

Editorial

The appearance of this journal is the fruit of several years of reflection and discussion with various people about the need to create such a platform for Africa and its diaspora. The idea is that *Tinabantu* will initially appear twice a year, and will serve as a forum for the consideration of diverse views, ideas and opinions reflecting differing philosophical and political dispositions, but committed to the maintenance of high intellectual standards and a recognition of the historical and cultural unity of Africa and its diaspora.

The Editor and founder of this journal is of the view that particularly important, at this juncture of the history of Africa, is the need to create a cultural movement which is Africanist in orientation and which takes the best out of Africa's historical and cultural record and uses these as bases for the development of African society. The idea is that the much discussed notion of an African Renaissance, to be realisable, would need to be premised on the cultural and linguistic foundations of African society. It is therefore ironical that we start this journal in a non-African language. It is a compromise we for obvious reasons make with a heavy heart at this stage. For the same reasons we will be happy to publish also papers in French, which meet the requirements, we have spelt out above. If we receive contributions in major African languages like Swahili, Pulaar/Fulful or Hausa etc. we shall publish them.

This first issue like all subsequent issues contains articles and papers with views attributable only to the authors. The Editor does not necessarily share or support the views of the various authors. We hope that this maiden issue will serve to attract contributions.

Kwesi Kwaa Prah

Cape Town

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