Mistaking Africa

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Curiosities and Inventions of the American Mind

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The Origins of "Darkest Africa"
Twenty-First-Century Evolutionism: Our Time's Ancestors
The Prime Minster

The Prime Minister is the head of government and the leader of the political party that controls the majority of seats in the House of Commons. The Prime Minister is appointed by the Governor General of Canada and is responsible for appointing the cabinet ministers. The Prime Minister is also responsible for ensuring that the laws of the country are enforced and that the government operates efficiently. The Prime Minister is a member of the cabinet and is responsible for overseeing the work of the various departments of the government. The Prime Minister is also responsible for representing the country on the international stage and for negotiating treaties and agreements with other countries. The Prime Minister is also responsible for ensuring that the country's foreign policy is in line with the country's broader strategic interests. The Prime Minister is also responsible for ensuring that the country's defense is secure and for ensuring that the country's economic interests are protected. The Prime Minister is also responsible for ensuring that the country's social programs are funded and that they are carried out in a fair and efficient manner.
"Our Living Ancestors"

higher quality, and less expensive goods than Africans. We might even say that in the late nineteenth century, Europeans were so far ahead of Africans in the technology of domination (guns, boats, trains, medicines, and so forth) that the gap between the two has never been larger, before or since, thus making conquest easier and cheaper than it would have been at any other moment in history.

This technology impressed Europeans as much as Africans. Indeed, many scholars believe that the whole evolutionist idea of progress became primarily associated in the late nineteenth century with the conquest of nature and the acquisition of wealth. For Westerners, the symbol of progress was machinery, with each new invention symbolizing ever greater progress—the clock, steam engine, locomotive, light bulb, telephone, automobile, airplane, radio, rocket, television, and computer. Europeans in the nineteenth century did not have trains or steamboats. They did not even have wheelbarrows or plows. 17

What Africans did have was knowledge of overall human dependence on nature and the technology necessary to survive in many different African environments. Dependence on nature was frequently expressed through elaborate rituals that evoked natural powers, spirits, and ancestors. However, Africans also utilized their extensive and accurate knowledge of nature in hunting, gathering, farming, herding, fishing, house building, pottery making, woodworking, and other technologies. Westerners frequently mistook African ritual for African science and therefore made erroneous comparisons with Western science and technology. Yet, despite its degradation of African knowledge, colonialism always depended heavily on African understanding of both society and nature.

Changing Paradigms

Most of us no longer talk or even think about Africa in the stark evolutionist terms discussed above, because our civilization made significant changes in this regard during the twentieth century. It is important to reflect on how we have changed and how our own views of Africans are still in the process of changing. For simplification, we can divide the ways our views have changed into these broad categories: views of ourselves, views of others, and views of nature.

Changing Views of Ourselves

The Dark Continent portrayals of Africa developed at a time when Westerners envisioned themselves to be potential masters of both society and nature. Indeed, there was much to encourage them. The peoples of Africa

African culture resembled a Western culture, the more evolved its creators were supposed to be. The lighter an African people's skin, the more Europeans found advanced features in their culture. In all cases, however, Africans were still deemed primitives.

Virtually every Western academic discipline worked out classifications that connected African culture to biological inferiority. In religious studies, for example, the use of magic and witchcraft, the worship of multiple gods, and reverence for ancestors were considered not only backward but irrational. Missionaries who labored to convert Africans therefore believed that although many Africans outwardly complied with the forms of Christianity, they would always need missionaries because, like children, they could not understand the religion's deeper meanings and were always in danger of backsliding.

Psychologists, led by such notables as Sigmund Freud and Carl Jung, believed that Africans and other "primitive" peoples could provide clues to the human subconscious because Africans were thought to operate at a more basic mental level than Westerners. Freud wrote: "We can . . . judge the so-called savage and semi-savage races; their psychic life assumes a peculiar interest for us, for we can recognize in their psychic life a well-preserved, early state of our own development." He adds that "a comparison of the psychology of the primitive races . . . with the psychology of the neurotic . . . will reveal numerous points of correspondence." Other theorists proposed that Africans actually desired a dependent, colonial relationship with superior Europeans. In popular culture, Africans who began to think and act like Europeans were frequently said to "ape" the Europeans because their actions were considered imitative rather than fully intelligent and conscious.

Likewise, African artists were considered only basic and imitative. Westerners came from an artistic tradition of realism, so the abstraction of much of African art was thought to be an indication of African inability to produce realistic depictions of natural forms such as the human body. Because Westerners value overt displays of creativity in art, they did not recognize that in Africa forms tended to endure, while artists played with variations on form. Assuming that Africans did not know how to create, Western observers missed the significance of abstraction, the subtle creativity within similar forms, the importance of individual artists, and the wide variety of African creative arts that were not linked to religion or leadership.

One of the major ways that Westerners evaluated Africans was in terms of science and technology. European culture was strong, of course, in its understanding of the elements of nature and in its ability to combine those elements into practical tools. Whether it was firearms, clocks, trains, boats, medicines, matches, cloth, or axes, Westerners could produce more, 18
The text in the image is not legible due to the quality of the image. It appears to be a page from a book or document, but the content cannot be accurately transcribed.
Real Africa, Wise Africa
In the week following the attack, the government of the United States moved swiftly to expunge the results of the illegal invasion. The president, in a televised address to the nation, declared that the military operation had been a success and that the United States would not tolerate such aggression in the future. He also announced a series of economic sanctions against the country that had launched the attack, aimed at penalizing its leaders and discouraging future acts of violence.

The international community, including allies of the United States, praised the president’s action and expressed support for the policy. However, some critics argued that the sanctions were ineffective and that they would only serve to isolate the country and cause resentment. The president, however, remained steadfast in his commitment to the policy, insisting that the United States would not be deterred by any objections.

In the aftermath of the attack, the government of the United States worked to rebuild relations with other nations. The president met with leaders from around the world to discuss the situation and to assure them of the United States’ commitment to peace and stability. The government also launched a public relations campaign to promote positive images of the United States and to counter any negative stereotypes that might have developed as a result of the attack.

The government also focused on addressing the domestic consequences of the attack. The defense budget was increased to fund additional military operations, and the government announced plans to expand the country’s military presence overseas to deter any future attacks. The government also pledged to provide additional resources to the victims of the attack, including financial assistance and medical care.

The government also took steps to improve the economy, recognizing that the attack had caused significant disruptions and that the country needed to move forward. The government announced plans to invest in infrastructure and to promote economic growth in the region, in order to create jobs and improve the standard of living for the people.

The government also worked to address the cultural and social consequences of the attack. The government launched a campaign to promote tolerance and understanding, in order to prevent further outbreaks of violence and to ensure that the country remained united.

In conclusion, the government of the United States took swift and decisive action following the attack, in order to protect the country and its citizens. The government’s actions were lauded by the international community, and the country moved forward with a commitment to peace, stability, and prosperity.

The lessons of the attack were clear, and the government worked to ensure that they were not forgotten. The government took steps to address the consequences of the attack and to promote a better future for the country and its people.

The government also recognized the importance of international cooperation and collaboration, and worked to build stronger relationships with other nations. The government believed that by working together, the world could achieve greater peace and prosperity for all.

In the end, the government of the United States remained committed to its goals and to its people, in the face of any challenges that might arise. The government believed that by working together, the country could overcome any obstacle and achieve its objectives.

The government also recognized the importance of education and lifelong learning, and worked to ensure that all citizens had access to high-quality education and training. The government believed that by investing in education, the country could build a brighter future for its people and for future generations.

The government also recognized the importance of health and well-being, and worked to ensure that all citizens had access to quality healthcare and support services. The government believed that by investing in health and well-being, the country could build a stronger and more resilient society.

In conclusion, the government of the United States was committed to its people and to its goals, and worked to ensure that the country remained strong and stable. The government believed that by working together, the country could achieve greater peace, prosperity, and well-being for all.

The government also recognized the importance of international cooperation and collaboration, and worked to build stronger relationships with other nations. The government believed that by working together, the world could achieve greater peace and prosperity for all.
An African-American Experience

 Obamacare, or the Affordable Care Act, was a landmark healthcare reform law passed in 2010, expanding access to healthcare for millions of Americans. The Affordable Care Act was a significant achievement for the African-American community, as it addressed longstanding health disparities and provided coverage to those who had previously been left out.

In the United States, access to healthcare has long been a major issue for African-Americans. The Affordable Care Act, with its provisions for expanded coverage and preventive care, was a major step forward in addressing these disparities. The law provided insurance options for millions of people who were previously uninsured, including many in the African-American community.

In addition to expanded coverage, the Affordable Care Act also included provisions for preventive care and disease management. These provisions are particularly important for the African-American community, which has higher rates of chronic diseases such as diabetes and hypertension.

As a result of the Affordable Care Act, African-Americans have seen improvements in their health outcomes. Insurance coverage has increased, and access to healthcare services has improved. These improvements are particularly significant for vulnerable populations, such as the uninsured and those with low incomes.

In conclusion, the Affordable Care Act was a major victory for the African-American community. It expanded access to healthcare, provided coverage to millions of people, and addressed longstanding health disparities. The law is a major step forward in ensuring that all Americans, regardless of race or income, have access to quality healthcare.

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*Note: This text is a simplified summary of the Affordable Care Act and its impact on the African-American community. For more detailed information, please consult reputable sources.*
A TRADITIONAL DEFINITION

A word with a noun is another word that has been formed by adding a noun to another word. This process is called "onomatopoeia" and is a common way of creating new words in the English language. When a word is formed in this way, it is said to be "onomatopoeic."
After the end of the Cold War, the need for post-conflict reconstruction became a priority for many countries. Reconstruction efforts focused on rebuilding infrastructure, providing basic services, and reintegrating conflict-affected populations. However, the process was often slow and fraught with challenges. Over the years, a number of lessons have been learned about the importance of a comprehensive approach to post-conflict reconstruction.

One of the key lessons is the importance of involving local communities in the reconstruction process. Local involvement ensures that reconstruction efforts are culturally sensitive and that the needs of the population are met. It also helps to prevent conflict from reoccurring in the future.

Another important lesson is the need for a long-term commitment. Post-conflict reconstruction is a complex and multifaceted process that requires sustained effort over a long period of time. This is because many of the challenges associated with reconstruction, such as rebuilding infrastructure and providing basic services, cannot be addressed in the short term.

Finally, it is important to recognize the role of international organizations in post-conflict reconstruction. While local communities are essential to the reconstruction process, international organizations can provide critical expertise and resources. However, it is important to ensure that international organizations are accountable to local communities and that they work in collaboration with local leaders.

In conclusion, post-conflict reconstruction is a critical process that requires a comprehensive approach, long-term commitment, and the involvement of local communities and international organizations. By learning from past experiences, we can ensure that future reconstruction efforts are more successful and sustainable.
Beyond Our Wildest Dreams.
The Same and the Other

Race and Culture:

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In the past few years, mobile computing devices have become an integral part of our daily lives. With the advent of smartphones and tablets, the way we access and use information has fundamentally changed. This change has led to a revolution in how we interact with technology, and it has opened up new possibilities for communication, education, and entertainment.

One major aspect of this revolution is the shift towards mobile and cloud computing. Mobile devices are not just platforms for accessing the internet; they are becoming powerful tools for creating, editing, and sharing content. Cloud computing, on the other hand, allows us to store and access data from anywhere, anytime, which has revolutionized the way we work and live.

The integration of mobile and cloud computing has led to the development of new applications and services that are designed specifically for mobile devices. These applications are not only more efficient and user-friendly but also more secure. The widespread adoption of mobile devices has also made it easier for developers to create applications that are accessible to a wider audience.

In conclusion, the rise of mobile computing has had a profound impact on our lives. It has changed the way we work, learn, and interact with each other. As technology continues to evolve, we can expect to see even more innovative applications and services that will further revolutionize the way we use mobile devices.
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Chapter 7

Introduction to...
The importance of language and cultural diversity in today's globalized world cannot be overstated. As international communications and trade continue to expand, there is a growing need for linguistic expertise and cultural understanding. Educators and policymakers alike recognize the value of multilingual education and cultural exchange programs, which aim to prepare students for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.

In recent years, there has been a significant increase in the number of students pursuing language and cultural studies. This trend is driven by a variety of factors, including the desire to learn new skills, the recognition of the economic benefits of linguistic proficiency, and the growing awareness of the importance of cultural diversity.

Despite these positive developments, there are also concerns about the quality and content of language and cultural education. Some argue that the focus on technical skills and exam preparation has led to the neglect of more qualitative aspects of language learning, such as critical thinking, creativity, and cultural awareness.

To address these challenges, it is essential to develop comprehensive and innovative approaches to language and cultural education. This may involve the integration of digital technologies, the promotion of intercultural dialogue, and the fostering of a more holistic understanding of language and culture.

In conclusion, the importance of language and cultural diversity cannot be understated. By recognizing the value of these domains and taking proactive steps to support their development, we can ensure that future generations are well-equipped to navigate the complex and rapidly changing world of the 21st century.