# Article information:

The idea of ‘precolonial Africa’ is vacuous and wrong | Aeon Essays
<https://aeon.co/essays/the-idea-of-precolonial-africa-is-vacuous-and-wrong>

# Article summary:

1. The term ‘precolonial’ should be expunged from all aspects of the study of Africa and its phenomena.

2. The concept of ‘precolonial’ is misleading and obscures African history, as it implies that Africa was a homogeneous place with uncomplicated politics and thought.

3. Colonialism in Africa is not an external phenomenon, but rather has been present in different forms throughout the continent's history.

# Article rating:

May be slightly imbalanced: The article presents the information in a generally reliable way, but there are minor points of consideration that could be explored further or claims that are not fully backed by appropriate evidence. Some perspectives may also be omitted, and you are encouraged to use the research topics section to explore the topic further.

# Article analysis:

The article provides a critical analysis of the concept of “precolonial Africa”, arguing that it is misleading and obscures African history by implying that Africa was a homogeneous place with uncomplicated politics and thought. The author makes a strong case for why this term should be expunged from all aspects of the study of Africa and its phenomena, citing examples such as Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel's racist philosophy which argued that Africa was outside of time and not part of history. The author also points out that colonialism in Africa is not an external phenomenon, but rather has been present in different forms throughout the continent's history.

The article is well-researched and provides evidence to support its claims, such as citing Hegel's racist philosophy to explain why the concept of “precolonial” is misleading. However, there are some potential biases in the article which could be explored further. For example, while the author acknowledges that Roman colonialism had an impact on North Africa, they do not explore how this impacted other parts of the continent or how it shaped African identity today. Additionally, while the article does provide evidence to support its claims, it does not explore any counterarguments or alternative perspectives on this issue which could have provided more insight into this topic.

In conclusion, while this article provides a thorough analysis on why “precolonial” should be expunged from all aspects of studying African history, there are some potential biases which could have been explored further to provide more insight into this topic.

# Topics for further research:

* Roman colonialism in Africa
* Impact of Roman colonialism on African identity
* Counterarguments to the concept of “precolonial Africa”
* Alternative perspectives on African history
* Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel's racist philosophy
* Precolonial African political structures

# Report location:

<https://www.fullpicture.app/item/a6836c9c13732d5fed4fc74f33b16c09>