



# Pan-Africanism in Lesotho: Challenges and Opportunities in the Early Twenty-First Century

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## Abstract

Pan-Africanism has been a significant force in Lesotho's political landscape since independence, influencing policies and societal attitudes towards African unity. The analysis is based on a review of existing literature, government documents, and public discourse related to Pan-Africanism in Lesotho. Interviews with policymakers were also conducted as supplementary data. Pan-Africanist sentiments remain strong among the Basotho population, but there are significant challenges such as economic disparities that undermine collective unity efforts. Despite these obstacles, Pan-Africanism continues to offer opportunities for Lesotho to engage with broader African communities and benefit from regional integration initiatives. To harness the potential of Pan-Africanism, Lesotho should prioritise economic development, foster cross-cultural dialogue, and strengthen its diplomatic relations with other African nations.

**Keywords:** *Pan-Africanism, Pan-African Unity Movement, African National Congress, Decolonization, Multiculturalism, Neo-Atlantic Theory, Postcolonial Studies*

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