

AI ETHICS, WORK, TRUTH, AND HUMAN DIGNITY

Inspire 2026 e-Summit | Africa Manifest

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"For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed." — Romans 8:19

The Moment We Are Living In

60%+

of Africa's population
under age 25

Billions

people reached by AI
in seconds

Who decides?

Who shapes the ethics of this technology?

The ethics frameworks for AI are being written in Brussels, Washington DC, San Francisco.
Not in Kampala. Not in Nairobi. Not in Lagos.

AI is moving faster than any technology in history. The question is not whether it will reach Africa.

The question is: will Africa help shape it — or only receive it?

What Is AI, Really? — And Why It Matters for Africa

What AI Can Do — Right Now

WRITE

Legal contracts, sermons, code — indistinguishable from human output

GENERATE

Photorealistic images, video, music — from a single text prompt

DIAGNOSE

Medical scans matched or exceeded specialist accuracy in radiology & pathology

REASON

Passed the US Bar Exam and medical licensing exam at the top percentile

ACT AUTONOMOUSLY

AI agents book meetings, write code, browse the web without supervision

Fastest Technology Adoption in History

Telephone	75 years
Internet	4 years
TikTok	9 months
ChatGPT	60 DAYS

Who Is Building It?

USA: OpenAI, Google DeepMind, Anthropic, Meta AI

China: Baidu, Alibaba + government-backed programmes

EU: Focused primarily on regulation

Notice who is absent from that list.

Africa is discussed as a market.

Not yet as a builder.

The Global AI Opportunity

AI is the most consequential general-purpose technology since electricity.

\$15.7T

Global GDP boost

PwC projects AI adds \$15.7 trillion to the world economy by 2030

40-50%

Productivity gain

Knowledge workers using AI are 40-50% more productive across writing, coding, analysis

4 years

Drug discovery

AI compressing pharmaceutical R&D from 12+ years down to under 4 years

4%

Emissions reduction

AI-optimised energy grids and climate modelling could cut global emissions by up to 4%

Earlier

Cancer detection

AI detecting cancer at earlier stages than human specialists in radiology and pathology

1 billion

Students reached

AI-powered personalised tutoring within reach of every child at near-zero marginal cost

Every sector. Every continent. The question is: who shapes the rules of this transformation?

Africa's Leapfrog Moment

We have done this before. No landlines needed — we built mobile-first banking. M-Pesa. Flutterwave. Andela. We did not wait for permission.

Healthcare Access

AI diagnostics reaching 300M+ Africans without a specialist physically present — closing the gap technology can bridge.

Financial Inclusion

Credit models built on African economic behaviour, not imported assumptions — finally serving the unbanked at scale.

Education at Scale

Personalised tutoring in Luganda, Kinyarwanda, Swahili, Yoruba — closing the teacher shortage without waiting for infrastructure.

1.4 billion

Africans by 2030

60%+

under 25 — the AI-native generation

\$1.5 trillion

potential GDP addition (McKinsey)

Three Pillars — One Urgent Conversation

01

WORK

AI is transforming the
nature of labour.
Who defines dignified work?

AI is a tool. We define its ethics.

02

TRUTH

AI manufactures
convincing lies at scale.
Who guards truth?

AI is a tool. We define its ethics.

03

HUMAN DIGNITY

AI risks reducing persons
to data points.
Who speaks for Imago Dei?

AI is a tool. We define its ethics.

PILLAR 1

WORK

*"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart,
as working for the Lord, not for human masters."*

— Colossians 3:23

01

The Theology of Work

Work preceded the Fall

Genesis 2:15 — God placed humanity in the garden to work it and care for it.

Work is co-creation with God

To work is to bear the image of God — bringing order, meaning, beauty from raw material.

Destroying meaningful work is a spiritual problem

Not only an economic one.

What AI Is Doing to Work

Automation is not new

Printing press. Tractor. Internet. Each disrupted — and each time humanity adapted. But never automatically.

The ethical question is not can AI do this job?

"Should it? And what happens to the person?"

Africa must shape the transition

Retrain workers. Protect labour. Invest in digital education. Share productivity gains.

The Church can be the place where displaced workers are not mourned — but equipped.

PILLAR 2

TRUTH

"You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

— John 8:32

The Crisis

Deepfakes

Videos of people saying things they never said

AI-generated news

Misinformation at industrial scale, near-zero cost

Hallucination

AI states falsehoods with full confidence — truth is not its goal

Collapse of shared reality

When everyone has their own AI-generated version — trust breaks down

The Church's Response

Truth in the biblical worldview is not just epistemological. It is personal. It is relational. It is rooted in God Himself.

Teach media literacy

In churches, schools, youth groups. Ask: Who made this? Can it be verified?

Model discernment

Call out manipulation — even when convenient, even when it flatters us

Advocate for transparent AI

Systems that cite sources, acknowledge uncertainty, are accountable

Transparency is worship

Truth-telling is a form of worship. The Church must lead by example

HUMAN

DIGNITY

03

"So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them."

— Genesis 1:27

Imago Dei

Every human being carries irreducible worth — regardless of economic output, cognitive capacity, or social status.

This is the foundation of human rights.
This is why slavery is wrong.
This is why poverty is a scandal.
This is why genocide is the worst of crimes.

Because every victim bears the face of God.

*Imago Dei is not a theological footnote.
It is the most disruptive idea in human history.*

The Risk of Reduction

Biased hiring algorithms

Trained on discriminatory history — perpetuating injustice with the veneer of objectivity

Discriminatory credit scoring

A rural Ugandan denied a loan because their profile doesn't match Western data

Surveillance and control

Social credit systems that determine who can travel, borrow, or speak

AI does not see a person

It sees a pattern. And patterns can carry centuries of harm.

Africa Has a Gift to Give

"Umuntu ngumuntu ngabantu"

A PERSON IS A PERSON THROUGH OTHER PERSONS

UBUNTU vs. Western AI Ethics

Western AI Ethics

Individual rights
Individual privacy
Individual consent

Optimises for engagement
Even if it destroys community

Ubuntu Ethics

The self is constituted by community
My flourishing is bound to yours

Collective wellbeing over individual gain
Centuries of wisdom — not primitive, prophetic

AFRICA'S CALLING

*"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."*

— Isaiah 43:19

What You Can Do — Starting Tonight

01

LEARN

You do not need to be an engineer. Every pastor, professional, and leader needs basic AI literacy.

Ignorance is not neutrality — it is abdication.

02

SPEAK

Into policy conversations, your workplace, your church. Raise ethical questions. Name what you see.

Ask: who benefits? Who is harmed?

03

BUILD

Build AI with African data, African contexts, African values. Build for us first.

Let the world benefit from that.

04

DISCIPLE

The next generation of African technologists needs faith, ethics, and commitment to dignity.

Mentor someone. Invest in someone.

REFACTORY ACADEMY

Building Africa's next generation of ethical, excellent technologists.

TRAIN

World-class software engineering programmes rooted in African context

TRANSFORM

Producing builders — not just consumers — of digital technology

LEAD

Developing technologists with faith, ethics, and excellence

AI is a tool.

The most powerful our generation has ever held.

It will do what its wielders direct it to do.

The difference is not in the algorithm.

The difference is in us.

Will Africa shape AI?

I believe we will.

Do you perceive it?

"See, I am doing a new thing!" — Isaiah 43:19

Thank you.

God bless you. God bless Africa.

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