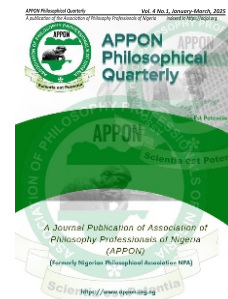


**GLOBALISATION, DEVELOPING TRENDS
IN SCIENCE AND INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY AND THE DEPLOYMENT
OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
TOWARDS UNITING AFRICANS**



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ABSTRACT

The Atlantic slave trade lasted for about four hundred years. It was carried out from the 15th to the 19th century. It is indubitably the most of the horrors human beings have ever dished out to other human beings. The enslaved Africans suffered mass death, as they were also dehumanised and the African continent plundered. One of its effects is that Africans were dispersed in Europe, the Americas and many parts of the globe; most of whom do not know their family root and heritage. This paper argued that given the disadvantage the people of Africa and most of the underdeveloped face in a globalised world of free trade, liberalism and advanced scientific results, African could be reconnected to their roots and heritage. In this discourse on the philosophy of technology it is argued that the engagement of scientific outcomes in biomedicine such as the Human Genome Project (HGP) and Artificial Intelligence can secure this. The paper has adopted problem-centric, analytic and historical methods of research. Its goal is to establish the fact that it is possible for the black race to be linked up with their forebears in their motherland, Africa by using advances that science and technology offer today. This way, the earlier post-slave trade abolition programme of returning enslaved Africans to places like Liberia, Sierra Leone and elsewhere can be furthered. Consequently, some of the lasting negativities of the sad history of the enslavement of Africans such as loss of cultural heritage, forced assimilation, underdevelopment of Africa, legacy of inequality, intergenerational trauma, racial stereotypes, systemic racism, racial tension, cultural amnesia, to mention a few, mitigated and rested.

Keywords: Globalisation, Enslaved Africans, Information Technology, Human Genome Project (HGP), Africans' Unity

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*Africa unite
'Cause we're moving right out of
Babylon And we're going to our
Father's land, yeah
How good and how pleasant it would
be
Before God and man, yeah
To see the unification of all Africans,
yeah As it's been said already, let it be
done, yeah
We are the children of the Rastaman
We are the children of the Iyaman
So, Africa unite
'Cause the children wanna come
home (Africa unite), yeah, yeah
Africa unite
'Cause we're moving right out of
Babylon*

- Song by Bob Marley and the Wailers
• 1979

What is Globalisation?

Today, 'globalisation' is a common denominator in our community. Its application to various spheres of human thought and action is pervading and wide. Its meaning can be unveiled if it is explained against the backdrop of what it is set against. Globalisation promotes 'trans-boundary' values as against the traditional epistemologies of "Nation-States [that] had been the cornerstones of modern political development in most parts of the world since the middle of the 17th century." "What prevails in a globalised world is a form of 'trans-boundary' across the entire world as against the model of political authority that has been at the basis of modern society and based on the supremacy of national state and national interests and not on the idea of global responsibility and governance."⁴

In what form is this trans-boundary value expressed? What global responsibility and governance are involved

in globalisation? A few scholars and indeed non-scholars (politicians, scientists, businesspersons to mention a few) have conceived globalisation differently depending on their perspectives. It has been conceived as a post-cold war ideology that is put forward to unify the world. It is also often veiled under economic ideals such as liberalisation, anti-protectionism and free trade as ably represented by the World Trade Organisation (WTO). Of course, there is the scientific aspect to globalisation. It is equated with, and seen as a corollary of the *i-life* and electronic communication interconnectivities made possible by modern scientific and technological feats. Technologies and platforms such as the computer, Artificial Intelligence, and smart phones, social media and many more have made this easier.

Globalisation can thus be defined "as the processes of change towards global economic integration and a world economy characterised by the liberalisation of trade, globalisation of capital markets and rapid diffusion of advanced technologies and consumption patterns." Richard Jolly defines it as "the process of integrating economy, culture, technology and governance across national borders."⁵ In a purely economic sense, M.G. Ogundokun defines globalisation as:

The rapid integration of trade relations, productive and investment decision across the globe by economic agents who employ and move investment capital and technology around to take advantage of environments where their competitive edge can manifest in high returns.⁶

According M.T. Ogundokun, globalisation "has benefited much from multilateral trading and investment arrangements,

⁴ Yersu Kin, *A Common Framework for the Ethics of the 21st Century*. (Paris: Division of Philosophy and Ethics, UNESCO 1999), 4.

advancement in technology and communication and the opening up of trade and investment through the liberalisation of current and capital transactions.”⁷

In characterising the general features of globalisation, Professor Alexei Vassiliev in a paper titled “Africa: a stepchild of globalisation,” noted of globalisation that:

Undoubtedly, we witnessing a qualitatively new convulsion of internationalisation and interdependence (though anything but a symmetrical one) of the world economy.⁸

He goes on to spell out the following features of globalisation:

- A pronounced aspect of globalisation is *the mobility of the world capital. Huge amount of money shift from one land to another and from one owner to another every day. Goods, people, information and ideas move from one county to another.*
- *A united system of world communications is developed* using more and more perfect electronic devices, information is accumulated and spread in explosive manner.
- *Science is becoming the society's main productive force [and] the decisive factor of the increase in labour productivity.*
- *The international space, early occupied almost exclusively by states is filled more and more by new actors, especially transnational corporation (TNC), which acquire qualitatively new characteristics, international financial conglomeration, non governmental agencies.*

▪ *Mass media, which have also become a variety of transnational business, are beginning to play a new role in determining people's states and society's behaviour and views.*

▪ *The functions of states though not all of them, are transformed, modified and weakened.*⁹

Central in the notion of globalisation therefore are the fact that the mobility and integration of capital across national borders is essential. It is floated on a highly developed scientific information technology that is globally connected and intertwined. This has made its reliance on electronic devices very essential. Today, human beings can be depicted as living an *e-life*. World economy and commerce are now under the hegemony of the TNCs, multinational corporations, as well as Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). Globalisation is consequently a by-word for 'limited-local-government.'

However, globalisation has not been accepted without a pinch of salt. In 1999, one of the symbols of globalisation the WTO was greeted with a vociferous protest and violence from various groups at Seattle, U.S. In spite of its subscription to free trade, and many more ideologies such liberalisation and liberalism, critiques of globalisation have been quick to press charges against a few of the values that it advances. We shall come back to this point in our closing section, but one should be quick to note that this explains why the European Trade Commissioner, Pascal Lamy, “advocates what he calls globalisation *maitrisee* – managed globalism.”¹⁰

⁵ *Commonwealth Current*, “The New Challenge for the World. Globalisation with a Heart.” (3. 1999), 4-5.

⁶ M.F. Ogundokun, “The Implications and Challenges of Globalisation for Nigerian Economy,” *Union Digest*, vol. 6, nos 1 & 2, (2000), 87-97

⁷ M.F. Ogundokun, “The Implications and Challenges of Globalisation,” 87.

⁸ Alexei Vassiliev, “Africa: a stepchild of globalisation.” Report at the 8th Conference of Africanists, Academy of Science. Moscow, (28 – 30 September 1999), 1.

Contemporary Development Trends in Science and Technology

The computer remains man's watershed in the act of production research as well as in countless other human activities – games, leisure, and communication. This explains why they suggest themselves to us first. Along with these, we shall use the genome project in the field biomedicine – as a paradigm – to illustrate development trends in science and technology today. Added to this is the expanding and pervading influence of Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a tool for the integration of Black African dispersed all over the world no thanks to slave trade and slavery between 1450-1930, an immoral trade that spanned from the 16th to the 19th centuries. We shall set out; using modern advances in medical research to argue that dislocated families can be united through the deployment of AI.

The Computer, Internet and Information Technology

The Computer: The personal computer (PC) is the epitome of the form of technology with which our age may be qualified, as the age of computer. The importance of the PC to today's man is well-established by no other person than Bill Gate – the Microsoft wonder-kid. He can be qualified as the father of modern computer – when he writes:

Predicting the imminent demise of the personal computer has become an annual ritual in recent years – and each year looks set for a repeat performance. Prediction for the last- quarter global sales were bad, the PC era was finally ending. In fact, sales grew at a healthy 19 per cent annual rate worldwide, well over

100 million PCs will be sold this year. That means the world now buys almost as many PCs as colour TVs.¹¹

Bill Gate noted further that people would “want to do many of the things they can do on their PC regardless of where they are or what device they are using – whether it's a palm-size computer, a Web-enabled cell phone, an Auto-PC or a smart television like a WebTV. A combination of sophisticated software, powerful microprocessors, wireless technology and high-bandwidth connectivity is starting to make a reality.”¹² Bill Gate predicts a *PC-plus* era. A few others call it the *Post-PC* era. In his words:

PCs gave the world a whole new way to work, play and communicate. The PC-plus era will be just as revolutionary. It will take the PCs power and make it available almost anywhere, on devices that haven't yet been dreamed up.¹³

It is argued that the Post-PC vision may well lead the way for a sea of changes in the way people would think about how they spend money. Instead of their *buying things*, the focus might shift to *buying a means of getting things done*. Nevertheless, the history of the computer, as a tool of technology that has qualitatively facilitated man's productivity is not a recent one. From forms as a simple calculator, the computer is today quite a complex tool engaged for different human endeavours. Hence Bill Gate pointed out that “the PC itself will be getting more powerful, more reliable and simpler to use. Even though the underlying hardware, networks and software will become more complex, that complexity will be hidden from users”.¹⁴ He predicts the new form and role the PC will take thus:

⁹ Alexie Vassiliev, “Africa: a stepchild of globalisation,” 1ff.

¹⁰ *Newsweek*, The International News Magazine, (22 November 1999), 48.

¹¹ Bill Gate, “Why the PC' Will Not Die,” *Newsweek*, (31 May 1999), 54.

There will be a simpler user interface that adapts to your needs, with voice recognition and natural language processing. There will be “instant-on.” So you won't have to wait for your PC to come to life. When the PC is at the centre of a home network (probably connected to a broader network that will constantly monitor performance, update software and download devices drivers and the like), it will be incredibly easy to administer, automatic in operation and maintenance-free. And the PC will morph into many new forms, such as book-size “tablet PCs.” But they will still be PCs underneath, with all the benefits of the universal PC model.¹⁵

The internet is perhaps the biggest contribution that the computer has offered modern man. It is the life-wire of today's global culture. Each moment of the day, “approximately 5.64 billion people worldwide use the internet, representing about 68.7% of the global population according to DemandSage. This number is constantly growing, given the fact that there are 5.64 billion internet users worldwide representing about 68.7% of the global population. The number of internet users is growing by about 2.6% annually. Mobile devices account for the majority of internet usage. People use the internet for one thing or the other.”¹⁶ The web sites on the net are increasing by the day meeting such human needs as expressed in the *Newsweek* thus,

What's certain is that the world

has digitised and there's no going back. Globally there are almost 200 million people on the Internet. The numbers tell just part of the story; the Net is no longer a novelty, an interesting way to pass the time. A third of the Americans now do at least some of their shopping on the Net, and some are already consulting doctors on the Net, listening to radio on the Net, making investments on the Net, getting mortgages on the Net, tracking packages on the Net, getting news on the Net, even, um, having *sex* on the Net.¹⁷

The same can be said of fixing dates, searching for marriage partners, accessing libraries, holding meetings, conferences lectures, religious fellowship, and many more. The Internet has created a new way of life. It is a phenomenon the *Newsweek* has chosen to call “e-life. This is “because the day is approaching when no one will describe the digital net-based, computer-connected gestalt with such a transitory term. We will just call it e-life. It is even projected that by the year 2003 more than 500 million people will be surfing the Web.”¹⁸

It's crucial to assess the impact of this shift, because the digital revolution is much more profound than a mere change of tools. The Internet is built on both a philosophy and an *infrastructure of openness and free communication*; its users hold the potential to change not just how we get things done but

¹² Bill Gate, “Why the PC' Will Not Die,”

¹³ Bill Gate, “Why the PC' Will Not Die,”

¹⁴ Bill Gate, “Why the PC' Will Not Die,”

¹⁵ Bill Gate, “Why the PC' Will Not Die”

¹⁶ DemandSage@ <https://www.demandsage.com/internet-user-statistics/> accessed 23/7/2025

our thinking patterns and
behaviour.¹⁹¹⁵

Curiously, it is difficult to disentangle the intertwined relationship globalisation shares with trends in science and technology. They are sesame twin. The openness fostered on humankind – openness in making knowledge common and available to all – has made contributions to, and improvements upon existing body of scientific knowledge and technological gadgets to develop in leaps. Rightly, argueably, this should be credited to globalisation. Yet, in another vein, if the world is a global village today, it is due largely to the input of science and technology, especially as it has to do with communication as reflected by Information Technology (IT), the internet, e-mail, the Global System for Mobile (GSM) technology, to mention a few. Underlying all this is what is called the *computer*. So in discussing development trends in science and technology, the computer should definitely be our first port of call.

Scientific trends in biomedicine:

When it comes, and if it will come, the cure to HIV/AIDS, a disease 'discovered' around 1985, would be one of the most welcome and best of feats of the new century in Biomedicine. Yes, *cloning* has a great place in the science of cell biology and genetics. The various experiments with pigs by scientists in the quest for alternative parts to human organs will definitely remain remarkable in the biological and medical sciences of our day. Tremendous efforts and resources are being expended daily, and ceaselessly, by researchers and governments to see to the realisation (and improvement) of these tasks. The intention is to enhance human life for the better.

Without belittling any of the above, the

project that has set out to decode the human being is today the most ambitious and challenging. Its mission is simply to unravel the “secrets of life.” The *Newsweek* magazine puts it thus: “It is the most expensive, most ambitious biology mission ever. The Human Genome Project, at \$250 million and counting, is biology's moon shot. In the eyes of boosters, it promises to provide no less than the operating instructions for a human body, and will revolutionise the detection, prevention and treatment of conditions from cancer to depression to old age itself”²⁰ Yet, the genome project is a continuation of the programme of James Watson and Francis Crick. Both scientists, who are definitely among the most influential people of the 20th century, discerned the way for understanding the molecular biology of gene. And “sequencing the human genome will represent a closure of sorts for the revolution wrought by those two geniuses.”²¹ The Human Genome Project was officially completed in April 2003. The initial sequencing effort only covered about 92% of the genome. The remaining portions, particularly repetitive sequences in centromeres and telomeres, were finalized later. The complete sequence, including these previously inaccessible regions, was published in a set of six papers in the April 1, 2002 issue of *Science*.²²

Exactly what implications would the genome project have for humankind? It has been called the 'blueprint of human life, the code of codes, the holy grail, the source code of the *homo-sapiens*.’²³ “It will know,” Harvard University biologist Walter Gilbert says, “what it is to be human.” Its implications for biology, medicine and philosophy are many. “The Human Genome Project (HGP) is important because it revolutionized our understanding of human

¹⁷ Bill Gate, “Why the PC' Will Not Die”

¹⁸ *Newsweek*, e-life: How the Internet is changing the World.” Special Report, (11 October 1999), 30ff

¹⁹ *Newsweek*, e-life: How the Internet is changing the World.” 33

biology and medicine by mapping the entire human genome. Its advancements in Medicine include our understanding disease. The HGP enabled scientists to identify genes associated with various diseases, including cancer, heart disease, and inherited disorders. It provides room for Personalized Medicine. By understanding individual genetic variations, the HGP paved the way for personalized medicine, tailoring treatments to a patient's unique genetic makeup. It leads to Drug Discovery. The project accelerated drug discovery and development by providing insights into disease mechanisms and potential drug targets. It paves the way for Genetic Testing. The HGP led to the development of numerous genetic tests that can diagnose diseases, predict disease risk, and guide treatment decisions.”²⁴

In the field of Biology, John Sulston, Director of the Senger Centre, a genome lab says, “The human genome sequence will be foundation of biology for decades, centuries or millennia to come.” How does this come about? This is how the *Newsweek's* account reports it:

And all of it will emerge from something like this ATGCCGCGGCTCCTCC... on and on, for about 3.2 billion such letters. Each letter represents a molecule adenine, cytosine, guanine, thymine. Every cell of every human body, from skin to muscle to liver and everything in between except red blood cells), contains a copy of the same DNA. *The totality of DNA present in the cells of a species is its genome.* Although the

genetic age has brought incessant reports about gene “for” homosexuality, risk-taking, shyness, anxiety, cancer, Alzheimer's and more, the only thing a gene is actually “for” is protein. That A's, T's, C's and G's constitute a code.”²⁵

For medicine, it is believed that “By 2050 many potential diseases will be cured at the molecular level before they arise.” It will enable physicians to determine “who stands to benefit from a given drug, and who might be harmed by it. The use of gene tests to guide drug therapy (a practice called *pharmacogenetics*) is spreading fast. Researchers are now learning to product reactions to treatments for asthma, diabetes, heart disease and migraines.”²⁶ Dr Mark Ratain of the University of Chicago says, “My vision is that everyone will be sequenced at birth. Parents will get a CD-ROM with their child's genetic sequence. When physicians prescribe drugs, they will use it to optimise treatment.”²⁷ This would definitely advance gene-based therapies. “Classic gene therapy rest on a seductively simple idea. Since genes direct the assembly of every cell in the body, it should be possible to treat chronic health problems by slipping corrective genes into patients. *Newsweek*, “The race to decode the human body: Genome.”²⁸ Dr Dennis Slamon points out how the genome could advance the art of medicine thus: “instead of building bigger bombs, we have developed a smart bomb to target a specific problem.” Today's medical scientist cannot operate comfortably without a “genetic science [that] now informs every branch of medicine, from oncology to infectious disease.”²⁹

²⁰ *Newsweek*, “The race to decode the human body: Genome.” (10 April 2000), 30ff

²¹ *Newsweek*, “The race to decode the human body: Genome.” 46

²² <https://www.nih.gov/news-events/nih-research-matters/first-complete-sequence-human-genome>

²³ *Newsweek*, “The race to decode the human body: Genome.” 46

²⁴ <https://www.healthcare-brew.com/stories/2025/03/21/how-the-human-genome-project-shaped-modern-medicine>

The Place of the Underdeveloped World

On many counts, - poverty, knowledge, equipment, etc. – the underdeveloped world has very little hope and role in a world where enormous capital is required for research and communication. Perhaps, all that is required by the underdeveloped from such a world is to 'sit-back, await results and buy whatever it could afford or required!' The case of the underdeveloped, especially in Africa, is one of poverty and penury; and near total dependence on developed Europe, the United States, and the advancing nations of Asia.

The underdeveloped world is an abode where the importance of research and the essence of self-reliance is yet to be appreciated. Poverty in capital, and knowledge concerning science and technology are definitely not a friend to this type of world – of globalisation, science and technology – that we have talked about so far. Indeed, for African, globalisation will largely be shorthand for what would pass for economic enslavement and neo-colonisation. Economically, it would further the African state's status as a consumers' economy. This is especially so, given the current situation where a good number of the underdeveloped states in the world are not admitted into the global neoliberal economy unconditionally. In the words of Professor Alexei Vassiliev,

In the 1980s and 1990s the terms of “structural adaptation” and “structural adaptation programme”, used in various world colloocations, became an *idée fixe* of the experts who advised the Africans and components of their Newspeak. “Structural adaptation” was

proclaimed the condition of getting aid from the IMF, WB and other international organisations. It was supposed to become an instrument of implementation of neoliberal models of the economic and socio-political development into the African world burdened with debts and immersed in unsolved problems, to acquaint it with the innumerable advantages of globalisation and market economy.³⁰

How is this to be administered? Let us follow Professor Vassiliev again!

... the government of the *African countries had practically to give up their participation in the development of their own economies* granting freedom to the play of the market forces and staking at the adherence into the world market without resorting to protectionist measures.

To attain this goal, they were told to comply with the code of quite simple rule:

- Minimise the state's interference in the economy;
- Considerably reduce the trade barriers and make the local producers compete with foreigner at par;
- Curtail or cancel subsidies and price control;
- Retrench budget expenditures;
- Lift the limitations imposed on capital movement;
- Privatisise the state enterprises;

²⁵ *Newsweek*, “The race to decode the human body: Genome.” 33

²⁶ *Newsweek*, “The race to decode the human body: Genome.” 32-38

²⁷ *Newsweek*, “The race to decode the human body: Genome.” 40

²⁸ *Newsweek*, “The race to decode the human body: Genome.” 45

²⁹ *Newsweek*, “The race to decode the human body: Genome.”

- Lift the limitations imposed on foreign private investments, adopting the laws aimed at encouraging them.³¹

Any way we analyse the above, globalisation and developments in the e-world favours the economically stable and strong states of the world. Even at the level of IT, globalisation leaves little hope for nations that are backward in scientific and technological development. "If one admits that the world structure has acquired a hierarchical nature, it is the USA that is at the top of the hierarchy. It is there that the headquarters of most of the strongest corporations including TNCs, are based. The largest capital market is there. The USA in the most advanced country in the fields of R & D, informatics, computerisation, Internet development and application of the recent scientific achievements, which form a new stage of scientific and technological revolution" is how Vassiliev expressed this point.

Globalisation must do many things in order to be of benefit to the underdeveloped sections of humankind the way it does for the developed world. "This would require actions to empower individuals, develop competitive economies and evolve participatory institutional arrangement for global governance"³² as it was rightly highlighted in the *Commonwealth Currents*. The same magazine states, "one of the greatest challenges facing humanity today is how to ensure that globalisation is managed in a manner which attaches the highest priority to the elimination of poverty and the creation of a more just world in which people are at the centre of development and are empowered to participate in decision affecting other lives."³³ It noted further that "At the political level two forces are having immense impact of people's lives:

globalisation and localisation. The forces of globalisation and localisation imply that much of the political institution building is likely to take place at either the supranational or the subnational level.

Globalisation has also raised concerns about 'invasiveness' of dominant culture and lifestyles."³⁴

On paper, globalisation has a good number of high points. But achieving its high points is only possible if it is taken as a comprehensive human value that is translated beyond the level of "economic gains (that favour economically advanced countries) and scientific and technological advancements. Dr Richard Jolly's report to the Commonwealth Secretariat launched on 15 July 1999 titled "Globalisation and Human Development" summaries this position thus:

'Globalisation is in fast forward, but the world's ability to cope with its human consequences is in slow motion'... The challenge is to improve governance nationally and internationally, 'so that the power and potential of globalisation works for people not just for profits or capital.'³⁵

Dr Richard Jolly stressed further that the efforts to strengthen global governance 'have been too narrow – fixated on the economic, largely ignoring human consequences and human needs and working to an agenda heavily domesticated by the industrialised countries.'³⁶

Consequently, critical areas of human insecurity for action "were highlighted by Dr Jolly's report thus:

- financial insecurity and volatility;

³⁰ Alexei Vassiliev, Conference of Africanists, Academy of Science. Moscow, (28 – 30 September 1999), 9.

³¹ Alexei Vassiliev, Conference of Africanists, Academy of Science. Moscow, (28 – 30 September 1999), 9

³² *Commonwealth Current*, 5.

³³ *Commonwealth Current*, 5.

- insecurity of jobs and incomes – affecting people in rich countries as well as poor;
- health insecurity – HIV/AIDS being only the most obvious;
- cultural insecurity – in response to the imbalanced flows of TV, film and other media; heavily weighted from rich countries to poor ones;
- personal insecurity – growing crimes;
- environmental insecurity; and
- political and communication insecurity – 61 major armed conflicts have been fought in the post-cold war era, almost all civil conflicts but fuelled by international flows of arms, mercenaries and interests.³⁷

Deploying AI to Address the Consequences of the Slave Trade

What are the negative consequences of effects of the transatlantic slave trade on Africans in particular and humanity in general? The transatlantic slave trade's consequences are still felt today, and its legacy continues to shape global social, economic, and cultural dynamics.

The Portuguese, the Spanish, the British, the Dutch Empires, and the French were the central Atlantic slave trading countries. For instance, in 1672, the foundation of the Royal African Company legalized the Slave Trade under a royal charter and provided a monopoly for London's port. The number of slaves brought from Africa by Britain was about 6,700 per year in the 1660s, and, by 1760, the British Empire was the prime European country involved in the Atlantic slave trade. It is also worth noting that the

participation of these countries was stipulated by that these nations had unimpeded access to the ocean and were intensively engaged in overseas trade. However, Africans also significantly contributed to the development.³⁸

The regions used by the Europeans for the enslavement of Africans were Upper Guinea, Gold Coast, West-Central Africa, Southeastern Africa, Bight of Biafra, Senegambia, Windward Coast, and Bight of Benin. Furthermore, the “ethnic groups that were carried to the American continents belonged to the areas of the most active slave trade. In this regard, more than 45 different ethnic groups were brought to the Americas, the most famous of which were the BaKongo, Gbe, Yoruba, Chamba, and Mandé, among others.”³⁹

Below is a simple AI's answer to this question. The transatlantic slave trade had numerous negative effects and consequences, including:

Human Costs

- 1) *Millions of lives lost*: Estimates suggest 12-15 million Africans were forcibly transported to the Americas.
- 2) *Brutal treatment*: Enslaved people faced inhumane conditions, physical abuse, and psychological trauma.
- 3) *Family separation*: Many were torn from their families and communities.

Social and Cultural Impacts

- 1) *Destruction of communities*: The slave trade disrupted African societies, leading to population decline and social instability.
- 2) *Loss of cultural heritage*: Enslaved people were forced to abandon their cultural practices and traditions.

³⁴ *Commonwealth Current*, 5.

³⁵ *Commonwealth Current*, 5

³⁶ *Commonwealth Current*, 5

³⁷ *Commonwealth Current*, 5

- 3) *Forced assimilation*: Enslaved people were forced to adopt European customs and languages.

Economic Consequences

- 1) *Exploitation*: The slave trade fueled economic growth in Europe and the Americas, while Africans were exploited for their labor.
- 2) *Underdevelopment*: The transatlantic slave trade hindered economic development in Africa.
- 3) *Legacy of inequality*: The slave trade contributed to ongoing racial and economic disparities.

Psychological and Intergenerational Trauma

- 1) *Intergenerational trauma*: The trauma experienced by enslaved people has had lasting impacts on their descendants.
- 2) *Racial stereotypes*: The slave trade perpetuated negative stereotypes about Africans.
- 3) *Systemic racism*: The legacy of the slave trade continues to influence systemic racism and inequality.

Long-term Consequences

- 1) *Ongoing racial tensions*: The transatlantic slave trade's legacy contributes to ongoing racial tensions and conflicts.
- 2) *Economic disparities*: The historical exploitation of Africans has contributed to ongoing economic disparities.
- 3) *Cultural amnesia*: The transatlantic slave trade's impact on African cultures and histories is often overlooked or erased.⁴⁰

Conclusion

Globalisation has not unconditionally helped the underdeveloped states of the world, and indeed Africa and the black race

especially have suffered the most in the light of development trends in science and technology. What role is Africa playing to advance developments in computer, e-life, genome, etc. that is rapidly on going now? African and indeed the entire underdeveloped world are largely alienated citizens of our globalised world. The advantages they derived from a global world/economy is passively derived. This section of humankind finds it difficult to benefit from, for example, new drugs meant to tackle the HIV/AIDS, and emerging pandemics. The reason is poverty; the same poverty that is largely responsible for the wide spread of the disease. The same reason may be advanced why African may not benefit, the way it ought to, from such projects as the genome and in fact the e-life. For all this 'dependence' (on the more advanced states of the world) seems to be the canonical word that entitles the underdeveloped states citizenship of a world that is a global village, with all the sophistications and advancements of ever-growing and improving science and technology.

In a globalised world driven by advancement in science and technology, a major achievement for Africa is the deployment of knowledge in Artificial Intelligence. This is capable of uniting and integrating Africans, who by the misfortune of the slave trade, are otherwise disconnected from their root by the consequences of the trans-Atlantic slave trade. The advancements in globalisation, the computer/ICT, internet world and the genome project can make this possible. Most discourses on AI have focused on its moral consequences. This paper focuses on what AI can do to solve a generational problem of the black race, especially disconnected Africans in the diaspora.

The deployment of AI in the banking of

³⁸ [https://studycorgi.com/transatlantic-slave-trade-and-its-consequences/accessed August 6 2025](https://studycorgi.com/transatlantic-slave-trade-and-its-consequences/accessed%20August%206%2025)

³⁹ [https://studycorgi.com/transatlantic-slave-trade-and-its-consequences/accessed August 6, 2025](https://studycorgi.com/transatlantic-slave-trade-and-its-consequences/accessed%20August%206%2025)

⁴⁰ Fetched from WhatsApp's "Ask Meta AI" on August 6, 2025

the genetic map of Africans worldwide and make it possible for dislocated and disconnected family members to be easily united in the world. This was some negative consequences of the transatlantic slave trade can be drastically mitigated. This include a few listed earlier such as family separation, loss of cultural heritage, forced assimilation, underdevelopment, legacy of inequality, intergenerational trauma, racial stereotypes, systemic racism, ongoing racial tensions, cultural amnesia to mention a few.

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