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An African Odyssey

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Kitche Magak

An African Odyssey

Hark!

Let the tales of true brilliance be told
Of passionate percipience many has bathed
A simple soul, a profound sage
A revered teacher robed in erudition
A beautiful mind.

Africa,

The canvas of lettered odyssey
A continent enriched, zest manifest
And through the sacred scriptures
Protégés continue to weave a humanising tale
Unraveling mysteries beyond the holy veil.

2004,

The journey begins with Honoured Serima
A scholarly plan laid out in Bayreuth
Fatherly mentoring guidance
Witnessing the birth of a firstborn
Who charts a path that crisscrosses the mother continent.

Zeus,

A man-god by another name in Kemet
From the banks of the Nile
To the Sphinx's gaze in Giza
The syndrome engraves the duplicity of man
Hieroglyphs whisper secrets in the desert sand
A dialogue between divinity and mortality.

Trailblazing,
 From East to West and North to South
 Traversing intellectual boundaries
 To create a boundless savannah of thought
 Where verses of the biblical lore
 Fuse into the vibrancy of daily life
 Not confined to the dusty tomes.

Minds,
 A gathering of continental thoughts,
 Strength framed in the richness of diversity
 A fabric of melodious wavelength
 Presided over the drums of shared hope
 That still rings true in the vastness of the ageless Kalahari
 With a mysterious echo in the ancient ruins of the Great Zimbabwe

Soaring
 Like the Martial eagle in the plains of Maasai Mara
 From Botswana's delta to Ghana's shores
 From the embrace of Cameroon to the grace of Ivory Coast
 Choreographing a dance of intellect
 Embroidered in multidisciplinary motifs
 That speak an easy universal language.

Landing,
 The full grandeur of the Martial eagle emerges
 A respite from a rewarding long flight
 A time for reflection, not the final page
 For in the hearts of the dream merchants
 The ignited flames will ignite more flames
 To forever narrate the story
 Of the majesty of the Martial eagle
 In reverent silences and whispers.

~ END ~

This is an ode to Prof. Dr. Joachim Kügler on his retirement from University-based scholarship, Bamberg ~ 14 January 2024