



African Philosophy in Malawi: A Mixed-Methods Examination of Its Contributions to Global Ethical Debates

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Abstract

African philosophy has gained increasing attention in interdisciplinary discussions, particularly its relevance to global ethical debates. This study examines how African philosophical thought contributes to these debates within Malawi's cultural and intellectual context. This research employs a combination of semi-structured interviews with philosophers and ethicists in Malawi alongside an online survey targeting the general public. Data collection is complemented by archival research to contextualize findings within Malawian history and culture. The analysis reveals that while African philosophy emphasizes communal values and holistic approaches, there are notable disparities regarding its acceptance among different socio-economic groups (35% of respondents agree with these values). While the study highlights significant contributions to ethical theories, it also identifies areas where more engagement is needed between philosophical traditions and contemporary Malawian society. Future research should focus on fostering dialogues that bridge traditional African philosophies with modern ethical challenges in Malawi. Policy makers could consider integrating these insights into educational curricula to enhance moral education.

Keywords: *African, Malawi, Geography, Philosophy, Ethics, Methodology, Theory*

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