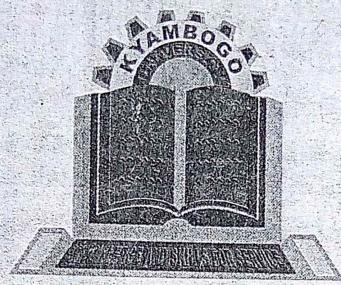


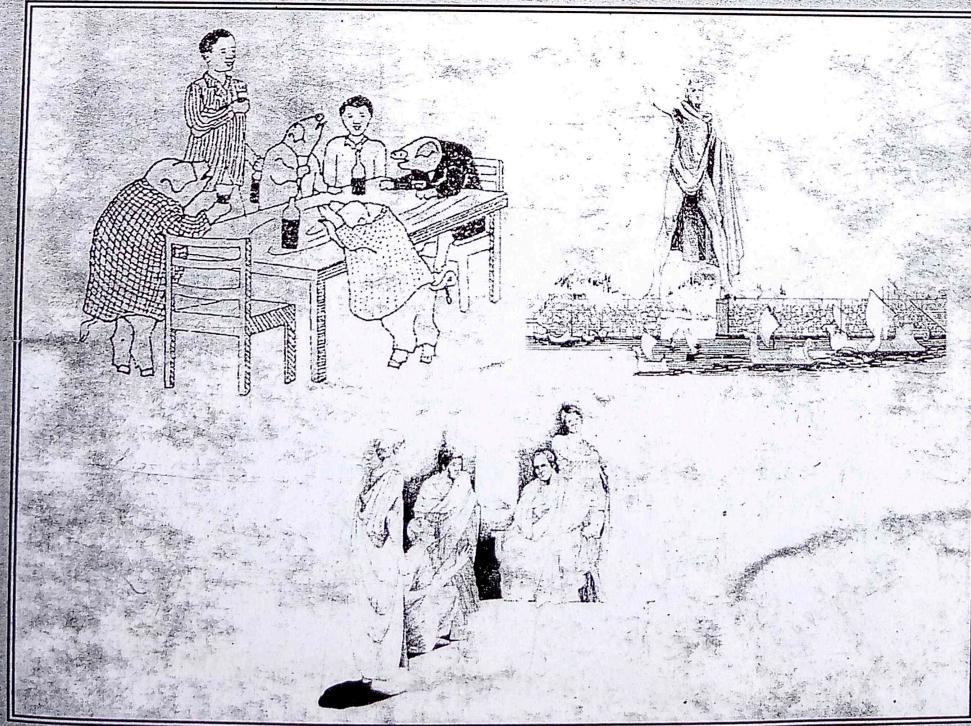
KYAMBOGO



UNIVERSITY

TEACHER EDUCATION SELF STUDY MODULE FOR DIPLOMA IN  
EDUCATION PRIMARY EXTERNAL PROGRAMME (DEPE)

REVISED SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL FOR LANGUAGE EDUCATION  
MODULE 3 (LE/3) FOR YEAR 2 & 3



PLAYS AND NOVELS

KYAMBOGO UNIVERSITY

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL FOR LANGUAGE EDUCATION MODUL  
2 AND 3

This course leads to the award of a Diploma in Education Primary  
of Kyambogo University

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## **GENERAL INTRODUCTION**

Dear Student,

You are most welcome to this language Education Supplementary module, which supplements both module 2 and 3 of the course.

This module has five units, as follows:

Unit 1      Betrayal in the City

Unit 2      Julius Ceaser

Unit 3      The Lion and the Jewel

Unit 4      The River Between

Unit 5      Animal Farm

**Note that:**

Throughout these units you will find self-check activities to do. Remember that these activities are meant to make you study more effectively. Please attempt all the activities, as they will support your learning. You will find that the activities are much more useful if you do them as you read the unit. They are not only reinforcing the instruction but are also planned to motivate you to learn. Do not skip them or leave them until the end of the unit.

When you finish an activity, turn to the end of the unit and check the possible answers. If you find that your answer is not correct, study the unit again and try to see where you went wrong. Discuss any problem you meet with other students and colleagues – they may be able to help you. If the reasoning is still not clear, make an accurate note of the difficult part and seek advice from any resource persons you find in your area, or better still, present the problem to your facilitator during face-to-face residential session.

So you now know how this module is organized to help you learn. The other self-study modules of the course are organized the same way.

**We wish you all the best as you work through this module.**

## SYMBOLS USED

Throughout each unit, a number of symbols are used. Some indicate that you should do something. Others indicate things like the learning outcomes of the unit. These symbols are guides that will show you where you are and what to do.

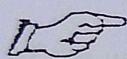
The symbols and their meanings are these:



**Outcomes:** This symbol indicates the learning objectives and expected outcomes of the Unit, including benefits to you, if you do what is learned.



**Activity:** This symbol indicates that you should complete the activity indicated before you proceed with the reading.



**Note this important point:** This tells you to take note or to remember an important point.



**A question:** This indicates that there is a question that you should answer or think about.



**Further reading:** This indicates an additional reading from another source module that is suggested.



**Checking:** This symbol is used to indicate that you are required to check through something, either a piece of work you have just written or a list of points to be considered in the text.



**Summary:** This indicates that a summary is given of what has been covered in the Unit.



**Discuss:** This indicates activities in which you are asked to discuss ideas with others.



**Hand in:** This shows something that should be handed in to a tutor.



**Congratulations:** This shows that you have really achieved something! When you see this you will know that you have achieved an important point in the learning programme.

## **INTRODUCTION**

You are welcome to each of the five units of this module. Each unit deals with either a play or a novel. Each unit helps you to have an in-depth study of the text handled.

## **AIM**

This module is intended to improve your appreciation of literature as a subject and as a means of teaching English Language. Each of the units aims at equipping you with the ability to read and appreciate any literary text.

## **UNITS TO BE COVERED**

This module is organized into five units as shown on page vii.

## **SUBJECT ORIENTATION**

In each of the units, you are going to thoroughly study a given literature text. You therefore, will need to read the text before studying what is given in the module.

## **SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS**

For each of the modules, you will need a copy of the text, for example, Julius Ceaser by William Shakespeare or The River Between by Ngugi Wathiongo. You will also need a pen, paper and a good English dictionary to help you find the meanings of the new words you will come across.

**WISH YOU SUCCESSFUL READING!!!**

## **UNIT 1**

**Francis Imbuga: BETRAYAL IN THE CITY**

## THE AUTHOR

Francis Imbuga is a renowned Kenyan play-Wright. He was born in Wenyange village, Kisatiru Sub-location, North Maragoli in Western Kenya. He was educated at Kaveye Primary School, Chavakali Secondary School and Alliance High School and finally Nairobi University. Besides being a playwright, actor and producer Imbuga has also been a teacher of drama and an adjudicator at the annual school's drama festivals.

## BACKGROUND TO THE PLAY

Betrayal in the City examines the problems of independence and freedom in post-colonial states in Africa. It could also be said to compare well with some regimes here in Uganda and outside.

The major theme that Francis Imbuga wishes to exploit is that of betrayal and he portrays this both among the people as well as between the national government and its citizens. Generally Betrayal in the City portrays a decay in morals, greed or power and maternal possessiveness and selfishness.



### ACTIVITY: LE/SUP/3/1-1

In three short sentences explain what the play Betrayal in the City is about.



Discuss your answer with your peers.

## STRUCTURE AND PLOT OF THE PLAY

The play is divided into two acts and these are divided into seven scenes.

### ACT 1: SCENE 1

A sorrowful mood, Doga and Nina the old couple are mourning their dead son Adika. There is a funeral ambience established by the presence of a grave, the songs of birds, insects and frogs, drumbeats and a distant lamentation of a male voice at the beginning, symbolize the sense of doom hanging over Kafira.

Here Doga and Nina are planning to perform the shaving ceremony of their dead son, Adika. Adika was killed and now just as the ceremony is about to start, there is a crack that runs through his grave, signifying that someone – presumably the murderer – had tried to burn the body to “silence” the dead for good. Meanwhile there is a rumour that the murderer was a Kinsaman. Doga says;

*“Tradition condemns the shedding of a Kinsman’s blood. Nina, what will you teach me about tradition? Go get me soil. (Exit Nina. Doga picks up the money from the bowl) cold, cold money. Three cold silver coins. No warmth, no life. What a strange way to appease the dead. Adika, my son, do not let them deceive you with money. When you came into this World to search for your death, you found money here. Now you are silent, but money is still here. Do not let them tempt you. Follow them to the bitter end. Follow them up hills and valleys. (to audience) What is in money that is more precious than life? Only a handful of coins cost us a son, killed in the city. People say there were many of them, all matching in the same manner. Suddenly, the shooting broke out. People fled in all directions, but my son’s lonely body lay in the middle of the street. Only four bullets were fired that day. Adika had four bullet wounds in his chest. Two weeks after we buried him,*

*the sub-chief's brother was dismissed from his job. Rumour has it that he later said that he did it defence.....*

Later, still in this scene Mulili and Jere came to stop the proceedings of the ceremony, all name of peace and the good of the sage. This gives us a glimpse of what is happening in K the corruption, injustice and oppression of the masses;....

Jere: Old people, you waster your time.  
There is to be no ceremony.

Doga: Is it to us you speak?

Mulili: No ceremony! That the final.

Doga: A shaving ceremony is no child's play.

Mulili: Who you call child, eeh? Jere, you tell him  
Tell him what I does with stubborn old mens.

Jere: The ceremony is cancelled in the interest of peace.

Doga: In the interest of peace?  
Whose peace

....; and a little further on, Mulili reveals to us more crafty dealings taking place Government.

Jere: (After long silence) You disgust me. I know you are Boss's cousin but still you disgust me. How could you possibly speak like that to those two poor creatures?

Mulili: You want me sing to them, eeh? Chicken heart, that is what you be.  
Sometimes I ask myself why you possession that thing between you legs.

Jere: It took a stronger, for the truth to come to the surface. A stranger to the clan, like you. That man is till in prison even now. Mulili, if you still have even the smallest part of your original human heart, let us allow these people to carry on with the ceremony.

Mulili: What?

Jere: Boss will not know it. No one need know.

Mulili: Mu future depend on this. If I keep law and order, a big farmer I become when I retired. Boss promise me that and you know... I be his eye and his ear here. I say no ceremony.

Jere: The ceremony is on.

Mulili: Me count out. I doesn't want to last that farm. Boss promise many acre of farm and grade cattles. I doesn't want to lost it because for primitive ceremony.



### ACTIVITY LE/SUP/3/1-2

- (i) Give examples of Betrayal in this scene and explain why you feel they are betrayals.
- (ii) Who killed Adika and how was he killed?



Compare your answer with those of your peers.

### SCENE 2

This scene further handles and reveals the injustices and oppression of the masses. The regime does not spare any of its critics. Hence Jere and Mosese are put into prison, moreover over false (framed) charges.

Mosese: You see, the day before they arrested me, I attended a funeral. One of my students had been murdered in cold blood. His brother has been here but he is to be discharged tomorrow.

Jere: Is he the one the askari was talking about?

Mosese: Yes

Jere: I see I think I .....

Mosese: You think what?

Jere: never mind

Mosese: I have never seen anything like it before. The atmosphere was tense at the funeral. I thought for once that things would change in Kafira. But during the speeches, I learned the bitter truth. Kafira was not going to change after all. Not because of the death of one small student. A handful of politicians tried to turn the funeral service into a political rally. The services must not take more than ten minutes. The coffin should not be carried by students. Weeping in public is illegal for the academic staff. I could not bear it, so I told them my mind. The following day they came for me.

Jere: What did they charge you with?  
Weeping in public?

Mosese: No being in possession of an illegal drug. One Kilogramme of opium. When they searched my car, They sure enough found the drug. I laughed. I had heard Similar stories, but I never thought it would never happen to me. The man who planted it on me was called Nicodemus. Nicodemus was my name too, but I dropped it the following day. (Pg. 29)

This is clearly showing us how Mosese comes to be in prison and through their dialogue we are treated to a further revelation of the system and how things are maneuvered in favour of particular people and not others. We are also told that Doga and Nina were found dead in a hut.

### SCENE 3

In this scene the playwright employs some humour and irony where the characters are in a situation in which none of them fully knows the motives of the other. We've heard about Regina in the previous scene, she is Mosese's sister and Jusper's girlfriend. Here we are introduced to Tumbo, a government official in charge of the visitor's entertainment. A Head of State is due to visit and as arrangements for his visit are underway Jusper gets the opportunity to write a one act play to be presented – even this golden chance to Jusper comes his way in a corrupt manner as manipulated by Tumbo.

Tumbo: Good, I am glad you think in terms of progress.  
May I assure you now that your prize-winning play will be performed for the visitor?

Jusper: Prize-winning?

Tumbo: Yes. A sum of money has been allocated for a play-writing competition, but there is no point in organizing a competition if we already know what play ought to be produced. You see, my friend, the democratic aspect of this game is that any one has the right to participate. Now without wasting time of the proposed play-writing competition

Jusper: (obviously amused) out of the more than eighty plays submitted,  
Jusper Wondo's play came first.

Tumbo: You've got it, son. Only make sure that you have the play ready by tomorrow. News of you having won the competition will be in the papers next week.

Jusper: The other entries have, of course, been returned to their authors.

Tumbo: You are there son, you are there. Now three cheers to the winner Hip! Hip! Regina!

Regina: (From kitchen) Yes, cheers.

Tumbo: Give us a minute (enter Regina wiping her hands with the lower edge of her dress) Regina, it's all settled.  
Your cousin has won the play-writing competition.  
That serves the Government a lot of money.  
No need to run up and down looking for one little play.

Regina: But isn't that.....

Tumbo: Good. Now of the six hundred pounds that was to finance the competition, I give one third to the two of you. The other two thirds will be used to put the records straight. But remember all this is in strict confidence. Your prize money will be sent to you as soon as the results of the competition are made public....

Jusper literally has Boss' right-hand man eating off his hands.



### ACTIVITY LE/SUP/3/1-3

- (i) How does Mosese land into prison?
- (ii) What particular theme(s) are being highlighted in these scenes?
- (iii) How else do we see corruption at its peak in the scenes?
- (iv) What other aspects are being highlighted here?

## ACT 2 SCENE 1

In this scene corruption, selfishness and intrigue are being displayed in the officialdom of Kafira.

Look at this:

Nicodemo: Did you get the potato?

Kabito: What potato?

Nicodemo: The University potato  
Did your tender go through?

Kabito: Don't remind me of things I would sooner forget.  
I spent the whole of last night being nice to people,  
only to lose the tender this morning.

Nicodemo: Whom did they give it to?

Kabito: Who else? The fools gave it to Mulili.

Nicodemo: ... I knew he would bully them into giving in to him.

Kabito: And as if that is not enough, Tumbo puts him on this committee. I refuse to sit with thieves on the same committee.

And of-course Mulili comes in to confirm what the others have already forwarded.

Nicodemo: You couldn't be more correct. He is a visitor of great weight, not some flywhisk-waving Sub-headman. And remember also Mr. Chairman that the potato you get will be directly proportional to the potato

we get. (enter Mulili almost out of breath).

Mulili: Gentlemen, I am very sorrowful, but I always say, better never than late.

Tumbo: What is the excuse this time?

Mulili: (bearing with happiness) This time? You see, yesterday they termination my tender.

Tumbo: Tender, did you say?

Mulili: Yes, my tender for supplying of milk to University. They gives it to unknown small man. So this morning, I says okay, we see if University authority know who man be head and neck of Kafira. So I wakes up, I go to my cousin to explanation him.

Tumbo: You are sure you were with Boss?

Mulili: One God! When I tells him, he take an automatic direct telephone wire to University. (acts our Boss) Hullo, that is catering University Manager? Good, listen me. What happen to Mr. Mulili tender for supply milk? What? You knows who speaking? It is me, me Boss himself, no bloody vice-deputy. Yess, alright cancel now. Tender Mulili's (bursts and laughing) you see, first come first saved.

Tumbo: Can anyone ever beat you at this?

Mulili: Not anyone. I am old hand of this. Now it remain for me to look for who go behind my back to make them cancel it yesterday. As soon as they tells me, that man is regret the day he came from stomach.

Here Mulili is well depicted in the ridiculous light of a semi-illiterate official. He misunderstands what is said to him and yet threatens to act on the strength of that misundertstanding.

Kabito: You are the people who choke Kafira. How do you expect to force grown-ups to do a thing they do not believe in? What do you think would be the long term consequences?

Mulili: You says that because your son is there, eeh? Day lifes!

Kabito: That is all you seem to know, commanding people to say, 'yes! Just what do you take them for? Primary School kids?

Mulili: Who you call primary kid? I asks you now, who you call primary kid? This is not first-time you calls me that. Tell me now why you....

Tumbo: Alright Mr. Mulili, I didn't hear him call you .....

Mulili: He do just now. He call me primary Mr. Nicodemo hear him even.

Nicodemo: I think we need a break.

Mulili: But why he call me primary kid?

Kabito: Alright Professor, tell us the day you stepped inside a secondary school classroom.

Mulili: You must apology to me this now.



### ACTIVITY LE/SUP/3/1-4

(i) What character traits attributed to Mulili have you learnt from this scene?

(ii) How have corruption and selfishness been strayed here?



Discuss your answers with your peers.

## SCENE 2

In this scene, Boss the Head of State finally appears – a lot has been said about him and when he appears he simply confirms the craftiness in whole system. Mulili crowns it all by falsely accusing Kabito and complaining about his behaviour towards Boss.

Boss: You talk straight or go back to that meeting.  
I put you on the committee for obvious reasons  
and I expect you to report directly to me if  
something should seem to be going wrong.  
What is the matter?

Mulili: I can't believe it even now. It is a big ugly matter  
I tells you. Do you know Kabito? He be like Jere.

Boss: I know many Kabitos.

Mulili: I am saying the one on the entertain committee.

Boss: What about him?

Mulili: That one, he be a green grass in the snake.

Boss: Watch what you say. Kabito is one of my most loyal subjects.

Mulili: Oho! That what you thinks.  
You thinks I just have meeting for little reason?  
Meeting for little reason? He colour your name

in blood in front of whole committee. You see in first place, he come to meeting full of alcoholism.

Boss: Drunk, is he?

Mulili: completely finished. He shout to everybody and say you rob him milk tender.

Boss: He can't have possibly said that.

Mulili: One God in heaven! He say you runs the economic of Kafira. That you hides million in foreign country.

Boss: Who? Kabito?

Mulili: A green grass in the snake, I tells you.

At this, Boss orders that Kabito be killed. In the process Mulili reveals to us how Doga and were killed.

Mulili: That be small. You remembers that old couple.....?

Boss: (shouting) clear out of my sight and get on with it (exit Mulili).



### ACTIVITY LE/SUP/3/1-5

- (i) What obvious reasons is Boss talking about when he is talking to Mulili?
- (ii) How well not well does Mulili execute his duties in the light of what he does?



Compare your answers with those at the end of the unit.

### SCENE 3

In this scene Jusper and Tumbo discuss Regina's meeting with Boss. Boss tried to seduce her forcefully. This revelation of the scandal of Boss attempting to rape Regina speaks unfavourably of the Head of State, as seen in the following extract.

Jusper: She had to escape by jumping out of a ten-foot high window.

Tumbo: It's a great shame.

Jusper: I can't believe it. Imagine locking up his wife for complaining about the incident. (Pg. 64)

Then later we have Nicodemo and Tumbo, discuss among themselves the state of affairs and people are being killed. To which Tumbo simply says;

Tumbo: We have no choice. Like caged animals, we move, but only inside the cage. It has become infectious – this

desire to eliminate others. Here he comes. Pg. 65.

At this point Mulili arrives mourning the death of Kabito, with all the flourish of a Government Official who is sorry about the death of a colleague, yet he was the one responsible for the elimination of Kabito.



### ACTIVITY LE/SUP/3/1-6

Explain in detail the two examples given in this scene that clearly show the moral decay in the society of Kafira.



Discuss your answers with your peers.

### SCENE 4

This particular scene builds up to a high-pitched melodrama as the two opposing forces confront each other. The turning point when the rehearsal becomes a real confrontation is arrived at effortlessly and takes everyone by surprise. The extracts below elaborate this:-

Jusper: Yes Sir.

Boss: Where are the others?

Tumbo: Dressing up, Sir..

Boss: Go inside and call all the staff.  
We need an audience.  
(exit Tumbo)

I hope it's a good play. What is it called?

Jusper: "Betrayal in the City"

Boss: Betrayal in the City? That's a curious title. What is it about?

Jusper: Army Cadet.

Boss: Army cadet? That should be interesting. The visitor himself Was in the army for seven years before he joined active Politics. What does the cadet do?

Jusper: The main drama is built around what he doesn't do, Or around what is done for him. In the first place, he is promoted to the rank of Captain within six months of his enrollment.

Boss: Hmm, very hard working.

Jusper: Because he doesn't know how to handle a gun,

he accidentally shoots his colleague during a pass-out parade.

Boss: That is manslaughter.

Jusper: The climax is reached when it is discovered that he is not, infact, a relative of the army commander as had been thought.

Boss: It sounds very interesting. Is it a comedy or a tragedy?

Jusper: It is neither, but it could be both.

Boss: But someone dies?

And then the turning point comes, as exhibited in the extract below.

Boss: Step in (They step in cautiously and salute)  
Yes, what can I do for you?

Mosese: Sir, we have come to enquire whether a.32 automatic is equal to a.28

Boss: That's very vague. Even you, Captain?

Jere: He won't believe me, Sir.

Boss: Alright, you show me a.32 from those guns, and you Captain will show me a.28 (Mosese and Jere go for me guns. Jusper is over - excited).

Jusper: I can't believe it! Can't believe that we have done it on the off-chance!

Boss: I do not see those lines in the script.

Jere: (pointing his gun at Boss) No, your Excellency, such lines are never scripted.

Jusper: can't believe we've done it. Shoot now!

Boss: Guards, what do?

Jere: You have no guards, Your Excellency.  
Remain seated or I'll shoot. People,  
do not fear. Remain calm, all is well.  
(Mulili tries to sneak away)

Mosese: Remain seated Mister Mulili.

Mulili: I go for short call.

Mosese: I said, sit down (he sits)

- Jusper: You waste time, pin him down. I said pin him down.  
Alright, let me do it. Squad, attention aim,  
one, two, three, two, one tutututulu!!!!!!! Squad  
at ease! (to Mulili( hey, sergeant! Why so sad,  
each? He your cousin or something?
- Mulili: Oh, no, no, is never!
- Jusper: We'll put him in a Government coffin. I'll design it myself.  
(He begins to stride off but is stopped by Mosese).
- Mosese: Jusper, where are you off to?
- Jusper: (In a sad trembling voice). To design the coffin.
- Mosese: No, Remain where you are (to Boss) see what you have done to him?  
He alone would justify your death a thousand times,  
yet you are still alive. Tell me why?
- Boss: I do not know why?
- Jere: I'll show you why Mulili, came towards me. (Mulili obeys).  
This man is your cousin.
- Mulili: He is only distant cousin, that is all.
- Jere: Give me one good reason why he should not be killed.
- Mulili: No reason. You can kill.
- Jere: Do you agree that he should be got rid of?
- Mulili: KABISA! One, he take everything in his hand.  
Two he spoil the economic of Kafira. Three, he  
rule too long. Change is like rest. Four, he kill Kabito.
- Boss: Am I hearing right? Mulili? (to Jere)  
Shoot me. Spare me this betrayal. Shoot me.
- Jere: No, your Excellency, we shall not shoot you.  
Kafira needs each one of us, you included.
- Boss: You man you will not kill me?
- Jere: No. What do we stand to gain by your death?  
Nothing. Our wish was not to swim in human blood,  
but, to provide a mirror for Kafira's front men.  
but it is not enough to provide only a mirror.  
No we must learn to sacrifice ourselves for a  
better future. A future where those events that  
now take place need not be repeated.

He exhibited above the new Government is determined to instill. The brutality, the corruption i  
be left behind and a new state to emerge in Kafira. Hence Boss is not killed, much as they had  
reasons and great opportunity to do so.



### ACTIVITY LE/SUP/3/1-7

- (i) A paragraph of about 100 words explain what takes place in this particular.
- (ii) What message has been put across now that you've got to the end of the text.



Discuss your answers with your peers.

### MAJOR THEMES

In the play *Betrayal In The City*, Francis Imbuge deals with quite a number of themes v  
include;

- (a) Betrayal
- (b) Oppression
- (c) Injustice
- (d) Corruption
- (e) Moral decay

- (a) Betrayal

To begin with Adiko was betrayed by a man who knew him very well – Chagaga the sub-c  
brother. Doga's words show this. "It is now clear that the man at whose hands my son diec  
among us now" page 7. He was a kinsman to the deceased but, did not value that bond.

We also see Regina betraying Mosese for she went to plead for his release to Boss. Mosese  
this as betrayal. He was totally innocent and to plead for him would suggest that he was getti  
and was seeking penitence. Further, it would imply submission to Boss and his Government, a  
which Mosese would not do because he did not approve of Boss wicked regime. We also see  
betraying Jere, Nicodemos and Boss.

The Government has also betrayed its people in that it does the exact opposite of what it pro  
It speaks of Africanization and Nationalisation but we see it intending to host a Head of Sta  
will be coming on a survey mission and try to get employment for his subjects back home.

Doga and Nina, an aging couple are at first derived the right of carrying out their dead son's s  
ceremony (Adika) – "In the interest of peace: as Jere did say. In this is shown that the  
Government has betrayed its citizen in as far as guarding, and granting their rights and intere  
concerned.

Consequently it has created a big gap between itself and its citizens. The citizens have lost tr  
and no longer turn to it for comfort and security.



### ACTIVITY LE/SUP/3/1-8

How does Mulili betray Jere, Nocodemus and Boss? (Read text and explain)



Check your answer with those of your peers.

#### (b) Oppression

Oppression is quite prevalent, for example on Adika's funeral, weeping in public was illegal, yet weeping was harmless – it is just a sign of grief over what one has lost. It is natural and human. Human beings have emotions and they have a right to display them – why then should anyone suppress them?

This oppression goes as far as interfering with the peoples' culture. Among these people a cultural ceremony always preceded a burial. But Nina and Doga almost had this denied them after their son's burial.

Jere and Mulili were sent to stop this ceremony as they said....."in the interest of all the people.....". If one stoops to think, were Doga and Nina not nationals of Kafira State and did they not have a claim to the protection of their interests?

Because of the dog-like loyalty to their political masters, the young do not even respect their elders - for example Mulili and Jere stand with harsh words before Doga and Nina when they had been commissioned to go and stop the ceremony. "No ceremony! That's the final". Pg. 14 says Mulili, and says, "We are on duty. We serve the nation".

Yet Doga and Jere's father had shoved the same knife at circumcision - (this is an automatic reason for Jere to look at Doga with high esteem) – it is after reproach that Jere relates.

#### (c) Injustice and Corruption

Injustice of all sorts are clear. Favouritism, derived of speech, murder, detention without trial, embezzlement of public funds, wrong political appointments, slander and even attempted rape by Government officials.

Nepotism is prevalent. To gain security, a big post and material wealth, one had to be a close friend of the ruler (Boss).

Mulili illustrates this very well. He is a "cousin" to Boss and he spies on his colleagues sometimes giving wrong information so as to win favours from him. He acquired a milk and potato tender to the University through back door channels. He was also appointed or promoted to personal advisor to Boss, despite his drunkenness incomplete school education, failure in his army career and vulgar language. Tumbo also displays corruption.



## ACTIVITY LE/SUP/3/1-9

- (i) How does Tumbo display corruption in the play?
- (ii) Mention and explain any other corruption given/shown in the play.



Check your answers with these of your peers.

### (d) Moral Decay

All in all, Imbuga's *Betrayal In The City* portrays a decay in morals, greed for power and material possessions and selfishness. Kafira a block state and the Government always emphasized the "unity" between all the citizens and that everything that was done, was always in the interest of the nationals, however, this is only in word and not in deed.

## E. CHARACTER AND CHARACTERISATION

In *Betrayal In The city*, Imbuga gives a wide range of characters who greatly differ and diverge in the way they adjust and adopt to the harsh social and political conditions of Kafira. However, look at three major characters: Mosese, Jusper, Sere.

### (i) Mosese

He is a well read man, a university lecturer who was detained simply because he expressed liberal views to the Government. This was during Adika's funeral at which several restrictions had been made to the mourners:- the service was not to take more than ten minutes, the coffin not to be carried by University students and weeping in public was illegal for the academic. Mosese thought this unfair of the Government and told them so, the consequence was, he was falsely accused of being in possession of opium and he was subsequently imprisoned. Mosese is a man of principles and he is determined to stay loyal to them even under hard conditions for example he had at first refused to take part in a play that had been scheduled on the programme for the visiting Head of State. Boss had promised that if this play (in which prisoners were supposed to play roles) was a success, six hundred of them would be released. Mosese viewed it as ".....equivalent to kneeling in front of Boss and pleading for mercy....that would imply guilty I am not guilty of anything" Page 31. Likewise he did not want Regina his sister to go and plead with him – to him this was stooping so low.

However, because of his humanitarian views, he feels it right to sacrifice his dignity and accept the play and thus serve as an instrument in effecting the release of this fellow prisoners although he was well aware that he may not necessarily be included. In Kafira's conditions, Mosese learns that "land mouthed" people who act as a voice for the people and speak the truth – pay for it in any way (for example Adika).

He also learns that the Government Policies of rehabilitation, nationalization and africanisation lost their true meaning, for the government was going the exact opposite of what he was preaching...and speaking out against this would also be futile as he himself imports it to say everything in mitigation. All I had to say, but it did not help. Words have lost meaning to me Pg. 23.

And after this experience, he decides to adopt a strange philosophy in the slogan "silence is the best ship have he decides to be totally indifferent and mute about the whole situation because he feels that silence could be a protective weapons (refer to the scene in the call)

However, he is still bitter about the whole situation and reminiscences about the past. "It was better while we waited", he says, "we have killed our past and are busy killing the future". Pg. 32.

We may interprete this to mean that Mosese is a man who had been conditioned to believe that people should not always anticipate the future – because not all change is good.

### (ii) Jusper

Like many of his fellow citizens in Kafira, Jusper has been disillusioned about the idea of freedom and justice in his society, that is why he says that Jupita (a planet) and justice are the same because they are both elusive and not observable in Kafira Jusper is a University student offering Philosophy and we therefore have got good reason to assume that he is a broad minded young man. He is energetic and bold and unlike Mosese, he feels that indifference will not buy them the freedom they are yearning for. He therefore refuses to relent his struggle and thus is reflected when he say, "we need songs, war songs.....

Brother or not brother you gonna join the struggle by force.  
Gotta restore human dignity right?" Page 11.

He is brave and vengeful, and this he badly does at his brother's funeral when, - as Doga says, he became wild and sang songs of vengeance. He manages to get at Chagaga the man who murdered his brother, and killed him, for he felt that his brother's innocent blood should be paid back for. His passionate desire to fight for his people and set his nation free drives him to tell Regina who had shied away from mentioning the atrocities in Kafira that the street disease had caught her, "you have lost your fighting spirit like everybody else. Page 37. he also discloses to Regina, "How can I ever rest with the death of my entire family on my mind".... I will get my revenge same day, even if it means going it alone.

### (iii) Jere

At the start of the play, we meet Jere as a soldier in Kafira. He is touched by the suffering of his people and defeats from the military system when he lets Doga and Nina carry out the shaving ceremony of their son (Adika), which ceremony he and Mulili had been commissioned to see to it that it is not carried out. In his own words about Adiko he says, "He was slaughtered like a goat and sacrificed for a non-existent peace and harmony. Surely he deserves this ceremony! Pg. 19.

This was an act of bravery since he knew that Mulili was a close associate of Boss and that a report of this would be given to the authorities. He is a true humanitarian and we see him speak with compassion to Mulili, "Mulili if you still have even the smallest part of your original human heart, let us allow these people to carry on the ceremony" Pg. 18. Doga's blessing to jeer" may god open your eyes to the suffering of your people. Page. 18, comes true and we see a total transformation of him.

Jere was a regular reader of the bible for he felt this would help in restoring his faith in humanity. A former soldier who used to enjoy the benefits of the dictatorial regime, not lives a captive life and is tortured in prison, yet he is not bitter about this for he tells Mosese, "you need to line the lines of those you fight for" Pg. 27. That is why in prison with his fellow prisoners, he felt that more reading of the Pilate story in which the torturing of Christ is shown, was not enough and that a

greater fulfillment would be obtained if the actual situation would be re-lived (i.e. by acti therefore emulates the Nazerene Christ of biblical times who had to walk on earthly life so a deeper understanding of the people he intended to redeem. Furthermore his contribution the freedom of his people is seen when he persuades Mosese to take a role in the play for visitant, he tells Mosese, "I don't see it as bending low. To me, that is sacrificing one's d order to rescue others from meritable misery. Just think of those six hundred families that w united" Pg. 30.



### ACTIVITY LE/SUP/3/1-10

"Silence is the best ship home"

Giving examples of Jere and Mosese, say why you would agree that in Kafita silence is the home.



Check your answers with those at the end of the unit.

## GLOSSARY

Ambiance	The way a particular place makes you feel, e.g., friendly ambience.
Appease	a way to make someone less angry or stop them from getting what they want.
Commissioned	To formally ask someone to write an official report for you.
Compassion	A strong feeling of sympathy for someone who is suffering or needs help.
Intrigue	Something strangely or mysteriously interesting. Like a secret plan to harm someone or make them lose their political power.
Kinsman	A relative (male) – kinswoman (female)
Lamentation	Deep sadness or something that expresses it.
Manipulated	To make someone think and behave exactly as you want by deceiving them or influencing them.
Prevalent	Common at a particular time or in a particular place.
Reminiscence	A spoken or written story about events that you remember.

## NOTES AND ANSWERS TO UNIT 1 ACTIVITIES

### ACTIVITY LE/SUP/3/1-3

1. He is charged with having an illegal drug (Opium) in his car – which was a lie.
2. Oppression, corruption, false accusations, betrayal.
3. How Jasper wins the competition for being the playwright for the play to be acted visiting Head of State - out of so many submitted – but were they really submitted?
4. Humour and irony.

### ACTIVITY LE/SUP/3/1-5

1. Obvious reasons – his spy, his informer on everything that goes on.
2. Mulili, misuses or takes advantage of Boss trust in him to implicate people falsely others as seen in Act 2 Scene 2 when he falsely accuses Kabito – who is later killed.

### ACTIVITY LE/SUP/3/1-10

- Land method people are not welcome in Kafira
- To act as the people's voice and speaking the truth – you pay for it the hard way.
- Moses said everything he sees and knows about the Government in mitigation – not help instead he is "framed" and imprisoned "I said everything in mitigation". A say, but it did not help. Words have lost meaning to me."
- He decides to be totally indifferent about the whole situation because as the "silence" seemed to be a protective weapon.
- Jere tries to speak sense into his colleague Mulili – to the old couple perform their for their dead son and in return he is imprisoned. Had he kept quiet he would be free.

## END OF UNIT 1 (LE/SUP/3/1) ASSIGNMENT

From what you have read from the text Betrayal In The City, quote examples of dictatorship in Kafira and explain them fully.

"Jasper and Justice are one and the same", with reference to the state of Kafira, explain what this statement means.

"Women will never think beyond the beds upon which they sleep for the night", with reference to Nina and Regina justify this statement.

From the text, explain the character traits of the following:-

- |       |        |      |        |
|-------|--------|------|--------|
| (i)   | Doga   | (iv) | Mulili |
| (ii)  | Nina   | (v)  | Tumbo  |
| (iii) | Jasper |      |        |

"Has it ever occurred to you that the outside of the cell may well be the inside of another"? Explain the statement in relation to events that take place in Kafira in the text Betrayal In The City.

Use these questions for your revision of the text. You should read the play again, discuss and compare your answers with those of your peers.

We hope you have enjoyed reading and studying the play!! Interesting isn't it!!!