

Prof. Solomon Monyenye

CURRICULUM VITAE

University of Nairobi

Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

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(1) **PERSONAL PARTICULARS**

Name : Prof. Solomon Monyenye
Profession : Educationist / Social Scientist
Nationality : Kenyan
Sex : Male
Date of Birth : November 18, 1944
Marital Status : Married with three children aged 42, 39, and
26 yrs. respectively

(2) **EDUCATION**

- **Ph.D.**, in Philosophy of Education (Educational Foundations).
Thesis: "*Education and the Development of National Consciousness in Kenya*" (University of Nairobi: **1986**).
- **M.Ed.**, in Philosophy of Education (Educational Foundations).
Thesis: "*Indigenous Education of the Abagusii People of South-Western Kenya*" (University of Nairobi: **1977**).
- **B.A. (Hon.)** in Social Sciences (major in Philosophy and Social Psychology, minor in Sociology) (Makerere University: **1975**).

(3) (a) **TEACHING INTERESTS/RESEARCH FIELDS**

Philosophy of Education
Ethics and Social Philosophy
Political Philosophy
Indigenous Education and Cultural Values
Integrity and the Promotion of Good Governance

(b) **AREA OF SPECIALIZATION**

Philosophy of Education
Ethics
Political Philosophy

(4) **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

- University of Nairobi:
 - (i) Prof. of Educational Philosophy (**May, 2008 - to date**).
 - (ii) Senior Lecturer in philosophy (**Feb, 1996 - April 2008**).
 - (iii) Lecturer in philosophy (**1987 - 1995**).

- Thogoto Teachers' College: Lecturer in Primary Methods of Teaching, School administration, Educational Psychology and Philosophy of Education (**1977 - 1980**).
- Kilimambogo Teachers' College: Lecturer in Primary Methods of Teaching, School Administration, Educational Psychology and Philosophy of Education (**April - October 1975**).
- Mosoriot Teachers' College: Lecturer in English Language, Physical Education (**Jan. 1969 - June 1972**).

(5) ADDITIONAL WORKING EXPERIENCE

- Kenya Times Media Trust Limited (**1983 - 1987**): Senior Editorial Staff Writer in editorial commentaries and analysis of topical issues on education.

(6) ADMINISTRATION EXPERIENCE

(i) Appointments at the University of Nairobi:

- **Chairman**, Department of Philosophy (**1997 - 2006**).
Duties: Overall administration of academic and non-academic programmes in the Department.
- **Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts** in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (**1999 - 2002**).
Duties: In charge of Faculty academic programmes: Chairing all Faculty postgraduate oral defense examination boards, chairing all Faculty curriculum committees; preparing, signing and issuing Faculty transcripts; assisting the Dean in the overall running of the very large Faculty of Arts that comprised ten (10) departments with nearly 300 academic staff. Coordinating the implementation of the curriculum for both regular and parallel degree programmes. Assuming overall responsibilities of running the Faculty whenever Dean is away from office.
- **Chairman, Faculty of Arts Curriculum Committee (1998-2001)**.
Duties: Guiding the Committee to initiate, prepare and implement the entire Curriculum of the Faculty, together with the formulation and implementation of the regulations that govern the degree programmes in

the Faculty.

- **Ag. Chairman, Department of Philosophy (1996- 1997).**

- **Ag. Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts (1992 - 1993).**

Duties: Assisting the substantive Dean in the overall running of the Faculty, especially in matters relating to syllabi and examinations. Assuming all the Dean's responsibilities whenever Dean is away from Office.

- **Ag. Chairman, Department of Philosophy (1991 - 1992):**

Duties: Overall running of the Department, comprising of both academic and non-academic staff.

- **Committee Member (March, 92004):** University Committee Reviewing the Structure of the University Legal Office.
- **Committee Member** College of Humanities and Social Sciences representative in the Equipment Receiving, Inspection and Acceptance Committee (ERIAC).

(ii) Appointments at National Level

- **Committee Member**, The Social Sciences Division, Kenya Commission for UNESCO (June **2005-** to date).
- **Committee Member**, International Bioethics Committee (IBC) of Kenya Commission for UNESCO (February **2007** - to date).
- **Committee Member**, Commission for Higher Education (CHE) in the Republic Kenya, (January **1991-** to date).

Duties: Resource person in guiding and advising the Commission on the expected standards in Philosophy Curriculum development for private universities in Kenya.

- **Team Leader**, Public Service Integrity Programme, Republic of Kenya (June - December, **2002**).

Duties: Training Senior Government Officers for the Public Service Integrity Programme in Kenya.

- **Chairman**, Philosophical Association of Kenya. (August, **2004 - 2007**).

(7) CONSULTANCY

- Public Service Integrity Programme Consultant for the Republic of

Kenya (2002-2003).

- "HIV/AIDS" Workplace-Based Awareness and Education Consultant for Federation of Kenya Employers (2003 to date).
- Development of National Consciousness Consultant for National Defense College, Nairobi (2002 - to date).
- Philosophy Syllabus Preparation Consultant for Commission for Higher Education in Kenya.
- Philosophy and Kenya's Varied Cultures Consultant for Constitutional Reform Commission of Kenya (2003).
- Curriculum Development Consultant for the Faculty of Arts in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Nairobi (1998- to date)
- Research and Examinations Consultant for the Department of Philosophy, Maseno University, Kenya (2009 - to date).
- Research and Examinations Consultant for the Department of Philosophy, Kenyatta University, Kenya (2003 - to date).
- Research and Examination Consultant for Department of Philosophy, Moi University (2003 - to date).
- Research and Examination for the Department of Philosophy, Egerton University (2004 - to date)

(8) SUPERVISION OF POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

Successful supervision of over 25 postgraduate theses, among them **eight (11) PhDs**. Currently supervising **three (3) more PhD candidates**.

(9) PUBLICATIONS

(i) Books and/or Chapters in Refereed Journals

- "Ethical Dilemma in Using Placebos for Drug Research", Proceedings of the UNESCO International Conference on Bioethics, Egerton University, 12th-14th August, 2008, pp. 99-103.
- "The Loss of a Nation's Conscience: Impediments in the War on HIV/AIDS among the Rural and Urban Poor in Kenya", *The Journal of Scholarly and Scientific Perspectives*, **Vol.2**, 2006, pp. 45-66.
- "Gusii Circumcision Ceremonies", in J. S. Akama and R. Maxon (eds.),

Ethnography of the Gusii of Western Kenya: A Vanishing Cultural Heritage. (New York, The Edwin Mellen Press, 2006), pp.175-189.

- "The Initiates' Seclusion Period", in J. S. Akama and R. Maxon (eds.), *Ethnography of the Gusii of Western Kenya: A Vanishing Cultural Heritage*. (New York, The Edwin Mellen Press, 2006), pp.191-207.
- "The Role of Initiation Ceremonies in a Changing Social Environment", in J. S. Akama and R. Maxon (eds.), *Ethnography of the Gusii of Western Kenya: A Vanishing Cultural Heritage* (New York, The Edwin Mellen Press, 2006), pp.333-350.
- "Education and the Developing of Nationhood in Kenya", in Ruth Bett (ed.), *Re-invigorating the University Mandate in a Globalizing Environment: Challenges, Obstacles and Way Forward*, (Nairobi, DAAD, 2005), pp. 326-342.
- *What is a Nation? Clarifying Misconceptions Concerning Nationhood in Developing Countries* (Nairobi, All Merchandise Co. Ltd., 2005).
- "HIV/AIDS" *Workplace-Based Awareness and Education: Facilitators Training Manual*, co-editors L.S. Otieno, T.D. Awuor, G.N. Konditi and P. Meja, (Nairobi, Federation of Kenya Employers, 2004).
- "Controversy Over the Role of Initiation Ceremonies for Cultural Identity Among Some Kenyan Societies: The Case of Abagusii Community of South-Western Kenya", in J.M. Bahemuka and J.L. Brockington (eds.), *East Africa in Transition: Images, Institutions and Identities*. (Nairobi, University of Nairobi Press, 2004), pp. 245-266.
- "Education as a Process of Growth: An Examination of the Problems of the Theory and it's Application," *Hekima: Journal of the Humanities and Social Sciences*, Vol. **II**, no. **1**, 2003, pp. 57-66.
- "Rites of Passage, Old and New: The Role of Indigenous Initiation Ceremonies and the Modern Education System, with special Reference to Abagusii Community of South Western Kenya", in Gail Presbey *et al.* (eds.) *Thought and Practice in African Philosophy*. (Nairobi: Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, 2002), pp. 191-204.
- *Philosophical Focus on Culture and Traditional Thought Systems in Development*, Nyasani J.M., S. Monyenye and J.G. Wanjohi (eds.), (Nairobi, Evans Brother Ltd., 1994).
- "Needs and Needs Statement in Planned Development" in J.M. Nyasani,

S. Monyenye and J.G. Wanjohi (eds.), *Philosophical Focus on Culture and Traditional Thought Systems in Development* (Nairobi, Evans Brother Ltd., 1994), pp. 40-49.

(ii) Other Publications on Educational Issues for General Readership:

- "Traditions that Kill Population Control Measures", *The Standard* (Nairobi: July 19, 1988), p.15.
- "Breaking down Cultural Prejudice", *The Standard*, (Nairobi: July 15, 1988), p.14.
- "Management and Morality", *The Standard*, (Nairobi: July 11, 1988), p.14.
- "The Moral Dilemmas", *The Standard*, (Nairobi: July 4, 1988), p.44.
- "African Legal Systems Need African Ethical Base", *The Standard* Nairobi: July 1, 1988), p. 14.
- "Philosophy Belongs to You", *the Standard*, (Nairobi: June 24, 1988), p.14.
- "Experts Speak Out on Exams Performance", *the Kenya Times*, (Nairobi: March 4, 1987), p. 12.
- "Failing Exams: Some Crucial Factors", *The Kenya Times*, (Nairobi: March 4, 1987), p.12.
- "How Colonial Education Affected African Culture", *The Kenya Times*, (Nairobi: February 11, 1987).
- "Why some Schools Have a Tradition of Excelling in Exams", *The Sunday Times*, (Nairobi: January 8, 1987), p.7.
- "An Insight into Traditional Education: Let's Guard Our Own Culture", *the Kenya Times*, (Nairobi: January 2, 1987).
- "The Hard Road in Search of Education", *The Kenya Times*, (Nairobi: December 12, 1986), pp.13 & 20.
- "Quest for Education Sparked Off Struggle for Independence". *The Kenya Times*, Nairobi: December 12, 1986), p. 22.
- "Can National Cultural Policy Promote Nationhood?" *The Kenya Times*, (Nairobi: March 19, 1986).
- "K.C.P.E.: Grading System Raises Basis Questions", *the Kenya Times*,

(Nairobi: January 26, 1986), p. 6.

- "Varsity Set to Lead the Way Towards Research Oriented Education", *The Kenya Times*, (Nairobi: October 2, 1985), p. 14.
- "Are Breast Milk Substitutes a Necessary Evil?" *The Kenya Times*, (Nairobi: August 21, 1985).
- "Ombudsman: The Nagging Debate that Keeps Coming", *The Kenya Times*, Nairobi: August 7, 1985).
- "The Textbook Racket: Will the 8-4-4 Education System Survive it?" *The Kenya Times*, (Nairobi: July 3, 1985), pp. 9 -12.
- "University Students and the Uniform Issue", *The Sunday Times*, (Nairobi: March 31, 1985), p.4. "Serving the Public with Divided Loyalty", *The Sunday Times*, (Nairobi: March 10, 1985), p.4.
- "The Teaching Profession and Private Practice", *The Sunday Times*, (Nairobi: March 3, 1985), p.4. "Why Girls in Mixed Schools Lag Behind", *The Sunday Times*, (Nairobi: February 10, 1985), p.4.
- "What Determines Good Performance in Schools?" *The Sunday Times*, (Nairobi: February 3, 1985), p.4.
- "Peace Prevails at Varsity after Years of Strain", *The Sunday Times*, (Nairobi: January 6, 1985), p.4.
- "When Varsity State Ties Bordered on Mutual Hostility", *The Sunday Times*, (Nairobi: December 30, 1984), p.4. "Does Education Bring Happiness?" *The Sunday Times* (Nairobi: December 2, 1984), p. 4.
- "Has Education Helped to Foster Nationhood?" *The Sunday Times*, (Nairobi: November 11, 1984), p.4.
- "The University's Rough but Successful Journey", *The Kenya Times*, (Nairobi: Oct. 23, 1984), p.4.
- "Universal Education Being Given Priority", *The Sunday Times*, (Nairobi: October 14, 1984), pp. 4 & 38.
- "Is the 8-4-4 An End in Itself?" *The Kenya Times*, (Nairobi: September 15, 1984), p.4.
- "Indoctrination and Children's Mental Progress", *The Sunday Times*, (Nairobi: September 9, 1984), p. 4.
- "Need to Shield the Youth from Immorality", *The Sunday Times*, (Nairobi: September 2, 1984), p.4.

- "Promising Steps towards Relevant Education", *The Sunday Times* (Nairobi: August 19, 1984), p.4.
- "Education role in Controlling the Population", *The Sunday Times*, (Nairobi: August 19, 1984), p.4. "Promoting Nationhood through Our Schools", *The Sunday Times* (Nairobi: July 8, 1984), p. 4.
- "Are Our Academic Giants Real Educated?" *The Sunday Times*, (Nairobi: July 1, 1984), p. 4.
- "School System and the Social Practice", *The Sunday Times*, (Nairobi, July 1, 1984), p. 4. "Education Should Promote a 'National Culture", *The Kenya Times* (Nairobi: June 20, 1984), p.4. "Trying to Rectify Imbalances in Education System". *The Sunday Times* (Nairobi: June 4, 1984), p.4.
- "Education: Base for Development", *The Kenya Times* (Nairobi: June 1, 1984), p.14-18.
- "Education Reforms to Benefit More". *The Kenya Times*, (Nairobi: May 20, 1984), p. 4.
- "Leadership and Public Morality: Time for Accountability, Clean Conduct Has Come", *The Kenya Times* (Nairobi: January 8, 1984), p. 12.
- "The vicious Life of a Parking Boy" *The Kenya Times* (Nairobi: December 18, 1983), p.19.
- "Material Culture Theft Continues Unabated" *The Kenya Times* (Nairobi: November 27, 1983), p.6.
- "How to Make Education More Relevant to our Needs". *The Kenya Times* (Nairobi: November 15, 1983), p. 6.

(iii) Publications in Progress

- Some Philosophical Concepts of Education and their Application to the practice of Education in East Africa.
- Leadership and Political Morality in Kenya: The "Willing Spirit" in a "Weak Body" Politic, with Particular Reference to Government's Resistance to Nurture a Culture of Transparency and Accountability.

(10) HOBBY

- Reading
- Socializing with friends.

(11) ACADEMIC REFEREEES

1. Prof. J.M. Nyasani,
Department of Philosophy,
University of Nairobi,
P.O. Box 30197 - 00100,
NAIROBI.
2. Prof. Mashaka Oniang'o,
Faculty of Social Sciences,
University of Nairobi,
P.O. Box 30197 - 00100,
NAIROBI.
3. Prof. Wambari Kawongo,
Kenyatta University,
P.O. Box 43844,
NAIROBI.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Solomon Monyenye', with a large, sweeping flourish above the name.

Signature: Prof. Solomon Monyenye
Date: January 22, 2015