

Review of: "The Necropolitics of Drone Bases and Use in the African Context"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I would like to first of all commend the efforts of the author of this scholarly work for opening a new vista into the discussions of drone bases in the African context. However, the following are my few observations, comments, and suggestions:

- There is a need for overhauling the introductory part of this treatise by carrying out some editorial work on it, correcting some of the grammatical errors such as: ...

i these hardshipsare yet to stop

ii Other research has linked drone use with exploitation and domination (Vasko, 2013; Satia, 2014; Allinson, 2015; Tahir, 2015; Espinoza, 2018; Tricontinental: Institute for Social Research, 2021), - these are more than a single research work.

iii ... particularly in determining who lives and dies within the African context— this statement is value-laden and somewhat journalistic. Therefore, it needs to be rigorously interrogated with evidence-based literature.

iv other punctuations such as full stops, commas need to be observed

- The author has interrogated the dynamics of necropolitics in the light of drone warfare and extrapolated the theoretical foundations of **aerial colonialism**. Is the phrase aerial colonialism properly contextualized in this treatise? Is there any other suitable phrase that could be used instead of this? Could this situation in this contemporary period be aptly described as aerial colonialism? If yes, the author needs to strongly conceptualise the phrase with evidence of literature. Besides, can colonialism and imperialism be used interchangeably in this context?
- The author passingly mentions the involvement of those that bestride the corridors of power in Africa in this anomaly. However, is there any way the contemporary African leadership could be held accountable for this scenario, or is there any way they surreptitiously engage in diverse duplicities and complicities just because they benefit from the so-called self-interest of the big powers? A little wind of change in African leadership in a few African countries recently simplifies that such threats from the big powers can be resisted if they.
- **Focusing on Ghana, the report highlights how Ghanaian politicians and the US government kept agreements for establishing military drone bases secret, leading to widespread dissatisfaction among Ghanaians.** Why were the agreements kept secret? Meanwhile, the selfishness and unpatriotic posture of the leadership speaks

volumes in terms of their culpability in this bugging issue. For instance, the protests organised by the people in Ghana did not mean that the government had no foggiest idea of what went awry before the protest.

- **Most African states show limited agency in controlling their airspace due to technological constraints and exploitation by Western and Arab states.** How true is this assertion, and is there any empirical evidence to support this argument?
- The paper is well-concluded, but the author needs to take a second look at the recommendations, which are supposed to be based on the findings.