

Editorial

Dear Readers and Patrons of Huria Journal, I wish to introduce to you Volume 12 Number 1 of Huria Journal. This is a rather special Volume. It has a total of 15 papers up and above our usual number of ten to twelve papers per Volume. There is something else which is new about Volume 12; it will appear in two Numbers which again is not normal practice of our Journal. Publication of Volume 12 coincided with the commemoration of twenty years Anniversary of the Open University of Tanzania. The University was inaugurated twenty years ago, in 1992. For about six months of the year 2012, the University was busy with the Anniversary activities, holding public lectures, meetings and workshops. Participants of the activities were from within the University as well as from other Universities, from within and from outside the country. The climax of the celebrations was the 24th Graduation Ceremony which took place on 26th October, 2012.

The Editorial board has recommended that from now on, the numbering of the Journal Volumes shall be changed from the Roman numerals to the Arabic numbers, and hence this Volume is Number 12 instead of Number XII as was the case before. You will agree with us that the new numbering will be more user friendly than the Roman numbers.

Volume 12 Number 2 will be published soon and will have a total 18 papers. The papers in this number were purposely solicited to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the University.

The Editorial Board is highly encouraged by the large number of papers submitted for consideration for publication in Huria Journal. With this trend, Readers should expect more than 12 papers to appear in one Volume of the Journal which is a healthy sign as the Journal becomes of age and internationalized.

There are fifteen interesting papers in this Volume and this Number. The papers cover a wide variety of topics. There are papers on ICT, Environment, Genetics, Nutrition, HIV/AIDS, Education, Culture, Gender and Poverty.

The first paper in this Number is by Nihuka and is in support of the contribution of Communities of Practice to professional development of teachers on Information and Communication technology (ICTs) integration in education. The Author argues that Communities of practice enhance teacher learning on ICT integration in education especially if blended with workshops, school based training and collaboration among teachers.

The following three papers report on environmental issues.

E-Waste disposal in Tanzania by Bakari, Swai and Samzugi is the second paper which looks at the challenges of ICT materials or E-waste and their disposal. The report is based on a study conducted in Tanzania. The study investigated the fate of E-waste. The study found out that the ICT materials were recycled, re-used

and useful parts were extracted. The authors conclude that E-waste had high economic and business value and could be used to generate income and create employment and play a major role in poverty alleviation. However, the authors decry the lack of policy on E-waste disposal in Tanzania. Policy makers should take heed of these findings.

The third paper by Orotho and Fweja is on microbiology quality of water, in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The paper has interesting findings in that the quality of well and borehole waters was very poor in Temeke municipality and that the faecal coliform mean counts were high, followed by Kinondoni municipality while water with least faecal coliforms contamination was in Ilala. The reason for poor quality was the proximity of well and boreholes to toilets and septic tanks. This calls for water authorities and owners to take steps to improve the water quality of the water sources.

In the fourth Kusiluka, Gallet and Mtawa report on their assessment of animal waste management practices in Morogoro, Tanzania. They report that the majority of livestock owners had limited knowledge of animal waste management and many were not aware of the health risks if the wastes were poorly managed. The Authors recommend that authorities reinforce provisions of legislations and that they initiate public awareness campaigns.

A study on the role of NGOs in the mitigation of the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Morogoro, Tanzania, is reported in this fifth paper. Findings revealed that NGOs were very important in the mitigation of HIV/AIDS but that they were faced with a number of challenges including poor funding, donor dependence and incompetence of some of the staff. However the paper does not come up with concrete solutions on how the NGOs can overcome the challenges. Otherwise it is an interesting and educating paper.

The sixth paper by Mollel and Haileselassie reports on the flower colour inheritance in *Nicotina glauca*. The authors used reciprocal and backcrossing to show that dark colours (red) were dominant over the lighter colours and that the lighter colours were determined by recessive genes. The inheritance was shown to follow simple Mendelian/classical inheritance pattern of dominant vs recessive allelic gene interaction. The paper is interest to classical Mendelian genetic studies.

This seventh paper reports on the Antifeedant activities of six plant extracts and pure compounds from root bark of *Toddalia asiatica* plant against the Anomalous emperor moth *Nudaurelia belina*, a plant pest. The paper is by Kaoneka and Mollel who proved that the extracts had antifeedant activity against moths.

The paper on Pumpkin seed oil properties by Lyimo, Shayo and Kasanga is the eighth paper in this Volume. The purpose of their study was to find out if pumpkin seed oils could be used as an alternative to the commercially produced cooking oils. The study proved that pumpkin seed oil was acceptable as edible vegetable oil in taste, flavor, colour and odour. The authors recommend the oil as a good alternative

to the commercially produced oils especially for farmers who produce pumpkins in their farms.

The ninth paper is by Bushesha, Mtae, Msindai and Mbogo and is on challenges which face supervisors and students in the process of writing theses and dissertations under ODL. The authors recommend enhancement of the use of supervisor- student communication, progress reports, supervision seminars and improved supervisor honoraria arguing that the measures would mitigate the identified challenges.

Kessy reports on a study about the differences in self esteem between adopted and looked after orphans in Dares Salaam, Tanzania. In this tenth paper, it is reported that looked after children had higher levels of self-esteem than the adopted ones and that Muslim orphans had a higher self esteem than the orphans from other religions most probably because of the services offered. The author recommends that Government should give support to orphans and that, parents and care givers should be trained on better orphan care.

The effect of globalisation on Tanzania culture has been authored by Rwegelera. In this paper the author points out that western culture is taking a toll on the Tanzanian language, songs, dances, food and drinks and that Tanzania culture was being eroded and that some of the values were being lost. The author suggests step to take to safeguard the local culture. It is our opinion that reversing the trend is a far cry from the reality on the ground.

Paper number 12 is by Masanja and looks at gendered migration and urban informal sector. The author compared the migration of men and women from villages to Mwanza city, North- west Tanzania. The study revealed that both men and women migrated to the city but that because women accepted low profile jobs and relatively low pay than men, it was easier for them to find jobs in the informal sector than men. There was no difference in accessing assets between men and women. It was also found out that women remitted more funds back to their relatives in villages than men.

The paper by Mhache looks at the woodfuel production and its impact on the livelihoods of people in Bagamoyo district. The Author notes that woodfuel like charcoal and firewood provide income to those who produce firewood and make charcoal for sale. However the author cautions that the unchecked continued deforestation as a result of charcoal making and use of firewood for cooking will destroy the forests and hence ruin the environment. The author recommends use of fuel efficient stoves for cooking in order to use less firewood and charcoal and thus save the forest. Alternative sources of energy such as gas and solar energy are recommended. The paper therefore addresses an issue with an impact on climate change.

Paper number 14 is by Kyando. The author in his paper argues that it is difficult for the poor on their own to fight poverty without the support and engagement of policy makers at national level.

The last and fifteenth paper is by Rangi and Mwageni. The authors examined the role of sexual reproductive health education among adolescents in Morogoro, Tanzania. The study showed that the majority of the adolescents who were also secondary school students were exposed to sexual and reproductive health education and as a result they were involved in risky sexual behaviour and hence risked being infected with HIV and girls getting pregnant. The authors recommend that adolescents be exposed to sexual and reproductive health education to stem the spread of HIV and to avoid unwanted pregnancies.

It is my sincere hope that readers will read and benefit from the findings reported in the fifteen papers in the Volume 12 Number 1.