

## **The Itupale Online Journal of African Studies Volume 2 (2010)**

### **Education in Africa: Developments for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

#### **Introduction**

The *Itupale* editorial board is delighted to announce the online publication of Volume 2 (2010), entitled 'Education in Africa: Developments for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century'.

*Itupale* (a Yoruba word meaning 'in depth investigation') was launched in March 2008 as a research initiative supported by the not-for-profit organisation Cambridge to Africa. Our mission statement is to provide an open publishing platform for African based scholars to present their work within an international context. All articles are peer reviewed, and the submission and revision cycle is designed to guide and encourage potential authors from the African continent within a congenial and supportive environment. We are most grateful to our reviewers and editorial staff who volunteered their time and expertise throughout the editorial process to final publication.

We are particularly encouraged by the co-authored collaboration between the Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge and the Aga Khan University, Tanzania, and hope the presence of this partnership encourages future co-authored papers between other geographically based institutions and the African continent.

**Fayemi Ademola Kazeem** builds on the nascent literature addressing the role of formal logic within African philosophy. He provides empirical examples of Yoruba proverbial structures to demonstrate how such proverbs utilise universal canons of logic. The author argues that the logical structures explicit in Yoruba proverbs provide evidence of human judgements, reasoning validation and the evaluation of thought. He calls for future research in the development of unique African logical symbolisms, and the incorporation of indigenous languages within 21<sup>st</sup> century African education systems.

**Adeolu Oluwaseyi Oyekan** provides a philosophical approach to education and leadership within 21<sup>st</sup> century Africa. Utilising dual perspectives from Platonian and Yoruba thought, he investigates the failure of leadership within African contexts in terms of post colonial manipulation and poor governance. The author calls for the development of an intellectual competence that provides the basis of an African educational model for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Leonard Wamakote, Enos Kiforo Ang'ondi and Brown Onguko** present a comprehensive overview on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) integration at the primary and secondary school level in East Africa. They describe ICT to include computing systems, telecommunication networks and further services and applications that relate to those areas. Focusing on Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda, the authors set out ICT national policies and related issues that have emerged following implementation. The paper

concludes with a number of recommendations for future ICT integration at the pedagogical level within the East African context.

**Sara Hennessy, David Harrison and Leonard Wamakote** extend the theme of ICT within sub-Saharan school settings to explore teachers' skills and experience in using such technology, and how such factors relate to classroom practice. They carefully set out the physical and psychological challenges faced by teachers, and the need for teacher development and innovative classroom practices that integrate ICT. The authors demonstrate the importance of adapting technology to local needs and conditions, and provide a number of recommendations to using contemporary pedagogical approaches for successful ICT classroom teaching and learning.

To finish, the studies published in Volume 2 provide philosophical, pedagogical and policy driven research addressing the role of education in 21<sup>st</sup> century sub-Saharan Africa. There are many challenges discussed in the present volume. However, we believe the various research perspectives allow for fresh insights into current African educational settings and beyond. We at *Itupale* hope you enjoy Volume 2, and look forward to future themes and related submissions.

**Dr Sacha DeVelle**

**Editor in Chief**

**Itupale Online Journal of African Studies**

**March 2010**