

Abstract:

Promoting and appreciating knowledge in and from Africa: indigenous and scholarly knowledge

Each country or continent in this context prides itself on what it has or what it does or produces, ranging from its cultural customs, traditions, minerals, and other resources or productions it has or can produce, and so does Africa. Thus, it is a good thing to keep on promoting and appreciating while also valuing and commemorating how great and excellently those who came before us have carried the legacy of great knowledge and passed it on to those who are with us now.

It is not a lie nor hearsay that Africa is not only rich in natural resources, but also rich in knowledge – the ‘indigenous knowledge and practices’ it has and contributes globally. In Africa, we have many tribes that pride themselves on their cultures, which can be witnessed during the Heritage Day celebrations in South Africa on 24 September. Acts like these are of the utmost importance, as is seen in the actions of the responsible citizens of Africa. Especially South Africa – the Rainbow Nation in particular – is very influential, as can be seen in other countries within Africa, such as Egypt, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, to name a few, priding and practising their culture proudly. It also contributes to the economy of each country on the continent; that is how impactful Africa is.

In a scholarly context, there has been great appreciation for the appointment of the former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Johannesburg, Prof Tshilidzi Marwala, as the Rector and Principal of the United Nations University in Tokyo, Japan, which is one of the

greatest and a 'must archive' appointment in the history. The reason is that it has proven that African knowledge is of great value and significance for the development of other continents, thus it should be shared and spread globally. This is not just an appointment, but a recognition of the knowledge in and from Africa.

In addition, seeing international students enrolling and furthering their studies in Africa is a convincing fact that Africa is not only rich in natural resources, but also rich in knowledge. Which has a huge and remarkable impact on other continents and their citizens. Who would cross oceans to acquire knowledge that is common and not impactful? No one; thus, Africa and its countries should keep on promoting and appreciating the knowledge it has and value how it influences and contributes globally.