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ZIMBABWE

OBITUARY
**ANDREW CHAD NYANGURU, ASSOCIATE
PROFESSOR, SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK,
UNIVERSITY OF ZIMBABWE,
EDITOR, AJSW 2013-2014**

Matsika, Abel Blessing^a and Mugumbate, Jacob^b

Professor Andrew Chad Nyanguru, born on the 28th of March 1953 passed on at the Avenues Clinic in Harare on the 14th of May 2014 at the age of 61 years. In moving graveside speeches, he was described as ‘a veteran of statutory social welfare services provision in Zimbabwe’, ‘a community worker par excellence’ and ‘a great teacher’. His brother in law, Sekuru Gomendo, described him as ‘everyone’s friend’.

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Professor Andrew Nyanguru attained a Bachelor of Social Work General Degree in 1980 and a Master of Social Work Degree in 1985, both from the University of Zimbabwe's School of Social Work. He earned Professorship from the National University of Lesotho in 2006. At the time of his death, he had 27 publications, mainly in the area of gerontology and 8 more papers were undergoing pre-publication peer review.

Upon completion of his first degree, he joined the then Department of Social Services (DSS) in 1981 as a District Social Welfare Officer at the Highfields DSS office and rose through the ranks to become Drought Relief Provincial Head for the Mashonaland Region from 1983-85.

Nyanguru left the public service to join the School of Social Work, then an Associate College of the University of Zimbabwe as a lecturer. He taught on different programmes, that is the Certificate and Diploma courses and the Bachelor and Master's degree programmes. He was also Director of Fieldwork in the 1990's. Nyanguru later joined the National University of Lesotho where he was one of the people who introduced social work training and education in the country. On his return from Lesotho in 2010, he briefly taught at Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE) where a social work programme had just been introduced.

He re-joined the University of Zimbabwe from BUSE as a permanent full-time Associate Professor with immediate tenure at the School of Social Work on the 1st of July 2010. He was subsequently appointed Director of the School until December 2011 when he was re-assigned to full time lecturing

and research.

He had been an external examiner for the BUSE Department of Social Work since 2011. He had previously been a visiting Professor at distinguished Universities including Oxford, Cambridge, Birmingham, Cape Town and Iowa.

Professor Nyanguru was an eminent social work scholar and practitioner and at the time of his passing on, he was the only resident social work professor in Zimbabwe. A lot was therefore expected from him in spite of shouldering the onerous responsibility of mentoring a large pool of upcoming social work educators and practitioners. He was also the Editor of the African Journal of Social Work published by the National Association of Social Workers-Zimbabwe. Nyanguru also co-edited a book authored by staff in the Department of Social Work at BUSE entitled Promoting Social Work for Zimbabwe's Development.

The late Professor was predeceased by his wife and is survived by 3 children and 4 grandchildren.

MAY HIS SOUL REST IN ETERNAL PEACE.



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