

The Significance and Appropriateness of Tshivenda Proverbs in New South Africa

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ABSTRACT This paper aims at investigating the significance and appropriateness of some Tshivenda proverbs under the new legal order of democracy in South Africa. Post-apartheid South Africa is facing a huge challenge of moral degeneration. Traditionally, cultural norms and values among the South African society, and the Vhavenda community for the purposes of this paper, used to be transmitted through word of mouth. Recently oral literature, particularly the expression of proverbs seems to be vanishing among the Vhavenda community. The vanishing of this important genre seems to be negatively impacting the moral fiber of the entire South African society and the Vhavenda community in particular. The paper is qualitative in nature and data was collected using the qualitative techniques of data collection. In fact the interview technique was used as the primary method for collecting data from Vhavenda traditional leaders, as they are the custodians of the customs. Data was also collected from secondary sources.