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Hegemony, Ideology and the African Project:
Globalization and its Challenges

With the increasing attention focused on the wide-ranging impact of organizations such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization, Africanist scholars have paid considerable attention to amplifying a deeper understanding of Africa’s position in the global capitalist order. Debates about such issues as African debt and its effects at grassroots levels, the use of loans rather than grants to address the HIV/AIDS pandemic, and World Bank imposed user fees for social services have all focused attention on the hegemony of global capitalism. Controlled by decision-makers in Washington and Geneva, globalization processes are furthering the north and south divide, with the north getting richer while the south gets poorer. Moreover, newly emerging democracies on the African continent are struggling to maintain economic policies that are able to deliver basic services to their citizens.

Within this context, the editors of Ufahamu invite discussion and comments about the response from governments, non-governmental organizations, intellectuals and grassroots civil society in Africa. We welcome papers dealing not only with economic and political viewpoints on globalization, but also ask for analysis of ideological and philosophical domination as well. For example, what are the goals and values implicit in global capitalism and international development projects? How can we understand global capitalism’s underlying philosophical and epistemological structures and how those structures construct social, economic and political relations of power? How do the forces of globalization effect our understandings of race, gender, nation, ethnicity and class? How can Africa participate in the global order and create strategies for transformation? What is the role of capitalist political ideology and democratization projects?


Manuscripts must be no more than 30 pages, clearly typed, double spaced, formatted following the most recent Chicago Manual of Style. Please use parenthetical citations with a bibliography. Include a brief abstract and a brief biographical note, including position, academic or organizational affiliation and recent significant publication.