

JEWISH CONCEPT OF SLAVERY AND THE 21ST CENTURY OF AFRICAN SOJOURNERS IN DIASPORAS: NIGERIAN' BEST BRAINS IN DIASPORAS

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Abstract

This study explores the Jewish concept of slavery and compares it to the 21st Century African sojourners in Diasporas, with a focus on Nigerian professionals who have migrated to other countries in search of better opportunities. In contemporary affairs, Jews and African-Americans have cooperated in the Civil Rights Movement, motivated partially by the common background of slavery. The three types of slavery Africans have engaged in which are: 1. Colonial or force slavery by the European 2. Leadership slavery and, 3. Self slavery, (Talabi, 2021). Individual migrating in search of greener pastures shall be adequately discussed in this paper with empirical evidences. Drawing on historical and religious texts, the paper analyzes the Jewish understanding of slavery and the ethical considerations that arise from it. It also examines the experiences of Nigerian professionals in diasporas, highlighting their contributions to their host countries and the challenges they face as immigrants. Finally, this qualitative study discusses the implications of these experiences for contemporary discussions on migration and global citizenship, arguing that the Jewish concept of slavery offers a useful framework for re-thinking about the ethical dimensions of immigration policies and practices in the 21st Century due to the failures of African leaders in developing their respective societies and followership inability to lead peaceful protest that will propel rebuilding or happen African Governance.

Keywords: African Diasporas, Leadership, Nigerian' Best Brains, Slavery, and 21st Century

Introduction

In the 21st Century, the movement of people across borders has become a defining characteristic of our globalized world. Diasporas, communities of individuals who have migrated from their countries of origin to other lands, have emerged as dynamic cultural, economic, and social entities. Within this broader context, the experiences of African sojourners in diasporas, particularly Nigerian professionals seeking better opportunities, have garnered significant attention (Adepoju, 2019). The Jewish historical experience offers valuable insights into the complexities surrounding forced migration, displacement, and the search for a better life. From biblical times through the various epochs of Jewish history, the concept of slavery has played a significant role in shaping the Jewish collective consciousness (Greenberg, 2003). By examining this historical backdrop, we can draw parallels and contrasts to the experiences of African sojourners in diaspora, specifically focusing on the intellectual and professional contributions of Nigerians in host countries.

The Jewish concept of slavery encompasses not only the physical enslavement of individuals but also the broader implications of bondage, servitude, and liberation. Jewish religious texts and traditions, such as the Torah and Talmud, provide a rich tapestry of narratives and ethical teachings that shed light on the multifaceted nature of slavery and its lasting impact. Understanding this historical and cultural framework is crucial for comprehending the nuances of the contemporary African diaspora experience (Adesanya, 2016). Nigeria, often referred to as the “Giant of Africa,” boasts a rich cultural heritage and a vibrant intellectual class. However, economic challenges, political instability, and limited opportunities within the country have prompted many highly skilled Nigerians to seek greener pastures abroad. These professionals, often regarded as Nigeria’s “best brains,” bring with them a wealth of knowledge, skills, and talents that contribute to the development and advancement of their host countries. Yet, their journey is not without difficulties, as they face unique challenges such as; cultural adaptation, discrimination, and the complexities of navigating unfamiliar social and professional landscapes (Falola & Agwuele, 2005). By examining these topics through the lens of Jewish history and thought, we can gain a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities faced by African sojourners, while also fostering dialogue on the broader implications for societies embracing diverse migrant populations. By

recognizing and appreciating these diverse narratives, we can foster a more inclusive and equitable world that values the contributions of individuals from all walks of life, transcending borders, cultures, and historical legacies (Gardner, 2006).

Methodology

This study utilizes a multi-disciplinary approach to explore the Jewish concept of slavery and its relevance to the experiences of African sojourners in diaspora, specifically focusing on Nigerian professionals. The methodology employed in this study encompasses a combination of Historical analysis, Literature review, and Qualitative research. The first approach is historical analysis. To understand the Jewish concept of slavery, historical analysis is conducted, drawing upon primary and secondary sources. Religious texts, including the Torah and Talmud, are examined to gain insights into the historical context, narratives, and ethical teachings regarding slavery in Jewish tradition. Additionally, scholarly works, historical accounts, and academic research are consulted to provide a comprehensive understanding of the Jewish historical experience. The second approach is literature review. A thorough review of existing literature is conducted to explore the experiences of African sojourners in diaspora, with a particular emphasis on Nigerian professionals. Scholarly articles, books, reports, and case studies related to migration, diaspora studies, and African immigration are examined to identify key themes, challenges, and contributions of Nigerian professionals in host countries. Also, to complement the historical and literature analysis, qualitative research methods are employed. This involves conducting interviews for Nigerian professionals in diaspora in order to learn from their experiences. These firsthand accounts provide valuable insights into their personal experiences, motivations, challenges faced, and the impact of migration on their professional and personal lives. The qualitative research also aims to highlight success stories, resilience, and the strategies employed by Nigerian professionals to navigate the diaspora experience. This paper is arranged thematically and each theme is subtitled.

Jewish Concept of Slavery

The Jewish concept of slavery holds a significant place within Jewish history, religious texts, and ethical teachings. Slavery in Jewish tradition encompasses not only the physical bondage of individuals but also the broader implications of servitude, liberation, and the ethical responsibilities associated with these circumstances. Within the context of Jewish history, the enslavement of the Israelites in ancient Egypt is a seminal event. The biblical account of the Exodus from Egypt, as depicted in the Book of Exodus, narrates the story of the Israelites' liberation from slavery under the leadership of Moses (Assman, 2008). This foundational narrative highlights the themes of oppression, liberation, and the inherent dignity of all human beings. The Torah, the central religious text of Judaism, addresses the issue of slavery, providing regulations and guidelines for its practice within ancient Jewish society. It recognizes the existence of slavery but also seeks to mitigate its harshness through laws that emphasize fair treatment and human dignity. For example, the Torah instructs slave owners to treat their slaves with kindness and prohibits the mistreatment or abuse of slaves (Greenberg, 2003).

In addition to the legal framework, Jewish ethical teachings place a strong emphasis on the value of human life and the concept of *tzelem Elohim*, which means that all humans are created in the image of God (Hertz, 2004). This notion underscores the inherent worth and dignity of every individual, regardless of their social or economic status. Consequently, Jewish ethical teachings emphasize the responsibility to treat slaves and all vulnerable individuals with compassion, fairness, and respect. The Talmud, a central text of Jewish law and interpretation, further expands upon the Jewish understanding of slavery. It offers discussions, debates, and interpretations of the Torah's laws, providing additional insights into the ethical considerations surrounding slavery. The Talmudic tradition also emphasizes the importance of releasing slaves and promoting their freedom. It outlines specific mechanisms through which a slave can attain liberation, such as the Sabbatical year (*Shemittah*) and the Year of Jubilee (*Yovel*), which involve the release of all Jewish slaves and the restoration of land to its original owners (Hertz, 2004). The Hebrew Bible, the Talmud, and the 12th Century Mishneh Torah by Rabbi Maimonides all contain regulations regarding slavery. However, presently, according to the Orthodox Union, The Forward, and the Jewish Quarterly, slavery (as defined as the total subjugation of one human being over another) is

absolutely unacceptable in Judaism (Sarna, 1991). Here are some concepts directly related to Jewish concept of slavery: Hebrew slaves¹, Treatment of Slaves²: Indentured Servants³: Non-Jewish Slaves⁴: Ownership⁵: Historical Context⁶: (Soyinka, 1986). The Jewish concept of slavery serves as a foundation for ethical deliberations on contemporary issues, including social justice, human rights, and the treatment of marginalized individuals. It calls for a recognition of the inherent worth and dignity of every human being and highlights the ethical responsibility to combat all forms of oppression, discrimination, and exploitation (Levine, 1989).

Africans and African Heritage

Africans and African heritage encompass a rich tapestry of diverse cultures, histories, traditions, and contributions to the global community. Africa, as the second-largest continent, is home to a vast array of ethnic groups, languages, religions, and artistic expressions. The continent's history is marked by ancient civilizations, kingdoms, and empires that have made significant contributions to human development, science, arts, and philosophy (Safran, 1991). African heritage is deeply rooted in the continent's indigenous cultures and traditions, which have shaped the identities and worldviews of its people (Achime, 2019). From the ancient civilizations of Egypt, Nubia, and

¹ A Hebrew could not become a slave unless by order of the court or by giving himself voluntarily into bondage. Other slaves were always recruited from outside the nation.

² In Torah law, slaves were treated with dignity and respect. They rested on the seventh day and Jewish holidays.

³ The Eved Ivri (Jewish slave) refers to indentured servants who worked for a limited period of time to pay off a debt. They were released after six years of service or during the Jubilee year.

⁴ The Eved K'naani (non-Jewish slave) refers to slaves who remain so for a lifetime. However, they were also treated with dignity and respect and had certain rights under Jewish law.

⁵ In Torah law, you never have complete ownership over anything. Therefore, owning another person is not considered acceptable in Judaism.

⁶ Historically, some Jewish people owned and traded slaves. They participated in the medieval slave trade in Europe up to about the 12th Century. However, Jews were less likely to participate in enslavement and slave trade because they were urged to ransom or redeem the slave

Axum to the empires of Ghana, Mali, and Songhai, African history is replete with remarkable achievements in areas such as architecture, agriculture, trade, governance, and intellectual pursuits (Afolayan, 2014).

Furthermore, Africa's history is intertwined with the transatlantic slave trade, colonialism, and struggles for independence. The transatlantic slave trade, spanning over four centuries, resulted in the forced displacement of millions of Africans to the Americas, the Caribbean, and Europe. This traumatic period in African history had profound and lasting effects on the African diaspora, shaping their experiences, identities, and contributions in their new lands (Appiah, 1992). Today, Africans and people of African heritage can be found across the globe, forming vibrant diaspora communities that celebrate their African roots while embracing the cultural amalgamation that occurs in multicultural societies. African diaspora communities have made significant contributions to various fields, including arts, literature, music, sports, academia, and politics. Prominent figures such as Nelson Mandela, Chinua Achebe, Maya Angelou, and Barrack Obama exemplify the impact of African heritage on the world stage (Brown, 2013).

African cultural expressions, such as music, dance, literature, fashion, cuisine, and spirituality, have captivated global audiences and influenced popular culture. African music genres like Afro-beat, reggae, jazz, and hip-hop have gained international recognition and have become influential forces in the global music industry. African literature, with renowned authors like Chinua Achebe, Wole Soyinka, and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, has enriched the literary landscape and provided profound insights into African experiences and perspectives (Davidson, 1966). In recent years, there has been a growing recognition and appreciation of African heritage and its contributions to humanity. Efforts to preserve and promote African languages, cultural practices, and historical narratives have gained momentum, ensuring that African voices are heard and celebrated (Falola & Agwuele, 2005).

However, challenges persist. Economic disparities, political instability, social injustices, and stereotypes continue to affect African nations and the African diaspora. Efforts toward decolonization, inclusivity, and empowering African communities are ongoing, aiming to create a more equitable and prosperous future for all. Recognizing and celebrating Africans and African

heritage involves acknowledging the richness and diversity of the continent's cultures, embracing the contributions of Africans and the African diaspora, and actively working toward a more inclusive and equitable world that values and uplifts African voices, narratives, and experiences (Diop, 2017).

African Sojourners in Diaspora

African sojourners in diaspora refer to individuals of African descent who have migrated from their countries of origin and settled in other parts of the world. The African diaspora is a global phenomenon resulting from historical events such as the transatlantic slave trade, colonialism, and more contemporary waves of voluntary migration (Owusu, 2007). The African diaspora is marked by a diverse range of experiences, challenges, and contributions. The descendants of enslaved Africans in the Americas, Europe, and the Caribbean form a significant part of the African diaspora. They have preserved and adapted African cultural traditions, languages, and artistic expressions, creating vibrant communities that contribute to the multicultural fabric of their host societies (Thomas & Shain, 1994).

African sojourners in diaspora have faced numerous challenges, including racism, discrimination, and socioeconomic disparities. They have often had to navigate complex systems of identity, balancing their African heritage with the cultures and expectations of their new environments. The process of acculturation and assimilation has influenced their sense of self and shaped their experiences in the diaspora. Despite these challenges, African sojourners in diaspora have made substantial contributions in various fields. In academia, they have advanced knowledge in areas such as African studies, diaspora studies, and postcolonial studies, enriching scholarly perspectives on African history, culture, and social dynamics (Obeng, 2007). In the arts, literature, music, dance, and visual arts, African diaspora artists have created powerful works that reflect their experiences, challenge stereotypes, and celebrate their African heritage. African diaspora communities have also played a significant role in advocating for social justice, equality, and civil rights. Leaders and activists within these communities have been at the forefront of movements

fighting against racial discrimination and promoting inclusivity, equal opportunity, and representation (Onyenwe & Ohaegbulam, 2015).

Furthermore, African sojourners in diaspora have contributed to the economic development of both their host countries and their countries of origin. Remittances sent by diaspora communities provide vital financial support to families and communities back home, contributing to poverty reduction and economic stability (Gardner, 2006). In addition, African entrepreneurs and professionals in the diaspora have established businesses, created job opportunities, and fostered innovation in various industries, driving economic growth and development. The African sojourners in diaspora have also maintained strong ties with their countries of origin. They engage in transnational activities, such as investment, philanthropy, and cultural exchange that bridge the gap between their adopted homes and their ancestral lands. This transnational engagement contributes to knowledge transfer, technology sharing, and the fostering of diplomatic and trade relations between countries (Zezeza, 2003).

In recent years, there has been a growing recognition and celebration of African diaspora contributions and the importance of fostering connections between African diaspora communities and their countries of origin. Governments, organizations, and individuals are actively working to strengthen these ties through initiatives that promote cultural exchange, diaspora engagement, and investment in Africa. Overall, the experiences and contributions of African sojourners in diaspora are multifaceted and diverse. Their presence and influence in various spheres of society have enriched global culture, fostered cross-cultural understanding, and contributed to the advancement of African communities both within the diaspora and in Africa itself (Ojo, 2015).

Nigerian Professionals in Diaspora

Nigeria, as one of the most populous and diverse countries in Africa, has a significant number of professionals who have migrated and settled in various parts of the world. These Nigerian professionals in diaspora have made substantial contributions in their respective fields, showcasing their expertise, skills, and knowledge on the global stage. Nigerian professionals in diaspora encompass a wide range of disciplines and industries, including medicine, engineering,

information technology, finance, academia, arts and culture, entrepreneurship, and more. They have excelled in their chosen professions, earning recognition and respect for their expertise and accomplishments (Nwosu & Adebayo, 2019).

One notable area where Nigerian professionals in diaspora have made a significant impact is in the field of medicine. Nigerian doctors, nurses, and healthcare professionals have been sought after globally for their expertise, dedication, and contribution to healthcare delivery. Many Nigerian medical professionals have achieved remarkable success in their fields, pioneering innovative medical practices, conducting groundbreaking research, and providing essential healthcare services in their host countries. Nigerian diaspora professionals have also played a crucial role in bridging the digital divide by leveraging their skills and knowledge to drive technology adoption and digital transformation in Nigeria and other parts of Africa (Ikpeze, 2017). Furthermore, Nigerian professionals in diaspora have made significant contributions to academia and research. Many Nigerian scholars and researchers have held prestigious positions at renowned universities and research institutions globally, conducting groundbreaking research, publishing influential works, and mentoring the next generation of scholars. Their contributions to various academic fields, including social sciences, humanities, engineering, and medical research, have expanded knowledge and advanced academic discourse (Awogbade & Olasupo, 2018). Nigerian professionals in diaspora have also been active in entrepreneurship and business ventures. They have established successful businesses, both small and large, contributing to economic growth, job creation, and innovation. These entrepreneurs have leveraged their skills, networks, and knowledge to develop thriving businesses in diverse sectors, ranging from technology startups to hospitality, fashion, and manufacturing. Their entrepreneurial endeavors have not only generated economic opportunities but also fostered knowledge transfer and contributed to the development of entrepreneurial ecosystems in Nigeria (Korieh, 2018).

The impact of Nigerian professionals in diaspora extends beyond their professional achievements. They have been actively engaged in philanthropy, community development, and advocacy, supporting various initiatives and projects in Nigeria. Through their financial contributions, mentorship programs, and knowledge sharing, they have played a significant role in empowering

communities, promoting education, and driving positive social change (Ojo, 2015). Efforts are being made to harness the expertise and resources of Nigerian professionals in diaspora for the benefit of Nigeria's development. Initiatives such as the Nigerian Diaspora Direct Investment Summit and the Nigerians in Diaspora Commission (NiDCOM) aim to facilitate collaboration, networking, and knowledge exchange between Nigerian professionals abroad and their home country (Olaniyi, 2016). Nigerian professionals in diaspora represent a valuable human capital asset for Nigeria and the global community. Their skills, expertise, and contributions have a positive impact on various sectors, contributing to economic development, knowledge transfer, and the overall advancement of both their host countries and Nigeria. However, Nigerian professionals in diaspora face several challenges as they navigate their careers and lives in foreign countries. These challenges can impact their professional growth, social integration, and overall well-being (Nwakeze, 2020).

The first challenge is cultural adjustment. Adapting to a new cultural environment can be challenging. Nigerian professionals encounter differences in language, customs, social norms, and work culture. They may need to learn new communication styles, navigate unfamiliar social hierarchies, and understand cultural nuances to effectively interact with colleagues and superiors. Another challenge is the issue of discrimination and racism. Nigerian professionals in diaspora often face racial discrimination and bias, both overt and subtle. They may encounter stereotypes, prejudice, and unequal treatment based on their ethnicity or nationality. Such experiences can affect their confidence, job opportunities, and sense of belonging in their host countries. Another issue is the challenge of credential recognition. Obtaining recognition for professional qualifications earned in Nigeria can be a complex process. Nigerian professionals may need to go through lengthy and costly procedures to have their credentials recognized in their host countries. This can hinder their career advancement and limit their employment opportunities. They also face the challenge of limited network and professional connections. Building a strong professional network is crucial for career development and job opportunities. Nigerian professionals in diaspora often initially lack established networks in their host countries, which can make it challenging to find suitable employment, secure mentorship, and access professional development opportunities.

Aside from the above listed, they also face the challenge of workforce integration. Integration into the workforce can be difficult due to factors such as unfamiliar job market dynamics, competition, and biases. Nigerian professionals are often faced challenges in securing jobs commensurate with their qualifications and experience, leading to underemployment or having to accept positions below their skill level. There is also the issue of cultural bias and stereotypes. Negative stereotypes and biases about Nigerians and Africans in general affect how Nigerian professionals are perceived in the workplace. These biases can undermine their credibility, hinder career progression, and limit opportunities for leadership roles. The issue of emotional and mental health is been grappled with. The experience of being far away from home, family, and familiar support systems can lead to feelings of isolation, homesickness, and emotional stress. Nigerian professionals in diaspora are also faced with pressure to succeed, financial burdens, and the challenges of balancing work and personal life, which can impact their mental well-being. Lastly, another challenge is the issue of dual identity and sense of belonging. Nigerian professionals often grapple with dual identities - being Nigerian and being part of their adopted country. Balancing cultural expectations, maintaining connections with their Nigerian heritage, and fitting into their host society can create a sense of cultural dissonance and a feeling of not fully belonging to either culture (Nwakeze, 2020).

It is important to note that while Nigerian professionals in diaspora face these challenges, many also successfully overcome them and thrive in their careers and personal lives. Support networks, mentorship programmes, cultural organizations, and initiatives that address these challenges can play a significant role in assisting Nigerian professionals in diaspora to navigate these obstacles and maximize their potential for success (Orisawayi & Akingbola, 2018). In the course of this research, the researchers attempted to sample the opinion of some Nigerians abroad through secondary school old student and professional group chats on WhatsApp and Facebook. In all, the opinions of thirty-eight (38) people were sought, who were mainly Nigerians working and living abroad. Out of these interviewees, only two (2) have permanent status. Ten (10) of them are in the process of processing their papers while the rest of them did not disclose their immigration status. In order to understand their perception about working with higher academic qualification abroad,

all of them unanimously agreed that the employers of labor do value skilled labor better abroad than in Nigeria. They also claimed that the monthly pay is better whether one works with their academic qualifications or not; since the minimum wage is enough to pay one's basic bills. Twenty (20) of the interviewees said they sometimes felt like going back to Africa due to the challenges like discrimination and racism they face. Three (3) interviewees said their lives have been threatened in the past and that made them think the immigrants are not welcome. However, they all agreed that African professionals have made tremendous contributions to the economic development of the countries they have migrated to. Nonetheless, twenty (20) of them said that in spite of advancement in technology and infrastructure, most of these countries they migrated to "are very toxic to live in." They said that if their home countries are run by incorruptible leaderships, they would not have left in the first instance.

Implications of Nigerian's Sojourners on Global Citizenship

The sojourn of Nigerians in different parts of the world has implications for global citizenship, highlighting both opportunities and challenges (Achime, 2019). Some of the implications of Nigerian sojourners on global citizenship are quite enormous. The first one is cultural exchange and diversity. Nigerian sojourners contribute to the cultural diversity of their host countries and foster cross-cultural understanding. They bring their unique Nigerian heritage, traditions, languages, and perspectives, enriching the cultural fabric of their new communities. This cultural exchange promotes tolerance, appreciation for diversity, and the development of global citizenship values based on respect and inclusivity.

Secondly, we have the concept of transnational identities. Nigerian sojourners often develop transnational identities, embodying a sense of belonging to both Nigeria and their host countries. This dual identity allows them to navigate different cultural contexts, bridge cultural gaps, and act as cultural ambassadors. By embracing their Nigerian heritage while embracing their host country's values, they contribute to the formation of a global citizenry that transcends national boundaries. Thirdly, there is economic contribution. Nigerian sojourners make significant economic contributions both to their host countries and to Nigeria through remittances,

investments, and entrepreneurial activities. Remittances sent by Nigerian diaspora communities play a vital role in supporting families, improving livelihoods, and stimulating economic growth in Nigeria. Additionally, Nigerian professionals in diaspora contribute to the workforce, innovation, and entrepreneurship in their host countries, driving economic development (Ong, 2016). In addition to the above is the issue of knowledge transfer and capacity building. Nigerian sojourners often acquire knowledge, skills, and experiences in their host countries, which can be transferred back to Nigeria. They may gain expertise in various fields such as education, technology, healthcare, and governance, and use that knowledge to contribute to capacity building efforts in Nigeria. This knowledge transfer helps foster global citizenship by promoting sustainable development, knowledge sharing, and collaboration across borders. Also, there is the issue of advocacy for social justice. Nigerian sojourners often become advocates for social justice and human rights, both in their host countries and in Nigeria. They raise awareness about social issues, advocate for the rights of marginalized communities, and work towards creating a more equitable society. Their experiences of living in different cultural contexts provide them with a unique perspective on global issues, leading to their active engagement in social justice movements.

However, there may be challenges and disconnection. Nigerian sojourners may also face challenges that can affect their sense of global citizenship. They may encounter discrimination, racism, and xenophobia, which can hinder their full integration into their host societies. Language barriers, cultural differences, and legal hurdles can create feelings of disconnection and exclusion. Overcoming these challenges and fostering a sense of belonging in their host countries while maintaining ties with Nigeria requires resilience and a commitment to global citizenship ideals. Lastly, there may be the desire to return and reintegrate. Nigerian sojourners who choose to return to Nigeria may face challenges in reintegrating into their home country. They may encounter resistance or skepticism from their fellow Nigerians due to perceptions of cultural assimilation or the “brain drain” phenomenon. However, their international experiences, knowledge, and networks can contribute to national development efforts, fostering a more globally aware and connected Nigeria (Adepoju, 2019). Nigerian sojourners play a crucial role in shaping global citizenship through their cultural exchanges, economic contributions, knowledge transfer,

advocacy for social justice, and transnational identities. Recognizing and harnessing the potential of Nigerian sojourners can lead to a more inclusive, interconnected, and globally engaged society, benefiting both Nigeria and the global community at large (Afolabi, 2016).

Moral Elements of Migration Strategies & Practices in the 21st Century

Migration strategies and practices in the 21st Century encompass various moral elements that shape the experiences of migrants and influence the broader societal perspectives on migration (Afolabi, 2016). Here are some moral elements of migration strategies and practices in the 21st Century. The first one is the concept of human rights and dignity. The moral element of human rights and dignity is central to migration strategies and practices. It emphasizes that every individual, regardless of their migration status, possesses inherent rights and deserves to be treated with respect and dignity. This moral principle calls for the protection of migrants' rights, including access to healthcare, education, and fair employment opportunities, as well as the prevention of exploitation, discrimination, and violence. The next one is the issue of solidarity and compassion. Migration strategies and practices should be grounded in principles of solidarity and compassion. This moral element recognizes the shared humanity among individuals and calls for empathy and support towards migrants. It promotes the idea of extending help and assistance to those in need, recognizing that migration often involves individuals fleeing conflict, persecution, poverty, or seeking better opportunities for themselves and their families. The next one is justice and fairness. The moral elements of justice and fairness demand that migration strategies and practices be equitable and just. This includes ensuring fair and transparent immigration policies, unbiased decision-making processes, and equal treatment under the law. It also involves addressing the root causes of migration, such as socioeconomic disparities, political instability, and environmental challenges, in a way that promotes fairness and equal opportunities for all.

The next one is the issue of non-discrimination and inclusion. Migration strategies and practices should be guided by the moral principle of non-discrimination and inclusion. This means treating migrants without prejudice based on factors such as race, religion, nationality, or immigration status. It also involves creating inclusive societies that value diversity and provide opportunities

for social, economic, and cultural integration for migrants (Olaniyi, 2016). Another issue has to do with responsibility and accountability. The moral elements of responsibility and accountability emphasize the obligation of states, institutions, and individuals to take responsibility for the consequences of migration strategies and practices. This includes providing adequate support systems, ensuring the well-being of migrants, and holding accountable those who exploit or engage in human trafficking, smuggling, or other forms of illegal practices related to migration. Also, there is the issue of ethical governance and policy-making. Migration strategies and practices should be underpinned by ethical governance and policy-making. This moral element highlights the importance of transparent, inclusive, and participatory decision-making processes that consider the interests and perspectives of all stakeholders, including migrants themselves. It encourages evidence-based policies that prioritize the well-being and rights of migrants while also addressing the concerns of host communities.

Also, there is the consideration for sustainability and global cooperation. The moral element of sustainability calls for migration strategies and practices that promote long-term social, economic, and environmental sustainability. This includes fostering global cooperation and partnerships to address the challenges and opportunities associated with migration, such as promoting regular and safe migration channels, addressing climate-induced displacement, and supporting sustainable development initiatives in countries of origin (Ekeocha, 2018). These moral elements reflect the broader ethical considerations that should inform migration strategies and practices in the 21st Century. By incorporating these principles into policy-making, governance frameworks, and societal attitudes, migration can be approached in a more humane, just, and sustainable manner that respects the rights and dignity of migrants while also benefiting the societies they join (Osinubi, 2015).

Conclusion

In conclusion, the Jewish concept of slavery has highlighted the historical experiences of the Jewish people and their reflections on the importance of freedom, justice, and human dignity. Understanding this concept contributes to a deeper appreciation of the struggles and aspirations of

marginalized communities throughout history and serves as a reminder of the importance of combating all forms of oppression and discrimination. Examining African sojourners in diaspora has shed light on the experiences, challenges, and contributions of Africans who have migrated to various parts of the world. It highlights the rich cultural heritage, resilience, and global citizenship of African diaspora communities, while also underscoring the need for inclusive policies, social integration, and the elimination of stereotypes and discrimination.

The focus on Nigerian professionals in diaspora has showcased the brain drain phenomenon and the complexities associated with the migration of skilled individuals. It highlights the challenges faced by Nigerian professionals abroad and the potential contributions they can make to both their host countries and Nigeria's development. Addressing these challenges and harnessing the talents and expertise of Nigerian professionals in diaspora can have far-reaching positive impacts on both national and global levels. Lastly, exploring the moral elements of migration strategies and practices in the 21st Century has emphasized the importance of upholding human rights, dignity, justice, compassion, and inclusive governance. Recognizing the moral dimensions of migration helps foster a more humane, fair, and sustainable approach to migration policies, which in turn contributes to the well-being and integration of migrants and the promotion of global citizenship values.

In sum, the study covered in this paper highlights the interconnectedness of diverse populations and the need for dialogue, understanding, and empathy in addressing the challenges and opportunities of migration and diaspora. By recognizing the historical, cultural, social, and ethical dimensions of migration, we can work towards creating more inclusive, equitable, and compassionate societies that embrace diversity, respect human rights, and promote the well-being and contributions of all individuals, regardless of their background or migration status.

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