Memo

**TO:** Joe Griffin

**FROM:** Sadiq Abubakar

**DATE:** August 26, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Research Proposal

**TITLE:** “The rise and fall of sub-Saharan African dictators”

**PURPOSE**

People have always considered democracy to be the best form of government because of its ability to give the people the power to vote their leaders in office. Buy history tells us that many leaders prefer to use dictatorship rule to be more successful. We believe that taking something is better than asking from people and this has led to the rise of so many dictators. Africa has had a taste in such a government where people are oppressed, slaughtered and killed. A lot of African countries have risen up against such leaders and given rise to democracy. The first revolts started in Tunisia, Egypt, Bahrain, Yemen, and Libya. A large number of protestors gathered in the cities with notices, demanding change. So, what might be the reasons for people to revolt? People revolt because dictatorship is not the right form of government. The rise and fall of dictators in Africa are indeed a topic worth discussing about. I’m specifically interest in answering the questions:

* Why is dictatorship government preferred to Democracy?
* What are the consequences of such form of rule?
* What measures are being taken to stop such form of government.?

**BACKGROUND**

The tales of World War I and World War II are stories to which we all are familiar with. It talks about how the people of the world were saved from being oppressed. Africa indeed is not alone when it comes to the fight for freedom. There is a saying “Power corrupts even the humblest soul” Most of the African dictators who rose to power usually orchestrated a government overthrow, whereby putting themselves in charge. This usually leads the country into a civil war whereby millions of lives are lost all in the name of power. This often gives rise to another so called liberator who ends up doing the same thing and the circle continues. Recently, in the past decade most of the African dictators have either faced pressure from other nations or were assassinated in office to make way for the new era of democracy. Several leaders such as Muhammar Ghaddafi of Libya, Idi Amin of Uganda, and Sani Abacha of Nigeria rose and fell from power due to their cruelty and ambition for power.

Children across the country are born with or develop learning disorders that make operating in a traditional classroom nearly impossible. These kids do not deserve to be left behind, and there are resources to help them keep on par with their classmates. One useful teaching tool is to incorporate digital media, which can help them, into the classroom (Grant; Grimshaw; Larson).

**SIGNIFICANCE**

I feel this topic is important in education for two reasons. First, it teaches students about the history of democracy and why the world prefers that form of government. The lust or power has led great men to be considered as villains. They impose their own will power against people leaving people with no choice than to obey or get executed. This dictators not only oppress people but they are responsible for the loss of so many lives. Another thing they do is they embezzle the countries funds and send it to other countries like Switzerland, United States, and many more. This form of government is known as dictatorship. Secondly, In this article dedicated from Encyclopedia Britannica is stated that “The term dictatorship comes from the Latin word “dictator”, which in the Roman Republic designated a temporary magistrate who was granted all the powers and authority of the state” (Dictatorship). These people often resort to force or deceit to gain power in which they maintain through the spread of terror. This form of government has continued to scatter from one continent to the other. Some of the most famous dictators of the 1900’s were Joseph Stalin, Benito Mussolini, and Adolf Hitler. These dictators were famous with the act of using force and deceit and would crush anyone who opposes their rule. They indeed left their mark in history for being responsible for the loss of millions of lives. This can easily be assumed that dictatorship gives rise to cruelty and savagery among such men.

**METHODOLOGY**

I will consult both primary and secondary source for this paper. I will mostly focus on the primary sources I have to write my paper because most of them carry reports and statistics carried and plus they are from a reliable source. I will also rely on secondary sources also. I am primarily using Encyclopedia Britannica as my research tool. It is a reliable and accurate source. I will also have a look at several websites as I try to summarize the rise and fall of some African dictators and what led to their sad end.

**PROBLEMS AND COUNTERARGUMENTS**

I feel I will have to do a lot of research on this paper because it is not only discussing the past but the present also. This paper Analyzes the past of this so called liberators and what turned them to the dark side. We will be looking at their childhoods their struggles with life and how they rose to power. To complete this research paper I will have to go beyond the books in the library but also use resources such as the internet, and local old news papers. The need to learn about the dictators in Africa is important so as to enlighten the general public that Africa has had its own fair share of struggles in this fight for equality and freedom.

**ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

“Charles Taylor.” Encyclopædia Britannica, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 23 Jan. 2019, https://www.britannica.com/biography/Charles-Ghankay-Taylor.

*Describes a program designed to help youth express themselves through various forms of media. I plan to use this in the main body of my paper to defend my position.*

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*This article discusses about Paul Biya the former dictator of Cameroon. It discusses about his childhood his past. How he came to power. What made him become so cruel and ruthless. How he fell from power.*

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“Idi Amin.” Encyclopædia Britannica, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 18 Sept. 2019, https://www.britannica.com/biography/Idi-Amin. *This Article discusses the rise and fall of Idi Amin the former dictator. He was responsible for the slaughtering of thousands of innocent lives.*

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“Sani Abacha.” Encyclopædia Britannica, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 16 Sept. 2019, <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Sani-Abacha>.

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL**

I want to complete this research paper as a way to enlighten my fellow classmates on the topic “The Rise and Fall of dictators in Africa.” I feel this will help students to realize why democracy is considered the best form of government. We will also need to understand that no matter how high one rises they must surely fall.