

Stages and Prospects of Globalization in the 21st Century

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Abstract

The paper seeks to examine the stages and the prospects of globalization in the 21st centuries. This link can be seen in the examination of the role played by early explorers to the New World. The main thrust of this paper was to reveal how globalization started through the early voyages of exploration and colonization. To achieve this goal, the study relied hence scooped much of the data from secondary sources such as textbooks, internet materials, magazines, newspaper, journals, documents and records of incidences from Library, etc. The paper also analyzes the benefits and drawbacks of globalization. The study was anchored on the structural functionalism theory. The basic assumption of functionalist paradigm is that society operates as a system (much like the human body or system) made up of a variety of interrelated parts or structures, each of which performs one or several important social functions or meet vital social needs of the society. The paper posts that unless the uneven and unequal economic relationship between the North and the South is address or restructured, Africa will continue to experience developmental crisis.

Introduction

The Origin of globalization has been contested globally among scholars. Some scholars place the origin of globalization to modern times, some to its history long before the European Age of Discovery and voyages to the New world while some to the third millennium BC. In this regard, Khaled (2007:2) contends that:

There is nothing about the phenomenon of globalization that is new; one can argue that globalization has always existed; the trade between empires and their colonies could be perceived as globalization. And one can state that was the origin of its process and that today we live in an undoubted advanced stage of globalization with demolished of the bipolar world.

In line with this premise, Lecher(2001) argues that globalization is age-old capitalism. Iyayi(2004) believes that globalization involves the process of expanding capitalist production relations that has been present since the birth of capitalism from around the beginning of the fifteenth century. Fischer(2001) also argues that globalization is not new because economic globalization is as old as history, a reflection of the human drive to seek new horizons.

Conceptual Clarification Globalization

There is no generally acceptable operational definition of what globalization is. Like many other social sciences concepts, generally accepted definition eludes globalization. Despite the foregoing, it is imperative to review some works of scholars in this jurisdiction. According to Akindede (1990), globalization refers to the process of intensifying economic, political, social and cultural relations across international boundaries. Oluabunwa (1999) sees globalization as an evolution which is systematically restructuring interactive phases among nations by breaking down barriers in the areas of culture, commerce, communication and several other fields of endeavour. In line with this premise, Cerry (1994) describes globalization as the increase of trade and investment due to the falling of barrier and the interdependence of countries. Banjo (2000) avers that the process of globalization is impelled by the series of cumulative and conjectural crisis in the international division of labour and global distribution of economic and political power, in global finance and the functioning of national states.

In search of a more acceptable definition of globalization, Albrow (1997) defines globalization from the institutional perspective as the spread of capitalism throughout the world. Giddens (2010) describes it as the intensification of worldwide social relations which link distant localities in such a way that local happenings are shaped by events occurring many miles away and vice versa. Giddens goes further to argue that globalization is multifaceted, that it takes place at all levels and sectors of the society. In this connection, Tandon (1998) opines

that globalization seeks to remove all national barriers to the free movement of international capital and this process is accelerated and facilitated by the supersonic transformation in information technology. Albrow and Elizabeth (1990) view globalization as "all those processes by which the people of the world are incorporated into a single world society". It is principally aimed at the universal homogenization of ideas, cultures, values and even lifestyles (Ohiorhenuan 1998 cited in Akindele 2002, Giddens 2000 and Olaopo 2002).

However, globalization is the process of modernization of the world system through the use of global actors and institutions such as international governmental organization (IGO), International Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Multinational Corporations (MNCs), etc. while other institutions are United Nations Organization (UNO), World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Trade Organizations (WTO). Globalization is a set of processes that are widening, deepening and accelerating the interconnectedness among societies.

Colonialism

Colonialism is a concept which drives its meaning from the English word colony, which means "a place or land settled by force by people from another country, to whose parent or home government is in some degree subject" (Eze, 2005). According to Azikiwe (1980) colonialism "means the policy to acquire colonies. It is a direct and indirect form of imperialism. Direct imperialism is the control by one state of other territories through political or military means while indirect imperialism occur when the imperial power takes over the government of a particular territory through gradual process, in which the region or nation is officially self-governing but linked to the imperial power by unequal trade relation.

In corroboration, Onwubiko (2014:57) see colonialism as a system of government adopted by the foreign settler which exercises political, military, social and economic powers directly over the occupied territory in total disregard of the indigenous citizen's right to self rule and self government. Thus, colonialism could be described as the domination by a stronger nation, of a weaker one politically, economically, socially and even culturally to the extent that the colony could not be considered as independent.

In this regard, there are two types of colonialism: the settlement colony or settler colonialism and territorial colony or non settler colonialism. Settlement Colonies is the large-scale settlement of Europeans as seen in the South Africa, Rhodesia, Zimbabwe, Algeria,

Kenya, the United States and Australia. In the last two examples, the Europeans settlements of the vast continent have almost caused the virtual extermination of the indigenous tribes. Where the natives were not annihilated but were only driven out or relegated to the background as in South Africa, Rhodesia, Palestine and part of French North Africa, a tragic situation is created for the natives. It had to become difficult if not impossible for them to obtain justice and fair treatment on their own soil. They have become strangers in their fatherlands. In the territorial colony, where there was no large-scale immigration settlement as was seen in India, Indonesia, Nigeria, Ghana and so on. Under here, colonialism has worked to the advantage of the natives which have themselves or will sometimes in the future find themselves in control of administration and of their productive land.

However, the United States of America which today is regarded as a super power was, for example, once a colony of Great Britain. But in the 1760's the American colonists started to resent British control and precisely in 1776, the thirteen British colonies on the Atlantic Coast Formerly renounced their allegiance to Britain in the famous "Declaration of Independence". That resentment culminated in the American war of independence which the American won in 1783. Colonial relationship may be terminated whenever the subject people or peoples become fully self governing or autonomous with the consent of their colonial master. Even then, the relationship may be cleverly strengthened when the independent nation is admitted as a voluntary associate, into imperial or Commonwealth league or partnership from which it may later withdraw or be expelled. While Senegal and Ivory Coast for example belong to the French Community, Nigeria and Sierra Leone are members of the British Commonwealth family of nation.

The Republic of South Africa was a member of British Commonwealth until she was expelled for her Apartheid policy.

Imperialism

Lenin defines Imperialism as the domination of weaker states by stronger ones. For Lenin, imperialism was distinct because it represents the product of new stage in development of capitalism. The internal composition of capitalism changed dramatically in the years around the turn of the last Century, responding to economic crisis. Capitalism in the US, Germany, Japan and France tends to be dominated by massive monopolies. Imperialism is used in two senses, one broad and the other narrow. It is the subordination of one country to another in order to maintain a relationship of unequal exchange. The subordination can be military, economic, political and cultural or some

combinations of all. Hence, we talk of political, cultural, military or economic imperialism; the strict usage of imperialism makes it an economic phenomenon. With this, imperialism is a stage in the development of the capitalist mode of production (Ake, 1979: 99). Imperialism is the creation of unequal economic, cultural and territorial relationship between states and often in the form of empire, based on domination and subordination. It is the Western concept that employs expansionist-capitalist and lateral communists system (Wikipedia, 2009).

Imperialism is the control by one state of other territories through political or military means (direct imperialism), the imperial power may take over the government of a particular territory through process (indirect imperialism), in which the region is officially self-governing but linked to the imperial power by unequal trade relation.

Trade Liberalization

Trade liberalization is one of the policy instruments used by International Financial Institutions (IFIs), the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Multinational Corporations (MNCs) in the current phase of capital penetration of states. It involves the reduction or outright abolition of tariffs, removal of quantity restriction on imports, removal of subsidies etc. In other words the market forces of demand and supply as expected to answer economic questions and give direction to trade and exchange.

Stages of Globalization

1. **The Archaic Stages:** This is the ancient time characterized by trade links between summer and the Indus valley civilization in the third millennium (Frank, 1998). It was championed by Andre Gunder Frank during the trade time between the Jewish and Muslim explorers. Genesis 37:27 – 28 explained how Joseph was sold by his brothers to the Ishmaelite traders and it marked the historic liberalization of trade. The period was preceded by the trade link between the Portuguese and Spanish Empires; also illegitimate trade was in vogue at the time. It was the prototype stages of globalization.

2. **The Voyages of Exploration and Colonization Stages:** The history of globalization began in 1492, with the voyages of Christopher Columbus, Vasco DA Gama, Ferdinand Magellan and Sir Francis Drake to the new world. They completed four voyages across the Atlantic Ocean that created a European awareness of the North and South America, Australia, New Zealand and the Islands of the India. The exploration led to the formation of Europe's colonial empires. However,

they played the role of a global buccaneer, carrying out attacks and confiscating foreign treasures around the world. They also engaged in the state-sponsored acquisition of strategic significant knowledge that enabled nations such as England and Spain to establish colonial empires across the global (Ojo, 2004;18). However, the early voyages of exploration and colonization is the origin of globalization.

3. Company Rule Stages: This refers to the first trading agents of globalization used by colonial masters especially British to administer and make treaties and maintain peace and order in the areas. Example, Royal Niger Company was given a charter by the British government in 1886 to trade in Northern Nigeria. Thus, the company did not only engage in trading business but also enjoyed the power to administer the areas under its sphere of activities, negotiated and concluded treaties with the native chieftains (Chikendu, 2003). Though, such negotiations and treaties brought conflict between British trading agents and traditional rulers. A good example of such resistance included the Akassa raid of 1895; the people resolved not to allow a foreign trading firm to encroach in their internal affairs, the Aba women riot of 1929, clash between the British trading agents and traditional rulers such as King Nana of Ishekiri, King Kosoko of Lagos, Jaja of Opobo, Sultan of Sokoto, etc. The Benin massacre of 1897 was another good example. The Ekumeku movement also attacked the British government among the Igbo area. As a result of this development, the charter granted to the Royal Niger Company was revoked in 1899 and Northern Nigeria was administered by the colonial masters.

However, the monopoly of trade granted to the East India Company by the British parliament in 1660 is a prime example of globalization and capitalism. Another good example was the Dutch East India Company, which was chartered in 1602 by the Netherland government to trade with the Indies. The company colonized cape colony in 1652, and captured Malabar Coast from the Portuguese in 1658-63 (Chikendu, 2004). The above example was the great progenitor of the modern globalization that benefited from the protections provided by the Nation State.

4. The Industrial Revolution Stages: This was mainly during the 19th century period. The European traders besieged Africa to buy raw materials such as diamond, rubber, coal, palm produce etc. for their industries. It marked the beginning of colonialism. The abolition of illegitimate trade gave rise to legitimate trade. This explains the fact that man from origin has been dependent on one another for survival.

5 **The Institutionalization Stages:** This period witnessed the emergence of the institutions which are the agents of globalization; such institutions include the International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank, the World Trade Organization (WTO), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) etc. This contemporary era gave rise to globalization through encouragement to multinational corporations to have trans-national and inter-continental existences. This means that there is no international economic boundary.

6 **Nationalism and Protectionism Stages:** Nationalism is the resistance to globalization that gives impetus to the agitations across the globe. The current tariffs and trade war between US and China is a prime example of Nationalism. In this regard, the US government resolved not to allow a foreign trading firm (China) to cripple their local industries. Brexit is another good example of nationalism, which is a gradual walk-away from globalization. In line with this premise, Morgenthau (1973) argues that the main objective of a nation is to protect its physical, political and cultural identity against encroachment by other nation states. The current quest of Britain to withdraw from the European Union has raised eye brows over the prospect of globalization in the international system.

However, the six stages of the evolution of globalization will help to understand the inevitability of the stages hence no country can be island unto itself as autarky is in variance with the liberalization of trade and comparative advantage policy in International Economic Relations.

Prospects of Globalization in the 21st Centuries

A. Increasing the Liberalization of Trade, Finance and Investment

The globalization has breakdown of national trade or economic barriers, to reduce North-South imbalance through North-South Dialogue. This was achieved under the auides of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the so-called "Geneva Round" of negotiations in 1947 reduced tariffs by 35 percent. Successive rounds of negotiations in 1950s, 1960s (the Kenned Round), 1970s (Tokyo Round) and the 1980s and 1990s (Uruguay Round) virtually eliminated tariffs on manufactured goods. The World Trade Organization (WTO), which succeeded GATT in 1994 and enlarged its membership (Samuelson,2006).

In corroboration, Charles (2010) posits that the World Trade Organization is a full-fledged intergovernmental organization with a

formal decision-making structure at the ministerial level, mandated to manage trade conflicts among members. The WTO was also given authority for enforcing trading rules and adjudicating trade disputes among its 152 members. Charles went further to avers that the present goal of the WTO is to transcend the existing matrix of free trade agreement between pairs of countries and within particular regions or free-trade bloc and replace them with an integrated and comprehensive world-wide system of liberal or free-trade.

However, the reduction of tariffs rates has permitted international trade and world economic output to grow hand in hand. Fischer (2001) opined that globalization is multi-faceted with many important dimensions-economic and social, political and environmental, cultural and religions which affect everyone in some way. Its implications according to Fischer range from the trade and investment flows that interest economists, to changes that we see in our everyday lives, the ease with which we can talk to people all over the world, the ease and speed with which data can be transmitted around the world, the ease of travel, the ease with which we can see and hear news and cultural events around the world etc.

Oddih and Agbaenyi (2012) aver that the possibility of achieving a reduction in the development gap existing between global north and south through North-South Dialogue is doubtful. It is truism when you consider the rate and volume by which public fund finds its way into private foreign accounts in banks located in those States expected to allow the bridge of gap between North and South. Oddih and Agbaenyi goes further to argue that leaders in the South maintain large sums of money than what most leaders of the North have in Northern banks, yet they call for financial assistance as a way for meeting up with the North. It is contradictory and has no chance of success except there are changes of mind and actions. Even at that, foreign assistance cannot lay foundation for development of the South.

Khor (2000) observes that while the opportunities and benefits of globalization have been stressed by the proponents, and supporters, there has been increasing disillusionment among many policy-makers in the south, analysts and academics, as well as community of non-governmental organization (NGOs) and both the South and North: Khor notes that:

The reasons for the changing perception of an attitude towards globalization are many. Among the important factors are the lack of tangible benefits to most developing countries from opening their economics, despite the well-publicized claims of export and income gain, the economic

losses and the social dislocation that are being caused to many developing countries by rapid financial and trade liberalization, the growing inequalities of wealth and opportunities arising from globalization and the perception that environmental, social and cultural problems have been made worse by the working of the global free market economy.

In line with this lengthy submission, the benefit from globalization eludes Africa. This scenario has been attributed to many factors which coincidentally undermine Africa's strategy for development in era of globalization. These factors include weak internal markets and fragmented production structures inherited from colonial history, disadvantageous geography, heavy economic dependence on exports of primary products package of macroeconomic policy errors, internal and external structural policy failure political instability and conflicts and weakness in governance (Haile, 2003).

In addition, Africa's policies of liberalization, privatization and deregulation are conditionally structured and adjusted by the World Bank and IMF (Ndubuisi, 2012) cited in Ahmed et al., (2001). In other worlds, the policies and structures put forward by the World Bank and IMF have undermined the capacity of Africa's own strategies for development and globalization (Haile, 2003).

B. Increasing Humanitarian Interventions and Human Rights Watch

Globalization multiply humanitarian international organizations such as Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, etc that promote people's welfare, monitor and check-make the activity of government, institutions and people on environment and make them to account for their actions (Friedman, 1999). Giving credence to above submission, the World Leaders submit in 2005, enshrined the concept of the Responsibility to Protect ((R2P) which holds that government worldwide must act to save civilian from genocide or crimes against humanity perpetrated or allowed by their own government (Goldstein, 2013). The concept of Responsibility to Protect (R2P) empowered United Nations to use military force to overcome armed resistance by local authorities or war lord and bring help to civilian victims of wars and disaster. The case of former Yugoslavia, President Slobodan Milosevic who ordered his forces to kill thousands of Muslims in Bosnia was arrested after 13 years in hiding is a good example on humanitarian intervention. He is currently on trial in The Hague for violating human rights.

In line with this premises, following the civil war in Sierra Leone, the government there runs war crimes tribunals jointly with the UN in 2003, indicted the sitting State Leader in next door Liberia, Charles Taylor, for his role in the war's extreme brutality. He fled to Nigeria shortly after wars but was capture there and turned over to the tribunal in 2006. The indictment of Nigeria armed forces by Amnesty International (AI) on abduction of 110 students of Government Girl's Secondary and Technical College, Dapchi is equally another good example of global watch (Daily Sun, 2018:3). The NGOs such Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch etc, monitor and report human rights abuses.

However, sovereignty gives States the rights or power to do as they please in their own territory, nobody can tell them how to treat their own citizens. This assertion is supported under the nonintervention rule in international law. Article 2(7) of the UN charter proclaims that "nothing should authorized intervention in matters essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State", Ojo (2004) avers that with globalization, State capacity to manage its affairs has been severely eroded, nations must comply with the exigencies of global market forces or be marginalized.

C. Increasing Global Inter Governmental Organizations and Integration

The formation of association of countries at global, regional and sub-regional levels became rampant after the World War II in 1939-1945. The purpose of the unions was to prevent another world war. Prior to this time, the League of Nations was established in 1919 shortly after World War I with the mandate of promoting peace and security among member States. It was also to help nip in the bud situation that could escalate in to war of a high magnitude (Ola, 1997). The formation of the League of Nations was the first step towards political integration among countries. As a result of failure of the League of Nations, to effectively counter aggression in the 1930s that led to formation of the United Nations in 1945 by 51 States.

The UN is best known global organization that champion political organization, because of its universal membership. It is currently made up of 193 member States. As a result of universal membership, the UN is also a multipurpose organization, as Article 1 of its charter directed the organization to take "effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace" In Article 2, all members were called upon to "refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force" (paragraph 4) and "settle their

international disputes by peaceful means" (paragraph 3).

Giving credence to above objectives, the UN has power to intervene in any State to save civilians from genocide or crimes against humanity perpetrated or allowed by their only government, followed the establishment of the concept of the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) in 2005 by World Leaders (Goldstein, 2010). As a result of this development, the UN authorized NATO (The North Atlantic Treaty Organization), to intervene in Libya in 2011 to protect civilians from war crimes. The UN equally has power to arrest and prosecute human rights violators and other related crimes in the International Court of Justice (ICJ). For instance, the former president of Liberia, Charles Taylor was arrested in 2006 for his role in the war's extreme brutality while the former president of Yugoslavia, Slobodan Milosevic who ordered his forces to kill thousands of Muslims in Bosnia was arrested after 13 years in hiding. All these measures by UN, is to promote democratic governance and political globalization.

In line with this, globalization inarguable foster interdependence among nations, races and tribes that helps to reduce tension and possibility of war among them, especially among democratic nations. The formation of regional unions such as European Union, Africa Union, etc, is a good example of global interdependent among nations.

Against this backdrop, globalization is the major potential regional or global in stabilities emanating from the interdependencies of political among nations. From the philosopher Immanuel Kant onward Liberal theories have argued that democratization enhances the prospects for peace between states (Charles, 2010).

In collaboration on negative implication, Deudney (2006) posits that global political entity would unresponsive to the local needs of the diverse indigenous cultures that comprise humanity. The intervention of UN in domestic affairs is the violation of international law and state sovereignty, which give states the power to do as they please in their own territory, nobody can tell them how to treat their own citizens. This assertion is supported by Article 2 (7) of the UN charter proclaims that "nothing should authorized intervention in matters essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any state".

D. The New forms Global Communication/Village

The revolution in telecommunications has contributed to "the death of distance" as virtually instantaneous communications are possible nearly everywhere (Charles, 2010). The world as a global village is a popular image used to describe the growth of awareness that all people share a common fate, stemming from a view that the world is an

integrated and interdependent whole. In this regard, the wireless technology of cellular phone is spreading across the planet enabling even isolated individuals, who have never before made a phone call to communicate instantly with others. Text messaging, for example, has empowered political movements, allowing people to organize resistance to those they support. The rallies that led to the ouster of Philippine president Joseph Estrada in 2001 exemplify what some analysts have called "cellular people power".

As a result of this development, Khaled (2007) posits that globalization have provided the citizens from different countries of the world the ability to interact, exchange views, organize political activity, and undertake political action. For instance, Muslim outrages in 2006 over Danish political cartoons that belittled the prophet Muhammad, demonstrated how rapidly people throughout the world can be mobilized by these new forms of global communication. Computers are another potent agent of global communication, with ever more people going online to get news, be entertained, or conduct business. In particular, the growth of internet blogs has created an elaborated transnational network with agenda-setting power on issues ranging from human rights in China to the U.S war in Iraq (Charles, 2010). Charles went further to argue that anyone with access to this technology can bypass traditional news organizations and give their personal perspective on current events to a global audience. Despite the recent growth in internet usage in parts of the Global South, some regions still lag far behind others. For example, in 2007 only 4 percent of Africans had access to the internet, and they paid the highest amount in the world for the slowest connection speeds.

Although the entire world is becoming connected, it is happening at different rate but only one in five internet user lives in the Global South. Moreover the internet has not liberated most people from their technological dependence on the places in the Global North where the management of most websites is located. Therefore, even if the internet has made for the world wide hyper mobility of ideas and information, it has contributed to the "soft power resources of Global North countries. This is especially evident with respect to global e-commerce. Roughly three quarters of all e-commerce currently takes place in the United States, the home of 90 percent of commercial websites. Given the central position of the United States in cyberspace, America will dominate the global future.

Furthermore, the communication revolution is widening the gap between rich and poor, because use of the internet is heavily concentrated in the Global North. Thus its effects remain uneven,

benefiting some countries while putting the rest at a great disadvantage. The result is a vast digital divide, where one third of the world's inhabitants lack access to modern information and communications technology.

E. Increase in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

The current trend of globalization will increase foreign direct investment (FDI) in near future, through multinational corporation (MNCs) that will reduce poverty, unemployment, inequality in Global South. A multinational corporation (MNC) is an enterprise that engages in foreign direct investment (FDI) and that owns or controls value added activities in more than one in scope and influence since world war II. Charles (2010) imports that multinational corporation expansions has been facilitated by transnational banks (TNBs), another type of global NGO whose revenues and assets are primarily generated by financial transactions in the international economy. In 2006 the world's ten largest banks held a staggering of 12.8 trillion in assets.

In line with this, there are 77, 175 percent firms together own a total of 773,019 foreign affiliates and employ more than 95 million people (OECD 2007). As a result of spread of digital information technology a growing number of companies are now shifting many of those headquarter functions away from their home offices, with nearly a quarter of them being relocated to the Global South (Hindle, 2004) for example, Thomson, a Canadian media company, has 97.8 percent of its assets, 96.6 percent of its sales, and 97.3 percent of its jobs outside of Canada.

Another new trend is the rise of MNCs from the Global North countries as well as in the developing world. In 2006, 100 companies from Global South countries had total assets of \$520 billion. Despite the development and achievement, MNCs it creates political problems in the host counties because of their financial strength and global reach. The policies and goals of multinational corporations may conflict with the policies and goals of the states in which they operate, for instance, the Multinational oil corporations that dominate Nigeria's oil sector influence Nigeria foreign policy that are not necessarily desirable from the national perspective. The owners of these Multinational corporations do not leave their home countries (Britain, America, etc) to come and develop us (Nigeria).

In line with capitalist goal of private profit maximization, MNCs overwhelmingly drain the resources of the host country and the perpetual under development of our country (Nigeria-their host) (Eze, 2002). The implication is that Nigeria will continue to depend on the

west for various forms of aids and loans. In corroboration, Oddi and Agbaenyi (2012) maintain that foreign assistance cannot lay foundation for development of the south, because leaders in the south maintain large sums of money than what most leaders of the North have in Northern banks, yet they call for financial assistance as a way for meeting up with the North.

F. Cultural Amalgamation

There is significant evidence of cultural amalgamation in the world, as the flow of communications and commerce between countries and the spread across borders of styles of dress, similarities in what people eat, and what people do for recreation. Language is one of the most important impacts of converging culture, which is becoming the common language of business, diplomacy, etc. the leaders of China once wore "mao suits" now they wear western style business suits.

Rourke (2004) argues that modern communications are one driving force in spread of common culture. Globalization opens people's lives to other cultures and all their creativity and to the flow of ideas and values. It also erodes cultural barriers such as slave trade in East and West Africa that hinders development of many Africa societies over hundred years. Giving credence to this development, Lechner (2001) note that global norm, ideas or practices over take local tradition. As a result of western cultural domination that goes with globalization, Africa countries are rapidly losing their cultural identity. Cultural and value erosion is the worst effects of globalization, because colonialism failed to completely swallow up indigenous value and cultural reserves, but globalization is completing the task. Every aspect of our culture has been touched leaving behind what is neither Nigerian nor European culture.

Wolf (2014) avers that people in shanghai, Abuja and Mexico city are more apt to wear, jeans, T-shirts, and sneakers than their country's traditional dress. As a result of cultural erosion, a young person in Nigeria is more likely to be listening to American music than a traditional music. In corroboration, Kasongo (2010) rightly notes that while an economic conflict may be clearly identifiable and easily resolved, a perception of cultural deprivation or identity domination may create more profound problems that are not easy to resolve. Although culture is dynamic and in this case new culture will emerge. However, such mixture of culture and values would definitely result in cultural antithesis that may yield new synthetic culture. The new culture may never reasonable the original but forming a new cultural thesis and the old culture, value and traditions would be totally lost (Ndubuisi, 2012).

Benefits of Globalization

The world through globalization has become a system "complex whole" that inter-connect, inter-relates and inter-depend; through cutting across political borders, international economic transactions, socio-cultural relations.

Through technology, information about the world can be gotten live at your finger tip. We now have channels like internet, CNN and others that help one to access the world.

Globalization has promoted peaceful coexistence among people through cultural diversity International tourism as people all over the world now travels out of their usual environment for recreation, pleasure or business trips outside. Also, international sports like Olympic activities are now a big business and a force of attraction for most people of the world. It now, influence political, economic and cultural activities all over the world and promotes international relations. As added by Spy Report (2010), globalization has continually increased international competition in sport. The FIFA World Cup, for example, is the world's most widely viewed sporting events and estimated 700 million people watched the final match of the 2010 FIFA World Cup held in South Africa while the estimated numbers of people that watched the 2014 Brazil final match was 715.1 million.

Nations of the world can now have the opportunity to improve their technology and innovations through cross technological contacts which will in turn promote competition and creativity among nations.

Bottleneck of Globalization

States that are seen as sovereign and unitary have gradually lost their complete influence in the global community as a result of some other exigencies. Like the MNCs, supranational institutions; even the interconnectedness of terrorism across the world has hampered security, stability of states and its citizens as against national interest. States can no longer control the force of interaction and transaction that goes across their national boundaries. As put by Clinton (2000), globalization is not something we can hold off or turn off... It is the economic equivalence of a force of nature-like wind or water"

Mittelman (2006) on the negative implication of political globalization, avers:

With globalization, states capacity has been severely eroded, nations must comply with the exigency of global market forces or be marginalized. This loss of sovereignty is supposed to be compensated for by higher levels of growth. Failure to achieve high rates of growth in the era of

neoliberalism is perceived to be evidence of failure of internal economic policies. Thus the marginalization of whole continents and the persistence of such national problems as "unemployment" a blame on the failure of policy makers to remove domestic market distortions and rigidities. In this way, a whole range of policies that states have pursued in the name of social welfare national cohesion or development is associated with "distortion" and rigidities.

In line with this lengthy submission, globalization has eroded the political, economic and social powers of the states. For example, national politics in economic, social, cultural and technological areas were under the jurisdiction of states and people within a country, but now under the influence of international agencies. This ugly situation has led to the erosion of national sovereignty and narrowed the ability of governments and peoples to make choices from options in policies (Knor,2005). Part of the erosion of national policy-making capacity is due to the liberalization of markets, developments and technology. For example the free flow of capital, the large sums involved and the unchecked powers of big players and speculators have made it difficult, if not impossible, for countries to control the level of their currency and the flow of money in and out of the country.

The tools of modern information technology have come handy to pseudo science in its efforts to propagate and reinforce age-old superstitions. The famous three Fs-food, fashion and fornication are being exploited by the media to boost circulation. The two worlds of news and advertisement have intermingled. The net result is that the forces of globalization have increased cultural divide. Thomas Freidman, who earlier hailed globalization as a great force of socio-cultural homogenization, found to his dismay that it was creating bad divide among people and began to talk of "one country two worlds" (Chandran, 2004-302).

The problem of underdevelopment in the third world countries is also connected to capital flight that occurs among them. Assets or money rapidly flow out of these countries through economic transaction that takes place between the developed and underdeveloped countries. Corruption among political leaders is also a contributing factor to underdevelopment and export of state wealth abroad. A 2008 paper published by Global Financial Integrity estimated capital flight or illicit financial flows to be "out of developing countries" at a rate of "some US\$850 billion to \$1 trillion a year.

Human trafficking, sexual slavery and forced labour across shores are another disadvantage of globalization. In 2008, the United Nations

estimated nearly 2.5 million people from 127 different countries who are being trafficked into 137 countries around the world. (un.org,2008). Furthermore, in the area of drug trafficking, in 2010 the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) reported that the global drug trade generated more than US\$320 billion a year in revenue (United Nations, 2010). Worldwide, the UN estimates there are more than 50 million regular users of heroin, cocaine and synthetic drugs. The international trade of endangered species was, second only to drug trafficking among smuggling "industries" (San Francisco Chronicle, 2007).

Globalization has increased a lot of social vices. In the bid of the "get rich quick syndrome" mostly youths have explored technology to dupe people and acquired illegitimate wealth on the internet (cybercrimes), masses indoctrination of youths against the society is spreading online, some nations have resorted to over dependence of imported goods and financial support that will promote underdevelopment and dependency.

Theoretical Framework

The paper adopts structural theory as the framework for explaining the stages and prospects of globalization in the 21st and 22nd countries. The proponent of the theory are Auguste comte (17-1857), Herbert spencer (1820- 1903), Emile Durkheim (1858- 1917) and Talcott Parsons (1902-1979) who refined the theory. Before 1950s, structuralism was seen as the dominant theory in sociology as it is, as a set of interconnected parts which together form a whole (Haralanibos, 1980). But during the 1950s and early 1960s, the theory witnesses a steady drop from the discipline of sociology partly because of the criticisms against it and advancement in sociological research. The concept was however, adopted in political science and specifically in the field of comparative politics.

From the above background, the main thrust of the structuralism analysis is that the international market structure perpetuates backwardness and dependency in the South and encourages dominance by the North. According to Joan (1997), the market trends to favour the already well endowed and to thwart the less developed. Unregulated international trade and capital movement will accentuate, not diminish, international inequalities, unless accompanied by reforms at the national and international levels. The structural bias of the international market, according to this school, rests in large part on the inequalities of the international trading system. Trade does not serve as an engine of growth as asserted by the

liberals but actually widens the North-South gap. The system creates declining terms of trade for the South.

The structuralists also argue that international trade creates an undesirable dual economy. Specialization and concentration on export industries based on comparative advantages in agriculture or the extraction of raw materials by the Southern economies do not fuel the rest of the economy as projected by the Liberals. Instead, trade creates an export sector that has little or no dynamic effect on the rest of the economy, thus, trade creates a developed and isolated export sector alongside an under developed economy in general.

Finally, the structural prescription for promoting economic development in the South focuses on four types of policy changes: import substituting, industrialization, increase South-South integration, population control. Structuralists assert that it is the specialization of third world countries in the production and export of raw materials and agricultural commodities that hurts of the declining terms of trade for the those products. There force the South needs to diversify away from agriculture and raw materials toward manufacturing and services activities. To do this, it may need to adopt high tariffs irritably to encourage the establishment of domestic manufacturing facilities. This is the essence of import substitution.

Conclusion

With all the available information on the stages and prospects of globalization in the 21st centuries, it is unarguable that globalization has come to stay. It is a process that has its roots back in human history as earlier noted of technological innovation, globalization is an irreversible and out of anyone's control. No regulatory agencies devised by states that can control globalization that exceed their territorial authority. It has no boundary or jurisdiction. Therefore, globalization has eroded away the sovereignty of states on political, economic cultural, social, etc sovereignty gives states the right to do as they please in their territory without external interference.

In corroboration, khor (2000) posits that national policies including in economic, social, cultural and technological areas before were under the jurisdiction of states and people within a country have increasingly come under the influence of international agencies, such as IMF, World Bank, UNO, etc. As a result of this development, most developing countries have seen their independent policy making capacity eroded and have to adopt policies made by IMF or World Bank which may be detrimental to their countries. However, the inequality between North and South will countries to exist in international economic relations because of the international market structure.

Recommendation

As earlier noted that globalization cannot be control by any state but it can be managed through the radical reforms by the various states. The financial players or institutions such as the UN, IMF, World Bank, WTO, etc should be democratize to reflects equal representation and rights of all members acknowledging the fact that favouring any region or state will bring in balance in the wealth and development.

However, national governments of Southern division should improve their human and material resources, hire foreign services where necessary and domestic human resources and engage in self development as a way to bridge the gap between North and South. Finally, if these conditions are adopted, We believe that North-South inequalities will gradually be reduced to minimal level. The south leaders should take advantage of the globalization, learn how best to live with the unavoidable difficulties it may bring and modify the system to make it operate better in one's own interest.

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