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**English Abstracts**

**The Decolonization of African Knowledge:  
Theoretical Logic and Practical Pathways**

*Hu Pengzhi*

**Abstract:** This paper offers an in-depth examination of the theoretical logic and practical pathways for the decolonization of African knowledge, aiming to reconstruct the subjectivity and legitimacy of African knowledge, dismantle the Western-centric narrative framework, and promote the construction of a more just and inclusive global knowledge ecology. The epistemological characteristics of African indigenous knowledge are distinctly embodied, communal, and practical; the justification of knowledge relies on communal consensus and practical efficacy, and is ultimately oriented toward sustaining survival and communal harmony. “Epistemic colonialism,” through linguistic hegemony, the educational system, and the construction of a “colonial library,” reduces African knowledge to folklore and superstition, resulting in a deep rupture in African intellectual history. The decolonization of African knowledge constitutes a core philosophical proposition for Africa to reconstruct its subjectivity and achieve genuine liberation. Its central claim is not to replace “Western epistemology” with “African epistemology,” but to break the monopoly of a single rationality and offer another possibility for human cognition. The community connection, integration of knowledge and action, and the value pursuit of “the richness of life” emphasized by African indigenous knowledge serve as necessary complements and corrections to the Western tradition of instrumental rationality. Despite facing numerous challenges, the decolonization of African knowledge is a crucial step toward promoting the pluralization of the global knowledge system, helping to expand the Western notion of “absolute universality” into “dialogic universality.” In the future, it is necessary to engage in global dialogue with a confident and open stance, thereby constructing a richer, more just, and inclusive landscape of human knowledge.

**Keywords:** African indigenous knowledge, epistemic colonialism, conceptual decolonization, “colonial library”, dialogic universality

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## **The Emergence, Development and New Trends of Contemporary African Christian Theology**

*Deng Haochen*

**Abstract:** Contemporary African Christian theology has spiritually responded to social transformations across the continent. Emerging within the decolonization movement of the 1950s, it established its localised presence within Catholic and Protestant circles during the 1970s through “Theology of Inculturation”. By the 1980s, intensified social tensions shifted theological focus towards social realities: South Africa’s “Theology of Liberation” targeted apartheid; mainstream church theologians reflected on Africa’s predicament, awakening Christians’ consciousness for transformation; Pentecostalism emerged as a distinct force, attracting followers through “Theology of Prosperity”. From the 1990s to the present, there are several new trends: “Theology of Reconstruction” calls for transcending liberation narratives to build post-democratisation communities; “Theology of Mother Tongue” emphasises the contribution of indigenous language exegesis to global Christianity; African Catholicism, through two Special Assemblies of African Bishops, advocates regional reconciliation and social justice; “Women’s Theology” critiques patriarchy, reconstructing interpretive traditions through female experience. The various strands of contemporary African Christian theology constitute systematic expressions by theologians seeking spiritual autonomy for Africa. This both represents the de-Westernisation of global Christianity and provides intellectual resources for the Global South.

**Keywords:** African Christianity, theology of inculturation, theology of liberation, theology of reconstruction, theology of mother tongue

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## **Regional Agricultural Value Chain Construction under the AfCFTA**

*Piao Yingji*

**Abstract:** Amidst heightened global economic uncertainty and escalating geopolitical risks, African countries have attached great importance to accelerating the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), with the aim of building sustainable endogenous drivers for economic development and enhancing resilience against external risks and shocks. Constructing regional value chains is crucial for the AfCFTA's implementation to generate transformative impact. Regional agricultural value chains is a priority area for the implementation of the AfCFTA, aimed at fostering economic growth, creating employment, ensuring food security, enhancing the competitiveness of the agricultural sector, accelerating agricultural modernization and economic structural transformation. Currently, the construction of Africa's regional agricultural value chains faces constraints at different levels. At the national level, the development of agricultural value chain lags behind. At the regional organization level, the degree of economic integration exhibits heterogeneity. At the continental level, progress in trade facilitation reforms remains sluggish. Moving forward, the African Continental Free Trade Area will strive to establish inclusive, strategic, digitalized and green regional agricultural value chains, thereby advancing inclusive, equitable, prosperous and sustainable regional economic integration.

**Keywords:** African Continental Free Trade Area, regional economic integration, agricultural value chains, trade facilitation

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## **The Pan – African Payment and Settlement System in the Process of African Integration**

*Lu Yamin*

**Abstract:** In January 2022, the African Union, the African Export – Import Bank, and the African Continental Free Trade Area officially launched the Pan – African Payment and Settlement System (PAPSS) and promoted its implementation

at the continental level. As a key instrument for advancing African financial integration, PAPSS aims to address the payment challenges in intra – continental cross – border trade. Its implementation is expected to reduce the cost of intra – African trade, decrease reliance on third – party currencies, resolve the fragmentation of existing African payment systems, and support the economic integration of the African Continental Free Trade Area. Despite facing challenges such as weak electronic payment infrastructure, lack of necessary understanding and trust, and exchange rate volatility, PAPSS holds promising prospects. The growing sense of internal autonomy in Africa and the burgeoning new technological revolution provide a favorable political environment and technical guarantee for the full operation of PAPSS. Moreover, China could incorporate PAPSS into the framework of China – Africa infrastructure cooperation and digital economy cooperation, thereby contributing to the enhancement of both the hardware and software of PAPSS in Africa.

**Keywords:** Pan – African payment and settlement system, cross – border electronic payment, African Continental Free Trade Area, financial integration

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### **From Asian – African Solidarity to Global South Cooperation: The Normative Evolution and Contemporary Value of the Bandung Spirit**

*Pan Yue*

**Abstract:** As a historic conference of Asian and African nations striving for independence in the post – colonial era, the 1955 Bandung Conference established the Bandung Spirit, which has evolved from a regional norm to a global guiding principle. By combining norm theory with historical analysis, this study examines the internal logic of the Bandung Spirit’s transformation from an Asian – African solidarity concept into a norm for Global South cooperation. The research finds that the normative evolution of the Bandung Spirit follows a triple pathway of “subject shaping – platform diffusion – institutional internalization”: norm entrepreneurs like Indonesia creatively combined local cultural resources with international political

demands to propose a normative framework aligned with developing countries' interests; multi-layered multilateral platforms constructed a normative dissemination network extending from the Asian-African region to the global sphere; norms were internalized from concepts to actions through policy transformation, institutional construction, and practical innovation. In the current context of intensified great power competition and rising unilateralism, the Bandung Spirit provides crucial guidance for developing countries to maintain strategic autonomy, promote institutional innovation, address global challenges, and reconstruct international discourse. Particularly in emerging fields such as climate change, public health, and digital governance, the Bandung Spirit demonstrates a paradigm shift from political consensus to technical coordination and from conceptual advocacy to collaborative action, providing vital support for building a fairer and reasonable international order.

**Keywords:** The Bandung Spirit, normative evolution, Global South cooperation, South-South cooperation, international order

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**Research on Legal Protection for Overseas Business of  
Chinese Private Security Companies: From the Perspective  
of the Belt and Road Investment Security Needs in Africa**

*Li Yumo*

**Abstract:** Chinese private security companies have assumed some governmental functions in safeguarding overseas interests, maintaining regional security and stability, and mediating relations among major powers. While meeting security demands, their overseas operations face multiple constraints: To begin with, domestic regulatory frameworks and supporting mechanisms lag behind overseas business practices; Moreover, localized legislation in Africa is becoming increasingly stringent with continuously strengthened regulatory oversight; Finally, the supply of legal services related to Africa remains inadequate,

struggling to meet the diverse demands of the international market. The convergence of these domestic and international constraints highlights gaps in the legal safeguards for Chinese private security companies' overseas operations. To facilitate the orderly development of overseas operations by Chinese private security companies, efforts should be guided by the holistic approach to national security. This includes improving domestic regulatory frameworks to establish a rule system compatible with overseas business expansion. Leveraging bilateral agreements will strengthen institutional safeguards for security operations in Africa and mitigate host-country legal risks. Through practical China-Africa cooperation, we can advance the evolution of international private security regulations, thereby contributing a Chinese solution to building a more equitable and rational global security governance system.

**Keywords:** The Belt and Road Initiative, Chinese private security company, overseas interests, a holistic approach to national security, legal protection

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