

For :Kenya Polytechnic University College

CURRICULUM VITAE

Name ArunDatta

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Date of birth 16-08-1951

Citizenship Kenyan

Educational Qualifications

BSc in Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics, Punjab University, India, (1970).

MSc in Mathematics, HP University, India ,(1972).

MA in Philosophy, Nairobi University, (2008).

PhD in Philosophy, Nairobi University (2011).

Research Experience

1. With Prof P.L.Bhatnagar, a world renowned mathematician; immediately after my MSc. He inculcated an attitude of research and a critical eye. I learnt the importance of honesty and systematic approach to research.
2. I conducted a research of secondary education institutions in Kenya in 1988, on my own, with a business point of view. My research revealed that all the laboratory glass equipment is imported and even with slightest damage, a piece becomes useless and is discarded. Importation makes even the simplest scientific glassware expensive. The students are not used to handling delicate things and most schools do not have adequate storage and cleaning facilities. The result is heavy breakage and financial drain. I brought one qualified and experienced glass blower from abroad and got three Kenyans trained. They repair the broken lab-glassware from the schools. It is a profitable enterprise and the schools save a lot.
3. The Board of Postgraduate Studies, University of Nairobi, granted me full admission for PhD on 6th July 2009. I wrote my intent to submit my thesis on 7th May 2010. This could be the record short period for writing a PhD thesis. I have defended my thesis and have received the degree.
4. I have written a research paper on belief in theoretical entities and sent it for publication to JOURNAL FOR GENERAL PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE. An abstract of the same is enclosed. Another paper on "War: Motivation for Scientific Research" will be sent for publication soon.

Teaching Experience

Taught Mathematics and Statistics to MSc students at HP University, India during 1972, as a PhD scholar.

Wrote lessons in Mathematics for correspondence students at HP University in 1972.

Taught Mathematics and Physics to graduate students in the evening college, Simla, India from 1970 to 1972.

Taught Mathematics and its applications to undergraduate and postgraduate students at MDP College, New Delhi, from 1972 to 1975.

Gave lectures in Philosophy to graduate students at University of Nairobi, as a research student.

Business Experience

Transport

From 1979 to 1983 ran a business of long haulage within East Africa. Also worked as General Manager for coffee operations within East African countries, on behalf of all the Kenyan transporters. Got elected as the Honorary secretary of Kenya Transport Association for three years (with Hon YudaKomora and latter with Hon C.S. Mwangi). The challenges included the time wasted in processing documents at the borders and loss of coffee due to pilferages and thefts. I was instrumental in introducing police escorts that changed hands at the borders and facilitated documentation.

Farming

Lower Narok in Kenya is a semi-arid area and was considered unsuitable for farming. I was among the first to venture into wheat farming on 5000 acres in 1984. Today the area is one of the main wheat producers.

Recycling

In 1988 pioneered the business of repairs of laboratory glassware in Kenya. All the laboratory glass in Kenya is imported. Most of it is used for teaching of science subjects. Once the glassware breaks, it is thrown as waste. My company recycles and repairs it. It creates employment and saves the country foreign exchange, while adding value for the consumer.

Other activities

Served on the various committees in my community (AryaSamaj) in Nairobi.

Served as Vice Chairman of Parklands Sports Club, Nairobi.

Headed the youth (Rotaract and Interact clubs) aspects of Rotary clubs in East Africa. Arranged various professional-student forums.

Actively participate in LangaLanga Scholarship scheme which assists students through secondary to tertiary education. My contribution involves vocational guidance and placements. All the scholars are individually funded by foreign donors.

Keen sportsman. Played and organized squash, tennis and swimming tournaments at national and international levels. Qualified gym instructor and personal trainer. Enjoy playing golf.

Current aspirations

I have enjoyed and found satisfaction in teaching and research. I wish to devote the rest of my life to the same.