

**INTERLECTUAL DEBAUCHERY AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER: THE
NIGERIAN EXPERIENCE**

Longlang, Vincent Makwal, Department of History,

Faculty of Arts, School of Post graduates Studies, Nassarawa State, University,

PMB 1022, Keffi.

longlangmakwal@gmail.com

08099337650

Abstract

Anyone who still insists on claiming the neutrality of technology or has some illusions left about disassociating imported technology from its planned use ought to have his head examined. The against modern technology gas been presented so cogently by so many perceptive minds at so many occasions that any regurgitating of the same themes would be really nauseating. Technology transfer is a dead duck which is served only on the dishes of listless skunks or those persons who have sold their souls to the World Bank. Technology cannot be transferred because it is not an isolated detachable component in the machinery of a culture. But even if the transfusion of white's blood as it were, could restore the vigor to the sick body of a black man, where are the donors?

Keywords: Intellectual debauchery, Technology Transfer and third World Nations.

Introduction

Technology is power and it is western. The third World Nations cannot acquire it by the traditional strategy of begging, borrowing or stealing. Begging for it no matter how sycophantic faithful the obedient servant is of no avail. Borrowing it, is to beg for disasters. Stealing it is simple possible. Neither can all the oil in the third world buy it. Some of it may be doled out for strategic reasons, its less toothy bits but for meaty pieces, some bones thrown at groveling pets but the concubine herself remains firmly confirmed to the western hare. So who is there today to suggest that western Technologies are ours, fust to acquire and then to remold according our social needs and our moral values? (Akwashiki, 1992). We cannot be both beggars and choosers at the same time, (Goonatilake, 1977). Technology has become a revenue yielding venture which is religiously guiding by the western world the developed world where the third World imports all its machineries from is at all times trying to maintain a steady market for its products.

Hence the intricacies involved in the fabrication and production of machines can never be revealed to the third world. (Ike, 1989), That is why all attempts by Nigeria and indeed another third world country to go mechanized have made with failures. The so-Africans sent to the developed world to acquire the technical know-how cannot efficiently and effectively maintain the machines installed for us by the so-Called experts from the developed world because they (the Africans) lack the understanding of the basics of the equipment. This knowledge is usually kept away from them during the training (Akwashiki, 1992)

Objectives

1. To encourage the indigenous scientists and Technologists to have their place in the league of industrialized nations,
2. To encourage the developing nations to have their prototype machines and equipments to designed, fabricated and produced goods locally
3. To raise awareness in Nigerian's minds to patronize locally made products.
4. To eradicate the ideas of developing nations depending on the developed nations for Technological advancement.

Research Methodology

The data for this paper were obtained mainly from secondary sources which included publications and analysis of scholars' works, journals, articles, textbooks, news papers and magazines. It also involved a detailed review of contemporary literature on the roles of technology.

Statement of the Problem

The problem is centered on the myth of technology transfer in the third world countries with particular to Nigeria. This investigation is aimed at finding out the causes of this Misnomer (failures) and suggests strategies for curbing with the menace.

Research Questions

1. What made technology transfer difficult in the third world nations?
2. What are the alternatives to be adopted instead of technology transfer by the third world nation?
3. What are the environmental constraints against technology transfer?

The Environmental Constraints against Technology Transfer

Apart from the fore-going, the imported machineries and equipments are constructed to suit temperate conditions. For instance before a method of agriculture which will take little time, little energy and practicable for the peasants in Nigeria can be derived, three environmental constraint have to be considered this include seasonal sunshine, intense rainfall and weeds, (sardar, 1977). Such environmental factors can only be adequately taken care of if the particular agricultural method is evolved by a Nigerian who is acquainted with the environment. Today, only very few farmers in Nigeria se pesticide because it is impossible to translate the law to high volume recommendations (usually 200 litres per hectre) in temperate areas to small scale used in the trop1CS. Farmers either to not have the water, or it is an arduous task to carry sufficient water to the fields. Presently, Nigeria is wallowing in economic doldrums as a consequences of billions of petro-naira extended on imported technology in 1970s. Various forms of machineries and equipments were brought into the country by Gowon and Obasanjo administrations in an attend to mechanize the country, (Ngare, 2012). About of these equipments are now in state of disrepair. At that time money was "not a problem but how to spend it", (Ngare, 2012).

If those billions of petro-naira were expended on encouraging our indigenous scientists and technologists, the country should have had its place in the league of industrialized nations long ago. Such prototype machines and equipment should have been easier to maintain since they are conceived, design, fabricated and produced locally.

The Myth of Reality of Technology Transfer

Technology Transfer suggest a transaction, which involves a transmission of thye skills and knowledge of essential or relevant technologies from the countries of their origins to the

countries wishing to acquire the technologies, (Dickson, Barde et al,2015). Incidentally, no nation willingly enters into such transactions. Technological invention are normally patented and the trademarks are the exclusive reserve of originating countries. A desire to acquire foreign technology by the third world nations is expressed in a policy termed "technology transfer". To transfer a technology would normally mean that all that is attached to the technology, the personal, the patent, the skill and the product is giving up to the receiving nation completely, (Dickson, Barde et al,2015). Therefore, technology transfer is simply a misnomer of failures.

However foreign countries may acquire the skills and knowledge of the technology indirectly through any of the followings, (Dickson, Barde et al,2015).

1. illegally: the citizens may legally by the products, dismantle and copy the items, and attempt to produce it at best as possible. Usually the copied product bears a different trademark otherwise the new country will be accused of piracy against an international law. This illegal cleverness is encouraged by both Nigeria and other third world governments.

1. Bilateral Agreements: these are commercial and trade agreements in which exchange of skills and products takes place between developed and developing nations. These bilateral agreements may include the training of citizens of the developing nations in specific areas from where the technology is acquired.

ii. Activities of the Multinational Corporations: these organizations move their personnel and equipment into the other nation to perform certain assignments or contracts. In the process they employ and train, on the job, the citizens of the host nation.

iv. Scholarship Schemes: the nation, desirous of acquiring a technology may sponsor her citizens overseas in specific areas with a bond to return the citizens after training. Training citizens may either set up their outfits or be employed in government establishments or seek employment in private concerns.

v. Industrial Espionage: this is the process of spying on other countries and stealing their industrial and technological secrets. The Chinese and Korean and the defunct Soviet Union made good use of this method thus obtaining a lot of valuable technical secrets on weapons manufacturing, space exploration and car manufacturing.

Recommendations

Government should create conducive environment to encourage the indigenous scientists and technologists to practicalize their skills in the league of industrialized nations.

Developing countries should be encourage to have their own indigenous prototype machines and equipments to design fabricated and to produce goods locally.

Government should create confidence in local ingenuity and technical sufficiency to produce self reliance and technological independence.

Government should strive to come up with policies to enhance local made machines, this IS to eradicate total-dependency on foreign technology for development.

Conclusions

Nigeria must strive to come up with an appropriate prototype technology that must suit our availability and should be in consonance with the economic, social, cultural and political objectives of the country. Such technology must be environmentally sound. The important thing for our intellectuals, scholars and decision-makers to realize is that conventional technology is up to its eyes in western values and its implementation in African societies, in whatever form, will further increase the technological dependency of African societies and encapsulate them within the Western technology does not come to traditional societies but to seek revenge for cherishing non-western values. Only self confident in local ingenuity and technical sufficiency of the third world can produce through self- reliance and technological independence.

Those who do not respect themselves and their culture are not willing to preserve domestic integrity of their household, construct the technological edifice of their civilization, ought to be prepared for a marginalized existence on the periphery of sanity.

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