

INTERNATIONAL ONLINE CONFERENCE CALL FOR PAPERS

Theme:

AFRICA AND THE QUEST FOR NATION BUILDING IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Date:

May 27-28, 2021

Colonialism was a global phenomenon whose aftermath that has continued to impact and shape trajectories of events in affected continents and countries. The colonization of Africa could be considered unique in terms of the balkanization of the continent, the demarcation and re-demarcation of territorial boundaries. These forced people of different nations together within artificial boundaries, predicated upon the advancement of colonialists' interests rather than the wish of the nations. This challenge "built-in" by the colonialists has metamorphosed into various shades of problems confronting African states since independence. The need to deconstruct the artificial boundaries imposed by the colonialists was articulated before many African states gained independence at the 1958 All African Peoples Conference in Accra, Ghana.

The challenges associated with this approach are obvious and this underscores its unworkability. As a result, nation building has been recognized and adopted as one of the alternatives to addressing the challenges arising from the partitioning of Africa. From the era of autocratic regimes in the continent through the period of democratization, the leadership of African states have leveraged various mechanisms of nation building to advance the causes of the people and the states with mixed results. Since independence, the spate of violence in the continent as a result of elections, conflicts over natural resources management, insurgency and terrorism, rising unemployment and poverty due to inept leadership remain unabated. With the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic and its attendant disruptions, it is speculated that these challenges may escalate in Africa.

This conference is convened to provoke honest and robust discussions on nation building in Africa. Papers are invited from policymakers, practitioners, academics, researchers, civil society actors, development partners, government functionaries and postgraduate students across the continent and beyond on the conference theme. Abstracts on the following and related sub-themes are welcome:

- Theoretical issues and perspectives on nation building in Africa
- The political economy of nation building in Africa
- Democratic institutions in African states and nation building
- African states and nation builders in the 21st century
- Nation building policies in Africa
- The curricula, educational system in Africa and nation building
- Migration and nation building in Africa
- Gender and participation in nation building in Africa
- Indigenous knowledge system in Africa and nation building
- Legislations and nation building in Africa in the 21st century
- Development partners and nation building in the 21st century in Africa
- Human rights in the 21st century and nation building in Africa
- The media and nation building in Africa
- The challenges of nation building in Africa
- The role of Arts and Theatre in nation building in Africa

- Nation building in Africa in the post COVID-19 era
 - Information Communications Technologies (ICTs) in the 21st century and nation building in Africa
- Papers that are well-researched and original with clear methodological and theoretical perspectives of not less than 6, 000 words are expected from participants. Abstract including keywords and short bio(s) of author(s) not exceeding 300 words should be sent to the e-mail accounts below.

Important Dates:

23 April 2021: Deadline for abstracts submission
26 April 2021: Announcement of abstracts decisions
21 May 2021: Full papers are due for submission
27-28 May 2021: Conference

Conference Fees:

International participants: \$250
South African participants: R3700

Submission of Abstracts:

Havilahglo14@gmail.com or info@havilahglo.co.za
Website: www.havilahglo.co.za

Publication Opportunities

Accepted papers presented at the conference will be submitted for multi-peer review and possible publication in any of the relevant four Journals or a conference proceeding/ edited book that will be coordinated by Professor Dayo Akinbobola:

- African Renaissance
- Journal of African Affairs
- Journal of African Union Studies (JOAUS)
- Journal of Reviews on Global Economics
- AYIKA: Journal of Environment and Politics in Africa

Conference Venue: Online (Video Conference) Note: This Conference reduces costs involved in conference attendance. Delegates do not need to spend on travel or accommodation.

Conveners:

Dr Kayode Eesuola Institute of African and Diaspora Studies, University of Lagos, Nigeria.
Dr Kelechi Johnmary Ani Department of History and Strategic Studies, Federal University Ndufu-Alike, Ikwo, Ebonyi State, Nigeria
Dr TJ Mudau Institute for Gender and Youth Studies University of Venda, South Africa