

African States, Ideologization of Development and Recycling of Poverty

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States, as a specific modality of inter and intra-class relations/domination is culture-specific. It largely assumes the character bequeathed on it by interplay and intermixture of both internal and external social forces. Hence the character of most states in Africa can better be appreciated if a careful and systematic study is done with regard to contradictions inherent in the organic composition of capital in industrialized Europe; as well as the nature of the African man. These contending factors blended to unleash a dictatorial, interventionist and parasitic structure that differentiates and dissociates itself from the ruled. As essentially “elitist specie of social isolation”, most states in Africa practically pursue development strategies by relying on “received models of development”. **These strategies discountenance existing local conditions and end up abstracting from the history of the historian and instigate circuitous vicious cycle of poverty.** This is particularly the case in the present dispensation where “ideologization of development” is now the norm. Thus most political leaderships employ the services of technocrats-turned soothsayers and policy marabouts whose recommendations rather complicates development initiatives. We shall base our investigations on some basic propositions emanating from social production of material values. **Hence we shall argue that the putative capacity of most states in Africa to perform its regulatory functions make it possible for a few economic notables to appropriate the state apparatus and align with few technocrats in their conscious effort to circulate poverty as long term strategy of holding the entire system captive.** The paper shall make useful recommendations to break the cycle.