

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY: AN AFRICAN UPDATE PERSPECTIVE 4TH EDITION

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Abstract

This is a rather long Acknowledgements list, which goes into detail justifying their presence. One of them is Dr Cyril Ramaphosa the newly elected President of South Africa. It is rather unusual, coming across University textbooks talking about a Head of State. President Ramaphosa in this acknowledgement emerges as a researcher who had an encounter with me, as an academic and researcher. This is rather a unique experience that scholars and academics would welcome in University books. I am personally happy that am placed in such opportunity of sharing such unique experience. Most of those who are acknowledged, participated in my encounter with the President. Moreover, as such, their participation deserves to be acknowledged correspondingly. You are all welcome to witness such special occasion.

The publication of **Educational Psychology: An Africam Update Perspective** is the product of many hands and minds simultaneously. I am grateful to all of them. As a matter of protocol, I wish to commence with Dr Cyril Ramaphosa, the newly and recently elected and inaugurated President of the Republic of South Africa. I(have known Dr Ramaphosa ever since I came to South Africa three decades ago! However, knowing him in the capacity I am introducing him occurred in the course of last year. Dr Ramaphosa went in search of Professor Tuntufye S Mwamwenda. I do not know how many other places he went in search of me, but he finally traced me to the University of Mpumalanga, South Africa.

I did not receive his call, but my Colleague and Superior Professor Phindile Lukhele-Olorunju, Director Research Management did. What on earth would the of Office of the Deputy President would looking for Professor Mwamwenda. She was told the Deputy President was involved in research, which led him to read some of the researchh he has been engaged in nationally and internationally! That brought big relief to Professor Lukhele-Olorunju.. All they wanted was my telephone number for contact purposes. Prof contacted me and alerted me to this unusual visit.

Several days later, the Deputy President called! He introduced himself and did not even mention the office he held; since this was given! Who in South Africa would not know the office he held! Suka! What was his mission? He said he had been engaged in research involving Banyankole and their cattle in Western Uganda. In his review of literature, he came across a number of sources that I had written and published. He read them and felt they were the best. There he used such information of his book, *Cattle of Ages: Ankole Cattle in South Africa*.

In view of this, he sought and solicited my permission to use my sources, lest he be accused of plagiarism. That was superb news. I felt good, great and delighted. My spontaneous response was that he was free to use all the information he needed, provided it was scholarly acknowledged.

Thereafter, we talked about his introducing Nelson Mandela on his release to South Africans and the people of the world, his role in the negotiations of the New Democratic Multiracial South Africa, his departure from politics as he joined the Industry of Business, his return to politics as well as his controversial candidacy for presidency, as well as what I had published in the *Sunday Times* in support of his candidacy.

In view of this interaction, I resolved to include the President of South Africa in *Educational Psychology: An African Update Perspective 4th Edition*. He appears in the first Chapter entitled: *My Encounter with the President: An Attribute to Dr Cyril Ramaphosa*.

Next in line, am grateful to my wife Bernadette and our four children Escort, Anthony, Asimwe and Eddie who have always given their material and moral support in the promotion of the Book. Three of the live and work in Canada, only Asimwe is with us and works as Computer Science Teacher in Durban.

I am grateful to Blossom Piliso who worked with me as secretary both at the University of Transkei, Natal, KwaZulu-Natal for 15 years. Even after both of us retired, we have continued working together on *Educational Psychology: An African Update Perspective 4th Edition*. She is a woman one would not mind working with for such a long time!

I am grateful to The Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, where I spent several months as a Visiting Professor working on the book. I worked under the Leadership of Professor of Psychology and Education Dr Marla Brassard. My gratitude is registered for Professor Fred Zindi at the University of Zimbabwe who volunteered to make a contribution in the form of two Chapters, namely, *Psychometric Testing and Testing, Measurement and Evaluation*

Professor Alex Nganwa-Bagumah participated in our discussion with the President. There was a time the President raised for which both Bernadette and me did not know the answer. Therefore we had to contact him in Uganda. He had a satisfactory answer which I forwarded to the President. A couple weeks before submitting the Manuscript to the Publisher, he called me on

the phone, and assumed he was calling from Uganda; only to be told he was in Shapstone, 120 km from Durban, visiting his Medical Doctor Daughter Patience Nganwa.

I told him I was completing the manuscript of my book in which I touched my interaction with the President; and that the information he furnished me with, would be made mention of. That excited and delighted him. He surprised me by telling me that he had brought with him for Patience. It is a biography of his father written by his grandson Brian Collin Nganwa who studied Agriculture and lives in the United Kingdom. Professor Nganwa-Bagumah's father, Kesi Karakure Nganwa was the Prime Minister of the Ankole Kingdom, in Uganda, where the President's Cattle of the Ages: Ankole Cattle in South Africa have their origin..

My spontaneous response was to ask Professor Nganwa and Patience to send me the book by DHL as a matter of urgency. This they did, and its relevant parts have been incorporated in Educational Psychology: An African Update Perspective 4th Edition. I have no doubt that the President will be delighted read this part of what he has written about Banyankole and their long-horned horned. And like President Ramaphosa, Prime Minister Kesi Nganwa had a large ranch of Ankole cattle.

Though this by far could not be compared with that of the King of Ankole nor what the President of Uganda Yoweri Museveni who is also from Ankole currently have I will not tell you how many. But if you read Cattle of the Ages personally researched, written and published, you will get to know! As a compliment to the President being a researcher, scholar and author. Get yourself a copy, as I personally did!

I will not forget making reference to my American Colleagues and long time friends, namely Professor Diana Gordon, City University of New York; Professor Jinx Roosevelt, New York Metropolitan College and Professor Paula Gormley who worked with me at the University of Transkei, South Africa, Mbeya, Tanzania and City University of New York which has had a direct link to President Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa interacting with me on research on The Cattle of ages: Cattle of Ankole in South Africa. Short of this, the probability of interacting with the President and writing about him would be extremely slim. Bearing in mind, we both have been in South Africa for three decades without having interacted in our personal capacities. God Bless America!

On getting to interact with the President, I spread the news to friends. They could not believe that this had happened and ever since we have interacted on the encounter with the President. And I have not ceased interacting with the President. My last interaction with him was when he was in Osaka, Japan attending the G20 Summit.

I complimented him on his impressive performance> I am not only a Professor of University students, but also can ably assess political leaders, non-political leaders and many other South

Africans on their performance in their numerous engagements. I do this through the Media I have been doing this for the past two decades. In this realm; I have done extremely well! There is hardly a single South African leader that; I have not made my comments in the media. My record is such, that it is unrivaled in all South African Higher Education Institutions. This holds true in the past or present; it applies to male or female academics; whether Black or White; expatriate or South African. It is for this reason; that in **Educational Psychology: An African Update Perspective 4th Edition**; there is a Chapter entitled: **My Encounter and Dialogue with the New Democratic Multiacial South Africa via the Media**. Find time to look at it for verification of what I have proudly and emotionally expressed!

Please allow me to name those who have been engaged in discussion between me and the President: The actual interaction word for word appears in Chapter One of **Educational Psychology: An African Update perspective 4th Edition**: My Encounter with the President: An Attribute to Dr Cyril Ramaphosa. Do not allow me to forget to name the participants in the Dialogue: Professor Mark Mwandosya, Chancellor, Mbeya University of Sciences and Technology, Tanzania; Professor William Anangisye, Vice Chancellor, University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania; Professor Thoko Mayekiso, Founding Vice Chancellor, University of Mpumalanga, Mbombela, South Africa; Professor Phindile Lukhele-Olorunju, Director Research Management to whom I report, University of Mpumalanga, Mbombela, South Africa; Professor Alex Nganwa-Bagumah Walter Sisulu University, Mthatha, South Africa; Professor Priscilla Kariuki, University of Nairobi, Kenya; Professor Israel Kibirige, University of Limpopo, South Africa; Dr Emily Sitienei, Moi University, Kenya; Senior Investigator, Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau, Singida, Tanzania; Sarah Mwampashe, Procurement and Supplies Officer, Singida, Tanzania; Resident and Advocate Ponziano Mgaya, Songea, Tanzania; Upendo Mwamwenda, Medical Student, Kampala International University, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania; Dr Wilson Mutyaba, Walter Sisulu University, Mthatha, South Africa; Dr Patience Nganwa, Shapstone Hospital, South Africa; Betty Mutyaba, Business Woman, Pinetown, South Africa; Ronnie Masilela, my Assistant and photographer, Pinetown, South Africa; Sam Nayimuli, Senior Researcher, Pretoria, South Africa; Lebusa Monyooe, Director, National Research Foundation, Pretoria, South Africa; Dr Anthony Masha, Walter Sisulu University Mthatha, South Africa; Dr Sam Bosire, Chief information Officer, Mandela Metropolitan University, Port Elizabeth, South Africa; Mutani Josephson, Businessman, Mbeya, Tanzania; My family: Bernadette my spouse in Pinetown; my daughter Escort and son-law James Heinrich in London Ontario, Canada; Anthony in Vancouver, Canada; Eddie, in Toronto, Canada; Asiimwe in Pinetown, South Africa

Last but not least, Blossom Piliso my Secretary for 15 years at the University of Transkei, New York Metropolitan College, University of Natal and the University of Kwazulu-Natal. I still recall that when I was at New York Metropolitan College; I was talking to two American ladies. When I mentioned that Blossom had been working with me for 11 years; one of them was

surprised that I had been working with her so long. She remarked that Blossom was like my wife! I laughed when I heard this! But to hear what the second one who was quite senior in the Administration of the College: “ if I were Blossom; and worked with you for so long; today you would be my Husband!” I laughed more than I did, when I laughed after the first lady made her remark. I have heard similar remarks, wherever I have been, namely, African countries, India, Canada and the USA. Unlike King Solomon in the Bible, who had a thousand wives! I can only have Bernadette! God Bless!

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