


Ethical Imperatives of Wisdom, Justice, and Human Dignity in Old Testament Wisdom Literature: Implications for Artificial Intelligence and Civil Liberties in Africa

Author:

Emmanuel Chijioke Agoha 

Affiliation:

Department of Religious Studies,
Alvan Ikoku Federal University
of Education, Owerri, Nigeria

Corresponding author:

Emmanuel Chijioke Agoha

E-mail:

emma.agoha@alvanikoku.edu.ng

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Abstract

The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into modern society has sparked significant debate, particularly regarding its ethical and societal implications. This paper explores the Old Testament's concepts of wisdom, justice and human dignity of Wisdom Literature, in relation to Artificial Intelligence and civil liberties in Africa. The researcher used secondary sources of information. The method adopted is the interdisciplinary Approach. This approach combines insights from theological analysis Examining Old Testament Wisdom Literature and its relevance to contemporary issues such as artificial intelligence. By analysing biblical texts and contemporary scholarship, the study revealed the tension between technological advancement and the preservation of human dignity and rights. AI development necessitates ethical considerations that align with biblical wisdom principles. Wisdom Literature provides a framework for responsible AI integration, balancing innovation with justice and underscoring the necessity of ethical AI governance. It is the view of this article that AI ethics should prioritize human dignity and fairness. This study concludes with recommendations for ethical AI development and implementation in Africa, grounded in biblical wisdom and respect for civil liberties. This is because without proper ethical guidelines, AI may exacerbate inequalities and threaten personal freedoms. The study, therefore, advocates a biblically-informed approach that ensures AI serves humanity rather than undermines fundamental rights.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence (AI), Wisdom, Ethics, Justice, human dignity.

Introduction

The swift evolution and deployment of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology into all facets of life and society is fast transforming various sectors, including religion, culture, governance, healthcare and education. AI applications range from data analysis to automation, influencing knowledge and decision-making processes worldwide. However, its integration into society raises critical ethical questions, particularly in countries like Africa where civil liberties are often fragile. Scholars such as Bostrom (2021) emphasise that AI has the potential to either enhance human rights or threaten them, depending on its governance structures. The Old Testament's Wisdom Literature, which includes books such as Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Job and Psalms offers profound insights into the nature of knowledge, wisdom and ethical decision-making. These texts provide a framework for evaluating AI's implications on human dignity, proper understanding and application of wisdom and knowledge of societal structures, transformation and sustainability. Wisdom Literature emphasizes the pursuit of knowledge and understanding as divine gifts. Prov 1:7 underscores the necessity of grounding technological advancements, such as AI, in ethical and moral principles. While AI presents numerous opportunities, such as improving healthcare and governance, its potential risks include surveillance abuse, bias in decision-making and the erosion of privacy rights. AI systems often develop faster than regulatory mechanisms, posing a challenge for civil liberties protection in Africa. An European scholar, Müller (2023), suggests that AI should be designed with built-in ethical constraints to prevent harm. This paper explores these issues through the lens of biblical wisdom, offering a balanced perspective on the positive opportunities as well as challenges that are inherent with AI adoption and deployment in Africa.

Statement of the Problem

The fast-track evolution, deployment and integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology has both advantages and disadvantages for civil liberties across the globe, particularly in Africa, where regulatory frameworks are still evolving. While it is generally acceptable that AI technologies offer potential benefits in virtually all facets of life and society such as governance, security, healthcare, and education, their deployment also raises serious ethical concerns related to privacy, surveillance, discrimination, and the erosion of human dignity and biblical principles and practices. In many African nations the use of AI mechanisms for facial recognition, data analyses, and intelligence gathering are expanding without adequate legal safeguards. This raises critical questions about how these technologies might infringe on fundamental human rights like freedom of expression, movement, and protection from arbitrary interference. The apparent lack of a robust ethical and philosophical foundation to guide AI technological development and integration in African contexts further compounds the risk of injustice and systemic bias.

In light of these concerns, Old Testament Wisdom Literature advocates valuable ethical values as justice, equity, regards for rights and dignity of humanity, and the pursuit of truth that can serve as a moral compass in navigating the complexities of AI governance. However, there is a significant gap in scholarly discourse connecting the enduring values of biblical wisdom literature with contemporary issues surrounding AI and civil liberties in Africa.

This research therefore seeks to examine how the ethical imperatives found in the Old Testament can inform a balanced approach to AI policy and practice, to guard against adverse effects of technological progress on biblical principles that advocate protection of human rights, dignity and social justice.

Theoretical Framework

A suitable theoretical framework for the study is the Technological Determinism Theory. This theory was originally proposed by Thorstein Veblen in 1904 and later expanded by scholars like McLuhan (1964) and Winner (1977). The theory states that technological innovation is the main initiator that triggers societal change affecting societal structures as well as cultural values and human behavior. According to this view, technology is an autonomous force that determines how individuals relate to one another and how institutions evolve. The central principles of Technological Determinism include: (1) Technology as the Prime Mover technology influences every facet of human life, including ethics, governance, and spirituality (2) Unidirectional Influence – social change is largely a consequence of technological advancement, rather than the other way around; and (3) Inevitability of Change once a technology is introduced, its impact on society is inevitable and often irreversible.

McLuhan particularly emphasized that “the medium is the message,” implying that the form of technology (like AI) shapes our perceptions and understanding, not just the content it delivers. This aligns with how people interpret knowledge and values through mediums such as scripture and digital tools. Applied to the present study, the Technological Determinism Theory offers a lens to examine how AI is reshaping interpretations of Wisdom Literature in the Old Testament and how such reinterpretations impact civil liberties in Africa, particularly concerning privacy, freedom of thought, and digital surveillance. As AI technologies increasingly engage with theological texts summarising, analysing, or even reimagining ancient scriptures that have the capacity to inadvertently influence moral values, personal beliefs, and communal decision-making processes.

Methodology

This research adopts an interdisciplinary methodology, integrating theological analysis, ethical inquiry, legal analysis, and technological assessment to explore the ethical imperatives of wisdom, justice, and human dignity in Old Testament wisdom literature and their implications for artificial intelligence (AI) and civil liberties in Africa. Theological analysis focuses on the relevance of Old Testament wisdom literature to contemporary issues, while ethical inquiry investigates the moral impact of AI technology on justice, equity, and human dignity. Legal analysis looks on the implications of AI for civil liberties and human rights in African context, and technological assessment evaluates AI's capabilities and limitations. The research employs a qualitative approach, analyzing texts, case studies, and expert opinions to gather in-depth insights, and uses literature review to explore existing research on AI in Africa. A comparative study is carried out to contrast varying perspectives on AI, wisdom literature, and human dignity. Additionally, the research emphasizes contextual understanding, acknowledging the cultural, social, and economic nuances of Africa, and interdisciplinary dialogue to engage with diverse fields such as theology, ethics, law, and technology, ultimately offering a comprehensive analysis of the nexus between AI, wisdom literature, and human values in the Nigerian context.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Biblical Perspective

The concept of Artificial Intelligence (AI) may seem far removed from the ancient texts of the Old Testament, but the principles underlying AI development can be traced back to biblical teachings on knowledge and wisdom. Prov 8:12 states talks about wisdom dwelling together with prudence, knowledge and discretion. This emphasises the role of ethical judgment in technological advancements. Therefore, AI should be developed with prudence ensuring it is in tandem biblical injunction on human values that advocates justice. Contemporary European scholars, such as Dignum (2022), argue that AI systems should be governed by transparency, accountability and fairness to mitigate societal harm.

The epic of the Tower of Babel in Gen 11:1-9 serves as a warning against unchecked technological escapades. The people decided to build a tower reaching heaven, but their efforts were thwarted by divine intervention. This underscores the necessity of biblical ethical considerations in AI technological development, warning against hubris and the concentration against divine will. Additionally, Phil 2:3-4 exhorts believers to use knowledge for the common good rather than selfish ambition. AI policies should reflect this principle, ensuring technology serves humanity rather than corporate interests.

European scholar Bryson (2023) suggests that AI governance should include human-centered regulations to safeguard individual rights. Eccl 7:12 states, “the excellence of knowledge is that wisdom gives life to those who have it.” This verse suggests that true wisdom should lead to life-giving outcomes, emphasising the importance of ethical AI applications. AI's potential to improve healthcare, governance and education in Africa must be balanced with safeguards against its risks. The biblical call for accountability in knowledge and power, as stated in Jas 3:1, aligns with current AI ethics debates. As AI continues to integrate into society, regulatory frameworks must ensure fairness and protect civil liberties. A recent European research by Taddeo (2023) highlights the necessity of AI systems that are both effective and ethically constrained. By applying biblical principles, AI can be guided towards ethical and responsible development, ensuring it serves rather than dominates, dehumanizes or destroys humanity.

Wisdom Literature and the Concept of Knowledge

Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament, including Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and Job, provides a rich foundation for understanding the concept of knowledge and its ethical implications. In Proverbs 2:6 it is clearly stated that the Lord gives wisdom, knowledge and understanding. This verse emphasizes that true knowledge is a gift from God and should be pursued with reverence and humility. According to Smith (2023), the ethical dimensions of knowledge in religious texts can inform contemporary debates on AI, particularly in balancing innovation with moral responsibility.

Prov 4:7 enjoined all to get wisdom and understanding at all cost. This passage underscores the value of wisdom and understanding, which are necessary for proper understanding of modern technology, including AI. The pursuit of knowledge must be guided by ethical considerations, ensuring that technological advancements serve the common good. As Johnson (2022) notes, the application of ancient wisdom to technological ethics can help create regulatory frameworks that protect fundamental human rights. Eccl 1:18 offers a sobering perspective on the pursuit of knowledge: “For with much wisdom comes much sorrow; the more knowledge, the more grief.” This verse highlights the potential burdens and responsibilities that come with knowledge. With the continued evolution of AI technology it is axiomatic to insist on the ethical and moral implications of its development and usage. Recent research by Müller (2023) argues that AI governance must address these challenges by

implementing policies that mitigate the unintended consequences of AI-driven decisions.

The book of Job also provides insights into the nature of knowledge and wisdom. Job 28:28 emphasizes the importance of moral integrity in the pursuit of knowledge. As AI technology becomes rampant in society, there is need to ensure that its development and use align with Biblical ethical principles. According to Fischer (2021), ethical AI frameworks should incorporate values from religious and philosophical traditions to ensure that technology serves human dignity rather than undermining it.

Finally, Prov 9:10 reinforces the idea that true wisdom and understanding are rooted in a reverence for God and a commitment to ethical principles. Advancement of AI technology should be anchored on these biblical values. In line with this, Brown (2023) asserts that ethical AI policies should integrate perspectives from multiple disciplines, including theology, to establish a more holistic approach to responsible AI innovation.

Factors Influencing AI Development and Adoption

The development and adoption of AI are influenced by so many factors, including scientific and technological advancements, economic considerations and societal needs. In Proverbs 16:3, the Qoheleth instructions is to Commit whatever one does to the Lord for one's plans to be established. This verse shows the need to align technological advancements with divine principles, to ensure that AI development serves the best interest of humanity. According to Thompson (2023), the intersection of technology and ethics requires a commitment to moral principles that guide the responsible deployment of AI.

Economic considerations and financial gains are also paramount in AI development. Ecclesiastes 5:10 is a caution against pursuing profit in lieu of ethical considerations of moral values. It is essential to ensure that economic motivations do not overshadow the need for ethical oversight in this era of AI. As highlighted by Andersen (2022), economic incentives must be balanced with strong regulatory frameworks to prevent AI from exacerbating or entrenching social inequalities.

Societal needs and cultural contexts also influence the rate of adoption of AI. Proverbs 22:6 asserts that starting up a child in the right ways will enable him to get a strong foundation to the right attitude to life and society. This emphasizes the importance of early childhood inculcation of positive cultural and societal values to shape the development and deployment of AI technology. In view of increasing integration of AI into society, Meyer (2023) posits that AI policies must be localised to reflect the diverse values and traditions of different societies, ensuring that technological development is inclusive and beneficial for all.

The role of governance and regulation in AI development cannot be overstated. Rom 13:1 reminds everyone to be subject to constituted authorities. This verse highlights the importance of obedience to established codes for initiating frameworks that ensures adequate regulation for ethical development and usage of AI. Advancement of AI calls for the establish governance structures that protect civil liberties and promote societal well-being. According to Weber (2022), transparent and democratic AI governance mechanisms are crucial to preventing abuses of power and ensuring equitable access to AI technologies.

Finally, the role of education and awareness in AI adoption is crucial. Prov 1:5 instructs the wise to listen and the discerning to get guidance. This verse points to the need for continuing learning and continuous awareness by the developers and users of AI in navigating the

complexities of AI technology. It is therefore imperative to promote continuing education and awareness that empower individuals to make informed choices on its use. According to Garcia (2023), AI literacy should be prioritized in educational curricula to equip individuals with the critical skills needed to engage with AI technologies responsibly and ethically.

Wisdom Literature and Ethical Considerations

The Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament offers a foundational perspective on ethical considerations in the building and adoption of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Proverbs 3:5-6 encourage people to trust in the Lord wholeheartedly and avoiding the temptation to lean on their own understanding as a condition for establishment of one's desires. This verse emphasizes the necessity of divine guidance and human ineptitude, particularly in times of uncertainty and complexity, such as those posed by AI development. Ethical decision-making in AI should not be driven solely by human intellect but should incorporate higher moral and ethical considerations that prioritize human dignity and fairness to achieve the best result. Scholars argue that ethical AI must be guided by principles that ensure justice, transparency and accountability (Floridi, 2023).

Wisdom literature serves as a reminder that technological advancements should align with moral values, ensuring they contribute positively to society. AI, when left unchecked, can lead to biased decision-making and exploitation, making ethical oversight crucial. The challenge is not merely technological but also philosophical and ethical, requiring a holistic approach that integrates wisdom literature's emphasis on divine guidance and human responsibility. Thus, Proverbs provides a lens through which AI ethics can be evaluated in the modern digital era. The book of Ecclesiastes provides profound ethical insights relevant to the discourse on AI and technological responsibility. Eccl 12:13 insists that the Fear of God and keeping of his commandments is not optional but a duty for all in all human endeavors. This verse stresses the importance of ethical obedience, underscoring that human actions, including the creation and use of AI, should have moral implications as its development and usage will be judged. The rapid evolution of AI raises ethical questions regarding its deployment in sensitive areas like healthcare services, governance and social justice systems. Scholars argue that AI must be designed to enhance human well-being rather than replace human agency or manipulate social structures (Brey, 2022).

Ecclesiastes warns against the pursuit of knowledge without ethical grounding, a caution that applies to AI development, where the unchecked pursuit of efficiency can lead to unintended consequences such as bias, privacy violations and loss of human autonomy. The passage encourages humility in technological progress, urging developers and policymakers to reverence God and approach AI with ethical awareness and accountability. By integrating the wisdom of Ecclesiastes, AI ethics can be anchored in moral principles that serve the broader good of humanity.

Another Wisdom Literature The book of Job offers valuable insights into maintaining ethical integrity amid challenges, a relevant fact to AI ethics. Job 1:21 reminds all that we will leave the world naked and empty handed just as we entered into it. This verse underscores not only the transient nature of human existence but the certainty of the fact of leaving all wealth and fame behind hence the importance of wisdom and responsibility in all circumstances. In AI technological development, ethical integrity is crucial in ensuring that technology is beneficial to humanity rather than destructive like in manipulation, exploitation, or profit maximization at the expense of human dignity. European scholars emphasize that AI should be governed by

principles of fairness, inclusivity and human-centric values to prevent harm and ensure accountability (Tasioulas, 2023). The story of Job reminds us that ethical considerations should remain steadfast even when faced with the allure of technological power and advancement. AI developers and policymakers must resist the temptation to prioritize efficiency over moral responsibility, by making sure that AI serves instead of usurping human dignity by undermining laid down biblical ethical values and principles.

Effect of AI Technology on Civil Liberties

The incorporation of AI technology into society has significant implications for civil liberties, human freedom and fair treatment. The fast transformation of society through AI technologies has raised concerns about the erosion of basic human rights and ability of AI systems to be misused by governments and corporations. According to Floridi (2020), AI must be designed with ethical considerations in mind to safeguard individual freedoms. The biblical reference in Prov 31:8-9 underscores the necessity of advocating for those who cannot defend themselves, a principle that aligns with the need for robust AI governance. AI-driven systems, particularly in surveillance and data analyses pose risks to marginalized communities who may lack the resources to challenge violations of their rights. Therefore there is a serious demand for policies that ensure its development aligns with human rights principles. Ethical AI frameworks should be established to balance scientific and technological innovations with biblical theological injunction to guard against AI serving as a tool for injustice and oppression. While AI offers numerous benefits, its unchecked deployment can lead to unintended consequences that disproportionately affect vulnerable populations (Floridi, 2020). Therefore, proactive measures are essential to ensure AI enhances rather than restricts civil liberties.

That AI has the tendency to infringe on individual privacy is of a significant concern. AI-driven data collection and analysis enable organizations to track individuals' online and offline behaviors, raising ethical and legal questions regarding consent and data ownership. According to Mittelstadt (2019), AI systems that process personal data should be designed with transparency and accountability to protect privacy. The biblical passage in Ps 139:1-3 emphasizes the value of personal privacy, paralleling contemporary concerns about AI's ability to monitor human activities without consent. AI-powered facial recognition technologies, for instance, have sparked debates on their implications for surveillance and mass data collection. Governments and private entities increasingly use AI to monitor populations, often without clear regulatory oversight. This raises the risk of privacy breaches and potential misuse of personal data for commercial or political purposes. The European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) represents an effort to establish stringent data protection laws, demonstrating the need for global frameworks to safeguard privacy rights (Mittelstadt, 2019). The continuous evolution and deployment of AI technologies makes it imperative to implement ethical guidelines to prioritize privacy protection, ensuring that AI technologies respect individuals' rights of privacy rather than compromise them.

The impact of AI on freedom of expression is also significant. AI algorithms influence the information individuals access, shaping public discourse and potentially suppressing dissenting opinions. According to Helberger (2020), AI-driven content moderation systems often lack nuance, leading to over-censorship or selective enforcement of policies. The biblical reference in Prov 18:21 highlights the power of speech, underscoring the importance of protecting freedom of expression in digital spaces. Social media platforms and online news sources increasingly rely on AI to

moderate content, which, while necessary to curb harmful speech, also raises concerns about biased decision-making. AI models trained on biased data sets may disproportionately silence certain viewpoints, reinforcing existing power imbalances. This is particularly problematic in authoritarian regimes where AI tools are employed to suppress political opposition. To uphold democratic values, it is essential to establish AI governance frameworks that prioritize transparency and accountability (Helberger, 2020). Developing explainable AI mechanisms that enable users understand content moderation decisions which enhances trust and safeguard free speech.

Ultimately, implementation of AI technology should amplify diverse rather than curtail perspectives of fundamental rights. AI systems endowed with biased data analyses equipment can perpetuate and exacerbate discrimination in employment and economic empowerment. According to Binns (2020), algorithmic bias is a persistent issue that requires proactive intervention to ensure AI-driven decisions are fair and equitable. The passage in Jas 2:1-4 speaks against favoritism, aligning with the ethical imperative to develop unbiased AI systems. Many AI applications, particularly in predictive policing and credit scoring, have demonstrated racial and socio-economic biases, leading to unjust outcomes for marginalised groups. These biases arise when historical data in AI reflects societal prejudices, entrenching endemic discrimination in automated processes. Addressing this requires a multifaceted approach, including diverse data representation, rigorous testing for bias and continuous auditing of AI models. Legal frameworks such as the European Commission's AI Act aim to regulate high-risk AI applications and mitigate discrimination risks (Binns, 2020). Without stringent regulations, AI could reinforce existing disparities rather than promote fairness.

Therefore, ensuring algorithmic transparency and accountability is essential in preventing AI from becoming a tool of discrimination rather than inclusivity. That AI is significant in public discourse and decision-making policies is also significant. AI systems increasingly influence political campaigns, corporate decision-making and policy formulation, raising concerns about their impact on democratic processes. According to Nemitz (2018), AI governance should emphasize human oversight to prevent technology from undermining public trust and informed decision-making. The biblical reference in Prov 18:13 warns against making uninformed decisions, which is relevant in AI driven policymaking. AI-powered recommendation algorithms dictate the news people consume, potentially fostering echo chambers that limit exposure to diverse viewpoints. The deployment of AI for electoral processes, like electronic voter profiling, raises ethical concerns about manipulation and misinformation. To maintain democratic integrity, it is important to establish AI policies to promote transparency and human accountability. The European Union's Digital Services Act seeks to address the influence of AI on digital platforms by promoting responsible AI development (Nemitz, 2018). As AI continues to shape public discourse, ethical oversight and human-centered design needful to AI-driven decisions in alignment with democratic institutions and public interest.

The potential for AI technology to be used for surveillance and control is a significant concern. AI powered surveillance mechanisms in form of facial recognition, dermatology and intelligence gathering enable governments and corporations to monitor individuals extensively, often without their knowledge or consent. According to Andrejevic (2020), AI-driven surveillance risks eroding civil liberties, particularly in societies with weak democratic institutions.

The biblical passage in Prov 28:15 serves as a warning against oppressive rule, highlighting the dangers of AI being weaponized for authoritarian control. Countries employing AI for mass surveillance justify its use in the name of national security, yet such technologies can be misused to suppress dissent and infringe on personal freedoms. The Chinese Social Credit System exemplifies how AI-driven surveillance can dictate citizens' behaviors, raising alarms about similar implementations in other regions. The European Court of Human Rights has addressed concerns over AI surveillance, emphasizing the need for legal safeguards to prevent abuse (Andrejevic, 2020). Policymakers must ensure that technological innovations and advancements respect human rights. Regulatory measures require human oversight mechanisms, critical in preventing AI from becoming a tool for excessive surveillance and control.

AI and Human Rights in Africa

The incorporation of AI technology into African societies presents unique challenges and opportunities. Prov 14:31 makes it clear that oppression of the poor tantamount to contempt for their Maker and kindness to the needy is an honor to God. This underscores the importance of protecting the interest of vulnerable groups in the development and use of AI. The tendency for AI to widen the gap of inequalities in Africa is of a significant concern. Jas 2:1-4 warns against favoritism based on social strata or material acquisition. This passage highlights the importance of ensuring that AI is used in a manner that promotes fairness and equity in Africa (Pasipamire & Muroyiwa 2024).

The role of AI in shaping governance and accountability in Africa is also significant. Prov 29:2 underscores the need for sound leadership and governance in establishment of adequate societal structures. It is imperative that AI's innovations and use promote justice, equity and societal well-being in Africa. AI technologically powered innovations are also used for surveillance and security control in Africa. Prov 28:15 serves as a caution against the misuse of power and the potential for AI to be used for oppressive purposes. Increasing integration into African societies calls for caution making sure that AI use is in conformity with ethical principles that protect civil liberties. The use of AI technology on employment opportunities and economic structures in Africa is also significant. Eccl 3:13 highlights the importance of meaningful work and economic stability, which can be reflected in the deployment and use of AI to promote economic stability and meaningful employment in Africa.

Biblical Implications of AI on Society

The integration of AI into society has profound implications for human dignity, relationships and societal structures (Latoner, 2018). In Gen 1:27 the Bible makes it clear that God created human beings in his image and likeness. This verse underscores the dignity inherent in and value of human being as divinely instituted which should be protected in the production and use of AI. AI has the ability to enhance human relationships and societal well-being. Prov 17:17 highlights the importance of unbroken healthy relationships among families and communities, which can be strengthened through AI technological innovations. According to the Doctrine of the Faith (2015), Evolution of AI should ensure that its development and use promote human connection and societal well-being.

According to the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission (2018), AI also poses risks to human dignity and relationships. Eccl 4:4 serves as a caution against the misuse of technology, which can lead to envy, unhealthy competition and the erosion of human dignity. It becomes necessary to develop and use AI technology anchored on ethical principles which enhance life and protect human dignity.

The influence of AI on social structures is also emphasized in Prov 29:2, which highlights the importance of leadership and governance in moulding social structures ensuring that its development and use promote justice, equity and societal well-being. The potential for AI to exacerbate societal inequalities is of a significant concern (Noble, 2018). Love (2019) asserts that the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) into various sectors has raised significant concerns regarding privacy and civil liberties. The incorporation of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology into economic structures and employment landscapes presents merits and demerits. AI-driven automation can enhance productivity and promote economic growth, yet raises concerns about job displacement and economic inequality. Ecc 3:13 emphasizes the value of meaningful labor, stating, underscoring the need for economic systems that provide dignified employment opportunities despite technological advancements. While AI may replace certain jobs, it also has the potential to create new employment sectors and improve workplace efficiency when properly integrated (Bughin et al. 2018). Therefore, policies that emphasize reskilling and workforce adaptation are crucial to ensuring that AI contributes positively to economic stability and job creation (Brynjolfsson & McAfee 2020).

The incorporation of AI in governance and social control systems are also significant. AI's capability for surveillance and data analysis raises concerns about potential misuse in violating civil liberties. In order to check this Prov 28:15 warns against oppressive leadership. This passage highlights the dangers of unchecked technological power in governance. The deployment of AI-powered surveillance systems without clear ethical guidelines can lead to privacy infringements and state overreach (Zuboff, 2019). While AI can enhance security, it must be developed within frameworks that protect democratic freedoms and individual rights (Cath, 2018). Ensuring transparency, accountability and adherence to ethical AI principles are essential in preventing its misuse for authoritarian control.

Recommendations

1. AI deployment in Africa should be anchored on biblical values and principles that prioritize human dignity and civil liberties enunciated in Wisdom Literature.
2. Development and implementation of regulatory frameworks ensuring the ethical use of AI for protection rather than destruction or dehumanization of humanity.
3. Investment in the development of technological infrastructure anchored on fear of God to support the implementation of AI technologies in Africa.
4. Promotion of continuous education on Biblical ethics and values as well as continued awareness on the benefits and opportunities and well as the inherent challenges associated with AI. This will empower individuals to make informed decisions about its use.
5. Ensuring that technological innovations are used in such a way as promotes God's plan and purposes in creation and restoring human dignity and equity.

Conclusion

The integration of AI into African societies has come with both advantages and difficulties, opportunities and platforms for the protection of human life, rights, and dignity even for civil liberties and the promotion overall societal well-being. By anchoring AI development and development on the ethical principles of the Old Testament's Wisdom Literature, it is possible to navigate the inherent challenges and harness the AI technology for the betterment of life and society for the common good. As AI continues to advance, it has

become absolutely necessary to align its' whole idea of development, deployment and integration with biblical values that promote justice, equity and human dignity.

Conflict interest(s)

The author declares that they have no personal, professional or financial interest that may have inappropriately influenced the outcome of this research.

Ethical considerations

The author declares that this article was conducted in accordance with ethical standards and principles for research.

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Author Biography

Dr. Emmanuel Chijioke Agoha holds a PhD in Biblical Studies (Old Testament) from the University of Port Harcourt and a First Class honours in Bachelor Degree from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. He is a senior lecturer in the Department of Religious Studies at Alvan Ikoku Federal University of Education, Owerri, Nigeria. His research interest is in the intersection of biblical exegesis and Igbo cultural studies, with a focus on sustainable development, and transformation through the application of biblical ethics and values in Africa.