

# **MAGUME**

## **OR THE SHADOWS OF THE TRAIL**



*Sébastien KATIHA*BWA

Collection of Short Stories



NSANZERYAKA Editions

# MAGUME

## OR THE SHADOWS OF THE TRAIL

This book is a collection of eight literary short stories that can be described as short social novels. The first story, "Magume, the Civil Servant," is a story that meticulously describes the exhausting gymnastics an average civil servant goes through to manage a low salary that bears no relation to the cost of living or his basic needs. But will he succeed?

"The Perfume of the Capital" is a short story that, with literary tact and subtlety, reveals the other, hidden side of love, which is nevertheless well known as a good thing. The author especially winks at the young girl who tends to naively believe that all is white in love.

Finally, the six other short stories such as "Muzungu", "A Monstrous Mirage", "The Torn Entrails", etc., are found in this collection and do not fail at all to quench the thirst of the reader who wants to immerse himself in the twists and turns and the vicissitudes witnessed by any individual who wants to move away, without discernment, from his own culture in favor of foreign cultures.



Sébastien Katihabwa was born in Burundi in 1947 into a large family of twelve children. He attended both primary and secondary school in Catholic institutions. From a very young age, he demonstrated a literary interest by participating in school plays and learning poetry.

A great reader, and above all very active in the literary world, frequenting the French Cultural Center (CCF) today the French Institute of Burundi, he published in 1992, at his own expense, the present collection of short stories entitled " **Magume or the shadows of the Path**" which is the first collection of short stories published by a Burundian. In 2006, he published his second collection entitled "**The revenge of destiny**".

After having been Vice-President of the Association of Writers of Burundi (ASEB) for a long time, he replaced the Honorable Frederic Ngenzebuhoro in 2007 and became President of the ASEB until 2011. In the meantime,

he published two collective works: " **An Another Burundi** " published in 2000 by Sépia, then an anthology " **Emergencies, Rebear Together** ", published in 2011 by Fountain Publishers, in Kigali, as part of Semboura, Ferment Littéraire which was a project of the Swiss Cooperation which supported Burundian, Rwandan and Congolese writers. He died on April 24, 2016, after completing three manuscripts, including two novels: " **The Sirens of Purgatory** " and " **The Other Shore: Chronicle of an Ordinary Refugee from Africa** " and a collection of short stories: " **Wandering and Parricide.**"

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