

Confronting Challenges and Contradictions

Welcome to volume three of *The Journal of Pan African Studies*, in this volume we dialogue with African thought and culture via two interviews on two diverse continents, twelve articles, and a concluding tribute to four of our recently appointed ancestors. Hence, Jocelyn Poole host an interview with Bongiwe Nkabinde about her struggle during the apartheid era of South Africa and her work at the Johannesburg Public Library in the City of Johannesburg; Sylvia A. Nyana continues the library/information literacy theme and thus calls for a library system that is sustainable and compatible with the oral tradition centered upon a paradigm that has the ability to make information relevant to the rural populous; shifting to the U.S. with a single and comparative perspective of the African world community, I and associate editor Karanja Keita Carroll interview National Council for Black Studies founding member and past president William M. King of the Department of Ethnic Studies at the University of Colorado at Boulder as Holly Y. McGee uncovers how the Black press in the United States and South Africa between 1945 and 1965 worked to combat the negative images/assumptions and examines the public face of Black women in both locations (the United States and South Africa); pivoting, we return to Africa with a comparative analysis of private and public education in Africa South of the Sahara presented by Abdourahmane Barry; second, Emmanuel O. Oritsejafor suggest that the challenge for a post-conflict state such as Liberia involves the consolidation of democracy and the implementation of a bottom-up communitarian approach in an effort to attain national integration; third Wendo Nabea examines language policy in Kenya from colonialism to date with a particular focus on education; a look at indigenous knowledge systems in Zimbabwe juxtaposing postcolonial theory by Jacob Mapara; Maxwell Kadenge works to critically examine the vocalic characteristics of 'African Englishes' spoken as a second language in Zimbabwe as we also discuss the Shona system of taboos or avoidance rules based in Zimbabwe, the relevance of 'Gata' among the Shona of Zimbabwe in the context of the HIV/AIDS pandemic articulated by Dennis Masaka and Agrippa Chingombe; next we engage the challenges of prostitution and female trafficking in Africa in a paper by Ademola Kazeem Fayemi which attempts to explore and defend African ethico-feminism as a viable complementary ideology for curbing prostitution and female trafficking in Africa, and also argues that African ethico-feminism is a new conception of feminism relevant to the African prostitution and female trafficking predicament; Adeolu Ouwaseyi Oyekan investigates African states' proclivities towards democracy in their search for development and offers philosophical expositions of the missing gaps and thus argues that the universal features that define democracy are requisites for development however there are some peculiar factors that stringently inhibit against the manifestation of this relationship in Africa, and last, juxtaposing our ancestor tribute, we have an essay on feminism in Africa.

Welcome to this dialogue on the contradictions and challenges of the African condition, calling for serious discussion, and the creation/support of sustainable prototype institutions and programs that labor to liberate our consciousness.

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