Emerging Trends in the Era of Decolonization: The Examples of British and French African Colonies

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ABSTRACT

This discussion is an extensive delineation of the Emerging Trends in the Era of Decolonization: The Examples of British and French Africa.

A number of significant and crucial events saw and preceded colonization in British and French Africa, and historical underpinnings, while recognizing the challenges and struggles emerging from colonization and anti-colonization, uncertainty in decolonization, and the terrains culminating in social issues and problems.

The article also discusses the social change regime of modernization and post-colonial imperialism from a stakeholder perspective and achieving equality from stabilization of a modern world.

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Introduction

A number of significant and crucial events saw and preceded colonization in British and French Africa, and historical underpinnings, while recognizing the challenges and struggles emerging from colonization and anti-colonization, uncertainty in decolonization, and the terrains culminating in social issues and problems. Colonization was marked and characterized by imperialist impositions and the use of resources, the rechannelling of the railroads, slavery", and all sorts. The post-2nd world war was marked as another ideology and change in which European trusteeship on African soil was fading, but rather, pushing by an intervention by the developed world to facilitate liberation and decolonization of the developing world. The period 1950-1957 saw French and British emperors decolonize many colonies, including Algeria, Congo Brazzaville, etc.

Development, Modernization, and the Event Trends
A Pertinent Question

What if, rather than understanding "state sovereignty" unidimensionally as only a legal or political concept and only as authority or power, its intrinsic pluralism of pluralisms is considered and acknowledged?

On this basis, we refer to several agents that may influence and be influenced by this notion (individuals, communities, and states). Moreover, these different agents have preconceptions, assumptions, and beliefs that are based on factual, normative, or axiological bases. By acknowledging the aforementioned pluralisms in "state sovereignty," a multidimensional view on "state" and "sovereignty" engenders an understanding and comprehension of the different ways in which disciplines such as legal and political sciences and international relations apply the notion and its consequent use in issues pertaining to law and politics.

Critical Points & Further Directions

The article has pointed to the emergence and debate on social and economic colonial situations, but immersed in colonial bureaucracies, an implicit modernization theory shaped colonial policy-making in French and British administrations in the 1940s.

The period recorded, 1945-1960, saw great revolutions and an era of massive actions and movements against obstacles of colonial systems and plunged the people into actions and desires for their own structures for improving their lives.

'3 key themes and events were highlighted in different periods around "the administrator's Africa, modernization of colonialism & modernization, and trends of events and schemes centering on the use of social sciences in achieving modernization."

The period of the 1920s marked the first agreement by administrators and scholars to set policy for standardization. The agreement of the standardization of the 'Copper belts and mines was described as a policy decision but not as a result of the mine workers desire.

The 1920s was a Period of Ethnographic Changes

British anthropology was turned into science. Malinowski, a notable figure, in its complex thinking more than a quest for pure tribes, was interested in social change and the roles anthropologists could play in improving colonial administrations.

1979 saw the last part of the decolonization period, including Rhodesia, Zimbabwe. Wilfred Godfrey, the anthropologist, advised that it wasn't taken but argued in the modern post-colonization; the violence increased and was turbulent in the copper mines, regions, and belts.

Rather, the administrators appointed local village chiefs and heads over the 'Copper mines, recruited peasants, and gave contracts, then subsequently repatriated immigrants.

The essence and significance of understudying events that occurred in modern post-colonial and using key instruments and objects that point and canvass for stabilization became imminent. Core elements of modernization & stabilization were identified as "change from subsistence economy to industrialization, rural to urban city, a political system of subjects to citizens, ascriptive notion of status to notions of status based on achievements, religious ideologies to secular ideologies, and diffuse, personalized relationships to contractual ones."

The article points out and discusses the social change regime of modernization and post-colonial imperialism from a stakeholder perspective and achieving equality from stabilization of a modern world.

Are the Sahel Region States Actually Independent, Free, and Sovereign?

Recent military coups and coup d'états in the states of Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, and Sierra Leone have led to a new economic block of Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger republic. This event followed the ejection of the French colonies in these countries that for a long time had held these countries under economic bondage and cankerworms to their economic developments with stunted growths and prosperity stolen over the years back from long-held dominance years, decades, and presence in the region. These 3 states had earlier and recently pulled out of the ECOWAS: Economic Community of West African States. Recently, the Chad regime chased the French colony out and saw a new trend around these Sahel states.

States, Institutions, and Stakeholders

'Ontologically, "state sovereignty" is both power and authority and encompasses the rules that determine who, when, where, and how to exercise them and their exercise. Depending on the epistemological presuppositions applied with regard to "state sovereignty," the scholar may acknowledge its whole complexity or refer to an element or feature.

For instance, a scholar may be interested in explaining a form of authority such as the relationship between two necessary conditions that characterize any sovereign state: population and government.

For example, the theories that political science presents about the sovereign state, such as liberalism, Marxism, Kantianism, anarchism, Weberianism, fundamentalism, and the minimal state, always have something to do with the way in which these two elements interact—i.e., rights and obligations, represented and representatives, fights between social groups, the state as an organization, the state as a means to an end, and many others [1].

Social Change Regime of Modernization and Post - Colonial Imperialism

The social change regime of modernization and post-colonial imperialism forms a crucial point from the stakeholder perspective and achieving equality from stabilization of a modern world.

Social change has appeared often in 'gender, human rights, feminism, equal rights advocacy, etc. Even wealth distribution, climate change, equality, and the environment have also surfaced. How do we define social changes?

Social changes have been described as alterations in behaviour over time. Social changes can be referred to as a deliberate and conscious or concerted effort to produce and bring about a change and may result in new norms and development.

Social changes can manifest in bringing growth, societal and community development, equality, environmental and climate change control, protection, human and child rights, etc.

Elaboration & Illustration(s)

Max Weber (1864-1920) was one of the founding patrons of sociology.
Weber opined that a combination of structural and action approaches remains core and necessary in developing a full understanding of society and social change.

Max Weber Highlighted Three Key Points & Facts

- Firstly, as presented in his argument; 'Verstehen or emphatic understanding is crucial to understanding human action and social change. He further emphasized in his classic study; "The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism".
- He opined we could make generalizations about the basic types of motivation engendering human actions;
- Thirdly, as he opined and claimed in his argument; structure shaped human action because certain societies or groups and movements encourage certain general types of motivation.

Quoting from one of his most prominent works, "Economy and Society, first published in the 1920s;
"Sociology is a science concerning itself with interpretive understanding of social action and thereby with a causal explanation of its course and consequences".

He Distinguished Between Two Types of Understanding;

Firstly, referring to Alkuelles Verstehen—or direct observational understanding—by observing what people are doing, an instance or example, observing someone chopping wood, or ascertaining with reasonable certainty someone's emotion from body language or facial expression.
The second type of understanding pointed out is Elklarendes Verstehen-or empathetic understanding-in which sociologists must try to understand the meaning of an act in terms of the motives that have brought it to play or occurrence.

This type of action is one that would prompt you to find out the reason why someone is chopping wood, either for firewood or just clearing the forest., either as their job and vocation out of anger or just doing it for pleasure and fun.

Equality in Modern Times of Post-Colonization

A wide income gap and inequality in wealth distribution were identified as prominent and prevalent in 17th-century America and steered by capitalism till the 19th century, beyond and in recent light of the 21st century.

The extant dynamics of accumulation and distribution of capital, which have accounted for the distribution of inequality, have been long-driven and lie largely in the heart and central nerve of the political economy.

The best-known philosophers, like Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, and Jean Jacques Rousseau, had fervently talked about the social contract .

This theory dates from the classic period of history, but it underwent various transformations, metamorphosing through various evolutionary phases, and took its modern form, existence, and conception between the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries.

As depicted and conceptualized, the individual-society relationship is a symbiotic situation (IV-VI), whereby the two parties interact mutually or are found in co-existence and confer some right to the state in order to maintain social order or status in enhancing human life and cohabitation and gaining benefits of community and safety.

Justifying the multidimensionality of 'CSR in literatures among [2], and as demanded and evident in literatures in its role from actions towards respecting human rights and their direct relationship to show respect for children's rights (Crane and Kazmi, [3-5]; apathy as a movement can be shaped into another dimension and embedded into stakeholder activism for positive social changes.

Conclusion

Application, Implications & Value

The article is extremely useful and valuable in gaining consciousness of the events that saw and preceded colonization in British and French Africa, becoming historically conscious of the structures and events that went underway, which can facilitate designing structures, policies, and program agendas and projects that can facilitate social developments, economic transformations, and growths in the post-colonial era and modernization of African colonies.

Social changes can manifest in bringing growth, societal and community development, equality, environmental and climate change control, protection, human and child rights, etc.

The world is facing a number of challenges, indeed overwhelming: climate changes and global warming from carbon level build-ups and carbon dioxide; CO_2 sequestration; ozone layer thinning; surges and tidal waves rise in the seas; hunger and poverty; child abuse; and recently a big and massive global health challenge from the horrendous corona tiny virus, its variants, omicron and delta, etc., among others, or to mention Syria and ISIS, insurgences, and global terrorism.

An interesting direction and path might be to examine and explore social changes, state, implementation of policies and political debates, and development from a stakeholder perspective of 'CSR: corporate social responsibility in its 'multidimensionality and action perspectives of social change as highlighted by Max Weber in working possibilities for most realistic and proffering practical solutions to these issues mentioned above [6].

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