

# **Framing Chinese treatment of Africans in Guangzhou: A study of Nigerian and Ghanaian online newspapers**

## **Abstract**

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China is a major trading partner, financier and source of investment in many African countries. However, the treatment of Africans in Guangzhou in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic generated strong criticisms. Raising the ghost of racism in Africa-China relations, the Guangzhou episode made news headlines within and outside Africa. Relying on discourse and thematic analyses, this paper interrogates the coverage of the episode in selected African newspapers. Specifically, it focuses on online reports in *The Guardian and The Nation* (in Nigeria) and *Graphic and Daily Guide* (in Ghana). Two interrelated objectives of the paper include: (i) to understand how the four newspapers framed the Guangzhou episode, and (ii) ascertain discursive and thematic convergence – or divergence – within and/or between both countries. Data for the paper, which essentially includes reports on the Guangzhou incidence, was systematically collected from the websites of the four newspapers using key search words and protocols that will be explained.

## **Author Bio**

A former journalist in *Vanguard* newspapers in Nigeria, **Abdul-Gafar Tobi Oshodi** currently lectures in the Department of Political Science, Lagos State University. He was a fellow of the Social Science Research Council's Next Generation of Social Science in Africa program (2013-2014), Doctoral Fellow at Centre for Research on Peace and Development, KU Leuven (2013-2017), and Catalyst Fellow at Centre of African Studies, University of Edinburgh (2019-2020). He received an American Council of Learned Societies African Humanities Program postdoctoral fellowship (2020-2021) to work on a book entitled 'Imageries of Mao Zedong's China in Ghanaian newspapers, 1957-1976.'