

Curriculum Vitae

Oriare Nyarwath

Personal Details

Oriare Nyarwath

Department of Philosophy & Religious Studies
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Date of birth: 23rd August 1964 in Jimo East Sub-Location, Nyakach District, Kisumu County.

Gender: Male.

Nationality: Kenyan.

Marital status: Single

Languages: English, Kiswahili, Luo and elementary French

Educational Background

2003 - 2009: PhD in Philosophy, University of Nairobi.

1990 - 1994: MA in Philosophy, University of Nairobi.

1987 - 1990: BA in Philosophy & Sociology, University of Nairobi, awarded B.A. (Hons.) 2nd Class Upper Degree.

1984 - 1985: Cardinal Otunga High School, passed K.A.C.E.

1980 - 1983: Thurgem Secondary School, passed K.C.E.

1974 - 1979: Ndori Primary School, passed C.P.E.

University Education

Postgraduate Studies

PhD in Philosophy: I wrote a thesis titled “An Exposition and Critique of H. Odera Orika’s Philosophy”.

Masters Studies

Second Year: I wrote a thesis titled “Philosophy and Rationality in Taboos with some Reference to the Kenyan Luo Culture”.

First Year

Philosophy: Logic
: Philosophy in Africa
: Ethics and Social Philosophy
: Metaphysics

Undergraduate Courses Studied**Third Year**

Philosophy : Contemporary Philosophy
: Metaphysics
Sociology : Criminology
: Family and Child Welfare

Second Year

Philosophy : Ethics
: Philosophy of Social Sciences
Sociology : Methods of Social Investigation
: Sociology of the Family

First Year

Philosophy: Introduction to Philosophy
: Logic
Sociology : Introduction to Sociology and Anthropology
: Rural Sociology
Religious Studies: Sociology of Religion
: Comparative Religion

Academic Positions

December 2011 to Present: **Senior Lecturer** in Philosophy, University of Nairobi.

May 2003 – December 2011: **Lecturer** in Philosophy, University of Nairobi.

April 1997 – April 2003: **Tutorial Fellow** in Philosophy, University of Nairobi.

June 1992 – April 1997: **Graduate Assistant** in Philosophy, University of Nairobi.

Professional Experience

January – May 2008: **Fulbright Visiting Scholar-In-Residence** at the University of Detroit Mercy, USA, during which I taught the following two undergraduates courses: 1) African philosophy and Culture, and 2) Symbolic Logic.

January – April 2006, September - December 2009 & June – July 2011: Taught a Masters course **Sage Philosophy** at MIASMU – Maryknoll Institute of African Studies of Saint Mary’s of Minnesota / USA and Tangaza College, Nairobi, Kenya.

January 2000 to date: Doing part-time teaching Logic and African Philosophy at Consolata Institute of Philosophy, Lang’ata.

August 1994 – December 2007: Part-time teaching Logic and African Philosophy at the Apostles of Jesus Seminary, Lang’ata.

January – May 2008: **Fulbright Visiting Scholar-In-Residence** at the University of Detroit Mercy, USA, during which I taught the following two courses, African Philosophy and Culture, and Symbolic Logic, besides attending conferences and giving talks.

Seminar Participation

19-21 November 2013: A member of the Organizing Committee of the Henry Odera Orika held at Goethe Institut, Nairobi, during which I presented a paper, “The Right to a Human Minimum as a Principle of Global Justice”.

14-16 October 2013: Attended a Seminar on the launch of the Doctoral Programs of Philosophy and Geography at the Universidade Pedagogica-Mozambique (Pedagogical University), Maputo, Mozambique, during which I presented a paper, “The History and Status of PhD Program at the University of Nairobi”.

4-9 November, 2012: I attended a Writers Workshop at KWTI in Naivasha organized by ODL, University of Nairobi.

14-15 July, 2011: I attended a Symposium on “Knowledge, History, People: Communitarian Threads in the Thought and Works of E. S. Atieno-Odhiambo” at Maseno University organized by Maseno University and University of Louisville.

15-20 July, 2010: A member of a Plenary Panel presentation of Kai Kresse’s Book *Philosophizing in Mombasa: Knowledge, Islam and Intellectual Practice on the Swahili Coast* (2007) during the 8th Conference of the International Society for the Oral Literatures of Africa (ISOLA), Leisure Lodge Resort, Diani, Mombasa.

14-16 March, 2011: I attended the 10th Hekima College Symposium on Theology and Peace Building as a Responder to a paper “Critical African cultural values that can be incorporated and inculcated in the education system for development, peace building, and good governance”.

25 August, 2010: I presented a paper ‘Ethical Conception of the Person and the Problem of Criteria’ at Consolata Institute of Philosophy during its annual Philosophy Day.

18-20 November, 2009: I attended a Conference in Dar es Salaam on Philosophy in East Africa, organized by Philosophy Unit [University of Dar es Salaam], Department of Philosophy & Religious Studies [University of Nairobi], Department of Philosophy [Makerere University], MoRes Academy [Finland] and Department of Social and Moral Philosophy [University of Helsinki].

4-6 November, 2009: I attended a Regional Workshop on Editorial and Online Peer Review organized by International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publication in conjunction with University of Nairobi, held at Kenya School of Monetary Studies.

9-11 April 2003: I participated and presented a paper at the 9th Annual Conference of the International Society for African Philosophy and Studies (ISAPS) at the University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

16-18 December 2002: I participated and presented a paper at the Experts Consultative Meeting on Pan-African Cultural Congress organized by the African Union, held in Nairobi.

21 November 2002: I participated in the organization of and presented a paper in the Seminar marking the celebration of UNESCO Philosophy Day organized by the University of Nairobi, Department of Philosophy and UNESCO/UNITWIN Chair, at the University of Nairobi.

13-15 October 2002: I participated and presented a paper in a Workshop on “Politics of Transition in Kenya” organized by the Department of Government and Public Administration, University of Nairobi, held at Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya.

3-6 September 2001: I attended, as a participant, an annual conference on “Ethnicity in an Age of Globalization” at Uganda Martyrs University, Uganda.

10-12 March 2000: I participated in the organizing of the 6th Annual Conference of the International Society for African Philosophy and Studies (ISAPS) held at the University of Nairobi.

25 - 29 July 1995: I participated in the organizing “XIV World Conference of

World Futures Studies Federation” in Nairobi Kenya, as member of the Local Organizing Committee.

19 - 21 August 1993: I participated in a Conference on “Kenya’s transition to Multi-party Democracy: A Study of the 1992 Elections” held in Nairobi in which I presented on behalf of Prof. H. Odera Orika, a paper on the” The Kenya Multi-party Elections -1992: Ugenya Constituency”.

20 -30 April 1993: I attended an IAI /AAS Seminar on “African Philosophy and Critical Inquiry” held in Nairobi.

21 -25 July 1991: I participated in the World Conference of Philosophy on “Philosophy, Humanity and Environment” in Nairobi (Kenya) as a member of the secretariat.

Academic Works

November 19 - 21, 2013: “The Right to a Human Minimum as a Principle of Global Justice”. A paper presented during Henry Odera Orika Symposium, at Goethe – Institut, Nairobi.

October 14-16, 2013: “Doctoral Programme in Philosophy and Development of Philosophy at the University of Nairobi: History and Status”. A paper presented during the launch of the Doctoral programmes in Philosophy and Geography at the Universidade Pedagogica – Maputo, Mozambique.

December, 2012: “Knowledge Production in Africa”, submitted as chapter contribution to a UNESCO book project titled *African Cultures, History and Civilizations*, yet to be published.

August 25, 2010: I presented a paper “Ethical Conception of the Person and the Problem of Criteria” at Consolata Institute of Philosophy during its annual Philosophy Day.

2009: PhD thesis titled “An Exposition and Critique of H. Odera Orika’s Philosophy”.

February 2008: Translation of F. Ochieng’-Odhiambo’s paper “Ang’o Man e Nying’? Okange Ang’wen Mag Nyinge e Oganda Luo” into English “What is in a Name? Four Levels of Naming among the Luo”; later published as a chapter in *Listening to Ourselves: A Multilingual Anthology of African Philosophy* edited by Chike Jeffers. Albany: State University of New York (SUNY) Press, 2013.

March 2006: “History and Status of African philosophy at the University of Nairobi”. A paper prepared for and presented during Philosophy Day on 22nd March, 2006, at Consolata Institute of Philosophy, Nairobi.

9-11 April 2003: “The Role of Philosophy in Development in Africa”. A paper presented at the 9th Annual Conference of the International Society for African Philosophy and Studies (ISAPS) at the University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

16-18 December 2002: “The Relationship between Philosophy and Culture”. A paper presented at the Expert Consultative Meeting on **Pan-African Congress** organized by the African Union at Nairobi.

November 2002: “The Normative Role of Philosophy and the Question of Human Rights”. A paper presented at a Seminar, at the University of Nairobi, during the celebration of UNESCO Philosophy Day on November 21, 2002, organized by the Department of Philosophy, University of Nairobi in conjunction with UNESCO/UNITWIN Chair at the University of Nairobi.

October 2002: “Ethnicity and Ethnicism in Kenyan Politics: Fairness as a Balance”. A paper presented at a Workshop on **Politics of Transition in Kenya**, organized by the Department of Government and Public Administration, University of Nairobi, held at Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya.

March 2000: “The Moral Dilemma of Corruption”. A paper that was presented at the Sixth annual conference of the International Society for African Philosophy and Studies, University of Nairobi, Kenya.

December 1999: “Odera Oruka: On Moral Arguments against Punishment”. A paper presented at the Commemorative Symposium on the Fourth Anniversary of H. Odera Oruka’s death on Friday, 10 December 1999.

January 1999: “The Central issue in Odera Oruka’s Sage Philosophy”. A paper presented at the Commemorative Symposium on the Third Anniversary of H. Odera Oruka’s death on Friday, 22 January 1999 at the University of Nairobi, Kenya.

July 1998: “The Concept of Development and the Kenyan Experience”, a paper presented at the Historical Association of Kenya Annual Conference at Asis Hotel, Eldoret, Kenya, 2 - 4 July, 1998.

December 1997: “Some Luo socio-cultural values that affect family planning” (Unpublished paper).

November 1996: “The Luo care for widows (*Lako*) and contemporary challenges” a paper sent for ISAADPS conference in South Africa, March 1997. It was also presented at a seminar in the Department of Philosophy, University of Nairobi on April 22, 1997.

1994: MA thesis entitled “Philosophy and Rationality in Taboos with special

Reference to the Kenyan Luo Culture”.

Publications

1. Book authored

Traditional Logic: An Introduction. Nairobi: Consolata Institute of Philosophy Press, 2010/2007.

2. Book co-authored

Theory and Practice of Governance in Kenya: Towards Civic Engagement. (with Mary Omosa, Geoffrey Njeru, and Edward Ontita). Nairobi: University of Nairobi Press, 2006.

3. Book co-edited

Thought and Practice in African Philosophy. (with Gail Presbey, Daniel Smith and Pamela A. Abuya). Nairobi: Konrad Adenauer Foundation, 2002.

4. Book chapter contributions

- I. Translator: “What’s in a Name? Four Levels of Naming among the Luo People” by F. Ochieng’-Odhiambo in *Listening to Ourselves: A Multilingual Anthology of African Philosophy* edited by Chike Jeffers. Albany: State University of New York (SUNY) Press, 2013.
- II. “Moral Ignorance and Corruption” in *Thought and Practice in African Philosophy*. Edited by Gail Presbey and others. Nairobi: Konrad Adenauer Foundation, 2002.
- III. “Sagacity and Freedom” in *Sagacious Reasoning: Henry Odera Oruka in Memoriam*. Edited by Anke Graness and Kai Kresse. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang, 1997; Nairobi, Kampala, Dar es Salaam: East African Educational Publishers, 1999.

5. Articles

- a) “Understanding Social Freedom and Humanism in Odera Oruka’s Philosophy” in *Thought and Practice: A Philosophical Association of Kenya (PAK)*, New Series, Vol. 4 No. 2, December 2012, pp. 75-96; <http://ajol.info/index.php/tp/index>
- b) “H. Odera Oruka: A Biographical Sketch” in *Thought and Practice: A Philosophical Association of Kenya (PAK)*, New Series, Vol. 4 No. 2, December 2012, pp. iii-v; <http://ajol.info/index.php/tp/index>

- c) “The Luo Care for Widows (*Lako*) and Contemporary Challenges” in *Thought and Practice: A Journal of the Philosophical Association of Kenya (PAK)*, New Series, Vol. 4 No 1, June 2012, pp. 91-110; <http://ajol.info/index.php/tp/index>
- d) “Ethnicity and Ethnicism: What is Wrong?” in *Horizons: A Journal of Philosophy*, Vol. 1, 2010.
- e) “History and status of African philosophy at the University of Nairobi”, in *Horizons: A Journal of Philosophy*, Vol. 1, No. 1, 2009.
- f) “The Role of Philosophy in Social Development” in *Hekima: Journal of the Humanities and Social Sciences*, University of Nairobi, Vol. III, No.1, 2005; also in *Sophia*, Issue No. 5, 2005 (Occasional Publication of Apostles of Jesus Major Seminary Philosophicum, Nairobi).

6. External Examinations

- 1. Kenyatta University, Kenya
Postgraduates and Undergraduate (March 2013to date)

7. Supervisions and Teaching

a) PhD Supervision

- 1. August 2011 – to date: Thesis by Julius Wambua Mbithi “**Philosophical Hermeneutics: Application in African Philosophy**”. (UON) **On-going**.
- 2. BISHYANUKA Joseph, “**Rwandese Ethical Values: Challenges in the Third Millennium.**” (CUEA) 2013. **On-going**.
- 3. MBURU Simon Njuguna (Fr) 1021547, “**UTUISM: The African Definition of Humanism.**” (CUEA) October 11, 2013. **On-going**.

b) MA Projects Supervision

- 1. Theresa Aoko Otieno – C50/76283/2009, “A Critical Appraisal of Bernard Lonergan’s Notion of Judgment as a Response to the Critical Problem” (University of Nairobi, 2013). **Successful completion**.
- 2. Otieno-Adipo – C50/62858/2010, “Knowledge and Epistemic Justification: An Appraisal of Robert Nozick’s Truth-Tracking Theory” (University of Nairobi, 2012) **Successful completion**.

3. Kevin Karimi - C50/72278/2008, "Moral Objectivism versus Moral Relativism: A Critical Examination" (University of Nairobi, 2011). **Successful completion.**
4. George Ondik Odhiambo, "Ethical Issues in HIV/AIDS Prevention" (University of Nairobi, 2008). **Successful completion.**
5. Joel Ndirangu Kagema, "An Examination of the Ethics of Human Reproductive and Therapeutic Cloning" (University of Nairobi, 2007). **Successful completion.**
6. Irene A. Yambo – C50/72542/2009, "From the Dying Fire Place to the Screen: Will the Screen be the Last site of the Struggle for the Control of the African Identity" (University of Nairobi, 2011) **On-going.**
7. Boniface Kahari Mugo – C50/71483/2008, "Is Existence of evil Compatible with the Existence of God?" (University of Nairobi, 2011) **On-going.**

c) Teaching

- I. Masters courses:** 1) Ethics and Social Philosophy (2010)
2) Philosophy of Religion (2009)
3) African Philosophy
- II. Undergraduate courses:** 1) Social Ethics
2) Traditional Logic
3) Symbolic Logic
4) African Philosophy

8. Theses / Projects Examination

a) PhD Theses

1. February 2011 - Internal Examiner for PhD Thesis by Julius Wambua Mbithi "**Philosophical Hermeneutics: Application in African Philosophy**", (University of Nairobi)

b) MA Theses / Projects

1. May 2013 – External Examiner for MA Thesis by Mburu, Michael Mbugua, "**Reconciling Individual and Collective Interests in Kenya Healthcare [Healthcare Provision in Kenya]**", (Kenyatta University).

Professional Membership

1. Chairman (2013 to date) - Philosophical Association of Kenya (PAK)
2. Ag. Treasurer (1992 - 2013) – Philosophical Association of Kenya (PAK)
3. Associate Editor (2009 to date) – Thought and Practice: A Journal of the Philosophical Association of Kenya (PAK)
4. Member (2000 to date) - International Society for African Philosophy and Studies (ISAPS)

Areas of Research Interest

African Philosophy, Logic, Ethics, Social and Applied Ethics.

Academic Referees

Prof. D.A. Masolo

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Prof. Gail Presbey

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Prof. F. Ochieng` - Odhiambo

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Prof. Jack A. Odhiambo

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