BOOK REVIEW

TITLE: HISTORY OF ST. PAUL PARISH UNIVERSITY OF CALABAR, CALABAR 1973-2017

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REVIEWER: PROF. (MRS). S. M. UMDH
Arts Education Department University of Calabar, Calabar, Nigeria

I thank the CMO for choosing me to do a book review of this seminal publication the history of St. Paul Parish University of Calabar, 1973-2017 which is the first of its kind. I have chosen to entitle the review Reflections and to help me do justice to the assignment I have followed a Review plan with five man headings (Macro units) their subunits (Micro units) namely:

Paper work
Didactics
Weak points/Rem edies
Final Remarks.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Macro-unity</th>
<th>Micro-unit</th>
<th>Descriptions</th>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) PAPER WORK</td>
<td>(i) Cover</td>
<td>300 Grams</td>
<td>The Cover Of A Book Could Be Likened To DRESS For The Body. N.B. People are addressed as they are dressed. So always use proper dress code. Cover is very good.</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(ii) Inside page</td>
<td>70 Grams</td>
<td>What touches the body directly should be of good quality, neat, and therefore, body-friendly. N.b. Cleanliness is next to Godliness. This is good.</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(iii) Page arrangement for binding</td>
<td>Gutter or margin = .7cm edge, = .5cm to .6cm</td>
<td>How a product is packaged could portray it as good or not too good. The binding of this book could be compared to that of either thesis or dissertation. c.f their dimensions</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(iv) Pagination</td>
<td>Very dark</td>
<td>Disturb the eye. Can’t easily be read.</td>
<td>D/E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(v) Font size</td>
<td>Arial/Tahom a 12 point</td>
<td>Very legible. Can easily be read.</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(vi) Colour</td>
<td>Full printing colours (cyan, magenta, yellow and black)</td>
<td>Colours help brighten and beautify the environment. Colour combination is alright.</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(vii) Art work</td>
<td>Good artistic impression</td>
<td>St. Paul is the patron saint of the parish. He is depicted as overseeing the activities/events of the parish which is his “other self”. He stands focused, as he fixes his “eyes on jesus, the author and finisher of our faith” (Heb. 12:2). The art work</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
II) CONTENT/TEXT

(i) Title: word choice

(i) History (of)

(a) St. Paul

blends in with the title.
What's in a name? (Juliet in Shakespeare's (1599) Romeo and Juliet). My answer-MUCH Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary (2015) – says History is the past events concerned in the development of a particular place/subject. As to why we need History, Fafunwa (1995:1) asserts: History is to a people what memory is to the individual. A people with no knowledge of their past would suffer from collective amnesia, groping blindly into the future without guideposts of precedence to shape their course. Only a thorough awareness of their heritage allows them to make their public decisions as they make their private ones. Does the information above suit our purpose? YES.

N.B Language Development: St. Paul Parish vs St. Paul's Church St. Paul: This is an Eponym refers to a person after whom something is named. Other examples in real life are sand which, cardigan, watt, biro, volt

St. Paul’s: This is a proper adjective. To strike a distinction in usage between St. Paul and St. Paul's, copious examples are given in the book. This practice is line with cognitive code learning theory whose underlying principle states- “The frequency
with which an item is practised per se is not as important as the frequency with which it is contrasted with other items which it may be confused” (Williams, 1990:49). Hence St. Paul Parish occurs 40+times while St. Pau's church occurs 20+times in the book. This practice is very good.

The choice of the number nine is significantly modeled (fashioned) against the nine-fold order of angels viz Seraphim, Cherubim, Thrones, Dominions, Virtues, Powers, Principalities, Archangels, Angels,(see its acrostic-St. Christopher Taught Deputy Vice Police Practical Arcane Administration)

Likened to the metacarpals-all united to produce the book, with the average of 1.8 chapters for each. Excluding 8 preliminary pages

It is like a 3-course meal viz Started-Main dish – Dessert; hence: Preliminary pages-main text in chapters-End matters in index and Appendix. The approach is very good.

Language use has alluring affects (hold) on the reader. For instance, “the dedication of the Church” has some cinematic effects on the reader. When once you start reading the book, you can't drop it until you reach its end!!. It's like

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(ii) Numbers of chapters</th>
<th>9</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>(iii) Number of authors</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iv) number of pages</td>
<td>153</td>
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<tr>
<td>(v) Text/content packaging</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

| (iv) Language (a) language use |

A

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<th>References</th>
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<tr>
<td>(iii) Didactics</td>
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<tr>
<td>(i) Insights into other curricular offerings (subjects)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ii) References</td>
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</table>

**Didactics**

(i) Mode of presenting the content (language-wise)

(b) Management courses (Economics, finance, etc.)

- Use of Latin words, such as, A.D., per mensem;
- Polysyllabic words.

A

To bring in some variety, you could also be likened to a 400-meter relay race where each of the runners passes on the baton to the next runner until the race's end is reached. This is very good and good handling (see section on Weaknesses/Room for Improvement)!!

**A**

(b) Mode of presenting the content (language-wise)

William Cowper (1731-1800) says it is the very spice of life that gives it all its flavour. The aim is to break any humdrum that may arise from excessive use of prose (words). The practice is tantamount to the use of Gardner's (1983) Multiple Intelligences – a teaching method which states that each person has different ways of learning and different intelligences they use in their daily lives. This too is very good.

Comment: Poorly handled (see section on Weaknesses/Room for Improvement)!!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(iv) WEAK POINT &amp; REMEDIES</th>
<th>Grade levels 13-17 Tertiary level readership</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(I) Avoidable/uncalled for (unforced) errors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(II) Misspelling</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(III) Omission</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(IV) References</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(V) People’s names</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**REMEDIY AND ROOM for improvement**

- **Avoidable/uncalled for (unforced) errors**
  - Mix up in dates:
    - When St. Paul parish came into being (1979 or 1997?)
    - When one Dr Gabriel Ekandem headed the laity Council (1977-1983 or 1977-1978?)

- **Misspelling**
  - St. Paul's Parish (see chapter 8)

- **Omission**
  - The University of Calabar is not included or highlighted in the book as do the Mission and the Philosophy.

- **References**
  - The documentation style sheet. It is not clear which style sheet is adopted in the book. Is it APA or MLA or…?
  - No good blend between in-text citation and References. Some authors’ names are either omitted in the References e.g James Hilcock, or wrongly entered with wrong dates e.g Angrey (2007 or 2017)
  - Should endeavour to use people’s first names plus their surnames.

- **People’s names**

- **Room for improvement**
  - A thorough proof-reading by an independent person could help eradicate the errors pointed out.
  - To improve on this book, those pious societies and
organizations which did not showcase what they do in those formal religious gatherings should send in their modus operandi/prospectus-like information to the authors. They may be included in subsequent revised and enlarged edition of this book.

ATreasure-trove indeed!!!

**REFERENCES**


