

Exploring the Role of Ethics in Fostering Strong Public Servants in Selected African Countries

Akeem Adewale Oyelana^{1*} and S.M. Kang'ethe²

**¹University of Fort Hare, Department of Public Administration, Private Bag X1314,
Alice 5700, South Africa**

**²University of Fort Hare, Department of Social Work and Social Development,
Private Bag X1314, Alice 5700, South Africa
E-mail: ¹<201100592@ufh.ac.za> and ²<skangethe@ufh.ac.za>**

KEYWORDS Code of Conduct. Corruption. Disloyalty. Unethical Conduct. Transparency

ABSTRACT Indubitably, the need for countries to fight various kinds of malpractices that bedevil their effectiveness and efficiency of their countries' economic growth and development cannot be overemphasized. This is more compelling to countries from Africa whose economics are stagnating or moving at a snail's pace with poverty becoming a huge norm. The aim of this paper is, through a review of literature is to elucidate the various forms of malpractices besetting public service delivery and therefore leading to countries economic stagnation with examples from a few African countries. The paper has also conceptualized both the ethical code and a code of conduct. The need for countries to uphold ethical codes as a guide and driver to maintaining ethically sound civil service delivery has also been emphasized. The paper has discussed the malpractices associated with bribery, corruption and embezzlements of funds. The paper has recommended to governments to uphold and institute the culture of leadership goodwill as a strategy to extinguish various forms of malpractices immensely prevalent in many African countries. This is with the hope of achieving countries with reduced forms of corruption if not countries with zero forms of corruption.