

AUTOBIOGRAPHY

My name is Ponsiano Sawaka Kanijo. I am a linguist with a PhD obtained from the University of Gothenburg (Sweden) under Laura Downing, Malin Petzell and Thera Crane's supervision. My research interests focus on Bantu verbal morphology, lexical aspect, and tense, aspect and mood systems. My PhD dissertation focuses on *Aspectual classes of Verbs in Nyamwezi*, a Tanzanian Bantu language spoken in Tabora.

Currently, I am employed as a lecturer in linguistics at Mkwawa University College of Education (MUCE), a constituent college of the University of Dar es Salaam located in Iringa, Tanzania. Apart from teaching, I am also involved in a research project with Leora Bar-el (University of Montana), Malin Petzell (University of Gothenburg) and Sebastian Dom (University of Gothenburg). Our project investigates diachronic, semantic, and syntactic aspects of Bantu valency-decreasing verbal morphology, as well as its relation to and effect on verbal semantics in the East Ruvu languages, a genealogical group of six under-analysed Bantu languages spoken in Tanzania. In my career as a researcher, I have published three articles; two focuses on verbal morphology (Kanijo 2019a; to appear) and one focuses on code-switching and code-mixing (Kanijo 2017). Also, I have written two articles, one has been accepted for publication and another one is in the evaluation process.

During my PhD studies, I attended a tutorial workshop on acceptability task (its design and interpretation) at Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic). I also carried out various linguistic fieldworks and attended five international conferences: 48th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL 48), International Conference on Bantu Languages (Bantu 6), 1th International Edition of the Conference Linguistic Prague (LP 2017), Reconstructing proto-Bantu grammar, Ghent University, and Semantics of Verbal Morphology in Under-described Languages Workshop, University of Gothenburg. During my PhD, I also developed and taught an introductory course to Swahili at the University of Gothenburg. I also visited the University of Helsinki and taught an introductory course to Swahili with Lota Aunio. In my career, I have organized two conferences, both held at the University of Gothenburg, and reviewed one article and one conference abstract. I am a native speaker of Swahili. I am fluent in English and proficient in Nyamwezi and Sukuma.