UNRAVELING THE PROBLEMATICS OF BLACKNESS IN EAST ASIA: HISTORICAL AND CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVES

RICHARD ATIMNIRAYE NYELADE[1]

Abstract

This paper critically examines the perceptions and manifestations of Blackness in East Asia, focusing on China and Taiwan. Drawing on personal experiences, historical data, and the theoretical frameworks of Afro-pessimism and scapegoat theory, the study explores how racial hierarchies and anti-Black sentiments are constructed and perpetuated in these societies. It highlights the role of Western colonial racial ideologies and local cultural practices in shaping the marginalization of Black individuals. By analyzing contemporary incidents such as media portrayals and political discourse, the paper reveals the persistent nature of anti-Blackness in East Asia. Additionally, it revisits the contributions of African civilizations and introduces Ubuntu philosophy and Afrocentricity as solutions for addressing racial inequality and fostering global inclusivity. The findings suggest that a renewed appreciation of Africa's historical significance and the adoption of Ubuntu can help dismantle entrenched systems of exclusion.

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[1] Richard Atimniraye Nyelade holds a PhD in Sociology from Shanghai University and is a doctoral candidate in anthropology at the University of Ottawa and an affiliate of the Institute of Agricultural Research for Development in Cameroon. His research explores contested sovereignty, decolonial thought, panafricanism, and diplomacy in unrecognised states, with a focus on Taiwan and Somaliland. Through long-term ethnographic fieldwork, he examines the performative dimensions of statehood, indigenous political imaginaries, and imperial entanglements in the Global South. He is currently a fellow with the United Nations Development Programme in Tunisia.