

**WHY CHANGE IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA MUST COME
FROM WITHIN**

SYLVANUS A. AYENI, M.D.

**President, Pan Africa Children Advocacy Watch, Inc
www.pacaw.org**

- **Africa is the 2nd largest continent in the world with population of 1.3 billion.**
- **Sub-Saharan Africa, defined as the region south of Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Egypt has a population of nearly 1 billion.**
- **Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) is the poorest region of the world or is it?**



ATLANTIC OCEAN

ATLANTIC OCEAN

ATLANTIC OCEAN

ATLANTIC OCEAN

ATLANTIC OCEAN

ATLANTIC OCEAN

ATLANTIC OCEAN

ATLANTIC OCEAN

ATLANTIC OCEAN

How Are Africans Defined?

- **The blacks (or black people) who live in Africa.**
- **Those poor blacks and starving children who live in Africa**
- **North Africans and the black people who live in Sub-Saharan Africa.**
- **“Africans are the world’s warmest, friendliest people who have more problems than we could believe”.
(Barbara Bush, A Memoir. Scribner, New York, 1994).**

AFRICA: A VERY DIVERSE CONTINENT

Africa is the most genetically diverse continent on earth.

Although it is the custom to lump Sub-Saharan Africans together as “black Africans”, they are in reality the most genetically diverse continental population on earth.

Africa is the most culturally and ethnically diverse continent on earth.

Africa has the highest linguistic density and diversity on earth.

COMPARATIVE LINGUISTIC DENSITY

AFRICA AND ASIA

ASIA:	Population:	4.5 billion
	Living languages:	2,322
	Institutional languages:	203
	Dying languages:	187

AFRICA:	Population:	1.3 billion
	Living languages:	2,138
	Institutional languages:	194
	Dying languages:	131

<https://www.ethnologue.com>

IS SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REALLY POOR?

- **The region has enormous natural resources**
- **It is least affected by cyclical natural disasters like earthquakes, tornadoes, snowstorms, hurricanes, and typhoons.**
- **Average rainfall per year in millimeters around the world**
 - Australia: 534**
 - Canada: 537 (1981 to 2010 — Low of 365 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan to a high of 1538 in Abbotsford, British Columbia).**
 - South & Central Asia: 1061**
 - USA: (Excluding Hawaii and Alaska): 767 (Rain & Snow)**
 - Middle East & North Africa: 194**
 - Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA): 1097 (Liberia 2391: DRC 1543: CAR 1343)**
- **YET, SSA HAS THE LARGEST PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION WITHOUT ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER**
- **It has nearly 1 billion brains.**

WHY CHANGE IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. CHANGE IN STRATEGY & FOCUS.

- **As the dominant members of the “Bottom Billion”, the poverty and extreme poverty in SSA are existential threats to these nations and ultimately, in the future, to mankind.**
- **Population explosion. According to UNICEF, by 2050, Africa will be home to 35% of all adolescents in the world.**
- **Failure of foreign aid. Africa has received more than \$1trillion in foreign aid in the last six decades and still, SSA remains the poorest region in the world.**
- **Open-ended foreign aid for SSA has been an undeniable failure. The very weak returns from the efforts of the World Bank, the IMF, various United Nations agencies and scores of philanthropic entities including religious organizations in the past six decades confirm this failure.**

THE FOLLY OF DEPENDENCE ON THE BRAINS AND “WISDOM” OF EXPERTS FROM THE WEST AND THE EAST

“With regard to the issue of global poverty, a simple misdiagnosis was among the primary factors that prevented the poorest of the world’s poor, most of whom live in Sub-Saharan Africa from entering into the fold of the last quarter of a century’s unprecedented economic boom.

The widely held view that severe poverty in places like Ghana, Tanzania, Mongolia and Uganda stems from miserable governments, corruption and cultural differences that lie outside the reach of globalization is just wrong. Geographic isolation and biophysical constraints explain much of the poverty rather than poor governance”.

Jeffrey D. Sachs, PhD

Director, Earth Institute, Columbia University, New York, NY
Special Adviser to late UN Secretary General, Mr. Koffi Annan
on the Millennium Development Goals

LARGEST URBAN AGGLOMERATIONS
(by population)

Tokyo	37,220,000
Delhi	22,650,000
Mexico City	20,450,000
New York-Newark	20,350,000
Shanghai	20,210,000
São Paulo	19,920,000
Mumbai (Bombay)	19,740,000
Beijing	15,990,000
Dhaka	15,390,000
Kolkata (Calcutta)	14,400,000
Karachi	13,880,000
Buenos Aires	13,400,000
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana	13,400,000
Rio de Janeiro	11,960,000
Mumbai	11,860,000

LARGEST COUNTRIES
(by area, in square miles)

Russia	6,592,849
Canada	3,855,103
United States	3,794,083
China	3,705,407
Australia	3,287,612
India	2,969,907
Argentina	2,280,219
Kazakhstan	1,073,618
Algeria	1,002,090
China, Dem. Rep. of the	918,095
Mexico	905,355
Saudi Arabia	829,199
Indonesia	758,449
Sudan	726,368
Sudan	718,723

LARGEST COUNTRIES
(by population)

China	1,349,586,000
India	1,200,800,000
United States	316,659,000
Indonesia	251,160,000
Pakistan	201,010,000
Brazil	193,239,000
Bangladesh	174,508,000
Russia	165,056,000
Japan	142,500,000
Mexico	127,253,000
Philippines	118,221,000
Egypt	105,721,000
Vietnam	93,877,000
Vietnam	92,478,000
Egypt	85,294,000

ABBREVIATIONS

C	Canada
Ch	China
E.U.	European Union
F	France
G	Germany
I	Italy
J	Japan
M	Mexico
U.S.	United States
U.K.	United Kingdom
U.S.S.R.	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
U.S.A.	United States of America
U.S.S.R.	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
U.S.S.R.	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Solution For Poverty In Sub-Saharan Africa Offered By Prof. Jeffrey Sachs

“ The challenges that afflict the poorest people in the world are certainly problems that could be ameliorated or solved entirely if the West were to bring the apparatus of modern technology to bear”.

Jeffrey Sachs, PhD

New York Academy of Sciences Magazine, March 2003, 6-7.

FAILURE OF FOREIGN AID TO AFRICA

Africa has received more than 1 trillion dollars in foreign aid in the past six decades.

Many of the nations stuck in the “Bottom Billion” have enormous natural resources.

Yet, Sub-Saharan Africa remains the poorest region in the world

It is indeed one of the mysterious realities of our time that Man’s Homeland is so blessed, yet so degraded and ailing.

What should be done differently, and how should they be done?

WHO WILL ANSWER?

FUNDAMENTAL REQUIREMENTS FOR “CHANGE FROM WITHIN” IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

- Truly Circumcised Heart

- True Worship

The submission of all our nature to God

The quickening of conscience by His Holiness

The nourishment of mind by His Truth

The purifying of imagination by His Beauty

The opening of the Heart to His Love

The submission of Will to His Purpose

All these gathered up in adoration is the greatest of human expressions.

Arch Bishop William Temple, Arch Bishop of Canterbury, 1942 - 1944.

- True Service

TRANSFORMATION OF SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA BY IT'S SONS AND DAUGHTERS

THE BASICS REQUIRING URGENT ATTENTION

SUBORDINATE MINDSET to other segments of the human race

Skin color is irrelevant to the quality of the output of the human brain

Leadership Failure

Injustice. “*WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH THE RING OF GYGES?*”

PLATO, THE REPUBLIC, 360 b-d.

Oppression of the poor and Crushing of the needy

Corruption

Huge knowledge deficit

Huge clean water deficit

Huge energy deficit



**PILLARS OF CHANGE IN THE NATIONS OF
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA (SSA).**

New leaders — Reformers — sons and daughters of SSA all over the world with new “CAN DO MINDSET” must step up.

The reformers must understand that our Creator has provided SSA with all the tools and resources they need for fruitful, non-beggarly existence.

The reformers must be courageous and uncharacteristically honest

At the very core of their desires and behavior must be the motto: “ LOVE OF GOD AND LOVE OF THEIR NEIGHBORS AS THEMSELVES”. (Matthew 22: 37-40).

LESSONS FROM SOUTH EAST ASIA

TAIWAN

Every so often someone asks me
'What's your favorite country other
than your own?'

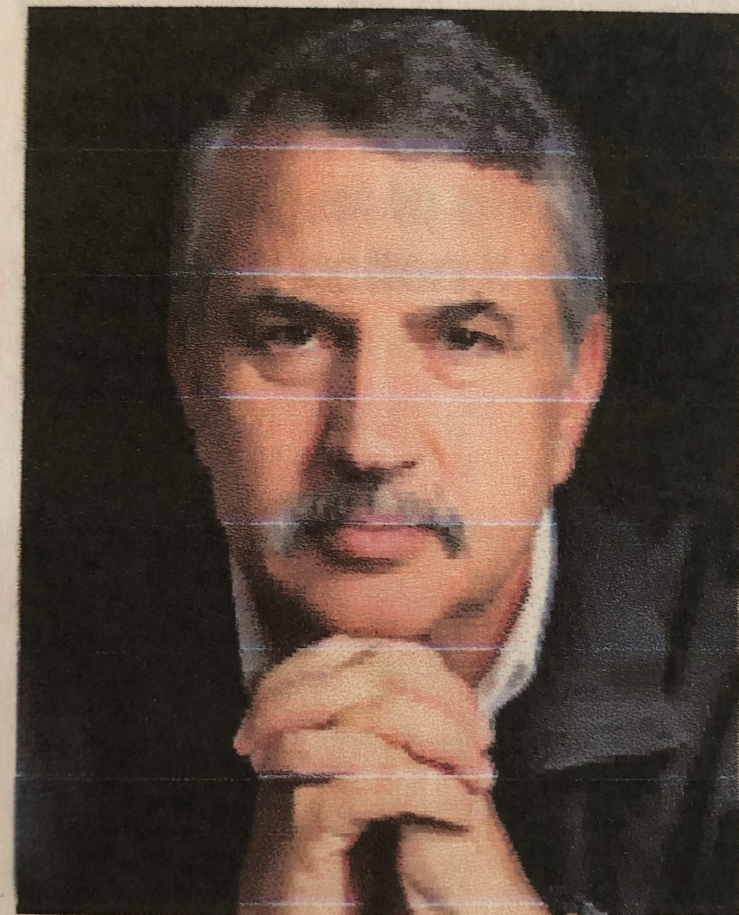
I've always had the same answer.
Taiwan. Why Taiwan? people ask.

"Very simple. Because Taiwan is a
barren rock in a typhoon-laden sea
with no natural resources to live off of
It even has to import sand and gravel
from China for construction.
Yet it has the fourth largest financial
reserve in the world".

Pass the books. Hold the oil

By THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

Published: March 10, 2012



Josh Haner/The New York Times

Thomas L. Friedman

LESSONS FROM SOUTH EAST ASIA TAIWAN

“Because rather than digging in the ground and mining whatever comes up, Taiwan has mined its 23 million people, their talent, energy and intelligence — men and women.

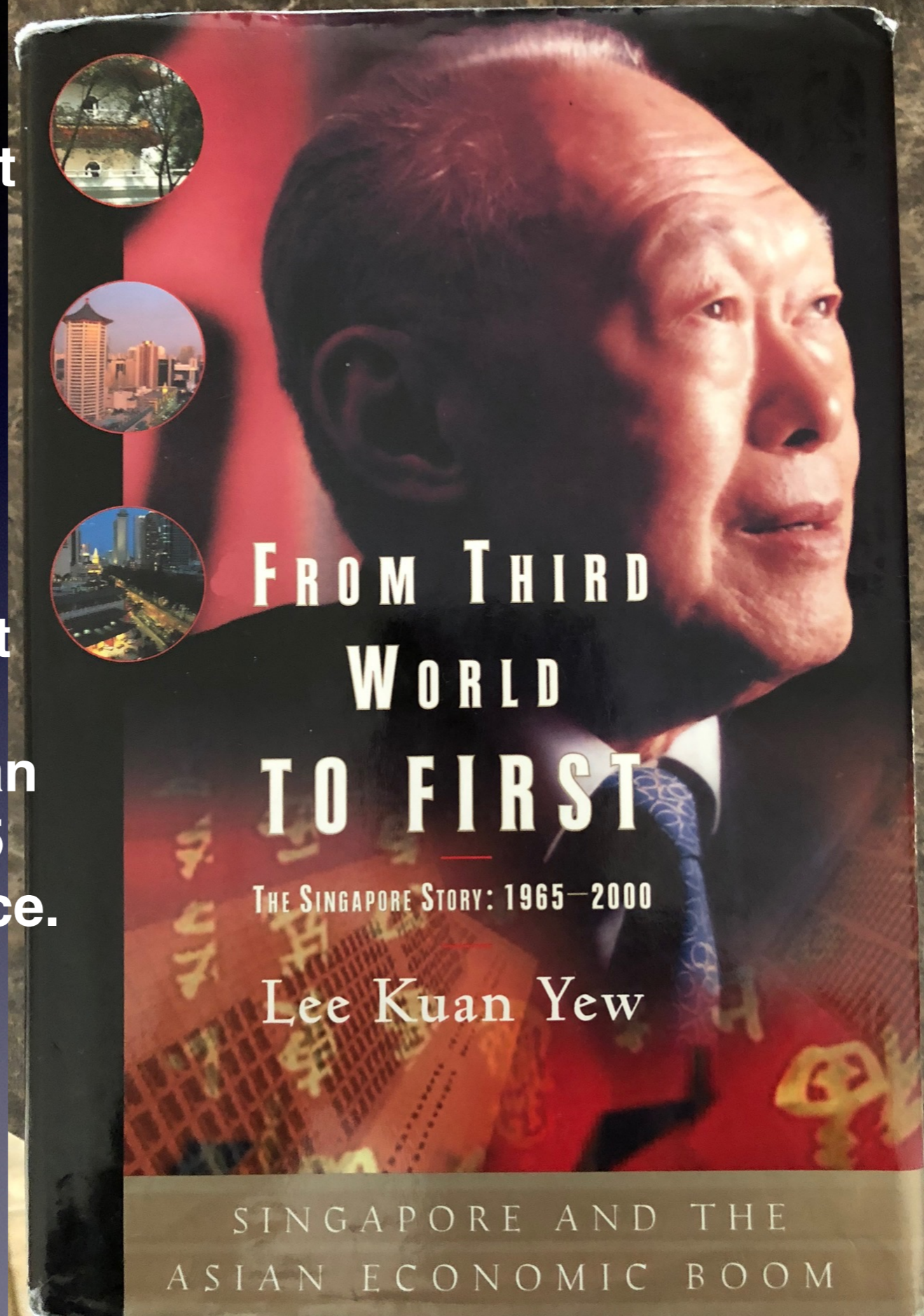
I always tell my friends in Taiwan. You are the luckiest people in the world. How did you get so lucky?

You have no oil, no iron ore, no forests, no diamonds, no gold, just a few small deposits of coal and natural gas — — and because of that you developed the habits and culture of honing your people’s skills, which turns out to be the most valuable and truly renewable resource in the world today”.

SINGAPORE

Guided by one of the greatest world leaders of the 20th century, late Lee Kuan Yew, Singapore has confounded the experts.

The City-State was given no chance of *SURVIVAL* by most of the “world experts” when it broke off from the Malaysian Federation on August 9, 1965 and declared its independence.



SINGAPORE

- **Population: 5.6 million**
- **Natural Resources: Air, Beautiful scenery, Fish.**
- **GDP (2018): \$349,659 billion — 41st highest in the world**
- **Two of the top 100 Universities in the world**
 - National University of Singapore — # 23**
 - Nanyang Technology University — #51**
- **Excluding South Africa, no University in Sub-Saharan Africa is in the top 500.**







“It was powerfully stated by the hero of the Nigerian novelist Chinua Achebe’s memorable ‘Anthills of the Savannah’ (1987). —The prime reason, Ikem reflects, before he too has to meet disaster, can’t be the massive corruption, though its scale and pervasiveness are truly intolerable; it isn’t the subservience to foreign manipulation, degrading as it is; it isn’t even this second class , hand-me-down capitalism, ludicrous and doomed. All such series of malice and incompetence, or greed could be blamed for the prime failure of this government.

But they were not the cause; they were the effects. The cause was to be found elsewhere. It lay in the failure of our rulers to re-establish vital inner links with the poor and dispossessed of this country”.

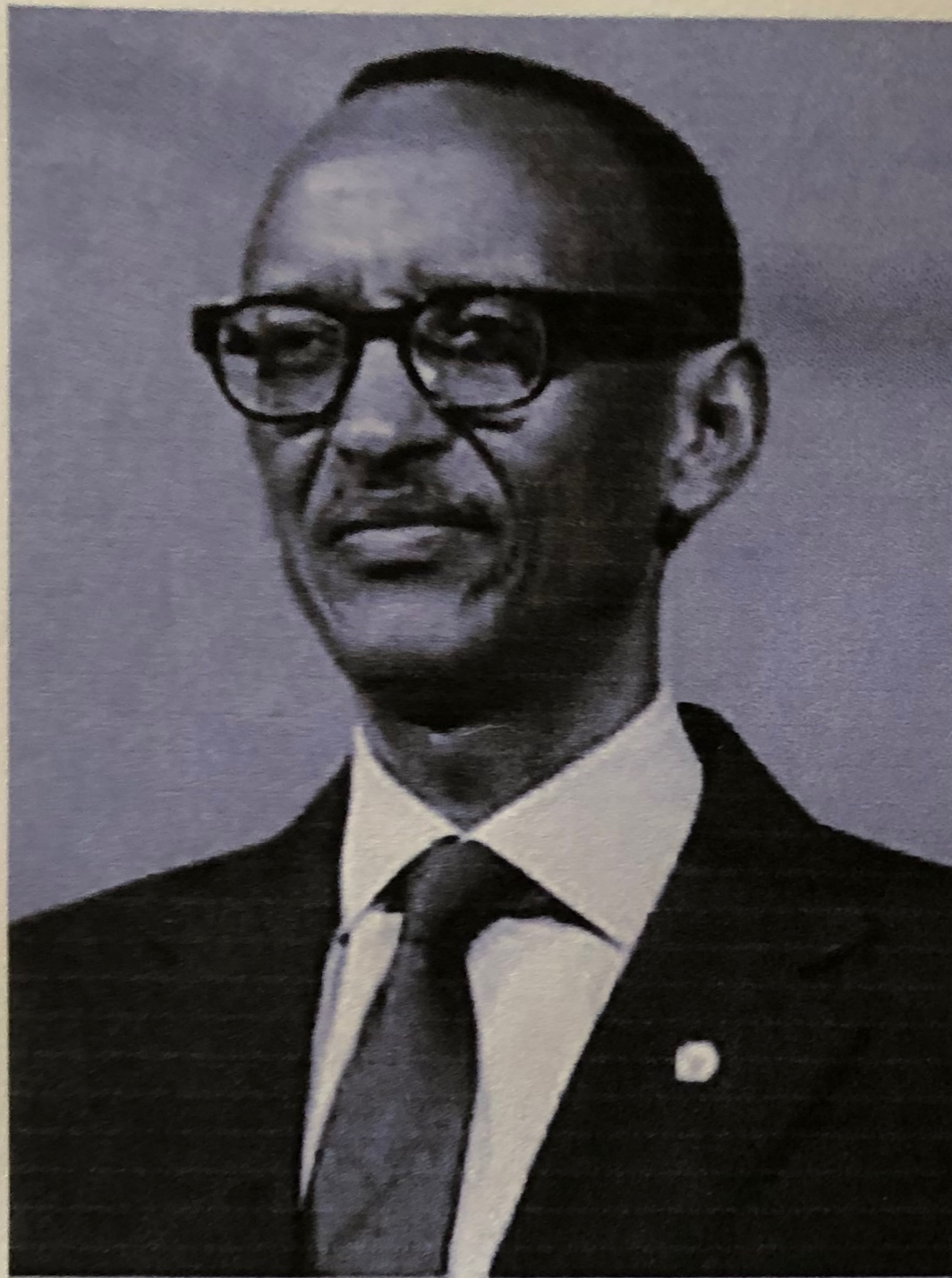
Basil Davidson, *The Black Man’s Burden: Africa and the Curse of the Nation-State*; (New York: Random House, 1992), 290 - 291.

CONCLUSIONS

**Addressing the Quintessential Questions of
“Collective Good and Unity in Diversity”.**

- **Faith**
- **Fear and Obedience of God (Holy Father)**
- **Love of God and our neighbours**
- **Hope and Light**
- **Knowledge**





President Paul Kagame

"I would rather argue, that we need to mobilise the right mindsets, rather than more funding. Africa has everything it needs, in real terms, but Africans remain mentally married to the idea that nothing can get moving, without external finance. We are even begging for things we already have. That is absolutely a failure of mindset."

Dr.
Joe