

## Corruption A 'Unantidoted' Evil Crime Against Humanity: The Case Of South Africa During Covid-19

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### Abstract

Corruption in the public sector has become the most debated issue and it continues to make headlines worldwide in both developing and developed countries. This global phenomenon is frequently debated in different forums. Corruption has become a pandemic in all areas of the globe. World Bank Group acknowledges that in many societies corrupt behaviour is deeply rooted in the historic origins, social norms and political culture, therefore it is not unusual to find a strong inter-linkages between power, politics and money. This has a negative impact on the general society as a whole. People especially the poor get hurt when resources are wasted. Though corruption has an impact on everybody it continues to have a disproportionate impact on the poor and most vulnerable, increasing the cost of, and reducing access to basic services, as resources would have been wasted through corrupt activities. Studies show that corruption hits the poor the hardest. Corruption distorts resource allocation and government performance. The cause of corruption development varies from country to country. In South Africa and elsewhere the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak led to the implementation of emergency procurement measures, which opened an even wider loophole for corrupt activities. According to Corruption Watch, emergency procurement measures created a fine opportunity for greedy officials to deep their hands in COVID-19 cookie jar (2020). This article draws corruption cases from South Africa during COVID-19, unearth the underlying reason for that, analyse the impact and lastly provide solutions.

**Keywords:** Corruption, Crime, Humanity, COVID-19.

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