

Editorial

This current issue of *African Nebula* is a stimulating collection of well-crafted articles written by nine scholars from Ghana, Nigeria and the United Arab Emirates. In the true spirit and essence of *Nebula*, the issue draws its contributors from a rich variety of backgrounds and perspectives. The issue boldly challenges the artificiality and arbitrariness of disciplinary, spatial, thematic and temporal boundaries in knowledge production.

In the first article, Emmanuel Sarfo deftly employs the tool of ethnography to analyse the ways by which members of the Berekum Training College, Ghana refuse requests in English, and how age and socio-economic status affect those refusal forms. His findings have implications for understanding cross-, inter-, intra-, and socio-cultural communications. Relatedly, Dora Francisca Edu-Buandoh uses Fairclough's model for Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) to analyse the contents of the Strategic Plans that redefine the visions, aims, and objectives of four public universities in Ghana. She argues that there is a shift from the traditional academic discourse to a *marketisation* discourse and that African universities are gradually evolving as corporate bodies in a business marketplace.

The dynamic nature of the discourse of advertising is the major preoccupation of Hosney M. El-daly. He draws instances from the Egyptian media with a view to clarifying some rhetorical categories in Arabic Advertising. For M.S. Abdullahi-Idiagbon and O.K. Olaniyi, new forms of expressions in 'English' identified as peculiarly Nigerian were sociolinguistically x-rayed by the authors. The conclusion is that most of the contemporary coinages in Nigerian English are a result of the diffusions occurring between two cultures, i.e., the attempt to express the socio-political and cultural experiences of Nigeria in Standard English.

Alexander Dakubo Kakraba interrogates two of Armah's novels: *Two Thousand Seasons* and *The Healers* and concludes that the novels are basically novels of liberation. The article vehemently argues with convincing illustrations that Armah's works are not just for aesthetic purposes alone, but a kind of continuous and conscious struggle against the forces of slavery and colonisation in the past, and neo-colonialism and globalisation in the present. Similarly, Ayo Kehinde and Joy Ebong Mbipom, articulate gender discursivity by offering a reading of Sefi Atta's *Everything Good will Come* (2005) as a quintessential African migrant feminist novel. The authors' textual analysis is woven around Post-colonial and Feminist paradigms with a view to highlighting the enduring need for female discovery, assertion and self-realisation for survival in neocolonial Nigeria.

From an empirical standpoint, Moses Ola Ogunsola examines the effect of premarital cohabitation on quality relationship and marital stability of married people in Southwest Nigeria. He uses a survey design approach for data collection. His findings suggest that the married people who did not cohabit before marriage have more quality marital relationship and stability than those that did.

Juliana Akindele identifies the cohesive devices obtainable in two selected ESL academic papers. She adopts the taxonomy of cohesive relationship as provided by Halliday and Hassan to establish relationship within the texts studied. Finally, Chidozie Okoro underscores the importance of metaphysics to the analyses of every problem that touch on human existence. He concludes that metaphysics is the foundation of all human knowledge because there is no discipline that is not anchored on one metaphysical problem / principle or another.

Thus, given the diverse backgrounds of its authors, each contributor in the current issue of this journal displays his or her own insights and disciplinary perspectives. This has further enriched the collection thereby broadening the interdisciplinary horizons of *African Nebula*.

Happy reading!

Olukoya Ogen, PhD
Executive Editor