

# THE AFRICAN REVIEW

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## FOREWORD

Africa is effervescent and African life therefore provides unusual opportunities for creativity and originality in many fields of endeavour. It is primarily to encourage creative reflection on certain aspects of Africa's life that *The African Review* has been launched. It is the hope of the editors that African scholars will write and submit provocative articles analysing the social, economic and political forces shaping the future of our continent. The journal is interested in facts and ideas which may help to solve significant African problems, particularly those relating to development.

Governments and scholars approach issues from differing perspectives and with varying emphasis, but they would all agree that our main objectives in the 1970s are the creation of effective and responsible governments, the achievement of high rates of economic growth, and the accomplishment of social reform and cultural renaissance. No one can claim to have found the perfect way to realise these objectives. However, a frank discussion of the various possible solutions, supported by concrete examples drawn from relevant African experience, should shed much-needed light on the issues which must be faced and assist in shaping future policies.

The journal will provide a forum for the examination in depth of those factors that are essential for the attainment of an advanced level of development. The clear task of the policy-makers and administrators is to identify those factors which accelerate the process of development and to give them priority in the national plan. Tanzania's Arusha Declaration, Zambia's Humanism, Guinea's Socialism, Algeria's Charter, Uganda's Common Man's Charter and other declarations too numerous to mention, all seek the goal of maximum development, but approach it from different angles. The clear task for scholars is to analyse these approaches in the light of the experiences of the countries concerned, and assist in identifying those factors that have made the greatest contribution to national development.

It can be assumed that the main purpose of development programmes is raising the standard of living, as well as the political consciousness of the masses of the people. The role which they play in the political and economic life of African States has a direct bearing on the development process. The journal is inter-disciplinary and articles on this theme will be welcomed from all branches of the social sciences.

Little development can take place in a situation of continuous civil strife, especially if such strife concerns the basic principles on which a society claims nationhood. Internal conflicts caused by partisan competition for power or ethnic rivalry have jeopardised the newly-born freedom of many African states, for they lend themselves to the intervention of big powers in pursuit of their own interests or in extension of their mutual conflicts with each other.

An important task before African statesmen is therefore the creation of conditions conducive to the establishment of stable and progressive governments. Scholars can assist in the search for justice and stability by raising and commenting upon basic issues concerning the sources of legitimacy and authority for the new states and the participation of citizens in the running of their own affairs. Two articles appearing in this issue do raise such basic questions, and introduce a debate to which many scholars should contribute. This journal will welcome examination of African political systems which aim to identify how the basic functions of government are performed in each of them. We solicit studies of the operation of particular political and administrative institutions and of the decision-making process at all levels.

Africans are members of a growing international community. African states cannot be isolated or insulated from it. Given the limitations imposed upon them by the existing distribution of power in the world, the African nations must find new methods and measures for furthering their own interests, and enriching the community. At the same time, they must make new efforts to promote and strengthen African unity and mutual co-operation. Scholars in the field of international politics are encouraged to use the forum provided by this journal to discuss ways and means by which this may be accomplished.

Particular attention will be paid to the phenomena of imperialism and neo-colonialism. Articles analysing it and exposing governments and interest groups whose policies subordinate the genuine interests of Africa to foreign interests will be published in this journal. For too long Africa has been dominated and exploited by the forces of imperialism and neo-colonialism for their own benefit and its peoples discriminated against on grounds of their race and colour alone. In addition the interpretation of significant events in African politics has been monopolised by foreign "experts". This journal will explore alternative African solutions to African problems and appeals to African scholars to contribute their knowledge and understanding of their continent and its people. Concepts like self-reliance and socialism will be discussed and analysed in an effort to give them concrete meaning. Emphasis will be placed on the originality and relevance of ideas to the African scene.

The Department of Political Science of the University of Dar es Salaam is the originator of this journal. Editorial responsibility is vested primarily in a board consisting of faculty members and students of that Department. One person each from the Departments of Political Science at the University of Nairobi, Makerere University and the University of Zambia have agreed to be associate editors. In addition, there are regional editors from other parts of Africa and from other Continents who have an advisory responsibility.

## CHE AND CONTINUOUS EDUCATION

ALI SENDARO AND IRENE BROWN\*

Che Guevara was not like other ordinary politicians for he never believed in holding a high position in power after the revolution was successful. To him a position in power did not matter as much as the revolution itself. He would not hold too long to power, yet he would hold on to a revolution until the revolution was a success as in the case of Cuba, or until he lost his life.

Che's death meant he did not succeed in his longing to liberate the whole of Latin America. Yet he left behind him a great contribution to socialism in this century. His more famous understanding of the strategy of guerrilla warfare should not obscure the contribution of his idea of learning. As he has said many times and most forcefully in *Socialism and Man in Cuba*, socialist society was "a huge school for educating the individual", and his theory of guerrilla warfare makes even the armed struggle for socialism into a learning process.

Che starts to talk of this process of education on the very battlefield before the armed struggle is carried through to a successful conclusion.

At this level he stresses the importance of the relationship between the guerrilla fighters and the peasants. Both have much to teach each other. Che pointed out that those who first dream of the possibility of revolutionary change are not usually men whose spirit has been crushed by years of grinding poverty and toil. He admitted that none of the famous group of guerrillas who arrived in the *Granma* and settled in the mountains of the Sierra Maestra in order to overthrow the Batista regime in Cuba knew rural life from inside. "None of us who . . . *learned to respect the peasant* and the worker living with him had a peasant or working class background" (our italics). The learning of this respect came out of sharing the hard life of the peasant in Cuba, as "an experience felt rather than known". It is

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