



University of Saint Thomas Of Mozambique



"Servir e não ser Servido"



Teaching Ethics in Mozambique: An Analysis from the Political and Ethical Thought of Saint Thomas Aquinas



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1. Objectives and Contextualization

Objectives:

- ❑ Analyzing the Thomist Ethics in the university, taking as a case study, the Mozambican universities in an era of globalization.

Context:

- ❑ In St. Thomas Aquinas thought, all conceptions of Ethics have a profound and organic view that comes from the very nature or essence of the human being as an entity of divine nature.
- ❑ Thus, one understands the Thomist dictum according to which, *“the virtues perfect us so that we may properly follow our natural inclinations”*.

2. Argument and Hypothesis

Argument

- ❑ The ethics at the university is a fundamental value for the integral and integrated formation of the human being in an era of globalization.
- ❑ This argument is supported by the idea that man's action must be in conformity with the manifestation of being, so one must value the person as a rational and free individual, as a *rationalis naturae individua substantia*.



3. Methodology

- ❑ The methodological construction that guides this article involves a symbiosis of several methods (Qualitative, Monographic, Historical and Bibliographic).

4. Background

- ❑ The thought of Saint Thomas Aquinas is important in the sense of revitalizing the *ethics of virtues* evident on his work. He, synthesized Greek-pagan and patristic-Christian philosophy, and he made a revolution of all the philosophical and theological thought of history.
- ❑ One of the importance that the ethics of Saint Thomas Aquinas has is to give on students the *self-control spirit* that will lead them to the practice of moral values inside and outside the university.
- ❑ Therefore, the study of ethics at the university cannot be isolated, since the student's education must be considered as a whole, in order to develop the *dignity of the human being*, often lost and forgotten in this era of globalization.



4. Background, cont.

- ❑ Thus, the symbiosis of ethics and education is what mozambican universities value, in the sense of *not only giving an intellectual and moral values, but also providing them with tools for professional decision-making.*
- ❑ Nowadays, most of the profitable professions require not only a university education, which would be the responsibility of universities, but also a *type of education that involves training linked to moral values and linked to thomist ethics.*

5. The legacy of the Thomist Ethics in Mozambique

- ❑ The University of Saint Thomas of Mozambique was the pioneer among all Mozambican's universities to teach the ethics of Saint Thomas in all its courses,
- ❑ The aim was to develop on students the ethical and investigative skills and attitudes in the search for scientific truth.

- ❑ On all our courses, these subjects are mandatory: *fundamental ethics, human rights, ethics and professional deontology.*
- ❑ The intention for the teaching of these disciplines is to revitalize the value of ethics often lost nowadays.
- ❑ In its activities, the University of Saint Thomas of Mozambique values the *ethical commitment to social responsibility, respect, transparency, excellence and determination on its actions, in line with the basic precepts of citizenship and humanism.*



- ❑ By teaching Thomistic ethics in all courses, the USTM wanted to *reconstruct social ethics*, which had implications centered on the individual, in order to guarantee ethics from the university to the workplaces and home.
- ❑ Nowadays, there are so many challenges that, in addition to thinking about ethics, one must think about human responsibility, which should not only fall to the individual, but to the great institutional bodies of knowledge and power.



6. Main Results

- ❑ This research showed that the ethics of Saint Thomas Aquinas is important in the university in the sense that it will revitalize, in a way, *human and ethical values*, often lost on students.
- ❑ In short, universities today must be based on values and principles, where the exchange of knowledge between the subject and the university is taken into account.



Muito Obrigado
Thank You
Khanimambo

