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OBALA FANUEL MUSUMBA

Nationality: Kenyan

Marriage Status: Married

Motto: There is power in knowledge

About Me: I am a highly motivated and independent researcher always striving to use research to locate the relevance of literature, art, and society in the dynamics of humanity. My research interest range from representation of violence and childhood in fiction set in conflict zones to the use of literature and film in creating awareness about human rights of people with albinism as viewed in the prism of literary and cultural art in the eastern African region.

Education: July 2020 – Humboldt University, Berlin
Institute of Asian and African Studies
PhD in African Literature with *Magna cum laude*
Research Title: ‘**Emergents of Violence**’: Nuruddin Farah’s
Representations of the Child in Conflict Zones
Other Responsibilities: Teaching BA and MA Literature Classes
Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Susanne Gehrman

June 2010 –Kenyatta University, Nairobi – Kenya
Master of Arts (Literature)

Research Title: **Symbolic Presentation of Setting in Barbara Kimenye’s Kalasanda stories**

August 2003 – **Kenyatta University, Nairobi – Kenya**

Post-Graduate Diploma in Management and Control of HIV/AIDS.

Through Coursework, Examination and Dissertation

June 1994 – October 1998 : Kenyatta University, Nairobi – Kenya
Bachelor of Education (Second Class Hons. Upper Division)

- Subjects : English Language, Linguistics, Literature and Education

Professional and Work August 2021 – To Date: **Bomet University College**

Experience:

Positions Held: Lecturer

Responsibilities:

- Conducting tutorials and lectures
- Teaching and Mentoring of Students
- Conducting Research and Consultancies
- Designing course outlines for allocated courses
- Setting and marking University examinations
- Community service

November 2020 – August 2020: **Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology**

Positions Held: Part Time Lecturer

Responsibilities:

- Conducting tutorials and lectures
- Teaching and Mentoring of Students
- Conducting Research and Consultancies
- Designing course outlines for allocated courses
- Setting and marking University examinations

August 2011- April 2015: **Archbishop Mihayo University College of Tabora (a constituent college of St Augustine University of Tanzania)**

Positions Held: Assistant Lecturer

Responsibilities:

- Conducting tutorials and lectures
- Teaching and Mentoring of Students
- Supervision of Undergraduate Research Projects
- Conducting Research and Consultancies
- Membership of Various Departmental Committees
- Designing course outlines for allocated courses
- Setting and marking University examinations

Other responsibilities:

Director, Creative and Performing Arts Department

- Designing Programmes for drama and performance
- Organizing for Workshops and other sensitizing programmes for youth around Tanzania

2008-2011: Teacher, **St Anne's High School**, Nambale, Kenya
Responsibilities:

- Teaching English Language and Literature
- Class Master, Form Four

Director, Drama and Music.

- 2002-2008: Teacher, **Sungututa High School**, Nyamira, Kenya

Responsibilities:

- Teaching English Language and Literature
- Class Master, Form Four

Director, Drama and Music

- 1999 -2002: Volunteer Teacher, **Budalang'i High School**, Busia, Kenya

Responsibilities:

Publications: Teaching English Language and Literature

Publication List

Articles in Refereed Journals

- 2021: Musumba, Obala. "Negotiating Escape: De-muted Voices of Female Narrators in the Rwandan and Sudanese Conflicts" published in *Research Journal in Modern Languages and Literatures*. Volume 2 Issue 1!Link: <https://royalliteglobal.com/languages-and-literatures/article/view/613> Single Authorship
- 2021: Musumba, Obala. "Big Players, Small Victims: Capitalism and the Child Character in Nuruddin Farah's Third Trilogy" published in *Hybrid Journal of Literary and Cultural Studies*. Volume 3, Issue 2. Link: <https://royalliteglobal.com/hybrid-literary/article/view/610> Single Authorship
- 2017: Musumba, Obala. "Review of the book Reading Nuruddin Farah: The Individual, The Novel and The Idea

of Home” by Fiona Moolla published in *Journal of Eastern African Literary and Cultural Studies* (JEALCS) Volume 3 Issue 2-4, 217-223, Link:

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/23277408.2017.1332707> ISSN 2327-7408. Single Authorship

University Level Scholarly Books:

- 2020: Musumba, Obala. **‘Emergents’ of Violence: Nuruddin Farah’s Representation of the Child in Conflict Zones.** LuKA Series. Trier: Wissenschaftlicher Verlag. (submitted to the publisher) – Single Authorship.

Editorship in University Level Scholarly Books:

- 2020: Musumba, Obala together with others, editing a critical book entitled: **Emerging Trends in Eastern African Literature and Cultures.** Glienicke: Galda Verlag. ISBN 978-3-96203-140-4 Second Author

Book Chapters in University Level Scholarly Books:

- 2020: Musumba, Obala. **A Discipline under Siege: Interrogating the Place of Literature in English in the Secondary School Curriculum in Tanzania** in *Eastern African Literatures and Cultures: Emerging Trends* edited by Obala Musumba, Oduor Obura, James Ogone, and Susanne Gehrman. Glienicke: Galda Verlag, 47-69. ISBN 978-3-96203-140-4. Single Authorship
- 2018: Musumba, Obala. **Seeking Liberation in the Unknown: An Analysis of the Flight Motif and the Child Character in Nuruddin Farah’s Third Trilogy** in *When Home Means More Than One Country* edited by Daniel Ochieng Orwenjo and Hameed Tunde Asiru. Muenchen: Lincom GmbH, 192-204. ISBN 978-3-86288-886-3. Single Authorship
- 2016: Obala F. Musumba and Clavery Kayugumi. **The Promise in Mwalimu Julius Nyerere’s Speeches: The Struggle for Independence, The Political Journey and Beyond the Presidency** in *Critical Readings on Eastern African Autobiography* edited by Jairus Omuteche and Tunai Kesero. Glienicke: Galda Verlag, 69 – 89. ISBN 978-3-941267-48-0. Print. First Author
- 2010: Obala, Fanuel & Orwenjo, Daniel. **Kalasanda and Kalasanda Revisited: Symbolic Presentation of Setting and Futurity of Change in Barbara Kimenye’s Kalasanda Stories** in *Tales, Tellers and Tale-Making:*

Critical Studies on Literary Stylistics and Narrative Styles in Contemporary African Literature edited J.K.S. Makokha, Remmy Barasa, Adeyemi Daramola. Saarbrücken: VDM Verlag Dr. Müller GmbH & Co. KG, 112 – 127. ISBN 978-3-639-31137-2 Print. First Author

Conferences and Workshops:

Scholarly Presentations at Conferences, Seminars, Colloquiums, etc.:

- **July 14th – 16th 2021:** Africa Theatre Association (AfTA) Conference, Humboldt University - Berlin, Germany.

Presented a paper entitled: **The Visibility of the Invisible Subjectivities of People with Albinism in Swahili Fiction**

- **May 15th – 18th 2019:** African Literature Association (ALA) Conference, “Institutions of African Literature: Future, Present and Past”, Columbus - Ohio, USA.

Presented a paper entitled: **Re-Situating the Child Figure in Zones of Violence in the Eastern African Novel.**

- **October 8th – 12th 2018:** KOSMOS-workshop on “Crossings and Comparisons in African Literary and Cultural Studies.” Humboldt University, Berlin.

Presented a paper entitled: **Oral(ity) Strategies in Fighting Gender Biases in Traditional Luo Community in Grace Ogot’s *Miaha*.**

- **March 22nd - 23rd 2018:** “On Whose Terms?: Ten Years On ... Critical Negotiations On Black British Literature and the Arts”. Goldsmiths, University of London, UK.

Presented a paper entitled: **From English Literature to Literature in English: Africanization of Kenya Secondary School Curriculum.**

- **August 24th – 26th 2017** 3rd Eastern African Literary & Cultural Conference held in Dar es Salaam.

Presented a paper entitled: **Negotiating Escape: De-Muted Voices of the Female Narrators in the Rwandan and Sudanese Conflicts.**

- **May 25th – 27th 2017:** GAPS Conference, “Representing Poverty and Precarity in a Postcolonial World”, Bonn, Germany.

Poster presentation together with Charlotte Schönewetter and Friederike Risse on: **African Child Soldiers in**

Literature: Ambiguous Figures in Precarious Contexts.

- **November 2016:** joint workshop between the University of Nairobi and Humboldt University on Labour and Leisure, Nairobi.

Presented a paper entitled: **A Dance in the Din of Guns: A Critical Analysis of the Portrayal of Work and Pleasure in Nuruddin Farah's Third Trilogy**

May 5th – 7th 2016: GAPS Conference, “The Postcolonial and The Material”, Augsburg, Germany

Presented a paper entitled: **Seeking Liberation in the Unknown: An Analysis of the Flight Motif and the Child Character in Nuruddin Farah's Third Trilogy**

Membership of Professional Bodies

- Gesellschaft für Anglophone Postkoloniale Studien (Association of Postcolonial Anglophone Studies (GAPS))
- African Literature Association (ALA)
- Alumni Netzwerk Subsaharan Afrika e.V. (ANSA)
- Eastern African Literary & Cultural Association (EALCA)
- African Theatre Association (AFTA)

Peer Review

Have reviewed a chapter for a project “Historicising the Humanities at Makerere University” of Makerere University.

Social Responsibility/ Contribution to Community life

- Patron, Guidance and Counselling Club of The Nambale Magnet School – guide and counsel vulnerable learners through motivational talks and spending time with them.
- Patron, Nambale United Football Club – mobilizing for sponsorship opportunities.

Organizing Conferences and Seminars

Organized an international conference on Young Scholars' Conference “Revisiting Capitalism and Africa” at Humboldt University of Berlin on 20th July 2016.

Creative and Performing Arts

Was involved in training drama and Music at high school level:

- Trained Music for Kisoko Girls High School up to the national finals held from 6th to 15th August 2010 in Kakamega.

- Attended the Kenya National Drama Festival Workshop for Trainers held from 17th to 21st January 2011 at the Tom Mboya Labour College, Kisumu..
- Attended the Western Province Adjudicators' Drama Workshop held on 25th and 26th February 2011 in Malaba, Busia.
- Attended the Western Province Producers' Drama Workshop held from 3rd to 6th February 2010 in Busia.

ICT COMPETENCE

Certificate in Computer Operating Systems (MS Word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint, Internet and Email)

Referees:

Prof. Dr. Susanne Gehrman
 Humboldt-University, Berlin
 Professor of African Literature and Culture
 Institute of Asian and African Studies
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