

Iqoqa

Imisebenzi yesiNtu imicimbi eyenziwa abantu base-Afrika ukugcina amasiko wabo ngokwenkolo yase-Afrika. Kule misebenzi yesiNtu kuyaphahlwa, kushiswe impepho, kukhulunywe nabantu abangasekho. Kuya ngokuthi lowo msebenzi wenziwa ngaphansi kwasiphi isimo. Kungaba ukubonga, ukushweleza noma ukudlulisa isicelo kulabo ababizwa ngamadlozi. Lapha kubhekwe imicimbi efana noMshado wesiNtu, Umemulo, Umngcwabo kanye nomsebenzi wokukhushulwa komuntu. Isizwe nesizwe senza lo msebenzi ngendlela yaso kuya ngokuthi umuntu owenza umsebenzi ongowasiphi isizwe. Ngalolu cwaningo kuhloswe ukuvuzewa koLwazi LweNdabuko oselufuna ukushabalala ngenxa yempucuzeko.

Ucwaningo lubuza le mibuzo elandelayo: Ubani onelungelo lokungena emsamo noma lokuhlaba kanye nokwaba utshwala bendabuko emzini ongenalo ilungu lo mndeni elingenza lowo msebenzi? Lo msebenzi wokuhlabela amadlozi kanye nokwaba utshwala bendabuko kwenziwa kanjani? Kuba namuphi umthelela lokho emndenini owenzelwa umsebenzi wokuqhuba isiko lesiNtu umuntu ongelona ilungu lo mndeni?

Lolu cwaningo lusingathelwe kwelinye lamalokishi amancane azungeze iGoli. Lapha kukhulunywa ngelokishi laseHeidelberg ogama lalo iRatanda. Le ndawo ikuNxantathu weGwa eMpumalanga Randi yeGoli. Izindawo zasemadolobheni zaziwa ngokuthi zinabantu abahlukene ngokwezizwe abangabokudabuka eNingizimu Afrika. Kule ndawo kutholakala isizwe samaZulu, amaXhosa, abeSuthu bese, kuba khona lelo dlanzana labantu besizwe samaNdebele, amaTsonga kanye nabantu besizwe samaSwati. Ngaphandle kokuthandabuza nje kungashiwo ukuthi asikho isizwe saboMdabu esingathi le ndawo eyaso, ngoba zonke izizwe zabantu boMdabu ezitholakala lapha zeza ngokuzosebenza.

Lokhu kuzokhuthaza isiko lokuhlonipha okuyisiko lase-Afrika futhi kugququzele isizukulwane esisha ukuba sibambe iqhaza, kanye nomcwaningi ukuze bafunde ngezindlela zokuqhuba umsebenzi wamasiko eNdabuko ezindaweni zasemadolobheni.

Abstract

Ritual ceremonies are traditionally and culturally performance events conducted differently by different groupings across the world, and in this case by Africans with the hope of observing and preserving their African religious traditions and customs. These traditional practices often involve people verbally and symbolically communicating with their forefathers through among other things, the burning of incense to plead or appeal to the dead who are referred to as ancestors. Such performances occur during events such as Traditional Weddings, Umemulo (21st ceremony), Funerals and Unveilings (Ukumbulwa kwamatshe). Nonetheless, it of great significance to realise that nations individually perform their ritual ceremonies in accordance with the set out cultural traditional practices. The aim of this research project is to focus attention on the renewal of Indigenous knowledge, mainly because it seems to have been overpowered by urbanization and neo-liberalism.

The research asks the following questions: who has the authority to enter a sacred place to slaughter and share traditional alcohol in the township households? How are processes of animal slaughtering as sacrifice, and the distribution of traditional alcohol to the ancestors administered in city life? What effect does this have on the family doing the work of carrying on the custom of a person who is not a member of the family?

This study is conducted in Ratanda, a small township around Johannesburg located between Heidelberg and the Vaal Triangle area. This township has diverse cultural groupings and the ones dominating being Zulu's, Xhosa's, Sotho's, and few people speaking of Ndebele, Tsonga, and Swati. The study will benefit the entire research community, as well as people who live in the suburbs, by honouring the customs associated with ancestral practices. This will reinforce a culture of respect for African culture and encourage participation from the young generation, together with the researcher to learn the ways of conducting traditional customs in urban areas.