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DECENTRALISATION AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF ZIMBABWE:
IMPLICATIONS FOR EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY IN
SERVICE PROVISION

BY

SINDISO BHEBHE
(N009 2878P)

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Academic Supervisor

Mr A. M. L. Ngwenya

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ABSTRACT

This research was triggered mainly by the statement of the then President of Zimbabwe in 1986 when he declared that the opening of the Mutare Record Centre was the first step towards the decentralization of archival and record management services to larger urban and provincial administrative centers. Theoretical framework known as eclecticism was used. Eclecticism embraces the use of mixed methods. The findings of the study revealed that deconcentration, the weakest form of decentralisation was happening at NAZ for a variety of reasons such as absence of implementation plans and strategies. Deconcentration only distributes activities to provinces while authority and financial control remain at Head Quarters. A number of recommendations were made. The most critical ones being that the policy of decentralisation must be stressed and advocated at the highest level. Implementation of decentralisation must be given priority. Professional staff, in adequate numbers, must be deployed to Provincial Record Centres. Budget and financial control must go down to Provincial Record Centres. Head Office should only ensure that funds are used lawfully.