

PERSPECTIVES

An Academic Journal of Daystar University

June, 2005

Vol. 1, No. 1



“... until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts”
(2 Peter 1:19 KJV)

P.O. Box 44400 NAIROBI or P.O. Box 436 ATHI RIVER
www.daystar.ac.ke

ISBN 9966-936-01-7

A Daystar University Publication



PERSPECTIVES

June, 2005. Vol. No.1



Organizational Transformation

Praise Poetry

Being African

Critical Reflective Thinking

Promoting Reading

Leisure, Recreations and Exercise

Book review: Saved Through Fire



PERSPECTIVES

An Academic Journal of Daystar University





PERSPECTIVES

An Academic Journal of Daystar University

January - June 2005

Vol. 1 No. 1

Organizational Transformation

Praise Poetry

Being African

Critical Reflective Thinking

Promoting Reading

Leisure, Recreations and Exercise

Book review: Saved Through Fire

PERSPECTIVES

An Academic Journal of Daystar University

PUBLISHER

Research, Publications and Consultancy Department
of
Daystar University

EDITOR

Faith Nguru, Ph.D.

Book and cover design by

Mondi Howard Makingu

Printed in Kenya by

Starbright Services Ltd.

Editorial Correspondence: including manuscripts for submission should be addressed to : The Editor, Perspectives, Daystar University, P.O. Box 44400, Nairobi, Kenya. Tel (02) 723002-4 or (0150) 22601-4 Fax (02) 728338 Email: daystar@daystar.ac.ke

Copyright: All rights reserved. No part of this publication may for financial gain, be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without permission of the copyright holder.

Perspectives 3

Editorial Policy: Perspectives is an interdisciplinary academic journal for Daystar University. Its purpose is to foster a better understanding of the various academic disciplines and professions. It is published twice a year by the Academic Division and comprises a research and academic overview section on various aspects of academic disciplines. It also provides for general contributions from various fields of academic disciplines.

The University and the Editorial Team cannot be held responsible for the opinions, views and conclusions expressed in this publication. These are entirely those of the authors and are not necessarily of Daystar University or the Editor.

Editorial Requirements: Submit three copies on any topic of academic interest, type double space according to APA style. An abstract of 200 words as well as the authors name, title, job description, address, phone, fax, and email numbers should be included. Should the articles be based on a conference paper, particulars should be included. Please contact the editor for further information.

Subscriptions: To subscribe to two issues per year please send USA \$10 or KSh 500 to Daystar University, Attention Research Center, P.O. Box 44400, Nairobi, Kenya. Single Issues are USA \$ 6 or Ksh 300. Postage is \$15



Table of Contents

Forward	6
Editorial	7
Organizational Transformation: Team-building approach	9
ORIKI-IDILE: Praise Poetry among the Yoruba of Southwest Nigeria	28
Being African in the 21st Century	41
Critical Reflective Thinking and Church Leadership in East Africa	59
Promoting reading as a means of improving proficiency in English among tertiary institutions	90
Leisure, Recreation And Exercise: The Christian Educator’s Challenge	104
Book review	
Saved Through Fire: A Family Experiences Kenya’s War of Independence	115



FOREWORD

It is with nostalgia that I recall the birth of Perspectives, an academic Journal of Daystar University, which I personally launched in January 1997.

The journal was birthed with a lot of excitement by all of us who had an urge for academic and intellectual excellence. At the time, I was the Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs at Daystar University, a vantage position for co-ordination, reception and production of academic materials.

Perspectives became a rallying point for faculty and students' ideas and a forum for Christian response to social, political, physical, and psychological issues that affect God's people.

It was therefore very sad to see Perspectives go under after the December 1998 edition. Among the contributing factors to its cessation was lack of lack of money, personnel and lack of a sustainable, well thought out and planned structure for its publication.

Today as we re-launch the Perspectives, we are confident that we have learnt from our past mistakes and hope that this time round the publication will thrive. In the past we fully depended on donor-funding for the production of the Journal. This time, Perspectives is housed under Research, Publications and Consultancy Faculty. It is funded through the university budget like any other university program.

Our hope and dream is that its publication will stimulate intellectual discourse in the university. It should boost a desire for research and academic excellence in the entire university. May it raise the standards so high that the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit will be glorified. Amen.

Rev. Prof. Godfrey Nguru

Vice-Chancellor

EDITORIAL

IN SEARCH OF LEADERS FOR THE MILLENIUM

It is an open secret that professionalism in Kenya, and in many African countries, has lost its cutting edge due to corruption and inefficiency.

Both governments and non-governmental organizations have spent large sums of money in developing human resources but are agonizing over the wisdom of their investment. Among the questions plaguing them are: Why have economies not developed as envisaged? What has gone wrong with the management and productivity of material and non material national resources? How can the decaying moral infrastructure in society be explained? There are growing doubts about the heritage that this generation will leave behind. There is deep soul searching in many quarters. But will this outbreak of concern leap beyond the emotion of the moment to concrete steps for change? Or in the words of the Holy Writ, (2 Cor. 7:10).... Is what we are seeing a godly grief that produces repentance to lead to salvation or a worldly grief that produces death?

The quality of life in most African countries has continued to decline in the last few decades. Other social development indicators such as mortality rates, employment figures and industrial growth do not paint a better picture either. On the other hand religious groups' proliferation has intensified. There is, equally, the growth in and expansion of religious educational institutions seeking to equip professionals with better moral values. Yet their impact has been minimal. One would expect that such professionals would provide exemplary leadership but the large scale eventuation of this is yet to be.

Granted, the history of religious institutions is still fairly short, and they are plagued by some teething problems. However, the nascent curricula must of necessity have in-built value considerations that will not only bring some glory to the process of education but have an impact in the kind of input expected from these products. Competence and integrity are expected critical products.

Basic moral values that have been lost will have to be given prominence if the trend of decline and decay is to be reversed. In an era of increasing relativism, regulatory frameworks for promotion of professional standards and ethics will have to be put in place. Society cannot ignore God's precepts

Perspectives 7

for living and expect to develop and progress. The value vacuum currently obtaining must be filled. Discipline, justice, and a political will must characterise institutions of higher education. There is no substitute in this effort for Christian Higher Education institutions. The current issue of Perspectives is intended to facilitate discourse by providing forum to debate and analyse sources and consequences of societal problems in Kenya and Africa. The authors investigate issues dealing with organizational managers, cultural communication and identity: education, training and recreation as a platform to advance debate and interventions for the creation of better Christian servant leaders.

Faith W. Nguru
Director, Research, Publications and Consultancy
Nairobi, Kenya.