On Creativity, Innovation, Imitation

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Creativity is bringing into life what is not yet in existence- something completely peerless (i.e. Nokia 1011- the first commercially available GSM phone launched in 1992 on 10th November - 1011, the origin of its name), while innovation is breathing life into dry bones to give it a new identity like iPhone launched in 2007, which combined an iPod, Phone and Internet connectivity into one device, thereby bringing mega disruption into the smartphone market. Imitation is copying someone's innovation like Xiaomi Mi1 launched in 2011, which Xeroxed iPhone interface to give users the iPhone feeling, inexpensively. Today, Xiaomi market capitalization stands at $182B!

Today's Lesson for the youth: if you can't be the creative genius called Albert Einstein or the extraordinarily innovative personality called Steve Jobs, you can at least start as a Lei Jun, the man who established Xiaomi in 2010. Forbes ranks Lei Jun the world's 33rd richest man with a personal net worth of roughly $44B. Not bad for any African copycat Youth- to start with, at least? ■

My message today; if Lei Jun can copy his way to mega success, African Youths should begin now to Xerox anything and everything made- in China or made- anywhere for that matter. But when you copy make it X+1- do a top-up!

Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong and China - they all Xeroxed their ways to the top.

Copycatting is the fastest, shortest and most inexpensive pathway to abundance for Africa in this age of Artificial Intelligencee!

Tim Akano Mentorship initiatives

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