

The background features a series of concentric circles in light gray, some solid and some dashed, creating a ripple effect. A large red speech bubble shape is centered on the page, containing the title and author information.

Navigating Afrocentric HCI Research: Proposition of Afro-Postmodernism for Decolonial Praxis

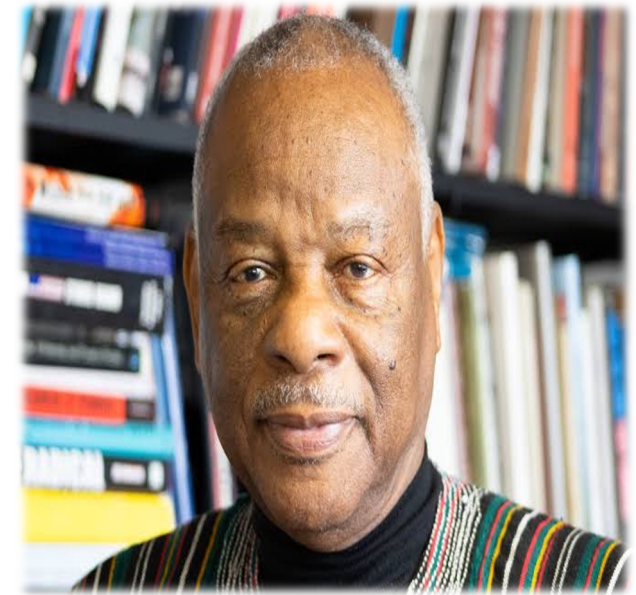
Tim Arueyingho B.Pharm, MSc., PhD (in view)

Here comes
Afrocentricity in
HCI!

Decolonization

+ Tenets of Afrocentricity

- Afro-centredness
- Empowerment
- Promotes agency/control over the African narrative
- Encourages historical awareness



Not the same with
Afrocentrism?

“By way of distinction, Afrocentricity should not be confused with the variant Afrocentrism. The term “Afrocentrism” was first used by the opponents of Afrocentricity who in their zeal saw it as an obverse of Eurocentrism. The adjective “Afrocentric” in the academic literature always referred to “Afrocentricity.” However, the use of “Afrocentrism” reflected a negation of the idea of Afrocentricity as a positive and progressive paradigm.” - Asante

What's the problem?

1. Africans are decentered and disoriented
2. Are diasporic Africans really considered?
 3. Can you be a "different" African?
 4. Little room for cultural assimilation
 5. Emphasis on 'blackness' makes us question where indigenous Africans with Eurocentric features fall

We did some
work!

4 academic data bases + 3 keywords = 16
papers



1. Researchers asserted that their studies were grounded in the promotion of authentic African experiences using different African concepts
2. Lack of a consistent framework for this assimilation
3. Unclear positionalities = interchangeable use of terms and playing it safe with the adjective 'Afrocentric'
4. UBUNTU everywhere

Why is positionality important in HCI?

What it is

Reflexivity

An example

Do we exclude these researchers
from this discourse?

Absolutely not! Thus, the importance of
proposing a framework and providing a
valid example

Proposition:
Afro-postmodernism
[Afrocentricity + Postmodernism]

Postmodernism

1. Encourages creativity and plurality of thought
2. Questions the status quo
3. Embraces cultural diversity
4. Encourages critical thinking and interdisciplinary approaches
5. Validates all perspectives

Proposition:
Afro-postmodernism
[Afrocentricity + Postmodernism]

1. It can be described as a decolonised approach that rejects racism and other exclusionary factors while embracing cultural assimilation, dynamic growth, and if necessary, some non-African concepts that have practical efficacy in African communities.
2. We advocate for scholars to be able to differentiate between colonial concepts and non-African concepts that were used during the colonial era.
3. The ideology of Afro-postmodernism includes Africans who may have found themselves marginalised due to their perceived divergence from supposedly established parameters of prescribed African traditions.

HOW?

1. Tabula rasa
2. Researchers must be intentional about being familiar with socio-economic, cultural and demographic influences on their research context.
3. Deconstruction of research methods to align with what Africans (in that context) would perceive as a valid mode of inquiry + indigenous ethics
4. Satisfactory cycle of validating their data
5. Respect practical "non-African" approaches and detours from cultural representations
6. Abductive thematic analysis

Limitations

1. Not all qualitative approaches may align with the framework
2. Exclusion of data beyond 10 years ago
3. Not exhaustive commentary on post-modernism