

Review of: "Decolonisation of Health in East Africa: Opinion Piece"

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Decolonisation of Health in East Africa: Opinion Piece

This is an interesting paper to read mindful of several African countries that experienced colonization with its attendant pluses and minuses. In certain instances, legacies were left so that, if had been followed, perhaps the narrative would have been different today. Authors of this interesting paper highlight the inequalities that prevail in the colonialist's own space in respect of healthcare that seem to be in place in the colonized space as well. As if the colonialist's deeds in the past were not enough, it continues to play out in a seemingly acceptable subtle manner. For example, trained workforce in several African countries leave their countries under certain arranged measures to provide human resource to the colonialist at the expense of the colonized.

In the "Akan" language in Ghana, there is a proverb that "while advising the cat, the stinking fish must be advised as well. It is therefore not enough for only the colonialist to be blamed for the prevailing circumstances of healthcare in these African countries. Governments and people of these African countries should also take portions of the blame. It is very important that we contextualize African healthcare and emphasize the significant place of cultural competency. African countries should know what is best for them in my view instead of the continuous reliance of the past. That is why I hold the view that "we do not dwell on the past but rather be guided by the past."

I totally agree with the authors reference to the statement:

"As a bard once famously wrote "All the world's a stage and all the men and women merely players."

Beyond that however, I am of the view that the players can make a difference at any point in time they find themselves on the stage.

Commendation to the authors for this interesting and inquisitive opinion piece.