

**The Contribution of Chinese Trade and Investment Towards
Poverty Alleviation in Africa: Evidence of Divergent Views
from Lesotho**

Pius T. Tanga

*Department of Social Anthropology/Sociology/Social Work, National University of Lesotho,
P. O. Roma 180, Lesotho, Southern Africa
Telephone: +266 2221 3946, E-mail: tanga8_2000@yahoo.co.uk*

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ABSTRACT There is an ongoing debate about the presence of Chinese in Lesotho with respect to their trade and investments and how they are helping the economy and at the same time exploiting the local masses. The paper shows that some people appreciate and acknowledge the role played by the Chinese through their trade and investments in fighting poverty and therefore helping in poverty alleviation among poor households. Many others however argue that the Chinese are very exploitative. The paper concludes that in reality, the Chinese have invested much in Lesotho through which the low-income consumers and poor Basotho are benefiting despite the shortcomings levied against them.