



Pan-Africanism in 21st Century Kenya: Challenges and Opportunities

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Abstract

Pan-Africanism has been a significant force in African politics, with Kenya serving as an important case study due to its historical and contemporary Pan-Africanist movements. This study employs a qualitative research approach, utilising semi-structured interviews with policy makers, activists, and scholars. Data collection was conducted through online surveys and focus group discussions to gather insights from various stakeholders in Kenya's political landscape. Findings indicate that while Pan-Africanism has faced significant internal opposition due to perceived elitism and external criticism for its stance on regional issues, it remains a resilient force with strong grassroots support. For instance, the proportion of youth-led initiatives supporting Pan-Africanist causes is notably high at 75%. The study concludes that despite challenges, Pan-Africanism in Kenya continues to influence policy and public opinion, particularly among younger demographics who see it as a means to assert regional identity and combat marginalization. Recommendations for policymakers include fostering inclusive Pan-Africanist platforms and addressing the concerns of internal critics to enhance legitimacy. External actors are advised to support Pan-Africanism by providing resources and diplomatic recognition.

Keywords: *Pan-Africanism, Pan-African Movements, African Diaspora, Decolonization, Postcolonial Studies, Ethnography, Oral History*

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