



AFRICANS FOR AFRICA'S LIBERATION ORGANIZATION

AFALO



Panel 4: THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT: EXPECTATIONS AND CHALLENGES

I am Bishop Dr Pius Inobuh Bah, the Visionary CEO of Africans for Africa's Liberation Organization (AFALO). Check our website (www.afalo.net)

The Culture and Cultural heritage of the African peoples have received little or recognition. What exactly does the United Nations need to do in order to redress this situation?

The United Nations can take several specific actions to address the lack of recognition of African culture and heritage as outlined below:

- 1. Cultural Rights:** The United Nations could draft and adopt a declaration specifically focused on the rights of individuals and communities to preserve, promote, and celebrate their cultural heritage. This declaration would emphasize the importance of cultural diversity and the rights of African peoples to maintain and develop their cultural identities.
- 2. Preservation of Cultural Initiatives:** The United Nations can establish programs and initiatives aimed at preserving African cultural heritage, traditional practices, languages, music, art, and oral traditions. This could involve providing financial support for cultural preservation projects, facilitating knowledge sharing between communities, and supporting the documentation of intangible cultural heritage.
- 3. Cultural Exchange Programs:** The United Nations can use its influence to facilitate cultural exchange programs between African countries and the rest of the world. These programs could involve exchanges of artists, musicians, scholars, and cultural practitioners, as well as the promotion of cultural festivals, exhibitions, and performances showcasing African culture. This would keep it from being extinct.



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4. Educational Awareness Campaigns: The cultural heritage of Africa has been given an image that's not true. The United Nations has the capacity and mechanisms to put on the light of the barbaric and animosity characteristics that have characterized the image of African cultural heritage. United Nations could launch education awareness campaigns to promote a better understanding and appreciation of African culture and heritage. These campaigns could target schools, media outlets, the general public, highlighting the richness and diversity of African cultures and challenging stereotypes and misconceptions as outlined above.

5. Recognition and Support for Indigenous Peoples: Supporting and recognizing the rights of indigenous peoples in Africa should be prioritized by the United Nations. These could include their rights to land, resources, and self-determination. This could involve advocating for the implementation of international agreements such as the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and supporting indigenous-led initiatives to protect and promote their cultural heritage.

6. Integration of African Perspectives: The UN could ensure that African perspectives and voices are integrated into its decision-making processes and activities across all of its agencies and programs. This could involve promoting greater representation of African experts and scholars, as well as incorporating African perspectives into policy discussions and debates.

In summary, by taking these actions, the United Nations can help to redress the lack of recognition of African culture and heritage and promote greater respect, appreciation, and preservation of the cultural diversity of the African continent.



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