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**The Incorporation of the African Immigrants into Canada:
The case of B.C and how African newcomers are settled and integrated**

The world we live in today is often referred to as a global village, for its diversity, intercultural and multicultural communities, technological connectivity, and also because of the unprecedented global movement of people and goods across oceans and continents.

In Canada, and particularly in British Columbia, this global interconnectedness is showcased by the diasporas. Similar to many, the African among this diaspora, and especially the African immigrants have a specific experience of settlement, integration and adaptation in B.C, based on their ethno cultural backgrounds and immigration experiences.

These challenges, however, have been exacerbated by the September 11th events. Since September 2001, there has been a total recrudescence in systemic discrimination against ethno-racial groups in Canada and social demonizing of immigrants and refugees through racial profiling, the media's many insidious representations and the new *academic renaissance on security* which hasn't been short of ideas to argue that "ethnic communities as intrinsic breeding grounds for national security threats" (Brynen, 2002).

However most of the new security and immigration policies today, stand in blatant contradiction to most countries' constitutional and domestic laws and undermine diaspora members' basic human rights, freedom of movement, speech and association.

This presentation will discuss **the challenges of socio-political integration**, networking and peacemaking efforts of the African immigrant and refugee diaspora communities in Canada, and particularly in B.C.