzangthinley BlogSpot, 2012 & Arvind Luhar, Meghan Somani & Shital Mehta 2014, p. 11)

“Research ideally is a careful unbiased investigation of a problem.”

-- Clifford Woody

The Webster's International Dictionary defines research as the collecting of information about a particular subject (Online dictionary 1828) . So, one can deduce that research is 'A careful critical examination in seeking facts or principles or diligent investigation in order to ascertain something'.

Research Methodology is a way to systematically solve the research problem. In it one studies various logical steps adopted by a Researcher. The implication is that the entire gamut of logical efforts is a science of doing Research constructively or scientifically. In other words, it not only involves research methods but also logic behind the method one uses in the context of Research. Also, it will be known as modus operandi of a study. The below tabulation is easier means of making explicit the scope of method and methodology.

Thus, simplified definition of research methodology is a way to systematically solve the research problem involving a logical studying with various steps in addition to knowing research method. In other words, this means to say that a researcher needs to design a methodology for his/her research problem solving since all problems are not one and the same in their individual scope and limitation. Under mentioned is a sample variety of research design of a research topic in simple sense.

| METHOD | METHODOLOGY |
|--|--|
| 1. Conduction of research | Cause of research study |
| 2. Gives solution to a problem | Definition of research problem |
| 3. Fixation of objects | How and why of Hypothesis |
| 4. Information relates to solution | Information collection methodically |
| 5. Collection of new information opposite to inadequate information | Information collected organized technically and per time-line/chronological/glotto- chronological |
| 6. Research activities | Research results or conclusions or synopsis |
| 7. Research techniques within the scope of method | Chosen methods are used |
| 8. Method constitutes part of Research methodology | Methodology has many dimensions |

fig. Research Method & Methodology Basics



| |
|---|
| RESEARCH DESIGN |
| Title |
| Topic (subject & introduction) |
| Importance |
| Review of Literature |
| Source (additional sources, if any) |
| Methodology (method , historical analysis , hypothesis) |
| Scope & Limitation |
| Chapter Scheme |
| Conclusion |
| Bibliography |

fig. Research Design in its simplicity

7. Research Compartmentalization

The basis for research compartmentalization is the idea that clarity and relevance within organization of my presentation of the knowledge of research--- taken for both of the input and output---survive at all times. Yet, if someone has the highest clarity of thought , certain "compartmentalized" information, identified referring to particular types of detailed information, may still be organized and coordinated to certain standardizations , be it African or global . Hence, Africa and the Dark Side of the Moon in the 21st Century's features occur in their togetherness with a common value, say, of the juicy-mixed-fruits drink offered at banquets and buffets to be welcomed as unity in variety and variety in unity recognized and acclaimed universally ! All of this to me being a student-researcher constitutes an advanced research saga. In other words, a deemed thesis, in my estimation and assessment, pertaining to one-- the 'human-world-region' while the other---'human-mind attracting space-region' , which both at the same time in the current 21st century radiate diametrically opposite but stable macro-characteristics of their respective nature and properties with which we have to live in understanding geo-politics and geo-cooperation and geo-geography ! It is not within the scope of this piece of research saga, however, to broaden and present the knowledge on China in the 21st Century as it is with its tremendous accomplishments at home and abroad except limiting myself and my research potential to bring into use, focus and convenience as a student-researcher to popularize superficially the dark side of the Moon (where Chinese rover soft-landed successfully) for the scientific and technological namesake-presence-of-mind alongside the dark [sic] Continental Africa's imminent claim to the 21st Century to have to be designated in favor of Africa as the Africa's Century forever which is the essence as a matter of research-priority to me. Here are my valuable Research Compartments all in seven with defining activity and furcation wherever felt needed.

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Research Compartments | African Solidarity |
| Systemic engineering of Geo-strategic-political-nationhood | Africa in Global Relations |
| Modern times & Geopolitics | Significance of Africa Area Studies |
| Geopolitical International Perspectives (GINB) | Research Compartments |
| Africa Case Study of European Stratagem | |
| Africa's Political & Social Missions | |

fig . Research Compartments

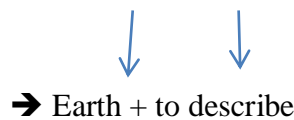
8. Systemic engineering of Geo-strategic-political-nationhood

Strategy is as inter-twined with Geography as Geography is with the Nationhood on this Planet.

In light of this premise, let us examine three ideas of the human mind.

A. Geography. B. Geostrategy C. Geopolitics

Geography → Geo + Graphy



→ Geography is to describe about Earth's surfaces.

Geographical Locations → Continents + Oceans

→ Constant

Geographical Factors → Populations+NaturalResources+States+PoliticalSystems+Technologies

→ Change in time as time passes

Geopolitics' Origin & Conceptualization

Early 3rd Century's Greek Philosopher, Herodotus, said that

All Geography → All History

All History → All Geography

At that time itself during 3rd Century, political entities called States linked themselves to geographical locations and conceptualized origin of geopolitics. Thus, geographic basis of national and international power date far back in History.

Geostrategy

As per the Professors, Gray & Sloan (Reading University, England), Geography is the mother of strategy and conclusively called Geostrategy. It subserves Geopolitics and parasite on foreign policy subject to geographical factors.

The expressible equalities are as below.

Geography + Power politics = Geopolitics

Geography + Politics = Geopolitics

Hence,

Strategy: Geography :: Geography : Nationhood

9. Modern Times & Geopolitics

Any two States are dissimilar without identical geopolitics. For every State, applicable equation is

Geopolitical Objectives + Resources = Geostrategy

Modern Economics and Technology in their modification as geographical factors affect the relationship between any two States. This is called political analysis or connotation of geopolitics. Therefore, geopolitics and international relations remained in their expansion since centuries of World Nations' History.

Uppsala University of Sweden's Political Scientist, Rudolf Kjellen, in the year of 1899, coined the term Geopolitik implying that the State is a geographic organism or most pregnantly, as a Country to remind diplomatic and military planners on the geographical factors.

Geopolitics is divided to be in an organized fashion in the modern times as much visible as follows for one to believe in it.

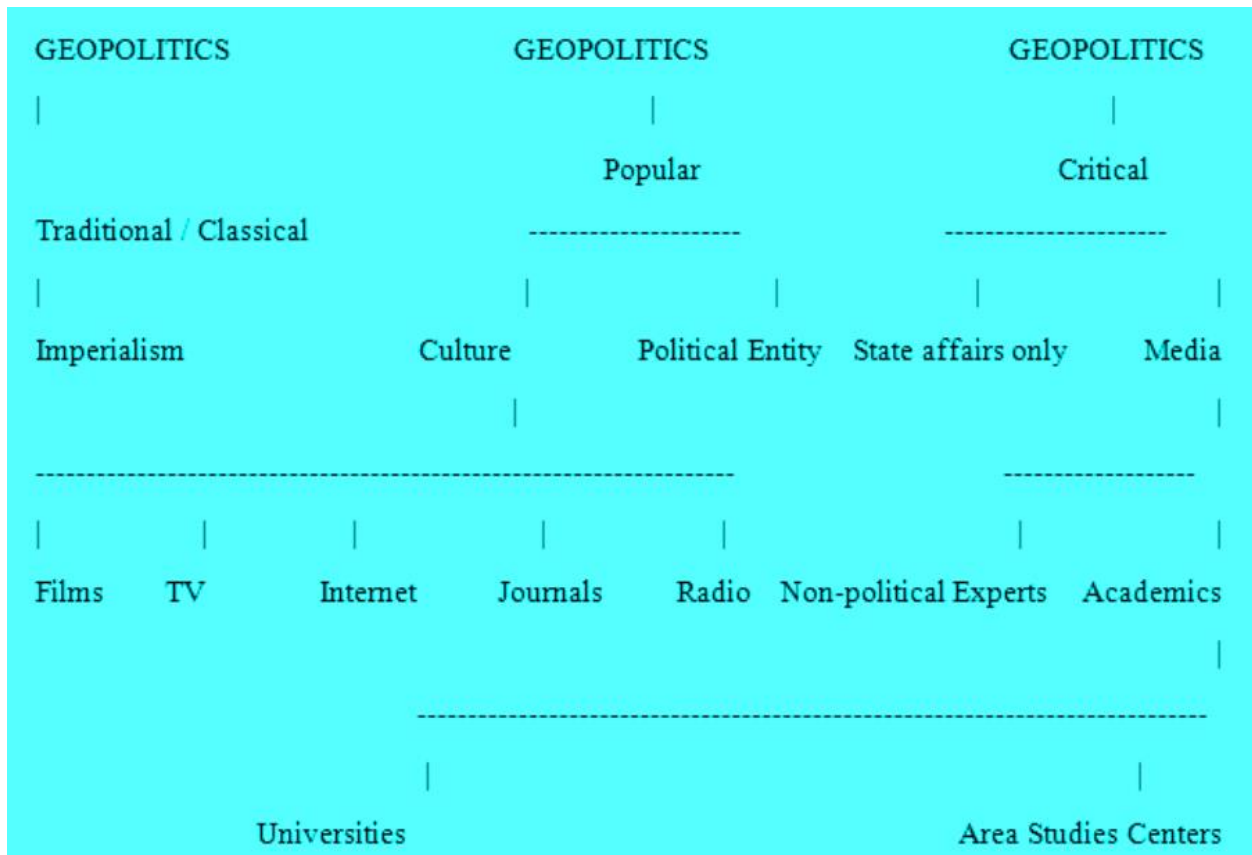


fig. Geopolitics in modern times organized

10. Geopolitical Inter-National Perspectives (GINB)

This is a global vision of international power relationship vide geography in 4 consistent models.

Maritime Model---Continental Model---Aerospace Model---Resource Model

After industrial revolution, strong, great and super powers made colonies by strategic capturing of Island and Chock points in High Seas.

The set of prominent perspectives on geopolitics in transition and changing geo-strategic engineering innovative theories in their timeline are accumulated below.

1. Year 1904 >>>>>> Heart Land Theory

Sir Helford Mackinder, a British Geographer published the Heartland Theory on Africa

He said that the actual balance of political power is the product of geographical conditions and relative number of virility, equipment, and organization of competing peoples.

2. Year 1919 >>>>>>> World Command Theory

Mackinder offered a summarized theory stating that

Who rules East Europe commands the Heartland
 Who rules Heartland commands the World Island
 Who rules World Island commands the World.

3. During 1922-1926 >>>>>> Leben Sraum Theory

The German politician , Karl Haushoffer said Leben Sraum which means that a State is to expand its territories to guarantee the lives of its increasing population . This was implemented by Adolf Hitler of Germany in World War II .

4. Year 1940 >>>>>> Technological Manpower Theory

Spykman of the Yale University said that Geography does not argue but it just is implying tacitly that geopolitical ideas correspond to changes in technology, manpower and global power structure.

5. Year 1942 >>>>>> Foreign Policy Theory

Isaiah Bowman, an American Geographer said that enemy's foreign policy is geopolitics and that of his own is scientific Geography at the time of the World War II (1942).

6. Year 1942 >>>>>> Rimland Theory

Spykman offered geopolitical idea called the Rimland Theory which is also known as the Heartland vs Inner Crescent. It says that Eurasia's rimland, i.e., the coastal areas , is the key to controlling the World Island . Rimland contains the Heartland of Mackinder. Hence, Mackinder is countered by Spykman's theory of Rimland which indeed had an immediate application of itself when the Americans followed the Rimland Theory to the containment of communism.

7. During 1991 – 2001 >>>>>> Global Systems Theory

Geopolitics and Geostrategic concepts are moving in new directions in the aftermath of the Soviet collapse in 1991 and the anti-state terrorist attacks on the World Trade Centre and the Pentagon on 11-9-2001. A reconceptualization has proved necessary to better analyze the global ramifications and predict the future geopolitical contours of the global systems on the eve of the 21st century.

8. Current 21st Century >>>>>> Emergence of America as the Only One Super Power

Of late, during the days of the 21st century, the United States of America (USA) continues to sustain global military superiority with predominance but appears to be losing ground and influence due to rise of emerging powers. Of course, Russia has already acknowledgingly declared that America is the only one Super Power in the current World. As to the scale of military might, America created Space Censor Weapon against the Russian's so called Dooms Day Weapon System. Mightbe, a new form of polycentricism is in the making or else, new system of global governance crop up.

11. African Case Study of European geopolitical scrambling stratagem

Known as the Scramble for Africa , the European imperialist policy geometrically divided Africa at the then Berlin Conference (1884-85) scrambling through drawing 50 countries devoid of common area-wise cultural , linguistic and traditions/customs criteria .

Africa has historically been assigned five roles by the European great power calculators such as

- a) Physical obstacle or a resting point on the way to some important place
- b) Launching pad for attacks against other territories
- c) Defensive bastion to protect sea-lanes heading elsewhere
- d) Major source of military supplies
- e) Surrogate terrain for big European powers enabling symbolic and /or simulative cut-throat-competition without the accompanying costs of visible destructions.

The above five depict strategic importance of Africa from the standpoint of European and/or Western Powers which have obvious global interests and conflict of interests in the nature of both military and economic parameters. That is to conclude that geopolitics and geostrategy seek to examine multiple systemic factors that affect global decision-making processes and traditional geopolitical analysis. The multi-dimensional aspects of global strategy including military strategy and diplomacy with vital issues of geostrategic, military, technological and political-economic concerns are important. See the context diagram hereunder.

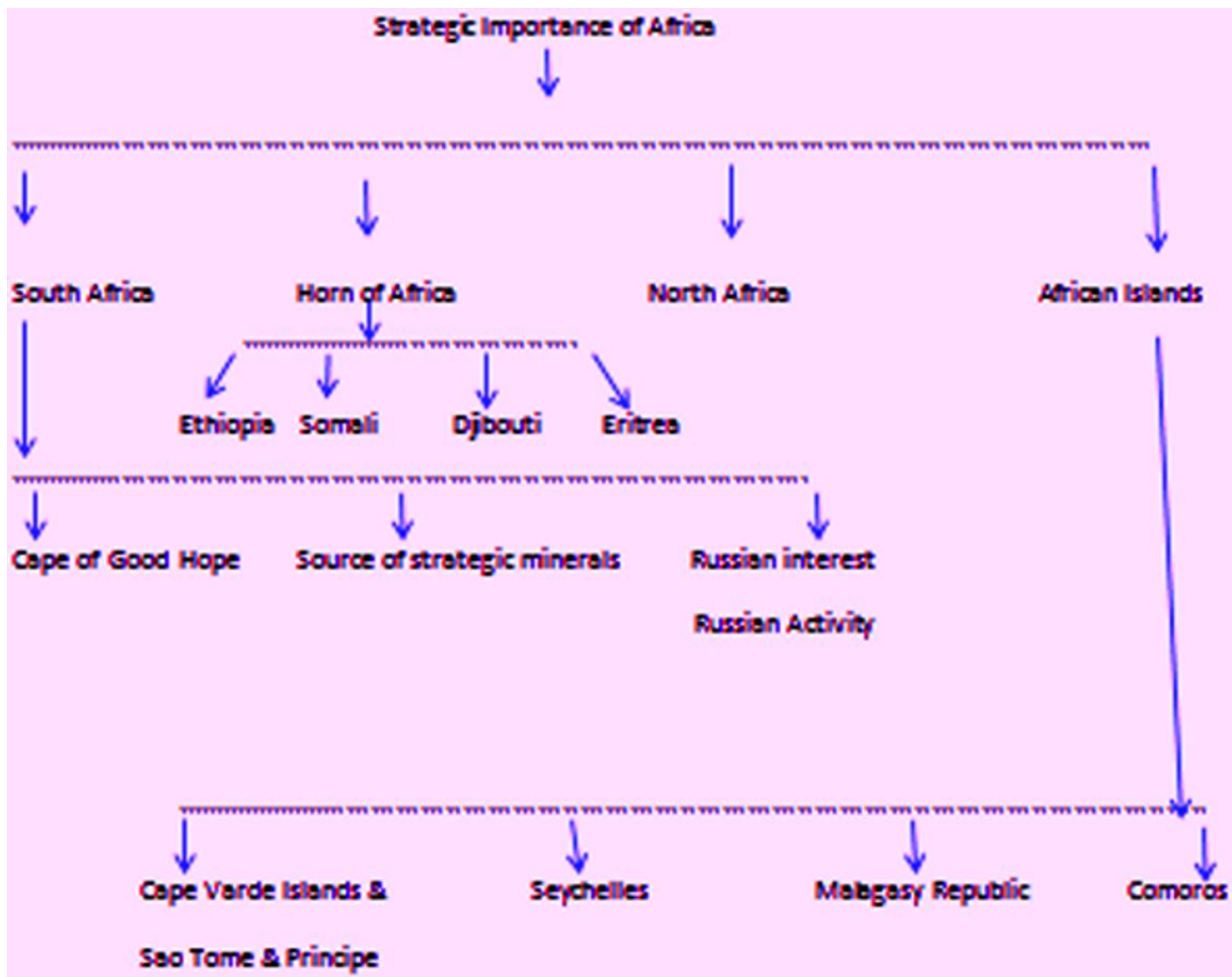


fig. Strategic importance of Africa interiors

12. Africa's Political & Social Missions

A study of contemporary political and social missions in Africa proves on a solid-basis that the centuries-old African humanism still runs deep in the troubled waters of global crises.

Political and Social Missions are defined ideas called functional expressions of a given people in a given span of time regardless of the geographies and histories transcending the borders of differently colored , speaking and writing African “Republics”. After all, at the end of the day, man’s destiny on earth is not determined by self-interest alone that has torn the populations into the haves and have-nots or so to say, heroes and villains, in the modern World. The chain of Political and Social Missions for human welfare is followed up with diametrical responsibility toward the African Solidarity as per the African Union.

The United Nations (UN) praises that Africa has set ‘Gold Standard’ for African Solidarity citing unmatched African generosity to those seeking hospitality and safe haven in Africa vide the African political and social missions of global fight to eradicate statelessness, migrants , victims of war and persecutions , refugee-protection and forcefully-displaced-persons-settlement and their rehabilitation inside Africa permanently.

Current Scenario

Africa hosts nearly a third of the world's refugees and internally displaced persons despite the continent's own social, economic and security challenges. Africa's Governments and people have kept the borders, doors and hearts open to millions in need as a proof of the unchecked African Solidarity toward such global crises. Africa believes in free movement of people to offer potential overseas migrants, particularly those taking dangerous routes, new options and thus help their pursuit for better life and employment across Africa.

Real-time Gold Standard of African Solidarity in 21st Century

In the search for durable solutions to forced displacement, the World and the UN have drawn constant inspiration from African leadership, African vision and African compassion according to the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterre's praise showered on the African Union (AU) at Addis Ababa (on 10-2-2019) and unfortunately the richest Nations are not so better serving the refugee-cause like Africa and therefore, Africa has set the Gold Standard for Solidarity.

“As the High Commissioner for Refugees, I greatly admired and depended on that African Solidarity “-- the Secretary-General added.

The spirit of African Generosity & Compassion

The AU's 2015- Abidjan Declaration was a pioneering moment in the global fight to eradicate statelessness. During the last year, 2018, African leadership helped secure the adoption of two pivotal Global Compacts — on Refugees and on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. In every corner of Africa, the spirit of African compassion is noteworthy with Africa's generosity to those seeking havens from war and persecution which is unmatched according to the UN's Secretary-General and he determined to forge ever closer ties between the United Nations and Africa.

13. African Solidarity

The Political and Social missions in Africa prove the African solidarity on a solid-basis for centuries-old African humanism still runs deep in the troubled waters of global crises. The spate of Political and Social Missions for human welfare is followed by diametrical responsibility toward the African Solidarity as proclaimed by the African Union.

A quantum leap in AU's African Solidarity

The AU can be aptly depicted as the backgrounder or the Pan-African Parliament, headquartered in Midrand, South Africa intended as a platform for people from all African states to be involved in discussions and decision-making on problems facing the continent for peace, security, political affairs, infrastructure, energy, social affairs, human resources, science, technology, trade, industry, rural economy, agriculture and economic affairs.

The AU has shifted focus from supporting liberation and rebellion movements to spear-heading Africa's development and integration unilaterally declaring that it is important for the AU to show African Continent and African Partners that self-financing of AU is not only independent from external partners but is also a step towards ensuring that African states are responsible for decisions agreed on by the AU.

The strategic cooperation with the UN by the AU is made up of the prominent eleven incremental folds listed below befitting the topmost African Solidarity's intergovernmental organization ever since 2002 which has been assiduously canvassing to promoting solidarity of African states besides to spur economic development through international cooperation as a geo-strategy .

AU's 11-point Formula on African Solidarity

1. Joint Frameworks on Peace, Security and Sustainable Development between UN & Africa.
2. Institutionalized UN-AU annual conferences at the summit level.
3. Numerous joint UN –AU high-level visits across Africa.

4. Joint Declarations on cooperation for peace support operations.

5. AU & UN's Human Rights Dialogue (HRD).

6. Combined efforts to address shared challenges in peace, security, sustainable development and climate change.

7. On peace and security, strong winds of hope are blowing across the African continent. The African Union's efforts to "silence the guns" by 2020 are gaining ground. The United Nation's surge in diplomacy for peace is producing results.

8. Remarkable progress in conflict resolution in Africa shows the determination of the African Union and the United Nations. African countries provide nearly half of all "Blue Helmets" deployed worldwide, including some two thirds of all women peacekeepers and the majority of United Nations police.

9. African peace-enforcing and counter-terrorism operations are justified and supported by the UN to be effective with robust mandates from the UN Security Council and predictable, sustainable financing, including assessed contributions.

10. Women's leadership in peace processes and political agreements. Groups such as FemWise and the African Women Leaders Network are making invaluable contributions to the joint United Nations-African Union collaboration proving that women's equality, meaningful participation and leadership are critical to lasting peace .

11. Climate change is an existential threat — particularly in Africa, which has least responsibility for the crisis, but Africa will shoulder some of the heaviest burden with the UN to slow it.

The Pan-Africanism is the whole and sole of the African Solidarity implying the belief in the uniqueness called the political unity of African-black-people and acknowledgement of the right to be treated with dignity as equals in all parts of the 'Round-Table-World' of the color line of the relationships of the darker to the lighter races of populations across Asia, Americas, Africa, Europe, Australia and the Islands of the Oceans and Seas without any blemish of otherliness toward one another. Africa is the only quarter of the world where African Solidarity amidst spate of political and social missions in the 21st century's 'Modern Africa Rising' optimism overlooks the narrow confines of class, race, tribe and religion much more than the early 20th century born Pan-Africanism did!

African Solidarity's vision stretches beyond the limited frontiers of the nation-state and its perspective embraces the federation of regional self- governing countries and their ultimate amalgamation into a United States of Africa for common wealth, equality, freedom, equal opportunity, reward to talent & merit and universal superiority of human-welfare-status-levels.

Therefore, Africa's Political and Social Missions for African Solidarity is discernible as the utmost contemporary issue in Modern Africa in harmony with its ruling elite of politicians, judges , doctors , teachers , civil servants and nurses on one hand while the ruled with their right to take part in Governance , right to education, medical care , housing , good food , ownership of property, travel , freedom of worship , speech , other personal freedoms of complaining for justice, fair trial with equal rights of man and woman , labour reforms with social welfare of generations of children, nil-color-bar-code in social life , modern ways of public discussions , social media debates , explanations and upliftment of living standards in real-time African life in the 21st Century.

14. Africa in Global Relations

Africa is a physical setting within its borders by virtue of certain availability of Natural Resources, soil cultivation and pro-vegetational climatic trends. Africa has itself poised in educational area studies with the historical perspectives given the global order of today's World with competitive economics ushered in by the Resources of mutually dependent and unequal foreign exchange mechanisms as per the Monetary System of the world-order. Prior to the Second World War, Africa was a net exporter of food. Long before Europeans discovered the Americas ,

people of Africa had built towns and carried on trade with Europe and Asia. Its many-faceted history and culture reach back through the empires of early antiquity to the first known site of human life.

Today's global relations are linkages of Africa with the outside world's metropolitan economies around Africa attracting the African population. Africa has learnt to sail through the oil and debt problems in its post-independence existence subject to the conditional ties and conditionalities of the United Nations' membership in the international community outside Africa's borders supported by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and its operational efforts to ensure collective Security of the African Nations fulfilling the sensitive role imposed by the membership-strength in the Non-aligned Movement (NAM).

Came the decade of the 1990s with an inborn loyalty to Globalization and interdependence of regional and sub-regional organizations and corporations besides the arrival of a new initiative called NEPAD (New Partnership for Africa's Development). Lastly, African National Development has also been influenced by the Asiatic immigrants, the non-racial cooperation, indentured labor forces, successful trade contracts and unstoppable Asian settlements with volunteering diaspora. Today, with a population of over 500 million, Africa ships an infinite variety of mineral and agricultural riches, the raw sinews of modern industry and luxurious consumption to all corners of the Earth.

15. Significance of Africa Area Studies

The ancestry of every human being is made up of a unique set of thousands of genes. In any particular locality like Africa in the world, unless a great deal of immigration has occurred, the inhabitants will tend, on the whole, to share higher frequencies of the same genes with each other than they will share with people of more distant areas. Africa celebrates in regard to its identity and the African culturally distinctive traits like social inclusion, hospitality and generous sharing of possessions and money with the needy. Owing to certain unfavorable natural factors, the settled life in Africa started much late. Hence, a handful of cultural islands scattered in sub-Saharan Africa.

The study of Africa is becoming increasingly popular all over the world as more and more scholars venture into this previously uncharted field. In India also, more and more scholars are now taking up this field as their special area of study and research though non-availability of sufficient and latest literature on the subject is a major constraint on the academic activity. Africa is going to be in future India's major thrust area for forging international relations, especially in the economic sphere. Formulation of India's meaningful African policy is not possible without an adequate and in-depth knowledge of Africa. The study of African problems has been growing in popularity in India. As a result, Africa is now better understood in India than it was about two or three decades ago about its problems and difficulties. Researchers need field trips instead of pleasure trips to Africa with full support and encouragement from Governments all over the globe.

Human race is interdependent. Those of us outside Africa cannot be indifferent to what happens in Africa. Africa is part of us all. The important point is that Africa, because of its perceived record and the perceived scale of its problems, has been marginalized. Anyone who knows Africa knows also how exciting and vibrant it is. Its future is in all our hands. Old timers elsewhere who still are living outside Africa may even now be saying that Africa is a dark continent because of its hard-black-skinned population without knowing that for all its social historical salience, race can no longer be considered a valid scientific concept. In the terms of human genetic science, there is no such thing as race! Therefore, there are no hard and fast racial boundaries and a few significant differences other than the mostly superficial elements of outward appearance exist among the numerous human populations around the world.

At present, Africa does not regard itself as the poor relation in economic and intellectual terms as compared with the rest of the world, especially the Europe or America. Modern scholarship has gone far to destroy the myths of primitive Africa. Wherever Historians, Archeologists and Anthropologists have applied themselves to factual research, they have found the evidence of complex social and technological growth and development among a wide range of peoples in almost every region of Africa.

Pre-colonial Africa achieved a symbiosis of African and non-African culture, often of great distinction at two points where literacy developed with great themes as the real African literature in abundance, as for example, racial tension, the conflict between the old African culture and the coming of European Civilization, the growing yearning for political freedom, the inhuman growth of the cities, the search for the African mind and the intensity of African

(south) tensions. It is, therefore, most fortunate that an African Literature exists, more revealing often than the spoken words, even among friends. For Africans, ever so polite, are more likely to tell us what they feel we would like to hear than what is deepest in their hearts. But, in their writings they express themselves without restraint; like all artists they have a message to proclaim and share; they desire to be understood; which does not mean approved. Africans laid claim to Africa's possession of modes of social thought, action and belief that are unique, valuable and fruitful of civilizing virtue.

From Ethiopia and the Middle Nile in the north to the so-called tribal states of the southern Bantu, Africa possessed a resonated and remarkable history of its own; a history of movement, in the broad-sense of the term, from one stage of civilization to another. Outside world (invading world) ignored the ties of tribal community (men bound together). The condemners are pro-christianity who stared at Africa's geographic unity as countries, as individuals and as a race. The African discontent must be deeper than has been admitted. Africa bounced back on the map of civilization, is a hard task worthwhile undertaking which implies collectivism of the land in which we always believe the vast prospects of amelioration that Physical and Social Sciences open up. All institutions existed for the good of the many rather than for the benefit of the few. Everyone accepts the existence of the growth but there is still much uncertainty as to what exactly it is. Lord Hailey's African Survey says Africanism but not nationalism. Universities are creators of national intellectual communities and as the only possible means of ending scientific and technological dependency. Universities produce national self-confidence in African Societies as well as being sources of high-level professionals in tune with the African proverb—"The mouth of an old man smells bad, but good and salutary things come out of it!!"

16. Conclusion

As I've said in the Abstract, the twin Facts are

"Africa was infamous as the Dark Continent centuries ago".

"There is no truth in this".

&

"It is all like saying now-a-days in the 21st century that there is the dark side of the Moon and China is the only Country that has successfully soft-landed its rover there".

"Again, the reality is no such thing as the Dark Side of the Moon".

Africa and China, therefore, to my mind, do have something common sort of Power or Force or Attraction to do with called the "Dark"! What a strange?

Am I right, up to this point, Readers and Researchers? Say yes and please laugh;

Now, I'll lead you ahead.

From the Urban Dictionary, I've found the following information for "Dark".

"Most commonly used by Generation Z, i.e., the generation born completely within the technological age, war on terror, and multiculturalism. This generation is the first true global culture as their characteristics and trend is more uniform across the globe as they become the most open minded generation to date".

Very innocently, when I attempted to justify the Title of this work, viz... 'Africa and the Dark Side of the Moon in the 21st Century', i.e., the Africa and the China apparently figured to be connected with reference to the 21st Century, the above information came to my rescue as per the Urban Dictionary.

You may still ask me, how?

My reply would be "If you get it, you get it!"

However, it is my duty as the Author-Student-Researcher to explain further to conclude affirmatively. So, start reading.

“Technological age”, “War on Terror” & “Multiculturalism” are the order of the day in these 21st century times while their trend is more uniform across the globe, rather unquestionably, keeping in one’s mind and heart, especially both the Africa and the China, as the clapping hands joined together; both are the very influential Members at the United Nations (UN) having to do with World’s Security and Safety and Economies of global nations in the current 21st century in addition to their mutual investment-partnership-diplomatic bilateral cooperative arrangements and summits.

On 3-9-2018, at Beijing (China), the UN Secretary-General António Guterres, said that “Together, China and Africa can unite their combined potential for peaceful, durable, equitable progress to the benefit of all humankind; China-Africa Cooperation is an embodiment of two major priorities of the United Nations: to pursue fair globalization and to promote development that leaves no one behind in the context of a rules-based system of international relations supported by strong multilateral institutions; it is important that current and future development cooperation contributes to peace, security and to building a community of shared future for mankind.” The promotion of Chinese soft power, culture, people-to-people exchanges, proactive engagement in the security and stability in Africa, closer cultural ties in an aggressive outreach by China with Chinese investments to continue securing African natural resources and generating profits for job creation and economic development in Africa are the hallmarks of Africa rising with China’s support and vice versa stand to vindicate the trends of the technological age, war on Terror & multiculturalism enforced by both Africa and China in the 21st Century.

It is not within the scope of this piece of research saga, however, to broaden and present the knowledge on China in the 21st Century as it is with its tremendous accomplishments at home and abroad except limiting myself to bring into use, focus and convenience to popularize superficially the dark side of the Moon (where Chinese rover soft-landed successfully) namesake alongside the dark [sic] Continental Africa’s imminent claim to the 21st Century to have to be designated in favor of Africa as the Africa’s Century forever which is the essence as a matter of research to me.

My research upholds the image and values of Africa on the brighter side geographically and as the one and only one geostrategic ally to the Big Powers despite geopolitical victimization at the hands of ...usurpers arrived from Europe.

What the 21st century Africa epitomizes is “the next big thing,” since it has experienced moments of inspiring economic progress. As home to seven of the 10 fastest growing economies in the world, the continent has in the past few years received a slew of attention from investors, commentators, developers and philosophers alike. With an abundant store of virtually every resource in the world (land, oceans, minerals, energy) and a population of over a billion people, the interest in Africa today is its scientific rise and from the economic perspective, Africa is now the second most attractive investment destination in the world.

In Africa, the speed of change in almost every discipline of human effort is something to comprehend and in consonance with the hallmark of fame that Africa is the motherland of the human race. That’s how, the traditional, focusing on value systems, social structures, economic activity and democratically affiliated formations of governance systems surface in this ‘Endeavour’. Over the past decade, the growth of the African continent has been, to put it modestly, remarkable. What is more, the advances being made in Africa are not limited solely to economic growth, but have been spread across the board. The current spike in education, standard of living, health, and governance is set to keep increasing over the next 30 years and beyond, certainly making the 21st century Africa’s without any doubt in my mind.



fig. South African President, Ramaphosa's claim of 21st century

Those aspects of African civilization and contemporary life either from the disciplinary or the general point of view with understanding of the major transformations facilitating the rise of this Continent in this 21st century providing knowledge on the interwoven dimensions of scientific, social, political and economic values are accumulated and highlighted in this Dissertation as recapitulated just below.

The star attraction is the picture-depicted above Report's firm assertion by the South African President, His Excellency, Cyril Ramaphosa on 26th January, 2019, during the context of his maiden visit to India as the Chief Guest at the Indian Republic Day Celebrations at New Delhi that a democratic South Africa is the dream of Africa's late Leader and President, Hon'ble Nelson Rohilal Mandela and elaborately added saying to justify that "As we as South Africans take up the non-permanent seat in the Security Council, South Africa is acutely aware of the responsibility it has been entrusted with" besides announcing that "This century is the century of Africa" and also that "We are determined to ensure that Africa is not relegated to the periphery of world affairs. We want Africa to take its place," His Excellency has indeed confirmed.

As a united Continent, the people of Africa came up from a very thorny social experience in the life of an entire civilization proving to the World their oneness and merit to make a mark in the current 21st century as a shining and rising Continent. It is a far more complex human occurrence that commenced 60,000 years back when 150 people, the average size of a hunter-gatherer community, walked out of a rift valley in eastern Africa and started spreading all over the world. In 1983, a very interesting experiment was carried out on the heredity structures of people living in five distinct geographies. It revealed that all those people who were heredity tested in those five distinct regions of the world traced their ancestry back to a common African mother. The definition of African women by the simple saying

that expresses the practical wisdom is contained in the twin African proverbs to fathom that the African women can make or mar anything, firstly and power is handed over through the African mother's breast milk ultimately! The bold initiatives of the hunter-gatherers onwards, traders, preachers, conquerors and explorers of every shade and hue shaped the progress and rise of Africa as it evolved into the 21st Century.

Therefore, no abnormal is the rise of Africa in the twenty-first century for Africa will write its own history and it would be, to the north and to the south of the Sahara, a history of glory and dignity in the times of the current century.

Today, Africans are proud to say that current Century is the Century of Africa .The same is true in other spheres of knowledge , in political and social development , in the transition from traditional to modern systems of value , in the field of education and of Africans' health. African Solidarity's vision stretches beyond the limited frontiers of the nation-state in this 21st century. The United Nations (UN) praises that Africa has set 'Gold Standard' for African Solidarity citing unmatched African generosity to those seeking hospitality and safe haven in Africa vide the African political and social missions of global fight to eradicate statelessness, migrants , victims of war and persecutions , refugee-protection and forcefully-displaced-persons-settlement and their rehabilitation inside Africa permanently. The World and the UN have drawn constant inspiration from African leadership, African vision and African compassion according to the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterre's praise showered on the African Union (AU) at Addis Ababa (recently, on 10-2-2019) and unfortunately the richest Nations are not so better serving the refugee-cause like Africa and therefore, Africa has set the Gold Standard for Solidarity. Africa is the only quarter of the world where African Solidarity amidst spate of political and social missions in the 21st century's 'Modern Africa Rising' optimism overlooks the narrow confines of class, race, tribe and religion.

According to me , ' Modern Africa ' is so-called because , in Terence Ranger's own words , " the invented traditions of nineteenth-century Europe had been introduced into Africa to allow European and certain Africans to combine for modernizing ends and offered many Africans models of modern behavior.

Thus, modern Africa to me means the continent Africa per se which has prepared for its future as the rising Africa necessarily in the world of today's time and as the 21st century's Africa , i.e., its dynamic presence in the world with humanism of the 21st century's mankind as the modern Africa moves to survive in the 21st century .

Africa is rising despite the political conditionalities by international actors . Gone are the days of fateful pre-colonial , colonial , post-colonial , first world war , second world war , pre-cold-war , cold war , non-alignment , post-cold-war , bi-polar , multi-polar and uni-polar times of the World's transformational phases into the stories of History for Historians to variously interpret in light of their 'shared & xeroxed' views with long lists of bibliographies. The African Humanism, say, one can view it as a political philosophy of contribution to man's destiny on Earth regardless of the geography or history of the Society one may happen to be thinking of . Humanism is of course, a product of history and society , but it may also transcend the borders of the land-locked, water-shared and aero-space-limited defence-mindedness of the Republics and become a part of political and intellectual tradition , a worthy contribution to the World of Nations formed by local and regional group-interests .

Winston Churchill once said, if you quarrel with the past, you would lose the future!



fig. Winston Churchill (1874-1965), ex-PM of England

This is precisely the wisdom currently prevailing in the 21st Century's civilized Africa. Seen from the angle of the Continent's Development into the future ending its internal genocides of the yesteryears, it is now a stable Africa. Its

forward journey into the aspiration, '21st Century: Africa's Century' has drawn its edifice from Sir Winston Churchill's subtle philosophy of not to quarrel with the past!

The great African-American political personality, Barack Hussein Obama, was the recent and first African-origin President of America in the 21st century from 2009-2017. He said on July 28, 2015 that "The world must recognize Africa's extraordinary progress. Today, Africa is one of the fastest-growing regions in the world. Africa's middle class is projected



fig. Afro-American President Obama Farewell, White House

to grow to more than one billion consumers. With hundreds of millions of mobile phones, surging access to the Internet, Africans are beginning to leapfrog old technologies into new prosperity. Africa is on the move, a new Africa is emerging. And Africa's progress can also be seen in the institutions that bring us together today. When I first came to Sub-Saharan Africa as a President, I said that Africa doesn't need strongmen, it needs strong institutions. And one of those institutions can be the African Union. Here, you can come together, with a shared commitment to human dignity and development. Here, your 54 nations pursue a common vision of an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa" (Whitehouse, President Obama, 2015).

Therefore, the African optimism of peace and prosperity during the 21st century has superseded that of the rest of the world's non-African nations while claiming the 21st century to be designated as the African century has been admired by the international community.

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