



## AI-Driven Solutions for Ethical Challenges: Exploring the Potential for Christian Academics to Mitigate Corruption in Colleges of Education in the North West Zone of Nigeria

Hassan Musa

Department of Christian Religious Studies,  
Federal University of Education,  
Zaria.

### ABSTRACT

*In recent years, the intersection of artificial intelligence (AI) and ethics has garnered significant attention, particularly in higher education. This study explores how Christian scholars can leverage AI tools to combat corruption in Colleges of Education within Nigeria's North West Zone. It highlights key ethical challenges in these institutions, including financial mismanagement and fraudulent student admissions. By examining both the opportunities and risks associated with AI integration, this discussion proposes practical reforms to enhance institutional integrity. The relevance of this inquiry lies in its response to the pressing need for ethical accountability in the education system, fostering a collaborative effort among Christian academics to cultivate a culture of integrity. Ultimately, this study contributes to the broader discourse on AI as a transformative tool for ethical advancement in higher education.*

### ARTICLE INFO

#### Article History

Received: July, 2024

Received in revised form: September, 2024

Accepted: November, 2024

Published online: December, 2024

### KEYWORDS

North West Nigeria, Corruption, Christian scholars, Colleges of Education, Honesty, Accountability

### INTRODUCTION

The addition of AI-led solutions in higher education gives a big chance to tackle the moral issues that schools face, especially around corruption in the North West Zone of Nigeria. By using artificial intelligence, Christian scholars can create new systems that promote ethical behaviour, thus building a space of honesty and confidence. This approach is highlighted by the creation of worldwide groups focusing on boosting ethical understanding and incorporating value-based decision-making into education (Globethics.net, 2018)). Also, talking about education and development can clarify the particular moral issues present in the area, as shown in different international meetings (Kanu et al., 2022). It is crucial to know how uncertainty, operational risk, and ethical choices affect the academic world to build a sustainable, corruption-free educational environment. In the end, the necessity for moral education is very important in

many situations, stressing how values are key in developing future leaders.

### Definition of AI-driven solutions

AI solutions are technologies that use artificial intelligence to help make better decisions, improve operations, and offer new solutions to complex problems. When it comes to reducing corruption in schools, especially in the North West Zone of Nigeria, these solutions can be very helpful. Using AI to look at wrongdoings and find areas where corruption might happen, schools can create a more open and accountable environment. For example, projects like Globethics.net show how important it is to promote ethical values in higher education to fight corruption, which highlights the need for AI tools that support good governance (Singh & Stuckelberger, 2018). Additionally, insights from global meetings that focus on ethics in education (Goede et al., 2021) can help shape AI methods to strengthen oversight and maintain integrity in

Corresponding author: Hassan Musa

✉ [hassanmsa@gmail.com](mailto:hassanmsa@gmail.com)

Department of Christian Religious Knowledge, Federal University of Education, Zaria.

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educational activities. In the end, these solutions are a good way to build an academic culture based on ethical values and social responsibility.

### Overview of Corruption in Nigerian Colleges of Education

Corruption in Nigerian colleges of education hurts academic quality and the trustworthiness of the educational system. Different types of wrongdoing, like stealing funds, boosting grades, and paying for admittance, create a setting where honest learning is not valued. This issue negatively influences the education students receive and also weakens public confidence in institutions that should promote good leadership and ethics. Additionally, the effects of corruption go further than individual colleges and impact societal values, as future teachers come from these flawed systems. Tackling these ethical issues requires promptly using AI tools to encourage transparency and accountability. Such technology could improve oversight and help Christian educators build an environment that resists unethical behaviour. In the end, fighting corruption in these institutions needs a united effort to nurture ethical standards through smart innovation and committed advocacy, as noted in current research (Stückelberger et al., 2024, Academy of Science of Africa, 2019), .

### Role of Christian Academics in Addressing Ethical Challenges

Christian scholars have an important function in tackling ethical problems, especially regarding corruption in higher education. By creating an education system based on values, they not only raise awareness about ethics but also promote critical thinking that can greatly affect how colleges of education are governed and managed. For example, events such as the Globethics.net International Conference illustrate the need for ethics to be part of the curriculum, offering a chance for educators to exchange ideas on how to include ethics in their teaching methods (Globethics.net, 2018). Additionally, the formation of global groups focused on building an ethical society highlights how these scholars can lead

values-based leadership and decision-making ((Singh & Stückelberger, 2018). Ongoing discussions in academia show that addressing corruption requires teamwork and input from various fields, emphasising that Christian scholars should actively oppose unethical behaviour.

### Purpose and Significance of the Study

The aim of this study is to describe at how AI solutions can be used by Christian scholars to tackle the widespread problem of corruption in the Colleges of Education located in the North West Zone of Nigeria. The ethical problems seen in higher education, as discussed by, require new methods to promote integrity and transparency. By examining how AI technologies can offer ethical guidelines and decision-making assistance, this study intends to help educators build a culture of accountability. Additionally, the findings from this research connect with insights on the complicated nature of decision-making regarding operational risks, highlighting how contextual factors influence how ethical issues are dealt with (Academy of Science of Africa, 2019). In the end, this study hopes to provide specific suggestions that could play a vital role in reducing corruption while improving the ethical standards of educational institutions, as shown in previous conferences (Stückelberger et al., 2024, Kanu et al., 2022).

### Understanding Corruption in Colleges of Education

Corruption in colleges of education harms the integrity of the educational system, especially in the North West Zone of Nigeria. These institutions often experience unethical actions, like bribery, favouritism, and misuse of resources, which can greatly weaken their ability to operate effectively and achieve good educational results. Such unethical actions reduce the ethical basis that should define these institutions, as pointed out in talks about the ethical problems in education worldwide. Additionally, the formation of a global group focused on improving ethics in higher education shows that these challenges are acknowledged (Singh & Stückelberger, 2018). To tackle these problems, using AI-driven solutions

Corresponding author: Hassan Musa

✉ [hassanmsa@gmail.com](mailto:hassanmsa@gmail.com)

Department of Christian Religious Knowledge, Federal University of Education, Zaria.

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might provide new ways to encourage ethical governance and accountability in colleges of education. As shown in various studies about ethical practices in different areas, including Africa, applying technology can improve transparency and create an educational environment based on values. By doing this, colleges can work towards maintaining a commitment to ethical integrity and societal responsibility.

### Types of Corruption Prevalent in Educational Institutions

Corruption in schools shows itself in many ways, greatly weakening their honesty and efficiency. Common forms are paying bribes for entry, changing academic records, and misusing money meant for development projects. These actions not only damage the confidence in these schools but also continue a cycle of unfairness, preventing worthy students from getting good education. As pointed out at the Globethics.net International Conference, it is vital to create a global ethical framework to fight this corruption (Globethics.net, 2018). This framework is meant to encourage value-based choices among teachers and managers (Singh & Stuckelberger, 2018), creating a setting where honesty is very important. Moreover, a worldwide survey of business ethics in education shows the urgent need for strong ethical training and research on these matters. Tackling these issues with active steps can enable Christian educators to make real changes in the educational area of North West Zone of Nigeria.

### Impact of Corruption on Educational Quality and Integrity

Corruption is a big problem for the quality and honesty of colleges in Nigeria. It damages the basic rules that academic institutions follow. These wrong practices change the fair nature of education, causing a rise in poor qualifications and weak teaching methods. This loss of trust also affects how involved students are and the overall results of education, slowing down national progress. The Academy of Science of South Africa points out that corruption hinders wider social and

economic growth and good governance, especially in African institutions. Programs like those suggested by Globethics.net can help by encouraging ethical understanding and including values in educational approaches (Rossouw et al., 2012; Kanu et al., 2022). Christian scholars in the North West Zone should accept these initiatives as they can help build integrity and rebuild public trust in education. The active involvement of these groups can be helpful in tackling the harmful effects of corruption and improving education.

### Historical Context of Corruption in Nigeria's Education Sector

Corruption in Nigeria's education system has long history, influenced by problems in the system and social-political issues. Since becoming independent in 1960, the education system has suffered from poor management and corruption, leading to a marked decline in quality and accessibility. Widespread bribery and accountability issues are common in institutions, with signs showing that corrupt practices often remain unpunished, creating a culture where wrongdoings are overlooked (Rossouw et al., 2012). This situation has made it hard to make changes in education, as the government has faced difficulties in tackling rising inequality and restoring trust in public bodies (Goede et al., 2021). Furthermore, political patronage has made these problems worse, with job appointments in education often based on connections instead of qualifications. To tackle the corruption in this field, it is very important to improve the education system and rebuild societal trust, requiring new ideas, such as AI-based programmes, to promote ethical practices.

### The Role of Societal and Cultural Factors in Perpetuating Corruption

Corruption in Nigerian education is often made worse by deep-rooted societal and cultural norms that value personal benefit over shared integrity. These elements create a situation where dishonest actions become routine, which weakens ethical governance in institutions. Social relationships and networks often support patronage systems, where loyalty is favoured



more than ability, making reform difficult. Educational stakeholders, as highlighted in activities like those at the Globethics.net International Conference, need to actively promote ethical cultures within colleges of education. Including ethical thinking in educational practices, as encouraged by the Consortium on Ethics in Higher Education, is essential for changing values in future leaders (Kohnert et al., 2020, Association TE of Theologians, 1993). By tackling these cultural issues, Christian academics can use AI-based solutions to improve ethical decision-making, which can help to lessen corruption's grip on the educational system.

### **The Role of AI in Addressing Ethical Challenges**

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) in institutions might change ethical problems, especially about corruption in education. AI solutions can help make things clearer and more accountable through data checking, allowing managers to spot fraud patterns and take action. New studies show that AI can make decision-making easier by factoring in ethical issues related to operational risks, where uncertainty makes human choices harder (Goede et al., 2021). Furthermore, as noted in worldwide discussions, understanding ethics must include different cultural views, especially from the Majority World, which can enhance the conversation about AI's part in governance and integrity (Botha & Baron, 2022). By using AI, Christian scholars can develop specific actions that encourage ethical standards and reduce corruption in Nigerian colleges of education, helping to tackle ongoing issues and build a culture of ethical excellence (Rossouw et al., 2012).

### **Overview of AI technologies Applicable to Education**

Using artificial intelligence (AI) in schools can change how students learn and how schools operate. Tools like smart tutoring systems, learning data analysis, and automatic marking give tailored support to students, helping teachers meet each student's specific needs and speed of learning. Additionally, AI-based analysis can spot

behaviour patterns that might show problems like cheating or lack of interest, allowing quick actions to reduce corruption in schools. Insights from meetings of education leaders on ethics highlight that promoting ethical awareness is vital when adding tech to teaching. This was evident at the Consortium on Ethics in Higher Education events where participants promised to improve integrity in academic work (Stückelberger et al., 2022). In the end, using AI in education shows a wider aim to boost both learning and ethical practices in Nigerian universities.

### **Case Studies of Successful AI Implementations in Education**

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) in education shows how technology can help solve ethical issues. Case studies show how AI can make learning better and cut down on administrative problems. For instance, AI platforms can tailor learning experiences to fit the needs of each student, helping to create an inclusive setting. But the benefits go further than just teaching improvements; using AI can help fight corruption by making educational institutions more transparent and accountable. The results from the 2022 International Conference of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies highlight the important role of AI in building ethical guidelines for education (Kanu et al., 2022). Additionally, dealing with uncertainties in making operational risk decisions in various educational environments shows how AI can help shape strategies in tough situations (Goede et al., 2021). In the end, the ability of AI solutions to change educational practices is clear, especially in dealing with the challenges of corruption.

### **Potential Benefits of AI in Promoting Transparency and Accountability**

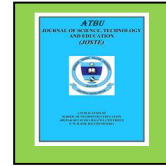
The use of artificial intelligence (AI) in schools can greatly improve transparency and accountability, especially in areas suffering from corruption. By automating tasks like performance evaluations and distributing resources, AI can help reduce human biases and inefficiencies, leading to a fairer academic setting. Moreover, AI analytics can spot patterns of misbehaviour,

Corresponding author: Hassan Musa

✉ [hassanmsa@gmail.com](mailto:hassanmsa@gmail.com)

Department of Christian Religious Knowledge, Federal University of Education, Zaria.

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allowing for quick actions and promoting a culture of honesty. In many situations, such as the legal issues related to AI generative tools and authorship, the growing openness of these systems also brings up ethical dilemmas about ownership and accountability, highlighting the need for strict guidelines for their use (Ominini, n.d.). Furthermore, the widespread use of AI technology across countries calls for a united global effort to address cybercrimes associated with corruption in education. Considering these developments, Christian scholars can use AI technology to build strong frameworks that encourage ethical practices in colleges of education, responding to the complex issues faced in Nigeria's North West Zone.

### **Ethical Considerations in the Deployment of AI Solutions**

The use of AI solutions in schools, especially to tackle corruption, needs careful thought about ethics to make sure it is done responsibly. When Christian scholars look at AI-based methods, it is essential to deal with the tricky issues of privacy, data accuracy, and bias in algorithms, which can worsen the already existing inequalities in education. This issue is made clear by the various risks and uncertainties discussed in research, especially in places where decisions are affected by surrounding factors and personal views. Additionally, lessons from corporate social responsibility (CSR) show that schools must connect AI use with ethical guidelines that focus on being open and involving the community (Angelo L-M R Ocampo, 2023). Only with a careful method can the link between AI technology and ethical teaching help to reduce corruption and improve accountability in Nigeria's colleges of education (Jacques K et al., 2024).

### **Opportunities for Christian Academics**

In the field of higher education, Christian teachers have a special role to play in pushing for ethics and fighting against corruption, especially in the North West Zone of Nigeria. By using their beliefs and values, these educators can help build a culture of honesty in their schools, encouraging proper conduct and responsibility among both

students and staff. The need for teaching ethics is highlighted by research showing that universities are key in forming future leaders; therefore, teaching values early can help reduce wrongdoing (Goede et al., 2021). Furthermore, the use of AI-based solutions offers a chance for Christian scholars to tackle educational corruption through new teaching methods and academic structures (Ifoh et al., 2021). By participating in discussions across disciplines and forming partnerships, as shown in recent conferences, Christian educators can strengthen their impact, thereby creating a more ethical academic setting that supports positive changes in teaching practices.

### **The Unique Position of Christian Academics in Promoting Ethics**

Christian scholars have a special job in handling the ethics seen in higher education, especially in places that might be corrupt, like the colleges of education in Nigeria's North West Zone. This special role comes from their dedication to moral honesty and their faith-based ethical beliefs. It gives them a chance to affect rules and practices in schools, helping to create an environment that encourages ethical thinking and responsibility. A global study on business ethics highlights how different ethical discussions vary by context, showing how important educators are in influencing ethical standards (Rossouw et al., 2012). Furthermore, looking into how context influences decision-making, as shown in studies on operational risks, can give Christian scholars helpful knowledge for tackling the complex ethical issues they face (Goede et al., 2021). This knowledge not only improves their teaching methods but also makes them key change-makers in their communities and institutions (Goede et al., 2021). In the end, adding faith-based ethics to academic discussions leads to a more thoughtful and morally sound educational setting.

### **Collaborative Initiatives between Christian Institutions and AI Developers**

The joining of efforts between Christian institutions and AI developers offers a new way to tackle ethical issues in education, especially regarding corruption in Nigeria's Colleges of

Corresponding author: Hassan Musa

✉ [hassanmsa@gmail.com](mailto:hassanmsa@gmail.com)

Department of Christian Religious Knowledge, Federal University of Education, Zaria.

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Education. By using the moral ideas found in Christian teachings, these partnerships can help create ethical AI tools that encourage openness and responsibility in schools. These collaborations serve two main purposes: they support the responsible use of technology and help schools adapt to the challenges of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR), as higher education must change to satisfy community demands (Botha & Baron, 2022). Furthermore, the emphasis on corporate social responsibility (CSR) within these partnerships leads to a better grasp of what communities expect and the quality of services provided, which can enhance educational practices and student experiences (Adelowotan et al., 2021). In the end, these efforts are crucial for building a more responsible and fair educational system in Nigeria.

#### **Training and Capacity-Building for Educators on AI Tools**

In dealing with ethical problems in Nigerian colleges of education, training and skill development for teachers on AI tools is important. When teachers have the right knowledge and skills, they can use AI technologies to improve academic integrity and enhance the learning environment. Good training programmes should aim to include AI in the curriculum, giving teachers practical experiences that boost their ability to use these tools in ethical decision-making. As mentioned in earlier discussions, the need for focused training is further emphasised by findings about low sustainability awareness in the Nigerian engineering field ((N/A, 2022)). Additionally, promoting ethical awareness through this training can help create a new generation of leaders who are dedicated to integrity, which will help fight corruption in educational institutions.

#### **Advocacy for Policy Changes to Support Ethical Practices in Education**

Advocacy for changes in policies to strengthen ethical practices in education is very important for tackling the widespread corruption in Nigerian colleges of education. The Globethics.net initiative points out the need for a global group focused on creating an ethical

society through education, showing that values-based governance must be present at all levels of academic management and practice (Adelowotan et al., 2021). Additionally, events like the Globethics.net International Conference highlight the pressing need for practical ethical frameworks within educational institutions, involving various stakeholders to create effective solutions. In Nigerian education, tackling unethical behaviour requires complete strategies that not only bring attention to the ethical crisis but also offer training in ethics for teachers. This is vital for developing future leaders who value integrity, thus reinforcing the need for better policies that support ethical standards in higher education (Kanu et al., 2022).

#### **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, using AI solutions in education creates big chances for Christian scholars in the North West Zone of Nigeria to tackle the big issues of corruption in colleges of education. By adopting ethical methods and encouraging a culture of values in decision making, these schools can enhance integrity and responsibility among both staff and students. The work of Globethics.net in building a global ethical community shows that such efforts improve the ethical standing of educational institutions, leading to better governance and management practices (N/A, 2018). Moreover, various perspectives on the ethical problems in higher education highlight the need for strong ethical training and decision-making systems. In the end, using AI and promoting ethical discussions will not just reduce corruption but also equip future leaders with the values needed to handle complex situations in their careers.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. To fight corruption in education colleges in the North West Zone of Nigeria, those in the education sector must use a simple approach that includes AI solutions and ethical checks.
2. Government organisations need to make strict rules that require clear financial dealings and fair hiring processes, making sure AI technologies

Corresponding author: Hassan Musa

✉ [hassanmsa@gmail.com](mailto:hassanmsa@gmail.com)

Department of Christian Religious Knowledge, Federal University of Education, Zaria.

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are used to keep an eye on these actions as they happen.

3. Also, Christian scholars should be encouraged to start projects that support honesty, including ethical training in the curriculum to build a sense of responsibility among students.
4. Working together with educational institutions, tech developers, and non-profit groups can boost the use of AI tools that find dishonest actions and make administrative tasks easier.

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Corresponding author: Hassan Musa

✉ [hassanmsa@gmail.com](mailto:hassanmsa@gmail.com)

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