



TRIBUTE

● TO THE MEMORY
OF PROFESSOR

Niougere Kalala
OMOTUNDE

Who passed away on 14 november 2022

By Charles BINAM BIKOÏ,
CONFERENCE INTERNATIONALE DU CERDOTOLA 2022
Executive Secretary of CERDOTOLA

It is with great sadness and shock that we learned of the sudden death of renown historian, anthropologist, linguist and Pan-Africanist, Professor Jean-Philippe Corvo, also known as Kalala OMOTUNDE, this morning of 14 November 2022.

On behalf of the great family of the International Centre for Research and Documentation on African Traditions and Languages (CERDOTOLA), the Executive Secretary of CERDOTOLA extends the deepest condolences of the organisation to the family of the deceased.

As a dedicated advocate for the restoration of the true history and dignity of the African man, Kalala Omotunde visited Cameroon for the first time in October 2013, to take part in the CERDOTOLA Communication Day, J2C, where he had the distinct privilege of delivering the inaugural lecture on Scientific Discourse entitled: *“For an African being proud of African Tradition”*.

Just a few days ago, from 24 to 31 October 2022, Prof. Omotunde was in Cameroon to take part in the **Cerdotola International Conference - CIC 2022** together with other senior participants, whose performances made the conference a success. He dis-

tinguished himself throughout the conference, winning the hearts of media organs that were invited to cover the event, to the delight of his many admirers at CERDOTOLA, throughout Africa, especially in Cameroon, where he himself said he was originally from.

We will remember especially his brilliant presentation, now a legacy, that he did on the theme: **“The unquestionable advantages and manifest destiny of a new African Thought: updating African scientific and technical heritages for the reconstruction of global history of knowledge”**.

His humility, availability and wisdom will be missed at our international conferences and especially in the implementation of the resolutions of the last CERDOTOLA Conference, of which he was expected to be one of the next ambassadors.

The Deceased dedicated his research to decrypting hieroglyphs, exploring the rich Egyptian civilisation and the ones that came after, in the four corners of Africa in their successive glorious periods, still unknown. Thus, following in the footsteps of his masters, his immense work has been devoted to the promotion of African classical humanities.

Is it fate's design that, like Professor Cheikh Anta Diop, his disciple Omotunde delivered his last address from the Nkol-Nyada hill, and in the same room of the Congress Hall in Yaounde from which the Senegalese scholar gave his last public lecture in 1986 ?

His death has robbed Africa and its Diaspora of a dedicated researcher, a prolific writer, a resourceful pedagogue, an outstanding communicator, and CERDOTOLA (of which he was an Associate Researcher) of a most faithful friend and collaborator.

At the end of his last International Conference, Kalala OMOTUNDE was honoured by CERDOTOLA with the dignified title of **Master of African Sciences and Traditions**, in recognition of his immense contribution to African Classical Humanities.

To finalise the consecration thus initiated, CERDOTOLA undertakes to organise, in the weeks ahead, an official tribute to the memory of a great scholar who has left us, who worked so hard for the new configuration of our Organisation; a speaker at our international conferences and a discrete adviser to the Executive Secretary.

An icon has fallen!

A great star has dimmed.

The New African Thought community mourns: Joseph Philippe Corvo – Niousséré Kalala Omotunde is dead.

Dead?

Of course not. He has left the world of men to cross the river: he now sits in the Kingdom of African Ancestors; on the planet of the great spirits whose light never goes out.

He has left his Will in Cameroon, at CERDOTOLA. His great Legacy, made of Encyclopaedic Knowledge and Militant Commitment to the service of Africa, will be systematically deployed to nourish the roots of the New African Thought, for the Revival and the complete Liberation of the African Man in the world.

Yes: With pride, CERDOTOLA salutes the memory of this passionate and devoted Servant of the Digni-

ty of the African Man across the African continent and all parts of the Diaspora.

Peace! Peace! Peace!

Yaounde, **14 NOVEMBER 2022**

Pr. Charles BINAM BIKOÏ
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