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Impact of Colonialism in Africa

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The seventeenth as well as nineteenth centuries mark a beginning and the end of colonialism in Africa respectively. History records that the European countries were the main colonizers of Africa. Post their departure the claws of colonialism in Africa are still evident and the pain is felt to date. Although the European colonizers in Africa hid behind the veil of a mission to enlighten the Africans, it is undisputed fact that their primary visit in Africa was to obtain raw materials for progression of their Europe based industries (Albert & Phillips, 2005). This paper deliberates the positive and negative impacts of colonization on social, political and economy of Africa and concludes with an analyzed opinion of the deliberated effects.

Colonization of Africa resulted in profound negative impacts than good. The chief negative effect of this annexation was the benefits colonizers gained post exploiting natural resources in Africa, an endeavor that did not benefit the native communities. The placatory existence of the natives was sabotaged by critical landscaping to gain access to the continent's natural resources (Chamberlain, 2014). Deforestation for timber to be utilized in house construction out of Africa, as well as ship construction, was a routine. Likewise, logging of trees for fuel to power European steam engines and building of rail-trails was practiced on an industrial scale. The consequences of deforestation encompassed augmented soil erosion that led to siltation and eventual reduction of fishing activities by locals; Climatic changes as the continent subsequently received less rainfall and alteration of dry and wet periods. The latter impact had a tall negative effect on farmers who find it difficult to predict rain hence delaying panting.

Subsequently, the indigenous system of leadership in Africa was destroyed through the imposition of coercive and subjugation state ascendancy by the European colonizers. Before the

colonizers, the native societies' system of governance was steady with sound organized cultural institutions as well as customs. The selection of designated few to govern the local people by the European colonialists was the sure depiction of colonial imposition (Iliffe, 2017). A transition from communal land ownership to subdivision system was also introduced. Likewise, capitalism that had no place in Africa was in full fledge. After independence, the imposed leaders who happened to be a disgrace to the locals due to their collaboration amerced tons of affluent for themselves. They permitted a concession to colonial industries to trade to date until the closure of 999 years (Boahen, 1987). Also, prompting feelings of neo-colonialism among the local communities, due to social class disparities, rebellious communities resulted in form movements such as second deliverance to seek equal treatment as those in leadership positions. Besides, colonialism led to urbanization with accompanying effects being emergence of slums and perpetual ailment of upsurging crime levels. The unprecedented urban and rural poverty levels were heard off before colonization as the community cared for welfare of all members.

Correspondingly, colonialism had some positive impacts in Africa. One such positive impact is in education that largely benefited the colonialists as well as Africans. In quest to enlighten Africans to competently and smoothly work with the European regime, Africans were in turn imparted with Arithmetic, writing and reading skills. Similarly, colonization of Africa led to development of infrastructure for economic growth and associated social services (Alemazung, 2010). However, this was achieved primarily to facilitate encroachment of natural resources as well as colonies' labor force. But since Africa retained them, it is a positive impact on her. Although religion was a channel for colonization, many Africans found conversion attractive due to accompanying goodies such as didactic prospects and health facilities. Thus, Islam, Christianity among others were introduced. Lastly, colonization of Africa introduced

means of transport on the continent. This impact significantly alleviated the movement of goods, folks as well as amenities compared to days before the coming of colonialists.

In conclusion, it would appear that Africans are children of a lesser God all through the study of impact of colonialism on entire Africa's social, economic and political dimensions. The negative impact of colonialism in entire Africa is a deep cut whose scar will forever be reminisced. While one might try to outline the positivity of colonialism in Africa, he still falls back to the much negativity that cannot be ignored. Even if Africans today are suffering due to neo-colonialism, the deliberations in this paper prompt one to point a figure to colonial masters that set the pace for Africa's major problems experienced today. Although, they positively impacted the social as well as economic systems, colonization of Africa brought about capitalism, sprawl, primer of human and animals' extraneous ailments, transformation of social systems of existence as well as the rock buster being the dilapidation of the continent's natural resources.

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