



ISSUE NO 11 : THE DIGITAL STORYTELLERS

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THE *Mugabe*

LEADERSHIP WAS BETTER THAN THIS

SAYS PASTOR SHINGI MUNYEZA

VUSA MKHAYA IS REISSUING UMANYANYATHA INTERNATIONALLY

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EDITORIAL

It has been two months since the government enforced a lockdown. A lot of changes have taken place. The economy is opening up bit by bit. People have been adapting to lockdown in different ways. Lockdown measures are being relaxed in what seems to be the opening up of the economy. Such is the situation worldwide.

But debates on the way forward has resurfaced. In the education sector, the government has already set up dates for the opening of schools, which were prematurely closed due to the appearance of COVID-19 cases in Zimbabwe.

Teachers through their organizations are disputing the dates, arguing that the country is not yet ready for the opening of learning centres. The other argument is on writing classes. Should the June examinations for 2020 be postponed to the next coming year, to avoid the spread of COVID-19 through these learning institutions?

Breaking away from the lockdown related issues; members of the security sector converged for a press conference where men of white cloths are singled out as merchants of discord in Zimbabwe. The government is accusing pastors of spreading “false” rumours of a coup d'etat brewing against the Zimbabwean leader. Another clergyman is accusing the government of corruption and says the current regime is worse than that of the controversial Mugabe administration.

All this is found in the latest ENTHUSE'd publication. Writers bring in incites of what has been taking place in Zimbabwe, from religion, business, and arts. The publication also gives lessons one can learn from Africa's own greatest entrepreneurs. It is the hope of contributors to this publication that everyone will benefit from the articles given.

Ian Mapira

Content Creation Manager
Enthuse Afrika

ZIM GOV'T TURNS TO PRAYER & FASTING AS CORONAVIRUS CASES SOARS

By Chris Charamba/Hallelujahmag.com

Last month, expelled Information, Publicity and Broadcasting deputy minister Energy Mutodi in a tender to brown-nose President Emmerson Mnangagwa and win a local vote, undiplomatically said the Zimbabwean leader was better in enclosing the coronavirus pandemic than his Tanzanian counterpart John Magufuli.

In a tweet, the ZANU PF MP for Goromonzi West said while Mnangagwa was curbing the spread of the deadly COVID-19 disease by shutting down the country and asking citizens to stay at home, President Chama Chama Pinduzi Magufuli was fighting the pandemic with orisons and was losing, apparently.

“HE John Pombe Magufuli’s Tanzania now has 630 COVID-19 cases with prayers but without lockdown, while His Excellency President ED Mnangagwa’s Zimbabwe only got 31 cases with lockdown and masks. An insight into how managers can be game changers,” Mutodi posted.

The comments followed reports that while other governments were shutting down operations, the Tanzania leader has refused to shut churches and mosques. To that effect, Magufuli ordered three days of national prayers against COVID-19.

The septuagenarian leader has since shown

determination that the East African country has defeated COVID-19 through prayers. According to the Associated Press, the country’s number of confirmed virus cases hasn’t changed for three weeks, and just over 500 cases have been reported in a country of nearly 60 million people.

In an unseen development, the Harare government is also poised to turn to God and prayers in a bid to curb the global pandemic which has since infected 314 of its people and claimed four lives.

Information, Publicity and Broadcasting Services Minister Monica Mutsvangwa, while presenting the 19th Cabinet Meeting Decision Matrix on Tuesday, announced that President Mnangagwa was expected to announce soon a day of fasting and national prayer as the number of confirmed COVID-19 patients kept on soaring.

“We wish to advise that His Excellency the President is set to officially announce a day of fasting and national prayer,” Minister Mutsvangwa was quoted in the state media.



MIN. MONICA MUTSVANGWA

In accordance with the ministerial announcement, President Mnangagwa on Thursday set June 15 as the Day of Fasting and Prayer.

In his address, the President said the time has come for Zimbabweans to come together in supplication so as to seek the Almighty God's "mercy, wisdom, help and healing to overcome this deadly pandemic" that has disrupted normal life and also the economy.

"I urge you all on this day, to join us giving up one, two or all meals in fasting. It will be best to arrange to participate in this service as families, small groups of church services not exceeding 50 people, and observing the precautions we have taking to prevent the spread of the coronavirus," said the President.

He urged the whole nation to join him for a virtual church service, that will be attended by leaders from different denominations at the State House from 10 am to noon and will be broadcast live on ZBC and other social media platforms.

The Southern African country has added to the many other calls by various political and religious leaders across the globe to open places of worship as a means to combat the pandemic.

Just under two weeks ago, the President of the United States of America, Donald Trump, declared the opening of all worship centres across the country, labelling them as "essential places that provide essential services".



MIICHAEL CHIUNDA

MICHAEL CHIUNDA INKS DEAL WITH PLAY BY PLAY

By Chris Charamba/Enthusemag.com

Things have been going up for rapper and poet Michael Chiunda ever since he changed his stage name from Meyniak to his government name. He has been dropping new material, flexing his spoken word chops, throwing his own versatile concerts, reuniting with old collaborators, daring the mainstream and overall just been looking healthy.

His fans — affectionately called the Meyniaks — have been eager for his growth and visibility, and it looks like that's going to happen sooner than later. Word reaching us is that "The Story Of Lochnation" wordsmith is taking his talents to Play by Play Inc, a sports, music and entertainment company that specialises in brand management.

In a statement to the press, Play by Play said they were "undoubtedly pleased and



are ready to try work hand to hand with brand Michael Chiunda through honesty, transparency and growth". The incorporated company added that Michael, who hasn't signed up with a manager in a long time, was dazzled by their vision and unique approach to brand management.

"It had been a while since I signed up with a manager, I'm excited to be signing with them," said Michael.

On the other hand, Play by Play said as a stable they have done all it takes to have someone like Michael writhing their ranks because of his prowess as a creative and an artist.

"It is an auspicious occasion for us to be working with one of the most unique and talented artists there are at present. Michael will definitely turn heads. Keep an ear to the ground; Michael will not disappoint. Tune in and press play," said the brand handlers.

A fresh foot on the scene, Play by Play is fast establishing its roots in the entertainment and sports sector in the Southern Africa region. Locally, they have worked with enthusiasts like singers Frya, Melyssa, rapper KapCity, Zimbabwean rugby captain Hilton Mudariki, Zimbabwean cricketer Ryan Burl and are also owners of Harare league hockey team Play by Play Hounds.

Beyond Zimbabwe, they have worked with musician Malika from Zambia and are in the pipeline to announce a few more people to their stable while collaborating with corporates and sponsors in the discipline of sports and showbiz.

The story continues on Enthusemag.com



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”

YOU MAY FIND THAT THE LARGE SCALE MINERS ARE BEING PAID STILL USING THE RATIO OF USD AND RTGS, WHILST THE SMALL SCALE MINERS HAVE BEEN GIVEN 100% USD PAYMENT. WE DO NOT KNOW AT WHAT RATE THE LARGE SCALE MINERS ARE BEING PAID.

”

FIDELITY PRINTERS NEW GOLD BUYING FRAMEWORK “LACKING TRANSPARENCY”

By Ian Mapira/Bhizimusi.com

Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association (ZELA), project officer, Joyce Nyamukunda Machiri, speaking in an interview with Bhizimusi reporter, last week said Fidelity Printers and Refineries (FPR) latest gold buying framework lacks transparency.

FPR created a new gold trading framework for 70% payment in foreign currency.

“I think the issue of transparency is lacking,” Machiri said.

“You may find that the large scale miners are being paid still using the ratio of USD and RTGS, whilst the small scale miners have been given 100% USD payment. We do not know at what rate the large scale miners are being paid.” (sic)

“So we really need to understand and see if this is something that is a plus for artisanal miners or still we are on the side of the large scale companies who have been surpassed by artisanal miners in production of gold with regards to statistics of previous years even last year and early this year.”

The project officer went on to reveal that FPR’s new trading framework still offers room for gold to be sold on the black market.

Illicit gold trade on the black market has been blamed for gold leakages in Zimbabwe.

“You find that the international price for gold is a bit higher than the one being offered by Fidelity Printers and for me, this still give room for illicit gold trade because the ones who are buying gold



A MININGZIMBABWE.COM PICTURE



trade because the ones who are buying gold can just also have their prices slightly higher than Fidelity Printers which will leave miners with an option of going for the black market.”

“If cash is not available in the banks, this would also still have implications with regards to how the miners are going to sell their gold which is opting for the black market.”

FPR has for years been the sole buyer, refiner and exporter of gold in Zimbabwe.

The country’s gold output in 2019 dropped by 16.8% to 27.6 tonnes from the 2018 record as producers battled with power cuts and a currency crisis

PREACHERS HUMBYRD, CHIWENGA & CHILOH SINGLED OUT AS ‘MERCHANTS OF DISCORD’

By Chris Charamba/Hallelujahmag.com

The Zimbabwe government on Wednesday denied rumours of an “imminent military coup” and singled out three top clerics along with opposition politicians and journalists as “merchants of discord” at a news conference attended by securocrats.

Addressing the surprise press conference, Home Affairs Minister Kazembe Kazembe name-dropped US-based preacher Nathan Humbyrd of Miracle Ministries, Jesus Revelation Ministries leader Apostle Talent Farai Chiwenga and Simon Chiloh of Jesus Christ Ministries, saying the men of cloth

were provoking unrest through religious sermons and aiding a destabilisation agenda.

He said they were part of a group of civil-society players, diplomats, opposition politicians and online media platforms believed to have been recruited to push for a National Transitional Authority.

Said the minister: “The government has noted with grave concern these rumours suggesting an imminent military coup d’état in the country. The government would like to unequivocally debunk and dismiss these rumours with the contempt they deserve.”

“The purveyors of this false coup narrative claim former Zanu PF members who fell by the wayside and largely went into self-imposed exile at the advent of the new dispensation in November 2017 are coming together in a united front with some named senior government leaders, some members of the security forces and elements of the opposition formations,” continued Minister Kazembe.

“This is in a bid to taint the image of the president, to undermine the legitimacy of the president and to render the country ungovernable.”



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He added: “Of course nothing could be further from the true reality of Zimbabwe’s security situation, now and for the foreseeable future. Indeed, both claims of a military coup d’état and an NTA in the making amount to mere agenda-setting by merchants of discord amongst our people with the support of their foreign handlers. They are completely unfounded.

“For the avoidance of doubt, there is no coup in the making, nor is there any form of transitional authority or inclusive government that is contemplated by the new dispensation except in the fertile imagination of the purveyors of this false narrative.”

Minister Kazembe singled out former Zanu PF political commissar Saviour Kasukuwere, who fled Zimbabwe after former President Robert Mugabe was ousted in a November 2017 military coup and replaced by President Mnangagwa, as well as MDC Alliance deputy chairman Job Sikhala, whom he described as the “purveyors of this falsehood and a coterie of their accomplices who we are aware of.”



“They must not to cry foul when the long arm of Zimbabwean law catches up with them in due course,” Kazembe railed, as he claimed that Zimbabwean activists writing on social media had also become part of what he described as an “illegal and subversive bandwagon under the control of certain diplomatic missions.”

“This narrative, which also sets an agenda for and promotes negative political activism, including coordinated fake abductions and media campaigns, has of late roped in several self-proclaimed local and international prophets. These include one US-based Nathan Humbryd of the so-called Miracle Ministries, Talent Chiwenga a self-styled rabid anti-Government Harare First Street preacher, Simon Chiloh of the so-called Deeds of Christ Ministries and a few others,” said Minister Kazembe.

Online news organisations Nehanda Radio, ZimEye and Gambakwe Media were named as part of the plot.

Earlier Wednesday, police arrested three MDC Alliance Youth Assembly activists including Harare West MP Joana Mamombe, accusing them of faking their abduction on May 13 to give the government a bad name.

Kazembe said the “fake abductions” were being coordinated with some foreign embassies, which he did not name. He said the authorities would tackle those spreading a “medley of falsehoods”.

Meanwhile, Apostle Chiwenga has since responded to Minister Kazembe’s warning saying what the securocrats did was yet another demonstration of desperation by the government.

The story continues on Hallelujahmag.com





SHINGI MUNYEZA

THE OLD WAS BETTER THAN NEW DISPENSATION: SNR PASTOR SHINGI MUNYEZA

By Chris Charamba/Hallelujahmag.com

If one is to write a book on the story of Zimbabwe's independence, it will be a mind-sore read with over twenty-year narratives of a syndrome of crises.

First, it would be under the leadership of former (and now late) President Robert Mugabe, who was in charge for 37 years. To his critics, this highly educated, wily politician became the caricature of an African dictator, who destroyed an entire country to keep his job. His regime stifled freedom of expression and those that dared criticise him publicly paid dearly. Palpably, his administration essentially destroyed the country's economy.

Later it would be under President Emmerson D. Mnangagwa, who took over the reigns after a military-instigated and mass-supported leadership change just under three years ago.

Eager to prove that a total change has occurred in the governance, the Mnangagwa team would rechristen itself as the "New Dispensation" and assume the "Second Republic" tag after the July 2019 elections which Pres. Mnangagwa won.

While one would've thought that the leadership change proffered a regime change with deep and wide-ranging reforms, the Zimbabwean case is a political loner in a historical vacuum. The multi-dimensional tale of the Southern African crisis has proved impervious to the leadership change.

Myriad media reports have indicated that in fact, the socio-economic and political situation has dramatically deteriorated since the New Dispensation took over, rendering as futile the wave of well-coordinated media and public-relations engagements pursued by the government to prove otherwise.

Now, a juxtaposition of the two definitive dispensations is playing out in the courts of public opinion and is polarising at least, and frustrating at most.

Former president of the Evangelical Fellowship of Zimbabwe (EFZ) and Faith Ministries Senior Pastor, Dr Shingi Munyeza is the latest to opine on the comparison game of the old vs the new.

Asked in an in a wide-ranging interview with spotlight-z.com to give a SWOT analysis of Presidents Mugabe and Mnangagwa's states craftsmanship, policies and politics, Dr Munyeza – who by the way doubles as an advisor to President Mnangagwa – said the old dispensation was better than the current one.

Said the cleric; “My comments here are personal and not as a PAC member. Having said that I must say that the previous dispensation was better than the current one.

“In 2 years they have managed to kill, close hospitals, destroy wealth, destroy livelihoods and take corruption to a record in an unprecedented manner. They have also demonstrated a dearth of leadership and incapacity and incompetence to take us forward. Basically, we are staring at a disaster of untold proportions in the months to come.”

In another instance, Dr Munyeza said he “strongly believe” that a transitional government to sort out decades of bad governance. He was responding to the question of whether Vice President Rtd General Constantino Chiwenga, might takeover on a transitional basis under a transitional government to finish the incumbent's term of office and if he was a good choice for the country going forward?

“I honestly can't comment on the ability of VP Chiwenga except to say that he has not been well according to public reports and statements,” Dr Munyeza said, adding that he was not sure how he was doing.



PRES. MNANGAGWA WITH DR MUNYEZA

“However, I strongly believe in a transitional government to sort out decades of bad governance,” he continued.

“This would require everyone to come to the table in a genuine, inclusive and unconditional dialogue. I'm confident that if such a structure is put together, we will need to go through truth and reconciliation which leads to healing, giving back democratic freedoms and rights, reforms across the board and eventually put us on a path to have free, fair and credible elections whose result would not be contested.

“This can be the only formula for our prosperity.”

Among other things, Dr Munyeza talked about was his latest controversial sermons in which he labelled the current national administration as a cult with Luciferianism drippings, and why he accepted to work for the same evil administration as a Man of God.



The story continues on Hallelujahmag.com



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GET IN TOUCH



Teachers Plotting to Block Opening of Schools

By Ian Mapira/Bhizimusi.com

ARTUZ/ ZIMLIVE IMAGE

An association of educators, Amalgamated Rural Teachers' Union of Zimbabwe (ARTUZ), has revealed plans to block the opening of schools on 28 July and writing of June examinations, stating that the government is still to announce a budget for safe opening of schools.

Teachers say the country's executive has not put in place measures to open schools, disputing government's decision of candidates to sit for examinations this month.

ARTUZ says, "We are seeking an interdict from the courts to block both the writing of June examinations and opening of schools on 28 July."

The association recommended the government to desist from an impulse opening of schools without ensuring that it is very safe to do so.

The rural teachers also recommended the government to ensure that the Coronavirus epidemic is totally under control before taking the steps of the opening of schools.

"Ensure the verifiable fumigation of all schools before they open as well as at regular intervals thereafter. Schools that are

currently used as quarantine zones should go through rigorous fumigation and confirmed safe by competent personnel in the Ministry of Health and Childcare," the association says.

"Capacitate teachers in identifying and handling COVID-19 in case of infections or reinfections in schools."

"Stop the use of teaching and learning facilities for political gatherings or any unnecessary congregations in order to minimize the risk of infection of teachers, ancillary staff and learners,' ARTUZ recommended.

Besides safety concerns, ARTUZ, regarding educators as frontline workers in the education system, also recommended the government to pay an acceptable risk allowance to teachers as in essence.

"We are also mobilising for massive street protests by teachers and parents demanding salary review for teachers."

"Pay teachers salaries that resonate with their 2018 salaries of US\$520 or its inter-bank rate equivalent in order to restore salaries' purchasing power parity that has been eroded by conversion to local currency, together with the attendant inflation."





VUSA MKHAYA IS REISSUING UMANYANYATHA

Internationally

By Chris Charamba /Enthusemag.com

musicians and productions and amassing a hugely impressive body of work. He has pushed the boundaries of world music, retaining a mind-bending, soul-searching, spiritually stirring sound that is inspired by life's questions.

You remember Vusa Mkhaya; either as part of the iconic vocal trio Insingizi or as the sound embodiment of the eclectic, pulsing, dusty streets of Tshabalala Township in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.

Now that's enough to make you care. But why is he relevant in today's conversation? He makes good music, so what?

Some remember him as an award-winning musician who captures the romanticism of the Southern African climes. Others may know him of his voice which is rich with the vibrations of a heritage that spans decades of musical writing and performance.

Uh, if you like delightful treats and new stuff, Vusa just happens to have something just for you. The musician is set to re-release his highly anticipated 3rd album internationally, UManyanyatha – Songs from the Soul of Zimbabwe later this month.

Either way you are acquainted with him or what he does, one thing stays clear: the 2020 National Arts Merit Awards (NAMA) recipient of the Artist in the Diaspora Award and UK Zim Achievers honorary for Service to Music and Cultural Promotion is driven by an unquenchable thirst for sound. It's that creative and cultural gumption that has seen him collaborating with a wide range of

The thirteen-track album was previously released in 2016 independently and will be re-released internationally under music label Naxos Records Canada on Friday, 26 June, with additional songs digitally re-mastered and with a new title. It features popular tracks such as Abalalanga and Umanyanyatha which have both captured the hearts of many and received limitless airplay.

Now, deluxe editions and re-releases are nothing new in the music world. For years, fans have shelled out extra bucks for shiny packaging, extra goodies, and bonus tracks not heard on the “standard” music release.

But these days, it seems like more and more artists (and their labels) are looking to cash in on the idea of an “exclusive” release or something that’s essentially the same album with a fresh coat of paint.

We don’t know about you, but having fallen in love with Vusa from Voices of Southern Africa/Spirit of Africa (2004), The Spirit of Ubuntu (2006) and Vocalism (2012), UManyanyatha’s re-release makes us pretty excited. Music critics have described the album as emotive musical stories of love, heartbreak and everyday living; tales delivered in soulful sometimes haunting, achingly beautiful pieces.

“

IN A STATEMENT TO THE PRESS, VUSA SAID THE ALBUM WAS “INSPIRED BY DIFFERENT LIFE EVENTS AND QUESTIONS THAT AFFECT PEOPLE IN MY HOMETOWN AND BEYOND”.

”

In fact, anybody who listened to the original album will probably tell you that to call this body of work iconic is almost underselling it.

It is as solid as they come and most importantly, it is so synonymous with Vusa that if you say UManyanyatha to somebody who gets it, they can probably visualize Vusa in a tell-all mode.

Mkhaya Music Productions said UManyanyatha would also be available on iTunes, Spotify and other online music stores globally.



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VIEWS FROM SOMEONE WHO GREW UP AWAY FROM HOME

By Theresa Ntswaki/Enthusemag.com

After reading, *“Diaspora Parents Make Children Hate Zimbabwe”*, by Dr Masimba Mavaza (Heraldzim), Theresa Ntswaki thought she'd add her two cents as someone who grew up far from home.

I'm from Botswana and I grew up in two cities. Pretoria, which defined most of my childhood; and New York, which defined most of my adolescence. I have little to no recollection of my life before South Africa...it is what it is.

Living so close to Botswana resulted in frequent trips home or having relatives come over at least once every year. Living across the ocean was something different altogether. There's nothing in this world that could prepare you for the random intense waves of homesickness that hits you deeply at the oddest of times. From missing the food to even attending weddings. I remember multiple occasions where my aunt would blast wedding songs on Saturday mornings.

If you're like me, you miss your mom and siblings, and every time you see them they've grown and are taller than you. You also tend to come incredibly patriotic, even if coming home is a slap in the face- just to be frank. The culture shock and ideals to dismantle in your head are way too much, especially for a fifteen-year-old.

In his novel, *No Longer at Ease*, Chinua Achebe addresses how one creates a version of their



IMAGE SOURCE / UNSPLASH

their country that doesn't exist just as Obi Okonkwo did when he was in England. I did the same exact thing whilst I was in New York. Yes, folks, I hurt my own feelings by creating a version of Botswana that simply did not exist.

Since being back, I can't tell you how many times I've thought, man I wanna go back. Yes, America isn't a place where Black people thrive; the riots and protests are proof of that. But, New York slowly became home to me. The longer I dwelled on coming back, the more I dealt with intense inner turmoil. Y'all, I did not want to come back home.

Almost every summer was spent in Botswana and despite being happy to meet baby cousins and other relatives... I just didn't want to come back permanently. Not after getting used to taking the subway every day, greeting

the Indian lady running the newsstand, and even the homeless man outside Duane Reade who initially scared me. Or getting McDonald's with my best friend before the start of spring and winter break. The city became a fundamental part of my identity, it's different different, no one wants to part with a home or life they created and slowly grew to love.

The cons of being home are irksome more than anything. For starters, I don't think any Black person or anyone of colour likes or ever gets used to being told that they "act white". It leaves you with a kind of rage.

I remember the episode of Game of Thrones (if you haven't watched it, that's cool too) when Tyrion tells Jon Snow, who hates being referred to as a bastard, *"Let me give you some advice, bastard. Never forget what you are. The rest of the world will not. Wear it like armour, and it can never be used to hurt you."*

I have heeded this advice many times- it's great advice and whoever wrote this went off – but just not about this. If you align with being called a coconut, that's great for you, however, it gets annoying when people believe there are certain traits that define the extent of your blackness.

My 'Blackness' is defined by being myself – a Black young woman. It's not linear as people so desperately want it to be, we're all different.

Moreover, having developed an accent apparently makes you incapable of doing things because you speak English more than any other language.

I'm well aware of how this statement may sound like someone reaching but it happens quite a lot. As well as being told not to speak your mother tongue because it sounds wrong and that I should 'just stick to English'.

Growing up in America did not make me incapable of knowing how to cook and clean. Our household was every bit the African household you'd expect to find, and being in America did not change that. I'm from a village just outside of Gaborone with a somewhat traditionalist family, so no matter what great city I end up in, the inner villager within me never strays really away.

Furthermore, family tends to have the version of a younger you in their minds. I'm not the outgoing child I used to be, I became an introvert and only a few selected members know of my crackhead energy – and to put it lightly, it's really awkward getting reacquainted with family you barely remember, like no I do not remember you carrying or babysitting me but it's nice to meet you.

Most importantly, there's nothing like being torn between two cultures and becoming two halves of a whole – especially if said cultures are on their respective ends of the spectrum. To be constantly wishing to be elsewhere, nothing about it is like having the best of both worlds. All one ends up with is feeling like a stranger in their own country, wondering where exactly you fit in.

I love my country; from my family, and the relationships I've found to the places accessible to me. It's great coming from a land with a rich history and different cultures...but sometimes, you just don't like being home, not when you've had a taste of being away from all you've ever known.



#BHIZIREADS: AFRICA'S GREATEST ENTREPRENEURS

www.Bhizimusi.com

Africa's Greatest Entrepreneurs comprises a series of profiles on 16 of some of the most successful and dynamic business people to have emerged from across Africa, with a diverse range of ages and educational backgrounds in a one-on-one style. Our only bone of contention is that of female representation which we are sure Moky would correct in 2017, after all a lot has happened since 2008.

Here's a Review by Don Daniel Makatile for African Book Club, enjoy.

The 'one-on-one' tells the story better. Having realized this, that area of writing called journalism developed what is called the personality profile. Soon this form of writing inside the craft was dubbed biographical journalism. I have a fetish for such writing. I do not know if Moky Makura does it better. Maybe she does it just as well (as the other practitioners). A television presenter who comes from a public relations background, maybe her style is made refreshing by speaking with – rather than writing about – her subjects.

In Africa's Greatest Entrepreneurs, published in 2009 by Penguin, Makura profiles businessmen from across the Mother Continent and brings snippets of her interviewees' lives into print that could easily

have remained hidden with the sound bytes on camera. This is broadcast journalism hoisted onto its print cousin.

But I am not complaining! There are many of the usual suspects – entrepreneurs that South Africans, in particular, will have read about a countless times, like Ndaba Ntsele and Richard Maponya, among others. But Makura writes their life stories without boring anyone who takes the trouble to thumb through the book.

The story of Herman Mashaba, for example, of how he started selling his wares from the boot of his car and how, just when he thought he'd finally arrived, his factory north of Pretoria was reduced to ashes in what remains a suspected arson attack, is repeated here. However, Makura, born in Nigeria and educated in the United Kingdom, lends a certain sense of novelty to the write-ups. She writes about The Gambling Entrepreneur – Mashaba, in a way that would not put you to sleep. All of a sudden, thanks to her pen, I found myself particularly touched by the story of Keith Kunene, the Ekurhuleni attorney and one-time soccer boss who brought Coca Cola nearer to the people in the townships. Africa's Greatest Entrepreneurs

From Kagiso Mmusi in Botswana, Strive Masiyiwa in Mad Bob Mugabe's Zimbabwe, Gordon Wavamuno in Uganda, Reginald Mengi in Tanzania to Prince Kofi Amoabeng in Ghana, Makura tells the stories of these trailblazing, defiant, philanthropic and ubiquitous entrepreneurs with pizzazz. Makura's Africa's Greatest Entrepreneurs makes you want to meet these men. That's what a personality profile should do. Mission accomplished, ma'am.





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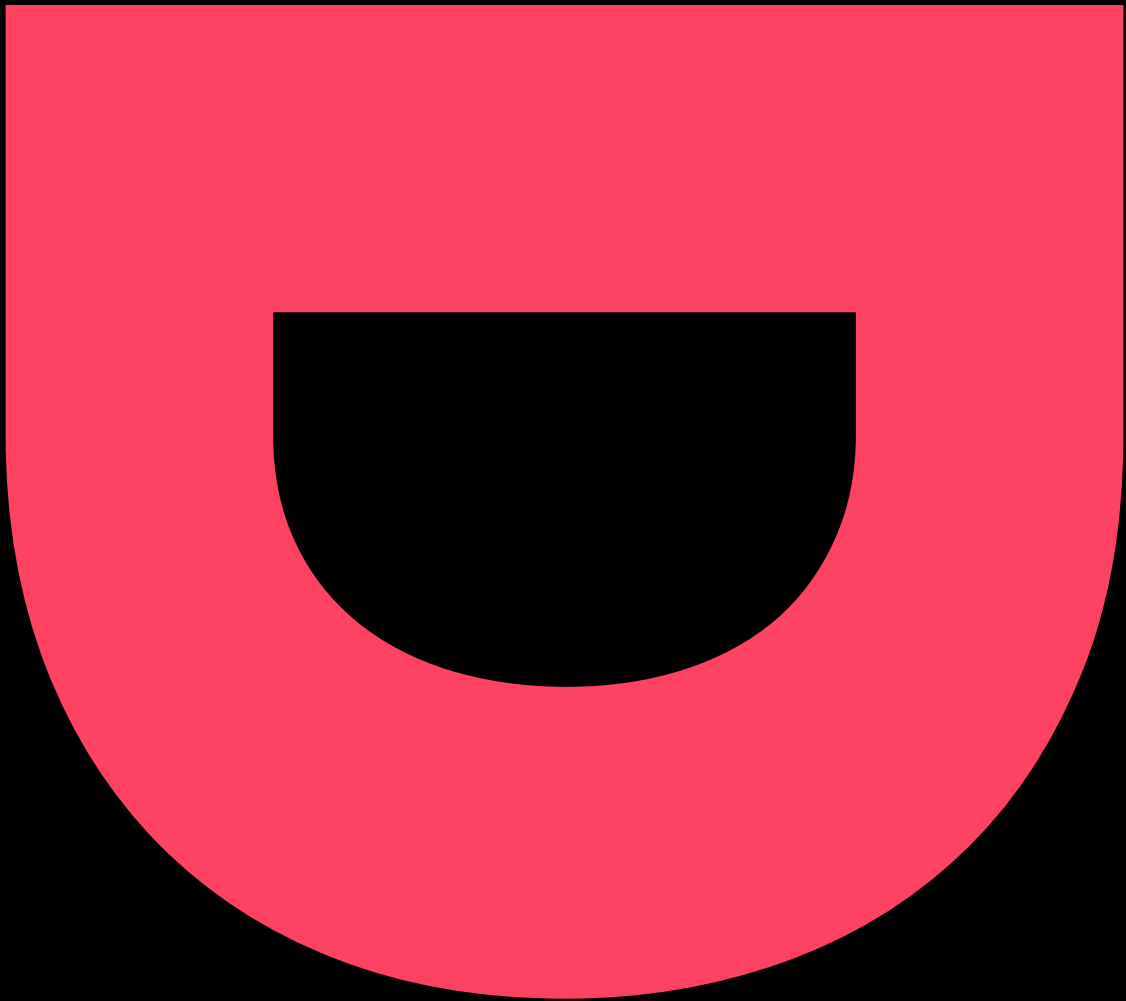
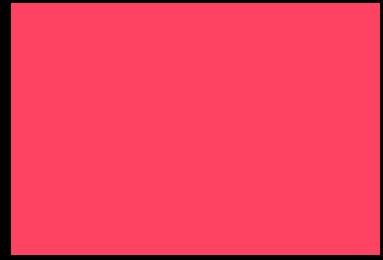
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