

An Attempt to Measure Afro-Polychronism Empirically

Authors : Aïda C. Terblanché-Greeff

Abstract : Afro-polychronism is a unique amalgamated cultural value of social self-construal and time orientation. As such, the construct Afro-polychronism is conceptually analysed by focusing on the aspects of Ubuntu as collectivism and African time as polychronism. It is argued that these cultural values have a reciprocal and thus inseparable relationship. As it is general practice to measure cultural values empirically, the author conducted empirically engaged philosophy and aimed to develop a scale to measure Afro-polychronism based on its two dimensions of Ubuntu as social self-construal and African time as time orientation. From the scale's psychometric properties, it was determined that the scale was, in fact, not reliable and valid. It was found that the correlation between the Ubuntu dimension and the African time is moderate (albeit statistically significant). In conclusion, the author abduced why this cultural value cannot be empirically measured based on its theoretical definition and indicated which different path would be more promising.

Keywords : African time, Afro-polychronism, empirically engaged African philosophy, Ubuntu

Conference Title : ICAP 2023 : International Conference on African Philosophy

Conference Location : Istanbul, Türkiye

Conference Dates : April 24-25, 2023