BOOK REVIEW

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

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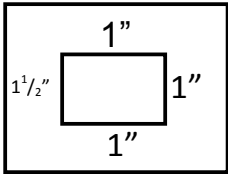Arts Education Department University of Calabar, Calabar, Nigeria

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.

Macro-unity	Micro-unit	Descriptions	Comments	Grade
1) PAPER WORK	(I) Cover	300 Grams	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	A
	(ii) Inside page	70 Grams	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	B
	(iii) Page arrangement for binding	Gutter or margin = .7cm edge, = .5cm to .6cm	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 A very good product	A
	(iv) Pagination	Very dark	Disturb the eye. Can't easily be read.	D/E
	(v) Font size	Arial/Tahom a 12 point	Very legible. Can easily be read.	A
	(vi) Colour	Full printing colours (cyan, magenta, yellow and black)	Colours help brighten and beautify the environment Colour combination is alright.	A
	(vii) Art work	Good artistic impression	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	A

II) **CONTENT/TEXT**	(I) Title: word choice		blends in with the title. What's in a name? (Juliet in Shakespeare's (1599) **Romeo and Juliet**). My answer-MUCH	
	(i) History (of)		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.	
	(a) St. Paul		**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	A

			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.	
(ii) Numbers of chapters	9		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)	
(iii) Number of authors	5		Likened to the metacarpals-all united to produce the book, with the average of 1.8 chapters for each.	
(iv) number of pages	153		Excluding 8 preliminary pages	
(v) Text/content packaging			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.	A
(iv) Language (a) language use			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	A

	(b) Mode of presenting the content (language-wise)		eating boiled groundnut (which is in its pod)! It 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	
			To bring in some variety (which William Cowper (1785) says is the very spice of life that gives it all its flavour), the authors also use graphics-tables and photographs. 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	A
	(vi) References		Available to lend credence to what has been written. Comment: Poorly handled (see section on **Weaknesses/Room for Improvement)!!**	
(iii) DIDACTICS	(I) Insights into other curricular offerings (subjects)		Other subject areas that can develop from this book are: (a)Language (vocabulary building): → Use of Latin words, such as, A.D, per mensem; → Polysyllabic words. (b)Management courses (Economics, finance, etc) e.g see devaluation of	A

	(II) Book readability	Grade levels 13-17 Tertiary level readership	the Naira. (c)Fine Arts vs Clothing and Textile: → Use of colours, hues and complements. Prevalent use of many polysyllabic words (word length)and long sentences (between 20-60+words).
(iv) WEAK POINT & REMEDIES	(I) 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?)
	(II) Misspelling		St. Paul's Parish (see chapter 8)
	(III) Omission		The University of Calabar is not included or highlighted in the book as do the Mission and the Philosophy.
	(IV) 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 hitcock, or wrongly entered with wrong dates e.g Angrey (2007 or 2017)
	(V) People's names		Should endeavour to use people's first names plus their surnames.
	REMEDY AND		A thorough proof-reading by an independent person could help eradicate the erros pointed out.
	ROOM for improvement		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	
(v) FINAL REMARLS			ATreasure-trove indeed!!!	

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