

Pax Herbals in Nigeria as an Integral Enterprise-in-Community and a Case of Communitalism: An African Integral Economic Path

By Anselm Adodo

For over 100 years, inspired by Karl Marx's popular 1845 thesis: "Philosophers have hitherto only *interpreted* the world in various ways; the point is to *change* it", social scientists strived to 'change' the world, for better or/and for worse. Marx's thesis would arguably become the cornerstone of Western-centric critical thinking, claiming the centrality of the concept of praxis as the synthesis between theory and practice, further evolved thereafter by Kurt Lewin in the 20th century, as the originator of action research.

However, after 70 years of such action research, not to mention also critical theory, African feminism and other such emancipatory critiques, one wonders if the utopia of a better world has been attained. In fact, the critical theories developed during this period with the specific objective of transforming the world by and large failed to transform it. Instead, they gave rise to enormous frustration.

Almost two hundred years after Karl Marx's thesis, it was now considered imperative, according to the Portuguese public intellectual, Bonaventura De Souza Santos, that we return to interpretation, to reinterpret the world before trying to change it. The challenge of today then is to *reinterpret* and *reimagine* the world. To change a world, one must first interpret and understand it.

NEED FOR A NEW ONTOLOGY

What is life?

What is development?

What is happiness?

What is knowledge?

What kind of knowledge do we need to survive in this century and the next?

How do we reshape knowledge creation in the modern world?

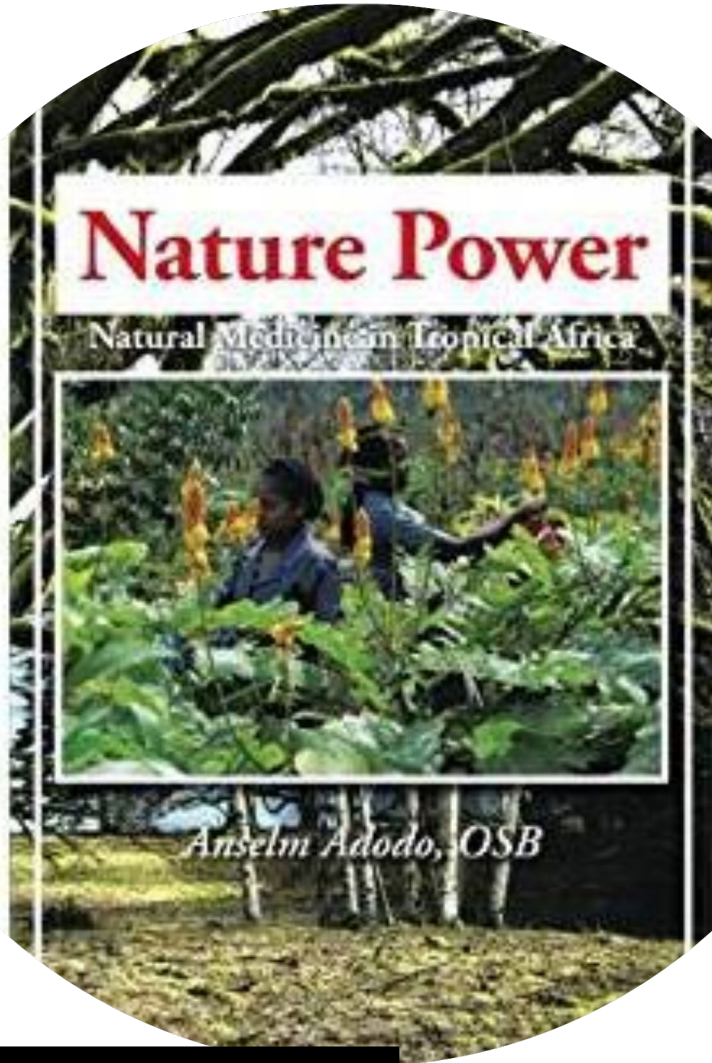
THE IDEA OF THE COMMUNIVERSITY

Releasing the Economic, Spiritual, Cultural
and Innovation GENE-ius of Societies



Ronnie Lessem , Anselm Adodo, Tony Bradley

The Practice of the Communiversality



At the end of the
day, we all must
come back Home:
TO NATURE

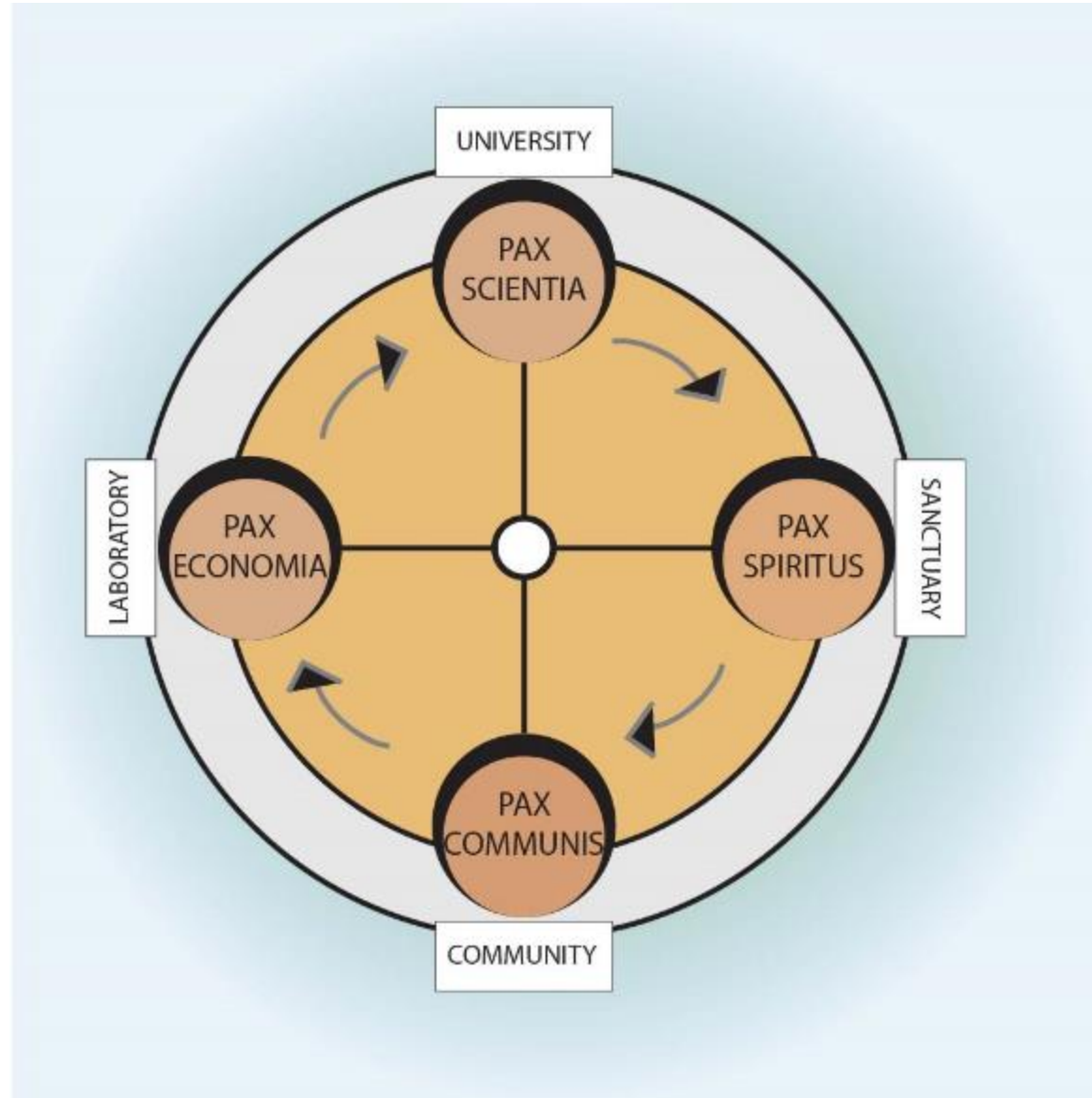
Published in
1999



The danger of ONE STORY

We live in
Many Worlds





The practice of
the
Communitiversity

'Communitalism' and 'Communiversality'

From Global Ideals to Local Relevance

Poetry, folklore, rituals, dance and music
for spiritual renewal

Technical, codified, systematic, explicit,
scientific knowledge for material societal
transformation

FUSING THE INDIGENOUS WITH THE EXOGENOUS

Research and
Education



Human & Community
Development



A Learning Community: The gift of listening



COMMUNITY

Learning
from the
elders





A Catholic Monastery at the Heart of Nigeria

We must never lose touch
we the Spirit

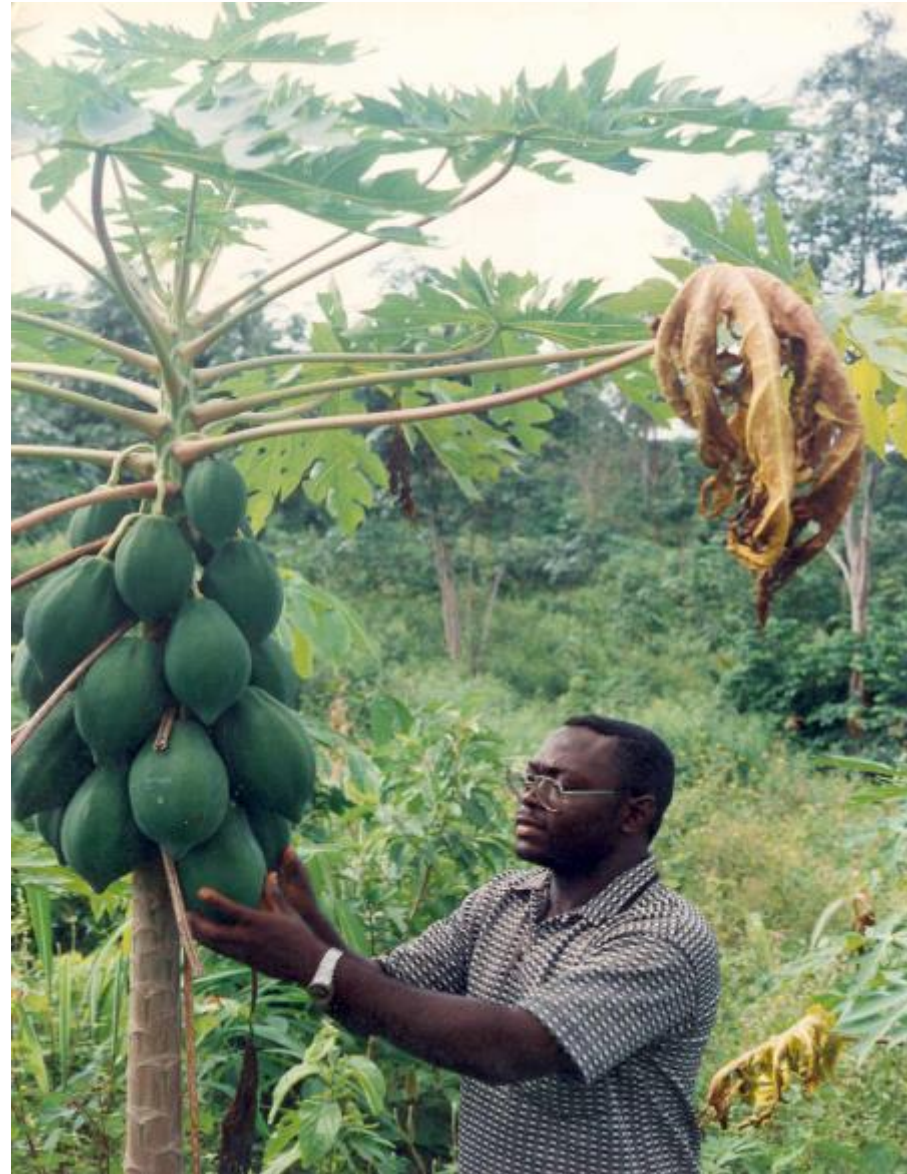


PAX SPIRITUS: The Sanctuary within



**PAX SCIENTIA:
SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY**

1995.....I had a dream...



To start one of Africa's largest phytomedicine local Industrywith nothing



Dream and
Reality

1996



The Phytomedicine 'factory' in 1999



2006



2009









COCREATING A NEW WORLD THROUGH HARD WORK



**‘Scientific thought is
the common heritage
of humankind’**

Abdul Salam,
Pakistani Nobel Laureate

Science is not a native of
Europe and America

PAX ECONOMIA:
People before
profit





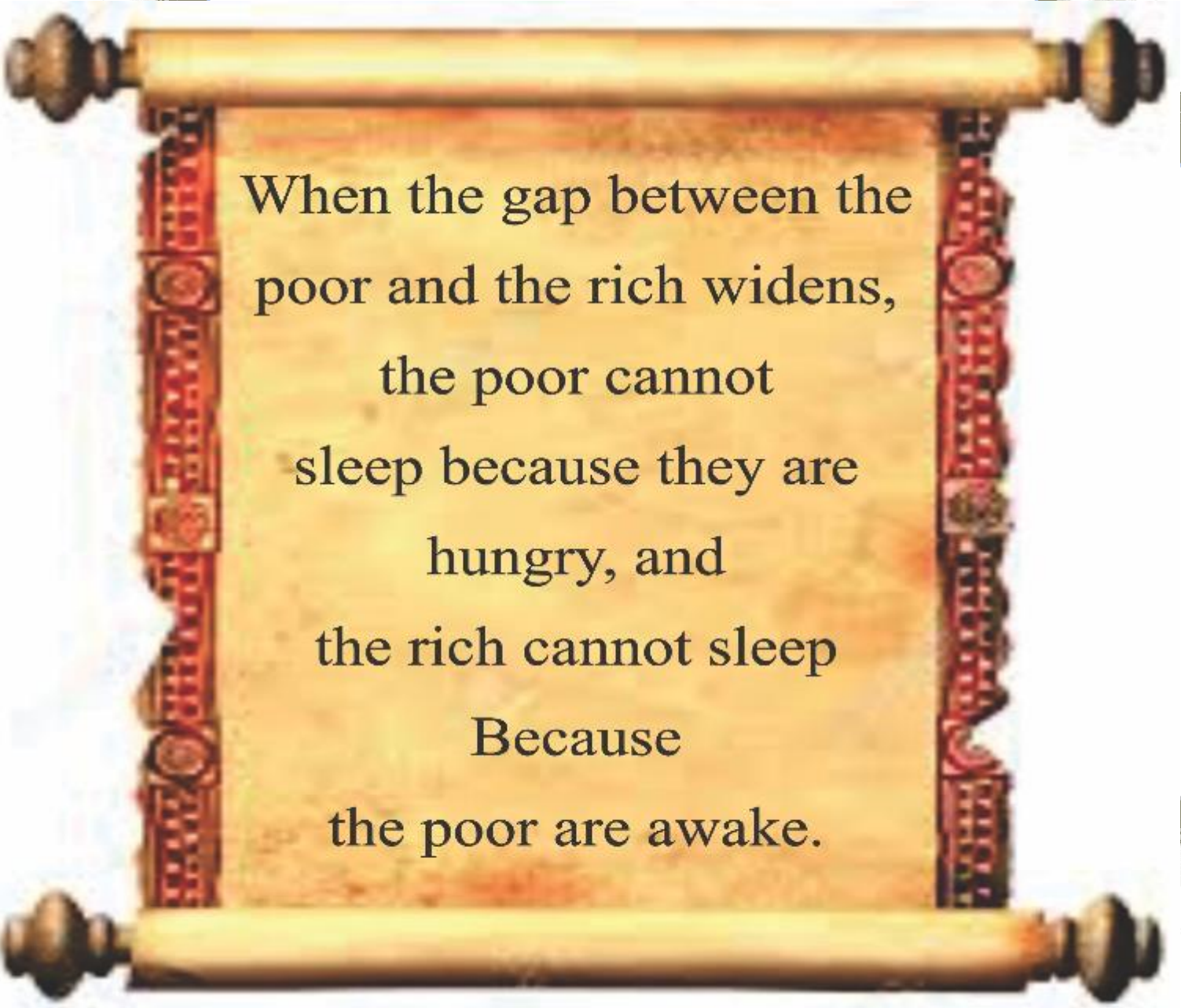
PAXHERBALS IS
WEST AFRICA'S
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INSTITUTE

A Learning Community: The gift of listening



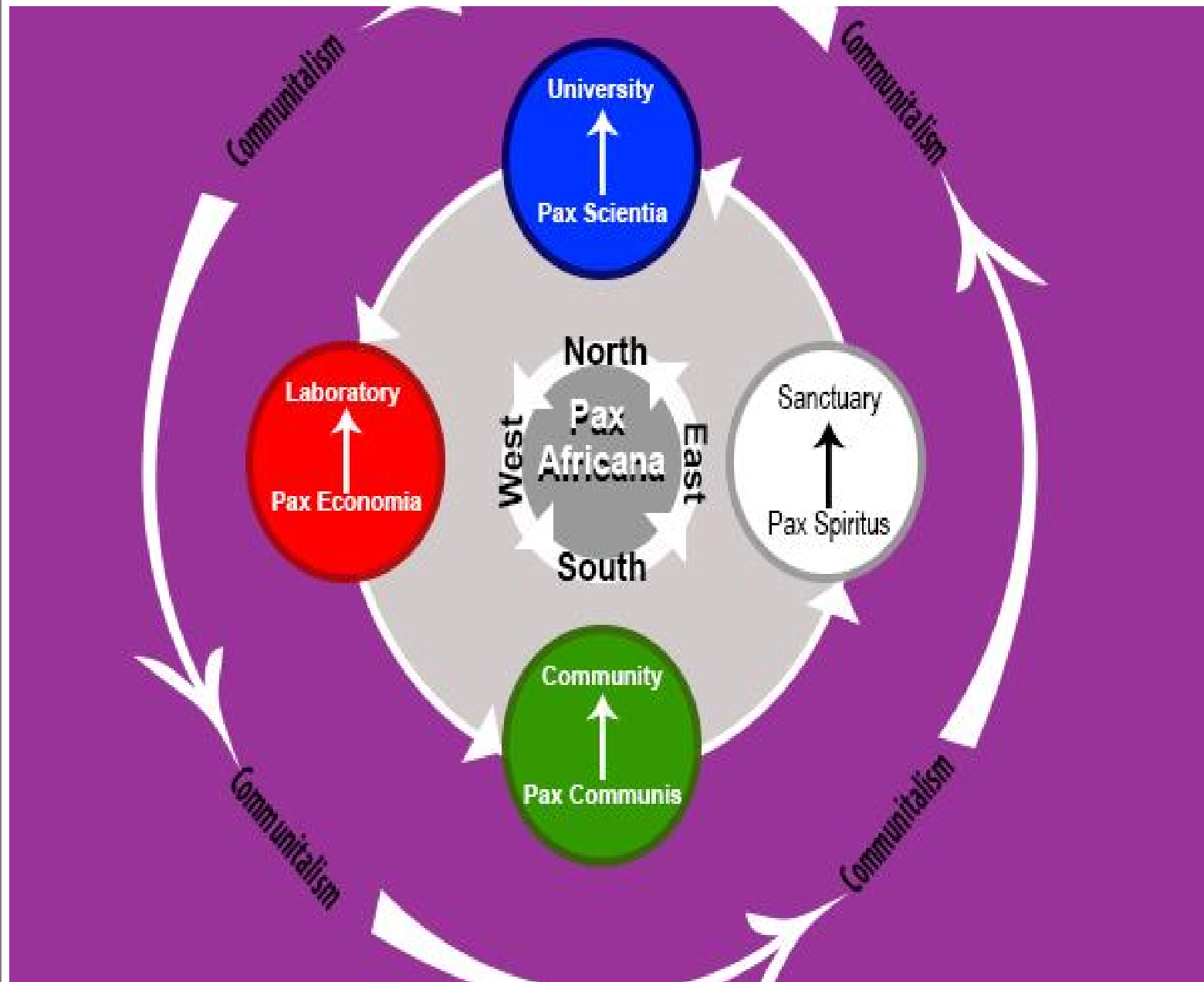


We are either happy
together or unhappy
together

A scroll with a yellowish parchment-like surface, held by four wooden rollers. The scroll is decorated with a red and gold border. The text is written in a black, serif font.

When the gap between the
poor and the rich widens,
the poor cannot
sleep because they are
hungry, and
the rich cannot sleep
Because
the poor are awake.

COMMUNITALISM: Theory of the interconnectedness of Knowledge



THE FOUR Cs (4Cs)

CALL

**DISCOVER YOUR
CALLING & MISSION**

METHOD

CONTEXT

**GROUND YOURSELF IN
YOUR LOCAL
COMMUNITY. BE
*GLOCALISED***

CRITIQUE

COCREATION

**IDENTIFY AND
CONNECT WITH
OTHERS ON SIMILAR
PATHS**

METHODOLOGY

CONTRIBUTION

**MAKE IMPACT. SOLVE A
PROBLEM. TRANSFORM
SELF AND SOCIETY**

TRANSFORMATION

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN THEORY & PRACTICE

FROM AXIOLOGY TO HERMENEUTICS

01

PHILOSOPHERS
interpreted the
world without
action to change it.

02

CRITICAL
THEORISTS strived
to change the
world via reflective
action, but without
success.

03

SOCIOLOGISTS
analyse and explain
the world as they
found it.

04

DECOLONIAL
THEORISTS are too
preoccupied with
the Ideology of
Victimization and
reductionism.

05

*Today, we argue
that you must first
re-interpret a
world before you
can change it.*

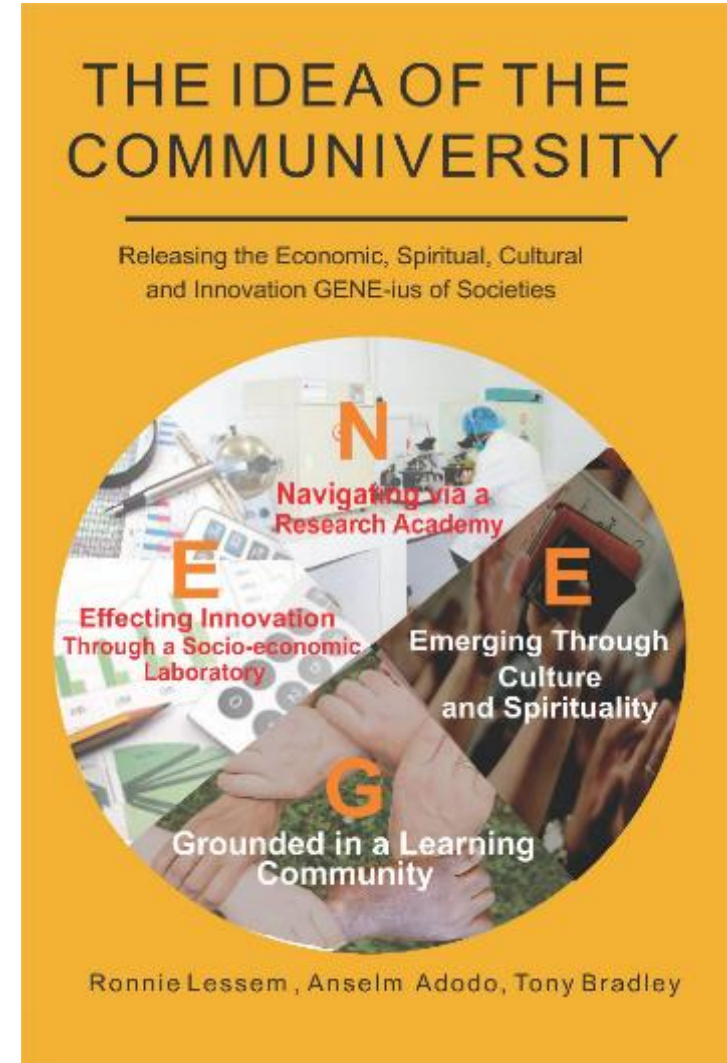
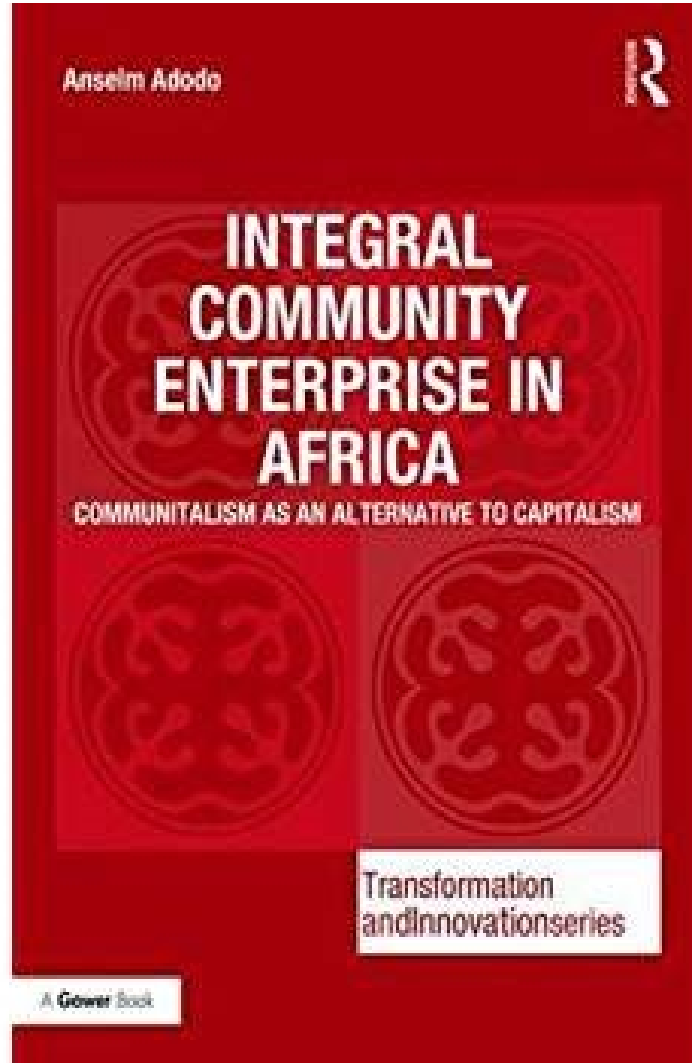
06

*'Communitarism':
from
multidisciplinary to
Transdisciplinary
approach.*

07

Reinterpretation
leads to contextual
epistemic
grounding in
particular life-
worlds.

Monoversity, University, Pluriversity, Multiversity and



New Masters curriculum in Transformation Studies in Africa

1. Discover your call (Be rooted)
2. Reconnect with you community (Context)
3. Work with others (Cocreation)
4. Transform your society (Actualize your dream)

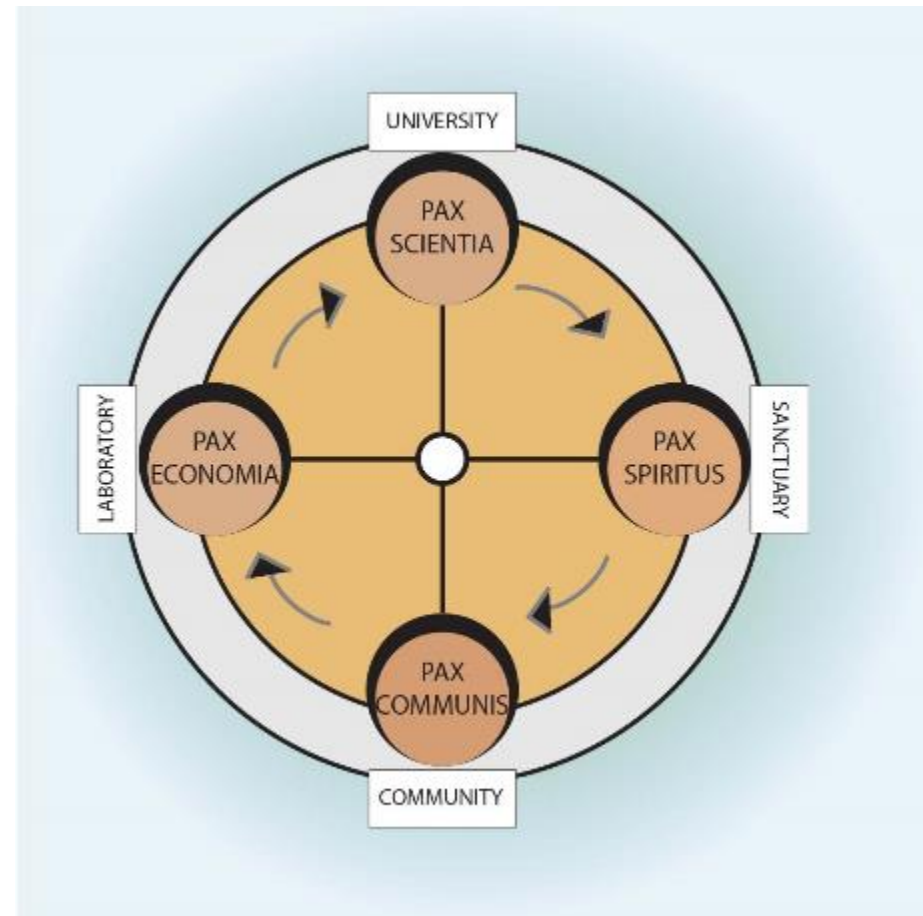
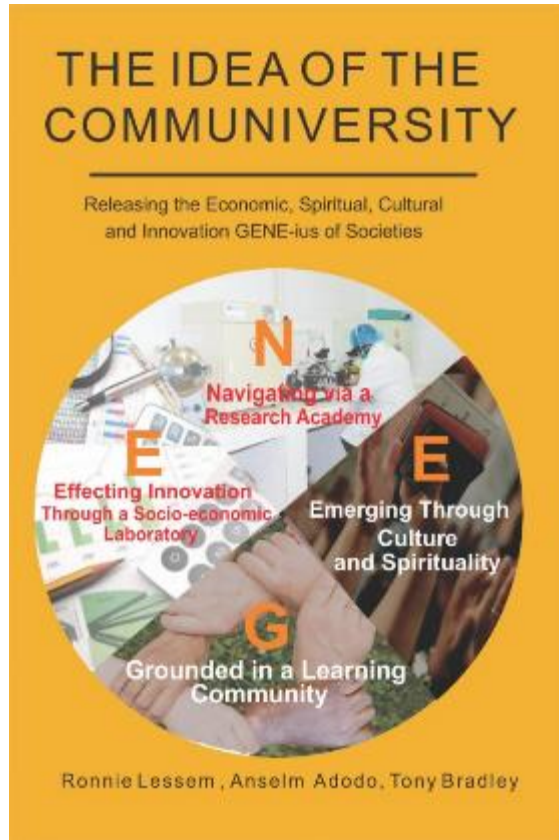


COMMUNITY

Learning
from the
elders

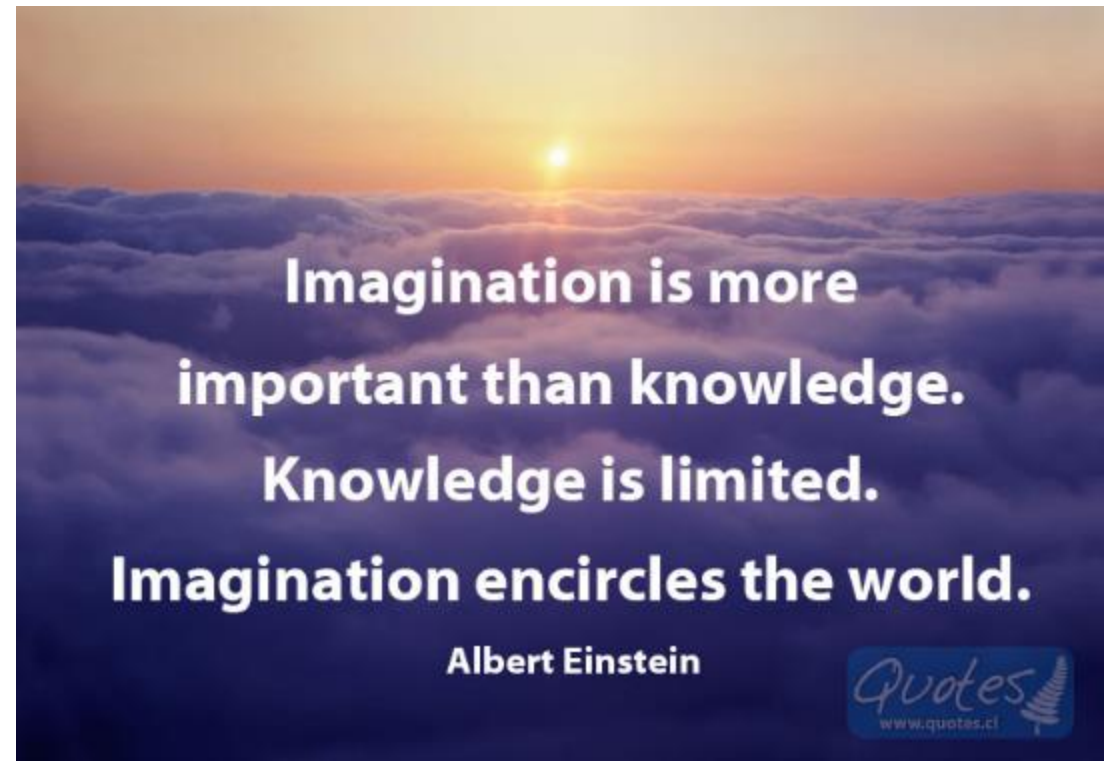


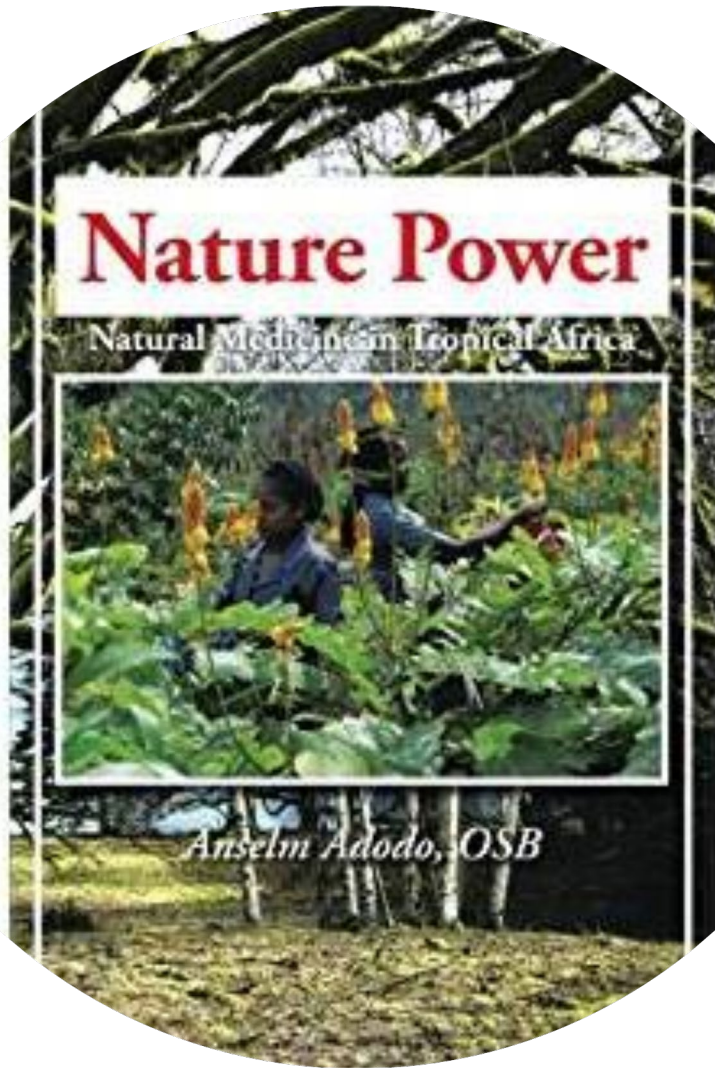
COMMUNIVERSITY: GLOBAL IDEAL TO LOCAL RELEVANCE



WHY DO WE NEED A COMMUNIVERSITY?

1. 'If you don't like someone's story, write your own' —Nigerian Proverb
2. The world needs a new Story
3. We need education, but not education as we have conceived for the past 70 years





CONCLUSION

Tell the full story

Human beings are the youngest occupants of this planet.

Before we came:

The plants were here.

The animals were here.

The oceans were here.

The mountains were here.

Without them: We will not be here.