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**The “To Be” Second Continent of Beijing: Navigating the Exploitative Tendencies of
China in Sub-Saharan Mainland
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As we dwell into the foregone subject of neo colonialism which tends to be now non objectively replaced with the optimistic side of globalisation in terms of the infrastructural and economic development of the most marginalised entities across the world, it still not justifies the “still” or “ongoing” cultural hijacking along with strategic exploitation in terms of first world defined civilization of the mainland indigenous people of the sub-saharan countries as this article further investigates and dwells into.

The 2017 report by McKinsey and company estimated approx 10,000 chinese firms in Sub-Saharan Africa which constitutes countries like Kenya, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Zambia, Mauritius among others. The very existence of China in Africa mainly thrives on hegemonic reasons and not that with the notion of “Charity” as people may understand to the contrary.

The putting up of Africa on the globalisation map comes through the outlook as the indigenous people look for opportunity to make money and that further dependence of money and guidance can also lead to cultural hijacking and even cultural inferiority of the natives or the aboriginals of the mainland.

The poor infrastructure, political instability of the african countries and the low income leads to further dependence of the “outsider” in the mainland. “The Chinese financiers signed 1,188 loan commitments worth \$160 billion with African governments and their state-owned enterprises between 2000 and 2020, in transportation, power generation, mining, telecommunications. The top loan recipient countries over the last 20 years included Angola, Zambia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, and Cameroon, and most recently the largest recipients included Ghana, South Africa” according to the Chinese Loans to the Africa Database.

The Sub-Saharan Africa contains 30% of critical minerals of the entire globe yet from 2000 to 2011 the global market of Africa remained at 1%.

The above data speaks volumes as to how, regardless of the fact being naturally rich in resources and having a massive chunk of the total resources of the world, the Chinese business priorities are seen in Africa after Shanghai in the global map. The Chinese have more embassies in Africa than that of the USA and it does robusts the economic expansionism through the sanction of bilateral relationships in exchange of loans as how it has happened with Pakistan

and Srilanka already. In the book “The Dragon’s Gift: The Story of China in Africa by Deborah Brautigam, she investigates and further reveals her fix as to if China is up for the aid to Africa or it is particularly for the trade.

The following revelation is made through the different chapters of the book which reveal the post cold war impact of China in Africa and how this further led to it having a seat in the UNSC replacing Taiwan. The shift of events when in 1960 the aiding companies of Chinese turned into profitable business corporations reveals something more vis a vis on the contrary. The Chinese model of expansionism in Democratic Republic of Congo and in Sierra Leone has been quite straightforward in terms of the guaranteeing of infrastructure building and loans only on the availability of natural resources. The governing question in here arises that being straightforward with the idea of expansionism and exploitation of the aboriginals really legitimises them from the west ?

The indifferent, detached behaviour in terms of the down grading trend of human rights and democracy across the sub-saharan mainland speaks to the not so good attitude of the Chinese either on the questionable political instability, low income of the mainland.

The taking of loans by the continent which already has an abrupt amount of political instability across can thus lead to economic dependence and further can lead to a puppet treatment by the lender, be it the West or the Chinese in this case. The becoming of the “modern day colony” can thus be concluded as a real event during contemporary times considering the vulnerabilities of the Sub-Saharan mainland.

In the Democratic Republic of Congo the deal signed with the Chinese of whopping \$6 billion in exchange of basic infrastructural warranty like that of school, hospital, railways, university campus in exchange of copper and cobalt exchange for next 20 years. Such strategic questions of exchange even blurs the fine line between globalisation and neo colonialism as the employment opportunity which contains tedious skilled tasks are again done by the Chinese and the menial jobs being governed by the congolese. The following salary being not even a contributing factor of the economy speaks for its exploitative nature. “Documents the burgeoning Chinese presence in Africa to examine China's potentially world-changing role in reshaping Africa's culture and economy”; the following statement gives the essence of the fine line of what can be taken to be as the hegemonic tendencies through the giving of the loans and making the mark on the map of neo colonialism or globalisation ?

That remains as a foreseen answer in the coming future with the steps that are being taken today in the African mainland.

Thomas Friedman the author of *World is Flat* describes the different phases of Globalisation in which the contemporary phase of 3.0 describes the imperative nature of the digital age while the prior phases describe the monopoly of the government and the industries respectively.

The key question here is not about the monopoly of the different actors, it's rather that the transgressing of the natural resources in the form of minerals being depleted by those who are at the top of the hierarchy so as to maintain their hegemonic tendencies alive. Joseph Stiglitz was not incorrect while stating in his book as to how neoliberalism was a complete disband to the whole idea of employment and uplifting of the poor in a way that did not happen ever before. The case of sub-saharan mainland being a strong example for it.

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