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Editorial

This is the inaugural issue of a new series of your traditional UTAFITI journal. That is why it is coming out as UTAFITI (New Series) Vol. 1, No. 1. Due to numerous delays and difficulties in publishing all the scheduled volumes and numbers of the journal in its old series, and recognizing that papers recently written may end up being dated several years before they were even conceived, the Editorial Board has reluctantly agreed to inaugurate a new series of your usual journal. We hope you will continue supporting UTAFITI in its new series by continuing your subscription to it, and seeking to be published in it.

In this issue there are five papers. In the first paper, Victor Mlekwa discusses the issues and implications emerging from research on the response of adult learners to the policies and practices of state-organized literacy training. Mlekwa concludes his paper by making a plea for greater use of the participatory action research approach in studies evaluating the role of the state in adult literacy programmes.

In the second paper Maghimbi seeks to demonstrate that, contrary to the popular myth, pre-colonial Africa did consist of societies with class divisions. The paper provides examples of Maghimbi’s in-depth study of the old Ugweno State of North-eastern Tanzania to support his argument that modes of production in pre-colonial Tanzania were developed beyond the primitive communal level.

The third paper is by Peter Chonjo who offers an assessment of the materials and physical facilities situation in Tanzanian primary schools. Basing himself on an extensive review of current research reports, Chonjo provides support for his assertion that good quality education is impossible in the majority of Tanzanian primary schools given, among other things, the poor state of buildings and other educational facilities in these schools.

In the fourth paper, Peter Foster examines the traditional and the more recent preoccupations of British social anthropology. The paper then considers the evidence which links British social anthropology with British colonialism, before assessing radical criticisms of such anthropology. Foster concludes his paper by stressing the importance of adopting and adapting those elements of anthropology which constitute its ethno-scientific core for use in the study of Tanzanian peasant communities for purposes of empowering such communities.
The last paper by Horace Campbell is a synthesis of notes the author wrote summarizing the ideas which were generated by a conference he attended in 1992 which assessed the impact on the so-called Third World of the disintegration of the USSR. Campbell's paper argues for the need to search for theories accounting for the disintegration which do not demobilize working people in the Third World in their struggle against the debt burden and militarism, and for the fundamental restructuring of the world economy.

Once more, the Editorial Board invites readers of UTAFITI to continue their support for the journal by subscribing and sending articles and book/conference reviews to it, and sending to its Editors any criticisms they may have about its issues.

Kulikoyela K. Kahigi
Chief Editor