

Name: John Blessing Likita

Matric No: 16/SMS09/043

Course Title: Logic of World Order

Course Code: IRD 416

World Order can be defined as a system controlling events in the world, especially a set of arrangements established internationally for preserving global political stability. World Order can also be defined as a political situation in which the countries of the world are no longer divided because of their support for either the US or the Soviet Union and instead work together to solve international problems. "Third World" is a phrase that can be used to describe a class of economically inferior nations. Historical observations have developed a four part segmentation for dividing their world's economies by economic status. Third World falls behind First World and Second World but is ahead of Fourth World though Fourth World countries are hardly recognized at all.

Despite their legal status as sovereign entities in the international socio-economic and political order, the newly emerging independent countries, born since the period immediately after the Second World War suddenly found themselves integrated into an international system they had no voice in shaping but whose organization and operation they view as a barrier to overcoming the overwhelming political, economic and social problems that beset them at home. The international system seems structured to prevent their rise above the underdog status. Herein lies the source of the North-South dichotomy and conflict - a struggle by states of the South who are at the bottom of the international hierarchy to improve their position in the International pecking order against a

resisting North who has shaped the Order in favour of their politics and economies. Therefore, the debate between the wealthy North and the poor South has stressed economic and related welfare issues, but the conflict is “inherently a politics of mutual suspicion and struggle” (Hielbroner, cited in Kegly and Wittkopf, 1991: 111).

When in 1952 the French demographer, Alfred Sauvy coined the concept tiers monde (the Third World) (cited in Haynes, 1955: 3), he did so to describe the part of the world that is generally identified with the multiple extremes of poverty and high birth rates - what he considers the source of economic dependence on the advanced countries of the Western hemisphere.

Characteristics of the Third World:

The under development of the Third World is marked by a number of economic traits; these are often known for their highly dependent economies, devoted to producing primary products for the developed world and to provide markets for their finished good, a contradiction observable in most Third World countries is that despite the poverty of the countryside and the urban shanty towns, the ruling elites of most Third World countries are wealthy, visibly manifested through the massive corruption of these class of people.

The geo-political region referred to as the Third World spans from Latin America through the Caribbean, Africa and the Middle-East right up to the Asian continent comprising of more than 120 emerging new states (The South Commission, 1993: 15). These countries are largely made up of populace who are deemed not benefiting in the prosperity and progress in the global economy as a result of the structural inequalities that are located within the South due to their socio-political and economic periphery status in relation to that of the developed countries of the North. While

the people in the North are perceived as prosperous, those of the South however, are perceived feeble and defenseless due to starvation and diseases.

The Third World countries which are located in the South are therefore less developed, devastatingly poor and less influential in comparison to developed First and Second world countries which are located in the North. While the North is experiencing rising standards of living of its peoples by increasing incomes, consumption, health facilities, education and technology.

Developed countries have found themselves integrated, forming a whole in the international system, being part of the international system after the Second World War, they have no voice in shaping the political activities on the international scene. Third world countries are ranked third and they are the last in the hierarchy of categorization of global regions, they are politically backward. Developing countries are vulnerable to the extremities of nature (drought, flooding, earthquake, hurricane, tornadoes). Third world countries are devastatingly poor, they have poor standards of living, low incomes, poor health services. Developing countries want a new international world order that would be equal so they can be at the same level with the developed countries, have a say in international politics and economics and so their voices can be heard in the international scene.

References

- Caleb, A., & Bakut, B. (2014, August 21). *SSRN*. Retrieved April 28, 2020, from Third World Countries' Marginal Position In The Contemporary Global Economy: An Assessment: https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2484687
- Cambridge University Press. (2020). *Cambridge Dictionary*. Retrieved April 28, 2020, from The New World Order: <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/new-world-order>
- Caroline, B. (2020, March 27). *Investopedia*. Retrieved April 28, 2020, from Third World: <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/t/third-world.asp>