

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-53120

Date: 06-08-2025

Title: Leadership: Kakistocratic Leadership in Africa

Recommendation:

Accept as it isYES.....

Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		✓		
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity		✓		
Significance		✓		

Reviewer Name: Mir Jaffar

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

Abstract

The abstract provides a comprehensive summary of the research, highlighting the contrast between divinely inspired leadership and kakistocratic governance in Africa. It clearly explains the principles of righteous leadership versus the detrimental effects of kakistocracy. The discussion of colonial and neocolonial legacies offers historical context, while the emphasis on post-independence external influences adds depth to the analysis. The call for a paradigm shift toward ethical leadership is well-articulated and aligns with the stated objectives. The language is formal, coherent, and reflective of critical scholarship. The keywords accurately capture the thematic scope of the study.

Introduction and Background

The introduction underscores the foundational values of ethical and divinely inspired leadership—righteousness, justice, and integrity—supported by historical and religious

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references. The example of King David adds a moral and historical dimension to the discourse, setting a strong conceptual base for the argument. This section effectively situates the research within a framework of ethical governance, contrasting it with leadership failures rooted in self-interest and corruption.

Research Context

The paper situates kakistocracy within the African socio-political and historical landscape, linking its persistence to systemic issues such as corruption, lack of accountability, and weakened democratic institutions. The reference to colonial disruptions and neocolonial practices provides an important historical perspective, demonstrating how these factors have shaped contemporary governance challenges. The discussion of external interventions by Western powers highlights the global dimension of the problem and its continued relevance in post-colonial African states.

Thematic Focus

The dichotomy between divinely inspired leadership and kakistocracy serves as the central theme of the research. The study addresses how kakistocratic leadership manifests through the deliberate promotion of unqualified leaders, erosion of institutional integrity, and economic mismanagement. Conversely, it portrays divinely inspired leadership as a transformative alternative rooted in ethical governance and public service. The thematic clarity ensures consistency across the abstract and introduction.

Argumentation and Analysis

The paper demonstrates strong analytical depth by integrating moral, political, and historical perspectives. It connects ethical principles with governance outcomes, reinforcing the argument that the absence of integrity-driven leadership perpetuates systemic instability and underdevelopment. The discussion on moral reformation and systemic restructuring reflects the

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normative stance of the study and positions it within a discourse of leadership ethics and political transformation.

Language and Style

The language is formal, academic, and conceptually rich. Key terms such as "kakistocracy," "neocolonialism," and "moral reformation" are effectively used to convey complex ideas. The tone reflects a critical and evaluative stance, suitable for scholarly discourse.

Overall Assessment

The paper presents a clear, well-structured examination of leadership failures in Africa through the lens of kakistocracy and contrasts this with the ideals of divinely inspired governance. It combines historical, ethical, and political analysis to provide a nuanced understanding of the subject. The integration of moral principles with governance theory strengthens the conceptual framework, while the attention to colonial and neocolonial influences adds historical depth. The study contributes meaningfully to discussions on ethical leadership and governance reform in the African context.
