

Sage Philosophy's Roots in the Uppsala University and University of Nairobi Contexts

Gail M. Presbey¹

¹University of Detroit Mercy, USA

gpresbey@yahoo.com

Other papers have been written that try to understand the genesis of Odera Oruka's sage philosophy project in the context of preceding debates within African philosophy. I have earlier written on how Odera Oruka's childhood and his exposure to sages in his neighborhood influenced the project. However the sage philosophy project found its motivation and its form in multiple contexts. This paper will discuss how Odera Oruka's background of studying at Uppsala University in its practical philosophy track shaped the project. The paper will go on to look at debates happening at University of Nairobi's campus surrounding African Studies and attempts to challenge Eurocentric curricula. Interviews with Taban lo Liyong and other contemporaries of Prof. Odera Oruka will help to fill in context needed to more fully understand the genesis of the project.